

Allen Temple Baptist Church

Sunday School Live

Spring Quarter Theme: God Frees & Redeems
Unit 1: "Liberating Passover"

Sunday, March 13, 2022

Lesson Title: Free to Worship

Text: Ezra 6: 1-12

Background Scripture Ezra 5; 6:1-12; 10:1-5

Instructor: Michael McCants

Key Verse

Ezra 6:12a NRSV

May the God who has established his name there overthrow any king or people that shall put forth a hand to alter this, or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem.

LESSON CONTEXT

Chapters 1-6: Rebuilding The Temple

- Ch. 1-2. Cyrus' proclamation & account of the people.
- Ch. 3 Joyful worship restored.
- Ch. 4 Resistance & opposition arises.
- Ch. 5 Encouragement, challenges & re-enforcement.
- Ch. 6 King Darius' Decree, Temple complete & Passover celebrated.

LESSON GOALS

1. Examine the role of King Darius in rebuilding the temple.
2. Identify how God works to complete His will.
3. Learning how to rejoice during restoration.

LESSON THEMES

1. A decree of restoration. Ezra 6:1-7
2. A decree of restitution. Ezra 6:12

Questions???

- 1. What can we learn from About God's prophecy and His promises in this lesson?**
- 2. What similarities do we see in King Cyrus & King Darius?**
- 3. How does this lesson teach us to worship when under attack?**

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6: 1, 2 NRSV

6 Then King Darius made a decree, and they searched the archives where the documents were stored in Babylon. ² But it was in Ecbatana, the capital in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written: "A record.

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:3 NRSV

³ In the first year of his reign, King Cyrus issued a decree: Concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, let the house be rebuilt, the place where sacrifices are offered and burnt offerings are brought; its height shall be sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits,

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:4 NRSV

⁴ with three courses of hewn stones and one course of timber; let the cost be paid from the royal treasury.

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:5 NRSV

⁵ Moreover, let the gold and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and brought back to the temple in Jerusalem, each to its place; you shall put them in the house of God."

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:6 NRSV

⁶ "Now you, Tattenai, governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and you, their associates, the envoys in the province Beyond the River, keep away;

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:7 NRSV

⁷ let the work on this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews rebuild this house of God on its site.

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:8 NRSV

⁸ Moreover I make a decree regarding what you shall do for these elders of the Jews for the rebuilding of this house of God: the cost is to be paid to these people, in full and without delay, from the royal revenue, the tribute of the province Beyond the River.

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:9 NRSV

⁹ Whatever is needed—young bulls, rams, or sheep for burnt offerings to the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, or oil, as the priests in Jerusalem require—let that be given to them day by day without fail,

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:10 NRSV

¹⁰ so that they may offer pleasing sacrifices to the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king and his children.

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:11 NRSV

Furthermore I decree that if anyone alters this edict, a beam shall be pulled out of the house of the perpetrator, who then shall be impaled on it. The house shall be made a dunghill.

FREEDOM TO WORSHIP

Ezra 6:12 NRSV

May the God who has established his name there overthrow any king or people that shall put forth a hand to alter this, or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem. I, Darius, make a decree; let it be done with all diligence."

QUESTIONS???

- 1. What can we learn from About God's prophecy and His promises in this lesson?**
- 2. What similarities do we see in King Cyrus & King Darius?**
- 3. How does this lesson teach us to worship when under attack?**

LESSON SUMMARY

This Scripture is reassuring evidence of God's faithfulness and Truth by fulfilling His prophecy to rebuild the temple of worship.

We should all rejoice daily in the blessing of the Power in God's promises. Remember God can use anyone anywhere to accomplish His will. God is infinite and eternal, above every opposition, circumstance and critic.

God is Forever Faithful.