

Sunday, 07-09-2023

Temple Restored
Bible Background: Ezra 3:8-13
Printed Text: Ezra 3:8-13 KJV/NLT
Devotional Reading: Psalm 66:1-12

Aim for Change:

- **KNOW** that we should find joy in restoration.
 1. How can I **KNOW** that I should find joy in restoration?
 - **FEEL** joy in restoration.
 2. Do I **FEEL** joy in restoration?
 - **PRAISE** God for restoration.
 3. Do I **PRAISE** God for restoration?
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Devotional Reading: Fri: Make a Joyful Noise to God – Psalm 66:1-12

- Has the trials of my life refined me for the Lord, or have I let the trials of my life define who I am?
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Focal Verses – Tears of Joy – Ezra 3:8-13

1. The Temple Work Begins (vv. 8-9) – 1 Chronicles 23:24-28

- Why did the temple begun first, even before the temple walls? Is my spiritual life more important than my secular life? What am I doing to rebuild the temple within me? Is my servitude a reflection of worship to the Lord? Does my worship bring His provisions? Do I question what God tells me through others? *What was the significance of having men ages 20 and older supervise the restoration of the Temple (Discuss the Meaning)?*

2. The Temple Work Incites Praise (vv. 10-11) – 1 Chronicles 15:16-19; 16:34-36; 2 Chronicles 5:13; Psalm 136

- Am I obedient to those appointed over me? Am I obedient to God's word even when others aren't? Do I give thanks/praise to God in any kind of way? Does my works give God praise or bring Him shame? How do I react when there's new beginnings? Are my sins keeping me in exile? *What is the role of praise and worship in the restoration of the Temple (Discuss the Meaning)?*

3. The Temple Work Sparks Laments and Joy (vv. 12-13) – Psalm 34; Haggai 2:1-5; Romans 8:18-30

- How has my attitude changed since God's rebuilding me? Does the remembrance of the old me hinder God's work in the new me? *Why do you think the ancient men wept and shouted once the foundation was laid (Discuss the Meaning)?*
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Daily Readings:

- **Monday:** A Great and Wonderful House – **2 Chronicles 2:1-9**
 - How much am I contributing to keeping God's house wonderful?
- **Tuesday:** Building a House for God's Name – **1 Kings 8:14-21**
 - Does the house we live in now represent God?
- **Wednesday:** My Name Shall Be There – **1 Kings 8:22-30**
 - Am I entering His house with the right heart? How can respect for His house get a prayer through?
- **Thursday:** A House of Prayer – **Matthew 21:10-16**
 - Am I doing anything in God's house that's displeasing to Him?
- **Saturday:** Lead Me in Your Righteousness – **Psalm 5**
 - How and when do I go to God in prayer? Do I give more thanks than wants when I pray?

Note – Sunday School Lessons originate out of the Precepts for Living w/Commentary 2022-2023
<https://store.urbanministries.com/collections/precepts-for-living/products/precepts-for-living-2023>