

ОСТОВЕК 15тн, 2023

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

Ezra 10:1-44

In 1989, our dear shepherd at that time, Pastor Ron Blough, initiated our reading through a portion of the 66 books of the Bible as a congregation, typically a chapter each Sunday. Since then, we have been through the entire Bible one full time and are currently in Ezra, the 15th book of the Bible.

TODAY'S SERVICE

1. Hymn #38 - "Blessed Be the Name"

2. Opening Prayer & Announcements

- 3. Hymn #94 "Mercies Anew"
- 4. Hymn #150- "He Lifted Me"
- 5. Hymn #**450** "O to Be Like Thee"
- 6. Reading: Pastor Jon Cardwell
- 7. Message: "Do Not Be Unequally Yoked" (Part Two)
- 8. Hymn #464 "Lord, Be Glorified"
- 9. Benediction
- 10. Special Meeting
- 11. Evening Service 6 p.m.





DO NOT BE UNEQUALLY YOKED, Part Two

And Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, "You have broken faith and married foreign women, and so increased the guilt of Israel. ¹¹Now then make confession to the LORD, the God of your fathers and do His will. Separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the family wines" FIDA 10:10, 11, pour

the foreign wives." EZRA 10:10-11, ESV

I. the BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A. Destruction of the Temple, 586 BC B. Decree of Cyrus to Rebuild, 536 BC C. Darius' 6th Year, Finished, 516 BC D. Departure of Ezra from Babylonia, ~458 BC

II. the BREAKDOWN of the CHAPTER

A. Proposal of Shecaniah, vv1-5

B. Proclamation for People to Assemble, vv6-8

C. Putting Away the Foreign Wives, vv9-17

D. Priests & Levites Who had Married Foreign Women, vv18-44

III. the BLESSINGS EMPHASIZED from OUR TEXT

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? **2 CORINTHIANS 6:14**, ESV

A. the Problem & Prescription

broken faith
married foreign women
increased Israel's guilt

4. make confession5. Separate

B. the Practical Gospel Implications

- 1. marriage & divorce
- 2. majesty, devotion & duty

C. the Personal Applications

- 1. Are you faced with decisions requiring action?
- 2. Have you broken faith with Christ?
- 3. Are you a person of faith?

Book of Ezra National Restoration under Zerubbabel Return to Land, 1-2 Rebuilding the Temple, 3 Resisting the Enemy, 4-6 Spiritual Reformation under Ezra Ezra Comes to the Land, 7-8 Ezra Confesses Sins, 9 Ezra Cleanses Nation, 10

QUOTE of the WEEK

About us are a thousand things *entangling*. This world is very much like the pools we have heard of in India, in which grows a long grass of so clinging a character that, if a man once falls into the water, it in almost certain to be his death, for only with the utmost difficulty could he be rescued from the meshes of the deadly, weedy net, which immediately wraps itself around him. This world is even thus entangling. All the efforts of grace are needed to preserve men from being ensnared with the deceitfulness of riches and the cares of this life. The ledger demands you, the day-book wants you, the shop requires you, the warehouse bell rings for you; the theater invites, the ball-room calls: you must live, you say, and you must have a little enjoyment, and, consequently, you give your heart to the world. These things, I say, are very entangling; but we must be disentangled from them, for we cannot afford to lose our souls. "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" If a ship is going down, and a passenger has his gold in a bag about him, and he has upon him a costly cloak, see how he acts. Off goes the garment when he knows that he cannot possibly swim with it upon him. No matter though it be lined with miniver and be made of costliest stuff, off he throws it; and, as for his bags of treasure, with many a regret he flings them down upon the deck, for his life is dearer than they. If he may but save his life, he is willing to lose all besides. Oh, sirs! for the one thing needful, all entangling things must be given up. You must lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset you, if by any means the one thing needful may be yours.

There are many things very *puzzling*, and some people have a strange delight in being bewildered. It in astonishing the many letters I receive and interviews I am asked to give, in order to adjust in people's minds the doctrine of predestination and the fact of free agency; and equally remarkable is the way in which young people, and old people too, will pick out extremely difficult texts, perhaps relating to the Second Advent, or to the battle of Armageddon, and they must needs have these opened up to them before they will believe the gospel. I think it utterly useless to begin upon such things with those who are unsaved. One thing is needful, sir, and that is by no means a puzzling matter; it is plainly this, that thou submit thyself so Jesus. Christ and sit at his feet. That is needful: as for the doctrines of election and the second advent, they are important, but they are neither the most essential nor the most pressing. The one thing needful for a seeking soul is that it receive Jesus and become submissive to him, sitting as a disciple at his feet and as a servant doing his will. [*empasis in original*]

"The One Thing Needful" from the text, Luke 10:42 a sermon delivered on October 15th, 1871 by **Charles Haddon Spurgeon** *Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*, Volume 17, Sermon No. 1,015 This Week's Bible Portions from Robert Murray McCheyne's "Daily Bread"

FAMILY READINGS			PRIVATE READINGS	
1 Kings 18	1 Thess. 1	15	Ezekiel 48	Psalms 104
1 Kings 19	1 Thess. 2	16	Daniel 1	Psalms 105
1 Kings 20	1 Thess. 3	17	Daniel 2	Psalms 106
1 Kings 21	1 Thess. 4	18	Daniel 3	Psalms 107
1 Kings 22	1 Thess. 5	19	Daniel 4	Ps. 108-109
2 Kings 1	2 Thess. 1	20	Daniel 5	Ps. 110-111
2 Kings 2	2 Thess. 2	21	Daniel 6	Ps. 112-113
2 Kings 3	2 Thess. 3	22	Daniel 7	Ps. 114-115

OCTOBER 2023

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