

AUGUST 13TH, 2023

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

Ezra 2:1-70

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 #581 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"
- 2. Opening Prayer & Announcements a. CBC Bylaws Reading
- 3. Hymn #27 "O Worship the King"
- 4. Hymn #580- "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"
- 5. Hymn #24 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"
- 6. Reading: Pastor Jon Cardwell
- 7. **Message**: "The Children of the Province"
- 8. Hymn #680 "Rejoice in the Lord"
- 9. Benediction
- Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.
 Holy War #78; Ecclesiastes 6:1-9



The CHILDREN of the PROVINCE

Now these were the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of those exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried captive to Babylonia. They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each

to his own town. **EZRA 2:1**, 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

II. the BREAKDOWN of CHAPTER TWO

A. the Provincial Return, v1

B. the Prince & Other Leaders, v2a

C. the People by their Families, vv2b-19 & by their Cities, vv20-35

D. the Priests & Levites by their Families, vv36-42

E. the Progeny of Temple Servants, vv43-58

F. the Parental Lines Unverified, vv59-63

G. the Population Tallied & Animals, vv64-67

H. the Place Where the Temple is to be Rebuilt, vv68-70

III. the BLESSINGS EMPHASIZED from OUR TEXT

A. Practical Gospel Reflections

- 1. a provincial people
- 2. a people who came up
- 3. a people of repentance
 - a. to Jerusalem
 - b. and Judah
 - c. each to his own town

C. Personal Application

- 1. consider the details from our sovereign God
- 2. celebrate the details that makes your repentance possible
- 3. calculate the cost if you do not yet know Christ

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

Beloved, there is a shelter for man from the sense of past guilt. It is because we are guilty that we are fearful: we have broken our Maker's law, and therefore we are afraid. But our Maker came from heaven to earth; Jesus, the Christ of God, came here, and was made man, and bore that we might never bear his Father's righteous wrath, and whosoever believeth in Iesus shall find perfect rest in those dear wounds of his. Since Christ suffered for me, my guilt is gone, my punishment was endured by my Substitute, therefore do I hear the voice that saith, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people! Say unto them, that their warfare is accomplished; for they have received at the Lord's hand double for all their sins." And as for future fears, he who believes in Jesus finds a refuge from them in the Fatherhood of God. He who trusts Christ, says: "Now I have no fear about the present, nor about the future. Let catastrophe follow catastrophe, let the world crash, and all the universe go to ruin; beneath the wings of the Eternal God I must be safe. All things must work together for my good, for I love God, and have been called according to his purpose." What a blessed shelter this is! The little conies in their rock-clefts are perfectly at ease, and so we, when we enter fully into the truth of our adoption of God, are filled with unutterable peace. And as for the present, with its cares, and griefs, and heart-throbs, there is the Holy Ghost abiding in us, the Comforter, and we fly to him, and receive consolations so rich and powerful, that this day we feel at peace in the midst of discomforts, and if perplexed we are not in despair. Brethren, there is a shelter in the atonement of Christ, in the Fatherhood of God, in the abiding presence of the Comforter—there is a shelter for man—would God that all of us had found it!

> "Lessons from Nature" from the text, Psalm 104:17-17 a sermon delivered on August 13th, 1871

by Charles Haddon Spurgeon

AUGUST 2023

FAMILY READINGS			PRIVATE READINGS	
1 Samuel 3	Romans 3	13	Jeremiah 41	Psalms 17
1 Samuel 4	Romans 4	14	Jeremiah 42	Psalms 18
1 Samuel 5-6	Romans 5	15	Jeremiah 43	Psalms 19
1 Samuel 7-8	Romans 6	16	Jeremiah 44	Psalms 20-21
1 Samuel 9	Romans 7	17	Jeremiah 46	Psalms 22
1 Samuel 10	Romans 8	18	Jeremiah 47	Psalms 23-24
1 Samuel 11	Romans 9	19	Jeremiah 48	Psalms 25
1 Samuel 12	Romans 10	20	Jeremiah 49	Psalms 26-27

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