



UNFINISHED

THE STORY OF EZRA

Ezra 2

Pastor Jared Carl

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. 2 They came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, and Baanah. Ezra 2:1-2

1. Leave **captivity**

13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14

Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. 3 Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and rebuild the house of the Lord, the God of Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem. Ezra 1:2-3

2. Build for the **future**.

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. Psalm 78:4

36 The priests: the sons of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, 973. 37 The sons of Immer, 1,052. 38 The sons of Pashhur, 1,247. 39 The sons of Harim, 1,017. 40 The Levites: the sons of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the sons of Hodaviah, 74. 41 The singers: the sons of Asaph, 128. 42 The sons of the gatekeepers: the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, and the sons of Shobai, in all 139. 43 The temple servants: the sons of Ziha, the sons of Hasupha, the sons of Tabbaoth, Ezra 2:36-43

Some of the heads of families, when they came to the house of the Lord that is in Jerusalem, made freewill offerings for the house of God, to erect it on its site. 69 According to their ability they gave to the treasury of the work 61,000 darics of gold, 5,000 minas of silver, and 100 priests' garments. Ezra 2:68-69

3. Do what you **can** do



Nominate a Deacon It's that time of year again when we begin accepting nominations for our Deacon Board. If you know a NewCov Partner who is devoted to Jesus, respected in their community, servant hearted, leads their family well, etc. scan this QR code to make a nomination. You can also submit a physical nomination in the lobby.



Connection Card We invite you to reach out! Simply scan this QR code to access our connection card, where you can register your attendance, update your contact information, learn about upcoming events, or submit prayer requests. Don't forget to visit newcov.com for additional information about our weekly ministries.

A graphic with the word "UNFINISHED" in large, bold, black letters with an orange outline. Below it, "THE STORY OF EZRA" is written in smaller orange letters with an arrow pointing right. The background is a painting of a dirt road winding through a landscape of ruins and a bright, hazy sky.

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