



1

Ezra recounts the challenges endured in the rebuilding of the Temple and Jerusalem.

- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - In obedience to the Word of the Lord spoken by Haggai and Zechariah, Zerubbabel and Jeshua begin rebuilding the Temple.
 - Zerubbabel and Jeshua had clear instructions from God and did not nor should they have requested the permission of anyone else.

2

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 - In obedience to the Word of the Lord spoken by Haggai and Zechariah, Zerubbabel and Jeshua begin rebuilding the Temple.
 - The opposition was swift and strong but contrary to earlier times did not stop the building. The fact that the regional governor, Tattenai came to check out the building reflects the continuing opposition from those referenced in Ezra 4:4-5. Ezra 5:3-5

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - Tattenai the provincial governor sent a letter to Darius based on his interactions with the people building the Temple.
 - The text of the letter indicates a greater sincerity than the letter we saw to Artaxerxes.
 - The fact that they did not forcibly stop the work showed at least a cautious belief in the possibility of a claim of a decree by Cyrus.

4

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - Tattenai the provincial governor sent a letter to Darius based on his interactions with the people building the Temple.
 - There seems to be an accurate recounting of the reason given by the Jews for rebuilding and a sincere desire to know if such a decree was made by Cyrus.

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - The reasons given by the Jews for building the Temple
 - They are servants of the God of heaven and earth
 - They are rebuilding what Solomon had built many years ago

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - The reasons given by the Jews for building the Temple
 - The Temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar due to God's judgment on His people.
 - Cyrus had issued a decree about 30 years before this that the Temple be rebuilt.

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - The decree by Cyrus is found after a search decreed by Darius and Darius responds to Tattenai.
 - Tattenai and others are ordered to not in any way hinder the work.
 - The work is to be supported financially with the revenue from that area.

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 - The decree by Cyrus is found after a search decreed by Darius and Darius responds to Tattenai.
 - Provision is to be made to them for the required sacrifices.
 - Request is made for the Jews to pray for the king and his family.

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 - A the decree by Cyrus is found after a search decreed by Darius and Darius responds to Tattenai.
 - The penalty for failing to obey the decree by Darius was a horrible and public death.
 - Further an appeal is made to God in the decree to overthrow anyone who would hinder this work.

10

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - The work continued to the completion of the Temple four years later. Completed in 516 B.C. sixth year of reign of Darius. (Note that this was 70 years after the Temple was destroyed in 586 B.C.)
 - Tattenai and company diligently obey the decree of Darius.
 - The work is supported and encouraged by Haggai and Zechariah.

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 - The work continued to the completion of the Temple four years later. Completed in 516 B.C. sixth year of reign of Darius. (Note that this was 70 years after the Temple was destroyed in 586 B.C.)
 - The decrees of the kings are acknowledged.
 - The temple was dedicated with great celebration and the priests and Levites were placed in their appointed places to carry on the services of the Temple.

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - The Passover observed
 - According to the Mosaic Law in Deuteronomy 16:5-7 the Passover sacrifice could only be made in the place where God would choose to establish His Temple. From David's time that was Jerusalem.

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- Now we return to the matter of the building of the Temple. 4:24-6:22
 - The Passover observed
 - This would indicate that this was the first time since the destruction of the Temple that the Passover sacrifice was made and the Passover observed.
 - The observance was made possible because the priests and Levites had been vetted and the Temple was completed.

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Lessons

- God makes every provision for what He clearly leads us to do.
- We must be open and honest when challenged about the work of God in which we are engaged.
- Celebrate restoration by practicing obedience.

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