

**Read: Ezra 9**

**Connect Questions:**

1. What was the core problem with *intermarriage* for the people of Israel? Why did they do it? What sins do we allow in our lives that bring compromise?
2. How did Ezra grieve the sin of the nation? What sin(s) should we grieve? How should we grieve?
3. Why is God's Word so critical in the process of dealing with sin and moving into repentance?
4. How is Ezra's prayer a model for confession and repentance?
5. Why is confession so closely tied to revival in the Bible and in history outside of the Bible?

**Memory Verse: Ezra 9:4 NKJV** <sup>4</sup> Then everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel assembled to me, because of the transgression of those who had been carried away captive, and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice.

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7/16/23

**Scripture: Ezra 9**

**Title: True Revival**

**1. The Problem (v. 1,2)**

A Failure In Leadership

The Problem With Intermarriage (Deut. 7:1-4)

Calling Sin...Sin (James 4:4 & 1 John 2:15-17)

**2. The Response (v. 3,4)**

**Ezra Grieving:**

Rips his clothes

Pulls out hair and beard

Fasting

*Trembled at the words of the God of Israel*

*Astonished by Sin*

**3. Ezra's Prayer (v. 5-15)**

**A. Posture (v.5,6a)**

**B. General Confession (v.6b)**

**C. Sins of the Past (v.7)**

**D. The Grace & Mercy of GOD (v.8,9)**

**E. Repeating the Sins of the Past (v.10-12)**

**F. Final Confession & Surrender (v.13-15)**

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