



Connect Groups Week of 6/4/23

Read: Ezra 6:1-22

Connect Questions:

- 1. Why was finding the record of Cyrus' Decree so critical? How does that parallel the role of God's Word in our lives?
- 2. Why was Darius so determined to follow the Decree of Cyrus? How do you think Tattenai felt when he received Darius' letter? Share a time when God used your "enemy" to bring about His will in your life...
- 3. What place did the Word of God have in the building of the Temple? Why was the completion of the Temple so critical for the people of Israel?
- 4. Why is Passover so key for the people of God? How do you (or can you) build "Remembering the Faithfulness of God" into your daily life? How can we experience the Joy of the Lord?

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Memory Verse: **Ezra 6:22 NKJV** ²² And they kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy; for the Lord made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria toward them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

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Scripture: Ezra 6:1-22

Title: The King's Heart Is In The Hand Of The LORD

1. The Decree Found (v. 1-5)

In Achmetha (Ecbatana)

Cyrus Decree:

• Rebuild the Temple

• Funded by the king's treasury

• Send the Temple Articles

The Decree of Cyrus was ultimately the Decree of GOD!

2. The Decree Followed (v. 6-12)

A. Back Off!

B. Pay for it from the tax revenue in your jurisdiction

C. Give them whatever they need for sacrifices

D. WARNING to anyone who alters the Decree

Don't mess with the Decree of the KING!

3. The Temple Completed (v. 13-18)

The Word of God Proclaimed

• The king's hearts moved by GOD

Celebrating the Dedication with JOY!

Never too late for the Promise of God...

4. Passover Celebrated (v. 19-22)

Remembering the Faithfulness of God

Set Apart with JOY...



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