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Ezra, Bible, Idolatry, Marriage, Divorce, Foreign wives, Priest, Guilt offering, Redemption, Passover, Spiritual foundation, Believers, Covenantal relationship, Obedience, Ezekiel

**SPEAKERS**

Baruch Korman, Intro Voice

**Intro Voice**

Shalom and welcome to Via Hafta Yisrael, a Hebrew phrase which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes as our teacher, Dr. Baruch, shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr. Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zera Avraham Institute based in Israel, although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr. Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel, please visit us on the web at loveisrael.org. That's one word, loveisrael.org. Now, here's Baruch with today's lesson.

**Baruch Korman**

Well, we're going to conclude, God willing, the last section of Ezra chapter 10. Now, what we're going to see is a continuation of what we talked about yesterday or last week, and that is when we spoke about how Ezra, based upon the authority of God's word, was led to lead the people to do something, and what was that? Those who had taken foreign wives, and the word here nashim nochriot, very important word. It is a word that relates to pagan behavior, or we could say idolatry, and we know that idolatry is something that God does not tolerate, and therefore we see Ezra being led to enact this this law, having the women put away that is divorce because of the fact that it was not a biblically based marriage. So let's begin. Look with me, if you would, to the book of Ezra, chapter 10. We're going to begin where we left off last week in verse 15, where it says the first word ach. Now that can mean only or but. It is a conjunction, and it says here only, and we see something, Yonatan, the son of Asael, and Yachzeyah, the son of Tikva stood against this, so we see initially there is little resistance on what Ezra is saying. Only these individuals. Again, we're talking about Yonatan. We're talking about a man by the name of Yahzaiah, and we're talking about these two individuals that stood against this instruction from Ezra. It also says Anne Meshulam and Shaptai the The levi also were their help, meaning they also assisted in standing against this edict that came from Ezra. Look now to verse 16, and they did thus. The sons of the Gola, meaning the exile, the children of the exile, and what do we see here? Well, it says here that Ezra the priest, and we see something. He made a distinction among the men, the heads of the fathers, meaning the fathers' house, the house of their forefathers, and it says, and all of them, and this is what's important, all of them according to the names. And what was the problem? That they dwelt in one day, on the 10th day or the 10th month, and it says here that they inquired concerning this matter. So again, they they dwelt on one day. They came together and sat down on the



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10th month, in order to inquire concerning this matter, look at verse 17. It says, "And the men that were causing to dwell with these foreign or pagan women. It was completed, meaning finished, on what day? Until the first day of the first month. Now we see something that's set down to inquire of this on the 10th month, but it was. A very significant time. We're talking about the first month. What happens in the first month? Passover. Now, Passover is about redemption, and redemption allows us to do something, to set things in order until you receive redemption by the blood of the Lamb, and we're talking about the Lamb of God, Messiah Yeshua, Jesus of Nazareth. Until you receive that, you will never be able to have God's order in your life. It's only when you are submitting to redemption that you receive that gospel that you can also receive God's order into your life. So this is what's happening, and again, it's very important because it's on the one day, meaning the first day of the first month. Well, look now to verse 18. It says here, and it was found among the children of the priests, who, and we see the same thing, to cause to dwell these foreign women from the sons of Yeshua, the sons of or the son of Yosadak, and his brothers, and we have a list of who they are: Maaseia, and Eliezer, and Yeriv, and the fourth one, Gedaliah. It says here that they did something. And here again, oftentimes translators don't translate. What we have here is the expression "va yitnu yadam," which means "and they gave their hand." Now that is a form of agreement, perhaps shaking of hands, and they agreed to do what? To send forth the women, their women, meaning their wives. Why? They understood that they were guilty ones, and they had here the ram of the flock concerning there, and we have their guilt offering.

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So they understood, and they provided a sacrifice in order to deal with their guiltiness, a wise thing to do. So they were acknowledging that they were guilty in violating what God had commanded them, which was not to take pagan wives, rather to take wives that were part of a covenantal relationship with God. Let's move on to verse 20. And from the sons of Emer there were additional ones, Hanani and Zvadia. And from the sons of Harim, there was Masaiah and Eliah and Shemaiah and Yechiel and Uziyah. Now again, many times when I'm reading, if I see the word and, I say it. But in English, many times they leave out that word "an" for a variety of different reasons. Sometimes it's just not done. We put a comma in instead of the word "an," but biblically, that word "and" is there. Move now to verse 22, and from the sons of Pashur, El. Yoetzni, or El Yeinai, Masaya, Yishmael, Natanel, Yo Zavad, and the last one, and El Asa. Verse 23, and from the Levites, Yo Zavat, Ve Shim E, and Keliah. He is also known as Khalita, and we have other individuals, Petah, Yehuda, and again Eli Azer, verse 24, and from and we have the temple singers, and from the singers El Yeshief, and from the gatekeepers Shalom and Telem, and Uri, verse 25, and from Israel, from the sons of Farosh, Ramiah, and Yaziah, and Malchi. And Miamin, and Elazar, and Machia, and we have the last one Veinia, verse 26, and from the sons of Elam, Matanya, Zachariah. Zahariah, and Yechiel, and Avdi, and Yerimot, and Eliyah, verse 27, and from the sons of Zatu, El Yoenai, El Yeshiv, Matanya, and Yerimot, and Zavad, and Azizah. Verse 28, and from the sons of Bevi, Yehoch. Verse 29, and from the sons of Bani, Meshullam, Maluch, and Adaya, Yeshuf and Sha'al Yeremot. Verse 30, and from the sons of Pahat, Moav, Adna, and then we have another one by the name of. We'll see and make sure it's pronounced correctly. We have in our verse: Klaal, Benaiah, Masaiya, Matanya. Vetzael, Ann, Benui, and Manasseh, verse 31, and from the sons of Harim, Eliezer, Yessiah, Mahia, Shem. Shemon, verse 32. Behneen, Maloch, and Shemaria, verse 33, and from the sons of Hashum, Matnai, Matata, Zavad, Elifeit, Yerimai, Menashe, Shem, verse 34, and from the sons of Bani, Maadai, Amram, and Uel, verse 35. Banaya, Bedyah, and then we have Kalu and Nia, meremot, and El Yeshiv, verse 37. Matanya, Matnai, and we have Ve


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Yaasai, which is And Yaasai, verse 38, and the sons of Vinui, Shem E, verse 39, and Shelemia, and Natan, and Adaiah, verse 40. Sharai, verse 41, Azael, and Shelem Yahu, Shemariah, Verse 42, Shalom, Amaria, Yosef, verse 43, and from the sons of Nevo, Ya'iel, Matitia, Zavad, Zavina, and then we have Yedai and Yoel Banaia. Verse 44, our last verse. All of these, what did they do? They lifted up, meaning they married these pagan. Wives, and there was from them, from these women, and we see vayasimu. That is, they put forth. What did they put forth? Sons, meaning children. So there was offspring, and what we're going to see is that not only were the wives sent away, but also the children. Why? Because they had that influence of idolatry. So God did not want that to be among the children of Israel. Now let me just conclude by making a few more points, and that's this: we need to remember. I spoke about this last week, and that is, it's only appropriate for a believer to marry another believer. Why? We need to be on the same spiritual foundation. If we're not, that marriage is going to have problems. So we want to make sure that when we, as believers, are proposing marriage, we're only doing so with a woman who also is a fellow believer and has that same commitment to the Word of God as we do. If we do not share that same spiritual foundation, there is going to be arguments, disputes, conflict, and that marriage is going to be very difficult to be maintained. Why? Well, there's two different thoughts.

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There is the thought that is submissive to God's will, God's plans, God's purposes that wants to serve Him, and there will be another mind that is in opposition to that, and the outcome is going to be problems always. So understand, we need to be equally yoked together. That means believers with believers. Now, oftentimes people ask the question, "Well, what happens that I get married? She was not a believer. I was not a believer. But later on, one became." Well, the scripture speaks to this. If the non-believer is willing to stay in that marriage, don't seek a divorce. Pray for your spouse. That's true for husbands, and that's true for wives. Pray that God might work in that individual, that He might bring about a change spiritually, and that person, whether it's the husband or the wife, that they might receive The gospel, that is the desire of God, that there would be a marriage where both the husband and the wife they share that same spiritual commitment to the Word of God through a gospel receiving. If someone has rejected the gospel. Well, understand, it is not permissible for that person to be married. Now, let me just conclude by saying one more thing, and that is this: when we go to a a marriage that takes place in Israel or any Jewish couple that's getting married. The first thing that is said as a way of a blessing is this: that that it has been researched, and that this man and this woman are permissible for one another. Very important. Usually, it just focuses on the woman that this woman is permissible to this man, very important, and I would say this: when a a leader who's going to be putting this couple together, the first thing that he has a responsibility to do is to discern whether this woman is permissible for this man, if she is not a believer, if she's not committed to the truth of Scripture, then it's very simple. Unless she acknowledges the authority of this book, it is not appropriate for this marriage to happen, and no godly leader is going to be part of a marriage that does not reflect a shared spiritual commitment to be on the same foundation. This is very basic. Now, many times, what happens is this: people want what they want. That is not going to end well for you. We should not want what we want. We should want what God is admonishing us. What He believes is right. What He states in His Word is correct. And the Bible is very clear about this. So let's not be led by emotion. Let's not be led by feeling. Let's not be under the authority of simply what we desire, what we want, what we think is best. But let's be individuals that are submissive to the word of God and embrace God's word because His word is


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truth. If we don't believe that this book is full of truth, it is not going to end well for us. Any time that we violate a word from the scripture, it is going to come back and be a source of displeasure. It is going to rob our joy is going to cause us to to err and not embrace or receive the good things that God has for us. So again, let's be individuals that are submissive, that hear the word of God and have that that pre-desired thought to obey it rather than to go against it. Well, close with that. Until next week. And by the way, we have completed the book of Ezra. I had mentioned that we were going to go into Nehemiah, but we have received several emails asking that the next book that we'll study will be the prophecy of Ezekiel, and therefore that's what we're going to do. We're going to begin next week the book of Ezekiel. We'll begin in chapter one, and we're going to go through the entire book of Ezekiel to understand the prophetic truth that is found in this book called Ezekiel. Until then, shalom from Israel.

**Intro Voice**
Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others. Please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of loveisrael.org. Again, to find out more about us, please visit our website loveisrael.org. There you will find articles and numerous other lectures by Baruch. These teachings are in video form. May download them or watch them in streaming video. Until next week, may the Lord bless you in our Messiah Yeshua, that is Jesus, as you walk with him, shalom from Israel.


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