

Ezra

RESTORATION

God's Story

Ezra 1

April 16, 2023

Have you ever thought, "I could never forgive that person?" for someone who has wronged you. I'm sure all of us have had the thought. As we begin the book of Ezra, we'll see how thankful Israel should be that God does not hold this position! In many ways Ezra is the gospel in short. Much of the book surrounds the return of the Jewish exiles and the rebuilding of the temple, but it is so much more too. Ultimately it is the story of God's sovereign work in restoring his people and allowing his plans to go forward!



WAYPOINT
CHURCH

Know Where You're Going.

Order Of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 29:1-2

Songs of Praise

*Good Good Father
Before the Throne of God Above*

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism #27

Q. *What do you understand by the providence of God?*

A. *The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty, all things, in fact come to us not by chance, but by his fatherly hand.*

Offering and Prayer

Song of Declaration

Behold our God

Confession of Sin

O Lord, we openly admit that you know us thoroughly. Our deepest secrets are open before you. You know our thoughts before they are conceived in our minds. We cannot hide from you. Therefore, we ask that you discover unto us our sins so that we may humble ourselves again in your presence and seek your forgiveness and grace. We admit we have tolerated sinful thoughts about power, lust, greed, jealousy, malice and other things that grieve your heart. We have committed sins of omission and commission. But we seek your mercy and cleansing from our sins by the blood of Christ. And we thank you for your Spirit who enables us to walk in holiness and obedience. Give us the grace to please you this day and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-12

Children's Message

Sermon

God's Story

Ezra 1

Pastor James Brignac

Song of Response

How Great is our God

Benediction

Sermon Notes

Sermon Text

Mark 16:1-8

Patterns

What is one of the most common patterns we see within the Bible?

2 Timothy. 3:16-17

What is the background for Ezra? Why is this significant?

*Hosea 9:1-3,
Hosea 9:17*

Who is the central figure in Ezra? Why is it essential to understand this fact?

Providence

What is providence and why does it matter?

God's works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures and all their actions. – Westminster Shorter Catechism #11

What does Cyrus do with conquered nations?

Romans 13:1

How does the providence of God offer us great hope?

Promises

What do we learn in Isaiah 44:28?

What prophecies made in Jeremiah are fulfilled in Ezra 1?

Ezra 1:1

Jeremiah 25:11-14

Jeremiah 32:36-38

What has God promised?

Announcements



Saturday, April 22 at 11:00 AM
At Waypoint Church



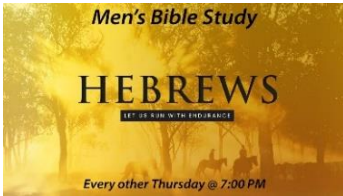
Sunday, April 30
Immediately after service



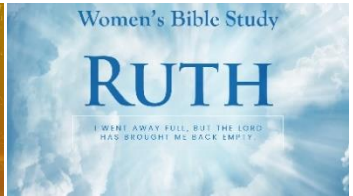
Sundays - 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
At Waypoint Church



Friday, May 5, 2023, 7:00 AM
Waypoint Church



Next Men's Bible Study
Thursday, April 20, 2023
7:00 PM



Next Women's Bible Study
Wednesday, April 19, 2023
7:00 PM



Every Friday at 8:00 AM
via Zoom meeting



Multiple groups are available.
Contact Pastor James to get
connected

Discussion Questions

1. What do you know about the book of Ezra? What do you hope to learn?
2. Why do people and even churches often ignore the Old Testament? What is the benefit of knowing the Old Testament better?
3. How do you respond to difficulties in life such as the extended exile experienced by Israel?
4. Read Romans 13:1. How should we view those in leadership over us?
5. What are some of the promises made by God in Scripture?
6. Why is it important to see the fulfillment of the prophecies made throughout scripture?