

The background is a complex abstract composition. It features a light beige base with a faint grid of thin grey lines. Overlaid on this are several geometric elements: a large, semi-transparent blue circle in the upper left; a smaller, solid blue circle in the upper right; a large, solid red circle in the middle right; and a large, semi-transparent blue circle in the lower right. There are also several vertical and horizontal lines in red and blue, some of which are thicker and more prominent. The overall effect is a layered, geometric aesthetic.

dreaming

EZRA 1:1-5

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev Dr. Bruce Boria

The background of the image is a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a piece of paper or a wall, with faint, hand-drawn sketches. At the top, there are curved lines suggesting a horizon or the edge of a dome. In the center, there is a large, dark blue, circular shape, possibly representing a sun or moon. At the bottom, there are horizontal lines and some colored washes in shades of blue and red, suggesting a landscape or a sky. The overall style is artistic and hand-drawn.

what makes a dream WORTH BUILDING?

15 THE LORD, THE GOD OF THEIR FATHERS,
SENT WORD TO THEM THROUGH HIS
MESSENGERS AGAIN AND AGAIN, BECAUSE HE
HAD PITY ON HIS PEOPLE AND ON HIS
DWELLING PLACE. 16 BUT THEY MOCKED GOD'S
MESSENGERS, DESPISED HIS WORDS AND
SCOFFED AT HIS PROPHETS UNTIL THE WRATH
OF THE LORD WAS AROUSED AGAINST HIS
PEOPLE AND THERE WAS NO REMEDY.

2 CHRONICLES 36:15-16 (NIV84)

**17 HE BROUGHT UP AGAINST THEM THE KING OF
THE BABYLONIANS, WHO KILLED THEIR YOUNG
MEN WITH THE SWORD IN THE SANCTUARY, AND
SPARED NEITHER YOUNG MAN NOR YOUNG
WOMAN, OLD MAN OR AGED. GOD HANDED ALL
OF THEM OVER TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR.**

2 CHRONICLES 36:17 (NIV84)

**18 HE CARRIED TO BABYLON ALL THE ARTICLES
FROM THE TEMPLE OF GOD, BOTH LARGE AND
SMALL, AND THE TREASURES OF THE LORD'S
TEMPLE AND THE TREASURES OF THE KING AND
HIS OFFICIALS. 19 THEY SET FIRE TO GOD'S
TEMPLE AND BROKE DOWN THE WALL OF
JERUSALEM; THEY BURNED ALL THE PALACES
AND DESTROYED EVERYTHING OF VALUE THERE.**

2 CHRONICLES 36:18-19 (NIV84)

20 HE CARRIED INTO EXILE TO BABYLON THE
REMNANT, WHO ESCAPED FROM THE SWORD,
AND THEY BECAME SERVANTS TO HIM AND HIS
SONS UNTIL THE KINGDOM OF PERSIA CAME TO
POWER. 21 THE LAND ENJOYED ITS SABBATH
RESTS; ALL THE TIME OF ITS DESOLATION IT
RESTED, UNTIL THE SEVENTY YEARS WERE
COMPLETED IN FULFILLMENT OF THE WORD OF
THE LORD SPOKEN BY JEREMIAH.

2 CHRONICLES 36:20–21 (NIV84)

**10 THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS: “WHEN
SEVENTY YEARS ARE COMPLETED FOR
BABYLON, I WILL COME TO YOU AND FULFILL
MY GRACIOUS PROMISE TO BRING YOU BACK TO
THIS PLACE. 11 FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE
FOR YOU,” DECLARES THE LORD, “PLANS TO
PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS
TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.**

JEREMIAH 29:10–11 (NIV84)

**1 IN THE FIRST YEAR OF CYRUS KING OF
PERSIA, IN ORDER TO FULFILL THE WORD OF
THE LORD SPOKEN BY JEREMIAH, THE LORD
MOVED THE HEART OF CYRUS KING OF PERSIA
TO MAKE A PROCLAMATION THROUGHOUT HIS
REALM AND TO PUT IT IN WRITING:**

JEREMIAH 29:10-11 (NIV84)

God determines the political landscape

EZRA 1:1

1 IN THE FIRST YEAR OF CYRUS KING OF
PERSIA, IN ORDER TO FULFILL THE WORD OF
THE LORD SPOKEN BY JEREMIAH, THE LORD
MOVED THE HEART OF CYRUS KING OF PERSIA
TO MAKE A PROCLAMATION THROUGHOUT HIS
REALM AND TO PUT IT IN WRITING:

EZRA 1:1 (NIV84)

2 “THIS IS WHAT CYRUS KING OF PERSIA SAYS:
“ ‘THE LORD, THE GOD OF HEAVEN, HAS GIVEN
ME ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE EARTH AND HE
HAS APPOINTED ME TO BUILD A TEMPLE FOR
HIM AT JERUSALEM IN JUDAH. 3 ANYONE OF HIS
PEOPLE AMONG YOU—MAY HIS GOD BE WITH
HIM, AND LET HIM GO UP TO JERUSALEM IN
JUDAH AND BUILD THE TEMPLE OF THE LORD,
THE GOD OF ISRAEL, THE GOD WHO IS IN
JERUSALEM.

EZRA 1:2-3 (NIV84)

God moves the heart of a pagan king

EZRA 1:2-3

4 AND THE PEOPLE OF ANY PLACE WHERE
SURVIVORS MAY NOW BE LIVING ARE TO
PROVIDE HIM WITH SILVER AND GOLD, WITH
GOODS AND LIVESTOCK, AND WITH FREEWILL
OFFERINGS FOR THE TEMPLE OF GOD IN
JERUSALEM.' ”

EZRA 1:4 (NIV84)

**God provides every resource required
before His people ever had to ask**

EZRA 1:4

5 THEN THE FAMILY HEADS OF JUDAH AND
BENJAMIN, AND THE PRIESTS AND LEVITES—
EVERYONE WHOSE HEART GOD HAD MOVED—
PREPARED TO GO UP AND BUILD THE HOUSE OF
THE LORD IN JERUSALEM.

EZRA 1:5 (NIV84)

**The dream became real when God moved
the people's hearts to believe in the dream**

EZRA 1:5

The dream worth building
reflects God's dream

An abstract geometric background featuring a grid of thin lines. Large circles are drawn in light blue and red. A large blue circle with a textured, cloud-like interior is centered behind the text. To its right is a solid red circle. Below these are vertical bars of red and blue. At the bottom, there are horizontal wavy lines representing water. The text 'A dream WORTH BUILDING' is centered in a dark blue serif font.

A dream
WORTH BUILDING