

Year 3

Week 111

Ezra Helps God's People

Scriptures: Ezra 7, 8, 9, 10

Key Verse: Ezra 7:10 “For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.”

Key Points:

1. Some of the Israelites had come back from their captivity in Babylon to Jerusalem. They came of their own free will (7:13). Many were ignorant of God's laws. Ezra was an excellent and skillful scribe of the law as well as a priest of Israel. He also had made plans to come from Babylon, preparing his heart to do the work of the Lord and to teach His statutes to the people returning to Jerusalem.

2. King Artaxerxes wanted the children of Israel to serve God. He had seen what happened when they displeased God. The king knew Ezra and that God's hand was with him. Through a letter, the King gave Ezra the responsibility of bringing gifts and offerings from Babylon to Jerusalem for the restoration of the temple. (outline for the class the commands in the letter)

3. Ezra was encouraged by God's mercy and gathered chief men of Israel to go up with him. He was tempted to ask the King for an escort of soldiers for protection from enemies but instead the men gathered at the river for fasting and prayer. The Lord answered their prayer and they arrived safely.

4. After their arrival in Jerusalem, it came to Ezra's attention that many of the men had taken foreign women for wives which was against God's laws. Ezra was so grieved over this, he tore his robe and plucked out hair from his head and beard. He fell on his knees before God, weeping praying and confessing for the sins of Israel.

5. A very large congregation assembled in front of Ezra. They wanted to confess their sins. With Ezra's help they made a covenant with God to put away their pagan wives and children. Purity was restored to the Israelite nation.

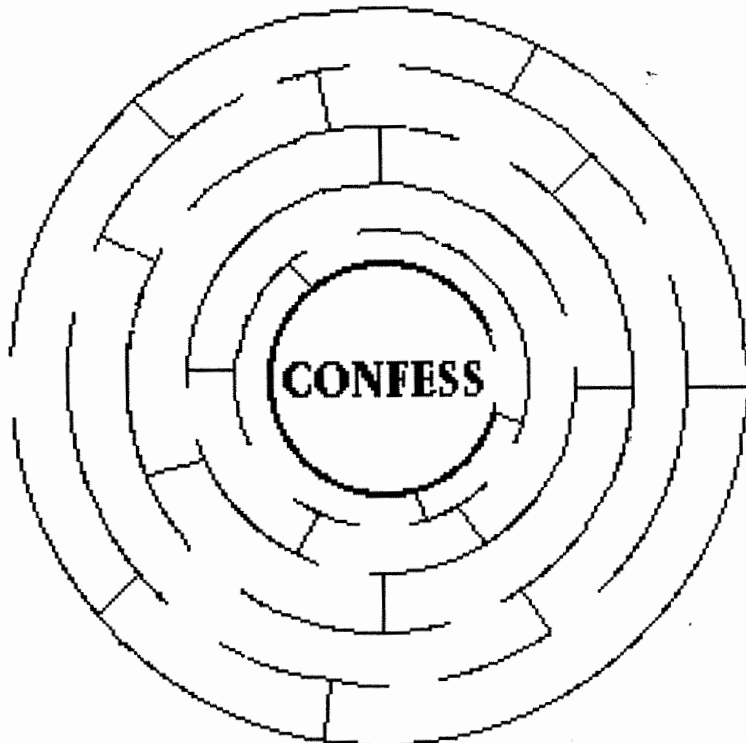
THE PEOPLE CONFESS THEIR SIN (EZRA 10:1-17)

Q C O N F E S S I N G
P U L M Y E U S D M D
A R E O M H W G W O Y
G B F S D T N V G U S
A U O I T I Q N T R M
N W L W Y I I U L N U
W N R A I P O U A E D
I U R A E N N N O D O
V P Y E T L G Q I P G
E D W R F H I L A N X
S L H F B E Z R A A G

BOWING
CONFESSING
EZRA
GOD

MOURNED
PAGAN WIVES
PRAYING

QUESTIONING
WEEPING
WRATH



THE PEOPLE CONFESS THEIR SIN
(EZRA 10:1-17)



"Now therefore, make confession to the LORD God of your fathers, and do His will; "
EZRA 10:11

THE PEOPLE CONFESS THEIR SIN

(EZRA 10:1-17)

MEMORY VERSE:

"Now therefore, make confession to the LORD God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land." EZRA 10:11

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

1. "Now while Ezra was _____, and while he was _____, _____, and _____ down before the house of God, a very large congregation of men, women, and children assembled to him from Israel; for the people wept very bitterly." EZRA 10:1

UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

2. "Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib; and when he came there..." EZRA 10:6
- he ate no bread
 - he drank no water
 - he mourned because of the guilt of those from the captivity
 - all of the above

TRUE OR FALSE:

3. "They issued a proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the descendants of the captivity, that they must gather at Jerusalem." EZRA 10:7

TRUE OR FALSE

4. "All the people sat in the open square of the house of God, trembling because of this matter and because of heavy rain." EZRA 10:9

TRUE OR FALSE

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

5. "Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, 'You have transgressed and have taken _____ wives, adding to the guilt of Israel.'" EZRA 10:10
6. "Now therefore, make _____ to the LORD God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives." EZRA 10:11

TRUE OR FALSE:

7. Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, "No! As you have said, we will not do." EZRA 10:12

TRUE OR FALSE

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

8. They said, "Please, let the leaders of our entire congregation stand; and let all those in our cities who have taken pagan wives come at appointed times, together with the elders and judges of their cities, until the fierce _____ of our God is turned away from us in the matter." EZRA 10:14

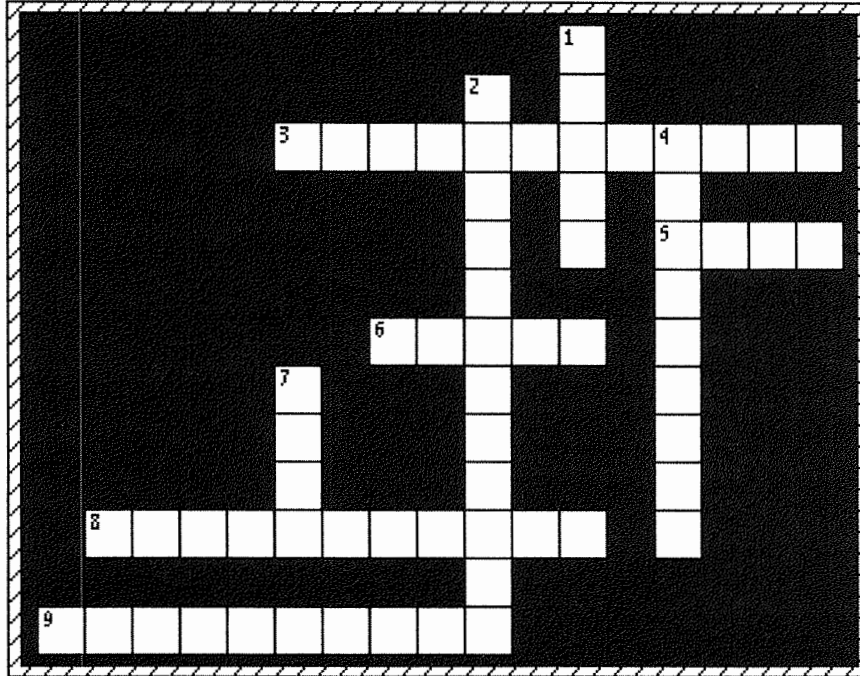
TRUE OR FALSE:

9. "By the first day of the month they finished questioning all the men who had taken pagan wives." EZRA 10:17

TRUE OR FALSE

THE PEOPLE CONFESS THEIR SIN

(EZRA 10:1-17)



- 7 DOWN "Now while Ezra was praying, and while he was confessing, weeping, and bowing down before the house of God, a very large congregation of men, women, and children assembled to him from Israel; for the people _____ very bitterly." **EZRA 10:1**
- 5 ACROSS "Then _____ rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib." **EZRA 10:6**
- 2 DOWN "They issued a _____ throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the descendants of the captivity, that they must gather at Jerusalem." **EZRA 10:7**
- 4 DOWN "All the people sat in the open square of the house of God, _____ because of this matter and because of heavy rain." **EZRA 10:9**
- 1 DOWN "Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, 'You have transgressed and have taken _____ wives, adding to the guilt of Israel.'" **EZRA 10:10**
- 9 DOWN "Now therefore, make _____ to the LORD God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives." **EZRA 10:11**
- 3 ACROSS "Then all the _____ answered and said with a loud voice, 'Yes! As you have said, so we must do.'" **EZRA 10:12**
- 6 ACROSS They said, "Please, let the leaders of our entire congregation stand; and let all those in our cities who have taken pagan wives come at appointed times, together with the elders and judges of their cities, until the fierce _____ of our God is turned away from us in the matter." **EZRA 10:14**
- 8 ACROSS "By the first day of the month they finished _____ all the men who had taken pagan wives." **EZRA 10:17**