

## **AUGUST 6TH, 2023**

#### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

Ezra 1:1-11

In 1989, our dear shepherd at that time, Pastor Ron Blough, initiated our reading through a portion of the 66 books of the Bible as a congregation, typically a chapter each Sunday. Since then, we have been through the entire Bible one full time and are currently in Ezra, the 15th book of the Bible.

#### **TODAY'S SERVICE**





- 2. Opening Prayer & Announcements a. CBC Bylaws Reading
- 3. Hymn #39 "Praise Him! Praise Him!"
- 4. Hymn #4- "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"
- 5. Hymn #9 "Come, Thou Almighty King"
- 6. Reading: **Brother Mike S.**
- 7. Message: "Fulfilled"
- 8. Hymn #86 "God of the Ages"
- 9. Benediction







#### **FULFILLED**

In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing: **EZRA 1:1,** ESV

#### I. the Brief Historical Background

- A. Destruction of the Temple, 586 BC
- B. Decree of Cyrus to Rebuild, 536 BC
- C. Darius' 6th Year, Finished, 516 BC

#### Book of Ezra

National Restoration under Zerubbabel Return to Land, 1-2 Rebuilding the Temple, 3 Resisting the Enemy, 4-6 Spiritual Reformation under Ezra Ezra Comes to the Land, 7-8 Ezra Confesses Sins, 9

Ezra Cleanses Nation, 10

### II. the Breakdown of Chapter One

- A. the Proclamation of Cyrus, vv1-4
- B. the Preparation of the Jews to Return, vv5-6
- C. the Provision toward the Restoration of the Vessels, vv7-11

# III. the Blessings Emphasized from Our Text

## A. Particular Considerations

- 1. the majesty of God in His Word; Jer 25:11-12; Isa 44:28
- 2. the mercy of God toward His people; Jer 29:11 (v10); Rom 8:28
- 3. the mighty influence of God upon man's spirit; Prov 16:9
- 4. the mystery of man's will & God's sovereign will; Deut 29:29

## **B. Prophetic Implications**

- 1. the majesty of Christ in fulfilling God's Word; John 5:39
- 2. the mercy of Christ in saving lost sinners
  - a. Luke 19:10; Jer 32:36-41 (Heb 8:8-12); 33:14-16
- 3. the mighty influence of Christ upon man's spirit
  - a. Isa 6:5; Luke 5:8; Rev 1:17; Heb 13:8; Matt 16:17; Psa 2:11

## C. Personal Application

- 1. He's a God who fulfills
- 2. He'll use/save whom He will
- 3. How will you respond?

# **QUOTE** of the WEEK

You will notice the text says, "Ye were bought with a price." It is a common classical expression to signify that the purchase was expensive. Of course, the very expression, "Ye were bought," implies a price, but the words "with a price" are added, as if to show that it was not for nothing that ye were purchased. There was a something inestimably precious paid for you; and ye need scarcely that I remind you that "ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold;" "but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." Ah! those words slip over our tongue very glibly, but we may well chide ourselves that we can speak of redemption with dry eyes. That the blood of Christ was shed to buy our souls from death and hell is a wonder of compassion which fills angels with amazement, and it ought to overwhelm us with adoring love whenever we think of it, glance our eye over the recording pages, or even utter the word "redemption." What meant this purchasing us with blood? It signified pain. Have any of you lately been racked with pain? Have you suffered acutely? Ah! then at such times you know to some degree what the price was which the Saviour paid. His bodily pains were great, hands and feet nailed to the wood, and the iron breaking through the tenderest nerves. His soulpains were greater still, his heart was melted like wax, he was very heavy, his heart was broken with reproach, he was deserted of God, and left beneath the black thunder-clouds of divine wrath, his soul was exceeding sorrowful, even unto death. It was pain that bought you. We speak of the drops of blood, but we must not confine our thoughts to the crimson life-floods which distilled from the Saviour's veins; we must think of the pangs which he endured, which were the equivalent for what we ought to have suffered, what we must have suffered had we endured the punishment of our guilt for ever in the flames of hell. But pain alone could not have redeemed us; it was by death that the Saviour paid the ransom. Death is a word of horror to the ungodly. The righteous hath hope in his death; but as Christ's death was the substitute for the death of the ungodly, he was made a curse for us, and the presence of God was denied him. His death was attended with unusual darkness; he cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" O think ye earnestly on this. The Ever-living died to redeem us; the Only Begotten bowed his head in agony, and was laid in the grave that we might be saved. Ye are bought then "with a price" -a price incalculable, stupendous, infinite, and this is the plea which the apostle uses to urge upon us that we should "be holiness to the Lord."

"Bought with a Price" from the text, 1 Corinthians 9:19-20 a sermon delivered on August 6th, 1871 by Charles Haddon Spurgeon Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, Volume 17, Sermon No. 1,004

### **AUGUST 2023**

FAMILY READINGS			PRIVATE READINGS	
Judges 20	Acts 24	6	Jeremiah 34	Psalms 5-6
Judges 21	Acts 25	7	Jeremiah 35	Psalms 7-8
Ruth 1	Acts 26	8	Jer. 36-45	Psalms 9
Ruth 2	Acts 27	9	Jeremiah 37	Psalms 10
Ruth 3-4	Acts 28	10	Jeremiah 38	Psalms 11-12
1 Samuel 1	Romans 1	11	Jeremiah 39	Psalms 13-14
1 Samuel 2	Romans 2	12	Jeremiah 40	Psalms 15-16
1 Samuel 3	Romans 3	13	Jeremiah 41	Psalms 17

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