

The Essential Factor

FOR SUCCESS • EZRA 7:10

Sunday Morning, January 5, 2020 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Introduction:

Three times in chapter seven it is said of Ezra that the hand of God was upon Ezra. Including references in both Ezra and Nehemiah, it is said a total of eight times. The hand of God represents the blessing of God. Because of the hand of God, Ezra found favor before the pagan king, Artaxerxes. He and many other Israelites safely journeyed for four months from Babylon to Jerusalem without a military escort. He had good influence as a religious leader even in the lives of the government officials. Interestingly, God specifically notes that He blessed Ezra because of His love for the Word of God.

1. Ezra _____ in God's Word

Psalm 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; And in his law doth he meditate day and night.

A. _____ of Heart

Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord...

DEFINITION—PREPARED: to position; aim; to direct (goal)

Ezra set his heart (mind, will, emotions, knowledge and conscience) firmly upon the Word of God.

Psalm 57:7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

Proverbs 28:26 He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: But whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

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B. _____ of the Word

Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord...

DEFINITION—SEEK: follow; to apply oneself to something, as to follow.

Ezra 7:6 This Ezra went up from Babylon; and he was a ready scribe in the law of Moses, which the Lord God of Israel had given: and the king granted him all his request, according to the hand of the Lord his God upon him.

DEFINITION—READY: skillful, experienced (eager)

2. Ezra _____ God's Word

A. His _____

Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it...

Ezra _____ to do the Word.

See: Peter 1:15, 1 John 2:15, Hebrews 13:4, 2 Corinthians 6:17, Ephesians 4:32.

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

B. His _____

Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it...

HE SOUGHT THE SPECIFIC _____ OF GOD

See Ezra 8:21–23

HE MOURNED THE _____ OF HIS NATION

See Ezra 9:1, 5–6

James 1:22–24 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

3. Ezra _____ God's Word

Jeremiah 20:9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, Nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, And I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

A. His _____

QUOTE: Jewish tradition has a great deal to say about Ezra. It claims that he established the system of synagogue worship while in Babylon, that he played an important part in the formation of the Old Testament canon, and wrote the books of Chronicles, Nehemiah and Esther.

Ezra 7:25–26 And thou, Ezra, after the wisdom of thy God, that is in thine hand, set magistrates and judges, which may judge all the people that are beyond the river, all such as know the laws of thy God; and teach ye them that know them not. 26 And whosoever will not do the law of thy God, and the law of the king, let judgment be executed speedily upon him, whether it be unto death, or to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment.

B. His _____

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.

_____ » _____ » _____

Deuteronomy 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

C. His _____ (Nehemiah 8:1-8)

Nehemiah 8:8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading

THREE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF BIBLICAL PREACHING (8:8)

_____ *the Word Distinctly*

_____ *the Word Clearly*

_____ *the Word Practically*

THREE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE.

They _____ agreeably (8:1)

They _____ intently (8:3)

They _____ joyfully (8:6)

1 Thessalonians 5:20 Despise not prophesyings.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Conclusion

Where is your personal relationship right now to the Word of God
(*Outside of Church*)?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Non-
Existent
Know I
need to!

Love it!
Got to
Have It!

