

Major Event: RESTORATION

Lesson 2: Rebuilding the Temple

Scriptures: Ezra, Dan. 6:25 (And background passages Jer. 25, Dan. 9, Nehemiah)

Central Text: Ezra 3:2, Ezra 5:2 (NIV)

“Then Joshua son of Jozadak and his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and his associates began to build the altar of the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, in accordance with what is written in the Law of Moses the man of God.” (Ezra 3:2)

“Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Joshua son of Jozadak set to work to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem. And the prophets of God were with them, supporting them.” (Ezra 5:2)

Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:

1. The remnant Jews in Jerusalem continually disobeyed God. (Ezra 9:1, Neh. 5:7-8, Neh. 13:4-31)
2. Over and over again, the foreigners who lived near Jerusalem would try to stop the Jewish remnant from rebuilding. (Ezra 4:4-5)
3. God protected the remnant (even though they disobeyed Him again and again) by moving the hearts of two kings of Persia to support the remnant Jews in their rebuilding the temple. (Ezra 1:1, Daniel 6:25, Ezra 6:6-12)
4. Certain leaders and prophets of God were faithful in their obedience to God and in their leadership of the Jewish remnant (Ezra 3:2, 5:1-2)

Suggested Attributes for Teacher to Cover:

1. Of God: God ALWAYS keeps His word – He protected and provided for the Jewish remnant, even though many of them continually disobeyed Him
2. Of man: the choice of desires of the flesh (many of the remnant) or obedience to God (leaders and prophets)

Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home: Jer. 25, Dan. 9, Ezra, Nehemiah

Notes: It took the remnant about 1 year (538 – 537 B.C.) to rebuild the altar, and about 20 years (537 – 516 B.C.) to rebuild the temple, according to Ezra and Nehemiah (dates have been determined by way of the years the Persian kings reigned).