

Trusting God to Complete His Work

Scripture: Ezra 7:20-21

Ezra 7:20-21 KJV And whatsoever more shall be needful for the house of thy God, which thou shalt have occasion to bestow, bestow it out of the king's treasure house. ²¹ And I, even I Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily,

Ezekiel 12:25 KJV For I am the Lord: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord God.

Introduction

By command of Cyrus, king of Persia, in 536 BC, the people of Israel returned to Judea and began rebuilding the temple at Jerusalem. But opposition arose and caused the work to cease until the reign of Darius ... for about 16 years. But God placed in the heart of Darius and Artaxerxes to complete the temple.

The lesson here is to persevere and continue to seek Him for direction. He can change the heart of kings.

I. Hear from God

Isaiah 55:6 KJV Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Jeremiah 29:13 KJV And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

- A. Purpose to seek the Lord
- B. Don't be satisfied until you hear
- C. Continue seeking Him

Luke 11:9-10 AMP So I say to you, Ask *and* keep on asking and it shall be given you; seek *and* keep on seeking and you shall find; knock *and* keep on knocking and the door shall be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks *and* keeps on asking receives; and he who seeks *and* keeps on seeking finds; and to him who knocks *and* keeps on knocking, the door shall be opened.

II. Trust in God

Jeremiah 32:27 KJV Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

Ezra 8:22 KJV For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him.

- A. Speak in faith
- B. Act in faith
- C. Trust God to fulfill His word

2 Chronicles 16:9a KJV For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

III. See God Fulfill His Word

Ezekiel 12:25 KJV For I am the Lord: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord God.

- A. God prepared a man
- B. God prepared hearts
- C. God countered the opposition
- D. God made a way for the work to be done

Conclusion

Though Ezra wrote the book bearing his name, he doesn't appear until 79 years into the history recorded in the book. God raised him up for a specific time to do a specific work. God has such a man for this body of believers.