

OT Bible Books 15-17, 37-38 (return to rebuild)

What were God's interests – for relationship?

- 15. Ezra** – **The way rebuilt** **“Build the house of...God of Israel”** 1:3
The return of a remnant of Jews from Babylon to Jerusalem to rebuild destroyed temple
Permission (from Cyrus) – “God of heaven...charged me to **build him a house** at Jerusalem” 1:2
Initiation (of restoration) – “**buildded the altar** of the God...to offer burnt offerings thereon” 3:2
Opposition – “the adversaires...hired counsellors against them, to **frustrate** their purpose” 4:1,5
Cessation – “Then **ceased** the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem” 4:24
Motivation (of 2 prophets) – “**buildded...through the prophesying of Haggai...and Zechariah**” 6:14
Dedication (of completion) – “the **dedication** of this house of God with joy, And offered” 6:16,17
Reformation (of people 7-10) – “Ezra...prepared his heart to seek the **law**...to teach in Israel” 7:10
- 16. Nehemiah** – **The way's wall** **“let us build up the wall of Jerusalem”** 2:17
Governor Nehemiah rebuilds the wall around Jerusalem to protect the house of God and those within
Preparation – “the wall of Jerusalem is...broken down...So I **prayed** to the God of heaven” 1:3/2:4
Construction – “Let us rise up and **build**...they strengthened their hands for this good work” 2:18
Opposition (from without) – “heard...we buildded the wall, he was wroth...**mocked** the Jews” 4:1
Extortion (from within) – “I rebuked the nobles...Ye exact usury [interest]...of his brother.” 5:7
Completion – “the wall was **finished**...in fifty and two days...this work was...of our God” 6:15,16
Restoration (of people 8-13) – “Ezra opened the **book**...and all the people answered, Amen” 8:5,6
- 17. Esther** – **The way preserved** **“Jews...had rest from their enemies”** 9:16
Between Ezra 6 & 7, Jewish queen Esther (and uncle, Mordecai) saves the Jews at large from destruction
Ring exchanged (power) – “the king took his ring...gave it unto Haman...the Jews' enemy” 3:10
Threat expedited – “letters were sent...to **kill**...all Jews, both young and old...in one day” 3:13
Esther endangered – “I go...unto the king...is not according to the law...if I perish, I perish” 4:16
Kings edict – “the king said, **Hang him** thereon...So they hanged Haman on the gallows” 7:9
Mordecai's exaltation – “king took off his ring...taken from Haman...gave it unto Mordecai” 8:2
Triumph enjoyed [when Jew has ring] – “Jews had light, and gladness, and **joy**, and honour” 8:16
- 37. Haggai** – **The way challenged** **“dwell in...ceiled houses...this house lie waste”** 1:4
Haggai and Zechariah - 2 prophets called to exhort the Jews to finish the work of the house of God, Ezc. 6:14
Consider (circumstances) – “**Consider** your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little” 1:5-6
Comfort (for work) – “spake Haggai...LORD'S message... I am with you, saith the LORD” 1:13
Comparing – “Who...saw this house in her first glory...**comparison**...as nothing” (2nd temple) 2:3
Coming glory – “the desire of all nations shall **come**: and I will fill this house with **glory**” 2:7
Contaminated (by delaying) – “this nation before me...that which they offer there is **unclean**” 2:14
Consider (timing of obeying) – “**Consider** now from **this day** and upward...will I bless you” 2:18,19
- 38. Zechariah** – **The way promised** **“The LORD my God shall come”** 14:5
Return (to building) – “**Turn** ye unto me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you,” 1:3
Realize – “Not by might, nor by power, but by **my spirit**, saith the LORD of hosts” 4:6

Rejoicing (ahead) – *“For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall **rejoice**”* 4:10

Messiah Reigns – *“He [Messiah] shall build...temple of the LORD and...**rule** upon...throne”* 6:13

Messiah Remits (sins) – *“Me whom they have pierced...a fountain opened...for **sin**”* 12:10/13:1