

Ezra Devoted Himself to Study, Obey and Teach the Bible

Ezra 7:1-28

Key Verse: 7:10

By Sarah Barry

“For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.”

1. Read verses 1 and 5. To what events do “After these things” refer? (6:14, 15, 22) Who were the Persian Kings whose hearts God moved to help them? (about 60 years elapsed between 6:22 and 7:1)? Who was Ezra? (5, 6) What was the big problem with which Ezra had to deal? (9:1,2) What could he do?
2. Read verses 6, 9-10. What does it mean to be well versed in the Law? What is the Law of Moses which the Lord God of Israel had given? How does one become well versed? See verse 10.
3. Read verses 11-12. What was the king's attitude toward Ezra? Read verses 13-17. What do these verses tell us about his knowledge of temple worship? Ezra's and the king's integrity and attitude toward material things? (see also: 24-29) How is this related to being well versed in the law of God?
4. Read verses 18-24. What further instructions did the king give regarding gold, silver, material things? What does verse 23 suggest about the king's faith in God?
5. Read verses 25-26. How else did the king show his confidence in Ezra's wisdom and integrity? To what did the king attribute Ezra's wisdom? Read 7:27-28, 8:21-23. What does it mean that “the hand of the Lord was on him” (or its equivalent) (See 7:6,9; 8:18,22,31)
6. Read verse 7:10. What does it mean that Ezra devoted himself to study God's word? What does this verse tell us about his relationship to God? (Dt 6:5, 6) What does it mean that he “studied,” “observed” and “taught”? What else could he do to help his people? (9:3, 5; 10:1-3)