

How God Rebuilds

Ezra 1:1-4

Ezra, a priest and scribe, studied, copied and interpreted the Old Testament scriptures. The book of Ezra tells about how God rebuilt the lives of the Hebrew people.

Solomon built the first temple, but Nebuchadnezzar burned it down. The people were taken into Babylonian captivity, but God declared that he would bring his people home from captivity. In Jeremiah 29:11, God declares that he knows the plans he has for his people, plans to give them a future and a hope.

King Cyrus, a foreigner, not righteous or holy, was chosen for the assignment of rebuilding the temple. God decreed it and moved on Cyrus' heart to complete the task. Cyrus even allowed the people to worship God.

Have you decreed or declared anything in your life or are you making excuses for not doing anything? Are you complaining or blaming other people for your inability to move forward? God looks upon you with tender eyes of mercy. You have to declare that you are a child of God. Declare that you can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens you. Declare that you are more than a conqueror. We are living stones built into spiritual houses, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices.

Cyrus requested that the Persians give them silver, gold, livestock, resources, and offerings to rebuild the temple. God wants us to rebuild the temple in our heart. He wants to rebuild our faith, our ministry and strengthen us for the journey.

Before Nebuchadnezzar burned the temple he took everything out of the temple, but Cyrus brought it all back to restore it. We

thank God that Jesus has restored us by dying on the cross for our sins so we can rebuild our lives.