

# EZRAIAN REVIVAL

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A STORY OF TRUE REVIVAL



## EZRA 9: 1-2

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<sup>1</sup> **And after making these things end**, the leaders were **brought near to me** to say: “The people of Israel, the priests, and the Levites **have not separated themselves** from the surrounding peoples whose **detestable practices** are like those of the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites, Ammonites, Moabites, Egyptians, and Amorites. <sup>2</sup> For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: And the hand of **the princes and rulers have been chief in this trespass**



## EZRA 9: 3,4

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<sup>3</sup> And when I heard this thing, **I rent my garment** and my mantle, **and plucked off the hair** of my head and of my beard, and sat down paralyzed. <sup>4</sup> **They assembled themselves** unto me every one that **trembled** at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of the exiles; and I sat devastated/paralyzed until the evening offering.

## EZRA 9: 5-7

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<sup>5</sup> And at the evening offering I rose up from my heaviness; and having rent my garment and my mantle, I bowed down upon my knees, and spread out my palms unto the YHWH my God, <sup>6</sup> And said, O my God, I am ashamed and embarrassed to lift up my face to you, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens. <sup>7</sup> Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day; Because of our iniquities we have been handed over, along with our kings and priests, to the surrounding kings, and to the sword, captivity, plundering, and to shame of faces, as it is today.

# LEVITICUS 26

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<sup>40</sup>“ ‘But if they will confess their sins and the sins of their ancestors—their unfaithfulness and their hostility toward me, <sup>41</sup> which made me hostile toward them so that I sent them into the land of their enemies—then when their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they pay for their sin, <sup>42</sup>I will remember my covenant .... <sup>44</sup> I will not reject them ....

## EZRA 9: 8-9

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<sup>8</sup> **And now** for a brief moment **grace has been shown from YHWH our God**, to preserve a remnant to escape, and to give us a **peg in his holy place**, that **our God may lighten our eyes, and give us** a little **reviving** in our bondage. <sup>9</sup> For we were bondmen; yet our God has not forsaken us in our bondage, but has extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem.

## EZRA 9:10-12

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<sup>10</sup>“Now, our God, **what shall we say** after this? For we have forsaken Your commandments, <sup>11</sup> which You have commanded by Your servants the prophets, saying, ‘The land which you are entering to possess is an unclean land with the uncleanness of the peoples of the lands, with their abominations which have filled it from end to end and with their impurity. <sup>12</sup> So now do not give your daughters to their sons nor take their daughters to your sons, and never seek their peace or their prosperity, that you may be strong and eat the good things of the land and leave it as an inheritance to your sons forever.’

# EZRA 9:13–10:1

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<sup>13</sup> After all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and our great guilt, since **You our God have requited us less than our iniquities deserve**, and have given us an **escaped remnant** as this, <sup>14</sup> **shall we again break Your commandments** and intermarry with the peoples who commit these abominations? Would You not be angry with us to the point of destruction, until there is no remnant nor any who escape? <sup>15</sup> O Lord God of Israel, You are righteous, for we have been left an escaped remnant, as it is this day; behold, we are before You in our guilt, for no one can stand before You because of this.”

<sup>10:1</sup> Now while Ezra was praying and making confession, weeping and prostrating himself before the house of God, a very **large assembly**, men, women, and youth, **they were gathered to him** from Israel; for **the people wept bitterly**.



## EZRA 10:2-6

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<sup>2</sup> Shecaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, said to Ezra, “We have been unfaithful to our God and have married foreign women from the peoples of the land; yet now there is hope for Israel in spite of this. <sup>3</sup> **So now let us make a covenant** with our God **to put away all the wives and that which is born of them, according to** the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at **the commandment of our God**; and let it be done **according to the law.** <sup>4</sup> **Arise! For *this* matter is your responsibility, but we will be with you; be courageous and act.** <sup>5</sup> **Then Ezra rose** and made the leading priests, the Levites and all Israel, take oath that they would do according to this proposal; so they took the oath. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra rose from before the house of God and went into the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib. Although he went there, he did not eat bread nor drink water, for he was mourning over the unfaithfulness of the exiles.

## EZRA 10:7-11

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<sup>7</sup> **They circulated a proclamation** throughout Judah and Jerusalem that all the exiles should gather at Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup> **Whoever did not come** within three days **would forfeit all his possessions**, according to the decision of the leaders and elders, and would be excluded from the assembly of the exiles.

<sup>9</sup> **So all** the men of Judah and Benjamin **assembled** at Jerusalem within the three days. It was the ninth month on the twentieth of the month, and all the people sat **in the open square before the house of God, trembling because of this matter and the heavy rain**.<sup>10</sup> Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, “**You have been unfaithful** and have married foreign wives adding to the guilt of Israel.”

## EZRA 10:12-15

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<sup>12</sup> Then all the assembly replied with a loud voice, “As you have said, so it is our duty to do. <sup>13</sup> But there are many people; it is the rainy season and we are not able to stand in the open. Nor *can the task be done* in one or two days, for we have transgressed greatly in this matter. <sup>14</sup> Let our leaders represent the whole assembly and let all those in our cities who have married foreign wives come at appointed times, together with the elders and judges of each city, until the fierce anger of our God on account of this matter is turned away from us.” <sup>15</sup> Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahzeiah the son of Tikvah opposed this, with Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite supporting them.

## EZRA 10:16-19

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<sup>16</sup> **But the exiles did so.** And Ezra the priest selected men *who were* heads of fathers' *households* for *each of* their father's households, all of them by name. So **they convened** on the first day of the tenth month **to investigate the matter.** <sup>17</sup> They finished *investigating* all the men who had married foreign wives by the first day of the first month.

<sup>18</sup> Among the sons of the priests who had married foreign wives were found of **the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozadak,** and his brothers: Maaseiah, Eliezer, Jarib and Gedaliah.

<sup>19</sup> **They pledged to put away their wives, and being guilty, they offered a ram of the flock for their offense.**

## 2 CORINTHIANS 6:14

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- <sup>14</sup> Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

# EZRA 10:20-44

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<sup>20</sup> Of the sons of Immer *there were* Hanani and Zebadiah; <sup>21</sup> and of the sons of Harim: Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel and Uziah; <sup>22</sup> and of the sons of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel, Jozabad and Elasah. <sup>23</sup> Of Levites *there were* Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah (that is, Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah and Eliezer. <sup>24</sup> Of the singers *there was* Eliashib; and of the gatekeepers: Shallum, Telem and Uri. <sup>25</sup> Of Israel, of the sons of Parosh *there were* Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin, Eleazar, Malchijah and Benaiah; <sup>26</sup> and of the sons of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth and Elijah; <sup>27</sup> and of the sons of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad and Aziza; <sup>28</sup> and of the sons of Bebai: Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai *and* Athlai; <sup>29</sup> and of the sons of Bani: Meshullam, Malluch and Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal *and* Jeremoth; <sup>30</sup> and of the sons of Pahath-moab: Adna, Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, Binnui and Manasseh; <sup>31</sup> and of the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Isshijah, Malchijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon, <sup>32</sup> Benjamin, Malluch *and* Shemariah; <sup>33</sup> of the sons of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh *and* Shimei; <sup>34</sup> of the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram, Uel, <sup>35</sup> Benaiah, Bedeiah, Cheluhi, <sup>36</sup> Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib, <sup>37</sup> Mattaniah, Mattenai, Jaasu, <sup>38</sup> Bani, Binnui, Shimei, <sup>39</sup> Shelemiah, Nathan, Adaiah, <sup>40</sup> Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai, <sup>41</sup> Azarel, Shelemiah, Shemariah, <sup>42</sup> Shallum, Amariah *and* Joseph. <sup>43</sup> Of the sons of Nebo *there were* Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jaddai, Joel *and* Benaiah. <sup>44</sup> All these had married foreign wives, and some of them had wives *by whom* they had children.