

WEEK 38

October 18—24, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

PROMPTS

MON

EZRA 1-3

- King Cyrus of Persia Helps Israel
- Record of Exile Returnees
- Rebuilding the Temple

Why would a foreign, pagan king help God's people?

TUE

EZRA 4-6; P^SALM 137

- Rebuilders Face Opposition
- Psalm of Mourning in Babylon

Why was God not taking away more struggles from the returning remnant?

WED

HAGGAI 1-2

- A Call to Rebuild
- A Blessing on the New Temple
- God Corrects Behavior
- Belief/Hard Work Encouraged

Reread 1:5-6, known in lore as the Curse of Haggai.

Have you ever experienced it or known anyone who did?

THU

ZECHARIAH 1-7

- Return to God's Comfort
- Two Visions
- God Will Protect
- Five Visions
- Justice/Mercy Tops Fasting

Zechariah prophesied at the same time as Haggai.

How is Zechariah's overall tone or message different?

FRI

ZECHARIAH 8-14

- Blessings for Jerusalem
- Judgment on Israel's Enemies
- Prophecy of the 2nd Coming
- God's Care for Judah
- Multiple Visions
- Vision of the Day of the Lord

Much of these passages visualize the Messiah's First and Second Coming.

What passage struck you most meaningfully?

SAT

ESTHER 1-5

- Queen Vashti Disobeys
- Esther is Made Queen
- Haman Plots to Destroy Jews
- Esther Prepares a Banquet; Haman Rages

As an exiled Jew, Esther hid her identity.

Have you ever wanted to hide something about yourself, or your faith especially?

Why?

SUN

ESTHER 6-10

- Mordecai Honored by Xerxes
- Esther Exposes Haman's Plot
- Xerxes Acts
- The Jews Strike Back
- The Final Tribute to Mordecai

The saying "you reap what you sow" applies here. What happens when you plot evil?