**Lesson 11**

**Beyond the Exile Part 1**

**Ezra and Nehemiah**

**Ezra**

I. The Introduction

A. Ezra, named after its principle character, originally formed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ work with the books of Nehemiah and Chronicles.

B. The book records the fulfillment of God's promise to restore Israel to her land after the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years of captivity in Babylon. (Jeremiah 25:11)

II. The Organization of the Book

A. The return under \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (chapters 1-6)

B. The return under \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (chapters 7-10)

III. The Return under Zerubbabel (chapters 1-6)

A. The Return to the Land (1-2)

1. The return was made possible by the conqueror of Babylon, Cyrus, King of

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (1:1-4)

2. The return was accompanied by contributions from Cyrus. (1:5-11)

3. The return was led by Zerubbabel (2:2)

a. His Babylonian name was Sheshbazzar (1:8,11;5:14-16)

b. His Persian title was Tirshatha (2:63)

c. His personal name was Zerubbabel

B. The Reorganization in the Land (3-6)

1. The altar was built and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were restored. (3:1-6)

2. The new temple was begun in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B.C. (3:7-13)

3. The temple reconstruction was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (4)

4. The prophets Haggai and Zechariah exhort the people to complete the project after a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ year delay. In 520 B.C. the building project was renewed and the dedication occurred four years later in 516 B.C. (5-6)

IV. The Return under Ezra (chapters 7-10)

A. About \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years after the first return and about 60 years after the completion of the Temple, Ezra led a group of 1,754 men back to Judah from Babylon. (7-8)

\*Ezra was a Priest who came to Judah to teach the law of God, to beautify the Temple, and to restore the Temple service.

B. Reformation could not take place until the act of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ took place. (9-10)

**Nehemiah**

I. The Introduction

A. The book bears the name of its principle character, Nehemiah.

B. Nehemiah went to Jerusalem in 444 B. C. Ezra had been there \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years and was a priest who taught religion to the people. Nehemiah, however, came as a civil governor under the authority of the King of Persia. His purpose was to rebuild the city \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and to restore Jerusalem as a fortified city. The Jews had been home nearly 100 years and made little progress beyond the rebuilding of the Temple.

II. The Organization of the book.

1. Rebuilding the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (chapters 1-6)
2. Revival and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (chapters 7-13)

III. Rebuilding the Wall (chapters 1-6).

A. Nehemiah, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1:1-2:10)

1. As cupbearer to King Artaxerxes I, Nehemiah’s position was a responsible one (certifying that none of the wine the King drank was poisoned) and an influential one (since such a trusted servant often became a close advisor).

2. When Nehemiah heard that the walls of Jerusalem were not rebuilt by those Jews dwelling there, he prayed and received permission by the King to go to Jerusalem to correct the problem.

B. Nehemiah, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (2:11-6:19)

1. As governor of Judah, he demonstrated unmatched skills in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and organization.

2. In \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days the rebuilding of the walls was completed.

3. Notice the opposition to Nehemiah's project.

a. Opposition from without:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (4:1-6)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (4:7-23)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (6:1-19)

b. Opposition from within:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (4:11-14)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (5:1-13)

(3) Lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (6:15-19)

c. If *we* are going to do God's work we must realize that opposition will come. See 2 Timothy 3:12.

IV. Revival and Reform (chapters 7-13).

A. The people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (7)

B. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ read and explained (8)

C. The people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (9-10)

D. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ settled (11)

F. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dedicated (12)

G. The people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (13)