

The Heart of Ezra

Ezra 7:10

Introduction:

- A. The value of Old Testament examples (Rom.15:4; 1 Cor. 10:11)
- B. Judah's return from Babylon.
 - 1. First wave under Zebubabel
 - 2. Second wave under Ezra.
- C. Ezra prepared his heart for his great task of being Judah's spiritual leader.
 - 1. It is important to prepare heart receive God's word (Jas. 1:21)
 - 2. It is important to prepare heart to stand on God's word (Eph. 6:13-14)
- D. Ezra's three qualifications for his great task in our text:

Discussion:

I. A Heart Prepared to Seek God's Law.

- A. Seekers rewarded (Heb. 11:6; Matt. 7:7)
 - 1. Cornelius (Acts 10:33)
 - 2. The Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-38)
 - 3. The Bereans (Acts 17:11-12)
- B. Love and seek (2 Thess. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:3,4)

II. A Heart Prepared to Obey God's Law

- A. Obedience from heart (Rom. 6:17, 18)
- B. Importance of obedience.
 - 1. 1 Sam. 5:22
 - 2. Heb. 5:8,9
 - 3. 2 Thess. 1:8
 - 4. 2 Cor. 10:5,6
 - 5. Rom. 1:5, 16:26.
 - 6. 1 Pet. 1:22
- A. Complete obedience.
 - 1. Matt. 28:20
 - 2. 1 Sam 15:3, 8-9, 13

III. A Heart Prepared to Teach God's Law

- A. 2 Tim. 2:2.
- B. Expect to teach in time (Heb. 5:12).
- C. Unable to preach sermon or teach class?
 - 1. Turn and read.
 - 2. Bring and introduce
 - 3. Distribute literature.

Conclusion:

- A. Is your heart prepared to seek, obey and teach?
- B. Why not obey from the heart today?