

EZRA + NEHEMIAH

Restoring Foundations

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Restoring Identity

EZRA 2:1-70

From beginning to end this collection of 66 books is not only revealing God to us, but it's also pointing us to Jesus.



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Restoring Identity: EZRA 2:1-70



WHAT DOES THIS TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

The answer to this question, according to Ezra chapter 2, is:

- God counts each of us by name, and
- He is faithful to keep His promises

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DEREK KIDNER

“This chapter, however uninviting it may seem, is a monument to God’s care and to Israel’s vitality.”

(from “*Ezra and Nehemiah*”)

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1. Counted by Name



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1. COUNTED BY NAME

- Verse 1 tells us what the chapter contains.
- Verse 2 lists the leaders of those returning to Jerusalem.

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1. COUNTED BY NAME



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1. COUNTED BY NAME

What kind of people did He call together for this important work? He stirred the hearts of:

- leaders (2:2),
- ordinary Israelites (2:3-35),
- priests (2:36-39),
- Levites (2:40-42),
- temple servants (2:43-53), and
- the sons of Solomon's servants (2:55-58)

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

“All the temple servants and the sons of Solomon’s servants were 392.”

~ Ezra 2:58

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

- This list reflects a fulfillment of God's promises.



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1. COUNTED BY NAME

- This list reflects a fulfillment of God's promises.
- This list of names reflects a particular kind of focus for what God desired from His people.

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

- This list reflects a fulfillment of God's promises.
- This list of names reflects a particular kind of focus for what God desired from His people.
- This long list of names represents God's specific and thoughtful counting of each and every person.

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

“How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!
How vast is the sum of them! If I should count
them, they would outnumber the sand.”

~ Psalm 139:17-18

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

“Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, not one of them is missing.”

~ Isaiah 40:26

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

“These searched among their ancestral registration, but they could not be located; therefore they were considered unclean and excluded from the priesthood.”

~ Ezra 2:62

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

“The governor said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until a priest stood up with Urim and Thummim.”

~ Ezra 2:63

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

~ Hebrews 4:14-16

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1. COUNTED BY NAME

- Jesus died so that we might live.



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1. COUNTED BY NAME

- Jesus died so that we might live.
- Will you say YES to Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior?

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