

The Return from Exile : the book of Ezra

Code: 10/OT/8

(The book of Ezra)

1. General Aims of the unit

Better Understanding of the "Old Testament" and brief study of the people of God after exile

2. Special aims of the lesson

1. A brief about the decree of Cyrus and the return from exile, the 3 waves of return under the leadership of Zerubbabel and Jeshua the priest ; Ezra the Priest and Nehemiah and the resistance of the enemies.
2. Stress the honesty of Lord God to fulfill His promises to return His people after 70 years (Jer. 25:12)
3. Highlight the fact that God may use even the Pagan kings like Cyrus to fulfill His will(Is. 45:1-7)
4. A brief about the book of Ezra , the writer , the suggested date of writing ; the message of the book ; the main two parts of it (1-6 & 7-10) . Also , mention the prophets who prophesized at that time (Haggai & Zachariah) (Ezra 5:1)
5. Explore the life of Ezra as a writer in the law of God , his love to the word of God (Ezra. 7:10), his mission to separate the children of Israel from the gentiles , his prayer and confession (Ch.10)

3.Outcomes

By the end of this lesson the teens are able to:

1. Deal with Ezra as a hero , debate his zeal in writing , learning , collecting and teaching the word of God to his people and his main mission.
2. Reflect on the honesty of our Lord God in fulfilling His promises even through Pagan kings . (use the return from exile , stories from OT , NT and also contemporary stories)
3. Remember by heart the theme of the book of Ezra and its main 2 parts . The prophets who support the built of the house of God. .

4. Verses :

Ezra 7:10 , 6:22 , 10:1 , 10:11-12 ; Rom 4:21 ; 2Pet. 3:13

5.References:

- 1.Refer to the notes “collections about the book of Ezra”
2. Any commentary on the book of Ezra