

Nehemiah - Lesson 4 - Chapters 8-10

True Revival (chapter 8)	Declaration of a Holy Day	Ezra (Ezra 7:1-10)
- The people gathered and asked Ezra to read the Word of God (1-2) - Long day of reading and explaining God's Word (3) - people were attentive - 14 men stood before them (agreement?) (4) - People stand up (respect) for the reading and explanation (5) - Lifted their hands, bowed low and worshiped (6) - The people mourned and wept when they heard God's Word (9) - The people were repentant - Repentance is built solely on the hearing and understanding of God's Word - Being confronted with truth which shatters the walls of our false securities - Mt 28:18-20 - make disciples - by teaching them to observe what God has commanded	- this was declared a holy day - not to mourn and weep (9) - The joy of the Lord is your strength (10) - They were to celebrate because they understood the Word of God (12) - They were to celebrate the Feast of Booths - They gathered all they needed to make the booths (13-16) - They had not celebrated booths? - II Chron 7:8-10; Ezra 3:4 - they never celebrated with this great of rejoicing tied to it (17)	- Scribe - Priest - He was of Aaron's line (Ez 7:1-5) - Skilled in the law of Moses (6) - Hand of the Lord was upon him (6) - Went up to Jerusalem in the 7th year of Artaxerxes (7) - It took 4 months to go from Babylon to Jerusalem (9) - He set his heart to study the law of the Lord, to practice it, and to teach it to Israel (10)

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Confession of Sin (chapter 9)	Initiating a New Covenant
- 24th day of the 7th month they assembled in sackcloth and fasting with dirt on them (1) - Separated themselves from all foreigners (2) - Ezra 10 - tried to deal with the problem - For 6 hours they read God's Word, they confessed sin, and they worshiped God (3) Confession and worship - God of creation (5-6) - God of Abram (7-8) - God of Moses (9-15) - Confession time - father's acted arrogantly (16-18) - God's great compassion (19-25) - Confession time - disobedient and rebelled (26-27) - God still heard them - They did evil again (28-29) - You had compassion on them (30-31) - God is just (32-34) - We are slaves because of our actions (35-37) - We dedicate ourselves to you (38)	- nation was making a new covenant with God to keep the Mosaic law - This was done in all sincerity (Ex 24:1-8) - 1-27 - list of all the signers (no Ezra) - They would marry foreigners (30) - Would not sell on the Sabbath (31) - Would bring contributions into the house of God (32-33) - Not going to neglect the house of God (34-39) Failure was going to be sure - sin nature takes its toll