

“Something must be done about these “ites” and “ians””

Ezra 9:1 (NKJV)

“When these things were done, the leaders came to me, saying, “The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands, with respect to the abominations of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites”

Ezra 9:8 (NKJV)

“And now for a little while grace has been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg [Nail] in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival in our bondage”

Introduction

- * Seldom in history has revival been needed as much as it is today
- * A need for the children of God to come together – to set up a Camp Meeting [an old term used when Gods people would come together in one place for a set period of time and worship together / Great God Things would take place during these Camp Meetings]
- * In the Old Testament Solemn Assemblies were called

Simply Camp Meetings and Revival Services were Life Changing!

- * Many throughout the years gave their life to Jesus
- * Many were touched by the Healing Hand of God – Divine Healings
- * Many manifestations of the Holy Ghost set in their midst
- * Towns and Communities were changed by the presence of God
- * In fact nations have experienced powerful moves of God that changed the course of their direction

2010 is a year of powerful needs - a year especially needing God

- * This is a day of terrible immorality and wickedness, lawlessness and violence, dishonesty and deceit
- * By the hundreds and thousands people are feeling restless, empty, purposeless, lonely, discouraged, and depressed.

2.

Many today feel hopeless to escape the distress and anguish they feel within their souls

*** Millions desperately need to be revived, aroused to experience life in all its fullness – Salvation that only can be found in Jesus Christ**

Within the church many are found to be caught up in the possessions and pleasures of the world and in its corrupt, immoral, and wicked behavior

*** If the church has ever needed Camp Meeting it is today**

*** If the church has ever needed Revival it is today**

*** Simply in these type of settings we are seeking the Presence of God**

Only the Presence of God will truly birth Revival will truly set a Camp Meeting atmosphere in this place!

*** The Holy Glory of God**

*** Simply His Glory – the Manifested Presence of God**

*** The Manifested [Clear or Obvious to the Mind / Display or Show of Acts or Appearance / Demonstrate / Be Evidence of / Proof / To become Apparent through the Appearance of]**

*** Simply my friends GOD Presence!**

Simply the only way to deal with the “ites” and the “ians” is God

*** Not the Gods of the “ites” and “ians”**

*** Jehovah God [one true God]**

*** God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**

*** God of David**

*** God of Ruth**

*** God of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John**

*** God of John the Baptizer**

*** God of Mary, Phoebe, Aquila**

*** God of Paul, Timothy**

*** The Alpha and Omega**

Camp Meeting 2010 – Its time for God Change to Begin!

Camp Meeting 2010 – over the “ites” and “ians” we win!

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* About five months [Gods number for grace] after Ezra and the returnees arrived in Jerusalem this took place

* We find in Ezra 7 something about this Leader who was leading them

Ezra 7:9 [NKJV]

“On the first *day* of the first month he began *his journey from Babylon*, and on the first *day* of the fifth month *he came to Jerusalem*, according to the good *hand of his God upon him*.

10 For *Ezra had prepared his heart to seek* the Law of the LORD, and *to do it*, and *to teach* statutes and ordinances in Israel”

* Ezra = “help”

* He was the priest and scribe who led the reforms of the returned exiles in Jerusalem; co-worker with Nehemiah a priest with Zerubbabel

Ezra began [started – set forth – lead the way] from:

* **Babylon:** Babel or Babylon = “confusion (by mixing)”

* Remember the Tower of Babel – the place that God mixed up language and scattered the people

* Babel or Babylon, the ancient site and/or capital of Babylonia (modern Hillah) situated on the Euphrates

From this place Babylon [confusion by mixing]

* From this place Babylon – Ezra [Help] led and traveled to Jerusalem

* **Jerusalem:** Teaching of Peace – House of Bread

Ezra made this journey “according to the good hand of his God upon him”

The good hand of God upon him

The Hand of God

Genesis 49:24

“But his bow remained in strength, And the arms of his hands were made strong By the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob (From there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel)”

Isaiah 49:22

“Thus says the Lord GOD: “ Behold, *I will lift My hand* in an oath to the nations, And set up My standard for the peoples”

Daniel 9:15

“And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt *with a mighty hand*, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day...”

Hebrews 10:31

“It is a fearful thing to fall into *the hands of the living God*”

I Peter 3: 21b-22

“ ...through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at *the right hand of God*, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him”

1 Peter 5:6

“Therefore humble yourselves under *the mighty hand of God*, that He may exalt you in due time”

Ezra 7:9 [NKJV]

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10 For *Ezra had prepared his heart to seek* the Law of the LORD, and *to do it*, and *to teach* statutes and ordinances *in Israel*”

* God: 'elohiyim – [el-o-heem'] - Jehovah God [One True] – El-o-heem the triune God / God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit

* Israel: "God prevails"

Now Get This – I believe this is a Word for Today

Ezra = "help"

Ezra began [started – set forth – lead the way] **from:**

Babylon: Babel or Babylon = **"confusion (by mixing)"**

From this place Babylon – Ezra [Help] led and traveled to Jerusalem

* **Jerusalem:** **Teaching of Peace – House of Bread**

Ezra made this journey

“according to the good hand of his God upon him”

* **The Power, Authority, Anointing, Presence and Purpose**

Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD

* **God:** 'elohiym – [el-o-heem'] - Jehovah God [One True] – El-o-heem the triune God / God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit

Ezra prepared himself by studying in Law of God

* and **to do it**, and **to teach** statutes and ordinances **in Israel**”

* **Israel:** "God prevails" – Get this now

Camp Meeting / Revived Times to Seeking the Lord

Revival – Renews and Refreshes us

Its about the very manifested Presence of God

For out of such meetings God Leaders and Birthed

* **God Leaders are set in place**

* **God Leaders begin to usher in GOD CHANGE!**

* **Help is on its way**

* **God Help is studied and prepared and purpose to do it, teach it**

* **For Israel “God Prevails”**

* **God Things Within in 2010! God Preparation Touches Nations!**

About five months [Note five being Gods number for Grace]

Five months after Ezra and the returnees arrived in Jerusalem, Ezra who had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances to Israel something took place

* Ezra was confronted with a crisis that threatened the very life of the of exiles who had returned

The crisis involved terrible sin that had seeped into the lives of the returned exiles

* Many of them were engaging in the detestable, evil behavior of their unbelieving neighbors

Ezra 9: 1 [NKJV]

“When these things were done, the leaders came to me, saying, “The people of Israel [God Prevails] and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands, with respect to the abominations of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites”

* **Abominations:** a disgusting thing / in ritual sense (of unclean food, idols)

* **Abominations:** In ethical sense [of wickedness]

* The people of Israel, the priests and Levites did not separate from the abominations of the “ites” and the “ians”

Now we are talking about the people of Israel “God Prevails”

* They were acting like the “ites” and the “ians”

Canaanites

* **“zealous”** - Merchants and Traders

* Israel had taken up with the abominations of the Canaanites [Zealous as Merchants and Trades – the disgusting things and every thing that goes with the unethical practices of ungodly zeal – Trade and Business

* Israel had taken up with the abominations of the **Cannanites**

7.

Hittites

- * After The Flood, the Hittites originated from Noah's great-grandson Heth, through Ham and Canaan
- * The Egyptians regarded them as barbarians
- * The Hittites greatly modified the system of law they inherited from the Old Babylonian
- * The Hittites adopted many of the gods of the Sumerians and Old Babylonians. The odd thing about the Hittites, though, is that they seemed to have recognized that all gods were legitimate gods
- * Whenever they conquered a people, they adopted that people's gods into their religious system
- * The Biblical Hittites are said to be a great power who dwell "in the mountains"
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the Hittites – False Gods

Perizzites

- * "belonging to a village"
- * dwellers in the open country
- * Inhabiting the fertile regions south and south-west of Carmel
- * "They were the grazers' - farmers
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the Perizzites – Towns and farming – how they conducted themselves

Jebusites

- * Early name for Jerusalem
- * The Jebusites were a Canaanite people, descended from Ham (see Sons Of Noah) through Canaan. They are mentioned only in the Old Testament era of Bible History
- * Their abominable strongholds were foundational
- * Foundations are everything
- * If a foundation is off then everything above is off.
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the Jebusites

Ammonites

- * The Bible explains the origins of the Ammonite people from the incestuous event between Lot and his daughters following the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- * Both daughters had children and the Moabites and Ammonites were descendents of the unions
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the **Ammonites** – sexual perversions had infected their culture

Moabites

- * Fornication
- * Children from Lots daughters - The Ammonites and Moabites their generation
- * A generation of people filled with deception and unhealthy relationships
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the **Moabites**

Egyptians

- * "double straits"
- * **Straits:** Used in reference to a situation characterized by a specified degree of trouble or difficulty
- * Means “tight” – “narrow” – “drawn tight”
- * Israel had long understood the double difficulties of Egypt and the bondage that comes from her
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the **Egypt** [flesh]

Amorites

- * The Amorites were an ancient nomadic people who occupied a portion of the Promised Land
- * **“a sayer”** – meaning: To utter words so as to convey a feeling, intention, instruction / Means to speak an opinion or feelings / Means speaking forth to take an opportunity to influence, developments and policy.

- * The Amorites were referred to as tall, warlike mountain people
- * Moses called Og, an Amorite king, "of the last of the remnant of Rephaites ("giants"), whose bed was 13 feet long (Deuteronomy 3:11)
- * Israel had taken up with the abominations of the Amorites

Ezra 9:1-2

“When these things were done, the leaders came to me, saying, “The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands, with respect to the abominations of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites”

2 For they have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, so that the holy seed is mixed with the peoples of those lands. Indeed, the hand of the leaders and rulers has been foremost in this trespass.”

- * After being in Jerusalem for about five months
- * Ezra began to sense a deep need for revival among the people

He obviously had begun a teaching ministry among the people after they arrived, instructing them in the Word of the Lord

- * Apparently, a spirit of conviction struck the hearts of some, in particular the leaders.

They came to Ezra confessing their sins

- * However, many of the people were not living lives of spiritual separation as commanded by God
- * They were engaging in the detestable, immoral, and wicked behavior of unbelievers, following the evil lifestyle and false worship of their neighbors.
- * Note the neighbors listed: the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites, Ammonites, Moabites, Egyptians, and Amorites

Not only were these Jews committing immorality and wickedness, but some were also intermarrying with unbelievers

- * This was in direct violation of God’s Holy commandments

10.

Ezra 9: 3-4 [NKJV]

“3 So when I heard this thing, I tore my garment and my robe, and plucked out some of the hair of my head and beard, and sat down astonished.

4 Then everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel assembled to me, because of the transgression of those who had been carried away captive, and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice”

* Ezra’s heart was immediately gripped by a deep concern for the people

* So he did the only thing he could: he went to the Lord in prayer, confessing the people’s sins and asking the Lord to send revival among them.

In describing the scene, Scripture paints the picture of a man with a tender heart, a man who sincerely trusted the Lord and cared deeply for his people

* Oh, Lord this is exactly what we need to happen!

* Lord give us once again tender hearts

* Lord touch our hearts in such a powerful way that compassion comes forth – compassion for our city – compassion that will send us to seeking your presence in such a way that your church confesses her sin

Ezra 9: 5 [NKJV]

“5 At the evening sacrifice I arose from my fasting; and having torn my garment and my robe, I fell on my knees and spread out my hands to the LORD my God”

6 And I said: “O my God, I am too ashamed and humiliated to lift up my face to You, my God; for our iniquities have risen higher than *our* heads, and our guilt has grown up to the heavens.

7 Since the days of our fathers to this day we *have been* very guilty, and for our iniquities we, our kings, *and* our priests have been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, to plunder, and to humiliation, as *it is* this day.

8 And now for a little while grace has been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg [Nail] in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival in our bondage”

11.

God had given them a nail in His holy place or sanctuary

* The nail signifies a strong, binding, and secure place in the sanctuary of God's presence

* As long as they followed the Lord, obeying His holy commandments, they had security in Him

God give us a measure of revival!

Ezra confessed the sins of the people

Their sins had, in reality, placed them back in bondage to the world and its lifestyle of wickedness

The present generation was guilty of four sins in particular:

1 They had forsaken God's commandments (Ezra 9:10-11)

They were engaging in the corrupt, detestable, and impure behavior of their unbelieving neighbors.

2 They had intermarried with unbelievers (Ezra 9:12)

3 They had coveted evil associations, the friendship and social life of unbelievers.

4 They had jeopardized their and their children's future by rejecting the promises of God to make them strong and to give the promised land to their children as an eternal inheritance (Ezra 9:12)

Confession is an absolute essential to receive forgiveness of sin

Ezra 9: 8 [NKJV]

8 And now for a little while grace has been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg [Nail] in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival in our bondage”

Romans 6: 23 [NJKV]

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God [forgiveness] is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”

1 John 1:9

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”

Proverbs 28:13

“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy”

2 Chronicles 7:14

“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”

Ezra 10:1 (KJV)

“Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very great congregation of men and women and children: for the people wept very sore”

Amazingly, revival broke out among the people, a genuine revival of confession and repentance of sin

All this was due to one man, to Ezra’s broken heart and prayer

Scripture records the stunning, wonderful event:

- * On the very day of Ezra’s mourning, the people responded [Ezra 10:1-4]
- * The scene of their godly leader and teacher prostrate upon the ground in front of the temple, confessing and weeping in deep agony, attracted attention
- * Other worshippers as well as all who passed nearby the temple soon gathered to join Ezra in seeking the Lord
- * Everyone wept loudly and bitterly

Conclusion – Will you join me this very day as we this is the first service of Camp Meeting 2010 Gods Consuming Fire – Lets start by seeking Revival as Ezra did – lets seek Revival the Altar Way!