Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther

 Series: The Story **I** Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, ESV **I** February 28, 2016



**The books**

EZRA

* 538 BC (1-6): 1st wave of Jews return
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ altar and temple
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in God
* 458 BC (7-10): 2nd wave returns – led by Ezra (Priest)
	+ Ch. 9-10: People \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NEHEMIAH

* 445 BC: Nehemiah returns (Governor)
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: rebuilds the walls in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days
	+ Ch 8. Ezra reads the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Ch 9. People \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ESTHER

* 486 BC – King of Persia: Ahasuerus (Xerxes 1)
* Haman’s plot to kill all the Jews
	+ Esther’s boldness (Esther 4:15-16)
	+ Haman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on his own gallows
	+ God’s name…

**The Story …**

* EZRA and NEHEMIAH
	+ We are called out of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be with Him
	Rev. 18:2, 4, “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! … Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues”
	+ We are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Him
	Col. 2:6-7, “As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith”
	+ We are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Him
	Col. 2:8-10, “See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority”
* ESTHER
	+ God is working in ways we do not see
	+ The enemy is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in his own plan
	+ Colossians 2:13-15 (NLT), “You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for He forgave all our sins. …He took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, He disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by His victory over them on the cross.”

**Our Story …**

How do we come home out of captivity?

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your sins
* Place your faith in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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