



Ezra 5-6

**THE REJOICE**

**THE REJOICE**



A book about... **Restoration**

Ch 1-2: The **Return**

Ch 3-4: The **Rebuild**

**4v24:** Thus the work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a standstill until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

# 1) Word of the Lord – Restores & Renews

**5v1:** Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the prophet, a descendant of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them.

# 1) Word of the Lord – Restores & Renews

**Haggai 1v13-14:** Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, gave this message of the LORD to the people: 'I am with you,' declares the LORD.  
<sup>14</sup> So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the LORD Almighty...

# 1) Word of the Lord – Restores & Renews

The ministry of the **word** of the LORD  
leads to the **work** of the LORD

# 1) Word of the Lord – Restores & Renews

The ministry of the **word** of the LORD  
leads to the **work** of the LORD



## 2) Hand of the Lord – Protects & Provides

**5v3-4:** At that time Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-Bozenai and their associates went to them and asked, ‘Who authorised you to rebuild this temple and to finish it?’<sup>4</sup> They also asked, ‘What are the names of those who are constructing this building?’



**5v6-7:** This is a copy of the letter that Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-Bozenai and their associates, the officials of Trans-Euphrates, sent to King Darius. <sup>7</sup> The report they sent him read as follows:

To King Darius:  
Cordial greetings.

**V8:** The king should know that we went to the district of Judah, to the temple of the great God. The people are building it with large stones and placing the timbers in the walls. The work is being carried on with diligence and is making rapid progress under their direction.

**V9-10:** We questioned the elders and asked them, 'Who authorised you to rebuild this temple and to finish it?' <sup>10</sup> We also asked them their names, so that we could write down the names of their leaders for your information.

**V11:** This is the answer they gave us:  
'We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and we are rebuilding the temple that was built many years ago, one that a great king of Israel built and finished.

**V12-13:** But because our ancestors angered the God of heaven, he gave them into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar the Chaldean, king of Babylon, who destroyed this temple and deported the people to Babylon.

<sup>13</sup> 'However, in the first year of Cyrus king of Babylon, King Cyrus issued a decree to rebuild this house of God.

## 2) Hand of the Lord – Protects & Provides

**V17:** Now if it pleases the king, let a search be made in the royal archives of Babylon to see if King Cyrus did in fact issue a decree to rebuild this house of God in Jerusalem. Then let the king send us his decision in this matter.

## **2) Hand of the Lord – Protects & Provides**

**6v6-7: Royal Protection**

## **2) Hand of the Lord – Protects & Provides**

**6v6-7: Royal Protection**

**6v8-9: Royal Provision**



## **2) Hand of the Lord – Protects & Provides**

**Mt 6v33:** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

### **3) Joy of the Lord – Fills & Overflows**

**6v15-16: The temple was completed on the third day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.**

**<sup>16</sup> Then the people of Israel – the priests, the Levites and the rest of the exiles – celebrated the dedication of the house of God with joy.**

### 3) Joy of the Lord – Fills & Overflows

**6v22:** For seven days they celebrated with joy the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because the LORD had filled them with joy...

### **3) Joy of the Lord – Fills & Overflows**

**John 10v10:** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

# Rejoice in the Lord always...

- **The Word of the Lord – Restores and Renews**
- **The Hand of the Lord – Protects and Provides**
- **The Joy of the Lord – Fills and Overflows**

