

MOVING FORWARD PARTNERSHIP

FEBRUARY 2023

'THE GATHERING'

'A WHAT AND WHY OF THE GATHERING'

'THE SPIRIT OF EZRA'

EZRA 7:10 - 'FOR EZRA HAD DEVOTED HIMSELF TO THE STUDY AND OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW AND TO TEACHING IT'S DECREES AND LAWS IN ISRAEL'

THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN VEHEMENT OPPOSITION TO THE WORD OF GOD, BUT THERE IS 'SOMETHING IN THE AIR' RIGHT NOW THAT WE DO WELL TO DISCERN

2 CHRONICLES 36:15-19 - THE LORD SENT WORD - HAD PITY - BUT THEY(HIS COVENANT PEOPLE) MOCKED GOD'S MESSENGERS - DESPISED - SCOFFED - GOD'S WRATH AROUSED, NO REMEDY - GOD BROUGHT AGAINST THEM THE BABYLONIANS - SET FIRE TO THE TEMPLE - BROKE DOWN THE WALLS - BURNED AND DESTROYED EVERYTHING OF VALUE -

TODAY REFLECTS THAT TIME

- INTELLECTUAL ARROGANCE
- LIBERAL INDIVIDUALISM
- DISRESPECTFUL ATTITUDES

DESIGNED TO

- INTIMIDATE
- LEGISLATE
- ERADICATE

LED FOR SOME PREACHERS AND TEACHERS TO DRAWBACK IN A COLLECTIVE CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE IN

- SCRIPTURE
- SPIRIT
- SPEECH

EZRA WAS COMING BACK TO HIS HOMETLAND AS IT SOUGHT RESTORATION AFTER SEVENTY DEVASTATING YEARS. HE WAS READY NOT JUST DEFINED BY THE PRESENT BUT HIS FAITHFULNESS IN THE PAST

CHAPTER 7 v 6,9,28 - 'THE HAND OF THE LORD ON EZRA'

HE HAD SOMETHING TO SAY, AND SO MUST WE

- STRATEGY - THE WHAT
- STRUCTURE - THE HOW
- SUBSTANCE - THE PURPOSE

NOTE THREE THINGS FROM EZRA'S SPIRIT IN 7:10

1/ DEVOTED - COMMITMENT

2/ OBSERVANCE - CHARACTER

3/ TEACHING - COMMUNICATION

PSALM 119:126 - 'IT IS TIME FOR YOU LORD TO WORK FOR THEY HAVE MADE VOID YOUR LAW'

IT IS AN UNDENIABLE WHAT AND WHY OF THE GATHERING - CAN'T HELP THINKING GOD IS YET TO DO SOMETHING GREAT THROUGH 'WHATEVER THE COST' HERALDS. BE ONE OF THEM!