

Prayer Revolution Bible Institute
BE 435 Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther

Exam 1

Ezra

INSTRUCTIONS

- This is an open-Bible exam.
- For Multiple Choice questions, circle or write the letter for the single best answer.
- For True/False items, write “T” if the statement is entirely true, or write “F” if the statement is not entirely true.
- No penalty for guessing

Multiple Choice

1. Who was the king of Persia who made the first decree allowing Jews to return to Jerusalem?
 - a) Darius
 - b) Cyrus
 - c) Artaxerxes
 - d) Xerxes
2. What was the primary goal of the first group of returnees from Babylon?
 - a) To establish a monarchy
 - b) To rebuild the temple
 - c) To write new laws
 - d) To conquer Samaria
3. Who was the Persian-appointed governor who led the first return?
 - a) Nehemiah
 - b) Ezra

- c) Zerubbabel
- d) Sheshbazzar

4. Who was the high priest that returned with Zerubbabel?

- a) Joshua (Jeshua) son of Jozadak
- b) Eliashib
- c) Jehoiada
- d) Zadok

5. What did the returning exiles build first upon their arrival in Jerusalem?

- a) Walls of the city
- b) Marketplaces
- c) The altar for burnt offerings
- d) Their own houses

6. What special celebration was reinstituted after the altar was built?

- a) Feast of Trumpets
- b) Feast of Booths (Tabernacles)
- c) Day of Atonement
- d) Purim

7. What hindered the rebuilding of the temple for many years?

- a) Famine
- b) Opposition from Samaritans and other adversaries
- c) Lack of materials
- d) Persian war

8. Which prophets encouraged the people to resume building the temple?

- a) Isaiah and Jeremiah
- b) Haggai and Zechariah
- c) Micah and Nahum
- d) Ezekiel and Joel

9. Under which king was the temple ultimately completed?

- a) Darius
- b) Cyrus
- c) Xerxes
- d) Artaxerxes

10. How many years did it take to complete the temple from the time of return?

- a) About 1 year
- b) About 4 years
- c) About 6 years
- d) About 20 years

11. What did the older priests and Levites do when the foundation of the temple was laid?

- a) Ignored the event
- b) Wept aloud
- c) Danced for joy
- d) Left Jerusalem

12. In what year of King Darius was the temple completed?

- a) Third year
- b) Sixth year

- c) Fourteenth year
- d) Twentieth year

13. How did the enemies of Judah try to halt the temple construction?

- a) Attacked Jerusalem at night
- b) Bribed officials and wrote accusations to Persian kings
- c) Poisoned the altar
- d) Flooded the city

14. Who is Ezra, according to the book?

- a) A priest descended from Aaron and a scribe skilled in the Law of Moses
- b) The king of Persia
- c) A prophet from Jerusalem
- d) A governor of Samaria

15. Under which Persian king did Ezra return to Jerusalem?

- a) Cyrus
- b) Darius
- c) Artaxerxes
- d) Xerxes

16. What was Ezra's main spiritual mission in Jerusalem?

- a) Rebuild the walls
- b) Teach the Law of Moses and re-establish religious order
- c) Collect taxes
- d) Write new scriptures

17. How did Ezra travel from Babylon to Jerusalem?

- a) By ship
- b) On horseback
- c) Leading a caravan with families and valuables
- d) Alone

18. What disturbing practice did Ezra find among the returned exiles?

- a) Idol worship in the temple
- b) Intermarriage with foreign women
- c) Sacrificing unclean animals
- d) Selling the altar for profit

19. How did Ezra react upon hearing about the intermarriage?

- a) He ignored it
- b) He praised the people for their tolerance
- c) He tore his clothes, pulled hair from his head and beard, and prayed earnestly
- d) He exiled the offenders

20. What covenant was made regarding the foreign wives?

- a) To honor them all
- b) To provide for them but not divorce them
- c) To send away the foreign wives and children born to them
- d) To integrate them into the priesthood

21. Besides Ezra, which other leader played a critical later role in rebuilding Jerusalem (but is not the focus of this book)?

- a) Jeremiah

- b) Nehemiah
- c) Joshua
- d) Zerubbabel

22. Which Persian king found the original decree of Cyrus in the archives confirming the right to rebuild the temple?

- a) Cambyses
- b) Darius
- c) Artaxerxes
- d) Xerxes

23. Which tribe's genealogies are most detailed in Ezra alongside Judah?

- a) Benjamin and Levi
- b) Ephraim
- c) Dan
- d) Reuben

24. What did Ezra declare before beginning the journey to Jerusalem, showing his faith in God's protection?

- a) "The king's army will go ahead of us."
- b) "Let us take up arms."
- c) "The hand of our God is for good on all who seek him."
- d) "We cannot possibly make the journey."

25. What was the final act of the people in response to Ezra's prayer and instruction about intermarriage?

- a) They rebelled against him and left Jerusalem
- b) They agreed to separate from their foreign wives

- c) They ignored the instructions
- d) They called for a new king

True/False

- 26. The return to Jerusalem in Ezra's time was led by an angel.
- 27. The Persian kings were always hostile to the Jews' desire to rebuild the temple.
- 28. Prophets played a major role in encouraging the rebuilding of the temple.
- 29. The Book of Ezra emphasizes the importance of purity and separation from foreign religious influences.
- 30. Ezra read and explained the Law to the people in Jerusalem.
- 31. The temple rebuilt in Ezra's day was larger and more magnificent than Solomon's temple.
- 32. Ezra belonged to the priestly line descended from Aaron.
- 33. Fasting and prayer are significant themes in the Book of Ezra.

(Answer key on next page)

Answer Key

Multiple Choice

1. b

2. b

3. c

4. a

5. c

6. b

7. b

8. b

9. a

10. d

11. b

12. b

13. b

14. a

15. c

16. b

17. c

18. b

19. c

20. c

21. b

22. b

23. a

24. c

25. b

True/False

26. False

27. False

28. True

29. True

30. True

31. False

32. True

33. True