

EZRA

Covenant Renewal

God's Sovereignty & the Certainty of Covenant Blessings

INTRO: *Despite multiple prophetic warnings, Israel's refusal to repent of idolatry finally brought God's judgment. Judah was deported to Babylon and served out a 70-year sentence. But now it was time to go "home." Would promised blessings still be there?*

I. God is committed to _____ His _____ people.

In the context of Ezra, God and Israel were related by the Mosaic Covenant. God and the Church are related by the New Covenant.

II. God's commitment to _____ His _____ people may appear in _____ when experiencing divine

_____ . Israel may have worried that she would never again experience the blessings offered under the Mosaic covenant.

III. Rejoice! God will move _____ to fulfill His promise of covenant _____ .

Since God wants to bless His people, nothing will stop Him!

A. God will move _____ . *God's sovereignty over nations is pervasive in scripture (Cf. Psalm 33:10; 47:8).*

B. God will move _____ . *God rules over the human heart even as He demands a proper response (Cf. 2 Timothy 2:25; Romans 2:4).*

C. God will move _____ . *Everything belongs to God. He previously did this for Israel in their original Exodus (Cf. Exodus 11:2; 12:35-36).*