

Ezra 4 – Opposition to the Work

Chronology of Ezra 4

- Ezra 4:1-5, 24 ~536 BC Cyrus
- Ezra 4:5, 24 → 520 Darius I
- Ezra 4:6 ~485 Ahasuerus (Xerxes)
- Ezra 4:7-23 464-458 Artaxerxes

Opposition to Rebuilding of the Temple (4:1-5)

- The enemies of Judah and Benjamin (v. 1)
 1. _____ the LORD **and** _____ their own gods (2 Kings 17)
 2. Heard that the exiles were _____ the temple
- Tactics
 1. Let us build _____

Response of the Jews:

 2. Openly _____ the work
 3. Hire others to _____ their purpose
- Response (v. 24) – the rebuilding of the temple _____
 1. When? (vv. 5, 24)
 2. Why? (see also Haggai 1)

Lessons

1. If God is at work in a situation, there will be _____
2. What is needed?
 - Discernment
 - Courage
3. The work _____ stop
 - The test of a man's character...
 - It is not enough to _____ well

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