

# **EZRA, NEHEMIAH, AND ESTHER**

## **Ezra Outline**

### **I. The First Return under Zerubbabel (1:1–6:22)**

- A. Cyrus' Decree to Return (1:1–4)
- B. Treasures to Rebuild the Temple (1:5–11)
- C. Those Who Returned (2:1–70)
- D. Construction of the Second Temple (3:1–6:22)
  - a. Building begins (3:1–13)
  - b. Opposition surfaces (4:1–5)
  - c. Details on the future opposition (4:6–23)
  - d. Construction renewed (4:24–5:2)
  - e. Opposition renewed (5:3–6:12)
  - f. Temple completed and dedicated (6:13–22)

### **II. The Second Return under Ezra (7:1–10:44)**

- A. Ezra Arrives (7:1–8:36)
- B. Ezra Leads Revival (9:1–10:44)

## **Nehemiah Outline**

### **I. Nehemiah's First Term as Governor (1:1–12:47)**

- A. Nehemiah's Return and Reconstruction (1:1–7:73a)
  - a. Nehemiah goes to Jerusalem (1:1–2:20)
  - b. Nehemiah and the people rebuild the walls (3:1–7:3)
  - c. Nehemiah recalls the first return under Zerubbabel (7:4–73a)
- B. Ezra's Revival and Renewal (7:73b–10:39)
  - 1. Ezra expounds the law (7:73b–8:12)
  - 2. The people worship and repent (8:13–9:37)
  - 3. Ezra and the priests renew the covenant (9:38–10:39)
- C. Nehemiah's Resettlement and Rejoicing (11:1–12:47)
  - 1. Jerusalem is resettled (11:1–12:26)
  - 2. The people dedicate the walls (12:27–47)

### **II. Nehemiah's Second Term as Governor (13:1–31)**

## **Esther Outline**

### **I. Esther Replaces Vashti (1:1–2:18)**

- A. Vashti's Insubordination (1:1–22)
- B. Esther's Coronation (2:1–18)

### **II. Mordecai Overcomes Haman (2:19–7:10)**

- A. Mordecai's Loyalty (2:19–23)
- B. Haman's Promotion and Decree (3:1–15)
- C. Esther's Intervention (4:1–5:14)
- D. Mordecai's Recognition (6:1–13)
- E. Haman's Fall (6:14–7:10)

### **III. Israel Survives Haman's Genocide Attempt (8:1–10:3)**

- A. Esther and Mordecai's Advocacy (8:1–17)
- B. The Jews' Victory (9:1–19)
- C. Purim's Beginning (9:20–23)
- D. Mordecai's Fame (10:1–3)

Source: From Grace To You Canada, <http://www.gty.org>