

## PRAYER

Today we will be praying for:

- Our Global Partners, Phil & Lil
- Ongoing impact of Liam Hanna/Year 13 mission trip to Fiji

Phil & Lil  
Global Partners in West Asia



## EZRA 7:1-10

<sup>7</sup> Now after this, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, son of Azariah, son of Hilkiah, <sup>2</sup> son of Shallum, son of Zadok, son of Ahitub, <sup>3</sup> son of Amariah, son of Azariah, son of Meraioth, <sup>4</sup> son of Zerariah, son of Uzzi, son of Bukki, <sup>5</sup> son of Abishua, son of Phinehas, son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the chief priest — <sup>6</sup> this Ezra went up from Babylonia. He was a scribe skilled in the Law of Moses that the Lord, the God of Israel, had given, and the king granted him all that he asked, for the hand of the Lord his God was on him.

<sup>7</sup> And there went up also to Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king, some of the people of Israel, and some of the priests and Levites, the singers and gatekeepers, and the temple servants. <sup>8</sup> And Ezra came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king. <sup>9</sup> For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylonia, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, for the good hand of his God was on him. <sup>10</sup> For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.

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## EZRA: THE MAN FOR THE MOMENT Ezra 7-8

**Intro:** Made for the moment

Background: What was the moment?

### Miraculous preparations

What a man!

Skill (7:6)

Heart (7:10)

Courage (7:6)

The hand of the Lord (7:6, 9)

What a letter! (7:11:26)

The royal blank cheque

Israel reborn

Don't mess with this man

What a God! (7:27-28)

All His handiwork

Consider: Green lights and courage

### Conspicuous problems

Missing campers (8:1-20)

Ezra's skill

Missing security (8:21-23)

Ezra's heart

### Miraculous journey

Holy deliveries (8:24-34)

Fulfilling arrival (8:35-36)

Consider: Being swept up into God's fulfilling plans

### Our moment and the hand of God

Far greater the preparations

Far deeper the conspicuous problems

Far further the miraculous journey

For richer the ultimate fulfilment