

PRAYER

Today we will be praying for:

- Our Global Partners, The Dousts

The Dousts
Global Partners heading to Senegal



ISRAEL ON THE BRINK

Ezra 9-10

Intro: The green which frees and the red which protects

A shocking home truth (ch.9)

Devastating admissions

Serious confessions

Absolute guilt

A serious response (ch.10)

Solemn assembly

Hopeful oaths

National recall

Repentance in action

Consider: Radical devotion

Implications:

Marriage and dating

Repentance and red lights

God's desperate measures

EZRA 9:1-6

After these things had been done, the officials approached me and said, "The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites. ² For they have taken some of their daughters to be wives for themselves and for their sons, so that the holy race has mixed itself with the peoples of the lands. And in this faithlessness the hand of the officials and chief men has been foremost."

³ As soon as I heard this, I tore my garment and my cloak and pulled hair from my head and beard and sat appalled. ⁴ Then all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the faithlessness of the returned exiles, gathered round me while I sat appalled until the evening sacrifice. ⁵ And at the evening sacrifice I rose from my fasting, with my garment and my cloak torn, and fell upon my knees and spread out my hands to the Lord my God, ⁶ saying:

"O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens.