

MAY 19

Read Ezra 2-3

CHAPTER 2

NOW these *are* the children of the province that went up out of the captivity, of those which had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away unto Babylon, and came again unto Jerusalem and Judah, every one unto his city;

2 Which came with Zerubbabel: Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reeliah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel:

3 The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

4 The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.

5 The children of Arah, seven hundred seventy and five.

6 The children of Pahathmoab, of the children of Jeshua *and* Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve.

7 The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

8 The children of Zattu, nine

hundred forty and five.

9 The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore.

10 The children of Bani, six hundred forty and two.

11 The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and three.

12 The children of Azgad, a thousand two hundred twenty and two.

13 The children of Adonikam, six hundred sixty and six.

14 The children of Bigvai, two thousand fifty and six.

15 The children of Adin, four hundred fifty and four.

16 The children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.

17 The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and three.

18 The children of Jorah, an hundred and twelve.

19 The children of Hashum, two hundred twenty and three.

20 The children of Gibbar, ninety and five.

21 The children of Bethlehem, an hundred twenty and three.

22 The men of Netophah, fifty

and six.

23 The men of Anathoth, an hundred twenty and eight.

24 The children of Azmaveth, forty and two.

25 The children of Kirjatharim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred and forty and three.

26 The children of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.

27 The men of Michmas, an hundred twenty and two.

28 The men of Bethel and Ai, two hundred twenty and three.

29 The children of Nebo, fifty and two.

30 The children of Magbish, an hundred fifty and six.

31 The children of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

32 The children of Harim, three hundred and twenty.

33 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty and five.

34 The children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five.

35 The children of Senaah, three thousand and six hundred and thirty.

36 ¶ The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy and three.

37 The children of Immer, a

thousand fifty and two.

38 The children of Pashur, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.

39 The children of Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

40 ¶ The Levites: the children of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah, seventy and four.

41 ¶ The singers: the children of Asaph, an hundred twenty and eight.

42 ¶ The children of the porters: the children of Shallum, the children of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, *in* all an hundred thirty and nine.

43 ¶ The Nethinims: the children of Ziha, the children of Hasupha, the children of Tabbaoth,

44 The children of Keros, the children of Siaha, the children of Padon,

45 The children of Lebanah, the children of Hagabah, the children of Akkub,

46 The children of Hagab, the children of Shalmi, the children of Hanan,

47 The children of Giddel, the children of Gahar, the children of

Reaiah,

48 The children of Rezin, the children of Nekoda, the children of Gazzam,

49 The children of Uzza, the children of Paseah, the children of Besai,

50 The children of Asnah, the children of Mehunim, the children of Nephusim,

51 The children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harhur,

52 The children of Bazluth, the children of Mehida, the children of Harsha,

53 The children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the children of Thamah,

54 The children of Neziah, the children of Hatipha.

55 ¶ The children of Solomon's servants: the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Peruda,

56 The children of Jaalah, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel,

57 The children of Shephatiah, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the children of Ami.

58 All the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants,

were three hundred ninety and two.

59 And these *were* they which went up from Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addan, *and* Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, and their seed, whether they *were* of Israel:

60 The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred fifty and two.

61 ¶ And of the children of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai; which took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name:

62 These sought their register *among* those that were reckoned by genealogy, but they were not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood.

63 And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and with Thummim.

64 ¶ The whole congregation together *was* forty and two thousand three hundred *and* threescore,

65 Beside their servants and their maids, of whom *there were* seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and *there were* among

them two hundred singing men and singing women.

66 Their horses *were* seven hundred thirty and six; their mules, two hundred forty and five;

67 Their camels, four hundred thirty and five; *their* asses, six thousand seven hundred and twenty.

68 ¶ And *some* of the chief of the fathers, when they came to the house of the LORD which *is* at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of God to set it up in his place:

69 They gave after their ability unto the treasure of the work threescore and one thousand drams of gold, and five thousand pound of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.

70 So the priests, and the Levites, and *some* of the people, and the singers, and the porters, and the Nethinims, dwelt in their cities, and all Israel in their cities.

CHAPTER 3

AND when the seventh month *was* come, and the children of Israel *were* in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem.

2 Then stood up Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren the

priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and builded the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings thereon, as *it is* written in the law of Moses the man of God.

3 And they set the altar upon his bases; for fear *was* upon them because of the people of those countries: and they offered burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD, *even* burnt offerings morning and evening.

4 They kept also the feast of tabernacles, as *it is* written, and *offered* the daily burnt offerings by number, according to the custom, as the duty of every day required;

5 And afterward *offered* the continual burnt offering, both of the new moons, and of all the set feasts of the LORD that were consecrated, and of every one that willingly offered a freewill offering unto the LORD.

6 From the first day of the seventh month began they to offer burnt offerings unto the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not *yet* laid.

7 They gave money also unto the masons, and to the carpenters; and meat, and drink, and oil, unto them of Zidon, and to them of Tyre, to

bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea of Joppa, according to the grant that they had of Cyrus king of Persia.

8 ¶ Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the LORD.

9 Then stood Jeshua *with* his sons and his brethren, Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, together, to set forward the workmen in the house of God: the sons of Henadad, *with* their sons and their brethren the Levites.

10 And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their

apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

11 And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because *he is good*, for his mercy *endureth* for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

12 But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, *who were* ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:

13 So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

God had promised captivity judgment to the sinning nation of Israel, and He fulfilled His promise. He also promised that a remnant would return to Jerusalem (see Jeremiah 25:12-14 and 29:10-14). Ezra and Nehemiah tell the story of the return to the land and the city, the rebuilding of the Temple, and the rebuilding of the walls. The Book of Esther also fits into this period, as do the Books of the prophets Haggai and Zechariah.

Ezra is presented as a godly and patriotic Jew, who was a priest and scribe (Ezra 7:1-6). He was a great student of the Scriptures, and helped to restore the Jew of the land. We will find in chapter 8 that he was a man of prayer and, in chapter 9, that he was a man who was greatly burdened for the spiritual welfare of his people. His name means “help” and throughout the Book of Ezra we will see that his faith in the Lord is seen by his willingness to undertake the dangerous journey from Babylonia to Jerusalem without the aid of military escorts.

Chapters 1—3 record key events in the history of the remnant of Israel (the returning to their land, recorded in chapters 1 and 2, and the rebuilding of the Temple, recorded in chapter 3).

The Book of Ezra records chronologically the return of the remnant to Jerusalem and the events which took place after their return. The book records the rebuilding of the Temple and its dedication. There were 42,360 Jews who returned and participated in the rebuilding. They were permitted to do so by a proclamation issued by Cyrus, king of Persia. It is possible that King Cyrus was influenced by the prophet Daniel, and may have heard from his lips the history of Nebuchadnezzar, as well as the great prophecies.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

“The foolishness of man perverteth his way; and his heart fretteth against the Lord” (Proverbs 19:3).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 16: For today’s memory verses, follow instructions on page 9.

HYMN FOR TODAY

GRACIOUS SPIRIT, DWELL WITH ME by Thomas T. Lynch, 1818-1871

An awareness and knowledge of the Holy Spirit’s ministries is most important for every believer. Note briefly these ten specific ministries:

Teaches truths about God and reveals Christ (John 16:12-15).

Convicts us of wrong doing (John 16:8-11).

Regenerates and renews us (Titus 3:5).

Baptizes or places us into the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13).

Gives assurance of our salvation (Romans 8:16).

Indwells and guides our lives (Romans 8:14; 1 Corinthians 6:19,20).

Prays for us (Romans 8:26).

Fills our lives with joy and power (Ephesians 5:18).

Seals and guarantees our eternal promise (Ephesians 4:30).

Distributes gifts to the church (1 Corinthians 12:1-11).

Let us not forfeit the practical benefits of living and walking in the Spirit and demonstrating the fruit of a Spirit-filled life to a lost world—“love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” (Galatians 5:22). “Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me” also reminds us that the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit should make us “gracious,” “truthful,” “mighty,” and “holy.”

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me:

I myself would gracious be;

And with words that help and heal

would Thy life in mine reveal;

and with actions bold and meek

would for Christ my Saviour speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me:

I myself would truthful be;

And with wisdom kind and clear

Let Thy life in mine appear;

And with actions brotherly

Speak my Lord’s sincerity.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me:

I myself would mighty be;

Mighty so as to prevail

Where unaided man must fail:

Ever by a mighty hope

Pressing on and bearing up.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me:

I myself would holy be;

Separate from sin, I would choose

And cherish all things good,

And whatever I can be,

Give to Him who gave me Thee!

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

ARMED FORCES DAY.

Our soldier boys, as well as our sailors and marines and the boys in all classes of service need our prayers. Pray for the servicemen whom you know. Write them today. Send them a gift. Let us not forget them on Armed Forces Day.

1643

THE FIRST AMERICAN FEDERATION WAS FORMED.

What a privilege we have as Americans. We ought to thank God for our forefathers, our heritage, and those men that laid the foundation for what we enjoy today. Spend some time thanking God for America. Sing the "National Anthem." Let your spirits soar and your heart be proud that you're an American.

1848

THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO SIGNED A PEACE TREATY.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1878

BLANCHE KELSO BRUCE APPOINTED REGISTER OF TREASURY BY PRESIDENT GARFIELD.

1925

THE BIRTH OF MALCOLM X, political and religious activist. He was killed in 1965.

1965

PATRICIA R. HARRIS NAMED AMBASSADOR TO LUXEMBOURG.

She was the first black woman ambassador.

A Christian Life

JOHN JASPER

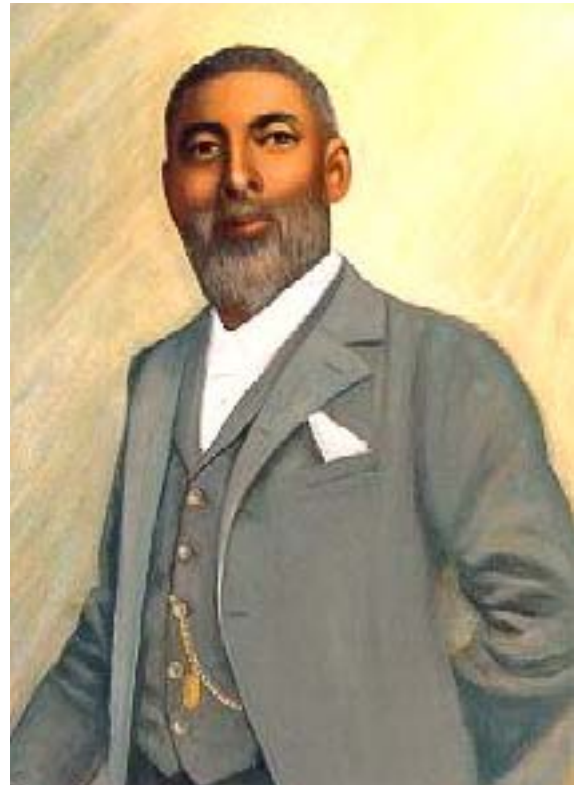
1812-1901

John Jasper was born a slave, the last of 24 children. He grew up on a plantation where he labored in the fields until he reached adulthood. One day, in 1839, while working in a tobacco factory, he was converted to Christ. Immediately sensing a divine call to the ministry, he began to tell everyone of his salvation.

He preached for 60 years, 25 of them as a slave. After the Civil War, he started a church on an island on the James River in Richmond, Virginia. The congregation grew to thousands before his death. Legislators, judges, governors, and many men of distinction went to hear him preach. He preached the fundamental doctrines of the faith with unsurpassed ardor. Jasper believed the Bible to be the source of all authority, and he preached it in nearly every county and city in Virginia and often beyond.

He was sought after continually, and in that respect he stood unmatched by any man of his race. His moral and religious ideals were very lofty, and he lived up to them to a degree not true of many men. Many of the most distinguished white ministers of the country went to hear him preach when they were in Richmond.

John Jasper was called the most original, masterful and powerful Negro preacher that this country has ever produced.



The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I AM AFRAID I COULD NOT HOLD OUT"

(Assignment 16)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() John 10:28

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

() John 10:29

My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

() Romans 14:4

Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

() 2 Timothy 1:12

For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

() 1 Peter 1:5

Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.