

Ezra

Summary

The book of Ezra and Nehemiah use to be a single book in the Hebrew Bible. Ezra was a priest and scribe sent by Artaxerxes. Ezra and Nehemiah were 1 book in the Hebrew Bible. Haggai and Zechariah should be studied with Ezra.

Author and Date:

Ezra is an anonymous work but attributed to Ezra. The author isn't stated but it's probably Ezra.

Audience/ Setting:

Exiles who returned from captivity. The setting was after 2 chronicles, recording the return to their land after their captivity.

Purpose:

The book is about spiritual restoration. When we depart from God, we lose our experience of Him. But when we return to Him, He will restore us to fellowship with Him. Ezra shows God's faithfulness and the way He kept His promise to restore.

Key People:

Cyrus, Zerubbabel, Haggai, Zechariah, Darius I, Artaxerxes I, Ezra

Key Places:

Babylon, Jerusalem

References

NLT Application Study Bible
Tony Evans Study Bible