

“Restoring Worship”

Ezra 3

Historical Background

Ezra is a book about God restoring the people of Judah to Jerusalem. It's a helpful book for anyone who needs restoration in his or her life.

Question:

Why did the people of Judah make worship one of the first things they did upon their return, with everything around them lying in rubble?

Answer:

“An idol is anything we believe we need, apart from Jesus, to make us happy, satisfied, or fulfilled. An idol arises when we desire something more than we desire Jesus; when we fear things rather than God; when we worship ourselves rather than Christ; when we put our trust in anything other than God; when we serve anything other than Jesus.... The things we desire are often good in themselves...If [a good desire] becomes an inordinate desire, it has become a false god. Even good things become idols when they start to rule our lives.” **Gospel Transformation**

**The only antidote to idolatry is
worship of the one true God.**