

GOD HAS A VISION FOR YOU

WORSHIP IN THE VICTORY OF VISION NEHEMIAH 8

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Vss. 1-3

Victory out to produce increased hunger for God

People had hunger for the Law of God

They could have requested Psalms of David

They could have requested other wisdom literature – Job, Proverbs, etc

They could have requested historical records

We request law when

Desire to please God

Desire for righteousness God's way

Willingness to be instructed and corrected; hearing with understanding

Desire for new visions. New understanding of God's word and new obedience out to produce new visions

Ezra, the priest

Priest, represents us before God

Priest needs to be steeped in work of God before he or she can give it.

Priest should be committed to ministry of instruction as well as inspiration

Priest should be open to newness. Ezra's role in community before

Nehemiah. We can only grow under a priest who is open and willing to grow himself or herself.

Importance of selection the right priest (s)

Holiness requires time

What we give time to is indication of what is important

The people were attentive to the word

Word must be substantive not shallow

Word must be transformational, not simply testimonial

Word must be enduring, not simple entertaining

Word must be understandable to be useful

Vss. 4-8

Recapturing sense of reverence for proper worship

Respect for office of priest

Reverence for word of God

Worship is God focused, not need focused

Worship involves surrender and submission

Vss. 9-12

Responding to the word

Awareness to Action

Brokenness to Breakthrough

Confession to Commitment

Conviction to Consecration

Crying to Conversion
Depression to Deliverance
Fear to Freedom
Guilt to Grace
Heartache to Healing
Interest to Infection
Observance to Obedience
Sin to Salvation

Vss. 13-17

Restoring Neglected Traditions
Family altar and family time
Discipline
Sacrifice/work
Sabbath

Vs. 18

Solemn Assembly
Repentance
Reflection
Redemption
Rejoicing
Renewal
Release and Return