

Ezra
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Ezra is one story within a bigger story.
The Bible is one unified story that leads to Jesus.
And Jesus does not disappoint. He is our hope!

Revelation 21:5
Amos 9:11
Jeremiah 29:1-14
2 Chronicles 36 & Ezra 1

Ezra 1-6 with Zerubbabel
Ezra 7-10 with Ezra
Nehemiah with Nehemiah

What the people are hoping for?

- Future Messianic King (Is. 11 & Ho. 3)
- God's Presence in a New Temple (Ezek. 40-48 & Zech. 2)
- God's Kingdom over all nations (Is. 2 & Zech. 8)
- Fulfilment of God's Promise to Abraham (Gen. 12)

What actually happens?

- God's all over it
- Anti-climactic
- Onto the next leader...
- Ends with Nehemiah saying basically – "I did my best"

Nehemiah 8

What do we do amidst all our disappointment?

- We come together
- We seek God in the Word (Jn. 5 & Mansion Metaphor)
- We weep & worship with joy

Hebrews 12
The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Communion