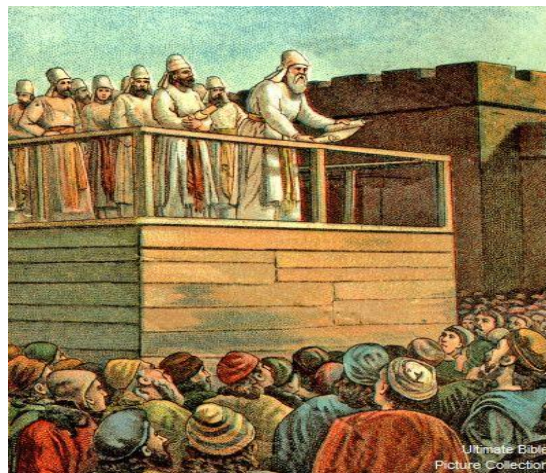
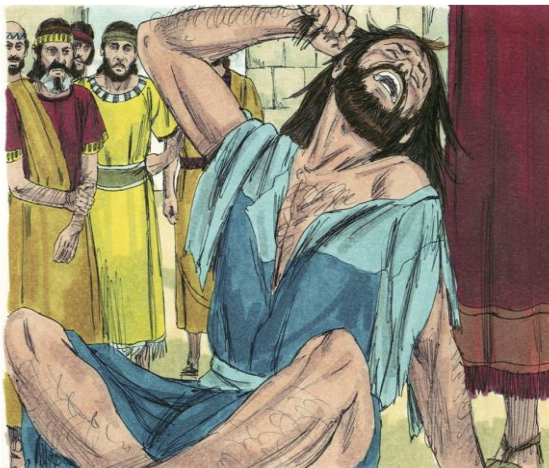


April: 27

The cry of Ezra

Scripture to read: Ezra 10th chapter

Ezra is the author of the books Chronicles, Ezra, Esther and Nehemiah. He was the one who came from Babylon to Jerusalem along with the last batch of people of Israel. He was the teacher of the law who was well versed in God's commands and his laws. He came to the land of Israel with a desire to teach the people God's commands, righteousness and his Judgements. The priests, Levites and the people of Israel married pagan women from Canaanites, Hittites, Perzines, Jebusites, Ammonites, Moabites, Egyptians, and Amorites. Ezra wept saying, if the Lord started to punish the people for the sins that they committed, then the entire people would perish. While Ezra prayed weeping, and lying face down on the ground in front of the Temple of God, a very large crowd of people from Israel—men, women, and children—gathered and wept bitterly with him. Ezra continued to weep and pray without eating or drinking anything for the sins of the people.



Dear ones, did you see the care and love that Ezra grandpa had towards these people. He prayed, fasted and laid face down on the ground. Why and for whom did he do that? It was for the people of Israel and that they should not perish. Just now after the completion of their punishment they came out from the captivity of Babylon. Since the people lived a sinful life again by intermarrying with the nations whom the Lord hated, Ezra was worried that the Lord would punish them again. Children our God is a Holy God. He created us that we may worship and have fellowship with him. Since our God is Holy, we can fellowship with him, if only we lead a Holy life. We should not alone lead a Holy life rather we should also try changing our relatives and friends to live a Holy Life. Even they can accept the Lord as their God and live eternally with him. Can we pray with burden for those who worship idols and lead a sinful life?

Evil people desire evil; their neighbors get no mercy from them. Proverbs 21:10

Prayer

Most Holy God we praise you. Father, grant us a heart like Ezra. Help us to be concerned about the life of others. In Jesus Name, we pray. Amen

