

THE STORY



THE RETURN HOME Ezra 1-6 & Haggai 1-2

HOMECOMING

_____ is in control of _____ is in control.

PUTTING GOD FIRST (Ezra 1-3)

"The Lord, the God of heaven, has... appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. [Let God's people] go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the Lord..."

Ezra 1:1-6

In 538 B.C., King Cyrus of Persia sends God's people home to Israel to rebuild the _____ and _____.

PUTTING GOD ON THE BACKBURNER (Ezra 4)

"Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building... Thus the work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a standstill."

Ezra 4:4, 24

PUTTING ME FIRST (Haggai 1-2)

"Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"

Haggai 1:4

Putting _____ first puts _____ in its place.

PUTTING GOD FIRST... AGAIN (Ezra 5-6)

"The temple was completed" in 516 B.C.

Ezra 6:14-15

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

What does it look like for me to put God first in everything?

THE STORY



THE RETURN HOME Ezra 1-6 & Haggai 1-2

HOMECOMING

God is in control of who is in control.

PUTTING GOD FIRST (Ezra 1-3)

"The Lord, the God of heaven, has... appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. [Let God's people] go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the Lord..."

Ezra 1:1-6

In 538 B.C., King Cyrus of Persia sends God's people home to Israel to rebuild the altar and temple.

PUTTING GOD ON THE BACKBURNER (Ezra 4)

"Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building... Thus the work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a standstill."

Ezra 4:4, 24

PUTTING ME FIRST (Haggai 1-2)

"Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"

Haggai 1:4

Putting God first puts everything else in its place.

PUTTING GOD FIRST... AGAIN (Ezra 5-6)

"The temple was completed" in 516 B.C.

Ezra 6:14-15

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

What does it look like for me to put God first in everything?