

Live Out Loud

Description

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Ezra 7:21-28

King Artaxerxes had a very high regard for Ezra. So much so that when the king sent Ezra back to Israel, he allowed any Israelites from his kingdom to go with Ezra. Not only that, Artaxerxes sent them with silver, gold, and freewill offerings from other people.

This gives us a sense that Ezra was well loved by the king. We read that Ezra devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord (7:10). This is a glimpse of what Ezra is like as a person, and why he's loved. He's a man of character. He was one who walked the talk. Because of that, people like the king, his advisers, and all the king's powerful officials were greatly influenced by his life. Ezra also found favor with God, God blessed him, and Israel was blessed through him.

The way we live our lives matters. When we commit to living out the life God intended for us to live, it not only changes us, it changes those around us including those who don't share our faith.

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