

Courage In Failure

Description

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Ezra 9:8-15

The story of the people of God in Ezra is one of restoration and renewal; God gave this faithless people a chance to start over, to begin again. In the past, they had failed, which led to exile in a land far from home. However, that was not the end of their story.

The opportunity to return home was not because of their own work or abilities, just the opposite; the opportunity to start again was all due to the grace of God. It is only by God's grace that Ezra once again, in prayer, spreads his hands out to the LORD God.

Honest with God about the failure and sin of this remnant of Israel, Ezra recognized their corporate guilt and said, "because of it not one of us can stand in your presence" (Ezra 9:15b). And yet, Ezra continued to kneel in the presence of God with an unspoken plea for grace and mercy.

All of us need the grace of God. May we too have the boldness and courage to kneel before God in our failures, praying for new beginnings.

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