

**Wesley Wright**

**Lighthouse Bible Church**

**Sunday, November 30, 2025**

**Title: There is hope in Israel**

**Ezra 10:1-44**

**Ezra actions compelled those of the people (Ezra 10:1-4) — the same way bad leadership hurt the people, his actions helped them see their sin for what it was.**

# Hosea 4:1-10

**In a similar way that we see a contrast between Ezra and priests prior, there's a major one between Jesus Christ and the wayward priests of old.**

# Ezekiel 34:1-5

# **John 10:10-16**

**Jesus Christ made it clear that his  
listeners were to change their behaviors:**

**Mark 1:14-20**



**The people agree to leave their wives  
and the children that came from those  
foreign wives (Ezra 10:3-5).**

**They did so according to the law, which we aren't under. You have an obligation to take care of your children (1 Timothy 5:8) and your wife (Ephesians 5:22-31).**

**Remember that Ezra fasted earlier in the book looking for an answer from God (Ezra 8:21-23). This fast is of a very different nature.**

**Ezra had such grief over the sin of the exiles (those that were previously in Babylon) that he did not eat or drink (Ezra 10:6).**

**Fasting = common OT response to grief  
over sin:**

- **Joel 1:5-15**
- **Jonah 3:3-10**
- **Isaiah 58:3-6**

**Any who did not respond within three days would forfeiting his belongings and be removed (Ezra 10:7-8). That urgency means they understood the gravity of their sin, too.**

**The Lord does not despise a broken and  
contrite heart, which the people largely  
had. Isaiah 57:15, Psalm 51:17**

**Ezra gave the direction to end these marriages (Ezra 10:11) but so many had entered them that it took some time to take care of them all, especially with rain coming down (Ezra 10:9-14).**



**It says that many committed this  
transgression, so many that everyone  
could not take care of this in one day.**

**Israel was unfaithful then — and now  
— but that won't be the case forever.**

**Hosea 2:14-23 (remember the marriage  
symbol in Hosea)**

**Notice that Meshullam, a Levite (!) is one of the men who helps administratively at the time, per Ezra 10:15 (ref. Ezra 8:16). He was in that second group.**

**There's one more sacrifice, this time a sin offering (Ezra 10:19). Remember Jesus Christ is a perfect offering for sin, once and for all.**

**From v. 18 to the end of the chapter lists all the names of the priests who had foreign wives — roughly two-thirds of the chapter lays out their pervasive sin.**

As wayward as the people had become,  
Shechaniah said there was hope in  
Israel (Ezra 10:2). As long as the Lord  
can keep his word, we have hope too, in  
His Son Christ.

**God preserved Israel for His own  
Name's sake, not because they deserved  
it. We don't deserve what we have in  
Christ, either. Praise the Lord anyhow!**

## **Remember:**

- **The Lord showed patience + grace**
- **Marriages pulled Israelites away**
- **Grief + acknowledgement via  
excellent leadership**