

April 28, 2024

When Opposition Comes

Pastor Brian Greenleaf



Ezra 4-6

Review

Ezra 1: God has a plan for our lives and His church

Ezra 2: The work of God will be done by the people of God when they respond to the move of God in their hearts (Go, Give, Get involved)

Ezra 3: Keep Jesus the priority, through Him we have a connection with God

Overall Theme

Opposition _____ come, _____ it

When People Oppose You

1. Pray _____: bring God into the battle with you – 2 Kings 6:8-17, Ephesians 6:18
2. Pray for the _____ who opposes or mistreats you – Matthew 5:43-44
3. God is _____ you: honor Him with your thoughts and actions – Romans 8:31-39
4. Do not _____: you can have the conversation but do not take revenge
Matthew 5:38-39, 1 Peter 3:9
5. Look for the _____: God can bring unexpected good from a difficult situation
Genesis 50:20
6. Don't try and _____ the score: get out of God's way – Proverbs 25:21-22, Psalm 140:10

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Sermon Talks

1. What caught your attention in this week's message? Was there something you had never heard before or something you had a question about?
2. In Ezra chapters 4-6, to what length were the enemies of the Jews (the Assyrians) willing to go to stop the building of the temple? How did the Jews respond? What was the deciding factor?
3. After reviewing the decree from King Cyrus, what did King Darius command of the Assyrians? What punishment awaited them if they refused?
4. What are some examples where you or your family have been opposed or mistreated by someone? How did you handle it? Is there anything you could have done differently?
5. To your knowledge, what are some examples of where Washington Alliance has received opposition?
6. Do you regularly bring God into your decision making? If so, how has it affected the situation?
7. Go back and review the six principles to facing opposition. Commit to regularly praying that God would grow and mature you in these areas.

Pray about it: Meditate on God's Word (Ezra 4-6) and this week's message.

Adoration: What can I praise God for in light of what this teaches me?

Confession: What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving: What can I thank God for in light of what he has done?

Supplication: What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?