

**A NEW FOUNDATION
FOR A NEW YEAR**

Ezra 3:10-13

W. Bryan Harris, Ph.D.

Senior Pastor

January 3, 2010

I. _____ for the New Year

"When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the LORD, as prescribed by David King of Israel."

Ezra 3:10

A. Why was the Temple destroyed?

B. What was the first step in rebuilding the Temple?

C. What preparation is needed for our New Year?

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II. _____ of the New Year

"With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD: "He is good; His love to Israel endures forever."

And all the people gave a great shout of praise. But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy." Ezra 3:11-12

A. Why did the people celebrate?

1. David's instruction
2. A "New Foundation"
3. A new beginning

B. How did they worship the Lord?

1. They sang and they shouted.
2. They praised and gave thanks.

III. _____ in the New Year

"No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away." Ezra 3:13

A. Unity was found in diversity.

B. All the sounds were heard from "far away".

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