

Ezra: Commitment to the Truth

Skip Gray

I. Introduction.

- A. Without truth, you cannot have meaningful relationships.
- B. When we choose to ignore the truth, we simply destroy ourselves.
- C. God uses human and political institutions to achieve His purposes.
- D. Ezra prepared his heart. (Ezra 7:10)

II. It is important that we come to God with a prepared heart.

- A. We have everything we need for knowledge.
- B. The Hebrew understanding of knowledge was not just information but relationship. (Romans 7:4)
- C. To prepare one's heart means to take a long hard look at life.
- D. Truth is the basis for building a bridge even if it hurts.
- E. We must feed on the word of God to get life. (John 6)

III. Areas of application.

- A. Obey. (II Corinthians 11:3)
- B. Find a promise to claim.
- C. Come to grip with the truth.
- D. Teach statutes and judgments.

Application questions:

1. What is the connection between meaningful relationships and truth?

2. Why is it important to know that biblical knowledge is experiential?

3. What is an example of a promise every believer can claim? Explain.
