

Ezra Chapter 4: Opposition

以斯拉記 第四章: 反對

Ezra Ch I-3: Enthusiasm 以斯拉記第一至三章: 熱誠

- The building of community. 社區的建立
- The building of the temple. 神殿的建造
- The building of spiritual life. 靈性生活的建構
- This is a time of renewal and purpose 這是一個更新和建立目標的時候

Ezra Ch.4: Testing 以斯拉記 第四章: 試煉

• The time of opposition: where the opposition overcomes the spiritual life, and direction of the returning Jews, and there is 15 years of inactivity?

反對的時代: 那反對的聲音壓倒了回歸猶太人的靈性

生活和方向,並且有15年無所作為?

Ezra Ch.4: Testing (Cont'd) 以斯拉記 第四章: 試煉 (續)

- In verses 1-4 of this chapter the opposition is in the form of false friends, discouragement, and bribery.
 - 在四:1-4中, 反對的形式是虛假的朋友、勸阻和賄賂。
- In verses 6-23 it's conspiracy, lies and government intervention. 在四:6-23 中,是陰謀、謊言和政府的干預。
- All this leads to the people of Israel doing nothing, and the grand project being stopped for 15 years
 - 這一切導致以色列人甚麼也不做,而這個宏大的工程也停頓了15年。

James Ch.1 & 2 雅各書 第一和二章

- The book of James, chapter 1, verse 2 tells us that The testing of our faith produces steadfastness. 雅各書一章2節告訴我們: 我們信心的試煉生出堅定。
- This is a process that the people of God will always go through.

這是神子民時常要經歷的過程。

 Today enemies are not the same as in the story of Ezra

今天的敵人和以斯拉故事中的不同

- But they can still be very real 但他們仍然可以是非常真實的
- Today we face internal enemies of the mind, and the external enemies of our culture 今天我們面對着內在的敵人是思想,以及外在的敵人是我們的文化

 Romans 12:2 tells us not to be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of our mind.

羅馬書 十二:2 告訴我們不要效法這世界,但要心意更新而變化。

Ezra Chapter 5: onwards maturity.

以斯拉記第五章: 持續成長

