

APPLY

- 4** What do you learn from people's attitudes toward the Word of God in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah that can serve as a challenge and example to you?

WRAP IT UP:

The people wanted God's Word to be the centerpiece of their lives, the guide to their actions, and the ultimate judge of what was right or wrong. That formed the basis for their worship, just as it should for us.

What role does Scripture play in your life? Will you spend time in it daily so you can make it the basis for worshiping God? Will you bow to Him as the Israelites did in their day?

To discover more about the Precept™ Bible Study Method, sign up for a training workshop! The Essentials of Precept's Bible Study Method Workshop is the perfect place to begin—learn more at [training.precept.org](https://www.training.precept.org)!

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The Amen to God's Word

Precept™ Discovery Study

Ezra 7:10 ESV

- 10** For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the LORD, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6 ESV

- 1** And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel.
- 2** So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month.
- 3** And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.
- 5** And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood.
- 6** And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

First things first...

The book of Nehemiah recounts a time when God's people recognized that His Word needed to be the center of their lives. Let's observe a few verses of that account, and consider their relevance to us.

OBSERVE

- 1** Circle references to Ezra.
- 2** Underline references to the people.
- 3** Then answer the following questions from what you marked:
- a. What role did the Word of God play in Ezra's life?
- b. In Nehemiah, what was the people's attitude toward the Word of God? What did they ask? What did they do when they heard it?