

Ezra/Nehemiah
Community Presbyterian Church
Lesson Four

1. Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln November 19, 1863

2. A wandering Aramean was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there, few in number; and he became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians dealt ill with us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage. And we cried unto the Eternal, the God of our ancestors, and the Eternal heard our voice, and saw our affliction, and our toil, and our oppression. And the Eternal brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders. And God has brought us into this place, and has given us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And now, behold, I have brought the first of the fruit of the land, which You, O Eternal, has given me.' And you shall set it down before the Eternal your God, and worship before the Eternal your God.

Deuteronomy 26:5-10

3. You are the Eternal the God, who did choose Abram, and brought him forth out of Ur of the Chaldeans, and gave him the name of Abraham. Finding his heart true to you. You made a covenant with him to give him the land of Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite and the Girgashite-to give to his descendants. And you kept your word..... You came down also upon mount Sinai, and spoke with them from heaven, and gave them right ordinances and laws of truth, good statutes and commandments; and made known unto them Your holy Sabbath, and did command them commandments, and statutes, and a law, by the hand of Moses Your servant;

Nehemiah 9:7-8, 13-14

4. Everyone asks me, everyone wants me
Women, boys, old men, girls:
Here the wig ... Soon the beard ...
Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro ...
Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro ... Figaro !!!

The Barber of Seville: Gioachino Rossini

5. Ezra went up (Alah) from Babylon. He was a scribe (Sofeir) well versed in the Torah of Moses, which the Eternal, the God of Israel, had given. The king had granted him everything he asked, for the hand of the Eternal his God was on him.

Ezra 7:6

6. And Moses went up (Alah) unto God, and the Eternal called him from the mountain, saying: 'Thus shall you say to the house of Jacob, and declare to the children of Israel:

Exodus 19:3

7. When the seventh month arrived—the Israelites being [settled] in their towns— And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the broad place that was before the water gate; and they spoke unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book (Sefer) of the Torah of Moses, which the Eternal had commanded to Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the Torah before the congregation, both men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. He read from it, facing the square before the Water Gate, from the first light until midday, to the men and the women and those who could understand; the ears of all the people were given to the scroll of the Teaching. Ezra the scribe stood upon a wooden tower made for the purpose,

Nehemiah 8:1-4

8. Ezra opened the scroll in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people; as he opened it all the people stood up. Ezra blessed the Eternal the great God and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," with hands upraised. Then they bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the Eternal with their faces to the ground.

Nehemiah 8: 5-6

9. What hath God wrought

Samuel Morse 1844

10. Watson come here, I want to see you.

Alexander Graham Bell 1876

11. I feel the earth move under my feet

Carole King