



# ONE STORY

GOD'S PLAN TO RESTORE

DANIEL 3 - MALACHI 4

LIVE PREACHING AT EVERY CAMPUS SCROLL DOWN TO FIND THE NOTES FROM YOUR SPEAKER

## *Courage in the Lord: Esther in the Crisis (Esther 4-5)*

September 4, 2022

Speaking Pastor: Justin Raby or Blake Finuf

### One Story Resources – Day 247

- Reading Plan
- Devotional Book
- Let's Talk Calendar
- Kids Podcast
- OWNit365 Podcast

Then Paul answered, "What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." **Acts 21:13 NKJV**

When Mordecai learned all that had happened, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city. He cried out with a loud and bitter cry. **Esther 4:1 NKJV**

And in every province where the king's command and decree arrived, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes. **Esther 4:3 NKJV**

So Esther's maids and eunuchs came and told her, and the queen was deeply distressed. Then she sent garments to clothe Mordecai and take his sackcloth away from him, but he would not accept them. **Esther 4:4 NKJV**

Then Esther called Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs whom he had appointed to attend her, and she gave him a command concerning Mordecai, to learn what and why this was. **Esther 4:5 NKJV**

And Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries to destroy the Jews. **Esther 4:7 NKJV**

He also gave him a copy of the written decree for their destruction, which was given at Shushan, that he might show it to Esther and explain it to her, and that he might command her to go in to the king to make supplication to him and plead before him for her people. **Esther 4:8 NKJV**

"All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, he has but one law: put all to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live. Yet I myself have not been called to go in to the king these thirty days." **Esther 4:11 NKJV**

And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. **Esther 4:13 NKJV**

For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" **Esther 4:14 NKJV**

(Notice this is the 2nd time)

For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" **Esther 4:14 NKJV**

"Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!" **Esther 4:16 NKJV**

Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, across from the king's house, while the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, facing the entrance of the house. **Esther 5:1 NKJV**

At the banquet of wine the king said to Esther, "What is your petition? It shall be granted you. What is your request, up to half the kingdom? It shall be done!" **Esther 5:6 NKJV**

If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, then let the king and Haman come to the banquet which I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said." **Esther 5:8 NKJV**

So Haman went out that day joyful and with a glad heart; but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, and that he did not stand or tremble before him, he was filled with indignation against Mordecai. **Esther 5:9 NKJV**

Then Haman told them of his great riches, the multitude of his children, everything in which the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and servants of the king. **Esther 5:11 NKJV**

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, **Romans 8:38 NKJV**  
nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:39 NKJV**

Because Your loving kindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You. **Psalms 63:3 NKJV**

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. **Matthew 10:28 NKJV**

**True Restoration Only Comes Through following Christ**

**This Week's [One Story Bible Readings](#):**

- 246. Matthew 2 Micah 5:2-5 Luke 2:41-52
- 247. Matthew 3 Luke 3:1-23 Isaiah 40:3-5
- 248. Matthew 4:1-11 Deuteronomy 8:1-3 1 John 2:15-16
- 249. John 1:15-51 Deuteronomy 18:15-19 1 Peter 1:18-20
- 250. John 2:1-12 Isaiah 24:11 John 13:1
- 251. John 2:13-25 John 3:1-21 1 Peter 1:23
- 252. Reflection & Prayer



# ONE STORY

GOD'S PLAN TO RESTORE

DANIEL 3 - MALACHI 4

**God's Promise for Future: Three Endings of the Bible (2Chron 36, Mal 4, Rev 22)**

**September 4, 2022**

**Speaking Pastor: Brian Gann**

## **One Story Resources** – Day 247

- **Reading Plan**
- **Devotional Book**
- **Let's Talk Calendar**
- **Kids Podcast**
- **OWNit365 Podcast**

And the Lord God of their fathers sent warnings to them by His messengers,... **2 Chronicles 36:15a NKJV**

But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy. **2 Chronicles 36:16 NKJV**

Therefore He brought against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, on the aged or the weak; He gave them all into his hand. **2 Chronicles 36:17 NKJV**

And all the articles from the house of God, great and small, the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his leaders, all these he took to Babylon. **2 Chronicles 36:18 NKJV**

Then they burned the house of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious possessions. **2 Chronicles 36:19 NKJV**

And those who escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon, where they became servants to him and his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, **2 Chronicles 36:20 NKJV**

### **God encouraged the Jews to rebuild the Temple**

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, **2 Chronicles 36:22 NKJV**

Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? May the Lord his God be with him, and let him go up! **2 Chronicles 36:23 NKJV**



// Cyrus Cylinder...

Who says of Cyrus, '*He is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."*' **Isaiah 44:28 NKJV**

For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me. **Isaiah 45:4 NKJV**

### **Matthew 24**

**God encourages Christians to look for Jesus' return**

“For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up,” Says the Lord of hosts, “That will leave them neither root nor branch. **Malachi 4:1 NKJV**

But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves. **Malachi 4:2 NKJV**

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. **Malachi 4:5 NKJV**

And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.” **Malachi 4:6 NKJV**

### **God encourages Christians to pray for Jesus’ return**

He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! **Revelation 22:20 NKJV**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. **Revelation 22:21 NKJV**

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- 252. Reflection & Prayer



# ONE STORY

GOD'S PLAN TO RESTORE

DANIEL 3 - MALACHI 4

**Working Together for God: Rebuilding the Walls (Neh 3-4)**

**September 4, 2022**

**Speaking Pastor: Chris Fetters**

## **One Story Resources** – Day 247

- **Reading Plan**
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**God desires us to actively participate in His mission** // How are you participating in His mission?

“So I answered them, and said to them, “The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem.” **Nehemiah 2:20 NKJV**

“A great many people have got a false idea about the church. They have got an idea that the church is a place to rest in... to get into a nicely cushioned pew, and contribute to the charities, listen to the minister, and do their share to keep the church out of bankruptcy, is all they want. The idea of work for them-actual work in the church-never enters their minds.” **D.L. Moody**

**God's mission is more important than our differences and preferences** // They were all skilled in different ways. They all had different passions. But God's mission called for them to put their preferences and desires aside and just start building the wall.

Moreover Jehoiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the Old Gate; they laid its beams and hung its doors, with its bolts and bars. **Nehemiah 3:6 NKJV**

And next to them Melatiah the Gibeonite, Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and Mizpah, repaired the residence of the governor of the region beyond the River. **Nehemiah 3:7 NKJV**

Next to him Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, one of the goldsmiths, made repairs. Also next to him Hananiah, one of the perfumers, made repairs; and they fortified Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.” **Nehemiah 3:8 NKJV**

“After him the Levites, under Rehum the son of Bani, made repairs. Next to him Hashabiah, leader of half the district of Keilah, made repairs for his district. **Nehemiah 3:17 NKJV**

After him their brethren, under Bavai the son of Henadad, leader of the other half of the district of Keilah, made repairs.” **Nehemiah 3:18 NKJV**

**God’s mission is unstoppable**// but that doesn’t mean it’ll be easy

Now it happened, when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being restored and the gaps were beginning to be closed, that they became very angry **Nehemiah 4:7 NKJV**

and all of them conspired together to come and attack Jerusalem and create confusion. **Nehemiah 4:8 NKJV**

Nevertheless we made our prayer to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night. **Nehemiah 4:9 NKJV**

And it happened, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and that God had brought their plot to nothing, that all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work. **Nehemiah 4:15 NKJV**

So it was, from that time on, that half of my servants worked at construction, while the other half held the spears, the shields, the bows, and wore armor; and the leaders were behind all the house of Judah. **Nehemiah 4:16 NKJV**

Those who built on the wall, and those who carried burdens, loaded themselves so that with one hand they worked at construction, and with the other held a weapon **Nehemiah 4:17 NKJV**

Every one of the builders had his sword girded at his side as he built. And the one who sounded the trumpet was beside me. **Nehemiah 4:18 NKJV**

**God has given us everything we need to fulfill His mission** // and protect ourselves against the enemy

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. **Ephesians 4:7 NKJV**

but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— **Ephesians 4:15 NKJV**

from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. **Ephesians 4:16 NKJV**

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September 4

[VISITGRACECHURCH.COM/KIDS](http://VISITGRACECHURCH.COM/KIDS)



This next month we will be learning about creation! We're going to be learning about how God made the land, sky, sea, and plants in this series. We'll learn how God created animals and people next spring.

**Memory Verse:** God made the world. Genesis 1:1 (adapted for toddlers)

**Heart of the Lesson:** God Made the Sky

**Parent Connect:** Watch a sunrise or a sunset together as a family or drive out of town away from the city lights and go stargazing. Talk with your toddler about how God made the sky and everything in it (sun, moon, stars, etc).



In this series, we will look at the life of Jesus, his ministry, and how he fulfills all of the Old Testament prophecies that we've been learning about all year in our One Story Plan.

**Memory Verse:** "John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'" John 1:29

**Heart of the Lesson:** God Keeps His Promises - Jesus Fulfills the Old Testament Promises - Genesis 6:13 and 17, Jeremiah 31:38, Genesis 3:15, Micah 5:2-5, Revelation 22:7, 1:7, and 1 Thessalonians 5:16

**Parent Connect:** Read Genesis 6:13 and 17, Jeremiah 31:38, Genesis 3:15, Micah 5:2-5, Revelation 22:7, 1:7, and 1 Thessalonians 5:16 (or just pick one for younger kids). The Old Testament was written hundreds, some parts even thousands, of years before Jesus came as a baby. How does Jesus fulfill the promises in each of these readings?



We are finishing out the Old Testament in this series focusing on the return of Israel to their Promised Land and pointing to the coming of the promised Savior. Each week we will see that we are a mess - broken and dead without God, but He promises to help. We just need to look to Him for assistance.

**Memory Verse:** But as for me, I am poor and needy; please hurry to my aid, O God. You are my helper and my savior; O Lord, do not delay. Psalm 70:5

**Heart of the Lesson:** Help is on the way - OT review, Malachi 3

**Parent Connect:** This is our last week in the Old Testament. Talk together about what some of your favorite stories have been this year so far. What have you learned?

# WAIT FOR IT

WAITING ON GOD'S PROMISES



Have you ever had to wait a really long time for something you really wanted? Waiting isn't always easy, but it makes it worth it knowing what is to come! God makes promises to His people several times in the Old Testament, and we can also see His promises being fulfilled through Jesus. We can always trust in God's promises!

**Memory Verse:** For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory. 2 Corinthians 1:20

**Heart of the Lesson:** God's Promise of Hope for the Future - 2 Ends of the OT (2 Chr 36 and Mal 4)

**Parent Connect:** Spend some time looking up other promises of God. What promise are you holding onto this week?

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

# GOD'S PLAN TO RESTORE

God isn't Finished with His People



It became clear that the people in the Old Testament needed God's help, and He made a plan to restore the people and prepare them for Jesus! Just like the people of Israel needed Jesus to come and take away their sins once and for all, so do we!

**Memory Verse:** Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIRV) "The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He'll never desert you. So don't be afraid. Don't lose hope."

**Heart of the Lesson:** Look Forward to Jesus Coming! (The end of the Old Testament - 2 Chronicles 36, Malachi 4)

### Connect:

- Malachi 4 promises the return of who?
- What will Jesus do when He returns the second time?
- How can you grow in your understanding of God and in your relationship to Him?