

Through the Bible: Pursuing God's Presence

Ezra 1:1-5; 3:8-13



**God's people are marked by
a longing for His presence.**

- Sacrifice to be in God's Presence
- Submission to God's Standards
- Standing for God when We Can't See

Sacrifice to be in God's Presence

- Returning to Jerusalem was a great opportunity that required great sacrifice.
- They were willing to make the sacrifices for the sake of being in God's presence

Submission to God's Standards

- God has precise standards about how sinful humanity can come into His presence
- For our worship to be proper, it must submit to God's standards

Standing for God when We Can't See

- Every human heart desires to be in God's presence
- The people rebuilding the temple have no tangible sign or proof that God is with them
- Jesus is our proof that God is always with us

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