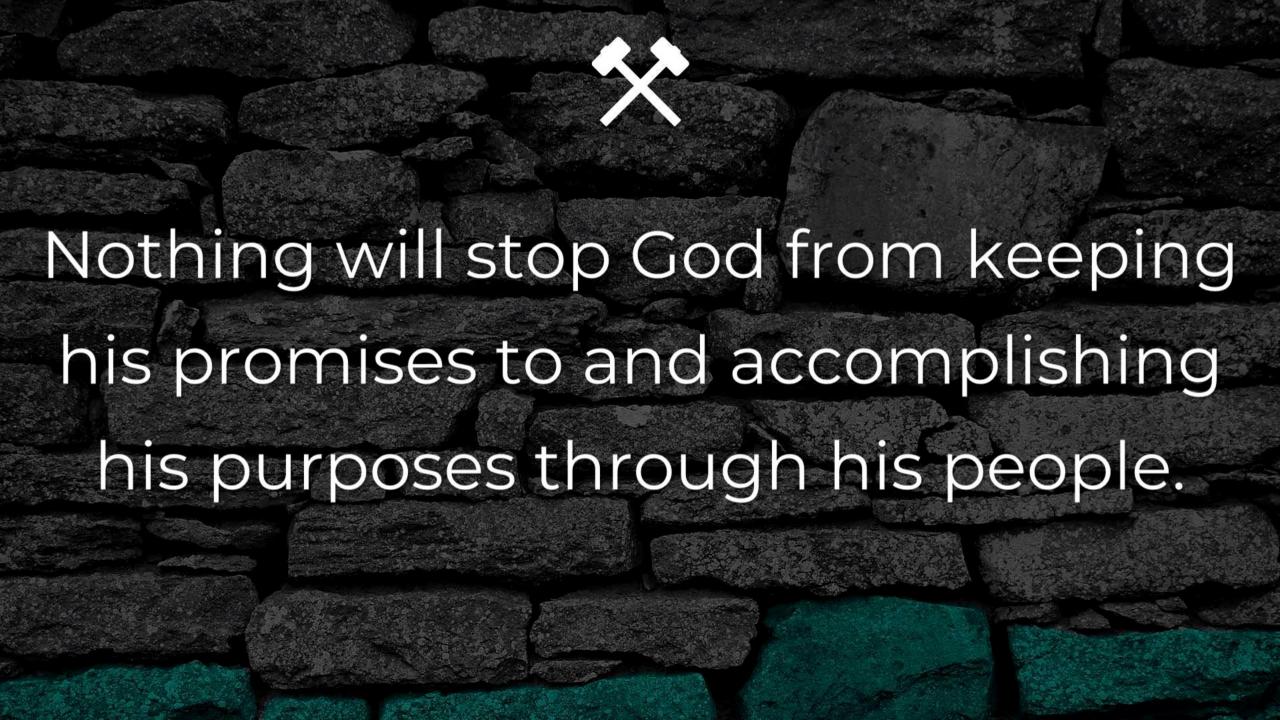


- Ezra used dangerous route without military escort
- Return under Ezra and Nehemiah (457–428 B.C.)
  - Return of exiles in days of Sheshbazzar and Zerubbabel (537–515 B.C.)
    - Judean exiles concentrated in area around Nippur

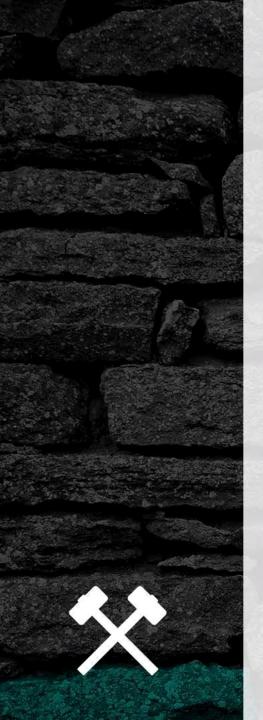




"Rise and Build"



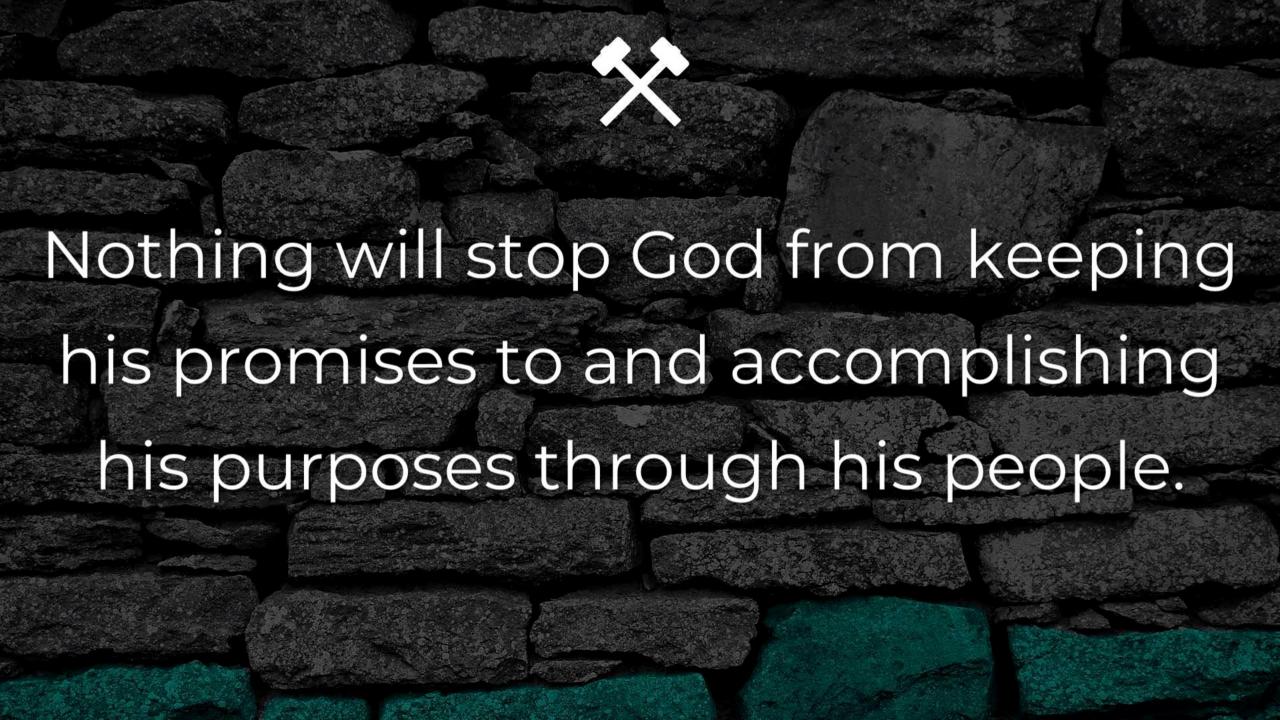
"As it is written"

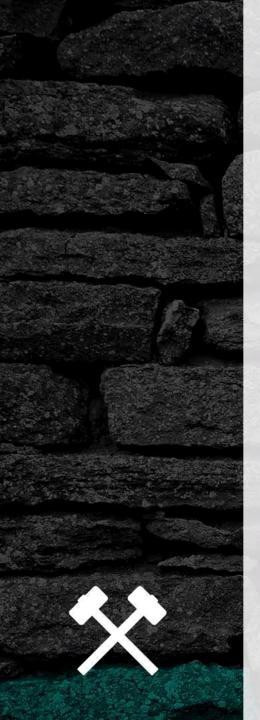


"And they Kept the Feast of Booths"

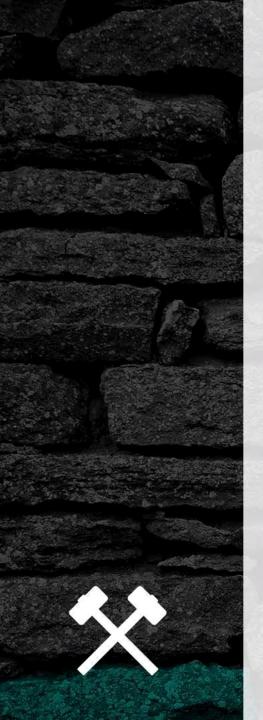






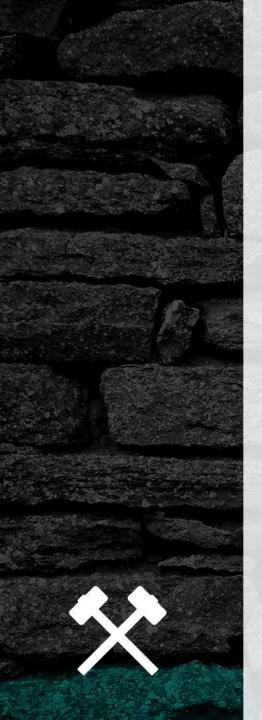


Being in God's presence will ultimately lead to praise.



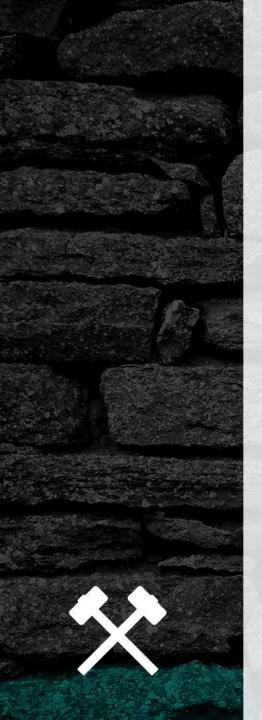
"For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel."

Ezra 3:11



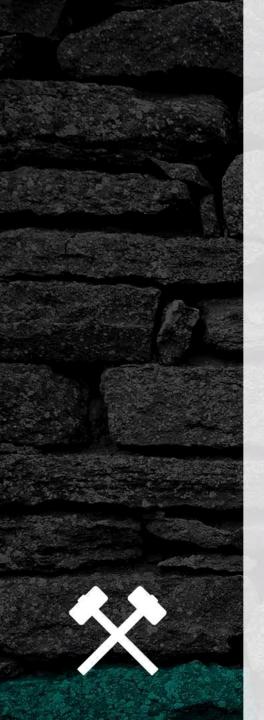
And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

Ezra 3:11



But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid, though many shouted aloud for joy...

Ezra 3:12



The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts.

Haggai 2:9

