

RL GROUPS

Grace | God-sized Vision | For Every Generation

Ezra 4

1 When the enemies of Judah and Benjamin heard that the exiles were building a temple for the Lord, the God of Israel, **2** they came to Zerubbabel and to the heads of the families and said, “Let us help you build because, like you, we seek your God and have been sacrificing to him since the time of Esarhaddon king of Assyria, who brought us here.” **3** But Zerubbabel, Joshua and the rest of the heads of the families of Israel answered, “You have no part with us in building a temple to our God. We alone will build it for the Lord, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus, the king of Persia, commanded us.” **4** Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building. **5** They bribed officials to work against them and frustrate their plans during the entire reign of Cyrus king of Persia and down to the reign of Darius king of Persia.



Questions for Discussion

1. Read Ezra 4.
2. How did the enemies of God's people try to stop them?
3. Why did they offer to help? What kind of slander did they spread? Why did they write the king?
4. Why might we face the biggest obstacles when we are close to fulfilling God's will for our lives?
5. Are there obstacles that you face in life that you feel are trying to stop you from reaching what God has promised you?
6. What might God be teaching you as you face opposition?

Take time to pray for for one another.