

Business Vision Shaped By Zerubbabel Principles

Zerubbabel, a descendant of David and in the direct ancestral line of Jesus (Luke

3:27; Matthew 1:12), was a man of vision. While living in captivity in Babylon, he apparently impressed his captors and gained respectability among them. In the early reign of King Darius, he was given public recognition as the “prince of Judah” (Ezra 1:8). Emerging as the political and spiritual leader of the tribe of Judah, Zerubbabel led a group of captives back to Jerusalem to begin building the temple. Seemingly in the service of the king, he was appointed by King Cyrus of Persia as the governor of Judea (Haggai 1:1). Apparently he was associated with kings, priests, and prophets for some twenty years. Zerubbabel’s vision was to rebuild the temple on the original site in Jerusalem.

Here Are Some Events That Surrounded Zerubbabel’s Vision:

1. Zerubbabel is in captivity in Babylon (Ezra 3)
2. Recognized as the “prince” (Ezra 1:8)
3. With the blessing of King Cyrus, along with Jeshua the high priest, leads a group of captives back to Jerusalem (Ezra 2:1–2)
4. Returned the gold and silver vessels that Nebuchadnezzar had removed from the temple (Ezra 1:11)
5. Set up an altar for burnt sacrifices (Ezra 3:2)
6. Kept the Feast of the Tabernacles
7. Took steps to rebuild the temple
8. Worked on the foundation for two years
9. Opposition came from settlers in Samaria who wanted to help
10. Were refused because of the Samaritans’ association with heathen worship
11. Samaritans disrupted the entire building project
12. Construction comes to a standstill for approximately seventeen years
13. Haggai gives the Word of the Lord to Zerubbabel to rebuild the temple (Haggai 1:3–6)

14. Zechariah and Haggai encourage Zerubbabel to get going again (Ezra 5:1–2)
15. Coordinated the cooperation of prophets, kings, and captives
16. Solicited and received considerable grants of money and materials from Persia, including timber of cedar from Lebanon (Ezra 6:16)
17. Finished rebuilding the temple in four years
18. Dedicated it with great ceremony and rejoicing
19. Received a special blessing from God (Haggai 2:23)
20. Restored the work of the priests and Levites, gave them singers, porters, etc. (Ezra 6:18; Nehemiah 7:5–7)
21. For seven days they celebrated with joy the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Ezra 6:22)

Here Are Some Principles From Zerubbabel We Can Benefit From:

1. Shaping a business vision may be a long-term endeavor.
2. Before shaping any vision, we must start by seeking God.
3. God will help you shape the right vision.
4. God is the giver of the vision.
5. The foundation of any successful vision is built upon the will of God.
6. To shape a business vision requires faith.
7. The shaping of a business vision involves risk.
8. A business vision is shaped not on unbelief, rather upon belief.
9. A business vision must be birthed in your heart.
10. When a vision has been shaped, we will be required to defend it.
11. Shaping our vision demands active worship in the process.
12. Vision should be understood by everyone involved.
13. When people face fear and discouragement, it takes visionary leaders to speak words of faith and encouragement.
14. A godly vision can only be fulfilled by godly people.

15. A vision of real value will always be resisted by outsiders.
16. Others will try to intimidate us in our vision fulfillment.
17. It takes people of character to accomplish great vision.
18. We must remain steadfast in the promises of God.
19. Vision achievement takes commitment and hard work.
20. Vision realization takes people, resources, time, and faithfulness.
21. Vision will always be realized by man partnering with God.