

"TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS & LISTS"

SUGGESTED HYMNS
FOR SABBATH SCHOOL

LESSON 9: NOVEMBER 23-29, 2019

"These joined with their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse and an oath to walk in God's Law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the Lord our Lord, and His ordinances and His statutes" (Nehemiah 10:29, NKJV)

H Y M N S F O R W O R S H I P . O R G

RECURRING THEME IN THIS WEEK'S LESSON & HYMN LIST

A. The attention to detail, as seen in the lists demonstrates God's care for even the little things in our lives. For example, the genealogical listings remind the reader that God does not forget His people, that He preserves their families, and that each family has a role in God's work.

- Does Jesus Care?, SDAH 181
- Children of the Heavenly Father, SDAH 101
- God Will Take Care of You, SDAH 99
- Can You Count the Stars? SDAH 98

B. Trusting in the Lord, that He would make the return from captivity successful.

- On Jordan's Stormy Banks, SDAH 620
- In a Little While We're Going Home, SDAH 626

C. Fasting and the humbling before God were ways of acknowledging just how dependent they were upon the Lord for their success. (Ezra 8:22, 31) And the Lord had protected them, and they made it to their destination safely.

- When on Life a Darkness Falls, SDAH 631
- Under His Wings, SDAH 529

D. The concept of holiness was a crucial one throughout the book of Ezra as the returnees are to dedicate their lives to God and be His representatives on the earth. Ezra and the leaders wanted to reverse the wrong that their forefathers had committed. They were on a mission for God and were going to do it with full commitment to Him.

- Take Time to be Holy, SDAH 500

HYMN NOTES

DOES JESUS CARE?, SDAH 181

<https://hymnsforworship.org/sdah-181-does-jesus-care/>

9.8.10.8. REF.

Many times we wonder how much God cares for us. And one of the things revealed in this week's lesson is how the Lord puts attention on the nitty-gritty details of our lives to show just how much He loves and cares us. Does He care? Definitely yes, He cares!

GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU, SDAH 99

<https://hymnsforworship.org/sdah-099-god-will-take-care/>

C.M. REF.

The experience of the Israelites had been amazing, yet challenging so far. Although they spent so many years under Babylonian captivity, the Lord always took care of His people by raising people like Ezra, Nehemiah, Daniel, and many other prophets to lead His people back home, and back to God. This is a fitting hymn that reflects on God's faithfulness and love for His people, although many times we seem undeserving of it.

CAN YOU COUNT THE STARS?, SDAH 98

<https://hymnsforworship.org/sdah-098-can-you-count-the-stars/>

8.7.8.7.8.8.7.7.

This hymn reveals the detailed side of God. The author, Wilhelm Hey, begins each of the stanzas with questions that challenges us humans how finite we are. *Can you count the stars...the clouds...the fishes..?* Then he concludes each stanza with an answer to the question. Not only does God know the exact number of His creation, but He personally named each and everyone.

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HYMN NOTES

IN A LITTLE WHILE WE'RE GOING HOME, SDAH 626

<https://hymnsforworship.org/sdah-626-little-going-home/>

12.9.12.9. REF.

Oh what anticipation it must have been for the rest of the Israelites still left in Babylon. Then finally, the most awaited trip back home. While the lists suggests that there were several who did not want to go back, there were still alot of them who longed to go back. But the lesson in the story os really for you and I. Are we also longing to go to our heavenly home or are we satisfied with living here in this world? Oh what a joy to know through God's word and the events happening around us that in a little while, we're going home! Home at last!

WHEN ON LIFE A DARKNESS FALLS, SDAH 631

<https://hymnsforworship.org/sdah-631-life-darkness-falls/>

C.M. REF.

The experience of Ezra proved to be challenging in that he would rather take everything to God in prayer and fasting. Unlike Nehemiah who had the protection also of the king, Ezra thought it would be a dishonor to God to ask help from other sources, especially those who are unfaithful to God. A portion of this hymn somehow reflects the same emotions of what Ezra was feeling as he prayed to God,

Keep us through the aching night, til new dawns awaken.

And God proves faithful, as later written in the song:

*All who seek Him, soon are found, made His close relation:
Christ our pathway, Christ our home, Christ our sure foundation.*

TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY, SDAH 500

<https://hymnsforworship.org/sdah-500-take-time-holy/>

HOLINESS 6.5.6.5.D.

While God proves faithful to His people, He require nothing less of them as well. Part of going back to God means taking on a life of holiness and purity. Not because deeds will save us, but because it is the most appropriate way of showing our gratefulness to God for all the things He has done for us. It also reflects what God can do in our lives if we allow Him to impart His righteousness to us.