
Day 287 - October 14

Period of Restoration (535-425 BCE)

Official Records of Israel

Readings: *1 Chronicles 4:24-43, 5:1-17, 6:1-81, 7:1-40; 8:1-40, 9:1-34*

Reflections:

- This continued list of archival records again follows the pattern of the previous section. We see listed specific roles, tribal records that include the fighting men within the tribes, divisions of land as well as the family records for those that lived in Jerusalem.
- We should note again that the Levites did not go to war but lived as peacemakers and mediators within Israel. It will be the Levites that will serve as a model for the community of Christ-followers who will serve as a priesthood for the world.
- We should also note how small the numbers are within the nation. This is not a powerful nation. This is a rather small and pathetic group.
- With this final and rather boring entry, the story of the family of Israel comes to a close. The nation that began with such hope and promise is now again in slavery. They have a temple but it is a small and humble. They have a city but that is about it. They have the Law but have absolutely no track record of keeping it. They have leadership but it is flawed. They are stuck in the same state that virtually all humans can identify with: sincere motives, the opportunity to succeed, but no ability to actually live out their own ideals. The impact of the fall into self-centeredness is inescapable. Here they wait for their coming rescuer.