I. The Connection of Ezra and 2 Chronicles is seen it the repetition of Cyrus’s Proclamation.

 A. Redemption History’s Picture is Painted by the Voice of the Prophets.

 1. Jeremiah’s prophecy is repeated in 2 Chronicles 36 and Ezra 1.

II. Let’s consider the prophesies of Jeremiah and Isaiah and their place in understanding these events.

 A. Jeremiah 25-29 proclaim the explanation and interpretation of history then and now.

 1. God’s “ways are not our ways,” but the prophets explain God’s “ways.”

III. Isaiah 44-45 was written 100 years before the events of the Captivity took place.

 A. Cyrus is predicted before he was born.

 B. God’s “thoughts are not our thoughts” but the prophet explains God’s thoughts.

 C. What was true then is what is true now.

 1. We cannot “make things happen” any more than we can propel atoms.

IV. Again, let’s return to the three-fold role of Jesus in Redemptive History.

 A. Let’s consider the parallel of Matthew 1:22; 2 Chronicles 36; and Ezra 1

 B. Let’s consider the connection of Matthew and Jeremiah in Matt. 2:17

 1. The visit of the Magi is explained.

 C. Let’s consider the use of the prophet’s voice in Jesus’ dealings with Satan.

 1. Matthew 4

V. Let’s consider the voice of Jesus and His place as prophet.

 A. Matthew 5 – 7, The Sermon on the Mount

VI. Let’s consider the role of Jesus as priest.

 A. Compare Matthew 20:28 with Revelation 5:9 - 12

VII. Let’s consider the role of Jesus as King.

 A. Zechariah 9:9 and Matthew 21:5

 B. Revelation 19:11-16

VIII. Let’s Heed the Significance of Redemptive History’s Great Prediction.

 A. Philippians 2:10