

## Restoring the Broken

November 19, 2006

“Facing Opposition”

Ezra 4:1-5

### Introduction:

As Christians, who would we say are our enemies? This morning we will learn how the Israelites identified their enemies and how they responded to the opposition they faced from their enemies.

### Interpretation:

We can expect \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s work of  
\_\_\_\_\_ in and through us.

### Application:

- \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

## Going Deeper

1. Do you believe that Rosie O'Donnell should apologize to Christians for the following statement? She said, "Radical Christianity is just as threatening as radical Islam in a country like the United States."
2. Who opposes Christ and his work of redemption and restoration in our lives?  
(Ephesians 6:12-13, 1 Peter 5:7-9)
3. Considering the storyline in the New Testament, can you find Satan's opposition to Christ's work being made manifest through people attacking Christians, either verbally or physically?  
(John 15:18-21, 16:32-33)
4. Who, if anyone, opposes the work of Christ's restoration in your own life? (Matthew 12:30)
5. How are you responding in grace and truth toward those who oppose the work of Christ in your life?  
(Matthew 5:43-44, John 1:14)
6. List some examples of times when Christ responded with both grace and truth.
7. How are you failing to respond with grace and truth toward those who oppose the work of Christ in your life?

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