



Christian  
**VOICES**

Present

**EZRA**

*Based on the story from the Old Testament*

**Sunday 16th February**

St. Mary's Church, Battle - 3.0 p.m.

**Monday 17th February**

United Reformed Church, Bexhill 7:45 p.m.

**Wednesday 19th February**

Living Word Church, Bexhill 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday 20th February**

Beulah Baptist Church 7:45 p.m.

**Saturday 22nd February**

Ninfield Methodist Church Hall, Ninfield, 3:00 p.m.

**Sunday 23rd February**

St. Peter's Community Centre, Bexhill 9:45 a.m.

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE IN AID OF  
BARBY KEEL ANIMAL SANCTUARY

# Ezra

Directed by	Nick Cearns
Written by	Alan Young
All Songs by	Dave Chamberlin
Prompt	Maureen Payne
Programme Design	Jacqueline Young
Website	Nigel Cox

## Singers

Natasha Chamberlin

Monique Chamberlin

Dave Chamberlin

## Musicians

Guitar Dave Chamberlin

Drums Ian Howell

Bass Guitar Graham Morrow

# EZRA

## Lyrics

### ACT 1

SONG: "TESTED"

### ACT 2

SONG "STRUGGLE"

### ACT 3

SONG: "SOLOMON"

### ACT 4

SONG: "A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION"

### ACT 5

SONG: "MORE THAN ONE WAY"

### ACT 6

SONG: "INSTRUMENTAL"

### ACT 7

"THE CONVERSATION"

### ACT 8

## (1) TESTED

The king told Ezra all about  
Jerusalem and how the doubt  
was filtering into their troubled minds

He knew not what the scale of  
the mission was, it mattered not  
He'd only show devotion to the Lord

### **CHORUS**

Cause they had been tested, tested, tested by  
the Lord

They had been tested, tested by the Lord

Ezra was asked by the king  
To witness all the suffering  
How did they feel about the word of God?

God's will is hard to understand  
Cause something bad could happen and  
the reason stays within the mind of God.

### **CHORUS**

## (2) STRUGGLE

It happens to so many, it happens to so  
many of us

We think we got faith

we think our faith'll last us forever

You gotta learn to take the good with the  
bad

You gotta learn to find meaning when  
you're sad

### **CHORUS**

But we all struggle with our faith some-  
times

as we move along the path of life

And we all have our own cross to bear

as we try not to live a lie

And we all struggle when it comes our  
way

the testing of our faith – is it true?

Finding the strength, don't blame God

A heavenly test for you

Step back if you find yourself

Find yourself questioning your faith

Deep, deep inside

You'll find the strength to last us forever

You gotta learn to take the good with the  
bad

You gotta learn to find meaning when  
you're sad.

### (3) SOLOMON

Many hands make light work  
and equally the opposite is true  
Pull together like brothers  
You'd be surprised at what you do

#### **CHORUS**

Cause Solomon was the leader  
he should know what to do  
but he didn't gain respect from all of his crew  
He should try a little grafting  
stand side by side  
to the workers that make it happen

Ezra came into their lives  
to lift the people's spirits back up high  
Pray to God they will know it's real  
The work is God's will and that's no lie

#### **CHORUS**

### (4) A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

It's a wonderful thing  
The love of a man and a woman  
It's a wonderful thing  
That love can see no sides

#### **CHORUS**

In Leah and Daron  
There was a difference of opinion on the  
Lord  
There was a difference of opinion on the  
Lord  
but He was never gonna part them

Maybe one man  
could bring them even closer together  
Maybe one man  
could help them believe the same thing

#### **CHORUS**

It was a difficult thing  
for Leah's Mum and Dad to take in  
That in Daron's life  
he'd never ever let God in.

#### **CHORUS**

## (5) MORE THAN ONE WAY

He opened up the mind  
His wisdom was divine  
He showed that there was often a better way  
to get along  
There were people all around  
And he spoke out loud  
You can expect a setback but never turn away  
from God

### **CHORUS**

There is more than one way to look at a prob-  
lem  
Ezra he could show that there was  
more than one way to try and feel good inside

Abigail knew  
there was nothing she could do  
Jacob had passed and she couldn't find the  
path to peace  
But Ezra drew a line  
showed that in God's time  
Looking forward she would see her Jacob  
again.

### **CHORUS**

## (6) THE CONVERSATION

Daron has found himself an  
unexpected helping hand  
He always knew he was working  
a formidable amount of land  
When he wiped his brow and started  
another long day in the field  
Well he couldn't have reckoned on Ezra  
or how he'd start to feel

### **CHORUS**

There was a conversation that sowed a  
seed  
It flowed along quite easily  
Maybe Daron was going to see  
He had no certain destiny

Daron had found it a shock when  
Ezra put out his hand  
Ezra had offered a handshake  
Daron all but turned and ran  
This was the start of a friendship  
but Aaron didn't see it come  
Something maybe amazing  
would happen out here in the sun.

### **CHORUS**

# Cast

(in order of appearance)

<b>King Artaxerxes</b>	Nick Cearns
<b>Ezra</b>	Chris King
<b>Rachel</b>	Meryl Beamont
<b>Abigail</b>	Caroline Cox
<b>Solomon</b>	Graham Payne
<b>Nathan</b>	Keith Bridger
<b>Leah</b>	Maria Wheeler
<b>Daron</b>	Alan Young
<b>Isaac</b>	Jamie King

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The play tells of how Ezra, sent by the King to Jerusalem, tries to repair the damaged relationship its people have with God.

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The writer would like to dedicate this play to his Father who was a great inspiration by the values he held, the example he gave and his devotion to God.



# Christian **VOICES**

The Group was formed in 2008 and this is our 11th production. We have taken our plays to 17 churches and St. Mary's school.

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***You can find out more about Christian Voices on our website:***

***[www.christianvoicesbexhill.webs.com](http://www.christianvoicesbexhill.webs.com)***