

W O R D O F L I F E C H U R C H

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Ruins Restored • Pastor Brian Zahnd • February 8, 2026

1. What is the oldest city you have ever visited?
2. Have you ever had the desire to restore something that was old and make it look new again? *For example, restoring an old car, old jewelry, old furniture, etc.*

Read Isaiah 58:6-12

3. Why is it important to understand the Old Testament background for the New Testament teaching of Jesus?
4. What did it mean for the ancient Israelites to be a “priestly kingdom” and a “holy nation”? What would these two qualities look like in relation to Israel’s neighbors?

Read Matthew 5:14-17

5. How do the works of justice shine the light of God into dark places?
6. What are the differences between Jesus *fulfilling* the Law of prophets (something he said he was doing) and Jesus *replacing* the Law and the prophets (something he did not say he was doing)?
7. When you consider the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5,6,&7), the values of the new society forming around Jesus, what do you find most challenging?
8. What can you do to shine the justice of God this week?