

PRECEPT  
UPON  
PRECEPT®

*Ezra*  
*and*  
*Haggai*

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®  
EZRA AND HAGGAI  
REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

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## HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

**The New How to Study Your Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2010*

**The New Inductive Study Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000*

**Hebrew Word Study Tools**

*(The following is a list of helpful Hebrew Word Study Tools:)*

HARRIS, R. LAIRD; ARCHER, GLEASON L. JR.; WALTKE, BRUCE K.

**Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament**

*Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1980*

RICHARDS, LAWRENCE O.

**Expository Dictionary of Bible Words**

*Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1985*

## RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E.

**The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volumes 4 and 6**

*Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1990*

BRENEMAN, MERVIN

**The New American Commentary, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther**

*Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman Press, 1993*

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

**The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures**

*Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985*

CARSON, D. A.

**The New Bible Commentary**

*Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994*

## RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

**Logos Bible Software**

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at [www.logos.com](http://www.logos.com).



## LESSON ONE

### Ezra One through Three

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:  
Observation Worksheets of Ezra 1–3  
“Ezra at a Glance” chart  
“The Times of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther” chart  
“The Feasts of Israel” chart  
Map  
Cross-references

#### Does God Keep His Promises?

**Do you ever wonder? Quietly, secretly, do you ever wonder if God really does keep His promises? The answer, my friend, is yes! Yes, He does keep His promises! Yes, He does what He says He will do.**

**If you have ever wrestled with questions about God’s power and love, this study will set you free.**

#### DAY ONE

As you study Ezra, you will see God’s hand at work in the lives of men and in the events of history. It will be exciting, but this study, like any study of the Word of God, will take commitment. Your enemy, the devil, will try to distract you, and the Spirit of God will draw you. It is up to you to invest time in the study in spite of distractions if you want to reap the benefits.

1. Start with prayer; in fact, we suggest you write it out below. Commit before God to do the homework and finish the study.

2. As we study Ezra, we will also be showing you how to use various inductive study techniques to help you get the most out of your Bible study time. The first is interrogating the text with the **5 Ws and an H** questions: **who, what, when, where, why, and how**. Of these questions, **who** is one of the easiest to see. This is especially true in a historical narrative like Ezra. The second technique is marking key words in the text. These two techniques work together to help you slow down your reading and see clearly what the author is saying.

If you are new to Precept, please give these tools a try by following the instructions in this study. We know you will see their value. If you are a veteran of this type of Bible study, take the opportunity to help any new students in your class see how these techniques work—how they unlock the meaning in any text.

Now, for the assignment.

- a. In the Appendix you'll find **Observation Worksheets**—printouts of texts we're studying, double-spaced and with wide margins to make them easy to read and mark. Read the Observation Worksheet for Ezra 1 slowly as you would any good book. As you read, mark each reference to *Cyrus*, the king of Persia. We suggest you mark him with a green crown. There are a lot of kings mentioned in Ezra, and it is important that you take note of each one. Continue to mark Cyrus the same way in each chapter.
- b. List what you learned about Cyrus below.



3. You probably noticed as you read that there were several references to *the house of God*. Repeated words or phrases like this are key to understanding the message of any book. It's helpful to make a list of key words and phrases like *Cyrus* and *house of God*—and how you will mark them throughout your study. This list will help you be consistent as you move from chapter to chapter and from book to book in your Bible study. You might want to list key words on the card on the back cover of your Precept book. (Marking suggestions for some frequently used words in the Bible are on the front of the card.)

For your study of Ezra, begin your key word list with *Cyrus*. Also add:

- a. *house of God* or *temple*—We suggest you shade these blue.
- b. *God*—mark each reference to *God* or *Lord*. A suggested color and symbol are included on the front of your bookmark.
- c. Geographical references. Double underline each one in green. Since *Jerusalem* is so important in our study, double underline it in green and shade it blue. Look on the map to locate the places mentioned in this chapter.
- d. *Official documents*—The book of Ezra contains several official documents, decrees, and letters that were copied into or quoted in the book of Ezra. These are important historically and therefore important to your understanding of Ezra. We suggest you mark them with a bracket in the margin so you can see where they begin and end.  
For example: in Ezra 1, verses 2–4 quote the official decree issued by a king. It is an ancient official document of the kingdom of Persia.
- e. *priests*
- f. *Levites*
- g. Expressions of time—such as *in the first year of Cyrus . . .* are very important in the book of Ezra. We suggest you mark them by drawing a clock over them, as illustrated on the bookmark.

4. Read Ezra 1 at least twice, marking the key words above.

5. List what this chapter says about *the Lord* and about *His house*.

6. Summarize Ezra 1 in a few words and record this on the chart “Ezra at a Glance” in the Appendix.

*Summarizing each chapter of a book as you study is a great tool for helping you remember what you’re learning.*

7. One last exercise before we stop for the day.

a. According to Ezra 1:1 and 1:5, what exactly did God do and for what purpose?

b. In what ways have you experienced God stirring your spirit to accomplish His will?

c. Have you seen God stir even the hearts of people who *don’t* know Him . . . to do His will?

- d. Read Proverbs 21:1. Does knowing that God moves even in the hearts of people who ignore or reject Him strengthen your faith? How?

DAY  
TWO

How did the people of Israel become subject to the authority of a Persian king?

You'll find it helpful to refer to "The Times of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther" in the Appendix as you read the cross-references today.

1. You will find an Observation Worksheet on 2 Chronicles 36:5-23 at the end of this lesson. Read this passage and mark each reference to *God* and to *the house of God*. When you have finished, reread the passage and mark each reference to *Judah* and to *King Nebuchadnezzar*.
  - a. What did you learn about God from this chapter?

- b. What led up to Judah being taken captive?
  
  - c. What happened to the temple and its articles?
  
  - d. Why did God take His people out of the land He had promised them?
  
  - e. How long will they be gone?
  
  - f. At this point, from your study of 2 Chronicles 36:5-23 and Ezra 1, how does what you learned about God affect you personally?
- 
- 2. You saw in both 2 Chronicles 36 and Ezra 1 the phrase *to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah*. Read the following passages using the 5 Ws and an H questions, and note *what* Jeremiah said and *why*.
    - a. Jeremiah 25:1-14

b. Jeremiah 29:10-14

3. Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, took the people of Judah captive in three stages. But what happened to Babylon and who is Cyrus?

One of the captives from Judah was Daniel. In his book we're given some insight into the transition from the Babylonian to the Persian empire.

Read Daniel 5:17–6:3 and 6:28 and answer the following questions:

a. Who was the last Babylonian (*Chaldean* is a synonym) king?

b. Who took over the kingdom after him?

c. Who besides Darius is mentioned?

4. The prophet Isaiah also mentions Cyrus.

a. Read Isaiah 44:24–45:13. List below what you learn about Cyrus. Pay careful attention to what will be rebuilt. You might want to color-code

Cyrus here and other places he's mentioned in your Bible.

- b. Isaiah prophesied from 739 to 681 B.C. From “The Times of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther” chart in the Appendix, note the year Cyrus came to power.
5. You studied some amazing truths about God today. The danger would be in storing them away as facts without letting them impact your heart. Take a few minutes to meditate on what you have learned today about the promise-keeping God. Ask God to show you how to walk in the light of His promises.

How would knowing that God writes history in advance give you a new perspective on living life today?

*God told Isaiah that a king named Cyrus would send the Jews back to rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. He gave this prophecy more than 100 years before Cyrus arrived on the scene. God keeps His promises. Every prophecy, every promise will come about just as He says it will. You can relax and put your faith in God, because what He says—He will do.*

DAY  
THREE

Today’s assignment is to study Ezra 2. This chapter lists the people who returned to Israel from captivity.

Your first thought may be, “Why should I read a list?” But remember two things. First, every person is important to God. The names of the families that returned home are important to God. Every name is proof that God is the promise-keeping God. Second, God put this list in Scripture for a reason. Let’s see if we can discover why.

1. Begin with prayer, asking God to reveal to you His purpose for including Ezra 2 in Scripture.
2. Using your Observation Worksheets, study Ezra 2.
  - a. Mark key words on your list.
  - b. Add *Zerubbabel* and *Jeshua* to your key word bookmark.
  - c. For Ezra 2, mark each reference to: *gatekeepers*, *singers*, and *servants*. Mark each in a different way. You’ll see them again in chapter 10.
  - d. Note in the chapter margins the different groups returning to Jerusalem.
3. List below the groups of people recorded for us. The first two are divided by family and by geographical location. We listed the first two for you.

3-20—the people by family

21-35—the people by city

36-39

40-42

43-54

55-57

59-63

- 
4. What happened to the nation of Israel 70 years earlier? (This is a review question from your study of 2 Chronicles 36, Day 2.)
- to the people—
- to Jerusalem—
- to the temple—
5. Now, 70 years later, it's time for the Jews again to live and worship God in their promised land.
- What needs to happen for a complete restoration of Judah from exile?
  - What roles do the people groups listed in Ezra 2 play in rebuilding the nation of Israel?
  - Why do you think God included this chapter in Scripture? How would it have benefited the original readers of Ezra's book?
6. Before we move away from Ezra 2, be sure to record a summary in a few words on your "Ezra at a Glance" chart. (By the way, Nehemiah, a contemporary of Ezra, includes the same list of people in chapter 7 of his book.)



DAY  
FOUR

The first group has returned to the land and the people are living in their cities. Now, the work begins.

1. Observe Ezra 3 using the 5 Ws and an H questions and add *burnt offering* to your key word list. You may want to box this phrase in red and shade it red. Mark *foundation* in this chapter only. We suggest you underline it in brown.
2. Don't forget to summarize Ezra 3 on your "Ezra at a Glance" chart.

DAY  
FIVE

1. Begin today by reading Ezra 3.
2. After the people gathered in Jerusalem, what building project came first? Why?

3. What did you learn about burnt offerings from your observations of Ezra 3?

4. The first feast the people celebrated when they returned was the Feast of Booths (Ezra 3:4).
  - a. Read Leviticus 23:39-44 and note the *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *why*, and *how* of this feast.

- b. Look at the chart “The Feasts of Israel” in the Appendix. Note anything else you learn about this feast.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. What was the purpose of this feast? What historical event was brought to mind when it was celebrated?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- d. What would the Feast of Booths mean to the men and women returning home after 70 years of captivity?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. When did the work on the temple begin? You might note this in the margin of your Bible.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Who were the leaders? Look at 2:2; 3:2, 8.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What happened when the temple foundation was laid?

8. Read Psalm 137:1-6 and Psalm 126.
  - a. How do these relate to the joy of Ezra 3:11-13?
  - b. What had the captive's time in Babylon been like?
9. What have you learned about God this week, and what difference will it make in your life?
10. Spend the rest of your time today reading about Ezra 1–3 in any commentaries you have.

*Friend, please don't miss the significance of these passages! God keeps His promises. He promised to bring His people back to the land, and He did. He did exactly what He said He would do. When everything seemed hopeless, God brought hope. You too can trust His promises. Every word of His is true; you can rest from your worries in His unchanging grace.*



## 2 CHRONICLES 36:5-23

- 5 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and he did evil in the sight of the LORD his God.
- 6 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against him and bound him with bronze *chains* to take him to Babylon.
- 7 Nebuchadnezzar also brought *some* of the articles of the house of the LORD to Babylon and put them in his temple at Babylon.
- 8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim and the abominations which he did, and what was found against him, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah. And Jehoiachin his son became king in his place.
- 9 Jehoiachin was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem, and he did evil in the sight of the LORD.
- 10 At the turn of the year King Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought him to Babylon with the valuable articles of the house of the LORD, and he made his kinsman Zedekiah king over Judah and Jerusalem.
- 11 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.
- 12 He did evil in the sight of the LORD his God; he did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet who spoke for the LORD.
- 13 He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar who had made him swear *allegiance* by God. But he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD God of Israel.
- 14 Furthermore, all the officials of the priests and the people were very unfaithful *following* all the abominations of the nations; and they defiled the house of the LORD which He had sanctified in Jerusalem.
- 15 The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent *word* to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place;

- 16 but they *continually* mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy.
- 17 Therefore He brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or infirm; He gave *them* all into his hand.
- 18 All the articles of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king and of his officers, he brought *them* all to Babylon.
- 19 Then they burned the house of God and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its fortified buildings with fire and destroyed all its valuable articles.
- 20 Those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia,
- 21 to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days of its desolation it kept sabbath until seventy years were complete.
- 22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia—in order to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah—the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout his kingdom, and also *put it* in writing, saying,
- 23 “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all His people, may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up!’ ”

EZRA 1  
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

**NOW** in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also *put it* in writing, saying:

- 2 “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah.
- 3 ‘Whoever there is among you of all His people, may his God be with him! Let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judah and rebuild the house of the LORD, the God of Israel; He is the God who is in Jerusalem.
- 4 ‘Every survivor, at whatever place he may live, let the men of that place support him with silver and gold, with goods and cattle, together with a freewill offering for the house of God which is in Jerusalem.’ ”
- 5 Then the heads of fathers’ *households* of Judah and Benjamin and the priests and the Levites arose, even everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up and rebuild the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem.
- 6 All those about them encouraged them with articles of silver, with gold, with goods, with cattle and with valuables, aside from all that was given as a freewill offering.
- 7 Also King Cyrus brought out the articles of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and put in the house of his gods;
- 8 and Cyrus, king of Persia, had them brought out by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer, and he counted them out to Sheshbazzar, the prince of Judah.
- 9 Now this *was* their number: 30 gold dishes, 1,000 silver dishes, 29 duplicates;
- 10 30 gold bowls, 410 silver bowls of a second *kind and* 1,000 other articles.
- 11 All the articles of gold and silver *numbered* 5,400. Sheshbazzar brought them all up with the exiles who went up from Babylon to Jerusalem.





## EZRA 2

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

**NOW** these are the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of the exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away to Babylon, and returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his city.

2 These came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum *and* Baanah.

The number of the men of the people of Israel:

- 3 the sons of Parosh, 2,172;
- 4 the sons of Shephatiah, 372;
- 5 the sons of Arah, 775;
- 6 the sons of Pahath-moab of the sons of Jeshua *and* Joab, 2,812;
- 7 the sons of Elam, 1,254;
- 8 the sons of Zattu, 945;
- 9 the sons of Zaccai, 760;
- 10 the sons of Bani, 642;
- 11 the sons of Bebai, 623;
- 12 the sons of Azgad, 1,222;
- 13 the sons of Adonikam, 666;
- 14 the sons of Bigvai, 2,056;
- 15 the sons of Adin, 454;
- 16 the sons of Ater of Hezekiah, 98;
- 17 the sons of Bezai, 323;
- 18 the sons of Jorah, 112;
- 19 the sons of Hashum, 223;
- 20 the sons of Gibbar, 95;
- 21 the men of Bethlehem, 123;
- 22 the men of Netophah, 56;
- 23 the men of Anathoth, 128;

- 24 the sons of Azmaveth, 42;
- 25 the sons of Kiriath-arim, Chephirah and Beeroth, 743;
- 26 the sons of Ramah and Geba, 621;
- 27 the men of Michmas, 122;
- 28 the men of Bethel and Ai, 223;
- 29 the sons of Nebo, 52;
- 30 the sons of Magbish, 156;
- 31 the sons of the other Elam, 1,254;
- 32 the sons of Harim, 320;
- 33 the sons of Lod, Hadid and Ono, 725;
- 34 the men of Jericho, 345;
- 35 the sons of Senaah, 3,630.
- 36** The priests: the sons of Jedaiah of the house of Jeshua, 973;
- 37 the sons of Immer, 1,052;
- 38 the sons of Pashhur, 1,247;
- 39 the sons of Harim, 1,017.
- 40** The Levites: the sons of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the sons of Hodaviah, 74.
- 41 The singers: the sons of Asaph, 128.
- 42 The sons of the gatekeepers: the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, the sons of Shobai, in all 139.
- 43** The temple servants: the sons of Ziha, the sons of Hasupha, the sons of Tabbaoth,
- 44 the sons of Keros, the sons of Siaha, the sons of Padon,
- 45 the sons of Lebanah, the sons of Hagabah, the sons of Akkub,
- 46 the sons of Hagab, the sons of Shalmal, the sons of Hanan,
- 47 the sons of Giddel, the sons of Gahar, the sons of Reaiah,
- 48 the sons of Rezin, the sons of Nekoda, the sons of Gazzam,
- 49 the sons of Uzza, the sons of Paseah, the sons of Besai,
- 50 the sons of Asnah, the sons of Meunim, the sons of Nephisim,
- 51 the sons of Bakbuk, the sons of Hakupha, the sons of Harhur,
- 52 the sons of Bazluth, the sons of Mehida, the sons of Harsha,
- 53 the sons of Barkos, the sons of Sisera, the sons of Temah,

- 54 the sons of Neziah, the sons of Hatipha.
- 55 The sons of Solomon's servants: the sons of Sotai, the sons of Hassophereth, the sons of Peruda,
- 56 the sons of Jaalah, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel,
- 57 the sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth-hazzebaim, the sons of Ami.
- 58 All the temple servants and the sons of Solomon's servants were 392.
- 59 Now these are those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addan *and* Immer, but they were not able to give evidence of their fathers' households and their descendants, whether they were of Israel:
- 60 the sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, 652.
- 61 Of the sons of the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and he was called by their name.
- 62 These searched *among* their ancestral registration, but they could not be located; therefore they were considered unclean *and excluded* from the priesthood.
- 63 The governor said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until a priest stood up with Urim and Thummim.
- 64 The whole assembly numbered 42,360,
- 65 besides their male and female servants who numbered 7,337; and they had 200 singing men and women.
- 66 Their horses were 736; their mules, 245;
- 67 their camels, 435; *their* donkeys, 6,720.
- 68 Some of the heads of fathers' *households*, when they arrived at the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem, offered willingly for the house of God to restore it on its foundation.
- 69 According to their ability they gave to the treasury for the work 61,000 gold drachmas and 5,000 silver minas and 100 priestly garments.
- 70 Now the priests and the Levites, some of the people, the singers, the gatekeepers and the temple servants lived in their cities, and all Israel in their cities.



EZRA 3  
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

**NOW** when the seventh month came, and the sons of Israel *were* in the cities, the people gathered together as one man to Jerusalem.

- 2 Then Jeshua the son of Jozadak and his brothers the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and his brothers arose and built the altar of the God of Israel to offer burnt offerings on it, as it is written in the law of Moses, the man of God.
- 3 So they set up the altar on its foundation, for they were terrified because of the peoples of the lands; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, burnt offerings morning and evening.
- 4 They celebrated the Feast of Booths, as it is written, and *offered* the fixed number of burnt offerings daily, according to the ordinance, as each day required;
- 5 and afterward *there was* a continual burnt offering, also for the new moons and for all the fixed festivals of the LORD that were consecrated, and from everyone who offered a freewill offering to the LORD.
- 6 From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, but the foundation of the temple of the LORD had not been laid.
- 7 Then they gave money to the masons and carpenters, and food, drink and oil to the Sidonians and to the Tyrians, to bring cedar wood from Lebanon to the sea at Joppa, according to the permission they had from Cyrus king of Persia.
- 8 Now in the second year of their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak and the rest of their brothers the priests and the Levites, and all who came from the captivity to Jerusalem, began *the work* and appointed the Levites from twenty years and older to oversee the work of the house of the LORD.

- 9 Then Jeshua *with* his sons and brothers stood united *with* Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah *and* the sons of Henadad *with* their sons and brothers the Levites, to oversee the workmen in the temple of God.
- 10 Now when the builders had laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD according to the directions of King David of Israel.
- 11 They sang, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, *saying*, “For He is good, for His lovingkindness is upon Israel forever.” And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.
- 12 Yet many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers’ *households*, the old men who had seen the first temple, wept with a loud voice when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, while many shouted aloud for joy,
- 13 so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the shout of joy from the sound of the weeping of the people, for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the sound was heard far away.

EZRA AT A GLANCE

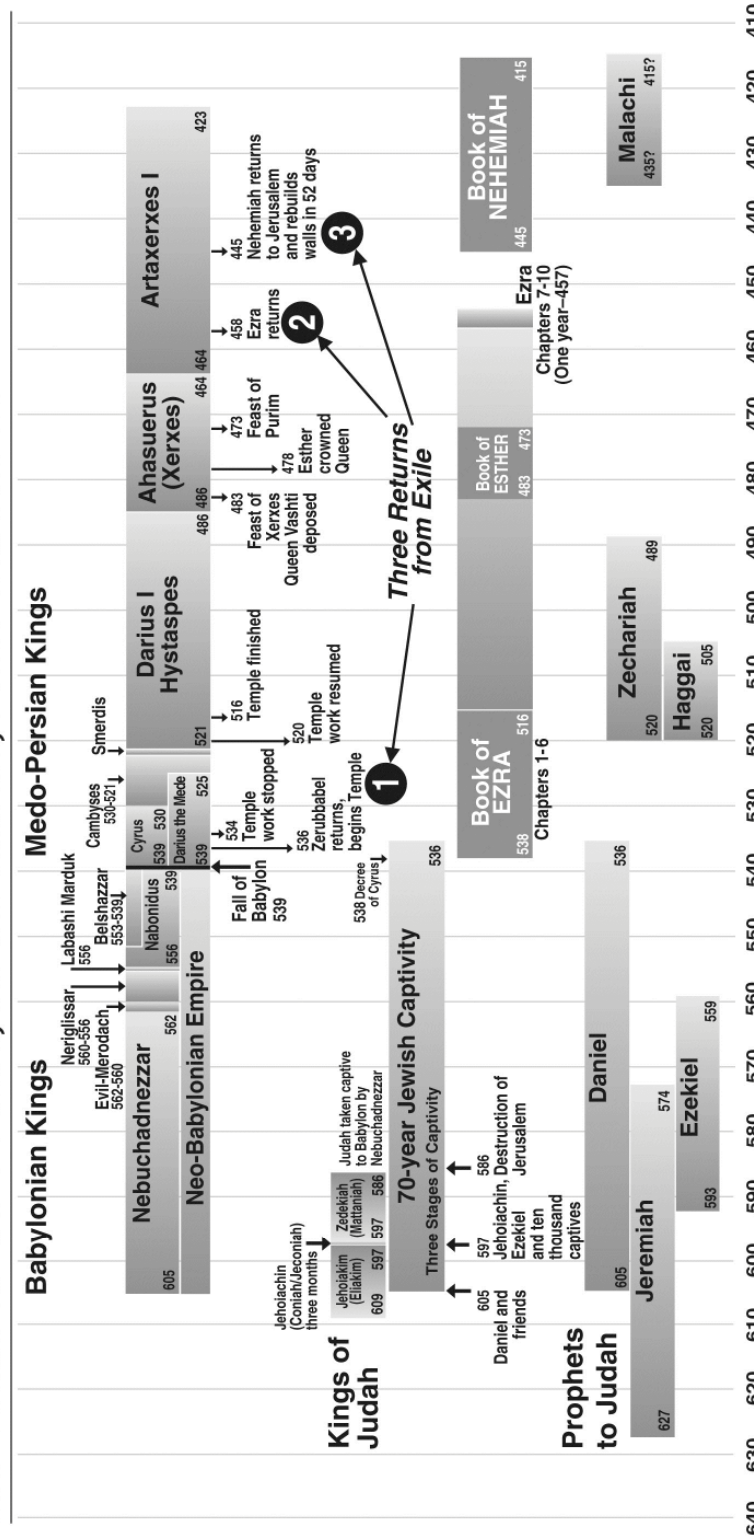
**Theme of Ezra:**

	Segment Divisions	Chapter Themes
<b>Author:</b>		1
		2
<b>Date:</b>		3
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<b>Purpose:</b>		5
		6
<b>Key Words:</b>		7
		8
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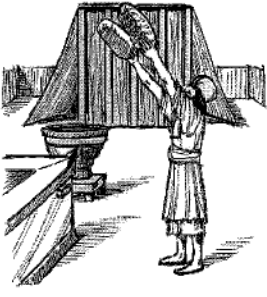




# THE TIMES OF EZRA, NEHEMIAH, AND ESTHER





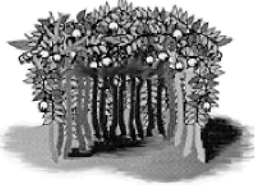
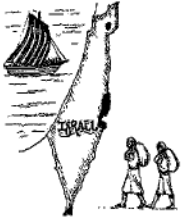


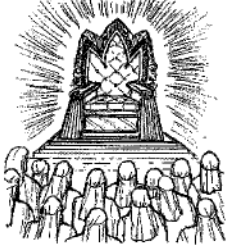




THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL

		1st Month (Nisan) Festival of Passover			3rd Month (Sivan) Festival of Pentecost	
Slaves in Egypt	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Feast of Weeks		
						
Whosoever commits sin is the slave to sin	<b>Kill lamb &amp; put blood on doorpost</b> Exodus 12:6, 7	<b>Purging of all leaven</b> (symbol of sin)	<b>Wave offering of sheaf</b> (promise of harvest to come)	<b>Wave offering of two loaves of leavened bread</b>		
	1st month, 14th day Leviticus 23:5	1st month, 15th day for 7 days Leviticus 23:6-8	Day after Sabbath Leviticus 23:9-14	50 days after firstfruits Leviticus 23:15-21		
Whosoever commits sin is the slave to sin	<b>Christ our Passover has been sacrificed</b>	<b>Clean out old leaven... just as you are in fact unleavened</b>	<b>Christ has been raised...the firstfruits</b>	<b>Going away so Comforter can come</b>	<b>Promise of the Spirit, mystery of church: Jews-Gentiles in one body</b>	
				 Mount of Olives		
John 8:34	1 Corinthians 5:7	1 Corinthians 5:7, 8	1 Corinthians 15:20-23	John 16:7 Acts 1:9-12	Acts 2:1-47 1 Corinthians 12:13 Ephesians 2:11-22	

Months: Nisan — March, April • Sivan — May, June • Tishri — September, October

7th Month (Tishri) Festival of Tabernacles			
<b>Feast of Trumpets</b>  	<b>Day of Atonement</b>  	<b>Feast of Booths or Tabernacles</b>  	
<i>Trumpet blown — a holy convocation</i>	<i>Atonement shall be made to cleanse you</i> Leviticus 16:30	<i>Harvest celebration memorial of tabernacles in wilderness</i>	
7th month, 1st day Leviticus 23:23-25	7th month, 10th day Leviticus 23:26-32	7th month, 15th day, for 7 days; 8th day, Holy Convocation Leviticus 23:33-44	
<b>Regathering of Israel in preparation for final day of atonement</b> Jeremiah 32:37-41  	<b>Israel will repent and look to Messiah in one day</b> Zechariah 3:9, 10; 12:10; 13:1; 14:9  <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> 	<b>Families of the earth will come to Jerusalem to cele- brate the Feast of Booths</b> Zechariah 14:16-19  	<b>New heaven and new earth</b>  <b>God tabernacles with men</b> Revelation 21:1-3
Ezekiel 36:24	Ezekiel 36:25-27 Hebrews 9, 10 Romans 11:25-29	Ezekiel 36:28	

Interlude  
Between  
Festivals

*Israel had two harvests each year — spring and autumn*

*Ezra and Haggai*  
Map

