



IN &
OUT®

English Standard Version

Ezra
and
Haggai

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

IN AND OUT®

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EZRA AND HAGGAI
REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

ISBN: 978-1-62119-870-3

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1st edition

Printed in the United States of America



PAGE L E S S O N S

- 1 LESSON ONE: Does God Keep His Promises?
- 9 LESSON TWO: When the Enemy Comes
- 17 LESSON THREE: The Word of the LORD Came by Haggai
- 25 LESSON FOUR: The Hand of the LORD
- 31 LESSON FIVE: “I sat appalled. . . .”

A P P E N D I X

- 38 Explanations of the English Standard Version Bible Text Format
- 39 Ezra Observation Worksheets
- 69 Ezra at a Glance
- 71 The Times of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther
- 73 Haggai Observation Worksheets
- 77 Haggai at a Glance
- 80 The Feasts of Israel
- 83 Map



Does God Keep His Promises?

Do you ever wonder? Quietly, secretly, do you ever wonder if God really does keep His promises? The answer, 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.

TAKING IT IN

As you study Ezra, you will see God’s hand at work in the lives of men and in the events of history.

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

1. 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.
 - a. As you read, mark references 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.

c. 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.

List the key words on the blank side of the Key Word Bookmark 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. An asterisk [*] shows these in this workbook.

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

- 1) *house of God* or *temple* (see *tabernacle**)
- 2) *God*, * *Lord*



- 3) geographical references.* Since *Jerusalem* is so important in our study, double underline it in green and shade it blue. Look on the map in the Appendix to locate the places mentioned in this chapter.
 - 4) 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.
 - 5) *priests*
 - 6) *Levites*
 - 7) expressions of time*—such as *in the first year of Cyrus . . .* are very important in the book of Ezra.
- d. Read Ezra 1 at least twice, marking the key words and phrases above.
 - e. List what this chapter says about *the Lord* and about *His house*.

- f. Summarize Ezra 1 with a few words from the text 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.



2. Next we come to 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.

a. Using your Observation Worksheets, study Ezra 2.

- 1) Mark key words on your list.
- 2) Add *Zerubbabel* and *Jeshua* to your Key Word Bookmark.
- 3) For Ezra 2, mark references to: *gatekeepers*, *singers*, and *servants*. Mark each in a different way. You’ll see them again in chapter 10.
- 4) Note in the chapter margins the different groups returning to Jerusalem.

b. 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



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

4. The first feast the people kept when they returned was the Feast of Booths (Ezra 3:4).

a. Read Leviticus 23:39-44 and record the main points about 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?

LIVING
IT OUT

Now for some application from what we've studied this week.

1. What have you learned about God this week, and what difference will it make in your life?



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

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.



EZRA 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

IN the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing:

- 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 charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.
- 3 “Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and 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 “And let each survivor, in whatever place he sojourns, be assisted by the men of his place with silver and gold, with goods and with beasts, besides freewill offerings for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.”
- 5 Then rose up the heads of the fathers’ houses of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites, everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up to rebuild the house of the LORD that is in Jerusalem.
- 6 And all who were about them aided them with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, with beasts, and with costly wares, besides all that was freely offered.
- 7 Cyrus the king also brought out the vessels of the house of the LORD that Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and placed in the house of his gods.
- 8 Cyrus king of Persia brought these out in the charge of Mithredath the treasurer, who counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah.
- 9 And this was the number of them: 30 basins of gold, 1,000 basins of silver, 29 censers,
- 10 30 bowls of gold, 410 bowls of silver, and 1,000 other vessels;



11 all the vessels of gold and of silver were 5,400. All these did Sheshbazzar bring up, when the exiles were brought up from Babylonia to Jerusalem.



EZRA 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW these were the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of those exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried captive to Babylonia. They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his own town.

2 They 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, namely 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, namely 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 sons 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 sons 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, and 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 Shamlai, 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, and 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,
and the sons of Ami.
- 58** All the temple servants and the sons of Solomon's servants were 392.
- 59** The following were those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha,
Cherub, Addan, and Immer, though they could not prove their fathers'
houses or their descent, whether they belonged to Israel:
- 60 the sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, and the sons of Nekoda, 652.
- 61 Also, of the sons of the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, and
the sons of Barzillai (who had taken a wife from the daughters of Barzillai
the Gileadite, and was called by their name).
- 62 These sought their registration among those enrolled in the genealogies, but
they were not found there, and so they were excluded from the priesthood as
unclean.
- 63 The governor told them that they were not to partake of the most holy food,
until there should be a priest to consult Urim and Thummim.
- 64** The whole assembly together was 42,360,
65 besides their male and female servants, of whom there were 7,337, and they
had 200 male and female singers.
- 66 Their horses were 736, their mules were 245,
67 their camels were 435, and their donkeys were 6,720.
- 68** Some of the heads of families, when they came to the house of the LORD
that is in Jerusalem, made freewill offerings for the house of God, to erect it
on its site.
- 69 According to their ability they gave to the treasury of the work 61,000 darics
of gold, 5,000 minas of silver, and 100 priests' garments.



70 Now the priests, the Levites, some of the people, the singers, the gatekeepers, and the temple servants lived in their towns, and all the rest of Israel in their towns.



EZRA 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

WHEN the seventh month came, and the children of Israel were in the towns, the people gathered as one man to Jerusalem.

- 2 Then arose Jeshua the son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel with his kinsmen, and they 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 They set the altar in its place, for fear was on them because of the peoples of the lands, and they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, burnt offerings morning and evening.
- 4 And they kept the Feast of Booths, as it is written, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number according to the rule, as each day required,
- 5 and after that the regular burnt offerings, the offerings at the new moon and at all the appointed feasts of the LORD, and the offerings of everyone who made 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 was not yet laid.
- 7 So they gave money to the masons and the carpenters, and food, drink, and oil to the Sidonians and the Tyrians to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea, to Joppa, according to the grant that they had from Cyrus king of Persia.
- 8 Now in the second year after their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak made a beginning, together with the rest of their kinsmen, the priests and the Levites and all who had come to Jerusalem from the captivity. They appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to supervise the work of the house of the LORD.



- 9 And Jeshua with his sons and his brothers, and Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, together supervised the workmen in the house of God, along with the sons of Henadad and the Levites, their sons and brothers.
- 10 And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments came forward with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the directions of David king of Israel.
- 11 And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD,
“For he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel.”

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 But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid, though many shouted aloud for joy,
- 13 so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted with a great shout, and the sound was heard far away.



EZRA AT A GLANCE

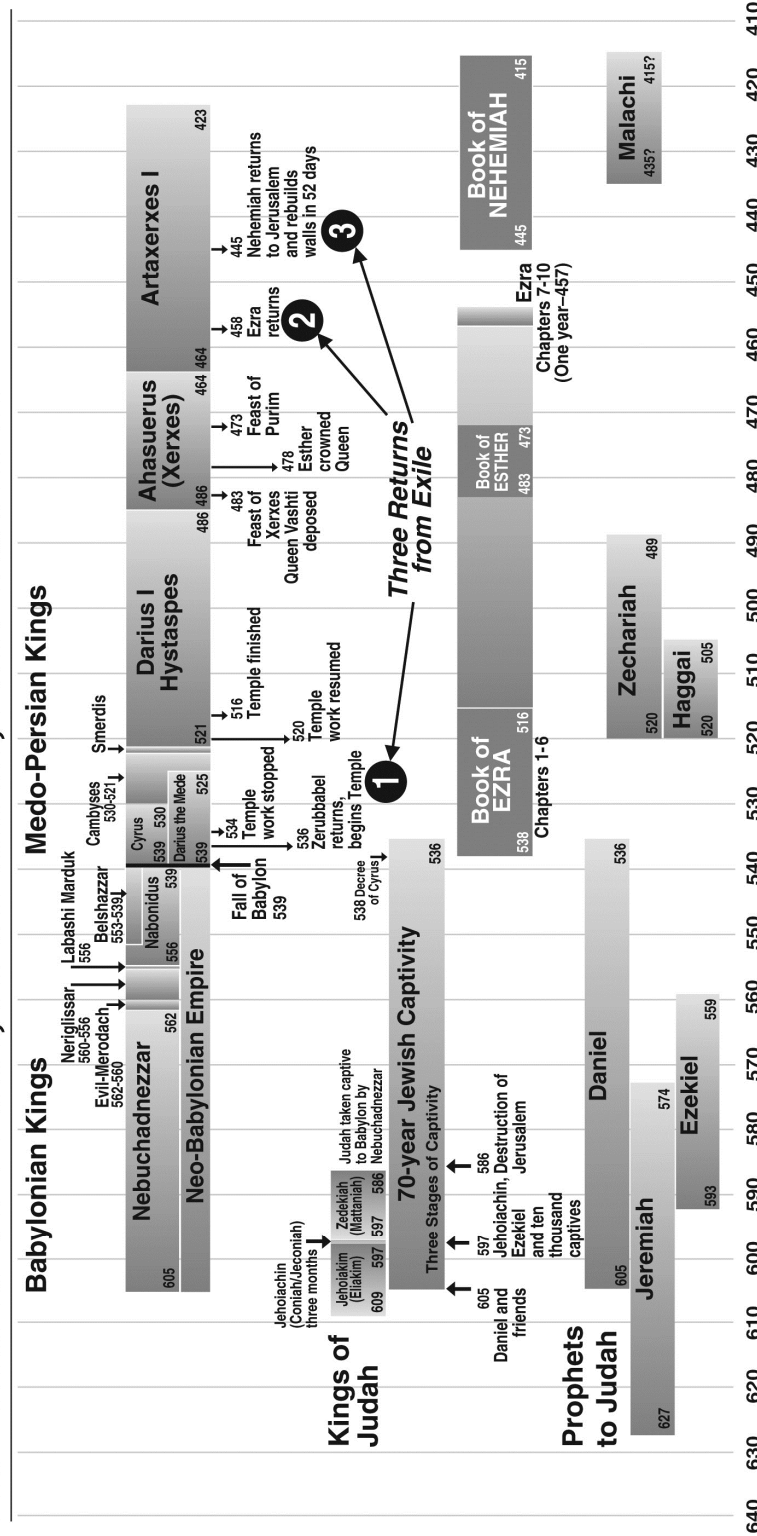
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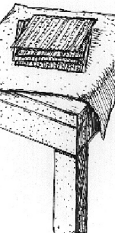






Ezra and Haggai
The Times of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther

THE TIMES OF EZRA, NEHEMIAH, AND ESTHER





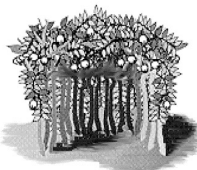





THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL

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

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



7th Month (Tishri) Festival of Tabernacles (<i>Succoth</i>)			
Interlude Between Festivals	Feast of Trumpets	Day of Atonement	Feast of Booths or Tabernacles
			
	<i>Trumpet blown — a holy convocation</i>	<i>Atonement shall be made to cleans 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
Regathering of Israel in preparation for final day of atonement Jeremiah 32:37-41	Israel will repent and look to Messiah in one day Zechariah 3:9,10; 12:10; 13:1; 14:9	Families of the earth will come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Booths Zechariah 14:16-19	New heaven and new earth God dwells with men Revelation 21:1-3
			
Ezekiel 36:24	Ezekiel 36:25-27 Hebrews 9, 10 Romans 11:25-29	Ezekiel 36:28	

Israel had two harvests each year—spring and autumn

