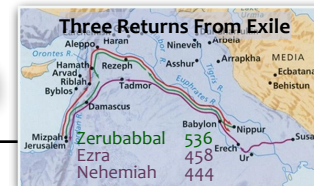


Ezra Rebuilding the Temple & Reforming the Nation



1	<p>THE EDICT OF CYRUS “The LORD moved the heart of Cyrus” (1:1-4)</p> <p>THE RETURN UNDER SHESHBAZZAR God moves the hearts of the Tribal Leaders (1:5-11)</p> <p>THE EXILES WHO RETURNED Israel settled in their own towns (2:1-67)</p> <p>THE OFFERING FOR THE TEMPLE “They gave freewill offerings” (2:68-70)</p>	2
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1:1	Return	2:70
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The First Return	Rebuilding the Temple	The Second Return	Reforming the Community
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<p>LEADERS IN THE RECONSTRUCTION</p> <p>Jeshua: The Primary Priest</p> <p>Zerubbabel: The Civil Leader</p> <p>Haggai & Zechariah: The Prophets</p>	<p>PERSAIN RULERS</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Cyrus the Great</td><td>539-530</td></tr> <tr><td>Cambyses</td><td>530-522</td></tr> <tr><td>Darius I</td><td>522-486</td></tr> <tr><td>Xerxes</td><td>485-465</td></tr> <tr><td>Artaxerxes I</td><td>465-424</td></tr> <tr><td>Darius II</td><td>424-404</td></tr> </table>	Cyrus the Great	539-530	Cambyses	530-522	Darius I	522-486	Xerxes	485-465	Artaxerxes I	465-424	Darius II	424-404	<p>Ezra the Teacher of the Law</p> <p>A Priest & Teacher of the Law</p> <p>Well Versed in the Law of Moses</p> <p>“The Hand of the LORD was on Him.”</p>
Cyrus the Great	539-530													
Cambyses	530-522													
Darius I	522-486													
Xerxes	485-465													
Artaxerxes I	465-424													
Darius II	424-404													

The author {perhaps Ezra} recorded two returns from Exile to the promised land under Sheshbazzar & Zerubbabel and then under Ezra as the Lord guided and protected them and gave them favor in the eyes of international rulers (first the rebuilding of the temple and reestablishing worship under Zerubbabal, and then restoring the people to covenant faithfulness under Ezra) fulfilling the sovereign promise of the LORD so that the remnant of returnees (i.e. the readers) would continue in temple worship and be careful to keep the covenant in the midst of opposition & pain.