

8th Era



The Kingdom Returns from Exile

Timeline (1 Day = 1000 years) Complete day ☐ Part of a day ☐

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4 yrs. 3000 – 4000 The Kingdom returns from exile to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple (14 Generations, about 500 years from exile to Jesus)	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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Books & approximate reading time (H-Hours, M-Minutes): 3H

Zachariah 40m *Zachariah and Haggai prophesy together to Ezra and Nehemiah and encourage them to rebuild the Temple and its walls. Ezra 5:1*

Haggai 7m

Malachi 11m Prophet to returned Jewish captives after 70 yrs. He speaks of the neglected temple & Jerusalem
Zachariah, Haggai, and Malachi are post exile prophets to Judah/Jews.

Joel 12m Joel is a “last days prophet” during the time of the 2nd temple but exactly when is unknown.

Ezra 40m Governor who helps rebuild the temple.

A group under Ezra returns to rebuild. It took 7 years to rebuild the temple. The first year under King Cyrus, the foundation is laid. Then, for 2 years construction is interrupted by scoffers. Then, under King Darius, it took 5 more years to complete the Temple.

Genealogy – Ezra 2 – Jews are taken in captivity in Babylon and returned to Judah
Ezra 2:62 - If no registers, there is no proof of lineage.

Nehemiah 1h Governor, layman, & King’s cup bearer - leader who helps rebuild the walls of Jerusalem
A group under Nehemiah returns to rebuild. It took 12 years to rebuild the walls.

Genealogy – Nehemiah 7 – Jews who returned from Babylon to Judah
Nehemiah 7:64 - If no registers, there is no proof of lineage.

Ezra and Nehemiah are both present during the time of the Persians (King Cyrus) and Medes (King Darius).

Summary: (Places of worship – New/2nd Temple, possibly synagogues)

- As God said, the Persians overtake the Babylonians. Persians (& Medes) rule over Judah and Babylonians. Now Judah is captive under the Persians.
- Ezra serves as scribe and priest under 4 Persian Kings Cyrus, Darius, Ahasuerus, and Artaxerxes.
- As prophesied to Jeremiah, the Temple is rebuilt by Ezra under Cyrus who was commanded by God to allow the Jews to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple. 1 Now 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, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, 2 Thus sayeth Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him and house at Jerusalem which is in Judea. 3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judea, and build the House of the Lord God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem. Ezra 1:1-3
- When the kingdom of Judah returns from captivity, the leaders of Judah go from being ruled by kings to being ruled by governors (called tirshatha).
- The younger generation rejoices because the Temple is now rebuilt. The people old enough to remember Solomon’s Temple cry because it is not as glorious as the first Temple.
- All were required to hear Moses’ book of law. All were attentive the full day of reading. The impact of hearing the Word caused the people to cry and worship the Lord.
- The books of Ezra Nehemiah and Malachi end the Old Testament.

8th Era cover-to-cover scholarly study – God’s righteous leaders & types: prophets, priests, judges, governors...