

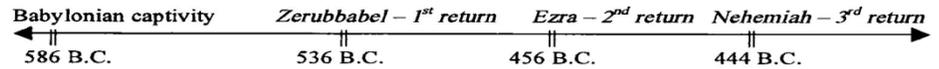
The Book of Ezra

Author:

- _____ — “the Lord _____”
- Ezra was primarily a religious leader, not a political or military leader
- Ezra is called a “ready scribe”—(an _____ and _____ of OT Scriptures)-(See Ezra 7: 1-6)

Date:

- After 456 B.C.
- There were three “returns” of Jews from Babylonian captivity:

**Theme: “THE RETURNING REMNANT”**

- The book of Ezra covers the first two returns of the remnant from captivity in Babylon:
 - 1st Return —about 50,000 Jews returned
 - Leader:** _____ — he was a political leader, a governor, yet he was obviously a spiritual man; he led in the rebuilding of the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem
 - 2nd Return —about 2,000 Jews returned
 - Leader:** _____ — he was primarily a religious leader; he re-established temple worship
- The remnant, though they had been raised in Babylon, were compelled to return to the place of blessing and the to place of worship. God used a heathen king, Cyrus (1 : 1-4), to make a way for these Jews to return.

Outline:**I. The Return under _____ (ch. 1-6)**

Main Accomplishment - the _____ was rebuilt

II. The Return Under _____ (ch. 7-10)

Main Accomplishment — _____ re-separated

Key Words: “Build” “Hand of the Lord”

Key Verse: Ezra 7: 10 - “For _____ had _____ his _____ to _____ the _____ of the LORD, and to _____ it, and to _____ in Israel _____ and _____.”

Special Features:

1. This remnant returned in direct fulfillment of prophecy. God kept His Word! [Isaiah 44:24-45:3 Jeremiah 25:8-11, 29:14]
2. God used the prophets _____ and _____ to stir the people to rebuild the Temple during Zerubbabel’s day.
3. The book of _____ fits between Ezra Ch. 6 and Ch. 7 — (a 60 year gap)

Christ In The Book:

_____ — called God’s anointed, pictures Christ (Isa. 45:1)

- He was the conqueror of Israel’s enemy
- He was the restorer of the Holy City
- He glorified the name of God

The Book of Nehemiah

Author:

_____ — “_____ of God”

- The King’s _____ in Shushan the palace; this was a prestigious position
- His heart was stirred as he _____ for his people (Ch. 1)

Date:

- Written about 432 B.C.
- This book covers a period of 12-15 years.

Theme: “_____ & _____”

- In _____ B.C., Nehemiah led the 3rd “return” of the remnant (just a handful of people)
- He accomplished two things:

1. He re-built the _____ of the city of _____ (in 52 days — 6:15)
2. He _____ the people to the Lord and _____ them in the law of God. (8:1-9; 9:1-3)

Outline:**I. The _____ of the Wall (Ch. 1-6)****II. The _____ of the People (Ch. 7-13)****Key Words:** “Work”

Key Verse: Nehemiah 6:3 - “And I sent _____ unto them, saying, I am doing a great _____, so that I _____ come down: why should the _____ cease, whilst I _____ it, and come _____.”

Special Features:

1. The prophet _____ ministered during Nehemiah’s day.
2. Nehemiah provides an example of godly leadership.
 - He was a man of _____.
 - He was a man of _____.
 - He was a man of _____.
 - He was a man of _____.

Christ In The Book:

Nehemiah is a picture of Christ

1. He have up a high position to identify with his people
2. He came with a mission of restoration
3. He was a man of compassion
4. His work was _____.

The Book of Esther

Author:

- The author is unknown, but it was likely a Jew living in Persia (perhaps _____).

Date:

Written about 450 B.C

- -Covers 12-20 years when _____ was King of _____

Theme: "GOD IS _____ AT WORK"

- The book of Esther is the _____ of the O.T
- This book reveals two great truths:
 1. God cared for the remaining Jews just as much as he cared for the returning Jews.
 2. God is always present, even when His name is not! (God's name is not mentioned in this book, yet He is certainly working!)

Outline: "God In The Shadows Watches His Own"

I. Crisis _____ (Ch. 1-5)

II. Crisis _____ (Ch. 6-10)

Key Words: "Deliverance"

Key Verse: Esther 4:14 - *"For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there _____ and _____ arise to the _____ from _____ place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth _____?"*

Special Features:

- This story fits between _____ - Ch. 6 and Ch. 7
- Main characters in this story:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- In this book, we learn about the _____ of God
 - God places
 - God provides
 - God protects
 - God prevents
 - God preserves

Christ In The Book:

1. _____ pictures Christ — he was despised, but finally received a place of _____
2. _____ pictures Christ — she put herself in the place of _____ for her people; she was an _____