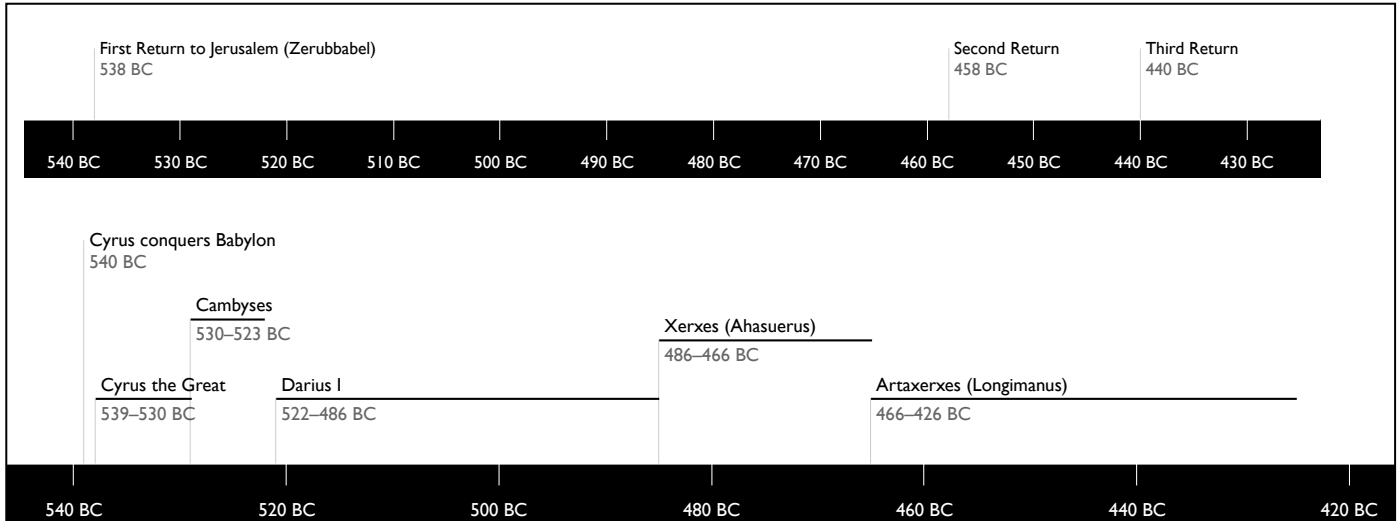


XXIII. UNIT 23: “Out of the Ashes” – The Birth of Second Temple Judaism

I. “OUT OF THE ASHES” – The Post-Exilic Period

A. The “Post-Exilic Period As A Whole

1. Occurs during the height of the _____ Empire.



2. Concludes with a prophecy about the coming of _____, 400 years before he actually arrives (cf. Malachi 4:5-6)!
3. Many institutions and _____ arose during this period (e.g. Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, scribes, Essenes, Sanhedrin, and synagogues).
4. Includes eight Old Testament books:
 - a. Three books of _____: Ezra, Esther, & Nehemiah
 - b. Three books of _____: Haggai, Zechariah & Malachi
 - c. One book of “editorial _____”: 1 & 2 Chronicles

B. The Book(s) of Chronicles in *Context*

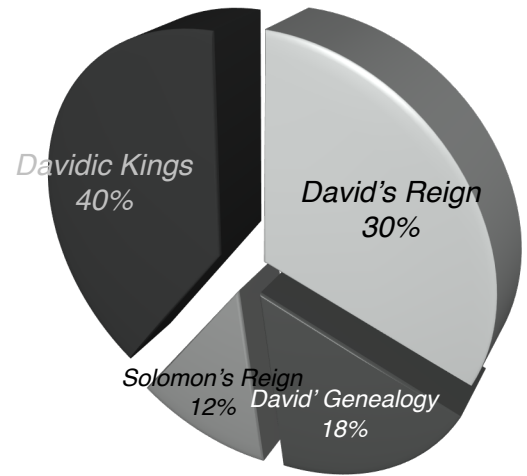
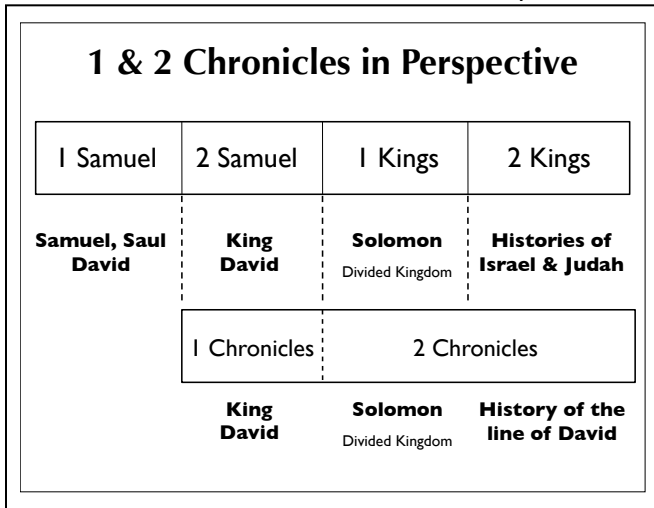
1. Chronicles was written _____ the Babylonian Exile.
2. The actual date and author are unknown, although _____ is a good candidate.
3. The last two verses of 2 Chronicles are almost identical to the first three verses of the book of _____:

In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing: “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: ‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of his people among you—may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.’” –2 Chronicles 36:22,23

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GETTING THE BIG PICTURE

C. The Books of Chronicles in *Perspective*:

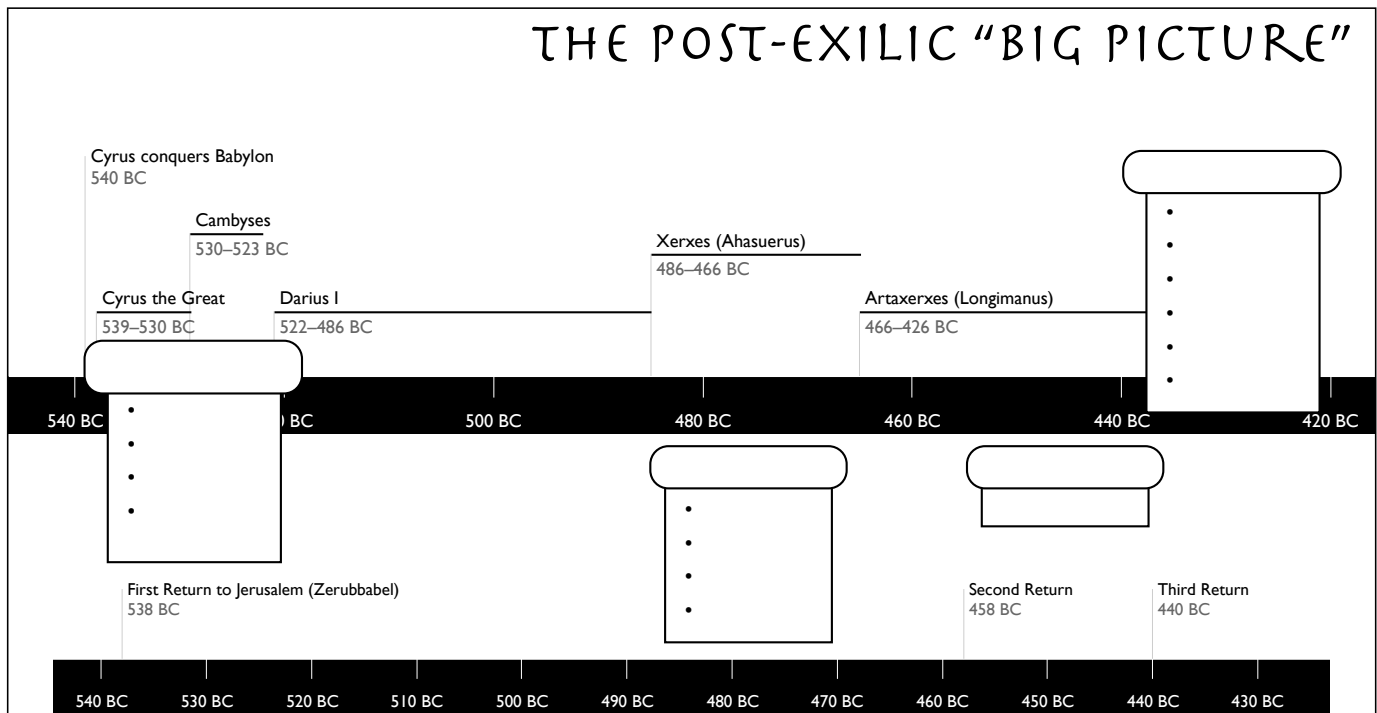


The Content of Chronicles

D. The Books of Chronicles — a *Summary*:

1. The Books of Chronicles retell the _____ history of the Southern kingdom of _____ from the time of 2 Samuel through 2 Kings.

II. "OUT OF THE ASHES: GOD'S FINAL WORD"



A. The First Return From Captivity – Ezra 1 – 6

1. Cyrus' policy of _____ was the *opposite* of Assyria and Babylon's oppression.
2. The Persian _____ system would have allowed for good travel:
 - a. There were _____ postal stations on 1,677 miles of roads from Susa to Ephesus.
 - b. It was a _____ day journey on foot, but only 7 days for the king's couriers.
3. About _____ people made the 5-month trip from Babylon to Jerusalem.
4. The return of the exiles to _____ was the fulfillment of many prophecies:
 - a. _____ foretold this return under Cyrus and that the Temple and city would be rebuilt. (Is. 44:28)
 - b. Jeremiah predicted the _____ of the exile, the return, and the final judgment of Babylon. (Jer. 29:10; 25:12)
 - c. _____ predicted the overthrow of Babylon and the rise of the Medo-Persian Empire. (As well as the fall of *Persia* to Greece and the fall of Greece to Rome.)
5. The exiles were _____ by two high-ranking Jewish leaders: Zerubbabel and Jeshua.
 - a. Zerubbabel, the *civil* leader:
 - (1) Is also known as Sheshbazzar in our Bibles. (Ezra 5:14,16; Hag. 1:1; 2:2; 3:2-8)
 - (2) The son of Shealtiel and _____ of King Jehoiachin. (1 Chron. 3:17)
 - (3) The appointed _____ of Judah. (Hag. 1:14).
 - b. Jeshua, the priestly *spiritual* leader:
 - (1) The _____ of Jehozadak the High Priest. (Ezra 2:2; hag. 1:1)
 - (2) His _____ was one of those taken into exile by Nebuchadnezzar. (1 Chron 6:15)
6. Rebuilding the Temple:
 - a. The _____ is rebuilt and sacrificial system resumes.
 - b. Foundation is laid in 535 BC, but is halted for nearly _____ years because of _____ opposition.
 - c. It is completed in 515 BC and _____ is celebrated.
7. Rebuilding the People:
 - a. _____ and _____ were used by God during this time.
 - b. Haggai: The Man:
 - (1) Appears to have been a _____; familiar with the former Temple. (2:3)
 - (2) Has a very brief ministry of about _____ months (cf. 1:1; 2:10, 20)!
 - (3) His ministry was to the _____, not the _____ (1:1; 2:10-12).
 - c. Haggai: The Message:
 - (1) "Quit building your own _____ and get back to work on my 'House'!"
 - (2) Unfaithfulness to God's revealed will renders _____ worthless.
 - d. Zechariah: The Man:
 - (1) There are over _____ men in the Old Testament by this name!
 - (2) His ministry begins _____ months after Haggai's.
 - (3) His book consists of many _____ (8 in one night!)
 - e. Zechariah: The Message:
 - (1) Haggai's message was a _____, Zechariah's was _____.

(2) It contains the most Messianic prophecies of any _____ prophet.

B. Yeshua in the Post-Exilic Prophets

1. In the Prophet Haggai:

- a. He is the “latter _____ of this house shall be greater than the former.” (2:9a)
- b. He is “the _____” that was to come to the Temple. (2:9b)

2. In the Prophet Zechariah:

- a. He is the “Righteous _____.” (3:8)
- b. He is the “King-_____.” (6:13)
- c. He is the “humble _____, riding on a donkey.” (9:9-10; cf. Matt 21:1-5)
- d. He is the “good shepherd, rejected and _____.” (11:4-13; cf. Matt 26:14-15)
- e. He is the “one who was _____.” (12:10; cf. Jn 19:37)
- f. He is the “smitten _____ who was abandoned.” (13:7; cf. Mk 14:27)
- g. He is the “_____.” (10:4; cf. 1 Pet 2:6)

C. Learning From the Exiles — The Second-Temple Prophets & The Christian

1. The tendency to put my own “creature needs” ahead of _____ values did not perish in the rubble of Jerusalem. (Hag 1:7-10; Matt 6:31-33; Jer 29:7)
2. Bringing _____ methods into the Kingdom may corrupt the Kingdom rather than _____ the method.
3. God’s passion is *always* to _____ and _____ His covenant people (i.e. to uphold *His* end of the covenant).
4. God is always willing to _____ those who are willing to _____.
5. The objective _____ of God always trumps the subjective “_____” of God, when it comes to declaring His “will” for His people.