



Ezra and Nehemiah

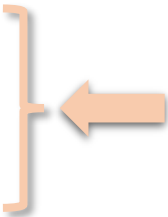
“Let us rise up and build.”

(Nehemiah 2:18)

1. Introduction

The Old Testament	
Law	1. Genesis
	2. Exodus
	3. Leviticus
	4. Numbers
	5. Deuteronomy
History	6. Joshua
	7. Judges
	8. Ruth
	9. 1 Samuel
	10. 2 Samuel
	11. 1 Kings
	12. 2 Kings
	13. 1 Chronicles
	14. 2 Chronicles
	15. Ezra
	16. Nehemiah
	17. Esther
Wisdom	18. Job
	19. Psalms
	20. Proverbs
	21. Ecclesiastes
	22. Song of Solomon
Prophets	23. Isaiah to 39. Malachi

Ezra and Nehemiah in the Old Testament



From Samuel to Saul, David, Solomon, Rehoboam and the kings of both **Israel** (in the north) and **Judah**, until Jerusalem is destroyed.

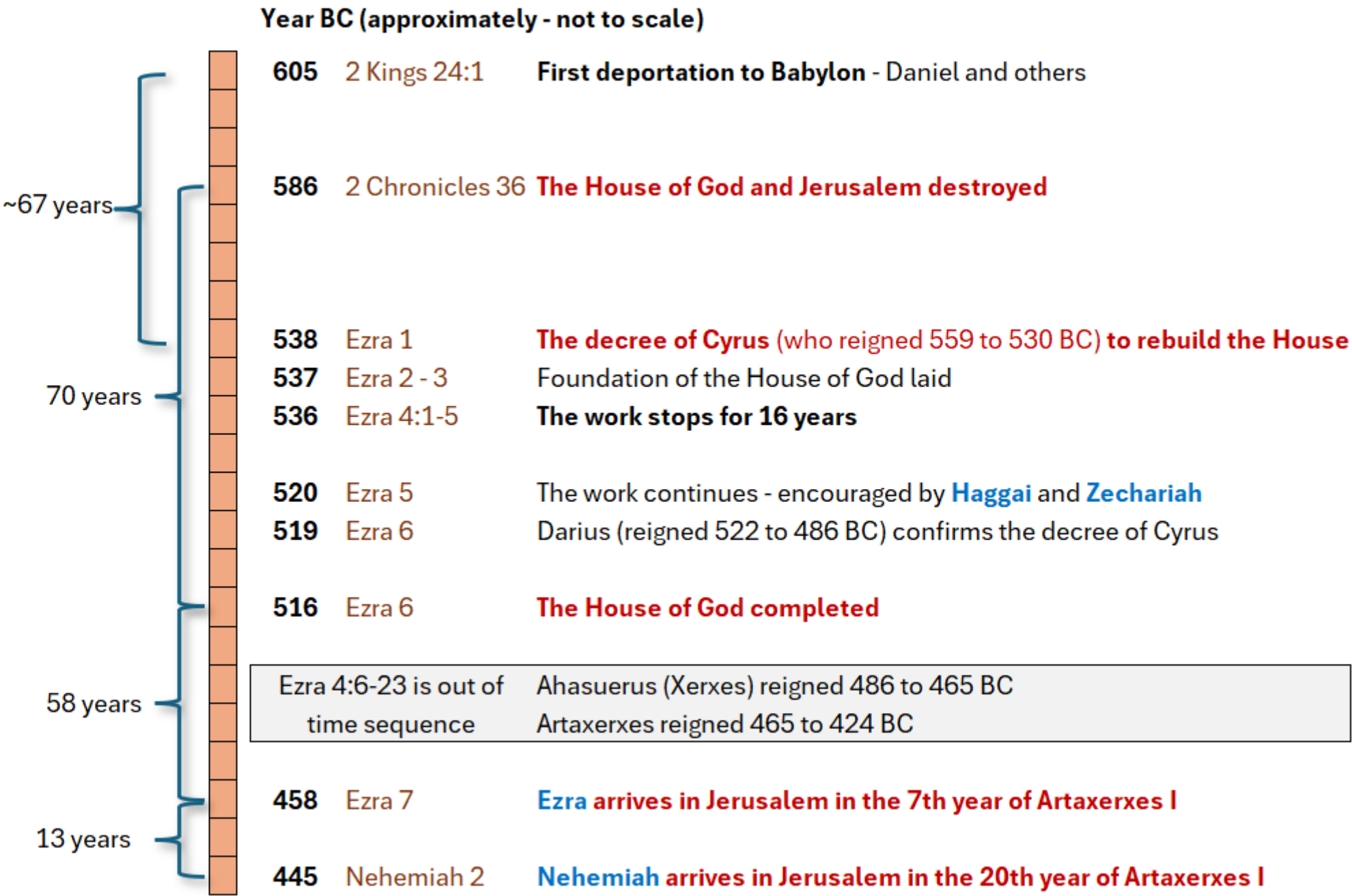


From David to Solomon and the kings of **Judah**, until Jerusalem is destroyed.



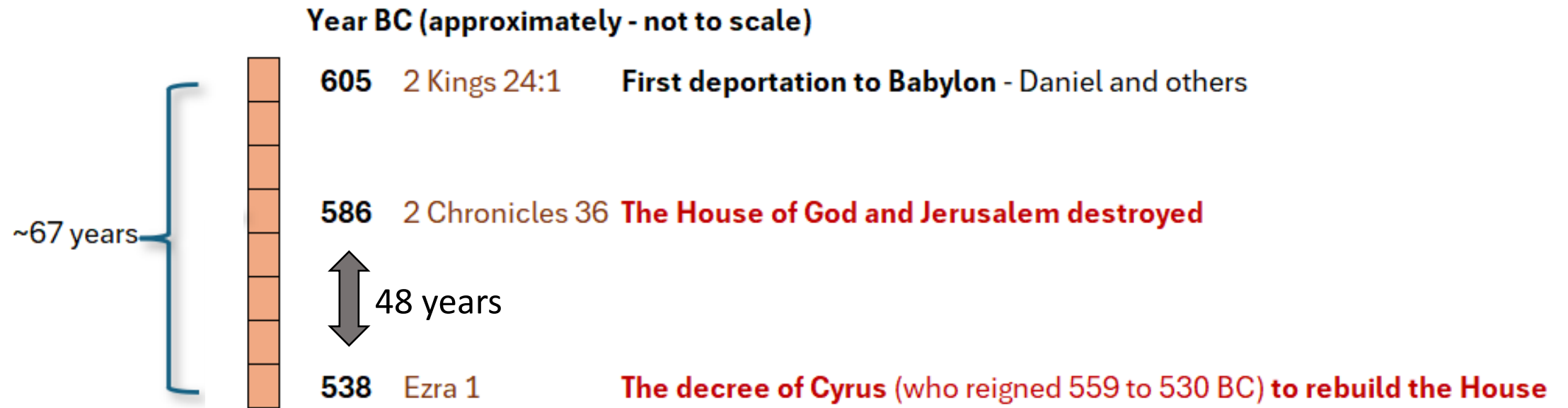
Rebuilding the Temple and the walls of Jerusalem with opposition.

Time in Ezra and Nehemiah



Esther became queen in the 7th year of the reign of Ahasuerus (Xerxes) which is about 479 BC, well before Ezra went to Jerusalem

Time in Ezra and Nehemiah



Reading: Ezra 1:1-4

The decree of Cyrus (538 BC)

Persia defeated Babylon in 539 BC

Isaiah 44:28
to 45:7

Jeremiah 29:10

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:

“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.

“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.”

(Ezra 1:1-3)

The decree of Cyrus (538 BC)

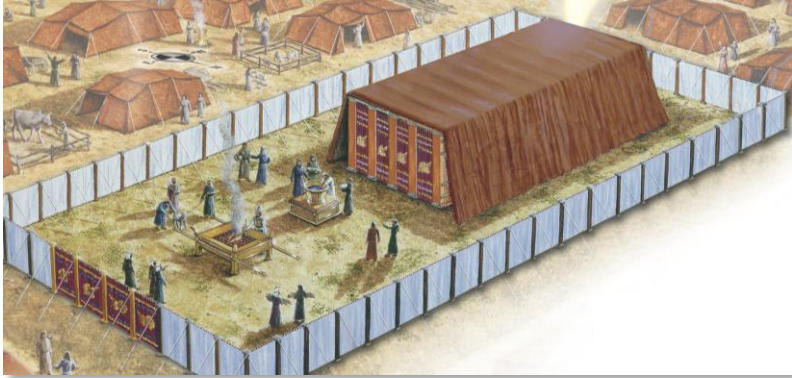
The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me
all the kingdoms of the earth, and **He has charged me
to build Him a house at Jerusalem....**

Whoever is among you of all His people...
let him go up to Jerusalem, and
rebuild the house of the LORD....



The House of God in the Old Testament

The House of God in the Old Testament



Out of Egypt ➡ **The Tabernacle**

Into the Land ➡ **The Temple**

At Mt Sinai:

*"And let them make Me a sanctuary,
that I may dwell in their midst."*

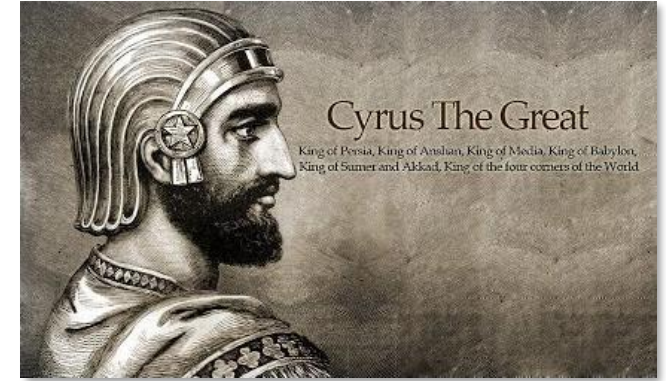
(Exodus 25:8)

In Jerusalem:

*"...the palace will not be for man
but for the LORD God."*

(1 Chronicles 29:1)

The House of God in the Old Testament



Into the Land ➡

The Temple

Destroyed

The Decree of Cyrus

In Jerusalem:

*"...the palace will not be for man
but for the LORD God."
(1 Chronicles 29:1)*

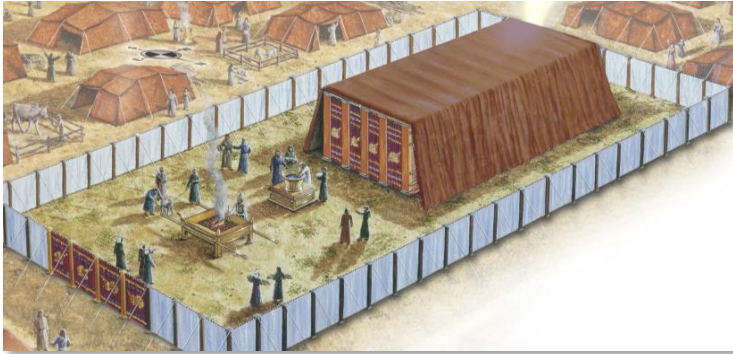
*"The LORD, the God of heaven...
has charged me to build Him
a house at Jerusalem..."
(Ezra 1:2)*

Completed 959 BC

Destroyed 586 BC

Decreed in 538 BC

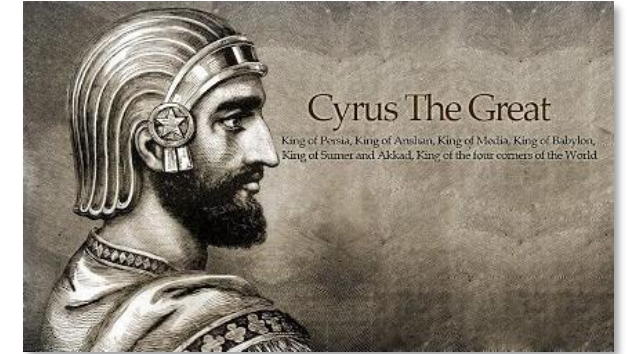
The House of God in the Old Testament



- At Sinai after the Exodus
- “*...make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell in their midst.*”
- By Moses
- By willing offerings

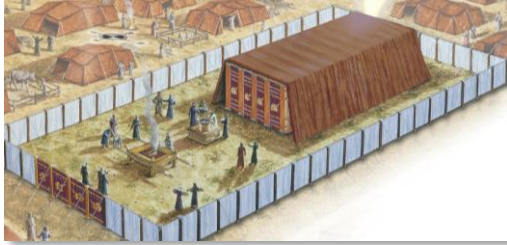


- At Jerusalem
- “*...the palace will not be for man but for the LORD God.*”
- By David and Solomon
- By willing offerings



- At Jerusalem
- “*The LORD... has charged me to build Him a house at Jerusalem...*”
- By returning exiles
- By willing offerings

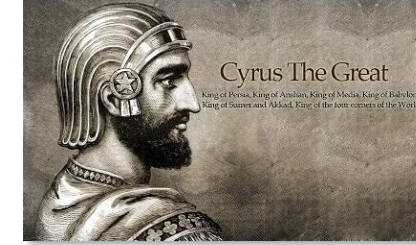
The House of God in the Old Testament



- At Sinai after the Exodus
- “...*make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell in their midst.*”
- By Moses
- By willing offerings



- At Jerusalem
- “...*the palace will not be for man but for the LORD God.*”
- By David and Solomon
- By willing offerings



- At Jerusalem
- “*The LORD... has charged me to build Him a house at Jerusalem...*”
- By returning exiles
- By willing offerings

The House of God in the New Testament

“What sign do you show us...”

“*Destroy this temple,
and in three days I will raise it up.*”

(John 2:18-19)

...a holy temple in the Lord.

In Him you also are being built together
into **a dwelling place for God** by the Spirit.

(Ephesians 2:21-22)

The House of God in the New Testament

“What sign do you show us...”

*“**Destroy this temple,**
and in three days I will raise it up.”*

(John 2:18-19)

...a **holy temple** in the Lord.

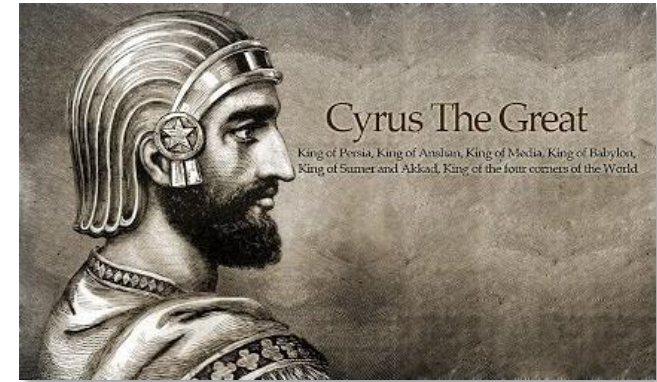
In Him you also are being built together
into **a dwelling place for God** by the Spirit.

(Ephesians 2:21-22)

Ekklesia – **called out** of the world, **called to** fellowship with the Son of God

- The wonder of **God’s everlasting love** for His people.
- The **perfect life** of the Lord Jesus and **His zeal** for His Father’s will.
- The mystery of **God’s eternal purpose**, accomplished in Christ Jesus.
- **The privilege** given to God’s children to share in this glorious work.

The decree of Cyrus (538 BC)



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....

Whoever is among you of all His people...
let him go up to Jerusalem, and
rebuild the house of the LORD....

Reading: Ezra 1:5-11

Exiles return to the Land

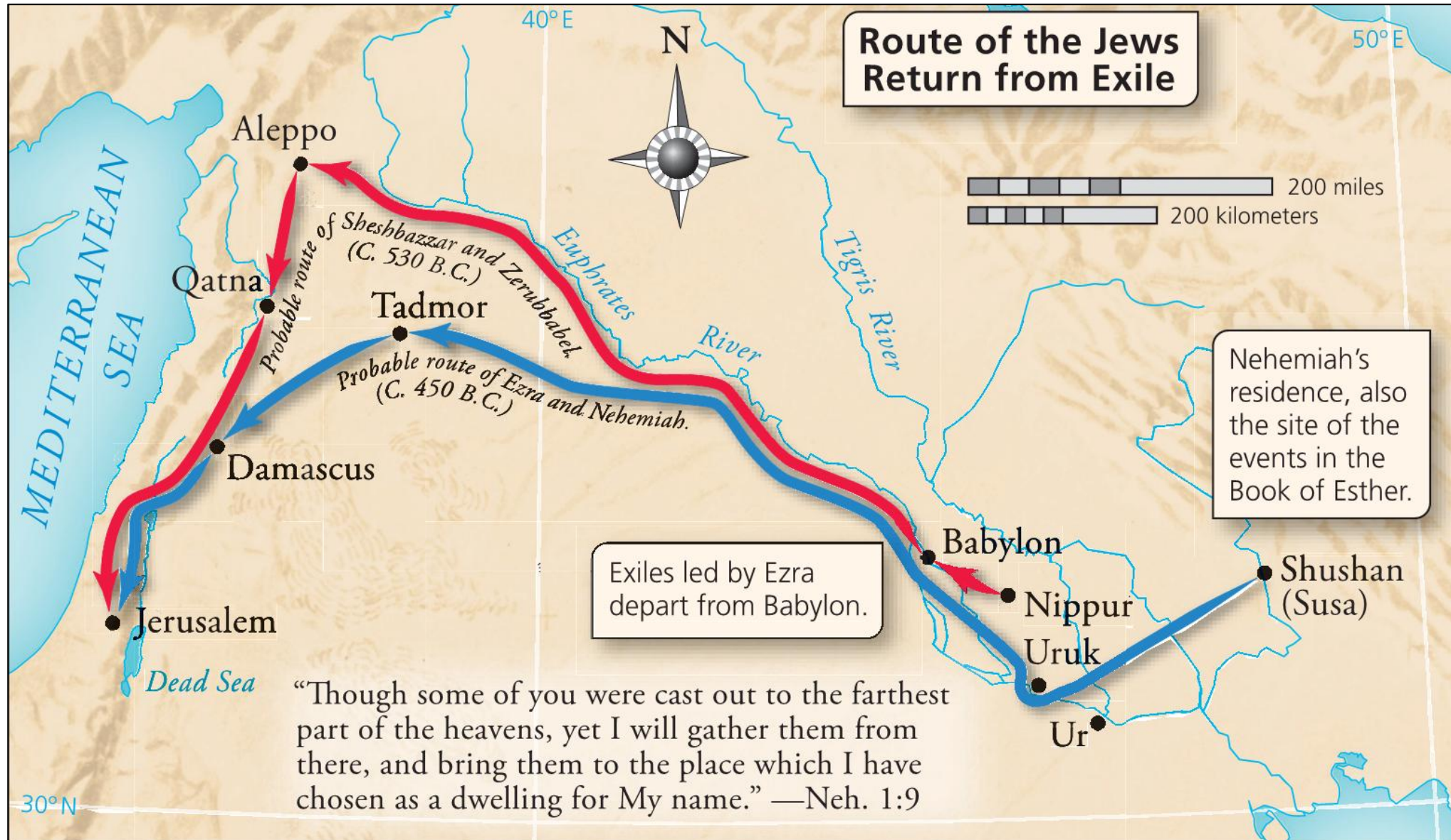
Then rose up the heads of the fathers' houses of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites, **everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up to rebuild the house of the LORD** that is in Jerusalem.

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.**

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.

(Ezra 1:5-7)

Exiles return to the Land



Exiles return to the Land

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.

From 605 BC 

About 538 BC  They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his own town.

(Ezra 2:1)



The whole assembly together was 42,360, besides their male and female servants, of whom there were 7,337, and they had 200 male and female singers.

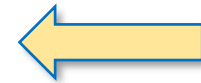
(Ezra 2:64-65)

Ezra himself came
about 80 years later

Exiles return to the Land

The decree of Cyrus led to

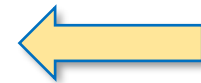
- ✓ some of God's people
- ✓ going on a difficult journey
- ✓ willingly
- ✓ to rebuild God's House.



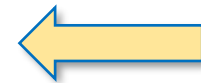
Not all of them



It was easier to stay in Babylon



They chose to go



The House was for God

***“Destroy this temple,
and in three days I will raise it up.”***

(John 2:19)

In Him you also are being built together
into **a dwelling place for God** by the Spirit.

(Ephesians 2:22)

