



## 1. Ezra

### A. Authorship

### B. Purpose

### C. Structure of Ezra & Nehemiah

	1 <sup>st</sup> Return	2 <sup>nd</sup> Return	3 <sup>rd</sup> Return
<b>Leader</b>			
<b>Date</b>			
<b>Text</b>			
<b>Persian King</b>			
<b>Decree</b>			

### D. Time Frame of Ezra

	530s	←	
	520s	←	
	510s	←	
	500s	←	
	490s	←	
	480s	←	
	470s	←	
	460s	←	
	450s	←	

### E. Main Concept

### F. Key Chapter

### G. Tribes of Israel

### H. Outline

**I. Zerubbabel's Temple**

**J. Priority Building Project**

**K. Ezra's Reforms**

**L. The Problem of Intermarrying**

**2. Nehemiah**

**A. Authorship**

**B. Main Concept**

**C. Key Chapter**

**D. Outline**

**E. Time Frame**

**F. Nehemiah's Job**

**G. Nehemiah's Prayer Life**

**H. Opposition to the Project**

**I. God's Favor on the Project**

**J. Revival Among the People**

**K. While Nehemiah was Away**





*Compass Night*

# Old Testament SURVEY

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	<i><b>Bible Book</b></i>	<i><b>Main Concept</b></i>	<i><b>Key Ch.</b></i>	<i><b>Chapter Happenings</b></i>
1	Genesis	Beginnings	12	Abrahamic Covenant
2	Exodus	Deliverance	12	First Passover in Egypt
3	Numbers	Wanderings	14	Test of Faith at Kadesh
4	Joshua	Conquest	6	Battle of Jericho
5	Judges	Failure	2	Cycle of Sin Begins
6	1 Samuel	Monarchy	8	Saul Becomes King

	<i><b>Bible Book</b></i>	<i><b>Main Concept</b></i>	<i><b>Key Ch.</b></i>	<i><b>Chapter Happenings</b></i>
7	2 Samuel	David	7	Davidic Covenant
8	1 Kings	Division	12	Israel Splits in Two
9	2 Kings	Captivity	17 & 25	North & South Fall
	<i><b>Taken to Babylon = Exile / Captivity</b></i>			
10	Ezra			
11	Nehemiah			



# 1. Ezra

## A. Authorship

- Ezra & Nehemiah Linked as One Book Originally
- Ezra's 1<sup>st</sup> Person Memoirs in the Book
- Ezra is the Author & Perhaps Compiler of Ez/Neh

**Ezra 7:11**

*...Ezra the priest, the scribe, a man learned in matters of the commandments of the LORD and his statutes for Israel*



# 1. Ezra

## B. Purpose

**Jeremiah 25:10–12**

*Moreover, I will banish from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the grinding of the millstones and the light of the lamp.*



# 1. Ezra

## B. Purpose

**Jeremiah 25:10–12**

*This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. Then after seventy years are completed, I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity, declares the LORD*



# 1. Ezra

## B. Purpose

- God's Faithfulness to His Promises
- God is Rich in Mercy
- Clarity That This Restoration is NOT  
"The" Restoration



# 1. Ezra

## C. Structure of Ezra & Nehemiah



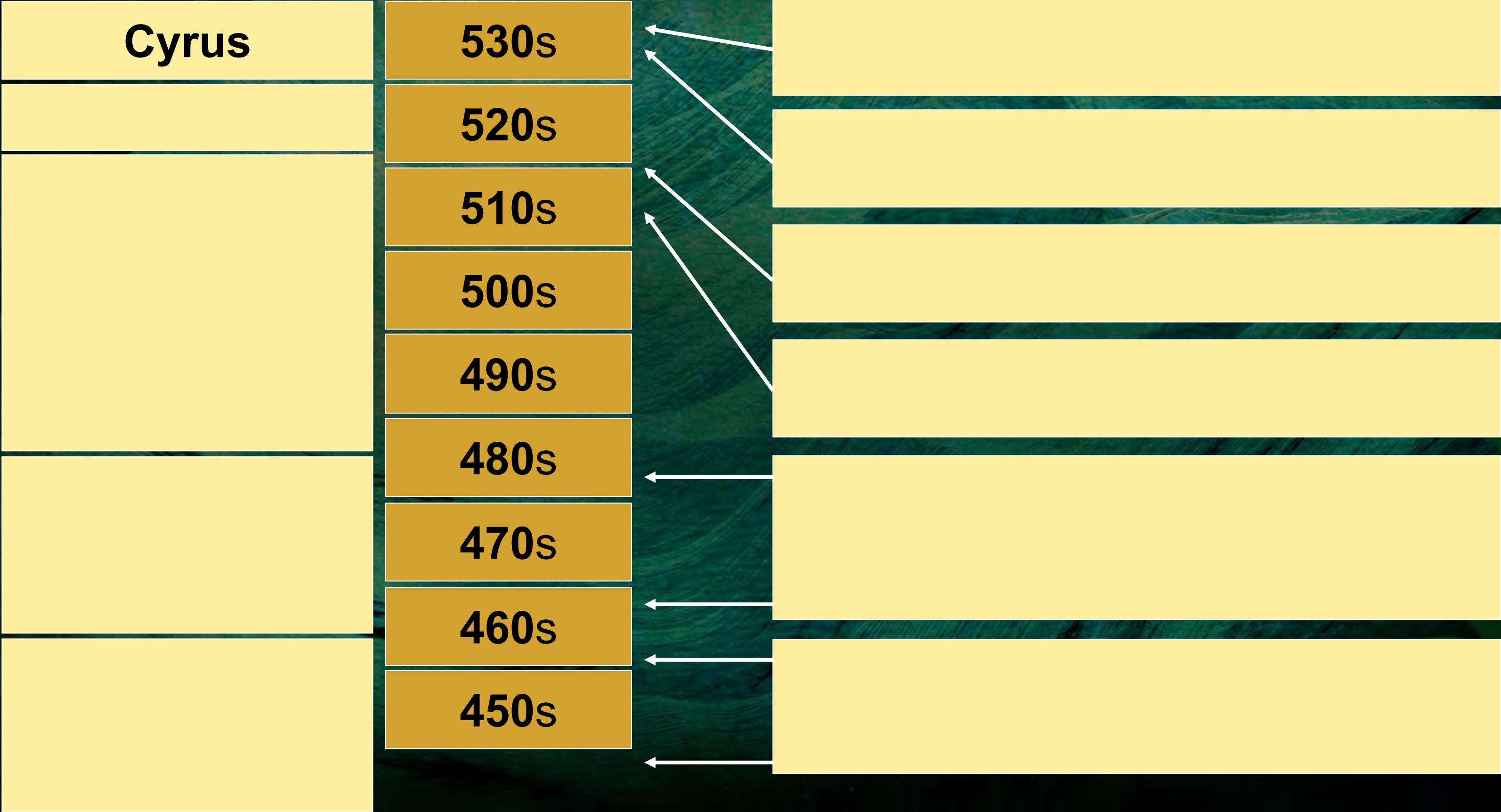
	<i><b>1st Return</b></i>	<i><b>2nd Return</b></i>	<i><b>3rd Return</b></i>
<b>Leader</b>	<b>Zerubbabel</b>	<b>Ezra</b>	<b>Nehemiah</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>444</b>
<b>Text</b>	<b>Ezra 1–6</b>	<b>Ezra 7–10</b>	<b>Neh.1–13</b>
<b>Per. King</b>	<b>Cyrus</b>	<b>Artaxerxes</b>	<b>Artaxerxes</b>
<b>Decree</b>	<b>Temple to be Rebuilt</b>	<b>Finances Provided</b>	<b>Walls to be Rebuilt</b>



# 1. Ezra

## D. Time Frame of Ezra



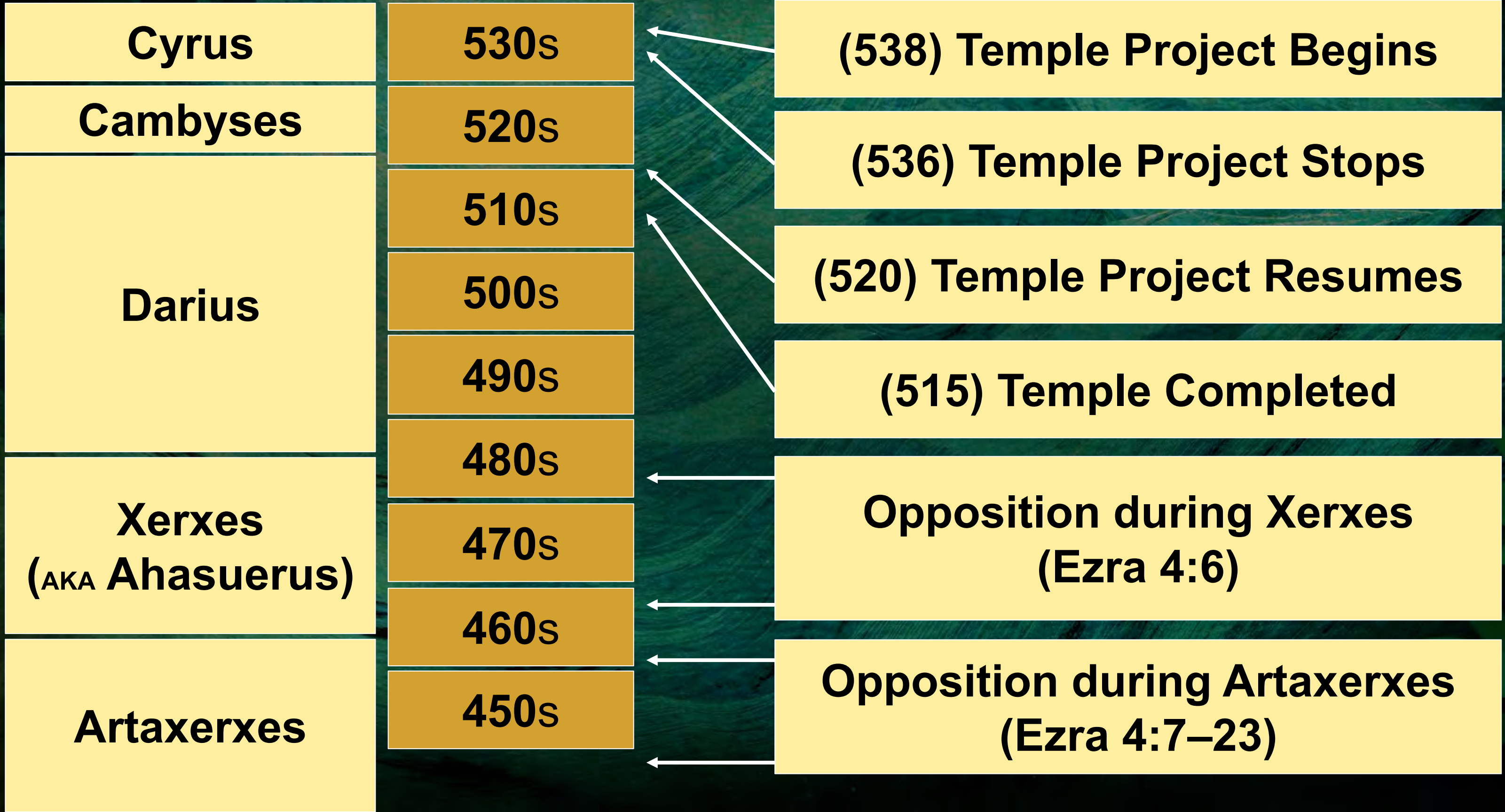






**Cyrus Cylinder**







# 1. Ezra

## E. Main Concept

- Temple

## F. Key Chapter

- Ezra 6 = Temple Foundation Laid



# 1. Ezra

## G. Tribes of Israel

- Ten Tribes of North Falls to Assyria in 721
  - Conquered (not “Lost”)
  - Some Intermarried with Foreigners
  - Some Relocate to South
    - > At Division (1 Kgs. 12)
    - > During Asa’s Reforms (2 Chron. 15)
    - > At the Fall (2 Chron. 30 & 34)



***Ezekiel 3:1***

***And he said to me, “Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.”***



## *Ezra 2:1*

*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. They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his own town.*

*...28 The men of Bethel and Ai...*



***Ezra 6:17***

***They offered at the dedication of this house of God  
100 bulls, 200 rams, 400 lambs, and as a sin offering  
for all Israel 12 male goats, according to the number  
of the tribes of Israel.***



## *Ezra 7:7*

*And there went up also to Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king, some of the people of Israel, and some of the priests and Levites, the singers and gatekeepers, and the temple servants.*



***Zechariah 1:19***

***And I said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these?” And he said to me, “These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.”***



***Luke 2:36***

***And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin,***



***James 1:1***

***James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus  
Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:  
Greetings.***



## *Revelation 7:4–6*

*And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: 12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad, 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,*



## ***Zechariah 10:6***

***I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them.***



## *Ezekiel 37:15–17*

*The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, take a stick and write on it, ‘For Judah, and the people of Israel associated with him’; then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him.’ And join them one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.*



## ***Ezekiel 37:24–25***

***“My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall walk in my rules and be careful to obey my statutes. They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children’s children shall dwell there forever, and David my servant shall be their prince forever.*”**



# 1. Ezra

## H. Outline

- 1) *Zerubbabel's Return (1–6)*
  - *Restoration of the Temple*
- 2) *Ezra's Return (7–10)*
  - *Reformation of the People*



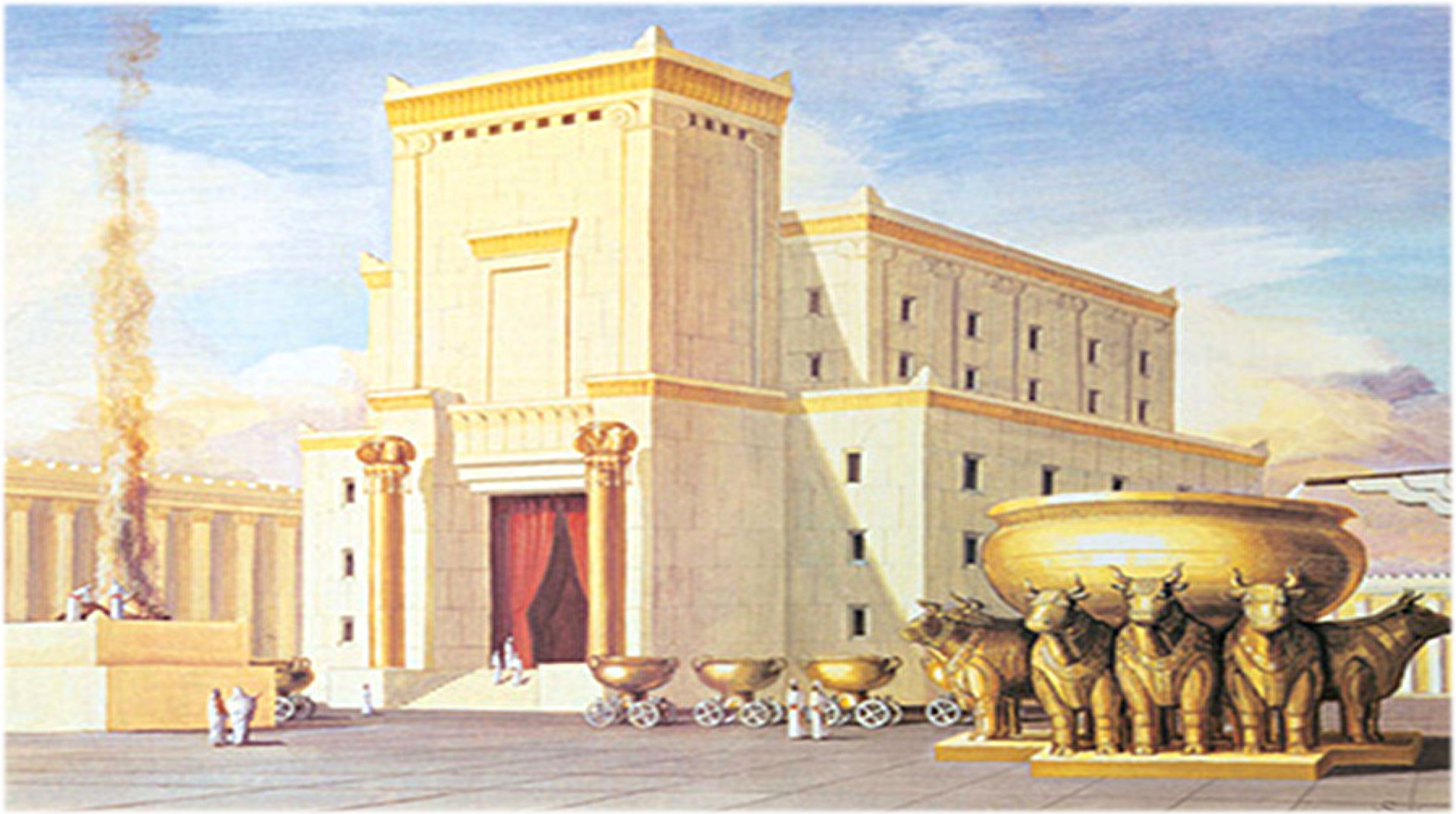
# 1. Ezra

## I. Zerubbabel's Temple

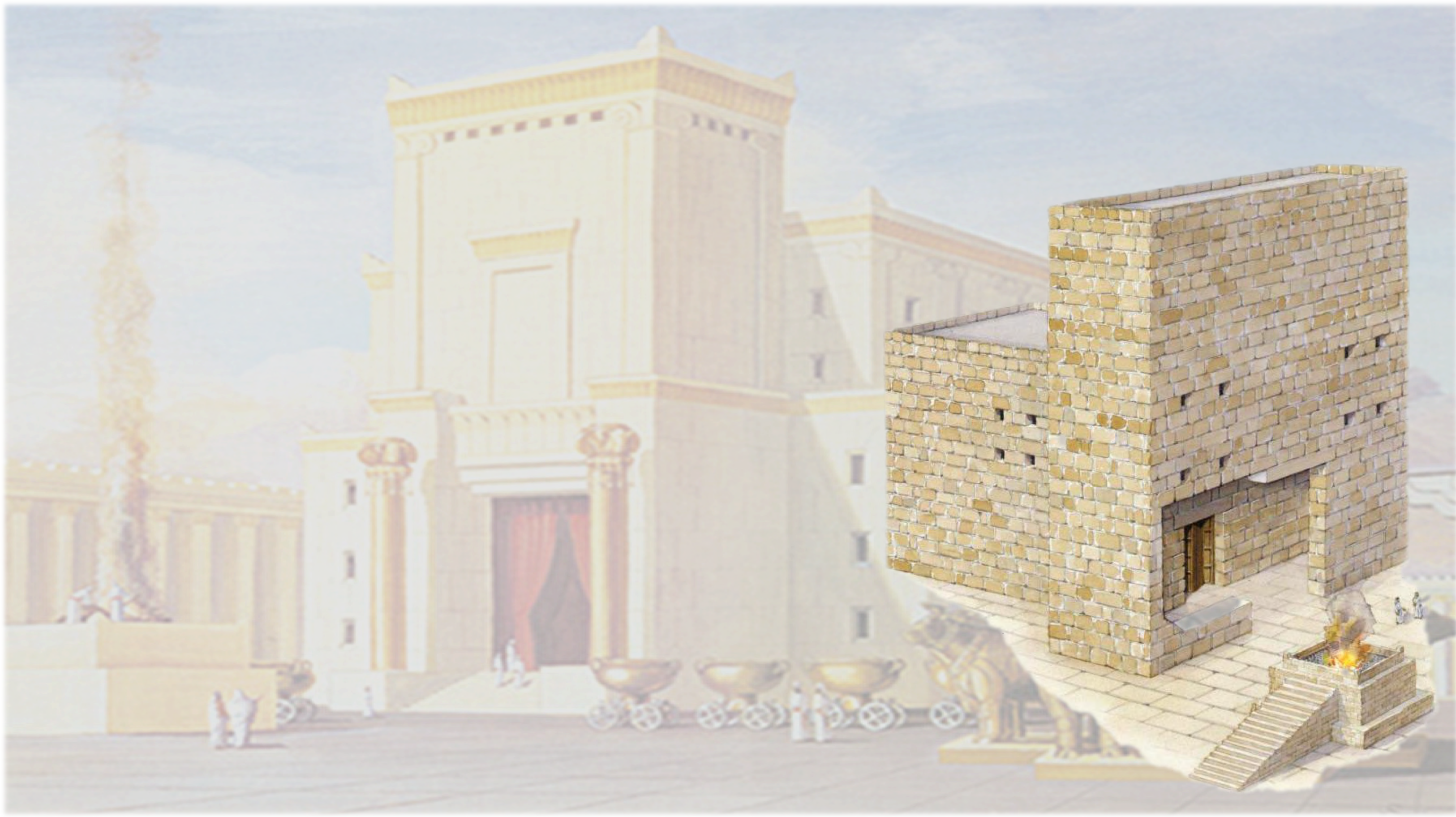










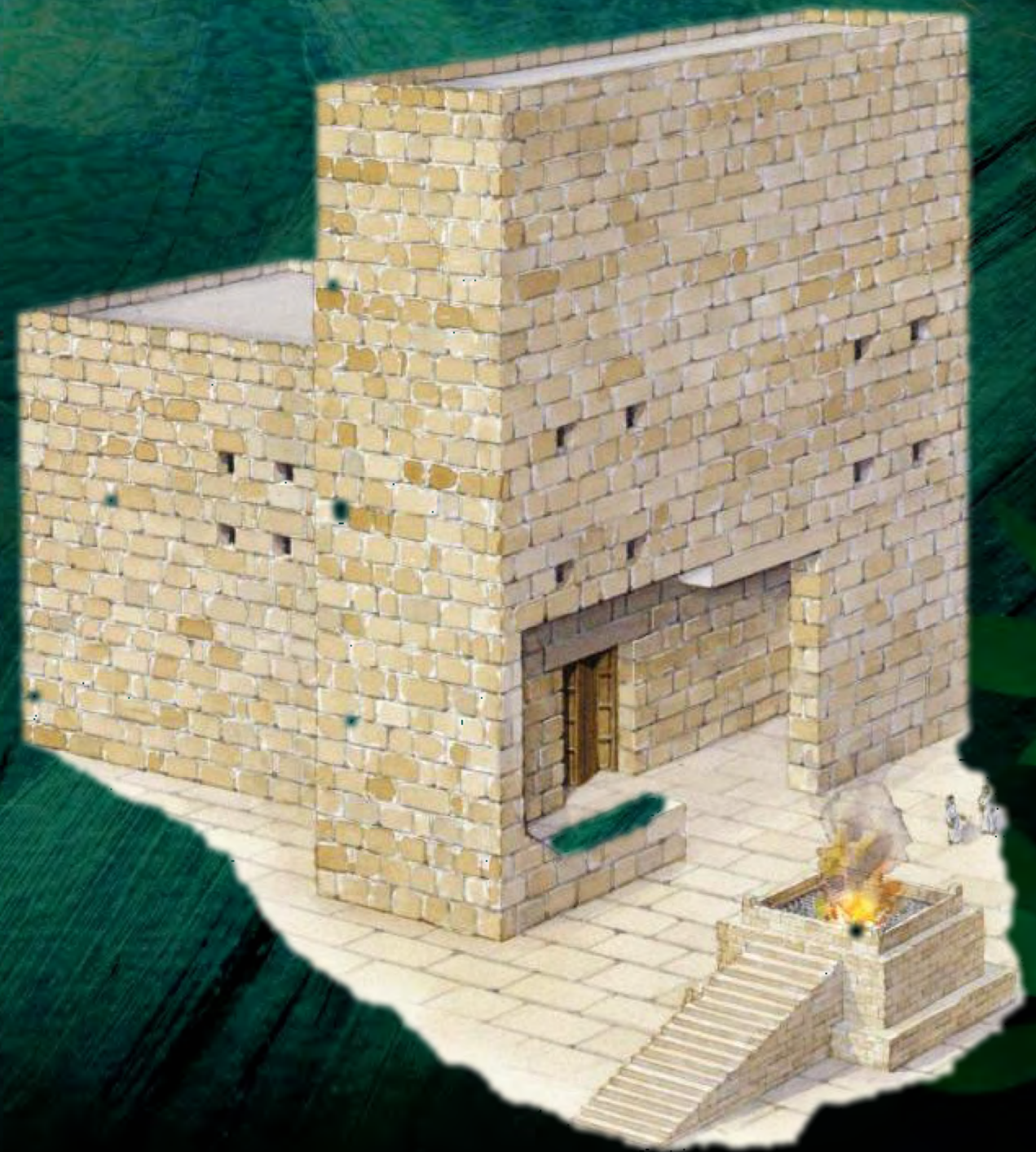




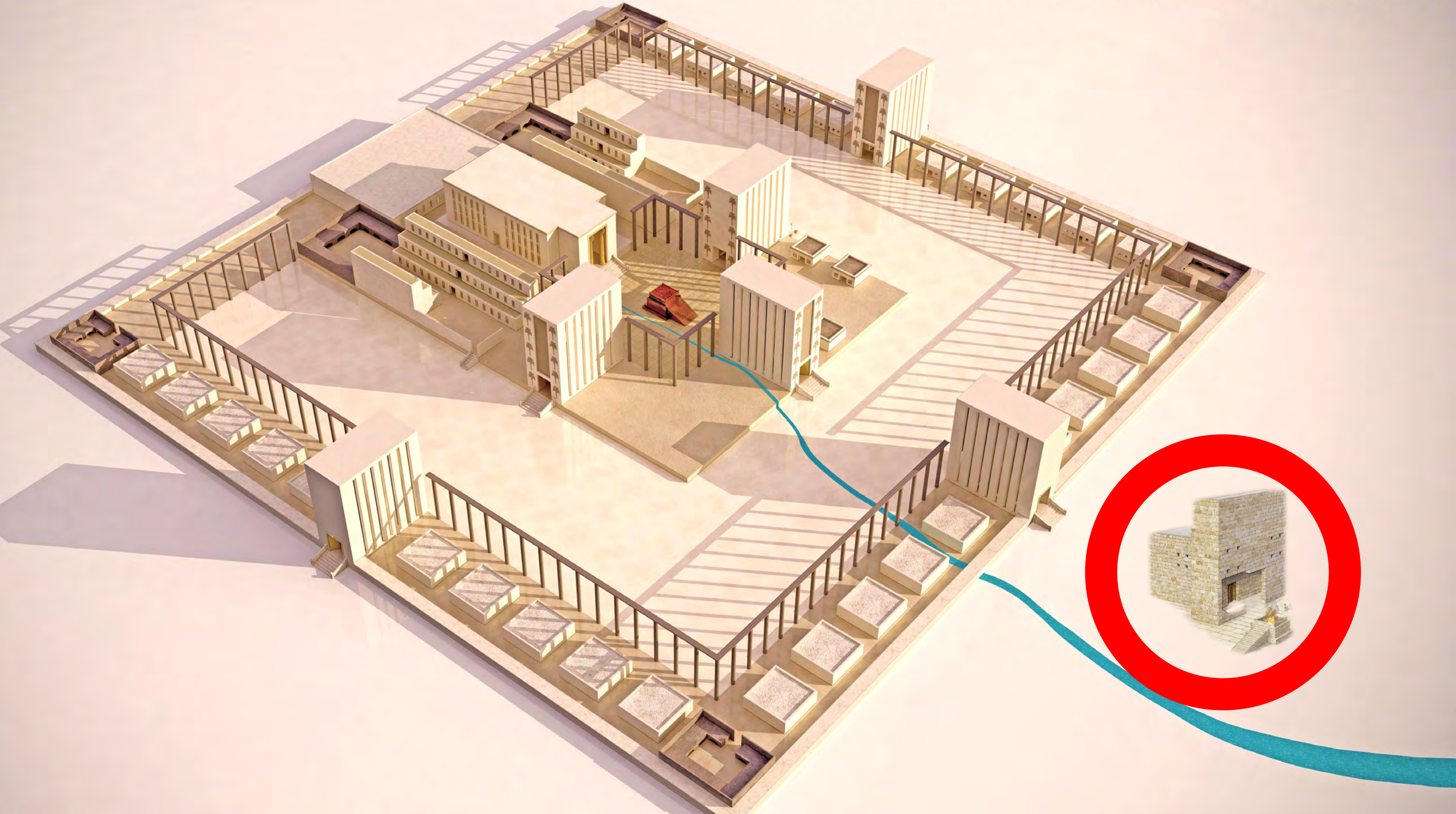
# 1. Ezra

## I. Zerubbabel's Temple

- This was Not What Was Prophesied









# 1. Ezra

## J. Priority Building Project

- Temple Before the Walls
- Temple Completion before Houses

***Haggai 1:4–6***

***Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. You have sown much, and harvested little. ...***



# 1. Ezra

## K. Ezra's Reforms

- Hand of the Lord

*Ezra 7:6*

*the king granted him all that he asked, for the hand of the LORD his God was on him.*



# 1. Ezra

## K. Ezra's Reforms

- Hand of the Lord

*Ezra 7:9*

*began to go up from Babylonia... for the good hand of his God was on him.*



# 1. Ezra

## K. Ezra's Reforms

- Hand of the Lord

***Ezra 7:28***

***I took courage, for the hand of the LORD my God was on me, and I gathered leading men from Israel to go up with me.***



# 1. Ezra

## K. Ezra's Reforms

- Hand of the Lord

*Ezra 8:18*

*And by the good hand of our God on us, they brought us a man of discretion...*



# 1. Ezra

## K. Ezra's Reforms

- The Role of Scripture

*Ezra 7:9b–10*

*...for the good hand of his God was on him. For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the LORD, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.*



# 1. Ezra

## L. The Problem of Intermarrying

- The Prohibition

*Deuteronomy 7:3–4*

*You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods.*



# 1. Ezra

## L. The Problem of Intermarrying

- Their Solution

*Ezra 10:2–3*

*We have married foreign women... but even now there is hope for Israel in spite of this. Therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all these wives and their children, according to the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God, and let it be done according to the Law.*



# 1. Ezra

## L. The Problem of Intermarrying

- NT Instruction

***1 Corinthians 7:12–13***

***if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him.***



## 2. Nehemiah

### A. Authorship

- Ezra & Nehemiah Linked as One Book Originally
- Nehemiah's 1<sup>st</sup> Person Memoirs in the Book
- Nehemiah Contributor with Ezra as Compiler

**Ezra 7:11**

***...Ezra the priest, the scribe, a man learned in matters of the commandments of the LORD and his statutes for Israel***



## 2. Nehemiah

### B. Main Concept

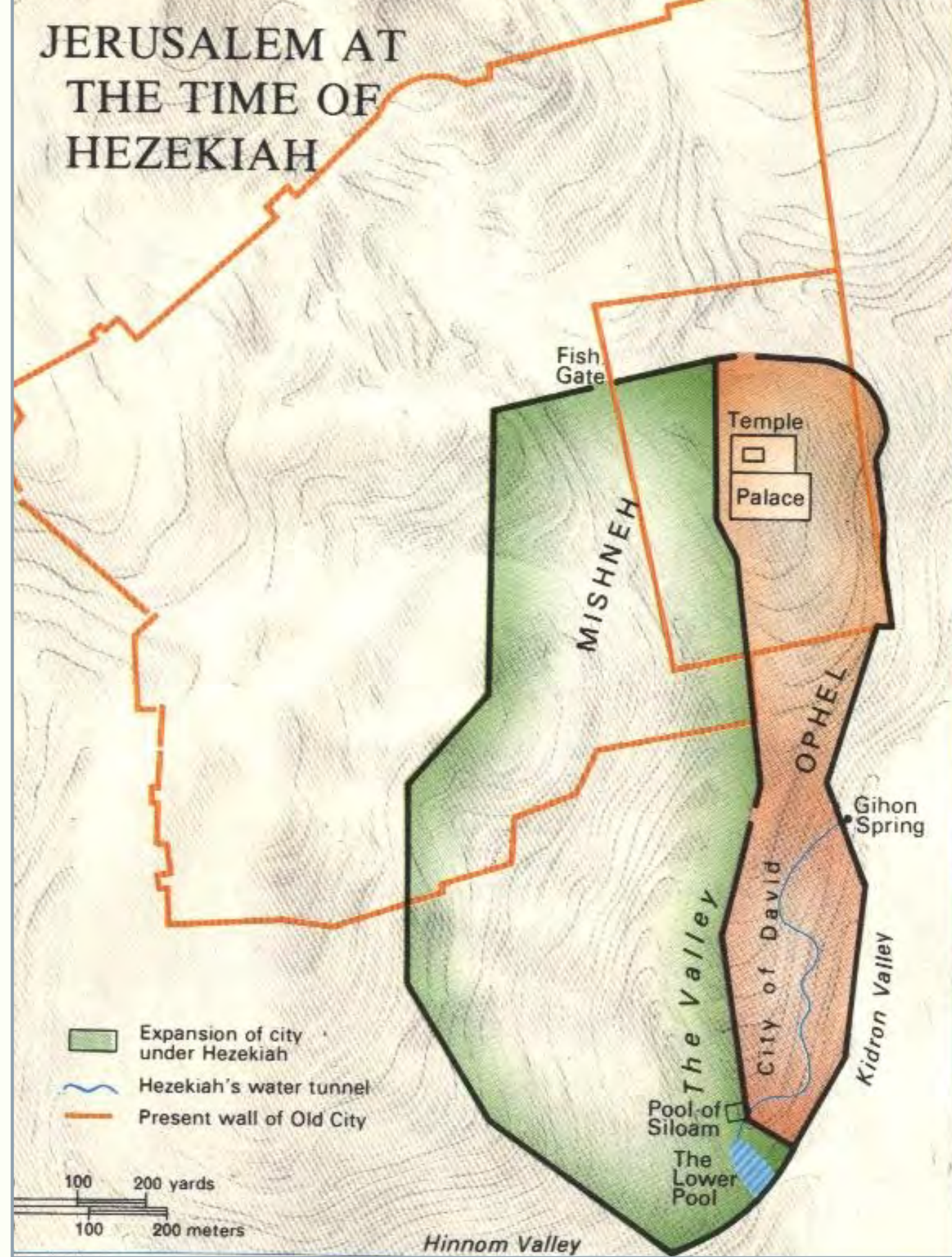
- Walls (of Jerusalem)

### C. Key Chapter

- Nehemiah 6 = Walls Rebuilt

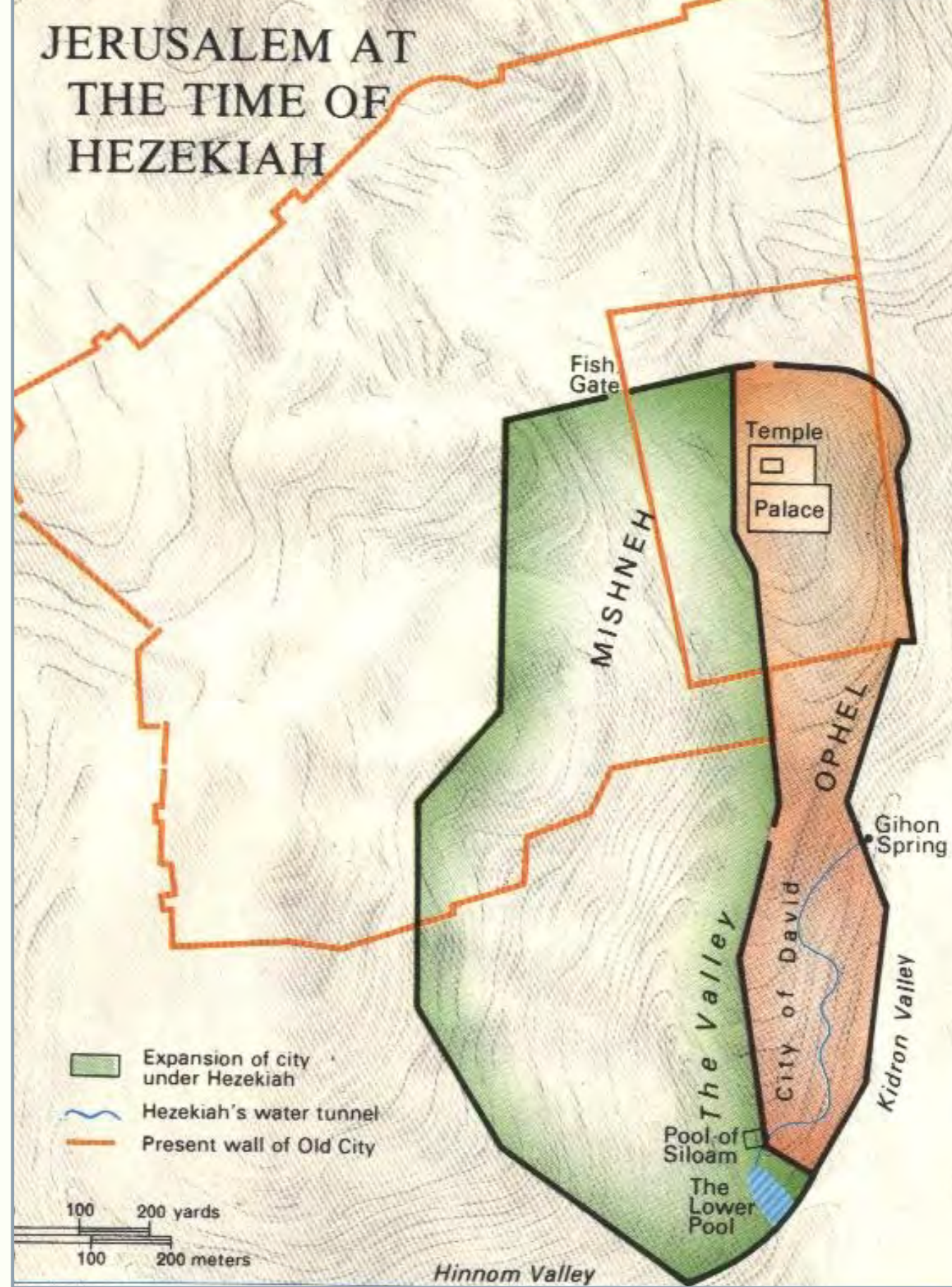


# JERUSALEM AT THE TIME OF HEZEKIAH

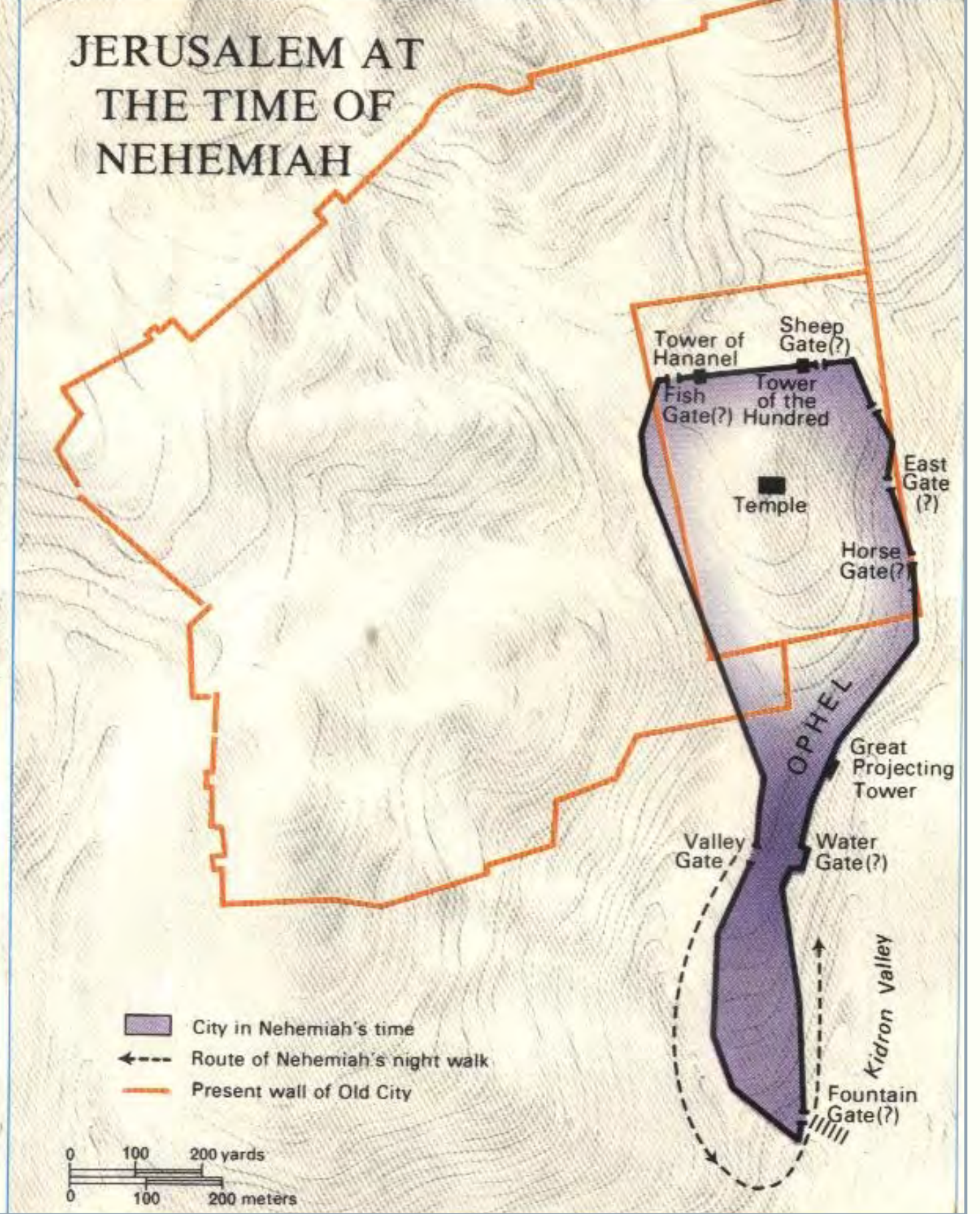




# JERUSALEM AT THE TIME OF HEZEKIAH



# JERUSALEM AT THE TIME OF NEHEMIAH





# 2. Nehemiah

## D. Outline

- 1) Jerusalem Walls Rebuilt (1–7)*
- 2) Spiritual Reform (8–13)*

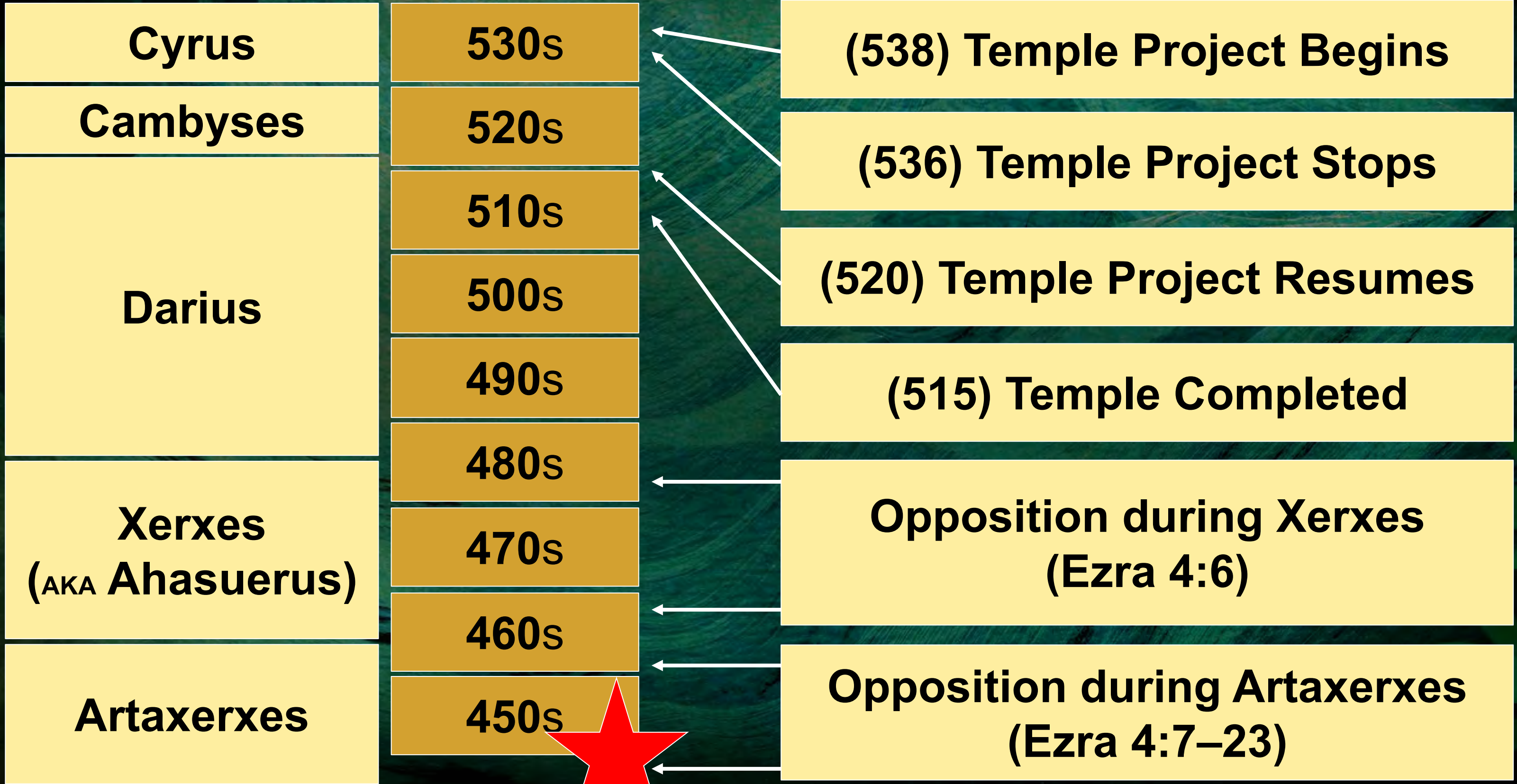


## 2. Nehemiah

### E. Time Frame

- Nehemiah as Cupbearer in Persia.....445  
-- 13 years after Divorces in Ezra 10
- Parenthetical Section of Ezra 4 Refers to This







## 2. Nehemiah

### E. Time Frame

- Nehemiah as Cupbearer in Persia.....445
  - 13 years after Divorces in Ezra 10
- Parenthetical Section of Ezra 4 Refers to This
  - Some building started on City & Walls
  - Artaxerxes Halts It Because of Complaints
  - Israel's Enemies Destroy Walls & Gates
  - Nehemiah Laments & is Allowed to Go....444



## 2. Nehemiah

### E. Time Frame

- Nehemiah Returns to Persia.....432

***Nehemiah 13:6–7***

***While this was taking place, I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I went to the king. And after some time I asked leave of the king and came to Jerusalem***



## 2. Nehemiah

### E. Time Frame

- Nehemiah Returns to Persia.....432
- Nehemiah Returns to Jerusalem.....???
- Events of the Book of Neh. Conclude.....425



## 2. Nehemiah

### F. Nehemiah's Job

- Another Example of Career Advancement

***Colossians 3:22–24***

***Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward.***



## 2. Nehemiah

### G. Nehemiah's Prayer Life

*Nehemiah 2:4–5*

*Then the king said to me, “What are you requesting?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.*

*And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ graves, that I may rebuild it.”*



## 2. Nehemiah

### H. Opposition to the Project

#### *Nehemiah 4:1–3*

*Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he jeered at the Jews. And he said in the presence of his brothers and of the army of Samaria, “What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they restore it for themselves?”*



## 2. Nehemiah

### H. Opposition to the Project

#### *Nehemiah 4:1–3*

*Will they sacrifice? Will they finish up in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish, and burned ones at that?” Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, “Yes, what they are building—if a fox goes up on it he will break down their stone wall!”*



## 2. Nehemiah

### H. Opposition to the Project

*Nehemiah 4:8–9*

*And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it. And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night.*



## 2. Nehemiah

### H. Opposition to the Project

#### *Nehemiah 6:6–9*

*...you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall. ...you wish to become their king. Then I sent to him, saying, “No such things as you say have been done, for you are inventing them out of your own mind.” For they all wanted to frighten us... But now, O God, strengthen my hands*



## 2. Nehemiah

### I. God's Favor on the Project

*Nehemiah 2:8*

*And the king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me.*

*Nehemiah 2:18*

*And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good...*



## 2. Nehemiah

### I. God's Favor on the Project

*Nehemiah 6:15–16*

*So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.*



## 2. Nehemiah

### J. Revival Among the People

#### *Nehemiah 8:1–4*

*And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard,*



## 2. Nehemiah

### J. Revival Among the People

#### *Nehemiah 8:1–4*

*...And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.*



## 2. Nehemiah

### J. Revival Among the People

***Nehemiah 8:1–4***

***And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. ...***

***Nehemiah 8:8***

***They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.***



## 2. Nehemiah

### K. While Nehemiah was Away

- Returning from Persia
  - Foreigners Allowed on Temple Mount
  - Tobiah Given a Place in the Worship Center

***Nehemiah 13:8***

***I was very angry, and I threw all the household furniture of Tobiah out of the chamber.***



## 2. Nehemiah

### K. While Nehemiah was Away

- Returning from Persia
  - Offerings Neglected
  - Levites Had to Get Second Jobs

***Nehemiah 13:11***

***So I confronted the officials and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their stations.***



## 2. Nehemiah

### K. While Nehemiah was Away

- Returning from Persia
  - Sabbath Ignored
  - Merchants Greedy for Gain on Sabbath

***Nehemiah 13:21***

***But I warned them... If you do so again, I will lay hands on you.” From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath.***



## 2. Nehemiah

### K. While Nehemiah was Away

- Returning from Persia
  - People Again Beginning to Marry Foreigners
  - Kids Didn't Even Know Hebrew Language

***Nehemiah 13:25***

***I confronted them and cursed them and beat some of them and pulled out their hair. And I made them take an oath in the name of God, saying, "You shall not give your daughters to their sons..."***



## 2. Nehemiah

### K. While Nehemiah was Away

- Returning from Persia

-- Nehemiah Fighting an Uphill Battle

*Nehemiah 13:31 (last line of the book)*

*Remember me, O my God, for good.*



The background is an abstract composition of overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of red, orange, and yellow. A large, bright yellow, jagged shape resembling a flame or a starburst is centered in the upper half of the image. Below it, the text is displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. The overall design is modern and vibrant.

**AND I WILL  
PUT MY SPIRIT  
WITHIN YOU,**

and cause you to walk in my  
statutes and be careful  
to obey my rules.

**EZEKIEL 36:27**





*Compass Night*

# Old Testament SURVEY

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