

**The Old Testament For Grown Ups**  
**Lesson 69 – Introduction & Overview of Chronicles Part 2**

**2 Chronicles Outline**

**I. The Reign of Solomon, 1:1-9:31**

**A. Solomon's Inauguration, 1:1-17**

1. His worship and prayer for wisdom, 1:1-13
2. His wealth, 1:14-17

**B. Solomon's Temple, 2:1-7:22**

1. Preparations for the Temple, 2:1-18
2. Construction of the Temple, 3:1-4:22
3. Dedication of the Temple, 5:1-7:22
  - a. Installing the ark, 5:1-14
  - b. Speaking to the people, 6:1-11
  - c. Praying to God, 6:12-42
  - d. God's glory, 7:1-3
  - e. The sacrifices and feast, 7:4-11
  - f. God speaks to Solomon, 7:12-22

**C. Solomon's Fame, 8:1-9:28**

**D. Solomon's Death, 9:29-31**

**II. The Kings of Judah, 10:1-36:21**

A. Rehoboam 10:1-12:16	931-913;	1 Kings 14:21-31
B. Abijah 13:1-22	913-911;	1 Kings 15:1-8
C. Asa 14:1-16:14	911-870;	1 Kings 15:9-24
D. Jehoshaphat 17:1-20:37	873-848;	1 Kings 22:41-50
E. Jehoram 21:1-20	848-841;	2 Kings 8:16-24
F. Ahaziah 22:1-9	841;	2 Kings 8:25-29
G. Athaliah 22:10-23:15	841-835;	2 Kings 11:1-16
H. Joash 23:16-24:27	835-796;	2 Kings 11:17-12:21
1. Following the Lord, 23:16-24:16		
2. Forsaking the Lord, 24:17-27		
I. Amaziah 25:1-28	796-767;	2 Kings 14:1-22
1. Following the Lord, 25:1-13		
2. Forsaking the Lord, 25:14-28		
J. Uzziah 26:1-23	790-739;	2 Kings 15:1-7
1. Following the Lord, 26:1-15		
2. Forsaking the Lord, 26:16-23		
K. Jotham 27:1-9	750-731;	2 Kings 15:32-38
L. Ahaz 28:1-27	731-715;	2 Kings 16:1-20
M. Hezekiah 29:1-32:33	715-686;	2 Kings 18:1-20:21
N. Manasseh 33:1-20	695-642;	2 Kings 21:1-18
O. Amon 33:21-25	642-640;	2 Kings 21:19-26
P. Josiah 34:1-35:27	640-609;	2 Kings 22:1-23:30
Q. Joahaz 36:1-4	609;	2 Kings 23:31-33
R. Jehoiakim 36:5-8	609-597;	2 Kings 23:34-24:7
S. Jehoiachin (Jeconiah) 36:9-10	597;	2 Kings 24:8-16
T. Zedekiah (Exile) 36:11-21	597-586;	2 Kings 24:17-25:21

**III. The Decree of Cyrus to Return, 36:22-23**

## **Overview of 2 Chronicles**

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles begins with the account of Solomon's reign, which is idealized in a way similar to that of David, and focuses on the building of the temple. Solomon is presented in Chronicles as a model of piety, and so his worthiness for building the temple is not jeopardized. For example, Chronicles makes no mention of forced labor from Israel and has Solomon taking a census of foreigners before he embarks on the temple building. In Chronicles, then, all the forced labor is imposed on foreigners.

The construction of the temple (2 Chron 3:1—5:1) is the centerpiece of the Chronicler's account of Solomon. The Chronicler attaches great importance to the location of the temple. He identifies it with Mount Moriah, scene of the near-sacrifice of Isaac, and where the Lord had appeared to David. Chronicles also goes beyond Kings in emphasizing the quantity of gold used in the temple.

The largest part of 2 Chronicles deals with the history of the Kings of Judah. Here the Chronicler also puts special emphasis on God's direct intervention for blessing or judgment on the basis either of the kings' "seeking" or "humbling themselves before" Yahweh or of their "abandoning" or "forsaking" Yahweh.

The book ends with a rush to the fall of Jerusalem, but the Chronicler's emphasis is giving hope to a new generation of Israelites, so it is no surprise that the final words in the book remind you of Cyrus's decree that the temple be rebuilt (36:23).

## **Description of the Babylonian Exile**

Nebuchadnezzar II was the Babylonian Empire's second king and reigned from 605-562BC. In 601BC, Jehoiakim, king of Judah, revolted against Babylonian rule despite the strong objections from the prophet Jeremiah. King Jehoiakim decided to stop tax payments and went to war in attempts to escape this dominance by Babylon.

In 597BC, the Babylonians besieged Jerusalem, and surrendered the city. Nebuchadnezzar pillaged Jerusalem, he looted the treasures of the temple, including the golden implements. Nebuchadnezzar exiled Jeconiah, many officers, craftsmen, and soldiers (including Ezekiel). Zedekiah, was installed as king. Later, Zedekiah launched a second revolt, and a Babylonian army was sent to retake Jerusalem.

In 587BC Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem again and the siege lasted for more than a year. Famine set in and plagues began to afflict the Jews until the food supply was depleted. The Babylonians then breeched the wall, looted the city again, and killed many Jews. The city walls, Solomon's Temple and the whole city was burned to the ground. Those who were not slaughtered were taken as captives to Babylon.

## **Prophecies About the Exile and Return from Exile**

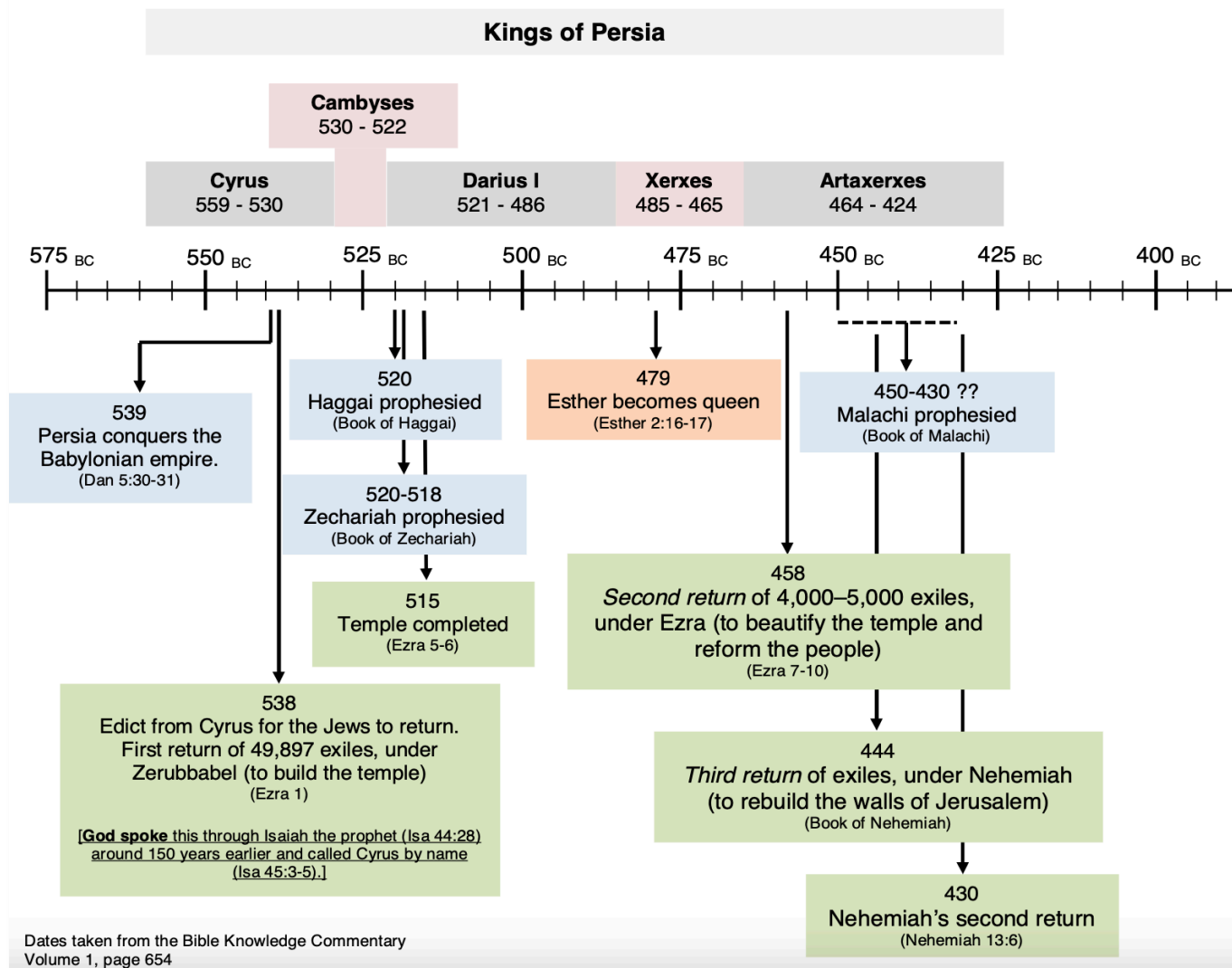
Jeremiah 25:8-11 Therefore the Lord Almighty says this: "Because you have not listened to my words, 9 I will summon all the peoples of the north and my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon," declares the Lord, "and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin. 10 I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp. 11 This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jeremiah 29:10-11 For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. 11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Isaiah 40:1-2 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for...

Isaiah 44:26, 28 (Thus says the Lord) who says of Jerusalem, "It shall be inhabited," and of the cities of Judah, "They shall be rebuilt, and I will raise up their ruins"... who says of Cyrus, "He is my shepherd, and he shall carry out all my purpose"; and who says of Jerusalem, "It shall be rebuilt," and of the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."

# Return from Babylon Timeline



After the Exile