

"ALLOWING GOD'S WORD TO DWELL IN YOU RICHLY"

Survey of Ezra

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Examining two kinds of leaders:
 - 1. Type A and type B leaders:
 - 2. Ezra and Nehemiah, a study of contrasts: (See chart on back)
 - 3. Other type B leaders in church history:
- B. The times of Ezra:
 - 1. The downfall of the nation: (II Chron. 36:15-21; Jer. 29:1, 10-14; Ezra 1:1-4)
 - 2. Three returns to Jerusalem: (See chart on back)
 - 3. Zooming in on the man of the hour:

II. A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE BOOK:

- A. Construction under Zerubbabel: *Chapters 1 - 6*
 - 1. Census and journey: *Chapters 1 - 2*
 - 2. Building the temple: *Chapters 3 - 6*
- B. Reformation under Ezra:
 - 1. Census and journey: *Chapters 7 - 8*
 - 2. Revival: *Chapters 9 - 10*

III. STUDYING THE MAN OF THE WORD:

- A. God's unusual evaluation – "the hand of his God is upon him": 7:6, 9, 28
- B. Three spelled out reasons: 7:10
 - 1. "Seek the law"
 - 2. "to do it"
 - 3. "to teach it"
- C. Biblically shaped convictions: 9:1-3, 5
- D. Impact on others: (Ezra 10:10-11; Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6)

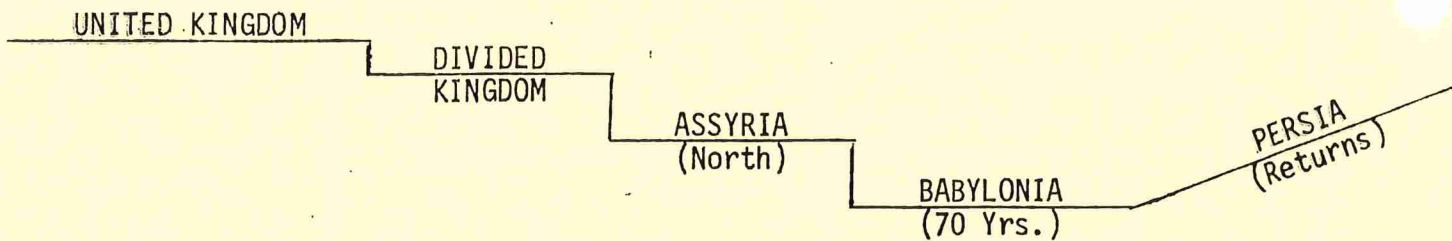
IV. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A. Your daily connection to the Word and your eagerness to gather when it is taught, unveils to you whether you have a "little" God or a "big" God. (Neh. 8:3, 8-9)
- B. God is not searching for more curious students of the Word, but those who are hungry to obey it. (Mt. 28:20)
- C. Teaching others the Word, is a natural result when the word "dwells in you richly". (Col. 3:16)

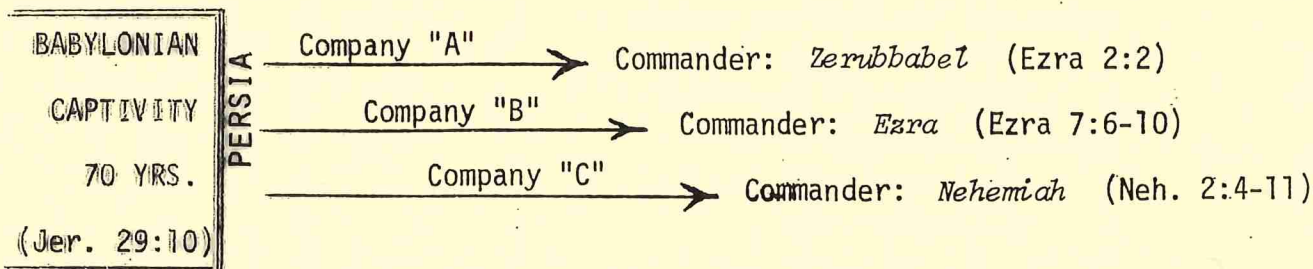
HELPFUL FACTS RELATED TO THE BOOK OF EZRA

POLITICAL CONTROL OVER ISRAEL



CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Three returns to Jerusalem



PERSIAN KINGS OF BIBLICAL SIGNIFICANCE

KING	DATES	CHAPTERS IN EZRA	OTHER OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS
Cyrus	538-530	} Ezra 1-6	
Cambyses	530-522		
Smerdis	522		
Darius I	521-486		
Xerxes I (Ahasuerus)	486-465		Esther (474)
Artaxerxes I	464-423	4:7-10:44	Malachi (450-400)
Darius II	423-404		Nehemiah (445-425)

CONTRASTS BETWEEN TWO BOOKS

EZRA

Spiritual Emphasis
 Temple and Scripture
 Commitment of a Man
 Revival and Reformation

NEHEMIAH

Practical Emphasis
 Wall and Government
 Determination of a Nation
 Motivation and Accomplishment