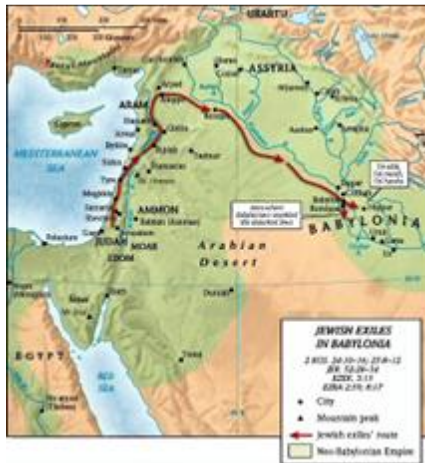


hope COMMUNITY CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

May 8, 2022 Ezra 1: God Moves the Pieces On The Board



This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:10-11)

Ezra 1:1-4

Cyrus was not a believer...

“To divide love is to slay it. Cyrus had some kind of belief in Jehovah; but his own words, so wonderfully recovered in the inscription... proved that he had not listened to the command, ‘Him only shalt thou serve.’ That command grips us as closely as it did the Jews, and is as truly broken by thousands calling themselves Christians as by any idolaters.” (Alexander MacLaren)

Key Verse #1

...the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus... (Ezra 1:1)

Ezra 1:5-11

Key Verse #2

...everyone whose heart God had moved... (Ezra 1:5)

Sheshbazzar might be Zerubbabel. (often they were given different names during exile)

... or he might be the leader before Zerubbabel.

Is Jesus stirring your heart to follow Him?

*Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts...
(Hebrews 3:15)*

Is God stirring your heart to share the Gospel with a friend or neighbor?

Offer HOPE, grow in COMMUNITY, and be the CHURCH!

Is God stirring your heart to join a home group?

*Offer HOPE, **grow in COMMUNITY**, and be the CHURCH!*

Is God stirring your heart to volunteer/to give/to obey Him?

*Offer HOPE, grow in COMMUNITY, and **be the CHURCH!***

NO HOME GROUP Questions this week...