



# **HOMeward** **BOUND**

Jeremiah 29:10-11

## **JEREMIAH 29:10-11**

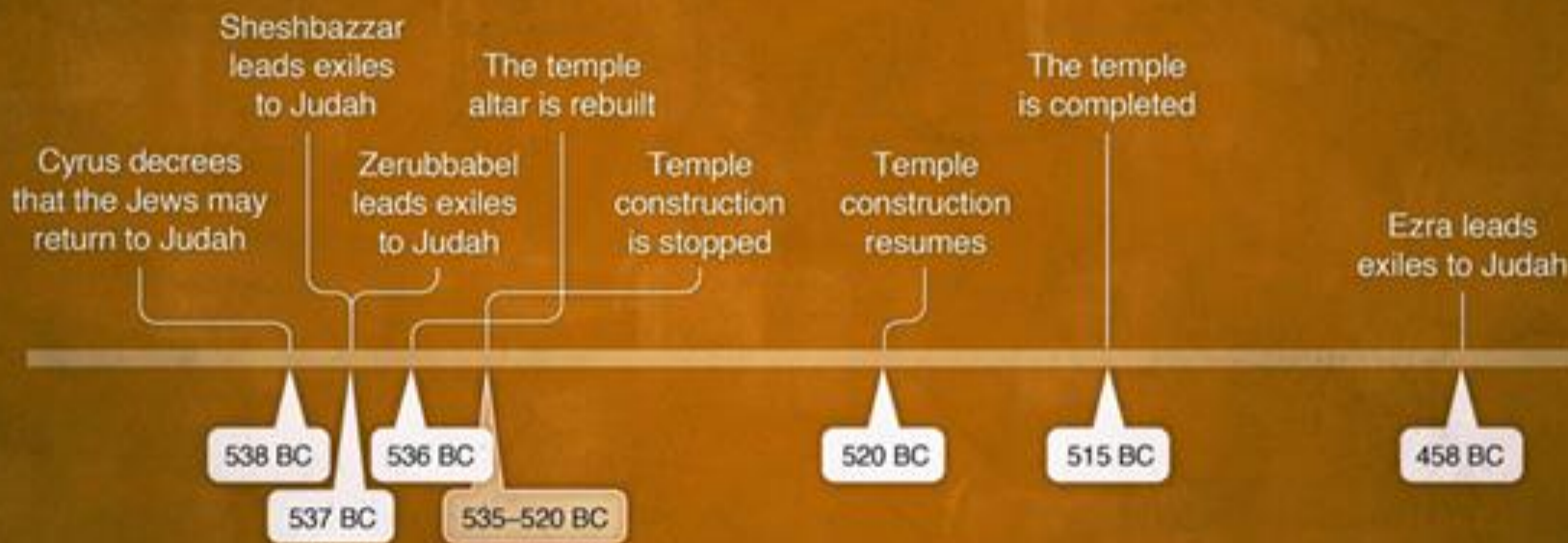
**“For thus says the Lord, ‘When seventy years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place. 11 For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.**





# TIMELINE

EZRA

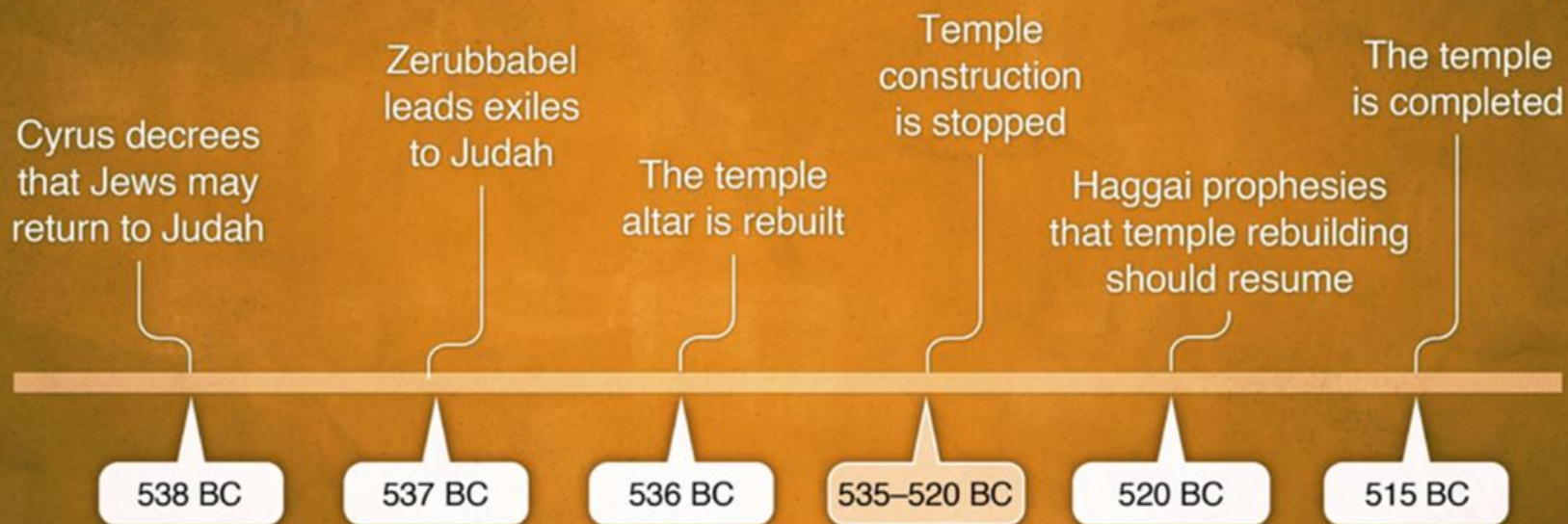


\*All dates are approximate



# TIMELINE

# HAGGAI

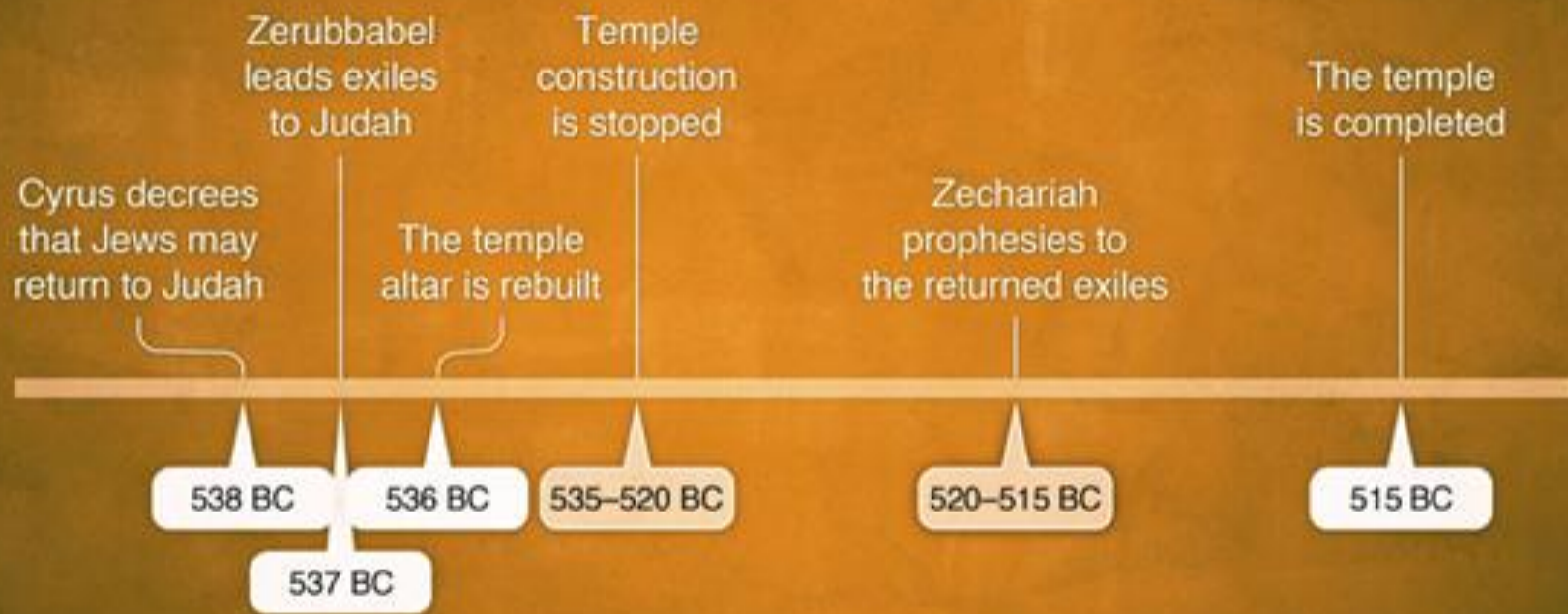


\*All dates are approximate



# TIMELINE

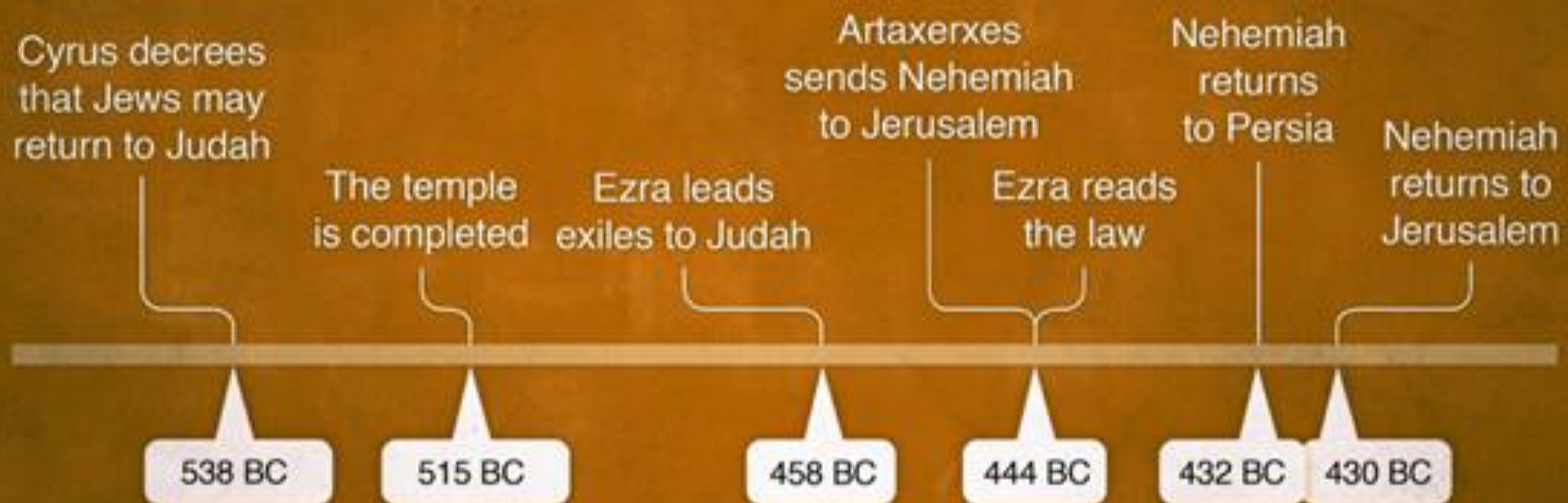
# ZECHARIAH



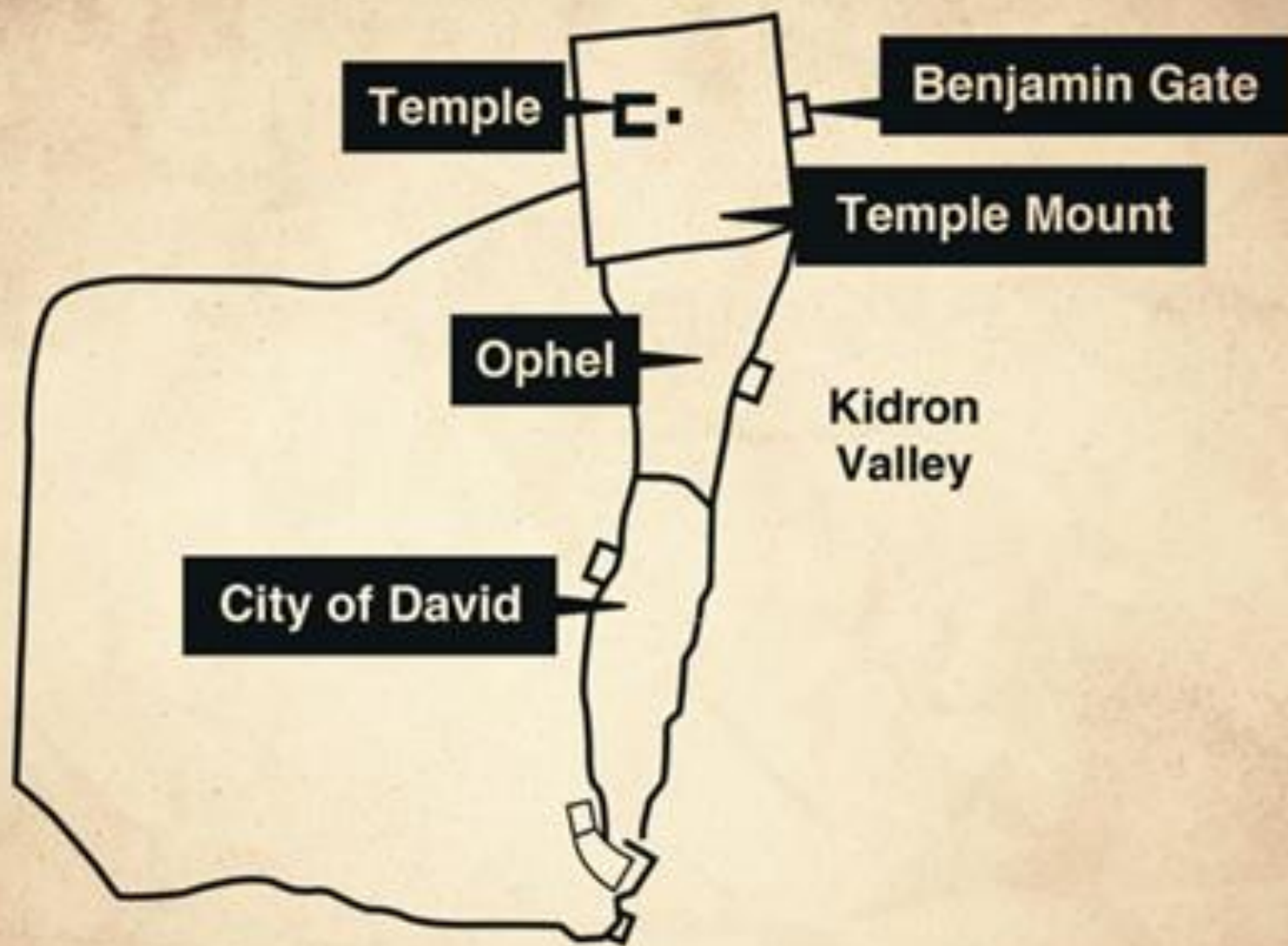
\*All dates are approximate

# TIMELINE

# NEHEMIAH

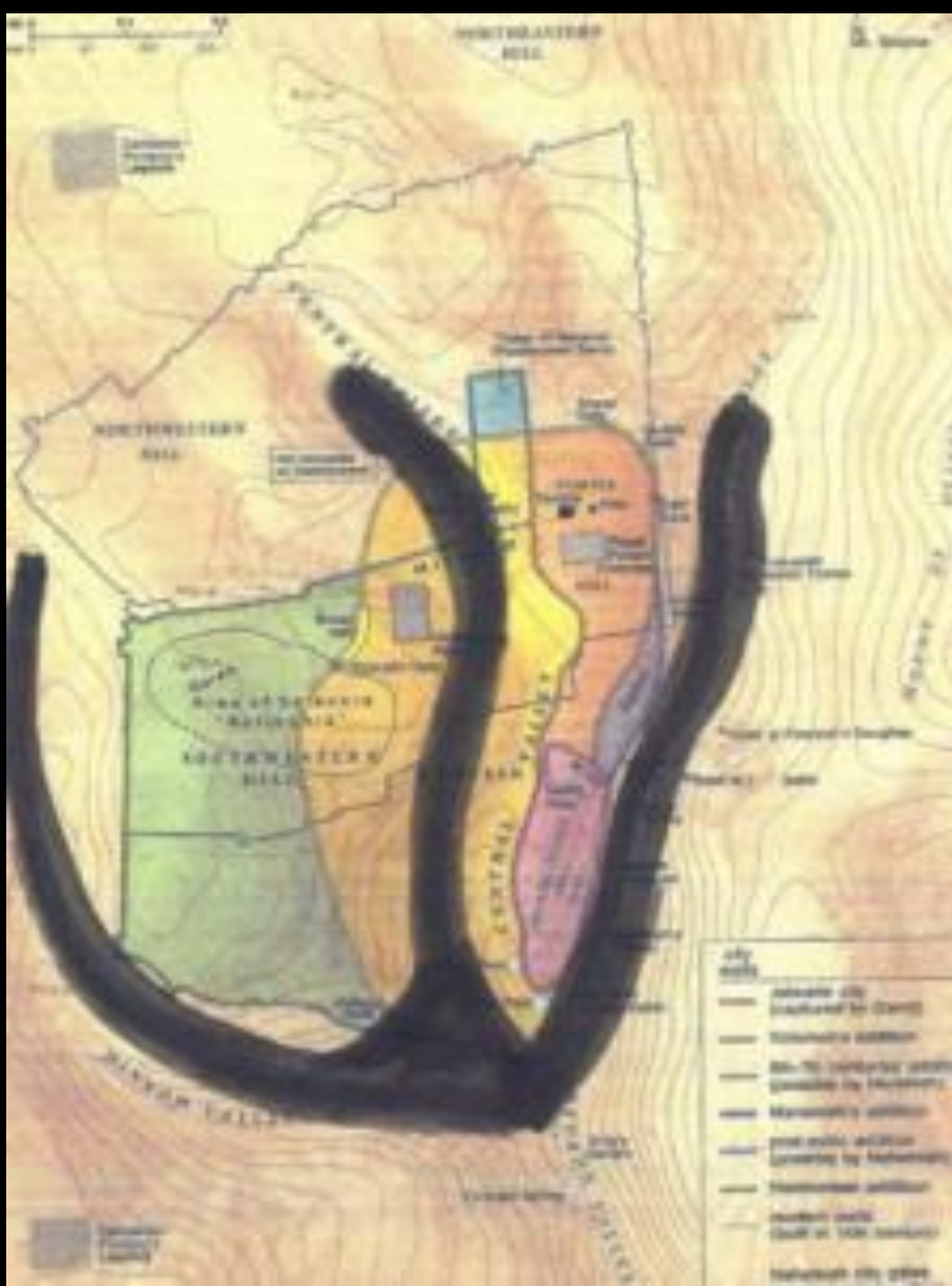


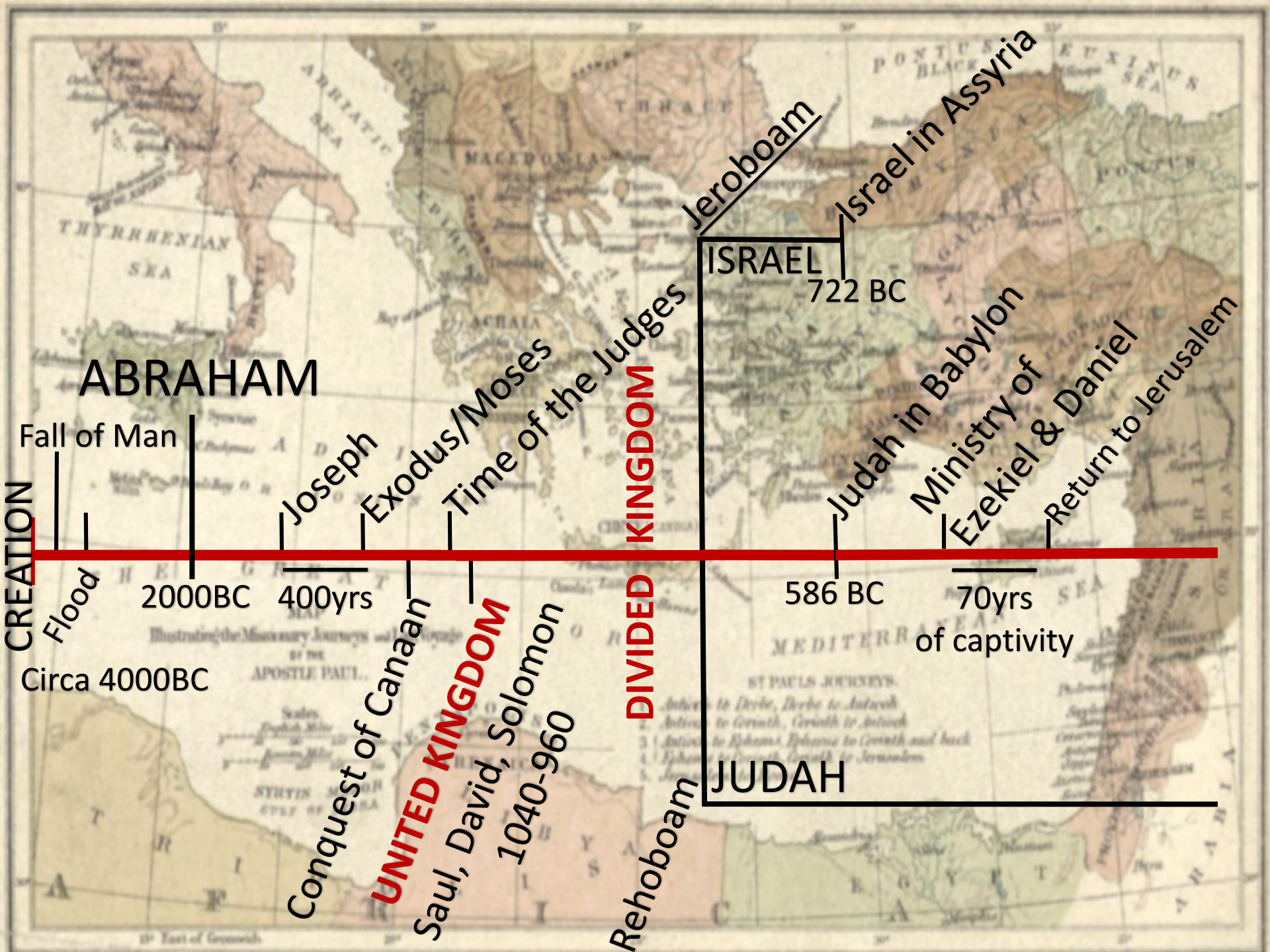
\*All dates are approximate



Valley of Hinnom







CREATION

Fall of Man

Flood

Circa 4000BC

ABRAHAM

2000BC

Joseph

Conquest of Canaan

**UNITED KINGDOM**  
Saul, David, Solomon  
1040-960

Exodus/Moses

Time of the Judges

**DIVIDED KINGDOM**

Rehoboam

Jeroboam

ISRAEL

722 BC

Israel in Assyria

586 BC

Judah in Babylon

Ministry of  
Ezekiel & Daniel

70yrs  
of captivity

Return to Jerusalem

JUDAH



Ezra → Nehemiah →  
Haggi → Zechariah  
= The Return to Jerusalem





The background of the image is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. In the foreground, there is a dark, silhouetted path where several people are walking away from the camera. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.

# 3 KEYS FOR GETTING HOME

# **KEY #1 THE PEOPLE INVOLVED**

## **The Persian Potentate-Cyrus**

**Isaiah 44:28**

**“It is I who says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd! And he will perform all My desire.’ And he declares of Jerusalem, ‘She will be built,’ And of the temple, ‘Your foundation will be laid.’”**

# **KEY #1 THE PEOPLE INVOLVED**

## **1. The Persian Potentate-Cyrus**

Isaiah prophesied this almost 150 years before he ever ruled!

## **2. The Prince (Governor) of Judah-Zerubbabel**

## **3. The Priest of Judah-Jeshua/Joshua**



# **KEY #1 THE PEOPLE INVOLVED**

- 4. The Post-Exilic Prophets of Judah-Haggai/Zechariah**
- 5. The Priest of Judah-Ezra**
- 6. The Prayer Warrior-Nehemiah**

# Key #2 The Places Indicated





# **KEY #2 THE PLACES INDICATED**

**2 Chronicles 36:20**

**Those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia,**

# **KEY #2 THE PLACES INDICATED**

## **2 CHRONICLES 36:20**

**Those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia,**

# **Daniel 5:25**

**And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.**

**MENE- *To Number***

**TEKEL- *To Weigh***

**UPHARSIN- *To Divide***



## Daniel 5:26-28

This is the interpretation of the message: ‘MENĒ’—God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it. 27 ‘TEKĒL’—you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient. 28 ‘PERĒS’—your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.”

# **KEY #3 THE *PURPOSE* INTENDED**

## **The *Power* of God**

**Daniel 2:20-21**

**Daniel said, “Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, For wisdom and power belong to Him. 21 “It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men And knowledge to men of understanding.**



# Ezra 1:1

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying:

# **Ezra 1:1**

**2 “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia,  
‘The Lord, the God of heaven, has  
given me all the kingdoms of the  
earth and He has appointed me to  
build Him a house in Jerusalem,  
which is in Judah.**

# **Ezra 1:1**

**3 Whoever there is among you of all His people, may his God be with him! 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.**



# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

## **The *Promise* of God**

### **Event #1**

**Zerubbabel and Jeshua lead the  
People Politically and Spiritually  
Back to Jerusalem**

## **Ezra 3:1-3**

**Now when the seventh month came, and the sons of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered together as one man to Jerusalem.**

## **Ezra 3:1-3**

**2 Then Jeshua the son of Jozadak and his brothers the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and his brothers arose and built the altar of the God of Israel to offer burnt offerings on it, as it is written in the law of Moses, the man of God.**



## **Ezra 3:1-3**

**3 So they set up the altar on its foundation, for they were terrified because of the peoples of the lands; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the Lord, burnt offerings morning and evening.**

# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

**The *Promise* of God**

**Event #2**

**They begin to Build the Temple**

## **Ezra 3:8**

**Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites,**



**Ezra 3:8**

**and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the LORD.**

# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

## **The Promise of God**

### **Event #3**

## **The Adversity met in the Building of the Temple**

## **Ezra 4:1-2**

**Now when the enemies of Judah and Benjamin heard that the people of the exile were building a temple to the Lord God of Israel, 2 they approached Zerubbabel and the heads of fathers' households, and said to them, "Let us build with you, for we, like you, seek your God;**



## **Ezra 4:1-2**

**and we have been sacrificing to Him since the days of Esarhaddon king of Assyria, who brought us up here.” 3 But Zerubbabel and Jeshua and the rest of the heads of fathers’ households of Israel said to them, “You have nothing in common with us in building a house to our God;**

## **Ezra 4:1-2**

**but we ourselves will together build to the Lord God of Israel, as King Cyrus, the king of Persia has commanded us.”**

## **Ezra 4:1-2**

**4Then the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah, and frightened them from building, 5 and hired counselors against them to frustrate their counsel all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.**



# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

## **The Promise of God**

### **Event #4**

## **The Halting of the Building of the Temple**

## **Ezra 4:24**

**Then work on the house of God in Jerusalem ceased, and it was stopped until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.**

# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

## **The *Promise* of God**

**Event #5**

**Time for Revival**

## **Ezra 5:1-2**

**When the prophets, Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them,**



## **Ezra 5:1-2**

**2 then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak arose and began to rebuild the house of God which is in Jerusalem; and the prophets of God were with them supporting them.**

# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

**The *Promise* of God**

**Event #6**

**Ezra Comes to Jerusalem**

## **Ezra 7:6**

**This Ezra went up from Babylon, and he was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses, which the Lord God of Israel had given; and the king granted him all he requested because the hand of the Lord his God was upon him.**

## **Ezra 7:6**

**7 Some of the sons of Israel and some of the priests, the Levites, the singers, the gatekeepers and the temple servants went up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of King Artaxerxes. 8 He came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king.**



## **Ezra 7:6**

**9 For on the first of the first month he began to go up from Babylon; and on the first of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, because the good hand of his God was upon him. 10 For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.**

# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

## **The *Promise* of God**

### **Event #7**

## **Nehemiah and the Rebuilding of the walls**

# **Nehemiah 1:1-4**

**The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. Now it happened in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capitol,**

## **Nehemiah 1:1-4**

**2 that Hanani, one of my brothers,  
and some men from Judah came;  
and I asked them concerning the  
Jews who had escaped and had  
survived the captivity, and about  
Jerusalem.**



## **Nehemiah 1:1-4**

**3 They said to me, “The remnant there in the province who survived the captivity are in great distress and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are burned with fire.”**

# **Nehemiah 1:1-4**

**4 When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.**

# KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED

## The *People* of God

Genesis 49:8-9

“Judah, your brothers shall praise you; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father’s sons shall bow down to you. 9 “Judah is a lion’s whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He couches, he lies down as a lion, And as a lion, who dares rouse him up?

# **KEY #3 THE PURPOSE INTENDED**

## ***The People of God***

**Genesis 49:10**

**“The scepter shall not depart from  
Judah, Nor the ruler’s staff from  
between his feet, Until Shiloh  
comes, And to him shall be the  
obedience of the peoples.**