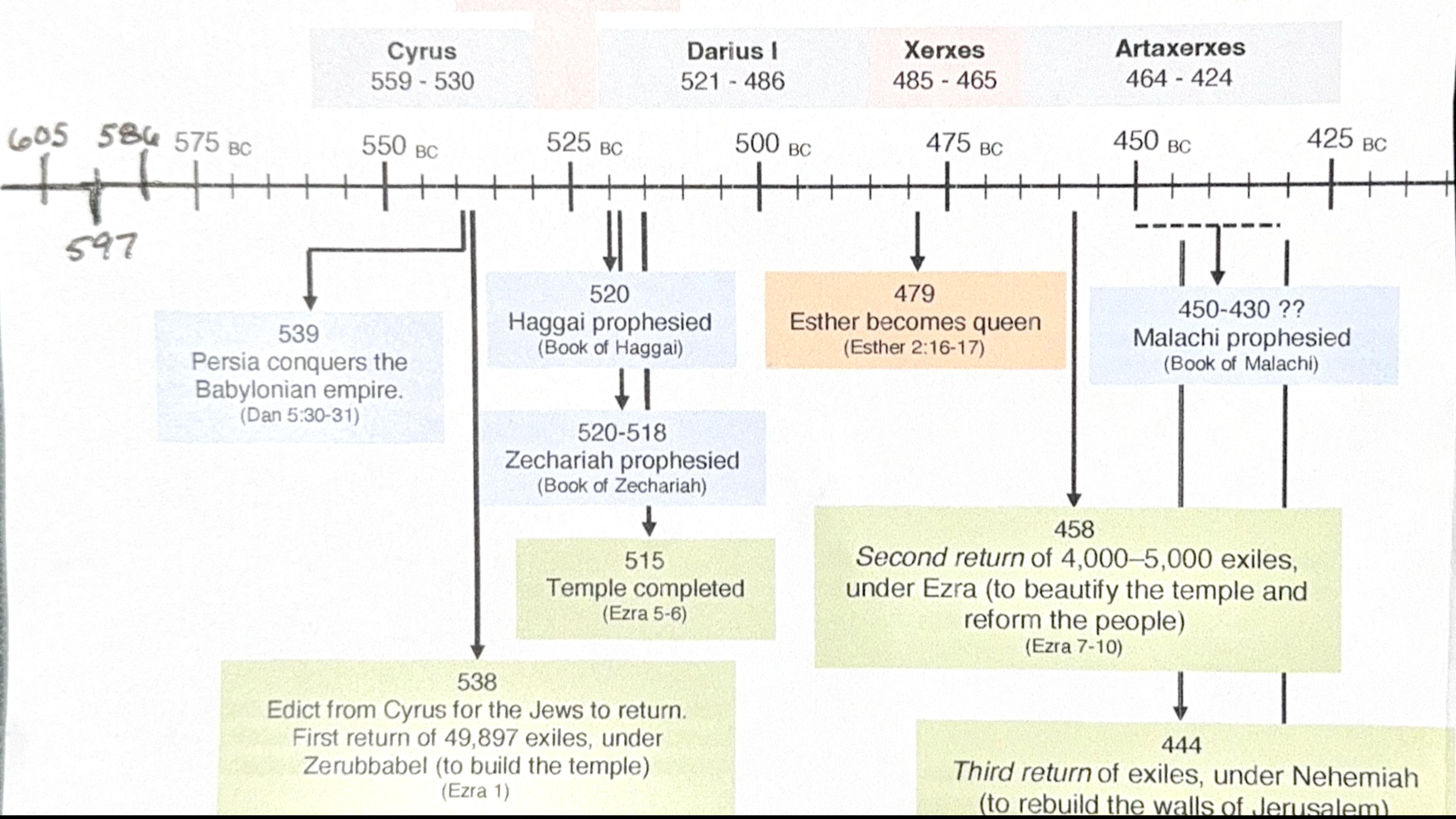


Ezra

Introduction & Overview

1:1-2:70



605 First wave of exiles taken to Babylon

597 King Jehoiachin & other leaders exile

586 Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem & Temple

539 Cyrus conquers Babylon

538 Cyrus' decree for the Jews to return

- Led by Zerubbabel to build Altar & Temple

515 Second Temple completed

458 Second return led by Ezra

445 Third return led by Nehemiah to rebuild the walls

I. Why Covenant Community ?

To Restore Right Worship

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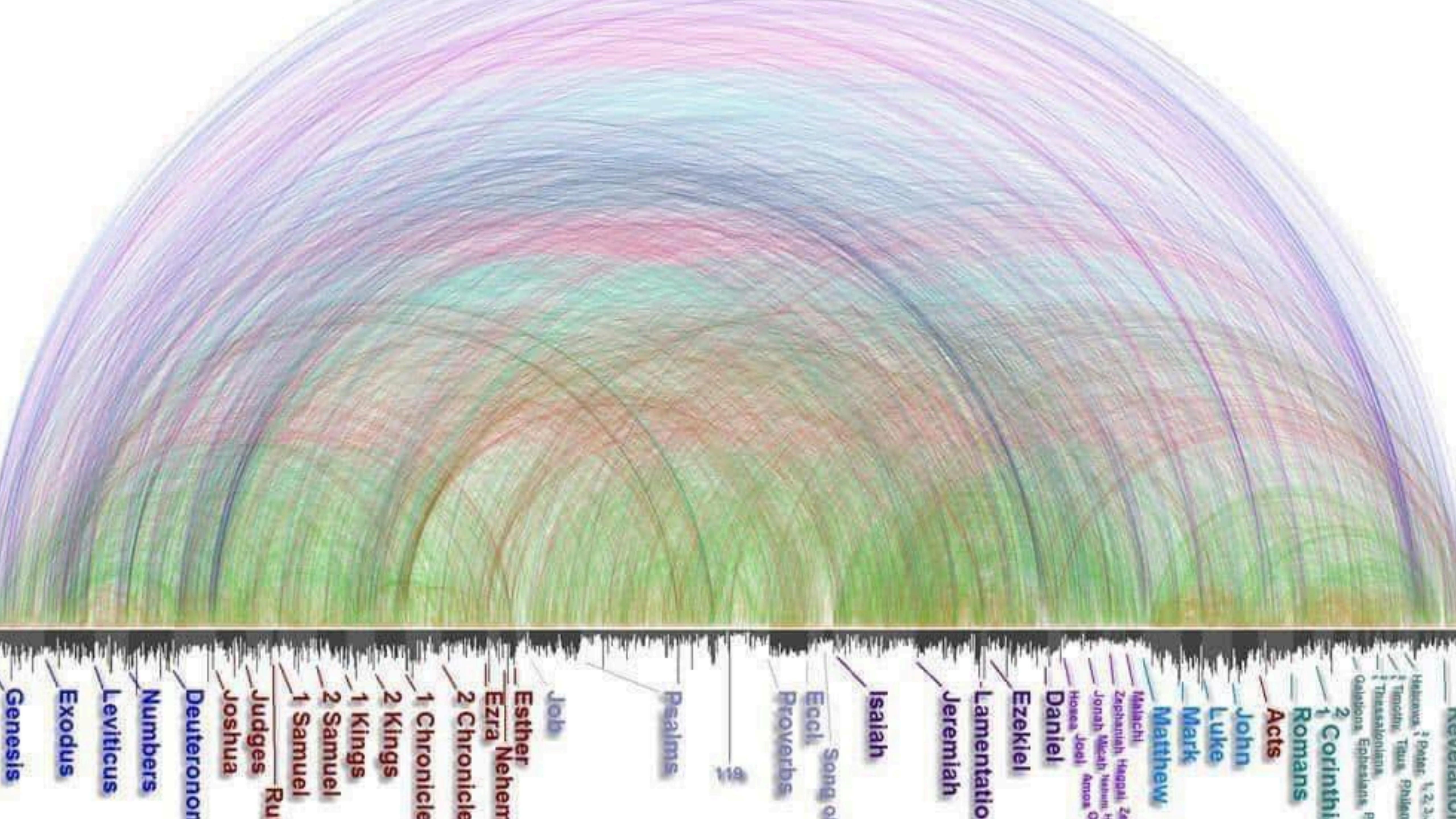
To Promote Faithful Obedience

I. Why Covenant Community?

To Be A Light to All the World

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:

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.



II. How did we get Here?

1. False Worship

II. How did we get here?

1. False Worship
2. Disobedience

III. A New Exodus

God Moves Hearts

III. A New Exodus

God Moves Hearts

God Takes Care of His people

III. A New Exodus

God Moves Hearts

God Takes Care of His people

God brings His People To Him

1 The king's heart is like
channels of water in the hand
of the LORD; He turns it
wherever He wishes.

- Proverbs 21:1





1 Now these are the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of the exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away to Babylon, and returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his city.

- Ezra 2:1

IV. God Dwells in

His People

not Temples

IV. How are we Praying
for God to Prosper
the Gospel by means of
those who hold the Power
in our world?