



WRITTEN BY: EZRA

WRITTEN TO: EXILED PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM IN BABYLON

DATE: 539-433 BC

**PURPOSE: IT'S TIME TO GO HOME
AND REBUILD THE TEMPLE**

Finishing What You Start

The book of Ezra is called the second exodus.

Outline of the Book:

Chapters 1-6 -- National Restoration

Chapters 7-10 -- Spiritual Restoration

Ezra 1:1-4 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? May his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel (He is God), which is in Jerusalem. And whoever is left in any place where he dwells, let the men of his place help him with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, besides the freewill offerings for the house of God which is in Jerusalem.

God stirs the heart King Cyrus build Him a house again in Jerusalem.

Why was the altar prepared first? *Ezra 3:2-3*

Ezra 4:4-5 - Then the people of the land tried to discourage the people of Judah. They troubled them in building, and hired counselors against them to frustrate their purpose all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Don't get distracted building your house.

- Haggai 1:2-7
- Zechariah 4:9-10