

Chronology of Post-Exilic Period

Persian Kings	Reign (BC)	Biblical Events	Scripture
Cyrus	559-530	Cyrus' Decree to return - 538	Ezra 1:1-4
		1 st return to rebuild the temple - 538	Ezra 2
		Altar & Temple foundation built - 536	Ezra 3:1-4:5
Cambyes	530-522		
Smerdis	522		
Darius I	521-486	Haggai prophesied - 520	Book of Haggai
		Zechariah prophesied – 520-518	Book of Zechariah
		Temple completed - 515	

Chronology of Post-Exilic Period (cont.)

Persian Kings	Reign (BC)	Biblical Events	Scripture
Xerxes (Ahasuerus)	485-465	Accusation against the Jews - 486	Ezra 4:6
		Esther becomes queen - 479	Esther 2:17
Artaxerxes (Artashasta)	464-424	Stops the rebuilding of Jerusalem – ca.464-458	Ezra 4:7-23
		2 nd return under Ezra - 458	Ezra 7-10
		3 rd return under Nehemiah - 444	Book of Nehemiah
		Nehemiah's 2 nd return – ca. 430	Nehemiah 13:6
		Malachi prophesied – 450-430 ?	Book of Malachi

Summary of Ezra

- The First Return – 1-6
 - Cyrus' Decree - 1
 - Israelite Census – 2
 - Temple Construction Begins – 3
 - Gentile Opposition – 4
 - Temple Construction Resumes -5
 - Darius' Decree - 6

Summary of Ezra

- The Second Return – 7-10
 - Artaxerxes' Decree – 7
 - Ezra's Journey from Babylon – 8
 - Jerusalem Revival – 9
 - Israelites Cleansed – 10