

CHARTING THE SCRIPTURES EZRA

by Jonathan Black

Key words: Revive, help, the hand of our God, the word of the Lord. **Writer** Ezra

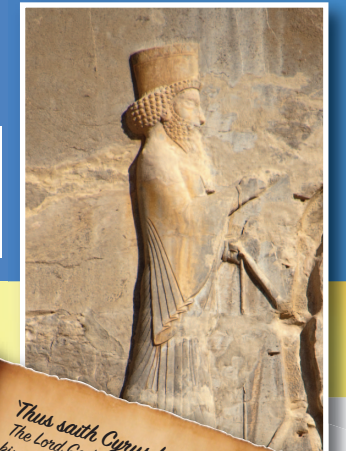
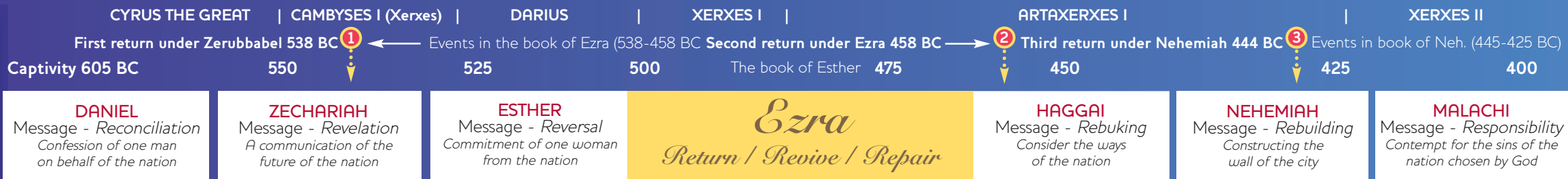
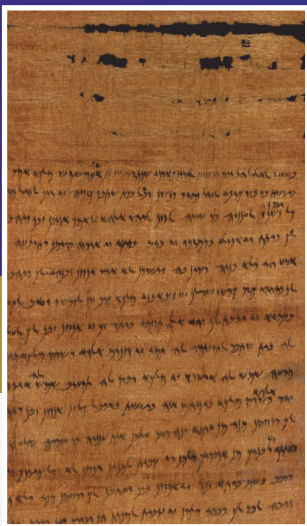
הֵרָצָע - Ezra means 'help'.

'Let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold', Ezra 1. 4

'And with them the prophets of God helping them', Ezra 5. 2

'For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us', Ezra 8. 22

'Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite helped them', Ezra 8. 22



The Elephantine papyri dated to 407 BC,

It mentions the Jewish high priest Johanan during Darius II's reign, mentioned in Ezra 10. 6 after the reign of Darius Ezra 6. 1 and during the rule of Artaxerxes Ezra 7. 1 supporting the chronological sequence.

The SON | The SCRIBE | The TEACHER | The PRIEST

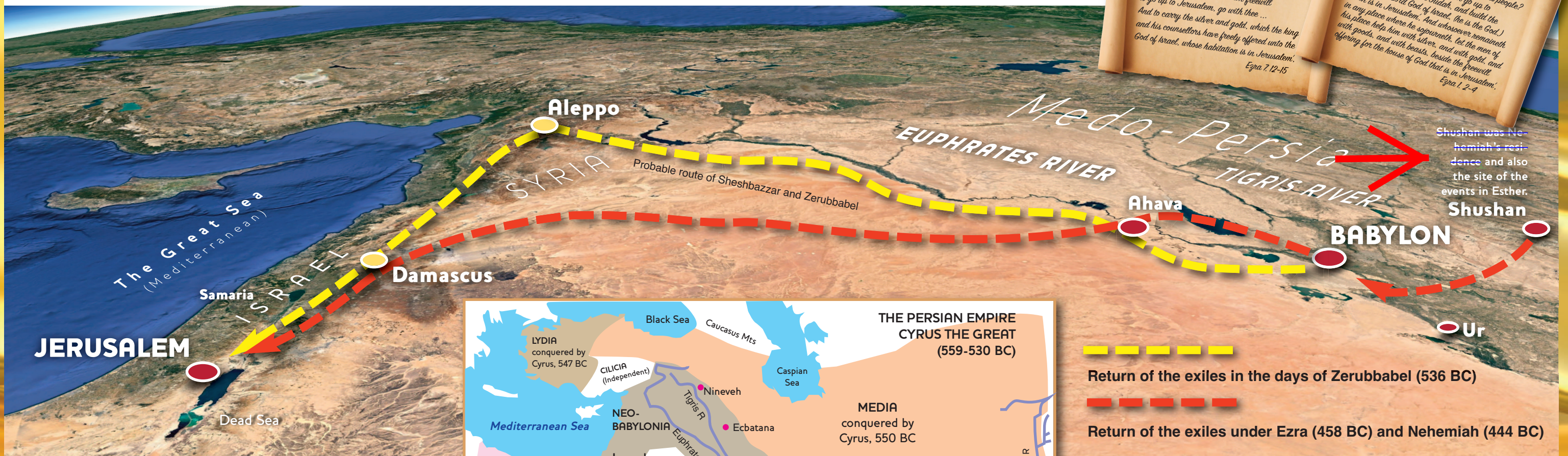
'The son of Seraiah', 7. 10

'Who was ready', 7. 6

'Ezra prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel', 7. 10

'Ezra the priest, even a scribe', 7. 11

Relief of Artaxerxes II on his tomb at Persepolis, Iran.



Ch 1-6 Return of the people with Zerubbabel to build the temple

- 1 The proclamation of Cyrus to return as prophesied by Daniel
- 2 The population that returned, the people restored
- 3 The priority for the altar and the feast before the foundation
- 4 The problem of opposition to work from the Samaritans
- 5 The prophets Haggai and Zechariah help in renewing the work
- 6 The papyrus of Cyrus found by Darius and the Temple is finished

Ch 7-10 Return of more people with Ezra to build a priesthood

- 7 Ezra the priest receives a letter to return and prepares through the word
- 8 Ezra's problem of missing Levites to serve God because of intermarriage
- 9 Ezra's prayer for repentance, revival and repair; the people's confession
- 10 The people are gathered and promise to separate from the world

Under Zerubbabel	Men	24254	Priests	4389	Levites	74	Singers	128	Porters	139	Nethinim	392	Israelites	652	Servants	7737	Singers	200	Under Ezra	Males	1154	Levites	38	Nethinim	220
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'Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones', Ezra 8. 21

The book of 2 Chronicles

The book of Nehemiah