

# THE RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

Part One

3092

"Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, 'I am the LORD that maketh all things...that saith of Cyrus, "He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure, even saying to Jerusalem, 'Thou shalt be built' and to the temple, 'Thy foundation shall be laid.'"""

## READING (IN THIS ORDER!):

### The End of the Babylonian Empire

Daniel 7            Prophecy concerning world kingdoms and the last days.  
Daniel 8            Prophecy concerning Alexander the Great, and possibly a future king.  
Daniel 5            The Kingdom of Babylon comes to an end.  
Isa.13; 14:1-23; 47; Jer.50-51; Daniel 11-12  
Belshazzar is Nebuchadnezzar's grandson. Jer.27:4-7

### Darius I (Mede)

Daniel 6            Darius organizes his kingdom.  
Daniel 9            Daniel prays from deliverance from captivity.  
The time for Jesus to come is foretold.

### Cyrus

Ezra 1-3            Ezra himself is not involved in these events.  
(Isa. 44:24 - 45:4!)  
(omit 2:3-60)        Zerubbabel is king. Joshua is high priest.  
The altar is built and the foundation for a new temple is laid.

### Ahasuerus

Esther?

### Artaxerxes I

Ezra 4            Notice the names of those who wrote the letter against Jerusalem.

### Darius II (Persia)

Haggai 1            2nd year    6th month    1st day.  
2:1-9                2nd year    7th month    21st day.  
Zechariah 1:1-6    2nd year    8th month.  
Haggai 2:10-23    2nd year    9th month    24th day.  
Zechariah 1:7-21\* 2nd year    11th month   24th day.

\*Notice the mention of 70 years.

Ezra 5            The Jews are questioned concerning their building activities.  
A letter of inquiry is written to Darius. Those who wrote this letter are not the same as those who wrote to Artaxerxes I.  
The prophecies of Zechariah 7, etc., are about this time.

Ezra 6            The temple is completed in Darius' 6th year, 12th month, 3rd day.

**Note!** *Ezra himself is not yet involved in any of these events.*