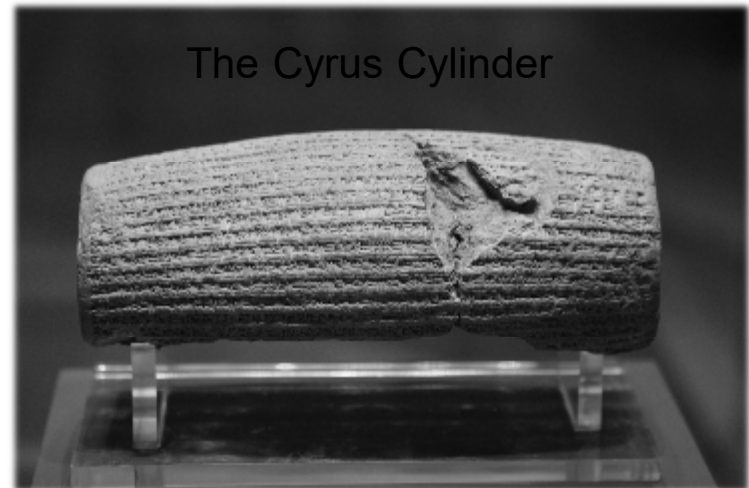
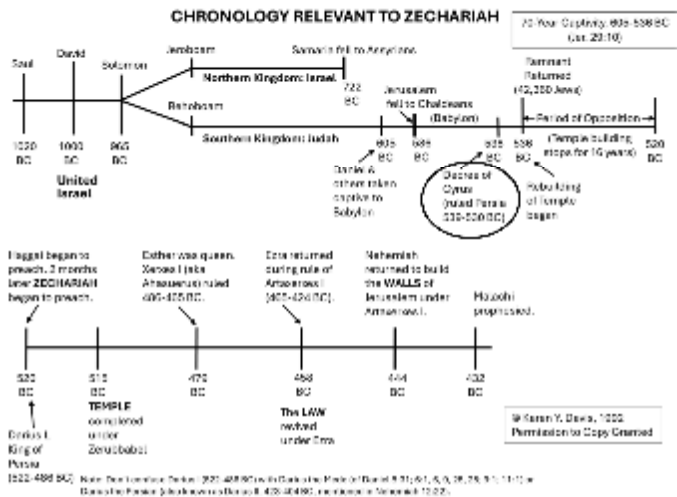
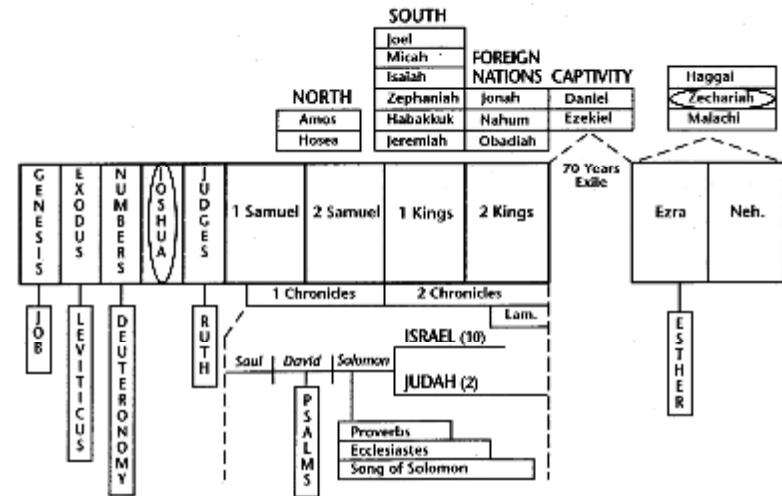


# Zechariah

## An Introduction



The Cyrus Cylinder

## Ezra 1:1–2

1. Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia—in order to complete the word of Yahweh from the mouth of Jeremiah—Yahweh stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he had a proclamation pass throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying:
2. “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘Yahweh, 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.

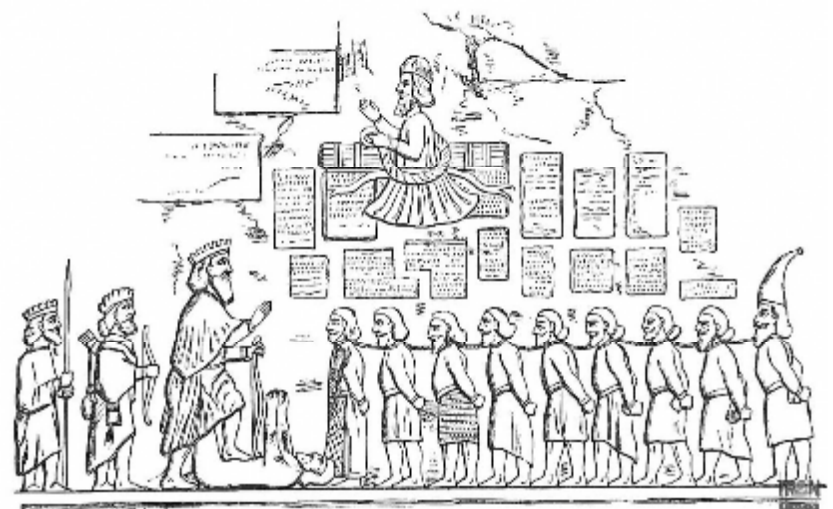
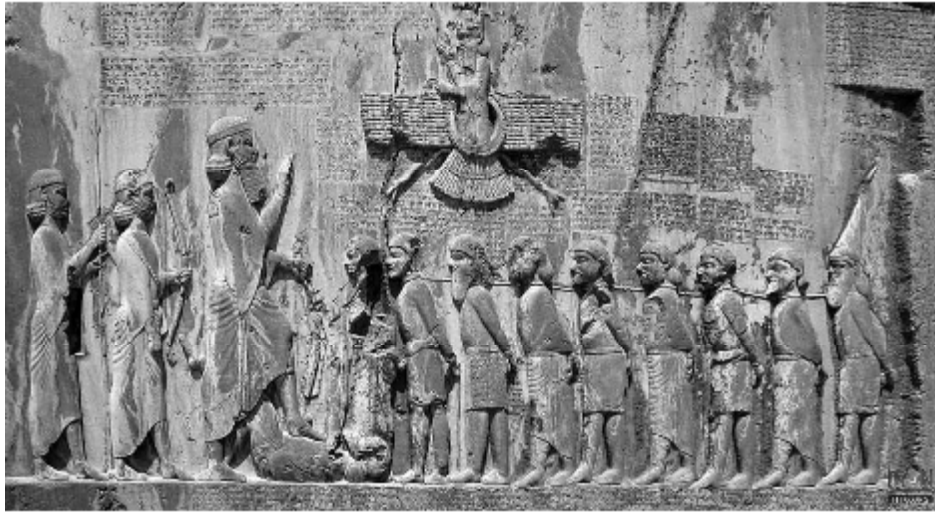
## Ezra 1:3; 6:5

3. ‘Whoever there is among you of all His people, may his God be with him! Let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judah and rebuild the house of Yahweh, the God of Israel; He is the God who is in Jerusalem.  
· · ·
5. ‘And also let the gold and silver articles of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out from the temple in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be returned and brought to their places in the temple in Jerusalem; and you shall deposit them in the house of God.’

## Ezra 6:8

8. “Moreover, I issue a decree concerning what you shall do for those elders of Judah in the rebuilding of that house of God: the full cost is to be given to those people from the royal treasury out of the tribute of the provinces beyond the River, and that without negligence.





## Minor vs. Major Prophets

- The minor prophets from Hosea to Malachi are sometimes called “The Twelve.”
- The five books of the major prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel.
- The major prophets are longer & broader in scope.
- The minor prophets are shorter and sometimes narrower in focus.

## Who was Zechariah?

- He was both a prophet and a priest (Zech. 1:1; Ezra 12:12, 16).
- He encouraged the people to resume building the temple (Ezra 5:1-2).
- He also encouraged the people to return to God (Zech. 1:3).
- His name means “Yahweh remembers.”
- He’s frequently quoted in the New Testament.



## What if you need help understanding?

- James 1:5 says, “But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”
- Jesus promised, “But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; . . . and He will disclose to you what is to come” (John 16:13).

## Daniel 12:8–10

- As for me, I heard but could not understand; so I said, “My lord, what will be the outcome of these events?” Then he said, “Go your way, Daniel, for these words are concealed and sealed up until the time of the end. “Many will be purged, purified, and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand.”
- Sometimes God wants us to wait for understanding.

## Something God doesn't want us to wait about:

- “Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies” (Zech. 1:3b, NLT).
- For God says, “At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you. Indeed, the ‘right time’ is now. Today is the day of salvation” (2 Corinthians 6:2, NLT).
- “There is no other name under heaven [than Jesus] . . . by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12b, LSB).