



Old Testament Survey

Week 17

Return to Jerusalem



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Restoration time line (dates approximate)

- Decree of Cyrus (538 BC)
- Temple rebuilt (537 – 516 BC)
- Esther (maybe 473 BC)
- Wall rebuilt (445 BC)
- Reforms under Nehemiah (444 BC)
- Malachi (maybe 424 BC)



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Cyrus the Great of Persia

- Isa 44:28; 45:1,13
 - “my shepherd”
 - the LORD's “annointed”
- appointed by God to rebuild temple
 - 2 Chron 26; Ezra 1:2
 - Decree to rebuild at Persia's expense



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Returning to rebuild temple

- Ezra 2,3
- Led by Zerubbabel and Jeshua
- Total of 42,360 Israelites returned
- Settled in towns
- Gave freewill offerings
- Began to rebuild



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Opposition to rebuilding

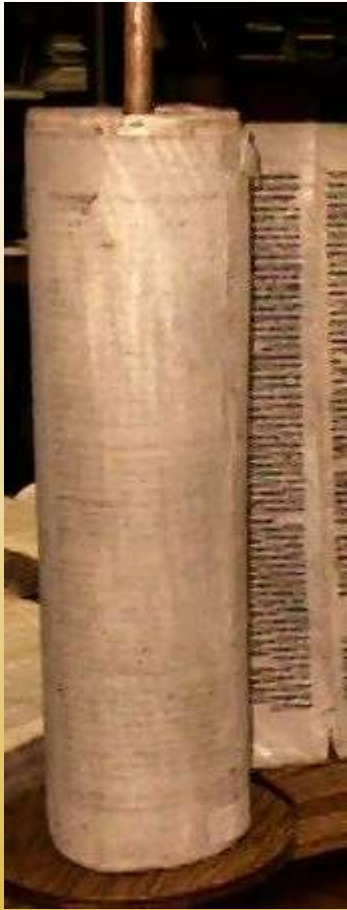
- Enemies of Judah and Benjamin
 - During reign of Cyrus
 - Hired people to oppose construction
- Bishlam
 - During reign of Artaxerxes
 - Halted construction until 2nd year of Darius



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Haggai (Ezra 5:1)

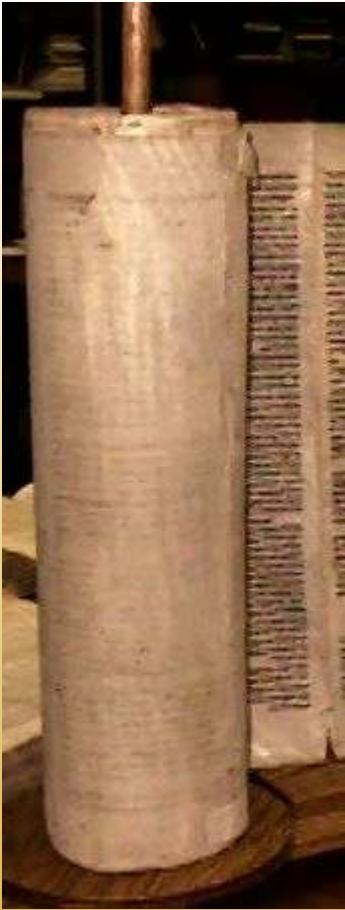
- 2nd year of Darius
- (Hag 1:4) *"Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"*



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Zechariah (Ezra 5:1)

- 2nd and 4th years of Darius
- Zech 1:3 *'Return to me and I will return to you'*
- Messages to Jeshua and Zerubbabel
- Blessings on Jerusalem
- A king and salvation (Zech 9)



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Completion of temple

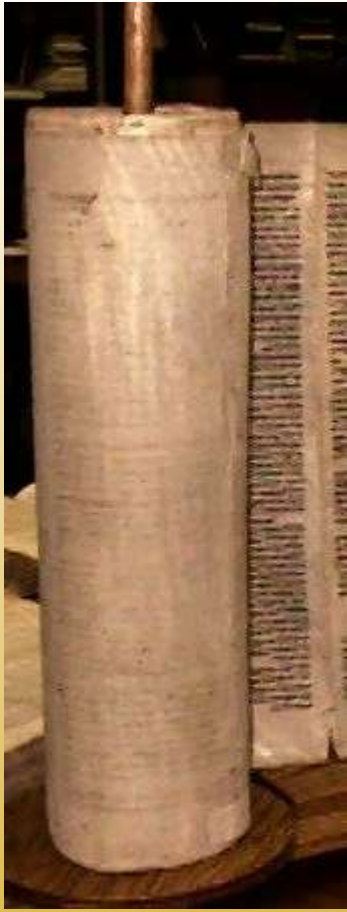
- Darius (2) finds Cyrus' decree
- Temple completed
- Dedication of temple



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Ezra returns to Jerusalem

- Sent by Artaxerxes
- Other Israelites who wished to go
- Supplied for sacrifice and other needs
- Repentance for intermarriage



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Esther

- Xerxes banishes queen Vashti
- Replaces Vashti with Esther
- Mordecai angers Haman
 - refused to bow and give honor
- Haman angry
 - seeks to destroy the Jews



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Esther (cont'd)

- Haman builds gallows 75' high
 - seeks to hang Mordecai
- Mordecai honored
- Esther appeals to Xerxes for Jews
- Haman hanged on gallows he built



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Deliverance

- King's edict guaranteed rights of Jews
- Destroyed their enemies
- Celebrated feast of Purim
- Mordecai second in command to Xerxes



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Nehemiah

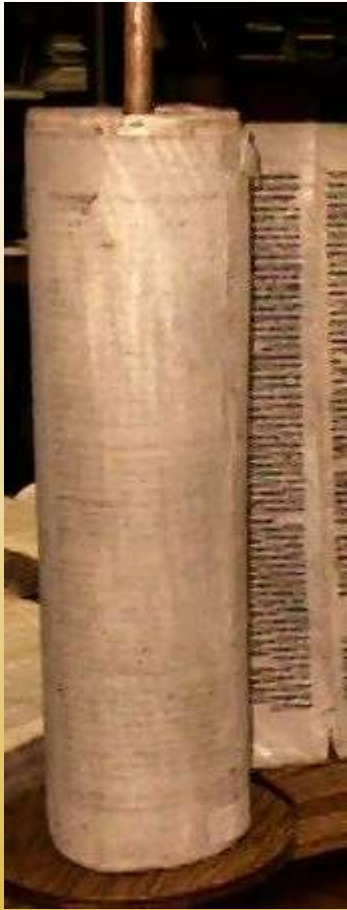
- Cupbearer to the king
- Mourns report of wall of Jerusalem
- Artaxerxes sends him to rebuild



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Rebuilding the wall

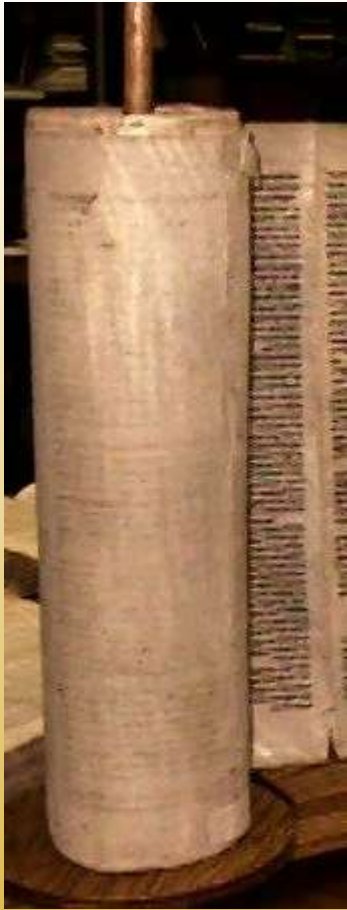
- People assigned to each section
- Sanballat opposed building
- Wall completed
- Exiles return



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Israelites worship

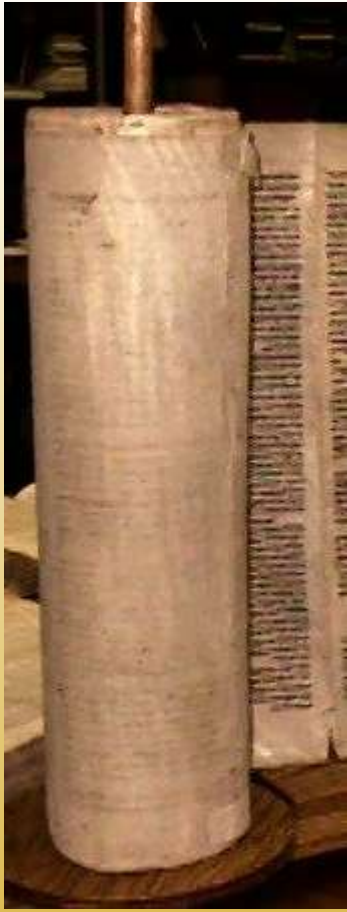
- Ezra reads the law
- Celebrated Feast of Tabernacles
- Confessed sin
- Made binding agreement to keep law
- Ceremony dedicating the wall



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Malachi topics

- blemished sacrifices
- priests
 - honor God; true instruction; justice
- keeping covenant
- robbing God
- day of the LORD



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Prophecies of the Messiah: birth

- Isaiah 7:14
 - virgin; Immanuel
- Isaiah 9:6-7
 - child born, to be an eternal king
- Micah 5:2
 - Bethlehem



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Prophecies of the Messiah: when?

- Dan 2:44
 - in the days of those kings
- Dan 9:25
 - in sixty-nine “weeks”
- Isa 40:3, Mal 3:1
 - messenger prepares the way



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Prophecies of the Messiah: ministry

- Isa 61:1-2
 - good news to the poor
- Isa 9:1-2
 - ministry in Galilee
- Zech 9:9
 - riding on a colt



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Prophecies of the Messiah: betrayal

- Zech 11:12 (Matt 26:15)
 - thirty pieces of silver
- Psalm 41:9 (Luke 22:47-48)
 - betrayed by a friend



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Prophecies of the Messiah: trial

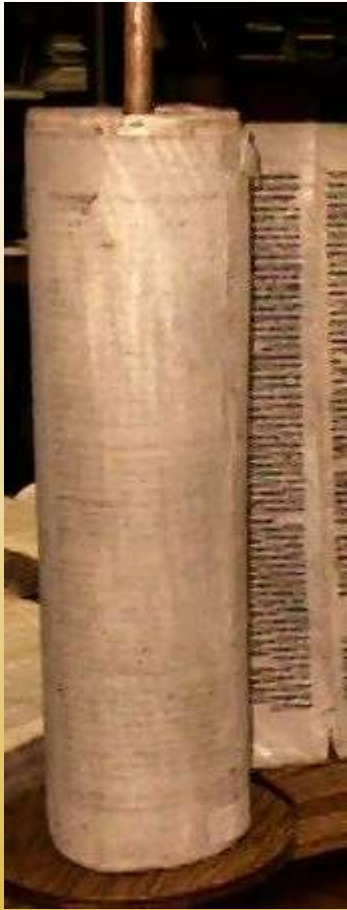
- Psalm 35:11
 - false witnesses
- Isaiah 50:6
 - beaten, spit upon
- Isaiah 53:7-8
 - like a lamb to the slaughter



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Prophecies of the Messiah: sacrifice

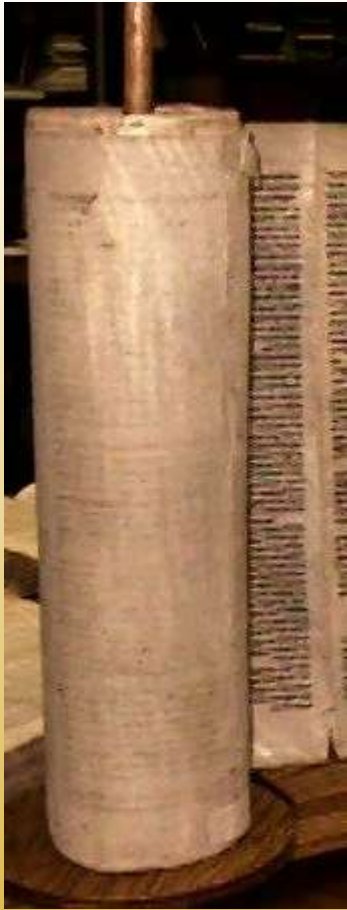
- Psalm 22:7-8 mocked
- Zech 12:10 pierced
- Isa 53:5 atoning sacrifice
- Psalm 16:9-10 resurrection



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Waiting for the Messiah

- Simeon (Luke 2:25-26)
- Andrew (John 1:21)
- Woman at the well (John 4:25)
- People of Jerusalem (John 7:27,31)
- Jews who persecuted him
 - John 5:39-40



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**End of the Old Testament
400 years of silence**