

Ezra

66 Books in 52 Weeks

(A Book-by-Book Overview of the Bible)

Summary & Structure

EZRA

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT	NUMBER OF CHAPTERS	TYPE
15	10	HISTORY



OVERVIEW

Ezra records the end of the Great Exile and the return of Jews to Jerusalem. Under Cyrus, the king of Persia, the people were allowed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple. Another 60 years later, King Artaxerxes of Persia chose Ezra to lead more Jews back to Israel with funds and materials to beautify the Temple.



WRITTEN
450 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
550-510 BC



AUTHOR
Ezra the Scribe

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Key Verse/Phrase

Then everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel... Ezra 9:4

Background

The Temple in Ruins

The Fall of Babylon, the Rise of Persia

The Second Exodus

Characteristics of Ezra

Chronology of Persian Kings Related to the Old Testament

King	Dates (BC)	Chapters in Ezra	Other Books
Cyrus	538-530	1:1-5	
Cambyses	530-522		
Smerdis	522		
Darius I	521-486	Chapters 5-6	Haggai, Zechariah
Xerxes I (Ahasuerus)	486-465	4:6	Esther
Artaxerxes I	464	4:7-23; Chapters 7-10	Malachi, Nehemiah

Outline

- Return from Babylon led by Zerubbabel (Chapters 1-6)
 - Proclamation/Preparation (Ezra 1) - Galatians 4:4
 - The First Wave (Ezra 2) - Ezra 2:64-67
 - Rebuilding Underway (Ezra 3) - Ezra 3:3
 - Opposition to Rebuilding (Ezra 4)
 - The Temple Completed (Ezra 5-6) - Ezra 6:13-16, 19-22

- Return from Babylon Led by Ezra (Chapters 7-10)
 - Another Wave Prepares to Return (Ezra 7)
 - Roll Call and Fast (Ezra 8) – Ezra 8:21, 31-32
 - Reformation Under Ezra (Ezra 9-10)

How Ezra Confronted Sin

He _____ (Ezra 9:3)

He _____ (Ezra 9:6-15)

He _____ (Ezra 10:10-11)

He held the people _____ (Ezra 10)

Applications/Themes to Remember

The Jews _____

God's _____

Faith and _____