

Ezra

Contents

This book contains the account of some of the people of Judah returning to Judah and rebuilding the temple. We call this book **Ezra**

Cyrus let the Jews return to Jerusalem

1During the first year that Cyrus ruled w Persian Empire, he did something that fulfilled what Jeremiah had prophesied. Yahweh motivated Cyrus to write this message, and then Cyrus sent this message throughout his empire:

2“I, King Cyrus, who ruled Persian Empire, declare this: ‘Yahweh, the God w who is rules from heaven, has to become the ruler of all the kingdoms w I know about earth’. And he has to enable w his w people to build for Jerusalem, in Judah w land.”³ All you

people|strong = "H5971" who|strong = "H4310" belong|strong = "H1961"
 to|strong = "H3478" God|strong = "H3068" may|strong = "H1961"
 go|strong = "H5927" up|strong = "H5927" to|strong = "H3478"
 Jerusalem|strong = "H3389" to|strong = "H3478" rebuild|strong = "H1129"
 this|strong = "H1931" temple|strong = "H1004" for|strong = "H3068"
 Yahweh|strong = "H3068", the|strong = "H3605" God|strong = "H3068"
 who|strong = "H4310" lives|strong = "H1961" in|strong = "H3478"
 Jerusalem|strong = "H3389", the|strong = "H3605" God|strong = "H3068" w
 who|strong = "H4310" w* w is|strong = "H3068" w* w
 worshiped|strong = "H7812" w* w by|strong = "H3068" w* w
 you|strong = "H3605" w* Israeli people|strong = "H5971". I|strong = "H3478"
 desire|strong = "H8378"/hope|strong = "H3176" that|strong = "H5971"
 your|strong = "H3068" God|strong = "H3068" will|strong = "H3068"
 be|strong = "H1961" with|strong = "H5973" you|strong = "H3605" w
 and|strong = "H3063" w* w help|strong = "H5971" w* w
 those|strong = "H3605" w* w who|strong = "H4310" w* w
 go|strong = "H5927" w* w there|strong = "H1961" w*. ⁴
 Those|strong = "H3605" people|strong = "H1931" who|strong = "H3605"
 are|strong = "H1004" in|strong = "H1004" places|strong = "H4725"
 where|strong = "H8033" Israelis are|strong = "H1004"
 living|strong = "H1481", whose|strong = "H8033" ancestors|strong = "H0001"
 were|strong = "H1004" exiled|strong = "H1540" here|strong = "H8033",
 should|strong = "H4725" contribute|strong = "H5068"
 silver|strong = "H3701" and|strong = "H3701" gold|strong = "H2091"
 to|strong = "H3389" those|strong = "H3605" who|strong = "H3605"
 go|strong = "H1980". They|strong = "H8033" should|strong = "H4725"
 also|strong = "H3389" give|strong = "H5375" them|strong = "H5375"
 supplies|strong = "H7399" w that|strong = "H3605" w* w
 they|strong = "H8033" w* w will|strong = "H1004" w* w
 need|strong = "H4270" w* w for|strong = "H1004" w* w
 the|strong = "H3605" w* w journey|strong = "H1870" w* w
 to|strong = "H3389" w* w Jerusalem|strong = "H3389" w*.
 They|strong = "H8033" should|strong = "H4725" also|strong = "H3389"
 give|strong = "H5375" them|strong = "H5375" some|strong = "H8033"
 livestock|strong = "H4735", and|strong = "H3701" gifts|strong = "H4979"
 of|strong = "H1004" money|strong = "H3701" to|strong = "H3389"
 help|strong = "H5375" build|strong = "H1129" the|strong = "H3605"
 temple|strong = "H1004" of|strong = "H1004" God|strong = "H0430"
 in|strong = "H1004" Jerusalem|strong = "H3389".⁵

⁵Then|strong = "H6965" God|strong = "H3068"
 motivated|strong = "H0834" some|strong = "H3605" of|strong = "H1004"
 the|strong = "H3605" priests|strong = "H3548" and|strong = "H3063"
 □ Levites|strong = "H3881"/men|strong = "H7218" who|strong = "H3605"
 did|strong = "H3068" work|strong = "H4399" in|strong = "H3068"

the|strong="H3605" temple|strong="H1004"□ and|strong="H3063"
 some|strong="H3605" of|strong="H1004" the|strong="H3605"
 leaders|strong="H7218" of|strong="H1004" the|strong="H3605"
 tribes|strong="H7626" that|strong="H3605" were|strong="H3881"
 descended|strong="H3381" from|strong="H5927" Judah|strong="H3063"
 and|strong="H3063" Benjamin|strong="H1144" to|strong="H3068"
 return|strong="H7725" to|strong="H3068" Jerusalem|strong="H3389".
 Those|strong="H3605" whom|strong="H0834" God|strong="H3068"
 motivated|strong="H0834" got|strong="H6965" ready|strong="H3559"
 to|strong="H3068" return|strong="H7725" to|strong="H3068"
 Jerusalem|strong="H3389" and|strong="H3063" build|strong="H1129"
 the|strong="H3605" temple|strong="H1004" for|strong="H3068"
 Yahweh|strong="H3068" there|strong="H5927". ⁶ All|strong="H3605"
 of|strong="H3027" their|strong="H3605" neighbors|strong="H7934"
 helped|strong="H2388" them|strong="H5921" by|strong="H3027"
 giving|strong="H5414" them|strong="H5921" things|strong="H3605"
 made|strong="H2388" of|strong="H3027" silver|strong="H3701"
 and|strong="H3701" things|strong="H3605" made|strong="H2388"
 of|strong="H3027" gold|strong="H2091", and|strong="H3701"
 supplies|strong="H7399" for|strong="H5921" the|strong="H3605"
 journey|strong="H1870", and|strong="H3701" livestock|strong="H4735".
 They|strong="H5921" also|strong="H3027" gave|strong="H2388"
 them|strong="H5921" other|strong="H3605" valuable|strong="H4030"
 gifts|strong="H4979", and|strong="H3701" also|strong="H3027"
 gave|strong="H2388" them|strong="H5921" money|strong="H3701" w
 to|strong="H5921" w* w buy|strong="H7069" w* w
 things|strong="H3605" w* w for|strong="H5921" w* w
 building|strong="H1129" w* w the|strong="H3605" w* w
 temple|strong="H1004" w*. ⁷ King|strong="H4428"
 Cyrus|strong="H3566" brought|strong="H3318" out|strong="H3318"
 the|strong="H5414" valuable|strong="H3368" things|strong="H3627"
 that|strong="H3068" King|strong="H4428" Nebuchadnezzar's w
 soldiers|strong="H5650" w* had|strong="H3068" taken|strong="H3318"
 from|strong="H3318" the|strong="H5414" temple|strong="H1004"
 of|strong="H4428" Yahweh|strong="H3068" in|strong="H3068"
 Jerusalem|strong="H3389" and|strong="H3068" put|strong="H5414"
 in|strong="H3068" the|strong="H5414" temple|strong="H1004"
 of|strong="H4428" Nebuchadnezzar's gods|strong="H0430" w
 in|strong="H3068" w* w Babylon|strong="H0894" w*. ⁸
 Cyrus|strong="H3566" commanded|strong="H6680"
 Mithredath|strong="H4990", the|strong="H5921"
 treasurer|strong="H1489" of|strong="H4428" w the|strong="H5921" w*
 Persian|strong="H6542" w Empire|strong="H4438" w*,
 to|strong="H3318" count|strong="H5608" all|strong="H5921"
 these|strong="H4428" items|strong="H3627" and|strong="H3063"
 then|strong="H3318" give|strong="H5414" them|strong="H5921"

to|strong = "H3318" Sheshbazzar|strong = "H8339", the|strong = "H5921" leader|strong = "H5387" of|strong = "H4428" w the|strong = "H5921" w* w group|strong = "H7235" w* w that|strong = "H4428" w* w was|strong = "H4428" w* w going|strong = "H3318" w* w to|strong = "H3318" w* w return|strong = "H7725" w* w to|strong = "H3318" w* w Judah|strong = "H3063".

9This|strong = "H2088" is|strong = "H3701" a|strong = "H3701" list|strong = "H4557" of|strong = "H4557" the|strong = "H4557" items|strong = "H3627" that|strong = "H4557" Cyrus|strong = "H3566" donated:

3 0 large|strong = "H1419" gold|strong = "H2091" dishes|strong = "H7086"

1 ,000 large|strong = "H1419" silver|strong = "H3701" dishes|strong = "H7086"

2 9 silver|strong = "H3701"
 □ censers|strong = "H4289"/incense|strong = "H7004"
 burning|strong = "H2740" pans|strong = "H3709"□

1030 gold|strong = "H2091" bowls|strong = "H3713"

4 10 silver|strong = "H3701" bowls|strong = "H3713"

1 ,000 other|strong = "H4932" items|strong = "H3627".

11All|strong = "H3605" together|strong = "H5973", there|strong = "H5927" were|strong = "H3627" 5,400 items|strong = "H3627" made|strong = "H3627" of|strong = "H3627" silver|strong = "H3701" or|strong = "H3701" gold|strong = "H2091", that|strong = "H3605" w were|strong = "H3627" w* w given|strong = "H5414" w* w to|strong = "H5927" w* w Sheshbazzar|strong = "H8339" w to|strong = "H5927" w* w take|strong = "H5927" with|strong = "H5973" him|strong = "H5973" when|strong = "H5927" he|strong = "H2568" and|strong = "H3967" the|strong = "H3605" others|strong = "H0312" returned|strong = "H5927" to|strong = "H5927" Jerusalem|strong = "H3389".

The list of groups that returned to Judah

2King|strong="H4428" Nebuchadnezzar's w soldiers|strong="H1121" w* had|strong="H4428" captured|strong="H7628" many|strong="H7227" Israeli people|strong="H1121" and|strong="H1121" taken|strong="H5927" them|strong="H7725" to|strong="H7725" Babylonia|strong="H0894". w Many|strong="H7227" w* w years|strong="H8141" w* w later|strong="H0310" w*, some|strong="H4480" Israeli peole returned|strong="H7725" to|strong="H7725" Judah|strong="H3063". Some|strong="H4480" returned|strong="H7725" to|strong="H7725" Jerusalem|strong="H3389", and|strong="H1121" some|strong="H4480" returned|strong="H7725" to|strong="H7725" w other|strong="H0312" w* w places|strong="H1116" w* w in|strong="H4428" w* Judah|strong="H3063". They|strong="H1540" went|strong="H5927" to|strong="H7725" the|strong="H7725" towns|strong="H5892" where|strong="H0834" their|strong="H7725" ancestors|strong="H0001" had|strong="H4428" lived|strong="H3427". This|strong="H7725" is|strong="H5892" a|strong="H5927" list|strong="H4557" of|strong="H1121" the|strong="H7725" groups|strong="H1121" who|strong="H1121" returned|strong="H7725". ² The|strong="H5973" leaders|strong="H7218" of|strong="H4557" those|strong="H5973" groups|strong="H7218" were|strong="H3478" Zerubbabel|strong="H2216", Jeshua|strong="H3442", Nehemiah|strong="H5166", Seraiah|strong="H8304", Reelaiah|strong="H7480", Mordecai|strong="H4782", Bilshan|strong="H1114", Mispar|strong="H4558", Bigvai|strong="H0902", Rehum|strong="H7348", and|strong="H3478" Baanah|strong="H1196".

T here|strong="H8033" were|strong="H3478": ³ 2,172 descendants of Parosh ⁴ 372 descendants of Shephatiah ⁵ 775 descendants of Arah ⁶ 2,812 descendants of Pahath-Moab, from the families of Jeshua and Joab ⁷ 1,254 descendants of Elam ⁸ 945 descendants of Zattu ⁹ 760 descendants of Zaccai ¹⁰ 642 descendants of Bani ¹¹ 623 descendants of Bebai ¹² 1,222 descendants of Azgad ¹³ 666 descendants of Adonikam ¹⁴ 2,056 descendants of Bigvai ¹⁵ 454 descendants of Adin ¹⁶ 98 descendants of Ater, whose other name was Hezekiah ¹⁷ 323 descendants of Bezai ¹⁸ 112 descendants of Jorah ¹⁹ 223 descendants of Hashum ²⁰ 95 descendants of Gibbar.

w People|strong="H1121" w* w whose|strong="H1121" w* w ancestors|strong="H0001" w* w had|strong="H1121" w* w lived|strong="H3427" w* w in|strong="H1121" w* w these|strong="H0428" w* w towns|strong="H1323" w* w in|strong="H1121" w* w Judah|strong="H3063" w*: ²¹ 123 from Bethlehem ²² 56 from Netophah ²³ 128 from Anathoth ²⁴ 42 from Azmaveth ²⁵ 743 from Kiriath-Jearim, Kephirah, and Beeroth ²⁶ 621 from Ramah and Geba ²⁷ 122 from Micmash ²⁸ 223 from Bethel and Ai ²⁹ 52

from Nebo ³⁰ 156 from Magbish ³¹ 1,254 from Elam ³² 320 from Harim ³³
725 from Lod, Hadid, and Ono ³⁴ 345 from Jericho ³⁵ 3,630 from Senaah.

36Priests|strong = "H3548" who|strong = "H3548"
returned|strong = "H7725": ³⁷ 1,052 descendants of Immer ³⁸ 1,247
descendants of Pashhur ³⁹ 1,017 descendants of Harim.

The|strong = "H1121" ones|strong = "H1121" from|strong = "H1121"
the|strong = "H1121" w rest|strong = "H5117" w* w of|strong = "H1121" w* w
the|strong = "H1121" w* tribe|strong = "H4294" of|strong = "H1121"
Levi|strong = "H3878" who|strong = "H1121" returned|strong = "H7725"
were|strong = "H1121": ⁴⁰ 74 descendants of Jeshua and Kadmiel, who were
from the family of Hodaviah ⁴¹ 128 singers who were descendants of Asaph
⁴² 139 □gatekeepers/men who guarded the gates of the temple□ who were
descendants of Shallum, Ater, Talmon, Akkub, Hatita, and Shobai.

43The|strong = "H1121" □temple|strong = "H5411"
workers|strong = "H6466"/men|strong = "H1121" who|strong = "H1121"
would|strong = "H0014" work|strong = "H4399" in|strong = "H1121"
the|strong = "H1121" temple|strong = "H5411"□ who|strong = "H1121"
were|strong = "H1121" descendants|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121"
these|strong = "H0428" men|strong = "H1121": Ziha|strong = "H6727",
Hasupha|strong = "H2817", Tabbaoth|strong = "H2884", ⁴⁴
Keros|strong = "H7026", Siaha|strong = "H5517", Padon|strong = "H6303",
⁴⁵ Lebanah|strong = "H3838", Hagabah|strong = "H2286",
Akkub|strong = "H6126", ⁴⁶ Hagab|strong = "H2285",
Shalmi|strong = "H8073", Hanan|strong = "H2605", ⁴⁷
Giddel|strong = "H1435", Gahar|strong = "H1515", Reaiah|strong = "H7211",
⁴⁸ Rezin|strong = "H7526", Nekoda|strong = "H5353",
Gazzam|strong = "H1502", ⁴⁹ Uzza|strong = "H5798",
Paseah|strong = "H6454", Besai|strong = "H1153", ⁵⁰
Asnah|strong = "H0619", Meunim|strong = "H4586",
Nephusim|strong = "H5300", ⁵¹ Bakbuk|strong = "H1227",
Hakupha|strong = "H2709", Harhur|strong = "H2744", ⁵²
Bazluth|strong = "H1213", Mehida|strong = "H4240",
Harsha|strong = "H2797", ⁵³ Barkos|strong = "H1302",
Sisera|strong = "H5516", Temah|strong = "H8547", ⁵⁴
Neziah|strong = "H5335", and|strong = "H1121" Hatipha|strong = "H2412".

55These|strong = "H0428" descendants|strong = "H1121"
of|strong = "H1121" w King|strong = "H4428" w* Solomon's|strong = "H8010"
servants|strong = "H5650" w returned|strong = "H7725" w*:
Sotai|strong = "H5479", Hassophereth|strong = "H5618",
Peruda|strong = "H6514", ⁵⁶ Jaalah|strong = "H3279",

Darkon|strong = "H1874", Giddel|strong = "H1435", ⁵⁷
 Shephatiah|strong = "H8203", Hattil|strong = "H2411",
 Pokereth-Hazzebaim|strong = "H6380", and|strong = "H1121"
 Ami|strong = "H0532".

58Altogether|strong = "H3605", there|strong = "H3605"
 were|strong = "H1121" 392 temple|strong = "H5411"
 workers|strong = "H6466" and|strong = "H3967"
 descendants|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121"
 Solomon's|strong = "H8010" servants|strong = "H5650"
 who|strong = "H3605" returned|strong = "H7725".

59There|strong = "H1992" was|strong = "H3478" another|strong = "H5046"
 group|strong = "H7235" who|strong = "H3478" returned|strong = "H5927" w
 to|strong = "H3478" w* w Judah|strong = "H3063" w* from|strong = "H5927"
 Tel-Melah|strong = "H8528", Tel-Harsha|strong = "H8521",
 Kerub|strong = "H3743", Addan|strong = "H0135", and|strong = "H3478"
 Immer|strong = "H0564" w towns|strong = "H1323" w* w
 in|strong = "H3478" w* w Babylonia|strong = "H0894" w*.
 But|strong = "H3808" they|strong = "H1992" could|strong = "H3201"
 not|strong = "H3808" prove|strong = "H5254" that|strong = "H3478"
 they|strong = "H1992" were|strong = "H3478" descendants|strong = "H2233"
 of|strong = "H1004" w people|strong = "H3808" w* w
 who|strong = "H3478" w* w previously|strong = "H3808" w* w
 lived|strong = "H3427" w* w in|strong = "H3478" w* Israel|strong = "H3478".

60This|strong = "H1121" group|strong = "H7235"
 included|strong = "H5475" 652 people|strong = "H1121"
 who|strong = "H1121" were|strong = "H1121" descendants|strong = "H1121"
 of|strong = "H1121" Delaiah|strong = "H1806", Tobiah|strong = "H2900",
 and|strong = "H3967" Nekoda|strong = "H5353".

61Hobaiah's clan|strong = "H4940", Hakkoz's clan|strong = "H4940",
 and|strong = "H1121" Barzillai's clan|strong = "H4940" also|strong = "H8034"
 returned|strong = "H7725". Barzillai|strong = "H1271" had|strong = "H3548"
 married|strong = "H3947" a|strong = "H3947" woman|strong = "H1323"
 who|strong = "H3548" was|strong = "H8034" a|strong = "H3947"
 descendant|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Barzillai|strong = "H1271"
 from|strong = "H5921" w the|strong = "H5921" w* Gilead|strong = "H1568" w
 region|strong = "H2256" w*, and|strong = "H1121" he|strong = "H5921"
 had|strong = "H3548" taken|strong = "H3947" for|strong = "H5921"
 himself|strong = "H7121" the|strong = "H5921" name|strong = "H8034"
 of|strong = "H1121" his|strong = "H7121" father-in-law's
 clan|strong = "H4940".

62 The people in that group searched in the documents that had the names of the ancestors of the clans, but these were men's names. So they were not permitted to do the work that priests did. ⁶³ The governor told them that they would need to ask a priest to consult Yahweh by casting lots that were w/w throwing w/w the sacred stones that had been marked, to determine if those men were truly Israelis. When the priests did that, w/w if the w/w stones w/w showed w/w that those w/w men w/w were Israelis, they would be permitted to eat the shares of the sacrifices that were given to the priests.

64 Altogether 42,360 Israeli people who returned to Judah. ⁶⁵ There were also 7,337 servants and 200 musicians, both men and women, who returned. ⁶⁶ The

Israelis brought with them w from w* w
 Babylonia w* 736 horses, 245
 mules, ⁶⁷ 435 camels,
 and 6,720 donkeys.

68When they arrived at the temple of Yahweh in Jerusalem, some of the clan leaders gave money w for w* w the w* w supplies w* w needed to rebuild the temple at the place where the temple had been previously. ⁶⁹
 They all gave as much as they were able to give.
 Altogether 61,000 gold coins, 6,250 pounds /3,000 kg. of silver, and 100 robes for the priests.

70Then the priests, the w* w* descendants of Levi, the musicians, the temple guards, and some of the w other people started to live in the villages w near w* w Jerusalem w*. The rest of the people went to the other places in Israel where their ancestors had lived.
 They rebuilt the altar in Jerusalem