



THE STORY OF
ESTHER

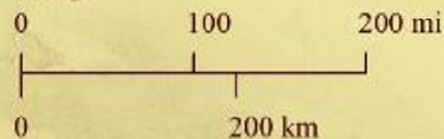
God is Working On
Your Future, In
Multiple Places at
the same time.

-  Zerubbabel's route
-  Ezra's route
-  Nehemiah's route

1) In 539 B.C. King Cyrus decreed that all Jews exiled to Babylon could return to their homeland. A contingent of Jews returned under Zerubbabel's leadership.

2) Around 458 B.C. the scribe Ezra led a smaller group of Jews back to Judea, taking the shorter, more dangerous desert route that passed through Tadmor.

3) Around 445 B.C. while Nehemiah was in Susa, King Artaxerxes I granted him permission to travel to Jerusalem to rebuild the city.



Four People. Four Assignments. One God.

The restoration story unfolds through different people, places, and roles.

ZERUBBABEL
L
Jerusalem

ESTHER
Susa

EZRA
Babylon →
Jerusalem

NEHEMIAH
Susa →
Jerusalem

God Was Working Between the Chapters

Ezra 6 → Esther happens in the gap → Ezra 7 →

Nehemiah

NEARLY 60-YEAR GAP

between Ezra 6 and Ezra 7

ZERUBBAB

EL

Jerusalem

m

Temple
rebuilt
EZRA 6

ESTHER'S STORY
OCCURS

DURING THIS GAP

EZR

A

Babylon →
Jerusalem

Restore the
Word
EZRA 7

NEHEMIA

H

Susa →
Jerusalem

Rebuild the
Walls

13 years
later

ESTHER — SUSANNA

God preserves His people
inside the gap