

# **Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah**

**“Getting The Work Done”**



# **Timeline: From Exile to Return & Restoration**

**Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah**

# The Exile Begins (605–586 BC)

- 605 BC – First deportation to Babylon (Daniel taken)


- 597 BC – Second deportation (Ezekiel among 10,000)

- 586 BC – Final destruction of Jerusalem & the Temple


- 70 years of exile prophesied by Jeremiah begins

# First Return – Zerubbabel's Group (538–515 BC)

- 538 BC – Cyrus the Great issues decree (Ezra 1)



- Leaders: Zerubbabel (governor), Jeshua (high priest)



- Focus: Rebuilding the altar & Temple foundation (Ezra 3)



- 515 BC – Temple completed under Darius

# Second Return – Ezra's Group (458 BC)

- Leader: Ezra, priest & scribe

- Purpose: Teach the Law of God (Ezra 7)

- Emphasis: Holiness, covenant faithfulness, true worship

# Third Return – Nehemiah's Group (445 BC)

- **Leader: Nehemiah, cupbearer to Persian king**
- **Purpose: Rebuild Jerusalem's walls (Nehemiah 1–6)**
- **Walls rebuilt in 52 days despite opposition**
- **Nehemiah & Ezra lead great assembly, Law is read (Nehemiah 8)**

# Summary Flow

- Zerubbabel (538 BC): Restores the Temple – Sacrifice & Worship

538 BC

- Ezra (458 BC): Restores the Law – Instruction & Covenant Faithfulness

458 BC

- Nehemiah (445 BC): Restores the Walls – Community & Security for Worship

445 BC