

# Let's Build!

## Post-Exilic Books Study

### **Main Characters:**

- Cyrus - Persian king who released first wave of exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple (Ezra 1:1).
- Zerubabel (son of Shealtiel) - The Jewish political leader (king-ish) of the first wave of exiles back to Jerusalem and rebuilt the Temple (Ezra 2:2).
- Joshua (son of Jozadak) - The Jewish High Priest that returned with the first wave of exiles and reestablished the priesthood at the Temple (Ezra 2:2).
- Bishlam, Mithredath & Tabeel - The “Samaritan” bad guys who opposed the work on the Temple (Ezra 4:7).
- Artaxerxes - The king of Persia who wrote an edict stopping the work of building the Temple (Ezra 4:21).
- Tattenai (governor of Trans-Euphrates) & Shethar-Bozenai - The “Samaritan” bad guys who opposed the rebuilding of the Temple when they started again (Ezra 5:6)
- Darius - The king of Persia who overturned Artaxerxes edict and allowed the Temple to be rebuilt (Ezra 6:6-7).
- Haggai - The first prophet to inspire the exiles to restart the Temple rebuilding (Haggai 1:1).
- Zechariah (son of Berechiah) - The second prophet to inspire the exiles to restart the Temple rebuilding (Zechariah 1:1).
- Ezra (son of Seraiah) - The Jewish teacher of the Law who taught and helped reestablish covenant faithfulness to the Law of Moses in the returned exiles (Ezra 7:6)
- Nehemiah (son of Hakaliah) - (Nehemiah 1:1) - The Jewish leader who led the third wave of exiles to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls and gates around the city.
- Sanballat the Horonite & Tobiah the Ammonite - (Nehemiah 2:10) - The “Samaritan” bad guys who opposed the work of rebuilding the walls around Jerusalem.

### **Key Dates:**

- 722 BC - 10 Northern Tribes (a.k.a. Israel) exile to Assyria finalized by Shalmaneser (II Kings 17:3–6, 18:11-12)
- 605 BC - 2 Southern Tribes (a.k.a. Judah & Benjamin) exiled to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar II (II Kings 24)
- 586 BC - Jerusalem destroyed (II Kings 25)
- 538 BC - Zerubbabel leads first wave of exiles back to rebuild Temple in Jerusalem (Ezra 2:1)
- 458 BC - Ezra leads second wave of exiles back to Jerusalem (Ezra 7:1)
- 445 BC - Nehemiah leads third wave of exiles back to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls (Nehemiah 1:9-11)

### **Key Verses:**

Ezra 1:1

Ezra 9:10

Nehemiah 13:14

Ezra 2:68

Nehemiah 2:11

Jeremiah 29:11-14

Ezra 6:14

Nehemiah 8:1

Haggai 1:3

Ezra 7:10

Nehemiah 8:10

Zechariah 4:6