

ANE Event	Biblical Event	Passage
Neo-Assyrian Period	Northern Kingdom of Samaria (Israel) falls, inhabitants deported, 722 BC	2 Kings 17
Neo-Babylonian Period	Jerusalem is invaded and leaders deported, 597 BC	2 Kings 24:1-17
	Jerusalem is invaded again and destroyed, more leaders deported, 587 BC	2 Kings 24:18–25:30
Cyrus inaugurates Persian Period, 539 BC	In response to Cyrus' Decree, Zerubbabel leads first group of returnees to rebuild temple, 538 BC	Ezra 1:1
Cambyses II rules, 530-522 BC		
Darius rules, 522-485 BC	Work on the temple ceases due to opposition	Ezra 4:5, 24
	Temple <i>finally</i> completed, 515 BC	
Xerxes rules, 485-465 BC	Opposition letter sent to Xerxes	Ezra 4:6
	a.k.a., "Ahasuerus" in book of Esther	Esther
Artaxerxes rules, 464-424 BC	Ezra leads group of returnees to Jerusalem to rebuild community, 458 BC	Ezra 7ff.
	Nehemiah commissioned to rebuild walls, leads group of returnees to Jerusalem, 445 BC	
	Opposition letter regarding the wall rebuilding sent to Artaxerxes	Ezra 4:7-18
	Work on the walls ceases due to opposition	Ezra 4:23
	Walls completed, 440 BC	Neh 6:15-16

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