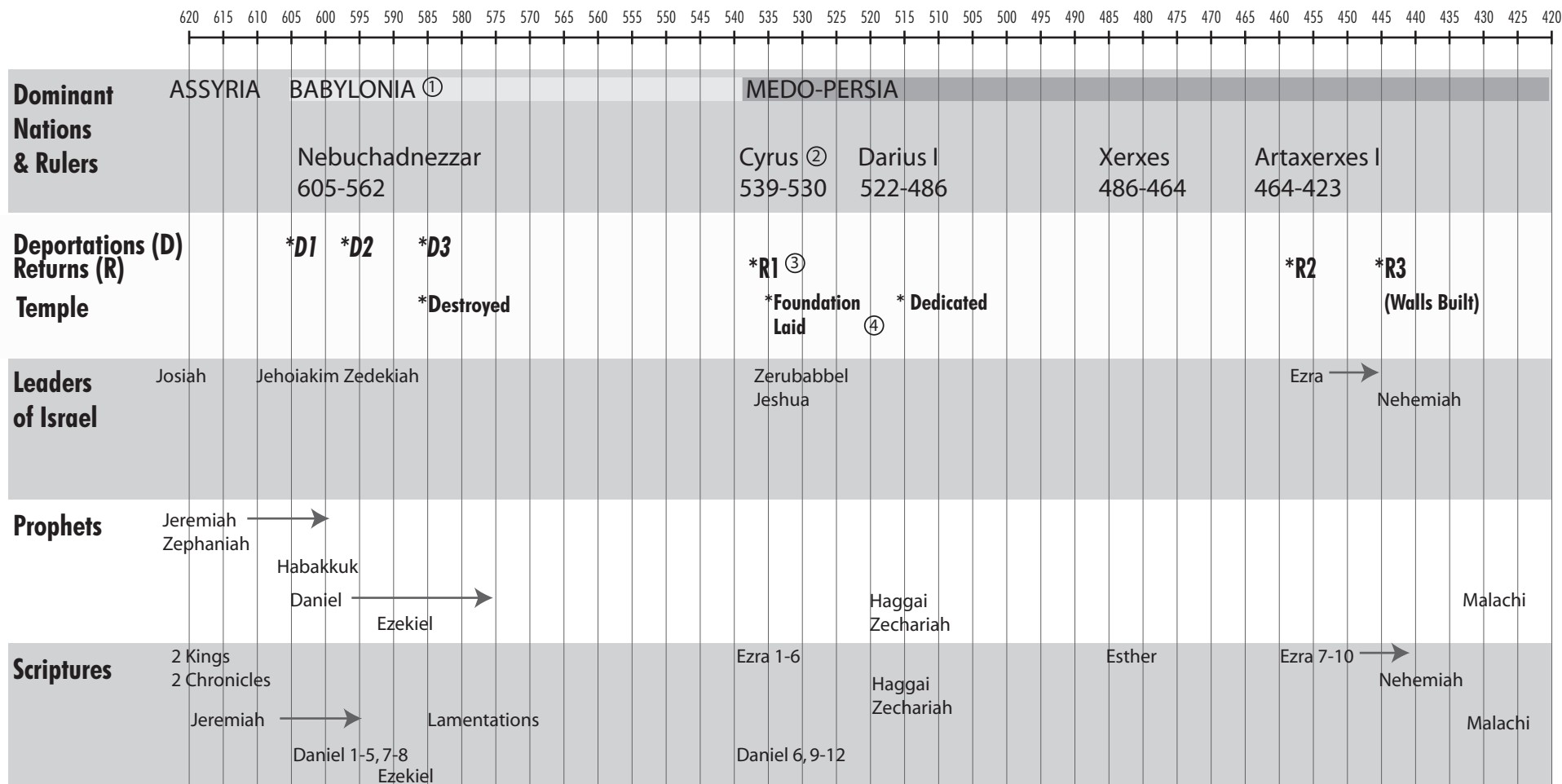


Babylonian Exile and Returns of Israel

All dates B.C., John Hepp, Jr.

www.kingdombible.com



Notes

① God assigned "seventy years...for Babylon" (Jer. 29:10), in which the nations would serve that king (25:11-12). That period probably began with the first deportation (605), in which only a few, including Daniel, were taken (25:1). It probably continued until the second temple foundation was laid in the spring of 536 or 535 (Ezra 3:8-10; Dan. 9).

② Cyrus had already ruled over Media/Persia since 559. He conquered Babylon in 539.

③ Most of the returning remnant were from Judah, Benjamin, and Levi. However, all twelve tribes were represented (6:17).

④ Ezra 1-6 tells how the little remnant was enabled to finish and dedicate the second temple in 516. It was far less majestic than the first temple. It also lacked the Lord's glory that Ezekiel had seen depart. Though the Lord often promised to restore His kingdom eternally (e.g., Micah 4:1-8; Haggai 1-2), He had not done so. He still has not restored it. Yet, the second temple was essential to His kingdom plan. He let Herod greatly embellish it. His Son claimed it for Him. It was the center of worship for His nation, whose faithful remnant kept His Word and prepared for His Messiah (Luke 1-2).