

THE TEMPLE

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

SOLOMON FINISHED THE TEMPLE (959 BC)?

TEMPLE REPAIRED BY JOSIAH (640 BC)?

DESTROYED BY NEBUCHADNEZZAR (586 BC)?

PROPHESED BY ISAIAH (712 BC)?

ZERUBBABEL'S TEMPLE

RECONSTRUCTION UNDER CYRUS (536 BC)?

BUILDING CEASES UNDER ARTAXERXES (17 YEARS)?

BUILDING CONTINUES UNDER DARIUS (519 BC)?

TEMPLE COMPLETED UNDER DARIUS (516 BC)?

(516-458 BC)?

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER

ZERUBBABEL - SHESHBAZZAR - LEVITE

GOVERNOR OF JUDAH - HAGGAI 1:1 (536 BC)?
KING CYRUS: EZRA 1:1 (536 BC)?

LEVITES WHO CAME WITH ZERUBBABEL

NEHEMIAH - PRIEST EZRA 2:2 (536 BC)?
JEREMIAH - PRIEST NEHEMIAH 12:1 (536 BC)?
JESHUA - HIGH PRIEST NEHEMIAH 12:1 (536 BC)?
EZRA - PRIEST NEHEMIAH 12:1 (536 BC)?

KING DARIUS: EZRA 1-6 (538-516 BC)?
ESTHER QUEEN OF PERSIA (478 BC)? (58 YEARS)?
ARTAXERXES: EZRA 7-10 (458-457 BC)?
(ARTAXERXES LONGIMANUS: 465-424 BC?)

OUTLINE CHAPTER SIX

DARIUS SEARCHES FOR THE EDICT OF CYRUS	V. 1
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DARIUS CONFIRMS IT	V. 6-12
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THE TEMPLE IS FINISHED IN THE SIXTH YEAR OF DARIUS	V. 14-15
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THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD IS OBSERVED	V. 22

READ: EZRA 6:1-4

1 King Darius issued a decree, and a search was made in the archives, where the treasures were stored in Babylon.

2 At Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of Media, a scroll was found, and in it a record was written thus:

3 In the first year of King Cyrus, King Cyrus issued a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem: "Let the house be rebuilt, the place where they offered sacrifices; and let the foundations of it be firmly laid, its height sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits,

4 With three rows of heavy stones and one row of new timber. Let the expenses be paid from the king's treasury.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:1-4

1 **King Darius issued a decree**, and **a search was made in the archives**, where **the treasures were stored in Babylon**.

2 **At Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of Media, a scroll was found**, and **in it a record was written thus**:

WHAT DID KING DARIUS DECREE?

WHERE DID THEY LOOK?

WHERE DID THEY FIND THE SCROLL?

READ: EZRA 6:1

1 **Darius the king made a decree**, and **search was made in the house of the rolls**, where **the treasures were laid up in Babylon**.

(KJV)

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:1-4

3 In the first year of King Cyrus, King Cyrus issued a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem: "**Let the house be rebuilt, the place where they offered sacrifices; and let the foundations of it be firmly laid, its height sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits,**

4 **With three rows of heavy stones and one row of new timber. Let the expenses be paid from the king's treasury.**

‘THE FIRST YEAR OF KING CYRUS’? (539 BC)?

WHAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE SCROLL?

WHAT HOUSE WAS TO BE REBUILT? WHERE?

WHAT ABOUT ITS FOUNDATION?

HOW WOULD THE EXPENSES BE PAID?

READ: EZRA 6:5-6

5 Also let the gold and silver articles of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took from the temple which is in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and taken back to the temple which is in Jerusalem, each to its place; and deposit them in the house of God"--

6 Therefore, Tattenai, governor of the region beyond the River, and Shethar-Boznai, and your companions the Persians who are beyond the River, keep yourselves far from there.

7 Let the work of this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of God on its site.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:5-6

5 Also let the gold and silver articles of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took from the temple which is in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and taken back to the temple which is in Jerusalem, each to its place; and deposit them in the house of God"--

WHAT ELSE WAS WRITTEN IN THE SCROLL?

WHAT ABOUT THE ARTICLES FROM THE TEMPLE?

WHEN DID NEBUCHADNEZZAR DO THIS? (586 BC)?

WHERE SHOULD THEY BE 'RESTORED' TO?

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:5-6

6 Therefore, **Tattenai**, governor of the region beyond the River, and **Shethar-Boznai**, and your companions the Persians who are beyond the River, **keep yourselves far from there.**

7 **Let the work of this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of God on its site.**

**WHAT DID DARIUS SAY TO TATTENAI?
WHY DID HE COMMAND THEM TO KEEP AWAY?
WHO WAS TO BUILD THE HOUSE OF GOD?**

READ: EZRA 6:8-10

8 Moreover I issue a decree as to what you shall do for the elders of these Jews, for the building of this house of God: Let the cost be paid at the king's expense from taxes on the region beyond the River; this is to be given immediately to these men, so that they are not hindered.

9 And whatever they need-- young bulls, rams, and lambs for the burnt offerings of the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, and oil, according to the request of the priests who are in Jerusalem-- let it be given them day by day without fail,

10 That they may offer sacrifices of sweet aroma to the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king and his sons.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:8-10

8 Moreover I issue a decree as to what you shall do for the elders of these Jews, for the building of this house of God: Let the cost be paid at the king's expense from taxes on the region beyond the River; this is to be given immediately to these men, so that they are not hindered.

WHAT ELSE DID DARIUS DECREE?

WHAT DID HE COMMAND THEM TO DO?

HOW WERE THESE EXPENSES TO BE PAID?

WHY FROM THE KING'S TAXES?

WHY 'IMMEDIATELY'?

DID THE JEWS EXPECT THIS? READ: EZRA 2:68-69

GO BACK TO: EZRA 2:68-69

68 Some of the heads of the fathers' houses, when they came to the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of God, to erect it in its place:

69 According to their ability, they gave to the treasury for the work sixty-one thousand gold drachmas, five thousand minas of SILVER, and one hundred priestly garments. (NKJ)

DID THE JEWISH FATHERS ASK FOR ANY HELP?

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:8-10

9 And **whatever they need-- young bulls, rams, and lambs for the burnt offerings of the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, and oil, according to the request of the priests who are in Jerusalem-- let it be given them day by day without fail,**

**WHAT ELSE WERE THEY TO GIVE TO THE JEWS?
WHEN AND HOW SHOULD THEY BE SUPPLIED?**

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:8-10

10 That they may offer sacrifices of sweet aroma to the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king and his sons.

WHY DID DARIUS COMMAND THEM TO DO THIS?
WERE THEY COMMANDED TO PRAY FOR THE KING?

ARE WE COMMANDED TO PRAY FOR OUR RULERS?

READ: 1 PETER 2:17

17 Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king. (NKJ)

HOW DO YOU HONOR THE KING?

READ: EZRA 6:11-13

11 Also I issue a decree that whoever alters this edict, let a timber be pulled from his house and erected, and let him be hanged on it; and let his house be made a refuse heap because of this.

12 And may the God who causes His name to dwell there destroy any king or people who put their hand to alter it, or to destroy this house of God which is in Jerusalem. I Darius issue a decree; let it be done diligently.

13 Then Tattenai, governor of the region beyond the River, Shethar-Boznai, and their companions diligently did according to what King Darius had sent.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:11-13

11 Also I issue a decree that whoever alters this edict, let a timber be pulled from his house and erected, and let him be hanged on it. And let his house be made a refuse heap because of this.

**WHAT IF ANYONE TRIED TO ALTER THIS EDICT?
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THEM?**

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:11-13

12 And may the God who causes His name to dwell there destroy any king or people who put their hand to alter it, or to destroy this house of God which is in Jerusalem. I Darius issue a decree; let it be done diligently.

13 Then Tattenai, governor of the region beyond the River, Shethar-Boznai, and their companions diligently did according to what King Darius had sent.

WHAT DID HE CALL ON THE GOD OF ISRAEL TO DO?

WHO DID THIS INCLUDE?

HOW DID HE WANT HIS DECREE TO BE ENFORCED?

HOW DID TATTENAI, SHETHAR-BOSNAI RESPOND?

READ: EZRA 6:14-15

14 So the elders of the Jews built, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the command of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

15 The temple was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:14-15

14 So the elders of the Jews built, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the command of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

DID THE 'ELDERS' REBUILD THE TEMPLE?

HOW DID HAGGAI AND ZECHARIAH ENCOURAGE THEM?

WHO GAVE THE COMMAND TO REBUILD THE TEMPLE?

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:14-15

15 The temple was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

FOUNDATION LAID	(536 BC)?
COMMANDED TO CEASE BUILDING	(15 YEARS)?
CONTINUE TO REBUILD	(521 BC)?
COMPLETED	(516-515 BC)?
HOW LONG DID IT TAKE TO REBUILD IT?	(20 YEARS)?
WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG?	(15 YEARS NO WORK)
ACTUAL TIME TO COMPLETE	(5-6 YEARS)?
HOW DOES THIS COMPARE WITH SOLOMON'S TEMPLE?	

QUESTIONS: EZRA 6:14-15

BUILDING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

READ: 1 KINGS 6:1 FOUNDATION LAID (966 BC)?

1 It came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD. (NKJ)

READ: 1 KINGS 6:38 COMPLETED (959 BC)?

38 In the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its details and according to all its plans. So he was seven years in building it. (NKJ)

HOW LONG DID IT TAKE?

SEVEN YEARS?

READ: EZRA 6:16-17

16 Then the children of Israel, the priests and the Levites and the rest of the descendants of the captivity, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.

17 They offered sacrifices at the dedication of this house of God, one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:16-17

16 Then the children of Israel, the priests and the Levites and the rest of the descendants of the captivity, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.

17 They offered sacrifices at the dedication of this house of God, one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.

WHO WAS PRESENT FOR THE DEDICATION?

WHAT DID THEY OFFER AS SACRIFICES?

WHY OFFER TWELVE MALE GOATS?

**HOW DOES THIS COMPARE WITH
THE DEDICATION OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE?**

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:16-17

DEDICATION OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

READ: 1 KINGS 8:63

63 **Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered to the LORD, twenty-two thousand bulls and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD. 22,000 BULLS 120,000 SHEEP**

READ: EZRA 6:18-20

18 They assigned the priests to their divisions and the Levites to their divisions, over the service of God in Jerusalem, as it is written in the Book of Moses.

19 And the descendants of the captivity kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.

20 For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were ritually clean. And they slaughtered the Passover lambs for all the descendants of the captivity, for their brethren the priests, and for themselves.

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:18-20

18 They assigned the priests to their divisions and the Levites to their divisions, over the service of God in Jerusalem, as it is written in the Book of Moses.

19 And the descendants of the captivity kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.

WHAT DID THE PEOPLE DO?

WHERE DID THEY GET THEIR AUTHORITY?

WHEN WAS THE FEAST OF THE PASSOVER?

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:18-20

WHEN WAS THE FEAST OF THE PASSOVER?

READ: LEVITICUS 23:4-6

4 'These are the feasts of the LORD, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.

5 'On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the LORD'S Passover.

6 'And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD; seven days you must eat unleavened bread. (NKJ)

WHEN WAS THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD?

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:18-20

20 For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were ritually clean. And they slaughtered the Passover lambs for all the descendants of the captivity, for their brethren the priests, and for themselves.

WHAT DID THE PRIESTS AND LEVITES DO FIRST?

READ: JOHN 11:55

55 The Passover of the Jews was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves.
(NKJ)

HOW DOES ONE PURIFY HIMSELF?

READ: EZRA 6:21-22

- 21 Then the children of Israel who had returned from the captivity ate together with all who had separated themselves from the filth of the nations of the land in order to seek the LORD God of Israel.**
- 22 And they kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy; for the LORD made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria toward them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel. (NKJ)**

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:21-22

- 21** Then the children of Israel who had returned from the captivity ate together with all who had separated themselves from the filth of the nations of the land in order to seek the LORD God of Israel.

WHAT DID THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL DO?

WHAT DID THEY SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM?

WHAT WERE THEY SEEKING?

QUESTIONS:

EZRA 6:21-22

- 22 And they kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy; for the LORD made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria toward them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel. (NKJ)

WHO KEPT THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD?

WHY WERE THEY JOYFUL?

WHO WERE THEY TRYING TO PLEASE?

READ: PROVERBS 16:7

- 7 When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.(NKJ)

