

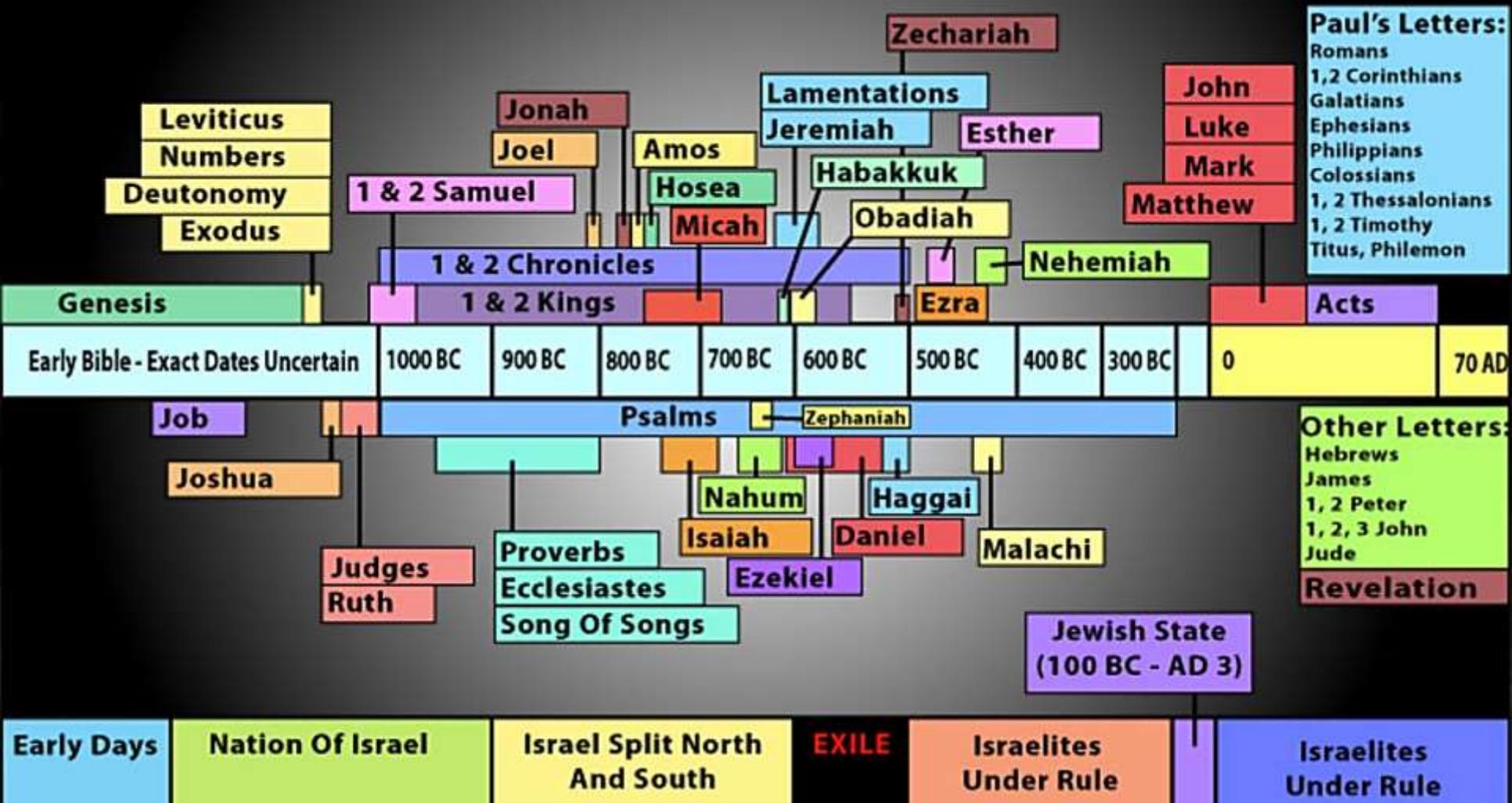


THE BOOK OF

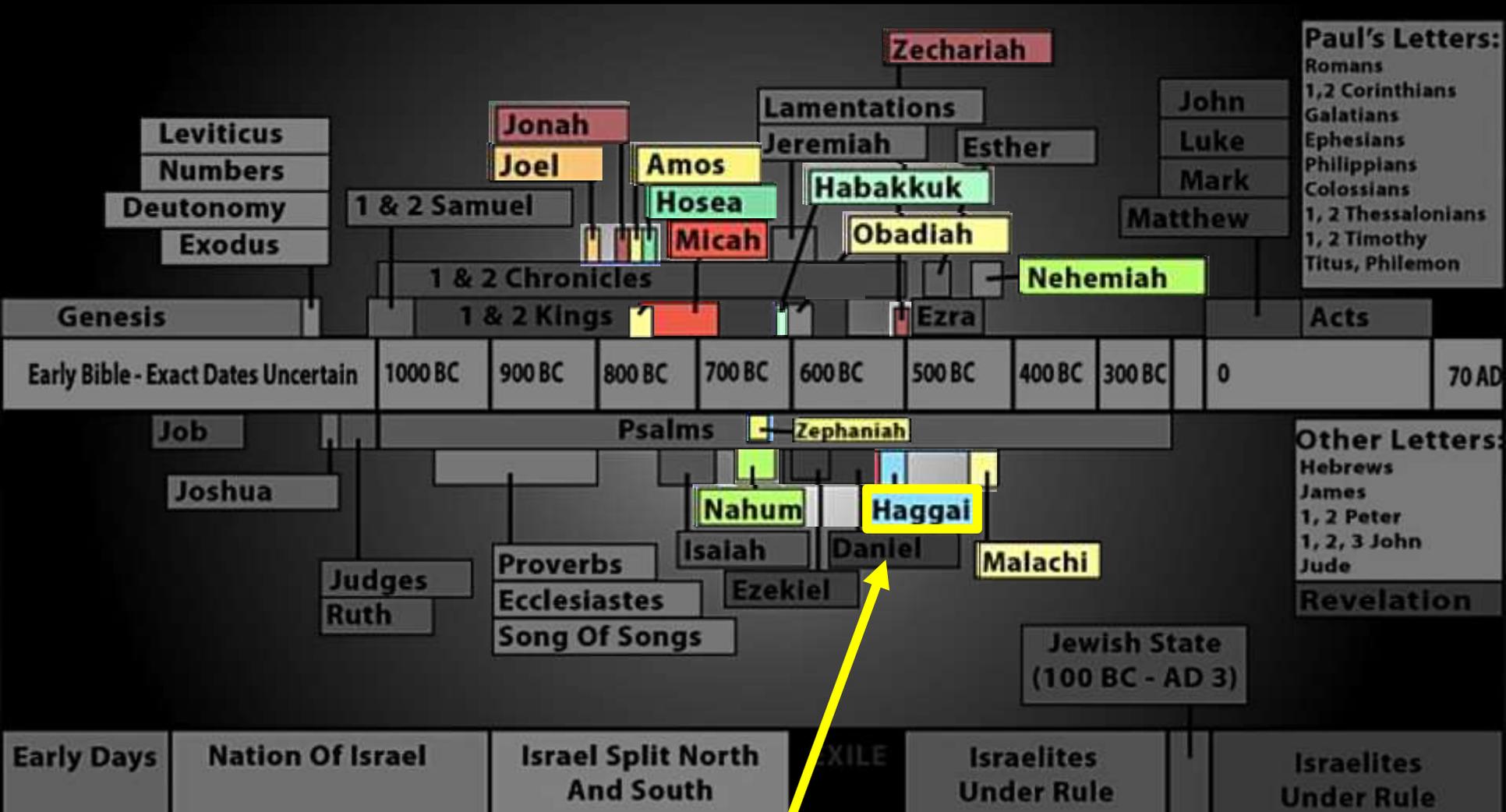
HAGGAI

A verse by verse study

Chronology of the Bible Books



Ministry of the Minor Prophets



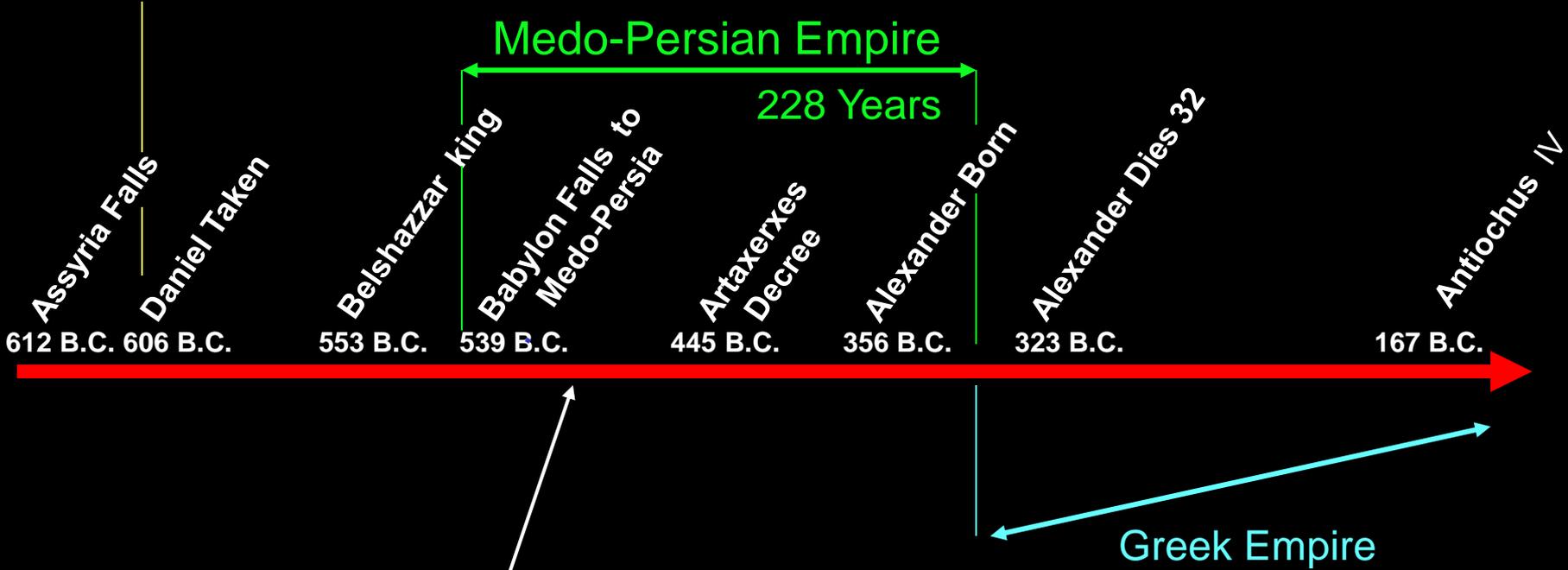
Haggai: c.518 B.C. (19 yrs after the return from Babylon)

Setting The Scene

- Haggai – one of the post-exile prophets
 - Zechariah
 - Malachi
- Name means ‘my festival’
 - short celebration
- Short prophetic career – 4 months
- Profound impact on the Nation
- He comes onto the scene at the right time and in the right place.

History of the Times

Times of the Gentiles Luke 21:24



History



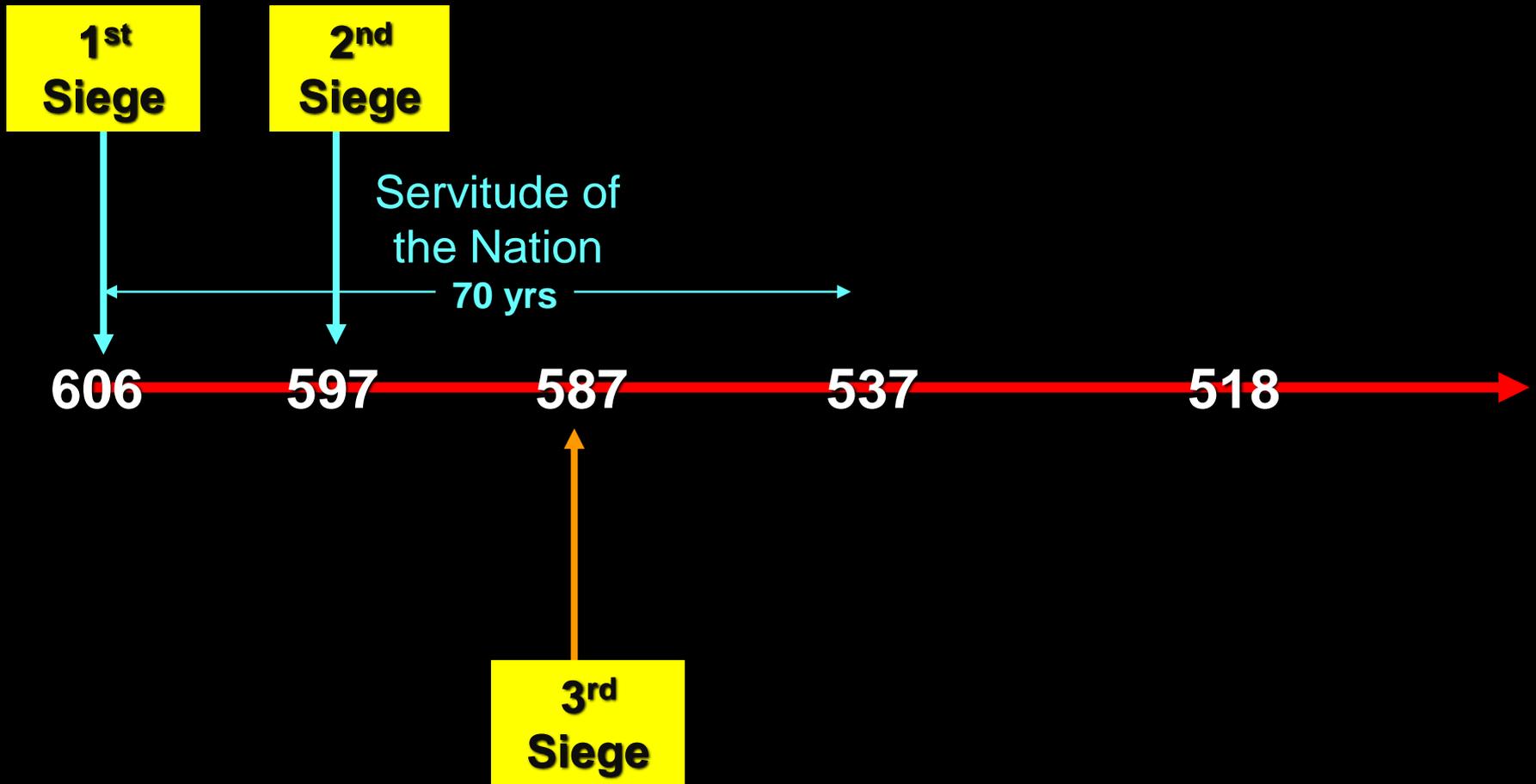
Ezra / Nehemiah / Esther

Prophetic



Haggai / Zechariah / Malachi

The Captivity

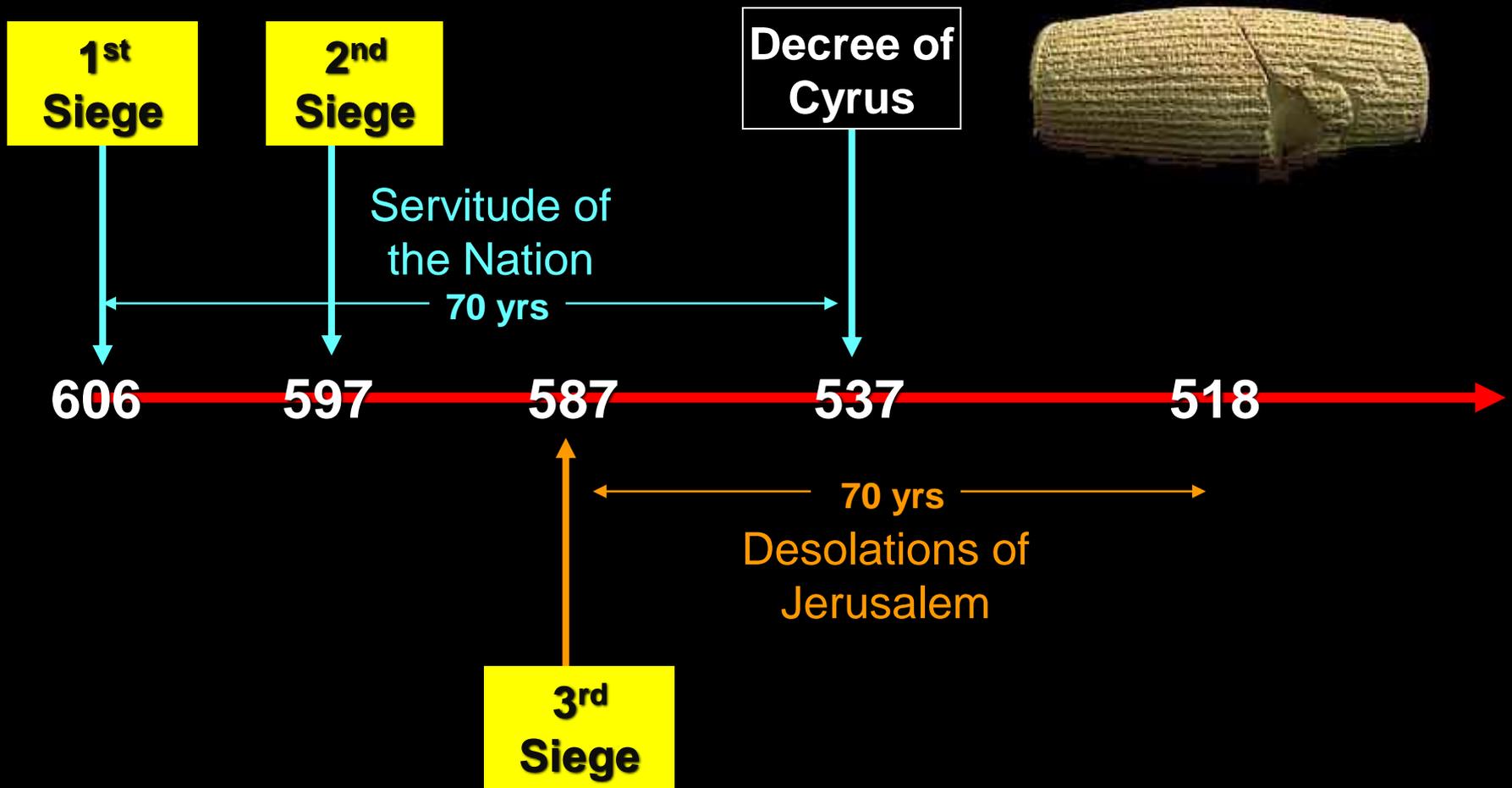


Servitude of the Nation

¹⁰For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

Jeremiah 29:10

The Captivity

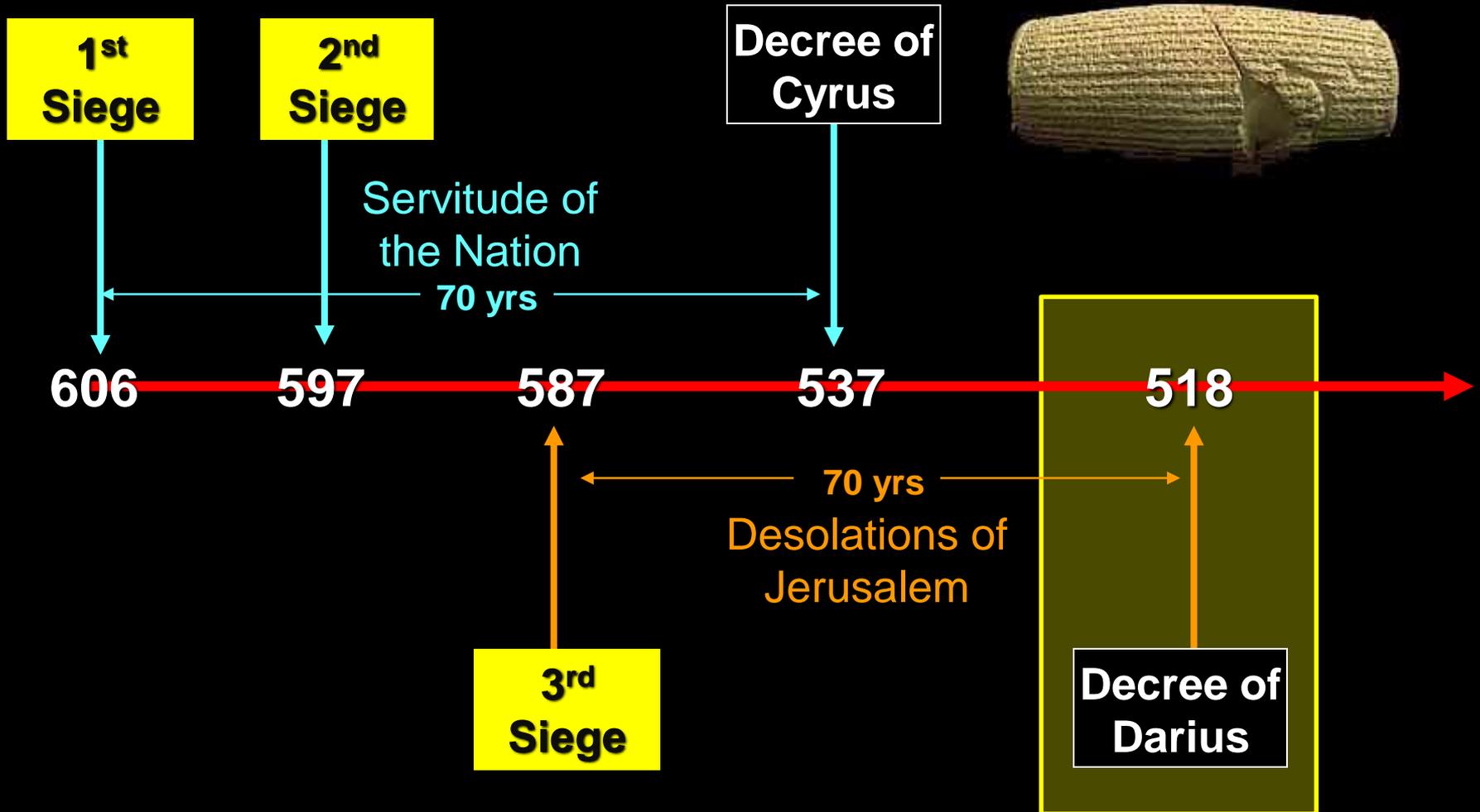


Desolations of Jerusalem

¹¹ And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jeremiah 25:11

The Captivity



Kings of Persian Empire





THE BOOK OF

HAGGAI

Chapter 1

¹ In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying,

Haggai 1:1

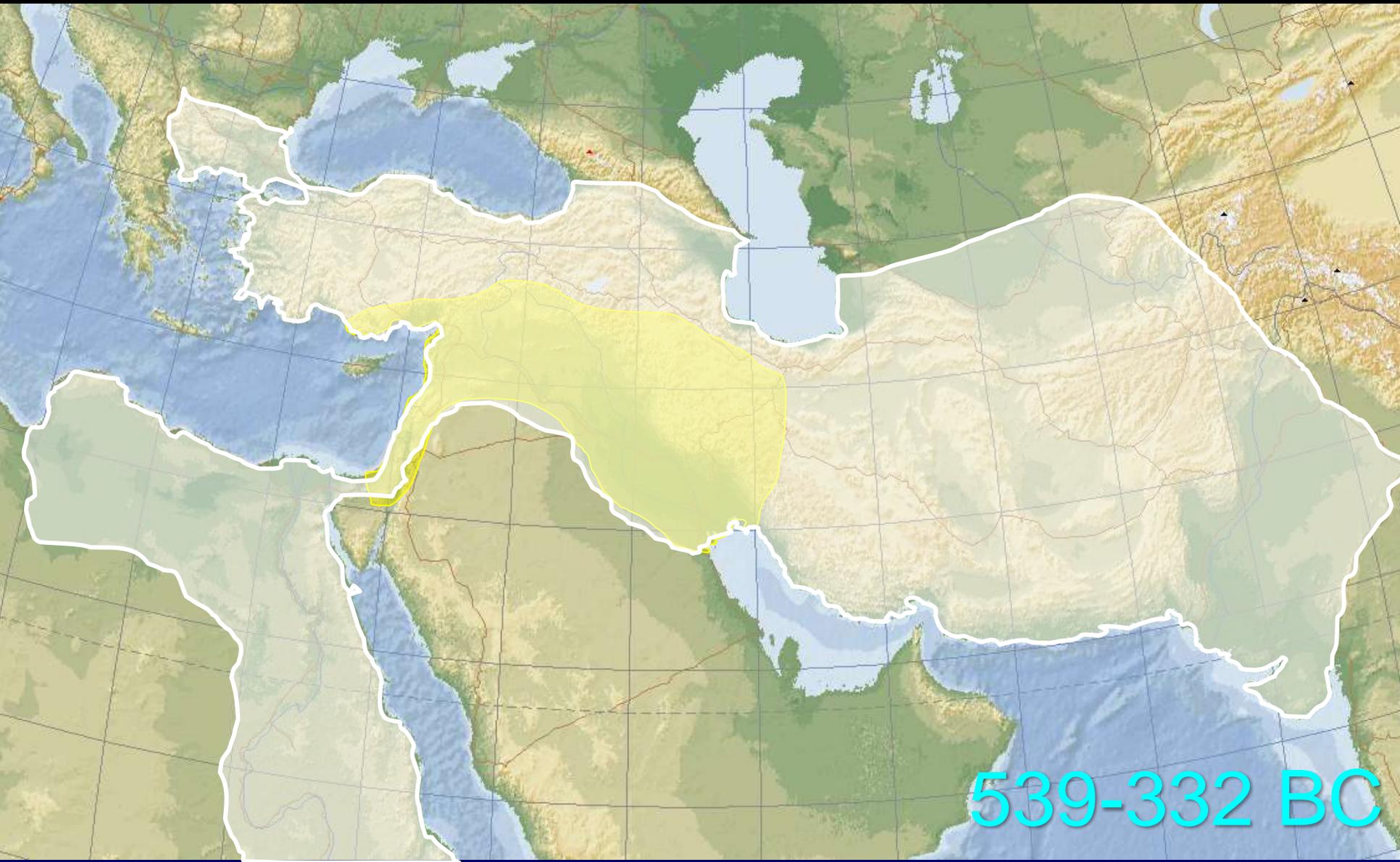
- Dating reckoned from gentile king
- ‘Time of the gentiles’ – Luke 21:24
- Began in 606 B.C. (1st Siege of Jerusalem)

The Babylonian Empire



606-539 BC

The Persian Empire



539-332 BC

Meanwhile... back in Israel

- Cyrus signs decree in 537 B.C.
- Jews return home (c. 50,000)
- Nothing is done regarding the temple c.2yrs

8 Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the LORD.

Meanwhile... back in Israel

- Cyrus signs decree in 537 B.C.
- Jews return home (c. 50,000)
- Nothing is done regarding the temple c.2yrs
– c.535 B.C.
- The next 5 years are 'troublous times'

¹ Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity builded the temple unto the LORD God of Israel;

Ezra 4:1-5

Meanwhile... back in Israel

- Cyrus signs decree in 537 B.C.
- Jews return home (c. 50,000)
- Nothing is done regarding the temple c.2yrs
– c.535 B.C.
- The next 5 years are 'troublous times'

² Then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do; and we do sacrifice unto him since the days of Esar-haddon king of Assur, which brought us up hither.

Meanwhile... back in Israel

- Cyrus signs decree in 537 B.C.
- Jews return home (c. 50,000)
- Nothing is done regarding the temple c.2yrs
– c.535 B.C.
- The next 5 years are 'troublous times'

³ But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us.

Meanwhile... back in Israel

- Cyrus signs decree in 537 B.C.
- Jews return home (c. 50,000)
- Nothing is done regarding the temple c.2yrs
– c.535 B.C.
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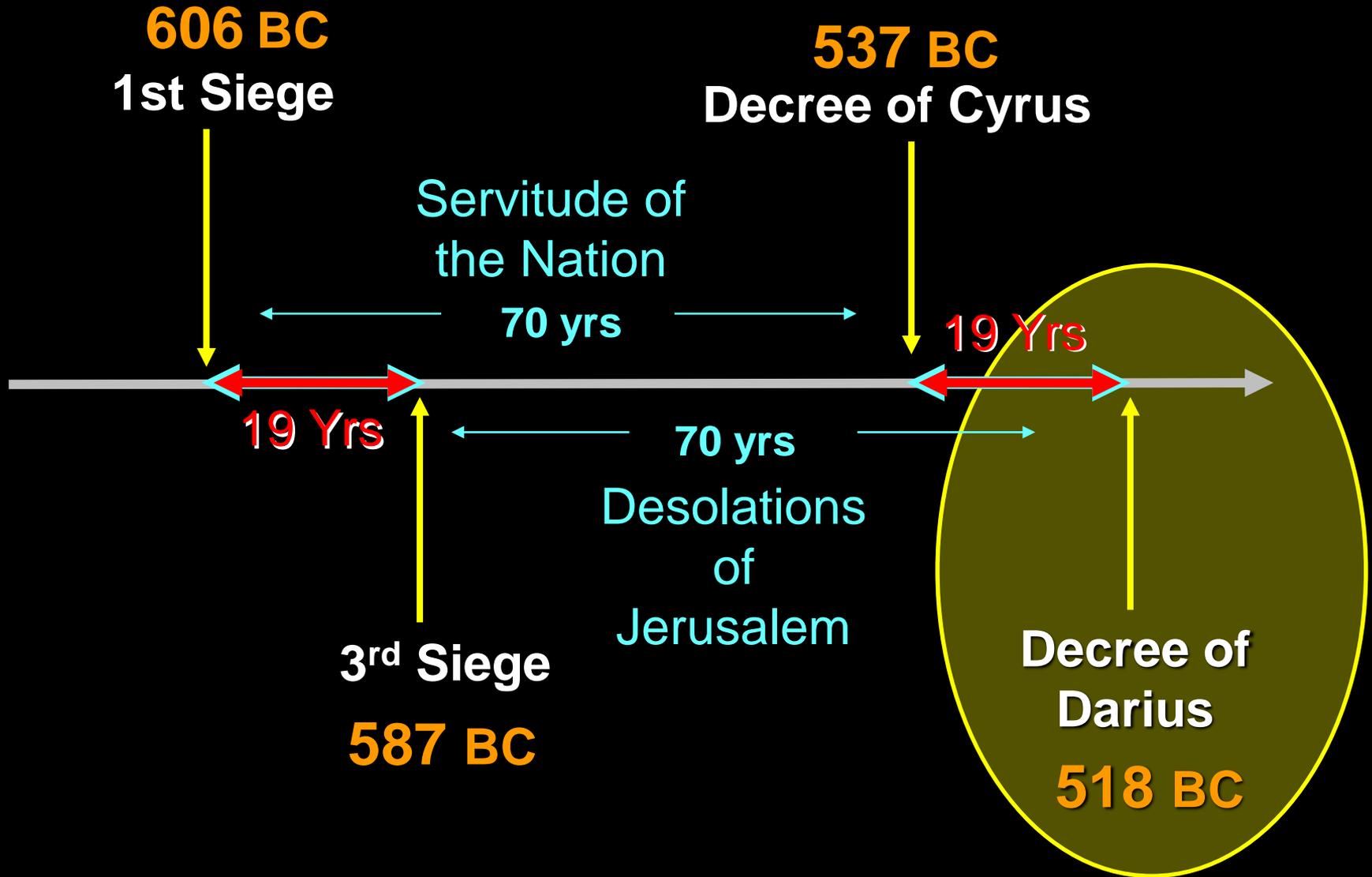
⁴ Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building,

⁵ And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Meanwhile... back in Israel

- Cyrus signs decree in 537 B.C.
- Jews return home (c. 50,000)
- Nothing is done regarding the temple c.2yrs
– c.535 B.C.
- The next 5 years are 'troublous times'
- Cyrus's son Cambyses > king 530 B.C.
- The Samaritans seize the opportunity...
- They petition Cambyses regarding the Jews
- Cambyses calls a halt to the work (Ezra 4:21)
- This lasts for another 12 years – to 518 B.C.
- 19 years from the decree to return home

Precision of Prophecy



¹ In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying,

Haggai 1:1

- Zerubbabel = “sown in Babylon”;
 - Grandson of Jehoiachin (royal line) (1 Chr 3:16-19)
 - Appointed by Cyrus to be governor of Judah.
- Joshua was son of Josedech, (high priest at the time of the Babylonian invasion - 1Chr 6:15).

² Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built.

Haggai 1:2

- They had become victims of discouragement
- They were back in the Land, but had settled for something other than God's best
- The enemy had intimidated them into submission...
- Man's word had prevailed over God's Word

³ Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,

⁴ Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?

⁵ Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

Haggai 1:3-5

- Now God addresses the people:
- ‘Panelled walls’ - wood destined for the temple?
- ‘Set your heart on the way you should go’

⁶ Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

Haggai 1:6

- The consequence of misappropriated resources...
- ...led to unexplained failure!
- This is the result of the best we can bring
- Jesus said we are to seek first...

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Matthew 6:25

Don't Worry

“Take no thought for your life.” “Be careful about one thing only,” says our Lord—“your relationship to Me.” Common sense shouts loud and says—“That is absurd, I must consider how I am going to live, I must consider what I am going to eat and drink.” Jesus says you must not. Beware of allowing the thought that this statement is made by One Who does not understand our particular circumstances. Jesus Christ knows our circumstances better than we do, and He says we must not think about these things so as to make them the one concern of our life. Whenever there is competition, be sure that you put your relationship to God first” - Oswald Chambers,

Don't Worry!

“Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs, and don't forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this, you will experience God's peace”

TLB

Philippians 4:6-7

Don't Worry

19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

- The promises of God!

Don't Worry

“Suppose God is the God you know Him to be when you are nearest to Him, what an impertinence worry is! Let the attitude of the life be a continual “going out” in dependence upon God, and your life will have an ineffable charm about it which is a satisfaction to Jesus”

– Oswald Chambers,
My Utmost for His Highest,

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Matthew 6:26

- 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?
- 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
- 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Matthew 6:27-29

Don't Worry

“A warning which needs to be reiterated is that the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things entering in, will choke all that God puts in. We are never free from the recurring tides of this encroachment. If it does not come on the line of clothes and food, it will come on the line of money or lack of money; of friends or lack of friends; or on the line of difficult circumstances. It is one steady encroachment all the time, and unless we allow the Spirit of God to raise up the standard against it, these things will come in like a flood”

- Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*,

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek;) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

Matthew 6:30-32

Losing The Focus

“If we undertake work for God and get out of touch with Him, the sense of responsibility will be overwhelmingly crushing; but if we roll back on God that which He has put upon us, He takes away the sense of responsibility by bringing in the realisation of Himself”

- Oswald Chambers

The Everlasting Arms

22 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Psalm 55:22

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

- What things?
- All that you need in this life, and the next

⁷ Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

Haggai 1:7

- *“What on earth are you doing for Heaven’s sake”?*
- What are you doing to build the house of the Lord?

Living Stones

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:5

Living Stones

- 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
- 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:
- 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Eph 2:19-22

8 Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

Haggai 1:7-8

- What part do you play?
- Where do you fit in this 'great house'?
- Who are you next to?
- Whom do you support?

Building with Living Stones

Soon after his conversion, Billy Graham's mother set aside a period every day to pray solely for Billy and the calling she believed was his. She continued those prayers, never missing a day, for seven years until Billy was well on his way as a preacher and evangelist. His mother then based her prayers on 2 Timothy 2:15, asking that what he preached would meet with God's approval.

Building with Living Stones

Leroy Eims of The Navigators' staff had a godly friend whose mother prayed one hour each day for him since he was born.

Building with Living Stones

Jeanne Hendricks, wife of Dallas Theological Seminary professor Howard Hendricks, spend a season of intense prayer for one of her children. During his late adolescence, her son went through what Jeanne called a 'blackout' period. He was unenthusiastic, moody, and depressed, communicating only with single-syllable responses. "This was one of the most traumatic times of my life" Jeanne admits.

Building with Living Stones

“He was so far from the Lord and from us. I felt like the devil himself was out to get my child. I prayed as I never had before”... During the half year when this situation continued, she covenanted with God to give up her noon meal. As she fasted each day, she prayed for her son for one hour until God broke through to him.

Building with Living Stones

*Dr. and Mrs. James Dobson fast and pray
for their children one day a week.*

Building with Living Stones

*Harry Ironside, former pastor of Moody Memorial Church in Chicago, had a mother who never ceased to pray for his salvation. Throughout his life Harry would recall the substance of her pleas to God for him:
“Father, save my boy early. Keep him from ever desiring anything else than to live for Thee... O Father, make him willing to be kicked and cuffed, to suffer shame or anything else for Jesus’ sake”*

Building with Living Stones

Chuck Smith tells the story...

“A few months before I was born my sister, for all practical purposes had died. She has stopped breathing, her pulse had stopped, her eyes had rolled back in her head, her jaw had set, and there were no signs of life. My mother, who had just recently accepted Jesus Christ, grabbed my sister and ran to the church, which was only a couple of blocks from where they were living.

Building with Living Stones

There in the parsonage she laid out that limp lifeless body, and the pastor began to pray. He said 'Mrs Smith, get your eyes off your little daughter and get your eyes on Jesus' – hard to do in a situation like that.

She looked up to the Lord and said 'Lord if you will give me my daughter back, I will serve you all of my life; I'll give myself to you; I go into the ministry, I'll do whatever you want me to do, just give me my little daughter back'.

Building with Living Stones

And God touched my sister and healed her instantly.

As a result of the miracle in my sister, my father came to Jesus Christ. So a few months later when I was born my dad went down the hospital hallway saying 'Praise the Lord, it's a boy!' And my mother prayed and said 'Oh God, I will fulfil my vow to You Lord, through this son you have given to me'. And there she dedicated my life unto the Lord.

Building with Living Stones

I did not know about this, I grew up as a normal boy, doing the normal things; interested in athletics and sports. I decided that I wanted to be a doctor, I started taking my pre-med courses. One summer I went to camp and God spoke to my heart and gave me a call to the ministry. I came home and shared it with my mother, I said 'I'm going to transfer over to the theology course' – she just smiled and said 'that's fine son, I think that's good'.

Building with Living Stones

So I went on and finished my courses, and started ministering. I had always been athletic – captain of the football team & baseball team etc. and I really thought I had an awful lot to offer! I was strong, I was athletic, I had lots of ideas, I had all kinds of energy and I was going to go out and turn the world upside down for our Lord! The Lord let me labour and use up all my ideas, and all my energy, all of my talents and abilities and.... Nothing! Absolutely nothing!

Building with Living Stones

I became so discouraged, I was so defeated, passing the prime of my youth, losing a lot of my energy, giving up on most of my ideas. One day – I'd tried just about every program I could think of to get people into church... And I was at a ministers conference... I went back to my hotel room and got down before the Lord... And the Lord spoke to me and gave me this scripture: 'And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved' ... And then the scripture 'not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit says the Lord'

9 Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.

Haggai 1:9

- God wanted their attention!
- Has it been hard recently?
- Have things been unusually difficult?
- Never has the 'house' been more in need of repair than now!

¹⁰ Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit.

¹¹ And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.

Haggai 1:10-11

- Are you listening yet?

¹² Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the LORD.

Haggai 1:12

- Zerubbabel – *Born in Babylon*
- Shealtiel – *I asked of God*
- Yeshua – *Salvation is of the LORD*
- Josedech – *Jehovah-righted;*
- Haggai – *Festival!*

13 Then spake Haggai the LORD's messenger in the LORD's message unto the people, saying,
I am with you, saith the LORD.

Haggai 1:13

- The challenge to step out in faith with Him is so great we need His personal assurance
- For the Jews this meant facing the threat of their enemies head on
- What would happen?
- Without God they could be destroyed!
- God says: 'I am with you'

¹⁴ And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,

¹⁵ In the four and twentieth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

Haggai 1:14-15

- 24 days that changed the Nation!



THE BOOK OF

HAGGAI

To be continued...



calvary
chapel
portsmouth

www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk