

**The Lord ...
Who says of Cyrus ...**

- 24 **Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer**, who formed you from the womb: "I am the Lord, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,
- 25 **who frustrates the signs of liars** and makes fools of diviners, who turns wise men back and makes their knowledge foolish,
- 26 **who confirms the word of his servant and fulfills the counsel of his messengers**, who says of Jerusalem, 'She shall be inhabited,' and of the cities of Judah, 'They shall be built, and I will raise up their ruins';
- 27 **who says to the deep**, 'Be dry; I will dry up your rivers';
- 28 **who says of Cyrus**, 'He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose'; saying **of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'** "

• **(Isaiah 44:24-28 ESV)**

History of Iran / Iran Chamber Society / Cyrus The Great

Cyrus II, Kourosh in Persian, Kouros in Greek

<http://www.iranchamber.com/history/cyrus/cyrus.php>



Artistic portrait of Cyrus the Great Cyrus (580-529 BC) was the first Achaemenid Emperor. He founded Persia by uniting the two original Iranian Tribes- the Medes and the Persians. Although he was known to be a great conqueror, who at one point controlled one of the greatest Empires ever seen, he is best remembered for his unprecedented tolerance and magnanimous attitude towards those he defeated.

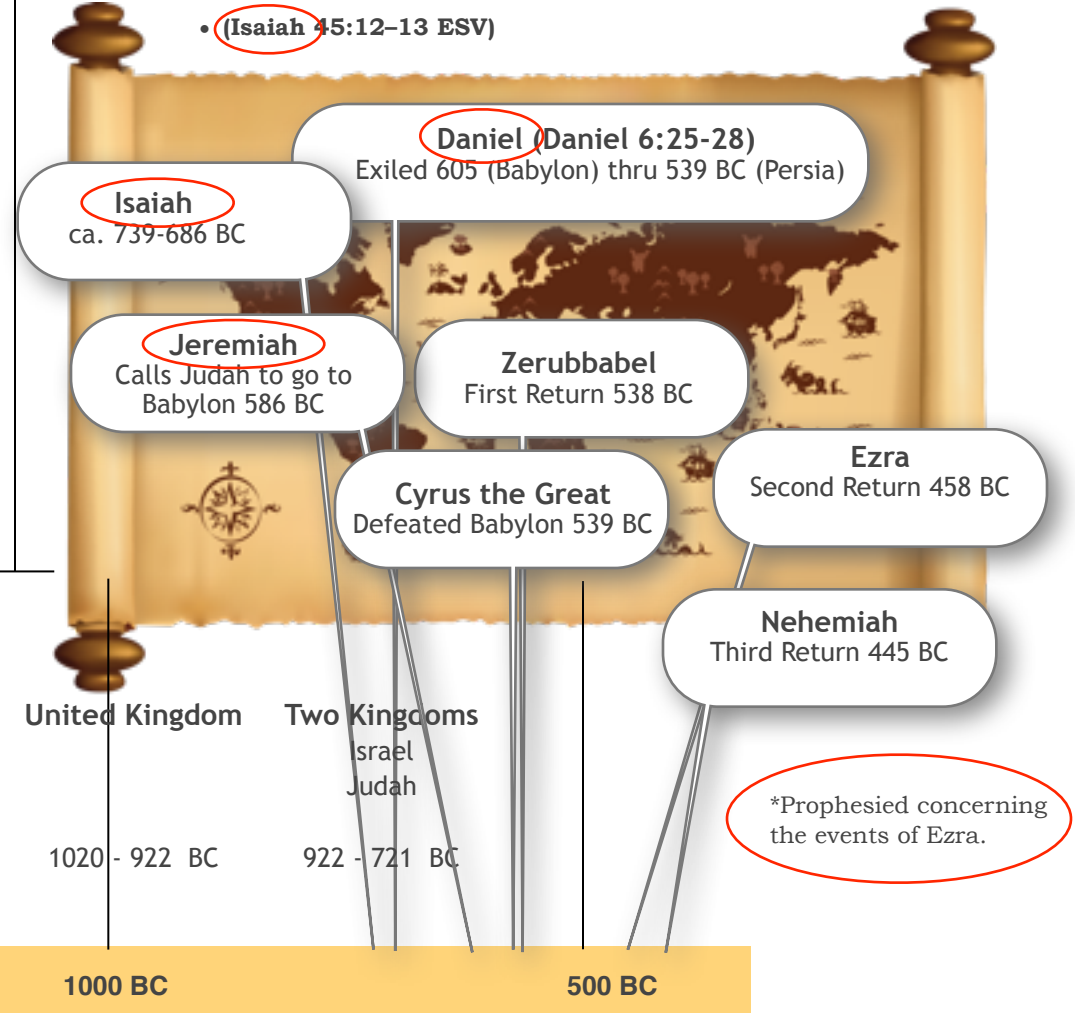
Upon his victory over the Medes, he founded a government for his new kingdom, incorporating both Median and Persian nobles as civilian officials. The conquest of Asia Minor completed, he led his armies to the eastern frontiers.

The victories to the east led him again to the west and sounded the hour for attack on Babylon and Egypt. When he conquered Babylon, he did so to cheers from the Jewish Community, who welcomed him as a liberator- he allowed the Jews to return to the promised Land. He showed great forbearance and respect towards the religious beliefs and cultural traditions of other races. These qualities earned him the respect and homage of all the people over whom he ruled.

Of Cyrus ...

- 12 I made the earth and created man on it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host.
- 13 **I have stirred him up in righteousness**, and I will make all his ways level; he shall build my city and set my exiles free, not for price or reward," says the Lord of hosts.

• **(Isaiah 45:12-13 ESV)**



*Prophesied concerning the events of Ezra.

	Patriarchs Abraham Isaac Jacob 2000 - 1500 BC	Exodus Moses Aaron 1300 BC	Conquest 1200 - 1050 BC	United Kingdom 1020 - 922 BC	Two Kingdoms Israel Judah 922 - 721 BC	
2000 BC	1500 BC	1000 BC	500 BC			

*Please note that some of these dates are approximate.