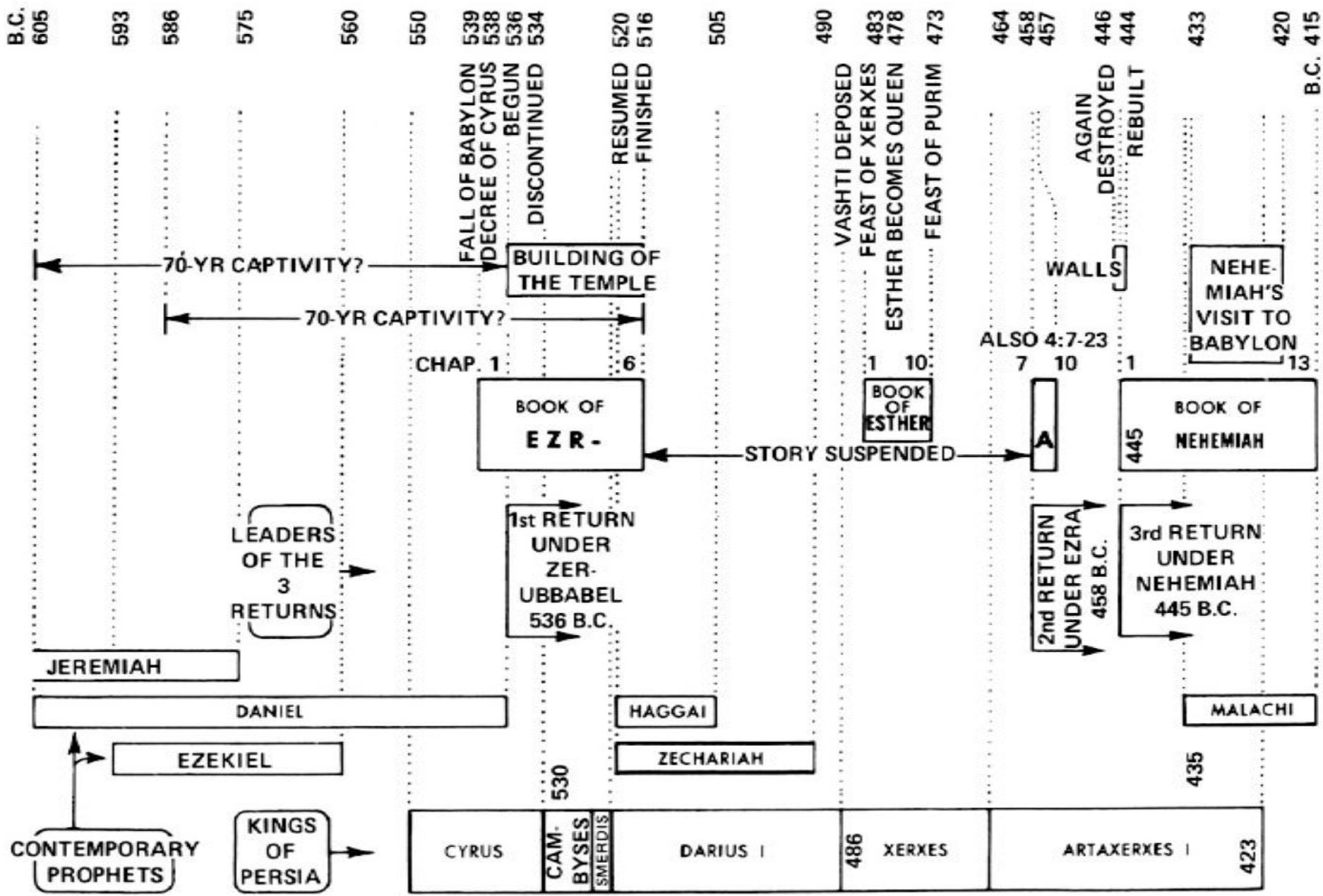


Lesson 10: Rebuilding the Wall

Nehemiah 1-4

- 539 B.C.
 - Zerubbabel (and Joshua)
 - *Temple*
- 457 B.C.
 - Ezra
 - *People*
- 444 B.C.
 - Nehemiah
 - *Wall*



Ezra-Nehemiah

Ezra

- I. [Ezra 1-6]:Restoration under Zerubbabel
- II. [Ezra 7-10]:Reforms under Ezra

Nehemiah

- I. [Nehemiah 1-7]:Building for Physical Security
- II. [Nehemiah 8-13]:Building for Spiritual Security

*-From Jensen's Bible Study Charts.
See pp. 26 and 27 of Sunday School Book*

Exile Eased But Not Ended

- Ezra 9:7-9
- Nehemiah 9:36-37

Why a Wall?

Nehemiah 2:17

*Then I said to them, “You see the bad situation we are in, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates burned by fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem **so that we will no longer be a reproach.**”*

Although the walls and gates would serve a military purpose (cf. Neh 4), the book's concern for separation from pagan influence suggests it also had symbolic significance (cf. 13:19–22). Rather than simply providing security, the walls encouraged in the people of God a sense of identity and distinctiveness. Their restoration also represented a reversal of the humiliation of defeat and destruction suffered because of Israel's sin (cf. 2:3, 17). Like the restored temple, the rebuilt walls would assure the Jews of God's redemptive presence among them. For the Christian, however, the continuing demonstration of God's powerful and loving presence is the cross (Rom 5:5–11).

- Breneman, M. (2001). Vol. 10: Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther (electronic ed.). Logos Library System; The New American Commentary (192). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.