### Rebuilding God's House Restoring God's People

- Historically, the restoration is about rebuilding Jerusalem and the Temple
- Spiritually, it is about reinstituting the Mosaic Law, complete with atoning sacrifices
- Israel ONLY became a set-apart nation at Mt. Sinai
- Torah and Law of Moses became Israel's constitution and rules to live by
- Without Temple and observance of the Law, Israel could not be a nation of God

#### JUDAH WOULD NOT BE SOVEREIGN





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Egyptian Air Force Spiffires Bomb Tel Aviv; One Shot Down

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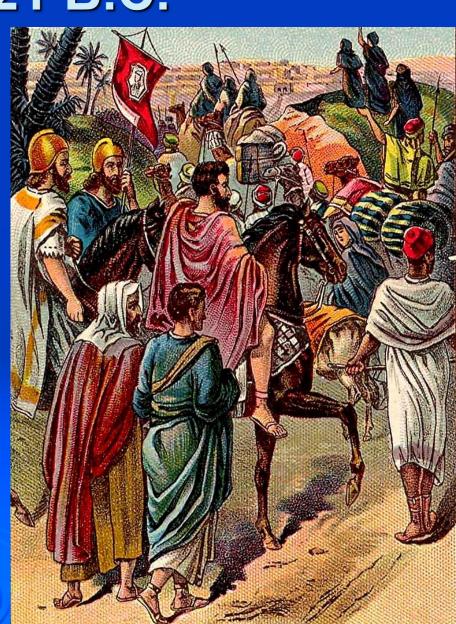
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Cyrus, a gentile, used by God to punish Babylon

- Also to release Jews from their captivity
- Cyrus allowed Jews to go home, rebuild Temple and worship their God, but not to have their own Jewish King
- Not until A.D. 1948 would Israel become a sovereign nation again
- Nations trying to un-do this miracle of God

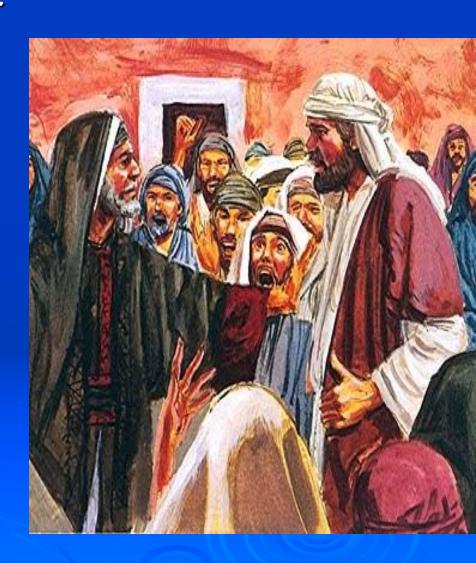
## FIRST WAVE OF RETURNEES: 538 – 521 B.C.

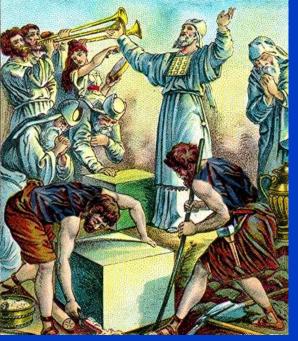
- The list of Ezra 2 probably didn't go back in one large group at the same time
- Same list is found in Neh. 7 and in Esdras
- Sum total of about 50,000
- Means about 95% of all Jews did NOT go back to Judah
- Some returned for spiritual reasons, others to reclaim land holdings

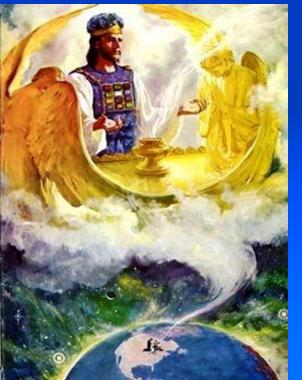


#### SHESHBAZZAR AND ZERUBBABEL

- Zerubbabel and Sheshbazzar are two different, but related, people
- 1Chronicles 3 Shenazzar is Zerubbabel's uncle
- > Shenazzar = Sheshbazzar
- Sheshbazzar is a "prince" of Judah (nasi), which can only mean the dynasty of David
- 3 reasons for variations in Biblical names and places
- 1) Same name in different languages
- 2) Place names change over time
- 3) Words can be pronounced differently

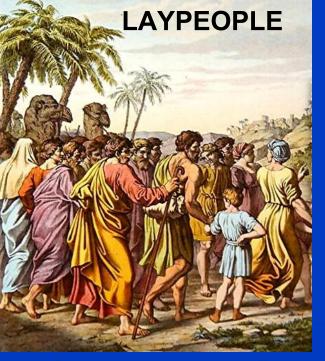


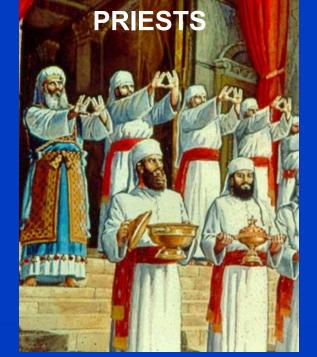


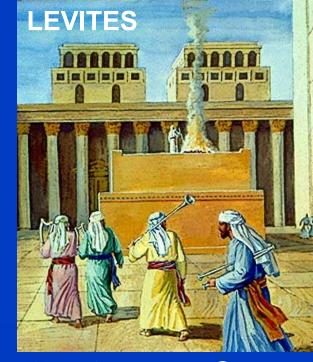


### YESHUA HIGH PRIEST OF THE RESTORATION

- Not Jesus of Nazareth
- Yeshua, Yahshua, Yehoshua and Joshua all the same name
- Seraiah High Priest killed by Nebuchadnezzar
- Seraiah = grandfather of Yeshua
- Yeshua the High Priest of the restoration of Judah's return from Babylonian Exile
- Messiah Yeshua the High Priest of the restoration for the Millennium







- > 1st category: Laypeople
- > 2<sup>nd</sup> category: Priests
- > 3<sup>rd</sup> category: Levites
- > 4th category: Singers
- > 5<sup>th</sup> category: Gatekeepers
- > 6th category: Temple servants
- > 7th category: Shlomo's servants

Starts at verse 3

Starts at verse 36

Starts at verse 40

Starts at verse 41

Starts at verse 42

Starts at verse 45

Starts at verse 55

#### WHY THE MENTION OF "ISRAEL"?

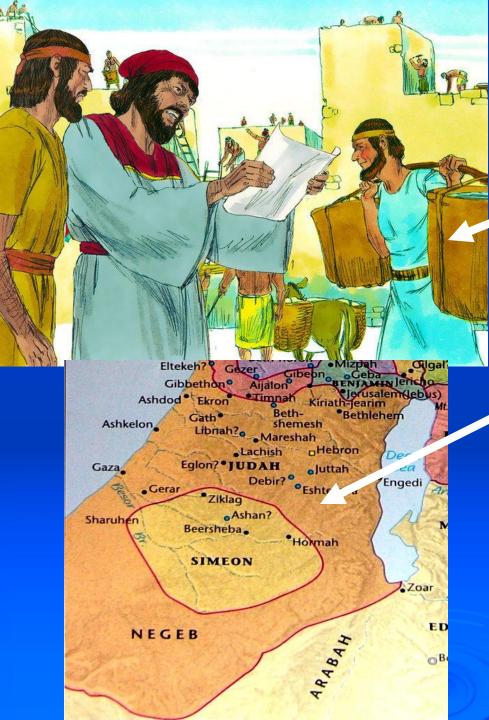
- 722 B.C. 10 northern tribes of Israel were exiled by Assyrians
- They were absorbed by the gentile world of Asia
- Torah says Israel was divided into 2 groups: laypeople and the Levites
- Jews began to think of themselves as the surviving remnant of Israel
- Ezra 8 In order to dedicate the new Temple 12 priests sacrificed 12 bulls to represent "all Israel" (all 12 tribes)
- Tradition today says that Jews are all 12 tribes....this is fiction





- There will be a time when Ephraim/Israel joins together with Judah
- Jews of Babylonian exile thought their return was a fulfillment of Ezekiel 37
- But....they only paid attention to the first 22 verses and not the final 7
- Modern Jews have continued this 2500 year Tradition of being "all Israel"
- Ezekiel 37 is being fulfilled today, in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and we are eyewitnesses!!





# DECIPHERING THE LISTS

Verses 3 – 20 are clan or family names who returned

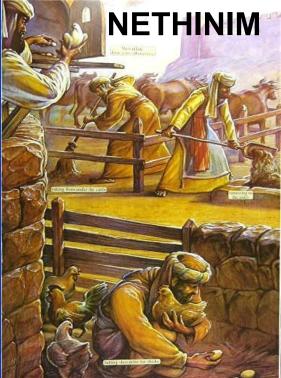
Verses 21 – 35 are the names of cities and towns in Judah where folks are returning to claim land holdings

Names can NOT be classified into Judah names and Ephraim-Israel names









- Only 4 Priestly family names
- Comes from 1Chonicles 24
- Levites.....Singers & Gatekeepers... A small number
- Temple workers = Nethinim Lowest class, probably a mix of Levites, Gibeonites, and foreigners