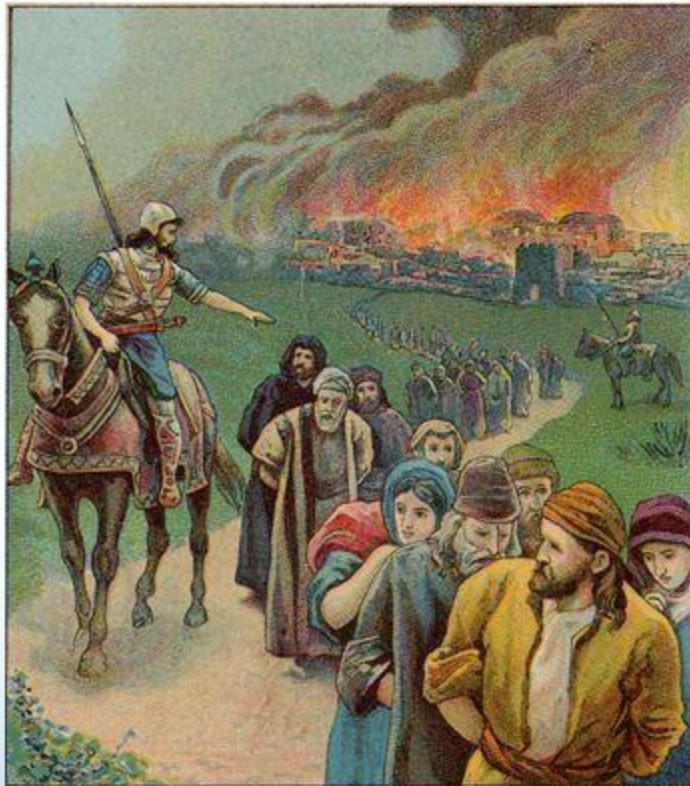
An aerial, black and white photograph of Jerusalem, showing the Temple Mount and the Dome of the Rock. The image is dark and serves as a background for the text.

**THE BOOK OF
EZRA**

Babylonian Exile



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THE CAPTIVITY OF JUDAH
2 Chron. 36 : 11-21.

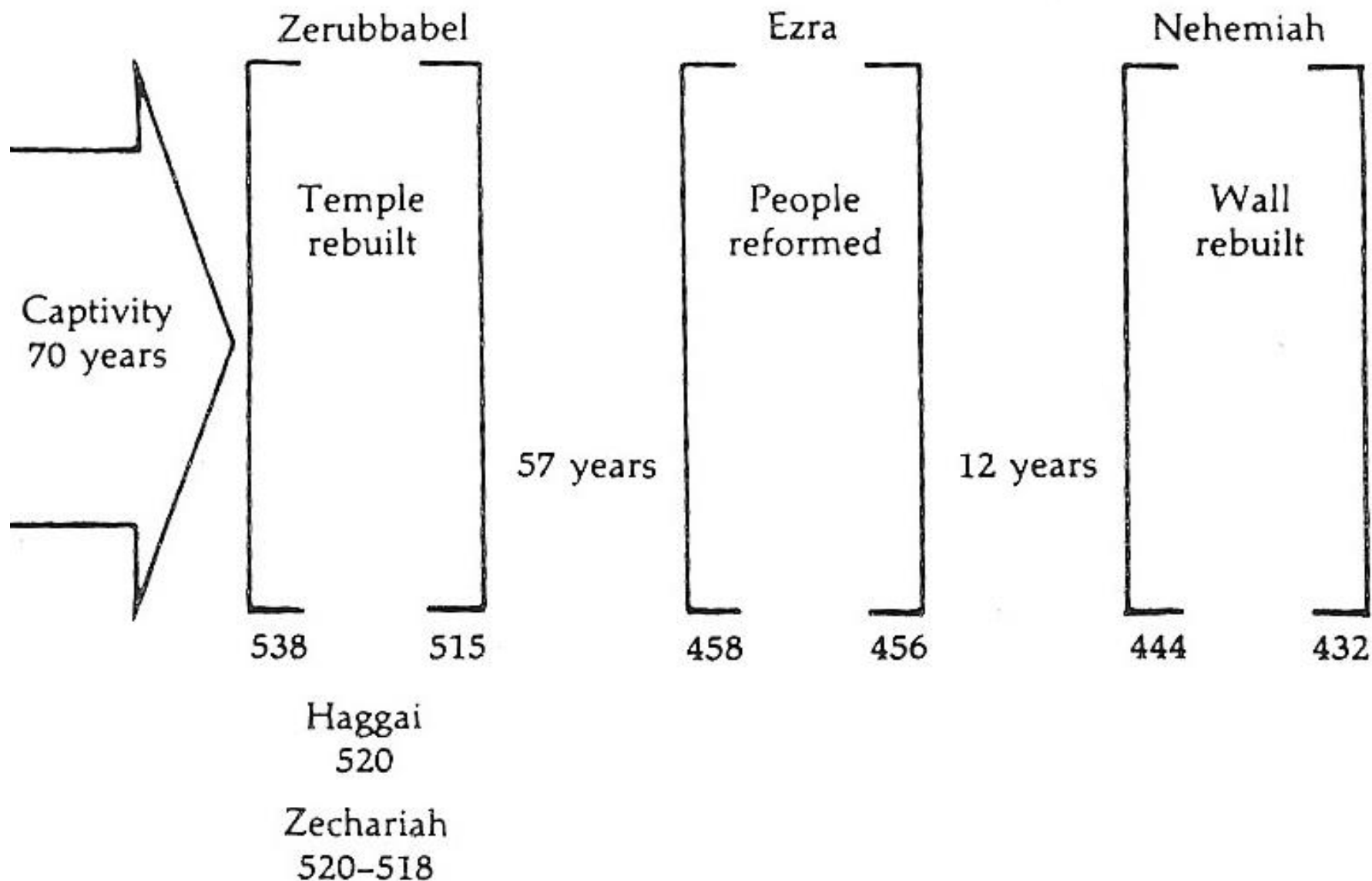
2 Kings 25:8-21; 2 Chronicles 36:17-21

- The Babylonians killed the young men.
- Took all the articles from the house of God, the treasures of the king and of his leaders.
- Burned the house of God, all the king's palaces, all houses in Jerusalem.
- Broke down the wall of Jerusalem.
- Carried the people to Babylon to serve the king of Babylon.

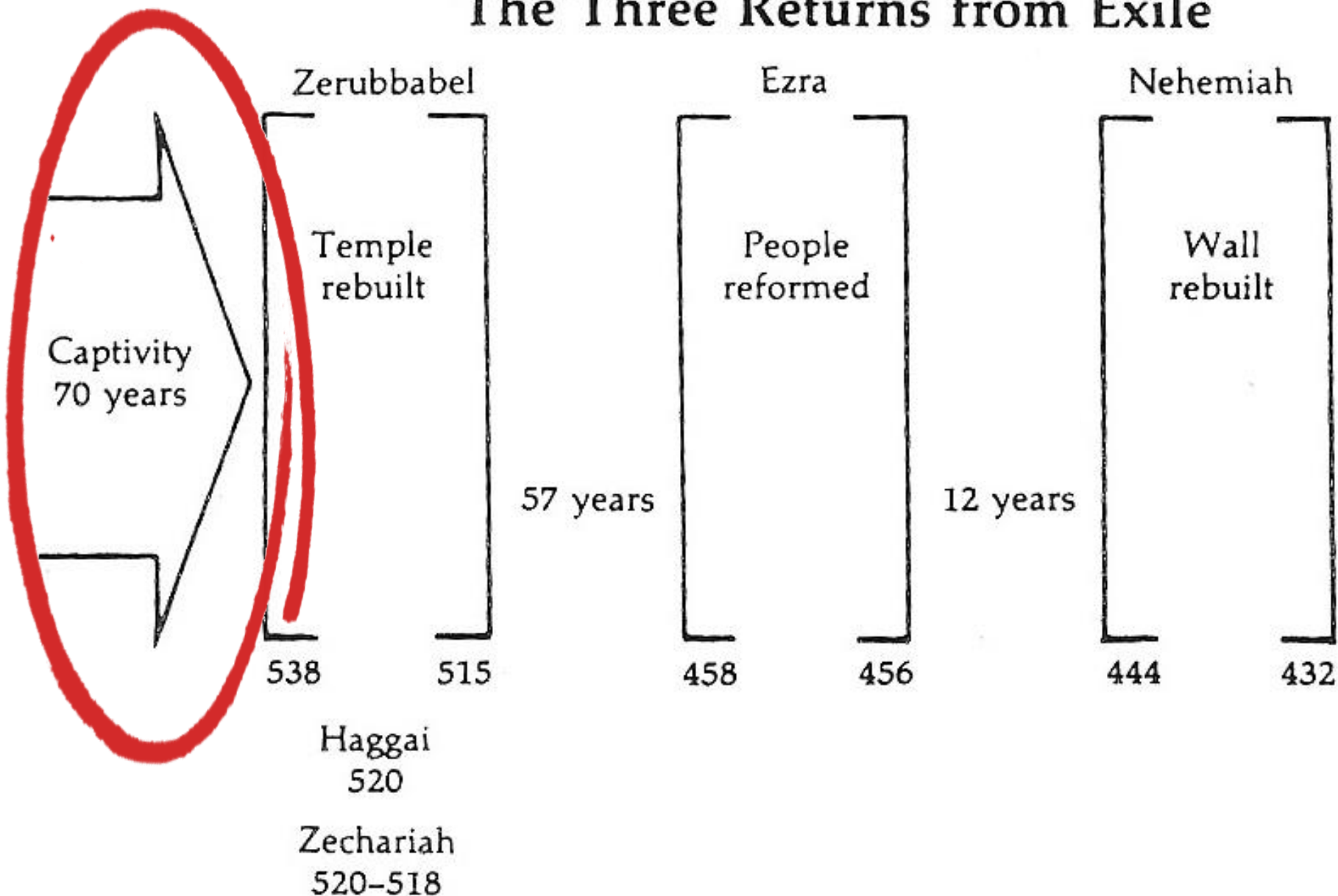
Babylonian Captivity

| Date | Deportation | Captives Taken |
|---------------------------|-------------|---|
| 605 (first year)* | First | Nobles, Daniel (2 K. 24:1; Dan. 1:1-2) |
| 597 (seventh year)* | Second | Jehoiachin, Ezekiel (2 K. 24:12; Jer. 52:28; Ezk. 1:1-2) |
| 586 (nineteenth year)* | Third | Jerusalem (2 K. 25:8; Jer. 52:29) |

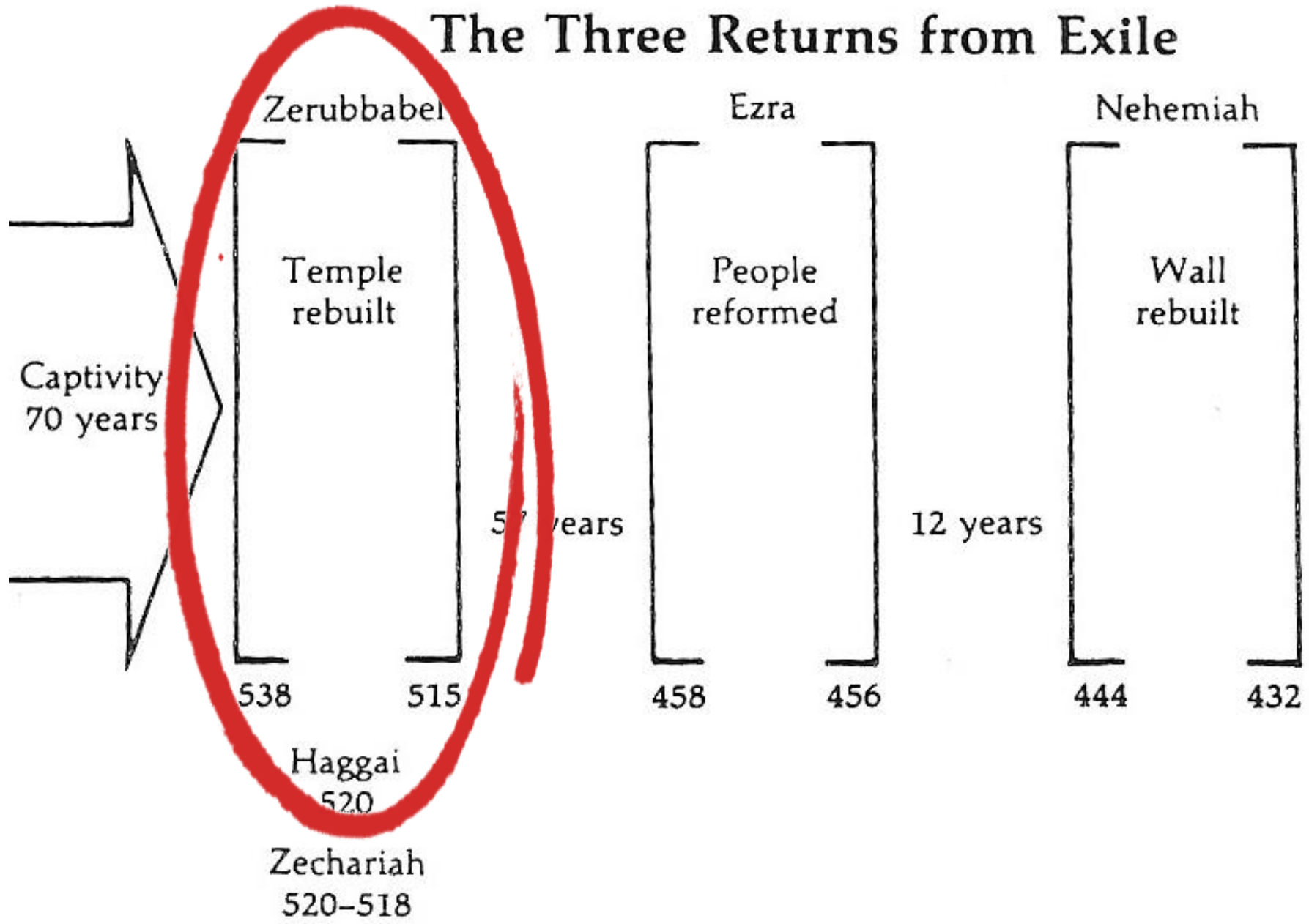
The Three Returns from Exile



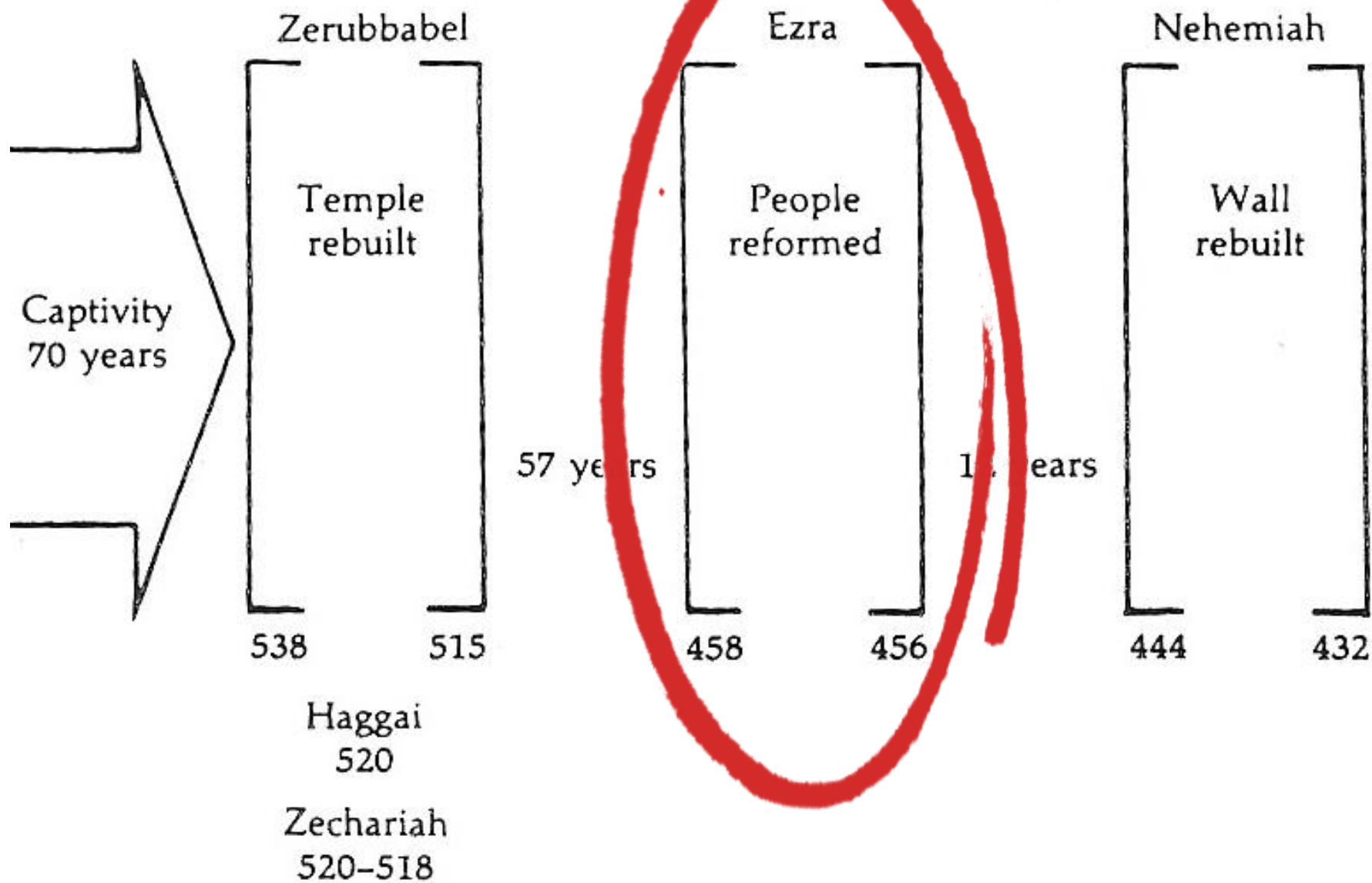
The Three Returns from Exile



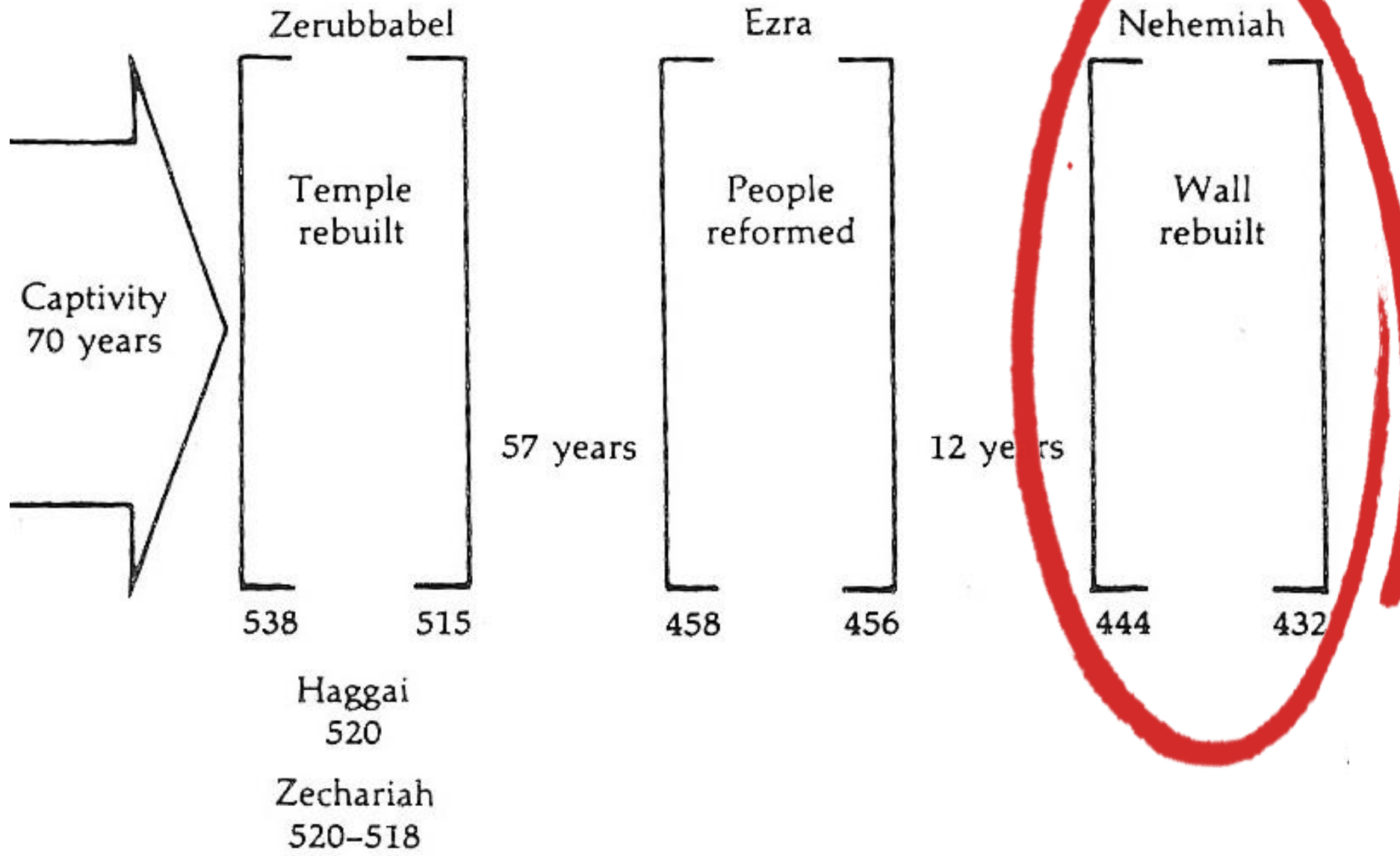
The Three Returns from Exile



The Three Returns from Exile



The Three Returns from Exile





YHWH

the God of Israel,
there is no God

like You
in heaven, or on earth;

YOU WHO ^{KEEP} _{COVENANT}

Showing kindness
with Your servants

who walk *before You* with all their heart.

2 CHRONICLES 6:14

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Old Testament

New Testament

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts

Gospels

History

Job
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Nehemiah
Ezra
Esther

1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians

History

Letters of Paul to Churches

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Song of Songs
Ecclesiastes
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

Philemon
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus

Wisdom

Major Prophets

Letters of Paul to Individuals

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Micah
Jonah
Amos
Obadiah
Joel
Hosea

1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
James
Hebrews
Revelation

Minor Prophets

General Letters

Apocalyptic



CHRONOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIP OF EZRA-NEHEMIAH-ESTHER

| | | | | |
|---|----------------|--|-------------------|---|
| 538-515BC | 483-473BC | 457BC | 13 Year Gap | 444-425BC |
| Ezra 1-6 | Book of Esther | Ezra 7-10 | | Book of Nehemiah |
| First Return of Jews from Babylonian Exile | 58 Year Gap | Second Return of Jews from Babylonian Exile | | Third Return of Jews from Babylonian Exile |

Ezra Contents

1. Jews return from Babylon
2. Rebuilding temple & Jerusalem
3. Restoration of Jews national life in homeland

Books written in post exilic period

Emphasize temple, worship, promise,
Hesed, to return, the land

1 Chron

2 Chron

Ezra

Nehemiah

Haggai

Zachariah

Malachi

Comparison

2 Chronicles 36:22-23

- ²² In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:
- ²³ “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:
- “The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the LORD their God be with them.”

Ezra(1:1-3)

- ¹ In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing: ² “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:
- “The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. ³ Any of his people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem, and may their God be with them.

Persian Kings

539-331 (200 yrs)

Cyrus 539-530

Cambyses 530-522

Darius 522-486

Xerxes (Ahasuerus) 486-465

Artaxerxes 465-425

Isaiah tells of Cyrus the Great

The author of the second part of the book of Isaiah referred to Cyrus the Great, the conquering hero and architect of the Persian Empire, as a Messiah.



“This is what the LORD says to his anointed (meshiach: messiah) Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armour, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:”

The Book of Isaiah 45:1
New International Version

Chap 1



Chap 2



Chap 3



Chap 4

Ezra 4 - Opposition

- “The enemies of Judah” were the Samaritans.
- The Samaritans were pagans who copied the worship of the Jews.
- They saw God as simply a local “god” of the land who required sacrifices. They did not know or have the Law of Moses.
- They wanted to share in the rebuilding of the Temple. The Jewish leaders refused because they knew nothing of the Law and the true God of heaven and earth.



Chap 5

Ezra 5: The Call of God

- “Now the prophets, Haggai and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the Name of the God of Israel Who was over them. Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak arose and began to rebuild the house of God that is in Jerusalem, and the prophets of God were with them, supporting them.” (Ezra 5:1–2, ESV)

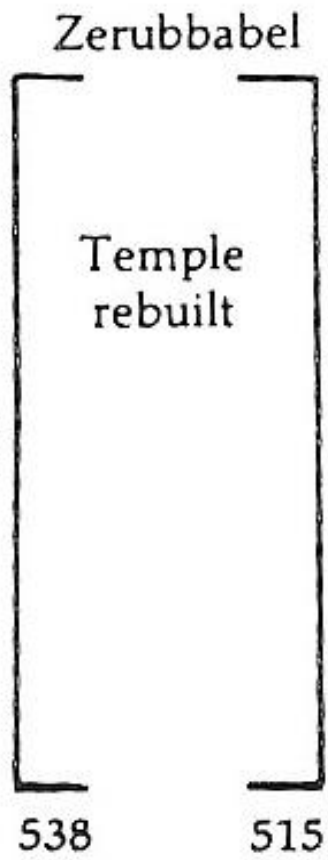


Chap 6



Chap 7-10

The Three Returns from Exile



Haggai
520
Zechariah
520-518

