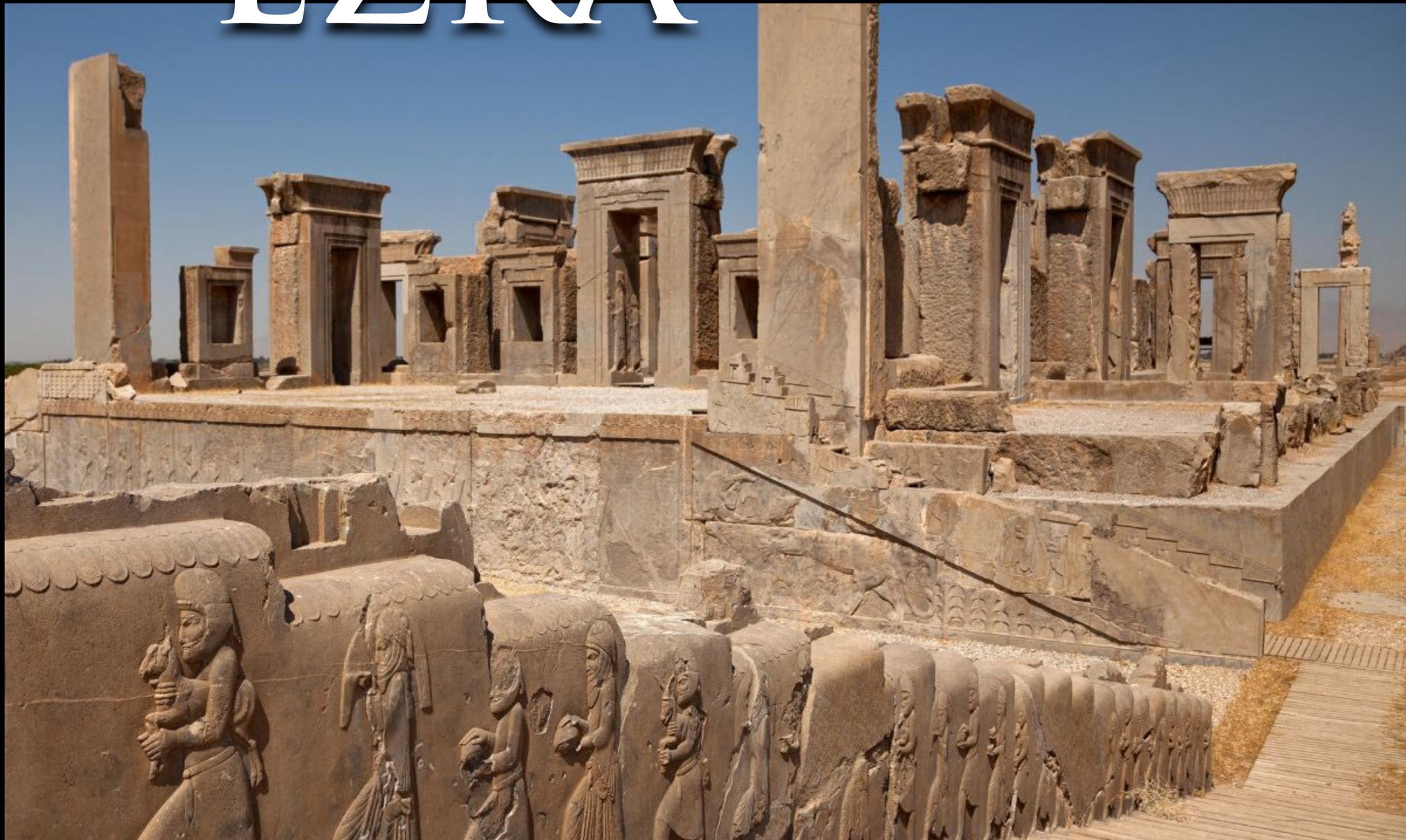
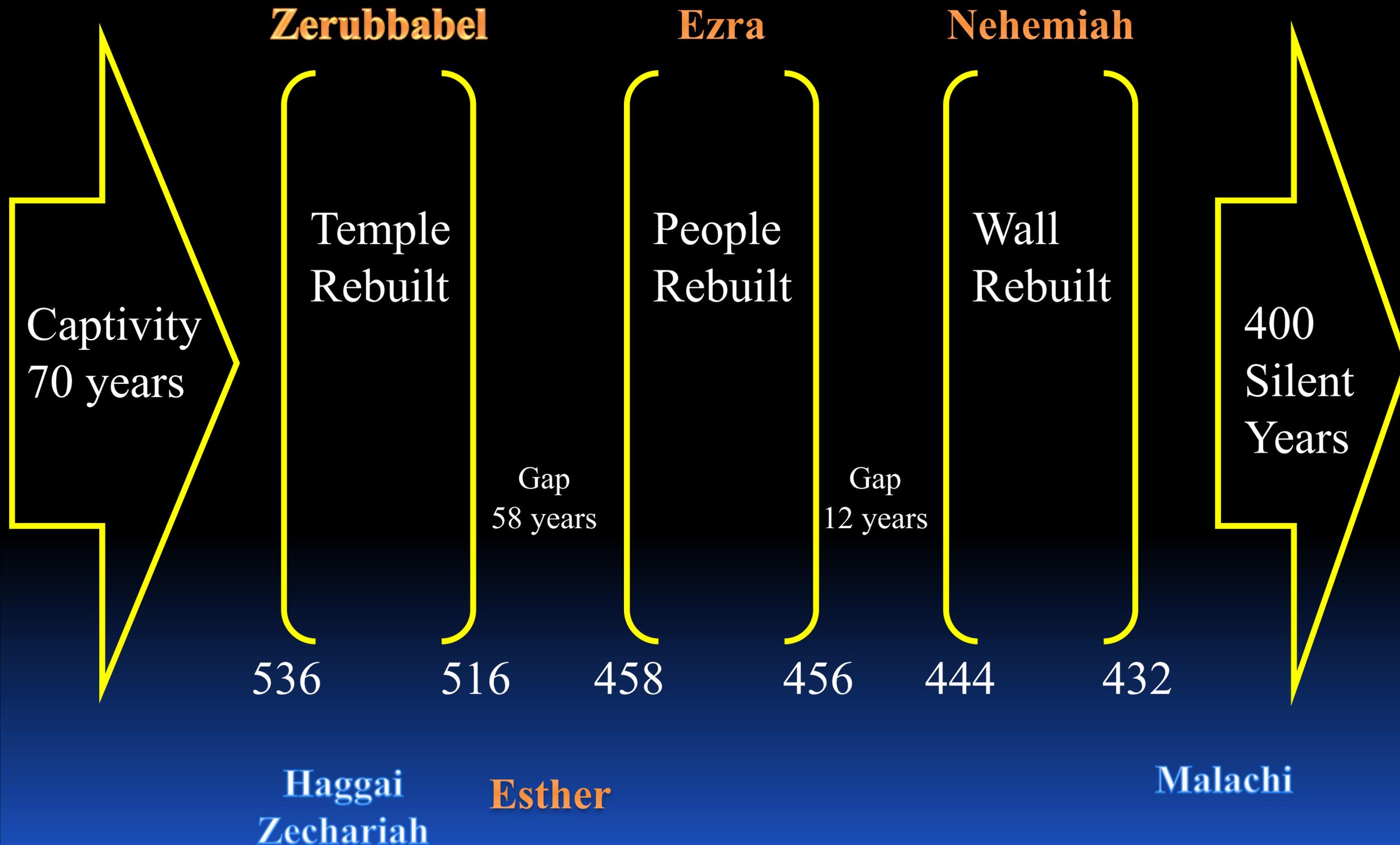


EZRA



The Three Returns from Exile



70 YEARS ACCOMPLISHED

Daniel 9:2

in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the Lord through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.



EUPHRATES DIVERTED

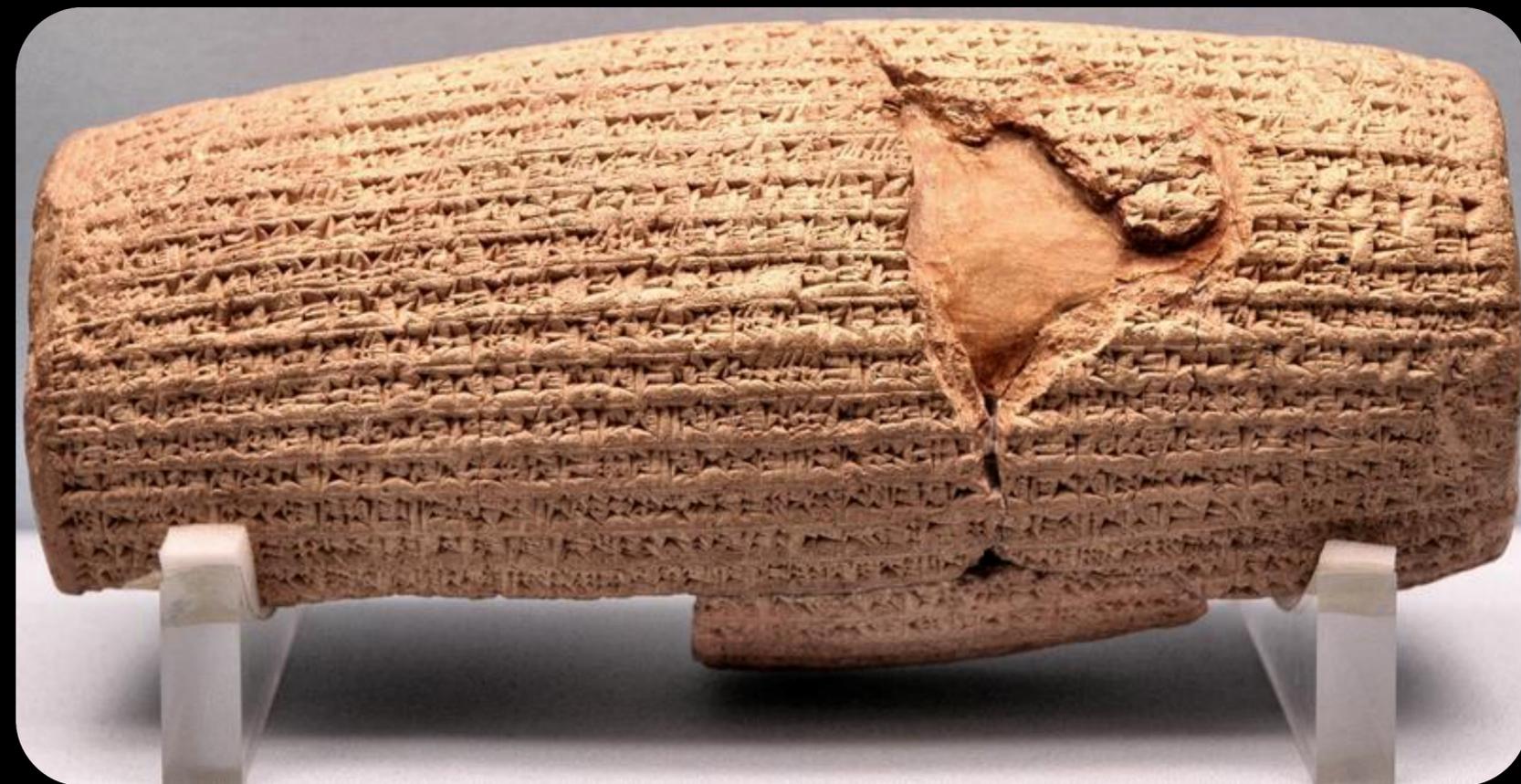
October 12, 539 BC, Cyrus' general captured Babylon without a battle.

The Persians diverted the River Euphrates into a canal upriver so that the water level dropped "to the height of the middle of a man's thigh," which thus rendered the flood defenses useless and enabled the invaders to march through the riverbed to enter by night. *Herodotus*



CYRUS CYLINDER

"...without any battle, he entered the town, sparing any calamity; ... I returned to sacred cities on the other side of the Tigris, the sanctuaries of which have been ruins for a long time... and established for them permanent sanctuaries. I also gathered all their former inhabitants and returned to them their habitations."



DANIEL TO CYRUS

When Cyrus made his grand entrance, Daniel presented him with an ancient scroll of Isaiah, which contained a personal letter addressing him by name.

Josephus, Antiquities, XI, 1, 2



Isaiah 44:24-28

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: “I am the Lord, who makes all things...Who says to Jerusalem, ‘You shall be inhabited,’ To the cities of Judah, ‘You shall be built,’ And I will raise up her waste places; Who says to the deep, ‘Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers’; Who says of Cyrus, ‘He Is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, “You shall be built,” And to the temple, “Your foundation shall be laid.” ’

Isaiah 45:1-2

**“Thus says the Lord to His anointed, To Cyrus,
whose right hand I have held— To subdue
nations before him And loose the armor of kings,
To open before him the double doors, So that the
gates will not be shut:**

**‘I will go before you And make the crooked
places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of
bronze And cut the bars of iron.**

Isaiah 45:3-5

I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the Lord, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel.

For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.

I am the Lord, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me,

Isaiah 45:13

I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward,” Says the Lord of hosts.

Haggai 2:2-3

“Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying:

‘Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?’



Haggai 2:9

‘The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the Lord of hosts.”



Zechariah 4:6

So he answered and said to me: “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the Lord of hosts.