

הַיּוֹם בַּאֲשֶׁר קוֹמַם יֵשׁוּעַ
הַמָּשִׁיחַ מִן־הַמָּוֶת



**The Resurrection Day
Of Messiah Yeshua**

When It Happened

According To The Original
Texts

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Preview is on next two Pages
(laid out in book order)

The traditional order, with Ezra first, makes Ezra a total failure, despite total legal authority to fix the problem, and Nehemiah's measures seem legally impotent by comparison. Ezra had all the legal authority needed to clear up the problem, quite a bit more than Nehemiah had. Yet, according to the traditionalists, he did not solve it, and according to the traditionalists, after the problem had not been solved, the new administration of Nehemiah was even more lenient, and Ezra's authority seems to be nowhere in sight, leaving Nehemiah to deal with the problem. Such a scenario does not make any sense, and it implies that both men were inept, the first overbearing, and the second unable to maintain the status quo.

We may reconstruct things as follows. At the beginning of Xerxes' rule (486 B.C.), the local enemies of Judea wrote an accusation against them, but Xerxes did not listen to it (Ezra 4:6). Then in the 12th year of Xerxes, the Prime Minister Haman plotted to exterminate the Jews from the Persian Empire, from "all the provinces of your kingdom" (Esther 3:8). Haman wrote to "the governors who were over each province, and to the princes of each people" (Esther 3:12). Judea was not exempt.

After Haman's plot was defeated, Mordecai became prime minister of Persia in Xerxes' 12th year (474-473 B.C.) While he was in office, he issued decrees in the king's name allowing the Jews in all 127 provinces, "from India to Ethiopia," which included Judea, to defend themselves. This resulted in an attitude change toward the Jews, "for the dread of them had fallen on all the peoples" (Esther 9:2), and:

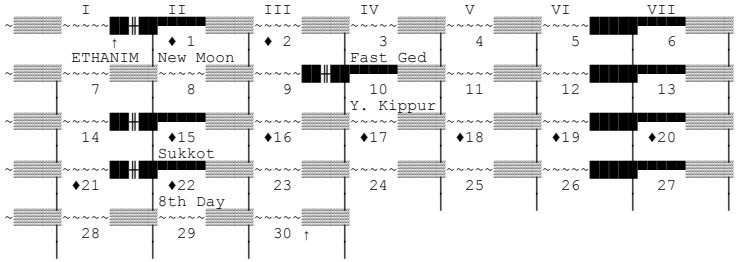
For Mordecai the Jew was second only to King Ahasuerus and great among the Jews, and in favor with the multitude of his kinsmen, one who sought the good of his people and one who spoke for the welfare of his whole nation (Esther 10:3).

It would seem then that the rebuilding of Jerusalem commenced soon after the 12th year of Xerxes in 473 B.C., and that it prospered under the hand of the High Priest Joiakim till Xerxes 21st year (465 B.C.), and continued into the reign of Artaxerxes I until the complaint in Ezra 4:7-23, which we may place in the summer of 446 B.C. The

city would have been in rebuilding for 28 years. However, there was no legitimate decree for this work. It was simply unopposed because of the legacy of Mordecai and Esther until 446 B.C. However, the people were secularized during this time. The Torah was not read at the beginning of the Sabbatical years. The tithes and offerings were neglected, and the Temple operated as sort of a national symbol, yet the people were well compromised. Ezra entered into his priestly service shortly before 446 B.C. as a professional scribe and student of Torah. While his countrymen thought they could be accepted as Jews and Persian citizens, and pay lip service to Yahweh's Torah, Ezra knew better. So when the work was stopped, and the wall broken down by the enemies, he realized it was because the people were neglecting the Temple and their faithfulness to the God of Israel.

Now the Persian king has stated to those who brought the complaint "until a decree is made by me" (Ezra 4:21). But they went in haste to Jerusalem and broke down as much of the wall as was completed and burned the gates with fire. They went too far, and did not realize that the Jews had much support in the Persian court. So the king granted Nehemiah a decree with which to rebuild the walls. Ezra realized that the Jews' secularism had been chastised by Yahweh in allowing the enemies to do what they did, so under Nehemiah's administration he resolved to take the opportunity to teach the Torah to the people.

Beginning Year 7 of the Sabbatical Cycle, Year 21 of the Jubilee Cycle
 Month: VII ETHANIM, 445 BC 3696 A.M. Sab. Cyc: 7. Jub. Cyc: 21 Cycle No: 75
 Q1: 0.380 A Q2: -0.741 F LG: 46m W: 1.115' AL: 22.6 AV: 9.4
 New Moon calculated for longitude: 35.17 and latitude 31.77
 Location of calculations: Jerusalem
 Designed and Programmed By Daniel Gregg, Ezra reads the Torah ♦



So Ezra under Nehemiah took the unprecedented step to read the Torah in Nehemiah 8 after Nehemiah's work made it safe to do so again, without fear of attack from the enemies (who just before

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