

EZRA

430 B.C.

1 & 2 Chronicles

Construction

Leader Zerubbabel the prince

Cyrus' Decree to Return

538 BC

Cyrus decrees to sends Zerubbabel

1-2

Altar Rebuilt and Temple Foundation Laid

536 BC

Political Opposition Halts Work

535 BC

Temple Completion

520-516 BC

70 years

Book of Esther

(God is not Silent)

Xerxes Ahasueres 486-464

ca. 60 years

Artaxerxes Commissions Ezra Preparation, Journey, and Arrival

458 BC

7-8

Ahasueres I 464-423

Ezra Repents, Prays, and Calls for Separation

9-10

MEDO-PERSIAN KINGS:

559-530

Cyrus

530-522

Cambyses

521-486

Darius

521-486

First Return

49,897 Men and families

Restoration of Temple

“Don’t stay in Babylon”

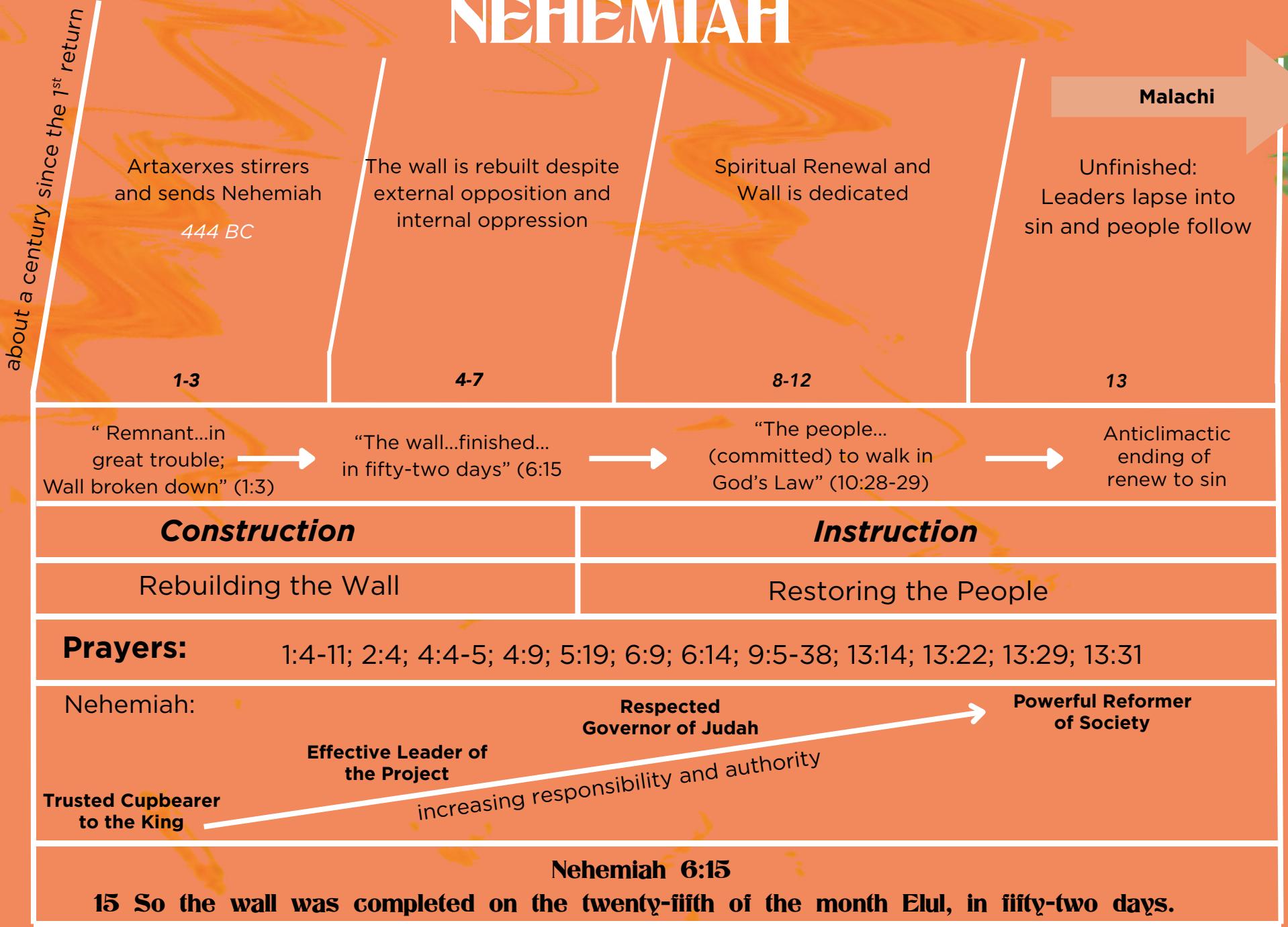
“Don’t be deterred from doing God’s will.”

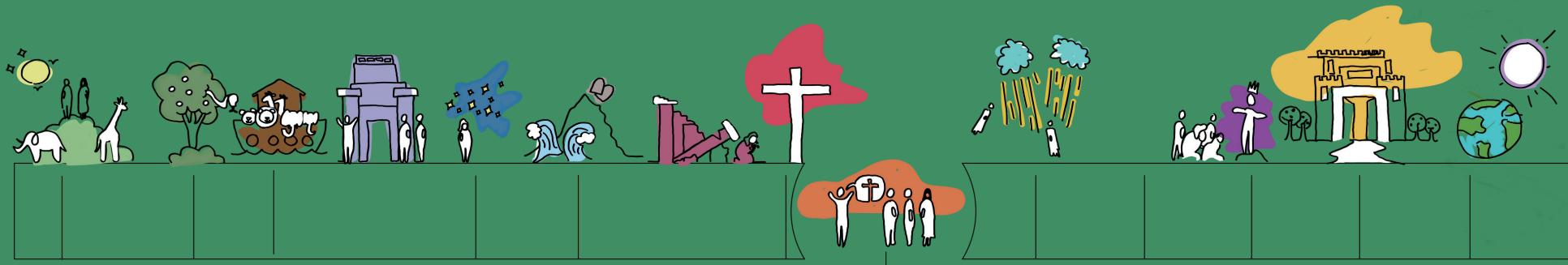
“Don’t settle for half-done.”

“Don’t repeat past mistakes.”

“This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years...For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.” (Jeremiah 25:11, 29:10)

THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH





Innocence

Conscience

Government

Promise

Law

Grace

Church

Rapture

Tribulation

Second Coming

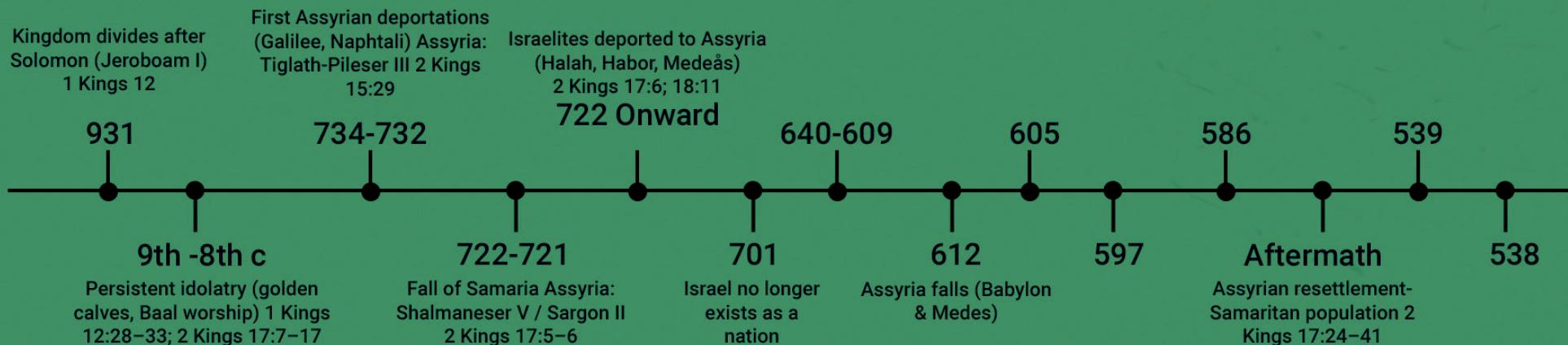
Millennial Kingdom

Eternal State

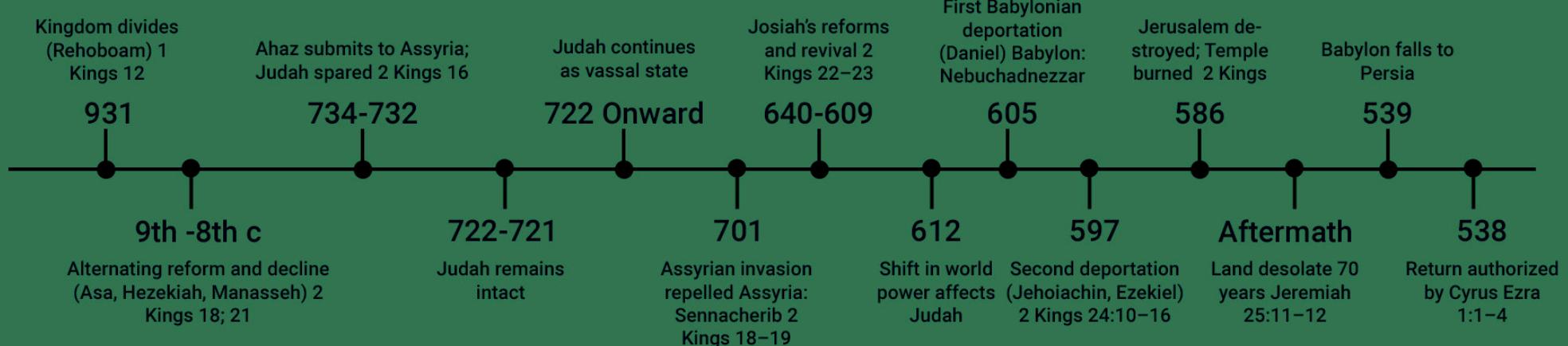
Group	Who They Were	Primary Responsibilities
Priests	Descendants of Aaron	Offer sacrifices, pronounce blessings, teach the Law
Levites	Tribe of Levi (non-Aaronic)	Assist priests, teach the Law, care for Temple furnishings
Singers	Levites from the sons of Asaph	Lead musical worship and praise
Gatekeepers	Levitical families assigned to the gates	Guard Temple entrances, regulate access, protect holiness
Temple Servants	Likely descendants of the Gibeonites (Josh 9)	Manual and logistical labor (wood, water, support)
Sons of Solomon's Servants	Descendants of royal laborers (1 Kgs 9:20-21)	Skilled and support labor

Group	Number	% of Total Returnees (42,360)
Priests	4,289	10.13%
Levites	74	0.17%
Singers	128	0.30%
Gatekeepers	139	0.33%
Temple Servants (including Solomon's)	392	0.93%
Total Temple Workers	5,022	11.85% (1 out of every 8)

Israel – Northern Kingdom



Judah – Southern Kingdom



Ezra 1-3 → 538 BC (Temple begins)

Ezra 4:1-5 → 538-520 BC (Opposition)

Ezra 4:6-23 → 486-423 BC (Flash-forward)

Ezra 4:24 → 520 BC (Back to temple story)

Ezra 5-6 → Temple completed, 516 BC

Cyrus II: 559-530

Cambyses II: 529-522

Darius I: 522-486

Xerxes I: 485-465 (Ahasuerus of Esther)

Artaxerxes I: 464-424