

SOME RELEVANT DATES (BC/BCE)

597 Fall of Jerusalem

BABYLONIAN EXILE

Ezekiel, King Zedekiah and many others deported to Babylon

Daniel presented as living in Babylon

593 Ezekiel 'called' to be a prophet

[Read Ezekiel chapters 34-37 inc. which, although not clearly stated as such, are about national restoration.]

587 Jerusalem Temple destroyed

539 Cyrus defeats Babylonian Empire

538/37 Zerubbabel and others return to Israel

520 Haggai to rebuild Temple

516 Temple re-built

458 Ezra and others return

445 Nehemiah and others return

440 Nehemiah completes walls of Jerusalem

4 centuries:

Not much evidence of national revival or renewal

During this time there was a growing belief in a Messiah who would come to achieve a national revival (and rid the people of Roman occupiers).

164 approx. Book of Daniel written