

Key Events Relative to Daniel's Prophecies of the 70 Literal Years of Desolation and 70 Symbolic Weeks to Messiah

70 years desolation of the land (not captivity). Zedekiah & Jews taken to Babylon. Jeremiah 32:2-5

606BC
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At Belshazzar's feast, Daniel interprets MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. Cyrus enters city, slays Belshazzar and destroys Babylon. Daniel 5

King Cyrus' reign begins — his decree allows Jews to return to Jerusalem and to rebuild the Temple. Zerubbabel, a Judahite, and 42,360 return. Two years later, by Zerubbabel, the temple foundations were laid. Ezra 1:1-7; 3:8-13

↖ cir. 539BC ↗
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Darius the Great's 36 year reign begins. Ezra 4:24

523BC
↓

Esther marries Xerxes [Hebrew: Ahasuerus] and becomes Queen. Haman's plot to exterminate Jews averted. Esther 2:9; 8:7

Ezra's commission in the 7th year of Artaxerxes to restore vessels to Temple. Ezra 7:7, 19-24

483BC
↓

467BC
↓

Ezk. 4:6 "day for a year."
70 weeks = 490 days
← . . . 490 days = 490 years . . . →

← 70 Years desolation of the land to fulfill its Sabbaths of rest. →

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The head of gold — Babylon — becomes the First Universal Empire to dominate Israel under the reign Nebuchadnezzar and his successors. Daniel 2:31-33; 2 Chronicles 36:21

↖ . . . Daniel . . . ↗

↑

prospered in the reigns of Nebuchadnezzar, Darius the Mede, and Cyrus the Persian. Daniel 1:21; 6:28

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The chest & arms of silver — Medo/Persia — becomes the Second Universal Empire to dominate Israel under the reigns of Darius the Mede & Cyrus. Ezra 4:24; 6:15

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521BC After being delayed by Israel's enemies, restoration of the temple begins again in 2nd to 6th years of King Darius the Great.

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487BC Xerxes begins 12 year reign.

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473BC Artaxerxes begins 49 year reign.

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454BC Nehemiah's commission in the 20th year of Artaxerxes to rebuild the walls in troublous times. Daniel's 70 weeks prophecy begins. Neh. 2:1-4, 23; 6:1-16

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Persia → maintains dominion for 200 years until the Greeks — the belly of brass — through Alexander the Great. Greece becomes the Third Universal Empire.

