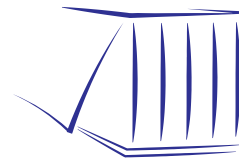


There Were Three Decrees to Restore and Rebuild Jerusalem



MESSIAH'S
MANSION

First Decree:

In 2 Chronicles 36:22-23 and Ezra 1:1-2, Cyrus makes a decree that the temple in Jerusalem should be rebuilt.

Second Decree:

In Ezra 6:1-8, Darius repeats the decree made by Cyrus because troublemakers around the Israelites wanted the construction to be stopped so they appealed to the king. He looked through the royal records and found the decree.



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Third Decree:

In Ezra 7, Artaxerxes makes a decree concerning the city of Jerusalem allowing them to have autonomous rule. This was at the same time the Nehemiah was rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

The 3rd decree took place in 457 B.C. in the seventh year of Artaxerxes. Ezra calculated Artaxerxes' reign using the Jewish calendar which would have been reckoned from fall-to-fall.

Artaxerxes seventh year would have begun in the fall of 458 B.C. and ended in the fall of 457 B.C. It's not uncommon for the Jews to use the fall-to-fall reckoning. Nehemiah used it in Nehemiah 1:1 and Nehemiah 2:1. The Jewish month Nisan comes before the Jewish month Chisleu, but in Nehemiah the book starts in the Chisleu in the twentieth year, and the time progresses to the month Nisan in the twentieth year (not Nisan in the twenty-first year).