

CALVARY CHAPEL MAIDSTONE

SPIRIT LED

WORD BASED

The Book Of Zechariah

ZECHARIAH 7:1-7

Christmas Message

STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK

Prophetic Visions

Zechariah 1-6

Eight visions

Messianic and Millennial

Prophetic Message

Zechariah 7-8

In response to a question

Present conduct

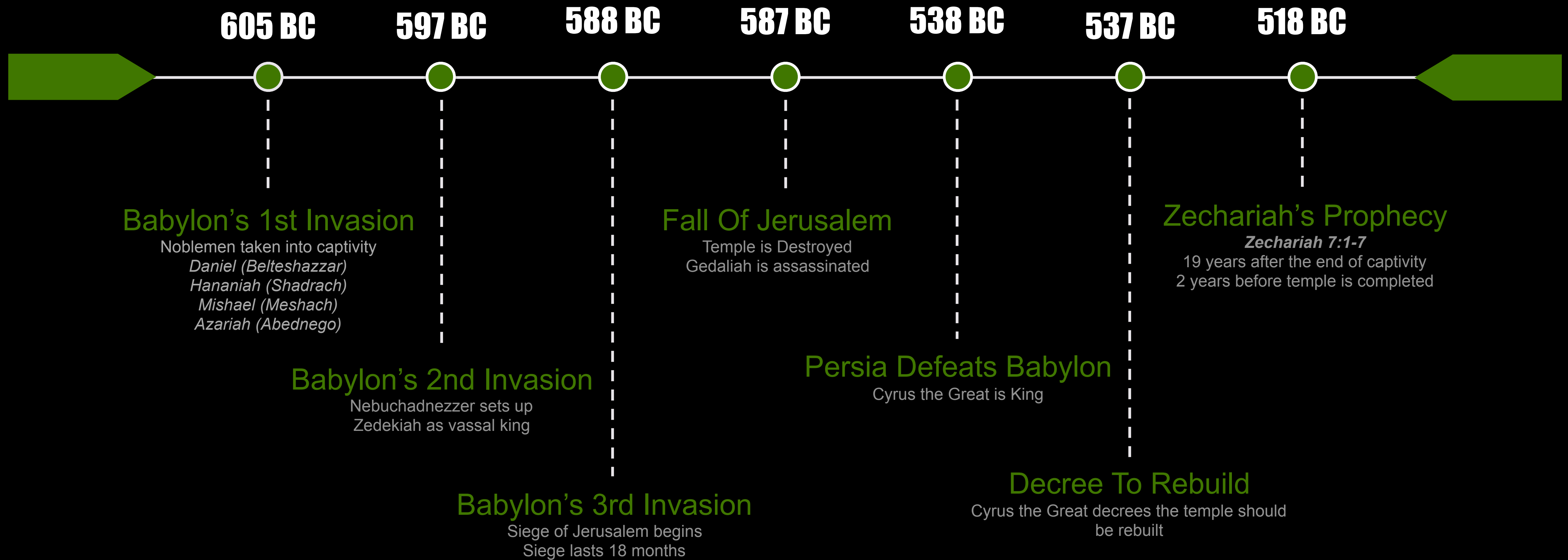
Prophetic Burdens

Zechariah 9-14

Burden concerning first coming of Messiah

Burden concerning second coming of Messiah

TIMELINE OF BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY



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70 Years of Captivity

(68 full years + 2 partial years)

Leviticus 26:27-35

"Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths..."

Start

Finish

605 BC

597 BC

588 BC

587 BC

538 BC

537 BC

518 BC

Babylon's 1st Invasion

Noblemen taken into captivity

Daniel (Belteshazzar)

Hananiah (Shadrach)

Mishael (Meshach)

Azariah (Abednego)

Babylon's 2nd Invasion

Nebuchadnezzar sets up

Zedekiah as vassal king

Babylon's 3rd Invasion

Siege of Jerusalem begins

Siege lasts 18 months

Fall Of Jerusalem

Temple is Destroyed

Gedaliah is assassinated

Persia Defeats Babylon

Cyrus the Great is King

Decree To Rebuild

Cyrus the Great decrees the temple should

be rebuilt

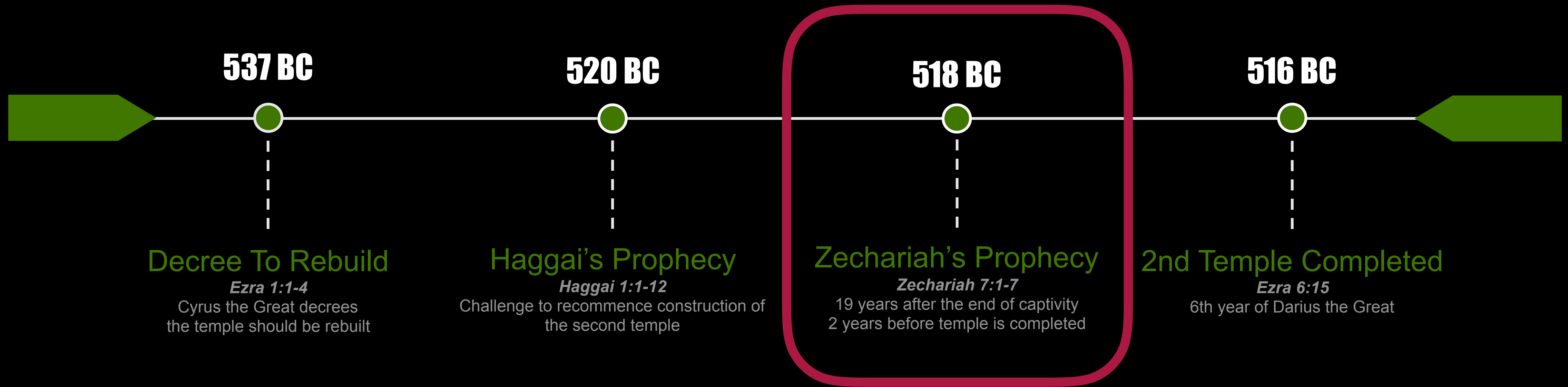
Zechariah's Prophecy

Zechariah 7:1-7

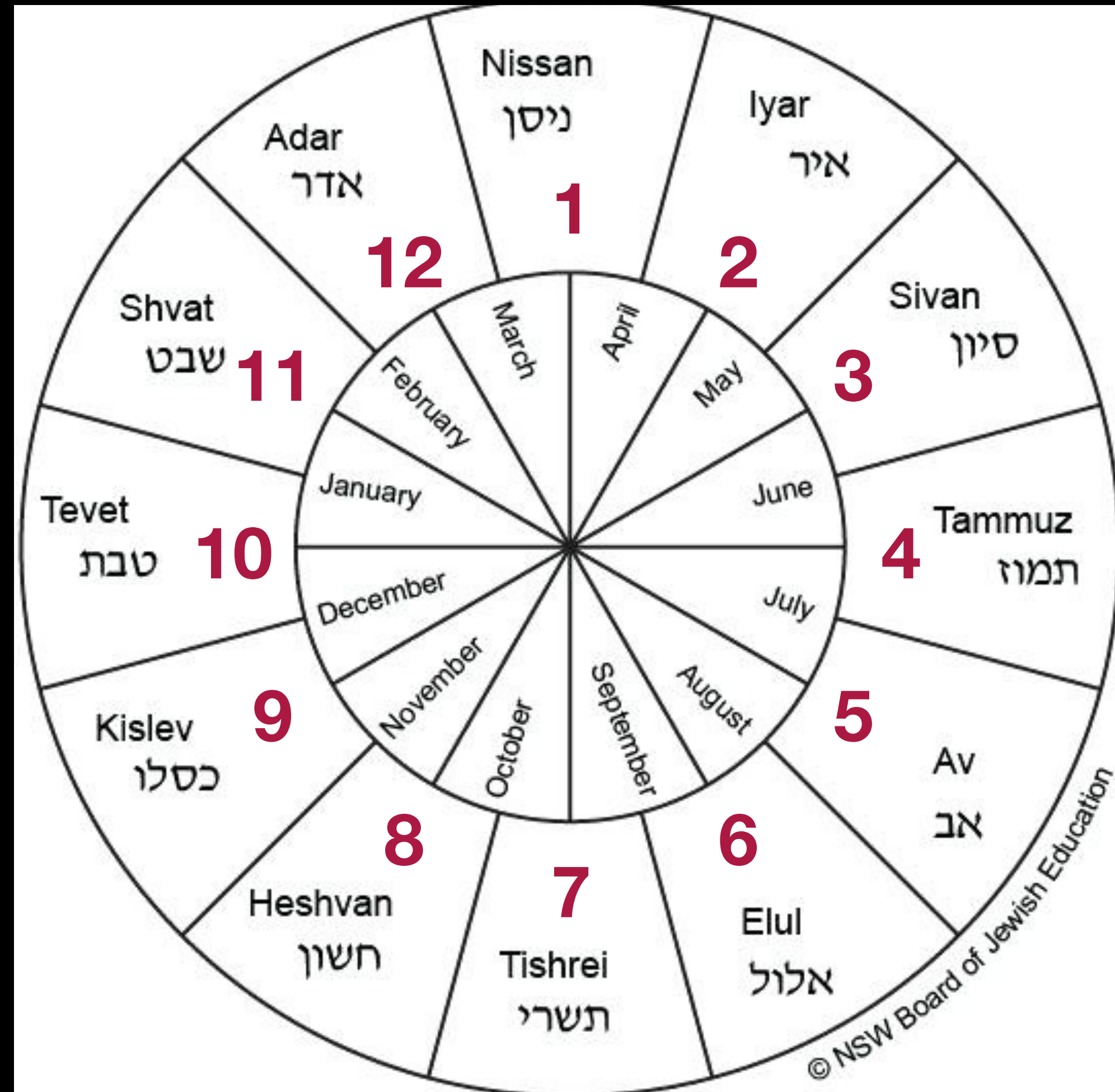
19 years after the end of captivity

2 years before temple is completed

TIMELINE OF 2ND TEMPLE



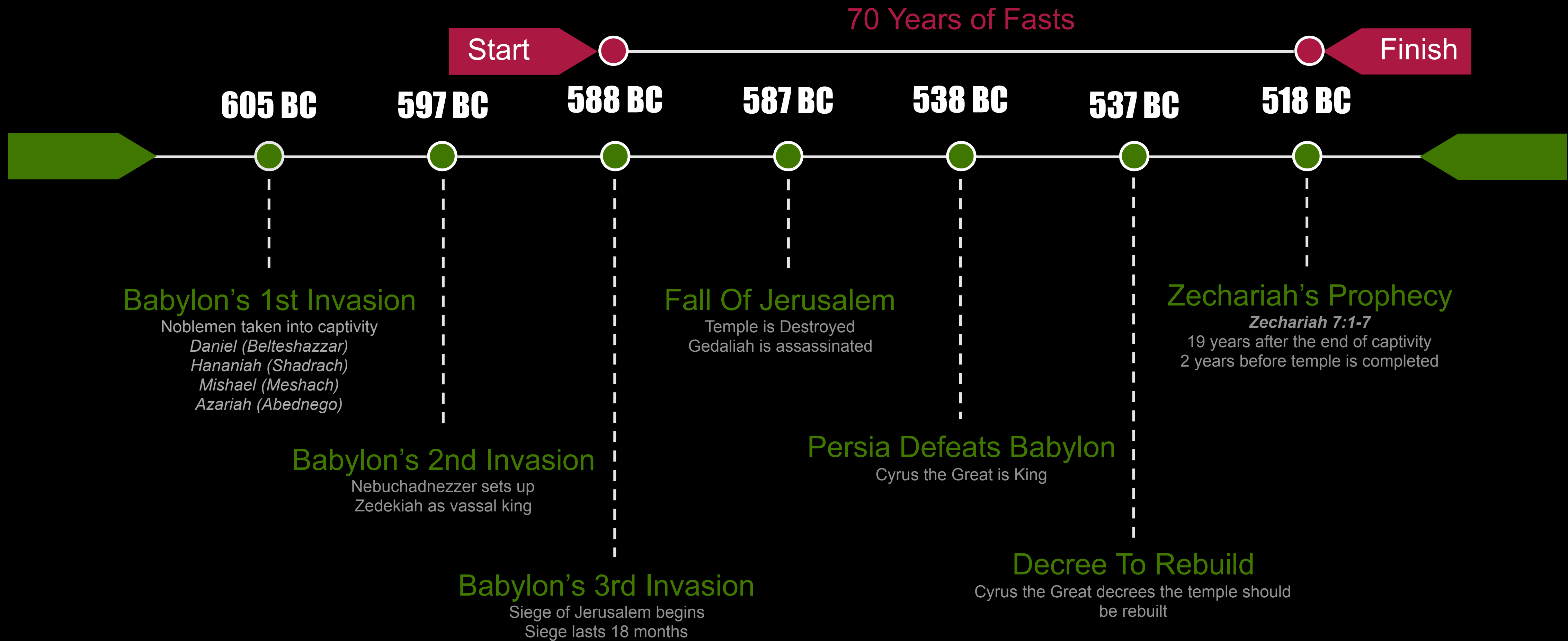
JEWISH / GREGORIAN CALENDAR



JEWISH FESTIVAL DATES

Day / Month	Festival / Fast	Event Commemorated
17 th Day 4 th Month	Shiva Asar B'Tammuz <i>The Seventeenth of Tammuz</i>	Mourning the breach of the walls (and capture) of Jerusalem 587BC
9 th Day 5 th Month	Tisha B'Av <i>The Ninth of Av (Ab)</i>	Mourning the destruction of the First (Solomon's) Temple 587BC
3 rd Day 7 th Month	Tzom Gedalia <i>Fast Of Gedalia</i>	Mourning the assassination of Gedaliah (the governor) 587BC
10 th Day 10 th Month	Asara B'Tevet <i>The Tenth of Tevet</i>	Mourning the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar's 588BC - 586BC

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THE CONUNDRUM

- It's December
- A festival is approaching
- It's not a Biblical festival
- The festival is not instituted by God
- The festival is instituted by man
- It has commemorates something worthwhile
- The festival is a tradition
- People have been observing this festival for generations
- It is received practice more than a God-motivated practice

Question: Should we observe this festival?

THREE OBSERVATIONS

1. Don't Be Dogmatic About Christmas
2. Make Christmas Christ-centred
3. Make Time To Listen To The Lord

