

## Israel's Prophesied Captivity - A Historical Account

By Eric Broome

1) Egyptian Captivity (Spirit of Bondage): 430 Years (1875 BC to 1445 BC)

**Genesis 15:13** “*And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years.*”

**Exodus 12:40-41** “*Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.*”

2) Babylonian Captivity (Spirit of Division/Confusion): 70 Years (606 BC to 536 BC)

Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar II captured Jerusalem in 606 BC. Babylon was conquered by the Persians in 538 BC. Cyrus, the King of Persia, gave the decree to allow the Jews to return and rebuild Jerusalem around 536 BC according to Jewish historical records. Only a small remnant of Jews returned to Jerusalem (42,360 to be exact); most remained in the pagan Persian/Babylonian Empires and did not repent.

**Jeremiah 25:11** “*And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.*”

**Ezra 2:64** “*The whole congregation together was forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore.*”

3) Worldwide Diaspora (Dispersion/Persecution): 2,520 Years (536 BC to 1948 AD)

While a captive in Babylon, Ezekiel receives a prophecy concerning God's judgment upon the continued, disobedient Jews and their remaining duration of exile.

**Ezekiel 4:5-6** “*For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.*”

God had also warned Moses of a divine principle in Leviticus of continued disobedience.

**Leviticus 26:18, 21, 24, 28** “*And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins. Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins. Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.*”

a)  $390 + 40 = 430$  Years minus 70 Years Served in Babylon = 360 Years Remain  
(Also see Daniel 9:24; i.e. this period of 70 years becomes Daniel's “Seventy Sevens”)

b) The additional time of exile for lack of repentance is 360 Years x 7 = **2,520 Years**

c) 2,520 Biblical Years x 360 Days/Lunar Year = 907,200 Days

d) Converting to Solar Years = 907,200 Days / 365.25 Days/Solar Year = 2,483.8 Solar Years  
Keep in mind there is no “0” year going from BC to AD so we have to add “1”

Final Calculation: Original 70 Years of Babylonia Captivity ended in the spring of 536.4 BC + 2,483.8 AD = 1,947.4 + 1 = 1,948.4; or **May 14, 1948** (Isaiah 66:8; “*Shall a nation be born in a day?*”)

4) Conclusions:

- The rebirth of Israel happened in **1948** just as the Bible prophesied that it would, to the very day.
- The Parable of the Fig Tree in Matthew 24 as well as many OT scriptures prophesy of this event.
- The 7 Year period known as Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week will specifically involve the reconciliation of the Nation of Israel over a span of **7 Years x 360 Days or 2,520 Days.**