

## I. Final Period of Old Testament History

- A. Family Period - Patriarchs
- B. National Period
- C. **Remnant Period**

## II. Books of the Remnant Period

- A. Historic
  - 1. Ezra
  - 2. Nehemiah
  - 3. Esther
- B. Prophetic
  - 1. Haggai
  - 2. Zechariah
  - 3. Malachi

## III. The Return Under Zerubbabel

- A. Three returns from captivity
  - 1. Zerubbabel - 536 BC
  - 2. Ezra - 458 BC
  - 3. Nehemiah - 445 BC
- B. Characters of the first return
  - 1. Zerubbabel - Leader of the return
  - 2. Joshua (Jeshua) - High Priest
  - 3. Haggai - Prophet
  - 4. Zechariah - Prophet
- C. Key prophecies and the return
  - 1. *When 70 years for Babylon are complete I will visit you (Jeremiah 29:10-14)*
  - 2. Daniel reads the promise of God in Jeremiah and prays for its fulfillment (Daniel 9)

## Assignment:

*Read Haggai and  
Zechariah 1-8*

3. *Cyrus will be My Shepherd* (Isaiah 44:28)
  - a. Return and build the temple
- D. Only a small number of Israelites returned
  1. Return was difficult
  2. Life in Babylon was good
- E. When they returned, building the temple became the priority
  1. Every work of God has two sides
    - a. There is real work
    - b. There is real conflict
  2. Work started immediately
    - a. Altar was set up, and sacrifices began - a good start
    - b. Men were hired, and the foundation was laid
  3. Attack to stop the work
    - a. **Discouragement**
      - (1) This is nothing compared to the first temple
      - (2) The work cannot be done
    - b. **Fear**
      - (1) Sometimes superficial threats and taunts
      - (2) Sometimes real actions
        - (a) Letter sent to the king
  4. Work stops
    - a. Wait for a better time
    - b. Get our own lives in order
  5. Haggai comes to speak - 16 years later
    - a. Get back to work
    - b. Zerubbabel responds and the building resumed