

Ezra 2 (NIV): The Recorded

Now these are the people of the province who came up from the captivity of the exiles, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had taken captive to Babylon (they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to their own town, ² in company with Zerubbabel, Joshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum and Baanah):

The list of the men of the people of Israel:

³ the descendants of Parosh	2,172
⁴ of Shephatiah	372
⁵ of Arah	775
⁶ of Pahath-Moab (through the line of Jeshua and Joab)	2,812
⁷ of Elam	1,254
⁸ of Zattu	945
⁹ of Zakkai	760
¹⁰ of Bani	642
¹¹ of Bebai	623
¹² of Azgad	1,222
¹³ of Adonikam	666
¹⁴ of Bigvai	2,056
¹⁵ of Adin	454
¹⁶ of Ater (through Hezekiah)	98
¹⁷ of Bezai	323
¹⁸ of Jorah	112
¹⁹ of Hashum	223
²⁰ of Gibbar	95
²¹ the men of Bethlehem	123
²² of Netophah	56
²³ of Anathoth	128

²⁴ of Azmaveth	42
²⁵ of Kiriath Jearim, Kephirah and Beeroth	743
²⁶ of Ramah and Geba	621
²⁷ of Mikmash	122
²⁸ of Bethel and Ai	223
²⁹ of Nebo	52
³⁰ of Magbish	156
³¹ of the other Elam	1,254
³² of Harim	320
³³ of Lod, Hadid and Ono	725
³⁴ of Jericho	345
³⁵ of Senaah	3,630

³⁶ The priests:

the descendants of Jedaiah (through the family of Jeshua)	973
³⁷ of Immer	1,052
³⁸ of Pashhur	1,247
³⁹ of Harim	1,017

⁴⁰ The Levites:

the descendants of Jeshua and Kadmiel (of the line of Hodaviah)	74
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⁴¹ The musicians:

the descendants of Asaph 128

⁴² The gatekeepers of the temple:

the descendants of
 Shallum, Ater, Talmon,
 Akkub, Hatita and Shobai 139

⁶⁰ The descendants of
 Delaiah, Tobiah and Nekoda 652

⁴³ The temple servants:

the descendants of
 Ziha, Hasupha, Tabbaoth,
⁴⁴ Keros, Siaha, Padon,
⁴⁵ Lebanah, Hagabah, Akkub,
⁴⁶ Hagab, Shalmal, Hanan,
⁴⁷ Giddel, Gahar, Reaiah,
⁴⁸ Rezin, Nekoda, Gazzam,
⁴⁹ Uzza, Paseah, Besai,
⁵⁰ Asnah, Meunim, Nephusim,
⁵¹ Bakbuk, Hakupha, Harhur,
⁵² Bazluth, Mehida, Harsha,
⁵³ Barkos, Sisera, Temah,
⁵⁴ Neziah and Hatipha

The descendants of
 Hobaiah, Hakkoz and Barzillai (a man
 who had married a daughter of
 Barzillai the Gileadite and was called
 by that name).

⁵⁵ The descendants of the servants of
 Solomon:

the descendants of
 Sotai, Hassophereth, Peruda,
⁵⁶ Jaala, Darkon, Giddel,
⁵⁷ Shephatiah, Hattil,
 Pokereth-Hazzebaim and Ami

⁵⁸ The temple servants and the 392
 descendants of the servants of
 Solomon

⁵⁹ The following came up from the towns of
 Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Kerub, Addon and
 Immer, but they could not show that their
 families were descended from Israel:

⁶¹ And from among the priests:

The descendants of
 Hobaiah, Hakkoz and Barzillai (a man
 who had married a daughter of
 Barzillai the Gileadite and was called
 by that name).

⁶² These searched for their family records, but
 they could not find them and so were
 excluded from the priesthood as
 unclean. ⁶³ The governor ordered them not to
 eat any of the most sacred food until there
 was a priest ministering with the Urim and
 Thummim.

⁶⁴ The whole company numbered
 42,360, ⁶⁵ besides their 7,337 male and female
 slaves; and they also had 200 male and female
 singers. ⁶⁶ They had 736 horses, 245
 mules, ⁶⁷ 435 camels and 6,720 donkeys.

⁶⁸ When they arrived at the house of
 the LORD in Jerusalem, some of the heads of
 the families gave freewill offerings toward the
 rebuilding of the house of God on its
 site. ⁶⁹ According to their ability they gave to
 the treasury for this work 61,000 darics of
 gold, 5,000 minas of silver and 100 priestly
 garments.

⁷⁰ The priests, the Levites, the musicians, the
 gatekeepers and the temple servants settled
 in their own towns, along with some of the
 other people, and the rest of the Israelites
 settled in their towns.

Opening Question

If you had to prove you were a follower of Jesus, what evidence would you use as proof?

Bible Study Questions

Background

Author: _____

Date: _____

Theme: _____

Prophets: _____

1. What are the circumstances and situations that led to the Israelites being conquered by Babylon? (**Assyria:** 1 Chron. 5:26, 2 Kings 17:5-6, 2 Chron. 32:22)

(**Babylon:** 2 Kings: 17:15-18, 2 Chron. 36:15-21, Jeremiah 25:1-10)

2. Cyrus issued a proclamation to send the Israelites back home to Jerusalem. What role did the prophet Daniel play in the return of the exiles? (*Isaiah 45, Daniel 9:1-3*)

3. Did all of the Israelites return to Jerusalem? Was it necessary for the spirit of the Lord to move the people? (chapter 1)

4. What are some reasons some may have wanted to stay behind? What were they going back to? (*Jeremiah 29:4-8, 2 Kings 25:8-12*)

5. What is the purpose of the genealogy in this chapter? Where have you seen genealogies elsewhere in the bible?

6. Discuss the groupings of exiles who returned back to Jerusalem. What was the largest group that returned? What was the least? How does that reflect the life of most Israelites in Babylon at this time?

7. Who were the Nephusim listed in verse 50? What is the irony of their inclusion? Does their willingness to return change the way you think about your unbelieving family, friends or co-workers? (*Joshua 9:3-27*)

8. Discuss the issues raised in verse 61? Why was it so important that the priests be able to prove their identity?

9. According to this chapter, what was the total number of exiles that returned? What does the counting in this chapter tell us about relationship

between counting, God and all believers? (*Luke 10:20, Hebrews 12:22-23, Rev. 13:8*)

10. What spiritual truths can be unearthed from this study? What change would you like to make as a result?
