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## A Biographical Study of Zerubbabel

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# Zerubbabel

## CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. Zerubbabel and the return
  - A. He was also called Sheshbazzar (Ezra 1:8, 11; 5:14, 16).
  - B. He was the grandson of Judean King Jehoiachin (1 Chron. 3:17-19).
  - C. He was the political leader who directed the first return of the Jews from Persia back to Jerusalem (Ezra 2:1-2).
  - D. He was appointed by King Cyrus himself (Ezra 5:13-15).
  - E. He carried back with him the gold and silver articles Nebuchadnezzar had once taken from the temple of Solomon (Ezra 1:11).
- II. Zerubbabel and the rebuilding
  - A. He helped build the brazen altar upon reaching Jerusalem (Ezra 3:2).
  - B. He then started the work of rebuilding the second temple (Ezra 3:8-9).
- III. Zerubbabel and the resolution
  - A. He refused to compromise his testimony by allowing the pagan Samaritans to aid in the building of the temple (Ezra 4:2-3).
  - B. He was assisted and encouraged in his work by Joshua the high priest and two key prophets, Haggai and Zechariah (Ezra 5:1-2; Hag. 2:2-9).
- IV. Zerubbabel and the reward — Haggai and Zechariah revealed the following information to Zerubbabel:
  - A. Haggai
    1. God's presence and blessing would be upon him (Hag. 2:4-5).
    2. A great tribulation would someday come (Hag. 2:21-22).
    3. After this the "desire of all nations" (a reference to Christ) would return (Hag. 2:6-8).
    4. God had chosen Zerubbabel for a glorious ministry in the Millennium (Hag. 2:23).
  - B. Zechariah
    1. The battle is the Lord's (Zech. 4:6).
    2. He, Zerubbabel, would be allowed to complete the second temple (Zech. 4:8-9).

## STATISTICS

*Father:* Shealtiel (Ezra 3:2; Hag. 2:2)

*Sons:* Meshullam, Hananiah, Hashubah, Ohel, Berechiah, Hasadiah, Jushab-hesed (1 Chron. 3:19-20)

*Daughter:* Shelomith (1 Chron. 3:19)

*Brother:* Shimei (1 Chron. 3:19)

*Significant ancestors:* His grandfather was King Jehoiachin (1 Chron. 3:17-19)

*First mention:* 1 Chron. 3:19

*Final mention:* Zechariah 4:10

*Meaning of her name:* "Seed, shoot of Babylon"

*Frequency of her name:* Referred to 26 times

*Biblical books mentioning her:* Five books (1 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah)

*Occupation:* Political leader (Hag. 1:1)

*Place of birth:* Persia (Ezra 2:2)

*Place of death:* Probably Jerusalem

*Important fact about his life:* He led the first return back to Jerusalem following the Babylonian Captivity (Ezra 2:2)