

# The Jews Return

CHARACTERS: Herald 1 & 2, A, B, Cyrus, Ezra, Sheshbazzar, All

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Ezra 1&2

FK reading level: 7.5

HERALD 1: Hear ye! Hear ye! King Cyrus issues the following proclamation throughout the entire Persian kingdom!

HERALD 2: The Lord, the God of heaven, has given Cyrus all the kingdoms of the earth and has appointed him to build Him a house at Jerusalem.

HERALD 1: Whoever is among His people

HERALD 2: may his God be with him

HERALD 1: and may he go to Jerusalem in Judah to build the house of the Lord

HERALD 2: the God of Israel

ALL: the God who is in Jerusalem.

HERALD 1: Let every survivor

ALL: wherever he lives

HERALD 2: be assisted by the men of that region with silver, gold, goods, and livestock

HERALD 1: along with a freewill offering for the house of God in Jerusalem.

ALL: Let all of us who are motivated by God, rebuild the Lord's house in Jerusalem.

A: Let me contribute these silver articles.

B: I give you this gold.

A: Take my livestock and these valuables.

ALL: And all these freewill offerings.

CYRUS: Give them the articles of the Lord's house that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from Jerusalem too.

EZRA: The gold and silver articles totaled 5,400.

SHESHBAZZAR: I will take responsibility for them when the exiles go up from Babylon to Jerusalem.

EZRA: 42,360 Jews prepared to go home to Judah.

SHESHBAZZAR: After we arrived at the Lord's house in Jerusalem, some of the family leaders gave freewill offerings.

ALL: for the house of God

EZRA: in order to have it rebuilt on its original site.

SHESHBAZZAR: Based on what they could give, they gave 61,000 gold coins

ALL: 6,250 pounds of silver and 100 priestly garments.

EZRA: The priests, Levites, singers, gatekeepers, and temple servants settled in their town

ALL: and the rest of Israel settled in their towns.

#### Online review games

Ezra Battleship <http://www.quia.com/ba/534664.html>

Zachariah rags to riches <http://www.quia.com/rr/895606.html>

Minor Prophets 2 challenge board <http://www.quia.com/cb/766991.html>