

May	Sivan	ENDING OF THE BABYLONIAN EMPIRE, AND ASCENDANCY OF THE PERSIAN EMPIRE. IMPENDING RELEASE OF ISRAELITES FROM BABYLON AND REVIVING OF JUDAH UNDER CYRUS.				Simanu	
June	Tammuz					Du'uzu	
July	Ab	50 yrs. 48				Abu	
August	Elul	Fall of Babylon "after seventy years be accomplished" (Jeremiah 29:10; cf. G.T.R., p.210f.) 1) Babylonian army defeated by Cyrus; City of Sippar captured on the 14th (Ethanim/Tesritu); 2) Cyrus' army enters Babylon on the 16th (Ethanim/Tesritu); 3) Cyrus himself enters Babylon on 3rd (Bul/Arahsamnu) (A.B.C.,109,110).				Ululu	
September	Ethanim					Tesritu	
October		(71)					
November	Bul	CYRUS	DARIUS	When "Darius the Median took the kingdom" (Daniel 5:31) he was "made king over the realm of the Chaldeans" (9:1).	430 yrs. 430	Belshazzar sees 'the writing on the wall' (Daniel 5:25-30).	Arahsamnu
	November	Acc.	Acc.				Kislimu
	December	Chislev	King of Lands	King of Chaldea			Tebetu
538	January	Tebeth			51		Shabatu
	February	Shebat					Addaru
	March	Adar	CYRUS	DARIUS			Nisannu
	April	Abib	1	1			Ajaru
	May	Ziv	Cambyses (briefly)	King of Chaldea			Simanu
	June	Sivan	1				Du'uzu
	July	Tammuz	Babylonian cuneiform records inform that Cyrus installed his son Cambyses as 'King of Babylon' at the new year. However, apparently Cambyses refused to comply with certain protocols, which compelled Cyrus to remove him from office at the end of that year, his name no longer appearing in documents (until his sole reign following Cyrus).		50 yrs. 49		Abu
	August	Ab					Ululu
	September	Elul					Tesritu
	October	Ethanim					Arahsamnu
	November	Bul					Kislimu
	December	Chislev					Tebetu
537	January	Tebeth			52	End of the 390 and 40 years of Ezekiel 4:5,6 The 430 years depicted in Ezekiel 4:5,6 began in 966 B.C., at the division of the Israelite nation into 2 houses, such period ending by the first year of Cyrus 537 B.C., with the reconstitution of the Israelite nation after the Babylonian captivity being initiated by Cyrus' issuing of his decree ending their captivity.	Shabatu
	February	Shebat	CYRUS				Addaru
	March	Adar	Sole reign as King of Babylon & King of Lands				Nisannu
	April	Abib	2	1		COMMANDMENT OF CYRUS, DARIUS and ARTAXERXES (A) After Judah "had undergone (the servitude (of) seventy years" (Antiquities XI,i,1), it happened that "in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia...Yahweh stirred up the spirit of Cyrus...that he made a proclamation" (Ezra 1:1) authorising and providing for the Israelites in captivity to "restore and to build Jerusalem" (Daniel 9:25), the principal building being the temple (Ezra 6:14b): That is, as Josephus accounts: "he gave them leave to go back to their own country, and to rebuild their city Jerusalem, and the temple of God" (Antiquities XI,i,2).	Ajaru
	May	Ziv					Simanu
	June	Sivan					Du'uzu
	July	Tammuz					

End of the first of 2 overlapping 70 year periods

Close inspection of the Biblical record for this period reveals two separate 70 year periods of national punishment, with each starting at different times and which largely overlap. The first of the two 70 year periods concerns the widespread submission of nations to the Babylonian kings during which time Judah and all the "nations round about" were subjugated by Nebuchadnezzar (Jeremiah 25:9-11), this same 70 years of Babylonian dominance (as prophesied) ending with the Medo-Persian takeover of Babylon (verse 12). After such takeover, that is, in "the first year of Darius....Daniel understood "the word of Yahweh (which before) came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years (of Babylon's dominance before ending)...the desolations of Jerusalem" (Daniel 9:1,2). However, the ceasing of such "desolations" was promised to the Judahites as conditional upon their demonstrating a rightminded desire to honour Yahweh (Jeremiah 29:12-15), which Daniel exemplified when he interceded for the nation (Daniel 9:3f). Some months later the expected restoration of the Judahite nation was authorised by the decree of Cyrus to commence "that the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled" (Ezra 1:1).

The second 70 year period is almost wholly contemporary with the first and is identified, not with the parallel period by Judah's subjection to another nation, but by the withdrawal of constitutional guidance and providence from the nation, such being expressed in terms of Yahweh's "indignation" against "Jerusalem and..the cities of Judah" which continued for 70 years (Zechariah 1:12 – excluding all the "nations round about" – Jeremiah 25:9). The commencing of such period of "indignation" occurred from the rejection of Jeremiah's authority by Zedekiah and the subsequent return of Nebuchadnezzar to Judah in his 16th year (589 B.C.) to execute the "wrath of Yahweh" (2 Chronicles 36:12-17), that is, not just upon Judah's remaining cities and urban infrastructure, but the whole of Jerusalem including the palace and temple buildings (so severing the nation's material interface with Yahweh's providence). Such conditions continued for 70 years until early in the Persian era (520 B.C.) when this period of "indignation" ended with a revival of "prosperity" for the whole of Judah, and the resumption of the temple's reconstruction (Zechariah 1:1,16,17; Ezra 4:24;6:1,8).