

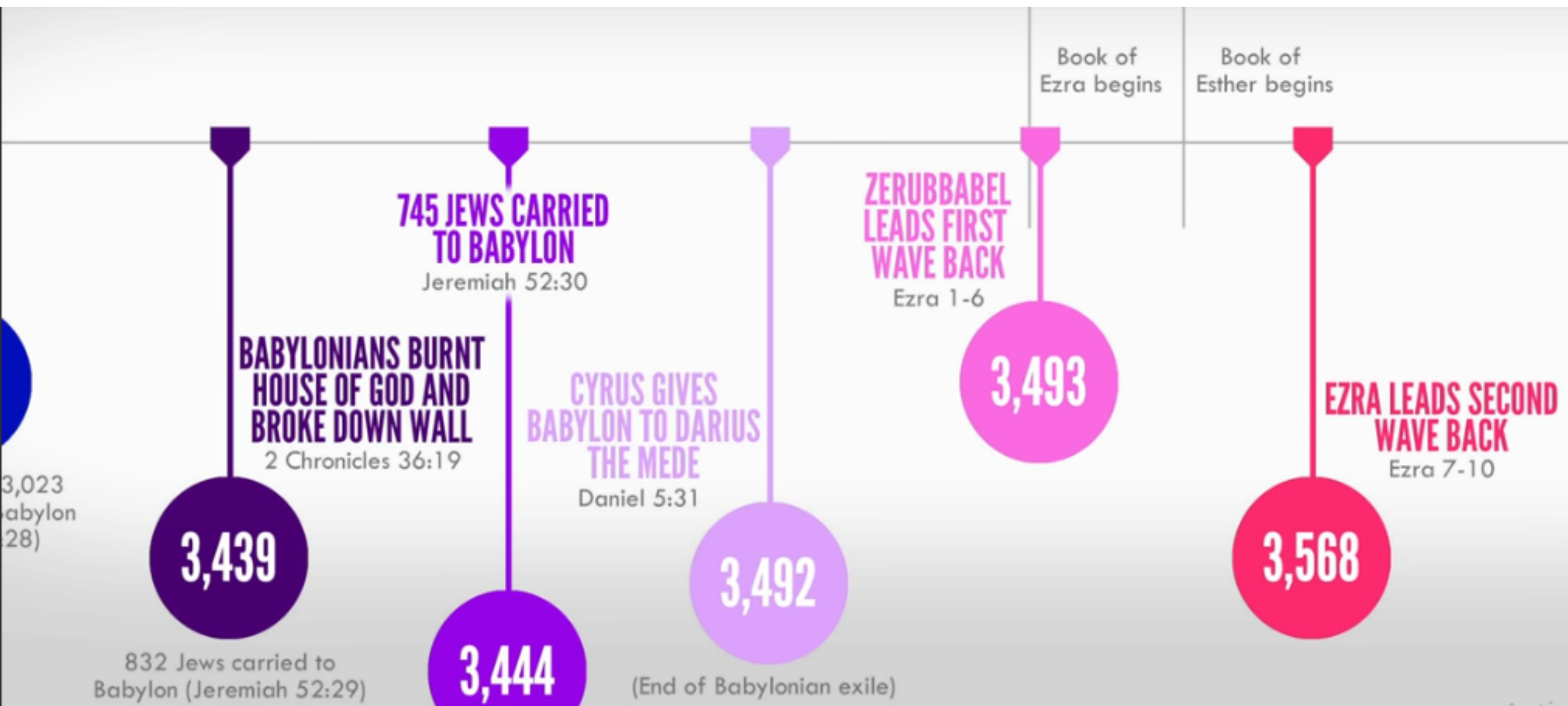
# BIBLICAL GIVING



THE TITHE  
*Revisited*

# Malachi 3:6-10

- <sup>6</sup> “I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. <sup>7</sup> Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.
- “But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’
- <sup>8</sup> **“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.**
- **“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’**
- **“In tithes and offerings.** <sup>9</sup> You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.



3,023  
Babylon  
(28)

832 Jews carried to  
Babylon (Jeremiah 52:29)

**BABYLONIANS BURNT  
HOUSE OF GOD AND  
BROKE DOWN WALL**  
2 Chronicles 36:19

**745 JEWS CARRIED  
TO BABYLON**  
Jeremiah 52:30

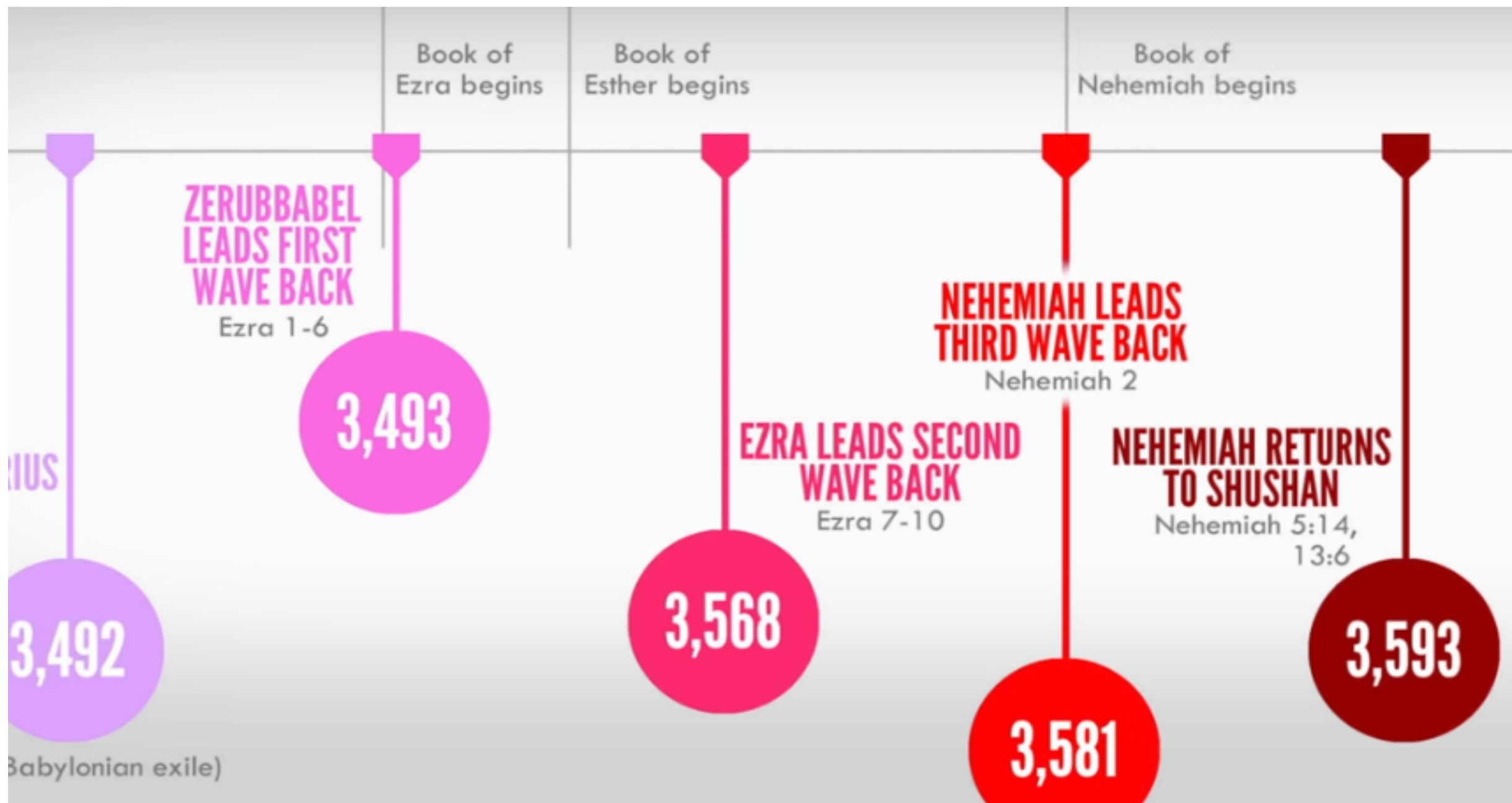
**CYRUS GIVES  
BABYLON TO DARIUS  
THE MEDE**  
Daniel 5:31

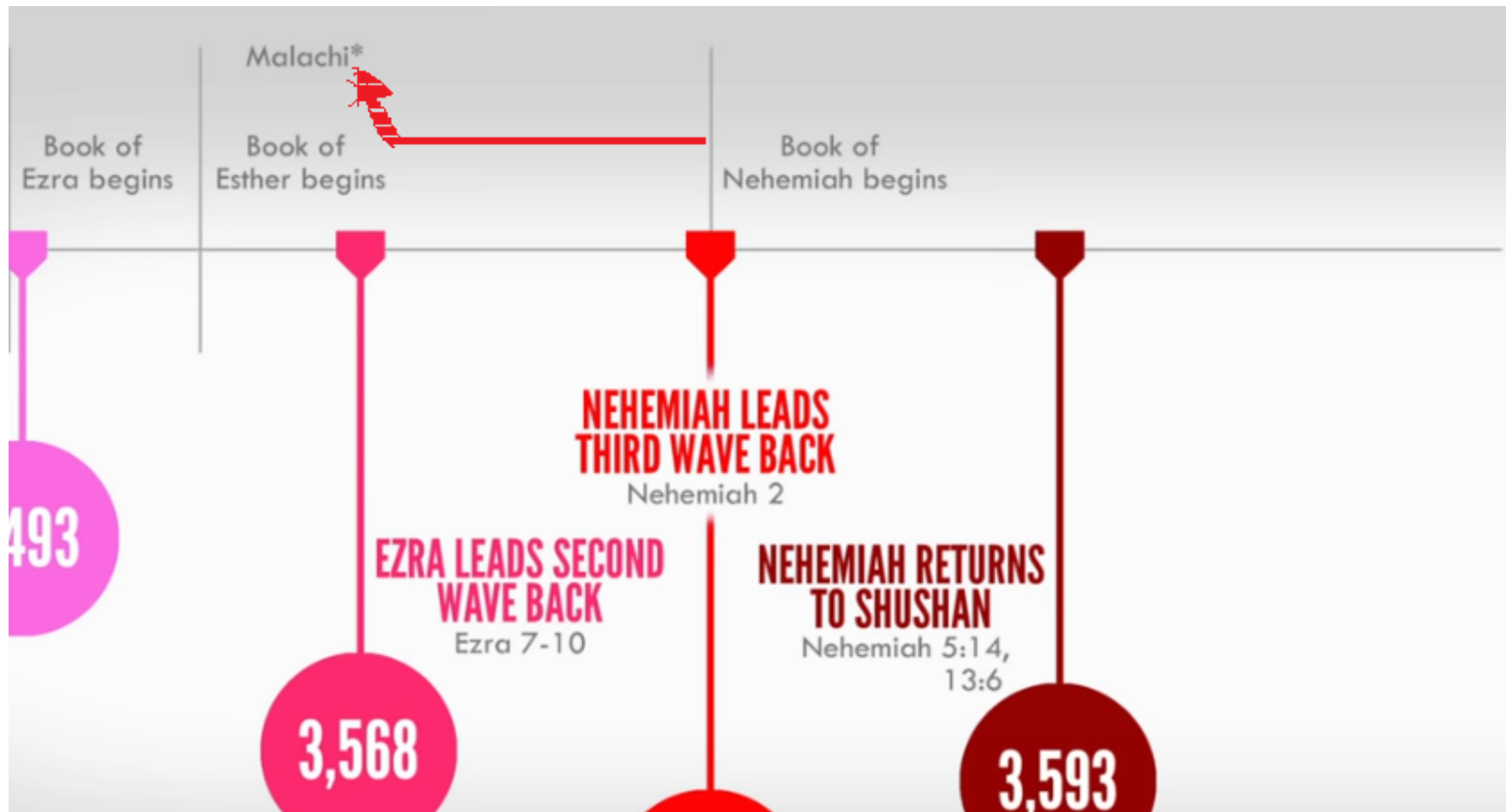
**ZERUBBABEL  
LEADS FIRST  
WAVE BACK**  
Ezra 1-6

Book of  
Ezra begins

Book of  
Esther begins

**EZRA LEADS SECOND  
WAVE BACK**  
Ezra 7-10





# The Book of Malachi

- Uncertainty on who could have authored the book because the name “Malachi” means “**my messenger**” (Malachi 3:1). Some thought “Malachi” to be a title that tradition gave to priests and prophets of that time.
- **Audience:** Postexilic Jews living in Judah (returned from captivity)
- **Date:** Est. 430 B.C (100 years after they had returned)
- Major events: Rebuilding of the Temple (**Zerubbabel**); Reconstitute Temple Worship/Law (**Ezra**); the WALL (**Nehemiah**)



# Malachi Context

- Nehemiah encouraged the people to **bring tithes and offerings faithfully** (Nehemiah 10:37-39).
- When he returned to the Persian King, **Jews fell back into sin**; tithes had been ignored. So bad priests had started working, ignored worship.
- The exile didn't change a thing, **hearts the same**. Corruption, Injustice.
- The two were contemporaries. Malachi probably written after Nehemiah returned from Persia second time (433 B.C.)
- Organized in a 3-way format; **God makes a claim-court**. Israelites disagree/question-defend themselves. **God responds/offers the final**

# Tithing to Ancient Israel

- Existed **over 4000 years ago** and was practiced in Babylon, Persia, Egypt etc. even before Israel was commanded by the Lord to tithe.
- The Hebrew word for tithe literally means “**tenth**” or a **10<sup>th</sup> part**. A tenth of the increase of your produce (crops and livestock). The **First** and the **Best**.
- Complex and not as obvious. **Why?** How many 10<sup>th</sup>'s? On average it annually got to about 23.3% of the annual produce of the land especially looking at the different years and cycles. Some say 14 kinds over 7 years
- <https://isaacdavkis.wordpress.com/2018/11/17/tithing-ended-did-it/>

Or

<https://byamukama.com/tithing-in-the-torah-and-today/>



# Are we robbing God?

- **Many a pastor/teacher** use/call/force this scripture. This could lead to many other questions;

^ Is it 10%? Is it on Gross/Net? I am a student (I don't get a salary)

^Cursed when I don't?

- **Story is told...**

- Malachi in it's true **CONTEXT.**

- **Nehemiah 13:10** (Calls them back to temple worship) Lev 27:30

- Malachi 1:7-8 (Giving the worst flock, died shortly after) Principle?

SO

WHAT???