

# PERSIAN KINGS AND THE OLD TESTAMENT

King	Reign	Old Testament Reference
Cyrus the Great	539-530 BC	His edict freed the Jews from the Captivity Era (II Chron. 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-2, 7-8; Isaiah 44:28).
Cambysses	530-522 BC	Not mentioned in Scripture.
Darius I (the Great)	522-486 BC	Temple rebuilding completed during his reign (Ezra 4:5, 24; 5:5-7; 6:1, 12-15; Haggai 1:1; Zechariah 1:1).
Xerxes (Ahasuerus)	486-465 BC	King who made Esther his queen (Esther 1-10). Mentioned once in the book of Ezra (4:6).
Artaxerxes I	465-424 BC	King of Ezra and Nehemiah who initially did not allow Jerusalem to be rebuilt (Ezra 4:7-8, 19-23).