



*Life in*

BABYLON



# How do we live in *Babylon*?

*Buy  
into the  
culture*

*Separatist /  
Isolationist:  
Hyper-  
religious*



# How do we live in *Babylon*?

*Buy  
into the  
culture*

*Separatist /  
Isolationist:  
Hyper-  
religious*



# How do we live in *Babylon*?

*Buy  
into the  
culture*

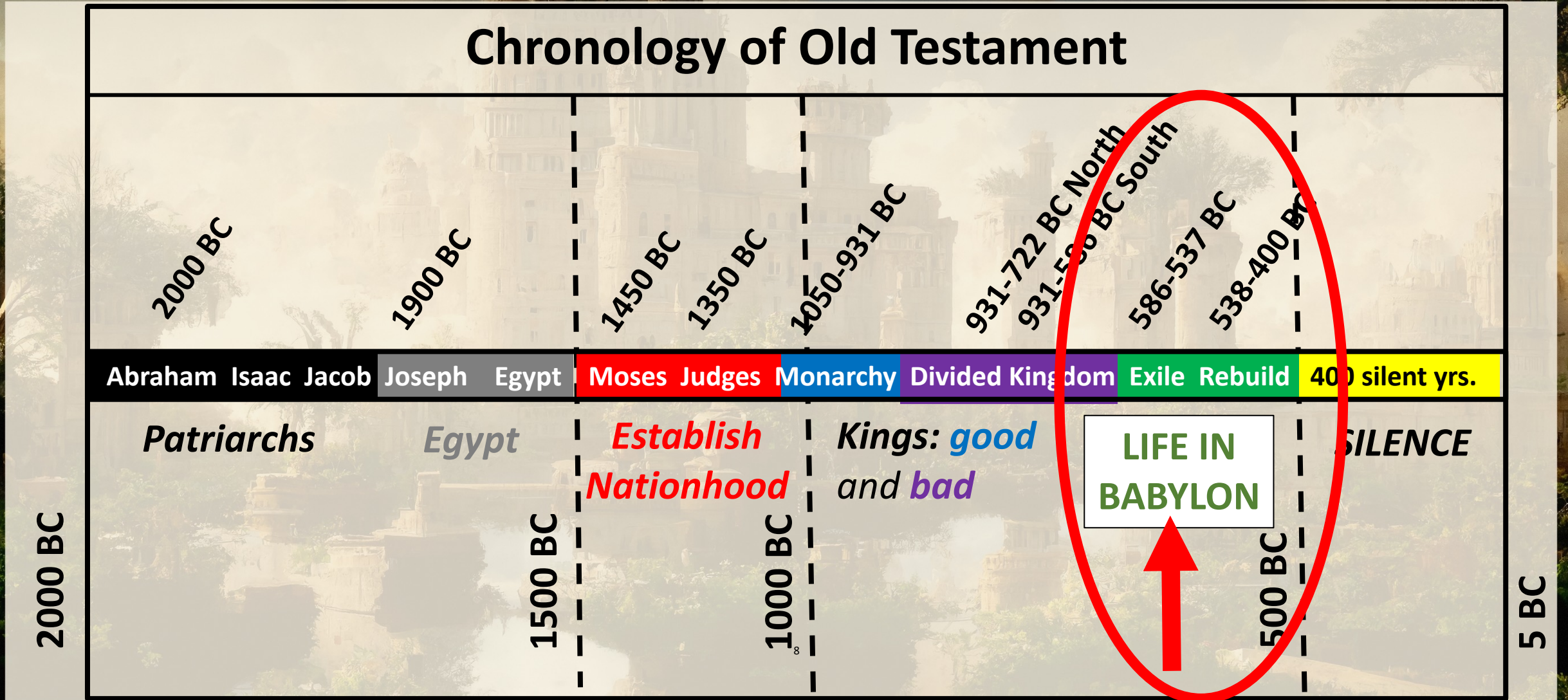
**Daniel – Integrity**  
**Jeremiah – Hope**  
**Nehemiah - Wisdom**  
**Shadrach, Meshach,  
Abednego - Courage**

*Separatist /  
Isolationist:  
Hyper-  
religious*



# Life in BABYLON

## Chronology of Old Testament





# Life in BABYLON

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Jeremiah</b><br>607 BC <b>Daniel</b> | <b>Shadrach,<br/>Meshach &amp;<br/>Abednego</b> | <b>Ezra / Nehemiah</b><br><b>Esther</b> |  |
|---|---|---|--|

Divided Kingdom  
and after 722 BC just  
the southern  
Kingdom of Judah

**Exile in Babylon 586 – 537 BC**

**Rebuild**

400  
silent  
years  
before  
the  
coming  
Christ

# LIFE IN BABYLON



# Life in BABYLON

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Jeremiah</b><br>607 BC<br><b>Daniel</b> | <b>Shadrach,<br/>Meshach &amp;<br/>Abednego</b> | <b>Ezra / Nehemiah</b><br><b>Esther</b> |  |
|--|---|---|--|

Divided Kingdom  
and after 722 BC just  
the southern  
Kingdom of Judah

**Exile in Babylon 586 – 537 BC**

**Rebuild**

400  
silent  
years  
before  
the  
coming  
Christ

# LIFE IN BABYLON



*Life in*  
BABYLON

**How did Esther navigate  
living in Babylon?**



**How can we navigate living in a post-Christian culture that is going through profound and radical change?**



*Life in*  
BABYLON

# Esther



Life in  
BABYLON

**Esther:** *(Persian)* “star”

Esther



**Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

ESTHER



**Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

**Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

ESTHER



**Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

**Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

*The Myrtle tree is associated with peace, love, prosperity, and justice...‘survival’.*







# Life in BABYLON

## **Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

## **Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

*The Myrtle tree is associated with peace, love, prosperity, and justice...‘survival’.*



**Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

**Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

*The Myrtle tree is associated with peace, love, prosperity, and justice...’survival’.*



# Life in BABYLON

## **Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

## **Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

*The Myrtle tree is associated with peace, love, prosperity, and justice...’survival’.*

*“a super-star...”*



**Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

**Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

*The Myrtle tree is associated with peace, love, prosperity, and justice...’survival’.*

*“a super-star...for righteousness”*



# Life in BABYLON

## **Esther:** *(Persian) “star”*

*When she became queen, her name became Esther to hide her Jewish ethnicity.*

## **Hadassah:** *(Hebrew) “myrtle”*

*The Myrtle tree is associated with peace, love, prosperity, and justice...’survival’.*

***“champion”***



Life in  
BABYLON

***“champion”***

---

**Esther**



# ***“champion”***

---

Someone who tenaciously fights  
for a cause or on behalf of others  
who are endangered.



Esther



Esther





## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

Esther



## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

Esther



# King Ahausuerus

and his deposed Queen Vashti

## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

Esther

aka: Xerxes I  
Artaxerxes

**King Ahausuerus**  
and his deposed Queen Vashti

## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

Esther



aka: Xerxes I  
Artaxerxes

**King Ahausuerus**  
and his deposed Queen Vashti

Achaemenid Empire  
483-473 BCE

## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

Esther

aka: Xerxes I  
Artaxerxes

# King Ahausuerus

and his deposed Queen Vashti

Achaemenid Empire  
483-473 BCE

## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

**Esther**

and her  
cousin /  
caretaker

**Mordecai**

Esther



aka: Xerxes I  
Artaxerxes

# King Ahausuerus

and his deposed Queen Vashti

Achaemenid Empire  
483-473 BCE

## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

**Esther**

and her  
cousin /  
caretaker

**Mordecai**

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

**Haman**

the Agagite,  
the highest  
advisor  
to the king

aka: Xerxes I  
Artaxerxes

# King Ahausuerus

and his deposed Queen Vashti

Achaemenid Empire  
483-473 BCE

## Protagonist

...an advocate or a champion of a particular cause or idea.

## Antagonist

...an adversary who is actively hostile to someone or something.

**Esther**

and her  
cousin /  
caretaker

**Mordecai**

The *survival* or the *genocide*  
of every Jew living in  
the Persian Empire

**Haman**

the Agagite,  
the highest  
advisor  
to the king











**Judah /  
Jerusalem**

---

**Jeremiah**

**Babylonian  
Capital**

---

**Daniel,  
Shadrach,  
Meshach and  
Abednego**

400 mi  
600 km  
Babylonian Empire



**Judah /  
Jerusalem**  
-----  
**Jeremiah**

**Babylonian  
Capital**  
-----  
**Daniel,  
Shadrach,  
Meshach and  
Abednego**

**Persian  
Winter  
Palace**  
-----  
**Nehemiah,  
Esther**

400 mi  
500 km  
Mid Empire





TURKEY

SYRIA

LEBANON

ISRAEL

IRAQ

IRAN

AFGHANISTAN

PAKISTAN

JORDAN

BAHRAIN

QATAR

UNITED ARAB  
EMIRATES

SAUDI ARABIA

OMAN

YEMEN

Middle East

middle east



TURKEY

SYRIA

LEBANON

ISRAEL

JORDAN

IRAQ

Susa

IRAN

AFGHANISTAN

PAKISTAN

ARABIA

OMAN

YEMEN

Middle East

middle east

Judah /  
Jerusalem

---

Jeremiah

Babylonian  
Capital

---

Daniel;  
Shadrach,  
Meshach  
and  
Abednego

Persian  
Winter  
Palace

---

Nehemiah,  
Esther



**Beirut /  
Lebanon**

**Mark P.  
Brian C.  
Kevin H.**



**Judah /  
Jerusalem**

**Jeremiah**



**Babylonian  
Capital**

**Daniel;  
Shadrach,  
Meshach  
and  
Abednego**



**Susa**

**Persian  
Winter  
Palace**

**Nehemiah,  
Esther**



**Middle East**  
middle east





Bible Project:

# Esther

*(educational video)*



*Life in*  
BABYLON

**How did Esther navigate  
living in Babylon?**



# How did Esther navigate living in Babylon?

***“champion”***

Someone who tenaciously fought for her countrymen who were endangered.



**How can we navigate living in a post-Christian culture that is going through profound and radical change?**



**How can we navigate living in a post-Christian culture that is going through profound and radical change?**

**Trusting that God's fingerprints can, and will be, all over our circumstances if we obediently open our hearts and eyes to His guidance, His sovereignty and His providence.**



**How can we navigate living in a post-Christian culture that is going through profound and radical change?**

**Be God's "*champion*"  
for His plan, for His purpose, and for His people.**



*Life in*  
BABYLON

***“For such a time as this”...***





*Life in*  
BABYLON

***“For such a time as this”...***  
**God has raised you up and placed you in a  
certain place for a certain reason...**





*Life in*  
BABYLON

***“For such a time as this”...***  
**God has raised you up and placed you in a  
certain place for a certain reason...**

**Where is it?**



***“For such a time as this”...***  
**God has raised you up and placed you in a  
certain place for a certain reason...**

Where is it?  
What is it?



***“For such a time as this”...***  
**God has raised you up and placed you in a  
certain place for a certain reason...**

*Where is it?  
What is it?  
Are you willing?*









*Life in*

BABYLON





*Life in*

**SAINT LOUIS**





*Buy  
into the  
culture*

*Separatist /  
Isolationist:  
Hyper-  
religious*





*Separatist /  
Isolationist:  
Hyper-  
religious*









*display Godly* **INTEGRITY** like Daniel

---

*offer Godly* **HOPE** like Jeremiah

---

*exercise Godly* **WISDOM** like Nehemiah

---

*demonstrate Godly* **COURAGE** like  
Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

---

*be a Godly* **CHAMPION** like Esther



A dramatic, golden-hour scene of ancient ruins, possibly Mayan or Aztec, with a large blue oval containing the word 'QUEST'. The scene is filled with smoke and fire, suggesting a city under attack or in flames. The ruins are partially obscured by the smoke and the blue oval.

**QUEST**

**SEEK GOD**

---

**LOVE PEOPLE**

---

**ENGAGE LIFE**

---

**FIND HOPE**