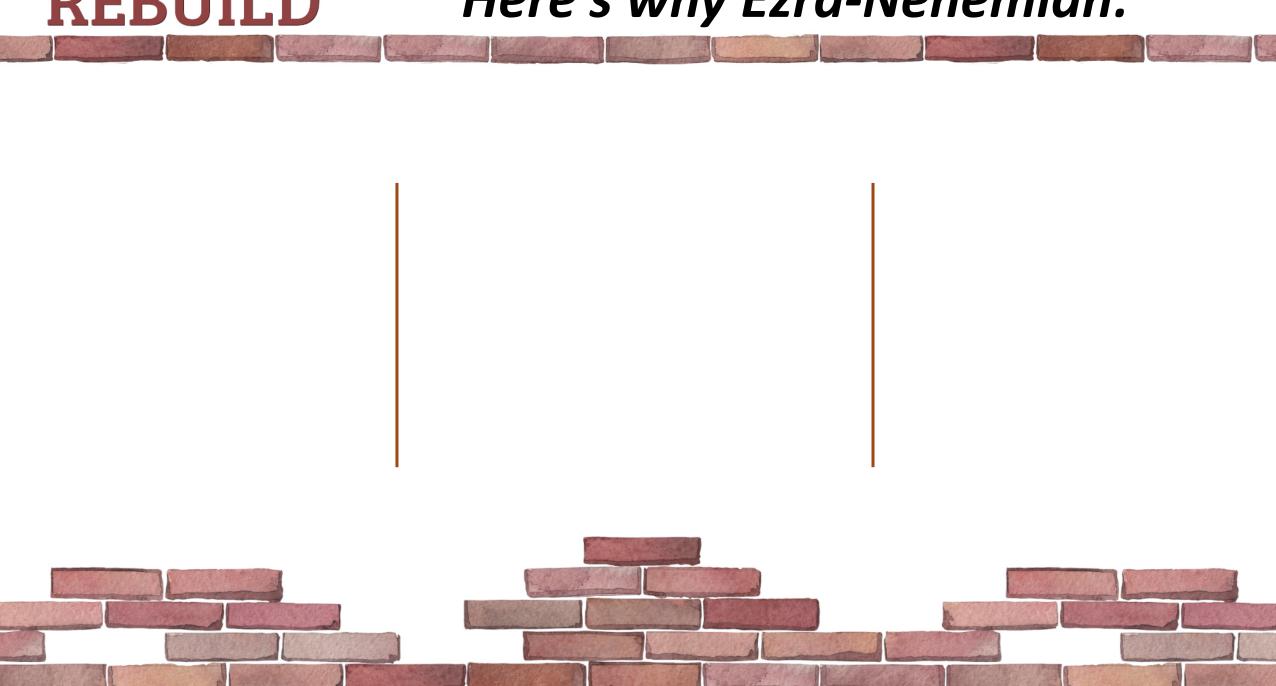




Here's why Ezra-Nehemiah:



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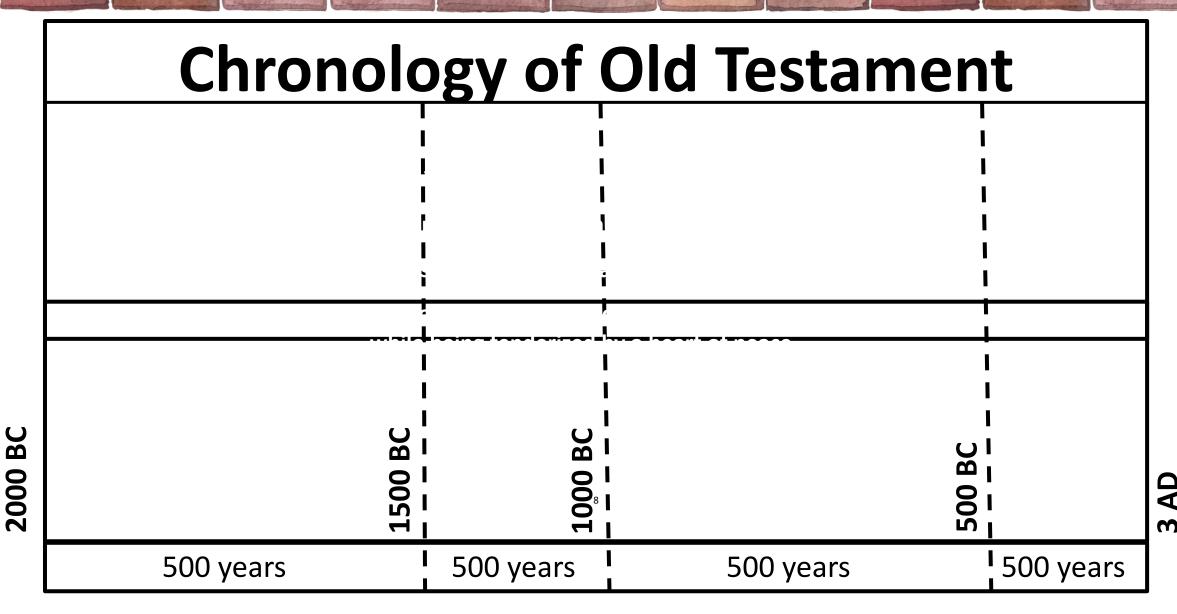
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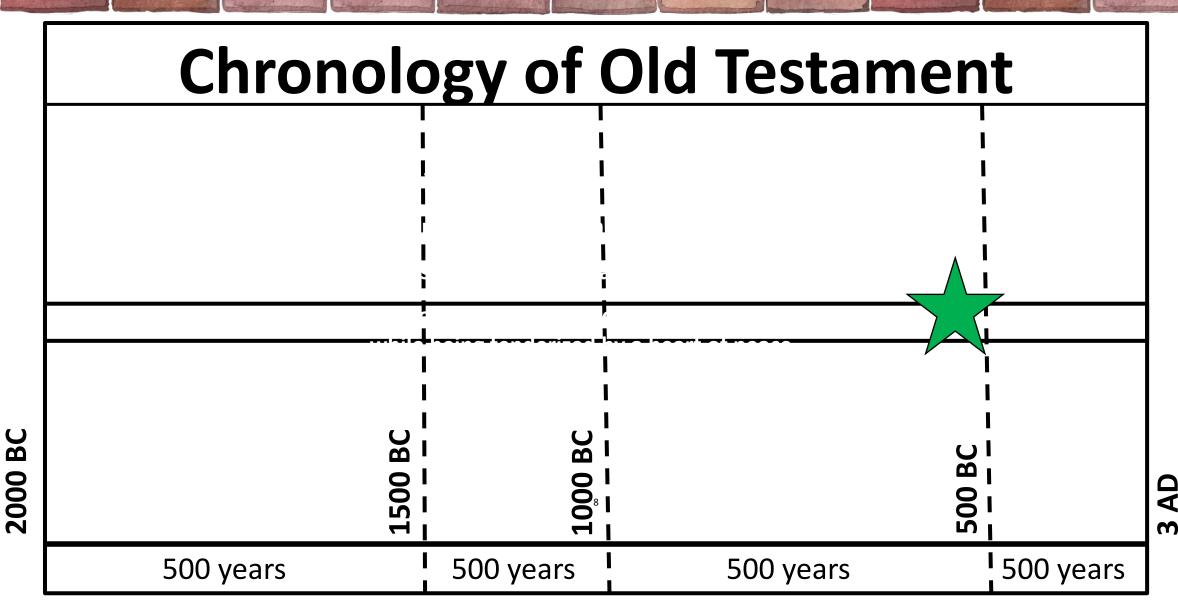
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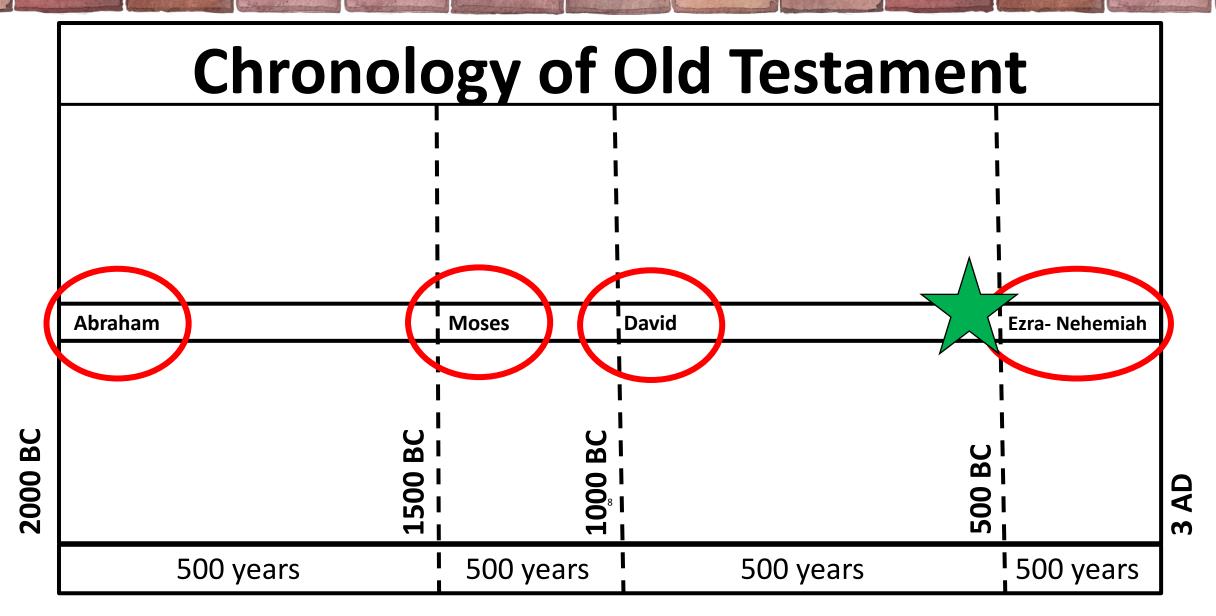
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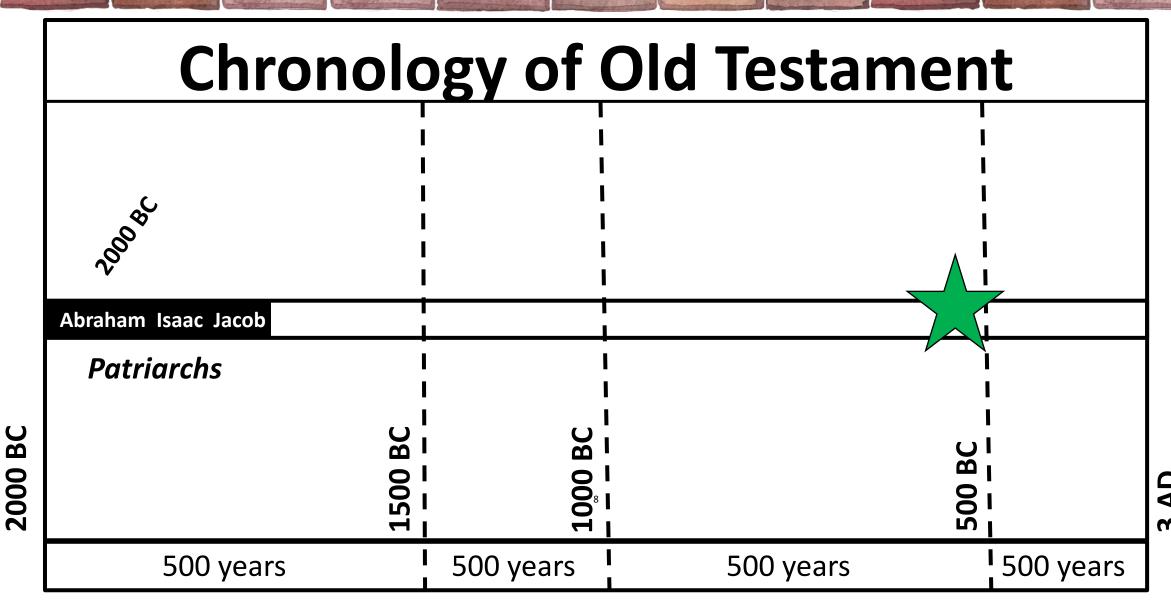
These books
(this book)
address all three of the
foci we identified as
critically important
this year:

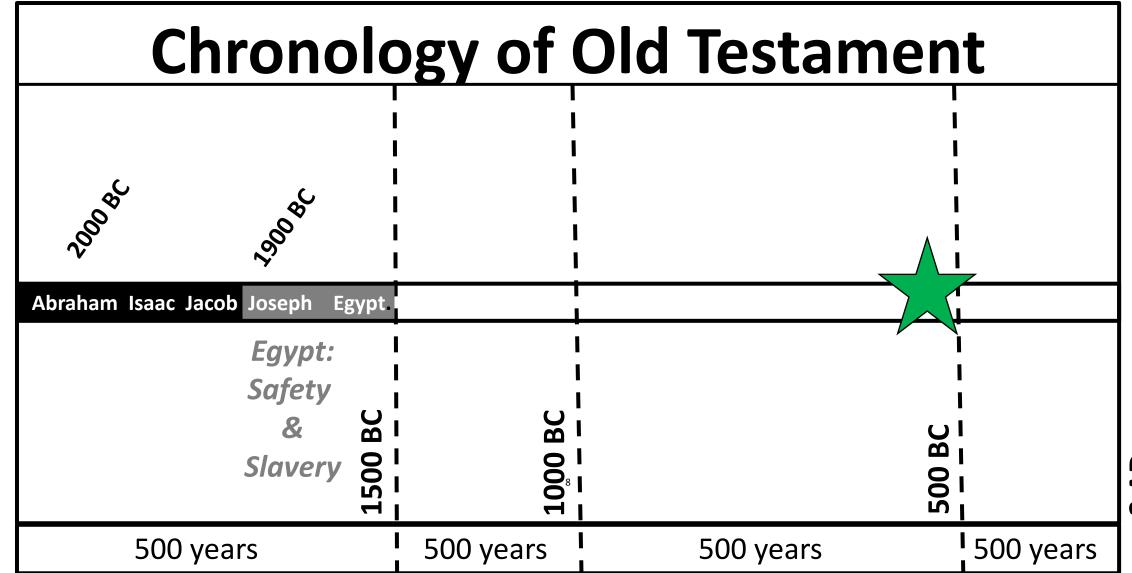
- 1. Connection
- 2. Evangelism
- 3. Ownership / Leadership



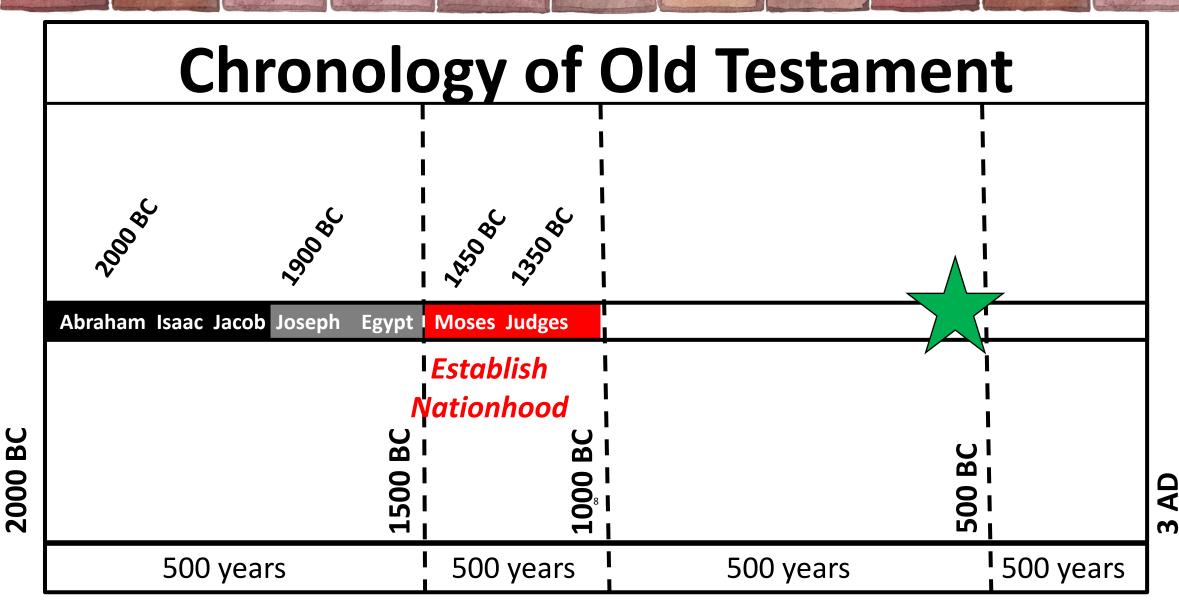


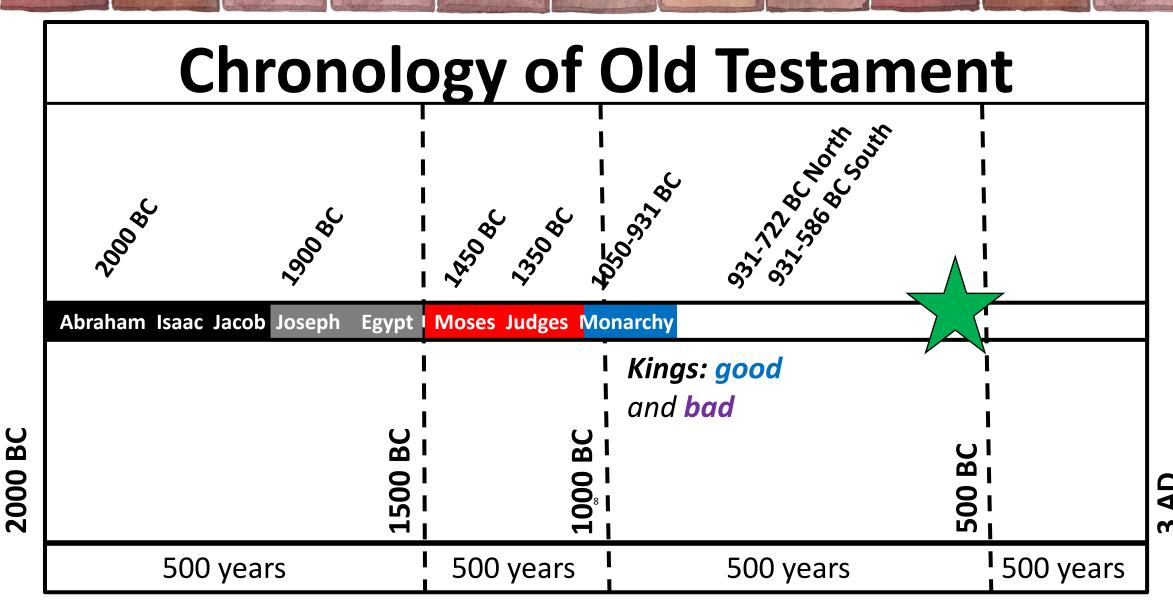


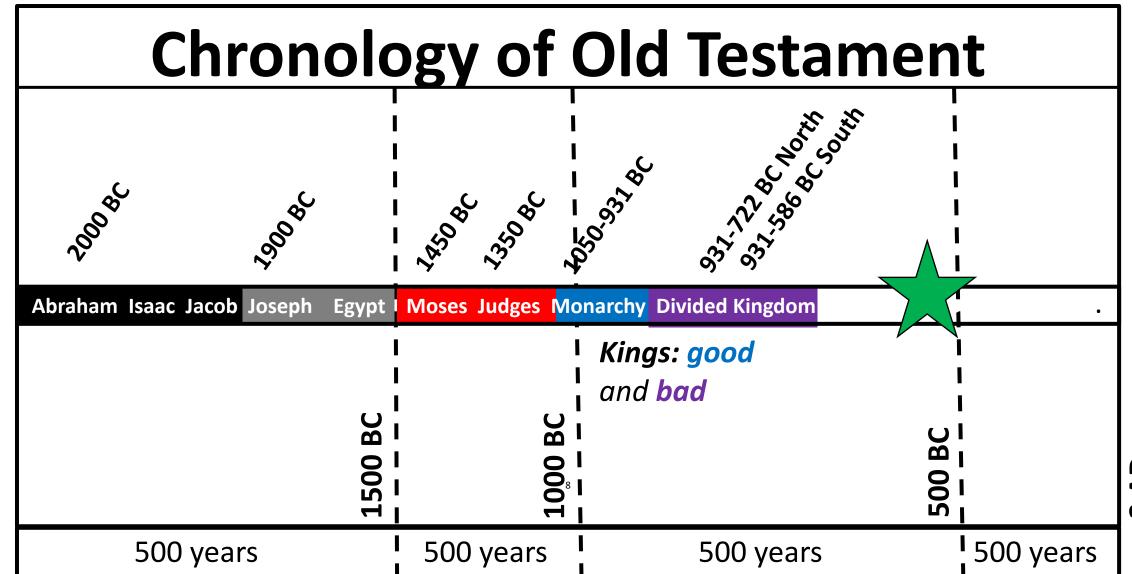




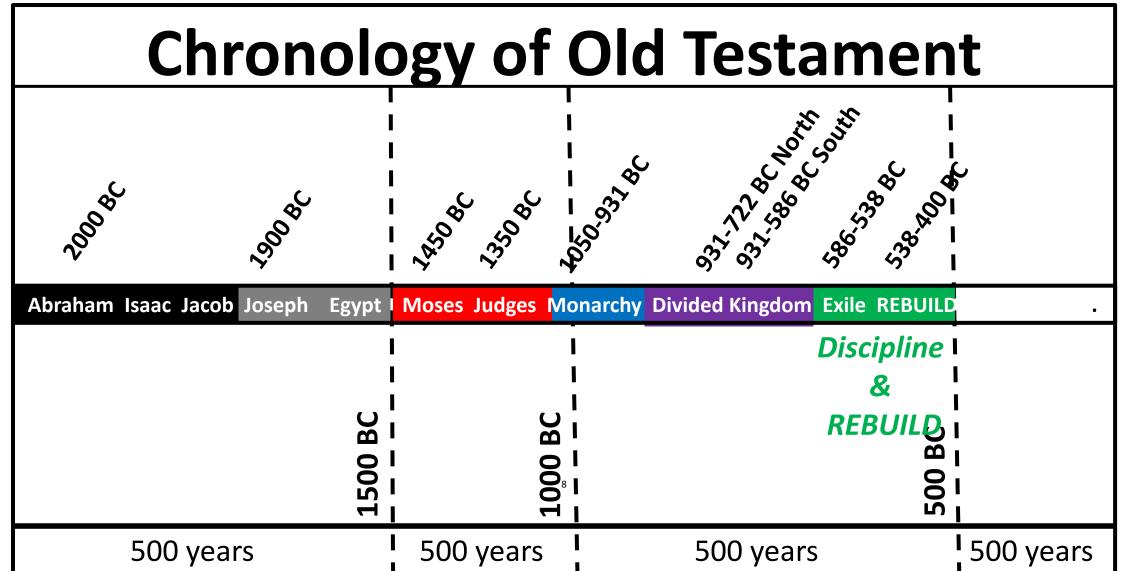
2000 BC





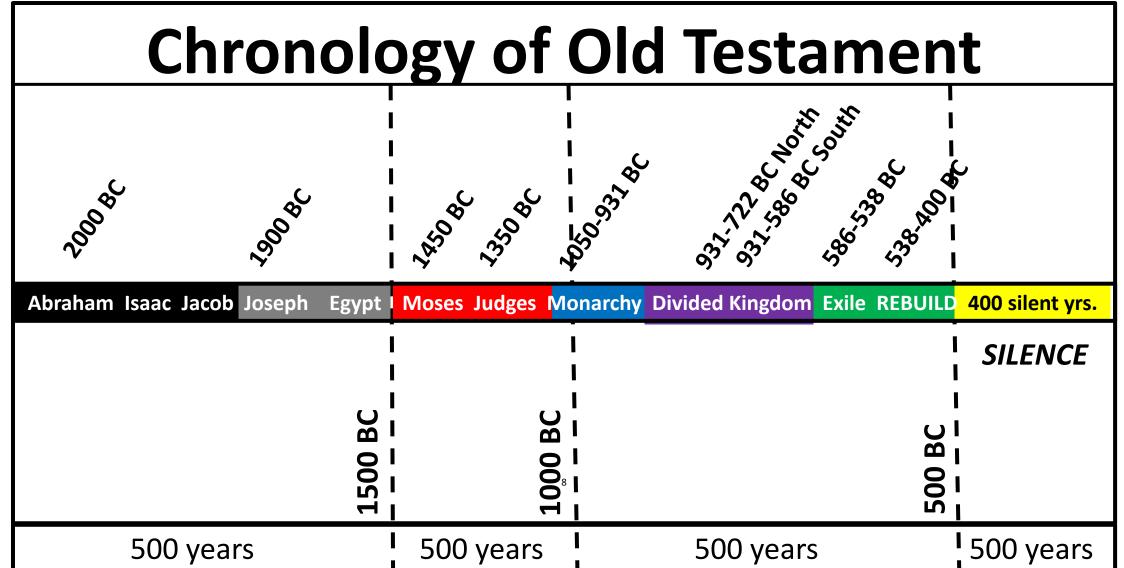


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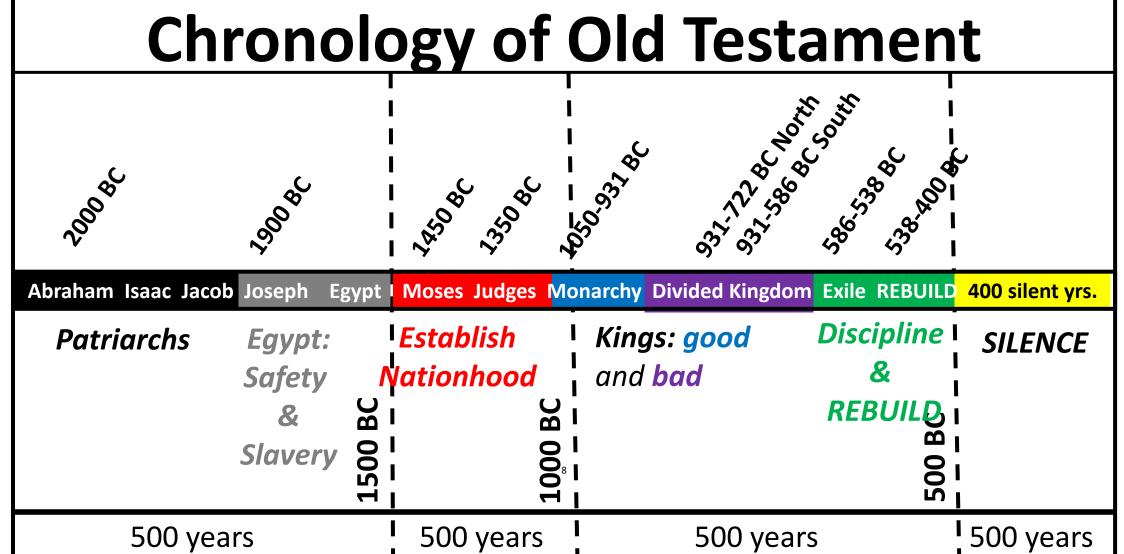


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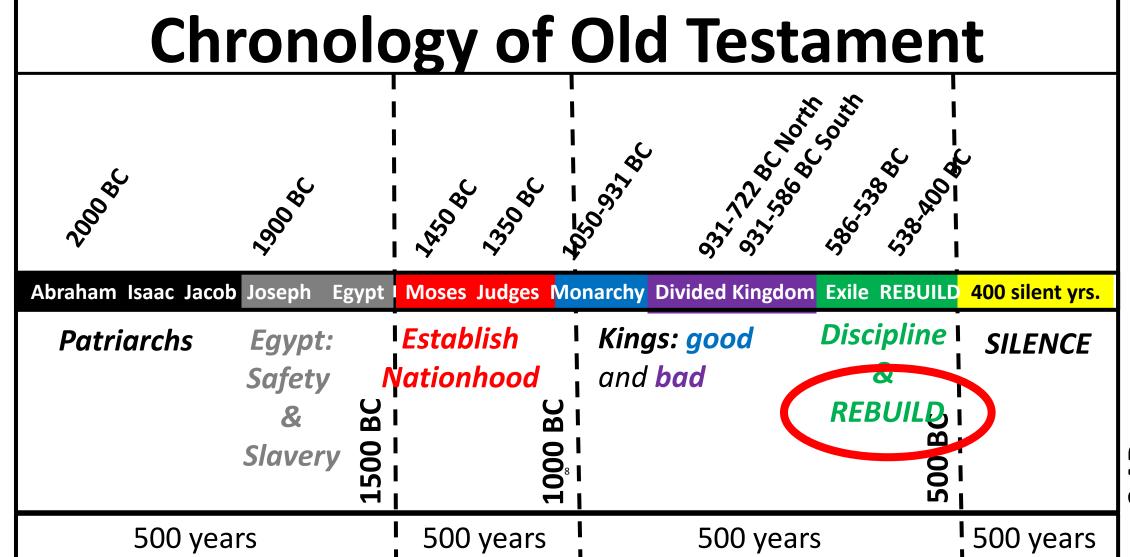
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2000 BC



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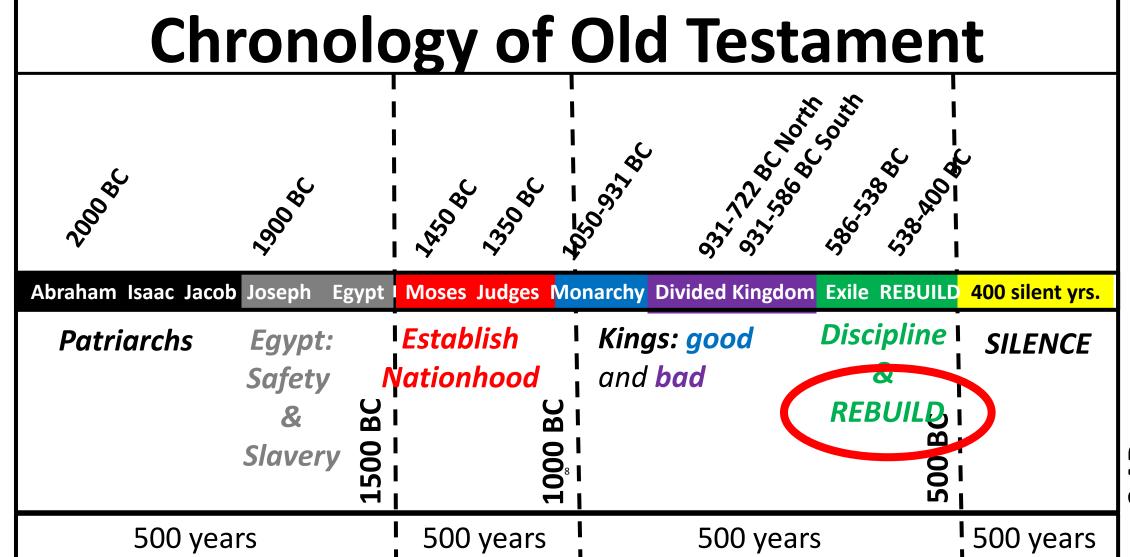
Chronology of Ezra and Nehemiah

Cilibiology of Lzia alia itcliciliali			
Cyrus Darius	Xerxes	l Artaxerxes	
1st Return under	Events	2 nd Return under	3 rd Return under
Zerubbabel	of the book of	Ezra	Nehemiah
(Temple)	Esther	(People)	(Wall)
Ezra 1-6	Book of Esther	Ezra 7-10	Book of Nehemiah
538-515 B.C.	475 B.C.	458-457 B. C.	445-430 B.C.
Zechariah Haggai		Malachi	

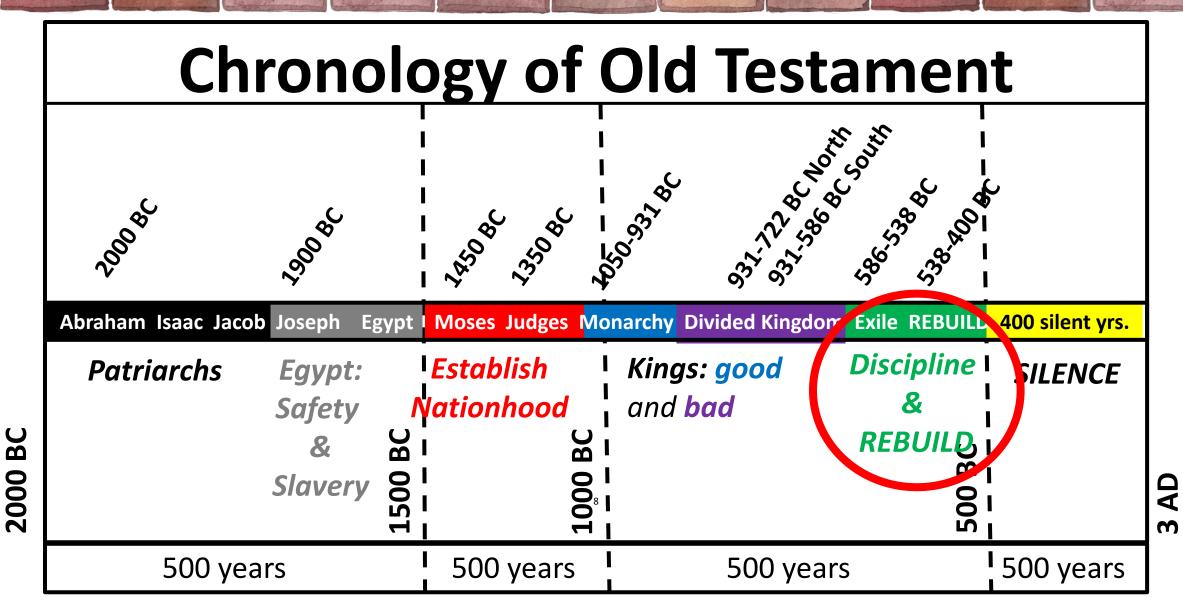


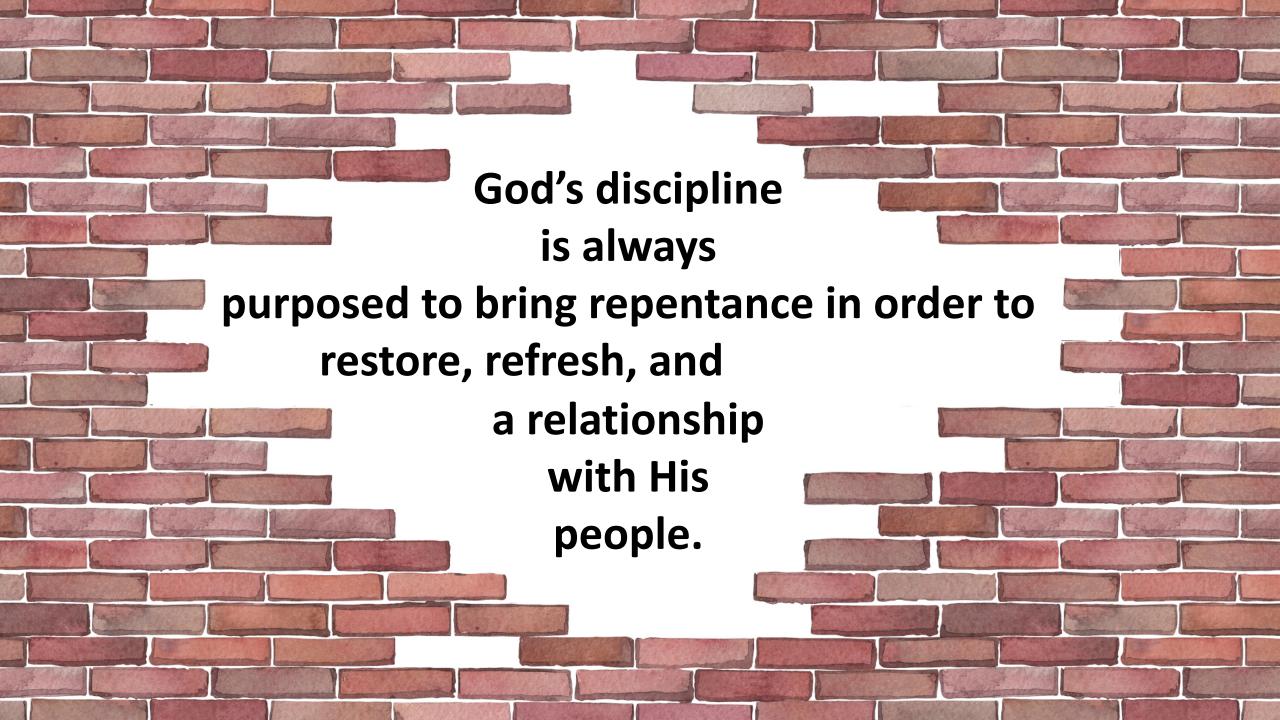
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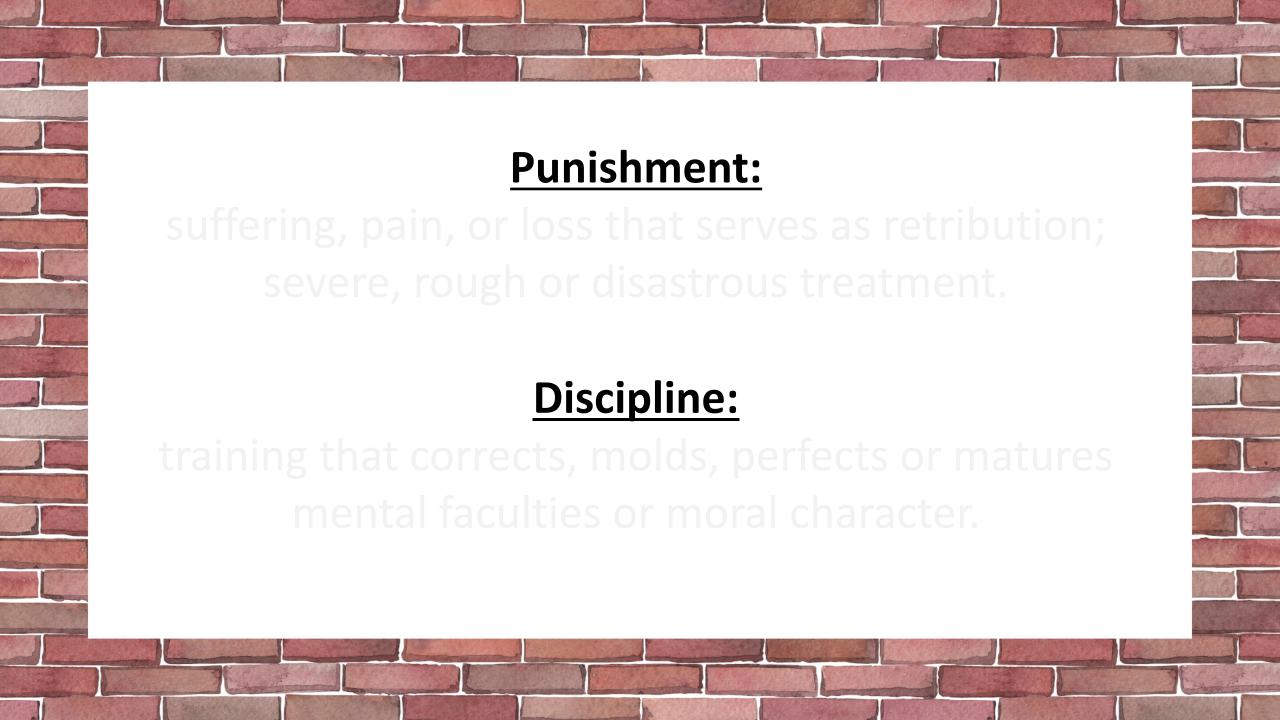


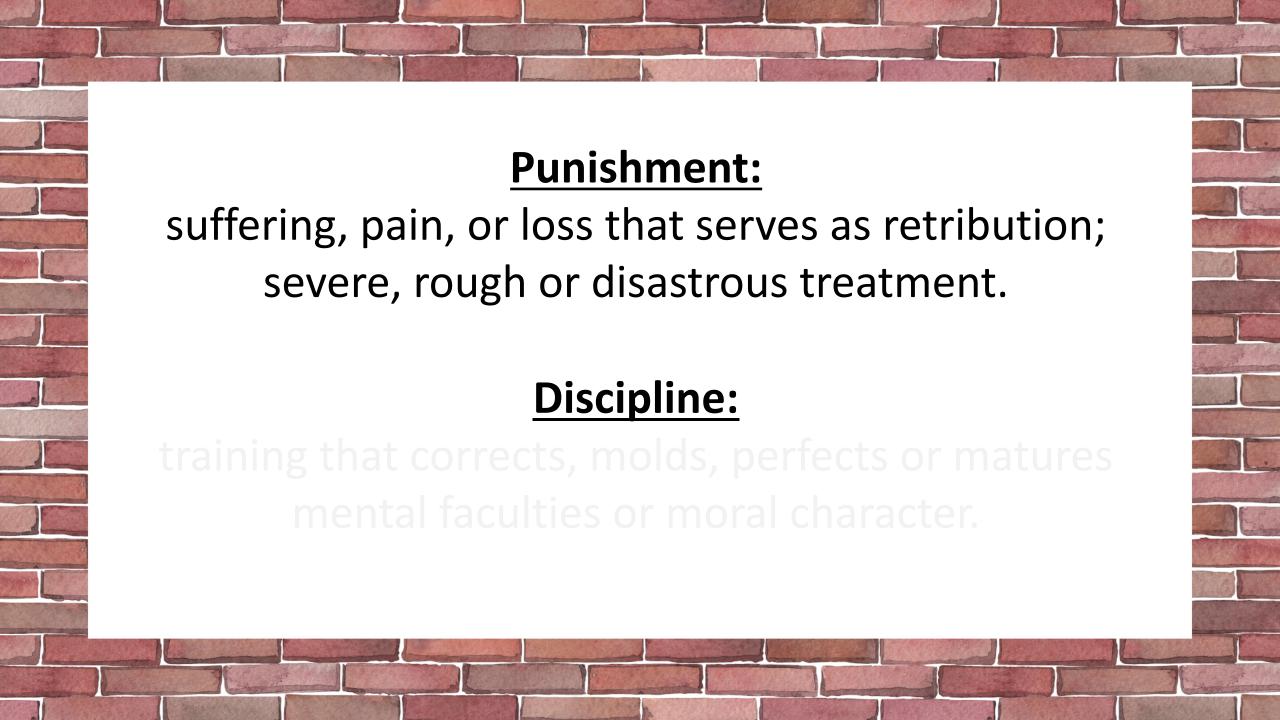
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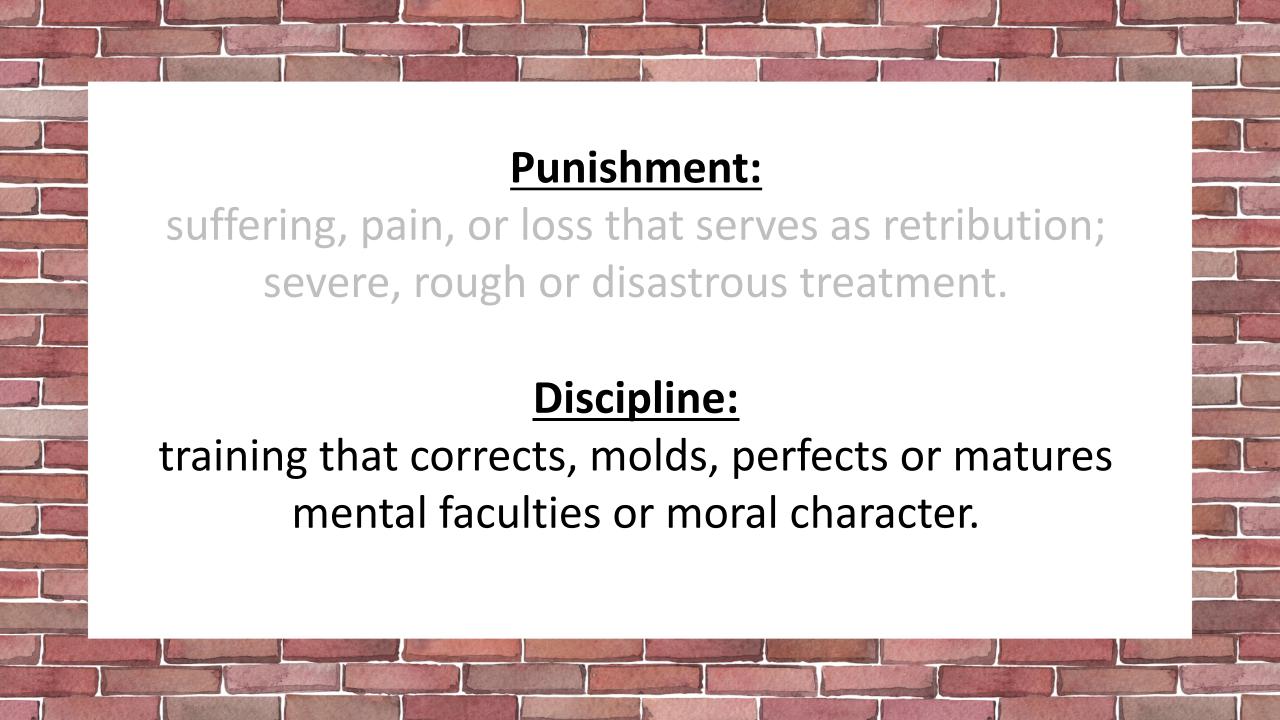


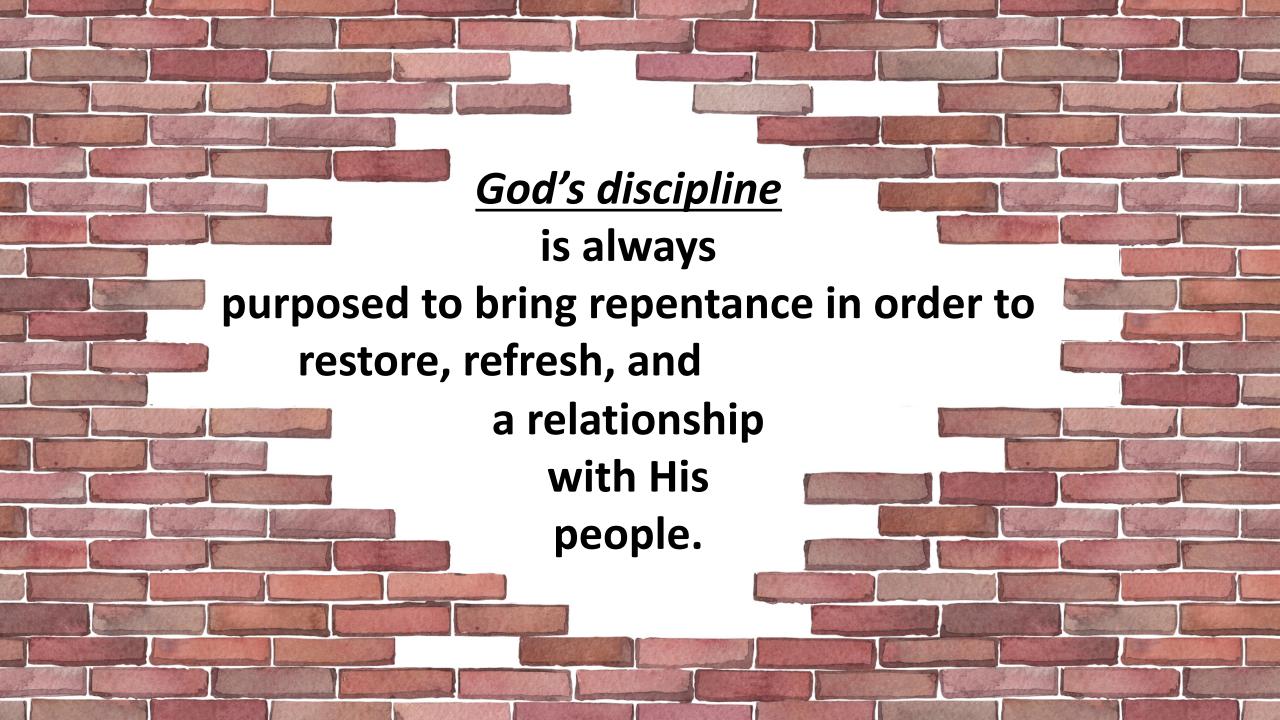


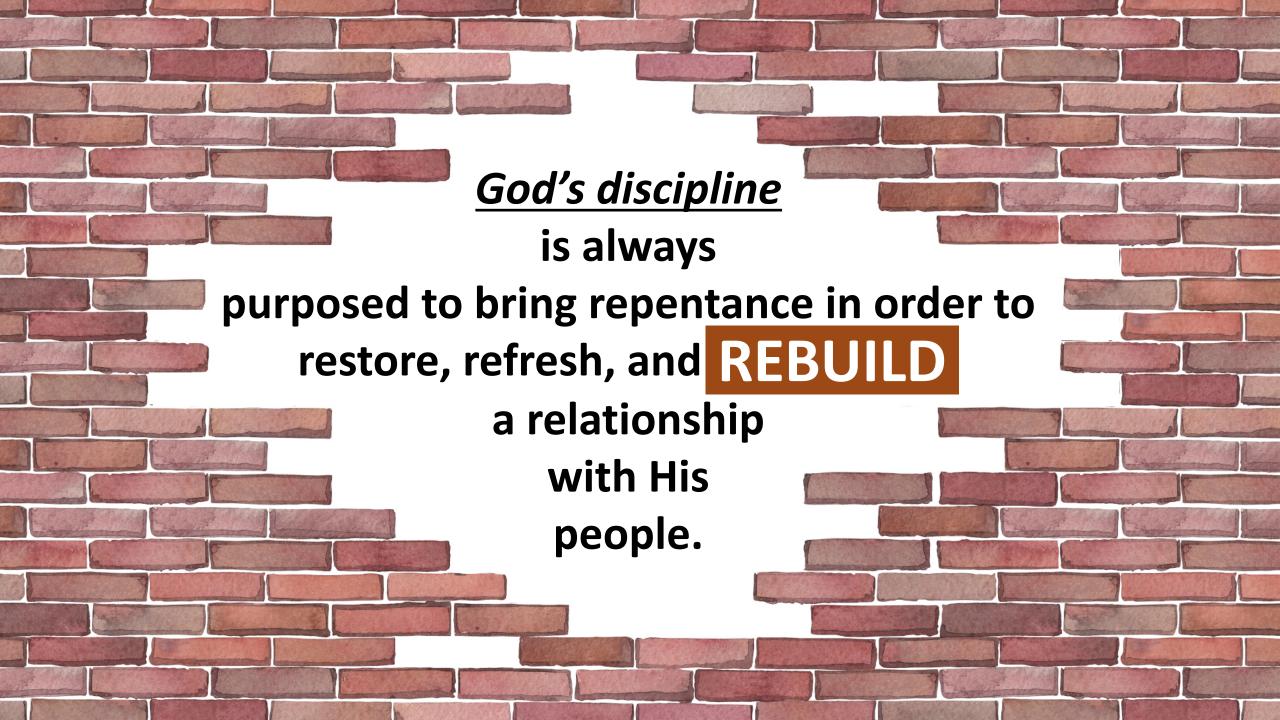












Hebrews 12:1-14

- 1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
- 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,
 - and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
- Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.
- In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

- 5 And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?
 "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by Him.
 For the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives."
- 7 It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons.
 For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?
 8 If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.
- 9 Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them.
- Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?

 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them,
 but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness.

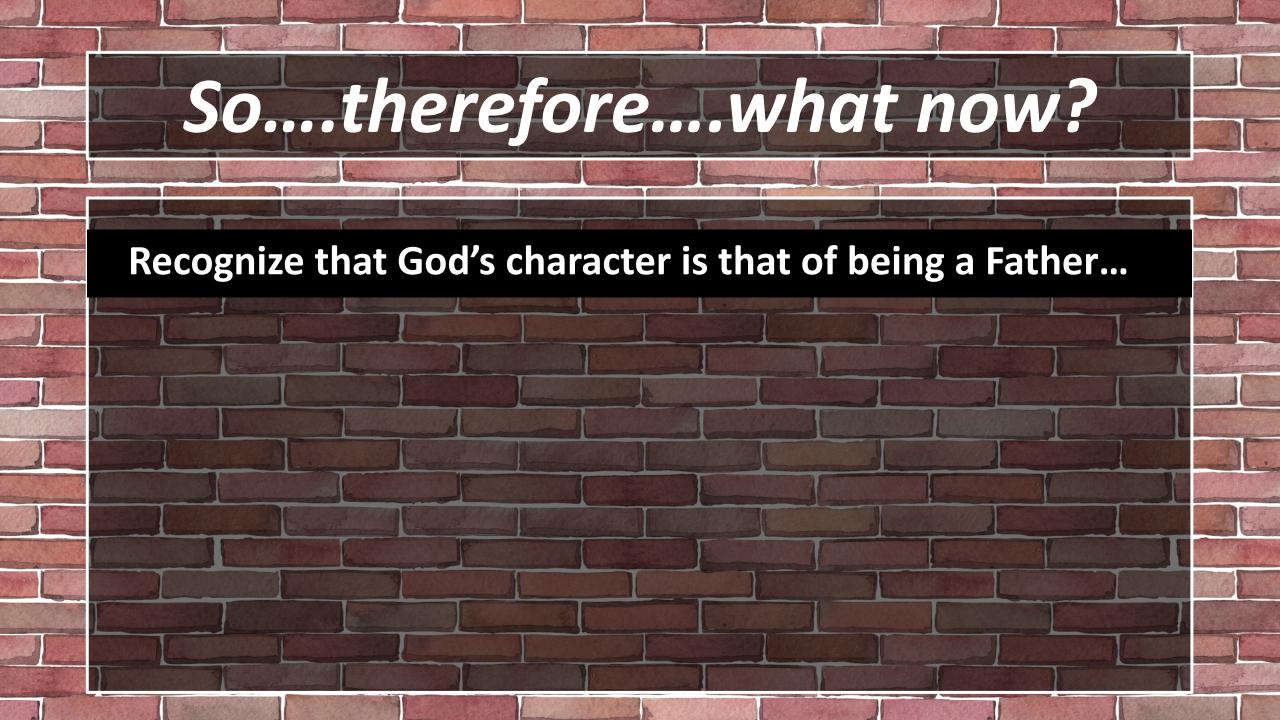
- 11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
- 12 Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees,
- and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.
- Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

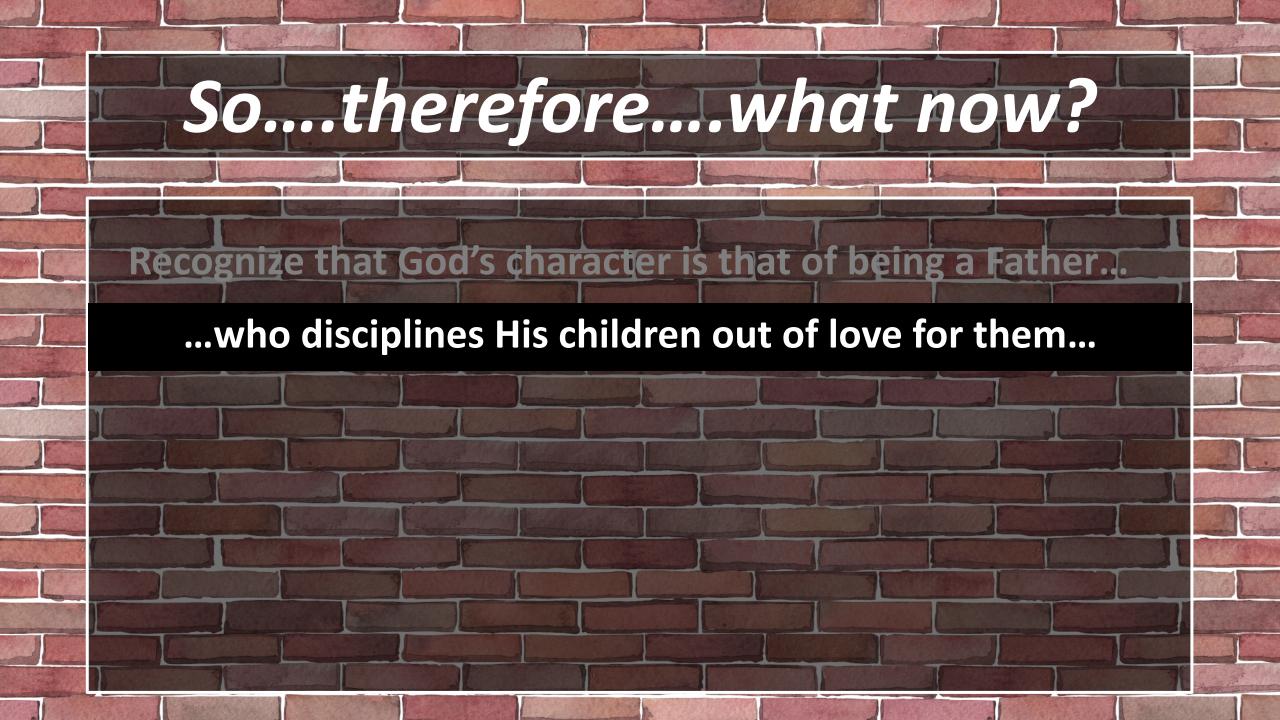
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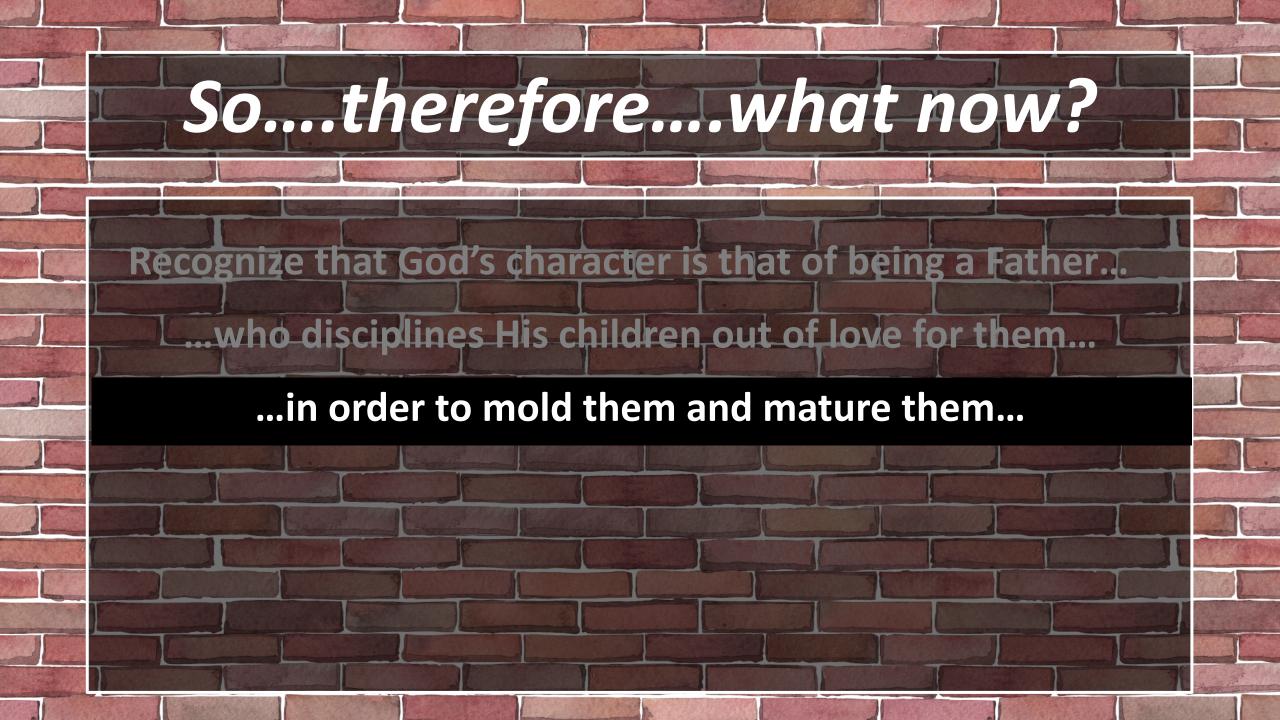
Matthew 5

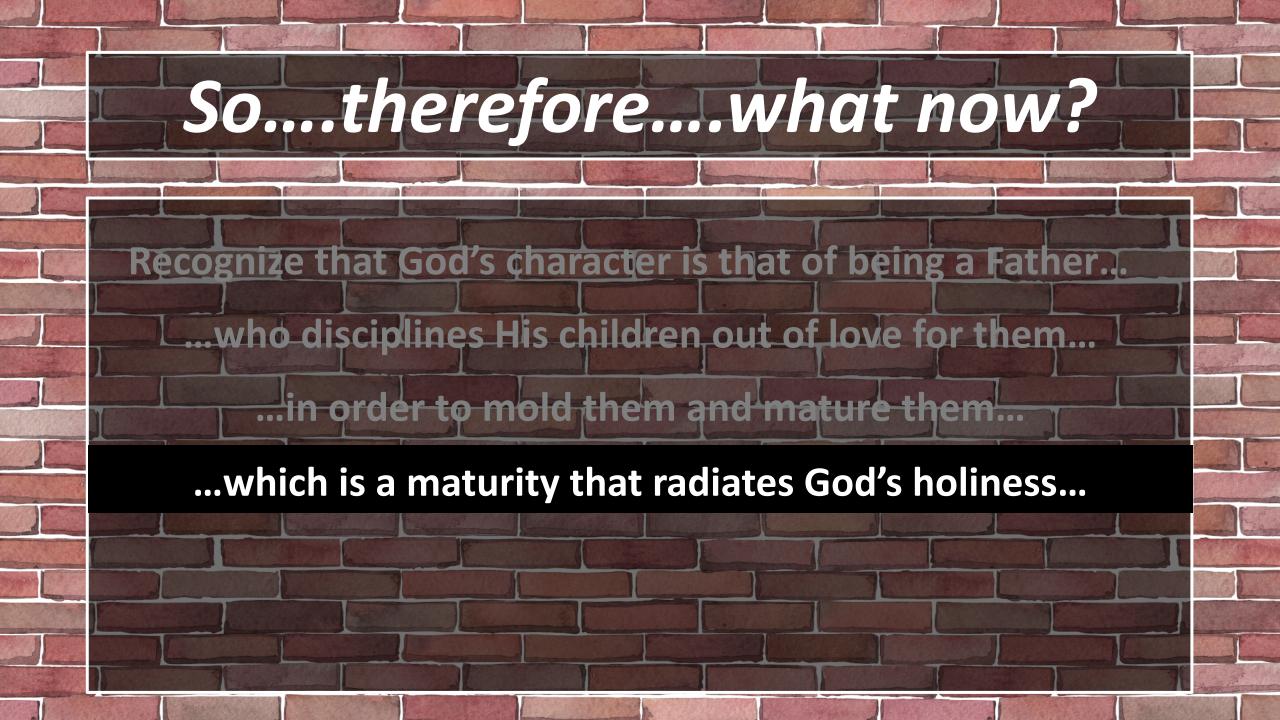
- 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."
- **9** "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.













Recognize that God's character is that of being a Father. I.

...who disciplines His children out of love for them...

...in order to mold them and mature them ...

... which is a maturity that radiates God's holiness...

...and empowers His people to be strong and courageous while being tenderized by a heart of peace.



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