



### Appendix 3 – Main Characters of Ezra and Nehemiah

It's easy to be confused with all the names you encounter in Ezra and Nehemiah. Here's a synopsis of these names and where they are referred to. Be aware that many of the names occurring in lists of returning exiles and workers on the wall are common names. Don't assume that these are all the same people.

Ashdod, men of, enemies, in Persian province of Ashdod on the coast.

**Artaxerxes I, king of Persia**, 464-424 BC, sends Nehemiah to Jerusalem (Ezra 4:7; 7:11-12; Nehemiah 2:1; 5:14)

**Ahasuerus or Xerxes I, king of Persia** (486-465 BC, Ezra 4:6; Esther)

Bilshan (Ezra 2:2; Neh 7:7), leading man in return.

Bishlam, enemy (Ez 4:7)

Cyrus, king of Persia, 559-530 BC, conquers Babylon, releases Jews to return (Ez 1:1)

**Darius II, king of Persia**, 424-405, allows construction to continue (Ez 5:5, 6; 4:24)

**Eliashib the high priest**, rebuilt Sheep Gate (Neh 3:1; 13:4-5, 28)

**Ezra, son of Seraiah, the priest, scribe, teacher of the Law**, leader (Ez 7:1, 6, 11, 12; etc.)

**Geshem the Arab**, enemy official (Neh 2:19; 6:1, 2, 6)

**Haggai the prophet**, prophesies up to completion of the temple in 520 BC (Ez 5:1; 6:14)

**Hanani**, Nehemiah's brother, informs of situation in Jerusalem, trusted with Jerusalem's security (Ne 1:2; 7:2)

Hananiah, commander of citadel of Jerusalem (Neh 7:2)

Jahzeiah, son of Tikvah, opposed putting away foreign wives (Ez 10:15)

**Jeshua, son of Jozadak, priest and leader** in the return (Ez 5:2; 2:2; 3:2, 8, 9; 4:3)

Jonathan, son of Asahel, opposed putting away foreign wives (Ez 10:15)

Jozabad, son of Jeshua, Levite; had foreign wife (Ez 8:33; 10:23)

Meremoth, son of Uriah the priest, son of Meshezabel (Ez 8:33; Ne 3:4)

Meshallam, opposed putting away foreign wives (Ez 10:15; Neh 8:4)

Meshallam, son of Berekiah, father-in-law to Tobiah's daughter (Ne 3:4; 6:18)

Mithredath, the [Persian ?] treasurer (Ez 1:8)

**Nehemiah**, son of Hacaliah, **cupbearer to Artaxerxes, governor of Yehud** (Ez 2:2; Neh 1:1 etc.)

Rehum, the commanding officer, enemy (4:8, 9, 17, 23)

**Sanballat the Horonite, enemy official** (2:10, 19; 4:1, 7; 6:1, 2, 5, 12, 14; 13:28)

Shabbethai the Levite, opposed putting away foreign wives (Ez 10:15)

Shecaniah, son of Jehiel, married foreign women (Ez 10:2)

Shecaniah, son of Arah, father-in-law of Tobiah (Neh 6:18)

**Shemaiah son of Delaiah**, paid by Tobiah and Sanballat to urge Nehemiah to hide in the temple (Neh 6:10)

**Sherebiah**, capable man, Levite, carried silver and gold articles (Ez 8:18, 24)

**Sheshbazzar, prince of Judah** (Ez 1:8, 11)

Shethar-Bozenai, official of Trans-Euphrates (Ez 5:3, 6; 6:6, 13)

Shimshai, the secretary, enemy (4:8, 9, 17, 23)

Tabeel, enemy (Ez 4:7)

Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates (Ez 5:3, 6; 6:6, 13)

**Tobiah the Ammonite, enemy official** (2:10, 19; 4:3, 7; 6:1, 12, 14, 17, 19; 13:4, 7, 8)

**Xerxes I, or Ahasuerus, king of Persia** (Ezra 4:6)

**Zechariah the prophet**, descendant of Iddo (Ez 5:1; 6:14; Neh 8:4)

**Zerubbabel** son of Shealtiel, **grandson of king Jeconiah of Judah** (Ez 5:2; 2:2; 3:2, 8; 4:2, 3)