

Ezra 1:1 – “In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing:

3414 [e] yir-me·yāh;	6310 [e] mip·pī	3068 [e] Yah-weh	1697 [e] de·bar-	3615 [e] lik·lō-wī	6539 [e] pā·ras,	4428 [e] me·lek	3566 [e] le·kō-w-reš	259 [e] 'a·ḥaṭ,	8141 [e] ū·biš·nat
יְרֵמְיָהּ	מִפִּי	יְהוָה	דְּבַר	לְקַלּוֹת	פָּרַס	מֶלֶךְ	לְכוֹרֶשׁ	אַחַת	וּבִשְׁנַת 1
of Jeremiah	by the mouth	of Yahweh	the word	that might be fulfilled	of Persia	king	Cyrus	of first	And in the year
N-proper-ms	Prep-m N-msc	N-proper-ms	N-msc	Prep-I V-Qal-Inf	N-proper-fs	N-msc	Prep-I N-proper-ms	Number-fs	Conj-w, Prep-b N-fsc
3605 [e] bə·kāl	6963 [e] qō·wī	5674 [e] way·ya·'ā·ḇer-	6539 [e] pā·ras,	4428 [e] me·lek-	3566 [e] kō·reš	7307 [e] rū·ah	853 [e] 'et-	3068 [e] Yah-weh	5782 [e] hē·'ir
בְּכָל־	קוֹל־	וַיַּעֲבֵר־	פָּרַס	מֶלֶךְ־	כֹּרֶשׁ	רוּחַ	אֶת־	יְהוָה	הָעִיר
throughout all	a proclamation	so that he made	of Persia	king	of Cyrus	the spirit	-	Yahweh	stirred up
Prep-b N-msc	N-ms	Conj-w V-Hifil-Consecimperf-3ms	N-proper-fs	N-msc	N-proper-ms	N-csc	DirObjM	N-proper-ms	V-Hifil-Perf-3ms
					559 [e] lē·mōr.	4385 [e] bə·mik·tāḇ	1571 [e] we·ḡam-	4438 [e] mal·kū·tōw,	
					לְאֹמֵר:	בְּמִכְתָּב	וְגַם־	מַלְכוּתוֹ	
					saying	in writing	and [put it]	his kingdom	
					Prep-I V-Qal-Inf	Prep-b N-ms	Conj-w Conj	N-fsc 3ms	

1. The Lord stirred Cyrus at that time, but also planned for this in Isaiah 45:13 for this very purpose:
“I have stirred him up in righteousness, and I will make all his ways level; he shall build my city and set my exiles free, not for price or reward,” says the LORD of hosts.”
2. “He made a proclamation” if done the way proclamation were typically communicated and broadcast across the kingdoms would have be communicated by heralds traveling to each of the major towns to read and shout aloud the decree of the emperor. We should imagine this proclamation (along with other proclamation for other captive people groups) being written down and read in all the cities with large Jewish population.
 - a. This written documnt may have been publicly displayed after reading.
 - b. This written document would have been kept in the offical archive of records to be referred to later if needed. And, it was referred to 20 years later in Ezra chapter 6

Ezra 1:2-4 - “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia:

The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and rebuild the house of the Lord, the God of Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem. And let each survivor, in whatever place he sojourns, be assisted by the men of his place with silver and gold, with goods and with beasts, besides freewill offerings for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.

430 [e]	3068 [e]		5414 [e]	776 [e]	4467 [e]	3605 [e]	6539 [e]	4428 [e]	3566 [e]	559 [e]	3541 [e]
'ē-lō-hē	Yah-weh	lī,	nā-tan	hā-'ā-reš,	mam-le-ḵō-wt	kōl	pā-ras,	me-leḵ	kō-reš	'ā-mar,	kōh
אלהי	יהוה	לי	נתן	הארץ	ממלכות	כל	פרס	מלך	כרש	אמר	כה 2
God	Yahweh	me	has given	of the earth	the kingdoms	all	of Persia	king	Cyrus	says	thus
N-mpc	N-proper-ms	Prep 1cs	V-Qal-Perf-3ms	Art N-fs	N-fpc	N-msc	N-proper-fs	N-msc	N-proper-ms	V-Qal-Perf-3ms	Adv

3063 [e]	834 [e]	3389 [e]	1004 [e]		1129 [e]	5921 [e]	6485 [e]	1931 [e]	8064 [e]
bî-hū-dāh.	'ā-šer	bî-rū-šā-lim	ba-yit,	lōw	lib-nō-wt-	'ā-lay	pā-qad	wē-hū-	haš-šā-mā-yim;
ביהודה:	אשר	בירושלם	בית	לו	לבנות	עלי	פקד	והוא	השמים
in Judah	which [is]	at Jerusalem	a house	Him	to build	me	has commanded	and He	of heaven
Prep-b N-proper-fs	Pro-r	Prep-b N-proper-fs	N-ms	Prep 3ms	Prep-l V-Qal-Inf	Prep 1cs	V-Qal-Perf-3ms	Conj-w Pro-3ms	Art N-mp

1. This is what the Cyrus cylinder says:
*"I returned to these sacred cities..., the sanctuaries of which have been in ruins for a long time, the images which used to live therein and established for them permanent sanctuaries. I also gathered all their former inhabitants and returned to them their habitations
...May all the gods whom I have resettled in their sacred cities ask daily Bel and Nebo for a long life for me. . . ; to Marduk, my lord, may they say this: "Cyrus, the king who worships you, and Cambyses, his son..."*
2. This is 538 BC and begin the new policies of the new empire established by Cyrus
3. Correct religious protocol for all groups and gods was important for the Persians.
4. It is likely this document includes diplomatic courtesy to Israel's God naming him "LORD" and may have been written with advice from high ranking Jews (Daniel was still in the courts of the empire at this time, but others Jews were likely in key positions.)
5. Josephus records that Cyrus was shown the prophecy of Isaiah 44:28 -
"who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose'; saying of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'"

Ezra 1:3 – "Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and rebuild the house of the LORD, the God of

Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem.

3389 [e]	5927 [e]	5973 [e]	430 [e]	1961 [e]	5971 [e]	3605 [e]	4310 [e]	
lî·rū·šā·lim	wə·ya·'al	'im·mōw,	'ē·lō·hāw	yə·hî	'am·mōw,	mik·kāl	bā·kəm	mî·
לִירוּשָׁלַם	וַיַּעַל	עִמּוֹ	אֱלֹהֵיוֹ	יְהִי	עִמּוֹ	מִכָּל־	בְּכֶם	מִי־ 3
to Jerusalem	and let him go up	with him	his God	May be	His people	of all	among you	Who [is]
Prep-I N-proper-fs	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjImperf.Jus-3ms	Prep 3ms	N-mpc 3ms	V-Qal-Imperf.Jus-3ms	N-msc 3ms	Prep-m N-msc	Prep 2mp	Interrog

430 [e]	1931 [e]	3478 [e]	430 [e]	3068 [e]	1004 [e]	853 [e]	1129 [e]	3063 [e]	834 [e]
hā·'ē·lō·hîm	hū	yîs·rā·'êl,	'ē·lō·hê	Yah·weh	bêt	'et-	wə·yi·ben,	bî·hū·dāh;	'ā·šer
הָאֱלֹהִים	הוּא	יִשְׂרָאֵל	אֱלֹהֵיוֹ	יְהוָה	בַּיִת	אֶת־	וַיִּבְנוּ	בִּיהוּדָה	אֲשֶׁר
God	He [is]	of Israel	God	of Yahweh	the house	-	and build	in Judah	which [is]
Art N-mp	Pro-3ms	N-proper-fs	N-mpc	N-proper-ms	N-msc	DirObjM	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjImperf.Jus-3ms	Prep-b N-proper-fs	Pro-r

3389 [e]	834 [e]
bî·rū·šā·lim.	'ā·šer
בִּירוּשָׁלַם:	אֲשֶׁר
in Jerusalem	which [is]
Prep-b N-proper-fs	Pro-r

1:4 - And let each survivor, in whatever place he sojourns, be assisted by the men of his place with silver and gold, with goods and with beasts, besides freewill offerings for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.”

376 [e]	5375 [e]	8033 [e]	1481 [e]	1931 [e]	834 [e]	4725 [e]	3605 [e]	7604 [e]	3605 [e]
'an·šê	yə·naš·šə·'ū·hū	šām	gār-	hū	'ā·šer	ham·mē·qō·mō·wî	mik·kāl	han·niš·'ār,	wə·kāl
אֲנָשִׁי	יִנְשְׂאוּהוּ	שָׁם	גָר־	הוּא	אֲשֶׁר	הַמְּקוֹמוֹת	מִכָּל־	הַנִּשְׁאַר	וְכָל־ 4
the men	let help him	in it	dwells	he	where	place	in any	is left	And whoever
N-mpc	V-Piel-Imperf-3mp 3ms	Adv	V-Qal-PrtcpI-ms	Pro-3ms	Pro-r	Art N-mp	Prep-m N-msc	Art V-Nifal-PrtcpI-ms	Conj-w N-msc

1004 [e]	5071 [e]	5973 [e]	929 [e]	7399 [e]	2091 [e]	3701 [e]	4725 [e]
lə·bêt	han·ne·dā·bāh,	'im-	ū·bîb·hê·mah;	ū·bîr·kūš	ū·bə·zā·hāb	bə·ke·sep	mə·qō·mōw,
לְבַיִת	הַנְּדָבָה	עִם־	וּבְבֵהֵמָה	וּבְרִכּוּשׁ	וּבְזָהָב	בְּכֶסֶף	מִקְמוֹ
for the house	the freewill offerings	besides	and livestock	and with goods	and gold	with silver	of his place
Prep-I N-msc	Art N-fs	Prep	Conj-w, Prep-b N-fs	Conj-w, Prep-b N-ms	Conj-w, Prep-b N-ms	Prep-b N-ms	N-msc 3ms

3389 [e]	834 [e]	430 [e]
bî·rū·šā·lim.	'ā·šer	hā·'ē·lō·hîm
בִּירוּשָׁלַם:	אֲשֶׁר	הָאֱלֹהִים
in Jerusalem	which [is]	of God
Prep-b N-proper-fs	Pro-r	Art N-mp

1. “survivor” (*shaar*) would call to mind the word translated “a remnant” (*shear*) in Isaiah 10:20 “In that day the remnant of Israel and the survivors of the house of Jacob will no more lean on him who struck them, but will lean on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.”
 - a. *Shaar* – meaning “to remain, be left over”

b. *Shear* – meaning “rest, residue, remnant”

3478 [e] yiś-rā-’ēl יִשְׂרָאֵל of Israel N-proper-ms	7605 [e] še-’ār שְׂאֵר [That] the remnant N-msc	5750 [e] 'ō-wd עוֹד again Adv	3254 [e] yō-w-sīp יֹסִיף will V-Hifl-Imperf-3ms	3808 [e] lō- לֹא never Adv-NegPrt	1931 [e] ha-hū, הָהוּא that Art Pro-3ms	3117 [e] bay-yō-wm בַּיּוֹם in day Prep-b, Art N-ms	1961 [e] we-hā-yāh וְהָיָה And it shall come to pass Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	20
5921 [e] 'al- עַל- on Prep	8172 [e] we-niš-'an, וְנִשְׁעַן but will depend Conj-w V-Nifal-ConjPerf-3ms	5221 [e] mak-kē-hū; מַכְהוּ him who defeated them V-Hifl-Prtcl-msc 3ms	5921 [e] 'al- עַל- on Prep	8172 [e] lē-hiš-šā-'ēn לְהִשָּׁעַן depend Prep-l V-Nifal-Inf	3290 [e] ya-'ā-qōb, יַעֲקֹב of Jacob N-proper-ms	1004 [e] bēt- בֵּית- of the house N-msc	6413 [e] ū-pē-lē-ṭat וּפְלִיטֹת and such as have escaped Conj-w N-fsc	
				571 [e] be-'ē-meṭ, בְּאֵמֶת: in truth Prep-b N-fs	3478 [e] yiś-rā-’ēl יִשְׂרָאֵל of Israel N-proper-ms	6918 [e] qa-dō-wōš קְדוֹשׁ the Holy one Adj-msc	3068 [e] Yah-weh יְהוָה Yahweh N-proper-ms	

2. Being given gifts of “silver and gold” at their departure would have seemed like a real life reenactment of the Exodus story to the Jews in Persia in 538 BC like the “second Exodus” spoke of by Isaiah in:
 - a. Isaiah 43:14-28
 - b. Isaiah 48:20-21 - “*Leave Babylon, flee from the Babylonians! Announce this with shouts of joy and proclaim it. Send it out to the ends of the earth; say, “The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob.” They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts; he made water flow for them from the rock; he split the rock and water gushed out.*”
3. Three types of support for those who return. The first here in this verse. The second found in:
 - a. “*assisted by the men of his place*” with –
 - i. silver and gold
 - ii. goods – *rekush* meaning “property, goods” and “moveable possessions of all kinds.
 - iii. beasts – animals, cattle
 - iv. freewill offerings for the house of God
 - b. “*Let the cost be paid from the royal treasury.*” – Ezra 6:4 detailed in 6:6-12
 - c. “*Vessels of the house of God*” – here in 1:4 and Ezra 6:5

1:5 – “**Then rose up the heads of the fathers’ houses of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites, everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up to rebuild the house of the LORD that is in Jerusalem.**”

3548 [e]	1144 [e]	3063 [e]	1 [e]	7218 [e]	6965 [e]
wə·hak·kō·hā·nīm	ū·ḅin·yā·min,	lī·hū·ḡāh	hā·'ā·ḅō·wt,	rā·šē	way·yā·qū·mū
וְהַכֹּהֲנִים	וּבִנְיָמִן	לְיְהוּדָה	הָאֲבוֹת	רִאשֵׁי	וַיִּקְוּמוּ
and the priests	and Benjamin	of Judah	of the fathers' [houses]	the heads	And arose
Conj-w, Art N-mp	Conj-w N-proper-fs	Prep-l N-proper-fs	Art N-mp	N-mpc	Conj-w V-Qal-ConseclImperf-3mp

1004 [e]	853 [e]	1129 [e]	5927 [e]	7307 [e]	853 [e]	430 [e]	5782 [e]	3605 [e]	3881 [e]
bēt	'et-	lib·nō·wt,	la·'ā·lō·wt	rū·hōw,	'et-	hā·'ē·lō·hīm	hē·'īr	le·kōl	wə·hal·wī·yim;
בֵּית	אֶת־	לְבָנוֹת	לְעֹלוֹת	רוּחוֹ	אֶת־	הָאֱלֹהִים	הָעִיר	לְכֹל	וְהַלְוִיִּם
the house	-	and build	to go up	whose spirits	-	God	had moved	with all	and the Levites
N-msc	DirObjM	Prep-l V-Qal-Inf	Prep-l V-Qal-Inf	N-csc 3ms	DirObjM	Art N-mp	V-Hifil-Perf-3ms	Prep-l N-ms	Conj-w, Art N-proper-mp

3389 [e]	834 [e]	3068 [e]
bī·rū·šā·lim.	'ā·šer	Yah·weh
בִּירוּשָׁלַם:	אֲשֶׁר	יְהוָה
in Jerusalem	which [is]	of Yahweh
Prep-b N-proper-fs	Pro-r	N-proper-ms

1:6 – “And all who were about them aided them with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, with beasts, and with costly wares, besides all that was freely offered.”

7399 [e]	2091 [e]	3701 [e]	3627 [e]	3027 [e]	2388 [e]	5439 [e]	3605 [e]
bā·rə·kūš	baz·zā·hāḅ	ke·seḅ	biḡ·lê-	bī·ḡé·hem,	ḥiz·zə·qū	se·bī·ḅō·tê·hem	wə·kāl
בְּרִכּוּשׁ	בַּזָּהָב	כֶּסֶף	בְּכֵלֵי־	בִּידֵיהֶם	הִזְקוּ	סְבִיבֹתֵיהֶם	וְכֹל־
with goods	and gold	of silver	with articles	them	encouraged	those who [were] around them	And all
Prep-b, Art N-ms	Prep-b, Art N-ms	N-ms	Prep-b N-mpc	Prep-b N-fdc 3mp	V-Piel-Perf-3cp	Adv 3mp	Conj-w N-msc

s	5068 [e]	3605 [e]	5921 [e]	905 [e]	4030 [e]	929 [e]
	hit·nad·dēḅ.	kāl-	'al-	le·ḅad	ū·ḅam·miḡ·dā·nō·wt;	ū·ḅab·bə·hē·māh
ס .	הִתְנַדְּבָ:	כֹּל־	עַל־	לְבַד	וּבְמִגְדָּנוֹת	וּבְבְהֵמָה
-	[that] was willingly offered	all	besides	beside	and with precious things	and livestock
Punc	V-Hitpael-Inf	N-msc	Prep	Prep-l N-msc	Conj-w, Prep-b, Art N-mp	Conj-w, Prep-b, Art N-fs

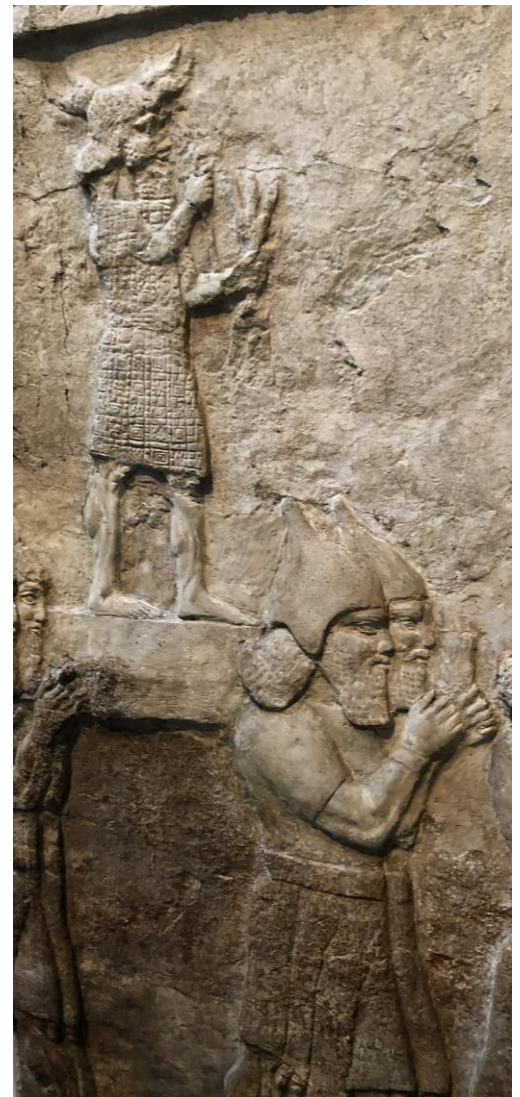
1. Fellow Jews fulfilled Cyrus' order by providing the gold, silver, goods, beasts along with free will offering for the temple.
2. The people providing this would be from the community of those who were stirred to return.

1:7 – “Cyrus the king also brought out the vessels of the house of the LORD that Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and placed in the house of his gods.

5019 [e] 3318 [e] 834 [e] 3069 [e] 1004 [e] 3627 [e] 853 [e] 3318 [e] 3566 [e] 4428 [e]
 nə·bū·kad·neš·šar hō·w·šî 'ă·šer Yah·weh; bêt- kə·lê 'et- hō·w·šî kō·w·reš, wə·ham·me·lek
 נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר הוֹצִיא אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה בֵּית- כָּלִי אֶת- הוֹצִיא כּוֹרֶשׁ וְהַמֶּלֶךְ 7
 Nebuchadnezzar had taken which of Yahweh the house the articles of - brought out Cyrus And King
 N-proper-ms V-Hifil-Perf-3ms Pro-r N-proper-ms N-msc N-mpc DirObjM V-Hifil-Perf-3ms N-proper-ms Conj-w, Art | N-ms

430 [e] 1004 [e] 5414 [e] 3389 [e]
 'ē·lō·haw. bə·bêt way·yit·te·nēm mī·rū·šā·lim,
 — אֱלֹהֵיוֹ: בְּבַיִת וַיִּתְּנֵם מִירוּשָׁלַם
 of his gods in the temple and put from Jerusalem
 N-mpc | 3ms Prep-b | N-msc Conj-w | V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms | 3mp Prep-m | N-proper-fs

1. Since there were no “images”, “gods” or “statues” that came from the Jewish temple as there would have been taken from the temples of the other nations, only the vessels and articles used in the Temple could have been taken and now returned.



- Photos of Aramean gods being taken to Nineveh by the Assyrians. The Assyrians fell to Babylon who would have took possession of these foreign temple treasures. It is possible that these idols were returned to their native peoples and sent back to their homelands to rebuild their temples and restore their religions. The Jews did not have a “god” image stolen from their temple by the Assyrians or Babylonians, but they did have the sacred temple vessels used to worship the LORD. These vessels were returned to Jerusalem. The order/decreed for their return is seen in Ezra 1:4,7 and 6:1-5



1:8 – “Cyrus king of Persia brought these out in the charge of Mithredath the treasurer, who counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah.

1489 [e]	4990 [e]	3027 [e]	5921 [e]	6539 [e]	4428 [e]	3566 [e]	3318 [e]
hag·giz·bār;	mit·rə·dāt	yad	‘al-	pā·ras,	me·lek	kō·w·reš	way·yō·w·šî·’êm,
הַגִּזְבָּר	מִתְרַדָּת	יָד	עַל-	פָּרַס	מֶלֶךְ	כּוֹרֵשׁ	וַיּוֹצִיאֵם 8
the treasurer	of Mithredath	the hand	by	of Persia	king	Cyrus	and brought them out
Art N-ms	N-proper-ms	N-fsc	Prep	N-proper-fs	N-msc	N-proper-ms	Conj-w V-Hifil-ConsecImperf-3ms 3mp

3063 [e]	5387 [e]	8339 [e]	5608 [e]
lî·hū·dāh.	han·nā·šî	le·šê·šə·baš·šar,	way·yis·pə·rêm
לִיהוּדָה:	הַנָּשִׂיא	לְשֵׁשׁבַצָּר	וַיִּסְפְּרֵם
of Judah	the prince	to Sheshbazzar	and counted them out
Prep-l N-proper-fs	Art N-ms	Prep-l N-proper-ms	Conj-w V-Qal-ConsecImperf-3ms 3mp

1. Cyrus is called King of Persia
2. Mithredath, the treasurer
 - a. Mithredath is a Persian name that honors the sun god Mithras. The name means “Mithras has given”

- b. The word “treasurer” (*gizbar*) is a Persian word. This word is identified as a foreign word in Hebrew concordances. It means “treasurer”
3. Sheshbazzar, prince of Judah
- a. “prince” is *nasiy* /*naw-see*/ meaning “one lifted up”, “a chief”, “prince”. The word is not only used to refer to royalty, but also to leaders of many types and levels so we do not need to limit this word to “the line of David”. It could be an important local leader of the Jews.
 - i. Prince of Judah would make him a leader in the royal tribe
 - ii. Ezekiel 34:24 Ezekiel uses the same “prince” (*nasi*) to refer to the Davidic messiah
 - b. Shshbazzar is Babylonian name meaning “Shamash (the sun-god) protects the son” or “Sin (the moon-god) protects the father)
 - c. Sheshbazzar is only mentioned by name in:
 - i. Ezra 1:8-11 when Cyrus entrusts him with the Temple treasures and with the rebuilding of the Temple.
 - ii. Ezra 5:14-16 where this same decree and instructions are reviewed in 520 eighteen years later because the assignment had been left incomplete:

“they (temple treasures) were delivered to one whose name was Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor (peha); and he said to him, “Take these vessels, go and put them in the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be rebuilt on its site.” Then this Sheshbazzar came and laid the foundations of the house of God that is in Jerusalem, and from that time until now it has been in building, and it is not yet finished.’
 - d. Sheshbazzar is never mentioned other than this one occasion and that when he receives the Temple treasures and while he was in Persia.
 - e. By Ezra 2:2 (537 BC) the governor (*peha*) who actually arrives in Judah is called Zerubbabel, (“seed of Babel” or “born in Babel”) and also at:
 - i. Foundation laying – 3:8
 - ii. Confrontation – 4:2
 - iii. Resuming the building – 5:2
 - iv. Haggai 1:1 (520) – the governor is Zerubbabel
 - v. 1 Chronicles 3:17-19 – as a grandson of Jehoiachin in captivity: Jehoiachin - Pedaiah - Zerubbabel
 - f. Views on Sheshbazzar and Zerubbabel identification:
 - i. ONE VIEW: Sheshbazzar and Zerubbabel are the same man.
 - 1. Sheshbazzar was the court name for Zerubbabel (just like Belteshazzar was the court name for Daniel). Sheshabazzar is used in imperial settings while Zerubbabel is used in Jewish settings.
 - 2. AGAINST THIS VIEW:
 - a. No explanation of this is given in the text which is historical background and the same story line. Seems easy enough to explain why the text switches names. (Yet no explanation is given in 2 Kings 15 where Azariah and Uzziah are used interchangeably.

- b. In Ezra 5 Sheshbazzar seems to be referred to as a past historic figure, yet Zerubbabel in similar cases is active and present.
- c. Both names are Babylonian. Zerubbabel is not Hebrew.
- ii. TWO VIEW: Sheshbazzar was official governor who stayed in Persia; Zerubbabel was unofficial but carried out Sheshbazzar's assignment.
 - 1. Credit would have gone to Sheshbazzar, but Zerubbabel was the boots on the ground.
 - 2. Since Zerubbabel is clearly a descendent of David the Persians may have hesitated to give him the title and position, and, instead, gave the position to Sheshbazzar as the overseer.
- iii. Summary of two options:
 - 1. Sheshbazzar is a foreign official given the title of "governor of the province of Judah" or "prince of Judah" (but, is not Jewish and not in line of David.) Judah was the recognized province of the Jews at this time.
 - 2. Sheshbazzar was the official court name of Zerubbabel, but Zerubbabel's lineage to the line of David is only given in Jewish settings when his own name Zerubbabel is used.
- iv. One commentary claims that modern scholars are unanimous that Sheshbazzar was not the same person as Zerubbabel.

1:9- "And this was the number of them: 30 basins of gold, 1,000 basins of silver, 29 censers,

	6242 [e]	8672 [e]	4252 [e]	505 [e]	3701 [e]	105 [e]	7970 [e]	2091 [e]	105 [e]	4557 [e]	428 [e]
s	wə'ēs-rīm.	tiš-'āh	ma-hā-lā-pīm	'ā-lep,	ke-sep	'ā-gar-ṭe-lé-	šə-lō-šim,	zā-hāb	'ā-gar-ṭe-lé	mis-pā-rām;	wə'ēl-leh
ס .	וְעֶשְׂרִים:	תְּשֵׁעָה	מִחֻלָּיִם	אֶלֶף	כֶּסֶף	אֶגְרָטָיִם	שְׁלֹשִׁים	זָהָב	אֶגְרָטָיִם	מִסְפָּרָם	וְאֵלֶּה
-	and twenty	nine	knives	a thousand	silver	platters	thirty	gold	platters	the numbers of them	And these [are]
Punc	Conj-w Number-cp	Number-ms	N-mp	Number-ms	N-ms	N-mpc	Number-cp	N-ms	N-mpc	N-msc 3mp	Conj-w Pro-cp

1. These were actual lists
2. "Basins" is a Persian word that may come from an inventory written by a Persian
3. Censers is a guess at the Hebrew word mahalaim. Also options are "knives, "changes" of priestly clothes
4. The totaled numbers do not add up. So, either the list of components or the total numbers have been misinterpreted in translation.

1:10 – "30 bowls of gold, 410 bowls of silver, and 1,000 other vessels;

	505 [e]	312 [e]	3627 [e]	6235 [e]	3967 [e]	702 [e]	4932 [e]	3701 [e]	3713 [e]	7970 [e]	2091 [e]	3713 [e]
s	'ā-lep.	'ā-hē-rīm	kē-līm	wa-'ā-sā-rāh;	mé-'ō-wt	'ar-ba'	miš-nīm,	ke-sep	ke-pō-w-rê	šə-lō-šim,	zā-hāb	ke-pō-w-rê
ס .	אֶלֶף:	אֲחֵרִים	כְּלִים	וְעֶשְׂרֵה	מֵאוֹת	אַרְבַּע	מִשְׁנִים	כֶּסֶף	כְּפוּרֵי	שְׁלֹשִׁים	זָהָב	כְּפוּרֵי
-	a thousand	[and] other	articles	and ten	hundred	four	a similar [kind]	of silver	basins	thirty	gold	Basins
Punc	Number-ms	Adj-mp	N-mp	Conj-w Number-ms	Number-fp	Number-fsc	N-mp	N-ms	N-mpc	Number-cp	N-ms	N-mpc

1:11 – "all the vessels of gold and of silver were 5,400. All these did Sheshbazzar bring up, when the exiles were brought up from Babylonia to Jerusalem.

5927 [e]	3605 [e]	3967 [e]	702 [e]	505 [e]	2568 [e]	3701 [e]	2091 [e]	3627 [e]	3605 [e]	
he·'é·lāh	hak·kōl	mê·'ō·wṭ;	wə·'ar·ba'	'ā·lā·pīm	ḥā·mê·šeṭ	wə·lak·ke·sep,	laz·zā·hāb	kê·līm	kāl-	11
הַעֲלָה	הַכֹּל	מֵאוֹת	וְאַרְבַּע	אַלְפִים	חַמֵּשֶׁת	וְלֶכֶסֶף	לְזָהָב	כְּלִים	כָּל-	
took	All [these]	hundred	and four	thousand	five	and silver	of gold	the articles	All [were]	
V-Hifil-Perf-3ms	Art N-ms	Number-fp	Conj-w Number-fs	Number-mp	Number-msc	Conj-w, Prep-l, Art N-ms	Prep-l, Art N-ms	N-mp	N-msc	

	3389 [e]	894 [e]	1473 [e]	5927 [e]	5973 [e]	8339 [e]
	lī·rū·šā·lim.	mib·bā·bel	hag·gō·w·lāh,	hê·'ā·lō·wṭ	'im	šê·šə·baš·šar,
פ	לִירוּשָׁלַם:	מִבָּבֶל	הַגּוֹלָה	הַעֲלוֹת	עִם	שֶׁשְׁבַצָר
-	to Jerusalem	from Babylon	the captives	who were brought	with	Sheshbazzar
Punc	Prep-l N-proper-fs	Prep-m N-proper-fs	Art N-fs	V-Nifal-Inf	Prep	N-proper-ms

2:1 – “Now these were the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of those exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried captive to Babylonia. They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his own town.

834 [e]	1473 [e]	7628 [e]	5927 [e]	4082 [e]	1121 [e]	428 [e]
'ā·šer	hag·gō·w·lāh,	miš·šə·bī	hā·'ō·līm	ham·mə·dī·nāh,	bə·nê	wə·'ēl·leh
אֲשֶׁר	הַגּוֹלָה	מִשְׁבִּי	הַעֲלִים	הַמְּדִינָה	בְּנֵי	וְאֵלֶּה
whom	of those who had been carried away	from the captivity	who came back	of the province	the sons	Now these [are]
Pro-r	Art N-fs	Prep-m N-msc	Art V-Qal-Prtcp-mp	Art N-fs	N-mpc	Conj-w Pro-cp

7725 [e]	894 [e]	894 [e]	4428 [e]	5020 [e]	1540 [e]	
way·yā·šū·bū	le·bā·bel;	bā·bel	me·leḵ-	nə·bū·kaḏ·neš·šar	nə·bū·kaḏ·neš·šō·wr	heḡ·lāh
וַיָּשׁוּבוּ	לְבָבֶל	בָּבֶל	מֶלֶךְ-	(נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר)	[נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר]	הַגּוֹלָה
and who returned	to Babylon	Babylon	the king of	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	had carried away
Conj-w V-Qal-Conseclmp-3mp	Prep-l N-proper-fs	N-proper-fs	N-msc	N-proper-ms	N-proper-ms	V-Hifil-Perf-3ms

5892 [e]	376 [e]	3063 [e]	3389 [e]
le·'ī·rōw.	'iš	wī·hū·dāh	lī·rū·šā·lim
-	לְעִירוֹ:	אִישׁ	וַיְהוּדָה
	to his [own] city	everyone	and Judah
	Prep-l N-fsc 3ms	N-ms	Conj-w N-proper-fs
			Prep-l N-proper-fs