TIMELINE OF EVENTS IN EZRA 4:1-24

THE THEME OF OPPOSITION

540 BC | 520 BC | 500 BC | 480 BC | 460 BC | 440 BC | 420 BC

Persian Rulers

- **Cyrus** (559-530)
- **Cambyses** (530-522)
- **Darius I** (522-486)
- **Ahasuerus (Xerxes)** (485-465)
- **Artaxerxes** (465-424)
- **Darius II** (423-404)

536-530 — Ezra 4:1-5 - initial opposition to temple rebuilding under Zerubbabel

530-520 — Ezra 4:24 - temple rebuilding work ceased due to opposition

485 — Ezra 4:6 - people in the land wrote an accusation to Ahasuerus

465-450ish? — Ezra 4:7 - Bishlam, Mithredath and Tabeel write to King Artaxerxes

465-450ish? — Ezra 4:8-23 - Rehum and Shimshai warn King Artaxerxes about Jerusalem rebuilding and likely rebellion. Artaxerxes orders work to stop.
Note: this period of opposition may have led to the disrepair of Jerusalem that concerned Nehemiah and prompted his return (Neh 1:3)

445 — Neh 3-6 - Walls of Jerusalem rebuilt under Nehemiah despite ongoing opposition

540 BC | 520 BC | 500 BC | 480 BC | 460 BC | 440 BC | 420 BC