

MITCHIGANDER JONES

Researchers of the Truth

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STUDY NOTES

Source material:

Science Speaks, Peter Stoner

Case For Christ, Lee Strobel

The Evidence That Demands a Verdict, Vol 1 & 2, Josh McDowell

A Survey of the Old Testament, Hill & Walton

Archeology and the Old Testament, Unger

The Bible as History, Werner Keller

M.A.P.S., Christian Research Institute

Cylinder of Cyrus



The Cylinder of Cyrus, or the Cyrus Cylinder, discovered in Babylon (now Iraq) in March 1879 is an ancient clay cylinder written in the name of Cyrus the Great, the King of Persia, that proclaims freedom to the captives in Babylon in 539 BC, as Ezra 1-2 describes. The cylinder corroborates the account of King Cyrus allowing the Jews to return to Israel to rebuild Jerusalem, providing the funds to rebuild the walls, and even returning the vessels that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from Jerusalem.

Jeremiah predicted the captivity would end in 70 years, and Isaiah prophesied about King Cyrus *by name* 150 years before Cyrus was born. According to historian Josephus, the prophet Daniel read the prophecies to Cyrus, who was moved to fulfill the prophecy and proclaim the decree recorded on the cylinder. (See also Isaiah 44:27-45:7, Jeremiah 25:11-12, and 2 Chronicles 36:22-23).

