

**~ARTAXERXES 2 (587)**  
**(Ar-ta-xerx'es)**

- **Artaxerxes** Longimanus, the son of Xerxes I, is the king referred to at;
- And after these things in the reign of **Artaxerxes** the king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah the son of Azariah the son of Hilkiah. (**Ezra 7:1**)
- The son of Shallum the son of Zadok the son of Ahitub. (**Ezra 7:2**)
- The son of Amariah the son of Azariah the son of Meraioth. (**Ezra 7:3**)
- The son of Zerahiah the son of Uzzi the son of Bukki. (**Ezra 7:4**)
- The son of Abishua the son of Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the chief priest. (**Ezra 7:5**)
- The said Ezra himself went up from Babylon, and he was a skilled copyist in the Law of Moses, which Yehowah the God of Israel had given, so that the king granted him, according to the hand of Yehowah his God upon him, all his request. (**Ezra 7:6**)
- Consequently some of the sons of Israel and of the priests and the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers and the Nethinim went up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of **Artaxerxes** the king. (**Ezra 7:7**)
- At length he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, that is, in the seventh year of the king. (**Ezra 7:8**)
- For on the first day of the first month he himself appointed the going up from Babylon, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, according to the good hand of his God upon him. (**Ezra 7:9**)
- For Ezra himself had prepared his heart to consult the Law of Yehowah and to do it and to teach in Israel regulation and justice. (**Ezra 7:10**)

- And this is a copy of the letter that King **Artaxerxes** gave Ezra the priest the copyist, a copyist of the words of the commandments of Yehowah and of his regulations toward Israel. (**Ezra 7:11**)
- **Artaxerxes**, the king of kings, to Ezra the priest, the copyist of the Law of the God of the heavens. Peace be perfected. And now, (**Ezra 7:12**)
- By me an order has been put through that everyone in my realm of the people of Israel and their priests and Levites that is willing to go to Jerusalem with you should go. (**Ezra 7:13**)
- Inasmuch as from before the king and his seven counselors an order was sent to investigate concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the Law of your God that is in your hand. (**Ezra 7:14**)
- And to bring the silver and the gold that the king and his counselors have voluntarily given to the God of Israel, whose residence is in Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:15**)
- With all the silver and the gold that you find in all the jurisdictional district of Babylon along with the gift of the people and the priests who are voluntarily giving to the house of their God, which is in Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:16**)
- Accordingly you will promptly buy with this money bulls, rams, lambs and their grain offerings and their drink offerings and you will present them upon the altar of the house of your God, which is in Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:17**)
- And whatever it seems good to you and to your brothers to do with the rest of the silver and gold, according to the will of your God, you men will do. (**Ezra 7:18**)
- And the vessels that are being given to you for the service of the house of your God deliver in full before God at Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:19**)
- And the rest of the necessities of the house of your God that it devolves upon you to give, you will give out of the king's house of treasures. (**Ezra 7:20**)
- And by me myself, **Artaxerxes** the king, an order has been put through to all the treasurers that are beyond the River, that

**everything that Ezra the priest, the copyist of the Law of the God of the heavens, requests of you men it will be done promptly. (Ezra 7:21)**

- **Even to a hundred talents of silver and a hundred cor measures of wheat and a hundred bath measures of wine and a hundred bath measures of oil, and salt without limit. (Ezra 7:22)**
- **Let all that is by the order of the God of the heavens be done with zeal for the house of the God of the heavens, that there may occur no wrath against the king's realm and his sons. (Ezra 7:23)**
- **And to you men it is being made known that, as respects any of the priests and the Levites, the musicians, the doorkeepers, the Nethinim, and the workers of this house of God, no tax, tribute or toll is allowed to be imposed upon them. (Ezra 7:24)**
- **And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand appoint magistrates and judges that they may continually judge all the people that are beyond the River, even all those knowing the Laws of your God, and anyone that has not known them you men will instruct. (Ezra 7:25)**
- **And as for everyone that does not become a doer of the Law of your God and the Law of the king, let judgment be promptly executed upon him, whether for death or for banishment, or for money fine or for imprisonment. (Ezra 7:26)**
- **Blessed be Yehowah the God of our forefathers, who has put such a thing into the heart of the king, to beautify the house of Yehowah, which is in Jerusalem! (Ezra 7:27)**
- **And toward me he has extended loving-kindness before the king and his counselors and as respects all the mighty princes of the king. And I, for my part, strengthened myself according to the hand of Yehowah my God upon me, and I proceeded to collect out of Israel the head one's to go up with me. (Ezra 7:28)**
- **And it came about in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of **Artaxerxes** the king, that wine was before him, and I as usual took up the wine and gave it to the king. But never had I happened to be gloomy before him. (Nehemiah 2:1)**
- **So the king said to me; Why is your face gloomy when you**

yourself are not sick? This is nothing but a gloominess of heart. At this I became very much afraid. ([Nehemiah 2:2](#))

- Then I said to the king; Let the king himself live to time indefinite! Why should not my face become gloomy when the city, the house of the burial places of my forefathers, is devastated, and it's very gates have been eaten up with fire? ([Nehemiah 2:3](#))
- In turn the king said to me; What is this that you are seeking to secure? At once I prayed to the God of the heavens. ([Nehemiah 2:4](#))
- After that I said to the king; If to the king it does seem good, and if your servant seems good before you, that you would send me to Judah, to the city of the burial places of my forefathers, that I may rebuild it. ([Nehemiah 2:5](#))
- At this the king said to me, as his queenly consort was sitting beside him; How long will your journey come to be and when will you return? So it seemed good before the king that he should send me, when I gave him the appointed time. ([Nehemiah 2:6](#))
- And I went on to say to the king; If to the king it does seem good, let letters be given me to the governor's beyond the River, that they may let me pass until I come to Judah. ([Nehemiah 2:7](#))
- Also a letter to Asaph the keeper of the park that belongs to the king, that he may give me trees to build with timber the gates of the Castle that belongs to the house, and for the wall of the city and for the house into which I am to enter. So the king gave them to me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. ([Nehemiah 2:8](#))
- Eventually I came to the governor's beyond the River and gave them the letters of the king. Moreover, the king sent with me chiefs of the military force and horsemen. ([Nehemiah 2:9](#))
- When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, got to hear of it, then it seemed to them something very bad that a man had come to seek something good for the sons of Israel. ([Nehemiah 2:10](#))

- At length I came to Jerusalem, and I continued there for three days. (**Nehemiah 2:11**)
- Then I rose up by night, I and a few men with me, and I did not tell a man what my God was putting into my heart to do for Jerusalem, and there was no domestic animal with me except the domestic animal on which I was riding. (**Nehemiah 2:12**)
- And I proceeded to go out by the Valley Gate by night and in front of the Fountain of the Big Snake and to the Gate of the Ash-heaps, and I was constantly examining the walls of Jerusalem, how they were broken down and the gates of it had been eaten up by fire. (**Nehemiah 2:13**)
- And I went passing along to the Fountain Gate and to the Kings Pool, and there was no place for the domestic animal under me to pass along. (**Nehemiah 2:14**)
- But I kept on ascending in the torrent valley by night, and I kept on examining the wall, after which I came back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so got back. (**Nehemiah 2:15**)
- And the deputy rulers themselves did not know where I had gone and what I was doing, and to the Jews and the priests and the nobles and the deputy rulers and the rest of the doers of the work I had not yet told anything. (**Nehemiah 2:16**)
- Finally I said to them; You are seeing the bad plight in which we are, how Jerusalem is devastated and its gates have been burned with fire. Come and let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer continue to be a reproach. (**Nehemiah 2:17**)
- And I went on to tell them of the hand of my God, how it was good upon me, and also of the kings words that he had said to me. At this they said; Let us get up, and we must build. So they strengthened their hands for the good work. (**Nehemiah 2:18**)
- And after these things in the reign of **Artaxerxes** the king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah the son of Azariah the son of Hilkiah. (**Ezra 7:1**)
- The son of Shallum the son of Zadok the son of Ahitub. (**Ezra 7:2**)
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- The son of Zerahiah the son of Uzzi the son of Bukki. (**Ezra 7:4**)
- The son of Abishua the son of Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the chief priest. (**Ezra 7:5**)
- The said Ezra himself went up from Babylon, and he was a skilled copyist in the Law of Moses, which Yehowah the God of Israel had given, so that the king granted him, according to the hand of Yehowah his God upon him, all his request. (**Ezra 7:6**)
- Consequently some of the sons of Israel and of the priests and the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers and the Nethinim went up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of **Artaxerxes** the king. (**Ezra 7:7**)
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- By me an order has been put through that everyone in my realm of the people of Israel and their priests and Levites that is willing to go to Jerusalem with you should go. (**Ezra 7:13**)
- Inasmuch as from before the king and his seven counselors an order was sent to investigate concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the Law of your God that is in your hand. (**Ezra 7:14**)

- **And to bring the silver and the gold that the king and his counselors have voluntarily given to the God of Israel, whose residence is in Jerusalem. (Ezra 7:15)**
- **With all the silver and the gold that you find in all the jurisdictional district of Babylon along with the gift of the people and the priests who are voluntarily giving to the house of their God, which is in Jerusalem. (Ezra 7:16)**
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- Blessed be Yehowah the God of our forefathers, who has put such a thing into the heart of the king, to beautify the house of Yehowah, which is in Jerusalem! (**Ezra 7:27**)
- And toward me he has extended loving-kindness before the king and his counselors and as respects all the mighty princes of the king. And I, for my part, strengthened myself according to the hand of Yehowah my God upon me, and I proceeded to collect out of Israel the head one's to go up with me. (**Ezra 7:28**)
- And during all this time I did not happen to be in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of **Artaxerxes** the king of Babylon I came to the king, and sometime later I asked leave of absence from the king. (**Nehemiah 13:6**)
- Whereas most reference works give his accession year as **465 B.C.E.**, there is sound reason for placing it in **475 B.C.E.**

**See Also PERSIA**

**See Also PERSIANS (The Reigns of Xerxes and of Artaxerxes)**

- **Artaxerxes** Longimanus extended permission to Ezra the priest and also to Nehemiah to make trips to Jerusalem.
- And after these things in the reign of **Artaxerxes** the king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah the son of Azariah the son of Hilkiah. (**Ezra 7:1**)
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- And I went on to say to the king; If to the king it does seem good, let letters be given me to the governor's beyond the River, that they may let me pass until I come to Judah. (**Nehemiah 2:7**)
- Also a letter to Asaph the keeper of the park that belongs to the king, that he may give me trees to build with timber the gates of the Castle that belongs to the house, and for the wall of the city and for the house into which I am to enter. So the king gave them to me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. (**Nehemiah 2:8**)
- Ancient historians credit him with a generally benign and generous personality. This coincides with his actions during the seventh year of his reign **circa 468 B.C.E**, when Longimanus granted Ezra all his request in a decree that provided for silver, gold, and vessels for temple use, as well as provisions of wheat, wine, oil, and salt.
- The said Ezra himself went up from Babylon, and he was a skilled copyist in the Law of Moses, which Yehowah the God of Israel had given, so that the king granted him, according to the hand of Yehowah his God upon him, all his request. (**Ezra 7:6**)

- **Artaxerxes**, the king of kings, to Ezra the priest, the copyist of the Law of the God of the heavens. Peace be perfected. And now, (**Ezra 7:12**)
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- With all the silver and the gold that you find in all the jurisdictional district of Babylon along with the gift of the people and the priests who are voluntarily giving to the house of their God, which is in Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:16**)
- Accordingly you will promptly buy with this money bulls, rams, lambs and their grain offerings and their drink offerings and you will present them upon the altar of the house of your God, which is in Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:17**)
- And whatever it seems good to you and to your brothers to do with the rest of the silver and gold, according to the will of your God, you men will do. (**Ezra 7:18**)
- And the vessels that are being given to you for the service of the house of your God deliver in full before God at Jerusalem. (**Ezra 7:19**)
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- Even to a hundred talents of silver and a hundred cor measures of wheat and a hundred bath measures of wine and a hundred bath measures of oil, and salt without limit. ([Ezra 7:22](#))
- Let all that is by the order of the God of the heavens be done with zeal for the house of the God of the heavens, that there may occur no wrath against the king's realm and his sons. ([Ezra 7:23](#))
- And I proceeded to weigh out to them the silver and the gold and the utensils, the contribution to the house of our God that the king and his counselors and his princes and all the Israelites who were to be found had contributed. ([Ezra 8:25](#))
- Thus I weighed out into their hand six hundred and fifty talents of silver and a hundred silver utensils worth two talents, and gold a hundred talents. ([Ezra 8:26](#))
- And twenty small gold bowls worth a thousand darics and two utensils of good copper, gleaming red, as desirable as gold. ([Ezra 8:27](#))
- This generous contribution may explain why **Artaxerxes** is included along with Cyrus and Darius at;
- And the older men of the Jews were building and making progress under the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the grandson of Iddo, and they built and finished it due to the order of the God of Israel and due to the order of Cyrus and Darius and **Artaxerxes** the king of Persia. ([Ezra 6:14](#))
- As one of those whose orders contributed to the building and finishing of the temple, although the actual construction had been completed 47 years previous, in **515 B.C.E.** The king's decree even authorized Ezra to appoint magistrates and judges to teach God's law, as well as that of the king, and to use capital punishment against violators where necessary.
- And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand appoint magistrates and judges that they may continually judge all the people that are beyond the River, even all those knowing the Laws of your God, and anyone that has not known them you men will instruct. ([Ezra 7:25](#))

- And as for everyone that does not become a doer of the Law of your God and the Law of the king, let judgment be promptly executed upon him, whether for death or for banishment, or for money fine or for imprisonment. (**Ezra 7:26**)
- During the 20th year of his reign, **455 B.C.E**, **Artaxerxes** Longimanus granted permission to Nehemiah to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls and gates of the city.
- And it came about in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of **Artaxerxes** the king, that wine was before him, and I as usual took up the wine and gave it to the king. But never had I happened to be gloomy before him. (**Nehemiah 2:1**)
- So the king said to me; Why is your face gloomy when you yourself are not sick? This is nothing but a gloominess of heart. At this I became very much afraid. (**Nehemiah 2:2**)
- Then I said to the king; Let the king himself live to time indefinite! Why should not my face become gloomy when the city, the house of the burial places of my forefathers, is devastated, and it's very gates have been eaten up with fire? (**Nehemiah 2:3**)
- In turn the king said to me; What is this that you are seeking to secure? At once I prayed to the God of the heavens. (**Nehemiah 2:4**)
- After that I said to the king; If to the king it does seem good, and if your servant seems good before you, that you would send me to Judah, to the city of the burial places of my forefathers, that I may rebuild it. (**Nehemiah 2:5**)
- At this the king said to me, as his queenly consort was sitting beside him; How long will your journey come to be and when will you return? So it seemed good before the king that he should send me, when I gave him the appointed time. (**Nehemiah 2:6**)
- And I went on to say to the king; If to the king it does seem good, let letters be given me to the governor's beyond the River, that they may let me pass until I come to Judah. (**Nehemiah 2:7**)
- Also a letter to Asaph the keeper of the park that belongs to the

king, that he may give me trees to build with timber the gates of the Castle that belongs to the house, and for the wall of the city and for the house into which I am to enter. So the king gave them to me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. (**Nehemiah 2:8**)

- **Because this is referred to at;**
- **And you should know and have the insight that from the going forth of the word to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Leader, there will be seven weeks, also sixty-two weeks. She will return and be actually rebuilt, with a public square and moat, but in the straits of the times. (**Daniel 9:25**)**
- **As relating to the time of the promised coming of the Messiah, the date of **Artaxerxes** 20th year is very important.**
- **And during all this time I did not happen to be in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of **Artaxerxes** the king of Babylon I came to the king, and sometime later I asked leave of absence from the king. (**Nehemiah 13:6**)**
- **Refers to the thirty-second year of **Artaxerxes**, that is, **443 B.C.E**, when Nehemiah returned for a time to the court of this king.**