

### THE PSALTER: A CHRONOLOGY

Many psalms already in circulation	Babylonian Exile 596(7)-586(7)	Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah 40-55	Nebuchadnezzar
Throughout the Exile and the following years Psalms are collected	First return of exiles 539(8)	Ezra 1.1-5.13	Cyrus 559-530 Conquered Babylonian empire
And they are composed	Reconstruction of Temple begins 520	Haggai 1.1-15; Ezra 3-6	Darius I
And all the time they are being collated	Temple construction completed March/April 515	Ezra 6.14-15	Darius I
They begin to take their present form as Psalter	Ezra come to Jerusalem 457	Ezra 7-10	Artaxerxes I
Other literary activity in this period included the collection and collation of the Torah, prophets and wisdom in the forms that we now know them.	Nehemiah governor of Jerusalem 444- 432	Nehemiah	Artaxerxes I
			Greeks overthrow Persians at battle of Issus 333 and death of Darius III 330
The canon of scripture now seems well established, including the Psalms.	Sirach's grandfather c 200 Sirach Greek version 132	Sirach Prologue	Seleucid or Syrian rule