

1 ¹Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD by mouth of Jeremiah, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying:

***²“This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:
‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given
me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has
appointed me to rebuild for Him a house in
Jerusalem, which is in Judah. ³Whoever
there is among you of all His people, may
his God be with him! Go up to Jerusalem
which is in Judah and rebuild the house of
the LORD, the God of Isreal; He is the God
who is in Jerusalem.*”**

4And every survivor, at whatever place he may live, the people of that place are to support him with silver and gold, with equipment and cattle, together with a voluntary offering for the house of God which is in Jerusalem.””

⁵Then the heads of fathers' households of Judah and Benjamin and the priests and the Levites rose up, everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up to rebuild the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem. ⁶And all of those around them encouraged them with articles of silver, with gold, with equipment, cattle, and with valuables, aside from everything that was given as a voluntary offering.

⁷Also King Cyrus brought out the articles of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and put in the house of his gods; ⁸and Cyrus, king of Persia, and them brought out by the hand of Mithredath the treasure, and he counted them out to Sheshbazzar, the leader of Judah.

⁹Now this was their number: thirty gold dishes, a thousand silver dishes, twenty nine duplicates; ¹⁰thirty gold bowls, 410 silver bowls of a second kind, and a thousand other articles. ¹¹All the articles of gold and silver totaled 5,400. Sheshbazzar brought them all up with the exiles who went up from Babylon to Jerusalem.

