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Babylon was conquered by Persia, and God moved the heart of King Cyrus.	King Cyrus gave permission for the Jewish people to return home and gave back thousands of gold and silver dishes taken from God's temple.
More than 40,000 Jewish people traveled home to Jerusalem.	They discovered Jerusalem was destroyed.
Zerubbabel and the other leaders knew it would be important for the people to first rebuild the altar of the temple to make offerings to God.	When the altar was complete, the Levites led the people in praising God and celebrating.
After the people rebuilt the alter, they started rebuilding the foundation of the temple and the city walls.	There was still a lot more work to do, but God's people were filled with joy as they finished one big step.

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