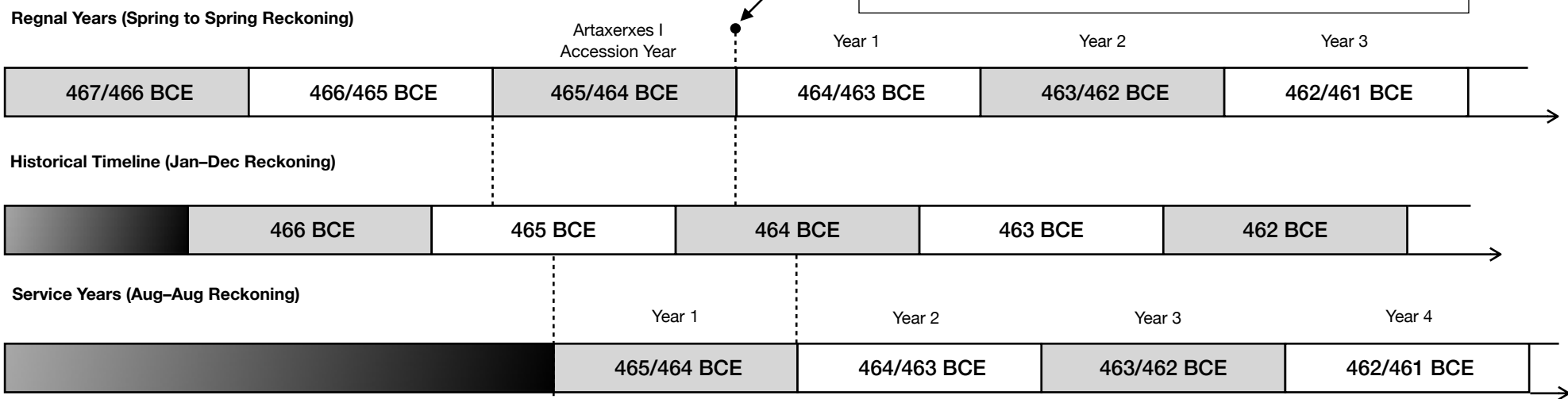


# Reign of Artaxerxes I in the Time of Ezra and Nehemiah

## (Section One: 467 BCE-461 BCE)

In the spring of 464 BCE, in the month Nisan, Artaxerxes I (Longimanus) begins his first regnal year from the Persian palace in Shushan (Gk. Susa), following his accession year of 465/464 BCE. The year 464/463 BCE begins the count leading to the seventh year of the king as found in Ezra's account (Ezra 7:1-10). As a matter of administrative practice the Babylonians and Persians reckoned the king's regnal years from spring to spring.

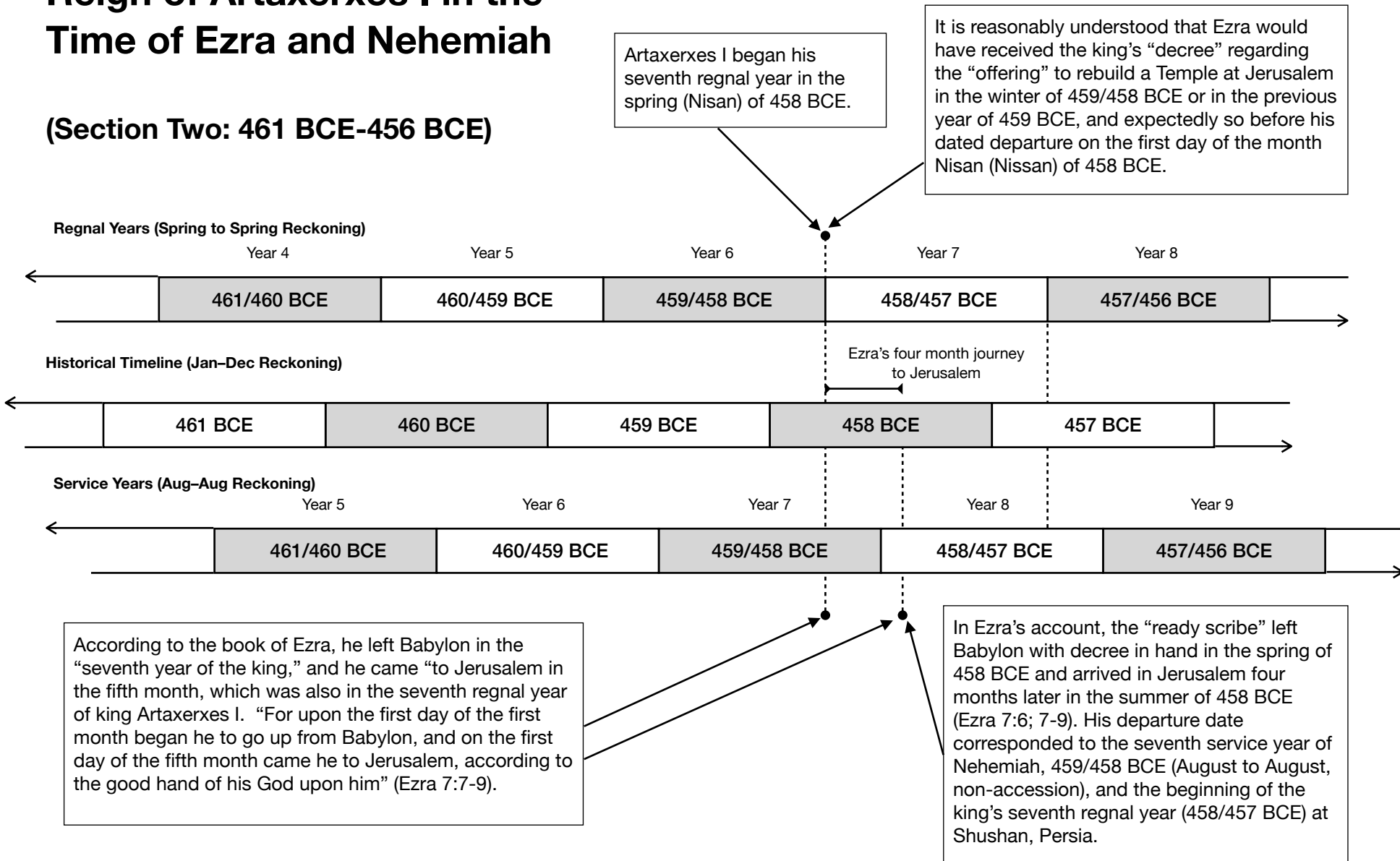


Xerxes the Great (Xerxes I) was assassinated by his bodyguard, Artabanus, in August of c. 465 BCE. This marked the beginning of Artaxerxes' administrative years following the death of his predecessor, Xerxes I. It is also the beginning of the service years associated with Nehemiah.

Artaxerxes I begins his sole rule in the summer of 465 BCE. His administration is dictated from the ordinary residence at Shushan, Persia. This begins the twenty year count associated with Nehemiah, who was the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes I. The double-dating system found in the Elephantine Papyri does not directly relate to "the twentieth year" of Nehemiah's association with King Artaxerxes I (Neh. 1:1).

# Reign of Artaxerxes I in the Time of Ezra and Nehemiah

(Section Two: 461 BCE-456 BCE)



# Reign of Artaxerxes I in the Time of Ezra and Nehemiah

## (Section Three: 448 BCE-442 BCE)

