

Presence Theater Church
Bible Survey
The Intertestamental Period

- ◎ Over _____ years passed between the testaments.
 - This period is known as the _____ Years.
 - The Silent Years began at the end of Malachi in _____ B.C. and end at the beginning of the Gospels in around _____ B.C.

- ◎ Empires in Palestine (Israel) during the Intertestamental Period:
 - _____ Empire – 539 B.C. to 331 B.C.
 - The Persians defeated the Babylonians.
 - The Jews are allowed to return from Babylonian _____.

 - _____ Empire – 331 B.C. to 146 B.C.
 - The Persians fell to Greece which was ruled by Alexander the Great.
 - Alexander the Great died in 323 B.C., and his empire was divided between four of his _____.
 - Two of Alexander's generals, Ptolemy I Soter and Seleucus I Nicator came into prominence.
 - The Ptolemies ruled the Southern Empire in _____.
 - The Seleucids ruled the Northeastern Empire in _____.
 - Palestine was sandwiched between these two competing empires.

 - _____ Empire – 320 B.C. to 198 B.C.
 - This southern Egyptian empire maintained control of Palestine for _____ years.
 - These were _____ years for the Jews because they were allowed and even encouraged to practice their Jewish faith.
 - The Jewish Scriptures were translated into _____.

 - _____ Empire – 198 B.C. to 143 B.C.
 - After many failed attempts, the Seleucids finally took control of Palestine.
 - Antiochus III defeated Egypt and replaced the pro-Egyptian high priest with a politician-priest named _____.
 - Jason moved to transform Jerusalem into a Greek city.
 - This was the beginning of the Hellenistic Jew movement which included _____ ways and values.

- The _____ Revolt – 198 B.C. to 143 B.C.
 - Many Jews rejected this new pagan movement, including Mattathias Hasmonean and his five sons.
 - The _____ family became known as the Maccabees, which means The _____.
 - After years of guerilla warfare the Maccabees took back the high priesthood, purified the temple which had been desecrated by the Syrians, and began to rebuild Jerusalem.

- Maccabean Control – 143 B.C. to 34 B.C.
 - The Hasmonean family maintained a certain level of control in Palestine for about _____ years.
 - During this time the Hassidim or “pious” who had also opposed the Greeks, now opposed the Hasmoneans. These were known as _____ Jews.
 - In Jesus’ day, the _____ were descendents of the Hasmoneans, and the _____ were in the tradition of the Hassidim (the Pious), Hasidic Jews.

- _____ Empire – 63 B.C. thru New Testament
 - By the time Jesus was born, power in Palestine had passed from Jewish hands entirely into the firm grip of the Romans.
 - The Romans took control of Palestine in 63 B.C., and continued to occupy that region throughout all of New Testament history.

- The Share of Power during the Roman Empire:
 - Roman _____
 - Augustus – Ordered the census related to Jesus’ birth.
 - Tiberius – Under whom Jesus ministered and was crucified.
 - Nero – Persecuted Christians, martyred Paul and Peter.
 - Roman _____
 - Pontius Pilate – Was the judge in Jesus’ trial. (Matt. 27:11)
 - The _____
 - Herod the Great – Became King of Judea at _____ years old. He ordered the killing of infants around Bethlehem in an effort to kill Jesus. (Matt. 2:7-23)

◎ Summary of the Intertestamental Period:

- 400 Years between end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament.
 - This period is known as the Silent Years.
- Persian Empire – 539 B.C. to 331 B.C.
- Greek Empire – 331 B.C. to 146 B.C.
 - Two of Alexander the Greats' Generals take prominent power
 - Ptolemies Empire – 320 B.C. to 198 B.C.
 - Seleucids Empire – 198 B.C. to 143 B.C.
- The Maccabean Revolt – 198 B.C. to 143 B.C.
 - Maccabean Control – 143 B.C. to 34 B.C.
- The Roman Empire – 63 B.C. through most of New Testament History.