

## II. Between the Testaments

1. From 400-300 B.C.

2. From 300-200 B.C.

A. In China, the Tsin (Chin) Dynasty is founded that is named for their greatest warrior, Shi-Hwang-Ti, who expelled the \_\_\_\_\_ in 246 B.C. The First Emperor of China built the famous "Great Wall" between 220-206 B.C. with additions and maintenance being done until the 16<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The wall stretches for 13,171 miles and was designed to keep out the Tartars (actually the Tatars), a Turkish group. He annexed the other feudal states with ruthless efficiency that was aided by espionage, bribery and war. He proclaimed himself emperor in 221 B.C.

B. In Macedonia, from 300-146 B.C. under Antigonus II Gonatas (276-239 B.C., the grandson of Antigonus I), Macedonia achieved a stable rule and strengthened its occupation of \_\_\_\_\_.

His grandson Philip V (born 238, ruled 222-179 B.C.) clashed with Rome that began to expand to the east. In 215 B.C., he allied with Hannibal, the Carthaginian general who invaded Italy (the Second Punic War) and attacked the Roman client states in Illyria. This lasted ten years and was known as the First Macedonian War. In 205 B.C., the war ended and peace was established between them. Philip then turned to the east. He plotted against Rhodes, Greece, and in 203–202 B.C. conspired with Antiochus III of Syria to plunder the possessions of the Egyptian king Ptolemy V. The people of Rhodes and Pergamum defeated Philip at sea off Chios (201 B.C.) and so exaggerated reports of his aggression that Rome decided to declare war (Second Macedonian War, 200–196 B.C.). The Roman campaigns in Macedonia (199 B.C.) and Thessaly (198 B.C.) shook Philip's position in Greece, and in 197 B.C. the Romans, led by Titus Quinctius Flaminius, decisively defeated him in Thessaly.

The two "Macedonian Wars" against the Romans ended up in defeat of Philip V's armies. Macedonia lost the whole of Greece and thus was reduced to its original borders. In the third "Macedonian War," Rome defeated the Macedonian army under the last Macedonian king, Philip's son Perseus (179-168 B.C.). Perseus died a prisoner in Italy. By 146 B.C. Macedonia became a Roman province.

C. Some \_\_\_\_\_ Books were written during this century:

**1 & 2 Esdras (Ezra). Similar to Ezra but contains 99 more verses that contain historical inaccuracies.**

**The Rest of Esther. Supposedly contains Esther 10:4-16:24. Contained in the LXX. This moves the setting of Esther to the time of Alexander the Great, over 100 years after the events.**

**The Story of Susanna. Daniel 13 in the Vulgate.**

**Bel and the Dragon. Daniel 14 in the Vulgate.**

- D. The \_\_\_\_\_ (LXX) was begun in 275 B.C. It was completed by 132 B.C.

It is known as the LXX and is the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament. Philo and Josephus ascribe divine inspiration to its translators, but they were not prophets and thus had no standing. (Neither were the KJV translators) It became the basic translation of the Slavic, Syrian, Armenian, Georgian and Coptic versions. It is quoted by many New Testament writers, including the Lord. This guarantees the accuracy of the part of the translation quoted, but not all of the translation.

According to the Talmud, "King Ptolemy once gathered 72 Elders, placed them in 72 individual chambers, and then entered each one with the instruction, "write for me the Torah of Moshe, your teacher." As the Talmud states, "God then put it in the heart of each one to translate identically as all the others did." Supposedly, the intent was to put it in the Library of Alexandria. This is simply not true. They began with the Law and then translated the other books over the course of a hundred years.

- E. The Ptolemy's ruled over Egypt at this time and also over \_\_\_\_\_. (Josephus writes about this in *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 12, Chapters 2, 5-6.)

Ptolemy, son of Lagos, took control of Egypt in 323 B.C. and governed the country until 305 BC, when he was crowned King. The Dynasty ruled in Egypt for almost 300 years, until the death of one of Egypt's most famous queens, Cleopatra VII in 30 B.C., when it was annexed by Rome.

The male rulers were all named Ptolemy (Greek: PTOLEMAIOS) but can be distinguished by their added names such as Philadelphos (sibling-loving) for Ptolemy II, because he married his sister Arsinoe. Today we often allocate numerals in order to distinguish Ptolemies I to XV. The royal women were named Arsinoe, Berenike or Cleopatra and sometimes a combination of these names; this practice sometimes causes confusion and in fact the famous Cleopatra, who is usually called Cleopatra VII, was only the sixth queen to have this name.

The Ptolemies were Macedonian by descent and were often represented as Greek rulers on the coinage, rings and stone portraits. They were also Pharaohs of Egypt and thus appear on many temple reliefs and also

statues in the Egyptian-style. The Petrie Museum (an Egyptian museum located in London) has a large collection of sculptors' models, which many thought were used by sculptors to ensure that the royal image remained the same. Some scholars believe that these busts were used as dedications in temples on behalf of the pharaoh; they are very similar to the portraits of the last native Egyptian Dynasty (Dynasty 30), which may have been a deliberate attempt by the Ptolemies to link themselves to their Egyptian predecessors. (Part of Alexander's desire to rule the world)

Ptolemy I Soter (Born 367, ruled 303-283 B.C.) had three wives before he married Berenice I, given him by Antiochus I Soter.

Succeeded by Ptolemy II Philadelphus who was coregent with his father until 283 B.C. He solidified Egypt as a naval power in the eastern Mediterranean with a fleet of 112 ships. He had several wives. The first, Arsinoe I, daughter of Lysimachus, was the mother of his legitimate children. There were several intermarriages with the Seleucids. He married his full sister, Arsinoe II, the widow of Lysimachus as an Egyptian custom that brought him her Aegean possessions. His rule was full of pomp and circumstance. Pliny the Elder says he was led by Emperor Ashoka of India into Buddhism. He ruled until 246 B.C.

Ptolemy III Euergetes was the eldest son of Ptolemy II and his first wife Arsinoe I. He married Berenice II of Cyrene in 244 B.C. and their children were Arsinoe III, who later married her brother Ptolemy IV Philopator.

Ptolemy III is noted for the first known example of bilingual inscriptions on massive stone block in three writing systems. His stone is the "Canopus Stone" of 238 B.C. Another is the "Memphis Stone" around 218 B.C. The Rosetta Stone was erected by Ptolemy Epiphanes, his grandson, in 196 B.C. Due to a falling out with the Seleucid Court, his eldest sister Berenice Phernophorus was murdered along with her infant son. In response he invaded Syria to begin the Third Syrian War. He occupied Antioch and reached as far as Babylon. In exchange for peace in 241 B.C., he was awarded new territories on the northern coast of Syria, including the port at Antioch. He is the peak of the Ptolemaic kingdom's power.

Ptolemy IV Philopator was the son of Ptolemy III and Berenice II. He ruled from 221-205 B.C. The decline of the kingdom began here. His reign was inaugurated by the murder of his mother and he was always dominated by his favorites who indulged his vices and led the government as they pleased. He built a temple to Homer. He married his sister Arsinoe III and built a giant ship known as the "Tessarakonteres" meaning "the forty" that had a huge galley. It was an immense catamaran measuring 420 ft.

**F. The Seleucids ruled over \_\_\_\_\_ during this time period.**

Antiochus served as a military general under Philip II who married Laodice and begat Seleucus I Nicator who would become a general under Alexander the Great. He would become the first king of the Seleucid

Empire. In the Greek mythology, supposedly Apollo was the real father of Seleucus. When he became king he founded and named 16 cities in honor of his father, which included Antioch and Pisidia.

He was succeeded by his youngest son Antiochus I Soter who ruled from 281-261 B.C. He was half Persian, his mother being one of the princesses Alexander had given to his generals in 324, named Stratonice. His title came in 278 B.C., when he defeated the Gauls (the European Celtic people) who had attacked Anatolia (Turkey).

Soter was succeeded by his son Antiochus II Theos, who lived from 286-246 B.C. and ruled from 261-246 B.C. He made peace with Ptolemy II of Egypt ending the Second Syrian War. He repudiated his wife Laodice I and exiled her to Ephesus. He then married Ptolemy's daughter Berenice and received an enormous dowry. Laodice I sought to become queen again. By 246 B.C. Antiochus had left Berenice and their infant son in Antioch to return to Laodice I. She poisoned him while her friends murdered Berenice and their infant son. Laodice then proclaimed Seleucus II as King. With his cousin-wife Laodice I, Antiochus had two sons and three daughters. This Antiochus is mentioned in Indian literature as having been proselytized by Emperor Ashok into Buddhism.

Antiochus III the Great lived from 241-187 B.C. and ruled from 222-187 B.C. He was the younger son of Seleucus II Callinicus. He became the most successful conqueror among the Seleucids.

**G. \_\_\_\_\_ (247-182 B.C.) was the son of Hamilcar Barca, and is one of the most noted generals of all time.**

He was of the Phoenician city-state of Carthage, located in North Africa, in the area now known as Tunisia. It was founded in 814 B.C. and was originally a dependent of Tyre. Carthage was in a constant state of struggle with Rome which led to a series of conflict known as the Punic Wars. At the outbreak of the Second Punic War (218 B.C.) he marched an army that included elephants over the Alps into northern Italy where he won three great victories. His tactics were studied by Scipio who countered them and eventually defeated him. He became known as the "father of strategy." Carthage was destroyed after the Third Punic War and occupied by Roman forces.

**3. From 200-100 B.C.**

**A. Macedonia becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ province. 146 B.C.**

In the third "Macedonian War," Rome defeated the Macedonian army under the last Macedonian king, Philip V's son Perseus (179-168 BC). Perseus died as a prisoner in Italy. A rebellion against the Roman rule failed, and by 146 B.C., Macedonia is a Roman province.

**B. Egypt becomes \_\_\_\_\_ to Rome. 146-30 B.C.**

The first defeat of the Seleucids by the Romans was 190 B.C. The Kingdom began to disintegrate during this century and eventually was totally conquered by Rome in 65 B.C.

**C. Rome destroyed their greatest challengers, the \_\_\_\_\_, in 146 B.C.**

In the following years, Rome continued its conquests in Spain with Tiberius Gracchus, and it set foot in Asia, when the last king of Pergamum gave his kingdom to the Roman people. The end of the 2nd century brought once again threat, when a great host of Germanic peoples, namely Cimbri and Teutones, crossed the river Rhone and moved to Italy. Gaius Marius was consul five consecutive times (seven total), and won two decisive battles in 102 and 101 B.C. He also reformed the Roman army, giving it such a good reorganization that it remained unchanged for centuries.

**D. The Seleucids in Syria under \_\_\_\_\_ III. (242-187 B.C.)**

He was also known as Antiochus the Great (Antiochus Megas; considering himself as great as Alexander) He ruled from 223-187 B.C. and died near Susan, Iran. He was the son of Seleucus II and succeeded his brother Seleucus III as king. He rebuilt the empire in the East but failed to challenge Roman ascendancy in Europe and Asia Minor.

He led administrative reforms by reducing the provinces in size and establishing a "ruler cult" with himself and his consort Laodice held as "divine." He improved relations with neighboring countries by giving his daughters in marriage to their princes and many of them paid tribute. He had an insatiable desire for expansion and took over Pergamum in 197 B.C. The Romans demanded that he free some areas but he considered it an attack on his empire so he refused. Hannibal, who had fled from the Romans after his defeat, found refuge with him in 195 B.C. as his advisor.

He was decisively defeated by the Romans at the Battle of Magnesia (located in Greece) in 190 B.C. where his army of 70,000 was defeated by 30,000 Romans. He was forced to surrender most of his arms and give his son Antiochus IV as a hostage. In 187 B.C. he was murdered in a Baal temple near Susa where he was seeking tribute. In Israel during this time was the rise of two parties, one known as the "Hasidim" or "pious ones" and a reform party that favored Hellenization.

**E. The Seleucids in Syria under \_\_\_\_\_ IV. (215-164 B.C.)**

He was also known as “Epiphanes,” meaning “God manifest or revealed.” He was called “Epimanes” by the Jews meaning “madman.” He was the third son of Antiochus III and was the hostage to the Romans from 189-175 B.C. where he learned the Roman Institutions and policies. He brother, Seleucus IV, traded him for Demetrius, the son of Seleucus. Seleucus was murdered by Heliodorus, a usurper, and then Antiochus ousted him. He reigned from 175-164 B.C.

He sought to install the Greek culture and institutions. In 169 B.C. he occupied Egypt with the exception of Alexandria. He contributed to the building of the temple of Zeus in Alexandria. Babylon revered him as “Soter” of Asia, meaning “savior.” His attempted Hellenization of everything brought him into conflict with the religious orientals and the Jews. The reform party allied with him and for a “considerable” sum of money he permitted the high priest, Jason, to build a gymnasium in Jerusalem and introduce the Greek mode of educating young people. In 172 B.C., for an even larger sum of money he appointed Menelaus in place of Jason. While he was in Egypt on a military campaign, Jason conquered Jerusalem and murdered many adherents of Menelaus. The city forfeited its privileges and was permanently garrisoned by Syrian soldiers.

Antiochus IV made the worship of Yahweh forbidden on pain of death. In the Temple an altar to Zeus Olympios was erected and sacrifices were to be made at the feet of an idol in the image of the King. In 166 B.C., he paraded his army near Antioch that included 46,000 foot soldiers, including a Macedonian phalanx of 20,000 men and 500 mercenaries equipped with Roman arms. There were also 8,500 horsemen and 306 armored elephants. Judas Maccabeus led a revolt against this and several times defeated generals that had been assigned to stop the revolt. He died of an illness in 164 B.C.

**F. Judas \_\_\_\_\_.**