

Ancient World Timeline

B.C.

2200 - 2100

2100 - 2000

2000 - 1900

1900 - 1800

1800 - 1700

1700 - 1600

1600 - 1500

1500 - 1400

1400 - 1300

1300 - 1200

1200 - 1100

1100 - 1000

THE INTERTESTAMENTAL PERIOD

400 Years Of God's Silence

B.C.

1000 - 900

900 - 800

800 - 700

700 - 600

600 - 500

500 - 400

400 - 300

300 - 200

200 - 100

100 - Christ

Christ - 100 A.D.

World Empires

400 Silent Years?

NO! God had stopped speaking through his prophets – Amos 8:11; Psa. 83:1

- **Ceassation of the prophets after the time of Artaxerxes – (B.C. 465-424) – Josephus – Against Apion I, 8**
- **His preparing of his people for the Messiah is complete**
- **But God's silence doesn't mean He wasn't acting or that He had not spoken on the events of this period.**

Christians are often ignorant of this time period

- **When so much of the world changed.**
- **That which separates the OT from the NT.**
- **And sometimes just conclude that it isn't as important as other studies, and yet can't explain the how's and why's of the N.T.**

400 Silent Years?

These years are very important:

- **It lasts longer than the Kingdom of Judah.**
- **It changes the entire stage for the gospel and the entrance of the Messiah.**

Two trends happen here:

- **The world was quickly changing.**
- **The Jews in Judah become entrenched in new leadership, and religious organizations.**

To understand the need for this study you should know some general information . The next questions have to do with the general outline time between OT & NT

What are the four kingdoms between the Testaments and in what dates did they rule Israel?

Persian, Greek, Hasmonean and Roman

Who started the Greek Empire?

Alexander the Great

Who took over the Greek empire after Alexander died?

Four Greek generals took over, each with their chunk.

Who started the Hasmonean Kingdom?

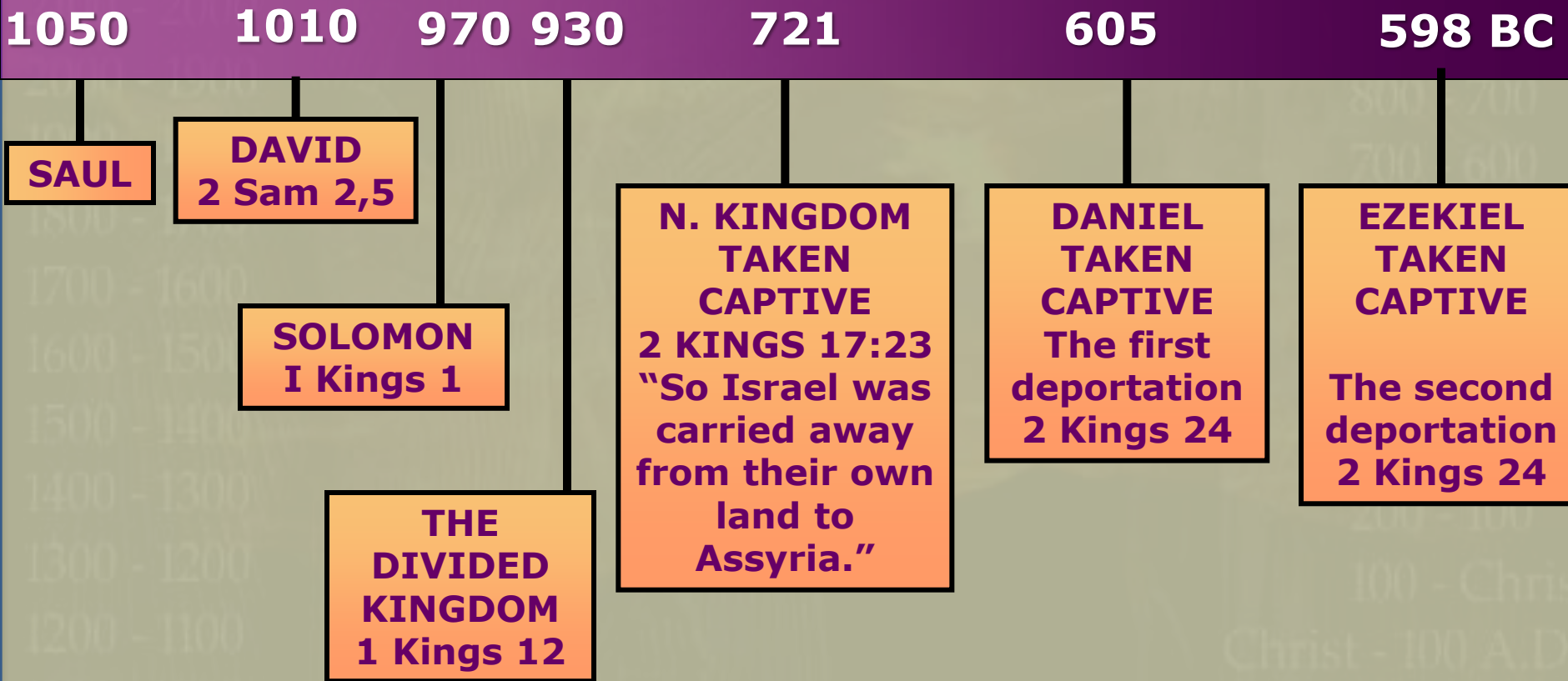
Mattathias with his five sons. (from Israel)

Where do we first notice that the Romans are becoming strong?

When Antiochus fought to beat the Egyptian part of the empire he was beaten by the Egyptian Greeks, because the Romans helped them.

Jewish History BC 1050-132 AD

FROM UNITED KINGDOM TO DEPORTATION



Jewish History BC 1050-132 AD

**70 YEARS OF
CAPTIVITY**

Artaxerxes'
Decree

598

586

538

515

458

444

420 BC

**EZEKIEL
TAKEN
CAPTIVE**

**S. KINGDOM
TAKEN
CAPTIVE**

The third
deportation

2 Kings 25:21

"Thus Judah
was carried
away captive
from its own
land."

**ZERUBBABEL
RETURNS
Ezra 2**

Starts
rebuilding
the Temple

Temple
completed

**EZRA
RETURNS
Ezra 7
Civic and
spiritual
reforms**

**NEHEMIAH
RETURNS
Neh 2
Rebuilds
the city
walls**

**MALACHI
Mal 3:1
"Behold,
He is
coming."**

Jewish History BC 1050-132 AD

INTERTESTAMENTAL PERIOD

Israel is dominated by Gentile Nations
(one exception – Hasmonean Period)

420 334 323 217 164 63 4 BC

**Persians
(539-333)**

**Greeks
(334-323)**

**Ptolomies
(323-217)**

**Syrians
(Seleucids)
(217-164)**

**Rome
(63-4)**

**BIRTH
OF
CHRIST**

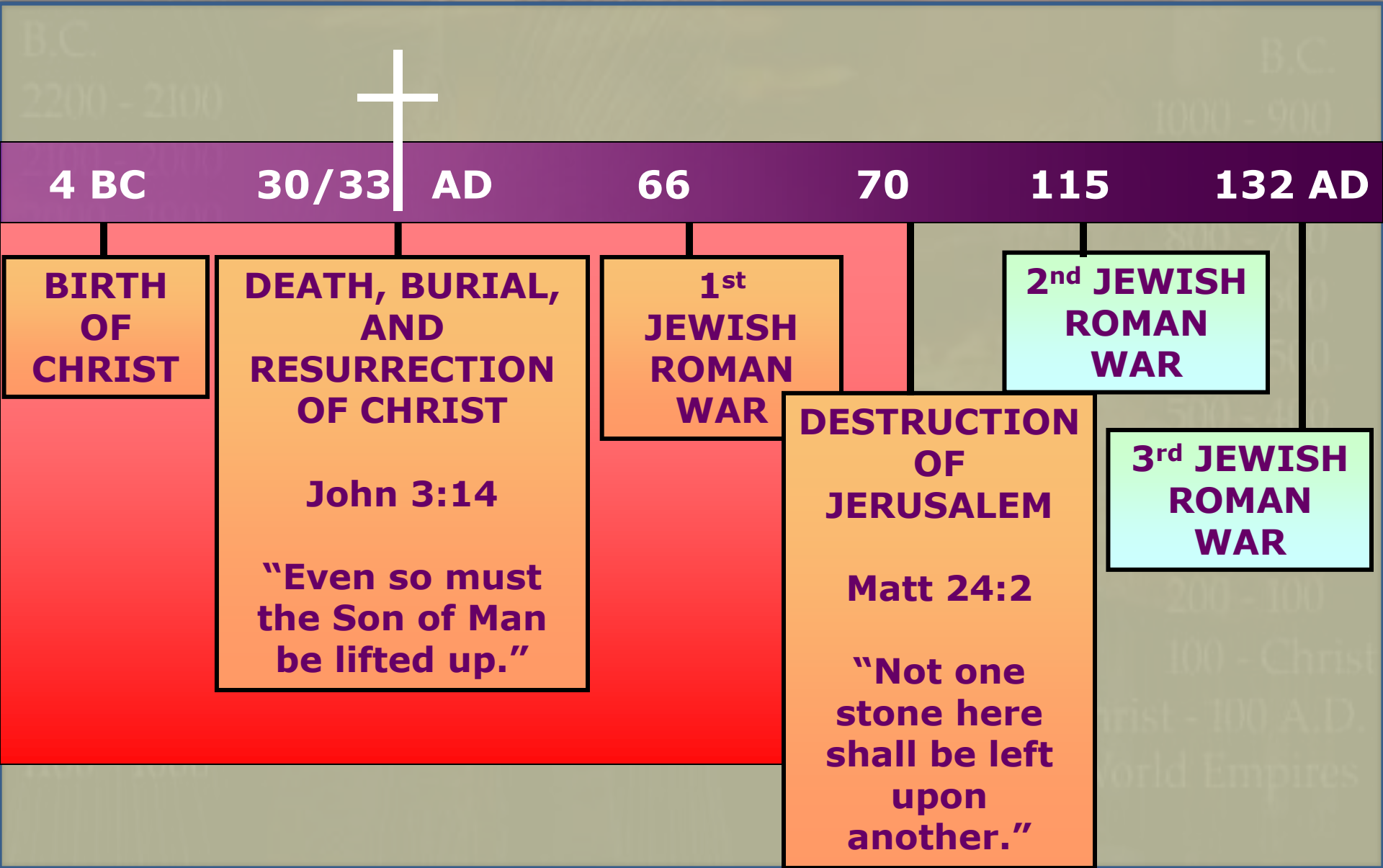
Gal 4:4

**"In the
fullness
of time,
God
sent
His
Son."**

**Hasmoneans
(Maccabean
Revolt)
(164-63)**

MALACHI

Jewish History BC 1050-132 AD



4 BC

30/33 AD

66

70

115

132 AD

BIRTH OF CHRIST

DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

John 3:14

"Even so must the Son of Man be lifted up."

1st JEWISH ROMAN WAR

DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

Matt 24:2

"Not one stone here shall be left upon another."

2nd JEWISH ROMAN WAR

3rd JEWISH ROMAN WAR

World History BC 400- 4 BC

400
BC

331
BC

167
BC

4 BC

Old
Testament
completed

Malachi?

Alexander
conquers
the Persian
Empire

**Alexander
the Great**

Persian Empire

Maccabbee
Rebellion

Hellenistic Kings

- Ptolemies
- Seleucids

Death of
Herod
the Great

**Pompey
the Great**

Hasmonean

Kings

Rome

Intertestamental Period

- **What happened between the time of the Old Testament and the New Testament?**
- **The Persian Dominance 539-331BC**
 - **Beginning of 2nd Temple Judaism**
- **The Greek/Hellenistic Period 331-164BC**
- **The Hasmoneans (Maccabeans) 164-63BC**

Intertestamental Period

- **Roman Rule (B.C. 63ff)**
- **Why did Jesus & Christianity come during this period?**
 - **The Pax Romana Period - Little conflict, Large systems of roadways and communication outlets**
 - **Influence of Greek Culture - Lingua Franca**
 - **Rome's tolerance of Judaism**

The Intertestamental Period

400+ Years of Subjection, Oppression, and Corruption

- **Rise of Synagogues**
- **OT Canon Established**
- **Rule of OT Law Re-established**
 - **Corruption of the High Priest**
 - **Greek Septuagint Translation**
- **Rise of Sadducees (of Zadok?)**
- **Rise of the Pharisees (separatists)**
 - **Hasidim**
- **Herod's temple project Undertaken**

The Fullness of Time

But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son...

in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. And Joseph went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, with Mary, who was engaged to him. And it came about that while they were there, Mary gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger ... born of a woman, born under the Law. And in the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields, and an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them and said to them, "Today in the City of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Galatians 4:4; Luke 2:1-12