

A. FOUNDATIONAL EVENTS

1. Events leading in

**Slide
3**

a. Israel and Judah defeated & taken into exile

- 1.) Israel into Assyrian exile ... 1 Chr 5.25-26 722 BC
 - a.) Shalmaneser V, 3-year siege of Samaria 725 - 722 BC
 - b.) 2 Ki 17.24-29 Samaria resettled by multiple peoples
... Source of more idolatry

**Slide
5**

2.) Judah into Babylonian exile ... 2 Ki 24.14 605-582 BC

(Judah struggles between idolatry & obedience)

- a.) 715 BC Hezekiah becomes king, reforms worship
- b.) 701 - 622 BC Assyrian dominance
- c.) 622 BC Josiah discovers the Book of the Law, reforms worship
- d.) 605 - 586 BC Sieges of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar
- e.) 582 BC Judah in Babylon
... 5,000 - 10,000 Jerusalem residents, primarily upper class

b. Empires transition much more quickly after Assyrian defeat

- 1.) Assyria 2,000 - 605 BC
- 2.) Babylonians 605 - 539 BC
- 3.) Persians 539 - 330 BC

**Slide
7**

c. Judah returned, walls rebuilt (Cyrus proclamation 2 Chron 36.22-23, Ezr 1.1-4)

- 1.) Cyrus makes decree 538 BC
 - a.) Cyrus and Persians did not believe in slavery > Zoroastrianism = monotheism
- 2.) 538 BC - Some exiles return with Zerubbabel
- 3.) 537 BC - Sheshbazzar leads a group of exiles to Judah
- 4.) 521 BC - Temple rebuilding resumes after political opposition stopped

**Slide
9**

5.) Artaxerxes decisions

- a.) 457 BC - Ezra sent back to teach the Torah to the returnees
- b.) 445 BC - Nehemiah sent back to rebuild Jerusalem walls

**Slide
10**

6.) Scribes

- a.) Began under leadership of Ezra
- ... Purposes
 - Preserve the Law
 - Study the Law
 - Apply the Law to daily life
 - Teach the people, particularly youth, the Law
 - : Established schools
- b.) This particular groups of scribes ended under Simon the Just
- c.) By Jesus' time
- ... Routine tasks of preserving traditions & man-made interpretations
 - ... They added burdens to people's lives (Lk 11:46-52)
 - ... Remained steeped in the past, did not share God's Word with the present
 - The seed of the Word must be planted to bear fruit
 - Both the old and the new must be shared (Matt 13.52)
 - : New principles are based on old insights
 - : Much of NT theology is based on OT statements

**Slide
11 - 12**

d. Permission to rebuild walls described in Ezra & Nehemiah

- 1.) Nehemiah's petition (Neh 2.1-20)
 - 2.) Jews partially restored to their land
 - 3.) Dominated by the Persians
-

B. THE JEWS UNDER PRIESTLY RULE

1. Results after Nehemiah

a. Jaddua was in office when Greeks defeated Persians - 330 BC

1.) Spotless integrity

2.) Unproven but likely he held to tradition

a.) Alexander the Great drove Darius Codomanus back east
(Dan 11.2-3)

b.) This convinced Jaddua that Alexander was the he-goat
with the horn between his eyes, leading overthrow of
Daniel's second empire
(Dan 7.6)

c.) Hearing Alexander was coming to besiege Jerusalem,
Jaddua met him with white-robed priests

d.) Alexander prostrated himself, stating that he had a vision
of Jaddua & recognized him as God's representative

e.) Jaddua had a scribe read Daniel's prophecy

f.) Alexander saw himself, & declared that Jerusalem would
not be touched nor the temple polluted

3.) Jaddua continued to serve under Alexander's reign

b. After Jaddua died somewhere between 323 and 313 BC

1.) Onias became high priest and died 301 BC

2.) His son, **Simon the Just**, succeeded him

a.) 50th Chapter of apocryphal Ecclesiasticus describes him

- ... Pious toward God, kind to his people
- ... Fortified the temple, built up the wall around it
- ... Temple service was held in honor of God
- ... Sought to halt Hellenizing of the people, maintain separation of God's people

b.) vs 25 & 26 of Ecclesiasticus show his efforts

“There be two manner of nations which my heart abhorreth, and the third is no nation. They that sit upon the mountain of Samaria, and they that dwell among the Philistines, and that foolish people that dwell in Sichem (Shechem).”

... "dwellers in Shechem"

- He refers to the Samaritans
- They built a rival temple on Mount Gerazim
- They added an 11th commandment to the Law
 - : “Thou shalt build an altar on Mount Gerizim, and there only shalt thou worship!”

... "...Samaria...Philistines..."

- Temporizers who sought to be in league with the Samaritans
- Apostates who went over to the Philistines

c.) Simon led those who clung to God's Word & the temple ceremonies

- ... Simon became president of the Sanhedrin
- ... First of the great rabbis whose teaching were placed in the *Mishna*

**Slide
15
(cont'd)**

d.) The beginnings of the two groups Jesus encountered

... Simon's group > Pharisees

- Drifted into ceremonialism & exclusivity
- Rigid separatists
- Hard and legal
- having "a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof."

... The Hellenizers > Sadducees

- Forerunners of those contemptuous and cultured
- Unsound in spirituality

2. Turmoil after Alexander the Great's death

**Slide
17**

a. Alexander died at about 33 in BC 323

- 1.) Had made no plans for his succession, or division of the empire

b. Three principal generals divided the empire after decades of civil war

- 1.) Ptolemy (Egypt)
- 2.) Seleucus (Babylonia and all else east)
- 3.) Antigonus (Greece and Macedon)

c. Tension between Antigonus & Ptolemy

- 1.) Antigonus spread into Syria and came south into Palestine
- 2.) Ptolemy turned north
- 3.) Jews favored Antigonus
- 4.) Ptolemy punished them by laying siege to Jerusalem
 - a.) Ptolemy's son, Soter, entered Jerusalem on the Sabbath
 - b.) He sacked it, massacred residents
 - c.) He took a large number of prisoners to Egypt where they stayed because of the more peaceful conditions

... Were joined by a number of other Jews

... Became Greeks, dropped their religion

- 5.) Five years of seesaw battles between the two ravaged the land

**Slide
17
(cont'd)**

- 6.) Antigonus was defeated & slain at the Battle of Ipsus in 301 BC
 - a.) Confederacy of the other Alexander generals
 - b.) A final division of the empire (Dan 11.4)
 - ... Cassander (Greece)
 - ... Lysimachus (Thrace/Armenia)
 - ... Seleucus (Babylonia & all else east to India)
 - ... Ptolemy (Egypt, Palestine, Libya, Arabia)

3. But during the turmoil the faithful clung to God's promises

- a. Old Testament was complete - the Law, the Prophets, & the Psalms
- b. They looked forward to the coming of the Deliverer (Mal 3.16-18)
 - 1.) Note God's using Ptolemy & Antigonus (the world's actors) to separate true believers from all the others

4. Judah enjoyed peace & calm during the reign of 1st three Ptolemies

**Slide
18**

- a. 303 - 221 BC
- b. Wars continued between the north & south kingdoms, but they had calm

c. While Eleazar was high priest and the 2nd Ptolemy reigned

1.) Ptolemy Philadelphus ordered translation of Old Testament to Greek

- a.) Pentateuch completed ~ 277 BC
 - ... 6 scholars from each of the 12 tribes = 72
 - Placed in separate rooms, each gave the same translation
- b.) Completed translation (132 BC) placed in the Imperial Library in Alexandria > *Septuagint* (= seventy translators)

**Slide
19 - 20**

2.) Septuagint grew rapidly in favor

- a.) Most Jews couldn't read Hebrew
- b.) Used by Christ and His disciples
- c.) Opposed by the Pharisaic school
 - ... Some translations were paraphrases, not word-by-word
 - ... Hellenizing Jews were aided by this in opposing orthodox teaching

& introducing new learning

**Slide
21**

5. On Eleazar's death, his brother Manasseh was high priest 276-251 BC

**Slide
22**

6. Manasseh was succeeded by Onias II

- a. Infant son of Simon the Just now grown
- b. Terrible leader, evil man
 - 1.) Failed to pay tribute to the 3rd Ptolemy, Euergetes for years
 - 2.) Euergetes threatened to destroy Judea
 - 3.) Onias' nephew Joseph negotiated a deal
 - a.) He overheard merchants in a caravan he traveled in on the way to Egypt
 - ... They were offering Euergetes 8,000 talents to become tax collectors throughout Syria, Palestine
 - b.) Joseph tricked them by offering Euergetes twice as much
 - ... He would gain the difference back by his taxing
 - ... 2,000 men were appointed to assist him
 - c.) He thus became the first Jewish publican
 - ... Beginning of a detestable class of Jewish citizen

7. In 219 BC, Onias II died and was succeed by Simon II

**Slide
24**

a. Decades of turmoil followed

- 1.) Kings of north (Syria) fighting kings of south (Egypt)
- 2.) Much involving Judea & Samaria
 - a.) Dan 11.5 - Ptolemy I & Seleucus I
 - b.) Dan 11.6 - Fighting between Ptolemys & Seleucides
 - ... Poisonings, then agreement by marriage
 - c.) Dan 11.7-8 - Ptolemy Euergetes avenges the death of his sister
 - d.) 11.9-10 - Seleucide Antiochus III the Great drives Egyptians to the southern border of Judea after many attempts
 - e.) And the seesaw battles raged into many verses of Daniel 11, and decades of shifting rulers
 - ... And the Judean and Samaritan residents paid the price in taxes and lost resources... But it also drove some to greater faith in God

8. Onias III, son of Simon II, took over in 185 BC

Slide
25

a. Defended Judaism

“The holy city was inhabited in all peace, and the laws were kept very well, because of the godliness of Onias, the high-priest, and his hatred of wickedness” (2 Macc. 3:1)

b. Opposed by Antiochus Epiphanes, Seleucid king from 175 BC

C. THE DAYS OF THE MACCABEES

1. Overview of Israel/Judea at the time

Slide
27

a. Two major parties in Israel for a long time

1.) Pharisees

- a.) From root pharisaioi = to separate (by practices)
- b.) Held learned positions throughout society, but weren't part of the governing body
- c.) Sought to influence populace and governing body to hold on to Jewish identity through biblical traditions
 - ... Strong interest in tithing, ritual purity, & Sabbath observance, & little for civil laws & Temple worship regulations
 - ... Major differences in what they believed on these subjects from the views of others within Judaism
- d.) They contended for the divine without spirituality or self judgement
- e.) About 6,000 centered in Jerusalem

2.) Political party = The Hellenizing faction

- a.) Worked to turn Israel into a small, militarily active kingdom
- b.) Managed political and economic resources to control society
- c.) Advocated adoption of the Greek ways, including considering Greek gods
- d.) Became the Sadducees

**Slide
27
(cont'd)**

b. A minor third party

- 1.) Common people
- 2.) Avoided the other two
- 3.) Held to God's Word & the promise of a Messiah
- 4.) Later became the Essenes

c. Other negative influences going on

- 1.) Purely political factions
 - a.) An "Egyptian" party & a "Syrian" party

2. Effects of Antiochus Ephiphanes

**Slide
28**

- a. Seleucus Philopater's brother, ascended on his death
- b. Called himself "Ephiphanes" = the illustrious
(Note Dan 11.21 for what he really was)
 - 1.) NASB "despicable person", ESV & NIV "contemptible", KJV "vile"
 - 2.) Detractors altered one letter in this title to read Epimanes (utterly mad)
- c. Came peaceably at 1st, then changed
(Dan 11.21-35)
- d. Onias III's brother, Joshua (Jason), bribed Antiochus to oust him
& make him high priest
 - 1.) Promised to push Jews to Hellenization
 - 2.) Took name of Greek hero, Jason
 - 3.) Rationalistic pre-Sadducean party now in power
 - a.) National & spiritual parties in grave danger

e. Sack of Jerusalem (171 BC)

- 1.) Antiochus furious that Jerusalem celebrated on a false rumor of his death at war in Egypt
- 2.) Stormed city, killed 40,000
- 3.) Attacked the temple
 - a.) Let in by the high priest Menelaus
 - b.) Carried away candlestick, table, incense, altar
 - c.) Committed the abomination of desolation (Dan 11.30-31)
 - ... Erected statue of Zeus in the sanctuary (167 BC)
 - ... Caused swine to be slain on the altar
- 4.) Remnant revived by this (Dan 11.32)
 - a.) And the Maccabean Period is introduced (Dan 11.33-35)

 - b.) Daniel said that the temple would be polluted for 2,300 days ~ 6-1/2 years
 - ... Temple polluted in 171 BC
 - ... Judas Maccabeus ordered it cleansed & rededicated in 165-4 BC

f. Destruction of Jerusalem

- 1.) 169 BC Antiochus invades Egypt again
 - a.) Roman senate orders him to stop
 - b.) Antiochus asks for time to consider
 - ... Ambassador draws a circle in the sand around him & says the answer is due before he steps out = "line in the sand"
 - 2.) Antiochus sends Appollonius to vent rage on Jerusalem
 - a.) Houses & walls demolished
 - b.) Jupiter worship set up, death to any worshipping God
 - ... Terrible tortures, persecution
 - c.) Hellenizers saw the true face of what they admired
-

3. Beginning of the Maccabees (= Hammer of God)

a. Father of five sons was Mattathias of Modin

- 1.) Of the priestly line
- 2.) Prayed to God over the abuses of Antiochus

b. Opening incident - 167 BC

- 1.) Antiochus' agent insisted Modin & Mattathias worship Jupiter
- 2.) Mattathias slew the agent & struck down the altar
- 3.) He fled to the mountains with a company of men & his sons leading

c. Army of Syrians sent to crush the rebellion

- 1.) Fell on a number of Jews on their way to join Mattathias
- 2.) Occurred on Sabbath day, so they surrendered & 1,000 were murdered
 - a.) Changed the rebels attitude about not defending resistance to idolatry on Sabbath day

d. Most devoted Jews joined the rebellion, including the Hasadim

- 1.) Roamed the country tearing down idols & altars
- 2.) re-established circumcision
- 3.) Proclaimed God's Law

e. Mattathias died in 166 BC

- 1.) Charged sons to carry on the fight
- 2.) Appointed 3rd son Judas Maccabeus as leader
- 3.) Urged all to heed 2nd son Simon's wisdom

4. Initial Maccabean battles against the Seleucids/Syrians

- a. Repeatedly successful in raids on the army camps
- b. Defeated and killed Apollonius, governor of Samaria
- c. Defeated large Syrian army with smaller force by counting on God's support

**Slide
30
(cont'd)**

5. Antiochus's rage at the defeats & reaction

a. Half of army sent in while he scoured Persia for
funds for a massive force

- 1.) General, Lysias, ordered to annihilate Israel &
its monuments

b. Judas had 6,000 men against 40,000 & 7,000 horsemen

1.) Syrians at Emmaus, Jews at Mizpeh

a.) They read from the Scriptures, fasted in sackcloth &
ashes

2.) One Syrian general led a large force in an early morning
surprise attack

a.) The Jews had sentries & were gone before they arrived

b.) The Jews then attacked the remaining army at the
base camp, routing them with Judas' cry "Fear ye not !"

c.) When the surprise force returned, they were also routed

c. Lysias returned the next year with 65,000 men

1.) Judas' army had grown to 10,000

2.) They defeated Lysias at Idumea in 164 BC

3.) Syrian army unable to recover

6. Cleansing & Restoration of the Temple

- a. Daniel prophesied 2,300 days (6.3 years) between defilement & cleansing
 - 1.) Abomination occurred 171 BC
 - 2.) Cleansing occurred 165-164 BC

- b. Judas & company saw terrible destruction & pollution in Jerusalem
 - 1.) They set about restoring buildings, grounds, and the Temple
 - 2.) The altar was considered too profaned, so they built a new one

- c. Dedication took place December, 165 BC
- d. Establishment of the Feast of Hannukah
 - 1.) They relit the menorah, but there was enough untainted oil for only one day
 - 2.) Miraculously, it stayed lit for the eight days needed to find another untainted supply

7. Three more years to cleanse the land

- a. Judas & brother Jonathon led armies to restore fortresses, rebuild key buildings throughout Israel
 - b. Simon led an army to stop roving bands
-

8. Lysias returned with a large army for revenge

- a. Became regent for Antiochus' 9-year old son, who succeeded him
- b. Drove the Israelites back into Jerusalem & laid siege
- c. God stopped him by stirring revolt back in Syria
- d. He arranged a peace with Israel, and left after destroying their defenses

9. Judas attacked again by the Syrians

a. Antiochus' nephew, Demetrius, contested the reign of the boy-king

- 1.) Killed the king and Lysias after winning the battle
- b. Alcimus, high priest succeeding Menelaus, sought to influence the new king, Demetrius
 - 1.) Was of Aaron's line, so people trusted him
 - 2.) Bought his office with gold and other gifts to the king

10. Judas, concerned about more Syrian attacks

a. Decides to ally with Rome

- 1.) Likely he knew Daniel's prophecies about the 3rd beast waning and the 4th taking over
- 2.) Perhaps he is relying more on the prophecy than on praying to God again for guidance
- 3.) The Roman senate approves negotiations and a peace pact is signed with the Jews

b. Before Syria hears of it, they attack again in 161 BC

- 1.) 22,000 led by general Bacchides & the high-priest Alcimus
- 2.) Judas' men not feeling confident, many deserters
- 3.) Judas' army defeated and he was slain
- 4.) Jews demoralized
- 5.) His brother Jonathan takes over as leader

11. On-going problems

**Slide
36**

- a. Jonathan became involved in switching between supporting Syrian king and Egyptian king several times
- 1.) Intrigues involving successors to Demetrius & Balas
 - 2.) Jonathan played active role in leading his army in successful battles
 - 3.) He renewed the alliance with Rome
-

**Slide
37**

b. Jonathan was tricked into his death by Tryphon in 144 BC

- 1.) Tryphon was a general who promoted right of Alexander Balas' infant son to Syrian crown
 - 2.) Tryphon wanted the throne himself, & knew he had to be rid of Jonathan to get it
 - a.) Tryphon tricked Jonathan into a trap & imprisoned him
-

**Slide
38**

- b.) Jonathan's brother Simon was elected to lead the Jews
 - c.) Tryphon asked for ransom & two sons of Jonathan as hostages
 - d.) Simon complied as having no choice, & Tryphon brutally murdered Jonathan
- 3.) Tryphon declared himself king of Syria 142 BC
- c. Simon was left as sole governor of a free people 143 BC, end of 170 years of Syrian servitude
- 1.) Must hold against Tryphon
 - a.) Romans reasserted support, so Tryphon wary
 - 2.) Brief period of peace
 - a.) Cities rebuilt
 - b.) Farming resumed
 - 3.) 141 BC - People conferred priesthood & government on Simon & his heirs forever
 - 4.) Simon was assassinated at a banquet by his son-in-law, Ptolemy
-

D. THE HASMONEAN DYNASTY

1. Carry-over

Slide
41

- a. Family line of Maccabees were Hasmoneans founded by Mattathias' great-grandfather, Asamoneus
 - b. The dynasty began with the people's acclaim of Simon and his heirs as governor forever in 141 BC
 - 1.) Roman Senate accepted the claim in 139 BC
-

2. John Hyrcanus reigned 135 - 104 BC

Slide
44

- a. Waged warfare against various Syrian elements, varying degrees of success and not
 - b. Forced captives to convert to Judaism or die a violent death
 - 1.) Became a source of potential problems
 - c. By this point, the Jews were in a severe spiritual decline
 - 1.) Some believed that they solely had the truth, and became intolerant and formal > Pharisees
 - 2.) Others became pleasure-loving, broadminded professors who promoted acceptance of everything through rationalization > Sadducees
 - 3.) This formed the two great parties of the Jews
-

Slide
45

- d. John Hyrcanus was a Pharisee, but he changed gradually to being a Sadducee
 - 1.) Start of the rapid decline of the Hasmonean dynasty
 - 2.) Openly opposed by the Pharisees
-

Slide
46

e. John Hyrcanus died in 104 BC

- 1.) His instructions were that his wife would rule, and his eldest son, Aristobulus, was to be high priest, only
 - f. Aristobulus starved his mother in prison and took over leadership
 - 1.) One year later, he died of a painful illness
-

3. Aristobulus' eldest brother, Alexander Jannaeus, reigned

Slide
47

103 - 79 BC

- a. Pharisees had the major influence, but Alexander was a Sadducee
 - 1.) Detested their separateness, & publicly provoked them by misapplying religious rites
 - 2.) Caused insurrections involving 50,000 deaths
 - 3.) Pharisees asked Syrians to help, but people rallied to Alexander, who crushed the rebellion
 - b. Brutal warrior who provoked the Nabateans & caused six years of civil war in Judea in response
 - 1.) Forced conversion to Judaism or die violent death
 - c. Died in the siege of the fortress Ragaba
-

4. Alexander's wife, Alexandra, reigned 76 - 67 BC

Slide
48

- a. She was opposed to Alexander's policies, and had the support of the Pharisees
 - b. Pharisees repealed John Hyrcanus' policies & became extreme in who they approved of
 - 1.) Many left Jerusalem as a place impossible to live in
 - 2.) Were members of the Sadducees, lived in fortresses and plotted overthrow of the Pharisees
 - 3.) One son, Aristobulus II, sympathized with them & plotted overthrow of the queen
 - c. Alexandra became seriously ill
 - d. Her son, Aristobulus II, seized the throne to prevent Hyrcanus, the elder son and high priest, from taking over
 - 1.) Hyrcanus was weak, and had little interest in spiritual matters
 - a.) Accepted dominance from the Pharisees
 - b.) His inaction was too late to prevent Aristobulus from taking over
-

5. Aristobulus II reigned 67 - 63 BC

Slide
49

- a. Confirmed Hyrcanus as high priest
-

Slide
50

b. Rivalry with Hyrcanus brought about civil war

- 1.) Arrangement seemed pleasing to both until Antipater stepped in
 - a.) Idumean who became father of Herod the Great
 - b.) Appointed governor of Idumea
 - c.) Close friend of Hyrcanus, displeased with possibility Aristobulus might affect his own power
- 2.) Antipater convinced Hyrcanus to join him & the king of Arabia to raise an army against Aristobulus
- 3.) The siege of Jerusalem became a standoff, and both parties went to Damascus to present their case to the Roman general, Pompey

c. Rome laid siege to Jerusalem & invaded

- 1.) Slaughter of people and priests
 - 2.) Rome stepped in, took Judean freedom away and placed them under the Roman governor of Syria
 - 3.) Judas Maccabeus' treaty with Rome proved the wrong way to go, instead of trusting God for guidance
-

6. Hyrcanus II reigned as high priest 63 - 40 BC

Slide
51

- a. Roman general Gabinius governed Judea 64 - 54 BC
 - 1.) Respected Jews rights within Roman policies
 - 2.) Brought order to the land

 - b. Roman consul Crassus marched on Jerusalem to seize the temple money
 - 1.) Crassus took gold, jewels, and money estimated at ten million dollars
 - a.) Considered the wealthiest man in Rome, and one of the wealthiest in history
 - c. Captured by Parthians
 - d. Aristobulus II's son, Antigonus, sought to become king
-

E. THE EDMITE REIGN

1. Antipater worked hard to ingratiate himself to Caesar

Slide
53

- a. Expeditions against the Pontians & Cappadocians
 - b. Caesar made him a Roman citizen & procurator of Judea
 - c. Remained patron of Hyrcanus, supported him against Antigonus' ambitions
-

Slide
54

- d. Appointed his sons Phasael & Herod governors of Galilee and Jerusalem, respectively
 - e. Died in 43 BC from poisoning by anarchists after Julius Caesar's assassination
-

Slide
55

- f. Antipater had been Idumean when the Jews conquered them & forced acceptance of Judaism
 - 1.) His entire family were nominal Jews
 - 2.) They regarded being practicing Jews as the best political approach, and opposed the Hellenizing policies of past Jewish rulers
-

2. Herod

Slide
57

a. 1st test

- 1.) A band of Jewish zealots led an uprising & Herod put it down, killing their leader without the Sanhedrin's agreement
 - 2.) The Sanhedrin summoned him for punishment
 - a.) The Roman tribune wrote Hyrcanus to free Herod, but he didn't want to go against the Sanhedrin
 - b.) The Sanhedrin gave Herod a trial & planned to sentence him to death, but Hyrcanus suspended the session & advised Herod to flee
 - c.) Herod withdrew, but assembled an army to destroy Hyrcanus & the Sanhedrin, but Antipater interfered
-

Slide
58

b. 42 BC - Antigonus reappears & attacks for the crown

- 1.) Quickly subdued by Herod
- 2.) Antigonus appeals to Mark Antony, but he raises Herod to tetrach of Judea and his brother, Phasel, to tetrach of Galilee
- 3.) Antigonus buys an army from the Parthian king
 - a.) Much money and 500 Jewish women
 - b.) The last of the Hasmonean line reduced to the world's methods to obtain glory !
- 4.) Antigonus strikes quickly on Jerusalem, imprisons Hyrcanus & Phasel, just missing Herod
 - a.) Antigonus bit off Hyrcanus' ears to prevent him from every serving as high priest again

c. Antigonus reigned 40 - 37 BC

- 1.) Was both king and high priest
- 2.) Led fierce struggle for independence from Romans, but was defeated by Herod, who was declared king of Judea by the Romans

d. Herod was denied safety in Saudi Arabia, made it to Rome

- 1.) Octavius Caesar made him king of Judea and full authority to dispossess Antigonus by force
- 2.) Herod set sail in 40 BC

e. Herod's Judean campaign to regain the throne

- 1.) Learned his mother, sister, and betrothed Mariamne, were besieged in Masada by Antigonus
 - 2.) Herod took charge of the Roman legions, and defeated the siege, freeing his relatives
 - 3.) Herod spent a year defeating nationalist armies, and arrived at Jerusalem in 39 BC
 - 4.) He besieged Jerusalem for two years, which fell in 37 BC
 - a.) Enlisted aid of the Syrian president
 - b.) Had to plead for the Syrian soldiers to stop their senseless slaughter of the inhabitants, or he would be the king of a desert
 - c.) The entire Sanhedrin was slain but two
 - 5.) Herod handed Antigonus over to the Romans, & he was executed at Antioch
 - 6.) This ended the Hasmonean Dynasty
-

f. Herod's cruelty oppresses him

Slide
60

1.) One Hasmonean male left to trouble him

- a.) Aristobulus was Mariamne, Herod's wife's, brother
 - ... Mariamne was a Hasmonean whom Herod married to try to gain Jewish legitimacy
- b.) Their mother was Alexandra, daughter of Hyrcanus
- c.) Alexandra asked Herod to appoint him high priest, but Herod appointed an obscure Babylonian whom he could control
 - ... Alexandra appealed to Mark Antony through Cleopatra
- d.) Herod was overruled, and Aristobulus appointed high priest to the joy of the people
 - ... Herod's pride was stung, and the young priest "accidentally drowned" at Herod's fish ponds at Jericho

Slide
61

2.) Distrust of Mariamne

- a.) Salome, Herod's sister, was jealous of Mariamne's influence, so she accused her of infidelity
- b.) Whenever he was summoned to Rome, he ordered a trusted relative to kill her if he didn't return
- c.) She learned of it and accosted him for not trusting her
- d.) In anger, Herod killed her, and then fell into deranged response for a period
 - ... During this period, Alexandra again attempted to take over the government
 - ... Herod rose out of his stupor and killed her in 28 BC
 - ... Final obliteration of the Hasmonean family

g. Herod died in 4 BC while Christ was hidden in Egypt

- 1.) Succeeded by Archelaus 4 BC - 6 AD