



# The Intertestamental Period

What happened between Malachi and Matthew to prepare the world for the Messiah and His Kingdom?

## What happened?

- ❖ Amos 8:11
  - ❖ \_\_\_\_\_ of hearing the words of the LORD
- ❖ Malachi wrote about \_\_\_\_\_; Matthew, about \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ But \_\_\_\_\_ didn't mean that God was inactive in His plan to redeem mankind

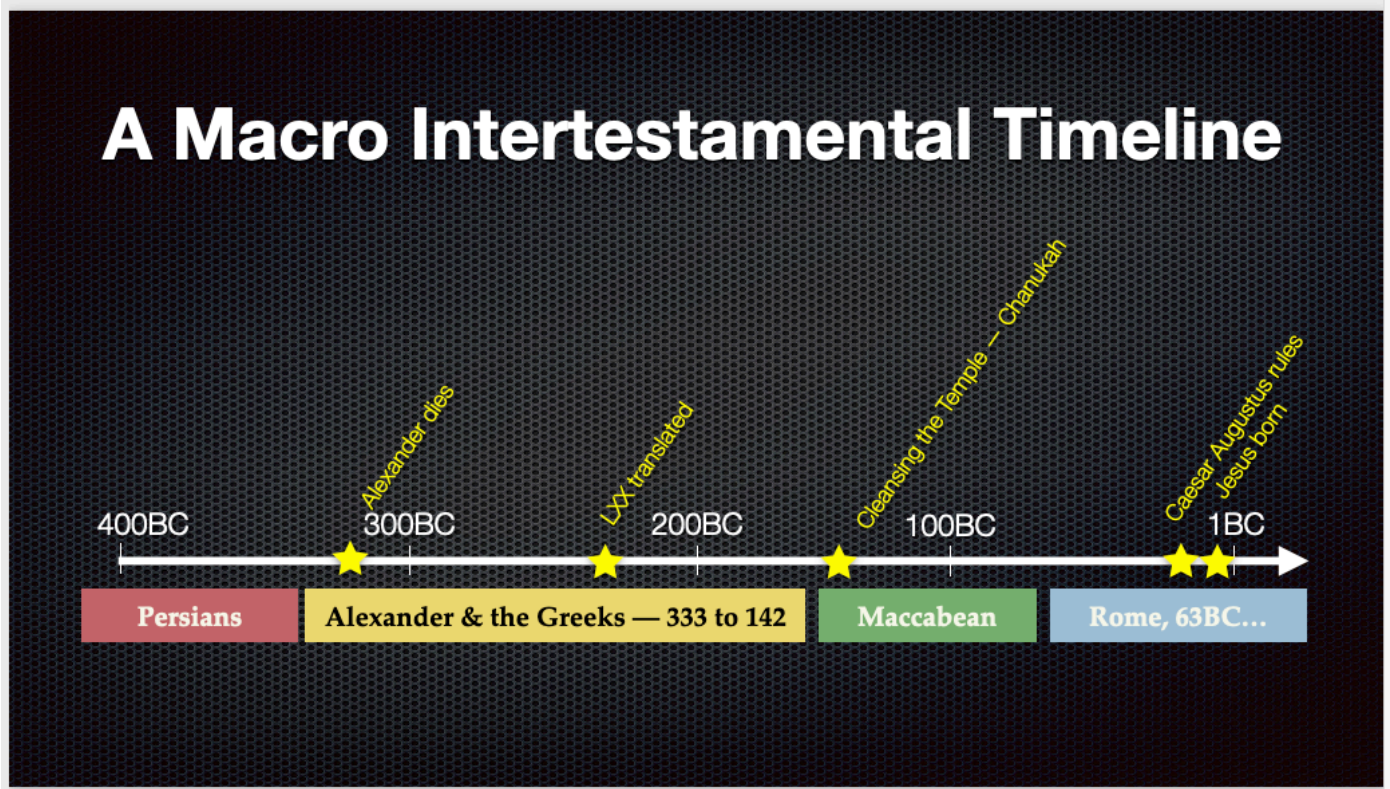
## Why should we care?

- ❖ We want to understand the NT better...
  - ❖ Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ The \_\_\_\_\_ the people and leaders asked
  - ❖ Why is Israel ruled by \_\_\_\_\_?
  - ❖ Why are so many speaking \_\_\_\_\_?
  - ❖ How and why did the \_\_\_\_\_ grow so fast?
  - ❖ Where did the \_\_\_\_\_ come from?
- ❖ It helps us to understand NT...
  - ❖ circumstances
  - ❖ languages
  - ❖ parties
  - ❖ arguments
  - ❖ culture
  - ❖ general references
  - ❖ religion

## God laid out the plan

- ❖ Daniel 2:31-35
  - ❖ "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. The head of that statue was made of fine gold (vv.36-38), its breast and its arms of silver (v. 39), its belly and its thighs of bronze (v. 39),"

- ❖ “its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay (vv. 40-43). You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them (44, 45).”
- ❖ Similar passages: Dan. 7 / Dan. 8 / Dan. 9:24ff / Dan. 10:20 / Dan. 11
- ❖ ““Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”



*My, how things changed...*

Close of the Old Testament	Opening of the New Testament
_____ CHANGES...	
Persian empire in control	_____ empire in control
Jewish governor over Judea	_____ governor and _____
No organized judicial system	Two highly organized judicial systems, _____ and _____
High priest subordinate to governor	High priest was most powerful _____ and _____ person
Samaritans politically influential	Samaritans are few, _____, despised

Close of the Old Testament	Opening of the New Testament
_____ CHANGES...	
Temple worship only, no synagogue	Synagogues _____
No systematic traditions	Traditions of the elders _____
No Jewish sects	_____ Jewish sects
Idol worship had been a chief vice	Idol worship completely _____
Intermarriage another chief vice	_____ almost completely gone
Vague belief in immortality	Clear _____ in resurrection, angels
Little Jewish literature	_____ of Jewish literature
Vague Messianic hope	Clear _____ hope
Hebrew language prominent	_____ was universal
High priest by family lineage	High priest by political _____

Close of the Old Testament	Opening of the New Testament
_____ CHANGES...	
Population _____	Populous and overcrowded
_____ barren, waste	Land fertile and cultivated
Little _____, mostly in Palestine	_____ commerce, world-wide
Poor _____, little travel	_____ transportation, much travel
_____ culture and language	_____ culture and language

### CONCEPT OF THE "FULLNESS OF THE TIMES"

- God bringing to \_\_\_\_\_ all the prophecies and \_\_\_\_\_ about His Kingdom and \_\_\_\_\_ — bringing all the pieces together for success
- Galatians 4:4 — "But when the \_\_\_\_\_ came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,"

- Ephesians 1:10 — "with a view to an \_\_\_\_\_ suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth...."

***God had a plan...***

- Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity  
Between you and the woman,  
And between \_\_\_\_\_ seed and \_\_\_\_\_ - seed;  
He shall bruise you on the \_\_\_\_\_,  
And you shall bruise him on the \_\_\_\_\_.""
- John 2:4 "And Jesus \*said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has  
\_\_\_\_\_.""
- John 8:20 "These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one  
seized Him, because \_\_\_\_\_."
- John 17:1 "Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father,  
\_\_\_\_\_; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You,"
- Romans 5:6 "For while we were still helpless, \_\_\_\_\_ Christ died  
for the ungodly."