

FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Systematic Theology Course

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VOLUME 3 80

New Testament Survey

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Inter-testamental Period (425-5 B.C.)
Volume 3 - Unit 1

I. Scripture

A. Daniel 8, 11

B. Zechariah 9

C. Hebrews 11 (?)

II. Extra-Biblical Sources

A. Old Testament Apocrypha (Maccabees, particularly)

B. Josephus

C. Herodotus

D. Dead Sea Scrolls

III. The Six Epochs

A. Persian Period (539-331 B.C.)

1. Peaceful, uneventful

2. Rise of Sanhedrin

3. Elevation of High Priest's office

B. Grecian Period (331-323 B.C.) - Alexander the Great:

1. Dealt kindly with Jews
2. Increased Jewish dispersion
3. Universalized Greek language
4. Universalized Hellenic (Greek) culture

C. Egyptian Period (323-198 B.C.)

1. Alexander's empire collapses:
 - a. Ptolemy - Egypt
 - b. Seleucus - Syri
 - c. Cassander - Macedonia
 - d. Lysimachus - Western and Central Asia Minor and Thrace
2. Translation of Septuagint (LXX) in Alexandria
3. Strife between Syria and Egypt
4. Egypt defeated - 198 B.C.

D. Syrian Period (198 - 168 B.C.) - "Israel's Darkest Hour"; Antiochus IV Epiphanes (Epimanes?):

1. Sold some Jews as slaves

2. Destroyed walls of Jerusalem
3. Plundered temple - made it shrine to Zeus
4. Set up altar of Zeus on brazen altar - sacrificed sow - "abomination of desolation"
5. Set up pagan altars throughout country
6. Made observance of heathen festivals compulsory
7. Outlawed Judaism

E. Maccabean Period (168-63 B.C.)

1. Modin incident (Matthias)
2. Judas
3. December 25, 165 B.C. - cleansing of temple ("hanukkah")
4. Corruption sets in
5. Sects:
 - a. Pharisees
 - b. Saducees

F. Roman Period (63 B.C. - 70 A.D.)

1. Pompey conquers - 63 B.C.
2. Herod appointed (37-4 B.C.)

The Life of Christ – Part 1
Introduction, Pre-existence and Incarnation
Volume 3 - Unit 1 (cont.)

IV. Sources

A. The Gospels

B. Secular Sources

1. Tacitus

2. Suetonius

3. Pliny

4. Lucian

5. Josephus

6. Talmud

V. Introduction to the Gospels

A. Not "Biographies"

B. Unique Purposes

1. Mark - Summary of apostolic preaching

2. Matthew - Connects Christ to Old Testament

3. Luke - Researched history of Christianity from beginning to Rome

4. John - Against Gnosticism - to produce belief - more "theological"

VI. Pre-existence and Incarnation (John 1:1-18)

A. "Word" = logos

1. Greeks - "Rational principle by which universe exists"

2. Jews - "The speech of God", "the expression of God's thought"

B. "In the Beginning" - Eternal existence (deity)

C. "Was" vs. "Became"

Verses 1-2 - continual existence, past time (eimi, imperfect tense)

Verse 6 - action at a point of time (ginomai, aorist tense)

Verse 14 - action at a point of time (ginomai, aorist tense)

D. Hypostatic Union - Union of 2 natures (hypostases) of Christ

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 1:1, 14a – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . . And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.”

Note at the Beginning of the Study of the Life of Christ: If you would like to have a valuable tool for the study of the Life of Christ, you might secure a copy of “A Harmony of the Gospels” by A. T. Robertson.