

## ***Between the Testaments***

### ***Malachi 4:5-6***

*“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.” (Malachi 4:5-6)*

It is crucial to the understanding of the New Testament that we understand what happened historically and culturally in the 400 years between the end of Malachi and the beginning of Matthew.

The 400 year period between the ending of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **1. Rise and Fall of Kingdoms**

When Malachi wrote, Israel belonged to the \_\_\_\_\_. It remained that way until \_\_\_\_\_ later, when Alexander the Great ruled Greece.

By 322 BC, Israel had been absorbed into the ever expanding \_\_\_\_\_ empire. Alexander generally treated the Jews well and even allowed them some form of \_\_\_\_\_.

Alexander died in 323 BC at the age of \_\_\_\_\_. For the next 150 years, his successors controlled the empire. One particular successor was Antiochus IV Epiphanes. His name means \_\_\_\_\_. He ruled from 175-164 BC. His policies triggered what is known as \_\_\_\_\_. This revolt gained independence for Judah until 63BC when \_\_\_\_\_ took over the Holy Land.

In 48 BC, Pompey lost a power struggle to \_\_\_\_\_ who ruled until 44 BC when he was assassinated. He was succeeded by Octavian. In 27 BC, the Roman Senate gave Octavian the title of \_\_\_\_\_. While his government ushered in civil organization and peace — it also brought about conflict because Augustus established the idea that Caesar was \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **2. Literature from the Silent Years**

Even though there was no new prophecy from God during this time, there was a considerable amount of literature produced.

##### **The Septuagint**

Around \_\_\_\_\_, the Septuagint — also known as the \_\_\_\_\_, made Scripture available to Jews who no longer spoke Hebrew.

## New Testament Survey #1

### **The Apocrypha**

This is a collection of writings that appears in the \_\_\_\_\_ Bibles but NOT in Protestant Bibles.

### **The Dead Sea Scrolls**

The Dead Sea Scrolls are the most significant discovery of modern times. Found in the spring of \_\_\_\_\_ by a shepherd boy, the Scrolls contain portions of ALL the books of the Old Testament with the exception of the book of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **3. Developments in Social/Religious Life**

Several developments occurred in the 400 years of silence that did not exist in the Old Testament. They include \_\_\_\_\_, and the religious sects of \_\_\_\_\_.