

New Testament SURVEY

Session 1:

Introduction to Historical/Political Background | The Gospel According to Matthew

It's All About the Text

ACTIVITY:

Introduction to Historical/Political Background

KEY FIGURES:

1. Antiochus IV Epiphanes (c. 215 BC - 164 BC)
 - Daniel 8: "The little horn"
 - Dethroned by Judas Maccabeus
2. Judas Maccabeus (*The Book of Maccabees*)
 - Succeeded by Jonathan
 - Succeeded by Simon
3. John Hyrcanus (c. 164 - 104 BC)
 - Succeeded by Aristobulus
 - Succeeded by Alexander Jannaeus
4. Hyrcanus II: Ruled in Judea 67-66 BC
5. Antipater the Idumaeen (c. 113 - 43 BC)
 - Loyal to Julius Caesar, given oversight of Judea
6. Herod the Great (c. 72 - 1 BC)
 - Loyal to Mark Antony, made king by Octavian
 - Matthew 2:1-18
7. Herod Archelaus (son of Herod the Great)
 - Matthew 2:19-22
8. Herod Antipas (son of Herod the Great)
 - Matthew 14:1-12

The Gospel According to Matthew

KEY PASSAGES:

1. Matthew 1:1: The Son of David, the Son of Abraham
 - David as a *shepherd*: Ezek. 34:2-4, 23
 - See also: Matt. 9:27, 12:22-23, 15:22, 20:31, 21:9-10
 - David as a *son of God*: 2 Sam. 7:13-16
2. Matthew 1:21-23: Typology
3. Matthew 2:1: A Davidic Birth
4. Matthew 2:15: An Israelite's Journey
5. Matthew 4:1-11: Interpretation Matters