



A Guided Tour of the Bible: Discovering God in

The Intertestamental Period

Background

- The intertestamental period refers to the 400 years between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament.
- The events of those "silent years" shape the New Testament in significant ways.
- Even in the silence, God worked to prepare the world for the arrival of His Son.

Roadmap

1. 400 Years of Spiritual Preparation

There were no inspired writers or prophets.

2. 400 Years of Political Preparation

A. The Medo-Persian Empire (539-331 BC)

B. The Greek Empire (331-142 BC)

i. Alexander the Great

1. Student of Aristotle

2. Champion of Hellenization

ii. Antiochus Epiphanes (175 BC)

C. The Maccabean Empire (142-63 BC)

i. Mattathias and the Maccabean Revolt (167-160 BC)

ii. Full Independence

D. The Roman Empire (63 BC-70 AD) -

i. Pompey

ii. The Herodian Dynasty

3. 400 years of Religious Preparation

A. The Synagogues

B. The Pharisees and Scribes

C. The Sadducees

Takeaway

1. Don't mistake God's silence for absence.

2. Don't mistake God's silence for apathy.