

## Exploring the New Testament First Sectional Exam Review

### Dates:

722 BC	Assyrians destroy northern kingdom of Israel
587 BC	Babylonians destroy southern kingdom of Judah
167 BC	Antiochus IV Epiphanes desolates Jewish temple
164 BC	Judas Maccabees regains temple area
162 BC	Judas captures Acra fortress = religious freedom
152 BC	Jonathan gains high priesthood
142 BC	Simon granted tax exempt status = political independence
140 BC	Romans makes Hasmoneans a dynasty
128 BC	John Hyrcanus I destroys Samaritans' Mount Gerezim temple
63 BC	Pompey enters the Jewish temple; Roman control of Palestine
40 BC	Roman senate declares Herod king
37–4 BC	King Herod's reign
31 BC	Battle of Actium: Octavian defeats Anthony
6–4 BC	Jesus' birth
4 BC–AD 6	Archelaus rules Judea, Samaria, Idumea
4 BC–AD 34	Philip rules Transjordan territories
4 BC–AD 39	Antipas rules Galilee, Perea
AD 37–44	Herod Agrippa I reigns, eventually over all Judea (41–44)
AD 49	Edict of Claudius
AD 66–70	First Jewish War
AD 70	Destruction of Jerusalem and its temple by Titus
AD 132–35	Second Jewish War under Simon bar Kochba

### Areas of Focus:

#### *Introduction*

1. Discuss major elements of Intertestamental developments that illustrate what Paul meant when he said in Galatians that “in the fullness of time” God sent his Son. How was this time the fullness of time for the world? For Judaism?
2. What is lost as a result of the Assyrian period of Jewish history? What issue is raised by the Assyrian captivity?
3. What is lost as a result of the Babylonian period of Jewish history? What issue is raised by the Babylonian captivity?

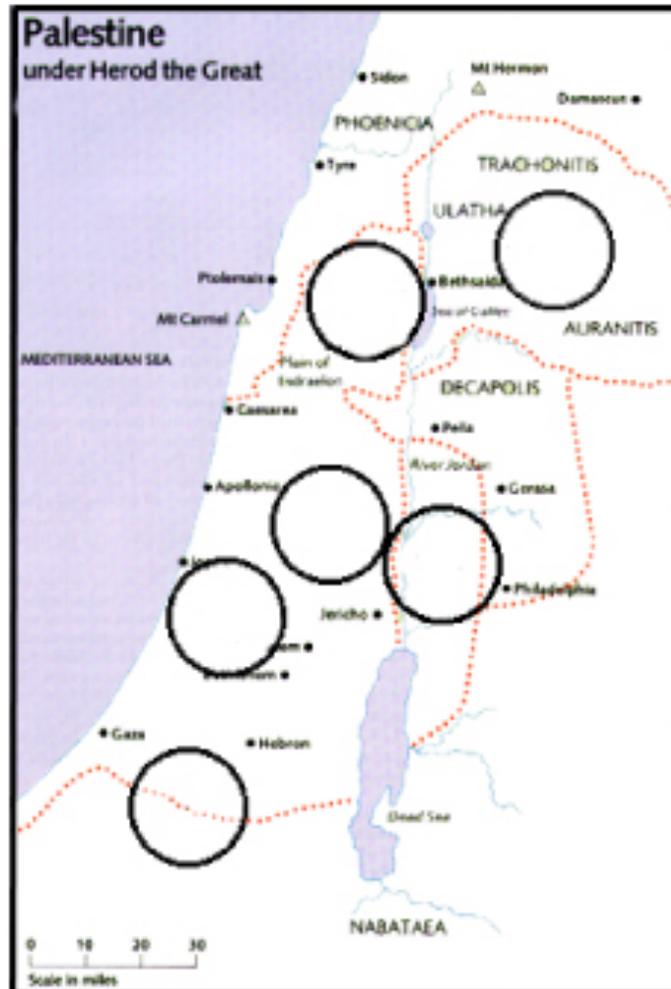
#### *Canon*

1. Explain the practical situation regarding the handwritten manuscripts of the New Testament in regard to errors. How is our resulting text still trustworthy in the light of this historical reality?
2. Identify what is meant by the “core canon,” the “disputed canon,” and the “limited use canon.” Identify the units and books that make up these lists.
3. Identify factors hindering canon development and encouraging canon development.
4. List and briefly explain the five principles of canonicity.

*History*

1. Briefly indicate the periods (empires), what Jewish kingdoms are involved, and the issues generated that provide the historical roots and Old Testament bridge going into what is known as the “Intertestamental Period.”
2. Be able to relate Persian and Jewish leaders and events during the Persian period.
3. List contributions for each historical period as given in class.
4. Briefly explain the institutions of hellenization in Alexander’s world vision.
5. Know the three generals who divided the Greek empire after Alexander’s death and the areas under their control. Know who initially controlled Jewish territory.
6. Know Alexandria and Antioch, when they were founded and by whom, and their significance in the ancient world and for New Testament background.
7. Identify the Septuagint and explain its importance.
8. Know the dynasties that struggled for control in the east, including Jewish territory, in the time of the Syrian Wars and the leader who eventually won at what battle.
9. Know what battle fought with Rome challenges this ruler’s control of the east and places serious war reparations on the Syrian kingdom and sends what heir to the Syrian throne to Rome as a hostage.
10. Discuss events leading to the Maccabean Revolt in the history of Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the three stages toward complete Jewish independence in the revolt.
11. Describe how the Hasmoneans became a dynasty and be able to describe the significant developments in the reign of each ruler.
12. Briefly describe the three stages of Antipater’s rise to power (Idumea conquered, father Antipas appointed governor, Antipater appointed governor).
13. Briefly describe the seven stages of Herod’s rise to power from Idumea to Jewish king, what event happened, and who was involved (Idumea conquered, Antipas governor, Antipater governor, Antipater promoted to Jerusalem procurator, Herod appointed governor of Galilee after father Antipater promoted to procurator of all Jewish territories, Herod appointed tetrarch of Galilee, Herod appointed king of Judea).
14. Discuss the reign of Herod according to the three periods given in class.
15. Know Herod’s third will, his three sons’ titles, territories, time, the significant events during their reign, New Testament connections, and how each rule ended. In addition, be able to fill out the following table and related graphic.

Name:	Archelaus	Herod Antipas	Herod Philip
Dates:			
Title:			
Territory:	1.	4.	6.
	2.	5.	
	3.		
End:			



16. Identify the later Herodians, Herod Agrippa I and Herod Agrippa II, and relate their careers to the emperors in Rome and events in Judea. In other words, know that:
  - a. Agrippa I is rapidly promoted by Caligula, is related to the temple episode of Caligula, the first Herodian after Herod the Great to be titled king by Claudius, the persecution of Christians in Acts 12, and a sudden death in Caesarea that throws Judea into a second procuratorship
  - b. Herod Agrippa II hears Paul's defense in Caesarea, is brother to Bernice and Drusilla (who was married to Felix), is loyal to Rome even during the First Jewish War, and lives in Rome after the war as part of the Jewish elite, and was consulted by Josephus.
17. Describe the impact of the First Jewish War on the Jewish nation in terms of significant consequences.
18. Describe the period of Roman civil war (first/second triumvirate) that provides context for the poet Virgil acclaiming Octavian/Augustus as the herald of world peace.
19. Describe Octavian's reorganization of the Roman Republic after the Battle of Actium in terms of provinces, military, and cities and its impact on the first-century world.
20. List the benefits Christianity derived from the Roman Empire.
21. Explain the two stages of Nero's reign and why this distinction is important in contextualizing New Testament documents.

22. Describe the impact of the fire in Rome upon Nero's reign and upon the Christian faith.
23. Describe the impact of Nero's suicide on the Julio-Claudian dynasty and events in Rome and in Judea. Describe Vespasian's role in ending the civil war and establishing a new Flavian dynasty.
24. Identify the dynastic family Domitian represented and his significance for the Christian faith and the possible background for the book of Revelation.
25. Describe the context for Christianity that developed in Rome's "Golden Age" of Trajan and Hadrian, including the martyrdom of Ignatius and the background evidenced in Pliny's letter to Trajan.
26. What Zealot led the last Jewish revolt in A.D. 133–35 who was declared to be the Jewish messiah by the most famous rabbi of the day, Rabbi Akiba? What finally came to an end in this failed revolt?

#### *Greco-Roman World*

1. Describe Hellenistic society on the basis of an ancient Mediterranean model of patron and client. What were the main classes? What was the role of women?
2. Identify some major features of Roman architecture that lay the foundation for the infrastructure for the Roman empire. Describe the three types of arenas and their use.
3. Briefly describe the origins and historical developments of the Roman ruler cult. Trace the rise of emperor worship from Augustus to Hadrian.
4. Describe the major components of the religious world into which Jesus came in the first century.
5. Identify the major philosophies of the Hellenistic world. Compare and contrast Stoicism and Christianity.
6. Describe Gnosticism and its basic belief system.