

THE PREFACE TO THE "FULLNESS OF TIME"

Galatians 4:4 - Part 1

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. How the Old Testament concludes:
 - 1. The Persian empire:
 - 2. Nehemiah's efforts:
 - 3. Malachi's efforts:
 - 4. Envisioning the problem:

- B. The prophetic events that take place between the testaments: (*See Dan. 2, 7*)
 - 1. The rise of the Greeks: (*Dan. 2:39*)
 - 2. The four wings of the leopard: (*Dan. 7:6*)

- C. The setting for the New Testament:
 - 1. Under the Roman Empire: (*Dan. 2:40*)
 - 2. The Edomite vice-king: (*Mt. 2:3; Gen. 36:1*)

- D. The two historians that add to the Biblical record:
 - 1. Josephus:
 - 2. Maccabees I and II:

II. UNDER THE RULE OF PRIESTS FOR THE 400 YEAR INTERLUDE:

- A. From Darius to the fall of the Persian Empire: (*425- 335 B.C.*)
 - 1. Governors:
 - 2. High Priests: (*See Neh. 12:10-11, 22*) (*the setting for Annas and Caiaphas – Jn. 18:12-14, 24*)
 - a. Joshua:
 - b. Joiakim:
 - c. Eliashib:
 - d. Joida:
 - e. Jonathan:
 - f. Jaddua:

- B. From the Macedonian Empire to the end of the hereditary priesthood:
 - 1. Onias I: *300 B.C.*
 - 2. Simon the Just: *291 B.C.*
 - 3. Eleazer (brother): *276 B.C.*
 - 4. Manasseh (brother): *251 B.C.*
 - 5. Onias II (Son of Simon the Just):
 - 6. Simon II:
 - 7. Onias III:

III. APPLICATIONS: (*Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice*)

- A. God's sovereign hand is always punctually at work in times of "silence".

- B. What plagued the Jewish people yesterday continues to plague the church today.
(*II Tim. 3:5-7*)