

PREFACING THE "FULLNESS OF TIME"

Galatians 4:4 - Part II

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Mankind's timeless problem throughout the ages:

- B. The importance of every literal word of prophesy:
 - 1. The dream of a leopard with four wings: (*Dan. 7:6; 8*)
 - 2. The prophesy concerning Christ's death: (*Ps. 22:16; Jn. 3:14; 12:32-33; 8:32; Acts 7:58*)

- C. The pagan conqueror's part in setting the table:
 - 1. The issue of a common language (Alexander the leopard):
 - 2. The issue of getting God's word in this descriptive language (a wing - Ptolemaic rule):

- D. The emergence of the three-party system in staging the "fullness of time":
 - 1. Pharisees:
 - 2. Sadducees:
 - 3. Essenes:

II. THE PROPHETIC IMPORTANCE OF SETTING THE SCENE FOR HEROD THE GREAT:

- A. The Seleucid takeover form Ptolemaic rule: (*Prophesied in Dan. 8*)

- B. The conflict that initiated the revolt:
 - 1. Mattathias Maccabee:
 - a. John:
 - b. Simon, king and high priest:
 - c. Judas, the "Hammer of God":
 - d. Eleazer:
 - e. Jonathan, high priest:

 - 2. Hannukkah, the Jewish memorial setting the stage for Herod's temple:

- C. The following Hasmonean dynasty that brought Herod the Great to the throne:

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

- A. Daniel's prophesies accurately fulfilled in this 400 year interlude, is a testimonial to the accuracy of the prophesies of Daniel yet to be fulfilled futuristically.

- B. There is no need for added information to convince a person of the accuracy and believability of Scripture. There are plenty of reliable prophetic facts to sustain it using just a history book.