



## Lesson Focus

Four hundred years would pass before Malachi's prophecy was fulfilled. During these "silent" years, God did not speak to his people through prophets, but he was sovereignly directing events to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus. The Greek and Roman empires significantly influenced the political and cultural climate of Israel, leading to the time of Jesus' arrival.

## **Key Passages**

Grades 2-3: Daniel 8:20-24; Mark 7:1-8

**Grades 4-5:** Daniel 8:20-24; Mark 7:1-8

## What You Heard in the Word

- God was in control of the rise and fall of the Persian, Greek, and Roman empires leading to the time of Jesus.
- ▶ The Pharisees and Sadducees were two Jewish groups that formed with different views about Greek influence on their people.

