

Chronological Chart of the Second Temple Period[†]

Period/Date	Foreign Rulers	Judaean Priests / Rulers	Qumran / Other Relevant Items
Hellenistic Period (332-135 BCE) Khirbet Qumran Phase Ia	300 Alexander the Great conquers the Near East (334-323). Replaces Persian rule; strong program of Hellenization Rule by the Ptolemies of Egypt (323-200)	Onias III (198-74); Zadokite High Priest; resisted Hellenistic influences; replaced and exiled by Antiochus IV Jason/Jesus (174-71); Zadokite High Priest; Pro-Hellenist, brother of Onais. Built a gymnasium, transformed Jerusalem into a Greek <i>polis</i> called Antioch. Lawful institutions abolished and practices contrary to Law were introduced (2Macc 4:11). Menelaus (171-62?); non-Zadokite , “bought” the high priesthood; caused the murder of Onias III (170). Program of forced Hellenization (1Macc 1; 2Macc 5-6). <i>Profaned and plundered the Temple by setting up an altar to Olympian Zeus</i> (167)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation of the Bible into Greek (LXX) started • Foundation of many Hellenistic cities in Judaea (Gaza, Asdod, Ashkelon, Joppa, Ptolemais, Samaria, Scythopolis, etc.) • The “Devout” (<i>Hasidim</i>) arose in response to Antiochus IV’s actions; had a policy of passive resistance • Teacher of Righteousness’s (TR) ministry begins in 176 (cf. CD-A 1:3-11). Vermes argues the TR was a leader of Hasidim.
	200 Rule by the Selucids of Syria Antiochus III the Great (198-87) Ἀ Selucis IV Philopater (187-75) 175 Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-63); brother of Selucis IV Philopater Antiochus V Eupator (164-162). Was more moderate than father; allowed Jews free exercise of their religion. Demetrius I Soter (162-150); son of Selucis IV Philopater		
Hasmonean Period (134-63 BCE) Khirbet Qumran Phase Ib	125 Selucus V (125) Antiochus VIII Grypus (125-113; 111-96) 100	John Hyrcanus (134-104) Aristobulus I (104-103) Alexander Janneus (103-76) Salome Alexander (76-67, widow of Janneus) Aristobulus II (67-63)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiochus VII Sidetes besieges Jerusalem, but fails • Emergence of Pharisees and Sadducees (?) • Judah expands, subdues Idumeans, takes Samaria; Alexander Janneus brings all Palestine under his control → Phase Ib at Qumran; expanded settlement that was abandoned after earthquake in 31 BCE
	Antipater (63-43, procurator) Hyrcanus II (47-40, ethnarch)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syro-Palestine incorporated into the Roman province of Syria (63)

[†] Prepared by Tyler F. Williams (2003; rev. 2004).