

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	<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.)
	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	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"> • 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.
	Antiochus V Eupator (164-162). Was more moderate than father; allowed Jews free exercise of their religion.	Judas Maccabeus (166-61). Military leader who took over the leadership of the revolt after the death of his father Mattathias. Rededicated the Temple (164) (Of which Hanukkah celebrates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maccabean Revolt led by Mattathias (167-64) begins in response to the profaning of the Temple (1Macc 2; 2Macc 5-8).
	Demetrius I Soter (162-150); son of Selucis IV Philopater	Alcimus/ Yakim (162-159). Pro-Hellenistic High Priest appointed by Demetrius I (Menelaus executed by the same). Initially accepted by many Jews including Hasidim as HP; though he later betrayed them (killed 60 Hasidim).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No High Priest? (159-52?). Cf. Josephus <i>Ant</i> 20.237. Steggeman argues the TR was HP during this period. • TR and followers exiled to Khirbet Qumran. • Many equate Jonathan or Simon with the “Wicked Priest” mentioned in the DSS.
	150 Alexander Balas (150-45). Claimed to be a son of Antiochus IV. Killed Demetrius I and took throne.	Jonathan (161-143). Son of Mattathias, took over revolt after death of his brother Judas. Reigned first as king, <i>then was appointed High Priest by Alexander Balas</i> in 152 in return for political support.	
Khirbet Qumran Phase Ib	Demetrius II Nicator (145-140) Antiochus VI (145-142). Alexander’s son; was a minor when ascended to throne.	Simon (143-134). Son of Mattathias, took over revolt after death of his brother Jonathan. Judaea recognized by Demetrius II as an independent Jewish state (142; independent until 63) under Simon, who was recognized as governor and commander by people of Judaea — and obtained formal legitimization <i>from the people</i> of his role as High Priest <i>as well as his descendants, the Hasmonaeans</i> (140; 1Macc 14).	<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
	Tryphon (142-138). One of Alexander’s generals who ruled in the name of Antiochus IV. Demetrius II Nicator (145-140) Antiochus VII Sidetes (138-129)		
Hasmonean Period (134-63 BCE) Khirbet Qumran Phase Ib	125 Selucus V (125) Antiochus VIII Grypus (125-113; 111-96)	John Hyrcanus (134-104)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syro-Palestine incorporated into the Roman province of Syria (63)
	100	Aristobulus I (104-103) Alexander Janneus (103-76) Salome Alexander (76-67, widow of Janneus) Aristobulus II (67-63)	
	Antipater (63-43, procurator) Hyrcanus II (47-40, ethnarch)		

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