

Connecting the Dots – Rulers of Israel

The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king [Alexander]. Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. Daniel 8:20-23

Four warring kingdoms, each ruled by one of his generals:

Cas-san-der ruling ___ Macedonia & Greece Proper _____

Ly-sim-a-chus ruling ___ Thrace & Western Asia Minor _____

Ptolemy ruling ___ Egypt & Judea _____

An-tig-on-us ruling ___ Persia/Babylon _____

Ptolemy ruled Egypt to the ___ south _____ of Judea and Seleucus ruled Syria to the ___ north _____, putting Israel or Judea, in the middle.

Septuagint (LXX)

Significant in the Hellenization of Judea, it was history's ___ first _____ translation of the Hebrew Old Testament

Significance of the Septuagint (LXX)

1. It was this translation that was ___ used _____ by the early Christian church.
2. It was ___ quoted _____ by the New Testament writers under God's inspiration.
3. It gives us insight into the Jewish ___ understanding _____ of the Bible during the Inter-testament period – Isaiah 7:14.
4. It helps us to understand how Jewish scholars of 250 BC understood the doctrine of the ___ virgin _____ birth _____.

Seleucid (Syrian) Period

Among those fully supporting and promoting Hellenization were two significant and influential ___ priestly _____ families, the Oniads and Tobiads, during this time of Seleucid domination.

The Oniads were of the ___ Zadokian _____ priestly descent, but

the Tobiads were only ___ Levite only _____ priests and also tax collectors for the Seleucids.

It was this family, the Tobids, that began a series of events that altered the line of succession of lawful High Priests, allowed the desecration of the Temple, and set the stage for the Maccabean revolt and Hanukkah – all through the agency of Antiochus Epiphanies.