

UNDERSTANDING YOUR BIBLE

The Silence Era

The _____ Era – A final four-hundred-year period between the close of the Old Testament (when the last book of the Old Testament was written) and the opening of the New Testament (when the first book of the New Testament was written).

Central figure: _____ Main location: _____

Storyline Summary

Pharisees and others entomb the Israelites _____ for the next four hundred years.

Four Main Subjects in the Silence Era

1. _____: The march of nations passes from Persia to Greece to Rome.
2. _____: Militant groups like the Maccabeans and the Zealots fight for Jewish independence.
3. _____: The Pharisees and the Sadducees promote a religious “legalism” of external adherence to rules while overlooking inner motivations and attitudes.
4. _____: The expectation and hope for the coming of the Jewish Messiah is strong during the four hundred *silent years*.

A Classic Passage

Malachi 4: The Great and Awesome Day of the LORD _____

- Evildoers will be _____.
- God’s people will be _____.
- This is the time to be in God’s _____ and obey God’s _____.
- A messenger is coming to _____ back to the Lord.

A Step to Grow

- This week prepare for the _____ ... _____ what he says, _____ what he commands, and _____ to turn to Jesus.

Looking Ahead

- Next week we will study the _____ and take a closer look at Solomon’s charge to _____ in Proverbs 3.



ARC OF BIBLE HISTORY

1.	5.	9.
2.	6.	10.
3.	7.	11.
4.	8.	12.

The Geography of the Silence Era

