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that date. We find the Bible -- five copies of the Bible dated so many years after 312 B.C. They don't say after 312 B. C., they say so many years of the era. 312 B. C. when Seleucus returned to Babylon and established himself in Babylon as king, and Seleucus established control over the larger part of Alexander's empire. He was defeated badly another time. He had to leave Babylon and came back again. But eventually he became solidly established here. He held Media and Persia and part of India but he lost most of that before long, and other sections of it became independent, and eventually the Parthian empire rose up over there. Over here Ptolemy held Palestine. Seleucus won the whole Palestine. They fought back and forth and Seleucus here had a time of constant battle until finally he was killed. But this man Seleucus established the Seleucid empire which though his headquarters was Babylon originally; eventually his people lost Babylon. But they held Syria here and it came to be called the Syrian empire by a strange accident of history. So for a period of c. 100 yrs. we have the Antigonid kingdom in Macedonia; we have the Ptolemaic rule in Egypt; and we have the Seleucid control which holds most of the rest but varies back and forth. It does not have good boundaries like Egypt has and he would hold a large area and then a small area. It was constant fighting. Well Seleucus established 8 cities which he named after himself -- Seleucid. And he established 12 cities which he named after his father - Antiochus. You are all familiar with Antioch, one of the cities he established. Antioch in Northern Syria which eventually became the second most important city in the Roman empire next only to Rome in size and in importance was Antioch. for a period of maybe 150 yrs. Up until the first world war it was part of Syria then it became part of Turkey. Most of its people today are part of Turkey. It is a small city today but it was a great city during that long period. But that isn't even after his father Antiochus (?) So we have this Seleucid empire which extends over a large area and then becomes smaller again and then reconquers much of it and becomes smaller. It is constantly varying in size during a period of c. 200 yrs. So we have the Macedonian empire lasting 100 yrs. We have the Seleucid empire lasting c. 200 yrs. We have the Ptolemaic empire lasting c. 300 yrs.