

70 days and they came out with the translation of the law into the Greek, every word agreeing. And so we call it the version of the seventy, or the Septuagint, The Greek translation of the first five books of the Bible. Now, that's just a legend. How much truth there may be in it, we have no way of telling. But this we can say, it seems to reflect a generally friendly attitude, rather than one of persecution as the attitude of Ptolemy, or the Jews who were a part of his empire. Then, however, after 100 years of Ptolemaic rule, there was a war between the descendents of one of Alexander the Great's generals named Seleucis, who were called the Seleucids, and the descendents of Ptolemy who were called the Ptolemies, and as a result of this war there was a little bit of shifting of borders, and Palestine became a part of the Seleucid empire, and in the Seleucid it was treated for a number of years much as it had been in the Ptolemaic empire, where there seems to have been no difficulty, until a man became ruler of the Seleucid empire, named Antiochus Epiphanes. And this Antiochus Epiphanes is a man about whom we wish to know quite a little during this course. There is much written in ancient historical books, and he is a man of considerable importance in relation to the book of Daniel. Now, A.E., one of the descendents of General Seleucis, had a very interesting career at which we will look at later, but the time came in his career when he decided to put an end to the Jewish religion, and make the Jews become proper parts of the Hellenistic movement which he was sponsoring, in which Greek culture would be supreme. He tried to persuade the Jews to start doing naked exercises like the Greeks did, and wearing caps, and eating swine's flesh, and doing other things which were contrary to the law of Moses, which they considered contrary to the law of Moses. And many of the Jews followed him, but others refused, and then he began using persecution. And the ~~IXth book of~~ second book of Maccabees is an account of the persecution, and of the ~~terrible treatment~~ ^{terrible treatment} meted out to these who refused to obey his commands. All through subsequent Jewish history he was looked ~~xxx~~ back to as a great persecuter and a terrible enemy of the Jewish religion....end of D 2