

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE WORLD INTO WHICH CHRIST CAME

12/3/2023

Text: Various

Theme: Christ came into a world that was turned upside down spiritually.

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The intertestamental period has been called the silent years, but they are not the “unknown years”

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**WHILE THE VOICE OF GOD MAY HAVE BEEN SILENT, THE HAND OF GOD WAS NOT INACTIVE**

### **World Powers**

Intertestamental period

430-332 BC Jews were under Persian rule.

331-167 BC Jews were under Grecian rule (Alexander the Great) **trade language**

166-63 BC Jews revolt and gain independence (Mattathias leader)

63-Christ Jews are conquered by Rome (Pompey The Great conquered Palestine) **Roads, law & order**

63-37 BC First ruler over Judea – (Antipater)

37-3 BC Second ruler over Judea – (Herod the Great)

### **Religious/Spiritual Atmosphere**

The “spiritual leaders” were not very spiritual (Matt 2:4; 3:7; 7:29)

These people groups would make accusations against the Lord (Matthew written to Jews)

Matt 9:3, 34; 12:14; 16:21; 20:18, 19; 21:15; 22:34, 35; 26:3, 4