

THE SILENT YEARS-INTERTESTAMENTAL PERIOD

- ❖ Between Malachi and Matthew-400 years, the bible is largely silent
- ❖ Persian era(539-331 BC)-Jews return; Ezra and Nehemiah lead reforms
- ❖ Greek era(331- 167 BC)-Alexander conquered Persia, and Greek culture spread
- ❖ Maccabean revolt(167-160 BC)-temple desecrated; Jewish independence; Hanukkah
- ❖ Hasmonean era(140-63 BC)- Jewish self-rule; strife and corruption prevalent
- ❖ Roman era(from 63 BC)-Rome installs Herod as King; Jesus is born

THE 'SILENT' YEARS

Was God silent?

Psalm 13:1-2

- ❖ How long?-David cried
- ❖ Have you felt the silence of God?
- ❖ David felt the silence; even Jesus felt the silence
- ❖ In God's silence, the synagogue system was developed; a longtime of peace; and other things that paved the way for Jesus

THE 'SILENT' YEARS

David pled for light

Psalm 13:3-4

- ❖ David is not comfortable with silence and darkness
- ❖ We need to see what God has done-built a community, a universal language to codify his word, spread people all over the world, and helped the Jews to keep their identity
- ❖ How is God shining a light in your life?

THE 'SILENT' YEARS

God speaks of salvation

Psalm 13:5-6

- ❖ God is not silent forever, He is steadfast in His love
- ❖ The psalm began with disappointment and ends with bountiful
- ❖ God is in the business of turning things around
- ❖ Scarcity to bountiful
- ❖ Then we will sing with joy and expectation

THE NOT-SO-SILENT YEARS

Silence was loud

Acts 2:1-13

- ❖ God used the silence to spread His story all around the known world
- ❖ Synagogues were set up so that when the people returned, the good news of Jesus was shared.
- ❖ The seeds of the gospel spread to the world in one day!!
- ❖ What is God doing in the silence you perceive?
- ❖ What is he preparing? Will you partner with Him?

THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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