CONTENTS

Pretace			ix
Ał	breviat	ions	xi
1	Introduction		1
	1.1	An explanation	1
	1.2	Sources	2
	1.3	The land and the people	8
2	The Beginning of the Hellenistic Period		10
	2.1	Hellenism	10
	2.2	The general political and economic situation	11
	2.3		13
3	The Period of the Diadochi (c. 323-301 BC)		14
	3.1	The general situation after the death of Alexander	14
	3.2		14
	3.3	Consequences for the land and the people	18
	3.4	The administrative situation	19
4	The First Half-Century of Ptolemaic Rule (301-246 BC)		22
	4.1	The position of the Ptolemaic king	22
	4.2	Political developments in c. 301-246 BC	23
	4.3	Social and economic consequences in Palestine	24
	4.4	Koheleth (Ecclesiastes)	27
5	The Second Half-Century of Ptolemaic Rule (246-198 BC)		28
	5.1	The Third Syrian War (246-241 BC)	28
	5.2	Oniads and Tobiads	30
	5.3	The rise of Joseph the Tobiad	31
	5.4	The Fourth Syrian War (221-217 BC)	31
	5.5	The expulsion of the Ptolemies from Palestine	33

vi Contents

6	The Be	eginning of Seleucid Rule (198-175 BC)	36	
	6.1	The general political situation	36	
	6.2	The measures taken by Antiochus III in favour of Judaea	37	
	6.3	The high priest Simon II	39	
	6.4	The conflict within the Tobiad family	39	
	6.5	The struggle between Onias III and Simon the captain of the temple	ė 40	
	6.6	The situation in the rest of Palestine	42	
	6.7	The work and position of Jesus Sirach	42	
7	The Prelude to the Revolt			
	7.1	Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-164 BC)	44	
	7.2	The dispute over the figure of the high priest	45	
	7.3	Antiochus IV's actions against Jerusalem	49	
	7.4	The religious situation	50	
	7.5	Apocalyptic	53	
	7.6	The literature from this period	55	
8	The N	Iaccabaean Struggle	57	
	8.1	Background to the various groups	57	
	8.2	The beginning of the revolt	59	
	8.3	The situation after 162 BC	62	
	8.4	Jonathan as leader of the Maccabees (161-142 BC)	64	
9	The Origin and Development of Some Important Groups 66			
	9.1	The Sadducees	68	
	9.2	The Pharisees	71	
	9.3	The Essenes	73	
	9.4	The Qumran community	75	
10	The Period of the Hasmonaean Priest-Rulers 7			
	10.1	Simon (143/42-135/34 BC)	79	
	10.2		82	
	10.3		85	
11	The Reigns of the Hasmonaean Priest-Kings			
	11.1	Aristobulus I (104-103 BC)	87	
	11.2		88	
	11.3			
		Jannaeus	92	
	11.4	Messianism	9:	

		Contents	vii
12	The Downfall of the Hasmonaean Dynasty		
	12.1	The international situation	95
	12.2	Salome Alexandra (76-67 BC)	96
	12.3	Aristobulus II (67-63 BC)	97
	12.4	The intervention of Rome	98
	12.5	The reorganization of the Judaean state	99
	12.6	Hyrcanus II (63-40 BC)	99
	12.7	Antigonus (40-37 BC)	101
	12.8	The Zealots	102
13	The Reign of Herod the Great (37-4 BC)		105
	13.1	The situation in the Roman empire in c. 37-4 BC	105
	13.2	Herod's position	106
	13.3	Building works	108
	13.4	The social and economic situation	109
	13.5	Herod's religious policy	111
	13.6	Herod's action against his family	112
	13.7	Herod's end	113
	13.8	The Herodians	113
	13.9	Literature from the first century BC	113
14	The Period from the Death of Herod the Great to Agrippa I		
	(c. 4 B	C-AD 41)	115
	14.1	Events after the death of Herod	115
	14.2	The government of Palestine after the death of Herod	116
	14.3	Social and economic conditions	119
	14.4	8	121
	14.5	The ministry of Jesus	125
15	The I	Period from Agrippa I to the Beginning of the First Jewis	h War
	(AD 41-66)		129
	15.1	The general political situation	129
	15.2	The reign of Agrippa I	130
	15.3	The whole of Palestine under direct Roman rule	131
	15.4	The social and economic situation between 41-66	134
	15.5	The first Christian church	135
16	The First Jewish War (66-74)		138
	16.1	The beginning of the struggle	138
	16.2	The battle in Galilee	140
	16.3	The course of the war in 68-69	142
	16.4	The flight of Johanan ben Zakkai	143

viii Contents

Maps

	16.5	The siege and fall of Jerusalem	143				
	16.6	The battle for the last fortresses (70-74)	145				
	16.7	Consequences	146				
17	The P	Period between the Two Wars with Rome (74-132)	148				
	17.1	Political developments in Rome	148				
	17.2	The social and economic situation in Palestine	149				
	17.3	The rabbis and religious developments	149				
	17.4	The so-called Quietus War (115-117)	152				
	17.5	The most important literature from Palestine between c.1 and 135	153				
./							
18_	The I	Bar Kochba Revolt (132-135)	154				
//	18.1	Causes	154				
	18.2	The figure of Bar Kochba	156				
	18.3	The role of Rabbi Akiba and other rabbis	157				
	18.4	The course of the revolt	158				
	18.5	Consequences of the revolt	160				
Not	es		162				
Chr	onolog	ical tables	199				
	· ·		• , ,				
Ind	ex of N	Iodern Scholars	203				
Index of Names			208				
Index of Biblical References							

219