Hasmonaean Revolt and Dynasty, Herodian Era

October 9, 2006

From last time:
- Hasmonaean Dynasty, 152–63 BCE

For today
- “The Coming of Rome,” 63 BCE
- From the Hasmonaeans to Herod, 63–4 BCE
- Herod to the Revolt against Rome, 4 BCE–66 CE

Hasmonaean Dynasty, 152–63 BCE
- Establishment of the Dynasty (163–142)
- Geographical Expansion
- "Judaizing" Policies

Establishment of dynasty
- Eclipse of Hasmonaeans after rededication of Temple (154–152 BCE)
  - Menelaus HP until 163 BCE (after reded.)
  - Acmus HP 161-159 BCE (an enemy in 1Macc)
- Rise of Hasmonaean dominance (152 BCE–):
  - Seleucid dynastic and inter-dynasty weakness
  - Hasmonaeans (re-)established by Seleucids
    - Jonathan (bro) after Judah (HP, 152, by Alexander Balas)
    - Simon (bro) HP 142, Demetrius II
- Following Hasmonaeans are descendants of Simon
- Peak of power, geographical expansion 103-76 BCE
  (Alexander Janneaus = Yanna)
Geographical Expansion, “Judaizing” policies?

- Geographical expansion (map)
- “Judaizing” policies? Combine:
  - Imposition of Jewish practice on subject peoples
  - And alliance building with anti-Hellenizing peoples
  - In Galilee (N) and Idumaea (S), seems to have stuck

“The Coming of Rome,” 63 BCE

- Rome: growth as international power from 3rd C. BCE. Intervention eastern Mediterranean from ca 200 BCE
- Gnaeus Pompeius, and the first military intervention in Judaea
  - 63 BCE Pompey, already in Syria, invited by competing Hasmonaean factions for support
  - Supporting Hyrcanus, Pompey besieges Temple, enters Temple
- 63 BCE–70 CE series of “experiments” with how to rule Judaea
  - NB: Throughout Roman East: transition, client kingdom to province
Hamonaeans to Herod, 63–4 BCE

- 66 BCE, succession conflict between Hyrcanus and Aristobulus, sons of Jannaeus
- 63 Pompey intervenes in support of Hyrcanus
  - Judea, reduced esp. by Greek city territories remains under Hasmonaean rule
  - Antipater & son Herod (Idumaeans) supporters of Herod
- 41 Parthian invasion
  - Hyrcanus taken captive
  - Herod promised kingship by M. Antony/Rom. Senate
- 37–4 BCE, Herod rules an expanded Judaea

Herod to the Revolt against Rome, 4 BCE–66 CE

- 4 BCE, death of Herod, kingdom divided among three sons
- 6 CE (deposition of Archelaus, son of Herod) to 41, combination of direct Roman rule and Herodian client kings.
- 41–44 Agrippa I (grandson of Herod)
- 44–66 Direct Roman rule (exception in Golan and W. Galilee)

Problems:
- Corrupt and/or incompetent governors
- Religious and political hostility to Rome
- Prophetic and messianic activity (e.g., J. Baptist; Jesus)

Herod’s Building Projects: Masada and Herodium
Herod’s Building Projects: The Temple Compound

Herod’s Building Projects: Caesarea, Temple of Roma and Augustus