

ANNOTATIONS (F) TO TABLE XXXVIII

THE EVOLUTION OF JEWISH CHRONOLOGY FROM THE ORIGINAL HEBREW CHRONOLOGY

****Editor’s Note*****

All references in red have been added by the editor: All Scripture references in blue has been added as well

VII - THE Jewish War, A.D. 66-70:

(a) The next Jewish system still retained the fictitious datum of System VI - i.e. that 2nd year Darius I = 2nd year Darius II, 3578 A.K. This system, however, adopted solar years for the lunar years of System VI, as follows (Table XXVIII, Col. 5)

2nd yr. Darius II	3578 A.K.	=	422 B.C.
Mid-70th week = 69.5 weeks	486.5 years		
Death of Herod and rise of Theudas	4064.5 A.K.	=	66.25 A.D.

(b) An alternative system, however, instead of stressing the mid - 70th week element of Daniel’s prophecy, laid stress upon the Messiah coming after 69 weeks, and adopted the lunar year as unit. In accepting the latter, the 2nd year of Darius II was too early. The system, therefore passed on to Artaxerxes II, following the precedent of Systems II, III, and V, that Darius = Artaxerxes. Thus (as Table XXVIII, Col. 6) the system stands as follows:

2nd yr. Artaxerxes II	3596.5 A.K.	=	404 B.C.
69 weeks of lunar years	468.5 years		
1st year Jewish War	4065 A.K.	=	66.75 A.D.

The two systems obviously combined to represent that the rising projected for A.D. 66 had Divine Sanction. The result of the Jewish War, by the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in A.D. 70, certainly brought fulfilment of Daniel’s prophecy, but not according to the exposition of the prophecy as formulated to incited the Jews to begin the War. (Refer ¶ 394). (¶ 394 of Davidson’s book: The Great Pyramid)

(c) The alleged Hebrew chronology formulated to form the basis of System VII (a) above, as in Table XXVIII, cols. 4 and 5, is the framework of all the Chronological statements of Josephus, in Wars, and Antiquities. The date of the Destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, as given by Josephus - Antiq. 10:144-248 is therefore 3515.5, as Table XXVIII, Cols. 4 and 5. He then adopted the true interval of 64.5 years to the 2nd year Darius I as in System VII (a) above. Josephus knew however that the interval from 2nd year Darius I to the Jewish War as given by Systems VII (a) and (b) was too short. He therefore made the interval too long. He adopted the whole period of the 70 weeks of Daniel, with a day-unit of 16 lunar months. This gave the 70 weeks period of the duration of 634 solar years, the system being as follows:

2nd yr. Darius II (alleged I)	3578 A.K.	=	422 B.C.
70 weeks of 16 lunations per “day”	634 solar years		
Alleged date of Jewish War beginning (as in Ant. Summations)	4212 A.K.	=	66.25 A.D.

(d) Now Josephus wrote his Wars some time before his Antiquities. His chronology in War is slightly different from his chronology in Antiquities. In Wars he adopted a system similar to that of Table XXVIII, Col. 10 with 2nd year Darius I at alleged date 3513.5 as in System IV in Vogue in B.C. 3✳. This system in Wars was employed in connection with 69.5 weeks of day-units of 18 lunar months. Thus:

Alleged 2nd year Darius I	3513.5 A.K.		
69.5 weeks of 18 lunations per day	708 solar years		
As stated in Wars for the destruction of the City & Temple (alleged)	4221.5 A.K.	=	70.75 A.D.

Stated in Wars VI, X, I, (Wars 6:435-442) (708.5 yrs.) as the date of the Destruction of the City and the Temple by Titus A.D. 70.75. The 708.5 years are stated as from Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem, but compare Table XXVIII, Cols. 5 and 10.

Here Josephus gives a true rendering of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan. 9:24-27) The people of the prince to come were to destroy the city and the sanctuary and to make the sacrifice to cease in the midst of the 70th weeks. This was actually effected by the soldiers of Titus, without his orders.

A most significant feature in Josephus is that he gives no details of summations of reigns for the period Cyrus to Alexander the Great. This shows the weakness that Josephus experienced in presenting his case since in all other cases - and having regard to the fact of his time, and that his chronological data are presented in narrative form rather than tabular form - his chronological statements are very good indeed.

VIII - THE REBELLION OF BAR COCHAB, A.D. 132.25-135.75

(a) Following the decisive defeat of the Jews by the Romans in A.D. 70, there is not evidence of any political manoeuvring to set up an alleged messianic Kingdom until A.D. 132. The date again indicates the chronological interpretation of Daniel’s 70 weeks. In the new system we have a revision to the Darius -Artaxerxes identity and to the mid-70th week interpretation. The late date of A.D. 132 required an additional precession of Darius I into identity with Artaxerxes III. The 2nd year of the latter king required the 70 weeks to be in day-units of solar years. Thus -

2nd year Artaxerxes III	3543.5 A.K.	=	422 B.C.
Mid-70th week = 69.5 weeks of yrs.	486.5 solar years		
Rebellion of Bar Cochab	4130 A.K.	=	131.75 A.D.

The rebellion of Bar Cochab therefore began in the following Spring, 4130.5 A.K. Bar Cochab proclaimed himself the messiah and was accepted by the Rabbi Aquiba. He raised the standard of revolt in Judaea, and flouted the Romans. The Romans were forced to send their best generals against him, and actually, after 3.5 years - the half-week - fulfilled the false interpretation by utterly annihilation the forces of Bar Cochab at the end of the alleged 70 weeks in 135 A.D. The Encyclopedia Brit. states that 580,000 Jews were killed in the actual fighting “besides the incalculable number who succumbed to famine, disease, and fire.” So that we may reckon that over a million Jews met their death as a result of this Jewish forgery for political ends. The result was that the Romans forbade the Jews to enter Jerusalem on pain of death.

(b) After the fall of Bar Cochab, the date seems to have been represented as the date of Messiah - reckoned as 69 weeks of lunar years from the 2nd year of Darius III, since we find Darius III to be the last state of precession for Darius I. Thus ----

2nd yr. Darius III	2665.5 A.K.	=	334 B.C.
69 weeks of lunar years	468.5 solar years		
End of Bar Cochab’s Rebellion	4134 A.K.	=	135.75 A.D.

(c) The compilers of the Seder Haddorath, however, adopted an entirely new method of fictitious chronology. While adopting the 70 weeks of solar years (490 solar years) they maintained that the date for this period ending was 3892.5 A.K. Now this date actually fell in 107 B.C., when the Asmonaeon Kingdom began (System II). This fact notwithstanding, the compilers of the Seder Haddorath placed the rebellion of Bar Cochab as beginning at 3892.5, the latter being therefore the Seder Haddorath date for 132.25 A.D. The old Testament System of the Seder Haddorath is therefore as stated in Table XXVII, Col. 8. The manner of its evolution - to explain its 70 weeks; interpretation - is obvious when compared with Col. I and the intermediated systems of the other columns. Thus --

(alleged) 2nd yr. Darius I	3402.5 A.K.	=	422 B.C.
70 weeks of solar years	490 solar years		
Alleged date for 132.5 A.D. = 3892.5 Jewish year	3892.5 Jewish yr.	=	132.5 A.D.
1792.5 yrs. the # of yrs. between 132.5 A.D. and D. Davidson then current yr. i.e. 1924	1792.5 yrs,	+	1792.5 yrs.
Then current (alleged) Jewish yr. relative to the then current yr. of D. Davidson	5685 Jewish yr.	=	1924.75 A.D.

This explains why the Jewish year 5685 begins on 29th September of the current year 1924 A.D. (Davidson’s current yr.)

How the present Jewish luni-solar calendar cycle was adapted to fit the system of fictitious chronology thus explained is shown of Table XXVIII Below Cols. 8 to 10.

It is significant that none of the Jewish systems ceased employing the correct A.K. dating, for the time current with the system, until after the Crucifixion of our Lord (refer Systems VII (c) and (d) and VIII (b) above).

Antiquities of the Jews 10:144-148

¹⁴⁴ And now it was that the king of Babylon sent Nebuzaradan, the general of his army, to Jerusalem, to pillage the temple; who was ordered to burn it and the royal palace, and to lay the city even with the ground, and to transplant the people into Babylon. ¹⁴⁵ Accordingly, he came to Jerusalem in the eleventh year of King Zedekiah, and pillaged the temple, and carried out the vessels of God, both gold and silver, and particularly that large laver which Solomon dedicated, as also the pillars of brass, and their capitals, with the golden tables and the lampstands; ¹⁴⁶ and when he had carried these off, he set fire to the temple in the fifth month, the first day of the month, in the eleventh year of the reign of Zedekiah, and in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar: he also burnt the palace, and overthrew the city. ¹⁴⁷ Now the temple was burnt four hundred and seventy years, six months, and ten days after it was built. It was then one thousand and sixty-two years, six months, and ten days from the departure out of Egypt; and from the deluge to the destruction of the temple, the whole interval was one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven years, six months, and ten days; ¹⁴⁸ but from the generation of Adam, until this befell the temple, there were three thousand five hundred and thirteen years, six months, and ten days; so great was the number of years hereto belonging. And what actions were done during these years we have particularly related.

✳ The System is the transition stage between the System of Columns 5 and the System of Colum. 10, Table XXVIII.

The Jewish War 6:435-442

⁴³⁵ And thus was Jerusalem taken, in the second year of the reign of Vespasian, on the eighth day of the month of Gorpaios Elul. (Niese: Sept. 26, Capellus: Sept. 8) It had been taken five {a} times before, though this was the second time of its desolation; ⁴³⁶ for Shishak, the king of Egypt, and after him Antiochus, and after him Pompey, and after them Sossius and Herod, took the city, but still preserved it; ⁴³⁷ but before all these, the king of Babylon conquered it, and made it desolate, one thousand four hundred and sixty-eight years and six months after it was built. ⁴³⁸ But he who first built it {b} was a powerful man among the Canaanites, and is in our own tongue called [Melchizedek], the Righteous King, for such he really was; on which account he was [there] the first priest of God, and first built a temple [there], and called the city of Jerusalem, which was formerly called Salem. ⁴³⁹ However, David, the king of the Jews, ejected the Canaanites, and settled his own people therein. It was demolished entirely by the Babylonians, four hundred and seventy-seven years and six months after him. ⁴⁴⁰ And from King David, who was the first of the Jews who reigned therein, to this destruction under Titus, were one thousand one hundred and seventy-nine years; ⁴⁴¹ but from its first building, till this last destruction, were two thousand one hundred and seventy-seven years; ⁴⁴² yet has not its great antiquity, nor its vast riches, nor the diffusion of its nation over all the habitable earth, nor the greatness of the veneration paid to it on a religious account, been sufficient to preserve it from being destroyed. And thus ended the siege of Jerusalem.