



Judith

Session 1: The Real King Antiochus

1. After reading the book of *Judith*, what are some of your first impressions of the story and its purpose?
2. Dr. Wolfe suggests that *Judith* is a non-historical “fable.” How do we know?
3. Why do you think *Judith* didn’t make it into the Protestant Bible?
4. What do the Maccabees and Hanukkah have to do with *Judith*?
5. What do we know about Antiochus IV Epiphanes?

6. What is the likely historical setting of the writing of *Judith*?

7. What are the implications of this session's material for your personal life? Your spiritual journey? For your local faith community?

EXTENDED STUDY: *The Crucible* is a Tony Award-winning play and movie by Arthur Miller. As an allegory, it has much in common with the subversive nature of Biblical literature like *Judith* and *Daniel*. What was the actual political situation Miller sought to critique? In what historical circumstances did he set his story? How do you see Miller's efforts comparing with the intentions of the authors of *Judith* and *Daniel*?

