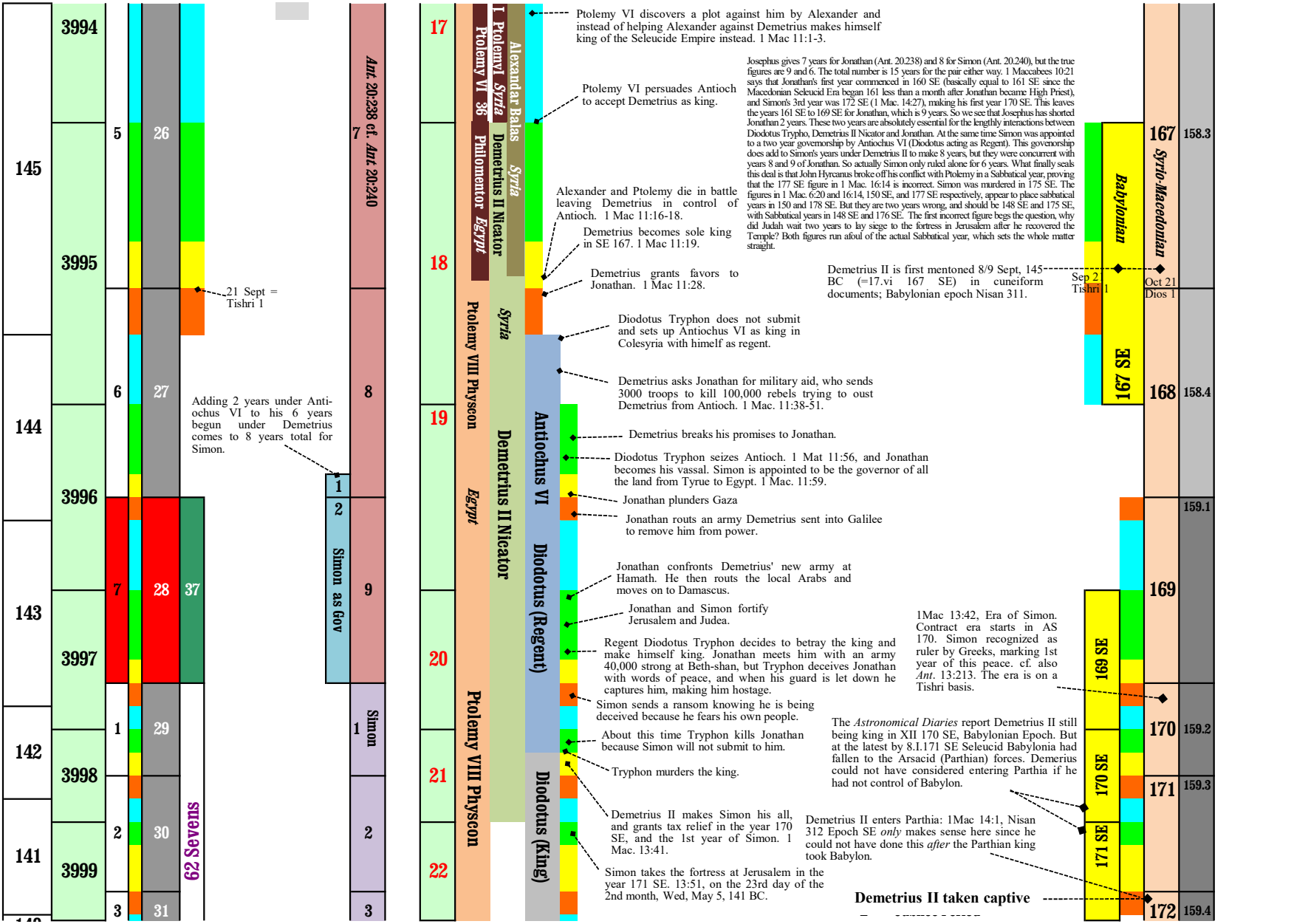
145
144
143
142
141
3994
3995
3996
3997
3998
3999
5
6
7
1
2
3
26
27
28
29
30
31
37
62 Sevens
21 Sept = Tishri 1
Adding 2 years under Antiochus VI to his 6 years begun under Demetrius comes to 8 years total for Simon.
1
2
Simon as Gov
Ant. 20:238 cf. Ant 20:240
7
8
9
Simon
1
2
3
17
18
19
20
21
22
Ptolemy VI 36
Ptolemy VI Philometor Egypt
Ptolemy VIII Physcon
Ptolemy VIII Physcon Egypt
I. Ptolemy Syria
Alexandar Balas Syria
Demetrius II Nicator
Syria
Demetrius II Nicator
Antiochus VI
Diodotus (Regent)
Diodotus (King)
Ptolemy VI discovers a plot against him by Alexander and instead of helping Alexander against Demetrius makes himself king of the Seleucide Empire instead. 1 Mac 11:1-3.
Ptolemy VI persuades Antioch to accept Demetrius as king.
Alexander and Ptolemy die in battle leaving Demetrius in control of Antioch. 1 Mac 11:16-18.
Demetrius becomes sole king in SE 167. 1 Mac 11:19.
Demetrius grants favors to Jonathan. 1 Mac 11:28.
Diodotus Tryphon does not submit and sets up Antiochus VI as king in Colesyria with himelf as regent.
Demetrius asks Jonathan for military aid, who sends 3000 troops to kill 100,000 rebels trying to oust Demetrius from Antioch. 1 Mac. 11:38-51.
Demetrius breaks his promises to Jonathan.
Diodotus Tryphon seizes Antioch. 1 Mat 11:56, and Jonathan becomes his vassal. Simon is appointed to be the governor of all the land from Tyrue to Egypt. 1 Mac. 11:59.
Jonathan plunders Gaza
Jonathan routs an army Demetrius sent into Galilee to remove him from power.
Jonathan confronts Demetrius' new army at Hamath. He then routs the local Arabs and moves on to Damascus.
Jonathan and Simon fortify Jerusalem and Judea.
Regent Diodotus Tryphon decides to betray the king and make himself king. Jonathan meets him with an army 40,000 strong at Beth-shan, but Tryphon deceives Jonathan with words of peace, and when his guard is let down he captures him, making him hostage.
Simon sends a ransom knowing he is being deceived because he fears his own people.
About this time Tryphon kills Jonathan because Simon will not submit to him.
Tryphon murders the king.
Demetrius II makes Simon his all, and grants tax relief in the year 170 SE, and the 1st year of Simon. 1 Mac. 13:41.
Simon takes the fortress at Jerusalem in the year 171 SE. 13:51, on the 23rd day of the 2nd month, Wed, May 5, 141 BC.
Josephus gives 7 years for Jonathan (Ant. 20.238) and 8 for Simon (Ant. 20.240), but the true figures are 9 and 6. The total number is 15 years for the pair either way. 1 Maccabees 10:21 says that Jonathan's first year commenced in 160 SE (basically equal to 161 SE since the Macedonian Seleucid Era began 161 less than a month after Jonathan became High Priest), and Simon's 3rd year was 172 SE (1 Mac. 14:27), making his first year 170 SE. This leaves the years 161 SE to 169 SE for Jonathan, which is 9 years. So we see that Josephus has shorted Jonathan 2 years. These two years are absolutely essential for the lengthly interactions between Diodotus Trypho, Demetrius II Nicator and Jonathan. At the same time Simon was appointed to a two year governorship by Antiochus VI (Diodotus acting as Regent). This governorship does add to Simon's years under Demetrius II to make 8 years, but they were concurrent with years 8 and 9 of Jonathan. So actually Simon only ruled alone for 6 years. What finally seals this deal is that John Hyrcanus broke off his conflict with Ptolemy in a Sabbatical year, proving that the 177 SE figure in 1 Mac. 16:14 is incorrect. Simon was murdered in 175 SE. The figures in 1 Mac. 6:20 and 16:14, 150 SE, and 177 SE respectively, appear to place sabbatical years in 150 and 178 SE. But they are two years wrong, and should be 148 SE and 175 SE, with Sabbatical years in 148 SE and 176 SE. The first incorrect figure begs the question, why did Judah wait two years to lay siege to the fortress in Jerusalem after he recovered the Temple? Both figures run afoul of the actual Sabbatical year, which sets the whole matter straight.
Demetrius II is first mentoned 8/9 Sept, 145 BC (=17.vi 167 SE) in cuneiform documents; Babylonian epoch Nisan 311.
Sep 2 Tishri 1
Oct 21 Dios 1
Babylonian
Syrio-Macedonian
167 SE
167
168
169
170
171
172
158.3
158.4
159.1
159.2
159.3
159.4
169 SE
170 SE
171 SE
1Mac 13:42, Era of Simon. Contract era starts in AS 170. Simon recognized as ruler by Greeks, marking 1st year of this peace. cf. also Ant. 13:213. The era is on a Tishri basis.
The Astronomical Diaries report Demetrius II still being king in XII 170 SE, Babylonian Epoch. But at the latest by 8.I.171 SE Seleucid Babylonia had fallen to the Arsacid (Parthian) forces. Demerius could not have considered entering Parthia if he had not control of Babylon.
Demetrius II enters Parthia: 1Mac 14:1, Nisan 312 Epoch SE only makes sense here since he could not have done this after the Parthian king took Babylon.
Demetrius II taken captive