Since they were first discovered in the caves at Qumran in 1947, the Dead Sea Scrolls have aroused more fascination and more controversy than perhaps any other archaeological find. They appear to have been hidden in the Judean Desert by the Essenes, the original authors of these writings. The existence of these and other contradictions can be explained as either 1) the original authors were not divinely inspired and therefore didn’t write stories that aligned with each other, 2) scribes made errors in copying the scriptures, or 3) the writings were deliberately revised by scribes to meet their personal biases or beliefs.

When the Romans replaced the Seleucids as the great power in the region, they granted the Hasmonean king Hyrcanus II limited authority under the Roman governor of Damascus. The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha Jewish Virtual Library - The Tanakh Hebrew Bible consists of a collection of writings dating from approximately the 13th-3rd centuries BCE. These books were included in the Jewish canon by the Talmudic sages at Yavneh around the end of the first century CE after the destruction of the Second Temple, but there are many other Jewish writings from the Second Temple period which were excluded from the Tanakh. The 94 Most Badass Soldiers Who Ever Lived (Cracked.com) - War you know what it is good for? Stories of unfathomable badassery! That’s what we at Cracked have gathered a formidable collection of these stories and we’ve put the very best of them here so that a whole new generation of readers can feel inadequate about their life choices.