Who’s who in 1 Maccabees: Major Character List

Antiochus Epiphanes IV (King of Syria; fights against Israel and Mattathias and his sons the Maccabees boys: Judas, Simon, John, Johannan, Eleazar)
Lysias is Antiochus’ general that actually does the fighting against the Macs. Lysias commissions Ptolemy, Nicanor and Gorgias to attack Judas Mac. Antiochus dies and Lysias appoints Antiochus Eupator king but Philip tries also to become king in light of the vacuum left by Antiochus at his death. Demetrius I finally becomes king of Syria and his general Bacchides will go after the Macs. Demetrius will send Nicanor to fight the Jews is killed then Bacchides fights against Judea.
Alkimus (head Jewish highpriest that adopts Hellenism betrays his own Jewish family).

**Good guys:** Matthias (father of the Macs)
Judas, Simon, John, Johannan, Eleazar (5 Maccabee boys)

**Bad Guys:**
Antiochus Epiphanes IV (king of Syria)
Lysias, his general (Ptolemy, Nicanor and Gorgias under Lysias)
Demetrius I (King of Syria)
Nicanor (fights and dies) and Bacchides new major general fighting against Macs