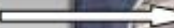


Babylonian Empire



Medo-Persian Empire



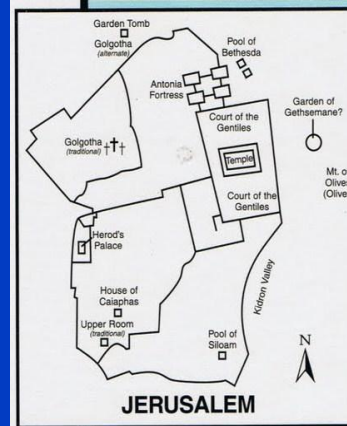
Grecian Empire



Roman Empire



????????????????????????????



- Rome, the 4th world power
- Holy Lands divided up into 3 Roman provinces
- Judea, a strict law-based Judaism
- Galilee, a more relaxed Judaism that focused on family

SAMARIA: THE PROBLEM CHILD



- Many Jews lived there, only some loyal to the Jerusalem Temple
- Samaria a mixture of foreigners and Jews due to Assyrian exile
- They created their own Temple and Priesthood
- Samaritan Pentateuch, the 5 Books of Moses but with 6000 instances of changes from Hebrew Torah

THE MANY FACES OF JUDAISM



SADDUCEES



Pharisee

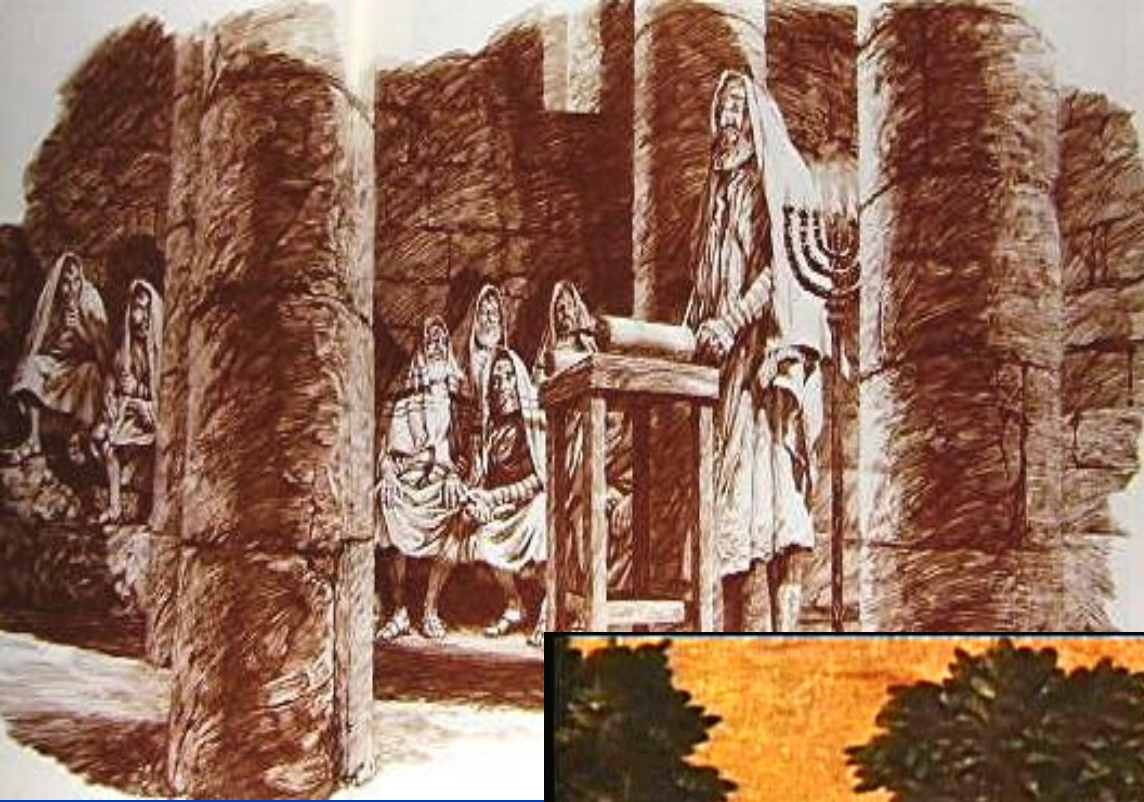


ZEALOT



ESSENE

FIRST TO THE JEW...



GENTILES



- God-Fearers = gentiles who accept Jewish God, but are not circumcised (Luke)
- Anyone NOT Jewish is a gentile
- Anyone NOT a descendant of Jacob
- Those who worshipped many gods
- Those who had NO understanding of Judaism
- Paul spoke to Messianic Jews and gentiles
- “Churches” were synagogues of believing Jews
- Ekklesia = Greek meaning congregation, assembly NOT “Church”

WHOSE MESSIAH?



- ***SHAUL'S (PAUL'S) DIFFICULT MISSION:***
- EXPLAIN THE NEED FOR A SAVIOR TO GENTILES
- INFORM JEWS THAT THE MESSIAH WAS NOT JUST FOR THEM!

DECISION TO INCLUDE GENTILES SPLIT JEWS APART

- Jerusalem Council 49 A.D.
- Acts 15
- Issue was primarily about ritual purity
- Gentiles considered to be unclean
- Forbidden by tradition for Jews to come into contact with Gentiles
- Jewish solution: convert the Gentile Believers to Judaism
- Yeshua's brother's name was Jacob, not James
- Name was given to him by writers of King James Bible



RULES FOR GENTILE BELIEVERS



- 1) Forsake fornication (sexual immorality)
- 2) Abstain from things sacrificed to idols (more than just food)
- 3) Abstain from blood (all the laws concerning “blood”)
- 4) No eating meat of a strangled animal

THIS WAS ABOUT RITUAL PURITY NOT AN END TO THE TORAH LAW!

- Council rulings were an attempt to find a way for Gentile Believers to worship with Jews
- Rulings led to Jewish Believers refusing to join in rebellions against Rome

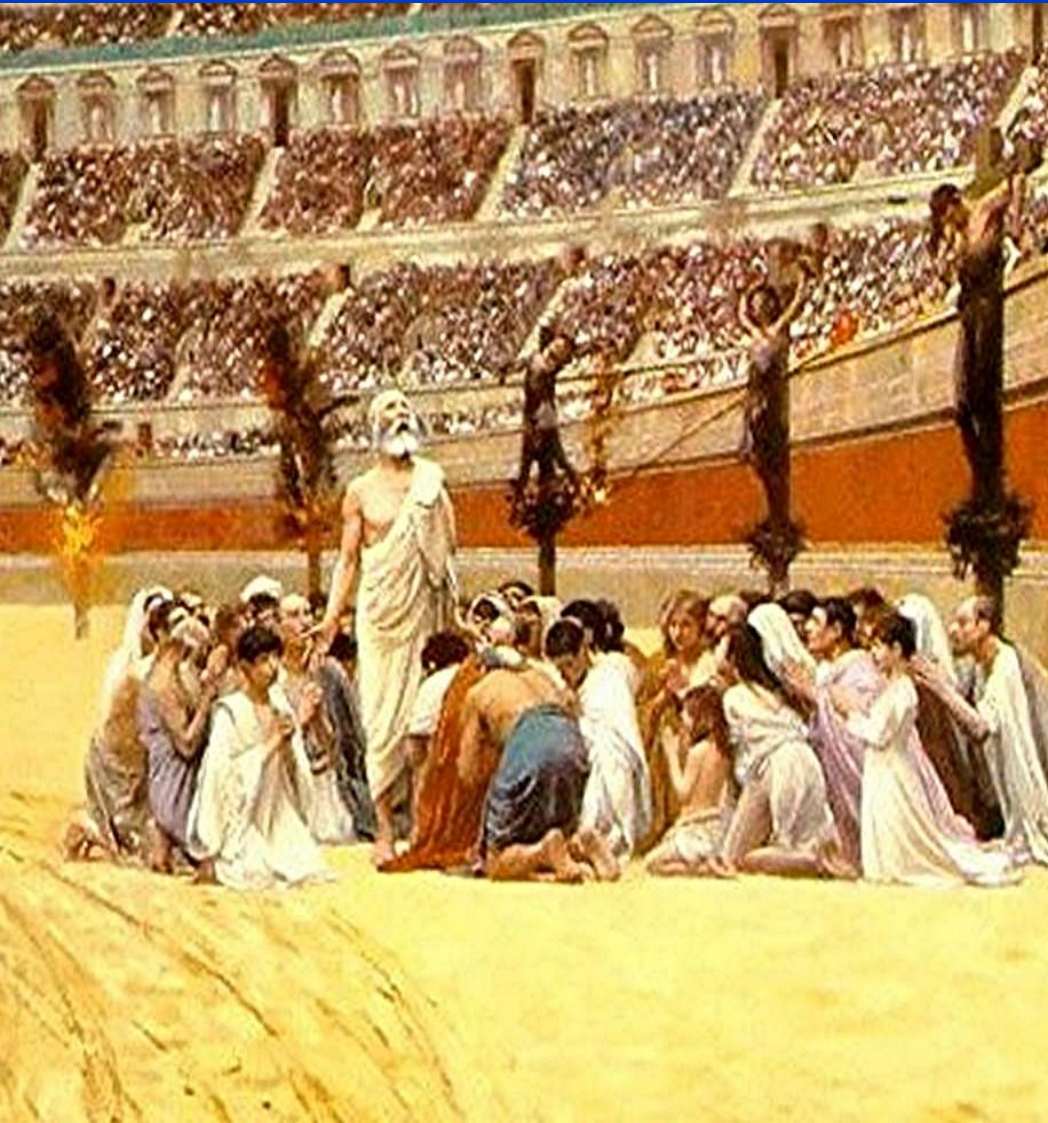


WAS JUDAS A SICARII?

- Zealots ranked freedom as a religious matter
- Judas Iscariot is likely a play on words
- Iscariot = Sicarii
- Sicarii operated primarily in Galilee as assassins
- Targeted Jews who worshipped Jesus, Hellenists, gentile pagans
- Nero about to become Emperor of Rome

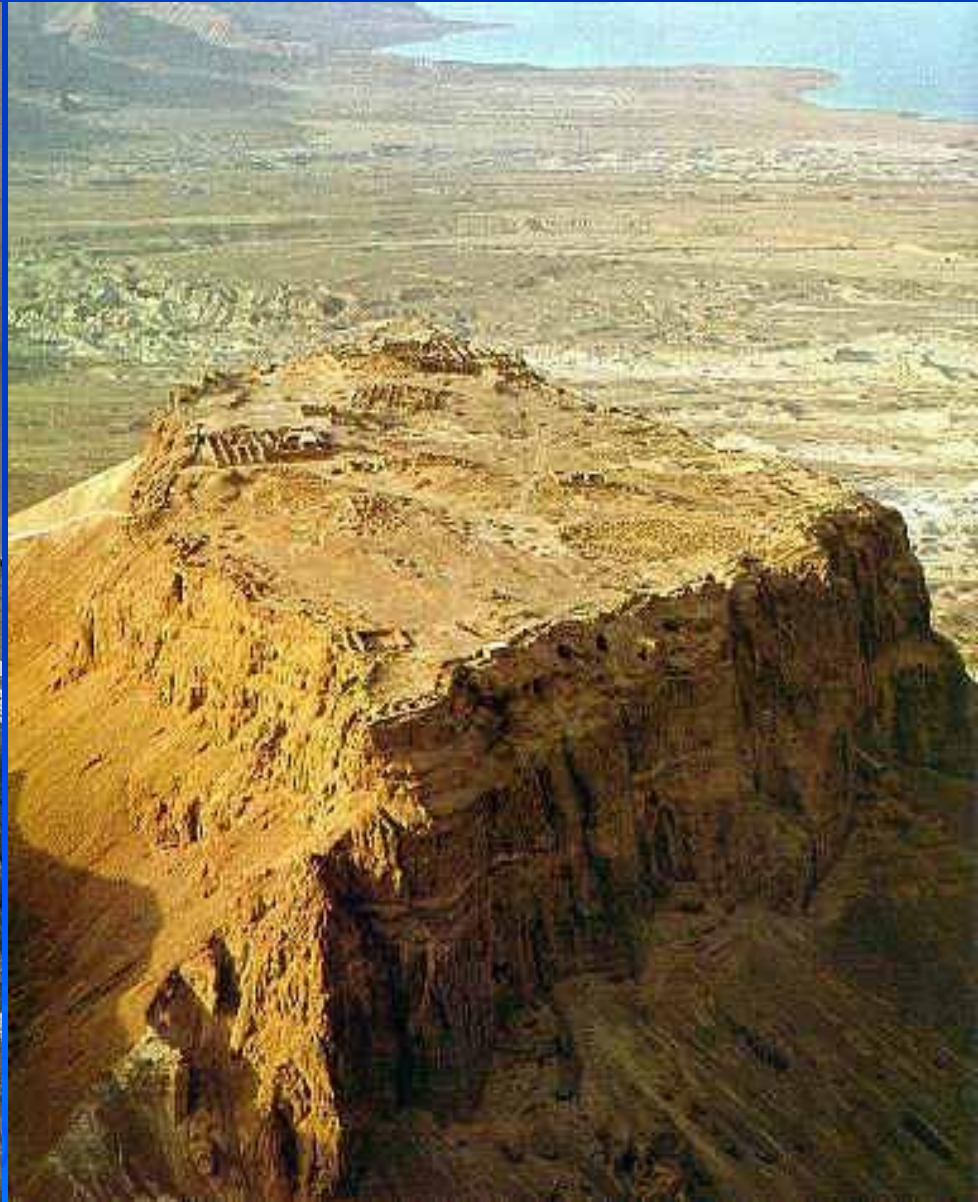


ROMAN PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS BEGINS



- Persecutions were actually an anti-Jewish movement
- Christianity seen as just another sect of Judaism
- 66 A.D. in the Galilee a riot erupted on Shabbat
- Jerusalem joined in, and local Roman governor robbed the Temple

MASADA



JERUSALEM DESTROYED



JOSEPHUS

- Real name was Joseph Ben Mattatias
- Born a Jew
- Educated by Pharisees
- Commander of Jewish rebel forces in the Galilee
- Captured, then gave his loyalty to Rome
- Many Messianic Jews fled because they felt they were obeying Yeshua's warning
- Matt. 24:15 – 21
- Other Jews saw this as treason and cowardice



MASADA FALLS TO THE ROMANS



RAMP

JERUSALEM LAID WASTE



- Two-thirds of the 250,000 residents were killed
- Thousands taken as Roman slaves
- Jerusalem no longer a viable city
- Many thought the Apocalypse had happened
- Judaism went underground

IN YAVNEH, RELIGIOUS LEADERS TRY TO REGROUP



- Rabban Yochanan Ben Zakkai led the group
- The O.T. canon as we know it was finalized there
- Sanhedrin is gone, so these religious leaders are now the Judaism authority
- Messianic Jews considered “outlaws” of Judaism

117 A.D. HADRIAN BECOMES EMPEROR OF ROME



- Hadrian wanted to end the multi-cultural Roman Empire and unify it to a single culture: Greek
- 131 A.D. Circumcision, Shabbat, Jewish Festivals, teaching of Jewish Law prohibited
- Judea's name changed to Palestine
- Palestine is Greek for Philistine
- Jerusalem's name changed to Aelia Capitolina
- The goal was to demoralize the Jews

SHIM'ON BAR KOCHBA LEADS REBELLION 132 A.D.



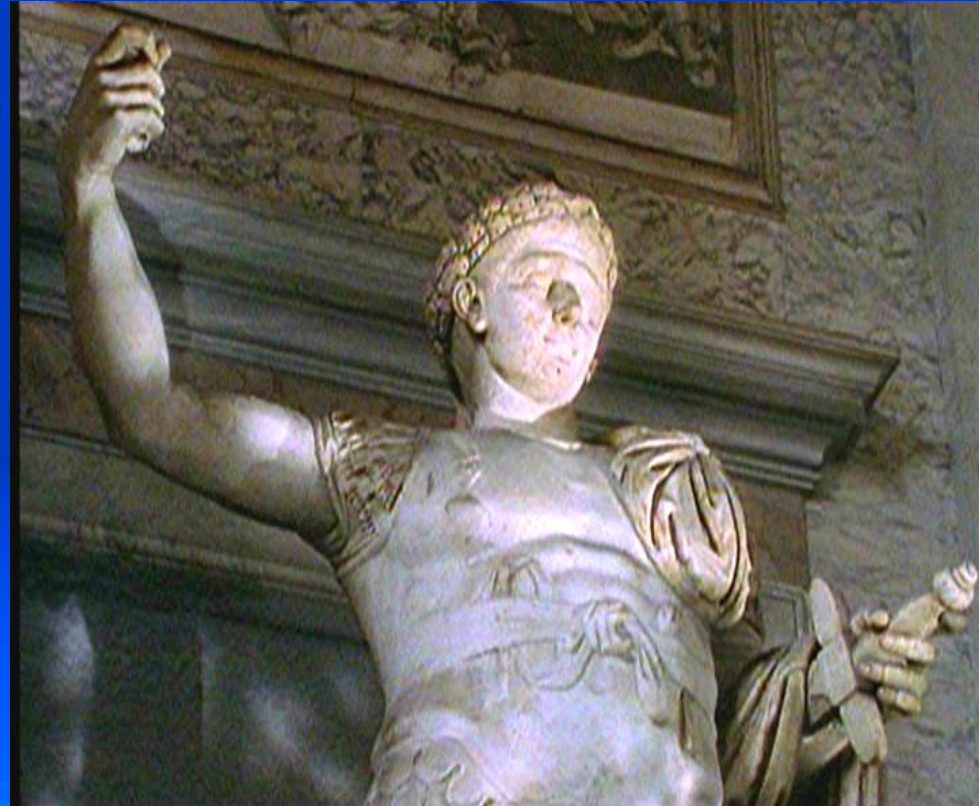
COINS COMMEMORATING
BAR KOCHBA REBELLIONS

230 A.D. THE MISHNAH IS CREATED



313 A.D. EMPEROR CONSTANTINE DECLARES CHRISTIANITY LEGAL

- Judaism was outlawed
- Jewish Believers not allowed to be “Christians”
- By 425 A.D. Judaism was forced underground



Kingdoms of Israel and Judah

0 10 20 30 40 miles
0 10 20 30 40 kilometers



THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN 425 A.D.

- Northern Kingdom had been gone for 1200 years
- 10 Northern Tribes mixed with gentiles
- Southern Kingdom Judah members called “Jews”
- Jews remained readily identifiable
- Lived in Jewish and Roman colonies throughout the Roman Empire