



### 1. The Political Setting of the New Testament

A.


B.

C.


### 2. The Religious Climate in New Testament Times

A.

B.

C.

D.

### 3. Philosophies in New Testament Times

A.

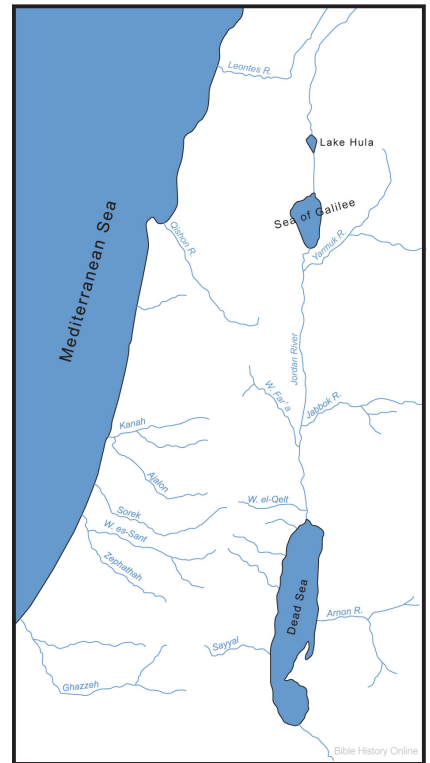
B.

C.

D.

#### 4. Judaism in New Testament Times

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.
- G.



- H.
- I.
- J.



#### 5. New Testament Geography

#### 6. Life in New Testament Times

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.



*Compass Night*

# New Testament SURVEY





# 1. The Political Setting of the NT

## A. The Herods

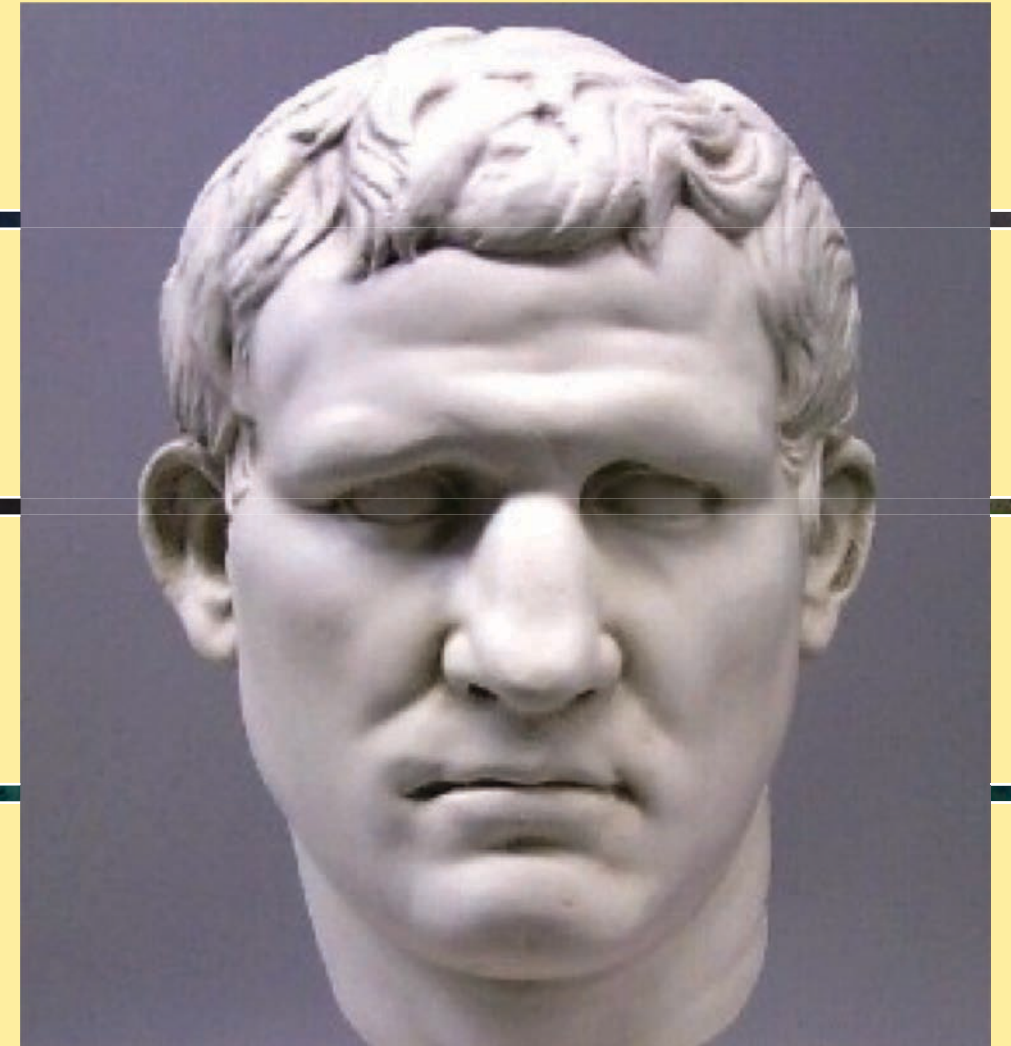
- Regional Rulers Over Israel
- Approved by the Romans
- From Edom (East of Israel / Jordan)
- Converted to Judaism
- Politically Ruthless



**Herod the Great**

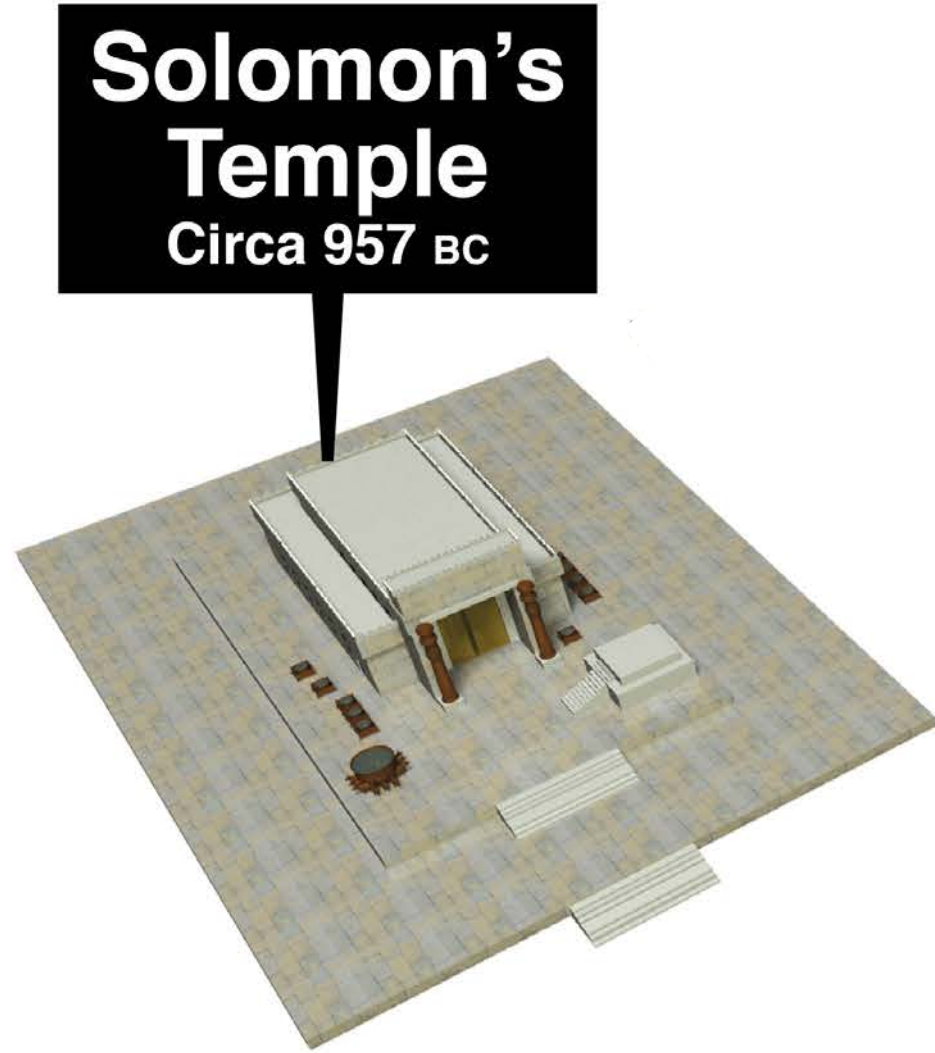
**37–4 BC**

**Remodeled the Temple**





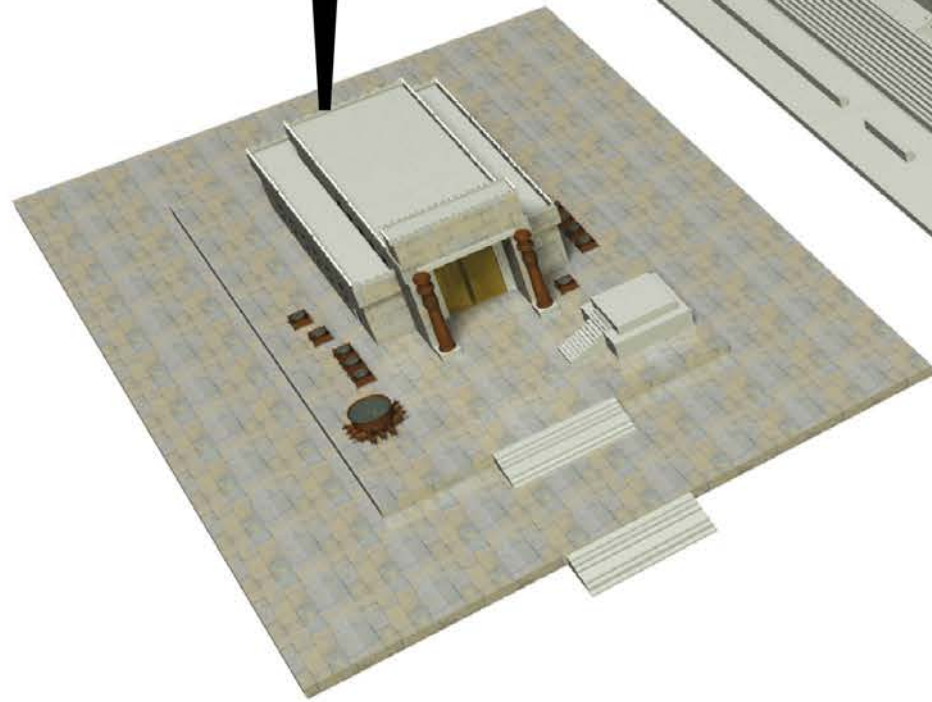
# Temple Comparison



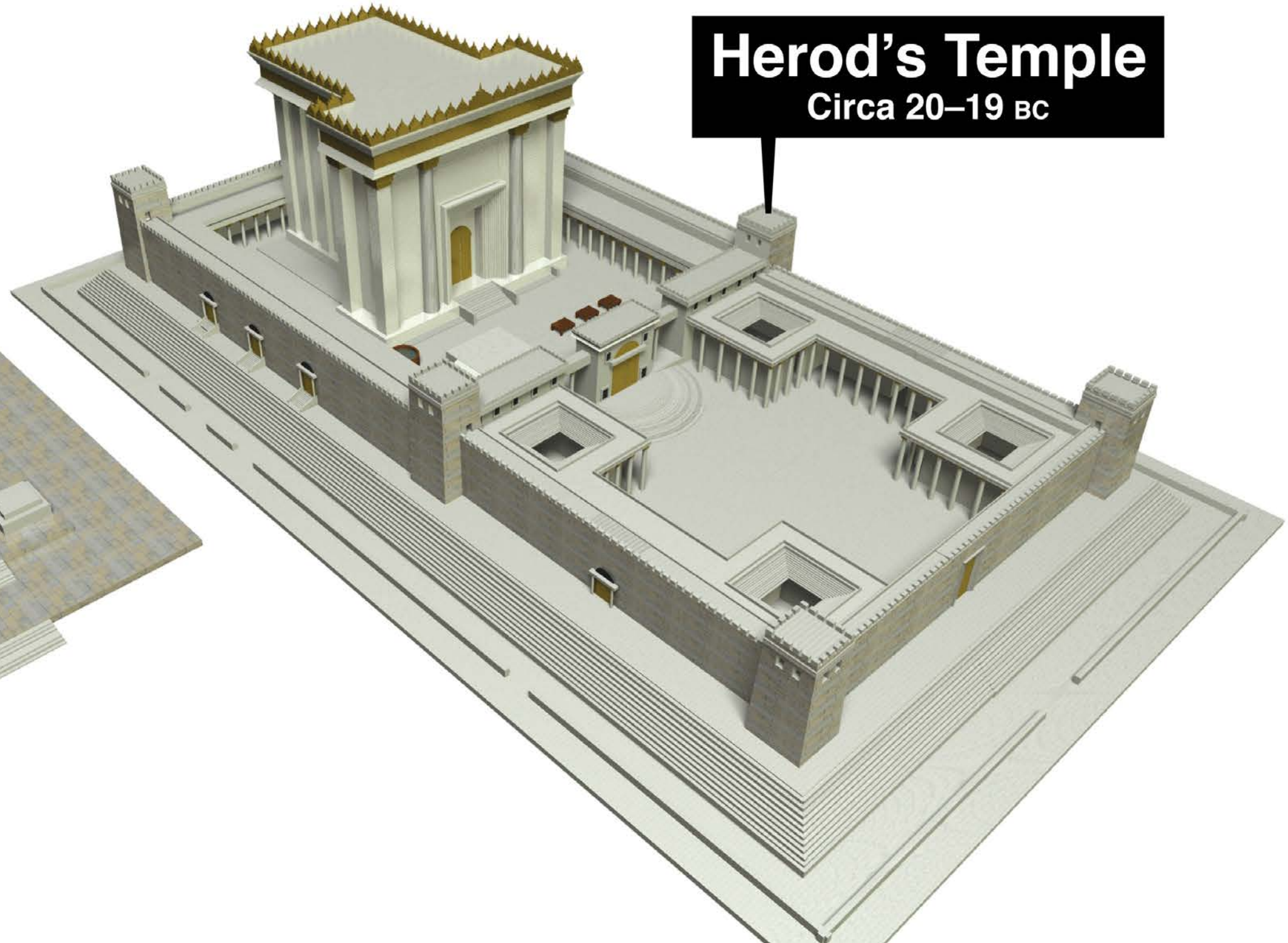


# Temple Comparison

**Solomon's Temple**  
Circa 957 BC



**Herod's Temple**  
Circa 20–19 BC





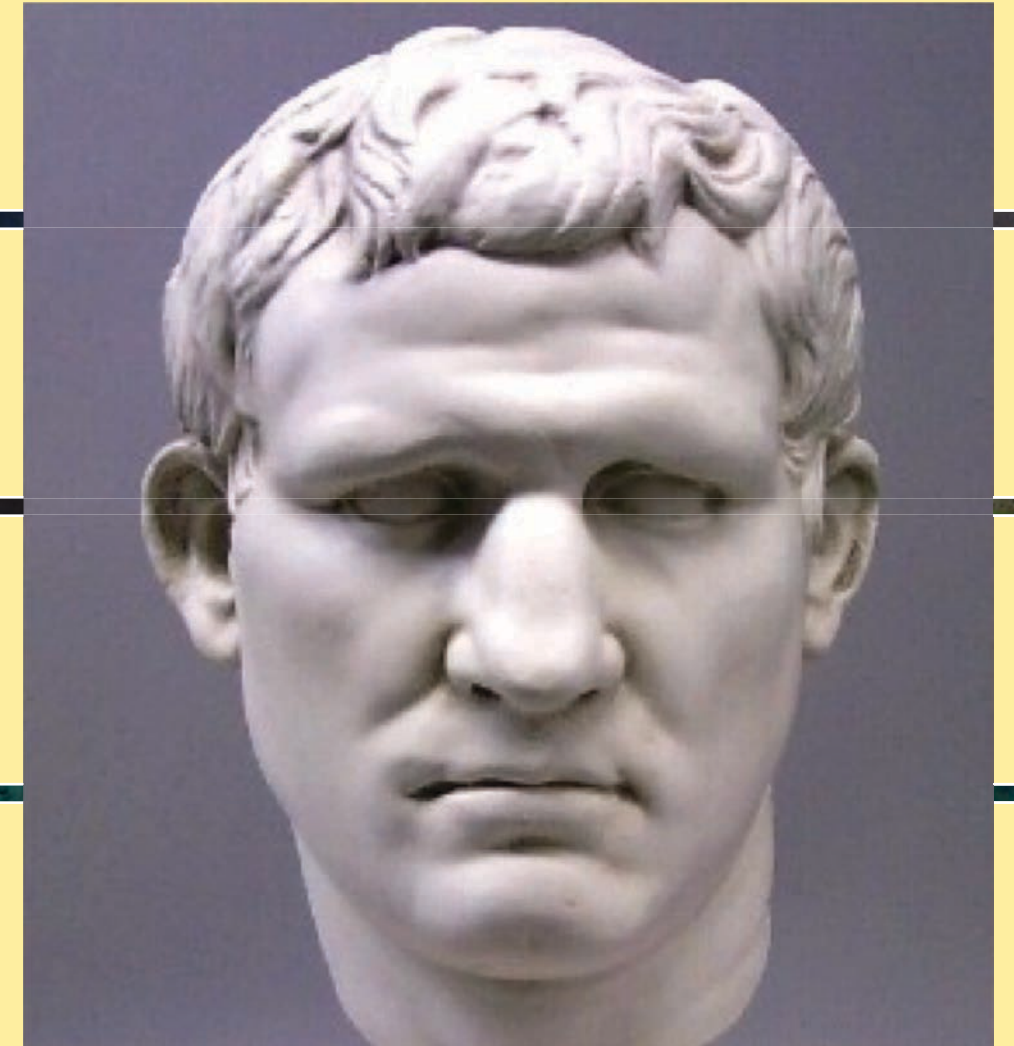




**Herod the Great**

**37–4 BC**

**Remodeled the Temple  
Killed Babies in Bethlehem**





<p><b>Herod the Great</b></p>	<p><b>37–4 BC</b></p>	<p><b>Remodeled the Temple Killed Babies in Bethlehem</b></p>
<p><b>Herod Antipas</b></p>	<p><b>4 BC–AD 39</b></p>	<p><b>The “Herod” of the Gospels (Except birth references)</b></p>







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<b>Herod Archelaus</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 6</b>	<b>Mentioned in Mt.2:22 as Taking Fear of him Leads Joseph to go</b>	
<b>Herod Philip II</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 34</b>	<b>Mentioned in Lk.3:1 as Ruler NE of Israel</b>	



<b>Herod the Great</b>	<b>37–4 BC</b>	 <p>Completed the Temple      Massacres in Bethlehem</p>
<b>Herod Antipas</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 39</b>	<p>“Herod” of the Gospels      (birth references)</p>
<b>Herod Archelaus</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 6</b>	<p>Lk.2:22 as Taking Dad’s Spot      Pushes Joseph to go to Galilee</p>
<b>Herod Philip II</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 34</b>	<p>Lk.3:1 as Ruler NE of Israel</p>
<b>Herod Agrippa I</b>	<b>AD 37–44</b>	<p>The “Herod” of Ac.12 who Martyred James      And Tried to Kill Peter</p>



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<b>Herod Archelaus</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 6</b>	<b>Mentioned in Mt.2:22 as Tax Collector Fear of him Leads Joseph to Egypt</b>
<b>Herod Philip II</b>	<b>4 BC–AD 34</b>	<b>Mentioned in Lk.3:1 as Roman Governor</b>
<b>Herod Agrippa I</b>	<b>AD 37–44</b>	<b>The “Herod” of Ac.12 who martyred James And Tried to Kill Peter</b>
<b>Herod Agrippa II</b>	<b>AD 48–70</b>	<b>“Agrippa” of Ac.25 &amp; 26 Paul Gave His Defense of Christianity Before him</b>





# 1. The Political Setting of the NT

## B. Roman Governors in Israel

- **Mismanagement of Herods Led to Gov.**

  - Archelaus Poor Ldrshp in Judea

- **Roman Appointed:**

  - Pontius Pilate (Presides over Crucifixion)

  - Felix (Imprisoned Paul for 2 Years)

  - Festus (Sends Paul to Rome / Caesar)

  - Florus (Raided Temple Sparked Revolt – 66)



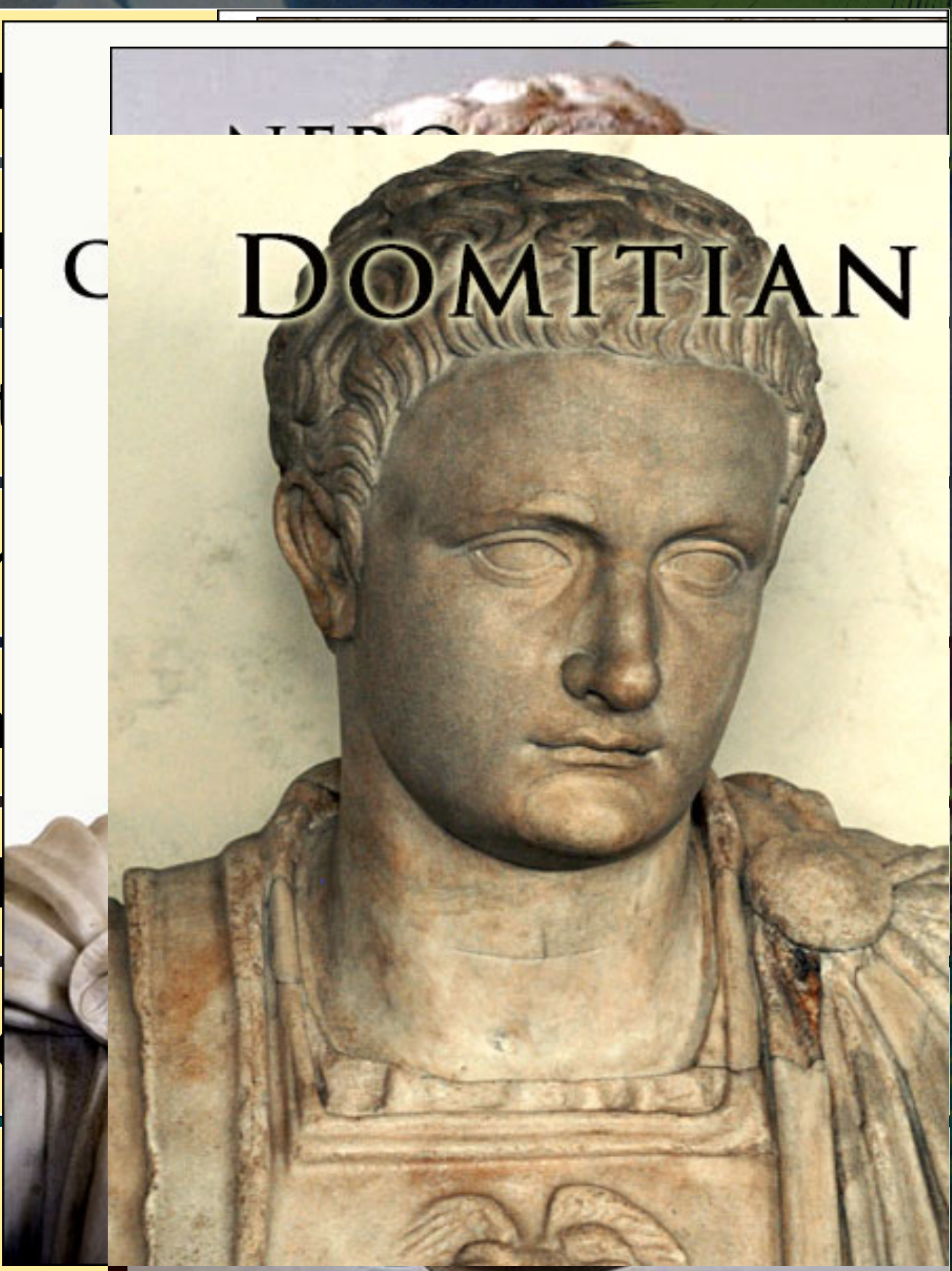
# 1. The Political Setting of the NT

## C. The Roman Emperors

- Kings of Rome
- Rulers over the Expanding Empire
- Called “Caesars” after Julius Caesar



<b>Augustus</b>	<b>27 BC–AD 14</b>	<b>Jesus Born</b>
<b>Tiberius</b>	<b>AD 14–37</b>	<b>Jesus Mi</b>
<b>Caligula</b>	<b>37–41</b>	<b>Ordered His Stat</b>
<b>Claudius</b>	<b>41–54</b>	<b>Expelled Jews fr</b>
<b>Nero</b>	<b>54–68</b>	<b>Persecuted Ch</b>
<b>Vespasian</b>	<b>69–79</b>	<b>Fought Jewish</b>
<b>Titus</b>	<b>79–81</b>	<b>Ruled after Evc</b>
<b>Domitian</b>	<b>81–96</b>	<b>Persecuted Ch</b>





## 2. The Religious Climate in NT Times

### A. The Graeco-Roman gods

- “Pantheon” = ‘All’ + ‘gods’
- Old Greek gods Adapted by Rome
- Worship of these gods in Decline by NT
- E.g.: (Poseidon, Hades, Venus; Mars...)
  - Artemis / Diana (Ac.19)
  - Zeus & Hermes (Ac.14)
  - Castor & Pollux (Ac.28)



## 2. The Religious Climate in NT Times

### B. Roman Emperor Worship

- Emperor = High Priest of the State
- Rulers Often Equated with Gods
  - (Usually) After Their Deaths
- Nero Claimed to be Deity
- Emperor Worship Repugnant to Jews
  - Refusal Led to More Persecution





## 2. The Religious Climate in NT Times

### C. Mystery Religions

- Various “Personal” Religious Deities
  - More Experiential / Emotional Unions
- Secret Rites & Ceremonies
- No Direct References in NT
- Tendencies Reflected in Corinth
- E.g.:
  - Isis / Mithra / Dionysus / Eleusis



## 2. The Religious Climate in NT Times

### D. Gnosticism

- “Gnosis” = Knowledge (secret)
- Dualism:
  - Matter = Evil; Spirit = good
- Two Expression:
  - a) Asceticism (extreme deprivation)
  - b) Libertinism (physical is irrelevant)
- Fully developed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century



### 3. Philosophies in NT Times

#### A. Epicureanism (Ac.17)

- Hedonistic = “Pursue Pleasure”

#### B. Stoicism (Ac.17)

- Fatalistic = “Accept your Lot in Life”

#### C. Cynicism

- Simplistic = “It’s Not Worth It”

#### D. Skepticism

- Relativistic = “Doubt Everything”



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## A. Priests

- Worship Leaders / Health Inspectors

## B. High Priest

- Head of the Priesthood / Yom Kippur





# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## C. Pharisees

- “to separate” / “separated ones”
- In wake of the Maccabean Rededication
- Strict Adherence to Orals Laws
- True “Legalists”
- 6,000 of them in X’s Day
- Forerunners of Jewish Orthodoxy Today
- Only Ldrshp Group to Survive 135



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## D. Scribes

- Class of Israelites, Not a Ldrshp Group
- Many Scribes were Pharisees
- Ranking Class within the Pharisees
- Highly Educated
- Teachers & “Commentators” of the Law



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## E. Sadducees

- Less in Number than the Pharisees
- Wealthy & Political (Earthly-Minded)
- Group Traced Back to John Hyrcanus
- Torah Only (No Prophets & Writings)
- Anti-Supernaturalists (No angels or res.)
- No Respect for Pharisees' Oral Tradition
- Did Not Survive 70 / 135 Roman Defeat

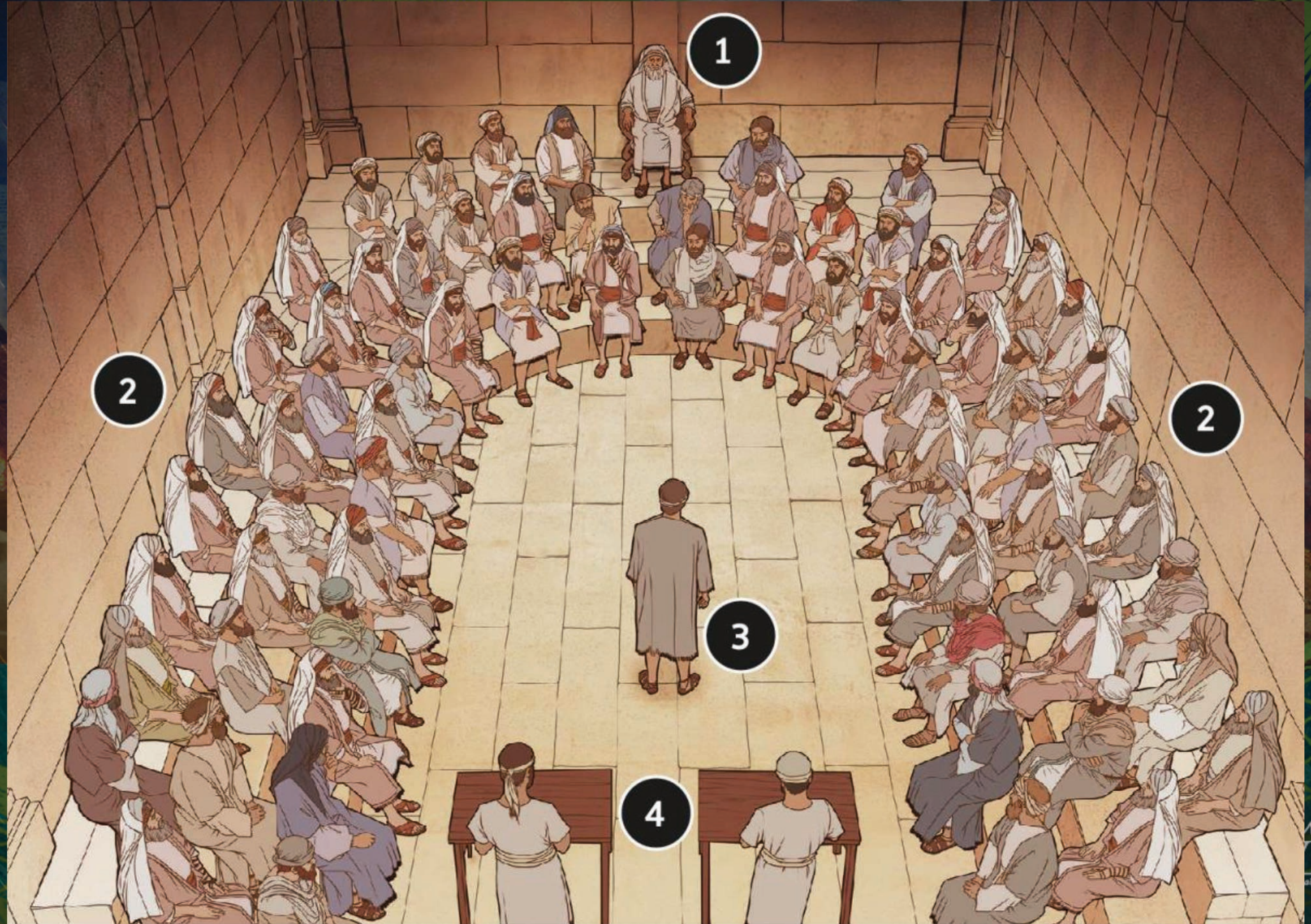


# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## F. Sanhedrin

- “to Sit Together”
- Governing Body of Israel (“Council”)
- 71 Member Judges (e.g.: Nicodemus)
- High Priest was the Presiding Member





1

2

2

3

4



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## F. Sanhedrin

- “to Sit Together”
- Governing Body of Israel (“Council”)
- 71 Member Judges (e.g.: Nicodemus)
- High Priest was the Presiding Member
- Under Rome No Power to Execute

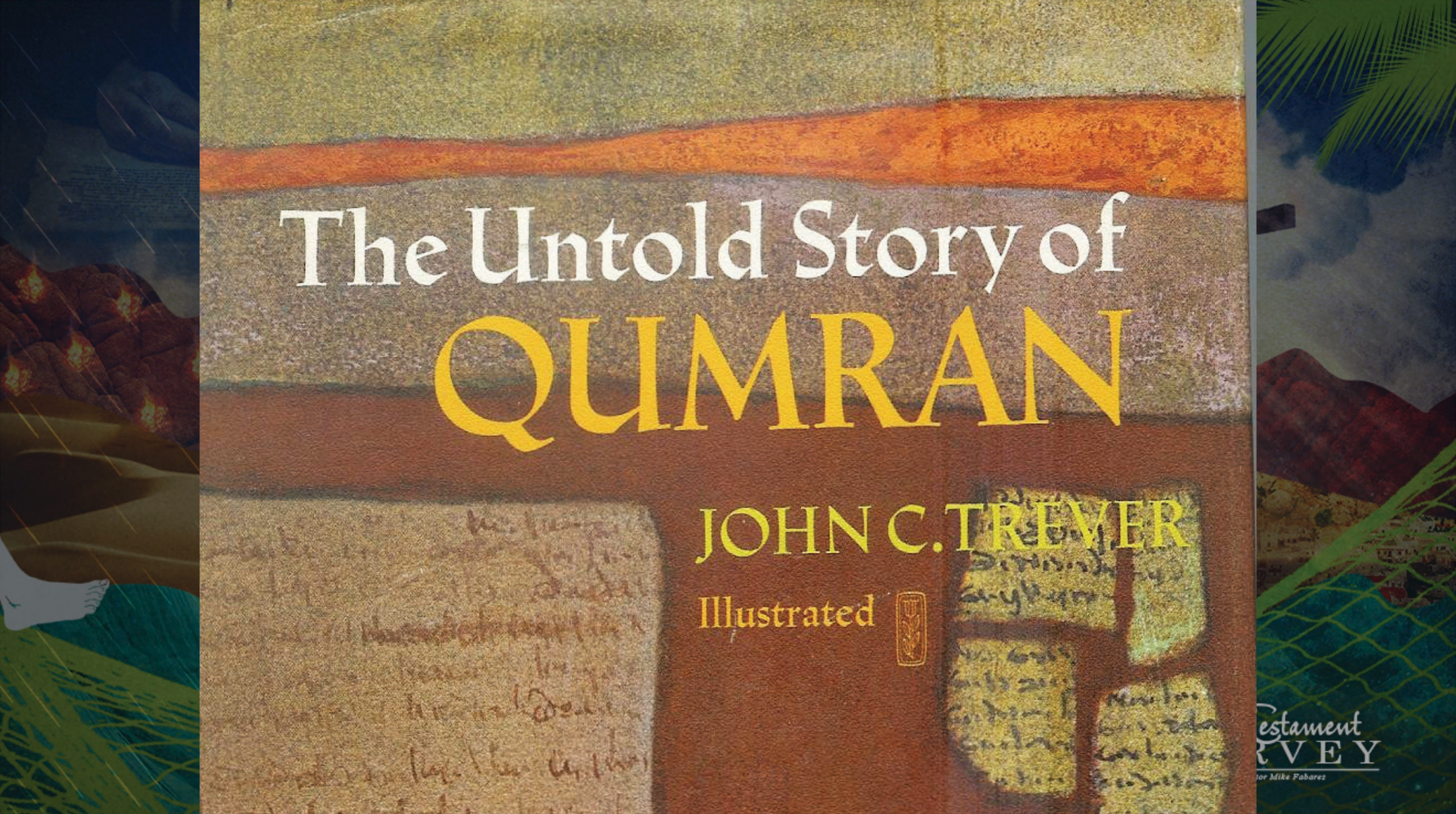


# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## G. Essenes

- No Mention in the NT (Josephus)
- Lived Monastically in the Desert
- Rejected the Temple as “Polluted”
- Collected the DSS Library
- Anticipating a Royal Messiah
- Some Believe John the Baptist had Ties
- Very Strict & truly Legalistic





The Untold Story of  
**QUMRAN**

**JOHN C. TREVER**

Illustrated



Testament  
**REVEY**

by Mike Fabarez



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## H. Zealots

- Militant Anti-Roman Freedom Fighters
- Founded by Judas the Galilean (Ac.5:37)
- Any Loyalty to Caesar = Sinful
- Refused to Pay Taxes to Rome
- Revolutionaries
- Apostle: The Other “Simon”
  - “Simon the Zealot” (Mt.10:4; et al.)



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## I. God-Fearers / Proselytes

- Gentile Converts and Supporters
- Judaism Attractive to Some Romans
- Cornelius, the Italian Centurion (Ac.10)

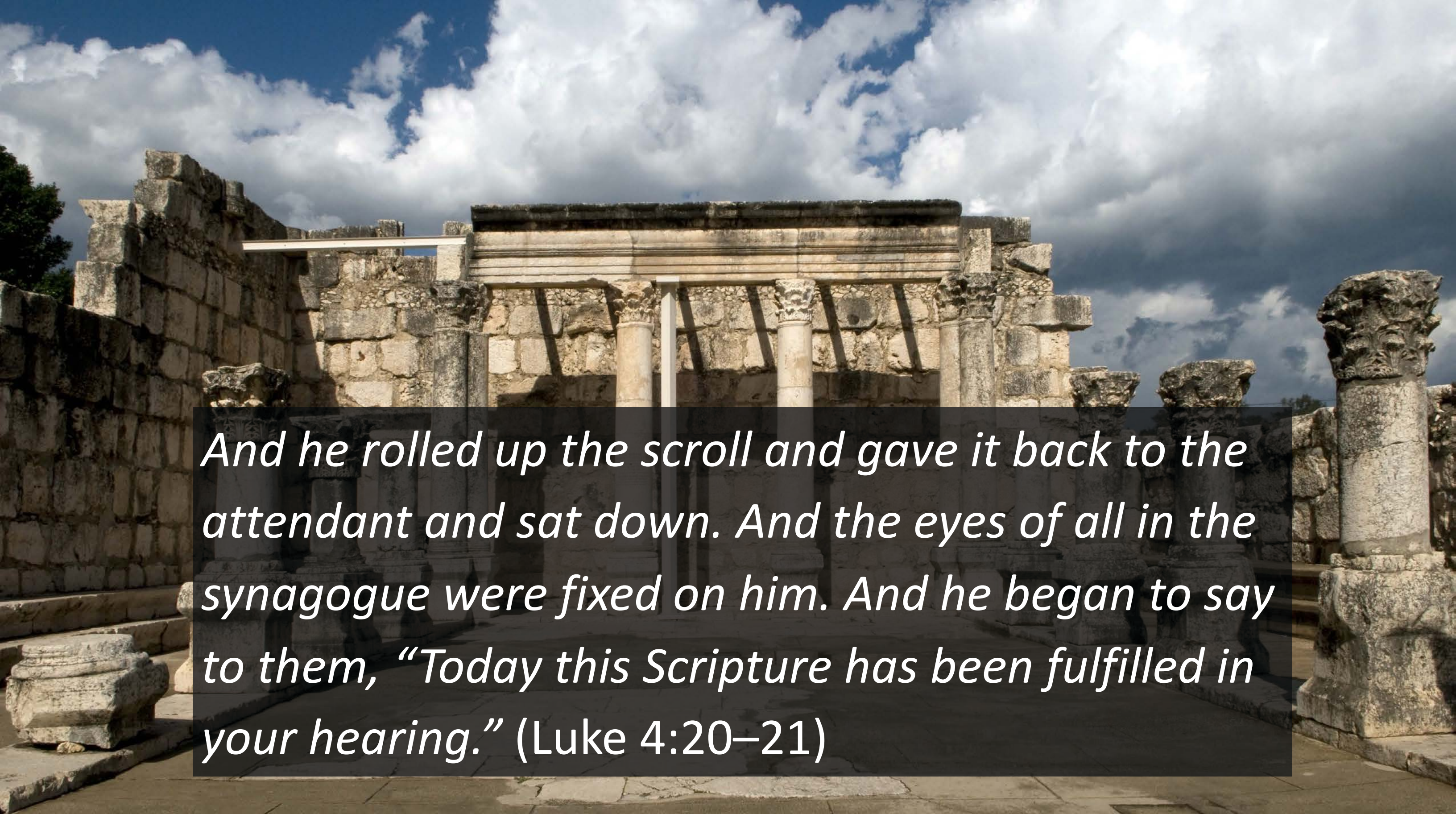


# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## J. Synagogue

- “gather together” / “congregation”
- A Place to Read & Study & Worship
- Arose After Destruction of 1<sup>st</sup> Temple



The background image shows the ruins of an ancient stone building, likely a synagogue, under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The structure features several columns supporting a partially collapsed roof. The stone is weathered and greyish-brown. The text is overlaid on a dark, semi-transparent rectangular area in the center of the image.

*And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:20–21)*



# 4. Judaism in NT Times

## J. Synagogue

- “gather together” / “congregation”
- A Place to Read & Study & Worship
- Arose After Destruction of 1<sup>st</sup> Temple
- After Destruction of 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple:
  - Rabbis Claimed there were 450 in Jerusalem
- Central in the Life of Judaism



# 5. NT Geography

## A. Israel







*Mediterranean Sea*

**UPPER GALILEE**

**GAULANITIS**

**TRACONITIS**

**LOWER GALILEE**

**BATANEA**

**AURANITIS**

**DECAPOLIS**

**SAMARIA**

**JUDEA**

**IDUMEA**

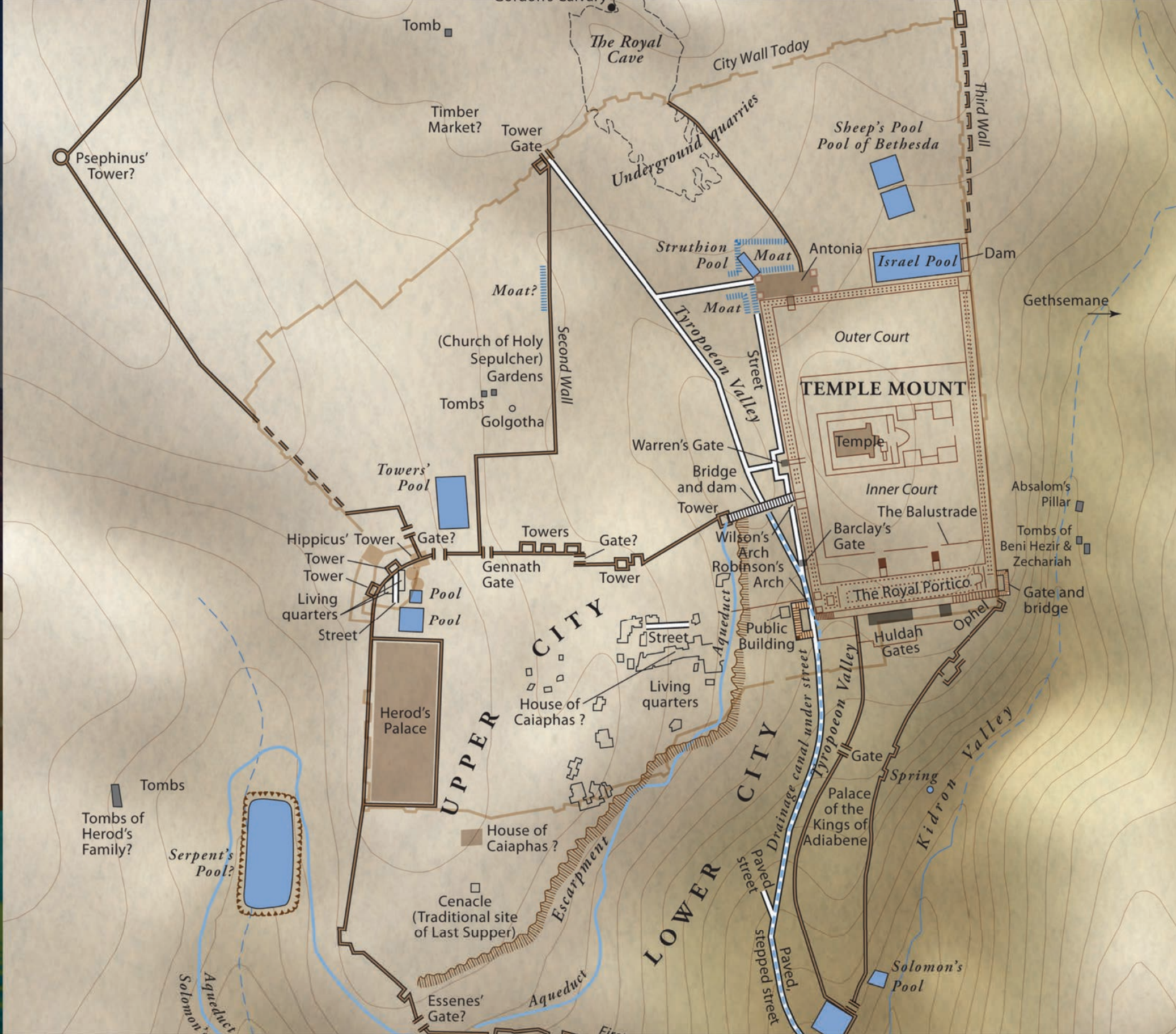
**PEREA**

**SITIA**



0 10 km.  
0 10 miles









Mediterranean Sea

Ptolemais (Acco)

UPPER GALILEE

GAULANITIS

TRACONITIS

LOWER GALILEE

Sea of Galilee

BATANENE

Canatha

AURANITIS

Dora

Chabulon

Gabara

Kefar Hananiya

Taricheae

Jotapata

Sepphoris

Kafr Kana

Nazareth

Japhia

Hippus

Tiberias

Gadara

Abila

Edrei

Bostra

Caesarea

Scythopolis

Pella

ESDRAELON VALLEY

DECAPOLIS

Sebaste

Mt. Gerizim

SAMARIA

Apollonia

Joppa

Antipatris

Lydda

Archelais

JUDEA

Jamnia

Emmaus (Nicopolis)

Jerusalem

Abila

Beth-ramatha

Bethany, on the other side of the Jordan

Philadelphia

Ascalon

Gaza

IDUMEA

Hebron

Dead Sea

Machaerus

PEREA

SITTIS

0 10 km.  
0 10 miles





*Mediterranean Sea*



UPPER GALILEE

GAULANITIS

TRACONITIS

LOWER GALILEE

BATANENE

AURANITIS

Ptolemais (Acco)

Chabulon

Jotapa

Sepph

Dora

Caesarea

Scythopolis

Pella

Sebaste

*Mt. Gerizim*

Apollonia

Joppa

Antipatris

Lydda

JUDEA

Archelais

Jamnia

Emmaus (Nicopolis)

Azotus

Ascalon

Gaza

Hebron

Jerusalem

Jericho

Neara

Abila

Beth-ramatha

Bethany, on the other side of the Jordan

Machaerus

Dead Sea

Jordan R.

PEREA

SITTIS

Abila

Gadora

Philadelphia

Ammathus

Gerasa

Bostra

Edrei

Abila

Dion

Canatha

Sea of Galilee

Kefar Hanan

Taricheae

Hi

Tiberias

Abila

Abila

Abila

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Mediterranean Sea

Mt. Hermon

UPPER GALILEE

GAULANITIS

LOWER GALILEE

Sea of Galilee



Nazareth

To Damascus





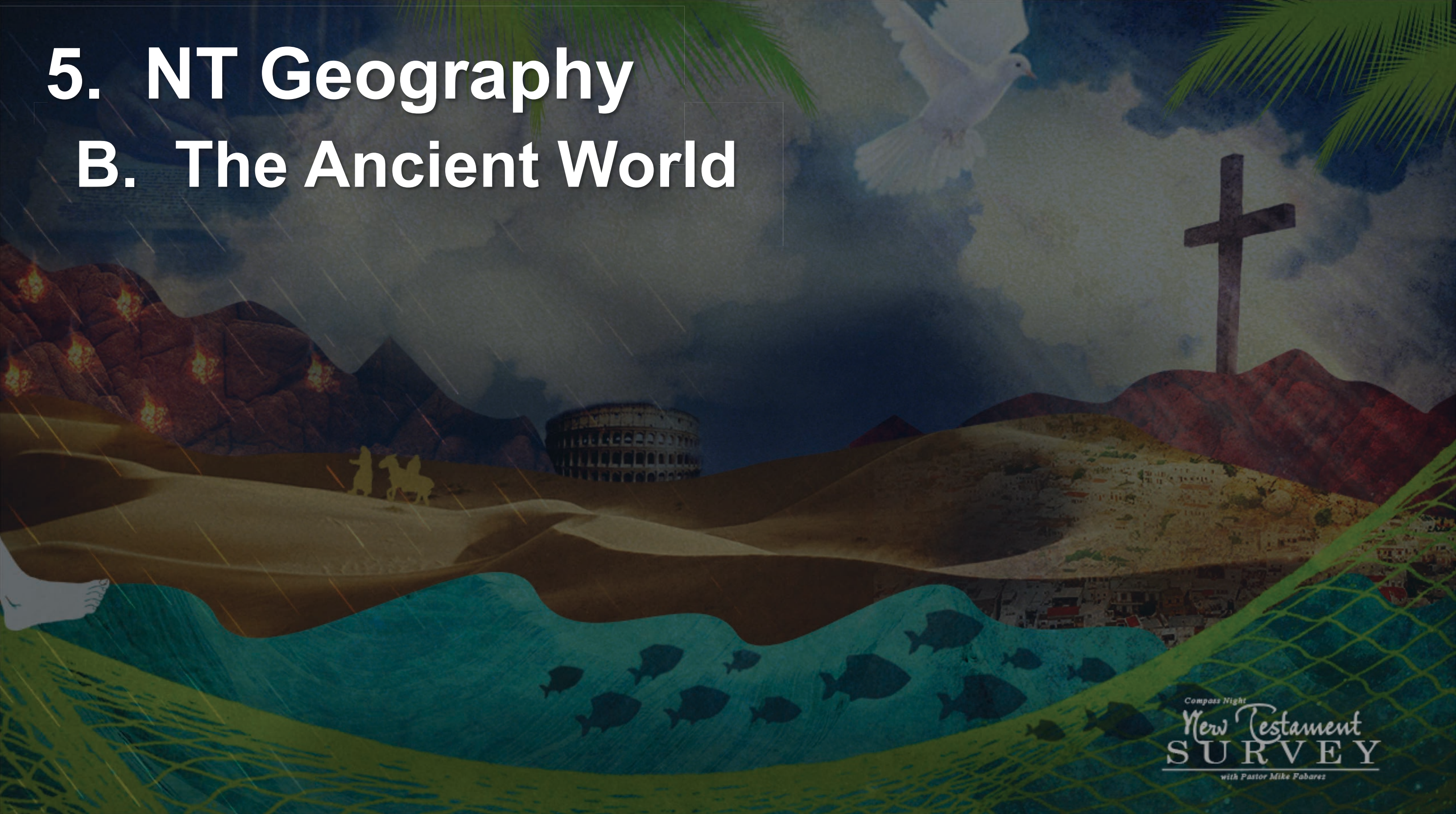




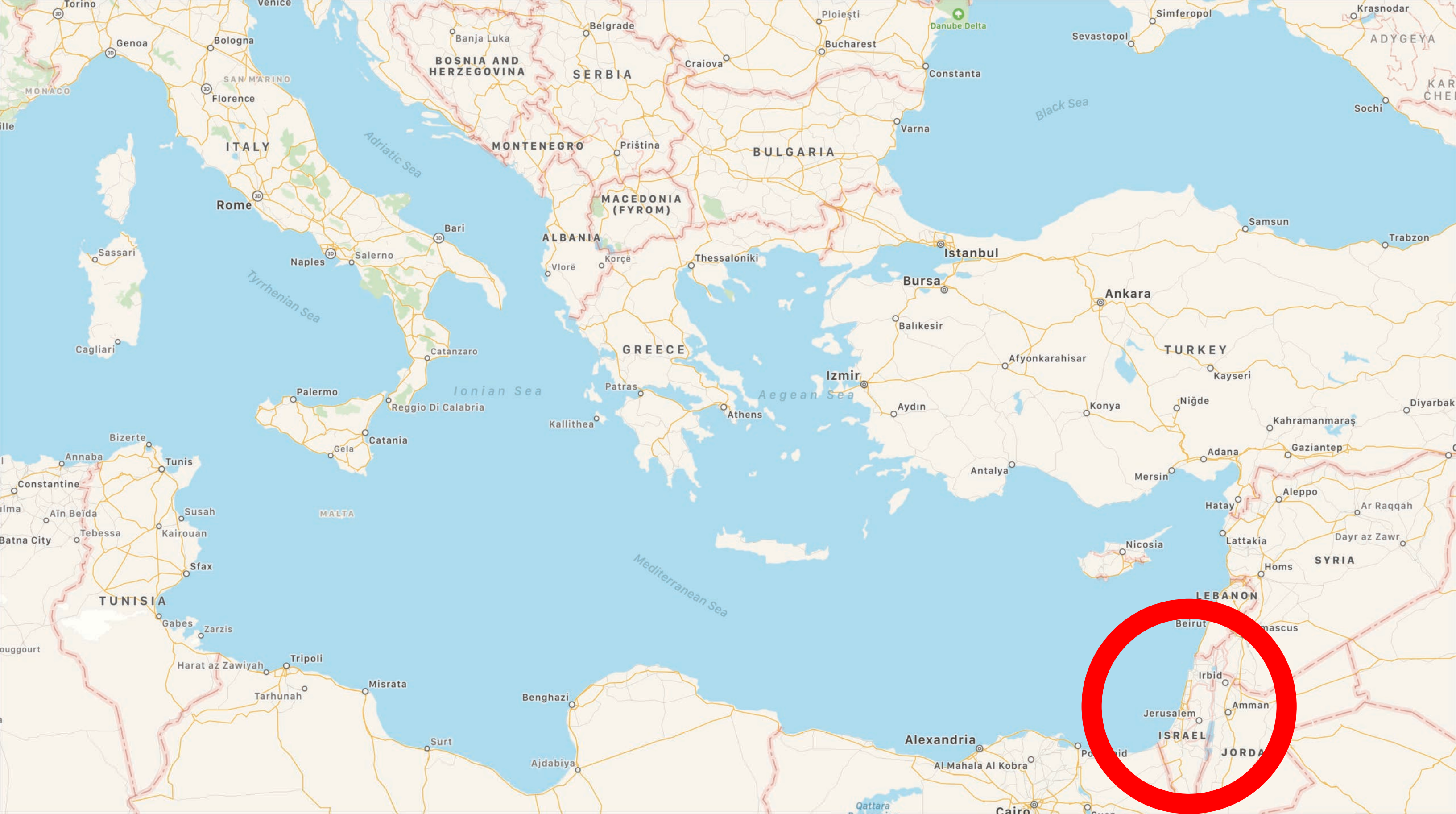


# 5. NT Geography

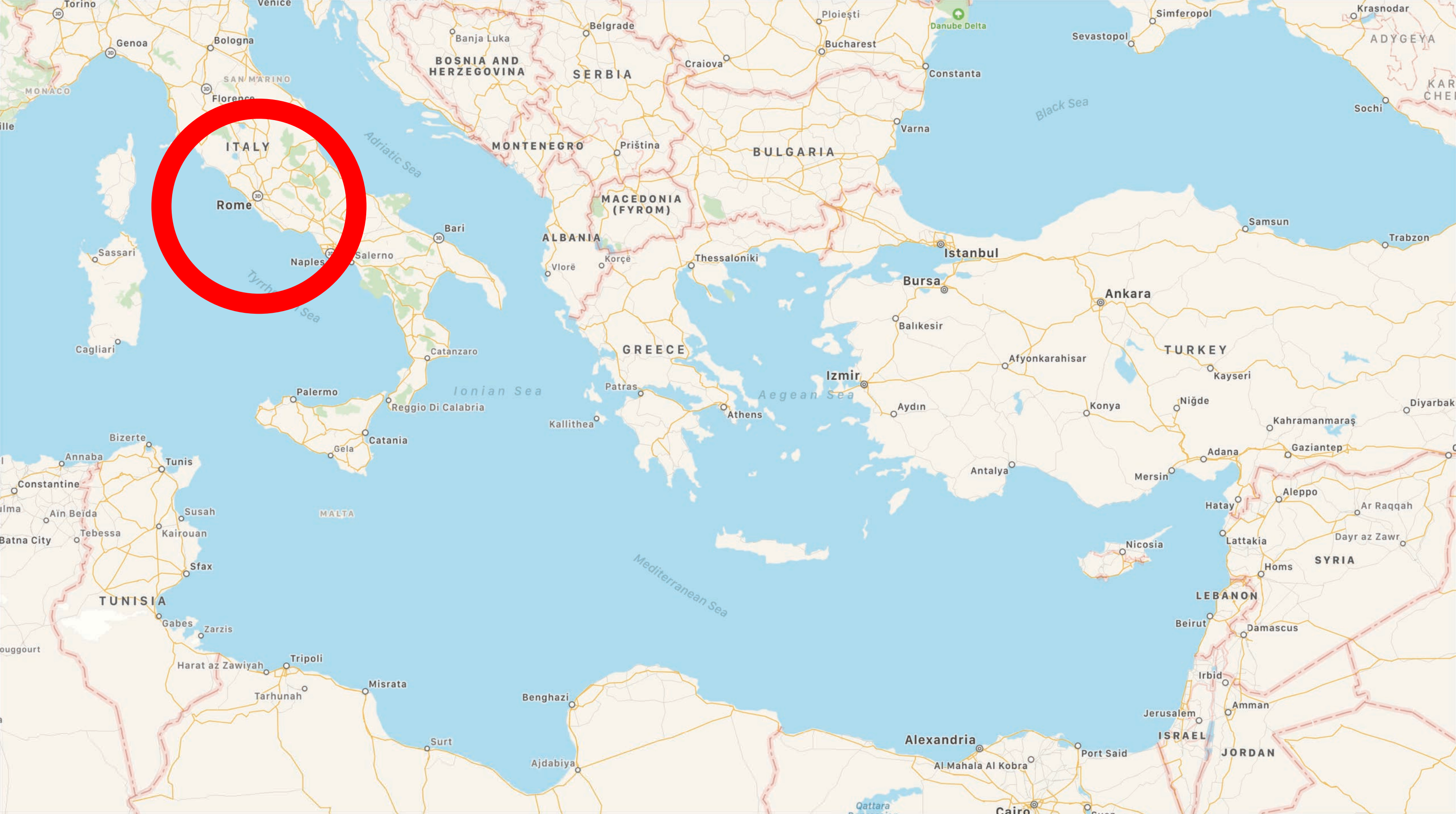
## B. The Ancient World















● The Seven Churches of Asia (Rev. 1–3):  
addressed by John, some founded by Paul

— Route of the Via Egnatia

0 50 km.  
0 50 miles

Philippi  
Thessalonica  
Berea

Sea of Marmara  
Byzantium

EPIRUS  
ACHAIA

Athens  
Corinth

Troas  
Assos  
Lesbos  
Mitylene  
Smyrna  
Kios  
Samos  
Patmos  
Cos

Pergamum  
Thyatira  
Philadelphia  
Sardis  
Laodicea  
Miletus

LYCIA  
Attalia  
Rhodes  
Patara

BITHYNIA

PHRYGIA

PAMPHYLIA  
Taurus Mts.

GALATIA

Pisidian  
Antioch  
Iconium  
Derbe

CYPRUS  
Paphos

CAPPADOCIA

CILICIA  
Cilician Gates  
Tarsus

PHOENICIA  
Orontes R.

PALESTINE  
Caesarea  
Jerusalem  
Tyre  
Ptolemais

ARABIA

Alternative route?

Aegean Sea  
Mediterranean Sea

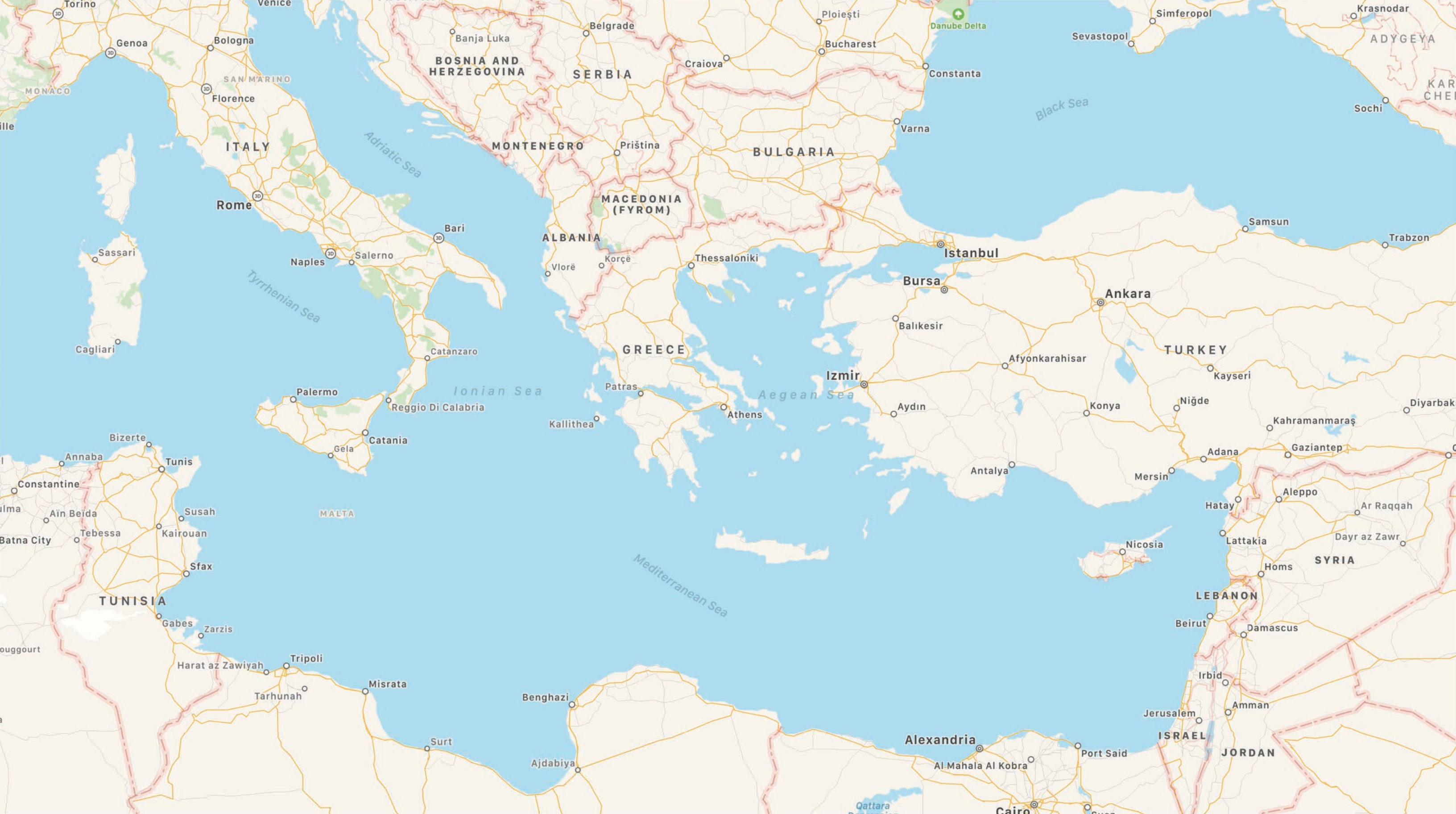


# 6. Life in NT Times

## A. Transportation

- Rome Build Extensive Roads











# 6. Life in NT Times

## A. Transportation

- **Rome Build Extensive Roads**

- Extending from Rome

- Averaged 15 feet wide

- e.g.: Appian Way (Rome to S. Italy)

- **Poor = Walked**

- **Middle Class = Rode Donkeys**

- **Upper Class = Mules / Horses**

- **Rich = Carriages or Chariots**





Compass Night  
**New Testament**  
**SURVEY**  
with Pastor Mike Fabarez



# 6. Life in NT Times

## A. Transportation

- Boats on Lakes











# 6. Life in NT Times

## A. Transportation

- Boats on Lakes
- Ships on Mediterranean











# 6. Life in NT Times

## A. Transportation

- Boats on Lakes
- Ships on Mediterranean
- Powered by Sails & Oars
- Large Ships Could Carry 1200 People
- Alexandria Known for Ship Building



# 6. Life in NT Times

## B. Money

- Roman

-- Denarius = 1 Day's Wage (silver)

-- Quadrans = 1/4 Day's Wage (copper)

-- Assarion = 1/16 Day's = "2 sparrows"





# 6. Life in NT Times

## B. Money

- Greek



- Drachma = Day's Wage (sheep price)
- Didrachma = 2 Day's = Temple Tax
- Stater = 4 Day's = found in fish
- Mina = 100 Day's wage
- Talent = 6,000 Day's wage



# 6. Life in NT Times

## B. Money

- Hebrew

-- Lepton = “mite” = smallest demon  
(only Hebrew coin mentioned in NT)





# 6. Life in NT Times

## C. Taxes

- Romans

- 1 % Annual Tax

- 2 Drachma Temple Tax

- Skimming of the Collectors

- Polls, Tolls, Sales, Property, Crops...

- Jewish

- 2 Annual Tithes + 1 Triennial Tithe



# 6. Life in NT Times

## D. Population

- 2 to 3 Million People in Israel
  - More Jews in Syria
  - More Jews in Alexandria, Egypt
  - Many Jews in Rome



# 6. Life in NT Times

## E. Longevity

- Men = Average 40 years
- Women = Average 34 years



*Compass Night*

# New Testament SURVEY

