

THE NEW TESTAMENT BOOKSHELF



The term "New Testament" refers first to the covenant God made with all people to save them through His Son, Jesus Christ. It has also come to refer to the *writings about* that promise-law.

Purpose/Theme:

The Scriptures of the New Testament show how God's Old Covenant is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. It describes how the early Christians became the Church, and how to live in the light of the risen presence of Christ.

The Gospels

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

History

Acts

Letters by Paul

Romans
First Corinthians
Second Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
First Thessalonians
Second Thessalonians
First Timothy
Second Timothy
Titus
Philemon

General Letters

Hebrews
James
First Peter
Second Peter
First John
Second John
Third John
Jude

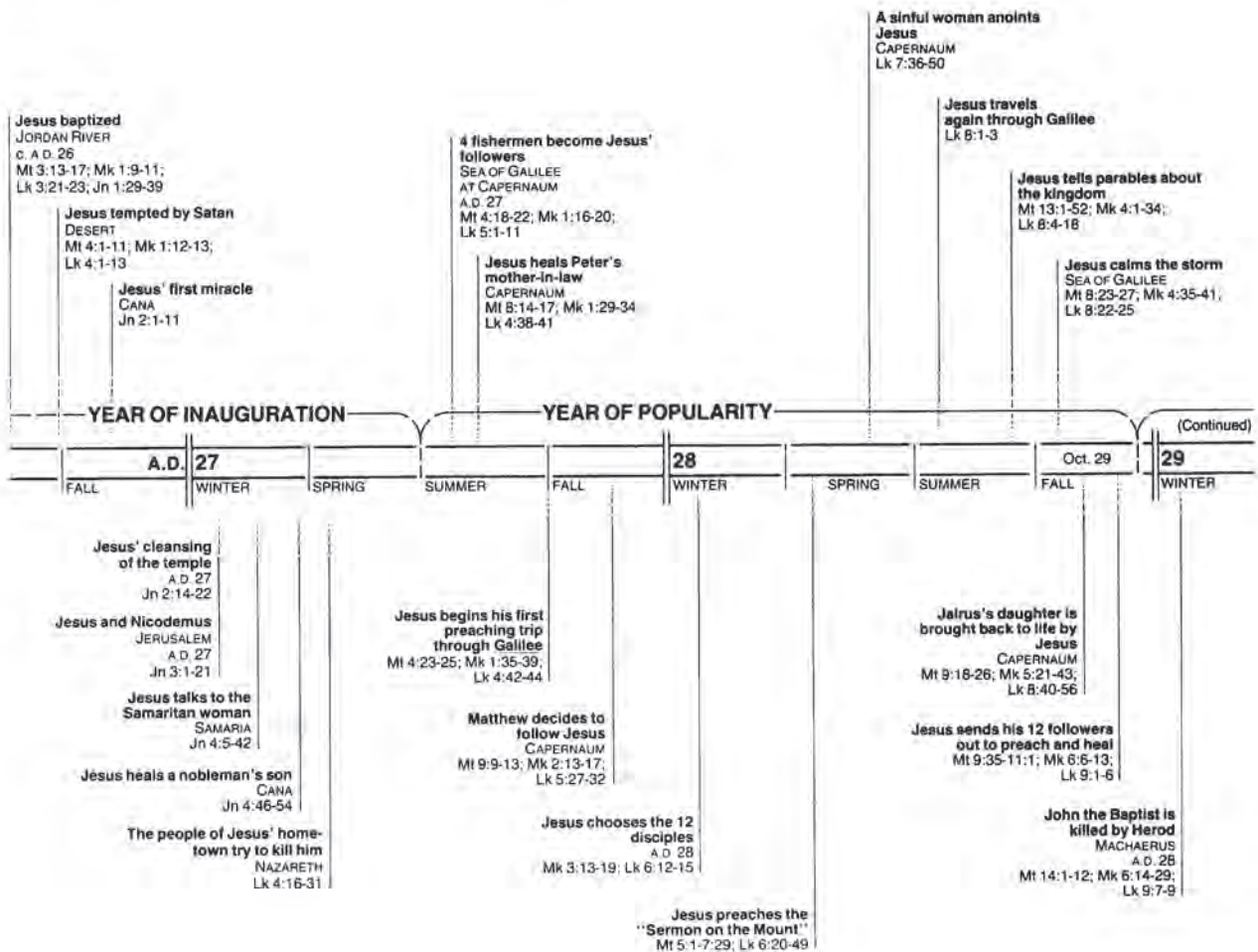
Prophecy

Revelation



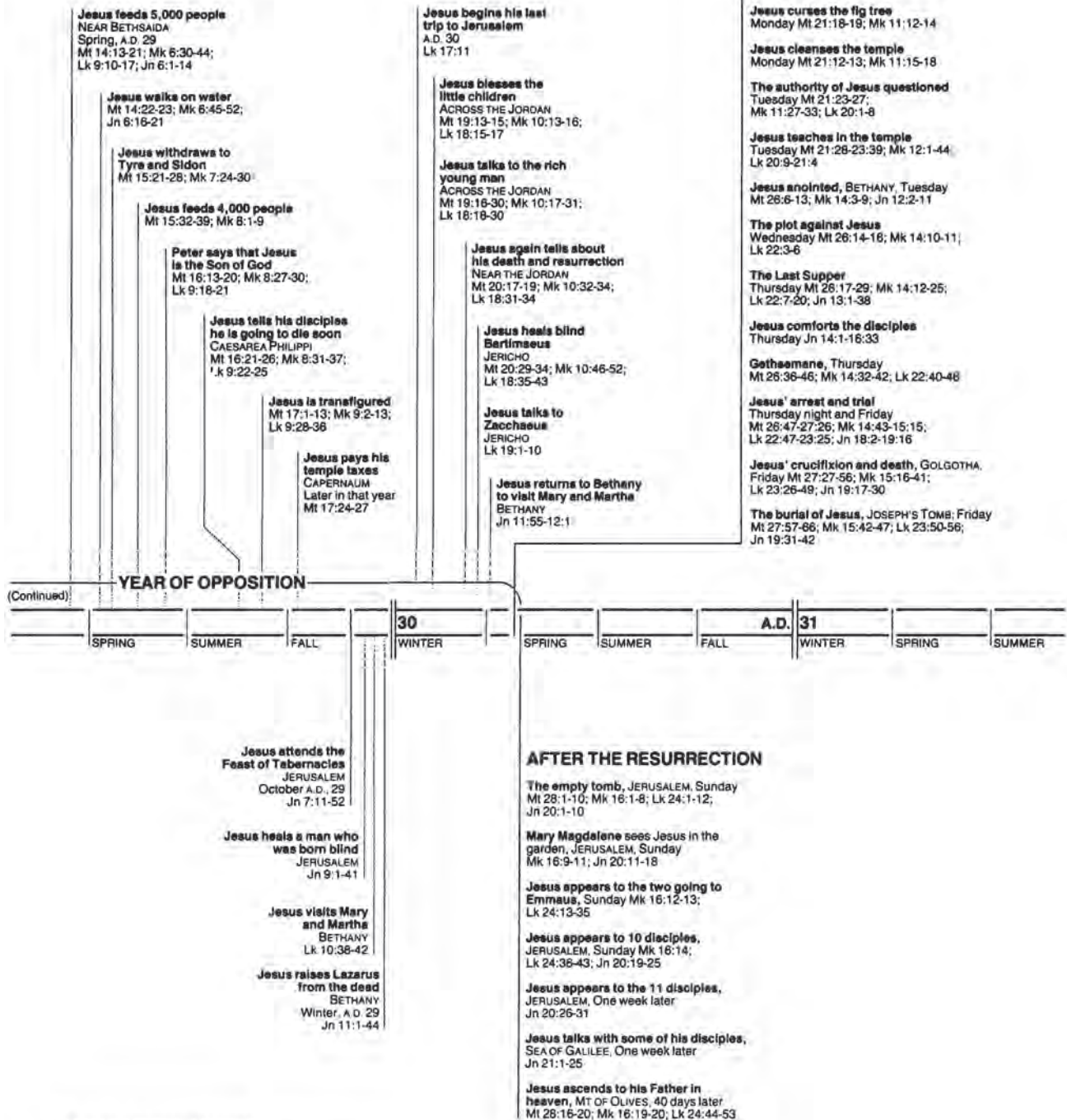
THE LIFE OF CHRIST

CHILDHOOD



Dotted lines leading to the timeline are meant to define sequence of events only. Exact dates, even year dates, are generally unknown.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST CONTINUED



Dotted lines leading to the timeline are meant to define sequence of events only. Exact dates, even year dates, are generally unknown.



PALESTINE UNDER HEROD THE GREAT

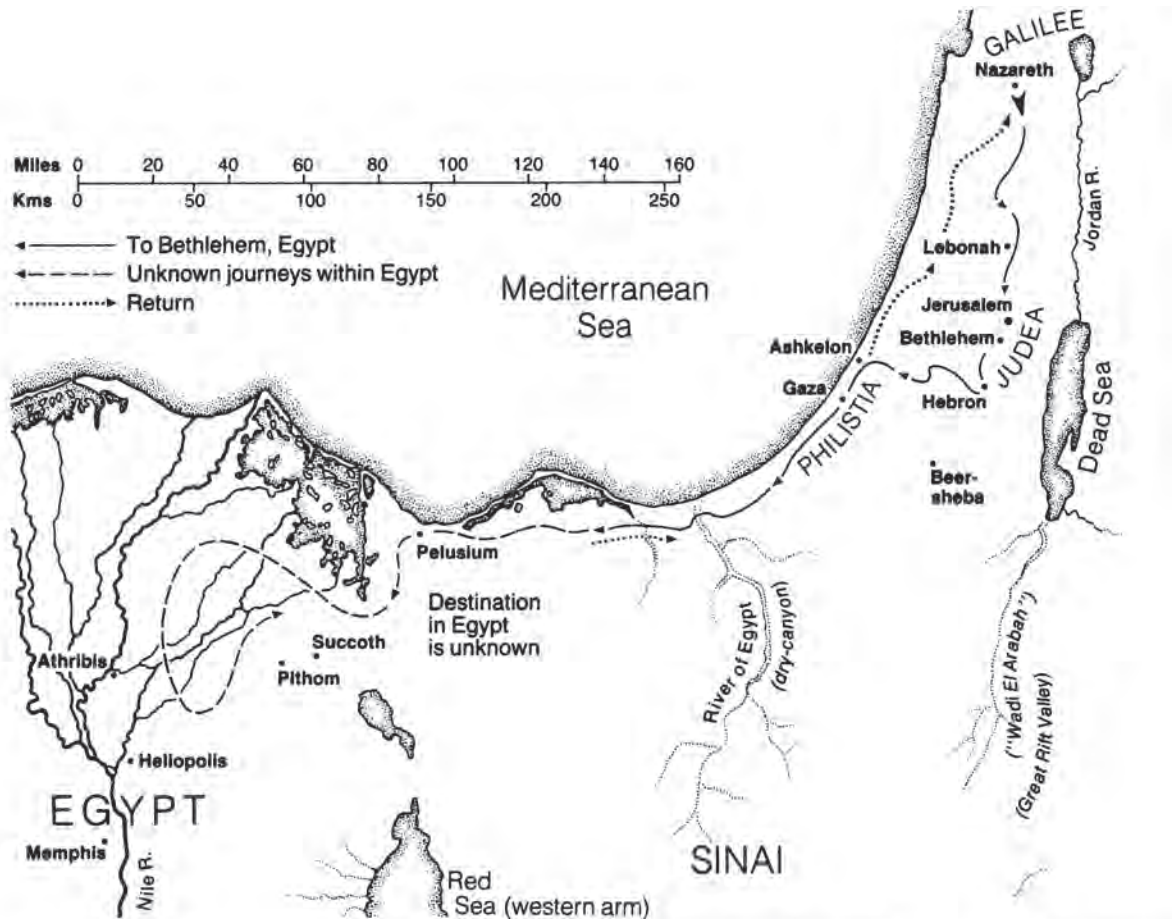
37-4 B.C.

- Fortress cities of Herod
- General location of boundaries of Herod's kingdom
- Indefinite boundary (desert, etc.)
- Mountain

The Great Sea
(Mediterranean)



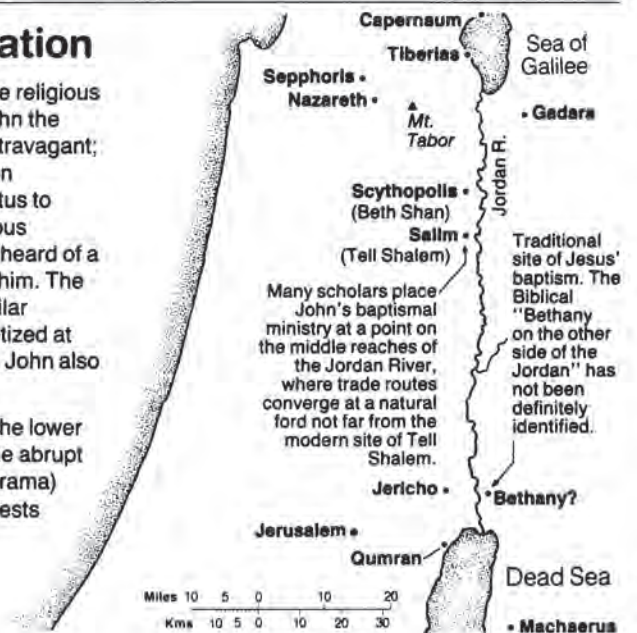
JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM



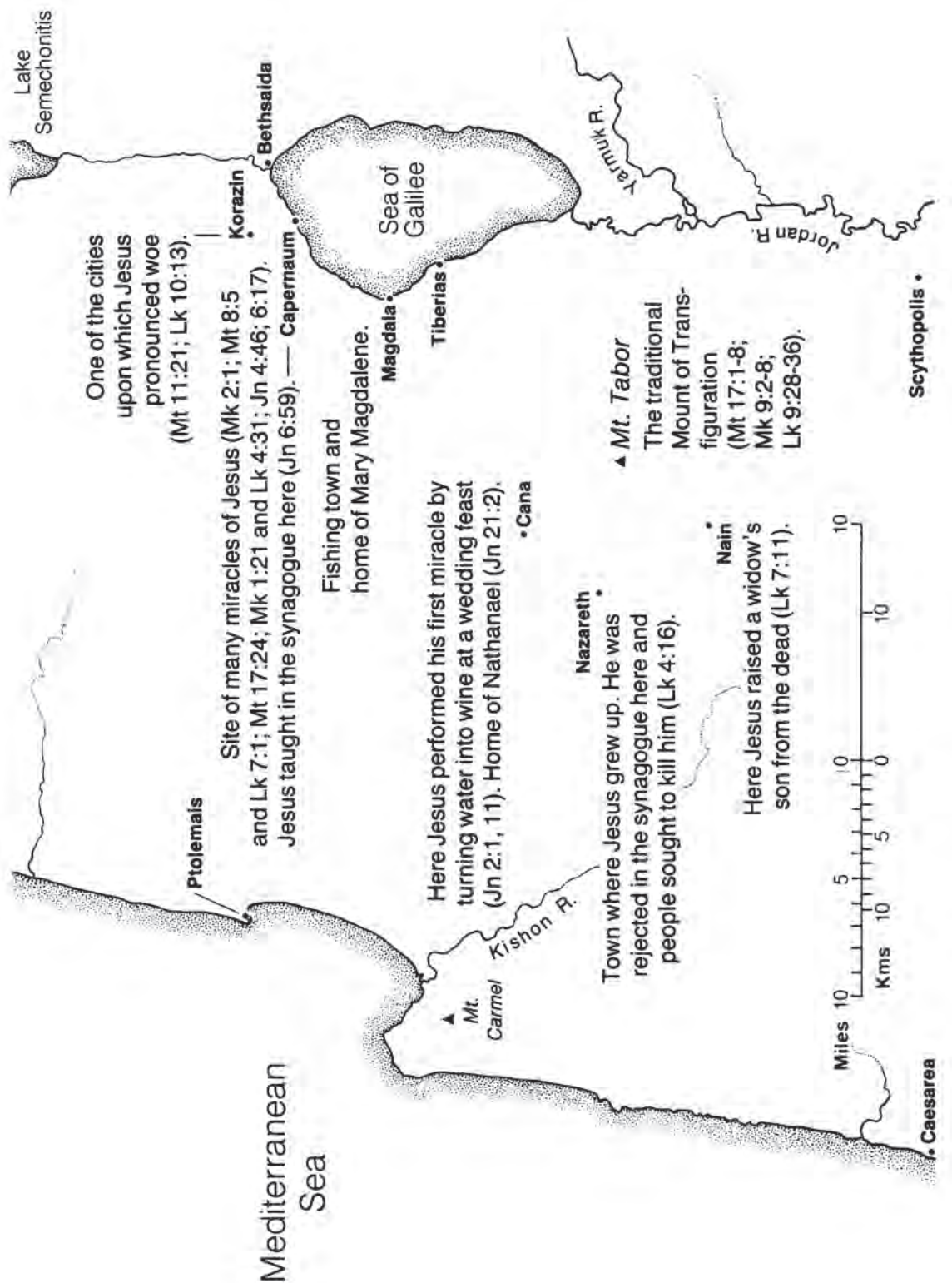
Jesus' Baptism and Temptation

Events surrounding Jesus' baptism reveal the intense religious excitement and social ferment of the early days of John the Baptist's ministry. Herod had been rapacious and extravagant; Roman military occupation was harsh. Some agitation centered around the change of procurators from Gratus to Pilate in A.D. 26. Most of the people hoped for a religious solution to their low political fortunes, and when they heard of a new prophet, they flocked out into the desert to hear him. The religious sect (Essenes) from Qumran professed similar doctrines of repentance and baptism. Jesus was baptized at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan (see Jn 1:28). John also baptized at "Aenon near Salim" (Jn 3:23).

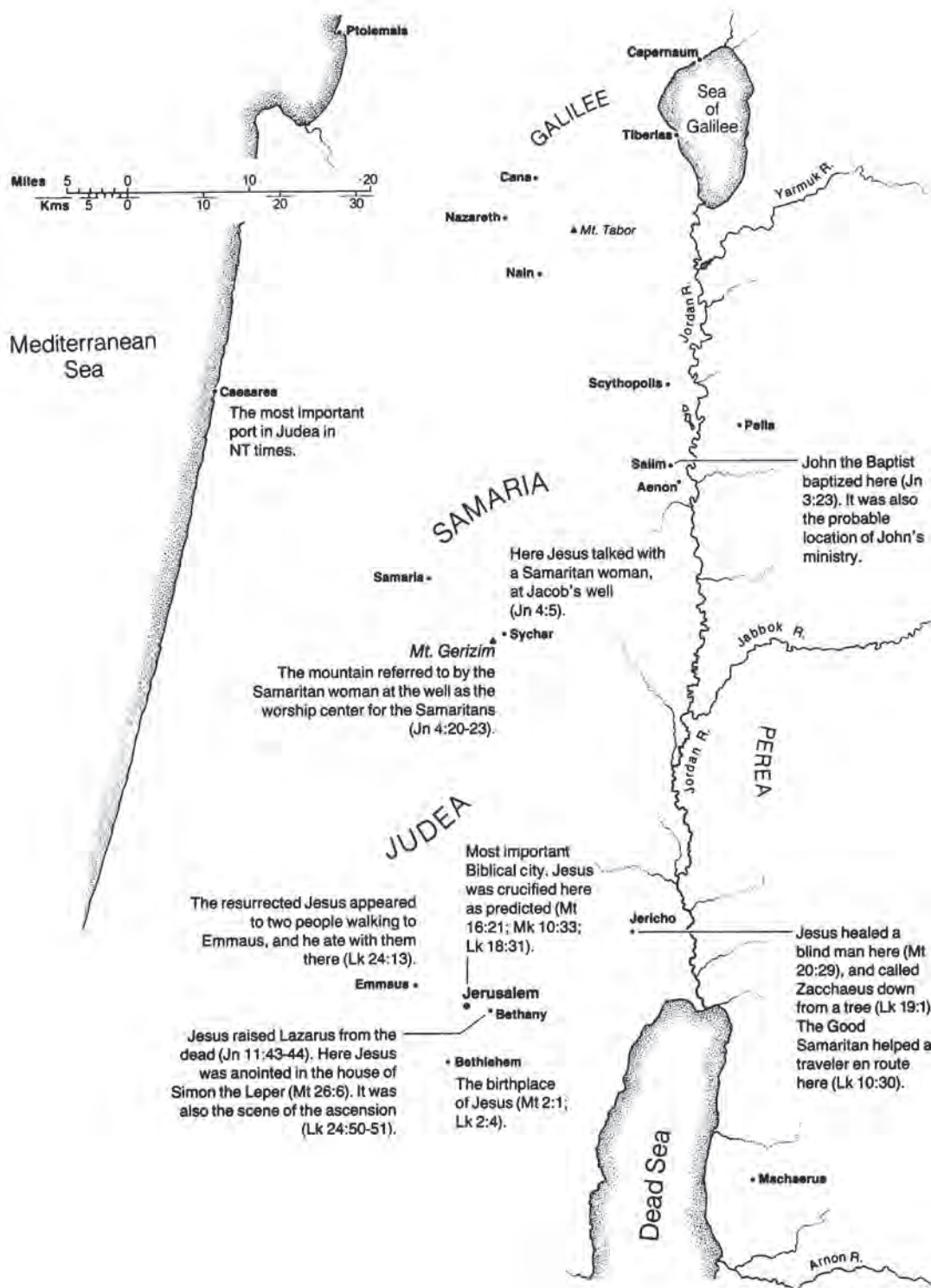
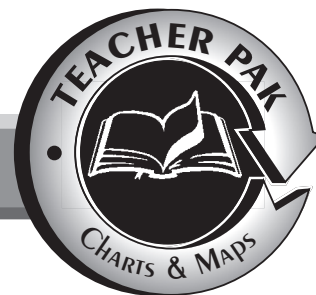
The temptation took place in (1) the desert region of the lower Jordan Valley, (2) a high mountain (possibly one of the abrupt cliffs near Jericho that present an unsurpassed panorama) and (3) the pinnacle of the temple, from which the priests sounded the trumpet to call the city's attention to important events.



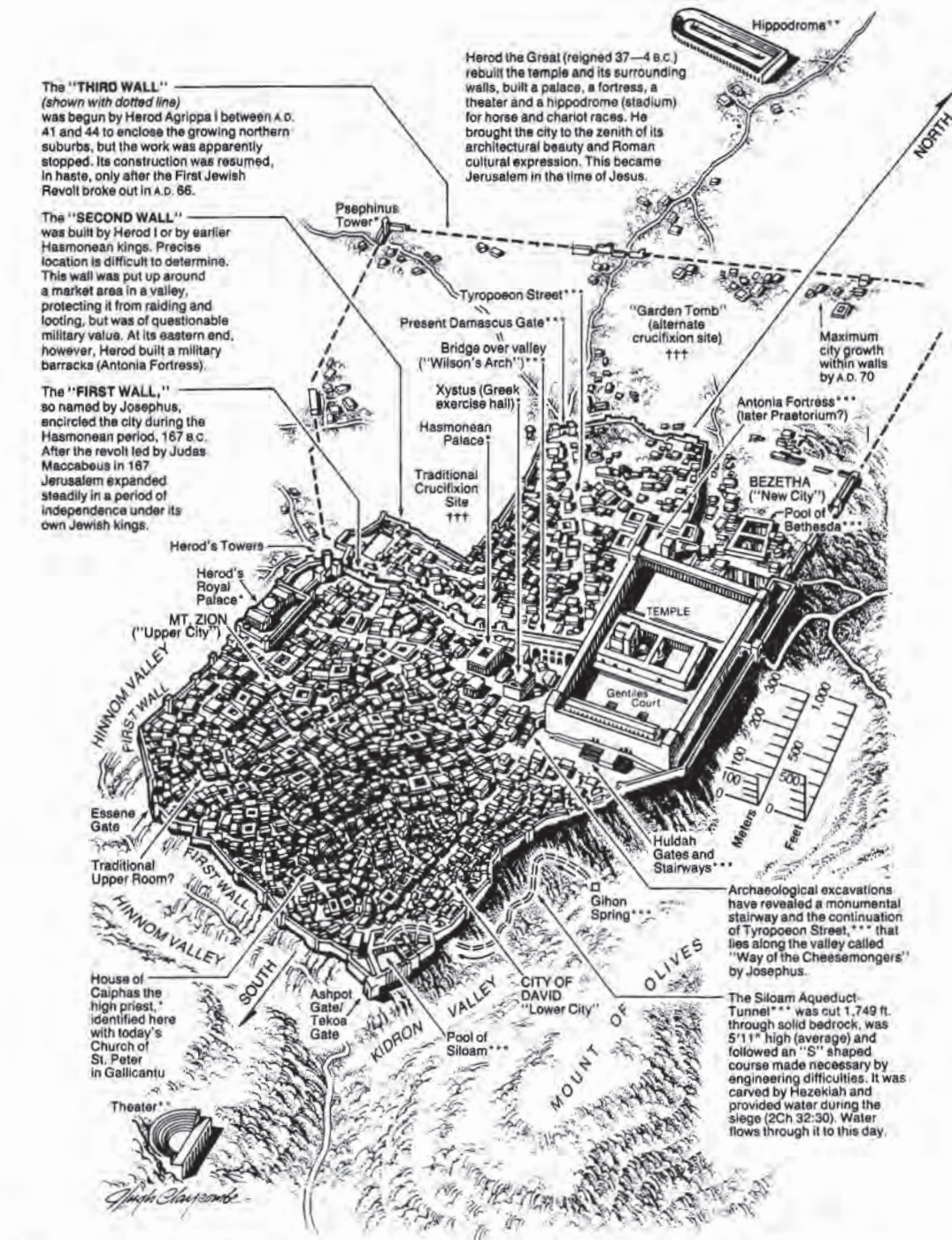
JESUS IN GALILEE



JESUS IN JUDEA & SAMARIA



JERUSALEM



* Location generally known, but style of architecture is unknown; artist's concept only, and Roman architecture is assumed.

** Location and architecture unknown, but referred to in written history; shown here for illustrative purposes.

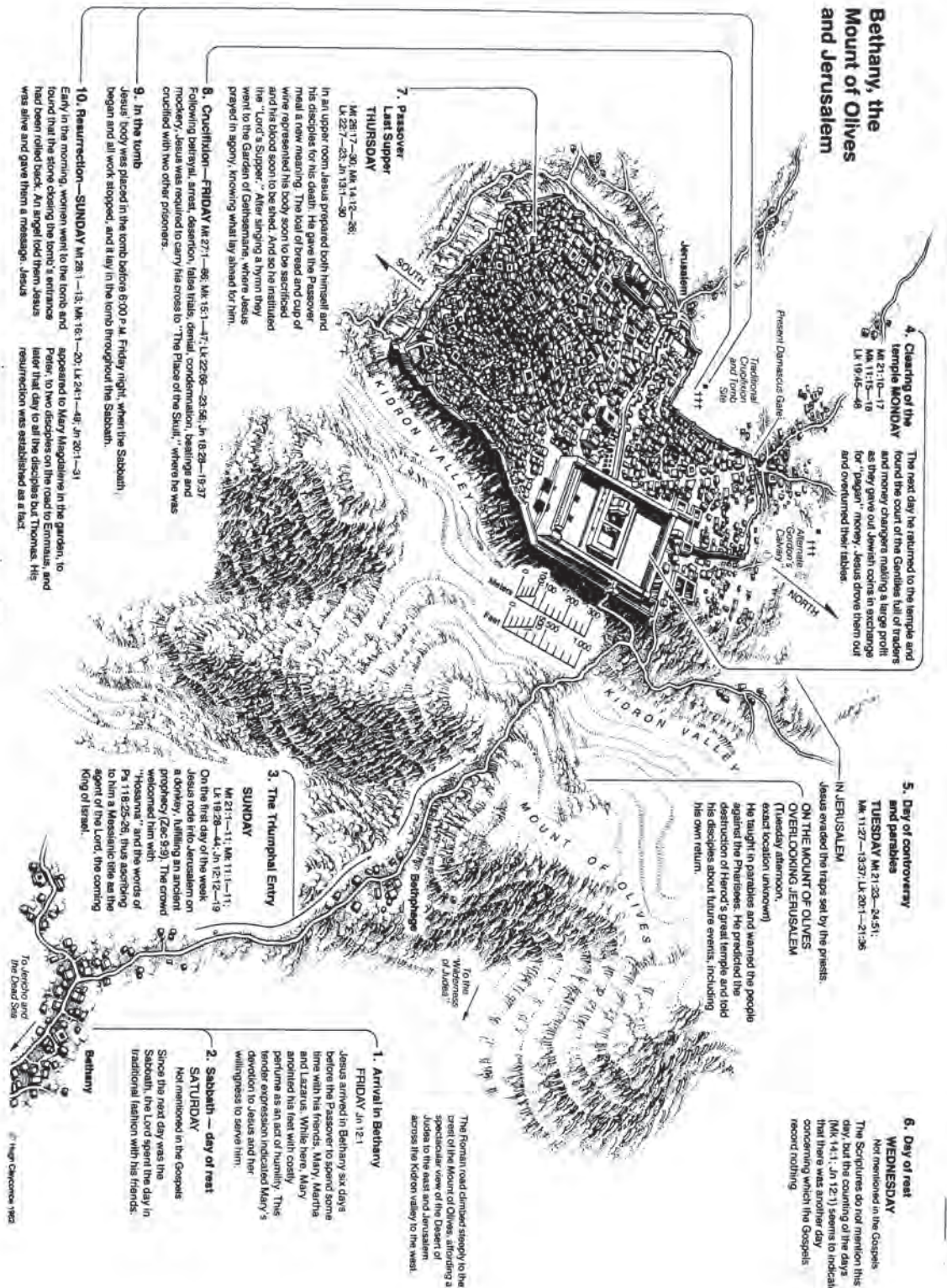
*** Ancient feature has remained, or appearance has been determined from evidence.

Buildings, streets and roads shown here are artist's concept only unless otherwise named and located. Wall heights remain generally unknown, except for those surrounding the Temple Mount.

DEEP VALLEYS on the east, south and west permitted urban expansion only to the north.

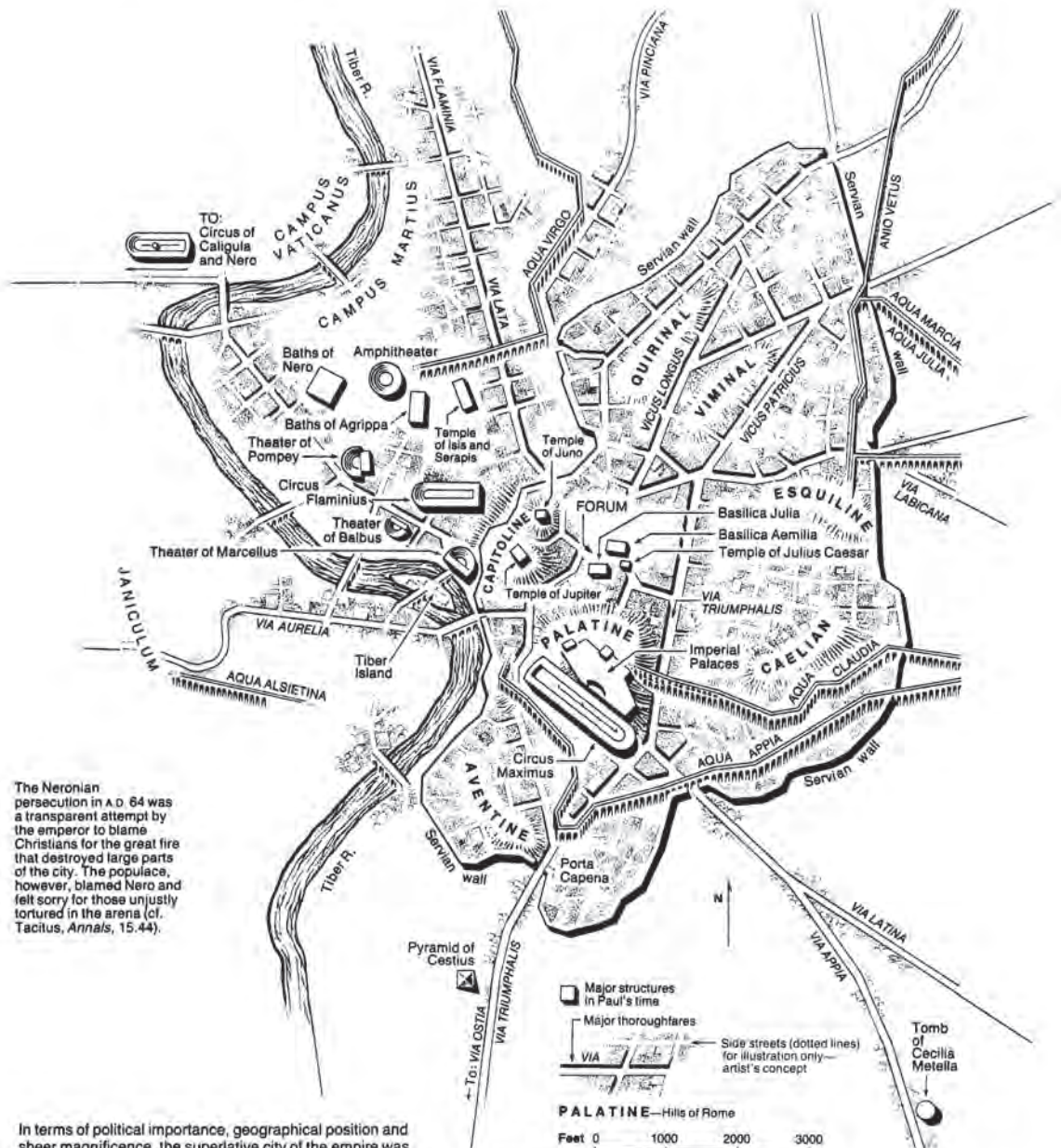
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PASSION WEEK





ROME IN THE TIME OF PAUL



The Neronian persecution in A.D. 64 was a transparent attempt by the emperor to blame Christians for the great fire that destroyed large parts of the city. The populace, however, blamed Nero and felt sorry for those unjustly tortured in the arena (cf. Tacitus, *Annals*, 15.44).

In terms of political importance, geographical position and sheer magnificence, the superlative city of the empire was Rome, the capital.

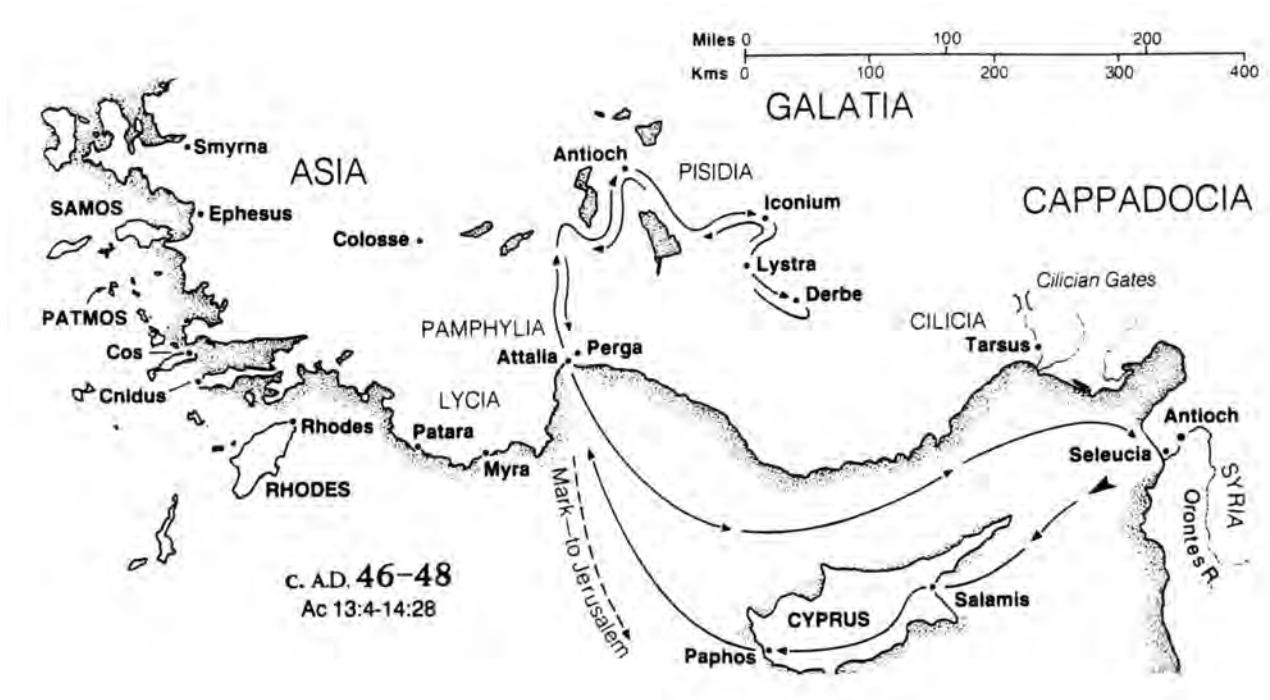
Located on a series of jutting foothills and low-lying eminences (the "seven hills") east of a bend in the Tiber River some 18 miles from the Mediterranean, Rome was celebrated for its impressive public buildings, aqueducts, baths, theaters and thoroughfares, many of which led from distant provinces. The city of the first Christian century had spread far beyond its fourth-century B.C. "Servian" walls and lay unwall'd, secure in its greatness.

The most prominent features were the Capitoline hill, with temples to Jupiter and Juno, and the nearby Palatine, adorned with imperial palaces, including Nero's "Golden House." Both hills overlooked the Roman Forum, the hub of the entire empire.

Alternatively described as the glorious crowning achievement of mankind and as the sewer of the universe where all the scum from every corner of the empire gathered, Rome had reasons for both civic pride in its architecture and shame for staggering urban social problems not unlike those of cities today.

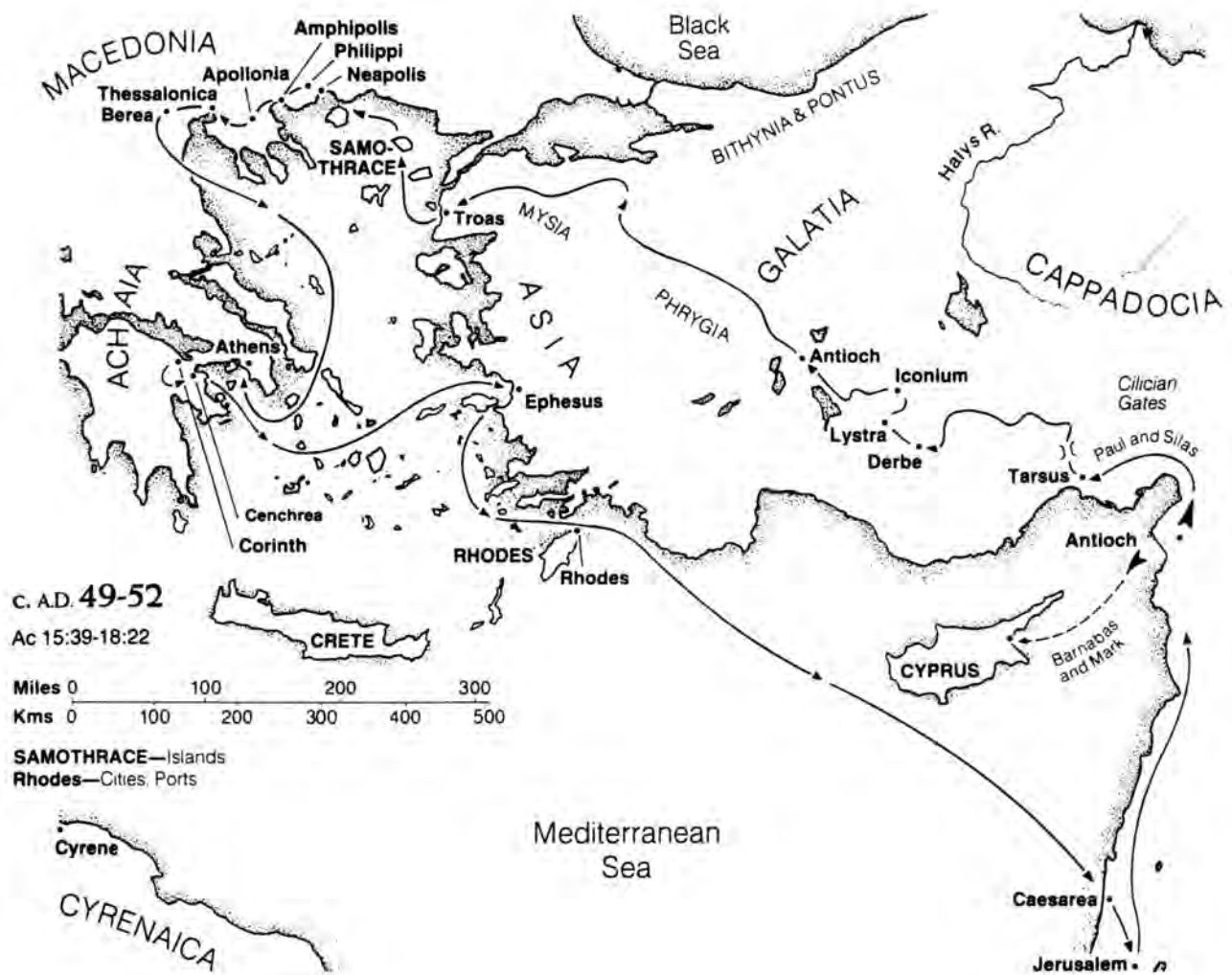
The apostle Paul entered the city from the south on the Via Appia. He first lived under house arrest and then, after a period of freedom, as a condemned prisoner in the Mamertine dungeon near the Forum. Remarkably, Paul was able to proclaim the gospel among all classes of people, from the palace to the prison. According to tradition, he was executed at a spot on the Ostian Way outside Rome in A.D. 68.

PAUL'S 1ST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

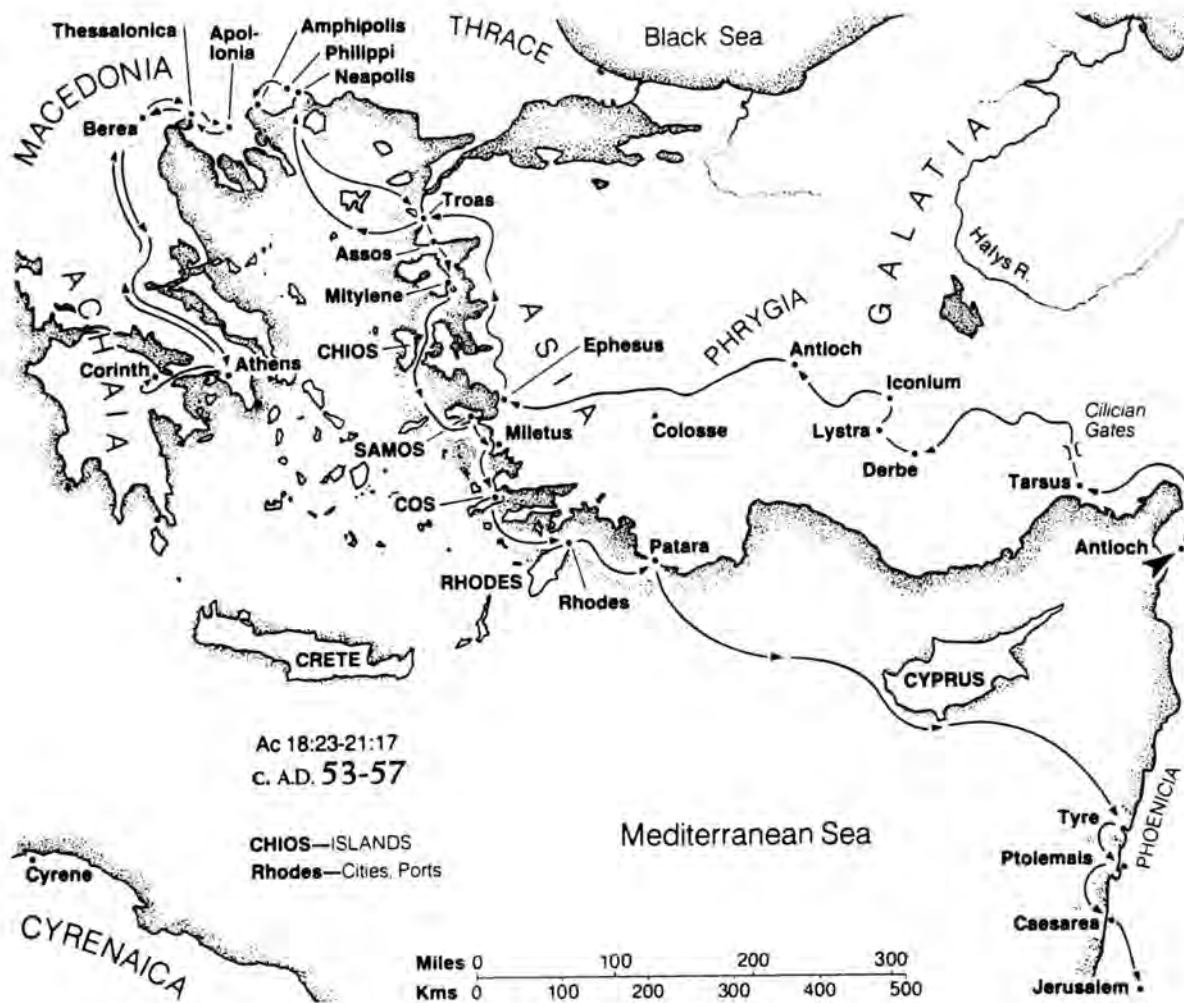




PAUL'S 2ND MISSIONARY JOURNEY



PAUL'S 3RD MISSIONARY JOURNEY





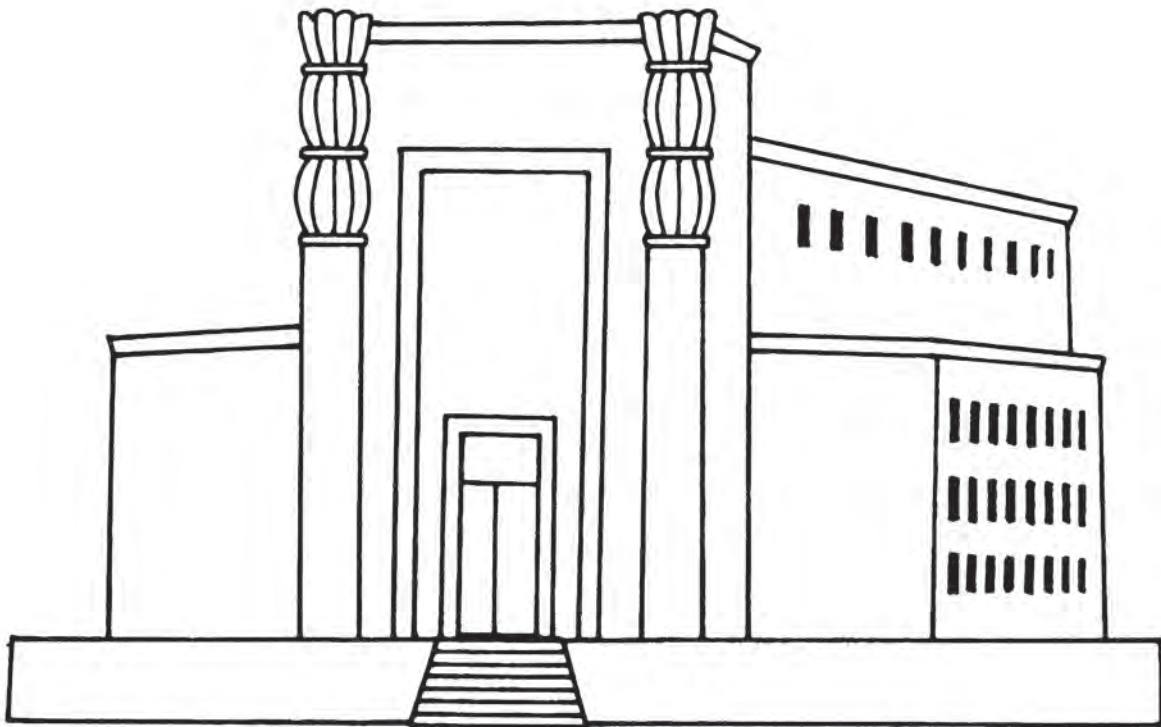
TEMPLE

Temple

The Bible tells about three Temples built on the same spot, but at different times.

1. **The First Temple (Solomon's Temple)** was built under the leadership of King Solomon. When the Babylonians captured Jerusalem in 587 B.C., this Temple was destroyed.
2. **The Second Temple** was built by Jews who came back to Jerusalem after being captives in Babylon. (See Ezra.)
3. **Herod's Temple** was built over and around the existing Second Temple. It was destroyed in A.D. 70 by the Romans.

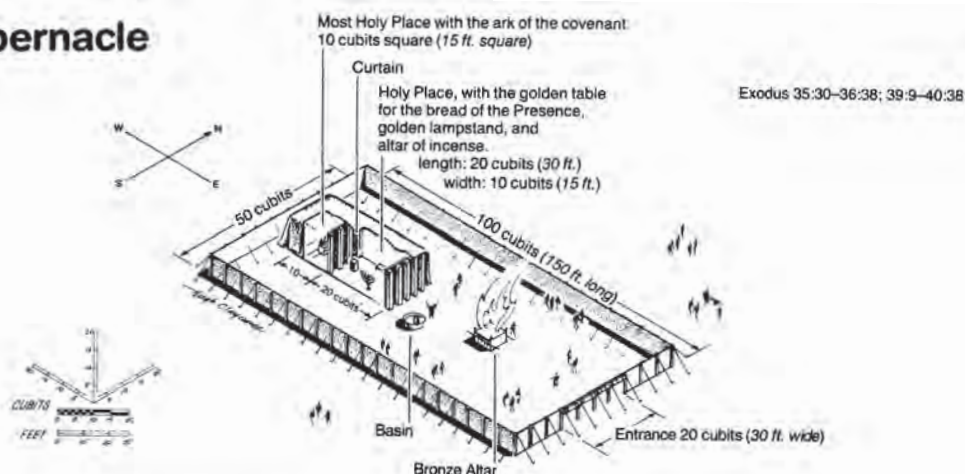
This is how Solomon's Temple looked.



SOLOMON'S TEMPLE



The Tabernacle



Exodus 35:30-36:38; 39:9-40:38

The new religious observances taught by Moses in the desert centered on rituals connected with the tabernacle, and amplified Israel's sense of separateness, purity and oneness under the Lordship of Yahweh.

A few desert shrines have been found in Sinai, notably at Serabit el-Khadem and at Timnah in the Negev, and show marked Egyptian influence.

Specific cultural antecedents to portable shrines carried on poles and covered with thin sheets of gold can be found in

ancient Egypt as early as the Old Kingdom (2800-2250 B.C.), but were especially prominent in the 18th and 19th dynasties (1570-1180). The best examples come from the fabulous tomb of Tutankhamun, c. 1350.

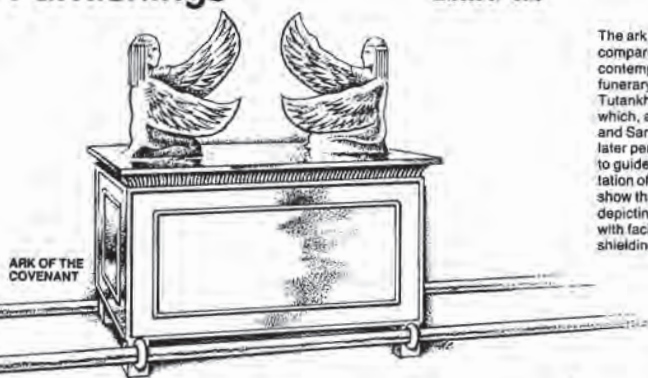
Comparisons of construction details in the text of Ex 25-40 with the frames, shrines, poles, sheathing, draped fabric covers, gilt rosettes, and winged protective figures from the shrine of Tutankhamun are instructive. The period, the Late Bronze Age, is equivalent in all dating systems to the era of Moses and the exodus.

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The Tabernacle Furnishings

Exodus 37-38:8

The symbolism of God's redemptive covenant was preserved in the tabernacle, making each element an object lesson for the worshiper. The Levitical priests, including some with Egyptian names and perhaps Egyptian training, gave meticulous attention to facts about the shrine. Reconstruction of the furnishings is possible because of extremely detailed descriptions and precise measurements recorded in Ex 25-40.



The ark of the Testimony compares with the roughly contemporary shrine and funerary furniture of King Tutankhamun (c. 1350 B.C.), which, along with the Nimrud and Samaria ivories from a later period, have been used to guide the graphic interpretation of the text. Both sources show the conventional way of depicting extreme reverence, with facing winged guardians shielding a sacred place.

