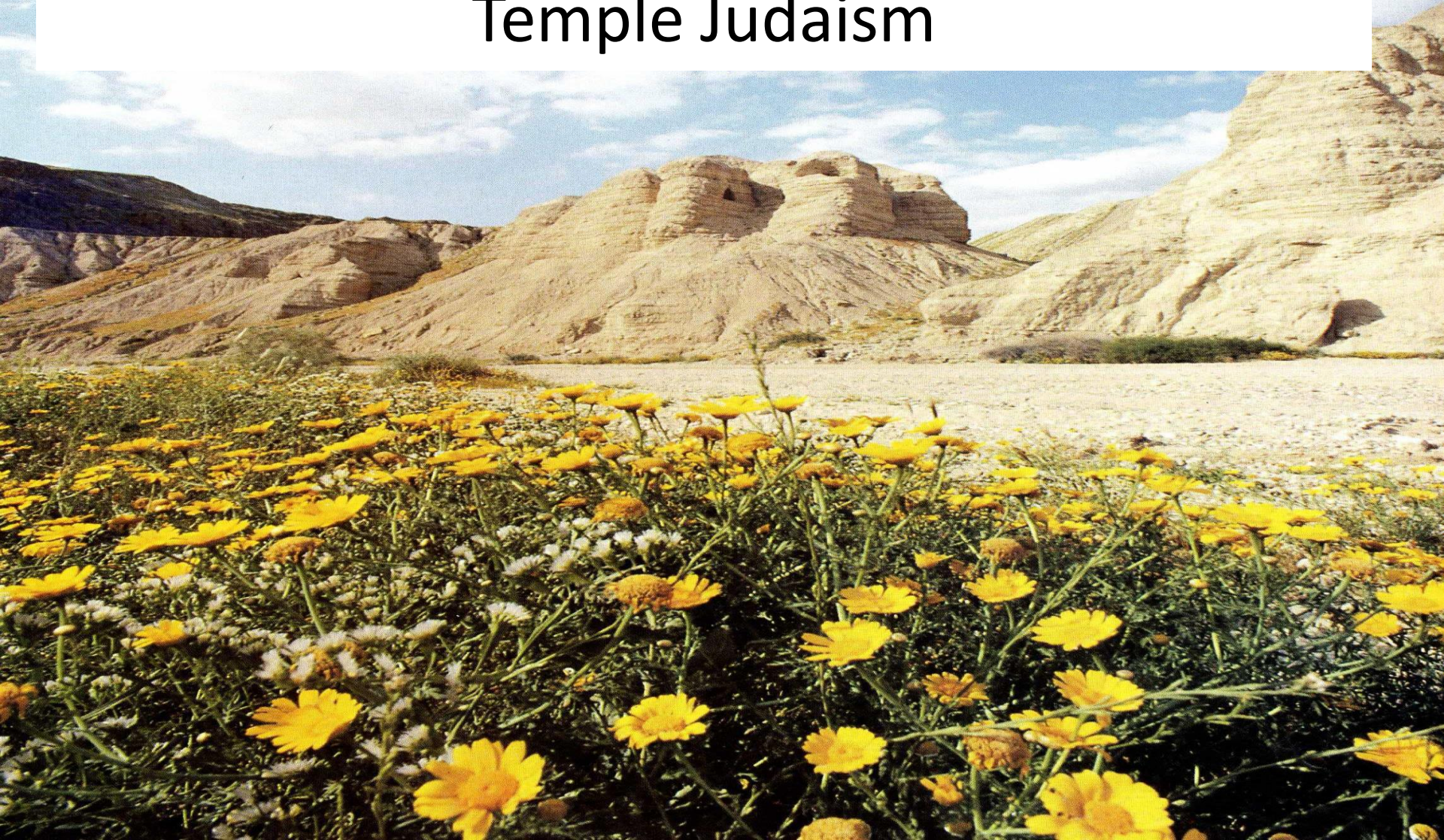


From Babylon to Qumran: Archaeology Uncovers the Convoluted World of Second Temple Judaism



QUEST FOR THE HISTORICAL JESUS

FIRST QUEST

- 19th century
- Confidence in Rational Inquiry to Discover 'Historical Truths'
- A Chronological sorting of Texts – Oldest = Truest

THE SCHWEITZER CRITIQUE...END OF QUEST

SECOND QUEST

- Post-Bultmann and the Impact of Form/Redaction Criticism
- Confidence in Recovery of Aspects of if not the Whole of the Historical Jesus (compared to particle physics)
- Jesus mapped against the Background of Mediterranean Religious Ideas
- Collapse of Boundary between Canonical and Non-Canonical Texts (like the Jesus Seminar)

THIRD QUEST

- The Recovery of more Texts of Judaism (e.g., Dead Sea Scrolls) and Renewed Importance of Jesus' Jewish Roots
- Emphasis on Context as Bringing Insight to Historical Jesus
- Emphasis on Archaeological Data (especially from Galilee) in order to Recover Context

- Jesus was a Jew
- His Family and Followers were Jews
- The Movement Remained a Predominantly Jewish Movement for 2 Generations

- Thus...The Importance of The Study of Judaism in First Century Roman Palestine
 - Sources?
 - New Testament
 - Josephus (37 -100 CE)
 - *The Jewish Wars* and *The Antiquities of the Jews*
 - Philo(20 BCE – 50 CE)
 - Roman Authors - Pliny the Elder (23 – 79 CE and Strabo (63 BCE – 24 CE)
 - Archaeology – Qumran, Dead Sea Scrolls, Masada, Theodotus Synagogue Inscription...

Josephus tells us that by the end of the 1st Century BCE, Judaism had divided into four movements or schools of thought (“denominations”?)

Pharisees

Sadducees

Essenes

The 4th Philosophy (Revolutionaries like the Sicarii and John the Baptist)

The Catalysts for Judaism’s fragmentation:

- Babylonian Conquest (587 bce)
- Persian Domination (538 – 330 bce)
- Conquest by and Occupation by the armies of Alexander the Great (323 bce)
- Corruption of the Temple under Hasmonean Rule (142 bce...)
- Conquest and Occupation by the Roman Empire (63 bce)

Collaborate/Cooperate with the Dominant Political System?

- ❖ Sadducees
- ❖ Pharisees – To an Extent

For Others - Evidence of A Rupture Between God and The People of Israel and Perhaps a Signal of the End of Days That Called for Violent and Non-violent Responses



Meggido – Canaanite Altar – Middle Bronze Age

“Then I sent forth and set free a raven. The raven went forth and, seeing that the waters had diminished, he eats, circles, caws, and turns not around. Then I offered a sacrifice. I poured out a libation on the top of the mountain...upon the pot-stands I heaped cane, cedarwood, and myrtle. **The gods smelled the sweet savor, the gods crowded like flies around the sacrificer.**” Epic of Gilgamesh

“Then Noah sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew the waters had subsided from the earth. Then Noah waited another seven days and sent out the dove and it did not return to him....Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and took every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And when **the Lord smelled the pleasing odor, the Lord said in his heart, ‘I will never again curse the ground because of humankind...’** Gen 8:10-12, 20-21

“Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, the fat portions.” Gen 4:3-4

“You shall not delay to make offerings from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me. You shall do the same with your oxen and your sheep: seven days it shall remain with its mother and; on the eighth day you shall give it to me.”

Exodus 22:29-30

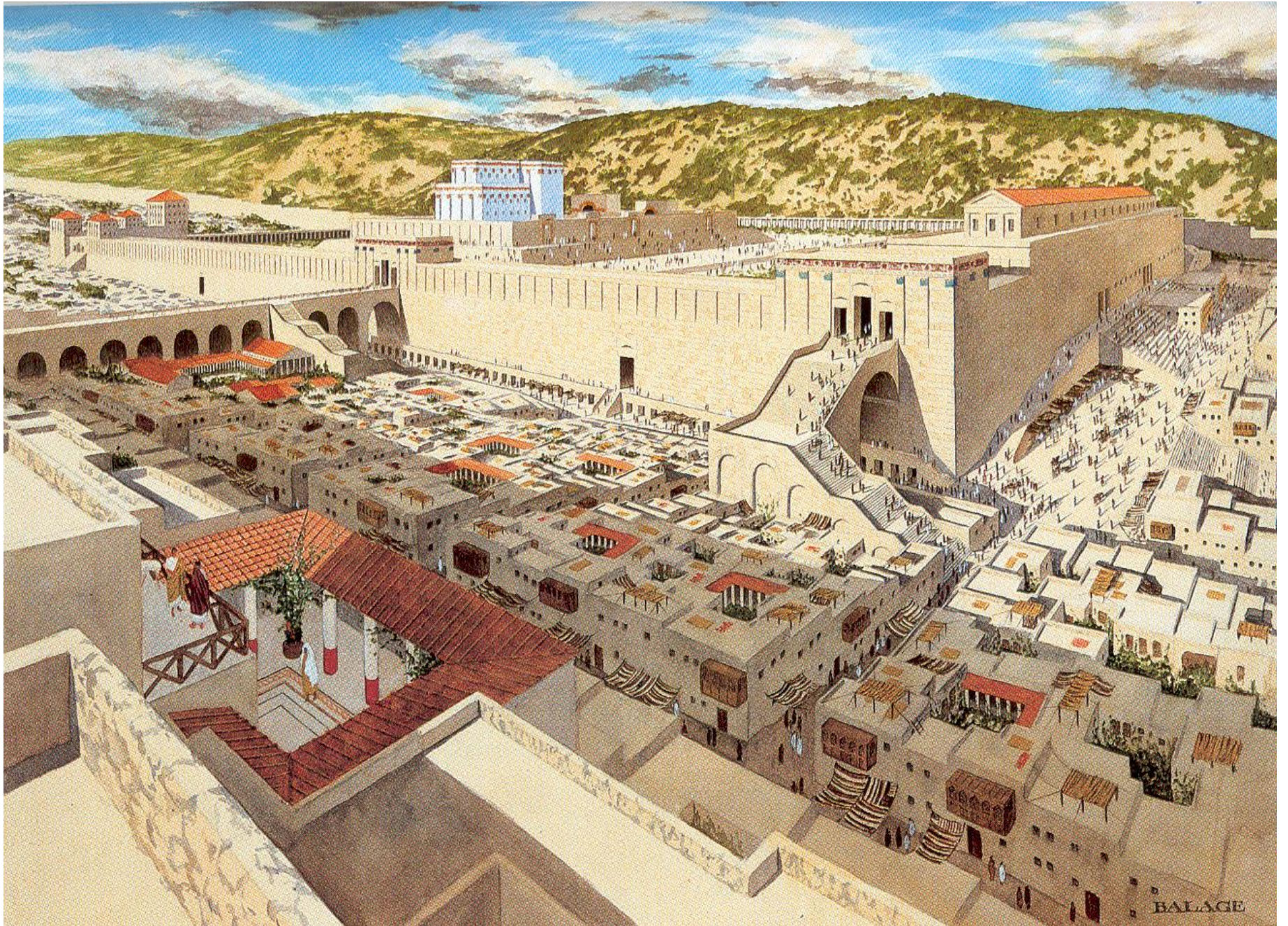
“ “Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle...When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house in my name...” 2 Samuel 7:5-6, 12-13

“Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place...and when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.” 1 Kings 8:6-10

“ As the glory of the Lord entered the temple by the gate facing east, the spirit lifted me up, and brought me into the inner court; and the glory of the Lord filled the Temple...I heard someone speaking to me out of the Temple. He said to me, Son of Man, this is the place of my throne and the place of the soles of my feet, which I will reside among the people of Israel forever.” Ezekiel 43:4-7

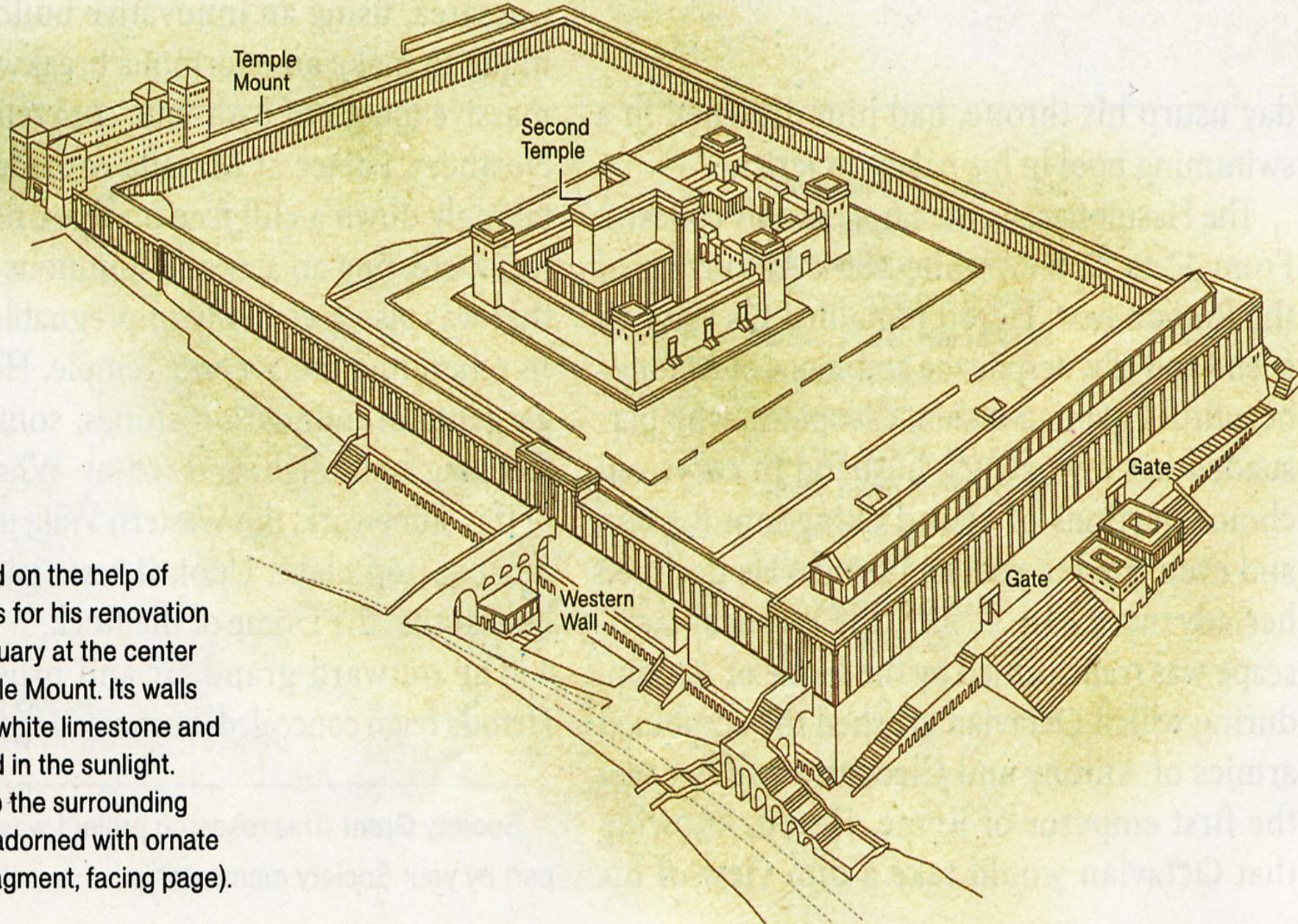






BALAGE

THE SECOND TEMPLE

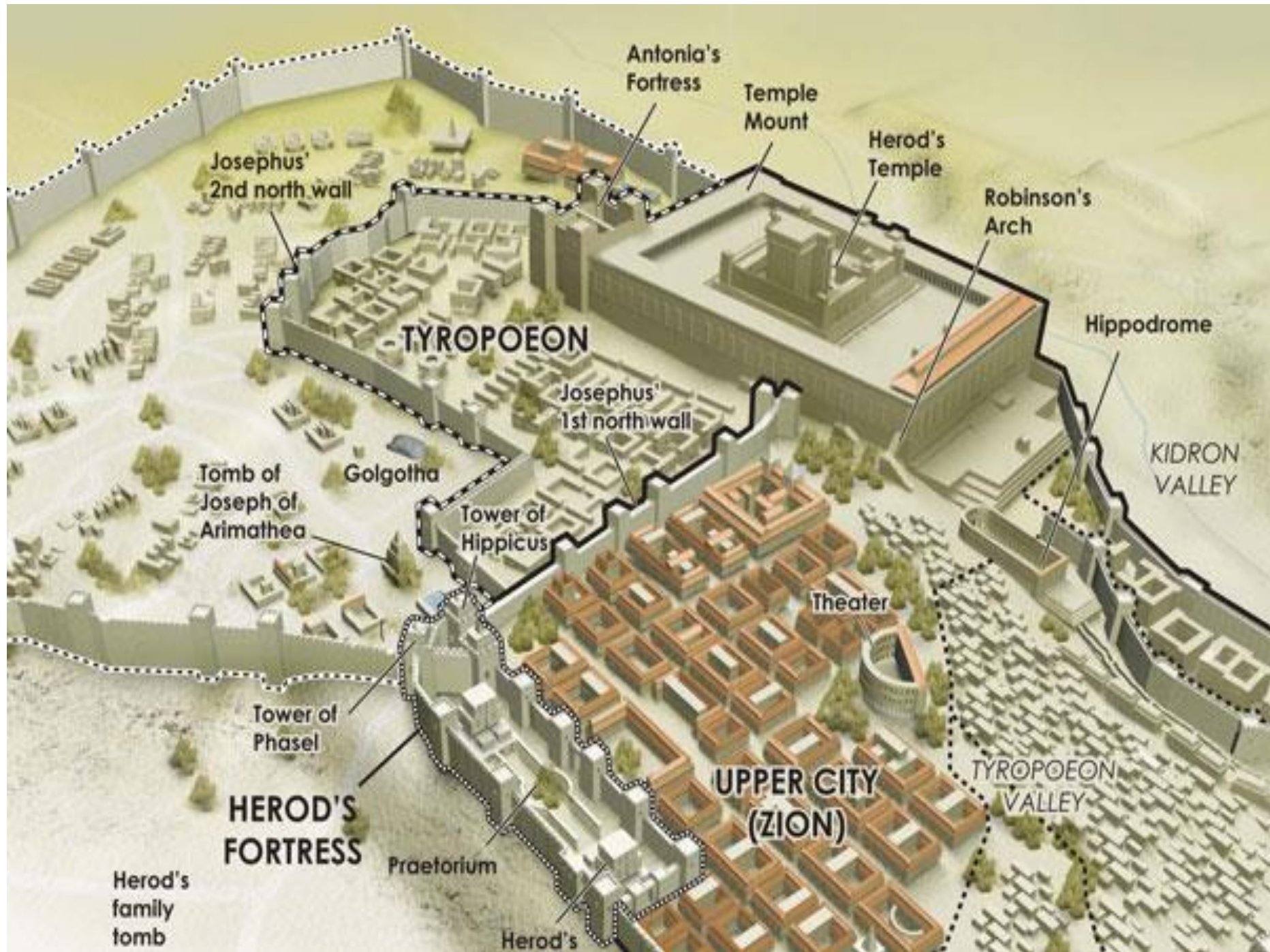


called on the help of priests for his renovation sanctuary at the center Temple Mount. Its walls shed white limestone and dazzled in the sunlight. Staircases to the surrounding courtyards were adorned with ornate carvings (fragment, facing page).

The Priesthood – Sadducees

“But the Levitical priests, the sons of Zadok, who kept the charge of my sanctuary when the people of Israel went astray from me, shall come near to me to minister to me; and they shall attend on me to offer me the fat and the blood, says the Lord GOD; ¹⁶ they shall enter my sanctuary, and they shall approach my table, to minister to me, and they shall keep my charge.” Ezekiel 44:15

Sadducees = Judean Elite to Include The Priesthood





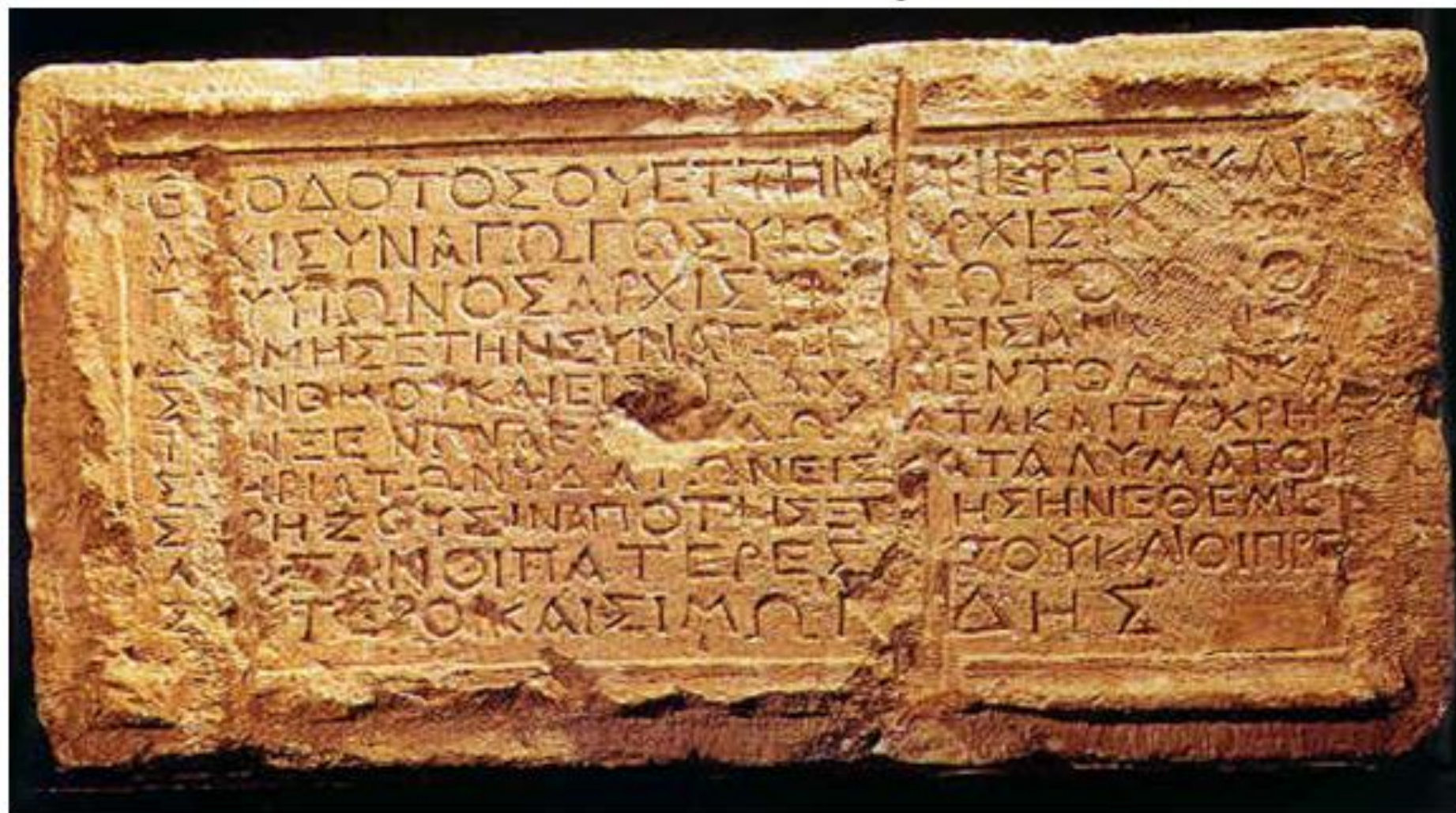




Anticipating the Pharisees

“After this, in the reign of King Artaxerxes of Persia, Ezra...went up from Babylonia. He was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses that the Lord the God of Israel had given; and the king granted him all that he asked , for the hand of the Lord was upon him...For Ezra set his heart to study the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach the statutes and ordinances in Israel.” Ezra 7:1-10

Theodotus Inscription



Theodotus, son of Vettanos, a priest and
an *archisynagogos*,* son of an *archisynagogos*
grandson of an *archisynagogos*, built
the synagogue for the reading of
Torah and for teaching the commandments;
furthermore, the hostel, and the rooms, and the
water
installation for lodging
needy strangers. Its foundation stone was laid
by his ancestors, the
elders, and Simonides

Philo on the Essenes and Their Synagogues

The Essenes met in “sacred places which they call synagogues...

There, arranged in rows according to their ages, the younger below the elder, they sit decorously as befits the occasion with attentive ears. Then one takes the books and reads aloud and another of especial proficiency comes forward and expounds what is not understood.”

“And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

²⁰ 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. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph's son?” Luke 4:16-22

Gamla Synagogue – Early First Century CE

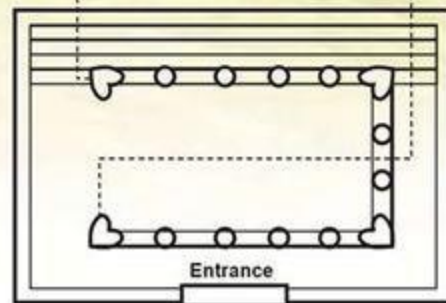


Christ taught and healed many people in this synagogue. It was here the man with the unclean spirit proclaimed Jesus the Holy One of God (Mark 1:21–28; Luke 4:31–35). Jesus also delivered the discourse on the Bread of Life here (John 6:59).

CUT-AWAY VIEW



TOP VIEW



Heart-shaped columns were constructed at each of the four corners.

The Synagogue at Capernaum

Luke's Gospel says the synagogue in Capernaum was built by the centurion of whom Jesus later said, "I have not found such faith in Israel" (Luke 7:5, 9). It was destroyed and rebuilt in the fourth century.

Architecture of Resistance: The Essenes/Qumran and Zealots/Masada

“In The Wilderness, Prepare
the Lord’s Way”

Isaiah

The Ancient Sources and the Essenes

- “A People unique of its kind...without women...without money...having only Palm trees as company, they number around 4,000...one Settlement of Essenes is West of the Dead Sea and below is En-Gedi” **Pliny the Elder**
- “A virtuous people who live in villages...refrain from animal sacrifices...lived without goods or property – held all things in common...common meals...no implements of war...rejected slavery...no time for philosophy as it did not lead to the acquisition of virtue...devoted themselves to ethics but studying the ancestral laws...rejected sacrifices [rejection of Temple]...met in synagogues...banned marriage as it corrupted communal life...abstain from sex...no women, no children, no young men...**they care for anyone who seeks from them care for sickness, care for orphans, care for the poor**” **Philo of Alexandria**

- “One of three Jewish schools of thought after Pharisees and Sadducees...renounce pleasure...reject marriage...adopt children...possessions in common...a peaceful, simple life...before sunrise, recited ancestral prayers...dress in white...study the written works of the ancients...**before assembling for meals, bathe in cold water to purify themselves**...prayers recited before and after meals...Admission to this ‘school’ takes 3 years...if found acceptable after one year, **his property and earnings would be deposited in the community account**...swear to secrecy of doctrines – to preserve the books of the sect and the names of the angels...some are skilled as prophets – foreseeing the future...believe in the immortality of the soul and reward and punishment after death...influenced by the writings of Pythagoras...**a second order of Essenes are married and live in cities and villages**...engage in sex for the sake of having children.” **Flavius Josephus**

Those who lived in the villages and towns

❖ Set up a Network of Poorhouses “They shall establish a community house and shall give to the orphans and strengthen the hand of the needy and the poor and the elder who is dying and to the wandering and to the prisoner of foreign people, and to the girl who has no redeemer, and to the youth who has no teacher..” Cairo Geniza

Jesus and the Essenes Poorhouse Network— Preliminary Reflections

- Jesus often a guest at the home of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha in Bethany clues

“While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard...” Mark 14:3

“Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” John 11:1-3

- The word “Bethany” means Poor House
- The Temple Scroll says there were 3 places east of the Holy City where lepers should be isolated
- Jesus’s anointing suggests he was a familiar and Beloved Figure to those who cared for the lepers – clues that Jesus was connected to the network of Community Houses of the Essenes?

❖ Some Essenes lived in insulated neighborhoods in towns and in Jerusalem.

❖ Others engaged in public efforts securing the well-being of marginalized Jews (e.g., operating ‘poor houses’).

❖ While others (“the holy ones” - approximately 200 at any one time) retreated into the wilderness and claimed they had founded the true “house of holiness” as the “Holy Spirit” dwelt with them (and no longer resided in- hovered over- the Temple in Jerusalem) – Is a Center of This Essene Movement to Be Found at Qumran?

Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls: The Most Important Archaeological Discovery of The Modern Period



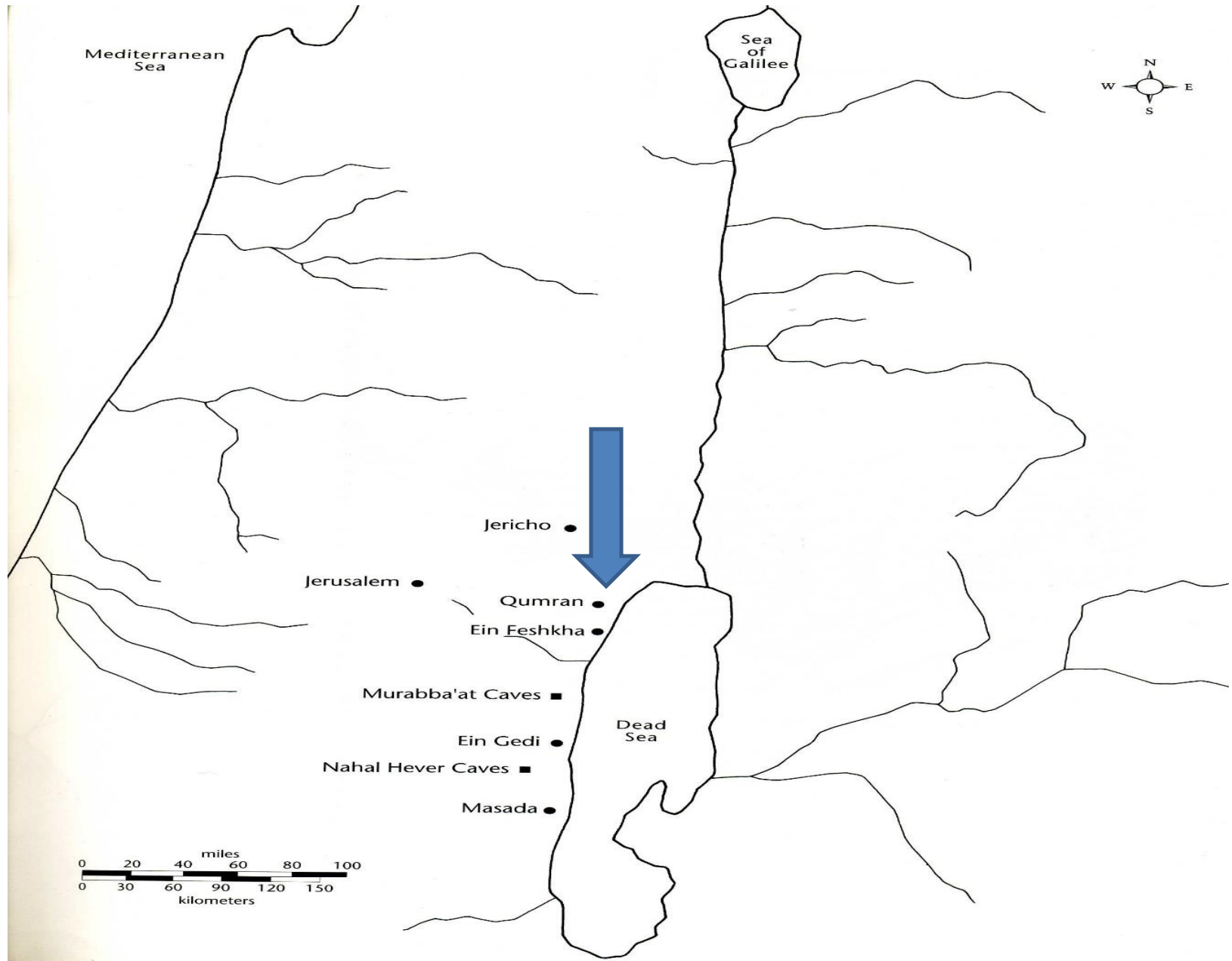
“You shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.” Exodus 19:6

- The Chance Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1946 by 3 Members of the Beduin Tribe of Ta'amireh in the Caves above 'Ain Feshka on Dead Sea
- In 1951, the Excavations of the Qumran Ruins were undertaken

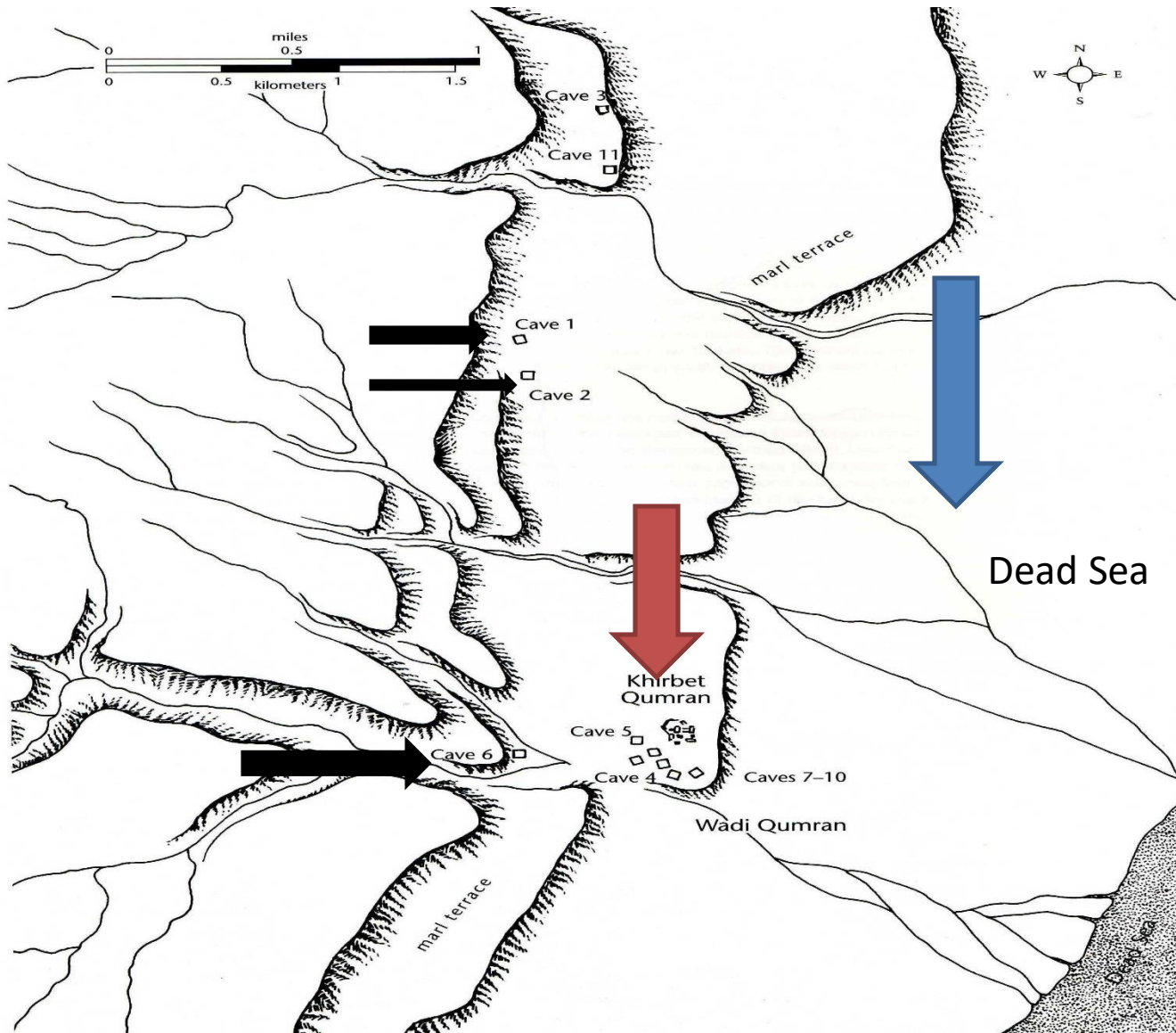
The Ruins of Qumran are located on the shores of the Dead Sea 13 miles east of Jerusalem. They stand on a marl plateau, with rock cliffs to the west and a plain leading to the shores of the Dead Sea to the east. Architectural structures that have been uncovered include cisterns, ritual baths, pottery 'studio', a refectory, a possible scriptorium and a cemetery.



Qumran



The Ruins of Qumran and the Caves





Wadi Qumran

Cave 6

Cave 10

Cave 4a

Cave 4b

Cave 8

Cave 9

Cave 7

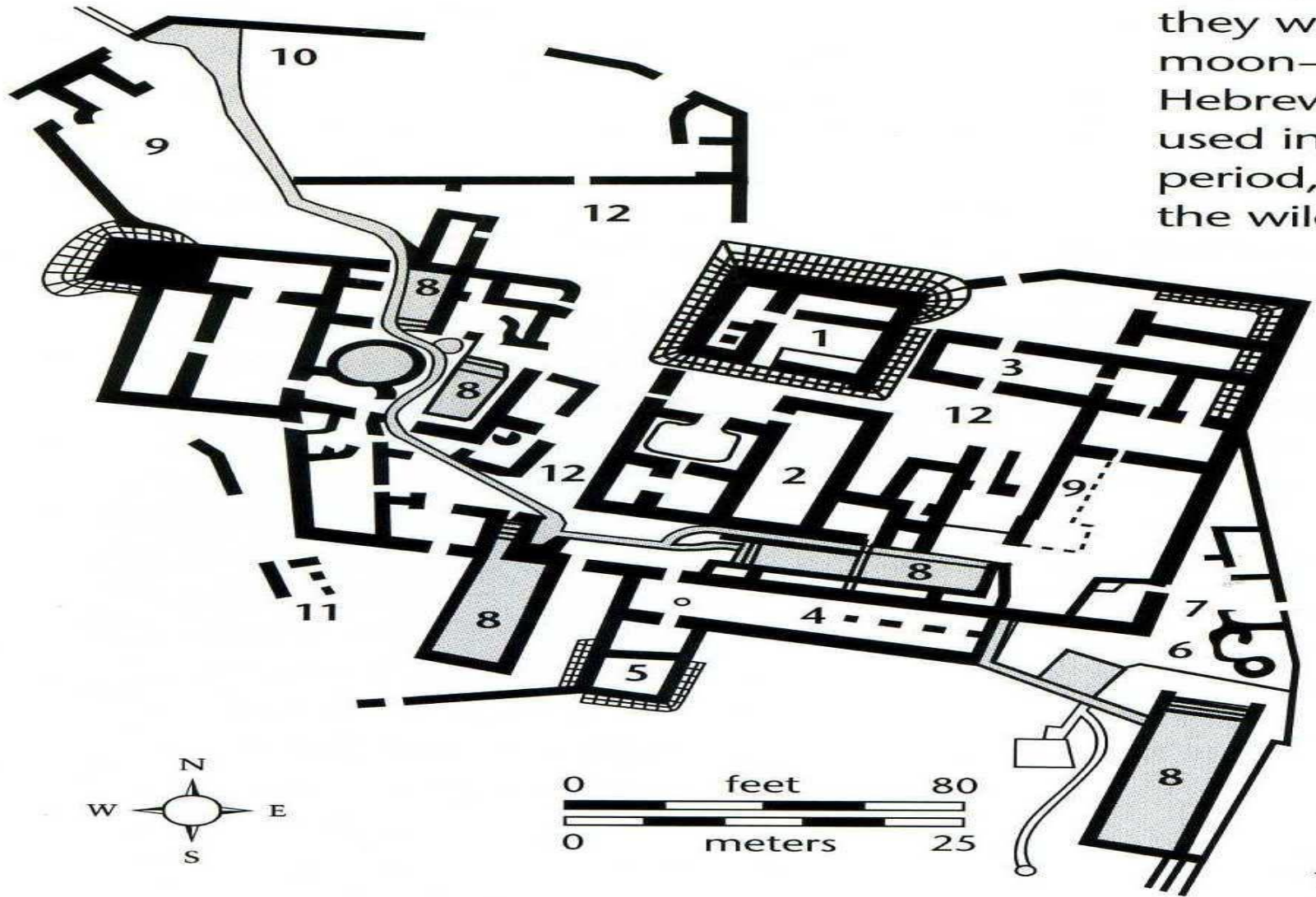
Ariel View of the Site of Qumran



Major Periods of Occupation and Building

- Origins = circa 150 BCE
- Ib = Major Expansion 103 – 31 BCE (Earthquake and/or Fire ends this period)
- II = 4 BCE – 68 CE – Rebuilding and Return of Same Community (End = Roman Occupation during Jewish Revolt – Where did they Go? The Church? – James and the Family of Jesus? Pharisees to Rabbis?)

A Plan of the Ruins – Note Water System and Pools

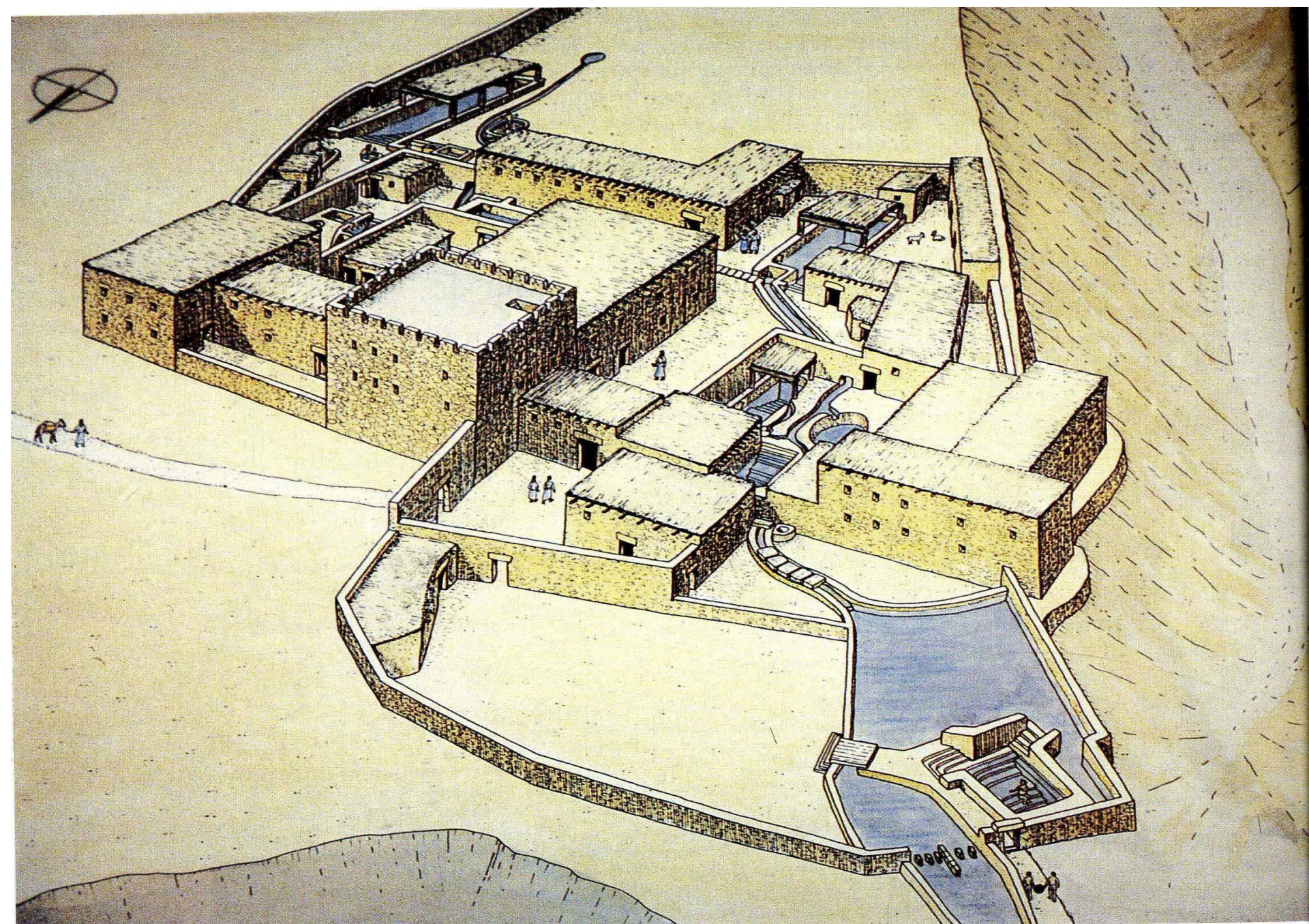


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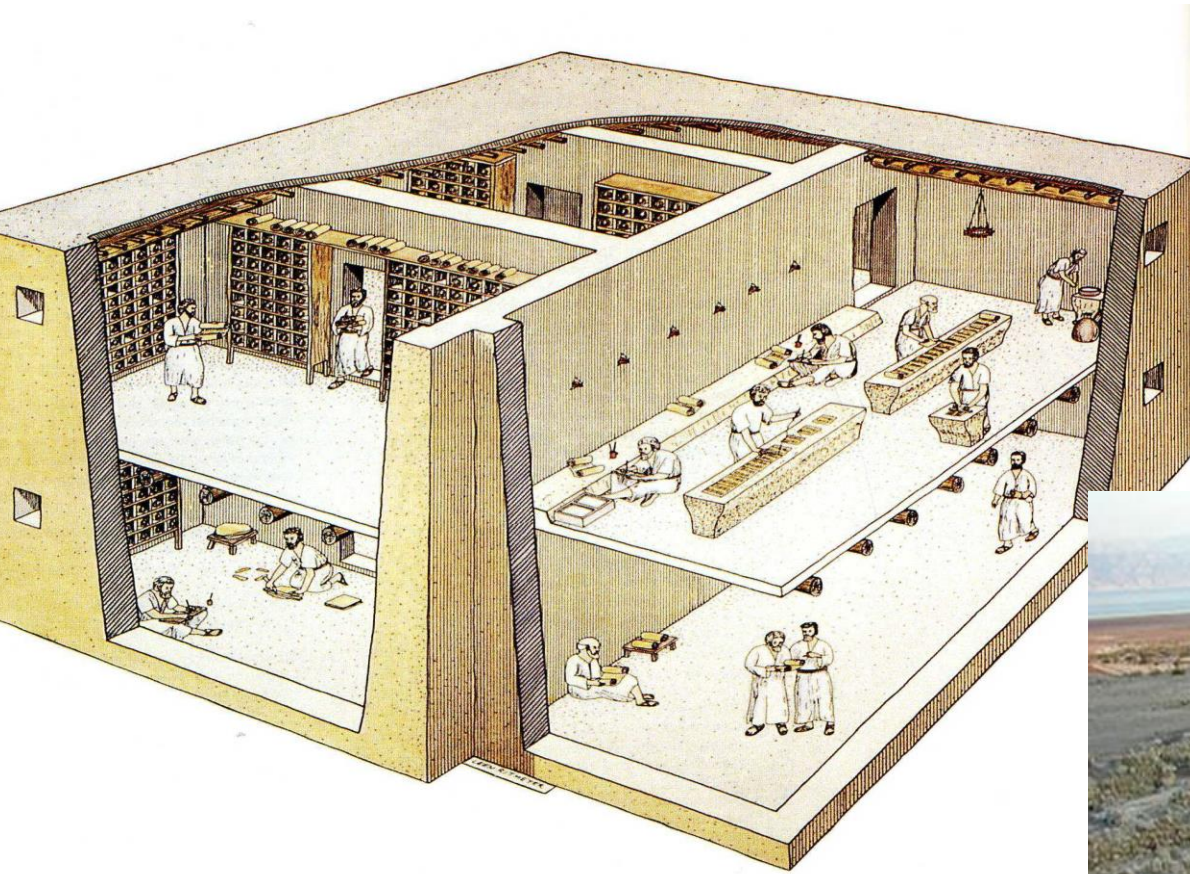
The Ruins – Artist Rendition



Miqvah



Scriptorium?



Ostracon – Text of Deed of Gift to the Community (*yahad*)



על חרס

למס
תח

על



Drawing of a pottery shard (ostrakon) bearing the text of a deed of gift
כתובת על שטר מתנה שכתוב על חרס (אוסטראקון)

- 1 In year two of the [
- 2 in Jericho, Honi son of [. . .] gave
- 3 to 'El'azar son of Nahmani [
- 4 Hisdai from Holon [
- 5 from this day to perpetui[ty
- 6 and the boundaries of the house ar
- 7 and the fig trees, the ol[ive trees, ar
- 8 when he fulfills (his oath) to the
Community [
- 9 and Honi [
- 10 to him His[dai
- 11 and the [
- 12 And into the hand of [
- 13 to [
- 14 Hisdai slave of H[oni(?) . . . from]
- 15 Holon [

1 In year two of the [
2 in Jericho, Honi son of [. . .] gave
3 to 'El'azar son of Nahmani [
4 Hisdai from Holon [
5 from this day to perpetui[ty
6 and the boundaries of the house and
7 and the fig trees, the ol[ive trees, and
8 when he fulfills (his oath) to the
Community [
9 and Honi [
10 to him His[dai
11 and the [
12 And into the hand of [
13 to [
14 Hisdai slave of H[oni(?) . . . from]
15 Holon [
16

Cemetery



1,100 Tombs – 58 Skeletons - 11 Female – 6
Infants – Single Shaft Burials



Ink Wells?



Refectory?

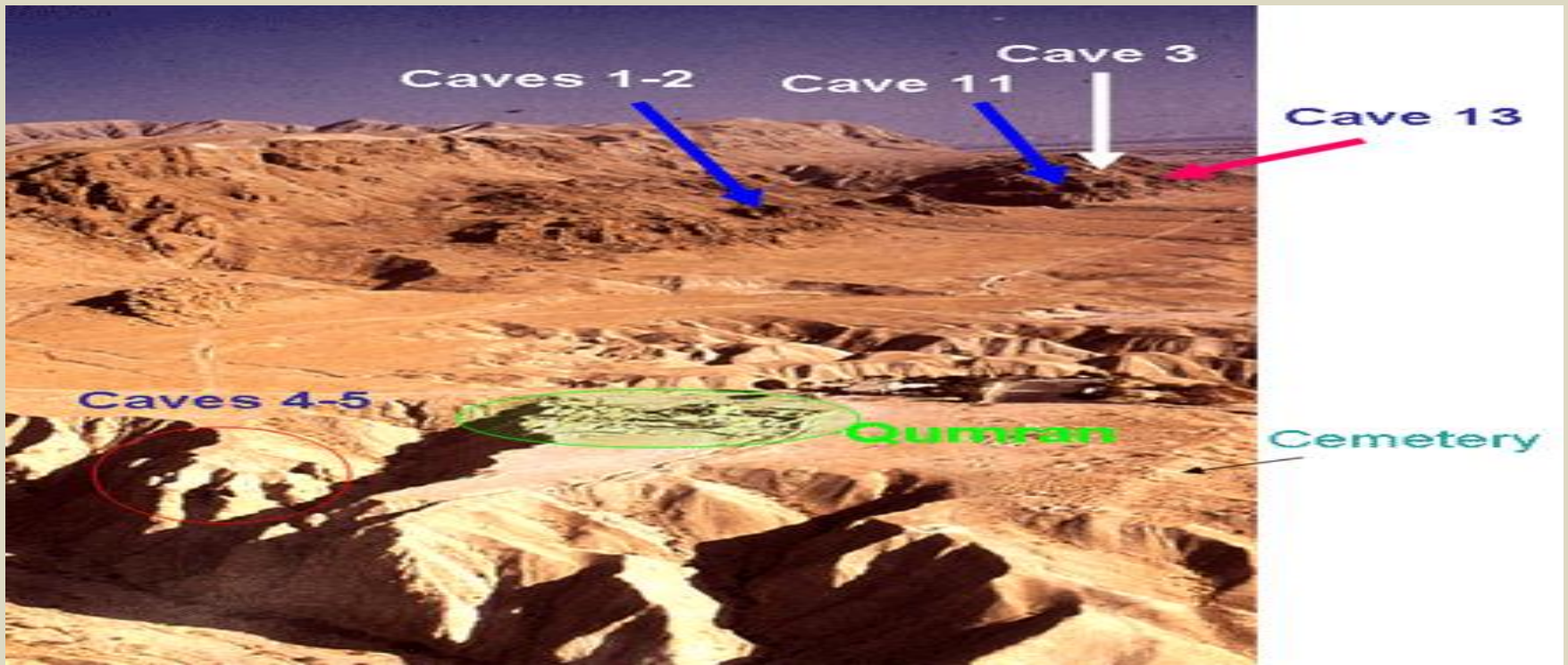


Coin Hoard (Silver Coins from Tyre) and Identity

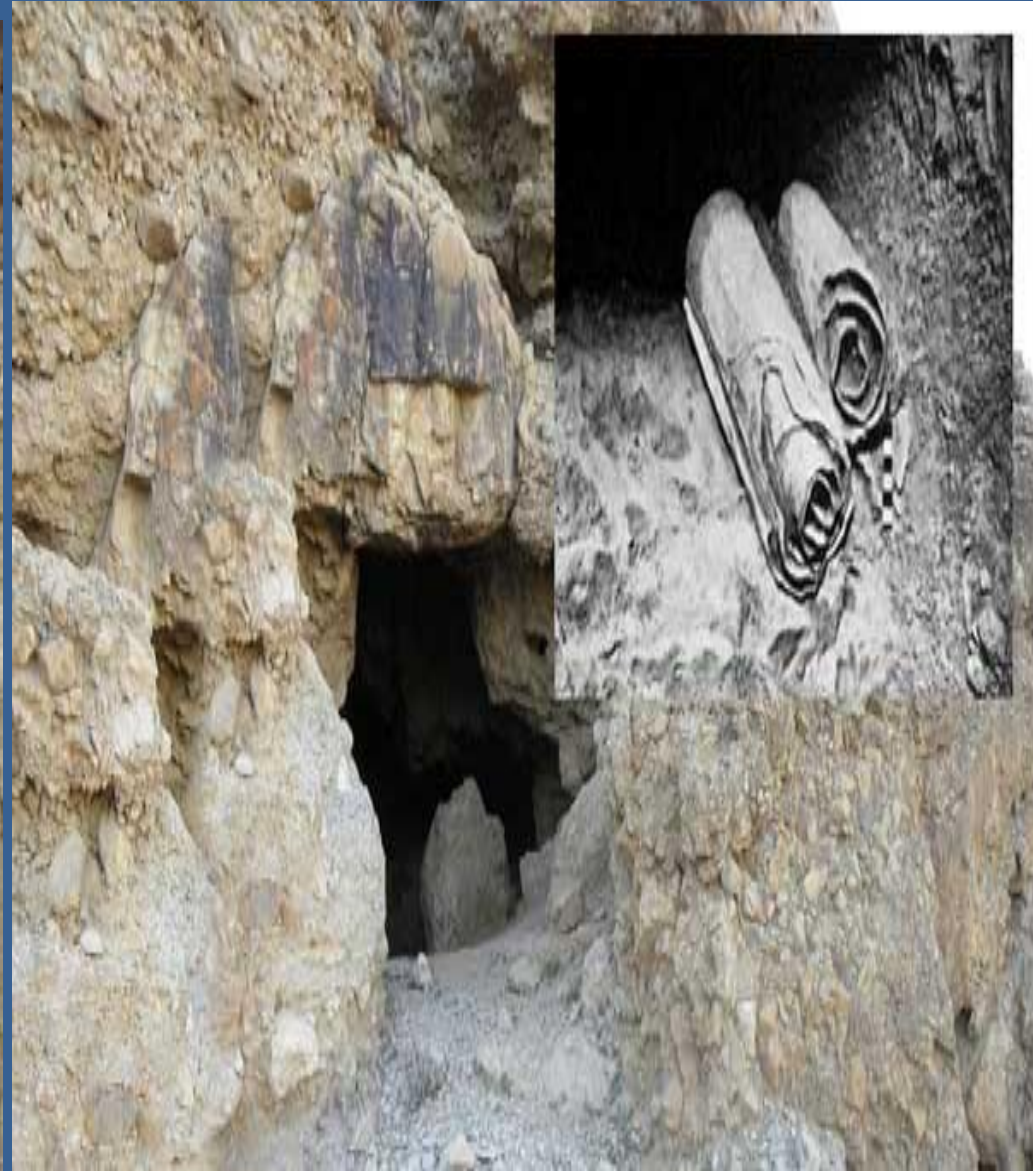


The Scrolls

- The Majority of the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in eleven caves between the years 1947 and 1956. The mostly fragmented texts, are numbered according to the cave that they came out of (e.g., 1QS) and the type or name of the text.



- Only Caves 1 and 11 have produced relatively intact manuscripts. Discovered in 1952, Cave 4 produced the largest find. About 15,000 fragments from more than 500 manuscripts were found.



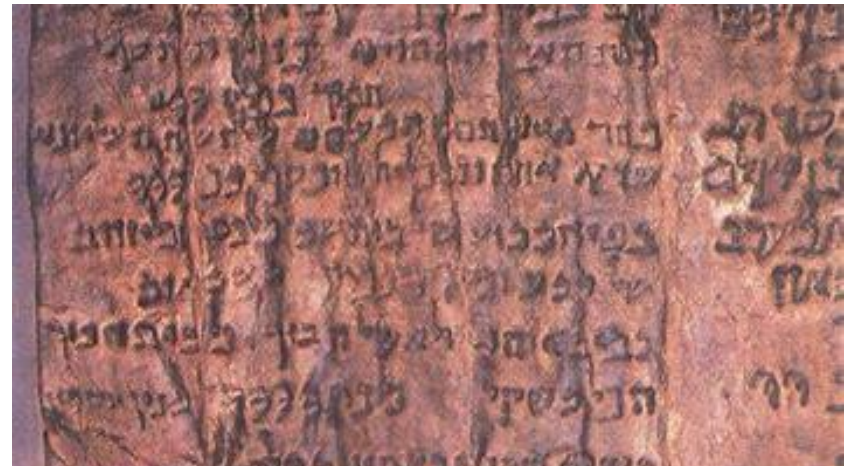
- In all, scholars have identified the remains of about 825 to 870 separate scrolls all dated to have been composed before 68 CE (earliest dates to 250 BCE, most date between 150 BCE – 68 CE). The Scrolls can be divided into two categories—biblical and non-biblical. Fragments of every book of the Hebrew canon (Old Testament) have been discovered except for the book of Esther. The nonbiblical writings include the rule books of the community, war conduct, thanksgiving psalms, hymnic compositions, and liturgical texts. The Scrolls are for the most part, written in Hebrew, but there are many written in Aramaic. Aramaic was the common language of the Jews of Palestine for the last two centuries B.C. and of the first two centuries A.D.



- The scrolls are most commonly made of animal skins, but also papyrus and one of copper. They are written with a carbon-based ink, from right to left, using no punctuation except for an occasional paragraph indentation. In fact, in some cases, there are not even spaces between the words.



- The Temple Scroll, found in Cave 11, is the longest scroll. Its present total length is 26.7 feet (8.148 meters – the Isaiah Scroll is 24 feet long). The overall length of the scroll must have been over 28 feet (8.75m). One of the most curious scrolls is the Copper Scroll. Discovered in Cave 3, this scroll records a list of 64 underground hiding places throughout the land of Israel. The deposits are said to contain certain amounts of gold, silver, aromatics, and manuscripts. These are believed to be treasures from the Temple at Jerusalem, that were hidden away for safekeeping.



In Terms of the Interpretations of the Biblical Texts and the Community Rule, Who Were These Jews Living at Qumran?

These “Holy Ones” anticipated that the Apocalyptic end would arrive soon. This community of holy men offered their whole existence as a kind of sacrifice to God (and thus fulfilling the function of the Jerusalem Temple). They believed that God would accept their living lives of abstention from sex, studying and following Torah by way of the guidance provided by the ‘Teacher of Righteousness’, observing strict purity codes as incense and fat of the sacrifices.

“God has commanded to build for him a sanctuary of men so that they will offer him words of the law as incense before him.” 4QFlor

In the Interval Before the Arrival of the Messiahs and the Building of a New Temple by the Hands of God, the Holy Ones oversaw the library, which may be a collection of Scrolls from Essene communities spread across Roman Palestine. That library was hidden away in caves around the outbreak of the First Jewish Revolt (A.D. 66-70) as the Roman army advanced against the rebel Jews. The Wilderness community's center, Qumran, was overtaken by the Romans in 68 CE, the residents either killed (Roman arrow points found over a layer of ash over the Qumran structures), dispersed, or enslaved and the site became a Roman encampment. The library was discovered in 1947.

The Essenes and The Scrolls

- The Link Between the Essenes and the Scrolls was put Forth Soon After the Discovery.
 - Geographical References in Ancient Literary Sources
 - The Manuel of Discipline in the Community Rule and the Ancient Literary Sources Description of The Life and Work of the Essenes Converge – Especially in Terms of Process of Admission (Josephus) and the Common Life (Josephus and Philo)
 - The many immersion pools, the modest architecture and artifact assemblage also pointed to an Essene way of Life

Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls - Similarities

- In General Terms – Jesus and the Those Who Composed the Scrolls (Essenes?)
 - Shared the Same Territory – The Land Promised to Abraham
 - Devout and Religious Jews who Observed Torah as it Was Considered God’s Gracious Self-Disclosure
 - Treated Gentiles with Contempt? (“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”)
 - Common Enemies within Judaism – Especially Sadducees/Temple Priests
 - Apocalyptically oriented or at Least Shared Sense of Eschatological Urgency
 - Committed to the Hope that God had not forgotten his promises recorded in scripture and that God was actually in the process of fulfilling them.
 - Put to Death by Roman Soldiers

More Specific Points of Similarity

- Belief in the One God – But Also A Powerful Other (Challenging God for Power on Earth) that Was the Source of Evil/Suffering – Satan/Belial – Both Yearned and Prayed for God’s Kingship to Be Realized (‘As it is in Heaven...’)
- Guiding Source for Thought and Deed = Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) – Read and Interpreted Through the Guidance of The Spirit – Both Believed That the True Meaning of Scripture had been Uniquely Revealed to Them/Him – Jesus – Righteous Teacher – Especially Focused on Prophets and How They Spoke About the End of Time Which was Understood to be Now and Present in their Communities – Creating a Sectarian or Social Isolation Within the Larger Society
- Both spoke of Constituting a “New Covenant” – Jesus at the Last Supper and Qumran text – “The new covenant established through the Teacher of Righteousness” – Jesus showing influence of Essenes? Or widely known Jer 31:3-34 – The Lord’s promise of a new covenant?
- Unlike Other Jews, Both Spoke of the Continuation of Prophecy (“...there is no longer any prophet; no one among us knows for how long.” Psalm 74:9) Jesus and Teacher of Righteousness – Prophets?

For both – Contended that Possessions are to be Shared – Poverty as a Mark of Discipleship?/of Holiness?

- If we are to grant that Q gives us a Window into the most Primitive form of the Jesus Movement, then it was one of itineracy, living off the land and support from others (“Carry no purse, wear no sandals...”). The author of Acts tells us that the Palestinian Jesus Movement held “everything in common.”
- So also, the Rule of the Community instructs those who are fully initiated to “give all their possessions to the Community” 1QS 6.22
- Did Jesus make giving away all possessions a requirement for following Him? Some texts seem to suggest such – the advice to the ‘rich young man’ (“If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me”) and the requirements of discipleship (“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves...For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?)

More Specific Points of Similarity

- Teacher of Righteousness and Jesus
 - Both Movements/Groups were Shaped by the Galvanizing Force of One Prophetic and Charismatic Person – Each it Seems Had an Profound Experience of God In the Context of the Crisis They Faced
 - Strong Egos With Sense of Pride Toward Other Jews – A Deep Sense of Humility Before God
 - Demanded Unswerving Commitment of Their Followers in Terms of Their Special Revelation, Unique Teachings and Leadership
 - Committed to:
 - Scripture
 - Obsessive Love of God
 - A Prophetic Path That Disregarded (if not Challenged) Other Jewish Leaders

- The Community Rule for those Living at Qumran insists on Celibacy...As far as we know, Jesus was not Married
 - For All other Jews, Marriage was considered a Divine Ordinance (“be fruitful and multiply” Gen 1:28)
 - Perhaps Jesus, like the Qumranites, considered himself ‘married to God’ and thus dedicated to his Rule...also what of Matt 19:12 in praise of eunuchs,

“For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to receive this, let him receive it.”

 - Perhaps the ‘eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven’ are those living at Qumran
 - For those at Qumran, the avoidance of sexual acts was rooted in their rigorous rules of Purity. Perhaps also, in light of the War Scrolls, adapting the rules governing Israelite warriors and abstinence (“When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, to be happy with his wife whom he has taken.” Deut 24:5)

Points of Dissimilarity/Difference – Perhaps Deliberate Rejection on the Part of Jesus

- Jesus's Community was Open (in fact a sort of missionary zeal which contrasts with most Jews of his day – and today)...The Qumran Community was closed – The Jesus Movement had a thin and porous border, the Qumranites had a thick and Impregnable Barrier. The Jesus Movement tended to be Open while the Qumran Essenes Were Closed and Secret..."We cannot be sure from the DSS of the actual name of a single Essene, while we know the names of many of Jesus's followers."
- The Jesus Community's openness extended to those who were otherwise marginalized – to include lepers, outcasts and women. Lepers, outcasts and women were prohibited from entering the Qumran compound.

"A woman's heart is a snare, which is the cause of all wickedness, and whose paths are the ways of death." 4Q184

In the Jesus Traditions, purity is more about the inner self, than external rituals – "there is nothing outside a person which when entering can defile one..."...All foods are clean...On the Other Hand Qumran developed Rigid and Extensive Rules to Protect themselves From Impurity – For Jesus, Impurity was not a Danger, for Qumran Essenes it Could Destroy Holiness and Thus Drive God Away – Jesus Crossed the Boundaries of Purity, the Qumran Essenes Withdrew Behind Protective Barriers

- The Jesus Traditions Speak Frequently and Dynamically of the Central Place of Love, even going so far as to ‘love your enemy.’
 - The Qumran Essenes in Stark Contrast Encouraged Hatred. Hatred of All those not members of their group (to include other Jews)
- “Be cursed in all the works of your guilty wickedness. May God make of you an object of terror by the hand of the avengers of vengeance. Be curse, without mercy, according to the darkness of your works. Be damned in the dark place of everlasting fire.”

1QS 2.5-8 “You [sons of light – members of the Qumran community] shall hate all sons of darkness, all whom God has rejected.” 1QS 1.10
- Consider Matt 5:43-44, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love you neighbor but hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.’”
 - We do not find anywhere in the OT, the phrase ‘hate your enemy.’ It may very well be the case that the Matthean text (Jesus Himself?) is referring to the Qumran Essenes when he spoke scathingly of those who urged it as a duty to hate one’s enemies.

- Jesus Wrote Nothing...The Qumranites were Preoccupied with Writing and Copying...Jesus Left not one Book, the Qumran Essenes Left a Library...Jesus Spent His Life Proclaiming and Working In the Open to Heal, to Bring a Just Distribution of Resources, to Include the Outcast...Toiling to Bring in the Kingdom of God...The Qumran Essenes Were Dedicated to Study and Awaiting the Moment When God Would Award them the Kingdom of God
- It Does Not Appear that the Historical Jesus Promoted Predestination or Determinism. Predestination or Determinism is, however, a Hallmark of the Qumran Essenes as Was a Very Clear Sense of Dualism

- Direct Influence

Or

- Parallel Movements

Zealots – The Example of Joshua and other Ancient Israelite Warriors on Behalf of Yahweh

Sicarii – *Sica* = Short Knife – Short Knife Users

❖ Urban Terrorists

- ❖ Killed Jewish Collaborators – In Large urban crowds ...”The panic created was more alarming than the calamity itself; every one, as on a battlefield, hourly expecting death”
- ❖ Kidnapping for prisoner-exchange
- ❖ Sicarii at Masada – 70? – 74 ce
 - ❖ Purity, synagogue, stone vessels
 - ❖ Mass Suicide – “Choose death rather than slavery...neither to serve the Romans nor anyone else except God”

Masada and the Zealot Revolt

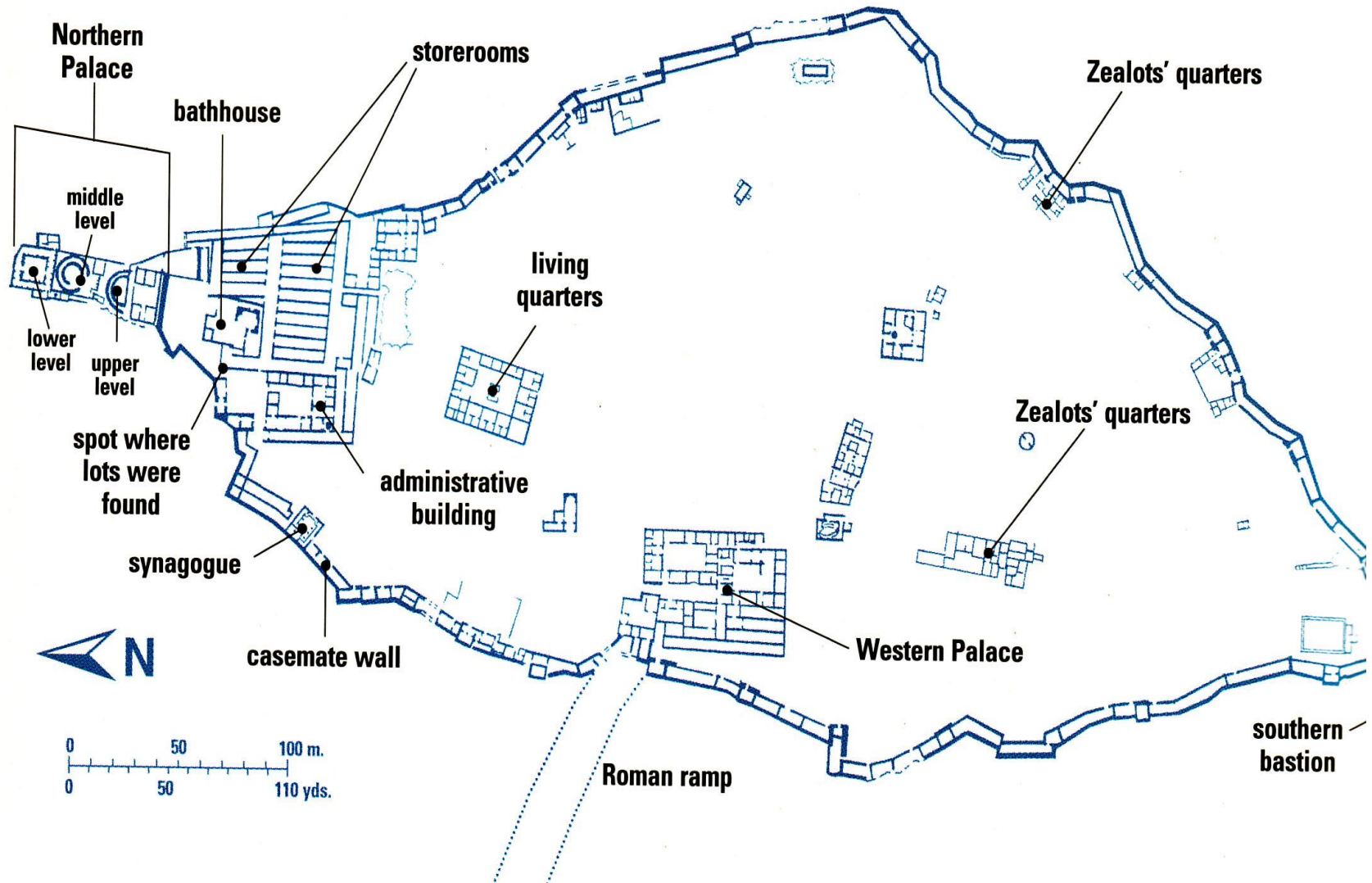




Judea Capta



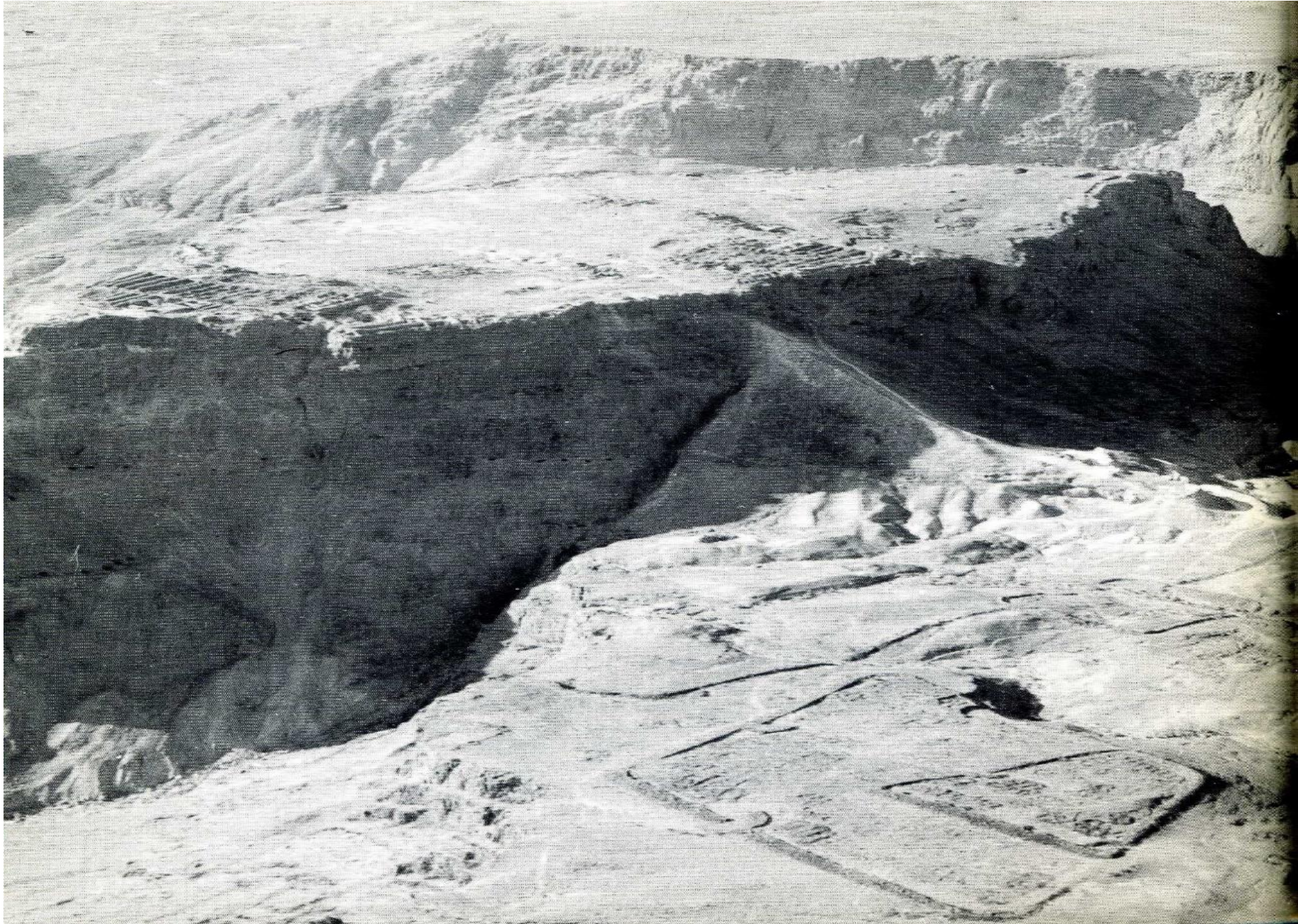
The Zealots Occupy Masada



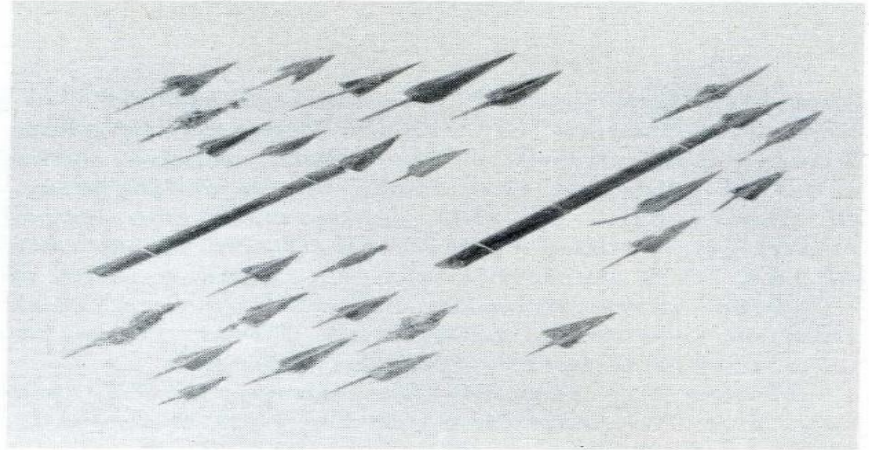
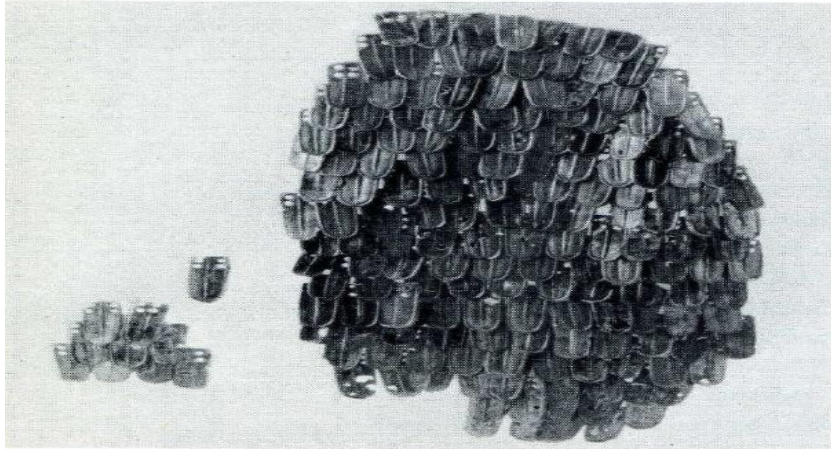
The Synagogue?



The Roman Fort and Siege Ramp



The Zealot's Weapons



Zealot battle supplies found at Masada. Above left: These bits of scale armor were originally sewn to the clothing of Zealot warriors. Above right: The Zealots attached iron arrowheads to wooden shafts. Below: A group of "rolling stones" collected by the Zealots to use against the attackers below. Each stone weighs about a hundred pounds.



“My Loyal Followers, long ago we resolved to serve neither Romans nor anyone but only God...we must not disgrace ourselves...we must not choose slavery...we were the first to revolt and shall be the last to break off the struggle...we are free to choose an honorable death with our loved ones...Let us die unslaved by our enemies, and leave this world in company with our wives and children.” Ben Yair, according to Josephus

- The Defenders cast lots – 10 men would kill the others (960 men, women and children) and then draw lots again to determine which one would kill the other nine before killing himself.

–Josephus

The 'Lots' and the Suicide?



Whose Bones?



Skeletons Again



Masada's ancient defenders. What is Yigael Yadin, Masada's excavator and most illustrious archaeologist, might know it all along, Zias suggests.

Until now, the photograph (at left) in Yadin's popular book was the only picture of the bones as found. It does not match Yadin's report that he had discovered the remains of 25 skeletons. Where are the skulls? Since Yadin found only 20 bones, and adult humans have 220 bones, where are the other 5,300?

To answer questions like these, Jaroslav Tabor, of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, tracked down new evidence

- Rome Destroyed the Temple, Resisted and Slaughtered the Revolutionaries, And the World Did Not End...
- The Future Would Be In the Hands of the Pharisees – Rabbis – The Law
- And the Jesus Movement

“May your will be done on earth as it is in
Heaven”

“Do not think I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of one letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished...For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” Matt 5 17-20

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. Luke 4:14-20