

Cultural, Historic, and Geographic Context



Revelation Backgrounds Supplement

Historical Prelude

Extra-biblical sources



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Topics

- The Jewish Revolt: Nero, Vespasian, and Josephus
- The Roman Aftermath: Vespasian and Titus
 - The destruction of the Second Temple fulfills prophecy
- Domitian and the widespread persecution
- Domitian, John the Apostle, and Patmos
- Conclusion: Relevance to Revelation

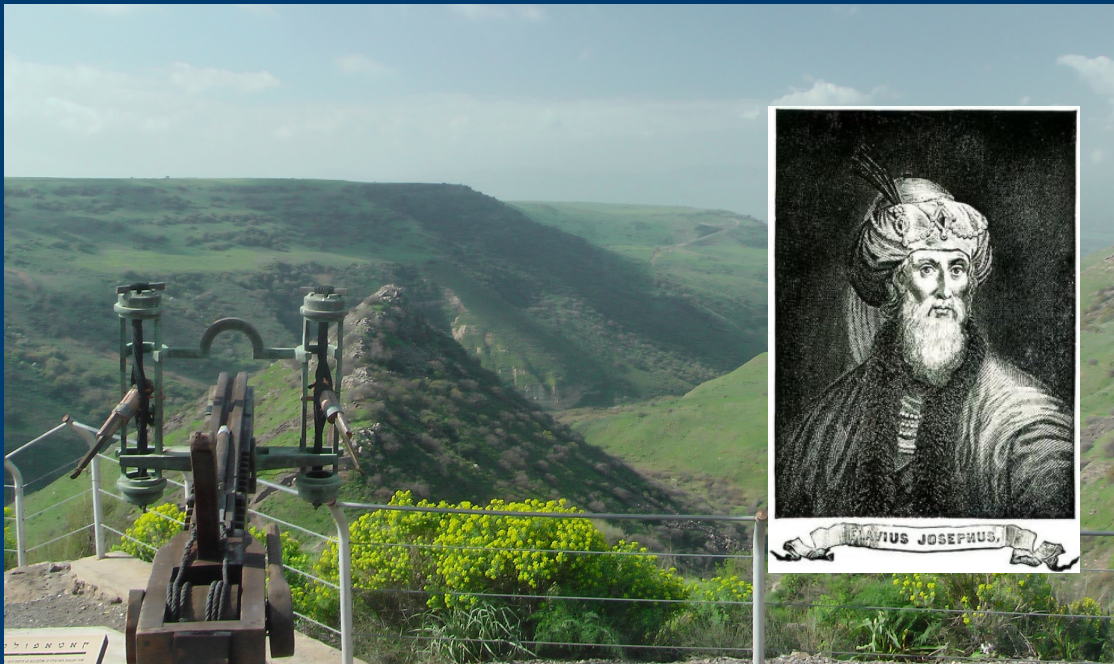


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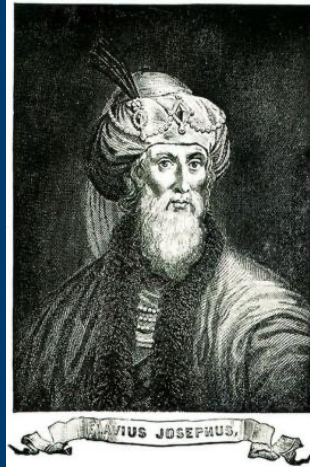
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The Jewish Revolt: Nero, Vespasian, and Josephus



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Vespasian, Josephus, and Titus (Vespasian)



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2nd Temple Destruction Fulfills Prophecy

Luke 19:41-44 As He drew near and saw Jerusalem, He wept over her, 42. saying, "If only you had recognized this day the things that lead to shalom! But now they are hidden from your eyes. 43. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will surround you with barricades and hem you in on all sides. 44. And they will smash you to the ground—you and your children within you. And they won't leave within you one stone upon another because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."



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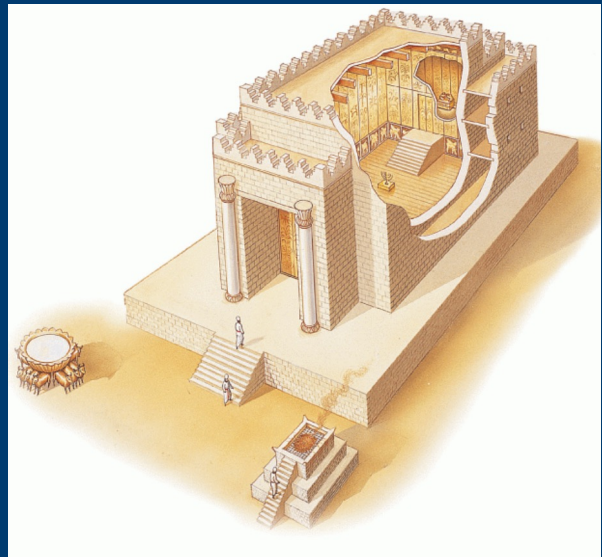
Aftermath



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Jesus predicts the destruction of Jerusalem

Psalms 137:1-8 By the waters of **Babylon**, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered **Zion**. 2. On the willows there we hung up our lyres. 3. For there our captors **required** of us songs, and our tormentors, mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of **Zion**!" 4. How shall we sing the LORD's song in a foreign land? 5. If I forget you, O **Jerusalem**, let my right hand forget its skill! 6. Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set **Jerusalem** above my highest joy! 7. Remember, O LORD, against the **Edomites** the day of **Jerusalem**, how they said, "**Lay it bare, lay it bare, down to its foundations!**" 8. O daughter of **Babylon**, doomed to be destroyed, **blessed shall he be who repays you with what you have done to us!**



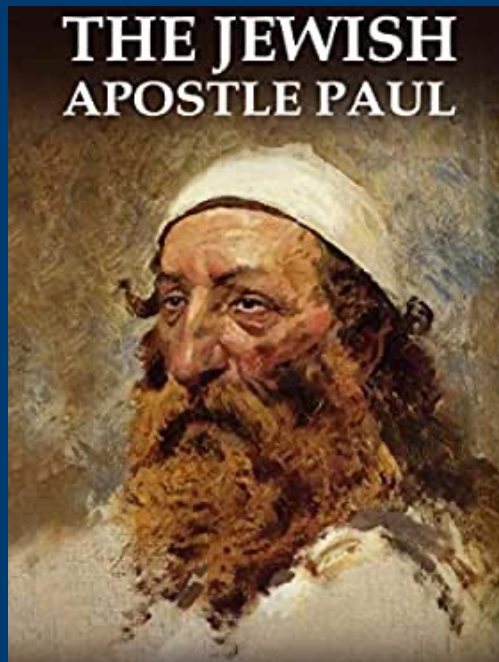
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Domitian



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Gentiles Joining a Jewish Sect



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Statue ("Image") of Domitian



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Domitian, John, and Patmos



"When even the cauldron did not deter John from preaching Christ, by order of Domitian, he was relegated to the Island of Patmos." -- Jacobus de Varagine c. 1260

(L) Apostle John painting, in Duc In Altum chapel in Magdala (R) Patmos



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Conclusion: Relevance to Revelation



God is in Control

- Babylon
- Nero/Nero Reborn/Antichrist/The Beast
- Synagogue of Satan (accuser)/Say they are Jews but are not
- Hold fast to His Name/Two witnesses

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References

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