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30) Jews revolt against Roman dominance. **Date: A.D. 66**

In the next 30 years after Christ ascended back into heaven, there were a series of skirmishes between Jewish rebels and the Romans. Christianity was spreading and there was great tension nationally. The first major Jewish revolt occurred in the fall of A.D. 66, when several small groups of Jewish rebels expelled the Romans from Jerusalem. When Nero got word that this had happened, he sent Vespasian and Titus to the land of Israel to crush the rebellion and take it back. Vespasian and Titus met in Galilee and the Roman forces swept through Israel. In the next four years, they completely took the land and everything in it (A.D. 66-70).

31) Titus and his Roman army destroy Jerusalem and the Temple. Date: A.D. 70

Because Israel rejected Jesus Christ, Christ predicted that as a direct judgment of God, Jerusalem would be completely demolished (Matt.24:1-2; Luke 19:41-44). On August 29, A.D. 70 in Jerusalem, 40 years after His prediction, the second Temple was burned to the ground and the only thing that remains today is a wall (kotel). By September 26, A.D. 70 the entire city had been destroyed. Over 1.1 million Jews were killed and 97,000 were taken captive.

In A.D. 81, the Emperor Domitian built an arch in Rome called “the Arch of Titus” that depicts his victory over the Jews. There are pictures on that Arch of Titus bringing slaves and riches of the Temple of Jerusalem to Rome.

32) The last stand against of the Jews against the Romans occurs at Masada and they are defeated. **Date: A.D. 73**

When Jerusalem was being destroyed, Eleazer Ben Yair fled south of Jerusalem to a natural mountain fortress known as Masada. He formed a group of about 950-960 people, including women and children to live on top of the mountain.

Flavius Silva who was leading about 8000 Romans built a base came around the entire mountain and began building a ramp on the slope of the western side of the mountain. The ramp was built out of wooden supports and earth. On April 15, A.D. 73, the ramp had been built and the Romans were about to take over so all of the Jews with the exception of two women and five children took their own lives.

33) Bar Kokhba leads an uprising against Rome and hundreds of thousands of Jews are killed. **Date AD 132-135**

Shimon Bar-Kokhba was a leader of a Jewish revolt against Rome. He apparently controlled the Jewish army and economy. He was a descendant of David and because of that he excited the Messianic hopes of Israel. He strictly followed Jewish laws concerning Sabbath, tithes and holidays. He relied on himself and not God. In fact, before he went to battle he asked God to “Neither assist nor discourage us.” He led a 3 ½ year revolt against Rome and he died in a battle of Bethar in the hills of Judea.

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As a result of this uprising, Jews were not permitted to remain in the land. **Rome renames Judea as Palestine. For the next 2,000 years the Jews will be dispersed from her land.** She is never accepted as belonging in her land and most Jews were forced to scatter to different nations.

34) The Jewish Mishnah is completed which is the oral traditions and laws of the Jewish people. **Date: A.D. 200-210**

The Mishnah was a post-destruction Jewish writing after Rome had destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. It was a “codification of Jewish oral laws, systematically compiled by numerous scholars...” The Mishnah contains various interpretations of laws found in the Pentateuch. It completely ignores the fact that Rome occupied the land of Israel and focuses on Temple rituals and practices when the Temple was not even standing or in existence.

35) Israel was ruled by the Eastern part of the Roman Empire called the Byzantine Empire. Constantine made Byzantium the new capital of this part of Rome. **Date: A.D. 313-636**

In A.D. 330, Constantine chose Byzantium as the site of the new capital of Rome. He established Christianity as Rome’s official religion.

36) The commentary on the Mishnah (Jerusalem Talmud) was completed. **Date: A.D. 350-390**

This is a commentary that contains the Jewish teachings concerning Civil and Ceremonial law.

37) The Persians invade Israel and capture Jerusalem. **Date: A.D. 614**

In a series of wars between the Romans and the Persians, **General Shahrbaraz of Persia captured Jerusalem in A.D. 614.**

38) The Roman forces from the Byzantine Empire recapture Jerusalem from the Persians. **Date: A.D. 629**

39) The Muslim Arab forces capture Jerusalem and will control it for the next 400 plus years. **Date: A.D. 636-1099**

In A.D. 622, a self-proclaimed prophet by the name of Muhammad founded the Islamic religion in Mecca. Muhammad died on June 8, A.D. 632 at the age of 62 and is buried in what is called the “Dome of the Prophet” in Medina, Saudi Arabia.

In A.D. 634, Muslim armies began their assault on the Byzantine Roman Empire by storming into Syria. Two years later, **in A.D. 636, the Muslims sieged Jerusalem.**