

~DRUSILLA (47)
(Dru-sil'la)

- The third and youngest daughter of Herod Agrippa I, born about **38 C.E.**, sister of Agrippa II, Bernice, and Mariamne III. Her mother's name was Cypros. Before she was six years old, her marriage to prince Epiphanes of Commagene was arranged, but it never materialized because of the refusal of the groom-to-be to embrace Judaism.
- A Syrian king, Azizus of Emesa, met the terms of circumcision, and **Drusilla** became his bride at the age of 14. Aggravated by his cruelty and nettled by the envy of her less attractive sister Bernice, Drusilla was easily induced to divorce Azizus, contrary to Jewish law, and marry Governor Felix about **54 C.E.**
- Perhaps she was present when prisoner Paul talked about righteousness and self-control and the judgment to come, which proved to be most disquieting subjects for Governor Felix.
- After two years, when Felix turned the governorship over to Festus, he left Paul in chains to gain favor with the Jews, which some think was done to please his youthful wife who was a Jewess.
- Some days later Felix arrived with **Drusilla** his wife, who was a Jewess, and he sent for Paul and listened to him on the belief in Christ Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 24:24**)
- But as he talked about righteousness and self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and answered; For the present go your way, but when I get an opportune time I shall send for you again. (**Acts of Apostles 24:25**)
- At the same time, though, he was hoping for money to be given him by Paul. On that account he sent for him even more frequently and would converse with him. (**Acts of Apostles 24:26**)
- But, when two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and because Felix desired to gain favor with the Jews, he left Paul bound. (**Acts of Apostles 24:27**)
- **Drusilla's** son by Felix was another Agrippa, reportedly killed in the great eruption of Mount Vesuvius in **79 C.E.**

