

~JERUSALEM, DESTROYED BY THE ROMANS (64)

- Shortly before his death in **33 C.E.**, Jesus called Jerusalem, the killer of the prophets and stoner of those sent forth to her. The city as a whole followed the pattern of its past and rejected the Son of God.
- **Jerusalem, Jerusalem**, the killer of the prophets and stoner of those sent forth to her, how often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks together under her wings! But you people did not want it. (**Matthew 23:37**)
- Jesus foretold what would happen. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build around you a fortification with pointed stakes.
- And when he got nearby, he viewed the city and wept over it. (**Luke 19:41**)
- Saying; If you, even you, had discerned in this day the things having to do with peace, but now they have been hid from your eyes. (**Luke 19:42**)
- Because the days will come upon you when your enemies will build around you a fortification with pointed stakes and will encircle you and distress you from every side. (**Luke 19:43**)
- And they will dash you and your children within you to the ground, and they will not leave a stone upon a stone in you, because you did not discern the time of your being inspected. (**Luke 19:44**)
- He also said; When you see **Jerusalem** surrounded by encamped armies, then let those in Judea begin fleeing to the mountains.
- Furthermore, when you see **Jerusalem** surrounded by encamped armies, then know that the desolating of her has drawn near. (**Luke 21:20**)
- Then let those in Judea begin fleeing to the mountains, and let those in the midst of her withdraw, and let those in the country places not enter into her. (**Luke 21:21**)

- In **66 C.E.**, following a Jewish revolt, Roman armies under Cestius Gallus came against **Jerusalem**. But, as Josephus notes, Gallus suddenly recalled his troops, and, contrary to all calculation, retired from the city.
- This afforded Christians the opportunity to flee from Jerusalem, which they did. Soon the Roman armies under Titus returned. This time they built a **fortification with pointed stakes**, an encircling fence 7.2 kilometers (4.5 miles) long.
- After a siege of about five months, the city was thoroughly destroyed and the temple reduced to ruins. Three years later, in **73 C.E.**, the Roman armies captured the last Jewish stronghold, the mountaintop fortress of Masada.
- **Jerusalem's** destruction emphasizes the importance of paying attention to Bible prophecy.