

Galatians 4:12 Friends, I urge you, become as I am, for I became what you are . . . 4:19 my children, with whom I am again in birth-labor until Christ is formed within you . . .

(Understanding Abraham's offspring / **surprise!** 4:21-31) Paul's *hermeneutic of Torah*.

Galatians 5:1-13 It is for freedom that Christ liberated us. Stand firm, then, refuse to be enslaved again in bondage as a slave. Mark my words! I declare to you that if you permitted to yourselves to be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you. Again, I repeat to all, whoever submits to circumcision is obligated to observe the entire Law (Torah). You who are trying to be righteous by the Law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. You were running so well. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who is calling to you. "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion will have to pay the penalty, whoever that may be. But my friends, why am I still being persecuted if I am still preaching circumcision? In that case the offense/scandal/stumbling block of the cross has been done away with. As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves! Friends you were called to liberty; do not use your freedom to serve the flesh, but through love serve one another.

The World of Second Temple Judah

The Babylonians left Jerusalem in piles of rubble and led thousands and thousands of wealthy or skilled or leading Judeans back to Babylonia, after destroying the First Temple. Poor Jews stayed in Judah. In Babylonia, the Jews, with the help of leaders and prophets, acquired a strengthened faith and national determination. A few thousand Jews, after about 50 years in exile, came back to Jerusalem, began to clear the debris and rebuild the Temple (Ezra and Nehemiah). The Bible reports that the First Temple was built @ 957 BCE by King Solomon under the Zadok priests.

C 586 BCE	First Temple destroyed on the seventh day of Av
c. 536 BCE	Jews return to Judea from Babylonian exile
c. 515 BCE	Second Temple is built on the sight of the first
c. 444 BCE	Nehemiah rebuilds walls of Jerusalem
332 BCE	Alexander the Great conquers Jerusalem

WHAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT GOLGOTHA? 2026 - GARY HENECKE DD

320 BCE	Greeks of Egypt and Syria rule over Judah
c. 164 BCE	Judah Maccabee retakes Jerusalem and cleanses the Temple
c. 63 BCE	Romans gain control of Jerusalem
c. 7/6 BCE	Jesus is born 'Yeshua Ben Yoseph' in Bethlehem Herod the Great dies in March 4 BCE
c. 33 CE	Jesus is crucified in Jerusalem - Pentecost and Christian evangelism
33-68	Most of the New Testament is written - James killed in 62
C. 34/5 CE	Saul of Tarsus says He met Jesus on the Damascus road
37-June 8, 68	Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus - 666
July 18, 64	Great fire of Rome begins Christian persecution
66-70 CE	Romans retake Jerusalem and destroy the Second Temple on the 7 th of Av
73CE	General Silva captures Masada and ends the first revolt - Zealots destroyed
132-35 CE	Bar Kochba revolt - He is declared Messiah by the Sanhedrin

During this 600-year period (530 BCE-130 CE), different empires took control of Jerusalem: Persians, Macedonian Greeks (Alexander the Great), Egyptian Greeks, Syrian Greeks, Hasmoneans (native Judeans) and Romans. Under the Romans, Herod came into power; he ruled from 37-4 BCE. While Herod was considered a cruel ruler, he was a brilliant builder. Herod built palaces, fortresses and monuments, but his crowning achievement was the reconstruction of the Temple. Herod's building campaign and Roman technology made Jerusalem a beautiful city. The rabbis of the period wrote, "Ten measures of beauty descended on the world; nine of them were allotted to Jerusalem." Despite the city's beauty, relations between the city's Jewish residents and the Roman troops deteriorated over time. In Herod's time, the population of Jerusalem grew to 100,000 people. The city's Jews were disturbed by religious insensitivity, such as the Roman edict to decorate the city with statues of the Roman emperor. Over time, Jewish discontent led to revolt which eventually led to a bloodbath. The Romans destroyed the city, including the Second Temple ending Temple center religion and giving way to the rise of Judaism and its sister - Christianity.

- Tiberius Caesar succeeded Augustus Caesar on the 19th of August 14 CE.
- Pontus Pilate was appointed governor of Judea from 26-36 CE.
- Herod Antipas was tetrarch of Galilee from 4 BC/1 BCE to 39 CE.
- Philip Herod was tetrarch of Ituraea and Trachonitis from c. 4 BCE/1 BC-34 CE.
- Annas was High Priest from 6-15 CE and his son-in-law, Caiaphas, was High Priest from 18-36, but Annas still wielded the power ([John 18:12-13](#)).
- Nero is emperor as the New Testament is written - Under him James, Paul and Peter were martyred.
- Nero's death date (June 8, 68) and the Temple destruction (7-8 [Av](#) (July/August 70) are anchors for dating. Sacrifices ended - According to Josephus, on 17 [Tammuz](#) (June/July), the [daily temple sacrifice](#) (*Tamid*) ceased due to a lack of priests or lambs.