

Five gospels record the life of Jesus.  
 Four you will find in books  
 and one you will find in the land they call holy.  
 Read the fifth gospel  
 and the world of the four will open to you.

# THE LAND OF ISRAEL THAT JESUS WALKED

## TURMOIL AND NEW BEGINNING

### A HISTORICAL MAP

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During the time that preceded and followed the life of Jesus, the last two decades of the Second Temple period, the Land of Israel was in constant turmoil. Josephus Flavius described the richness of the land, the great resources, the magnificent cities and palaces built by Herod the Great and others. The Judaism of that epoch represented a pluralistic society in which Sadducees, Pharisees and Essenes interpreted the Torah in different fashion and quarreled about the best way to put it into practice. This disunity helped Rome to consolidate its hegemony over the eastern Mediterranean lands.

To give a picture of the fluctuating borders, this map shows:  
 The area of Israel's greatest expansion during the time of the Hasmonean kingdom at the end of Alexander Yanni's reign in 76 BC.  
 Its smallest area of autonomy after Pompey established Roman rule in 63 BC.  
 The borders of the Tetrarchies of Herod the Great's heirs, his sons Herod Antipas, Philip and Archelaos, between the years 4 BC, at Herod's death, and the year 41 AD, when Agrippa, Herod's grandson, was made king. In 6 AD Archelaos was exiled and his Tetrarchy turned into a Roman Prefecture, the Province of Judea. From the year 26 AD to 36 AD Pontius Pilate was its procurator.

Area settled by the Samaritans. According to tradition the Samaritans were a mixture of Jews and non-Jewish tribes brought here during Israel's exile to Assyria, who adopted Jewish law. The Samaritans and Jews didn't really accept each other and lived most of the time in enmity, although some Samaritans joined the Jews in their struggle against Rome. If, for example, Galileans wanted to go up to the Temple in Jerusalem, they had the choice of either to take the long and hot route through the Jordan Valley or to risk one of the frequent attacks when travelling via Samaria.

Area of the Idumeans, who had been pushed by the Nabatheans from their ancestral home of Edom. Having themselves separated from other Arab tribes, the Idumeans were converted by Hyrcanus (Judas Maccabae's nephew) and embraced Judaism. They were stout allies in Israel's fight against Rome. Herod the Great (40-4 BC) himself was an Idumean.

### Jerusalem

King Agrippa I had gigantic foundations for a third wall to enclose the new quarters. The work was abandoned when Emperor Claudius, suspecting a revolt, vetoed the project.

The old quarry from the First Temple period was used as a public execution ground.

Actual "Third Wall" built shortly before the revolt of 66-70 AD.

Since the Middle Ages it was held that Jesus was judged by Pilate at the Antonia, which became the starting point of the traditional Via Dolorosa.

Jesus healed a paralytic. Jn 5

The Temple and its compound, restored by Nehemiah - was enlarged and beautified by Herod.

Before his arrest Jesus spent his last night in prayer. (The Agony in the Garden)

During the yearly feasts, tens of thousands of pilgrims gathered for the Temple offerings. Jesus came often and preached to the pilgrims.

Broad stairways led to the Huldah Gates and beneath the portico into the Temple compound.

Chained Jews through the Huldah Gates in order to supply water within the city walls.

New discoveries indicate that Pilate tried Jesus at the Praetorium within the old Hasmonean palace.

The man blind from birth washed his eyes and could see. Jn 9:7

White Jesus was questioned before Caiaphas. Peter denied him three times.

The field bought with the blood-money of Judas. (Havdama)

At the upper room Jesus held the Last Supper with his disciples. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles. Later, ca. 75 AD, the first Judeo-Christian community established its synagogue.

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- Settlement mentioned in the Old Testament.
  - Settlement that existed during the Hasmonean and Herodian period.
  - Fortress
  - Predominantly Greek city.
  - The best products of the land were sent to Jerusalem to be offered at the Temple. The Mishnah specifies where each product came from.
  - Roman road.
  - After fighting between Jews and Greeks had started at Caesarea in the summer of 66 AD, it soon spread to many other cities. That was the beginning of the uprising that led to the destruction of the Temple and of Jerusalem (70 AD).
  - Conquered by the Roman army before the fall of Jerusalem.
  - We know of John the Baptist's activities at these three places.
  - Places where Jesus preached and healed.
  - Activities of the apostles.
  - The first Christian communities.
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**PHOENICIA**  
 Important Phoenician port. Herod king of Tyre kept Sidonians supplied with all the cedar and pine logs he needed to build the Temple. 1 Kg 5

**GAULANITIS**  
 Tetrarchy of Philip  
 "There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light." Mt 17:2

**GALILEE**  
 Tetrarchy of Herod Antipas (the Fox)  
 Home of John of Gischala, who contacted Flavius Josephus, authority in Galilee, became leader of the Zealots and led in part of the defence of Jerusalem.

**DECAPOLIS**  
 Jerusalem's first Judeo-Christian community fled to Pella and the surrounding countryside during the war against Rome 66-70 AD. They returned in 75 to Mt. Zion, where they built their own synagogue. (Later misinterpreted as the tomb of David)

**JERUSALEM**  
 King Agrippa I had gigantic foundations for a third wall to enclose the new quarters. The work was abandoned when Emperor Claudius, suspecting a revolt, vetoed the project.

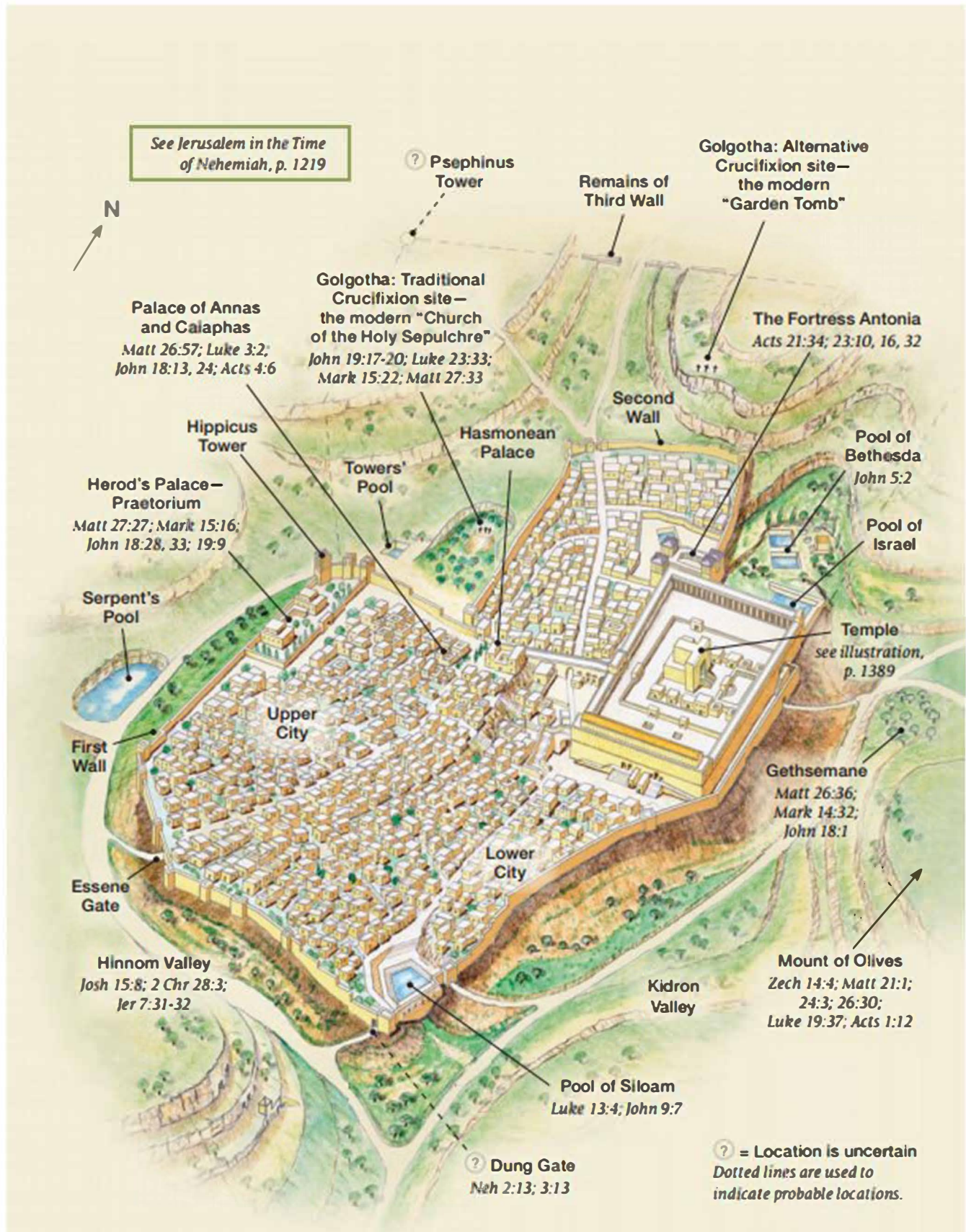
**PROVINCE OF JUDEA**  
 Tetrarchy of Archelaos till 6 AD, then under Roman Procurator

**IDUMEA**  
 Founded by Judah of Gamla and the Pharisee Zakkai, the Samaritan movement against Roman rule and against especially in a later pagan emperor.

# JERUSALEM FIRST CENTURY

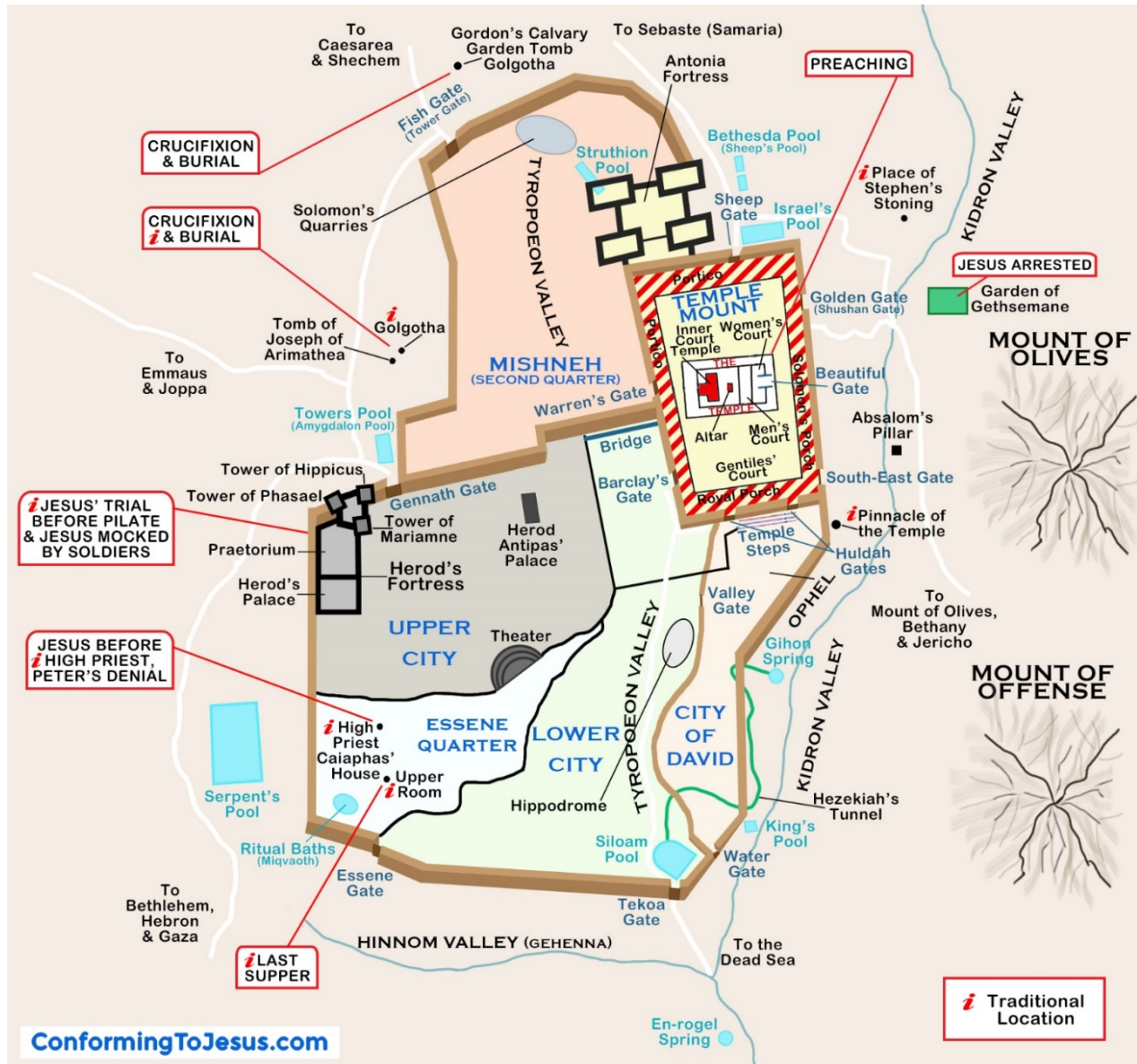


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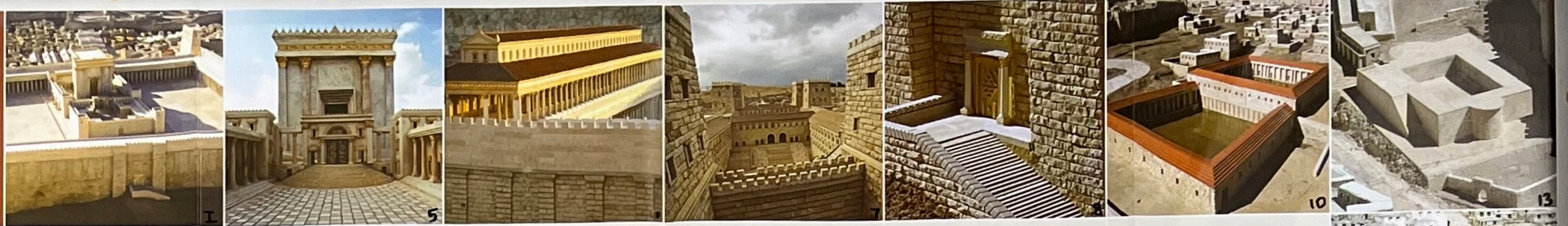


Six primary districts existed in Jerusalem during Jesus' ministry: David's City, Lower City, Upper City, the Business District, the Temple Mount, and a New City area that was growing beyond Jerusalem's walls. Jesus likely visited each of these areas at some point during His life.

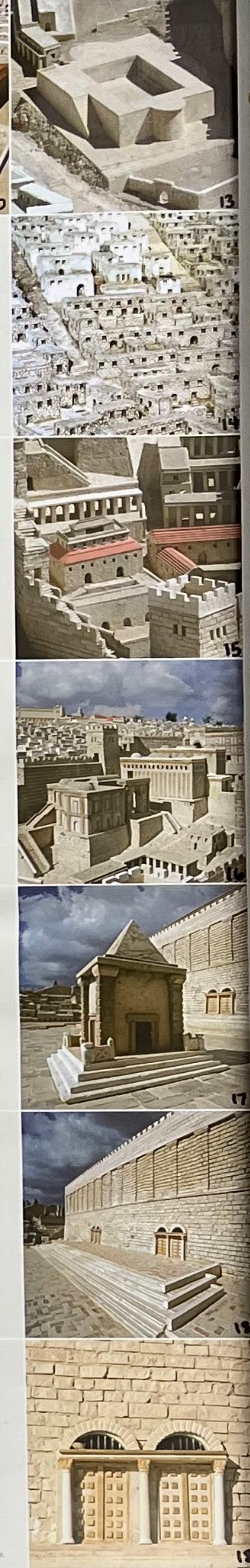
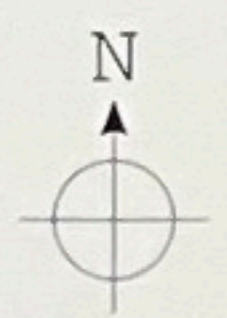
## Jerusalem in the time of Jesus




  
 דגם ירושלים  
 בימי הבית השני  
 במוזיאון ישראל  
 Model of Jerusalem in the  
 Second Temple Period  
 at the Israel Museum



דגם ירושלים בימי הבית השני · MODEL OF JERUSALEM IN THE SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD



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