Antiquities of the Jews

By Josephus Flavius, 93 AD (translated by William Whiston)

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Josephus** (37–c.100 AD)(Joseph son of Matthias / **Titus Flavius Josephus)** was a first-century [Romano](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_citizenship)-[Jewish historian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Jewish_historians) and [hagiographer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hagiographer) of priestly and royal ancestry who recorded first century [Jewish history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_history), such as the [First Jewish–Roman War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Jewish%E2%80%93Roman_War) which resulted in the [Destruction of Jerusalem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Destruction_of_Jerusalem) in 70 AD. He has been credited by many as recording some of the earliest history of [Jesus Christ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus_Christ) outside of the [gospels](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospels).

Josephus was a [law-observant Jew](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torah_Judaism) who believed in the compatibility of [Judaism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judaism) and [Graeco-Roman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graeco-Roman) thought, commonly referred to as [**Hellenistic Judaism**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hellenistic_Judaism). His most important works were [*The Jewish War*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Jewish_War) (c. 75 AD) and [*Antiquities of the Jews*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antiquities_of_the_Jews) (c. 94 AD). *The Jewish War* recounts the Jewish revolt against Roman occupation (66–70 AD). *Antiquities of the Jews* recounts the history of the world from a Jewish perspective for a Roman audience. These works provide valuable insight into first century Judaism and the background of [Early Christianity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Christianity).

[*Antiquities of the Jews*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antiquities_of_the_Jews) *is a* twenty book writing, completed during the last year of the reign of the Emperor Flavius [Domitian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domitian). He claims that interested persons have pressed him to give a fuller account of the Jewish culture and constitution. Here, in expounding Jewish history, law and custom, he is entering into many philosophical debates current in Rome at that time. Again he offers an *apologia* for the antiquity and universal significance of the Jewish people.

He outlines Jewish history beginning with the creation as passed down through Jewish historical tradition. [Abraham](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham) taught [science](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Science) to the [Egyptians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_Egypt), who in turn taught the [Greeks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greeks). [Moses](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moses) set up a senatorial priestly aristocracy, which, like that of Rome, resisted monarchy. The great figures of the [Bible](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible) are presented as ideal philosopher-leaders.

**OUTLINE OF ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS**

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PREFACE

1. THOSE who undertake to write histories, do not, I perceive, take that trouble on one and the same account, but for many reasons, and those such as are very different one from another.

…

but others there are, who, of necessity and by force, are driven to write history, because they are concerned in the facts, and so cannot excuse themselves from committing them to writing, for the advantage of posterity; nay, there are not a few who are induced to draw their historical facts out of darkness into light, and to produce them for the benefit of the public, on account of the great importance of the facts themselves with which they have been concerned. Now of these several reasons for writing history, I must profess the two last were my own reasons also; for since I was myself interested in that war which we Jews had with the Romans, and knew myself its particular actions, and what conclusion it had, I was forced to give the history of it, because I saw that others perverted the truth of those actions in their writings.

2. Now I have undertaken the present work, as thinking it will appear to all the Greeks worthy of their study; for it will contain all our antiquities, and the constitution of our government, as interpreted out of the Hebrew Scriptures

…

but in process of time, as usually happens to such as undertake great things, I grew weary and went on slowly, it being a large subject, and a difficult thing to translate our history into a foreign, and to us unaccustomed language. However, some persons there were who desired to know our history, and so exhorted me to go on with it; and, above all the rest, Epaphroditus, a man who is a lover of all kind of learning, but is principally delighted with the knowledge of history…

…

Besides the foregoing motives, I had others which I greatly reflected on; and these were, that our forefathers were willing to communicate such things to others; and that some of the Greeks took considerable pains to know the affairs of our nation.

….

And now I exhort all those that peruse these books, to apply their minds to God;

….

As I proceed, therefore, I shall accurately describe what is contained in our records, in the order of time that belongs to them; for I have already promised so to do throughout this undertaking; and this without adding any thing to what is therein contained, or taking away any thing therefrom.

But because almost all our constitution depends on the wisdom of Moses, our legislator, I cannot avoid saying somewhat concerning him beforehand, though I shall do it briefly; I mean, because otherwise those that read my book may wonder how it comes to pass, that my discourse, which promises an account of laws and historical facts, contains so much of philosophy

…

unless they be taught first of all, that God is the Father and Lord of all things, and sees all things, and that thence he bestows a happy life upon those that follow him; but plunges such as do not walk in the paths of virtue into inevitable miseries.

Now when Moses was desirous to teach this lesson to his countrymen, he did not begin the establishment of his laws after the same manner that other legislators did; I mean, upon contracts and other rights between one man and another, but by raising their minds upwards to regard God, and his creation of the world; and by persuading them, that we men are the most excellent of the creatures of God upon earth. Now when once he had brought them to submit to religion, he easily persuaded them to submit in all other things: for as to other legislators, they followed fables, and by their discourses transferred the most reproachful of human vices unto the gods, and afforded wicked men the most plausible excuses for their crimes; but as for our legislator, when he had once demonstrated that God was possessed of perfect virtue, he supposed that men also ought to strive after the participation of it; and on those who did not so think, and so believe, he inflicted the severest punishments.

…

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**From The Death Of Judas Maccabeus To The Death Of Queen Alexandra.**

<160 BC – 78 BC>

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BOOK 14

**Containing The Interval Of Thirty-Two Years.**

**From The Death Of Queen Alexandra To The Death Of Antigonus.**

<78 BC – 37 BC>

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BOOK 15

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**From The Death Of Antigonus To The Finishing Of The Temple By Herod.**

<37 BC – 19 BC>

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[CHAPTER 8. How Ten Men Of The Citizens [Of Jerusalem] Made A Conspiracy Against Herod, For The Foreign Practices He Had Introduced, Which Was A Transgression Of The Laws Of Their Country. Concerning The Building Of Sebaste And Cesarea, And Other Edifices Of Herod.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book15.htm#2HCH0008)

[CHAPTER 9. Concerning The Famine That Happened In Judea And Syria; And How Herod, After He Had Married Another Wife, Rebuilt Cesarea, And Other Grecian Cities.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book15.htm#2HCH0009)

[CHAPTER 10. How Herod Sent His Sons To Rome; How Also He Was Accused By Zenodorus And The Gadarens, But Was Cleared Of What They Accused Him Of And Withal Gained To Himself The Good-Will Of Caesar. Concerning The Pharisees, The Essens And Manahem.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book15.htm#2HCH0010)

[CHAPTER 11. How Herod Rebuilt The Temple And Raised It Higher And Made It More Magnificent Than It Was Before; As Also Concerning That Tower Which He Called Antonia.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book15.htm#2HCH0011)

BOOK 16

**Containing The Interval Of Twelve Years.**

**From The Finishing Of The Temple By Herod**

**To The Death Of Alexander And Aristobulus.**

<19 BC – 7 BC>

[CHAPTER 1. A Law Of Herod's About, Thieves. Salome And Pheroras Calumniate Alexander And Aristobulus, Upon Their Return From Rome For Whom Yet Herod Provides Wives.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0001)

[CHAPTER 2. How Herod Twice Sailed To Agrippa; And How Upon The Complaint In Ionia Against The Greeks Agrippa Confirmed The Laws To Them.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0002)

[CHAPTER 3. How Great Disturbances Arose In Herods Family On His Preferring Antipater His Eldest Son Before The Rest, Till Alexander Took That Injury Very Heinously.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0003)

[CHAPTER 4. How During Antipater's Abode At Rome, Herod Brought Alexander And Aristobulus Before Caesar And Accused Them. Alexander's Defense Of Himself Before Caesar And Reconciliation To His Father.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0004)

[CHAPTER 5. How Herod Celebrated The Games That Were To Return Every Fifth Year Upon The Building Of Cesarea; And How He Built And Adorned Many Other Places After A Magnificent Manner; And Did Many Other Actions Gloriously](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0005)

[CHAPTER 6. An Embassage In Cyrene And Asia To Caesar, Concerning The Complaints They Had To Make Against The Greeks; With Copies Of The Epistles Which Caesar And Agrippa Wrote To The Cities For Them.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0006)

[CHAPTER 7. How, Upon Herod's Going Down Into David's Sepulcher, The Sedition In His Family Greatly Increased.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0007)

[CHAPTER 8. How Herod Took Up Alexander And Bound Him; Whom Yet Archelaus King Of Cappadocia Reconciled To His Father Herod Again.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0008)

[CHAPTER 9. Concerning The Revolt Of The Trachonites; How Sylleus Accused Herod Before Caesar; And How Herod, When Caesar Was Angry At Him, Resolved To Send Nicolaus To Rome.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0009)

[CHAPTER 10. How Eurycles Falsely Accused Herod's Sons; And How Their Father Bound Them, And Wrote To Caesar About Them. Of Sylleus And How He Was Accused By Nicolaus.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0010)

[CHAPTER 11. How Herod, By Permission From Caesar Accused His Sons Before An Assembly Of Judges At Berytus; And What Tero Suffered For Using A Boundless And Military Liberty Of Speech. Concerning Also The Death Of The Young Men And Their Burial At](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book16.htm#2HCH0011) Alexandrium.

BOOK 17

**Containing The Interval Of Fourteen Years.—**

**From The Death Of Alexander And Aristobulus To The Banishment Of Archelaus.**

<7 BC – 6 AD>

[CHAPTER 1. How Antipater Was Hated By All The Nation [Of The Jews] For The Slaughter Of His Brethren; And How, For That Reason He Got Into Peculiar Favor With His Friends At Rome, By Giving Them Many Presents; As He Did Also With Saturninus, The President Of Syria And The Governors Who Were Under Him; And Concerning Herod's Wives And Children.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0001)

[CHAPTER 2. Concerning Zamaris, The Babylonian Jew; Concerning The Plots Laid By Antipater Against His Father; And Somewhat About The Pharisees.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0002)

[CHAPTER 3. Concerning The Enmity Between Herod And Pheroras; How Herod Sent Antipater To Caesar; And Of The Death Of Pheroras.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0003)

[CHAPTER 4. Pheroras's Wife Is Accused By His Freedmen, As Guilty Of Poisoning Him; And How Herod, Upon Examining; Of The Matter By Torture Found The Poison; But So That It Had Been Prepared For Himself By His Son Antipater; And Upon An Inquiry By Torture He Discovered The Dangerous Designs Of Antipater.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0004)

[CHAPTER 5. Antipater's Navigation From Rome To His Father; And How He Was Accused By Nicolaus Of Damascus And Condemned To Die By His Father, And By Quintilius Varus, Who Was Then President Of Syria; And How He Was Then Bound Till Caesar Should Be Informed Of His Cause.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0005)

[CHAPTER 6. Concerning The Disease That Herod Fell Into And The Sedition Which The Jews Raised Thereupon; With The Punishment Of The Seditious.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0006)

[CHAPTER 7. Herod Has Thoughts Of Killing Himself With His Own Hand; And A Little Afterwards He Orders Antipater To Be Slain.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0007)

[CHAPTER 8. Concerning Herod's Death, And Testament, And Burial.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0008)

[CHAPTER 9. How The People Raised A Sedition Against Archelaus, And How He Sailed To Rome.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0009)

[CHAPTER 10. A Sedition Against Sabinus; And How Varus Brought The Authors Of It To Punishment.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0010)

[CHAPTER 11. An Embassage To Caesar; And How Caesar Confirmed Herod's Testament.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0011)

[CHAPTER 12. Concerning A Spurious Alexander.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0012)

[CHAPTER 13. How Archelaus Upon A Second Accusation, Was Banished To Vienna.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book17.htm#2HCH0013)

BOOK 18

**Containing The Interval Of Thirty-Two Years.**

**From The Banishment Of Archelus To The Departure From Babylon.**

<6 AD – 38 AD>

[CHAPTER 1. How Cyrenius Was Sent By Caesar To Make A Taxation Of Syria And Judea; And How Coponius Was Sent To Be Procurator Of Judea; Concerning Judas Of Galilee And Concerning The Sects That Were Among The Jews.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0001)

[CHAPTER 2. Now Herod And Philip Built Several Cities In Honor Of Caesar. Concerning The Succession Of Priests And Procurators; As Also What Befell Phraates And The Parthians.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0002)

[CHAPTER 3. Sedition Of The Jews Against Pontius Pilate. Concerning Christ, And What Befell Paulina And The Jews At Rome.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0003)

[CHAPTER 4. How The Samaritans Made A Tumult And Pilate Destroyed Many Of Them; How Pilate Was Accused And What Things Were Done By Vitellius Relating To The Jews And The Parthians.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0004)

**CHAPTER 5**

Herod The Tetrarch Makes War With Aretas, The King Of Arabia, And Is Beaten By Him As Also Concerning The Death Of John The Baptist.

How Vitellius Went Up To Jerusalem;

Together With Some Account Of Agrippa And Of The Posterity Of Herod The Great.

1. About this time Aretas [the king of Arabia Petres] and Herod had a quarrel on the account following: Herod the tetrarch had, married the daughter of Aretas, and had lived with her a great while; but when he was once at Rome, he lodged with Herod, who was his brother indeed, but not by the same mother; for this Herod was the son of the high priest Sireoh's daughter. However, he fell in love with Herodias, this last Herod's wife, who was the daughter of Aristobulus their brother, and the sister of Agrippa the Great. This man ventured to talk to her about a marriage between them; which address, when she admitted, an agreement was made for her to change her habitation, and come to him as soon as he should return from Rome: one article of this marriage also was this, that he should divorce Aretas's daughter.

…

2. Now some of the Jews thought that the destruction of Herod's army came from God, and that very justly, as a punishment of what he did against John, that was called the Baptist: for Herod slew him …

CHAPTER 6. Of The Navigation Of King Agrippa To Rome, To Tiberius Caesar; And Now Upon His Being Accused By His Own Freed-Man, He Was Bound; How Also He, Was Set At Liberty By Caius, After Tiberius's Death And Was Made King Of The Tetrarchy Of Philip.

[CHAPTER 7. How Herod The Tetrarch Was Banished.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0007)

[CHAPTER 8. Concerning The Embassage Of The Jews To Caius; [28] And How Caius Sent Petronius Into Syria To Make War Against The Jews, Unless They Would Receive His Statue.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0008)

[CHAPTER 9. What Befell The Jews That Were In Babylon On Occasion Of Asineus And Anileus, Two Brethren.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book18.htm#2HCH0009)

BOOK 19

**Containing The Interval Of Three Years And A Half.**

**From The Departure Out Of Babylon To Fadus, The Roman Procurator.**

<38 AD – 44 AD>

[CHAPTER 1. How Caius [1] Was Slain By Cherea.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0001)

[CHAPTER 2. How The Senators Determined To Restore The Democracy; But The Soldiers Were For Preserving The Monarchy, Concerning The Slaughter Of Caius's Wife And Daughter. A Character Of Caius's Morals.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0002)

[CHAPTER 3. How Claudius Was Seized Upon And Brought Out Of His House And Brought To The Camp; And How The Senate Sent An Embassage To Him.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0003)

[CHAPTER 4. What Things King Agrippa Did For Claudius; And How Claudius When He Had Taken The Government Commanded The Murderers Of Caius To Be Slain.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0004)

[CHAPTER 5. How Claudius Restored To Agrippa His Grandfathers Kingdoms And Augmented His Dominions; And How He Published An Edict In Behalf.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0005)

[CHAPTER 6. What Things Were Done By Agrippa At Jerusalem When He Was Returned Back Into Judea; And What It Was That Petronius Wrote To The Inhabitants Of Doris, In Behalf.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0006)

[CHAPTER 7. Concerning Silas And On What Account It Was That King Agrippa Was Angry At Him. How Agrippa Began To Encompass Jerusalem With A Wall; And What Benefits He Bestowed On The Inhabitants Of Berytus.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0007)

[CHAPTER 8. What Other Acts Were Done By Agrippa Until His Death; And After What Manner He Died.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0008)

[CHAPTER 9. What Things Were Done After The Death Of Agrippa; And How Claudius, On Account Of The Youth And Unskilfulness Of Agrippa, Junior, Sent Cuspius Fadus To Be Procurator Of Judea, And Of The Entire Kingdom.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2HCH0009)

[FOOTNOTES](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book19.htm#2H_FOOT)

BOOK 20

**Containing The Interval Of Twenty-Two Years**

**From Fadus The Procurator To Florus.**

<44 AD – 66 AD>

CHAPTER 1. A Sedition Of The Philadelphians Against The Jews; And Also Concerning The Vestments Of The High Priest.

CHAPTER 2. How Helena The Queen Of Adiabene And Her Son Izates, Embraced The Jewish Religion; And How Helena Supplied The Poor With Corn, When There Was A Great Famine At Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 3. How Artabanus, the King of Parthia out of Fear of the Secret Contrivances of His Subjects Against Him, Went to Izates, and Was By Him Reinstated in His Government; as Also How Bardanes His Son Denounced War Against Izates.

CHAPTER 4. How Izates Was Betrayed By His Own Subjects, And Fought Against By The Arabians And How Izates, By The Providence Of God, Was Delivered Out Of Their Hands.

CHAPTER 5. Concerning Theudas And The Sons Of Judas The Galilean; As Also What Calamity Fell Upon The Jews On The Day Of The Passover.

**CHAPTER 6**

How There Happened A Quarrel Between The Jews And The Samaritans;

And How Claudius Put An End To Their Differences.

1. Now there arose a quarrel between the Samaritans and the Jews on the occasion following: It was the custom of the Galileans, when they came to the holy city at the festivals, to take their journeys through the country of the Samaritans; and at this time there lay, in the road they took, a village that was called Ginea, which was situated in the limits of Samaria and the great plain, where certain persons thereto belonging fought with the Galileans, and killed a great many of them. But when the principal of the Galileans were informed of what had been done, they came to Cumanus, and desired him to avenge the murder of those that were killed; but he was induced by the Samaritans, with money, to do nothing in the matter; upon which the Galileans were much displeased, and persuaded the multitude of the Jews to betake themselves to arms, and to regain their liberty, saying that slavery was in itself a bitter thing, but that when it was joined with direct injuries, it was perfectly intolerable, And when their principal men endeavored to pacify them, and promised to endeavor to persuade Cureanus to avenge those that were killed, they would not hearken to them, but took their weapons, and entreated the assistance of Eleazar, the son of Dineus, a robber, who had many years made his abode in the mountains, with which assistance they plundered many villages of the Samaritans. When Cumanus heard of this action of theirs, he took the band of Sebaste, with four regiments of footmen, and armed the Samaritans, and marched out against the Jews, and caught them, and slew many of them, and took a great number of them alive; whereupon those that were the most eminent persons at Jerusalem, and that both in regard to the respect that was paid them, and the families they were of, as soon as they saw to what a height things were gone, put on sackcloth, and heaped ashes upon their heads, and by all possible means besought the seditious, and persuaded them that they would set before their eyes the utter subversion of their country, the conflagration of their temple, and the slavery of themselves, their wives, and children, which would be the consequences of what they were doing; and would alter their minds, would cast away their weapons, and for the future be quiet, and return to their own homes. These persuasions of theirs prevailed upon them. So the people dispersed themselves, and the robbers went away again to their places of strength; and after this time all Judea was overrun with robberies.

2. But the principal of the Samaritans went to Ummidius Quadratus, the president of Syria, who at that time was at Tyre, and accused the Jews of setting their villages on fire, and plundering them; and said withal, that they were not so much displeased at what they had suffered, as they were at the contempt thereby showed the Romans; while if they had received any injury, they ought to have made them the judges of what had been done, and not presently to make such devastation, as if they had not the Romans for their governors; on which account they came to him, in order to obtain that vengeance they wanted. This was the accusation which the Samaritans brought against the Jews. But the Jews affirmed that the Samaritans were the authors of this tumult and fighting, and that, in the first place, Cumanus had been corrupted by their gifts, and passed over the murder of those that were slain in silence;—which allegations when Quadratus heard, he put off the hearing of the cause, and promised that he would give sentence when he should come into Judea, and should have a more exact knowledge of the truth of that matter. So these men went away without success.

…

Quadratus ordered … sent away Ananias the high priest, and Ananus the commander [of the temple], in bonds to Rome, to give an account of what they had done to Claudius Caesar. He also ordered the principal men, both of the Samaritans and of the Jews, as also Cumanus the procurator, and Ceier the tribune, to go to Italy to the emperor, that he might hear their cause, and determine their differences one with another.

…

Claudius was so well disposed beforehand, that when he had heard the cause, and found that the Samaritans had been the ringleaders in those mischievous doings, he gave order that those who came up to him should be slain, and that Cureanus should be banished. He also gave order that Celer the tribune should be carried back to Jerusalem, and should be drawn through the city in the sight of all the people, and then should be slain.

[CHAPTER 7. Felix Is Made Procurator Of Judea; As Also Concerning Agrippa, Junior And His Sisters.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book20.htm#2HCH0007)

[CHAPTER 8. After What Manner Upon The Death Of Claudius, Nero Succeeded In The Government; As Also What Barbarous Things He Did. Concerning The Robbers, Murderers And Impostors, That Arose While Felix And Festus Were Procurators Of Judea.](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book20.htm#2HCH0008)

**CHAPTER 9**.

Concerning Albinus Under Whose Procuratorship James Was Slain;

As Also What Edifices Were Built By Agrippa.

1. And now Caesar, upon hearing the death of Festus, sent Albinus into Judea, as procurator. But the king deprived Joseph of the high priesthood, and bestowed the succession to that dignity on the son of Ananus, who was also himself called Ananus. ..This younger Ananus, who, as we have told you already, took the high priesthood, was a bold man in his temper, and very insolent; he was also of the sect of the Sadducees, who are very rigid in judging offenders, above all the rest of the Jews, as we have already observed; when, therefore, Ananus was of this disposition, he thought he had now a proper opportunity [to exercise his authority]. Festus was now dead, and Albinus was but upon the road; so he assembled the sanhedrim of judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James, and some others, [or, some of his companions]; and when he had formed an accusation against them as breakers of the law, he delivered them to be stoned: but as for those who seemed the most equitable of the citizens, and such as were the most uneasy at the breach of the laws, they disliked what was done; they also sent to the king [Agrippa], desiring him to send to Ananus that he should act so no more, for that what he had already done was not to be justified;

...

2. Now as soon as Albinus was come to the city of Jerusalem, he used all his endeavors and care that the country might be kept in peace, and this by destroying many of the Sicarii. But as for the high priest, Ananias he increased in glory every day, and this to a great degree, and had obtained the favor and esteem of the citizens in a signal manner; for he was a great hoarder up of money: he therefore cultivated the friendship of Albinus, and of the high priest [Jesus], by making them presents; he also had servants who were very wicked, who joined themselves to the boldest sort of the people, and went to the thrashing-floors, and took away the tithes that belonged to the priests by violence, and did not refrain from beating such as would not give these tithes to them. So the other high priests acted in the like manner, as did those his servants, without any one being able to prohibit them; so that [some of the] priests, that of old were wont to be supported with those tithes, died for want of food.

3. But now the Sicarii went into the city by night, just before the festival, which was now at hand, and took the scribe belonging to the governor of the temple, whose name was Eleazar, who was the son of Ananus [Ananias] the high priest, and bound him, and carried him away with them; after which they sent to Ananias, and said that they would send the scribe to him, if he would persuade Albinus to release ten of those prisoners which he had caught of their party; so Ananias was plainly forced to persuade Albinus, and gained his request of him. This was the beginning of greater calamities; for the robbers perpetually contrived to catch some of Ananias's servants; and when they had taken them alive, they would not let them go, till they thereby recovered some of their own Sicarii. And as they were again become no small number, they grew bold, and were a great affliction to the whole country.

4. About this time it was that king Agrippa built Cesarea Philippi larger than it was before, and, in honor of Nero, named it Neronlas. And when he had built a theater at Berytus, with vast expenses, he bestowed on them shows, to be exhibited every year, and spent therein many ten thousand [drachmae]; he also gave the people a largess of corn, and distributed oil among them, and adorned the entire city with statues of his own donation, and with original images made by ancient hands; nay, he almost transferred all that was most ornamental in his own kingdom thither. This made him more than ordinarily hated by his subjects, because he took those things away that belonged to them to adorn a foreign city. And now Jesus, the son of Gamaliel, became the successor of Jesus, the son of Damneus, in the high priesthood, which the king had taken from the other; on which account a sedition arose between the high priests, with regard to one another; for they got together bodies of the boldest sort of the people, and frequently came, from reproaches, to throwing of stones at each other.

…

5. But when Albinus heard that Gessius Florus was coming to succeed him, he was desirous to appear to do somewhat that might be grateful to the people of Jerusalem; so he brought out all those prisoners who seemed to him to be most plainly worthy of death, and ordered them to be put to death accordingly. But as to those who had been put into prison on some trifling occasions, he took money of them, and dismissed them; by which means the prisons were indeed emptied, but the country was filled with robbers.

…

King Agrippa, … also deprived Jesus, the son of Gamaliel, of the high priesthood, and gave it to **Matthias, the son of Theophilus, under whom the Jews' war with the Romans took its beginning.**

CHAPTER 10. An Enumeration Of The High Priests.

CHAPTER 11. Concerning Florus The Procurator, Who Necessitated The Jews To Take Up Arms Against The Romans. The Conclusion. [FOOTNOTES](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2848/2848-h/book20.htm#2H_FOOT)

2. I shall now, therefore, make an end here of my Antiquities; after the conclusion of which events, I began to write that account of the war; and these Antiquities contain what hath been delivered down to us from the original creation of man, until the twelfth year of the reign of Nero, as to what hath befallen the Jews, as well in Egypt as in Syria and in Palestine, and what we have suffered from the Assyrians and Babylonians, and what afflictions the Persians and Macedonians, and after them the Romans, have brought upon us; for I think I may say that I have composed this history with sufficient accuracy in all things. I have attempted to enumerate those high priests that we have had during the interval of two thousand years; I have also carried down the succession of our kings, and related their actions, and political administration, without [considerable] errors, as also the power of our monarchs; and all according to what is written in our sacred books; for this it was that I promised to do in the beginning of this history. And I am so bold as to say, now I have so completely perfected the work I proposed to myself to do, that no other person, whether he were a Jew or foreigner, had he ever so great an inclination to it, could so accurately deliver these accounts to the Greeks as is done in these books. For those of my own nation freely acknowledge that I far exceed them in the learning belonging to Jews; I have also taken a great deal of pains to obtain the learning of the Greeks, and understand the elements of the Greek language, although I have so long accustomed myself to speak our own tongue, that I cannot pronounce Greek with sufficient exactness;

…

3. And now it will not be perhaps an invidious thing, if I treat briefly of my own family, and of the actions of my own life while there are still living such as can either prove what I say to be false, or can attest that it is true; with which accounts I shall put an end to these Antiquities, which are contained in twenty books, and sixty thousand verses. And if God permit me, I will briefly run over this war, and to add what befell them further to that very day, the 13th of Domitian, or A.D. 03, is not, that I have observed, taken distinct notice of by any one; nor do we ever again, with what befell us therein to this very day, which is the thirteenth year of the reign of Caesar Domitian, and the fifty-sixth year of my own life. I have also an intention to write three books concerning our Jewish opinions about God and his essence, and about our laws; why, according to them, some things are permitted us to do, and others are prohibited.