

Romans In Context



Being Paul in AD 57

- 3rd missionary journey
- Writing from Corinth
- Heading to Jerusalem
- His aims in the letter
 - 1:9-15
 - 16:14-24
 - 16:25-32



Paul's Third Journey



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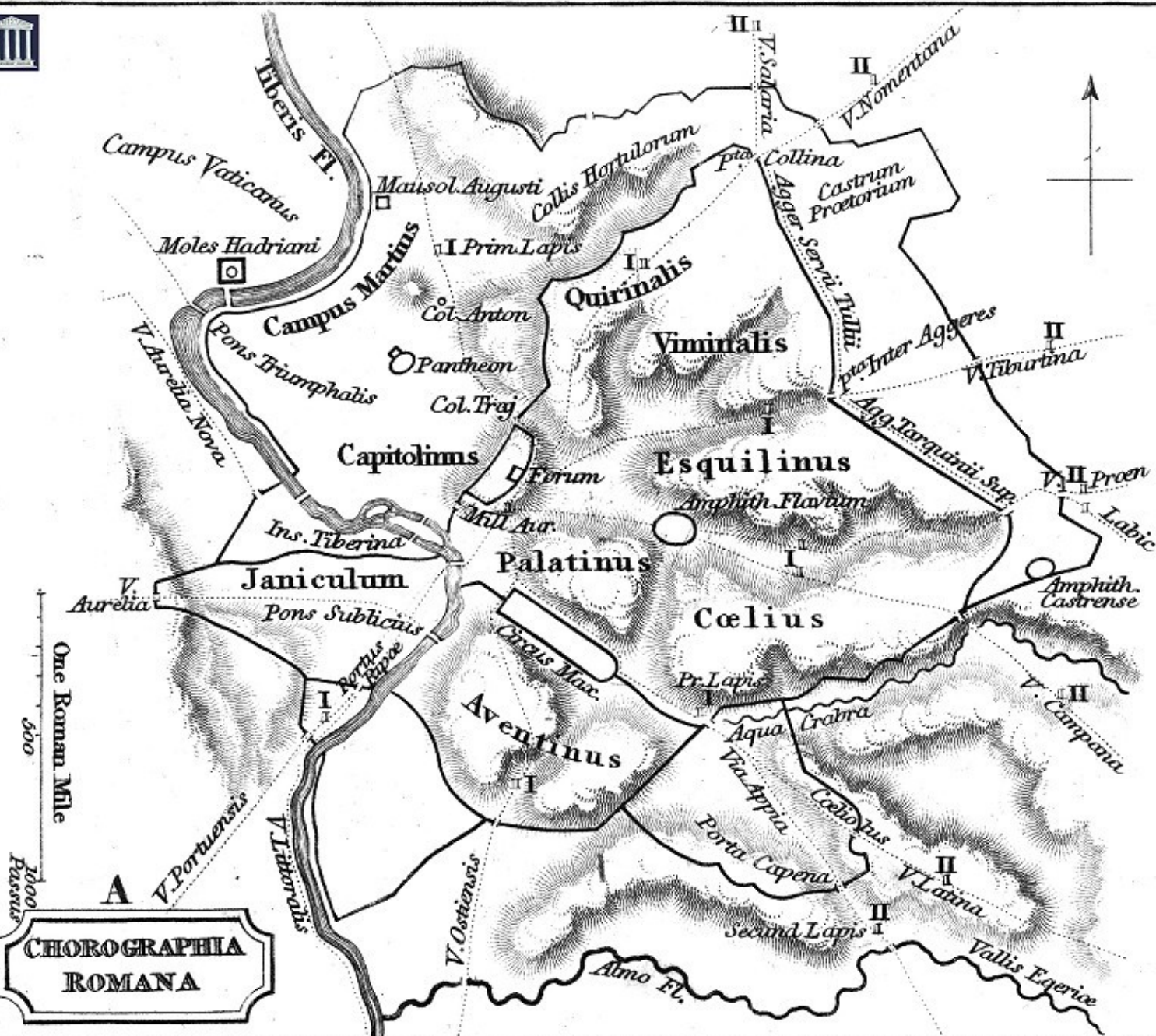
Rome: The Imperial City

- Emperor Nero
- Memory of the Republic
- Rich, poor, and slaves
- Pervasive religion
- The problem of foreigners
- A slide into “immorality”



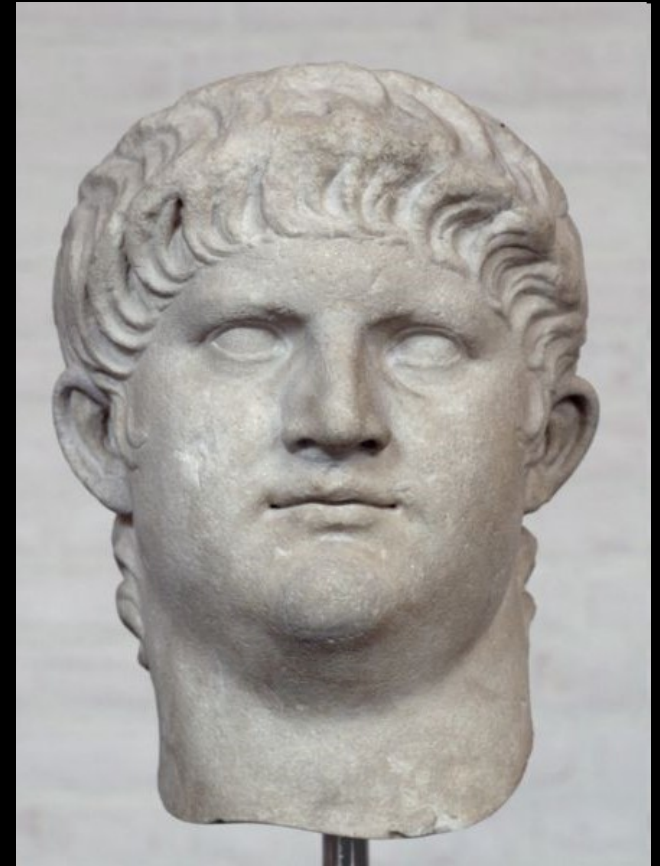






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The Forum



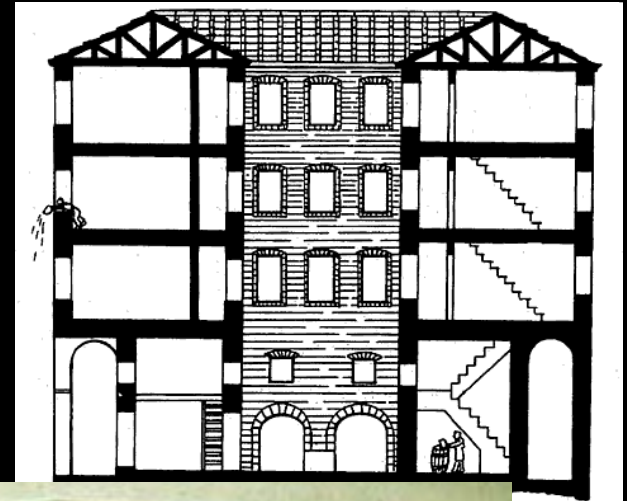
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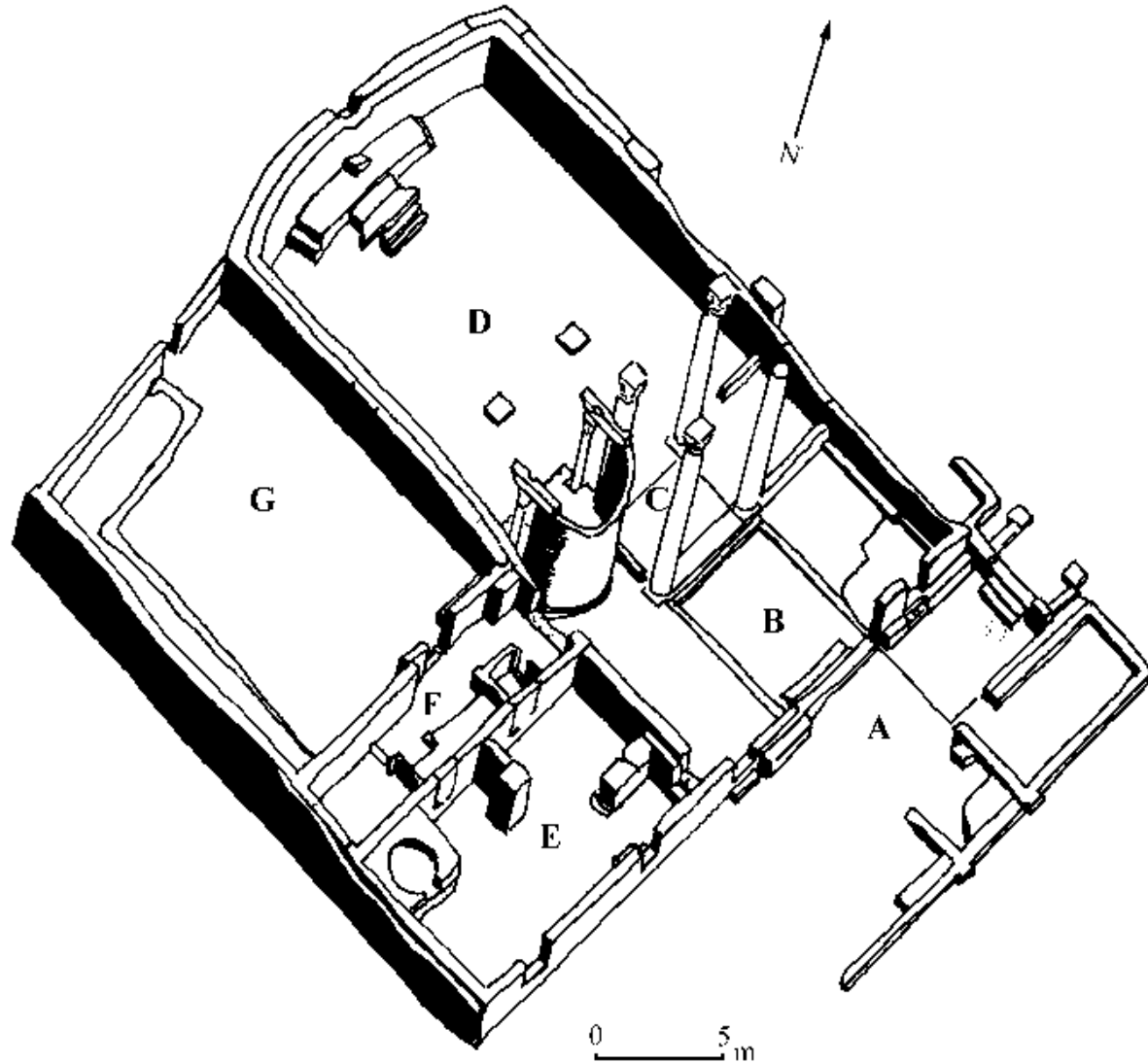


Jews in Rome

- An old community
- A colony of foreigners
 - Expulsion in ca. AD 49
- A network of synagogues
- Covenant & Torah
- Hope for the future



Synagogue at Ostia



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Christ-Faith in Rome

- Initially Jewish
- Appealing to “God-fearers”
- A “flavour” of Judaism
- The expulsion in AD 49
- Gentile house-churches
- Re-integrating Jews



The Romans' Concerns

- Does the covenant not give Jews special treatment?
- How can we be ethical without the law?
- Has God abandoned his people?