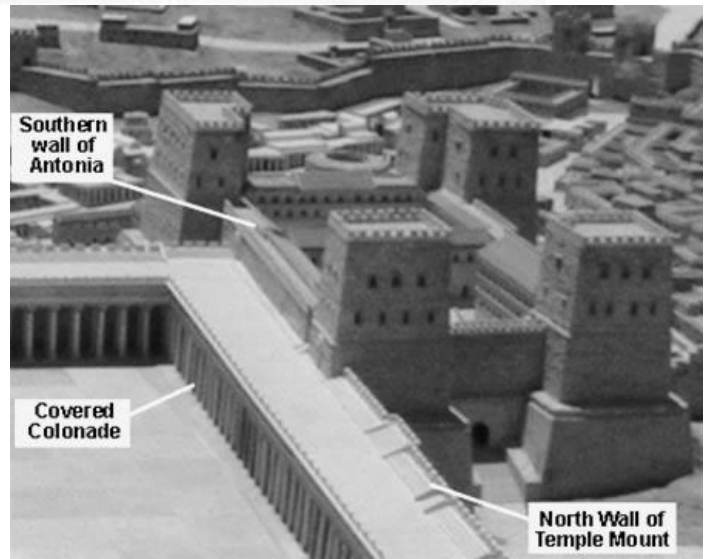
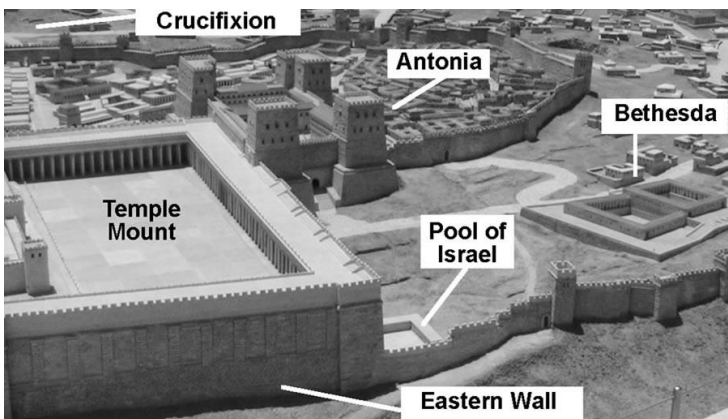
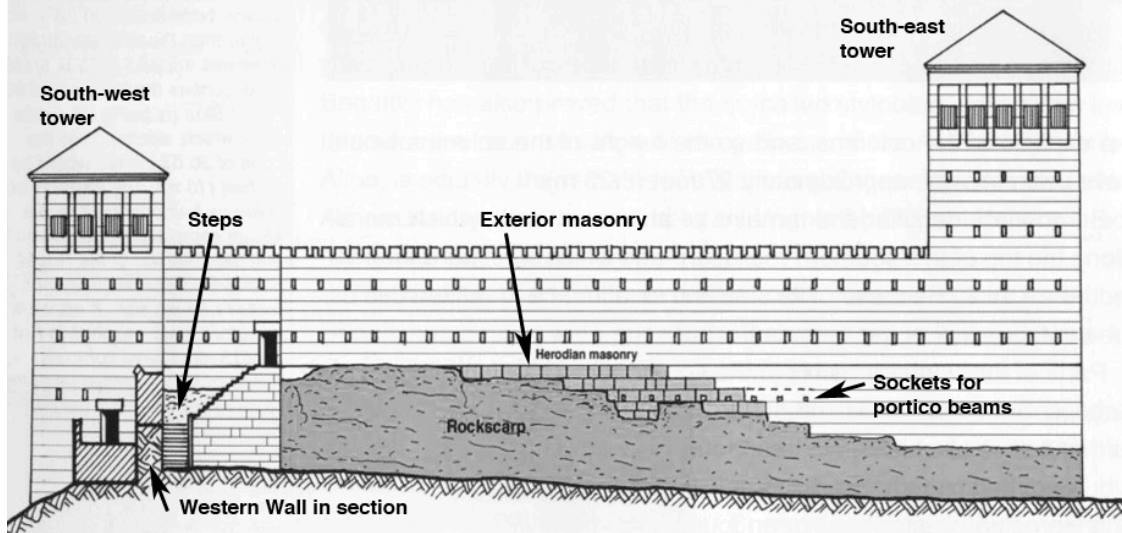
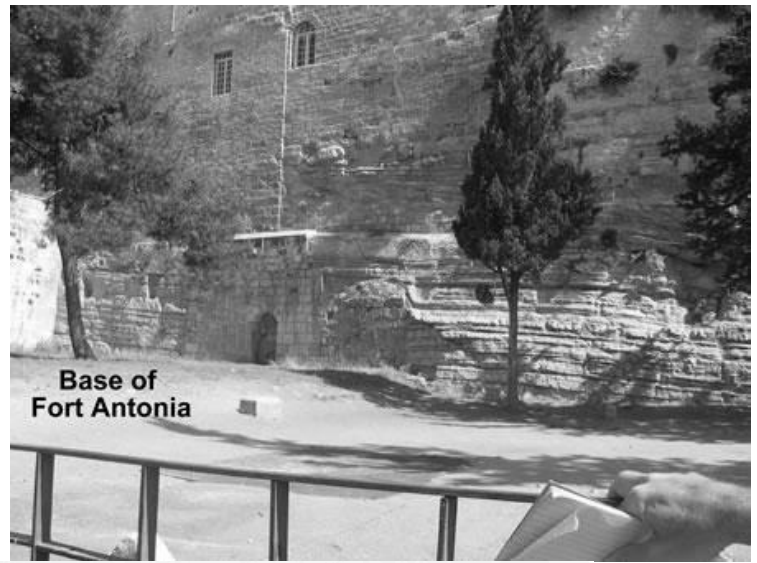
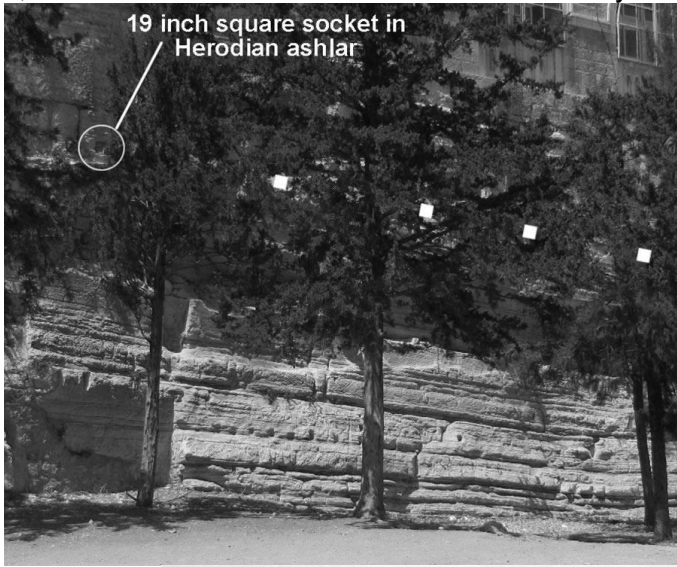
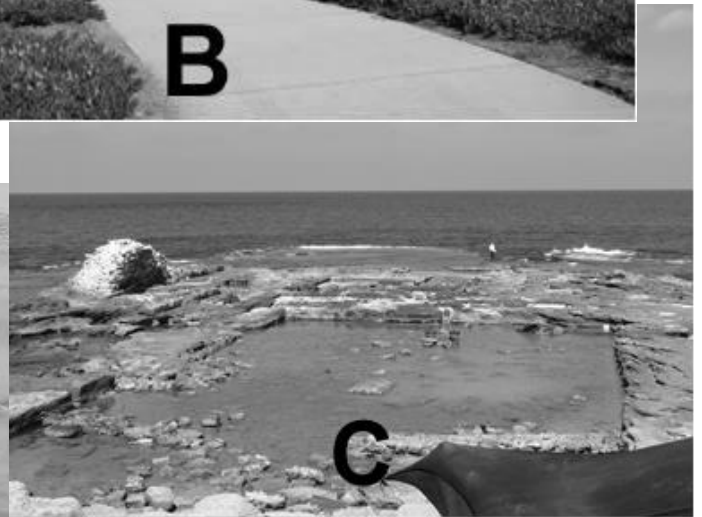
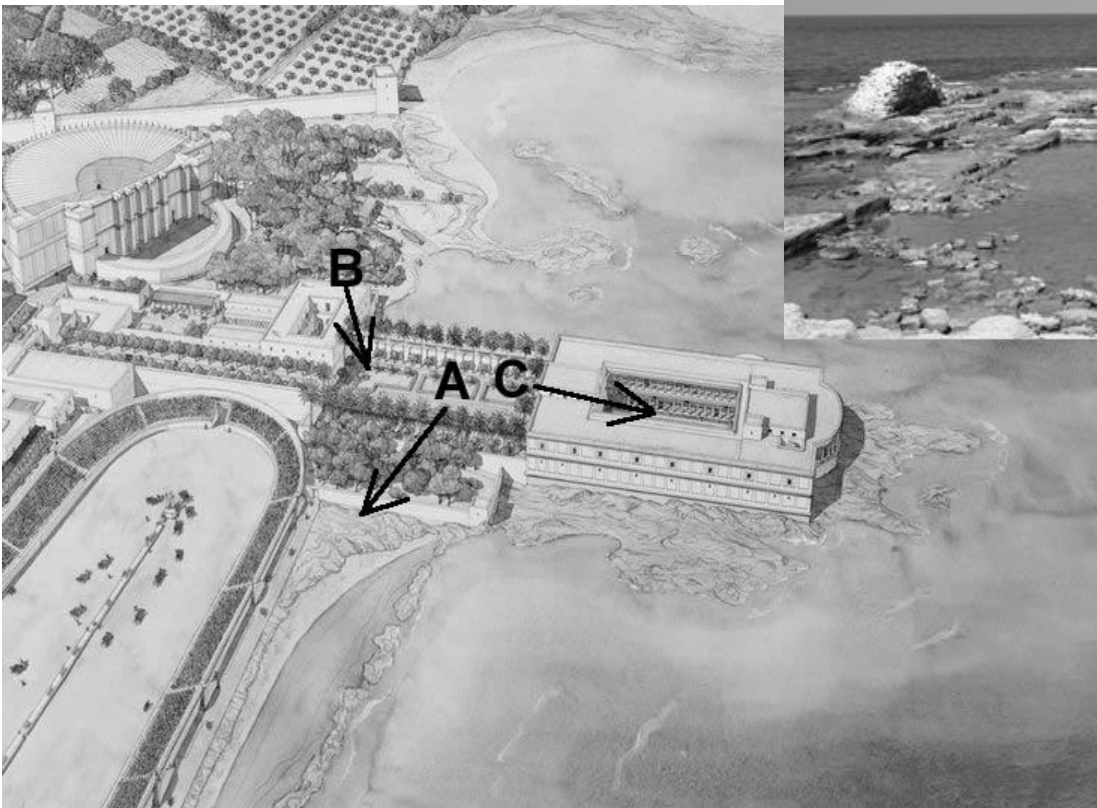


Acts 22:30-23:35

Claudius Lysias is the Tribune or Roman Commander in Jerusalem at Fort Antonia. He is over 1,000 men 760 foot soldiers and 240 cavalry.



Felix is the Roman Governor of Judea stationed in Caesarea.



Acts 22:30-23:10 - Paul Before the Sanhedrin

23:2 – Paul mentions “duty to God” and “good conscience” which immediately receives rebuke and judgment from the high priest.

- This will cause Paul to switch his line of defense from a personal testimony to dividing the Pharisees in the Sanhedrin from the Sadducees in the Sanhedrin.

The **high priest Ananias**, son of Nedebaeus was placed in office by Herod of Chalcis (you7nger brother of Herod Agrippa I in 47 AD. He was high priest for 12 years. Josephus condemns him for sending his servants to the threshing floors to seize the tithes that should have gone to the common priests. The Talmud alters the text of Psalm 24:7 to make a political insult to this high priest Ananias when it says, “Lift up your heads, O you gates; that Yohanan ben Narbai, the disciple of Pinqai, may go in and fill his belly with the divine sacrifices.”

23:3 – Paul had not yet been charged

Jesus likewise protested when he was struck before being charged in John 18:21-23

Moses forbid reviling a ruler in Exodus 22:28 so Paul would not have called him a whitewashed wall. Did Paul not know? Did he not recognize the high priest?

Was Paul being sarcastic in the sense the true high priest would not violate the Law of Moses?

Could Paul not see the high priest? Did Paul not know who ordered him to be struck?

Acts 23:11 – The Lord Encourages Paul

23:11 – The Spirit’s words had come to pass. Paul had been arrested. The Jerusalem church leaders’ plan had failed and the Jerusalem church was of no use to Paul in this situation. But, the ministry would continue West as the Lord desired. The Lord appeared to Paul when no one else was there to encourage him. This is similar to Paul’s words in 2 Timothy 4:16-17,

“At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion’s mouth.”

Acts 23:12-15 – Jews Vow to Kill Paul

Acts 23:16-22 – Plot Exposed by Paul’s Nephew in Jerusalem

Acts 23:23 – Paul’s Transfer from Fort Antonia (Tribune Claudius Lysias) to Caesarea (Governor Felix)

23:23 – “200 light-armed troops” is from the Greek *dechiolabous* which means literally “holding in the right hand” which would seem to refer to troops with a javelin to throw or a sling to hurl stones.

23:25 – Claudius Lysias’ wording in the letter to Governor Felix gives the impression Paul was rescued because he was a Roman citizen