

Jewish War - Some Characters

Judas of Galilee, head of Zealots 6AD-(Acts 5:37) Gamaliel spoke of him.
Caesar Nero & Poppaea Sabina-Nero killed many & self. 54-68AD.
Aliturus- Jewish actor liked by Nero. Introduced Josephus to Nero's wife Poppaea.
Josephus- Priest of priest family, diplomat, general in war. Captured at Jotapata.
Felix & Drusilla- Roman procurator of Judea 52-60AD. Sister of Agrippa II.
Festus- Roman procurator of Judea 60-62AD. Heard gospel from Paul.
King Agrippa II & sister Bernice- Jews of Herodian dynasty. Heard Paul.
Florus- Roman procurator of Judea 64-66AD. Bad man.
Vespasian & Titus- Roman generals. Mule man forced to be Caesar.
Galba, Otho, Vitellius- Roman Emperors. All dead, God had different plans 69AD.
Cestius- Roman proconsul of Syria to stop rebellion. XII Aquila lost at B. Horon.

3 heads fighting for control in Jerusalem

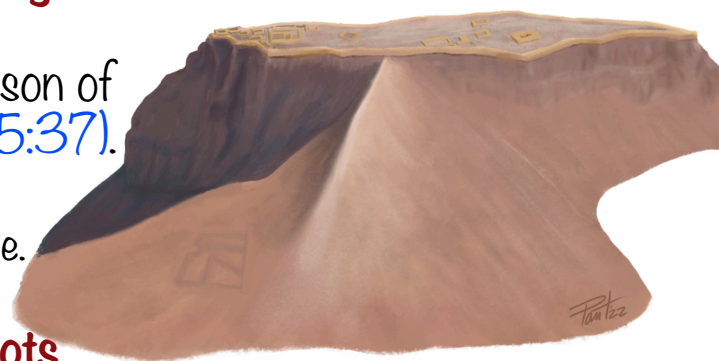
Eleazar ben Simon, priestly power & Zealots. Victory over XII legion.
John of Gischala with assassin Zealots, betrayed Eleazar.
Simon Bar Giora with Sicarii/Idumeans. Let into Jerusalem as deliverer/king.

Sicarii heads of stronghold at Masada

Menahem ben Yehuda,
Head of Sicarii of Masada. Son or grandson of
Judas of Galilee, Zealot of 6AD (Acts 5:37).
Eleazar ben Ya'ir, cousin of Menahem.
Took control of Sicarii at Masada. 960 suicide.

Zealots

Founded by **Judas of Galilee** around 6AD.
Encouraged anti Roman sentiment to establish a Jewish national state.
Zealots murdered Romans & fellow Jews in carrying forth rebellion.
Nero ordered Cestius, Rom. Legate of Syria & XII legion to crush rebellion.
Cestius' 5,000 men were ambushed at Beth Horon 66AD, losing eagle.
Victory for Zealots ignited further rebellion.
Jerusalem & temple were destroyed August 70AD, 5 mo. after siege began.



Eleazar, John, Simon - Jerusalem divided by 3 Jewish heads.

Eleazar ben Simon

Zealot with priestly & military power. Nephew of Simon.
Eleazar triumphed over XII legion of Cestius Gallus at Beth Horon.
He led 2,400 Zealots against XII legion taking their eagle.
Eleazar took weapons & wealth to Jerusalem to battle for power.
Against Ananias he appointed a puppet High Priest in Jerusalem.
Eleazar maintained control of temple while Ananias' men were ousted.
Eleazar & Zealots allied with John but were later betrayed by him.

John of Gischala son of Levi

John over control of Galilee plotted against Josephus.
John & 6,000 allied with Eleazar in 68AD to dominate moderates.
Idumeans helped John & Eleazar destroy moderates in Jerusalem.
John sent men w daggers to sacrifice offering, murdering to betray Eleazar.
Most Idumeans then left to side with Sicarii led by Simon son of Giora.
John in war between Eleazar & Simon melted some sacred objects.
John's men in Jerusalem decked their hair, painted eyes, wore women's clothes, tortured fellow Jews.
Romans paraded John on Roman streets chained, imprisoned him for life.

Simon bar Giora of Gerasa, Jerusalem's savior king

Simon attacked rear of retreating XII legion near Beth Horon, taking beasts & weapons.
Rejected by Jerusalem authorities he gathered 20,000 to rob homes of the wealthy in Acrabbene.
With Sicarii robbers at Masada he ravaged country. Fond of greatness he promised freedom & reward.
Obedient to him as king, a wicked army of 40,000 + plundered Judea as ravaging locusts.
Prisoners of Jerusalem joined. His success in trodding down Idumea excited Zealots though they were afraid to fight him openly. Zealots captured his wife. At Jerusalem like a wild beast, he cut some of their hands off & they gave her back. Matthias (H. Priest) opened Jerusalem to Simon calling him "Savior" to save them from John & Zealots.
Simon instead was brutal against citizens while fighting for power in Jerusalem with John.
Simon at tower of Phasael had upper city & some lower. John had parts of lower city & temple.
Simon killed H. Priest Matthias ben Boethus & 3 of his sons & any deserters going to Romans.
Simon & John reigned terror over citizens but allied against Rome till end of Jerusalem & temple.
In kings garments Simon emerged from ground at temple trying to dig out by stone cutters.
He was paraded at Rome, a rope around his neck. He was executed at temple of Jupiter.

