

Israel – A Believers Journey



Hosted By Tim Agee and Bruce Zupa

May 27th – June 7th



Israel 2022 – Trip Preparation



Lesson 7

May 10, 2022

Online Resources



☞ <https://www.teamagee.com/category/israel2020/>

☞ Journal of my trip to Israel from 2019 to 2020

☞ <https://www.teamagee.com/israel2022/>

☞ Copies of the slides from this class



Herodium



Herodium



- ❧ Herodium was the administrative center for Herod the Great. It is located 7.5 miles south of Jerusalem and 3.1 miles southeast of Bethlehem.
- ❧ The site is a large, man-made hill that looks like a volcano. It also looks very much like an archaeological Tel, but it was built by Herod the Great between 23 and 15 B.C.
- ❧ The mountain is 2,487 feet above sea level, the highest peak in the Judean desert.
- ❧ There was a fortress-palace on the top of the mountain, and at the bottom was a palace, bathhouse, and giant freshwater swimming pool. Herod the Great is also believed to have been buried there.
- ❧ A signet ring (bulla) of Pontius Pilate was found at Herodium.
- ❧ In the second century AD, Herodium was occupied by the Jews during the second Jewish revolt.

Oslo II Map
Outlining Areas A, B, and C





Herodium – artificial mountain built by Herod the Great



Feral cat at Herodium



Model of Herodium



הטבעת של פילטוס
 טבעת ברזל בצורת טיפה עם חריטה מעגלית המכילה תמונה של איש מחזיק מוט, וכתובת עברית: 'פילטוס' (Pilate).
 הטבעת נמצאה בשנת 1961 באתר הארכאולוגי של הר הבית בירושלים.

The "Pilate Ring"
 A bronze ring of ring with an inscription in Greek-deciphered as 'Pilate' was
 unearthed being excavations of the events in the market place fortress, by
 an expedition headed by Prof. Gideon Avner of the Hebrew University of
 Jerusalem. The inscription announced a depiction of a man who carried Pontius
 Pilate may be the figure portrayed by Jesus in the first century AD, during whose
 rule Jesus was crucified. Pilate was also known for having introduced the temple
 tax levied on the Jews in exchange of protection.



Excavated remains of the fresh-water pool and palace at the base of the hill.



Steep path to the top of Herodium which offered incredible views all the way to Jerusalem, the Wilderness of Judaea, and the Dead Sea.



View toward Jerusalem



View of the Wilderness of Judaea, and the Dead Sea.



The remains of the fortress on top of the mountain



Model of the fortress on top of the mountain



Main tower from the fortress



Bathhouse within the fortress



A ritual bath (Mikveh) from time period of the 2nd revolt



A reception hall that was converted to a synagogue in the 2nd century AD



A tunnel that leads down through the hill to the outside. The first part of this tunnel is from Herod's water system, and the second part is from the time of the 2nd Jewish revolt in the 2nd century AD.



A tunnel that leads down through the hill to the outside. The first part of this tunnel is from Herod's water system, and the second part is from the time of the 2nd Jewish revolt in the 2nd century AD.



Cistern from Herod's water system



The tomb of Herod the Great. No inscription has been found at the tomb, but it was described by Josephus that Herod was buried here.



The remains of a theater that is currently being restored

Shepherd's Field

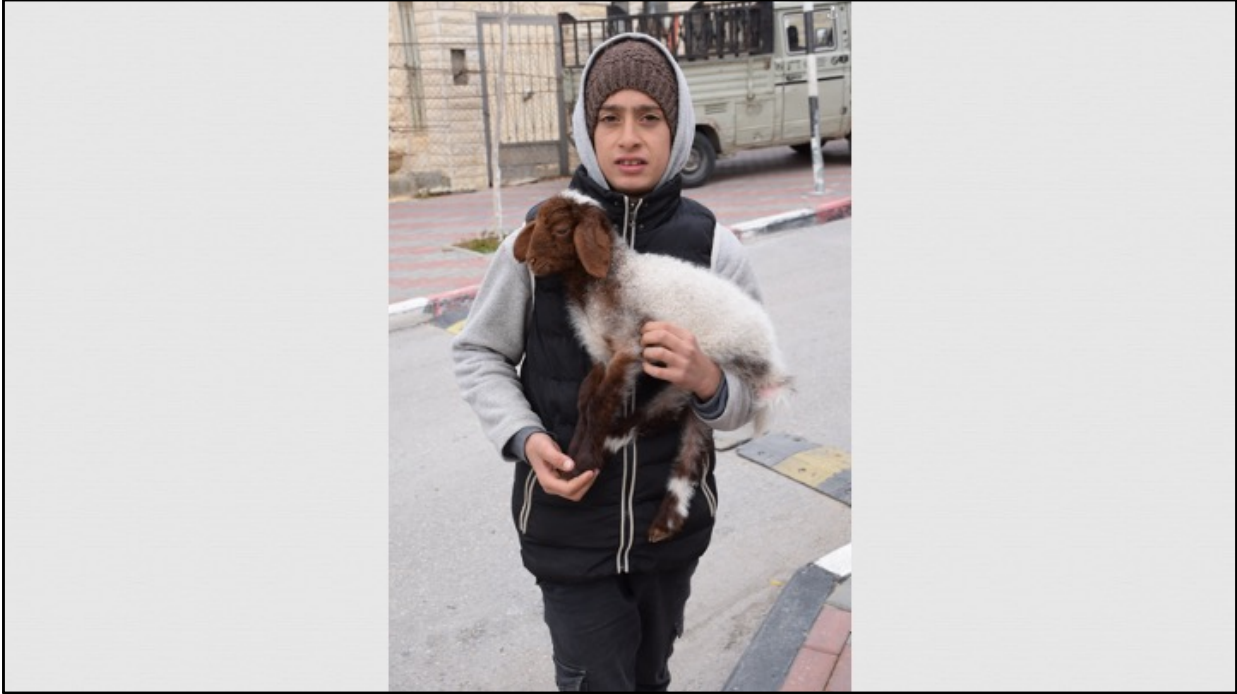


Ruth 2:2; Luke 2:8-20

Shepherd's Field



- ❧ Site that contains a natural cave that is traditionally considered to be the house of the shepherds who received the messages of the birth of Jesus from the angel (Luke 2:8-20). It is just southeast of Bethlehem in the West Bank.
- ❧ While we don't know where those shepherds lived, this cave is a good example of the type of natural caves in the area, and where Jesus was likely born in nearby Bethlehem.
- ❧ The message coming to the shepherds first (lower class) instead of the priests in Jerusalem (upper class) was an example of how wealth and power in this life mean nothing to God (James 2:1-7).
- ❧ This same site is also traditionally identified Boaz's field mentioned in Ruth 2:2, where Ruth gleaned grain for herself and Naomi





Entrance the Franciscan site known as Shepherd's Field



Ethiopian Christians in their white robes celebrating Orthodox Christmas



A natural cave that is traditionally considered to be the house of the shepherds who received the messages of the birth of Jesus from the angel (Luke 2:8-20).



Entrance to the cave that is traditionally considered to be the house of the shepherds who received the messages of the birth of Jesus from the angel (Luke 2:8-20).



Shepherd's Field Chapel at the site built in 1953 by the Franciscans



Shepherd's Field Chapel at the site built in 1953 by the Franciscans

Israel's History



Timeline of Israel's History



- ☞ 18th Century B.C. or before / Abraham
- ☞ 16th Century B.C. / Moses
- ☞ 15th Century B.C. / Joshua
- ☞ 11th to 10th Century B.C. / Saul, David, Solomon
- ☞ 930 B.C. / Kingdom Divides
- ☞ 720 B.C. / Fall of Israel to Assyria
- ☞ 586 B.C. / Fall of Judah to Babylon
- ☞ 538 B.C. / Return of Judah
- ☞ 1st Century B.C. to A.D. / New Testament