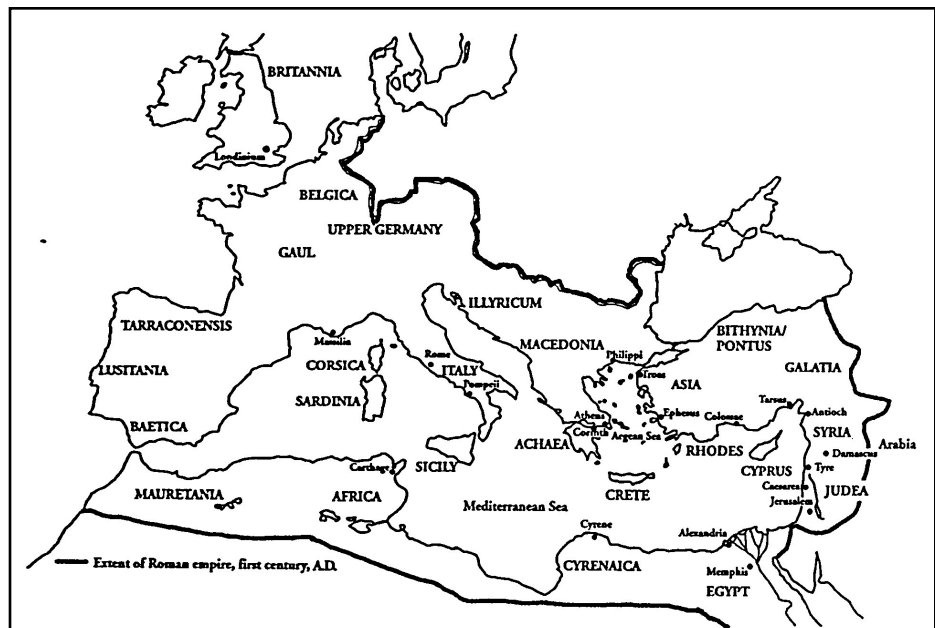


NOTES

I. UNIT FOUR – “Caesar’s Long Arm” – The Presence of Rome in Acts

A. LUKE: Our “Link to Latin and Legions”

1. Luke is the best source of insight into the extent of Rome’s presence in the life of the young \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. He’s the only narrative writer in our “New Testament” to give us \_\_\_\_\_ fuller name (Lk 3:1; Acts 4:27).
- b. He mentions *three* Roman \_\_\_\_\_: Caesar Augustus, Tiberius Caesar, and Claudius (Lk 2:1; 3:1; Acts 18:2).
- c. He provides us with a host of Roman names and political offices:
  - (1) Quirinius, “governor” of Syria (Lk 2:2); This was the most powerful Roman position in the Near East.
  - (2) Pontius Pilate, “governor” of Judea (Lk 3:1).
  - (3) Herod (Antipas), “tetrarch” of Galilee (Lk 3:1).
  - (4) (Herod) Philip, “tetrarch” of Iturea and Trachonitis (Lk 3:1).
  - (5) Lysanias, “tetrarch” of Abilene (Lk 3:1).
  - (6) Cornelius, a “centurion of the Italian cohort” (Acts 10:1).
  - (7) Sergius Paulus, proconsul of Cyprus (Acts 13:7).
  - (8) Gallio, proconsul of Achaia (Acts 18:12)
  - (9) Claudius Lysius, tribune in Jerusalem (Acts 23:26).
  - (10) Felix, governor of Judea (Acts 23:23-26).
  - (11) Porcius Festus, governor of Judea (Acts 24:27).
  - (12) Tertullus, “attorney” in Roman affairs (Gk - *rhetor*) Acts 24:1
  - (13) Julius, centurion in the Augustan cohort (Acts 27:1).
  - (14) Publius, the “leading man” on the island of Malta (Acts 28:7).
- d. He mentions by name, half of the 26 Roman provinces of the first century.



2. Understanding the “Roman Road to Retirement”
  - a. “*Cursus Honorum*” was the term for the career path to high \_\_\_\_\_ in the world of Roman politics and society.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ were expected to spend some time in the Roman military on their journey to political office.
  - c. The Roman military was the Empire best “propaganda machine,” because it, unlike the politicians, was \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Roman military according to Luke
  - a. Centurion - (10x in Acts); commanded a “century” (100 men)
    - highest rank attainable by a free citizen of the lower class.
    - normal career was 20 years; half died in service
  - b. “*rimus pilus*” - centurion of the First Century of a legion (60 centuries)
    - after one year at this rank, could retire with 150,000 denarii bonus (\$6 million; eligible for equestrian status)
  - c. Tribune - commander of a cohort (600 men; six centuries)
  - d. Praetorian Guard - based in the city of Rome
    - served 16 years instead of 20
    - made triple the salary of a normal legionary soldier
    - immensely powerful and influential to emperors
    - Paul spoke of this elite military band (Phil 1:13)
  - e. Size of army - there were 150,000 citizen soldiers in the 30 Roman legions
    - there were another 150,000 “auxiliary” non-citizens
    - citizen soldiers could expect to be part of the ruling class of the cities where they retired
    - non-citizen retirees were given full citizenship for themselves and their posterity.
  - f. “Auxiliaries” - Luke wrote of two: the Italian Cohort and the Augustan Cohort (Acts 10:1; 27:1)
4. Roman Citizenship and the book of Acts
  - a. Paul used his privileges as a Roman citizen on several occasions to his benefit (Acts 16:37; Acts 21:39; 22:38; 25:11).