## SIEGE OF JERUSALEM - 70 AD

## DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE OF YHVH BY ROMAN LEGIONS

The purpose of this illustration is to depict how the sequence of the Romans Legions first destroyed the Temple as they were camped across on the Mount of Olives in 70 AD. There were 4 Roman Legions surrounding the walls of Jerusalem. The walls were eventually breached on the 9th of Av as the Romans converged from the Anatolia Fortress that is adjacent to the Temple Mount. According to the Jews historical sources, it was on a Sunday in August. It was from that point and time that the 4 Roman Legions ransacked their way to the Temple and City thereafter leaving no stone of the Temple upon another. It is speculated that the Roman soldiers wanted to plunder all the gold of the Temple. In an attempt to maintain the integrity of the Temple for spoil, in haste a torch was nevertheless thrown into the Holies that melted the gold into the very crevasses of all the Temple platform stones. Thus, to get at the gold, no stone was left upon another by the Roman soldiers. More than that, the Romans wanted to symbolically drive a 'knife' at the heart of Jewish resistance and symbol of sovereignty and what little they had to do with the Temple worship services. The Romans were plagued with Jewish revolts and attacks since 66 AD and wanted once and for all deal with the Jewish symbol of sovereignty. Titus, the Prince of Rome at the time surrounded Jerusalem with 4 Roman Legions. The most prominent one was the V (5th) named Fulminata, the XV (15th) named Apollinaris on the western side and the X (10th) named Fretensis on the Mount of Olives to the east.



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