

JESUS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

1. The Pilate Inscription

Matt 27:2 They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor (NRSV).

2. Ossuary of Caiaphas

Matt 26:57 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered (NRSV).



The Aramaic inscription reads: "Joseph son of Caiaphas" on the side and back of the ossuary. The first century Jewish historian Josephus called him Joseph who was called Caiaphus (cf Matt 26:57; Jn

3. The Galilee Boat



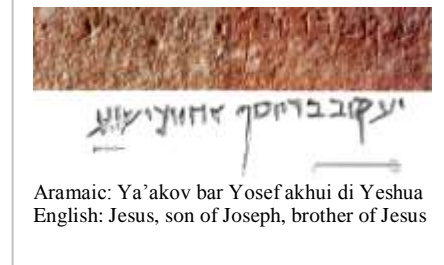
4. The Crucified Man

Josephus War 2. 306-308. Many of the peaceable citizens [of Jerusalem] were arrested and brought before Florus [the Roman governor], who had them first scourged and then crucified. The total number of that day's victims, including women and children... amounted to about 3,600... Florus did that day what none had ever done before, namely, to scourge before his tribunal and nail to the cross men of equestrian rank, men who, if Jews by birth, were at least invested with that Roman dignity. (Date: 66 CE during Jewish-Roman War)



5. The Ossuary of James

a. Description



b. Oded Goled (Israeli antiquities dealer)

c. André Lemaire (Aramaic Scholar)

d. Geological Survey of Israel

Patina = a film formed from chemicals that seep out of or drip onto the stone over hundreds of years; the coating that builds up on an ancient artifact.

e. Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)

f. Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA)

First, they found what they call “fake patina” on the inscription
Second, they claim that the inscription cuts through the patina on the ossuary

g. Not the end of the story

h. Conclusion

First, the inscription may be a forgery, but it has not been demonstrated so far
Second, although the ossuary adds nothing to our knowledge of the person of Jesus, it does show the importance of archaeology in the Holy Land.

6. Stone Vessels and Ritual Pools



7. Sepphoris and Tiberias

8. Caesarea Maritima and Jerusalem



Jerusalem and the *Dome on the Rock* where the ancient Jewish Temple used to sit.

9. Qumran

Conclusions