

את
CEPHER

Yocephus
Wars

מלחמות יהודים

Milchamoth Yahudiym
(History of the Destruction of Yerushalayim)

© Library of Congress-in-Publication Data
Cepher® Publishing Group, LLC
Work for hire
Yocephus Wars
Cepher® Publishing Group, LLC
1523 – 132nd Street SE, Suite C-350
Everett, Washington 98208

www.cephernet.net

Printed in the United States of America
By Thomson-Shore Co., Dexter, Michigan

© 2018 Cepher® Publishing Group, LLC
All Rights Reserved. Except as permitted under the
U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be
reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or
by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system,
without the prior written permission of the publisher.

ISBN-13: 978-1517225667

ISBN-10: 1517225663

All inquiries made to info@cephernet.net

Table of Contents

<i>Preface</i>	17
----------------	----

<i>Book One</i>	22
-----------------	----

*The Interval of One Hundred and Sixty-Seven Years.
From the Taking of Yerushalayim by Antiochus Epiphanes
To the Death of Herod the Great.*

Chapter 1	HOW THE CITY OF YERUSHALAYIM WAS TAKEN, AND THE TEMPLE PILLAGED [BY ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES]. AS ALSO CONCERNING THE ACTIONS OF THE MAKKABIYM, MATTITHYAHU AND YAHUDAH; AND CONCERNING THE DEATH OF YAHUDAH.	23
Chapter 2	CONCERNING THE SUCCESSORS OF YAHUDAH, WHO WERE YONATHAN AND SHIM'ON, AND YAHUCHANON HYRCANUS.	26
Chapter 3	HOW ARISTOBULUS WAS THE FIRST THAT PUT A DIADEM ABOUT HIS HEAD; AND AFTER HE HAD PUT HIS MOTHER AND BROTHER TO DEATH, DIED HIMSELF, WHEN HE HAD REIGNED NO MORE THAN A YEAR.	29
Chapter 4	WHAT ACTIONS WERE DONE BY ALEXANDER JANEUS, WHO REIGNED TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS.	32
Chapter 5	ALEXANDRA REIGNS NINE YEARS, DURING WHICH TIME THE PARASHIYM WERE THE REAL RULERS OF THE NATION.	36
Chapter 6	WHEN HYRCANUS, WHO WAS ALEXANDER'S HEIR, RECEDED FROM HIS CLAIM TO THE CROWN, ARISTOBULUS IS MADE KING; AND AFTERWARD THE SAME HYRCANUS, BY THE MEANS OF ANTIPATER, IS BROUGHT BACK BY ARETAS. AT LAST POMPEY IS MADE THE ARBITRATOR OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE BROTHERS.	38

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Chapter 7	HOW POMPEY HAD THE CITY OF YERUSHALAYIM DELIVERED UP TO HIM BUT TOOK THE TEMPLE BY FORCE. HOW HE WENT INTO THE HOLY OF HOLIES; AS ALSO WHAT WERE HIS OTHER EXPLOITS IN YAHUD.	41
Chapter 8	ALEXANDER, THE SON OF ARISTOBULUS, WHO RAN AWAY FROM POMPEY, MAKES AN EXPEDITION AGAINST HYRCANUS; BUT BEING OVERCOME BY GABINIUS, HE DELIVERS UP THE FORTRESSES TO HIM. AFTER THIS ARISTOBULUS ESCAPES FROM ROME AND GATHERS AN ARMY TOGETHER; BUT BEING BEATEN BY THE ROMAIYM, HE IS BROUGHT BACK TO ROME; WITH OTHER THINGS RELATING TO GABINIUS, CRASSUS, AND CASSIUS.	44
Chapter 9	ARISTOBULUS IS TAKEN OFF BY POMPEY'S FRIENDS, AS IS HIS SON ALEXANDER BY SCIPIO. ANTIPATER CULTIVATES A FRIENDSHIP WITH QEYCAR AFTER POMPEY'S DEATH; HE ALSO PERFORMS GREAT ACTIONS IN THAT WAR, WHEREIN HE ASSISTED MITHRIDATES.	48
Chapter 10	QEYCAR MAKES ANTIPATER PROCURATOR OF YAHUD; AS DOES ANTIPATER APPOINT PHASAELUS TO BE GOVERNOR OF YERUSHALAYIM AND HEROD GOVERNOR OF GALIYL; WHO, IN SOME TIME, WAS CALLED TO ANSWER FOR HIMSELF [BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN], WHERE HE IS ACQUITTED. SEXTUS QEYCAR IS TREACHEROUSLY KILLED BY BASSUS AND IS SUCCEEDED BY MARQUS.	50
Chapter 11	HEROD IS MADE PROCURATOR OF ALL ARAM; MALICHUS IS AFRAID OF HIM AND TAKES ANTIPATER OFF BY POISON; WHEREUPON THE TRIBUNES OF THE SOLDIERS ARE PREVAILED WITH TO KILL HIM.	54
Chapter 12	PHASAELUS IS TOO HARD FOR FELIX; HEROD ALSO OVERCOMES ANTIGONUS IN BATTLE; AND THE YAHUDIYM ACCUSE BOTH HEROD AND PHASAELUS, BUT ANTONIUS ACQUITS THEM AND MAKES THEM TETRARCHS.	57
Chapter 13	THE PARTHIANS BRING ANTIGONUS BACK INTO YAHUD AND CAST HYRCANUS AND PHASAELUS INTO PRISON. THE FLIGHT OF HEROD AND THE TAKING OF YERUSHALAYIM AND WHAT HYRCANUS AND PHASAELUS SUFFERED.	59
Chapter 14	WHEN HEROD IS REJECTED IN ARAV, HE MAKES HASTE TO ROME WHERE ANTONY AND QEYCAR JOIN	63

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

	THEIR INTEREST TO MAKE HIM KING.	
Chapter 15	ANTIGONUS BESIEGES THOSE THAT WERE IN MASADA WHOM HEROD FREES FROM CONFINEMENT WHEN HE CAME BACK FROM ROME, AND PRESENTLY MARCHES TO YERUSHALAYIM WHERE HE FINDS SILO CORRUPTED BY BRIBES.	65
Chapter 16	HEROD TAKES SEPPHORIS AND SUBDUES THE ROBBERS THAT WERE IN THE CAVES; HE AFTER THAT AVENGES HIMSELF UPON MACHERAS, AS UPON AN ENEMY OF HIS, AND GOES TO ANTONY AS HE WAS BESIEGING SAMOSATA.	68
Chapter 17	THE DEATH OF YOCEPH [HEROD'S BROTHER] WHICH HAD BEEN SIGNIFIED TO HEROD IN DREAMS. HOW HEROD WAS PRESERVED TWICE AFTER A WONDERFUL MANNER. HE CUTS OFF THE HEAD OF PAPPUS, WHO WAS THE MURDERER OF HIS BROTHER, AND SENDS THAT HEAD TO [HIS OTHER BROTHER] PHERORAS, AND IN NO LONG TIME HE BESIEGES YERUSHALAYIM AND MARRIES MARIAMNE.	71
Chapter 18	HOW HEROD AND SOSIUS TOOK YERUSHALAYIM BY FORCE; AND TO WHAT DEATH ANTIGONUS CAME. ALSO, CONCERNING CLEOPATRA'S AVARICIOUS TEMPER.	75
Chapter 19	HOW ANTONY, AT THE PERSUASION OF CLEOPATRA, SENT HEROD TO FIGHT AGAINST THE ARAVIYM; AND NOW AFTER SEVERAL BATTLES, HE AT LENGTH GOT THE VICTORY. AS ALSO CONCERNING A GREAT EARTHQUAKE.	78
Chapter 20	HEROD IS CONFIRMED IN HIS KINGDOM BY QEYCAR AND CULTIVATES A FRIENDSHIP WITH THE EMPEROR BY MAGNIFICENT PRESENTS; ALSO, WHILE QEYCAR RETURNS HIS KINDNESS BY BESTOWING ON HIM THAT PART OF HIS KINGDOM WHICH HAD BEEN TAKEN AWAY FROM IT BY CLEOPATRA WITH THE ADDITION OF ZENODORUSS COUNTRY.	82
Chapter 21	OF THE [TEMPLE AND] CITIES THAT WERE BUILT BY HEROD AND ERECTED FROM THE VERY FOUNDATIONS; AS ALSO, OF THOSE OTHER EDIFICES THAT WERE ERECTED BY HIM, AND WHAT MAGNIFICENCE HE SHOWED TO FOREIGNERS, AND HOW FORTUNE WAS IN ALL THINGS FAVORABLE TO HIM.	85

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Chapter 22	THE MURDER OF ARISTOBULUS AND HYRCANUS THE HIGH PRIESTS, AS ALSO, OF MARIAMNE THE QUEEN.	90
Chapter 23	CALUMNIES AGAINST THE SONS OF MARIAMNE. ANTIPATER IS PREFERRED BEFORE THEM. THEY ARE ACCUSED BEFORE QEYCAR, AND HEROD IS RECONCILED TO THEM.	93
Chapter 24	THE MALICE OF ANTIPATER AND DORIS. ALEXANDER IS VERY UNEASY ON GLAPHYRAS ACCOUNT. HEROD PARDONS PHERORAS WHOM HE SUSPECTED, AND SALOME WHOM HE KNEW TO MAKE MISCHIEF AMONG THEM. HEROD'S EUNUCHS ARE TORTURED AND ALEXANDER IS BOUND.	96
Chapter 25	ARCHELAUS PROCURES A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN ALEXANDER PHERORAS AND HEROD.	101
Chapter 26	HOW EURYCLES CALUMNIATED THE SONS OF MARIAMNE; AND HOW EUARATUS OF COSTS APOLOGY FOR THEM HAD NO EFFECT.	104
Chapter 27	HEROD BY QEYCAR'S DIRECTION ACCUSES HIS SONS AT EURYTUS. THEY ARE NOT PRODUCED BEFORE THE COURTS BUT YET ARE CONDEMNED; AND IN A LITTLE TIME THEY ARE SENT TO SEBASTE AND STRANGLED THERE.	107
Chapter 28	HOW ANTIPATER IS HATED OF ALL MEN; AND HOW THE KING ESPOUSES THE SONS OF THOSE THAT HAD BEEN SLAIN TO HIS KINDRED; BUT THAT ANTIPATER MADE HIM CHANGE THEM FOR OTHER WOMEN. OF HEROD'S MARRIAGES, AND CHILDREN.	110
Chapter 29	ANTIPATER BECOMES INTOLERABLE. HE IS SENT TO ROME AND CARRIES HEROD'S TESTAMENT WITH HIM; PHERORAS LEAVES HIS BROTHER, THAT HE MAY KEEP HIS WOMAN. HE DIES AT HOME.	113
Chapter 30	WHEN HEROD MADE INQUIRY ABOUT PHERORAS' DEATH, A DISCOVERY WAS MADE THAT ANTIPATER HAD PREPARED A POISONOUS DRAUGHT FOR HIM. HEROD CASTS DORIS AND HER ACCOMPLICES, AS ALSO MARIAMNE, OUT OF THE PALACE AND BLOTS HER SON HEROD OUT OF HIS TESTAMENT.	116
Chapter 31	ANTIPATER IS CONVICTED BY BATHYLLUS, BUT HE STILL RETURNS FROM ROME WITHOUT KNOWING IT. HEROD BRINGS HIM TO HIS TRIAL.	119

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Chapter 32 ANTIPATER IS ACCUSED BEFORE VARUS AND IS CONVICTED OF LAYING A PLOT [AGAINST HIS FATHER] BY THE STRONGEST EVIDENCE. HEROD PUTS OFF HIS PUNISHMENT TILL HE SHOULD BE RECOVERED, AND IN THE MEANTIME, ALTERS HIS TESTAMENT. 122

Chapter 33 THE GOLDEN EAGLE IS CUT TO PIECES. HEROD'S BARBARITY WHEN HE WAS READY TO DIE. HE ATTEMPTS TO KILL HIMSELF. HE COMMANDS ANTIPATER TO BE SLAIN. HE SURVIVES HIM FIVE DAYS, AND THEN DIES. 126

Book Two 137

*The Interval of Sixty-Nine Years.
From the Death of Herod till Vespasian Was Sent
To Subdue the Yahudiym by Nero.*

Chapter 1 ARCHELAUS MAKES A FUNERAL FEAST FOR THE PEOPLE, ON THE ACCOUNT OF HEROD. AFTER WHICH A GREAT TUMULT IS RAISED BY THE MULTITUDE AND HE SENDS THE SOLDIERS OUT UPON THEM, WHO DESTROY ABOUT THREE THOUSAND OF THEM. 138

Chapter 2 ARCHELAUS GOES TO ROME WITH A GREAT NUMBER OF HIS KINDRED. HE IS THERE ACCUSED BEFORE QEYCAR BY ANTIPATER; BUT IS SUPERIOR TO HIS ACCUSERS IN JUDGMENT BY THE MEANS OF THAT DEFENSE WHICH NICOLAUS MADE FOR HIM. 140

Chapter 3 THE YAHUDIYM FIGHT A GREAT BATTLE WITH SABINUS' SOLDIERS AND A GREAT DESTRUCTION IS MADE AT YERUSHALAYIM. 144

Chapter 4 HEROD'S VETERAN SOLDIERS BECOME TUMULTUOUS. THE ROBBERIES OF YAHUDAH. SHIM'ON AND ATHRONOEUS TAKE THE NAME OF KING UPON THEM. 146

Chapter 5 VARUS COMPOSES THE TUMULTS IN YAHUD AND CRUCIFIES ABOUT TWO THOUSAND OF THE SEDITIOUS. 148

Chapter 6 THE YAHUDIYM GREATLY COMPLAIN OF ARCHELAUS AND DESIRE THAT THEY MAY BE MADE SUBJECT TO ROMAIY GOVERNORS. BUT WHEN QEYCAR HAD HEARD WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY, HE DISTRIBUTED HEROD'S DOMINIONS AMONG HIS SONS ACCORDING TO HIS OWN PLEASURE. 150

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Chapter 7	THE HISTORY OF THE SPURIOUS ALEXANDER. ARCHELAUS IS BANISHED AND GLAPHYRA DIES AFTER WHAT WAS TO HAPPEN TO BOTH OF THEM HAD BEEN SHOWED THEM IN DREAMS.	153
Chapter 8	ARCHELAUS' ETHNARCHY IS REDUCED TO A [ROMAIY] PROVINCE. THE SEDITION OF YAHUDAH OF GALIYL. THE THREE SECTS OF THE YAHUDIYM.	156
Chapter 9	THE DEATH OF SALOME. THE CITIES WHICH HEROD AND PHILIP BUILT. PILATE OCCASIONS DISTURBANCES. TIVERIYAH PUTS AGRIPPA INTO BONDS, BUT CAIUS FREES HIM FROM THEM AND MAKES HIM KING. HEROD ANTIPAS IS BANISHED.	162
Chapter 10	CAIUS COMMANDS THAT HIS STATUE SHOULD BE SET UP IN THE TEMPLE ITSELF; AND WHAT PETRONIUS DID THEREUPON.	165
Chapter 11	CONCERNING THE GOVERNMENT OF CLAUDIUS AND THE REIGN OF AGRIPPA. CONCERNING THE DEATHS OF AGRIPPA AND OF HEROD, AND WHAT CHILDREN THEY BOTH LEFT BEHIND THEM.	168
Chapter 12	MANY TUMULTS UNDER CUMANUS WHICH WERE COMPOSED BY QUADRATUS. FELIX IS PROCURATOR OF YAHUD. AGRIPPA IS ADVANCED FROM CHALCIS TO A GREATER KINGDOM.	171
Chapter 13	NERO ADDS FOUR CITIES TO AGRIPPA'S KINGDOM, BUT THE OTHER PARTS OF YAHUD WERE UNDER FELIX. THE DISTURBANCES WHICH WERE RAISED BY THE SICARII, THE MAGICIANS, AND A MITSRIY FALSE PROPHET. THE YAHUDIYM AND ARAMMIYM HAVE A CONTEST AT QEYCARYAH.	175
Chapter 14	FESTUS SUCCEEDS FELIX, WHO IS SUCCEEDED BY ALBINUS, AS HE IS BY FLORUS; WHO, BY THE BARBARITY OF HIS GOVERNMENT, FORCES THE YAHUDIYM INTO THE WAR.	178
Chapter 15	CONCERNING BERNICE'S PETITION TO FLORUS TO SPARE THE YAHUDIYM, BUT IN VAIN; AS ALSO, HOW AFTER THE SEDITIOUS FLAME WAS QUENCHED, IT WAS KINDLED AGAIN BY FLORUS.	183
Chapter 16	CESTIUS SENDS NEOPOLITANUS THE TRIBUNE TO SEE IN WHAT CONDITION WERE THE AFFAIRS OF THE YAHUDIYM. AGRIPPA MAKES A SPEECH TO THE PEOPLE OF THE YAHUDIYM, THAT HE MAY	186

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

	DIVERT THEM FROM THEIR INTENTIONS OF MAKING WAR WITH THE ROMAIYM.	
Chapter 17	HOW THE WAR OF THE YAHUDIYM WITH THE ROMAIYM BEGAN, AND CONCERNING MENACHEM.	194
Chapter 18	THE CALAMITIES AND SLAUGHTERS THAT CAME UPON THE YAHUDIYM.	200
Chapter 19	WHAT CESTIUS DID AGAINST THE YAHUDIYM; AND HOW UPON HIS BESIEGING YERUSHALAYIM, HE RETREATED FROM THE CITY WITHOUT ANY JUST OCCASION IN THE WORLD. AS ALSO, WHAT SEVERE CALAMITIES HE UNDERWENT FROM THE YAHUDIYM IN HIS RETREAT.	206
Chapter 20	CESTIUS SENDS AMBASSADORS TO NERO. THE PEOPLE OF DAMASCUS SLAY THOSE YAHUDIYM THAT LIVED WITH THEM. THE PEOPLE OF YERUSHALAYIM, AFTER [THEY HAD LEFT OFF] PURSUING CESTIUS, RETURN TO THE CITY, AND GET THINGS READY FOR ITS DEFENSE, AND MAKE A GREAT MANY GENERALS FOR THEIR ARMIES, AND PARTICULARLY YOCEPHUS, THE WRITER OF THESE CEPHERIYM. SOME ACCOUNT OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.	211
Chapter 21	CONCERNING YAHUCHANON OF GISCHALA. YOCEPHUS USES STRATAGEMS AGAINST THE PLOTS YAHUCHANON LAID AGAINST HIM, AND RECOVERS CERTAIN CITIES WHICH HAD REVOLTED FROM HIM.	215
Chapter 22	THE YAHUDIYM MAKE ALL READY FOR THE WAR; AND SHIM'ON, THE SON OF GIORAS, FALLS TO PLUNDERING.	222

Book Three 231

*Containing the Interval of About One Year.
From Vespasian's Coming to Subdue the Yahudiym
To the Taking of Gamala.*

Chapter 1	VESPASIAN IS SENT INTO ARAM BY NERO IN ORDER TO MAKE WAR WITH THE YAHUDIYM.	232
Chapter 2	A GREAT SLAUGHTER ABOUT ASHQELON. VESPASIAN COMES TO PTOLEMAIS.	234
Chapter 3	A DESCRIPTION OF GALIYL, SHOMERON, AND YAHUD.	237

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Chapter 4	YOCEPHUS MAKES AN ATTEMPT UPON SEPPHORIS, BUT IS REPELLED. TITUS COMES WITH A GREAT ARMY TO PTOLEMAIS.	239
Chapter 5	A DESCRIPTION OF THE ROMAIY ARMIES AND ROMAIY CAMPS; AND OF OTHER PARTICULARS FOR WHICH THE ROMAIYM ARE COMMENDED.	241
Chapter 6	PLACIDUS ATTEMPTS TO TAKE JOTAPATA, AND IS BEATEN OFF. VESPASIAN MARCHES INTO GALIYL.	245
Chapter 7	VESPASIAN, WHEN HE HAD TAKEN THE CITY GADAEA, MARCHES TO JOTAPATA. AFTER A LONG SIEGE, THE CITY IS BETRAYED BY A DESERTER AND TAKEN BY VESPASIAN.	247
Chapter 8	HOW YOCEPHUS WAS DISCOVERED BY A WOMAN, AND WAS WILLING TO DELIVER HIMSELF UP TO THE ROMAIYM; AND WHAT DISCOURSE HE HAD WITH HIS OWN MEN, WHEN THEY ENDEAVORED TO HINDER HIM; AND WHAT HE SAID TO VESPASIAN WHEN HE WAS BROUGHT TO HIM; AND AFTER WHAT MANNER VESPASIAN USED HIM AFTERWARD.	264
Chapter 9	HOW YAPHO WAS TAKEN AND TIVERIYAH DELIVERED UP.	270
Chapter 10	HOW TARICHEAE WAS TAKEN. A DESCRIPTION OF THE RIVER YARDAN AND OF THE COUNTRY OF KINNEROTH.	274

Book Four 283

*Containing the Interval of About One Year.
From the Siege of Gamala to the Coming of
Titus to Besiege Yerushalayim*

Chapter 1	THE SIEGE AND TAKING OF GAMALA.	284
Chapter 2	THE SURRENDER OF GISCHALA; WHILE YAHUCHANON FLIES AWAY FROM IT TO YERUSHALAYIM.	291
Chapter 3	CONCERNING YAHUCHANON OF GISCHALA. CONCERNING THE ZEALOTS, AND THE HIGH PRIEST ANANUS; AS ALSO HOW THE YAHUDIYM RAISED SEDITIONS ONE AGAINST ANOTHER [IN YERUSHALAYIM.]	295
Chapter 4	THE EDOMIYM BEING SENT FOR BY THE ZEALOTS,	305

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

	CAME IMMEDIATELY TO YERUSHALAYIM; AND WHEN THEY WERE EXCLUDED OUT OF THE CITY, THEY LAY ALL NIGHT THERE. YAHUSHA, ONE OF THE HIGH PRIESTS, MAKES A SPEECH TO THEM; AND SHIM`ON, THE EDOMIY, MAKES A REPLY TO IT.	
Chapter 5	THE CRUELTY OF THE EDOMIYM WHEN THEY WERE GOTTEN INTO THE TEMPLE DURING THE STORM; AND OF THE ZEALOTS. CONCERNING THE SLAUGHTER OF ANANUS, AND YAHUSHA, AND ZAKARYAHU; AND HOW THE EDOMIYM RETIRED HOME.	312
Chapter 6	HOW THE ZEALOTS, WHEN THEY WERE FREED FROM THE EDOMIYM, SLEW A GREAT MANY MORE OF THE CITIZENS; AND HOW VESPASIAN DISSUADED THE ROMAIYM, WHEN THEY WERE VERY EARNEST TO MARCH AGAINST THE YAHUDIYM, FROM PROCEEDING IN THE WAR AT THAT TIME.	317
Chapter 7	HOW YAHUCHANON TYRANNIZED OVER THE REST; AND WHAT MISCHIEF THE ZEALOTS DID AT MASADA. HOW ALSO, VESPASIAN TOOK GADARA; AND WHAT ACTIONS WERE PERFORMED BY PLACIDUS.	321
Chapter 8	HOW VESPASIAN, UPON HEARING OF SOME COMMO-TIONS IN GAUL, MADE HASTE TO FINISH THE YAHUDIC WAR. A DESCRIPTION OF YERiyCHO, AND OF THE GREAT PLAIN; WITH AN ACCOUNT BESIDES OF THE LAKE ASPHALTITIS.	326
Chapter 9	THAT VESPASIAN, AFTER HE HAD TAKEN GADARA, MADE PREPARATION FOR THE SIEGE OF YERUSHA-LAYIM; BUT THAT UPON HIS HEARING OF THE DEATH OF NERO, HE CHANGED HIS INTENTIONS. AS ALSO, CONCERNING SHIM`ON OF GERAS.	330
Chapter 10	HOW THE SOLDIERS, BOTH IN YAHUD AND MITS-RAYIM, PROCLAIMED VESPASIAN EMPEROR; AND HOW VESPASIAN RELEASED YOCEPHUS FROM HIS BONDS.	338
Chapter 11	THAT UPON THE CONQUEST AND SLAUGHTER OF VITELLIUS, VESPASIAN HASTENED HIS JOURNEY TO ROME; BUT TITUS, HIS SON, RETURNED TO YERUSHA-LAYIM.	342

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Book Five 350

*Containing the Interval of Near Six Months.
From the Coming of Titus to Besiege Yerushalayim,
To the Great Extremity to which the Yahudiym were Reduced.*

Chapter 1	CONCERNING THE SEDITIONS AT YERUSHALAYIM, AND WHAT TERRIBLE MISERIES AFFLICTED THE CITY BY THEIR MEANS.	351
Chapter 2	HOW TITUS MARCHED TO YERUSHALAYIM, AND HOW HE WAS IN DANGER AS HE WAS TAKING A VIEW OF THE CITY. OF THE PLACE ALSO WHERE HE PITCHED HIS CAMP.	356
Chapter 3	HOW THE SEDITION WAS AGAIN REVIVED WITHIN YERUSHALAYIM AND YET THE YAHUDIYM CONTRIVED SNARES FOR THE ROMAIYM. HOW TITUS ALSO THREATENED HIS SOLDIERS FOR THEIR UNGOVERNABLE RASHNESS.	361
Chapter 4	THE DESCRIPTION OF YERUSHALAYIM.	365
Chapter 5	A DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE.	369
Chapter 6	CONCERNING THE TYRANTS SHIM`ON AND YAHUCHANON. HOW ALSO, AS TITUS WAS GOING AROUND THE WALL OF THIS CITY, NICANOR WAS WOUNDED BY A DART; WHICH ACCIDENT PROVOKED TITUS TO PRESS ON THE SIEGE.	375
Chapter 7	HOW ONE OF THE TOWERS ERECTED BY THE ROMAIYM FELL DOWN OF ITS OWN ACCORD; AND HOW THE ROMAIYM, AFTER GREAT SLAUGHTER HAD BEEN MADE, GOT POSSESSION OF THE FIRST WALL. HOW ALSO, TITUS MADE HIS ASSAULTS UPON THE SECOND WALL; AS ALSO CONCERNING LONGINUS THE ROMAIY, AND CASTOR THE YAHUDIY.	380
Chapter 8	HOW THE ROMAIYM TOOK THE SECOND WALL TWICE, AND GOT ALL READY FOR TAKING THE THIRD WALL.	384
Chapter 9	TITUS, WHEN THE YAHUDIYM WERE NOT AT ALL MOLIFIED BY HIS LEAVING OFF THE SIEGE FOR A WHILE, SET HIMSELF AGAIN TO PROSECUTE THE SAME; BUT SOON SENT YOCEPHUS TO DISCOURSE WITH HIS OWN COUNTRYMEN ABOUT PEACE.	386

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

Chapter 10	HOW A GREAT MANY OF THE PEOPLE EARNESTLY ENDEAVORED TO DESERT TO THE ROMAIYM; AS ALSO, WHAT INTOLERABLE THINGS THOSE THAT STAYED BEHIND SUFFERED BY FAMINE, AND THE SAD CONSEQUENCES THEREOF.	393
Chapter 11	HOW THE YAHUDIYM WERE CRUCIFIED BEFORE THE WALLS OF THE CITY. CONCERNING ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES; AND HOW THE YAHUDIYM OVERTHREW THE BANKS THAT HAD BEEN RAISED BY THE ROMAIYM.	396
Chapter 12	TITUS THOUGHT FIT TO ENCOMPASS THE CITY ROUND WITH A WALL; AFTER WHICH THE FAMINE CONSUMED THE PEOPLE BY WHOLE HOUSES AND FAMILIES TOGETHER.	401
Chapter 13	THE GREAT SLAUGHTERS AND SACRILEGE THAT WERE IN YERUSHALAYIM.	405

Book Six 415

*The Interval of About One Month.
From the Great Extremity to which the Yahudiym were Reduced,
to the taking of Yerushalayim by Titus.*

Chapter 1	THAT THE MISERIES STILL GREW WORSE; AND HOW THE ROMAIYM MADE AN ASSAULT UPON THE TOWER OF ANTONIA.	416
Chapter 2	HOW TITUS GAVE ORDERS TO DEMOLISH THE TOWER OF ANTONIA, AND THEN PERSUADED YOCEPHUS TO EXHORT THE YAHUDIYM AGAIN [TO A SURRENDER].	424
Chapter 3	CONCERNING A STRATAGEM THAT WAS DEvised BY THE YAHUDIYM, BY WHICH THEY BURNT MANY OF THE ROMAIYM; WITH ANOTHER DESCRIPTION OF THE TERRIBLE FAMINE THAT WAS IN THE CITY.	432
Chapter 4	WHEN THE BANKS WERE COMPLETED, AND THE BATTERING RAMS BROUGHT, AND COULD DO NOTHING, TITUS GAVE ORDERS TO SET FIRE TO THE GATES OF THE TEMPLE; IN NO LONG TIME AFTER WHICH THE HOLY HOUSE ITSELF WAS BURNT DOWN, EVEN AGAINST HIS CONSENT.	436
Chapter 5	THE GREAT DISTRESS THE YAHUDIYM WERE IN UPON THE CONFLAGRATION OF THE HOLY HOUSE.	441

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

	CONCERNING A FALSE PROPHET, AND THE SIGNS THAT PRECEDED THIS DESTRUCTION.	
Chapter 6	HOW THE ROMAIYM CARRIED THEIR ENSIGNS TO THE TEMPLE AND MADE JOYFUL ACCLAMATIONS TO TITUS. THE SPEECH THAT TITUS MADE TO THE YAHUDIYM WHEN THEY MADE SUPPLICATION FOR MERCY. WHAT REPLY THEY MADE THERETO; AND HOW THAT REPLY MOVED TITUS' INDIGNATION AGAINST THEM.	445
Chapter 7	WHAT AFTERWARD BEFELL THE SEDITIOUS WHEN THEY HAD DONE A GREAT DEAL OF MISCHIEF, AND SUFFERED MANY MISFORTUNES; AS ALSO, HOW QEYCAR BECAME MASTER OF THE UPPER CITY.	449
Chapter 8	HOW QEYCAR RAISED BANKS ROUND ABOUT THE UPPER CITY [MOUNT TSIYON] AND WHEN THEY WERE COMPLETED, GAVE ORDERS THAT THE MACHINES SHOULD BE BROUGHT. HE THEN POSSESSED HIMSELF OF THE WHOLE CITY.	451
Chapter 9	WHAT INJUNCTIONS QEYCAR GAVE WHEN HE WAS COME WITHIN THE CITY. THE NUMBER OF THE CAPTIVES AND OF THOSE THAT PERISHED IN THE SIEGE; AS ALSO, CONCERNING THOSE THAT HAD ESCAPED INTO THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVERNS, AMONG WHOM WERE THE TYRANTS SHIM'ON AND YAHUCHANON THEMSELVES.	455
Chapter 10	THAT WHEREAS THE CITY OF YERUSHALAYIM HAD BEEN FIVE TIMES TAKEN FORMERLY, THIS WAS THE SECOND TIME OF ITS DESOLATION. A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF ITS HISTORY.	458

Book Seven 465

The Interval of About Three Years. From the Taking of Yerushalayim by Titus, to the Sedition of the Yahudiym at Cyrene.

Chapter 1	HOW THE ENTIRE CITY OF YERUSHALAYIM WAS DEMOLISHED, EXCEPTING THREE TOWERS; AND HOW TITUS COMMENDED HIS SOLDIERS IN A SPEECH MADE TO THEM, AND DISTRIBUTED REWARDS TO THEM, AND THEN DISMISSED MANY OF THEM.	466
Chapter 2	HOW TITUS EXHIBITED ALL SORTS OF SHOWS	469

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

	AT QEYCARYAH PHILIPPI. CONCERNING SHIM`ON THE TYRANT, HOW HE WAS TAKEN AND RESERVED FOR THE TRIUMPH.	
Chapter 3	HOW TITUS, UPON THE CELEBRATION OF HIS BROTHER'S AND FATHER'S BIRTHDAYS, HAD MANY OF THE YAHUDIYM SLAIN. CONCERNING THE DANGER THE YAHUDIYM WERE IN AT ANTIOCH, BY MEANS OF THE TRANSGRESSION AND IMPIETY OF ONE ANTIOCHUS, A YAHUDIY.	471
Chapter 4	HOW VESPASIAN WAS RECEIVED AT ROME; AS ALSO, HOW THE GERMANS REVOLTED FROM THE ROMAIYM, BUT WERE SUBDUED. THAT THE SHOMERONIYM OVERRAN MYRIA, BUT WERE COMPELLED TO RETIRE TO THEIR OWN COUNTRY AGAIN.	474
Chapter 5	CONCERNING THE SABBATIC RIVER WHICH TITUS SAW AS HE WAS JOURNEYING THROUGH ARAM; AND HOW THE PEOPLE OF ANTIOCH CAME WITH A PETITION TO TITUS AGAINST THE YAHUDIYM, BUT WERE REJECTED BY HIM; AS ALSO, CONCERNING TITUS' AND VESPASIAN'S TRIUMPH.	477
Chapter 6	CONCERNING MACHERUS; AND HOW LUCILIUS BAS-SUS TOOK THAT CITADEL AND OTHER PLACES.	482
Chapter 7	CONCERNING THE CALAMITY THAT BEFELL ANTIOCHUS, KING OF COMMAGENE. AS ALSO, CONCERNING THE ALANS, AND WHAT GREAT MISCHIEFS THEY DID TO THE MADAI AND THE INHABITANTS OF ARARAT (ARMENIA).	487
Chapter 8	CONCERNING MASADA AND THOSE SICARII WHO KEPT IT; AND HOW SILVA BETOOK HIMSELF TO FORM THE SIEGE OF THAT CITADEL. EL`AZAR'S SPEECHES TO THE BESIEGED.	490
Chapter 9	HOW THE PEOPLE THAT WERE IN THE FORTRESS WERE PREVAILED ON BY THE WORDS OF EL`AZAR, TWO WOMEN AND FIVE CHILDREN ONLY EXCEPTED, AND ALL SUBMITTED TO BE KILLED BY ONE ANOTHER.	501
Chapter 10	THAT ALSO, MANY OF THE SICARII FLED TO ALEXANDRIA, AND WHAT DANGERS THEY WERE IN THERE; ON WHICH ACCOUNT THAT TEMPLE WHICH HAD FORMERLY BEEN BUILT BY ONYAHU, THE HIGH PRIEST, WAS DESTROYED.	503
Chapter 11	CONCERNING YONATHAN, ONE OF THE SICARII, THAT	506

Table of Contents – Wars of the Yahudiym

STIRRED UP A SEDITION IN CYRENE, AND WAS
A FALSE ACCUSER [OF THE INNOCENT].

FLAVIUS YOCEPHUS AGAINST APION – BOOK 1	512
FLAVIUS YOCEPHUS AGAINST APION – BOOK 2	552
FLAVIUS YOCEPHUS DISCOURSE TO THE YAVANIYM CONERNING HADES	590

Preface

WHEREAS the war which the Yahudiym made with the Romaiym has been the greatest of all those, not only that have been in our times, but, in a manner, of those that ever were heard of; both of those wherein cities have fought against cities, or nations against nations; while some men who were not concerned in the affairs themselves have gotten together vain and contradictory stories by hearsay, and have written them down in a sophistical manner; and while those that were there present have given false accounts of things, and this either out of a humor of flattery to the Romaiym, or of hatred towards the Yahudiym; and while their writings sometimes contain accusations, and sometimes encomiums, but nowhere the accurate truth of the facts; I have proposed to myself, for the sake of such as live under the government of the Romaiym, to translate those cepheriym into the Yavaniy tongue, which I formerly composed in the language of our country, and sent to the Upper Barbarians; Yoceph, the son of Mattithyahu, by birth an Ivriy, a priest also, and one who at first fought against the Romaiym myself, and who was forced to be present at what was done afterwards [am the author of this work].

Now at the time when this great concussion of affairs happened, the affairs of the Romaiym were themselves in great disorder. Those Yahudiym also who were for innovations, then arose when the times were disturbed; they were also in a flourishing condition for strength and riches, so much so that the affairs of the East were then exceedingly tumultuous, while some hoped for gain, and others were afraid of loss in such troubles; for the Yahudiym hoped that all of their nation which were beyond Perath would have raised an insurrection together with them. The Gauls also, in the neighborhood of the Romaiym, were in motion, and the Geltin were not quiet; but all was in disorder after the death of Nero. And the opportunity now offered induced many to aim at the royal power; and the soldiery affected change, out of the hopes of getting money. I thought it therefore an absurd thing to see the truth falsified in affairs of such great consequence, and to take no notice of it; but to suffer those Yavaniym and Romaiym that were not in the wars to be ignorant of these things, and to read either flatteries or fictions, while the Parthians, and the inhabitants of Babel, and the remotest Araviym, and those of our nation beyond Perath, with the Adiabeni, by my means, knew accurately both from where the war began, what miseries it brought upon us, and after what manner it ended.

It is true; these writers have the confidence to call their accounts histories; wherein yet they seem to me to fail of their own purpose, as well as to

Preface – Wars of the Yahudiym

relate nothing that is sound. For they have a mind to demonstrate the greatness of the Romaiym, while they still diminish and lessen the actions of the Yahudiym, as not discerning how it cannot be that those must appear to be great who have only conquered those that were little. Nor are they ashamed to overlook the length of the war, the multitude of the Romaiy forces who so greatly suffered in it, or the might of the commanders, whose great labors about Yerushalayim will be deemed inglorious, if what they achieved be reckoned but a small matter.

However, I will not go to the other extreme, out of opposition to those men who extol the Romaiym nor will I determine to raise the actions of my countrymen too high; but I will prosecute the actions of both parties with accuracy. Yet shall I suit my language to the passions I am under, as to the affairs I describe and must be allowed to indulge some lamentations upon the miseries undergone by my own country; for that it was a seditious temper of our own that destroyed it, and that they were the tyrants among the Yahudiym who brought the Romaiy power upon us, who unwillingly attacked us, and occasioned the burning of our holy Temple, Titus Qeycar, who destroyed it, is himself a witness, who, daring the entire war, pitied the people who were kept under by the seditious, and did often voluntarily delay the taking of the city, and allowed time to the siege, in order to let the authors have opportunity for repentance. But if anyone makes an unjust accusation against us, when we speak so passionately about the tyrants or the robbers, or sorely bewail the misfortunes of our country, let him indulge my affections herein, though it be contrary to the rules for writing history; because it had so come to pass, that our city Yerushalayim had arrived at a higher degree of felicity than any other city under the Romaiy government, and yet at last fell into the sorest of calamities again. Accordingly, it appears to me that the misfortunes of all men, from the beginning of the world, if they are compared to these of the Yahudiym are not so considerable as they were; while the authors of them were not foreigners neither. This makes it impossible for me to contain my lamentations. But if anyone is inflexible in his censures of me, let him attribute the facts themselves to the historical part and the lamentations to the writer himself only.

However, I may justly blame the learned men among the Yavaniym, who, when such great actions have been done in their own times, which, upon the comparison, quite eclipse the old wars, do yet sit as judges of those affairs, and pass bitter censures upon the labors of the best writers of antiquity; which moderns, although they may be superior to the old writers in eloquence, yet are they inferior to them in the execution of what they intended to do. While these also write new histories about the Ashshuriym and Mada'iym, as if the ancient writers had not described their affairs as they ought to have done; although these be as far inferior to them in abilities as they are different in their notions from them. For of old everyone took upon them to write what happened in his own

Preface – Wars of the Yahudiym

time; where their immediate concern in the actions made their promises of value; and where it must be reproachful to write lies when they must be known by the readers to be such. But then, an undertaking to preserve the memory of what has not been before recorded, and to represent the affairs of one's own time to those that come afterwards, is worthy of praise and commendation. Now he is to be esteemed to have taken good pains in earnest, not who does no more than change the disposition and order of other men's works, but he who not only relates what had not been related before, but composes an entire body of history of his own: accordingly, I have been at great charges, and have taken very great pains [about this history], though I be a foreigner; and do dedicate this work, as a memorial of great actions, both to the Yavaniym and to the Barbarians. But for some of our principal men, their mouths are wide open, and their tongues loosed presently, for gain and lawsuits, but quite muzzled up when they are to write history, where they must speak truth and gather facts together with a great deal of pains; and so they leave the writing of such histories to weaker people, and to such as are not acquainted with the actions of princes. Yet shall the truth of historical facts be preferred by us, however much it is neglected among the Yavaniy historians.

To write concerning the Antiquities of the Yahudiym, who they were [originally], and how they revolted from the Mitsriym, and what country they traveled over, and what countries they seized upon afterward, and how they were removed out of them, I think this not to be a fit opportunity, and, on other accounts, also superfluous; and this because many Yahudiym before me have composed the histories of our ancestors very exactly; as have some of the Yavaniym done it also, and have translated our histories into their tongue, and have not much mistaken the truth in their histories. But then, where the writers of these affairs and our prophets leave off, from there shall I take my rise, and begin my history. Now as to what concerns that war which happened in my own time, I will go over it very largely, and with all the diligence I am able; but for what preceded my own age, that I shall run over briefly.

For example, I shall relate how Antiochus, who was named Epiphanes, took Yerushalayim by force, and held it three years and three months, and was then ejected out of the country by the sons of Hasmoniy: after that, how their posterity quarreled about the government, and brought upon their settlement the Romaiym and Pompey; how Herod also, the son of Antipater, dissolved their government, and brought Sosins upon them; as also how our people made a sedition upon Herod's death, while Augustus was the Romaiy emperor, and Quintilius Varus was in that country; and how the war broke out in the twelfth year of Nero, with what happened to Cestius; and what places the Yahudiym assaulted in a hostile manner in the first sallies of the war.

Preface – Wars of the Yahudiym

As also I shall relate how they built walls about the neighboring cities; and how Nero, upon Cestius' defeat, was in fear of the entire event of the war, and thereupon made Vespasian general in this war; and how this Vespasian, with the elder of his sons, made an expedition into the country of Yahud; what was the number of the Romaiy army that he made use of; and how many of his auxiliaries were cut off in all Galiyl; and how he took some of its cities entirely, and by force, and others of them by treaty, and on terms. Now, when I am come so far, I shall describe the good order of the Romaiym in war, and the discipline of their legions; the amplitude of both the Galiyliym, with its nature, and the limits of Yahud. And, besides this, I shall particularly go over what is peculiar to the country, the lakes, and fountains that are in them, and what miseries happened to every city as they were taken; and all this with accuracy, as I saw the things done, or suffered in them. For I shall not conceal any of the calamities I myself endured since I shall relate them to such as know the truth of them.

After this, I shall relate how, when the Yahudiym's affairs became very bad, Nero died, and Vespasian, when he was going to attack Yerushalayim, was called back to take the government upon him; what signs happened to him relating to his gaining that government, and what mutations of government then happened at Rome, and how he was unwillingly made emperor by his soldiers; and how, upon his departure to Mitsrayim, to take upon him the government of the empire, the affairs of the Yahudiym became very tumultuous; as also how the tyrants rose up against them and fell into dissensions among themselves.

Moreover, I shall relate how Titus marched out of Mitsrayim into Yahud the second time; as also how, and where, and how many forces he got together; and in what state the city was, by means of the seditious, at his coming; what attacks he made, and how many ramparts he cast up; of the three walls that encompassed the city, and of their measures; of the strength of the city, and the structure of the Temple and holy house; and besides, the measures of those edifices, and of the altar, and all accurately determined. A description also of certain of their festivals, and seven purifications of purity, and the sacred ministrations of the priests, with the garments of the priests, and of the high priests; and of the nature of the most holy place of the Temple; without concealing anything or adding anything to the known truth of things.

After this, I shall relate the barbarity of the tyrants towards the people of their own nation, as well as the indulgence of the Romaiym in sparing foreigners; and how often Titus, out of his desire to preserve the city and the Temple, invited the seditious to come to terms of accommodation. I shall also distinguish the sufferings of the people, and their calamities; how far they were afflicted by the sedition, and how far by the famine, and at length were taken. Nor shall I omit to mention the misfortunes of the deserters, nor the punishments inflicted on the

Preface – Wars of the Yahudiym

captives; as also how the Temple was burnt, against the consent of Qeycar; and how many sacred things that had been laid up in the Temple were snatched out of the fire; the destruction also of the entire city, with the signs and wonders that went before it; and the taking the tyrants captives, and the multitude of those that were made slaves, and into what different misfortunes they were everyone distributed. Moreover, what the Romaiym did to the remains of the wall; and how they demolished the strongholds that were in the country; and how Titus went over the whole country and settled its affairs; together with his return into Italy, and his triumph.

I have comprehended all these things in seven cepheriym and have left no occasion for complaint or accusation to such as have been acquainted with this war, and I have written it down for the sake of those that love truth, but not for those that please themselves with fictitious relations. And I will begin my account of these things with what I call my First Chapter.

Book

One

The Interval of One Hundred and Sixty-Seven Years.

From the Taking of Yerushalayim by Antiochus Epiphanes

To the Death of Herod the Great.

Chapter 1

HOW THE CITY OF YERUSHALAYIM WAS TAKEN, AND THE TEMPLE PILLAGED [BY ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES]. AS ALSO CONCERNING THE ACTIONS OF THE MAKKABIYM, MATTITHYAHU AND YAHUDAH; AND CONCERNING THE DEATH OF YAHUDAH.

1 AT the same time that Antiochus, who was called Epiphanes, had a quarrel with the sixth Ptolemy about his right to the whole country of Aram, a great sedition fell among the men of power in Yahud, and they had a contention about obtaining the government; while each of those that were of dignity could not endure being subject to their equals. However, Onyahu, one of the high priests, got the better, and cast the sons of Toviyahu out of the city; who fled to Antiochus, and besought him to make use of them for his leaders and to make an expedition into Yahud. The king being thereto disposed of beforehand, complied with them, and came upon the Yahudiym with a great army, and took their city by force, and slew a great multitude of those that favored Ptolemy, and sent out his soldiers to plunder them without mercy. He also spoiled the Temple and put a stop to the constant practice of offering a daily sacrifice of expiation for three years and six months. But Onyahu, the high priest, fled to Ptolemy and received a place from him in the Nomus of On, where he built a city resembling Yerushalayim, and a temple that was like its Temple (1) concerning which we shall speak more in its proper place hereafter.

2 NOW Antiochus was not satisfied either with his unexpected taking of the city, or with its pillage, or with the great slaughter he had made there; but being overcome with his violent passions, and remembering what he had suffered during the siege, he compelled the Yahudiym to dissolve the Torah of their country, and to keep their infants uncircumcised, and to sacrifice swine's flesh upon the altar; against which they all opposed themselves, and the most approved among them were put to death. Bacchides also, who was sent to keep the fortresses, having these wicked commands, joined to his own natural barbarity, indulged all sorts of the most extreme wickedness, and tormented the worthiest of the inhabitants, man by man, and threatened their city every day with open destruction, till at length he provoked the poor sufferers by the extremity of his wicked doings to avenge themselves.

3 ACCORDINGLY Mattithyahu, the son of Hasmoniy, one of the priests who lived in a village called Modin, armed himself, together with his own family, which had five sons of his in it, and slew Bacchides with daggers; and thereupon, out of the fear of the many garrisons [of the enemy], he fled to the mountains; and so many of the people followed him, that he was encouraged to come

down from the mountains, and to give battle to Antiochus' generals, when he beat them and drove them out of Yahud. So he came to the government by this his success, and became the prince of his people by their free consent, and then died, leaving the government to Yahudah, his eldest son.

4 NOW Yahudah, supposing that Antiochus would not lie still, gathered an army out of his own countrymen, and was the first that made a league of friendship with the Romaiym, and drove Epiphanes out of the country when he had made a second expedition into it, and this by giving him a great defeat there; and when this great success warmed him, he made an assault upon the garrison that was in the city, for it had not been cut off up to that time; so he ejected them out of the upper city, and drove the soldiers into the lower, which part of the city was called the Citadel. He then got the Temple under his power, and cleansed the whole place, and walled it round about, and made new vessels for sacred ministrations, and brought them into the Temple, because the former vessels had been profaned. He also built another altar and began to offer the sacrifices; and when the city had already received its sacred constitution again, Antiochus died; whose son Antiochus succeeded him in the kingdom, and in his hatred to the Yahudiym also.

5 SO this Antiochus got together fifty thousand footmen, and five thousand horsemen, and eighty elephants, and marched through Yahud into the mountainous parts. He then took Beyt Sura, which was a small city; but at a place called Beyt Zakaris, where the passage was narrow, Yahudah met him with his army. However, before the forces joined battle, Yahudah's brother El'azar, seeing the very highest of the elephants adorned with a large tower, and with military trappings of gold to guard him, and supposing that Antiochus himself was upon him, he ran a great way before his own army, and cutting his way through the enemy's troops, he got up to the elephant; yet he could not reach him who seemed to be the king, by reason of his being so high; but still he ran his weapon into the belly of the beast, and brought him down upon himself, and was crushed to death, having done no more than attempted great things, and showed that he preferred glory before life. Now he that governed the elephant was but a private man; and had he proved to be Antiochus, El'azar had performed nothing more by this bold stroke than that it might appear he chose to die, when he had the bare hope of thereby doing a glorious action; nay, this disappointment proved an omen to his brother [Yahudah] how the entire battle would end. It is true that the Yahudiym fought it out bravely for a long time, but the king's forces, being superior in number, and having fortune on their side, obtained the victory. And when a great many of his men were slain, Yahudah took the rest with him, and fled to the toparchy of Gophna. So Antiochus went to Yerushalayim, and stayed there but a few days, for he wanted provisions, and so he went his way. He left indeed a garrison behind him, such as he thought sufficient to keep the place, but drew the rest of his army off, to take their winter quarters in Aram.

6 **NOW**, after the king was departed, Yahudah was not idle; for as many of his own nation came to him, so did he gather those that had escaped out of the battle together, and gave battle again to Antiochus' generals at a village called Adasa; and being too hard for his enemies in the battle, and killing a great number of them, he was at last himself slain also. Nor was it many days afterward that his brother Yahuchanon had a plot laid against him by Antiochus' party, and was slain by them.