

## DD 17 – Jesus’ Last Days – Pilate, Caiaphas, and the Upper Room

*An upper room did our Lord prepare  
for those he loved until the end:  
and his disciples still gather there  
to celebrate their risen friend.*

*A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:  
to share his bread, his loving cup.  
Whatever burdens may bow us down,  
he by his cross shall lift us up.*

*And after supper he washed their feet,  
for service, too, is sacrament.  
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:  
sent out to serve, as he was sent.*

*No end there is! We depart in peace,  
he loves beyond the uttermost:  
in every room in our Father's house  
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.*

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### What happened in the Upper Room?

- the washing of his disciples' feet
- preparation for the celebration of Jesus' final Passover meal; Last Supper
- certain resurrection appearances of Jesus
- the gathering of the disciples after the Ascension of Jesus
- the election of Saint Matthias as apostle
- the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples on the day of Pentecost.

### How many “upper rooms” were there?

## The Upper Room

- Local name – “The Cenacle” (from Latin cēnāculum "dining room")
- Mount Zion, just outside Old City walls
- Built in 12th, 13th, or 14th century
- Run by Jewish authorities,
  - They call it "David's Tomb," there is an elaborate burial container on the first floor. Not likely to be David's actual tomb.





**Mark 14:12-25** *12 On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' <sup>13</sup>So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, <sup>14</sup>and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" <sup>15</sup>He will show you a large **room upstairs**, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.' <sup>16</sup>So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.*

*Acts 2: 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. 13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.*

### What Did the Last Supper Look Like?



### Footwashing: Practicality and Hospitality

John 13 – During supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'...

21 After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, 'Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.' 22The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. 23One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; 24Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. 25So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, 'Lord, who is it?' 26Jesus answered, 'It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.' So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. 27

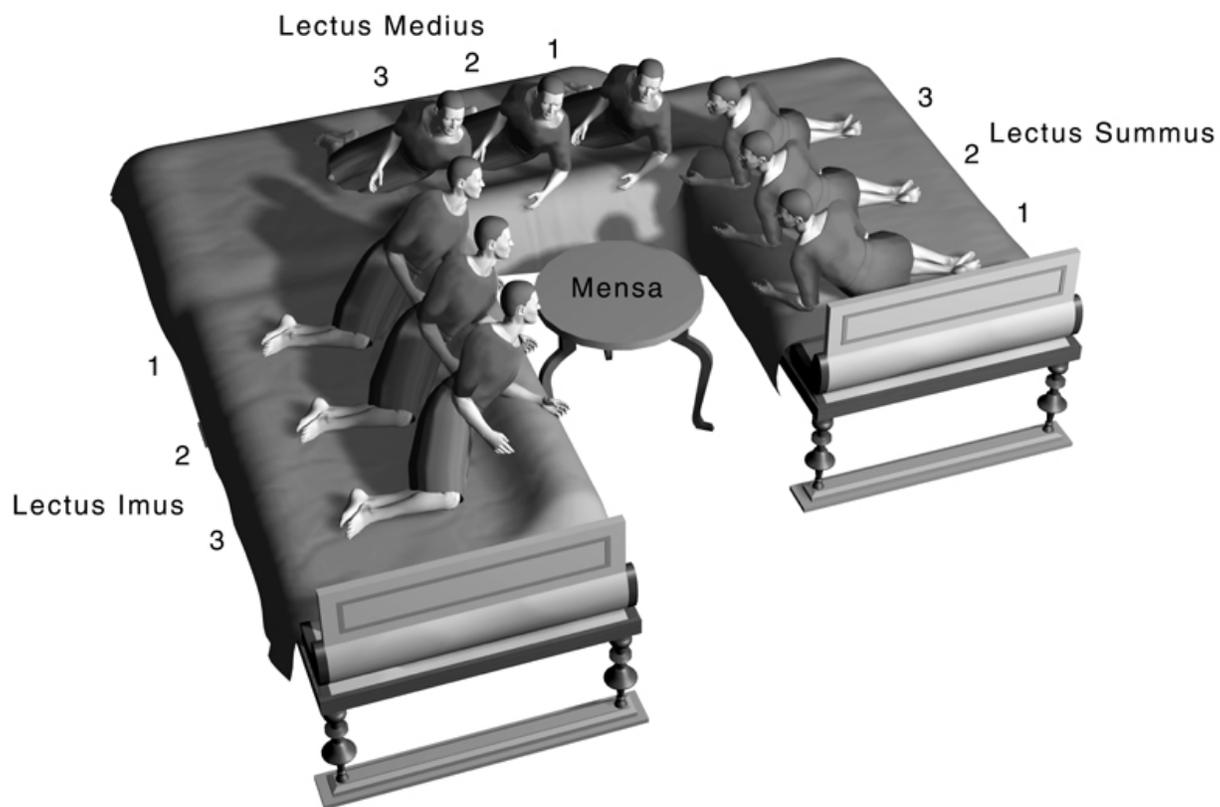
Why did they eat the Passover meal reclining? Freedom!



Triclinium



## Seating at the Last Supper

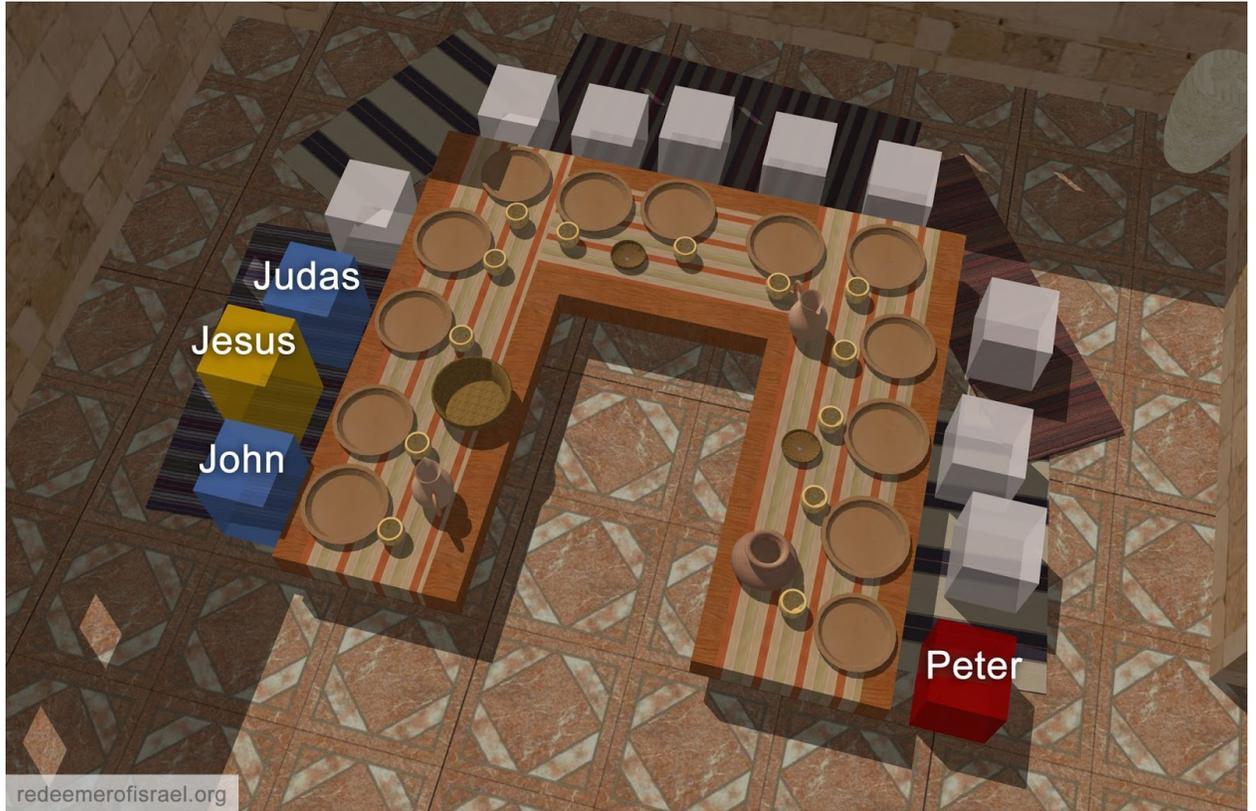


Honor and protocols for Seating:

1. Imus – Highest honor
2. Medius
3. Summus – Least honor

Host/Guest of Honor – Imus 2

Likely seating at Lord's Supper - based on customs and scripture:



### Who was Pontius Pilate?

- Governor? Procurator? Prefect? Something else?
- Appointed by Emperor [Tiberius](#)
- 26/27 to 36/37 AD
- Removed from office



Coins minted during Pilate's rule



*Pilate inscription – Discovered 1961, Caesarea Maritima*

The partial inscription reads (conjectural letters in brackets)

*[DIS AUGUSTI]S TIBERIEVM  
 [...PONTI]US PILATUS  
 [...PRAEF]ECTUS IUDA[EA]E  
 [...FECIT D]E[DICAVIT]*

The translation, Latin to English:

*To the Divine Augustis [this] Tiberieum  
 ...Pontius Pilate  
 ...prefect of Judea  
 ...has dedicated [this]*

Pilate's Jerusalem Headquarters: The Antonia Fortress (Adjacent to Temple Mount)

Do we have more physical evidence of Pontius Pilate? Yup!

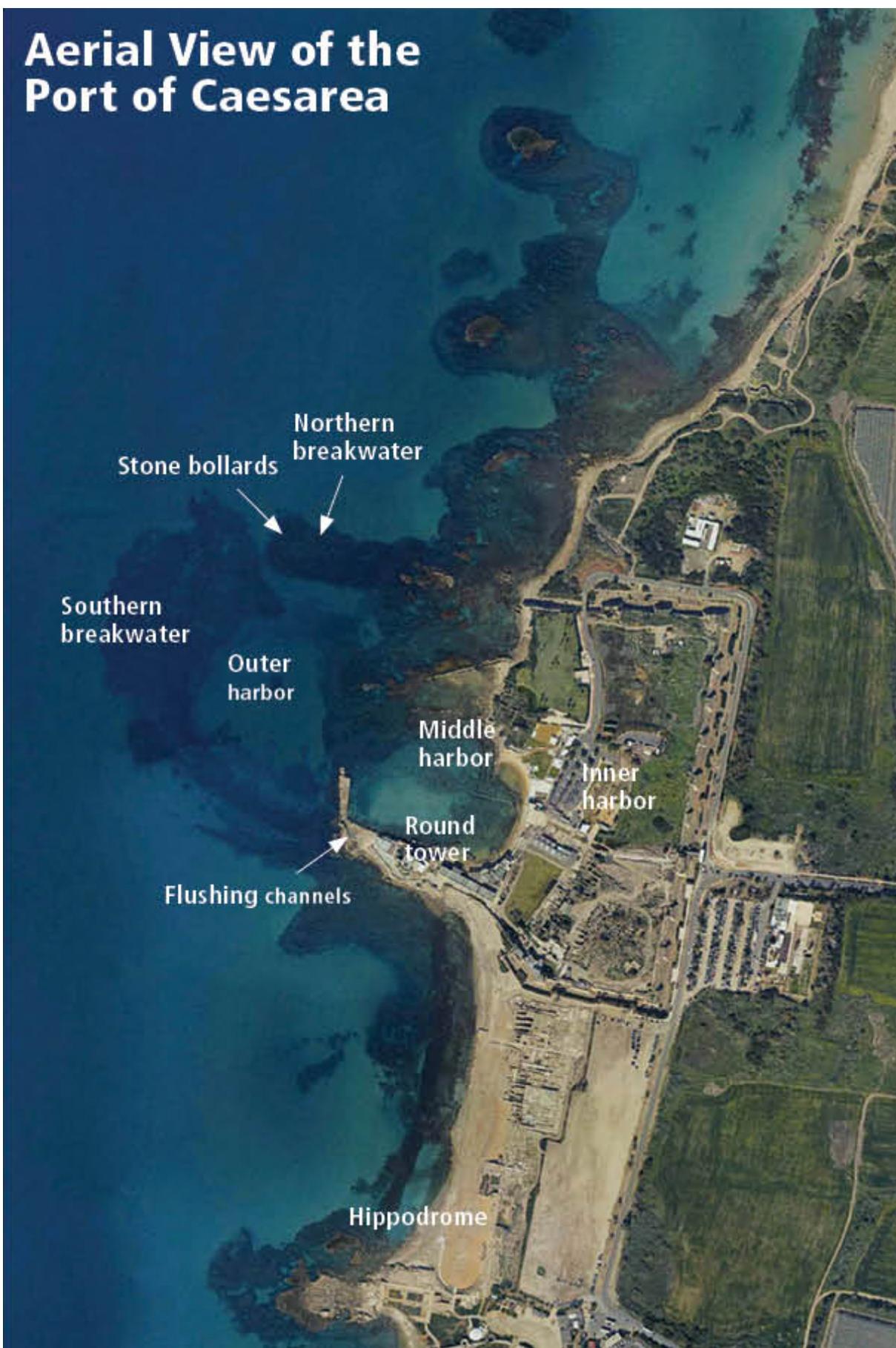


- Sealing/Signet Ring, Herodium, 1969.
- Stamped in reverse: PILATO.
- thin, all copper-alloy, sealing ring
- Possibly worn by regional administrator collecting taxes for Romans

### Pilate's Headquarters – Caesarea Maritima



# Aerial View of the Port of Caesarea



## Ceasarea Maritima

- Herod the Great's attempt to impress the Roman world
- Named for...
- commercial capitol of Judaea (much like Tel Aviv vs. Jerusalem).
- ultra-modern port
- colossal Temple of Augustus,
- Roman theater
- hippodrome
- Dedicated in 10 BCE
- Hosted athletic games to rival Olympics
- Used "hydraulic concrete" to build artificial harbor



<b>A</b> Theater	<b>E</b> Lighthouse
<b>B</b> Palace	<b>F</b> Aqueduct
<b>C</b> Temple of Augustus	<b>G</b> Amphitheater
<b>D</b> Harbor (Sebastos)	<b>H</b> Hippodrome



Aqueduct for fresh water still stands 2000 years later

- raised aqueduct
- delivered water from springs near Shuni, 16 kilometres north-east



Theater – seats 4000



Hippodrome – for horse races, chariot races

- 50 meters by 400 meters
- Seats 13,000

[Ben-Hur \(3/10\) Movie CLIP - The Chariot Race \(1959\) HD](#)

## Caiaphas

- High priest 18-36 CE
- Son in Law of Annas, previous high priest
- Interested in power, not faithfulness

Caiaphas' House

- a/k/a, Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu (Church of St. Peter and the Cock Crowing)
- Roman Catholic church, 1931.
- Dates to 457 AD



- golden rooster on roof



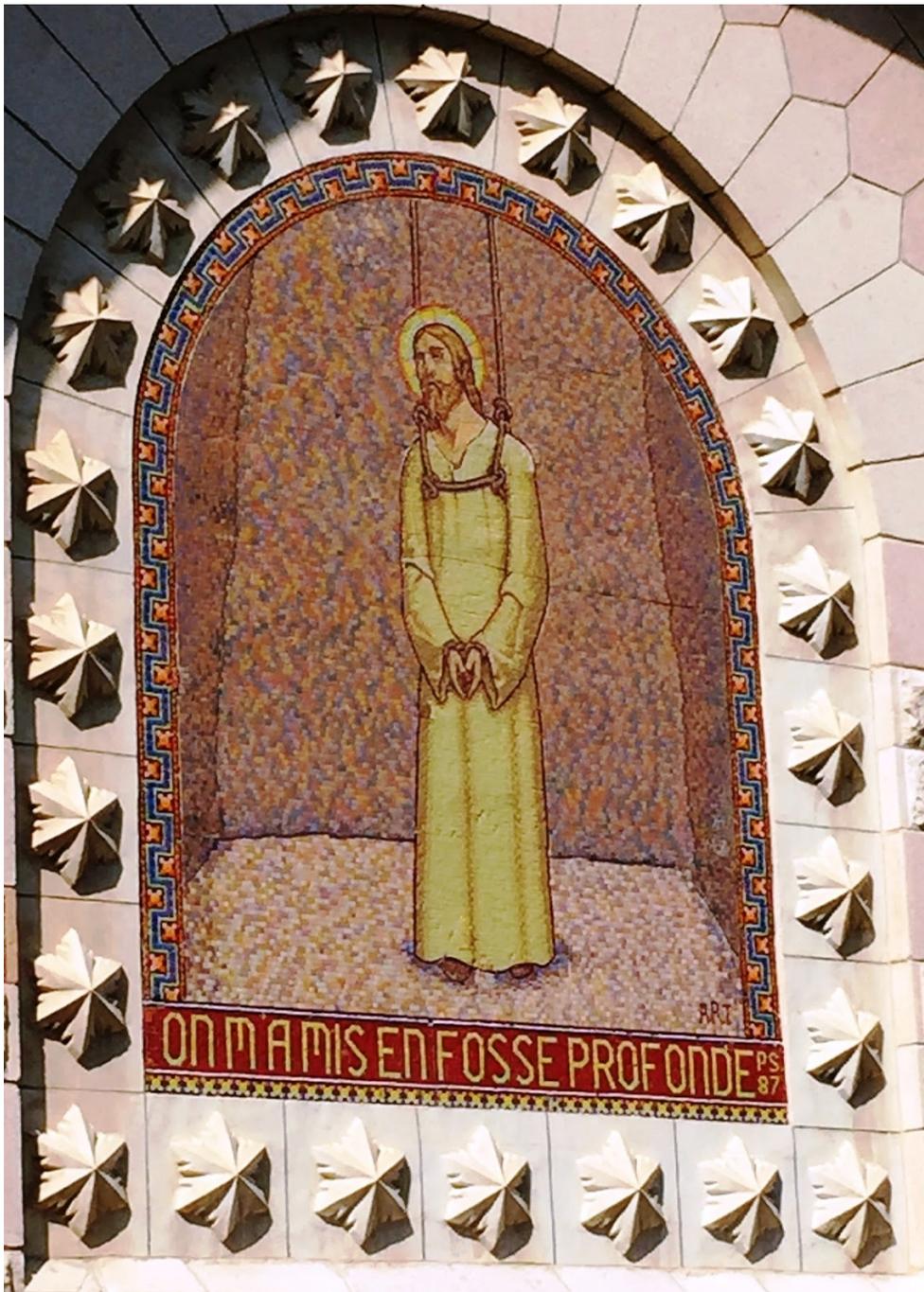
View as Christ might have looked up



- the likely path Jesus used from Gethsemane to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest.



Peter's Remorse – Painting inside Caiaphas' house



Exterior Mosaic – Jesus being lowered into holding cell.

- Says, in French: “they put me in a deep pit.”

*I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;  
I am like those who have no help,  
like those forsaken among the dead,  
like the slain that lie in the grave,  
like those whom you remember no more,  
for they are cut off from your hand.  
You have put me in the depths of the Pit,  
in the regions dark and deep.  
Your wrath lies heavy upon me,*

Psalm 87/88



Hole through which Jesus may have been lowered



- Dungeon
- Three crosses engraved in the rock, all around the hole, and other crosses



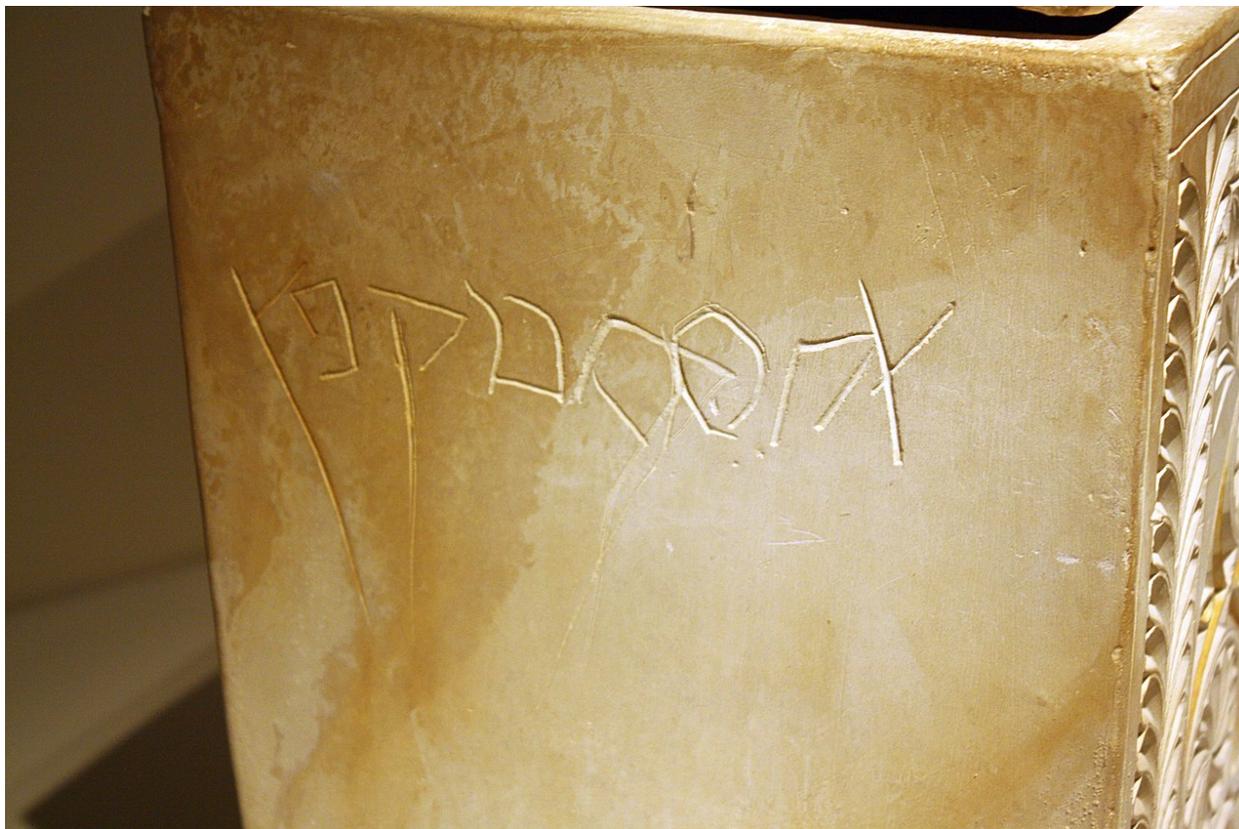
Carved rock for detention ropes

## Caiaphas' Ossuary?



## Caiaphas Ossuary

- Caiaphas, a family name
- personal name, Joseph ( mentioned by Josephus)
- ossuary, bearing the name qp' = "Qapa'," or Caiaphas contained remains of five individuals.
- one skeletal set is of a 60-year-old man.



Inscription:

- "Yehosef bar Qayafa" on long side
- "Yehosef bar Qafa" on narrow side.

Bonus: Guess whose sarcophagus this is?

