

Questions, week 4 (Goodman, pp. 1-133)

1. Who was Josephus? Why is he important?
2. How did Goodman use Josephus' writings?
3. Why was Herod (ruler of Judaea, 37-6 BCE) important?
4. What were the strengths and weaknesses of the rulers Rome appointed after 6 BCE?
5. How did Jerusalem grow and prosper in the first century, CE?
6. Was wealth holding becoming more unequal? What is the evidence? What is the argument (by Goodman)?
7. Who were the Sadducees, Essenes, and Pharisees? What were their roles in provoking a revolt?
8. How did Jews keep themselves separate from others? (Why did they do so?)
9. How did Jewish understanding of illness differ from Greek? How does this difference relate to the revolt?
10. How did Roman and Jewish concepts of government come into conflict?
(NB: parallel with The Peloponnesian War.)