

niche or berma, and benches faced Jerusalem
Featured mosaic floors.

- d. Late synagogues. Apsidal were a basilica-type. Well ornamented inside with images of animals, humans, and the zodiac.
7. Archaeological evidence now indicates that there is no link between style and chronology. Most ruins are after the 3rd cent. A.D. Few predate the temple destruction.
 8. Persecutions limited the number of synagogues built and their survival (Ausubel 87-93).
 - a. Emperor Tiberius began systematic persecution of Jews in A.D. 19.
 - b. The Zealots gathered men who defeated the Roman soldiers in small battles. *After 70 AD*
 - c. The humiliated Romans responded with 60,000 soldiers (vs. 23,000 Jews) to siege Jerusalem
 - d. Jerusalem was utterly destroyed in A.D. 70. The Jewish state ended.
 - e. In A.D. 132 Rabbi Akiba publicly proclaimed Simon Bar-Kochba, a military leader, to be the Messiah. This led to the 132-135 rebellion against Rome.
 - f. The Jews were defeated. It was illegal for them to live in Israel/Judah. Rome attempted to destroy the culture (cf. Assyrians, Greeks) by the sword and assimilation.
 - i. The name "Palestine" was applied to the former Jewish state by the Romans
 - ii. 580,000 killed by the military.
 - iii. "All of Judea became almost like a desert" wrote Dio Cassius, a Roman historian.

Churches:

1. The word "church" by definition paralleled the word synagogue.