

Roman Lands

Explanation

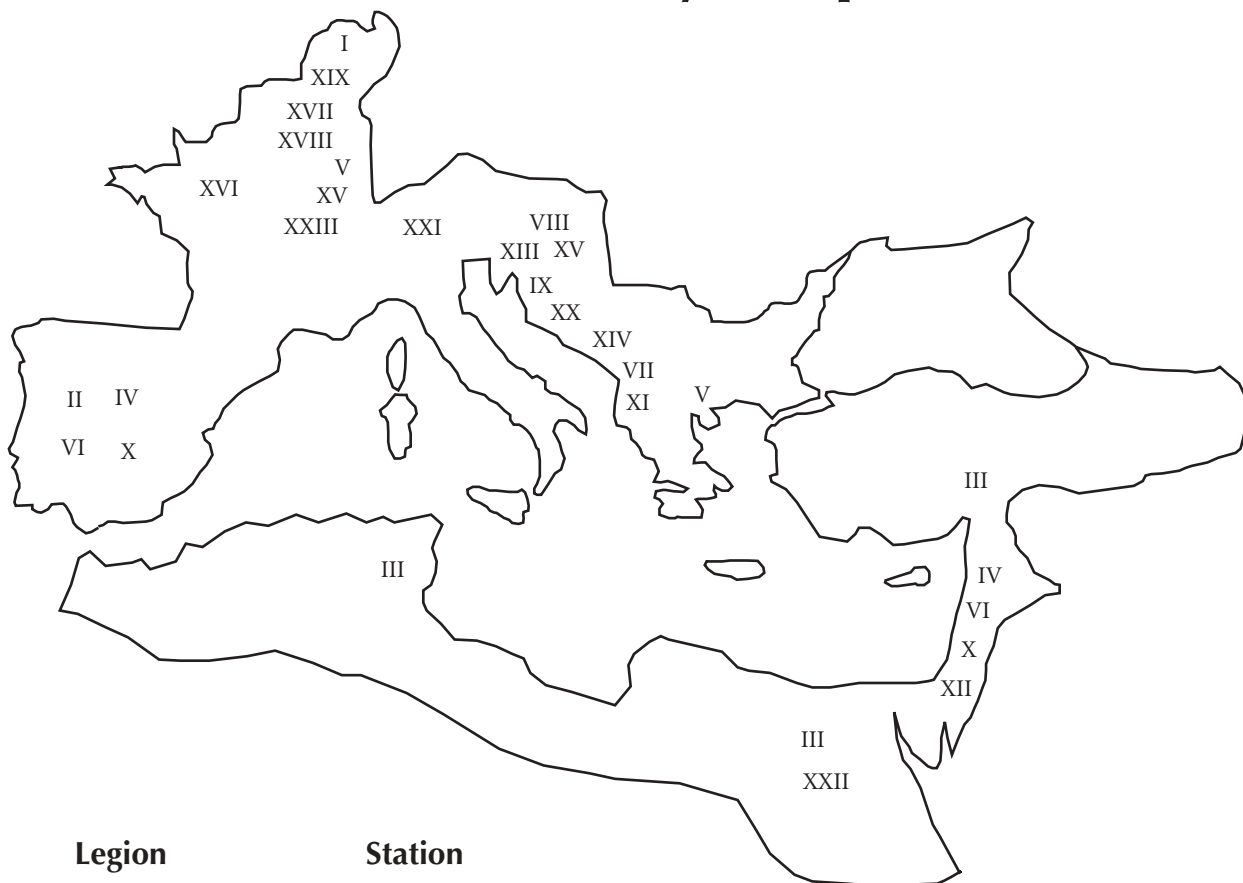
The empire of the Romans encompassed the Mediterranean and the surrounding areas in Europe, western Asia, and North Africa. The empire was divided for administrative purposes into provinces. In New Testament times during the reign of Augustus, the empire had achieved boundaries consistent with the natural geography of the lands surrounding the Mediterranean. Britain and Thrace were added as provinces under Claudius and the territory of the empire reached its fullest extent with Trajan's additions of Dacia and the eastern provinces of Armenia, Assyria, and Mesopotamia.

The boundaries of the empire were protected by the Roman legions. Augustus stationed them in more or less permanent quarters in the provinces bordering the frontier. The individual legions and the provinces where they were quartered are listed on the opposite page.

References

- M. Cary and H. H. Scullard, *A History of Rome* (New York: St. Martin's, 1975), 436–37.
G. Webster, *The Roman Imperial Army of the First and Second Centuries A.D.* (London: Block, 1979).

Distribution of Legions in the Early Empire



Legion	Station	Legion	Station
I Augusta	Lower Germany	XIII Gemina ("twin")	Illyricum
II Augusta	Spain	XIV Gemina ("twin")	Illyricum
III Augusta	Africa	XV Apollinaris ("Apollo's")	Pannonia
III Cyrenaica	Egypt	XV Primigenia ("firstborn")	Upper Germany
III Gallica	Syria	XVI Gallica	Gaul
IV Macedonica	Spain	XVII	Lower Germany
IV Scythica	Syria	XVIII	Lower Germany
V Alaudae ("larks")	Upper Germany	XIX	Lower Germany
V Macedonica*	Macedonia	XX Valeria Victrix ("valorous and victorious")	Illyricum
VI Ferrata ("ironclad")	Syria	XXI Rapax ("predators")	Raetia
VI Victix ("victorious")	Spain	XXII	Egypt
VII	Dalmatia	XXIII Primigenia ("firstborn")	Upper Germany
VIII Augusta	Pannonia		
IX Hispanica	Illyricum		
X Fretensis ** ("channel men")	Syria		
X Gemina ("twin")	Spain		
XI	Dalmatia		
XII Fulminata* ("thunderbolt")	Syria		

*Served in the Judean War in the siege of Jerusalem

**Served in the Judean War in the siege of Masada