

**THE STORY OF THE LAST  
DAYS OF JERUSALEM,  
FROM JOSEPHUS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649713691

The Story of the Last Days of Jerusalem, from Josephus by Alfred J. Church

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Cover @ 2017

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**ALFRED J. CHURCH**

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THE STORY OF THE LAST DAYS  
OF JERUSALEM



ROMAN EAGLES

THE  
STORY OF THE LAST DAYS  
OF JERUSALEM

From Josephus

BY THE  
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SEELEY, JACKSON & HALLIDAY, 54, FLEET STREET  
LONDON: MDCCCLXXXI

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221. f. 131.





TO

MARIANNE THORNTON

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MANY KINDNESSES

*This Book is Dedicated*



## P R E F A C E

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IN this story I have followed the narrative of Josephus, making many omissions but no other change of importance. It did not fall within the scope of my work to estimate his veracity and trustworthiness ; but I may here say that a close acquaintance with his history will not incline the reader to put much confidence in his narrative on any point where interest or vanity may have tempted him to depart from the truth. In one matter, which is of such interest and importance that an account of it may be given here, he seems to have deliberately falsified history. The ingenuity of a German critic, Jacob von Bernays, detected in the *Chronicle* of Sulpicius Severus (a Christian writer, A.D. 350—420) a very slightly disguised quotation from one of the lost books of the *History* of Tacitus. The passage may be thus translated.

“ Titus is said to have called a council of war, and then put to it the question whether he ought to destroy so grand a structure as the Temple.