

Roman Lands

Explanation

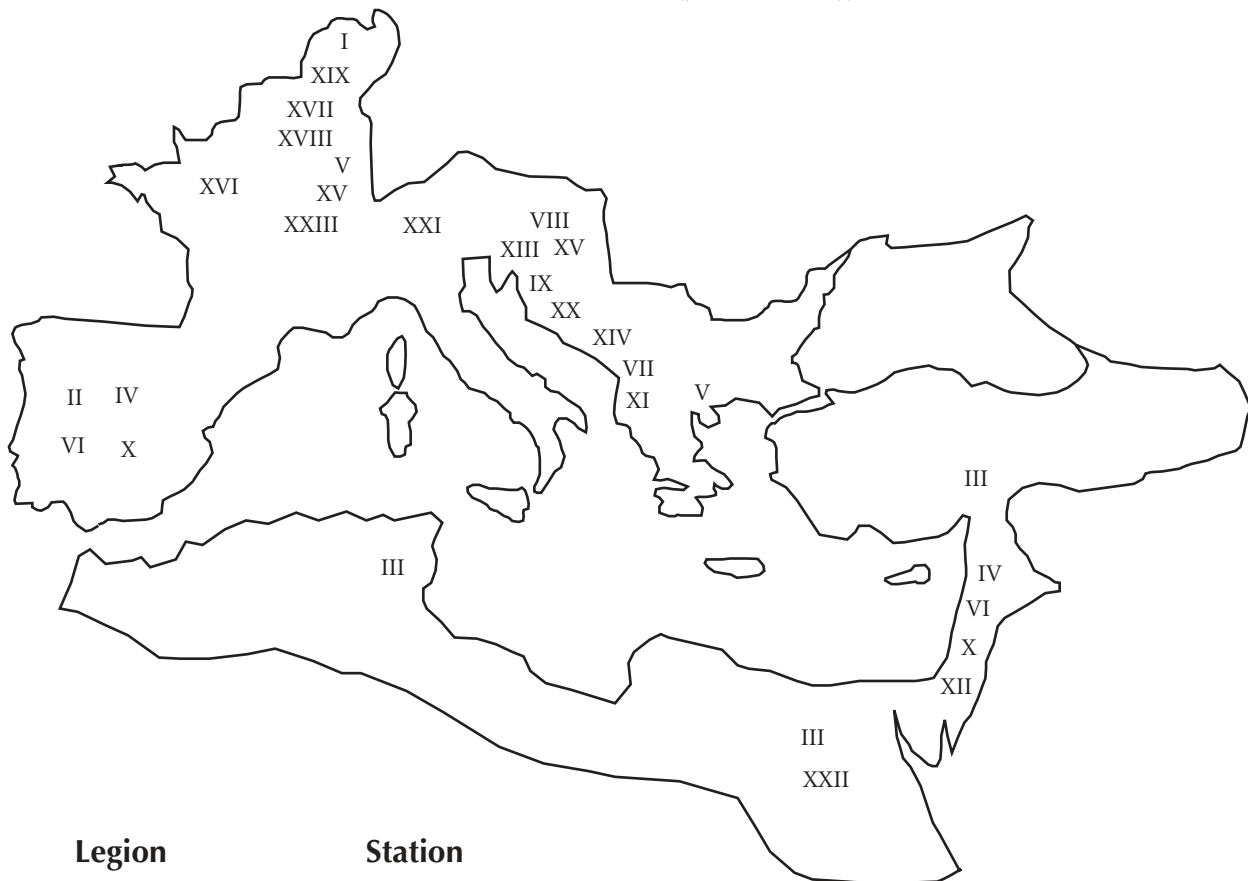
The empire of the Romans encompassed the Mediterranean and the surrounding areas in Europe, western Asia, and North Africa. The empire was divided for administrative purposes into provinces. In New Testament times during the reign of Augustus, the empire had achieved boundaries consistent with the natural 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			
II Augusta	Spain			
III Augusta	Africa			
III Cyrenaica	Egypt			
III Gallica	Syria	XIII Gemina ("twin")	Illyricum	
IV Macedonica	Spain	XIV Gemina ("twin")	Illyricum	
IV Scythica	Syria	XV Apollinaris	Pannonia	
V Alaudae ("larks")	Upper Germany	(("Apollo's"))		
V Macedonica*	Macedonia	XV Primigenia	Upper Germany	
VI Ferrata ("ironclad")	Syria	(("firstborn"))		
VI Victix ("victorious")	Spain	XVI Gallica	Gaul	
VII	Dalmatia	XVII	Lower Germany	
VIII Augusta	Pannonia	XVIII	Lower Germany	
IX Hispanica	Illyricum	XIX	Lower Germany	
X Fretensis **	Syria	XX Valeria Victrix	Illyricum	
(("channel men"))		(("valorous and victorious"))		
X Gemina ("twin")	Spain	XXI Rapax ("predators")	Raetia	
XI	Dalmatia	XXII	Egypt	
XII Fulminata*	Syria	XXIII Primigenia	Upper Germany	
(("thunderbolt"))		(("firstborn"))		

*Served in the Judean War in the siege of Jerusalem

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