



### 3) What Happened in the Synagogue?

Philo, <i>On Dreams</i> 2.127 (turn of the era)	Theodotus Inscription (1 <sup>st</sup> century CE)
And would you still sit down in your synagogues, collecting your ordinary assemblies, and reading your sacred volumes in security, and explaining whatever is not quite clear, and devoting all your time and leisure with long discussions to the philosophy of your ancestors?	Theodotus, son of Vettenos the priest and archisynagogue, son of an archisynagogue and grandson of an archisynagogue, built the synagogue for the reading the Law and studying of the commandments, and the guest chambers, the rooms and the water installations to provide as an inn for those in need from foreign lands, which his fathers founded together with the elders and the Simonides.

### 4) Synagogue Archaeology

Philo, <i>Every Good Man is Free</i> 81-2
(81) Now these laws they are taught at other times, indeed, but most especially on the seventh day, for the seventh day is accounted sacred, on which they abstain from all other employments, and frequent the sacred places which are called synagogues, <i>and there they sit according to their age in rows, the younger sitting under the elder</i> , and listening with eager attention in becoming order. (82) Then one, indeed, takes up the holy volume and reads it, and another of the men of the greatest experience comes forward and explains what is not very intelligible, for a great many precepts are delivered in enigmatical modes of expression, and allegorically, as the old fashion was...
Masada Synagogue, Aerial View (ca. 1 <sup>st</sup> century CE)
