

Tisha B'Av 9th of Av

The Three Dark Weeks (17th of Tammuz – 9th of Av) are also known as “Bein Ha Metzarim – “Between the Straits”. Lam. 1:3 states: “Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction and because of great servitude; she dwells among the heathen, she finds no rest, ***all her persecutors overtook her between the straits***”. A strait is a narrow passage of water joining two larger bodies of water with land masses on either side. When traveling through a straits can be very dangerous if your enemy is located on either of these land masses.

17th of Tammuz

1. Moses smashed the tablets of The Torah at Mt Sinai.
2. 587 BCE - Daily sacrifices ceased during the siege of Jerusalem by Babylon, and the walls were breached in 586 BCE on 9 Tammuz.
3. During the period of the Roman persecution, “Apostomos” burnt a Torah scroll in the Temple, and an idol was erected in the Temple.
4. 70 CE - The city walls of Jerusalem were finally breached by the Romans.
5. 1391 CE - more than 4,000 Jews were killed in Toledo and Jean, Spain.
6. 1559 CE - the Jewish Quarter of Prague was burned and looted.
7. 1944 CE - the Kovno Ghetto residents were all killed.

9th of Av

1. 1200 BCE – After accepting the report of the 12 spies, Israel was told by God in the wilderness that generation would not enter The Land of Promise.
2. 586 BCE – The Babylonian army destroyed The Holy Temple. 100,000 Jews were slaughtered.
3. 70 CE – Titus and the Roman army destroyed The Holy Temple. 2,000,000 Jews died.
4. 135 CE – “Bethar” the stronghold of Bar Kochba, fell ending the last attempt for Jewish Independence. Over 100,000 Jews were slaughtered.
5. 136 CE – Rome, under the direction of General Turnus Rufus, began to erect the pagan city of Aelia Capitolina on the ruins of Jerusalem, and a pagan temple on the site of the Temple. Jews were not allowed to enter the city.
6. 1096 CE – The first crusades begin, under the direction of Pope Urban II. Tens of thousands of Jews killed and man Jewish communities obliterated.
7. 1290 CE – The Jews were expelled from England.
8. 1306 CE – The Jews were expelled from France.
9. 1492 CE – The Spanish Inquisition culminated with the expulsion of Jews from Spain.
10. 1648 CE – Chmelnicky massacred tens of thousands of Polish Jews.
11. 1914 CE – Declarations for World War 1 began.
12. 1942 CE – Deportation of the Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto to extermination camps. 260,000 (of 300,000 living there) were deported by autumn.