

A Roman Cohort

A Roman cohort was roughly 480-600 men which is equivalent to our modern military battalion who may be led by a Lieutenant Colonel. It would also take 10 Cohorts (about 5,200 men) to make up a Legion.

A Centurion or Century in the Bible would lead roughly 80-150 men which today would be commanded by a Captain.

SLIDE 21

ROMAN ARMY PUNISHMENTS IF NEEDED

A form of extreme military discipline used by officers in the Roman Army to punish mutinous or cowardly soldiers was by decimation. The soldiers were divided into groups of ten; each group cast lots, and the soldier on whom the lot fell was executed by his nine comrades, often by stoning or clubbing. The remaining soldiers were then given rations of barley instead of wheat and force to sleep outside of the Roman encampment.

This punishment was forgotten over time in the early Republic but was brought back during the Spartacus gladiator rebellion in 72 b.c. by Marcus Crassus. He assembled the two legions and pulled out every 10th man as he walked across the ranks. Each man who was pulled out was to be beaten to death by his preceding nine comrades.

Basic Equipment

- **Cassis** - helmet
- **Lorica Segmentata** - armour
- **Focale and cingulum** - scarf and tunic worn under armour
- **Gladius** - sword, 18-24 in. long
- **Pilum (plural pila)** - medium-length throwing spear
- **Scutum** - shield
- **Red Battle Cloak**
- **Caligae** or military boots





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