



The South Panel of **The Arch of Titus**, Via Sacra, Rome, built in 82AD:

The Arch was built after the death of General Titus to celebrate his victories. This panel depicts the triumphal procession that followed on from his successful sacking of Jerusalem in 70AD. It shows the spoils of war taken from the temple before its destruction: the menorah (the golden lampstand), the table of shew bread (see Wikipedia for this, I am not so sure), gold trumpets and, it appears to me to be a possibility, the (repaired?) temple curtain also, draped over poles in the leading piece.

This panel of the arch recalls a highly significant piece of history and it fuels the imagination.

Principal questions might include:

'Was the first gospel writer in Rome when the General returned with his spoils from the temple?'

And if he had been,

'Was it this witness to the 'seriously bad news' of the demise of the Old Covenant that prompted him to write his 'seriously good news' (Greek: 'bravo news'?)?'

Photo: taken by myself some years ago now.