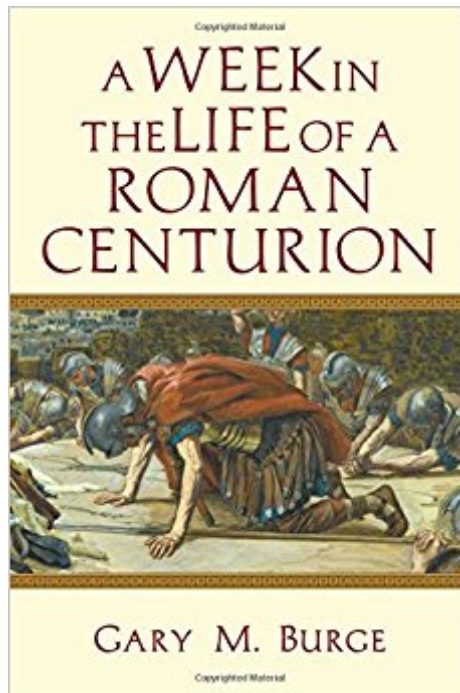




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# **A Week In The Life Of A Roman Centurion**



## Synopsis

Enter a world of warfare and treachery, of duty and honor, of love and loyalty, interwoven with the inner workings of a Roman centurion's household. And then trace it as the road curves toward little Capernaum. Follow the story of Appius, a proud centurion, and Tullus, his scribe and slave. From a battle with the Parthians, through a tragic personal crisis, to the gladiator arena at Caesarea Maritima, their tale finally leads to the backwater village of Capernaum on the shores of Galilee. There, in a culture not their own and during a week they will never forget, they encounter a Jewish prophet from Nazareth. *A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion* gives us a first-century view of the world of the Gospels. In entertaining historical fiction, splashed with informative sidebars and images, we capture a view of Jesus' world from the outer framework looking in.

## Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: IVP Academic (May 6, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0830824626

ISBN-13: 978-0830824625

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #275,362 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #182 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > History & Culture](#) #187 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > New Testament > Paul's Letters](#) #345 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > New Testament > Jesus, the Gospels & Acts](#)

## Customer Reviews

"Gary Burge's *A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion* brilliantly creates the backstory of the centurion Jesus praised, and in the process teaches readers about the milieu of the Gospels." (Marvin Olasky, *World Magazine*, August 8, 2015)"Burge offers an innovative and entertaining way to better understand the Roman and Jewish worlds and worldviews of the New Testament era. . . . After the book is read, it remains a valuable resource for Bible study." (Daniel Johnson, *CBA Retailers + Resources*, May 2015)"*A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion* gives us a first-century view of the world of the Gospels. In entertaining historical fiction, splashed with informative sidebars and images, we capture a view of Jesus' world from the outer framework looking in." (The Light

Canada, May 2015)"A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion is a helpful introduction to first-century history cloaked in an arresting story of a Roman centurion and his young slave, Tullus. Burge's careful reconstructive work frames and fills in the story, with each chapter concluding with more detailed information about the various topics raised in that chapter (e.g., Capernaum, honor and shame, the Roman army). Yet for all its pedagogical value, the reader will be riveted by the story itself—*an* imaginative retelling of the backstory of a centurion who comes to Jesus for healing for his slave. Gary Burge proves to be a masterful storyteller in this engaging and fast-paced narrative. A great book for anyone interested in the New Testament and its social world." (Jeannine K. Brown, professor of New Testament, Bethel Seminary, San Diego)"I couldn't put this book down. Part historical novel and part cultural handbook, Gary Burge's A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion is a delight to read. This will be a great supplemental text for my New Testament courses. Students will be so entertained they won't even realize how much they're learning!" (Mark L. Strauss, professor of New Testament, Bethel Seminary, San Diego)"Masterfully written and extensively researched, this fast-paced account invites the reader into the first-century world of the Gospels even while intriguing the reader as a good story should. In contrast to some scholars' wooden portrayals of all Jews or Romans or Syrians as the same, in this story, the characters are nuanced and come alive." (Craig Keener, F. M. and Ada Thompson Professor of Biblical Studies, Asbury Theological Seminary, author, The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament)"Biblical scholars are not typically known for writing historical novels, much less gripping page-turners. Gary Burge, however, has accomplished both of these feats. Fully true to the historical-cultural setting of the early first-century Roman Empire, this story not only makes the New Testament world come alive but it creates one very plausible scenario of the career and family of the Capernaum centurion of Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7:1-10. The characters become so real that I was even tearing up at the end of Burge's story!" (Craig L. Blomberg, Distinguished Professor of New Testament, Denver Seminary)

Gary M. Burge (PhD, University of Aberdeen) is professor of New Testament at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois. His passion in teaching, research and writing is how the unique world of the Middle East in antiquity shapes how we read the New Testament today. Among his many published books are Theology Questions Everyone Asks (with coeditor David Lauber), The Baker Illustrated Bible Commentary (general editor with Andrew Hill), The New Testament in Antiquity (coauthored with Lynn Cohick and Gene Green), John: The Gospel of Life and the award-winning Whose Land? Whose Promise? What Christians Are Not Being Told About Israel and the Palestinians.

This is a very enjoyable read, though not without its faults. The formatting of the Kindle edition is disruptive, with the helpful historical notes interspersed with the narrative. I enjoyed both the narrative and the historical notes, but there needs to be some work in the next Ebook edition to help it flow better. I also found the ending to be too abrupt. I'd prefer a "Week and a Half" in the life instead. Overall, this was an insightful weekend read that provides the best of historical fiction. I learned a bit about Roman and Jewish culture in the process and gave found it to be useful in small-group discussions. I will likely read more in the series.

Great story, very informative, with a nice twist at the end.

I really enjoyed reading this book! If you ever wanted to feel what it would be like to walk in the sandals of a key Roman soldier this easy to read, highly detailed, well written book is for you. Worthy of a sixth star!

A nicely written story with a surprise problem always being presented. It also gives supported information about what was happening in the early 30 BC time. It was well worth my time reading this book. I might have rated it 5 star too.

This is a quite enjoyable, informative and easy read. It was full of historical detail that really illuminated this story and the Greatest Story for me. The educational side- bars were fun to read. I would welcome other books like this and from this author. BTW, I have the Kindle edition.

Lots of information (perhaps more than some readers would like) placed throughout the story. I appreciated the details and have shared the book with others who also enjoyed it.

Historical. Dramatic. Intrigue. Action. It was a lovely surprise to stumble on to this unpretentious read. I am going to pass this on to a few friends for sure.

This is a gift that my son-in-law asked for so I know it is good.

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