

The Ninth of Av

The Talmud enumerates five tragic events that occurred on Tishah B'Av.

1. When the spies came back with a negative report about the land of Israel, the Jewish people wept all night. The night they cried, was the Ninth of Av.
- 2-3. The 1st and 2nd temples were destroyed.
4. Fifty-two years after the destruction of the 2nd temple, Bar Kochba gathered a large army in the city of Beitar and led them in revolt against the Roman Empire for three and a half years. On the Ninth of Av, Beitar was destroyed and half a million were killed by the Romans.
5. On the Ninth of Av after the destruction of the 2nd temple, the wicked Roman Turnus Rufus razed the city of Jerusalem and ploughed over the city and the Temple Mount.