

Revolt and Revolution: Rome in the 70s

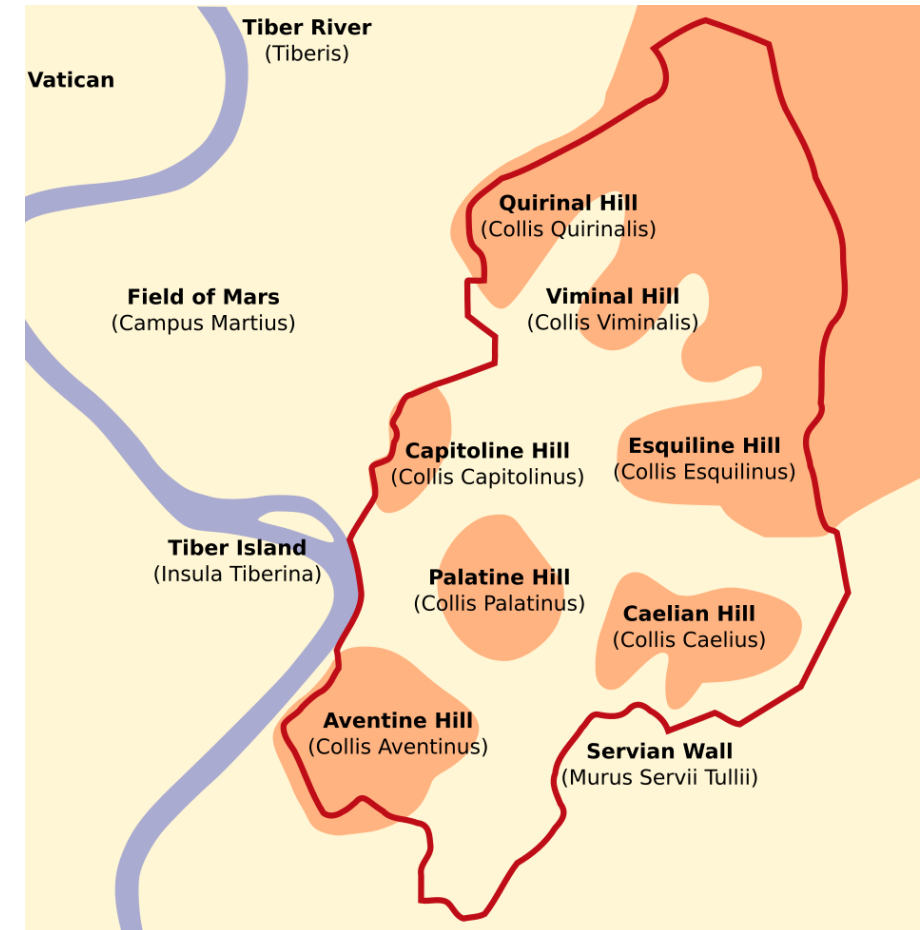
The Life and Times of
Caesar and Cicero
(HPAH5046/6046)



In the aftermath of Sulla

- Sulla's New Republic soon challenged.
 - Conflict between consuls Aemilius Lepidus (father of the later triumvir) and Q. Latatius Catulus (78) [Capitolinus].

“Lepidus, in order to curry favour with the Italians, said that he would restore the land which Sulla had taken from them. The Senate was afraid of both factions and made them take an oath that they would not carry their differences to the point of war... A battle was fought not far from the Campus Martius. Lepidus was defeated, and, soon giving up the struggle, sailed shortly afterwards to Sardinia, where he died of a wasting disease.” – **Appian BC 1.107.**



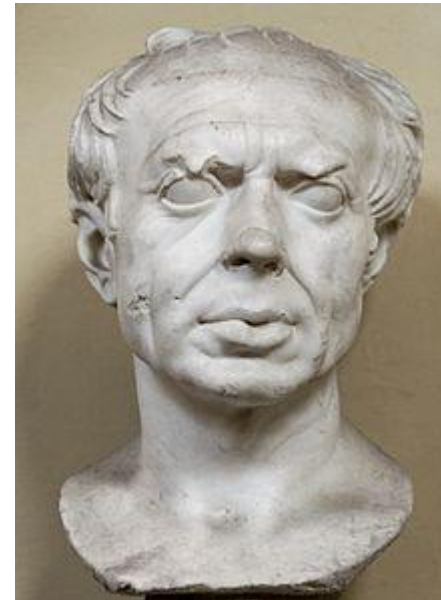
Sertorius and resistance in Spain (80-73/72 BC)

- Part of the Cinna – Marian faction.
- Quintus Sertorius sent as a propraetor to Spain.
- Alliances with local tribes.
- Good use of gorilla tactics and rugged terrain.
- Assassinated and replaced by Perpenna.



Unpicking Sulla's "Constitution"

- C. Aurelius Cotta (75 BC) – motion passed to remove bar on further offices for tribunes.
- Consulship of Pompey and Crassus (70 BC).
 - Reform of law courts – equites and *tribuni aerarii*
 - Power of tribunes to bring forth legislation restored.
- L. Gellius and Gn. Cornelius Lentulus Clodianus as censors remove 64 senators.



So-called bust of
"Marius" (1st cent. BC)

"[68 BC]...as nephew of Julia the deceased wife of Marius, he pronounced a splendid praise upon her in the forum, and in her funeral procession ventured to display images of Marius, which were then seen for the first time since the government of Sulla, because Marius and his friends had been pronounced public enemies..." – **Plutarch *Julius Caesar* 5.1-3.**

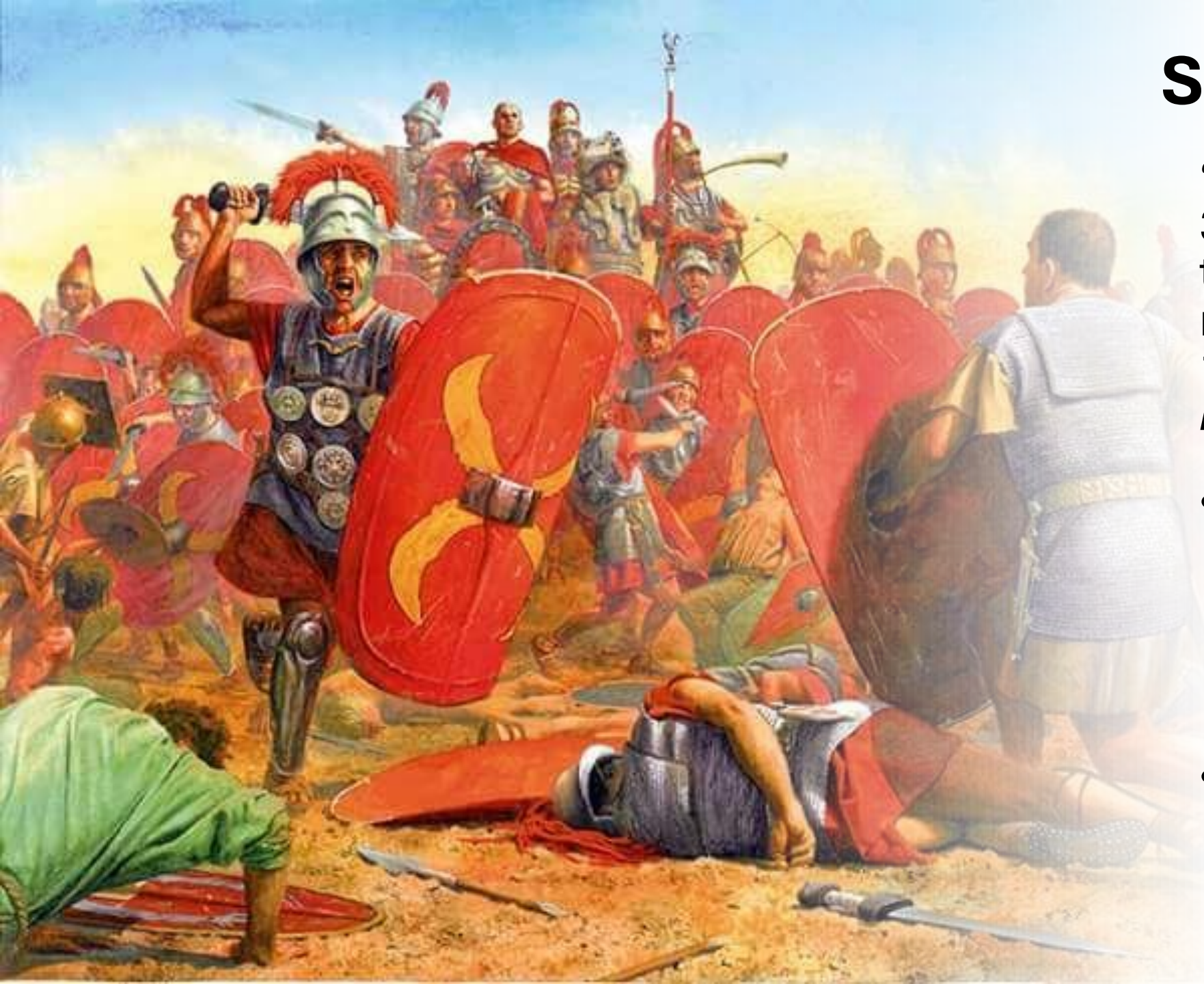
A composite image featuring a Roman relief on the left and a Roman helmet on the right. The relief depicts a muscular man in a tunic and sandals, holding a long staff or spear, standing next to a seated figure. The helmet is a Roman-style helmet with a large crest and a faceplate featuring a circular pattern. The text "Third Servile War" is overlaid in the center.

Third Servile War

“On learning of this, the Senate angrily ordered the consuls to keep quiet, and chose Crassus to conduct the war, and many of the nobles were induced by his reputation and their friendship for him to serve under him.” – **Plut. Crassus 10.1.**

- Riot in the gladiatorial school of Cn. Lentulus at Capua (73 BC).
 - Leaders: Spartacus + Crixus, Oenomaus and Castus?
- String of early Roman defeats:
 - Praetor Claudius Glaber; Praetor P. Varinius; L. Furius; L. Cossinius.
- Consuls L. Gellius Publicola and Cn. Cornelius Lentulus Clodianus (72 BC).
 - Gellius defeated Crixus, but subsequently Spartacus' forces defeated Clodianus' and Gellius' forces in turn.





Scale of the revolt

“Spartacus sacrificed 300 Roman prisoners to the shade of Crixus, and marched on Rome with 120,000 foot...” – **Appian BC 1.14.117**

- Less than 10% of De Ligt's (2012) 1.5 million estimate for mid-late Republican Italy.
 - Not all participants slaves!
- Crassus: 8 legions + equal number of Auxiliaries? [Appian 1.14.118]



Bust of Crassus? In Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek

“Before this Crassus had written to the senate that they must summon Lucullus from Thrace and Pompey from Spain, but he was sorry now that he had done so, and was eager to bring the war to an end before those generals came. He knew that the success would be ascribed to the one who came up with assistance, and not to himself.” – **Plut. *Crass.* 11.2.**

- Crassus employs his soldiers to build a wall to trap Spartacus near Rhegium.
- Forces of Spartacus defeated near the Silarius River.
- Survivors from battle mopped up by Pompey.