

"Ancient Jerusalem, The Temple & Golgotha"

Jesus Fulfills every Pattern of Bible Prophecy

By: Cathy Bentley www.connectedtotheword.com



Jesus Fulfills Every Pattern of Bible Prophecy Understanding the End Time Battle over Jerusalem

"Ancient Jerusalem, The Temple & Golgotha"

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The Future Temple on the Mountain of God

Jesus, Messiah - Reigns in Jerusalem from The Temple Mount

Jesus' Crucifixion is on the Mount of Olives

The Word of God can be trusted to point to the very place Jesus was crucified. Hebrews 13:10-12 give amazing clues to God's supernatural patterns and purposes.

<u>Hebrews 13:10:12</u> "We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the Tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the High Priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered without the gate."

- 1. Without "the Gate"
- 2. Outside of the city.
- 3. Near the Temple.
- 4. The Appointed Place The Miphkad Altar "The Ashes of the Red Heifer" Numbers 19
- 5. Golgotha "gugoleth" a place of registry -male heads counted for the Temple tax
- 6. Place of Crime & Arrest Romans often crucified their condemned men at the place of their crime or at the place of their arrest.

Let's examine each clue offered in the Word

1.<u>The Gate</u> - Jesus Christ suffered without [outside] <u>the gate</u> of the city of Jerusalem. There is only one Gate that has this title, the main gate called the Eastern Gate, of the Beautiful Gate that led directly to the Holy Temple.

2. Without the Gate -

This points to only one are...The Place of the Ashes where priests burned the bodies of the sacrifices outside of the city gate and stored their ashes. This special site is always referred to in the Old Testament as a place "without [outside of] the camp" of Israel. It had to be 2000 cubits outside the Temple. When the Temple was built, a bridge was specially constructed of archways over the Kidron Valley from the Temple directly east to the Mount of Olives . According to the Mishnah, (one of the top Rabbinic commentaries),

"They made a causeway from the Temple Mount to the Mount of Olives, an arched way built over an arched way, with an arch directly above each pier [of the arch below], for fear of any grave in the depths below. By it the priest that was to burn the Heifer, and the Heifer, and all that aided him went forth to the Mount of Olives." - The Mishnah, p.700.

Again, this bridge connects the Eastern Gate (the Gate Beautiful) to a place near the top of the Mount of Olives. Using this archway, the priest passed over and are not contaminated by any graves below. This fulfills commandment for ritual purity

3. Near the Temple. "for the place where Jesus was crucified was night o the city:" John 19:20 A better Greek translation here would be "night he place of the city." The Temple is the Place of the City and is also called "the Place."

- <u>Ezekiel 43:21</u> Thou shalt take the bullock also of the sin offering and he shall burn it in the appointed Place of the House, without the Sanctuary."

 <u>John 11:48</u> If we let him thus alone, all *men* will believe on Him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our Place and Nation." The Temple!
- 3. <u>"Golgotha"</u> refers to an important place of registry where heads were counted, and not a place that looks like a skull. The Greek word "Golgotha" comes from the Hebrew word "gugoleth:

 "And He bearing His cross went forth into a place called *the place* of a skull,

 which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha." John 19:17
- 4. The Appointed Place The Miphqad Altar Mt of Olives

 Ezekiel 43:21 Thou shalt take the bullock also of the sin offering
 and he shall burn it in the appointed place of the House, without the Sanctuary."

The "Appointed place" is the Hebrew word *miphqad*, coming from *paqad* verb. *to number*. The Miphkad gate of Jerusalem led to the "appointed place (*Nehemiah 3:31*) was located on the east wall just north of the east gate leading to the Temple. This gate opened onto the road leading up the Mount of Olives.

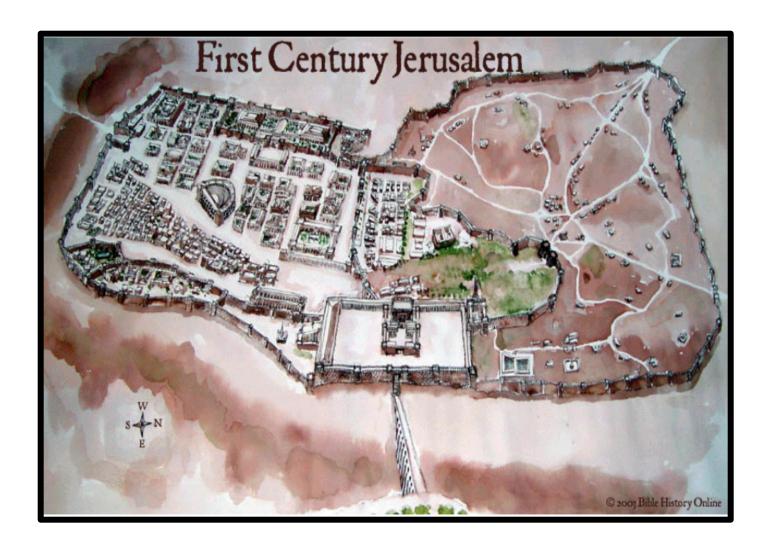
5. Golgotha - The Place of the Head Tax

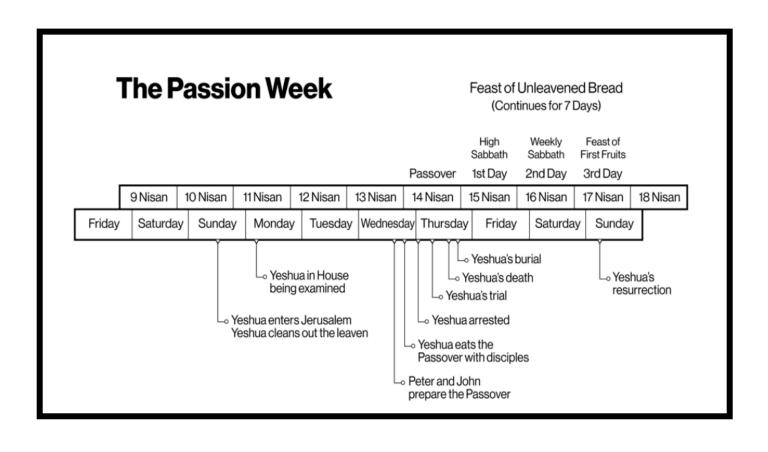
The special road leading to the Miphkad, is the "appointed place," where people registered for the Temple tax. Each person was counted by head count (skull, head, or poll) "gugoleth" "And the silver of them that were numbered (paqad, to appoint or number] of the congregation was 100 talents, and 1775 shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary: A bekah for every man [gulgoleth, head], that is half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that went to be numbered [paqad]..." Exodus 38:25-26 Easily recognized in Jesus' time, the place of numbering, the registration for the Temple tax would be Golgotha.

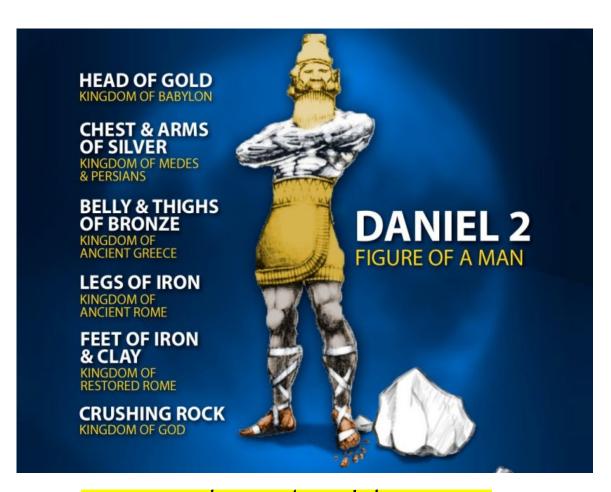
- 6. <u>Place of the Crime</u> Romans often crucified their condemned men at the place of their crime or at the place of their arrest.
 - Luke 23:2: And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King."
 - Matthew 27:37 " And set up over His head His accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Jesus's crime and the cause of His crucifixion was He proclaimed to be King. The same place He was acclaimed is the same place He was arrested – the Mount of Olives

Luke 19:37-38 "And when He was come nigh, even now at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord...".







"Jesus – The Rock and the Stone" Islam, the Dome of the Rock, and the Temple Mount



By: Cathy Bentley May 2017 www.connectedtotheword.com

The Word of God clearly points to Jesus Messiah as the Rock of our Salvation and the Stone of Offence for unbelievers.

<u>Psalm118:22</u> "The stone which the builders refused is become the head corner stone"

And He shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to 8:14 Both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem."

Mat 21:42

Jesus said to them, Did you never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

Mat 21:44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

1 Corinthians 10:4 "and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ."

When studying all the verses in the Bible on Rock and Stone I made a personal discovery. Almighty God is known as the Rock of Ages to His people. Verse after verse describe the GREAT I AM, Jehovah, as "the rock." The Israelite people must have known this reference from the rabbis' teachings in the Temple. The implications that Jesus is the stone of offense the builders rejected must have been explosive. The leaders of Israel who vehemently rejected Jesus JESUS were indeed rejecting GOD. JESUS is the Rock, the Messiah and the Redeemer of Israel. But there is another implication in these verses. The stone the builders rejected also points to the foundation stone of the Temple. Without the foundation stone, no Temple can be rebuilt. Without recognizing Jesus as the Rock, the Jews will never have a Temple again with the Shekinah glory of God in their midst. Great and Marvelous is our God!

"Carried on Eagles' Wings" study is birthed out of the prophetic words in Revelation which point directly to Deuteronomy 32. The redeemed Tribulation saints in heaven begin to worship GOD by singing the Song of Moses - and the Song of the Lamb - right before the wrath of God is poured out in judgment upon unrepentant inhabitants of the earth. These events announce the Wrath of God!

Revelation 15:1-3

- 1.And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous,7 angels having the 7 last plagues, for in them is filled up the wrath of God.
- 2. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire; and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.
- 3. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, 'Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty, just and true are Your ways, You King of saints."
- 4. Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your Name for You alone are holy, for all nations shall come and worship before You; for Your judgment is made manifest."

Without proclaiming JESUS as MESSIAH and as the ROCK and FOUNDATION STONE, 2 Israel can't experience the Presence of GOD in any Jewish Temple! Deuteronomy Chapter 32 prophesies the End Time Abomination of the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount! The Dome of the Rock is the Islamic shrine built over the Foundation rock of Israel's 1st and 2nd Holy Temple. All of this happened BECAUSE Israel did not recognize the day of Jesus' visitation to them as their MESSIAH! God will judge His people for failing to recognize the TRUE ROCK that begat them, and for not overturning false gods in their midst...

Deut. 32:31 "For their rock is not as our ROCK, even our enemies being judged."

The sacred rock of Islam is not the ROCK whose name is JESUS, MESSIAH, who Lives forevermore and will rule in Jerusalem from the Temple Mount! He is the Stone Israel rejects. Isaiah prophesies Israel will make a disastrous future covenant with Anti-christ.

Isaíah Chapter 28:15-18

- 15. Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:
- 16. Therefore thus says the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.
- 1.7 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.
- 18. And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

Daniel
Chapter 2
"The Statue
and the Stone"



At Jesus 2nd Coming, He will again appear as a Stone made without Hands: His Kingdom will crush and finally destroy all the world kingdoms that reunite against Israel, the Jews, and faith in Jesus

- 41 And whereas you saw the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with miry clay.
- 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.
- 43 And whereas thou saw iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.
- 44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.
- 45 Forasmuch as thou saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Messiah - The Rock and The Stone

- Psalm 118:22 The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner stone.
- Matthew 21:42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, this became the chief corner stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?
- Mark 12:10 "Have you not even read this Scripture: THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone;
- Luke 20:17 But Jesus looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone'?
- 1 Peter 2:7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,"
- Acts 4:11 "He is the STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED by you, THE BUILDERS, but WHICH BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone.
- Isaiah 8:14"Then He shall become a sanctuary; But to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, And a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
- Romans 9:33 just as it is written, "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."
- 1 Peter 2:8 and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.
- Matthew 21:44" And he who falls on <mark>this stone</mark> will be broken to pieces; but on whomever <mark>it</mark> falls, it will scatter him like dust."
- Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed.

 He who believes in it will not be disturbed.
- 1 Peter 2:6 For this is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, and he who believes will not be disappointed.
- Daniel 2:34"You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.

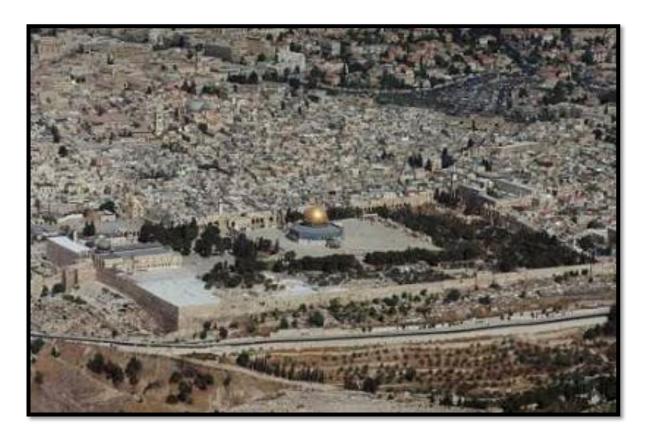
- Daniel 2:45"Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy."
- Daniel 2:35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.
- 1 Corinthians 10:4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from <mark>a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ</mark>.
- 1 Peter 2:4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God,
- Genesis 49:24 Yet his bow remained steady, and his strong arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob, by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,
- Numbers 20:8 Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.
- Deut 32:4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He.
- Deut 32:13 He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;
- Deut 32:15 But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: you are waxen fat, you are grown thick, you are covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.
- Deut 32: 18 Of the Rock that begat thee you are unmindful, and have forgotten God that formed you.
- Deut 32:30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?
- Deut 32: For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges.

- Deut 32:37 And he shall say, Where are their gods, their rock in whom they trusted,
 - 1 Sam 2:2 There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.
- 2 Samuel 22:2-3 And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; The God of my rock; in him will I trust: He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence.
- 2 Sam 22:32 For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a rock, save our God?
- 2 Sam 22:47The LORD lives; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.
- 2 Sam 23:3The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spoke to me, He that rules over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.
- Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.
- Psa 18:31 For who is God save the LORD? Or who is a rock save our God?
- Psa 18:46 The LORD lives; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.
- Ps, 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to You, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.
- Psa 27:5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of His Tabernacle shall He hide me; He shall set me up upon a rock.
- Psa 28:1 {A Psalm of David.} Unto you will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, if you be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit.
- Psa 31:2 Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.
- Psa 31:3 For You are my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.
- Psa 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

"Allah, The Dome of the Rock and the Temple Mount"

The ancient Biblical hill known as Mount Moriah has always been at the center of Jewish history. Today it remains at the center of the supernatural warfare between Jehovah and Lucifer. Mount Moriah (purchased by King David from Ornan the Jebusite) is the very hilltop where the Lord led Abraham to offer His son Isaac, and also the spot where God later permitted Solomon to build a House for the Lord. It is also the place that stands at the forefront of the events of the Apocalypse, and ultimately to the coming of the conquering Christ. But today, Allah alone stands enshrined in the only house on Mount Moriah. Today Israel is yearning for a presence on the Mount also, and one day soon will be provided with such an arrangement by the Antichrist. Thus the reason for the modern cataclysmic conflict that is raging between the Muslim world and Israel within the context of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, and the world's ongoing Partitioning Plan that is supposed to be a solution to the highly volatile issue surrounding Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. The political status of the Temple Mount in is the subject

of final status negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.



Luke 21:20-24 "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let themwhich are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! For there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

In the 7th Century A.D. a new religion suddenly burst upon the world scene. That new religion, as conveyed by Mohammed was the religion of Islam The prophet Mohammed was born in Mecca about 570 A.D. After receiving profound revelations supposedly from an angel, (Gabriel but really a demon) and stirred by the polytheistic paganism of the Kaaba shrine worship, Mohammed, rejected by his people, began his Hijra (migration) from Mecca to Medina. Mohammed'a pilgrimage or Hijra in 622 AD marked the beginning of the Islamic era. Two years later Mohammed's followers defeated the ancient Meccans at the Battle of Badr and finally in 630 Mecca itself was conquered by Mohammed, who transformed Mecca and its Kaaba into the spiritual center of Islam. He removed all but one of the 360 pagan gods and decreed Hubal, the moon god supreme. Mohammed died in 632 and was succeeded by Abu Bakr as the first caliph.

The official version of the Koran was established in 650 during the reign of Uthman, 18 years after the prophet's death. By 656 a religious civil war arose within Islam among the loyal followers of Mohammed, disputes as to who was the legitimate, appointed heir to Mohamed, his Kingdom and supreme Caliph over Islamic faith. Modern Shi'ite extremism (followers of Ali, Mohammed's son-in-law) constantly war against the Sunnis, followers of Mohammed's war general) are in a turf war over who will control Islam, the Holy places, and the whole world. Sunnis and Shias wage war against each other even today, resulting in Islam being a divided religion. However Islam will reunite to fight against the infidels, the Christians and the Jews everywhere!

Then in the years between 633-63, the Arabic Muslim tribes first conquered Syria and Iraq, then Egypt, and later Persia in 640-643. Muslims believe that the conquest of these countries was a Divinely command from Allah. Not long thereafter, the Arab/Muslim armies controlled most of Africa and attacked all the Christian Mediterranean lands. By jihad and terror they advanced and captured Jerusalem by 638. Historian Steve Runciman later recounted this historic conquest.

On a February day in the year A.D. 638 the Caliph Omar entered Jerusalem, riding upon a white camel. He was dressed in worn, filthy robes and the army that followed him was rough and unkempt; but its discipline was perfect. At his side was the LatinPatriarch Sophronius, as chief magistrate of the surrendered city of Jerusalem. Omar rode straight to the Temple of Solomon, which was the in ruins. He said this Is the very site whence that Lord Mahomet had



ascended into heaven and decreed it holy to Islam. Watching him stand there, the Catholic Patriarch remembered the words of Christ and murmured through his tears: 'Behold the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet.'

Omar is reported to have been utterly shocked and dismayed at the filth and rubble that lay strewn about the Temple Mount. He had hoped to take the site as a religious trophy. But because the holy site had been so neglected, he made the Christian Patriarch Sophronius grovel in the muck. Later Omar set about clearing the site and building a wooden mosque on the compound.

The great mosque of Jerusalem, Al Masjid al Aksa, the "Further Mosque," derives its name from the traditional Night Journey of Muhammad. (Quran 27. 1):

"I declare the glory of Him who transported His servant by night from the Masjid al Haram (the Mosque at Makkah) to the Masjid al Aksa (the Further Mosque) at Jerusalem,"

The term "Mosque," includes the whole area of the Noble Sanctuary, and not just the building of the Al- Aksa, which in Mohammed's days, did not even exist.

According to Islam's account, Muhammad mounted a winged steed called Al Burak (Lightning) and together with the angel Gabriel as His escort, was carried from Makkah (Mecca), to the Sinai, and then to Bethlehem, after which they came unto Jerusalem. "And when we reached Bait al Makdis, the Holy City," so goes the legend, "we came to the gate of the mosque, and here Jibrail (Gabriel) caused me to dismount. Entering the Mount Area by the gateway, afterwards known as the Gate of the Prophet, Muhammad and Gabriel went up to the Sacred Rock, which of old times had stood in the center of Solomon's Temple. Muhammad proceeded to perform his prayer-prostrations, and then ascended, by a ladder of light, up into Allah's 7th heaven. There in Allah's presence, he received instructions for his return again to earth. Mohammed's return journey was made in the same way, on Al Burak's back. The Prophet reached Makkah again before the night had waned. (all myth)

After Caliph Omar's conquest Jerusalem to 'Omar in 635, he caused the first mosque to be built on the ancient site of the Temple of David. Mohammed's spirit pinpointed the place as the very place Mohammed made his prayer prostrations on his Night Journey in Jerusalem.

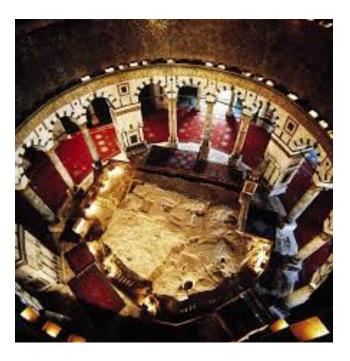
The Muslim Dome of the Rock is Built on the Temple Mount

Around year A.D. 691, Caliph Abd el-Malik commissioned the best architects to build the Dome of the Rock. His plan was patterned after a 4th Century Christian shrine erected on the Mount of Olives marking the site of Jesus' Ascension. The new Islamic shrine was deliberately built as a political, economic, and religious counter attraction to Mecca. Medina and Mecca, as the 2 Saudi Arabian cities holy to Islam, were under the control of a rival Caliph. Caliph Abd El-Malik wanted to establish Jerusalem's importance as an Islamic center for pilgrimage and worship. Ironically, the holiest spot in all of Judaism, the place Jehovah had taken for His name, was now identified as the spot where Mohammed's horse mysteriously ascended to heaven.

Jerusalem was not considered of great importance to the Muslim armies before this. Even more revealing, Mohammed never expressed any interest in conquering Jerusalem. Although he had supposedly leapt into Heaven from there, it is never mentioned in the Quran and Mohammed never entered the City.

The Arabs first called the city Ilya, after the Roman name (Aelia Capitolina) rather than Beit el-Maqdas (the holy house. Although Caliph Abd El-Malik was the one that actually commissioned the structure, it became known as "The Mosque of Omar." The building is not today, nor has it ever been a mosque, but is rather the first Islamic shrine. (Omar was the 2nd Caliph of the 4 patriarchal Sunni Caliphs of Islam. A caliph is a successor to the Prophet and supreme ruler and defender of the Muslim faith.

Beneath the glimmering Dome of the Rock structure is an outcropping of the bedrock of Mount Moriah known as the "Sacred Rock." On its pock-marked surface is an indentation which is reputed by Muslims to be Mohammed's footprint as he leapt into the 7th heaven.





Mount Moriah is the exact ridge that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice in Genesis 22. The Bible records David purchased this very site called the threshing floor or Araunah for the place of the Jewish Holy Temple. Solomon's Temple and Herod's Temple both sat on this exact site.

Beneath the Dome of the Rock is a cave known as "the well of souls". Muslims call this cave the "well of souls" because they believe the dead meet twice a week to pray there. In 1993 one million dollars in gold foil was provided by the government of Saudi Arabia as a gift to restore the Dome's glory!

The Dome of the Rock Symbolizes Islamic Rebuttal of Christianity

From Muslim point of view the Dome of the Rock was an answer to and a denial of the power of Christianity and Scripture, providing Muslims with arguments to be used against Christian testimonies about Jesus. The inscriptions on the Dome of the Rock structure are 734 feet long in all, amongst the lengthiest inscriptions in the world. Most of the quotations come from the Koran: praising Allah and Mohammed while denying God and His Son Jesus. Read Islam's claim against Jesus Christ and the promise of Allah's wrath for unbelievers.

South In the name of Allah, the Merciful the Compassionate. There is no god but Allah. He is One. He has no associate. Unto Him belongs sovereignty and unto Him belongs praise. He quickens and He gives death; He has Power over all things. Moh ammad is the servant of Allah and His Messenger.

Southeast Lo! God and His angels shower blessings on the Prophet. O ye who believe! Ask blessings on him and salute him with a worthy salutation. The blessing of Allah be on him and peace been him, and may Allah have mercy. O People of the Book! Do not exaggerate in your religion

East Nor utter aught concerning Allah save the truth. The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, was only a Messenger of God, and His Word which He conveyed unto Mary, and a spirit from Him. So believe in God and His messengers, and say not 'Three' - Cease!

NorthEast it is better for you! –Allah is only One God. Far be it removed from His transcendent majesty that He should have a son. His is all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth. And Allah is sufficient as Defender. The Messiah will never scorn to be a

North servant unto Allah, nor will the favored angels. Whoso scorns His service and is proud, all such will He assemble unto Him. Oh Allah, bless Your Messenger and Your servant Jesus

NorthWest son of Mary. Peace be on him the day he was born, and the day he dies, and the day he he shall be raised alive! Such was Jesus, son of Mary, a statement of the truth concerning which they doubt. It befits not (the Majesty of) Allah that He should take unto Himself a son. Glory be to Him!

West When He decrees a thing, He says unto it only: Be! and it is. Lo! Allah is my Lord and your Lord. So serve Him. That is the right path. Allah (Himself) is witness that there is no God save Him. And the angels and the men of learning are witness. Maintaining His creation in justice, there is no God save Allah,

SouthWest the Almighty, the Wise. Lo! religion with Allah (is) Islam. Those who (formerly) received the Book differed only after knowledge came unto them, through transgression among themselves. Whoso disbelieve the revelations of Allah find that Lo! Allah is swift at reckoning!



Jewish Life Under Muslim Rule

Conquering Muslims brought a different attitude with them. In contrast to the Byzantine and Roman conquerors who let the Temple Mount remain in ruins as a proof of the destruction of Jewish nationalism, the Muslims replace worship of Jehovah on the Mount with worship of Allah, the Arabic moon god. When Muslims first ruled Jerusalem they allowed Jews to officially live in the city and on holy days they were sometimes permitted on the Temple Mount

Historic accounts say that the Jews would march in procession around the walls of the Temple Mount on feast days and pray at the gates. A 10th Century document indicates that one of the conditions for allowing the Jews to pray at the gates was that the Jewish community would be responsible for keeping the Mount clean. The Jews were responsible to sweep the Mount (like servants of Islam).

European Crusaders Re-capture Jerusalem for a Short Time

For the last 1300 years, the Temple Mount had primarily been in the Moslem control. However, on July 15, 1099 Jerusalem was taken away from the Muslims by the Roman Catholic Crusaders from Europe who slaughtered the inhabitants of Jerusalem. The Dome of the Rock was then converted into a Catholic Church called the Templum Domini, or "Temple of our Lord." The Knights of the Templar used the Al-Aksa Mosque as their headquarters. All of Catholic Europe rejoiced that Jerusalem was once again in the hands of "Christian Crusaders." The victory however was short-lived, the Muslims re-grouped to take Jerusalem back from "the infidels." Saladin (Salah al-Din) called for jihad, or holy war, to retake the land of Palestine. After only 90 years of Crusader control, Jerusalem surrendered to Saladin's army on October 2, 1187, falling back into the hands of the Muslims. The Papacy commanded several more Crusades to free Jerusalem from Saladin and the Muslim armies, but to this very day, the Temple Mount remains in Islam's control. Although Israel recaptured the Holy City in 1967, they in the In 1517, under Sultan Selim I, the Turks captured Jerusalem and all of Israel. The rule of the Turks over Jerusalem would last exactly four hundred years. The walls which today surround the Old City were built by Suleiman the Magnificent, the son of Sultan Selim. Suleiman restored the Al Aksa Mosque. With the rise of the Ottomans, the muslim Arabs found themselves under the domination of the hated muslim Turks. The Ottomans ruled over Palestine for the next 400 years. During that span of centuries under Turkish rule the Arabs did not possess even one independent state. Modern Arab were granted nations after WWI.

The Temple Mount Lies Desolate to Jews

In 1267 the Jewish sage Nachmanides wrote to a letter to his son. It contained the following references to the Holy Land and the Temple Mount.

"What shall I say of this land, the more holy the place the greater the desolation, and Jerusalem is the most desolate of all. And may He who deemed us worthy to see Jerusalem in her ruins, grant us to see her rebuilt and restored, and the honor of the Divine Presence returned."

"Behold, your house is left to you desolate: and verily I say to you, Ye shall not see Me, until the time come when you shall say, Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord." Luke 13:35

Israel and World War I

During World War I (1914-1918) the Arabs as well as the Jews helped the British fight the Turks. D.E. Lawrence, the infamous "Lawrence of Arabia", was instrumental in recruiting the Arab world in helping Great Britain to achieve the victory over the Ottoman Turkish Empire. In October 1917, British General Allenby launched an invasion on the land of Palestine and 2 days later his triumphal entry into conquered Jerusalem on foot – without a battle over the City.

After WWI and the break-up of the vast Ottoman Muslim Empire - Great Britain, France and Russia together forged the Sykes-Picot Agreement. It provided a plan to carve (partition) up the old Ottoman Empire and reward the Allied Countries with new lands. Great Britain acquired control of Palestine under that agreement. So after 400 years of Ottoman rule, Jerusalem and the Temple Mt. were divinely delivered from Islam's grip. (1917 – Jubilee year!)

Britain's Balfour Declaration

On November 2, 1917 the British government issued the Balfour declaration to pledge its support for national homeland for the Jews in Palestine. British Foreign Secretary Lord Balfour wrote this letter to Baron Edward de Rothschild as a representative of the Jewish people:

"His majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing and non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

Since the fall of Jerusalem in 70AD, the Jews have suffered repeated humiliations in every nation and the Holy Place in Palestine have been left unto them desolate. The domes of 2 Islamic buildings on the Temple Mount stand high and reflect the bright sunshine. This should remind the Jewish people that "pagan" holy places remain on the site of their sacred Temple, simply because they have not yet learned to acknowledge, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Until the Jews cry out to JESUS as MESSIAH!

The Future of the Temple Mount and Jerusalem

The words of the prophet Ezekiel regarding the Temple Mount are as true today as ever: Ezekiel 36:1-8 "Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord: Thus saith the Lord God; Because the enemy has said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession: Therefore prophesy and say, Thus says the Lord God; Because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that you might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people: Therefore, ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord God; Thus says the Lord God to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken, which became a prey and derision to the residue of the heathen that are round about;

Therefore thus says the Lord God; Surely in the fire of My jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed My land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey. Prophesy therefore concerning the Land of Israel, and say to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus says the Lord God; Behold, I have spoken in My jealousy and in My fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen: Therefore thus says the Lord God; I have lifted up My hand, Surely the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame. But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come."

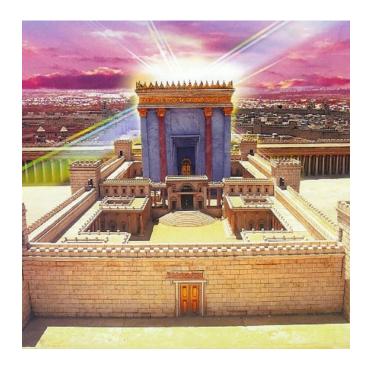
The Coming of Messiah Jesus

But the trodden down status of Jerusalem's Temple Mount by the god of this world, and by the Antichrist will soon be ended. The Antichrist and Allah will be destroyed, and their structures will be cleared away to make room for a house that the Lord Himself shall build.

Zechariah 1:14-16 "So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus says the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction. Therefore thus says the LORD;

I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: My house shall be built in it, says the Lord. "



Micah 4:1-2 "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the Mountain of the House of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord, and to the House of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for the Law shall go forth of Zion, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

"Jerusalem Belongs to the Lord"

Article by: by Thomas S. McCall, Th.D.

Jerusalem, the Holy City, the City of the Great King, God's Holy Hill of Zion, the Center of the Earth, the Place, where God Put His Name, the City,Jerusalem is called by these and many other names in the Bible. As Israel and the P.L.O., under international pressure, enter, into the most critical aspect of the current "peace process", which is the effort to make a permanent settlement concerning Jerusalem, many claims and issues must be dealt with.

To Whom Does Jerusalem Belong?

<u>The Jews</u> says it belongs to Israel. It was the political capital and Temple worship center of the ancient Commonwealth for over 1,000 years, has been the spiritual home of the Jewish people ever since, and is understood to be the future capital of the Messiah.

<u>The Arabs</u> say it belongs to Islam. It is the third most sacred place to Moslem believers, next to Mecca and Medina. The city was under Moslem control from the seventh century until World War I, with the one-century exception during the Crusades.

<u>The Pope</u> says it belongs to the Catholic Church. Jerusalem is sacred to Christians because of both the Old and New Testament associations, and is the site of the death and resurrection of Christ. The holy sites are of great concern, of which the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is supreme to the Catholic Church.

<u>Bible Believing Christians</u> it was the center of Jesus Ministry and also of all future Bible prophecy. Jerusalem belongs to the Lord who has given it to Israel. Soon Jesus will return as eternal King and Ruler of His Church and Jerusalem will belong to Believers!

<u>The United Nations</u> says it belongs to the world. Jerusalem is revered by the world's three greatest monotheistic religions, and is critical as a hot spot that could well endanger world peace. Therefore, the U.N. wants to "internationalize" the city, so that no one ethnic or religious group would have control.

Jerusalem Under Israel and Jordan

What should the attitude be among those of us who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and are evangelicals? Our conviction is that all of the Land of Israel, including Jerusalem, belongs to the Jewish people by divine decree, and we should recognize their rights of ownership. During the last three decades, in which most of the Land has been under Israeli control, evangelical Christians have had full and free access to just about all of the county. Christian tourists have been welcome, and there has been no problem seeing all of the marvelous biblical sites. They holy places of all religions are kept sacrosanct, and Jews, Moslems, and Christians may visit these places and rest assured that no important site will be desecrated.

Such could not be said when the country in general, and Jerusalem in particular, was under Moslem control. My wife and I were in Jerusalem in 1965, on a tour with Dr. Charles Feinberg. This, of course, was before the Six-Day War in 1967, and Jerusalem was part of the Kingdom of Jordan, and ruled by King Hussein. East and West Jerusalem were separated by a jagged zone called "no man's land." The Mandelbaum Gate was the only way anyone could get from one side to the other. It was like Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin. As a practical matter, no civilians could pass from Israel into Jordan, and about the only civilians who could pass from Jordan to Israel were foreign tourists. Once Christians got into Jordan, they could visit most of the New Testament holy places, but getting to Jordan was a serious problem, and the problem was created by the unwillingness of Jordan to cooperate with Israel. As the Jordanians would not allow tourists to go from Israel into Jordan, we had to go to Jordan first, via Egypt, and then go into Israel through the Mandelbaum Gate. When Jerusalem was divided, it was difficult for pilgrims to visit the many important biblical sites.

The Western Wall Under Moslem Control

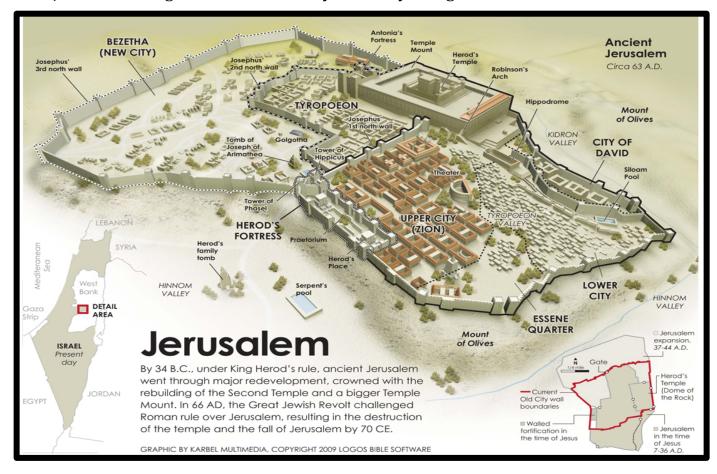
The entire Old City in 1965 was in Jordan, along with most of the biblical sites. This included the Dome of the Rock, the Temple Mount and the Western Wall. One of the places we wanted to visit was the Western Wall, sometimes called the Wailing Wall. Those who are familiar with the Wall as it is today, with its spacious plaza and daily crowds of people who come to worship and pray, can scarcely imagine what it was like in 1965. In actuality, it was a slum. The Arab houses were built up to within about ten feet of the Wall, and the space between was like an alley. Really, it was worse than that, because all around were the odors of a latrine. The Western Wall, closed in as a dank alleyway, was deserted then. No Jews were praying at this most sacred of sites to Judaism. No young boys were performing their Bar Mitzvah rites of reading the Torah, with all their admiring family rejoicing at the Wall. It was deserted when Jordan had control of the Old City. No Jews were allowed at the Western Wall for about 20 years.

Finally Jerusalem under Jewish Control

What a difference when Israel recaptured the Old City in 1967. Within months, the old slum was cleared away from the Wall, a grand plaza was established, and hundreds to thousands of people began gathering there daily to pray and worship the God of Abraham and Moses.

Once Jerusalem was reunited under Jewish control, the Moslems had free and total access to the Dome of the Rock, the Al Aksa Mosque, and all their holy places throughout the Land. Christians also, including evangelicals, have had complete and unfettered access to all the important places in Israel, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Garden Tomb, the Mount of Olives, and all the Sea of Galilee.

One shudders to think of what might happen if Jerusalem were again to be taken out of the hands of the Jewish people, even if it were placed under the U.N. or the Papacy, much less the P.L.O. Both evangelical Christians and Jews could well find themselves having much-reduced access to the scriptural sites. Furthermore, God never gave legal title of Jerusalem to Moslems or Christians or the United Nations. He gave the legal right to Jerusalem to Abraham and his descendants through Isaac and Jacob. What right do we have to try to nullify this grant to Israel from the Lord?



The Push to Remove Jerusalem from Israeli Control

Our conviction, therefore, is that both the scriptural mandates and the interests of Jews and evangelical Christians (and peace-loving Arabs, for that matter) are best served by Jerusalem remaining in the hands of Israel until the Lord returns. Already, for years, our U.S. government under two administrations and the U.N. have applied pressure on Israel to surrender strategic territory to Moslem interests. In spite of the strong reservations of many Jews and evangelical Christians, it appears that our various governments may well try to remove Jerusalem from Israeli control. This is very regrettable, and we should resist such efforts wherever possible. Nevertheless, as the Bible teaches that Jerusalem will be a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone for all the nations in the End Times (Zech. 12:2–3), we should not be surprised.

