

The leader of the European residents of Jerusalem in the movie The Kingdom of Heavenⁱ asked the leader of the Muslims “What is Jerusalem worth?” The Muslim leader was quick to respond, “nothing.” He walked a few paces, turned back to the other leader and smugly said, “everything.”

Day 1 - What is Jerusalem Worth? – Comparison God, Jews, Muslims, Christians

How important is Jerusalem to God? How important is Jerusalem to Israel? How important is Jerusalem to the Muslims? How important is Jerusalem to the Christians? Today, I would like you to pull from your study of the Scripture, from your study of history, and from your understanding of current events and compare/ contrast Jerusalem’s importance to God and each of these people groups.

	God	Jews	Muslims	Christians
Scripturally	Use Isaiah 60 and other passages in Isaiah			
Historically				
Currently				

Who do you suppose has the most riding on the occupation of Jerusalem? Who has the most clout in God’s eyes? Who has the most control in the world’s eyes at this time?

Days 2 - 3 - Jerusalem and the Temple Site: Scriptural Background – Genesis through Daniel

There are three references in the Scripture that can be considered “Zion.” Obviously, Jerusalem is Zion in most of the Scriptural text. Sometimes however, Zion can be referring to the Israelite people or the land itself. Today we are going to take a look at some background scripture for Jerusalem as Zion.

Genesis 22 – please read all of Genesis 22, and answer the following questions:

Where did God tell Abraham to go with his only son in Genesis 22:2?

What was Abraham to do with Isaac on that mountain in the land of Moriah?

On what day did Abraham raise his eyes and see the place he was to sacrifice Isaac?

Who were Abraham's servants to wait for in return in Genesis 22:5?

Remember that Jerusalem is a city on a hill.

Joshua 15, 18 – In Joshua 15, the boundaries of the land given to the tribe of Judah are explained. Joshua 15:8 says this, “Then the border went up the valley of Ben-hinnom to the slope of the Jebusite on the south (that is, Jerusalem); and the border went up to the top of the mountain which is before the valley of Hinnom to the west, which is at the end of the valley of Rephaim toward the north.” Joshua 15:63 tells us this about the Jebusite city of Jerusalem, “now as for the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the sons of Judah could not drive them out; so, the Jebusites live with the sons of Judah at Jerusalem until this day.” In Joshua 18:21-28, it looks like the tribe of Benjamin could claim the city of Jerusalem. Later in Jewish history, we see the tribe of Judah almost completely engulfing the tribe of Benjamin. However, neither those from the tribe of Judah nor from the tribe of Benjamin were able to take the city of Jerusalem from the Jebusites until David came to power.

Why does the writer of the book of Joshua tell us so much detail about this city?

2 Samuel 5:7, 1 Chronicles 11:4-9 – please read just these verses.

Jerusalem did not really belong to either the Jews (those from Judah) or the Benjamites before David the king conquered it. In the 2 Samuel 5 passage, Jerusalem is called the “stronghold of Zion.” Both of these passages of Scripture refer to this city as the City of David.

It furthermore tells us that David built the city all around, from the Millo even to the surrounding area and David became greater and greater because the LORD was with him. Reading on into 2 Samuel 6-7, God talks to David about the city of Jerusalem and how He intends to build His permanent dwelling place there. The temporary dwelling place for God had been the traveling tabernacle that had accompanied the Israelites in the desert on their trek from Egypt to the Promised Land and it had been residing in Shiloh. David brought the ark of the covenant (where the Shekinah Glory resided between the two cherubim) to Jerusalem, God's chosen place of residence with Man on this earth. All the Israelites were to worship God in Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 24:18-25 – Please read this passage of Scripture. David acquired this threshing floor for the altar. This land became the place for the temple mount in Jerusalem. Write your thoughts below.

Nehemiah 4:7-22 – Please read this passage and write down your thoughts. This was after Isaiah's time and after the Southern Kingdom had been taken into captivity. The Remnant had returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls of the city.

The City at the Time of Antiochus Epiphanes – After Alexander's Greek empire was divided between his four generals at his death, Jerusalem became the go-between for General Ptolemy's Egyptian-held empire and General Selucid's Syrian-held empire. Antiochus Epiphanes, a Selucid king, slaughtered a pig on the altar of God in the Temple in Jerusalem. If you would like to read more about this, see Daniel's prophecy in the 11th chapter of his book. Also, Josephus sheds some secular light on this.

The City at the Time of Christ - This city was under Roman rule at the time of Christ. However, the Roman government had appointed an Edomite or an Idumean (remember Jacob's brother Esau was the father of the Edomites) as the local ruler. His name was Herod. Herod was known as the great builder and so he enlarged and beautified the Temple and the Temple mount at that time.

The City after 70 A.D. – the Romans leveled Jerusalem in 70 A.D., including the Temple. Not one stone of the Temple was left upon another. The Jewish people were dispersed to all places in the world. This period of time was called the Diaspora. From this point on the Jews had neither a Temple nor the sacrificial system nor records of their lineage back to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The City Today – see notes from class discussion. The city today is divided into parts for the differing parties. There is a mosque called the Dome of the Rock that is presently sitting on the site of the mount for the Jewish Temple.

Day 4 – God's Place of Earthly Residence will be Glorified – Double-spaced worksheet - Isaiah 60

There is a contrast that is evident within the first two verses of Isaiah 60. Please mark this contrast in the margin of your double-spaced worksheet. Also mark any words that have to do with "light" in the same manner that you marked them on the double-spaced worksheet for Isaiah 58. How will you mark the contrast of light seen in Isaiah 60:2?

Please mark the following words or ideas in your own unique way:

references to God

Zion and pronouns (this must be understood to be Zion)

the nation(s) and the sea should be marked the same

altar

Holy One of Israel

righteousness, righteous

glory, glorified

don't forget all references to light

references to darkness

Make lists for the following in the spaces below and in the margins of the double-spaced worksheet for Isaiah 60:

Names of God

Sequence of precious metals that God uses to describe His way(s)

What do these precious metals represent? This is a trick question.

Which groups of people will come to Jerusalem or Zion in the Millennial Kingdom according to Isaiah 60:3-7?

Have you noticed that men will come to Zion from all over the world and they will bring gifts of gold and frankincense, no myrrh this time? Why did the wise men from the East bring gold, frankincense and myrrh when they came to see the Good News when Christ came the first time and was born in Bethlehem?

In what time group would you place these passages of Isaiah? Circle one choice.

Millennial Kingdom
The Tribulation Period
Just prior to and into the end of the Tribulation Period
Isaiah's time
Fulfilled in Messiah's First Coming
Speaks of His 2nd Coming

Day 5 – The New Jerusalem in the Future - Revelation 21, 22

Read Revelation 21 and 22.

Will this time be at the earthly setup for the Millennial Kingdom or after the Millennial Kingdom 1000-year rule is over?

What name is the New Jerusalem called in Revelation 21:2?

From where is the city coming down?

What is the city likened to in Revelation 21:2?

God has always wanted to dwell among His people. He was the Shekinah Glory in the wilderness that resided between the two cherubim on the ark of the covenant. He was in the 1st Temple in Jerusalem, but Ezekiel saw Him leave because of the peoples' sins and their departure into idolatry. Jesus Christ, God the Son, entered the second earthly Temple built in Jerusalem. He, too, left from the Mt. of Olives as the Shekinah Glory had many years earlier. Today, the Holy Spirit resides in the body of Believers in Christ. Soon, Jesus, Himself, will return and reside in Jerusalem in His Millennial Temple. All Jews and Gentiles will come to worship Him there. And one day, a new heaven and a new earth will come down from heaven and God will tabernacle with us forever.

Will there be any crying in this new heaven and new earth? Will there be any sorrow?
Will there be any death?

Who is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end?

What does the New Jerusalem look like?

How big is this new city?

From what material were the gates of this new city made?

Was there a Temple in this new city?

Why is no Temple necessary?

Who is the light in the new city? Why will there be no need for the sun? Will the sun still exist?

What shall the nations and the kings bring into the city?

What was coming from the throne of God?

Eve and Adam ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. What tree did God not want Mankind to taste of after he had fallen from grace and into sin? Why?

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.” – Revelation 22:13-14

Please record the theme of Isaiah 60 on the respective double-spaced worksheet and on the Isaiah-Theme-Summary chart in the appendix.

ⁱ The Kingdom of Heaven, Twentieth Century Fox, Home Entertainment, LLC, 2005.

GOD TO ZION: YOU ARE MY RESTING PLACE FOREVER

Psalm 132:13-14 ‘For the LORD has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. ‘This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.’”

What Is Jerusalem Worth? Nothing. Everything.

To God	To Israel
<p>Psalm 132:13-14</p> <p>Psalm 2:6-8</p> <p>Psalm 87:2-3</p> <p>Psalm 48:1-2</p> <p>Zechariah 8:3</p> <p>Isaiah 60:2,1,6-7,12,14,15,16,13,14,17,20 passages - God’s glory will appear on Mt. Zion; He will cause His glory to rise upon Zion; God will glorify His house with gifts, good news, and praise; God will make the place of His sanctuary glorious; Zion the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel; God will make Zion an everlasting pride, joy for the generations; God will be Zion’s Savior, LORD, Redeemer, Mighty One of Jacob; Lebanon will beautify the place of God’s sanctuary with ther woods; God will make peace to be Zion’s administrators & righteousness to be Zion’s overseers; God will be an everlasting light for Zion-no longer need sun nor moon. God will make it so that there is no more mourning. 2 Samuel 6-7 the ark was to brought to Jerusalem to God’s chosen dwelling place-David danced before the LORD.</p>	<p>Zechariah 2:4 Jerusalem will be inhabited without walls, Israel’s numbers will increase. God will protect Israel with a wall of fire around her.</p> <p>Zechariah 8:7-8 The LORD will save His people from all over the world. He will bring them back to the land & they will live in midst of Jerusalem.</p> <p>Isaiah 43:6 God will tell the places where He has scattered His people to send them back to the land.</p> <p>Isaiah 11:11-12 God will recover His people a 2nd time from where He has scattered them.</p> <p>Jeremiah 23:7-8 God will bring back to the land His people from the countries where He has exiled them.</p> <p>Isaiah 62:6-7 His people are to keep watch over Jerusalem night & day & they are to continually pray to God until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.</p> <p>Isaiah 60 passages - Zion’s sons will come from afar; Zion’s daughters will be carried to her; Spain (Tarshish) & coastlands will bring Zion’s sons first to her and also silver and gold; the sons of those who afflicted Zion will bow down to Zion and call Zion the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel; all the people will be righteous; they will possess the land forever so that God will be glorified.</p>

Scripturally

GOD TO ZION: YOU ARE MY RESTING PLACE FOREVER (CONT.)

Isaiah 60

Part 7

Lesson 4-2

Psalm 132:13-14 ‘For the LORD has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. ‘This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.’”

What Is Jerusalem Worth? Nothing. Everything.

		To God	To Israel
History		The hill where Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac Final hold out for His people against their enemies The city was known as the city of the Israelites’ God Only atonement for sin could be made in the Temple in Jerusalem	The hill where Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac The hill was very difficult to overtake from the Jebusites Only to worship in Jerusalem no place else Were to travel to Jerusalem for the Festivals Final hold out for the Jews: Assyrians, Babylonians, in the future First city to rebuild when returning from captivity Only atonement for sin could be made in Temple in Jerusalem Judas Macabees recaptured Jerusalem in 164 BC from Antiochus Epiphanes Appointed place for genealogies
		God will make His 2nd coming in Jerusalem His throne will be in Jerusalem/ His permanent dwelling place	Jerusalem proclaimed capital in 1948 of reinstated Jewish nation Jerusalem captured in six-day war 1967 1980 Kenessaret passed Jerusalem law- all foreigners to leave; cause Infitada - Palesinian uprising
Current and Future			

THE NEW JERUSALEM VS. BABYLON OF THE END TIMES

Jerusalem	Babylon
Revelation 21-22	Revelation 17-18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -new heaven , new earth, first heaven, first earth passed away; no longer any sea (no longer any nations?).(21:1) - New Jerusalem, came down out of heaven from God (21:2) -tabernacle of God among men.(21:3) -He dwells among His people .(21:3) -He wipes all tears away, no longer death, mourning, crying, pain. -All first things have passed away.(21:4) -He makes all things new.(21:5) -Jerusalem called great and high mountain and comes down out of heaven, having God's glory (21:10,11) -Jerusalem's brilliance like crystal-clear jasper.(21:11) -Wall, with 12 gates w/ 12 angels and names of 12 tribes Israel, 3 gates each N,S,E, W.(21:12) -Wall of the city 12 foundation stones, names of 12 apostles of the Lamb.(21:14) -Gold rod used to measure city, gates, walls (21:15) -City laid out like square; length, width, height same = 1500 miles.(21:16) -walls 72 yards and of jasper.(21:18) -City pure gold like clear glass.(21:18) -Foundation stones = jasper, sapphire, chalcedony, emerald,sardonyx sardius, chrysolite,beryl, topaz, chrysoprase, jacinth, amethyst.(21:19-20) -12 gates ,12 pearls & street pure gold, like transparent glass.(21:21) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Babylon seen as great harlot and sits on many waters, kings of earth committed acts of immorality with her, those on earth made drunk with wine of her immorality.(17:1-2) -Babylon, a woman sitting on scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, seven heads, ten horns.(17:3) -woman clothed in purple, scarlet, adorned with gold, precious stones, pearls, gold cup full of abominations in hand.(17:4) -On forehead of woman: "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (17:5) -Woman drunk w/ saints' and witnesses' blood(17:6) -7 heads = 7 mountains on which woman sits & = to 7 kings: five fallen, one is, other has not yet come.(17:9,10) -Waters where harlot sits = peoples, multitudes, nations, tongues.(17:15) -10 horns and beast hate harlot, will make desolate, naked, eat her flesh, burn her up with fire.(17:16) -Woman whom John saw = the great city which reigns over earthly kings.(17:18) -Babylon falls and becomes dwelling place for demons and prison for unclean spirits prison for birds.(18:2) -All nations drunk Babylon's immorality, kings committed immoral and merchants of earth rich by her sensuality.(18:3) -A voice from heaven told His people to go out of that city and not participate in Baabylon's sins.(18:4)

THE NEW JERUSALEM VS. BABYLON OF THE END TIMES

Jerusalem	Babylon
Revelation 21-22 (cont.)	Revelation 18 (cont.)
<p>-There is no temple in the city for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple.(21:22)</p> <p>-The city has no need of the sun or moon to shine upon it for the glory of God illuminates it & the lamp is the Lamb.(21:23)</p> <p>-The nations walk by the glory light & kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.(21:24)</p> <p>-The gates of the city shall never be closed for there is no night there.(21:25)</p> <p>-There is nothing unclean in it and no one who practices abomination, or lying, shall come into it, but those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will come into it.(21:27)</p> <p>-There is a river of the water of life coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb. The tree of life is there on both sides of the river, bearing 12 kinds of fruit (22:1-2)</p> <p>-No longer is there any curse and God and the Lamb's throne shall be in Jerusalem, and His bondservants shall serve Him, see His face, and have His name on their foreheads.(22:3-4),</p> <p>-Either the bondservants shall reign forever and ever or Jesus and God the Father shall reign forever and ever or maybe both.(22:5)</p> <p>-Those who wash their robes have the right to the tree of life and may enter into the city.(22:14)</p> <p>-Outside the city are the dogs, sorcerers, immoral persons, murderers idolaters, and practicing liars.(22:16)</p>	<p>-Babylon's sins have piled up and God has remembered her sins and will be made sick.(18:4-5)</p> <p>-Babylon will be paid back double for her deeds.(18:6-7)</p> <p>-In one day, all Babylon's plagues will come on her - pestilence, mourning, famine, fire.(18:8)</p> <p>-The kings of the earth who committed sin with her will cry over Babylon's burning.(18:9)</p> <p>-Her judgment is to come in just one hour.(18:10)</p> <p>-The merchants cry over Babylon because there will be no buying or selling with her from now on.(18:11-12)</p> <p>-In one hour, Babylon's great wealth has been laid waste.(18:17)</p> <p>-All those who make living by the sea will cry over Babylon because the city is burning.(18:19)</p> <p>-The saints, apostles, prophets, are called to rejoice over Babylon's destruction? b/c God has judged Babylon because of them.(18:20)</p> <p>-Babylon will be thrown down with great violence and will disappear as a city forever.(18:21)</p> <p>-In Babylon was found the blood of prophets, saints, and all those had slain.(18:24)</p>