

A Chronology of Jerusalem & the Temple Mount

- Jerusalem means "Foundations of peace."
 - "Jeru" – "City of"
 - "Salem" from "Shalom" – "Peace"
 - "Jeru" + "Shalom" = "City of Peace"
- Jerusalem has been anything but a city of peace.
 - **50** times it has been **besieged**.
 - **38** times it has been **conquered**.
 - **10** times it has been **destroyed and leveled** to the ground.
- **Matthew 23:37** – "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

THE OLD TESTAMENT PERIOD

2000 B.C.

- Abraham meets Melchizedek, King of Salem and Priest of "God Most High" Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 6:20 – 7:22.
- Abraham journeys three days from Bersheba or Gerar to Mt. Moriah to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice in obedience to God's command. God provides a ram substitute Genesis 22; Hebrews 11:8-19
- The Temple Mount is located on Mt. Moriah.

1400 B.C.

- After setting up the Ark at Shiloh near Shechem, Joshua launches the conquest into Jerusalem. Joshua 10:23
- When first mentioned under the name Jerusalem, Adonizedek was its king. Joshua 10:1

1000 B.C.

- The Jebusite stronghold is captured by David (2nd king in the United Kingdom of Israel). The city of David is built south of the Temple Mount. David reigns 33 years in Jerusalem after a 7 year reign in Hebron 2 Samuel 5:1-5

- The Ark of the Covenant is brought to Jerusalem by David and is placed in a tent. 2 Samuel 6:1-18; 1 Chronicles 15:1-16
- David plans to build the First Temple on the Temple Mount, but is not permitted because he is a man of war. He purchased Araunah's threshing floor and erects an altar of sacrifice on Mt. Moriah . . . The site of the First Temple.

950 B.C.

- Solomon, with the help of Hiram of Tyre and 183,600 workers, builds the First Temple and royal palace. He uses local limestone, cedar from Lebanon, and great amounts of gold and silver. 1 Kings 5:9; 2 Chronicles 2
- Solomon also enlarges the city of Jerusalem.
- The building of the Temple takes 7 years.

935 B.C.

- The United Kingdom of Israel divides with 2 tribes (Judah and Benjamin) remaining with Rehoboam in the south and 10 tribes going with Jeroboam to form the Northern Kingdom
- The Northern Kingdom will eventually (722 B.C.) be taken into Assyrian captivity.
- The Southern Kingdom will eventually be taken into Babylonian captivity and the Temple destroyed in 586 B.C.

910 B.C.

- Solomon's Temple is plundered by Shishak, Pharaoh of Egypt. Much gold and silver are taken. 1 Kings 14:25-28; 1 Chronicles 12:1-11

835 B.C.

- Joash (8th king in the Southern Kingdom) repairs the Temple, establishes a maintenance fund, and brings a period of revival and reform to the Southern Kingdom. 1 Kings 12:5

720 B.C.

- Ahaz (12th king in the Southern Kingdom) dismantles Solomon's bronze vessels and places private Syrian altar in the Temple. 2 Kings 16:1-20; 2 Chronicles 29:31.
- Ahaz later stripped the gold to pay tribute to Sennacherib.

716 B.C.

- Hezekiah (13th king in the Southern Kingdom), with the help of God and the prophet Isaiah, resists the Assyrian attempt to capture Jerusalem. Wells and springs stopped up. 2 Chronicles 32

640 B.C.

- King Josiah (16th king in the Southern Kingdom) repairs the Temple and brings about national religious reforms. 2 Chronicles 34-35
- NOTE: This is also the last mention of the Ark of the Covenant being in the Temple.

606 B.C.

- Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, captures Jerusalem and takes the first of three deportations of Jews to Babylon, Daniel among them. 2 Kings 24:1; 2 Chronicles 36:5-6
- The Babylonian Empire (612-539 B.C.) is represented by the head of gold in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Daniel 2:36-38

598 B.C.

- Jerusalem is plundered by Nebuchadnezzar for a second time.

597 B.C.

- King Jehoiachin (19th king in the Southern Kingdom) is carried captive to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar. The second deportation of the Jews to Babylon takes place. 2 Kings 24:10-16; 2 Chronicles 36:10; Ezekiel 1:2

587 B.C.

- Zedekiah (20th and last king in the Southern Kingdom) rebels against Nebuchadnezzar. He is blinded and taken to Babylon where he dies. Jeremiah 23:5; 2 Kings 24:18 – 25:21; 2 Chronicles 36:13-21; Jeremiah 9:1-8

586 B.C.

- Nebuchadnezzar burns the city of Jerusalem and destroys the Temple. He kills many of Jerusalem's inhabitants and carries off a great number into captivity. This constitutes the 3rd deportation of the Jews to Babylon. 2 Kings 24:25; 2 Chronicles 36

573 B.C.

- Jeremiah predicts a seventy year period of captivity in Babylon. The prophet Ezekiel is also a captive in Babylon.

539 B.C.

- Belshazzar desecrates the Temple vessels in Babylon. The handwriting on the wall seals his fate that night as Babylon is taken by the Medes and Persians. Daniel 5
- Cyrus, having established himself in control of the Medo-Persian empire (539-331 B.C.) in 549 B.C., captures Babylon. The Medo-Persian Empire

is represented by the breast and arms of silver in Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

538 B.C.

- The edict of Cyrus opens the way for the Jews in Babylon to return to their homeland. Ezra 1:1-4
- 200 years (two centuries) before it happened. Isaiah 45:1-2 names Cyrus (a Persian king) as the one who would allow the Jews to return to their homeland.

537-334 B.C.

- While many of the Jews are in their homeland, they are under the control of the Persians.

536 B.C.

- The first of three returns to Judea. The three returns will cover a period of some 92 years. Led by **Zerubbabel**. Temple was rebuilt.
 - Work began in 536 B.C. . . Was discontinued in **534** B.C.
 - Work was resumed in **520** B.C. . . Completed in **516** B.C.
 - **6** years of actual work was done over a **20**-year period of time.
 - The work was begun under **Cyrus** and completed under **Darius**.
 - Was dedicated on March 12, 515 B.C.

456 B.C.

- The second of three returns to Judea. Led by Ezra, the law is restored.

444 B.C.

- The third and last return to Judea. Led by Nehemiah, the wall around Jerusalem was rebuilt in 52 days. Artaxerxes gave permission for the rebuilding of the wall.

334-167 B.C.

- Known as the Macedonian Period and the Hellenistic Period. The Jews, in the land are under the successive dominion of the Greeks, then the Ptolemies of Egypt, and then the Seleucids of Syria.
- The Grecian Period (330 – 323 B.C.) is the third great world empire to dominate the Jews and is represented by the belly and thighs of brass on the image seen in Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

332 B.C.

- Flavius Josephus records that Alexander the Great's invading army is met by priests outside of Jerusalem. They convince him not to destroy Jerusalem by showing prophecy contained in the Scriptures concerning Him. Alexander spares both the city and the Temple.

320 B.C.

- Jerusalem is captured by Ptolemy Soter.

314 B.C.

- Jerusalem is taken by Antiochus the Great.

301 B.C.

- Jerusalem is captured by Ptolemy Epiphanes.

246 B.C. – A.D. 476

- The Roman Empire (246 B.C. – A.D. 476) is the fourth great world empire to dominate the Jews since the time of Nebushadnezzar's dream and is represented by the legs of iron and feet of clay therein. Daniel 2:33

175-163 B.C.

- The reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes.

167-63 B.C.

- The Maccabean revolt and subsequent Hasmonean dynasty in Judea. A short time of Jewish independence.

170 B.C.

- Jerusalem is captured by Antiochus Epiphanes . Antiochus murders Jews and plunders Jerusalem.
- He offers a pig on the altar and carries off the Temple treasures.
- Worship and sacrifice is halted.

166 B.C.

- Judas Maccabaeus leads a Jewish revolt that gains back Jerusalem. The Temple and its sacrifices are restored.

164 B.C.

- Jerusalem is besieged by Antiochus Eupator.

141 B.C.

- The Roman fortress is conquered by the Maccabees freeing the Temple from pagan supervision.

126 B.C.

- Jerusalem is besieged by Antiochus Soter.

65 B.C.

- Jerusalem is captured by the Aratus.

63 B.C.

- Jerusalem is captured by the Roman general Pompey. Pompey enters the Holy of Holies in the Temple and is disappointed to find it empty.

40 B.C.

- Jerusalem is captured by the Parthians.

38 B.C.

- Jerusalem is taken by Herod the Great, a cruel ruler who was a ruthless murderer. It was he who ordered the slaughter of the innocent male babies in Bethlehem. Matthew 2
- Herod ordered the Temple enlarged. A new Temple is rebuilt over the sight of Zerubabel's Temple.
- The Temple and its courts were worked on until A.D. 63. The Temple is worked on 46 years. John 2

THE NEW TESTAMENT PERIOD

6 B.C. – A.D. 30

- Jesus is born, circumcised on the 8th day, and dedicated in the Temple. Luke 2
- At age 12, Jesus visits the Temple. Luke 2
- During His temptations, the Devil took Jesus to one of the pinnacles of the Temple. Matthew 4:5-7
- Jesus cleansed the Temple by driving out the money-changers and merchants. John 2:13-22
- Jesus is crucified on Friday April 7, A.D. 30 outside of the city of Jerusalem, and is resurrected on Sunday April 9, A.D. 30.
- The church is established in Jerusalem on May 28, A.D. 30. Acts 2
- Peter and John heal a lame man at the gate called Beautiful. Acts 3:1-10

A.D. 40

- The Roman Emperor Caligula orders an image of himself to be placed in the Holy of Holies. The order is not carried out and Caligula soon dies.

A.D. 50

- The Jerusalem conference regarding the Gentiles. Acts 15

A.D. 58

- The apostle Paul is arrested in Jerusalem. Acts 21

A.D. 66

- The Jews revolt against Rome.

A.D. 70

- The Jewish Wars began in 66 A.D. and they were a direct revolt by the Jews against Rome's authority. Titus with his Roman legions arrived at the

outermost northern Wall of Jerusalem, the Passover of 70 A.D. The Romans built embankments of earthen-work, they placed battering rams and the siege began.

- The Roman army numbered 30,000; while the Jewish army numbered 24,000. According to Tacitus they were 600,000 visitors crowding the streets of Jerusalem for the Passover.
- After five months the walls were battered down, the great Temple was burned down, and the city was left ruined and desolate, except for Herod's three great towers at the northwest corner of the city. These served as a memorial of the massive strength of Jerusalem's fortifications which Titus of Rome had brought to rubble.
- The legions of Rome brought the captives to Caesarea and after over one million Jews were killed, 95,000 captives were taken as prisoners, and among them was Josephus, the ancient Jewish historian. According to Eusebius, the Christians saw the might of the Roman army and through prophetic warning, fled to Pella.

BEYOND THE FIRST CENTURY

A.D. 132-135

- The Jewish revolt of Bar Kokhba against Rome.

A.D. 135

- The city of Jerusalem is sacked by the Emperor Hadrian.

A.D. 395-636

- Byzantine rule in Palestine.

A.D. 614

- Jerusalem is taken by the Persians.

A.D. 629

- Jerusalem is captured by Heraclius.

A.D. 636

- Beginning of Arab rule in Palestine.

A.D. 637

- Jerusalem is captured by the Saracens under Omar ibn al-Khatab.

A.D. 691

- The Dome of the Rock is completed on the Temple Mount where the previous Jewish temples stood. Until this day it dominates the only spot on earth where, according to the Torah, sacrifices can be offered.

A.D. 1076

- Atsiz takes Jerusalem from the Caliph al-Mostanther Billah.

A.D. 1095

- Al-Afdhal ibn Bedr captures Jerusalem for Egypt after a 40 day siege.

A.D. 1099

- The Crusaders take Jerusalem. Christians rule intermittently from 1099 to 1244

A.D. 1187

- Jerusalem is conquered by Salah-ed Din the great Moslem conqueror.

A.D. 1244

- Jerusalem is sacked by the Mongol Hordes.

A.D. 1247

- Jerusalem is captured by the Carizmians.

A.D. 1517

- Ottoman Turks under Saladin conquer Palestine. NOTE: The present walls that surround the old city of Jerusalem are built.
- Selim I takes Jerusalem, thus bringing it into the Ottoman Empire.

A.D. 1822

- Jerusalem is taken by Ibrahim Pasha of Egypt.

A.D. 1897

- The first Zionist Congress meets in Basel.

A.D. 1917

- Jerusalem is captured from the Turks by General Allenby of Britain in WWI. General Allenby humbly walks into the city of Jerusalem.

A.D. 1922-1948

- The British rule Palestine under a mandate from the League of Nations.

A.D. 1947

- November 19, 1947 – The United Nations General Assembly adopts a partition plan for Palestine, providing for the establishment of a Jewish state.

A.D. 1948

- May 24, 1948 – The new state of Israel is proclaimed.
- War between newly established Israel against Jordan and Egypt in Jerusalem after which part of the old city remains under Israeli rule and part under Jordan.

A.D. 1967

- The Six Day War. On June 7th, the Old City of Jerusalem falls into Israeli hands. The Temple Mount is taken by Israel on the 3rd day of the Six Day War. Although the Temple Mount is regained, authority over it is turned back over to the Moslems.

A.D. 1973

- In October, the Yom Kippur War is fought. Israel is attacked by four nations (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon). Israel gains territory in the Sinai and Golan Heights. The Temple Mount in Jerusalem is not affected.