



Israel At The Time Of The EZEKIEL: THE LORD'S WATCHMAN

July 12, 2017 Part 8 Pastor Grant Williams

I want to go over a brief summary of where we have come from and then lay the ground work for where we are going next in this series, *Ezekiel: The Lord's Watchman*. We have studied the War of Gog and Magog in the book of Ezekiel while using all of God's Word for confirmation and greater understanding.

The majority of the nations that will be involved in this battle are going to be islamic nations that are against Israel today. After the War of Gog and Magog, I believe, based on God's Word is when that major peace treaty is going be signed based on Daniel 9:27. This is the seven year Peace Treaty concerning the land of Israel.

Daniel 9:27 AMPC

27 And he shall enter into a strong and firm covenant with the many for one week [seven years]. And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and offering to cease [for the

remaining three and one-half years]; and upon the wing or pinnacle of abominations [shall come] one who makes desolate, until the full determined end is poured out on the desolator.

I believe that Israel will be disarmed during this time by the United Nations as part of the Peace Treaty. The weapons and weapon systems will be taken away as part of the negotiations of these Islamic nations that came up against Israel during the War of Gog and Magog.

During the first 42 months of the Tribulation, the anti-christ from Mystery Babylon (Syria, Iraq and Lebanon) will begin to stock weapons of mass destruction. At the end of the first 42 months of the Tribulation the anti-christ will invade Israel and take over Jerusalem. The Bible tells us that half of the city will go into captivity.

Zechariah 14:2 KJV

2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.



Prior to 1967, Jerusalem was divided right down the middle between the Arabs and Jews or the Jordanians and Israeli people. The eastern half of Jerusalem belonging to Jordan and the western half belonging to Israel. After the war it became united but the Islamic world wants the entire city.



Why does the Islamic world want Jerusalem? Because Jerusalem contains the third most holiest site in Islam, the Dome of the Rock. This city according to Zechariah, will become *a cup of trembling* to all nations (referring to Armageddon) and God said all the nations that come up against Israel, I will judge!

Zechariah 12:2 KJV

2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

Zechariah 12:9 KJV

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

This judgement is not talking about the war of Gog and Magog, but the battle of Armageddon.

Revelation 16:16 KJV

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.



During this battle, God gathers all the nations together in the plains of Megiddo. Jesus Christ is going to come back as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev 19:11-16). He will set up His kingdom for 1,000 years and that event is important because it comes in 3 stages. Most people have never heard this, even those who have grown up in the church.

Revelation 19:11-16 KJV

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King Of Kings, And Lord Of Lords.

Revelation 19:11-16 AMPC

11 After that I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse [appeared]! The One Who was riding it is called Faithful (Trustworthy, Loyal, Incorruptible, Steady) and True, and He passes judgment and wages war in righteousness (holiness, justice, and uprightness). 12 His eyes [blaze] like a flame of fire, and on His head are many kingly crowns (diadems); and He has a title (name) inscribed which He alone knows or can understand. 13 He is dressed in a robe dyed by dipping in blood, and the title by which He is called is The Word of God.

14 And the troops of heaven, clothed in fine linen, dazzling and clean, followed Him on white horses.

15 From His mouth goes forth a sharp sword with which He can smite (afflict, strike) the nations; and He will shepherd and control them with a staff (scepter, rod) of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fierceness of the wrath and indignation of God the All-Ruler (the Almighty, the Omnipotent).

16 And on His garment (robe) and on His thigh He has a name (title) inscribed, king of kings and lord of lords.

In verse 13, when Jesus comes back at the end of the Tribulation period, the Bible says that His garment is dipped in blood...

Revelation 19:13 KJV

13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

I used to think to myself, maybe that's His own blood? It's not.

Isaiah 63:1-4 KJV

1 Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

2 Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?

3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

4 For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.



The Bible tells us that He goes into Bozrah which is just south of the Dead Sea and *He treads the wine press alone*. Jesus comes down to the earth by Himself and defeats the armies of the enemy in Bozrah. The reason to go to Bozrah...that is near Petra and that is where the Jewish remnant will be. Satan will make his final attempt to destroy the remnant but Jesus will fight the anti-christ armies and then return to heaven.

This is where we pick up the story in Revelation 19, when Jesus comes back, riding on that white horse. His garment is dipped in blood and on His garment and His thigh is written, “King of Kings and Lord of Lords”.

Let’s get into the 3 stages of the return of the Lord... **The first stage is the Judah Stage** and that is found in Zechariah 12:7-9.

Zechariah 12:7-9 KJV

7 The Lord also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

8 In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them.

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

Verse 7 says, *The Lord also shall save the tents of Judah first, why? Why Judah first? Because that is His tribe, that is His territory, that is where He is from. He is called the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.*

Revelation 5:5 KJV

5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.



The area of Judah goes down to the area of Edom where He will fight the enemy in Bozrah and rescue the remnant. This is also the area going north up to the area of Bethlehem and Jerusalem where Jesus and King David were born. So, Jesus will come and save a remnant there in Judah.

The second stage is the Bozrah Stage. Jesus goes down to Bozrah as we just learned in Isaiah 63:1-4, *“I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me:*

for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.”

This is the picture of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, literally coming back to battle with the sword of His mouth wiping out the armies of the antichrist who are going after a remnant in Petra.

The third stage is the Jerusalem Stage. This is where you and I come in...

Zechariah 14:4 AMPC

4 And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from the east to the west by a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north and half of it toward the south.

This is the part where **we get involved....** (1 Thessalonians 4: those who are alive and those who have died - IN CHRIST and have gone up in the Rapture.)

Revelation 19:14 KJV

14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

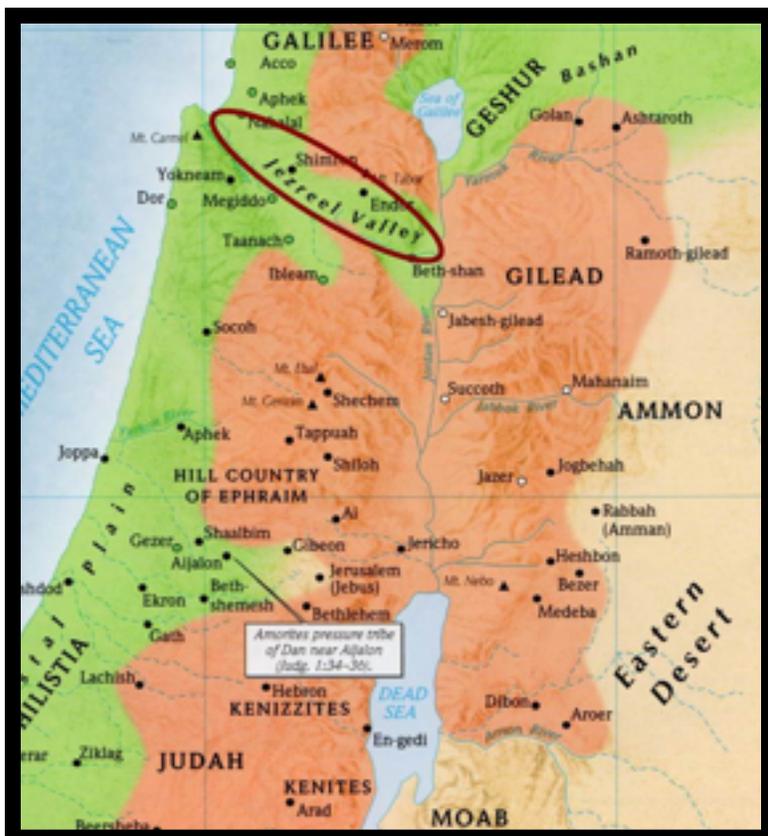
You and I are part of the army of Heaven! We come down for that final battle with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords!

This final stage, the Jerusalem Stage starts right at the Mount of Olives, and this is very important. There is a passage in the Bible that says that the blood will be up to the horses bridle...

Revelation 14:20 KJV

20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs. (200 miles)

What is this referring to? A river of blood so high and long that it comes up 6 feet? In ancient times measurement was given by referencing the comparison to the knee of the horse, the hip of the horse or the bridle of the horse. I believe from studying the Greek and cross referencing other Bible passages that this is stating that the bodies will be piled up everywhere and to the height of the horses bridle.



In this series we've learned about the Jezreel Valley. This is where Megiddo is located and is significant because the Battle of Armageddon will be fought here. Megiddo is a city located in the territory given to the Israelite tribe of Manasseh when they entered the Promised Land. The word itself is translated from the Hebrew & means to slaughter or cut off.

The Jezreel Valley is also where Queen Jezebel was killed (2 Kings 9) for killing God's prophets. In addition, inside the Jezreel Valley is the plain of Megiddo which is known as the great battlefield of Palestine. Many decisive battles, especially in ancient times, have been fought in or near this area.

To the south of the Jezreel Valley is the Kidron Valley which also used to be known as the Valley of Jehoshaphat. In the book of Joel, it was prophesied by the Prophet Joel that God will bring the Judgement in the valley of Jehoshaphat.

Prophet defined by 1828 Webster's Dictionary:

- 1. One that foretells future events; a predictor; a foreteller.**
- 2. a person illuminated, inspired or instructed by God to announce future events; as Jeremiah, Elijah, Isaiah, Ezekiel etc.**

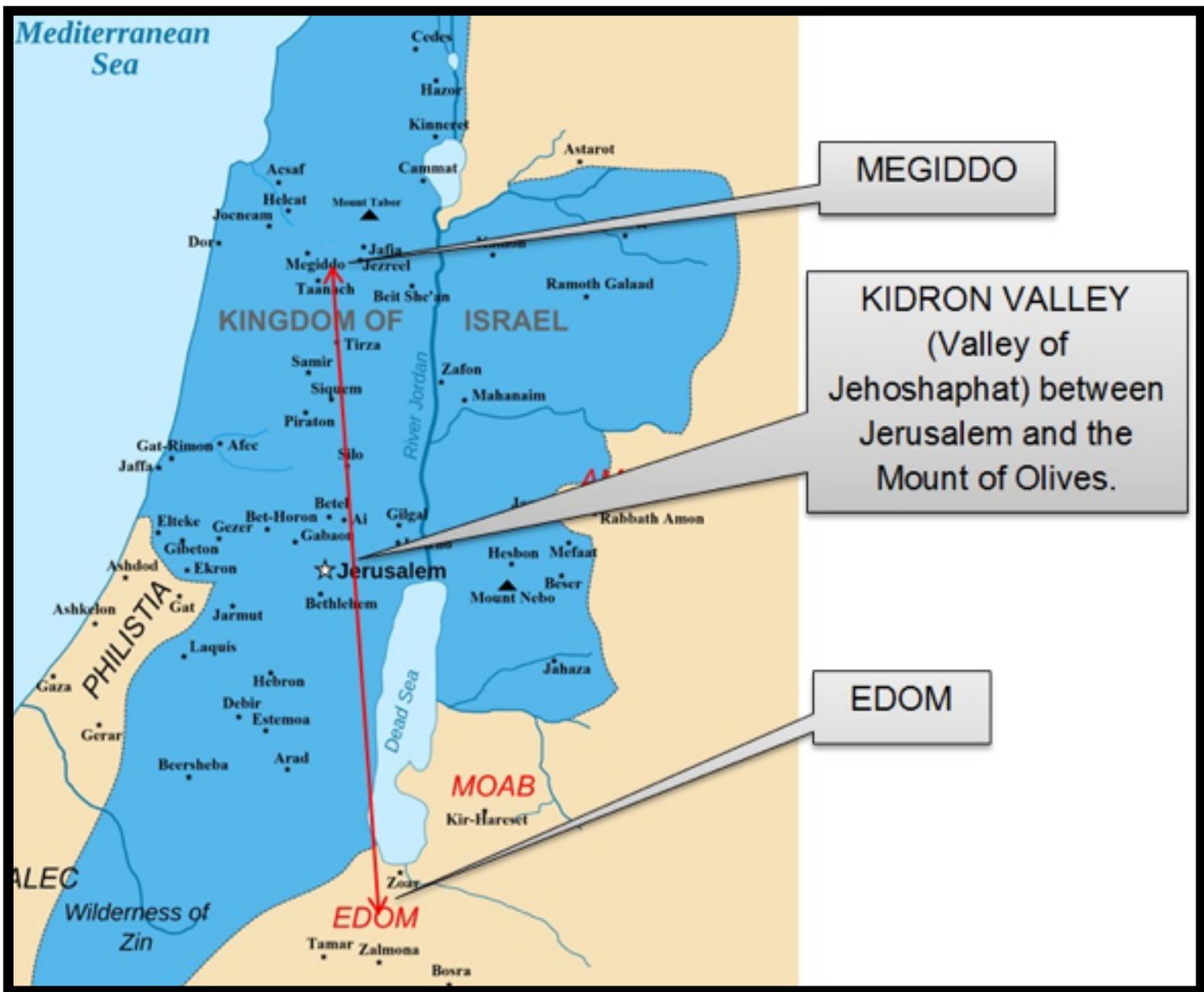
A Prophet is never wrong - NEVER WRONG !

Joel 3:2 AMPC

2 I will gather all nations and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and there will I deal with and execute judgment upon them for [their treatment of] My people and of My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations and [because] they have divided My land.

Joel 3:12 AMPC

12 Let the nations bestir themselves and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there will I sit to judge all the nations round about.



The prophet Joel is speaking of the anti-christ and his armies making a last surge to take the remnant and the city of Jerusalem in the Valley of Jehoshaphat but Jesus Christ and His army wipes them out.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 KJV

8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Remember, the bodies of His enemies will be piled up everywhere for 200 miles (Revelation 14:20). God's Word also tells us that the Tribulation (7 years) is to destroy the sinners out of this earth.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 AMPC

6 [It is a fair decision] since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with distress and affliction those who distress and afflict you,

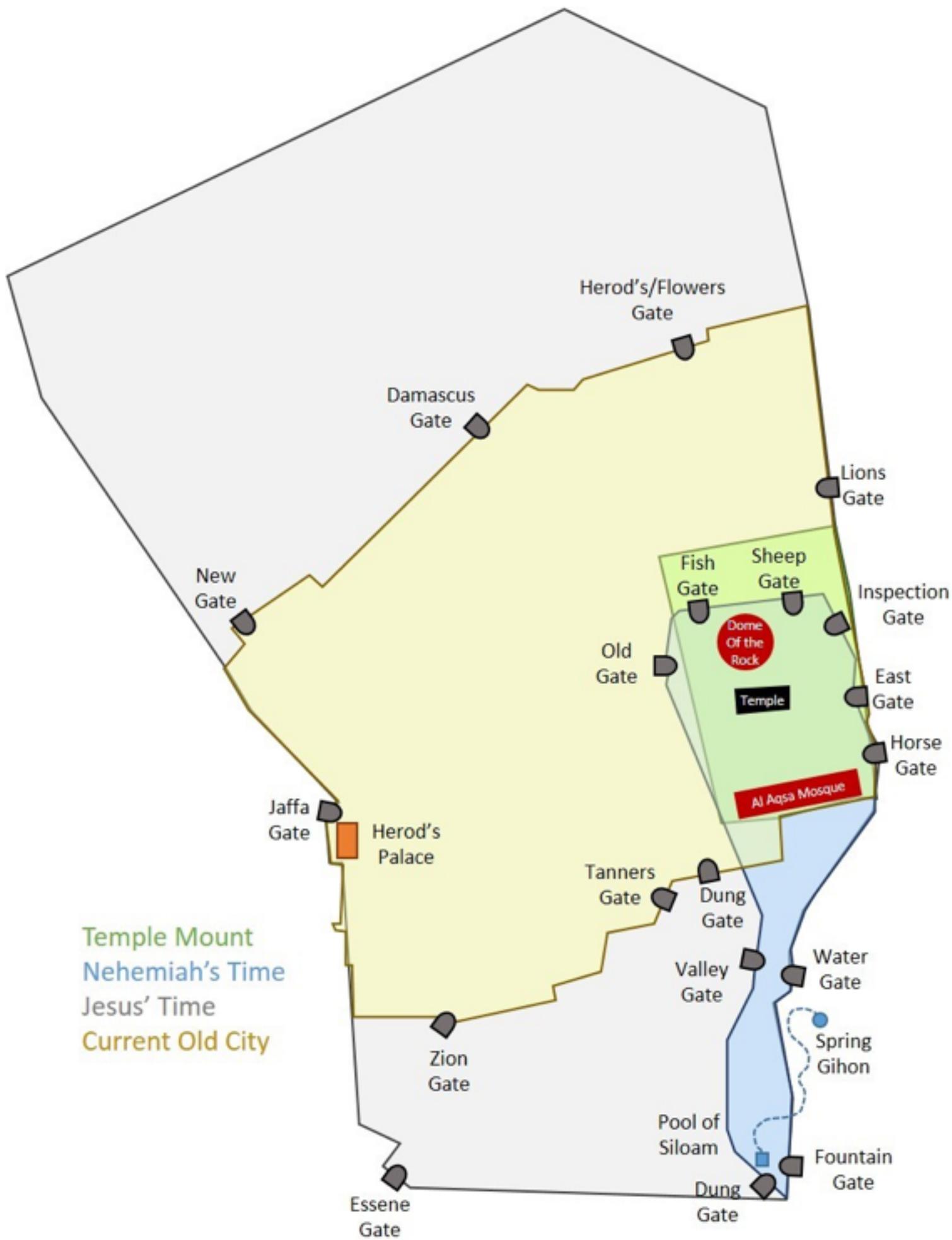
7 And to [recompense] you who are so distressed and afflicted [by granting you] relief and rest along with us [your fellow sufferers] when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in a flame of fire,

8 To deal out retribution (chastisement and vengeance) upon those who do not know or perceive or become acquainted with God, and [upon those] who ignore and refuse to obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 Such people will pay the penalty and suffer the punishment of everlasting ruin (destruction and perdition) and eternal exclusion and banishment from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

When you and I, the saints, come back to Jerusalem with Jesus Christ it will not look like it did before these wars began. The walls will be damaged etc, but, according to the Prophet Ezekiel in Chapter 46, the Messiah will be coming through the East gate.

This is very interesting...currently, the East Gate is sealed but, every other gate in the city of Jerusalem is currently open.



Temple Mount
 Nehemiah's Time
 Jesus' Time
 Current Old City

Why is the East Gate closed? Jewish rabbis describe the Messiah as a great military leader who would be sent by God from the East. He would enter the Eastern Gate or Golden Gate and liberate the city from foreign control. To prevent this, the muslims (when under their control) sealed the gate and put a muslim cemetery in front of it believing that a holy man would not defile himself by walking through a muslim cemetery. Little did they know, they were fulfilling prophecy by doing this.

In the Six Day War, some members of the Jewish military suggested catching the Jordanian defenders of the city off guard by blowing open the sealed Eastern Gate. But the leader of the group, an Orthodox Jew, had vehemently protested the idea, stating that “the Eastern Gate can be opened only when the Messiah comes.”

In 1917 muslim leaders in control of Jerusalem tried and failed to break the prophecy and open the gate. On the exact day the workmen were preparing to demolish the ancient stone, the hand of God intervened and the city of Jerusalem passed out of muslim control into the hands of the British.

The Bible says that this gate is for the Prince. The gate has been opened, the prince has gone in it and the gate was shut. Then it will be opened again for the Prince.

Ezekiel 44:3 KJV

3 It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the Lord; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.

Ezekiel 46:2 KJV

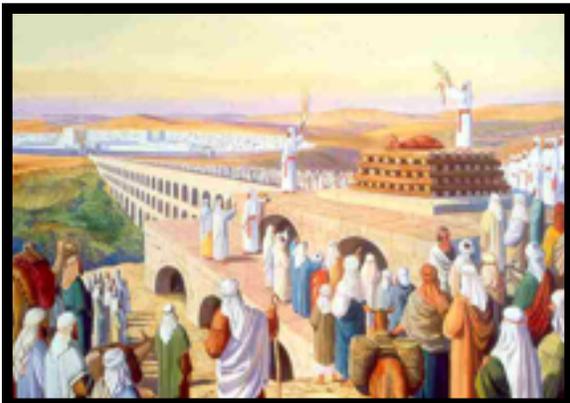
2 And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate, and the priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate: then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening.

Ezekiel 46:8 KJV

8 And when the prince shall enter, he shall go in by the way of the porch of that gate, and he shall go forth by the way thereof.

Ezekiel 46:12 KJV

12 Now when the prince shall prepare a voluntary burnt offering or peace offerings voluntarily unto the Lord, one shall then open him the gate that looketh toward the east, and he shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, as he did on the sabbath day: then he shall go forth; and after his going forth one shall shut the gate.



When you read these prophecies it says that when He has come through the gate, the gate will be sealed and then be opened. That is exactly what is going to happen. This is the place that Jesus rode the donkey through. There used to be a 3-tiered wall coming from this gate to the Mount of Olives. That is the gate that

Jesus rode on the donkey through which at that time was known as the Golden Gate or the King's Gate as they were saying Hosannah to the King !

Matthew 21:9-10 KJV

9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?

Jesus has already been through the gate. The original gate that Jesus rode through is directly under the current Eastern Gate. This is an important place. The Jewish people are buried facing the Eastern Gate so when the Messiah comes they will rise up and follow Him in.

But, the only people who will be there to follow Him in will be those who are truly born again, who believe in what Jesus did on the Cross and live today for that risen Savior.

When Jesus Christ, the Messiah comes back everything will be and look totally different...

The importance of the gates of Jerusalem

The gates of ancient cities were important as a means of providing access to the city while maintaining security. The Bible speaks of the gates of Jerusalem many times in many different contexts. As the city walls are built, destroyed, and moved and the gates are bricked up, restored, or renamed.

Pre-Exilic Gates

The wall around Jerusalem before the Babylonian exile was probably close to the one that Nehemiah rebuilt. It roughly encompassed the Temple Mount to the north and trailed to the south to include the Pool of Siloam. It's especially difficult to determine where the pre-exilic gates were in relation to modern Jerusalem.

Corner Gate: Location uncertain, although apparently on the northwest corner of the wall. It was destroyed by King Jehoash of Israel ([2 Kings 14:13](#); [2 Chronicles 25:23](#)) and later rebuilt by King Uzziah ([2 Chronicles 26:9](#)). [Jeremiah 31:38](#) says the Corner Gate will be rebuilt, and [Zechariah 14:10](#) mentions it during a prophecy about the Day of the Lord.

Ephraim Gate: On the north wall, toward Ephraim. [Second Kings 14:13](#) and [2 Chronicles 25:23](#) say it was near the Corner Gate. The Ephraim Gate isn't mentioned in Nehemiah's tour of the walls in [Nehemiah 3](#), but it is mentioned during the Feast of Booths ([Nehemiah 8:16](#)) and the dedication of the wall ([Nehemiah 12:39](#)). The latter passage puts it in series with the Old Gate, the Fish Gate, and the Sheep Gate.

Foundation Gate: This gate is mentioned during the coronation of [King Joash](#) ([2 Chronicles 23:5](#)) The parallel passage of [2 Kings 11:6](#) calls it the Sur Gate. Jeremiah called it the Middle Gate and said it was where the Babylonian officials came and waited for [King Zedekiah](#) to declare defeat ([Jeremiah 39:3](#)). The Foundation Gate is apparently an interior gate in or leading to the king's residence. It's unclear if it is the same as the Horse Gate in [2 Kings 11:16](#).

Benjamin Gate: Probably the same location as the later Muster Gate or possibly the Sheep Gate. Jeremiah was put into stocks at the Benjamin Gate after Pashhur the priest beat him ([Jeremiah 20:2](#)).

New Gate: Jeremiah was put before an inquiry at the "the entrance of the New Gate of the LORD's house," which was apparently in the courtyard of the temple ([Jeremiah 26:10](#); [36:10](#)).

Nehemiah's Gates

While Nehemiah served King Artaxerxes in Babylon, he heard of the ruined state of Jerusalem. He was given authorization and supplies to go there and restore the walls and the gates. When Nehemiah arrived, he made a detailed inspection of the walls and gates (Nehemiah 2:11–16) and organized the people to start the rebuilding effort (Nehemiah 2:17–3:32). When the wall was rebuilt, it probably encompassed the same area as before, except it may have excluded the king's gardens in the southeast. Starting from the east corner of the north wall, Nehemiah went counterclockwise:

Sheep Gate (AKA Benjamin Gate?): North central, just north of the Temple Mount. Near where the sheep market was for the temple sacrifices. The priests rebuilt and dedicated it (Nehemiah 3:1). Possibly the entrance from the road to Jericho. It may be the same Sheep Gate of John 5:2 near the Pool of Bethesda, but that identification is unclear.

Fish Gate (AKA Ephraim Gate): Northwest, just northwest of the temple. The main entrance for fish mongers from the Mediterranean Sea and the Sea of Galilee. The Fish Gate was one of Jerusalem's main entrances. King Manasseh had built it after God sent the Assyrians to capture him and teach him humility (2 Chronicles 33:14). Nehemiah had the sons of Hassenah rebuild it (Nehemiah 3:3). Zephaniah prophesied that a cry will come from the Fish Gate on the Day of the Lord (Zephaniah 1:10).

Old Gate (AKA Gate of Yeshanah/Jeshanah, which means “of the old” or possibly “the gate of the new quarter”): The location of this gate is uncertain. Nehemiah 3:6 suggests it is near the northwest corner of the wall, west of the Fish Gate.

Valley Gate: West central, south of the present wall of Old City. The gate that Nehemiah used when he did his inspection of the walls (Nehemiah 2:13, 15).

Dung Gate (AKA Potsherd Gate?): Very southern tip, facing southwest. There was a walled section around the Pool of Shelah (or Siloam, John 9:6–7), then the Dung Gate (Nehemiah 3:13–14) exited out to a garbage dump in the Hinnom Valley where, in the days of King Manasseh, child sacrifices took place (2 Chronicles 33:6). One of two great choirs went to the Dung Gate during the dedication of the wall (Nehemiah 12:31).

Fountain Gate: Southern tip, facing east. The east gate that led out from the Pool of Shelah to the king's gardens and the stairs that went down the eastern slope (Nehemiah 3:15; 12:37).

Water Gate: Facing east, south of the current Old City walls (Nehemiah 3:26). It is near the start of the tunneled waterway that was fed by a spring—possibly En-Rogel (Joshua 15:7; 18:16) or Gihon (2 Chronicles 32:30; 33:14). The eastern wall on the south end apparently was abandoned and a new wall built farther west, turning the southern section into more of a tail.

The new wall excluded the tomb of David and most of the water tunnel that fed the Pool of Shelah by the Dung Gate. But the narrow confines included the upper house of the king, the home of the high priest, and the ascent to the armory. After the wall was built, Ezra read the people the Law from a square by the Water Gate ([Nehemiah 8:1](#)).

Horse Gate: East side, just east of the royal palace and southeast of the Temple Mount. Near where the priests had their homes ([Nehemiah 3:28](#)). Not the same “horse gate” of [2 Kings 11:16](#) and [2 Chronicles 23:15](#); that gate was between the palace and the temple and was the site where Queen Athaliah was killed.

East Gate (AKA Golden Gate or Temple Gate): Just north of the Horse Gate, it led to the temple. Around 600 BC, Ezekiel prophesied that a “[gate facing east](#)” would be sealed ([Ezekiel 44:1–3](#)), but this is not the same East Gate mentioned by Nehemiah.

Muster Gate (AKA Inspection Gate; Benjamin Gate?): Between the East Gate and the northeast corner of the wall. Possibly the same as the Benjamin Gate ([Jeremiah 20:2](#)) where Jeremiah was imprisoned in stocks.

New Testament Gates

The wall around Jerusalem during the time of the New Testament was probably the biggest that ever existed. Because of that, these gates are even more difficult to locate.

Essene Gate: The Essene Gate was on the wall that existed in Jesus’ time, south and a bit west of the present-day Zion Gate. Appropriately enough, it was the gate through the wall that led to the Essene section of the city. This south wall was mentioned by Josephus but was destroyed by the Romans in AD 70 and never rebuilt.

Beautiful Gate (AKA Nicanor Gate): An entrance to the temple courtyard built by Herod the Great of polished bronze. The place where Peter and John healed a lame man ([Acts 3:10](#)). Note, this is not a gate in the city walls.

East Gate (AKA Beautiful Gate or Golden Gate): Jesus apparently entered this gate on Palm Sunday before He drove out the merchants in the temple courtyard ([Matthew 21:12–17](#)).

Jerusalem Old City

The walls around Jerusalem have been torn down, built up, and moved many times. In AD 70, they were destroyed by the Romans, and in 1033 by an earthquake. The walls as we see them today were built in the 1500s. Viewed from above, they look like a rough parallelogram sloping from northeast to southwest. These are the gates around Old City Jerusalem now:

East Gate: In AD 1530 Ottoman Turks walled up the East Gate because of a Jewish tradition that states the Messiah will pass through the Eastern Gate when He comes to rule. The walling-up of the East Gate was a Muslim attempt to keep out the Jewish Messiah.

Lion's Gate (AKA St. Stephen's Gate): The deacon Stephen was supposedly killed in the Kidron Valley, below. In the 16th century, the Turkish sultan dreamed he was being attacked by lions. An interpreter told him they represented the lions that guarded the thrones of David and Solomon and the dream meant that, if he treated Jerusalem with respect, he would be blessed. The sultan went to Jerusalem and saw the walls were in ruins. So he rebuilt the wall, including this gate—which appears to be guarded by relief carvings of leopards, not lions.

Herod's Gate (AKA Flowers Gate): Near the east corner of the north wall. Right outside the gate is a cemetery. No one wanted to live in an area known for a cemetery, so they changed the Arabic for “cemetery”—*Sahirah*—to *Zahirah*, which means “flowers.” Although it's also known as “Herod's Gate,” there was no gate there when Herod the Great was king, although Herod Antipas had a home nearby.

Damascus Gate: The center of the north wall. The busiest gate on weekends as shoppers come into Jerusalem.

New Gate: The northwest corner of the Old City. The current New Gate was made in 1887 when Christians demanded the Turkish sultan give them direct access to their quarter of the city.

Jaffa Gate: The center of the western wall, near where Herod's palace was. Currently, one of the main gates into Jerusalem.

Zion Gate: Near the west corner of the southern wall. Connects King David's tomb and the Upper Room to the Jewish Quarter of the Old City.

Tanners Gate: Although Tanners Gate dates to medieval times, it was only reopened during the 1990s to alleviate pedestrian traffic that came through the newer Dung Gate to get to the Wailing Wall.

Dung Gate: Apparently not the original Dung Gate; this is farther north, as the “tail” of Nehemiah's Jerusalem was cut off.

New Jerusalem Gates

Tribal Gates: Ezekiel 48:30–35 and Revelation 21:9–27 describe the New Jerusalem. The heavenly city will have three gates on each side—one gate for each of the tribes of Israel. While the walls are built and decorated with jewels, each gate will be made of a single pearl, and each will be guarded by an angel.

