

# OLDER THAN JERUSALEM



Jerusalem viewed from the Mt. of Olives

Older than Methuselah? No, but, anyone born before 1948 is older than the current nation of Israel and its capital, Jerusalem - also the largest city in Israel.

It has been **Sixty Years** since the United Nations granted a charter to Israel, recognizing Her sovereignty. This year was another year of much celebration for the Jews and the friends of the Jews.

Imagine, being older than a country; especially, a country where the Savior was born and Christianity began. But, whether born sixty years ago or in the last Ten years, there is much to excite a believer in the Bible about the present position of Jerusalem; as well as the future. And, there is sorrow.

The rich history and a prophetic future of Israel have believers looking to the nation as the focal point of God's deliverance. And, with good reason: She is God's time-piece when it comes to prophecy.

Therefore, the believer's hope and prophetic fulfillment of Scripture is fixed upon God's chosen nation, Israel and Her capital, Jerusalem. Spiritually speaking, as Israel goes, so goes world events.

While, we must focus upon the nation of Israel as a whole and view it as one "**Time Clock**," the majority of God's blessings are accomplished through, and within, the city of Jerusalem. This has been true historically, as well as the events that will occur in the future.

## SOME HISTORICAL EVENTS

David established Jerusalem as the capital of Israel in 1004 BC (2Sam 5:6,7). Jerusalem was where Abraham tied Isaac to be a sacrifice and where Jacob's dream of the descending and ascending the ladder took place.

Daniel prayed "three times a day" toward the city of Jerusalem; as has the Jews throughout the years of being dispersed into all nations. "**Next year in Jerusalem,**" is their chant.

After Titus, the Roman general razed the city in A.D. 70, the Jews have longed to return to their homeland. For nearly 2000 years, the Jews have been ruled over while living in Europe, Africa and Asia. The city of Jerusalem has been under Roman, Byzantine, Persian, Arab, Crusader, Mamluk and Ottoman Turkish rule. God's chosen people were persecuted, massacred and subject to exile.

Jerusalem's liberation and reunification came in 1967 during the Six Day War. In 1980, the legislative body, the **Knesset**, passed "**Basic Law**," declaring Jerusalem complete and united.

## FUTURE EVENTS

Some of us may even live longer than the city of Jerusalem; for, in the next few years, this beloved city of God - **Mount Zion, Jerusalem** and the **City of David**, will be attacked and destroyed. Only one third of the nation shall remain, fleeing to a place "**Where she shall be nourished for a TIME** (1 yr) **AND TIMES** (2yrs) and **HALF A TIME**" (1/2 yr) or, 3 1/2 years, Revelation 12:14.

## JERUSALEM, AN ETERNAL CITY

First, the **Millennial** (1000 yr reign of Christ on earth) comes when all "**nations will come against Jerusalem to battle**" (Zech 14:2). "**Then the Lord will go forth and fight...as when He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east,**" Zechariah 14:3-4.

That day continues: "**And it will come about in that day that living waters will flow out of Jerusalem...and the Lord will be king over all the earth...Then it will come about that any who are left of the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths,**" Zechariah 14:8, 9 & 15.

## NEW JERUSALEM

After the 1000 year reign, believers shall be as old as, but not older than, Jerusalem. When Satan was released from prison and, finally doomed, John saw

"the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God," Revelation 21:10, 11.

Man needs a city. He longs for socialization. His friends, family and his God all are blessings of life. Death robs man of all these; but, God has a city prepared for those of faith.

Abraham looked for this city (Heb 11:10), the one that Jesus entered, riding on a donkey. He conquered it by humbly, submitting to God's will. His **sacrifice** secured a place for all who believe in Jesus. His **living power** secures and rules the people of God, bringing them to a holy and social fellowship. His **presence secures** all that Adam forfeited.

"Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. 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 in to the city,"

Revelation 22:12, 13. - **AGELESS!**