

Jerusalem is Jewish!

by David Ben-Ariel

Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel. Until Arab terrorists and a hypocritical world either accepts or resigns themselves to this fact there will never be peace in the Middle East. The only land deed to Jerusalem's most holy site - the Temple Mount - is recorded in 2 Samuel 24:18-25 where King David was instructed by the prophet Gad to buy the place from Araunah the Jebusite (it was his threshingfloor) and build an altar to Israel's God.

Jerusalem has never been the capital of any country except ancient and modern Israel. King David established it as the capital of his united Kingdom and prepared for Israel to become "One Nation Under God," planning for the Temple's construction. Solomon completed those plans and Mount Moriah hosted the awesome Temple that was filled with God's glory. God had told Moses that He would choose a place to establish His name and authority, and Jerusalem is honored to have God's own signature upon it (Deut. 16:6). The three valleys that surround the area of the Temple Mount form the Hebrew letter Shin. Shin represents one of God's names: *El Shaddai*. It's also an acronym for "*Shomer Daltiot Yisrael*" - the Guardian of Israel's Doors. This sacred letter Shin is found on every *mezuzah* that adorns the doors of religious Jews everywhere.

Jerusalem is Judaism's most holy city and is mentioned over 600 times in the Bible. Like the prophet Daniel, Jews pray facing the Temple Mount in Jerusalem (Dan. 6:10). However, Jerusalem is totally ignored in the Koran and Muslims turn their back on it to face Mecca!

After the Jews were exiled by the Babylonians, they returned 70 years later and Nehemiah built Jerusalem's walls, Ezra restored the Law and Haggai and Zechariah exhorted all to rebuild the Temple - in spite of fierce local opposition. Zerubbabel finished the Temple that Herod later embellished. These illustrious individuals are well known and loved among Jews and Christians who read and believe the Bible (unlike Clinton-Peres and Arafat-Albright).

The Jerusalem Talmud states: "Every generation in which the Temple has not been rebuilt is as if the Temple were destroyed in it...". Thankfully, in spite of Palestinian protests and provocations, the Temple Mount Faithful and others are preparing the way for the Temple Mount to be *restored* as the TEMPLE Mount. Presently it's shamefully under a militant Muslim occupation that illegally forbids Christians and Jews from praying or reading the Bible there (where's the U.N.'s condemnation?), but Isaiah prophesied of "a House of Prayer for all nations" to grace the holy site. Hopefully, we'll soon see the fulfillment of such inspiring words!

(Check out our Christian-Zionist website, The National Messenger, www.provide.net/~tnm).