



The City of Jerusalem

Jerusalem is a very old city located on a plateau in the Judean Mountains between the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea.

For millennia, Jerusalem has been an important city. The first biblical reference to Jerusalem (it was originally called Salem¹) is found in the story about Abraham being blessed by the high priest and king of Salem, Melchizedek.²

Another name given to Jerusalem was Jebus.³ King David marched on Jebus and captured “the fort of Zion,” and called it the city of David.⁴

The actual name “Jerusalem” first occurs in the Bible in Joshua.⁵

Jerusalem is where Solomon built the temple and his palace.⁶ A few centuries later, the Babylonians destroyed the city and took its inhabitants as captives. Jerusalem was eventually rebuilt by Nehemiah.⁷

Today, Jerusalem is in the country known as the state of Israel.

Footnotes:

¹ Psalm 76:1–2

² Genesis 14:18, and Hebrews 7:1–2

³ Judges 19:10

⁴ 2 Samuel 5:6–7, 9

⁵ Joshua 10:1

⁶ 2 Chronicles 3:1

⁷ Nehemiah 2:1–6



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