

KEY EVENTS FROM BIBLE TIMES TO MODERN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM

TIME LINE



ROSE
PUBLISHING



erusalem is one of the most important cities on earth. Scripture calls it "the city of our God" (Ps. 48). Jerusalem has been—and still is—a focal point for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. The name Jerusalem means "city of peace," yet throughout history it has been one of the most fought-over cities of all time. It has been razed and rebuilt, abandoned and filled; wars have been fought over it, and yet pilgrims, even today, travel long, arduous journeys just to set foot in the holy city.

*"At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the LORD,
and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the LORD."*

—Jeremiah 3:17

Jerusalem before King David:

- The earliest mention of Jerusalem is in Egyptian texts dating from the 20th or 19th century BC.
- According to archaeological finds, Jerusalem became a fortified city with a complex water system in the 18th century BC.
- The first mention of Jerusalem in the Bible is in Genesis 14:18 when Abraham encounters Melchizedek, the "king of Salem." (Salem is believed to be a shortened name for Jerusalem.)
- Also in Genesis, Abraham is tested by God and offers his son Isaac on Mt. Moriah (Gen. 22:2), a location later identified as the site where King Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem (2 Chron. 3:1).
- Abraham's descendents, the sons of Jacob (Israel), moved to Egypt because of a famine in Canaan. They remained there and increased in number until 400 years later when Moses led them out of Egypt (the Exodus).
- Moses' successor Joshua led the Israelites back to Canaan to possess the land God had promised to them. Although Joshua conquered the land, he was unable to drive out the Jebusites who controlled the city of Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:6–10). It would be nearly four centuries later before a man named David would capture this formidable city and make it the capital of Israel.

Religion of Ruling Power:

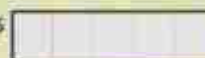


Black indicates the present walls of Old City Jerusalem

Colored portion indicates the size of Jerusalem at that time

C. = approximately

10 years between vertical lines



1000 BC

900

800



Jerusalem, Israel

• **Reign of King David:** He captures Jerusalem (city of Jebus) from the Jebusites, brings ark of the covenant to Jerusalem, purchases threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite on Mt. Moriah in Jerusalem to be the site of the temple. c. 1011–971

• **Reign of King Solomon:** Jerusalem experiences a time of peace and prosperity. c. 971–931

• **First temple** built on Mt. Moriah by King Solomon. 967–960

• **Death of Solomon.** His kingdom is divided into Northern Kingdom of Israel and Southern Kingdom of Judah (includes Jerusalem). 931

• **Egyptian Pharaoh Shishak** attacks Jerusalem and plunders the temple

• **King Joash of Judah** and priest Jehoi

• **King Jehoash of Israel** walls, takes temple treas

JERUSALEM AT THE TIME OF JEBUSITES AND KING DAVID
c. 1850–971 BC



King David brings ark of the covenant to Jerusalem.

ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1000 BC

900

800

Reign of King Hezekiah of Judah: He cleanses the temple; constructs a long tunnel under City of David to tap into a water source to prepare for an Assyrian siege (701 BC); pays tribute to King Sennacherib of Assyria with temple treasures; foolishly shows temple treasures to a Babylonian prince, an event Isaiah prophesied would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem (2 Kings 20:12–19). 716–686

KING SOLOMON
c. 971–931 BC



King Manasseh of Judah, Hezekiah's son, reverses his father's reforms and places idols in the temple.

King Josiah of Judah recovers Law of Moses; reforms; destroys pagan altars. Levites return ark of the covenant to the temple.

Jeremiah prophesies

King Nebuchadnezzar

Nebuchadnezzar

700

600

500



Dedication of First Temple

- **Judah falls to Babylon** upon Nebuchadnezzar's third invasion. Temple is destroyed, many Jews taken into exile in Babylon. 586 BC
- **Ezekiel has a vision** of a magnificent new temple (Ezekiel 40-48).
- **Cyrus the Great of Persia** defeats Babylon and issues a decree allowing Jews in exile to return to their homeland. 539 BC
- **Zerubbabel and Joshua** the high priest lead the Jews in exile back to Jerusalem. 539-538 BC
- **Daniel**, in exile, receives the prophecy of the Messiah's death in Jerusalem, destruction of the temple, and its rebuilding and desecration (Daniel 9:24-27).
- **Temple rebuilt.** Those who remember the first temple weep about this lesser second temple. 520-516 BC



Nehemiah rebuilds Jerusalem's walls

- **Ezra** returns to Jerusalem and encourages the people to follow the law. 458 BC

- **Nehemiah** returns to Jerusalem and rebuilds the walls. 445 BC

c. 926

Judah repair the temple. 835

Assyria attacks Judah, tears down Jerusalem's walls, transfers captives to Samaria. 796

- **Northern Kingdom of Israel** falls to Assyria. Refugees relocate to Judah and Jerusalem's population grows. 722
- **King Ahaz of Judah** pays tribute to the King Tiglath-Pileser III of Assyria using temple furnishings and treasures; defiles the temple with a pagan altar. 720

Alexander

BABYLONIAN AND PERSIAN PERIODS

700

600

500

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e,
37

verses his
nple. 697

Joshua, reforms the land, tears down the temple (last mention in Bible of the ark, 2 Chron. 35:3). 641

Jeremiah predicts that the Jews will return to Jerusalem after 70 years of exile (Jer. 25:11-12). c. 605

Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon invades Jerusalem and loots temple treasures. 605

Nebuchadnezzar returns, takes more temple vessels to Babylon. Ezekiel taken into exile. 598-597

KING HEZEKIAH
c. 716-687 BC



Population: 25,000



Babylonia invades Jerusalem and destroys temple

400

300

200

invasion.
Babylon. 586

Exile (40–48). c. 585–573

Babylon and issues
return to Jerusalem. 539

First lead
538

Y of the seventy "sevens"
destruction of the temple
(Dan. 9). c. 539–536

Herod the Great's splendor of the
Second Temple. 536–516

John the Baptist turns to Jerusalem and exhorts the
people to religious and moral reform. 457–456

Nehemiah governs Jerusalem and rebuilds city walls. 444–432



Alexander the Great conquers Jerusalem

- **Alexander the Great conquers Jerusalem** and spreads Greek culture (Hellenization). 332
- **Death of Alexander.** His kingdom is divided between his generals
- **Ptolemy I of Egypt**, one of Alexander's generals, controls Jerusalem; takes many Jews to Egypt. 320
- **Ptolemies lose Jerusalem to Seleucid** Empire of Syria (founded by Seleucus, another of Alexander's generals). 198

AN EMPIRES

HELLENISTIC PERIOD

HA

400

300

200

NEHEMIAH,
AFTER THE EXILE
c. 444–432 BC



Population: 4,500



Jesus teaching outside Jerusalem

• **Seleucid**
Jewish fe
defiles te

• **Maccab**
priestly f
Seleucid

• **First Ha**
rededic

Civil war
Aristob

Roman e
the civil war
enters th
de

100 BC

AD 1

AD 100



- **Herod**, governor of Galilee, conquers Judea (including Jerusalem) and becomes a vassal king for the Romans. 37
- **King Herod begins reconstruction of Jerusalem** to gain favor with Rome; he doubles the size of temple complex, fortifies city walls, builds Tower of Antonia. 20-10 BC
- **Jesus born in Bethlehem**, dedicated as an infant at the temple. c. 4 BC
- **Death of King Herod**. His son Archelaus rules Judea, kills 3,000 Jewish nationalists at Passover in Jerusalem. 4 BC
- **Jesus** (age 12) makes pilgrimage to Jerusalem at Passover. c. 3 BC
- **Jesus baptized**, begins ministry, c. 26
- **Roman procurator Pontius Pilate** kills Jewish zealot leader. c. 26-36
- **Jesus arrested**, trial in Jerusalem, crucified at Golgotha outside Jerusalem's walls. He rises from the dead and is seen by many before returning to heaven. c. 30
- **On Pentecost**, Peter preaches in the temple and 3,000 converts. c. 30

HASMONEAN
c. 167–37 BC

**KING HEROD
AND TIME OF JESUS**
c. 37 BC–AD 66

323



Population:
30,000–35,000



Population: 40,000

HASMONEAN DYNASTY

HERODIAN DYNASTY

100 BC

AD 1

AD 100

Ruler Antiochus IV Epiphanes bans Sabbath-keeping, circumcision, and possession of Scripture. He pillages and destroys the temple by sacrificing a pig on the altar. 167

Maccabean Revolt: Judas Maccabeus, from a Jewish priestly family, leads a successful revolt against the Seleucids. Establishes Hasmonean Dynasty. 167

Purification of the Temple: Judas Maccabeus cleanses and dedicates the temple. 164

War between Jewish princes: Hyrcanus II and Hircanus II. 67

Roman Emperor Pompey exploits Jewish divisions, conquers Jerusalem and destroys the temple. Pompey is later assassinated by Julius Caesar. 63



Judas Maccabeus defeats the Seleucids and rededicates the temple

**PRE-ROMAN
DESTRUCTION**
c. AD 66–70



Population: 80,000

• **Temple destroyed** by Roman General Titus during the revolt and massacres thousands of Jews. 70

• **Josephus** writes *Jewish War* and *Jewish Antiquities*. c. 75

• **Second Jewish Revolt (Bar Kokhba)** crushed by Roman Emperor Hadrian. He builds a pagan temple on the Temple Mount and banishes Jews from Jerusalem. 135

with Jews:
Tower of David. 20

Temple. c. 6–4 BC

Over. c. AD 7

zealots protesting at the temple. 28

"the place of the skull"
crucified on the third day
resurrected 40 days later. c. 30

and 3,000 are baptized. c. 30

Jerusalem. c. 32

If a god. Jews
Temple. 39

gentile Christians
religious laws. c. 49

en to Rome. 57

ed in Jerusalem. 62

ans begins. Jerusalem
the revolt. 66

ROMAN ERA

200

300

400

General Titus. Titus crushes
rebels in Jerusalem, plunders

and Jewish Antiquities. c. 75–94

**Jewish Revolt (Bar Kokhba
Revolt):** Roman Emperor Hadrian puts
down the revolt, rebuilds Jerusalem as a
city renaming it *Aelia Capitolina*,
builds a pagan temple on Temple Mount,
expels Jews from the city, renames
Jerusalem *Aelia*. 132–135



Roman destruction of the temple

Emperor Constantine issues Edict of Milan legalizing Christianity

Helena, Constantine's mother, establishes the tradition, finds a piece of the "True Cross" and the Shroud of Turin

Church of the Holy Sepulchre built by Constantine

Julian "the Apostate," Constantine's nephew, returns to Jerusalem and makes pagan temples popular

Earthquake disrupts temple construction

Julian is killed in battle. Temple Mount becomes a site for Christian worship

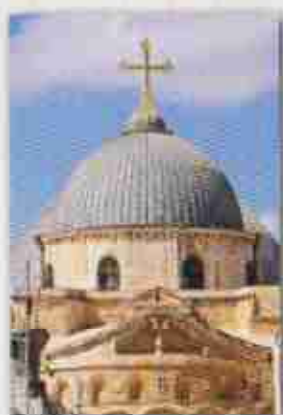
Emperor Theodosius officially makes Christianity the state religion

Emperor Justinian builds the Hagia Sophia

Emperor Justinian builds the Hagia Sophia

Muhammad founds Islam

Sassanid Persians capture Jerusalem



Church of the Holy Sepulchre



Emperor Constantine

Muhammad's Night Journey:
Muhammad travels from Mecca to Jerusalem with the Angel Gabriel and ascends to heaven from the Temple Mount

Byzantine Empire

BYZANTINE

BYZANTINE
c. 324–614



Population:
55,000–60,000

500

600

700

ing Christianity across the empire. 313

ilica at Mt. of Olives, and according to
e robe of Jesus. 323–333

ntine. 325–335

he's nephew, allows Jews to
ans to rebuild the temple. 362

struction. 363

plans abandoned and
dumping garbage. 363

ially declares Christianity the state religion. 380

Empress Eudocia settles in Jerusalem and builds
ilica in honor of the Christian martyr Stephen. 444

New Church of St. Mary. 543

Islam and unites tribes in Arabian Peninsula. 610–632

Sassanid Parthians (Persians) defeat Byzantine Christians in
Jerusalem, kill thousands, allow Jews to return to the city. 614

Christian mob kills Jewish governor of Jerusalem. 617

According to Islamic tradition, an angel takes Muhammad
and Muhammad tethers his celestial horse to Western Wall
holy rock (the large stone inside Dome of the Rock). c. 620

Emperor Heraclius defeats Persians. He enters Jerusalem
Golden Gate of Temple Mount carrying the "True Cross." 629

Caliph Omar, a successor of
Muhammad, sieges Jerusalem and
forces its surrender. According to
tradition, Omar clears the Temple
Mount of debris. 637–638

Muslim Umayyad Dynasty
gains control of Jerusalem. 661

Dome of the Rock built on
Temple Mount. 688–691

Al-Aqsa Mosque built on
Temple Mount. c. 705–715



Muhammad's Night Journey

NTINE ERA

ISLAMIC RULE

500

600

700

AD 800

900

1000

- **Earthquake** damages Al-Aqsa Mosque and Dome of the Rock. c. 747



Al-Aqsa Mosque on Temple Mount

- **Frankish Emperor Charlemagne** signs treaty with Muslims permitting Christian building projects in Jerusalem, sparking an influx of Christian pilgrims. 797

Fatimid Muslims conquer Jerusalem. 969

Fatimids raze Church of the Holy Sepulchre, destroy synagogues. 1009

Fatimids change policy and enable Christian and Jewish structures to be rebuilt. 1020



Emperor Charlemagne

Major earthquake destroys much of Jerusalem's architecture. 1033

Al-Aqsa Mosque rebuilt. 1034

Church of the Holy Sepulchre is restored.

Great Schism divides Church between East and West. Jerusalem Christians join Eastern Orthodox Church.

Seljuk Turks capture Jerusalem, massacre Christians, forbid Christian pilgrims.

Pope Urban II calls for Crusade to return Jerusalem to Christians.

Fatimids retake Jerusalem.

ISLAMIC RULE

AD 800

900

1000



Interior of St. Anne's Church

Crusaders capture Jerusalem, kill thousands of Jews. "Kingdom of Jerusalem" becomes a Crusader state.



Crusaders siege Jerusalem in 1099

Al-Aqsa Mosque and Dome of the Rock become part of the Crusader state.

1100

1200

1300



Pope Urban II

• **Sultan Saladin from Egypt** recaptures Jerusalem for Muslims. St. Anne's church becomes a Muslim school. Christians banned from entering Church of the Holy Sepulchre. 1187

• **Third Crusade fails.** Truce permits Jerusalem control provided Christian pilgrimages are allowed. permitted to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

• **Fourth Crusade launched** to retake Jerusalem from the West do not even make it to Jerusalem sack Eastern Christian capital of Constantinople.

• **Jerusalem razed** by Muslim rulers after retaking the city. Jerusalem's inhabitants flee.

• **Agreement** between Muslim ruler and Crusaders transfers control of Jerusalem to Muslims.

• **Invasions** by Muslim dynasties.

• **Mamluk Muslims** gain control.

• **The Ramban** (Nablus) at Western Wall, established.

CRUSADERS

1100

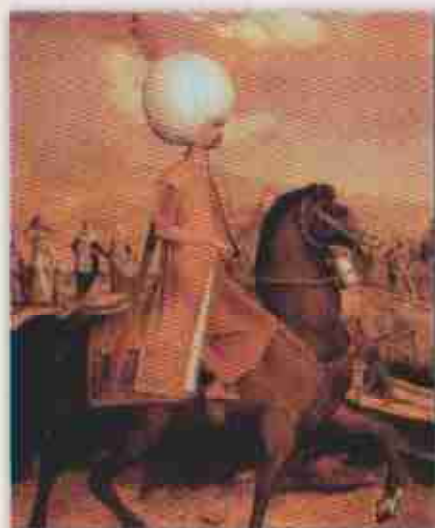
1200

1300

• **Crusaders capture Jerusalem**, massacre Jews and Muslims, establish "Kingdom of Jerusalem." Dome of the Rock becomes a Christian church. 1099

• **Jerusalem becomes the headquarters** of the Order of the Knights Templar. 1118

• **St. Anne's Church** built. 1138



Sultan Suleiman rebuilds Jerusalem

1400

1500

1600



Saladin captures Jerusalem

to remain under Saladin's
wed. Christians are
ulchre. 1192

alem. Crusaders
alem, instead
ople. 1202

to prevent Crusaders from
ants abandon the city. 1219

ers and Frederick II of Germany
Christians. 1229

sties leave Jerusalem virtually deserted. 1244

ontrol of Jerusalem and rule the city for over 250 years. 1250

manides) moves to Jerusalem, prays
ablishes Ramban Synagogue. 1267

• **Black Death** (Plague) spreads to Jerusalem from Europe. 1348

Jews in Spain facing the Inquisition •
escape to Jerusalem. 1492



Napoleon

Hurva Synagogue built. Burned by Arab
Napoleon invades Palestine, announce

William John Ba
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Sir Moses Montefiore

Population of Jerusalem



Sir Charles Warren

MAMLUK PERIOD

1400

1500

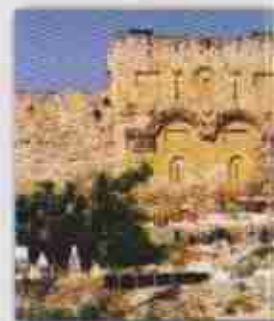
1600

oman Turks conquer Jerusalem and rule the city for 400 years. 1516 •

oman Sultan Suleiman "the Magnificent" rebuilds walls of Jerusalem that
ad laid in ruins for three centuries, embellishes Dome of the Rock, designates
Western Wall as the place for Jewish worship, rebuilds Tower of David by Jaffa
Gate to include a mosque and minaret (still standing today). 1537–1541 •

Suleiman seals Golden Gate on eastern side of Temple Mount through
which, according to tradition, the Messiah will enter the temple. 1541 •

Population of Jerusalem grows to 13,000 after •
Ottomans encourage resettlement. 1553



Golden Gate of Temple M



Mamluk soldier

1700

1800

1900

Arabs two decades later. 1700

promises he will restore Jerusalem to Jews, but is defeated at Acre. 1799

James of Britain conducts first archaeological excavation in Jerusalem, though he does so secretly at night because he is denied permission. 1818

American Edward Robinson discovers many biblical locations, including Hezekiah's tunnel and first-century arch on Temple Mount ("Robinson's Arch"). 1838–1852

Crimean War fought between Russia, Ottoman Empire, and European nations on the pretext of a dispute over Russia's supposed right to act as guardian of Christian religious sites in the Holy Land. 1853–1856

Belgian prince Leopold II becomes first non-Muslim (since Crusades) allowed to tour Dome of the Rock. 1855

Sir Moses Montefiore, a wealthy British Jew, founds first Jewish settlement outside Old City Jerusalem walls. He later renovates Western Wall. 1860

Jerusalem reaches 15,000; First recorded Jewish majority (8,000) since second century AD. 1864

Hurva Synagogue rebuilt. 1864

Palestine Exploration Fund established by British archaeologists and clergymen to fund expeditions in the Holy Land. 1865

Sir Charles Warren conducts first archaeological excavations in Old City, discovers "Warren's Gate." 1867–1870

Charles Gordon of Britain claims he located "the place of the skull" where Jesus was crucified. Site became known as the Garden Tomb or Gordon's Calvary. 1883

First Zionist Congress chaired by Theodore Herzl sparks waves of Jewish immigration (*aliyah*). 1897

OTTOMAN EMPIRE

1700

1800

1900

Britain captures Jerusalem from Ottomans in World War I

Mandate for Palestine gives Britain control over Palestine

Western Wall Uprising: Jewish and Arab riots begin in Jerusalem, spread throughout Palestine; 133 Jews and 116 Arabs killed

Britain, in response to the riots, **limits Jewish immigration**

World War II ends. Jewish survivors begin to settle in Palestine despite Britain's restrictions

King David Hotel (site of British Mandate administration) bombed by Jewish terrorists

United Nations (U.N.) plan for Jewish and Arab State with Jerusalem as international zone

Population of Jerusalem reaches 200,000



Temple Mount

1950

2000

declared after Mandate ends. Between Israel and neighboring states, 500,000–750,000 Arab expelled from Palestine. 1948

with Israel controlling West and Jordan controlling Old City. Jordanian praying at Western Wall for the next 19 years. 1948

Israel declares Jerusalem as their capital.* 1950



Dome of the Rock and City of Jerusalem.

- King Abdullah of Jordan assassinated by Muslim extremists in Al-Aqsa Mosque. 1950
- Lead roof of Dome of the Rock overlaid with aluminum and bronze. 1950
- British archaeologist Dame Kathleen Kenyon discovers wall in City of David. 1951
- Pope Paul VI becomes first pope to visit Jerusalem. 1964
- Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) founded in Jerusalem. 1964
- Six-Day War: Israel captures Old City, reunifying all of Jerusalem under Jewish rule. Religious administration of Temple Mount to an Islamic Trust (Waqf). 1967
- Status Quo Agreement: Muslims retain religious sovereignty over Temple Mount, but overall control maintained by Israel. 1976
- President Anwar Sadat of Egypt visits Jerusalem, the first head of an Arab nation to do so since State of Israel established. 1977
- Israel passes law declaring that all of Jerusalem—in both Jewish and Arab sectors—is the capital. 1980
- Excavation of Warren's Gate in Western Wall tunnel causes authorities to close the dig and seal the entrance. 1980
- Israel annuls Waqf ownership of Western Wall. 1980
- Jerusalem Underground, a Jewish terrorist group, carries out numerous attacks on Arabs, including a plot to blow up the Dome of the Rock. 1980s
- First Intifada (uprising) by Palestinians against Israel. 1987–1993
- Arab riots after Temple Mount Faithful group announces plans for the third Jewish temple; 17 rioters killed by Israeli police. 1994
- Israel-Jordan treaty resolves territory dispute. 1994

BRITISH
MANDATE

STATE OF ISRAEL

2000

- 1917
- 1920
- Jerusalem and Hebron. 1929
- Massacre of Jews. 1929
- Mass migration. 1930
- British establish concentration camps to stop them. 1945
- British establish headquarters in Jerusalem. 1946
- British kill 91 Jewish terrorists. 1946
- British agree to establish a Jewish State governed by the U.N. 1947
- Jerusalem population exceeds 160,000. 1947



Surrender of Jerusalem in World War I

- Palestinians riot in response to Israel opening Western Wall. Riot results in about 70 Palestinian deaths. 1990
- U.N. declares Israeli sovereignty over Jewish Quarter. 1990
- Israel forbids Waqf construction in Jewish Quarter anyway and dumps tons of archaeological remains. 1990
- Second Intifada (Al-Aqsa Intifada) declared. Terrorist attacks occur throughout Palestine. 2000
- Barrier wall built by Israel between Jewish Quarter and Temple Mount. 2000
- Temple Mount Sifting Project established. (Legal disputes over Israeli archaeological excavations.) 2000
- Discovery of a building in City of David. 2000
- Discovery of a section of wall. 2000

*Most countries still do not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and instead have their embassies in Tel Aviv.

Mosque. 1951

alloy becoming gold in appearance. 1956–1964

City of David dating to 1800 BC. 1961–1967

m. 1964

em. Israel returns
(Waqf). 1967

reignty over Temple Mount,

the first head of state
shed. 1977

including Old City—is its capital.* 1980

el leads to Arab demonstrations
rance. 1981

declaring it state property. 1984

up, is arrested and charged with
blow up Dome of the Rock. 1984

t Israelis results in about 160 Israeli

y announces plans to lay a cornerstone
by Israeli police. 1990

spites between the two nations. 1994

opening an exit to Hasmonean tunnel near
Palestinians and 15 Israeli soldiers killed. 1996

Jerusalem illegal. 1998

Solomon's Stables on Temple Mount. Waqf begins construction
logically rich debris in Kidron Valley. 1999

declared by Yasser Arafat after Ariel Sharon's visit to Temple Mount. Riots and
Palestine. Temple Mount is closed to all non-Muslims for the next 3 years. 2000

n Jerusalem and West Bank. 2002

established to salvage artifacts in debris that had been dumped in Kidron Valley in 1999.
(Archaeologists' right to remove artifacts had delayed excavation of debris for several years.) 2004

of David believed to be part of the palace of either David or Solomon. 2005

all in City of David believed to be part of the first temple complex. 2010

in Tel Aviv.



Western Wall of Temple Mount and Dome of the Rock