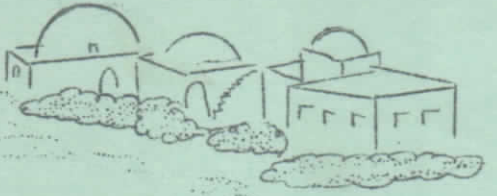


JERUSALEM

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Jerusalem is the most important city in Israel. It is the largest city in the land. It is built on a mountain ridge and looks down on the land around on 3 sides.



King David captured this city and made it the capital city of his nation. King Solomon built the beautiful temple here. Twice a year the men in every family in Israel went to Jerusalem for special days.

Before Jesus was born, armies came against Jerusalem from Babylon. These armies burned the walls of the city, the temple and the palaces. They made the people prisoners and took them away to Babylon. After many years a few of the Jewish captives were set free. They came back and rebuilt the walls and the temple in Jerusalem.

Sometime later the nation of Rome began to rule in Israel. The Romans were ruling the land when Jesus was born.

Jesus visited Jerusalem when He was 12 years old. The first thing he could see as he traveled to Jerusalem was the temple. How beautiful it was and larger than any other building. The gold on the white marble shone brightly in the sun. Anyone who travelled to Jerusalem looked to see the temple. Later Jesus visited the city several times. He did many miracles here. And it was at Jerusalem that Jesus was crucified and rose again from the dead.

The early Christians kept Jerusalem as the headquarters of the church for some time. Read about Jerusalem in your Bible.

I Kings 5:1-12

Matthew 21:6-11

Jeremiah 52:12-15

Matthew 27:27-36

Luke 2:41-49

Acts 2:1-4,41