

Israel's Third Temple

When construction of the first Jewish temple in 2,000 years has begun, it will be the most visible sign the end time has finally arrived!

A. First Temple Era: 968 BC–586 BC

1. It all began with Abraham.

- a. The Bible spends the first 11 chapters of the Book of Genesis covering 2,000 years of human history.
- b. The next 12 chapters are spent on the life of one man – Abraham.
- c. Abraham is the father of the physical people of God – Israel, and the father of the spiritual people of God – the church of Jesus Christ.
- d. God promises Abraham a son.

2. Abraham offers Isaac on Mt. Moriah

Genesis 22:2

And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

- a. God told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac and He chose the place.
- b. The angel stopped the hand of Abraham.
- c. God wanted to see if Abraham loved Him more than his son.
- d. God chose this place about 2,000 BC.

3. God moved King David to number Israel because Israel had sinned.

- a. God sent pestilence upon Israel killing 70,000 men.
- b. David prayed for God's mercy.
- c. God sent the Prophet Gad to tell David what to do to stay the pestilence that was affecting the people of Israel.
- d. David was instructed to buy the threshing floor of Araunah, which is Mt. Moriah.
- e. Mt. Moriah is the place where God told Abraham to sacrifice 1,000 years earlier.
- f. David bought the Temple Mount for 50 shekels of silver.

4. David desires to build a temple

- a. God told David, "No, you have been a man of war and have shed much blood."
- b. Your son Solomon will build my temple.
- c. David assembled the materials for the temple.
- d. After David passed, King Solomon built the First Temple of the nation of Israel.

5. Solomon's Temple

- a. It was said to be the most beautiful structure on the face of the earth.
- b. King Solomon prayed the dedicatory prayer.
- c. Fire fell from Heaven and consumed the sacrifice showing God's approval.
- d. God promised to put His name on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

1 Kings 9:1–3

And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do, That the LORD appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared unto him at Gibeon. And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, that thou hast made before me: I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

6. Destruction of First Temple

- a. God could not tolerate their sin and idolatry.
- b. The First Temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC.
- c. Judea was carried away into exile by the Babylonians.

7. The Medes and the Persians overthrow Babylon

- a. The Lord's vengeance of His temple
- b. Daniel understood the 70 years prophesied by Jeremiah.
- c. Daniel was thrown into the lion's den for praying to his God.
- d. Cyrus ordered the rebuilding of the temple according to the prophecy in Isaiah.

Jeremiah 51:11

Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the LORD hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of his temple.

Isaiah 44:28 (NKJV)

That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

8. The Building of the Second Temple

- a. Cyrus released Israel from exile and allowed them to return to Jerusalem.
- b. Zerubbabel oversaw the rebuilding of the Second Temple.
- c. The temple was completed around 516 BC.

Zechariah 4:6

Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.

B. Second Temple Era: 516 BC–70 AD**1. Herod the Great ruled under Roman Empire**

- a. Herod was despised by the Jews.
- b. Herod enlarges and beautifies the Second Temple in 19 BC.
- c. The angel appears to Zacharias, announcing the birth of John the Baptist.

2. Jesus is born

- a. Jesus is brought to the temple for dedication and circumcision.
- b. He is dedicated by the priest Simeon.
- c. At the age of 12, Jesus sat in the Second Temple disputing with the doctors of the law and answering their questions.
- d. Jesus prophesies the destruction of the Second Temple.
- e. The veil of the temple rips in two at the crucifixion.
- f. The Romans destroy the temple in 70 AD.

3. 1,878 years of exile

- a. 70 AD–May 14, 1948
- b. The exile culminated with Hitler's holocaust.
- c. Six million dead
- d. Ezekiel's boneyard – The prophecy of the rebirth of Israel in Ezekiel 37
- e. The nation of Israel was reborn in 1948 after 1878 years of exile.

C. Third Temple Era 1948–Armageddon**1. 1967 – Israel captures the Temple Mount**

- a. Rabbi Shlomo Goren: “Remove these pagan structures from the Temple Mount.”
- b. The Temple Mount was placed under the jurisdiction of the Muslim Waqf.
- c. The rabbis forbid the Jews from going to the Temple Mount.
 - 1973 – Moshe Dayan to Golda Meir: “Golda, I fear for the Third Temple.”
 - 1980 – Israel annexed east Jerusalem and made all of Jerusalem its capital.
 - 1987 – The Temple Institute was founded by Rabbi Ariel. Israel is dedicated to preparing the furniture and utensils for the Third Temple and preparing for the building of the temple itself.
 - 2000 – President Clinton proposed sharing the Temple Mount.
 - 2013 – All the temple furniture was completed, including the Ark of the Covenant.
 - 2014 – A law was introduced in the Knesset to place the Temple Mount under a sharing arrangement. Yehuda Glick was shot for advocating the building of the Third Temple.
 - 2015 – Israel launched a project to produce a red heifer to restore purity to Israel.

D. Will the Middle East Peace Agreement be Signed in the Next 1-3 Years?**1. Within 3½ years of the agreement, the Third Temple will be built.**

- a. The temple will be measured at the 3½-year mark.

Revelation 11:1-2

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

2. Antichrist sits in the temple at the 3½-year mark***II Thessalonians 2:3-4***

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.