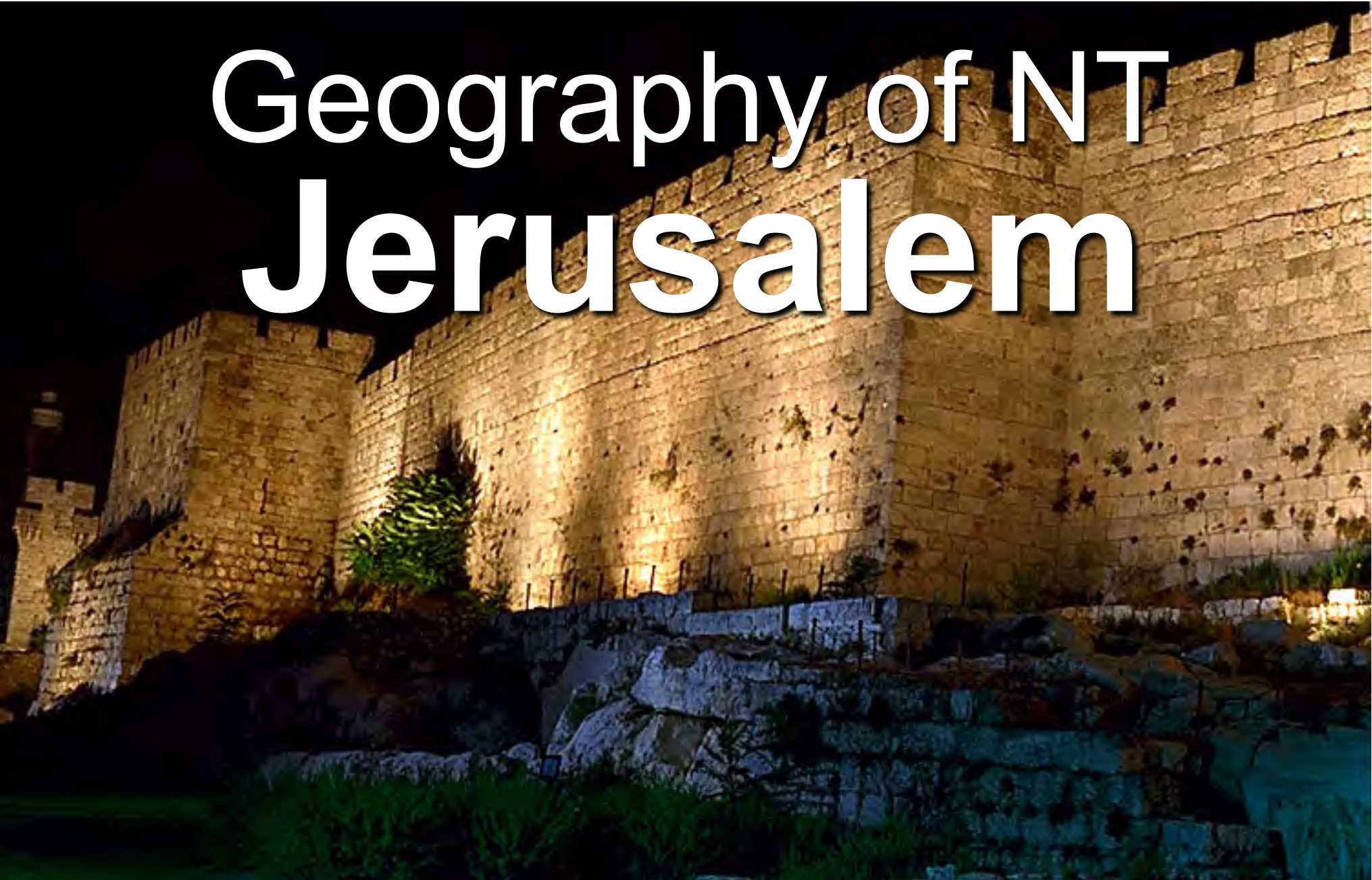


# Geography of NT Jerusalem



# The World Today



# Modern Middle East

9



Left Stage

Travel in  
Ancient Israel

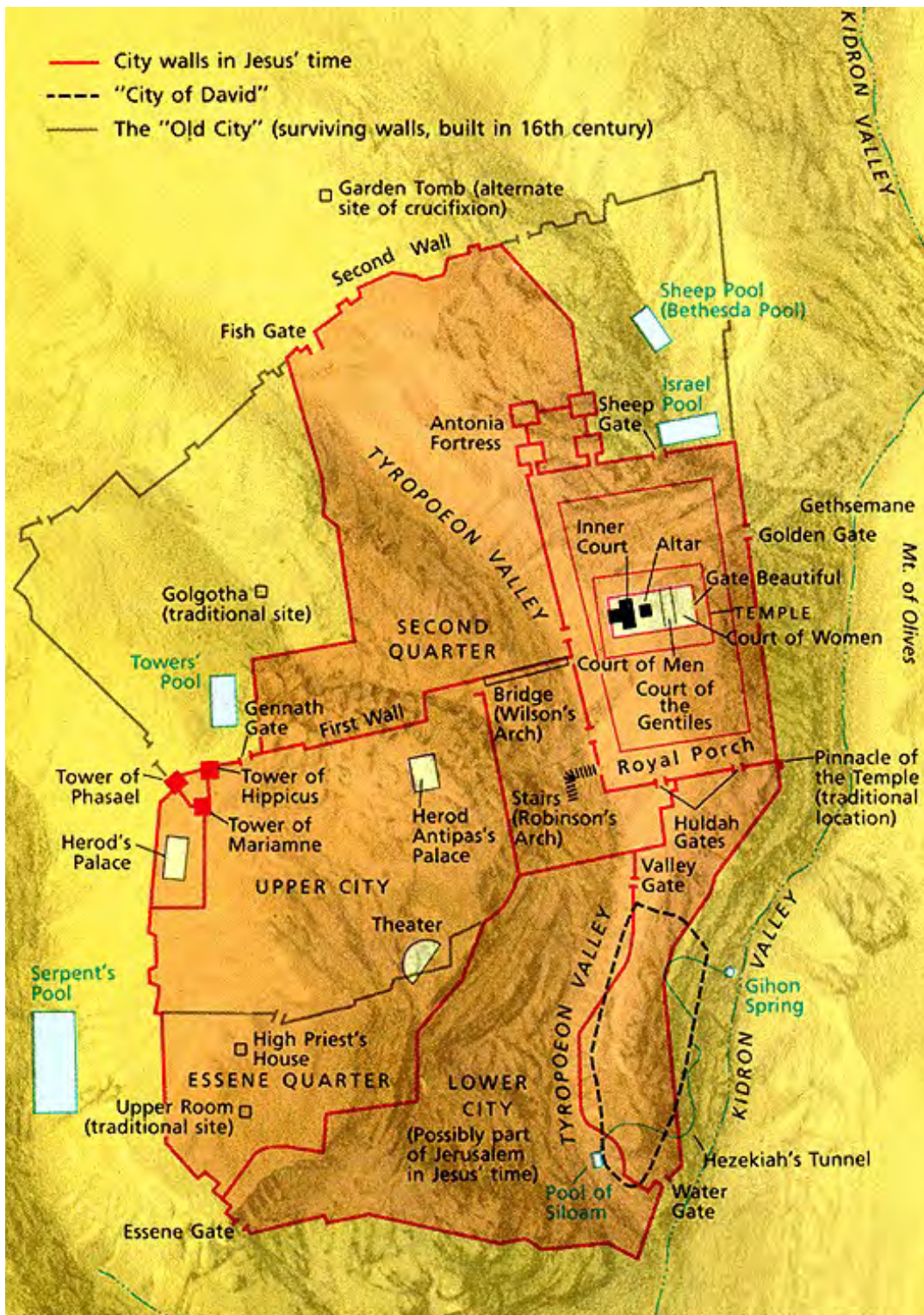
Right Stage

West & North

East & South



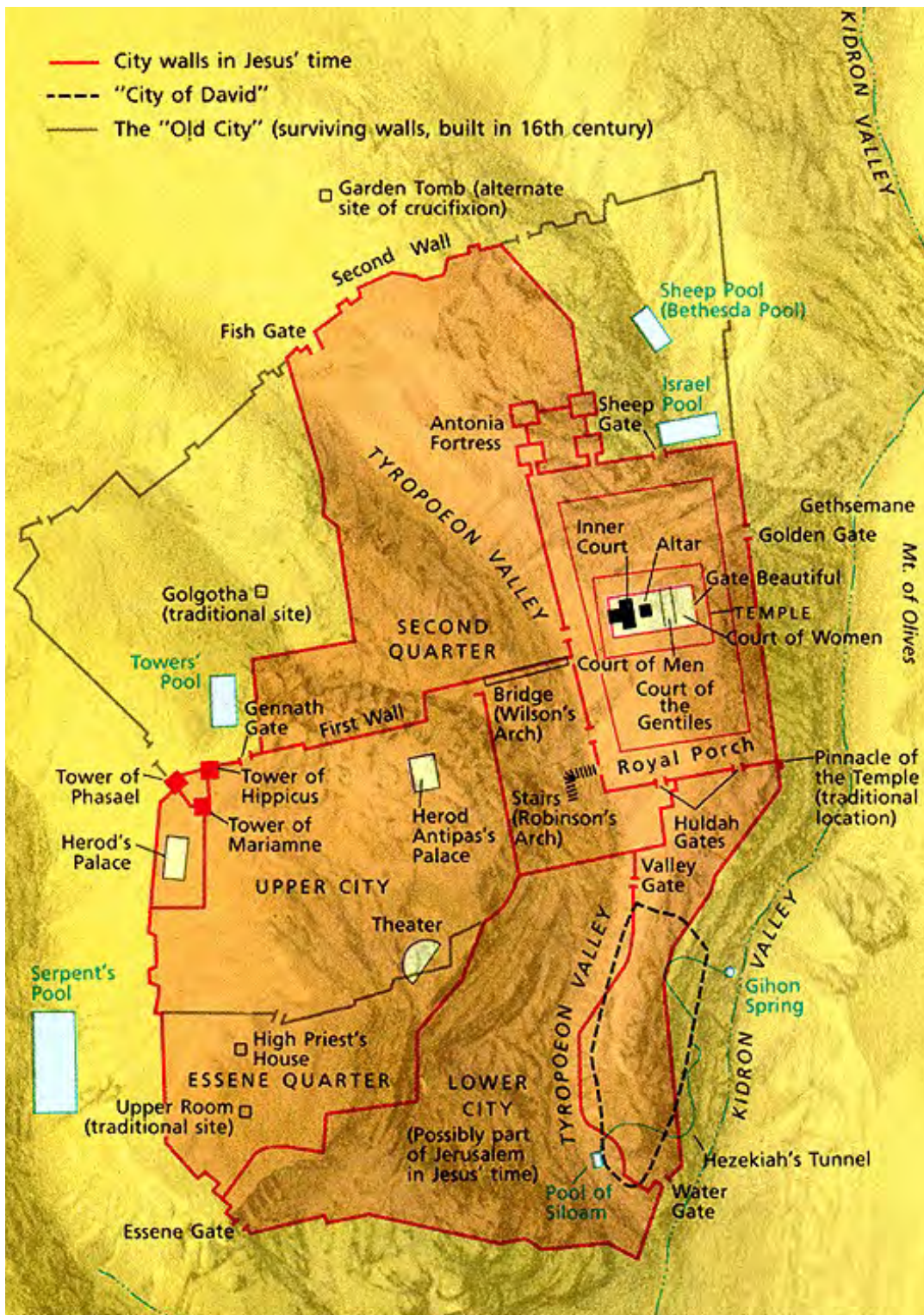
# Jerusalem 21



- Disadvantages
- Advantages
- Stages
- Significance

# Jerusalem 21

## •Disadvantages



Left Stage

Travel in Ancient Israel

Right Stage



# Jerusalem was off the main highway

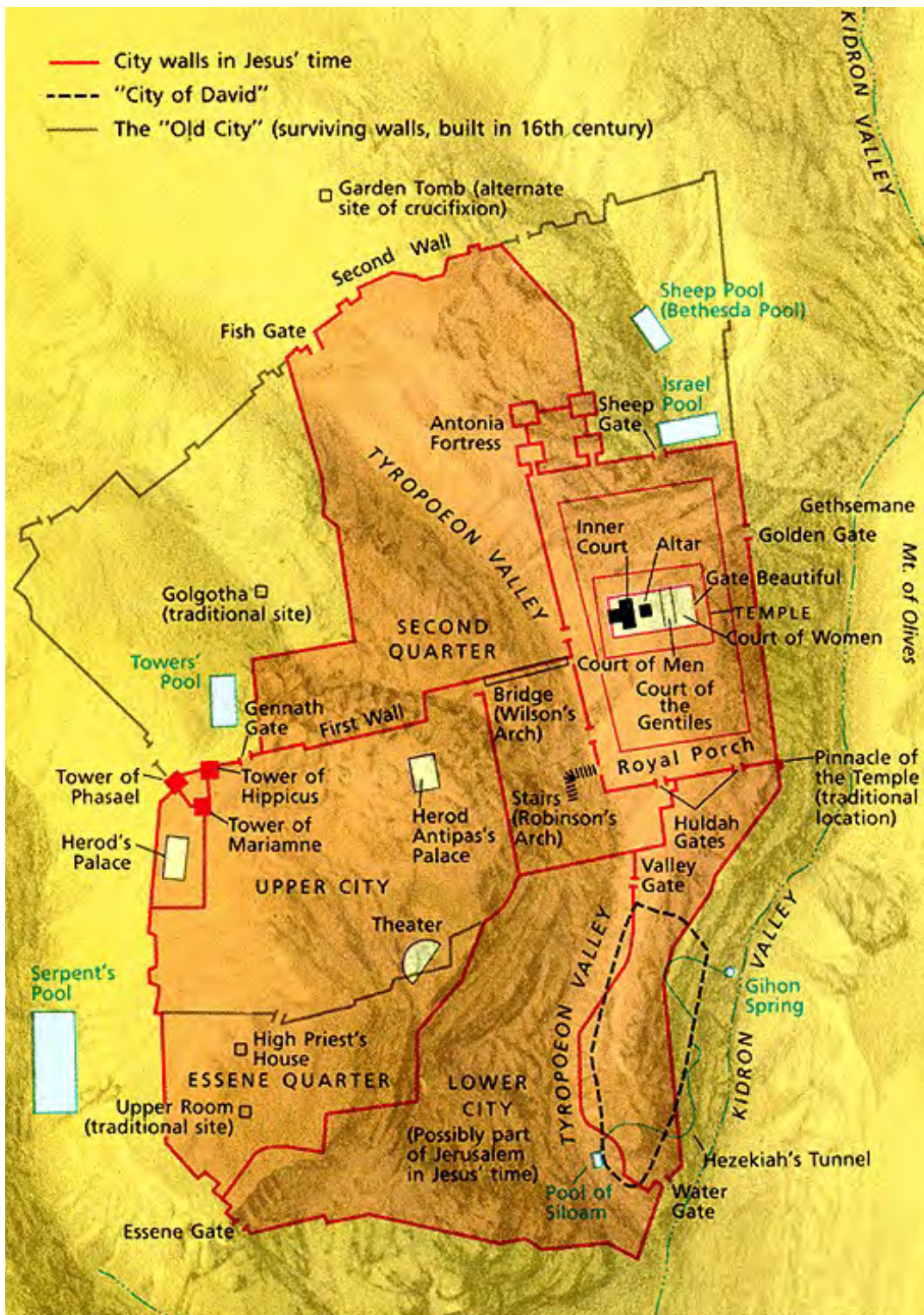


## Roads of Israel

Beitzel, *Moody Atlas of Bible Lands*, 68

# Jerusalem 21

- Disadvantages
- Advantages



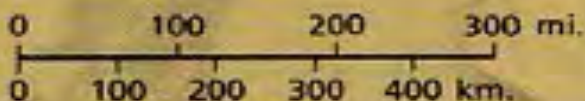
# Jerusalem's Strategic Location

## Thought Question:

How has God placed *you* in a strategic place for His purposes?

“Thus says the LORD God: This is Jerusalem; I have set her in the center of the nations, with countries round about her”

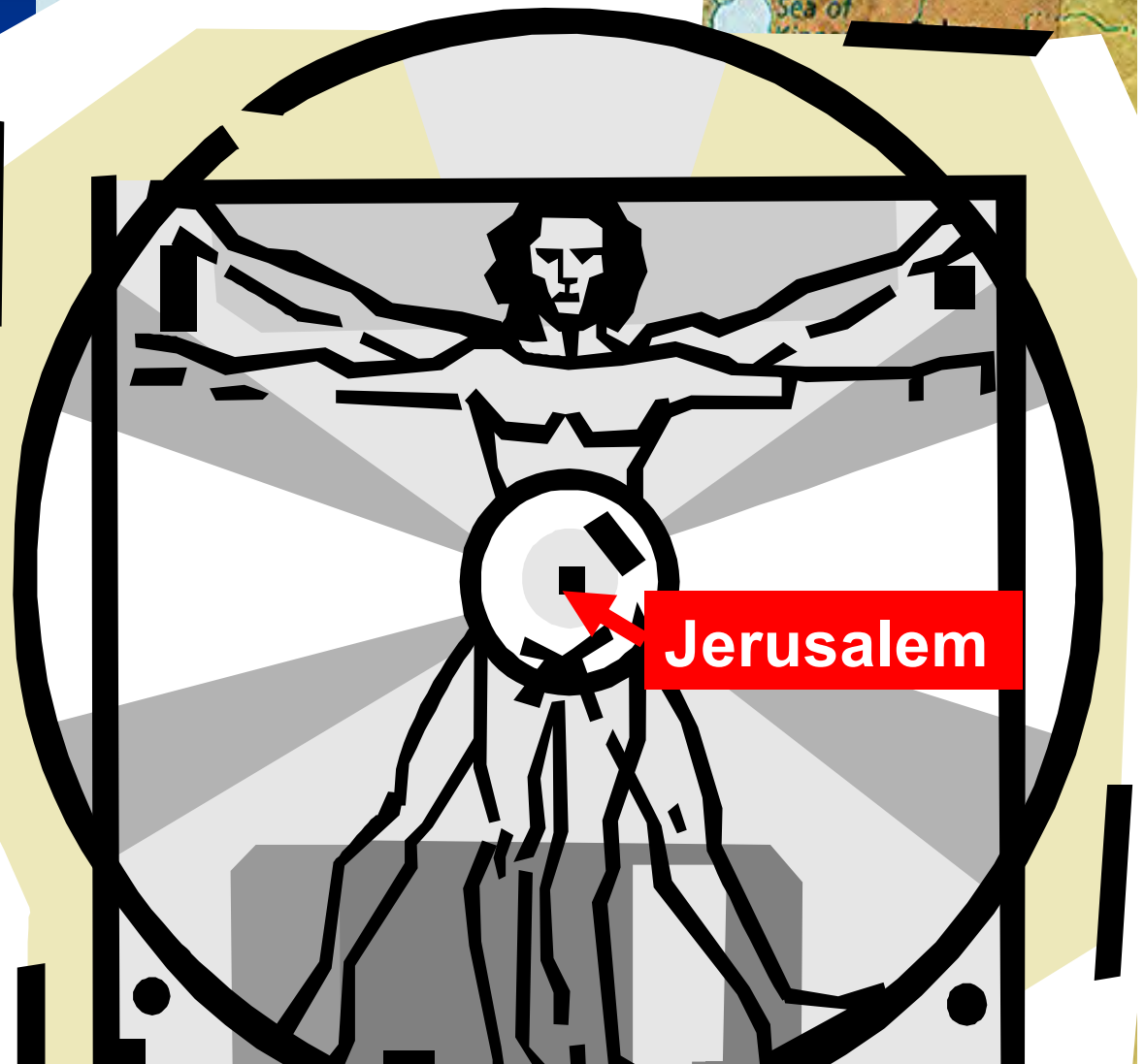
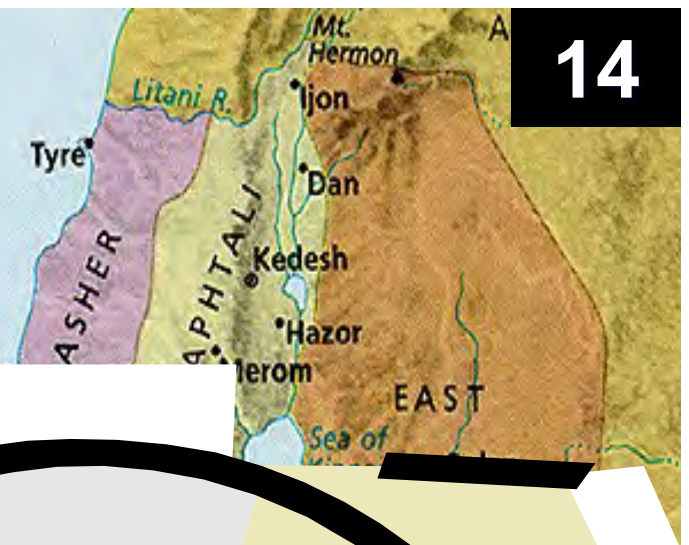
*Ezekiel 5:5*



# Central Location

Jerusalem was known as the “navel of Israel.”

- Cities of refuge
- Other cities



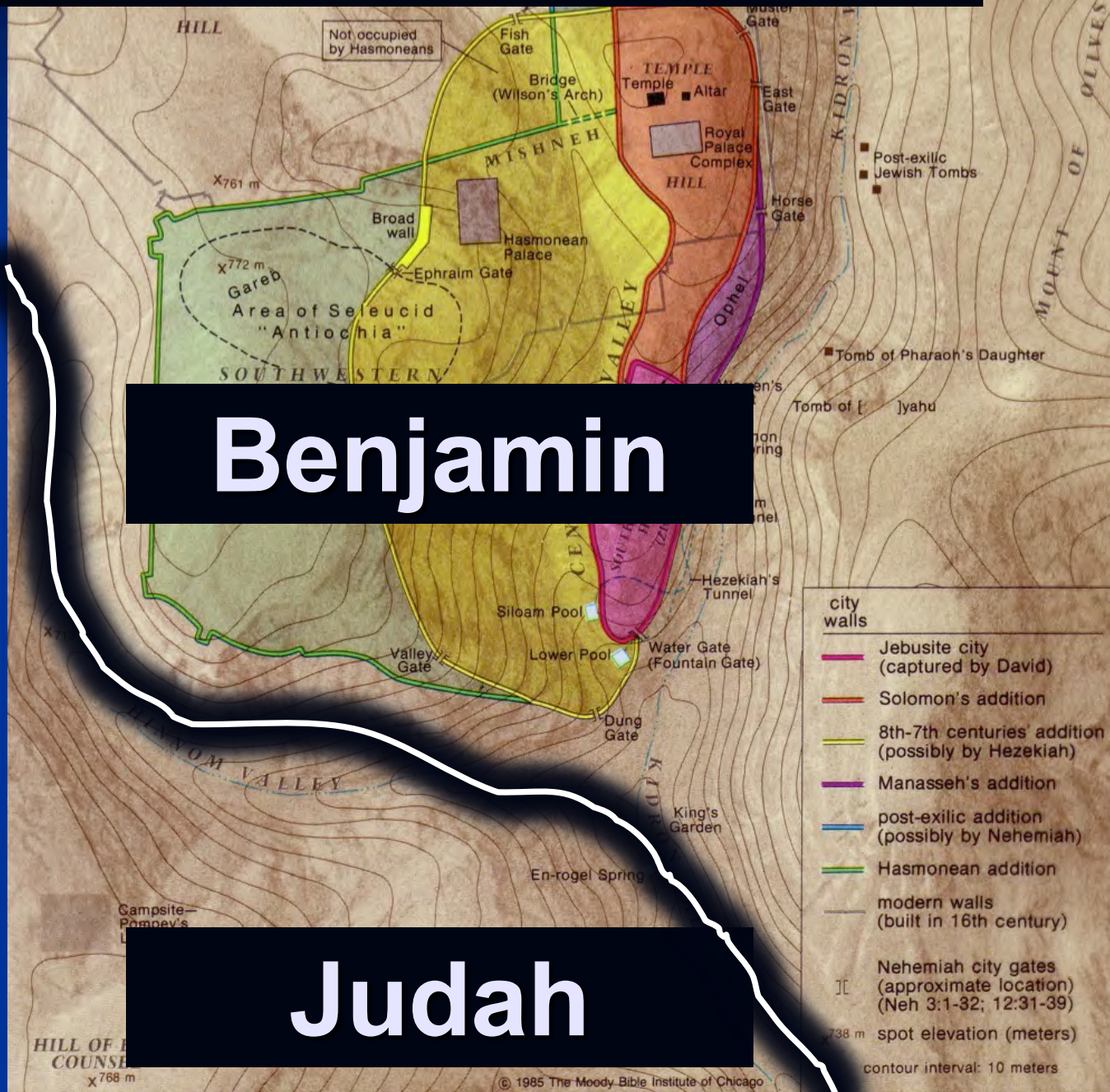
# Central Location

Jerusalem was in Benjamin next to Judah but close to the northern tribes



# Jerusalem was a Border City

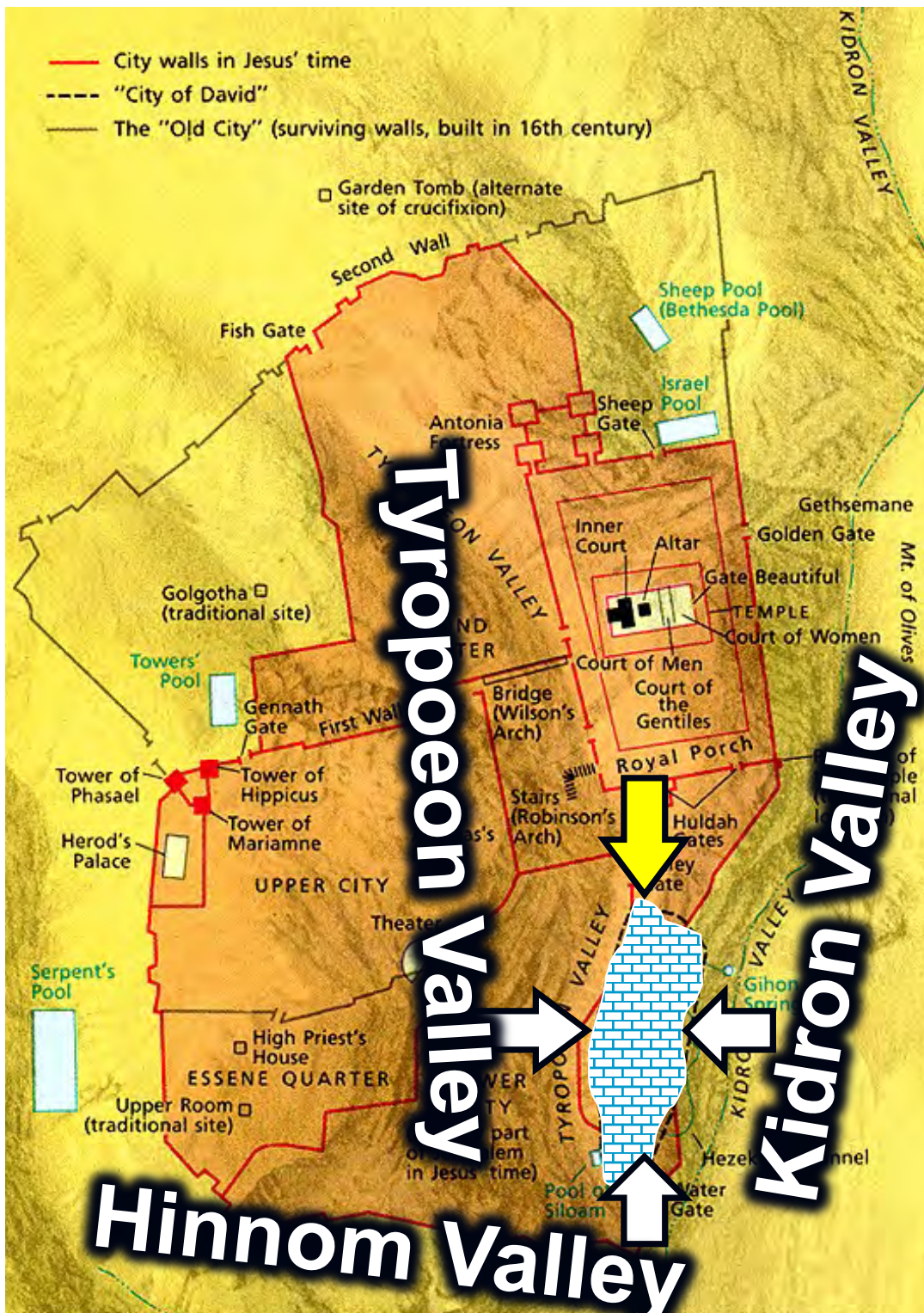
The border between Benjamin and Judah ran just south of the city



# Jerusalem

20

- Disadvantages
- Advantages
  - Protective valleys
    1. Tyropoeon
    2. Hinnom
    3. Kidron



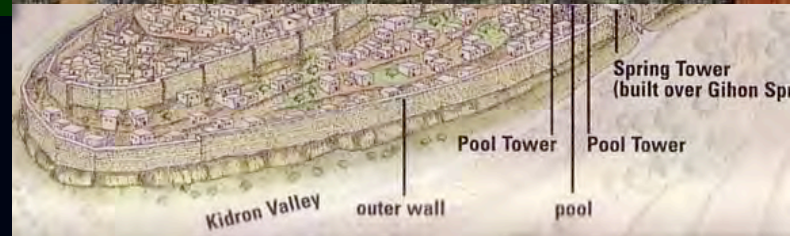
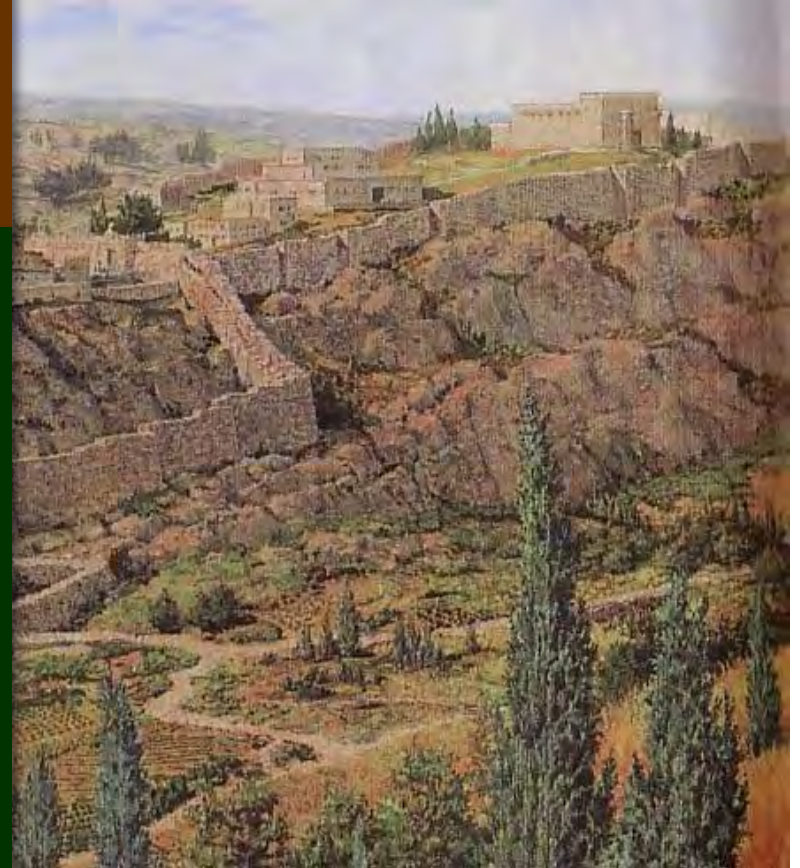
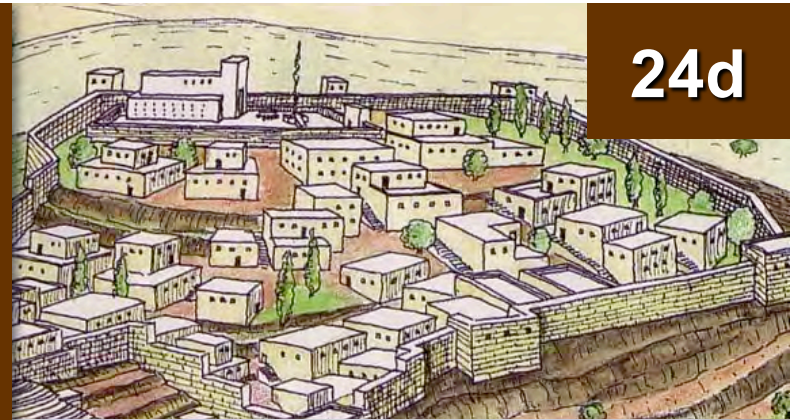
**“Then [Hezekiah] worked hard repairing all the broken sections of the wall and building towers on it. He built another wall outside that one and reinforced the supporting terraces of the City of David.**

**(2 Chron. 32:5)**

**“Afterward [Manasseh] rebuilt the outer wall of the City of David, west of the Gihon spring in the valley, as far as the entrance to the Fish Gate and encircling the Ophel; he also made it much higher...**

**(2 Chron. 33:14)**

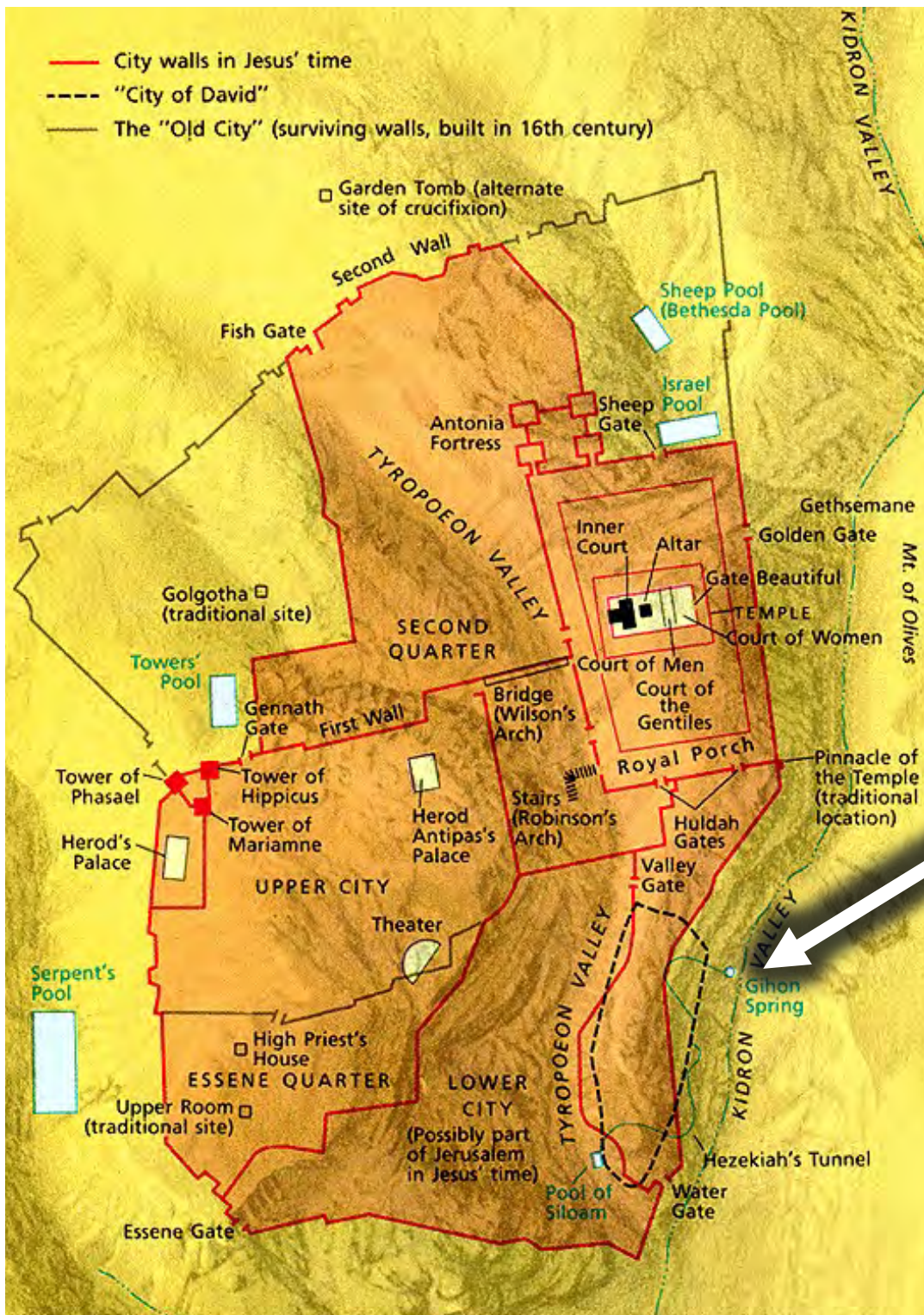
## **Eastern City of David**





**Genesis 22**

# Jerusalem 21



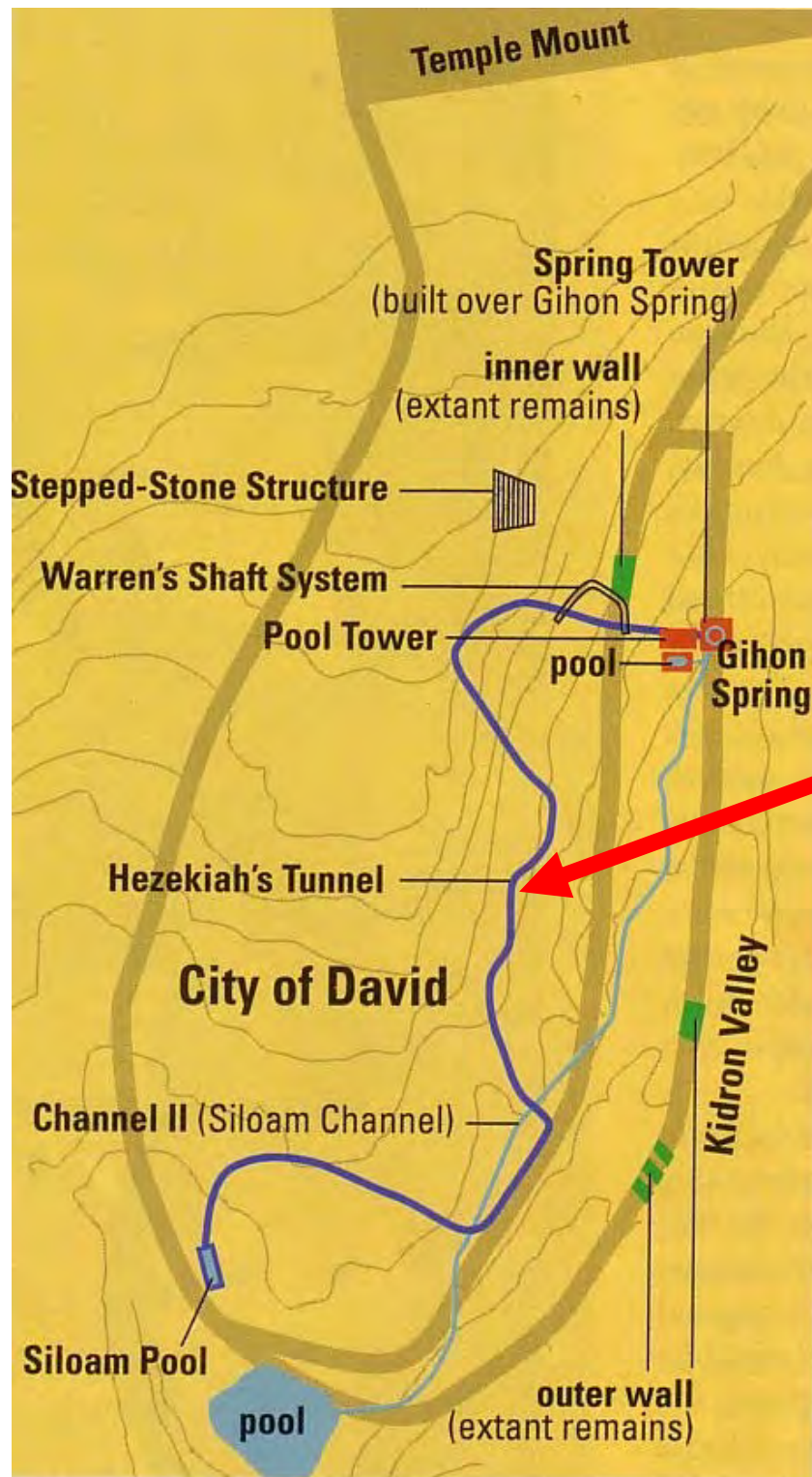
- Disadvantages

- Advantages

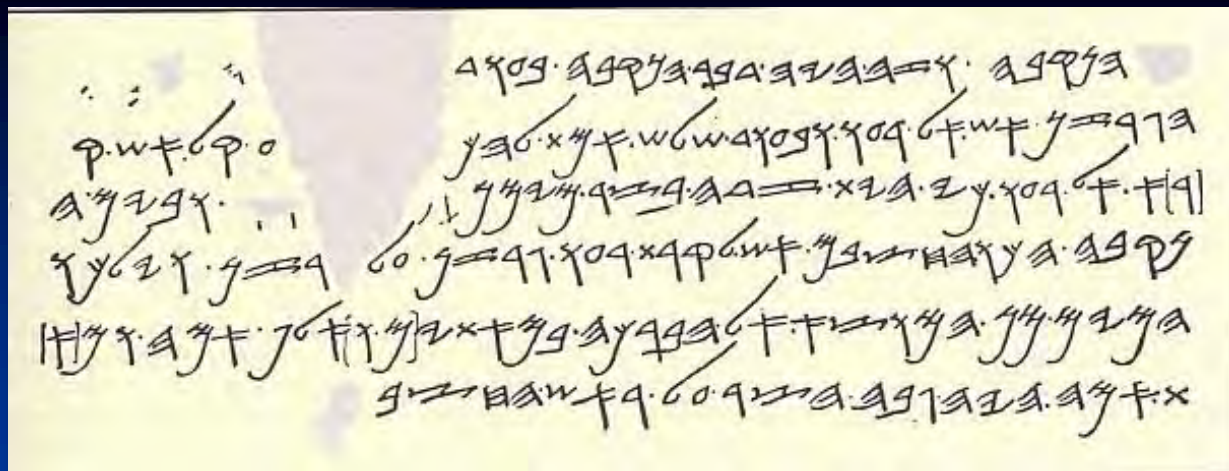
- Protective hills

- Water source

# Hezekiah's Tunnel



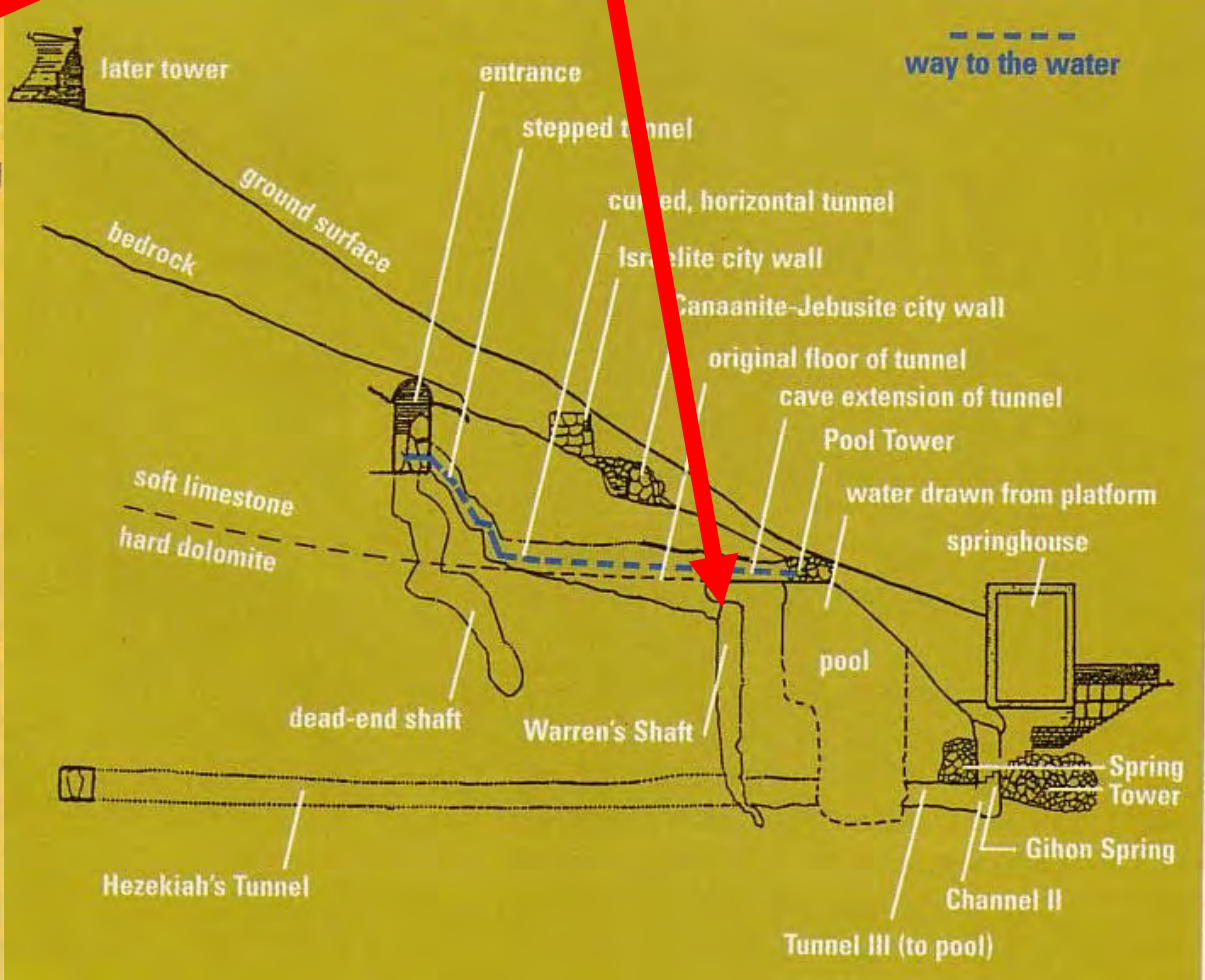
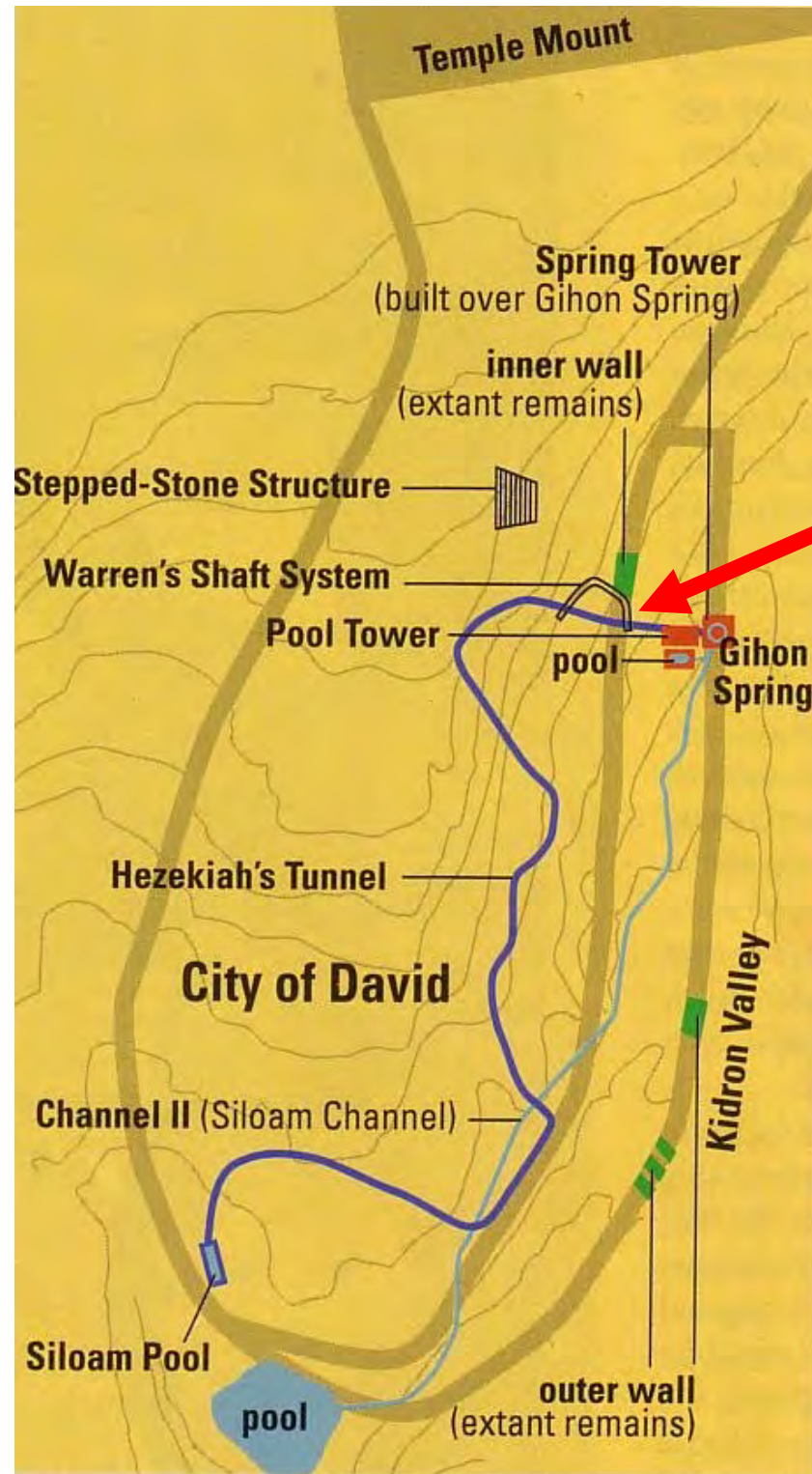
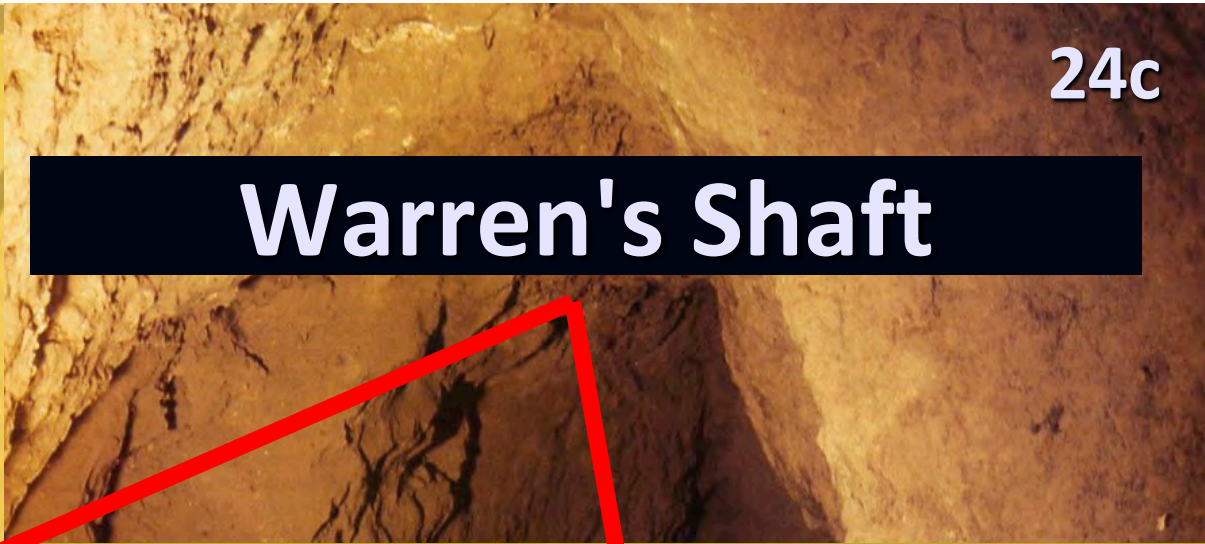




## Siloam Inscription

“[...when] (the tunnel) was driven through. And this was the way in which it was cut through: While [...] (were) still [...] axe(s), each man toward his fellow, and while there were still three cubits to be cut through, [there was heard] the voice of a man calling to his fellow, for there was an overlap in the rock on the right [and on the left]. And when the tunnel was driven through, the quarrymen hewed (the rock), each man toward his fellow, axe against axe; and the water flowed from the spring toward the reservoir for 1,200 cubits, and the height of the rock above the head(s) of the quarrymen was 100 cubits.”

# Warren's Shaft

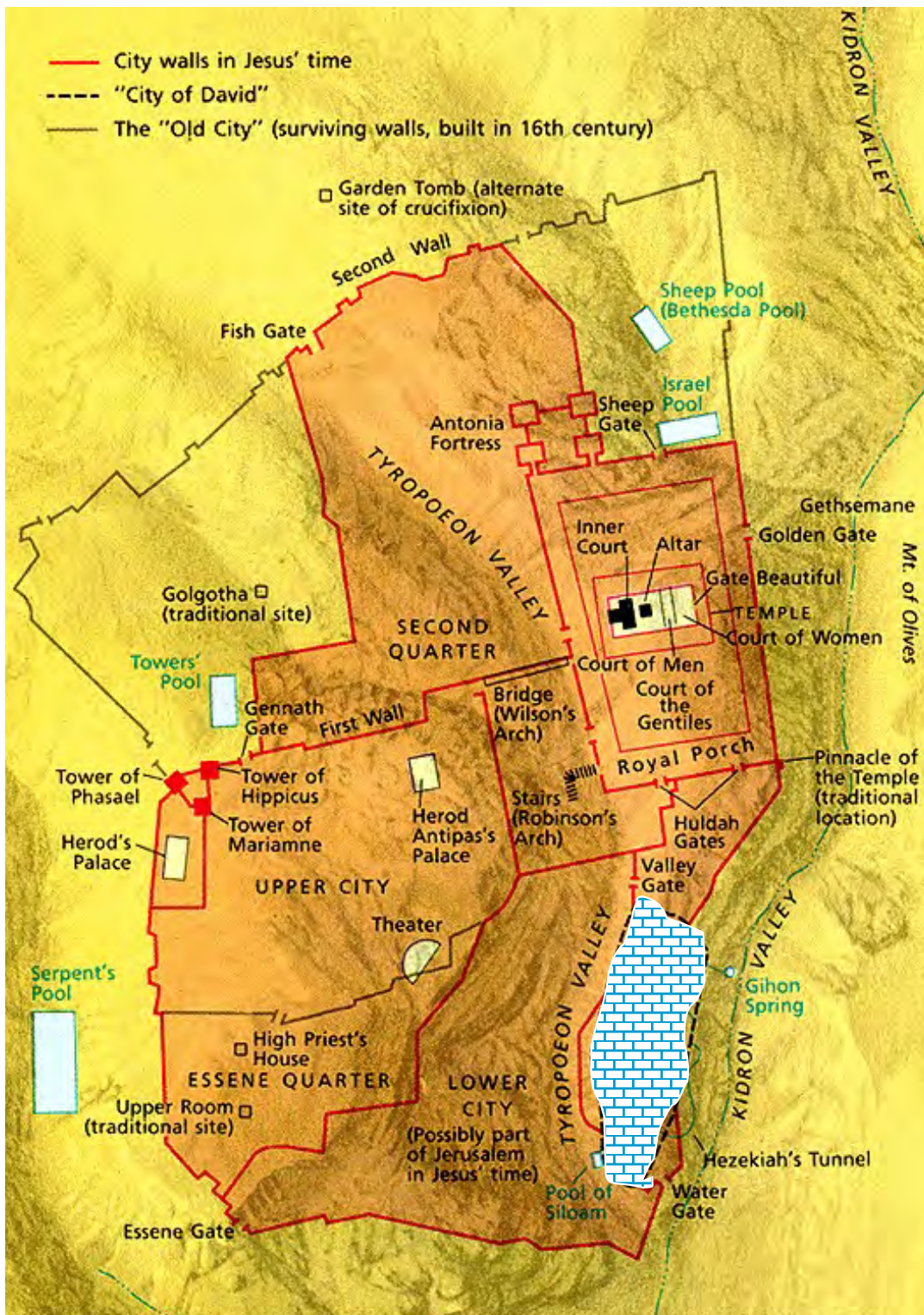


# Jerusalem

23

- Disadvantages
- Advantages
- Stages

▬ Jebusite (1500 BC)



# Model of the City of David (AD 66)<sup>23</sup> (Rebuilt Old Jebusite City)



# Jerusalem Valleys & Ridges



Eastern Ridge (Mount of Olives)

Central Mountain Ridge (Moriah)

Kidron Valley

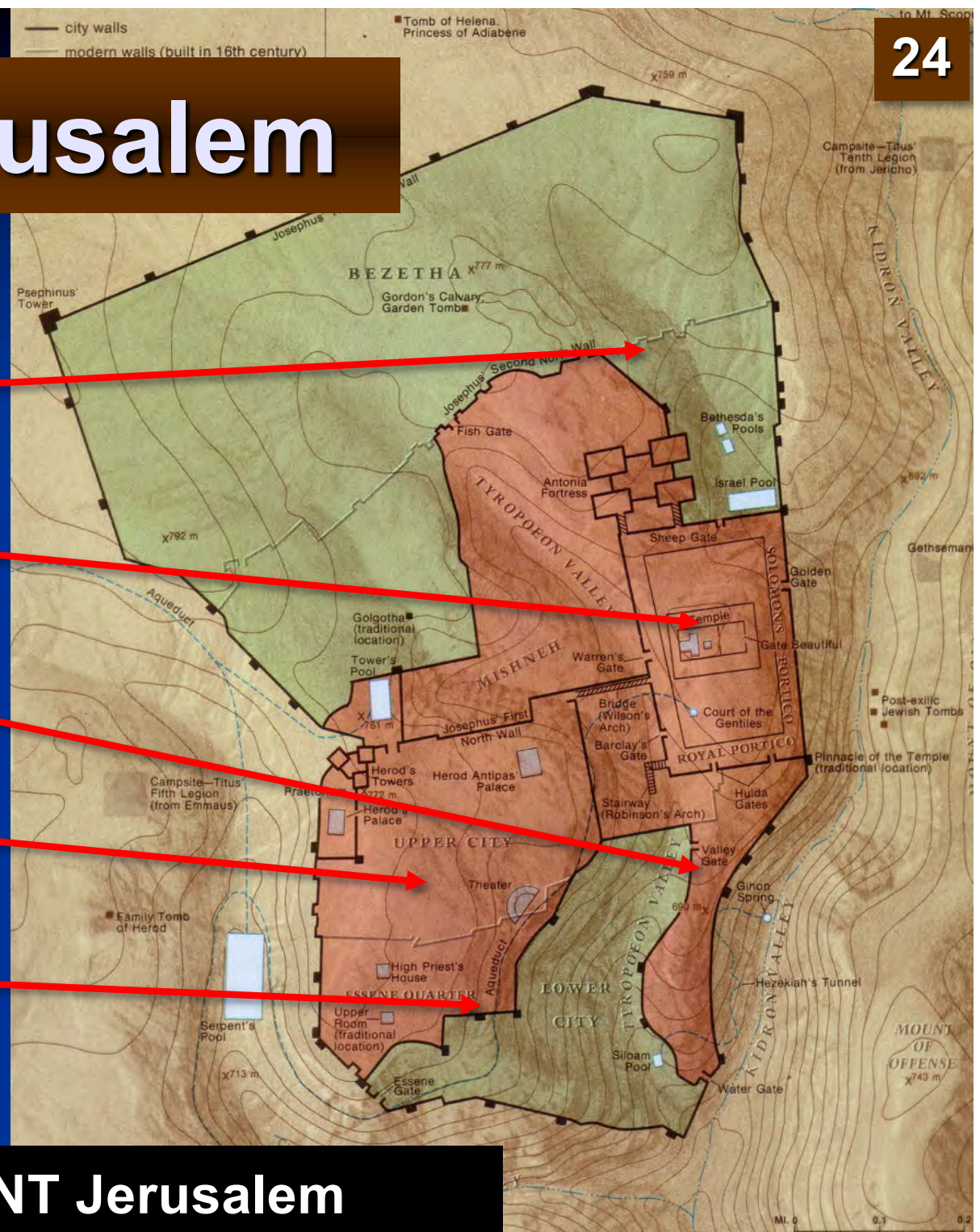
Tyropoeon Valley

Western Mountain Ridge

Valley of Hinnom

# Hills of Jerusalem

- Northeast
- Temple
- Ophel
- Upper City
- Lower City



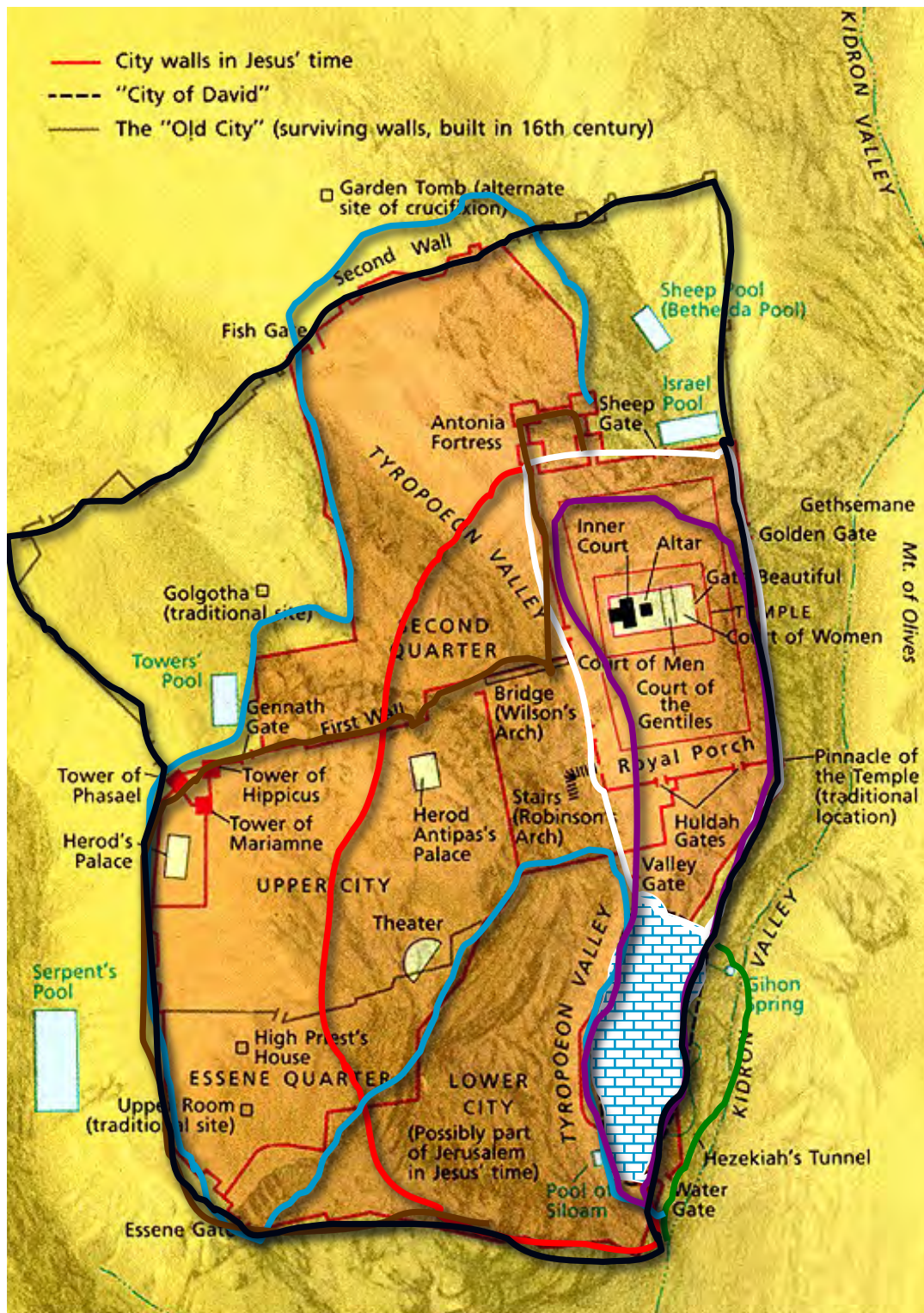
NT Jerusalem

# Jerusalem 23

- Disadvantages

- Advantages

- Stages



Jebusite (1500 BC)



Solomon (971 BC)



Hezekiah (700 BC)



Hezekiah (700 BC)

586 BC



Nehemiah (444 BC)



Hasmonean (100 BC)



Herod the Great (20 BC)

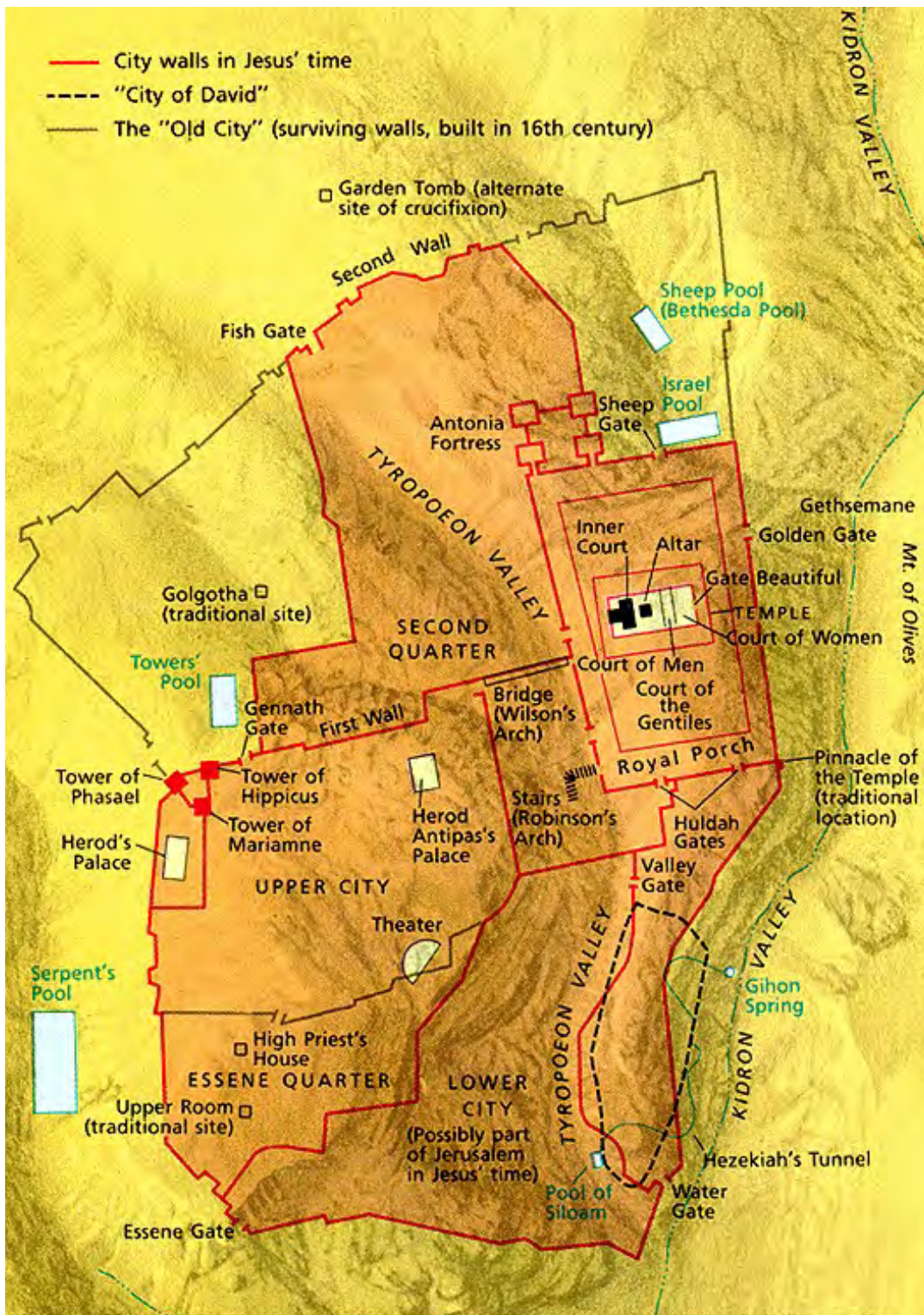


Modern Walls

AD 70

# Jerusalem

23



- Disadvantages

- Advantages

- Stages

- Significance

- Jewish

- Christian

- Muslim

- All Nations

# What was Israel's Attitude about the Nations?



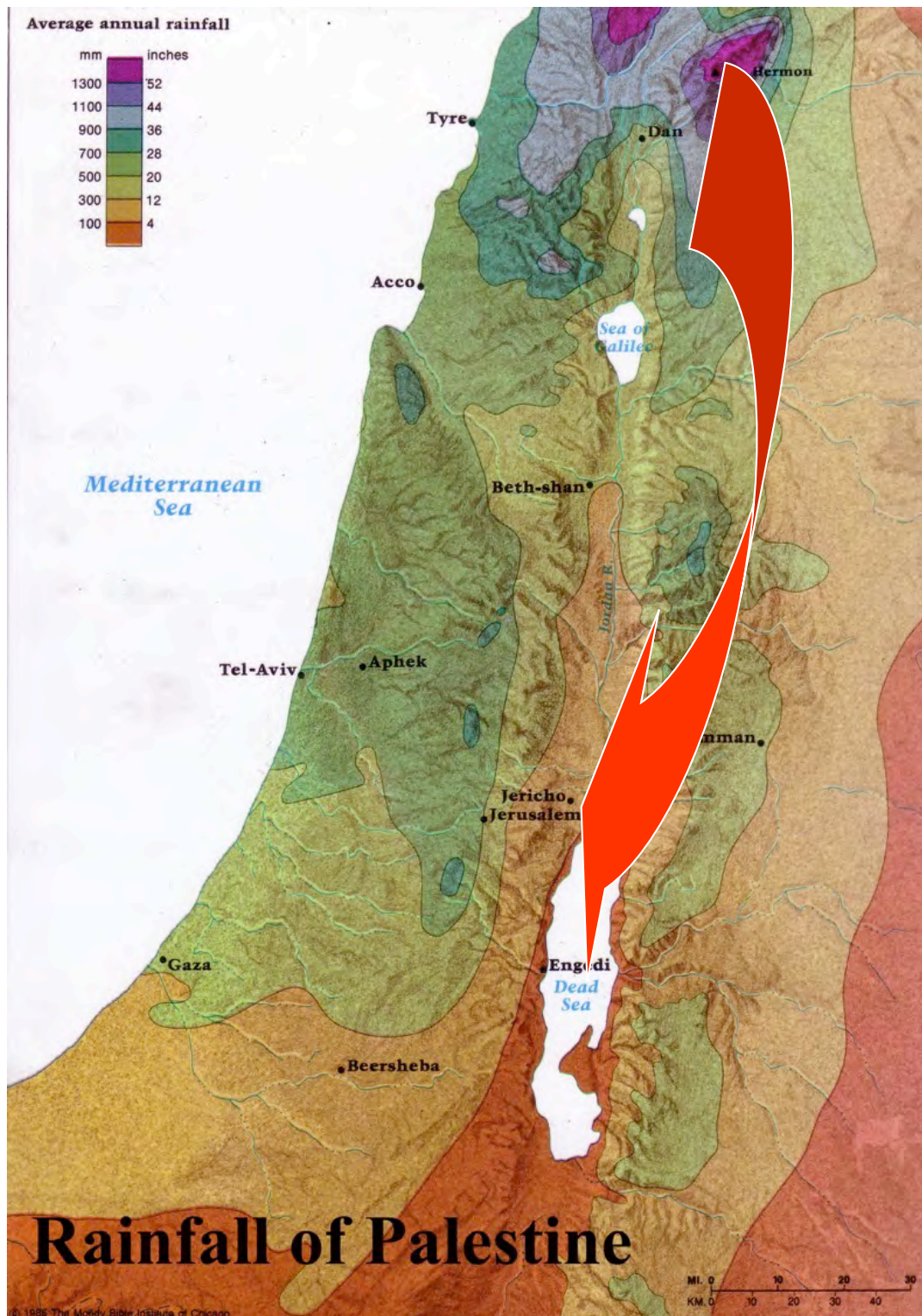
# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Israel vs. Other Nations

“There are ten degrees of holiness. The land of Israel is holier than any other land... in that from it they may bring the Firstfruits and the Two Loaves...”

10th Most Holy Place





- Harvested in the far north of Israel
- Brought down to Jerusalem

## Firstfruits: Wave Sheaf Offering

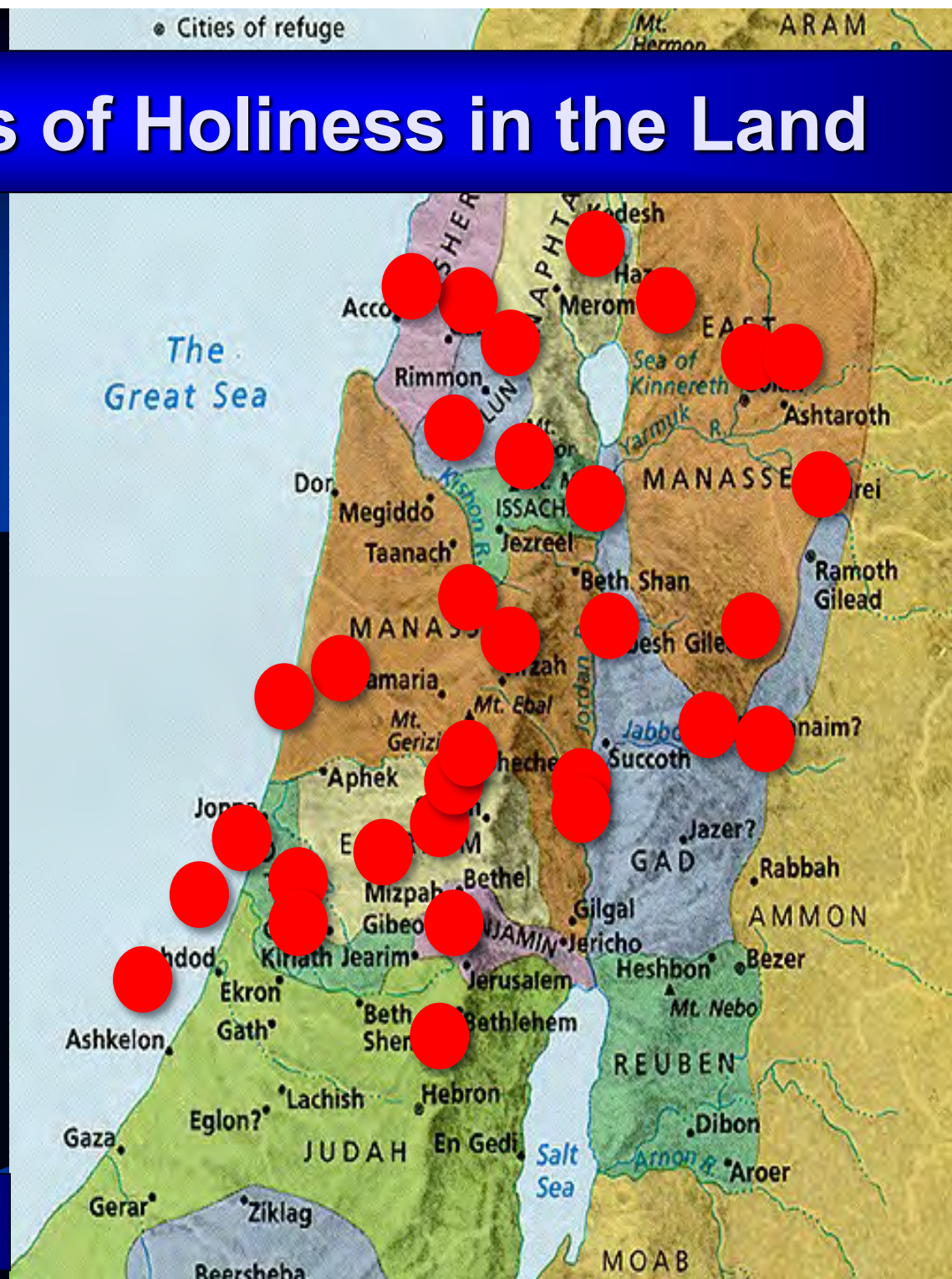
Beitzel, *Moody Atlas of Bible Lands*, 50

# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Urban vs. Rural Areas

“The walled cities are still more holy in that they must send forth the lepers [and corpses] from their midst”

9th Most Holy Place



# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Jerusalem vs. Other Cities

“Within the wall [of Jerusalem] is still more holy for there [only] they will eat [the holy food].”

8th Most Holy Place



# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Temple Mount vs. Other Sections

“No man or woman that has a flux, no menstruant, and no woman after childbirth may enter therein.”

7th Most Holy Place

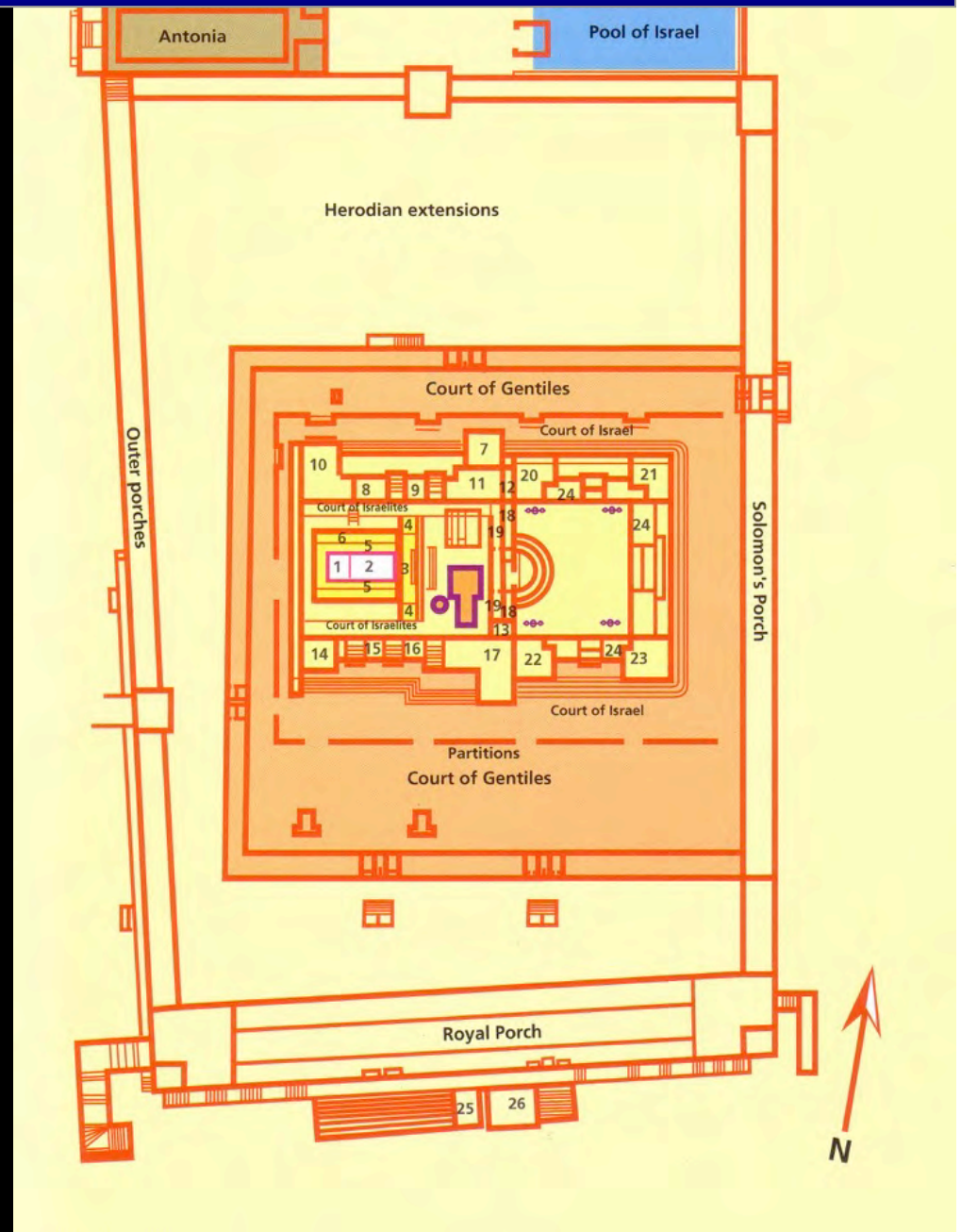


# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## The Rampart vs. the Rest of Temple Mount

“No Gentiles and  
none that have  
contracted  
uncleanness from a  
corpse may enter”

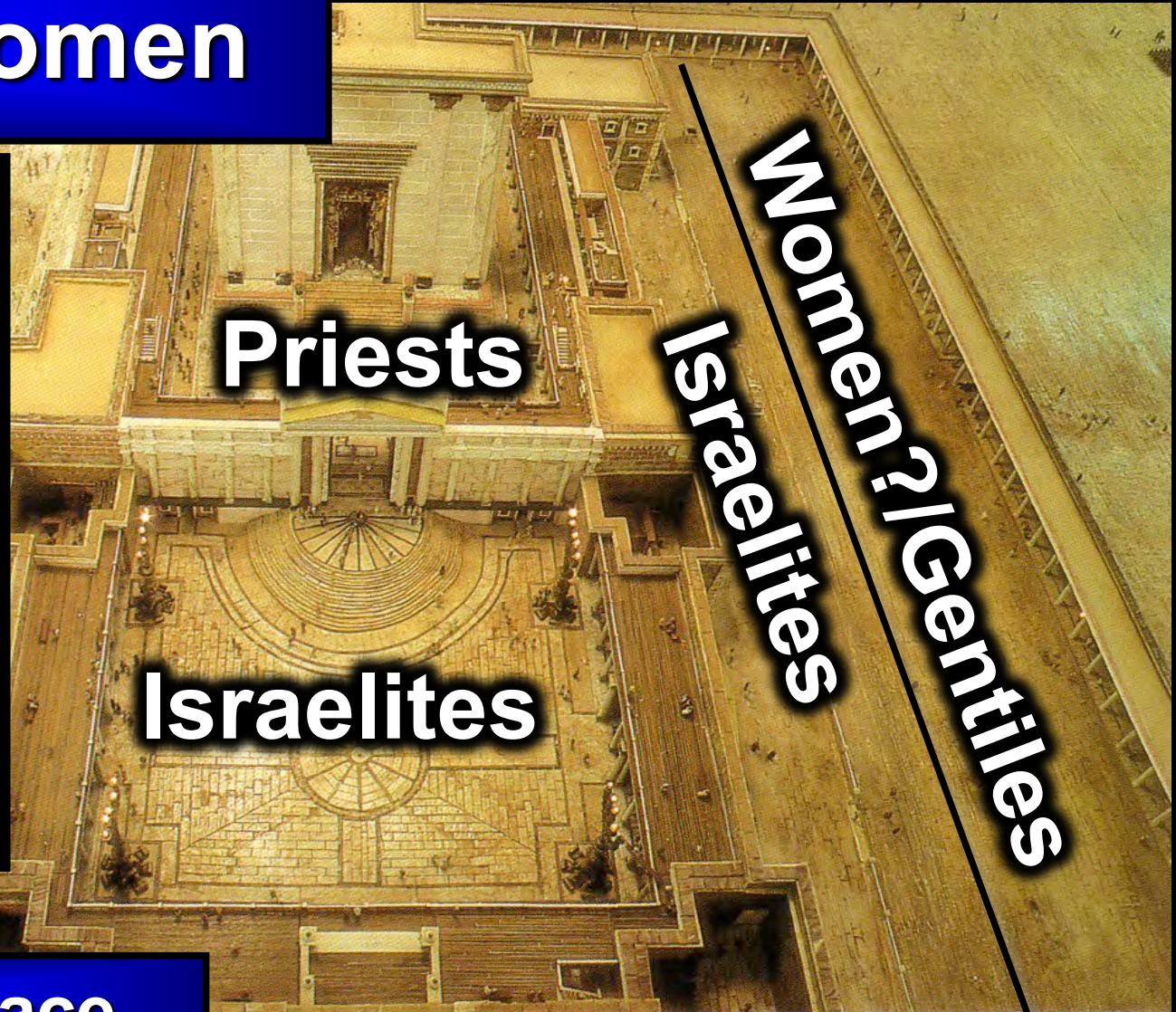
6th Most Holy Place



# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Court of Women

This closest place for women also excluded men who had immersed themselves the same day



**Priests**

**Israelites**

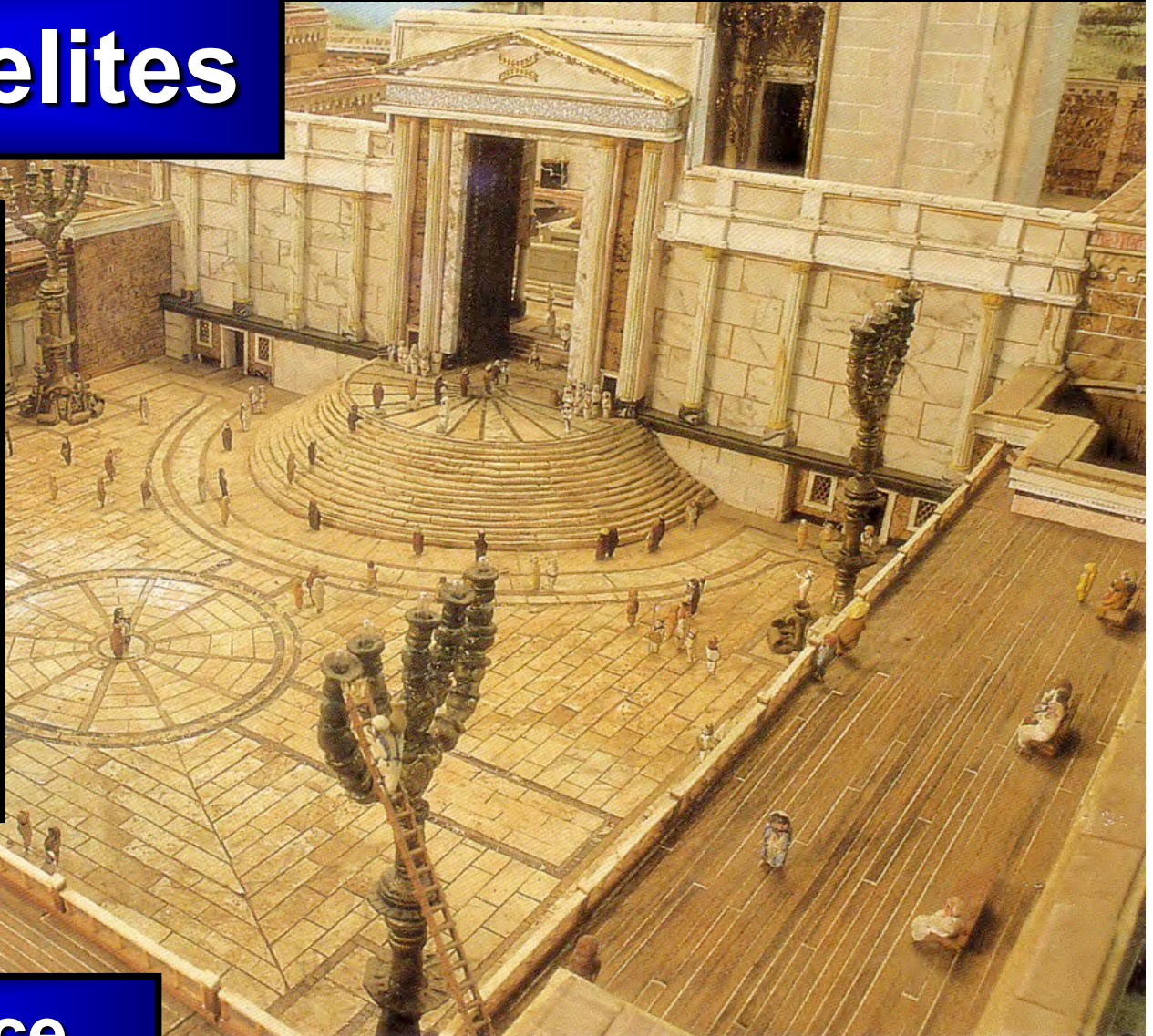
**Women?/Gentiles**

**5th Most Holy Place**

# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Court of Israelites

Only men whose atonement was complete could enter (otherwise they needed a sin offering)



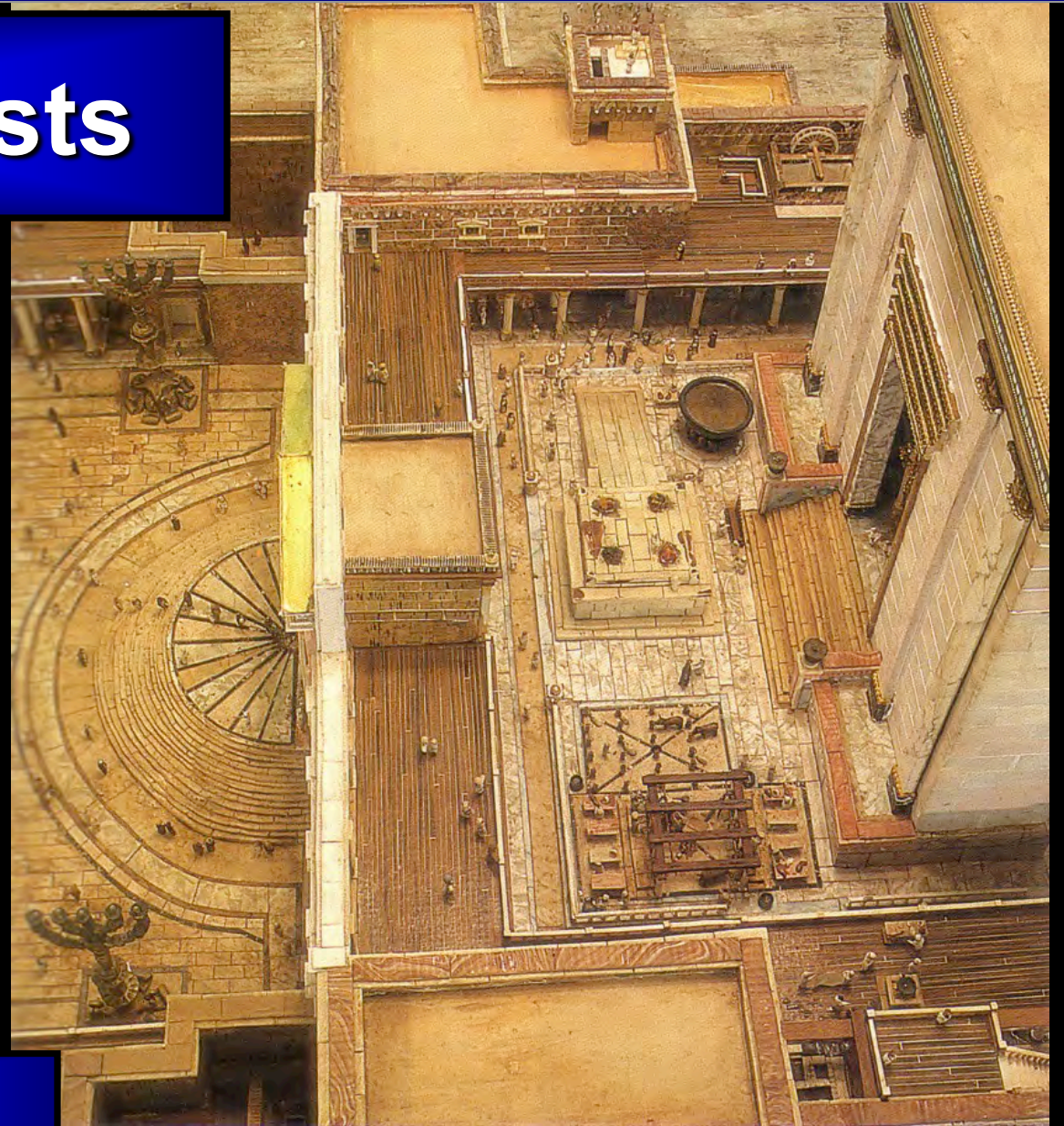
4th Most Holy Place

# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Court of Priests

Only for priests  
and men who  
“must perform the  
laying on our  
hands,  
slaughtering, and  
waving”

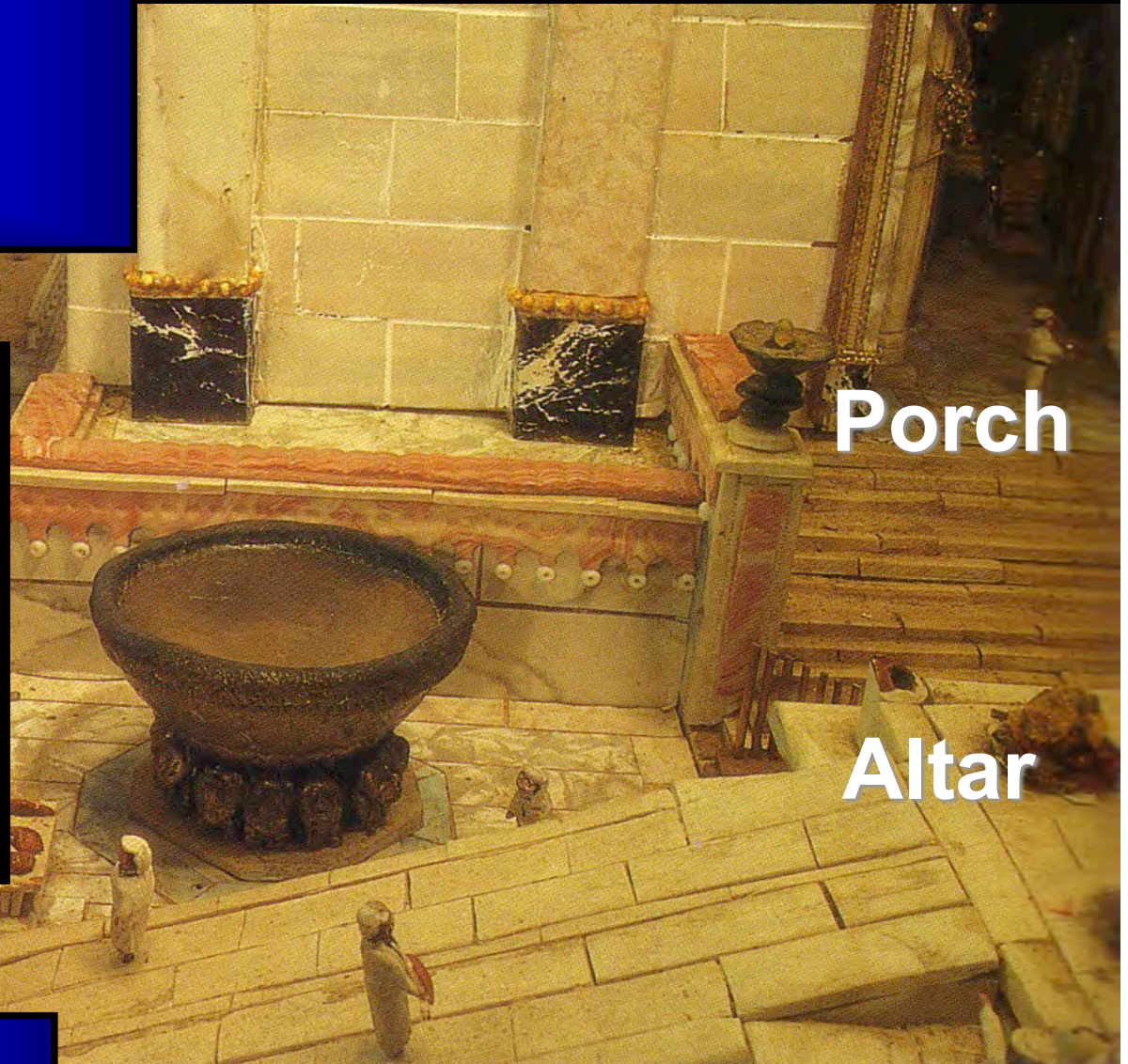
3rd Most Holy Place



# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Between Porch & Altar

Only priests without blemishes and hair tied could enter here to wash their hands and feet



Porch

Altar

2nd Most Holy Place



# The Great Gates

These lead to the temple sanctuary. Only priests with hands and feet washed could enter here.

# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## The Holy Place

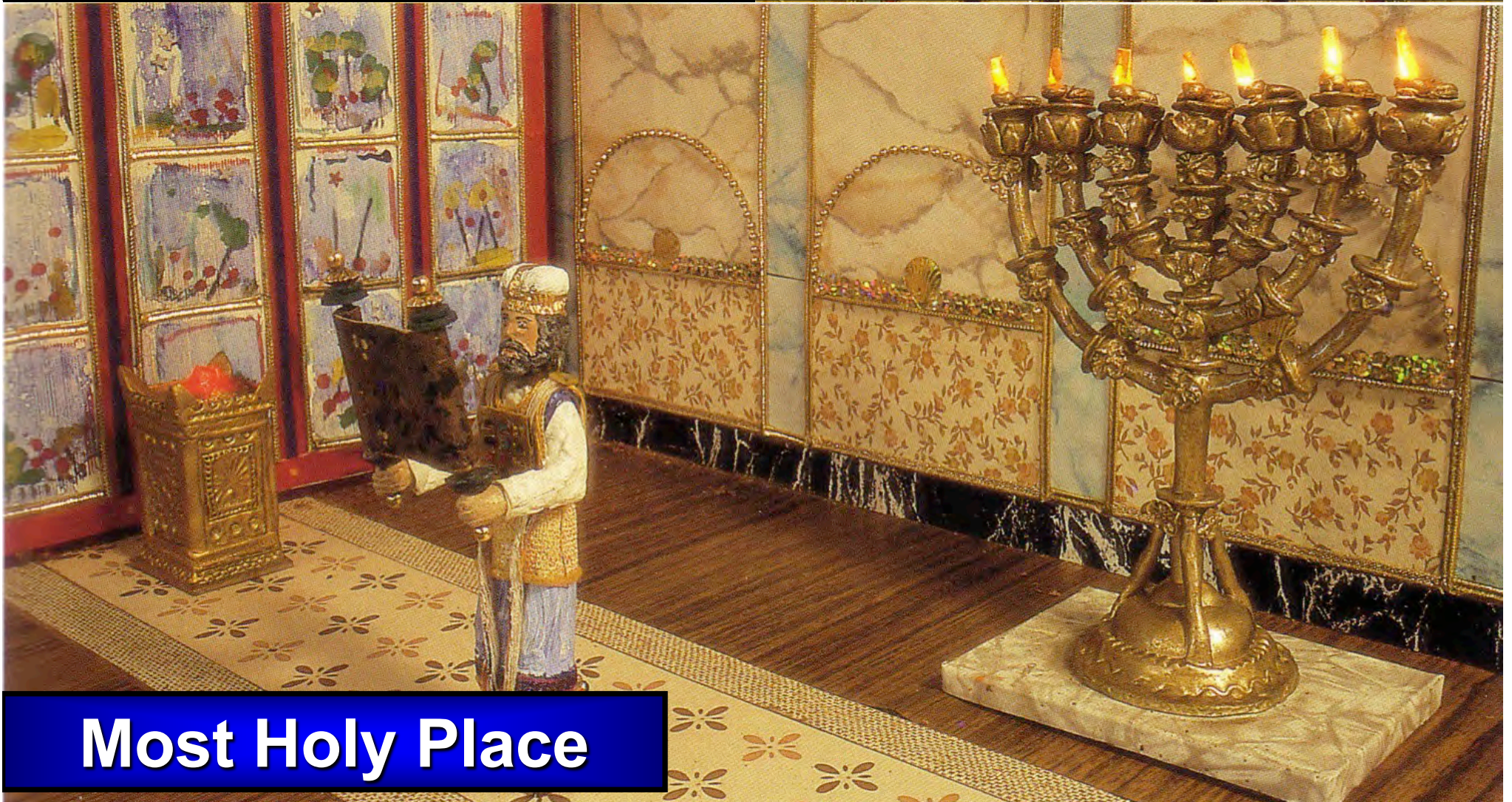
Only priests with  
hands and feet  
washed can  
enter here

Most Holy Place



# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## The Holy Place



Most Holy Place

# Ten Jewish Levels of Holiness in the Land

## Holy of Holies

Only the High Priest could enter behind the veil and only once yearly on the Day of Atonement



Holiest Place of All

## Where's the Square?

How did Leen Ritmeyer locate the original Temple Mount platform? This plan highlights the clues he used to identify each corner of the square structure. Unlike earlier researchers, who started with their understanding of where the Temple stood and then tried to outline the platform around it, Ritmeyer first assembled archaeological clues to pinpoint the square Temple platform. Only then did he venture to locate the Temple itself.

### The Telltale "Step"

(see p. 28)

Ritmeyer noted two anomalies about the bottom step of the staircase at the northwest corner of the Muslim platform: it consists of pre-Herodian building blocks and it is parallel not to the Muslim platform but to the eastern wall of the Temple Mount. Ritmeyer wondered if this step was actually part of an early wall. He also noted that a line drawn to the east from the northern edge of these blocks passes along a rock scarp (a sheared-off rock ledge) before meeting the eastern wall. The length of this line is 861 feet, equal to 500 royal cubits by the 20.67 inches-per-cubit measure. Five hundred cubits is the measurement given in an ancient Jewish source for each side of the Temple platform.

### The Northern Part of the Eastern Wall

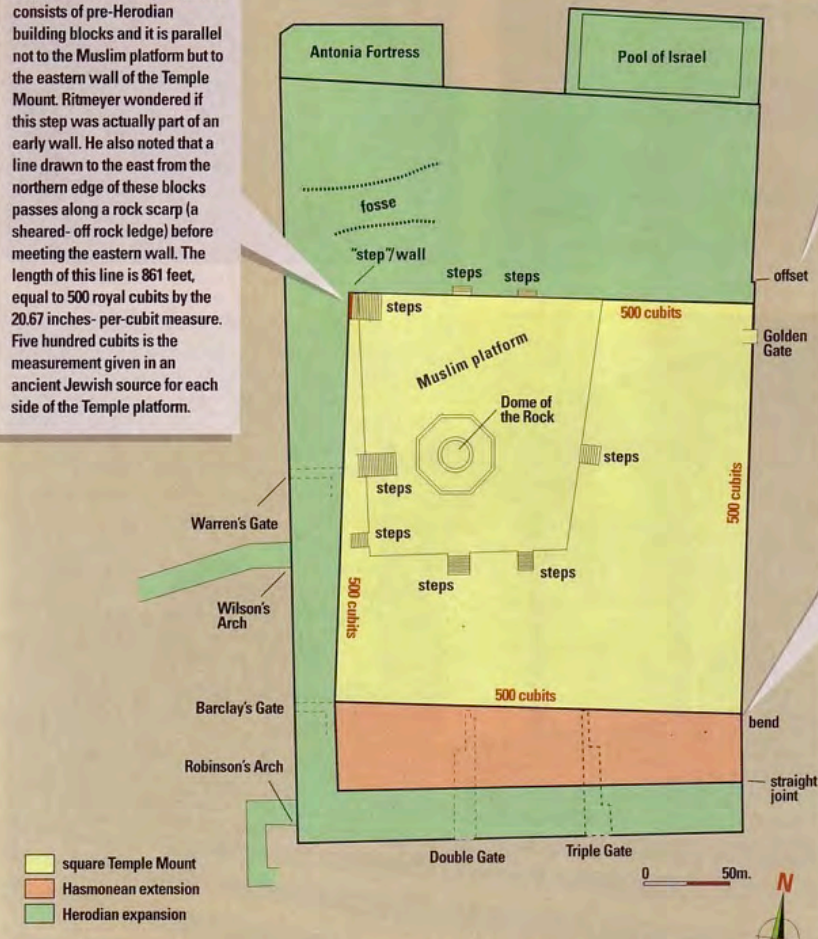
(see pp. 40-41)

Ritmeyer noticed an anomaly as well as his postulated northeast Temple Mount corner. The lowest course above ground in this area protrudes from the later and clearly different masonry above it. This protruding course ends at the point marked "offset" on the plan, north of the northeastern corner of the proposed square Temple Mount. Ritmeyer hypothesized that a defensive tower stood in the area between the northeast corner of the square Temple Mount and the offset. A comparable tower may have been attached at the northwest corner, between the "step" and the fosse, or moat.

### The Southern End of the Eastern Wall

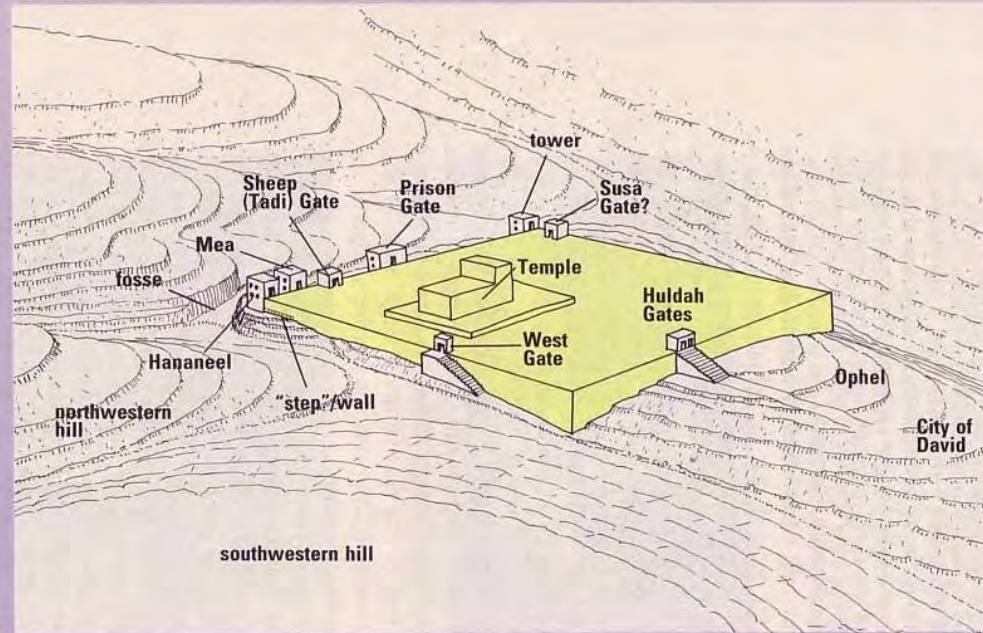
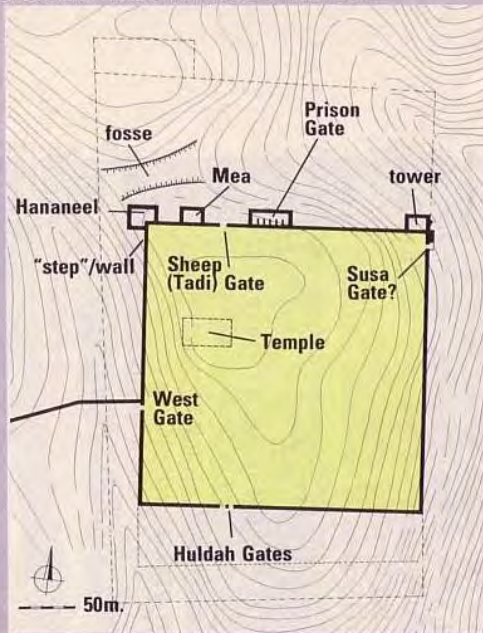
(see pp. 38-39)

A slight bend in the eastern wall helped Ritmeyer fix the southeastern corner of the square Temple Mount. The famous 19th-century explorer of Jerusalem Charles Warren recorded this bend. When Ritmeyer measured it, he found that it began exactly 500 royal cubits south of where his proposed northern wall intersects the eastern wall. Ritmeyer then drew a perpendicular line west from where the bend in the eastern wall begins and a line directly south from the "step," yielding two sides each 500 cubits long. Later expansions of this original square platform, as Ritmeyer reconstructs them, are shown on pages 30-31; his placement of the Temple appears on page 44.



Leen Ritmeyer,  
 “Locating the Original  
 Temple Mount,”  
*Biblical Archaeology*  
 Review 18  
 (March/April 1992): 27

ORIGINAL SQUARE TEMPLE MOUNT

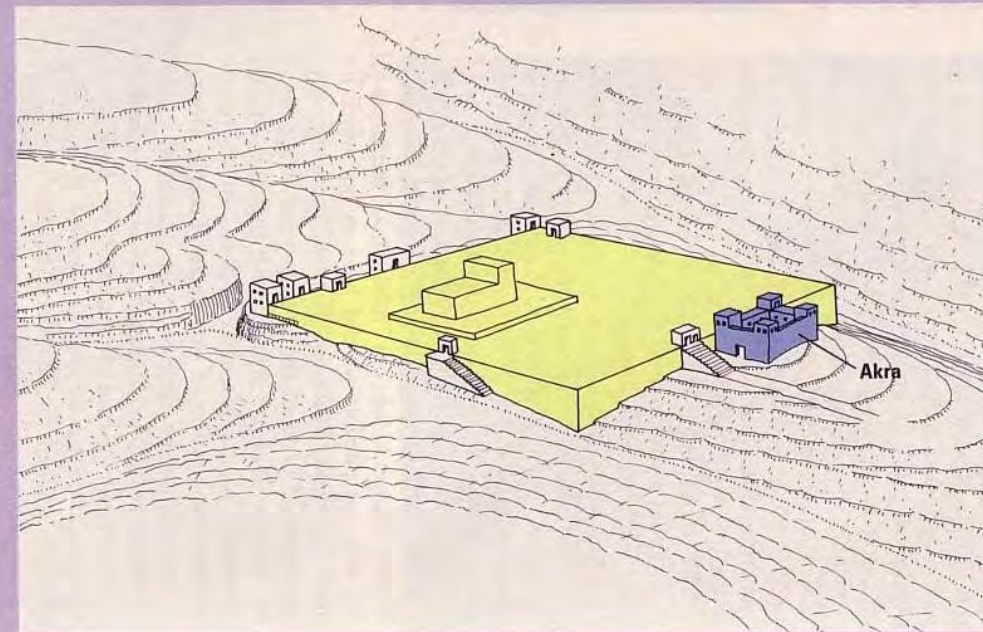
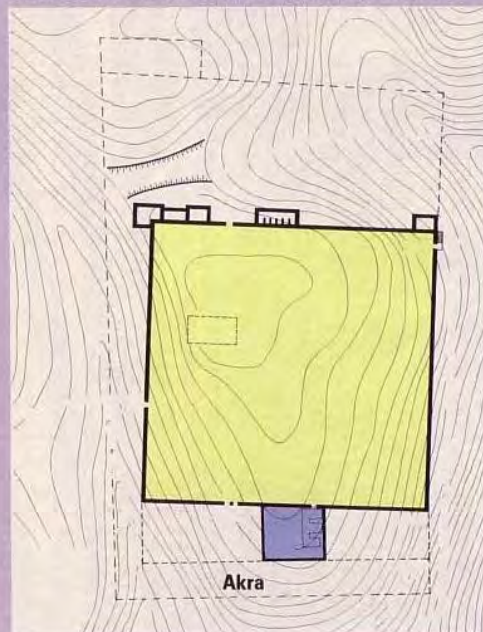


The four major stages of development of the Temple Mount platform are shown here from two views—as plans seen from above and as perspective reconstructions viewed from the southwest.

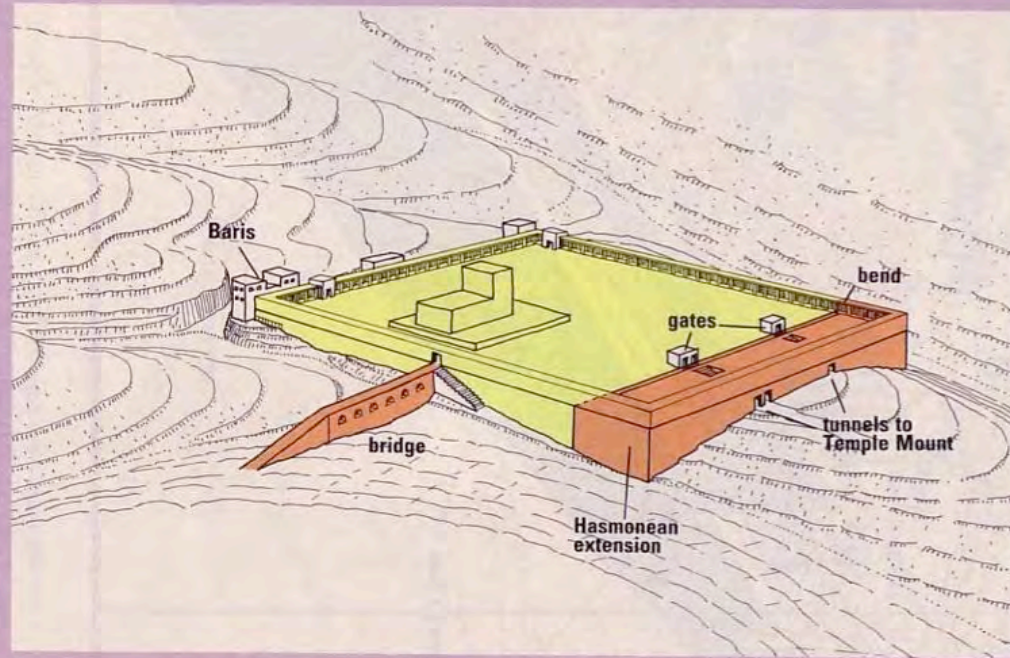
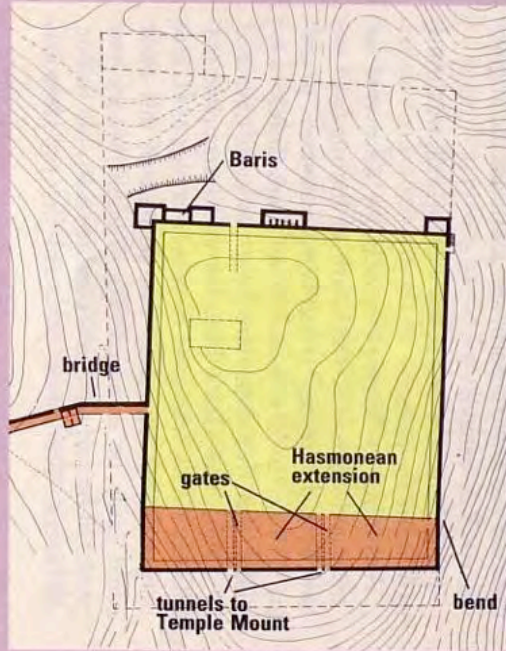
SQUARE TEMPLE MOUNT

This square platform (top drawings) supported the First Temple, which was destroyed by the Babylonian ruler Nebuchadnezzar in 587/586 B.C. and then rebuilt by Nehemiah and the returnees from the Babylonian Exile in about 444 B.C. According to Nehemiah 3:1 and 12:39, the towers of Hananeel and Mea stood at the northwest corner of the Temple Mount. The Sheep Gate and Prison Gate were to the east of them. As recorded in Jeremiah 31:38 and Zechariah 14:10, Hananeel existed already at the end of the First Temple period, which also indicates that the square Temple Mount existed then as well. After the destruction of Hananeel and Mea in 587/586 B.C., they were rebuilt and called Baris by the Hasmonean ruler John Hyrcanus I (134-104 B.C.). According to Josephus the Baris stood on the north side of the Temple, apparently on the same spot where previously the towers of Hananeel and Mea stood. This Baris was destroyed in 63 B.C. by Pompey. Herod rebuilt Baris between 37 and 31 B.C. (that is, before he enlarged the Temple Mount) and renamed it Antonia after his patron Mark Antony. This original Antonia was located therefore at the northwest

SELEUCID ADDITION OF AKRA (186 B.C.)



## HASMONEAN EXTENSION (141 B.C.)



corner of the square Temple Mount. Herod later built another fortress, also Antonia, at the northwestern corner of his enlarged Mount.

25

## SELEUCID ADDITION

In 186 B.C. the Seleucid ruler of Syria built the Akra (drawings second from top), a fortress intended to control the population of Jerusalem. It adjoined the southern side of the Temple Platform.

## HASMONEAN EXTENSION

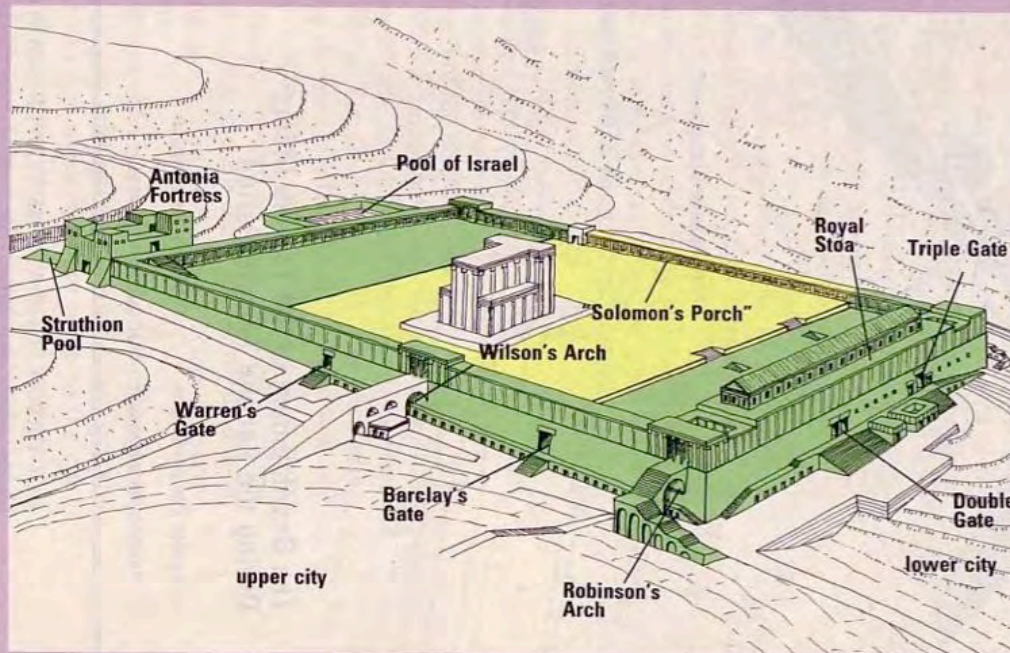
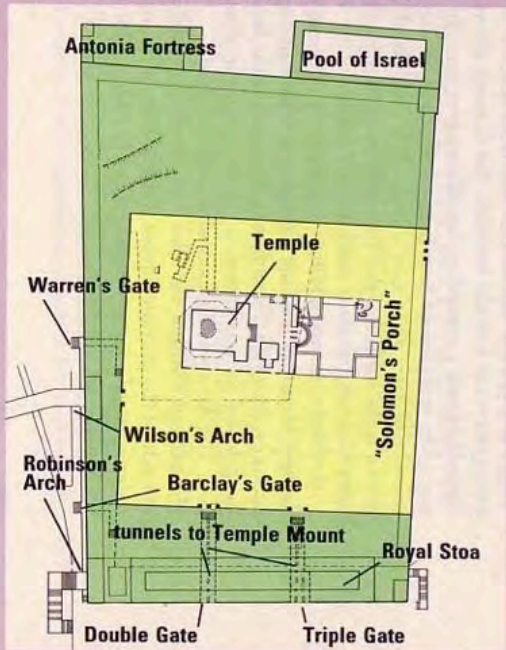
The Hasmoneans extended the platform (drawings third from top) along the southern end of the Temple Mount in 141 B.C., building atop the dismantled Akra fortress. A pair of tunnels that would later be known as the Double and Triple Gate passageways were built at the south, leading up to the Mount.

## HERODIAN EXPANSION

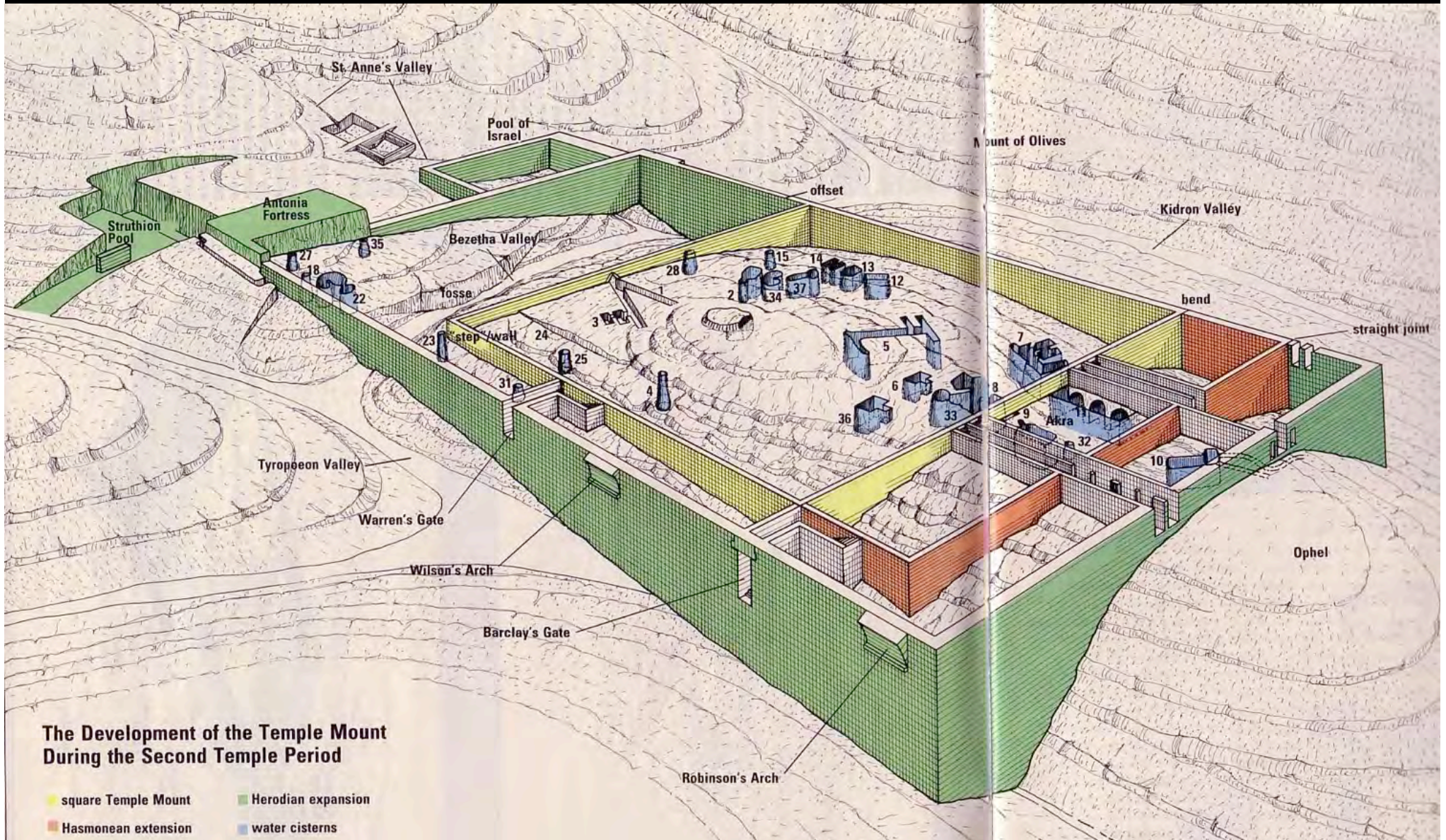
The last and most extensive expansion of the Temple Mount (bottom drawings) occurred under King Herod (37-4 B.C.), who enlarged the Mount on the north and west and even further to the south.

At the northwest corner of the newly expanded platform, Herod built the Antonia fortress to defend the Temple precincts. The north side of the Temple was most vulnerable to attack because it did not have a valley to hamper assaults, as did the other three sides. Because the eastern edge of the Temple Mount drops off steeply into the Kidron valley, no extension was ever made on that side.

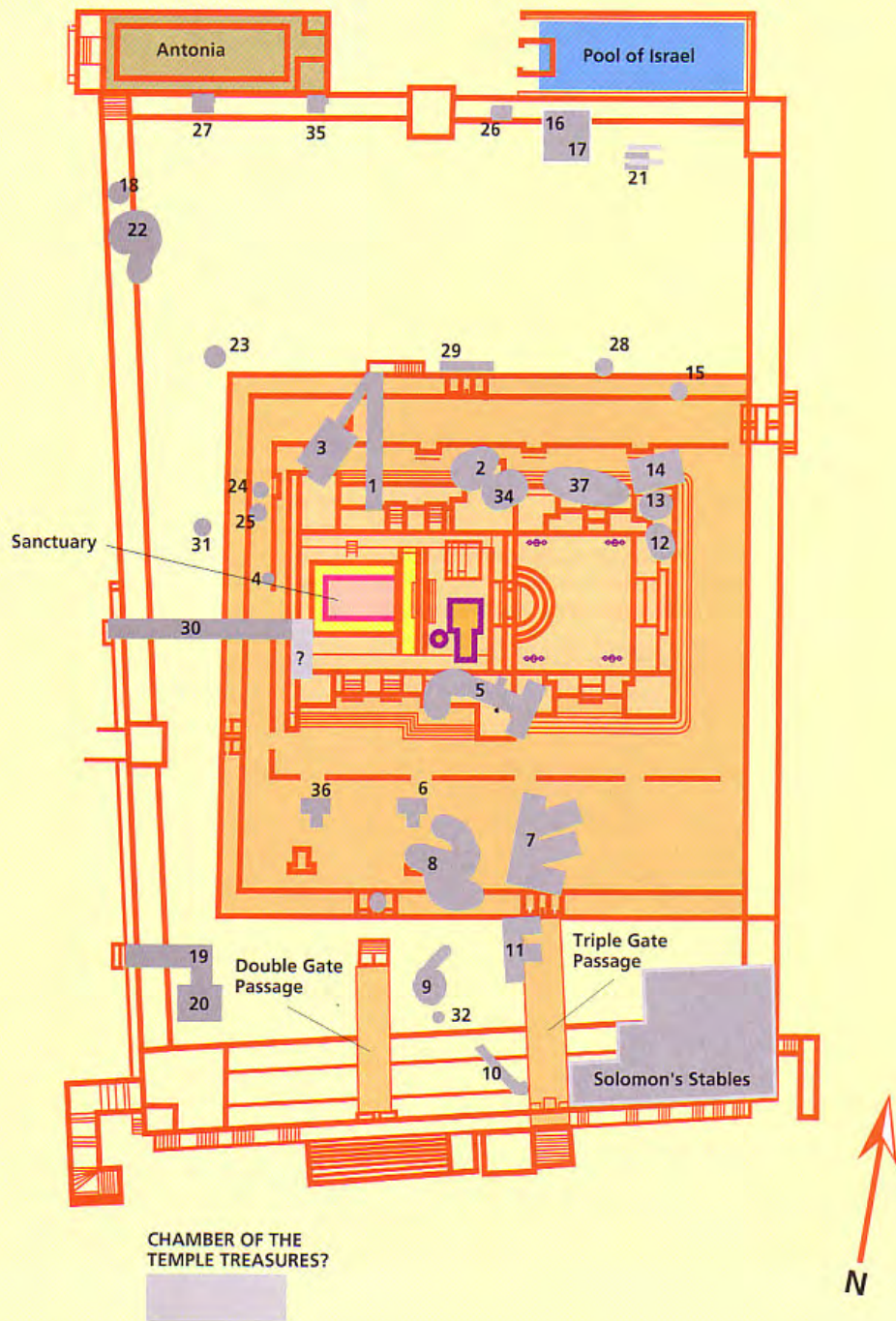
## HERODIAN EXPANSION (19-11 B.C.)



# Temple Mount Development



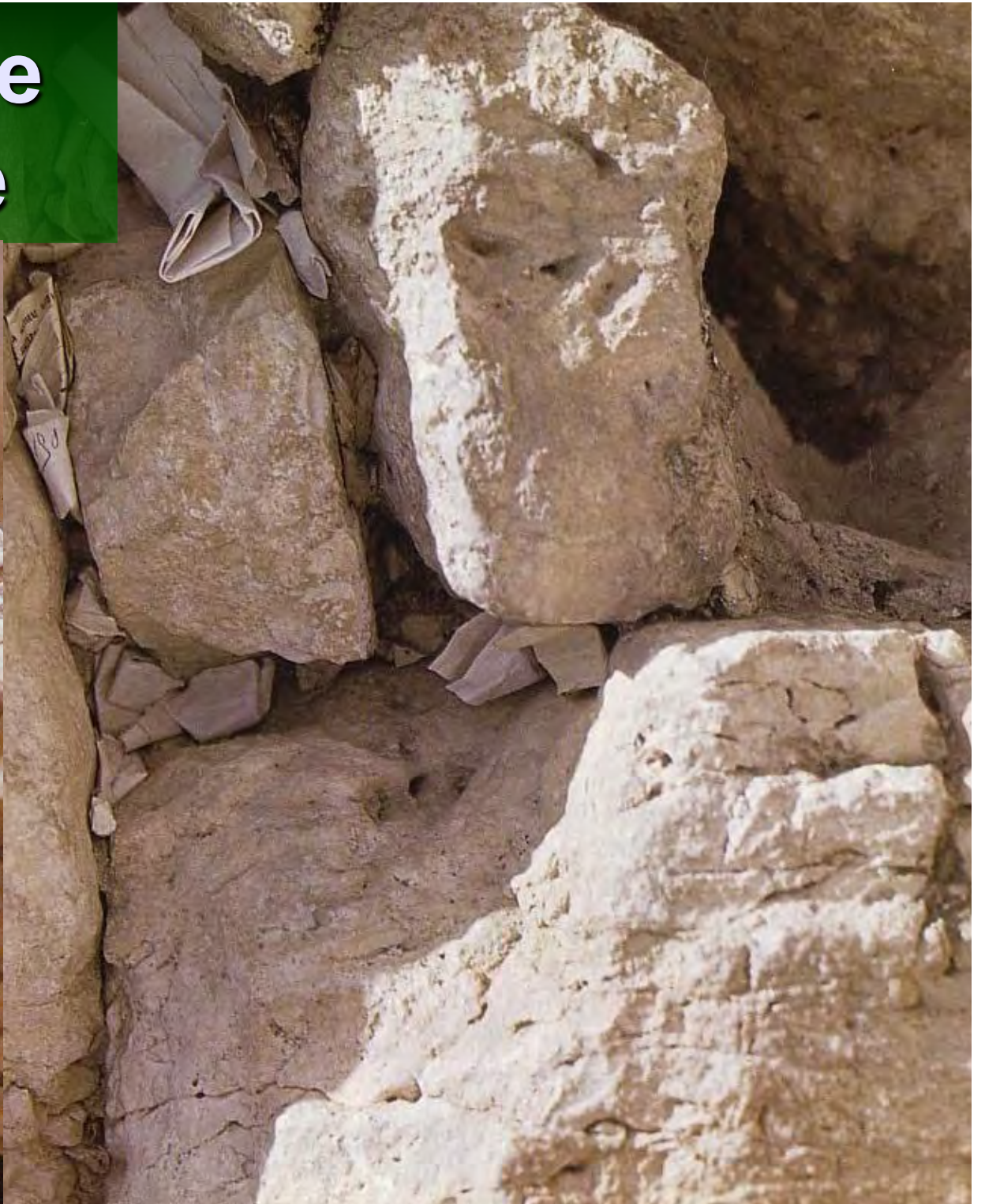
# Underground Chambers of the Temple



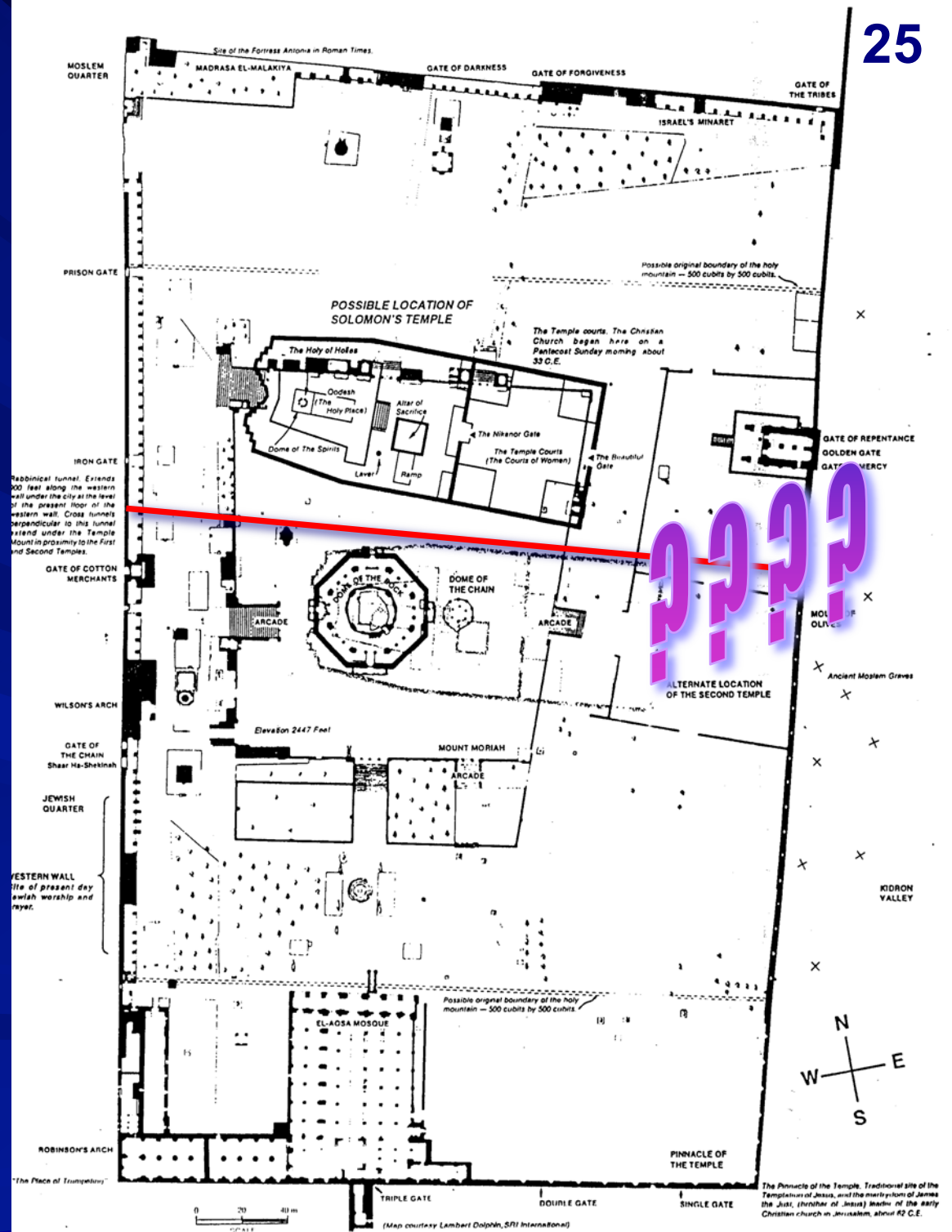
# Jewish Western Wall



# Prayers for the Third Temple



# Modern Temple Mount



2001

# Jerusalem Today



## THEN

- 1 Golgotha** Reputed site of Jesus' crucifixion and tomb
- 2 Wealthy residential area** Luxurious two-story houses
- 3 West side of Temple Mount** Huge platform built by Herod
- 4 Main entrance** Staircase and passageways to Temple Mount
- 5 Beautiful Gate** Where Jesus may have entered the city

## NOW

- Church of the Holy Sepulcher** First built ca. A.D. 326
- Jewish Quarter** Restored after the 1967 war
- Western (Wailing) Wall** Remains are an important Jewish shrine
- Al-Aqsa Mosque** One of Islam's largest and holiest mosques
- Golden Gate** Blocked site where believers expect Messiah to enter

# Antichrist will make a 7-year treaty with Israel



This will likely enable the rebuilding of the Jerusalem temple (Third Temple Era)

# Jewish Hope of Resurrection

Jews buried on the Mt. of Olives hope to be the first to enter the Eastern Gate with Messiah when He comes





# First to Rise?

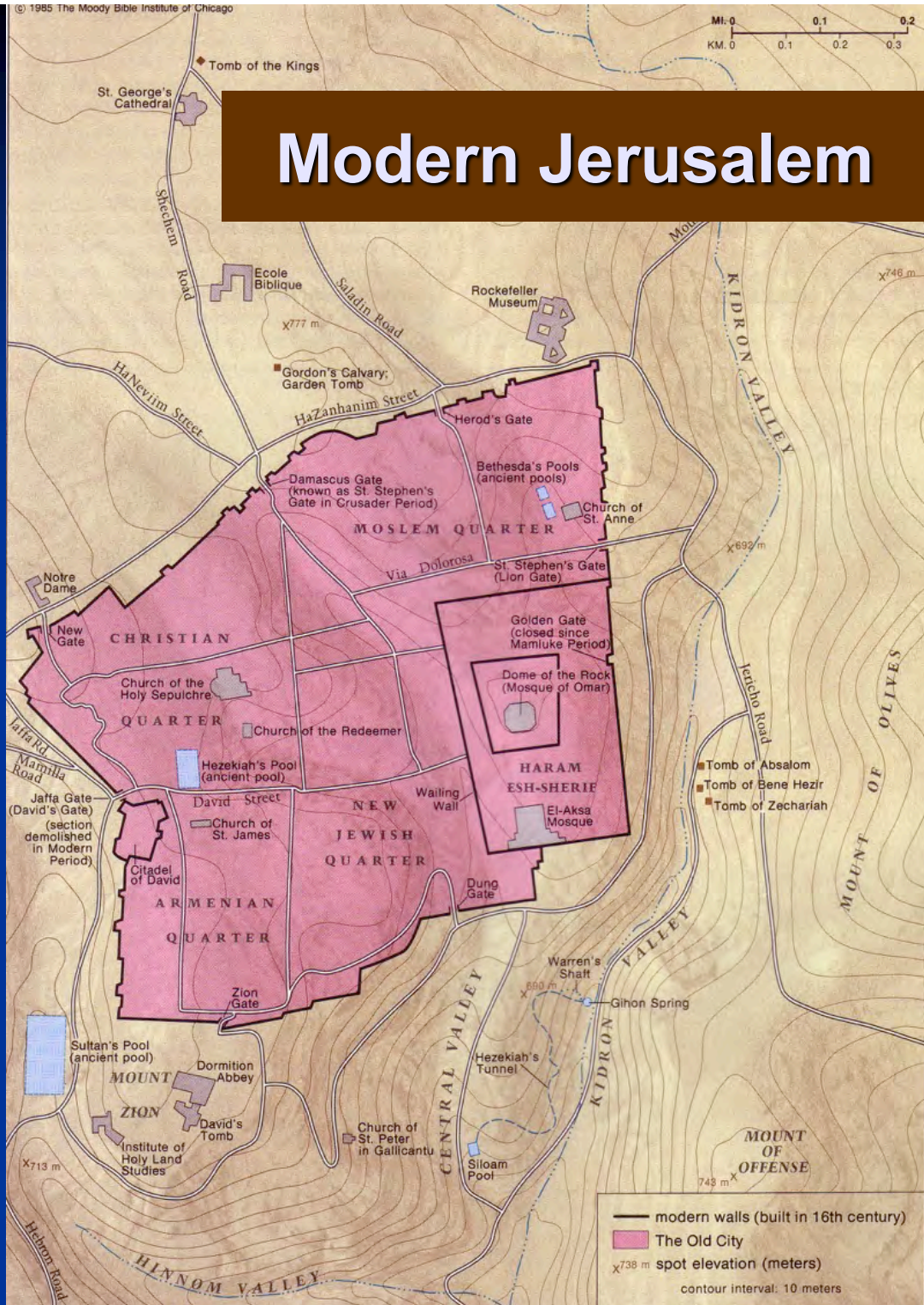
Peace reigns on the Mount of Olives, where Jewish tombs share a hillside with Christian and Muslim cemeteries—although they, too, play a part in

the battle for Jerusalem. Tombs are often destroyed when the city changes hands; 50,000 Jewish graves were defaced here during Jordanian rule.

# Muslims Sealed the Eastern Gate



# Modern Jerusalem



## NEW TESTAMENT JERUSALEM



Mark 14:32

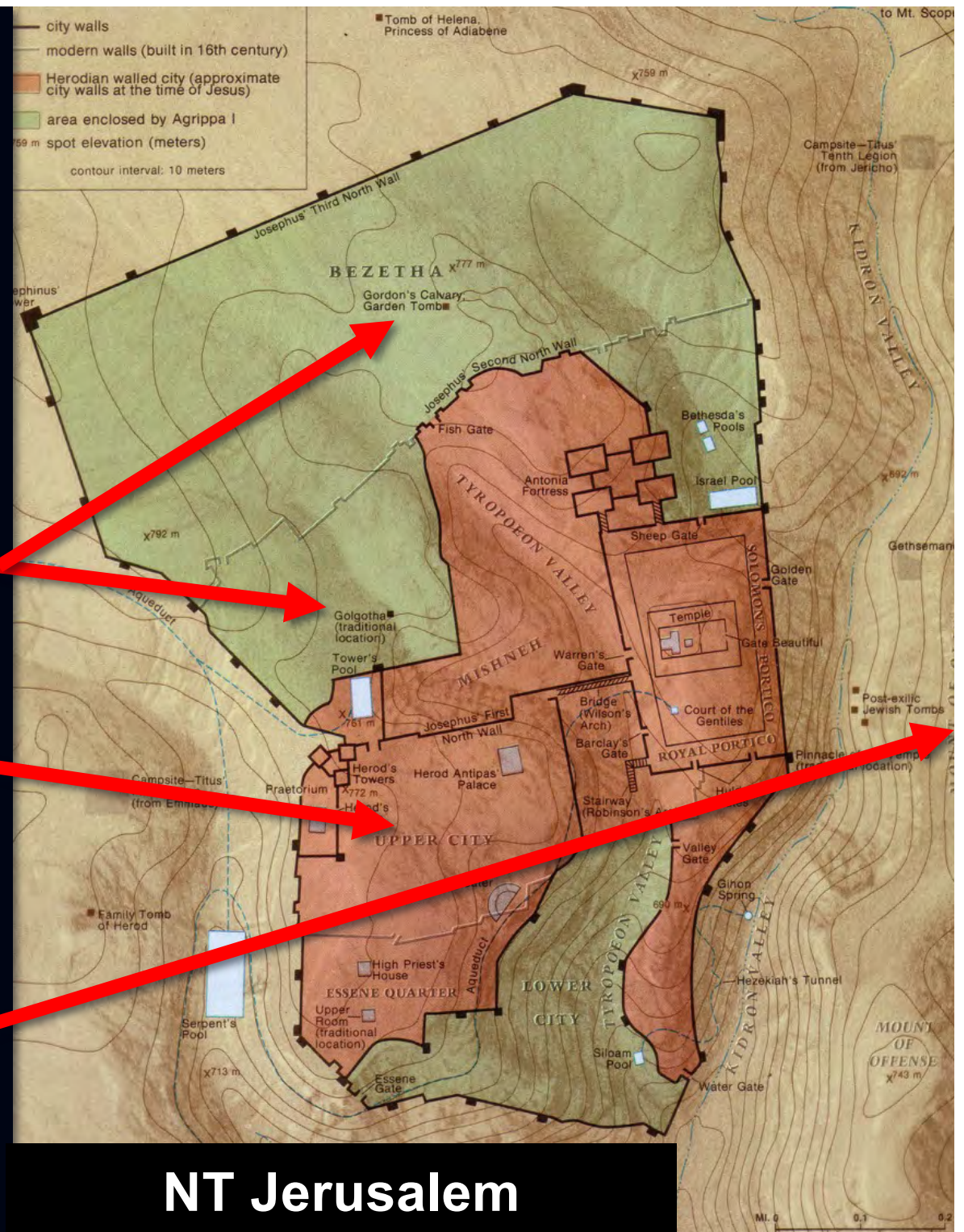
“And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray'” (ESV)

# Gethsemane

- This cave lay within a garden on the Mount of Olives across from the Temple Mount

# Significance to Christians

- Christ's Death
- Resurrection
- Church Born
- Mother Church
- Christ's Return



NT Jerusalem

# Muslim Control

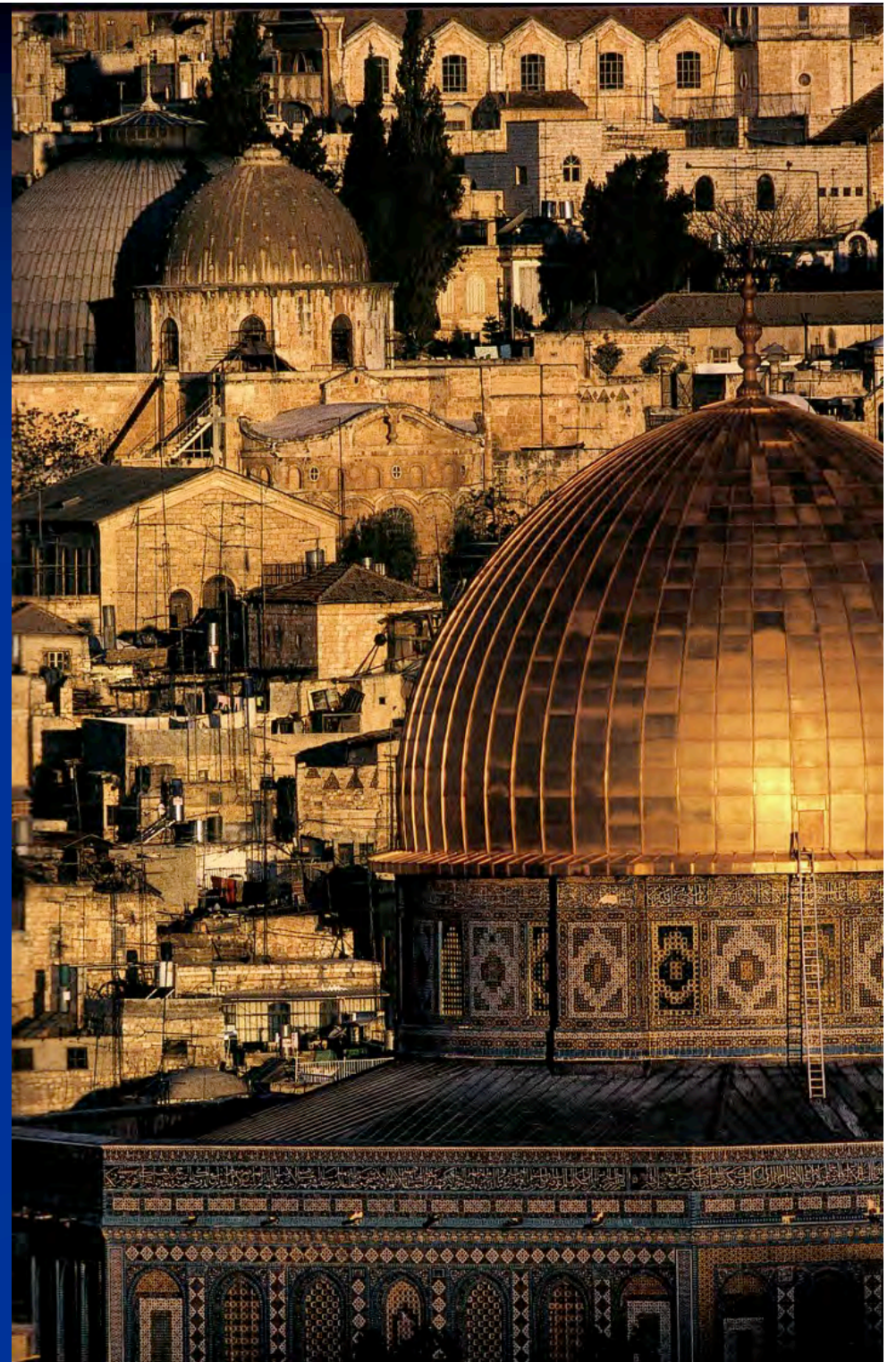


**Mosque of Omar  
(Dome of the Rock)**



**Al-Aksa Mosque**

# A Dome to Outshine the Dome

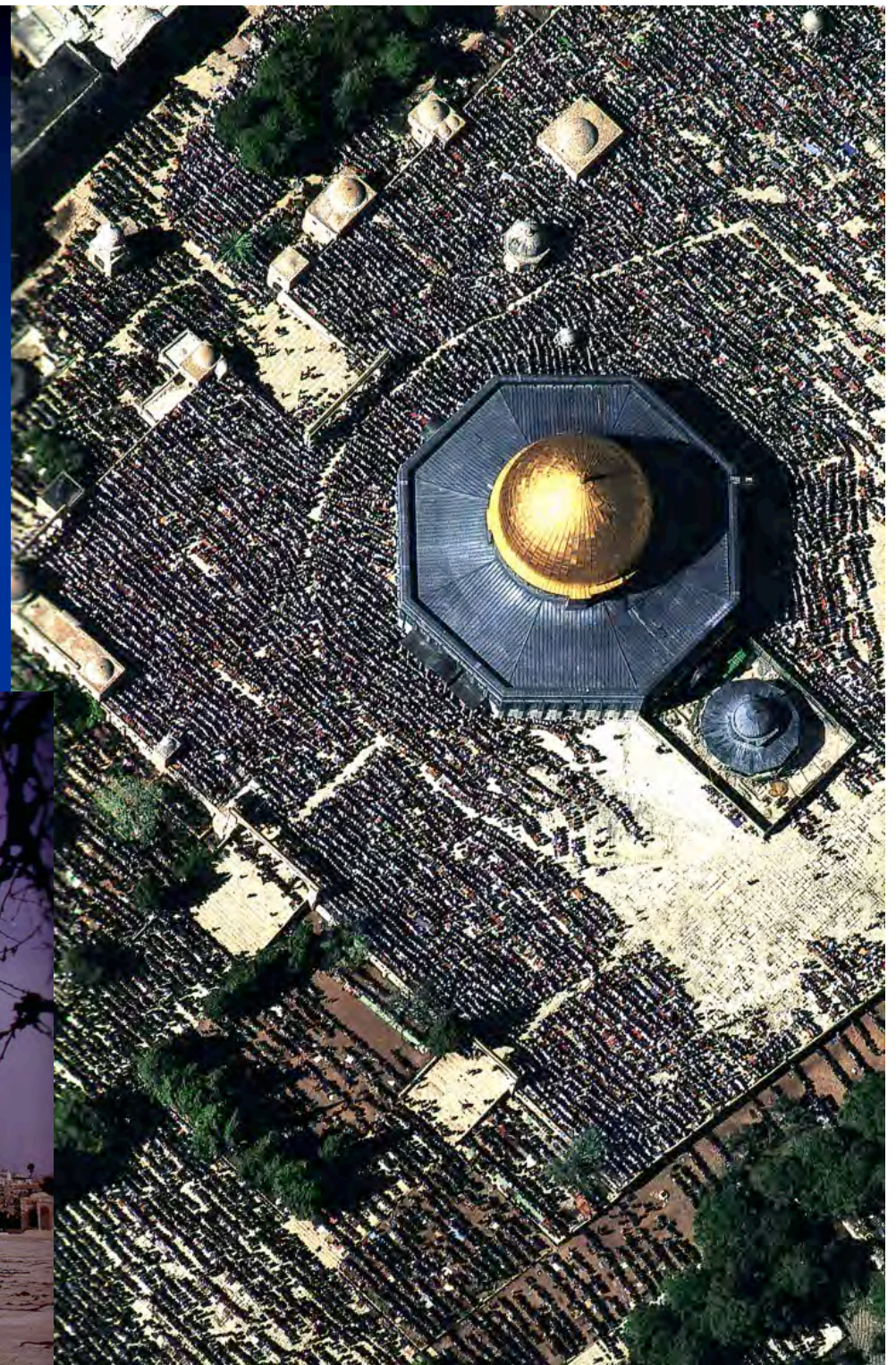


**SACRED STONE:  
The Dome of the Rock  
celebrates a union with God**



**The Rock Inside**

# Muslim Prayers at the Dome



# POPULATION DISTRIBUTION



# Present Jerusalem Population

- West = Jews
- East = Arabs

# Metropolitan Jerusalem

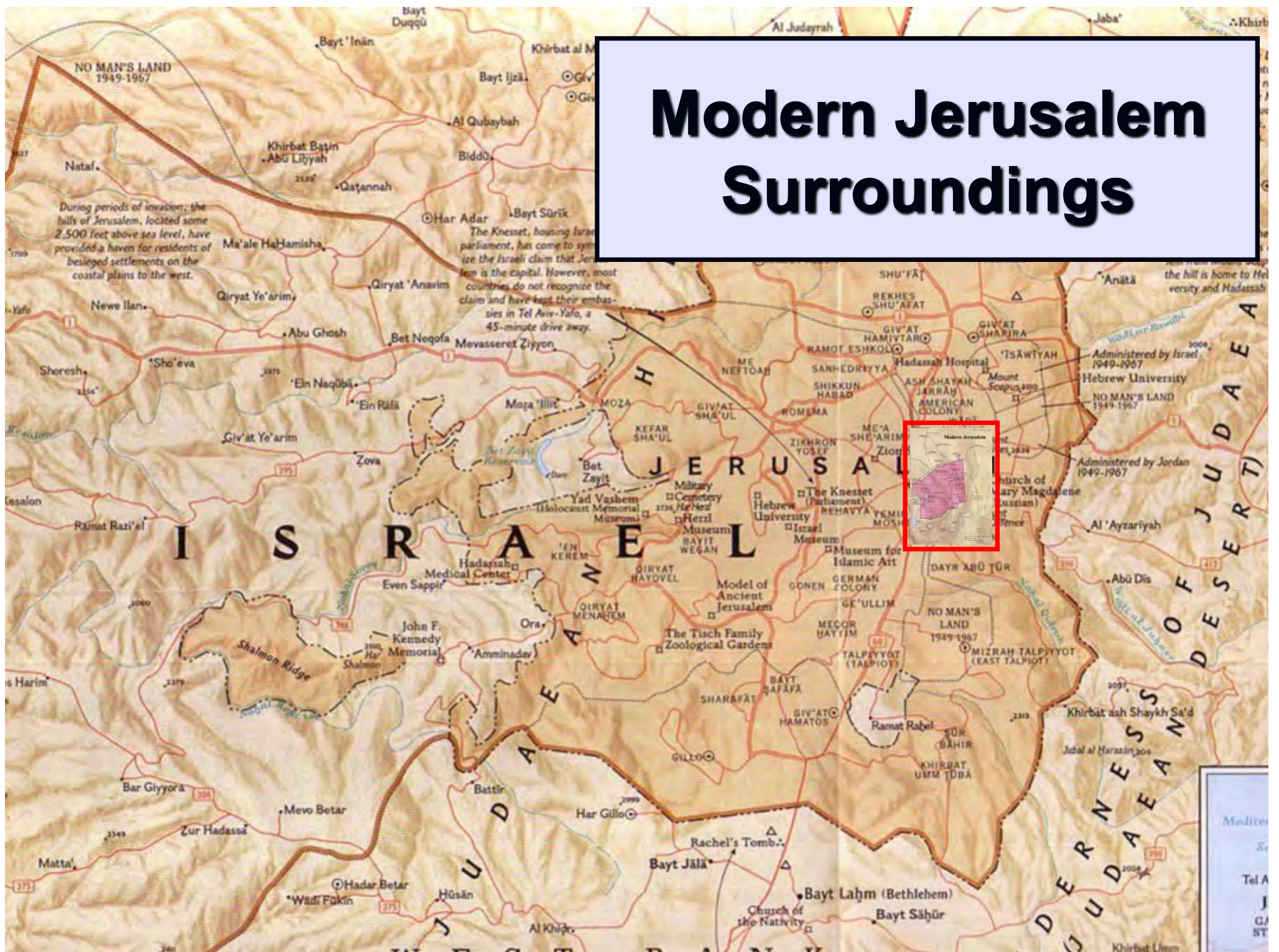


# Jerusalem (2002)

Foundation for Middle East Peace

(March 2002)

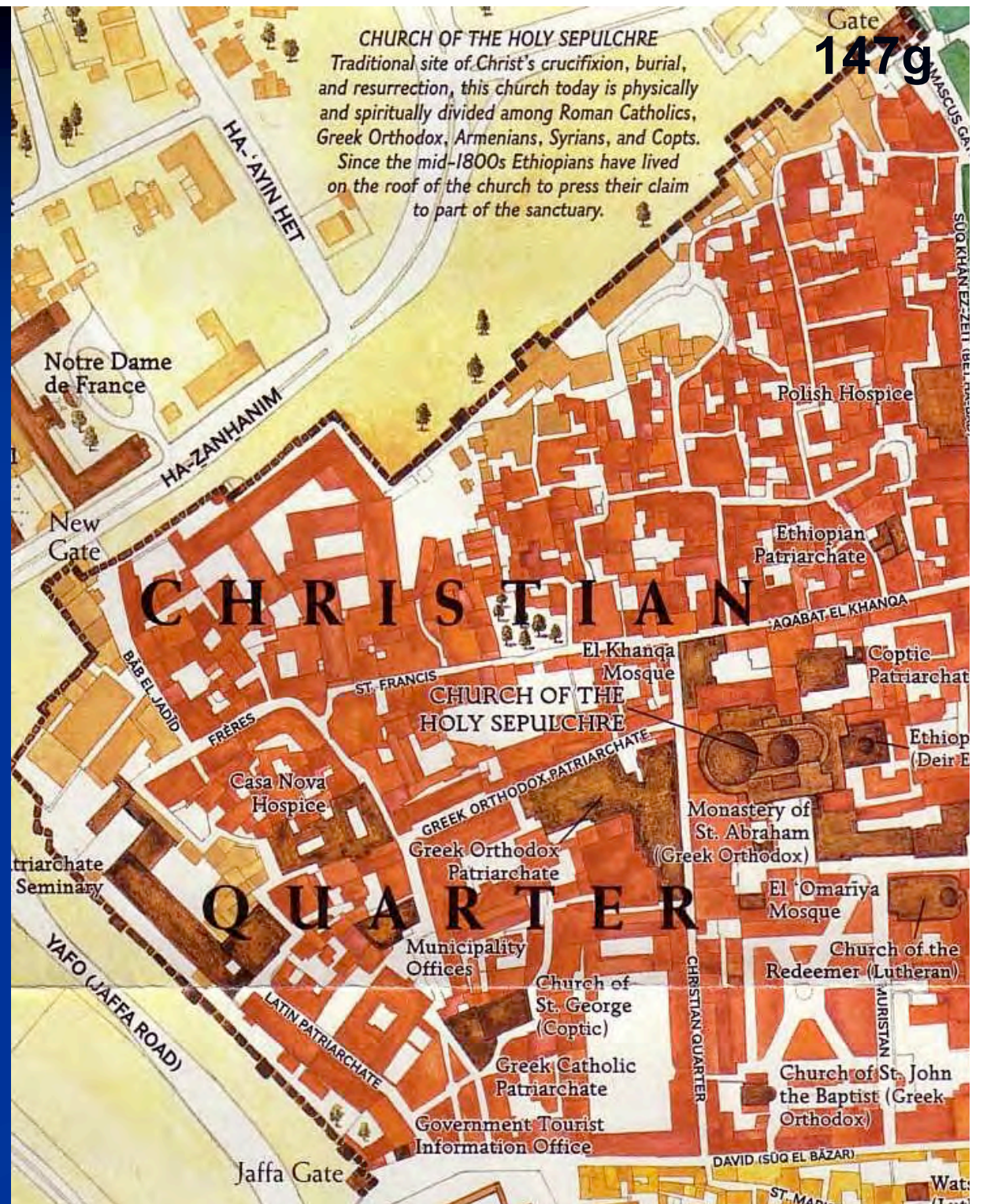
# Modern Jerusalem Surroundings







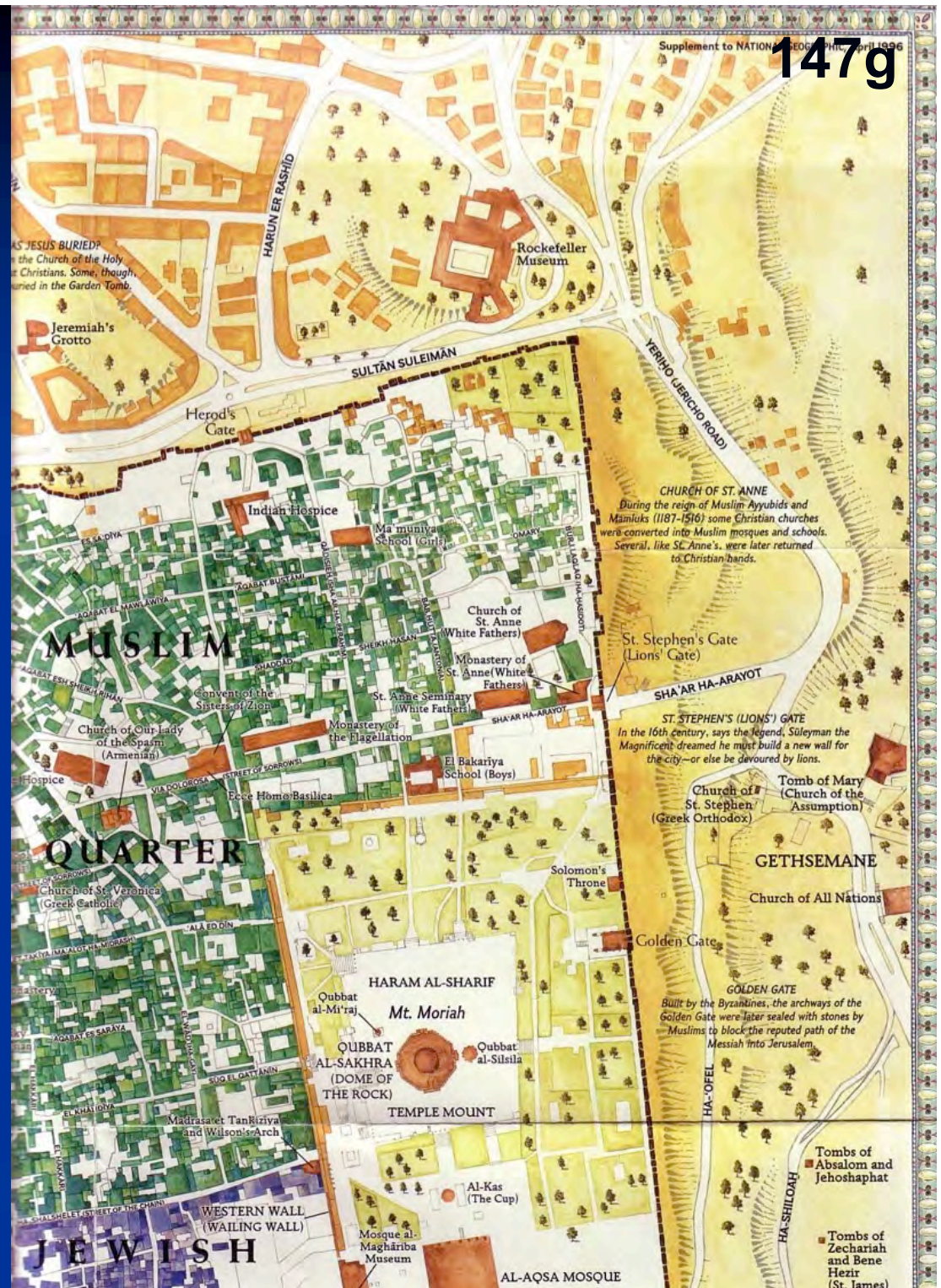
# Christian Quarter



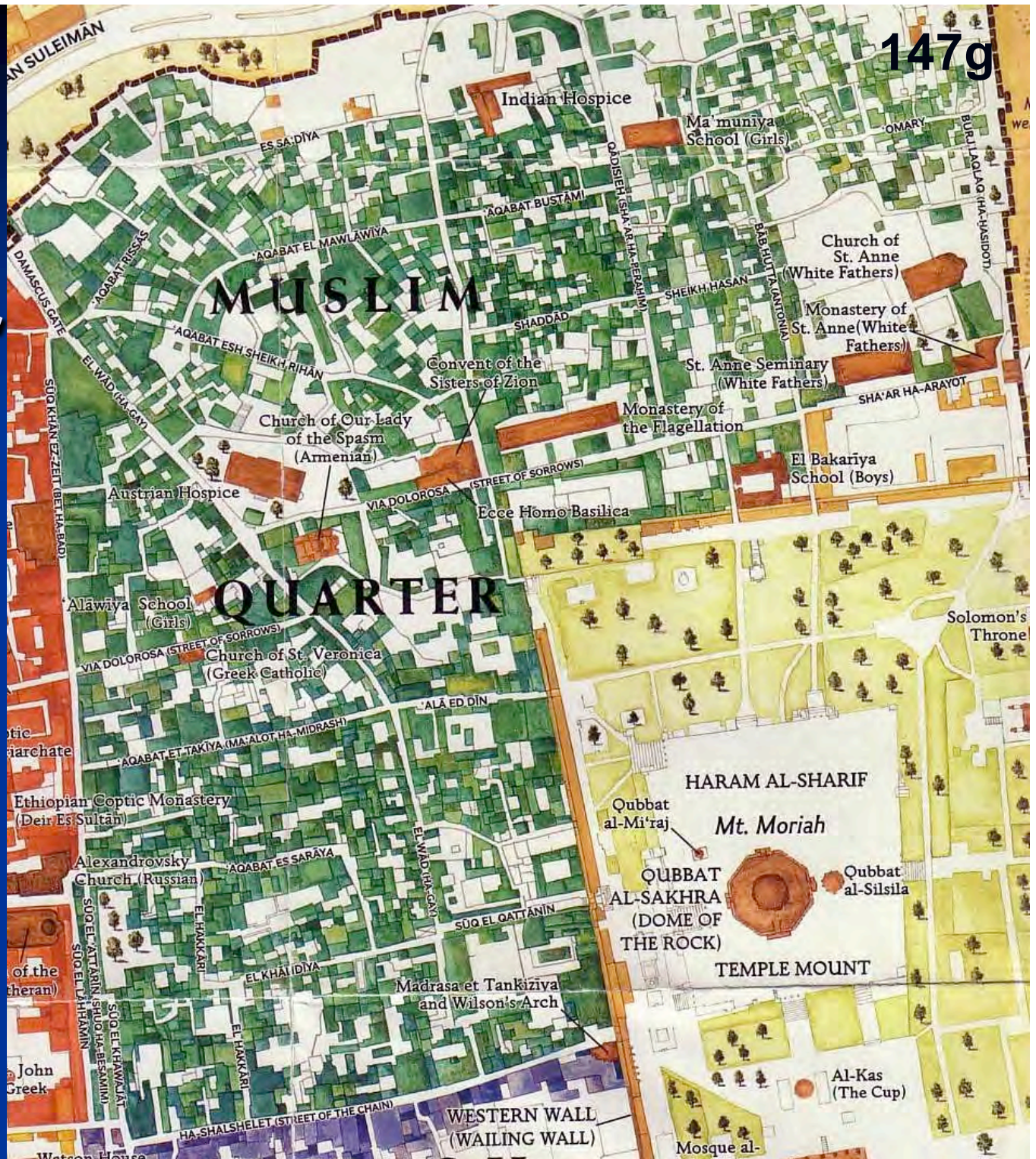


# A New Model of Temple Mount

# Muslim Quarter

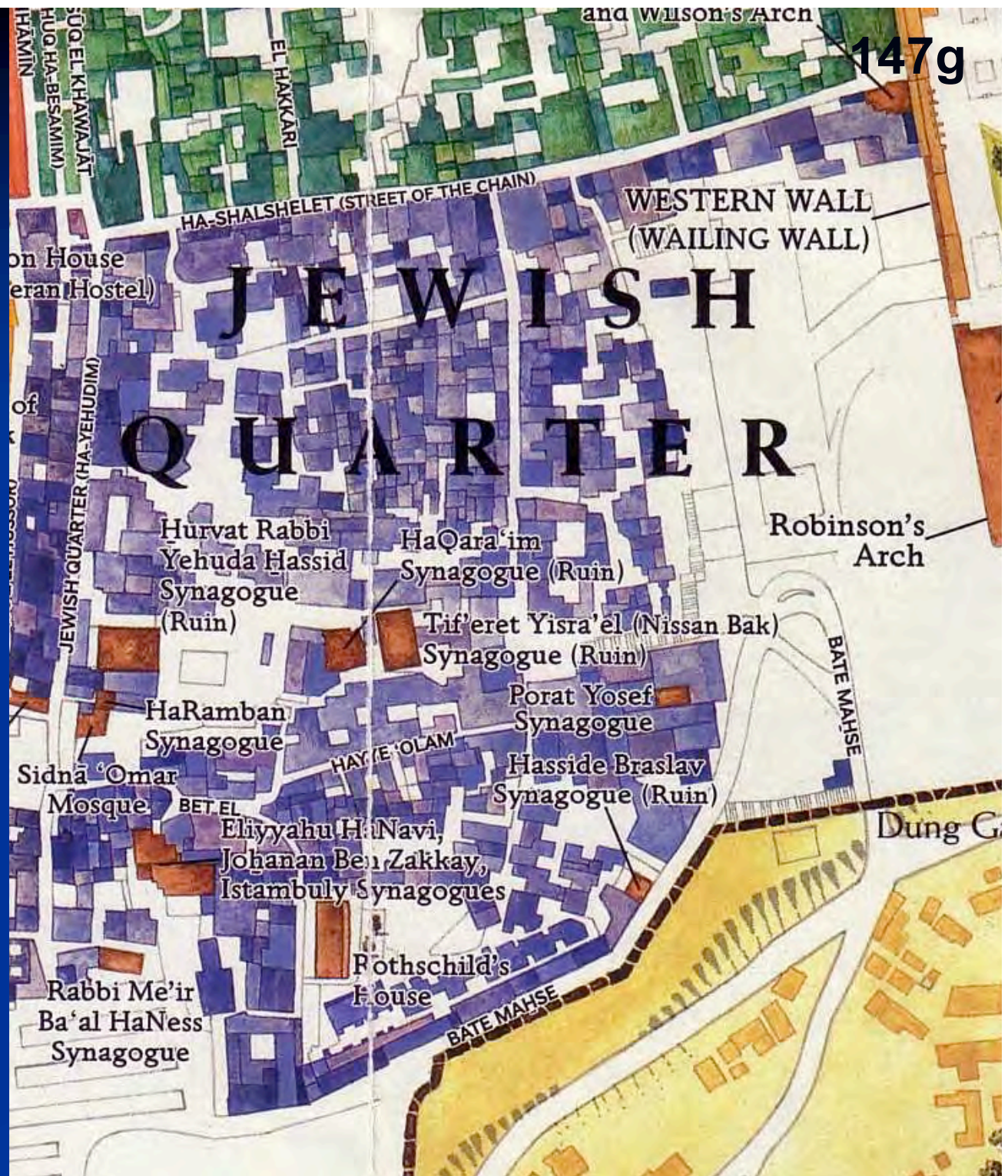


# Muslim Quarter





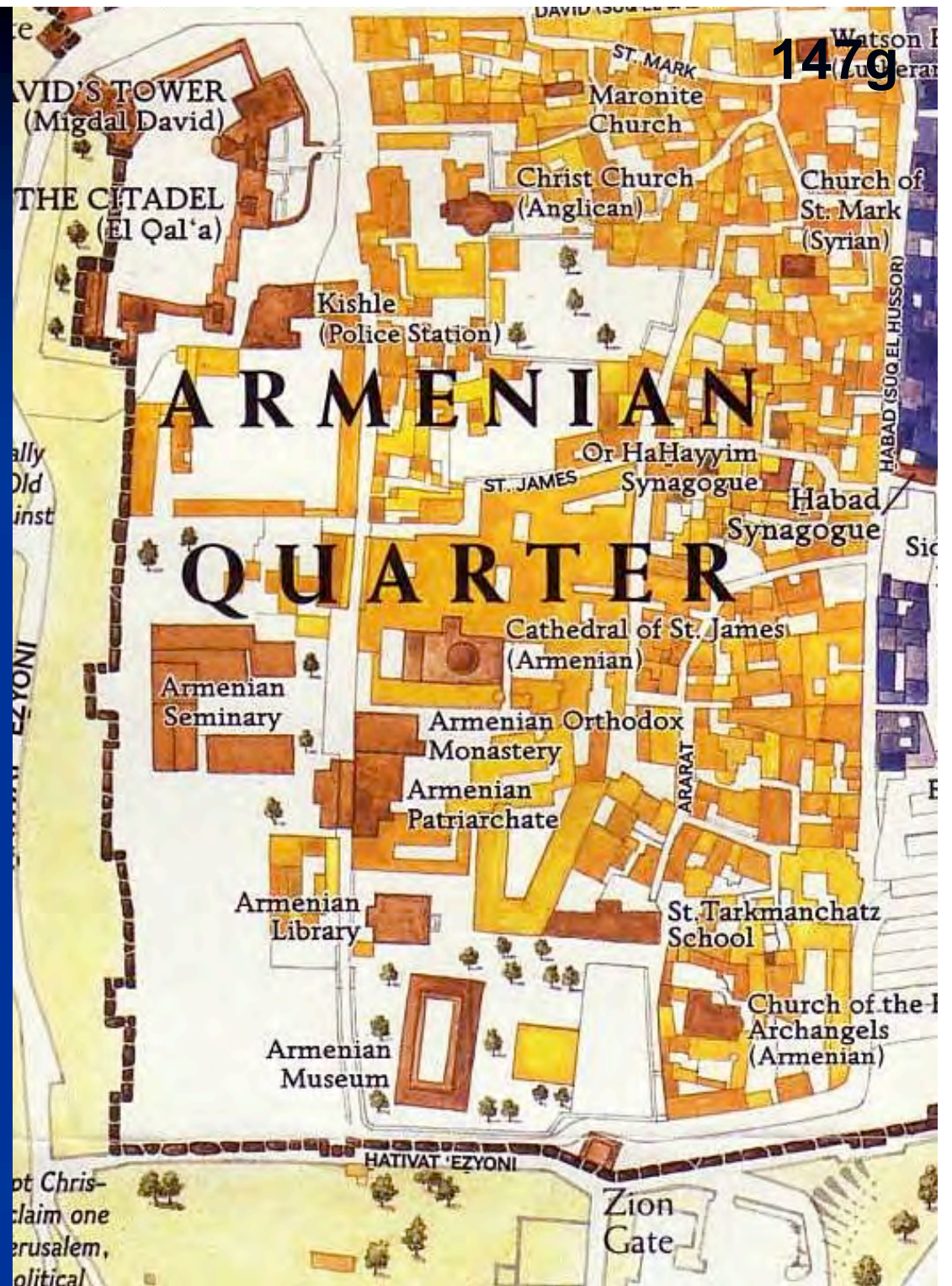
# Jewish Quarter



# Armenian Quarter



# Armenian Quarter



# What's the Future for the Dome?



# Millennial Jerusalem



“The law will go out from Zion,  
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem”  
—Isaiah 2:3

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