

## ***Bible prophecy on rebuilding a 3rd Jewish Temple***

### **A Bible Study Revealing Truth About Solomon's New Temple in Jerusalem.**

This adventure began as a search for prophecy about the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple in Israel. A search of simple curiosity, inspired by a Jewish friend of mine, quickly evolved into something more. As I delved deeper my astonishment increased.

In so doing, My faith deepened. I saw before me a fragmentary glimpse of the Ageless Covenant between God and Mankind; a legacy of Scripture and Guidance spanning thousands of years of spiritual growth and evolution.

Passages such as found in (*King James Bible, Revelation 3:12-13*) "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches," became pregnant with meaning.

Before we begin; First, a question of faith, as circumscribed by church teachings, should be addressed.

Many seem to be afraid to search and discover meanings for themselves. These people would rather rely on church authority to provide the answers and means of attainment of knowledge. Bible studies are carefully orchestrated. Questions, outside the norm are seen as uncomfortable and thus, discouraged. A real fear of outside influence, of being led astray, has been literally imprinted on the human psche for millenium. I have even been told asking challenging questions is, "not showing respect in God's house." In addition, many churches do not even think it wise to look at other writings outside what is deemed "safe and proper". Saying, "It is too easy to be led from grace. All books addressing God, religion or having a spiritual theme, not deemed "Godly", should be tossed aside and burned. They may be instruments of Satan attempting to decieve. Your faith may be lost!" (I lost a good friend whose wife bade him to shun me. Everything of mine was returned or destroyed.)

Yet, in spite of all this, the Bible has this to say:

7:7" Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 7:8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

7:9 For what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?  
7:10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye

would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 7:17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 7:18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 7:19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 7:20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (*King James Bible, Matthew*)

In this short study Bible passages give detail and reveal inner truth and discernment regarding the Temple, who will build it and where; wherein the Lord has bequeathed a New Name and a New Jerusalem of God is ordained.

**First: the foundation must be laid. It is prophesied, when the time is near, the Jews will return to their homeland and be given new life in the Lord**  
(*KJ Bible Ezekiel*)

37:11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

37:12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

37:13 And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, 37:14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

37:15 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, 37:16 Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and for all the house of Israel his companions: 37:17 And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

37:18 And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these?

37:19 Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

37:20 And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes.

37:21 And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:

37:22 And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all.

37:23 Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.

37:24 And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

37:25 And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.

37:26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

37:27 My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

37:28 And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore. *(King James Bible, Ezekiel)*

**As times change, Israel will become verdent with produce.**

65:13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry: behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty: behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be ashamed:

65:14 Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit.

65:15 And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name:

65:16 That he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes.

65:17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

65:18 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

65:19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying...

65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

66:1 Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

66:2 For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word. *(KJ Bible Isaiah)*

### **Jerusalem shall be called " a city of truth".**

8:3 Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain.

8:4 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; There shall yet old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for very age.

8:5 And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof.

8:6 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If it be marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvellous in mine eyes? saith the LORD of hosts.

8:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; 8:8 And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of

Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

8:9 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, which were in the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built. *(KJ Bible: Zechariah)*

It makes sense; this "time" when the 3rd temple shall be built would be happening during the "End Times". The Bible makes it clear, "the Jews will finally be given back their homeland. The desert will be transformed. Israel will flourish as a garden. Remember, there is no other time within the last millennium when the Jews have enjoyed their own homeland. 21:24 "And Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." *(King James Bible: Luke)*

But there is more meaning behind what the Bible has to say. Much Biblical meaning is spiritual allegory and should not be taken literally. Revelations tells of a NEW heaven, a NEW earth and a "NEW Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven," "Behold, I make all things NEW"... even "Writing upon Him My NEW Name"! *(Rev, 3:12)*

Does this mean that we should not limit our expectations to a physical end times of utter destruction? Does the term "NEW Jerusalem" signify something other than the present day city of mortar, roads and buildings? Is the location of the physical Jerusalem, as seen on a map, a possible stumbling block to acceptance of a "New rather than an "Old" Jerusalem being the site of the new "tabernacle of God? Are we directed to overcome what we have been taught; to truly realize "the former things have passed away?"

### **The New Jerusalem.**

21:1 **And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;** and there was no more sea. 21:2 **And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven,** prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: **for the former things are passed away.**

21:5 **And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.** And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 21:7 **He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.** *(KJ Bible Revelations)*

### Coming in a new name:

3:7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

3:8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

3:9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

3:10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

**3:12** Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: **and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.**

3:13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. *(King James Bible, Revelation)*

Might Divine Destiny Decree, as in the time of the Pharisees, that tradition and dogma be tested and found wanting; that teachings of clergy and authority may well lead seekers of the Light astray; not encouraging them to look freely but confining them to age old traditions and habits of men?

Might, in the eyes of Divine Will, it be ordained that specific divisive damaging doctrines of inherited only-one-way, single name, exclusive type ideologies be relegated to the past?

Does the location of a Mosque, sacred to Muslims, situated on the Dome of the Rock, built by the Umayyad caliph Abd al-Malik from **688 to 691 AD**. in itself give notice of the 3rd Jewish Temple having to be located elsewhere?

**For those who cling to ancestral names for God; in which names have become an idol in themselves and certain practices of faith an only road to salvation; the Bible has the following.**

In various Bible scriptures the disciples ask Jesus privately about signs for the end times. Included are passages describing "when these things shall be fulfilled". A warning for the churches is also seen in the same scriptures.

13:5 And Jesus answering them began to say, **Take heed lest any man deceive you:**

**13:6 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.**

13:7 And when ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet. 13:8 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows...

**13:21 And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not: 13:22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect ( KJ Bible Mark)**

Might Mark 13: 6 and 13: 21-22 be referring to many present day priests and churches, who extol and worship Jesus' name as a substitution for God; even though Jesus himself makes it clear we are to worship "our Father who art in Heaven," as directed in the Lord's Prayer.

**Jesus also defines his relationship with God in the following...**

5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father (7) which hath sent me. (*King James Bible, John*) (see Qur'an at (7), P15)

8:42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. (*King James Bible, John*) (also see Qur'an at (7) P15)

6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

6:36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that (8) sent me." (*KJ Bible, John*)

Jesus makes clear, " He is the Bread of Life that came down from Heaven (not born in a manger). His essence of Truth is the Word which is of heaven; not a physical man to be worshipped. Also, the Will of the Father is all important, not the specific name of Jesus. The last thing Jesus would have wanted is to be worshipped as substitute to the Father!

And there is more...

10:21 *In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.*

10:22 *All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him. (King James Bible, Luke)*

12:47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

12:48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

12:49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

12:50 And I know that his [God's] commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak. *(KJ Bible, John)*

**Has the name of Jesus become a vehicle wherein people are being lead astray from the Eternal Truth of the Living Christ? (8)** (see Qur'an p15) For those who might wonder, Many more passages can be found - (See *Matthew 24: 5, 11, Luke 21: 8*) below.

24:3 "And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you. 24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.**

24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

24:7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

24:9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

**24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. (8)** (see Qur'an p15)

24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. *(KJ Bible Matthew)*

21:7 And they asked him, saying, Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign will there be when these things shall come to pass?

**21:8 And he said, (8)** (see Qur'an p15) **Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them.**



21:9 But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by.

21:10 Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:

21:11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven...

21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.**

21:25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

21:26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

**21:27 And then shall they see the Son of man** [of the same Word spoken by Jesus, the anointed of Christ] **coming in a cloud with power and great glory.**

21:28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." (*King James Bible, Luke*)

In some studies, the "sun, moon and stars are symbolic of rulers and priests. As for. **21:27** Perhaps "cloud" means "hidden" People may not recognize His Coming yet, indeed, He will come, as a thief in the night, with power and glory. (See below)

3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. (*King James Bible, 2 Peter*)

I ask: How can one come as an unexpected "thief in the night" and yet create such devastation? For that matter, How does this "devastation" and "burning up" relate to 21:4 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." (*KJ Bible Revelations*)

The Rapture notwithstanding ( as taught by some churches), It does seem clear," Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be done on earth, as it is in heaven," ( Matthew, 6:10) portends a future Kingdom of God on the physical Earth.

Are there meanings here beyond what appears on the surface? Meanings beyond what may be taught within the walled cloistered churches of men?

I began to wonder if many of the Christian churches themselves were on the wrong track. Was it prudent to place so much faith and trust in the clergy; to blindly accept at face value, without question, whatever may be preached from the pulpit? This, almost as if whatever is said is ordained by the Word of God itself! Is it wise to emphasize the name and person of Jesus seemingly above all else, to emphasize and reemphasize time and

again, our negative sinful nature and need for salvation that can come only through the death of Jesus on the cross? The various Sacraments, rituals and dogma; the cross seen on most churches; the invitation to "come into God's house and worship Jesus as " the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world... have mercy upon us"; the need to be cleansed by the blood of Jesus, the only sacrifice acceptable before God: This and much more; in light of many Bible scriptures themselves, appears to truly be the wrong emphasis on the Message Jesus brought.

With this "Jesus only" thinking and preachers claiming true knowledge and understanding of their only Word of God, the Bible; With so many sermons expounding the preacher's own version of what Jesus Christ was all about; again, according to their own learning and understanding; luring people in as a means of salvation: Is it really to our spiritual advantage to be "churched"?

Churches now have become a big business. Many come to a service more as a social function than as a place to worship God. Fancy halls and buildings are erected to attract the multitudes. They all claim some form of exclusivity, professing a more complete or better understanding or direct path to God than their competition.

Truly, it almost seems the church authority figures themselves are indeed, "Coming in My Name, saying I am Christ". (7) (see Qur'an p15)

Bahá'u'lláh writes, ",He saith: O ye that are foolish, yet have a name to be wise! Wherefore do ye wear the guise of the shepherd, when inwardly ye have become wolves, intent upon My flock? Ye are even as the star, which riseth ere the dawn, and which, though it seem radiant and luminous, leadeth the wayfarers of My city astray into the paths of perdition.

And likewise He saith: O ye seeming fair yet inwardly foul! Ye are like clear but bitter water, which to outward seeming is crystal pure but of which, when tested by the Divine Assayer, not a drop is accepted. Yea, the sunbeam falls alike upon the dust and the mirror, yet differ they in reflection even as doth the star from the earth: nay, immeasurable is the difference! (*Bahá'u'lláh, The Summons of the Lord of Hosts, p. 118*)

Another benchmark that needs to be fulfilled before the time of the end, wherein the 3rd temple will be built; is when the Gospel will have been preached around the world.

**13:10** "And the gospel must first be published among all nations." (*KJ Bible: Mark*)  
 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (*King James Bible, Matthew*)

Surely, in this time of mass communications, TV and the internet; it is most evident the Gospel of the Kingdom has been heard countless times worldwide.

Lets see: The Jews have returned to their homeland which has since become verdant in the desert. Now, their fondest wish is to rebuild Solomon's Temple at the Dome of the

Rock. Presently, churches and "prophets" proclaiming the Name of Jesus abound everywhere.

Might it be prudent to be open to watching for signs, recognizing and accepting: **(And I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.** 3:13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. *(King James Bible, Revelation)*

**Now, a turn off the well-worn path of tradition.  
Remember Matthew's, " Seek and ye shall find,"?**

Zechariah (who wrote around the year 500 BC) says that the Messiah, whom he calls the "Branch" would Himself one day build a temple in Israel. The Branch will be an individual in whom the offices of both King and High Priest are combined:

<http://www.templemount.org/ezektmp.html>

6:9 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

6:10 Take of them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah;

6:11 Then **(1) take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;**

6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, **(2) Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:**

6:13 Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall **(3) sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the (4) counsel of peace shall be between them both.**

6:14 And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD.

6:15 **And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, (5)** and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God." *(KJ Bible:Zechariah*

**Is the establishment of the Baha'i World Center in Israel specifically foretold in the Bible?** Does this Center, located in Haifa, not Jerusalem, nevertheless represent a resurrection of the ancient Jewish Temple: built by Solomon in 957 BCE and destroyed by the [Babylonians](#) in 586 BCE, then rebuilt under [Zerubbabel](#) in 516 BCE, greatly expanded by Herod in 20 BCE and finally destroyed by the [Roman Empire](#) as prophesied by Jesus ( Mark 13: 1-4, Math 24: 1-2, Luke 21: 5 ) in 70 CE?

It may be argued that Zechariah was referring to the Temple rebuilt by Zerubbabel in 516 BCE.

At least two cases for this recognized 2nd temple not being the one alluded to in Zechariah is clearly stated:

1. In verse 6:11 Zechariah is honoring Joshua, and hence Zerubbabel, with a precious crown for the work done erecting the edifice of stone (2nd temple) destined to last 500 years. See **(1)** Then is mentioned, (6:12) "a man whose name is the Branch," shall come at a later time and build the temple ( a 3rd temple) of God. **(2)** Obviously this must be someone other than Zerubbabel.

Astonishingly, **Abdul-Baha was referred to by Bahá'u'lláh, founder of the Bahá'í Faith, as "the Most Great Branch"**. Abdul-Baha was responsible (aprox. 1909) for beginning the process of building the Baha'i World Centre on Mt Carmel in Haifa.

2. Verse 6:13: makes clear "The Branch" **(3)** will be both ruler and priest. Yet, at the time of Zechariah. the Governorship and High Priest positions were held by two different people: Zerubbabel was Governor of his Province while Joshua was the High Priest. (see **(6)** P 13)

"6:15 And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD. **(5)** " The present day Baha'i World Center in Israel draws believers and visitors from around the world. People from all walks of life, nations and backgrounds bring gifts and talents contributing their energies to the building and maintenance of this World Center.

Christians may well argue that Baha'u'llah knew of Zechariah's mentioning of the Branch in verse 6:12 and simply used this knowledge for his own purposes. After all, the Bible was written long before Baha'u'llah's time. Upon closer examination though it can readily be seen that events in the lives of Baha'u'llah and Abdul-Baha completely beyond their control ( such as a series of banishments and imprisonments) seem to align well with what is foretold.

As prophetically indicated by Zachariah, "**and he shall grow up out of his place**", The location of the administrative centre was a result of a successive number of banishments and imprisonments of [Bahá'u'lláh](#), founder of the Bahá'í Faith. Bahá'u'lláh was banished from Persia by [Nasser-al-Din Shah](#) in 1853, at which time Bahá'u'lláh went to [Baghdad](#) in the Ottoman Empire.<sup>[6]</sup> Later he was exiled by the Sultan of the [Ottoman Empire](#), at the behest of the Persian Shah, to territories further away from Iran and finally to [Acre](#) in Ottoman Syria in 1868.<sup>[7]</sup> Bahá'u'lláh lived out the rest of his life in the area and he communicated with his followers throughout the [Middle-East](#), [Central Asia](#) and [India](#) through special couriers, and Acre became the centre of the expanding network of Bahá'í groups.<sup>[1]</sup> When Bahá'u'lláh's imprisonment was eased, the area also became a centre of [pilgrimage](#) as Bahá'ís would travel the long distance to see Bahá'u'lláh.<sup>[1]</sup>

The location of the [Shrine of the Báb](#) on [Mount Carmel](#) was indicated by Bahá'u'lláh to his son `Abdu'l-Bahá during a visit to Haifa. Furthermore, the establishing of the administrative centre of the Bahá'í Faith on Mount Carmel was also indicated by Bahá'u'lláh in his [Tablet of Carmel](#), which is considered one of the charter documents of the [Bahá'í administration](#).<sup>[8]</sup> Bahá'u'lláh died in 1892 near Acre, and his resting place is in [Bahjí](#). Following his death, Bahá'u'lláh's son `Abdu'l-Bahá took over the leadership of the religion and the condition of the area as the centre of Bahá'í activity continued.<sup>[11]</sup> He continued to correspond with Bahá'ís all over the world, including new Bahá'ís in the West

In 1908, the [Young Turks](#) revolution freed all political prisoners in the Ottoman Empire, and `Abdu'l-Bahá was freed from imprisonment. Soon after the revolution, he moved [to live](#) in [Haifa](#) near the Shrine of the Báb,<sup>[10]</sup> and since then the administrative headquarters of the religion have been in Haifa. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bah%C3%A1%27%27s\\_Center\\_of\\_History](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bah%C3%A1%27%27s_Center_of_History)

### **Titles of descendants**

One of Bahá'u'lláh's titles is [Sadratu'l-Muntahá](#), which translates from Arabic as *the tree beyond which there is no passing* (a quote from Qur'an 53:14).<sup>[3][4]</sup> In this connection, Bahá'u'lláh [entitled](#) his descendants with terms relating to the Sadratu'l-Muntahá. His male descendants were given the title of [Aghsán](#) ([Arabic](#) for "Branches") which in singular form is "[Ghusn](#)".<sup>[5]</sup> In particular, three of his sons were given specific "branch" titles:

- `Abdu'l-Bahá (given name, Abbás): *Ghusn-i-A`zam* ([Arabic](#): الغصن الأعظم "The Most Great Branch").<sup>[5]</sup>
- Mírzá Muhammad `Alí: *Ghusn-i-Akbar*, ([Arabic](#): الغصن الأكبر "The Greater Branch").<sup>[5][6][7]</sup>
- Mírzá Mihdí: *Ghusn-i-Athar*, ([Arabic](#): الأطهر الغصن "The Purest Branch").<sup>[5]</sup>

(6) The unique position of `Abdu'l-Bahá, " as both ruler and priest, in the Bahá'í Faith and religious history are indicated in various works of Bahá'u'lláh:"

"In the [Súriy-i-Ghusn](#) (Tablet of the Branch) the following verses have been recorded:  
**As ruler:** *"There hath branched from the Sadratu'l-Muntaha<sup>2</sup> this sacred and glorious Being, this Branch of Holiness; well is it with him that hath sought His shelter and abideth beneath His shadow. Verily the Limb of the Law of God hath sprung forth from this Root which God hath firmly implanted in the Ground of His Will, and Whose Branch hath been so uplifted as to encompass the whole of creation. Magnified be He, therefore, for this sublime, this blessed, this mighty, this exalted Handiwork! . . . A Word hath, as a token of Our grace, gone forth from the Most Great Tablet -- a Word which God hath adorned with the ornament of His own Self, and made it sovereign over the earth and all that is therein, and a sign of His greatness and power among its people . . ."*

**As priest:** *"Render thanks unto God, O people, for His appearance; for verily He is the most great Favor unto you, the most perfect bounty upon you; and through Him every*

*mouldering bone is quickened. Whoso turneth towards Him hath turned towards God, and whoso turneth away from Him hath turned away from My beauty, hath repudiated My Proof, and transgressed against Me. He is the Trust of God amongst you, His charge within you, His manifestation unto you and His appearance among His favored servants . . . We have sent Him down in the form of a human temple. Blest and sanctified be God Who createth whatsoever He willeth through His inviolable, His infallible decree. They who deprive themselves of the shadow of the Branch, are lost in the wilderness of error, are consumed by the heat of worldly desires, and are of those who will assuredly perish."* <http://info.bahai.org/article-1-3-4-1.html>

**More on the "Branch, his behavior and influence on Israel and the world at large. ( as written some 2500 years ago! )**

1:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: 11:2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; 11:3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears 11:4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. 11:5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. 11:6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. 11:7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 11:8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (*KJ Bible: Isaiah*)

In this study it has become apparent the Bible has much to offer but the Word of God to be found within it has become victimized and sorely abused at the hands of schooled educated men of the cloth who in turn instill and nurture within the masses an ever reinforced popularized church doctrine, dogma, ritual, habit and expectation. (7) (see Qur'an p15)

Bahá'u'lláh writes: "Beware lest human learning debar thee from Him Who is the Supreme Object of all knowledge, or lest the world deter thee from the One Who created it and set it upon its course. Arise in the name of thy Lord, the God of Mercy, amidst the peoples of the earth, and seize thou the Cup of Life with the hands of confidence. First drink thou therefrom, and proffer it then to such as turn towards it amongst the peoples of all faiths. Thus hath the Moon of Utterance risen above the horizon of wisdom and understanding.

Tear asunder the veils of human learning lest they hinder thee from Him Who is My name, the Self-Subsisting. Call thou to remembrance Him Who was the Spirit, Who, when He came, the most learned of His age pronounced judgement against Him in His own country, whilst he who was only a fisherman believed in Him. Take heed, then, ye men of understanding heart! Thou, in truth, art one of the suns of the heaven of His names. Guard thyself, lest darkness spread its veils over thee, and fold thee away from His light. Ponder, then, that which hath been sent down in the Book by thy Lord, the Almighty, the All-Bountiful.

Consider those who opposed the Son, [Jesus] when He came unto them with sovereignty and power. How many the Pharisees who were waiting to behold Him, and were lamenting over their separation from Him! And yet, when the fragrance of His coming was wafted over them, and His beauty was unveiled, they turned aside from Him and disputed with Him. Thus do We impart unto thee that which hath been recorded in the Books and Scriptures. None save a very few, who were destitute of any power amongst men, turned towards His face. And yet today every man endowed with power and invested with sovereignty prideth himself on His Name!

In like manner, consider how numerous, in these days, are the monks who, in My Name, have secluded themselves in their churches, and who, when the appointed time was fulfilled, and We unveiled Our beauty, knew Us not, though they call upon Me at eventide and at dawn. We behold them clinging to My name, yet veiled from My Self. This, verily, is a strange thing.

Say: Take heed lest your devotions withhold you from Him Who is the object of all devotion, or your worship debar you from Him Who is the object of all worship. Rend asunder the veils of your idle fancies! This is your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Knowing, Who hath come to quicken the world and unite all who dwell on earth.

Turn unto the Dayspring of Revelation, O people, and tarry not, be it for less than the twinkling of an eye. Read ye the Evangel and yet refuse to acknowledge the All-Glorious Lord? This indeed beseemeth you not, O concourse of learned men!" (*Bahá'u'lláh, The Summons of the Lord of Hosts, p. 56*)

**The Holy Qur'an strongly advises:**

71 "O People of the Scripture! Do not exaggerate in your religion nor utter aught concerning Allah save the truth. The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, (7) was only a messenger of Allah, and His word which He conveyed unto Mary, and a spirit from Him. So believe in Allah and His messengers, (8) and say not "Three" - Cease! (it is) better for you! - Allah is only One God. Far is it removed from His Transcendent Majesty that He should have a son. His is all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth. And Allah is sufficient as Defender." (*The Qur'an (Pickthall tr), Sura 4 - Women*)Islam

**Here are Holy Scriptures from different world faiths extolling, giving thanks and praise to a single Creator.**

In the name of God. I praise and invoke the creator Ormazd, the radiant, glorious, omniscient, maker, lord of lords, king over all kings, watchful, creator of the universe, giver of daily bread, powerful, strong, eternal, forgiver, merciful, loving, mighty, wise, holy, and nourisher. May (his) just kingdom be imperishable. May the majesty and glory of Ormazd, the beneficent lord, increase. (Hither) may come the immortal, radiant, swift-horsed Sun. Of all sins ... I repent. (*The Zend-Avesta, Khorda Avesta - Book of Common Prayer*) Zoroastrianism

(Note below: Jesus' 1st Commandment was to love God, then your neighbor. Nowhere does he mention to "love and "worship himself. Also note: Jesus mentions "prophets"...plural...Not himself as an "only" way to heaven.)

"Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the laws and the prophets." (*Matthew: 22:36-40 KJB.*) Christian

**Also, the universal longing for a true lasting inner, yet, worldwide peace is mentioned.**

"The first peace, which is the most important, is that which comes within the souls of people when they realize their relationship, their oneness, with the universe and all its powers, and when they realize that at the center of the universe dwells Wakan-Taka (the Great Spirit), and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us.

This is the real peace, and the others are but reflections of this. The second peace is that which is made between two individuals, and the third is that which is made between two nations. But above all you should understand that there can never be peace between nations until there is known that true peace, which, as I have often said, is within the souls of men." (*Black Elk - Oglala Sioux*)

"O SON OF SPIRIT! There is no peace for thee save by renouncing thyself and turning unto Me; for it behooveth thee to glory in My name, not in thine own; to put thy trust in Me and not in thyself, since I desire to be loved alone and above all that is." (*Bahá'u'lláh, The Arabic Hidden Words*)

**The Bhagavad-Gita declares a universal mystery of the Divine Light of God:**

"Although I am unborn and My transcendental body never deteriorates, and although I am the Lord of all sentient beings, I still appear in every millennium in My original transcendental form. Whenever and wherever there is a decline in religious practice, O descendant of Bharata, and a predominant rise of irreligion--at that time I descend Myself. In order to deliver the pious and to annihilate the miscreants, as well as to reestablish the



principles of religion, I advent Myself millennium after millennium." (*Bhagavad-Gita Chap 4:6-8*) Hindu

From the above it becomes self evident that no one single faith has exclusive right to the Divine. Whether God is extolled as Allah, (Islam); Vishnu, (Hindu); Wakan-Taka, (Sioux); or Ormazd, Zoroastrian. The same God Reality is worshipped by all.

Remember His coming in a NEW Name? Not only are different names for God to be found in diverse cultures and languages the world over, but **differing names for God appear in the Bible** as well. In the time of Abraham God was known as "El-Shaddai"; In Moses tome - "YHWH" (Yahweh); For Jesus The name "Father" or, in Aramaic, "Abba" was used in reference to the Almighty One.

Muhammad, some six to seven centuries after Christ, uses "Allah" as the only name for God: Al-ilah which means *the God*.

All of these Names for God (within a multitude of others); are mentioned, some even within the Bible itself! Yet, believers of each faith believe their own name for God is the only right and true vehicle favored by the Lord through which to address and worship.

Bahá'u'lláh, prophet founder of the Baha'i Faith (1863 AD) reveals," Lauded and glorified art Thou, O Lord, my God! How can I make mention of Thee, assured as I am that no tongue, however deep its wisdom, can befittingly magnify Thy name, nor can the bird of the human heart, however great its longing, ever hope to ascend into the heaven of Thy majesty and knowledge.

If I describe Thee, O my God, as Him Who is the All-Perceiving, I find myself compelled to admit that They Who are the highest Embodiments of perception have been created by virtue of Thy behest. And if I extol Thee as Him Who is the All-Wise, I, likewise, am forced to recognize that the Well Springs of wisdom have themselves been generated through the operation of Thy Will. And if I proclaim Thee as the Incomparable One, I soon discover that they Who are the inmost essence of oneness have been sent down by Thee and are but the evidences of Thine handiwork. And if I acclaim Thee as the Knower of all things, I must confess that they Who are the Quintessence of knowledge are but the creation and instruments of Thy Purpose." (*Bahá'u'lláh, Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 3*)

I ask: Can there be seen here, a fragmentary glimmer of Divine Guidance spanning throughout Scriptures of different Faiths? The Name of God is not a family name such as you or I may perceive as such identifying a single individual. Rather, it would seem from the foregoing, the Name of God, no matter from what linguistic base or culture, denotes Universal Attributes of a Single Reality.

Abdul-Baha explains," The divine religions of the holy Manifestations of God are in reality one though in name and nomenclature they differ. Man must be a lover of the light no matter from what day-spring it may appear. He must be a lover of the rose no matter

in what soil it may be growing. He must be a seeker of the truth no matter from what source it come. Attachment to the lantern is not loving the light. Attachment to the earth is not befitting but enjoyment of the rose which develops from the soil is worthy. Devotion to the tree is profitless but partaking of the fruit is beneficial. Luscious fruits no matter upon what tree they grow or where they may be found must be enjoyed. The word of truth no matter which tongue utters it must be sanctioned. Absolute verities no matter in what book they be recorded must be accepted.

If we harbor prejudice it will be the cause of deprivation and ignorance. The strife between religions, nations and races arises from misunderstanding. If we investigate the religions to discover the principles underlying their foundations we will find they agree, for the fundamental reality of them is one and not multiple. By this means the religionists of the world will reach their point of unity and reconciliation. They will ascertain the truth that the purpose of religion is the acquisition of praiseworthy virtues, betterment of morals, spiritual development of mankind, the real life and divine bestowals. All the prophets have been the promoters of these principles; none of them has been the promoter of corruption, vice or evil." (*Abdu'l-Baha, Foundations of World Unity, p. 14*)

Now, to recap on the original theme of this writing: It is evident, the 3rd Temple need not be located in Jerusalem at all. Besides, the Dome of the Rock Mosque sits right on top of where Solomon's Temple was originally located. Instead, the New Jerusalem, coming as a 21:1 (Revelations) "new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away." portends the time of renewal. The past is obsolete. This requires a New Jerusalem, a New Name, new heaven, new earth, new thinking and new understanding of peace, fellowship and love; a maturing from adolescence as Mankind enters an era of God's Kingdom on Earth as it is in Heaven.

This search adventure has trodden many pathways. Some have been expected while other turns have yielded wonderment, astonishment and great surprise. There is so much meaning in much of Bible Scripture. Many meanings can be gleaned from many places; including other faith traditions as well.

The following passage from John gives a nice rap up:

1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God. 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 1:4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 1:5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. (*King James Bible, John*)

***"Praise be to God, the Lord of all the worlds!"***

For further study...**Here is more information regarding Zerubbabel and Joshua.**

Zerubbabel was a governor of the Persian [Province of Judah](#) ([Haggai 1:1](#)) and the grandson of [Jehoiachin](#), penultimate [king of Judah](#). Zerubbabel led the first group of Jews, numbering 42,360, who returned from the [Babylonian Captivity](#) in the first year of [Cyrus](#), King of Persia ([Ezra](#)). The date is generally thought to have been between 538 and 520 BC.<sup>[1]</sup> Zerubbabel also laid the foundation of the [Second Temple](#) in [Jerusalem](#) soon after.

In all of the accounts in the [Hebrew Bible](#) that mention Zerubbabel, he is always associated with the high priest who returned with him, [Joshua](#) (Jeshua) son of Jozadak (Jehozadak). Together, these two men led the first wave of Jewish returnees from exile and began to rebuild the temple.

**Here are scriptures of Jesus foretelling the destruction of the 2nd Temple.**

13:1 And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here! 13:2 And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. (*KJ Bible Mark*)

24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. (*KJ Bible Matthew*)

21:5 And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said, 21:6 As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. (*KJ Bible Luke*)