

“I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.”
The prophet Daniel of the Old Testament, 537 BC

“Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, [Messiah] the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, ‘I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.’ ”
Jesus of the New Testament, 33 AD

“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.”¹
The apostle John of the New Testament, 96 AD

“...I say that not only does the Holy Spirit reveal the future to rational creatures, but he shows us what is yet to come by summoning signs in the heavens (Rev. 6:12-14)...The Holy Scriptures testify in the Old Testament, by the mouth of the prophets, and in the New [Testament], by our Savior Jesus Christ, that this world will come to an end: Matthew, Mark, and Luke have recorded the signs of the end of the age; the prophets had also abundantly foretold it...Our Savior said that before the consummation of this world, all that was written by the Prophets must be fulfilled. The Prophets, in their writings, spoke, more or less clearly and in various manners, of things belonging to the future as if past [to their view] and of things past as future, and in the same way [they spoke] of things present. Many prophecies have a double meaning and refer to different events of similar character [the one near, the other remote; the one temporal, the other spiritual]; some prophecies are [interpreted] figuratively and others literally. **Prophecy may be fulfilled partially in the near future or more completely at a much later date...**I will speak of one [scriptural truth] because it is relevant to me, and every time I meditate on it, I feel rest and contentment. I am the worst of sinners. (1 Tim. 1:15) The pity and mercy of our Lord have completely covered me whenever I have called [on him] for them. I have found the sweetest consolation in casting away all my anxiety....”²

Admiral Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of America, 1400’s

28

THE SECOND COMING EVENT—WILL HE YET BE SENT?

“Then shall the LORD go forth, and **fight against those nations**, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for

¹First three quotes, KJV, *The New Scofield Reference Bible*. [] mine.

²Kay Brigham, *Christopher Columbus’s Book of Prophecies*, pp. 180-182. Bold mine. Kay Brigham’s scriptural footnotes inserted with ().

the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and **the LORD my God shall come**, and all the saints with thee” (Zech. 14:3-5 KJV; bold mine).

This is a prediction of the final battle of Armageddon (known as the battle of Gog and Magog in Ezek. 38-39), which will take place at the end of the seven-year Tribulation period (Matt. 24:21; Dan. 12:1; Rev. 4; 19). Notice it is mentioned that the Mount of Olives will *split*.³ Zechariah 14:4, written 500 BC, foretold: “...the mount of Olives shall **cleave** in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and *there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south” (KJV).



This face of the Mount of Olives reveals thousands of Jewish gravesites, placed there in anticipation of the Coming of the Messiah.

³When the Mount of Olives is cloven at the moment of the Messiah Jesus’ arrival, there will be a resurrection of the dead (John 5; Rev. 20; Dan. 12). Religious Jews have been buried on the Mount of Olives for centuries, due to the belief that the Messiah would first come to this mountain and raise the dead. This belief comes from Zechariah 14:5, where it says, “the LORD my God shall come.” Thus it is shown that in their ancient Jewish belief, the Messiah was to be God. As you can see in this picture of the Mount, there are literally thousands of Jewish graves covering its face, awaiting Messiah, because of these words of Zechariah, written 2500 years ago!

THE MESSIAH'S BOMB SHELTER AND GATE—MOST LIKELY NOT A LONG WAIT

The Messiah's foot is scheduled to touch the Mount of Olives just before it breaks apart. Why? Is God planning to let the mountain split just as Jesus returns? The answer is found in Zechariah 14:5, which says: "And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains..." (KJV). This is the *valley* which will soon be opened by the splitting of the Mount of Olives.

Before long, there will be warfare in this area like never before. The Messiah will return to destroy Israel's enemy invaders, the Arabs and the Russians of Ezekiel 38, in order to protect the Jews in the immediate area. When He returns to drive off their enemies, He provides a place of shelter—a natural bomb shelter, if you will.

Many geologists surveyed for oil in various locations in Israel. When they examined this area on the Mount of Olives, they found a deep fault running lengthwise from the top of the mountain right through the Golden Gate. This is the location where Ezekiel 44:3 predicts the Messiah will enter a second time when He returns to Earth. The first entrance was made when He rode into Jerusalem in 33 AD, as He was proclaimed Messiah, the son of David (Luke 19:37).

Ezekiel 44:2-3 explicitly says: "...the LORD God of Israel has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut" (NASB). And: "*It is* for the prince..." (KJV).

This refers to the Messiah, the Prince, at His Second Advent. Truly, none have entered this gate because it has been walled up with huge Jerusalem stones. Only the splitting of the Mount of Olives will open this gate, and this will occur only when Messiah returns to save His people, Israel. By then, they will have realized that the Antichrist is the false Messiah and will be anxiously awaiting the Messiah Jesus.

TWO STRIKES, THREE AND YOU'RE OUT!

In modern history, the Arabs attempted to open this gate twice. Both attempts failed, we believe not coincidentally! Providentially, God has kept this gate shut.

Because the Arabs are aware of the Hebrew belief that the Jewish Messiah will enter this gate, they purposely laid their graves there to prevent Him. Grant Jeffrey, in his book *Heaven, the Last Frontier*, details: "The prophet Ezekiel declared that the promised Messiah would enter the sealed Eastern Gate of the Temple Mount into the rebuilt sanctuary. 'And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and His voice was like a noise of many

waters: and the earth shined with His glory...And the glory of the Lord came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east. So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court and behold, the glory of the Lord filled the house' (Ezekiel 43:1,2,4,5)...Amazingly, this gate has been shut now for many centuries. The original Eastern gate is also sealed under the accumulated rubble directly in front of the present sealed Eastern Gate which you can see today. The Moslems under Suleiman the Magnificent were aware of the ancient prophecy of the coming Jewish Messiah and they sealed this gate when they rebuilt the city walls four hundred years ago. To prevent the coming of the Messiah through the gate they built a large graveyard in front of it...a priest...will be defiled by walking through a graveyard so they felt that a grave site would prevent the Messiah fulfilling Ezekiel's prophecy.

"Several months ago I approached and touched these ancient stones of the Eastern Gate. On the ground directly in front of the sealed gate the Arabs had placed the gravestones of several children only two inches from the bottom of the huge foundation blocks of the gate. Poignantly, a shell casing from an ejected bullet had fallen onto the child's small grave from the soldier's guard post above the gate. I discovered an amazing inscription which was written on the stones which had sealed the gate for so many centuries. 'Ba Ha Moshiaich'—'Come Messiah.' Some orthodox Jewish believer, who understood the ancient prophecy of Ezekiel, had secretly approached the Eastern Gate recently and written this welcoming message to the Messiah upon these stones.

"Twice in this century an attempt to open the sealed Eastern Gate failed. First, on December 9th, 1917 the Grand Muffti, the Arab leader of Jerusalem, tried to open this gate. He had ordered the other gates to Jerusalem sealed to deter the approaching Allied Expeditionary Army led by the British General Lord Allenby. Since he needed one gate open, he ordered his workmen to open the mysterious sealed gate. As the workmen picked up their sledgehammers, Lord Allenby's biplane flew over the city telling the Arabs to 'Flee Jerusalem.' Miraculously, without a shot being fired the soldiers fled the city. It was delivered into the hands of Britain which had one month earlier promised the Jews 'a national homeland' with the famous Balfour Declaration. The workmen fearfully put down their sledgehammers and the gate remained sealed as God had prophesied.

"Again in 1967, the ancient prophecy was fulfilled. Tensions were rising in the Middle East as the Arabs commanded the United Nations peacekeeping forces out of the Sinai. Egypt stopped Israeli

shipping and moved its forces into attack formations. King Hussein of Jordan had conquered the old city of Jerusalem in 1948, including the Temple Mount. For the first time in centuries the Jews were forbidden to worship at their sacred Western Wall. The Moslem King Hussein decided to build a hotel for Arab pilgrims on this section of the Western Wall closing off this area of Jewish worship forever. However, the planned hotel would be built over the Magreb Gate which all pilgrims presently use to enter the Temple Mount. The King needed to open another gate to allow Moslem worshippers entrance to the El Aksa Mosque on the Temple Mount. In violation of the prophecy he ordered his workmen to open the sealed Eastern Gate. On June 5, 1967 as the workmen prepared their air hammers to shatter the huge stones, Israeli aircraft preemptively responded to the Arab war preparations. The warplanes flew out of their underground air bases to devastate their enemies' air forces and armored formations. As the stunningly successful Six Day War began, the workmen put down their tools. The Eastern Gate is still sealed. The gate will remain sealed until the day when the promised Messiah will enter into His Kingdom.⁷⁴



The Golden Gate.

⁴Grant R. Jeffrey, *Heaven, The Last Frontier*, pp. 128-131.

ORIGINAL HEBREW TEXT WRITTEN 487 BC

וְנָאֵתָהּ תְהִיגָה הַמִּנְפֶה אֲשֶׁר יִגְף יְהוָה אֶת־כָּל־הַעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר צָבְאוּ עַל־יְרוּשָׁלַם הַמֶּמְקָן
 בְּשִׁלּוֹ וְהוּא עֹמֵד עַל־רִגְלָיו וְעֵינָיו הַמִּמְקָנָה בְּחַרְיָתָן וּלְשׁוֹנָן הַמֶּמְקָן בְּפִיהֶם:
 זְכַרְיָה יד:יב

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE TRANSLATION

“And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will smite all the peoples that have fought against Jerusalem: their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.”

Zechariah 14:12 KJV⁵

ANCIENT RABBINICAL COMMENTARY

“...what did Gog think? He said: ‘...I shall go forth first against the Patron of Israel’....What did they [the hosts of Gog] do? They stood on their feet and looked up toward the Holy One, blessed be He, and said: ‘Come, let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance (Ps. 83:5)’....And what does the Holy One, blessed be He, do to them from Above? They stand on their feet, and He punishes them....[He says:] ‘Those feet which wanted to stand up against Me, *Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet* (Zech. 14:12). And those eyes which looked up, *And their eyes shall consume away in their sockets* (ibid.). And that tongue which spoke against the Lord, *And their tongue shall consume away in their mouth* (ibid.).’ The Holy One, blessed be He, says to them: ‘At first you were not at peace with one another....And now you made peace with one another so as to come against Me....I, too, shall do likewise. I shall call the birds and the beasts who were not at peace with one another, and I shall cause them to be at peace with one another in order to go forth against you. And because you said, *That the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance* (Ps. 83:5), by your life, you will die and they will bury you and will take a name [i.e., become famous] in the world.’”⁶

Aggadat B’reshit, ed. Buber, pp. 5-7

NEW TESTAMENT RECORDED 37 AD

“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. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these *are* the beginning of sorrows....For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened,⁷ there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.”

Matthew 24:6-8, 21-22 KJV

MODERN RABBINIC COMMENT/REFUTATION

“Jews firmly believe that the Messiah will come. We believe that man will not self-destruct, that we will not disappear in a gigantic atomic blast. Man is basically good, and G-d’s Kingdom will be established. However, it is not enough to believe in G-d. Faith alone is not adequate,—G-d demands deeds and actions....What is the future bringing? There are some pessimists who say that

⁵The New Scofield Reference Bible.

⁶Raphael Patai, *The Messiah Texts*, pp. 149-150.

⁷By Jesus the Messiah, who is speaking these words.

mankind is approaching its end. They predict that we will either pollute ourselves off the face of this planet or overpopulate to the barest marginal existence. Others see man doing the job more quickly, bringing his civilization crashing down on his head in a nuclear war. On the other hand, there are optimists who predict a utopian future....”

The Real Messiah, by Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan, et al, pp. 50, 63; 1976

AUTHOR’S COMMENT—EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN POSITION

It seems clear to us that any honest observer would notice that the New Testament “War of End Times” agrees with the Old Testament prophet Zechariah, and the ancient rabbinical commentary, Aggadat B’reshit. Rabbi Kaplan’s modern disagreement in *The Real Messiah* not only goes against the grain of the New Testament, but against Jewish tradition, as expressed in the previous commentary. Rabbi Kaplan is not being honest when he says faith is not enough. Faith was enough for the thief on the cross, who had not done one good work, and for Abraham. Moses recorded of Abraham: “And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness” (Gen. 15:6 KJV). Finally, Christians do not believe there will be a nuclear Armageddon and—puff—we are all gone, as our friendly rabbi seems to imply. The Messiah Jesus will bring a halt to the war, and thereafter initiate world peace! **Philip Moore**

WORLDWIDE DEVASTATION OCCURS, AS THE MESSIAH ARRIVES TO BRING PEACE

The Old Testament prophet Zechariah said, 2500 years ago: “And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, And their tongue shall consume away in their mouth” (Zech. 14:12 KJV).

Again, nearly 2000 years ago, in the New Testament book of Matthew, Jesus says: “...for then there will be a great tribulation....And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short” (Matt. 24:21-22 NASB).

The apostle Luke’s book of Acts, in the New Testament, affirms that Jesus will return to Earth in the same way He left, so that He may put an end to the Tribulation war. “And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them; and they also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? **This Jesus**, who has been taken up from you into heaven, **will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go** into heaven.’ Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away” (Acts 1:9-12 NASB).

Tradition has it that Jesus ascended into Heaven from this highest point on the Mount of Olives, in fulfillment of David's prophetic

Psalm: "The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool....The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek" (Ps. 110:1, 4 KJV).

According to prophecy, He will only return from His place at God's right hand, to Earth, at the peak of the most terrible global war against Israel (Rev. 16:16; Ezek. 38-39). The prophet Hosea, even in the Old Testament, confirms of the Rejected One: "I will go away *and* return to My place Until they acknowledge their guilt and seek My face; In **their affliction** [world war] **they** [the Jews] will earnestly **seek Me** [Messiah]" (Hos. 5:15 NASB; [] and bold mine).

Once Messiah has come to the Mount of Olives, the people in Jerusalem will see His pierced hands and recognize Jesus for who He has always been—Messiah!



The Second Coming, as illustrated by Larissa Lando.*

* © Larissa Lando, used by permission.

ORIGINAL HEBREW TEXT WRITTEN 487 BC

וַיֵּצֵא יְהוָה וַיִּלָּחֶם בְּגוֹיִם הַהֵם כַּיּוֹם הַלְחָמוֹ בַּיּוֹם קָרָב: וְעָמְדוּ רַגְלָיו בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא עַל-הָהָר הַהַיְוָה אֲשֶׁר עַל-פְּנֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם מִקְדָּם וְנִבְקַע הָהָר הַהַיְוָה מִמִּצְוֵי מוֹרֶקָה וְנִסָּה גַּיָּא גְדוּלָה מְאֹד וּמִשׁ חֲצֵי הַהָר צְפוּנָה וְחֲצֵי־נֶגְבָה: וְנִסְתָּם גַּיָּא־הָרִי כִּי־יִנְעַע גַּי־הָרִים אֶל־אֶזֶל וְנִסְתָּם כְּאֲשֶׁר נִסְתָּם מִפְּנֵי הָרָעַשׁ בַּיּוֹם עֲזַיָּה מִלְד־יְהוּדָה וְכָאֵל הַיְוָה אֱלֹהֵי כָל־קְדָשִׁים עֹמֵד:
זכריה יד:ג-ה

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE TRANSLATION

“Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. And you will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him!”

Zechariah 14:3-5 NASB

ANCIENT RABBINICAL COMMENTARY

“...And the Holy One, blessed be He, will go forth and fight them [Gog and Magog]...and the mountains will move and the hills will shake, and the Mount of Olives split asunder....And the Holy One, blessed be He, will descend upon it, and Israel will flee and escape....”⁸

Midrash Leqah Tov, pp. 258-59

NEW TESTAMENT RECORDED 33 AD

“He said to them, ‘...you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.’ And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them; and they also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.’”

Acts 1:7-11 NASB

MODERN RABBINIC COMMENT/REFUTATION

“...the Messiah comes in a non-miraculous manner....Into a world prepared to receive him, the Messiah will then be born....He will be a mortal human being, born normally of human parents.”

The Real Messiah, by Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan, et al, p. 69; 1976

AUTHOR’S COMMENT—EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN POSITION

While the Messiah Jesus was born in a miraculous manner, He will return with might, power and eternal dominion. However, the Antichrist (coming false Messiah), who will come before Jesus returns to save our planet, will in fact, be born of natural parents, as Rabbi Kaplan mentions regarding his expectation of the Messiah yet to arrive! The Jewish people are being set up to be deceived, along with many others, by modern rabbinical teachings. As Isaac Newton wrote: “...it is also our duty to search with all diligence into these Prophecies. And if God was so angry with the Jews for not searching more diligently into the

⁸Raphael Patai, *The Messiah Texts*, p. 170.

Prophesies which he had given them to know Christ by: why should we think he will excuse us for not searching into the Prophesies which he hath given us to know Antichrist by? For certainly it must be as dangerous and as easy an error for Christians to adhere to Antichrist as it was for the Jews to reject Christ. And therefore it is as much our duty to endeavor to... be able to know him that we may avoyd him...he may easily seduce thee if thou beest not well prepared to discern him.”⁹ We should all heed these biblical verses and share them with our Jewish friends, if we are truly going to be witnesses of Jesus.

Philip Moore

Upon the arrival of Jesus to the Mount of Olives, the Jews in that future time will, in the words of Zechariah: “...look on Me [Jesus] whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for him....” (Zech. 12:10 NASB; [] mine).

This fantastic biblical prophecy was written five centuries before the birth of Jesus. It is incredible that its fulfillment, as the political climate seems to indicate, is just around the corner. We await it with anticipation and hope as we share our faith with not only the Jews, but all who yearn and desire to know!

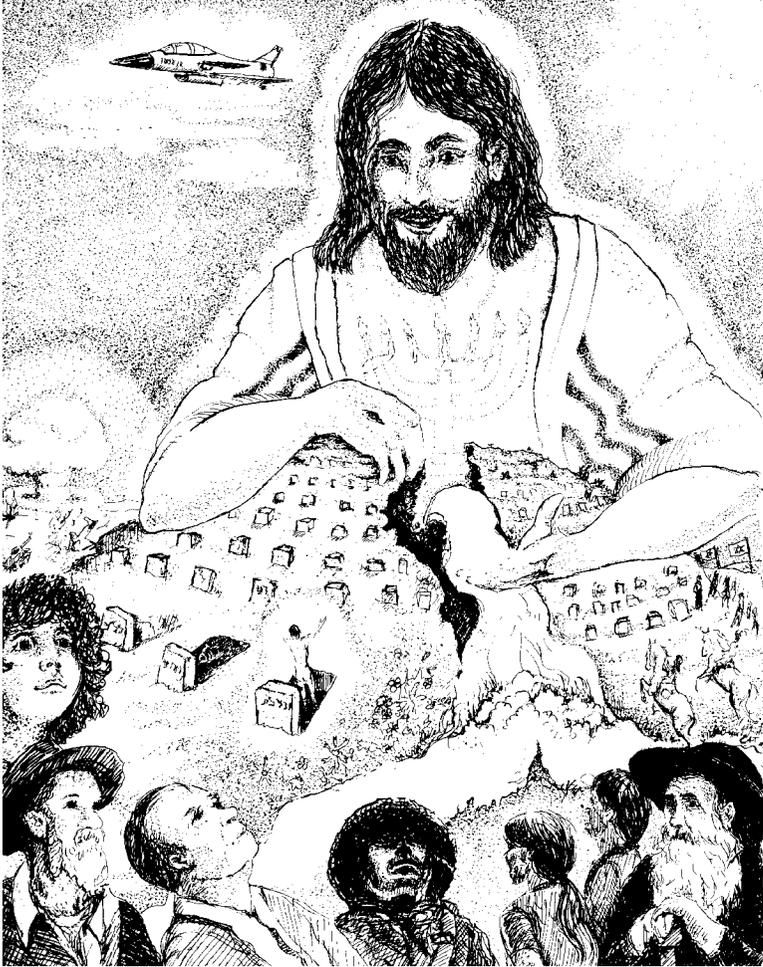


The Mount of Olives, where Jesus stood before ascending into the heavens, and to which He will soon return!

⁹*Yahuda Manuscript 1.*



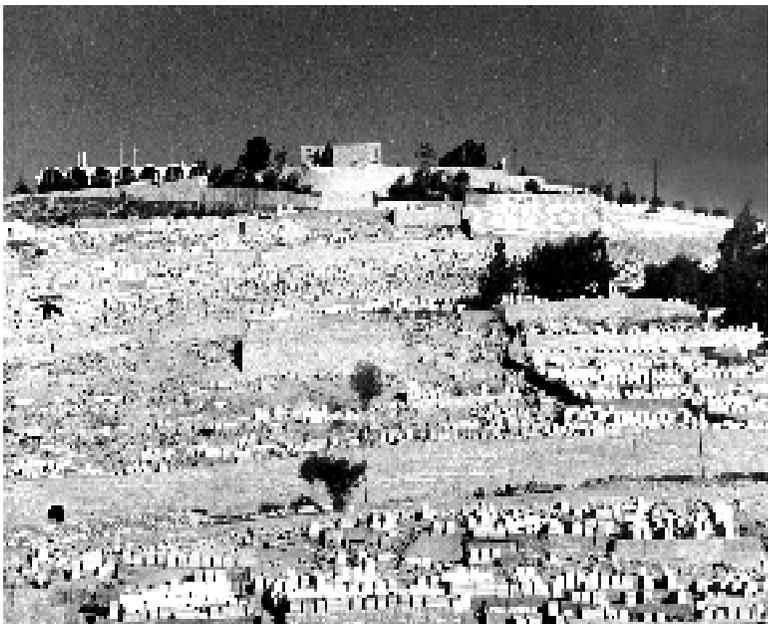
Back view of the Mount of Olives with its many Jewish tombstones.



An illustration of the Second Coming, as predicted in the Scriptures.



The third face of the Mount of Olives,
as viewed from an Arab neighborhood.



The Mount of Olives, with its chambers,
and the Intercontinental Hotel, fully visible.



Presently, the summit of the Mount of Olives contains a Moslem graveyard. Arab leaders are aware of the ancient Jewish tradition that Jewish priests could not defile themselves by touching the dead or even passing through a graveyard.¹⁰ Thus, the Arabs felt that since the Messiah is also a priest, He could be prevented from returning to the Mount of Olives by placing a cemetery there. The Moslems are not happy about the predicted return of the Jewish Messiah, so they took this “precaution.” Their superstition is just that. Even though the Messiah is a priest, He has the power to **raise** all believers to life—and He will!

¹⁰*The Babylonian Talmud*, Baba Mezi’a 30a, p. 186.



The steeple in the center of the graveyard is surrounded by a playground. It marks the exact place from which Jesus left and to which He will return (Acts 1:11). Quite a fitting setting, for Jesus once said: "...‘Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven’" (Matthew 19:14 KJV).

ORIGINAL HEBREW TEXT WRITTEN 487 BC

בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִגַן יְהוָה בְּעַד יוֹשֵׁב יְרוּשָׁלַם וְהָיָה הַמַּכְשָׁל בֵּינֵם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא כַּדָּוִד בְּבֵית
 דָּוִד כְּאַלֹהִים כְּמַלְאַךְ יְהוָה לְפָנֵיהֶם: וְהָיָה בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא אֲבָקָשׁ לְהַשְׁמִיד אֶת-כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם
 הַבָּאִים עַל- יְרוּשָׁלַם: וְשִׁפְכְתִי עַל-בֵּית דָּוִד וְעַל יוֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם רִיחַ חֵן וְתַחֲנוּנִים
 וְהִבִּישׁוּ אֵלַי אֶת אֲשֶׁר-דָּקְרוּ וְסָפְדוּ עָלָיו כְּמִסְפַּד עַל- הַנְּחִיד וְהִמָּר עָלָיו כְּהִמָּר
 עַל-הַבְּכוֹר: בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִגְדַל הַמִּסְפָּד בִּירוּשָׁלַם כְּמִסְפַּד הַנְּדָר־רַמּוֹן בְּבִקְעַת, מִגְדוֹן:
 זְכַרְיָה יב:ח-יא

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE TRANSLATION

“In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the one who is feeble among them in that day will be like David, and the house of David *will be* like God, like the angel of the LORD before them. And it will come about in that day that I will set about to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born. In that day there will be great mourning in Jerusalem....”

Zechariah 12:8-11 NASB

ANCIENT RABBINICAL COMMENTARY

“What is the cause of his mourning? In this Rabbi Dosa....said it was for Messiah, the son of Joseph, who is to be slain....If the cause will be the violent death of Messiah, the son of Joseph, one can understand that which is written, ‘And they shall look to him whom they have pierced.’”¹¹

Talmud Succah, fol. 52, col. 1

NEW TESTAMENT RECORDED 96 AD

“BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. Even so. Amen.”

Revelation 1:7 NASB

MODERN RABBINICAL COMMENT/REFUTATION

“ ‘...they shall look upon me whom they have pierced,’ etc. The prophet having, in this manner, alluded to the great superiority of the Jews in the latter days, says now, that they will look to him in humility and contrition, on account of those who have been pierced and killed in war. The Jews will be so assured of the Divine assistance in their restoration, that they will feel afflicted on account of those who shall become the first victims of their warfare with the Gentiles.”

Faith Strengthened, by Isaac ben Abraham, p. 183; 1850

“But I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they whom the *nations* were piercing shall look upon me, and shall mourn over it, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness over it, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.”¹²

***The Holy Scriptures: A Jewish Bible According to the Masoretic Text,*
 pp. 1331-1332; © 1977**

¹¹ Rev. B. Pick, Ph.D., *Old Testament Passages Messianically Applied by the Ancient Synagogue*, published in the compilation *Hebraica, A Quarterly Journal in the Interests of Semitic Study*, Vol. IV, p. 248.

¹² *The Holy Scriptures: A Jewish Bible According to the Masoretic Text*. Tel Aviv, Israel: “Sinai” Publishing, © 1977, pp. 1331-1332.

AUTHOR'S COMMENT—EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN POSITION

As Jesus returns, the Jews will realize that their leaders, along with Rome, pierced the one who was their Messiah. We also ask, “Are the rabbis desperate about Zechariah 12:10?” For nearly 2500 years, the Hebrew words of Zechariah’s prophetic jewel have been preserved in their purity. However, as we examined various newer English translations, we found that an increasing number of them had begun to mutilate these ancient words of the Jewish prophet. For example, though it says in the original Hebrew (וְהָיָה יוֹמָם אֲנִי אֶתְּרִד בְּקִרְיָהּ): “...they [the people of Jerusalem] will look upon him, whom they have pierced,” one modern translation (*The Holy Scriptures: A Jewish Bible According to the Masoretic Text*, by Sinai Publishing) now reads: “...they whom the nations were piercing shall look upon me, and shall mourn over it, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness over it, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.”¹³ In recent times, the rabbis have found it expedient to take it upon themselves to change and alter the words of Zechariah, apparently to ward off missionaries. To change Scripture is strictly forbidden by the Bible, Jewish culture and tradition. In ancient times, when Hebrew scribes hand-copying a manuscript of a book of the Bible made a one-letter mistake, they would discard the entire manuscript and begin again. These ancient rabbis would have the heads of those responsible for changing entire words and sentences in Zechariah’s ancient prophecy, breathed by God, if they knew about it today—no matter what the reason. Why has it become common practice in the twentieth century to arbitrarily change portions of Zechariah’s prophecy, especially after they have been maintained in their purity for over 2500 years? We believe this has happened as the result of the latter day continuation of the Messiah Conspiracy, orchestrated by the rabbis to prevent Jews from finding biblical reasons to believe in Messiah Jesus. Clearly, the comments in *Faith Strengthened* and *The Holy Scriptures: A Jewish Bible According to the Masoretic Text* (which in our opinion, is more of a commentary, since it is such a dishonest translation),¹⁴ are both deceptive and untrue. We can see this when we look at Rabbi Dosa’s unbiased ancient interpretation recorded in the Talmud. We support the original Hebrew of Zechariah, the New Testament and Rabbi Dosa’s rabbinic comment, over modern frauds perpetrated to deceive the innocent! Don’t you?

Philip Moore

AFTER HE RETURNS, FIRST THINGS FIRST

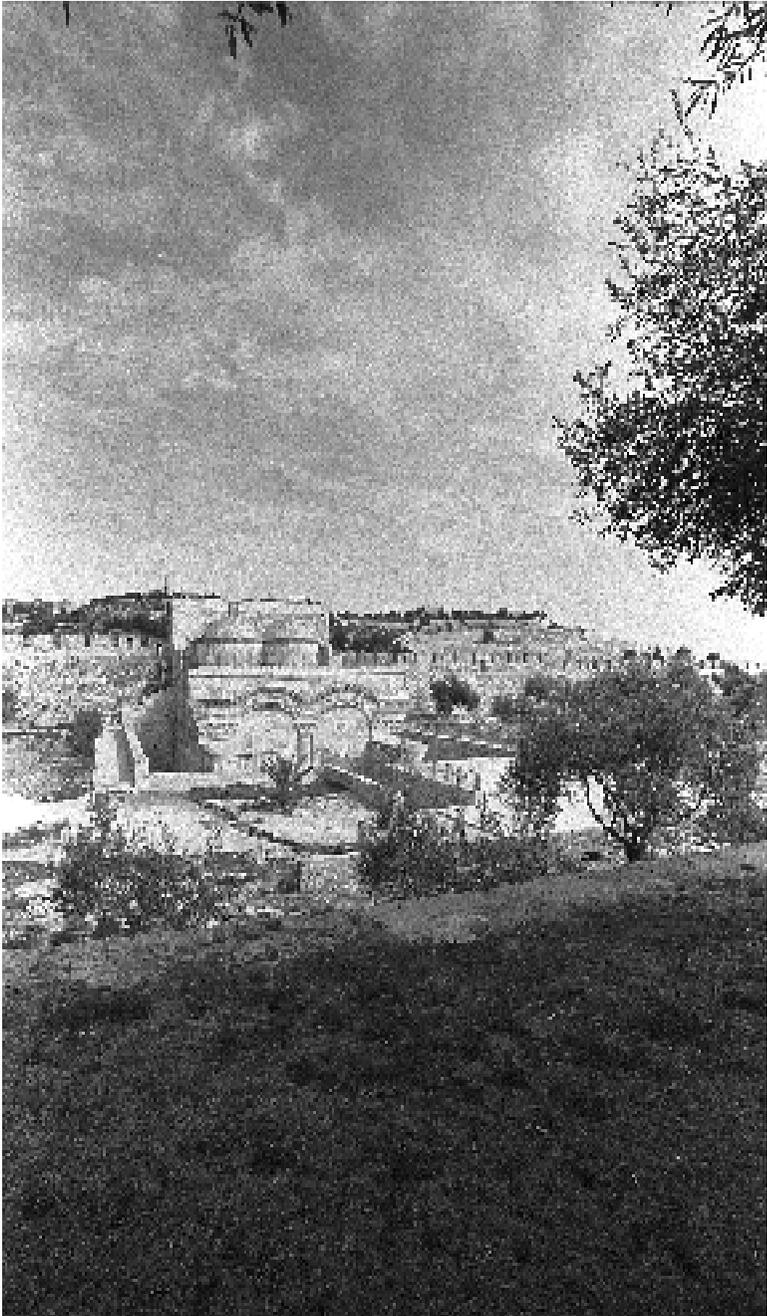
After the Messiah returns and destroys the invading enemies of Israel, He will enter the eastern Golden Gate (Ezek. 44:3), which will be opened when His foot touches down on the Mount of Olives. According to Zechariah, the mount will cleave, providing shelter for those fleeing from the ongoing war. Once He enters this gate, He will inaugurate the kingdom, set up David’s throne, on which He will reign, and rebuild the Temple so precisely described in Ezekiel 40-48. The New Temple will be the center of God’s new capital on Earth in the new millennium.

¹³Ibid, pp. 1331-1332.

¹⁴In our *opinion*, the translation is dishonest for the reasons we have stated.



The Golden Gate, a spectacular piece of architecture. This is where Jesus will enter after returning to the Mount of Olives, a few hundred yards away. Directly under this gate lies the original gate of Jesus' day, which is also walled up, as predicted by Ezekiel. We await the Prince Messiah. "*It is* for the prince...he shall enter by the way of the porch of *that* gate, and shall go out by the way of the same" (Ezekiel 44:3 KJV).



Back view of the majestic Golden Gate, still awaiting the Messiah.



This author stood in front of the Golden Gate, just to the left of a Moslem tombstone, to give a perspective of its size.