

70 NAMES OF JERUSALEM

Resource

Jerusalem - ירושלים

Heritage of Salem or Heritage of Peace

Jerusalem is the name most commonly used in the Bible, and is the preferred name in Jewry and the Western World. Its Arabic counterpart, Ūrṣalīm, is the term used by the government of Israel in Arabic, and by Arabs in certain historic or Biblical contexts. This name is first referred to in the Amarna letters, and its first recorded Hebrew mention was found in Khirbet Beit Lei.

A Midrashic explanation of the name relates it to the yir'eh from the name Adonai-yir'eh given to Moriah by Abraham and the name Shalem.

Shalem - שלם

Whole, complete in the idiomatic sense of "at peace"

In the Book of Genesis, Shalem is the name of the city during the time of Abraham. It is ruled by Melchizedek, whose name denotes a righteous king. Shalem is also regarded as a shorter name for Jerusalem.

Moriah - מוריה

Chosen of/is the LORD

In the Book of Genesis, Moriah is the name of the Temple Mount at a time when it is uninhabited. It is the place where, in the Jewish and Christian traditions, Abraham attempts the sacrifice of his son Isaac.

Jebus - יבוס

Trodden Ddown

In the Old Testament, Jebus is the name of the Canaanite fortress on the Temple Mount during the time of King David. The name refers to the large threshing floor on the Temple Mount around which the fortress was built. David conquers Jebus and establishes Jerusalem on its place as the new Israelite capital. The threshing floor was subsequently purchased by David as the site of the Temple.

Zion - ציון

Height

Zion or Sion is a traditional name for the Temple Mount and the city surrounding its slopes.

Ariel - אריאל

Lion of God

Ariel is a poetic name for Jerusalem. In modern times however, the name is more often used for the city of Ari'el in the Judeah and Samaria, some miles away from Jerusalem.

Ir David - עיר דוד

City of David.

The name derived from king David, the founder of the city.

Adonai-yireh - ה' יראה

"The Lord sees".

The original Hebrew has the future tense "shall see" and the tetragrammaton instead of Adonai. Name given by Abraham after God provided a goat to be sacrificed in place of Isaac. It is conventionally pronounced as "Adonai-yir'eh" because of Jewish religious rules against pronouncing the name tetragrammaton, the four-letter name of God. In the opinion of some Rabbinic commentators the combination of Yir'eh with Shalem is the origin of the name Jerusalem.

Ir Ha-Kodesh - עיר הקודש

City of the Holy Place/Holiness

The most common Arabic name for the city, Al-Quds, is a direct translation of this name.

Betulah - בתולה

Virgin (Lam 1:16)

Drushah - דרושה

Sought After (Is 62:12)

Gai Hazaon - גיא חזון

Valley of Vision (Is 22:1)

Gilah - גילה

Joy (Is 65:18)

Ir Ha'Elohim - עיר האלוקים

City of God (Ps 87:2)

Ir Ha'Emet - עיר האמת

City of Truth (Zech 8:3)

Kir - קיר

City (Ezek 13:14)

Kiryah Aliza - קריה עליזה

Joyful City (Is 22:2)

Kiryat Hannah David - קרית חנה דוד

City of David's Encampment

Kiryah Ne'emanah - קריה נאמנה

Faithful City (Is 1:25)

Klilat Yoffi - כלילית יופי

Paragon of Beauty (Lam 2:15)

Neveh Zedek - נווה צדק

Oasis of Justice (Jer 31:22)

Oholivah - אהליבה

My Tent is in Her (Ezek 23:4)

Tzur Hamishor - צור המישור

Rock of the Plain (Jer 21:13)

Ir Shechubra La Yachdav - עיר שחוברה לה יחדיו

A City United Together

Ir HaYona - עיר היונה

City of the Dove

Armon - ארמון

Palace

Eshet Neurim - אשת נעורים

Wife of Youth

Beit Tfila - בית תפילה

House of Prayer

Beula - בעולה

Married Woman

Bashan - בשן

Fruitful

Givat Halivona - גבעת הלבונה

Hill of Frankincense

Gilad - גלעד

Important

Gan Elokim - גן אלוקים

Garden of God

Dlatot HaAmim - דלתות העמים

Gateways of Nations

Darom - דרום

South

Har Gavoah - הר גבוה

High Mountain

Har HaMor - הר המור

Mountain of Myrrh

Har Moed - הר מועד

Mountain of Assembly

Har HaKodesh - הר הקודש

Holy Mountain

Har Marom Israel - הר מרום ישראל

Lofty Mountain of Israel

Hadrach - חדרך

Dwelling

Heftziba - חפציבה

I Delight in Her

Tabur Haaretz - טבור הארץ

Navel of the World

Just as a human life forms around the navel (where the umbilical cord was connected), likewise Jerusalem is the source from which God's energy flowed and created the world. The navel is also near the center of the human body, just as Jerusalem is the center of the world.

Yedidut - ידידות

Friendship

Hashem Shama - ה' שמה

God is There

Yaar HaNegev - יער הנגב

Forest of the South

Yife Nof - יפה נוף

Beautiful Vista

Kallah - כלה

Bride

Kiseh Hashem - כסא ה'

Seat of God

Carmel - כרמל

Pasture/Field of Grain

Menucha - מנוחה

Rest (Resting Place)

Metzuda - מצודה

Fortress

Mikdashim - מקדשים

Temples, Holy Ones

Marom - מרומ

Peak

Misos Kol Haaretz - משוש כל הארץ

Joy of All the World

Nachala - נחלה

Portion, Inheritance, Heritage

Eden - עדן

Paradise

Ir HaTzedek - עיר הצדק

City of Righteousness

Ir Hashem - עיר ה'

City of God

Ir Lo Neezva - עיר לא נעזבה

Unabandoned City

Akara - עקרה

Barren Woman (Is 54:1)

This name is used in context of a prophecy about the promised return of the Jews to the city; Jerusalem is considered "barren" because the Jewish people have left, but will rejoice when they return in great numbers.

Kiryat Melech Rav - קרית מלך רב

City of the Great King

Rabati baGoyim - רבתי בגויים

Great Among the Nations

Rabati Am - רבתי עם

Great with People (Filled with people, populated)

Rachel - רחל

Ewe

Ramah - רמה

Heights

Or Haolam - אור העולם

Light of the World

Sdeh Yaar - שדה יער

Forested Field

Sarati Bamidinot - שרתי במדינות

Princess Among Countries (Lam 1:1)

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