

Zion, the Mountain of Holiness, Isaiah 62

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not keep quiet, until her righteousness goes forth like brightness, and her salvation like a burning torch. Isaiah 62:1

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion in the far north, the city of the great King. God, in her palaces, has made Himself known as a stronghold.

Psalm 48:1-3

Grasping "Zion":

What is it?

- A holy mountain: _____
- A holy city: _____
- A holy promise: _____
- The coming joy of the world: _____

"Zionism" and "anti-Zionism"

- The repatriation of Israel: _____
- The opposition: _____
- Conspiracy theories: _____

Conspiracy theories

- Anti-Semitism: _____
- Anti-Zionism: _____
- Replacement theology: _____
- Judeo-Christian theories: _____
- "Left-wing" opposition: _____
- The Islamic problem: _____
- General opposition: _____

Some important dates

- AD 70, AD 135: "Diaspora:" _____
- 1791, Jewish emancipation in France: _____
- 1897, First Zionist congress: _____
- 1917, Balfour Declaration: _____
- 1947: UN agreement: _____
- May 14, 1948: Declaration of State of Israel: _____

The text

Following the text of Ch.61, with the pronouncement by the Anointed One (The Messiah) of the favorable year of the Lord (Jubilee), We are now presented with the pronouncement of the redemption of the "Holy City."

- "I will no longer be silent," v.1-5.
 - "I will declare the glory of Zion, Jerusalem, v.1. _____
 - You shall receive a new name, v.2-3. _____
 - You will no longer be "Forsaken," reinforcing the call of exiles and outcasts, v.4. _____
 - Old names, new names:
 - Azubah: "forsaken,"* _____
 - Shemamah: "desolate,"* _____
 - Hephzibah: "My delight is in her,"* _____
 - Beulah: "Married,"* _____
- Divine or angelic overseers, v.6-9.
 - Divinely appointed watchmen, v.6-7. _____
 - Social justice and political righteousness, v.8-9. _____
- Begin the rebuilding process, v.10-12.
 - Remove the rubble, v.10. _____
 - A new call to the daughter of Zion, v.11. _____
 - The reversal of order, no longer forsaken, v.12. _____

Where do we fit into this?

- Living with a 2500 year old promise: _____
- Grasping our place in analogous prophecy: _____

I will also have compassion on her who had not obtained compassion, and I will say to those who were not my people, "you are my people"! And they will say, "Thou art my God!"

Hosea 2:23 (c.f. Romans 9:25-26)