

The Truth About the Modern versus Biblical Mt. Zion

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Mount Zion Today



Mount Zion (Hebrew: הַר צִיּוֹן, *Har Tzion*) is a hill in modern Jerusalem, Israel, just outside the walls of the Old City. Jewish scriptures apply the term "Mount Zion" to the Temple Mount and the City of David and or the land of Israel itself depending on the context. The term "Zion" became a synecdoche referring to the entire city of Jerusalem and the Land of Israel. **HOWEVER TODAY MT. MORIAH IS DIFFERENT THAN MT ZION. MT MORIAH IS INSIDE THE CITY WALLS.**

Modern History

Between 1948 and 1967, when the Old City was under Jordanian occupation, Jews were forbidden access to the Jewish holy places in the city. Modern Mount Zion was a designated no-man's land between Israel and Jordan. Modern Mount Zion was the closest accessible site to the ancient Jewish Temple on Moriah. Until the reunification of the city in the Six-Day War, Jewish people were forced to climb to the rooftop of David's alleged Tomb to pray. The winding road leading up to modern Mount Zion is known as Pope's Way (*Derekh Ha'apifyor*). It was paved in honor of the historic visit to Jerusalem of Pope Paul VI in 1964. [[]

Important sites on modern Mount Zion are Dormition Abbey for German Monks, King David's false Tomb

The authenticity of the site has been challenged on several grounds. According to the Hebrew Bible, David was actually buried within the City of David, inside the city gates, together with *his forefathers*; Melechim Alef/First Kings 2:9 . So both the mountain and the tomb are incorrect Crusader inventions!

Now let's address the Room of the Last Supper, also allegedly to be seen on modern Mt. Zion.

According to later tradition, the Last Supper took place in what is called today The Room of the Last Supper on modern Mount Zion, just outside of the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, and is traditionally known as *The Upper Room*. This is based on the account in the Synoptic Gospels that states that Yahshua had instructed a pair of unnamed disciples to go to *the city* to meet a *man carrying a jar of water*, who would lead them to a house, where they were to ask for the room where *the teacher has a guest room*. Why would the disciples leave modern Mt. Zion late into the night and walk all the way to the foot of the Mt. of Olives after being drunk with wine, where they fell asleep? Why not rest on modern Mt. Zion? More than likely the last Supper was somewhere on the Mt. of Olives. See below how far the fake Mt. Zion is from the Mt. of Olives where the disciples went immediately following the Messiah's last Passover Memorial Supper.

View from Bell Tower

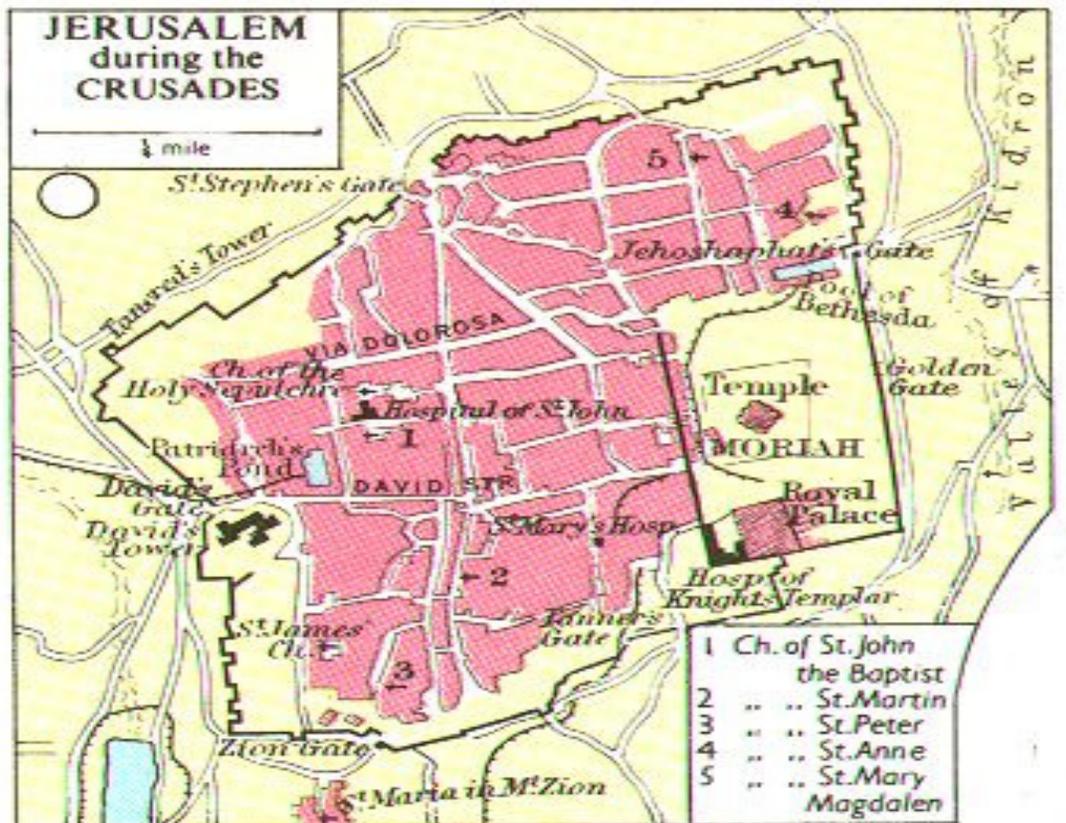
This rare shot from the top of the Dormitian Abbey bell tower gives a view of Mt. Zion and the Western Hill from the south. Visible are the south wall of the Old City and the Armenian Quarter with the Mt. of Olives off on the right horizon.

Dormitian Abbey is home today to German Catholic monks.



Today on modern Mt Zion is The Chamber of the Holocaust (*Martef HaShoah*), the precursor of Yad Vashem. Another place of interest is the Catholic cemetery where Oskar Schindler, a Righteous Gentile who saved the lives of 1,200 Jews in the Holocaust, is buried.

Nowadays, the term "Mount Zion" refers to a hill south of the Old City's Armenian Quarter, not to the Temple Mount. This apparent misidentification dates back to the Middle Ages, when Catholic pilgrims mistook the relatively large, flat summit for the original site of the Jewish Temple.



The Daughter of Zion

The location of the Temple was on Mount Moriah, which is about 40 meters shorter than the hill currently called modern Mount Zion. Therefore, some consider Mount Moriah to be what is meant by the Biblical phrase "Daughter of Zion" - as though the Temple Mount is the "daughter" of Mount Zion.

First, "Daughter of Zion", and a variety of other names like "Daughter of Jerusalem", refers to Jerusalem and the Jewish people personified, not to any geographical feature. Second, in many places in the Bible (such as Lamentations 5:18) "Mount Zion" refers to the Temple Mount, not to modern Mount Zion. So we must conclude that BOTH Mt. Zion and the Daughter of Zion refer to either

-Mt Moriah-the Temple Mount itself

-A biblical metaphor for the nation of Israel, the Jewish people, or the land of Israel (depending on the context) after the kingdom was divided into 2 houses.

Zion as a metaphor

In addition to its literal geographical meaning (Jerusalem), the term Zion has often been used as a metaphor for the Land of Israel, other promised lands, or any other distant but much wanted goal. All references that do not pertain to the things of the people of Israel, must be considered extra, or unbiblical usages, though not necessarily wrong.

Unlike today where modern Mt. Zion is a hill separate from Mt.Moriah, many times in Scripture Mt. Moriah is referred to as Mt. Zion, or the daughter of Zion, or the daughter of the hill/s of Zion. In prophecy it can also refer to heaven itself, where YHWH dwells with the Lamb of YHWH. Ivrim/Hebrews 12:22.

Har-Mt. Tzion used to refer to Mt. Moriah-Yeshayahu/Isaiah 4:5, 8:18, 24:23, Yoel/Joel 2:32, Obadiah 1:17, 21, Micah 3:7, Tehillim/Psalms 74:2, Tehillim/Psalms 125:2, Ivrim/Hebrews 12:22, Gilyahna/Revelation 14:1.

Daughter of Tzion used to refer to-Mt. Moriah or the nation of Israel-Yeshayahu 62:11, Zachariah 9:9, Tehillim 10:14, Matthew 21:5

Ancient map shows ancient Mt. Zion and Mt. Moriah at the time of Yahshua to be the same place inside the city, not a modern hill south of Moriah and outside the walls. Alarming modern Mt. Zion used to be part of the area of Acel Dama-Field of Blood (Aramaic) known as the HILL OF EVIL COUNSEL, where Yahudah from Ishcariot/ Judas hung himself, hardly a place for YHWH and Yahshua to dwell in!

