

Trying to Give Jerusalem to the Vatican

For nearly 2,000 years, every Jew has prayed, “*Next year in Jerusalem.*” After 1967, he no longer need pray that prayer, for that year the Israelis gained military control over the city. The Jew could go there any time he wanted to.

From that time onward, he could send up a new prayer to heaven: “*Next year, the Temple.*” But that prayer will never be answered. No Israeli-made Temple will ever be reared in Old Jerusalem on the Temple Mount.

The Scriptures predicted that the Jews would never again have true ownership of Jerusalem, and they never again will. Scripture will not be broken.

The first Temple was destroyed in 586 B.C.; the second, in A.D. 70. There will be no third temple on this earth before the Second Advent of Christ—because the Jews do not actually have full control of Jerusalem. And until they do, and can do what they want in that city, they will not have “returned to Jerusalem,” in the sense that would be needed to break the Bible prophecies.

Millions of Arabs believe that Muhammad ascended to heaven from the slab of rock, now beneath an Islamic dome on the Temple Mount. They will never permit the defiling Israelis to build an altar or a temple there. The Jews and the West know it—and the West will not permit the Arabs, who control the primary world oil reserves—to be so antagonized.

The Jews may manage the land, but they will not possess it. That rule will be shared with the sons of Ishmael “*until He come whose right it is.*”

In May 1992, we published a lengthy, three-part study on the history of Jerusalem, down to the 1967 War when the Israelis took Jerusalem (*Jerusalem and the Mount—Part 1-3 [WM—393-395]*).

In that study, we cited several lines of evidence which clearly reveal that, in the truest sense, the Jews had not returned to Jerusalem. The Bible prophecy that Jerusalem would never again actually own that fateful city has, to date, been proven true.

“And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end, Thus saith the Lord God; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that

is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is.”—*Ezekiel 21:25-27. (Zechariah 6:12-13)*

At the Second Advent of Christ, He will return to be its eternal ruler.

But, in recent years, the situation has become more and more precarious for the Jews. Arab oil nations are applying strong pressure on the U.S. to force Israel to give occupied territories back to the Palestinians. If you will look on a map, you will be amazed at the large (large!) slices of Israeli territory (the West Bank and Gaza Strip) which have been given away this year alone.

Becoming desperate at the situation, in 1993, Israeli leaders secretly began negotiations on an agreement to give the Temple Mount to the Vatican, as primary manager! Such an astounding act can only be seen as a desperate attempt to involve world Catholicism (and subservient Protestantism) in the management of this vital part of Jerusalem,—in the hope that, in this way, the Arabs will not eventually be given sole control of the Mount by the Western powers.

The Jews are only willing to give away the Temple Mount—because they do not actually have it as theirs, to do with as they wish. But, if this proposed plan were to take effect, Jewish, Catholic, and Muslim leadership would share, under Vatican leadership, in keeping any one group from gaining control of the Temple Mount.

It is clear that the Israelis do not actually own the Temple Mount, since they are willing to give it to an international coalition, representing a variety of religions! Yet the Temple Mount is the heart of Jerusalem. If they do not own the Temple Mount, the Israelis have not really returned to Jerusalem.

And they never will.

In the next column is a reprint of an editorial in the *Jewish Press*, published in the September 2, 1994, edition of that newspaper.

On the next three pages is clarifying information (from WM-395) on the status of the Temple Mount, and the certainty that the Bible prophecies will not be broken. Gentiles (non-Jews) will continue to trample upon the Temple Mount, as they are now doing, until the Second Advent of Christ!

May we be faithful to the Lord! Truly, we are nearing the end! It cannot be long and Jesus will return for His people. And, a thousand years later, He will step on the Mount of Olives—and take possession of an enlarged New Jerusalem.

Many have erred in thinking that the Jews could not return to Jerusalem. They could return, although they would never again have ownership of it. Although they gained partial control in the 1967 Six-day War, yet they will neither control nor own that city—until they are able to tear down the two Muslim temples on the Temple Mount, and erect a Jewish Temple on that holy site.

But the prophecies also predicted that, even though some of them might live in Jerusalem (which, for most of the past 2,000 years they have done) the Jews would remain scattered among the Gentiles, and the Gentiles would continue to tread upon the holy place. **The predictions continue unbroken today.** Even though many of them now live in their ancient land, the Jews live among Gentiles. The Jews are still scattered among the Gentiles—even in Jerusalem, and the Gentiles continue to tread upon the sacred Temple Mount. And only the heathen worship in the Hebrew holy place—Mount Moriah, atop the Temple Mount.