

Jebus/Jerusalem (1)

Written by K B Napier
Wednesday, 13 December 2017 13:57

Jebus/Yěbuwc

Also Jebusi. Early name for Jerusalem.

Jebus – root *buwc* (to tread down, trample down something rejected or despised. Other meanings not pertinent).

“... he rose up and departed, and came over against Jebus, which is Jerusalem;” (Judges 19:10)

Jebus='threshing place'.

Jebusites/Yěbuwciy='descendants of Jebus', third son of Canaan. From Jebus.

Jerusalem/Yěruwshalaim/Jerushalaim/Jerushalem='teaching of peace'. A dual (reference to its two hills).

1 Chronicles 11:4-9

“4 And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which is Jebus; where the Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land.

5 And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, Thou shalt not come hither. Nevertheless David took the castle of Zion, which is the city of David.

6 And David said, Whosoever smiteth the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain. So Joab the son of Zeruiah went first up, and was chief.

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7 And David dwelt in the castle; therefore they called it the city of David.

8 And he built the city round about, even from Millo round about: and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

9 So David waxed greater and greater: for the LORD of hosts was with him.”

The Jebusites refused to acknowledge that Jebus belonged to Israel. Ignoring their defiance, David took the fortress of Zion/Tsiyuwn ('parched place'/a conspicuous monument) and made it his main habitation; 'the city of David'.

The Jebusites held the castle of Zion, but David took it from them, through the person of one of his generals, Joab. He then began rebuilding and extending the fortress/castle of Jebus, now David's city, Jerusalem. From this arose the modern city of Jerusalem, inherited by Israel to this day.

The Millo/millow was a rampart/mound/the citadel that formed part of the fortifications of Jerusalem (from the Hebrew, *milui*). It was a large mound probably constructed of stepped stones on the exterior, for defensive purposes, filled in with stones and earth. (However, there is still debate as to its actual features). Thus the millo was not a place name but a mound. First mentioned in 2 Samuel 5:9. There is reference to the 'House of Millo' in 2 Kings 12:20, and it seems to have been part of massive palace walls. Some archaeologists think this millo or filled-in rampart was an embankment that helped to flatten the slope between Ophel (fortified hill) and Temple Mount (the oldest part of Jerusalem).

Temple Mount

('Mount of the House of God': that is, 'God' as per scripture and NOT the 'god' of Islam, Allah. Note that even Arab Christians call the biblical God Allah, because it is Arabic for 'god', used by Jews and Christians in the region. However, the meaning for Jews/Christians and Muslims is very different. The word goes back to *il* or *el*. El is used in the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

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(See my other articles on this). Allāh is the standard Arabic word for God and is used by Arab Christians as well as by Muslims for their own version of God.... the Islamic Allah. It is important that Christians do not use the English name 'Allah' for God, because the god of Islam is not the same as the God of scripture.

Temple Mount, so named because the Jewish Temple was built on it, was part of the nation of Israel from the time the Hebrews entered Canaan. The Mount was just one part of the Jebusite nation, which covered the site that was also called Jerusalem. Jebus territory included several mountains in the region.

When Joshua allocated land to each of the tribes, Benjamin inherited Jebus/Jebusi or Jerusalem, ruled by descendants of the third son of Canaan.

“And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which is Jerusalem, Gibeath, and Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.”
(Joshua 18:28)

Other cities and villages were part of this allocation, too. However, the allocation was not without its difficulties, for the Jebusites refused to relinquish all of Jebus, and held on to part of Jerusalem (the main royal city) even when the tribe of Benjamin took over. It took king David to overcome them.

At the time of Joshua Jebus/Jerusalem was built on two hills, and the Jebusites maintained control over part of it... Benjamin unable to oust them completely. Instead, against God's commands, they allowed the Jebusites to live, so long as they paid tribute money. A big mistake, and similar to errors also made by other tribes when they could not remove former Canaanite cities and people.

When the tribe of Benjamin received its boundaries from Joshua, the southern boundary ran just above northern Jerusalem, so, technically and actually, the tribe of Judah had the rest.

In Sumero-Akkadian, the city was called ura-salim, a place devoted to the god of the nether

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world, health and perfection, Shalim (hence the city was also known as Shalem). As is usual amongst atheistic researchers, modern historians refuse to accept that Jebus existed, or, they say, it was different from Jerusalem. But, in the Old Testament, Jebus is the *same* as Jerusalem. It is typical for unbelievers to call scriptural allusions either non-existent or something else. Thus, they will accept any reference, so long as it is not biblical! However, one expert found reference to 'Jabusu', which he interpreted as 'Jebus', having found such reference on a clay tablet dated about 2200BC.

The Jebusites are listed in the 'Table of Nations' in Genesis 10. They appear to have been a 'side' branch of the Hittites, though some think they were Amorites... known as the Yabusi'um. It is more likely, though, that they simply had a similar name to other tribal entities. Yet others point to one of the Jebusite king's name – Abdi-Heba, who took his name from a Hurrian Mother goddess, Hebat. This might suggest the Jebusites were Hurrians, especially as four other Hurrians are mentioned in scripture.

It should be noted that the city of Jebus was not all of the city later called Jerusalem... David, for example, built his own royal city of Jerusalem a little lower down the 'holy' mountain, butted-up to the walls of Jebus, though owning Jebus. Before that, Joshua's army killed a confederation of Jebusite leaders (Joshua 10:1-3). Even so, the people themselves remained in Jebus/Jerusalem for many years, until David finally dominated them. Importantly, king David bought a threshing floor from a Jebusite and built an altar on it (2 Samuel 24:24), thus making it the foundation of the First Temple, meaning the Jews have a contractual, binding, legal right to the Mount.

In modern days, Yasser Arafat and Faisal Hussein claimed that modern 'Palestinian' Arabs are descended from the Jebusites, and so have an historic claim to Jerusalem. They also claim that 'Palestinians' are derived from the Canaanites. However, there are no documents or archaeological finds to prove such claims. The claims are wrong anyway, because the Arabs in 'Palestine' are far more diverse in origin, such as Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Jordan and other countries outside 'Palestine'.

This agrees with the simple historical fact that when Israel once again became its own country and 'made the deserts bloom', Arabs from many external countries flocked to the barren 'Palestine' to seek work with Israelis. It is also a fact that many Israelis legally bought what was effectively scrub-land from indigenous people whose Muslim background prevented them from doing anything constructive with the land. Like David, then, they still have a legal right to much of 'Palestine', including Jerusalem. It is apparent that Jebus/Jerusalem is legally owned by Israel, and what is now vaunted as 'Palestine' is just a collection of Arabs from many Arab

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countries, not descendants of Jebusites. And, Jebus IS Jerusalem.

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