

Today is the [9th of Av](#) according to the Jewish calendar, as a day of mourning and fasting for Jewish people worldwide, marking the anniversary of the destruction of the First and Second Temples. Last night, over one hundred thousand Jews gathered at the Western Wall, to pray and recite Scriptures from the book of Lamentations. The First Temple built by Solomon was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon in 586 BC. The Second Temple was destroyed by Titus and his Roman armies in 70 AD. That battle for Jerusalem lasted four years, and culminated in the Temple's destruction and slaughter of the Jewish people, as detailed in Flavius Josephus' account in his book War of the Jews. Its destruction was also vividly described by the Lord Jesus Christ, an event which would occur forty years following His rejection as King and crucifixion by the nation of Israel.

Luke 21:6, 20-22

[As for] these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down... And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

Luke 23:28-30

But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed [are] the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us.

Many other [disastrous events](#) have also befallen the Jewish people on this date in history...

10 spies brought back an evil report of the promised land (Numbers 14:1).

586 BC - First Temple destroyed.

70 AD - Second Temple destroyed.

135 - Rome's takeover of Israel complete.

136 - Roman emperor desecrated Temple.

1096 - Pope Urban II declared the First Crusade, murdering masses of Jews.

1290 - Jews expelled from England.

1306 - Jews expelled from France.

1492 - Jewish expulsion from Spain completed on this date.

1648 - Chmelnicky massacred thousands of Polish Jews.

1914 - World War I began, culminating in World War II and the Nazi Holocaust.

2005 - End of legal Jewish residence in Gush Katif.

But those that gather at the Western Wall also long for the day when the Temple will be rebuilt.

Quote: *""It is clear that one need not refrain from going to the Western Wall [on Tisha B'Av] for fear of meeting friends and being happy. My father and teacher [Rabbi Zalman Melamed] has said that there is no greater rectification [tikun, in Hebrew] for Tisha B'Av than to go to the Wall, the remnant of the destruction, and to pray for the Holy Temple to be speedily rebuilt in our days. On the contrary, the fact that many people go there enhances the power of the prayer, and increases Divine honor."*

The Jews hope that "Divine honour" will be bestowed upon them by praying at the wall, yet the Lord Jesus said Israel would not see their Messiah again until they were prepared to say, "Blessed is the King that cometh in the name of the Lord"; Luke 13:35. The prophecy of Daniel seems to indicate that a Third Temple will be rebuilt during the tribulation period. Daniel 9:27 states that the Antichrist, the European leader who will broker a peace agreement in the Middle East, will cause the sacrifices to cease and desecrate the Temple. Preparations are already being made in Israel for the rebuilding of the Temple. The High Priest's garments have been manufactured by the

[Temple Institute](#)

, along with other objects used in the administration of the Temple, such as the Golden Menorah, the Laver and the Table of Showbread. Priests are currently being trained in Israel on how to perform Temple duties, and last week we had the first public gathering of the

[Tribe of Levi](#)

since the destruction of the Second Temple. It is my opinion that Israel will be permitted to rebuild the Temple as part of the Antichrist's peace agreement in the Middle East. They will do so in unbelief, and once more will mourn the desecration of their Temple. Only when the nation has nowhere else to turn to, or nobody else to turn to, will they look unto Him whom they pierced - Yeshua HaMashiach.

[Zechariah 12:10](#)

And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for [his] only [son], and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for [his] firstborn.

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