

Temple Mount and Western Wall

by Shmuel Veffer

Malchitzedek King of Shalem

בראשית י"ד:י"ח

(יח) ומלכי־צֶדֶק מֶלֶךְ שָׁלֵם הוֹצִיא לֶחֶם
וַיִּין וְהוּא כֹהֵן לֵאלֹהֵי עֵלְיוֹן:

Genesis 14:18

(18) And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was a priest of God Most High.

Mount Moriah - Binding of Isaac

בראשית כ"ב:א'-ד'

(א) וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וַהֲאֱלֹהִים
נִסָּה אֶת־אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אַבְרָהָם
וַיֹּאמֶר הִנְנִי: (ב) וַיֹּאמֶר קַח־נָא אֶת־בְּנֶךָ
אֶת־יְחִידֶךָ אֲשֶׁר־אָהַבְתָּ אֶת־יִצְחָק וְלֶךְ־לָךְ
אֶל־אֶרֶץ מֹרְיָה וְהַעֲלֵהוּ שָׁם לְעֹלָה עַל
אֶחָד הַהָרִים אֲשֶׁר אָמַר אֱלֹהִי: (ג) וַיִּשְׁכֹּם
אַבְרָהָם בַּבֹּקֶר וַיַּחְבֹּשׁ אֶת־חֲמֹרוֹ וַיִּקַּח
אֶת־שְׁנֵי נַעֲרָיו אֹתוֹ וְאֵת יִצְחָק בְּנוֹ וַיִּבְקַע
עֵצִי עֹלָה וַיִּקֶּם וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם
אֲשֶׁר־אָמַר־לוֹ הָאֱלֹהִים: (ד) בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי
וַיִּשָּׂא אַבְרָהָם אֶת־עֵינָיו וַיִּרְא אֶת־הַמָּקוֹם
מֵרָחֵק:

Genesis 22:1-4

(1) Some time afterward, God put Abraham to the test. He said to him, "Abraham," and he answered, "Here I am."
(2) And He said, "Take your son, your favored one, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the heights that I will point out to you." (3) So early next morning, Abraham saddled his ass and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He split the wood for the burnt offering, and he set out for the place of which God had told him. (4) On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place from afar.

David's Desire to Build a House for God

שמואל ב ו'ו'-'י

(ו) וַיָּבֹאוּ עַד־גֶּרֶן נָכוֹן וַיִּשְׁלַח עֹזָא
אֶל־אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים וַיֵּאָחֵז בּוֹ כִּי שָׁמְטוּ
הַבָּקָר: (ז) וַיַּחַר־אַף יְהוָה בְּעֹזָה וַיַּכְהוּ שָׁם
הָאֱלֹהִים עַל־הַשָּׂל עִמָּת שָׁם עִם אֲרוֹן
הָאֱלֹהִים: (ח) וַיַּחַר לְדָוִד עַל אֲשֶׁר פָּרַץ
יְהוָה פָּרִיץ בְּעֹזָה וַיִּקְרָא לַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא
פָּרִיץ עֹזָה עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: (ט) וַיִּרָא דָוִד
אֶת־יְהוָה בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא וַיֵּאמֶר אֵיךְ יָבֹא אֵלַי
אֲרוֹן יְהוָה: (י) וְלֹא־אָבִה דָוִד לְהִסִּיר אֵלָיו
אֶת־אֲרוֹן יְהוָה עַל־עֵיר דָּוִד וַיִּטֶּהוּ דָוִד בֵּית
עַבְד־אֲדוֹם הַגִּתִּית:

II Samuel 6:6-10

(6) But when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out for the Ark of God and grasped it, for the oxen had stumbled. (7) The LORD was incensed at Uzzah. And God struck him down on the spot for his indiscretion, and he died there beside the Ark of God. (8) David was distressed because the LORD had inflicted a breach upon Uzzah; and that place was named Perez-uzzah, as it is still called. (9) David was afraid of the LORD that day; he said, "How can I let the Ark of the LORD come to me?" (10) So David would not bring the Ark of the LORD to his place in the City of David; instead, David diverted it to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite.

David Buys the Land for the Temple

שמואל ב כ"ד:כ"ד-כ"ה

(כד) וַיֵּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־אֲרָוֶנָה לֹא כִּי־קָנוּ
אֲקָנָה מֵאוֹתָךְ בְּמַחִיר וְלֹא אֶעֱלֶה לַיהוָה
אֱלֹהֵי עֲלֹת חַנּוּם וַיִּקֶּן דָּוִד אֶת־הַגֶּרֶן
וְאֶת־הַבָּקָר בְּכֶסֶף שְׁקָלִים חֲמִשִּׁים: (כה)
וַיִּבֶן שָׁם דָּוִד מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה וַיַּעַל עֲלֹת

II Samuel 24:24-25

(24) But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I will buy them from you at a price. I cannot sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that have cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. (25) And

וּשְׁלָמִים וַיַּעֲתֶר יְהוָה לְאַרְיֵז וַתַּעֲצֹר
הַמִּגֵּפָה מֵעַל יִשְׂרָאֵל:

David built there an altar to the LORD and sacrificed burnt offerings and offerings of well-being. The LORD responded to the plea for the land, and the plague against Israel was checked.

Solomon Begins Building the First Temple

מלכים א ו'א'

(א) וַיְהִי בְשָׁמוֹנִים שָׁנָה וָאַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת
שָׁנָה לְצֵאת בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵאֶרֶץ־מִצְרַיִם
בְּשָׁנָה הָרְבִיעִית בְּחֹדֶשׁ זֹו הוּא הַחֹדֶשׁ
הַשְּׁנִי לְמֶלֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹה עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיְכֹן הַבַּיִת
לַיהוָה:

I Kings 6:1

(1) In the four hundred and eightieth year after the Israelites left the land of Egypt, in the month of Ziv—that is, the second month—in the fourth year of his reign over Israel, Solomon began to build the House of the LORD.

Babylonians Destroy the First Temple

מלכים ב כ"ה:ח-ט'

(ח) וּבַחֹדֶשׁ הַחֲמִישִׁי בְּשִׁבְעָה לַחֹדֶשׁ הַיּוֹם
שְׁנַת תְּשַׁע־עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה לְמֶלֶךְ נְבֻכַדְנֶצַּר
מֶלֶךְ־בָּבֶל בָּא נְבוּזַרְאֲדָן רַב־טַבָּחִים עֶבֶד
מֶלֶךְ־בָּבֶל יְרוּשָׁלַם: (ט) וַיִּשְׂרֹף
אֶת־בַּיִת־יְהוָה וְאֶת־בַּיִת הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶת
כָּל־בָּתֵּי יְרוּשָׁלַם וְאֶת־כָּל־בַּיִת גְּדוֹל שָׂרָף
בָּאֵשׁ:

II Kings 25:8-9

(8) On the seventh day of the fifth month—that was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon—Nebuzaradan, the chief of the guards, an officer of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. (9) He burned the House of the LORD, the king's palace, and all the houses of Jerusalem; he burned down the house of every notable person.

Solomon Asks God to Answer the Prayers of the Foreigners

מלכים א ח' מ"א-מ"ג

(מא) וגם אל-הַנְּכָרִי אֲשֶׁר לֹא-מֵעַמְּךָ
יִשְׂרָאֵל הוּא וּבֵא מֵאֶרֶץ רְחוֹקָה לְמַעַן
שְׁמֹךָ: (מב) כִּי יִשְׁמְעוּן אֶת-שְׁמֹךָ הַגָּדוֹל
וְאֶת-יָדְךָ הַחֲזָקָה וְזְרֹעֶךָ הַנְּטוּיָה וּבֵא
וְהִתְפַּלֵּל אֶל-הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה: (מג) אֲתָה תִשְׁמַע
הַשָּׁמַיִם מִכּוֹן שְׁבֻתֶךָ וְעֲשִׂיתָ כְּכֹל
אֲשֶׁר-יִקְרָא אֵלֶיךָ הַנְּכָרִי לְמַעַן יֵדְעוּ
כָּל-עַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ אֶת-שְׁמֹךָ לִירְאָה אֹתְךָ
כְּעַמְּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלִדְעַת כִּי-שְׁמֹךָ נִקְרָא
עַל-הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר בָּנִיתִי:

I Kings 8:41-43

(41) “Or if a foreigner who is not of Your people Israel comes from a distant land for the sake of Your name— (42) for they shall hear about Your great name and Your mighty hand and Your outstretched arm— when he comes to pray toward this House, (43) oh, hear in Your heavenly abode and grant all that the foreigner asks You for. Thus all the peoples of the earth will know Your name and revere You, as does Your people Israel; and they will recognize that Your name is attached to this House that I have built.

Jerusalem and the Temple are the Key to World Peace

ישעיהו ב' א'-ד'

(א) הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר חָזָה יִשְׁעִיָהוּ בֶן-אֲמוֹץ
עַל-יְהוּדָה וִירוּשָׁלַם: (ב) וְהָיָה | בְּאַחֲרֵית
הַיָּמִים נִכּוֹן יִהְיֶה הָר בַּיִת-יְהוָה בְּרֹאשׁ
הַהָרִים וְנִשְׂא מִגְּבָעוֹת וְנָהְרוּ אֵלָיו
כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם: (ג) וְהָלְכוּ עַמִּים רַבִּים וְאָמְרוּ
לָכוּ | וְנַעֲלֶה אֶל-הַר-יְהוָה אֶל-בַּיִת אֱלֹהֵי
יַעֲקֹב וְיִרְנוּ מְדַרְכָּיו וְנִלְכָה בְּאַרְחֹתָיו כִּי

Isaiah 2:1-4

(1) The word that Isaiah son of Amoz prophesied concerning Judah and Jerusalem. (2) In the days to come, The Mount of the LORD's House Shall stand firm above the mountains And tower above the hills; And all the nations Shall gaze on it with joy. (3) And the many peoples shall go and say: “Come, Let us go up to the Mount of the LORD, To the House of the

מְצִיּוֹן תֵּצֵא תוֹרָה וּדְבַר־יְהוָה מִירוּשָׁלַם:
(ד) וְשָׁפֵט בֵּין הַגּוֹיִם וְהוֹכִיחַ לְעַמִּים רַבִּים
וְכָתְתוּ חַרְבוֹתָם לְאֵתִים וַחֲנִיתוֹתֵיהֶם
לְמִזְמֵרוֹת לֹא־יִשָּׂא גּוֹי אֶל־גּוֹי חֶרֶב
וְלֹא־יִלְמְדוּ עוֹד מִלְחָמָה: (פ)

God of Jacob; That He may instruct us in His ways, And that we may walk in His paths.” For instruction shall come forth from Zion, The word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (4) Thus He will judge among the nations And arbitrate for the many peoples, And they shall beat their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks: Nation shall not take up Sword against nation; They shall never again know war.

The Temple in Jerusalem is God's House of Prayer for All Peoples

יִשְׁעֵיהֶו נ"ו:ז'
(ז) וְהֵבִיאֹתִים אֶל־הַר קְדֹשִׁי וְשִׁמְחָתִים
בְּבַיִת תְּפִלָּתִי עוֹלְתֵיהֶם וְזִבְחֵיהֶם לְרָצוֹן
עַל־מִזְבְּחִי כִּי בֵיתִי בַיִת־תְּפִלָּה יִקְרָא
לְכָל־הָעַמִּים:

Isaiah 56:7
(7) I will bring them to My sacred mount And let them rejoice in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices Shall be welcome on My altar; For My House shall be called A house of prayer for all peoples.”



