

Israel, God's Time Clock for Christ's Return

以色列，主再來的時鐘

Matthew 24: 32-33; 15-16



馬太 24 章

32

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15

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16

MGC 6/28/2020 馬利蘭福音教會

The Second Coming of Christ 基督第二次降臨



馬太福音廿四章 Matthew 24 MGC 5/10/2020

End Time Signs in Matthew 24 馬太24章的末時徵兆

End time signs by categories:

1) Signs in the world:

Disasters (natural): earthquakes, famine, violent weather, pestilence (Lk 21:11)

Disasters (man-made): wars, ethnic conflicts, economic problems, **social unrest & lawlessness (wickedness)**

2) Signs in the church:

Deceptions: false teachers, prophets & false Christ

Deflections: falling away from faith

Desecrations: persecution of Christians

Declaration: worldwide preaching of the gospel

行毀壞可憎的、
站在聖地

3) Signs in Israel: a) restoration; b) "abomination of desolation"

4) Signs in the sky: sun & moon darkened; stars fall from the sky; heavenly bodies shaken → the ultimate sign : sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky (人子的兆頭要顯在天上). All the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. 地上的萬族都要哀哭。他們要看見人子、有能力、有大榮耀、駕著天上的雲降臨。

Do You See End Time Signs? 你看見末日徵兆沒有？

Vast Majority of Pastors See Signs of End Times in Current Events

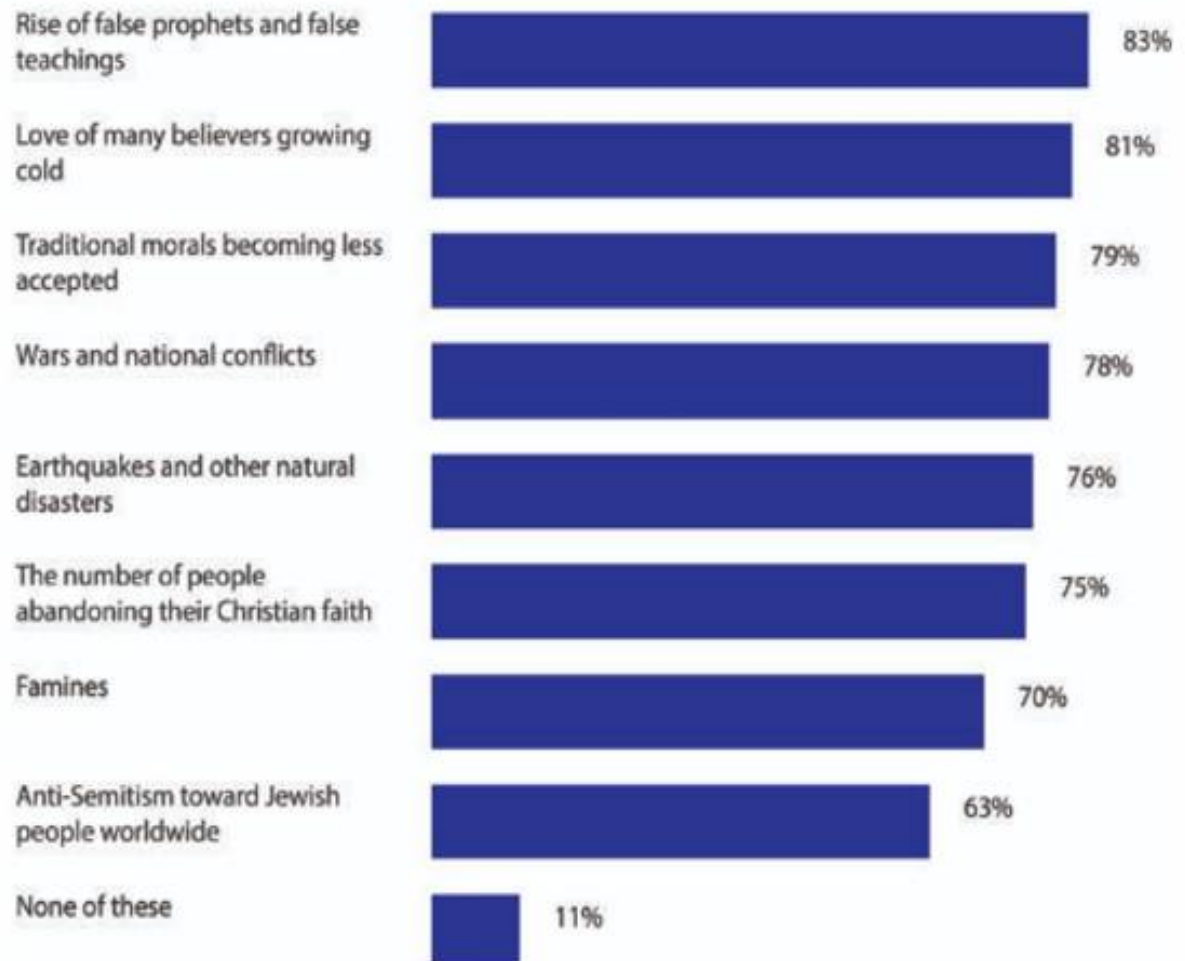
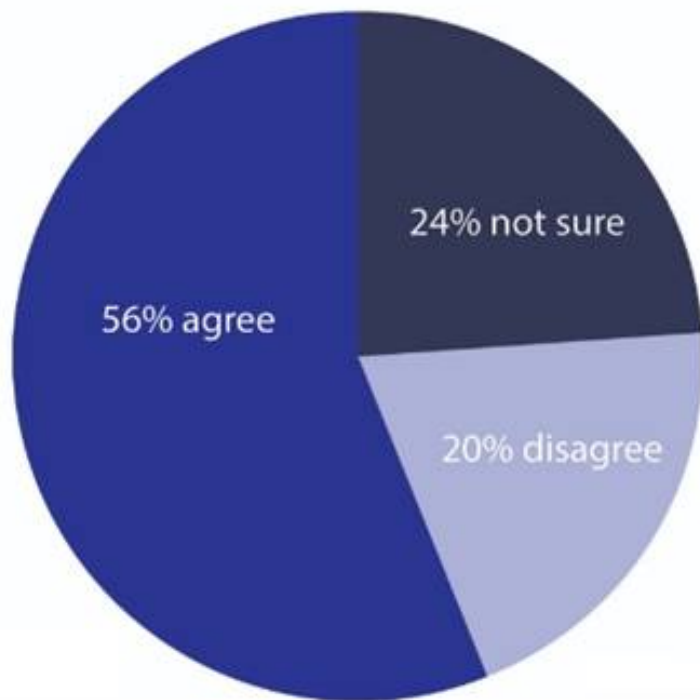
Survey conducted among
1000 evangelical pastors
Jan. 24 to Feb. 11, 2020

LifeWay | RESEARCH

Are any of these types of current events "birth pains" that Jesus was referring to when he was asked by his disciples when he would return?

Among pastors at evangelical and historically black churches

I expect Jesus to return in my lifetime.

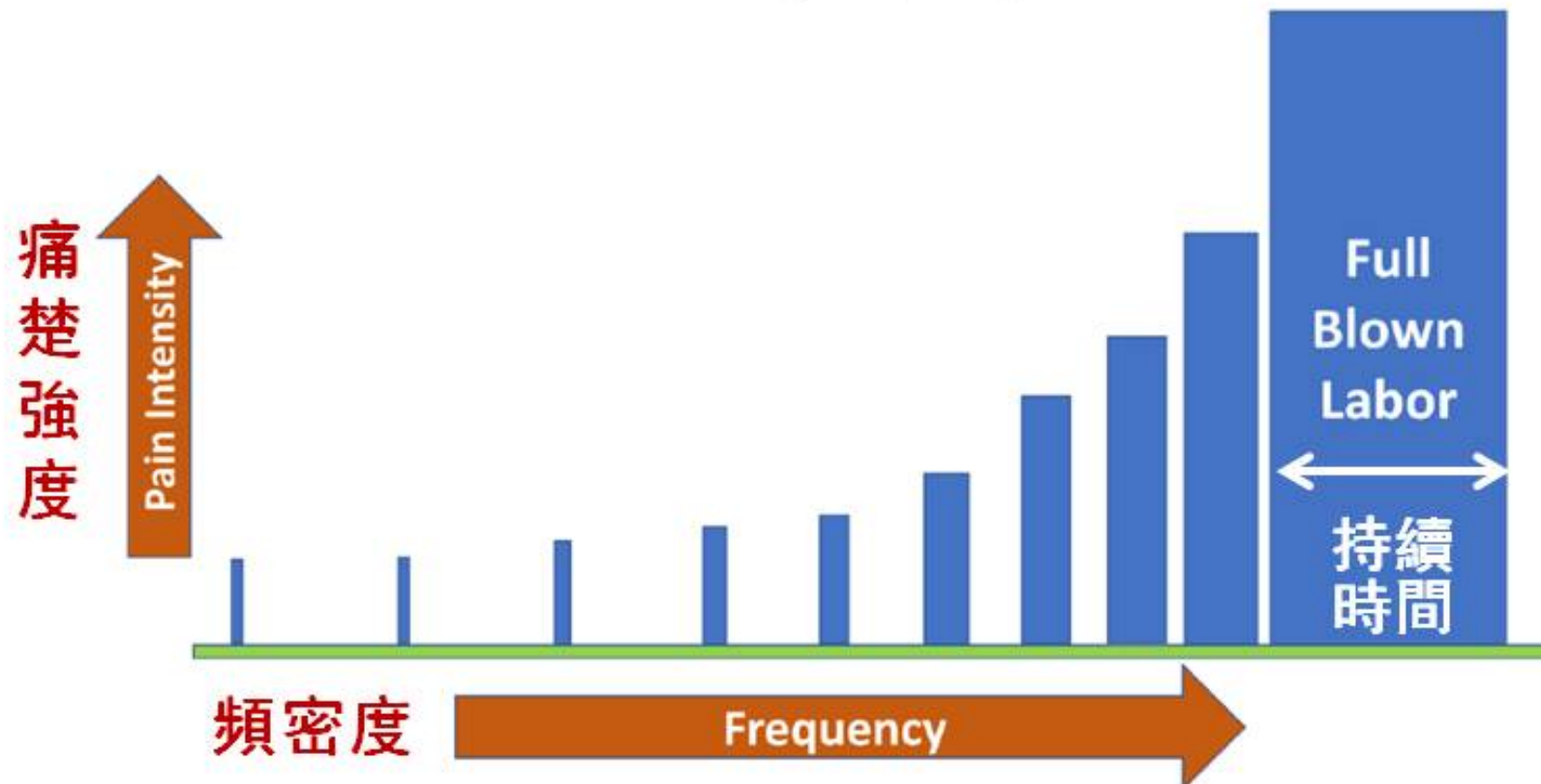


Are these end time signs? 這些是否末日徵兆？

but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but **the end is still to come**...All these are the beginning of birth pains. (Matthew 24:6,8)

因為這些事是必須有的. 只是**末期還沒有到**。..這都是災難的起頭。[災難原文作**生產之難**] (馬太 24:6, 8)

Labor Pains Increase in Intensity, Frequency and Duration Over Time



The 1st Specific Signs of Christ's Return 基督再來的第一個明確跡象

There will be **2 specific signs** for Christ's return. Both signs come from Israel which operates as God's alarm clock for the event.

- 1) This clock actually sounded an alarm 72 years ago and gave us a gentle wake up call:

"Now learn this lesson from the **fig tree**: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that **it is near, right at the door**.

你們可以從**無花果樹**學個比方：當樹枝發嫩長葉的時候、你們就知道夏天近了。這樣、你們看見這一切的事、也該知道**人子近了、正在門口了**”(太 Matthew 24:32-33)

"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: "Here I am! I **stand at the door and knock**. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in" (Rev. 啟 3:14,20)

你要寫信給老底嘉教會的使者、說...看哪、**我站在門外叩門**。若有聽見我聲音就開門的、我要進到他那裡去

Specific Signs of Christ's Return 基督再來的明確跡象

**Do NOT
Disturb !
Snooze that
alarm.**



The Miracle of Israel's Re-birth 以色列復國的神蹟

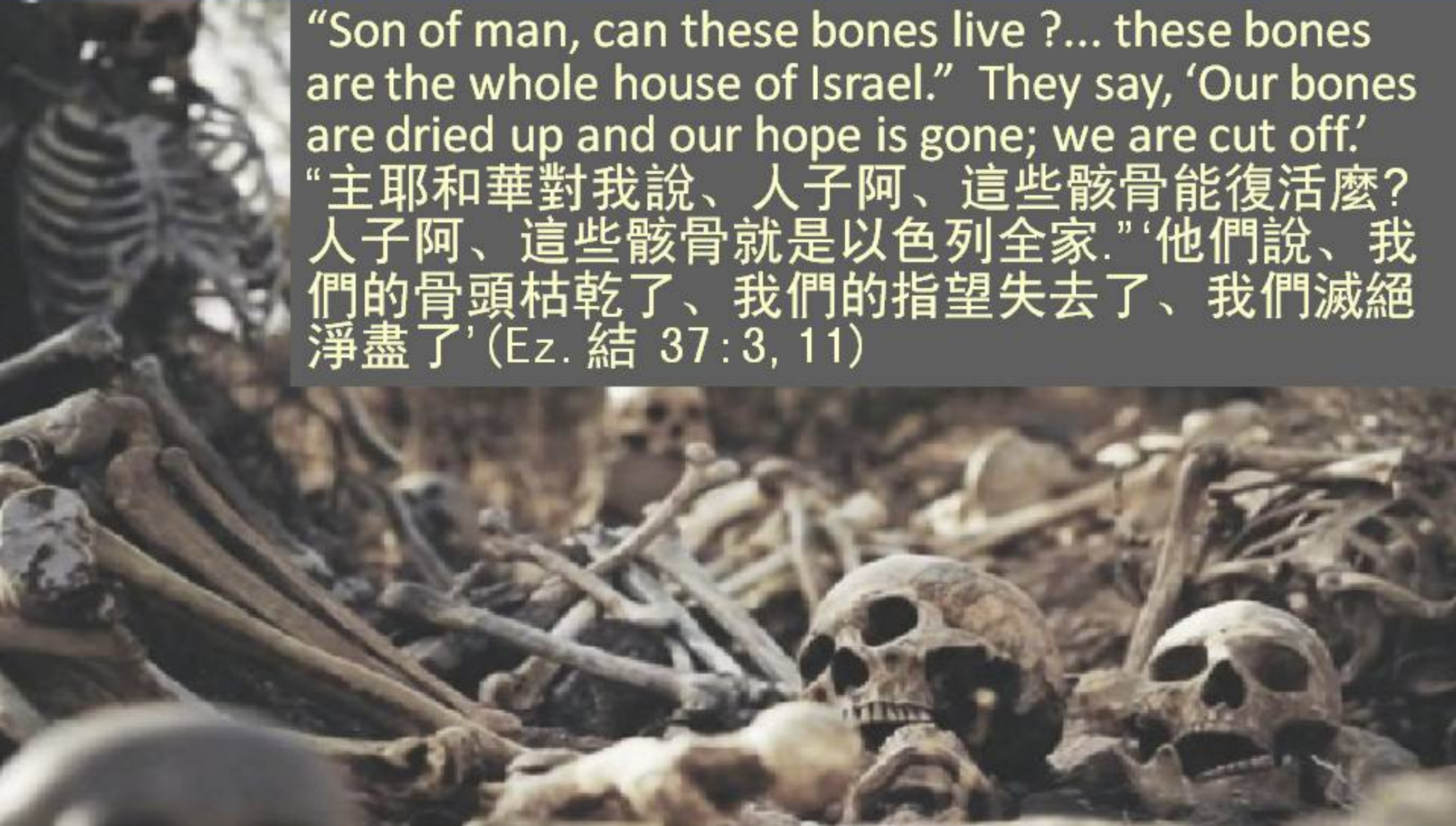
This miracle is bigger than most people realize. Israel, the northern kingdom was destroyed by Assyria (亞述) in 723 BC while Judah, the southern kingdom was destroyed by Babylon in 606/ 586 B.C. Both have vanished for > 2,500 years.

The Jews have lost their homeland and scattered throughout the world. Many, many millions of them were killed throughout history. The current global Jewish population is 14.7 million, less than the 16.6m before WW II. Nevertheless, they have survived all the killings throughout history.

The Jews have preserved their language, culture, religious faith and their strong desire to come back together to rebuild their country after 2,500 years. Ethnologists (人種/民族學家) consider this to be impossible.

During the time of Babylonian captivity, prophet Ezekiel was given a vision in which he saw a valley full of dry bones.

The Miracle of Israel's Re-birth 以色列復國的神蹟



“Son of man, can these bones live ?... these bones are the whole house of Israel.” They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’
“主耶和華對我說、人子阿、這些骸骨能復活麼？人子阿、這些骸骨就是以色列全家。”‘他們說、我們的骨頭枯乾了、我們的指望失去了、我們滅絕淨盡了’ (Ez. 結 37:3, 11)

The Valley of Dry Bones

The Miracle of Israel's Re-birth 以色列復國的神蹟

the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life.
主耶和華對這些骸骨如此說、我必使氣息進入你們裡面、你們就要活了。(Ez. 結 37:5)



The Valley of Dry Bones

The Miracle of Israel's Re-birth 以色列復國的神蹟



So working thru WW I , WWII & the UN, God put His chosen people back to their homeland and re-established the nation of Israel

The Miracle of Israel's Re-birth 以色列復國的神蹟

Even the date, May 14, 1948 when Israel was born again is itself a miracle, It was exactly as prophesied in the Old Testament.

God instructed Ezekiel to sleep 390 days on his left side to bear the sins of the house of Israel; then sleep 40 days on his right side for the sins of the house of Judah (Ez. 4). Each day represents 1 year of judgment. For a total of $390+40=430$ years of judgment.

The Jewish people were captured to Babylon in 606BC for 70 years and returned in 536 BC. So they were left with $430-70=360$ years to bear.

The Jews continue to sin against God after their return from captivity. So according to Leviticus 26:18-28, they would suffer 7 times for the remaining judgment, i.e. $7 \times 360 = 2,520$ years \leftarrow the year is a Jewish Biblical year which has 360 days in a years $\rightarrow 2520 \times 360 = 907,200$ days

We use the solar calendar which has 365.25 days per year. Therefore $907,200 \text{ days} / 365.25 \text{ days per year} = 2483.78$ solar years.

2484 years after 536 BC (the year the Israelites returned from captivity) is: $2484 - 536 = ?$ 1948 In fact it is accurate to the month.

The Miracle of Israel's Re-birth 以色列復國的神蹟

The promised land
God gave to Israel
was one that flowed
with "milk & honey".
But it turned barren
& desolate after 70
A.D. for 2,000 years

1911



Today



But the same piece
of land has now been
healed and turn back
into a beautiful
productive land

<https://galileegreen.com/barren-land/>

The 2nd Specific Sign of Christ's Return 基督再來的第二個明確跡象

The 2nd specific sign of Christ's return is given in Matt 24:15 . When this happens in Israel. It sends a loud siren to everyone to flee.

"So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel-- let the reader understand—then.. flee ... For then there will be great tribulation, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. Matthew 24:15,16, 20, 21 - 你們看見先知但以理所說的、那行毀壞可憎的、站在聖地。(讀這經的人須要會意) . 那時...你們應當..逃走..因為..必有大災難、從世界的起頭、直到如今、沒有這樣的災難、後來也必沒有。(馬太 24:15,16,20,21)

Pay attention to these words:

- 1) let the reader understand 讀這經的人須要會意 **Attention!**
- 2) spoken of through the prophet Daniel 但以理所說的
- 3) abomination that causes desolation 那行毀壞可憎的
- 4) the holy place 聖地

Prophet Daniel's Prophecy Regarding Israel's Future (Dan 9:24-27) 先知但以理有關以色列將來的預言 (但 9:24-27)

In very simple words, Daniel's prophecy, called the 70 weeks prophecy (但以理七十個七的預言) said God has decreed (prescribed) major future events for Israel in the 490 years following 445 BC. the year when a Persian king gave his decree to rebuild Jerusalem. In other words, God has set a timed clock for things to happen in Israel. (**Dan. 但 9:24**)

A week is 7 years. So 70 weeks is $70 \times 7 = 490$ years.
The year referred to is a Jewish year which has 360 days in a year compared to 365.25 days in a solar year which we use in our calendar today.

The 70 weeks are divided into 3 periods:



- 1) The first **7 weeks (49 years)** is the rebuilding period for Jerusalem starting from 445 BC. (**Dan 但 9:25**)

Prophet Daniel's Prophecy Regarding Israel's Future (Dan 9:24-27) 先知但以理有關以色列將來的預言 (但 9:24-27)

2) There will be a long uneventful period of **62 weeks (434 years)**. But at the end of the 62 weeks, there will be three major breathtaking events. (Dan 但9:26)

a) The “Anointed One 受膏者” of Israel, the promised Messiah, supposedly Jesus, would show up and enter the holy city. This happened on the exact date when Jesus rode a donkey (a colt) into Jerusalem in 32 AD. Yet no one recognized Him as the “Anointed One” i.e. the promised Messiah.

b) The “Anointed One” will be cut off (Jesus crucified). This did happen only 4 days after Jesus entered Jerusalem.

c) A ruler will come and destroy Jerusalem and the temple. Wars and desolation will persist on Israel's land till the end. This happened in 70 AD when Roman prince / general Titus came and completely destroyed Jerusalem, the temple and killed a million Jews. The Jewish people have since lost their homeland and were scattered throughout the world.

Prophet Daniel's Prophecy Regarding Israel's Future (Dan 9:24-27)

先知但以理有關以色列將來的預言 (但 9:24-27)

NISAN 2,
MARCH 15
445 B.C.

69 weeks

NISAN 10,
APRIL 9
32 A.D.

= 483 Jewish years

= 173,880 days

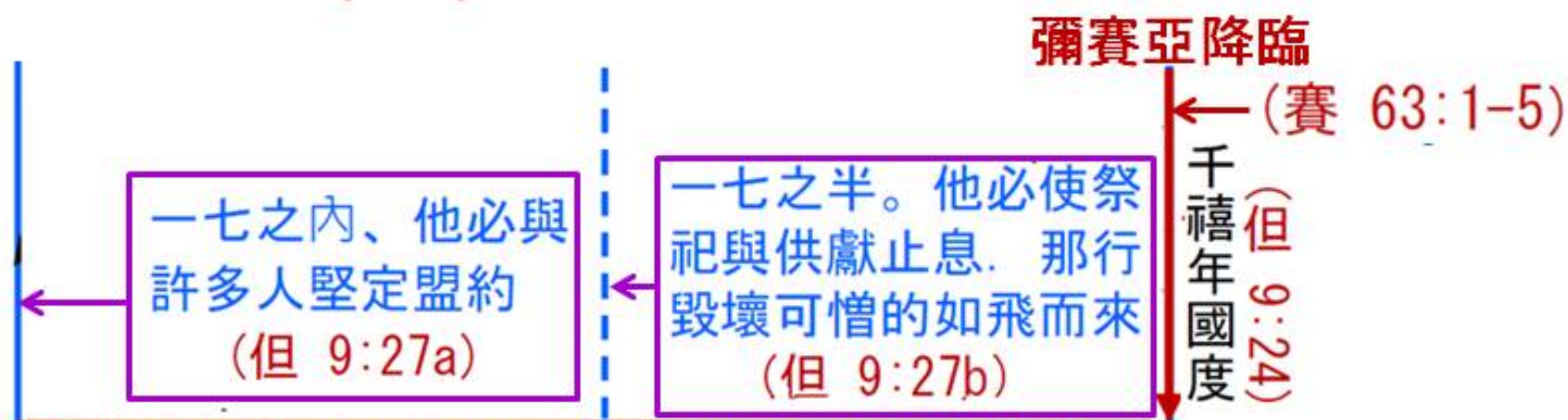
= 476 solar years +25 days



Prophet Daniel's Prophecy Regarding Israel's Future (Dan 9:24-27) 先知但以理有關以色列將來的預言 (但 9:24-27)

- 3) The final week, the **70th week**, (the last 7 years) will be divided into two halves: (Dan 但9:27)
- a) For the **first 3 ½ years**, “he” an unnamed person (supposedly the anti-Christ) will make a peace treaty with Israel (Dan 9:27a)
 - b) For the **second 3 ½ years** “he” will break his treaty and set up an “abomination that causes desolation” in the temple until he is destroyed at the end of the 7 years (Dan 9:27b)
-

The last (70th) week 最後的一個七



太 24:21-22 因為那時、必有大災難、從世界的起頭、直到如今、沒有這樣的災難、後來也必沒有。若不減少那日子、凡有血氣的、總沒有一個得救的。只是為選民、那日子必減少了。

先知但以理預言圖示

Graphic Illustration of Daniel's Prophecy

舊約先知們的視野
The visions of the Old Testament prophets



1st. Coming of Christ
耶穌基督第一次來臨

2nd. Coming of Christ
耶穌基督第二次來臨

人的國度

人的國度與神的國度共存

神的國度

但以理的預言

巴比倫

瑪代波斯

希臘

羅馬

Prophecy of Daniel

Babylonian

Persian

Greek

Roman

教會時期
Church Age

God's Kingdom &
Man's Kingdom co-exist

最後七年

Last 7 years

千年國度

Millennium

新天新地

New Heaven
& New Earth

God's Kingdom



Abomination that Causes Desolation 行毀壞可憎的

"when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—
你們看見先知但以理所說的、那行毀壞可憎的、站在聖地。
(Matthew 太 24:15) – This set off the 2nd (final) alarm

"Abomination" means something that is disgusting, a great sin worthy of death. It is often associated with idolatry.

As with many prophecies in the Bible, Daniel's prophecy has a dual or near & far term fulfillments (雙重遠近期應驗).

Near Term: During 175-165 B.C. a Syrian king named **Antiochus (安提亞古)** ruled over the Jews. He assumed the title "Theos Epiphanes" (god manifest) and set up in the temple an idol of Zeus(宙斯), the pagan god he believed himself to be. He defiled the temple by sacrificing a pig, the most unclean animal to the Jews on the altar and forced the priest to eat the meat. He also conducted immoral activities inside the temple. **Antiochus is a type of anti-Christ to come.**

Far term: II Thes. 2 tells us In the end time, a "man of lawlessness" will be revealed, he will sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God 那日子以前、必有那大罪人(不法之人)顯露出來。他是抵擋主、高抬自己、甚至坐在 神的殿裡、自稱是神(帖後2:3-4)

先知但以理預言圖示

Graphic Illustration of Daniel's Prophecy

舊約先知們的視野
The visions of the Old Testament prophets



1st. Coming of Christ
耶穌基督第一次來臨

2nd. Coming of Christ
耶穌基督第二次來臨

人的國度

人的國度與神的國度共存

神的國度

但以理的預言

巴比倫

瑪代波斯

希臘

安提亞古

羅馬

Babylonian

Persian

Greek

Antiochus

Roman

Prophecy of Daniel

We are probably here
我們大概在這裏

教會時期
Church Age

Rapture
被提

敵基督
Anti-Christ

千年國度
Millennium

新天新地
New Heaven & New Earth

Man's Kingdom

God's Kingdom &
Man's Kingdom co-exist

God's Kingdom



Standing on the Holy Place 站在聖地

"when you see **standing in the holy place** 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—
你們看見先知但以理所說的、那行毀壞可憎的、**站在聖地**。
(Matthew 太 24:15)

The holy place refers to the temple, the site where Abraham offered to sacrifice his son Isaac, the threshing floor King David bought from Araunah (阿珥楠) which was later used by his son King Solomon to build God's temple.

For the anti-Christ to stand in the holy place implies a 3rd temple will be built. Without a 3rd Israel temple, Daniel's prophecy and Matthew 24:15 cannot be fulfilled.

But where is Solomon's temple site? Jerusalem and its temple was so devastated in 70 AD, it left no sign of the temple's whereabouts. No one knows for sure where is its location.

Many Jews believes the temple site is on the Temple Mount (聖殿山) where two Muslim mosques now stand.

A Highly Contested Holy Site 激烈爭議的聖地

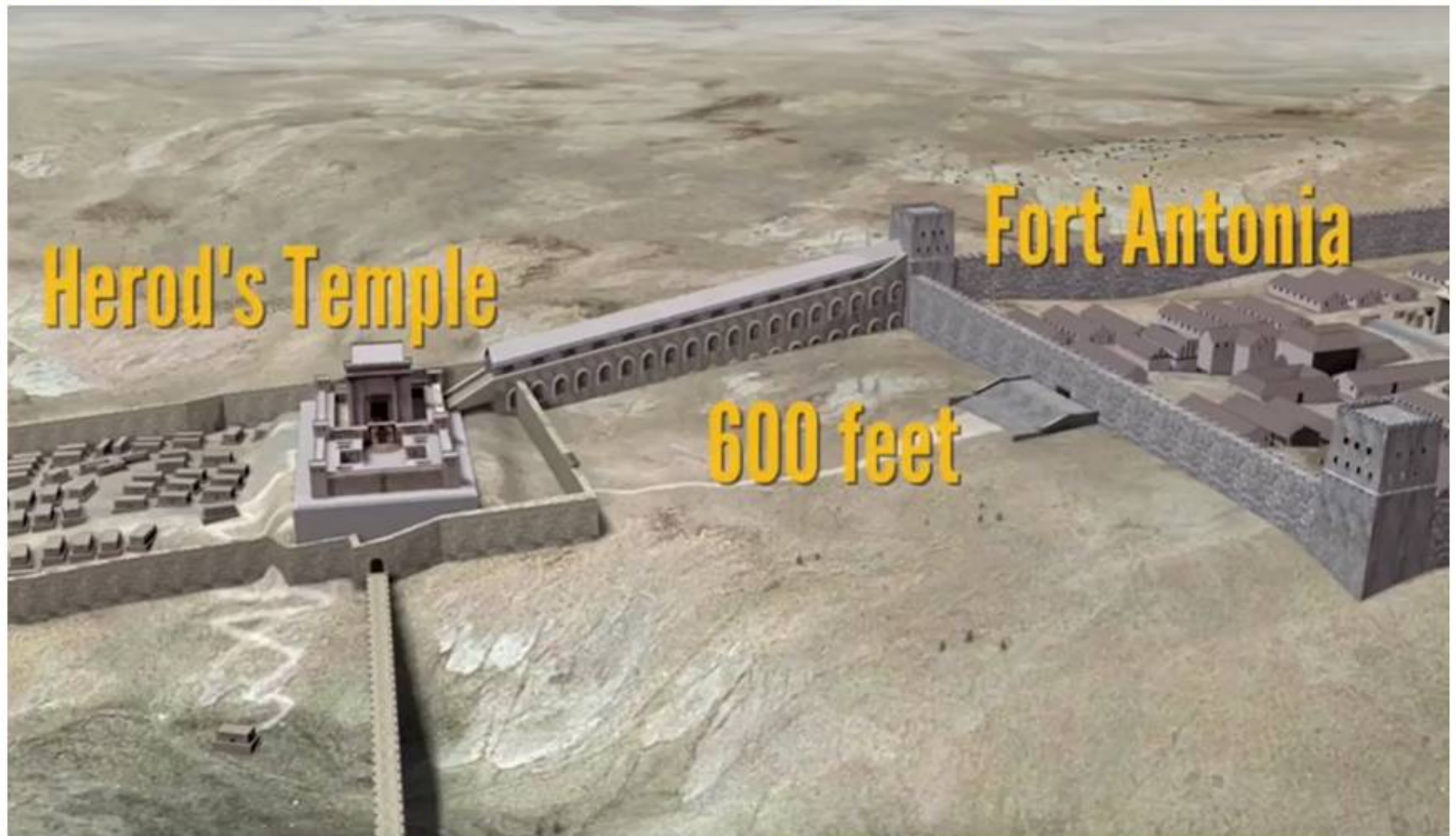


Aerial View of Temple Mount Today

There is no way Israel's 3rd temple can be built if the Muslim mosques currently on Temple Mount has to be demolished because it will lead to World War III

Where Was the Temple 聖殿地點在何處？

Recent research based on Biblical accounts both in the OT & NT indicates Solomon's temple site is located south of the Temple Mount. And Temple Mount is actually the site of an old Roman fort for its soldiers just north & outside Herod's temple in Jesus' time



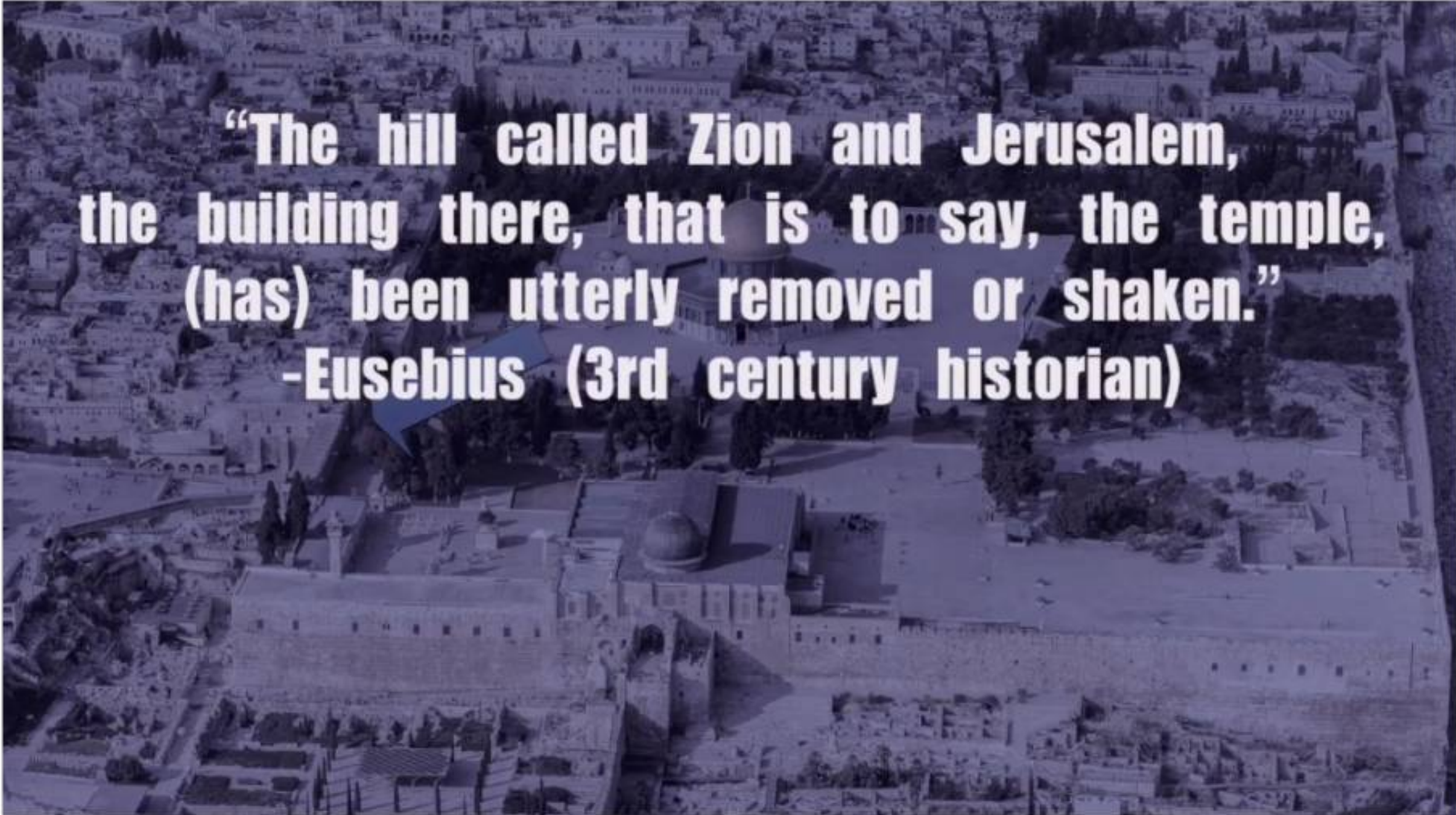
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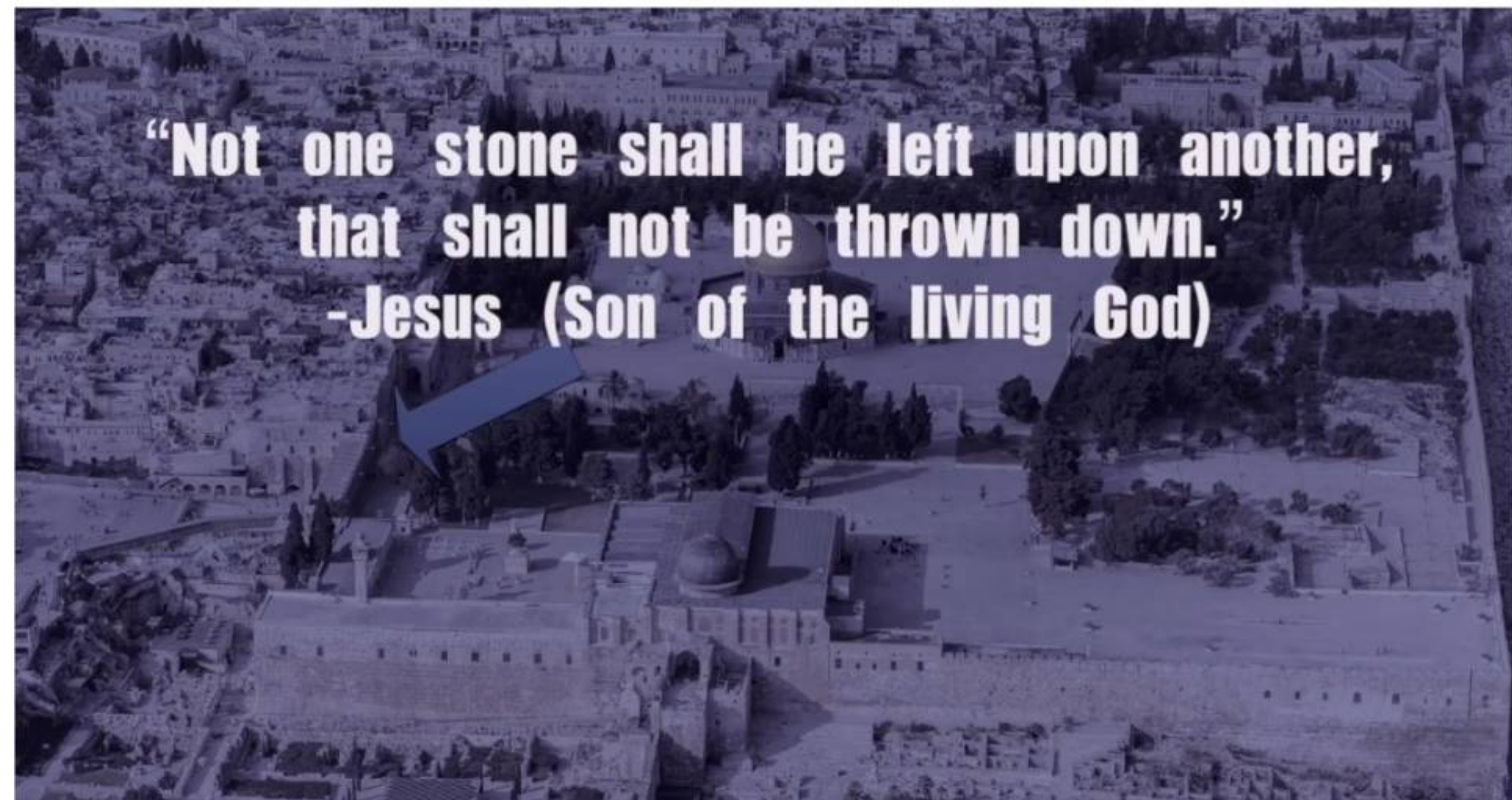
An aerial photograph of Jerusalem, showing the Temple Mount and the surrounding city. The Temple Mount is a large, flat, rectangular area in the center of the image, surrounded by a wall. It contains several large buildings, including the Dome of the Rock. The surrounding city is densely packed with buildings of various sizes and colors. The text is overlaid on the image, centered over the Temple Mount area.

**“The hill called Zion and Jerusalem,
the building there, that is to say, the temple,
(has) been utterly removed or shaken.”
-Eusebius (3rd century historian)**

Where Was the Temple 聖殿地點在何處？

Recent research based on Biblical accounts both in the OT & NT indicates Solomon's temple site is located south of the Temple Mount. And Temple Mount is actually the site of an old Roman fort for its soldiers just north & outside Harold's temple in Jesus' time

**“Not one stone shall be left upon another,
that shall not be thrown down.”
-Jesus (Son of the living God)**



Building Israel's 3rd Temple 重建以色列的第三聖殿

Just as the regathering of the Jewish People is fulfillment of Bible prophecy, so too is the building of the Third Holy Temple.

Today, many of the preparations for the Third Temple have already been completed, including the Temple's design, building materials, sacred vessels in the temple and priestly garments to be worn by the Levites in Temple services.

Also, over 500 Jewish men, identified as descendents of the Levi tribe thru DNA testing, have been trained as priests to fulfill their duties of worship and sacrifice in the Temple.

Building Israel's 3rd Temple 建造以色列的第三聖殿



Building Israel's 3rd Temple 建造以色列的第三聖殿



US EMBASSY IN ISRAEL

EMBASSY RELOCATION MARKS MAJOR SHIFT IN US POLICY

THE TEMPLE WILL BE REBUILT!

Building Israel's 3rd Temple 重建以色列的第三聖殿

But before Israel can use the 3rd Temple, it needs one very important thing: a red heifer (小紅母牛), this is according to Moses' laws.



Red heifer sacrifice will precede any sacrifices on the 3rd Temple altar



The Temple service can't begin without the sacrifice of a red heifer. The ashes from the sacrifice of a heifer is used to make a cleansing water. Everything, the temple, the sacred vessels and the priests has to be purified before they can be used.

Building Israel's 3rd Temple 重建以色列的第三聖殿

The requirements for a red heifer is very strict. All the hairs in its body from head to toe must be red, not a single hair can be of other colors. It must not have any blemish and must not have ever carried any yoke.

For the past 3,000 years, there has only been 9 heifers found & used. Moses used the first one for cleansing after the Israelites defiled themselves by worshiping a golden calf.



Building Israel's 3rd Temple 重建以色列的第三聖殿

So it appears everything is ready to go for building the 3rd Temple if the Jews can recognize and accept the original Temple site to be outside of Temple Mount

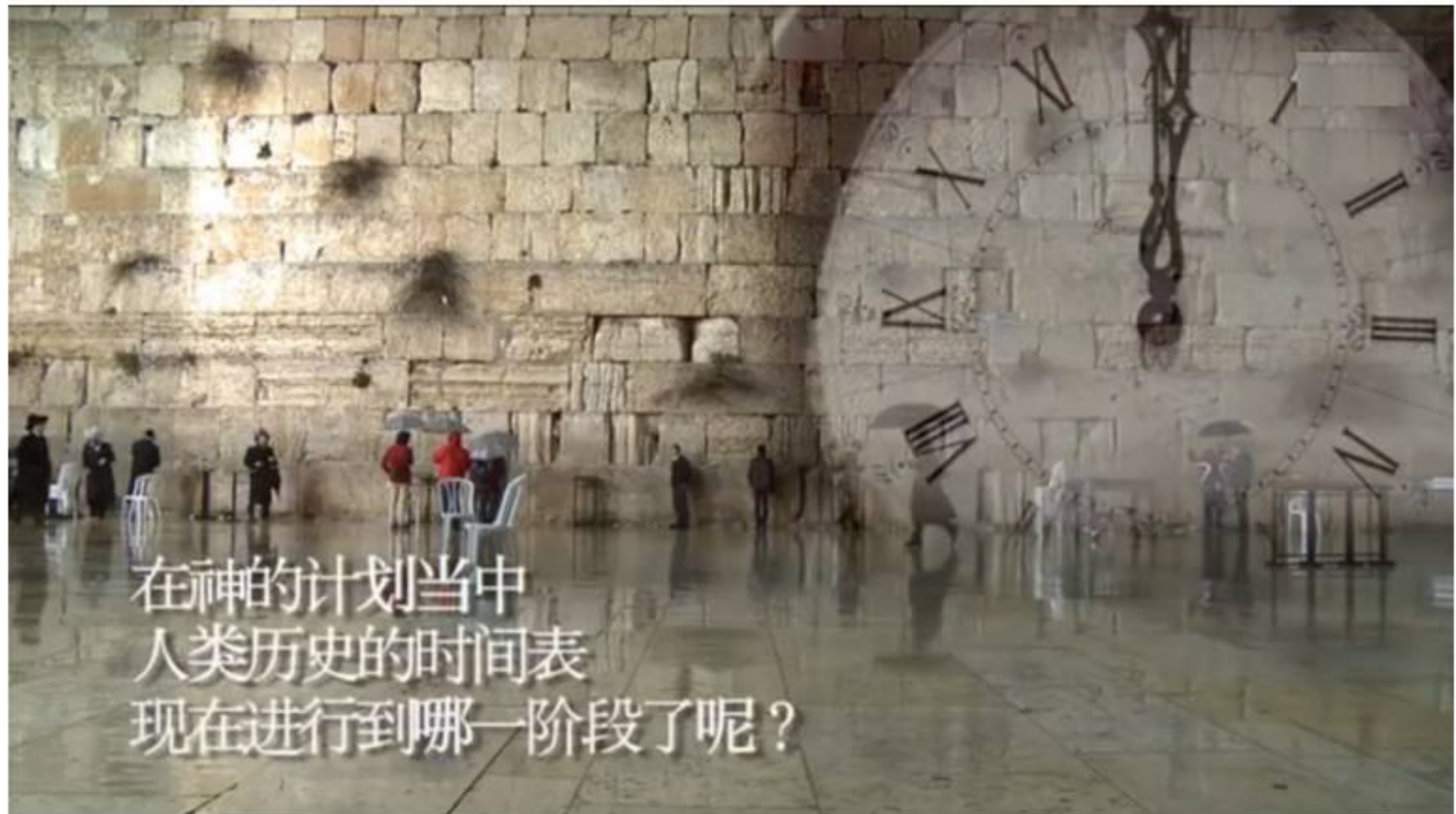
With today's science & technology, the Temple can be built very quickly. In April 2015 China finished a 57 storey skyscraper in 19 days in Changsha. China also finished a 2,000 bed hospital in Wuhan in about a week earlier this year.

Things are happening and changing very, very rapidly since 2020 began. We saw the speed the virus spread, the global economies and stock markets collapse , and social turmoil spreading globally, all happening at unprecedented speed.

But where is the anti-Christ and who is he?

He may not have appeared yet, but he could show up any time faster than anyone can imagine.

Ending Words 結語



在神的计划当中
人类历史的时间表
现在进行到哪一阶段了呢？

Ending Words 結語



Are we going to go through the tribulation or not?
Are we going to be raptured or left behind ?
And are re we going to meet Christ or the anti-Christ?
Stay tuned for the next message(s)

Israel, God's Time Clock for Christ's Return

以色列，主再來的時鐘

Matthew 24: 32-33; 15-16



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