

Israel (Jerusalem) was...is now...and will be...

1. Chronologically – Melchizedek's descendants 3700BC, then Abraham 2000BC, then Moses 1500BC, then David 1000BC, Jesus 33AD, then retaken in crusades, then 6 day war 1967 after ww2, today, then Armageddon.

Abraham took his son Isaac to the same mount where God gave his son as a sacrifice over 2000 years later. Jesus will return to Jerusalem when he comes back.

Archaeological evidence suggests that the first settlement was established near [Gihon Spring](#) between 4500–3500 BCE. The first known mention of the city was in c. 2000 BCE. The period between **Abraham's** call to enter Canaan (AM 2021) and Jacob's entry into Egypt is 215 years, calculated from the ages of **Abraham**, Isaac and Jacob; the period in Egypt is stated in Exodus 12:40 as 430 years, although the Septuagint and Samaritan texts both give only 430 years between **Abraham** and Moses. According to the Bible, the [Israelite](#) history of the city began in c. 1000 BCE, with [King David's](#) sack of Jerusalem, following which Jerusalem became the [City of David](#) and capital of the [United Kingdom of Israel](#)

first inhabited by Melchizedek, was the king of Salem and priest of El Elyon (God) mentioned in the 14th chapter of the Book of Genesis. This priest rode out to Abraham and Abe gave him a tithe to honor him.

“Promised land” to Abraham and Moses - The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. Gen 12:1... I will always keep the promise I have made to you and your descendants, because I am your God and their God. ⁸ I will give you and them the land in which you are now a foreigner. I will give the whole land of Canaan to your family forever, and I will be their God. Gen 17

2. was invaded many times by outsiders and inhabited by foreigners. During its long history, Jerusalem has been attacked **52 times**, captured and recaptured **44 times**, besieged **23 times**, and destroyed **twice**.

3. Current population of almost 9 million – GDP is 54th in the world – currency is the shekel – Democracy President Reuven Rivlin, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu -

Religion (2016) 74.7% Jewish, 17.7% Muslim, 2.0% Christian, 1.6% Druze, 4.0% other. Language is Hebrew, music is...traditional folk, modern pop, religious worship, etc – top 5 foods are...

1. Falafel

The king of Israeli food, no question, though actually originally from Egypt. A delicious mix of chickpeas and/or fava beans, plus spices liberally applied according to each falafel stand owner's secret recipe, these little falafel balls are then thrust into a pita, nestling alongside freshly cut salads, hummus, tehina sauce, pickled vegetables and maybe some chips.

You can find falafel on almost every street corner, especially in the larger towns. Prices are very cheap, often as low as 10-15 shekels per portion – and then there's the unspoken rule of free salad refills (you'll have to pay for more falafel balls), as long as you have any semblance of a pita left to hold it in! A cheap, very satisfying meal.

2. Hummus

The prince charming of Israeli food, hummus (or humus, hummous, etc), hummus is actually originally Lebanese. Hummus is a kind of dip or spread made from crushed chickpeas and mixed with tehina sauce, lemon, olive oil, salt and garlic.

3. Shwarma

You can often find shwarma in exactly the same place as falafel, and if not, it'll usually be very close by. Another street food extremely popular in Israel, shwarma is typically slices of turkey, chicken or lamb, which are usually shaved off a huge slab of meat rotating (vertically) on a big spit. Similar in style to the Turkish doner kebab.

Eaten in much the same way as falafel, stuffed into a pita with salad, hummus, tehina sauce, pickles and chips, or for the big boys, a *lafa*, which is an Iraqi-style pita, rolled up around the slices of meat and salad. Costs much the same as a falafel portion, though if you go for the *lafa* you could be paying around 35 shekels. Personally, I find shwarma a much more satisfying meal than either hummus or falafel.

4. Jachnun

The king of weekend eating, Jachnun is a traditional Yemenite dish usually only served on a Saturday morning (though is available in many hotels and restaurants throughout the week). Jachnun is made of rolled dough made with plenty of unhealthy margarine, which is then cooked overnight for around 10-12 hours.

The best way to eat Jachnun is with grated tomato, spiced up a little with some Yemenite *schug* (be careful, it can rip your tongue off!), along with a hard-boiled egg, preferably one also cooked in the same overnight pot. Read here for more [jachnun delights](#), including the best places to eat it.

5. Shakshooka

Another fantastic Israeli food that also has its roots in the Arabic world. This concoction of tomatoes, onions, plenty of garlic, as well as some crucial spices such as sweet paprika, is usually a fairly liquidy mess that is then topped off with a poached egg in the same frying pan.

Shocking Truths about Sharing the Gospel in Israel

Hard truth #1 is this; most of the Jewish people living in Israel in 2018 don't believe in God.

Hard truth #2, the modern Nation State of Israel is wallowing in DEEP unrighteousness and sin.

Tel Aviv is one of the world's most gay-friendly cities and the Israeli Ministry of Tourism spends almost as much money trying to attract homosexual tourists to come to Tel Aviv as it does trying to attract Evangelical Christian pilgrims to come to Jerusalem

Hard truth #3; Most of the efforts made by Gentile Christians to share the Gospel with Jewish people in Israel is either a complete waste of time and resources, or in many cases actually counter-productive, despite unquestionably good intentions.

Have you ever thought about how it must look to an ordinary Jewish-Israeli person who sees a Christian pastor and the group of pilgrims he's leading fawning over Orthodox rabbis and listening in rapt attention to every word they say, no matter how out of line with Scripture it might be?

Do you think it makes them jealous? Do you think it makes them curious? Do you think it makes them want the kind of relationship with God that you have?

In my experience and observation it absolutely does not.

What DOES provoke them to jealousy is when they see a Christian person living without fear, in hope, in joy and in love because they've got a relationship with the Jewish Messiah. It makes them jealous when they see that Christian people read the Jewish Bible for themselves and can understand and apply it without the assistance of a Rabbi

The promise was first made to Abraham (**Genesis 15:18-21**), then confirmed to his son **Isaac** (**Genesis 26:3**), and then to Isaac's son **Jacob** (**Genesis 28:13**), Abraham's grandson. The Promised Land was described in terms of the territory from the **River of Egypt** to the Euphrates river (Exodus 23:31).

Isa 46:13 - I am bringing my righteousness near, it is not far away; and my salvation will not be delayed. I will grant salvation to Zion, my splendor to Israel.

Micah 4:2

² Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

(PSALMS 122:

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² Our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together.

⁴ That is where the tribes go up— the tribes of the LORD— to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel.

⁵ There stand the thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

⁷ May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels."

⁸ For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you."

⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.

Blessed is God from Zion, He Who dwells in Jerusalem, Hallelujah! (PSALMS 135:21)

May God bless you from Zion, Maker of Heaven and Earth. (PSALMS 134:3)

God loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. (PSALMS 87:2)

God is recognized in Judah; in Israel His Name is great. PSALMS (114:2)

It is He who makes your borders peaceful. (PSALMS 147:14)

FUTURE of Israel and Jerusalem from scripture –

1. He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. Isaiah 11:12

2. For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And I will enter into judgment with them there, on behalf of my people and my heritage Israel, because they have scattered them among the nations and have divided up my land. Joel 3:1-2

3. He says: It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. Isaiah 49:6

4. Zech 14 - A day of the LORD is coming, Jerusalem, when your possessions will be plundered and divided up within your very walls. ² I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. ³ Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights on a day of battle. ⁴ On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.... On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half of it east to the Dead Sea and half of it west to the Mediterranean Sea, in summer and in winter. ⁹ The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name. ¹⁰ The whole land, from Geba to Rimmon, south of Jerusalem, will become like the Arabah. But Jerusalem will be raised up high from the Benjamin Gate to the site of the First Gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the royal winepresses, and will remain in its place. ¹¹ It will be inhabited; never again will it be destroyed. Jerusalem will be secure. Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles. ¹⁷ If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain

5. And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called ar-magedon." (REVELATION 16:16) (90 miles away from Jerusalem)

6. Rev 22:1 - Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God