

**WALKING IN THE LAND OF THE BIBLE (Paul E. Engle)**  
**Session #11 Walking Around Jerusalem**

**INTRODUCTION**

A. "1000 Places to See Before You Die"?

B. Jerusalem. It's mentioned by name \_\_\_\_\_ **times** in the Bible— - more than any other place.

**I. UNDERSTANDING THE STRATEGIC LOCATION OF JERUSALEM**

A. What do you think might be some reasons why this location of Jerusalem was chosen to be so special in biblical history?

1. Geographers often study the reasons behind why cities develop where they do and what factors lead to their becoming a large city over time or remaining as a small village.
2. For example, sometimes patterns of settlement are due to the area's site. What geographical factors do they look for? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Let's apply these criteria to the location of Jerusalem. On the surface it doesn't seem an obvious choice. Why?

- 1.
- 2.

C. Here are some factors:

1. It was within \_\_\_\_\_

\* Ezekiel 5:5

\* Psalm 48:2-3

2. Another major advantage was that it enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 125:2 "*As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people.*"  
What 2 valleys? \_\_\_\_\_.[Atlas p.46-47)

**B. Geographical/physical markers:**

1. It's located \_\_\_\_\_ east of Mediterranean Sea; \_\_\_\_\_ east of the Dead Sea.  
Elevation is \_\_\_\_\_ ft. above sea level with a Mediterranean climate.i

2. The boundaries of the city kept growing from David (p.22) to Solomon (p.23) to Nehemiah (p.40) to time of Christ (p.46-47).

3. Today the Old City of Jerusalem has walls that approximate where they were in the days of Christ. Built in AD 1537-41 by the Turkish sultan Suleiman II.

4. Nine gates - picture as clock going clockwise below:

- \* Damascus gate (12 noon)
- \* Herod's Gate (1 p.m.)
- \* Lion's or Sheep Gate or St. Stephen's (2 p.m.)
- \* Golden Gate (3 p.m.) Christ's entry on Palm Sunday? With the expulsion of the Crusaders from Jerusalem in AD1187 this gate was mortared in. According to Arabic legend it won't be reopened until
- \* Dung Gate (4 p.m.)
- \* Tanner's Gate (4:30 p.m.)
- \* Zion Gate (6 p.m.)
- \* Jaffa Gate (9 p.m.)
- \* New Gate (10 p.m.)

6. Today the old city divided into **four quarters**: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. FOCUS ON THE JERUSALEM GEOGRAPHICAL HINGE IN LUKE'S GOSPEL:-

turn to Luke 9:51-53

1. If you were to give these verses a title, what might you call it? \_\_\_\_\_
2. It's clearly a turning point because **v.51** begins with the phrase: "*As the time approached.*" Luke uses the same expression in Acts 2:1
3. The time had come for God's \_\_\_\_\_
4. So now that the time arrived what did Jesus do? V.52 \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was Jesus resolving? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Jerusalem is central to Luke's view of God's plan. How do we know?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. So when you read through the book of Luke and come to chapter 9 there's a pivotal turning point. Luke organizes his Gospel so that from this point on the shadow of the cross appears on all that follows.
8. As Jesus heads to Jerusalem, what appears in the road? See v.53 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Map of trip southward needing to cross Jerusalem and go longer route
10. Application:
  - a. Jesus is deliberately reaching out to \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Jesus models for us the importance of \_\_\_\_\_

## III. WHAT'S THE FUTURE OF JERUSALEM

There is no going backward in history so that Jerusalem will again occupy this central place. Why?

1. Because \_\_\_\_\_
2. Because Jesus confirmed that the focus \_\_\_\_\_
3. Because after the ascension and the day of Pentecost the focal point of God's redemptive work shifted from Jerusalem to \_\_\_\_\_  
"The Judaizers in Jerusalem had muffled the freedom of the gospel in favor of the bondage of legalism. The Jews were inhabiting Jerusalem, but it was no longer 'the city of God' as it had been under the typological administration of the old covenant." (O Palmer Robertson, *The Israel of God*, p. 29) cf. p. 194 "*The land of the Bible served in a typological role as a model of the consummate realization of the purposes of God for his redeemed people that encompasses the whole of the cosmos. Because of the inherently limited scope of the land of the Bible, it is not to be regarded as having continuing significance in the realm of redemption other than its function as a teaching model.*"
4. Because our focus should shift from \_\_\_\_\_ Cf. Hebrews 12:22

**CONCLUDING REMINDER:** Read your Bible with a mental map in your head, looking intentionally for geographical clues! If you do, you'll find the Biblical truth jumps off the page to grab you more frequently!!

