

According to the Book of Nehemiah, there were originally 10 gates located on the walls of the city of Jerusalem. Around the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem today are found only 8 gates. Beginning with the NE gate and moving counter-clockwise, the names of the gates are as follows: Herod's Gate, Damascus Gate, New Gate, Jaffa Gate, Zion Gate, Dung Gate, Eastern Gate, and the Lions' Gate.

Of all these gates today, only one is closed – The Eastern Gate. The Eastern Gate has special significance in end-time prophecy. The prophecy is recorded in the BOOK OF EZEKIEL.

EZEKIEL 44:1-3 “Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east; and it was shut. Then said the LORD unto me; This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the LORD, the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.”

God revealed that the Eastern Gate would be closed and not reopened until Messiah returns.

THE SEALING OF THE EASTERN GATE

The sealing of the Eastern Gate was fulfilled nearly 500 years ago when the Ottoman Sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent, conquered Jerusalem in 1517.

Suleiman learned that Scripture prophesied that a Jewish Messiah would one day come from the East to deliver the Jewish people. Suleiman commanded the Eastern Gate to be shut, and a Muslim cemetery be placed in front of it. Suleiman believed that no Jewish holy man would risk defilement by walking through a cemetery to enter the Eastern Gate.

The Eastern Gate has remained closed to this day. The current gate was built either as part of Justinian's building program (520's AD) or in the latter part of the 7th Century by the Byzantines. Archaeologists are not certain. It is believed that the current gate is built above the ruins of the original.

HOW THE EASTERN GATE SURVIVED

It is a miracle how the Eastern Gate has survived for nearly 500 years of turmoil in Israel. In 1917, the British general, Edmund Allenby, led his troops to surround the city of Jerusalem. The night before his impending invasion, Allenby prayed that he might take the city without destroying the holy places. He wired London for instructions and received a simple reply - Isaiah 31:5! “As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver it; and passing over he will preserve it”. Allenby commandeered every available aircraft for a fly-over. On the morning of December 10, what seemed like hundreds of planes covered the sky. As they flew low over Jerusalem and the Eastern Gate, one pilot dropped a note demanding surrender—signed by General

Allenby. According to reports, the name of Allenby frightened them, for the word ‘Allah’ in Arabic means ‘God’ and ‘beh’ is Arabic for ‘son’. The Turks believed the Son of God demanded their surrender! In response, they hoisted a white flag and surrendered the city without firing a single shot.

It was discovered that the Turks were ready to blow open the Eastern Gate and seal the other ten to give them an advantage over the British. The location of the East Gate would have been much harder for the British to penetrate. A miracle occurred, and the gate was never opened. Later, it was found that King Hussein also planned to open the Eastern Gate in order to give Muslim pilgrims better access to the El Aqsa Mosque from a tourist hotel. His project was halted after the Arabs lost the Six Day War to Israel! God's Word remains true!

THE GATE FORESHADOWS ISRAEL

Just as the Eastern Gate is Closed, so too are the Eyes of Israel Closed

ROMANS 11:8 “(According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.”

ROMANS 11:10-11 “Let their eyes be darkened that they may not see, and bow down their back alway. “I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall

salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.”

Because of their rejection of Yeshua (Jesus) as their Mashiah (Messiah) 2,000 years ago, God has blinded (closed) their eyes. They are currently under the spirit of slumber and persecuted because of their sin.

**Just as the Gate will be Opened,
so too will the Eyes of Israel be Opened**

ROMANS 11:11 “Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?”

ROMANS 11:15 “For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?”

ROMANS 11:23 “And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.”

Just as the Eastern Gate will be opened, so too will Israel’s eyes be opened to realize that Yeshua is indeed their Promised Messiah sent by Jehovah God.

**Just as the Eastern Gate will soon
Receive Messiah, so too will Israel**

ROMANS 11:26 “And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:”

ROMANS 11:27 “For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.”

God has NOT CAST AWAY His people Israel (ROM. 11:1)! God has made an everlasting covenant with the Jews. Even though Israel is NOW blinded in part because of their UNBELIEF, there is coming a day when they will enjoy the Deliverance and Forgiveness of Almighty God.

DO YOU KNOW THE MOST HIGH GOD?

Will YOU bow your head right now and pray, “Lord Jesus, I acknowledge I am a sinner, and I repent of my sin. I believe JESUS (Yeshua) died for my sins but rose from the dead to conquer death and hell. I call upon YESHUA (JESUS) now and ask you to deliver me. In the name of JESUS I pray, AMEN!



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THE PROPHECY OF THE EASTERN GATE

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