

IF I FORGET YOU, JERUSALEM

The HaMizrachi Jerusalem Quiz!

How well do you know Yerushalayim? Here are 28 questions in honor of our newest Chag, on the 28th of Iyar!

BY RABBI STEWART WEISS



1. The name Yerushalayim is a combination of which two words?
2. The Midrash says that Jerusalem has 70 names. Which names of Jerusalem are also the names of neighborhoods in the city?
3. Jerusalem is situated in the Biblical portion of which of the 12 Tribes?
4. What other tribe's portion included the Beit HaMikdash? Why did they merit this distinction?
5. Who built the current walls around Jerusalem?
6. King David conquered the city from what ancient tribe?
7. Who built the First and Second Temples?
8. Approximately how many square kilometers is the Old City?
9. Who destroyed the First and Second Temples?
10. After the destruction of the Second Temple, Jews were allowed to enter Jerusalem on only one day of the year. What was that day?
11. In what year did Jews first come to Jerusalem?
12. In what year did the Moslems first come to Jerusalem?
13. After the Roman Empire collapsed, many other peoples controlled Jerusalem; how many can you name?

14. What were the first neighborhoods built outside the walls of the Old City?
15. Between 1948 and 1967, what was the crossing point between East and West Jerusalem?
16. When Jordan occupied East Jerusalem in 1950, how many countries recognized their authority?
17. Since the Six-Day War, eight new neighborhoods (the “Ring” neighborhoods) have been added to Jerusalem. What are they?
18. When was Jerusalem declared the capital of the modern State of Israel, and by whom?
19. Where was the original seat of government?
20. All branches of the government are in Jerusalem, except two. Which are they?
21. How long is the term of the Mayor of Jerusalem?
22. There have been 10 mayors in Jerusalem since the State was established. How many can you name?
23. What are the four quarters of the Old City of Jerusalem?
24. What are the names of the eight gates that lead into the Old City?
25. How many synagogues, churches and mosques are in Jerusalem?
26. How many times is “Jerusalem” mentioned in the Torah; in the New Testament?; in the Koran?
27. Name two of the most-recited songs/prayers about Jerusalem?
28. How does the Menorah in the Beit HaMikdash – Israel’s national symbol – differ from the Chanukiah we use on Chanukah?

ANSWERS

1. (Hashem) “Yireh” – “G-d will be seen,” given by Avraham to the site after the Binding of Isaac (Gen. 22:14); and “Shalem” (Salem/Complete), the original name of the city of King Melchizedek (based on Genesis 14:18). 2. Talpote, Ir David (City of David), Neve Tzedek (Oasis of Justice, Jeremiah 31:22) are neighborhoods and names of the city. 3. Yehuda. 4. Binyamin. He alone among the brothers did not participate in the abduction and sale of Yosef. 5. Suleiman the Magnificent, 1538. 6. The Jebusites. 7. Shlomo HaMelech built the first; Ezra and Nechemia the second. 8. Less than one square kilometer! 9. Babylonia destroyed the first Temple, Rome the second. 10. Tisha B’Av, the 9th day of Av (when both Temples were destroyed). 11. The 10th century BCE. 12. 638 CE. 13. Byzantines, Persians, Muslims, Turks, Crusaders, Tatars, Mamluks, Ottoman Empire, British Mandate. 14. Mishkenot Sha’ananim (1860); German Colony, Meah Shearim, Nachalat Shiva, Abu Tor, Yemin Moshe, Mamilla. 15. The Mandelbaum Gate. 16. Two, the United Kingdom and Pakistan. 17. Ramot, French Hill, Gilo, East Talpote, Neve Yaakov, Pisgat Ze’ev, Har Homa and Ramat Shlomo. 18. Dec. 5, 1949, by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion. 19. Tel Aviv. 20. The Ministry of Defense, located in the “Kirya” of Tel Aviv, and the Ministry of Agriculture, in Rishon LeZion. 21. Five years. 22. Daniel Auster, Shomo Zalman Shragai, Yitzhak Kariv, Gershon Agron, Mordechai Ish-Shalom, Teddy Kollek, Ehud Olmert, Uri Lupoliansky, Nir Barkat and Moshe Lion. 23. Jewish, Christian, Moslem, Armenian. 24. Jaffa, Lion, Damascus (Shechem), New, Zion, Dung, Tanner’s and Flowers Gates. (The Eastern Gate is blocked). 25. Approximately 1300, 160 and 75, respectively. 26. 660, 146 and 0, respectively. 27. “Yerushalayim Shel Zahav,” Naomi Shemer wrote the original song for the Israeli Song Festival, held on May 15, 1967, the night after Israel’s 19th Independence Day. She chose the then-unknown Shuli Natan to sing the song. And “Im Eshkachech Yerushalayim,” from Psalm 137, said at every Jewish wedding (others say it at Brit/circumcision ceremonies as well) and is also a popular song. 28. The Menorah had 7 branches; the Chanukiah has 8 branches (plus the Shamash/helper candle).

