

Arlington Church of Christ

Sunday Night Bible Study

Jerusalem

Names

As early as the nineteenth century B.C., an Egyptian text mentions a city called “Urushalim”. Assyrian records give the city’s name as “”Urusilimmu”.



In the Bible it is first mentioned as “Salem” or “Shalem”, as the home of the priest and king Melchizedek.



Genesis 14:17-20 After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸ Then **Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,** ¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.” ²⁰ And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” **Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.**

During the time of the Judges, the city was called “Jebus” after the Jebusites who lived there.

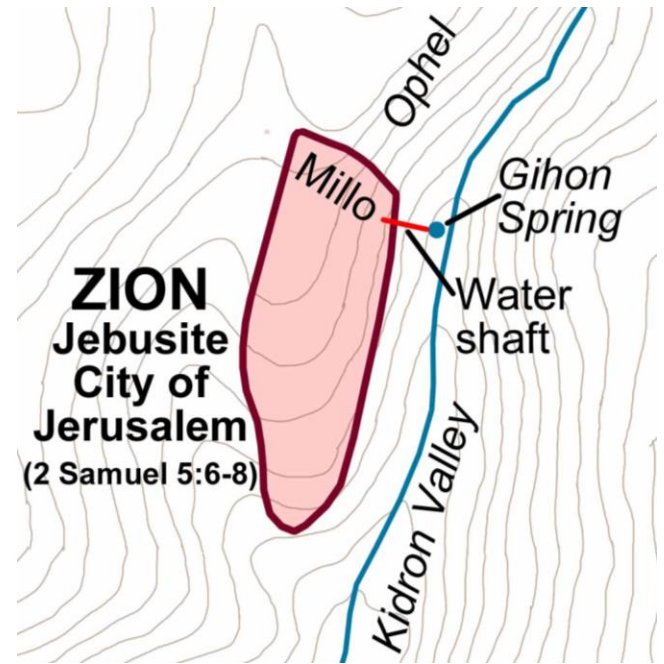
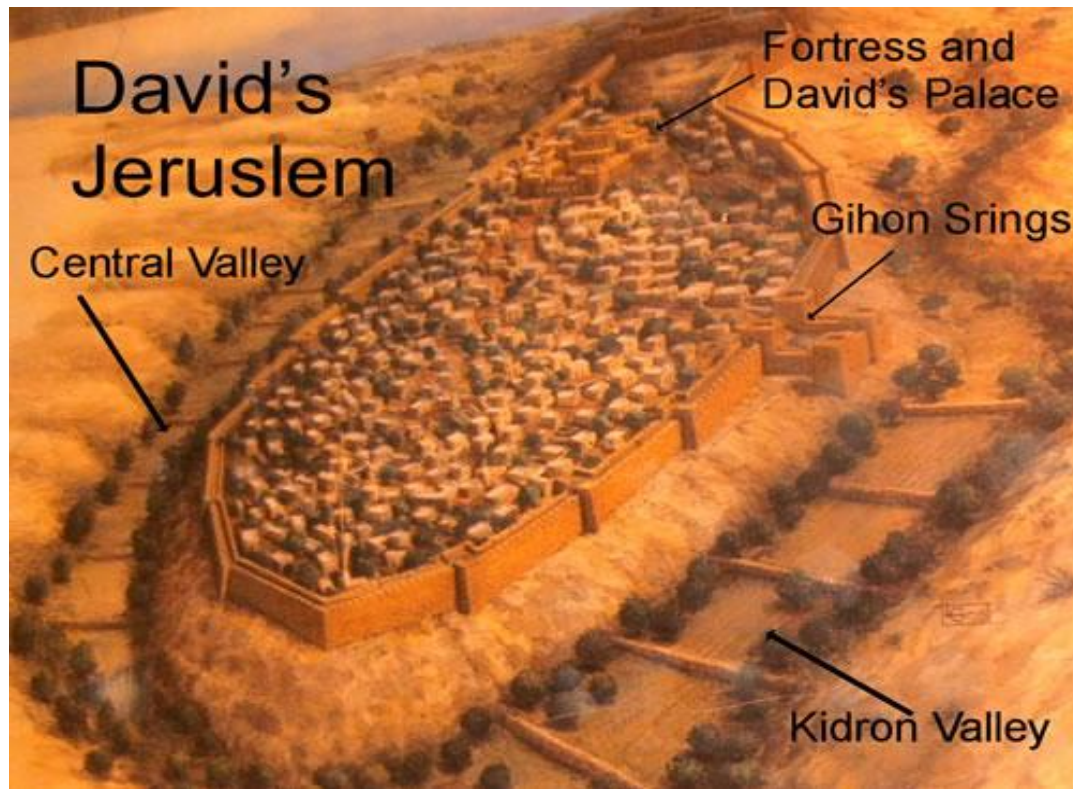
Judges 19:10-11 But, unwilling to stay another night, the man left and **went toward Jebus** with his two saddled donkeys and his concubine. When they were near Jebus and the day was almost gone, the servant said to his master, “Come, let’s

stop at **this city of the Jebusites** and spend the night.”



The city of Jebus was on the southeastern slope of Mount Moriah. It was surrounded by deep valleys on all side except the north, and had water supply – the Gihon Springs just outside the city. The water from the spring was directed into the city through a ‘water shaft’.



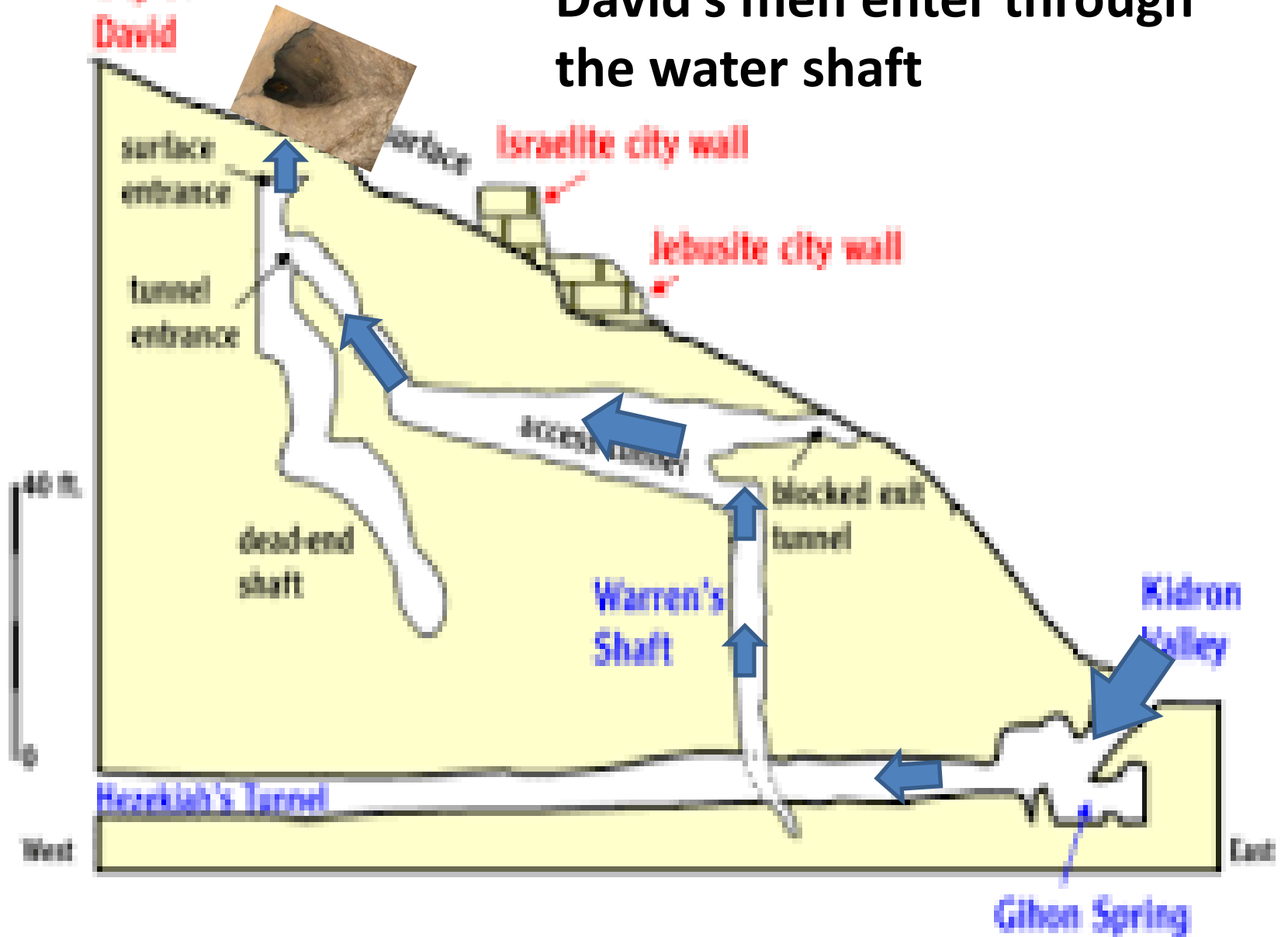


2 Samuel 5:6-9 The king and his men marched to Jerusalem to attack the Jebusites, who lived there. The Jebusites said to David, “You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off.” They thought, “David cannot get in here.” ⁷ Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion—which is the City of David. ⁸ On that day David had said, “Anyone who conquers the Jebusites will have to use the water shaft to reach those ‘lame and blind’ who are David’s enemies.”

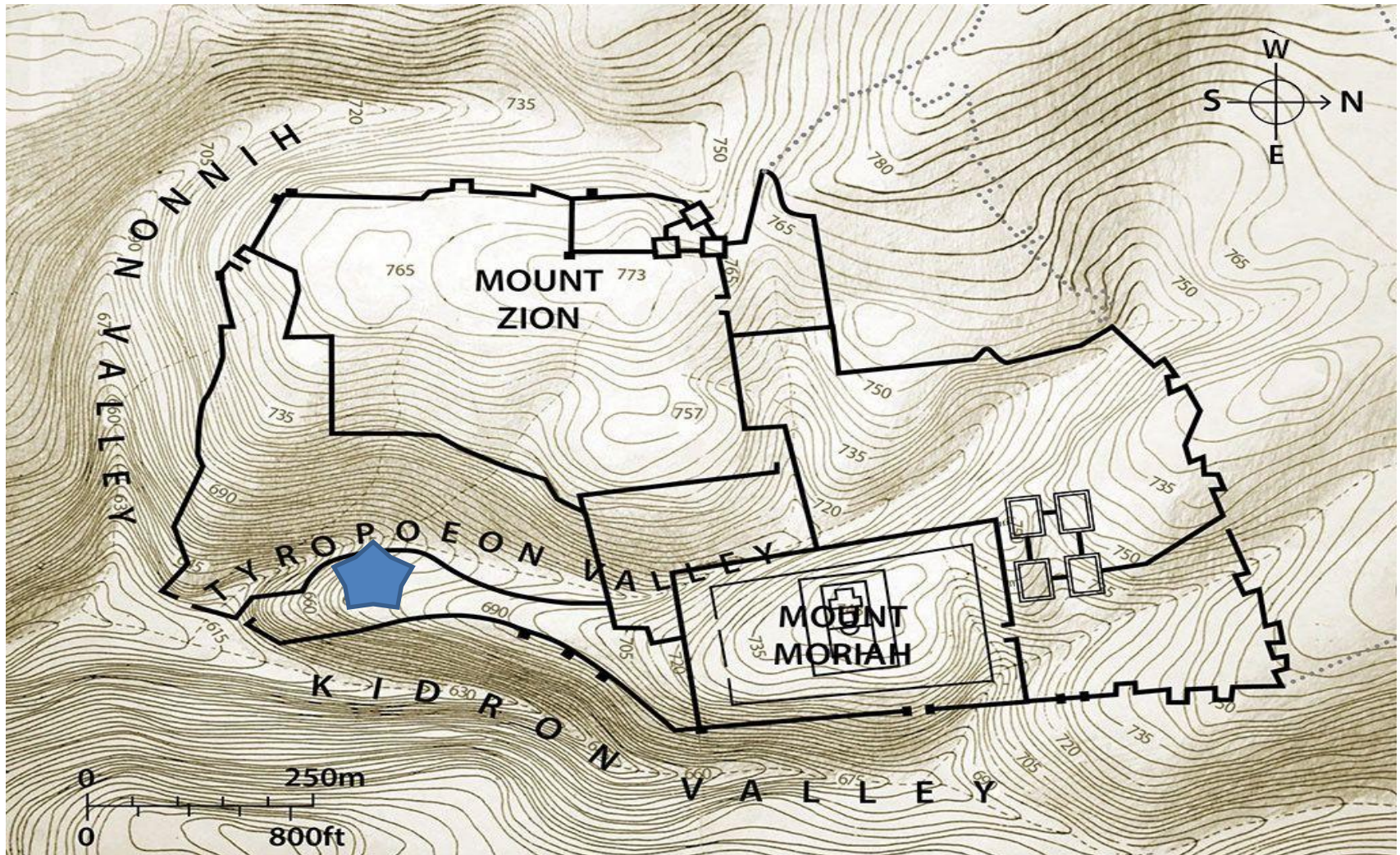
⁹ David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the terraces inward

City of David

David's men enter through the water shaft



By the time of Jesus the city had expanded by enclosing different areas around the original city.





After the Romans destroyed the city in 70 A.D. it was rebuilt by the Roman emperor Hadrian and named called “Aelia Capitolina.” The name was returned to ‘Jerusalem’ in 326 A.D. by Constantine.



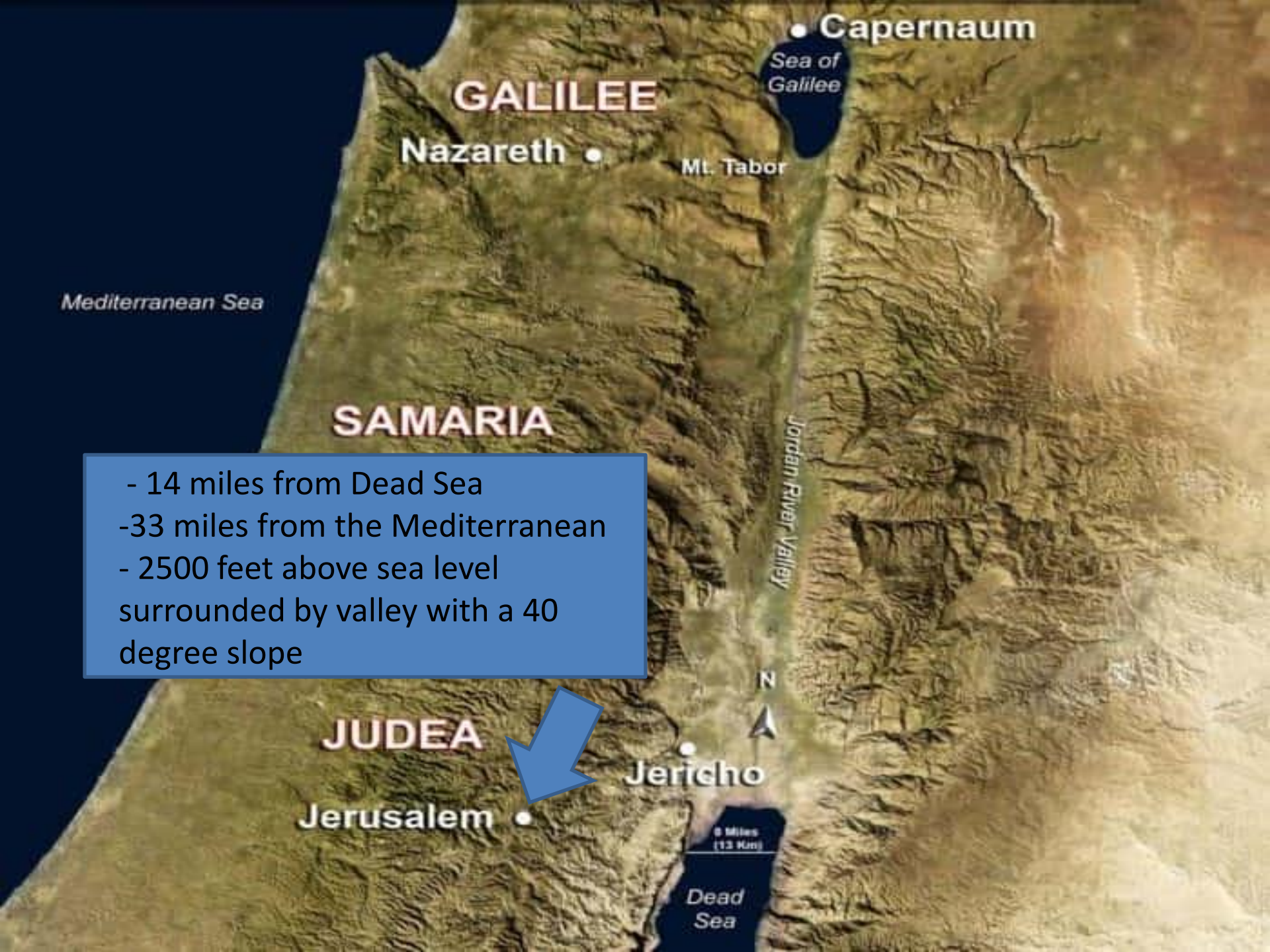
To Muslims today it is called “EL Kuds”, (the holy), but to Christians and Jews it is still Jerusalem.

The Hebrew name of the city is “Yerushalaim” is derived from the Canaanite name ‘Urushalim’ which means “the god Shalem founded the city”. Shalem was the god of the Amorites.

Even the names of two of David’s sons – Absalom and Solomon reflect this reference to the city’s namesake.



Ezekiel 16:3
‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.



• Capernaum

Sea of Galilee

GALILEE

Nazareth •

Mt. Tabor

Mediterranean Sea

SAMARIA

Jordan River Valley

- 14 miles from Dead Sea
- 33 miles from the Mediterranean
- 2500 feet above sea level
- surrounded by valley with a 40 degree slope

JUDEA

Jerusalem •

Jericho

6 Miles (10 Km)

Dead Sea



Temple Mount

Mt. of Olives

Kidron Valley

Gihon Spring

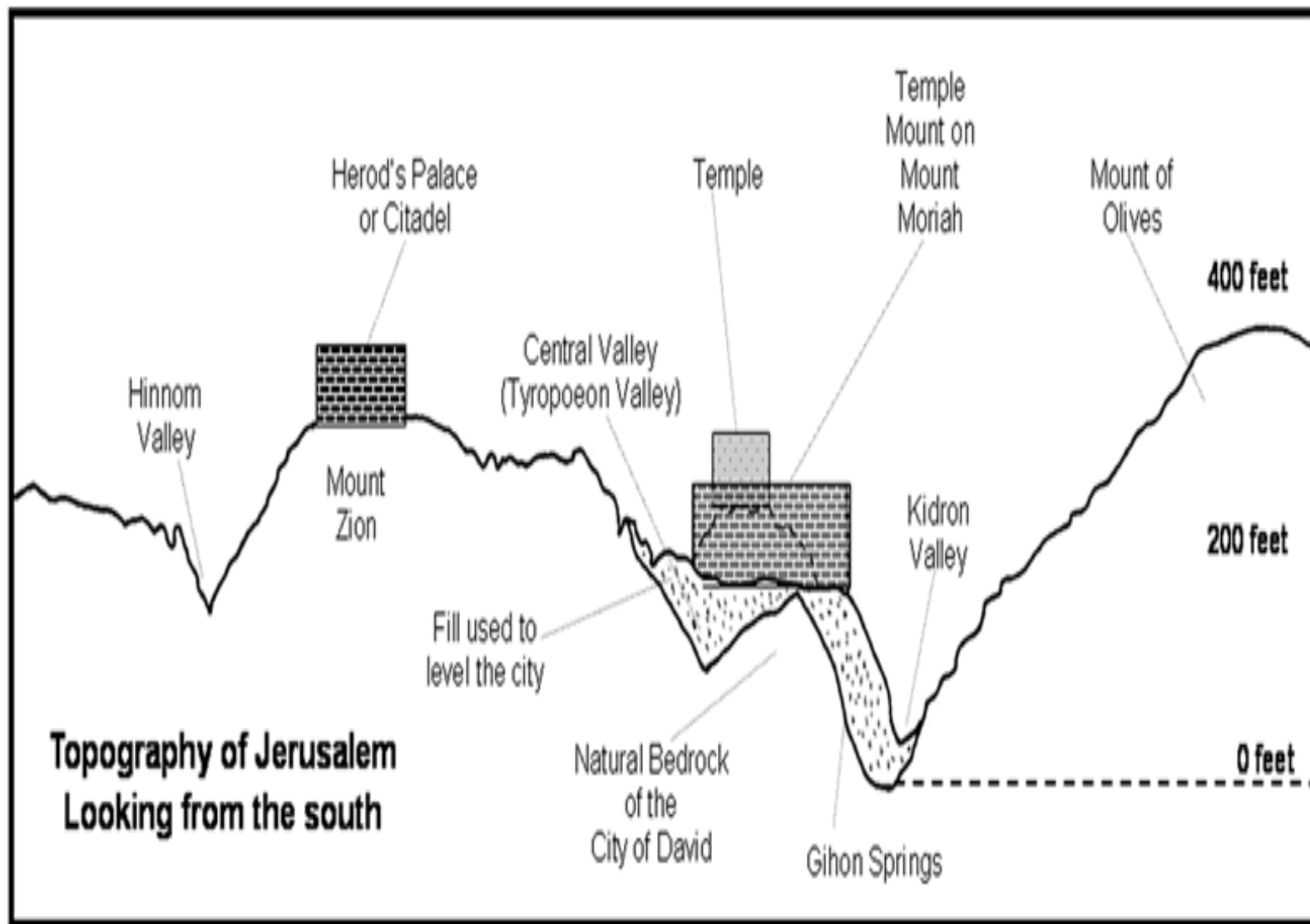
Kidron Valley

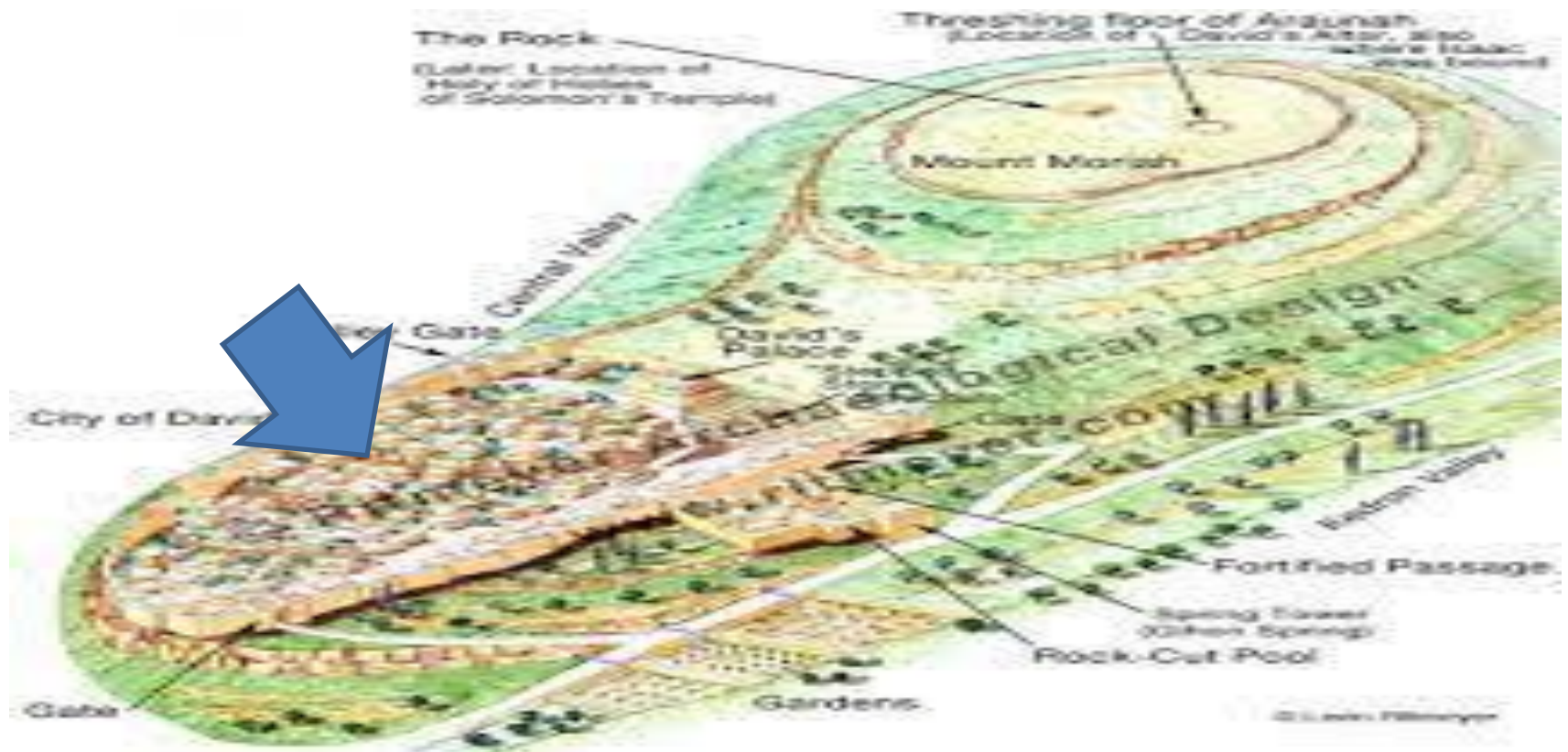
CITY OF DAVID

Central Valley

BROKEN CITY WALLS
destroyed 586 BC

Valley of Hinnom
(Gehenna)



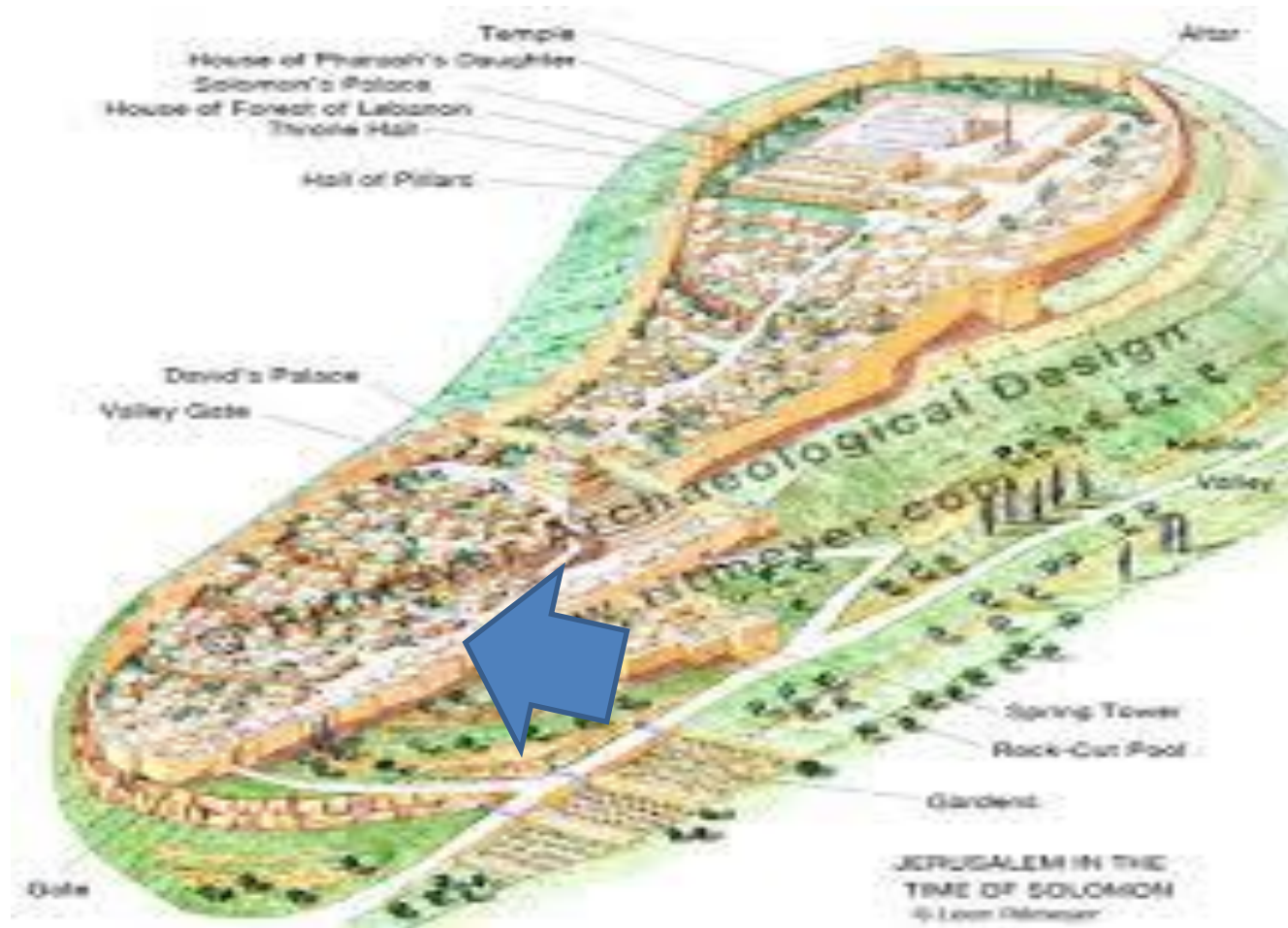


Jerusalem in the time of David

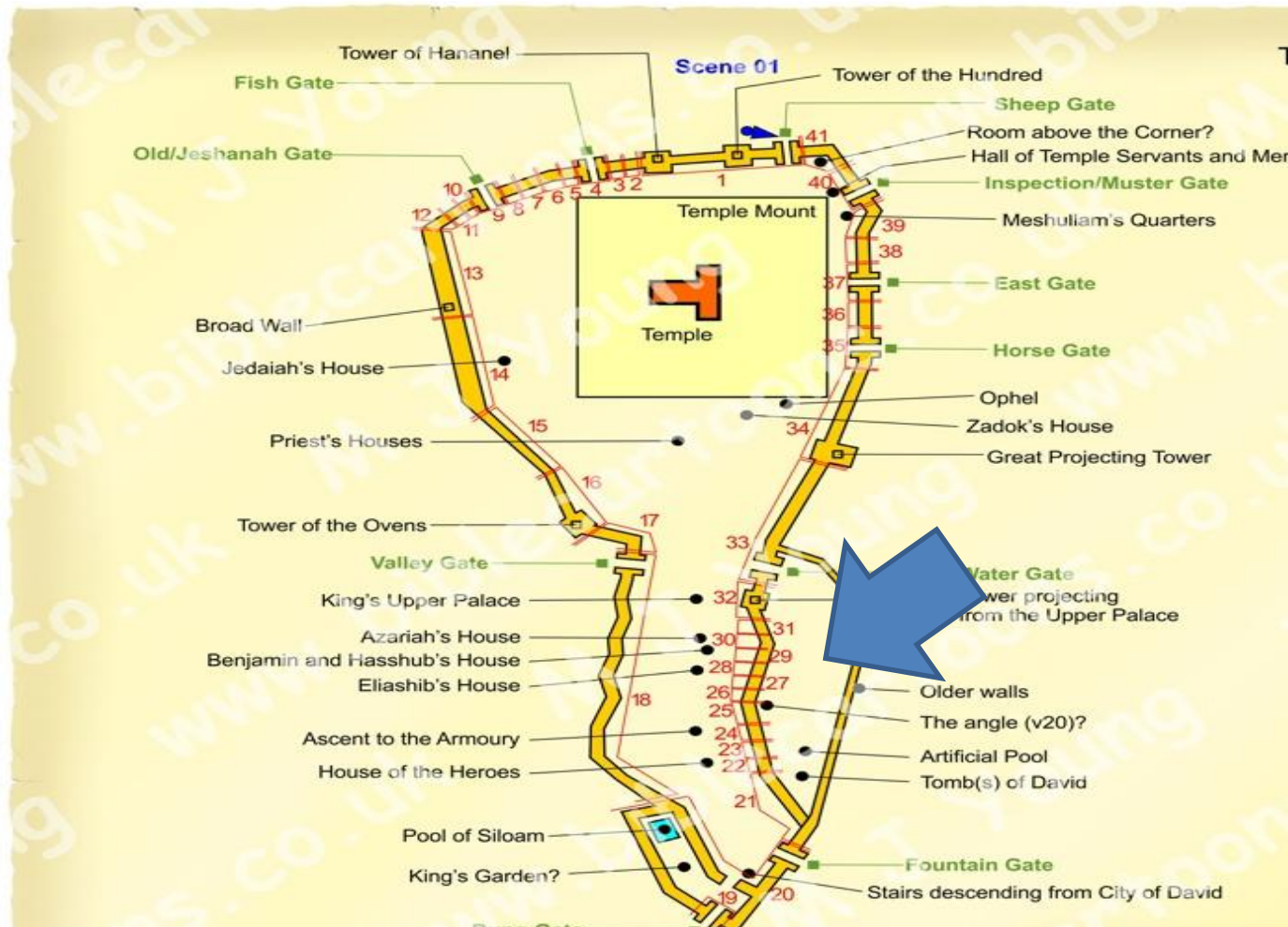
2 Chronicles 3:1

Then Solomon began to build the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to his father David. It was on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, the place provided by David.

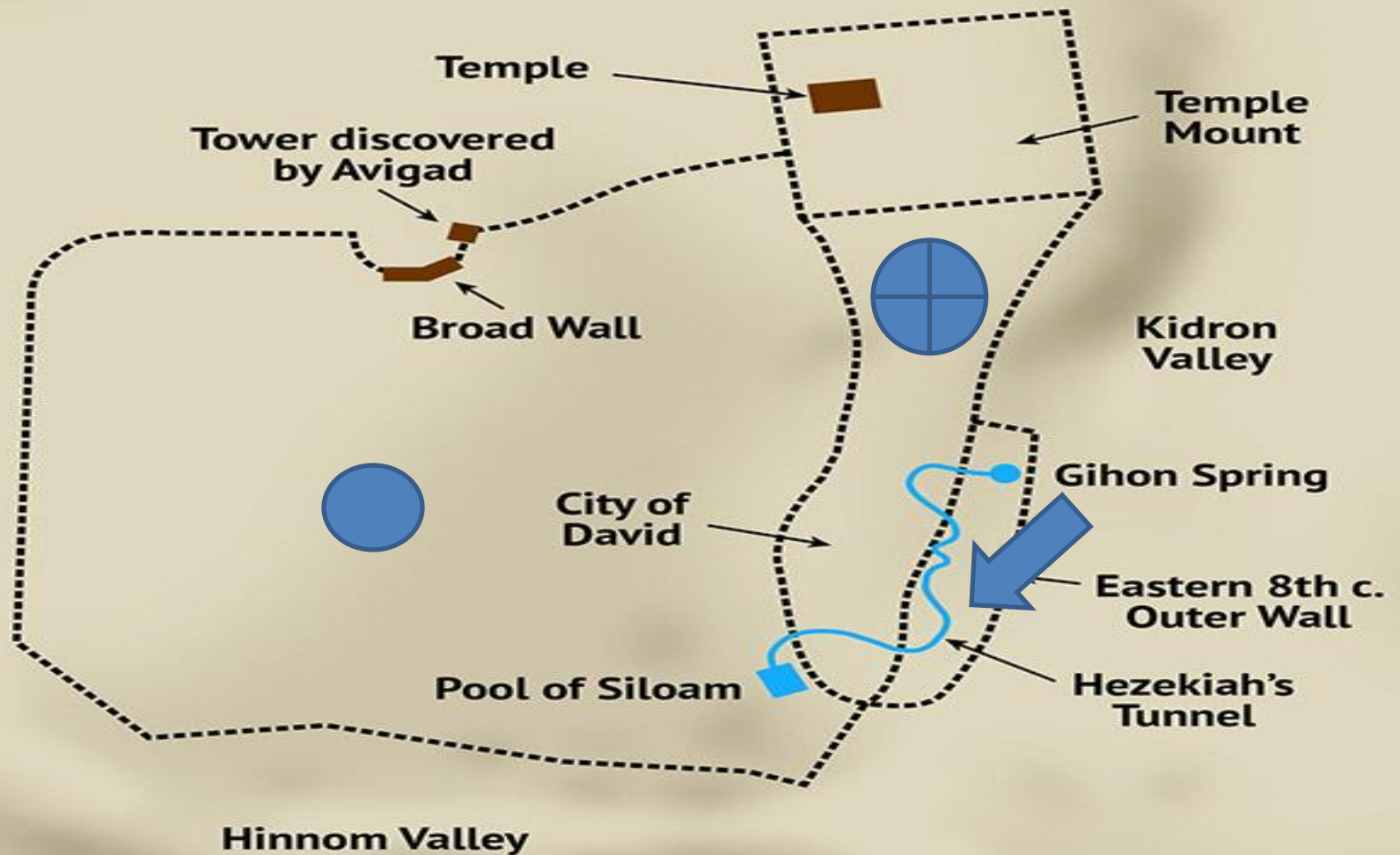




Jerusalem in the time of Solomon



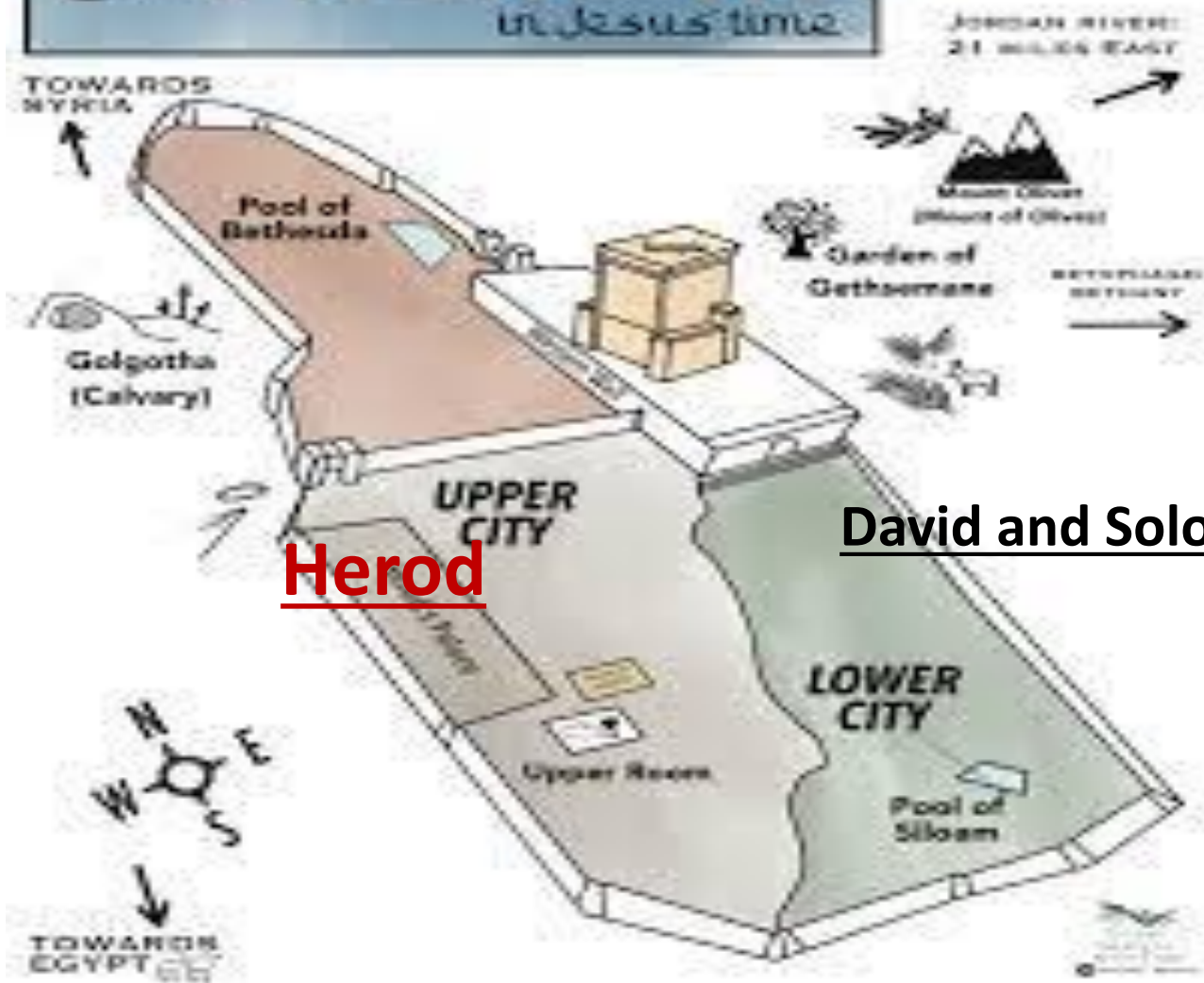
Jerusalem at the time of Nehemiah's building of the walls after the exile.

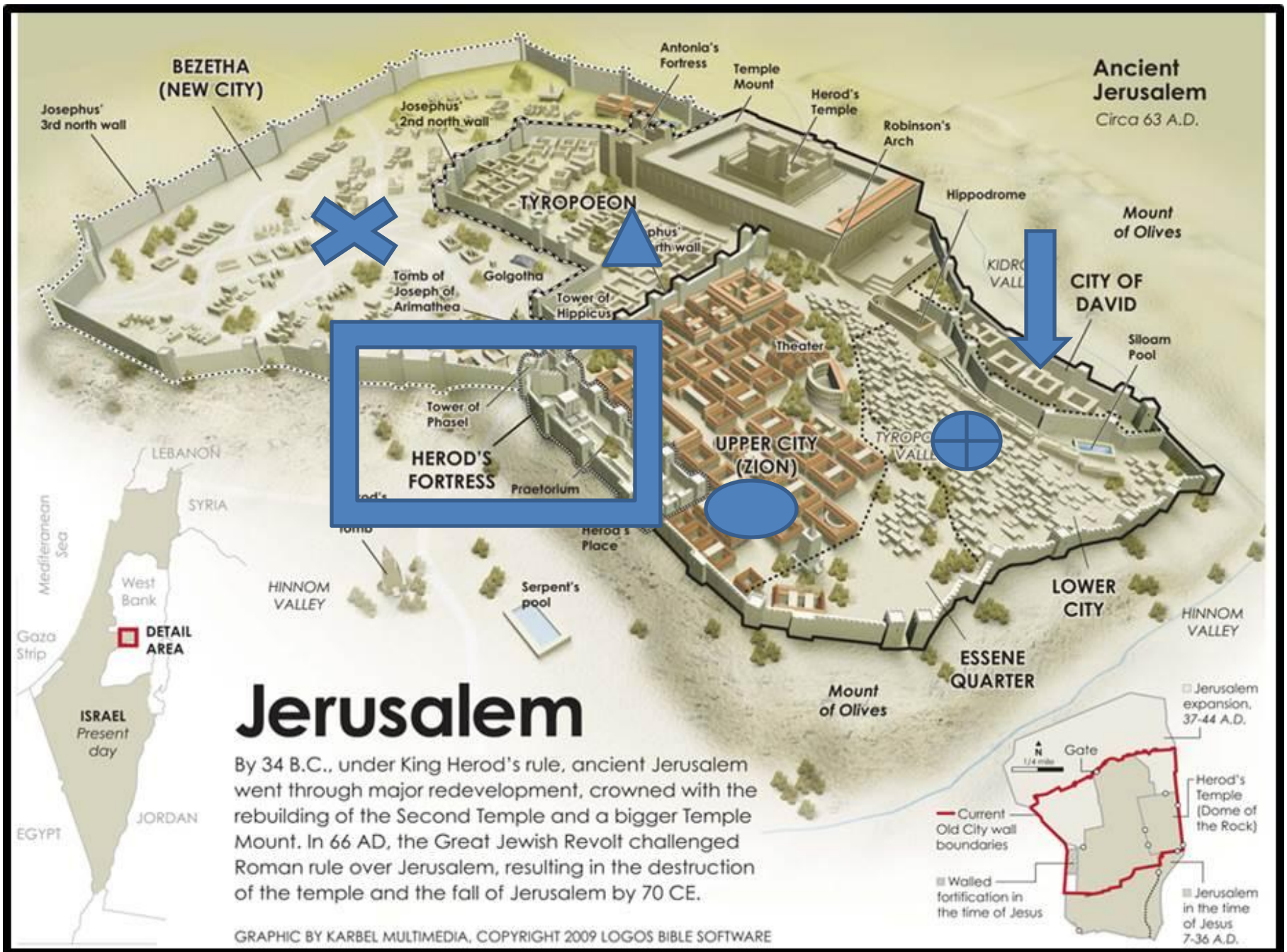


By the time of Herod, the city had expanded to the west and covered Mount Zion, and continued to grow

Jerusalem

in Jesus time





The Temple in Jesus' Time

The 'first temple' was built by King Solomon on the Temple Mount, but was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C. and the people carried off into Babylonian captivity.



Seventy years later, some exiles were allowed to return and began rebuilding a modest structure to replace the original temple.

Ezra 1

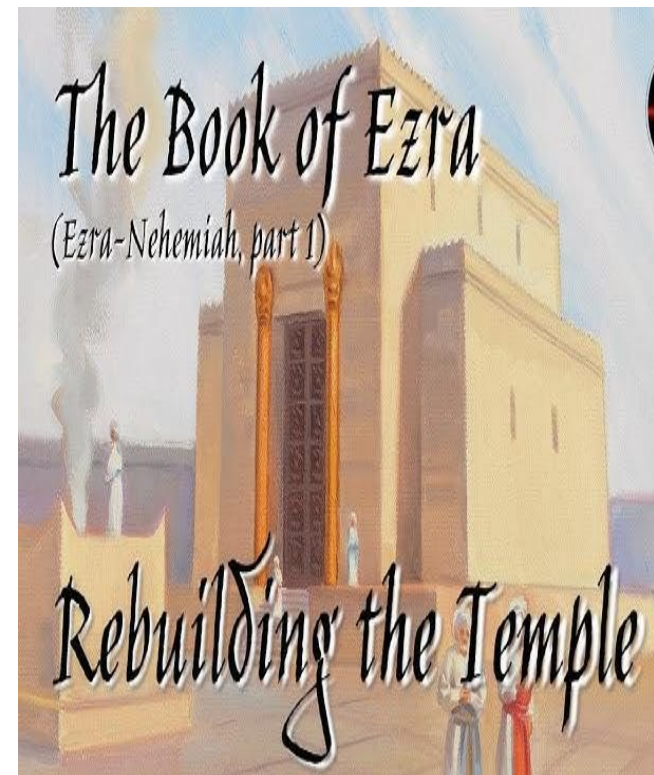
In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:

² “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: “The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. ³ Any of his people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem, and may their God be with them.

Ezra 3:10-13

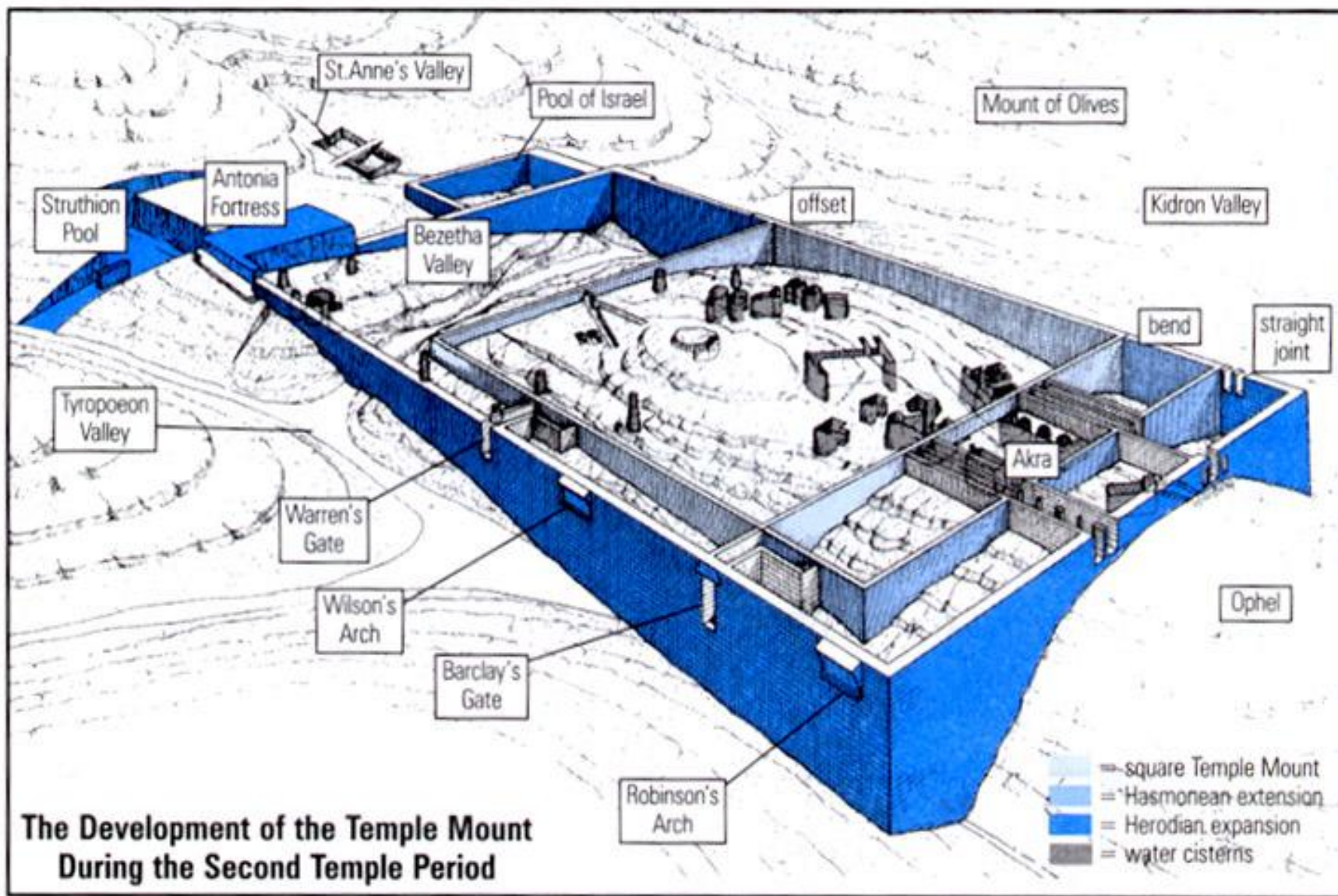
When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites with cymbals, took their places to praise the LORD, as prescribed by David king of Israel. ¹¹ With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD: “He is good; his love toward Israel endures forever.” And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

¹² But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. ¹³ No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.



During the reign of Herod the Great (beginning in about 47 B.C.), the temple structure was overhauled, enlarged, and completely refurbished. It began with a massive expansion of the Temple Mount to an area of about 35 acres. Herod was interested in promoting himself through building projects of which the temple was the masterpiece. It was financed by heavy taxes and an agreement was reached that allowed the Jewish authorities to continue offering sacrifices throughout the construction period.

The temple was built on Mount Moriah. It had a plateau on the northern end and a steep slope on the southern end. Herod's plan was to turn the entire mountain into a huge square platform. To do this, a trench was dug around the mountain and huge stones, some weighing over 100 tons were laid. The largest stone was 44.6 feet by 11 feet by 16.5 feet and weighed over 600 tons. Architects from Greece, Rome, and Egypt helped to plan the construction. As the retaining walls were built up around the sides of the mountain, the area between was filled up with landfill debris.



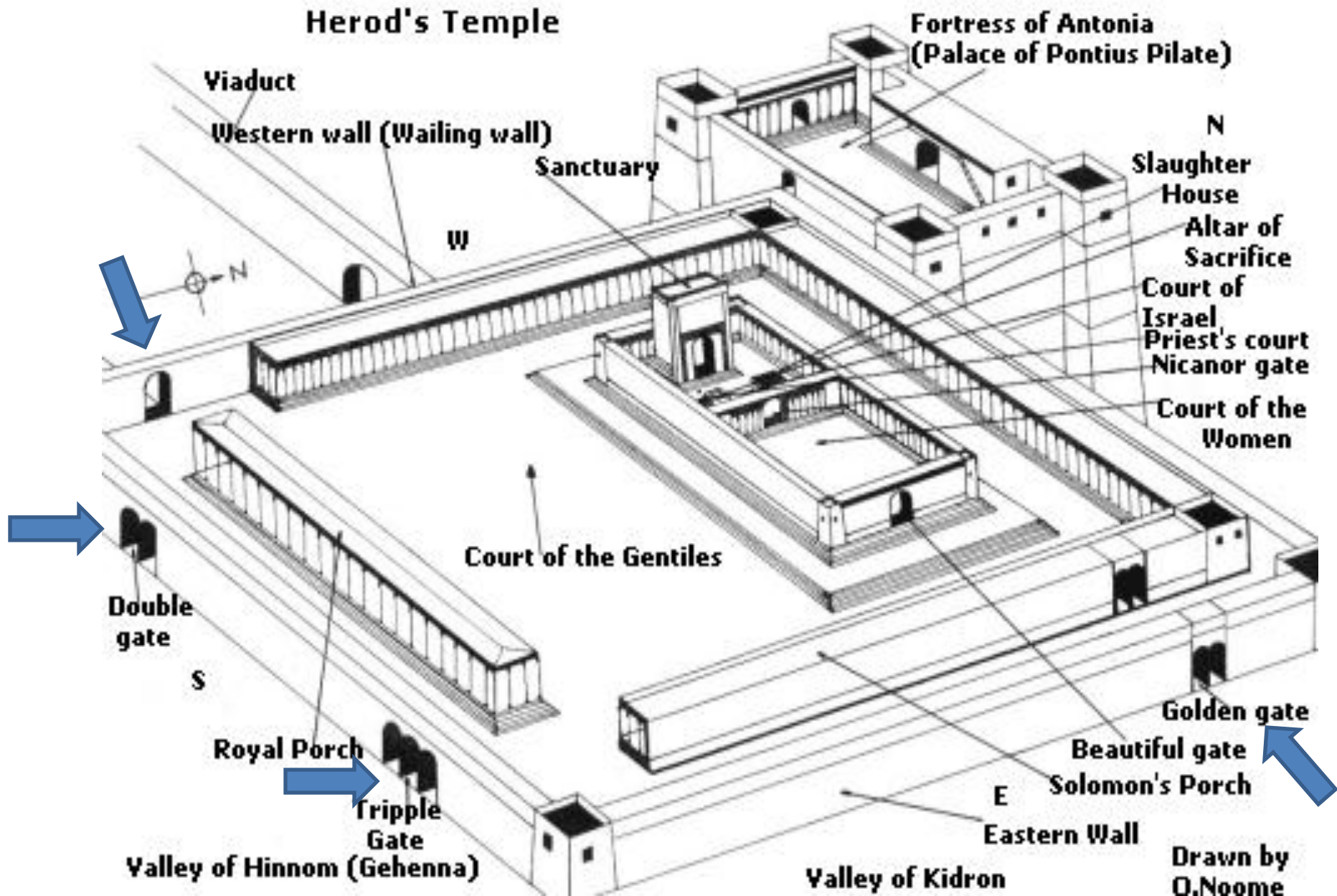
Large underground tunnels were constructed below the new floor of the temple area (some 20 feet below the new grade). By the time of Jesus, it was noted that the temple construction took 46 years.

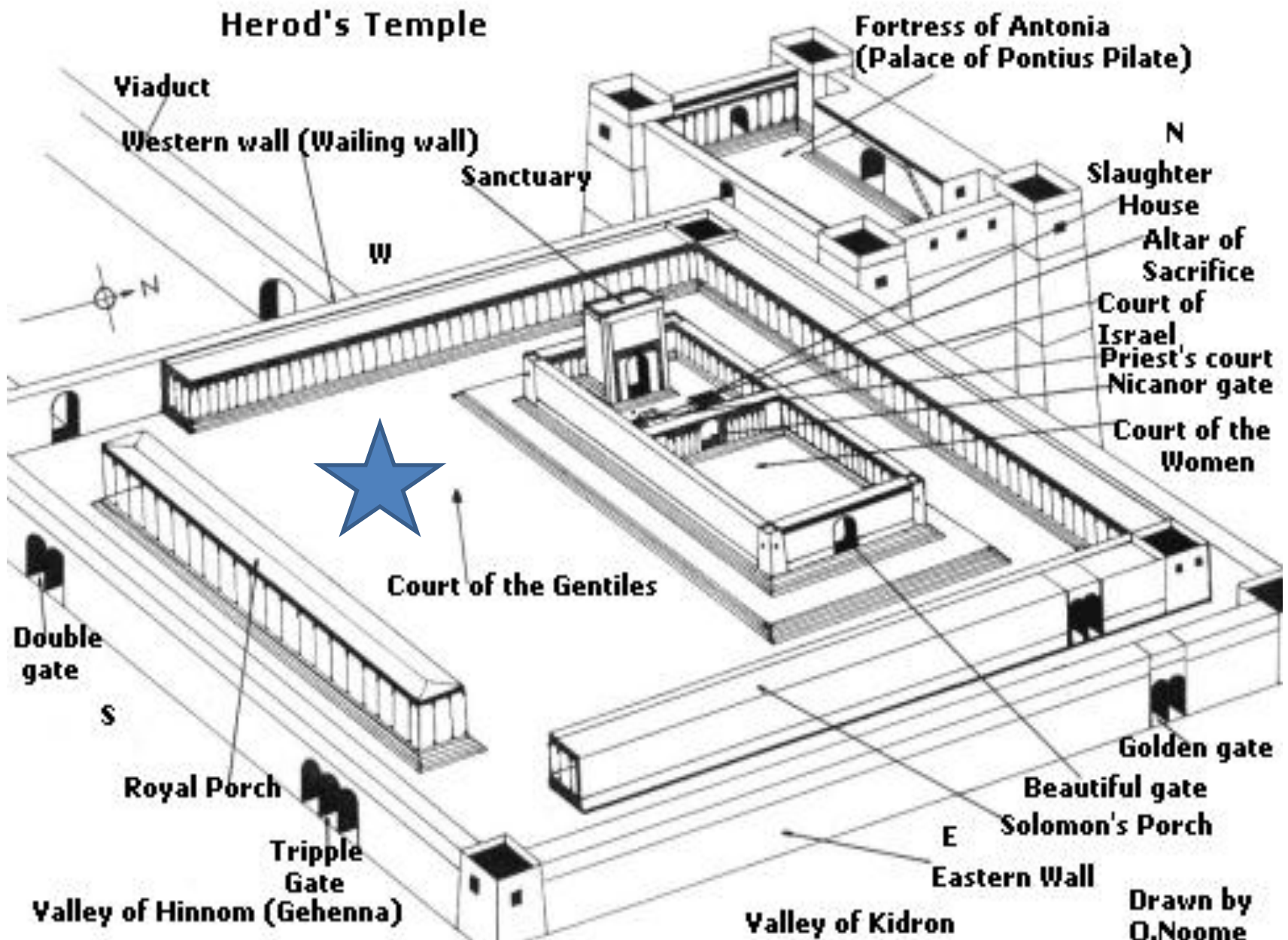


John 2:19-21

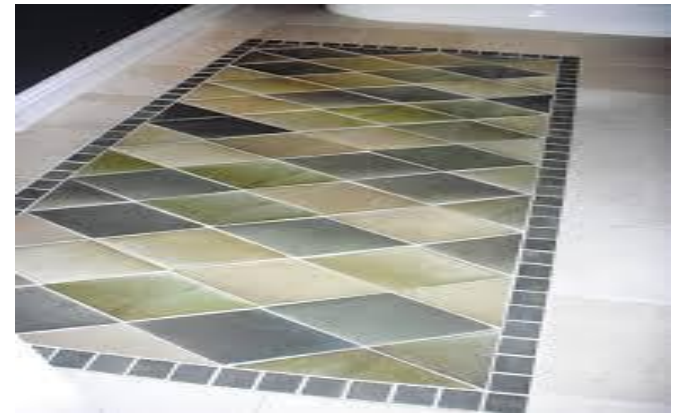
Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” ²⁰ They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body.

Herod's Temple





The court of the Gentiles – This area was supposed to be a place for the “God-fearers” (Non-Jewish worshippers) to worship, but it had instead become a marketplace and a way to ‘cut through’ to avoid the center of the city. **It was paved with various colored stones. It had become a place where people were selling souvenirs, sacrificial animals, food, and exchange currency. The Jews were not allowed to coin their own money so Tyrian (coins from Tyre) money was used in the temple since Roman coins were considered an abomination to the Lord.** When Jesus cleansed the temple there were as many as 300,000 to 400,000 who had come to Jerusalem for the Passover festival.



The priests in their white linen robes and tubular hats were everywhere to direct the visitors and advise them on what sacrifices to make.



Mark 11:15-18

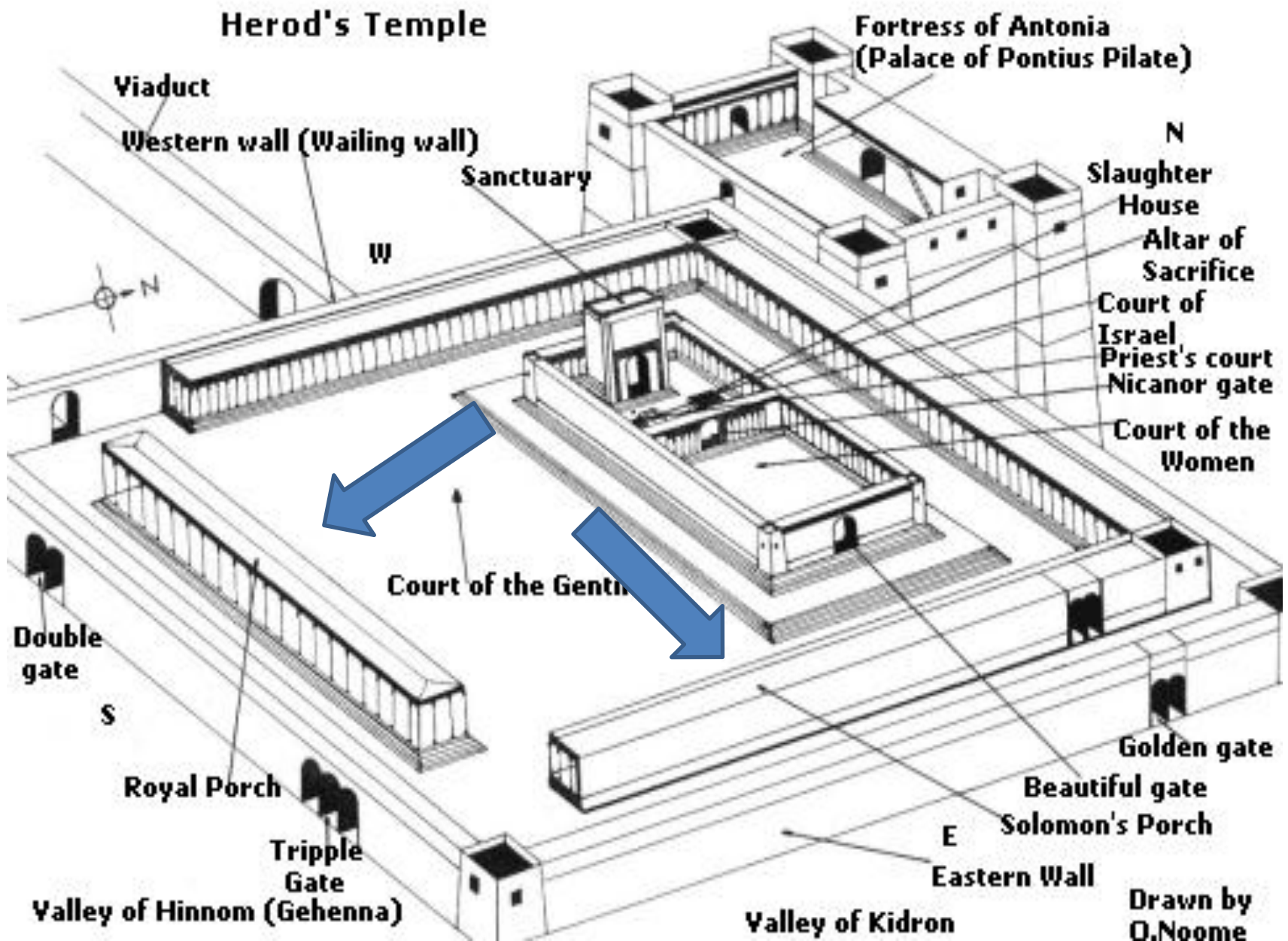
On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, ¹⁶ and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. ¹⁷ And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”

¹⁸ The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching



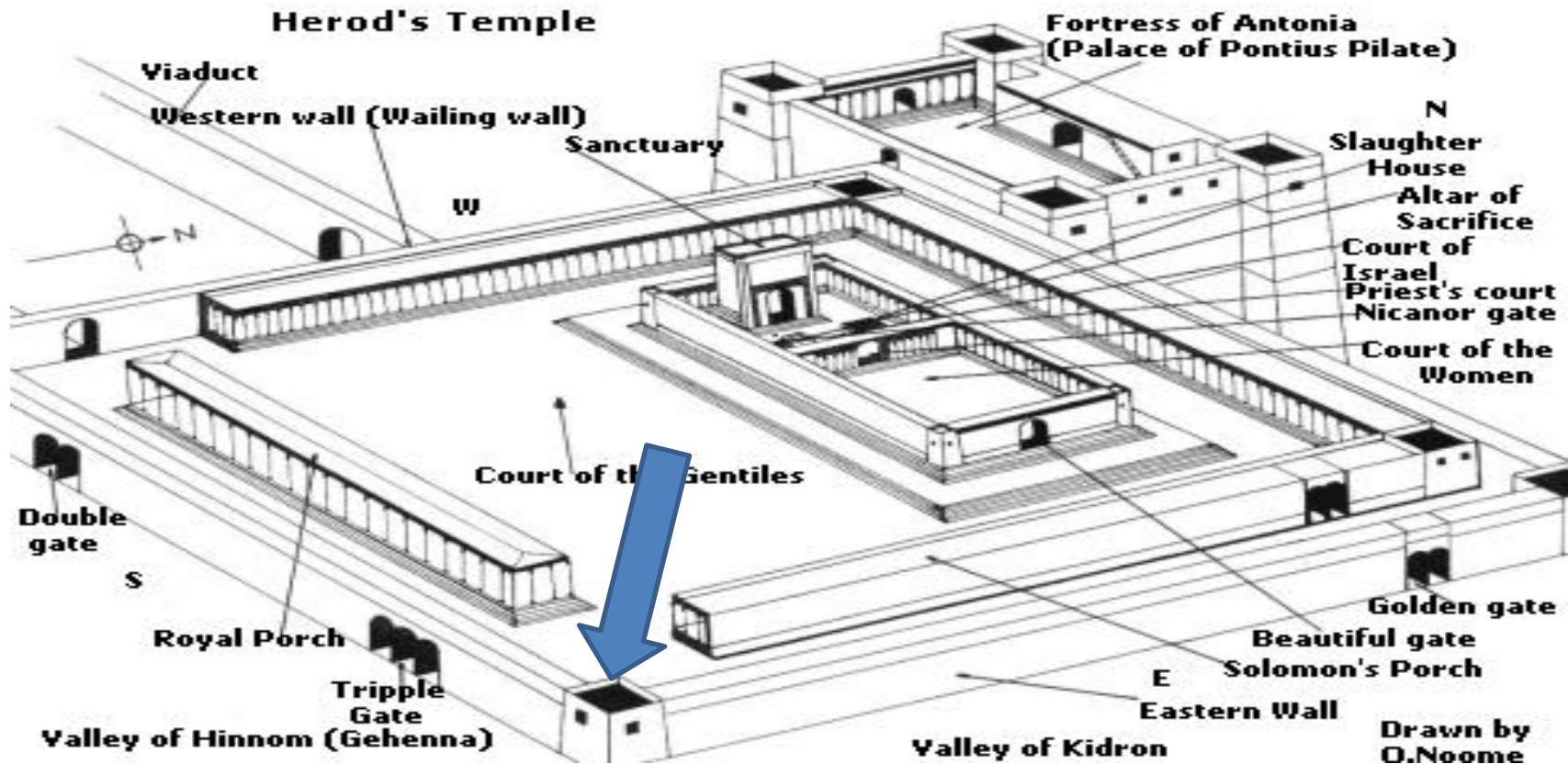
The 'Royal Porch' was the multi floored covered area containing a synagogue, administrative areas, and the marketplace. On the upper floors, the courts were held, the Levites did their work, and people could observe the events in the temple. Solomon's porch on the east was the place for teachers to gather and instruct the people.

John 10:23-26 and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. ²⁴ The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep.



Acts 3:11-16

While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. ¹² When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.



The temple also had at least one 'pinnacle' (Greek -pterugion), a 'wing' or raised area. It has been suggested that this was the southeast corner of the temple overlooking the Kidron Valley. (This point would have extended about 450 feet above the Kidron Valley)

Matthew 4:5-7

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“He will command his angels concerning you,

and they will lift you up in their hands,

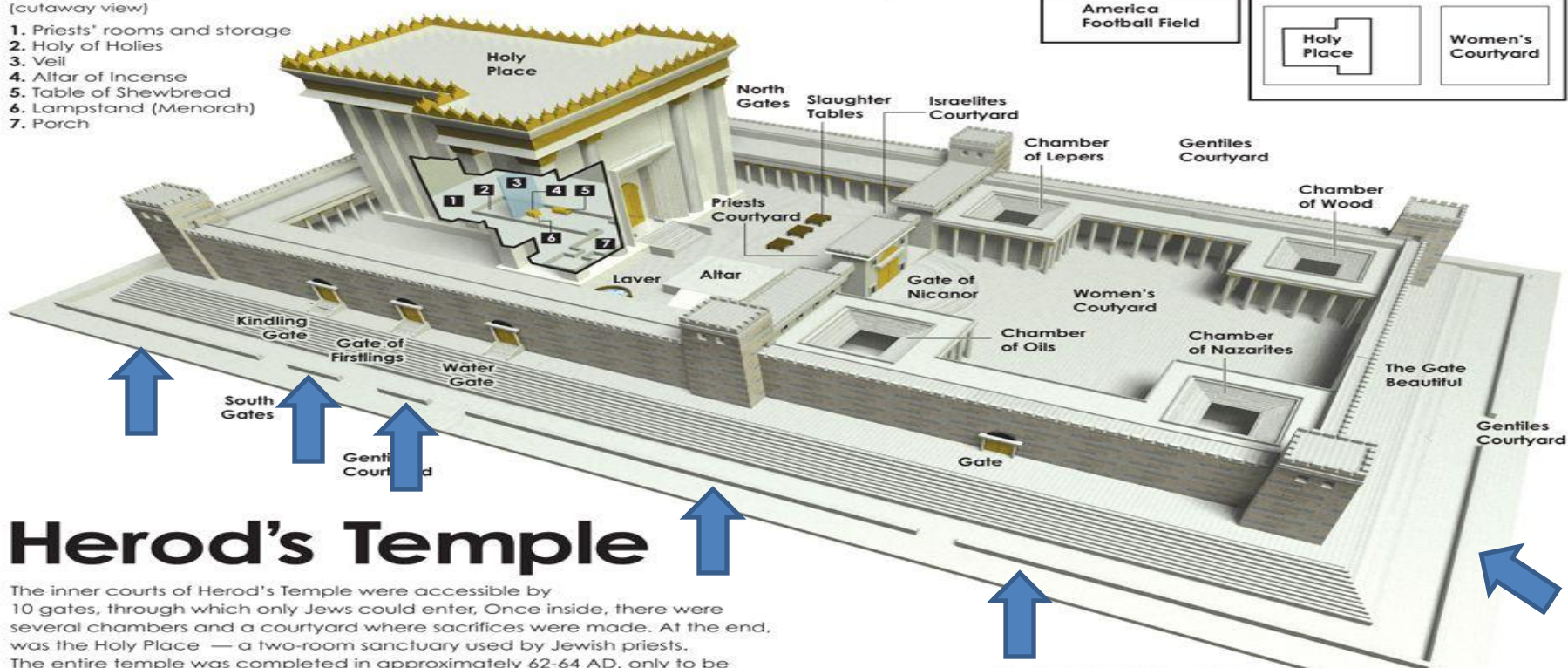
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷ Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.



INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE (cutaway view)

1. Priests' rooms and storage
2. Holy of Holies
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Table of Shewbread
6. Lampstand (Menorah)
7. Porch



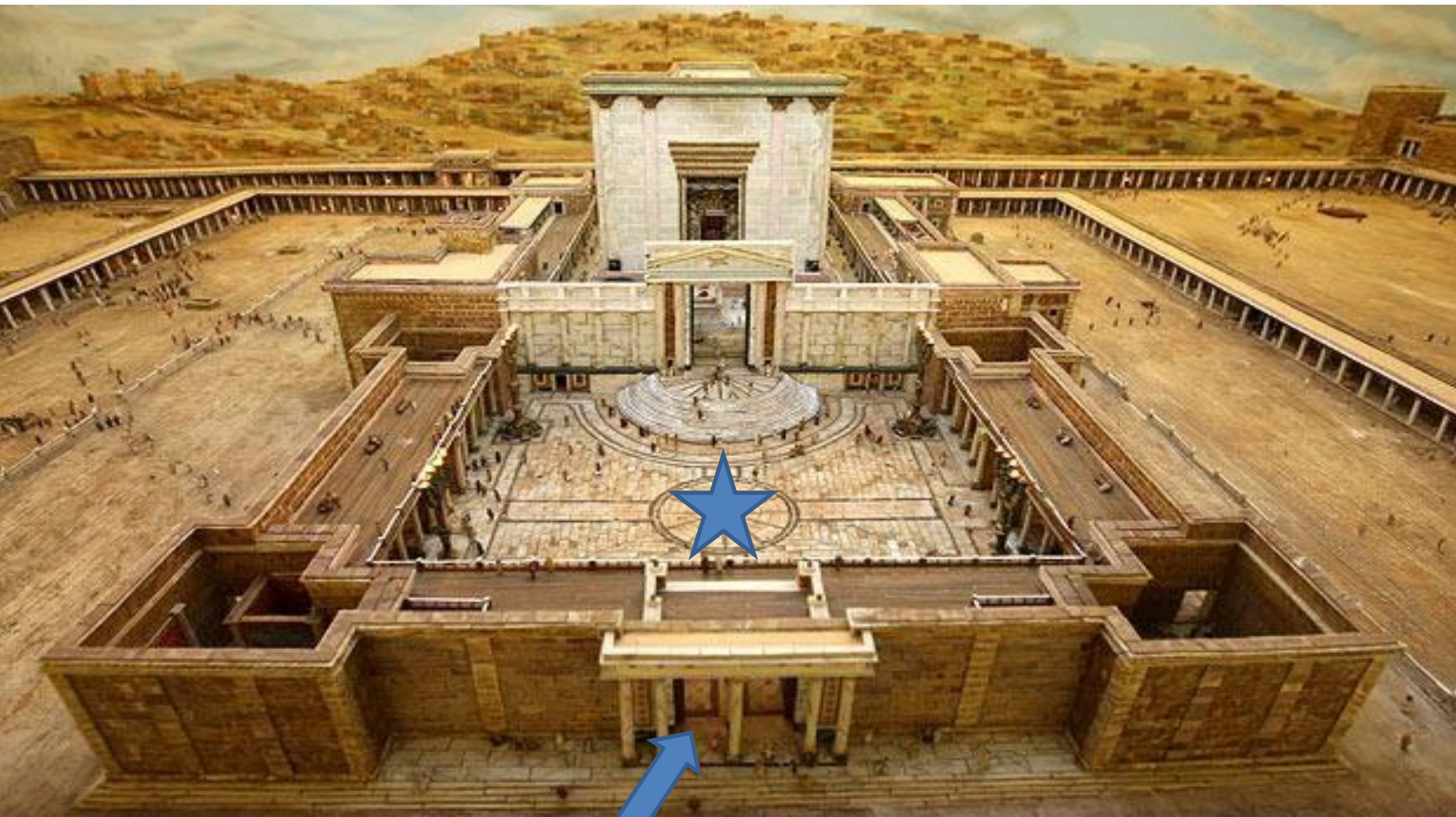
Herod's Temple

The inner courts of Herod's Temple were accessible by 10 gates, through which only Jews could enter. Once inside, there were several chambers and a courtyard where sacrifices were made. At the end, was the Holy Place — a two-room sanctuary used by Jewish priests. The entire temple was completed in approximately 62-64 AD, only to be

Surrounding the temple itself was a 'middle wall of separation' called the "soreq" which was about four and a half feet high and had small openings in it where the following notice was posted in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew: **LET NO FOREIGNER ENTER WITHIN THE PARTITION WHICH SURROUNDS THE TEMPLE PRECINCTS. ANYONE CAUGHT VIOLATING WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS ENSUING DEATH.** No non-Jew could enter this area around the temple itself without facing death.

Acts 21:27-29 When the seven days were nearly over, some Jews from the province of Asia saw Paul at the temple. They stirred up the whole crowd and seized him, ²⁸ shouting, “Fellow Israelites, help us! This is the man who teaches everyone everywhere against our people and our law and this place. And besides, **he has brought Greeks into the temple and defiled this holy place.”** ²⁹ (They had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with Paul and assumed that Paul had brought him into the temple.)

Ephesians 2:13-16 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

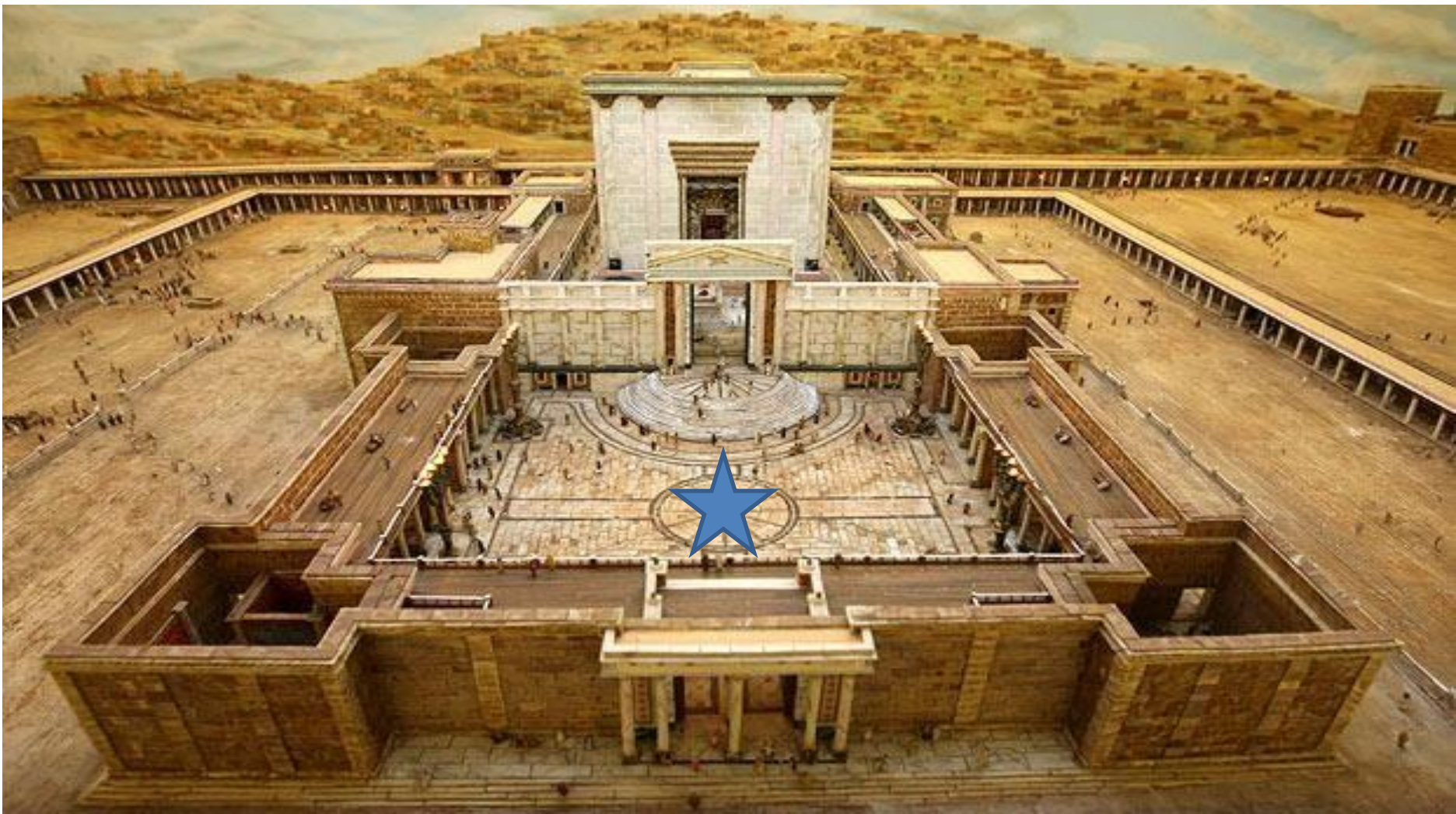


After entering the temple grounds, one would go up 14 steps and through the “Beautiful Gate” and enter the court of the women.

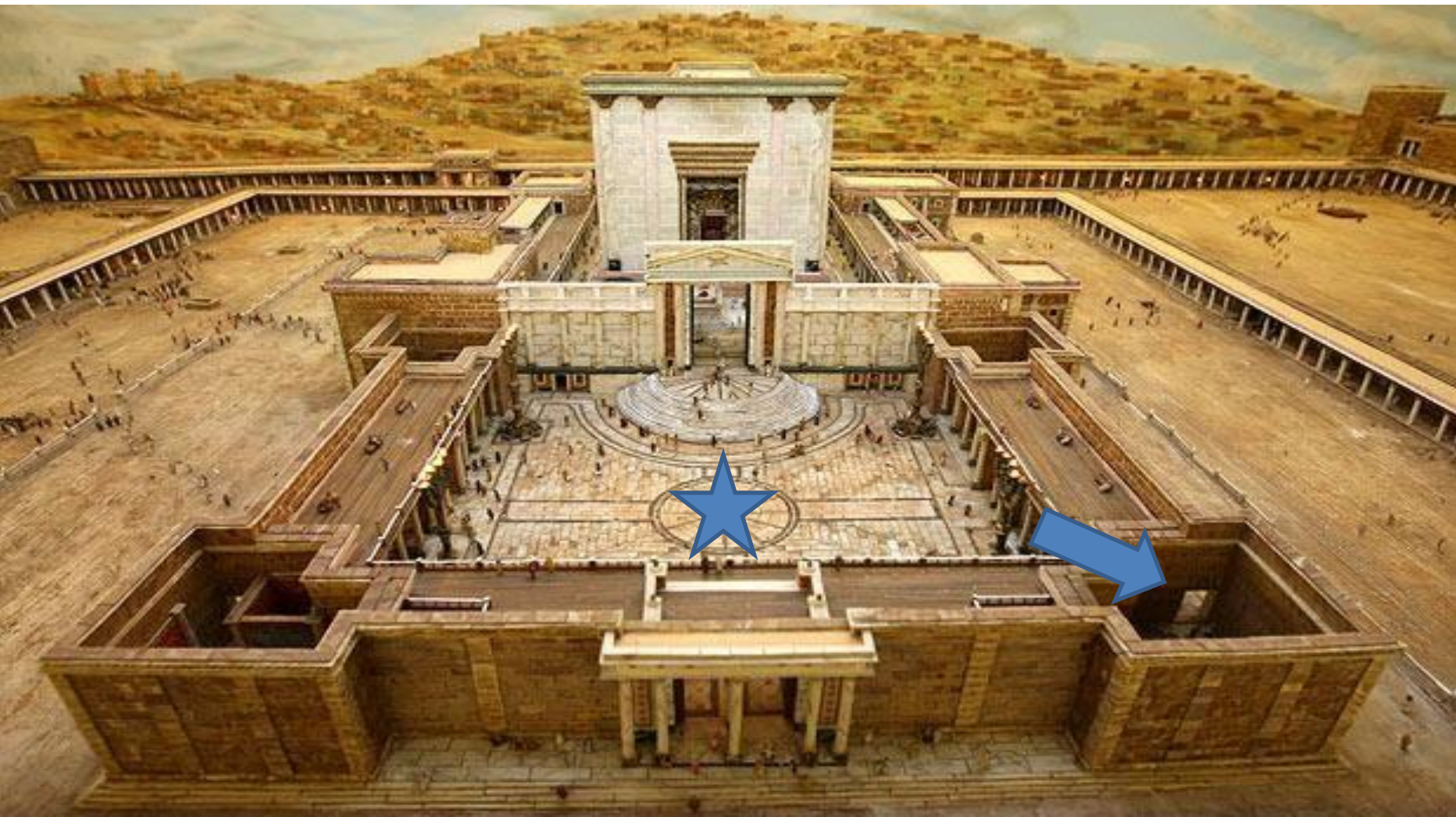
Acts 3:1-10 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ² Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. ⁴ Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” ⁵ So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. ⁶ Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” ⁷ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. ⁸ He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. ⁹ When all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

This gate was also called the 'Susa gate' because it had a beautiful relief of the city of Susa. (What significant event involving a woman took place in Susa?) See Book of Esther

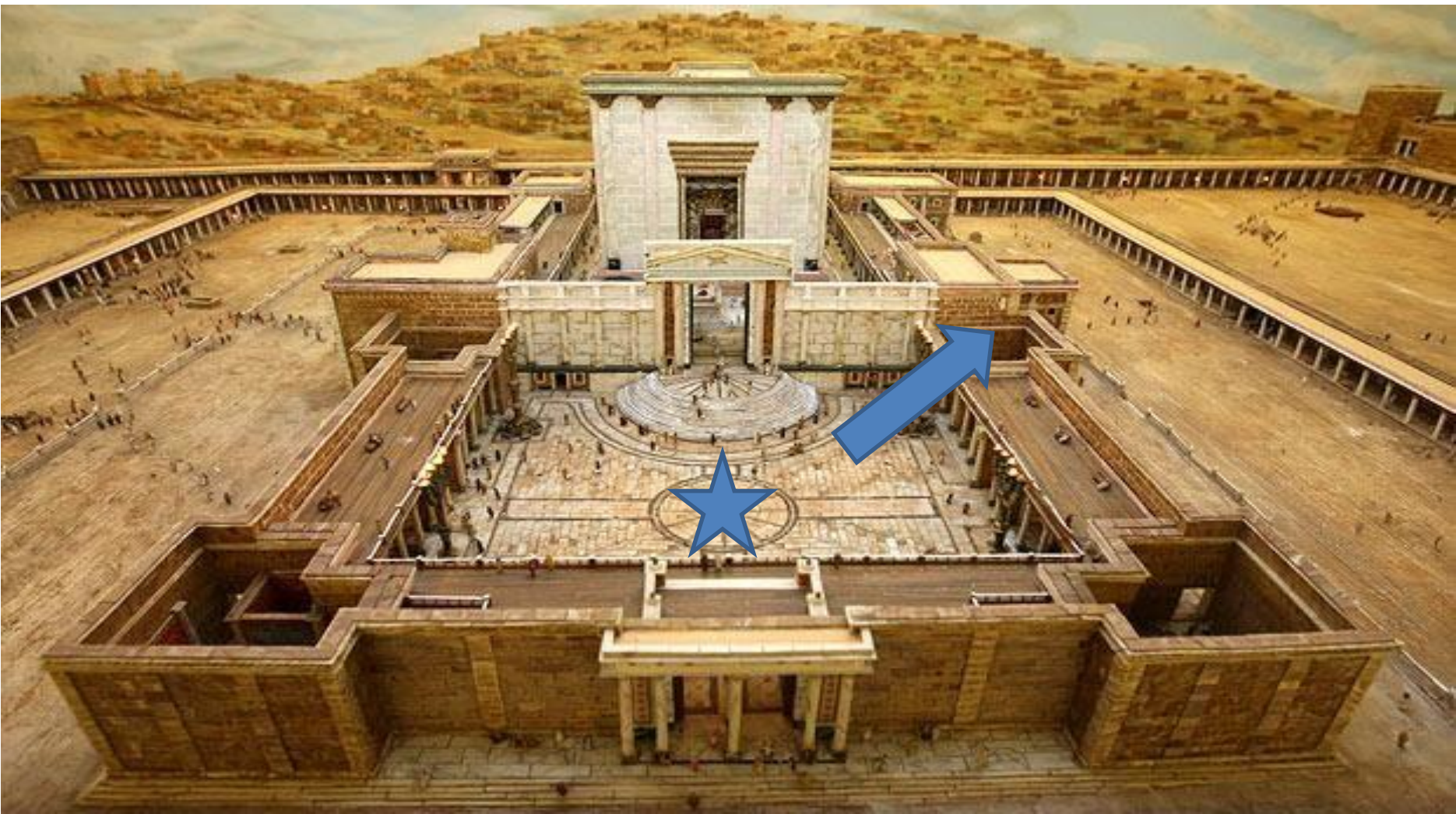




The Court of the Women was the largest court and was open to all Jews, men and women. It was just over 41,000 square feet with four smaller courts with columns in the four corners, each about 600 square feet.



In the north-east court, the priests who were unfit for service (body blemishes) picked through the wood for the altar, discarding any imperfect pieces.



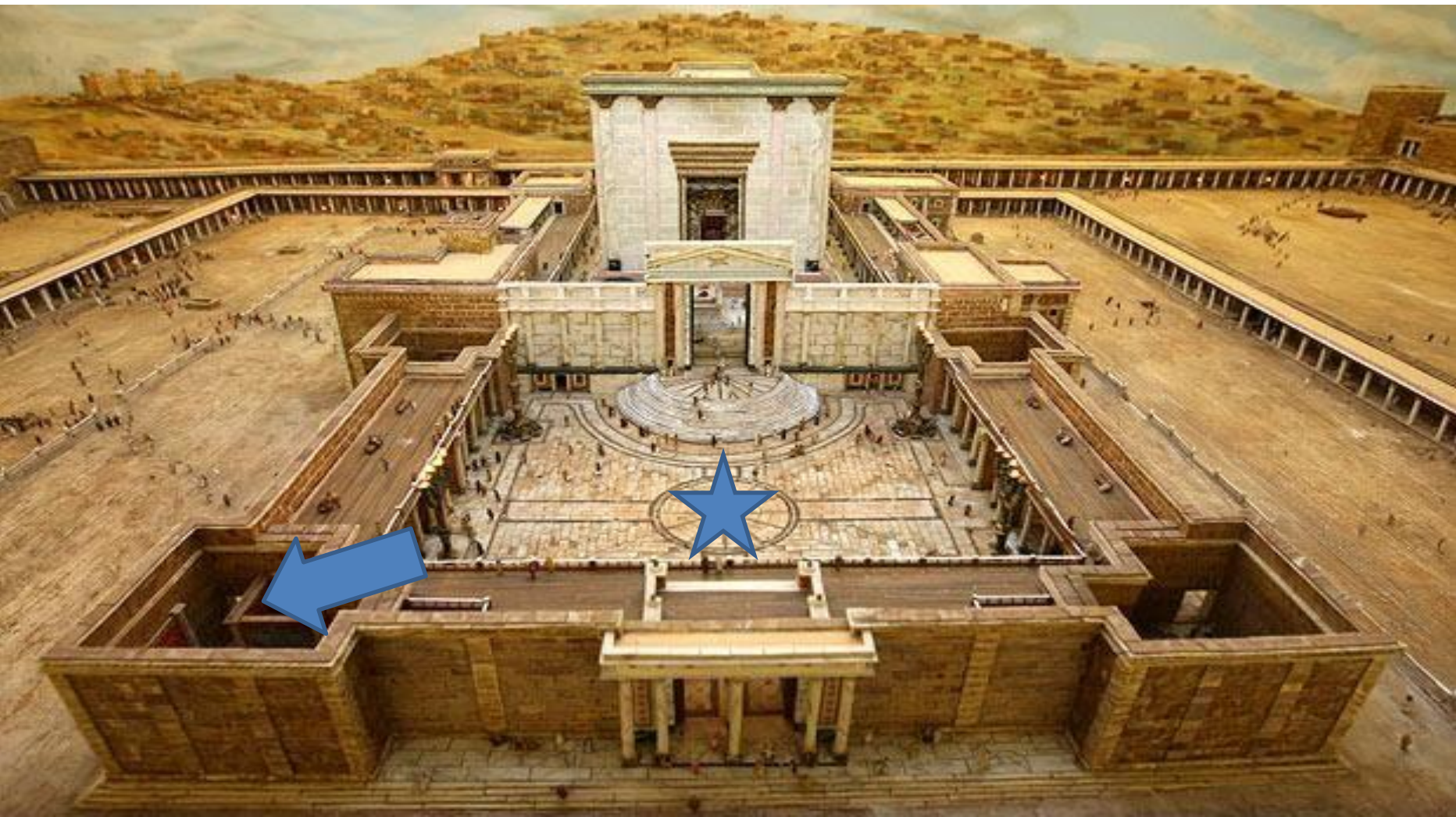
In the north-west court, lepers who had been purified washed themselves before presenting themselves to the priests to be declared clean.

Matthew 8:2-4

A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

³ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. ⁴ Then Jesus said to him, “See that you don’t tell anyone. **But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.**”



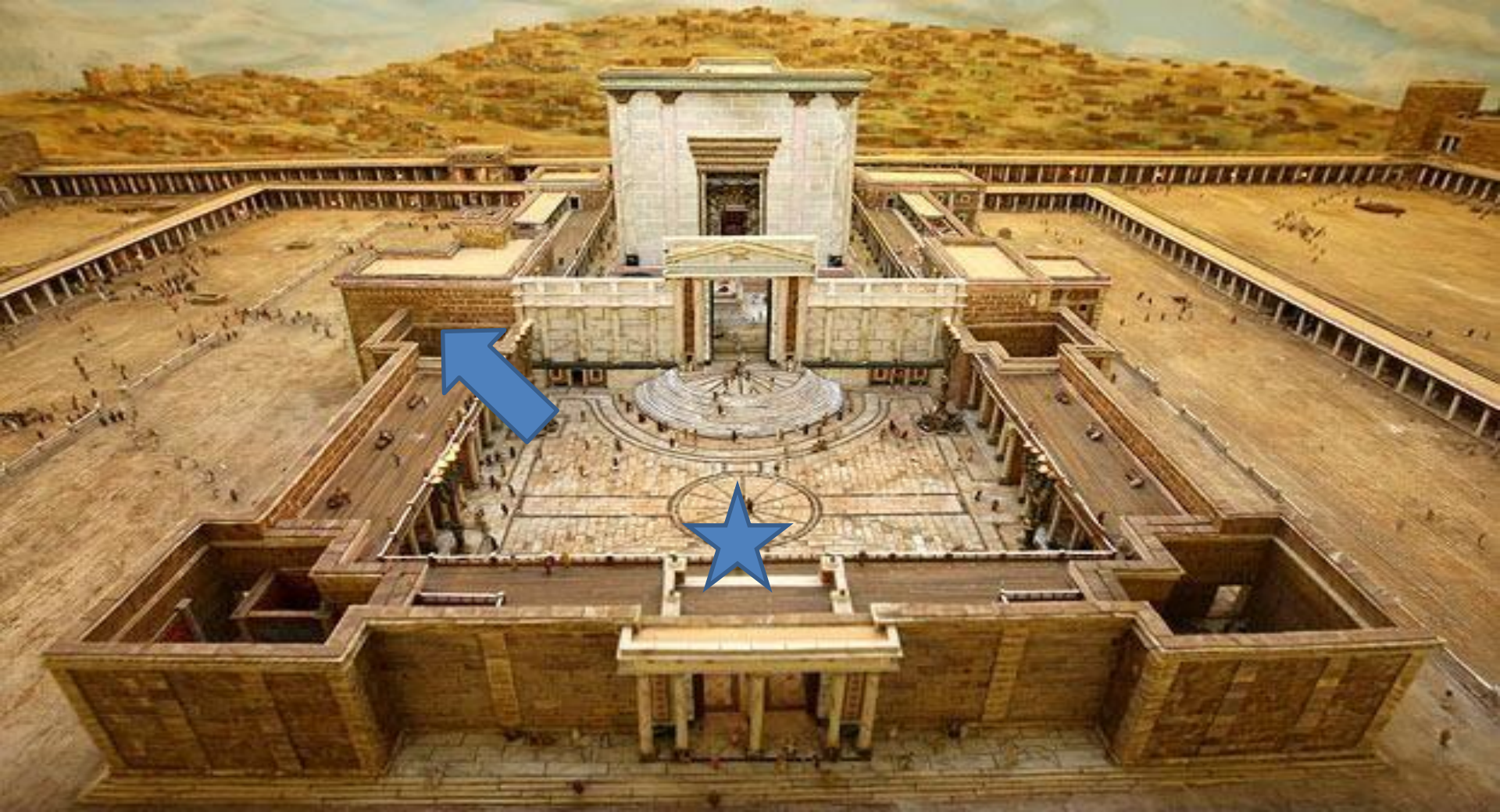


In the south-east court, those who had completed a Nazarite vow had their hair cut and prepared their offerings.

Numbers 6:1-13

The LORD said to Moses, ² “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘If a man or woman wants to make a special vow, a vow of dedication to the LORD as a Nazirite, ³ they must abstain from wine and other fermented drink and must not drink vinegar made from wine or other fermented drink. They must not drink grape juice or eat grapes or raisins. ⁴ As long as they remain under their Nazirite vow, they must not eat anything that comes from the grapevine, not even the seeds or skins. ⁵ “During the entire period of their Nazirite vow, no razor may be used on their head. They must be holy until the period of their dedication to the LORD is over; they must let their hair grow long. ⁶ “Throughout the period of their dedication to the LORD, the Nazirite must not go near a dead body. ⁷ Even if their own father or mother or brother or sister dies, they must not make themselves ceremonially unclean on account of them, because the symbol of their dedication to God is on their head. ⁸ Throughout the period of their dedication, they are consecrated to the LORD.

¹³ “Now this is the law of the Nazirite when the period of their dedication is over. They are to be brought to the entrance to the tent of meeting.



In the south-west court, the oil and wine for the offerings were kept for the drink offerings.



In front of the columns around the court of the women were eleven treasure chests for the voluntary offerings of money. These chests had a metal tube on the top which made noise as the coins were dropped into them (sounding a trumpet) -



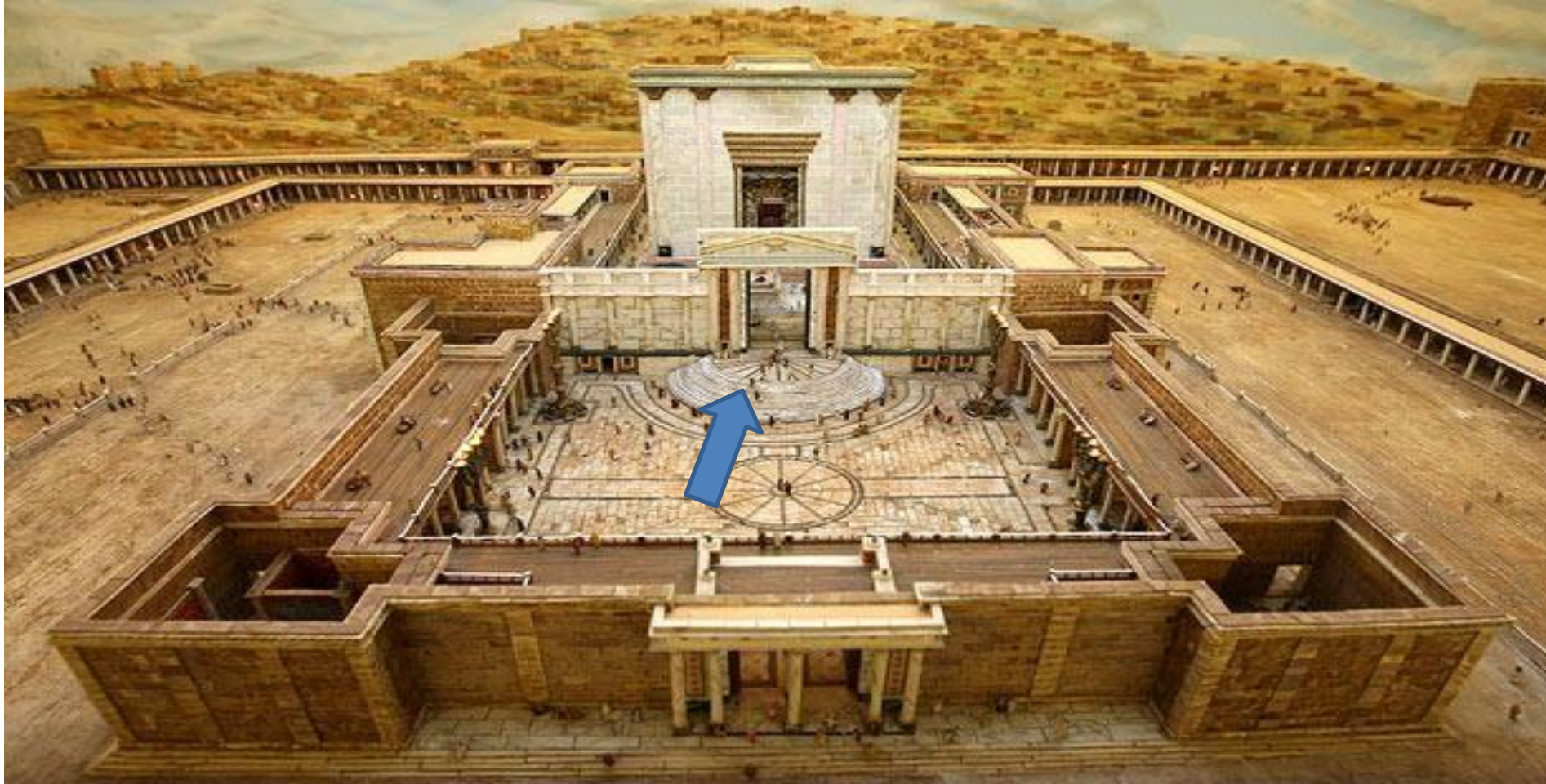
Matthew 6:2

“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

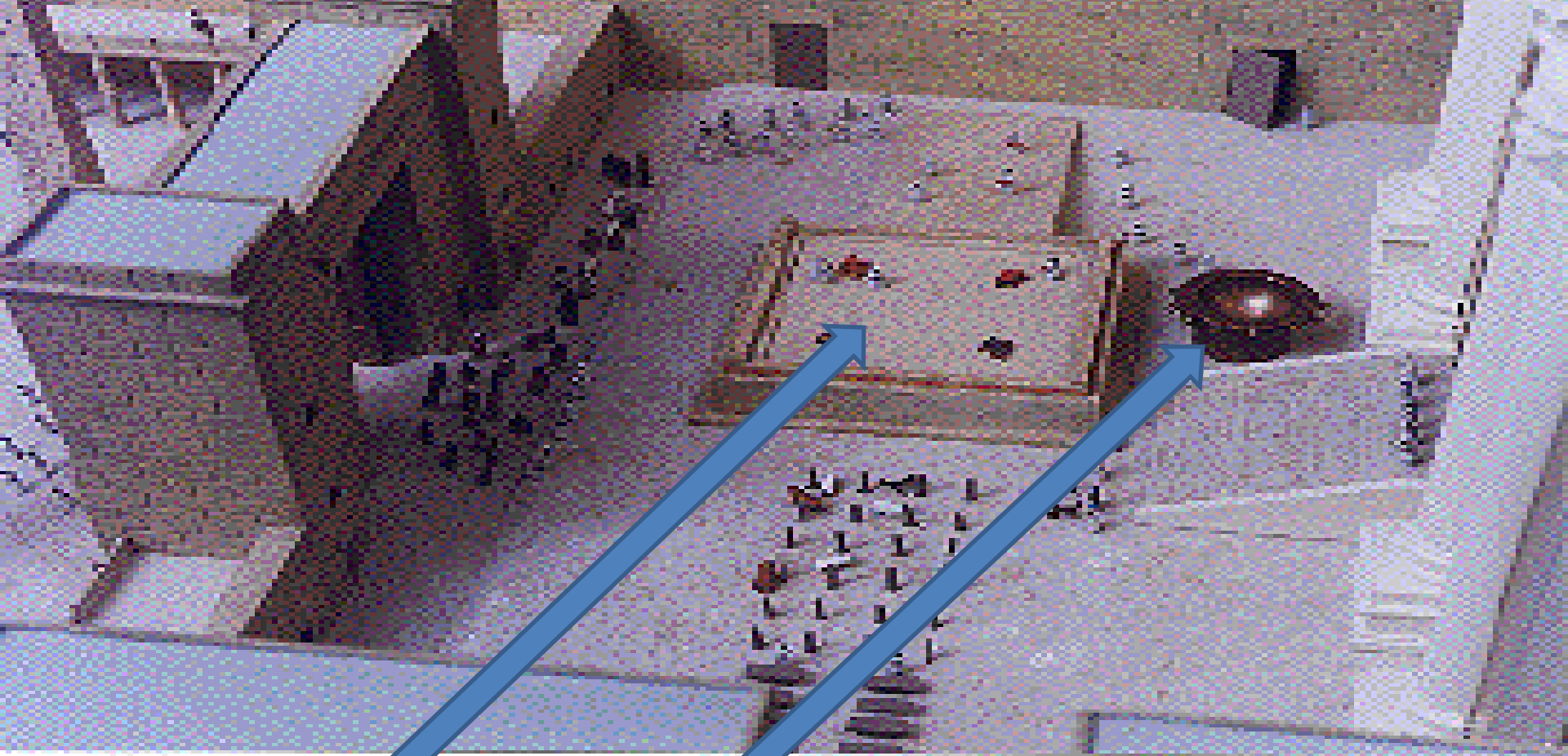
Mark 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. ⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”





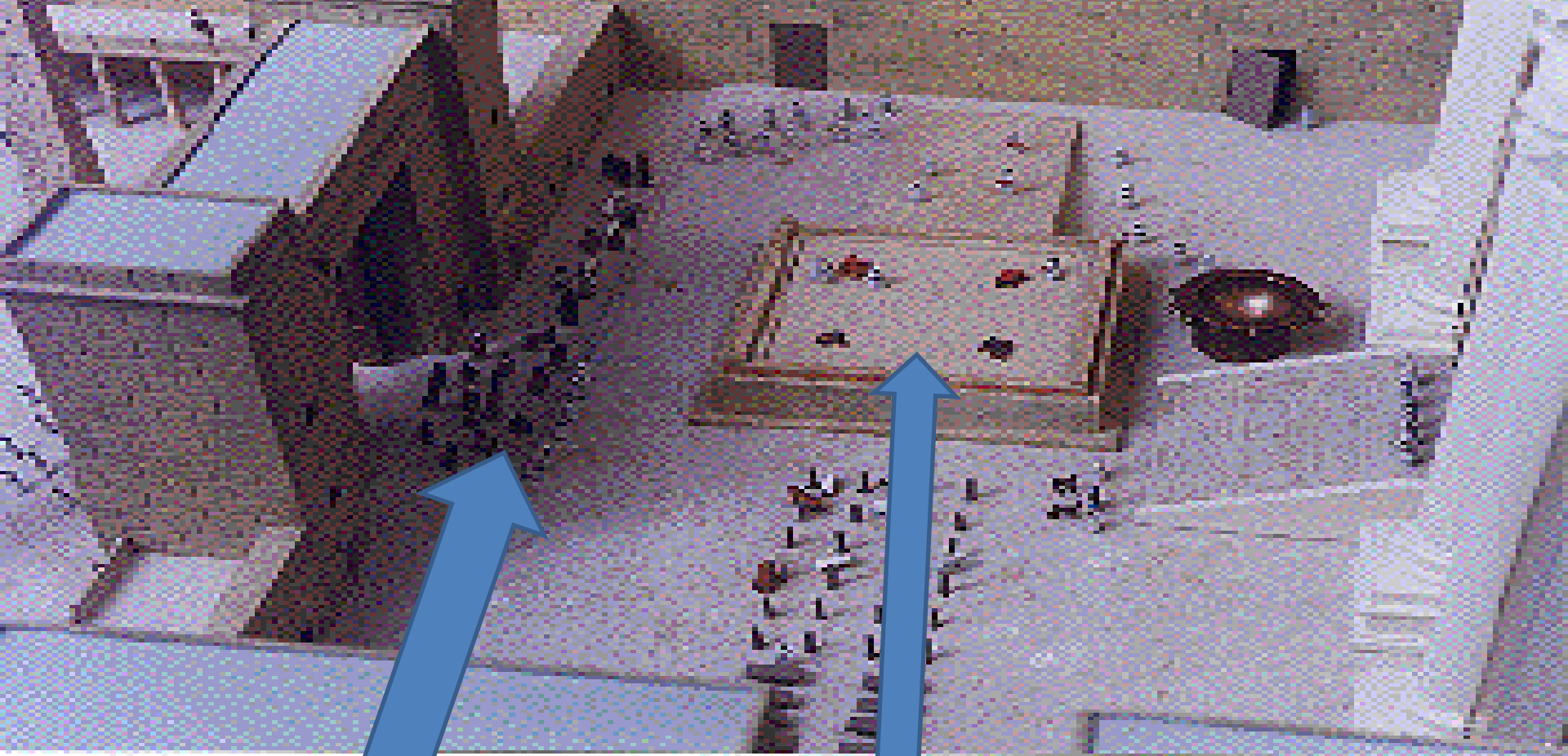
Continuing to the East, there was a magnificent 15 step semi –circular staircase and the Nicanor Gate. This lead to a narrow hall filled with columns called the Court of the Israelites. Under this area where two rooms where the Levites kept their musical instruments, which they could access from the Court of the Women.



The Court of the Priests contained the altar of sacrifice, the Brazen Sea (a large basin for washing) which rested on the backs of 12 bronze bulls.



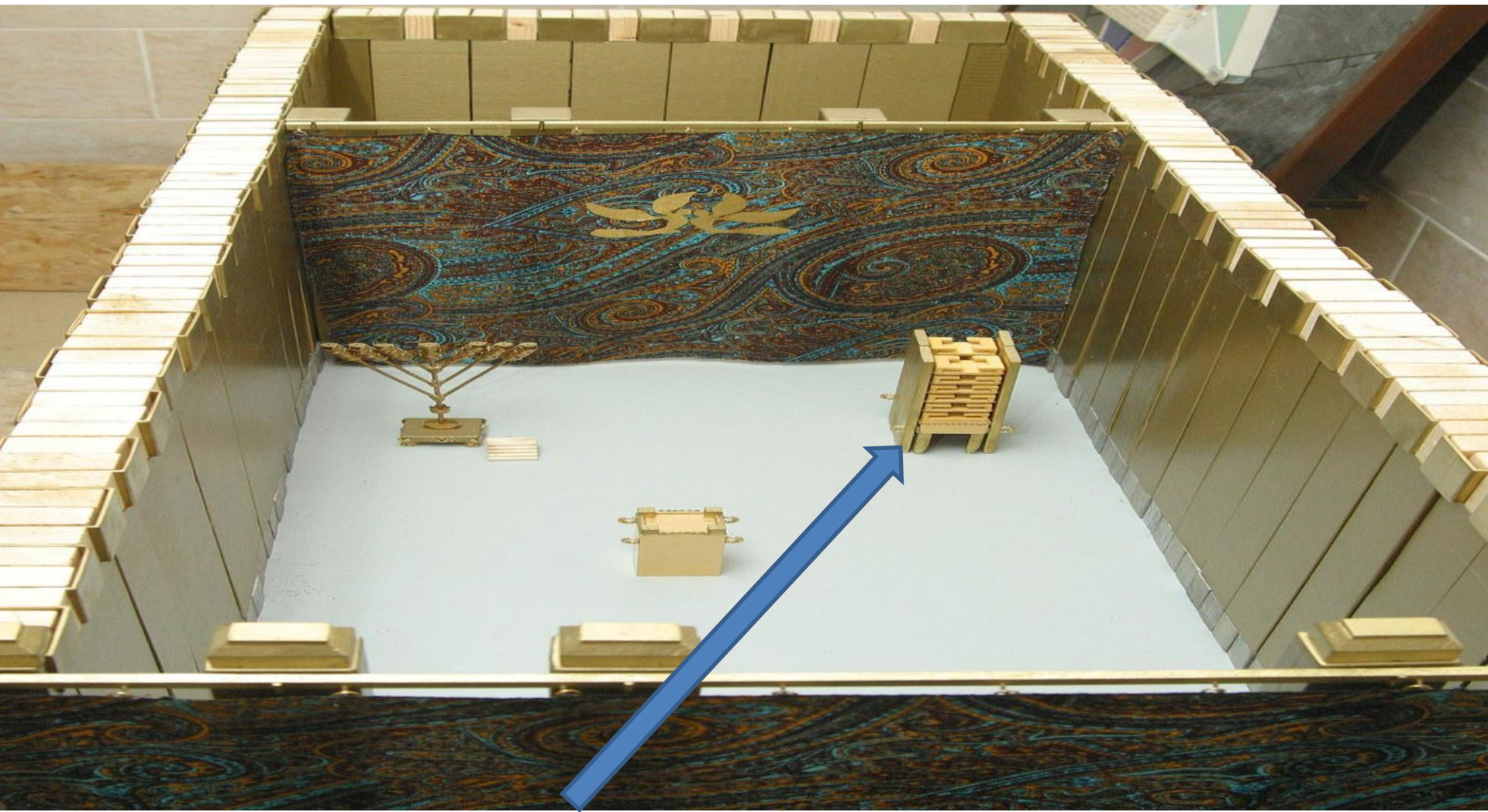
The women and children could look over a balcony into those inner courts to see the ceremonies.



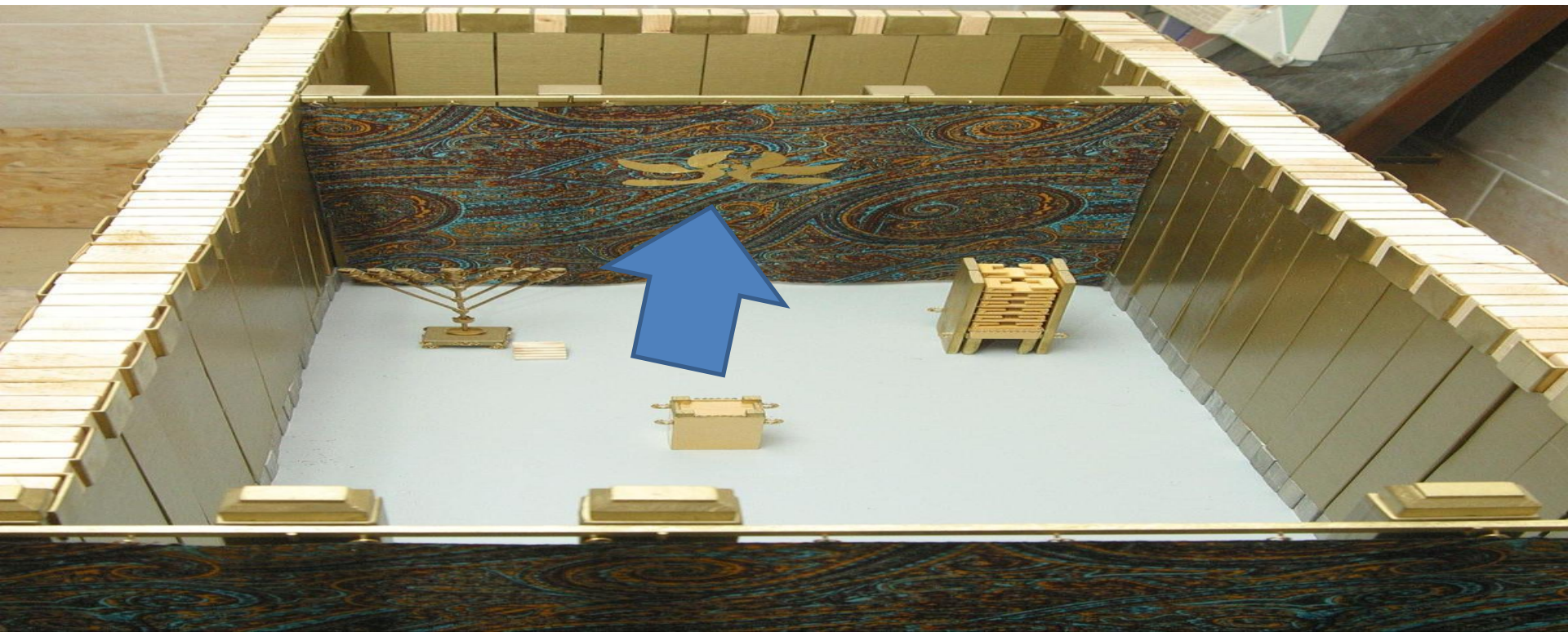
It was in this area, that the Israelite men would bring their sacrifices and offerings and give them to the priests. From this point only the priests could proceed to the altar of sacrifice in the Court of the Priests.



On up some more steps was the temple itself. Its entrance was covered with a priceless curtain embroidered with a map of the known world. It contained the golden altar of incense, the seven branched candelabrum

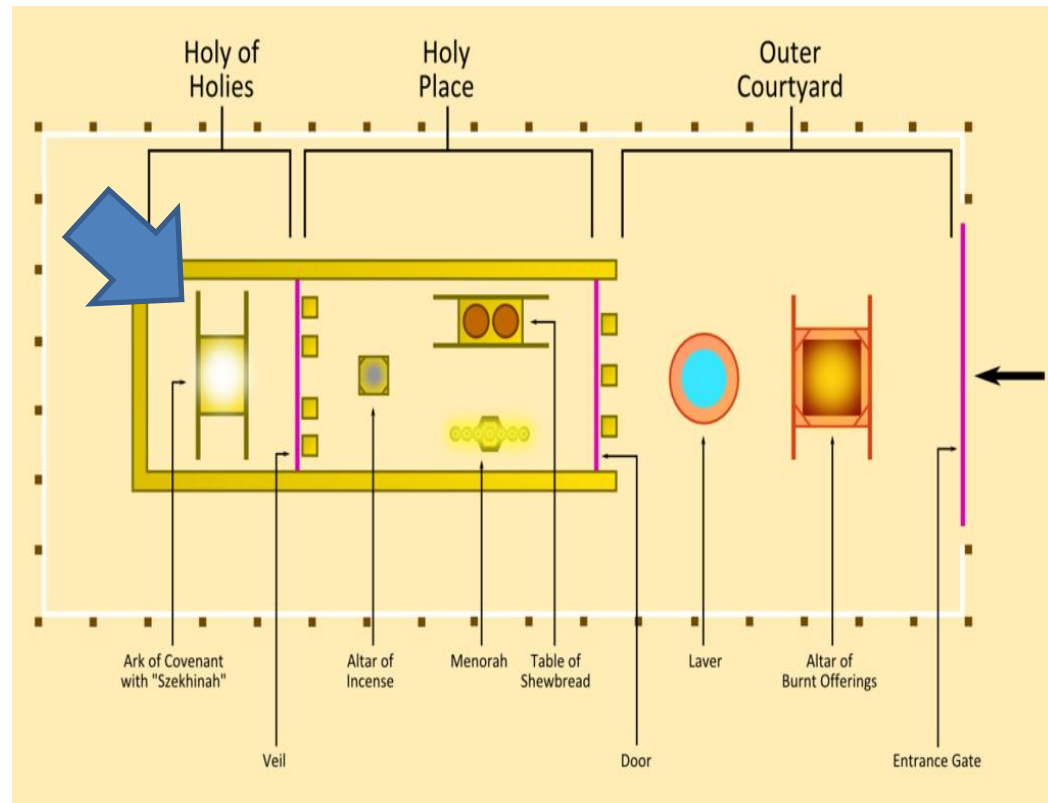
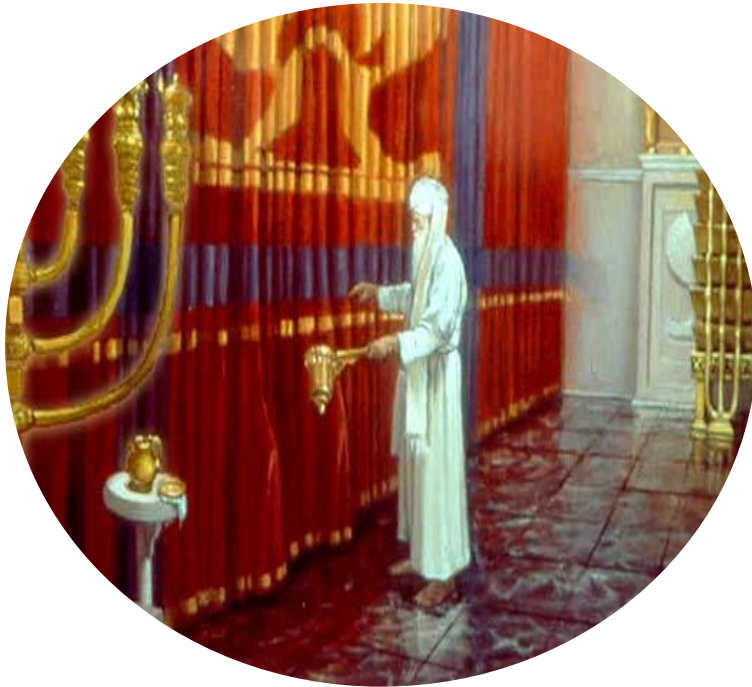


... and the table of showbread, which was replaced by fresh bread every Sabbath. No one but the priest on duty could enter this area called the “Holy Place”.



This was separated from the inner “Most Holy Place” by a large curtain. It was said to be 60 feet long and thirty feet wide and as thick as a man’s hand (about 4 inches). It was said to be so strong that teams of horses could not pull it apart and that thirty priests were required to move it.

It was in this place (The Most Holy Place – Holy of Holies) that the presence of God was said to dwell. In Jesus' time, the Ark of the Covenant that was there in Solomon's temple had been lost and was replaced by a stone.





Matthew 27:50-51

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split



Just outside the temple, on the northwest corner, was the fortress of Antonia. Here the Roman garrison was kept and Pontius Pilate had his palace. It was to this area that Jesus was take to Pilate, questioned, and ultimately handed over from here to be crucified.



The temple was destroyed in response to a Jewish revolt by the Roman army in 70 A.D. (as predicted by Jesus.)



Matthew 24:1-2

Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. ² “Do you see all these things?” he asked. **“Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”**



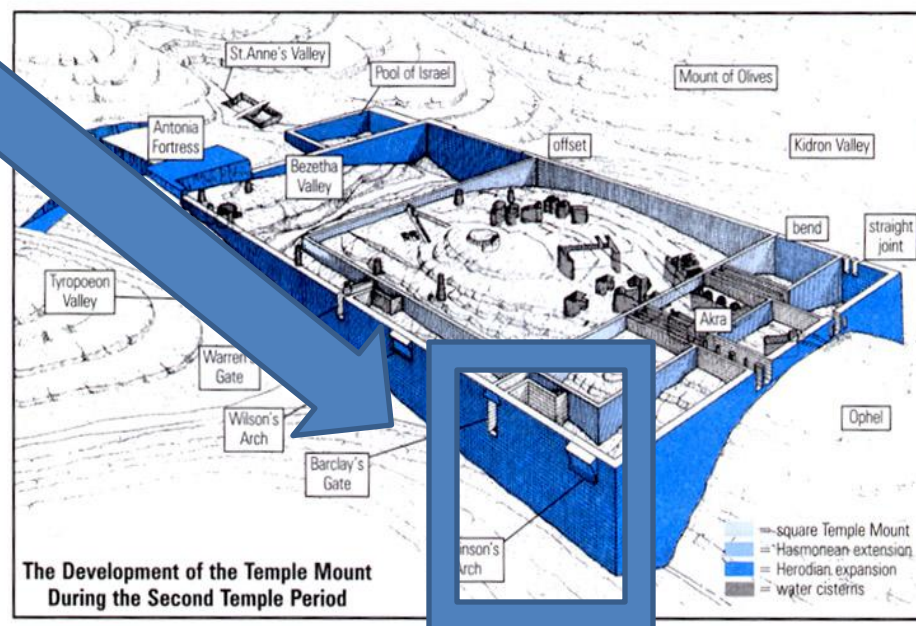
Matthew 24:34

Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.



Today – in the city of Jerusalem all that remains is the ‘wailing wall’ which was part of the retaining wall for the platform on which the temple was built.

There are no temple ‘buildings’ remaining – they have all been destroyed as Jesus said !



Wailing
wall



Today the only ‘buildings’ on the Temple platform are mosques built by the followers of Mohammad . It was originally built about 700 AD, but has been destroyed several times by earthquakes and rebuilt. The last renovation was in 1993.(Gold – plated dome)