

MOUNT ZION

Mount Zion is the raised hill adjacent to the southwestern corner of the Old City. This is a sacred place to the Jews; it is believed that this location contains the Tomb of David, which is the place where the prayer requests that fall out of the Kotel (Western Wall) are brought.

This is also regarded as the site of the Last Supper and the Upper Room experience of the 12 disciples, who had gathered for prayer awaiting the power of the Holy Spirit to come upon them on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1). In ancient times, a deep valley (The Tyropean Valley, or Valley of the Cheesemakers) separated Mt. Zion from Mt. Moriah.

Today, many layers of ruined city and rubble from Jerusalem's many destructions completely fill this valley. In fact, at the Western Wall, the Kotel, or Jewish prayer plaza, about half of the old wall of the Temple Mount lies below the present ground level (sometimes Scripture calls all of Jerusalem "Zion" or "Mt. Zion").