

Hebrew: Jerusalem

Jerusalem has traditionally been the “beloved of God,” sacred to Christians and Muslims as well as to Jews. For some, the holy city takes on a purely metaphorical rather than physical form—the “heavenly Jerusalem” or the “new Jerusalem,” which might be anywhere or might simply be a phrase to describe the newly discovered Kingdom of God. The feminine nature of Jerusalem is clear in the Old Testament’s Lamentations of Jeremiah, written perhaps during the exile of the Jews in Babylon.

How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary!