

# A Tale of Two Cities

## Ha'Bayith – The Father's House and Zion – The City of the Great King

“We know a great deal that is not so.” (Bro. Don Ifill)

Ha'Bayith, Hebrew for 'The House' is the usual term used to describe the House of the Lord God. Ezekiel introduces us to the larger city, only briefly, as to the south of where he was taken (Ezek.40:2).

The prophet Ezekiel views and describes both cities as squares enclosed by walls. The house of the Lord which is north of the Holy City is revealed as elevated above an already seismically lifted plateau. The house or temple is similar in size and architecture to Solomon's but more utilitarian in appearance. This city temple will be primarily used by Israel and its immediate surrounding neighbors (Isa.19).

Zion, the southwest hill of Jerusalem, is frequently inclusive of the entire city (Ps.2:6, 48:12). This Holy City, not the temple to the north, will be the center of the future Kingdom (Isa.2:3 Joel 3:17). For as the Lord said, “It is the city of the great King.” Jerusalem will be the international center for moral and spiritual instruction (Zech.8:22).