

The Cycle of Conferences - The Geneva Accord

The New Jerusalem

One of the most challenging aspects in any Middle East peace settlement is that of Jerusalem, a city full of sacred sites and of historic and religious significance to three major religions - Judaism, Islam and Christianity. In this transition period there seems no other workable resolution than making Jerusalem the capital of two states and apportioning the sovereignty of each of the sacred sites to one of these two states as outlined in the Geneva Accord. To counterbalance the recognised divisiveness of this measure, the Accord proposes an inter-faith body to promote religious understanding and dialogue. Such initiatives are vital the world over if we are ever to realise the "One Humanity" beyond the limitations of boundaries, borders and exclusive land ownership. And this kind of bridging measure is particularly critical in the Middle East in light of the wall that the Israeli government is constructing and for which all sides of the conflict bear some responsibility. Walls are so often the result and symbol of the separative consciousness, full of fear, possessiveness and rejection of 'the other'; and this particular wall, though it may arise from an understandable desperation, cannot ultimately succeed for true security has to be realised through inclusiveness not isolation.

It is ironic too, that a wall of separation is being built in a place associated with the New Jerusalem in the Christian Bible - a prophecy that invites many symbolic interpretations. For example, the city's descent from heaven could be seen as a symbol of the externalisation of the spiritual Hierarchy, while the walls that encircle it with twelve great gates, representative of the veils of energy/substance that are rent as the human and spiritual kingdoms begin to merge. The transparent gold of which the New Jerusalem is made also seems to have a deep resonance with the heart chakra that is depicted as a golden twelve-petalled lotus in esoteric teachings. During human evolution, these petals unfold becoming gateways of consciousness to the spiritual Hierarchy - the *centre of all love* - again pointing to the twelve gates that are said to stand permanently open in the city's walls.

This symbolism is significant because the heart centre of humanity is currently awakening, providing the key to transmuting the seething emotions in the Middle East. Esoteric teachings affirm that conflict is only resolved in a lasting manner by raising antagonistic forces to a higher level of consciousness. As individuals we have seen how lifting our emotions to the heart of compassion results in their transformation and the expression of more spiritual qualities in our lives, and it is the challenge of the new group of world servers to help raise and transmute the hostile forces in the Middle East into the collective heart of humanity. These forces are the end product of an extensive chain of cause and effect inextricably linked with humanity's long history, but when resolved, the "river of life" will indeed flow through the heart of the New Jerusalem as prophesied, carrying the Will of God into the minds and hearts of all. Historical holy sites will then no longer be of overriding importance, for all the earth will be sacred, with God Himself present amongst us.

Headquarters Group