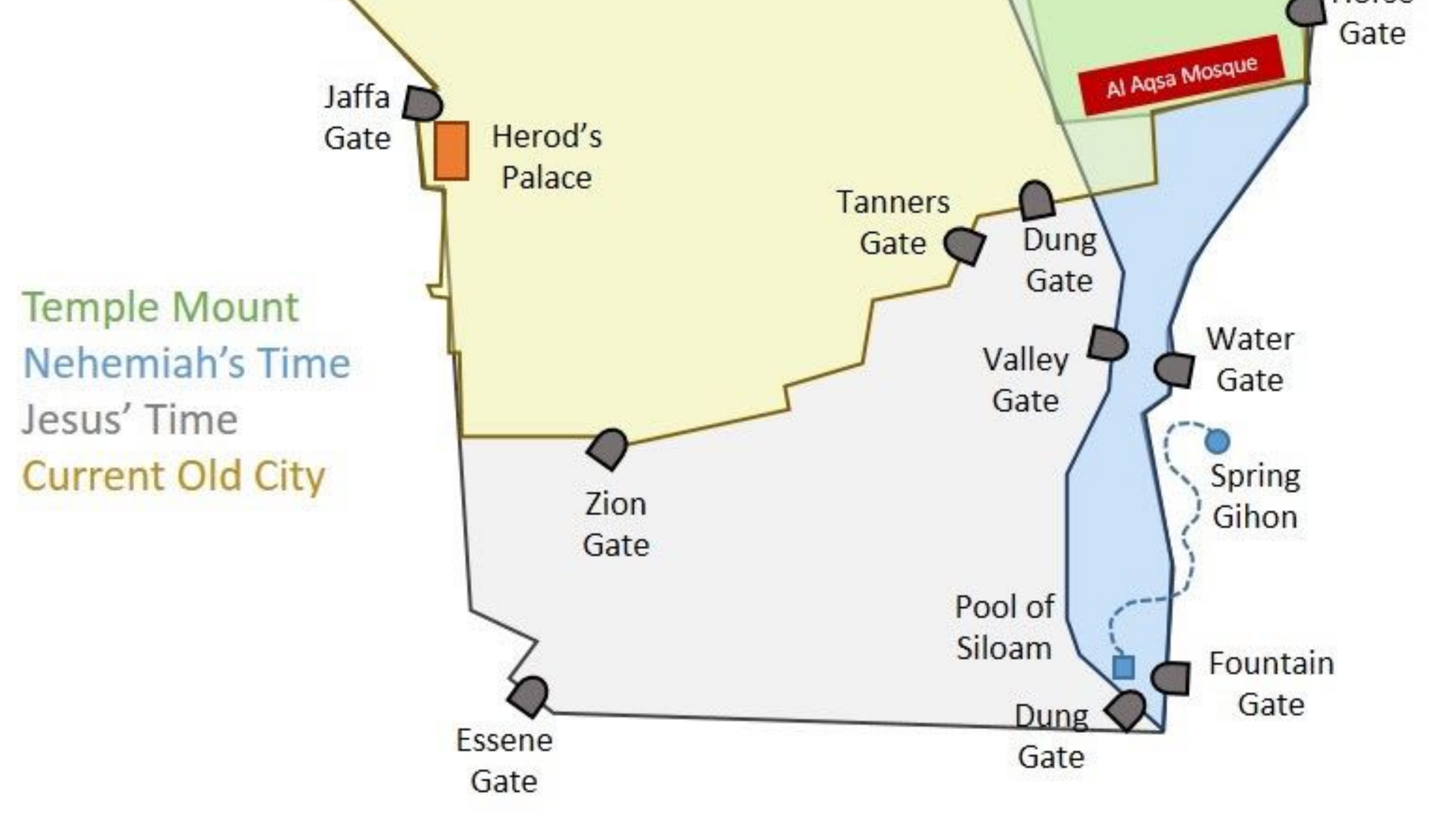


The Power of the Word

The Power of Hearing Scripture Read Aloud





“They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly,
and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the
reading.”

—*Nehemiah 8:8*

- The reading takes place on the first day of the month of Tishrei, also known as Rosh HaShana, the Feast of Trumpets.
- Nine days after (on the 10th of Tishrei), Israel was supposed to celebrate Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement).
- On the 15th-21st of Tishrei was Sukkot, or the Feast of Tents.
- It had not been celebrated properly since the days of Joshua (Nehemiah 8:17).

Hearing the Word of God read aloud caused a people who had forgotten their Lord to turn again to Him. They pledged themselves to Him anew, as their fathers did at Sinai.

- Through the power of spoken words, Adolf Hitler changed the hearts of the German nation for great evil.
- Through the power of spoken words, Winston Churchill and King George VI inspired despairing men to deeds of great heroism.
- Through the power of spoken words, Martin Luther King, Jr inspired men to unite in love, where they had been divided by hate.

“The LORD called Moses and **spoke** to
him...”

–Leviticus 1:1

“Until I come, devote yourself to the **public**
reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

—1 Timothy 4:13

- The reading of the Law (presumably Deuteronomy) was so powerful for the remnants of Judah that although they had not celebrated the Feast of Tents since the time of Joshua, they kept it thereafter.
- Jesus (along with His disciples) and His brothers all go to Jerusalem to celebrate Sukkot (the Feast of Tents) nearly 500 years later.
- What might we, as a people, as a nation, be like, if the Word of God was spoken aloud on a regular basis?