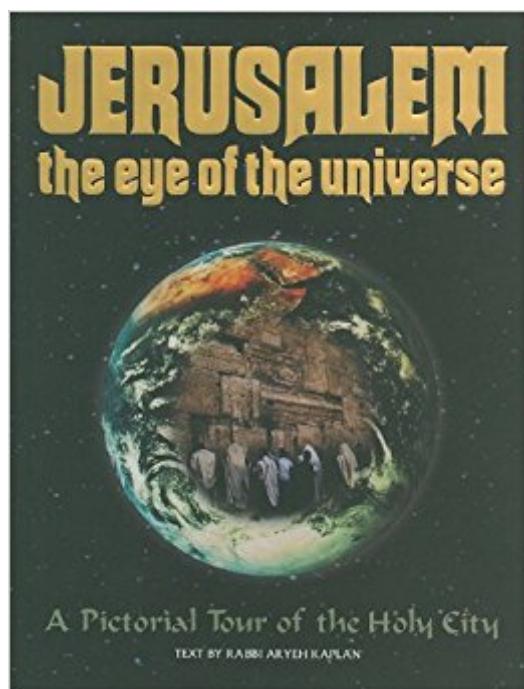


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# Jerusalem The Eye Of The Universe: A Pictorial Tour Of Jerusalem



## **Synopsis**

We'll go back through the centuries from the day King David established his kingdom there until yesterday's headlines in an art book that will quicken hearts and grace shelves and coffee tables for years to come.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan was a multifaceted, uniquely creative and talented author. In the course of his career, Rabbi Kaplan became known for such books as *Jewish Meditation: A Practical Guide* and *The Light Beyond: Adventures in Hasidic Thought*.

Excellent. Beautiful photos of the Holy City

good overview of scholarly Jewish thought in an economical, concise paperback of under a hundred pages.

Great book from a great vendor

Aryeh Kaplan a reknowned torah scholar and luminary...in a concise work of a 100 pages, puts the integral relationship between the Jews and their history and this revered city, Jerusalem, together to be easily understood by the layman. He provides a captivating narrative that sets the record straight to the ancient and deep connection between the Jews and Jerusalem. It is part history and part a

spiritual explanation that leaves the reader far greater in his/her understanding of Judaism and its adherents deep spiritual foundation and historical basis for Jewish sovereignty on this contested land. A must read for any who wish to have an educated opinion on the Jewish origins, beliefs and claims to Jerusalem as opposed to other identities in the world who make and have made counter claims.

First of all, I want to say that I am not Jewish and at most, a skeptical Christian. I came across this book by pure accident. My Jewish coworker lent this book to me because I asked her experience of traveling to Jerusalem. I thought this book might be an ordinary travel guide. Boy was I wrong. Just a few pages into the book, I was riveted and moved by the rich language and the deep spiritual knowledge presented in the book. Each chapter expounds some aspect of spiritual importance of Jerusalem in Judaism. Because of the centrality of Jerusalem in Judaism, to explain the spiritual importance of Jerusalem is to explain the Judaism itself. The author went back to the Torah and history to enlighten readers the ordained importance of Jerusalem. In this process, the complex theology becomes something understandable; obscure and even ridicule rituals in the old testament for modern eyes become meaningful. First and far most, the readers gain an understanding of spirituality, i.e. to be commune with God, that is transcending the boundary of religions.

Aryeh Kaplan sees Jerusalem as both historical center of the Jewish people and cosmic center for redemption of the world. This is a concise and deep reflection on the Holy City.

If you have never read Aryeh Kaplan before you are in for a treat. He opens up the mystical (G-ds intended meaning), deeper meaning of the Bible to those uninitiated in Hebrew, Torah, Talmud or Kabbalah. What the true meaning of Jerusalem has to Jews and the world and to the final resurrection predicted by Judaism is all packed into this little book. Read It and Grow.

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