

Question

Throughout much of the book of Song of Songs, the “Daughters of Jerusalem” are frequently mentioned. Who exactly are they? Are they simply women from the city of Jerusalem, as the text might seem to suggest?

Answer

Let us turn to the Scriptures.

Song of Songs 1:5 (ESV-style)

“I am very dark, but lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem, like the tents of Kedar, like the curtains of Solomon.”

In another passage, these Daughters of Jerusalem are warned not to stir up love prematurely:

Song of Songs 2:7 (ESV)

“I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the does of the field, that you not stir up or awaken love until

it pleases.”

So, who are these “Daughters of Jerusalem”?

The phrase “Daughters of Jerusalem,” also expressed as “Daughter(s) of Zion,” is a figurative expression. It represents *the entire community of the people of Israel*, not just the literal women living in Jerusalem. In other words, it refers to the whole nation.

Understanding This Through Scripture

Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

*“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”*

This prophecy points to the Lord Jesus during His entry into

Jerusalem. When the people saw Him, they welcomed Him by laying down palm branches on the road.

John 12:12-15 (ESV)

“The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!’

And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

‘Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!’”

Notice this carefully: those who shouted “Hosanna!” were not just women from Jerusalem, but people of all ages and groups. This clearly shows that the “Daughters of Jerusalem” represent the wider community of Israel.

This understanding is further supported by other passages such as *Micah 4:8; 2 Kings 19:20-21; Isaiah 37:22; and Isaiah 62:1.*

Application to Believers Today

As Christians—both men and women—we are considered part of *spiritual Israel*. Therefore, all of us, regardless of gender, age, or status, if we have received Jesus, are included in what Scripture symbolically calls the “Daughters of Zion” or “Daughters of Jerusalem.”

The Bible also warns us, as God’s people, to turn away from sin—especially both spiritual and physical immorality.

Spiritual immorality refers to all forms of idol worship.

A Personal Question

Have you received the Lord Jesus Christ?

Be aware that we are living in the last days, and Jesus is coming again soon.

May the Lord bless you.

Who Are the Daughters of Jerusalem in Song of Songs 1:5?

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