

# SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Myth, Conflict, and Faith

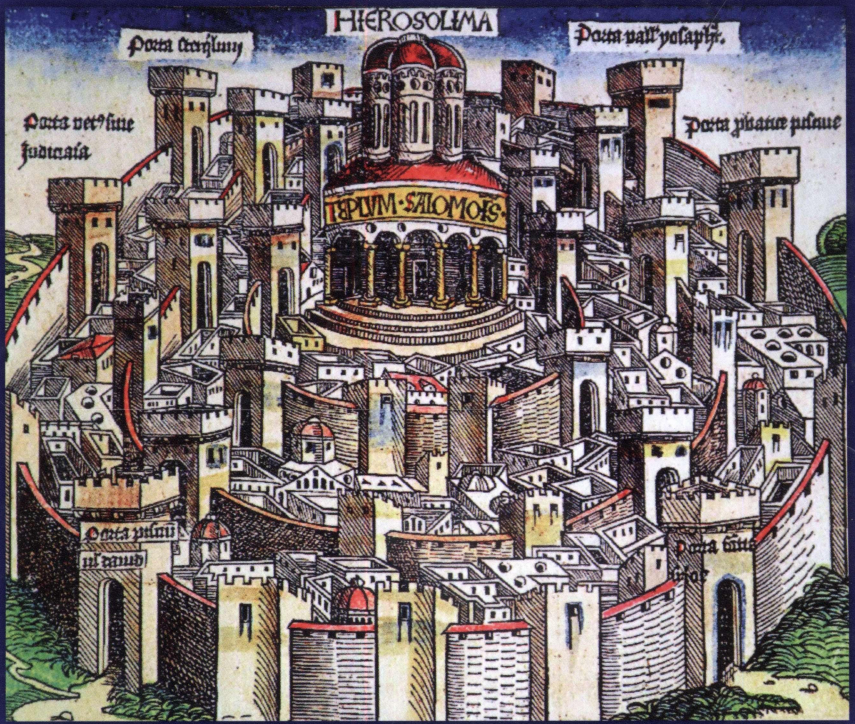
*Alan Balfour*

This work charts the interrelated histories of Solomon's Temple and Islam's Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem over the course of three thousand years.

Alan Balfour, a leading architectural historian, combines scrupulous research, primary documentation, and ample illustration, with an authoritative and elegant narration to chronicle the history of a place that serves as a cultural nexus of Jews, Christians, and Muslims alike. He vividly re-creates the will of the players – Solomon, Herod, Christ, Paul, Muhammad – and the epic events that have been played out on this sacred ground, which continues to compel the imagination of all the religions of the book.

The book details the constructions and reconstructions from its founding into the present and the continuing struggle after the Israel–Arab wars; anticipating the future controversies about the possession and use of the site. Alongside the pilgrims, plunderers, and power brokers, *Solomon's Temple* depicts the many travelers and artists who have passed through, narrated, and imagined the Temple across the millennia.

**Alan Balfour** is Professor and Dean of the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech. Formerly he has served as dean of Schools of Architecture in Texas and New York and was chairman of the Architectural Association in London. His writings include *Creating a Scottish Parliament* and books on three world cities *Shanghai, New York, and Berlin*. He has received numerous awards, including the Topaz Medal, the highest recognition given in North America to an educator in architecture.



“In this carefully researched and beautifully illustrated work, Alan Balfour places the Temple Mount within its cultural context, making a vital contribution to our understanding of the Middle East today.”

Jonathan Schneer, Author of  
*The Balfour Declaration: The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict.*

“With the skill of a master detective, scholar and architect, Alan Balfour peels away the layers of time to reveal the astonishing history of one of the world’s most significant places.”

Robert Campbell, *The Boston Globe.*