What is Yerushalaim?



It goes back to Sarah and Rivka's tent



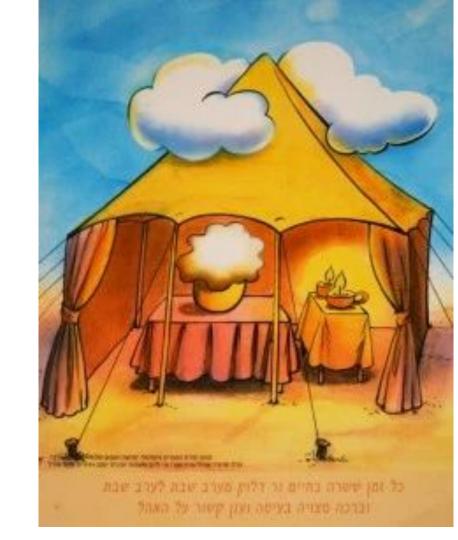
It always had a blessing in the dough



A light from Erev Shabbos to Erev Shabbos



And a cloud hovering over the tent



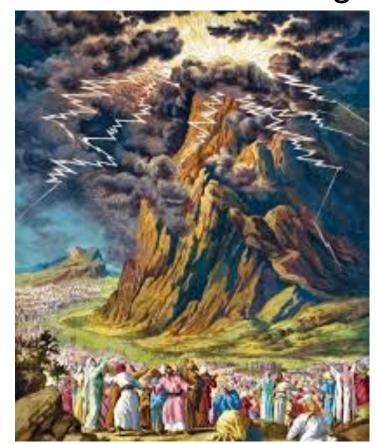
This holy experience was transferred to Har Sinai



There there was a great cloud over the mountain



There was thunder and lightning



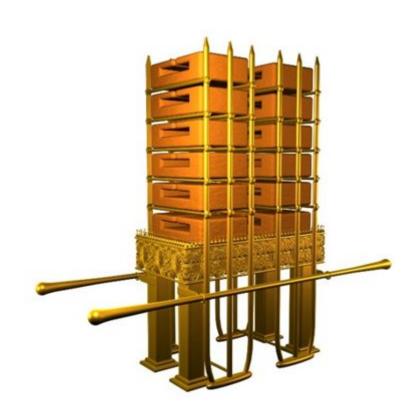
Ramban: That experience was transfered to the Mishkan



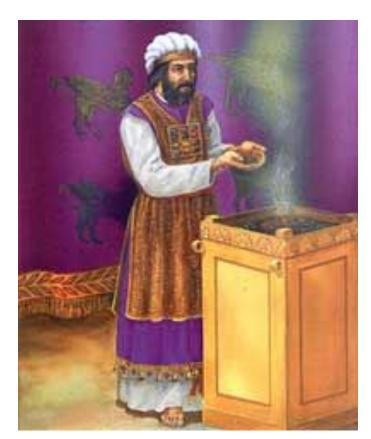
There the flame lasted from one day to the next



There the bread was always on the Shulchan



And a cloud formed over the Mizbach Hazahav



This holiness was then transferred to the Beit Hamikdash



There the flame, the Shulchan and the cloud continued



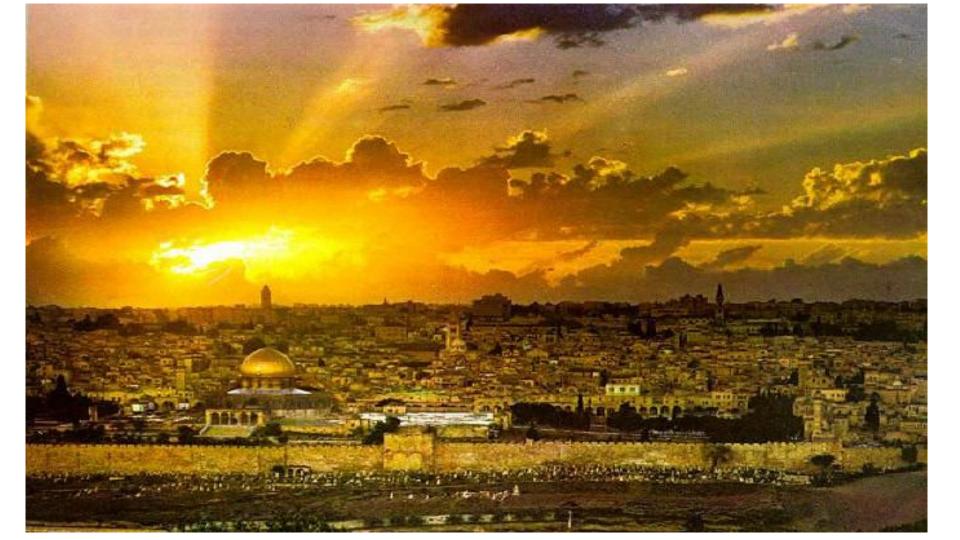
And miracles showing G-d's presence were on display

ָעֲשָׂרָה נָסִּים נַעֲשׂוּ לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ בְּבֵית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ:

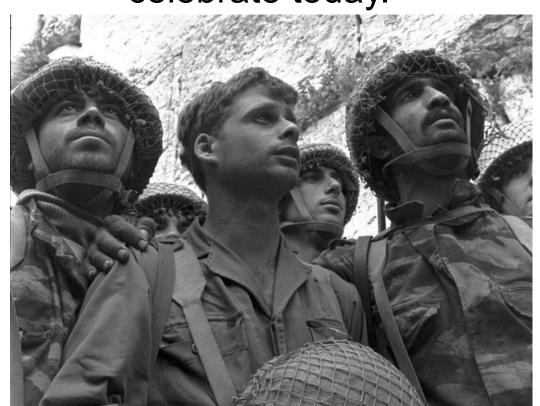
Ten wonders were wrought for our ancestors in the Temple:

To this day this is where a Jew can readily encounter G-d





And it is the ability to return to this place that we celebrate today.



It is our hope that this conquest is the beginning of our return to G-d and His return to us.



שִּׁיר הַמַּעְלָוֹת בְּשִׁוּב יֶהוָה אֶת־שִׁיבַת צִיָּוֹן הָׁוִינוּ כְּחֹלְמְים:

A song of ascents. When the LORD restores the fortunes of Zion —we see it as in a dream—



ֹזֶה־הַיּוֹם עָשָּׂה יְהוֻה נָגִילָה וְנִשְׂמְחָה בְוֹ:

This is the day that the LORD has made—let us exult and rejoice on it.

