

The Temple Complex of Jesus's Day

The first Jerusalem temple was built by Solomon around 975 BC and expanded by Hezekiah around 720 BC. When Jerusalem was sacked by the Babylonians in 586 BC, that temple was completely destroyed. Nearly seventy years later (522 BC), exiles returned to Jerusalem and built a much smaller temple on Hezekiah's platform, which had been built up from a natural hill called Moriah or Zion. The site remained essentially the same until the reign of Herod the Great (37–4 BC).

Herod devoted an *enormous* amount of money and resources to rebuilding the temple, because he wanted the Jerusalem Temple to be a showpiece. His engineers leveled whole valleys to build the largest paved area in the ancient world, covering over 30 acres, and capable



of accommodating over 100,000 pilgrims at a time. It was a wonder of the Roman world that took nearly 50 years to complete and then was completely destroyed in AD 70 during the First Roman-Jewish War. All that remains of Herod's complex are the massive retaining walls and the southern stairs.

When Jesus entered the temple on Palm Sunday, he probably rode in along a causeway from the Mount of Olives from the east to the southern stairs, where there were two sets of doors for the pilgrims to enter. This entrance was closest to the old City of David and therefore the way the ancient kings would have entered, rather than through the royal tunnels built by later rulers, which came from the west.

Financial Summary

2023 Budget	\$224,885	Budget to Date	\$56,225
Weekly Budget	\$4,325	Giving to Date	\$60,431

Thank you again to all for your generous stewardship. You can give via the offering box in the back of the sanctuary, via mail, or online at bedfordroad.org/giving.

Palm Sunday 2023

**BEDFORD ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Welcome

*Creating environments where people
encounter Jesus and journey together*

© 1990, Fernando Ortega and Randy Ray, CCLI# 299399

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“Doxology”

“Why?”

© 1984, Michael Card, CCLI# 228623

7 Good Friday Service, 6:30pm
8 SNH Rescue Mission
9 Resurrection Sunday Service
15 Ladies Ministry, 9:15am

Tues 7pm (Ray Pouliot, Mike Trask), Bible study room
Wed 7pm (Bob Bragdon), Bible study room

Streaming: [youtube.com/@bedfordroadbaptist](https://www.youtube.com/@bedfordroadbaptist)

Mail: PO Box 443, Merrimack, NH

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Nursery is provided 9:30-11:30am for children ages 0-3.
On the first Sunday of each month, older children stay with their families.
On all other weeks, there is an age-appropriate teaching time for children ages 4-10.