

# Jerusalem: Crossroads of the World #5: Leaving the Old City

## Timeline

Late First Temple period (6<sup>th</sup> century BCE): burial caves in Ketef Hinnom

1<sup>st</sup> century BCE (?): Herod's tomb

1<sup>st</sup> century BCE and on: Aqueducts in Hinnom Valley

1857 Batei Mahse houses in Old City

1858 Russians purchase land for Russian Compound

1860 Montefiore builds Mishkenot Shaananim

1893 Yemin Moshe built with Montefiore money

1892 Train from Jaffa to Jerusalem

1926 YMCA built

1931 King David Hotel built

July 22 1946 King David bombing

December 1948 Mount Zion secret cable car installed

1948-67 Yemin Moshe on the border between Israel and Jordan

1967 City reunited, Yemin Moshe gentrification begins



## Sir Moshe Montefiore

by Haim Hefer

When the Sir turned eighty  
 the white angels came to him  
 and standing before his bed, they said:

"The Lord wants you by his side"

And that's how Sir Montefiore replied

"Excuse me gentlemen, but I'm really busy  
 too much trouble have our brothers in the world

There is a pogrom in Russia, how won't I go there?  
Who could help them but me  
And he got on his carriage, and "Heya!" said to his horses  
a little gift here, modest tribute there  
a pinch on a cheek or a gentle caress  
And all the Jews are joyful and proud  
Well done, dear Sir, well done...  
When the Sir turned ninety  
He was said: "Come up here, HE is waiting for you"  
And the Sir rebutted: "Tell me how could I?  
Who would take care of the Damascus affair?"  
When the Sir turned hundred and another year  
The angels granted him with the very last kiss  
And he slowly closed his eyes, asking  
only a Jerusalem's stone to be put under his head  
And so, wrapped in a silken tallit he rests  
He has finished his last journey  
But still to this day, when the night falls  
there are those who ready to swear  
that they saw the Sir wandering next to his carriage