

# Concerning Mount Zion

**George Fox**

Mount Zion was a hill higher than other hills, and it stands northwards in Jerusalem, and therefore is called Zion, that is, a watchtower, because from this hill, (Zion), from it one might see the Holy Land, and all the surrounding countries; and upon this hill David built his city, and blew the trumpet. This Mount Zion and Jerusalem were types of the heavenly Jerusalem and Zion; for the Lord said, 'I have set my king or anointed upon my holy hill of Zion. Heavenly Zion is the hill, or mountain of God's holiness; beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion; let Mount Zion rejoice,' Psalm 48. For God will save Zion; the salvation of Israel comes out of Zion, (namely), Christ, who is elect and precious, laid in Zion, but not in the outward hill, or Mount Zion; for Christ was born in Bethlehem, and David said by prophecy, concerning Christ, 'Oh! that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord brings back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.' Psalm 14.

And again he said, 'Let Israel rejoice in the Lord that made him, let the children of Zion be joyful in their king; for Zion shall be redeemed through judgment, and her converts through righteousness.' Is not this Zion God's people, and not the outward hill? 'For out of Zion shall go forth a law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.' Is not this heavenly Jerusalem, and heavenly Zion, that the word of the Lord and his law go out of, and not out of the outward hill Zion? 'In the last days, Isaiah said, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established on the top of all mountains, and exalted above all the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it.' Is not this heavenly Mount Zion, and heavenly Jerusalem? And Isaiah said, 'The Lord is exalted, for he dwells on high, he has filled Zion with judgment and righteousness.' Zion is called a city of our solemnity, and Jerusalem, a 'quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken.' Is not this heavenly Jerusalem, and heavenly Zion? But let the hypocrites or sinners of outward Zion or Jerusalem be afraid, which may be removed or broken, which heavenly Zion or Jerusalem cannot; for no unclean thing enters into it. 'O Zion! that brings good tidings, get you up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that brings good tidings, lift up your voice with strength: lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God.' So here are Zion and Jerusalem that bring good tidings.

Now, do you think that this was the outward Jerusalem, or outward hill? For Christ was born in Bethlehem, a chief corner stone, elect and precious, laid in Zion; but it does not say in the outward hill Zion. Isaiah speaks by prophecy, Isa 51. 'He will comfort all her waste places, and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody. I have put my words in your mouth, and have covered you, even in the shadow of my hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, you are my people.' Here you may see that Zion is God's people; and how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that brings glad tidings, that publishes peace, that brings good tidings of good, that publishes salvation, that said unto Zion, 'Your God reigns,' when the Lord shall bring again Zion, namely, his people; for the outward mountain, with the outward hill, was not removed. And the redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto those who are turned from transgression. Isa. 59:20, Rom 11:26. And this redeemer is Christ. And Isaiah said, 'Who has seen such a thing, and who has heard such things? Shall a nation be born at once?' For so soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

Now, here you may see the wonder of Zion's travail, which was not the great hill, nor watch-tower in Jerusalem. And Zachariah said, 'The Lord shall yet comfort Zion,' that is, his people. Zach 1. And Zachariah said, 'Shout you daughter of Zion.' And again he said to Zion, 'Let not your hand be slack.' So Zion was and is God's people.

And Micah said, 'In the last days, ... the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established above all the mountains, and it shall be exalted above all the hills.' So, here is God's heavenly mountain, or watchtower, which is above all hills or mountains, 'and people shall flow unto it, and many nations shall come, and say, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob, and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths.'

Here God is the teacher of his people, and nations; for these last days are the days of Christ, in his new covenant or testament, where the Lord goes forth from heavenly Zion, the mountain of the house of God, established above all mountains, and the word from heavenly Jerusalem, that is above old Jerusalem, which was the word of faith (the apostles preached) in people's hearts and mouths. Rom 10:8, Micah 4:2, Isa 2:3.

The Jews, in the old testament, they had the law given to them at the outward hill, Mount Sinai, who had the outward hill north in Jerusalem, called Mount Zion, and read the outward law in outward Jerusalem; but the mountain of the Lord, or heavenly Mount Zion, which is called the mountain of the house of the Lord, is established on the top of all the mountains, and exalted above all the hills, so that all nations may see it and flow unto it. And Obadiah said, 'Upon Mount Zion

shall be deliverance, ... and saviors shall come upon Mount Zion, to judge the Mount of Essau, and the kingdom shall be the Lord's.'

And the apostle said, Rom 9:33 , 'As it is written, behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, and whosoever believes on him shall not be ashamed.' And Peter said, 1 Pet 2:6-8, 'Behold I lay in Zion, a chief corner stone, elect and precious, and he that believes on him, shall not be confounded; to all that believe in him he is precious, but unto those who are disobedient, he is a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, who stumble at the word, the stone which the builders disallowed, (that is the outward professors), the same is made the head of the corner of God's house.' God's house is in God's people, and in this Zion, the chief corner stone, which is laid in Zion; but it was not laid in the *hill* called Zion, in outward Jerusalem; for Christ, the chief corner stone, was born in Bethlehem, as is said before.

And the apostle writes to the church in his epistle to the Hebrews, and said, 'They had not come to the Mount Sinai, where they received the law, but you are come to Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels; and they were come to the general assembly, the church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling,' ... See that you refuse not him that speaks from heaven; if we turn away from him that speaks from heaven, whose voice shakes not the earth only, but the heavens also, but if you hear the voice of Christ and follow him, you will receive his kingdom that cannot be moved nor shaken.

And now, all you Christians, that profess Christianity, have you come to Mount Zion; or are you under the law which came from Mount Sinai, not Mount Zion? Under the law, which commanded tithes, offerings, sacrifice, oaths, and swearing, with outward tabernacle, sanctuary, and temple, and priests' lips to preserve people's knowledge; commanded by the law in the old testament? If you have come to Mount Zion, and heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God, then you see the innumerable company of angels, and the spirits of just men made perfect; and those who have come here, their names are written in heaven; and such have come to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant, who speaks from heaven, whose voice shakes the heavens and the earth, that are to be shaken, that those things that cannot be shaken, may remain. Heb 12. And John said, Rev 14:1-3. 'He saw a lamb stand on Mount Zion, and with him a hundred forty-four thousand, having their father's name written in their foreheads; which were redeemed out of the earth, and from among men, and they followed the lamb; and in their mouths were found no guile, for they are without fault before the throne of God; and they sung a new song, before the throne, and no man could learn that song, but the hundred forty-four thousand

which were redeemed,' ... Then surely this was spiritual, this was heavenly Zion, and not earthly, which the hundred and forty-four thousand stood upon, which were redeemed from the earth, and so from earthly Zion, and earthly Jerusalem, and all those earthly things; that followed Christ the Lamb, and was with him after he was risen, before the throne of God.

***George Fox***

*Gouses in Essex, the 13th day of the 2nd month, 1683*