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Jews are increasingly staking a claim to the Muslim-controlled Temple Mount, testing the Israeli government's resolve to avoid conflict by protecting Muslim sovereignty over the site.

<http://m.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2013/0923/Why-it-matters-that-Jews-are-standing-on-the-Temple-Mount>

The destruction of the First and Second Temples reflected the Jews' own inner spiritual state, and thus rebuilding the temple requires first and foremost a spiritual rebuilding individually and societally, says Rabbi Dovid Ben Meir, who teaches in a religious Zionist yeshiva in Eli.

"If we try to physically go up to the Temple Mount and walk in certain areas, even if we're within the limitations prescribed by Jewish law it won't bring us any closer to an understanding of what the temple actually means," he says. "We'll satisfy ourselves with going up barefoot and saying a few Psalms and feeling as if we're on a higher spiritual level, when the truth is what we really have to be striving for is to bring ourselves and all of humanity to an entirely higher spiritual, psychological sphere of living."