

## Praying for Israel

### I. Why pray for Israel

#### A. God's passion for Israel is revealed throughout Scripture.

- **Psalms 122:6-9 admonishes us to Pray for the peace of Jerusalem**
- **The Prophets proclaim God's plan & promises to Israel.**  
*Isaiah 62:6-7 charges us: "you who call on the Lord, give yourselves no rest & give Him no rest until He establishes Jerusalem & makes her the praise of the earth"*
- **Paul agonizes over Israel. In Romans 9:1-5 we hear his love expressed:**  
*"I have great sorrow & unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were cursed, & cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, the people of Israel."*
- **Our Lord Yeshua weeps over Jerusalem in...over the Jewish People.**  
*Matthew 23:37-39 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...how I've longed to gather you as a hen gathers her chick...but you were not willing...you will not see me again until you say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord"*  
He will not come again until the Jewish people recognize Him

#### B. We are Praying for our own:

- By faith in Yeshua, the King of the Jews, we are children of Abraham & heir to the covenant of being blessed to be a blessing.
- **Ephesians 2:12-13**  
*remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*
- **Ephesians 2:17-22**  
*And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we **both** have our access in one Spirit to the Father.*  
*So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are **fellow citizens** with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom **you also are being built together** into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.*

#### C. the Blessings

- **Gen 12: 3**  
*"I will bless those who bless you and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."*

#### D. They need our prayers

Like in the days of Ezra & Nehemiah the Jewish people have returned from captivity & are rebuilding with a shovel in one hand & a sword in the other.

Anti-Semitism has raised its ugly head...

The nations have gathered around her sneering & threatening her survival.

They daily deal with war, with the poverty & difficulties of immigrants, with conflicting Sects, with despair & hopelessness.

### **E. The prophetic promises**

## **II. Israel in God's end-time plan**

### **1) Not like the other nations**

*Number 23:9 a nation not reckoned among the other nations.*

### **2) Blessed to be a blessing**

*Gen 12:3 & 15 & 17 by covenant Israel was & is to be a blessing to the nations*

### **3) Apple of God's eye**

*Deut 32:9-11 "For the Lord's portion is His people, Jacob, His allotted inheritance. In a desert-land He found him, in barren & howling waste, He shielded him & cared for him; He guarded him as the apple of His eye, like an eagle that stirs up its nest & hovers over its young...."*

*Zech 2:8 "This is what the Lord Almighty says...'Whoever touches you touches the apple of my eye....'"*

*Isaiah 49:14-16 "But Zion said, 'the Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me.' Can a mother forget the baby at her breast & have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me...."*

### **4) God's name, His eyes & His heart are eternally bound in Zion!**

*1 Kings 9:3 "I have consecrated the Temple you built by putting My name there forever. My eyes & My heart will always be there."*

### **5) God's promise to Israel is as certain as the existence & order of the universe.**

*Jer 31:35-37 "Thus says the Lord (if Day & Night cease)...then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before Me forever....If Heaven above can be measured & the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done."*

### **6) Jerusalem is the place to which He will return**

**Zechariah 8: 3** *This is what the Lord says, "I will return to Zion & dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called 'the City of Truth', & the mountain of the Lord Almighty will be called the Holy Mountain."*

### **Zechariah 14: 3-4**

*Then the Lord will go out & fight against those nations as He fights in the day of battle. On that day His feet will stand on the Mt. of Olives, east of Jerusalem.*

**Today's time****1 Chronicles 12:32**

*Sons of Issachar who know the time & seasons in which they live*

**Great return**

**Lev 26:44-45** "Yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, nor shall I abhor them, to utterly destroy them & break My covenant with them; for I am the Lord their God."

Deut 4:27-31, Psalm 126, Psalm 147:2-3, Is 10:21-22, Is 11:11-12, Is 14:1-2, Is 35:10, Is 43:5-6, Is 49:5-6, Is 49:14-20, Is 54:6-8, Is 62, Is 66:8-10, Jer 16:14-15, Jer 23:7-8, Jer 24:6-7, Jer 29:11-14, Jer 31:8-9, Ezek 20:41-42, Ezek 28:25, Ezek 36 & 37, Hosea 1:10-11, Amos 9:14-15, Obadiah 1:17-19, Micah 2:12-13, Zephaniah 3:19-20, Zech 10:6-10

**Is 11:11-12** "In that day the Lord will reach out His hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of His people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath & from the islands of the sea. He will raise a standard for the nations & gather the exiles of Israel; He will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four corners of the earth."

**Jer 16:14-15** "However the days are coming," declares the Lord, "when men will no longer say, 'As surely as the Lord lives who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,' but they will say, 'As surely as the Lord lives who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north & out of all the countries where He had banished them.' For I will restore them to the land I gave their forefathers."

**Ezek. 39:25-29** "Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says, 'I will now bring Jacob back from captivity; & will have compassion on all the people of Israel, & I will be zealous for my holy name. They will forget their shame & all the unfaithfulness they showed toward me....When I have brought them back from the nations & have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show Myself holy through them in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind. I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Sovereign Lord.'"

Over 700 verses

**Greater Riches Revival****Romans 11:11-15**

*"Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be. If their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead!"*

25-29

Return of Prodigal:

Our Father's been waiting on this son to come home for 2000 years. Now this brother of ours "was dead and now lives, he was lost and has been found."

**Great turning against:**

*Zech 12:1-3 Behold I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples...On that day when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all the nations. All who try to move it will be cut to pieces.*

*Joel 3:1-2 In those days & at that time when I restore the fortunes of Judah & Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations & bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations & divided up my land.*

*Ezekiel 36: 5-7 this is what the Sovereign Lord says, "In my burning zeal I have spoke against the rest of the nations & against all Edom, for with glee & with malice in their hearts they made My land their own possession.*

**III. How to Pray for Israel****A. Ask for His heart...**

*Ruth 1:16 Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from you. Where you go I will go & where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people & your God my God.*

**B. Esther calling: interceding for the Jewish people & praying for the restoration & peace of Israel**

*Esther 4:12-16 "...Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief & deliverance will arise from another place, but you & your father's family will perish. And who knows but that **you have come to a royal positions for such a time as this....**Then Esther sent this reply to Modecai, 'Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, & fast for me. **Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I & my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the King, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.**'"*

**C. Pray the scripture :** Psalms 122:6-9: **"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:** they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, & prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren & companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good."

Isaiah 62:1-7 **"For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,** for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. The nations will see your righteousness, & all kings your glory...I have posted watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. **You who call on the Lord give yourselves no rest, & give Him no rest till He establishes Jerusalem, & makes her the praise of the earth."**

Psalms 148:14 "He raised up a horn for His people Israel...the people close to His heart"

Deut 7:6-8 “You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be His people, His treasured possession. The Lord did not set His affection on & chose you because you were more numerous than other peoples for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the Lord loved you & kept the oath He swore to your forefathers....”

Deut 32:9-11 “For the Lord’s portion is His people, Jacob, His allotted inheritance. In a desert-land He found him, in barren & howling waste, He shielded him & cared for him; He guarded him as the apple of His eye, like an eagle that stirs up its nest & hovers over its young....”

Zech 2:8 “This is what the Lord Almighty says...’Whoever touches you touches the apple of my eye....”

Exodus 4:22 to Pharaoh “This is what the Lord says, ‘Israel is my first born son....”

Jer 31:3 & 20 “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness....”

Hosea 11: “When Israel was a child I loved him...I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love; I lifted the yoke for their neck & bent down to feed them....How can I give you up Ephriam...? How can I hand you over, Israel. My heart is changed within me: all my compassion is aroused.”

Psalms 102:13-14 & 16-17 “You will arise & have compassion on Zion, for it is time to show favor to her – for the appointed time has come, for her stones are dear to Your servants; her very dust moves them to pity...for the Lord will rebuild Zion...He will not despise their plea.”

Isaiah 49:14-16 “But Zion said, ‘the Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me.’ Can a mother forget the baby at her breast & have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me....”

Isaiah 54:6-8 “‘The Lord will call you back as if you were a wife deserted & distressed in spirit – a wife who married young only to be rejected....For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back. In a surge of anger I hid My face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you,’ says the Lord your Redeemer.”

I Kings 9:3 “I have consecrated the Temple you built by putting My name there forever. My eyes & My heart will always be there.” God’s name, His eyes & His heart are eternally bound in Zion!

Is 62:1 “For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent....”

### **E. Pray Around the feasts:**

- 1) Passover: revelation of Yeshua as the one who has protected them & delivered them from the hands of their enemies...who brought them out of slavery & returned them to the land of Promise
- 2) Shavuot – Pentecost: revelation of God’s Torah as Yeshua Himself & that they will be filled with the spirit of God
- 3) Rosh Ha’Shana: God’s call to awaken their mind & spirit to the messiah

- 4) Yom Kippur: to know Yeshua as their ultimate sacrifice who has made permanent atonement for their sins
- 5) Sukkot: to know the reality of Yeshua the Messiah dwelling among them...the culmination of God's promises to them
- 6) Shabbat: each week to know Yeshua as their promised eternal rest

**F. Don't forget**

- Messianic brothers & sisters
- IDF
- Not Yet –Believers
- Jewish World in Diaspora

**Imperative of Paul**

**Romans 15:27**

***They were pleased to do it & indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings"***