

Introduction:

- On May 7-28, history will be made as the body of Christ around the globe comes together to pray for Israel and the City of Jerusalem.
 - So far over 1,000,000 people have committed to fast and pray for Israel during those 21 days.
 - Mike Bickle, International House of Prayer, first called for 100,000 to respond and within a week or so 1 million had committed to pray. Goal is to eventually reach 100 million people praying for Israel. (IHOP's 21 day devotional and prayer) on FCC web site. https://www.houseoffreedom.org/uploads/4/5/8/5/45859419/118586_israel_mar7_2023_nj.pdf
 - May 14, will mark the 75th anniversary of Israel as a nation.
 - May 28, the church will celebrate Pentecost.
- Tonight I want to preach once again into this 21 day fast. Heaven may very well look back at this time and define it as an eternal shift in the earth that begins the fulfilling of a multitude of prophetic scriptures.
- How should we pray for Israel?

I. Enter With Praise and Thanksgiving Into God Presence

- A. It is always appropriate to begin prayer with thanksgiving. It is how Jesus taught us to pray.
 1. *"Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!"* (Psalm 100:4, ESV)
 2. God inhabits the praises of His people.
- B. You can give the Lord thanks for what He has done, is doing and will continue to do for Israel.
 1. God has given us a pattern for praise in the words Jeremiah 31:7: *"For thus says the Lord: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O Lord, save your people, the remnant of Israel.'"* (Jeremiah 31:7, ESV)
 2. One major continuing theme of our thanksgiving to God should be for His covenant-keeping mercy and faithfulness in restoring Israel.
- C. Notice the five actions the Lord tells us to undertake:
 1. Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob/Israel.
 2. Raise shouts for the chief of nations. God's people.
 3. Proclaim praise
 4. Give praise - for His covenant!
 5. Pray - Save your people, the remnant of Israel!

II. Israel Is The Apple Of God's Eye "God keep your eye on her!"

- A. *"But the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage. "He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye."* (Deuteronomy 32:9-10, ESV)
1. Therefore we are called to pray and take a stand for Israel because she is close to God's heart.
 2. The phrase 'apple of the eye' means "the little man of the eye". It means to see yourself in the pupil of God's eye. To do that you have to be really close and God has to be watching you really close.
 3. Ps 17:8 David prays to be the apple of God's eye. He is saying, "God, do not lose sight of me!" So as we pray for Israel we are saying "God, do not lose sight of her!"

III. Pray For The Peace of Jerusalem

- A. *"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you!"* (See Appendix:) *Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!" For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!" For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good."* (Psalm 122:6-9, ESV)
- B. We are commanded to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
1. I am still amazed at the number of enemies Israel has to deal with! She is surrounded by enemies who want her to exist no more.
 2. All nations stand against her, because wherever Jews go they prosper creating jealousy. I.e. out of 900 Pulitzer Prize winners 211 are Jewish.
- C. We are called to take a stand for Israel because God wants to bless Jerusalem with His peace and goodness.
- D. The Prince of Peace will rule and reign from Jerusalem. Jesus is the Prince of Peace Isaiah 9:6

IV. Pray for Israel To Receive Salvation

- A. Paul prays for Israel: *"Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved."* (Romans 10:1, ESV)
- B. Romans 9:4-ff: They are Israelites and to them belong....
- C. Praying for and believing for Israel's salvation was a huge burden to Paul. If you are not saved you are lost! And the Apostle Paul knew this.
- D. When the Jewish people accept Jesus as Messiah it will lead to world wide revival! Romans 11:15; Acts 3:19-21

V. Pray For The Release Of The Holy Spirit Upon Israel

- A. When you pray for Israel don't just focus on political issues in the media. Sometimes

God allows 'fixes to be fixed' in order that people call on His name. He is looking to get Holy Spirit involved!

1. Zechariah 4:6 says: *"This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts."*
 2. Might and power speak of human strength—even military power will not do what needs to be done to change the hearts of men and women.
- B. The only person that can change hearts is Holy Spirit. The primary necessity is that the Holy Spirit begins to move upon the Jewish people and turn their hearts back to God. *"Then they will look on Me whom they pierced."* (Zechariah 12:10)

VI. Confess Any Appropriate Sins

- A. Daniel's example in Daniel 9 is a good guide to doing this.
1. When Daniel saw that the time for the restoration of his people to Jerusalem had come, he came before the Lord in prayer/intercession.
 2. Daniel was an amazingly righteous man, yet he identified himself with the sins of his people. He prays in Daniel 9:5: *"We have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments."*
- B. Likewise, we have to identify ourselves with the sins of our family, our inheritance, our culture, our nation. Christians have plenty of sins to confess against the Jews. The Jews have their own sins to confess against the Gentiles. I doubt whether intercession will be fully effective until the problem of unconfessed sin has been dealt with.
- C. Bless And Be Blessed
1. When it comes to Israel, remember that reluctant prophet, Balaam. He was hired to curse Israel, but under the overruling of God he ended up by blessing Israel more and more. Finally, he says: *"Blessed is he who blesses you, and cursed is he who curses you"* (Numbers 24:9)
 2. We have a choice. If you bless Israel God will bless you, if you curse Israel God will curse you. Anti-Semitism automatically brings the curse of God upon an individual, a community, a church, a nation, or a civilization.

VII. God wants us to give ourselves no rest

- A. God wants to establish Jerusalem and make her a praise in the Earth and wants us not to be relaxed but to pray and work continuously towards that.
- B. The prophet Isaiah declared: *"On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; all day and all night they will never keep silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest for yourselves; and give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth."* Isaiah 62:6-7

Conclusion:

- Stay within the parameters of God's word when you pray.
- We do not want to pray sentimental prayers for the Jews; we want to pray Holy Spirit prayers.
- How did you do that? Pray the word
 - Show His mercy and favor to Israel in this appointed time. (Psalm 102:13)
 - Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion. (Psalm 129:5-6)
 - Bring the counsel of the nations to nothing, and to make their plans of no effect. (Psalm 33:8-12)
 - Give peace to Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6)
 - Turn the hearts of the people of Israel to trust in the name of the Lord for deliverance—not in the "chariots and horses" of their military might. (Zechariah 4:6)

Appendix:

1. The last time the U.S. government refused to veto an anti-Israel resolution at the U.N. Security Council was in 1979. On March 22, 1979, the Carter administration chose not to veto U.N. Resolution 446. Four days after that on March 26, the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty was signed in Washington. As a result of that treaty, Israel gave up a tremendous amount of territory. Two days later, on March 28, the worst nuclear power plant disaster in U.S. history made headlines all over the globe. Three Mile Island.
2. On Oct. 30, 1991, President George H. W. Bush opened the Madrid Peace Conference, which brought Israelis and Palestinians together to negotiate for the very first time. In his opening speech, Bush told Israel that "[territorial compromise is essential for peace.](#)" At the exact same time, "the Perfect Storm" was brewing in the north Atlantic. This legendary storm traveled 1,000 miles the wrong direction and sent 35 foot waves slamming directly into President Bush's home in Kennebunkport, Maine.
3. On Aug. 23, 1992, the Madrid Peace Conference moved to Washington, D.C., and the very next day, Hurricane Andrew made landfall in Florida, causing \$30 billion in damage. It was the worst natural disaster up to that time in U.S. history.
4. On Jan. 16, 1994, President Clinton met with President Assad of Syria to discuss the possibility of Israel giving up the Golan Heights. Within 24 hours, the devastating Northridge earthquake hit southern California. It was the second worst natural disaster up to that time in U.S. history.
5. On Jan. 21, 1998, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu arrived at the White House but received a very cold reception. In fact, President Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright actually refused to have lunch with him. That exact same day, the

Monica Lewinsky scandal broke, sending the Clinton presidency into a tailspin from which it would never recover.

6. On Sept. 28, 1998, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was working on finalizing a plan which would have had Israel give up approximately 13 percent of Judea and Samaria. On that precise day, Hurricane George slammed into the Gulf Coast with wind gusts of up to 175 miles an hour.
7. On May 3, 1999, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was supposed to hold a press conference to declare the creation of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as the capital. On that precise day, the most powerful tornadoes ever recorded in the U.S. ripped through Oklahoma and Kansas. At one point, one of the tornadoes actually had a recorded wind speed of 316 miles an hour.
8. On April 30, 2003, "the Road Map to Peace" that had been developed by the so-called "Quartet" was presented to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon by U.S. Ambassador Daniel Kurtzer. Over the next seven days, the U.S. was hit by a staggering 412 tornadoes. It was the largest tornado cluster ever recorded up to that time.
9. In 2005, President George W. Bush (the son of George H.W. Bush) convinced Israel that it was necessary to remove all of the Jewish settlers out of Gaza and turn it over entirely to the Palestinians. According to the New York Times, the very last of the settlers were evacuated on Aug. 23, 2005. On that precise day, a storm that would be given the name "Katrina" started forming over the Bahamas. The city of New Orleans still has not fully recovered from the damage that storm caused, and it ranked as the costliest natural disaster in all of U.S. history up to that time.
10. On May 19, 2011, Barack Obama told Israel that there must be a return to the pre-1967 borders. Three days later on May 22, a half-mile-wide EF-5 multiple-vortex tornado ripped through Joplin, Missouri. According to [Wikipedia](#), it was "the costliest single tornado in U.S. history." Michael Snyder Charisma News 12/27/2016.