

# Christian Friends of Israel UK

## WATCHMAN'S PRAYER LETTER

### A Guide to Intercessory Prayer

January 2024 ~ Jewish Year 5784

*I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give (Habakkuk 2:1)*

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## Preparing to Cross Over: The Spiritual Exodus

*“So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: ‘Go through the camp and tell the people, ‘Get your provisions ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own’” (Joshua 1:10-11).*

Scripture is filled with promises where God says in the last days he will regather the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob from all the nations where he scattered them, back to the Land of the Covenants. For instance, the prophet Isaiah declared, *“He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth”* (Isaiah 11:12). There are many more of these prophetic promises interlaced throughout the Bible. In the divine epic of the biblical Exodus, God brought the children of Israel out of slavery from Egypt just as he had said to Abraham. In humbling the Egyptians through ten plagues, the God of Israel revealed himself as all-powerful.

Time and again, the Jewish people have been delivered from their enemies, no matter the generation, no matter the regime. And it is written for a future day that Israel shall see deliverance (see *Joel 2:28-32*). At 75 years of age the modern State of Israel has flourished, industrially, economically, politically, and in just about every constructive way a fledgling nation would hope to thrive. All this while maintaining its ancient biblical heritage and spiritual roots. This is no small feat.

Moses and Aaron were chosen to awaken the children of Israel to their spiritual identity and future, passed down through their forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They would only go so far, though they accomplished much in bringing the people to the borders of the Promised Land. It is interesting to note that Abraham was 75 when the Creator of the Universe singled him out and called him into an eternal covenant. Moses was 80 years old when he was summoned to a burning bush, and God appointed him the deliverer of his people.

God's promises are to all generations. In his omniscience, he sees things generationally. It was not the generation that was delivered from Egypt that entered the Promised Land, but the next generation, the Joshua generation. There's a pattern throughout Scripture where a promise is given and has a period of maturing in the heart of the hearer (Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, Elizabeth, Mary, Anna, and Simeon).

In the late 1800s, Theodor Herzl saw that the Jewish people needed a home because they were not safe in the nations (sadly, it's no safer today). God set this man apart to steward the vision for a modern Jewish state. Though he did not live to see the Declaration of Independence in 1948, he was very much a part of making that day possible. Like Moses, he saw the Promised Land from a distance and brought the dispersed Jewish people to its shores through Zionist Congress meetings and tireless advocacy for his people.

At the ripe age of 75, could Israel be maturing to a place of faith just like Abraham and Moses, coming away from everything familiar to a place where God will reveal hidden things through Messiah Jesus? Could this generation of Israel resemble the one that followed Joshua into the Promised Land? They had not known war – God had to teach them (see *Joshua 5; Judges 3:1-2*). There was no easy way into the Promised Land. God would lovingly and graciously discipline his people through his covenants and Torah into a people set apart to bear the designation 'children of God.'

As Israel fights the darkness of the Hamas terrorist regime and all its global cohorts, anti-Semitism is on a record rise in the nations. For the first time in years, Aliyah for global Jewry is a real and necessary consideration, with their very existence in the diaspora being threatened by the alarming support for Hamas and the genocide of Jews. Israel has matured as a state in the physical sense, accomplishing much by God's favour upon her, but she has yet to step into the season of faith present in her forefathers.

In our main text, Joshua told the people to "prepare provisions ... to go in and possess." Most commentaries note the provisions needed were food – physical sustenance. As this generation stands at the shores of spiritual restoration (see *Acts 1:6*) it, along with the worldwide Church, needs spiritual provisions for these last days. The provisions we all need to stand in this hour are not carnal, but they are mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds and false arguments (2 Corinthians 10:4). We need the Bread of Life, the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit. Israel is coming to a precipice as warring agendas in the global arena try to determine her future. Yet we know Israel's future, and all those who trust in Jesus have already been sealed with better promises and a Guarantor.

# Crossing Over in Prayer:

- **Stand** in the gap for Israel as watchmen and intercessors. Give the Lord no rest, praying for the peace of Jerusalem (Ezekiel 22:30; Isaiah 62:1-7).
- **Put on the armour** needed to fight for and alongside Israel and the IDF in the Spirit (Romans 13:14; 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:10-18).
- **Intercede** for this generation of Israel, for humility to seek God's face and wisdom, with a heart to obey the leading of the Spirit to trust in God and not themselves (2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalm 20:7).
- **Pray** for the multitudes in the nations who are in the valley of decision concerning Israel. Truth places everyone in two camps, either being on the Lord's side or on the side of darkness and evil (Joshua 24:15; Joel 3:14).
- **Ask God** for a miracle of deliverance for the remaining 129 hostages in captivity in Gaza (1 Samuel 30:18; Isaiah 61:1-2).
- **Pray** for those considering Aliyah, or in the process of coming home. And pray for their protection in the nations (Isaiah 11:12; Isaiah 49:22).
- **Pray** alongside physical Aliyah of the Jewish people, also for a spiritual Aliyah, the turning of their hearts to God (Jeremiah 31:33; Joel 2:12-13).
- **Pray** for the divine preparation of hearts all over the world as we prepare to go a route we've never been before. Also remember Messianic believers, that they would be strengthened (Isaiah 40:3-8; John 1:23).
- **Intercede** for the government and military leaders in Israel, for divine wisdom and strategy to win this war and free Gaza from the Hamas stranglehold (1 Timothy 2:1-2; Psalm 22:28).
- **Believe God** leaders like Joshua will rise up with godly influence in every sector: government, political, economic, and in the worldwide Church. Pray for people who truly know the God of Israel and are ready to lead along the narrow path (Exodus 33:11; Joshua 11:15; Daniel 11:32).

We are crossing over into a New Year and it is one of the most difficult times in Israel's history. More than ever, we need support in prayer to win this battle.

Maranatha!

Suzie Georges

Wall of Prayer Supervisor

**Christian Friends of Israel – Jerusalem** (UK edited version)

# CFI UK News and Prayer items

Please consider joining our residential CFI UK Prayer Conference titled 'Touching the Sceptre', Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 at King's Park Centre, Northampton; with a focus on the book of Esther paralleling many of the challenges faced by Israel and the Jewish community today. Gathering in fellowship together is a vital way of achieving focussed prayer.

As the conflict with Israel's enemies continues, we are thankful to be able to channel financial and prayer support to meet immediate needs in Israel, alongside showing our support for the UK Jewish community who face the brunt of the false accusations and anti-Semitic protests. We were pleased to represent Christian friends of Israel at a prayer rally in Westminster in cooperation with Christian Action Against Anti-Semitism, addressing an audience of approaching 10,000 Christians and Jews in support.

Given the deficit in the wider Church of biblical teaching on Israel, a lack of historical perspective and an imbalance in current affairs, Christian Friends of Israel's involvement at wider church gatherings is more important than ever. Already we are booked to exhibit our CFI UK Resources Stall at many festivals across the UK in 2024. These include Spring Harvest at Skegness and Minehead in April; Big Church, West Sussex, in May; Refuel, Inverness, in July; Awaken, Lincoln, in August, and Christian Resources Exhibition, Milton Keynes. Pray we make the right staffing and accommodation arrangements and receive positive responses from other events to which we intend applying once registration opens.

We have just finalised arrangements for a CFI UK Explore Israel Tour Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024. Do book to come once details are available early in 2024. It is a significant opportunity to show support for Israel and the CFI Jerusalem team by visiting in person. Pray we have a good number of Christian friends of Israel join us.

May Israel's Messiah and Saviour of the world surely,

*'Shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace' (Luke 1:79)*

***The CFI UK Team***

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