

On Watch Jerusalem

Christian Friends of Israel

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A Wise Leader

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...” (Proverbs 1:7).



Reading of the Torah (CC-BY-3.0, by Roylindman, via Wikipedia)

Reports in 2015 stated that a survey conducted in Israel revealed that nearly all Israeli Jews own a Bible, and that most revere it as the Holy Word of God. Last year 7,000 Israelis and visitors attended a wide range of lectures and workshops about the Bible and its place in today's Jewish society. The Israeli newspaper *Yediot Ahronot* had reported that no fewer than 95% of all Israeli Jews have a Bible in their home with about 15% saying they never read the Bible and only 9% had no connection with the Word of God. This poll compared with a report by *Israel Today* magazine that in January 2014 another study by the Bible Lands Museum in Jerusalem found the same percentage of Jewish people owning Bibles, but at that time less than 1/3 had read the Scriptures since school or army service. Here in Israel, the Bible is a major subject in Israeli schools and every Israeli soldier receives one as they are sworn in as new army recruits. Just this past month in September, *Israel Today*

reported that the Israeli Prime Minister gave the Bible as the formula for understanding why the Jewish people have returned home and encouraged the nation to study it. My heart is blessed to know, as writer Charles Gardner stated, "...Israel is currently being blessed by a leader who believes in the importance and authority of the Bible." While other leaders speak about education, the Israeli Premier is more specific in how and with what book, to educate one's self.

Let's Go to the Throne Room of Prayer:

- **Praise God** that in God's mercy upon the nation, Prime Minister Netanyahu is paving the way for Israel to fulfill the prophecy of Ezekiel 36:26 in order to accomplish their God-given task of being a **"light to the gentiles"** (Isaiah 49:6).
- **Thank the Lord sincerely** that many dedicated Jewish men **"study to show themselves approved"** (2 Timothy 2:15) and **"search the Scriptures daily"** (Acts 17:11).
- **Pray for** secular nations who have banished the Bible from their school systems, not giving the Bible supreme importance for children's educational foundations. Some churches, schools and societies are

at breaking points and the issue seems to be the debate as to whether or not the Bible is the absolute truth and Word of God. ***“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance” (Psalm 33:12, NIV).***

- **Seek The Lord** that the start of this New Year (in the Jewish secular calendar) an outpouring of His Holy Spirit upon Israel (as prophesied by the prophet Joel) will take place. The Prime Minister announced to his cabinet that “excellence and Zionism”, with an emphasis on Bible study, is at the root of an education “revolution” which his government wishes to bring about. ***“...the word of the Lord endures forever” (1 Peter 1:25, NIV).***
- **Thank The Lord** also for Dr. Billy Graham’s son, Franklin, who last summer, urged Christians to support Israel saying, “...the Bible makes clear that modern Israel should be an important issue for Christians”, he recently stated. ***“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: as soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near” (Mark 13:28, NIV).***
- **Beseech The Lord** for our nations to “turn back to God”, to humble themselves and call upon His Name. Pray for an awakening in many lands around the world where there is a famine of the Word of God in the lives, homes, businesses, governments and today’s reporting in the media, about the one true guidebook for mankind: the Bible. It truly must be “back to the Bible” or our civilization will collapse. ***“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you” (Psalm 119:11).***

If you are a Christian who says, “but the Jewish people do not study the whole Word of God”, this may be true. However, let us all remember that we are not to boast against the Jewish people, ever, because Yeshua never taught nor did He speak anything but that which was from the Jewish Scriptures, the TORAH, which is the foundation for the BRIT HADASHAH (New Testament). His “only Bible” was the Jewish Scriptures. He can be found there and His words were many times built around ***“It is written”***...where? In the Torah! We, as Christians, need to familiarize ourselves with the Hebrew word “Torah” and not be afraid of it nor act as if it is something “strange”. Without it, there could be no New Testament and all Scripture is God breathed. Therefore, we need to be studying it as avidly and wholeheartedly as the Jewish people. ***All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...***” (2 Timothy 3:16, KJV).

Until He Comes,

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