Metula and Jerusalem

“You shall rebuild the old ruins, you shall raise up the former desolations, you shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations” (Isaiah 61:4). “Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘My cities shall again spread out through prosperity; the LORD will again comfort Zion, and will again choose Jerusalem’” (Zechariah 1:17, NKJV).

Metula was founded in 1896 in Israel’s northern district. The population in 2012 was 2,500. It is located on the Israel-Lebanon border, 216 km/135 miles from Jerusalem. It is interesting that Metula was founded under the patronage of the Baron de Rothschild as a farming community and a front line against Arab raids from the north. (www.israelmybeloved.com).

Should Hamas start a war with Israel, the residents of this northern city would possibly take a lot of rocket damage. The danger to its community might be very great, with evacuation as a possibility. This beautiful city that God Himself has raised up and given His Chosen People the strength and mind to build, stands at high risk right now. There are approximately 1,400 residents and many children and families. It has definitely spread out and grown as God’s prediction above tells us. The foundations that have been laid have been built upon generations of prayers and desires to once again inhabit the Land God gave to the Jewish people.

Jerusalem was founded in 2000 BC. It is located southeast of Tel Aviv in the Judean hills on the edge of the Judean Wilderness. It is first mentioned in the Bible as the city of Salem, the city of Melchizedek, friend of Abraham. Jerusalem became the capital of the Kingdom of Israel under King David in 1000 BC and remained the nation’s capital until its destruction in 586 BC by the Babylonian armies. Jerusalem was rebuilt and served as Israel’s capital under various foreign rulers until 70 AD, when Roman legions burned the city and expelled its Jewish inhabitants. In 1967 Jerusalem was reunited following the Six-Day War and the entire city once again became the capital of the Jewish people, the capital of Israel. There is no other city like Jerusalem. It is the city where the Lord God of Israel has placed His Name forever (2 Chronicles 6:6; 2 Kings 21:4). It is only recently that Jerusalem has once again been proclaimed to the entire world, that it is the Capital of the Jewish People forever! Surely the time of Messiah is near.
Let’s Station Ourselves On the Wall of Prayer

By stationing ourselves firmly on God’s Word, we cannot pray wrongly. By reminding God of His Promises we know we are praying God’s Will. By proclaiming the Living Word in regard to the Land and Jerusalem, we are honoring God and taking Him at His Word. - Sharon Sanders -

• **Praise God for** His Love for Jerusalem. “If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill! If I do not remember you, let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth – if I do not exalt Jerusalem above my chief joy!” (Psalm 137:5-6, NKJV). However, God’s love for Metula is great also because it’s a buffer village for the rest of the Land. Pray for her inhabitants that they might find true peace in the Lord during times of conflict and disruption of daily life.

• **Bessech the Lord that** He will be faithful to defend, cover and protect from missiles and rockets. “On that day the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them will be like David, and the house of David will be like God, like the angel of the LORD going before them” (Zechariah 12:8, NIV).

• **Pray intensely for** hearts of stone to turn to hearts of flesh and that the New Covenant might become a reality to all.

• **Proclaim God’s Promises for** the delight of His Heart. “I will take delight in them to do what is good for them, and with all My heart and mind I will faithfully plant them in this land” (Jeremiah 32:41, HCSB).

• **Thank the Lord that** He will cover those who have been chosen to live in Jerusalem. Many Christians, and good Muslims, live in Jerusalem, alongside the Jewish people. It is an honor to live here. “Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem, but the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem, the holy city, while nine-tenths remained in the other cities” (Nehemiah 11:1, ESV). Pray that all rebellious spirits will be calmed down and that the capital will not experience violence and riots, which disturb its peace.

• **Prevail in Prayer for** rain for the Land of Israel. It has recently rained...thanks to the prayers for God’s People! This year will require much rain, but gently continually flowing rain. In the natural we need this rain desperately. However, the entire Land also needs a drenching of the rain of the Holy Spirit to bring about a national change in the hearts of everyone. (Doesn’t every nation really need this?) We know that the prophet Joel has promised a latter day outpouring as does the prophet Ezekiel. “O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You, my body longs for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water” (Psalm 63:1, ESV).

Both cities, Metula in the north, right near the boiling pot zone, and Jerusalem in the center of the Land, the City destined to become the “throne of the Lord” (Jeremiah 3:17) both are extremely important locations to pray for over the next months. Rain is needed in both cities, and across the Land.

Until He Comes,
Sharon Sanders

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