The Southern Border of Israel

Specifically Israeli villages and communities near the border: today’s “Gerar”, Eglon, Lachish, Libnah and Gath Biblical locations, including modern day Israeli Sderot, known as the Bomb Shelter Capital of the World. Within the Gaza Strip border itself, lay these important villages and cities mentioned in Scripture, as many Biblical accounts revolve around them.

Today the above Biblical areas mentioned, are known as Palestinian territories in the Gaza Strip. Although Joshua was successful militarily, this particular area lay beyond Israel’s permanent control. (Judges 1:17-20) The Jewish families and communities in Sderot, and nearby (on the Israeli side) live in continual fear of terror attacks and rockets, which at any time of day or night, might be released by Gaza terrorists on them and their children, and extended families.

Many Palestinians living in the former Biblical areas, not far from the Israeli border, could be living better lives, becoming more educated, learning new skills, and technology, but they are unwilling to allow Israel to teach them, because of the fear of Hamas and the terrorists living within their communities. Any collaboration with Israel, even for a moment, could cost you your life. Most often, when a Palestinian baby is born, from day one, someone whispers in their tiny ears, “Hate Jews”, “Murder Jews”...they never have an opportunity to know what a real Jewish person is like.

We need to include those who live in the Palestinian territories in our prayers this month, as they need a change of heart toward Israel. Israel stands willingly as peace partners, but terrorists override many Palestinian personal wishes. We need to cover all the Israeli communities on the Israeli side of the border with much love, care and concern for their safety. We need to pray for all who, perhaps secretly, would like to work and learn from Israelis, on the Palestinian side. All of our prayer partners need to realize, however, that no matter what the media tells you, Israel is trying to work on the behalf of the Palestinians and improve their way of life. It is the terrorists within their borders who are ruling the people. Politics is not the answer but God has the key, through prayer.
Let’s Pray Together

• **Pray for** the terrorists, who perform the most wicked acts imaginable upon innocent people, that they will find the truth of the Lord, and repent for their evil ways toward Israel. Manasseh repented. God heard the most wicked king’s cry for forgiveness. (2 Chronicles 33:12-13). Nineveh repented of their wicked ways and was spared from destruction. (Jonah 3:6-10). They are few, but there are some, who have come out of ISIS and terror groups, who have seen the light of truth, and repented for their hatred toward Israel. With God all things are possible, (Matthew 19:26). Bring O Lord, all in darkness out of prison.

• **Ask in faith for** Palestinian people to be free from the yoke of terrorist oppression. May the evil spirit that keeps them bound be broken off, as the yoke of an oxen, and all workers of iniquity be cast down, (Psalm 37:1).

• **Thank the Lord that** Israelis in the Sderot area are not running away, but are standing strong for their community life and for the building up of Israel. Even in this dangerous spot they stay because they know that God has given it to them as a people. “Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you” (Genesis 13:17).

• **Bless the Lord for** the farmers in the area, on the Israeli side, who go on about their work daily, working in the fields, sowing seed, plowing ground and harvesting crops, when fear could cripple them to work in their fields. Let us deepen our appreciation for the farmer that continues and goes about his work. Jesus built so many of his teachings around agricultural scenes, and terminology. He observed the farmers and saw their faithfulness. This is why the barns continue to be full in Israel, and the market stalls providing food, (Psalm 144:13). He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge...” (Psalm 144:2, NIV).

• **Proclaim the Promises that** even the vilest sinner can repent, if they are convicted of their wrongs. “For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death” (2 Corinthians 7:9-11, NKJV). Pray they sorrow in a godly manner (vs. 11). May those who plot to kill innocent civilians in Sderot, and other communities in Israel, be set free from their evil bondages, as mentioned above.

• **Believe for** repentance to engulf the hearts of our nations toward the Jewish people. May repentance come to those caught in false religions. May repentance come to Israel who has taken on too many ways of the nations, for their own good. Pray for our nations, as each nation has its own issues to deal with and only through coming to the Lord, in repentance, will peace follow any of us. Gladness and delight come from nations who know, and follow the One God, and Messiah. “Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.” (Psalm 144:15, KJV).

In today’s electronic world of technology, and even reading Bibles by electronic means, sometimes people forget there is a GOD in Heaven waiting for every man, woman and child, to come to Him, to believe in Him, and to have faith in Him. For many believers in Jesus, we have found the One who was announced to Israel, even when we were not looking for Him. But we must remember that this is a lost world, and without the God of Israel, and His means of salvation, no happiness, no gladness, no real purpose in life can be found. Our prayers for all people to come to the knowledge of the truth should be a given for prayer continually. Praying for the redemption and salvation of Israel is also our duty, as we pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Until He Comes,

Sharon Sanders

Christian Friends of Israel - Jerusalem
email: prayer@cfijerusalem.org