NETIVOT

“Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings” (Isaiah 58:12).

Netivot (Hebrew: נְתִיבֹת, “paths”) is a city in the Southern District of Israel located between Beersheba and Gaza. Located in the northwestern part of the Negev desert close to the border with the Gaza Strip and near the development towns of Sderot and Netivot, it falls under the jurisdiction of Sha’ar HaNegev Regional Council and definitely falls into the category of an area where Gaza rockets fall. Israeli families have had many rocket attacks on their community...

The Southern District (Hebrew: מחוז הדרום, Meḥoz HaDarom; is one of Israel’s six administrative districts, the largest in terms of land area but the most sparsely populated. It covers most of the Negev desert, as well as the Arava valley. The population of the Southern District is 1,086,240 and its area is 14,185 km. Its population is 79.66% Jewish and 12.72% Arab (mostly Muslim), with 7.62% Others. The district capital is Beersheba. Netivot was founded in 1956...and was later transformed into a development town. The first residents were immigrants from Morocco and Tunisia. In the 1990s, they were joined by immigrants from Russia and Ethiopia. For many years, Netivot suffered from high unemployment.

Since 2008, Netivot has been the target of Grad missile attacks from Gaza. In 2012, a rocket exploded near a school in the city. Netivot was founded in 1956. Initially a ma’abara (a type of refugee camp), it was later transformed into a development town. The first residents were immigrants from Morocco and Tunisia. In the
1990s, they were joined by immigrants from Russia and Ethiopia. For many years, Netivot suffered from high unemployment. Since 2008, Netivot has been the target of Grad missile attacks from Gaza. In 2012, a rocket exploded near a school in the city. In 2001, the ethnic makeup of the city was 99.9% Jewish, with no significant Arab population, and the population was evenly divided between males and females. The city ranked relatively low in the socioeconomic index (3 out of 10) in the wake of Operation Solomon, Netivot absorbed a large number of Ethiopian Jewish immigrants. According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, there were 22 schools and 4,243 students in the city: 16 elementary schools with 3,053 students, and 11 high schools with 1,190 students. (Information gathered from Wikipedia).

Let’s Enter the Throne Room of Prayer

God’s wisdom and discernment would tell us to cover this city in Israel, within heavy rocket range, as we will cover others in prayer in the coming days. Israeli children have problems sleeping at night, often waking up in nightmares and dreams that entail rocket attacks. We were in Israel during the Gulf War, and I can attest to the fact that the emergency alarm siren, which signals a rocket is on its way, can put the bravest on edge. In spite of attacks, the Jewish communities keep a good perspective on life and try to teach their children to do the same. Our job is to cover them with lots of prayer so that the welfare of the Jewish people is a priority for Christian Watchmen on the Walls. Our cry must be “O Israel, trust in the Lord!” (Psalm 115:9).

• Pray fervently for miracles during rocket attacks. God is able – more than able – to stop the rockets from hitting homes and innocent citizens of Israel. May everyone trust in the Lord to protect them. When sirens wall, may the calmness of the Lord take over. “The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?” (Psalm 118:6). “It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes” (Psalm 118:8-9).

• Thank God He is Israel’s Defender and Protector. He has helped Israelis to discover since 2014, 18 cross-border tunnels, however, Hamas (in Hebrew means violence), is shifting to other attack methods such as terror in the air and on the sea. May the Lord’s Rod of Strength be clearly seen among our modern day army of Israel. “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make your enemies your footstool” (Psalm 110:1-2).

• Intercede for mothers to have the Father’s Heart for the children and to know how to comfort and show compassion to their children who become fraught with fear when sirens sound, and fathers to know steps to take to help galvanize neighbors and friends into action to defend the communities when they are under attack. “The Lord is gracious and full of compassion” (Psalm 111:4).

• Pray that all flashpoint attacks and attempts to kill innocent people will fail. “I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the Lord...He has not given me over to death” (Psalm 118:17).

• Pray for spiritual revival in Netivot and for the knowledge of the Lord God to come to every home. “At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You...” (Psalm 119:62). “For Your Word has given me life... I remembered Your judgments of old, O Lord, and have comforted myself...” (Psalm 119: 52). “I cry out with my whole heart; Hear me, O Lord! I cry out to You; Save me, and I will keep Your testimonies...” (Psalm 119:146).

“O Israel, Trust in the Lord!”

Thank you for caring for the People of Israel. A world full of anti-Semitics has even penetrated the worldwide Church. Let us never be guilty of carrying any anti-Israel feelings in our hearts but know that God loves His Chosen People, they WILL be a Holy People unto the Lord. We must never stop praying for God’s visitation to Israel in the coming years. May each and every prayer warrior and intercessor, be blessed according to God’s Word. (Genesis 12:3).

Until He Comes,
Sharon Sanders

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