

# Watchman's Prayer Letter



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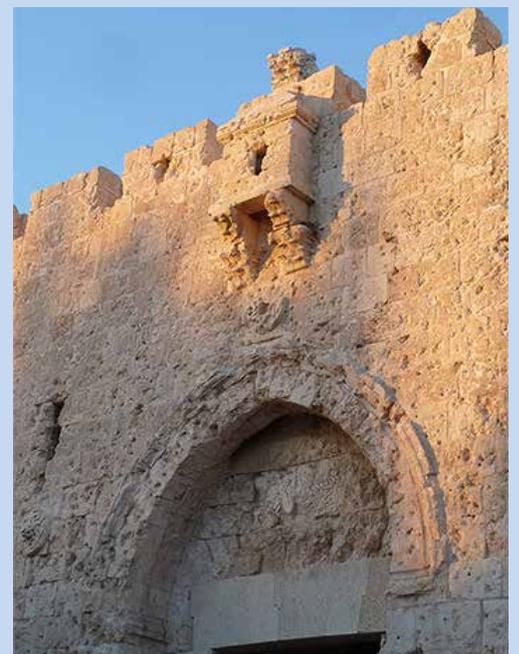
## Open Up the Gates

*“Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory”. Selah (Psalm 24:7-10, KJV).*



Golden Gate - Jerusalem

Ancient gates of cities “...were...connected with the walls; nevertheless, they were in a sense a structure by themselves. They were usually made of wood or stone, or wood that had been armored with metal. The Psalmist speaks of gates of brass (copper), and gates of iron (**Psalm 107:16**). Often they were two-leaved (**Isaiah 45:1**), and were provided with heavy locks and bars (**1 Samuel 23:7**). Sometimes a city or town had two walls and therefore two gates with a space between them. A sentinel was stationed in the tower of the first gate. When David was at Mahanaim awaiting the result of the battle with Absalom, Scripture says: **“And David sat between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone” (2 Samuel 18:24)**. This space between the gates was used for many purposes.” (*Manners and Customs of Bible Lands*). As gates are entrance ways and openings into cities, may we “welcome the Lord of Lords” and speak in our prayer times, out of love for the Master, **“Come Lord Jesus”** (Revelation 22:20) or **“Maranatha”** - an Aramaic word, or **“Bo Yeshua Bo”** (Come Lord Jesus, Come, in Hebrew) and pray that even the gates will “lift up the head” in order to exalt His Majesty’s future coming to this wonderful City of Jerusalem.



Zion Gate - Jerusalem

# Amidst the Struggles... A Time of Rejoicing in the Lord

***“Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone” (Zechariah 10:1, NIV).***



This year has been one of the most spectacular springs on record in Israel. To be able to describe the beauty of the Land at this time would require additional descriptive words in the English language. Just as the words of the old Jewish prophet, Zechariah, uttered many years ago, the LORD has sent us rain this spring, both early rains and latter rains and showers of blessing from His hand. The plants of the field all over the country are in bloom, the fields and forests are a refreshing and healthy green. For this, we need to rejoice and give thanks to the Everlasting Father above for He takes care of the Land which He has chosen to be His, just as He promised.

Just as the sand on the seashore and the shells that wash ashore, the Lord's Chosen People are arriving at the shores of Israel in waves of aliyah from the Former Soviet Union and from other nations. More immigrants are arriving from Europe and the word has gone out in America from a leading Rabbi in America for the Jewish people to get home now. This, in spite of unprecedented anti-Semitism around the world, will prove to be, in the end, **the Lord's calling** of His People "home" to the Land of Israel. He promised to regather the exiles from the dispersion, after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 A.D., and because His Word is coming to pass, we are asked in the book of Romans to celebrate with His People. ***“Again, it says, Rejoice, you Gentiles, with His People” (Romans 15:10, NIV).*** Indeed, the promises of Almighty God are coming to pass. In our day and more than ever before, we need to carry on the wings of serious prayer, the people who are responding to God's Call to "come home". Some are aware it is God calling them and some are not. As Christianity came from Israel and is a branch of the Judaism of Jesus, we are a part of Israel, because of Jesus Christ. Thus, we need to be supportive, standing with her, and cheering her on as she builds, restores, renews, and expands. ***“Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world” (Ephesians 2:12, Berean Study Bible).*** We also need to weep when she weeps over so much senseless bloodshed of her innocent citizens, and to cry out for God to cleanse the Land spiritually, that "all Israel" would turn to the Almighty to search for Him, walk with Him and please Him. Our role is to lovingly pray and, along with her, to sincerely weep, when appropriate.

Accompanying the good weather and national events happening in Israel is the continual evil opposition to her future welfare. Namely, fanatical Islam, in many forms of terror groups today, seeks Israel's harm and eventually, her demise. We recently celebrated Holocaust Memorial Day in Israel and one wonders what the Jewish people will have to face in the future. We say here, "Never Again!" But we *must* bond together, as Jews and Christians, in the spirit of unity and prayer, on her behalf. Soon some of us will read the Psalms together, invited by Orthodox Jews, to comfort and to believe in God's promises for Zion. Let those who are at their stations of prayer in the nations, not grow weary, but continue to stand against the wiles of the devil and to pray the nation through *any* harsh times ahead of her.

***Listen: Hoof beats of approaching warhorses can be heard!***

# Bibles in Hand, Let's Go to Prayer Together



- **Pray for the Nations**, as one nation after another either takes a stand for Israel or against her. The Bible speaks of penalties for those nations who turn against God's nation. ***"For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter"*** (Isaiah 34:2, KJV).
- **Fervently pray that** Arab anger, which ignites so easily, sometimes like a fuse of dynamite, will be controlled and/or come to an end through realization that Israel is a real nation, a real state through acknowledging her as such. Two religious Jewish men recently bowed down to the Lord God of Israel on Temple Mt. and the level of screaming that took place was deafening to the ears. The Jewish worshippers were arrested and the Arab protestors were left to scream. The shouting of Allah hu Akbar (God is greater) is the spiritual weapon they use for the excuse of their actions: thereby claiming total allegiance to Allah, a false god. Pray that true Jewish worshippers will be allowed on the Temple Mount, the mountain that belongs to the One True God of Israel and is where He desires to be worshipped. As we pray we should be able to pray and shout our own victory cry that not only is "God is great" but that Israel's God is "the Greatest!" ***"He shall judge among the heathen..."*** (Psalm 110:6).
- **Praise God that** we can pray His Word confidently that His Name is blessed (not the god of Mohammed) and that there is no God like unto the God of Israel! ***"Who is like unto the Lord our God, who dwelleth on high?"*** (Psalm 113:5).
- **With heartfelt care, pray** the Jewish people will be turning to God, not trusting in their own military might, but in the power of Almighty God for the defeat of the enemies of God and His People.
- **Thank God for** the incredible assembly of thousands of Jewish people in Jerusalem recently for the Passover Priestly Blessing. "Looking around, there were Jews of all types – every skin color, every yarmulke color, every country of origin – showing a truly united nation...tens of thousands gathered at the Western Wall...it was truly remarkable to witness..." (*United with Israel* news staff).
- **Continue to pray for** Israel's IDF soldiers who are always under pressure and sometimes under sniper attacks. ***"Give us help from trouble, for the help of man is useless..."*** (Psalm 60:11-12).
- **Cry out to God** to cleanse the Land of the sin of transvestism, which has crept in and has way too much influence. This is an abomination unto the Lord. ***"The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God"*** (Deuteronomy 22:5).

Our world today seems to be upside down in so many ways. It seems that the glory of the nations has departed from many leading nations; however, the Glory of God over His Chosen People and Nation will continue to rise until... ***"And give Him no rest, until He establish, and until He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth"*** (Isaiah 62:7).

Until He Comes,  
**Sharon Sanders**

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