

Watchman's Prayer Letter



Christian Friends of Israel

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His Name is Praise

“Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.” (Revelation 5:5 NIV).

Judah

The name Judah is familiar to most Christians because of the above scripture. Believers all over the world need not be gloomy or sad for what is happening in the earth. Everything that God allows to happen, is for a purpose. The senior Godly elder of Revelation clearly stated to John (Yochanan, his Jewish name) that he was specifically not to cry, because One had accomplished victory for Israel and for all who follow Him. The elder reminds everyone that this “lion” comes from a particular place, from Judah, one of the twelve princes of Israel, and that His source or root, is attached to King David, from the dynasty of Israel. He is the triumphal One and the only One worthy.



The Lion of Judah on a Bezelel ceramic tile. (CC BY 3.0, by Talmoryair, via Wikipedia)

“This name is pronounced “ye-hu-dah” in Hebrew. Most Hebrew dictionaries will define this word as “praise” but as this English word is an abstract word it falls short of its true Hebraic meaning. The parent root of this word is “יד” (YD - yad) meaning “hand”. Several child roots are derived from this parent root having the meaning to “throw” including the child root “ידה” (YDH - yadah), the root of “Yehudah.” The word “Yehudah” has the meaning of “to throw your hands out.” If you were standing on the rim of the Grand Canyon for the



first time you might throw your hands out and say, “Wow, will you look at that!” This is the Hebraic understanding of “praise.” When Judah was born to Leah (Genesis 29:35) she said “I will “yadah” Yahweh. She was pointing to Yahweh and giving him the credit for the birth of her son. We frequently use the word “praise” in the context of worship to God. Our praise is not meant to be simply singing or praying to God, but acting upon our belief. Our function is to point to God so that others can see him...” (Jeff Benner).

As Watchmen stationed at our posts of prayer, this month we have much for which to praise the God of Israel. At the same time, events are happening here that need intense prayer and intercession. But this is what intercessors and prayer warriors are called to do – pray for the obvious areas which need correcting and to send up praise for the answers to prayer. Thank God that thousands of Watchmen around the world utilize this prayer letter as our spiritual weapon against Israel’s enemies. Prayer is the pleading ground upon which we rest in the Lord. Intercession is our hearts’ cry for our beloved Israel. Some of the prayer requests are hard to speak about, but along with many favorable things that are happening, the enemy has come in like a flood elsewhere. As you raise your “hand” to the Lord, and “throw” out your faith to Him and act upon the Word of God, remember the name, Judah. The lion is about to roar, and when He does many will know Who it is!

Let's Enter the Throne Room of the Nations Together



Benjamin Netanyahu

The name of Benjamin, the first name of Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, means the "son of the right." The right side is known as the strong side and it usually is attributed to strength. In all of our prayers for the various needs, we need to keep him lifted up before God. He has led the country for many years. Wisdom and strength are needed for this major position of decision making. If we pray for him, through loving concern, God will hear. **"...because you have prayed to me...I have heard" (2 Kings 19:20, NKJV; Psalm 83:18). Never stop praying for our beloved Prime Minister who is not afraid to speak God's Words from Scripture to the UN, UNESCO or anywhere else in the world.**

Trying to settle the Land of Israel and "possess" it, is not easy when your Arab neighbors do not want you to take hold of it. The following issues face Israel at this moment.

- **Speak God's Promises** over the community of Amona, located in the Biblical heartland of Judea and Samaria. Many are crying out for help against the threat of being removed from their homes and the destruction of them. A regulation bill is before the Knesset that will either confer legal status to the Jewish communities, or Amona will be destroyed. If they have to be removed, there will be confrontation between brother and brother, which is forbidden in the Torah (Old Testament) by God. I well remember the violent removal of Israel's people from Gush Katif. It was a horrifying sight and extremely heartbreaking. The repercussions last a lifetime. God's promises need to be spoken at this time in prayer, as His own Heart must be breaking over what is being proposed. The Israeli community bill is headed for its first reading soon. By the time this letter is in your hands, most likely, a decision will have been made. Pray for Jewish people not to have to remove their own brethren from Judea and Samaria. **"Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul."** (Jeremiah 32:41, KJV). **"For violence against your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you..."** (Obadiah 4:10, NKJV).
- **Ask in Faith for** God to supernaturally intervene and give divine protection that is needed against a huge rocket onslaught of a possible 230,000 rockets of various sizes and warhead capabilities currently aimed toward Israel from a host of Islamic enemies. **"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty"** (Psalm 91:1-16). **"Thou wilt keep [him] in perfect peace, [whose] mind [is] stayed [on thee]: because he trusteth in thee"** (Isaiah 26:3-4, KJV).
- **Pray fervently for** the IDF near the Gaza Strip who are working to improve preparedness for possible cross-border terrorist attacks, tunnel invasions into Israel, and ambushes from Islamic groups backed by Iran. Some Israeli kibbutzim along the border are being trained in awareness in Hamas' attempts to inflict the heaviest damage they can on their next round against Israel. **"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day..."** (Psalm 91:5).
- **May Peace be multiplied** among the families in Haifa and the region who lost hundreds of homes. Of that number, over 527 are now uninhabitable. While CFI was on the ground meeting families of the burned out homes, they were met with indomitable spirits of wanting to continue on. Some said, "They burn, we rebuild!" Others who lost everything, even a Holocaust survivor, said, "This is my home, we must rebuild". God has put a strong spirit of never giving up into His People. They must have this outlook on life to survive. It is a gift from the Lord to never give up. **"...be strong, and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"** (2 Chronicles 15:7). **"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, I am your God, I will strengthen you..."** (Isaiah 41:10, NKJV).
- **Thank God that** Israel is fortifying northern defenses against future Hezbollah attacks. The IDF believes that when Hezbollah attacks, it will combine a massive barrage of rockets with a ground offensive seeking to seize Israeli territory and hold it. In order to prevent such devastating ground attacks, the IDF has been busy reinforcing communities. **"And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves...?"** (Nehemiah 4:2). **"He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: keep the munition, watch the way, make thy loins strong, fortify thy power mightily"** (Nahum 2:1). **"...fortify thy strongholds..."** (Nahum 3:14).
- **Praise God that** ISIS terrorists recently were eliminated while trying to infiltrate Israel's border with Syria. **"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you"** (Deuteronomy 31:6).

- **Urge the Lord** to intervene in the rising Palestinian violence that has Israel very concerned. The threats surrounding Israel continue to linger (see CFI's FrontPage Jerusalem at www.frontpagejerusalem.com). The months ahead could be very dangerous for Israel.
- **Pray for** Syrian violence to end. Should it break apart completely, it might engulf Israel in violence and an Arab land grab of Israel. It may seem far-fetched, but here in the Middle East, anything can happen. Pray for the time of peace where violence will no longer be allowed to cause destruction in Israel. ***"Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, neither wasting nor destruction within your borders; but you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise" (Isaiah 60:18, NKJV).***
- **REMEMBER THE LORD'S PROMISES** that when the world, and Israel, have exhausted themselves and Godlessness and lawlessness is everywhere, that Messiah will return and will fight for Israel in order to set up the Father's Kingdom. Let us be able to smile at the future, as the virtuous woman did, because she knew what the end of the matter was.....Our Father Wins! ***"...Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future" (Proverbs 31:25, NASB).***

Here in this miracle Land, we see the Hand of God at work in many, many situations and areas of life. This should be an encouragement for the nations of the world, who are struggling with their own problems. Remember to pray for Israel, it is not an option, but a command from God! ***"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee" (Psalm 122:6, Isaiah 62:6, Jeremiah 15:5).*** He does not ask us to consider praying for Jerusalem: He instructs us and guides us into the importance of praying for His Chosen City, His Chosen Land and His Chosen People. **No one can go wrong praying God's Will for His Land and People.**

Until He Comes,

Sharon Sanders

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