

Watchman's Prayer Letter



Christian Friends of Israel

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Rumors of War



Nehemiah Views the Ruins of Jerusalem's Walls by Gustave Doré
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“You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. These things must happen, but the end is still to come.” (Matthew 24:6, Berean Study Bible, Mark 13:7).

As in the days of Nehemiah, who was a contemporary of Ezra, and who had been a cupbearer to the King of Persia, the welfare of Jerusalem was on his heart and mind – just as Jerusalem is on the hearts of all Watchmen for Israel. He could not let the thoughts of Jerusalem go, as the concern was always there. God had put it there. He was finally granted permission by the King of Babylon to return home to the Land to challenge his countrymen to “arise and build.” The task of reviving them and persuading the survivors of his people to rebuild the walls took many years of Nehemiah’s Godly leadership.

Today, with evil news coming from the north of Israel, rumors of Iran exporting weapons and Islamic Jihad threatening war against Israel, there is much to pray about. I apologize if there always seems so much to report about the situation here, which is often negative threats against us, but it is the way Israel has to live until Messiah comes again! Let us, like Nehemiah, respond as he did to help push forward revival and restoration. It is something God alone can

do (just as in our own nations). The headlines in Israel have been quite clear over the past few weeks that trouble is brewing. The Jewish nation has been very careful about being pulled into the conflagration...until now.

War and rain seem to be on the hearts and minds of all living in the Land. Russian military buildups in Syria that concern Israeli military leaders, as well as retaliation by Hamas from Israel’s discovery and sealing of 10 terrorist tunnels into Israel, and additionally, Iranian and ISIS fighters too close for comfort for Israel, has prepared the way for conflict...Rick Riding’s recent vision concerning the Middle East (www.succathallel.com) released the warning that “there was a strong sense of the urgency of the hour...” Indeed, it is a true report that people are hearing. These days are critical ones and demand serious and intense prayer for the nation. An Iron Dome has been moved to the center of the country as well as in the north in preparation in case of emergency escalation. The next war could well be very serious for Israel with Hezbollah’s stockpile

of over 130,000 rockets, more than the combined arsenal of all NATO countries, with the exception of the US according to one report. Now, more than ever before, Israeli leaders will need to know how to navigate rough waters and it is a time for deep spiritual soul searching.

Let Us Enter Our Places of Prayer

- **Pray fervently** the prayer of Nehemiah that he prayed for his people. Read aloud **Nehemiah 1:5-11**.
- **Pray effectively** but even if silently, the Lord will hear. **“Then the king said to me, ‘What do you request?’ So I prayed to the God of heaven” (Nehemiah 2:4)**.
- **Beseech the Lord for** the voices of Israel’s enemies to be silenced. The Sanballats and Tobiah’s of today, from Islam, and from the nations, are obsessed and compulsive when it comes to anyone seeking the welfare of the children of Israel. **“When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard of it, they were deeply disturbed that a man had come to seek the well-being of the children of Israel” (Nehemiah 2:10)**. Proclaim the defeat of Israel’s enemy.
- **Thank the Lord that** He will build a strong spiritual nation from His Chosen People who will lead the world, when Messiah comes again. Pray for spiritual revival and redemption. This way, they can truly “rise and build.” **“So they said, ‘Let us rise up and build’” (Nehemiah 2:18)**.
- **Praise His Name for** worldwide Christian prayer warriors and intercessors spread all across the planet from the jungles of Sri Lanka and Africa, to China’s underground church who pray daily for the welfare of the children of Israel. All will have a heritage in Jerusalem. The Sanballats and Tobiahs will not inherit the Kingdom. Read **Nehemiah 2:20**.
- **Stand on the Promises** when the days look dark. God’s Word endures forever. Watch for teaching in CFI’s next *For Zion’s Sake* on The Living Torah. (**Isaiah 40:8**).
- **Proclaim God’s Control** over all. Thank Him for the recent Christian Zionist Day in the Knesset where Israel’s government officials praised Christians who are helping to build the Land of Israel. The recognition continues the winds of change between Jewish and Christian relations. God IS in charge! Give Him Praise.

Once again, we thank the many prayer partners who station themselves at their places of prayer on behalf of the Land of Israel and her People. Help us to motivate more prayer for Israel by forwarding CFI’s Watchman Prayer Letters and OnWatch Bulletins to all friends around the world. May there be a new reign of the Holy Spirit falling upon those who are obedient to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and intercede for the **“apple of His eye”**. (**Zechariah 2:8**).

Until He Comes,
Sharon Sanders

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Christian Friends of Israel
invites you to celebrate
Israel's 70th Birthday
April 16-19, 2018
in Jerusalem
Contact: events@cfijerusalem.org