



# Watchman's

## Prayer Letter

Christian Friends of Israel

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# Watch and pray!

*“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Matthew 26:41, NIV).*



*Maria Magdalene praying (by Ary Scheffer)*

We, as Christians have good intentions in all we do, but one of the hardest tasks we have been assigned is to stay awake and alert, especially during prayer. Perhaps that is why Jewish people do not sleep when praying as they often read from a Prayer Book. Perhaps that is the way to stay awake. I have lived long enough, to know that real prayer meetings often experience travailing women and men with burdens on their hearts, and listening to those who pray the Word of God. **However, our younger generation needs to know about these things of God. Some younger ones have expressed that they were never introduced to spiritual warfare.** In the Hebrew, the word for intercession is *“I’hafgaiah”*, from the root **to strike**. In heartfelt prayer for a strategic focus, we often have to “strike” the enemy, in the spirit, with the Word of the Lord, i.e, reading Scripture right to him, that he will not prevail. **If you are of the generation of intercessors, please share your knowledge and experience with our youth of today. They are so precious and willing to learn.**

Jesus not only found his disciples sleeping one time, before His Midnight hour of suffering, but he found them twice (verse 46) and asked, **“Are you still sleeping?”** Many in the church today around the world are sleeping in regard to praying for Israel. I long to see the fires of Christian hearts burning with

desire to run to the prayermeeting, not being able to wait until they can pray. I’m in that position right now. I long for intensive and laboring prayer, finding the right prayer partners for the difficult times of today. Too many people are busy-busy-busy. Here we are, with the Word of God at our fingertips. We can turn to Isaiah who prophesied, to Jeremiah who predicted, to Joel who proclaimed the promises of God. We are commanded to rejoice (**Romans 15:11**) with the Jewish people regarding the prophetic word coming to pass so rapidly. May I suggest, if your flesh is weary and weak, but your spirit is telling you to pray for Israel, then now is the time to overcome the enemy who tries to prevent our serious praying and fighting the battles in the spirit of prayer. We are the ones given the responsibility to carry Israel through her difficult days ahead. If Jesus dropped by your home today, would He find you praying for His Beloved Homeland and People? He prayed, and travailed (laboring in prayer). Let us not be found wanting, and asleep at our posts. **Thank God for the faithful who never stop praying. They are the heroes of the faith because nothing is harder than to stay awake, at times, when the prayer watch is upon us. Rejoice when the spirit is willing! Thank God for all of our prayer groups around the world and those who labor in their prayer chambers. Thank God the younger generation has “prayer at their fingertips” by way of modern technological advancements. They will be the ones praying first, because they are likely to hear first...so, no matter the age, pray and don’t be found “sleeping”.**



*Agony in the Garden (by Albrecht Dürer)*

# Let's Enter the Throne Room of Prayer Wherever We Are

- **Pray for** Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu and Defense Minister (Lieberman) who have been given the responsibility of making extremely important decisions at times of danger for the nation and people of Israel. Wisdom is required, discernment and courage. Please pray for these men in leadership. May the Spirit of the Lord be upon them. ***"But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet..."*** (Judges 6:34) Also read Deuteronomy 17:15,18-20 and Proverbs 20:18.
- **Fervently proclaim that** all of Israel will trust and pray to the Lord to save them by God's Hand, as He has said He would. Pray that when victory comes, that Israel will not claim any glory for itself but give all the glory to God. ***"And the LORD said to Gideon, 'The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me'"*** (Judges 7:2). Pray they will remember that God has promised to be their Defender. Read Zechariah 12:7, 8, 9.
- **Intercede fervently for** the threats that are coming from Iran of attacking Israel from Syrian bases they hold, and aiming missiles toward the northern border of Israel. Pray that any airstrikes will be foiled, and that all arms delivered to Syria will not be able to be used in any open conflict with Israel. May the mounting tensions be settled peacefully with Iran backing away from any more threats to the Jewish nation. ***"Do not grant, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: do not further his wicked scheme, lest they be exalted"*** (Psalm 140:8).
- **Rejoice with all of Israel for** the marvelous latter spring rains which we have all enjoyed during the month of April and May. As unusual as it is, it confirms God's love for His People and Land, and wants to celebrate with His People during their 70th birthday. Never has the Land been so green and beautiful. What a testimony to the faithfulness of God. In spite of the rebelliousness of His People in areas such as gay parades, immorality, and sometimes corruption, God's Faithfulness toward Israel is great. Sometimes ***"...they do not say in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, who gives rain, both the former and the latter, in its season..."*** (Jeremiah 5:24, NKJV). We thank God for the many who do pray and thank the Lord daily, many are the Lord's here in Israel. Pray for the ones who do not yet acknowledge Him as Lord.
- **Intercede for** those who seek revenge and boast against Israel. ***"You give your mouth to evil, and your tongue frames deceit. You sit and speak against your brother..."*** (Psalm 50:19-20, NKJV).
- **Beseech the Lord for** the families of the 10 teenage victims of the flash-flood while out hiking. The day of fun became a day of tragedy. Parents of the teenagers are shocked, and the entire nation is in a somber mood from this terrible mistake of allowing the youth to go out on a day when flood warnings had been issued. Pray for peace in the hearts of the parents and that they will be comforted as the nation draws together to weep and mourn this catastrophe. Apply Psalm 23 to their sorrow.
- **Praise Him for** the abundant fruit, vegetables, gardens and produce we see across the Land. Their barns are full, supplying all kinds of produce to the world during this special birthday year. ***"He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit"*** (Isaiah 27:6).

\*Most Scripture references are from the KJV

Each new morning living in Israel, we watch the Word of God and His Promises to Israel coming to pass. Even the air we are breathing this year, is something special; the spring has been the most beautiful we can remember, and everywhere one turns, one feels the Lord's Presence – even in the midst of conflict surrounding this tiny nation. Believe the Word. Know God's Promises for Israel and share them with others. Your faith will build.

Until He Comes,

**Sharon Sanders**

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