



Watchman's

Prayer Letter

Christian Friends of Israel

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The Prayer of the Lord

“Pray like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. Let us not come into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.’” (New Heart English Bible).

(Located in two passages, the Lord’s Prayer can be found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4).



The Lord's Prayer by James Tissot - Brooklyn Museum
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I find it interesting that this most familiar prayer of our Lord Jesus according to Charles Gardner, actually begins with a plea for Israel’s restoration as a nation-state. He states that in the “very first line of the Lord’s Prayer it stresses the importance to God of the great sign of our age – the return of the Jews to their ancient land. It is understood that as a ministry, CFI has supported aliyah (immigration to Israel) and have helped hundreds of thousands of immigrants in their first days in their new land.

Dr. Fred Wright says, “Jesus taught His disciples... among other things, the return of the exiles. *“Hallowed be thy name”* or *“may your name be sanctified”* in modern versions – is obviously our Lord’s priority. It is pointed out that **Ezekiel 36:23-30** and following (in the Hebrew Bible) is headed Kiddush ha Shem (The Sanctification of God’s Holy Name).

Jewish exile had been a consequence of rebellion against God but out of concern for His Holy Name, five times the Lord said He would bring them back (verses 24-26). The return of the Jewish people would accelerate the latter days and give us a sign that it is the time of Israel’s Redemption and soon Coming of Messiah (**Zechariah 12:10; Romans 11:26; Revelation 1:7**). Aliyah is one of the last great signs leading up to the return of the Lord (**Matthew 24:32; Luke 21:24**).

Let us, as Christians, as we pray the Lord’s Prayer remember that Israel is not a political accident, nor is it an irrelevant political issue to be ignored. Let us give new impetus to the prayer the Lord taught us by agreeing that God’s Name will be sanctified. Please keep our Jerusalem Distribution Center in your prayers as we continue to minister the love of God, the compassion needed as young and old uproot from wherever they are and take the big step of starting over in a new Land. It often is stressful and getting settled in is a real challenge. Thank you to all who support our Distribution Center opened in 1990. (www.christianfriendsofisrael.com) May we all play a part in the glorification and worship of the One True God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, thereby being an answer to the Lord’s prayer.

Let us Pray in One Accord Across the World

So much is happening all around us in the Middle East, and throughout the world. Prophecy is being fulfilled, demonic warfare has increased, time seems to have accelerated as everyone is on fast-track days, military

alerts and briefings being held in the Golan Heights, Iran positioning itself for rapid nuclear break-out, air defense systems on alert in Israel, oil, arms and politics, the quick move into the Middle East by Russia in Syria, Lebanon on the verge of collapse, a leadership problem in Israel – while celebrations are held for 28,000 new immigrants in this past year of 2019.

- **Pray wholeheartedly for** the Prime Minister's son, Yair Netanyahu who (from reports in the local news) claims he receives daily death threats. May Yair trust in the Lord. ***"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man"*** (Psalm 118:8, KJV).
- **Believe the Lord's Promises** in the song sung by Jewish people for over a century: the Israeli National Anthem. It is a powerful response to the Word of God. It was published in 1886 and the anthem expresses Jewish aspirations for a sovereign state in Eretz Israel. As Prime Minister Netanyahu said, Iran has the capability to strike Israel and the Israeli Air Force prepares for attacks from Iran. The "hope" expressed in the National Anthem inspires faith to rise up in our hearts that God will perform His Word to His Chosen People. ***"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope"*** (Jeremiah 29:11, KJV).
- **Pray for** Israel's neighbor to the north, which is now gripped by a popular uprising that many fear could lead to civil war. ***"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet"*** (Matthew 24:6, KJV).
- **Believe the Lord's Promises that** in spite of many troubles which Israel faces that He promised to bring the Jewish people back to their homeland. It happens every day before our eyes. ***"Behold, I will gather them out of all countries where I have driven them in My anger, in My fury, and in great wrath; I will bring them back to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely"*** (Jeremiah 32:37, NIV).
- **Read together the Lord's Prayer** (found in the above two passages). Proclaim sanctification of the One True God's Name throughout the entire world. ***"For full is the earth of the knowledge of the honour of Jehovah, As waters cover the bottom of a sea"*** (Habakkuk 2:14, Young's Literal Translation).

For all who so faithfully pray, from the United Kingdom, across Europe, to the United States, the Far East, Africa, China and Mexico and all nations who receive these Prayer Letters from CFI in Jerusalem, we bless you as you so loyally, and devotedly, stand at your posts praying down Heaven's Blessings for Israel while she continues to stand as a beacon of light in this part of the world. May we weep with those who weep, bless those who persecute, pray for eyes to be opened to the truth of God's Word and redemption, and work alongside God to pray through, until His Redemption comes. We bless you from CFI in Jerusalem as you carry out your task of prevailing prayer.

In His Service Together,

Sharon Sanders

Christian Friends of Israel - Jerusalem

How Would You Feel Running for Your Life?

EMERGENCY

COURAGE UNDER FIRE

In the town of Sderot, residents are under immediate threat of injury when rockets are aimed at them

Christian Friends of Israel Fund for Communities Under Attack Supports the wellbeing of the community of Sderot. Please, won't you give at this time?

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