



Pray for Israel.....

“...whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head” Ezek.33:4.

‘O LORD, how long shall I cry, and You will not hear? Even cry out to You, “Violence!” and You will not save. Why do You show me iniquity, and cause me to see trouble? For plundering and violence are before me...’ Habakkuk 1:2-3

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The Silent War

“Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and such as breathe out violence.” Psalm 27:12

This verse describes for us David’s agony 3000 years ago and it remains the same for Israel and most of the Jewish people today.

Israel is facing from her enemies, not only physical annihilation though weapons of mass destruction, but an escalating onslaught from the weapons of cyberspace. It is now possible, by means of a complex electronic media system, to influence globally hundreds of millions of people for good or for bad in virtually no time. By utilizing cyberspace through the worldwide web and the millions of email-gossip channels, as well as the print Media, the enemies of Israel have succeeded in wooing, as well as dominating the world media with immensely powerful disinformation on the events in Israel and the Palestinian territories.

The catch-cry is PERCEPTION!

In the information Age, what we see and hear through the various media channels is what we tend to accept as truth— whether we completely trust it or not. Whether the issue is the character of a nation’s leadership, the worth or value of a brand name product— today’s Media wields a powerful influence on **our perception of reality.**

There is now a distorted perception emerging from within the Arab world, a neo Replacement Theology called *Palestinianism*, which is beginning to permeate the thinking of the International

Community. Israel's authenticity as the people of God and their rightful entitlement to the land of their ancestors, spoken of in the Bible, is being seriously challenged. A perception thus created is that Jesus himself was not Jewish, but a poor displaced Palestinian hunted and hounded and finally crucified by 'those hateful Jews'!

Déjà vu!

The Holocaust of WWII did not just begin with the war. It began with Hitler's propaganda machine more than a decade before he initiated the '*Final Solution*'. Hitler created the perception in the minds of the German People that '*the Jews were naught, but subhuman vermin*', fit only for utter extermination. Once that perception took hold, the rest was easy!

Now, according to the Bible Society of the UK there are 7.5 billion Bibles throughout the world in over 450 languages and over 2300 translations of the New Testament or parts thereof. Based on this data, there should be absolutely no confusion as to who the rightful owners of that disputed portion of land are— nor to the identity of Jesus! Yet, a convincing new reality is emerging based on a perception created by very clever and crafty spin-doctors.

If we are people of faith and grafted into the family tree of Abraham (Ephesians 2:11-13; Romans 11:16-18), then we must no longer stand idly by whilst the Arab world, in conjunction with the Palestinians, keeps revving up the global hate propaganda against Israel. As James tells us, '*...faith and actions work together...*' (2:22), because, '*... faith without deeds is dead*' (2:26).

We are calling on all Christians to come alongside Israel with prayer and action, because David declared a long time ago that, '*Through God we will do valiantly, for it is He who shall tread down (Israel's) enemies.*' (Psalm 60:12).

The enemy of God is masquerading as an Angel of Light!

Strategic Prayer points:

- Please pray that God will raise up gifted men and women to become proclaimers of truth with wisdom in this Media war; James 1:5
- Please pray that God would bring down the stronghold of the enemy and every perverse and lying tongue; Proverbs 2:12; 2 Corinthians 10:4
- Pray for the gift of discernment for all of God's people not to trust in the content of media today without careful analysis of the information broadcast; Job 12:13.
- Pray for an increased awareness among believers that not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against wickedness in high places – politically and spiritually; Ephesians 6:10-13.

Rosh HaShanah and the Days of Awe...

By the time, this Prayerletter enters circulation, Israel and the Jewish people will be immersed in the holiest season of the Jewish Year. At the time of writing, we are now in the final days of the month of Elul, the month of intense introspection—

As spiritual Watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem, we too ought to take a moment to reflect how this season impinges on the lives of those for whom Israel has become a major object of their love and to reaffirm our commitment as prayer warriors

‘As Christians’, writes Marvin R. Wilson, ‘we have a special historical tie to the Jewish people with a unique spiritual bonding. Therefore, if the Church’s ministry is truly prophetic, it needs to bring a corrective influence to bear on the world. It is, at least in part, our responsibility to stem the tide of vilification, bigotry, myths and false perceptions concerning Israel.

Rather than remain indifferent, the Church must begin to send a new message of action to the world: **“To attack Jewish People is to attack Christians, and we will not stand idly by!”** Christianity, which is defined as the religion of love, must arise from the stigma of a terrible history and be transformed into a **Covenant Of Caring** for our elder brother— Israel.

Rosh HaShanah reminds us that there will be a day of Judgment for all mankind (Romans 2:6-13) and God will restore Israel according to His Word and not break His Covenant with them, but bring them to full repentance (Leviticus 26:40-45)— so they may dwell (Succoth) securely in their own land.

In conclusion, this Festival Season is a powerful reminder for every Jewish person and Gentile that indifference to our Creator or our fellow human beings is not an option, because all will be held accountable for both our actions and inactions.

Strategic Prayer points:

- Pray earnestly for the people of Israel as they are faced with so much opposition, that they would turn in faith and trust toward their Rock and Redeemer;
- Pray for a greater understanding among God’s people of His prophetic word as He had given to Daniel (9:20-23).
- Please pray for the people of Israel to begin seeking God as Daniel did – especially in this Holy Season of repentance and forgiveness

And God Tested Abraham...

The dramatic story unfolding in Genesis 22:1 is one that should be etched into every believers mind and heart. It is highly significant that the Torah readings for Rosh HaShanah concern the birth of Isaac, his (near) sacrifice and Abraham's supreme trust in his God. The story enshrines the commitment made by the Creator to Abraham due to the latter's faithfulness. "*Because you have done this... I will bless you...and all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me*", says God to Abraham (v.15-18).

Abraham's unquestioning action is indeed foundational to the existence of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Not only is the story significant for the Jewish people, it is also a major part of the Gospel.

For this reason, every Christian should take heart that we may pray with great confidence when we intercede on behalf of Israel that God's purposes will be fulfilled.

Strategic Prayer points:

- Please pray for all the people of God that He may enlighten our understanding concerning the awesome nature of Abraham's trust and faithfulness;
- Pray that God may continue to raise up faithful supporters of Israel and the Jewish people, in prayer and in action, from around the world.
- Pray for a spirit of unity among ministries that work for the good of Israel and thank our heavenly Father for the countless saints who are standing with Israel and the Jewish people in prayer and supplication day and night! Psalm 134:1-3; 135:1-4

In Messiah

Frank & Karen Selch