



'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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Bridging the Gap

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people; for He will avenge the blood of His servants, and render vengeance to His adversaries; He will provide atonement for His land and His people."
Deuteronomy 32:43

One of the most powerful, and effective, symbols used in Christian Evangelism is the image of Yeshua bridging the gap between God and humanity.

Whilst this concept is most definitely true where the Gentile world is concerned, what many generally overlook is the fact that God had already reached into our world 2000 years earlier to choose a people for Himself – **the Hebrews**. This action became possible through the faithfulness of one man, Abraham. God promised Abraham that, *"... because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—^{blessing} I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."* Genesis 22:16-18

With regard to the circumstances surrounding Israel, and the crushing pressure being applied by virtually all nations of the world, we consider it only timely to remind ourselves of our indebtedness to the Jewish people.

The Apostle Paul puts it very succinctly in his letter to the Ephesians, *'Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh— who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— were at that time without (a) Messiah (or deliverer), being aliens from the Commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Messiah Yeshua you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah.'* Ephesians 2:11-12.

Consequently, Paul also goes on to say in verse 19-21, *‘(we)... are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Yeshua the Messiah himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the LORD...’*.

What an awesome and undeserved blessing to have been made fellow citizens and co-heirs with God’s chosen people!

In consideration of these factors, is it not reasonable to expect that the followers of Yeshua today should do everything in their power to bridge the gap between Jewish people and gentiles, as Yeshua laid down his life that we might be grafted in? Should we not lay down our lives for them!

Strategic Prayer points:

- Please pray that God may remove the blindness from so many Christian eyes that they would be able to grasp the wonder of our grafted-ness and act accordingly
- Pray that God would lay a heavy burden on Christian hearts to desire only good for Israel and the Jewish people
- Pray that Jewish people, in Israel and the Diaspora, would continue to respond to the calling of God and begin to recognize, comprehend and act on their high calling in the purposes of God for the world.

Islam and the Temple Mount...

On August 6, **World Net Daily** reported that an influential Turkish Muslim leader, [Adnan Oktar](#), a writer of considerable standing in the Muslim world, approached the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem with a proposal of rebuilding the Temple of Solomon. According to **Israel National Radio**, the proposal – despite substantial and understandable scepticism - was considered by influential Rabbis to have considerable merit. What makes this proposal particularly interesting is the factor that this Muslim leader, who uses the pen name of Harun Yahya, proposes this *‘Temple’* to become a house of worship for all nations – especially Jews, Christians and Muslims!

Mr Oktar’s rationale **is to usher in a lasting global peace** by making the holiest spot on earth accessible to people of all faiths! Is it his intention to bring on the rule of the Islamic Mahdi by deception? Is Adnan Oktar following some illusions of personal grandeur? Or are we approaching the fulfilment of Daniel’s prophecy concerning the Abomination of Desolation (Daniel 7:25; 11:31; 12:8-12)?

Would this project require the removal of the Dome of the Rock? No – it would be incorporated into the design of the Temple!! And the construction time of this enormous edifice? Merely one year!

This proposal could therefore be seen by many as an irresistible opportunity, and even the perfect solution, for advancing the peace process to an extent never considered possible before.

Although the concept is highly idealistic politically, we must not forget the spiritual implications, which are highlighted for Jewish people and Christians by Biblical prophecy! Could YHWH and Baal (Allah) co-exist? Would the Creator of the Universe share His Holy hill with a rival? The answer MUST be and remain a resounding NO. Because He said so, viz. “*You shall have no other gods before Me (lit. ‘in front of my face’)*!” Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 5:7; c/f. Deuteronomy 4:39.

Although God declares through the prophets that, ‘*...My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations...*’ Isa 56:7; and again, ‘*My name shall be great among the Gentiles...*’ Mal 1:11’, there is no mention in the Bible that such a House of Worship would be a *Pantheon* to every conceivable deity under heaven.

The Dome of the Rock (apart from the Al Aqsa Mosque) is regarded by the Islamic world as their third most holy place— as well as the only authentic fixture on the Temple Mount. Therefore, such an attempt of uniting Christians, Jews and Muslims under one roof would be the greatest deception ever perpetrated on the world. Although many religious and political leaders do their utmost to assure their constituents that there is little difference between the three faiths, Islam would NEVER agree to replace the name Allah with YHWH since the Quran clearly teaches that all religion must come under Allah (Surah 3:64; 8:39)!

Strategic Prayer points:

- Please pray that Christian people would receive revelation concerning the Biblical significance of the Temple Mount
- Pray that God would grant all of His people, Jewish and Gentile, a spirit of wisdom and understanding in these difficult, deceptive times
- Pray that Christians would arm themselves with the Word of God; being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for Jerusalem, all of Israel and Jewish people worldwide.

The Day of Messiah

*“Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Master Yeshua, the Messiah,...**let no one deceive you by any means**; for that day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the son of perdition is revealed, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God...”*

Are we approaching that day? Quite likely, who can say with certainty! However, we know this much, that the nations of the world are gathering politically – at this stage – to force Israel into an untenable position; both politically and spiritually. Those who understand the significance of the land and the people as one whole, will continue to cry out to God, *“May it never be!”* On the other hand, did not Daniel say, *‘...and another shall rise...he shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time...’* Daniel 7:24b-25.

The reality is that the world around us appears to be turning more and more away from the God of the Bible embracing a humanism, which demands a ‘designer god’. Now is the time for the followers of Yeshua to cry out to God, that He might unite all of His people, Jew and Gentile, to take a stand against this avalanche of ungodliness.

Let us be watchful, therefore, and ready lest the day will come upon us like a thief in the night! As the Psalmist says, *‘Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as at Meribah...’* Psalm 95:7b-8a.

Strategic Prayer points:

- Please pray for all the people of God that He may enlighten our understanding concerning our days
- Pray that God may grant us revelation as to how to intercede for Israel and all of God’s people at this present and difficult time
- Pray that the words of the prophet Joel may be fulfilled and true prophecy would arise in our midst

In Messiah

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