

# ISAIAH 62 PRAYER INITIATIVE

July 2017 Prayer Letter



Dear Faithful Prayer Partners,

God chose to manifest His holiness on the Earth in three aspects: people, land, and time. We can learn much about holiness from Leviticus, chapters 19 through 25, which deal primarily with the issue of preserving holiness in the lives of individuals and in society as a whole.

## **God's Purpose with the Jewish People**

God chose Abraham in order to make him into a holy nation. He said to the nation of Israel through Moses, "You will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Ex. 19:6). Israel was created to be a light unto the world, showing the nations the holiness of God by living in accordance with His statutes, "Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations..." (Deut. 4:6-8).



It is no coincidence that the apostle Peter quotes this scripture, applying it to the church (1 Pet. 2:9-10). He does this not because the church replaced Israel, but rather because we were grafted into the good olive tree, becoming part of the Israel of God. Now we share the same mission, to show the world the holiness of God, manifested in our lives. We are watched by a multitude of witnesses. Therefore, “let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith” (Heb. 12:1-2).

### **God’s Purpose with the Land of Israel**

God also put special emphasis on a tiny sliver of land in the Middle East. It has no special riches; in fact, most of it is desert. Yet, it has a special appeal. Invariably, people who visit the land feel at home there and discover a special bond. It is the holiness of God and His precious presence that many people, even unbelievers, sense in the land. God looks upon the land at all times, is exceedingly jealous for it, and will judge the nations for dividing it.

Why is this piece of land so important, when all the Earth is the Lord’s? Because God decided to make Israel the stage upon which His salvation plan for the world would unfold. It is where most of the Biblical stories took place. It is where King David fought, sang, and prayed, King Solomon built the Temple, and Isaiah, Jeremiah, and many other prophets received their visions. It was in this place that Jesus was born, raised, and tempted. Here he ministered, chose His disciples, and finally suffered on the cross. It was in Jerusalem that He rose from the dead and from the Mount of Olives He ascended into heaven. Jerusalem will be the place of His soon return to ultimately reveal the holiness of God to the whole world.

No wonder the enemy is rallying the nations against Jerusalem. He knows that his time is short. Let us, therefore, pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for the fulfilment of the purposes of God in the Holy Land.

### **God's Purposes in History**

Finally, God set up special times and seasons (Gen. 1:14). The Hebrew word mo'ed implies fellowship or meeting with God (Ex. 40:2). God ordained these special days to reveal His holiness. It is no coincidence that Jesus died exactly on the day of Passover, when the Jewish nation was commanded to sacrifice a lamb in remembrance of the exodus from Egypt where the blood of the lamb saved them from death. It is no coincidence that the Spirit fell on the disciples on the day of Pentecost, when the nation was celebrating the revelation of the Word of God.

God also set up a time when He would again show favour to Zion. Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in (Rom. 11:25). The phenomenal rebirth of the Jewish state is a sign that God is turning His face to His beloved people again. The Scriptures are coming alive in so many ways in Israel. Let us pray that the people recognize this time of visitation. For Jesus says that he will not return, until His own welcome Him back (Matt. 23:39).

With blessings from the Holy Land, at this special time,



Mojmir Kallus

*ICEJ Vice President for International Affairs*

# PRAYER POINTS

For July 2017

The next day of prayer and fasting in our Isaiah 62 Global Prayer Campaign will be on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2017. Please join us!

**Pray with us according to the following guidelines:**

## 1. Prayer for Israel

- Pray about the status of the Western Wall among Jewish groups. The issue has become particularly divisive, affecting both national politics and Israel's relations to its Jewish Diaspora. It is heart rendering and disconcerting to see how this issue drives apart Jewish groups of various traditions and backgrounds.
- Pray that the Jewish people may see and remember God's purposes with Israel.
- Pray for unity among the diverse Jewish communities and demographic groups, and for them to remember that Israel is weak when divided.
- Pray that the Jewish groups will seek God's will in the matter and not their own vindication.
- *Pray according to Psalm 133, Gen. 45:4-5, Prov. 15:1, 1 Cor. 12:12*

## 2. Prayer for the Region

Recent events in Syria have sharply escalated the chances for Israel becoming directly involved in the fighting there.

- Pray that attempts by Iran to establish a military presence near the border with Israel will not succeed or force Israel to become directly involved in the fighting.
- Pray for the millions of victims of this war who have lost loved ones, been wounded, or forced to become refugees.
- Pray that the leaders of the various powers fighting in Syria will have the wisdom to end this war without further escalation.

- *Pray according Psalm 33:10-12 and Daniel 4:34-35 and 5:22-27, that leaders will come to know who God is and the time of His visitation.*

### 3. Prayer for the ICEJ

Even though it is summer, the ICEJ is gearing up for the Feast of Tabernacles and laying the groundwork for what we desire to be a Feast in honour of our great God.

- Please pray for the logistics in preparing the Feast venue at PAIS Arena, to ensure the best experience possible for our guests. Pray that this Feast will be a pleasant aroma to God and an inspiration for the Jewish nation.
- Pray for inspiration, joy, and diligence for speakers and musicians who will be speaking the word of God and leading worship.
- Pray for our old and new partners at the Feast, that they will prepare diligently and that ICEJ staff will enjoy great synergy with them.
- We are thankful for the latest immigration push from Ethiopia. Pray that preparations in Ethiopia and absorption in Israel continue to run smoothly, and that the ICEJ continues to be able to channel funds to bring in all remaining Ethiopian Jews to Israel.
- *Pray according to Col. 3:21-24, Prov. 18:9, Prov. 15:22, Isa. 11:11-12*

**Thank you for joining with us in prayer!**