Blessing
ISRAEL
Prayers for Protection and Peace

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RESULTS PUBLISHING

INTRODUCTION

PSALM 122:6-7:

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!"

Recent events in Israel have prompted me to provide you with a brief resource to suggest ways that we can fulfill this biblical admonition. I encourage you to use the prayers included here as a starting point for praying for the nation of Israel, for God's people, the Jews, and for the Middle East region.

A PRAYER FOR JERUSALEM

Jerusalem

Lord, grant peace to the city where you chose to place your name. May the inhabitants of Jerusalem be blessed with your protection, your provision, and most of all, with your peace. May those who are involved in the leadership of Israel have wisdom and understanding to know what to do and what decisions to make that will align themselves with your will. Let the blessing of the Lord abide upon the city of Jerusalem.

Here is a portion of a prayer of David, found in Psalm 86. It is representative of His many entreaties to the Lord to help him in light of the relentless persecution of his many

adversaries. It is particularly pertinent in light of the recent violence perpetrated against the nation of Israel.

Psalm 86:14-17 (NLT): "O God, insolent people rise up against me; a violent gang is trying to kill me. You mean nothing to them. But you, O Lord, are a God of compassion and mercy, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. Look down and have mercy on me. Give your strength to your servant; save me, the son of your servant. Send me a sign of your favor. Then those who hate me will be put to shame, for you, O Lord, help and comfort me."

A PRAYER FOR ISRAEL

— the people, the land, the future.

Lord, you ransomed Israel out of the hand of their adversaries throughout history, and we ask you to do it again. Let them flourish in the land you promised to Abraham so many years ago. Let the land bring forth its harvests without interruption. Let the future of your land and your people endure as the sun and the moon, for perpetual generations.

David, the future king of Israel, was trying to fulfill God's will for his life by helping Saul, the first king of Israel. Saul became jealous of David and tried to kill him by any means necessary. David escaped, and composed Psalm 57 on that occasion. It is presciently appropriate now.

Psalm 57:1-11: “Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me! For my soul seeks refuge in You; in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, until the ruinous storm passes by. I will cry to God Most High, to God who vindicates me.

He will send from heaven and save me from the taunt of the one who crushes me. Selah. God will send forth His mercy and His truth. My soul is among lions, and I lie among the sons of men who blaze like fire, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; may Your glory be above all the earth. They have prepared a net for my steps;

my soul is bowed down; they have dug a pit before me, but they have fallen into it. Selah. My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise. Awake, my glory! Awake, psaltery and harp! I will awake the dawn. I will thank You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing to You among the nations. For Your mercy is great up to the heavens, and Your truth extends to the clouds. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; may Your glory be above all the earth."

A PRAYER FOR ISRAEL TO TRUST IN THE LORD

Lord, allow your glory to appear to your people Israel. In the midst of disaster and difficulty, let their hearts be turned to you. Help them to recognize and acknowledge you as the one who saves them from death and destruction and who rescues all who trust in you. Let your mercy and truth be exalted, and let your glory be seen by all nations as you deliver your people.

Genesis 15:18 says, "On that same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great Euphrates River…."

Numbers 33:53 reiterates this promise. God said to Moses: "…and you will drive out the inhabitants of the land and dwell in it, because I have given you the land to inherit it."

Regardless of how many times their enemies have disinherited them and driven them away, the promise of God is sure—the ancient land of Canaan belongs to Israel. The name by which the land has been known has changed over the centuries, but one thing that has never changed is God's promise to provide a home for His people. Not only that, He has promised to gather them, to heal them, and to bless them in the land He has given them.

Psalm 147:2-3, 14: “The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel. He heals the broken in heart, and binds up their wounds…He makes peace in your borders, and fills you with the finest of the wheat.”

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord, let your peace prevail in Israel. Heal the broken hearted, and bind up those whose wounds seem incurable. Gather those who have been estranged from you and from Israel. Create peaceful borders and secure habitations for your people, and grant them abundant prosperity.