

Israel Prayer Calendar

August - September 2018



Shalom,

On the 10th and 11th of September, Israel will celebrate Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) just like other Jews all over the world, followed by Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) nine days after this. Later that month Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles) is celebrated with as closure Simchat Torah (Rejoicing in the Law). The last verse in Psalm 34 summarizes these celebrations: 'The Lord will rescue His servants; no one who takes refuge in Him will be condemned.'

The Feast of Tabernacles is a feast that also involves the nations (Zechariah 14). In view of the fact that more and more Christians are discovering this, you can speak of a 'foreshadowing' of this prophecy. Zechariah speaks about nations fighting against Jerusalem *and* nations celebration the Feast of Tabernacles. It's often clear already which side a nation is on: against Jerusalem or for Jerusalem! If you get the chance to make your country choose Jerusalem, you will steer the country in the right direction. This is an encouragement for Israel.

Did you know that the Lord Jesus was also in Jerusalem during a Feast of Tabernacles? You can read it in John 7. He went there in secret (verse 10), but after several days He went up to the temple courts and began to teach (verse 14). On the last and greatest day of the festival, He publically spoke to the crowds (verse 37-44). Towards Jerusalem is towards Israel, towards Jesus, towards the future.

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Prayer coordinator

August 2018

Wednesday 1 August

Give thanks for the wonder of 70 years an Independent state of Israel. Give thanks for technological and ecological discoveries, for medical and military miracles, and for the revival of the Hebrew language.

Thursday 2 August

Pray for protection against all of Iran's plans to destroy Israel. How can Western nations do business with a country that each Friday calls out: 'Death to America! Death to Israel!?' Pray that politicians and business people will see and realize that Tehran means what it says. Pray that they will turn their backs on Iran and will stand up for Israel. Pray for peace for Israel.

Friday 3 August	Pray that everything that can harm Israel and that threatens Israel will come to light: Iran's nuclear weapons and their military presence in Lebanon, the media strategy of Hezbollah and the BDS movement, the influence of the Arab Islamic countries and their votes in the UN Human Rights Committee.
Saturday 4 August Sabbath	Just as many countries are starting to open their stores on Sundays, keeping the Sabbath in Israel is under much pressure. Pray that Israel will run its society according to God's Word (Exodus 20:8).
Sunday 5 August	Be encouraged when you intercede. 'Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me...' (Psalm 27:7-9a)
Monday 6 August	As you know, there is an enormous water shortage in Israel. This greatly affects agriculture, but it also shows in the dramatically low water level of the Lake of Tiberius, and the disappearance of the Dead Sea. Pray for solutions, and that the Israeli people will be careful with the drinking water.
Tuesday 7 August	Pray for the government of Israel; that they will govern in a just and righteous way. 'He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.' (Micah 6:8)
Wednesday 8 August	Give thanks for more and more Christians from different countries who are traveling through Ukraine, and help with packing and distributing food parcels for Holocaust survivors. This is comforting the Jewish people in a very practical way.
Thursday 9 August	Keep praying for the protection of Jews all over the world. Nearly 6 of the 15.5 million Jews live in Israel, which means that there are almost 10 million Jews who live in other countries. Anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism show dangerous developments.
Friday 10 August	Aliyah means 'ascent'. The opposite is yerida, which means 'descent'. That's what Israelites are called who leave Israel and emigrate to another country. There are hundreds and thousands of them. Pray that at some point they will decide to return to Israel, to make Aliyah again.
Saturday 11 August Sabbath	The Lord told His disciples a parable '...to show them that they should always pray and not give up.' (Luke 18:1). In the same way we may pray for Israel, especially because the hatred against Israel and the Jews is increasing. Thank the Lord that we may see that they are His people and that His covenant with them is eternal (Genesis 12:1-3, 17:1-8).
Sunday 12 August	The prayer life of the apostles. After the ascension of Jesus, the apostles return to Jerusalem and persevered in prayer together (Acts 1:14). This is, together with teaching and communion, the foundation of the church (Acts 2:42). It's a great example to follow: to be involved with a church and to look forward to the return of Jesus Messiah.
Monday 13 August	Pray for Rev. Cornelis Kant who became the Executive Director of Christians for Israel International (C4I) on July 1 st . Pray for a great start of this new season, and for wisdom and understanding of how to communicate with Christians from other parts of the world with different backgrounds and experiences of Israel. Give thanks for God's Word, whatever language its written in. The covenants of God with His people speak clear language.
Tuesday 14 August	Give thanks for Andrew Tucker and for all he has done for C4I in recent years. As an international lawyer, he has been involved for some time with <i>thinc</i> . (The Hague Initiative for International Cooperation). Pray for him and the other lawyers who are working on international law regarding the state of Israel. To bring clarity in this area is also blessing and protecting Israel.
Wednesday 15 August	Pray for Koen and Ira Carlier, our field workers in Ukraine. Together with their team they do a lot of work for Aliyah. Pray for the drivers as well, who often

	work long days and make long trips on poor road conditions.
Thursday 16 August	To pray for Jerusalem is to take Bible verses about Jerusalem to heart. 'If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill. May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you...' (Psalm 137:5-6a). '
Friday 17 August	Pray for protection for the people of Tel Aviv and surrounding cities in the coastal plain such as Petach Tikva, Ramat Gan, Holon and other cities, with together over 3.5 million residents. The distance to Arab Palestinian territory is only 12 to 15 km.
Saturday 18 August Sabbath	The Lord told His disciples a parable '...to show them that they should always pray and not give up.' (Luke 18:1). This parable about the Persistent Widow is encouraging to us intercessors (Luke 18:2-8).
Sunday 19 August	The prayer life of the apostles. Examples of prayer are found in Acts 9:40 (Peter), 10:2 (Cornelius), 16:25 (Silas), 28:8 (Paul). Let our lives be like that, steeped in prayer. '...pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances...' (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18a).
Monday 20 August	In the Bible, God tells us to specifically pray for the peace of Jerusalem, because Jerusalem is the place where God dwells (Zechariah 8:3), and where Jesus will return (Acts 1:11, Zechariah 14:4). Praying for the peace of Jerusalem means praying for worldwide shalom.
Tuesday 21 August	The famous sites from Biblical history that connect the Jewish people with the land are located in the heart of Israel. And the heart of the heart is of course Sion, Jerusalem. Pray for more politicians in high place to comprehend this, and to adjust their decisions accordingly.
Wednesday 22 August	Thank the Lord that the events and meetings in different countries celebrating 70 years of Israel ran smoothly and safely. Pray that the Biblical, prophetic significance of 70 years will become clear in coming years (Jeremiah 25:11-12, 29:10-14).
Thursday 23 August	Pray that the three initials of the BDS-movement will be turned around by business people into 'I.I.I.': <i>Inclusive</i> – do not exclude Israel; <i>Invest</i> – do business with Israel; <i>Interest</i> – be involved with Israel.
Friday 24 August	Pray that the book 'Israel on Trial', about Israel and international law, written by Andrew Tucker and Matthijs de Blois, will be well received and read. Many politicians and journalists say a lot of things without knowing the facts. This causes great harm to Israel, history, the state, and the people.
Saturday 25 August Sabbath	Pray that the promises to the Jewish people will be fulfilled to the Jewish people. Thank the Lord that the fulfilment of the promises is not only a blessing for the people of Israel but for all nations. For the nations surrounding Israel – the nations in the three continents of Europe, Africa and Asia, with the state of Israel in the middle, as well as the nations in the rest of the world.
Sunday 26 August	'The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble; He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake. Great is the Lord in Zion; He is exalted over all the nations. Let them praise Your great and awesome name - He is holy.' (Psalm 99:1-3)
Monday 27 August	Pray from Psalm 99 for politicians who are in the news frequently because of their decisions or remarks regarding Israel, like Trump, Putin, Erdogan and Assad. Pray also for politicians in countries like Iran, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. And pray for politicians in bodies such as the EU, the UN and Islamic political organizations.
Tuesday 28 August	Keep praying for the Jewish community in Europe – the hatred of Jews is growing. European policymakers do not seem to know how to stop the increasing anti-Semitism. Talk about Israel when possible; at a birthday, at a meeting or at work. Pray that the words we sow will bear fruit.
Wednesday 29 August	The construction of the sea barrier at Gaza should be completed in six months.

	This barrier is the extension of the security fence that has been built around Gaza to prevent terrorists from invading Israel. Pray that Israel will be able to live safely in the south of their country. Pray for the people of Gaza: that the yoke of Hamas will be broken and that peace talks with Israel will be possible again.
Thursday 30 August	Pray that the articles in our newspaper <i>Israel & Christians Today</i> and on our websites will touch the readers and that love for Israel will grow.
Friday 31 August	Thank the Lord that we as intercessors can use part of our time to stand in the gap for Israel. That we may understand the times we live in and may look forward to the return of Jesus Messiah. This does mean that most of the people around us, many Christians included, do not understand us. So be it, we will remain faithful to the command to pray for Israel.

September 2018

Saturday 1 September Sabbath	Pray for Rev. Willem Glashouwer who will be in the Philippines this coming week to build relationships and to teach. After this, he will be in Thailand until the 16 th of September. Thank the Lord that we can teach about God and Israel in these countries now that Israel is increasingly focused on countries in the Far East. This is also the case for Vietnam, Singapore, China, New Zealand and Australia.
Sunday 2 September	'There will be a day when watchmen cry out on the hills of Ephraim, 'Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God.'(Jeremiah 31:6). The word 'watchmen', 'notzrim' in Hebrew, also means Christians. Let us intercede in this way for Israel: being watchful, standing guard. And in this way do justice to the word 'noztrim'.
Monday 3 September	Intercede for the inhabitants of the south of Israel because of the serious threat from Gaza. Missiles, mortars, thousands of protestors who try to cross (trying to cross) the border to kidnap or to kill Jews. Israeli villages are only a few kilometres from the border. Pray for the children. Many of them know no other reality, and sometimes had to spend days on end in a bomb shelter.
Tuesday 4 September	Pray for the C4I teachers who will speak about Israel again this coming season at events and conferences, covering countless topics. Use the events calendar on the website for current information.
Wednesday 5 September	In our time with increasing hatred and ridicule against the Jewish people, it is more than necessary to encourage them! Pray for opportunities to do so, both personally and with others. Thank the Lord that as Christians for Israel, we can show friendship to the Jewish communities and get behind them.
Thursday 6 September	Thank the Lord that Christians for Israel was able to establish the youth work of Isreality. Pray that Isreality will expand and will reach both Christian and non-Christian youth in a relevant way.
Friday 7 September	Pray that the government, authorities and military commanders of Israel will remain watchful because of the destruction Iran wants to bring to the country from Lebanon and from Syria (Proverbs 24:5-6).
Saturday 8 September Sabbath	Pray for the Holocaust survivors in Israel, Ukraine and other countries. After the Second World War many Jews did not want to stay in Europe and scattered all over the world. We can specifically pray for these Jews at a very old age and do something meaningful, like visit them in Israel and help them in a practical way. In Ukraine we visit them and distribute food packages.
Sunday 9 September	The prayer life of John. After all the events described in the Revelation of John, prayer has turned into worship (Revelation 22:9). It is precious to read this book

	of the Bible, but it also shows the gravity of what is still to come for humanity. The heavenly Jerusalem will become reality, the earthly Babylon will fall and disappear forever.
Monday 10 September	The number of Christians in the Gaza Strip has dropped from 4,500 to just under one thousand since 2012. Pray for our brothers and sisters, who, just like in other areas where Islam dominates, are treated as third-rate civilians. Pray that Christians from other countries can visit them to encourage them.
Tuesday 11 September	The Dutch reverent H. Liefthing wrote in a publication: 'Even though the establishment of the State of Israel was a secular initiative, we believe that God had His hand in this. Just like in the book of Esther in which God's name does not occur.' Give thanks for this, and pray that churches globally have the courage to be this bold as well.
Wednesday 12 September	Pray that as Christians who love Israel and see the prophetic fulfilment of God's Word in the restoration of the state of Israel, will have more room and understanding in churches. Pray that universities and Bible schools will also give room for this. This is hardly the case at the moment.
Thursday 13 September	Pray for the Jewish population of Belgium who constantly has to be on guard for anti-Semitic violence. 'The presence of soldiers in front of Jewish buildings puts us somewhat at ease', says Joël Rubinfeld who fights anti-Semitism, 'but you can imagine what kind of world we live in.'
Friday 14 September	Pray for the cooperation between Israel and Islamic countries in the fight against terrorism, technologic developments, and inventions. This increases the chance of diplomatic relationships. Prime Minister Netanyahu recently met with Sheikh Yahya Cholil Staquf, Secretary General of the World's largest Muslim organization.
Saturday 15 September Sabbath	There are Christian leaders who sympathize with the BDS movement because they believe that non-violent resistance promotes peace between Israel and the Palestinians. The founder of the BDS movement, Omar Barghouti promotes violent resistance and clearly states that they are forever against a Jewish State on any part of Palestine. Pray for Christians to research this, acknowledge this, and cease their support of BDS.
Sunday 16 September	In Psalm 94 we read how God, Judge of the earth, deals with those who crush and oppress His people. Thank the Lord for fighting for His people, for being a safe fortress for them, a rock, a refuge.
Monday 17 September	Pray for comfort for the relatives of victims of terrorist attacks. For parents who lose their son, women who lose their husband and children their father. Two examples: In February, Raziël Shevack (35) and Havat Gilad (29) died in an attack on their car in Har Bracha; both leave behind a wife and children. In May, Ronen Lubarsky (20) who was in the military, died because a Palestinian threw a marble slab on his head from a building.
Tuesday 18 September	As you know, the threat of war and terror is always present on the north and south border of Israel. Pray for protection and for peace, for trust in the Lord God and His Word. Pray that He will 'Scatter the nations who delight in war' (psalm 68:30c).
Wednesday 19 September	Whether Israel is governed by a left-wing or a right-wing government, we can pray for the politicians and for the governors of the nation. Give thanks that Israel is a democracy, the only democracy in the Middle East. Israel looks out for all minorities, whether it is a Jewish, a Christian or an Islamic minority.
Thursday 20 September	Pray for the team of Christians for Israel in Denmark. Thank the Lord that in all kinds of counties initiative is taken to teach about Israel and the Bible.
Friday 21 September	Pim van der Hoff, board member of C4I International said: 'Our love for Israel is based on the Bible. Christians for Israel is not concerned with politics'. Thank the Lord that the Bible is trustworthy, that we may test the prophecies and trust.

Saturday 22 September Sabbath	'The word of the Lord came to me: "What do you see, Jeremiah?" "I see the branch of an almond tree," I replied. The Lord said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled." (Jeremiah 1:11,12). This scripture indicates that the Lord is watching to see that His word is fulfilled. Thank Him for this.
Sunday 23 September	Praying for Israel is not always easy because of the grave situation in the Middle East. We can be encouraged by Philippians 4:4a, 6a,7: 'Rejoice in the Lord always...Do not be anxious about anything...and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.'
Monday 24 September	Please pray for the staff and the volunteers of Christians for Israel around the world. 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.' (Colossians 3:23,24).
Tuesday 25 September	Pray that we as staff and volunteers do not grow weary of always going against the flow. Negative news about Israel and Judaism keeps on coming. It is a privilege to stand behind Israel; what is done to the Jews also affects us Christians.
Wednesday 26 September	The United States has withdrawn from the UN human rights council because of anti-Israel bias. In Poland, what the history of what the Polish population did to the Jews during the Holocaust was rewritten. Every nation has an opinion about Israel, positive or negative, and acts accordingly. Pray for your own country, that the right decisions will be made.
Thursday 27 September	Give thanks for organisations and churches all over the world who stand up for Israel. Pray for God's blessing for them.
Friday 28 September	Pray for the Biblical territory of Judea and Samaria. The nations of the world do not want to wait for further negotiations; they want Israel to give up everything and leave. Thank the Lord that Israel has returned to that area and to its destiny.
Saturday 29 September Sabbath	Pray for the Jewish people. A newspaper can publish a hateful article. An illustration can make fun of them. Their history can suddenly be rewritten. It goes on and on.
Saturday 30 September Sabbath	There are dozens of promises about the restoration and salvation of Israel in Jeremiah 30 and 31. Give thanks for the promises of the return to the land, and a new covenant that the Lord will make with them.