

Israel Prayer Calendar

December 2018 - January 2019

CHRISTIANS FOR
ISRAEL
INTERNATIONAL

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Shalom!

Besides proclaiming that God is carrying out His plan for Israel, Christians for Israel was founded to call churches and congregations to prayer for His people and the fulfillment of His promises. Christians for Israel receives the opportunity to do this in many places and in many ways. You are a part of this as well. Over the past years Pieter Bénard has coordinated this prayer ministry, and God has blessed it. Now Pieter has handed this over because of health issues. Our prayer for Israel continues. God is faithful. He will not abandon the work that He has started.

The Christian year begins with Advent. We look forward to what is coming, the coming of the Messiah. "His feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives", says Zechariah. God will carry out His plan. He has all might in heaven and on earth. We can bring everything to God in prayer confident in this.

"Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28

Let us continue to raise our heads in prayer. Our hope is in Him. The Lord Jesus is near and is coming to redeem the world! Through our prayers we prepare the way for Him. What a privilege and responsibility this is. Let us persevere in it.

Maranatha,

Frank van Oordt
Educational Activities Director

December 2018

Saturday 1 December
- Sabbath
- Hanukkah

Pray for Israel during Hanukkah (Feast of Dedication) in the next eight days using Psalms 80 through 87. These psalms form figurative eight-armed candelabra. Every day one more light shines to commemorate the miracle of the multiplying of the oil. Every day there is one more psalm to shine with the power of God's Word.

Sunday 2 December
- 1st Sunday in Advent
- 1st light Hanukkah

"Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You Who lead Joseph like a flock! You Who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth. Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!" (Psalm 80:1,3).

Monday 3 December
- 2nd light Hanukkah

"Hear, O my people, while I admonish you! O Israel, if you would but listen to Me! I am the Lord your God, Who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it." (Psalm 81:8,10).

Tuesday 4 December - 3 rd light Hanukkah	"Arise, O God, judge the earth; for You shall inherit all the nations!" (Psalm 82:8) Rev. Willem J.J. Glashouwer is in Kenya through December 11 th for television tapings. This TV station has a broad audience throughout all of Africa. Pray that the Israel message will come across clearly.
Wednesday 5 December - 4 th light Hanukkah	"O God, do not keep silence; do not hold Your peace or be still, O God! For behold, Your enemies make an uproar; those who hate You have raised their heads. They lay crafty plans against Your people; they consult together against Your treasured ones." (Psalm 83:1-3)
Thursday 6 December - 5 th light Hanukkah	"How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!" (Psalm 84:1,8)
Friday 7 December - 6 th light Hanukkah	"Lord, You were favorable to Your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin." (Psalm 85:1,2)
Saturday 8 December - Sabbath - 7 th light Hanukkah	"Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name." (Psalm 86:6,9)
Sunday 9 December - 2 nd Sunday in Advent - 8 th light Hanukkah	"The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling places of Jacob. Glorious things of you are spoken, O city of God." (Psalm 87:2,3)
Monday 10 December	Give thanks that we have the opportunity to be involved in aliyah in a practical way. "Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations, and raise my signal to the peoples." (Isaiah 49:22a) This is what God says, "And they shall bring your sons in their bosom, and your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders." (Verse 22b) Let this be our active response.
Tuesday 11 December	Give thanks for the collaboration with Ebenezer. Pray for those working in their branches in Israel, Russia, Argentina, Ukraine, Moldavia, America, Germany, England, and the Netherlands.
Wednesday 12 December	Give thanks that earlier this year the Israeli government gave permission for the return of 1,400 Ethiopian Jews. More recently permission has been given for the return of an additional 1,000. Pray that everything will go smoothly.
Thursday 13 December	Pray that the <i>olim</i> , the new immigrants, will feel at home in Israel quickly. Some fled on short notice from countries such as Venezuela and Ukraine. Others, such as those from Ethiopia, have been longing for Jerusalem for generations.
Friday 14 December	Pray for safety for the north of Israel. The threat along the Lebanese and Syrian borders is undiminished. There is a significant show of military force on the Golan Heights. Pray for the might of terror and intimidation to be broken.
Saturday 15 December - Sabbath	Give thanks for the collaboration with the Jewish Agency. Aliyah is a key issue for them as well. The Bible speaks of the return of the people to their land over 700 times. These verses are about our time, in which the return is so clearly visible. A banner for the nations!
Sunday 16 December - 3 rd Sunday in Advent	Give thanks that, in preparation for the celebration of the Lord Jesus' birth, we can look forward to His coming in glory: In the same way as He went into heaven, He will return.
Monday 17 December	Pray for the protection of the Jews in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria. There is a constant stream of threats and incidents. Pray for safety, especially on the roads near intersections and roundabouts.
Tuesday 18 December	Pray for comfort and encouragement for the over 50,000 handicapped veterans, who were wounded in the many wars, conflicts and terrorist attacks. Give thanks that there is an enormous network in place for their aid, that there are rehabilitation centers and that thousands of volunteers stand ready to help these men and women who have risked their lives for Israel.
Wednesday 19 December	The battle for the existence of Israel is being fought in parliaments and at conferences all over the world. We have the opportunity to call to God from our inner rooms: "Save, save Your people Lord."

Thursday 20 December	Pray for the city of Jerusalem, for the retention of Biblical territory, for peace talks that will make this possible and for peace with the Palestinians. Pray that the Lord God will confirm His Word in the sight of all nations.
Friday 21 December	Also pray for the retention of Biblical territory in Judea and Samaria. Give thanks for the Jewish residents who courageously continue to live there, even though many other Israelis do not understand them. Pray for peace with the Palestinians.
Saturday 22 December - Sabbath	There comes a time in the normal course of our spiritual growth when our prayers are no longer about ourselves but about God. Praying with God at the center means entering reality.
Sunday 23 December - 4th Sunday in Advent	Give thanks that Belgium has broken of relations with the Palestinian Bureau, which is responsible for the content of textbooks. They will no longer make finances available for the building of schools, because the Palestinian Authority continues to name schools after terrorists in order to indoctrinate the children with hate. Pray that this will stop.
Monday 24 December	In the gospel of Luke we read, "And Joseph also went from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, His betrothed, who was with child." (Luke 2:4,5) Give thanks for the fulfillment of prophesy about the city of David, the house of David and the lineage of David.
Tuesday 25 December - Christmas	Give thanks for the miracle of the Lord Jesus' birth. "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." (Titus 2:11-13)
Wednesday 26 December	The growing Neo-Nazi Party in Eastern Germany is calling for the disappearance of Israel. In the Labour Party in England anti-Semitism is a commonly accepted phenomenon. There are soccer fans in the Netherlands who chant filthy anti-Jewish slogans. On the right, on the left, or in the middle, anti-Semitism is seen often. Pray for protection for the Jewish people.
Thursday 27 December	Give thanks for politicians and political parties in your country who stand up for Israel. Sometimes one powerful voice is enough to steer a debate, whose outcome had seemed clear, in Israel's favor. Pray for those who have the courage to make their voice heard.
Friday 28 December	While the political differences between America and Europe (about how to deal with Iran's nuclear ambitions) continue to grow, Iran continues with its nuclear development and threatening of Israel. Pray that God will intervene and that Israel will live in safety.
Saturday 29 December - Sabbath	Pray that the exchange of knowledge on the production of nuclear weapons between North Korea and Iran will be ended. Pray that Israel will live in safety. When the USSR was broken up in 1990 the borders were opened for Jews to make aliyah to Israel. After 70 years the gospel was allowed to be preached there again and churches regained their freedom. Pray for North Korea, for freedom for the Christians and diplomatic ties with Israel.
Sunday 30 December	Pray for unity among Jesus' believers. There is such a diversity of denominations and movements in Israel. Political and social differences often also play too great a role. Give thanks that there is contact between Jewish and Arab Christians, between churches and other Christian groups.
Monday 31 December	"O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements and how inscrutable His ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?'" (Romans 11:33,34). This exclamation of Paul's about Israel, Christ, and the gentiles at the end of chapter 11 shows that the Bible is the foundation of everything. Let us give thanks for this truth, learn from it, and take it with us into the new year.

January 2019

Tuesday 1 January	Give thanks to our Heavenly Father, at the beginning of this new year, that His choice <i>for</i> Israel is not a choice <i>against</i> other nations. God called Abraham to be a blessing to <i>all</i> nations. (Genesis 12:2)
Wednesday 2 January	Pray for the Arabs who long for peace and work to make it possible, risking their own lives in the process. Pray especially for Naim Khoury and his congregation in Bethlehem, one of the few Arab congregations where both Old and New Testaments are preached.
Thursday 3 January	Pray for the dark powers of terrorist organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah to be broken. Pray for good leaders who seek His name. (Psalm 83:16-18)
Friday 4 January	Fridays are often filled with unrest in Gaza and in Judea and Samaria. Leading up to the Islamic Friday prayers many young Arabs are incited by their leaders to throw stones or participate in violent protest. Pray for calm Fridays, so that Israel can welcome the Sabbath with praise in peace.
Saturday 5 January - Sabbath	Pray for the hundreds of thousands of Arabs who live in Palestinian refugee camps – hotbeds of anti-Semitism and terrorism. Pray for good education for these children. Pray that the anti-Semitism that is taught at Palestinian schools (often UN schools) may be replaced with love and understanding.
Sunday 6 January	In Acts 1:6 the disciples ask Jesus, right before His ascension, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” That was not a stupid question. Jesus promises, “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Thank God for the restoration of the land and people of Israel. His plans will never fail!
Monday 7 January	Pray that in the churches worldwide there will be preaching about fulfillment of Biblical prophecy, about Israel and the nations, about the signs of the times. The Bible is full of these subjects, giving ample occasion for such preaching.
Tuesday 8 January	Rev. Glashouwer Sr. used to say the following about the times we in which we live: “Look for the signs, but never set a time!” We can already see many signs (just read Zachariah 8:1-8): Children will play in the squares of Jerusalem, the people will return to Jerusalem. Thank our Heavenly Father that He is a God of miracles. “Shall it be too miraculous in My eyes?”
Wednesday 9 January	Joseph revealed himself to his brothers (Genesis 45:1-15). Up until that moment they did not recognize him, because he looked like an Egyptian viceroy. Give thanks that the Lord Jesus will also reveal Himself to His people in this way.
Thursday 10 January	Every day, dozens of ‘watchmen’ walk on the walls of Jerusalem. They do this based on verses 6 and 7 in Isaiah chapter 62: “On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the Lord in remembrance, take no rest, and give Him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth.” Pray without ceasing to the Lord, as God’s watchman on the wall!
Friday 11 January	The founder of Christians for Israel, Karel van Oordt, had this saying: “I’m jealous of myself that I get to live in this time.” We may repeat his words in thankfulness. Generations of Christians prayed for the restoration of Israel, based on Jeremiah 23:7-8. We have been given the opportunity to see it today with our own eyes! Thank God for His eternal faithfulness and the fulfilling of His promises!
Saturday 12 January - Sabbath	Thank our Heavenly Father from Psalm 48 for Jerusalem, the city in which He has chosen to dwell. Pray for the fulfillment of the wonderful prophesies about Jerusalem.
Sunday 13 January	Repent for Christian anti-Semitism throughout the centuries (2 Chronicles 7:14). Many church leaders, such as Martin Luther, preached hatred towards Jews. Let us confess to God the guilt of Christians towards His people.
Monday 14 January	The BDS movement (boycott, disinvestment, and sanctions) against Israel is gaining popularity in churches. Anti-Semitism is at the root of this movement. Pray that this movement will be broken.

Tuesday 15 January	On March 23 rd , 2018 French Holocaust survivor Mireille Knoll was brutally murdered in her home. It was one of the many antis-Semitic attacks in Europe in the past several years. Pray for comfort for the bereaved. Pray that the spirit of hatred towards Jews in Europe may be broken.
Wednesday 16 January	Pray for safety for the country of Israel and pray that Iran's threats may be unfounded. The countries around Israel are at the brink of war with the only Jewish country in the world. This was foretold in Joel 3.
Thursday 17 January	The UN has denounced Israel countless times, while countries with serious human rights violations such as Syria, North Korea and Saudi Arabia are scarcely denounced. Pray for the UN, that the representatives may turn away from their misguided ways.
Friday 18 January	Thank God for the building up of relationships between Jews and Christians. After two thousand years of enmity close friendships are being formed. Praise the Lord with Psalm 117.
Saturday 19 January - Sabbath	Pray for the representatives of Christians for Israel who are 'ambassadors' for Israel around the world. Pray for them with 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17, "Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word."
Sunday 20 January	"For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love." (2 Peter 1:5-7) Thank our Heavenly Father that we can lay everything before His throne in prayer!
Monday 21 January	Pray for Christians for Israel's speakers, like Rev. Cornelis Kant and Rev. Willem Glashouwer, who preach about Israel and God's faithfulness. Pray for wisdom and inspiration in their preaching of the Word and for open hearts.
Tuesday 22 January	We ask your prayer of thanksgiving for all the activities of Christians for Israel and for our expanding network.
Wednesday 23 January	Abraham prayed to God for Sodom to be spared (Genesis 18:16-33). God answered that if there would be 10 righteous living in Sodom, He would spare the city for the sake of those ten. Pray like Abraham for the righteous in your own town or city and in your country.
Thursday 24 January	Pray for the international pioneering work of Christians for Israel, which Rev. Cornelis Kant with his team coordinates from Nijkerk. Pray for open hearts and open ears in churches around the world. Pray that the joyful news of God's faithfulness to Israel may be proclaimed everywhere!
Friday 25 January	In many countries commemorations will take place in the coming days to honor victims, survivors and rescuers of the Holocaust during the Nazi regime. Pray with Isaiah 40:1-11 for dignified and comforting gatherings.
Saturday 26 January - Sabbath	Today Rev. Willem Glashouwer is speaking in Bruges. Pray for inspiration and the right words to stir up the Christians in Belgium for Israel and for the God of Israel.
Sunday 27 January	Holocaust Memorial Day. It has been exactly 75 years since the death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau was freed. The survivors of the Holocaust still carry its scars. Pray especially for them today, for comfort, joy and peace.
Monday 28 January	Pray for Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union. In the winter it is bone-chillingly cold, and many do not have enough money to pay for food, heating and medication. At their advanced age the trauma of the Holocaust resurfaces with a vengeance.
Tuesday 29 January	Give thanks for the amazing work that Koen Carlier and his Christians for Israel team are able to do in Ukraine, to be a blessing to the Jewish people in a practical way. The food parcels sometimes make a difference of life or death.

Wednesday 30 January

Give thanks that barely three years after the Holocaust a safe homeland for the Jewish people came into being! Give thanks that over three million Jews have made Israel their home since then.

Thursday 31 January

Thank God for His Word, "I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all My heart and all My soul." (Jeremiah 32:41) This is the only verse in the Bible that speaks of God's heart and soul. Thank Him for his eternal faithfulness!
