



Shalom,

"Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain." **Psalms 127:1**

In the upcoming two months we will be praying again for Israel and for God's imperative protection of the land. Unless the Lord watches, we as the guards stand watch in vain. Israel is threatened from all sides, and the Lord's watch over Israel is imperative. Israel is currently in a time of political uncertainty. Israel will hold another election in March to choose a new parliament. It's important for there to be a good government who can effectively govern Israel. But it is even more important that the government trusts in God and knows that God watches over Israel and builds Israel.

In this prayer calendar we'll talk about Biblical characters again on Saturdays, people who are examples for us on how to pray. The most important person is Jesus. It is an incredible encouragement to know that not only do we get to pray as Jesus prayed, but that Jesus is also praying for us.

"I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them." **John 17:9-10**

Christians for Israel Prayer Team

February 2020

Saturday 1 February
Sabbath

Ezra. As a priest and teacher of the law, he taught the people after they returned from exile (Ezra 10). He also caused them to return to the statutes of their God. Give thanks for the fact that even today Jews return to Israel from other nations and discover who God is from the prophetic word. Rabbi Kook said: "The people of Israel belong in the land of Israel to glorify the name of God there."

Sunday 2 February

"He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted. He provides rain for the earth; he sends water on the countryside." Job 5:9-10. Give thanks for all the rain that has already fallen in Israel this winter. It was quite dry in the fall, but it has now mostly been compensated.

Monday 3 February

The Lebanese terrorist organization Hezbollah uses a centre in Berlin and 30 other locations (including mosques) in Germany to recruit members and to raise funds for terrorism and weapons purchases. Pray for this to be stopped. And pray that Hezbollah cannot harm Israel in any way.

Tuesday 4 February

There are currently around 57,000 disabled veterans and over 500 of them are severely disabled. Around 5000 veterans also suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome. Pray for strength and comfort for all these veterans. And pray for peace for Israel so that there won't be any more victims.

Wednesday 5 February	Missiles are fired at Israel not only from Gaza, but also from Syria. Fortunately, these missiles from Syria have recently been intercepted by the Israeli missile defence system, the Iron Dome. Pray for God to protect Israel against missiles from Gaza and Syria.
Thursday 6 February	A quarter of the Israeli population currently lives in poverty, including one million children. Pray that the government would take more action against poverty. Also pray for blessings on the work of organizations like Hineni, who have soup kitchens to provide meals for people in need.
Friday 7 February	Last month the important Iranian commander Soleimani was killed by the Americans. Soleimani was a major enemy of Israel. Pray for protection of Israel, an ally of America, from possible revenge attacks by Iran.
Saturday 8 February Sabbath	Nehemiah. When Nehemiah receives a report on the desolate condition of the city of Jerusalem, we read in chapter 1:4b: "For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven". In chapter 2:4 we also read that Nehemiah responds to the circumstances with prayer. Let us also respond with prayer to what happens to Israel as a country and as a people.
Sunday 9 February	"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased". Hebrews 13:16. Pray for Holocaust survivors in Israel. These people often live in poverty and loneliness. Fortunately, there are also many organizations that offer help. Pray for blessings on the work of these organizations, and that the Holocaust survivors may be comforted by this.
Monday 10 February Tu Bishvat: New Year for Trees	Today the Jews celebrate Tu Bishvat. Originally this is an important festival regarding the laws about the harvest and tithing to the temple. Thank the Lord for blessing the land of Israel and for the ability to grow many kinds of fruits and vegetables on the land.
Tuesday 11 February	The new alarm system of the Israeli army prevents that areas where there is no direct danger are startled by sirens. This means that about 50% fewer warning sirens are heard. Give thanks for this development, which makes that Israelis are less often scared unnecessarily.
Wednesday 12 February	The university of Tel Aviv has opened a centre for quantum science. Quantum science is an increasingly important science. Give thanks for the fact that Israel can make an important contribution to this and many other important research, for example in the field of medical science, and thus can be a blessing to the world.
Thursday 13 February	Last fall, another missile shower was fired from Gaza on Israel. Not a single Israeli was killed by this however. Thank the Lord for protecting Israel.
Friday 14 February	Pray for wisdom for the Israeli army and for the Israeli government on how to deal with terrorism from Gaza. Pray that the conflict will not escalate.
Saturday 15 February Sabbath	Job. After a very turbulent time, Job finds peace in prayer (Job 42). The conversations between Job and his friends sound a bit like a conversation between two Jews. The first said: "The Holocaust has taken away my faith in God." To which the other survivor answered: "The Holocaust was the moment that made me keep my faith in God." This will leave you speechless. God is always there, in suffering and in redemption.
Sunday 16 February	"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways". Psalm 91:11. Pray for all the towns near Gaza. They have been living with great threat for years. Pray for the people of those towns to find a way to deal with the tension and for them to experience God's protective angel armies around them.
Monday 17 February	Pray for those who experience material, physical and mental/emotional damage from the ongoing missile attacks. Pray for healing for this.
Tuesday 18 February	During the swearing-in ceremony, IDF soldiers receive not only a weapon but also the Tanakh, the Old Testament. Pray that the soldiers will read the Tanakh, and that non-believing soldiers may come to believe as a result.
Wednesday 19 February	40% of Israelis living on the periphery of Israel in the North or South do not feel safe according to government research. About 30% of the population has no bomb shelters close to home. Pray that changes can be made to the houses so that they can feel safer. Also pray for protection and strength for all who feel unsafe.
Thursday 20 February	Hamas recently threatened that if Israel continues the blockade of the Gaza Strip, they will face the 70,000 fighters of Hamas. Pray that this is an empty threat and that Hamas will not be able to cause damage to Israel.
Friday 21 February	Thanks to Shin Bet (the Israeli secret service), around 450 terror attacks have been thwarted this past year. We can be very thankful for this, but at the same time we need to keep praying that this organization, with advanced technology and very competent people, will continue to have an edge on their enemies.

Saturday 22 February Sabbath	Jeremiah. After a word from the Lord, Jeremiah bought a field in Anathoth and sealed the deed of purchase (Jeremiah 32). After this He prayed to the Lord (verse 16). That's how our prayer for Israel may be like; keeping watch, listening, and acting accordingly. If there are difficult circumstances in Israel, our prayers really matter. Just like our friendship and compassion.
Sunday 23 February	"I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you." Isaiah 44:22. Pray for secular Israelis in Israel. Many of them still participate in the Jewish festivals, but say they no longer believe in God. Pray for these secular Israelis to come to faith.
Monday 24 February	Israeli Arabs recently took to the streets to demonstrate for more Israeli police in their towns. Pray that the Israeli government will make the right decision about this and that crime will also decrease.
Tuesday 25 February	Recently a delegation of journalists from Arab counties with whom Israel has no ties, travelled through the land of Israel. The purpose of the trip was to show them what it's really like in Israel. Give thanks for this special visit and pray for more and more openness from Arab countries towards Israel.
Wednesday 26 February	Pray for the protection of Israeli villages in Judea-Samaria. Terrorists are walking around in this area waiting for a chance to attack a Jewish Israeli. Pray that these attacks will be prevented.
Thursday 27 February	Pray for the Israeli army. Pray for the leaders of the army to respond adequately to threats and attacks, and for God to remain faithful to the people defending the country.
Friday 28 February	Next Monday, Israel will hold the third election in a year to elect a new parliament. Pray that the preparations for the elections go well, and that the people are well informed about what the various parties stand for.
Saturday 29 February Sabbath	Daniel. Despite the law stating that King Darius was superior to everyone and to every deity, and that all residents of his powerful kingdom were to worship him, Daniel remained faithful to God and prayed three times a day towards Jerusalem. (Daniel 6:11). Another lesson for us to remain faithful to God in prayer, under any circumstances.

March 2020

Sunday 1 March	"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you." Psalm 32:8. Pray that this time the political parties will be able to form a coalition after the elections. And pray for a good government who expects the help of God, and encourages the immigration of Jews to Israel.
Monday 2 March Election Day Israel	Today the elections will be held in Israel. Pray that it will be a peaceful day and that the people will make the right decisions when voting.
Tuesday 3 March	In the coming days a Christians for Israel conference will take place in Nagaland, India. In this state of India, almost 90% of the population is Christian. Pray for that many pastors will come to hear this message about God's everlasting covenant with the Jewish people.
Wednesday 4 March	Major protests against the Iranian regime have recently broken out in Iran. Pray that the Iranian regime, which is full of hatred towards Israel, must give way to a good government that wants to befriend Israel.
Thursday 5 March	Pray for the protection of Israeli spies, and of Hamas members who secretly provide Israel with information in the Middle East.
Friday 6 March	The United States has issued a statement in which they say that they no longer see Israeli settlements in the West Bank as illegal. Yet most countries of the world do not agree with this statement. Give thanks for this statement from the United States and pray that it will be adopted by other countries.
Saturday 7 March Sabbath	Jonah. "From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God." (Jonah 2:1). "My prayer rose to you, to your holy temple." (verse 7b). This is a remarkable example: from earth reaching the Father in heaven through prayer. We get to pray for Israel so that God can fulfil His purpose for His people and for us.
Sunday 8 March	"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9. Pray for Muslim Arab Israelis to come into contact with the gospel, to come to faith in Jesus, and also receive love for Israel.

Monday 9 March	Recently Christian politicians came from all over the world to Israel to meet with Netanyahu. Pray that when all these politicians are back in their own countries, they will defend Israel against false accusations and boycotts.
Tuesday 10 March <i>Purim:</i> <i>Festival of lots</i>	Today is the festival of Purim. Jews celebrate that Haman's plan to murder the Jews in the Persian Empire was cancelled. Give thanks for the fact that the Jewish people still exist today and even have their own state in the land of Israel.
Wednesday 11 March	France, Great Britain and Germany sent a letter to the U.N. Secretary-General, asking him to inform the council about Iran's missile activity. Pray that action will be taken against Iran and that Iran will not be able to harm Israel.
Thursday 12 March	The annual UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva has chosen to award the 'Human Rights and Business Prize' to the Palestinian organization Al-Haq, which is actively promoting the boycott of the state of Israel. Pray that the UN will no longer make these twisted decisions, and will move away from anti-Israel policy.
Friday 13 March	Pray for the new Israeli government to make Aliyah, the return of the Jews to the land of Israel, a priority.
Saturday 14 March Sabbath	Anna. Luke 2:36-38. Here we read about Anna, a prophetess who fasts day and night, and prays, and speaks about Jesus the Messiah. We may fast and pray in our inner room, speak to others about the coming King, and look forward to Jerusalem becoming the praise of the earth.
Sunday 15 March	"For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed..." Romans 15:8. The promises to the patriarchs, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, remain forever and are confirmed by Jesus Christ. Thank God for keeping His promises, and for the increasing number of Jews from all over the world who are returning to Israel.
Monday 16 March	Pray for all Jews who want to make Aliyah, but who are dreading everything that needs to be arranged and organised. Pray that they will find and receive the right help for this so that they can actually make Aliyah.
Tuesday 17 March	In recent decades, thousands of Jews from Ethiopia have returned home to Israel. At this moment there are about 7,500 Jews left in Ethiopia. They too would like to come to Israel but encounter all kinds of (bureaucratic) obstacles. Pray that these Ethiopian Jews will also have the opportunity to return.
Wednesday 18 March	Recently there was a program on Palestinian TV where children read poems in which martyrdom and dying for their country was glorified and encouraged. Pray that this would change, and that children would be freed from the hatred towards Israel.
Thursday 19 March	These days it's becoming common for images of Auschwitz or clothing from concentration camps to be used in very wrong ways. It shows that some people have learned nothing from the horrors of history. Pray for these kinds of actions to stop and for more awareness of what happened to the Jewish people during the Second World War.
Friday 20 March	Several anti-Semitic attacks have been committed in America in recent months. Pray for protection of the American Jewish community and for comfort for the victims and their families.
Saturday 21 March Sabbath	Jesus. Matthew 26:36-46. In Gethsemane, Jesus is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Yet He does the will of His Father. He expects us to keep watch with Him too, and to pray to not be led into temptation. By doing this we can thank Him for His sacrifice, and receive redemption. We may pray for His people and look forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.
Sunday 22 March	"Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy." Proverbs 28:13. The Church of England has issued a document stating that Christians must repent for centuries of anti-Semitism which ultimately led to the Holocaust. Give thanks for this statement from the church of England, and pray that this would get a following among Christians.
Monday 23 March	Research by the Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish organization that fights anti-Semitism, shows that one in four Europeans has a negative, hateful attitude towards Jews. Hatred towards Jews is also increasing in European countries. Pray for protection of the Jews in Europe and pray for the spirit of hatred towards Jews to be broken.
Tuesday 24 March	In Great Britain, the Conservative Party led by Boris Johnson won the elections with a large majority. He is known as a friend of Israel and has criticized the BDS movement several times. Thank the Lord for this positive development.
Wednesday 25 March	Pray that the church around the world may see that the New Testament is based on truths of the Old Testament, that the Old Testament is the foundation of the New Testament.

Thursday 26 March	Pray for Christians in the Middle East. They almost constantly have to deal with persecution from Islamic governments.
Friday 27 March	Much of the work of Christians for Israel is done through the internet. Pray for protection against cyber-attacks, and pray that there will be no technical problems.
Saturday 28 March Sabbath	Pray for wisdom for theologians and work groups inside Churches who think about the effect of alternatives for replacement theology. Pray that they gain insight in God's everlasting love for Israel.
Sunday 29 March	"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10. Pellumb Ranxha, our representative in Albania, tries to reach the Christians of Albania through the internet and through other channels. This prayer calendar is now also being published in Albanian. Pray for new volunteers for the team in Albania, and give thanks for all the work that is already being done.
Monday 30 March	In South Korea, the Israel paper has been published in Korean for the first time. Thank the Lord for this and pray for the distribution of this paper. Pray that many Christians will start to understand Israel and the events in this world from a Biblical perspective.
Tuesday 31 March	Pray for the many staff and volunteers who are working with Christians for Israel around the world. Pray for inspiration and wisdom for the important work they get to do.