

### December 2017

Friday 1 December

Israeli media reports say that Iran is building facilities in Syria to manufacture long range weapons and store explosives. Pray that God will annihilate this threat and have mercy on His people Israel.

Saturday 2 December Sabbath

In the new Israel Centre in Nijkerk, The Netherlands there's a room set apart for intercession. Anyone who visits the Centre is welcome to use this prayer facility. Thank God for this development.

Sunday 3 December

On this first Sunday of Advent you can pray for Israel, starting from Mary's Eulogy: "He has helped His servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants for ever." (Luke 1:54-55)

Monday 4 December

The north of Israel continues to be vulnerable. Lebanon, Syria and Iran play a malicious role, and continually increase tension at the Lebanese border and near the Golan Height. Pray that the Lord will interfere in this situation as well, and His people may live in safety.

Tuesday 5 December

At a Bible study that's held on a regular basis by Prime Minister Netanyahu, he said: 'There is no Jewish existence without Tanakh. It is my conviction that there is no Jewish future without Tanakh either.' Thank God that Netanyahu, like David Ben Gurion and Menachem Begin before him, as Prime Minister calls the Word of God the indispensible foundation of Jewry and Israel.

Wednesday 6 December

Thank God that, a few months ago, the Court of Justice in Luxembourg – the highest judicial authority of the European Union – decided that Hamas will continue to be on the blacklist of terrorist organizations. Pray that this decision will be followed by other countries all over the world.

Thursday 7 December

Thank God that after a long time of prayer and preparation, 'Ebenezer' has opened an office in Berlin to be even better equipped to support Aliyah, together with the Jewish Agency. Winfried Rudloff of Ebenezer Germany said: 'We are in awe that we get to be part of God's work.'

Friday 8 December

Thank God that from the Israel Centre in the Netherlands we can teach pastors and their churches in dozens of other countries about the place of Israel in our world. This is done through the international affiliates of Christians for Israel.

### December 2017

# Saturday 9 December Sabbath

There has hardly been any publicity about a Jewish family who was attacked, threatened, wounded, robbed and tied up in their house in Paris. There were anti-Semitic motives for this. Pray for safety and protection for Jews in Europe and elsewhere in the world. Pray for protection of synagogues – especially during the Sabbath services.

### **Sunday 10 December**

On this second Sunday of Advent, please pray for Israel on the basis of the Song of Zechariah. "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come and has redeemed His people." (Luke 1:68)

### Monday 11 December

Today please intercede for the thousands of Jews who have made Aliyah in the past six months from Venezuela, the USA, Canada and France. The reasons vary from anti-Semitism to Zionism. Whatever the reason: they are returning to Israel!

### Tuesday 12 December

This evening, the eight-day-long festival of Hanukkah starts. In Lelystad, The Netherlands, the first light is lit on the giant Hanukkah candelabra. Thank God that as Christians for Israel we can organize this evening together with our Jewish friends in the Netherlands.

### Wednesday 13 December

Give thanks and pray for the continuing of *Aliyah!* It is a miracle that Jews go on their way to Israel, in spite of bureaucracy, opposition from their own surroundings, and financial setbacks. In Israel things do not come easily either: learning Hebrew, finding housing and the right job. But there are volunteers who help, and Israeli society is prepared to receive immigrants.

### Thursday 14 December

Today please pray for the family replacement homes in Beth Haggai at the border with Hebron, where ten teenagers live under the guidance of a young couple. Thank God that they experience real family life there and look forward to their future.

### Friday 15 December

"O God...1) restore us... 2) make Your face shine... 3) then we may be saved." (Psalm 80:3,7,19). This is a prayer by Asaf for the restoration of Israel. We may pray this prayer in our time and anticipate its fulfillment.

# Saturday 16 December Sabbath

'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!' (Philippians 4:4). Especially in this busy month with its holidays, we should not forget this command. We can rejoice in the birth of Jesus Messiah, who has come for the Jewish people and for all other nations.

### Sunday 17 December

On this third Sunday of Advent please pray for Israel on the basis of the Song of Zechariah. "...to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve Him without fear in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days." (Luke 1:74-75)

### Monday 18 December

In 165 B.C. the Maccabean Yehuda HaMacabi called for a holy war against Hellenism. A battle that is also called 'The battle of the sons of light against the sons of darkness'. After the victory, the feast of Hanukkah was instituted. Pray that in our time the Lord God will make light triumph over darkness as well.

#### **Tuesday 19 December**

Pray for the many Pilgrims who will be travelling around in Israel during the coming weeks because of Christmas. Pray that they will show their friendship and encouragement to the Jewish people in a correct way.

### Wednesday 20 December

Entrust your life to the Lord God, so you will be able to pray for Israel with boldness: "But I, I call to God, and the Lord saves me." (Psalm 55:16)

### December 2017

Thursday 21 December

Thank God that Israel has a lot to give to the world in many areas, for instance: water recycling, counter-espionage and terrorism, defense against cyber-attacks, and defense against long, middle- and short range missiles.

Friday 22 December

The spiritual battle around Israel is often expressed very visibly in all kinds of organizations – sometimes in a victory. There is more and more opposition to the BDS-movement for example. Pray that light will overcome darkness. Jesus is the Light of the world!

Saturday 23 December Sabbath

A Bible verse that adds even more meaning to the miracle of Jesus' birth is 1 John 1:5: "This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light, in Him there is no darkness at all." Read also verses 6 and 7.

Sunday 24 December

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, thank God for the Messiah of Israel: "And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him, to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins." (Luke 1:76-77)

Monday 25 December

Christmas. Give thanks for the fact that the birth of the Lord Jesus links us Christians to the Jewish people in a way that's inseparable. "For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel." (Luke 2:30-32)

Tuesday 26 December

The birth of the Lord Jesus is important to all peoples. We can pray that the nations will realize that the Prince of Peace will be seated on the throne of David. (Isaiah 9:5-6)

Wednesday 27 December

Pray that the teaching of the international affiliates of Christians for Israel about the place of Israel, will not only focus the listeners' attention on the Jewish people and the restoration of Israel, but also on the person of Jesus as Prince of peace and coming Messiah.

Thursday 28 December

Much of what the Arab states and terror organizations do to Israel is widely known. Eventually these things also affect our societies... Just think of terror, of falsification of Jewish-Christian history. Yet almost everyone keeps silent about it: the churches, the media, politicians, the business world. Pray that this culture of silence will be broken drastically.

Friday 29 December

Pray for yourself and others, for protection as intercessors. What we do goes against the plans of the evil one, so we really need the protection of the Lord. He will do it! (1 Peter 5:8-9)

Saturday 30 December Sabbath

Israel is very special, but constantly has to be on guard because of its enemies. It's also very special and courageous that many Israeli people live close to dangerous borders, sometimes at only a few hundred meters. For instance near Gaza, Hebron, Jerusalem, Lebanon or the Golan Heights. Pray for them!

Sunday 31 December

During the past year, as before, Israel went through a 'valley of shadow of death'. Pray and give thanks that they will fear no evil, for God is with them. (Psalm 23)

## January 2018

Monday 1 January

New year's resolutions are not wrong in itself. However, in Psalm 122:6 the Bible does not of speak of resolutions or intentions, but about a command: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." It's wonderful that we can start the new year with this!

**Tuesday 2 January** 

Pray for the Netherlands as they are taking part in the UN Security Council as a member this year. This Council is composed of five permanent and ten non-permanent members, of which Netherlands now is one. Pray for wisdom, that the representative will make the right decisions – especially regarding the position of the State of Israel and the status of the City of Jerusalem.

Wednesday 3 January

The Islamic state of Iran has almost continually supported Hamas with financial and military means, and is now increasing its support. This poses a threat to Israel from several sides. Pray about this matter earnestly.

Thursday 4 January

Thank God that in the past year the new UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, and the new representative of the USA in the UN Nikki Haley, have taken a stand in favor of Israel. Pray that this will continue.

Friday 5 January

At the moment 38 UN organizations are dealing with all kinds of aspects concerning the Palestinians, always with a negative tone towards Israel. Pray for lasting changes, which will work out from the United Nations to the countries involved, and in this way establish a process of peace.

Saturday 6 January Sabbath

Thank God that in the past year Israel gave assistance to Sierra Leone after mud streams, and in 2014 gave assistance because of the Ebola epidemic. In Colombia Israel helps to defuse land-mines. In Italy, Mexico and Turkey Israel sent out relieve workers because of the recent earthquakes, and in several other countries because of floods.

**Sunday 7 January** 

The prayer life of Samuel is also an example to us (1 Samuel 8:6). Just like Samuel we can respond to the things happening among the people of Israel. The Lord will give clarity just like in Samuel's time. (verses 7-10)

**Monday 8 January** 

The beginning of a new year is a good opportunity to pray for a breakthrough in your church or congregation concerning their view on Israel. Christians for Israel has plenty of resources to help you with this, like Bible study material, teachings, speaking engagements, newsletters, the newspaper 'Israel & Christians Today', materials for teenagers and young adults.

Feel free to contact us! info@c4israel.org

**Tuesday 9 January** 

Give thanks for the Israeli doctors who, during the past four years, have given treatment to more than a thousand Syrians with severely damaged hearing. As director Salman Zakarvan in the Ziv Hospital said: "These treatments are important to me as a doctor, as an Israeli and as a human being." Pray that this will give the critics of the State of Israel food for thought, and influence their opinion.

Wednesday 10 January

"O my Strength, I sing praise to You; You, o God, are my fortress, my loving God." (Psalm 59:17) Today pray for Israel on the basis of this powerful Psalm. The Bible is a source of inspiration, day after day.

**Thursday 11 January** 

Pray for the Messianic Congregations in Israel, for growth and stability. According to a number of prominent pastors, a large number of believers between 20 and 30 years of age no longer feel at home in the Church. They do believe in Yeshuah, but feel little affinity with the congregations. Pray for them. (Hebrews 10:25, Matthew 18:20)

## January 2018

### Friday 12 January

When David's enemies accuse him, his reaction is: "...but I am a man of prayer." (Psalm 109:4) What beautiful and faith-building words! Pray that Israel, but also we as intercessors, will take such a position in the event of danger.

### Saturday 13 January Sabbath

Today Rev Willem Glashouwer will speak on behalf of Christians for Israel in Bunde, Germany. On Sunday, the 27th of January he will speak in Belgium. Pray that those who are present will be touched by the Word of God, and will realize that it is not only a matter of listening, but also of doing. Pray that the C4I affiliates in these two countries will reach many churches with the message on Israel.

### **Sunday 14 January**

When Elisha prayed, his prayer became visible very clearly (2 Kings 6:17). In the future our prayers will need to be full of faith, because at the northern border of Israel a huge army is preparing to destroy the State of Israel. Verse 18 will be very inspiring.

### Monday 15 January

Last year Prime Minister Netanyahu said about the future of Judea and Samaria: "We are here to stay. No more settlements will be removed, for this land is the inheritance of our ancestors." Please give thanks for this on the basis of Psalm 125.

### **Tuesday 16 January**

Over the past year the attitude towards Israel in the political arena has turned a little more positive, but it has not yet resulted in a change in voting in the UN concerning Israel. Pray that this will change; that the silent political majority will dare to speak up for its opinion, so Israel's enemies will know that Israel has friends.

### Wednesday 17 January

Member of Knesset Oren Hazan has said that "an attack with nuclear weapons is a very real and concrete danger, threatening our continued existence as a state, a situation similar to the Holocaust. The difference between that time and the present situation is, that we now have the power to prevent an attack." Pray for Israel, that has to live under threat continually.

#### **Thursday 18 January**

Give thanks for the increasingly strong relationship that's developing between Israel, Greece and the Greek part of Cyprus. Last year several high level meetings took place between the political leaders of these three countries. Pray that this coalition will present a healthy counterbalance to the pressure of Islamic countries in the Middle East.

### Friday 19 January

The French Prime Minister Emmanuel Macron considers anti-Zionism a clear form of anti-Semitism. Give thanks for this attitude of Macron, and pray that he will use all his political influence in Europe and the former French parts of Africa to make this point clear.

# Saturday 20 January Sabbath

Give thanks for the Israeli doctors who, during the past four years, have given treatment to more than a thousand Syrians with severely damaged hearing. As director Salman Zakarvan in the Ziv Hospital said: "These treatments are important to me as a doctor, as an Israeli and as a human being." Pray that this will give the critics of the State of Israel food for thought, and influence their opinion.

### **Sunday 21 January**

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." (Psalm 96:1) Read this whole psalm today as an inspiration for your prayers in favour of the international affiliates of Christians for Israel.

#### Monday 22 January

Hezekiah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. How? By always seeking the Lord with humbleness and prayer. The beginning of chapters 18, 19 and 20 of 2 Kings reflect this clearly.

## January 2018

Tuesday 23 January

The Jewish year 5777 (2017) was characterized by international re-writing of history. Many a diplomat wasted precious time attempting to change the past of the Jewish people. Pray that western diplomats, politicians and theologians will realize that by accepting such falsification of history, their own history is re-written too. (Psalm 9:16, 57:7)

Wednesday 24 January

Today Rev Willem Glashouwer will speak on behalf of Christians for Israel in Bunde, Germany. On Sunday, the 27th of January he will speak in Belgium. Pray that those who are present will be touched by the Word of God, and will realize that it is not only a matter of listening, but also of doing. Pray that the C4I affiliates in these two countries will reach many churches with the message on Israel.

Thursday 25 January

Because of the threats from surrounding countries nearly all Israelis have a gas mask at home. This is the horrible reality in Israel. Pray that the Lord God will comfort Israel and cause His people to dwell safely.

Friday 26 January

Other verses as a guideline for the conference in Jerusalem (see 22/01) are Habakkuk 3:17 19. The Middle East is an extremely dangerous region, with Israel in the middle like a ghetto. Many prophetic promises still need to be fulfilled, and the Jewish State of Israel is threatened from all sides. Nevertheless, we can rejoice and joyfully look forward to what the Lord will do.

Saturday 27 January Sabbath

"One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God." (Luke 6:12) The Lord Jesus is our example; we too can set apart time for prayer.

Sunday 28 January

In prayer stand against all forms of anti-Semitism: graffiti on Jewish graves and buildings, football supporters in stadiums shouting slogans, falsity about Jews in the media, and twisted humor in cartoons and by comedians.

Monday 29 January

Unity among Arab countries in the Middle East is a long way away. That causes much unrest and enmity. Pray that this situation will contribute to the acceptance and recognition of Israel. Nothing is impossible with God!

**Tuesday 30 January** 

The French Prime Minister Emmanuel Macron considers anti-Zionism a clear form of anti-Semitism. Give thanks for this attitude of Macron, and pray that he will use all his political influence in Europe and the former French parts of Africa to make this point clear.

Wednesday 31 January

Pray and give thanks for the workers and volunteers of Christians for Israel. Pray for a good start full of faith and confidence in this new year.