

# How to Pray for Israel



## What if I told you that your prayer could shape history?

***It can.***

**W**E BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF PRAYER, AND your prayers matter.

The ability to talk to God is a privilege that did not come cheap.

It is thanks to Jesus' sacrifice and intercession that we can approach God in prayer with no shame. As we are invited to pray and intercede, on God's timeline one subject stands out:

*His land and his people are forever on His heart.*

But how should you pray for Israel? Any news from the Middle East can feel overwhelming. And maybe you haven't been taught about the Jewish roots of our faith? So how to begin?

You're invited into seeing and sharing the heart of God for His people and the Land of Israel.

***"To get nations back on their feet, we must first get down on our knees."***

**BILLY GRAHAM**

# 1 DECLARE GOD'S PROMISES.

**A** **LL THROUGHOUT** Scripture you will find numerous promises and prophecies that God revealed about Israel, the Jewish people and Jerusalem.

There are passages that encourage to pray for Israel's security and for His Holy City:

"Awake, awake, put on your strength, O Zion; put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for there shall no more come into you the uncircumcised and the unclean Shake yourself from the dust and arise; be seated, O Jerusalem; loose the bonds from your neck, O captive daughter of Zion..."

**ISAIAH 52**

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!" For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!" For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good."

**PSALM 122**

Many verses proclaim good plans that God has for His people:

"For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile."

**JEREMIAH 29:10-14**

***Take a few moments to pray using the scripture above.***

***You can pray simply quoting the Word of God.***



# 2 PRAY LIKE JESUS PRAYED.

**T**HERE IS SOMETHING VERY SIGNIFICANT THAT happens right before Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. You are probably familiar with Jesus' famous words: "Lazarus, come forth!"

But before that, Jesus actually took a moment to pray - turning to Heaven, He thanked the Father for hearing Him. Jesus, the Son of God, thanked the Father for hearing Him!

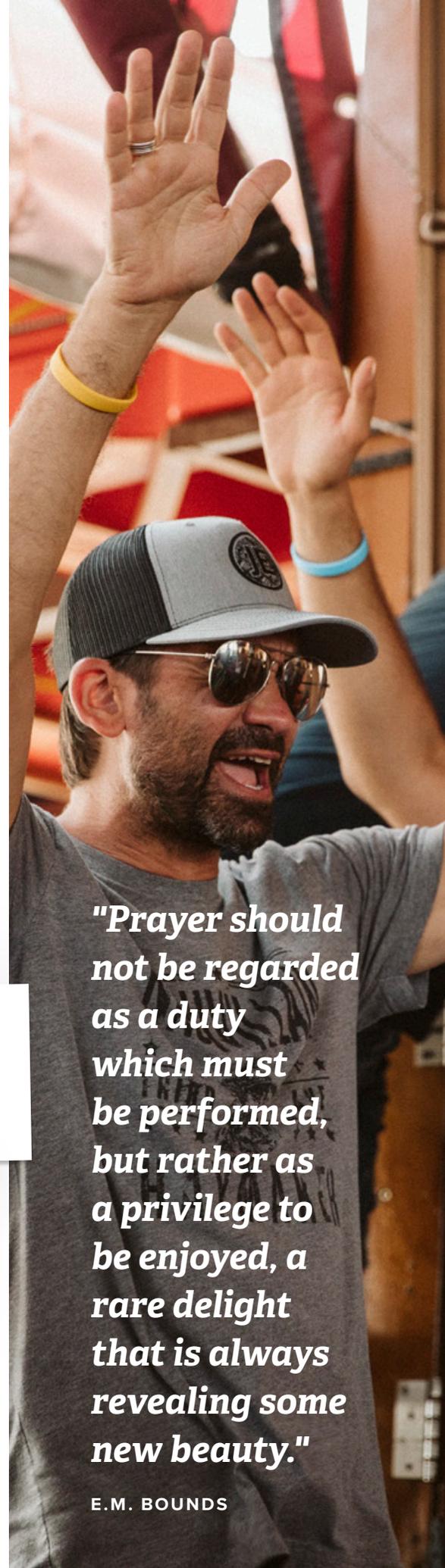
The Gospels note that Jesus often withdrew to pray and He would spend hours just being with the Father, to know His heart. He cried over Jerusalem, because He knew God's love for it.

"But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray."  
Luke 5:16

"In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God."  
Luke 6:12

"Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, 'Who do the crowds say that I am?'"  
Luke 9:18

***There is power in praying like Jesus prayed.***



***"Prayer should not be regarded as a duty which must be performed, but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed, a rare delight that is always revealing some new beauty."***

E.M. BOUNDS

# 3 AS JEWISH TRADITION WOULD HAVE IT – BLESS!

**D**ID YOU KNOW EVERY JEWISH prayer starts with words “Baruch Ata Adonai” – Blessed are You, Lord?

Welcoming someone into your home, you bless them with “Baruch Haba” – Blessed are You who Have Arrived (commonly translated as “Welcome!”).

The first blessing recorded in the Bible is over Adam and Eve, who are instructed to multiply.

As the rabbi in Fiddler on the Roof said, there truly is a blessing for everything.

When we ask the Lord to bless Israel and the Jewish people, we are in fact recognizing that God is the source of justice, mercy and all wisdom.

***Blessings remind us that God is in control.***



***"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."***

1 JOHN 5:14

**W**E KNOW FROM SCRIPTURE THAT PRAYER DOES WONDERS. MOSES PRAYED FOR food in the desert (Numbers 11), Hannah prayed for a son (1 Samuel 1), and Elijah prayed for fire and rain to come down (1 Kings 18).

***God heard them and answered them. Prayer and dependency on God changes us.***



***"God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil."***

**MOTHER TERESA**

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