



***Don't Miss Israel Service this Wednesday Night!
Incredible Prayer Updates from Martin & Norma
Sarvis and Daniel & Amber Pierce!***



Tuesday, June 18, 2013

Dear Friends of Israel:

This is an awesome report from both Martin and Norma Sarvis, as well as Daniel and Amber Pierce. So much is occurring in the Middle East, and as you will read in their reports below, there is much for which to be praying.

Also, don't forget that tomorrow (Wednesday) night we will be hosting **A NIGHT TO HONOR ISRAEL**. Martin and Norma will be our special guests in leading us forth during a time of worship, prayer and teaching to focus our hearts and minds on Israel. All of you are invited to join us here at the Global Spheres Center or by webcast at 7 PM (CDT).

Blessings,
Chuck D. Pierce

Prayer Update From Israel (June 18, 2013)



A narrow gorge near SdeBoker in the Negev south of Beer Sheva

“Then the Angel of YHVH went further, and stood in a narrow place where there was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left” (Numbers 22:26, See Torah Portion below.).

1. RUMBLING INTO POSITION: ISLAM’S TWO SIDES ARE COMING INTO ARRAY

Last week we examined how, far from the mere rising up of an oppressed people against a despotic ruler, the conflict in Syria was in fact rapidly coming into focus as something far more vast—an awakening confrontation between the two ancient rival branches of Islam itself, centered in Syria. How the Iranian-supported *Shi’ite* forces of Hezbollah in southern Lebanon are coming to the aid of the embattled *Alawite* (a *Shi’ite* derivative) minority led by President Assad. This week Iran declared that its Islamic Revolutionary Guards will deploy 4,000 troops into the region to aid Assad.

On the *Sunni* side, the *Jabhat al-Nusra* terrorist faction, affiliated with the Saudi-backed *Al Qaeda* is now considered the best-equipped arm of the Syrian opposition forces, with up to 10,000 on the ground inside Syria. Yesterday Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi severed diplomatic relations with the Assad regime and called for a no-fly zone over Syria. It is suspected that this may only herald the soon rumbling of the mighty Muslim Brotherhood into position in support of its *Sunni* brethren to the north.

Meanwhile, this past week the Obama administration announced that it has decided to begin arming Syrian opposition fighters in their battle against Assad. It appears that this is related to the President’s declaration a few months ago that use of poisonous gas by the Assad regime against Syrian citizens would be a ‘red line’ over which the US would be forced to respond. The US now considers that it has evidence that some use of *sarin* has taken place against the rebels, and the President evidently feels obliged to make good on his pledge. However, given the expanded direction the war is now taking, voices are being raised in warning that America’s coming into this conflict will in actuality be seen not as her protection of a besieged people from war crimes, but rather as the US coming down on the *Sunni* side of a burgeoning sectarian conflict. Even as Russia, which sided with Assad because of strategic interests in the area, is now being seen as arrayed on the side of the *Shi’ites*.

With these two great branches of Islam rising once again against each other, and nations being seen to ally themselves with either branch, it is a time for sobriety and seeking after God for insight and prophetic understanding as to what is taking place, and what the Spirit is saying to believers. It is interesting that there is teaching within both *Sunni* and *Shi’ite* Islam of the coming of a Messiah-figure called a *Mahdi*—who will redeem the world from evil before a Day of Resurrection/Judgment. The *Shi’ites* even teach of a return of Jesus (*Isa*) to assist this *Mahdi* (who is supposed to descend at a point *east of Damascus!*). How if a ‘man of peace’ were to actually appear on the scene, one of such charisma and supernatural power as to be able to unite the two branches? (There is already this which both branches share, a common hatred of Israel). Yeshua taught that such false messiah’s would come, who would deceive many. We are not here saying that such a time is upon us. But we are convinced that powerful spiritual forces are behind the upheavals which are swiftly multiplying across the world; it is a time, as our Lord

commanded us, to “Watch”. *“The people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits. And those of the people who have insight shall instruct many”* (Daniel 11:32-33).

PLEASE PRAY:

***That the mercies of He who “*makes peace in His high places*” (Job 25:2) will hold back the forces of war from being totally unleashed in this region outside of their season (Job 25:2; Eccl. 3:8).**

***That the United States will not come into this conflict if it is out of the wisdom and timing of the Lord.**

***For the Body of Messiah in Syria to rise up within the carnage in courage, hope, life and healing in the Power of the Holy Spirit.**

***For Angels to minister on behalf of “those who will inherit salvation”—for visions of life and truth amongst Muslims in all of these countries—and the courage to come out of the darkness and into the light of Yasuah/Jesus.**

***For Israel’s borders to be protected from breaching (Psalm 147:14).**

***For wisdom in Israel’s leaders regarding the warfare across her border. For strategic intelligence as to where and when to strike if it becomes necessary to destroy the stockpiles of poisonous gas.**

***For many Jewish Israelis to turn to Yeshua, the Light of the World, as they see darkness closing in on all the lands surrounding them.**

***For revelation and insight for the Body worldwide as to the significance of what is being played out in the Middle East today, and for the unction and understanding to pray.**

2. A NEW PRESIDENT IN IRAN

Friday was election-day in Iran, and 64-year-old cleric Hassan Rawhani was overwhelmingly voted into the office. Rawhani’s victory as a perceived ‘moderate’ was seen as a strong challenge to the ruling clerics of Iran (all four of the candidates preferred by the ayatollahs finished far below 2nd place in the elections). Rawhani campaigned on a platform of improving relations with the West (so damaged by the extreme rhetoric and antics of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad), greater domestic freedoms at home, and rectification of the spiraling economy. There is no question that his election reflects the great dissatisfaction of the Iranian people with the government they have been forced to live under for so long. Even though it is encouraging to see this flicker of dissent—the fact remains that all of the President’s policies will still be subject to the approval of the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. As Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu pointed out, nothing has changed regarding the rush to obtain nuclear weapons. And the Ayatollah has, like his former President, repeatedly called for Israel’s annihilation.

PLEASE PRAY:

***That President Hassan Rawhani will staunchly pursue a pathway more moderate than that of his predecessor Ahmadinejad.**

***That he will not curse Israel whom God has blessed (This week's Torah Portion, Numbers 22:12).**

***That the bondage of darkness over Iran would be broken, and many Iranian Muslims will come to faith in Jesus. Pray for the tens of thousands of home fellowships in that nation to be sustained and prevail in their faith and testimony of the Gospel.**

***That the evil government which holds the people in bondage would give way to the government of Jesus, upon whose shoulders the authority for all true and good government rests.**

3. ROLL JORDAN ROLL!

The mighty Jordan River “deep and wide”, over which the Israelites miraculously crossed upon their entrance into Canaan, has in recent years waned to a mere shallow and polluted stream. This has come about because of Israel's need to pump water from the Sea of Galilee and the northern Jordan River in order to provide adequate irrigation for her crops; the desert has truly ‘blossomed as a rose’—but at a very high price. Not only has the river become weak and polluted, the Dead Sea into which it flows has vastly shrunk during the past twenty years. A number of organizational bodies have collaborated over the past four years with the goal of cleansing the water and restoring its flow. Finally, with the recent implementation of large desalination centers on the coast for providing drinking water through much of Israel, and the wonderfully heavy rains last year, the Water Authority has moved to begin remedying the situation. This month 1,000 cubic meters of water/hour is to begin being released into the river out of the Sea of Galilee which is fuller than it has been in years. Also, a new sewage treatment facility should begin operating within two years which will clarify the water, remove contaminants and maintain its quality.

PLEASE PRAY:

***That God, who designed this river, and used it so many times in the past for His glory, will oversee its preservation! That He will provide counsel for those working to restore it.**

Isaiah 41:17-20. This passage points towards a time when Israel's water-needs will not be met by her own expertise (Israel invented the drip-irrigation systems which assists her at present). But God will release a creative miracle (41:20), bringing rivers out of dry and desolate heights, and fountains out of valleys, pools in the deserts, *“that they may see and know, and consider and understand together, that the hand of YHVH had done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it.”

News Updates Concerning Syria by Daniel Pierce

Several major developments in Syria's civil war have been announced over the last week. News outlets in Israel and the United States detailed the US conclusion that Syrian government forces had used chemical weapons against rebel forces earlier in the year. After releasing these findings, The United States further made public their intentions to arm rebel forces in Syria with lethal aid. Decisions were also made to place Patriot missile defense systems and fighter jets in Northern Jordan near the Boarder with Syria. Egypt made the announcement that they were cutting all diplomatic ties with Syria and planned to back rebel forces. Jordan has also made statements that they are prepared to defend themselves against any aggression stemming from Syria.

After Iran confirmed the election of their new President, Rawhani, an announcement was made that 4,000 soldiers from Iran's revolutionary guard would be sent to Syria in order to bolster Assad's forces and keep him in Power. Iran also threatened to open a battlefield with Israel in the Golan Heights in order to deter any further intervention by the international community. Hezbollah in Lebanon openly sent several thousand troops to the Syrian conflict and vowed to fight with Assad until he gains victory over the rebels. Russia has also been working to strengthen Assad's position both diplomatically and through weapons transfers.

Looking at all of these recent developments, we can assume that the situation in Syria will probably escalate further in the near future. For Israel, there are potential security threats associated with Syria regardless of who wins the civil war.

Please stand with us in prayer that God would raise his hand to the North and protect Israel and the Jewish people from those who would attempt to wage war.

Pray that as we go through times of war, The Lord will be our strength and guidance even in the face of our greatest enemies.

In biblical times, lines of influence were drawn and redrawn in the Middle East many times. Over the last three years we have been witnessing a time in history where nations are again vying over who is going to exert control in this region of the world. As for Israel, God has always honored his covenant as long as the people would turn to the Lord and keep his commandments. Pray that the people of Israel will again prostrate themselves before the Lord forsaking any Idols or sins that would prevent God from resting in there midst. Pray that in victory there will be testimony.

For the Lord your God is the one who goes with you to fight with you against your enemies to give you victory. Psalm 108:13

Thank you for praying,

Daniel Pierce

THIS WEEK'S TORAH PORTION:

From ancient times there has been a weekly portion (*Parashah*) from the first five books of Moses (The *Torah*) and an ending (*Haftarah*) from the Prophets read on the Sabbath in synagogues around the world. This portion is given a Hebrew name drawn from the opening words of the Torah passage. An illustration of this practice appears to have been recorded in Luke 4:16 where Yeshua (Jesus) arrived in the synagogue in Nazareth and was asked to read the portion (Isaiah 61) from the Prophets. We have found that in perusing these weekly readings, not only are we provided opportunity to identify in the context of God's Word with millions of Jewish people around the world, but very often the Holy Spirit will illumine specific passages pertinent that week in our intercession for the Land and people of Israel. All texts are those of English translations of the Scriptures.

The reading for this week 16-22 June is called *Balak*:

TORAH: Numbers 22:2—25:9

HAFTARAH: Micah 5:7—6:8

This week's Portion focuses upon the story of the pagan prophet Balaam (Hebrew: Bil'am), called from his homeland in the Euphrates area by the Moabite king Balak to come and curse Israel, at this time spread out on the plain just across the Jordan from Jericho. But Israel's God is in charge of the vocal chords of Balaam, and the intended curses pour forth as blessing, the oracles being amongst the most magnificent examples of Hebrew poetry in the Hebrew Bible. Some of these blessings continue to resound prophetically today.

***Numbers 22:20.** *"...only the word which I speak to you shall you do."* In the Hebrew, this is not a command; rather, it is a simple statement of fact—"This is what is *going to* happen". **PLEASE PRAY:** that God's living, creative Word be released in Israel. It comes best through His willing servants—but He is Lord, and as such exercises sovereignty over the lips of all humankind (and even the beasts). **Pray** for spiritual discernment among the Body in Israel—to recognize *His* Word, to discern *"between the righteous and the wicked— between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him"* (Malachi 3:18).

was going, and the [Balaam] angry because he But Elohim was " .Numbers 22:22 as a :Literal Hebrew] took his stand in the way as an adversary messenger/angel of the LORD originally meant "one who is an adversary". In "satan" The Hebrew word "against him [satan Satan" The " ,good— "The Angel of the LORD". In Zechariah 3:1-2 this case, the adversary was adversary is the as Against whom one stands .to accuse Joshua the high priest was evil standing His angel standing with us against issue. Better that the LORD's adversaries be also ours and !us come to be revealed as adversary against Himself them, than that the Holy One*

***Numbers 22:31.** *"Then the LORD opened [Hebrew: revealed] Balaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the LORD standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face."* **PLEASE PRAY:** that God will open the eyes of those who are allowing themselves to be spokespersons to the church in the nations regarding Israel, albeit with impure motives—that they will see that they are playing with fire. Pray that the eyes of the hearts of Israeli believers be opened to see into the heavenlies, where we are seated with

Messiah—and that we will flow *with* God’s heavenly armies rather than contrary to them (Ephesians 1:3,18-21; II Kings 6:16-17).

***Numbers 23:3b.** *“So he went to a desolate height...”*This is exactly the same word (only in the singular) used in Isaiah 41:8, *“I will open rivers in desolate heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys.”* What God is about to release through Balaam is a torrent of prophetic truth which will stream through the centuries, still nourishing Israel today.

***Numbers 23:9.** *“...Behold, a people who dwells apart[isolated, secluded], and will not be reckoned [Literally: “thought of, considered”] as being among the nations [Hebrew: goyim]. PLEASE PRAY:* that modern Israel would rise up to her place of calling—that God would wean us away from the habitual longing to be “like other nations.” Pray for believing brothers and sisters in the Nations to release Israel to “be set apart” to what God has called her to be.

***Numbers 23:21.** *“He has not observed iniquity in Jacob, nor has He seen wickedness in Israel. The LORD his God is with him, and the shout[or royal shofar blast]of a King is among them.”PLEASE PRAY:* *“Your Kingdom come, Your will be done—in Israel—as it is in Heaven!”*

***Numbers 24:7, 20.** *“His [i.e. Jacob’s] King shall be higher than Agag, and His kingdom shall be exalted...Amalek was first among the nations, but shall be last until he perishes.”*As we have mentioned during our traversals of Exodus 17:8-16 and Deut 25:17-19, *Amalek* signifies a covenant-hating spirit which has historically manifested in seeking to destroy God’s covenant-people Israel; this spirit is at the heart of all anti-Semitism. *Agag* was an Amalekite king (I Samuel 15:8) and *Haman*, the “Enemy of the Jews”, who sought to exterminate them out of the Persian Empire, was a descendant of *Agag* (Esther 3:1, 10). God’s covenants with Israel are covenants of Life, through which flows blessing for all humankind made in His image. Therefore, He has sworn war with *Amalek* from generation to generation until He has utterly blotted out his memory from under Heaven (Exodus 17:14-15). His King—His *Son* (Psalm 2:6-7) *“was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed”* (Daniel 7:14).

***Numbers 23:23.** *“For there is no sorcery[In Hebrew, the word used here for “sorcery” and that used for “serpent” are identical]in Jacob and no magic in Israel. It now must be said of Jacob and of Israel, ‘Oh, what God has done!’”*

***Micah 5:12.** *“I will cut off sorceries from your hand, and you shall have no soothsayers. Your carved images I will also cut off, and your obelisks from your midst; You shall no more worship the work of your hands.*

Both this passage from the Torah and that from the Haftarah are very pertinent for us in Israel today. The enemy knows that his time is short—and he has sown sorcery throughout the land. In secular schools, children are often taught the horoscope and New Age in the early grades (we have seen the homework papers ourselves). Much of ultra-Orthodox Judaism is

permeated with the occult. Often Israelis flocking to Asia (particularly India and Thailand) after military service, bring back Eastern mysticism to fill the void within. And there are New Age festivals several times a year which attract thousands. **Please Pray:** that the works of the serpent will be exposed and cut off in Israel. Pray for release of signs and wonders and deliverance from demons in the Name of Yeshua through the power of the *Holy Spirit*. **Pray** that curses made against this Land and people from outside will hit a wall and fall to the ground. **Pray** for God to raise up leaders like Josiah who will work with holy Zeal and Jealousy for the cleansing of our land.

***Micah 6:8:** *“He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the YHVH require of you but to do justly, to love lovingkindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”* PLEASE **PRAY** this verse from over Israel—God *“resists the proud but gives grace to the humble”*, and He longs to “walk” with her again!

Martin and Norma Sarvis
Jerusalem

[The Torah and Haftarah portions for next week 23-29 June will be *Pinchas* (“Phinehas”): TORAH: Numbers 25;10—29:40; HAFTARAH (“Haftarah of Affliction”): Jeremiah 1:1—2:3.]