

Prayer Update From Israel (July 18, 2016)

Shomer Yisrael—“He who Watches Over Israel”

We praise the LORD for His protection over this covenant land and people! Yesterday two alert security personnel guarding Jerusalem’s “light rail” system noted a man preparing to get onto the train in the very heart of the city. Something in the man’s manner bothered the guards. As one began questioning him, the other examined his shoulder bag, discovering within three pipe bombs and a number of knives. Upon interrogation, the man turned out to be a Palestinian from near Hebron, planning on setting off the bombs within the train, then attacking those left standing with knives. The attack would have resulted no doubt in massive casualties. We give grateful thanks to Him who watches over Israel *for Good—Who neither slumbers nor sleeps!* (Psalm 121:4)



Outdoor “TomorrowLand” Advertisement near entrance to Jerusalem.

1. “TOMMOROWLAND” IS NOT WHAT ISRAEL NEEDS TODAY.

This week, while visiting most online Internet sites in Jerusalem, one’s notice is likely to be arrested by a “pop up” in the margin (if not in the midst of the site itself)—an advertisement for *TomorrowLand*. When this is clicked, instructions appear in Hebrew for obtaining tickets to the huge extravaganza scheduled for live-broadcast in the Capital’s new indoor *PAIS* coliseum this Saturday evening. Above these Hebrew instructions is a banner heading in English:

TOMORROWLAND

Yesterday is History, Today is a Gift, Tomorrow is Mystery

To the side, the reader is challenged, again in English, to ***“Unite—Be Part of the Madness in Israel.”***

There are of course many concerts and music festivals which come to Israel each summer, most taking place in Tel Aviv or along the coast. The influence of these may range from harmless to far from wholesome. Yet, there is a growing conviction amongst intercessors, both within and outside of Israel, that the event scheduled to take place this Saturday night in Jerusalem is not mere “summer fun” for Israel’s young, or something interesting for electronic music aficionados—but that there is in fact something evil, with a strategic and malevolent agenda afoot.

The day is drawing near when Our Lord will return to Jerusalem with mercy; when, even as both Zion and “Zionism” are reviled by the world, YHVH of Armies will Himself be revealed as *“zealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with great zeal”* (Zechariah 1:14-16). The powers of darkness are arraying against this “Return”, one strategy being to weaken those within, especially young adults and teens. As was seen in last week’s Torah Portion, a means to this end is the use of witchcraft and seduction. We should add that the “Pride” association has chosen this Friday as the day for a homosexual march through the city. This is a week of danger and vulnerability in Jerusalem.

Please read the “Urgent Prayer Alert” written by Rick Ridings below. Ask the LORD to grant you strategic and prophetic insight (Psalm 122:6 in the Hebrew admonishes us literally to, *“ASK AFTER the peace of Jerusalem...”*). It is a critical time to stand against the darkness coming against Jerusalem and six other cities. Stand also with the believers in Brussels out of which this present darkness is emanating.

“Tomorrow is Mystery—Unite!” is the slogan. There is indeed “mystery” ahead, for which this incursion into God’s holy city may even now be seeking to establish groundwork. Read about it in Revelation 17:3-14. (Notice the demonic “unity” in verse 13—*“These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.”*) Thank you for standing with us! The *Alert* sent out by Rick follows:

URGENT PRAYER ALERT

“TomorrowLand” event in Jerusalem 23 July (17th Tammuz)...an attempt to make demonic covenant with the Land through the youth of Israel

The 17th of Tammuz is a Jewish fast observed yearly to commemorate among other disasters the breaching of the walls of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. An event is being held during this fast, this year, which has the potential to be another disastrous breaching of the (spiritual) walls of Jerusalem.

TomorrowLand is an electronic music festival that goes beyond anything I have ever heard of in terms of open communication and covenant with major demonic principalities. The festival has grown to over 400,000 attendees in Belgium, where it originated in 2005.

Here is an example of the openly demonic nature of this festival, as described by one trusted Intercessor (all of this can be easily confirmed in a quick search on the Internet):

*“On the centre stage of Tomorrowland is a huge slowly spinning replica of the CERN hadron collider gate. Do you think there is any possibility of hypnosis or mind control going on? Also on stage is a giant mirror in which the digitally created face of the goddess Kali appears and speaks to the crowds. These messages were seductively spoken over the masses of eager participants, As helicopters flew overhead, and as beacons of colored lights flashed across the night sky a deep, powerful male voice said: People of Tomorrow, as a new chapter unfolds, you will learn about **one man**, who knew the mysteries of the universe from within, Because of his vision a great work was completed (CERN) With its sacred key, the machine can forge unique experiences continuously. Humanity can be reborn. The heartbeat of this device can be felt by all of you. (THIS WAS BEING SPOKEN AS THE IMAGE OF THE CERN MACHINE REVOLVED IN FRONT OF THE CROWDS)*

*As the mirror lit up, and the face of Kali appeared, a sweet, seductive, mesmerizing, female voice said: There is so much that can come between people. This can be healed by the expression of pure unity. Hold up your wristbands so that we can witness this illumination together. **KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS WAS SEDUCTIVELY SPOKEN BY A DIGITALLY PROJECTED FACE OF KALI SHOWN IN A MIRROR. KALI THE HINDU GODDESS OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION** (Kali is the wife of Shiva, the cosmic god, lord of the beasts, lord of the cosmic dance, the Destroyer. A statue of Shiva stands outside of the CERN headquarters.).”*

Here is a direct quote from the TomorrowLand website of their vision to unite seven key gateway cities of the world for their ceremonies on 23 July:

“On Saturday July 23rd, the second day of Tomorrowland, 7 countries will Unite with the People of Tomorrow in Belgium. A live video connection will be made between Tomorrowland (Belgium) and Mexico, India, Japan, Colombia, Germany, South Africa and **Israel**. Building bridges between Belgium and the rest of the world with a live connection from the Tomorrowland Mainstage, Live DJ sets on the local UNITE stage and the unique, magical Tomorrowland atmosphere: that's UNITE, the mirror to Tomorrowland. **People of Tomorrow, get ready to Unite...**” [<http://www.tomorrowland.com/unite>]. (**NOTE:** I would strongly encourage you to pray for the covering of the blood of the Lamb over you and your family before viewing any of their website photos or videos.)

SOME KEY WAYS TO PRAY:

1. **DIVISION** – Although Satan obviously uses this weapon against Christians and messianic Jewish believers, Yeshua (Jesus) clearly taught it as something we are to use against the demonic powers and those controlled by them:

“So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come.” Mark 3:23-26

After declaring the protection of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ over ourselves and over our families, let us declare division over this effort to “UNITE” these gateway cities and their youth in demonic covenants. May there be division in their relationships, communications, and technical attempts to “UNITE”.

2. **DISRUPTION** – In 2006, I was part of a group of Jerusalem pastors and ministry leaders who were led to proclaim in unity that the gates to our city be closed to a large, world-wide gay event that was to bring over 100,000 gays together for days of “revelry” in Jerusalem. This also was to be around the 17th of Tammuz. But Hizballah started firing missiles into Northern Israel, and the army announced that, for security reasons, all large events were cancelled, as they did not have the extra manpower to provide security for events. Let us agree that there will be major disruptions of this event, both in Jerusalem, and in the six other cities and nations, where it is scheduled: May the Lord of the Armies of Heaven release His mighty arsenal of creative weapons to disrupt and stop this event from reaching its goals.

3. **DELAY** – There are times when we are called to delay the enemy’s plans when he attempts to accelerate events ahead of the Lord’s timing. In Revelation 10:6 an angel declares, before an outpouring of judgment, that “There will be no more delay!. This implies that there had in previous times been delays in the mercy of God. There are times when we as intercessors are to proclaim: "Let there be a moment of delay”. This is like hitting the "pause button" on what the enemy may later be allowed to do. I believe this is one such moment, when a generation of young people in Israel and around the world is ripe for a mighty movement of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray for this delay, that this generation will not be unknowingly swept by unholy worship music into making covenants with the spirits of death, but that this generation will be freed from the power of demonic sounds to hear the sound of the Lord, and to come into the life-giving worship of the One, True, Living God.

4. **DECLARE HIS PRAISES** – It is obvious that the demonic beings understand the power of music to open hearts to the spiritual realms. As they are seeking to deceive and capture the souls of youth through their demonically anointed music, we need to release the far greater power of anointed worship music to sing “songs of deliverance” over a generation and over Jerusalem. About 25 years ago, we received an assignment from the Lord to counter a 2,000-year-old altar to Baal located on property of the Royal family in Belgium. When they kindly allowed an employee to guide us to this altar in the forest, we found a stack of large, flat stones. We felt the Lord guided us to not pray a thing, but simply to worship, and we sang: “For Thou O LORD, are high above all the gods... We exalt Thee”. When another team went there just six months later, the employee was shocked to find that the 2,000-year-old stack of stones had crumbled into small pebbles strewn on the ground!

5. **DISCLOSURE** – We need to pray that this will not remain hidden, but will be exposed and revealed, especially to spiritual leaders/gatekeepers and Intercessors of the seven cities/countries targeted. Also, we need to pray that the youth, and especially the youth of Israel, will not be let astray by the lies of the enemy and lured into his traps.

Let us pray that this generation in Israel will not be deceived into “marrying the Land to Baal”, but that they will receive and enact the revelation of Isaiah 62:4b,5a: “...to Him your Land will be married. For as a young man marries a virgin, so your sons will marry you.”

Can plunder be taken from warriors,
or captives be rescued from the fierce?
But this is what the Lord says:
“Yes, captives will be taken from warriors,
and plunder retrieved from the fierce;
I will contend with those who contend with you,
and your children I will save.

(Isaiah 49:24-25)

Rick Ridings

14 June, 2016

Succat Hallel

(24/7 worship and prayer overlooking the Temple Mt. In Jerusalem)

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. The Haftarah, unless otherwise noted, will be that read in Ashkenazy synagogues around the world. The references for all texts are those found in English translations of the Scriptures.

NOTE: Below are the texts for the Parasha read in *Jerusalem*. Because in the *Diaspora* (i.e. communities of Jews outside of Israel) an extra day is celebrated at Passover (and this year, that day came on a Sabbath), the readings read outside of Israel are now behind one week from those read here. On August 6th, through the use of a special “double reading” covering the final chapters of the *Book of Numbers*, the readings both inside and outside of Israel will once again coincide.

The *Parashah* for this week 10-16 July 2016 is called *Pinhas* “Phinehas”:

TORAH: Numbers 25:10—29:40

HAFTARAH: I Kings 18:46—19:21



“I have been very zealous for YHVH God of Armies...”
(II Kings 19:14; See *Haftarah* below)

Statue on Mount Carmel of Elijah slaughtering the prophets of Baal.

THE ZEAL OF THE LORD

***Numbers 25: 11, 13.** *“Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aharon the Priest has turned back My wrath from the children of Israel, because he was zealous with my zeal among them, so that I did not consume the children of Israel in My zeal...He was zealous for his God, and made atonement for the children of Israel”.*

The Hebrew word *kinah* may in Biblical usage be translated either **zeal** (NKJV) or **jealousy** (NASB). *Holy zeal is a burning passionate jealousy on behalf of something or someone good and deeply loved.* David sang of his zeal for **God’s House** (Psalm 69:9) which consumed him, a song prophetic of the Messiah, Who was to come (John 2:17). Zechariah 1:14 records YHVH’s zeal for **Jerusalem**—and Isaiah 9:6-7 speaks of His zeal for **His Son** and the establishment of His **Righteous Kingdom** on Earth. Phinehas was zealous for *“the honor of his God”* (25:11, 13 NIV). (Note: But it must be based on a knowledge of what is righteous before God (Romans 10:2), otherwise it may be released in indiscriminate human anger which cannot work that righteousness (James 1:20). It is important also to know that *kinah* may be used for a kind of unholy jealousy ignited by the flesh, in which case it is refers to mere **envy**—Proverbs 23:17).

PLEASE PRAY: For the awakening of a burning zeal, a holy jealousy in believers in Israel for the things of God—based on truth and knowledge (Rom 10:2)—a zeal which will be

necessary in turning away God’s wrath so that his people in this later generation are not consumed.

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PLEASE PRAY: For the awakening believers in Israel of a burning zeal, a holy jealousy for the things of God, based on truth and knowledge (Rom 10:2)—a zeal which will be necessary in turning away God’s wrath so that his people in this later generation are not consumed.

***I Kings 19:11-12. The Voice in the Still Silent Moment.** *“And the LORD was not in the wind...the earthquake...the fire; and after the fire a still small voice”*. The “still small voice” can also be translated, “A voice—a silence—a moment”. Apprehending this moment, pregnant with the Word of God, is essential for those aflame with zeal. In the cave, Elijah protested that he had been “very zealous” on God’s behalf—yet God had to show him that the roar and shaking and flame accompanying his zeal had not been enough—the intense persecution it had aroused had left Elijah with feelings of alienation, rejection and fear. There must also be the stabilizing presence of the quiet Word within, at the center of the storm. When He yielded to that Word, the Lord was able to release instructions for Him to “return to his way” (vs 15) and proceed onwards towards the culmination of his call. In the roar of Israel, it is difficult, yet essential to apprehend and embrace that “still silent moment”. *Psalm 4:4* literally says, *“Become agitated and do not sin—speak in your hearts on your beds and be still* (same Hebrew word as “still” in the I Kings verse).

PLEASE PRAY THAT WE TAKE THE TIME TO HEAR AND ENTER INTO THESE MOMENTS WHEN THEY COME. Ehud Banai, one of Israel’s sometimes outspoken minstrel-poets with a moral sense often informed by Hebrew Scripture, some years back wrote a powerful song based on this passage. Here is the English translation:

A Still Silent Moment

*It came suddenly, at a time between day and night
when no one was really ready for it yet
it passed through all the frequencies and channels
from the super highway to every house in the city
no one knew what it was or what it was about
no, no one had heard anything like it before
a still silent moment.*

*It caught the prime minister in the middle of shaving
he ran to the telephone but heard it there too
it cut into the live broadcast of the talk show
and silenced everyone no one knew what it was
or what is was about
no, no one had heard anything like it before
a still silent moment*

*It came suddenly, at a time between day and night
it happened in reality but it felt like a dream
and every person stood alone in his place*

*And heard it come from within
a still silent moment
What was will be
What was will be*

(English Translation of “*Dm’a’ma Daka*”: Ehud Banai, c2004)

A New Generation—A New Numbering

***Numbers 26:1-2:** *“And it came to pass, after the plague, that the LORD spoke to Moses and Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying: ‘Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel from twenty years old and above, by their fathers’ houses, all who are able to go to war in Israel.”*—**Numbers 26:64-65:** *“But among these there was not a man of those who were numbered by Moses and Aaron the priest (Numbers 2) when they numbered the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Sinai. For the LORD had said to them, ‘They shall surely die in the wilderness.’ So there was not left a man of them, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.”*

With the 24,000 who died in the plague brought on by the seduction of the women of Moab, the older generation which had rebelled forty years before is finally passed. A new numbering of the people must take place—a new accounting in which each knows his/her positioning—but the ‘old’ has been left behind.

***Numbers 27:16.** *“Then Moses spoke to the LORD, saying ‘Let YHVH, the God of Spirits of all Flesh set a man over the congregation...’”*

This name for the deity (almost exactly the same as was used in Numbers 16:22, only this time using the personal name YHVH) implies the sovereign knowledge the LORD has of the inner workings of all human beings. It is noteworthy that Moses uses this name in requesting the LORD’s appointment of a new leader—and the Lord responds by referring specifically to the “spirit” within Joshua (27:18).

The Transfer of Mantles

****Numbers 27:18-20: “Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation, and inaugurate him in their sight. And you shall give some of your authority, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient” (NKJV)***

I Kings 19:16, 19. “...and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place...Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him”.

It was not enough that Joshua was skilled and experienced after serving over forty years under Moses’ leadership. Something more was necessary; something beyond Moses’ own natural abilities, something supernatural bespeaking the high authority of Heaven had affected the rebellious people in such a way that they had continued to follow and respect Moses’ leadership in the desert for 40 years.

This particular “authority” of which he was commanded to pass some on to Joshua is Hebrew *hod* –“a grandeur or majesty related to royalty” (“splendor” in Psalm 45:3 NASB). This sovereign enabling for leadership, which would influence the congregation to listen to and obey his word. was passed on here by the laying on of hands and the public releasing of God’s charge (“inaugurating”) into Joshua.

In the Haftarah reading, after Elijah threw his mantle on Elisha, the younger prophet immediately arose and “*ran after*” him.

PLEASE PRAY: For leaders in the Body in Israel to “hear” and be obedient in passing on their mantles to faithful ones upon whom God will release favor in the generation rising up behind.

A Reminder of Appointed Times and Seasons

****Numbers 28:2. “Command the Children of Israel, and say to them, ‘My offering, My food for My offerings made by fire as a sweet aroma to Me, you shall be careful to offer to Me at their appointed time.’”***

Timing is an important aspect of our worship. Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 speaks of times and seasons, and of the necessity of timing in the manifesting of the beauty God desires to bring forth in His creation. Here in Chapters 28-29 are presented anew for the *next generation* the “appointed times” of the LORD (along with the sacrifices to be made during each): **Daily** (morning and evening), **Weekly** (Sabbaths), **Monthly** (*Rosh Chodesh*—Head of the Month), **Springtime:** *Pesach* (Passover), *Matzot* (Unleavened Bread), *Shavuot* (Weeks, Pentecost), **Fall:** *Yom Teruah* (Feast of Trumpets), *Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement), *Sukkot* (Feast of Booths/Tabernacles, with instructions for each of the eight days). ***All these times of the LORD (with their relevant offerings) are here laid out afresh before His army, before moving forward into their new Land.***



Martin & Norma Sarvis
Jerusalem

[The Torah and Haftarah portions for next week (24-30 July 2016) are called *Matot*—“Tribes”: TORAH: Numbers 30:1—32:42; HAFTARAH (Haftarah of Affliction/Admonition): Jeremiah 1:1—2:3]

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