



This is Israel's Time!



Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Dear Gap Standers:

Thank you so much for your prayers for Israel. I know many of you have seen reports on the news or read letters from other groups in Israel providing details on how the violence has escalated. Earlier today, we received a report from Daniel and Amber, as well as one a few hours later from Martin and Norma Sarvis. Both will help you pray with added insight for the events that are occurring in the Middle East. If you are not already receiving these Israel Updates, you can subscribe by clicking [HERE](#) to join the Israel Prayerlist (option found at the bottom of the Glory of Zion International Member Services page).

Early this morning, I felt the Lord assign me to Israel at the end of this month. Therefore, I have rearranged my schedule (with the gracious understanding of Peter and Cathryn Nash in Red Deer, Alberta) to travel to Israel on July 29. During my short visit, Daniel and Amber will be facilitating a meeting in Jerusalem on July 31 which I will help support. (They will send more details in a separate email.) I just know that this is an hour that the Lord is looking for His Body to cry out for a Kingdom expression of One New Man that will not only transform Israel and the Middle East, but the nations of the earth.

Blessings,
Chuck D. Pierce

Update on situation in Israel from Daniel & Amber Pierce

Tensions have continued to escalate all over the country for the last several days. Israel officially began a large-scale military operation in the Gaza strip on Tuesday.

It has been announced that 40,000 reserve troops are being called up for duty. Over 250 rockets have been fired into Israeli cities over the last 48 hours. All of the major cities including Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa, have been targeted in recent attacks. Israel conducted 160 air strikes overnight Tuesday and has vowed to continue expanding the operation in Gaza.

We had just put our kids to bed on Tuesday night when the first air raid alarm sounded in Jerusalem. We gathered our children and made the trip down three flights of stairs to the bomb shelter. At the bottom, we met a couple who had just moved into our building. One of our new

friends was an Iron Dome operator with the military, and his newlywed wife had never experienced a rocket attack. After about a minute we counted four explosions.

Tel Aviv was targeted in several attacks on Tuesday and Wednesday, and one rocket exploded on the outskirts of Haifa. Southern communities such as Ashdod, Ashkelon, and Beersheva are experiencing ongoing rocket fire. Israel announced today they believe the long-range rockets Hamas is using to target larger cities are the Syrian made M-302 which is much larger and more powerful than the Grad rockets routinely fired at southern communities.

Here in Jerusalem, things have been quiet on Wednesday and we are praying that the Lord will protect all the communities in Israel and ultimately restore the nation to a place of peace. Please join us in prayer for the soldiers who have been called up to deal with the situation in the south. Pray that Israel's leaders will act decisively and not be swayed by influences that are not from God.

Blessings,
Daniel Pierce

July 9, 2014
PRAYER UPDATE FROM ISRAEL
Special Report



For days Israel has endured continual rocket fire from militant groups in the Hamas-controlled Gaza strip. Over a week ago a rocket destroyed a factory in Sderot, several homes have been hit, fields caught aflame. Amazingly, as of this writing there has been no loss of life in Israel from the attacks—but a large portion of our nation is literally being held hostage by this random terror from the skies. Then the range of the rockets used began to increase—raining down on Beersheba and Ashdod. With conflict seething in East Jerusalem and in much of northern and even southern Israel following the murders of the three Jewish and one Arab boys, our Prime Minister and Defense Minister, at the price of much criticism from within the government, held off as long as possible, responding with a limited number of airstrikes on suspected targets. But two days ago, after a truce inaugurated by Egypt failed to materialize and the rocket attacks on civilian targets continued to increase, something had to be done. Netanyahu ordered the launch of a strong Israeli offensive, code-named “*Protective*

Edge” (the Hebrew name is more literally “Firm Cliff”). Israel began a massive bombardment from the air which continued throughout the night; and ***yesterday afternoon the Cabinet granted a request from the military to call up 40,000 reserves in preparation for a possible ground incursion.*** Young friends, just back from the ELAV conference in Haifa, found their notices awaiting them, told their wives goodbye and were off to report to their units. Israel has known since a similar outbreak a year and a half ago, that such an operation would probably eventually be required to bring a true end to the enemy’s ability to fire on Israel’s civilians in this way. Meanwhile, Hamas has obviously been acquiring much longer-range missiles, deployed mostly into launching platforms hidden underground, whose covers may be closed during the daytime.

Last night a new strategy was employed in northern-Gaza—that of launching a vast number of long-range rockets simultaneously at highly disparate targets so as to increase the chance of some getting past Israel’s “Iron Dome” anti-missile batteries. At 9:56 p.m. the Code Red sirens began to sound in Jerusalem--four rockets were on their way. The writers entered our fortified rooms and waited for the ‘thumps’ of their landings. Such a grim routine, so discouragingly regular to our friends to the south-east, is still rather new in Jerusalem. In fact, the sirens have only validly sounded once—during the hostilities of the last Gaza crisis—in the 14 years we have lived in the Capital. In the end, two rockets fell near but outside the city limits—one within, but no heavy damage reported. Over Tel Aviv there have already been over five shot down today. The ratio between rockets fired and those downed by “Iron Dome” is low, because our anti-rocket missiles are incredibly expensive—therefore only employed when the rockets appear headed for a populated area.

Since the beginning of “Protective Edge” over 225 rockets have rained on Israel. Red Alerts sounded continually last night and throughout today. One rocket landed in Hadera far to the north, and on Wednesday afternoon the alarm sounded in Zikhron Ya’akov, 120 km north of Gaza. Remnants of the projectile which hit Hadera proved to be from a Syrian-made M302 rocket, which has a range of 90-160 kilometers. These are exactly the same type of missiles as the 40 M302’s headed for Gaza aboard an Iranian ship which Israel boarded last March.

Netanyahu has told Israel to prepare for a long operation. Of course, with the airstrikes (some of which destroyed the homes of known Hamas strategic commanders), unavoidable loss of life is already taking place. It is known that deliberate use of human shields is taking place. Palestinian leader Abbas is accusing Israel of Genocide. However, nations which a few weeks ago were lauding the new “partnership” between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas as being a step towards unity and peace are backtracking. It has been heartening to see how many countries today sent strong messages denouncing the incessant rocket fire on Israeli civilians.

As Israel responds under fire against a hateful and relentless enemy,

PLEASE PRAY:

*Psalm 91 over Israel. That she will be saved from the “arrow that flies by day” and night. That God would give His angels charge over her to protect her—and minister on behalf of those who will inherit salvation.

*That if there should be any evil weapons of mass destruction hidden in Hamas’s armory, they

would be supernaturally bound from being used against Israel—that they would be uncovered and neutralized.

*Protection over the soldiers being mustered for possible entry into a military incursion into the Strip. Pray for the many believing soldiers both with active service and those who have been called up from Reserves. David placed his trust in YHVH of Armies, God of the Arraying of Israel's Armies (I Samuel 17:45). For David, "the Battle was the LORD's".

*For divine counsel over Israel's governmental and military leaders as how to proceed—both with the war against Hamas, and quelling the upheaval in Israel and Judea and Samaria. Pray that if a ground incursion is necessary, it will be accomplished with clean surgical operations with the least possible loss of life.

*For courage and integrity, and well-executed and effective action for the soldiers—Pray for mercy and grace where it is possible to be shown.

*That Israel will not flinch from continuing in Operation "Protective Edge" until all is done that needs to be done to put an end to these attacks upon her sovereignty.

*For courage and grace in their prayers over the parents and families of those sent into battle.

*That Israel become aware, during this tense time, of areas where she has become vulnerable through her own pride and sin—For conviction by the Holy Spirit and grace to turn in repentance to her God.

*That the light of Salvation shine—That Jewish and Arab believers would be able to lead many to the Lord during these dark days.

Martin Sarvis

Jerusalem