

## **PRAYER UPDATE FROM ISRAEL** (August 15, 2011)



**An old olive tree in the Ben Hinnom Valley of Jerusalem.**

*“A land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey . . .”*

**Deuteronomy 8:8 (See Torah Portion below)**

### **1. ELAV IS COMING ALIVE!**

We would ask for special prayer today (Monday) and tomorrow as the *Elav* (Unto Him) youth and young adult conference in Tel Aviv is alive and moving. We received reports from teams which went out on the streets before the beginning, and saw remarkable healings taking place in people they prayed for. The conference began yesterday (Sunday) evening. There are hundreds of Jewish and Arab young people there. It is perhaps the most integrated gathering thus far. The warfare has been intense—both at the site, regarding co-ordination of buses to and from Jerusalem, at the home site prayer/worship room in Jerusalem. But we see these as to be expected. We are hearing wonderful reports back regarding the messages which have been being released.

I Chronicles 12 speaks of those children of Issachar who “*understood the seasons to know what Israel ought to do*” (12:32). But it also mentions other children of Israel (vss 33-38), who were “*men of war*”, **who** were adept with various weapons, who were *stout hearted*, who could keep battle formation, who could keep ranks” (vs 38). “Keep Ranks” is related to the “God of the arraying of Israel’s Armies” (I Samuel 17:45). In other words, *they knew how to stay and operate in the position assigned to them by the God who put them in array!* **Please pray for the Holy Spirit of the Most High God to fill these Jewish and Arab young people—to bring them into array as his holy army (Exodus 13:18 uses a different word to relate that the Children of Israel “went up in martial array/orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.”), who**

will worship Him and do exploits in days ahead (Psalm 149). **Pray** a release of angels to protect the conference from interference without or within. **Pray** for God's Word for this hour in Israel to be released through each of those speaking, through the times of praise and worship, through interaction between those present at the breaks. **Pray** a new bonding in Messiah between Jewish and Arab young people. **Pray** a "rear guard" of protection to gather all which is released and continue applying it to the spirits of those who have attended. **Pray** for anointing, strength, and stamina for all speakers and counselors—and protection over their families. **Pray** for all of the finances for this conference to come in before its end.

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## **2. DATE SET FOR UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF STATEHOOD**

This week Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Malki announced that the Palestinians will present their bid for being recognized as an independent state and granted membership as such to the United Nations on Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup> just after the opening of the 66<sup>th</sup> Session. It so happens that in September the rotating presidency of the General Assembly and the Security Council will be held by the Arab states of Qatar and Lebanon respectively. Qatar will hold that role for one year. Although Arab states enjoy an automatic majority in the General Assembly, a new state cannot be admitted without consent of the 15 member Security Council. As of now, the United States, one of five members of the council with the power of a veto, has indicated that it plans to oppose any unilateral move. A Palestinian spokesperson has said that "We have completed our responsibilities and are ready to govern ourselves. We cannot keep waiting for Israel to negotiate with good faith." Israel denies that the Palestinians have been willing to negotiate at all, despite "confidence building gestures" continually requested of her (Israel) by the international body, compared to none for the Palestinians. She also points out that the Palestinians are deeply divided between the Hamas and Fatah factions, which have been more or less continually at war for over five years.

It is unclear what will be the repercussions of the move, even if the U.S. vetoes it. At present Israel is strengthening its borders against the possibility of thousands of Palestinians from Lebanon, Syria and Jordan seeking to surge into the territories after the vote.

### **PLEASE PRAY:**

**\*That establishment of a sovereign (Muslim) Palestinian state will not be ratified by the U.N. in September.**

**\*Wisdom from the Father of Lights (James 1:5, 17) for believers here in Israel...to know how best and most effectively to direct our prayers according to the guidance of His Holy Spirit—not according to mere 'knee-jerk' emotional reactions.**

**\*For wisdom for Israel's national and military leaders as to how best to prepare Israel to face any violence and lawlessness following the vote in September.**

**\*That God will guide Israel in the borders she is to be responsible for protecting during this season. That the Palestinian people will be protected from Covenant-hating spiritual forces seeking to use them as pawns for keeping Jews out of lands God has promised them by everlasting covenant.**

**\*That the Kingdom of God will Come in the hearts of Jews and Arabs...that He will provide a way for each to dwell in peace within the boundaries He has ordained for them.**

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### **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 14-20 August is called *Ekev*—"In consequence of" (—the Children of Israel's heeding God's Judgements):**

**TORAH: Deuteronomy 7:12—11:25**

**HAFTARAH: Isaiah 49:14—51:3**

**\*Deut. 8: 3.** *"He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna...that he might make you know that mankind shall not live by bread alone; but by every utterance of the LORD's mouth does the human live."*

**\*Deut. 8:7-10.** *"For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills; a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper. When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you."*

**\*Deut. 8:16.** *"...that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end---"*

**\*Deut. 9:5-6.** *"It is not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart that you go in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD your*

*God drives them out from before you, and that He may fulfill the word which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Therefore understand that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stiff-necked people.”*

**\*Deut. 10:16-17, 21a.** *“Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome...He is your praise...”*

**\*Deut. 11:11-12.** *“but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven, a land for which the LORD your God cares; the eyes of the LORD your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year.”*

**AS MENTIONED LAST WEEK, we have entered a season (Until the Feast of Trumpets) in which the Haftarah portions are taken from the prophet Isaiah, and continue to speak words of comfort to Zion.** The passages below are only some drawn from this week’s portion which may be used powerfully in praying for Israel to recognize her Comforter—and for the Body of Messiah to walk as He walked before her fellows in the land.

**\*Isaiah 49:15-16.** *“Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands; Your walls are continually before Me.”*

**\*Isaiah 49:25b-26.** *“For I will contend with him who contends with you, and I will save your children. I will feed those who oppress you with their own flesh, and they shall be drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine. All flesh shall know that I, the LORD, am your Saviour, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.*

**\*Isaiah 50:4.** *“The Lord YHVH has given me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens me morning by morning. He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple.”*

**\*Isaiah 50:6-7.** *“I gave my back to those who strike me, and my cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover my face from humiliation and spitting. For the Lord YHVH helps me, therefore, I am not disgraced; therefore, I have set my face like flint, and I know that I will not be ashamed.”*

**\*Isaiah 51:1-2.** *“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, who seek YHVH: Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who gave birth to you in pain; when he was but one I called him, then I blessed him and multiplied him” (NASB).*

**\*Isaiah 51:3.** *“For YHVH will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places. He will make her desert like Eden, and her arava like the garden of YHVH; Joy and gladness will be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody!”*



*Martin and Norma Sarvis  
Jerusalem*

**[The Torah and Haftarah portions for next week 21-27 August will be *R'eh*—“See” (“–I put before you today a blessing and a curse:”): TORAH: Deuteronomy 11:26—16:17; HAFTARAH: Isaiah 54:11—55:5]**

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