



## *Celebrating Elijah Pierce's Birth!* *An Update from Daniel and Amber Pierce*



August 29, 2013

*Dear Friends of Israel:*

I believe many of you have heard the wonderful news about the birth of Daniel and Amber's son, Elijah. However, as you know, the process of bringing to birth a child (or any new work) is not an easy one. Daniel and Amber's update shares their journey of Elijah's delivery, and the Lord's faithfulness. I hope their joy will be multiplied in all of you as you rejoice along with them.

Blessings,  
*Chuck D. Pierce*

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August 28, 2013

Sorry you haven't heard from us in a while! We have been joyfully overcome with dirty diapers and endless nights! Our time as a family with Lily and Elijah has been nothing short of amazing! Lily is the best big sister ever, full of love, and always offering to help with her new baby brother.



Elijah came almost a month early and his birth changed all of our plans dramatically. From the beginning, we felt very strongly that the Lord was leading us to have his birth at our home in Jerusalem. Prior to going into labor, we had been told I was around thirty-seven weeks pregnant. If we had known that it was actually more like thirty-six weeks, we would have gone straight to the hospital when I went into labor. When we called our midwife who was supposed to deliver Elijah, she was unable to come, due to another delivery in Tel Aviv. I could feel myself starting to panic as Daniel read the chapter about how to deliver a baby on your own, if you have no other choice! We quickly came to the conclusion that this was about to become one of those faith-building experiences that seem so common in Israel.

### ***The Lord Will Provide!***

Just as we reached the height of our panic, the phone rang, and we were informed that a replacement midwife had been found and was on the way. I settled back down in bed while Daniel began unpacking the suitcase we had hastily thrown together in preparation to leave for the hospital. Our new midwife was a wild lady, but we knew that God was working all of this together for good. I had no idea just how natural and “old fashioned” the way we were having this baby was about to be.

To be honest, there were a few moments that I wished I had gone to the hospital, just to receive pain relief. In the end, I was sure that these were the exact circumstances that God wanted me in. Seven hours after the midwife arrived, Elijah was born and Daniel delivered him under her supervision! He was born blue and seemed to have a hard time breathing for the first few minutes. Again, we almost started to question if we had made the right decision concerning the hospital, but God gave us peace and continued to reassure us. We spoke into Elijah’s body, commanded him to breathe, and he did! Later in the evening, a pediatrician came to our home to check on Elijah. The doctor suggested that he was more premature than originally thought, and should be monitored closely for the first week. God provided a nurse who joined us for the first few nights, and for the next week the pediatrician continued to make visits.

### ***Your Pain Can Remind You of God’s Faithfulness***

This process was amazing and when we set out to do it I didn’t expect some of these challenges. I thought that Elijah would deliver just as easily as Lily did. We were walking a fine line, but that seems to be faith! The pain could have been traumatizing. Many say they forget the pain of childbirth, but I promise I will never forget. The Lord was speaking to me that I don’t need to forget. It’s a reminder of what He is able to bring me through. This can also relate to many scenarios of our lives and painful things that He brings us through. I don’t want to forget the pains of my life because it is through those moments that I am reminded how great He is and that there is nothing He can’t bring me through!

Within a few days, family and friends joined us for the Brit Milah. This is a Jewish circumcision ceremony. Many friends and leaders from around Israel joined us for the party. The circumcision is to be a public event with many witnesses. It is traditional for the grandfather to hold the baby during circumcision, so Chuck did the honors! It has been an incredible blessing to have our first son born and consecrated in Jerusalem, and it will be interesting to see how the Lord’s plan unfolds throughout his life. After the circumcision, several of our best friends from

around Israel spoke blessings over our family and you could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit resting in the room.

### *Summer Guests*

As for the rest of the summer, we have had a full house and it was so much fun! The Vincent girls, along with my sister, Karli Sauce, were with us and made things more interesting. It was nice to have 20 year olds around! We toured them around Israel and they helped so much through my last month of pregnancy and the first few weeks with a new child. We also enjoyed many visitors from the States on tour, as well. Daniel loved showing his family this awesome country, and, of course, Grandma Pam took a day to plant a garden with Lily, on our balcony!

Our summer ended with James and Robin Vincent as our last guests. We had an awesome time touring the North together. We visited several spots, including a vineyard and winery. James is over the vineyard project at the Global Spheres Center, so that was a great stop for us. We also brought Elijah up to Mount Carmel where Elijah (the prophet of old) challenged the prophets of Baal. The Lord's presence was so great as James sang over the waters at the Sea of Galilee!

I can't wait to hear some of the music that God places on James' heart through his experiences here in Israel. We look forward to all that the Lord has for us in the coming months.

Love and Blessings,



*Daniel, Amber, Lily and Elijah Pierce*

We appreciate your prayer and giving for Israel. You may donate by clicking [HERE](#) (and noting Pierce Support in Israel in the comment line) or by calling **1 (940) 382-7231**.