

ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

IN ANTICIPATION OF A.S.K. NETWORK'S
FIRST INTERNATIONAL GATHERING IN JERUSALEM THIS MONTH,
INSIDE THIS ISSUE YOU'LL FIND ...

Jerusalem: A City of Conflict—A City of Peace, pg 1 • Hope of the Nations: Israel in the Middle East, pg 2

Jerusalem: A City of Conflict – A City of Peace

Jerusalem – The Holy City to Three Major Religions

Jerusalem, the most holy city in the world, is the center of three major religions - Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

Mourning for the One They Pierced

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.” Zechariah 12:10 NIV

In prelude to seeing that scripture fulfilled, we will see the ultimate conflict. All nations of the world will gather against her. —vs. 3

Conflict is not new to Jerusalem. It has dealt with conflicts throughout its existence. Jews have been persecuted, massacred, and exiled. Today, the Palestinians threaten control of East Jerusalem—including the Temple Mount, the Western Wall and the old City of David. The Arab nations surround her and warn of annihilation.

But God has promised in *Isaiah 2:2-3* that Jerusalem will be a city of everlasting peace which all nations will look to. The very name Jerusalem is derived from the words Ir Shalom, which mean "city of peace." In Hebrew, the name of the city is Yerushalayim and in the Bible, Yerushalem. The name in English evolved to be Jerusalem.

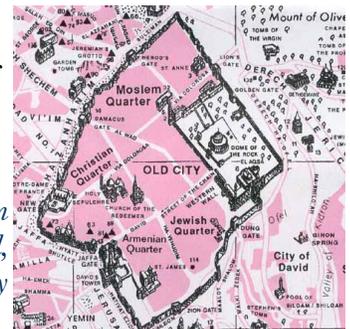
So how will God make that transition from conflict to peace? Could it be that we were born for "such a time as this?" (*Esther 4:14*). We are told to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Please take the following scriptures and pray them in:

PRAY:

Zech. 12 (especially vs. 10), **Is. 2:2-3** & **Is. 22**
Ps.122:6-7 "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem"
Is. 2:1-3, **Zech.8:3**, **Jer. 29:14** & **Jer. 31:8**
Jer. 17:20 "Say to them, 'Hear the word of the LORD, you kings of Judah and all people of Judah and everyone living in Jerusalem who come through these gates.'"
Ps. 24 (especially vs. 7 & 9) & **Matt. 23:37**

DECLARE:

Ps. 147:2 "The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel." (**Ps.122:2**, **Jer. 31:10**, **Jer. 32:37**, **Ezek. 20:34** & **Ezek. 28:35**)
Ezek. 11:17 "I will give you back the land of Israel."
Matt. 28:18 "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."
Matt. 25:6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'"



...receive from Him
anything we ask, because we obey
His commands and do what pleases Him...

1 John 3:22



Hope of the Nations: ISRAEL in the MIDDLE EAST

"In His name the nations will put their hope." Matthew 12:21



The land Israel was born as a modern nation on May 14, 1948, only 63 years ago. It is only 8,522 square miles with a population of about 7.5 million. The population is largely Jewish (over 75%) and Arab (20%). Israelis enjoy one of the longest life expectancies, highest literacy rates, significant numbers of Noble Prize winners, advanced breakthroughs in technology, and agricultural success. They are known for their quick response in disasters, such as recently in Haiti and Japan.

However, Israel finds itself at the center of conflict and lives under continual threat. It is a small nation surrounded by larger more powerful ones, who view it with the same suspicion with which it views them. We can be part of the Middle East peace endeavor by praying continually for Israel and its neighbors. The Bible clearly prophesies that Israel has a significant role in the end of history. It needs your prayers, as do its neighbors. Put the Middle East on your daily prayer list and pray continually, preparing the way for the return of Christ: *"The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'" Revelation 22:17*

ASK FOR:

- **The Israeli Government:** Currently there are thirteen political parties represented in the Knesset, five of which are Arab. See <http://www.knesset.gov.il> for more information.
"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness." James 3:17-18; also pray Psalm 115:9
- **Salvation for all people groups who live inside of Israel:** See www.joshuaproject.net to visit the Joshua Project and learn more about the demographics of Israel.
"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people." 1 Timothy 2:1-6; also pray Psalm 14:7
- **All of the nations in the Middle East:** Pray that the nations acknowledge that, *"the Most High God is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and sets over them anyone he wishes." Daniel 5:21* Israel's immediate neighbors are: Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Egypt. Those who identify themselves as Palestinians live in the West Bank and the Gaza strip. Middle East countries include: Algeria, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.
"Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling." Psalm 2:10-11
- **The Christian Community:** This includes all who know Jesus as Lord and Savior both from traditional churches as well as new or Messianic congregations. Pray that those in the Christian community may be instruments of reconciliation in Israel amongst both Israelis and Palestinians.
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:17-19; also pray Isaiah 49:6 and Ephesians 2:10-14