



# For Zion's Sake Ministries

Iyar/Sivan 5767

May 2007 Newsletter

## Our Vision

- *"For Zion's Sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not hold my peace..." Isaiah 62:1*
- To inform, educate and mobilize support for Israel and the Jewish people
- To bless and comfort the nation of Israel in practical ways (Gen. 12:3; Isa.40:1)
- To bring good news, to proclaim peace and salvation, to say to Zion "Your God Reigns" (Isa. 52:7)



## Scripture

*"You will arise and have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, yes, the set time has come." "For the Lord shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory". Psalms 102:13,16*

## Shalom Mishpacha!

Greetings to the Family of G\_d  
And Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Jerusalem! The Undivided, Eternal Capital of Israel.  
"The City of the Great King" (Mat 5:35)

"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go up to the house of Adonai! Our feet were already standing at your gates O Jerusalem". (Ps.122:1,2)

With excitement and anticipation the time is drawing near when our feet, the Israel Mercy Team, will be standing at the gates of Jerusalem.

This is a special year for Jerusalem, the 28<sup>th</sup> day of Iyar (May 16<sup>th</sup>) marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Israel's liberation of Jerusalem during the Six Day War. This event was truly a miracle of Biblical proportion, in G\_d's Appointed Time.

What makes Jerusalem so unique that she draws people back to her gates? What causes such strong feelings towards a city so far away that those who know the G\_d of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob yearn to go and touch the stones of this city or walk on the dusty roads? As David said "For G\_d's servants love her very stones, they take pity even on her dust." (Psalm 102:14)

Many have tried to describe Jerusalem, but man's words cannot compare to the divine word of G\_d concerning Jerusalem, "The City of the Great King" that one day will be called "Adonai Shamah (Adonai is there)" (Ezek 48:35)

As we read these scriptures, let us pray that the words proclaiming G\_d's heart toward Jerusalem, will be the heart attitude of all who call upon the name of the G\_d of Israel.

Jerusalem was acquired over three thousand years ago by King David.(II Kings 21:4, II Samuel 24:18-25) So why did David choose Jerusalem?

"For the Lord has chosen Zion, He has desired it for His dwelling place, "this is my resting place forever, here I will dwell, for I have desired it".(Ps.132:13-14)

Both in ancient and modern times, Jerusalem has always been in the heart of the Jewish people even when Israel was not a State. Because of their love for G\_d and for His Holy Bible, they knew that one day...their feet will be standing again at the gates of this Holy city. They did not lose hope, the hope of 2000 years long, to be a free nation in Israel with the ancient capital Jerusalem.

1967 was the year the Israelies, surrounded by enemies superior in quantity and quality of military equipment, and overwhelming superiority in numbers, fought a war on three fronts and not only survived but won a victory in Six Days...

When G\_d is with you, who can be against you ?!

In II Kings 21:4 the Lord says "In Jerusalem I will put My Name".

The Temple was built in Jerusalem and was the center of Jewish faith and identity. Jerusalem is remembered in the daily prayers of the Jewish people and in every celebration, Jerusalem is mentioned and this Psalm is quoted. "How can we sing a song about Adonai here on foreign soil? If I forget you O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its cunning, may my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth if I fail to count Jerusalem the greatest of all my joys". (Ps 137:4-6)

## Upcoming Events:

Join us for weekly prayer for Israel as we meet on the steps of Bell Shoals Baptist Church, Brandon, on Thursday nights from 6:00pm – 7:00pm

*Discovering the Jewish Roots of Your Faith* classes will resume in September, 2007 on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm at Bell Shoals Baptist Church

Israel Mercy Team June 2007 – June 2- 16

In every synagogue in the world you will find an ark that is holding the scrolls in it. It is always against the wall facing towards Jerusalem so when a person prays he faces the holy city of Jerusalem. This traditional act started with King Solomon as he dedicated the Temple to the G\_d of Israel. In I Kings 8:30 Solomon asks G\_d to "... hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards This Place. Hear in heaven your dwelling place and when you hear, forgive".

The Bible tells us that Jerusalem will become the center of controversy and a cup of trembling to the nations of the world. All the nations will gather against Jerusalem at the end of days. (Zechariah 12:2-4; 14:2)

Every Jewish person knows that King Messiah will come to the city of Jerusalem when He ushers in the Messianic era of peace on earth. Yeshua's feet will set upon no other place on earth but the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. (Zech. 14:4) Jerusalem will be G\_d's dwelling place again and the nations of the world will come up to celebrate in Jerusalem. "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations who came against Jerusalem, shall go up from year to year to worship the King the Lord of Hosts and to keep the Feasts of Tabernacles." (Zechariah 14:16)

"Thus says the Lord of Hosts "I am zealous for Zion with great zeal, with great fervor I am zealous for Her. I will return to Zion and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And Jerusalem shall be called the city of truth and the mountain of the Lord of Hosts will be called the holy mountain"." (Zechariah 8:2-3)

"And many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of Hosts in Jerusalem and to pray before the Lord. Thus says the Lord of Hosts, "In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man saying "Let us go with you for we have heard that God is with you"." (Zechariah 8:23)

The prophet Isaiah said that in the latter days many people shall say "Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord... for out of Zion shall go forth the Torah and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." (Isaiah 2:2-3)

To the Jewish people, Jerusalem is more than just a city; it is the heart and soul of the Jewish people and the entire nation of Israel. Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and based on G\_d's word, it will remain the undivided, eternal capital of Israel. How important is Jerusalem to you?

The United States and EU Ambassadors to Israel are boycotting special event at the Knesset celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem. They refuse to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel – have you ever heard of any nation telling another nation which city to choose as their capital ? Israel is the only country in the world that allows other countries to boycott its capital Jerusalem and not locate their embassies in the city.

What does G\_d think about that? "At that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Y'hoshafat (Adonai judges). I will enter into judgment there for my people, my heritage Israel, whom they scattered among the nations and divided up my land..." "Adonai will roar from Zion, He will thunder from Jerusalem, the sky and the earth will shake, But Adonai will be a refuge for His people, a stronghold for the people of Israel. You will know that I Am Adonai your G\_d, living on Zion my holy mountain. Then Jerusalem will be holy, and foreigners will pass through her no more." (Joel 3:1-2, 16-17)

We are called to never be silent for Zion sake, to pray for and love Jerusalem.  
We are called to be watchmen on Jerusalem walls.....(Isaiah 62)

On Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at midnight we will be standing in prayer at the Western Wall, a small part of the ancient wall that surrounds the Temple. We will be standing at the very spot that many Jewish people have stood for thousands of years praising and praying to the King of the Universe, the Redeemer of Israel. You may have heard that people place prayer notes and supplications to the Lord between the ancient stones of the Wailing Wall. If it is your hearts desire to send a prayer request to Jerusalem, write your request on a small piece of paper and send it to us in the blue envelope and we will carry it to Jerusalem. Please remember we are leaving June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

And “Pray for the peace of **JERUSALEM**,  
may those who love you prosper, for the sake of the house of Adonai, our G\_d, I will seek your well-being.” (Ps. 122:6,9)

**“Blessed be Adonai out of Zion, He who dwells in Jerusalem, Hallelujah.”**  
(Psalm 135:21)

May the G\_d of Israel bless you  
And bring you Shalom,

Mike and Bracha Buford

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### Please Pray

- For the Israel Mercy Team while in Israel June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>
- That Christians around the world to hear G\_d's call for the watchman to take their place on the wall and not keep silent until true Peace comes to Jerusalem
- For G\_d's promised redemption of Israel
- The release of the Israeli soldiers still in captivity