



How to Pray for Israel Right Now?

SHAWN A. AKERS AND GRANT BERRY

The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas unquestionably has produced divisiveness throughout America and the world, including a surprising, yet devastating chasm among many members of the Body of Messiah. Some members of the Church have even gone as far as to embrace antisemitism, while siding with the terrorist organization, while choosing to believe only the one-sided information about the conflict as provided by the secular media.

Chad Holland, Senior Pastor of King of Kings Community in Jerusalem, believes this separation in the Church is a tragedy, but nevertheless, is something that can be overcome by the power of prayer. On a recent prayer call of the Romans 911 Project WATCH conducted by Reconnecting Ministries', founder Grant Berry, Holland called for the Church to help pray down the explosive division between the two camps by not only uniting in prayer for the nation of Israel, but also for courageous Palestinians who want nothing more than to end the destructive conflict and for the two factions to live in harmony under the umbrella of Yeshua's love.

Although not all of the members of Chad Holland's Yeshua-believing congregation network do not necessarily agree with "everything the Israeli government does" and feels that Israel needs to be reprov'd for some of its decisions, Holland nevertheless reminds that it is time for the worldwide Church to pray for the defeat of the spirit of hate and for a change of heart among the Palestinians. Continuing he reminded that, "When Hamas took over Gaza in 1987, whether the elections were real or rigged, they instituted a new school curriculum and started to indoctrinate through education," ... "By 1990, the curriculum was already in place. So, the fighters you are seeing today—the families, the young people—are all products of that indoctrination generation. It's why they have been indoctrinated with such a hate-filled message against Israel.

Continuing, Chad Holland exhorts, "We are praying and asking Yeshua to give us a continued growth of love for the Palestinian people, for the Arab people of the whole region but especially the Palestinians living in Gaza—in Judea and Samaria. We are praying there will be more native Arabs and Palestinians who would see through the deception of Hamas; the hatred, the anger. We are asking, in the name of Yeshua, that the spirit of hate will be broken as well as the spirit of deception."

King of Kings in Jerusalem partners with Grant Berry and Reconnecting Ministries in its efforts to unite Jews and Gentiles



through Reconnecting's One New Man initiative. Reconnecting Ministries' ultimate goal is to help restore love and unity between all races and tongues in the family of God according to Yeshua's (Jesus's) prayer in John 17, for the preparation of the Bride, the Reformation of the Ecclesia (Church), the last great harvest of souls, Israel's salvation and the Lord's return.

Living in Israel affords Holland and members of his network of churches access to information about the war in Gaza that the secular media does not report to the world. Per Holland, there have also been reports that "heads of certain Arabic" and, more specifically, "Palestinian clans" have recently contacted the Israeli Defense Forces in efforts to join the IDF to help free Gaza from Hamas rule. BEcause of this, the Body of Messiah must join together in prayer for more Palestinians to step up to battle against the evil which Hamas is perpetuating upon its own people.

"We are asking the Father to send louder and more confident voices to the Palestinian people, to rise up and have the courage to join the IDF, to truly be the freedom fighters that are needed to end this war," Holland says. "We pray for this new wave of Palestinian heroes, the new clan heads that will break through. They will bring a new voice that will correct a lot of the lying media narrative around the world.

"We pray for humility and safety during these tumultuous times, and for a change of heart for our Palestinian brothers. We pray for very few believers that still exist in Gaza, in which we think there are about 800 or 900 left. We pray for their witness, the miracles and the supernatural to flow through them and to be a light in this most dark time."

Chad Holland also requests that we pray for believing congregations located in the West Bank, whose identity is withheld for security purposes) but are characterized as a "growing group of Arab believers." Yet according to Holland, what is unique about these Arab believers is that not only are they with us in theology, but they also love Israel!





According to Holland, “... that is so rare to find in that area.”

Continuing on this point, Grant Berry likewise reminds that believers around the world should all pray for the purpose of “breaking the back of the spirit of fear that would prevent those from coming together and speaking up.”

“Lord, we ask you to give courage to those people that are beginning to change,” Berry prays. “We are just asking for more and more prayer to come to spark a change of heart in not just the Palestinians but the Lebanese people to turn against Hamas and Hezbollah, ... an element that is committed to Israel’s destruction.”

Corporate prayer in all its different forms, according to Grant Berry, provides the fuel and the directives for ministry in the Church, thus citing Psalm 127:1, that, “Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.”

“While most leaders in the Church know and are aware of this Kingdom principle, why is it that prayer is not prioritized more in the American Church?” Berry asks. “There are two *key* principles to emphasize to help provoke change in us personally, and especially with our leadership, if we are not promoting these principles as we should. The first is obviously prayer. The second is the love in action; it should be combined to effect change around us, demonstrating the heart of the Father through His most magnificent Son, Yeshua (Jesus), to a lost and dying world.”





PRAY

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