

## **PRAYER UPDATE FROM ISRAEL (October 3, 2011)**

*Dear Friends:*

I hope each of you is doing well during this Feast Time. If you were unable to catch Robert Heidler's message yesterday morning, please watch the [free webcast replay](#). I have heard many messages, but this is the best one I have ever heard on the *Feast Times, the Days of Awe and Yom Kippur*. Just go to [www.gloryofzion.org](http://www.gloryofzion.org), select "Webcasts and Media", and then click on the "Replays" tab. Many of you will also want to get the CDs or DVDs from Head of the Year. Go to our [webstore](#) to order these sets or call **1 (888) 965-1099** or **1 (940) 382-7231**. **Through October 15, they are 40% off.**

Because of the continued demands here, I have postponed my trip to Israel that I had planned for later this month. Pray for us here as we move forward in preparing a place for the Lord to inhabit and the community to join us. Make plans to come and visit the Israel Prayer Garden. Here are some pictures:



### **Daniel, Amber and Lily Pierce back to Israel!**

Please pray as Daniel, Amber and Lily return to Israel. You can go to our [Bible Islands link](#) to better understand who and what Daniel will be working with. (By the way ... Bible Islands just decided to eliminate their free one-week Trial Pass and replace it with a **NO-obligation FREE PLAY ZONE** (Freemium) that kids can **play on for an unlimited time – FREE!**) Daniel and Amber will also be “learning the land” so we can connect you properly with the best tours in Israel. We love having them, along with Martin and Norma Sarvis, in Israel. The following *Prayer Update from Israel* by Martin and Norma is the best!

Blessings,  
*Chuck D. Pierce*

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## **PRAYER UPDATE FROM ISRAEL**



***“Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat. And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD’s lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering. But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat shall be presented alive before YHVH, to make atonement upon it, and let it go as the scapegoat into the wilderness”***

(Leviticus 16:8-10).

***“Look! The Lamb of God Who carries away the sin of the world” (John 1:21)***

### **1. YOM KIPPUR**

This Friday evening (October 7th) at sundown begins *Yom Kippur*—the Day of Atonement. At that time, the entire public Jewish sector of Israel essentially closes down. Leviticus 23:26-32 solemnly commands the Hebrew people to deny themselves and to abstain from work on this day, with dire consequences if they don’t. Except for the occasional Arab driver or an emergency vehicle, the streets will be free of traffic; in fact, later in the evening and on Saturday morning many streets will be filled with strolling couples and children on bicycles and skateboards. Millions of Jews will humble themselves by fasting for 25 hours from both food and water. *Kippur* or *kippurim* may be translated ‘ransom by means of a substitute’...also included within the meaning is ‘that which covers’. On this day in Biblical times a goat was slain as a sin offering, its blood taken by the High Priest into the veil of the Holy of Holies and sprinkled on and before the Mercy Seat (Hebrew: *kaporet*); a second goat, with the sins of the nation confessed over it, was led far into the Judean desert and released. It was considered ‘damned’ (today in Israel a common curse expletive is the Hebrew for “scapegoat”).

As the ninth chapter of a First Century epistle written to Messianic Jews emphasizes, “*without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.*” Yet with the destruction of the Second Temple, blood sacrifice in Judaism came to an end. On *Yom Kippur* all religious Jews and many non-

religious will spend the day in the Synagogues, confessing their sins and seeking forgiveness and a “Good Signature” in the *Book of Life* for the coming year. Yet something is missing. A question which rabbinic Judaism has never been able satisfactorily to answer is, “But, where is the *blood*?” Although there are various traditional ways in which its necessity in the present age is argued away, many obviously do not find these convincing. Each year during the days immediately preceding *Yom Kippur* an area in Jerusalem’s large open-air market may be found reserved for stacks and stacks of coops bearing live chickens. Here one may pay an ultra-Orthodox man to be allowed to swing a chicken over one’s head while reciting the following, “*This is my substitute, this is my commutation; this chicken goes to death; but may I be gathered and enter into a long and happy life and into shalom.*” The bird is then slain and its body given to the poor for food. We do not hold in contempt those who blindly seek cleansing through this practice; yet this, no more than in ancient times, “*can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near.*”

### *From Norma*

***“I grew up fasting on Yom Kippur from a very early age. Because we lived a block from the synagogue, family members and friends often spent the ‘breaks’ from the service in my parents’ home. I remember that for years, I would ask my dad, my uncles, my cousins, my rabbi: ‘Where is the sacrifice? Where is it? If we follow all these rules and regulations, where is the sacrifice?’ Once I became a believer in Yeshua, it all made sense to me. I know that this burning question in my young heart was the Holy Spirit pulling me towards the atoning life of Yeshua. How thankful I am He worked on me and gave me an inquiring heart!”***

As there were two goats, there must be both a blood sacrifice for sin and a “sin-bearer”. Yochanan (John) saw Yeshua coming to him as he was immersing those who had repented in the Jordan River, and he called out, “*Hineh! Seh haElohim ha’noseh hatat ha’Olam!*”—“*Look! The Lamb of God who carries away the sin of the world.*” King David understood this. In ***Psalm 25*** he twice asks for forgiveness of sins...yet the word often translated forgiveness in verse 18 is different than that used in vs. 11; in the first the word means “forgive”, in the second it literally means “bear away”. Forgiveness of sin requires both a blood sacrifice to cleanse, and a sin bearer to carry it away. Verse 22 calls on *Elohim* to ***Redeem Israel from all his troubles.*** She can never do it herself—only her God can provide complete redemption, and that through the work of His Son.

### **PLEASE PRAY:**

**\*That during this time of soul searching, the Holy Spirit of God would move on Jewish hearts around the world, convicting of sin, righteousness and judgment—and in kindness leading to repentance, life, and freedom.**

**\*That in that kindness would be revelation that it is impossible to atone for our own sin or to be made righteous by our own efforts.**

**\*That there would be revelation about the Blood of Messiah—that the blood of bulls and goats in the past (or of a chicken today) is not enough.**

**\*For Israel's protection from her enemies. 38 years ago she was attacked on this day by Egypt and Syria while most of the nation was in synagogues seeking pardon for their sins.**

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## **2. A MONTH OF THE PRAISES AND PRAYERS OF THE NATIONS IN JERUSALEM!**

***“Rejoice O nations with His People...” (Deuteronomy 32:43).***

***“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him” (Isaiah 62:11).***

This week there are many hundreds of believers from the nations in Israel attending the *All Nations Convocation* held at Ramat Rachel in south Jerusalem. The Convocation convenes each year between the Feast of Trumpets and Yom Kippur; the days are filled with high praise, worship, teaching, meeting others from around the world to intercede and to pray for Israel. The following week thousands more will arrive to join in celebrating the eight-day Festival of *Succot* (Tabernacles). We are so grateful. This is a time when in a special way the praises and petitions of the nations invade the atmosphere over Jerusalem.

### **PLEASE PRAY:**

**\*That the Holy Wind of God fill those whom He has brought up to His land, awakening high prophetic praise and worship and intercession. That all proclamations, decrees and declarations which He has ordained to take place through the visiting Gentile body visiting Israel these weeks be released in power!**

**\*That visiting believers receive new and strategic revelation regarding this city, land and people which will equip them to stand and pray effectively on Israel's behalf after returning to their own countries. That the Spirit will release discernment which will enable them better to separate truth and falsehood from media reports regarding Israel in days ahead.**

**\*That religious spirits assigned to bring confusion or contention into God's work among the servants He has brought here be silenced and bound.**

**\*Pray for a spirit of courtesy and gratefulness to manifest and be evident in the Israeli body during this season—That we recognize the gift which the presence of our brothers and sisters from the nations is to us—that we open our arms and hearts to bless and receive it.**

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### **This week's Torah Portion:**

From ancient times there has been a weekly portion (*Parasha*) 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.

Since next weekend is *Yom Kippur*, there will be special readings in the synagogues on that occasion:

**TORAH: Leviticus 16:1-34**

**Numbers 29:7-11**

These passages give the LORD's special instructions to Israel for observance of Yom Kippur.

**HAFTARAH: Isaiah 57:14—58:14**

Included in this passage is a clarification of what God means by "afflict your soul"...and what constitutes a godly rather than merely "religious" *fast* before the LORD.

### **Book of JONAH**

The Prophet Jonah is traditionally read as a *Haftarah* of the afternoon service on the Day of Atonement. Perhaps one reason is that repentance and forgiveness figure so prominently in this short narrative. This book also reveals God's love and compassion for humankind apart from Israel, in fact, His purpose that she be a light in bearing His message of love and redemption to the nations.



*Martin & Norma Sarvis*  
*Jerusalem*

[The readings for next week will, with the beginning of Sukkot/Feast of Tabernacles, will be: **Thursday 13 October TORAH: Leviticus 22:26—23:44; Numbers 29:12-16;**

**HAFTARAH: Zechariah 14:1-21; Friday 14 October: I Kings 8:2-21; Saturday 15 October  
(Shabbat Chol haMo'ed): TORAH: Exodus 33:12—34:26; Numbers 29:17-22;  
HAFTARAH: Ezekiel 38:18—39:15. BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES]**

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