



“Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder.” (Zephaniah 3:9)

The book of Zephaniah has three chapters. The first two are filled with judgement over the heathen nations and over Jerusalem and Judah for their misdeeds and sins. Halfway through the third chapter the tone and topic of the book shift to the Lord’s salvation. The Lord promises to give the nations pure lips so that they can serve Him. There is also a beautiful promise to Israel: “I will give you honor and praise among the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes, says the Lord.” (Zeph. 3:20b) The book of Zephaniah powerfully illustrates that even when we as people are unfaithful, God remains faithful. We see this faithfulness fulfilled in Israel now as God brings His people home. Over the coming months, let us pray for a blessing over Israel and so for a blessing over the world.

Shalom,
Christians for Israel Prayer Team

April 2021

Thu 1 Apr. Passover	<p>“Blessed is the Omnipresent One; blessed is He. Blessed is He who gave the Torah to His people Israel. Blessed is He.” (<i>Baruch Hamakom</i>). Give thanks that God has brought wisdom and salvation and knowledge of Himself into the world through Israel.</p>
Fri 2 Apr. Passover Good Friday	<p>“One is our God, in the heaven and on earth.” (<i>Echad Mi Yodea</i>). Give thanks that the One God has come to earth, in Jesus Christ, to live among His people and to die for the sins of the world.</p>
Sat 3 Apr. Passover	<p>“He is exalted, He is almighty, He is the Savior, He is wholly righteous.” (<i>Adir Hu</i>). The wholly Righteous One received the punishment of a criminal and died on a cross. Pray that your will be filled with thankfulness for this.</p>
Sun 4 Apr. Passover Easter	<p>“He is not here; He has risen! Remember how He told you, while He was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’” (Luke 24:6-7) Today is Easter Day. Give thanks that Jesus is risen from the dead.</p>
Mon 5 Apr.	<p>“Praise be to the God an Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” (1 Peter 1:3) Pray that we may live in that living hope, the hope that God will set all things right and that there will be a new heaven and a new earth.</p>

Tue 6 Apr.	The University of Tel Aviv has opened a unique center to combat pandemics. The center is focused on combating the current pandemic as well as possible future pandemics. Pray that the center will be a blessing to Israel and to the rest of the world.
Wed 7 Apr.	Despite corona, Israeli exports were hardly reduced at all last year. This is due in part to improved relations between Israel and a number of Arab countries and is partly because Israel provided many digital services. Give thanks for this and pray that this year will go well too.
Thu 8 Apr. Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)	“I am overwhelmed with troubles and my life draws near to death. I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am like one without strength.” (Psalm 88:3-4) Pray for courage and strength for Holocaust survivors and those whose loved ones were murdered.
Fri 9 Apr.	According to a recently published report, about one third of Israeli children live below the poverty line. The number increased because of the corona crisis. Pray that needy children will receive the help they need and that their parent’s financial situation will improve.
Sat 10 Apr.	The Israeli security service has discovered that approximately 20 Israeli’s risked the safety of the State of Israel by secretly selling armed cruise missiles to an Asian country. Pray that Israel’s safety has not been endangered by their actions and that similar actions will be discovered in time.
Sun 11 Apr.	“You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.” (Psalm 139:5) Pray for safety on the Israeli roadways. Stones are thrown at cars on a regular basis. Pray that this form of terror will stop.
Mon 12 Apr.	Pray for the Israeli government. Pray that after the elections a good coalition government will be formed that will govern the country resolutely in the coming three years. Pray that personal interests will be set aside and that all attention and efforts will be for the national interest. Also pray that politicians will put their trust in God.
Tue 13 Apr.	At the end of February a large amount of tar washed up on the Israeli coast. This is a huge ecological disaster. Pray that the cleanup efforts will be successful and the beach will be clean soon. Also pray that Israel will be protected from such disasters in the future and that the government will take action to prevent them as far as possible.
Wed 14 Apr. Yom HaZikaron	Today is the Israeli day of remembrance for all fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism. Many in Israel have lost someone close to them to war or terror. Pray for comfort for all these people.
Thu 15 Apr. Yom Ha’Atsmaut (Israeli Independence Day)	“The Lord remembers us and will bless us: He will bless his people Israel, He will bless the house of Aaron.” (Psalm 115:12) During these holidays Psalms are sung that focus on hope and peace. Pray for peace for Israel.
Fri 16 Apr.	The Israeli population is losing trust in the police, partly due to whether or not the police took action at demonstrations and large events during the corona pandemic. Pray that trust in the police will be restored so that safety can be assured and pray for a blessing on the work of Kobi Shabtai, the new chief of police.
Sat 17 Apr.	Pray for all Jews in Israel who believe in the Lord Jesus. Pray that they may be a light to the people around them and that they will be strengthened in their faith.
Sun 18 Apr.	We learn from the words of Jesus that His Father seeks people who worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:23). “When someone dedicates a part of his night (or some other time) to watchfulness in a sleeping world, it is in part because he knows that that world is entrusted to his prayers.” – André Louf. We can take the time to pray for Israel too, knowing that our heavenly Father entrusts Israel to our prayers.
Mon 19 Apr.	A large part of the Israeli population has received the corona vaccine. Pray that this will contribute to the suppression of the virus and that the country will be able to reopen.

Tue 20 Apr.	Pray for unity within Israel. The corona crisis has driven certain populations further apart and there is much distrust and lack of understanding for each other. Pray that unity will be restored.
Wed 21 Apr.	The American senate has voted to keep the American embassy in Jerusalem by a large majority. Only three senators voted against it. Give thanks for this and pray for blessing over the relationship between Israel and the United States.
Thu 22 Apr.	The International Court of Justice has decided that in the context of the Gaza-war in 2014 Gaza can be considered a state. This means that important figures from that war, Israeli officers among others, can be prosecuted by the Court of Justice. Pray the protection of Israel in the legal arena.
Fri 23 Apr.	Recently Iran admitted publicly that it is capable of making nuclear weapons. Pray for Israel's protection from danger from Iran and pray that Iran will be stopped if it starts making nuclear weapons.
Sat 24 Apr.	Give thanks that products that have been boycotted in the west are now being sold in stores in Arab countries that have recently made peace deals with Israel.
Sun 25 Apr.	"Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always." (1 Chronicles 16:11) Pray for all Palestinian believers. Pray that they will stand firm in their faith and will bless Israel. The latter is not without danger, pray for protection in this.
Mon 26 Apr.	Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas recently claimed that Europe created Zionism to get rid of the Jews. It is yet another lie that can be added to the long list of lies that Abbas tries to spread. Pray for Israel's protection from the spirit of the lie.
Tue 27 Apr.	Pray that the peace deals with many Arab nations will still go through now there is a new administration in the United States.
Wed 28 Apr.	Mansour Abbas, an Arab member of the Israeli parliament, has been called out by the Palestinian Authority (PA) for calling Palestinian terrorists 'terrorists'. According to the PA the terrorists are heroes and that is what they should be called. Mansour is trying to find peace with Israel. Pray for a blessing over Mansour's work.
Thu 29 Apr.	Israel has begun to develop a new rocket defense system together with the United States. The new system will increase the ability to intercept rockets that are fired at Israel. Pray for a blessing over the development of this defense system.
Fri 30 Apr.	Pray for the government of your own country; that they will be positive towards Israel. Pray that the government will not unjustly condemn Israel but support it instead.

May 2021

Sat 1 May	A verse from the Psalms, as you pray for Israel today: "Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores His people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!" (Psalm 14:7).
Sun 2 May	At one point Jesus had been praying when one of His disciples asked: Lord, teach us to pray. (Luke 11:1) Does this sound familiar? Sometimes you want to pray, to intercede, but you can't seem to find the words. The very best thing you can do at a time like this is to ask Jesus this same question. He will gladly answer and help you to convert your desire to pray into actual prayers. Pray that intercession for Israel will increase worldwide.
Mon 3 May	Two promising medicines against corona are being developed in Israel. The medicines appear largely effective in keeping people from becoming so sick that they need to be on a ventilator. Give thanks for this wonderful news from Israel and pray that it will be a blessing to the whole world.
Tue 4 May	For the 3rd consecutive year, Newsweek magazine has ranked Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer near Tel Aviv amongst the "Top 10 Best Hospitals in the World", placing it at #10 in 2021. The magazine's annual "World's Best Hospitals" survey once again cited Sheba's superior healthcare, as well as its medical innovation and cutting-edge research. Give thanks for the many

	contributions Israel has made to the field of medicine.
Wed 5 May	“For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves.” (1 Peter 2:15-16) Pray that Christians will use their freedom to tell others about God and to stand up for the people of Israel.
Thu 6 May	There are still countries who are considering moving their embassies to Jerusalem. Every embassy that is moved is a sign of that country’s support and friendship to Israel. Pray that these countries will decide to move their embassies.
Fri 7 May	Israeli security services expect that Hezbollah is planning to execute a number of attacks along the northern border with Israel this year. The Israeli army is doing specific training at the border with Lebanon to avert these attacks. Pray for protection for Israel along the northern border and a blessing over the army’s training.
Sat 8 May	Many towns in the south of Israel, along the border with Gaza, feel that the government is not doing enough to protect them from attacks from Gaza and Arab criminal activity targeting Jews. Pray for protection for these towns in southern Israel and that the government will do enough to protect them.
Sun 9 May	“In His hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.” (Job 12:10) Terrorist groups Fatah and Hamas have agreed to hold new elections soon, for the first time in fifteen years. It is difficult to guess what this will mean for Israel. Pray that the results will lessen the danger to Israel from Gaza.
Mon 10 May Yom Yerushalayim	Today Israel celebrates the reunification of Jerusalem, when Israel gained control of East Jerusalem in 1967. Give thanks that this extraordinary event took place and pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
Tue 11 May	Pray for southern Israel’s protection against rocket attacks from Gaza. In recent years relatively quiet periods alternate with periods of heavy fire. Pray that the attacks will cease completely and that Israel will be protected.
Wed 12 May	Apparently many anti-Semitic images are being sent over WhatsApp, especially in young people’s WhatsApp groups, such as school classes or sports teams. Pray that there will be a greater awareness among young people of the suffering that is caused by jokes about the Holocaust and that this will stop.
Thu 13 May Ascension Day	“Then they gathered around Him and asked Him, ‘Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’”. (Acts 1:6) Pray that the time will come quickly when Jesus will return to the earth to restore His Kingdom to Israel.
Fri 14 May	Israel, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain have discussed expanding cooperation in facing common enemies. All four believe a nuclear Iran would be a major threat. The remarks came following an article by World Jewish Congress president Ron Lauder in Arab News calling for a ‘NATO of the Middle East.’ Pray for a continuous blessing for Israel with alliances and friendships that keep her safe.
Sat 15 May	Multiple studies have shown that people know less and less about the Holocaust, especially young people. For example, some young people do not know that six million Jews were killed, and think that there were far fewer victims. Pray for quality education on this topic and that the horrors will never be forgotten.
Sun 16 May	During corona anti-Semitism in western countries has continued to grow. This is primarily due to the growth of neo-Nazi and extreme-right movements. Pray for protection for Jews from this anti-Semitism and that these movements will disappear.
Mon 17 May Shavuot	The Feast of Weeks (<i>Shavuot</i>) is a harvest celebration and the holiday celebrating that the people of Israel received the Torah from God on Mount Sinai. It is traditional to stay up studying the Torah in the first night of the Feast of Weeks. Pray for a blessed Feast of Weeks for the Jewish people.

Tue 18 May Shavuot	Since the Feast of Weeks is also a harvest celebration, the book of Ruth is read during this holiday because the harvest is one of its central themes. Ruth decided that she wanted to be a part of God's people and to leave everything for this. Pray that there will be more and more people who want to follow the God of Israel.
Wed 19 May	The first United Arab Emirates ambassador to Israel, Mohamed Al Khaja, pledges to build up new bilateral relations. Israel opened an embassy in Abu Dhabi in January. The UAE would follow Jordan and Egypt in setting up an embassy in or near coastal metropolis Tel Aviv rather than in Israel's capital Jerusalem. According to the UAE Foreign Ministry, Al Khalja has experience in the energy, disarmament, business development and oil investment sectors. Pray for a blessing upon the first UAE ambassador to Israel in his endeavor to build up new bilateral relations.
Thu 20 May	As in many other western nations, there is a housing shortage in Israel. This makes it difficult for newcomers to find homes. Pray for God's provision in this.
Fri 21 May	Pray that Jews outside of Israel will receive a longing to return to Israel and to live in the land that God has promised to them.
Sat 22 May	Pray for all the organizations that help Jews to make Aliyah. Pray that they will have sufficient finances and manpower to process all the applications.
Sun 23 May Pentecost	"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26) Give thanks for the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Give thanks that the Holy Spirit will give us the words to speak when we need to defend our faith.
Mon 24 May	God does not want us to be strong <i>for</i> Him but to be strong <i>in</i> Him, so that no matter what happens, we trust that he is guarding over His word (Isa. 55:11; Jer. 1:12). And when doubts come, we can look on His nation Israel and see Him fulfilling His Word in the face of much world opposition (Psalm 33:10-12).
Tue 25 May	Thirty years ago, on 24 May 1991, Operation Solomon took place. Operation Solomon was a secret military operation to airlift thousands of Ethiopian Jews to Israel. Give thanks for this operation and for all the Jews from Ethiopia who were able to make Aliyah.
Wed 26 May	Pray that all those who have recently made Aliyah will soon feel at home in Israel. Corona has made it more difficult to make new contacts, but pray that these newcomers will soon have a good network around them and that they will be able to build new friendships.
Thu 27 May	Give thanks for the English language Bible study course that Christians for Israel International (C4I) had the opportunity to develop together with Rev. Willem Glashouwer titled, Israel: Covenants & Kingdom. Pray that many will follow this course and that it will contribute to their Biblical understanding of Israel and the Kingdom of peace and justice that will come.
Fri 28 May	The Christians for Israel International (C4I) team is currently developing an online Why Israel course (e-learning). Give thanks for this opportunity to spread the message of God's faithfulness to Israel online. Pray that it will allow the message to reach people who could not be reached before.
Sat 29 May	Please pray for the Aliyah field workers of Christians for Israel in Ukraine today. They often have to do their work in exhausting and dangerous circumstances. Pray also for the distribution of food parcels to the Jewish communities throughout Ukraine.
Sun 30 May	Pray for your own church today, and thank God that, though sometimes with difficulty, people will indeed receive a vision for Israel. Check what you might be able to do, or what difference you could make to your church in this respect.
Mon 31 May	In March there was an Asian conference for the leaders of Christians for Israel from many Asian countries. Rev. Willem Glashouwer and Rev. Cornelis Kant spoke on the theme, Israel: A Sign of Hope in the End Times. Give thanks that we can continue to meet our teams in this way and that they can continue to spread the message in the countries where they minister.