



WE STAND WITH ISRAEL

As most of you are very much aware of, the country of Israel is now at war with the radical group known as “ Hamas.” We are, at the time of this writing, precariously looking at a possible escalation of that war to grow to the northern part of Israel with Hezbollah forces found in Syria and Jordan. All of these “ groups” are supported and backed by the nation of Iran and possibly Russia, as well as China. The United States, so far, has pledged to back Israel and to help them in this war against those horrible infiltrators.

We are all well aware of what took place this past weekend at the conclusion on the last day of the seventh feast of the Lord known as the Feast of Tabernacles. According to the Jewish religious calendar, this is the final Feast of the religious year. It is to last for seven days and it is to be a time of great joy and celebration. Unfortunately, it was turned into a time of horrible atrocities brought about by the Hamas militants. There were too many lives that were lost as they went about the areas bringing terror, destruction and death.

As believers in the Lord Jesus, we undoubtedly and as strongly as we can, stand with Israel. We know that it is God’s desire to ultimately reach out to the Jewish people and to witness the Good News of Jesus and salvation to each of them so that they could be saved. We know that God sent Jesus and every believer that follows to bring the Good News of salvation to the Jew first and then to the Gentiles, the rest of the world.

If you are a true believer, then you must be aware that this attack by Hamas and everything else that had happened and that will follow, is known by God. We all may have our ideas as to why and what will happen because of these events that took place. However, we must be in total agreement that the God who knows and sees all was aware of what would take place and if He is aware of it all, has a definite plan for allowing it all to take place. We must wholeheartedly trust in our Almighty God.

I know that this is very difficult to do. I am not saying that we are not to do anything. However, I am cautioning us all, in that whatever you decide, to just make sure that it is led by your spirit being that is aligned with the Holy Spirit and in tune with the desires of Father, God.

The very first thing, I believe, that we all must do is to continually pray. To pray for the safe release of all the hostages. To pray that God's will would be accomplished and for His end time plans to take place so that Jesus would be able to come and rule and reign on this earth for the millennial period. We all must be praying for God's will to be accomplished. This may be different than what I may want or think is God's will. However, God's plan and His will, not our plan, **will be accomplished**.

We all believe and are looking forward to the time of Jesus' return. Some believe that we may be on the precipice of the "rapture." Others, who do not necessarily believe in the rapture at the beginning of the end times, still see this as a time of preparing for the end times. Which ever way it may happen, or how or when it happens, we must be ready and we must be doing the work that God has called His people to be doing.

How do we prepare for the end times? I believe that to prepare means for God's people to pray, not just for Israel, but for all the people that are on this entire planet. It is God's desire for none to perish but that all would come to the saving knowledge of Jesus. (1Timothy 2:3,4) We all know that not everyone will be saved but that is God's desire and His heart.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells us, "*For God **so loved the world** that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him*" (John 3:16-17). From Jesus' words, we are told that He died for the sins of the **whole** world because He, the Father and the Holy Spirit loves the **whole** world and **everyone** in it, so much. Since God loves all people, we can know that He desires all to be saved.

God created us all in His Image (Genesis 1:27), which means that every person is special among all of God's creation. Unfortunately, since the sin and fall of Adam and Eve, the devil has been able to enter into this world and pervert God's plan and love for all His creation. The devil has entered in and infiltrated the hearts and minds of people to come not only against God's people but also ultimately against God, Himself. We see this throughout the Bible. Man, has always tried to usurp the One and only true and living God. This has all been done under the influence and auspices of the devil (satan) and the forces of darkness. And it is happening today and in this world we are in.

This is what was in the heart of Lucifer and 1/3 of the angels when they rebelled against God. That plan did not work. Then the devil came in the form of a serpent, to cause man (Adam and Eve) to rebel against God and therefore be put to death according to God's word. He thought that this would give him a victory and a "step up" on God. However, God had a different plan for this creation. He already had a plan of salvation available for man.

God knew that man would one day fall. He had the plan for their salvation already activated. He had the plan known as "Jesus" to be the Savior of man to save them from their sinful ways and give them the hope of new life - if they would only accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

We must all try to remain in the understanding of God's heart. We must try to speak to everyone we can and tell them about the Good News of Jesus Christ and that they need to accept Him as their personal Savior and Lord. That is the first "call" of every true believer in Jesus. Yes, we are to support Israel but our primary support needs to go and be placed in God's plan for the second coming of Jesus.

Every single person was created by God. He loves every single one of His creation. God wants all people to truly come to know Him. That is why He has given those who believe in Him, you and I, the "Great Commission" so that each of us could take the Gospel to all places and to every person on this earth.

God wants us to share the truth about the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus with others in order for them to hear the Gospel and have a chance to place their hope and faith in Him. God loves all people and that is why He wants all people to be saved.

The terrorist factions of Hamas and Hezbollah and the extremists of the religious leaders and groups in Iran and other parts of this world are all under the influence of the supreme leader of the forces of darkness. The Russian and Chinese leaders who say they have no God are truly under the influences of their "god," who we know as satan and his forces of darkness. The extreme anarchists that are in this country and the extremists who do not know any better or simply refuse to grasp the truth of God and His goodness that are in our own colleges and universities - are all under the influence of satan and his forces of darkness.

The scriptures are clear. Psalm 122:6-8 tells us, *“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sake, I will now say, Peace be within thee.”* Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem. However, the true “peace” of Jerusalem, and for the entire world, came over 2000 years ago. Jesus, who is the true “Prince of Peace,” is the only true peace that anyone in this world could ever have. That true peace is found within the heart of every one of God’s children, the true believers.

Let us pray that God’s will be done. As Jesus taught us, let us pray, *“Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. [For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.] Amen.”*

(Matthew 6:9–13; Luke 11:2–4)

Yes!!! We stand with Israel and with its people!!! Most importantly, we stand with
God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit!!!