



Prayer for Israel



**An introduction to the
Christian Charity.**

Produced by
Prayer for Israel.

A short history of PFI

Prayer for Israel began its ministry in 1969.

After the 1967 Six Day War Ken Burnett was encouraged to pray for his people. Following a visit to Israel notes & prayer points were circulated; which became the Prayer Bulletin.

- In 1982 a trust, Prayer for Israel, was established to:-
 - Preach the Gospel of Messiah by all means;
 - Foster Godly Prayer events;
 - Provide Biblical Teaching events;
 - Produce, Publish and Distribute Christian material; and
 - Relieve Need, Hardship and Distress in Israel and elsewhere.

Since the pioneering work of the founder Ken Burnett and his wife Lillie, PFI has seen growth in Israel from around two fellowships then, to well over a hundred today.

What is Prayer for Israel?

First and foremost we are believers in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and of his Son, the Lord Jesus the Messiah. Through Him alone one can be saved, one body with the Lord Jesus alone as head. Jesus ever intercedes for those who acknowledge Him as Lord and Saviour.

Prayer for Israel is an international, non-denominational Christian fellowship of believers linked together to bring the good news of Jesus the Jewish Messiah to the Jewish people, to encourage and support believers in a Biblical understanding of God's end time purposes for Jesus' Jewish brethren, and to pray to that end.

Doctrinal Basis of Belief

- The divine inspiration and infallibility of Holy Scripture (The Bible) as originally given and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct;
 - The unity of the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead;
- The universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the Fall rendering man subject to God's wrath and condemnation;
- Redemption from the guilt penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death (as our Representative and Substitute) of Jesus Christ the Incarnate Son of God;
 - The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead;
- The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit to make the death of Christ effective to the individual sinner granting him repentance towards God and faith in Jesus Christ;
 - The indwelling and work of the Holy Spirit in the believer;
- The re-gathering and restoration of the Nation of Israel in accordance with Biblical Prophecy;
- The expectation of the personal return and reign on earth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Encourage the witness of the Messiah

To the Jew first, in Israel and elsewhere.

The Lord Jesus Christ declares that the only way to salvation is through Him. Paul says
in Romans 1:16

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek." (Emphasis added, NKJV)

Bible Teaching

In PFI, Bible teaching goes hand in hand with prayer for God's purposes for Israel in these later days. Bible teaching is given at Conferences and Conventions; at Prayer & Bible Days; at evening meetings; during Prayer Visits; and at other Christian events.

PFI also aims to teach the Church (the true body of believers) the Biblical history and faith of Israel, to refute Replacement Theology, and to combat anti-Semitism.

Prayer, Prayer Partners & Prayer Groups

PFI seeks to pray the prayers that God wants us to pray.

In Matthew 18:19-20 we see a key principle of corporate prayer, "Again I say to you if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My Name, I am there in the midst of them".

Consequently we must seek to pray the prayers God wishes us to pray in His Name. So, if God through the Holy Spirit is directing our prayers, according to His will and purposes, then our prayers are indeed of true value.

If you sign up as a Prayer Partner we will send you the monthly Prayer Bulletin and a quarterly Magazine free of charge.

Prayer Partners are encouraged to join a local Prayer Group if possible. These groups usually meet once a month for worship and focused prayer. If you ask us, we can put a local Prayer Group Leader in touch with you.

Prayer & Bible Conferences and other meetings

We have several Residential Conferences each year. Currently we have the following, usually with a visiting speaker from Israel, Day visitors are most welcome:-

West Country (early February);

Southern (early September);

Derbyshire Dales (November).

The all day PFI Annual Convention is held in the summer, usually in June. Prayer & Bible Days, usually a Saturday, are held up and down the country. We organise many evening meetings, often with visiting speakers from Israel. As much as possible we facilitate visitors preaching at Sunday services.

Prayer Visits to Israel & meeting the "local living stones"

We undertake visits once or twice per year. We meet the local fellowships and ministries up and down the land. We may visit some "tourist sites" if they help us to understand the miracle of the restoration of the Land, and inform our prayers.

Prayer & Support for Believers

Many believers in Israel struggle to make ends meet. In addition many fellowships, especially the newer ones, struggle to support their congregation. It behoves us to seek to support the household of faith in the first instance.

PFI can act as a channel for designated gifts which provides practical support, or relieves hardship and distress in Israel and elsewhere. Designated gifts are passed on to recipients in full until that need is fulfilled when PFI will re-allocate to "Where most needed" (WMN). Unallocated gifts are automatically allocated to the general fund.

As for our day of worship, the Bible doesn't give any strict rule about it and if Sunday is the national day off in your country then worship on Sunday. Of course it is more symbolic to worship on Saturday but I don't think that worshipping on Sunday will deprive us of our salvation!

As for the term 'Messianic believers', it is fine; but once I spoke to an Orthodox Jew at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and shared that I was a Messianic Jew. He said: 'Your term is not specific and doesn't describe your faith because we are also Messianic Jews since we believe in the Messiah. Yet there is a very significant difference between us and it is that we refute your Messiah!' He was right. That is why I don't mind calling myself a Messianic Jew but I prefer to call myself by the name that God Himself gave me:

'How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.'(1 Jn. 3:1)

Concerning the interpretation of Peter's vision in Acts 10, I have a strong reservation. It is true that the animals symbolise the Gentiles but the Lord would not have chosen the non-kosher animals and would not have said to Peter 'kill and eat' if the physical meaning was disregarded. The dietary laws died when Jesus went to this cross, and the curtain was torn from top to bottom. When the Son sets you free you are free indeed, and especially free from the curse of the law!

WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO TEACH THE CHURCHES TO LOVE THE JEWS

To pray for Israel, but without concessions on either side. Let us not forget that we will win the victory by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony; but what will be the outcome if the word has been diluted? Of course it is easier for the devil to hear the word 'tree' than the word 'cross'! The cross speaks of blood and love, and he hates it! So we should not be surprised if his goal will be to change our terminology and tell us to adopt his.

Reviewed November 2011