

ISRAEL'S HOPE

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Dear Friends,

Life in Ocala has been a blessing. We recently passed our one year anniversary of being in this area. We are thankful that we have found a good church home. We are thankful that God has given us opportunities to serve Him. We are thankful that our daughter and family live close by. We are thankful for friends such as you who have stood with us in nearly 50 years of ministry to the Jewish people.

Yes, the world is in turmoil. Israel and Jewish people are facing threats not seen since the birth of Israel in 1948.

But, the end is sure. Israel survives and thrives. Jesus returns as King.

In His service, Mark and Cheryl

PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM!!!



Psalm 122:6 is not an option to be considered, but a command to be obeyed.

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee." When we pray for the peace of Jerusalem we are praying for the return of Jesus, King of kings.

The U.S., the U.N., and the nations of the world have no ability to bring peace to Jerusalem and that area. Only with the return of Jesus will there be peace.

In Zechariah 12:10 we find the scripture that records the answer to the prayers of all who were obedient, throughout the years, of the command of Psalm 122:6.

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn."

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"Whether men like it or not, the Jewish nation not only was, but is God's people—"not only the ancient nation"—as Adolph Saphir used to say—"but the present, yea, the 'everlasting nation"; and His word to them when He first brought them into covenant relationship with Himself, "Ye shall be Mine own possession from among all peoples." (Ex. 19:5) And again, "Thou art a holy people unto Jehovah thy God: Jehovah thy God hath chosen thee to be a people for His own possession above all peoples that are upon the face of the earth" (Deut. 7:6)—is still true, and God never has, and never will, change His mind in reference to His choice of them—inspite of all their sins and apostasies."

David Baron, Israel In the Plan of God, page 54-55

God pours upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem "supplications." My Bible software defines "supplications" as "earnest prayer."

The prayer is the petitions of Psalm 122:6 for the peace of Jerusalem. The answer to this prayer is the return of Jesus to destroy the nations that have come against the Jewish people who have retreated to their Holy City Jerusalem.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem," Zechariah 12:9.

Jesus returns, destroys the enemies of God and Israel and the Jewish people "look upon me whom they have pierced." As Romans 11:26 says "...And so all Israel shall be saved." It is at this time that the Messianic kingdom is established and the peace that has been longed for finally arrives as Jesus rules on the throne of David in Jerusalem (Isaiah 9:6-7) and Jerusalem and the world has peace.

The command of Psalm 122:6 to "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" has a benefit stated in the last part of the verse: "they shall prosper that love thee."

Once again, my Bible software enlarges on the word "prosper," with the definition "to be tranquil, i.e. secure or successful:--be happy, prosper, be in safety."

It is not your prayer for the peace of Jerusalem that makes you prosper and tranquil. It is your love of God's city Jerusalem that has the intrinsic benefit of bringing security, tranquility, into your life. Prayer for Jerusalem's peace will certainly move you in a direction of love for that city as it will for any person you intercede to God for that person's benefit. But, it is likely that love for the city is the prime motivating factor for the desire to pray for the peace of Jerusalem,

Why should a believer love Jerusalem? Here are just a few reasons.

- 1. It is the city God has chosen where His name will be. 2 Chronicles 6:6
- 2. It is the center of the world in God's plan. Ezekiel 5:5
- 3. It is the city God chose to place His Temple. 2 Chronicles 3:1
- 4. It is the place where Jesus died for the sins of the world. Luke 24:18
- 5. It is the city Jesus will rule the world from in the Millennial kingdom. Isaiah 2:3

Do you love Jerusalem? Do you pray for the peace of Jerusalem? Do you long and look for the return of Jesus? The answer to all these should be YES!!!

Don't delay! Love the city that God loves! Pray for the peace of the city that God commands us to pray for its peace! Look for the coming of your Savior and King!

Come Lord Jesus!

"What is the Jew?...What kind of unique creature is this whom all the rulers of all the nations of the world have disgraced and crushed and expelled and destroyed; persecuted, burned and drowned, and who, despite their anger and their fury, continues to live and to flourish. What is this Jew whom they have never succeeded in enticing with all the enticements in the world, whose oppressors and persecutors only suggested that he deny (and disown) his religion and cast aside the faithfulness of his ancestors?!

"The Jew – is the symbol of eternity. ... He is the one who for so long had guarded the prophetic message and transmitted it to all mankind. A people such as this can never disappear.

"The Jew is eternal. He is the embodiment of eternity."

Leo Tolstoy, What is the Jew? printed in Jewish World periodical, 1908

MASTER THE POSSIBILITIES REPORT

For 4 consecutive weeks in March, I taught a class once a week for 2 hours on *Israel in the Plan of God*. The registered students for the class was 47 necessitating the class being moved to the largest room available in the Master the Possibilities complex.

Although we never had the entire enrollment attend, the first 2 weeks there were a little over 30 attending the class and the last 2 classes had around 20 in attendance. Almost overwhelmingly the response was positive. Here are some of the comments.

Extremely well versed and articulate in this subject.

He is the "All Around" best scholar of the bible I have ever been instructed by.

He is very knowledgeable and communicated well.

He was extremely knowledgeable in this area. He was fair but very truthful.

It's apparent he has done thorough research and study on this subject. I learned so much and now have numerous scriptures to study to better understand.

Knowledge of subject.

Mark is extremely knowledgeable about the topic & the history of it, very well presented.

Reverend Robinson's knowledge of the Bible is amazing. He captivates his audience.

Very knowledgeable on subject.

Very knowledgeable with 50 years of study.

Very knowledgeable. Open to guestions. Thoroughly new material.

Excellent presentation. Fascinating subject.

He covered so much material with good documentation from the Bible.

Israel's place in the world and the Bible is not well understood in America. This course is excellent in helping to bridge the misunderstanding.

It was biblically based as the course description said

it was very informative

The content and the material was second to none.

The handouts were detailed. The scriptures were listed allowing for later readings.

In the Fall semester, I will be teaching two courses. In September, for 4 weeks, I will again be teaching *Israel in the Plan of God*. In October, I am offering a 4 week course, meeting once a week for 2 hours, on the subject, *Calvinism or Arminianism? A Biblical Alternative*.

Life & Outreach in Ocala, FL



Aerial view of the property

Jake, Deborah, Rhett and Maisie

The Sweeney family (plus 2 pit bulls) have been living in a 400 sq. ft. 5th wheel RV for the last year. 1.8 acres has been purchased to build an 1,800 sq. ft. 3 bedroom 2 bath home on. A 160' well has been dug, the septic will be installed shortly, and we are expecting the building permit approval any day. This is an owner build. Please pray things go smoothly as this is a new endeavor. Thanks.



Road in front of property

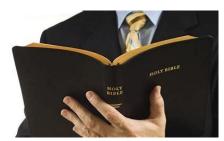


Well being drilled



Jewish Club

The Jewish Club has monthly meetings. We try to make as many as possible to develop friendships that, Lord willing, lead to opportunities to share Messiah. We still get together with Dan and Suzie. They recently returned from a 6 week trip to Australia.



Preaching

Mark is still desiring to preach in churches and conferences. He just returned from speaking in a church in Elma, NY. Lord willing additional preaching opportunities will come.



Home Church

Cheryl is teaching a women's Bible study, singing in the choir, and helping in the church office one morning each week. Mark teaches in Sunday School and occasionally preaches in the services.

Our pastor is retiring June 9 at the age of 83. The church is looking for a man to replace him. If you know of a man who is an expository preacher and would fit with an independent Baptist Church who might be interested in the position, let me know.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1. Outreach in OTOW.
- 2. Good health.
- 3. Pastor for home church.
- 4. Jake and Deborah's home build.
- Dan and Suzie salvation.

