

Genesis 12: Blessing the Jewish People

Gathering all generations to pray for all nations ASKing God to do what only He can do and doing whatever He ASKs of us.

Let God speak to you through the Word to pray for the Jewish people.

If you have not already worked through the Basic Lessons, also found under Teaching Resources, it is recommended you do so, in order to get the most out of this and the other teaching lessons.

Suggestion: Read the lesson first, then meditate on the Scriptures as the Holy Spirit leads. **Group:** Take a brief sharing time to the total meditation. Let the Word speak to you personally; respond to God the same way. Pray through one point at a time until it is finished. Pray through all that is received.

Read this Word in the context of anti-Judaism. Today anti = Semitism is growing stronger, particularly in the Middle East but all over the world. The media is often complicit in not reporting attacks against Jews.

Some anti-Judaism is in the Church through what is called Replacement Theology which says the New Covenant supersedes the Old Covenant which was made exclusively with the Jewish people, and that God's blessing now comes exclusively through the Church.

Read the Word as the living Word, as pertinent today as it was when it was written. Read it as if God is speaking to you and looking to you for your response.

Proverbs 24:10 "If you faint in the day of adversity your strength is small."

Response: How would you respond as this relates to anti-Semitism? Are you aware of the attacks on Israel? Does it concern you in any way? Do you stand for Israel against world opinion?

v11-12 "Deliver those who are drawn toward death and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter, v12 If you say, 'Surely we did not know this, does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?" You are accountable.

The book of Esther is a warning to all who would try to destroy the Jews. Persia is Iran today and the same hatred is being expressed against Israel by governmental leaders. Iran also is reported to have the most newly converted Christians of these Middle East Countries.

When Haman who wanted to kill all the Jews in Persia is promoted, Haman's wife and his wise counselors give him warning: "If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish descent, you will not prevail against him but will fall before him," Esther 6:13.

God Himself gives His warning as a protection for the Jews,

Genesis 12:2-3 "I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. ^{v3} I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." All the earth was to be blessed when Jesus came in human form as Savior and a Jewish man.

Response: How do you view Israel and the Jewish people?

Do you understand their covenantal claims to their land?

Are you aware of their contributions to the world?

Do you see them as a great nation with end time purposes?

Do you see Jesus as a Jew by God's design?

Israeli covenantal claims to Abraham, Jacob and Isaac: Genesis 12:2-3,6-7; 15:18-21; 17:7-9,21; *23:19-20; 26:1-5; 28:1-4,13-15; *33:18-20; 35:9-12; 48:3-6; Joshua1: 1-5; 24:11-14; 2 Samuel 5:6-10; *2 Samuel 24:18-24. *Lands purchased by Abraham, Jacob and David and recorded in the Old Testament.

God's end time purposes for Jerusalem and Israel: Zechariah 8:1-3; Micah 4:1-3, Isaiah 2:1-4; Joel 3:12

Look up Jewish contributions to the world on the internet.

Use God's Word to bring about a change in the perception of the Jewish people.

God's warning is protection, Context: Numbers 22,23,24 chapters

As Israel is moving into their Promised Land, Balak, King of the Moabites hires the prophet Balaam to curse Israel. Balaam is restrained from prophesying against them, blessing them three times and in the fourth prophesy he glimpses Messiah.

God's word is a restraint in the spiritual realm.

Numbers 23:8 "How shall I curse who God has not cursed? And how shall I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?"

^{Cont.} v19-20 God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man that He should repent (change of mind). Has He said, and will He not do it? or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? ^{v20} Behold, I have received a command to bless; He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it."

No witchcraft -

^{cont.} v23 "For there is no sorcery against Jacob, nor any divination against Israel. It now must be said of Jacob and of Israel, 'Oh, what God has done!"

Numbers 24:9 Blessed is he who blesses you and cursed is he who curses you."

Psalm 46 contains another warning for nations warring against Israel.

v10 "Be still and know that I am God' I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
This is not a call for reverential silence, but a warning to nations who would come against Israel
Be still..." is the word slacken here, meaning to weaken. It means, "Stop!" Nations warring against Israel will be weakened.

Warning from Zechariah for the end times.

Zechariah 12:2, 3 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. ¹³ And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples: all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though the nations of the earth are gathered against it."

Warnings from Isaiah for the End Times

Isaiah 17:12-14b "Woe to the multitude of many people who make a noise like the roar of the seas, and to the rushing of nations that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters! v13 The nations will rush like the rushing of many waters; but God will rebuke them and they will flee far away, and be chased like the chaff of the mountains before the wind, like a rolling thing before the whirlwind. v14 Then behold, at eventide, trouble! And before the morning, he is no more. This is the portion of those who plunder us, and the lot of those who rob us."

Isaiah 54:15 "Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake."

v17 "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is from Me, says the Lord."

Isaiah 41:11-13 "Behold, all those who were incensed against you shall be ashamed and disgraced; they shall be as nothing, and those who strive with you shall perish. ^{v12} You shall seek them out and not find them — those who contended against you, those who war against you shall be as nothing, as a nonexistent thing."

Proverbs 23:10-11 "Do not remove the ancient landmark; nor enter the fields of the fatherless; *11 For their Redeemer is mighty; He will plead their cause against you."

God's purpose and end time plans for Israel will come to pass. It is foolish to contend with God.

Application: As you ASK, use God's word to curb the demonic that fuels anti-Semitism around the world. God's Words are a restraint and a rebuke against evil planned for the Jewish people.