

**I. Introduction:**

- A.** The **Isaiah 62 Fast** from Sunday, May 7 through Sunday, May 28 (Pentecost Sunday) may have been one of the most formative seasons in my life from a theological standpoint. I would venture to say that this will be true of millions of other Christians worldwide as they discovered for perhaps the first time the significance of Jerusalem, Israel and the Jewish people. We are going to keep the conversation going by the grace of God and as the Spirit leads.
- B.** Tonight I want to take a moment to share why being “into Israel” or being “into the Israel thing” matters to our life as Christians as well as the ministry He has called us to. Many Christians today view being “into Israel” or being “into the Israel thing” as almost an optional niche of doctrine or theology. Many tune out completely when they hear about Israel not knowing it’s because they have not experienced an illumination of the heart to perceive its importance. The entire Bible is quite literally about the Jewish people as well as its implications regarding Gentiles (non-Jews). To ignore this subject is ultimately to egregiously misunderstand the biblical text, the nature of God, the role of the church and even truth itself. Many doctrinal and theological realities hang in the balance of how we interpretively treat what the Bible says about Jerusalem, Israel and the Jewish people.
- C.** Being “into Israel” or being “into the Israel thing” must not be mistaken as a phase we are going through in the GPHOP, prayer movement or global body of Christ. The “Israel thing” is a permanent thing. The Holy Spirit is helping the global church of Jesus Christ to recover “the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 1:3) from the first century Jewish apostles as well as all the prophets that preceded them.

**II. Introductory Scriptures:**

**Genesis 12:3** | I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

- There is a measure of blessing on our individual lives directly related to how we treat Abram/Abraham—the descendants of Abram/Abraham, in our case. Said differently, how we treat the Jewish people is one of the measuring lines God uses as He considers the allotment of blessing on our personal lives and families. I believe this has both “little” and “big” ramifications. Little meaning things like circumstantial blessing (finances, opportunities, etc.), and big meaning things like eternal blessing (salvation, rewards, etc.).

**Psalms 122:6** | Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.

- David tells us of a link between prosperity and prayerful love of Jerusalem. This is such an interesting thought, in my opinion. One aspect of loving Jerusalem is praying for Jerusalem, and it causes prosperity to come in some measure to our life that otherwise wouldn’t. Now, when some people think of prosperity, they think of fame and fortune. We’re to think of prosperity in the biblical sense, which rarely means fame and fortune. This has more to do with spiritual prosperity such as things like a closer friendship with God, a heart more like His, a love more like the love of Jesus, etc.
- Now, this prosperity is certainly not limited to spiritual prosperity. Many often think immediately of material prosperity. God may do this, but we must understand that the most precious gold, silver and jewels in life are not material, but those that last forever—those that accord to our obedience and devotion to Jesus. Knowing Him in an ever-deepening way is the greatest treasure we could ever find. He is the spring of water that never runs dry, the unending oil field, the unlimited gold mine.

**Zechariah 1:14** | So the angel who spoke with me said to me, “Proclaim, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts: “I am zealous for Jerusalem And for Zion with great zeal.

- God is essentially saying this: “I’m extremely passionate about the city of Jerusalem.” He’s communicating not only His desire for this geographic location, but also the people therein—the Jewish people. God says this about no other place on Earth.
- Although Zion is often used as synonymous with Jerusalem, it’s also a designated place of worship within Jerusalem. The Scriptures show us that Mount Zion is a sacred place of worship and will one day will be the specific location where God Himself will live (Isaiah 2:3, Jeremiah 31:6, Micah 4:2).

**III. Why being “into Israel” matters for our life and ministry:**

- In brief, our personal life and public ministry is either on this trajectory or it’s not. Prayerfully contemplate this subject.

*Help me improve my notes! The first person to point out a legitimate mistake/typo on this document (during service) gets \$1/a gift.*

### Greater Peoria House of Prayer Announcements for June 2, 2023.

1. **Welcome** to the Greater Peoria House of Prayer... we're glad you're here and blessed to be worshipping God with you! Be sure to pick up any of the **free** materials at the back table in the prayer room or the desk near the front of the Gathering Grounds area downstairs, which includes teaching notes, stickers, pens, prayer cards and more. **Daily schedule:** We currently host evening prayer from 7-8 p.m. seven nights a week. Our **Friday Encounter Night** is from 7-9 p.m. and is our main corporate gathering each week featuring live worship and a teaching to inspire love for Jesus and prayer.
2. **Upcoming events:** Kids Camp 2023 is July 17-21 from 3:30-5 p.m. Be on the lookout for more information!
3. **Prayer room ministry opportunities:** If you are interested in leading or ministering during a live worship set by singing, playing an instrument, prayer leading or on the sound board, please contact us at [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org). We'd love to have you serve on one of our teams! **Team ministry opportunities:** If you feel the Lord has gifted you in the prophetic (or would like to grow in this gifting) and would consider helping on a prophetic team, send an email to [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org). Contact Mandy Kistner at [mandy@gphop.org](mailto:mandy@gphop.org) if you would like to schedule a future healing ministry appointment or help out on the healing team.
4. **Missions:** Please keep the following missionary friends in prayer as well as be considerate of their financial needs: **Ashley Bucknam** (YWAM, Nepal); **Phil Kellenberger** (International House of Prayer; Kansas City, MO) **Babett Mueller** (111 Global; Kansas City, MO); **Kerusso Perhay** (Pioneer 61; Mozambique); **Eric and Erin Simmons** (Bethany Global University; Bloomington, MN); **Alicia Wright** (ACTS, India); **Austin and Amy Zhu** (International House of Prayer; Kansas City, MO).
5. **Military:** Please keep the following members of our military in prayer as they valiantly serve the United States of America: **Jake Gerst**, stationed in Grafenwoehr/Grafenwöhr, Germany. **Kyle Nix**, stationed in Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane County, Washington.
6. **Social media:** Follow us on Facebook (Greater Peoria House of Prayer - GPHOP), Twitter (@GPHOPrayer), Instagram (@GPHOPrayer), TikTok, Vimeo and YouTube for regular updates and inspiration. Use these social media sites to get the word out, share pictures, quotes you heard, etc. Contact Derek at [derek@gphop.org](mailto:derek@gphop.org) if you're interested in helping with GPHOP's social media.
7. **Haven ministries:** Do you need space to pray? Maybe your Christian group needs a place to meet every once in awhile. We're making available the upper Prayer Room and lower-level Gathering Grounds for rent by donation. Email [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org) if interested.
8. We provide **free Wi-Fi** to everyone here! The password for the **GPHOP** router is on the chalkboard in the downstairs fellowship area. You can also connect to Xfinity if you have a personal Comcast account.
9. **Prayer requests:** If you would like our community to pray for someone or something specific, please submit it to [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org).
10. **Giving:** If you have been blessed by the GPHOP and would like sow financially into the ministry, we would be more than blessed. You can give in cash, but if you would like to give to GPHOP with a check, please make it out to “Greater Peoria House of Prayer” or “GPHOP”—your gift is tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity! It's helping make day and night prayer with worship possible in central Illinois. You can place your gift in the Friday night offering during the 7 p.m. teaching or drop it in either of the two black donation boxes. Donations can also be mailed to our physical address at 117 East Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611. Donors can also use PayPal or our website ([gphop.org/donate](http://gphop.org/donate)) to give electronically.
  - **Spring '23 fundraiser:** We've extended our spring gift match. Please pray and consider supporting the GPHOP!

*Thank you for helping to **keep this prayer room sacred** by ensuring conversations with others are brief and kindly reminding others to do the same. Use the large Gathering Grounds fellowship area downstairs if you would like to chat at length.*