

Gathering the Fragments

So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost" (John 6:12, NKJV).

The story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people next to the Sea of Galilee by miraculously multiplying two fish and five loaves of bread is one of His innumerable miracles. After everyone had eaten, Jesus instructed the disciples to gather the leftover pieces so that nothing would be wasted, and they did–*twelve* baskets worth. The <u>Pulpit</u> <u>Commentary</u> beautifully highlights that the broken pieces that were gathered were "not the crumbs left on the ground by the satisfied thousands, but the pieces broken from the original loaves." What was gathered was that which the hands of the Messiah Himself had broken off. These He collected so that nothing would be lost. This reminds us of the promise found in Romans 11 where the Apostle Paul speaks of another regathering of what was broken off, original branches from an olive tree that God will sovereignly heal and reconstitute in the last days.

The fields are white as many are trying to find order when it seems like the world has lost it. Were it not for the promise in Acts 3:21 among many others that Our Risen Messiah will return at the appointed time to restore all things, it would be gruelling to ingest the fragmented reality we are witnessing unfold in the nations-but thanks be to God for the Hope we have in Jesus. Anti-Semitic protests filled with evil chants calling for "global intifada" and the destruction of the Jewish People in order to reappropriate or divide Eretz Israel have spread like wildfire globally. The list of nations abandoning Israel by joining South Africa's infamous and baseless claims against Israel of genocide in Gaza with the International Court of Justice, continues to grow now including Libya, Colombia, Nicaragua, and most recently one of Israel's longstanding diplomatic Arab neighbours, Egypt. Add to these the game-changing unexpected fatal helicopter crash in Iran on May 19, 2024 that led to the death of the president of the Islamic Iranian regime, Ibrahim Raisi, and all on board with him.

The window of mercy we have been living in for millennia, not just since our Messiah's first coming, but from the beginning of the age, is closing and God's grace is gathering the fragments of our history to make us ready for the grand finale. His grace has been freely dispersed for the salvation of all people, and as the days seem to grow darker, we see His mercy appealing to the nations–especially Israel. Overt anti-Semitic attacks and incidents have caused Jews in Israel to begin crying out to their brothers in the diaspora to *come home*. The cry to "Bring Them Home" rings prophetically, not only to the hostages in Gaza, but even to all the captives in our generation to be reconciled back into God's family **(Ephesians 2:11-13 NKJV)**



Our WOP team continues earnestly in prayer for the return of the hostages, again visiting Hostage Square in Tel Aviv, meeting survivors and praying with families of the abducted, encouraging them to look to the God of Israel. We recently partnered with Genesis123 Foundation on a Global Day of Prayer Zoom meeting with hundreds of Jews and Christians praying for the hostages, safety of our IDF, and to change the enemies

hearts. During May's remembrances, we watched and prayed alongside many who gathered at the Western Wall as a new day dawned from Israel's Memorial Day to its Independence Day. Dancing and a sacrifice of praise "Am Israel Chai" came forth from multiple pockets in the vast crowd. When I asked a woman what brought her to the Wall, she said "I came to pray," adding "It took me an hour to get here from Netivot, but it was worth it." With your



vital support and fervent prayers, we are privileged with these opportunities to encourage people like her as well as our soldiers.

Romans 11 teaches that before the regathering takes place, an important event will occur-the fullness of the Gentiles will come in. The Good News has circled much of the earth, and while labourers are still needed and are being sent out to collect what's remaining in frontier nations, the hearts of *"the lost sheep of the House of Israel"* remain God's chief desire (Matthew 15:24, NKJV) to complete His redemptive purposes. As God collects the fragments of whosoever believes among the Gentiles, expect the same to not be so far away in His kingdom purposes for Israel. Nothing will be lost.

Let's Pray:

Thank God for His long suffering heart for the nations He created, that none should be lost desiring for all men to be prepared for the Day of the Lord (Romans 1125-36; 2 Peter 3:9 NKJV)

Intercede for a global outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the nations during this month commemorating Shavuot, to the Jews first and to all people **(Joel 3:1-2; John 6:14 CJB)**

Pray for the repentance and forgiveness of many who've been swept into the global evil tides of anti-Semitism; ask for a revelation of the kingdom of God (**Proverbs 17:15; Isaiah 5:20 NKJV**)

Stand in the gap for your nation. Be aware of where your leaders stand in relation to Israel and intercede accordingly (**Zechariah 12:3; 14:16 NKJV**)

Pray for unity for Israeli leadership, that dissenting and rebellious voices from within Israel's government would not invite God's displeasure or rejection onto Israel during this time of war when a united People is most needed (1 Samuel 15:23; Matthew 12:25 NKJV)



Ask for wisdom and discernment for all decision makers concerning the

"Day After" plans for Gaza at the end of this Israel-Hamas war. May it include the labourers of the Father being raised up for healing and harvest in Gaza and the Middle East region (Zechariah 9:5; 1 Chronicles 12:32 NKJV).

Lift your voices for the voiceless, remember the hostages in Gaza. Pray for their safe return, and God's accompanying healing and restoration (Exodus 15:26; Isaiah 61:3 NKJV)

Pray for all the Tribes of the House of Israel in the diaspora to heed the pleas from those in the Land as well as the signs of the times like Sons of Issachar and come home (Jeremiah 16:14-16; Ezekiel 36:24 NKJV)

To Our Dear Prayer Partners:

We've been so encouraged by those of you who have reached out to share that you are regularly praying for our CFI Jerusalem Team-thank you! As God gathers the precious fragments here in the Land, know that you are just



as much a part of this work when you pray with us during our weekly Zoom night watches for the Israel-Hamas War, our monthly Zoom meetings, or share our prayer letters and updates with others. To receive details of all the ways you can connect with us in prayer, email us at prayer@cfijerusalem.org

Maranatha! Suzie Georges Wall of Prayer Coordinator