

God's Heart for Israel Part 3

Preparing for the Isaiah 62 Fast, May 7 – 28, 2023

Thesis: We are a people who join Jesus on his mission in the earth, together with others. Right now, the Lord is mobilizing millions of believers to fast and pray for the nation of Israel, the city of Jerusalem, and the Jewish people around the world.

Texts: Isaiah 62:1-12; Jeremiah 31:31-40; 32:37-41; 3:14-18; Zechariah 2:10-12

I am grateful and excited for how the Lord has connected us with what he is doing in the earth. We are participating in the [Isaiah 62 Fast](#) because God has shared his heart with us. ([Isaiah 62 Fast: The Isaiah 62 Global 21-Days of Prayer and Fasting, May 7-28, 2023.](#))

As we get ready to fast and pray for Israel and Jerusalem for 21 days for May 7 - 28, we want to **remember the “why”** behind our participation.

We are a people who care about what God cares about.

As Mike Bickle said, “I want to be gripped with what grips the heart of God.”

In [God's Heart for Israel Part 1](#), we talked about what God cares about.

We are a people who care about what God cares about.

1. **God cares about people.** Relationships matter to God. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The fact that relationships matter to God should encourage each of us. We matter to God.
2. **God cares about keeping the promises which he has made.** Promises matter to God (Joshua 21:45; Matthew 5:18). The fact that promises matter to God should encourage us, because keeps his word.
3. **God cares about process.** Process matters to God. First the natural, then the spiritual (1 Corinthians 15:46). There is a covenant with Abraham. There is a covenant with Israel. Then, there is the new covenant inaugurated by Jesus. The new covenant fulfills everything in the old covenant and puts them together in Christ (see Jeremiah 31 and Hebrews 8:6-12).
4. **God cares about places.** Physical places matter to God. The Lord cares about Israel and about Jerusalem. The land of Israel and the city of Jerusalem matter to God and are chosen by God (Deuteronomy 32:8-10).

In [God's Heart for Israel Part 2](#), we talked about what God feels and wants.

We are a people who feel what God feels and who want what God wants.

1. 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"'" (Zechariah 1:14 NKJV).
2. Again the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying, 2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'I am zealous for Zion with great zeal; With great fervor I am zealous for her'" (Zechariah 8:1-2 NKJ).
3. God is zealous, jealous for Jerusalem, the land of Israel, and the Jewish people. (See Isaiah 62 and Romans 9 – 11.)

Today, we want to talk about joining Jesus on his mission in the earth, together with others.

- We are a people who join Jesus on his mission in the earth, together with others.
- Right now, the Lord is mobilizing millions of believers to fast and pray for the nation of Israel, the city of Jerusalem, and the Jewish people around the world.

There are many **ways to participate** in [The Isaiah 62 Global 21-Days of Prayer and Fasting](#) (May 7-28, 2023).

Here are the ways you can participate.

1. Engage some level of **fasting for 21 days**, as much as you have the grace to do.
 - a. Water or juice only fast.
 - b. Daniel Fast or modified Daniel Fast: abstaining from certain foods like meats and sweets.
 - c. Fasting 2 meals a day.
 - d. Fasting 1 meal a day.
 - e. Fasting a day or 2 or 3 a week.
 - f. Fasting from other things like social media, TV, etc.
2. **Participate in corporate prayer at Calvary** as you have a chance.
 - a. The Prayer Room at Calvary will have extended hours to join with the IHOPKC live stream.
3. **Stream** the [IHOPKC Prayer Room](#) meetings on your devices and computers.
 - a. Maybe some of you can participate in the night watches.
4. **Remember:** fasting and prayer are never convenient.
 - a. There is a grace to do what you can do.

- b. We want to call you to do as the Lord calls you.
- c. Together, we are embracing what God is doing and responding to his leadership.

Here are the ways in which you can participate in our corporate prayer meetings and live streaming [at Calvary during the 21-Day Isaiah 62 Fast](#).

1. **Daily corporate prayer meetings in the Prayer Room.**
 - a. Monday through Friday noon prayer: 12:00 – 1:00pm.
 - b. Monday night worship and prayer. 7:00 – 8:30pm.
 - c. Tuesday morning prayer. 10:00am – 12:00pm.
 - d. Thursday morning worship and prayer. 6:00 – 8:00am.
 - e. Friday night worship and prayer. 7:00 – 9:00pm.
 - i. Meet in The Cove on May 12.
 - ii. Meet in the Prayer Room on May 19, 26.
 - f. Saturday morning prayer. 8:00 – 9:00am.
 - g. Sunday morning worship. 10:00am.
2. **IHOPKC streaming opportunities at Calvary.**
 - a. Monday, 9:00am – 7:00pm.
 - b. Wednesday, 9:00am – 12:00pm.
 - c. Thursday, 8:00am – 12:00pm.

Here are some ways that people get off track in dealing with Israel, Jerusalem, and the Jewish people.

1. **Espousing or embracing antisemitism**
 - a. Antisemitism is rejecting the Jewish people, hating Jewish people, and/or seeking the destruction of Jewish people.
 - b. Antisemitism is hostility to, prejudice towards, or discrimination against Jewish people. Antisemitism is a form of racism. Antisemitism is evil.
 - c. People justify their antisemitism for many reasons.
 - i. They use certain Scriptures to justify their anger and wrath against Jewish people. For example, people seek to blame the Jewish people for the death of Jesus.
 - ii. They are jealous of the way in which God has blessed the Jewish people culturally and economically. They hate how the Jewish people have continued to honor and express their culture even in the diaspora.
 - iii. They unilaterally blame Jewish people for the plight of the Palestinians. That is a complex subject.

- d. Satan has sought to destroy the Jewish people from the time when God chose them.
 - i. And, Christians have a really bad track record throughout history in becoming conduits of evil against Jewish people.
 - ii. In many ways, their blood is on our hands as Christians.
 - e. Remember: **God is opposed to racism in all forms.**
 - i. There will be people of every tribe, tongue, language, and nation around the throne of God (Revelation 5:9-10).
2. **Approving of everything which the Jewish government and people do**
- a. It is unhelpful to approve of everything which the Jewish government and people do.
 - b. It is wrong to support what the Jewish government does uncritically.
 - i. Just blindly supporting them isn't helpful.
 - ii. Their government and people do great good; and, they make mistakes just like any other government and nation.
 - c. And, we want avoid attacking and rejecting them *a priori*, just because they are Jewish.
 - i. The United Nations condemns Israel all the time, and hardly ever (almost never) condemns what other nations do against Israel and the Jewish people.
 - ii. The nation of Iran has promised to wipe Israel and the Jewish people off the face of the earth.
3. **Embracing dual track theology**
- a. Dual track theology says that Jewish people can be saved outside of a relationship with Jesus. This is misleading.
 - b. *Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12, Peter to the Jewish rulers and elders).*
 - c. *Acts 2:22 Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. 25 David said about him: " 'I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.' 29 "Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30*

But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. 33 Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand 35 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” 36 “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call” (Acts 2:22–39).

4. **Going back to the Old Covenant laws and practices**

- a. Going back to the Old Covenant laws and practices as one learns about Judaism and about Jewish brothers and sisters is unwarranted. (Read Galatians, especially Galatians 3:1-14.)
- b. Yes, we obey the eternal commands of God in Christ, who came to fulfill the law. But we don't live under the law or seek to justify ourselves by keeping the law.
- c. Yes, we celebrate our Jewish roots; however, it is another thing to convert to Judaism and all its practices, rules, and laws.
- d. We can value, celebrate, and honor the Jewish people without becoming Jews.

We are a people who join Jesus on his mission in the earth, together with others. Right now, the Lord is mobilizing millions of believers to fast and pray for the nation of Israel, the city of Jerusalem, and the Jewish people around the world.

Here are a few key Scriptures which help us understand what the Lord is doing in this hour and give us vocabulary for our prayers.

1. **Isaiah 62:1-12 presents one of clearest and most concise revelations of the glory of the Lord over Jerusalem, the nation of Israel, and the Jewish people.**
 - a. I believe that the person speaking is the Anointing One from Isaiah 61. I believe this is Jesus, that Isaiah got to hear Christ's heart for his Jewish people, for Jerusalem, and for the nation of Israel.

- b. Isaiah 62:1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. 2 The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. 3 You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 4 No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD will take delight in you, and your land will be married. 5 As a young man marries a maiden, so will your sons marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you. 6 I have posted watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, 7 and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth. 8 The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: "Never again will I give your grain as food for your enemies, and never again will foreigners drink the new wine for which you have toiled; 9 but those who harvest it will eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather the grapes will drink it in the courts of my sanctuary." 10 Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations. 11 The LORD has made proclamation to the ends of the earth: "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your Savior comes! See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.'
2. **Jeremiah 31:31-40; 32:37-41; 3:14-18.** These passages are a clear snapshot of the old and new covenants, of how they are tied together, and how they are finished and fulfilled in Jesus.
- The Old Covenant is finished and fulfilled in Jesus' New Covenant according to Hebrews 8:6-12.
 - We don't go back and live in the Old Covenant. God is putting together the natural and spiritual. The old will be fulfilled in Christ; we are not going back to the Old Covenant.
 - Jeremiah 31:31 "The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. 33 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 No

longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." 35 This is what the LORD says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— the LORD Almighty is his name: 36 "Only if these decrees vanish from my sight," declares the LORD, "will the descendants of Israel ever cease to be a nation before me." 37 This is what the LORD says: "Only if the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth below be searched out will I reject all the descendants of Israel because of all they have done," declares the LORD. 38 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when this city will be rebuilt for me from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. 39 The measuring line will stretch from there straight to the hill of Gareb and then turn to Goah. 40 The whole valley where dead bodies and ashes are thrown, and all the terraces out to the Kidron Valley on the east as far as the corner of the Horse Gate, will be holy to the LORD. The city will never again be uprooted or demolished" (Jeremiah 31:31-40).

- d. I will surely gather them from all the lands where I banish them in my furious anger and great wrath; I will bring them back to this place and let them live in safety. 38 They will be my people, and I will be their God. 39 I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear me for their own good and the good of their children after them. 40 I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me. 41 I will rejoice in doing them good and will assuredly plant them in this land with all my heart and soul (Jeremiah 32:37-41).
- e. "Return, faithless people," declares the LORD, "for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion. 15 Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding. 16 In those days, when your numbers have increased greatly in the land," declares the LORD, "men will no longer say, 'The ark of the covenant of the LORD.' It will never enter their minds or be remembered; it will not be missed, nor will another one be made. 17 At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the LORD, and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the LORD. No longer will they follow the stubbornness of their evil hearts. 18 In those days the house of Judah will join the house of Israel, and together they will come from a northern land to the land I gave your forefathers as an inheritance" (Jeremiah 3:14-18).

- i. The ark of the covenant won't be our focus because the Lord himself in his presence is what matters.
3. **Zechariah 2:10-12. The Lord chooses and inherits the land of Israel and God chooses Jerusalem as his capital on earth forever.**
- a. *"Shout and be glad, O Daughter of Zion. For I am coming, and I will live among you," declares the LORD. 11 "Many nations will be joined with the LORD in that day and will become my people. I will live among you and you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you. 12 The LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem" (Zechariah 2:10-12).*
 - b. Again, the Lord desires to put the Jewish people and other nations together in the Lord. We will be his people and he will live among us.
 - c. And, the Lord will inherit his people in the land of Israel and will choose Jerusalem forever.

Summary:

- We are a people who join Jesus on his mission in the earth, together with others.
- Right now, the Lord is mobilizing millions of believers to fast and pray for the nation of Israel, the city of Jerusalem, and the Jewish people around the world.
- We want to partner with Jesus and with others in what he is doing in this historic hour.

Resources for the Isaiah 62 Fast

1. **Isaiah 62 Fast:** <https://isaiah62fast.com/>
2. **Video 1:** https://youtu.be/Z4GfG_i8cpl about the Isaiah 62 Fast. (6:14)
3. **Video 2:** <https://youtu.be/K-KyEspxhIU> video about the 100 million intercessors. (4:45)
4. **Video 3:** https://youtu.be/AOjoXj_mmg short vision video. (0:54)
5. **Handout:** <https://isaiah62fast.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/The-Isaiah-62-Global-21-Days-of-Prayer-and-Fasting-May-7-28-2023-1.pdf>
6. **Prayer Guide:** *The Heart of God for Israel: A 21-Day Prayer Guide* for the [21-Day Isaiah 62 Global Fast](#).
 - a. And, [here is a copy of the Scriptures from the prayer guide](#).
7. **Resource book:** *Your People Shall Be My People: How Israel, the Jews and the Christian Church Will Come Together in the Last Days*, Don Finto.
8. **Sermon:** [Isaiah 62 Fast: The Isaiah 62 Global 21-Days of Prayer and Fasting, May 7-28, 2023](#).