#### What Legacy will you Leave?

(Leaving a Prophetic Legacy/25+ mins)

Scripture Text:

- Romans 8:15
- Romans 11:17
- Psalms 122:6
- Isaiah 62:1
- Genesis 12:1-3
- Isaiah 58

#### Introduction

I believe there is an innate desire in every human being to design, create, and build something that will have sustainability and lasting effects for whatever the final product might be. I call this the "God spark." For our Creator created us in His image and likeness, therefore we have that spark of our Master Designer, with his attributes, tendencies, and desires. Everything God created has a spiritual DNA called **LEGACY** within it! Israel is a prime example of a people and a place that has been established as a cornerstone of legacy. Since Israel became a nation 75 years ago, God's has continued His handiworks for the whole world to see. **"What no eye** has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived'—the things God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).



Legacy is defined as: a gift by will **(short elaborations on** *Old/New Testament*), especially of money or other personal property; something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessors or from the past; a candidate for membership in an organization (such as a school or fraternal order) who is given special status because of a familial relationship to a member.

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba! Father!" (Romans 8:15).

And Romans 11 teaches us: "I am talking to you Gentiles... and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root" (vv. 13, 17). So now you also receive the blessing God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in the rich nourishment from the root of God's special olive tree. (short elaboration on the Jewish roots of our faith)

#### **Background**



If there has ever been a time for Christians and God's church to build a bridge of understanding, collaboration, and support for Israel and the Jewish community, now is the time! We the church, the body of believers, can and must make a difference. **(WHY?)** The reason the church and its members must lay aside any differences with the Jewish community is because we must embrace the biblical mandate to be a blessing to God's people. There have been times within our faith communities, historically, of tragedy, bondage, pain, and hardship. For example, almost 12 million Africans were taken captive and treated inhumanely during the period of slavery in America, while approximately 6 million Jews perished during the Holocaust during World War II.

The great civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated, **"We will either live together as brothers (and sisters) or we will perish together as fools."** 

Currently, there are reports of the rise in racial hatred and anti-Semitism in our nation. Interviewed in 1965, Dr. King stated, *"How could there be anti-Semitism among negroes when our Jewish friends have demonstrated their commitment to the principle of tolerance and brotherhood not only in the form of sizable contributions, but in many other tangible ways, often at great* 



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personal sacrifice? It would be impossible to record the contribution that the Jewish people have made toward the Negro's struggle for freedom, it has been so great. (Correct some of the current narrative/elaborate on some myths) Dr. King's legacy encompasses influential decisions, monumental actions, and steadfast progressions of humanitarian rights that reach far beyond the civil rights movement.

#### What Legacy will you Leave?

#### **Interpretation**

Psalm 122:6 tells us to, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; 'May those who love you be secure." The church has a biblical responsibility to pray for the peace of Israel, to <u>bless Israel</u>, and to <u>speak up</u> for Israel by spreading the Word to those in our sphere of influence about the current plight of Israel and Jewish people across the globe. Isaiah 62:1 reads: "For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet." And Rabbi Joachim Prinz once said, "...the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence."



There is no other entity on earth that can affect Israel and the Jewish people other than the body of Christ. The church carries an anointing and a call to stand against the injustices and unrighteousness in the world.

The Call of Abram: "The LORD had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 'I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those you bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

The two main reasons to bless Israel and the Jewish people are: 1) It's biblical, and 2) It's moral.

God's prophetic legacy comes with His promises that are revealed throughout His Word, Scripture. The promise that God made Abram and the children of Israel is eternal and everlasting. The children of Israel are God's special people. The promise of blessings the Lord would grant to Abram and those who bless them is still an active truth!

According to Isaiah 58, we are called to bless the people of God by providing clothing for the naked, we are called to bless the people of God by



providing shelter and security for the homeless and those who are vulnerable, and we are called to bless the people of God by providing food for the hungry. And again, we echo 1 Corinthians 2:9, *"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived'—the things God has prepared for those who love him"* 

It is my heart's cry that from our churches across this nation, the world will hear the clarion sound that declares: "It is time for the body of believers to rebuild the bridges between Christians and Jews and be a beacon of light to the world by Leaving a Prophetic Legacy of BLESSING ISRAEL!"

