**THE KLEIN FAX**

**E-mail:** [ewisrael@emmausway.org](mailto:ewisrael@emmausway.org)

August 13, 2024

9 Av, 5784 (!)

Beloved Friends and Fellow Pilgrims,

Since the assassination of the head of Hamas a week ago, Israel has been in a state of high alert in anticipation of a major response from Iran. Home Front Command has issued appropriate instructions and warnings. A major hospital in Haifa has converted its parking garage to a 2000-bed emergency facility. We have also reviewed our personal state of preparedness. With their vast resource of sophisticated missiles, It seems that amidst all the political rhetoric and promises of retaliation, Iranian leaders have received a word of caution…from Russia in particular. There is no doubt that an attack by Iran would most certainly inflict serious damage to Israeli life and property. There can also be no doubt that Israel is capable of crippling the Iranian infrastructure by destroying its oil reserves and nuclear development sites regardless of whatever would make it onto our soil. Perhaps they have realized that the potential gain in attacking us at this time is not worth the catastrophic loss they would suffer. Given the discussion going on, we would not be surprised if nothing more than an internationally coordinated face-saving gesture would materialize. We wonder that the Iranian leaders are in fact looking for a way to save face without “having to” attack Israel. Realistically, since the essence of the matter is spiritual, we think it impossible to predict.

This current situation is reminiscent of the days before the Yom Kippur war in 1973. The government and the military were going back and forth and round and round concerning whether Egypt and Syria were really going to attack. If so, should we make a preemptive strike? The decision back then did not turn out so well. Given all that’s transpired in these recent days, we are not all that confident in our present government. Whatever the path, whatever we need to go through to bring us home to our Father, we have unwavering faith in God’s wisdom, sovereignty, love and everlasting mercy.

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There can be no question that these days of uncertainty and stress have taken a toll on an already worn-out beleaguered Israel. Except for El Al, most flights in and out of the Land have been cancelled for an undetermined length of time. There is yet no visible hope of a return home for the approximately 80,000 evacuees from the north and south. The enemy knows very well how to play this game: do just enough to maintain an atmosphere of uncertainty, but not too much so as to encounter a devastating response from Israel.

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Many in the military, especially those on the frontline, are exhausted and discouraged by the current state of affairs. This is not the first time politicians have kept the army from completely defeating the enemy. Unfortunately, it is all too characteristic of former conflicts with our next-door enemies. Whatever the reason, whatever the justification, our soldiers and the nation are suffering.

Whenever a new point of conflict surfaces, the demand moves to the back burner for the government to account for how October 7th could have possibly happened and to explain the unbelievably delayed response. It is not strange to wonder if our leaders are doing all they can to avoid facing a question that could even indicate criminal negligence (or worse).

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Again and again we are confronted with the need to ask God how things look from His perspective. In keeping with that, here is something to ponder. All that’s going on right now is taking place in the historic three-week period called the Dire Straits, during which an inordinate number of disasters have befallen the Jewish people historically. In the course of the current political conversation, it was noted (or threatened) that Iran would attack on the 9th of Av (the last day of the three-week period), the day that commemorates the two-time destruction of the Temple. **At a time of historic remembrance we are being faced with a potential occurrence that is like the very thing we are remembering.** We are inclined to consider that when such a convergence occurs in the life of Israel, God is speaking.

In the lives of people and nations there come moments of a last call. There is a time known to God, when the cup of iniquity will reach full measure, and what’s been sown will be poured out and reaped. As that day draws nearer, we fully expect that Father will intensify His efforts to awaken and prepare us, His Body, for what lies ahead. Over the recent years we personally have perceived world events as arranged by God so as to give us insight concerning the nature, flow, and timing of what is set to unfold. With that thought in mind, we are inclined to consider that the very real threat from Iran converging with the 9th of Av to be a warning from Father to be taken seriously. If it ends up that no major conflict arises at this time, we earnestly pray that the believing community will not revert to our last “normal” but realize that this respite is for a reason and may not be long in duration.

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You might remember that it was on the Ninth of Av that the 12 spies returned, and the people decided not to enter the Land as the Lord had told them. That instruction was the very heart of why they were created and brought out of Egyptian bondage. **Their refusal to enter the Land was a rejection of the very purpose for which they were created.** It seems pretty straightforward that God’s arranging (Hab.1:5,6) the destruction of the Temple on the anniversary of that event was a declaration that the state of the people at that time was essentially the same as it was when the spies returned. We suggest that our refusal to take responsibility for the Temple Mount when it was under our control in 1967, and instead returned it to the hands of our enemy, was of the same spirit expressed by the returning ten spies. We gave the dwelling place of God into the hands of a people that dishonor Him and have always sought Israel’s destruction. Aside from the motivations and reasons behind the decision, we have opened the door for the enemy to have control over Israel’s most sacred site…its very heart. In rejecting what was important to God, the Israeli leaders rejected God. Since then no military engagement has ended well or decisively for us. We expect that nothing will until we repent of the 1967 decision and corporately manifest first love for God and a passion for what is important to Him. **The great gap that waits to be closed is the result of lightly esteeming the Presence of the Lord.** This will take more than a prayer or heartfelt declaration. Even if that were enough to close the door, it would not cleanse the house. Only the Presence of the Lord can do that.

In response to all the above, we are pressing on to fully articulate, publish, and facilitate the vision for Outposts of Heaven. Initially we plan to do this via a website currently in the process of development. If you are familiar with what we’ve shared about this in previous letters, and feel drawn by the Holy Spirit, you might consider participating in a Galilee Worship Gathering as an immersion into a movement. The currently available dates are September 8-16; October 15-23; and November 24-December 2.

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The update on the state of our house remains unchanged. Our landlady wants to sell, and we are praying for the funds to buy. Since she first shared her intention to sell, we’ve never had a sense from the Lord that He was planning for us to move. It’s not that we feel the need to own the house, aside from ownership giving greater security in a depressed economy. We are quite fine just as we are. The need we feel is to stay as we are. We remain deeply committed to the weekly local gatherings and periodic 10-day times with brethren from the nations. Especially now with looking to develop the vision for Outposts. Our ability to host groups and expose them to the dynamic for some days has never been more important. Not to mention the energy and focus needed in launching a global initiative. All that to say that moving would consume our energies for a minimum of three months. From where we sit, things are so critical and moving so fast, having to move would be a hardship in the spirit even more than the natural. We are not as young as we once were. There is something to we all can pray into. Our landlady owns another house that sits right on the edge overlooking the lake, while ours is a row back. That one would be easier to sell and bring a higher price. There is a problem with the property line between that house and the one she lives in that needs to be resolved in order to sell that house. Would you pray with us that she would find the solution to work out this complication and choose to sell that house instead. For the record, we would still be able to buy this one, but would not have any pressure to do so.

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May the Lord bless you from Zion!

May we truly live all our days on earth…

For the Glory of His Name,

**Arni and Yonit**

***EMMAUS WAY IS ABOUT LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD.***

***OUR GOAL IS TO GIVE HIM A PLACE ON EARTH…***

***WHILE ON THE WAY TO BE WITH HIM IN HEAVEN***

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