

# Word From Yerushalaim

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In a few days on May 10th (5th of Lyar on the Jewish calendar) Israel will celebrate her birth as a sovereign nation once again. **Sixty three** years have passed since 1948, and **forty four** years since Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and Gaza have come back under Jewish ownership once again. For many here in the land we see that ancient hatreds of the Jewish people and their existence are still very much alive. And only for the grace of God do we continue on. Our leaders are currently being challenged to a point never before in our history, to now surrender the heart of this eternal promised land. Yesterday we attended a seminar where Joel Rosenberg spoke. He clearly declared that we are to love our neighbours, a statement which I agree with and totally agrees with scripture. But the question that must be answered in this hour is how do we deal with the question of who owns this land. The word of God makes it clear that the owner is the Lord Himself, and He has given it to the Jewish people as a homeland, never to be given away or sold to anyone on a permanent bases. Actually chapter 36 of Ezekiel clearly declares the Lord will re-gather His people (the Jewish people) and bring them back into their land. Not because they have done anything deserving of this honour, but so that the Name of the Lord may be sanctified. To this end we as followers of Yeshua must pray, declare and teach that the land of Israel (including the mountains) shall never depart from being Israel. And that the Jewish people must return so that the Lord's name may be sanctified in all the earth. This is love...

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Understanding that the number **44** (number of years since Israel became whole in 1967) I began to consider what forty-four might mean at this hour. And I feel that the number forty four could equal God's creation, His Grace and His Revival. This is just a thought and will be a prayer of mine in the days ahead.

Following is an article from Arutz-7 with some remarks from well known rabbis...

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# Thoughts for Israel's Independence Day

## May 10 2011



by Hillel Fendel

**A compendium of inspiration for Israel's upcoming 63rd Independence Day - Part One**

**Rabbi Marc D. Angel, New York:**

**...Yes, Israel. This tiny country--surrounded by enemies, threatened constantly by terrorism and war, subject to an Arab economic boycott, frequently maligned by the media, torn within by ethnic and religious strife--is [tied for 8th place] among the world's happiest countries [according to a Gallup World Poll]!**

...

Given its many problems, why is Israel so happy? Why is it among the happiest, most thriving, most creative countries of the world?

I believe the answer is: the grand human spirit of the people of Israel. Israelis--in spite of many differences among themselves--recognize that they are part of an incredible, dynamic adventure. Israel is the only example in the history of humanity of an ancient nation exiled from its land, forced to live (often under horrific conditions) as a minority group scattered throughout the world--who after nearly 2000 years returned to its ancestral land, revived its ancient language, and re-established its historic culture. Israelis--and all members of the Jewish people--understand that we are living in a unique period of history. Israelis are happy not only because they are thriving intellectually, culturally, scientifically, militarily; but because they understand that their lives mean something, that they are pioneers in restoring the honor and strength of the Jewish people after centuries of powerlessness and disgrace...

**Rabbi Avraham Yisrael Sylvetsky, Yeshivat Merkaz HaRav Kook:**

...But we are still in the midst of the process. He "Who gathers Israel from the four corners of the world" has not yet restored our "judges as of yore", and the [resulting] "sadness and sorrow" have not yet been removed [quotes based on the 11th and 12th blessings of the Amidah prayer - ed.]. The legal establishment, our shame, is still a patchwork of British law and Turkish law, while the true justice of Torah law is abandoned by the wayside... Corruption, too, has spread in various parts of the government, where there is no Torah and the heart is not directed heavenward.

It appears that precisely this low point that we have reached is leading the Nation of Israel to recognize the need to build a new foundation of government and justice according to Torah, 'whose ways are pleasant and whose paths are wholly peace.' ...

The State has already been established – the Jewish body is recovering from its sickness, the wounds of the Exile are healing, the limbs are getting stronger – and it is well on its way, with G-d's help, to reaching complete health.

**Rabbi Shmuel Yaniv, Givat Shmuel:**

The State of Israel was established in the year 5708 to the Creation of the World – and the 5,708th verse in the Torah reads, “And G-d will bring you to the Land inherited by your forefathers, and you will take possession of it, and He will do good to you...” (Deut. 30,5)

**Rabbi Beryl Wein, Jerusalem:**

The Prophet Ezekiel warned the Jewish people 2,500 years ago not to think that they are like other nations. Independence Day of the State of Israel is not like Bastille Day in France, Canada Day, or the 4th of July. If our Independence Day takes on the same status as other Independence Days around the world, it loses its spiritual and emotional significance.