

## PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

**ISRAEL****GENERAL FACTS**

- Population: est. **7,941,900**
- Capital and largest city: **Jerusalem**
- Israel is a [representative democracy](#) with a [parliamentary system](#), [proportional representation](#) and [universal suffrage](#). The [Prime Minister](#) serves as head of government and the [Knesset](#) serves as Israel's unicameral legislative body. Israel has one of the [highest life expectancies in the world](#). It is a [developed country](#), an [OECD](#) member, and its [economy](#), based on the nominal gross domestic product, was the [41st-largest](#) in the world in 2011. Israel has [the highest standard of living in the Middle East](#).



- Religious affiliation of [Israeli Jews](#) varies widely: a social survey for those over the age of 20 indicates that 55% say they are "traditional", while 20% consider themselves "secular Jews", 17% define themselves as "[Religious Zionists](#)"; 8% define themselves as "Jews."
- Israel is the only country in the world where life revolves around the [Hebrew calendar](#). [Work and school holidays](#) are determined by the [Jewish holidays](#), and the official day of rest is Saturday, the [Jewish Sabbath](#).
- The [Israel Museum](#) in Jerusalem is one of Israel's most important cultural institutions and houses the [Dead Sea scrolls](#).

**MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM**

- Challenges: The state of Israel prohibits Christian Jews from becoming citizens. It also forbids any Christian—whether Jew or Gentile—from sharing Christianity with a minor or even buying an adult Jew a cup of coffee in the course of their religious discussion.
- See [hopeofisrael.net](#) (Baptist), and [JewsforJesus.org](#)
- Bible distribution, evangelism at synagogues, tract printing and distribution, media efforts.