

All of Israel is bound up together.

*Babylonian Talmud, Shavuot 39a*

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Bring us in peace from the four corners of the earth and lead us with upright pride to our Lord.

*Shacharit Service*

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Some long for their homeland more than for food.

*Moses ibn Ezra, medieval Jewish scholar*

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The country made us a people; our people made this a country.

*David Ben-Gurion, former Israeli Prime Minister*

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Israel has too much history and too little geography.

*Sir Isaiah Berlin, Jewish philosopher*

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It's true we have won all our wars, but we have paid for them. We don't want victories anymore.

*Golda Meir, former Israeli Prime Minister*

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The strength of a nation is measured by its ability to face emergencies... without losing its... affinity for art, culture, music, and the rest of those aspects which make the routine of material, daily life, richer in content and spirit.

*Chaim Herzog, former Israeli President*

The state of Israel belongs not only to the citizens of the State but to the Jewish people at large.

*Shimon Peres, former Israeli Prime Minister*

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The state will not be given to the Jewish people on a silver platter.

*Chaim Weizman, former Israeli President*

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Once I sat on the steps near the gate at David's Citadel and I put down my two heavy baskets at my side. A group of tourists stood there around their guide and I became their point of reference.

"You see that man over there with the baskets? A little to the right of his head there's an arch from the Roman period. A little to the right of his head." "But he's moving, he's moving!"

I said to myself: redemption will come only when they are told, "Do you see that arch from the Roman period? It doesn't matter: but near it, a little to the left and then down a bit, there's a man who has just bought fruit and vegetables for his family."

*Yehuda Amichai, 20<sup>th</sup> century Israeli poet*

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In Israel, in order to be a realist you must believe in miracles.

*David Ben-Gurion, former Israeli Prime Minister*

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If you want to make peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.

*Moshe Dayan, Israeli military leader and politician*

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Those who don't know how to weep with their whole heart, don't know how to laugh either.

*Golda Meir, former Israeli Prime Minister*