

Thousands Flock to Temple Mount for Historic 40 Days of Prayer Ahead of Yom Kippur

Before the Day of Atonement, thousands in Israel have spent time gathering night after night lifting up their prayers to the Lord at the Temple Mount.

In a powerful video by the Temple Institute, thousands can be seen gathered in prayer and supplication.

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“A nation still at prayer in anticipation of Yom Kippur,” The Temple Institute wrote on the post. “Every night for 38 days now, tens of thousands of Jews gather together for prayer at the foot of the Temple Mount.”

The Temple Institute noted that the intercession includes “Selichot prayers,” which are recited every day from the start of Elul until the evening of Yom Kippur, marking a total of 40 days. During this particular day of prayer, hostages who had been freed from the “Gaza torture tunnels,” lifted up their prayers to the Lord in the middle of the crowd.

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The number of days of prayer carries deep symbolic weight throughout Scripture. From Moses spending 40 days on Mount

Sinai to Jesus fasting 40 days in the wilderness, the number marks a time of testing, preparation and spiritual breakthrough. This 40-day time of prayer to conclude on Yom Kippur also highlights the call for national and spiritual atonement, a cry for mercy, and a plea for God's presence to return to His people.