

# Prayer in connection with the Jewish people

## Thursday, May 5, 2022

### MEDITATION TEXT

*A world without the Jewish people is a world without the God of Israel.*  
*by Abraham Heschel*

“I speak as a member of a congregation whose founder was Abraham, and the name of my rabbi is Moses.

I speak as a person who was able to leave Warsaw, the city in which I was born, just six weeks before the disaster began. My destination was New York, it would have been Auschwitz or Treblinka. I am a brand plucked from the fire, in which my people were burned to death. I am a brand plucked from the fire of an altar of Satan on which millions of human lives were exterminated to evil's greater glory, and on which so much else was consumed: the divine image of so many human beings, many people's faith in the God of justice and compassion, and much of the secret and power of attachment to the Bible bred and cherished in the hearts of men for nearly two thousand years.”

A Christian ought to realize that a world without Israel [in the sense of Jewish people] will be a world without the God of Israel. A Jew, on the other hand, ought to acknowledge the eminent role and part of Christianity in God's design for the redemption of all men.

*Abraham Heschel was born in 1907 in Poland and died in 1972, rabbi and philosopher. He was a pioneer of dialogue within Judaism, he represented Judaism at the Second Vatican Council, especially in connection with Cardinal B ea and tried to renew the dialogue between Judaism and Islam.*