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**Torah Portion: Chayei Sarah, Genesis 23:1–25:18**  
**Haftarah: I Kings 1:1-31**

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## Prayer for Redemption of Hostages

*By CCAR members Rabbis Ofer and  
Rachel Sabath Beit Halachmi*

*Our God, the One who raised Joseph up from the pit, be  
"a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."  
(Psalm 9:10)*

Send complete rescue and full redemption to all those  
held captive by the enemy.

Strengthen their spirit and bring them our prayers that  
they be protected from all harm.

Implant understanding in the heart of the enemy that they  
may return the captives in wholeness of body and spirit.

Grant wisdom to the Israel Defense Forces that they may  
secure freedom for the captives without loss of life. Grant  
strength of spirit and courage of heart to all the sons and  
daughters of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar to release  
bonds of captivity and allow us all to live in freedom.

*"They shall call upon Me, and I will answer them; I will  
be with them in distress; I will rescue them, and honor  
them." (after Psalm 91:15).*