

## **Comments of Prime Minister Naftali Bennett:**

*“The Jewish people twice had a Jewish state on the Land of Israel, and both times we did not succeed to complete the eighth decade as an independent state, because of internal wars and baseless hatred...Now that we have again, for the third time, an independent state, and we are in its eight decade, we must do everything we can to protect it – forever.”*

*“At the time of the Roman siege on Jerusalem, the nation was divided, each group entrenched itself in its own position and burned the food stores of the others as part of the internal power struggle, so the Romans had a much easier task...The bitter end we all know, and until today every year on this date we mourn the awful destruction – which a people with a little more baseless love, restraint and listening could have saved us from.”*

*“In the end, we are all brothers, and we live in the same home. If we argue less and listen more, perhaps we will not all have our appetites satiated but we will succeed in protecting our home and achieve a lot more. We don't have to agree but we must not hate each other.”*

Source: The Jerusalem Post, Jeremy Sharon, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021