

# מַלְאֲכַי יִשְׂרָאֵל ISRAEL'S MESSENGER

*Publishing Salvation to Zion - Isaiah 52:7*

*A ministry of Jewish Awareness Ministries*

## PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

Psalm 122:6

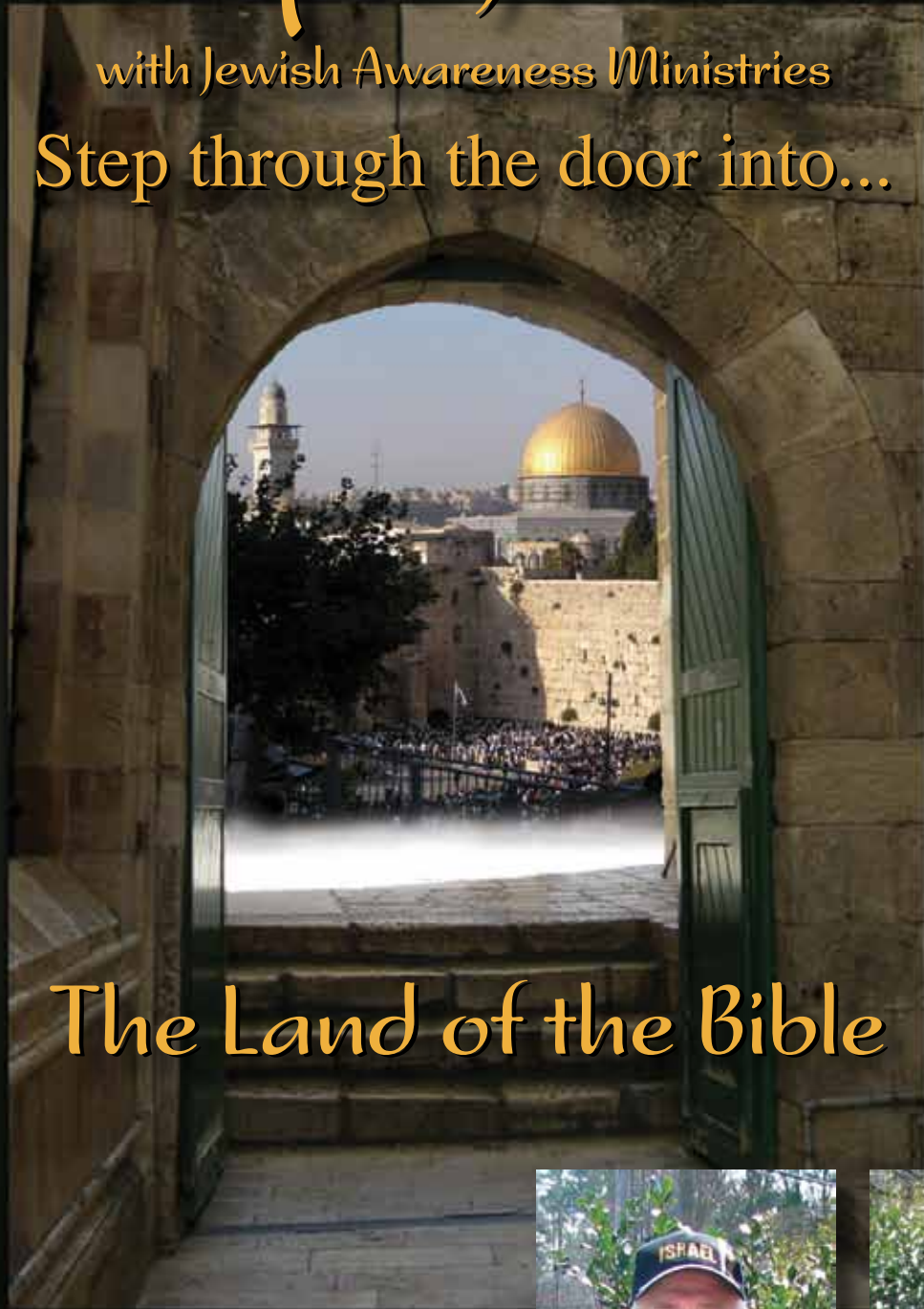


Winter 2013

# Journey to Jerusalem

with Jewish Awareness Ministries

Step through the door into...



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Golgotha  
The Garden Tomb  
Capernaum  
Galilee  
Megiddo  
Masada  
The Dead Sea  
Qumran  
Caesarea  
City of David  
Upper Room  
Much more...

For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.  
Psalm 102:14

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Israel's Messenger is a quarterly publication of Jewish Awareness Ministries, a Christian ministry proclaiming the Messiah to Jew and Gentile, preaching the Word of God, and praying for Israel.

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by Mark Robinson



Cover: Someday soon a similar sight will be real!



# From the Director's Desk

Dear Friends,

I recently returned from my sixteenth trip to Israel. It was a blessing to be in the land again as we traveled from “Dan to Beersheva.” The response from the people in our group was encouraging. One person wrote, “THANK YOU for a FABULOUS tour!!! I cannot express more highly how much I was thrilled with the Israel trip.” A trip to Israel is a life changing event. You will see the Scriptures in a much clearer way. For Jewish Awareness Ministries it is truly a ministry into the lives of our fellow travelers. Next year’s tour is already scheduled. Lord willing, we will be leaving October 22 and returning October 31. Plan your “Journey to Jerusalem” with us now. Contact us for information.

We are now in our new administration/ ministry building. There are still some loose ends to fix, but we have been in the building since September 11. At this time we are about \$32,000 short of paying cash for the building, furnishings, landscaping, etc. I thank God for what He has provided. To have a building worth about \$550,000 - \$600,000 with only about \$32,000 in debt is a blessing. My prayer and hope is that we can retire the entire debt in a short time.

With our new building we have a large room to use for different ministries. Our Friday night Bible study meets in this room. We will be putting together a number of different ministries to make available to Senior church groups, home school groups, Sunday school classes, Christians schools, and other groups. We will be hosting Passover Seders, Jewish Evangelism Training Seminars, and Conferences on different subjects. On page 14 there is a list of some of the ministries we have scheduled for 2014. If you are in our area and would like to bring a group to our headquarters let me know. With full kitchen facilities we can also offer a lunch or dinner with the meeting.

From February 10-14, 2014 we will host our 4th “Prophecy on the High Seas” cruise from Port Canaveral, FL to Nassau. The major focus of this cruise is Bible prophecy. We will also be having a full Passover Seder dinner and sharing Christ in the Passover. Our soloist is excellent, the food is always great, and the fellowship is a blessing. Contact us to reserve your spot. We have limited rooms reserved, so contact us soon.

This issue of Israel’s Messenger focuses on Jerusalem. I have contributed an article on “Jerusalem: Center of World Redemption.” Stan Rosenthal has written on “Jerusalem: Focus of the World,” and Moshe Gold has contributed an article titled

“Jerusalem: The Holy City.” Jerusalem, biblically speaking, is the most important city in the world. These articles will help you understand why this is so.

In *Apples of Gold*, Moshe and Shoshana share about the opportunity God has provided to talk with Eli and Yael about the Lord. Jeff and Arlene Berg write how through the years they have shared Messiah with a Jewish woman named Bea in our column *Sowing the Seed...Reaping the Harvest*. Both of these accounts will encourage you.

Our *Shadows of the Tribulation* column focuses on the possible division of Israel into two Jewish states. The Jewish citizens of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank to the world) have talked about this possibility for many years because of the possible removal of all the Jewish citizens if, and when, this area is given to the Palestinians in a peace agreement. With the recent start-up of the peace talks again, is this a possibility?

It is my pleasure to introduce two new couples who will be serving with Jewish Awareness Ministries. Dr. Keith Megilligan will be serving as Education Ministries Director and his wife Toni is very supportive of his new ministry. Keith is well qualified for this position with years of ministry experience. They have recently moved to Wake Forest, NC.

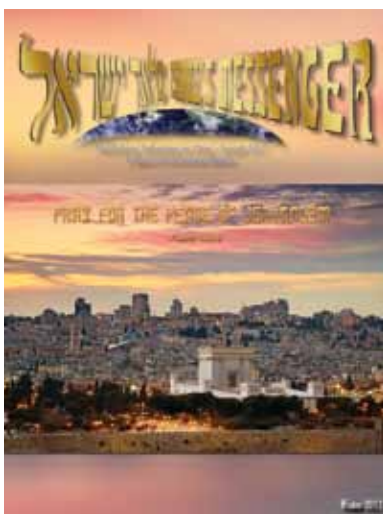
Rev. Ken Overby will be joining us as a Field Representative with his wife Layne excited about the new direction God has for them. Ken has served in Jewish missions in the past, though his recent ministry has been as a pastor of a church in Virginia. Once they have their support they will be locating to the Charlotte, NC area.

Both of these men have need of your support. Please see page 12 for additional information about these men. If you would like to schedule these men for a speaking engagement or are interested in supporting them please contact the home office.

If this ministry can be of service to you please give us a call. We stand ready to answer questions, book a meeting in your church, and share the Messiah with Jewish people.

In Messiah,

Mark Robinson



# Jerusalem: Center of World Redemption

by Rev. Mark Robinson

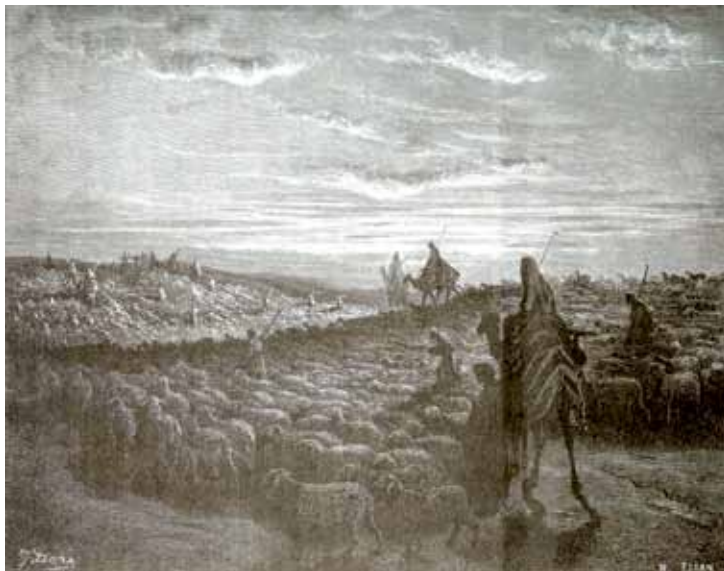


The world was shattered with the entrance of sin. Wars, famines, diseases, holocaust, murders, rapes, broken homes, abandoned children, sickness, and death all lie at the doorway of Adam's sin. The collective heartache of all humanity throughout all history is the result of one seemingly innocuous act of disobedience to God; nevertheless, Adam's sin does not absolve the individual of personal responsibility.

We all will give an accounting one day before the Judge of the universe. This one act of rebellion, though, produced not only the aggregate fruit of sin in this world, but also man's separation from the God who loved him and created him.

Adam's transgression would set in motion the redemptive plan of a merciful, loving God. The omniscient God of the universe was not taken by surprise. *"Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world"* (Acts 15:18). The ultimate coming of the Messiah was known and planned by God before the world was even created. Speaking of the coming of Jesus the Messiah, Peter would write, *"Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you"* (1 Peter 1:20).

Abram, or Abraham as he would eventually be called, and his descendants would be the center of God's redemptive plan for the world. History, from God's perspective, would be focused around the Jewish people and the city of Jerusalem. Ultimately, the redemptive history of Israel would reach its pinnacle in the Crown Jewel of the nation, the Messiah, when He died for our sins in Jerusalem. *"Thus saith the Lord GOD; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her,"* Ezekiel 5:5.



## Abraham: The Promised Seed

Abram was a young man when he left Ur of the Chaldees. The biblical account of his leaving Ur simply says, *"And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there"* (Genesis 11:31).

Abraham was "chosen" to be the progenitor of the nation that would be used by God to accomplish His purposes for the citizenry of this world. God told him *"I will make of thee a great nation..."* (Genesis 12:2). However, Abraham remained childless, so he suggested that God use the steward of his house, Eliezer of

Damascus, to raise up the descendants he had been promised. In response, God told him that the offspring would come from his own body and not from that of another. God took Abraham and showed him the stars of heaven and said his descendants would be numbered as the stars. Abraham *"believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness"* (Genesis 15:6).

The faith of Abraham would be tried a number of times. These "trials of faith" would be a pruning experience in his life. The first "test" is recorded in Genesis 12. Abraham took his family and servants to live in Egypt during a severe famine in Canaan. Abraham's wife Sarai, or Sarah as she would later be called, was a very beautiful woman. Just before entering Egypt Abraham told her not to tell the Egyptians she was his wife, but that she was his sister. He feared that the Egyptians would kill him in order to have his gorgeous wife because they were known for their cruelty and sexual immorality. The best plan, Abraham figured, was to say she was his sister; this way they wouldn't kill him to take his wife, and hopefully, they would be respectful to Sarah if they thought she was his sister.

Abraham's plan was not a total lie. In fact, Sarah was the half-sister of Abraham (Genesis 20:12). They both had the same father, but not the same mother. A half truth, though, as has been said, is a whole lie. Abraham's faith was misplaced. He had just received some glorious promises from God, and Sarah, being his wife, was part of those promises and would be protected by God. Instead of trusting in God, Abraham attempted to manipulate the situation.

Abraham's cover-up worked; Sarah's beauty was commended to Pharaoh by the princes of Egypt and she was brought into Pharaoh's house.

Abraham was treated well because of Sarah. Pharaoh gave him *"sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels."* However, God's purposes could not be altered because of the lack of Abraham's faith. He sent great plagues upon Pharaoh and his house. Pharaoh called Abraham and asked why he had brought this on him by his actions in this matter. Without waiting for any response, Pharaoh sent them all away with all he had given him.

One would think that Abraham would have learned a lesson from what happened in this encounter in Egypt, but ten years later he would take another step in his journey of faith that would have even greater ramifications.

*Continued on page 6*

### Isaac or Ishmael?

The promise of descendants and a great nation must have seemed a very distant hope to Abraham. Ten years had passed and he was now 85 years old. Sarah was barren and it seemed hopeless for her to have children. The custom of that day was for a childless man to “raise up seed” through one of the women in his household; this course of action was suggested to Abraham by Sarah herself.

Abraham did not challenge Sarah; he would take Hagar, her Egyptian handmaid, to father a child. Interestingly, (yet sadly because of the inevitable consequences), Hagar very possibly came to be Sarah’s handmaid at the very time of their leaving Egypt accompanied by the gifts from Pharaoh -- goods, animals, and servants. But, as ultimately will be seen, Abraham’s decision to gain a child from this union with Hagar would cause major problems for many people. The repercussions of this wrong choice would affect the lives of millions for centuries to come.

Hagar conceived a child by Abraham and from that time on despised her mistress, Sarah. Sarah, in turn, treated Hagar so harshly that she fled into the wilderness. There she was visited by the angel of the LORD who told her she was pregnant with Ishmael and that he would become the father of a multitude of people. This promise was repeated after the eventual birth of Isaac and his subsequent blessing, at which time God told Abraham, “...as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation” (Genesis 17:20). Yes, he would be blessed, but he would also “... be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man’s hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren” (Genesis 16:12).

Ishmael would be great, but the promises initially given to Abraham would not be filled through him. His brother Isaac would receive the blessings of the covenant. This is clear from the Word of God: “And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him...my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year” (Genesis 17:19,21). Isaac is the son of promise!

Many years passed in the life of Abraham and his family. Isaac was now a mature man of as old as 37.<sup>1</sup> His days growing up were filled with learning about Jehovah and the promises He had made to his father and to him. How exciting it must have been to ponder his great promises from God during these formative years of growth.

Abraham was undoubtedly proud of his son Isaac. God had miraculously provided this young man when Sarah was beyond child-bearing years. How incredible that he had been born to a woman who was 90 years of age! Jehovah was surely One whose promises could be believed.

The trials Abraham had gone through during the past 50 years or so taught him much about God. As he looked back over those years he marveled at the faithfulness of his God. Every time he tried to manipulate a situation that looked dismal, he had gotten into trouble. How gracious and faithful Jehovah was to deliver him from the ramifications of his own choices.

His years of walking with God had been a great training ground. He would need to refer to past experiences to deal with the upcoming test. Without the previous trials, he might have flunked this final exam.

In Genesis 22:1 it says, “And it came to pass after these things...” “These things” may refer to the cumulative experiences Abraham had with God, and not to just the most recent events. Its as if Abraham had years to prove that God was always faithful so that he could be tested with the ultimate trial--being asked to take the life of his son.

God’s command to Abraham was clear and unequivocal, “Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of” (Genesis 22:2).

Slay your son--your only son (in the sense that the promises of God are all wrapped up in Isaac, he is his only son). The promises won’t come through Ishmael, but through Isaac. Take this son and offer him as a sacrifice!

There is no hint of doubt or hesitation in the Divine record. In fact, we are told that “... Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him” (Genesis 22:3). Abraham did not sleep in; he woke up early, desirous to follow the commands of his God.

As the four men approached the place God had appointed in the land of Moriah, we are given insight into Abraham’s supreme faith in Jehovah. “And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you” (Genesis 22:5). Don’t miss the emphasis of this verse. Abraham was stating with the full assurance of God’s promises that “I and the lad will go yonder,” and “I and the lad will worship,” and “I and the lad will come again to you.”

The promises of God are such that even if Abraham had killed his son, God would have raised him from the dead because all of His promises are to be fulfilled through Isaac. Thus, the triumphant declaration of Abraham, and the obvious understanding of this passage as seen by the writer of Hebrews in chapter 11:17-19.

What follows is as notable as the preceding, Abraham tells his son “... My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together” (Genesis 22:8). In response to Isaac’s questioning about the lamb for the sacrifice, Abraham makes a statement that must be understood as Messianic. “God would provide himself a lamb.”

We can be sure of the above conclusion because of the following events that transpired. Isaac was bound on the altar, but the angel of the Lord intervened and prevented the sacrifice of Isaac just as the knife was to be brought down. He provided a substitute for Isaac. “And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son” (Genesis 22:13).

Notice what was provided--a ram. Remember what was promised? A lamb! There is a big difference between the two; one is young and innocent, and the other old and mature. The correct understanding of the passage (and very consistent with the rest of the Word of God) is borne out in the next verse. “And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah Jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen” (Genesis 22:14).

The future tense is used twice in this verse. “In the Mount of the LORD it shall be seen,” speaks of Mt. Moriah, and Jehovah Jireh means “The LORD will provide.” Sometime in the future God would provide His Lamb for a sacrifice on this very

# Jerusalem: Focus of the World

by Rev. Stan Rosenthal



**C**ouched in the midst of an ancient historical event of bravery and valor is found what I believe to be the bedrock for understanding the world's encompassing range of emotions involving the city of Jerusalem.

The incident involved the patriarch Abram (Abraham) who rescued his nephew Lot and many others from a group of kings and their warriors. It is within this context that the first biblical recorded mention of Jerusalem is found some 4000 years ago. Abram, upon returning home victorious was blessed by Melchizedek, king of Salem, and the priest of the Most High God.<sup>1</sup>

This was not an insignificant happening. Melchizedek means "king of Righteousness" and his domain was Salem meaning "peace". This was none other than "Jerusalem - the city of peace".<sup>2</sup> It is here in this city that God's full-orbed redemptive program is centered. Both His atoning work upon the tree (cross) of Calvary and His future reign of righteousness, justice and peace, sitting upon the throne of David, spring forth from within this hallowed city.<sup>3</sup>

It is precisely for this reason that the peoples of this world exhibit diverse emotions of either love or hate towards Jerusalem. Of those who love Jerusalem, many have genuinely embraced the suffering Messiah Jesus. They value and cherish all that has already taken place there because of His atoning sacrifice in their behalf. For the most part they also look forward to Christ's return as King of kings and Lord of lords, ruling the entire world from that vantage point, fulfilling the many covenants and promises made to Israel and believers in Him.

## Flip Slide of the Story

For close to 1900 years the nation of Israel didn't exist. That is, there was no valid state, no formal government of the Jewish people. They were scattered from their God given land and dispersed throughout the world.<sup>4</sup> There they fell prey to their enemies as God had proclaimed they would because of their unbelief and unrepentant heart.<sup>5</sup> The prophet Ezekiel, however, prophesied that God would miraculously gather His people back to the land and they would once again become a viable nation with its own government, even though they remained an unrepentant people, at least for a temporary period.<sup>6</sup>

It was 1948 when the nation of Israel was reborn and for all intents and purposes the end day prophetic clock began ticking once again. In so doing, this event heightened the dislike of the Jewish people. It wasn't, however, until the war of June 1967 when Israel liberated the Old City of Jerusalem that much of the world's raw emotions of hatred toward the Jewish people and hence their newly expanded capital city Jerusalem came back into play. As long as the city of Jerusalem remains in the hands

of the Jewish people, the emotions of those who are part of this present day world system, controlled by Satan, become more and more incensed.<sup>7</sup>

## The Last Phase of Latter Day Prophecy

Behind the scene and found between every verse of Scripture is a raging spiritual war being conducted by Satan against God. Despite the fact that he knows what Scripture says concerning the results of this ongoing battle, he is determined to fight to the end, believing somehow he can yet defeat God.<sup>8</sup> Since he lost the conflict trying to keep the Son of God from His redemptive act at the cross, which also judged Satan guilty, resulting in the Lake of Fire as his future eternal punishment, he has developed a new strategy.<sup>9</sup>

Satan understands his only chance for victory is to keep Jesus from returning to earth. For it is at Jesus' second coming that He consummates the campaign battle of Armageddon, delivers and saves Israel, and inaugurates the promised Messianic Kingdom Age on earth. Included in this triumphal scene, is the carrying out of the sentencing of Satan and his two henchmen, anti-Christ and the false prophet.<sup>10</sup>

## Satan's Last Stand Strategy

It quickly becomes obvious as to how Satan intends to stop Jesus from claiming His rightful inheritance.<sup>11</sup> And if he were able to do so, he would not only save his own hide, but would continue on governing/controlling the world and achieving victory over God. The Scriptures are replete with Satan's master plan. Do away with the Jewish people and destroy the city of Jerusalem. If there are no Jewish people and no Jerusalem, there will not be a second coming of Jesus.



## Support from Scripture

*"And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary;... And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it*

*desolate...*" (Daniel 9:26-27) underscore added.

The context of this prophetic passage is all about God's redemptive program and plan for Israel. God promises that there will be a time when Israel will repent and be saved. The basis for their redemption is acceptance of their Messiah which takes place

*Continued on page 8*

Continued from page 7

at the end of the seven year Tribulation period referred to as the 70th week of Daniel's prophecy.<sup>12</sup> What must be noted in the above quoted Scripture is the prince (Antichrist and his people) shall destroy the city (Jerusalem) and the sanctuary (temple). This will be carried out according to verse 27 in the second half of the seven year Tribulation period.<sup>13</sup>

*"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)... For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."* (Matthew 24:15, 21)

Jesus, in responding to the disciples' questions concerning His coming again and the end of the age in Matthew 24, clearly taught that the 7 year Tribulation would occur just ahead of His return to earth to establish His Kingdom Age.<sup>14</sup> In the Scripture quoted above, Jesus confirmed the prophet Daniel's passage having to do with the Antichrist and his making the temple desolate.<sup>15</sup> In so doing, He also confirmed it to take place in the middle of the Tribulation period and extending to its end.<sup>16</sup>

*"...Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."* (2Thessalonians 2:4) underscore added.

In the Apostle Paul's second epistle to the Thessalonians, he dealt with concerns the believers had stemming from deceptive teaching. There were outsiders who were saying that Paul's teaching about the rapture taking place before the Day of the Lord was wrong and that in fact they were now in the Tribulation.<sup>17</sup> In his response Paul told them that if they had already entered into the Tribulation, which is the first part of the Day of the Lord, they should have witnessed two events which would act as a confirmation that they were in fact suffering because the Tribulation (Day of the Lord) had begun. The major sign has to do with the revelation or appearance of the anti-Christ. The passage quoted above states that if they were in the Tribulation they should have become aware that the abomination of desolation that both Jesus and Daniel prophesied would take place in the middle of the Tribulation. And since that did not occur, they did not miss the rapture, nor was Paul's teaching of a pre-tribulation gathering unto the Lord incorrect.

It is important to note that here again the prophetic truth written by Paul sheds light on the Tribulation temple being desecrated. The timing and the details of the event place it in the city of Jerusalem and correlates with both Daniel's and Jesus' details.

*"...Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two*

*months."* (Revelation 11:1b-2) underscore added.

The scene is in the city of Jerusalem, specifically at the third temple which will be built and operating no later than the middle of the Tribulation period. John is told that the complete second half of the Tribulation will be devastating for Jerusalem, the Holy City. *"Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city."* (Zechariah 14:1-2)

The context of Zechariah's prophecy is the last 3½ years of the Tribulation period. It's the time when Satan is booted out of God's heaven to the earth. He recognizes that his time is short (only 3½ years left before Jesus is to arrive on earth). It is with this in mind that he seeks to destroy Israel.<sup>18</sup> According to the Apostle John's Apocalypse this is the exact time that Satan empowers (perhaps even possesses) the anti-Christ.<sup>19</sup>

According to the prophet Zechariah this is a massive attack against Jerusalem. Note the description he paints. It clearly connects all the dots provided by Daniel, Jesus, Paul and John. This is Armageddon, Satan's last effort to establish himself as God.

The good news is Jesus will arrive on schedule, Satan and his henchmen will be dealt a severe blow, the nation of Israel will be delivered and saved, and the kingdom age will begin as promised.

Hallelujah!

Even so come Lord Jesus!



End Notes

1 Genesis 14:1-19

2 Genesis 14:18-19; Psalm 76:2

3 Matthew 27; 28; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Isaiah 9:6-7

4 Deuteronomy 28:64; Ezekiel 36:17-19

5 Deuteronomy 28:65-67

6 Ezekiel 36:21-24, note Israel had not yet become a saved nation (cf. v.25 which indicates salvation came later).

7 Ephesians 2:1-3

8 Revelation 12:13-17

9 Revelation 20:1-2, 10

10 Revelation 19:11-21

11 Psalm 2:7-9

12 Daniel 9:24, 27

13 Verse 26 reflects that a parenthesis in God's prophetic program for Israel takes place right after the Messiah is put to death. This occurs after the 69th week and ends at the beginning of the 70th week. In essence the gap of almost 2000 years allows for the Church age which was a mystery until Paul's epistles.

14 Matthew 24:3, 29-30

15 Obviously, the temple is understood to be in the city of Jerusalem.

16 Verse 22 indicates that the "great Tribulation" period will continue to the end of the 7 year period. The days being shortened has to do with keeping the Tribulation to 7 years and no longer.

17 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

18 Revelation 12:13

19 Revelation 13:2



# Jerusalem: The Holy City

by Moshe Gold



**W**ebster's Dictionary defines holy as connected to a god or a religion. Thus Jerusalem is a holy city, consecrated to God. However, the meaning of this depends on who you talk with since Jerusalem is associated with two deities and revered as holy by three broad religions that developed from worship of them. Judaism, Christianity and Islam each compete to shape Jerusalem as a holy city according to their own religious ideals.

Adherents of all three religions agree that there is only one God, Who, as the source of truth, is consistent and never contradictory. Furthermore, each claims to have received the exact word of God meant for mankind. Therefore, there should be harmony between the Jewish Bible (Tanakh), New Testament and Koran regardless of language, culture or time. However, a comparison between them reveals inconsistency rather than unanimity.

The Tanakh proclaims the coming of the Messiah and the establishment of a New Covenant that will take the place of the Mosaic Covenant. The New Testament (Covenant) is the record of those events and closes with the statement that the complete revelation of God to mankind is now finished and it must not be changed or added to. Yet the words of Allah's prophet, received hundreds of years after the close of the New Testament, are said to correct and complete the word of God previously given through the Prophets of Israel and Jesus. In doing so it contradicts prior revelation.

Also, while some may have issue with the New Testament revelation of the Triune God, it is consistent with the character and nature of God as revealed in the Tanakh. Furthermore, the New Testament is in perfect harmony with the personalities, events and timeline of the Tanakh, accepting it in totality as Scripture. This cannot be said of the Koran where the nature of the Muslim god is quite different than that of the God of Israel as presented in both the Tanakh and New Testament (Judeo/Christian Scriptures). In addition, while the Koran references personalities and events in the Judeo/Christian Scriptures, they do not correspond with accounts of those persons and events as told in those Scriptures. Either the Judeo/Christian Scripture is wrong and the Koran is correct or it is the opposite, but they cannot all be valid. Since God does not contradict His word and there is no contradiction between the Tanakh and New Testament, the visions of Mohamed, inconsistent as they are with previous holy writ, cannot be from God. Neither can the god of Islam be the Judeo/Christian God since the character and attributes of the one worshiped within Islam are incompatible with those unveiled by previous revelation.

## The Place of Holy Struggle

Jerusalem is the city of God, the God who formed and preserves the people of Israel, the God who has provided eternal salvation to the born-again Jewish and Gentile person. Jerusalem, the most unique city on earth, is desired by those whose god is not God in order to claim the place of God for their own and replace the name of God with their own god. This is at the root of the on-going struggle between Israel and the Muslims over Jerusalem.

While the Muslim world is quick to acknowledge it, non-Muslim world leaders, although calling Jerusalem a holy city, typically deny that those competing for control over Jerusalem are engaged in a holy struggle. Rejecting the authority of the word of God, they attempt to reduce the conflict to cultural and social issues between people groups contending for the same territory. In a vain effort to foster an atmosphere of compromise by which Jewish, Christian and Muslim adherents can all claim Jerusalem as their holy city, words such as tradition are substituted for commitment to one's deity. This attempt to equally validate all three religious systems is popular among secular humanists who view Jerusalem as a product of human invention, a city whose maker is man. For others, among them traditional Christians and Jews together with some born of the Spirit who are content to have their ears tickled at the expense of sound Bible teaching, it is a city whose foundation was formed by God but today sits in sinful disgrace. A city in limbo, abandoned by God that awaits a glorious future but today lacks His presence or blessing.

The Muslim world, committed to promoting the supremacy of their god, will never voluntarily or permanently agree to a pragmatic solution that divides Jerusalem or provides for mutual recognition of and shared access to holy places of those who worship the God of Israel.

## The Place of God's Preference:

While Islam has claimed Jerusalem as their holy city, the Koran does not state that Allah established Jerusalem as a holy city. Years after Mohamed, Islamic clerics proclaimed Jerusalem the third holiest city of Islam. However, according to the Judeo/Christian Scriptures, Jerusalem is the holy city of God. This is the preference of God and the only place on planet earth that He has chosen for Himself.

Abraham was led by the Lord to Mt. Moriah (Genesis 22:2), where God tested him. The most consistent contextual usage of Moriah means the myrrh of GOD. Myrrh was the Balm of Gilead and used in the ancient world for healing. Mixed with oil, it produces a sweet scent and was later used in anointing the king of Israel and as part of the incense offered to God.



*Samuel anoints David in an ancient painting*

Continued from page 9

Abraham renamed the place Yehovah Yireh (Genesis 22:14), the spot where God will see the faithfulness of His servant in testing and provide the acceptable sacrifice. Moriah is the place chosen and set aside by God where He will provide the sacrifice that brings healing, sweetness, and is the place where His king will be anointed.

Much later in time, King David liberated the Jebusite city that sat just below Mt. Moriah and returned it to Israelite control, making it the Israelite capital city of Jerusalem. David was instructed by God to build an altar on the top of Mt. Moriah and offer a sacrifice there. In order to carry out the will of God, David purchased the top of the mountain from its owner (1 Chronicles 21:18-26). He incorporated the purchase into his capital city and dedicated it for the building of a holy Temple to God thus making Jerusalem itself the holy city of God.

Still later in time, speaking of Jerusalem, the Apostle Paul refers to it as the mountain of our freedom (Galatians 4:26), the place where the servant of God, the Messiah of Israel was tested in a similar way as Abraham was. Both men proved their faithfulness by their love for the Father outweighing the love for their own flesh. As God provided an acceptable substitute for Abraham to offer, so Messiah Jesus provided Himself as the acceptable sacrifice, a sweet scent to God that brings spiritual healing and to the life of those who have trusted in that sacrifice for themselves.



Looking up at the Temple mount from the southwest. with a new building up there.

### The Place of God's Presence:

According to the Tanakh, God chose King David's son Solomon (1 Kings 5:5) to build a holy Temple on the height of Jerusalem, Mt. Moriah (2 Chronicles 3:1). It is the place that God forever set apart for Himself (2 Chronicles 7:16) as the city where He would make Himself visible. It is where He dwelled until the sin of the people caused a break in the fellowship and God could no longer stay among them (Ezekiel 11:23), yet promised to return (Zechariah 14:4). The New Testament declares that the presence of God did return to Jerusalem in the form of Messiah Jesus, the image of the invisible God (Hebrews 1:3) in order to bridge the gap of sin that prohibited God from continuously dwelling among His people. A woman named Mary anointed the head and feet of the Mes-

siah with pure nard oil (Mark 14:3-9). Spikenard being one of the ingredients mixed with myrrh to produce the incense of offering and also the oil used to anoint the King. She was preparing His body to have a sweet scent for burial, the body that would shortly be an acceptable and sweet sacrifice for sin.

Having been that sweet savor to satisfy the anger of God towards sinners and having through the resurrection proven His sacrifice was the appropriate provision to cover sin, Jesus returned to sit at the right hand of the Father waiting for the proper time to return (Zechariah 14:4; Acts 1:11; Revelation 19:11-16) to Jerusalem and claim His kingdom.

Today Jerusalem may look abandoned by God, but it is not. As God is eternal and holy unto Himself, so the place where He has been and will be is eternally holy!

### Place of God's Perfection:

Consistent in the Tanakh and New Testament is the irrevocable word of God to fulfill all of His promises to Israel including the establishment of a kingdom for them with Jerusalem as its capital. From it, the Messiah will reign and it will be the holy city for all peoples (Zechariah 14:9, 14). Beyond that, the Tanakh anticipates and the New Testament awaits the coming of the New Jerusalem, a holy city where God Himself will reign. The coming of the New Jerusalem

completes the prophetic word of Abraham that in this place God will provide! The writer of Hebrews (11:10) tells us that Abraham looked for the coming of the eternal city of Jerusalem, not a re-built earthly one. Judaism refers to this as the Jerusalem of Gold, the expectation of which was once represented in a crown worn as an adornment by brides (c.f. Revelation 21:2).

After the Roman destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., Rabbi Akiva, who lived at that time, equated this Jerusalem of Gold with the Torah. He taught that the perfected Jerusalem will physically come, but for now it is alive within those whose hearts and minds are fixed on God and living according to the law. We, who live through the New Covenant, are like the temple of the living God, 1 Corinthians 6:19, and are perfected from day to day. We are, in a sense, the representation of the holy city to come!



Continued from page 6

mountain top. The ram is a substitute for Isaac but is not the fulfillment of the messianic promise of the lamb of verse eight.

Abraham passed this final exam with flying colors. In the process we received one of the most instructive and picturesque passages in the entire Word of God.

### The Temple Mount

Approximately 1,000 years later we are again introduced to the mountain called Moriah in the story of David's sin in numbering the armies of Israel which is recorded in 2 Samuel 24. Because of David's trust in his military might and not in his God, he was given three choices of judgment by the prophet Gad. In verse 13 Gad asks David, (1) "Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land?"; (2) "or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee?"; (3) "or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me."

David is convicted of his sin and confesses it, verse 17, and requests that the judgment be from God, and not the cruelty of man (verse 14). A pestilence was sent that resulted in 70,000 people dying. One can only guess at how many would have died if either of the first two choices were selected.

To stay the hand of judgment upon the people, David is told to "go up, rear an altar unto the LORD in the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite."

From the City of David, there was only one direction up - north. This would take him to the top of Mt. Moriah where David purchased the site, built an altar, offered a sacrifice, and the nation was spared further death.

Solomon would build the Temple on this very mountain top years later. "Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in Mt. Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite."

One thousand years earlier God had spared the life of one young man when a substitute offering was made on Mt. Moriah. Now God spares the nation of Israel when another substitute offering was made upon the mountain called Moriah!



### Mt. Calvary

Approximately 1,000 years after David's purchase we are again introduced to a substitute offering on Mt. Moriah. "And they took Jesus, and led him away. And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst," John 19:17-18. Golgotha, or as it is also known - Calvary or "Skull Hill", was the northern most part of Mt. Moriah.

Some 200 years or so before the time of Jesus, Mt. Moriah had a "trench" cut out of it so as to prevent the enemies of Israel from being on higher ground than the Temple and city and, thus, easily overrun and capture the city. The "slice" taken out of the mountain is very visible today. One of the best vantage points of the obvious "cut" in the mountain can be seen from Gordon's Calvary.

Charles Gulston comments, "It is also believed that 'Skull Hill' is a continuation of Mount Moriah, being its southern end. The abrupt face of the hill is the result of a moat cut by the Maccabees to keep their enemies at bay, and few realize that Golgotha was at one time connected with the northern portion of Mount Moriah on which the temple was built."<sup>2</sup>

When Jesus offered Himself for the sins of the world it was on the northern most end of Mt. Moriah. This mountain top was the place where Abraham had brought Isaac to be offered as a sacrifice, but God provided a substitute. We shouldn't be surprised at this connection as God had said in this mountain, Moriah, the Lord will provide His lamb. Based on this passage, Jesus' death had to be on Mt. Moriah.

### Conclusion

Jerusalem is the center of world redemption. It was in the future city of Jerusalem, on Mt. Moriah, that a substitute was provided so Isaac was spared death. One thousand years later a sacrifice was made on Mt. Moriah, the ultimate Temple mount, so the nation of Israel could be spared. And then, after another one thousand years, Jesus died on Mt. Moriah, now called Golgotha, so that the entire world, at least potentially, could be spared death (spiritual).

It is this same Jerusalem, and Temple mount, that Jesus is returning to, to redeem the nation of Israel and establish His earthly kingdom. Jerusalem is the center of world redemption. Satan doesn't want God, or the Jewish people to have anything to do with this holy city. Jerusalem has been attacked and destroyed more than any other city. It is the major point of contention today between Israel and the Muslim world. Satan will desecrate it through the anti-Christ in the Tribulation period, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4. No wonder we are told to "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem."



### End Notes

1. Jewish sources generally understand Isaac's age to be as young as 26 and as old as 37 (Artsroll Tenach Series, Genesis, Vol. II, p. 781). Evangelical sources place his age from the teens to 30 (cf. The Genesis Record, Dr. Henry Morris, pg. 372) with some believing he was in his thirties (cf. Genesis Vol. II, J. Vernon McGee, pg. 250). Since Isaac in Genesis 22 is clearly a type of Christ perhaps his age was 33.
2. Charles Gulston, "Jerusalem: The Tragedy and the Triumph," Zondervan, 1978, page 138-39

## Introducing Dr. Keith Megilligan



Dr. Keith Megilligan has over 35 years of service in the Lord's work. Most recently Keith pastored Calvary Bible Church in Phoenixville, PA for 14 years. Keith previously served in Jewish missions as a professor at Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry's Institute of Biblical

Studies for 4 years. He also taught at Calvary Bible College in Kansas City, MO for 4 years.

Keith has had a heart for Jewish people and Israel for many years. He writes, "my heart has been to the Jew first and then to the Gentile since seminary and even before. I have studied in and about Israel for over 30 years. I have taught the Scriptural mandate of God for Israel, the Messiah, and the Church for some time. My pastoral and teaching experience in these areas have helped prepare me for 'such a time as this!' By God's grace, I also have a certain level of technical knowledge that will assist in training others in Jewish studies and evangelism."

Dr. Megilligan will be filling the position of Education Ministries Director with Jewish Awareness Ministries. He is also a very capable preacher and will be available for pulpit supply, conferences on prophecy, missions, subjects centered on Jewish ministry, as well as other topics.

Keith has been married for 45 years to Toni, who is very supportive of his ministry and service for the Lord. They have two children, Brian and Sharla. Keith and Toni will be living in Wake Forest, NC.

You can contact Keith through the home office.

## Introducing Rev. Ken Overby

Rev. Ken Overby is no stranger to Jewish missions. Upon graduation from Tennessee Temple in 1983, the Overbys received training in The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministries' summer program directed by Mark Robinson. In the fall of that year they moved to South



Florida where he served as a field evangelist with Messianic Ministry to Israel under Stan Rosenthal. He later served as an Assistant Pastor at Florida Bible Church for seven years where he directed regular Jewish evangelism programs. Ken feels that the influence of these Jewish believers early in his ministry experience gave him a proper Jewish perspective on scripture that has enriched his preaching and teaching. Ken has served as the senior pastor at Northern Neck Baptist Church in Callao, Virginia for the last 19 years.

Ken states that "My burden for Jewish evangelism has deepened since my trip to Israel two years ago. After intensive prayer and meditation on scripture I believe God is leading us into Jewish Ministry. As Esther surrendered to step out on faith for the deliverance of the Jewish people, 'so I will go.'" Speaking of how God led him to Jewish Awareness Ministries Ken says, "I believe that this ministry has a biblical philosophy of ministry as it relates to the priority of the gospel, the local church, eschatology, and Israel. I have great respect for the leadership here and sense the urgency of their vision. I definitely feel we are kindred spirits."

Ken has been married to his high school sweetheart, Laynie, for 33 years. She is very supportive of this move in their lives into Jewish missions. They have two grown children, Brandon and Kendall.

Rev. Overby is so grateful to his church for affording him the opportunity to begin deputation as they transition toward new leadership. He will be completing his ministry at Northern Neck Baptist Church in the summer, 2014 and continue to raise support towards the goal of serving full time with J.A.M. as a field representative in the greater Charlotte, NC area. He is available for booking engagements in Churches, Bible Colleges, and other venues. His years of pulpit experience, pastoral service, as well as his background with Jewish missions has uniquely prepared him to assist pastors by providing training and strategies to equip believers in local churches more effectively share the "gospel of Christ to the Jew first and also to the Greek." Whether your church could benefit more from preaching on Israel in Prophecy, Christ in the Feasts of Israel, Witnessing to your Jewish friends, or Living for Christ in the last days, Ken can be contacted through the home office.

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# Sowing the Seed . . . ... Reaping the Harvest

**Ministering to Bea**  
by Jeff and Arlene Berg

**W**hen God moved us to minister in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1989, we did not know any Jewish people. When you begin a new field, the lost are not going to be knocking at your door. You have to go out into the “highways and byways” and find them.

A couple of weeks after we moved in, God brought Bea into our lives. She was a school crossing guard and stood in our driveway five days a week, three times a day! Bea was Jewish and was also a neighbor on our street. Over the years, many Christians who have followed us through our prayer letters have prayed for Bea. We developed a wonderful relationship with her. Through the years and into her retirement, Bea took literature and heard a constant verbal witness of the Gospel.

We were always there for her. Praise the Lord, our faithfulness paved the way to have an impact in the lives of her family, as well. Bea had a lot of tragedy in her life. She lost her husband, sister, and daughter in death in recent years. God used us as an instrument of consistent comfort all the years we knew her.

Due to all the tragedy in her life, Bea became despondent. We typed up encouraging Psalms and Messianic prophecies in large print so she could read them. Bea shared with us that she would read these “prayers” in the morning and every night before bed. We also learned when Bea had to have home health care that she would ask her care giver to read the “prayers.”

A few months ago, Bea was diagnosed with terminal cancer. And this was right after the loss of her sister! She spent the last days of her life in the Jewish home where we volunteer. A hospice nurse challenged her saying, “If you were to die tonight and end up on the other side where will you be? I hope you put your trust in Jesus.” Bea responded, “I pray to Jesus every day.” This news gave us hope.

In Bea’s last days, right up to her death, we lovingly challenged her to make Messiah Jesus personal in her life. During Bea’s cancer ordeal, she suffered with very intense

pain. We read the “prayers” that we had typed up for her and other Scripture. Because her pain was a living torture, it was very difficult for her to respond to us. When she did, it was through tears. Through this ministry of compassion, God also opened the door to minister to her daughter, Debbie. She was very thankful for the faithfulness we had for her mother over the years. We were humbled when she asked us to lead Bea’s funeral.

Bea’s funeral was an enormous opportunity to share the Gospel. Arlene gave personal reflections of knowing Bea.

Jeff had a golden opportunity to share the Gospel and give comfort to the family and friends. Jeff expounded on the Scripture, the “prayers” that Bea read every day. During the service we were surprised when a man volunteered to do special music. He sang, “*How Great Thou Art*.” He said this was Bea’s favorite hymn. After the service, while at the family’s home, her grandson played a video for us of a Christian song. This same piece was sung in our church the Sunday before for special

music. We had thought to ourselves, “if that only could be sung at her funeral, this would truly honor Bea.” Her grandson told us this was her favorite song! We were stunned!

After the funeral service, Don, a relative who has alcohol issues, came up and shared with us how he was moved by the message. We had an uplifting talk with him. We talked to great length about spiritual issues with Paul, the husband of Bea’s late daughter. When we gave him a copy of the devotional *Our Daily Bread*, he was very thankful and said repeatedly that he would read it at work. Three other *Our Daily Breads* were passed out to family members. We were very thankful to the Lord for the opportunities God gave us to share our faith. Even though Bea was private about her spiritual beliefs, we were thankful that we were given rays of light that she had believed.



# How Great Thou Art!



# Apples of Gold



by Moshe and Shoshana Gold

**H**anukah, the Festival of Lights, reminds us that God supplies our needs, giving us more than we can imagine. He is also the light that illuminates us from the inside out and should be seen in any and every situation He puts us in, wherever we are. So when God allowed us to experience some issues with our electricity beyond Moshe's capability to resolve, we began to pray about the electrician that we would meet.


God presented us with Eli. When we met Eli, he seasoned his conversation with some Christian catch-phrases to show us how open minded toward believers he was. He finished his work and told us that we seemed different from some other followers of Jesus he had met. He felt that there was something between us and that Moshe reminded him of his grandfather, a rabbi.

Eli and his wife Yael invited us to their home for dinner. It was a wonderful time. Typical of Israelis, dinner was grilled and we ate outside overlooking rolling green hills as the sunset cast warm shadows giving way to a starry evening. While praying inwardly we kept waiting for an opportunity to have a conversation about the Lord. However, our hosts kept the discussion "God neutral" and we realized that this was their way of learning about us personally, seeing if there was a basis for trust and a relationship between us as couples. As we were getting ready to leave, Eli quickly mentioned something he learned from his

grandfather. "The word Israel", he told us, "has a hidden meaning based on its root letters. It means direct to God." This was his way of setting boundaries and we accepted that as a starting point for future conversations. A connection soon blossomed between Eli, his wife Yael, and us, based on honesty and openness.

As summer passed into fall and winter we met on Friday afternoons. This was a relaxing time and one in which we were also blessed to begin sharing the gospel. In these conversations they always made clear distinction between our faith in Messiah Jesus and them as Jewish.

Many months went by and we did not hear from or speak to Eli and Yael, but kept them in prayer. Perhaps they needed some time to consider the things we had discussed. Finally, the Lord brought us together again for dinner and conversation. For Israelis like Eli and Yael, deep spiritual and personal issues are not discussed in depth until late into the evening when the routine things of life are laid to rest. Around 10:00 p.m. Eli, who had chosen a play list of tasteful music to fill the background, suddenly changed the music to chants from the Psalms. He also changed the conversation and for the first time began to ask questions about the nature of God. We were able to use the content of the Psalms from the music he chose to answer their questions. During this time we could see that they were realizing that we all worshipped the same God and that we had knowledge about Him that they did not have.

They then asked us to come back a few evenings later to meet his parents. Eli had told his family about us and he wanted them to meet us. While enjoying food prepared from their native Morocco, we sat together, and after some small-talk his Dad asked Moshe to sit next to him. The respected elder of the family then asked for Moshe's understanding of who God is. We praise the LORD for His directing us to Eli. Not only was Eli able to fix our lights, but through our electrical problems, Eli and his family have come to hear about the True Light, Messiah! 

*Let your  
light so shine  
before men,  
that they may see  
your good works,  
and glorify  
your Father  
which is  
in heaven*  
Matthew 5:16

## Jewish Awareness Ministries Conferences for 2014

The following conferences are several of the events we have scheduled for 2014 in our new administration/ministry building. Also listed are our Journey to Jerusalem tour to Israel and Prophecy Cruise. Space is limited for each of these functions. Some events, like the Passover Seders, have a cost since there is a full meal included. Please contact us for details on any of these events.

**January 20** Pastors Conference on a tour to Israel. Pastor, join us for 2 hours of information about Israel and how you can earn a free trip to Israel with Jewish Awareness Ministries.

**February 10-14** "Prophecy on the High Seas" Cruise to Bahamas. Great teaching, music, and fellowship.

**March 3** Pastors Conference on Bible Prophecy. Specifically designed to help pastors in understanding and preaching on prophecy.

**March 22** Prophecy Conference for the public. Are we living in the last days? Do you have questions about Bible prophecy? Join us for this time of study in the prophetic word with a Q & A session at the end.

**April 14** Passover Seder led by Rev. Mark Robinson

**April 15** Passover Seder led by Rev. Stan Rosenthal

**April 25 - 26** Creation vs Evolution Conference with Dr. Jonathan Sarfati of Creation Ministries International. Pastors session Friday morning, April 25.

Conference open to the public Saturday morning, April 26. Special sessions on Saturday evening for youth pastors and their young people

**May 16 - 18** Jewish Evangelism Training Seminar

**September 26 - 27** Conference on the Middle East and Bible Prophecy from Jewish believers and an Arab believer's perspective. Special guest Walid Shoebat, former Muslim Brotherhood member and Palestinian terrorist, who is now a believer in Jesus. Rev. Mark Robinson, Rev. Stan Rosenthal and Walid will be sharing about the Middle East, Palestine or Israel?, the peace process, and Bible prophecy.

**October 3** Messiah and Yom Kippur presentation using power point

**October 5** Jewish Culture and the New Testament Seminar for Pastors (Messiah and Yom Kippur & Christ in the Passover)

**October 22-31** Journey to Jerusalem tour to Israel.

**November 14-16** Jewish Evangelism Training Seminar

**December 12** Chanukah and Christmas Celebration

# Shadows of the Tribulation

by Rev. Mark Robinson

The revival of “peace” talks between Israel and the Palestinians have again raised issues that have essentially lain dormant for a few years. The world, as well as liberals in Israel, and Prime Minister Netanyahu himself, reluctantly, perhaps because of pressure from the U.S., are advocating the establishment of two states - one for the Jewish people and one for the Palestinians.

The Palestinian Authority is demanding that all Jewish presence be removed from the West Bank (biblical Judea and Samaria), and it become a Palestinian state. It doesn't take much thought to know how the world's nations would react if Israel reciprocated with the demand that all Arabs be removed from the proposed Jewish state.

If this were to occur cries of racism, ethnic cleansing, and the like would be heard around the world against Israel. But, when the Palestinian Authority is demanding the same thing, removal of all Jews from Judea and Samaria, not only is there no outcry, but it is accepted as a necessary act.

Judea and Samaria are mostly settled by religious Jews who believe that God has given this land to Israel. There are approximately 350,000 Jewish people who live in Judea and Samaria. Major cities have been built with synagogues, shopping malls, schools, businesses, and parks among other infrastructure.

According to a recent article published in Arutz Sheva, David Lev stated, “On Wednesday (Oct. 2), a major conference on the future of Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria is set to take place, and Mesika (Gershon Mesika, head of the Samaria Regional Council) will be there as well. Called the “One Nation of One People” Conference, the get-together will gather thousands of people in Jerusalem to plan for the future of Jewish life in Judea and Samaria.”

This conference was convened because of concern “that Israel is represented in the talks by Justice Minister and Kadima head Tzippy Livni, a major advocate of the ‘two state solution,’ which would see Israel withdraw from most of Judea and Samaria.”

In August, 2005 about 8,000 Jewish settlers reluctantly, but willingly, abandoned Gaza. It is difficult to see 350,000 settlers abandoning the heartland of Israel, biblical Judea and Samaria, if called upon by the Israeli government.

Over the last 10 years or so there have been articles and talks among the religious in Israel about seceding from the nation and forming their own country if they are told to

abandon their homeland in Judea and Samaria. Just before the last breakdown of talks, David Efuno on March 29, 2011, wrote an article titled “Declaring a Second Jewish State.” “Political activists in Israel and around the world have begun to debate the merits of this concept [a second Jewish state], and as interest grows, the embryo of a movement may begin to be taking shape.”

Is it possible that one of the results of the present talks would be a second Jewish state? Ezekiel 37, the context being end times and the return of the Lord, suggests this very possibility. I have highlighted the pertinent phrases:



15 *The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,*

16 *Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:*

17 *And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.*

18 *And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these?*

19 *Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.*

20 *And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes.*

21 *And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of*

*Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:*

22 *And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:*

Will Israel go along with the nations of the world to rid Judea and Samaria of its Jewish citizens to establish a Palestinian state? Will the Jewish population of Judea and Samaria refuse to leave and establish a second Jewish state? Time will tell. The coming days should be interesting.



## Jewish Awareness Ministries

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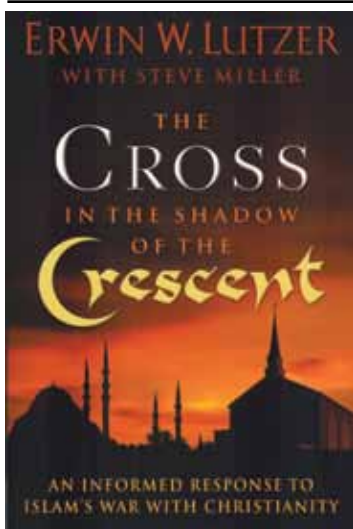


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### Israel in the Plan of God

by Erwin Lutzer

Islam's rise in the West, including America, poses a threat to our freedoms of speech and religion. But it also offers Christians a powerful opportunity to share the gospel. Senior pastor of The Moody Church and nationally known radio host Erwin Lutzer surveys Islam's treatment of Christians both past and present, and answers these questions and more:

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This sensitive, responsible, and highly informative must-read will not only equip you to better relate to your Muslim friends, neighbors, and coworkers, but will also encourage you with the reminder that ultimately, the enduring truth of the cross will prevail.

**Price \$12.95**

### Honey Out of the Rock

by Kyle Sutton

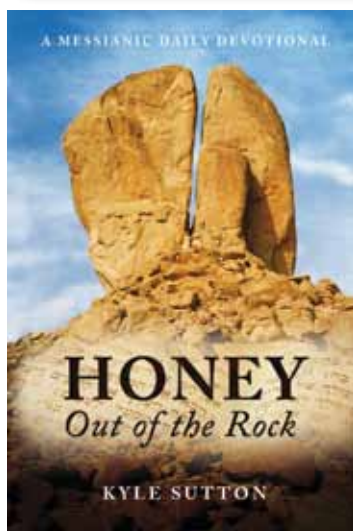
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