

am with you always, even to the end of the age' (Matthew 28:20). That is why it can be found nowhere other than in a living relationship with Him. That is the gift of the Gospel—a promise that outlives every struggle we will ever encounter in this world.

Our plan is to reach Israelis in various ways: through direct evangelism by our workers, who are mostly Israeli believers; through starting new congregations; and through demonstrating the love of our Messiah Jesus by meeting the practical needs of Israelis, such as food, clothing, help for the elderly and specialised ministries to children. Recently our staff travelled to Sderot, the small Israeli town near Gaza that has received the brunt of the missile barrage in recent months. Many of those who live in this beleaguered city are elderly Russian immigrants. Our staff have provided for their practical needs and spiritual comfort and, of course, the Gospel, for these 'new Israelis'.

Your prayers and support enable us to continue these ministries in Israel, in the United States, Canada, and in many other countries across the globe encompassing 96% of the world's Jewish population. Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel—we deeply appreciate you!

Daniel

Daniel



NEW WORKERS SPECIAL APPEAL

It may be that you have wanted to support our ministry in the past, but have been unable to do so. We would like to issue a special appeal for the support of our new workers, Yochanan and Annie. We would like to see them fully supported as soon as possible so that they can devote their full attention to ministry without concern about their finances. We are a faith ministry, and each worker relies on the Lord for his or her support. Please let us know if you can help in any way.

MESSIANIC RESOURCES

The Messianic Passover Haggadah is a must for those who want a deeper understanding of this feast. This Haggadah has been prepared to show God's redemptive grace in the Passover through the death, burial and resurrection of His Messiah, Jesus, and to symbolize God's spiritual redemption of His people.

In his book, **Epicenter**, Joel Rosenberg explains why current rumblings in the middle east should hold your attention. The politics of the Middle East can be murky and confusing. But one thing is increasingly certain: the eyes of the nations are riveted upon Israel and her neighbors, the epicentre of the momentous events shaking our world and shaping our future.



Messianic Passover Haggadah
£5 plus £2 p&p

Epicenter
£13 plus £2 P&P

For more Messianic Jewish products, visit us online at
www.chosenpeople.org.uk



Chosen People Ministries has been taking the love of the Messiah to Jewish people worldwide since 1894.

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The *Chosen People UK Edition* newsletter is published bimonthly by Chosen People Ministries.

To receive a copy, write to: Chosen People Ministries, PO Box 47871, Golders Green, LONDON NW11 1AL. For more information call us at 020 8455 7911 or write to us at info@chosenpeople.org.uk. Design: Lois Gable.

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Please remember Chosen People Ministries in your will. "I will bless those who bless you." (Genesis 12:3)



The Chosen People

REACHING JEWISH PEOPLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



GOD'S ROADMAP FOR PEACE



How do we 'do' Jewish evangelism in the midst of a wartime environment? Israel's continued difficulties with terror organisations such as Hamas cause much consternation in both the Jewish and Moslem worlds. On my part, when I hear that my sister's children have had to miss school and frequently hide in their 'safe' room, and that rockets from Hamas have landed perilously close to them, it is hard to be objective. But who cannot but feel sad for non-combatant Gaza residents who have been injured or lost loved ones?

We know that it is the duty of any state to defend its citizens from attacks, such as those that Israel's southern residents have had to endure on a regular basis—sometimes every few minutes—from Gaza. We also know that war exposes the terrific struggles that go on in the human heart. As a Jew, I was raised to love Israel, but the hope of Israel has always been to live in peace in her own land.



Daniel Nessim

There is very little that Chosen People Ministries can do to bring about political peace anywhere, but what we can do is declare the glories of our Messiah, the Prince of Peace.

The Apostle Paul teaches that as we learn to place our faith in Messiah, we are promised that 'the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Messiah Yeshua (Jesus)' (Philippians 4:7).

This peace does not depend on external circumstances. It cannot be manufactured or imitated. It is derived from only one source—a living relationship with the God of Israel, who has acted through Yeshua the Messiah to bring about our forgiveness and reconciliation, 'for He Himself is our Peace' (Ephesians 2:14).

This is the peace for which our broken, sinful humanity cries out—both Jew and Arab alike. As we pray and partner together to share Messiah's message with those who live in the Holy Land, we are privileged to glimpse what the power of the Gospel can accomplish: for example, the dozen or so former drug addicts who have received Yeshua at our congregationally sponsored drug rehabilitation centre in Tel Aviv; or the softened expressions of Holocaust survivors as they begin to understand the source of the love we extend to them. These wonderful ministry moments are what our outreach workers in Israel live for. The affirmation of the Lord's peace, as we see it dawn on the face of a new believer, is encouraging beyond words.

The authentic peace of Messiah is nothing less than the sign and guarantee of His presence—I

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A FAMILY REUNITED

Last month something special happened in Tel Aviv, Israel. Zoya, an elderly Jewish woman who is the mother of Chosen People Ministries' staff member Neriyah, had a major stroke. After much prayer, Henry and Darlene (also staff members of ours) sensed that they should talk with Zoya about her need for Yeshua.

As Darlene stayed in Jerusalem praying, Henry went to visit Zoya in the hospital. The Holy Spirit was present in the room and touched her heart. After the Gospel was presented, and through much intercessory prayer, Zoya made a faith decision for Jesus, the Son of God, to be her Saviour.

Just a year and a half ago Zoya's husband came to know Yeshua as his Messiah and Lord. Now both are His. We thank God for His mercy as one salvation at a time has come upon this family!

REACHING GERMANY WITH THE MESSAGE OF MESSIAH

Chosen People Ministries' work in Germany, led by Vladimir, is slowly changing. The Jewish population in Germany—more than 300,000 in number—is different than in the 1990s when our ministry there began. Immigration of Russian Jews is slowing down, and the former immigrants are becoming integrated into German life. Thus, Chosen People Ministries is finding new ways to reach the Jewish people of Germany. Strengthening of Messianic congregations and our testimony in German society; Messianic adult education; retreats for children, youth and adults; concerts and special events; friendship evangelism and discipleship—all these are part of the regular activities of our staff in more than a dozen cities. Characteristically enthusiastic, Vladimir writes, 'We have great expectations of God powerfully working through us!'



REACHING YOUNG ADULTS IN NEW YORK CITY

Chosen People Ministries' staff member Ryan has launched a new ministry called 'Metro Moses Manhattan', aiming to build the 18- to 35-year-old Jewish believing community in New York City. The group meets weekly to study the Scriptures together, encourage each other and reach out to Jewish people in the same age group. There are hundreds of thousands of young Jewish adults living in New York City. They need to be reached with the Gospel of Jesus the Messiah. New York University alone has over 10,000 Jewish students! Please pray that the Lord would use this ministry powerfully in outreach and discipleship.

THANKING OUR LORD

Last month Tim, one of our board members in the United Kingdom, had a significant stroke. We thank the Lord for his wonderful recovery, which is ongoing, and for his future contributions to our ministry here.

EXPANDED SERVICES

As we look optimistically to the arrival of our new workers, Yochanan and Annie, we are thrilled to be able to expand the services Beth Sar Shalom offers to Jewish believers and unbelievers alike. We are in the process of starting a fortnightly Bible Study as well as a special monthly Sabbath service. All of this would not be possible were it not for the contributions of a wonderful couple who work with a ministry like ours called Messianic Testimony. We thank the Lord that He has privileged us to put our 'shoulder to the plough' with such brothers and sisters. Yochanan and Annie will be settling into their new home in Golders Green, God willing, at the beginning of this month.

God's Roadmap to Peace

Yet another war between Israel and those implacably committed to her annihilation leaves the world wondering yet again. Why this hatred? Why the tragic loss of blood? When will this cycle of violence end? Is there a roadmap out of this situation?

To understand this conflict, we must view a map of Israel's history. In the mid 1850s, against a background of rising anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe, the Jewish people knew they needed a land where they could be free and safe. By 1860, a small number of European Jews began to settle in Palestine, which was part of the Turkish Ottoman Empire at the time. As Jews began to leave Europe and settle in Palestine, they changed the landscape, transforming deserts and swamps into farms—which in turn attracted more immigrants. In 1897 the first Zionist Congress (named after Mount Zion in Jerusalem), called by Theodor Herzl, declared that 'Zionism seeks to establish a home for the Jewish people in Eretz-Israel secured under public law.'

Shortly before the end of World War One, with the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in sight, the British government famously issued the 'Balfour Declaration' of 1917, stating that His Majesty's government 'view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people' with the understanding that 'nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.'

Jewish immigration to Palestine continued to increase under British rule, but the Arab leaders of Jerusalem began pressuring the British government to stop further Jewish immigration. Bowing to Arab pressure, Britain imposed a limit of 5,000 Jewish immigrants per year. With the Holocaust looming, Jews sought to evade the ban and smuggle themselves in anyway.

Arab resentment at the increasing numbers of Jewish immigrants continued to grow. From 1929 to 1936 riots against Jewish immigration caused untold suffering. In November 1936 a commission arrived in Palestine to investigate the reasons behind the Arab uprising. The following July, they published a report that for the first time recommended partition. Sadly, this was not implemented and the immigration restrictions remained in place. Thus it was that in a sad twist of history, European Jews who had escaped Nazi concentration camps and made their way to Palestine by sea were forced by our own officials back to the horrors of Nazi-occupied Europe.

By the end of World War Two, Britain asked the newly-formed United Nations to handle the matter. A UN General Assembly vote was taken in 1947 in favour of partition and the establishment of a Jewish

state. Subsequently, on 14 May 1948 Israel declared its independence. On the following day, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq invaded Israel and a six-month war ensued. Israel survived, but lost control of the eastern half of Jerusalem. When a cease-fire was finally declared, the state of war with Israel's Arab neighbours continued.

Since that time, Israel has never enjoyed peaceful relations with all of its neighbours. Following Israel's victory in the Six Day War of 1967, outright war on Israel was replaced by terror attacks within Israel and abroad. The 'two-state solution' formulated in Oslo in 1993 was an attempt to resolve this. This so-called *Roadmap to Peace* has led to Israel pulling back from the West Bank and Gaza. However, Gaza has fallen under the control of the terrorist group Hamas, with the backing of Syria and Iran. It is in Gaza that the recent conflict has erupted.

But what is God's *Roadmap to Peace* for Israel? The first step is found in the vision of the Valley of the Dry Bones in Ezekiel 37:11-14: 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel"' (v. 12).

Today the modern State of Israel is indeed alive, but this prophecy is not yet completely fulfilled, because it also says, 'I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it...' (Ezekiel 37:14). Israel has not yet received the Spirit of the Lord, but the day will come when '...all Israel will be saved...' (Romans 11:26).

The second event that will usher in God's plan for Israel's peace is the return of Israel's Messiah. Nations will again rise against Israel, as the Lord told the prophet Zechariah: 'For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled....Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives...the LORD my God will come, and all the saints with You....And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—"The LORD is one," and His name one. All the land shall be turned....The people shall dwell in it; and no longer shall there be utter destruction, but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited' (Zech. 14:2-11). Although there is a constant concern about the current events in the Middle East, we who trust in the Lord and believe His Word know who is in control and how the conflict ends. Meanwhile, 'Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.' 'May they prosper who love you.' (Ps. 122:6).

Adapted from an article by David Sedaca; David has been a leader in the Messianic Jewish movement for over 30 years. He currently serves with our Chosen People Ministries branch in New York.