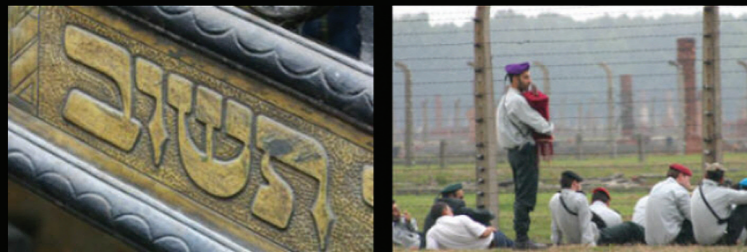


MUCHAN



Worldwide Young Adult
Messianic Conference

December 27, 2009 – January 3, 2010
Berlin and Poland



Young Adult Jewish believers from around the world will be converging on Berlin for a unique conference in Berlin and Poland. Get Ready! Get Muchan! 27 December 2009 – 3 January 2010. For more information go to www.muchanconference.com.

MESSIANICA: A National Network of Young Messianic Jews

Are you Jewish? Do you want to connect with other Jewish believers in Yeshua? Chosen People Ministries is happy to recommend the British Messianic Jewish Alliance, who can be reached at www.bmjia.net or on 0775 352 7738.

For those under 35, we recommend the BMJA's Yahad network. Conferences are held annually. Contact information is the same as above.

Israeli Holocaust Survivors Hear About 'Messiah in the Passover'

Our Israel Director Michael Z. reports that a hundred Holocaust survivors from the cities of Nazareth Illit and Sderot attended a Passover teaching that stressed Messiah's fulfilment of the symbols of the Passover. To Michael's great joy, the group was very receptive, listened very carefully and asked a lot of great questions. At the conclusion, every one of them received a Bible. Please pray that these dear men and women will put their faith in Jesus the Messiah.

'First Thursdays' Draws Women to Fellowship and Study

Robynne, a new staff member, has begun hosting a women's fellowship group in New York City on the first Thursday night of each month. The discussion topics relate to upcoming Jewish holidays or to women in the Bible. Robynne says, 'It has been a privilege to share Scripture and some of my personal spiritual journey with these women. It has also been a gift to hear some of their life stories. One woman told us her experience as a

teenager, hiding in the woods during World War II and then making her way to Israel. The strength of that generation is beyond my comprehension.' Pray that this 'First Thursdays' outreach will touch many hearts and lives.

Believing Rabbi Finds Fellowship in Far East Russia

Vladimir Pikman, who directs our work in Germany, travelled to Far Eastern Russia at the invitation of Chosen People Ministries' Australian partner, Celebrate Messiah. Vladimir writes, 'The opportunities to minister on this trip were endless. People were praying to receive the Messiah everywhere we were ministering. In one city, the rabbi of an Orthodox synagogue came to us and whispered, 'I want to talk to you about the New Testament.' When we met with him, he explained that he believes in Yeshua (Jesus) and was baptized 25 years ago! He was just waiting for fellow Jewish believers to come and visit him. I believe we were a great encouragement to him.'

A 101-year-old Baby!

Michael Cohen's ministry to seniors continues to bear fruit for Messiah. Recently he stopped in a room of a nursing home to offer prayer. As Michael spoke with Janet*, she told him that she was 101 years old! She told him some of her health difficulties, and Michael prayed for her peace and comfort. Then he shared the Gospel with her, to which she responded, 'But I'm Jewish!' However, after hearing that Jesus was the promised Messiah of the Jewish people, Janet prayed with Michael to receive the Lord.



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

Chosen People Ministries UK Board of Directors: Mr. Tim Bath • Mrs. Yvonne Bath • Dr. Mitch Glaser • Rev. Kenneth Jefferson • Rev. Dr. Hartmut Kopsch • Mr. Daniel Nessim • Rev. Keith Page • Dr. John Pretlove, Chair • Mr. Peter Pretlove, Treasurer • Mrs. Elizabeth Hockenhull (advisor)

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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



A CENTER for Jewish Ministry In London

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This month, Chosen People Ministries is moving – to a new and larger place that we believe will be much better suited to ministry and outreach than anything we have ever had before. We will be just a two-minute walk from Golders Green Tube Station, and right on Finchley Road – the main road from central London. It is such a blessing to see things come together as the Lord opens doors.

Because of the costs in moving our entire ministry to a new location, we took the opportunity a fortnight ago to write to you with a special appeal. If you were able to respond to that, thank you! It is both God's physical provision and His spiritual provision (as a result of prayer) that enable us to do the work He has called us to do. In fact, so certain are we of the need for prayer, that we are starting a new prayer meeting for our ministry on the first Wednesday evening of each month, at the new centre, at 7:30 pm. If you live within reach, we'd love to see you! Please call or email us for more information.

Today I picked up a Jewish prayer book and my eyes fell on Psalm 150. 'Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary!' What an uplifting note the Psalms end on, with this hymn of praise. How wonderful it will be as



Daniel Nessim

we gather together in the new building, the congregation that God is planting, to praise Him in Yeshua (Jesus) our risen Messiah. One might think that the sanctuary that the psalmist is writing about is the Temple in Zion. However, Jewish and Christian commentators alike have realised that this is a description of the heavenly sanctuary of our God. 'Let everything that has breath

praise the Lord,' the psalmist concludes. This is not just a psalm written for the Jews, but clearly a call to all – Jew and Gentile – to praise Him.

Jewish evangelism is one of those curious priorities of the church of God. There are some people who think that to divert precious resources to bring the Good News to a small, highly Gospel-resistant population is not a good idea. Nevertheless, it is an idea that God has come up with, and an idea that leads to blessing in great measure. 'The Gospel is the power of God to salvation, for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek,' Paul instructed the Romans (1:16). Throughout his letter to the Romans, Paul continues to make his case, for while there is 'no partiality with God' (2:10) yet the Jewish people are the key to the salvation of the entire world. When the Jewish people as a whole do recognise their Messiah and are saved, then the whole world will be blessed (11:12).

What a blessing it is then to read the encouragement that indeed 'The deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob' (11:26).

And it is no wonder then that Paul, whose heart yearns for the salvation of his fellow Jewish people, breaks out into song: 'For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counsellor?' (11:34). So it is that before concluding his epistle, the Apostle writes that our Messiah 'became a servant of the circumcision for the truth of God...that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy' (15:8-9). What this means is that reaching the Jewish people with the Good News is a key to blessing to the whole world.

As we look back at our history, we can easily see that the times of great reformation and spread of the Gospel have always been associated with the church's love for and outreach to the Jewish people. Whether we look at the time of the early reformers at the beginning of the Enlightenment in the sixteenth century, or the times of the Puritans here in Britain, or the great Evangelical revival of the nineteenth century, loving ministry to the Jewish people has consistently accompanied great times of growth in the church of our Messiah.

I want to thank you for your support of our ministry. Not for our sake, but for the sake of the church in England, I believe that it is essential to reach out to Jewish people with loving hands and the living Word of God.

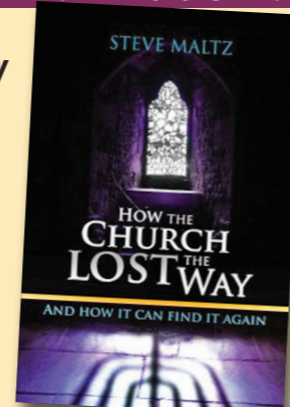
May the Lord bless you richly,

Daniel
Daniel Nessim
Executive Director

MESSIANIC RESOURCES

How the Church Lost the Way – and how it can find it again

We think that this is a most important and timely book that our friend Steve Maltz has written. It is provocative, entertaining and encouraging. It helps us to explore our true Hebrew roots and discover practical keys to moving forwards and perhaps starting to see real revival – something that the Western Church has for so long yearned. This could be the most important book you read this year.



by Steve Maltz
£9 plus £2 p&p

For more Messianic Jewish products, visit us online at

www.chosenpeople.org.uk

Modern Israel: A Mosaic of World Jewry

The promise that the Lord would "...assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth" (Isaiah 11:12) is being dramatically fulfilled in our time. God's chosen people are returning home to the Promised Land, bearing the scars and triumphs of their various journeys. These immigrants' language, culture and even religious practice reflect the fascinatingly diverse character of Jewish expression throughout the world.

Aliyah across the Centuries

There have been Jewish people living in Israel since biblical times. And the Promised Land has held an irresistible attraction to the Jewish people throughout a long exile. Over the centuries, the motivations of Jewish people to make aliyah (immigrate to Israel) have varied according to the circumstances. However, with the birth of Zionism in the late 19th century, the numbers greatly increased.

Just before the establishment of the modern State of Israel in 1948, its population stood at about 800,000. In the three years following statehood, Israel doubled its population, largely from Jewish refugees fleeing Arab lands as Israel incurred the wrath of its neighbours by virtue of its mere existence.

In the 1950s, about 170,000 immigrants came to Israel from North Africa and Romania. The next decade saw another 180,000 new arrivals from North Africa. In the 1990s, with the long-awaited release of Jewish people of the former Soviet Union, some 900,000 from that region entered Israeli society. Also notable in the 1980s and 1990s was the dramatic arrival of 60,000 immigrants from Ethiopia, a large number of them through airlift.

In total, from the time of the establishment of Israeli statehood, roughly 2.7 million Jews from about 130 countries have come to Israel to make a new life and create their own unique imprints on Israeli life.

Ethnic and Religious Groups in Israel

Israeli society is more of a mosaic than a melting pot. Although the threat of foreign enemies and responsibilities such as military service are powerful uniting forces for Israeli citizens, Israel's various ethnic and religious groups retain strong identities as various sub-cultures within Israeli society.

Israeli ethnic groups can be divided into several different categories—the Ashkenazim, the Sephardim and the Mizrahim. Ashkenazim are Jews whose ancestry is from Germany and Eastern Europe. The Sephardim, who were dispersed throughout the Ottoman Empire after their expulsion from Spain in 1492, compose another significant community. The Mizrahim, many of whom follow Sephardic customs, are Jews who came to

Israel from lands such as Iran, Iraq, or Yemen. There are also Jews from Italy, India and Ethiopia, who comprise about two percent of the population.

The Russian Jews have virtually formed a new society within Israel, as almost 1.2 million have made aliyah in the past two decades. Also not to be neglected are the almost one million Arab Israeli citizens. Among Jews, Israel's religious affiliations also cover a wide spectrum. The Israel Central Bureau of Statistics shows that 44% of Israeli Jews are secular, 25% are traditional but not religious, 14% are traditional and religious, 10% are Orthodox and 7% are Haredi (ultra-Orthodox).

The Faithful Look Ahead

There is another growing group of Israelis who are joined by faith and not necessarily by language or place of origin. These are the Messianic Jews, who come from all over the world and live in various parts of Israel. This movement has grown over the last few years to perhaps more than 10,000, with over 100 congregations. This growing movement needs our prayers and support.

Clearly, the growing Messianic Jewish movement in Israel is a sign of what is coming (Romans 11:11-15, 25-27). As believers, how should we respond?

First of all, we need to trust the Lord fully! As our Messiah declared, "In the world you will have tribulation..." (John 16:33). Nowhere does this seem to be truer than in Israel. Yet Messiah's concluding words in that same verse give heart to all who have placed their faith in Him: "...but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

As the world waits and watches to see what will happen in Israel, followers of Messiah have the assurance that whatever difficulties lie ahead, in the end there will be peace through the everlasting kingdom of the Prince of Peace. Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6)!

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