

**"THIS I CAN BELIEVE!"**

Olivier Melnick, my friend and colleague years ago in ministry in Seattle, recently met with Sarah,\* an Israeli woman. She was seeking the Lord and he encouraged her to read Isaiah 53. As she was reading the chapter in Hebrew and translating it into English, Olivier asked her, 'Who do you think the chapter is talking about?' She replied, 'Someone is going to suffer and die for his people, and then he is going to come back—that's him, you know . . . Yeshua (Jesus).' As Olivier continued to share the Gospel with her, her eyes were opened to the truth and she said, 'Now this I can believe!' They prayed together and Sarah received the Lord with great joy.

**A NEW GENERATION**

Over the New Year, we had the privilege of sponsoring an international conference of young Jewish believers in Yeshua. Held in Berlin, the conference was a tremendous success. We were privileged to help young people from the UK attend the conference as well. It is just one thing we can do to enable our youth to live for the Saviour and proclaim Him in their own generation. Comments we received back were exemplified by that of Jacob\*: 'it really was a fantastic week. I was VERY impressed with the quality of organisation CPM had put into it and also with the speakers—I thought they really set the bar for speakers in the Messianic movement.' What a blessing it is to bless others!

**NOW WE ARE SISTERS!**

While on a speaking tour in Italy, Kirill Swiderski, who is from the former Soviet Union, encountered many Christians who love Israel. After one meeting, a Russian-speaking woman now living in Italy told how she had come to faith while on a visit to Ukraine. Kirill writes, 'When she came

back to Italy, she was invited to this church and it became her family. She was suffering greatly because of her unbelieving mother. I encouraged her to invite her mother to our next meeting, and she came. After the meeting, I spoke with the mother for an hour and we prayed the sinner's prayer together. Crying, she hugged her daughter, who said, 'Now my mother and I are sisters in the Lord!'"

**GOSPEL CAFÉ NOW OPEN IN TEL AVIV**

The Gospel Café ministry at our new Tel Aviv Messianic Centre was amazingly blessed with more than 160 people attending the opening. The Café is a once-a-week gathering that offers young people a homely atmosphere and the opportunity to enjoy free coffee and listen to good music. Our staff members often invite visitors to our new Messianic congregation, which meets in the very same place on the following day. Our goal is for the congregation to grow through outreach, and we pray that the Gospel Café will be an integral part of this growth. Please pray for Jason, who is leading this ministry, and for all those who are involved.

**COVERED IN YESHUA'S LOVE**

Saul\* and his wife had been attending our Messianic congregation in Montreal, led by Percy J. Some of the members of our congregation shared their eternal hope in our Messiah and Saul received it gladly, although initially he feared losing his Jewish heritage and his family as a result. Saul became terminally ill, and the day before he passed away, his wife, seeing that he was cold, asked him if he wanted a blanket. He replied, 'I am covered in Yeshua's love.' During Saul's last hours, his wife called Percy, who was grateful to be present as Saul died in the peace of the Lord's assurance.

\*Name changed

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Passover this year will be Monday and Tuesday evenings, 29-30 March, and the week following.

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will. "I will bless  
those who bless  
you." (Genesis 12:3)

**The Chosen People**  
SERVING THE JEWISH PEOPLE SINCE 1894

**PEACE**  
for Us and for  
All Israel

**THIS ISSUE**

**Announcing: 'Israel and the Church' Conference**

**Searching for Peace and Spirituality**

**World Ministry News**

Shalom from Chosen People Ministries in Golders Green. I hope your heart will be warmed by the wonderful stories in this newsletter about the Lord's work among Israelis in New Zealand! It is simply amazing how Israeli young people are willing to consider the Gospel when they are far from home.

Our ministry teams also travelled to India to reach Israeli youth, and met many who are in 'search mode' and open to the Lord!

Over the years I have seen many Jewish people open their minds and hearts to Jesus during times of transition. We have witnessed this on a grand scale over the last few years, as Russian Jews have come to the Lord by the thousands.

These seasons of change are great opportunities for us to share the message of His peace with those whose lives are unsettled and sometimes in turmoil!



DANIEL NESSIM

The peace we experience when Yeshua (Jesus) comes into our lives is a foretaste of the ultimate peace He will bring at His second coming.

*Purim and Peace*

We are now entering a season of the year when Jewish people think more about that future day of Messianic peace—and celebrate the Feast of Purim. This festival commemorates our deliverance from the hand of the evil Haman, the Persian official who attempted to destroy the Jewish people but was thwarted by Esther and Mordechai.

Purim is all about peace and the faithfulness of God, although His name is not mentioned even once in the entire Book of Esther. The story reminds me of a special synagogue prayer, which includes the refrain, 'May He who makes peace above make peace for us and for all Israel . . . Amen!'

In some ways, this reminds me of The Lord's Prayer, asking God that His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Peace is our ultimate destiny! Jewish people are waiting for the day when the One who makes peace above will make peace on earth and with His people Israel. Jewish tradition expects that one day the curse will be lifted, the wolf will lie down with the lamb and our weapons of war will be transformed into farming tools.

I believe the Lord is coming soon—just look at the line-up of enemies that the Jewish people have today in the Middle East! We see the Scriptures unfold before our very eyes—but as believers, we also know how it is going to end. What a glorious day it will be when the Lord reigns as King in Jerusalem!

Dear friend, knowing that the future is in His powerful hands keeps me going and encourages me to witness for Him.

Although terribly threatened—even by a potentially nuclear Iran—we know that the Jewish people will not be destroyed, because God will deliver His people. I don't know if He will raise up a new Esther or Mordechai, but I do know that the promises He made through the prophets—especially this one through Jeremiah—cannot fail.

*"Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for a light by day, the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, who disturbs the sea, and its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name): "If those ordinances depart from before Me, says the LORD, then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before Me forever" (Jeremiah 31:35-36).*

Nothing will keep God from fulfilling His promises to the Jewish people and to our world. One day, Israel will be at peace with her neighbours because the Prince of Peace will reign on His throne.

That day cannot come soon enough for me! But until He comes and His promises to reign on earth are fulfilled, we are His emissaries, bringing His message of peace to the Jew first and also to the Gentile (Romans 1:16).

*Israel and the Church: A Common Heritage and Uncertain Future*

We have planned a major national conference about Israel and the Church: 'A Common Heritage and an Uncertain Future' to be held 8-9 October, 2010. The venue for the event will be the beautiful campus of the London School of Theology.

The conference title says it all! We hope to give believers a better understanding of God's plan for Israel and the Church by pulling back the curtains of propaganda and shining the light of Scripture on this critical subject.

I hope you will want to come . . . and bring your family and friends.

*An Overview of the Conference*

The conference is to be held in partnership with Kings Evangelical Divinity School. Speakers will include not only their principal, Dr Calvin Smith, but also Dr Darrell Bock, a highly noted theologian and speaker from the United States, and Dr Mitch Glaser, the president of the US branch of Chosen People Ministries. Others will be announced soon.

We believe it is so important that the Church have a good understanding of the relationship between it and Israel, that we are making this our major event

this year. If only the Church were to understand the grand nature of God's wonderful plan for the world, and His plan for Israel as the key to blessing all the families of the earth, it would be so greatly blessed itself! We are convinced that the more we Christians understand the wonderful legacy we have in our ancient Biblical roots, the more we would be enthused and encouraged to reach the world for our Messiah—and that includes reaching the Jewish people with the Good News.

*Why Not Register Today?*

You can pre-register for the conference by checking the box on our response card—where you can also send a gift to Chosen People Ministries for the work of Jewish evangelism and discipleship. Please take a look at the card and pray about giving, and about going to the conference. It will be a great encouragement to us!

Thanks for your faithfulness, your prayers and your love for the Jewish people and for Chosen People Ministries—we could not do this work without you! I hope that you will read through the Book of Esther during the next few weeks and be reminded that the Lord who preserves Israel is the same Lord who preserves His Church.

Happy Purim!

*Daniel*

Daniel Nessim  
Executive Director

# Searching for Peace and Spirituality



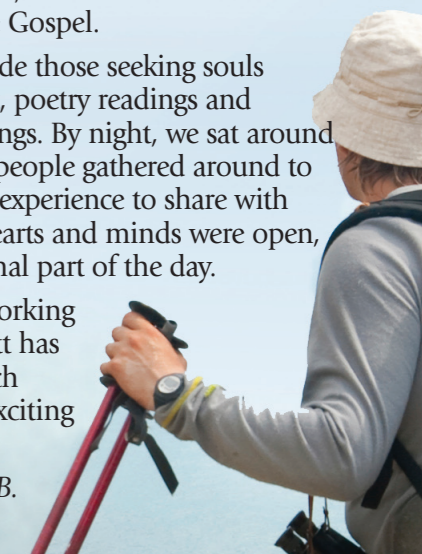
Each year, 40,000 Israelis travel to India in search of spirituality, as well as fun and new experiences. Why do they go? After their mandatory military service, these young Israelis take a year off and travel in order to unwind from the stress of life in Israel. Those who go to India are generally seeking peace and spiritual enlightenment. They are particularly drawn to Goa, a beach region with a culture that is much like Woodstock in the 1960s. Hippies, poetry readings and music in the moonlight are all a part of the scene. Drugs are available at every turn, and spiritual discussions are a common occurrence, though such discussions tend to veer towards a vague, New Age kind of spirituality.

I am struck by the fact that in Goa we find the children of Israel in a foreign land, seeking a foreign god. That is why we have established short-term outreaches to India and New Zealand, another popular destination for backpacking Israelis. Our desire is to share the God of Israel with the people of Israel. Last month, a team of about a half-dozen of us travelled to India to share the Gospel.

What did we do there? We came alongside those seeking souls wherever we could, joining them in music, poetry readings and discussions. By day, we shared in café settings. By night, we sat around a table, opened a Bible and responded as people gathered around to talk and ask questions. It was an amazing experience to share with Israelis in a unique environment where hearts and minds were open, and long spiritual discussions were a normal part of the day.

This month, we are in New Zealand, working with the ministry to backpackers that Scott has established. Pray that the Lord would reach many Israeli young people during these exciting short-term outreaches!

– By Robynne B.



# Prayer Points

Here are some highlights from Chosen People Ministries at home and around the world. Please pray that the Lord will build upon what He has already established!

- ❑ Continued blessings on the ministry of the 'Tel Aviv Gospel Café' as it opens to serve seekers and share the Gospel. 🌈
- ❑ The blessing of the Lord as He guides and directs His growing work, not only in Tel Aviv, but in all Israel and around the world. 🌈
- ❑ The growth of the Messianic fellowship in London and spiritual growth of its members. 🌈
- ❑ Our new Messianic Centre in London, as we seek to reach more people, using it as a base. 🌈
- ❑ Safety and spiritual effectiveness for our teams travelling to New Zealand, Goa and elsewhere. 🌈
- ❑ The continued spiritual growth of those who attended our youth conference in Berlin. 🌈