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# The Chosen People

SERVING THE JEWISH PEOPLE SINCE 1894



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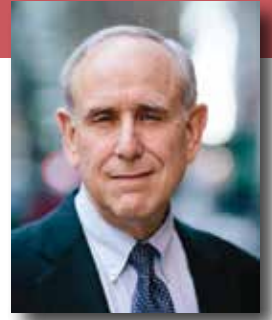
THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR  
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THE IMPORTANCE OF JEWISH EVANGELISM  
**NOW MORE THAN EVER**

Dr. Mitch Glaser  
International  
Director  
Chosen People  
Ministries



# The Biblical Basis for Jewish Evangelism

Dear friend in Messiah,  
I hope that you are enjoying the beginning of your summer. The weather in New York City is beautiful! Our New York staff is working hard to prepare for 125 staff and volunteer evangelists who will be joining us for one of the most significant outreach campaigns ever conducted by Your Mission to the Jewish People—*Shalom New York*.

We will focus our efforts this summer on the greater New York area, which is home to more than two million Jewish people. New York has the largest concentration of Jewish people in the world, which is why I sometimes call it “Israel West”! This is why we have our International Headquarters in Manhattan and our training and seminary program in Brooklyn. It is also why we will take the last week of July and first week of August to passionately share the gospel with the Jewish people of New York City.

Your prayers for our preparation will be deeply appreciated. We have already initiated our digital media campaign, offering our evangelistic book, *Isaiah 53 Explained*, and the opportunity to sign a petition against antisemitism. We will be reaching folks in the New York area through intensified Facebook and YouTube ads, as well as promoting the more than eighty testimonies of Messianic Jews on our website, [ifoundshalom.com](http://ifoundshalom.com).

Also, because we are developing such a great love and burden for the ultra-Orthodox Jewish people in this area, we are advertising the Yiddish version of the *Jesus* film (thanks to the generosity of Cru, formerly Campus Crusade for Christ). In a previous experiment, hundreds of Yiddish-speaking Jewish people watched a ten-minute portion of the video, where they clearly heard the gospel of our Lord Jesus in their very own language.

It is our plan to have our volunteers who are coming to New York City for this outreach follow up with the Jewish people with whom we have made contact through these digital media campaigns.

We are excited and looking forward to this time of preparation for our on-the-ground campaign, which will take place in parks, on the beaches, and in other public places. Staff and volunteers will be reaching out to Jewish people through book tables in Jewish areas, by handing out gospel tracts on the streets, as well as performing skits and music.

## Two Major Outreach Events

We are planning two major events for which I ask your prayers. First, we will conduct a seminar called “The Value of the Old Testament Scriptures for 21st-Century Life.” We believe this will be of interest to both the Jewish and Christian communities. We have two great speakers: a

professor from Kings College in New York City and another from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago. On Thursday night, August 8, 2019, we have scheduled a major debate in Manhattan between Dr. Michael Brown, a Messianic Jewish apologist, and Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, a well-known Orthodox rabbi.

We are going all out this summer, and what better way to celebrate our 125th anniversary than to reaffirm what Chosen People Ministries has been all about for more than a century! Our mission statement says it all: “Chosen People Ministries exists to pray for, evangelize, disciple, and serve the Jewish community everywhere, and help fellow believers do the same.”

Your brothers and sisters who serve with Chosen People Ministries in more than twenty cities in the United States and in sixteen other countries around the globe believe that Jewish evangelism is a special mandate from God. It can only be accomplished when men and women who love the Messiah work together for the salvation of God’s chosen people.

It is my hope that we are on the same page biblically, and that this will encourage your financial support of our efforts this summer. We hope that you will be motivated to share our ministry with friends from your Bible study, church, or congregation, as well.

## Romans 1:16

So what does the Bible teach about Jewish evangelism? Clearly, one of the foundational passages, which we have explained before, is found in Romans 1:16. The Apostle Paul writes, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

This passage is easily understood, but not as easily applied. I am sure that Paul did not expect the Roman Christians to evangelize the Jewish people in their area first, and then once they were done, to begin working among the Gentiles. It is not a sequential mandate but rather a priority of heart Paul had in mind. Sharing the gospel with the Jewish people should be viewed as a priority, which he links to the second coming of Jesus. In effect, the apostle is telling us that we can all have a small part in bringing about the Lord’s return by sharing the gospel with the Jewish people. When God’s chosen people respond positively to Jesus, repent, and return to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob by accepting the One who was pierced (Zechariah 12:10), then Jesus will return and establish His Messianic kingdom.

That is quite a plan! It motivates me to share the gospel with the Jewish people.

What about those of you who do not live in an area like I do, where you can easily walk out of the door and begin sharing



the gospel with Jewish people? I think the message is clear that the priority is one of the heart, so that if you cannot share the gospel with Jewish people where you are, you can do everything you can to help those who are able to fulfill this mandate. So when you pray for us and support our ministry, it helps you fulfill the mandate in Romans 1:16. And further, Paul writes in Romans 11:11, *"I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous."*

The apostle teaches that Gentiles have a critical role in reaching Jewish people. Non-Jewish believers in Jesus are called to reach Jewish people for the Messiah with their faith, love, and transformed lives—which make Jewish people jealous—and also when possible through their proclamation. One of the reasons I am so excited about Shalom New York is because we will have Gentile believers from all across the United States and around the world joining us in New York City from July 27 through August 10 for the outreach! This will give many believers who are not usually able to share Jesus with Jewish people a great opportunity to reach God's chosen people with the message of Jesus.

### *Romans 9–11*

Another key portion of the book of Romans that reiterates this message is in chapters 9–11. I have already mentioned the teaching in Romans 11:25–29, which presents the connection between the second coming of Jesus and the end-time repentance of the Jewish people. It also reveals the need for Gentile believers to make Jewish people jealous with the gospel (Romans 11:11). But what will motivate us to do this on a very practical level? Let me share two more passages from Romans 9 and 10 that further develop the basis for Jewish evangelism in the Scriptures.

Paul speaks about his broken heart for the Jewish people in Romans 9:1–3:

*I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh....*

How could we possibly relate to the above verses when we have so little in common with Paul—a Messianic Jew himself who was willing to step into hell so that a Jewish person might enter heaven? When I think of a burden for the lost, especially for the Jewish people, this is the passage I have in mind that motivates me to give my life in service to the Lord for the sake of my Jewish people. This passage has been the very bedrock of Chosen People Ministries for the last 125 years.

Additionally, in Romans 10:1, Paul speaks about the desperate prayer from the depth of his heart: *"Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation."*

May I ask you to join the global staff and families involved with Chosen People Ministries by praying for the salvation of the Jewish people? Pray especially that Jewish people will come to know Jesus as their Messiah this summer as 125 evangelists share the good news with Jewish people from every walk of life. We also appreciate these prayers for unsaved Jewish people here in the UK and for the work that Simon, Fiona and Emily do.

Thank you so much for your faithfulness to the Jewish people and to Chosen People Ministries. We could not do the work God has called us to do without your partnership.

Blessings to you, and have a great summer! Please remember to pray for us as we reach out to this incredible number of Jewish people living in the greater New York area next month.

Your brother in the Messiah,



Dr. Mitch Glaser  
International Director



## BE AS A JEW TO THE JEW

Recently, our Israel director, Michael, was with some friends from Chicago to discuss opportunities for new projects. They were eating breakfast at a local coffee shop and noticed a religious man sitting next to them. Suddenly, one of the Christian friends asked, looking at the religious man, "What constitutes a good standing with God from the viewpoint of a religious Jew?" Not even thinking twice, Michael redirected his question to the Orthodox man, and they were all absolutely amazed with his answers. First of all, he began his answer from a survey of Calvin and Luther's position on predestination and how it is different from that of Aquinas and Aristotle. Then he went straight to Augustine and compared him to the great religious Jewish thinker Rambam. Finally, he paraphrased the famous passage from the Scriptures that man should live by faith alone! They were absolutely shocked and then he asked the Christian guests, "After you have seen that I am very familiar with Christian writers, can you in turn tell me that you are familiar with Judaism?" Needless to say, they could not say yes. "So," he concluded, "is it not Paul who advised you to be as a Jew to the Jew?" God gave us a very good lesson that day! The religious people in Israel make up 25 percent of the population! Lately, we at Chosen People Ministries—Israel are working towards evangelism among Orthodox Jews, and it is impossible to do this without going deeper in understanding the life of these dear people!



## JEWISH WOMAN COMES TO FAITH AT SEDER

The Lord had staff member Dennis in the right place at the right time. He writes, "On the Wednesday before Passover and Easter, I led a Passover Seder in Maryland. Attending was a young Jewish woman who had been best friends with the pastor's daughter since 4th grade. Lately, she had been asking the pastor questions about faith and when he invited her to the seder, she accepted.

Well, God gave me just the right words to say that night and at the end of the evening, as I asked if anyone wanted to paint the blood of the Passover Lamb on the entrance way to their heart. She accepted the Lord and His precious gift of life and came to faith.

The following Sunday, Easter Sunday, she was baptized at that church, and I had the blessing of attending!

God is so very good!"

## "STAND STILL!"

*Joseph Hoffman Cohn, Editor*

A young Jewish lady recently arrived from Palestine asked us what we were doing for Palestine. I told her that we were praying for the Holy Land. The young lady replied that we ought to do something about the problem. I reminded her that when our forefathers came to the Red Sea and their enemies were behind them, the message came to them, "Fear not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." This Jewess told us of the fighting in that land, and we told her that the Lord Himself would restore our people to the land, in His own time and way.

Our meetings here have also been amazingly well attended. Recently we had our monthly fellowship meeting of Christian Jews. I wish you could hear these born again Jews sing the hymns and give words of personal testimony.

# The Chosen People

## REACHING ISRAELIS ALONG THE PATH

Staff member Stephen writes, "The training we did in Nepal was definitely a unique opportunity!" Stephen was aware that the staff would train the guest house workers, but little did they know that their audience would also include a farmer, a mountain bike shop owner, a local pastor, and several others. Israelis regularly rent bikes from the mountain bike shop, and the pastor has conversations with Israelis in Kathmandu all the time. Israelis also love to volunteer on local farms. Stephen is confident that God will use each of these people in their current positions to reach Israelis. In addition to the training, one couple asked Stephen to show them how they could invite Israelis into their home to celebrate the Sabbath. Usually when Israelis are invited into a non-Jewish person's home to celebrate something Jewish, their first and most natural question is "Why are you doing this?" Israelis are definitely surprised when they hear the host say, "I am grateful for you because everything I have that is valuable to me came through the Jewish people: the Scriptures, the knowledge of God, and the Messiah Jesus." What an amazing way for non-Jewish believers to make Jewish people jealous for the Messiah of Israel! (Romans 11:11)





## SIMON LISSAK WRITES

“Wonderful weather for ducks” is not how I start most of my conversations about Messiah...but I had just jumped on a train and I was dripping onto my neighbour, who “happened” to be an Orthodox Jewish woman! To my total surprise she laughed and said, “I bet most people nowadays won’t know what that even means!” What followed was an extraordinary conversation about feeding ducks, being a parent in 2019, and the book of Jeremiah! I showed her Jeremiah 29:11 and I talked about the love God had shown to rebellious Israel and how that had practically impacted my parenting! She said, “I will talk to my husband about this when I get home, I like reading and I have not read this book since I was a child.” As I left the train I offered her my card, saying, “If you can’t find a *Tanakh* in English then I can find you one!” I was delighted when she took it with joy!

Over summer I will have more time to commit to Stamford Hill and other Orthodox communities. I am eager to put what I have been learning at Oakhill Theological College into practical use with these delightful people, who are wholeheartedly seeking to serve God but have completely missed the truth about their Messiah. On my first trip outing I met Benjamin, who was packing his car to

return to Manchester. We were soon talking about the *Talmud* which he is studying and about what makes the Jewish community so wonderfully safe and so close. He even asked me if I was thinking of becoming Orthodox. This gave me the opportunity to tell him that that would be impossible as I was Messianic! We continued to talk for a while and as I left him I wrote my number on a small bit of paper along with Isaiah 53, Daniel 9 and Jeremiah 31, saying, “If you ever want to talk about the Messiah with me then I’d love to hear from you!” He too took the note with joy!

As many of you know, the last year has been difficult for the Lissaks. Bringing up teenage boys in a highly sexualised culture dedicated to the individual and instant gratification has been tough. But through it all the LORD has been faithful and funny - even speaking through Winnie the Pooh, who said, “I don’t understand when people say nothing is impossible...I do nothing every day.” Unlike that fictional bear, the LORD’s version of “impossible nothings” is everything to us. He is wonderful!

All Glory to Him.

It’s been quite a difficult year so far, but I am rejoicing in the truth that the Lord appoints the day of our birth and the day of our death. This year this is my testimony: *I am here because He has work to do in me to prepare me for Heaven and still has work for me to do here on earth.*

Despite all this, our congregation held a Purim event to which a few of our yet to be saved Jewish friends came, and along with some fun with Moishe the kosher clown they heard the message of redemption. We also held a wonderful Passover meal to which we invited some yet to be saved Jewish friends, who thoroughly enjoyed it and, more importantly, clearly heard the Gospel message and are willing to come to our other events.

I also had the privilege of teaching some young people studying at a Bible College in Latvia about God’s heart and plan for the Jewish people. We hope that as we sow seeds in the hearts of young

## FIONA SORBALA REPORTS



people, when they become leaders or pastors they will teach future generations to love the Lord’s people and overcome the underlying antisemitism that lurks below their society.

We are praying for more opportunities to speak in local churches to share about our work and to share God’s heart for His people. I have a busy month ahead and after a wonderful trip to Israel am refreshed and excited to see what the Lord will do. Here in London I recently met a Jewish lady and hope to start a dialogue with her. We really need to pray for London, the ground here is very hard and we all long to see more Jewish people come to know their Messiah. So we are incredibly grateful to all who support us both prayerfully and financially.

Thank you so much for praying for my time in Israel. I started my trip on the Chosen People Ministries Outreach Israel tour, where we helped serve Jewish people all over Israel - from organising dinners for Holocaust survivors to offering gifts and prayers to young IDF soldiers along the Northern border. One of my highlights was visiting a Jewish lady who lives in a moshav (community) right next to the wall between Gaza and Israel. She told us what life was like living next to Gaza and how her family had experienced a lot



EMILY  
EMANUEL  
SHARES

of fear and trauma from the constant threat of rockets coming from Gaza. To deal with the trauma she decided to start an art project for the community that can be seen on both sides of the wall - it is a joint mosaic creation, by thousands of people, to promote peace. As she was showing us around we asked if we could lay hands on her and pray, and to our surprise she said yes. She asked what she needs to do and I replied ‘just receive’ and we prayed for her

and her family and for her to know the truth of God’s love, and ended it in the name of Jesus.

After the Outreach Israel group I led a Christian young adults tour. Thank you for praying for the finances to come through for that tour - miraculously I received all the funding. It’s been amazing to see all of these young Christians who knew very little about Israel and the Jewish people leave with a deeper understanding of God’s heart for Israel. Our tour guide was a Jewish believer in Jesus from an Orthodox Jewish background who is the only believer in his family including his wife, so it was amazing to be able to encourage him in his faith as he’s not always around young believers, but also helpful for the group to understand more of the struggles Jewish believers face.

I finally helped with the Chosen People U.K. tour to Israel, and to our amazement 42 people booked on! It’s exciting to see what God is doing in our time - I believe it’s now more important than ever for the church to be connected with the Jewish people. Please join me in praying for everyone who attended these trips, that they may continue to learn about Israel and that the Lord would burden them for the salvation of the Jewish people.





**Here are some key takeaways about Jewish evangelism from the writings of Paul in the Book of Romans, chapters 9–11.**

Based upon these three chapters:

1. There is no way of salvation, for either Jew or Gentile, outside of accepting Jesus the Messiah. (Romans 10:1–4)
2. God will save a remnant of Jewish people in every age who will be faithful to His Word (Romans 11:5). The number of Jewish followers of God and of His Messiah will always be in the minority until the very end of the age.
3. God gave the Jewish people special revelation and advantage through His Torah, and therefore the Jewish people have a greater ability to know the truth of God and to faithfully follow the Old Testament Scriptures as a result. This should lead a sincere and faithful Jewish person to the feet of Jesus. (Romans 2:17–3:1)
4. Judgment for the Jewish people is on the basis of special revelation and a failure to live according to God's Word. (Romans 10:18–21)



5. The believing Gentiles have a critical role in Jewish evangelism. (Romans 11:11–15)
6. The turning of the Jewish people to Jesus is connected to His return. (Romans 11:25–26)
7. The future for Israel is bright, as God will keep His promises to Abraham and save His people, establish His kingdom in the land of promise, and reveal the Messiah to Israel. (Romans 11:28–29)





Book a speaker now for the Autumn feasts,  
Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur or Sukkot to find out how  
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**125**  
YEARS

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Please plan to join us on the heritage tour as we  
explore Jewish sites in New York City with a special  
focus on places that are especially meaningful to the  
history of Chosen People Ministries. Visit  
[chosenpeople.com/heritagetour](http://chosenpeople.com/heritagetour) for more information.

We are now taking reservations for our 125th-  
anniversary celebration banquet at the Prospect Hall  
in Brooklyn. We will have a very special speaker who  
we will announce later, along with music, worship,  
and testimonies by the Chosen People Ministries  
staff. For more information, or to register, please visit  
[chosenpeople.com/125banquet](http://chosenpeople.com/125banquet).

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**125**  
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