


The Chosen People



Volume VII, Issue 1 January 2001

Partners in Jewish Evangelism:



Chosen People Ministries and the Local Church

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Partners in Jewish Evangelism: Chosen People Ministries and the Local Church

Dear Friend,

Shalom and Happy New Year! I hope you enjoy this issue of *The Chosen People* newsletter—the first for the year 2001.

We have been publishing a monthly newsletter almost since the start of our mission to the Jewish people in 1894.

It was two years before this that Rabbi Leopold Cohn, an immigrant from Hungary, was walking on the streets of lower Manhattan when he heard a street preacher proclaiming the Good News of the Messiah on the steps of a Presbyterian church.

The man speaking was himself a Jewish believer, who was sponsored as a missionary to the Jewish people by a local church in New York City.

Eventually, Rabbi Cohn received Jesus as his Messiah and started our mission. Throughout the years, hundreds and thousands of Jewish people across the globe have

given their hearts to the Savior through the public and personal ministries of our Chosen People staff.

It all began, however, when a local church decided to do something to reach the Jewish people living in their community. Without a local church convinced of the need to share the Gospel with their Jewish neighbors, there would be no Chosen People Ministries.

Our Partnership with the Local Church

This relationship between our mission and local churches and Messianic congregations continues to this day. Whether the support extended expresses itself through prayer, giving or various types of evangelistic partnerships, we could not continue our work without the involvement, love and support of hundreds of local churches around the world.

And it is my belief that local churches also need the help of Chosen People Ministries in reaching the Jewish people of their community for the Messiah.

We are partners together in reaching Jewish people for the Lord Jesus.

One of our priorities for the New Year is to do more to equip our brothers and sisters in the local church for Jewish evangelism.

Now, I admit that when it comes to reaching Jewish people with

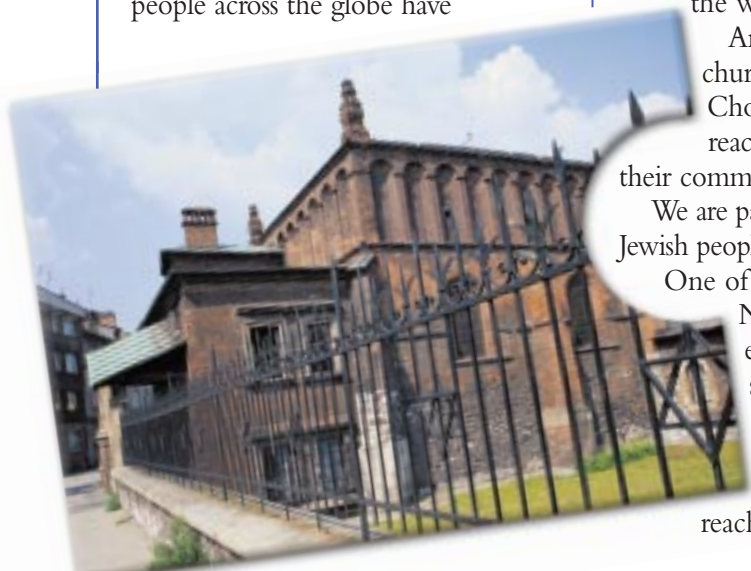
the Gospel, I do see that there is a biblical mandate for believers to be especially concerned for the Jewish people. Of course, this mandate is not to be pursued at the expense of other groups of people for whom the Savior died.

But the Bible does describe the Jewish people as unique among the nations of the world and portrays His ancient people as the “apple of His eye” (Zechariah 2:8). The special role for Israel in the plan of God continues to this very day.

Franz Delitzsch, the great Old Testament commentator, wrote, “For the church to evangelize the world without thinking of the Jews is like a bird trying to fly with one broken wing.” The Apostle Paul expressed it this way: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

The missionary journeys of Paul illustrate the emphasis he placed on reaching the Jewish people with the Gospel (Acts 13:13-52; 14:1-7; 18:7-11; 19:8-10). The Apostle’s words in Romans 9-11 lay bare his burden for his fellow countrymen. As he writes in Romans 10:1, “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.”

It is my prayer that local churches across the globe will catch the Apostle’s vision and bear this same burden for the lost sheep of the house of Israel.



Jewish Sensitivity to the Gospel

Sometimes, though, I would be happy enough to see my people no longer be the Great Omission of the Great Commission—which has all too often been the case. Why? Perhaps because my people are especially sensitive towards the Gospel. Admittedly, we tend to make it “hard” for those who proclaim Jesus to the Jewish people.

“For the church to evangelize the world without thinking of the Jews is like a bird trying to fly with one broken wing.”

Franz Delitzsch

We know many of the reasons for this “sensitivity.” So much has been done in the name of the Messiah to hurt Jewish people. Were they “real” believers who participated in pogroms, the Holocaust and other assaults against the Jewish people? I doubt it! But my people have a hard time distinguishing between those who preach the Gospel and those who used the Gospel as a weapon.

This is why many Jewish people view becoming a Christian as siding with the enemy.

Today, when a local church focuses on Jewish evangelism, they are accused of “targeting” the Jewish people and are deemed hostile. Sometimes this causes local churches to shy away from any type of Jewish outreach.

However, as believers, we need to press on in doing the will of God and continue to present a loving and bold testimony to the Jewish people.

We have found that more Jewish people come to know the Lord through Gentile believers and local churches than through any other means of outreach! This fulfills the testimony of the Apostle Paul, who

wrote, “I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles” (Romans 11:11).

This is why your mission to the Jewish people is committed to serving the local church, thereby strengthening the witness of believers to their Jewish friends and loved ones.

Chosen People Ministries exists to serve the Lord, the Jewish people and the local church. We view ourselves as partners with pastors and local congregations around the world and would never want to replace the role of the local church for any believer, in their service, prayer focus or giving.

Our goal is to serve the body of the Messiah!

In this newsletter, we will share with you a few ways in which we hope to be more effective in helping local churches reach Jewish people.

May the Messiah fill you with His joy in this New Year! I look forward to exploring ways to partner with you, dear brother or sister, and your church, so that Jewish people around the world will hear the Gospel and come to know the Lord!

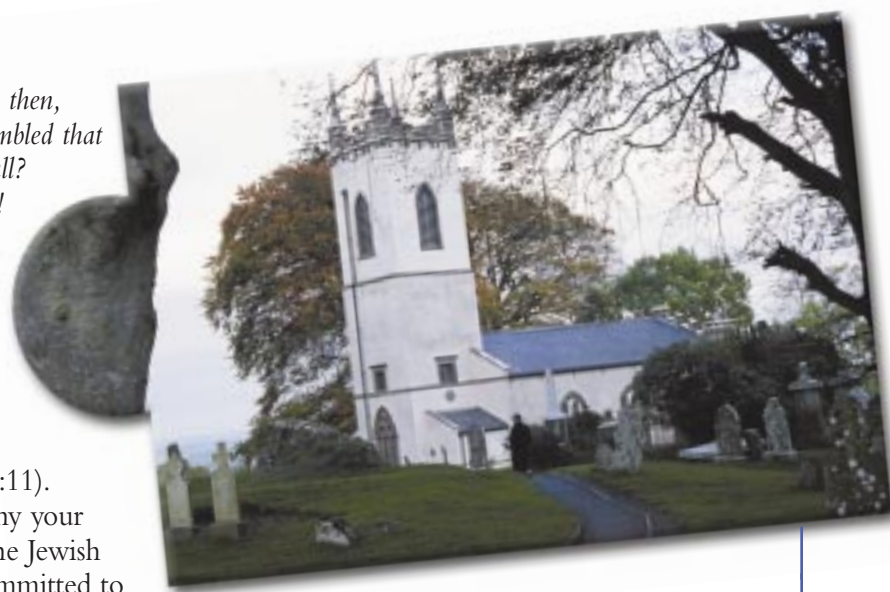
Yours for Israel’s sake,



Mitch Glaser
President



P.S. As always, for more information about Chosen People and our ministries, log on to our web site at www.chosenpeople.com.



At Christ Fellowship our leadership has felt it is imperative to conduct a ministry of outreach to Jewish families. Our belief is based primarily on the statement in Romans 1:16 which emphasizes the importance of sharing the “good news” with the Chosen People as a priority of the Great Commission, as well as the clear teaching in Romans 9-11. We also emphasize the importance of personal witness among the hundreds of thousands of Jewish people in our county.

Pastor Dan Light

Dan Light is Pastor of Messianic & Local Outreach Ministries at Christ Fellowship in Palm Beach Gardens, one of the host churches of the “To the Jew First in the New Millennium” conference in Florida.

How We Can Work Together

1 Schedule a Chosen People Ministries Speaker at Your Church

We have many speakers available to come to your church or home group. We would love to conduct a Messianic Passover, share a message on prophecy or the other Feasts of Israel or, of course, provide training for Jewish evangelism. We also host conferences on Jewish evangelism with some of our nation's great Christian leaders. Does your church or home group want to know more about what God is doing among the Jewish people around the world? We can help!

The Passover Seder

We would love to send our Chosen People Ministries staff members to your church to help you celebrate the Passover as it is fulfilled in Jesus. However, we simply cannot go to every church that wants us. So we have prepared a Passover guide—recipes and all—which you can order for your church or home group. We are praying that hundreds of home groups will have Passover Seders this year and use that time to spend a special moment in prayer for the salvation of the Jewish people. A Messianic Passover Seder designed for a home group, local

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE PROGRAMS CALL

704-357-9000

or email cpm@chosenpeople.com

1300 Cross Beam Drive • Charlotte, NC 28217 (in Canada, call 888-442-5535)

2 A Sunday School Lesson on Jewish Evangelism

We have prepared a special Sunday School lesson on Jewish evangelism for you to use! All you need to do is let us know you want it through the enclosed response card and we will send it free of charge. We plan to use this teaching material in conjunction with a "To the Jew First Sunday," but we want to make the Sunday School lesson available to you now!

STEP and eXperience Israel

These two summer programs are great opportunities for service and training. We need young people to join us on the streets of New York City and Israel as we witness to Jewish people. We also need a number of behind-the-scenes folks to help us serve the evangelists. This would make a marvelous missions project for your church!

church or home school association can be a memorable and effective evangelistic tool. Let us help you put it all together...recipes and all!

5 Use our Messianic Materials

We also have a full catalog of materials to train Christians and to give away to Jewish friends who might be interested in the Lord.

Support Chosen People Ministries as Part of your Missions Budget

What better way to take the Jewish people to heart than to make Chosen People Ministries part of the missions family of your local church or home group? This builds a bond that will bless and enrich both the church and our missionaries. We would welcome the opportunity to be in contact with your missions committee or home group leader. Please use the response card to tell us whom we should contact, or call our Church Ministries Department at the number above.

JEWISH EVANGELISM AND THE CHURCH

Chosen People Ministries—Serving the Local Church

Chosen People Ministries has always recognized the necessity of partnering with local churches in reaching Jewish people for the Lord. Rich Freeman, Vice President of Conference Planning and Church Ministries, explains it this way: “Chosen People Ministries serves local churches with a full range of teaching programs designed to help Christians appreciate the Jewishness of the Gospel.”

Some of the popular teaching programs Chosen People Ministries offers churches are: *Romans 1:16 — To the Jew First*, *The Fall Feasts of Israel*, *Messiah in the Passover*, *Israel in Prophecy*, *Messiah in the Old Testament* and many others. To find out more, interested church members and ministers can call our administrative offices in Charlotte at 1-800-413-5797, or in Canada at 888-442-5535.

Ambassadors for Jewish Missions

How can churches learn about what’s happening in Jewish missions? One way is through Chosen People Ministries’ speakers. Our staff members present programs in local churches which are designed to raise the awareness of the church and motivate believers to reach out to their Jewish friends.

Dr. Al Reichman is one of our busiest speakers. He says, “To put it simply, my role is to transfer the burden of my heart to reach Jewish people, to the hearts of those who invite me to share with them. When I share with pastors about what we’re doing, they usually say, ‘Yes, we need to be involved with this.’”

Training Tomorrow’s Leaders

Another sure sign that Jewish missions is getting noticed is the emphasis it is receiving at Christian institutions of higher learning. Dallas Theological Seminary will be devoting a full week to Jewish outreach ministry at its “Missions and Evangelism Lectureship” week in 2001. Chosen People Ministries will be well represented, as the featured speakers will include Dr. Mitch Glaser, Larry Feldman and Rich Freeman.

Dr. Mark Bailey, Dallas Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, explains, “Dallas Seminary has always had a vision for world evangelism to the Jew first and also to the

Gentile. Our purpose in having this event on our campus is to train our students to be aware of and sensitive to issues that revolve around Jewish evangelism. We want to train the future leaders of the Church and parachurch organizations to reach Jewish people with the Gospel.”

Southeastern Seminary, which also has a heart to see Jewish people won to the Lord, is hosting a “To the Jew First in the New Millennium” conference in 2001 as well.

The Local Church and Jewish Evangelism—Sharing a Bright Future

Chosen People Ministries sees a bright future for partnership with local churches across

North America. The Scripture speaks plainly. Salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Jewish people jealous (Romans 11:11). Chosen People Ministries wants to serve the local church by equipping all Christians everywhere to bring the Gospel to the Jewish people.



See the Through Jewish Eyes Bible

by Dr. Daniel Goldberg



Meet the Prophet Amos: Shepherd, Farmer and Preacher

The Bible is indeed the Book of books. Its forty authors cover a wide assortment of occupations. There are judges like Samuel, priests like Ezra, musicians like David, scholars like Moses and prophets like Amos.

Amos – Man of the Soil

As Amos himself informs us, **“I was no prophet, nor was I a son of a prophet, but I was a sheep breeder and a tender of sycamore fruit”** (Amos 7:14).

Amos lived in Tekoa, a village located about six miles southwest of Bethlehem and twelve miles south of Jerusalem. Tekoa was the center of a large sheep-farming district, so it is not surprising that this was the occupation Amos pursued. Like farmers everywhere, Amos

supplemented his income as best he could and cultivated a small orchard of sycamore trees, which bore a type of wild fig.

As a shepherd and farmer, Amos would often travel to the markets in Judah and her prosperous northern neighbor, Samaria, to sell his wool and figs. During these visits, he observed firsthand the corrupt moral situation of the city people.

Amos and his World

Amos wrote and preached in times of economic prosperity during the reigns of King Uzziah of Judah and King Jeroboam II of Israel (786-746 BC). This was a period of unusual affluence in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Jeroboam II had restored the older Solomonic borders and ushered in a period of

materialistic prosperity. However, the wealth and leisure came at the expense of the poor. Also, much of Israel’s religious life had deteriorated to sham and hypocrisy.

As a prophet from Judah in the south, Amos observed that the religion of the Northern Kingdom was conducted at cult shrines in Bethel and Gilgal. However, God had not authorized any site other than the Jerusalem temple for worship and sacrifice.

Amos’ Calling – and Ours

Amos, whose name means “burden bearer” testifies about his call to preach, **“...the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel’”** (Amos 7:15).

What an encouragement Amos is to us! Although he was not a graduate of any “prophetic school,” God used him mightily just the same. The Apostle Paul encourages us as he writes: **“...you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world...the weak things of the world...and the base things of the world and the things which are despised...that no flesh should glory in His presence”** (I Corinthians 1:26-29).

Church history is filled with names like John Bunyan, Catherine Booth and Fanny Crosby. They, like Amos, were never seminary-trained. Nevertheless, they ministered mightily in their day. One key is that they became, like Amos, burden bearers. Each one of us who is part of Messiah’s fellowship can share in Amos’ burden-bearing ministry through prayer and service to others in Messiah’s name. ✨

Couple Receives Salvation at Messianic Service

God's Word continues to bear fruit through the work of Chosen People Ministries in Irvine, California. An older couple recently received the Lord at a service at the Messianic congregation led by Larry Feldman. Larry's message, combined with the witness of two of the congregation's members, led to the couple's decision. One of the members commented, "All we had to do was to ask them if they wanted to accept Yeshua. Then we led them in a simple prayer."



Larry & Fran Feldman

Church Expands Jewish Evangelism Program

Are churches catching a vision for Jewish evangelism? Chosen People Ministries staff member Cathy Wilson is seeing it happen in her home city of Scottsdale, Arizona. One church there decided to offer a "Jewish Roots of Christian Faith" class in its Christian Education program if five people expressed interest. The first Sunday, sixty-seven people came out. Not long after, several members expressed the desire to start a Jewish Ministry Team.

Recovering Drug Addict Finds Peace in Messiah

People often seek peace in all the wrong places before they meet the Lord. Charles,* a recovering drug addict who is Jewish, was introduced by a Christian friend to Chosen People Ministries staff member Irving Salzman in Montreal.

Charles was open to the Gospel. Irving challenged him to pray that God would lead him to the truth. Several days later, Irving and his wife Susan met with Charles and his Christian friend for lunch. Another excellent conversation ensued.

Later, while he was out running, Charles prayed, "Lord, if Jesus really is the Son of God, I'm ready to believe in Him." Immediately, he sensed God's unconditional love and believed. Charles shared with Irving, "Jesus is the way to God. He makes it possible for anyone to come to Him..." even a recovering Jewish drug addict! All praise to our God.

Gospel Preached in Florida Prison

Chosen People Ministries missionary Stewart Weinisch recently had the opportunity to bring the Gospel to a Florida prison. Stewart prayed that the Lord would open the hearts of Jewish inmates.

God answered Stewart's prayer by arranging for a Jewish man to sit by him at one of the meetings. After some conversation, Stewart realized that Robert* was open to hearing about Jesus. They looked into the Scriptures together and soon Stewart knew that Robert was ready to receive the Lord. At the concluding service, he stood up in front of 50 inmates and 40 volunteers from the outside to say that he had made a decision to trust Yeshua to be his Savior. What a blessing!

Jewish People in Ukraine Receive Jesus

Special services in the Ukraine coordinated by team workers from Kiev, Poltava and Kharkov saw an attendance of about 80 Jewish people who came out to hear the Gospel. At the conclusion of the service, a number of people responded to the invitation to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. The new believers are now attending follow-up meetings every week.

In Memoriam - Joe Rubin

Chosen People Ministries is saddened by the passing of retired missionary Joseph Rubin.

Joe came to the Lord through the witness of Clara Krop, whom he later married on October 10, 1937. They settled in Brooklyn and are especially well remembered for their work with children at the Mission's Summer Camping Program.

Joe and Clara opened a branch of the Mission in their home on Long Island in 1956. They labored there until their retirement in 1983.

One of Joe's former co-workers remembers the impact of Joe and Clara's ministry: "Ridicule and persecution did not discourage them from their witness. They exhibited their love for the Lord with a holy boldness in life and word."

Joe Rubin will be greatly missed.

**Not their real names*

To the Jew First in the NEW MILLENNIUM

A Three-day Conference on Jewish Evangelism

West Palm Beach, Florida February 8-10, 2001

Come and hear why some of the most prominent Christian theologians and leaders in North America today believe that Jewish Evangelism should be a priority for the Church in the New Millennium.

Speakers include: Richard Averbeck, Craig Blaising, Darrell Bock, Lanier Burns, Mitch Glaser, Stan Kellner, Barry Leventhal, Calvin Miller, R. Albert Mohler, Paige Patterson, Robert Reymond, Michael Rydelnik, Mark Seifrid, Stan Toussaint, and David Turner.

Two opportunities for you to bring Jewish friends to hear the Gospel in a Jewish way:

- ✚ **WOMEN'S LUNCHEON** on *Saturday, February 10* at **NOON** with *Dr. Dorothy Patterson* as the main speaker.
- ✚ **MESSIANIC CONCERT** on *Saturday, February 10* at **7:00PM** with the dynamic music of *Paul Wilbur*. *Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr.* president of Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, will be speaking. Both events will include the life-changing personal testimonies of Messianic Jews.

Meetings will be held at the facilities of the First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach and Christ Fellowship of Palm Beach Gardens.

For more information or to register
call 1-888-405-5874

Answering Jewish Objections

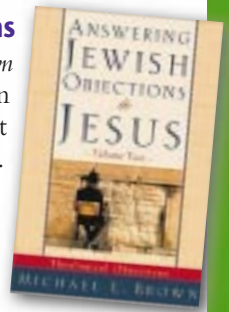
by Dr. Michael Brown

In this second of three volumes, Brown answers twenty-eight of the most weighty objections raised against Jesus. These are real questions and real answers, formed by years of dialogue with rabbis and religious Jewish people.

#3072 Volume Two Price: **\$15.95^{US}**

Volume One also available

#3070 Price: **\$15.95^{US}**



Messiah in the Passover Kit

This Kit will help churches, classes, or families have a Passover celebration of their own. Guaranteed to make your Passover celebration an unforgettable experience. Includes the *Messiah in the Passover* video, *How to Prepare for a Passover Dinner*, *Messianic Passover Haggadah*, a poster, and bulletin inserts.

#5001 Price **\$19.95^{US}**



Israel Through Jewish Eyes

A Point of View You Won't Forget

Journey to Israel and retrace the footsteps of Jesus the Messiah. Dr. Ben Alpert, Chosen People Ministries' Israel guide and teacher, will open your eyes to the wonders of the Promised Land. You'll



travel from the Sea of Galilee to the River Jordan, with stops in Jerusalem, Jericho and other Biblical sites along the way. Dr. Alpert's in-depth teaching brings Biblical events alive in the very location where they took place. Trips are annually in March and November. For a full-color brochure of the itinerary, call **1-800-459-9402** now.



The Chosen People Newsletter

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

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

Visit us on the Web at
www.chosenpeople.com