

# The Chosen People



Volume XI, Issue 7 September 2005

## Ministry in New York City Four Years After 9/11



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# Ministry in NYC

Dear friend and prayer partner,

Shalom in His grace! I hope you had an opportunity to rest and spend some extra time with family this summer. We did—and it was wonderful! Zhava and I are re-energized and ready for the challenges of the fall—which is the beginning of the ministry year for your Mission to the Jewish people.

Our worldwide ministry schedule reflects the celebrations and observances of the Jewish year—especially the High Holy Days, which occur in autumn. The first one we will observe is *Rosh Hashanah* (the Jewish New Year), which begins this year on the evening of October 3. The next one is *Yom Kippur* (the Day of Atonement), which begins on October 12 in the evening.

Please remember to pray for us during these important days! We are already busy preparing for services, since these Festivals afford us a significant season of evangelism to our Jewish people! It is the time of

year when even non-religious Jewish people often think more deeply about God and their relationship to Him.

The themes of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur focus on repentance and the forgiveness of sin. I will tell you more about these holidays in the next newsletter, but I hope you will begin praying now for our High Holy Day outreach events, and that you will also consider inviting a Jewish friend or family member to one of our Chosen People Ministries Messianic services. It is our goal at these special services to present Yeshua (Jesus) in a Jewish way, so that Jewish people will be able to recognize that He is the Messiah.

If you would like to join us for one of these services, please call 1-888-2-YESHUA, or visit our web site. You will find all the information you need right there!

## The Jewish Art Calendar

There are many ways you too can utilize this season of the year as a way to introduce your Jewish friends to the Messiah. One way is to make a gift of our beautiful Messianic Jewish Art Calendar, which is now available! I cannot tell

you how magnificent this new calendar is! The artwork we used is from a selection of original oil paintings done by a Russian Jewish artist and the scenes of Jewish life are brilliant. The months and seasons of the year form a superb backdrop for the presentation of Messianic Scriptures.

As a friend of the Jewish people, you will also be blessed as you view these eye-catching images each month. It is my hope that your Jewish friend will be drawn to these vibrant scenes of Jewish life and will ponder the Scriptures and brief devotional thoughts that accompany each month. It would be wonderful if, through this calendar, your friend or relative were to be attracted to



The artwork in this year's Messianic Jewish Art Calendar is from a selection of original oil paintings by a Russian Jewish artist. Each month displays brilliant scenes of Jewish life. Filled with Messianic Scriptures, this is a perfect gift to give your Jewish friend. Order one for your own home, too, and experience the beauty of the Jewish holidays for yourself. This 16-month calendar goes from September 2005 through December 2006.

To order, use the enclosed response card or call 800-333-4936.

item 5005 • \$13.95<sup>us</sup>

The Chosen People

the greater beauty of the One who is both the Jewish Messiah and Lord of Time!

Why not let your church or Messianic congregation know about this very appropriate gift for their Jewish friends during the High Holy Day season?

### **New York, New York!**

I am looking forward to our High Holy Day observances in New York City this year. We will have services in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens, both in English and in Russian. We are praying that many Jewish people will attend and hear about Jesus the Jewish Messiah.

It was only a short time ago—or so it seems—that we celebrated the Jewish New Year after one of the most tragic events in American history. In 2001, the High Holy Days began just a few days after the events we now know as 9/11. The memory of those days remains with us.

Each September—especially during the High Holy Days—an involuntary, almost palpable sense of emotion comes over me and the others who were at our Mission headquarters in Manhattan when the Twin Towers fell. Just a few days after 9/11, we conducted the Rosh Hashanah service in the shadow of the Empire State Building. I preached a message of hope based on Psalm 23. Looking back, I can honestly say that I have never experienced a congregation of individuals with hearts so open and sensitive to their need for God as they were on that day.

For months, New Yorkers were seeking the Lord to an unusual degree. Many people came to faith in Jesus as Messiah in the aftermath of 9/11. I would not want to go through a catastrophe like this a second time, but I do pray that the Lord would again break the heart of our City—for Him!

New York still has more Jewish people than any city in the world.

We have all types of Jewish people living in this City: Orthodox, secular, Russian, Israeli—you name it!

I am a Jewish New Yorker, so I confess that I have an especially passionate love for my “kinsmen by birth” who reside here. Although I was raised not to believe in Jesus, something happened that opened me to the truth and changed my eternal destiny. I know now that the Lord can work personal miracles in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles. I know, because He softened my heart by His grace and drew me to His Son.

Pray for us in New York City! There is a reason your Mission to the Jewish people established our headquarters in this vibrant city more than a century ago. It is the same reason that we are here now!

New York City—along with Israel, of course—is the center of the worldwide Jewish community. Is it any wonder that we focus so much attention, staff and effort on New York City and Israel?

Thanks for your prayers and for sharing our burden to see the Gospel go forth to our Jewish people.

On another note, we do need your continued financial support for our ministries in New York City, Israel and around the world. We could not do this work without your partnership. Thank you for considering a special gift this month to be used in reaching Jewish people for Jesus.

We are so grateful for you!

Your brother,



Mitch (Romans 10:1)



Dr. Mitch Glaser  
President

P.S. Your gift to the Jerusalem Messianic Center is still needed — another \$200,000 and we will have the Center finished and paid for (this will include the renovations and taxes we’ve had to pay in purchasing this beautiful center)!



# Messiah's Blessings in a Post-911 World

In just one moment, the life of a city can be changed forever—and this was certainly the case in New York City after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Although the hustle and bustle are back and people are shopping, going to the theater and exploring New York's famous museums, something has changed. There is an underlying melancholy—a silent plea for healing—that our Chosen People Ministries staff members come across again and again as we seek to share the Gospel of the Prince of Peace.

## STEVE & CAROL FENCHEL

*Building a Messianic community of faith*

Building a Messianic congregation requires patience and maturity, which are just two of the qualities that congregational leader Steve Fenchel brings to his ministry. A Jewish believer, Steve has helped build Messianic congregations for almost 20 years. He and Carol have been instrumental in planting a Messianic congregation on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

Formed earlier this year, the congregation has forty regular attendees. They are a reflection of the diverse populace of the city, including Jewish believers, seekers, and a broad range of nationalities and ethnic

backgrounds. The services consist of worship, a teaching from the

Hebrew Scripture and

Steve's Gospel message.

Part of the congregation's recent outreach was to coordinate with STEP, our Summer Training and Evangelism Program, which gave out invitations to the congregation's services and also provided contacts for Steve to follow up on. Steve and Carol have an exciting vision for expanding the Mission's presence on the Upper West Side: a coffeehouse drop-in center where people can come to talk and learn about the Messiah's message.

## Laura Fels

*Ministering to the marketplace*

If there is anyone on the Chosen People Ministries staff who has her finger on the pulse of post-9/11 New York, it is Laura Fels. Laura, who has been "on loan" to us from Campus Crusade and is now officially on staff part time, has good reason to be attuned to the rhythms of the City in these tense times. She began her ministry with us literally half an hour before the first plane struck the Twin Towers.

Her ministry is to "the marketplace"—the young professionals and seasoned executives who make this city hum with commerce. She observes, "New York doesn't want to regard itself as having changed. People shy away from the subject of the attack, but once you are able to get them to open up, you can see that people are still afraid. When a small bomb went off at the British Embassy (just around the corner from our headquarters), it was like people were reliving a nightmare. Traffic came to a stop and one could sense people thinking, 'Here we go again.'"

Proof positive that New Yorkers are now in a different frame of mind is an event that Laura is coordinating for Jewish businessmen and women working in Manhattan. It is titled "Russia, Iran, Israel and the Bomb—what should the U.S. do?" Such are the concerns that now occupy us in this anxiety-ridden age.



## RANDALL AND LUDA FORD

*Serving the Bukharan Jews in the borough of Queens*

Randall and Luda Ford are a wonderful example of the ministry that develops when God's servants immerse themselves heart and soul among those to whom the Lord has sent them. In this case, the people are the Bukharan Jews, a specific sub-culture of Jewish people who have immigrated mainly from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. They are concentrated in the borough of Queens, where between 50,000 and 100,000 reside. In the vast apartment complex where the Fords live, there are no fewer than 850 Bukharan Jewish families.

The Fords have had notable success through their home Bible study and through assistance from various short-term outreach groups. The Fords train these groups in Jewish evangelism, and they in turn steer interested people to Randall and Luda's doorstep. One of the volunteers' activities is to distribute flyers that say "Free: Russian *Jesus* Film." Luda and Randall field the calls that come in and deliver the films personally. They have met about thirty families in this way.

The Bukharan Jewish people are not an easy group to penetrate, but Luda's own Bukharan background and Randall's loving commitment to the Lord have opened many doors. Luda says, "We are meeting many new people. It's a neighborhood and a culture that is almost unreached, yet slowly but surely, we are reaching them."



## KLAUDIA ZHELEZNY

*Reborn through suffering and now serving the Lord*

The September 11 attack was especially traumatizing to New Yorkers because the majority simply had nothing with which to compare this horrific experience. This, however, was not true for the many Russian Jewish

people with whom

Chosen

People

Ministries

has been

working for

many years.

The Russians

know what it is to

suffer, both individually and as a nation.



Klaudia Zhelezny is a living example of the Lord's ability to pierce through seemingly impossible circumstances. Born in Kiev, she came to the Lord after the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl. As one of Chosen People Ministries' most gifted workers, Klaudia's opportunities to share the Gospel with the Russian Jewish community have grown exponentially through her active evangelism.

For the last year, Klaudia has hosted a program on Russian radio called, "The Bible, History and Us," which presents evangelistic messages based on the Hebrew Scriptures. She receives calls after every program, some from seekers and some from new believers. Klaudia says, "I have a great opportunity to witness to people I certainly wouldn't get to meet in person."

## FACTS ABOUT THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN NEW YORK CITY

The Jewish community in New York City is still as important as ever and continues to be the largest concentration of Jewish people in the world!

☆ There are 1,412,000 Jewish people in the eight counties that compose New York and its environs. To this, however, one may add over 350,000 Jewish people in New Jersey and 50,000 in southern Connecticut, many of whom live in suburbs and bedroom communities that still look to New York City as their center.

☆ One of the major changes in the fabric of Jewish life in New York City and the area immediately surrounding it is the dramatic rise in intermarriage. Recent statistics show that 22% of couples in New York are intermarried—a high percentage, although still well below the national average. This includes

married couples who were wed at a time when intermarriage was relatively rare. From 1998-2002, however, that number rose to 36%. This represents over a four-fold increase in the past thirty years.

☆ The three major branches of Judaism — Orthodox, Conservative and Reform—all have large theological seminaries in New York City. There are more Orthodox rabbis in New York than anywhere else in the world. The city also contains the worldwide headquarters of three important branches of the Hasidic movement: Lubavitch, Bobover and Satmar. The proportion of Jews identifying themselves as Conservative and Reform in New York City has fallen from 70% to 55% in only 11 years. The Orthodox community grew from 13% in 1991 to 19% in 2003, while 25% of New York's Jewish population considers itself "just Jewish" (non-religious).

1/2 c graham cracker crumbs	1 1/2 lb. cream cheese, softened
1/2 c heavy cream	2 lemon rinds
1/4 c half and half	1 orange rind
2 T sour cream	5/8 c sugar
4 eggs	1 tsp vanilla

Preheat your oven to 375° F. Start by grating the lemon and orange rinds. Butter an 8-inch round springform pan and sprinkle it on the inside with the crumbs. In a mixer at medium speed (make sure not to use high speed!), beat together the cream cheese, grated lemon and orange rinds and vanilla. Slowly add the heavy cream and sugar, then the eggs until everything is well mixed. Then beat in the half and half and sour cream until everything is nice and smooth. Now pour this mixture into your pan, set the pan in a larger one, and pour boiling water around it. It will be easier if you do this right in the oven rack. Bake 1 1/4 hours. Be careful not to over-bake or the cheesecake will come out dry. It should still be a little wobbly in the middle. Now remove the smaller pan from the larger one and let it cool for 10 minutes. Unmold the cheesecake and let it cool to room temperature, then put in fridge for a couple of hours until it's cold. Get together with loved ones and enjoy! You'll feel like you're here in Brooklyn with us!

## Zhava's "Not-Quite- Junior's" Cheesecake

Here in Brooklyn where Mitch and I live, everybody knows the best cheesecake in the world comes from Junior's Deli on Flatbush. Well, last we heard they weren't sharing their secret, but this delicious New York cheesecake recipe is about as close as you can get!

# See the THROUGH JEWISH EYES Bible

by Daniel Goldberg, Th.D., D.D.



## THE NEW WORLD ORDER Revelation 21:1-22:1

When God created the world, He said “*it was very good*” (Genesis 1:31). Today’s world, however, is no longer “very good.” Its glory has departed.

The moral order has become corrupt and the ecology is polluted (Romans 5:12). Revelation 21 describes the “New World Order” of tomorrow—God’s world—as it shall be.

Tomorrow’s world, the new heavens and new earth, will arrive when God makes “*all things new*” (Revelation 21:5). This newness is manifested in the following ways.

### A NEW CREATION Revelation 21:1,2

Isaiah (65:17; 66:22), the Apostle Peter (2 Peter 3:10-13) and John the Revelator (21:1,2) present us with the new creation. The old creation will pass away with a great noise in burning flames. In the New World Order, the temptation to do evil will be eternally absent. Rebellion against the Creator will be an impossibility.

### A NEW SOCIETY Revelation 21:3-8

The New World Order is characterized by the absence of tears, sorrow, pain and death (21:4). There will be no need of a physician, counselor or undertaker. Neither will there be found a locksmith, lawyer, hospital or graveyard in the new society. God Himself “...*will wipe away every tear...*” and the memory behind every tear (21:4).

God is dwelling with His people: “*Behold...He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God*” (21:3).

### A NEW JERUSALEM Revelation 21:9-21

Here is a shining citadel of radiant beauty, surpassing a thousandfold the vast cities man has built. John sees

jasper walls, jeweled foundations garnished with precious stones of every hue, divinely crafted in tender love. Twelve gates of pearl named after the twelve tribes of Israel give access to the City of God. On the wall’s foundations are found the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb (Revelation 21:14).

### A NEW WORSHIP CENTER Revelation 21:22

The Temple is no longer needed, for the Lord God Almighty Himself and the Lamb are the Temple. Every knee will bow and all worship and adoration will be directed toward the throne of God’s love by the great company of the redeemed of all ages (John 4:23; Philippians 2:10,11).

### A NEW LIGHT SOURCE Revelation 21:23-27

This is a city without lights or nights, sun or moon, for it is illumined by the glory of God and the light of the Lamb (21:23-24). All the nations “*walk in its light*” and walk in its glory.

### A NEW WATER SOURCE Revelation 22:1

Humankind cannot live without water. In the New World Order, an abundance of water proceeds out of the throne of God, indicating that God is the source of the pure water of life.

While on earth, the Messiah said, “...*whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst...*” (John 4:14). The last Bible invitation states, “...*Come! And let him who thirsts come...let him take of the water of life freely*” (Revelation 22:17).

Who would ever want to miss out on this glorious restoration? May the Lord help each of us to be faithful in praying that unbelievers be brought to thirst for Yeshua (Jesus), the Jewish Messiah (John 7:37). ✠

**FROM MOURNING TO NEW LIFE**

Each year, Larry Feldman’s Messianic congregation in Southern California commemorates the Holocaust through a special service. This year’s service included posters, slides, a dramatic presentation of the book of Habakkuk and closing words of hope in God and His Messiah Yeshua (Jesus). Among those present was an Orthodox Jewish woman in her thirties who had been asking questions about the Messiah. After the service, Larry shared his testimony with her, as well as the Scriptural prophecies and God’s plan of salvation. Finally, he asked if she would like to receive the Lord. She told him, “Yes,” and they prayed together. Praise the Lord Who is able to bring new life even to those who mourn.

**THE DEAF SHALL HEAR**

Chosen People Ministries Vice President Rich Freeman reports good things from South Florida: “We continue to have open doors to preach the Good News to seeking people. At our home church in West Palm Beach, we conducted a special service and among the attendees were people from our deaf ministry who had invited a non-believing Jewish couple. Though they couldn’t hear me, they certainly were able to understand through the translation in sign language. This deaf Jewish couple, who had been witnessed to many times by their friends, finally saw how everything fit and accepted Jesus. Praise God for this new brother and sister in the Messiah!”

**JEWISH WOMAN REBORN ON 97TH BIRTHDAY**

Anna,\* one of Chosen People Ministries’ volunteers in Canada, prayed with Rose,\* a Jewish woman, to receive the Lord on her 97th birthday. A nurse, whom Anna had led to the Lord some years ago and who works at this predominately Jewish nursing home, was sharing the Gospel and asked Rose if she was finally ready to receive the Lord. When Rose said yes, the nurse ran down the hall to get Anna and together they prayed with her. Praise God for this wonderful birthday gift—especially since Rose’s health is showing clear signs of decline. Anna says she is much more peaceful and it is apparent that the Lord is working in her.

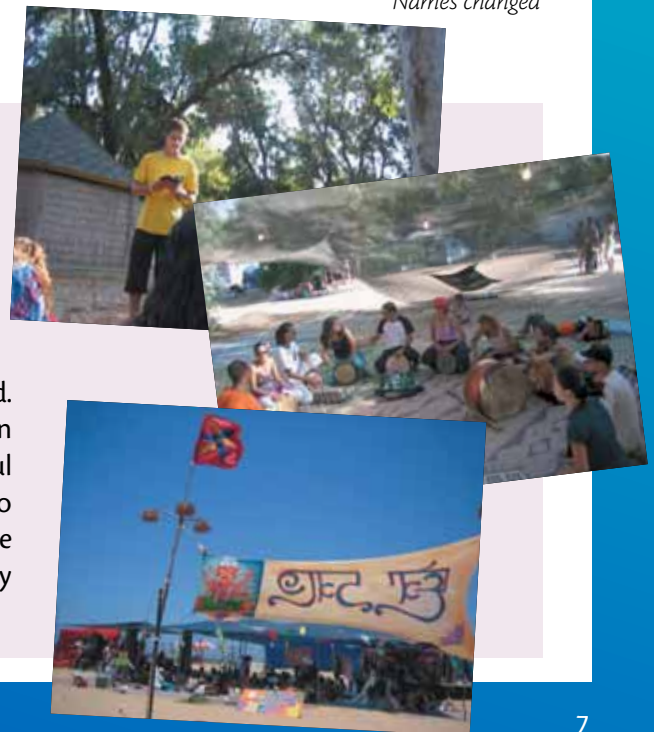
**TEENAGERS WITNESS FOR MESSIAH IN BUENOS AIRES**

Adriana\* and Pablo,\* two members of Chosen People Ministries’ Messianic teen group, have begun to participate in the activities of the Jewish community of Buenos Aires. Adriana was invited to attend a Sabbath dinner in one of the well-known institutions of the Jewish community. Exchanging experiences with other teens, she whispered to one of the girls there, “How could they know so much and not believe in Yeshua (Jesus) as the Messiah?” When this girl heard this, she asked Adriana what she meant. After the event, Adriana shared openly with this girl about her faith in the Messiah.

*\* Names changed*

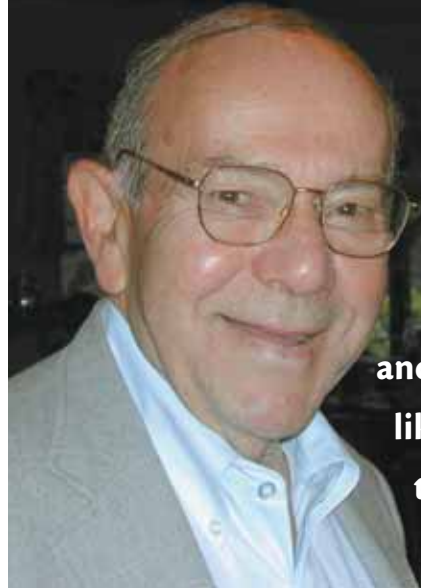
**JERUSALEM MESSIANIC CENTER HOSTS “OUTREACH ISRAEL”**

Chosen People Ministries’ Jerusalem Messianic Center is already seeing fruitful service, hosting “Outreach Israel”—the Mission’s new, six-week, short-term evangelistic program. The 15 volunteers traveled throughout Israel, ministering at a New Age Festival and partnering with other ministries in the Land. Some of the team members had the opportunity to help Bea,\* an older woman, by painting her apartment. This was a powerful witness of Messiah’s love to Bea’s unbelieving daughter, who visited the group members. The daughter told her mother she saw “something different” in the young evangelists. Please pray that God would continue to “provoke her to jealousy.”



# Deepen Your Knowledge of Your Jewish Roots

Be a Watchman for Jerusalem!



“There is no better way to give regularly — and it makes me feel like I am a part of the family.”

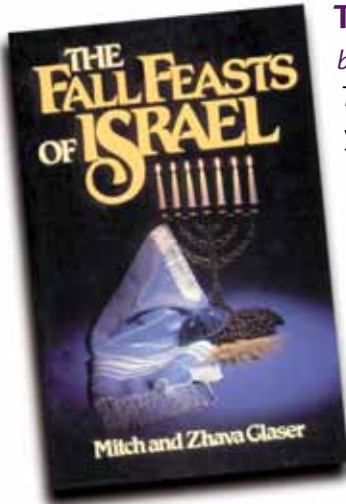
— Arthur S.

The Watchmen for Jerusalem program provides a safe and easy way to automatically support your Mission to the Jewish people each month.

Arthur S., one of the Mission’s faithful partners, has this to say: “I have made a commitment of mind and heart to be a part of Chosen People Ministries. There is no better way to give regularly-and it makes me feel like I am a part of the family.”

You too can arrange to have your gift deducted automatically from your credit or debit card, or from your bank account, according to your instructions and at the amount you prayerfully determine. Just fill out and return the enclosed card.

Please pray about using this convenient and reliable method to support your Mission to the Jewish people.



## The Fall Feasts of Israel

by Mitch and Zhava Glaser  
*The Fall Feasts of Israel* will help you understand three of Israel’s most significant festivals: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. A complete examination of each feast looks at its biblical institution, its celebration in the time of Jesus, and its observance by Jewish people today.

book 3042 price: \$11.95<sup>US</sup>

## Shofar from the Land of Israel

The piercing notes of the Shofar (Ram’s Horn) have echoed through centuries of Jewish High Holy Day observances. The Shofar calls us to prayer and reminds us of the blessed hope of Messiah’s arrival. Now you can treasure one of your own. They also make wonderful gifts. Because each Shofar is unique, yours may vary slightly in size and shape from the one shown here.

shofar 5020 price: \$35.95<sup>US</sup>



For orders in the U.S. call 800-333-4936.  
 Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.



## 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)

