

The Chosen People



Volume XIV, Issue 4 May 2008



PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF *Jerusalem*

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“PRAY FOR THE PEACE

Spotlight on ISRAEL

Dear friend in the Messiah,

Shalom from New York City! I hope this letter finds you rejoicing in the goodness of the Lord. We enjoyed a very fruitful Passover/Easter season of ministry. Hundreds of Jewish people heard the Gospel through Chosen People Ministries' missionaries demonstrating how Jesus is the fulfillment of the Passover. Thanks so much for praying for our many works both in the United States and overseas.

We could not continue in this ministry among the Jewish people without your faithful friendship, prayers and support. So from all of our Chosen People Ministries family, *thank you!*

Persecution in the Holy Land

By now, you may have heard about the disturbing attack on a young Messianic Jewish boy in Israel who was badly injured by a bomb disguised as a holiday gift. Praise God, he is doing much better now. This teenager is the son of a pastor and his wife serving the Lord in the town of Ariel on the West Bank. As you know from reading *The Chosen People* newsletters, Henry and Irena N. are



Chosen People Ministries workers serving primarily among Russian Jews in this same city.

The police immediately met with Henry and Irena to warn them because they are such well-known Messianic missionaries. Henry and Irena were asked to take increased precautions and so far, by God's grace, nothing has happened to them.

The mayor of Ariel as well as some outspoken anti-missionaries in Israel have publicly denounced this attack. We hope that the police will find the perpetrators of this crime and bring them to justice. But we are not the only ones who have this hope; many fair-minded Israelis and religious Jewish people also found this act to be ungodly and very unfortunate.

Please pray for this dedicated family and pray that the young man would have a full recovery. Pray also for protection for Henry and Irena and their two children, and that they would continue preaching the Gospel in Ariel with all their heart and soul.

Chosen People Ministries and the Land of Israel

Our staff keeps on growing as more of Messiah's servants sense the calling to serve the Lord with Chosen People Ministries in the Promised Land. We need your prayers more than anything right now! I have dedicated this newsletter to the ministry of prayer—particularly for the political leaders of Israel and for our workers there. I hope you will find some useful information in the pages that follow that will help you direct your prayers with greater intention. As the Psalmist writes, *“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they will prosper who love thee”* (Psalm 122:6).

Paul's Prayer for Believers

One of the most refreshing devotional approaches to Scripture is to pray the prayers of the Apostle Paul. One of the most powerful ones is in Paul's letter to the Philippians, where he prays, *“...that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge*

OF JERUSALEM ”

PSALM 122:6

and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God” (Philippians 1:9-11).

This is my prayer for our workers in Israel, and it is all the more heartfelt after my trip there a few months ago.

Pray for our Ministries in the Land

I would like to mention a few requests for prayer that will also give you insight into some of the directions in which our ministry is moving:

Did you know that there are still thousands of Holocaust survivors that live in Israel? Although I cannot speak about the particulars because we do not want to jeopardize this open door, let me say that we have recently been given the opportunity to minister to them directly in a practical way that also enables us to bear witness to the redeeming truth of the Gospel.

I ask that that you pray for these opportunities to continue and that these precious people who suffer from both the health problems of their age and also from all the terrible memories of their past will be open to the message of Messiah. Maxim K. and Eugene I., two of our most gifted and loving staff members, are among those ministering to these dear Jewish souls who have lived through so much.

Please pray that the many relationships we have begun to form will grow, and pray especially for Maxim and Eugene as they organize

these efforts among the Holocaust survivors.

Life in Israel is far from secure—especially for Israelis living close to the Gaza border. You may have read about the constant rocket attacks Hamas continues to launch, targeting the city of Sderot. Again, although I cannot give many details so as not to endanger future opportunities, let me say that we have started outreach ministry there and were warmly



welcomed by Sderot’s hard-pressed inhabitants.

Michael Z., our Israel director, adds, *The amazing thing is that this was not just a one-time visit. Our new friendship with the people and their trust in us will spark further invitations to come. We hope to take a bus of children and young people out of*

Sderot again soon. This will enable us to get them out of their stressful situation so we can minister to them.

Please pray that this relationship will develop and that our credibility as Messiah’s messengers will continue to increase.

Another avenue of service we are pursuing is that of ministry to single mothers. Arik and Mona P. are deeply involved with this group, leading workshops and coaching people to improve their life management skills. Of course, in the midst of it all there are ample opportunities to share the Gospel.

Please pray that Arik and Mona’s ministry will thrive, and the disciples they make will in turn bring others into Messiah’s kingdom.

Finally, let me ask you to pray for all of our staff members and their families as they seek the Lord’s will and become more firmly rooted in their lives in Israel. It is my deepest desire to see our staff families walk closely with the Lord, to find Him all-sufficient and to trust Him fully for their safety and for their growing ministries.

Thanks for praying for the Prince of Peace to come and reign in Jerusalem, both today in the hearts of our Jewish people, and tomorrow as Jerusalem’s reigning King!

I hope you enjoy the newsletter!

In Him,

Mitch
Mitch



Dr. Mitch Glaser
President

SPOTLIGHT ON ISRAEL

Pray for Chosen People Ministries' Staff Members in the Promised Land

Please keep our evangelists in Israel in your prayers. Because of active resistance to our work, we do not print their faces or their last names.

Michael and Natalie Z.
Michael was born in 1956 to a Jewish family living in Ukraine. Michael, who married Natalie in 1988, has a Master's Degree in Construction Engineering. Although he respected Jesus as a prophet, Michael had no real grasp of the Gospel. Like her husband, Natalie had

sought for the truth in many places. Michael and Natalie made *aliyah* (immigrated to Israel), where they met a believer in their Hebrew class who introduced them to the Messiah. In 1990, Michael and Natalie received the Lord, and Michael joined the staff of Chosen People Ministries in 1994. He served as leader of Chosen People Ministries' congregation in Tel Aviv and is now the Mission's Israel Director.

Arik and Mona P.
Arik and Mona are Jewish believers who were raised in secular families in Israel. Twenty years ago, Arik's sister shared the Gospel with him and



Mona, and both sides of their families received the Lord. After Arik and Mona married, they moved to Jerusalem, where Arik worked for eight years as a social worker and later became a successful real estate agent. Mona has worked in publishing for almost 15 years. Arik and Mona now serve with Chosen

People Ministries, working among needy families, widows and orphans, offering workshops in life skills and reaching out with the Gospel of Messiah.

Henry and Irena N.
Henry was born in Moscow in 1961 to a family immersed in the fine arts. His musical ability, evident from an early age, gained him admittance to a prominent musical college. However, his promising career as a musician could not be fully realized because of a drug and alcohol addiction. He tried everything to free himself, but to no avail. In 1991, Henry and his wife Irena relocated to Israel, but Henry continued his substance abuse. In Israel, they began to attend Chosen People Ministries' Messianic congregation near Tel Aviv. Finally, in September of 1991, Henry received the Lord and was immediately healed of his addictions. Two months later, Irena became a believer. Henry is now the leader of Chosen People Ministries' congregation in the West Bank city of Ariel, and Irena also uses her musical gifts to glorify the Lord.

Brian and Racheli S.
Brian was born in 1969 and was raised in a traditional, though non-religious, Jewish home. Before coming to the Lord, he fell into drug and alcohol abuse. After being arrested for possession of narcotics at the age of 16, Brian set off on a path of recovery and spiritual discovery and received the Lord in 1987 at the age of 18. Since then, Brian has sought to help others from this same background. He became a certified drug and alcohol counselor and went on to get his nursing license. In 1996, Brian moved to Israel and the following year, he married his

native-born Israeli wife, Racheli, who is also a believer. Brian and Racheli are now deeply involved in ministry to drug addicts, alcoholics and prostitutes in Israel.

Please keep our other staff members in Israel in your prayers as well: Neriya and Anna, Victor and Julia, Rachel, Eugene, M.K. and T.K., Shula, Tali, Maxim, Henry and Darlene, Sergei and Rita, and Michael and Julie.

Pray for Israel's Leaders

Israel's leaders need your prayers—for strength and wisdom, and above all, for the grace to receive Messiah's message and then serve the Lord with all of their heart, soul and strength (Dt. 6:5). Here is a partial list of Israel's most influential figures:

Prime Minister



Ehud Olmert was born near Haifa, Israel, in 1945. First elected to the Knesset (the legislative branch of the Israeli government) in 1973, he has since served the government in many capacities. In November 1993, Olmert was elected Mayor of Jerusalem. After his re-election to the Knesset in 2003, Olmert became a strong supporter of Prime Minister Sharon's disengagement policies. In November 2005, Olmert joined with Sharon and other former Likud

(a center-right political party) ministers to form the new centrist party, Kadima. On January 4, 2006, Sharon suffered a massive stroke and Olmert was made acting Prime Minister. On March 28, 2006, he became Prime Minister. He is married, with four children.

Ministry of Defense



Ehud Barak was born in 1942 in Kibbutz Mishmar HaSharon. He joined the Israel Defense Forces in 1959, and went on to become the most decorated soldier in Israeli history. Barak holds degrees in Physics and Mathematics from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem (1976), and in Engineering-Economic Systems from Stanford University in California (1978). Elected to the Knesset in 1996, he became Chairman of Israel's Labor Party and was elected Prime Minister of Israel in 1999. Defeated by Ariel Sharon in 2001, Barak was elected to lead the Labor Party last year, and was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense.

Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs



Tzipi Livni was born in Israel in 1958. She holds a law degree from Bar Ilan University. Livni worked for the Mossad (Israel's Intelligence Agency) from 1980-1984 and was elected to the Knesset in 1999, where she has served in a number of roles. She joined Ariel Sharon in forming the Kadima Party, and in May 2006, Livni was appointed Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. She is

considered to be a rising star on the Israeli political scene. She is married and the mother of two children.

Ambassador to the United States



Sallai Meridor was born in Jerusalem in 1955. Before he was appointed to be Israel's Ambassador to the United States in 2006, he was best known as the Chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel and the World Zionist Organization from 1999-2005. Meridor worked closely with worldwide Jewish communities and organizations to build programs designed to foster immigration to Israel, especially among members of the younger generation. As ambassador, Meridor has been an outspoken opponent of Iran's nuclear program and Hamas terrorism. He lives in Kfar Adumim with his wife Noa and their three daughters.

Opposition Leader



Born in Tel Aviv in 1949, **Benjamin Netanyahu** was raised in Jerusalem, but spent his high school years in the United States before returning to Israel in 1967 to enlist in Israel's Defense Forces. In 1972, he returned to the U.S. where he received degrees in Architecture and in Management Studies from MIT. Netanyahu was elected Likud Party Chairman in 1993 and Prime Minister in May 1996. He served until 1999, when Ehud Barak defeated him. When Ariel Sharon left the Likud Party to form Kadima, Netanyahu regained its leadership. He is seen by many as a possible future Prime Minister.



Use these pages as a prayer reminder.

See the THROUGH JEWISH EYES Bible

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

THE GENEALOGY OF THE KING-MESSIAH (Matthew 1:1-17)



Genealogies are fascinating. Who has not at one time or another tried to take a peek at his or her family tree?

Genealogies also play an important role in the Scripture starting in Genesis. And from the first moment we open the New Testament, Matthew informs Israel that the royal Messianic line is still alive: *“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham”* (Mt. 1:1).

Genealogical records were of supreme importance to the Jewish people. Without them, they could not prove either tribal membership or their rights of inheritance. It was not enough for Jesus (Yeshua) to claim to be the “Son of David.” He needed to be able to substantiate that fact.

One thing that must be kept in mind is that a genealogy is not a chronology. A chronology is detailed and complete,

whereas a genealogy is abbreviated. It is clear that Matthew omitted some names from this list, such as Ahaziah, Joash, Amaziah and Zedekiah.

Matthew divides his genealogy into three segments of fourteen generations each. Such an arrangement possibly served as a memory aid.

Pre-Monarchial (Mt. 1:1-6)

This account begins with a reference to Abraham, Israel’s racial father, and David, Israel’s royal father (Mt. 1:1). David was recognized as Israel’s God-chosen king.

Monarchial (Mt. 1:7-11)

The second group is monarchial, a line that begins with David’s son Solomon and ends with the tragedy of the four successors of Josiah, including Jehoahaz, who reigned for three months and was taken captive to Egypt. His

brother Jehoiakim, a puppet set up by Pharaoh Necho, was known as the king who burned the scroll of the prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 36:21-22). A third brother, Jehoiachin, reigned for only three months at the age of eight. Zedekiah, Josiah’s son who imprisoned Jeremiah, was Israel’s final king before the Babylonian captivity.

Epoch of Restoration

This era commences with the return of Israel to her land after the seventy years of Babylonian and Persian rule. It ends with the appearance of Israel’s Messiah-King (Mt. 1:17).

The genealogical list of names in this group (Mt. 1:12-16) are unknown and do not appear in the Old Testament. Scripture is silent for more than 400 years between Malachi and Matthew.

The Five Women in the Genealogy of the King

Although descent is traced through the male line, Matthew takes the unusual step of listing five women in Messiah’s genealogical line: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba (although she is not called by name) and, of course, Mary.

As a publican, Matthew may have included the name of Rahab the harlot because he was so impressed with the grace of God that could reach even “publicans and harlots” (Mt. 21:31,32).

The Kingly Credentials of Jesus the Messiah

Jesus the Messiah, the Risen Lord, is the only One who can actually substantiate His claim to the Davidic throne. All other records were burned when the Romans captured Jerusalem in 70 AD.

So far, we have explored the human ancestry of the Messiah. In the next issue, our theme will be Messiah’s heavenly origin. ✨

MESSIANIC ARTISTS' EXHIBITION AT JERUSALEM CENTER DRAWS CROWDS

Natalie Z., wife of our Israel Director, Michael, joined with a dozen other professional Messianic artists for our first art exhibit in the Messianic Center in Jerusalem. The event drew hundreds of visitors, including people from the neighborhood who are not believers. It was a wonderful opportunity to share the message of Messiah through art and to show the love of the Lord through the staff's readiness to share the Gospel. Natalie and Michael were so encouraged by the outcome that they want to make this an annual event.

SHORT TERM MISSIONS – STILL TIME TO CLIMB ABOARD!

There are still some openings in Chosen People Ministries' short-term missions programs in Israel. **eXperience Israel** runs from July 5-20 and is a great combination of Messianic teaching, worship, touring and evangelism. **Outreach Israel** is from May 21-June 23. Some highlights in this evangelistic program will include outreach at a New Age festival, participation at a children's camp and hands-on Jewish ministry. For more information, call Nicole at 1-888-2-YESHUA.

AUSTRALIAN'S JOURNEY LEADS TO MESSIAH

Following six months of intense searching, a young Jewish man who had formed a relationship with Lawrence and Louise Hirsch of Celebrate Messiah (Chosen People Ministries' partner in Australia) finally made a commitment to receive the Lord. After some very good talks with him, Lawrence and Louise waited a bit to see how the Lord would work. The young man later visited the Celebrate Messiah website and then went to the Chosen People Ministries website. There, he came across the testimony of a Jewish believer who had once been a skeptic. He was very moved by this, and thus he prayed to receive the Lord. Please pray that his decision will remain strong. His parents were quite upset and are forcing him to meet with anti-missionaries.

JEWISH WOMAN IN MONTREAL STANDS UP FOR MESSIAH

Hannah* is an older Jewish seeker who has faithfully attended the Messianic congregation led by Chosen People Ministries' Percy Johnson in Montreal—while also continuing to attend her own synagogue. In one instance, she had the courage to stand up to some people there and defend Messianic believers. Now,

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ISRAEL TRIP WINNER

Chosen People Ministries is delighted to announce the winner of the "See Israel through Jewish Eyes" trip giveaway. He is Pastor Larry Snyder of the Archer Church of the Nazarene in Archer, Florida. In a telephone interview, Pastor Snyder enthused, "I entered through the newsletter, which I have received ever since Dr. Dan Goldberg presented 'Messiah in the Passover' at a church I pastored some time ago. I have been looking forward for years to being in Jerusalem and other places where the Messiah ministered. I am also looking forward to learning more about Chosen People Ministries. I see this as a spiritual journey."

she has taken the decisive step and believes that Jesus is the Messiah. Her daughter, who is a believer, never thought that she would see this day and is rejoicing along with the rest of the congregation. Hannah recently had some serious surgery and they are praying for her complete recovery. Please pray that this test will make her new faith stronger.

MANY NATIONS LIFT UP PRAYERS FOR JEWISH EVANGELISM

Cathy Wilson, who serves with Chosen People Ministries in Scottsdale, Arizona, coordinated an evening service for believers from multiple ethnic groups—Africans, South Americans, Asians, Middle Easterners, Europeans and Native Americans—who gathered at Scottsdale Bible Church for a Messianic Worship and Prayer Celebration. The event included Messianic worship, Israeli dancing and Hebrew praise songs. Cathy also had the opportunity to explain biblically how Jewish evangelism is the key to world evangelism. During the prayer time, many voices were raised to call upon God to save Jewish souls.

*Names changed



Did you know that your used car can be used to power Messiah's ministry to the Jewish people? Chosen People Ministries is now affiliated with the National Vehicle Donation Program. This means that friends may donate their used vehicles and designate the proceeds to Chosen People Ministries as a tax-deductible gift. They will come and pick up your car, even if it is not running! What a great way to offer your used vehicle as a resource for spreading the Good News to the Jewish people!

If you have a vehicle you would like to donate, just call (800) 929-3507 or visit chosenpeople.com/car.

Put Your Used Car on the Road to Messiah's Service!

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Outreach Israel

Summer Outreach Trip

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See Israel through Jewish Eyes

Annual Tour to the Holy Land

APRIL 27 - MAY 8, 2009

God's View of Israel in the News

In his latest book, ***Epicenter***, Joel Rosenberg shows why the current rumblings in the Middle East will affect your future. The politics of the Middle East can be murky and confusing. But one thing is increasingly certain: the eyes of the nations are riveted upon Israel and her neighbors, the epicenter of the momentous events shaking our world and shaping our future. [3113] . . . \$21.95^{US}

Understanding the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Dr. Michael Rydelnik, Professor of Jewish Studies at Moody Bible Institute, goes beyond media images for an in-depth look at the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. ***Understanding the Arab-Israeli Conflict*** places the "crisis that never ends" in its scriptural, historical, and prophetic contexts, and challenges the reader to think biblically and to stand with Israel in "praying for the peace of Jerusalem." [3109] . . . \$17.95^{US}

The God of Peace Reigns in Jerusalem

Recorded live in Jerusalem by Paul Wilbur, this collection of Messianic music will transport your heart and mind to the Holy Land. ***Jerusalem Arise!*** is a dramatic and fresh worship experience that will move your heart. [4035] . . . \$18.95^{US}



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OR visit online at www.chosenpeople.com for
more resources. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.



The Chosen People Newsletter

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

