



MESSIANIC JUDAISM: WHAT IS IT?.....	3
SIMCHAT TORAH (Joy of the Torah).....	7
JUST ENOUGH HEBREW TO BE DANGEROUS.....	9
IS CHANUKAH THE JEWISH CHRISTMAS?.....	16
THE RUACH HaKODESH.....	18
THE REBELLION OF KORACH and DISPENSATIONAL CHRISTIANITY.....	20
WHERE ARE THE MACCABEES?.....	23
MESSIANIC END TIMES FROM JEWISH PERSPECTIVES.....	26
THANKSGIVING: YESTERDAY AND TODAY.....	27
AMERICA DOESN'T NEED A NEW REVOLUTION.....	29
TRUMP'S VISION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST.....	30
INVITATION TO SERVICES.....SUBSCRIPTION FORM.....	32
"White Women are Sluts and Deserve to be Raped" per Radical Islam.....	46
FEMALE WAR CRIMINALS.....	47
ISRAEL-UAE PACT SHATTERS MYTHS ABOUT PEACE WITH PALESTINIANS...	49
A JEWISH-ARAB PEACE EXPERIENCE.....	54
PALESTINIAN APPROPRIATION OF BLACK PAIN.....	56
THE PACT OF OMAR.....	59
THE ANTI-SEMITISM OF MARTIN LUTHER.....	60
MESSIANIC DIRECTORY.....	62

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**WELCOME to Petah Tikvah: APMF Edition!!**

Rick Chamberlin provides us with the basic Petah Tikvah-US each issue which we edit and add our own articles, information about events in our region, letters to our own Mail Box, APMF Kehilot Directory, etc. By putting our issue in our website, [www.APMFInc.com](http://www.APMFInc.com), we hope to make PT and APMF information available to a much wider audience and save a lot of money by not printing. A benefit to you is that you can print any articles, send it to friends, and refer others to our website with no cost!!!!

**Publisher.** *The Publisher of Petah Tikvah Asia Pacific Edition is the Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship, Inc.*

**Editorial Board.** *Articles from you are welcome!! Please send to Dave Angiwan, [Dave@APMFInc.com](mailto:Dave@APMFInc.com) or Roger Walkwitz, [Roger@Walkwitz.com](mailto:Roger@Walkwitz.com).*

**Directory.** Listing is free for Messianic Torah Communities and Bible Study Groups that want to be in Fellowship (**koinonia** = working together!) with APMF, who meet on Shabbat and agree with our 3 Main Points: 1) there is and has been only **ONE Way of Salvation** from Adam to the end, a new birth provided by the Grace of God to sinners who acknowledge their sinful nature and put their trust in the Promised Redeemer, who eventually came in the Person of Yeshua The Messiah, who is YHVH, Savior, Redeemer and Friend; 2) there is only **ONE Family of YHVH**, born-from-Above Jewish and Gentile believers engrafted into God's Good Olive Tree (no church replacing Israel); and 3) there is only **ONE Way to Live** in God's Family, the Torah way, expected of both Jewish and Gentile believers.

To be included, contact the Publisher.

**ARTICLES, special events and letters** are welcome, like notifications of Camps, Conferences, Retreats and other special activities of your community, trips to Israel and personal Testimonies so we can get to know each other better. Send to Dave & Roger.

**ANNUAL BIBLE CONFERENCE.** We are facing uncertain times ahead as we believe events show a preparation for the Return of Yeshua! APMC 18 was our first Annual Conference that had to be cancelled since our first in June 2003, but the selected teacher, Chad Wilhelms, graciously put all his prepared lectures on email so that all of us could "attend" and enjoy Conference with him!! Thanks, Chad, good stuff!! However, in the future when gatherings can resume, it is essential that as many as possible from every Kehilah participate **in person** in every Annual Conference for 1) Bible teaching to learn more and to enrich your soul, and for 2) mutually encouraging conversations with each other after long absences as we implement **agapao** and **koinonia** among us, and 3) any APMF business that needs attention!

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**WEBSITES and other PUBLICATIONS.** Obtain copies of **Volume 1 According to Roger, My Journey Into Bible Truth, and Volume 2 According to Roger, My Understanding of Bible Truth.**

Both are available at Amazon.com as well as directly from Roger. Also, surf these websites for excellent information and Bible exposition. [www.APMFInc.com](http://www.APMFInc.com), [www.Walkwitz.com/Roger](http://www.Walkwitz.com/Roger) [www.PetahTikvah.com](http://www.PetahTikvah.com) and [www.lechaimbiblefellowship.org](http://www.lechaimbiblefellowship.org)

## *Greetings from Roger*

### **Shana Tova & Hag Sameach Sukkot!!!!**

This is a wonderful time of year, the time when Yeshua was born (Volume 2 Chap 65) and we expect the time when He Returns!! Why now? Because Lev 25 tells us to blow the shofar on Yom Kippur in the 49th year to announce the Year of Jubilee, which symbolizes the Kingdom when Yeshua Returns to be the King! A Rabbi admitted they do not know when the 49th year is so they just blow the shofar every Yom Kippur!

We began our studies in Jerusalem in Aug 1990. These "high hold days" were soon upon us. I knew that the 1st and last day of Sukkot were "sabbaths" or no work to be done. So we went to the Western Wall, only 10 minutes from our Campus, to see what was going on. When we came to the Security Guard I said, "Shabbat shalom!!" No, no he said!!! Shabbat Saturday only!!!

Today Hag Sameach!! So I learned something. Shabbat is only Saturday. These other no-work days must be Shabbaton and Yom Kippur must be a Shabbat Shabbaton??

We went again for Simchat Torah, in the evening, probably the most impressive of our year in Israel. The Western Wall Plaza was filled with people, maybe 90% men, some with their 2-3 yr old child on their shoulders. A klezmer band was on a platform where speeches were also made. When the music started, men lined up hand on shoulder with the leader holding a Sephardic Torah scroll - hard cover, Ashkenazi is soft cover - as the line dance swayed back and forth to the music. Each one was smiling and enjoying it immensely, giving us the impression that they were saying, "We Jews have the actual words of God and we are the custodians of God's Words!!!" True, and what a privilege!! So when we were back home with speaking engagements, I would sometimes start off by holding up my Bible and saying, "This is not the Word of God!" After a pause I added, "It is only a translation, with relative accuracy depending on the ability and the agenda of the translator."

By age 50 I realized that if I wanted to really know what the NT said I would have to learn Greek...and so I did. Volume 2 is full of documents correcting wrong translations and the false theology that is based on these. It angers me to find these and I suspect some of them seem to be deliberate to promote their agenda. I also lost respect for the teachers and schools I went to who also perpetuate these falsehoods which have been handed down for centuries. What Joy to discover the "Olive Tree Message!!" After reading Romans over the years without real comprehension and hearing lectures by scholars who also do not "get it" or do not want to face the consequences of exposing traditional interpretations, it is such a relief to actually do what the Bible says.

I did not care about any consequences when in the Philippines I began to see the light. After our year of study in Jerusalem we went on loan to a Jewish ministry as our Mission did not want us anymore but could not kick us out after 35 years of successful ministry. Soon I turned 65 and that was mandatory retirement so we have been on our own ever since as we switched over to Social Security. September 8 we celebrated 64 years together in ministry as we entered Missionary Internship 3 weeks after our wedding. I also turned 91 and am enjoying teaching on Zoom to the Filipino Diaspora. It is a great blessing to connect again with my students of many years ago, some only learning now about Messianic truth and practice.

The 2nd Edition of Volume 2 is now available on Amazon.com. It includes a 2nd Appendix, listing in order from Genesis to Revelation all of the Bible passages used in the book and the page or pages on which it can be found. This can be a big help for research when you want to find out about a certain verse and what I have discovered about it. Also by next year I should have Volume 3 ready with the help of many students. I need help because arthritis is affecting my hands and even worse, macular degeneration is threatening to take out my right eye so that it is difficult to read as letters do not line up as they should. MD took out the center vision of my left eye 20 years ago. This is a challenging time of testing as Yeshua knows what He is doing and could heal it if He wanted to, and He must heal it or at least stabilize it, if He wants me to continue functioning. Naomi is an incontinent invalid in wheelchair and I am her only care giver and doing her domestic tasks. Thanks for your intercession..... If Yeshua wants to take us Home, that is OK, too!!

What will be in Volume 3? Right now I am planning three sections, the transcribed and edited teachings I give on Zoom Shabbat evenings. There is a large and growing APMF Community of Filipinos in Calgary, AB, Canada who asked me last March to teach on the Mishkan, the Tabernacle in Exodus, using the Zoom platform. Some of them had spent a week with us last Hanukkah, enjoying our 2-bedroom Guest House, and studying the Mishkan by using my scale model that I built years ago to teach for a week's Bible Conference at a Baptist church in Michigan, pastored by my former student at Bryan College. We also did a Passover Seder demonstration for them.....

There were 10 lectures on the Mishkan, preserved on YouTube by the Calgary Tech specialists, and being worked on by some of my past and now current again students. Since the Mishkan is to be an exact Copy of the original in Heaven, and commanded by God to be built on earth for Israel to illustrate and demonstrate Salvation, I consider knowing this thoroughly is essential for every believer. The Mishkan is the standard in all the Bible to illustrate Truth, not the temple.

After those 10, I did several lectures on the Kingdom Parables in Matt 13 from a document I had already prepared some time ago. I am amazed to read what some scholars have done to these Parables in order to fit their agenda! My only agenda is to dig out the Truth and teach it!!! This document will be the 2nd section.

This APMF Filipino Diaspora grew to more than 50 computers, from England, all across Canada, the USA, the Philippines, even Australia and maybe Japan. I asked them to email me as to what they wanted to study next and the majority asked for Revelation! So for some weeks now I have been digging in to this difficult and fascinating book to find out what is in it, in my spare time. Many years ago I taught Revelation when I was still churchy churchy and pre-Triub Rapture so it is a great relief to find all of that was wrong, violated the Greek text as well as plain English! For instance, look at this:

“

**Mat 24:37-41.** *For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left.*

So who is "left behind"? Noah and his family and the believers!!! Read my expose of "Left Behind" in chap 45, page 267 in Volume 2. How blind I was back then, believing all I was taught without doing my own research, which every scientist should know to do....and I did not until 25 years ago and continuing with great joy!!!

God's Plan for this world has always centered in ISRAEL, His chosen people forever. The Holocaust, as terrible as it was, backfired into the Rebirth of Israel in just a few years!! The way that God works His Plan, and thwarts satan's plans, is amazing to watch, "past finding out" as it says in Romans 11:33-34. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?

But that does not mean we just give up and be fatalistic like Islam. No, we study and search His Word because we are not to be caught as a thief in the night!! We are to walk in His light and be prepared to welcome Him. So we fill our minds with His Word and watch events in Israel and the world and try to put 2 and 2 together to get 4. I hope that you have visited Israel, at least once. It is an investment in your life, not an expense.

*Roger Walkwitz*

Founder, Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship



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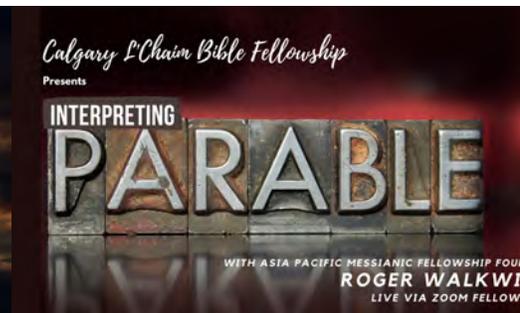
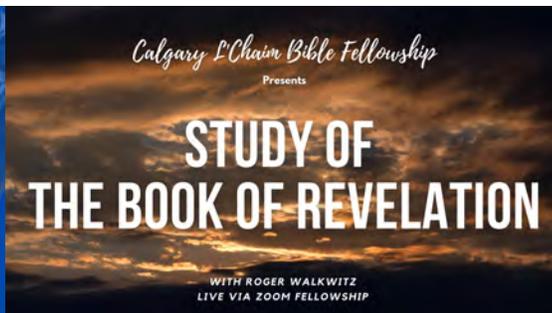
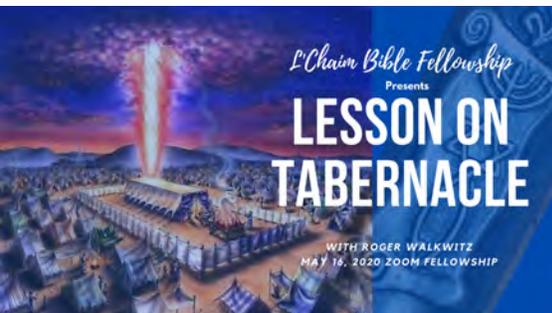
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**Messianic Judaism: What is it?** Perhaps we should explain what it is **not!** Messianic Judaism is **not** a branch of Christianity. We are not Baptists. We also are not Pentecostals. We are not Protestants. And we are not Catholics. We appreciate all of these good people. We are not in opposition to any of them. We wish that there were **more** Baptists, Pentecostals, etc. But that isn't what we are,

The first people to be called Christians were the Gentiles in Antioch who came to believe in Yeshua (Acts 11:26). By the Second Century, there were more Gentiles who believe in the Jewish Messiah than there were Jews who believed. At about that time, Christians began to separate from their Jewish roots and formed a new religion called Christianity.

In Acts 21:20, we learn that there were

Rav Richard 'Aharon' Chaimberlin



and it isn't how we self-identify. We are especially appreciative of Christian Zionists. We wish that there were many **millions** more Christian Zionists. We are **not** Christian Zionists, although of course, we are Zionists.

Messianic Judaism pre-dated Protestant Christianity. Long before Martin Luther posted his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church in Germany in 1517, there were Messianic Jews. In fact, Messianic Judaism predates Christianity! Acts chapter 2 is often cited as the "Birthday of Christianity." However, it is more properly the "Birthday of Messianic Judaism!" The events described all occurred on **Shavuot** ("Pentecost"), which is a Jewish (and Biblical) holy day. "Now there were Jews dwelling in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven (Acts 2:5)." This is because Shavuot is one of the **Shalosh Regalim** ("Three Pilgrimage Festivals") that able-bodied men were expected to attend at least once in their lives, even if they lived long distances from Jerusalem. In Acts 2:10, we learn that there were also proselytes amongst them. The proselytes were Gentiles who converted to Judaism. That day, 3000 of these Jews became Messianic Jews (Acts 2:41).

myriads (tens of thousands) of these Messianic Jews dwelling in Jerusalem who were "all zealous for Torah (Law or Instruction)." In this, they were walking in obedience to Rabbi Yeshua's instructions. He said, "Think not that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill."<sup>1</sup> Messianic Jews continued to be part of the Jewish people and the Jewish religion. It wasn't necessary for Jews to convert to another religion to follow their own Jewish Messiah.

We occasionally have people who come to our services with the desire to change us. They have good intentions. They might like the Jewish music. Or they are lovers of the Jewish people. And they might be pro-Israel. But they really aren't too fond of Messianic Judaism. They would prefer that we were more Christian in our orientation. They might want us to be more Pentecostal - or Baptist - or whatever their particular orientation might be. There are many thousands of Christian churches. If someone isn't happy with Messianic Judaism, perhaps the best place for such individuals might be in one of those churches.

<sup>1</sup> Matthew 5:17. See also the following verses.

We don't maintain a Messianic Jewish identity simply to be a good witness to the Jewish people, although this is a worthy endeavor. Rav Sha'ul says in 1 Cor. 9:20, "To the Jews, I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews..." However, we don't celebrate Shabbat and the holidays of Leviticus 23 just in order to be good witnesses to the Jewish people. We don't avoid pork and shellfish because we don't want to offend religious Jews. We observe the mitzvot (commandments) because we desire to be obedient to God!

Almost 2000 years ago, the early disciples only witnessed to Jews, or to Gentiles who had converted to Judaism, as in Acts 2:10. After all, Yeshua is the Jewish Messiah! It was considered absolutely bizarre to share the Good News of the Jewish Messiah to Gentiles. That began to change when, for the first time, some Messianic Jews began sharing the **Besorah** (Good News) to Gentiles in Antioch.<sup>2</sup> Eventually, Gentiles came to predominate. Today, Christians are often shocked to find that there are Jews who believe in Jesus, and yet continue to live as Jews. Some might even consider that to be a heresy. However, in the First Century (and for centuries thereafter), the Jewish believers continued to live as Jews. Some Christians consider it their duty to deliver Messianic Jews from their Judaism. They believe Jesus came to this planet to start up a new religion. However, Messianic Jews believe that Yeshua came to be the Messiah and Savior of the old religion, which is Judaism.

**H**UDSON TAYLOR was the first successful missionary from Europe to bring the Gospel to the people of China. Why did he succeed where others failed? It was because he realized that it wasn't necessary to force European culture upon the Chinese as part of the "Gospel." He even adapted much of Chinese culture as part of his own lifestyle. Despite his obvious success, he was despised by the other missionaries for "compromising" the Gospel - that is, for not making European Western culture part and parcel of the "Gospel."

There is much 'alien' culture that surrounds Gentile Christianity, which makes it unpalatable to most Jews. Most Jews will reject the Gentilized Jesus as being the Messiah, but will much more readily accept the Jewish Yeshua as being their Messiah. It isn't necessary, and is in fact unbiblical, to push the Gentilized Jesus onto the Jewish people. I am thrilled to see Jews accept Yeshua as their Messiah and

Savior. However, I am not thrilled to see Jews accept Jesus and become Christians. Most Messianic Jews will refrain from calling themselves Christians. However, Christians and Messianic Jews are both part of the Body of Messiah. We are all brothers and sister in Yeshua, regardless of what name He is called by.

Messianic Jews recognize Shabbat<sup>3</sup> as the Sabbath, which it is. The Sabbath was the seventh day that was sanctified in Genesis 2:2-3, even before there were any Jews! It is also one of the Ten Commandments, in fact, the commandment that Adonai spends the most time with, in Exodus 20:8-11 and Deuteronomy 5:12-15. Most Christians say that they feel that the Ten Commandments are still binding. One of those commandments is the Sabbath! The Sabbath is mentioned more times in the Newer Testament than all of the other days put together! There is no place in Scripture in which the Sabbath is changed to any other day of the week, a fact recognized even by many Christian theologians. There are various levels of observance of Shabbat among Messianic Jews, but a common acceptance of the fact that Sunday is **not** the Sabbath.

Messianic Jews still observe the rite of circumcision. This is part of the Abrahamic covenant for all the physical descendants of Abraham (Gen. 17:9-14), including Ishmael's descendants. Both Jews and Arabs circumcise their male children.

We celebrate the Jewish Holy Days, which also happen to be the Biblical Holy Days, which are commanded "to celebrate as a perpetual statute throughout your generations, in all your dwelling places... forever (Leviticus 23:14,21,31,41)."

We observe a New Covenant lifestyle. Jeremiah (31:31-33) wrote, "Behold the days come," declares YHWH, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers... But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel... I will put my Torah (Law or Instruction) in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts, and will be their God, and they shall be My people." This is repeated in Hebrews 8:8-10. If you ignore Torah, then you are not living a New Covenant lifestyle.

We are saved by the blood of Messiah, not by observance of Torah. Torah wasn't given to us to get saved. Instead, Torah is God's instructions to those who are already redeemed.

<sup>2</sup> Acts 11:20-21.

<sup>3</sup> The seventh day of the week, beginning on Friday at sunset and ending Saturday at sunset.



# MESSIANIC JUDAISM

Rav Richard 'Aharon' Chaimberlin  
 Petah Tikvah (Door of Hope) Fellowship  
 Rochester, New York

*What is it?*

We observe His mitzvot (commandments) as an expression of our love for God. We strongly believe in the blood atonement provided by Yeshua as the basis of our righteousness.

It is wrong and unscriptural to force Gentile church culture upon the Jews as a requirement for believing in their own Messiah. While it is right and proper for other cultures to be allowed to practice their cultures after coming to faith in Yeshua,<sup>4</sup> much of Jewish culture comes from the Scriptures, and has a strong Biblical foundation lacking in other cultures.

In the First Century, some Messianic Jews said, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." Others said, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and direct them to observe the Law of Moses (Acts 15:1,5)." That seemed reasonable to these Messianic Jews from the sect of the Pharisees. After all, this is the **Jewish** Messiah! However, not even the Jewish believers are saved by keeping Torah and getting circumcised. This is heresy!

The Council at Jerusalem decided that it wasn't necessary for Gentiles to convert to Judaism in order to believe in Yeshua. "Therefore, it is my judgment that we do not trouble those who are turning to God from among the Gentiles, but that we write to them that they abstain from things contaminated by idols and from sexual immorality, and from what is strangled, and from blood. For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, **since he is read in the synagogues every Sabbath.**"<sup>5</sup>

I **boldened** that last phrase because it is often glossed over or ignored. Where did the early Gentile believers go to learn more about the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? They went to the Jewish synagogues! We see this in Acts 13:43; 14:1; 17:4,17; 18:4. It would have been an impossible (and unbiblical) burden to place upon these new Gentile converts to demand that they get circumcised and keep the Law of Moses in order to get saved. However, it was expected that they would continue to go to the synagogues. As they attended each Shabbat, they would learn more of the instructions of God, and incorporate them into their lives. This is the same pattern that we see also in Exodus 12:49 and Numbers 15:15-16. Not all believe this, but this is what the Bible says.

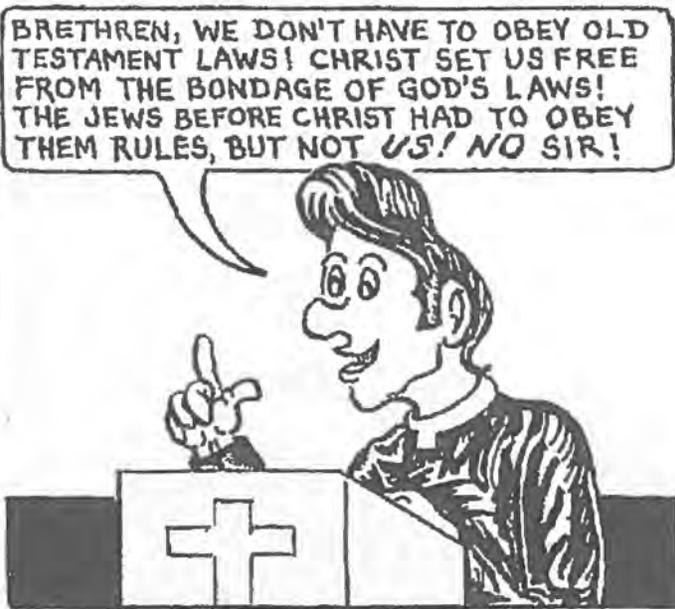
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<sup>4</sup> Obviously, it is **not** permitted to observe cultural or pagan traditions that are contrary to Scripture.

<sup>5</sup> Acts 15:19-21.

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WELL, THEN IT'S OBVIOUS THAT HABAKKUK PLAGIARIZED IT FROM PAUL'S WRITINGS AND INCLUDED IT IN HIS OWN BOOK! THE JEWS WERE NOTORIOUS FOR DOING STUFF LIKE THAT BACK THEN!



Daniel has a bimonthly publication, **Gates of Eden**. For a sample issue, send \$3 to PO Box 2257, E Peoria IL 61611-0257.

**S**imchat Torah ("Joy of the Torah") is not mentioned at all as a holiday in the Tanakh (O.T.). It isn't even mentioned in the Talmud. This holiday might have been first observed in 9<sup>th</sup> Century Babylon.<sup>1</sup>

In Israel, Simchat<sup>2</sup> Torah is celebrated on the same day as *Shemini Atzeret*. The word "Shemini" means "eighth," the term used in Leviticus 23:36, which mentions the "eighth day" as a *mikra kodesh* ("holy convocation") and as an *Atzeret* (meaning "festive assembly" in this verse, but meaning "feast of conclusion" in Talmudic literature).

In the *Galut* ("Diaspora" or "Exile"), Simchat Torah is celebrated on the day after Shemini Atzeret by the Orthodox Jewish community, although Reform Jews and most Messianic Jews celebrate Simchat Torah on Shemini Atzeret, as it is done in Israel.

Since Torah occupies a central place in the Scriptures (including the NT), it is very appropriate to have a day set aside to celebrate Torah. Of course, it isn't a Biblically mandated holiday, so we need not restrict it to just one day. We can celebrate Torah all year round!

The Psalmist said, "I have rejoiced in the way of Thy testimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate on Thy precepts, and have respect for Thy ways. I will delight myself in Thy statutes; I will not forget Thy word... Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Thy Torah. I am a stranger in the earth."<sup>3</sup> Do not hide Thy commandments from me."<sup>4</sup>

It is obvious that the Psalmist did not consider Torah to be bondage. It is shameful that so many Christians seem to consider Torah to be almost a curse. Perhaps this is because Torah is normally translated as "Law," whereas it more accurately means "Instructions." These are God's instructions for how to live a happy and meaningful life. Instructions are generally something that are given for our benefit, much like the instructions that come with the Manufacturer's Handbook that you might find in the

glove compartment of your automobile. You are, of course, free to ignore the instructions, and suffer the consequences of high repair bills, or worse, ruining the car beyond repair. It's your choice! Likewise, YHWH gives us the choice to obey or disobey Him.

If you choose to disobey the instructions given to us in His Torah, you might very well suffer many consequences for such disobedience. Deuteronomy 28 gives us a list of the blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience. I don't know about you, but I much prefer the blessings!

Every week, there are readings from the Torah which are done both at home and in the synagogue. You will see these readings listed on good Jewish calendars, as well as in any Jewish Chumash, which is a book containing the First Five Books of the Bible, often along with commentary and Haftarah portions. By following these weekly readings, in the period of a year, you will have read through all five books of Torah, as well as a significant portion of the rest of the Tanakh.

On Simchat Torah, it is traditional to finish reading Torah with the last chapter of *D'varim* (Deuteronomy), and then read the first chapter of Joshua. Then we immediately read the first chapter of *B'raysheet* (Genesis). Why? So glad you-asked! It is to show that the study of Torah never ends. In Jewish tradition, HaSatan – as the accuser – is constantly looking for reasons to accuse Israel before HaShem. If the Jews were to finish reading Deuteronomy without beginning again with Genesis, HaSatan might accuse Israel saying, "See, now that they have completed study of the Torah, they will not study Torah in the future." So we immediately begin again with Genesis to demonstrate we will continue to study Torah.

At Simchat Torah, the children actively participate in the celebrations. The Torah scroll is taken out of the ark and paraded around the synagogue seven times. In some Jewish neighborhoods, the Torah scroll is even taken outside and paraded around the streets! During each of the seven *hakafot* (processional circuits), children carrying small Israeli flags will march around behind the adults carrying the Torah scroll(s). People dance with the Torah scroll, singing songs. People lovingly touch the cover of the Torah scroll as it passes with their *tsitsit*,<sup>5</sup> *siddur*,<sup>6</sup> or even their fingers.

# SIMCHAT TORAH

Richard  
'Aharon'  
Chamberlin

<sup>1</sup> *Encyclopedia of Jewish Concepts*, Philip Birnbaum, Hebrew Publishing Co., Brooklyn NY, p. 618, © 1975.

<sup>2</sup> The "ch" is the guttural sound, as in "Bach."

<sup>3</sup> As Larry Norman sang, "This world is not my home."

<sup>4</sup> Tehillim (Psalms) 119:14-19.

<sup>5</sup> Ritual fringes attached to the tallit.

Then one kisses the tsitsit, siddur, or fingers – whatever had touched the cover of the Torah. Afterwards, the Torah is read from, and then lovingly placed back in the ark. Some synagogues will invite the congregants to unroll the entire Torah scroll, which is then re-rolled to the opposite end, so we can start all over with *B'raysheet*.

After the services, there is generally an *oneg* (a fellowship meal with food, wine, and/or grape juice), as well as more songs. We generally precede the *oneg* with a kiddush (blessing over the bread and wine). All in all,



I'm shaved by grace. Nope. It's still there.

Simchat Torah is a very festive occasion.

Unlike many of our wonderful Dispensational friends, we know that Yeshua did not come to abolish Torah, as He made clear in Matthew 5:17-19. Torah remains a very important part of the New Covenant as promised in Jeremiah 31:31-33 and repeated by the author of Hebrews (who we believe to be Rav Sha'ul – that is, Paul, the 'Apostle of Liberty').<sup>7</sup>

In fact, the Law brings liberty. I remember my pagan, pre-Yeshua days. As Frank Sinatra sang, "I did it **my** way." But my ways weren't always very good. **My** ways often led to heartache, and would eventually have led me to hell. Yeshua turned my life around. I don't mind obeying Him.

Even secular laws are a blessing. Could you imagine a society without laws? You would be afraid to go outside for fear of being killed. You might not always like the traffic cops, but could you imagine the chaos and carnage on the highways without the police to enforce the traffic laws? The vast majority of these laws are for the public good. Of how much more value are the instructions given to us by our

Heavenly Father!

Jacob ("James") 1:22-25 compares the Law to a mirror. Generally, many Christians say that the purpose of the Law is to be a mirror to show us our sinfulness, and once that is done, then the Law has served its purpose and is no longer needed, as the Christian reminds himself that he is "saved by grace." I got out my shaving mirror, and, seeing my bearded face, told myself that I was "shaved by grace." Of course, the beard was still there. When we use the Law as a mirror, it is to be a spotlight on our sinful ways, and should be used to turn us away from our sinful ways, not to continue in them. Torah isn't used to "get redeemed." Torah is God's instructions for those who are **already** redeemed. If we use the Law lawfully, it should be to put away our lawlessness, not to abandon Torah.

"Behold, the days come, saith YHWH, that I will make a New Covenant with the House of Israel, and with the House of Judah, 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband to them," saith YHWH, 33 "But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the House of Israel: After those days," saith YHWH, "I will put my Law (Torah) in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Jeremiah 31:31-33, Hebrews 8:8-10.

► **The New Testament Definition of Sin:**

"Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the Law (Torah), **for sin is the transgression of the Torah.**" 1 John 3:4.



<sup>6</sup> Jewish prayer book.

<sup>7</sup> Hebrews 8:8-10, 10:16.

I have said it before and I say it again: You do not need to know Hebrew (or Greek or Aramaic) to have a close walk with the Lord and to bear the fruit of

the Spirit. You can be victorious and fruitful and full of the Holy Ghost without knowing a single

word of Hebrew. Although it might be helpful to know a few Hebrew words like *Amen*, *Abba*, *Hallelujah* and *Hosanna*.

If you know Hebrew it can help you delve deeper into the study of some topics, so if you have an opportunity to learn some Hebrew, I highly recommend it. But a knowledge of Hebrew is not needed for a close walk with the Lord. You can even be a good Bible teacher without knowing Hebrew, if you avoid teaching on certain topics that require a knowledge of Hebrew.

When I was a new disciple in the 1970s, I didn't know any believers who wanted to study the Hebrew language. The Christians I knew were satisfied just reading the KJV translation of the Bible. The few who did express some interest in Hebrew were satisfied just looking up an occasional Hebrew word in the lexicon of Strong's Exhaustive Concordance. Even then, they usually just looked up a word for the sake of a literal definition, with no other interest except the definition.

The rise of the Messianic Jewish Movement in the 1970s and 80s caught the attention of many non-Jewish believers. The Messianic Movement has grown and expanded over the past few decades, and now there are lots of believers who have an interest in Hebrew. They are not satisfied with just the small amount of Hebrew they can learn by looking up definitions in Strong's Exhaustive Concordance. This is good, because the amount of Hebrew you can learn from Strong's is minimal.

I am not criticizing Strong's nor minimizing its importance. I believe it is one of the most helpful study tools in existence, perhaps the very best tool in the world for English-speaking students of the Bible. In the mid-1970s I used my Strong's Concordance to teach myself the Hebrew alphabet and vowel marks. After I memorized these, I would practice "reading" by randomly turning to a page in the Hebrew lexicon, covering the English transliteration of a word, and trying to pronounce it. Then I would look at the transliteration to see if I had pronounced it correctly.

Thus I taught myself to "read" Hebrew before I ever went to Israel. (I put "read" in quotes because without looking at the definition, I could understand only the pronunciation of the words, not their meanings.)

## Just Enough Hebrew to be Dangerous

Strong's is a great study tool, but it cannot teach you the Hebrew language. All it can do for your Hebrew learning is teach you how to pronounce words, give you literal definitions, show you which words are primary roots and which primary root the

by Dr. Daniel Botkin

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non-primary-root words are derived from, and the different ways each word is translated into English in the Bible. Strong's cannot teach you how to understand and use the Hebrew prefixes, suffixes, and infixes that are added to words to indicate things like gender, person, number, case, and tense. It cannot teach you things like conjugation of verbs, sentence structure, idioms, and linguistic phenomena that are peculiar to the Hebrew language and do not exist in English.

If you want to seriously study the Scriptures, I strongly suggest that you use a Strong's Exhaustive Concordance. Learn to use the Hebrew and Greek lexicons, but realize the limitations. Be aware that when Strong's shows you a Hebrew verb, you are seeing only the letters that make up the root (sometimes called the radical) of the verb. You are not seeing the verb in all its possible forms, with its prefixes, suffixes, and infixes. The same is true of nouns, adjectives, and prepositions. If you are not aware of this, you can come to erroneous conclusions.

An example of an erroneous conclusion is the true story of two guys who opened a Christian bookstore. They wanted to call it "Believers' Book Store," but they wanted to use the Hebrew word for "Believers." They looked up the Hebrew word for "believe" in Strong's and saw that it is pronounced *aman*. So they called their store "Aman Book Store." A knowledgeable Hebrew scholar saw the sign and asked them why they called their store the "Aman Book Store."

"Because it's the *Believers'* Book Store," they answered. "The word *aman* means 'believers' in Hebrew." They were probably thinking to themselves, *This man is a Hebrew scholar? He should know that!*

What these well-meaning Christians did not know is that *aman* is just the three-letter root of the verb "believe." The word for the plural

noun "believers" is *ma'aminim*, and to make it possessive you would need to add the prefix *L'* and make it say "book store for believers."

This sort of erroneous conclusion is relatively harmless. It won't mislead anyone into serious doctrinal error. A mistake like this might embarrass people and set them back a few dollars for a new sign and new business cards, but it's nothing dangerous.

Other erroneous conclusions can affect people in more serious ways. Some erroneous conclusions can infect people with what I call Linguistic Superstition. Some people become familiar with several Hebrew words. They do not understand how the Hebrew language works. They do not know the rules that govern grammar, morphology, orthography, sentence structure, etc. But they have a long list of vocabulary words that they know. They also know that certain words are derived from other words. They see (or sometimes imagine) linguistic connections between certain words.

At this point, they know just enough Hebrew to be dangerous. Because they see some alleged connections between certain words, they jump to erroneous conclusions. They learn that *sus* means "horse," and from this they conclude that calling the Savior "Jesus" amounts to calling Him a horse. (I'm not making this up, by the way.) I tell such people, "Yes, *sus* means 'horse.' And *shoe* means 'shoe.' So if calling Him 'Jesus' amounts to calling Him a horse, then calling Him 'Yeshua' amounts to calling Him a shoe."

Or they imagine that "Jesus" (transliterated from the Greek *Iesus*) has some connection to the Greek god Zeus, and that "wicked scribes" changed the Savior's name to "Jezeus" to honor Zeus. (I'm not making this one up, either.) I tell such people that if they look at the Book of Joshua in a Greek Septuagint, they will see that Jews transliterated Joshua's Hebrew name (which is the same Hebrew name the Savior had) as *Iesus*, the same as the New Testament *Iesus/Jesus*. This was around 200 years before the Savior was born, so *Iesus* could not have been invented by wicked scribes who wanted to replace the Savior's "true name" with the name of Zeus.

This sort of Linguistic Superstition can lead to what I call Paganism Paranoia or pagana-phobia. People do not want their worship of Yahweh to be tainted with customs borrowed from pagan idolatry. But sometimes some people imagine that a belief or a custom comes from pagan idolatry, when in fact it

does not. The imagined connection to paganism is not based on any Biblical or historical fact, it is based only and entirely on certain words having a possible linguistic connection to other words.

Here's an example. One Hanukkah a polite young man asked me if I was familiar with the Hebrew word for the *shamash*, the "servant" candle that is used to light the other candles on the Hanukkah menorah. I knew right away where he was headed with this question, because I know (and I correctly suspected that he knew) that *shamash* is spelled the same way as *shemesh*, the word for "sun." I knew he was going to suggest that the *shamash* candle has a connection to pagan worship of the sun, the *shemesh*.

I explained to him that even though *shamash* and *shemesh* are from the same Hebrew root, you cannot assume that the *shamash* candle has some connection to pagan sun worship. The word *shamash* simply means "servant." You can find this definition in any standard Hebrew-English dictionary. I told him that I know of two other Hebrew words that share the SH-M-SH root. The word *'hiSH-taMeSH* means "to use or utilize (something)." This is most likely why the *shamash* is called a *shamash*, because it is "used" to light the other candles.

In Hebrew the bathroom is sometimes called the *beit SHIMuSH*, "house of use." Are we to assume that the bathroom is really a temple of the sun god, and that using the toilet is somehow connected to pagan sun worship?

"Furthermore," I told him, "some of the same people who think the *shamash* candle has some connection to sun worship would accuse you of sun worship because of that round kippah on your head. They claim the kippah is borrowed from the pagan sun worship, that the kippah is a 'solar disk.' I don't believe that, but that's what some people would say."

In English we have pairs of words that are spelled the same way but can mean two entirely different things, depending on the context. Some of these words are pronounced differently. For example: He will *lead* the team to victory. The heavy weight is made of *lead*. Actors *bow* after the show. The hunter shot the deer with a *bow* and arrow. Some are pronounced the same: He drives a *fast* car. Jews *fast* on Yom Kippur. The detective tried to *spot* the suspect. There's a *spot* on my shirt. Some are even spelled and pronounced the same but have opposite meanings: The

man used his axe to *cleave* (i.e., separate) wood. A husband and wife should *cleave* to (i.e., not separate from) one another.

Hebrew likewise has words that can have two entirely different meanings. For example, **יָרָא** (Y-R-' ) can mean "fear" or "see." The word **דִּבֵּר** (D-B-R) can mean "speak" or "pestilence." The word **מַצָּה** (M-TS-H), *matzah*, usually means "unleavened bread," but it can also mean "contention, strife, quarrel." Hebrew, like English, even has words with opposing meanings spelled with the same letters. For example, the word **קִדְשׁ** (K-D-SH) can mean "set apart," "holy," or "male pagan temple prostitute." But that did not stop the inspired Prophets from using this word K-D-SH to proclaim the holiness of Yahweh, because the Prophets of old were not infected with Linguistic Superstition like some of today's pseudo-prophets of paganism paranoia.

Here's another error made by some teachers who know just enough Hebrew to be dangerous. There are many Hebrew words that have a wide variety of meanings. Sometimes the different meanings are unrelated, as shown by the examples in the previous paragraphs. Other times the different meanings are related. That is, they are meanings that are similar or otherwise somehow connected, but are not exactly the same. For example, the **סִפֵּר** (S-F-R) root is used to form words with the following meanings: "tell," "count," "story," "number," "book," "literature," "library," "librarian," "scribe." It's not difficult to see how these things are all somewhat related. (The S-F-R root is also used to make the words for "scissors," "barber," and "get a haircut" [in modern Hebrew]. Don't ask me how that happened, because I don't know.)

**W**ords with a wide variety of meanings often have a primary meaning (like "tell" in the case of S-F-R) and secondary meanings that are more precise than the broad, general meaning (like "count," i.e., tell the number of).

When the word carries a secondary, more precisely defined meaning, that meaning is determined by two things. First, by the immediate context, i.e., by the way the word is used in that particular Bible passage. Second, by the overall context of the entire Bible, i.e., by what the rest of the Bible says about the topic.

Sometimes pseudo-scholars will rattle off a definition of a Hebrew word to prove their point, but they are rattling off the wrong definition for the word as it is used in that con-

text. Sometimes they go a step further and stretch the definition beyond its actual meaning. And if the listeners do not know at least as much Hebrew as the pseudo-scholar, they are easily convinced to embrace the error.

Just remember this. If a teacher is trying to make a point that contradicts plain statements that appear in other parts of the Bible, be careful what you believe. Don't be impressed by someone's ability to look up a word in a Hebrew lexicon and read a definition. Anyone who can read can do that.

From time to time new fads arise in Messianic circles, complete with impressive-sounding buzz words to describe the latest pop theology. About 15 years ago some people were all abuzz about the "Bible Codes." It was claimed that secret prophetic messages were embedded in the Hebrew text of the Bible, and that these messages could be decoded by means of ELS (Equidistant Letter Sequencing). By taking a line of text and combining letters that are the same distance from each other (whether forward, backward, up, or down, or even diagonally like in a word search puzzle), all sorts of "previously hidden information" was allegedly revealed. It was claimed that important historical events of the past were actually predicted in the "Bible Codes."

When critics debunked this methodology by using ELS to show "predictions" of events which should have happened but now could not happen because the date predicted by ELS was past, the ELS proponents responded by saying that the secret messages were not definite *predictions* of what *must* happen, they were only *warnings* of what *might* happen if man does not do something to thwart the event. If the event did not happen as the ELS predicted, then obviously man did something to thwart it. It was a very clever, convenient loophole.

I recall reading an article during the ELS craze by one critic who used ELS to produce statements and predictions from a Hebrew translation of *Moby-Dick*. I suspect there are people out there who still believe that ELS is a legitimate way to get information from the Bible. Sorry, but I don't buy it. I don't want to rain on anybody's parade, but when ELS produces the same kind of results from *Moby-Dick* as it does from the Bible, something smells *fishy*. (I know, whales like *Moby-Dick* are mammals, not fish, but whales live among fish, so it's still a good pun.)

I don't hear much about ELS anymore. Now the latest buzz word is "Hebrew Word

Daniel Botkin Presents

# Reverend TWISTRUTH

"SEMITIC SEMANTICS"

REV TWISTRUTH, I LEARNED THAT JESUS' HEBREW NAME WAS "YESHUA." WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT USING HIS HEBREW NAME "YESHUA"?

IT JUST CONFUSES THINGS, NEWTON! WE DON'T NEED ANY OF THOSE STRANGE HEBREW WORDS IN OUR WORSHIP! THEY'RE JUST A LOT OF SHIBBOLETHS! PLAIN OLD ENGLISH WORDS LIKE "HALLELUJAH" ARE FINE! C'MON! IT'S TIME TO START THE SERVICE!

WELCOME TO OUR SUNDAY MORNING SABBATH SERVICE! TODAY WE'RE GONNA SING "HOSANNA" AND "EL SHADDAI" TIL THE SHEKINAH GLORY COMES DOWN, AND WE FEEL GOD'S AGAPE LOVE! THE SERAPHIM AND CHERUBIM ARE HERE TO MINISTER TO US AS WE WORSHIP THE LORD OF SABAOTH! BUT FIRST, LET'S PRAY!

ABBA, FATHER! THANK YOU FOR SAVING US FROM THE SIN WE INHERITED FROM ADAM IN EDEN! SATAN HAS NO HOLD ON US, AND WE NEED NOT FEAR SHEOL! THANK YOU THAT WE DON'T NEED TO BOW TO IDOLS LIKE BAAL WORSHIPPERS, OR BLOW A SHOFAR OVER THE ARK OF SHITTIM WOOD LIKE ISRAEL DID! YOU REDEEMED US NOT WITH SHEKELS OF SILVER, BUT WITH OUR PASCHAL LAMB AT GOLGOTHA! NOW MAY WE FEED UPON JESUS AS OUR DAILY OMER OF MANNA, AND DRINK IN THE HOLY GHOST LIKE SWEET MOGEN DAVID WINE! SELAH! MARANATHA! AMEN!

ADAM!!

IDEA SUBMITTED BY CLIF ANDSON III



AUNTIE TORAH GOT A BOOK ABOUT THE HEBREW ALPHABET SO SHE CAN DECIPHER THE DEEPER MEANING OF HEBREW WORDS! IT'S AWESOME!

YES, WE JUST LEARNED THAT THE LETTERS THAT SPELL THE NAME MOSES MEAN "WATER" + "TOOTH" + "WINDOW." THAT MUST MEAN THAT WHEN PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER DREW HIM OUT OF THE WATER, HE CRIED AND SHE SAW A TOOTH IN THE WINDOW OF HIS MOUTH!

Pictures," a phrase probably taken from a book with that title. The book was written by Frank Seekins and published in 1994. It is spiral bound and filled with corny clip art and corny conclusions, and absolutely no information about the author except that he has a wife named Sally.

I do not know who Frank Seekins is, and I do not wish to insult him. He is probably a very likeable brother. But in his book he writes the following: "I am not asking you to believe what my studies have proven to me." So I'm going to take Frank up on his offer and respectfully disagree with him about his "**Hebrew Word Pictures**" (HWPs).

What are HWPs? Each letter of the Hebrew alphabet is associated with a word that sounds the same as or similar to the name of the letter. Thus, the letter *aleph* stands for ox (*eleph*), *beit* stands for house (*bayit*), *gimel* stands for camel (*gamal*), *dalet* stands for door (*delet*), etc.

This in itself is not fiction. I have a book I bought in Israel in 1981, *Roots*, by Mordecai Kamrat and Edwin Samuel, published by Kiryat-Sefer Ltd. in Jerusalem, 1981. This book lists the words associated with each Hebrew letter, as Frank Seekins does (though in the case of some letters, Kamrat and Samuel differ from Seekins as to which words should be associated with which letters).

So the concept of a letter standing for a particular word is not in itself fanciful fiction. But what some Messianics do with this information results in some very far-fetched fanciful fiction. Because each letter stands for a particular word, people imagine that the "real" or "hidden" or "deeper" definition of a word must be discovered by combining the meanings of all the words that the letters represent. For example, the word *sefer* simply means "book" to normal Hebrew-speaking people. But to some Messianics who know just enough Hebrew to be dangerous, the "secret mystical meaning" can only be seen by combining the three words that are represented by the three letters that spell *sefer*.

There are two major problems with this approach. First, it ignores or minimizes the plain, simple definition of the word as Hebrew speakers would understand it in Biblical times or in modern times.

Second, and most importantly, it does not work with most Hebrew words. To arrive at a HWP definition for *sefer* ("book"), you have to combine the words twist + mouth + head (according to Seekins' decoder chart) or fish + mouth + head (according to Kamrat and Sam-

uel's book.) How does the combination of these three words result in the idea of a "book"?

*Na'al*, which to normal Hebrew-speaking people means "shoe," would be a combination of fish + eye + goad. So according to HWPs, we are supposed to believe that fish + eye + goad = shoe. Maybe you see a shoe in the sum of these three words, but I sure don't. And I have a fairly good imagination. If you don't believe I do, go online and look at some of my artwork.

To further demonstrate the folly of this approach, here are some other Hebrew words that I just randomly chose, along with the words from Seekins' decoder chart:

*Daniel* ("my judge is God") = door + fish + hand + ox + goad.

*Beged* ("garment") = house + camel + door.

*Chalon* ("window") = fence + goad + peg + fish.

*Eretz* ("earth") = ox + head + fish hook.

*Kiseh* ("chair") = palm (of hand) + twist + behold.

*Rahts* ("run") = head + fish hook.

*Ruach* ("spirit") = head + peg + fence.

*Shemesh* ("sun") = tooth + water + tooth.

*Zamar* ("sing") = weapon + water + head.

I could list many more examples. Even someone with a very wild imagination and a high degree of gullibility would have to really stretch things to make a connection between the plain, simple definitions of these words and the combinations of the HWPs. Of course it can be done, but it is fanciful, far-fetched fiction. Theologians call this kind of approach bad hermeneutics. Or, to be more specific, eisegesis (reading something into the text that is simply not there). It is sloppy pseudo-scholarship.

In the introduction of their book *Roots*, Kamrat and Samuel write: "We must warn you that etymology is a dangerous science." Then they let the reader know that many of the alleged Hebrew word associations are based not on the sound scholarship of philologists, but on "folklore and mythology." Too many Messianics are swallowing ideas that are derived from folklore and mythology. The fact that it is Hebrew folklore and mythology does not make it any more reliable than Greek or Roman folklore and mythology.

Much of the misinformation that is taught by the just-enough-Hebrew-to-be-dangerous crowd is relatively harmless. But I have seen some teaching that I consider blasphemous, or at least bordering on blasphemy. I am re-

ferring to a teaching I read about 12 years ago in a newsletter published by a non-Jewish congregational leader who calls himself a "rabbi." In his article, he said that the reason Satan hates Israel so much is because Satan used to be the Bride of Yahweh, but Yahweh divorced Satan and took a new Bride, Israel. So Satan, as the jealous ex-wife of Yahweh, afflicts the new Bride, Israel. (By the way, Satan was **never** married to God. **RAC**)

Of course this means Satan must be a female, not a male, because God does not believe in nor practice same-sex "marriage." Therefore the "rabbi" teaching this nonsense had to refer to Satan as "she," not "he," because if God was married to a male Satan, that would make God look like a homosexual.

What "proof" does this "rabbi" offer to verify his claim that Satan is female? The fact that in 1998 a panel of "more than a dozen top Bible scholars" in Bonn, Germany concluded that Satan is a female (*Weekly World News*, 1/6/98). Apparently these "top Bible scholars" did not do much homework to prepare for this international theological conference, because one of the ministers is quoted as saying: "In Genesis, the Devil is referred to as the serpent, and in Job, as Satan. The terms 'he' and 'him' are not used." On the basis of this, the Messianic "rabbi" states, "The OT NEVER specifies Lucifer's gender" (emphasis his).

If this Messianic "rabbi" and these "top Bible scholars" had done their homework, they would have known that the Devil's male gender can be clearly seen in the Hebrew text. In the Hebrew text of Genesis 3, I can point to 15 different words that prove the serpent was male, not female. In the Hebrew text of Job 1 & 2, I can point to 24 different words that prove Satan is male, not female. In the Hebrew text of Isaiah 14, I can point to at least 12 different words that prove Lucifer is male, not female.

That's a total of 51 proofs that the Devil is male, not female. And these 51 proofs are proofs, not theories. You do not even need to be a Hebrew scholar to see these proofs. If you know enough basic beginning Hebrew to be able to recognize the masculine singular verb conjugations and the masculine single gender indicators that are used on adjectives and prepositions, you can see in the verbs and adjectives and prepositions that the Devil is **always** referred to in the masculine single form. Just one single reference to Satan in the masculine singular would be enough to prove he is male, but I can point to over 50.

I repeat: You do not need to know Hebrew to have a close walk with the Lord and to bear the fruit of the Spirit. But if a man is going to call himself a "rabbi" and teach on topics that require a basic knowledge of the Hebrew language, he had better have a basic knowledge of Hebrew. Otherwise he will come to erroneous conclusions and reveal his ignorance and presumption to people who know Hebrew well enough to see his glaring errors.

What we have in this Messianic Movement is a bunch of Messianic Greenhorns pretending to be Pioneers. These immature Messianic mavericks are strongly opinionated and very outspoken. They are loose cannons trying to make people think that they are knowledgeable Bible scholars with brilliant minds steeped for years in the deep things of God, when in fact they have only a general knowledge of Bible basics and a few years of experience walking in this Messianic way of life. They are like the people Paul described, people who "having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling, desiring to be teachers of the Law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm" (1 Tim. 1:6f).

I may not be one of the original Pioneers of this Messianic Movement, but I'm no Messianic Greenhorn either. I've been diligently studying the Bible and faithfully walking with the Lord for over 48 years. I have studied Hebrew (around 1,000 classroom hours in Israel plus continued study on my own for the past 37 years). I have taught Hebrew classes several times, and have taken college classes in Aramaic and Greek. In 1995 I started the GOE publication and planted our congregation, which I pastored until the fall of 2012 when I turned over leadership to Art Cox. Compared to some of these Messianic Greenhorns who know just enough Hebrew to be dangerous, I think I have a fair amount of knowledge and experience. I don't say this to brag, but to say that even with my knowledge and experience I do not call myself a Hebrew scholar nor a rabbi.

Some Messianic Greenhorns who like to fire off Hebrew definitions are like children playing with guns. The gun is real and the ammo is real, but because they know just enough Hebrew to be dangerous, they are aiming the wrong ammo at the wrong targets. Somebody could get hurt. If you hear some of these immature loose cannons shooting off their mouths, don't make yourself a target for their bullets. Get away from them and listen to mature teachers who are spiritually stable and humble enough to know their limitations. n

MOST FOLKS ARE FAMILIAR WITH JEFF FOXWORTHY'S "YOU MIGHT BE A REDNECK IF" HUMOR. WE NOW PRESENT DANIEL BOTKIN'S

**YOU MIGHT BE  
A MESSIANIC  
GREENHORN IF..**

YOU THINK "SUKKOT" IS A JACKET WORN BY NATIVE AMERICANS.

HOW! MY FATHER A JEW, MY MOTHER LAKOTA, THAT MAKE ME A SIOUX JEW, WEAR-UM FRINGES ON COAT !



YOU THINK PEOPLE PLAYED BASEBALL IN BIBLE TIMES BECAUSE 1 SAMUEL 4:1 SAYS "THE PHILISTINES PITCHED IN APHEK."

YEAH, RIGHT ! AND I SUPPOSE YOU THINK GENESIS 1:1 TELLS ABOUT "THE BIG INNING."



INFLUENCED BY "SACRED NAME ONLY" ADVOCATES, YOU FEEL COMPELLED TO "CORRECT" EVERY WORD THAT STARTS WITH THE LETTER "J"

YAHremiah prophesied to the YAHudim in YAHrushalem about the MessiYAH who would be baptized in the YAHrden River.



INFLUENCED BY "SACRED NAME ONLY" ADVOCATES WHO SHUN THE ENGLISH WORD "GOD," YOU LIVE IN DREAD OF ONLY ONE THING IN THE AFTERLIFE:

THE TRIBE OF GAD IS PRONOUNCED IN HEBREW LIKE THE ENGLISH "GOD." WHAT IF I'M A GADITE AND HE MAKES ME GO THROUGH THE GATE OF GAD IN THE NEW JERUSALEM ?



WHEN YOU LEARN THE PILGRIMS GOT THE IDEA FOR THANKSGIVING FROM SUKKOT, THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES, YOU GET A REVELATION.

THAT'S WHY THE PILGRIMS CALLED THE MIXTURE OF CORN AND BEANS "SUCCOTASH" - IT WAS SUKKOT HASH, HASH FOR SUKKOT !



Daniel has a bimonthly publication, **Gates of Eden**. For a sample issue, send \$3 to PO Box 2257, E Peoria IL 61611-0257.

**Is** Chanukah the Jewish Christmas? Well, the short answer is, NO! However, it is easy to see why many might think it is. Both are December holidays. Both are "festivals of light." Gift giving has become part of each celebration. Beyond that, there are considerable differences.

The celebration of Chanukah goes back to the time of the Greek Empire. King Phillip of was the king of Macedonia, basically what is northern Greece today. Phillip and his teenage son Alexander (356 to 323 BCE) then went on to conquer all of what is today Greece. Phillip was then assassinated when Alexander was 20 years old. He consolidated his power the old-fashioned way: He had his political rivals executed.

Then Alexander became King. He went on to use his Greek army to conquer a huge swath of SE Europe, NE Africa, and Asia, including what is modern-day Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and even into parts of India. Alexander was a rather brutal military leader. However, he was a rather benign dictator, often providing the people with better governments than what they had before. He also allowed the conquered lands to keep their own religions and customs. Alexander accomplished all of this by the time he died at the age of only 33, curiously about the same age as Yeshua when He was crucified. Then Alexander caught some disease, possibly typhus, and died at that young age. (Others say he was poisoned.)

After his death, the Greek Empire was divided among his four generals, just as was prophesied in Daniel 8:22. We are only concerned with Seleucid who ruled out of what is called Syria, and Ptolemy who ruled from Egypt. Both Seleucid and Ptolemy began monarchies that lasted for centuries. The Seleucids and Ptolemies became rivals, often going to war with each other. Israel was the land bridge connecting these two kingdoms. Sometimes Israel was ruled by the Ptolemies, and sometimes by the Seleucids. Many Jews were attracted to Greek culture, theater, philosophy, and even Greek religion with its pantheon of many gods and goddesses. Eventually, the Seleucids gained the upper hand, and Israel remained under the rule of the Seleucids.

Then a very cruel and despotic Seleucid named Antiochus Epiphanes arose. He was pleased with the Jews who adopted Greek culture, and very displeased with the Jews

who maintained their religion and culture.

It is said that there are three levels of anti-Semitism. There are those who say...

1. You shall not live among us as Jews.
2. You shall not live among us. And finally:
3. You shall not live.

## Is Chanukah the Jewish Christmas?

**Rav Richard  
'Aharon'  
Chaimberlin**

Antiochus Epiphanes was at level **one**. He liked Jews as long as they embraced Greek culture and religion. This is much the way it has historically been with Christianity. Many Christians would love the Jews if they converted to Christianity and abandoned the mitzvot,<sup>1</sup> but did not like the Jews who clung to Judaism.

The **second** level of anti-Semitism is represented by the Spanish Inquisition, which would not allow Jews to remain on the Iberian Peninsula, forcing them to go to other countries. The worst level of anti-Semitism (level **three**) was what we saw with Haman who sought the physical annihilation of the Jewish people, and as we saw in Nazi-occupied Europe, in which two-thirds of Europe's Jewish population was destroyed.

Antiochus Epiphanes came to power in 175 BCE.<sup>2</sup> He was pleased with the Jews who adopted Hellenism (Greek culture and religion), but was very displeased with Jews who clung to Torah. It became a capital offense to practice Judaism. Jews were often tortured or executed for the following offenses:

1. Keeping Shabbat (the Sabbath).
2. Celebrating the annual Feasts of Lev. 23.
3. Teaching Torah or having a Torah scroll.
4. Observing the dietary laws of Lev. 11.
5. Circumcising baby boys.
6. Worshipping the God of Israel.

Curiously, for centuries, the Christian church enforced edicts against Jews similar to what we see above. Many Jews yielded to the edicts of Antiochus Epiphanes. They became known as Hellenistic Jews. Other Jews would choose death rather than worship Greek idols. The seven sons of Hannah (2 Maccabees 6 in the Apocrypha) chose horrible torture and death rather than eat the flesh of pigs. You can read about the revolt of the Maccabees by buying a Catholic Bible which contains the Apocrypha. The Apocrypha is all good Jewish books, written during the Inter-Testamental period (after Malachi, but before Yeshua).

<sup>1</sup> "Commandments"

<sup>2</sup> "Before Common Era," equivalent to B.C.

The Apocrypha was in the original 1611 King James Version of the Bible. However, in 1885, the Apocrypha was removed from the KJV. It is possible to find the books of the Apocrypha sold separately. However, perhaps the easiest way to locate the books of the Apocrypha is to purchase a Catholic Bible. The books of the Apocrypha are all good Jewish books. It is surprising to find them in Catholic Bibles, because the Catholic Church was horribly anti-Semitic until the Second Vatican Council of 1962-1965. You won't find the Apocrypha in Jewish Bibles or Protestant Bibles, so go and get a Catholic Bible so you can read these historical Jewish books. I don't consider them to be inspired in the way that the canonized books are **Inspired**. However, they are **inspiring**, in much the same way that this publication is inspiring, although definitely not Scripture.

The Maccabees took up the battle against the Seleucid branch of the Greek Empire after the Greeks sacrificed pigs in the Temple in 168 BCE. A Jewish kohen ("priest") named Mattityahu (Mattathias) was ordered to sacrifice a pig to a Greek god. He refused, and killed the Greek emissary who had ordered him to sacrifice the pig. Then Mattityahu and his sons led a revolt against Antiochus Epiphanes, heading a guerrilla army called the Maccabees. It was the weak against the strong, the few against the many. Zechariah 4:6 is quoted during Chanukah: "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts."

It was also a battle against paganism, to restore Jewish faith and worship in Israel. It was not necessarily a battle for religious freedom; it was also a battle also against Jews assimilating into Greek culture. After the battle against the Seleucid Greeks was won, Jews who had not been circumcised were circumcised, often against their will. The Greek idols and pagan temples were destroyed. If not for the Maccabees, HaSatan might have been successful in destroying the Jewish people as a nation separate unto God. The Jewish Temple was rededicated on the 25<sup>TH</sup> of Kislev (roughly equivalent to the month of December) in 165 BCE, exactly three years after the Temple has been desecrated.

In 2 Maccabees 9, Antiochus was on his way to destroy the Jewish forces that had beaten his army and sought to turn Jerusalem into a mass grave for the Jews. Immediately after that, he suffered excruciating pains in his bowels and his flesh teemed with worms. The stench of his decay sickened all who were

near him, even himself. Then this evil man recognized his sin and repented of all the evils that he had intended for the Jews, and instead wished them blessings, health, and prosperity. He recognized the God of Israel as being the true God. Then he died. We might see Antiochus the Olam Haba - the World to Come!

There are huge differences between Chanukah and Christmas. Chanukah was opposed to **syncretism**, that is, the blending of Biblical faith with paganism. The Maccabees fought to preserve the Jewish people as the set-apart nation they were meant to be. "Behold, a people who dwells apart, and shall not be reckoned among the nations (Num. 23:9b)."

An excellent example of syncretism would be what we see in 2 Kings 17. The northern kingdom of Israel had been taken into captivity by the Assyrians into other lands. Then the Assyrians brought pagan peoples of other nations into Israel. However, wild beasts began attacking and killing them. The king of Assyria determined that this was happening because the new inhabitants of Israel were not worshipping the God of Israel. Therefore, he brought Israeli kohanim (priests) and Levites into the land to teach them about the God of Israel. The result: "They (the pagans) feared YHWH, and observed their own gods, according to the customs of the nations from whom they had been carried away into exile (2 Kings 17:33)."

The holiday that Yeshua celebrated at this time of year was **Chanukah**, called the Feast of Dedication in John 10:22-23. If He ever celebrated his birthday, it wouldn't have been in December, because (in all likelihood) He was born during Sukkot - the Feast of Booths, which normally falls in early October.

According to **The Catholic Encyclopedia**, "The well-known solar feast of Natalis Invicti - the Nativity of the Unconquered Sun - celebrated on 25 December, has a strong claim on the responsibility of our December date for the birthday of Jesus." By December 25, the pagans noted that the days were getting longer again, so it was like the rebirth of the sun. Natalis Invicti is a pagan holiday turned into a "Christian" holiday called Christmas by the Catholic church. It was later adopted by Protestants as well. It is even celebrated today by Hindus in India and Buddhists in Japan and China as a festive day of lights and gift-giving. The Christmas tree also has pagan origins. See Jeremiah 3:12-13 and 10:2-5. Christmas is an example of syncretism, blending paganism with Christianity.

Hopefully, I will start off on the right foot with this article. It is not my intention to offend anyone. First of all, we do believe that God hears and answers prayer. We also believe in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I would like to temper that a bit. There are supernatural gifts of the Spirit, as well as some rather mundane gifts, which may be more important. In Romans 12:6-8, Rav Sha'ul wrote:

<sup>6</sup>Since we then have gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith; <sup>7</sup>or service, *let us wait on our serving*: or he that teaches, on teaching; <sup>8</sup>or he that exhorts, on exhortation: he who gives, *let him do it with liberality*; he that leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Among the many gifts of the Spirit are the gifts of serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, and leading. Many in the Charismatic world believe that if someone doesn't speak in tongues, then that person doesn't have the Holy Spirit, or, as I prefer, the Ruach HaKodesh. However, Rav Sha'ul (in 1 Cor. 14:5) tells us, "Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is the one who prophesies than the one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the congregation may receive edifying." Tongues is one of the lesser gifts of the Spirit.

Also, the primary purpose of the giving of the Ruach HaKodesh has nothing to do with these other gifts. Just prior to Yeshua's ascension to Heaven, He told his *talmidim* (disciples), "You shall receive power when the Ruach HaKodesh comes upon you, and you shall be my witnesses, but in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest parts of the earth (Acts 1:8)." Billy Graham was a Baptist. I don't agree with all of his theology. However, he reached far more people for Yeshua than I could ever hope to reach. He also reached far more people for Yeshua than all of the famous Pentecostal pastors put together. I would be reluctant to claim that Billy Graham was not Spirit-filled simply because he didn't speak in tongues.

In chapter 2 of Acts, the Holy Spirit fell upon the 120 *talmidim*. We read in Acts 2:4: "And they were all filled with the Ruach HaKodesh and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit was giving them utterance." This happened at the Feast of Shavuot (Pentecost)

in the Temple in Jerusalem. As a pilgrimage festival (Deut. 16:16), there were Jews and proselytes to Judaism from many countries traveling to the Beit HaMikdash (Temple) to worship. They were amazed to see and hear these *talmidim* speaking other languages.

## The Ruach HaKodesh

We read in Acts 2:6-7: "And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because they were each one hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and marveled, saying, 'Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?'" The Galileans were the "hillbillies" of Israel, not the sophisticated and educated people of Jerusalem. And when these "hillbillies" spoke in tongues, they were not speaking gobbledygook. They were speaking the actual languages of these visitors. 1 Cor. 13:1 also mentions "tongues of angels." However, that is really not useful in reaching people if it isn't a tongue they understand. You might speak a perfect Gospel message to me in Greek, but it would be a waste of time, as I don't speak Greek.

Rav Sha'ul (Paul) wrote (1 Cor. 12:1-3):

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. <sup>2</sup>You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, even as you were led. <sup>3</sup>Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, except by the Ruach HaKodesh.

There are also various other gifts of the Spirit described in 1 Cor. 12 and 14. Sandwiched in between these chapters is the "Love" chapter, in which Rav Sha'ul wrote (1 Cor. 13:1-3):

<sup>1</sup>Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profits me nothing.

If someone has any of these various gifts, and has not love, then he (or she) might be filled with the spirit, but it isn't the Holy Spirit. Much of what we see in Pentecost today is "lying

signs and wonders." Not everyone who says, "Thus saith the Lord" is speaking for God. And our Heavenly Father isn't always pleased for those who put words in His mouth that He didn't say. However, that does not mean that there is no latter day prophesy. But, just as in Bible days, there may be more false prophets than real prophets.

We also believe in prayer, and that God answers prayer. However, ultimately God is sovereign. We cannot come up with a prayer formula and demand that God will always answer in the way that we expect Him to. In Galatians 4:12-15, Rav Sha'ul wrote:

<sup>12</sup>Brethren, I beseech you, be as I *am*; for I *am* as you *are*: you have not injured me at all. <sup>13</sup>You know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel to you at the first. <sup>14</sup>And my trial which was in my flesh you despised not, nor rejected; but you received me as an angel of God, *even* as Messiah Yeshua. <sup>15</sup>Where is then the blessedness you spoke of? For I bear you record, that, if *it had been* possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me.

It seems evident that Rav Sha'ul had some sort of eye problem. Perhaps concerning this same problem, in 2 Cor. 12:7-10, we read:

<sup>7</sup>And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, so that I should not be exalted above measure. <sup>8</sup>For this thing I besought the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. <sup>9</sup>And He said unto me, "My grace is sufficient for you: for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Most gladly therefore I would I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Messiah may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Messiah's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

I have heard it said that Paul didn't have faith, which is why he was not healed. To me, that is a blasphemous accusation. Hebrews 13 is often called the "Hall of Faith" chapter. More accurately, it is the "Hall of Works," as it describes many people of great faith who also accomplished great works. However, many of these great people of faith often suffered much. We read in Hebrews 11:32-40:

<sup>32</sup>And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Ba-

rak, and of Samson, and of Jephtha; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets, <sup>33</sup>who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to fight the armies of the aliens. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection.

<sup>36</sup>And others had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented. <sup>38</sup>(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup>And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise, <sup>40</sup>because God had provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

I would not dare to accuse these great men and women of lacking faith. Many also have various formulas, in which God is supposed to answer prayer. God is sovereign! We are not on the throne; He is! We don't give Him the orders; He gives us the orders! I would much prefer that He always heals us, and that He would answer all of my prayers. However, He is Lord, and I am not! He always answers prayer, but sometimes the answer is **No**. ת

לשנה  
טובה  
תפתחו  
ותחתמו

May You Be  
Inscribed and Sealed  
For a Good Year.



As a fairly new Believer, I was shocked by the events of *B'midbar* (Numbers) 16, when Korach and his supporters rebelled against Moshe. Just a couple of chapters earlier, we see the Israelites rebelling against Moshe, refusing to go into Eretz Yisrael (the Land of Israel).

Years later, I had a fresh appreciation for what was taking place. It often helps to put yourself in someone else's sandals (or shoes!) to see how they are thinking. Imagine yourself among the Israelites after the report of the twelve spies. As you might remember, they came back with news of the richness of the Land, but also about giants! It ended with the fearful Israelites rebelling against Moses and refusing to go into the Land. Moshe then pronounced a virtual curse upon the people, proclaiming that the men of that generation over the age of 20 would all die in the wilderness, never seeing the Land, except for Yehoshua (Joshua) and Calev.

Sure, they were wrong to rebel. But put yourself in their sandals for a while. Your leader is this Moshe fellow who admittedly takes you and the whole nation out of slavery from Egypt. Now, after struggling in the wilderness for almost two years, you find that you and your generation will be stuck in the wilderness for a total of 40 years, and die there.

Maybe this Moshe guy isn't such a great fellow after all. (Let's conveniently forget the fact that Moshe intervened for the Israelites, preventing the entire nation from being slain in the wilderness.) Along comes Korach,<sup>1</sup> who also just happens to be from the tribe of Levi, just like Moshe. He's a great orator, and shows great leadership qualities with the 250 leaders of the congregation, men of renown, who seems capable of overthrowing the benevolent dictatorship of Moshe and Aharon. He says the words you want to hear, such as "All the congregation is holy (Numbers 16:3)."

It is interesting to note that two of the other leaders of this rebellion were Dathan and Abiram, from the tribe of Reuben. As the first-born tribe, the Reubenites should have

<sup>1</sup> In Hebrew, his name means "bald." There's no sin or shame in being bald. However, "You shall not round off the side-growth of your heads, nor harm the edges of your beards (Lev. 19:27)." Come on, fellas: Stop shaving your heads!

been the highest ranking tribe. However, because of Reuben's sin (Genesis 35:22; 49:3-4) Reuben lost his first place. Perhaps Dathan and Abiram were seeking to reclaim that which was lost. Also, according to the Talmud, Dathan and Abiram were Hebrew taskmasters in Egypt, with the job of making the other Hebrew slaves work harder. By comparison, Dathan and Abiram had it pretty good in Egypt. In Cecil B. DeMille's movie, **The Ten Commandments**, we also see Dathan and Abiram as being the taskmasters. (Cecil B. DeMille consulted with Jewish educators in the production of this film.)

I happen to like camping out—but living in tents for 40 years? No indoor plumbing? No electricity? I don't think so. I'm not defending Korach and his rebellious crew. They sinned grievously. However, I can better understand the thoughts of those who followed after Korach's rebellion against Moshe.

Moshe was a man of great patience (well, most of the time). However, this situation was getting out of hand. Korach was accusing Moshe of not taking the Israelites into a land "flowing with milk and honey (Num. 16:13)." Yeah, like this was Moshe's fault! If allowed to fester, this rebellion would fester and grow like a cancer, and soon Moshe—God's anointed one—would be a has-been. YHWH put the rebellious crowd to the test, and they failed. As correctly prophesied by Moshe, the earth opened its mouth and swallowed Korach alive, and what belonged to him. The 250 men who participated in this rebellion were then burned to a toast when fire came down from Heaven and consumed them. As Rodney Dangerfield was fond of saying, "I don't get no respect." Moshe got no respect from those seeking to displace him. I would request that Jews and Christians today have more respect for Moshe and the Instructions he gave to us.

The Talmud relates an interesting Midrash concerning Korach: Rabbah bar Channah tells how he was once taken by an Arabian merchant to the remote spot where the earth opened up to swallow Korach. The sage listened closely to the earth, and he heard Korach and Company shouting from the netherworld, "Moses and his Torah are truth..."<sup>2</sup>

Korach did manage to raise godly sons.

<sup>2</sup> B.T. Bava Batra 73b, as quoted by Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, *The Jewish Ledger*, 6/20/96.

## The Rebellion of Korach & Dispensational Christianity

Rav Richard  
'Aharon'  
Chaimberlin

Many of the Psalms that we enjoy today, including Psalms 42, 44-49, 84-85, and 87-88 were written by sons of Korach. (See also Numbers 26:9-11.)

Rav Shaul (Paul) tells us that the ancient Israelites "were our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after the evil things, as they also lusted (1 Cor. 10:6)." It is easy for us to look back on these ancient Israelites and criticize them for their rebelliousness. However, when we point a finger at them, we point three fingers back at ourselves. And ancient Israel, for better or worse, has the history of all its glories and sins written within the pages of the Bible, written for our "example." We learn from their examples!



This also shows the inspiration of the Scriptures, as well as how honorable the Jewish writers of Scripture were. They could have simply written down all of the good stuff about Israel, and eliminated the bad. However, the writers wanted us to learn from the Israelites, both the things that they did that were right and the things they did that were wrong. Sometimes you can learn more from a bad example than from a good example, just as you often learn more from mistakes than from successes. Thomas Edison, in his pursuit of the incandescent light bulb, produced hundreds of failures before finally "getting it right." I don't know about you, but I would rather learn from the mistakes of others than making the mistakes myself—the hard way! One of the ways we can do this is by diligently reading and studying the Bible. Yeshua said, "If you continue in my Word, then you are my

talmidim (disciples) indeed (Yochanan 8:31)."

In the ancient world, idolatry was much more blatant than today, with its actual statues, paintings, and pagan worship practices to the various gods and goddesses. Idolatry today can be more devious, because it is more subtle. Modern idols might include entertainment, sports, career, material possessions, money—anything that is more important to you than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. How much time do you spend in prayer and the Word of God, and how much time do you spend with "idols"?

The ultimate result of this state of affairs is the same as was the case with Korach — rebellion against God and His commandments through Moshe. Korach even had the audacity to couch his rebellion in spiritual terms: "All the congregation is holy."

Not all of the distractions mentioned above are evil. Shaul used sports metaphors in his teachings. Also, **money** is not the root of all evil. Correctly quoted: "The **love** of money is the root of all evil." Abraham was rich, but he was not evil. However, we should beware lest we allow things or activities to have such a hold on our lives that we lock HaShem<sup>3</sup> out!

"Consider the members of your earthly body as dead to fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry."<sup>4</sup> "Love not the world,

nor the things of the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15)."

Rav Shaul tells us that "through the Torah (Law) comes the knowledge of sin (Romans 3:20)." Sin is not imputed without the Law. I believe that even in Gan Eden, Adam and Eve (Chava) were aware of many of the commandments of the Torah (or, more correctly translated, "Instructions"). Adam walked with God, learning of His instructions. Then Chava and he ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. "And YHWH said, 'Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil (Gen. 3:7)." Their understanding was opened. The concept that Moshe "invented" the Torah, or that the **mitzvot** (command-

<sup>3</sup> "The Name" of God.

<sup>4</sup> Colossians 3:5.

ments) were unknown before Moshe is a myth. Moshe simply wrote it down.

## Modern "Korachites" Rebel Against Moses

According to Dispensational Theology, as is taught in much of Christianity, God had the Dispensation of Law, which was later replaced by the Dispensation of Grace. However, Yeshua said,

<sup>17</sup>Think not that I have come to destroy the Law (Torah), or the Prophets: I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I say to you, **until heaven and earth pass away**, not one jot or one tittle shall pass from the Torah, until all be fulfilled. <sup>19</sup>Whosoever therefore shall break one of the least of these commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (Mattityahu [Matthew] 5:17-19)

The fickle gods of the Romans and Greeks changed often depending on their moods. However, the God of Scripture changes not. There is Grace in the Tanach (O.T.), as we see when God forgave David of some terrible sins. And there is Law in the Newer Testament, as we can see from the quote above from Yeshua.

Like Korach and his cohorts 3500 years ago, these modern Korachites have rebelled against the teachings and instructions of Moses. They believe that the God of the Newer Testament has changed from the God of the Tanach (O.T.) However, Malachi 3:6 says, "I, YHWH, do not change." And in Hebrews 13:8, we read, "Yeshua the Messiah, the same yesterday, today, and forever." God has not changed. The same behavior that disturbed God in the Tanach (the Foundational Scriptures) disturbs Him today. The things that were abominable to Him **then** are abominable to Him **today**. The things that God hated in the days of Moses, he hated in the days that Yeshua walked this earth, and He continued to hate in the days of Paul. He even hates these things today!

Shaul wrote to Timothy, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished to all good works (2 Timothy 3:16-17)." Let us not forget: When this was written, the Scriptures that Shaul referred to was the Tanach

(O.T.). The Newer Testament had not even been written down yet. The Bible that Yeshua loved was the "Old Testament." We should heed the words of Shaul and read the Scriptures that he knew and often quoted from.

The New Testament definition of sin refutes Dispensational Theology, which basically "dispenses" with the Law. **"Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the Law (Torah), for sin is the transgression of the Law (1 John 3:4)."** That's the same definition of sin that we see in the "Old Testament"! Isaiah (8:20) wrote, "To the Law and to the Testimony! If they speak not according to this word, it is because they have no light." Those who teach against the Law have no light!

The Rabbis have counted 613 commandments in the Bible. Nobody, not even Yeshua, kept all 613 commandments. Some commandments are only for men, some are only for women, some are only for the Land of Israel, some for Temple worship, some are only for the Temple priesthood, etc. And of course, today there is no Temple (Beit HaMikdash), so nobody can keep the commandments related to the Temple. It was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE.<sup>5</sup> We are only commanded to keep the commandments we are able to keep. Also, we also don't obey Torah to "get" saved. Instead, the Torah is God's instructions for those who are **already** redeemed!

Lastly: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins (transgression of Torah), He is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:8-9)."

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<sup>5</sup> "Common Era," equivalent to "A.D."



Art by Robert Avila, Texas

**"F**OR if the first fruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so also are the branches. <sup>17</sup>And if some of the branches be broken off, and you (the Gentiles), being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them partake of the root and fatness of the olive tree; <sup>18</sup>boast not against the branches. But if you boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

"You will say then, 'The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in.' <sup>20</sup>Quite right, because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Be not arrogant, but fear. <sup>21</sup>For if God spared not the natural branches, neither shall He spare you. <sup>22</sup>Behold therefore, the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness: otherwise you also shall be cut off.

"And they also, if they (the Jews) abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again. <sup>24</sup>For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree, how much more shall these, which be the natural *branches*, be grafted into their own olive tree? <sup>25</sup>For I would not, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part has happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in." (Romans 11:16-25)

**T**HE verses above tell us that the Gentiles (the "wild branches") who came to believe in Yeshua—the Jewish Messiah—are grafted into the Jewish Olive Tree, contrary to nature. Therefore, it is critical for Christianity that the Jewish people and the nation Israel survive as a nation. A bunch of broken off wild olive branches cannot survive on their own. They need the natural Olive Tree described in Romans 11 for survival.

However, for centuries, Christians have been trying to graft Jews into a Gentile Tree, which is totally contrary to the Biblical model given to us in Romans 11. Christians have been telling Jews that they had to become Christians in order to believe in their own Jewish Messiah, and to forsake their biblical Jew-

ish heritage, such as the biblical holy days of Leviticus 23 and Shabbat. I heard of a pastor who didn't believe a Jew was "saved" unless he saw him eating a pork chop!

## Where are the MACCABEES?

**Rav Richard  
'Aharon'  
Chamberlin**

In truth, Christians should become part of the Jewish Olive Tree. Yet for centuries, Christians have been trying to graft Jews into the "Christmas tree."

The nations of the world have been trying to force Israel to trade "land for peace." The idea is that

Israel's enemies will give up their desire to destroy Israel and kill all the Jews if only Israel will give up major parts of their country.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon tried this plan by withdrawing all the Jews and the Israeli military from Gaza in 2005. This resulted in tens of thousands of rockets and mortars being fired into Israel from Gaza since then, as well as many other acts of terror.

When Ehud Barak was prime minister of Israel, he unilaterally withdrew Israeli peace-keeping forces from south Lebanon. These forces were to keep the terrorists from attacking northern Israeli towns, and also protected the South Lebanese Army from being overrun by Hezbollah. After Israel's surprise withdrawal, Hezbollah attacked and destroyed much of the South Lebanese Army. Remnants of this army managed to escape across the border into Israel along with many of their immediate families. They remain in Israel to this day, fearful of ever returning to their homes in Lebanon. Meanwhile, Hezbollah has been enabled to launch multiple wars against Israel, and maintains many thousands of missiles ready to attack Israel.

In both of these cases, Israel gained nothing for her sacrifices for peace except for more wars and violence. And the Arabs learned an important lesson: They can get what they want with terrorism. They don't have to negotiate. We have seen the same scenario in the so-called "West Bank," which is biblical Judea and Samaria. Each area which was given over to the murderous Palestinian Authority has been turned into a launching pad for more attacks against Israel. The Palestinian Arabs have made it clear that they don't want peace. They want a piece of Jerusalem, a piece of Tel Aviv, a piece of Haifa, until their are no more

pieces let. Then they want the entire land of Israel to be Judenrein, that is, completely emptied of its Jewish inhabitants. They want Israel's destruction.

No other nation in the world wants peace as much as Israel. The Jewish nation has endured thousands of years of bloody anti-Semitism, including the Holocaust in which six million Jews were slaughtered. Jews began to return to the Land again in the late 1800s. Israel became a nation again in 1948, and have fought numerous wars since then for Israel's survival and to maintain independence. We understand the Jewish desire for "peace at any price." However, the ultimate goal of anti-Semites around the world is the elimination of all Jews, regardless of where they live.

In the years following the Holocaust of World War II, anti-Semitism was usually seen as something abominable. However, in recent years, anti-Semitism has been increasing, often with the influx of Muslim refugees entering Europe and North America. However, anti-Semitism has also been a part of European societies long before the influx of Muslims.

The United States has also been stained by anti-Semites. However, more than almost any other nation (except Israel, of course), the USA has been a place of sanctuary for Jews. Jews have done well and prospered in the USA, and have been a wonderful contribution to the United States in various fields of medicine, technology, entertainment, education, and in many other areas. Regretfully, in recent years we have seen a resurgence of anti-Semitic persecution and violence.

On October 27, 2018, the worst mass shooting at a synagogue in America took place when a gunman killed 11 and wounded 6 others. This took place at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. On April 4, 2019, a gunman killed one person and wounded 3 others, including the rabbi at the Chabad synagogue in Poway, California. Since that time, there have been many other attacks against Jews in this country, and in many other countries.

Anti-Semitism generally begins with words. Most often Jews are falsely accused of crimes they did not do. The Nazis in Germany accused the Jews of trying to take over the world. Obviously, this was a false charge. The Nazis themselves were seeking to take over the

world. There have been many other false charges against the Jewish people throughout the ages. And of course the Arab media have invented many false charges against Israel. Anti-Semites have little regard for truth. They appreciate any kind of propaganda that hurts Jews or Israel, regardless of whether it is true or not. Words then lead to violence.

There are ways to combat anti-Semitism. First, don't allow false anti-Semitic comments to go unchallenged. It simply is not acceptable. Speak up against everyday acts of anti-Semitism. Report anti-Semitic crimes to the police. And defend Jews by words and actions. Remind people of faith that the Bible was written by Jews, the prophets were Jewish, and even Yeshua was Jewish. Israel was promised to the Jewish people multiple times, in Genesis 15:17-18; 26:3-5; 35:12; Ezekiel 36; and many other places throughout the Scriptures. Yeshua will be returning to Israel someday, and setting up His Kingdom reigning over the world from Jerusalem.

However, until that day comes, we must all fight the scourge of anti-Semitism. And when anti-Semitism involves violence, it may require a more forceful response. Rabbi Meir Kahane (1932 - 1990) was the founder of the Jewish Defense League in 1968, which was a militant Jewish organization. I would consider them to be **modern-day Maccabees**, like those that we celebrate during Chanukah. Get a Catholic Bible and read about them in the Books of Maccabees. The JDL was committed to "protect Jews from anti-Semitism by whatever means necessary." They patrolled the streets to prevent anti-Semites from acting out their hatreds. Rabbi Kahane was assassinated by an Egyptian named El Sayyid Nosair in 1990. Nosair was acquitted on a technicality and set free. In 1993, Nosair was convicted for his part in the first World Trade Center bombings.

The JDL met violence with violence. I hope that it doesn't come to this again. However, we all have the right and duty to defend ourselves and our communities from those who seek to do us harm. Many synagogues and churches now have enhanced security and armed guards. Muslims tend to have insurance against anti-Islamic violence, because people know that Muslims respond to violence with violence. It is an effective deterrence. It may be necessary for Jews to do the same. n

## Muslim Sheikh Honored for Combating Anti-Semitism

The head of the Muslim World League has "Jesus" in his name and loves the Jews. Go figure.

July 3, 2020 | **Aviel Schneider**  
[WWW.ISRAELTODAY.CO.IL](http://WWW.ISRAELTODAY.CO.IL)



**Sheikh Mohammed Al-Issa** is Secretary General of the Muslim World League (MWL) based in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. He was recently recognized for his contribution to combating anti-Semitism as the first recipient of the annual Combat Anti-Semitism Award.

Sheikh Al-Issa has been recognized before for uniting people of all faiths in publicly condemning Holocaust denial and inspiring the next generation to fight hatred and promote peace. At the beginning of the year, Sheikh Al-Issa and other high-ranking Islamic dignitaries from all over the world visited the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau, where many Jews perished in the Holocaust.

The award was presented to the former Minister of Justice of Saudi Arabia in an online event due to the corona crisis. No mention has been made of Sheikh Mohammed Al-Issa in the Palestinian media. On the contrary, Palestinian publications, including school textbooks, still engage in Holocaust denial and incitement against the Jewish people.

In his online speech, Sheikh Al-Issa sharply condemned the Holocaust deniers in the Muslim world for spreading lies. "Jews and Muslims have lived together for centuries, but unfortunately our paths have diverged in the past few decades," emphasized Al-Issa, who bears the Arabic name for Jesus, meaning Sheikh Mohammed Al-Jesus. "We absolutely need to build new bridges for dialogue between the two communities. Since becoming the Secretary General of the Muslim World League, I have been committed to fighting hatred and violence. When I was in Auschwitz-Birkenau, I stood next to my Jewish siblings and told them that the Holocaust was the greatest horror in history and promised that this should never happen again."

The sheikh stressed that as long as there are those who distort history and deny the Holocaust, "we will stand against those liars, no mat-

ter where they are. Denial of history serves the extremists who only promote hatred and racism. As Muslims, we have a duty to study history and to stand by the international community as part of our faith."

The Muslim cleric also took aim at those exploiting the coronavirus crisis to further spread hate: "The coronavirus is a common enemy that makes no distinction between Muslims and Jews. Extremists are taking advantage of the global pandemic to promote the ideology of hate and separation. We have to join forces to fight the virus if we want to keep hope alive against this threat." Indeed, both in the Middle East and in the West, the Jews have been blamed for the coronavirus crisis.

There is no logic or reason behind such claims. Hate leads to blind madness. Voices like these from Sheikh Mohammed Al-Issa are therefore crucial, especially amid a sea of hateful voices like those in Tehran, from Hezbollah in Lebanon or from Hamas in the Gaza Strip, all of whom speak and dream primarily of Israel's destruction. Incidentally, when you speak to Palestinians about the Holocaust and the extermination of Jews, about half of them still insist that this is a Zionist lie.

## Supreme Court Gives Religious Schools a Win in Montana

[WWW.LIBERTYPLANET.COM](http://WWW.LIBERTYPLANET.COM)

The Supreme Court has ruled that state governments offering scholarships to children in private schools cannot disallow religious schools from participating in the program.

The case, *Espinoza vs. the Montana Department of Revenue*, involved a scholarship program the state set up in 2015 to fund private education options for qualifying families. Several low-income mothers who qualified for funding were refused for the sole reason that they intended to send their children to Christian schools. These women took legal action and in 2018, the Montana Supreme Court ruled that the entire scholarship program violated the state's Constitution.

However, the U.S. Supreme Court ruling stated that Montana's Supreme Court got it wrong. Denying funds to religious private schools while offering the same funds to secular ones constitutes discrimination. This, according to the majority court, hurts not only educational institutions but also parents and children who want to exercise their First Amendment rights.

As Chief Justice John Roberts pointed out, the state is not required to set up a program to provide scholarship money for parents to send children to private schools. However, states that do so cannot ban certain private schools from taking part. (This is also a win for Jewish schools as well as religious schools across the USA.)

*Israel Today explores the incredible predictions of a prominent rabbi connected to the End Times.*

**J**ews and Christians both believe that we are living in the Messianic End Times.

Jews were already predicting the End Times some 800 years ago, right around the time Christian End Times eschatology really got going.

One of the most important rabbis in connection with this theme of the End Times is Judah Ben Samuel (approx. 1150 - 1217), also known as Judah he-Hasid (Judah the Pious). He lived and worked from the end of the 12<sup>th</sup>

century until the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century in Regensburg, Germany and authored a number of books. I would like to single out two of his works: "The Book of the Pious - Sefer Hasidim" and the "Book of Calculations - Sefer Gematriyot," which deals with biblical numerology and astrology.

Following the Christian crusades to the Holy Land (1096-1270) a regular correspondence developed between the Jews in the Holy Land and the (Jews living in) the Christian Occident in the West. Thus, for example, the rabbis in Worms and Regensburg in Germany knew that Saladin's Ayyubids had been ruling in the Holy Land since 1187.

At this time the Rabbi of Regensburg, Judah the Pious, published the results of his biblical calculations (Gematria) and astrological observations and summarized as follows:

*"When the Ottomans (Turks) - who were already a power to be reckoned with on the Bosphorus in the time of Judah Ben Samuel - conquer Jerusalem they will rule over Jerusalem for eight jubilees. Afterwards Jerusalem will become no-man's land for one jubilee, and then in the ninth jubilee it will once again come back into the possession of the Jewish nation - which would signify the beginning of the Messianic end time."*

One jubilee is 50 years (Leviticus 25). It is the 50<sup>th</sup> year after seven times seven years, the year in which each person should regain ownership of his or her land. Ben Samuel's calculations were purely theoretical; there was absolutely no sign at that time of their being fulfilled. He himself was not able to experience their fulfillment, for it was hundreds of years after his death that his predictions were to come true.

The Mamluks, who had been reigning in Jerusalem since 1250, were conquered in 1517 by the Ottomans (Turks). They remained for eight jubilees (8 x 50 = 400 years), that is to say they were in Jerusalem for 400 years.

Exactly 400 years later, in 1917, the Ottomans (Turks) were conquered by the British. The League of Nations conferred the Mandate for the Holy Land and Jerusalem (Palestine Mandate) to the British...

Then, when Israel captured (the old city of) Jerusalem in the Six Day War of 1967, exactly one jubilee (50 years) after 1917, all of Jerusalem reverted to Jewish-Israeli

ownership once again. Thereby, according to the prophecies of Judah Ben Samuel, the Messianic End Times began.

Many scholars have studied and made reference to Judah Ben Samuel's writings in an effort to understand how he reached his conclusions. Among those referencing Ben Samuel were Rabbi Isaac Ben Solomon Luria, a mystic dealing with the Messianic world (Jerusalem, 1531-1572, Safed, Israel); Joseph Solomon Delmegido (1591-1655 Prague), a mathematician and astronomer ("Mazref le-Chochma"), Azulai I. (1724-1806), a famed bibliographer; Samuel David Luzzatto (1800-1865), a Bible scholar; historian Heinrich Graetz (1817-1891); and Torah scholar Jacob Epstein (1925-1993).

The secret of how Judah the Pious arrived at such accurate predictions has less to do with the actual calculations than it does with the fact that he had consecrated his life to God. His pupils Rabbi Isaac ben Moses (Vienna), Rabbi Baruch ben Samuel (Mainz) and Rabbi Simcha (Speyer) testify that Ben Samuel was a model of abstinence and selflessness and was awaiting with a burning desire the coming of the Messiah.

Ben Samuel was often called "Light of Israel." Even bishops came to him for advice. If anyone asked him where his wisdom came from he would answer, "The prophet Elijah, who will precede the Messiah,<sup>1</sup> appeared to me and revealed many things to me and emphasized that the precondition for answered prayer is that it is fueled by enthusiasm and joy for the greatness and holiness of God." ך

<sup>1</sup> See the last 2 verses of Malachi.

## Messianic End Times From Jewish Perspectives

by Ludwig Schneider  
www.IsraelToday.co.il

# THE very first THANKSGIVING: Yesterday & Today

Thanksgiving ever to be celebrated in North America was NOT celebrated by the Pilgrims in what is modern-day Massachusetts. On 4 Dec 1619, 39 English settlers arrived at Berkeley Plantation, on the James River near what is now Charles City, Virginia. The group's charter required that the 4<sup>th</sup> of December be observed annually as a day of thanksgiving to God for their safe arrival.

The Puritans had some theological differences with the Anglican Church because of what they felt was too much "Popery" in the Church of England. They sought religious freedom – the freedom to worship independently of the Anglican Church. They were called *Puritans* initially, because their original intention was to *purify* the Protestant Church, a very worthwhile objective. Sometime shortly before 1600, some of the Puritans decided that they could not reform the Anglican Church from within. They separated from the Church of England and set up churches of their own. The persons who decided to set up separate churches were then called *Separatists*. One group of Separatists were so badly persecuted in the village of Scooby that they fled with their leader—William Brewster—to Leiden, Holland (Netherlands).

Despite the hospitality shown to them by Holland, they eventually decided to leave, fearing their children were becoming more Dutch than English. They also feared war between Holland and Spain. They longed to return to the English way of life, but wanted to maintain their own form of worship.

The new land of America appealed to them. Some merchants agreed to finance the voyage to America. In July 1620, a group of Separatists under William Brewster returned to England. In September 1620, they set sail for America on board the *Mayflower* with 102 men, women, and children. They sought to travel to what is now known as Virginia, but an error in navigation brought them to what is now Provincetown Harbor, Massachusetts, on 21 Nov 1620. The area on which the Pilgrims settled was originally an Indian village. However, smallpox or perhaps some other disease

Richard Aharon  
Chamberlin, Litt.D.

had been brought to them by English explorers. They had no natural immunities to European diseases, so this wiped out all of the original inhabitants. The Pilgrims found clean water and land that had already been cleared for agriculture by the previous inhabitants. By this time, they were calling themselves *Pilgrims* again. Plymouth Colony remained independent until 1691, when it became part of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.<sup>1</sup>

The first horrendous winter in Massachusetts killed nearly half of the Pilgrims! The rest of the colony might also have perished, if not for a "chance" encounter with two American Indians. First, one Indian, identifying himself as Samoset, walked into the village. Two weeks later, Samoset returned with Squanto, an American Indian of the Pawtuxet tribe. The

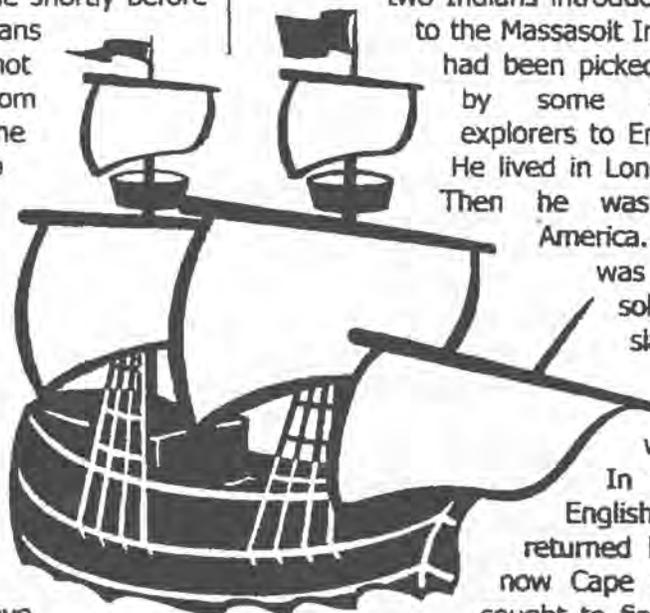
two Indians introduced the Pilgrims to the Massasoit Indians. Squanto had been picked up and taken by some early English explorers to England in 1605. He lived in London until 1614.

Then he was returned to America. Later, Squanto was kidnapped and sold in Spain as a slave, but he escaped and made his way to England.

In 1619, a kindly English sea captain returned him to what is now Cape Cod. When he sought to find his village of

Pawtuxet (also called "Wapanoag") Indians, he discovered to his immense horror that they had all died in some mysterious plague.

Squanto wandered around, with little purpose in living, having lost all his family and friends. Try to imagine the surprise of the Pilgrims when they met this Indian coming out of the forest to meet this little settlement of Englishmen, and speaking perfect English! (We don't **really** know if he also had a British accent!) He told them how to farm the land, including how to plant the corn that was native to North America. He taught them how to fish and hunt. He also assisted the Pilgrims by act-



<sup>1</sup> The source for this and nearly all the material in this article is *The World Book Encyclopedia*, © 1978, Volumes 15, 18, 19.

ing as their interpreter as they negotiated a treaty with the Massasoit Indians.

As a direct result of Squanto's efforts, the Pilgrim's had a wonderful harvest in 1621. Governor William Bradford decreed a three-day feast in October of 1621. The Massasoit Indians were also invited to join for the celebration, and a wonderful time was had by all. The Massasoit Indians had such a good time that they didn't want to go home! Squanto, sadly, died of a fever in 1622, when he was only 37 years old (approximately).

Another Thanksgiving Day for the purpose of prayer and celebration was decreed for July 30, 1623 by Governor Bradford. Eventually, an annual day of Thanksgiving was established by the Plymouth colony in early October, to roughly coincide with the Biblical Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot).

The Pilgrims were not Sabbath-keepers in the strict sense of word. Like most Christians of that era, they observed Sunday, not the biblical seventh day Sabbath. Apparently they felt that so many Christians couldn't be wrong. However, unlike most Christians, they observed their "sabbath" from sunset to sunset, much as the biblical Sabbaths and holy days are observed. They began their "sabbath" on Saturday at sunset and ended it on Sunday at sunset. The Pilgrims were *purists* in their treatment of the Scriptures, and in their life-style. They rejected the holidays which they deemed to have come out of paganism or the Roman Catholic church. Therefore, they rejected Christmas, Easter, and other church holidays. They also desired to observe the Biblical holidays more fully than most Christians. Their annual Thanksgivings were patterned after the Feast of Sukkot, in October, at about the time it is still celebrated in Canada today.

As time went on, the day in which Thanksgiving is celebrated was severed from its roots in the Feast of Sukkot. President George Washington issued a proclamation in 1789 declaring November 26<sup>th</sup> as a day of national thanksgiving. President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday of November as "a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father." Finally President Franklin Roosevelt wanted to lengthen the shopping period between Thanksgiving and Christmas, so Thanksgiving was decreed as the fourth Thursday of November as a legal federal holiday, where it remains today.

Although we are not thrilled that the date was changed to November, we heartily approve of having a national day of prayer, thanksgiving, and feasting. Of course, it need

not be limited to only one day! However, in an age when the schools and media seek to remove the spiritual aspects of this nation's history, it is well and good that this day survives as a testimony of the genuine spirituality that can be found in this nation's heritage.

## Thanksgiving in Scripture

"Through Him (Yeshua), let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His Name."

Hebrews 13:15

"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving."

Psalms 50:14a, Leviticus 22:29

"He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me. And to him who orders his way aright will I show the salvation of God." Psalm 50:23

"Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving. Let us **shout** joyfully to Him with Psalms."

Psalm 95:2

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise."

Psalm 100:4

"I will wash my hands in innocence... that I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell all Thy wondrous works." Psalm 26:7

"I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving."

Psalm 69:30

"Oh, that men would praise YHWH for His goodness, and for His wondrous works to the children of men! Oh, let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing."

Psalm 107:21-22

"Sing unto YHWH with **thanksgiving**. Sing praise upon the harp."

Psalm 147:7

"For YHWH shall comfort Zion. He will comfort all her waste places, and He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of YHWH. Joy and gladness shall be found therein, **thanksgiving** and the voice of a melody."

Isaiah 51:3

"Thus saith YHWH: 'Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places... And out of them shall proceed **thanksgiving** and the voice of them that make merry. And I will multiply them... I will also glorify them.'" Jeremiah 30:18-19

**O**utrage is the natural response to the brutal killing of George Floyd. Yet outrage and clear, critical thinking seldom go hand in hand. An act of police brutality became the catalyst for a revolutionary mood. Protests spilled over into violence and looting. Stores were destroyed; policemen and civilians injured and killed. The truism "black lives matter" was joined by a senseless slogan: "Defund the police."

Democratic politicians—and some Republicans—hastened to appease the protesters. The mayors of Los Angeles and New York pledged to cut their cities' police budgets. The Minneapolis City Council said it intended to disband the police department. The speaker of the House and other congressional Democrats donned scarves made of Ghanaian Kente cloth and kneeled in the Capitol. Sen. Mitt Romney joined a march.

Corporate executives scrambled to identify their brands with the protests. By the middle of June, according to polls, American public opinion had been transformed from skepticism about the Black Lives Matter movement to widespread support. Politicians, journalists and other public figures who had denounced protests against the pandemic lockdown suddenly lost their concern about infection...

Although I am a black African—an immigrant who came to the U.S. freely—I am keenly aware of the hardships and miseries African-Americans have endured for centuries. Slavery, Reconstruction, segregation: I know the history. I know that there is still racial prejudice in America, and that it manifests itself in the aggressive way some police officers handle African-Americans. I know that by measures of wealth, health, and education, African-Americans remain on average closer to the bottom of society than to the top. I know, too, that African-American communities have been disproportionately hurt by both Covid-19 and the economic disruption of lockdowns.

Yet when I hear it said that the U.S. is defined above all by racism, when I see books such as Robin DiAngelo's "White Fragility" top the bestseller list, when I read of educators and journalists being fired for daring to question the orthodoxes of Black Lives Matter—then I feel obliged to speak up.

"What the media also do not tell you," I tweeted on June 9, "is that **America is the**

## America Doesn't Need a New Revolution



By **Ayaan Hirsi Ali**  
*The Wall Street Journal*

**best place on the planet to be black, female, gay, trans or what have you.** We have our problems and we need to address those. But our society and our systems are far from racist."

America looks different if you grew up, as I did, in Africa and the Middle East. There I had firsthand experience of three things. First, bloody internecine wars between Africans—with all the combatants dark-skinned, and no white people present. Second, the anarchy that comes when there is no police, no law, and order. Third, the severe racism (as well as sexism) of a society such as Saudi Arabia, where de facto slavery still exists.

I came to the U.S. in 2006, having lived in the Netherlands since 1992. Like most immigrants, I came with a confidence that in America I would be judged on my merits rather than on the basis of racial or sexual prejudice.

There's a reason the U.S. remains, as it has long been, the destination of choice for would-be migrants. We know that there is almost no difference in the unemployment rate for foreign-born and native-born workers—unlike in the European Union.

We immigrants see the downsides of American society: the expensive yet inefficient health-care system, the shambolic public schools in poor communities, the poverty that no welfare program can alleviate. But we also see, as Charles Murray and J.D. Vance have shown, that these problems aren't unique to black America. White America is also, in Mr. Murray's phrase, "coming apart" socially. Broken marriages and alienated young men are problems in Appalachia as much as in the inner cities.

If America is a chronically racist society, then why are the "deaths of despair" studied by Anne Case and Angus Deaton so heavily concentrated among middle-aged white Americans? Did the Covid-19 pandemic make us forget the opioid epidemic, which has disproportionately afflicted the white population?

This country is only 244 years old, but it may be showing signs of age. Time was, Americans were renowned for their can-do, problem-solving attitude. Europeans, as Alexis de Tocqueville complained, were inclined to leave problems to central authorities in Paris or Berlin. Americans traditionally solved problems locally, sitting together in town halls and voluntary associations. Some of that spirit still exists...

Some of that spirit still exists...

President Donald Trump's Middle East "Deal of the Century" peace plan — The Vision — is 180 pages long and meticulously detailed. Read it if you like. But the president and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu covered the high points on January 28 before an enthusiastic, pro-Israel audience at the White House.

Regardless of how future negotiations go, the president's management of The Vision and meetings with the prime minister and, separately, with Netanyahu's chief political rival (Benny Gantz), were masterful in two ways. First, it allowed the Israelis to demonstrate that there are areas in which their two major political parties can agree, and that both can agree with Mr. Trump. Second, it allowed the president to erase the mistaken assumption that the United States has to be neutral between Israelis and Palestinians in order to make progress.

The USA can only be an "honest broker" if it eschews neutrality, which accepts all the positions of **both** parties as equally compelling. The Vision, and the East Room ceremony, address *American* interests, the first of which is that Israel is a friend and ally by its very nature. Human rights, rule of law, free elections, freedom of religion and the press, security interests, and a high-tech, open economy are built in. While the president was extraordinarily sympathetic to the Palestinian people — particularly young people whom he lamented are "growing up with no hope" — there are some things the Palestinian Authority (PA) does that are unacceptable not only to Israel, but also to the United States.

Giving up those unacceptable things before the U.S. will support Palestinians' desire for an independent state is what some people call "pre-conditions." Yes. Precisely. Neutral parties don't do that — honest brokers do. The PA has to be an acceptable interlocutor and at the moment, it is not. But, said the president, "It is never too late. It is time to rise up and meet the challenges of the future. If they do it, it will work."

What, exactly, does the president require? In exchange for recognition of Palestine as the nation-state of the Palestinian people with a capital in Jerusalem (which will remain undivided and under Israeli sovereignty), "where the U.S. will proudly open an embassy," plus massive international investment, he asked them to "meet the challenges of peaceful coexistence."

- Adopt basic laws ensuring basic human rights and protecting against financial and political corruption;
- Stop malign activities of Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad;
- End incitement against Israel;
- Permanently halt financial compensation to

terrorists.

Let's face it, these constitute a very low bar for civilized behavior. If the Palestinians can't or won't do those things, how much "peace" will any "process" provide? In addition, the president changed the timeline. Life/conflict for Palestinians and Israelis did not start with Israel's acquisition of Judea and Samaria in the course of defending itself from a combined multi-national Arab attack in 1967. "It is time for the Muslim world to fix the mistake it made in 1948, when it chose to attack instead of to recognize the new state of Israel. The Palestinians are the primary pawn in this adventurism, and it is time for this sad chapter in history to end." By recognizing that the Palestinians were left hanging by their Arab brothers between

1948 and 1967, he made the solution to the Palestinian plight the Arab states' responsibility, as well. Three Arab ambassadors were in the room.

Trump noted that Qassem Soleimani's organization, the Quds Force, was, translated in English, the Jerusalem Liberation Organization. "To have Jerusalem be free [Soleimani said] we have to be at war with Israel. But, in truth, Jerusalem is liberated. Jerusalem is a safe, open, and democratic city." The president was fulsome in his praise of Israel, pleased that Israel had agreed — for the first time — to produce a map of what two states would look like. It would be useful to ask the Palestinians to produce a map with THEIR proposed settlement — but not until they come to the table.

And he was clear in his determination to ensure Israel's security. "There will be no incremental risks to the state of Israel." "Peace," he added, "requires compromise, but we will never ask Israel to compromise its security."

That is a far cry from prior administrations that demanded Israel take "risks for peace." Those risks resulted in the so-called "intifada" after Israel signed the Oslo Accords and allowed the PA to have an armed security force; the entrenchment of Hezbollah in southern Lebanon after Israel departed there in 2000; and the rise of Hamas after Israel departed the Gaza Strip in 2005. Trump will not ask Israel to take more of those risks.

The Israelis know how rare it is to have an American president who sees the world the way they do. The Palestinians can take advantage of a president who wants to improve their future. "America," said the president, "cannot care more about peace than the stakeholders," but he also was careful to mention that "this part of the world is forever connected to the human soul and the human spirit."

Amen. [info@jewishpolicycenter.org](mailto:info@jewishpolicycenter.org)

## Trump's Vision for the Middle East

Shoshana Bryen  
January 29, 2020  
*The Daily Wire*



SEPTEMBER 2020

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## JEWISH CALENDARS

The new **5781 Petah Tikvah** calendars are available. They cover the period from **Sept 2020 to Sept 2021**. The cost remains **\$5 each** with free shipping and handling. We ask our friends overseas to send an extra \$5 (US **\$10** total) for overseas postage. We want to ensure that everyone will be able to obtain a beautiful, high-quality Jewish calendar. In addition, prison inmates can receive a **free** calendar. However, **we request that inmates send 4 stamps** (or a money order for \$2) for mailing costs.

When unfolded, these **13-month** calendars measure 11 inches by 18 inches. They are stapled in the middle, no metal spirals. There is a beautiful, full-color photo from Israel for each month. Both the Gregorian and Hebrew dates are shown for each day. The Jewish Holy Days (which are also the **Biblical** holidays) are all highlighted in color, as is Shabbat (Sabbath). The Parashot (Torah-Haftara) scripture portions for each week are also listed. These calendars also make great gifts. Make checks/money orders out to **'Petah Tikvah.'** Cash is also OK!

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### A Messianic Jewish Commentary

This book (79 pages) is a reprint from several years ago. This volume will help the reader better understand the Book of Revelation in its original Jewish context. Cost is only **\$8 each**, free S&H, checks made out to **Petah Tikvah**. (Cost for inmates is only **6 postage stamps** for Postage & Handling.)

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## BIBLICAL STUDIES AND FELLOWSHIP

**WELCOME!!** You are invited to join us at *Petah Tikvah* for a great time of Messianic Jewish fellowshiping. Our services are every *Shabbat* ("Saturday") at 2 pm. We meet in our Fellowship Hall at 165 Doncaster Road in Brighton, a suburb of Rochester. Doncaster Road intersects with West Henrietta Road (Rt. 15) by Sunny's Family Diner at 2171 West Henrietta Rd by the traffic light.

Services begin with a time of liturgy and worship. This is followed by a time of teachings from the Scriptures. We believe that the Bible is the reliable source for doctrine. We promote a pro-Torah Messianic Jewish lifestyle for Jews and for Gentiles who have been grafted into the Jewish Olive Tree of Romans 11:17-24. We conclude our services with a time of prayer, followed by an *oneg* (eating and fellowshiping). Even if you are not Jewish or a believer in Yeshua, you will find yourself welcomed and appreciated! For more information, please call:

**Rav Richard (Aharon) and Miriam Chalmberlin**  
**585- 475-1188**

We require a contribution of any size from each of our readers on an annual basis to remain on the mailing list. If you are **poor**, just send a couple of dollars! You are not excluded from our mailing list because of inability to pay. If you wish to begin your subscription, or if you wish to continue your subscription, please fill out this form with your contribution of any size. We are deeply appreciative of all contributions received. Checks or money orders may be made payable to "**Petah Tikvah.**" *Toda raba!* (Thank you very much!)

The suggested cost for each subscription is \$20.00 annually per subscriber worldwide. This covers only the cost of production and mailing. Please try to send contributions in U.S. currency if at all possible. (You can also use your credit card on our website, with any of 21 different currencies.) We send out free subscriptions to inmates, and to those in Third World countries, who cannot pay the cost of subscriptions. Prisoners must send **4 postage stamps** or a money order for \$2.00 for postage for their annual subscriptions (4 issues of *Petah Tikvah*). We depend upon you, our readers, to meet our many needs. Contributions are **tax-deductible**. Please fill out the form below, or simply write to us!

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**Dear Rick & Miriam ~**

Thank you so much for **Petah Tikvah!** I don't know how you do it, but you never fail to amaze and teach us from every issue. I thank Adonai for you both, and pray for you daily.

Lord willing, I will return to the Biblical Tamar Park in Israel this fall after my grandson's wedding, and return to the USA before Thanksgiving.

I am enclosing a donation as well as an order for 40 calendars and a subscription request for a friend.

Esther Klinebriel, **OHIO**

**Editor's Note:** We had a wonderful time traveling with Esther in our 2014 tour to Israel. We recommend that all who are able will make plans to travel to Israel after this Covid-19 is over – hopefully soon! It makes the Bible come alive as you visit places related to Scripture. Tourism is also a huge part of the Israeli economy. Unfortunately, this pandemic has been a major blow to the tourism industry. Traveling to Israel is one additional way of blessing the people of Israel. "I will bless those who bless you (Israel)." B'reisheet (Genesis) 12:3. **RAC**

**Dear Rabbi Rick ~**

Enclosed is my monthly tithe. Thank you for your many prayers. "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person shall receive the Crown of Life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him (Jacob [James] 1:12)."

Keep me in prayer, dealing with racists in the "holy land" of California. Most of the racists here are on the Left – Liberals, Democrats, "Progressives," socialists, etc.

If that were not enough, I'm shocked to learn that the woman I loved does not believe that she will be granted eternal life because she does not *feel* it. And she believes that only 144,000 will get in.

R. Shimon Campos, **California**

**Our Reply:** It is curious how anti-Semitism migrates into various ideologies. Today, most Leftists tend to be hostile to Israel, and many times are anti-Semitic. Colleges and universities are often unsafe places for Jews and Zionists. Israel is falsely accused of all kinds of crimes against humanity, or against the "Palestinians." For real human rights abuses, go to

Gaza where Hamas rules, or to the Palestinian Authority. Most Palestinian Arabs would much prefer to be under Israeli rule, rather than by their own corrupt leadership. I would rather be an Arab living in Israel, than an Arab living in any Arab country. Israel's human rights record is excellent, despite being located in the dangerous neighborhood of the Middle East.

The second part of Shimon's letter dealt with the very important topic of salvation. Our relationship with God is not based on feelings. It is based on the Word of God. I may not always "feel" married, but I am married, regardless of my feelings.

Likewise, I may not always "feel" like a dad, but I am a dad. In each issue of Petah Tikvah, we include a short article called "Good News / Bad News." It tells us about God's remedy for sin, and how we can become born again, and enjoy what Rabbis call the "Olam Haba," that is, the World to Come, after we depart this life.

The woman that Shimon referred to believed that only 144,000 people could be "saved." However, the Lord is "not wishing that any should perish, but for all to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9)." The doctrine of only 144,000 elect who would be "saved" comes from the Jehovah's Witnesses. This in turn is a misappropriation of Rev. 7:4-9. The 144,000 are composed of 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel. Rev. 14:3-4 tells us that they will also be male virgins. Many Christians believe that the 144,000 will be like 144,000 Jewish Billy Grahams, evangelizing the world. Nice thought, but not true. I believe that their mission is to the Jews. Regarding the rest of the world, we read that "they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their immorality, nor of their thefts (Rev. 9:21)." (See also Rev. 16:9-11.)

The Jehovah's Witnesses (also called Watchtower Society) believe that God broke His covenant with the Jewish people, and that the Jehovah's Witnesses are the new Chosen People. They came up with their doctrine of the 144,000 elect, in their imagined world to come. And like many cults, they believe that their leaders are prophets of God, despite errant date setting for the return of Yeshua in 1914 and many other failed prophecies too numerous to mention. **RAC**



The following is a letter that was published in **The Jewish Press**, 4915 16<sup>th</sup> Ave, Brooklyn NY 11204-1115. This is an Orthodox Jewish newspaper, not Messianic. However, it is excellent source for news, and often good spiritual insights. The cost of this hefty weekly newspaper is only \$55 per year.

### Our New State Religion

An article by Elliot Resnick published in **The Jewish Press** argues that we should defend the Torah values that have served as the basis of traditional American values since colonial times. An op-ed in **The Jewish Press** by Stephen Flatow in the same issue laments the disappearance of patriotic assembly programs in public schools.

Missing also are the morning announcements during which uplifting readings from Scripture were broadcast before the start of the school day. The sources were both Jewish and Christian, but the principal didn't endorse any particular religion. Rather, young Americans were introduced to the theological sources of their classmates.

Fast forward to the present: The only values taught are atheistic, "progressive," and anti-religious. As Attorney General William Barr noted in his 2019 Notre Dame address, "Secularists and their allies have marshalled all the forces of mass communication, popular culture, the entertainment industry, and academia in an unremitting assault on religion and traditional values."

Americans are silently and implicitly abandoning a system that seemingly protects freedom, but, upon closer scrutiny, only allows the views of the "progressive" left to be heard. Atheism has become the state religion in America.

"Chillel HaShem" literally means a vacuum of G-d's presence. We cannot allow it. As Mr. Resnick suggests, we must proudly promote Jewish values in society. They were always at the core of American culture, and need to be reintroduced to the next generation of public-school children. **David Ferster**

### Shalom Rick & Miriam ~

I'm enclosing a check for your prison ministry, and wherever else you need it most. May Elohim bless you both spiritually, physically, and financially for being faithful in bringing the truth of Yah's word to all who read **Petah Tikvah**. It is truly a Door of Hope, both to us and to those in prison.

Pat Henderson, FLORIDA

### GOOD NEWS / BAD NEWS

The Bad News is that your condition is terminal. **You are going to die.** You are infected with Sin, a disease that infects and kills every single person who lives on this planet. And after you die, you will stand before your Maker and give an account of what you did or did not do about your sinful condition. If you do nothing, and just let Sin take its course in your life, you will suffer eternal judgment in a place the Bible calls the lake of fire.

The Good News is that God has provided a Remedy for Sin. This Remedy delivers people from the punishment that they deserve for Sin, so they do not need to go into everlasting fire. This Remedy also delivers people from the power of Sin, so they can quit living a sinful life and start living a holy life. Ultimately, God will deliver His people from the very presence of Sin when His Son returns to earth.

God's Remedy is embodied in His Son, whose Hebrew name is Yeshua. Most English speakers know Him as Jesus Christ. He is the only person who was born of a woman without being infected with Sin. Through His sacrifice on the Cross, your sins can be forgiven and the power of your sinful desires can be broken. When you turn away from your sins and trust in Yeshua, God forgives you and accepts you as His child. Then instead of suffering the curse of everlasting fire, you will have eternal life. Source for the above:

[www.gatesofeden.online](http://www.gatesofeden.online)

### Shalom Rav Aharon & Sister Miriam ~

I noticed that you have the **Messianic Commentary on the Book of Matthew** advertised in PT, which I am ordering. I believe it will be a perfect fit for my study of the Hebrew Roots of my faith. I admire both you and Daniel Botkin for your deep understanding of the Scriptures and ability to teach them in a "down to earth" manner. Toda raba!

Ron Edgmon, COLORADO

### Shalom all ~

Please accept my donation with the knowledge that I/we are blessed that we can be a small part of the ministry of **Petah Tikvah**. Let us remember our brothers and sisters who are incarcerated in this country, and also those in other countries whose persecution for the sake of the Gospel is beyond our imaginations. Thank you for your efforts on their behalf. John Montgomery, MARYLAND

# JEWISH BASICS

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**JEWISH BASICS** is the perfect tool for anyone wishing to learn the traditional Jewish liturgy and to practice Hebrew. The lyrics and the familiar from both the Sephardic & Ashkenazic traditions study, meditation, and liturgical worship.

We have various liturgical CDs in our possession. However, none are as well done as this CD. There is both a male and a female cantor on this disk, both of whom are superb. It is a pleasure to listen to them. The music is genuinely worshipful. In addition, there is piano accompaniment to add to your listening pleasure. This CD is professional, high-quality material.

We highly recommend this CD for those wishing to learn Jewish liturgy. This CD is useful both to cantors and to congregants. Many also use these CDs for worship in their homes. The CD and the accompanying booklet contain most of the liturgy commonly used for Shabbat (Sabbath) worship, including the blessings and songs used in the Torah service. We make it available to inmates at an extremely reasonable cost - the cost of shipping and handling.

The booklet contains the Shabbat liturgy in Hebrew, transliterated Hebrew using the Roman alphabet, and also the English translations for all the pieces. This booklet serves very well for personal or congregational use as a Shabbat **siddur** (Jewish prayer book). As you listen and read along (or **sing** along!), you will greatly increase your ability to correctly pronounce Hebrew. We are also including a Hebrew alphabet chart for those who are unfamiliar with written Hebrew. The cantorial songs are all in Hebrew, using the Sephardic pronunciation, much as Hebrew is spoken in Israel today.

- The cost for both the music CD and the Lyric Booklet is now \$10, US currency.
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**Dear Richard & Miriam ~**

I come from a Christian background, raised in a Catholic household. I attended several Protestant churches, but I always felt that something was missing. It wasn't until I started studying with the Messianic brothers at Otisville that I began to find the missing puzzle pieces.

I am very grateful to you and your organization for playing a vital role in helping to strengthen my faith and increase my knowledge. We maintained an extensive library of your teaching materials at Otisville, and we eagerly devoured each issue of **Petah Tikvah** as soon as it arrived. Tom Donahue, Danbury CT

**"I am Adonai... I will appoint you...  
to open blind eyes, to bring prisoners  
from the dungeon, and them that  
sit in darkness from prison."  
Yeshiyahu (Isaiah) 42:6-7**

**Shalom Mr. Chaimberlin ~**

I am Messianic and was recently introduced by a friend of mine to your ministry. I was absolutely blown away by the inspiring study material that your ministry produces. Through **Petah Tikvah**, I believe that YHWH has led me into a new level of interpreting the Scriptures.

Our unit is still on Covid-19 lockdown, and there is no end in sight. However, we must remain faithful and not fear, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of self-control." (2 Tim. 1:7.)

I have enclosed a donation to be placed on your mail list and to receive a Jewish calendar and a copy of your commentary on Hebrews.

Frank Ortegon, Lovelady TX

**Dear Ministry ~**

We continue to pray for Israel and for your ministry and all of the wonderful work you continue to do for its people. Thank you for spreading the truth.

I am being released soon. Therefore, please remove me from the mail list. I would hate for you to lose money on the magazine and postage. You have made my time in incarceration so much easier. Roman Malyk, Wasilla AK

**Shalom Rav ~**

Enclosed is a donation from Beit Yeshua (prison fellowship). I have enjoyed **Petah Tikvah** immensely these past 14 years. Toda raba for making it accessible to all of us in our "Gated Communities." Stephen Covell, Arcadia FL

**Rabbi Rick ~**

Jerry Healan from Yahweh's Evangelical Assembly is distributing very anti-Jewish publications to promote his conspiracy theory against us Jews. It is literally Aryan Nazi ideology. Oy! It is causing Messianic Judaism to die on the McConnell Unit and other prisons across Texas.

Frank Byrd, Beeville TX

**Rabbi ~**

Thank you so much for the studies on Revelation, Matthew, and Acts. I am now renewing my subscription. I loan my issues to others who are beginning to see the light, as well as errors in Christianity. James Lynn, Helena GA

**Petah Tikvah ~**

I am innocent of the charges against me. Elohim knows the truth concerning me. I understand that not many are thoroughly innocent to HaShem.

My family left Mexico and arrived in Texas when I was 4 years old, in 1982. My father left Mexico because he refused to accept Catholicism. My mother and father were both raised keeping the Sabbath and the Biblical dietary laws. They had me circumcised. These "traditions" were of no value to the rest of the family, so Mom and Dad came to the U.S. Dad had a hard time holding a job, because he refused to work on Saturdays, and life was difficult in a land with a different language. We would disappear from the neighborhood all day on Shabbat. I was too young to understand. But my mother and father would have it no other way.

One day, a man from work invited my us to "church." Initially, my dad refused, and the man told him that if he changed his mind, he would stop by to pick us up on Saturday. It turned out to be a church that keeps the Ten Commandments, including Shabbat, which provided us with a place to worship.

A DNA test revealed that we were Sefardim (Sephardic Jews). This was not as strange for my father as it was for me. I wasn't who I thought I was. So here I am, shooting an arrow into the dark, in hopes that you can give me some direction. Can this Sefardi find room at your table? Arturo Petriciolet, Rosharon TX

**Editor's Note:** Many Hispanic people are now rediscovering their Jewish heritage. As a result of the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions, many Jews hid their Jewish identity, but maintained various Jewish traditions, which were often passed on through the centuries. However, their descendants often didn't know why they observed these traditions. Many have since converted to Orthodox Judaism, while many others have become Messianic Jews. **RAC**

**Dear Richard & Miriam ~**

The harsh reality for many is that following Yeshua was not meant to be easy. Daniel Botkin's cartoon on p. 8 of the July-Sept issue of PT is sadly humorous: "What if Jesus had Wanted a Mega-Church?" As Luke 21:12 tells us, "They will lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My names sake." Following Yeshua isn't supposed to be all rainbows and lollipops, peace and prosperity. Tom Donahue, Danbury CT

**Dear Rav Rick ~**

I am sending a yartzeit gift in the name of Kathy Geylor. Sunrise: 1948. Sunset: 7/20/2004.

The pandemic is a blessing in disguise. I have more time to study in the dorm. I have finished my first class with Kh'rev Torah Yeshiva, and have restarted studying Biblical Hebrew.

I had a frustrating 'conversation' with a Dispensationalist Christian that really wasn't a conversation. He simply regurgitated what he had been taught. I tried to share what the new covenant was by reading Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 31: 31-33. He immediately shifted gears to talk

about Muhammed, Buddha, etc., not being God.

The latest PT is great (as always)! People might dislike Trump, but our President has been a true friend of Israel. James Doyle, Miami FL

**Dear Rav Rick ~**

I have been a death-row prisoner subscriber to **Petah Tikvah** since 2006. Your magazine has been the #1 source for studies, materials, and in my faith and walk of life. I do not agree with every article in PT. However, I have found a wealth of information based on fact and faith. I am enclosing a donation.

William Kopsho, Raiford FL

**Special note to our inmate friends:**

We regret that we no longer have the time to give personal replies to most of the mail we receive. We still care, and we care very much. Our friends behind bars are very special to us. We also very much appreciate your letters and great insights into the Scriptures. However, we discovered that there are only 24 hours in a day, and only 7 days in a week, thereby limiting our time to answer questions about Scripture or to give personal replies to most of the mail we receive.

**Messianic Jewish Commentary on the Book of Matthew**

We now have a new commentary available to you. It is a very comprehensive 160 page commentary on the Book of Mattityahu (Matthew). It is in the same format you see in **Petah Tikvah** Magazine, so it is very densely packed with information. Unlike most Matthew commentaries, it is not written from a Christian perspective. Instead, this book restores the original Hebraic and Jewish context as this book would have been understood by Matthew's Jewish readers in the First Century C.E.

Scattered within its pages are some Reverend Twistruth cartoons by Daniel Botkin, as well as other good Biblical artwork. It is beautifully printed and bound. The beautiful cover art (front and back) has been done for us by Bryan Picken. He has also done the cover art for **Petah Tikvah** Magazine for the past decade from his prison cell in Michigan. He is being released from prison in 2019. Please keep him in prayer! The cost of this commentary is \$12, no extra cost for shipping and handling. (The cost for inmates is 10 forever postage stamps, or \$5 M.O.) This will be a very worthwhile addition to your biblical library, and will provide you with many hours of enjoyable study into the Scriptures. Request this book when you write your check, made out to:

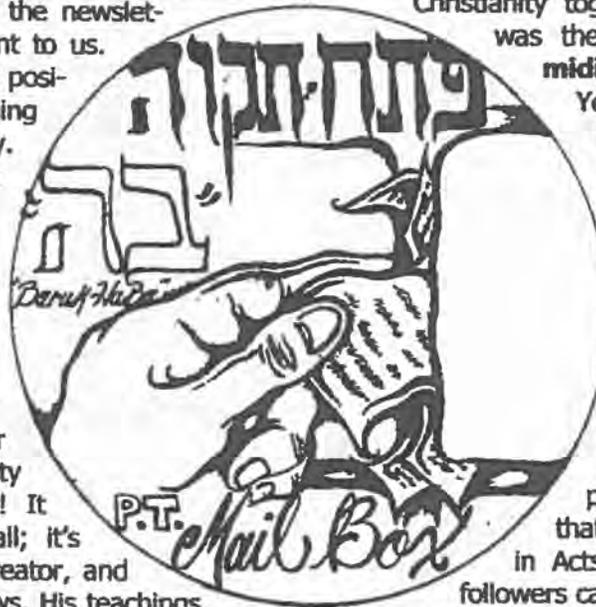
**Petah Tikvah**, 165 Doncaster Rd, Rochester NY 14623-1348.

### Dear Petah Tikvah ~

Thank you so much for your prison ministry. I enjoy seeing my brother's face light up when he receives the calendar or the newsletter. Mail is very important to us. You guys need to see the positivity that you are bringing into the lives of so many. In prison, the smallest acts of love and edification are important.

We face a lot of persecution by others in prison. It is difficult trying to be *kadosh* – set apart – and striving to live a righteous life for the glory of our Almighty Creator, blessed be He! It isn't what we did to fall; it's truly about loving our Creator, and choosing to utilize His laws, His teachings, His ways, and grabbing His hand, that is always outstretched for repentant souls for them to get back up and finish the race, with all glory to our Creator and His Son, Yeshua HaMashiach!

Justin Heiss, Lowell FL



We also want to correct an error in his concept of Messianic Judaism. Messianic Judaism is not a syncretic religion, merging Judaism and Christianity together. Messianic Judaism was the faith of the early *talmidim* (disciples) of Yeshua.

Yeshua did not come to Planet Earth to start a new religion called Christianity; He came to Earth to be the Messiah of the old religion: Judaism.

All of the early followers of Yeshua were either Jews or proselytes (converts) to Judaism, as it was in the Upper Room of the Temple on that Pentecost (Shavuot) day in Acts 2:10. None of Yeshua's followers called themselves Christians.

The first people to be called Christians were the Gentiles who came to faith in Yeshua in the city of Antioch (Acts 11:20-21, 26). There is nothing wrong with the term Christian. It is based on the Greek term meaning "anointed one." Likewise, the Hebrew term *mashiach* also means "anointed one." Eventually, this term was anglicized to *Messiah*, which is the origin of the word "Messianic."

The original Gentile Christians observed and celebrated the same Biblical holidays of Leviticus 23, as well as Shabbat on the seventh day of the week. However, as time went by, Christians sought to place a wider divide between themselves and the Jewish believers. In part, it was because of the *Fiscus Judaicus*, the special additional tax that the Roman Empire required every Jewish household to pay. By altering Christianity to be a completely separate religion with different holidays and customs, Christians were enabled to avoid this special Jewish tax.

However, in the process, Christianity became a syncretic religion, with a blend of the Bible along with additions from pagan religions, along with pagan holidays that were "Christianized" to be more acceptable to the masses. This also made Christianity more appealing to the pagans. For example, the celebration of Easter comes from the Babylonian goddess Ishtar, who came down from heaven in a giant egg. The egg hatched, and out popped Ishtar, who was a fertility goddess. Now you may better understand the origin of Easter eggs and the Easter rabbit. (You all know how fertile rabbits are.) In addition, under Constantine, Sunday became the mandatory day of rest for Christians, which was also the day for honoring the Sun god. Emperor Constantine continued to worship the Sun god even after his conversion to Christianity. **RAC**

### To Whom It May Concern ~

I was born and raised in Israel by a Jewish mother and an American father. My home is in Netanya. I came to the States after my time in the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) to raise my children in peace after losing my wife and daughter to a terrorist bombing in Israel.

I got into a lot of trouble shortly after I got here, and have been in prison since 2001. I have not been religious since losing my wife and daughter. I've had nothing but hate for Him.

My father was a Christian, who converted to Judaism in order to marry my Jewish mother. My mother's family is Orthodox. My dad taught me about Christ against my mother's wishes. I am trying to lose the hate and anger I have. I would like to learn more about your faith. It seems to join Judaism and Christianity together. I would like to find a way to honor both my father and my mother. I want to learn more. I have no family in the States or to pay you for any help you can give. I can only offer my thanks to you. I have to be very private, due to the fact that I am a member of the Orthodox Jewish program here. I cannot express any belief in Yeshua openly, or the rabbi would kick me out. Please do not publish my name.

Anonymous, Someplace In Texas

**OUR REPLY:** We offer our humblest condolences to our Israeli friend in a Texas prison for the loss of his wife and daughter in a terrorist bomb attack.

## Trump's QAnon Embrace Draws GOP Backlash, by Ben Kessler

President Donald Trump's embrace of QAnon is drawing backlash from some prominent Republicans... QAnon believes Trump is saving the world from a satanic cult of pedophiles and cannibals. Republican leaders say that such conspiracy theories have "no place" in the party.

Trump declined on August 19<sup>th</sup> to disavow the QAnon movement, saying that the followers of the extreme conspiracy theory are "people who love our country." QAnon... has emerged in recent months as a sort of centralized hub for utterly false conspiracy and alternative health communities, researchers and experts say.

The group, linked to several violent, criminal incidents, including a train hijacking, kidnappings, a police chase and a murder, sees Trump as their hero in a secret war against pedophiles. When asked about this part of the theory specifically by an NBC News reporter, Trump said, "Is that supposed to be a bad thing?"

Jeb Bush, the former Florida governor and primary opponent of the president in 2016, tweeted his displeasure with Trump's remarks on the group... "Why in the world would the President not kick Q'anon supporters' butts? Nut jobs, racists, and haters have no place in either Party," he wrote.

**Editor's Note:** Since 2016, President Trump was railing against what he called "fake news." Apparently, he loves fake news and strange conspiracy theories if the targets happen to be the Democrats or political opponents. In Judaism, spreading such false and malicious stories is called *lashon hara*, the "evil tongue." We should be truthful, even when talking about people with whom we have serious disagreements.

This is all very unfortunate. We have been strong supporters of Trump for his policies regarding Israel and protecting the First Amendment rights for people of faith. During the Obama years, there was a knife in Israel's back, while freedom of religion was under assault. Trump took out the knife and got the USA out of that disastrous nuclear deal with Iran, which gave Iran a path to the nuclear bomb by 2025.

Trump has remade the Republican Party. Prior to President Trump, the Republican Party believed in free trade. Today, Trump has launched numerous trade and tariff wars. The Republican Party also stood for fiscal responsibility. Under Trump, there were trillion-dollar deficits from his first year in office, and a multi-trillion-dollar deficit in 2020. No surprise: The President has called himself "the King of Debt" for many years. Republicans also used to believe in traditional family values. In 2016, Trump was bragging about all of the "so-called happily married women" that he had affairs with. **RAC**

## ISRAEL: Making New Friends in the Arab World

While many congratulate President Donald Trump for the breakthrough Israel-UAE peace deal, the real credit should go to his predecessor, Barak Obama, according to Yaakov Katz in *The Jerusalem Post*. It was Obama's "failed policy in the Middle East," particularly the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, "that helped push Israel and the moderate Gulf states together." Sunni Muslim Arabs in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain were aghast when Obama signed the pact that strengthened Iran's growing power. Desperate for an ally against Shiite Iran, they turned to Israel. President Obama, of course, never intended to help Israel. Quite the opposite. Israel was appalled by the Iran deal. However, the result was perhaps good for Israel in the long run.

Source: *The Week*, Aug 28, 2020



Art by Jerry Balboa, Missouri

### Shalom Rav Richard & Miriam ~

I received my copy of **Not Under the Law: Paul and the Truth**, advertised by Jodi Smith in **PT**. It really helped me. It makes so much sense, and I recommend it for anyone who has a hard time understanding how the Tanakh (OT) and B'rit Chadasha (NT) fit together. We must be willing to believe Yeshua when He said, "Heaven and earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law, until all be fulfilled." Yeshua wants our obedience to the Law to flow out of our love for Him, not out of legalistic obligation. The works of the Law also do not save us. We are saved by the sacrifice made by our High Priest, Yeshua the Messiah.<sup>1</sup>

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, I made the conscious decision to convert to Messianic Judaism. I declared my new religious affiliation to the chaplain, and it is now on my official records. Ever since I made this decision, I have felt a closeness with my God that is unlike I ever had before.

James Sawyer, Spruce Pine NC

### Dear Rav Chamberlin ~

I am enclosing a donation to receive one of your fine new Jewish calendars. Another fiend brother and teacher passed away on July 10<sup>th</sup> – brother **Brad Scott**. He has passed on to glory, but is missed by many. Brad's brother and wife have assured us that his Wild Branch Ministry will continue on. I learned a lot from Brad Scott.<sup>2</sup>

We are all waiting for this Covid-19 pandemic to be over. Meanwhile, I stay in my studies and in daily prayer, and waiting to get another Torah roots prison assembly up and running. The chaplain told me that he would be more than willing to work with me on this.

Vernon Smith, Chino CA

<sup>1</sup> This book (**Not Under the Law: Paul and the Truth**) is highly recommended to our readers. Write a check to **Jodi Smith at 30504 CSAH 25, Grove City MN 56243**. The writers of this book were Kent and Jodi Smith. Regretfully, Kent Smith passed away in 2019. His wife Jodi is continuing the ministry. The cost is \$8 plus \$4 for postage. However, mention **Petah Tikvah**, and you get two books for the price of one. Prison inmates may request a free copy. This is a book that you will want to share with friends. **RAC**

<sup>2</sup> Another dear brother in the Lord has passed away. **Brad Scott** was extremely knowledgeable, and a ball of energy with a great sense of humor. He was also actively involved in prison ministry, even speaking in prisons. Regretfully, he eventually acquired a very aggressive brain tumor, and died in July. His wife, **Carol Scott**, is continuing the ministry. Write to **Wild Branch Ministries, PO Box 97, Vernal UT 84078** for a list of available books.

### Dear Rav Chamberlin ~

Please continue my subscription to your enlightening and informative magazines. I enjoy and learn much from them, and pass them on to others in hope that they will also learn something. Please note the change of address.

I don't know how much time I have on this Earth. The oncologist says I have some form of lymphoma. I was supposed to go to the hospital in March, but then Covid-19 came, so I have been waiting indefinitely, and it is now August. I have lost 40 pounds.

Another bad situation began in May 2019. After several months of harassment from white supremacists – Aryan Brotherhood – and the Bound for Glory gang. They put feces in my bed twice and urine in my boots, amongst other things. In May 2020, I calmly asked an officer about getting clean bedding because someone put feces in my bed. They brought me a change of bedding. The sergeant checked the security dorm footage and saw who did it and promptly locked up the culprit.

I have lost what hope and faith I had. I have implored HaShem to give me some hope. Even here, I have been housed in a three-gang dorm with a lockdown for 22 hours each day. However, some of the gangbangers have shown me a modicum of respect, and have even given me coffee and soups from time to time. I am the oldest man in the dorm. I am writing to let you know what is happening, so you can assist me in prayer. Maybe YHWH will answer your prayers.

Michael Parsons, Windsor NC

### Dear Rav Richard & Miriam ~

I converted to Judaism two years ago. I sought help from the MCI staff. The former Religious Director (Dr. Kola) sums up the help I got: "The Jews killed Jesus." Tony Leach, Marion OH

**Editor's Note:** We have become acquainted with all kinds of prison chaplains and religious directors over the years. Some are extremely helpful, and do all they can to meet the legitimate spiritual needs of the inmates under their care. And some have been horrid.

### Petah Tikvah ~

I am renewing my subscription to your most excellent magazine. I keep all issues and eagerly await each one. For too long, I believed solely in the New Testament, not reckoning the fact that without the **majority** of Scripture, I was rejecting the foundation for the New Testament. I struggled in my search for truth, and then discovered Messianic Judaism. I then surrendered the false concepts that I learned in the church, well-meaning though they were.

Michael Babbick, Iowa Park TX

### To Whom It May Concern ~

I would like to order an Artscroll siddur. Would you be able to supply an address? Whether or not you are able to help me, I want you to know that I still appreciate your organization, as well as the informative articles.

Kenneth Wade, Snyder TX

**OUR REPLY:** The Artscroll siddur is very good. However, I would especially like to recommend the Artscroll Interlinear Chumash. It includes the Hebrew, with the English translation above each word, as well as Rabbinic commentary at the bottom of each page. It is beautifully produced. This Chumash includes the Torah (Five Books of Moses) as well as the Haftara portion that goes with each Torah portion, again with Rabbinic commentary. We do not always agree with the commentaries. However, the commentaries are often useful. I feel a bit guilty recommending it, as the cost would certainly be out of reach for most inmates. (We also recommend this Chumash to our many readers in the free world.) Perhaps the publisher might be willing to offer a discount to prisoners. I am enclosing the contact information that was requested:

1-800-637-6724 or 1-718-921-9000

Mesorah Publications, [www.artscroll.com](http://www.artscroll.com)

4401 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Brooklyn NY 11232

Another surprisingly good source for Jewish Bibles and other Judaica at great prices is:

ChristianBook.com, PO Box 7000

Peabody MA 01961. Call 1-800-247-4784

(Ask them for a free catalog.)



### Petah Tikvah ~

Your resources have been a major part of my walk. I've been blessed by the Most High to find the Way. It took me coming to prison to find the truth. Yah has and continues to bless us. I am thankful that He brought me here. All is good for His purposes. Enclosed is postage for the new Jewish calendar. The Shabbat readings that you include are helpful. I look forward to the set-apart time each week. Bless your ministry.

Jason Schuller, Coalinga CA

### Rav Chaimberlin ~

Rabbi Michael Silver has excellent materials available to inmates. (Rabbi Michael Silver, Etz Chaim, PO Box 467, Organ NM 88052.)

I have learned so much from you this past year. I can't thank you enough.

Chris Arnold, Huntsville TX

### Shalom Rav Richard & Ms. Miriam ~

I've enclosed stamps as a donation. Rav Michael Everage (PO Box 122, Brandon VT 05733) sent me his beautiful siddur (cost: \$25, or 8 stamps for inmates). It has been both educational and uplifting. I have been in solitary 24/7 since Jan 2, 2020. His siddur helps me feel that I am connected to the larger body again, beating back the loneliness, a huge blessing!

I was also blessed with "Zola's Introduction to Hebrew," available from ZLM, Box 12268, Dallas TX 75225, another huge blessing. And your publication is also a great resource. Thank you.

Charles Manganaro, Raiford FL

### Shalom Rav Richard & Lady Miriam ~

I will stop complaining on conditions here. I received "Prison Legal News" telling me how it is for prisoners in other parts of Texas and the USA. We are better off than they are.

We are in need of a good chaplain. It would be nice to have someone who is ex-military, preferably and ex-MP, someone from the North with an understanding wife. BTW, do you have PT in Spanish? Ya'akov Cates, Palestine TX

**Editor's Comment:** Ya'akov is seeking a good chaplain for his location in Texas. He was "hinting" at having me move to Texas for the position. (I was a Military Policeman in the US Army many years ago!) And yes, we have a one-time special edition of *Petah Tikvah en espanol*, available to inmates for 3 stamps.

### Shalom ~

Last year a Messianic believer spoke with me about your assembly. I am a Jew who lived my life as a secular individual, and never considered myself as religious. My father is a Gentile, and my mother is Jewish. As I began to address the issue of God and myself, I found myself deeply searching for Truth. I was exposed to Messianic Judaism a few years ago, and found that it made sense. As a physician, I have always looked for facts, truth, and sense in every endeavor. I believe I was in a spiritual *Galut*,<sup>1</sup> as well as a physical one for my entire life. I *daven* (pray) and study Torah daily and observe the Holy Days. Yeshua and his Jewishness finally makes sense. We appreciate you. Jerry Lee, Nicholls GA

<sup>1</sup> "Exile," or Diaspora. Lands outside of Israel.

**Dear Rav Rick & Miriam ~**

I will always be grateful for the friendships I have had in prison, especially with Bryan Picken, the artist who does the cover art for **Petah Tikvah**. He was a great teacher, especially in finding Messiah in the Scriptures. I still use his teachings to share with others.

Life has been different for me since Bryan paroled out. It has been lonely without his ear to bend or his brain to pick. Since the Covid-19 outbreak, we cannot have normal services. I do hold a small service in my area, and I hope others also do so in their areas. Our members are in several different units, unable to meet together.

Norman Munn, St. Louis MI

**Dear Rav Chamberlin ~**

You do a wonderful service to those of us who are bound up in prison, thanks to your efforts and all those who contribute their help and contributions to the prison ministry. I truly look forward to each issue. I also read the book by Kent and Jodi Smith (**Not Under the Law: Paul and the Truth**) advertised in P.T., and found it to be very accurate and well written.

Allan April, Rosharon TX

**Shalom Rav Rick & Miriam ~**

I look forward to receiving P.T. every three months. Since I converted to Messianic Judaism, I have learned more about the Bible than I ever did as a Catholic or a Protestant.

I have a question: A fellow brother says it violates the commandment against graven images by having any kind of images or pictures in your possession. Is that true?

Ed Peck, Lumberton NC

**OUR REPLY:** It most definitely is **not** a sin to have pictures in your possession. In many cases, God actually commanded images to be made, such as the cherubim kneeling above the Ark of the Covenant, as well as the various images on the Mishkan (Tabernacle) and the Beit HaMikdash (Temple), and on the curtains around the Mishkan. The problem is having images that are worshipped or prayed to. **RAC**

**Shalom ~**

I am a Jewish inmate who has been receiving **Petach Tikvah** and your calendars for several years. I continue to be inspired by the articles, and the calendar keeps me informed of the proper days for Jewish worship and observance

of the Torah-Haftarah portions. I would be lost without it. I am enclosing donations for both. Please note my change of address.

Eldon Tinsley, Cameron MO

**To Petah Tikvah ~**

Thank you for the years you have provided help and support to those in bondage, including me. Your magazine is the best study material and source for world news that I have received all these years. Your ministry in many ways has been the vehicle that God used to change my life.

Please cancel my subscription. I am finally getting out in September. Halleluyah! I might be homeless with Covid wreaking havoc on the public health and the job market. I request prayers. The government has taken 17½ years of my life, but YHWH has given me eternity! Christopher Mills, Big Springs TX

**Shalom Rav Chamberlin**

As always, I've enjoyed the wonderful articles and letters in each issue of P.T. We are

hoping to have Shabbat services resumed, which were halted because of Covid. We were having 25 men in attendance, and have 35 inmates registered as Messianic Jewish.

We are blessed to have the siddur from United Messianic Jewish Ministries (UMJM), PO Box 122, Brandon VT 05733. I am a student in the UMJM Yeshiva. I have learned a great deal. It has made me a better teacher and a better man! My faith in Yeshua has also increased.

Steven Purvis, Raiford FL

**Hello Petah Tikvah ~**

I really enjoyed reading Daniel Botkin's article in PT on "OCD and Autistic Traits in the God-head." It made me look at my little brother's autism very differently. I also enjoyed the Principles of Faith that you published. It is good to know where someone stands on their beliefs, especially when you hold them in high esteem. Sabbath Keeper's Fellowship, PO Box 972, Malakoff TX 75148, sent me a page of various resources offered to inmates, even to those who are unable to afford them.

Chas Grant, Chino CA

WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM

**Israeli Arab Singer Mira Awad Slams Rogers Waters for Supporting BDS**  
by Shiryn Ghermezian, [www.algemeiner.com](http://www.algemeiner.com)



Israeli Arab singer and actress Mira Awad recently criticized former Pink Floyd front man Roger Waters for his support of the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

During a podcast interview with the non-profit group Creative Community for Peace, Awad urged Waters — an avid BDS activist — to have the “courage” and “the ba—s” to visit Israel, perform in the country and share his thoughts while in Israel rather than oppose dialogue between Palestinians and Israelis.

“I would love to have a conversation with Roger Waters about what he’s done...if he would only speak to me. Roger Waters, call me!” Awad said, before passionately adding, “Don’t sit there in London or wherever it is. I love you Roger Waters... But don’t sit your a— there and tell me what to do with my Palestinianism and my Israeli-ism, OK? Don’t tell me how to act...in this complex situation. You do not teach me what to do and how to act. I am trying to build bridges in order to build a future and you just want to talk from there. Big talk. It doesn’t help me.”

Awad starred in the Israeli Opera production of “My Fair Lady” in 2002. She represented Israel at the Eurovision Contest in 2009 together with Israeli Jewish singer Noa, and that same year both musicians received the Haviva Reik Peace Award for their efforts to promote peace and Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. Awad also sits on the board of the Abraham Fund Initiatives, a major Arab-Jewish NGO in Israel promoting shared society and equality.

Awad further said about the BDS movement,

“The boycott movement — you’re cutting the conversation. I’m trying to work a conversation and you’re cutting the conversation. You’re deciding for me that I shouldn’t have a conversation? That’s rude... Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. I just don’t like when that opinion means that the other opinion cannot exist.”

**Editor’s Note:** Roger Waters isn’t simply anti-Israel... He’s an anti-Semite. He is opposed to the very existence of Israel.

**We Will Abolish the Police at Our Peril, Gazette (Colorado Springs, Colo.)**

Before we “defund” or “abolish” the police, let’s consider George Floyd. After bad cop Derek Chauvin slowly choked Floyd to death, other cops hauled Chauvin to jail the moment charges were filed. They would later arrest three other cops who stood by and allowed the murder.

When peaceful demonstrators gather in the streets to protest the killing, police officers uphold their First Amendment rights to do so. After the Supreme Court forbade school segregation, police officers enforced the ruling. When the 15th Amendment ensured black people the right to vote, police enforced the ruling.

When three men plotted last year to bomb Somali immigrants in Garden City, Kan., law enforcers arrested them and prevented the violence. When a Colorado man plotted to blow up Pueblo’s Temple Emmanuel Synagogue, federal and local law enforcement found out and prevented the crime.

We can talk rapes, murders, domestic abuse and armed robberies. A comprehensive list of police officers preventing crimes and hauling criminals to justice would fill library shelves.

Our way of life depends on law enforcement upholding everything from civil rights laws to property rights to our right to criticize politicians. Even our right to worship depends on the professional men and women of law enforcement enforcing the law.

Given our dependence on law enforcement, the new “defund the police” and “abolish the police” movements — reactions to Floyd’s apparent murder — might be the worst ideas to emerge in anyone’s lifetime. This is not an agenda limited to activists on the fringe. U.S. Rep. Rashida Talib, D-Mich., openly advocates defunding police in tweets.

New York State Sen. Julia Salazar, a “Democratic socialist,” told The Guardian it is “really very encouraging” how many politicians, even those “who aren’t even necessarily on the left,” support significant defunding of law enforcement.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti wants to slash the city’s police budget. Newsweek reports on a growing list of celebrities pledging their support for defunding police...

## Old MacDonald's Farm vs. "Modern" Factory Farms

When I was a kid in the 1950s, I loved singing about "Old MacDonald's Farm." At that time, there were still millions of family farms in this country. However, as time has marched on, large and often multi-national factory farms have marched in. This has destroyed the lives and livelihoods of millions of small farmers across the country. These large factory farms are also highly destructive to the environment, having huge impacts on the soil, the water, and the very air we breathe. The same thing is happening around the world.

On the small family farms, the farm animals lived in much more natural environments. It was said that every day of a chicken's life was happy, as they merrily pecked away in the barnyard for various delicacies. Every day was happy except the last day. Today, each day for the chickens on the factory farm is torture. The last day - the day of slaughter - is perhaps a welcome reprieve for a very short (slightly over a month) and miserable life. Laying chickens are crammed into battery cages on sloping wire that cuts into their sensitive feet, packed so tightly that they cannot even stretch out their wings. The average amount of space allotted to each hen is less than one square foot.

In the past, pigs and cows got to roam around the farm, and were not crammed into the unnatural and torturous factory farms with thousands of other animals. Often they are caged in to where they cannot even walk or turn around.

I am not a vegetarian. It isn't a sin to eat meat. However, today nearly all of the super-market meat, eggs, and milk comes from factory farms. In order to keep diseases from running rampant through such crowded conditions, these animals have to be fed huge amounts of antibiotics. We are rapidly creating diseases that are anti-biotic resistant. Many of these diseases, such as the corona viruses, are being transmitted to people. They are also often fed growth hormones to make them grow faster, so they can be slaughtered at earlier ages. People, including children are eating these animals, and also getting second-hand growth hormones. This may cause children to mature into adolescence at earlier ages, before they have the mental and psychological maturity to handle sexual maturity.

I don't have a problem with farm aid from the government. However, it was initially intended to help small farmers during years of draught, flooding, or crop killing frosts. Today, it is mostly going to factory farms. This must cease. Many of the family farms that still remain have been forced to make deals with the devil in which they are forced to sell all of their produce to the big factory farms.

## ZOA is Alarmed by Joe Biden

[www.zoa.org](http://www.zoa.org)

The Zionist Organization of America is alarmed at the policies Biden announced at the "Million Muslim Votes Summit" and in a written statement to the Summit's organizer, Emgage. ZOA demands that Biden retract these. Biden's alarming announced policies include:

- ◆ "Championing" Palestinian-Arab "rights" to a (terror) state.
- ◆ Ending travel restrictions that keep Americans safe from unvettable people from terrorist-promoting countries "on day one."
- ◆ Encouraging teaching the Islamic faith in public schools! (Imagine the uproar from the political Left if Christianity or Judaism were to be taught in the public schools! **RAC**)
- ◆ Rejoining the anti-Semitic, Israel-bashing UN Human Rights Council.
- ◆ Condemning moderate Arab leaders of Egypt and Saudi Arabia.
- ◆ Reinstating the catastrophic Iran deal.
- ◆ "Opposing settlement expansionism" (euphemisms for condemning Jews who add a nursery room onto their home in Jerusalem suburbs; there has been no "settlement expansion" for many years).
- ◆ "Reopen[ing] the U.S. consulate (which caters solely to Arabs) in East Jerusalem" (the consulate is actually in West Jerusalem; re-opening it is a discriminatory, diplomatic insult to Israel).
- ◆ "Find[ing] a way to re-open the PLO's diplomatic mission in Washington" (despite the fact that the PLO mission violates U.S. law); and
- ◆ Resuming sending hundreds of millions of U.S. tax dollars to the Palestinians (which would enable the Palestinian Authority's \$400 million per year of "pay to slay" payments to Arabs to murder Jews and Americans).

**Editor:** The PA's Mahmoud Abbas promises to continue his financial rewards going to convicted terrorists and their families, using money contributed to the PA by foreign countries. **RAC**

### Special Note to our Readers:

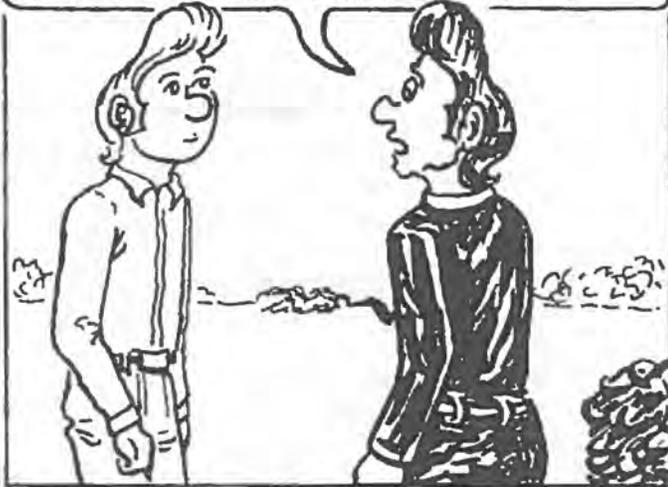
We try very hard to ensure that all news items included in each issue of **Petah Tikvah** are factual. There is today an abundance of far left websites and far right websites which seemingly have very little regard for truth. Their "news" items wander into the realm of **lashon hara**, roughly translated as the "evil tongue." We urge our readers to ensure that their news sources are factual. In these highly polarized times, many people are gravitating to websites and slanderous news sources that tell them what they want to believe, rather than what is factual. This is to be avoided.

Daniel Botkin Presents

# REVEREND TWISTRUTH & HIS DISCIPLES

## "Beware of False Profits"

CHESTER, SOMEONE TOLD ME THEY SAW YOU TAKE SOME CASH OUT OF THE COLLECTION PLATE DURING THE OFFERING! DID YOU DO THAT?

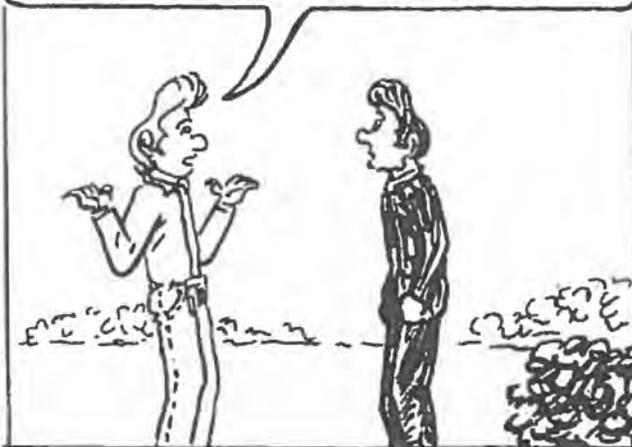


YEAH...

YOU DID? WHY?



WELL, LAST YEAR I MADE ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS PROFIT FROM A SMALL BUSINESS I OPERATE, AND YOU TOLD ME I NEEDED TO TITHE TEN DOLLARS ON THOSE PROFITS!



YES, THAT'S RIGHT! SO?

SO WHEN I DID MY TAXES THIS YEAR, I LEARNED THAT MY BUSINESS DIDN'T MAKE A PROFIT THIS TIME! I LOST FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS!



I FIGURED THE LORD OWED ME A TITHE OF THAT LOSS, SO I TOOK FIFTY-TWO BUCKS FROM THE COLLECTION PLATE!



Daniel has a bimonthly publication, **Gates of Eden**. For a sample issue, send \$3 to PO Box 2257, E Peoria IL 61611-0257.

European women are to blame for being raped by Muslim men. Such is the latest position—the latest apologia—being offered by those dedicated to exonerating undesirable Muslim behavior, particularly in the context of welcoming more Muslim migrants into the West.

On Oct. 14, 2018, seven Muslim migrants raped a teenage German girl in a park, after drugging her at a disco in Freiburg. (She at least survived; in a similar case that occurred a week earlier in Italy, the drugged rape victim was left murdered.) Bernhard Rotzinger, the police chief of Freiburg, responded by saying, "We cannot offer citizens an all-risk insurance [against crime], but I can advise this: Don't make yourself vulnerable by using alcohol or drugs."

Similarly, after mobs of Muslim migrants sexually assaulted as many as one-thousand women on New Year's Eve 2016 in Cologne, Germany, its mayor, Henriette Reker, called on the women, the victims—not their male rapists—to make changes: "The women and young girls have to be more protected in the future so these things don't happen again. This means they should go out and have fun, but they need to be better prepared, especially with the Cologne carnival coming up. For this, we will publish online guidelines that these young women can read through to prepare themselves."

Such advice against alcohol, drugs, and reckless behavior would be more welcome had it not been made under duress. As things stand, it is a copout. Or, as a November 8 report discussing the rape in Freiburg puts it, "The focus on prevention is a good thing, but also shows how German authorities and media barely hold the migrant crisis responsible for the disaster that is unfolding in Germany. Political correctness has caused officials to put the blame for the criminal acts on the women instead of Merkel's guests."

These are hardly the first times officials "put the blame for the criminal acts [of Muslim men] on the women." Nor is this phenomenon limited to Germany. For instance, after a 20-year-old Austrian woman waiting at a bus stop in Vienna was attacked, beat, and robbed by four Muslim men—including one who "started [by] putting his hands through my hair and made it clear that in his cultural background there were hardly any blonde women"—police responded by telling the victim to dye her hair:

"At first I was scared, but now I'm more angry than anything. After the attack they told me that women shouldn't be alone on the streets after 8 pm. And they also gave me other advice, telling me I should dye my hair

dark and also not dress in a provocative way. That means I was partly to blame for what happened to me. That is a massive insult.

Likewise, Unni Wilkan, a female professor of social anthropology at the University of Oslo, insists that:

"Norwegian women must take their share of responsibility for these rapes," because Muslim men found their manner of dress provocative. The professor's conclusion was not that Muslim men living in the West needed to adjust to Western norms, but the exact opposite: "Norwegian women must realize that we live in a Multicultural society and adapt themselves to it."

So much for the feminist claim that women are free to dress and behave as promiscuously and provocatively as they want—and woe to the man who dares cite this as justifying male sexual aggression. Apparently this feminist refrain does not apply to Muslim men.

But perhaps the greater irony of all these excuses is that, from the very start of Islam 14 centuries ago, European women—even chaste nuns—have *always* been portrayed by Muslims as sexually promiscuous by nature.

This is easily discerned by examining medieval Muslim perceptions—and subsequent treatment—of European women, as documented throughout *Sword and Scimitar: Fourteen Centuries of War between Islam and the West*

Consider Muslim views concerning neighboring Byzantine women, who came to represent all European/Christian women to Islam. As one Western academic of Muslim origin (rather euphemistically) explains:

The Byzantines as a people were considered fine examples of physical beauty, and youthful slaves and slave-girls of Byzantine origins were highly valued. . . . The Arabs' appreciation of the Byzantine female has a long history indeed. For the Islamic period, the earliest literary evidence we have is a hadith (saying of the Prophet). Muhammad is said to have addressed a newly converted Arab: "Would you like the girls of Banu al-Asfar [the yellow (haired) pale people]?"

Muhammad's question was meant to entice the man to join the Tabuk campaign against the Romans and reap its rewards—in this case, the sexual enslavement of attractive women. In other words, as "white-complexioned blondes, with straight hair and blue eyes," to quote another academic, Byzantine women were not so much "appreciated" or "highly valued" as they were lusted after. [All quotes in this article are documented in *Sword and Scimitar*, by Raymond Ibrahim] .....

## "White Women are Sluts and Deserve to be Raped"

### The West Adopts Islam's Perspective

by Raymond Ibrahim  
breakingisraelnews.com

## Female War Criminals

**The Nazi women were every bit as evil as the men: From the mother who shot Jewish children in cold blood, to the nurses who gave lethal injections in the death camps — Tony Rennell — Jan. 9, 2014**

Blonde German housewife Erna Petri was returning home after a shopping trip in town when something caught her eye: six small, nearly naked boys huddled in terror by the side of the country road. Married to a senior SS officer, the 23-year-old knew instantly who they were.

They must be the Jews she'd heard about — the ones who'd escaped from a train taking them to an extermination camp. But she was a mother herself, with two children of her own. So she humanely took the starving, whimpering youngsters home, calmed them down and gave them food to eat.

Then she led the six of them — the youngest aged six, the oldest 12 — into the woods, lined them up on the edge of a pit and shot them methodically one by one with a pistol in the back of the neck.

This schizophrenic combination of warm-hearted mother one minute and cold-blooded killer the next is an enigma and one that — now revealed in a new book based on years of trawling through remote archives — puts a crueller than ever spin on the Third Reich.

Because Erna was by no means an aberration. In a book she tellingly calls 'Hitler's Furies', Holocaust historian Professor Wendy Lower has unearthed the complicity of tens of thousands of German women — many more than previously imagined — in the sort of mass, monstrous, murderous activities that we would like to think the so-called gentler sex were incapable of.

The Holocaust has generally been seen as a crime perpetrated by men. The vast majority of those accused at Nuremberg and other war crimes trials were men. The few women ever called to account were notorious concentration camp guards — the likes of Irma Grese and Ilse Koch — whose evil was so extreme they could be explained away as freaks and beasts, not really 'women' at all.

Ultra-macho Nazi Germany was a man's world. The vast majority of women had, on Hitler's orders, confined their activities to Kinder, Küche, Kirche — children, kitchen and church. Thus, when it came to responsibility for the Holocaust and other evils of the Third Reich, they were off the hook.

But that is simplistic nonsense. Women were drawn into the morally bankrupt conspiracy that was Hitler's Germany as thoroughly as men were — at a lower level, in most cases, when it came to direct action but guilty just the same.

Ironically, it was the professional carers who were the first to be caught in this evil web. From the moment the Nazis came to power and imposed policies of Aryan racial purity, countless nurses, their aprons filled with morphine vials and needles, routinely slaughtered the physically disabled and mentally defective.

Pauline Kneissler worked at Grafeneck Castle, a euthanasia 'hospital' in southern Germany, and toured mental institutions selecting 70 'patients' a day. At the castle they were gassed, which she decided was not that bad because 'death by gas doesn't hurt'.

Meanwhile, midwives were betraying a whole generation of German women by reporting defects in unborns and newborns and recommending abortions and euthanasia, as well as sterilization of mothers.

From the outset 'women made cruel life-and-death decisions, eroding moral sensibilities'. A line had been crossed. It was no big step when the racial purification process turned to the Final Solution of exterminating millions of Jews.

That Jews were the enemy and their annihilation the answer was taken for granted by millions of women who would later deny knowing what was going on under their noses. They were by some standards 'primary witnesses of the Holocaust'.

The worst outrages took place in the 'Wild East', Hitler's newly acquired (by military conquest) territories in Poland, Ukraine and other parts of overrun Russia. At least half a million young women joined in this colonization process, and became accomplices to genocide on an unprecedented scale.

A mass of secretaries, for example, typed the orders to kill and filed the details of massacres. This placed them at the very center of the Nazi murder machinery, but they, like so many others, chose to shut their eyes and benefit from their proximity to power.

But, picnicking in the country on their days off, how did they miss the mounds that hid mass graves, the gagging smell of rotting corpses? Whose clothes and possessions — plundered from ghettos or confiscated at camps and killing fields — did they think they were cataloguing for redistribution back home?

Trainloads of booty went back to Germany in 'the biggest campaign of organized robbery in history'. **And German women were among its prime agents and beneficiaries.**

## How Israeli Innovation Contributes to the World

By **Dov Lipman** [honestreporting.com/israeli-innovation-contributes-world/](http://honestreporting.com/israeli-innovation-contributes-world/)

### Israeli Innovation in Medical Advances

On the medical front, lives worldwide are being saved thanks Israeli innovations like these:

1. The "Pillcam" – Doctors can now record images of the digestive tract via a pill-sized capsule containing a tiny camera – enabling them to detect disease and monitor disease
2. Azilect – A drug to help treat Parkinson's disease
3. Copaxone immunomodulator – A drug for treating multiple sclerosis
4. Eleyso – A drug for the treatment of Type 1 Gaucher's disease
5. ReWalk – A bionic walking assistance system enabling paraplegics to stand upright, walk and even climb stairs
6. OrCam MyEye – A portable, artificial vision device allowing the visually impaired to understand text and identify objects through audio feedback
7. The Emergency Bandage – The first-ever field dressing that can be applied and secured with one hand to prevent bleeding from battlefield injuries

### Israeli Innovation in Humanitarian Relief

Aside from medications helping those in need of medical care, Israel sends doctors to set up field hospitals and search and rescue experts when natural disasters occur in all corners of the world. In 2016, the World Health Organization recognized the IDF's emergency field hospital as the best in the world. The WHO designation gives Israel priority access to begin offering immediate assistance in International disaster zones. **A few examples include:**

1. Earthquake in Turkey, 1999 – A search and rescue unit rescued 12 survivors and the hospital treated 1,200 people including 40 surgeries and 15 delivered babies
2. Earthquake in India, 2001 – A 100-bed field hospital treating 1,300 injured; the Israeli team performed 52 surgeries and delivered 12 babies
3. Earthquake in Haiti, 2010 – Medics treated more than 1,100 patients including 319 surgeries and 16 delivered babies
4. Tsunami in Japan, 2011 – A 53-person delegation with 62 tons of medical supplies treated 220 patients in surgical, pediatrics and maternity wards, an intensive care unit, and a pharmacy
5. Typhoon in the Philippines, 2013 – A team of 150 doctors and nurses brought 100 tons of medical supplies and humanitarian aid
6. Earthquake in Nepal, 2015 – A team of 122 medical workers and 45 physicians brought

95 tons of equipment for a 60-bed hospital that treated nearly 1,600 patients, performed 85 surgeries and delivered eight babies

7. Golan Heights/Syrian border, 2016-2018 – A field hospital established to help victims of the Syrian civil war treated over 4,000 people including 1,409 children

### Israeli Technological Advances

Israeli Innovation has made the world safer with inventions such as:

1. Mobileye – Advanced driver-assistance systems providing warnings for collision prevention, now becoming standard in new cars and used as the basis for safety in autonomous cars
2. WeCU – Technology to identify and analyze people in real time used in airports to help identify terrorists
3. Watergen – A technology that extracts water from air which can bring fresh water to areas without any access to clean, healthy water

### NGOs Helping the World

Hundreds of Israeli non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are helping people in need throughout the world. A few examples include:

1. Innovation Africa – using Israeli solar technology to bring clean water and electricity to millions of people living in remote African villages
2. Save a Child's Heart – bringing children from third world countries to Israel for basic, life saving heart surgery, while also training doctors from those countries to perform these surgeries
3. Israid – working in emergency and long-term development situations in more than 50 countries, providing assistance in the following areas: mental and physical health, economic development, social development (women empowerment, gender-based violence, child protection, and psycho-social support, education and awareness

### 4. Other Israeli Inventions

Israeli technology has also made life easier for people worldwide with hundreds of inventions.



- USB flash drive – Also known as a disk on key, for data storage
- Instant messaging – Real-time transmission of text messaging over the Internet
- Laser keyboard – A virtual keyboard projected on a wall which led to the ability to type on cellphones
- VoIP – Voice over Internet Protocol enabling the delivery of voice messages via the internet

# New Israel-UAE Pact Shatters Myths About Peace With Palestinians

By **Jim Sinkinson**, President  
Facts and Logic About the Middle East  
PO Box 3460, Berkeley CA 94703

**F**or decades, international decision-makers and opinion-shapers have theorized that Israel will not be accepted in the region until it makes peace with the Palestinians, and that all wars and conflicts in the Middle East are somehow connected to the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

Former President Jimmy Carter once stated that, "Without doubt, the path to peace in the Middle East goes through Jerusalem." Another enthusiast of what has become known as 'linkage' is former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, who said, "The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the single most combustible and galvanizing issue in the Arab world."

The Israel-United Arab Emirates peace agreement, or the Abraham Accord—in addition to credible talk of other Arab nations also signing on—has exploded the belief that the Jewish state is isolated in the region. It's also sent a clear signal that the Palestinians, in their decades of rejectionism, can no longer place a veto on Arab nations making peace and establishing official relations with Israel.

But of course, the idea that the Israel-Palestinian conflict was the focal point of the region's unrest and the most challenging to solve has **never** been consistent with the facts. Many conflicts have been far more deadly and are far more entrenched, based on grievances stretching back hundreds of years. The Sunni-Shia conflict, for example, predates the modern era, and the internal wars that have devastated Middle East nations like Syria, Libya, Lebanon and Iraq are a result of historical and even ancient disputes.

If one looks at the number of Muslim fatalities from armed conflicts since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, well over 12 million have been killed in conflicts around the wider region in wars such as Syrian and Lebanese civil wars and the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Fewer than 100,000 Arabs have died in the Israel-Arab or Israel-Palestinian conflict, the majority of which died in Israel's defensive wars against its neighbors. It means fewer than one per cent of all deaths in conflicts in the region were in the context of the Israel-Arab/Palestinian conflict. This statistic alone demonstrates that the conflict with Israel is one of the least bloody or central in the region.

In fact, the main obstacles facing the region have always been low levels of development, freedom, empowerment of women and education. These are the conditions that led to the Arab Spring, which spread throughout the region beginning in the early 2010s. When millions of Arabs took to the streets in their various nations, they did not chant against Israel but against those who deprive them of basic human rights and economic well-being.

There have been many signs and chants at demonstrations throughout the region, in places like Lebanon, Syria and Egypt, specifically saying that they hate other more threatening actors—like Hezbollah, Iran's Revolutionary Guard, the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas—far more than Israel, and they will no longer be distracted from the true causes of their ills.

Indeed, obsessing on the myth of linkage has created overblown pressure from the U.S. and European nations to force a peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. It has also allowed other players in the region, such as Iran, Turkey and Hezbollah, to evade responsibility for their destabilizing actions.

Influential international players, like former U.S. President Barack Obama and former Quartet Envoy and British Prime Minister Tony Blair—who stressed the importance of signing an agreement with the Palestinians before making peace with the wider Arab world—have deprived the region of cooperation with Israel on vital issues like combatting desertification, water desalination and conservation and agritech.

Fortunately, the region has finally moved away from the paradigm of Israel opposing or defending against the Arab nations. This is partly because of disappointment in large parts of the Arab world over the rejectionism of Palestinian leadership, especially the Palestinians' spurning opportunity after opportunity to negotiate. Most notably Palestinian leaders failed to accept generous offers by several Israeli prime ministers, most notably proposals from Ehud Barak in 2001 and Ehud Olmert in 2008, and international initiatives, such as the Clinton Parameters.

More recently, the fact that Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas continues to refuse to sit in a room with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has been met with exasperation by Arab heads of state in the wider region.

Additionally, the rise of non-Arab actors like Iran and Turkey and extremist organizations, like ISIS, has provided Israel and moderate Arab nations with common foes and the basis for security and strategic cooperation. Frankly—and blessedly—it indicates that the Israel-Arab conflict as a concept (for lack of peace) is dead and buried...

## Israel Expands Circle of Friends

By HonestReporting Staff Sept 6, 2020

Kosovo intends to establish diplomatic ties with Israel and will, in addition to Serbia, open an embassy in Jerusalem. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu welcomed the historic development, which was made public by US President Donald Trump during a meeting at the White House that also focused on the establishment of official economic relations between Pristina and Belgrade.

"Kosovo will be the first Muslim-majority country to open an embassy in Jerusalem. As I said during the last days, the circle of peace and recognition of Israel is expanding with more countries expected to join," Netanyahu asserted.

To date, only the US and Guatemala have relocated from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem their primary missions in Israel. The Trump Administration recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital in December 2017 and moved the US embassy to the holy city the following May.

Meanwhile, Malawi's new leader, President Lazarus Chakwera, on Sept 5 also revealed plans to open a diplomatic office in Jerusalem. Chakwera has long been supportive of the Jewish state, which he visited last year. If he follows through on his promise, Malawi would become the first African country to establish an embassy in Jerusalem.

The normalization agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates will reportedly be defined as an official "peace treaty" and be given the same status as the Jewish state's agreements with Egypt and Jordan. Jerusalem and Abu Dhabi are currently hashing out the details of the accord, which is expected to be signed at a White House ceremony in the next few weeks.

Arab diplomats from countries that do not have formal ties with Israel are expected to attend the ceremony. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Morocco and Sudan have all reportedly expressed a willingness, albeit under certain conditions, to forge bilateral relations with Israel.

In this respect, a sermon delivered on Friday by the Imam of the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Abdul Rahman al-Sudais, is being interpreted by many Arabs and Muslims as a trial balloon for an official rapprochement between Riyadh and Jerusalem. In his speech, Sudais said that Islam requires Muslims to respect non-Muslims and treat them well. The imam had previously called for peaceful inter-faith dialogue and preached Islam's opposition to "explosions and terrorism."

On a lighter note, various luxury hotels in the UAE will start accommodating Jewish guests by offering them kosher food.



### UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

First day of Sukkot ("Tabernacles"): Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>

Shemini Atzeret ("Feast of Conclusion"): Oct 10<sup>th</sup>

First day of Chanukah ("Dedication"): Dec 11<sup>th</sup>

Eighth day of Chanukah: Dec 18<sup>th</sup>

Each Holy Day begins at sunset the previous evening and ends at sunset 24 hours later. Therefore, the first day of Sukkot begins at sunset on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> and ends at sunset on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Shemini Atzeret is also celebrated on Oct 10<sup>th</sup> in Israel and by Reform Jews everywhere as Simchat Torah ("Rejoicing of the Torah"). Orthodox Jews in the **Galut** (lands outside of Israel) celebrate Oct 11<sup>th</sup> as Simchat Torah.

Chanukah is a holiday, but not a Holy Day. Normal work and commerce are permitted. It celebrates the Jewish victory of the Maccabee army over the armies of Antiochus Epiphanes in about 162 BCE. You can read all about it in the Apocrypha. The Apocrypha covers the time period between the Tanakh (O.T.) and the Newer Testament. The Apocrypha is composed of good Jewish books, and can be found in Catholic Bibles. The Books of the Maccabees can be found in the Apocrypha. The original 1611 King James Bible also contained the Apocrypha.

## It's Always the Jews...

Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder and dean  
of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.  
1399 South Roxbury Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

August 4, 2020 / JNS) One of the most frightening twists of the global coronavirus pandemic is the worldwide up tick in anti-Semitism. This almost included a prime-time slot on Fox's "Soul TV" for America's most notorious anti-Semite, Louis Farrakhan. In his Final Call magazine, Farrakhan's defenders tried to cover up some of their leaders most notorious anti-Semitic rants. When he called Hitler a "great man," they wrote that he just meant great in "power" for raising up Germany from nothing.

This comes on top of the recent Oxford University study showing that nearly 20 percent of those polled blame Jews for starting COVID-19, with some explaining that Jews can make money from the vaccine that cures it.

Yes, here we go again ... it's always the Jews. So, said Manetho the Egyptian priest, some 2,300 years ago as he reinvented the Bible's story of the Exodus. The Jews, he declared, were never redeemed from slavery by a God who split the sea with his miracles and wonders. Rather, they were expelled because of contagion and passing on their filth endangering the greater Egyptian society.

This deception was again replayed in medieval Europe. Who caused the Black Death from 1348 to 1351, when 200 communities were wiped out? Of course, came the cry, it was again the Jews who poisoned the wells.

That was precisely the case in the modern era, when on April 20, 1945, the Nazi SS Chief Heinrich Himmler met secretly behind his Fuhrer's back with Norbert Masur the representative of the World Jewish Congress desperately seeking an end to World War II. Rather than admitting the truth about the gassing of millions of innocent men woman and children, Himmler simply explained to Masur, "Throughout the war we came into contact with masses of the Eastern Jewish proletariat ... these Jews not only helped the partisans but were infected by typhus. In order to curtail the epidemics, we had to build crematoria where we could burn the corpses of the large number of people who died because of these diseases and now they'll get us just for doing that."

Himmler, of course, never mentioned the inadequate sanitation and water supplies, coupled with the inhumane starvation rations. Nor did he bother telling Masur how his doctors and nurses drew the last ounces of blood from the arms of their skeleton looking victims to make them available to his SS killers.

Which brings us to today's anti-Semite, who will never hear a Louis Farrakhan or his likes ever acknowledge the enormous contributions that Jews have made for the betterment of humankind in almost every field. How in the Middle Ages even the kings and queens would trust no one with their personal care but Jewish physicians? That the same was true of the Popes of the Middle Ages from Martin IV to Innocent X. That even Saladin the powerful leader in the Muslim world would have no one but the great Maimonides as his personal physician.

Contemporary anti-Semitic leaders deliberately hide from their followers the fact that Jews account for 40 percent of U.S. Nobel prizes in medicine. They will never tell them that if they ever needed hospital care that it was the Jews who were instrumental in the inventions of anesthesia, cancer chemotherapy and radiation oncology.

Nor will they ever admit that it was the descendants of Abraham who played a crucial role in the development of penicillin, streptomycin, aspirin and the polio vaccines. Not to speak of, the chlorination of drinking water, the eradication of smallpox and measles, the Hepatitis B vaccine and the mammogram. These combined inventions lengthened and saved the lives of hundreds of millions of Christians, Muslims and Jews, irrespective of color, race or religion.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to finally see Louis Farrakhan set aside his hate and rancor? Rather than denigrating Jews, what if he could use his pulpit to inspire his followers to emulate the remarkable contributions made by a very small minority against all odds for the betterment and advancement of all humankind?

## Kinneret's August Water Level Highest in 27 Years

The Kinneret's (Sea of Galilee) water level at the beginning of August is the highest since August 1993, Israel's Water Authority reported. The Kinneret currently stands at minus 209.39 meters, and 59 centimeters below the upper red line signaling that the lake is full. (The Kinneret is a fresh water lake that is below sea level. RAC) In April, the Kinneret came within 20 centimeters of maximum capacity, and there was talk of opening the Degania Dam.

Israel Hayom noted that the Dead Sea's level was minus 434.72 meters in August 2020. (The Dead Sea is a salt water lake, and the lowest location on Planet Earth. RAC)

Barry & Batya Segal  
Vision for Israel · P.O. Box 7743  
Charlotte, NC 28241-7743

One of the most important blessings in the Hebrew Bible is the Aaronic Benediction from B'midbar (Numbers) 6:24-26, as seen below. It is generally said at the end of the services in synagogues around the world. It is also called the "Priestly Benediction." In this case, we are certainly not referring to Catholic priests. We are referring to the **cohanim**, the

diction onto the TV series.

Curiously, there are no words of **smile** or **frown** in Biblical Hebrew. Take out your Strong's Concordance and try to find **smile** or **frown**. Nope. Not there. This does not mean that Jews never smiled or frowned. It means that there were expressions that were used for smiling or frowning. For instance, in the second line

## The Aaronic Benediction

Rav Richard  
'Aharon'  
Chamberlin

יְבָרֶכֶךָ יְהוָה וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ:

The LORD bless you, and keep you;

יְאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיְחַנֶּנֶךָ:

The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you;

יְשֵׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם:

The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.

"priestly" family of Levites who are descended from Aharon (Aaron).

Although each **cohen** ("priest") is a Levite, not all Levites are priests. Only the descendants of Aharon are the **cohanim** (priests). In order to be a cohen, you don't have to go to seminary or study in a yeshiva. One is basically born a cohen. When the time comes for the Aaronic benediction to be said, anybody in the synagogue who is a cohen (descendant of Aaron) can be chosen to say the benediction. If there are no cohanim present, then anybody who is a Levite may say the benediction. If there are no Levites, then anyone who is a Jew (natural-born Jew) or **ger** ("proselyte," that is, a convert to Judaism) may say the benediction. In Orthodox Judaism, women are not allowed to say the benediction, although other branches of Judaism now allow women to say this benediction.

When the Aaronic Benediction is said, the cohen (or Levite) will raise his hands in the direction of the congregation with his fingers spread apart as shown here. If you are a fan of the old Star Trek series, you might remember Dr. Spock spreading out his hands as above, saying "Live long and prosper." Dr. Spock was played by Leonard Nimoy, a Jew. He obviously borrowed from his Jewish background, and put this sign of the Aaronic bene-

lifted up!

Similarly, we find the opposite for when people frown. In Genesis 4:6, Cain was unhappy that his offering was not accepted by God. YHWH said to Cain, "Why has your countenance fallen?" When your countenance (face) falls, you are frowning.

A horse walked into a bar. The bartender said, "Why the long face?" 😊 Yes, a long face indicates a frown for us humans.

For those who don't read Hebrew, here is a transliterated version of the Hebrew:

Y'varechecha Adonai v'yishmerecha  
Ya'eir Adonai panav ellecha vichunecha  
Yisa Adonai panav eilecha v'yasem  
lecha shalom.

In transliterated Hebrew, the "ch" is the guttural sound as in **Bach**. There is no "ch" sound, such as in "**ch**air," in Biblical Hebrew.

The word **panav** means **his face**. It is in masculine possessive plural form. The normal word for **face** ("panim") is also in plural form.

That is because we all have several faces depending on our mood: sad, happy, tired, thrilled, scared, concerned, etc. We also have different faces as we go through life: baby, child, teenager, young adult, old age, etc. א



The following album is highly recommended to the readers of *Petah Tikvah*. It combines a love of Messiah Yeshua with an appreciation for Torah, set to the tunes of some of the greatest hit songs of the 1950s and 1960s. The songs on this CD sound like the original singers and musicians, but the words will inspire and encourage you. And they are fun! *Petah Tikvah* now has the copyright for this CD, so we have been able to reduce the price to only \$10 each, with no extra charge for shipping and handling. Make out your checks or money orders to *Petah Tikvah*. The lyrics for all of the songs are also included for each CD album. It is beautifully done.

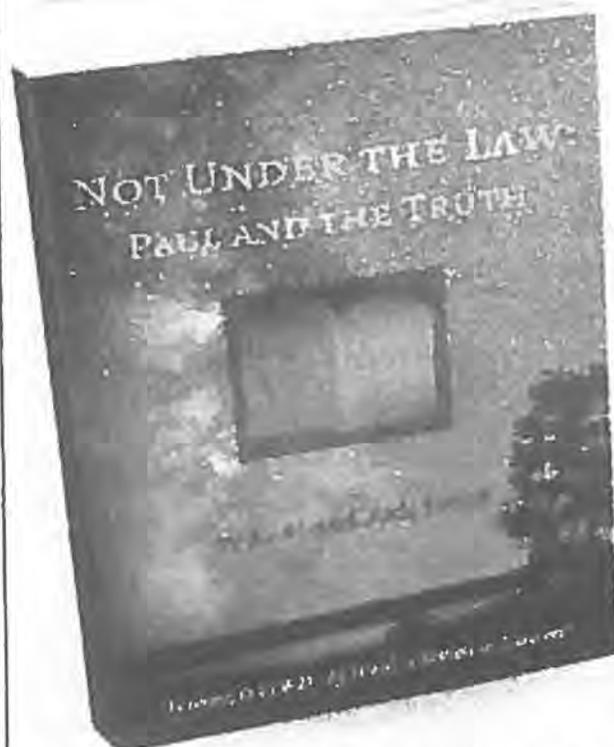


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We also recommend another excellent music parody album based on some more of the best songs of the 1950s and 1960s, called **THE SHLEPS**. They sound like the original artists, but the music is 'redeemed' with a good, pro-Torah message. And it is fun! Regretfully, it is no longer available for purchase on CD. However, it is still available for a free MP3 download at: [WWW.THESHLEPS.COM](http://WWW.THESHLEPS.COM)

[WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM](http://WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM)



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# A Jewish-Arab Peace Experience

[www.IsraelToday.co.il](http://www.IsraelToday.co.il)

**Israel Today** correspondent joined the first flight to the UAE (in September) and shared his enthusiasm about the new Middle East:

*The country is excited. I was part of an official Israeli delegation and just returned from a very special trip to the United Arab Emirates, in which agreements for cooperation in different areas were drafted.*

At exactly 11:51 a.m., the captain of an EL AL flight 971 from Tel Aviv to Abu Dhabi announced on the plane's public address system: *"Right now we have crossed the border into Saudi Arabia. For the first time in history, an EL AL plane is flying over Saudi Arabia."*

At that moment many on the plane opened their window shades and saw a moving and surrealistic spectacle: the wing of an El Al plane with a Star of David on it, and beneath – the endless deserts of Saudi Arabia. The screens of the plane showed the historic route: Riyadh to the south, Abu Dhabi to the east, Manama, the capital of Bahrain in the northeast. Just reach out and touch them. Israelis over Saudi Arabia?! Admittedly at an altitude of 30,000 feet – but still this is the closest we have ever been.

When Jared Kushner, who accompanied us onboard, was asked if we would see more Israeli flights over Saudi Arabia, he told everyone to relax: *"I know the Israelis well. When you succeed in making an achievement, you immediately ask what is next? And that's why Israel succeeds. But only for one day, let's try to relax and enjoy this achievement and this historic breakthrough ... there is definitely hope that this historic flight will be the first of many."*

Then, less than two days later, the Saudis made a dramatic announcement: Saudi Arabia will allow planes from all countries, including Israel, to use their airspace to and from the United Arab Emirates. After years of deadlock, we are rapidly being thrust into a new and shaky process: building a new Middle East.

Why is this happening right now? First of all, because of the common enemy Iran. But also, the US presidential election. Trump urgently needs achievements in foreign policy, and therefore he pushed to get results.

The Americans took advantage of the Israeli threat to annex territories and extracted a breakthrough from the UAE in exchange for canceling the annexation. Thus the Emirates would be able to be seen on the one hand as rescuing the Pal-

estinians, and on the other would obtain cooperation with Israel – which in recent years has already started in secret in a variety of areas.

The Emirates also got something else they had long desired: a promise to be allowed to purchase the best jet fighter airplane in the world, the F-35. Netanyahu continues to claim that he opposes it. But it seems that in light of the deals between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, which include interesting and sensitive security aspects – when the F-35 sale is made, the Israelis will probably only give token resistance.

*Our Israel Today correspondent was one of 24 lucky journalists who were on the historic flight that landed in Abu Dhabi for a 24-hour visit. As soon as the doors of the plane opened, we were greeted by men in white... The women wore black gowns. Everyone was welcoming, hospitable, extraordinarily kind and very patient.*

On the way from the airport to the hotel you could see the skyscrapers of Abu Dhabi next to impressive mosques. On the side of the road, the figure of Crown Prince and de facto ruler Muhammad bin Zayed (MBZ) appears on billboards waving hello. One of the signs with bin Zayed says: *"The nation is in safe hands."*

Indeed, MBZ turned the United Arab Emirates from a small and not-so-important country into a powerhouse on the Persian Gulf, second only to its older "sister" Saudi Arabia. He brought huge investments to the Emirates and turned it into a financial center. The Emirates want the Israelis, and especially the Israeli innovation in hi-tech fields. In our hotel we met a number of Israelis who have been working in Abu Dhabi for several weeks on a project of rapid corona tests to free up the economy and especially tourism.

*"Everywhere we go, when we say that we are Israelis, the locals are very enthusiastic. If you respect them, they respect you. You can speak Hebrew here,"* said one of the employees of the Israeli company.

There were round table talks between teams of government ministries from the UAE and Israel. The talks, led by Israel's National Security Advisor, Meir Ben-Shabbat, progressed solely on civilian issues: diplomacy, finance, aviation and entry visas, health, culture and tourism, space and science and investment, innovation and trade.

Shai Lee Spiegelman, Director General of the Israel Ministry of Science and Technology, who joined the flight, led a discussion group that included representatives from the Emirates' Space Agency, a large investment fund from the UAE and their Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Among other things, they talked about the possibility of a joint launch (of a satellite and possibly even astronauts), and also about cooperation in the field of corona research.

Moses de Leon first published the Zohar in 13th century Spain. This forms the foundation for Kabbalah. Some Jews date the beginning of Kabbalah to Solomon ibn Gabriol (1021-1058), less than

**Dangers of Kabbalah**  
 Richard 'Aharon' Chamberlain a thousand years ago. Sabbatei Zevi (1626-1676) popularized Kabbalah. However, he converted to Islam, beginning a Judeo-Islamic cult called Donmeh which still exists in modern-day Turkey. Kabbalah then fell into disrepute, until Jacob Frank (1726-1791) popularized it again. Then he converted to Catholicism!

We have experienced personal friends of ours who got hooked on Kabbalah and eventually renounced Yeshua. (And then they got REALLY weird!) Not all of Kabbalah is evil or occult. Some is simply good meditation. Even cults have good teachings intermingled with much error. We do not recommend Kabbalah. I call it "Hinduism with a Jewish accent," as much of it is borrowed from Hinduism, including doctrines such as reincarnation, soul travel, "curses," etc. Much of Kabbalah is contrary to Scripture. Below I have copied and pasted a portion from the entry "Kabbalah" that is in Wikipedia:

"Talmudic doctrine forbade the public teaching of esoteric doctrines and warned of their dangers. In the Mishnah (Hagigah 2:1), rabbis were warned to teach the mystical creation doctrines only to one student at a time." To highlight the danger, in one Jewish aggadic ("legendary") anecdote, four prominent rabbis of the Mishnaic period (1st century CE) are said to have visited the Orchard (that is, Paradise, *pardes*, Hebrew: פֶּרְדִּים lit., *orchard*):

"Four men entered *pardes*—Ben Azzai, Ben Zoma, Acher (Elsha ben Abuyah), and Akiba. Ben Azzai looked and died; Ben Zoma looked and went mad; Acher destroyed the plants; Akiba entered in peace and departed in peace."

In notable readings of this legend, only Rabbi Akiba was fit to handle the study of mystical doctrines. The **Tosafot**, medieval commentaries on the Talmud, say that the four sages "did not go up literally, but it appeared to them as if they went up". On the other hand, Rabbi Louis Ginzberg, writes in the *Jewish Encyclopedia* (1901-1906) that the journey to paradise "is to be taken literally and not allegorically".<sup>[20]</sup> Maimonides interprets

*pardes* as physics and not mysticism.

If Kabbalah is causing people to go crazy or die, it probably isn't good to waste much time on it. I would stick with the Scriptures.

Many Kabbalists sell the red strings. When we are in Israel, we meet Chassidim who are actively selling the red strings and then tying them around the wrists of those who buy them. I have seen it and experienced it. And amulets (Jewish "good luck charms") are also openly sold by Kabbalists. The most dangerous claim among Kabbalists is that we can't properly understand Torah or Talmud without a knowledge of Kabbalah.



Art by Eiezur Benjamin, CA

This symbol was found on ancient pottery  
 It is a likely symbol used by  
 Ancient Messianic Jews.

We as black Americans need to stop letting people with no real interest in our well-being tell us how to behave toward our Jewish cousins. On March 25th, 1968, Just 10 days before Martin Luther King was murdered, Rabbi Everett Gendler participated in the annual convention of the Rabbinical Assembly. When he asked King about the black community's growing animus toward Jews and Israel, Dr. King said this:

"On the Middle East crisis, we have had various responses. The response of some of the so-called young militants again does not represent the position of the vast majority of Negroes. There are some who are color-consumed and they see a kind of mystique in being colored, and anything non-colored is condemned. We do not follow that course in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and certainly most of the organizations in the civil rights movement do not follow that course." King then goes on to say the more famous quote in the Zionist world:

"I think it is necessary to say that what is basic and what is needed in the Middle East is peace. Peace for Israel is one thing. Peace for the Arab side of that world is another thing. Peace for Israel means security, and we must stand with all of our might to protect its right to exist, its territorial integrity. I see Israel, and never mind saying it, **as one of the great outposts of democracy in the world, and a marvelous example of what can be done, how desert land almost can be transformed into an oasis of brotherhood and democracy.** Peace for Israel means security and that security must be a reality."

When quoting anyone, the context is just as important as the quote itself. Dr. King said the aforementioned quotes after the 1967 war between Israel and three neighboring Arab states. His quotes were made after SNCC published the baseless, biased, and belligerent newsletter. Dr. King's response was pro-Israel, pro-Arab, and pro-justice. It would seem that for an organization like SNCC to take such an anti-Israel stance would suggest they are the "color consumed" to whom King was referring—so caught up in the struggle against racism in the U.S., they viewed everything through the American racist lens whether it truly applied or not. Yes, these black militants ignored the atrocities carried out by the Palestinian Liberation Organization to their own people, and embraced Jew-hating, human rights abusing Yasser Arafat in the name of "justice." Dr. King said what he said in response to all of

this.

## Fast-forward to the present day: the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) is one of the major partners of Black Lives Matter. In their policy platforms, they have an "Invest-divest" section... It mentions Israel as a apartheid, genocidal regime that routinely arrests 4-year-old Palestinians. **All lies**, but they have taken their cue straight out of the SNCC playbook; a playbook, if one remembers, of out of un-researched and unverified libels and anti-Semitic stereotypes written by someone who had previous personal ties to Palestinians.

**Joshua David Washington**  
Director of the Institute for  
Black Solidarity with Israel  
[TIMESOFISRAEL.COM](http://TIMESOFISRAEL.COM)

From its beginning, BLM had an anti-Israel bias. From their earliest moments, "From Ferguson to Palestine" was a slogan taken up immediately following Michael Brown's killing by officer Darren Wilson. The slogan read "From Ferguson to Palestine - Occupation is a Crime." This feigned support is nothing more than a calculated effort by Palestinian leaders to divert attention away from how they are oppressing their people. And we know now that this is nothing new.

What adds insult to injury is that BLM does seek allies from the Jewish community, so long as they are diametrically opposed to the Jewish state. Jewish people should not be expected to check their Zionism at the door in order to join arms with BLM. Jews should not be expected to do that, no more than a Kenyan should be expected to denounce Kenya, or a Brazilian be expected to denounce Brazil.

I appreciate my Jewish brothers and sisters seeking to make inroads in the black community, as they have been making these attempts for decades, but regarding the issue of Black Lives Matter, whether the black members are aware or not, there needs to be a conversation about their national official position on Israel...

One of the biggest differences is terrorism. The Palestinian Authority encourages and incentivizes Palestinians to kill Jews. Palestinians who successfully kill Jews are awarded with a monthly stipend from the PA. Palestinians who commit suicide while killing Jews have a monthly stipend sent to their families. Palestinian children are trained to kill Jews by any means, including suicide bombing, and they are taught this through terrorist training camps and Hamas TV shows. Streets are named after Palestinians who commit suicide bombings if they kill enough Jews. As heightened as the black community has ever been, never have we as a people resorted to killing white people everywhere just because they are white. Never have we encouraged the death of our own children for our cause...

## Arab States Quietly Back Israeli Annexation 6/23/20

[WWW.ISRAELTODAY.CO.IL](http://WWW.ISRAELTODAY.CO.IL) Israel Today Staff

Don't believe everything you hear. Palestinian propagandists and their allies in the media would have you believe that the entire Arab world is in an uproar over Israel's plan to annex the Jordan Valley and other parts of the so-called "West Bank." Reports suggest that's simply not true.

A number of Arab states have made quite clear in recent years that for them, the Palestinian nationalist cause isn't all that important. For them, the Iranian threat is a much more pressing issue, and they see Israel as a key ally in that fight. They also worry about upsetting relations with the United States, given that the looming Israeli annexation is part of President Donald Trump's vision for the Middle East.

Senior Arab officials who spoke recently to the Hebrew daily *Israel Hayom* admitted that while their governments are opposing the Israeli annexation in official statements, **behind closed doors** they are green-lighting the move.

A senior Jordanian government official said that despite gloomy warnings to the media, Jordan knows that if it "suspends or cancels the peace treaty [with Israel], its position in the holy places of Islam in Jerusalem will be harmed. King Abdullah II also prefers to see the border west of Jordan be in the hands of Israeli military forces, and not Palestinian forces or multinational forces. Jordan's national interests are more important to the king, as is his access to President Trump."

A Saudi diplomat who is close to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman told the Israeli newspaper, "The official Arab position is against any move that allegedly infringes on the rights of the Palestinians. However, the Palestinians must understand that...Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan will not endanger their relationship with the Trump Administration for them."

The Saudi added that the working assumption in the Arab world is that Trump will win the upcoming US presidential election, and push forward his vision for Middle East peace. He said that if the Palestinians had wanted to conclude a deal more in line with their demands, then they should have done so when they had a more sympathetic ear in the Obama White House.

A senior Egyptian security official stressed that for all the Arab states in question, Iran's quest for regional hegemony is far more pressing than the Palestinian issue. And in the fight against Iran, he noted, "the United States and Israel carry great weight. **No Arab leader will jeopardize their own interests in this regard for the sake of the Palestinians.**"

## Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Holocaust Memorial in Vienna

[WWW.ALGEMEINER.COM](http://WWW.ALGEMEINER.COM) 6-23-2020

Construction of a new memorial wall to the victims of the Holocaust in the Austrian capital of Vienna began on Monday with a groundbreaking ceremony in the city park where the wall is being assembled.

Scheduled for completion in the fall of 2021, the wall commemorates "the Jewish Children, Women and Men from Austria Murdered in the Shoah." The names of more than 64,000 Austrian Jews murdered in the Holocaust will be engraved onto the wall.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony, Karoline Edtstadler — the Austrian government's minister for the European Union — said the wall was intended to pay tribute to the "identity" and "dignity" of the victims. She added that history would judge the present generation through "what we are doing to create a society free of extremism."

The Holocaust survivor who initiated the memorial project, Kurt Tutter, told the gathering that the wall was a "warning for the future." Tutter was also the subject of a warm tribute from Wolfgang Sobotka, president of Austria's National Council, who spoke of the duty to remember the Holocaust. In that regard, he highlighted the resurgence of anti-Semitism on both the left and right, as well as among Muslim communities in Europe.

Oskar Deutsch — head of the Jewish community in Vienna — told the ceremony that society was duty-bound to "do everything together every day to ensure that this never happens again. We owe it to the victims of the Shoah, whose individual names are engraved here," Deutsch said.



Eric Carillo

## **Congressman John Lewis: "Getting Into Good Trouble" to Make a Better America**

By Rabbi Marvin Hler and Rabbi Abraham Cooper

Unlike his mentor and role model, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., who was violently taken from us in 1968 by an assassin's bullet, Congressman John Lewis, 80, died in a hospice after a struggle with pancreatic cancer. His obits have long been in preparation.

No other person has been honored more often by the Simon Wiesenthal Center than John Lewis—recipient of both our Humanitarian Laureate, Medal of Valor, and whose words have been heard by 7 million visitors to our Museum of Tolerance. Here's why:

His first decades of activism were detailed in his 1998 autobiography, *Walking With The Wind*, though twenty more years of "getting into good trouble"—as Lewis put it—were still in the works. The broad outlines of his story are well known:

- The son of sharecroppers whose family called him "the Preacher" for his childhood eulogies to fallen birds, he grew up alternating between school and picking cotton and peanuts.
- In 1958, just turned eighteen, he wrote to his hero, Reverend King, about his aspirations for moral leadership. King reciprocated with a bus ticket to visit him in Atlanta.
- Lewis' first arrest came in 1960 at the lunch counter sit-ins in Nashville. In 1961, he was among the 13 original Freedom Riders, black and white, who challenged the unrepentant heart of the Jim Crow South, to integrate interstate bus travel.
- He was a youth organizer of 1963's Million Man March on Washington where, like Reverend King, he inspired and challenged the throng of over 200,000 with his own stirring words:

"By the force of our demands, our determination and our numbers . . . we shall splinter the segregated South into 1000 pieces and put them together in the image of God and democracy. We must say: 'Wake up, America!' For we cannot stop, and we will not and cannot be patient."

- Then at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, in 1965, television images of his brutalization by state troopers galvanized a horrified nation behind the passage of the Voting Rights Act that ultimately transformed the South.
- Persevering, he fought the good fight through the remainder of the civil rights movement and beyond. In 1986, in an upset victory he won a Democratic primary in Atlanta over Julian Bond for election to the U.S. House where he served for over three decades as "the conscience of the Congress."

"I've always felt an affinity with the Jewish community," Lewis wrote in his autobiography. Growing up in rural Troy, Alabama, "I heard

many white people pronounced the word 'Jew' in the same way they used the term 'nigger'. They would spit the word out like a bad piece of food. ... I grew up studying Bible stories about the Jewish people. I felt a kinship with the children of Israel. I could see that their struggle was very similar to ours."

For American Jews, Congressman Lewis was an African American Joshua following in Reverend King's lead. In 1996, despite sharing many of the goals of that year's Million Man March, Congressman Lewis refused to attend because his motivation was "my conscience not my complexion," and he could not endorse the leadership of march organizer and longtime anti-Semitic bigot, Minister Louis Farrakhan.

In 1998, Congressman Lewis issued a clarion call to America that rings as true today as then:

**"The rise of a man like Louis Farrakhan speaks to both the hunger of the people of this nation to be led as well as the lack of leaders to step in and fill that role. It's not just black people, but whites as well who are looking for a human symbol, who are hungry for heroes. There's a need there."**

## **Israel Has as Much Oil as Saudi Arabia**

Israel Report July 9th

David Silver [www.out-of-zion.com](http://www.out-of-zion.com)

Millions of dollars are waiting underground, Professor Eugene Kendall recently told the Knesset. There are about 250 billion barrels of oil in oil shale in Israel, similar to the amount of oil Saudi Arabia has. Professor Kendall called on the Knesset to leverage the resources. We know where they lie, Kendall, former head of the National Economic Council in the Prime Minister's Office, told the Knesset's Special Committee for Overseeing the Fund for Managing State Revenues from the Tax on Profits from Gas and Oil on Tuesday, and said that a committee that was not authorized to deal with oil decided not to approve even a 20-acre experiment either.

Tens of billions of dollars lie underground and nobody is doing anything with it, he added. Committee head Member of Knesset (MK) Avi Dichter said Kendall's revelation was dramatic and has a lot of weight. Oil shale is an organic-rich fine-grained sedimentary rock containing kerogen, a solid mixture of organic chemical compounds, from which liquid hydrocarbons can be produced. Oil shale is similar to petroleum and can be refined into many different substances, including diesel fuel, gasoline, and liquid petroleum gas.

"And (God) made him (Israel) to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock" (Deut. 32:13). See also Deut. 33:19,24.

**T**he Pact (Covenant) of Umar (c. 717 A.D.) is a fundamental document in prescribing the treatment of conquered people, or "dhimmi", by Muslims. According to Islamic tradition, the Pact is a treaty formulated for the treatment of the "ahl al-kitab", ("People of the Book") - Jews and Christians - living on the lands newly conquered and colonized by Muslims.

Due to the rapid growth of Islamic domination during 8th century, Muslims leaders were required to work out a way of dealing with Non-Muslims, who remained in the majority in many areas for centuries. The solution was to develop the notion of the dhimma, people who were allowed to basically keep their religion, but were kept under submission by repressive rules. Violation of the terms of the pact by Dhimmi rendered them "liable to the penalties for contumacy and sedition."

Sometimes the Pact was repromulgated as a reminder to forgetful dhimmi, and in so doing Mamluk sultans during the latter Middle Ages specified that dhimmi could not be in service to the State. The author of the Pact, which exists in several somewhat varied textual forms, is generally understood by many to be the Muslim caliph Umar ibn AbdulAziz (682 - 720), or Umar II, though it has been attributed to the first Caliph, Umar Ibn-al-Khattab (586 - 590)...

...The **Pact of Umar served as one model for Muslims on how to govern conquered non-Muslims**, a role it continues to the present day. Inspiration for this treatment may have come from non-Islamic sources, as well as the overall moderate first Caliph, Umar ibn-al-Khattab (author of the less restrictive "Umari Treaty" for dhimmi in Jerusalem). The 11th century, A.D. book, "Rules and Regulations Governing the People of the Book", by Muslim theologian Ibn Hazm (994-1064), states:

◆ "These are the Rules and Regulations that were imposed by 'Umar ibn-al-Khattab' [634-44] on the Christians of Syria, after conquering their land. The purpose of these rules was to make them submissive and contemptible. Christians were in no way to exhibit any sign of their unbelief, or anything forbidden in Islam; since Allah, the supremely Glorified and Honored, had said:

◆ And fight them until persecution is no more, and religion is all for Allah. But if they cease, then lo! Allah is Seer of what they do." Qur'an 8:39 (Source: *Jacob Thomas, The Onerous Rules & Regulations Imposed on the People of the Book*, [answering-islam.org](http://answering-islam.org))

### Pact of Umar

We heard from Abd al-Rahman ibn Ghanam [died 697 A.D.] as follows: When Umar ibn al-Khattab, may Allah be pleased with him, ac-

corded a peace to the Christians of Syria, we wrote to him as follows:

## The Pact of Umar

In the name of Allah, the Merciful and Compassionate. This is a letter to the servant of Allah Umar [Ibn al-Khattab], Commander of the Faithful, from the Christians of such-and-such a city. When you came against us, we asked you for safe-conduct (aman) for ourselves, our descendants, our property, and the people of our community, and we undertook the following obligations toward you:

[www.peacebyjesus.witnesses.today.org](http://www.peacebyjesus.witnesses.today.org)

◆ We shall not build, in our cities or in their neighborhood, new monasteries, Churches, convents, or monks' cells, nor shall we repair, by day or by night, such of them as fall in ruins or are situated in the quarters of the Muslims.

◆ We shall keep our gates wide open for passersby and travelers. We shall give board and lodging to all Muslims who pass our way for three days.

◆ We shall not give shelter in our churches or dwellings to any spy, nor hide him from Muslims.

◆ We shall not teach the Qur'an to our children. We shall not manifest our religion publicly nor convert anyone to it. We shall not prevent any of our kin from entering Islam if they wish it.

◆ We shall show respect toward the Muslims, and rise from our seats when they wish to sit.

◆ We shall not seek to resemble the Muslims by imitating any of their garments, the qalansuwa, the turban, footwear, or the parting of the hair.

◆ We shall not speak as they do, nor shall we adopt their kunyas.

◆ We shall not mount on saddles, nor shall we gird swords nor bear any kind of arms nor carry them on our persons.

◆ We shall not engrave Arabic inscriptions on our seals.

◆ We shall not sell fermented drinks.

◆ We shall clip the fronts of our heads.

◆ We shall bind the zunar round our waists.

◆ We shall not display our crosses or our books in the roads or markets of the Muslims.

◆ We shall not raise our voices when following our dead.

◆ We shall not bury our dead near the Muslims.

◆ We shall not take slaves who have been allotted to Muslims.

◆ We shall not build houses overtopping the houses of the Muslims.

◆ We accept these conditions for ourselves and for the people of our community, and in return we receive safe-conduct.

◆ If we in any way violate these undertakings for which we ourselves stand surety, we forfeit our covenant [dhimma], and we become liable to the penalties for contumacy and sedition...

(from Al-Turtushi, *Siraj al-Muluk*, pp. 229-230)

**Editor's Note:** Each year at the end of October, many Christians celebrate "Protestant Reformation Day," which is the anniversary of the day that Martin Luther nailed his thesis to the door of the Wittenberg Church in the early 1500's. Forgive us, but we find it repugnant to celebrate this day in honor of Martin Luther. As the so-called "Father of the Protestant Reformation," he exceeded the anti-Semitism of the Catholics who went before him.

## The Anti-Semitism of Martin Luther

Source:  
[WWW.YASHANET.COM](http://WWW.YASHANET.COM)

RAC

### Martin Luther – 1543

#### On The Jews and Their Lies

What then shall we Christians do with this damned, rejected race of Jews? Since they live among us and we know about their lying and blasphemy and cursing, we cannot tolerate them if we do not wish to share in their lies, curses, and blasphemy. In this way we cannot quench the inextinguishable fire of divine rage nor convert the Jews. We must prayerfully and reverentially practice a merciful severity. Perhaps we may save a few from the fire and flames [of hell]. We must not seek vengeance. They are surely being punished a thousand times more than we might wish them. Let me give you my honest advice.

First, their synagogues should be set on fire, and whatever does not burn up should be covered or spread over with dirt so that no one may ever be able to see a cinder or stone of it. And this ought to be done for the honor of God and of Christianity in order that God may see that we are Christians, and that we have not wittingly tolerated or approved of such public lying, cursing, and blaspheming of His Son and His Christians.

Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed. For they perpetrate the same things there that they do in their synagogues. For this reason they ought to be put under one roof or in a stable, like gypsies, in order that they may realize that they are not masters in our land, as they boast, but miserable captives, as they complain of incessantly before God with bitter wailing.

Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer-books and Talmuds in which such idola-

try, lies, cursing, and blasphemy are taught. Fourthly, their rabbis must be forbidden under threat of death to teach any more...

Fifthly, passport and traveling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to the Jews. For they have no business in the rural districts since they are not nobles, nor officials, nor merchants, nor the like. Let them stay at home...If you princes and nobles do not close the road legally to such exploiters, then some troop ought to ride against them, for they will learn from this pamphlet what the Jews are and how to handle them and that they ought not to be protected. You ought not, you cannot protect them, unless in the eyes of God you want to share all their abomination...

To sum up, dear princes and nobles who have Jews in your domains, if this advice of mine does not suit you, then find a better one so that you and we may all be free of this insufferable devilish burden - the Jews...

Let the government deal with them in this respect, as I have suggested. But whether the government acts or not, let everyone at least be guided by his own conscience and form for himself a definition or image of a Jew. When you lay eyes on or think of a Jew you must say to yourself: Alas, that mouth which I there behold has cursed and execrated and maligned every Saturday my dear Lord Jesus Christ, who has redeemed me with his precious blood; in

addition, it prayed and pleaded before God that I, my wife and children, and all Christians might be stabbed to death and perish miserably. And he himself would gladly do this if he were able, in

order to appropriate our goods...

Such a desperate, thoroughly evil, poisonous, and devilish lot are these Jews, who for these fourteen hundred years have been and still are our plague, our pestilence, and our misfortune.

I have read and heard many stories about the Jews which agree with this judgment of Christ, namely, how they have poisoned wells, made assassinations, kidnapped children, as related before. I have heard that one Jew sent



another Jew, and this by means of a Christian, a pot of blood, together with a barrel of wine, in which when drunk empty, a dead Jew was found. There are many other similar stories. For their kidnapping of children they have often been burned at the stake or banished (as we already heard). I am well aware that they deny all of this. However, it all coincides with the judgment of Christ which declares that they are venomous, bitter, vindictive, tricky serpents, assassins, and children of the devil, who sting and work harm stealthily wherever they cannot do it openly. For this reason, I would like to see them where there are no Christians. The Turks and other heathen do not tolerate what we Christians endure from these venomous serpents and young devils...next to the devil, a Christian has no more bitter and galling foe than a Jew. There is no other to whom we accord as many benefactions and from whom we suffer as much as we do from these base children of the devil, this brood of vipers.

Translated by Martin H. Bertram, "On The Jews and Their Lies, Luther's Works, Volume 47"; Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1971.

### **Martin Luther - 1543 Of The Unknowable Name and The Generations of Christ**

But your [God's] judgment is right, justus es Dominie. Yes, so shall Jews, but no one else be punished, who held your word and miracles in contempt and ridiculed, insulted and damned it for such a long time without interruption, so that they will not fall, like other humans, heathens and all the others, into sin and death, not up in Hell, nor in the middle of Hell but in the pit of Hell, as one cannot fall deeper...

Even if they were punished in the most gruesome manner that the streets ran with their blood, that their dead would be counted, not in the hundred thousands, but in the millions, as happened under Vespasian in Jerusalem and for evil under Hadrian, still they must insist on being right even if after these 1,500 years they were in misery another 1,500 years, still God must be a liar and they must be correct. In sum, they are the devil's children, damned to Hell...

The Jews too got what they deserved. They had been called and elected to be God's mouth as Jeremiah says...Open your mouth wide and I will fill it; they however, kept tightly closed their muzzles, eyes, ears, nose, whole heart and all senses, so he polluted and squirted them so full that it oozes from them in all

places and devil's filth comes from them.

Yes, that tastes good to them, into their hearts, they smack their lips like swine. That is how they want it. Call more: 'Crucify him, crucify him.' Scream more: 'His blood come upon us and our children.' (Matthew 27:25) I mean it came and found you...

Perhaps, one of the merciful Saints among us Christians may think I am behaving too crude and disdainfully against the poor, miserable Jews in that I deal with them so sarcastically and insulting. But, good God, I am much too mild in insulting such devils...

The other Protestant "reformer" wasn't much better:

### **John Calvin A Response To Questions and Objections of a Certain Jew**

Their [the Jews] rotten and unbending stiff-neckedness deserves that they be oppressed unendingly and without measure or end and that they die in their misery without the pity of anyone.

Excerpt from "Ad Quaelstiones et Objecta Juael Culusdam Responsio," by John Calvin; The Jew in Christian Theology, Gerhard Falk, McFarland and Company, Inc., Jefferson, NC and London, 1931.

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**Hizbollah uses civilians as human shields**, and there is plenty of evidence to back that up. South Lebanon resident Mounir Herzallah gave this eyewitness account to the German magazine Der Spiegel before the Kana incident.

"After Israel left Lebanon, it did not take long for Hizbollah to have the say in our town and all other towns. They were armed to the teeth and dug rocket depots in bunkers in our town as well. The social work of the 'Party of Allah' consisted of building a school over these bunkers.

"Laughing, a local sheikh explained to me that the Jews lose either way: either because the rockets are fired at them or because, if they attack a weapons depot, they are condemned by world opinion on account of the dead civilians.

"These people do not care about the Lebanese population; they use them as human shields, and, once dead, as propaganda."

## ♦ CALIFORNIA

**Simchat Yeshua.** Shabbat service at 11 am. 1100 E Cameron Ave. Room 10; W Covina CA 91790. Call 626-290-0234

## ♦ COLORADO

**Tikvat Yisrael.** Shabbat Services at 2 pm in Grand Junction CO. Email Dennis at: [Krostostme@msn.com](mailto:Krostostme@msn.com)

## ♦ FLORIDA

**Kehilat Kol Simcha.** PO Box 358924, Gainesville FL 32635-8924. Meets at First Church of the Nazarene, 5020 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Gainesville. Rabbi Tony Arroyo. Call 352-485-1210.

**Kehillat Elohim Messianic Synagogue.** Rabbi John Schutz, 4815 Executive Park Ct #201, Jacksonville FL 32216. Call 904-318-6002. Shabbat service at 3 pm.

**Messianic Fellowship of Daytona Beach.** 1351 Beville FL 32119. Call 386-490-0718. Sabbath Service at 10:30 am. Hebrew classes 6:30 pm Wed nights.

**Olive Tree Message!** 2751 SE 150<sup>th</sup> Ave, Morriston FL 32668. Call Roger Walkwitz at 352-528-2740. [Roger@Walkwitz.com](mailto:Roger@Walkwitz.com)

[www.walkwitz.com/Roger](http://www.walkwitz.com/Roger)

**Mishkan Congregation.** Shabbat services at 11 am. 6675 SE Maricamp Rd, Ocala FL 34472. Call 352-687-4434.

## ♦ GEORGIA

**Kehilat Meshichi Mishkan Shalom.** Rabbi Steve Coyle, 97 Kevin Lane, Rock Spring GA 30739. Call 706-237-2530.

## ♦ ILLINOIS

**Gates of Eden.** PO Box 2257, E. Peoria IL 61611. Daniel Botkin. Call 309-698-9467.

## ♦ NEBRASKA

**Adat HaTikvat Tzion.** Shabbat Services at 10 am at the SW Church of the Nazarene, 14808 Q St, Omaha NE. [www.adat.org](http://www.adat.org) Call Rav Nate Seitelbach at 402-592-2404.

## ♦ NEW JERSEY

**Beit B'rachot MJ Fellowship.** Rav Joseph Kresefsky. 51 No Lincoln Ave, Washington NJ 07882. Shabbat Service at 10:30 am. Call 908-674-5601.

## ♦ NEW YORK

**Mt. Vernon Congregation of G-d 7<sup>th</sup> Day,** Pastor Bernice, at brown & tan house, 101 South First Ave, Mt. Vernon NY 10550. Shabbat services at 11 am. Call 914-664-7582.

**Petah Tikvah.** Rav Richard 'Aharon' Chalmberlin. Shabbat services at 2 pm. 165 Doncaster Rd, Rochester NY 14623. Call 585-475-1188.

## ♦ PENNSYLVANIA

**Beit Torah.** 689 Hillview Rd, Allentown PA 18103. (Located in the Annex of Trinity Baptist) Call 484-425-3499. [BeitTorah2015@gmail.com](mailto:BeitTorah2015@gmail.com)

**Congregation of Yahshua Messiah.** Cong. Leader: Bob Young. Shabbat services, 11 am. Call 412-372-5173. [pathwayofflight.org](http://pathwayofflight.org)

**Tikvat T'zion.** 334 E Moody Ave, New Castle PA 16105. Rav Mark Hernandez. Call 724-652-3702 for service times.

## ♦ RHODE ISLAND

**Tents of Jacob.** PO Box 7572, Warwick RI 02886. Weekly newsletter with teachings on the parashah of the week is available to all, including inmates. [yochanon1633@yahoo.com](mailto:yochanon1633@yahoo.com)

## ♦ TEXAS

**Sabbath Keepers Fellowship,** PO Box 972, Malakoff TX 75148. Provides literature, matzah, and tallitot to inmates as finances permit.

## ♦ UTAH

**Wild Branch Ministry.** PO Box 97; Vernal UT 84078. Carol Scott. Call 435-789-3713. Great source for books, CDs, and DVDs. [www.wildbranch.org](http://www.wildbranch.org)

## ♦ VERMONT

**United Messianic Jewish Ministries,** PO Box 122, Brandon VT 05733. [umjewishministries.com](http://umjewishministries.com) [umjewishministries@yahoo.com](mailto:umjewishministries@yahoo.com)

## ♦ WASHINGTON STATE

**United Messianic Jewish Assembly,** promoting a Messianic Torah centered life. 2914 S

Latawah, Spokane WA 99203. Call 951-262-3659. [www.umja.net](http://www.umja.net) (The UMJA contact for inmates is **Petah Tikvah** in Rochester NY.)

## ♦ WISCONSIN

**Hebrew Roots Magazine,** PO Box 400, Lakewood WI 54138. [www.Hebrew-Roots.net](http://www.Hebrew-Roots.net) Great magazine! **RAC** Call 715-757-2775.

# Messianic Directory

**"Forsake not the assembling of ourselves together, as is the habit of some, but exhort one another, so much the more as you see the day approaching."**

**HEBREWS 10 : 25**



**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MESSIANIC CONGREGATION**



**INTERNATIONAL****BRAZIL**

**A.G. Jewish Congregation and Petah Tikvah Yeshiva.** Messianic Rabbis J. Berlandi and David Cassidy. Mauricio Amancio, 297, Camoxinga, Santana do Ipanema, Alagoas, 57500-000. [Jew-Cassidy0@gmail.com](mailto:Jew-Cassidy0@gmail.com)

**ETHIOPIA**

Obtain beautiful Judaica, hand-crafted by Bete-Israelis (black Jews) in Ethiopia. Contact: Daniel Belay, PO Box 4941, Addis Ababa.

[daniel\\_belay95@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel_belay95@yahoo.com)

**HOLLAND (Netherlands)**

**Beth Yeshua.** Rabbi Lion Erwtman. Veluwelaan 20, Amsterdam. [www.beth-yeshua.nl](http://www.beth-yeshua.nl) Call 31-20-890-6950. [Info@beth-yeshua.nl](mailto:Info@beth-yeshua.nl)

**INDIA**

**Kehilat Beth Lechem.** R' Joseph John, PO Box 13; Sainikpuri, Hyderabad 500 094 TS, INDIA [www.bethlechem.com](http://www.bethlechem.com)

**INDONESIA**

**Moriah Messianic Ministries.** Jakarta [Coltwo\\_id@wihardjo.com](mailto:Coltwo_id@wihardjo.com)

**NIGERIA**

**B'rit Olam Kehilah.** PO Box 47, Ijeshatedo 101015, Lagos. [britolamkehilah@yahoo.com](mailto:britolamkehilah@yahoo.com)

**PHILIPPINES**

**Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship.** PO Box 212, 2600 Baguio City. For the on-line edition of the *APMF Petah Tikvah Magazine*, go to: [www.APMFInc.com](http://www.APMFInc.com) and click on "Petah Tikvah" near the top of the home page. This special edition is designed especially for our readers in Asia. **Baguio City Messianic Congregation.** PO Box 212, 2600 Baguio City. Shabbat services at 9:30 AM. Dave Angiwan [dave@apmfinc.com](mailto:dave@apmfinc.com) or [bonicarl@gmail.com](mailto:bonicarl@gmail.com)

**Bayit HaShem.** PO Box 3272, 1200 Makati City. Visit blog at [bayithashem.com](http://bayithashem.com). Max 'Nonong' Tuason. (Author of great books! RAC)

**La Trinidad Bible Congregation.** PO Box 133, 2601 LaTrinidad, Benguet. Shabbat services. 10:00 AM. Amos Baucas +639283322201. [lbaucas@yahoo.com](mailto:lbaucas@yahoo.com).

**WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM**

Check out our website. We appreciate the work of our webmaster, Josiah Lebowitz. We have separate sections for articles in Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, English, Indonesian, and Estonian. English articles are divided up according to topic (History, Bible, Holy Days, News Items, Israel)

**INFO ON THE COVER ART**

Our cover art was once again done for us by Bryan Picken, 33 S Normal St #1, Ypsilanti MI 48198. Bryan's artwork has been a great addition to *Petah Tikvah*. Toda raba!

**SHALOM, GOODBYE, ADIOS!**

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*"It must be halal meat -  
It's disagreeing with me."*



ASIA  
PACIFIC  
MESSIANIC  
FELLOWSHIP



## KEHILOT, COMMUNITIES AND CONGREGATIONS IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP:

### Indonesia

#### **Gereja Kehilat Mesianik Indonesia**

(GKMI = Indonesian Assemblies of Messianic  
Congregations with gov't recognition)

Pengakuan KemenAg Kanwil DKI

KW.09.7/BAO1.1/149/2013 **Jakarta** Sat 5PM

Sun 8AM.

#### **Bintaro Messianic Congregation**

Bumi Bintaro Permai D7-8 **South Jakarta** 12320.

Contact: Benyamin Obadyah +62217364258

Sat 10AM and 5PM

#### **Shoresh Messianic Fellowship Plaza**

Pasifik Bld A1/1, 4th Fl, Jl Raya Boulevard Barat

Kelapa Gading, **North Jakarta**

Contact: Benyamin Obadyah +62-812-9912-430

**CENTRAL JAVA** Sat 10AM

#### **Purwokerto Messianic Congregation**

Jl Jend Sudirman 883, Purwokerto, Central Java

Contact: Bambang Rianto +62-8886657801

#### **EAST JAVA** Sat 5 pm **Kehilat Mesianik**

**Congregation** Jl Wonokromo 7/5, Mojosari, Kab

Mojokerto, East Java Contact: Judo Nugroho

+62-81913224624

#### **SOUTH KALIMANTAN** Sat 10 am **Banjarmasin**

**Messianic Congregation** Jl Pasar Baru 2,

Banjarmasin , South Kalimantan Contact: Edy

Purwanto +62-8125189517

#### **NORTH SULAWESI** Sat 10 am **Yerushalayim**

**Messianic Congregation** Manado , North

Sulawesi Contact: Jeffrey Rualemba +62-

89655471976 Sat 10 am Netivyah Ministry Jl

Garuda 37, Manado , North Sulawesi . Contact:

Oral Bollegraf. +62-853 98128567

#### **PAPUA** Sat 10 am **El Shaddai Messianic**

**Congregation** Jl Argapura Kanon, Jayapura,

Papua Conact: Seblum Karubaba +62-

81247562203 Sat 10AM

#### **Migdal Eder Messianic Congregation**

Jl Pasir Dua, Jayapura, Papua. Contact: Benny Karubaba

+62-812 47082149

## KEHILOT, COMMUNITIES AND CONGREGATIONS IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP:

### South Korea

#### **Korea Shalom Messianic Ekklesia**

Shabbat meeting at 2PM.

F2, 16, Gyeongin-ro 940beon-Gil, Bupyeong-gu, Incheon, 21424, Korea.

Contact: Yehoshua Jo, yehoshuajo@msn.com, +82-10-5090-5821.

### Japan

#### **Japan Messianic Fellowship**

Erev Shabbat and Shabbat 10AM

4-14-11 Midorigaoka, Taihaku-ku, Sendai-shi, Miyagi 982 Contact: Takashi Yokoyama +81-22-285-9227, jmf-oej@bekkoame.ne.jp

#### **Shalom Messianic Ekklesia,**

Shabbat Service at 1PM, R# 301,3-9-12

Shinmachi Kitaku, Tokyo, Japan 114-0012

Contact: +81-3-3810-8828, yehoshuajo@me.com

### New Zealand

#### **TALMIDEI YESHUA MESSIANIC MINISTRY OF NEW ZEALAND**

www.messianic.org.nz

**HAWKES BAY KEHILAH.** Nasi: Graeme Purdie talmidimnz@gmail.com +64 277101157

**AUCKLAND KEHILAH:** Nasi: Ashok Kumar talmidimak@gmail.com +64 21 029 08194

PO Box 8654 Havelock North, 4157 NZ  
(Talmidei Yeshua Messianic Ministry of New Zealand may not necessarily accept or agree with all the views expressed in this magazine).

### Singapore

The Congregation that Song Lai Hee has went "Noahide," a totally false pathway so he is alone now until Yeshua forms a true Kehilah there. He lives at: Blk 620 Bukit, Batok Central #29-522, Singapore 650620 Contact: Song Lai Hee +65-90027471 laihee@gmail.com.

### Thailand

#### **Bangkok Messianic House**

Shabbat 10:30am 33/5 Soi Nai-Lert, Wireless Rd. Bangkok 10330 Thailand. Contact: Nobuyuki Ito +66-81-915-6154 nobunosuke77@gmail.com.

### Philippine APMF Diaspora in Canada

#### **Calgary L'Chaim Bible Fellowship**

Shabbat Service 4:00 PM. 138 Bridlewood Ave. SW Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Contact: Louwell Ogbinar +1 (403)-700-2131 loubinar@yahoo.com; Marvin Mayo +1(403)-402-6763 marvin.mayo@hotmail.com www.lechaimbiblefellowship.org

### Philippines

#### APMF Officers Philippines

**Dave Angiwan:** dave@apmfinc.com

**Joel Cruz:** joel@apmfinc.com,

**Ted Franco:** ted\_franco@yahoo.com

**Amos Baucas:** albaucas@hotmail.com

### Member of APMF:

#### **La Trinidad**

#### **La Trinidad Bible Congregation (LTBC)**

Shabbat Service 10:00 AM Cruz, La Trinidad PO Box 133, LaTrinidad, Benguet 2601

Contact: Amos Baucas +639283322201, lbaucas@yahoo.com

### In fellowship with APMF:

#### **Baguio City**

#### **Baguio City Messianic Community (BCMC)**

Shabbat Service at 9:30AM

#7 Modesta St., Mines View, Baguio City 2600

Contact: Dave Angiwan: dave@apmfinc.com

#### **Ifugao**

#### **Banaue Messianic Fellowship**

3601 Banaue, Ifugao

Contact: Jose Sarol: 09679663562, clairesarolsarol@gmail.com

## KEHILOT, COMMUNITIES AND CONGREGATIONS IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP:

### **Cebu**

#### **Cebu Messianic Community**

Shabbat Service 10:00AM, 1:00PM

Contact: Joel Cruz: +639228335327, Imee Cruz: +639228512454.

### **Bukidnon**

#### **Talakag Messianic Fellowship**

Talakag Bukidnon, Mindanao

Shabbat gathering 10 AM - 6 PM

Contact: Solomon Buasag. 09778021025 & 09352974405, vivsbuasag@yahoo.com.

### **Davao Oriental**

#### **Pujada Community**

Yakal St., Barangay Sainz, City of Mati, Davao

Oriental 8200: Saturday 3-6 PM.

Contact: Mark Pineda: +639183532549

#### **Lupon Torah Community**

Panuncialman St., Purok Hayahay

Brgy. Poblacion, Lupon, Davao Oriental

8:00am - 11:30am every Shabbat

Contacts: Petronio (Bong) Conte

bongskik04@gmail.com, 09077319723

Alen Kelly Conte, billionairealenkelly@gmail.com.

09171623763

## **Greater Manila Area**

### **Rizal**

#### **Cainta Torah Community**

Shabbat Service at 10:30 AM

Dayspring Academy Sunset Drive Brookside

Subdivision, **Cainta, Rizal** 1900

Contact: Willy and Lita Miranda +63 9393253000 +63 927 7048000 willyz\_miranda@yahoo.com.

#### **Eagles Wings Messianic Congregations**

Friday 6:30PM and Saturday 9:30AM

#7 Saratoga St. Park Place Executive Village,

Cainta, Rizal Contact: Jenny Joven +63286555469

Christy Cruz +639951941502

Also Saturday 9:00 AM #450 L. Cerrero St. Bgy.

Macamot, Binangonan, Rizal Contact: Tony Arceo

+639268296338.

### **Paranaque City**

#### **Emunah Tabgha Community**

Executive Heights, Paranaque City

Contact Eva Agustin: +639178960995

Shabbat Service 10:30AM

### **Tagaytay City**

#### **Tagaytay Torah Community**

Shabbat Service 10:30 AM

Contact: Ning +639199840878,

### **Cavite**

#### **Emunah Torah Community**

Shabbat service 10am

Block 3 lot 21 Java St. Cyber green subdivision,

General Trias, Cavite.

Contact: Christopher Madrid: 09328442958.

christophermadrid75@gmail.com

### **Quezon City**

#### **Mishpachah Ha'Mashiach Torah Community**

Shabbat Service 2-6 PM

Bldg 11 BLPC, Road 3, Quezon City

Contact: Ian Asuncion or Cecilia Agustin

+639185736838.

### **Mandaluyong City**

#### **Metro Strata Learning Center**

Shabbat Service 9:30AM

11th Floor 685 Nueve de Pebrero Ave.

Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

Contact: Tanggol Esquerra: +639153208083.

### **Laguna**

#### **Chesed V'Emeth Community**

Shabbat Service 12:30 PM

Blk 11 Lot 36 Calendola Village San Pedro, Laguna

Contact: Monette Guiruela +639206583847

**PETAH TIKVAH**  
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