

The Chosen People



Volume , Issue 6 July 2010



A NEW DAY FOR JEWISH MISSIONS

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OUR PLAN APRIL 20 2010



BACK IN BROOKLYN TRAINING LEADERS

Shalom from the Chosen People Ministries headquarters in New York City!

I believe that the Lord is coming soon and that the salvation of the Jewish people is key to His coming (Romans 11:11-15)—wouldn't you agree?

We are in the midst of our Isaiah 53 evangelistic campaign, and it is going really well! On our website, www.isaiah53.com, we are offering a book called *Isaiah 53 Explained* to Jewish people who do not yet know the Lord. It is our prayer that through this 175-page book, seekers will discover that the Messiah about whom Isaiah prophesied can and will transform their lives!

Please pray for this outreach, and consider sending us the name and **address of a Jewish friend to whom we can send the *Isaiah 53 Explained* book free of charge!** Just write their information in the space on the enclosed card, and once we

receive it, we will have the book in their hands within two weeks. We are unable to mention that it was you who asked us to send the book, so I will leave it up to you if you want to mention this to your friend!

We are excited about the extensive Isaiah 53 advertising as well as our ministry teams that are sharing the Gospel on the streets and following up with seekers who requested the book. Thanks for partnering with us in this effort to proclaim the Good News to Jewish people!


God Said There'd Be Days Like This!

Reaching Jewish people for Jesus in these last days is a vital part of God's plan for the end of the ages. Through Chosen People Ministries, we are privileged to be among the first fruits of an "end-time generation" of Messianic evangelists that God is using to reach this growing Jewish remnant (Romans 11:5).

We have already been used by God to accomplish what I never would have thought possible when I was saved as a 19-year-old Jewish hippie in the early 1970s. At that time, who could have imagined an evangelistic center in the heart of Jerusalem, an international conference of more than 100 Russian Jewish church planters, and the astounding multiplication of Messianic congregations in Israel and around the world? The Lord has done all this—and more!

Everywhere I look, I see more and more Jewish people becoming believers in Jesus. I believe that this expansion of the Jewish remnant will continue and that it is **an unmistakable signpost pointing toward the Second Coming.**

Yet there is still so much to do in working together with the Lord to reach the day when "all Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:25-27). **God has called us to be His arms, legs and voice to the Jewish people—calling**



If you would like to share our newsletter with some of your friends who might have a burden for the Jewish people, just send us their names and addresses. We'll send them their own copy of *The Chosen People*.



His chosen ones to salvation in Messiah—but who will go?

Messianic Evangelists for the Last Days

The men and women being trained at the Charles Feinberg Center for Messianic Jewish Studies have answered, “Send me!” And what better place to train this new generation of end-time Messianic evangelists than New York City—and especially Brooklyn?

The Feinberg Center is all about reaching Jewish people with the message of Jesus—which is one of the most difficult mission fields under the sun.

The Devil will do whatever it takes to turn Jewish people away from Jesus, because he knows what will happen when Jewish people turn toward Him!

Effective Jewish evangelism requires a rare combination of knowledge, spiritual maturity and a sense of calling

that is lived out on a daily basis. In reaching the religious Jewish people who will be our neighbors near the new Brooklyn Center, we will also need knowledge of Hebrew, Jewish Studies and a deeper understanding of the Jewish roots of the Gospel message.

I have dreamed about a program to train missionaries to the Jews and Messianic pastors since my days in Bible college. Although I was happy with my education and learned under excellent professors, there was very little understanding about Jewish evangelism. After all, we would not expect the average seminary professor to know about Jewish life, religion and thought, as this is a very specific area of expertise.

A New Day for Jewish Missions: Another Sign of His Coming

The Charles Feinberg Center for Messianic Jewish Studies is designed to meet the needs that my earlier education could not. It is a response to our growing Messianic movement—and again, another sign of the Second Coming. The remnant is increasing, and so is the need for training those who will minister to the existing remnant and the remnant to come. In fact, as I meet Jewish believers from all over the world, I find that one of their main desires is for training in Jewish ministry.

Dear friend, this is why we have established the Charles Feinberg Center for Messianic Jewish Studies. We are currently in our third year, and we have more than twenty students training to be full-time workers among the Jewish people. Some of these men and women are already on staff with Chosen People Ministries, and they are further developing their ministry skills through this program.

The Feinberg Center offers an opportunity for in-depth education and practical ministry training.

A Ministry and Training Center in the Midst of Brooklyn!

We are now receiving applications for the Feinberg Center regularly, and we are thrilled that God is calling so many to dedicate their lives to reaching His people with the Gospel! Our new facility in the heart of Orthodox Jewish Brooklyn is absolutely necessary for the growth of this training program—and, more importantly, for the growth of God’s work among the Jewish people.

I would love to take you for a stroll through the neighborhood to see the Jewish bookstores, Jewish seminaries and synagogues, as well as the kosher sushi restaurant across the street! By the time we finished our walk, you would clearly understand why the Lord has led us to this facility and how important and strategic it is for the students to be trained and to minister in this very Jewish area.

I hope you will remember to pray for us—especially as we continue asking the Lord to provide the \$900,000 we need to renovate this 11,000-square-foot facility in Brooklyn. We praise Him for the generous grant we received that now allows gifts to be doubled!

Have a great rest of the summer, and may our Messiah Jesus fill your heart with great joy and holy expectation—because He is coming soon!

Your brother in the Messiah,


Mitch



Dr. Mitch Glaser
President



“Stroll with us through our neighborhood. By the time we finish our walk, you will clearly understand how strategic it is for the students to be trained and to minister in this very Jewish area.”

“For years, I have been wanting to see a solid Messianic Jewish Studies program at the seminary level. I am happy to see a new program co-sponsored by the Talbot School of Theology and Chosen People Ministries, a well-established

Jewish ministry through which many Jews have come to the Lord—including myself.

“The Feinberg Center curriculum is excellent for general biblical and theological studies, but also in the specific area of Jewish studies. Although the program is primarily geared toward people

who will be entering into full-time Jewish ministry, it is not limited to them. There are many believers who do not have plans to enter Jewish ministry, but who would like to have a knowledge of Jewish studies that provides the background for both Old and New Testament studies. I recommend the program both for those entering Jewish ministries and for those who work in other ministries, as this training will be valuable for them in any and all circumstances.”

Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum
Director, Ariel Ministries

“Raising up new leaders is always critical, but it is especially urgent that we attract and equip younger leaders now. Messianic congregations need leaders, as the congregations are growing and existing leaders will be moving off the scene. We also need trained outreach

workers, and the need will only become more acute with the passing years.”

Russ Resnick
Executive Director,
Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations

“The Apostle Paul urged us to be sure that the Gospel was brought to Jewish people as a priority. The Messianic movement is a precious and unique part of the body of Messiah; it has its own needs and issues that require special attention. The Feinberg program trains people to be sensitive to these needs and to be aware of the biblical issues tied to such a ministry. The resources of Talbot Seminary make this program exceptional. I recommend it highly; it meets a biblical mandate and calling.”

Dr. Darrel Bock
Research Professor of New Testament
Studies, Dallas Theological Seminary and
Board Member, Chosen People Ministries

“The Board of Chosen People Ministries was enthusiastic in giving its unanimous approval to the purchase of this property to house the Feinberg Center for Messianic Jewish Studies and the Brooklyn outreach. As Dr. Gregg Hagg, Director of the Feinberg Center, and I toured the building and its surroundings, we could hardly imagine a more fitting location for study and ministry in this, the heart of one of the most concentrated Jewish communities in the world. We trust and pray that many will come to know Messiah because Chosen People Ministries has returned—in a highly visible way—to the community not far from where Rabbi Leopold Cohn, our founder, began his ministry in 1894.”

Tom McHugh
Chairman of the Board of Directors,
Chosen People Ministries

WHAT PROMINENT LEADERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE FEINBERG CENTER

FROM FELLOW DRUG USERS TO BROTHERS IN MESSIAH

Word about the Brooklyn Messianic Center's addiction counseling program can spread pretty quickly. Take the case of Vladimir and Eugene.* Both men came from the Former Soviet Union when they were about thirteen—a difficult time to make a transition—and both of them are now around thirty. Vladimir and Eugene had both become drug addicts, walking the tragic road toward destruction.

Eugene, however, had a genuine spiritual hunger buried inside of him. When Viktoria, our staff member, invited him to the addiction counseling program at Chosen People Ministries' Brooklyn Messianic Center, he came. He also began attending staff member Klaudia Zhelezny's Bible study group, and after some weeks of wrestling with the truth of the Bible, he received the Lord.

Eugene then invited his former drug buddy, Vladimir, to the Center. Recently out of prison, where he too had grown spiritually curious, Vladimir came to the Hanukkah celebration at the Center late last year. Klaudia met him there and invited him to her group, and he started coming regularly. As Klaudia relates, "He hung on every word of the Bible like a hungry person. I worked with him very attentively to explain the truth. Vladimir had a very logical approach, and when he became convinced, he made his decision to follow the Lord. Before, he was in bondage to drugs and in spiritual bondage, but now he is being transformed!"

Vladimir and Eugene were baptized together this spring at Simcha, Chosen People Ministries' Messianic conference, to much rejoicing. 🌈



MARK SUREY – SHEPHERD OF THE STUDENT BODY

As you can see, the Feinberg Center emphasizes evangelism training and spiritual development. Fortunately, we have a staff member who is well qualified to oversee both of these important components of the program. He is Mark Surey, whose testimony and experience as a Jewish believer from England bring a dimension of maturity to his ministry with the Feinberg students.

Mark's Jewish background took a back seat to his parents' radical politics. However, after he became a believer in Jesus, he became an ordained Baptist minister and witnessed to Jewish students and young professionals in London from 1996-2009. He has now been a member of our staff for about a year.

Mark serves as the Feinberg Center's Field Education Coordinator, overseeing spiritual formation and practical ministry with the aim of developing the students' gifts and skills. He connects students with other Chosen People Ministries staff members with whom they can develop mentoring relationships. For example, some students work with Doug P. at

Gospel literature tables at Brooklyn College, Columbia and New York University. Other students help out with our Messianic congregations in Manhattan and New Jersey.

Mark is involved in our Brooklyn outreach and puts his pastoral gifts to work as he leads the Seminary chapel once a month and visits with the Feinberg students as the need and opportunity arise. Mark's experience and encouragement are much needed amid the challenges of study and ministry. 🌈

HE HUNG ON EVERY WORD OF THE BIBLE LIKE A HUNGRY PERSON. WHEN HE BECAME CONVINCED, HE MADE HIS DECISION.

SEE THE BIBLE THROUGH JEWISH EYES

BY DANIEL GOLDBERG, TH.D., D.D.



Dr. Goldberg serves as International Ministries Representative for Chosen People Ministries and lives in Pineville, North Carolina with his wife, Madeline.

THE MANY BAPTISMS IN THE BOOK OF MATTHEW

The Baptism of John— A Jewish Baptism of Repentance (Matthew 3:1-10)

Baptism was commonly practiced among the Jewish people prior to John's day as a method of purification. Gentile converts were also immersed when they were adopted into Judaism. The baptism of John the Baptist emphasized *repentance* and prepared the Jewish nation for the revelation of their Messiah.

The Baptism of the Messiah Jesus—The Beginning of His Official Ministry (Matthew 3:13-17)

After living three decades of earthly life in obscurity, Jesus began His public ministry by a baptism. It was not a "baptism of repentance" (since He was without sin), but rather a necessary step to "fulfill all righteousness" (Mt. 3:15). As He came up out of the water, He saw the Spirit of God and heard His Father's approval. What a testimony to Israel of Jesus' identity as Messiah, when God's heavenly voice proclaimed, "*This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased*" (Mt. 3:17).

The Baptism of Suffering (Matthew 20:17-28)

As the Messiah announced to His disciples that He would go to Jerusalem to suffer and die, He spoke of another baptism—that of suffering. When the mother of James and John requested that her sons be given a prominent place of honor in Messiah's kingdom, Jesus replied, "*Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?*" (Mt. 20:22). Here Jesus expands the doctrine of suffering "for righteousness' sake" that would be the lot of true disciples (Mt. 5:10-12; 20:23).

The Baptism with the Fiery Power of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11)

Jesus had promised that God would send "*the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to remembrance all things that I said to you*" (Jn. 14:26). After He arose, Messiah told His disciples, "*wait for the Promise of the Father, which you have heard from Me*" (Acts 1:4). Acts 2 records the coming of the Holy Spirit to indwell and

empower all believers to witness effectively. This is the fulfillment of John the Baptist's statement, "*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire*" (Mt. 3:11).

A Believer's Baptism in Water—Reflecting Discipleship (Matthew 28:18-20)

The great commission of Jesus was to "*go therefore and make disciples . . . baptizing them.*" In the New Testament, every example of baptism by immersion was preceded by belief in the Messiahship of Jesus. After the Ethiopian eunuch acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah promised in Isaiah 53, he said, "*See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?*" Then Phillip said, "*If you believe with all your heart, you may . . .*" (Acts 8:36,37).

CONCLUSION

Baptism is a powerful testimony to unbelievers concerning the divinity and Messiahship of Jesus (Rom. 6:1-10). Have you sealed your decision to follow Him with this public declaration of your faith? 🌈

PASSOVER AT FOLSOM STATE PRISON

California staff member Olivier Melnick was invited to perform a “Messiah in the Passover” banquet at Folsom State Prison in California. The audience included 300 inmates, about half of them believers in Jesus. Speaking on bondage, redemption and God’s grace while sharing all of the Passover elements with the inmates, Olivier received a very positive response. At the end, Olivier led in the sinner’s prayer with those men moved to pray, and was blessed to witness twenty inmates who made a decision for Yeshua (Jesus). They got very excited when he told them that they would be with God in the “New Jerusalem.”

FRIENDSHIP AND PRAYERS LEAD TO FAITH DECISION IN TORONTO

Anna Bortsova, who serves on staff in Canada, had the opportunity to befriend and to pray for some neighbors—a young Russian family, whose four-year-old daughter was hospitalized and made a recovery. Then, only a few weeks later, the little girl’s grandmother, who helps raise the children, broke her leg. Anna visited and prayed for her also. These acts of friendship led to an invitation from the couple to join in their celebration of five years of marriage. were the only guests invited. In the course of the evening, after the children went to bed, the Bortsovas spoke with the wife, who asked about their faith. Later that night, after a deep conversation, the woman received the Lord.

THE GOOD NEWS GOES FORTH FROM ZION

Devorah,* a young Jewish woman who visited the Messianic congregation led by Jeff Kipp in Pittsburgh, has come to faith in her Messiah. A day or so after Devorah’s visit, Jeff received a phone call from her Israeli childhood girlfriend, who had been witnessing to her for eighteen years. The friend told him that Devorah had just surrendered her life to Messiah. In a follow-up visit over dinner, Jeff and his wife, Kathy, spoke with Devorah about the decision she had made. She confessed with tears of joy, “I should have done this a long time ago, because now I have peace I never had before.”

THE RICHES OF THE GOSPEL

A Jewish wedding officiated by Vladimir Pikman, the director of our work in Germany, turned into a unique chance to speak to a number of very sophisticated not-yet-believers. Although opportunities to share the Gospel directly were limited, the Lord used that little to great effect. As Vladimir started the ceremony, the Lord touched the hearts of some guests and they began crying. After his wife, Inna, performed a couple of songs that complemented the testimony, people became very interested in their faith. One Jewish woman confided in them that despite her wealth and multiple achievements, she felt empty. As Vladimir began praying for her, she began praying herself, asking Yeshua to forgive her and to be her Savior. Vladimir writes, “We were overwhelmed by the powerful working of our God. Praise the Lord!”



PRAISE THE LORD FOR TWO MORE JEWISH FAITH DECISIONS

Ryan K., who ministers on our staff in New York City, spoke in a church to which the worship leader had brought his Jewish friend. The message opened the Jewish friend’s eyes. After two lunch meetings, this Jewish man gave his life to the Lord as he and Ryan prayed together in a parking lot. Ryan says, “He is very excited and I will be following up with him in order to disciple him, as will the church. This is very praiseworthy—Hallelujah!”

“I’VE READ ISAIAH 53 AND—IT’S JESUS.”

When Marty,* a Jewish doctor in Arizona, began reading the Bible, he told his staff, “I have questions. I need more information.” That’s when Chosen People Ministries worker Cathy Wilson stepped into the picture. Following her two attempts at contact, Marty called her. “Since I believe God is reaching out to me,” he shared, “how could I not call you?” After some discussion, Marty said, “I’ve read Isaiah 53 and—it’s Jesus. I called my mother and read it to her, and she also realizes it’s Jesus.”

*names have been changed

Why I Stand with the Jewish People



Dr. Arch Culbreth

I became a believer in 1975, and I knew of Chosen People Ministries from its days as the American Board of Missions to the Jews. I remember being quite impressed with their tracts, and I began ordering them. Later on, after the name changed to Chosen People Ministries, I continued my support because I believe in the cause of Jewish evangelism. I also think that many Christians do not realize just how hard it is for a Jewish person to become a believer in Jesus and how much many Jewish people sacrifice in terms of family relationships when they become believers. I also know that Jewish evangelism is underfunded, and I think Christians should offer their support.

I support Jewish missions because we know that our Lord and Savior is Jewish. The Bible tells us that the Jewish people were chosen to bring Messiah into the world. I think that Christians should stand with Jewish believers who face such hardship and persecution for their faith. As Jewish people come to faith, we will see a confirmation of God's promises in these last days. We are coming closer and closer to that day.

For more information on ways you can be involved in giving, please contact us today. Call 1-888-293-7482 (or in Canada 1-888-442-5535) or email us at giving@chosenpeople.com.

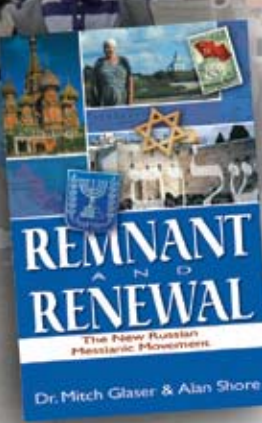
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Why Jewish Evangelism?



Order your copy now of our Messianic Jewish Art Calendar for September 2010 to December 2011. Each month will greet you with a breathtaking photo of a different aspect of Jewish life, a relevant word of Scripture and an encouraging thought about Messiah's promise to His people. They make great gifts, so don't forget to order extras!

Messianic Jewish Art Calendar [5005] • \$13.95us



Who are the Jewish people of the former Soviet Union and what is their relationship to the Gospel? *Remnant and Renewal: The New Russian Messianic Movement* tells the story of the Russian-speaking Jewish people and of the sometimes heartbreaking, often heroic tales of those who have sought to bring the Gospel to them throughout their troubled history. These personal testimonies were compiled by Dr. Mitch Glaser and Alan Shore.

Remnant and Renewal [3115] • \$13.95us

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INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

FINDING PEACE IN A TROUBLED WORLD

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



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