

For Zion's Sake

First Quarter 2013 Jewish Year 5773

THE ROOT AND OFFSPRING OF *David*

*"I Jesus have sent mine
angel to testify unto
you these things in the
churches. I am the root and
the offspring of David..."*
(Revelation 22:16).

**WATCHING FOR
HIS APPEARING**



Christian Friends of Israel-Jerusalem

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For Zion's Sake

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Director's Letter



Ray Sanders

SHALOM FROM JERUSALEM

Dear Friends of Israel,

The current situation in the Middle East, especially regarding Syria, remains volatile and unpredictable. Complicating matters even more is the uncertainty of Iran's continual progress toward the development of a nuclear weapon and its threats to annihilate Israel. This places the government of Israel in a very precarious position as to how to proceed to neutralize this enormous threat. Military Intelligence head, Maj-Gen. Aviv Kochavi recently told IDF Chief of Staff, Maj-Gen. Benny Gantz, "Israel will face a more unstable, tense and Islamist environment than in the past." The comments were made during a presentation of an annual Military Intelligence evaluation. Kochavi said, "It will be an environment that deals with a series of crises, regional and internal, which raises the level of sensitivity of all players, and which could lead, without prior planning, to an eruption." The annual intelligence evaluation is produced by the Research Division of Military Intelligence, and is based on intelligence gathering by the IDF and the intelligence community at large. It is designed to create a current regional evaluation and point out strategic and operational challenges. The report is also sent to the government for evaluation.

Further complicating matters in the Middle East was the released amateur film entitled "Innocence of Muslims," which was reported to be deeply offensive to Muslims around the world. Unfortunately, the attacks which followed resulted in the death of the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, Chris Stevens and three of his colleagues. The US Embassy in Cairo was also breached, the American flag destroyed by a mob of Islamist fanatics, and replaced with the black Islamic flag of war. The US Cairo Embassy's initial response? "The Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims." In subsequent news conferences the US State Department disavowed the Cairo Embassy statement, and clearly said that the so-called "riot" was actually a well-planned terrorist attack—possibly orchestrated by Al Qaeda on the anniversary of 9-11. This is a time for us to pray for discernment—to know the truth of each situation as it arises, and to react properly as we face dark times ahead.



Life under Sharia Law



Muslim Brotherhood



Pushing for Sharia Law worldwide

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. Behold, all those who were incensed against you shall be ashamed and disgraced; they shall be as nothing, and those who strive with you shall perish. You shall seek them and not find them – those who contended with you. Those who war against you shall be as nothing, as a non-existent thing. For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you. ‘Fear not, I will help you’” (Isaiah 41:10-13).

Of grave concern to faithful supporters of Israel and the Jewish people is the continuing deterioration of the relationship between the US President and the Prime Minister of Israel. It has been said that Barack Hussein Obama has in past statements (not since becoming President) admitted to being a Muslim, and that he was born in Kenya. Now that he is re-elected, it is thought that he will support appeasement of the Muslim world at the expense of Israel’s security. This places Israel in a very tenuous position of responding to the growing nuclearization of Iran. Obama is essentially tying Israel’s hands by not agreeing to support an attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities. If Israel goes it alone and it results in a major military confrontation with the Moslem world, Israel will be severely isolated and ostracized. It would appear that Israel is in a no-win situation in which we need to pray for the Lord’s divine intervention.

The Muslim Brotherhood Consolidating Its Influence

A growing threat to peace and stability in the Middle East is the influence of the Muslim Brotherhood in countries where dictators once ruled and outlawed the MB. In Egypt, Tunisia and the Gaza Strip the Brotherhood is consolidating their influence and power. They want a Sharia state and a caliphate (run by itself, of course). They want Israel wiped off the map and America kicked out of the Middle East. They want women kept as second-class citizens and gays put into their graves. They want Christians subordinated or thrown out. They will pursue these goals with patience and strategic cleverness. They will tell Western reporters and politicians what they want to hear—they pretend to be moderate in English while screaming death curses in Arabic. These are the people who are coming to power in the Middle East.

The Jewish people have faced, in their long history, a number of enemies who sought their destruction, but a nuclear attack would be truly a “game changer.” The potential destruction of a nuclear weapon makes all previous conflicts pale in comparison. The rise of Islamic Fundamentalism in the countries surrounding Israel is a growing threat that must be countered by Israel’s decisive response to any threatening movements. Israel’s deterrence must be maintained if the nation is to survive a planned nuclear attack.

“Barack Obama is essentially tying Israel’s hands by not agreeing to support an attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities.”

God’s Promises to His People

As Christian friends of the Jewish people around the world, we take confidence in the reality of God’s promises for His Chosen People. No matter how bleak and hopeless things may appear, we have the reality of God’s Word as our confidence. As we take our hope and confidence from the Lord, we are assured of His faithfulness. We must continue to pray and intercede for the nation and people of Israel, as they face the most challenging times in their brief history as a sovereign nation.

“Thus says the Lord, Who gives the sun for a light by day, the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, and its waves roar (the Lord of Hosts is His name): If those ordinances depart from before Me, says the Lord, then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before Me forever” (Jeremiah 31:35,36).

Sincerely in the Lord’s service,

Ray Sanders

Ray Sanders, Executive/International Director

By Sharon Sanders

THE ROOT AND OFFSPRING OF *David*

Revelation 22:16

IT IS UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR, that the revealing of Yeshua (Jesus) to the Apostle and servant, Yochanan, (John) in the book of Revelation, records some of the Lord's last utterances to us who have come to believe in Him. He actually left a reminder to us to never forget that He is a Jewish Lord, Rabbi and Messiah. It's interesting that He felt that a necessity. Could it be because He foresaw the ways which His Followers, now called the Church, would fail to recall and subsequently disregard His Jewishness to the point of depicting Him visually to generations by portraying Him as a blond-haired, blue-eyed gentile god and savior? In a review of the New Testament no other man or woman in the Bible has been given such space to make certain that the entire family background was given to identify them with their human lineage. I find it amazing that His genealogical descent appears at the start of the New Testament, penned by Matthew, and ends with John recording the words of Yeshua concerning His bloodline (in the flesh) as they trace His humanity from the root and offspring of King David. It appears that neither Matthew nor Yeshua wanted anyone to disconnect Him from His ethnicity, culture, or tradition from the family and nation of Israel.

I've noticed, recently, in Israel and other countries, Jewish people are authoring books claiming Jesus as a fellow Jew, reading His words as Jews and identifying with Him in more ways than one – much more than in the past. While I disagree with much of what Howard Jacobson, a Jewish man, who presented "Jesus the Jew" says on the History Channel, I agree with this statement: "It's time Christians faced up to the fact that Jesus was Jewish to the core."

I ask myself "is the Church ready to digest this revelation as a worldwide Body?" I think they do and do not want to know. Jacobson says, "It is certainly not the view of most Christians...or even Jews, that Jesus was to the brim a Jew...a Jew by faith, by temperament...from nativity narratives, hymns, carols, or art that has filled the churches of Christendom (for centuries)...many medieval and Renais-

sance Christian artists believed he looked as they imagined. Jesus' Jewishness is essential to Christianity...whose coming had been foretold in Jewish Scripture. It is Jewish history that Jesus fulfills...it is later, with His deification, that the Jewish blood has to be squeezed out of him again. But it would go a long way to restoring harmony, if Christianity were to acknowledge responsibility for the anti-Jewish crimes committed in His name." To this I say Amen.

Christian Friends of Israel has been laboring for years to undo damage done in the Name of Jesus the Messiah and it is our prayer that one day, worldwide, the "Church" will also acknowledge the sins of the forefathers against the Jewish people. How else can our bridal garments be without spot?

Anticipating His Coming!

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also...I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you...Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you..." (John 14:3, 18, 28). I've been stirred recently about how we, as Christians, often cling too much to the things of this earth; how so much of our lives are built around our possessions and our own domains. I am concerned about all the "things" we think we "must have" which sometimes hold us down to this earth more than what we want to admit. Honestly, the older I get, the more I long for and anticipate the return of Jesus! In my youth, the world seemed so big to me; so much to explore and learn. The earth has not shrunk that much; it still has a lot of discovery to it. However, change has come and I believe it came within me. There is nothing on earth that I long for or desire to do other than the perfect Will of God. The things of this world have lost their luster.

When Yeshua came into my life and changed my heart, I truly began to realize what it meant to be a pilgrim journeying to our homeland. I long progressively, and to a greater extent today, to experience Heaven; to be with Him and en-

counter His continual presence. However, I really do need to anticipate about His Coming Back to this earth, as it will happen and is closer than ever with the restoration of the Jewish people to their homeland! My heart is to be readied at all times to deal with my shortcomings. I believe that those who will enjoy His Company the most, will be those who work getting their homes in order and are watching for His Return as a result of recognizing the signs of the times.

Anticipation: Am I longing for Him? Do I beckon Him, “*Bo Yeshua Bo, Come Jesus Come*”...I want you to come? He departed with the promise that He would not return until His Jewish People wanted Him. I know many religious Jewish people who pray daily at the Western Wall for Messiah to come and somehow I believe they will welcome Him with “*Baruch Ha Ba B'Shem Adonai*” (Matthew 23:39). This “welcome in the name of the Lord” is a warm reception in the Hebrew language. Truly, His Return will be an event like no other, a salute—a hailing of their King. He will feel “at home” again as Joseph did when He finally revealed himself to his brethren.

If we are anticipating His event, we must prepare ourselves, and not entertain doubts. We must yearn for His appearing. To yearn is *leb-heesh-toh-kek*. It comes from the same root as the word for passion...*teb-shoo-KAH*. There will be a deep feeling of longing...He may be ever so close, “at the door,” but we pray for Him to step over the threshold. I believe He desires to know He is wanted; that we long more for Him than anything in this world, living as if His Return was soon. Someone once said, “There are two great magnitudes in life that we should all live in full awareness of: the littleness of time and the greatness of eternity.” The time to do God’s work; to sow into Kingdom work and push God’s kingdom forward is now.

Church leaders fail when they do not prepare their people by educating them of the Jewishness of Jesus and reforming wrong theologies causing deep chasms between Israel and the Church for centuries. We have come into the Commonwealth (the Kingdom) of Israel (Ephesians 2:12-14; 19). To “come into” means we have acquired entrance into a Kingdom that we could not purchase or attain. Jesus did it for us. An Orthodox friend stated recently: “Somehow you fit in...” (to Israel). They cannot figure it out; we could not either if it were not for trusting the Lord Yeshua, the root and the offspring of David as our Messiah and Saviour.

Understanding of the Times

Obviously, we need to prepare ourselves for a very Jewish event. The Almighty which we worship is the “God of their forefathers.” Christianity became Jewish through Jesus. We are among the great congregation of “others” that are allowed into the Jewish fold of the Lord’s redeemed. When the Church caused the “parting of the ways” (AD 70-135) it

put up a huge wall between Jew and Christian again—the wall that Jesus tore down (Ephesians 2:14).

There are keys the Church could be using to open doors of blessing for the sheep in the fold: blessing the Jewish people, sharing the good news, practicing and promoting righteousness and praying for Jerusalem. A recent conference in America hosted by Jan Markell (“Understanding the Times” Conference) brought inspiration to many people. One speaker said “These are not normal times...we’ve crossed the tipping point. All major areas of prophecy are in play...There are similarities between Nazi Germany and America today and...when God is separated from government, judgment follows...We cannot minimize Jesus, while elevating other gods to worship” (Lutzer).



A current bestselling book in America, *The Harbinger* (the Isaiah 9:10 judgment) was brought before the crowd and Jonathan Cahn, author of the book said, “America needs to repent, or face God’s judgment. The answer for America (or any other nation) does not lie in an election...the answer for America is God. The speaker reminded believers that the world would not be “as dark if we shined a little brighter” and that if believers truly lived like “salt” the world would not be as decayed as it is.” He also urged everyone to find strength; fear nothing. A meeting like this encourages those who are anticipating and looking forward to His Coming and not holding onto the world...those who know where their roots come from—the Messiah they worship is Jewish; therefore, a love for Israel is in order.

Signs to Look For

How can we truly know we are in the time of His Coming? First, the nation of Israel is back in her Land. Yeshua cannot return before the Jewish people return and become a nation again in their own Land. According to Jewish sages, the 9th century work of Rabbi Eliezer foretold that “just before the coming of the Messiah, ‘Ishmael’ will rise in power to terrorize the world. Secondly, he said, “the King of Persia (Iran) is going to have a weapon that is going to terrorize the world. A coming ‘messiah of evil’ will appear on the world stage to offer a peace treaty to Israel and the Middle East.” When they say “peace and safety” confirming a covenant, sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman (the time of Jacob’s trouble) and they will not escape (1 Thessalonians 5:3).

Some Jewish people see the Great Tribulation as a redemptive and healing time called “*yissurei ahavah*” the “troubles of love.” The Jewish prophets wrote that Zion will go through labor giving birth to children (Isaiah 66:8). The sages note that childbirth is a time of radical transition and struggle for the baby, from the time of relatively peaceful existence within the womb into the harsh light of day...and therefore a similar transition between this world and the messianic world to come is about to take place. For years Rabbis here have been saying, “We hear the footsteps of the Messiah.”

According to Jewish sources, no one knows the time when He will come, though there are hints. God created the world in six days, each representing a thousand years. The seventh day is the start of the great messianic Sabbath Rest and therefore this age cannot last beyond 6,000 years. According to the Jewish calendar we are living near the close of the sixth millennium, the “*Erev Shabbat*” of the world. We are drawing close. We should be watching for this “blessed hope” (Titus 2:13). Hope in Hebrew is “*Tiqvah*” coming from the verb “*Qavah*” meaning “to wait for” or “to look hopefully” in a particular direction. Hope is the confident expectation based on solid certainty. Scriptural hope consequently rests on God’s promise and what He has said in His Word. A root—this rising star of David—is beginning to thrill our hearts as we await His Return, not based upon emotionalism, but a true faith in our hearts that God will perform His entire Word regarding the end times to shine brighter and brighter.

A World to Come

“Now is the perfect time to call for repentance and the alignment of the whole Church; a basic heart alignment with God’s purposes for Israel and the nations” (Dan Juster). In the “*Olam HaBa*” (the world to come) we will all serve and worship the Jewish Lord in a New Jerusalem, after the earthly Kingdom fades away. We will be allowed to enter only through the established gates with the twelve tribes of Israel inscribed on them (Revelation 21:12).

We will enjoy communion with our loved ones who died in the Lord, and the Jewish patriarchs and heroes of the faith (Hebrews 11). Recent travels have provided a

bird’s eye view of the Church. One of the saddest things we see in the Church today is a lack of “anticipation for the Coming of the Lord.” So many live such fast paced lives, wrapped up with the things of the earth they cannot find peace in their lives. I am reminded of the Hebrew greeting “*Shalom Aleichem*” and in Arabic, “*Salaam Aleikum*.” Jesus used this greeting often when with His Disciples. We hear it in John 20:26. (His followers were in hiding after his death. They were afraid of the Romans and of religious Jews.) Jesus used it again in John 20:10...the doors were shut as He appeared to them. He came unexpectedly to let them know He was alive and this was His Greeting: “Peace be with you” (*Shalom Aleichem*). In the Middle East when someone says this to you, you return the greeting with *Aleichem Shalom* which means “peace be to you also.” Let us all be at peace with God and with man so that we can open or close with this gracious greeting at any time.

Preparing for an Earthly Throne

Two times in the Lord’s Prayer (a Jewish prayer)—Jesus taught us to pray that the Father’s Kingdom will come to earth and be established by His Will. We know that the power and glory will be the Father’s. It is this Kingdom on earth that the forces of evil covet. It was the “throne of Heaven” which Lucifer challenged. It was because he actually dared to contest the Father’s authority in total rebellion, desiring to usurp the Father’s Glory and Throne, that he was thrown out of Heaven.

Now his whole focus is the “earthly throne” which will be established in Jerusalem. Our shining hour can be now... to play a major role...through supplying and empowering God’s Kingdom works. One day the Lord may ask us, “What did you do with your talents, abilities and resources I gave you when you were on the earth?” We hope that ministries like CFI will be able to continue to play a part in “preparing the way of the Lord” (Isaiah 40:3)...to bless and be blessed in the Coming Kingdom. The restoration of the Jewish people is definitely a key to the return to power of the Root of David.

As Israel holds a central place in God’s plan for the return of the King, they are Satan’s specific target (Howard Morgan). Yes, the “root and the offspring of David” whose additional name is “the Lion of the Tribe of Judah” (Revelation 5:5) will revisit His People and He will come for all who are watching, waiting and anticipating His Homecoming. Will you join me in enthusiastic hope and love in His Appearing? Whether we are in Wales, the Congo, Iceland, France or anywhere else on the earth, may the attitude of our hearts always be “Welcome in the Name of the Lord!”

His Rising Star is growing brighter and brighter with each new day and surely, when He comes, it will be as the speed of lightning. There will be no more time to prepare or anticipate this Holy One who has deep roots in His Hebraic origins on this earth, and desires that all who follow Him remember Him as the root and the offspring of David and the bright and morning star (Revelation 22:16).



WHERE ARE THE Comforters?

“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem” (Isaiah 66:13 NIV).

This Scripture is also translated: “As one whom his mother consoleth...as a mother comforts her son...I will console you then, like a mother caressing her son...like a man whom his mother comforteth...you shall find comfort in Jerusalem” (in order—The Emphasized New Testament, New English Bible, New Testament, Knox and Sprl, a translation from the original Hebrew).

If anyone has been in a situation where they just needed someone to comfort them, then you will understand comfort. A hand of mercy, a hug of love, a gesture of caring. God speaks about the time when “no one cared for Zion” (Jeremiah 30:17). We learn this when studying the Evian Conference held in France in 1938. I stood personally in Wannsee, East Germany, also and saw where representatives from the nations met together and no one wanted the Jewish people to settle in their nations. Comforters perform acts of kindness such as reaching out to help a situation—but where were Zion’s friends when she needed them?

The principle of bringing a blessing to Zion is from the Bible, but too few people realize the act is a God-given opportunity to mankind—that if they touch God’s Chosen People with the same mercy and kindness that God has blessed the nations, the blessing resides with them. It boils down to a choice. Choose blessing and receive the blessing, or choose evil, and subsequently evil will be at your doorstep.

What is the definition of falling short of being a “comforter”? Let’s see what the Bible says. “*The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.*” “*She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies.*” “*For these things I weep: mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me...*” “*Zion spreadeth forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her...*” “*They have heard that I sigh: there is none to comfort me...*” (Lamentations 4:4; 1:2, 16, 17, 21).

The Ministry of Comfort—one of the various ministries of CFI—has enjoyed the multitude of opportunities we have had and which have increased among that the People of

Israel who have had catastrophes and calamities in life. As Christians, we can honestly report that after many years of home visits to Jewish people from every walk of life, we have always been warmly welcomed and the comfort given has made a huge difference in many lives. Their doors are forever opened to CFI family who work to reduce the intensity of old age suffering. “The ability to appropriately and genuinely comfort is a powerful ministry” (*Relevant Bible Teaching*). Jesus provided to us the ultimate example of what it really means to comfort. What He did not teach is loving with an ulterior motive—a false love—for a price or through coercion. “The state of being comforted is the kind of love that a mother has for her child. It should be the kind of love which the Bible tells us God comforts His People...and expects us to do likewise.

One can perceive a blessing. In our hearts we can sense God’s pleasure or displeasure with us. In the last days there will be turbulent times, when the waters of everyday life are rough. I desire to be found in the ship of blessing, sailing through the storms around me in perfect peace, knowing I have the blessing of God. Don’t you? That inspires me to sail on and on...to new horizons with God. My Savior, who was Jewish in the flesh, became an eternal blessing to us. He gave His life blood which became our miracle when we received Him. I believe that most of you would agree with me that He changed our whole purpose for being in this world. I owe a debt to a special Jewish man—who as the Son of God—took the blows of mistreatment instead of me. I am earthly and limited but nevertheless, I can console and reassure those who hurt and need healing and leave my blessings behind and recover them in eternity. God gave the “principle and the promise” of Genesis 12:3 to all, but few recognize the true results of following the principle laid down in the Bible.

Are we willing to spend our lives being a comforter? It might cost time and energy but nothing priceless in life comes without sacrifice. Let us not give God any further reason to have to consider that no one cares for Zion... and that on no occasion today would a Jewish person have an opportunity to say “there is none to comfort me.”



by Sharon Sanders



Encouraging the elderly



Visiting with Christians in the little town of Bethlehem



Visiting the aged



Reliving the story



Recognizing their strength



Listening to their hearts



8 FZS FIRST QUARTER 2013

Project Streams of Blessing

Streams of Love

Love So Deep

God led us to a family with four children from 1 ½ to 13 years of age. Two children have a rare genetic disease that only 20 people in the world have been diagnosed as having. It causes the muscles to deteriorate, including the vital organs. The mother is caring for both children at home requiring around the clock care. This young mother no longer asks for a miracle, but for strength. The financial needs are tremendous. Let's pray for this unique, sweet family who loves God and loves their children—truly, more than their own life.

Elderly Needs are Great

A special delight is the time spent with the elderly of Israel. They are warm and appreciative of anything we do for them. The Fall Feasts were a special time to take Rosh HaShanah baskets and host a party. It seems that those who made *aliyah* from countries that once hated them, live life with a special appreciation for being in the land regardless of the hardships they face here. Joseph was in a bombing while serving in the Red Army. As a result, the surgeries he received caused greater problems. Coming to Israel has provided him with the needed medical care, but the required monthly medications and dialysis leave him no money to pay for rent and food. Through the generous giving of our supporters, we are able to help with costly monthly prescriptions.

Chernobyl Survivor

Grigory is the only living survivor from his unit of 200 soldiers that was sent into the 1986 Chernobyl disaster. All the rest have died. He is a cancer survivor for the second time. Then, a fire destroyed everything he had, and yet, his trust in God is strong. He has called upon CFI for assistance and we have been able to help on several occasions. Despite his hardships, he continues to help others going through cancer.

“Respect Our Elderly Center,” a center for elderly, may have to close soon because of a lack of finances. This means that 45 elderly Israelis will no longer have a place to go to work and fellowship. Thank you for helping us represent the Lord Jesus the right way.

By **Tommie Coleman**, Streams of Blessing Coordinator



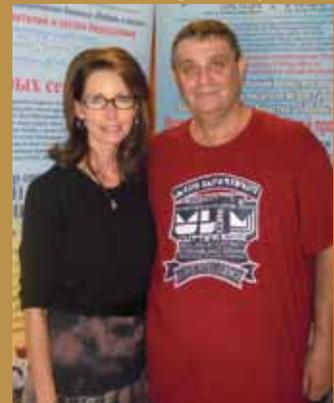
Visiting the sick



Meeting many needs



Celebrating holidays



Supporting survivors



Providing hope



Restoring the castaway



Helping with Special *Needs*

THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE OF A CHURCH in the USA, which includes many World War II veterans, was approached by a congregation member with a desire to increase their giving for CFI–Jerusalem. A CFI representative met with the Committee to discuss several ideas about how to achieve this. At the time the representative had the experience of helping a specific Holocaust Survivor with a special need and the survivor had written expressing gratitude. In sharing this experience, the Committee liked the idea of knowing details about the person and asked if it was possible for the church to pursue a similar approach. CFI was contacted and the Forsake Them Not team approved the idea, and the Elders of the Church also approved it.

The Committee Wanted Certain Conditions:

- To try to raise sufficient funds for one survivor per month.
- The minimum gift should be no less than \$10.00.
- That the gift be a “heart gift,” in addition to normal tithes and offerings would be a blessing.
- That a receipt would be given by CFI, but those names would not go on CFI mailing lists.
- That a photo and biography story of a survivor would be displayed on a church bulletin board each month, so those donating could be aware of the specific person being helped and be reminded to pray for their needs.

The first offering was taken in April and what happened thereafter was unexpectedly a true blessing. Interest took off like a rocket and giving was so high that there was enough to bless 5 survivors immediately!! Now by the end of the seventh month, 54 survivors have been assisted! Some members wanted to be able to help each and every survivor, however, due to the sheer numbers assisted, that hasn't been possible. Some have asked to pick the survivor they would assist, with the full amount, so it would be more personal and real for them and this was allowed.

Many have stated they are very pleased their church decided to pursue this program and have wondered why other churches aren't doing it. The initiator has found the response very heartwarming and he seldom goes to church without someone handing him a donation, or finding a donation in his church mailbox, or being complimented about the effort. He feels that when people can see the actual person they are assisting and read their story, it is much easier to be involved. Many people in the church are aware of the Jewish Roots of Christianity and they believe what the Bible says in Genesis 12:3 about God blessing those who bless His people. They also understand what Paul meant in Romans 15:27, when he said, *“For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things.”*

Once twelve Holocaust survivors had been assisted, the Mission Committee discussed whether or not to continue the program, but due to the great enthusiasm of church members, and the rapid success of the program, it was decided to continue for the rest of the year and see how many other survivors could be assisted. We thank the Lord for this church and all who are donating to Project Forsake Them Not.

By Jenny Milmine, Forsake Them Not Coordinator



Giving from generous hearts



Receiving encouragement from the “Footprints in the Sand” story



Responding with grateful appreciation and heartfelt thanks



New Beginnings – A Season of Change

IT IS SUCH A WONDERFUL SEASON – time appointed by God, for change or new beginnings, as the Fall Feasts have come to a climax. With that in mind, I want to introduce myself to you. I am Linda Edwards, CFI's newly appointed project Coordinator for Hope for the Future—replacing Ruth Bembrick.

I moved to Jerusalem, from Fort Worth, Texas nearly four years ago. With 27 years of Human Resource management experience behind me, my service with Christian Friends of Israel–Jerusalem (CFI), began in the Human Resources department.

As is the case for each of us, our life's journey was set in motion before the foundations of the world, in the heart of our Creator. However, my conscience spiritual journey to Jerusalem began, in 1997, when the Lord placed into my heart that I would live in Jerusalem. A year or so later, I received a confirming word from a woman of the Land of Israel. "...I would walk the Land of Israel." On January 27, 2009, I arrived in Jerusalem.

God's New Assignment

As my journey to Jerusalem was unfolding, in 2003, I traveled to Kenya and Tanzania, with my church. During that trip the Lord dropped a love for and a drawing to Africa and her people. In 2005, I was blessed with another amazing trip to Africa. As I prepared to leave Texas for Jerusalem, with Africa and Israel equally pulling at my heart, I asked the Lord – "If I go to Israel... what about the call to Africa? How can I do Africa and Israel at the same time?"

Through a number of God-appointed situations, the Lord has now shown me how Africa is tied to my assignment, *in Jerusalem!* Among them, is the opportunity to



Helene and Linda

work with Project Hope for the Future and the Jewish people from Ethiopia, Africa. I pray for wisdom and the heart and mind of God concerning His people, from Ethiopia. Additionally, I have asked the Lord for a "supernatural download" of Hebrew language and Amharic—one of the Ethiopian tribal languages.

Thank you for your love, prayers and faithful support of Hope for the Future—the men, women and children—families set apart for the purposes of God—for His glory and for His Name's sake. I look forward to partnering with each of you in this worthwhile endeavor as a facilitator of "HOPE." I welcome your support and prayers.

By **Linda Edwards**, Hope for the Future Coordinator



"Sing praises to the Lord which dwells in Zion: declare among the people His doings" (Psalm 9:11).

Krav Maga—Israel's Self-Defense



Karen and Patty with Avishai

RECENTLY some of our staff joined a *Krav Maga* (in English, “hand-to-hand combat”) class. Moshe, our instructor, has been an excellent source of information in teaching us simple tactics and ways for us to defend ourselves in case of an assault. Personally I’m grateful for the knowledge we receive in our classes, because it really doesn’t matter how weak or strong you are, or what gender for that matter. It’s a matter of having the right knowledge to get you out of bad situations.

Krav Maga is not only useful for the IDF, but it’s for anyone! Unlike most self-defense courses, which are all hype and no substance, *Krav Maga* is the real deal. It is street oriented and ensures that you get training for defending and surviving in real life situations. The course focuses on strategies and tactics that can be learned and adopted in a very short period of time.

Krav Maga helps IDF soldiers develop proper mental preparedness in any given combat situation. If the soldier does not possess the proper mindset for combat and is overtaken by fear or shock, chances are that he will not survive the encounter. What needs to be developed is the survival instinct mindset that will allow any individual a fighting chance at escaping and surviving an attack.

Mental Preparedness

The type of physical training that is included is not geared to making the soldiers big and strong. Instead, they focus on making their bodies physically capable of responding properly to the type of confrontations they face. It’s important to remember that you physically will not respond to an attack until you have first responded mentally. The physical preparations of the soldiers have to be ones that will allow them to instinctively spring into action as fast as possible.

Executing tactical preparation is the last part of *Krav Maga* training. The battlefield today is very diverse in terms of the types of weapons terrorists use to attack soldiers in Israel. These weapons include handguns, assault rifles, knives, machetes, lead pipes, slingshots and even hand grenades. The IDF focuses on teaching their soldiers useful defenses against armed attackers. The training includes extensive drills to train the soldiers to respond quickly to an attack with a weapon from all possible positions and scenarios.

Last summer we met an officer of a Tank unit, who thanks to him and this kind of mental preparedness, prevented a large-scale terrorist attack on the Sinai/Gaza border. Avishai shared that the army was prepared for a terrorist attack as they had received intelligence earlier that weekend that it was imminent. Late one Sunday evening he heard gun shots and an explosion. At first he felt breathless, but then he quickly figured out mentally what was going on around him, and he called out for three soldiers to join him. They ran and jumped into a tank and sped to the checkpoint crossing in Kerem Shalom. Thanks to his quick mental response, his physical readiness and tactical knowledge an armored vehicle with terrorists was not able to penetrate any further than one kilometer into Israel territory and the attack was thwarted. In every way you can imagine, the IDF is an *amazing* Defense Force!

Please remember the IDF soldiers this winter as we begin our fleece jacket campaign to help keep them warm!

By **Karen Lewis**, David's Shield Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org



Learning self defense



Gaza-Egyptian border

Project Communities Under Attack

Comforting Rocket Attack Victims

SDEROT—15 Seconds from Attack



Sulamit with her son and Maggie

SULAMIT DAHN, a Sderot civilian and rocket victim, who also has heart disease—because of the ongoing stress—came home from the hospital recently, after critical heart surgery. She used to have a job, but has been unable to work since she was injured by a Qassam rocket attack. Aside from getting one hour of help daily from a caregiver who comes to her home to clean and also help her bathe, she has received no financial help. Bituach Leumi (the national insurance) said they do not have the budget to help her.

Sulamit and her husband have a 32-year-old son who is still living with them. This son of theirs is mentally handicapped after a terrible tragedy that happened to him when he was young. He was raped by a group of cruel teenagers, and until now, needs ongoing mental therapy, which is a big financial burden to his parents.

Sulamit's husband used to work as a janitor, but he was laid off in January, and has been unable to find another job. No employers want to hire him because of his age. As a result they have been living under very difficult financial circumstances.

SDEROT – A CENTRAL PART OF ZIONIST IDEOLOGY AND A CITY OF BOMB SHELTERS

Sderot lies only one kilometer from the Gaza Strip. It has a total population of 24,000, and is a city that for more than 10 years has been an ongoing target of almost daily Qassam rocket attacks from Gaza. There has been loss of life in Sderot because of the rocket attacks, but many people are unaware of what is going on there. In the last year alone, over 1,000 rockets have landed in Sderot - an average of three per day. People died, were injured—some lost limbs—and others have been suffering from post traumatic stress disorder, due to rocket explosions. Yet this rarely hits the news.

One might wonder why people of Sderot don't move to other places to live, since it is under constant rocket attack. It very likely has something to do with Zionist ideology—a good thing. They believe that they must stand their ground, no matter what Hamas throws at them. Sderot's name has a green motif that symbolizes the motto: "making the desert bloom"—a central part of Zionist beliefs. One might also wonder why Sderot doesn't have the anti-rocket batteries installed like the cities of Beer Sheva, Ashdod or Ashkelon. Basically, the anti-rocket batteries

need 30 seconds to lock onto the target of the incoming rocket to safely bring it down. In order to have 30 seconds for targeting, the rocket must be traveling over four kilometers, while all of Sderot is less than four kilometers from Gaza—about 15 seconds away.

Because of the unique situation that Sderot is in, recently the Israeli government invested millions of shekels in building a bomb shelter for every home in Sderot. It's the only solution that's truly feasible at this point, although there are places where bomb shelter solutions don't always work.

The heart cry of many people of Sderot is: "*Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies; in You I take refuge*" (Psalm 143:9). Please lift up Sulamit's health, her son's mental well-being, and the family's financial situation in prayer. If the Lord touches your heart to give financial support to this family, **please designate your gift to "Project CUA for Sulamit Dahn."** Thank you!

By **Maggie Huang**, Communities Under Attack Coordinator

Bomb shelter in bus stop, Sderot



Collection of remains of Qassam rockets



Bunker in high school





Helping The Brethren in the *Land*

“And at that time were some appointed over the chambers for the treasures, for the offerings, for the first fruits...” (Nehemiah 12:44).
“...for they were counted faithful, and their office was to distribute unto their brethren” (Nehemiah 13:13).

HELPING OUR JEWISH AND ARABIC BROTHERS throughout the Land has always been a blessing for CFI. So many struggle with personal needs. We will always remember the time when the Pastor of a mainline church in the Land for many years came to our door and had to admit that they were in financial trouble. He asked “could CFI help them?” Before First Fruits became a full time department helping believers in the Land, we remember this brother who went away with an unbelievable smile and much hope in his heart. He had just experienced a miracle for his congregation’s needs and we are sure God received a big thank you that day.

As Sharon and I learned about tithing early in our walk with the Lord, we also tithed in the early ministry years, from undesignated funds, to other ministries and churches in the Land. Today we are happy to report that CFI has an entire department dedicated to helping “the brethren.” Thank you for helping us support them and assisting in the building up of their faith—with hearts full of love and gratitude to the Father.

By **Ray Sanders**, First Fruits Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org

Thank You Notes

“...the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit” (Proverbs 12:12).

“Dear Christian Friends of Israel: I’m grateful for your help and support. The money that you sent has served me well and helped me to get the medical assistance I needed. May God bless you and your work.” **Pastor L.**

“Dear CFI: I greet you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. My children and I express to you our gratitude for the financial assistance that we’ve received for purchasing of a new kitchen. The kitchen is very comfortable and spacious. Thank you for your ministry.” **S.J.**

“Dear Christian Friends of Israel: Thank God for your work and that by reaching out to those in need you are justifying the promises of God *“He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, and shall not despise their prayer”* (Psalm 102:17). *“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His Face shine upon you, and be gracious to you, the Lord lift up His Countenance upon you, and give you peace”* (Numbers 6:24-26). I want to especially thank V. When I went through difficult times, she comforted me and gave me hope that “with Him are wisdom and strength, he has counsel and understanding” (Job 12:13). Thank you very much for helping me. I am praying for you. May God bless you and may God’s covering always be over you and your families.” With respect, **O.O.**

“Dear CFI: We are so thankful and grateful to God and to you all for giving us assistance we needed. May God bless you abundantly and fill all of your needs according to His riches, as the Word of God tells us!” **D. Family.**

“Dear CFI and Ray: In difficult times for our family you and your ministry helped us in the name of the Lord Jesus with the amount needed to pay for two months’ rent for our apartment. Thank you from all of our hearts for your ministry. With respect and thankfulness, **M.I.**

“Dear CFI: I want to sincerely thank you for your generous financial assistance toward my academic studies. I pray that God will bless you and every donor with immense provision and blessing for all that you do for the Body of Messiah in Israel. Thank you and God bless.” **A.T.**

“Dear CFI: Thank you so much for your recent gift to me. With this gift, I was able to purchase a saw which will help me in my small business. I am trying to [earn] additional income to better support my family as we work to serve the Lord here in Israel. Thank you for helping me with this.” **Pastor SD.**

Fourteen Generations of Jesus Christ From Abraham to David

Jesus

Jewish to the Core

“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the Son of Abraham... So all the Generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations” (Matthew 1:1, 17).

IN THE ARTICLE, “The Root and the Offspring of David,” my mother (Sharon Sanders) quotes Howard Jacobson who said, “It’s time Christians faced up to the fact that Jesus was truly Jewish to the core.” I would like to focus on only one word from this quote: “CORE.” The dictionary defines CORE as being the essential part: the central or most important part of something. Most of us will tend to skip over the first 17 verses of Matthew, but as stated in the article, the Lord must have felt it was an important part of our faith walk. Otherwise He wouldn’t have ended the New Testament just as He began it—by reminding us of one CORE fact regarding our Savior.

CORE Part of Our Faith Walk

Do you feel the fact that Jesus was Jewish is an essential part of your CORE faith? If not, why? If you do, then is it something you share with others or is this an issue you tend to steer away from, not knowing how others might respond? I would challenge you to make this a part of your discussion when sharing the gospel with others. It will open up new and relevant discussion regarding what is happening in Israel today, and then, hopefully, lead up to how the Bible, even though written thousands of years ago, is playing out right before our eyes. Let people know how blessed we ALL are to live at this specific time in history. Rise up! Allow yourself to be an effective influence on others and help solidify the importance of standing with the Jewish people during these critical times.

If you believe what the Lord says in His Word—that Jesus was a Jew—then don’t allow this CORE fact to be swept under the rug and shrugged off. Engage with others about this issue. Make this a CORE part of your faith walk and your influence will begin to have a rippling effect on those around you. If others don’t want to hear what you have to say regarding this fact then “shake the dust off your feet” and move on, but never allow your CORE values to be swayed to compromise what is truth!

We’ve ALL been born into this time period for a reason. We didn’t ask to be born in the 20th century, but the God of Israel thought YOU (and I) would be the right people to carry out His Mission for such a time as this. All of us have exactly the same amount of time in a day but we don’t all utilize that time in a way that glorifies the Lord and/or that influences others. Going back for centuries, many of the church fathers have misrepresented the roots of our faith, so what better time than now to speak the truth and make right the wrong. Don’t miss your opportunity to leave something with others that will be passed on from generation to generation.

Jesus truly left His mark on the world. He fulfilled His messianic mission and gave the world hope. We can look at others like Abraham Lincoln, Mother Teresa or Winston Churchill who also left their mark on mankind; however, none as significant as the mission of Our Lord. When people look back on your life, how, or for what, will they remember you? Will your name be recorded in the history books? Will others want to model themselves after you because no one could cause you to waver from your CORE Values and Convictions? Who are you pleasing—God or others? The times ahead are going to be much worse. The generations that follow us need to have a good solid foundation to hold on to.

It is my prayer that you will not be afraid to share how the church has distanced itself from its Jewish roots. I hope you, too, will stand unwavering with the Jewish people. You may find that much of the crowd will stand on the opposite side, but may our legacies be that to our CORE, our stance with the God of Israel and His people withstood the test of time.



By **Stacey Howard**,
Director of Administration/CFI—Jerusalem
North American Development Division



Dan Tracy interviewing in Germany



Stacey interviewing in America



Geoffrey Smith on location in U.K.



Sam Hailes reporting from Eastbourne, U.K.

FocalPoint

-Where Israel IS the Point of Focus

You're invited to join us for the much-anticipated launch of Christian Friends of Israel's brand new 30-minute program FOCALPOINT beginning this December! Launching in various cities across the globe and multiple online outlets, this exciting new program features a broad range of positive, relevant, and Biblically balanced information about Israel and the Middle East.

Hosts Stacey and Kevin Howard bring viewers in-depth interviews from seasoned teachers, elected officials, and experts on Israel who live in the Land. Along with information from Jerusalem, FocalPoint stretches across the globe by adding the talents of Sam Hailes, Dan Tracy, Geoffrey Smith and many others to bring you exceptional viewpoints and analysis about Israel from all over the world. FocalPoint brings you relevant information on Early Church History, Intercession and Effective Prayer for Israel, Christian Arabs living under PA control, Jewish-Christian Relations, growing Anti-Semitism, Israel's First Response system and much, much more.

You won't want to miss a single edition of this fresh and exciting new program. To find out how you can watch FocalPoint in your country or city, just go to www.cfijerusalem.org and click on the FocalPoint Logo!

We value your partnership with CFI in this exciting new endeavor. Consider supporting FocalPoint through prayer, feedback, and giving. Please help us spread the word to your family and friends as we bring positive, relevant, and Biblically balanced information to viewers everywhere, from Jerusalem and the nations.

May God richly bless you for your support and prayers!

For specific information and program times in your area... please email info@focalpointtv.com.

By **Kevin Howard**, Director of Video and Online Technology

“For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land...” (Ezekiel 36:24).



Aliyah Report!

God floods us with immigrants nearly every day



Clothing from the nations being worn in Jerusalem



Receiving God's Word was her favorite gift



Recently a lovely group from S. America came to the Distribution Center. New immigrants from Argentina, Paraguay, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile and one immigrant from Spain. When we told them we have the Jewish Scriptures (the Tanach) in Spanish they were elated. When they left, the immigrants from Brazil said to us, “This is the best gift you have given us today.” The immigrant from Paraguay also said, “This is a precious gift.” They offered to come back and help us unload our next container. By Rocio Forham, Distribution Center

Returning to the Land

The last few months have shown an increase of *olim* visitors from a much wider sector of the world than before: South Africa, Brazil, France, Belgium, UK, USA, Canada, Argentina, Australia, Romania, Iran, Ethiopia, and so on. The time of a free choice to return to the land of the Jews is coming to an end. The waves of anti-Semitism, like a tsunami, are roaring in those countries that were traditionally considered calm and civilized, tolerant and human-rights-protected, and are forcing more Jews to return to the Land.

Many new immigrants are still coming from the republics of the former Soviet Union: Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. There is a very active *aliyah* process from Asian countries like Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kirgizia, Azerbaijan, etc. Many of these *olim* choose the northern part of Israel in which to live and make their home. A couple of times buses with loads of new *olim* have come to the Distribution Center from Haifa accompanied and assisted by the representative of the Jewish Agency, Elena Falkovich. Elena and her husband Lev take great care of the *olim* and help them settle in the country as easily as possible. They give them good advice, show them around, and provide helpful links and sources of help. CFI is one of the places where Elena brings new Israeli citizens by the bus-full. Keep in mind that the new immigrants coming here leave behind almost everything: home, work, certifications, language, supportive friends and sometimes a part of their family. It is not difficult therefore, to understand that these people are much more in need than local Israelis. Jewish agencies only offer small government help for the first six months after arrival and the majority of new citizens try to spend this time studying Hebrew at a basic level.

As all of us understand, there are not many options for getting a meaningful job with only a basic level of Hebrew. Recently a large group of new immigrants came to the Distribution Center from Haifa. They collectively wanted each of you to know that they thank you for your tangible love and care which is so obvious to them. Thank you for helping us undo damage that historical Christendom did to the Jewish people and for helping us continue to represent Yeshua in the right way!

By Ruth Rishton, Distribution Center Manager

www.cfijerusalem.org

From the Russians with Love

Every week through the Open Gates Project we meet new immigrants (*olim*) who have recently made *aliyah* (ascend, climb, going up). They have decided to live their lives in the Land of Israel. It is like a dream come true for them to come to live in Israel. However, just like when Joshua and the people of Israel came into the Promised Land, they had to take possession of the Land gradually and it was not easy, but a lot of hard work. So it is today when new immigrants enter the Land, they face a few “giants.”

- Living in Israel is a complex exercise. There are challenges on every side.
- Learning a new language is time consuming and tiring.
- Trying to find a new job requires persistence and time to find contacts.
- Participating in the army can be a requirement depending on their age. This can be demanding and lonely, but also can help to make friends and contacts for the future.
- For many the maze of bureaucracy is a bewildering journey that leaves many people exhausted.
- The way people think is different and their value system is different.

Olim need to make social and business contacts. They don't have the benefit of childhood contacts from school and college, then the army and the university.

What happens to many *olim* is that they are convinced someone is always trying to take advantage of them. Israelis always want to help, even when it's not needed, asked for or wanted. Taxi drivers may overcharge or drive you in a roundabout way to get where you are going. Someone may push their way in front of you when you are waiting in line. You are charged more than you should be or for something you did not ask for or get.

When we see new *olim* and the needy families, we hear about many of these challenges that they face. Your support by way of financial gifts and prayer helps us meet their needs. We are your hands and feet as we give out gift packs and high quality used clothing. When we are able to provide them with a cheque to cover their electric bill or rent they are very grateful and say, “*Todah rabah.*” “Thank you so much for caring about us.”

From our “GUEST BOOK”

Thank you for your help and care! For a long time the Jews were suffering from anti-Semitism. Apparently there are some people willing to help us! Thank you! It is very important to feel that we are not alone here, that there are people who value us!

“Thank you for your kindness and help that you give us. It is priceless for the people who return to their land without family, money and friends. May God bless you. Thank you.”

“I am amazed by the attention and care of those who help us. Thank you from all our hearts.”

“To all of the Christians of the world and to CFI–Big thanks. With your gifts it is easier to start a new life in Israel.”

“I give you this land, just as I promised your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Now you must go and take the land” (Deuteronomy 1:8).

By **Gordon Milmine**, Open Gates Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org



Looking at their spiritual inheritance



More newcomers arriving at D.C.



New arrivals from the U.K.





I Am My Beloved's



OVER THE SUMMER, the Salon witnessed many miracles with the arrival of several new gowns and accessories, which perfectly matched the needs of visiting brides, within a matter of days! How faithful is our wonderful God to the promises revealed in His word, for time and time again I have seen God meeting our visitors' needs according to His riches in glory (Philippians 4:19). One such example was in the August wedding of a dear friend of many at CFI-Jerusalem, who walked his Bride to the Chuppah. Those of us privileged to join in the celebration witnessed the diverse mix of Israeli and Ethiopian cultures, in all its ceremonial vibrant beauty – a truly unique and insightful experience I will never forget. The celebrations lasted well into the night with joyous and energetic traditional dancing. The bride and groom were radiant, and all were overjoyed with the wedding gown, which they selected from the CFI Bridal Salon.

Also due to the holiday time, many soldiers had the luxury of a few days respite... but for those with weddings in the future this time was by no means left to chance. They came one after the other into the Salon in search of just the right dress, suits, rings, shoes and accessories. These young brides and grooms left with garments in hand, a spring in their step and amazed at what they had found. It truly is a huge financial weight off their shoulders, knowing all it will cost them is the dry-cleaning of the garment before its return. The salon was also delighted to give a set of wedding rings to a very grateful couple!

Helping Hands and Supporters from the Nations...

A big thank you to all those who support the Bridal Salon Project, not only by donating your own treasured gowns, suits, jewelry, or accessories, but who are also financially contributing to covering the cost of the running, and for spreading the word about the work of the CFI Bridal Salon. **Thanks also for those who visit us, pray for us and lend a helping hand.** You truly are what this Bridal Salon is about, expressing your love and support for the people of Israel! This is about touching many hearts, not only of brides and grooms all over the land, but their families, friends, and all who hear of the work of CFI. This is a great testimony of the sincere love and support of Bible-believing Christians worldwide, and is opening many hearts in every sector of society here in the Land of Israel.

By **Letitia Warin**, Bridal Salon Coordinator

Diana steam ironing



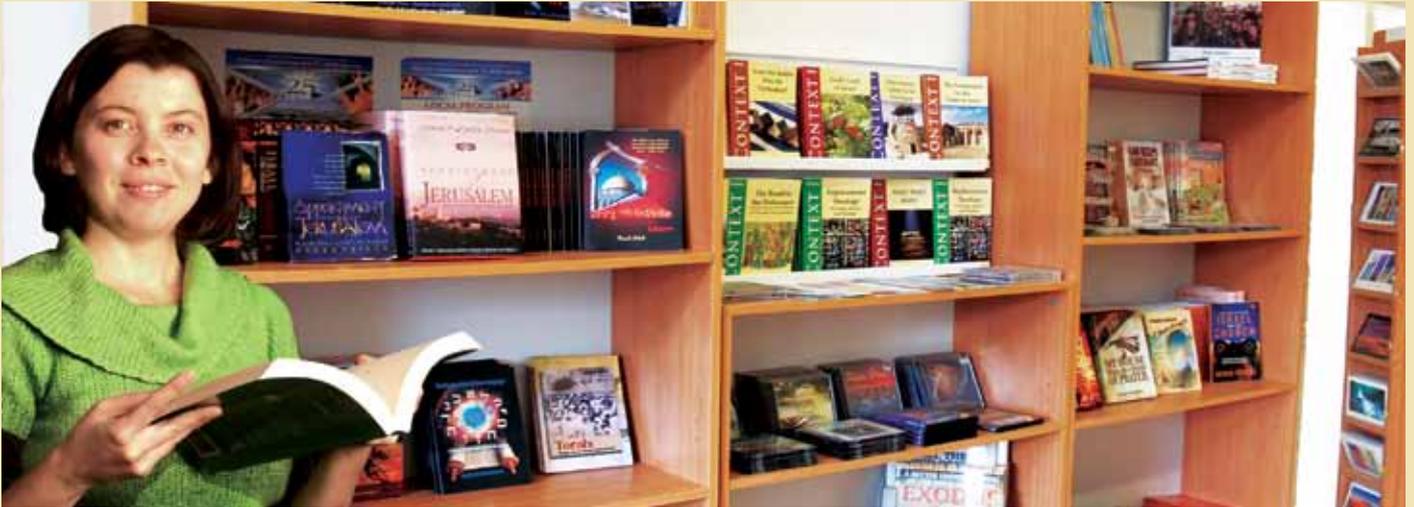
Donations of Jewelry from the U.K.



Letitia with Gabby



CFI STORE ONLINE



"...but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel" PROVERBS 20:15.



A PRINCIPLE AND A PROMISE

By Sharon Sanders

There is an unbreakable connection between Genesis 12:3 and the whole of scriptures... the principle... the promise follows. An amazing law of reciprocity begins to work in our lives once we begin to practice it.

US \$12.00 (38 Pages)



A COLLECTION OF FZS FEATURES

By Sharon Sanders

This is a collection of writings to share with others. The study, research and writing of each topic was carefully prepared with prayer for Israel in mind, providing more understanding about our responsibility to Israel and the Jewish people.

US \$20.00 (98 Pages)



THE BEAUTY OF THE HEBREW LANGUAGE

By Nathalie Blackham

In this book Nathalie Blackham takes us on an exciting journey as she shares the spiritual secrets and rich insights God has shown her from the Hebrew language; specifically the Hebrew alphabet.

US \$15.00 (94 Pages)

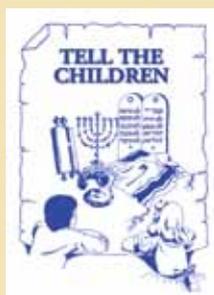


ISRAEL MY BELOVED

By Kay Arthur

A unique novel which spans the millennia making up Israel's history. This book will give you a chance to get to know some of the people who might have lived through the years.

US \$22.00 (446 Pages)



TELL THE CHILDREN

By Sharon Sanders

A "picture story book" full of illustrations for little eyes, telling of God's love for the Jewish people.

US \$6.00 (10 Pages)



SHALOM OF ISRAEL

By Frank Selch

A Selection of Biblical Songs in Hebrew and English.

US \$14.00 (CD)

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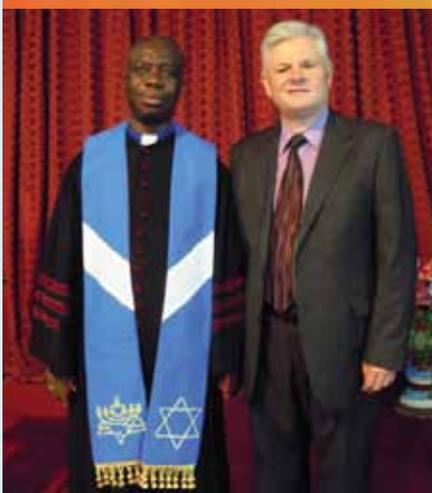
REPENTANCE IN THE CONGO



Pastor Robbie Coleman, CFI



Representatives from all 11 states of the D.R. Congo



Bishop Kalala, CFI Ambassador D.R. Congo

THE PASTORS OF THE CONGO were praying that someone from Israel might come to teach them. We held a four-day conference. The sessions were attended by approximately three hundred people each session. During my teaching, I spoke about the Biblical mandate to bless Israel. On the last day of the conference, organizers called for a special time of repentance and to receive an offering for the Israeli people. One pastor that had been in the Congo for many years said to me, “The Congo has not acted properly toward Israel.”

In 1974, the Congolese President, Mobutu, took a stand with Egypt during the Yom Kippur War. The president stood before the UN and said, “Israel is our friend but Egypt is my brother.” This stance ordered the Congolese military to back Egypt against Israel. The pastors explained to me that the country has been struggling in every way since then. On the last day, we had in attendance two Parliament members and the Congolese press. At the end of my teaching, 11 pastors that represented the spiritual leadership of all Congolese states knelt before God while holding the Congo flag. I stood beside them holding the Israeli flag. The entire delegation then knelt while the presiding elder prayed a prayer of repentance. Next, the group then called upon me to represent Israel and ask God to honor their request and forgive their sins. I must tell you that after 40 years of ministry, I don't think I have been so moved. The next morning as I flipped through the TV channels, I saw three news reports about the special service. One of those can be viewed at this site: www.youtube.com/watch?v=waV_n3c8mnw&feature=share.

When the service and interview was complete, two members of parliament visited my hotel room to ask for prayer. Both gave me their word that one of the first orders of business in the next Congolese sessions would be the introduction of a bill to invite Israel to bring the Israeli Embassy back to Kinshasa, the third largest city of Africa and the capital of the Congo.

Our “Churches for Israel” ministry recently designed a program that we call the “Ambassador’s Award.” This award honors special people that have demonstrated great leadership in blessing Israel. We are pleased to announce that our first honoree is Bishop Kalala Mwana M’Pandanjila of Kinshasa, Congo. This man has planted multiple churches throughout the Congo and has directed each of them to support Christian Friends of Israel. Bishop Kalala highlights Israel’s needs on his weekly television ministry that is viewed by 70 million homes and has great influence in the government and throughout the Congo. In addition, he has influenced over 100 churches in Africa to become a “Church for Israel.” We congratulate Bishop Kalala on this achievement.

By **Robbie Coleman**, Churches for Israel Coordinator

A Time of AWAKENING

CFI ANNUAL JERUSALEM CONFERENCE AND TOUR • MAY 14–22, 2013

Tentative Speakers



David
Nekrutman



Jacob
Vince



Earl
Cox



Jay
Rawlings



Anne
Ayalon



Rabbi
Shlomo Riskin



Robbie
Coleman



Kevin and
Stacey Howard



Rabbi
David Rosen



Danny
Dannon

“A Time of Awakening”

“Awake, awake; put on thy strength. O Zion: put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the Holy City...” (Isaiah 52:1).

**Conference Information and Registration:
Contact: tours@cfijerusalem.org**

Dear Christian Friends,

Jerusalem is the heart and the soul of the Jewish people. If you hold the City of God in your heart, you will not want to miss our Spring Conference, a time of special importance. Jerusalem is the most important place in the whole world. Come and receive your calling to be a Watchman on the Wall on behalf of Israel worldwide. Entrust your life, as a disciple of Yeshua (Jesus) to be a Watchman and to make your pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

Come with your whole being and not just your lips to help pray Israel on her road to redemption. Do not fear news reports, God is with you and He will be here with you for this important gathering. Won't you plan now so you will be among those who hear important Bible teaching that will impact your daily life and help to prepare for the coming days? See you in Jerusalem, the city destined to be the praise in the earth.

We hope many will come to experience and enjoy our great line up of Jewish and Christian speakers this coming year...be sure to plan now!

**In Messiah Yeshua,
Ray and Sharon Sanders
Co-founders
CFI-Jerusalem**



Program Highlights

Venue: Crowne Plaza Hotel and Auditorium

- Deepen your knowledge from in-depth teaching.
- Join in with Worship Leaders from Israel.
- Listen to testimonies of Jewish and Arab believers.
- Visit CFI Lighthouse Distribution Center.
- Travel to the “Fountain of Tears” in Arad and meet world renowned architect.
- Personal Bible studies at Jewish-Christian Center of Understanding in Efrat.
- Plenary and Day speakers to be announced.

Meet the People of the Land Tour

\$1,299.00 INCLUDES:

- 8 nights (based on double occupancy).
- Meals: Deluxe accommodations are based on half board (breakfast and dinner daily).
- Motor coach bus and English speaking guides.
- Entrance fees: Entrance fees to all sites included in price.

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Airfare and Lunch.

Group Leaders and Agents for **special incentives** contact: robbie@cfijerusalem.org.

For details about CFI's Meet the People Tour, go to www.cfijerusalem.org and click on “Events.”

CONFERENCE ONLY –\$99.00 USD

Additional add on: For a special two day post conference trip to the Galilee please contact us at: tours@cfijerusalem.org.

www.cfijerusalem.org

Email: tours@cfijerusalem.org Website: www.cfijerusalem.org

Tel: (972) 2-623-3778 Fax (972) 2-623-3913

Mailing Address: CFI Events Dept., PO Box 1813, Jerusalem 91015, ISRAEL

**Christian Friends
of Israel—Jerusalem**



Ruth Carlson

Hispanic Countries Awakening to Israel

CFI WELCOMES PASTOR RUTH CARLSON who has been planting churches in Spanish speaking countries for years. She is married, with two adult children and one grandchild. Ruth served with Christian Friends of Israel—Jerusalem this past year. While Ruth was with us, she built a Hispanic web page for the Spanish-speaking world and knows she is called by God to represent God's Land and People through the ministry of CFI—Jerusalem.

There is at this time an awakening in the Hispanic world toward Hebraic roots and the Jewish people. Ruth wishes to carry out the commission of being a true Christian friend of Israel to her people. She is coordinating a Latin American Ministry trip in which she and Sharon Sanders along with Robbie Coleman will be ministering the Word of God about Israel and the Church and the work of CFI.

Scheduled are visits to Colombia—South America, including Medellin and Cali in February. In July CFI teams will travel to Nicaragua and Honduras, in Central America. The way will then be paved for further development of CFI—Jerusalem through CFI's Roving Ambassadors, Peter and Beryl Hunter from the U.K.

For more information contact Ruth Carlson, CFI International Spanish Representative at: cfimundohispano@hotmail.com



CFI South America



Mohan Weerakoon teaching on Jewish roots

Impacting Lives in Sri Lanka

MOHAN WEERAKOON, CFI Representative in Sri Lanka is certainly a man of spiritual influence and inspiration. He continues to travel to the many islands and even remote jungle people to spread the message of Jesus and to preach about Israel. He also teaches people how and why to pray for this beloved country. Mohan's teachings have brought love offerings from the jungle areas as well as other cities and villages.

He recently was invited to blow the Shofar and open the Sri Lanka Inter Church Olympics. CFI is well known in the nation of Sri Lanka. Mohan travelled recently to a former war zone in the north and is having CFI conferences in Sri Lanka. He is indeed a "man of impact" and we are pleased to ask our partners to pray for this man of God to continue his important work God has had him begin.



Email Mohan at: mohanwg@ssltnet.lk

CFI Sri Lanka



Colorado **Hearts** Bless Israel

WHAT BEGAN AS A PRAYERFUL DREAM years ago became a reality when 15 volunteers from Colorado, USA, came to Israel to serve at CFI. Lives were forever impacted as they interacted in the outreach programs and experienced daily living in the Land for one month.

One group repaired homes of staff members and Jewish people, another prepared meals for CFI staff. Others participated in outreaches to Holocaust Survivors, Russian war veteran events and home visits. Still others worked at the CFI Distribution Center. They experienced new immigrants praising Christians for reaching out and loving them, when others during their lifetime all turned away. The team from Colorado was brought to tears by the outpouring of love and appreciation for Christian Friends of Israel and witnessed the walls of hostility between us being broken down by one act of love after another. The members of the group each brought wonderful donations for the Distribution Center and other outreaches.

Carole Andersen (CFI Colorado Representative and leader of the group says): “Something happens *in* you—not *to* you—when you are in Jerusalem...You can feel a profound presence of the Holy Spirit that feels stronger than you have ever imagined, but its depth of magnitude is not visible to your eyes...Prayers and plans have begun for God to use us again in 2013 comforting and blessing the Jewish people through the ministry of CFI.”

Carole Andersen, Ft. Collins, Colorado



Email Carole at: cander7811@aol.com

New CFI Canadian Representative

REVEREND KEN SMITH was born in York England, he is the oldest of four children. He attended Bible College in Peterborough, Ontario, where he met and married Ilene. He says, “We entered ministry in Manitoba, then moved to Alberta. Our lives were changed after the first experience visiting Israel in 1983.

It has been our joy to have taken approximately 27 tours to Israel. We have worked for Israel in various ways and we count it an honor to represent CFI and pray that the ministry will bloom and develop in our nation. Ken has a new ministry board that is working with him as he installs new Area Representatives around the country who are hard at work sharing about the ministry of Christian Friends of Israel.

Note: All of us in the worldwide family of CFI welcome our new Representative from the great nation of Canada! If you are from Canada, be sure to contact Ken Smith at the email below.



Email Ken at: revken.smith@telus.net

CFI Canada



Ken Smith



Come Over And Help Us! (Acts 16:9)

Answering God's Call

The Bible teaches us about diverse people from many nations who are gifted and equipped with many talents. Paul speaks to us in the book of Corinthians about the different gifts and callings to serve which complement each other. CFI-Jerusalem is a TEAM pulling together in the same direction to accomplish God's work. As we place people, we place them in their calling. The blend of giftings God brings to us is very important to us.

Urgent-Media/Graphic Designer

CFI is seeking a Graphic Designer with 3-5 years experience in design, exceptional layout skills on a variety of publications, and knowledge of print and digital output. Strong experience with Adobe In-Design and Photoshop. Design sense is essential, along with attention to detail in editing and proofing, layout, composition and typography. Please include an Internet link to your portfolio or send a DVD to the address at the bottom of this page.

Essential Positions-Apply Now!

- David's Shield Coordinator
- Human Resources Assistant
- Media/Graphic Designer
- Administrative/Clerical positions
- Bridal Salon Coordinator
- Writer
- International Representative Assistant
- Tour and Conference Coordinator
- Head Cook

Please go to: www.cfijerusalem.org and click on "Volunteer" to learn more about our open positions.

Sharon Sanders Speaks to MDA International

During a recent Magen David Adom Conference held in Tel Aviv, Sharon Sanders, a member of the board of the newly formed MDA Christian Desk, was asked to speak to the MDA members from around the world. Anne Ayalon, President of the Christian Desk and Nathalie Blackham also spoke to the international audience of Presidents, Fund-raisers, Paramedics, and honored guests. Sharon's message was well received as many hearts were warmed by the Christian love which came across in her message.

We thank God for this wonderful occasion held recently in Tel Aviv. Mr. Norman Feingold, former MDA President, stated "we are seeing the heralding of a new dawning...of Jewish-Christian relations...Judaism is a giant trunk of the tree...Christianity is the golden branch...but it must remain attached or die..." Together, MDA and CFI want to save lives which is the true expression of prayer in action.



CFI Representative Nearest You

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: If you change your address, please notify us promptly, giving us both your old and your new address. E-mail: cfi@cfijerusalem.org or write to the CFI address below. Send all communication relating to *For Zion's Sake* to: CFI, PO Box 1813, Jerusalem 91015, ISRAEL.