

For Zion's Sake

First Quarter 2014 Jewish Year 5774

BRING THE SCROLLS

**"...WHEN THOU COMEST,
BRING WITH THEE...
THE BOOKS, BUT
ESPECIALLY
THE PARCHMENTS"
2 TIMOTHY 4:13.**



Christian Friends of Israel

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For Zion's Sake

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Dear Friends of Israel,

"Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast their cords from us. He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He will speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure; yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion" Psalm 2:1-6.

The ongoing conflicts in the Middle East are a result of a blatant disregard for the Lord's words and warning to the nations for their disobedience. In spite of all we witness and perceive, the earnestly sought after "peace and security" is still an elusive dream. As we are all aware, the US government is investing enormous amounts of time and resources to secure a peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Tremendous amounts of pressure are being applied to Israel to relinquish most, if not all of Judea and Samaria. In surrendering this territory, Jewish residents would have to vacate their homes to the PA. The emotional response would make the Gaza withdrawal pale in comparison to potentially uprooting 600,000 residents from Israel's heartland. No doubt Prime Minister Netanyahu would never agree to such an imposition of heavy-handedness upon these residents who simply want to live at peace with their Arab neighbors.

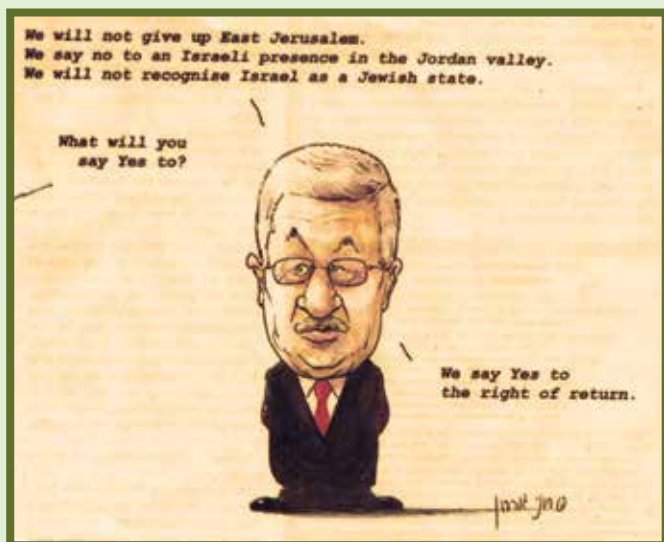
Jewish Sovereignty Over Judea and Samaria

An article appearing in the January 2014 issue of *Sovereignty Magazine*, presents a perspective on the gradual implementing of Jewish sovereignty over Judea and Samaria. Such a position is presented by Coalition Chairman MK Yariv Levin. Whereas this is one of many positions on this very volatile subject, it is worth considering the potential outcome of such a step toward Israeli sovereignty.

"Before he dives into current politics, Levin stops for a basic recital of the principles to which he holds fast: 'I believe our right to the Land is absolute and unshakable and it includes the entire Land. Moreover, I believe that

Valley of Jehoshaphat

“For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My Land” Joel 3:1,2.



no one has the authority to give up this right because it belongs not only to those who live in this generation but to everyone who preceded us and we are obligated to pass this right on to future generations. No one can surrender this right. This position must remain clear and sharp even if the ability to implement this right fully at any given moment is limited, whether, as in the time of the Diaspora when we were not here and nevertheless did not give up our right to return to the Land, or as in 1948 when we were not in Judea and Samaria, or in our days, when we still do not reside in the entire territory. But first, these things must be clear on the conceptual level.”

After stating these principles, MK Levin outlines, even if it is with general lines, the political blueprint according to which, as he sees it, Israel must proceed. “The correct policy, from the point of view of Israeli interests regarding our political ability at the moment, is to combine the attempt to hold the maximum amount of territory and apply sovereignty over the maximum amount of territory while keeping the Arab population within it to a minimum. The situation already exists in Area C which is under our control—there are little more than fifty thousand Arabs.

“There is a clear Jewish majority and therefore it is absolutely clear that all ideas of withdrawal and handing the territory over are against Israeli interests. Now we must create the conditions that will prepare for annexation, meaning an increase in building and a deepening of the settlements. We must gradually apply legislation regarding the residents and the territory—for example zoning and building codes. Ultimately, we must be ready to take advantage of any political conditions that would allow us to implement the application of sovereignty—even if just in phases—until there is full application of sovereignty.”

Creating the Necessary Conditions

“And how might this happen? If we persist and are patient, ultimately such conditions will arise. There are many things that seem impossible from afar. For example, the goal of Zionism seemed like an impossible and futile process. If we work diligently toward creating the necessary conditions, I have no doubt that in the end it will be possible to achieve this goal.” Whereas, some of you reading these words may not be in agreement with MK Levin, his position *is* in keeping with the prophet Joel’s admonition of not dividing the Land and scattering the people. Judgment is sure to come to any nation if they persist in the folly of dividing the Land of Israel.



Sincerely in the Lord’s service,

Ray Sanders

Ray Sanders,
Executive/
International Director

BRING THE SCROLLS!

BY SHARON SANDERS

Charles Spurgeon said “people read the view of their denominations...they read the views of their leader...but...the divine fountain-head from which all revelation wells up – this is too often left out...read the books, by all manner of means, but especially the parchments...” (Spurgeon).

BETWEEN the covers of the Book of Books lay vested, sacred Hebrew scrolls. These words of God, given through the Prophets of Israel, were priceless to Shaul (Paul) and they likewise, should be to Christians today.

Written by the Hand of God, these scrolls masterfully express His heart of love and mercy for a nation with a destiny of bringing light to the nations. From the stroke of each scribe’s pen came the Memra (in the sense of the directive Word of God... in Greek “logos”). “They are called Torah, the first five books of the Bible, which comes from the same root as *Horeh* which means parent...”. (Avi Lipkin) The books of the prophets are called *Tanakh* and all are inspired by the Almighty.

Each Jewish prophet wrote with pen in hand meticulously, as His Words were delivered by the Holy Spirit. Now, translated into many dialects and vernacular languages, the words still leap off the pages of Bibles into the hearts of believers around the world. Yet, it is quite common for many Christians to never open their Bibles to the “scrolls” of the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Joel, Amos and others.

BRING THE SCROLLS

After his arrival in Troas (a chief northwest city in Asia Minor), Paul thought it extremely important to ask for his scrolls. This would be normal for a man of God who needed to continue his studies and besides, how could one teach if they didn’t have their scrolls with them? Likewise, how can Christian scholars, pastors and leaders assist their students in understanding a passage in the New Testament, correctly and in context, if they don’t know the Hebrew Bible which at one time were only on scrolls? It is my prayer that this article will provide a new appreciation for that which is too often **neglected treasure** in the Christian church today.

The word for “scroll” in Hebrew is *megillah* such as the Megillah of Esther or Ruth. In Yeshua’s day, scrolls were made of parchment paper that unrolled and opened out. As today, they expose one page at a time for reading, the scroll’s remaining pages then roll to the left and right of the visible page. Unrolled from side to side, the text is written across in lines from the top to the bottom of the page, reading from right to left.

Scrolls first began to be used by Hebrew scribes after Sinai, in the recording of literature. Special ink from lampblack (powdered carbon produced from burning oils) was collected and mixed with the juice of plants. If too many letters were lost, a Torah scroll was then no longer used (as today). Two types of pens, one of iron or wood and one much softer, made of reed were used. One thing is certain: scribes, sages and ordinary God-fearing Jews preserved and defended these sacred writings whenever danger was nearby.

Why is it so important to know about the Scrolls? I would like to share my observations regarding today’s Church. Pastors have personally asked me, “Should we be teaching the “Old” Testament? Dr. Marvin Wilson answers that question: “The bedrock upon which New Testament faith rests securely...is the Hebrew Bible...it is the chief source from which our common Judeo-Christian heritage derives. It was certainly an unfortunate day for the Church when the Jewish Scriptures began to be called the ‘Old Testament.’ Such a title implies that this Testament is now passé...neither Yeshua nor the apostles ever declared the first thirty-nine books of Sacred Scripture dead or abolished, and they must never become so for the Church...” Bible scholar Emil Brunner agrees: “...the Scrolls can scarcely be overestimated...they are the parent of the new...”

“Understanding this imperative is important if one is to grasp the Hebraic foundation which underpins the theology of the earliest church...for Christianity has been debtor to the Jewish people for sharing this rich legacy. But it is tragic to realize that many Christians have avoided the Old Testament as a matter of ignoring it. Wherever I travel, typically, Christians have received little emphasis on the Old Testament sermons, Sunday school teaching, and group Bible study. They have come to believe that the Old Testament is, for the most part, boring and irrelevant...” (Marvin R. Wilson, Ph.D.).

“...One of the first heresies that the Early Church faced was propounded by Marcion...a wealthy ship owner from Sinope (now northern Turkey), who in Rome began to argue that the Old Testament was inferior to the New and...fought to have it removed from the canon...the New Testament...Marcion insisted, revealed the true God in the coming of Christ from heaven...this God was a God of love. Marcion argued that the New Testament, being Christ’s book...was superior to the Old Testament...” He then demoted the Old Testament...and began to extol the

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writings of Paul, which held that Christians were “*free from the Law*” (Galatians 5:1) ...he contended that the Church was wrong in attempting to combine the gospel with Judaism...his goal [was]...to rid Christianity of every trace of Judaism...he became known as the archenemy of the “Jew God”...Justin Martyr, a Church father, considered Marcionism to be the most dangerous heresy of his day.” (Marvin R. Wilson, Ph.D.)

SHOULD WE TEACH OLD TESTAMENT?

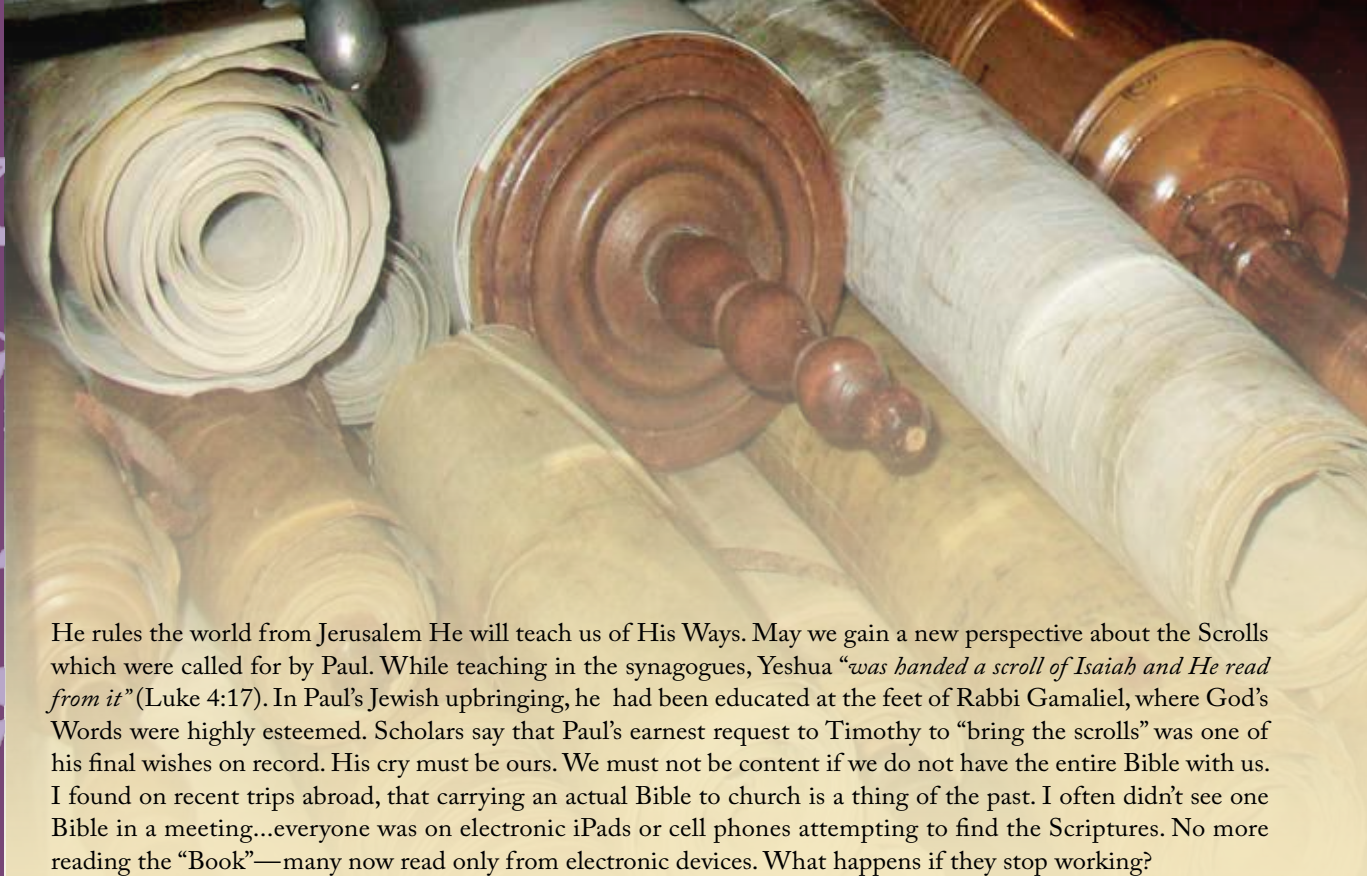
We yet have another problem that arose which the Early Church Fathers had to solve: the problem of what to do with the Old Testament...the Church had superseded Israel, they said. Now the “new Israel” laid claim to the Scriptures as theirs and **through allegory, the Old Testament could be made a “Christian” document...**and then proceeded to wrench the Biblical text from its plain historical meaning. When Christians pick and choose what to read in the Bible (especially *New Testament Only* churches) they end up with selective Bible reading and sever the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith.

“Neo-Marcionism...tends to be advanced when...they say...*we* don’t have anything to learn from *you* and your dead, legalistic religion, but *you’ve* got everything to learn from *us*.” A Pastor at last year’s CFI Conference, held every spring in Jerusalem, was upset because we invited a wonderful Jewish educator to speak on our platform. In a very annoying way he said, “how can they teach us anything?”

Such an attitude smacks of an exclusivism and elitism that can only further fortify the barrier that has divided Synagogue and Church since the First Century...we must...continue urging a return to the position of the Early Church, where today’s Christian can claim the Old Testament, as the New Testament did, for it belongs to us no less than it did—*and does*—to Israel.” (John Bright)

“Indeed, the Christian has through Christ in the truest sense been...grafted into Israel like a wild branch onto a cultivated tree (Romans 11:17-24). He must therefore see the Old Testament history as...the history of his own heritage of faith, its God as his God...the Christian who refuses to see it so, flies in the face of the New Testament’s witness and does no less than reject his own past...the Old Testament (the Scrolls) are foundational, not optional...and must hold a central place in the life of today’s Church. Can we afford to view the scrolls with any less esteem than did Yeshua, Paul, and the early believers?” (Dr. Marvin R. Wilson).

Paul obviously felt the writings were something he really needed. Our Jewish Lord adhered to the scrolls meticulously all His life...why wouldn’t Paul? When Yeshua comes again, won’t the “*law go forth from Zion*”? When



He rules the world from Jerusalem He will teach us of His Ways. May we gain a new perspective about the Scrolls which were called for by Paul. While teaching in the synagogues, Yeshua *“was handed a scroll of Isaiah and He read from it”* (Luke 4:17). In Paul’s Jewish upbringing, he had been educated at the feet of Rabbi Gamaliel, where God’s Words were highly esteemed. Scholars say that Paul’s earnest request to Timothy to “bring the scrolls” was one of his final wishes on record. His cry must be ours. We must not be content if we do not have the entire Bible with us. I found on recent trips abroad, that carrying an actual Bible to church is a thing of the past. I often didn’t see one Bible in a meeting...everyone was on electronic iPads or cell phones attempting to find the Scriptures. No more reading the “Book”—many now read only from electronic devices. What happens if they stop working?

IT IS WRITTEN...HAVE YOU NOT HEARD?

I also learned that few Christians read the Bible on a consistent weekly study basis. They say, “I just don’t have time” or “I have lots of pressure at my job.” The same people run up to a Jewish person when they visit Israel and say to them: “Why don’t you believe in Jesus, you are blind!” and my Jewish friends tell me, “They don’t know how much that hurts because I study the Scriptures **five hours a day!**” It further amazes me that some Pastors and Christians do not know how to find books in the Old Testament. Yeshua rebuked His disciples and those who questioned Him saying *“It is written,” “Have you not heard?,” “Have you not read?”* obviously referring to the Scrolls. He certainly had no problem referring to them, and would most likely be very perplexed today at why we often don’t know them. The fact is that they are the inspired Word of God and foretold of Yeshua’s first coming. At lunch recently in Jerusalem with an Orthodox Jewess I quoted from the New Testament the words of Yeshua: *“I have not come to destroy the law but to fulfill it”* (Matthew 5:17). This Orthodox Jewess agreed that indeed Yeshua had spoken these words and wondered why Christians do not take Him earnestly.

While in Latin America, I was asked by leaders in Mexico City, “What if we do not read or teach the “Old” Testament? My response was that God had warned us about this very issue. *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,”* (2 Timothy 3:16) All Scripture means each and every one. I also said that by not reading the Hebrew Scriptures, we *could* be guilty of eliminating portions of God’s Word which could bring serious consequences. *“For I testify unto every man...if any man shall add unto these things...and if any man shall take away...”* (Revelation 22:18). Deuteronomy 12:32 agrees with Revelation 22 stating *“...thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.”* I find that in an beautiful way both Testaments cross reference and pay tribute to one another. Each gives the other spiritual strength needed for the true meaning of the passages. Yeshua declared publicly *“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill...one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, (which includes adding to or taking away from) and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven...”* (Matthew 5:17-19). He was essentially saying, “Don’t even form thoughts in your mind, that I came to earth to rescind the principles set out in the Hebrew Bible. They are the basis for the system of rules and knowledge with which I was educated and which I taught My Disciples.”

NEW TESTAMENT BUILT ON TORAH

It might be interesting to know that the New Testament contains at least 295 quotations from the Hebrew Scrolls. Yeshua was constantly reinforcing them. Yes, the Hebrew Scriptures are the rock by which the New Testament is supported. Personally, I see that the Hebrew Scriptures contain the love of God for a People: Israel. Also the New Testament carries on this great love for us, because as gentiles we are *included* in the true Israel of God. We need to rejoice that Yeshua came to meet the requirements of the prophecies in the scrolls... having reached the expected end – His Death and Resurrection. He accomplished and finished what had been written about Him. *“Rolling up the Scroll, He handed it back to the attendant and sat down...He said to them, today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing”* (Isaiah 49:6-9; 61:1,2).



Hebrew Torah scrolls

Christian theologians for 20 centuries often cast aside these priceless parchment scrolls which described the origin and family of the Lord, and ended up hiding who He was in His Manhood. Spiritual darkness set in during the Dark Ages and unfortunately, still today, too many Christian churches still remain “in the dark.” Let us always remember that the Lord referenced words from the Scrolls in His prayers, He quoted from them on the cross and in His resurrection glory. That is why we have *no authority* to depart from them.

“Four thousand years ago, the Jewish people were the vessels into which God poured His Word. Nearly two thousand years ago, the Judaism of Jesus laid claim to the authority of the Hebrew Scriptures. The foundation of Christianity must be Judaism or it has no foundation. (Qumran Bet Community).



ALL SCRIPTURE MUST BE RESPECTED

It is time that the Hebrew Scriptures be given the respect they deserve by the Christian Church. Among the early followers of Jesus there was no “Christian Bible”—only the Scrolls. The New Testament had not yet been written, canonized nor distributed. The Hebrew Scriptures were the original authority from which believers pulled wisdom to support their arguments, or to help explain the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We must stop looking at the first part of the Bible as “**their books**” and the second part of the Bible as “**our books**.” Together they constitute one essential story. If we know nothing about the ancient Jewish ritual of animal sacrifice, which fully explained a need for blood atonement, we will not completely understand what Yeshua actually accomplished on the Cross. He completely fulfilled what was necessary, with His own spotless blood, to satisfy the Lord’s requirements for atonement written about in the Scrolls. The grandson of Rabbi Eliezer Ben Yehuda, the Father of the Hebrew language, spoke to our CFI staff recently. He said “**You can destroy a scroll but you cannot destroy the words on it because the words live.**”

To help us along our spiritual journey of understanding our Hebraic roots, we must recover the Biblical perspectives of the early believers. “...The Ethiopian Orthodox church, resisting the pressures of Hellenization and Latinization, has preserved a historical Torah-observant expression of the Christian faith... free of Marcionism...if the thinkers and pastoral shepherds of the Reformation in Europe had known of the existence of Johannine theology, their zeal would likely have focused on restoring the Church to the faith of the first Jewish believers...

the classical Jewish writings...are the literary products of a dynamic process of Divine inspiration...in seeking to provide an...exegetical model that will help us rediscover the beauty of the Hebraic roots of all Christianity, an analysis of Johannine theology will be of more than passing interest for the Restoration Movement (Johannine theology is an historical school of New Testament exegesis)...the theological framework...of the Ethiopian Tawahedo Church...was never filtered through European thought processes...Paul...throughout his life confirmed the Torah and his adherence to it. He lived and died a Torah-observant Jew and expected the same high standard of ethical conduct from others.

Yet he forthrightly denounced fellow Jewish believers who taught that salvation was dependent upon acceptance of ‘*ol ha-shamayim*,’ ‘the yoke of heaven,’ the practical performance of the 613 Biblical commandments...Paul knew it was impossible to comply with all the stipulations of the Torah and as a mature student of Rabbi Gamaliel...the profundity of Paul’s rabbinic learning led him...to a single, inescapable conclusion, as he noted in his letter to the believers in the Jewish community of Rome: “*Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the Torah...do we then make void the Torah through faith? God forbid! Yea, we establish the Torah.*” (Romans 3:28, 31). (Princess Esther Sellassie-Antohin, great-grandchild of Ethiopian Emperor Haile Sellassie I.)

The next time we look into God’s Word, let’s make sure we read the **whole Bible** and be sure we study the Scriptures but especially not to forget the “parchments.”

Sigd—A Celebration of Freedom

FOR CENTURIES, the Beta Israel or Jews, from Ethiopia, were secluded from Jewry living in other nations. Consequently, without access to oral law or the demands of rabbinical teaching, the Beta Israel, preserved and developed biblically-based traditions uniquely their own. **One such tradition or celebration is called Sigd—meaning prostration or bowing down and worship.**

Sigd is celebrated 50 days after Yom Kippur of which is similar to Shavuot or Pentecost, celebrated 50 days after Pesach or Passover—and, the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. However, this year in Jerusalem, it was celebrated, on October 31, 2013, 48 days after Yom Kippur due to the 50th day being on Shabbat. In 2008, Sigd became an official Israeli holiday, now celebrated in Israel each year, on Heshvan (October) 29.

The essence of Sigd can be found in the book of Nehemiah—*“And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered: ‘Amen, Amen’, with the lifting up of their hands; and they bowed their heads, and fell down before the Lord with their faces to the ground”* (Nehemiah 8:5-6). *“And they stood up in their places and read in the book of the law of the Lord their God a fourth part of the day; and another fourth part they confessed, and prostrated themselves before the Lord their God”* (Nehemiah 9:3). These verses relate to the time of the Prophets, Ezra and Nehemiah, when the Jewish people worshiped God for their freedom and return home, from Babylonian exile.

Next Year in Jerusalem

In Ethiopia, communal prayers usher in and validate the intended holiness of Sigd’s earliest observance. Celebration day begins with a fast and a pilgrimage to a mountain considered holy—as Mt. Sinai, where the Torah was received. For a fourth part of the day, spiritual leaders read from the Torah and other Hebrew Scriptures. The next fourth part of the day, congregants prostrate themselves while in confession to and worship of God—their hearts set on celebrating **“next year in Jerusalem.”**

In Israel, Ethiopian Jews come, from elsewhere—to Jerusalem—to the Kotel or Western Wall, in the Old City—and then, to the Haas Promenade, a high place that overlooks Mount Zion and the Mount of Olives as spiritual leaders carry the Orit or “the Ethiopian Torah Scroll.” Ceremoniously attired dignitaries are seated on a platform decorated with flags of Israel and Jerusalem. Fasting, prayer, the recital of Hebrew Scriptures, and exuberant worship are traditional benchmarks of the day’s events. However, since coming to Israel, many faithful

celebrants of Sigd are concerned that it is now a social or cultural experience, for participants, rather than a divine appointment with God.

For many, there is a tangible excitement at the prospect of a “new beginning”—a fresh start—leaving the old behind and pressing forward, into what is “new.” As the Beta Israel historically celebrate Sigd—receiving the Torah, and recalling their forefather’s release, from the restraints of exile—so shall their immigration from Ethiopia to Israel be a physical affirmation of God’s promise of freedom and a “new beginning.”

Thank you for your faithfulness as facilitators of freedom and “new beginnings” through your prayers and financial support. I pray that you are encouraged, by God’s promise to us, in John 14:12-14 *“... anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works... You can ask [the Father] for anything in my name, —and I will do it...”* **Your partnership with the Lord through CFI/HFF is duly noted with us and in Heaven. Together, we will do the greater works, according to His Word.**

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

A Partnership Opportunity!

WIZO Pardes Katz Afterschool program, in Bnei Brak, is in need of at least 10 computers, including one laptop and, tutor/teacher’s salary per month.

- desktop computer \$950 USD each
- tutor/teacher’s salary \$600 USD per month
- laptop computer \$850 USD each



My Life Changed Forever!

SEVENTY-TWO YEARS AGO on 20 January 1942, fourteen senior officials of Nazi Germany met over a midday buffet luncheon in a villa beside a lake in a wealthy suburb of Berlin known as Wannsee, to discuss the annihilation of an entire people. The meeting lasted about ninety minutes and they discussed the fate of an estimated 11,000,000 Jews living throughout Europe.

As Reinhardt Heydrich put forward his plan for the “total solution to the Jewish question” the atmosphere of the meeting was one of co-operation and agreement.

The Wannsee Conference, as it became known, did not mark the beginning of the “Final Solution.” The mobile killing squads (Einsatzgruppen) had already been following German troop advancement and had been slaughtering Jews in Poland since the Germans invaded in September 1939. Rather, the Wannsee Conference was the place where the “final solution” was formally revealed to high ranking Nazi Party and German government leaders who would help arrange for Jews to be transported from all over German-occupied Europe to SS-operated “extermination” camps in Poland. Most participants were already aware that the National Socialist regime had engaged in mass murder of Jews and other civilians in the German-occupied areas of the Soviet Union and not one of the men present objected to the announced policy, but openly discussed methods of killing, liquidation and “extermination.”

Between 1939 and June 1941, the German army invaded and occupied many countries, Austria, the Netherlands, Poland, Belgium, Romania, France, Luxembourg, Yugoslavia, Ukraine and the Soviet Union. This meant many millions of Jews living in territories under German control were denied civilian rights, had their businesses and homes stolen from them, and were forced into ghettos where they could easily be slaughtered! Millions of lives were forever changed by the decision made so quickly that fateful day, by 14 men. Each survivor lives with this grief every day.

“And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones...that person will certainly not lose their reward” (Matthew 10:42).

Eliahu D was born in 1932, in Bukovina (northern Romania and western Ukraine). His first memory of war was a night when 80 Jews in his village were killed. He said that his family was preserved at that time because his father had land and cattle which enabled him to buy their freedom. When Eliahu was eight or nine years old he remembers the whole family was sent to Transnistria in the Ukraine.

The first winter his father, mother and two brothers all died of typhus. They were in some kind of camp with Ukrainians guarding them. He recalls poor living conditions, with 17 people in a room and no food, in freezing cold. They were fenced in, but Eliahu was able to get away. While he was on the run there were people who risked their lives to help him. A woman, whose husband was part of the militants, risked her life to give him a piece of bread. Eliahu remembers these acts of kindness to him that helped save his life.

Thank you for your prayers and gifts that make it possible for our team to continue to bring comfort, encouragement and love to those who survived the madness, chaos, loss and grief of the Holocaust.

By **Jenny Milmine**, Forsake Them Not Coordinator



Each survivor lives with their grief



THE IDF SPIRIT: *The Israel Defense Forces are the state of Israel's military force. The IDF is subordinate to the directions of the democratic civilian authorities and the laws of the state. The goal of the IDF is to protect the existence of the State of Israel and her independence, and to thwart all enemy efforts to disrupt the normal way of life in Israel.*

IDF soldiers are obligated to fight, to dedicate all their strength and even sacrifice their lives in order to protect the State of Israel, her citizens and residents. IDF soldiers will operate according to the IDF values and orders, while adhering to the laws of the state and norms of human dignity, and honoring the values of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state.



The IDF Spirit

By Jim McKenzie, Project David's Shield Coordinator

Israel is the homeland of the Jewish people—just a small nation with a population of 8.1 million people. Israel faces threats on all its borders and beyond: to the north, Lebanon and Syria, to the east, Jordan and south, Egypt. While Iran is in the distance, they are developing weapons of mass destruction with the stated intention of wiping Israel off the face of the earth. Each one of these nations is rife with its own chaotic events. The enemies of Israel do not value life. Homicide bombers and terrorists strive to inflict maximum numbers of civilian casualties.

To counter these evil forces and threats is the job of the Israel Defense Forces. Their goal is to protect the existence and independence of the state of Israel. It is a Defense Force by name for a very good reason, to defend the homeland of the Jewish people and all citizens of Israel. Included are 1.68 million Arabs living within the secure borders of Israel and its society.

IDF ALWAYS ON ALERT!

A recent bus bombing in Bat Yam continues to highlight the need for a defense force. The suspects apprehended are members of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror infrastructure in Bethlehem. The suspects confessed they planned to execute a devastating terror attack in Israel. During the investigation, they further confessed the cell was planning on executing another major attack in the Tel-Aviv/Jaffa area. Arresting this terror network prevented these attacks from taking place.

Lt. Col. Peter Lerner, IDF spokesman: "This mission carried out in a combined intelligence and operational effort, saved Israeli lives. The reality of daily attacks in our malls, in our buses and in coffee shops is a deep scar in our collective memory; the perpetrators of terror must know that there is a price to pay. The IDF is committed to safeguarding the safety and security in the region, and will continue to peruse those that wish to disrupt our way of life." (IDFblog.com, 3 January 2014)

The vision of David's Shield, a project of CFI Jerusalem is to express our solidarity with the brave warriors of the IDF. We believe that Israel is the rightful home of the Jewish people, land that God gave them the title deed to. If we truly believe this we need to stand on the Truth and strive to educate others and ourselves.

As I travel about this Land meeting with soldiers, I continue to be challenged with the sentiment they express about being good soldiers. **They simply want us to know they are defending the Nation and it's the right thing to do.** I tell them I agree! I'm challenged because I wonder why they need to be so concerned about what the world thinks of them. **God has placed them as the guardians of this Land, and it's a righteous calling indeed. We pray and believe that the world will recognize the need for Israel to defend itself,** and more importantly, that we will understand the IDF Spirit in which they operate. We encourage them to continue doing what is right.

Please help us convey the message of solidarity and support. Thank you for your prayers as we continue to build this important project. **Support of the men and women of the IDF is an integral part of this ministry of God's love, to the Jewish people.**

"Through God we shall do valiantly..." (Psalm 108:13)



Standing in solidarity

www.cfijerusalem.org



Ray Sanders Assisting in Caring for Needs in the Body

“Bring the best of the
firstfruits...to the
house of the LORD
your God”
(Exodus 23:19).

A Spiritual Journey

IN EXODUS 23 we are told that Israel brought their first fruits to the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. It is always wonderful to celebrate the Festival of Shavuot here in Israel because many kibbutzim and moshavim celebrate this agricultural festival. We look forward to the day when all Israel will once again “*come up to Jerusalem*” to bring the best they have to offer unto the God of Israel.

At Christian Friends of Israel, our First Fruits department offers the best we can offer to many in the household of believers across the Land. Like most others who come to us for help, they have a lack somewhere in their lives. First Fruits, over the years, has helped thousands of champions of the faith whether they be Arab, Gentile or Jewish...all deserve our support and encouragement. **Thank you to every one of our supporters from the nations who have helped many to be encouraged in their spiritual journey with God. Your sponsorship of this project is greatly appreciated!**

By **Ray Sanders**, Project First Fruits Coordinator

Letters From Those You Have *Helped!*

“We would like to thank you for your help in our financial problems. **This blessed organization is a blessing for us in Israel.** The gift you blessed our family with helped pay our debts. We thank God for this ministry which we can call on for help from time to time.”

— **Stasia and Daniel**

“I would like to thank you and your supporters for your help and support. **I wish for you that God will bless you** and give you all the success in the rest of the way.” — **Luba**

“Thank you so much for the help with food vouchers. It will help me to balance my budget for buying food and other items as well. Thank you so much.” — **Arnon**

“Thank you very much for helping our family out and all of your support. We appreciate it a lot. God bless you! — **Oksana**

“It is so nice to meet people with hands so generously giving us help and compassion, especially to those who have needs. It is my privilege ...to know you.” — **Valentina**

“You are my friends! Thank you so much for your help and support. May God bless and fill you. We are praying for you.”

— **Janna**

If you think that trials and hardships are difficult wherever you live, then think of those near the front lines in Israel where spiritual warfare is intensified a hundred fold. **Each person’s life you touch will one day be your treasure in Heaven.**

www.cfijerusalem.org

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TOUR

May 25 - June 5, 2014



◆ THE FEASTS *of* THE LORD ◆

IN JERUSALEM



*Melody of My Heart Joins Us
for Praise and Worship!*



*Your Hosts, Ray & Sharon Sanders
CFI Co-founders and Directors*

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Opening night Sunday, May 25, 2014

**Come up to Jerusalem for teachings by world renowned speakers,
learn about the Biblical Feast of Israel.**

Venue: Crowne Plaza (Jerusalem)**

May 25-27, 2014

Conference with three nights accommodation - US \$479* (Single Supplement US \$235)

Conference Only - US \$100 (per person)

Includes 10 sessions over 2 days

**Based on double occupancy **Based on availability*

Conference highlights are subject to change. Check our website for updates: www.cfijerusalem.org



CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TOUR

May 25 - June 5, 2014



Barry Segal



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Sharon Sanders



Peter Tsukahira



David Nekrutman



Kevin Howard



Ruperto Badillo



Pastor Jeremiah



Sondra Baras



Ruth Fazal



Felix Omobude

MEET THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL TOUR

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Eight days and seven nights in the Land of Israel •
- Spend one-on-one time with Holocaust survivors pioneering in Israel today •
 - Go to an Israeli army base and interact with IDF soldiers •
 - Visit an Arab Christian Congregation •
 - Take a scenic boat ride on the Sea of Galilee •
- Our tour will also include visits to Carmel Assembly, Kasser El Yahud Baptism Site, Mt. Bental, Bethsaida, Banias Falls, The Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding, the Dead Sea, the Garden Tomb, an Absorption Center and so much more! •



May 25 - June 5, 2014

Conference and Tour - US \$1595* (Single Supplement US \$745)

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A City Becomes a Symbol

"...my heart is wounded within me" (Psalm 109:22).



Katie with her parents and her baby

DURING Operation Pillar of Defense in November 2012, the ear-piercing siren warning of an incoming rocket attack was heard in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv and other cities of Israel for the first time. The whole nation finally felt the pain of their fellow citizens living in Sderot—the city in the West Negev that has become a symbol for Israel. Sderot has been under constant rocket attack from Gaza for more than 12 years.

Before Ariel Sharon, former Prime Minister of Israel, evacuated all troops and 7,800 Israelis from Gaza, Sderot was a lovely place to live. The local civilians can tell you the stories about their good old days—the days when they used to go to Gaza freely, to shop, get their hair cut, eat at restaurants and even go out fishing. Today these memories are laced with suspicion and fear.

In fact, in days without rocket attacks, Sderot is still a very lovely place to live (see pictures below). On a quiet day, you can see senior citizens sitting on park benches enjoying the sunshine, or teenagers hanging out by the corner pizza store, or soldiers waiting at a bus stop to go back to their army bases. However, the serenity can be turned into a heart-rending scene at any second. And that was exactly what Kati Alkobi experienced.

On 26 September shortly after Kati started her IDF service, she was injured by a Qassam rocket as she was waiting at a bus stop in Sderot to go back to her army base. Kati's right leg was severely injured by the shrapnel of the rocket explosion, and she was also traumatized. During her entire two years of army service, Kati had to go to the hospital for treatment.

Kati was married after she finished her army service and became pregnant. But in the seventh month of her pregnancy, one day the siren warning of rocket attack threw her into panic and triggered the traumatic memories of her rocket injury and caused her baby to be born prematurely. Sadly, the baby boy only lived for few days. It was heartbreaking to this young couple as they were so looking forward to having this baby.

Praise the Lord for blessing this young couple with a baby girl two and half years ago, and six months ago, Kati gave birth to their second daughter. Kati's husband is from Ashkelon, and they lived in Ashkelon after they were married, but as Kati still needs medical, psychological and psychiatric care, she needs extra help from family members to help take care of her small children. Because the help was not available from her husband's family, she moved back to stay with her parents in Sderot during the week, and returns to Ashkelon to be with her husband on weekends.

She Couldn't Stop Weeping

Kati's husband has a job, but having to pay rent, bills, and raise children as well as the expense of Kati's ongoing medical treatment, his salary is not enough to cover all the needs. This has forced them to take out loans. Kati receives no financial compensation for her rocket injury from the National Insurance Authority. She was informed that soldiers were not given this compensation for injuries from rocket attacks during their IDF service. Except for beds, this young family does not have furniture and household appliances in their apartment, but thankfully, with the financial support given to Project CUA, we recently were able to help this young couple purchase a dining table and chairs set. **Thank you for your needed support.**

During our visit to Kati, she couldn't stop weeping because of the hardship. Please lift up Kati's recovery of leg injury and post-trauma in prayer. Pray also for her marriage. As marriage itself is not easy, the financial hardship plus her post trauma have added many more challenges to their marriage.

If you would like to help this young family buy other home appliances and furniture, please designate your financial gift to **"Project CUA for Kati Alkobi."** **Thank you for helping to strengthen Kati. The Lord bless you from Zion.**

By Maggie Huang, Communities Under Attack Coordinator



Treasure In Heaven

STREAMS continues to reach out to those who are elderly. As is so characteristic in old age, this is a people group who sometimes cannot decide at the end of the month whether to purchase food or medicine. Their small pensions often do not cover everything. Many war veterans now advanced in age, who were not in concentration camps, still retain appallingly cruel memories of their youth. No longer able to enjoy the company of their spouses many are widows and widowers. Eza has just undergone breast cancer...a victim of anti-Semitism at 12 years of age, she ran from the Nazis for over 200 miles with bombs falling all around. She believes she has always felt God in her life and grew up with Christian friends. **We were able to bless her and meet her needs all because you made it possible.**

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the ongoing needs, every month. Our home visits continue and the love and mercy of the One we follow goes along with us into every life and home. It is because of you, that we can continue to do what God has called us to do, *"for such a time as this"*—and what the Church should have always been doing. Once again, thank you for your help.

Burned Out of Their Home

The Streams of Blessing Team traveled to Tiberias to interview the Oliveira Family who had recently lost their home and all their belongings in a fire. Having made *aliyah* from Argentina ten years ago, as all new immigrants they had hope for a new life. The sudden, tragic loss of their home, and beloved ten-year-old dog, Sol, in the fire, brought great sorrow and hardship. A memorial candle, left burning on a bookcase, fell onto a mattress and burst into flames. Adriana was the first to awaken...she shouted, "Fire, fire", and woke up the rest of the family...when the father saw the wooden cabinet beginning to burn, he and his wife took the children and fled outside. The police and fire departments of Tiberias responded to assist and extinguish the flames. Family members were taken to hospital in Poriya, and treated. The father's face and back were lightly burned. The father is an equipment manager at a Tiberias hotel.

They were able to stay a few days at the hotel while they were homeless – they are now in the place where new immigrants begin when they arrive, in an absorption center apartment where the CFI team visited them. In addition to the home furnishings and clothing they lost, they have a pressing personal debt which needs to be paid soon. This debt amounts to about \$4000 US. This family is devastated, and the father, as sole provider, is extremely overwhelmed. "What now?" he asks tearfully, "I do not know what will be now. We have no family here, no nothing...now everything is zero. We need to start everything from scratch."

By **Sharon Sanders**, Streams of Blessing Coordinator



Bringing hope and encouragement

**"...give to the poor,
and you will have
treasure in heaven..."
(Luke 18:22).**

With the help of generous CFI donors, we are hoping to be able to help this family that is so very much in need.

Giving Generated By Our *Love!*

SOMETIMES we can feel like a small pebble lost in the rock quarry of needs in this world. Everyone can be greatly used by God. Not all are called to “pick up their tents” and move elsewhere. But it is everyone’s responsibility to support and strengthen those who have done so. Even little things done in His Name are great in His Eyes. Your gift giving and support could be the difference between life and death, hope or near suicide, abuse or justice. Many of our calls for help are urgent in nature. Who knows whether we may only have a “window of time” before end time events trigger the days in which no man can work? The night is coming and we need your support to carry the ongoing ministry.

Give as an Act of Worship

We, who give ourselves to the Lord near the front lines, give as an act of worship. We want to give glory to God alone. Our volunteers and staff represent *you* in Israel to the Jewish people and they do a superb job in what they do. We are currently in the era of “*changing history*” among Jews and Christians. The past 29 years have *made a difference*...a huge shift in Jewish-Christian relationships has taken place and trust is beginning to build; however, I believe the Church needs more teaching on giving to bless Israel.

The more I am around Jewish people, the more they teach me about giving freely. I remember a survivor from Auschwitz in the Former Soviet Union some years back told me: “When the Americans liberated us from the concentration camp, I was given some bread...but I looked over and saw a Nazi standing against the wall and he looked hungry. I gave him my bread.” I couldn’t believe

what she had said...she fed her persecutors and actually fulfilled the requirements of Yeshua’s commands in “*loving (even) your enemies.*” How many in the Church today—if they were in a similar condition would respond as she did? One such example are the jungle Christians in Sri Lanka (read about them on page 22 of this magazine.)

Another example was in a recent love gift to CFI Jerusalem from where? A praying group of Christians in the Philippines recently hit by typhoon Yolanda! Of all place, those who need it the most remembered those here who are in need! That is truly following the commandments of Yeshua! I also found it interesting that in 2007 the McClatchy Analysis of US Bureau of Labor Statistics data showed that “those in the lowest income group gave the largest percentage of incomes to charity.” They had 4.3% of giving, compared to those with the largest incomes with giving of only 2.2% to charity.

The Meaning of “Tzedakah”

The Hebrew word “*tzedakah*” is very different from the idea of charity. It is derived from the Hebrew root *tza-dei-dalet-qof*, meaning righteousness, justice or fairness. For myself, whenever a dollar comes into my hands for personal use, I can’t wait to set aside my tithe, alms or mission support, often within minutes, after it has been received. It has been a principle that my husband and I have kept over all the years of our married lives.

We all grow spiritually when we give back to God, even if only a small percentage of what is in our banks-savings, stocks, bonds, or real estate as well as other investments of worldly wealth. I encourage you to give back to God and see if He will not open the windows of heaven for you *in some area* of your life, even if it is only for the satisfaction of knowing you did all you could. CFI Jerusalem has many needs right now and we need you to pray about responding by *giving from your love.*

“Not everyone can go....but they can give”
—Sharon Sanders

“No one has ever become poor by giving” —Anne Frank





-Where Israel IS the Point of Focus

We are Reaching Around the Globe

FocalPoint continues to be a strong voice to the world with its positive, relevant, and biblically balanced programming that counters much of the negative information being spread about the nation of Israel these days. **FocalPoint** also continues to educate the church on the true roots of the Christian faith, while shining fresh light on the new and repaired relationships between the Christian and Jewish communities.

We want to thank each of our partners in ministry for their continued support of this vital and far-reaching program, and encourage each of you to help us add to that family of support by sharing your knowledge of this program with all of your friends and family. Thank you so very much for your positive feedback, your prayers, your financial support and for continuing to pray for the Peace of Jerusalem.

May God abundantly **ble**ss you as you help us continue His work in Israel.

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**“My eyes will watch over them for their good,
and I will bring them back to this Land.
I will build them up and not tear them down;
I will plant them and not uproot them.”**

Jeremiah 24:6-7 (NIV)



FocalPoint is now listed as one of
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Spanish and French Jews

“Fields will be bought for silver, and deeds will be signed, sealed and witnessed in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem, in the towns of Judah and in the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, because I will restore their fortunes, declares the LORD” Jeremiah 32:44 NIV.

PRAISE GOD FOR OUR SPANISH STAFF

at the CFI Lighthouse Distribution Center – one from Mexico and the other from Peru as we are now welcoming Spanish-speaking people from many different countries. According to our records we have had at least 243 families from Spanish-speaking countries visit the CFI Distribution Center just in the past year.

During 2011-2012 there were 1,444 individuals making *aliyah* to Israel from Spanish-speaking countries. “Since 1990, some 25,000 immigrants have made *aliyah* from South America, the vast majority (20,000) from Argentina in 2002, following the devastating effects of the economic crisis for the middle classes (Amit, 2008*).” Myers –JDC Brookdale Institute.

French Aliyah nearly Doubles

“Organizers from the World Zionist Organization held a second annual fair for French *olim*, who are moving to Israel in record numbers. The purpose of the fair was to increase the number of Jews making *aliyah* from France. Potential applicants for *aliyah* attended the fair in order to receive updated information about new absorption programs and tips on how to adjust to any difficulties involved with moving to Israel.

Since 2013, there has been a 10 percent increase of the Jewish population in France moving to Israel. It is estimated that there will be 2,500 new immigrants from France by the end of 2013, almost doubling the amount of immigrants from previous years.

France has the third-largest Jewish community in the world, after Israel and the United States. However, anti-Semitism is rampant in many parts of the country, particularly in areas with high concentrations of Arab and Muslim immigrants.

Over the past two decades, some 22,000 immigrants have arrived from France, most of them for religious reasons or due to growing anti-Semitism in France.” (Gindin et al., 2009.* Myers - JDC - Brookdale Institute)



Welcoming the tribes of Israel as they come home

For new immigrants the struggle to become fluent in a new language is very real. The challenge of finding an appropriate job suitable for the person’s skill level is also a constant concern for new immigrants. **Life is expensive in Israel and sometimes the work available to Hispanics is cleaning offices and buildings, which pays very little.**

Many thousands of the Spanish new immigrants have decided to settle in the south in places like the Negev and the city of Beersheva. Some see this as a Biblical fulfillment of Obadiah 1:20 which states that, “*the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.*” An Aliyah Sephardic center has been built in the Negev, in order to assist those making *aliyah* and to help provide factual information about the history of Spanish speaking immigrants.

God will make us One People

“I hold you in high esteem with gratitude and I wish that your work will be gratified by the Creator, because there is no nobler activity than what you do for “Am Israel” (Israeli People).

The return of the Israelites to the Promised Land for Him is the Will of the Almighty, and the time will come when it will be recognized that you are also part of this People. All the peoples of the earth will have knowledge of God from small to the big. **In the end we will be one people.** Rafael 29/11/2013 — CFI Thank You book

Come Home!

Shipments to Israel Vital!

IN CONTEXT, when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, they cleverly deceived Joshua to think they were in need. We chose this Scripture to contrast the new immigrants coming to us. They have often made a very long journey home to Israel, and are in serious need of nice clothing during the first year or two of their new lives in Israel.

After their arrival, they need to learn Hebrew, acquire information about living in the Land, and much more information, to find out how to do things in Israel. It all takes time. The young are trying to educate themselves. Some are serving in the army. Others are older and find it so hard to adapt to new circumstances in their senior years.

Clothing in Israel can be very expensive and the high quality garments that arrive from Christians in the nations help them, and children immensely during these first months.

Beautiful bedding, linens, variety of towels, and other items that arrive, are put into lovely welcome parcels. Hundreds of thousands of immigrants and tons of clothing have been given out by Christians, showing a new side to Christian love for the Jewish people than the 20 centuries before. The D.C. is a unique place, it is a place where the immigrants have a place to come, a place that cares and a place that shares.

Thank you for supporting our D.C. shipments in your country and for sending extra financial help. *“Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it”* (Proverbs 3:27).

By **Gordon Milmine**,
Open Gates Coordinator



Rafael's family receiving help at the Lighthouse D.C. in Jerusalem



Receiving God's Word with joy and gratitude

God's Promises given by You!

“We are thankful with all our hearts for having reached the Promised Land, where the **promises given by God are found and they were given in part from you the Christians.** May HaShem (The Lord God) continue blessing you, and **please broadcast the story of the people who created this organization.** We are from the Peruvian jungle. This is a dream that God allowed us to fulfil.” — Christian Friends of Israel Guest Book

Our Bridal Salon

"...thou shalt surely clothe thee with them...as a bride..." Isaiah 49:18.

"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11 ESV).



New Beginnings

As CFI Bridal Coordinator, God has given me the opportunity to serve Brides, Grooms, bar/bat mitzvahs and family members from various backgrounds. All are deeply touched when they see and hear of the generosity extended by so many Christian believers from all around the world who not only love the God of Israel, but love them as a People.

Among many stories I recall a visit of a very young Israeli couple. They were referred to us by a pro life organization in the Land who helped them make a very important decision, since a baby was on the way! They realized that it would be right before God to give their precious baby girl a home so they could be a family.

As they were excited and nervous while choosing what to wear for their wedding day, I was praising God that in spite of their young age and inexperience they are learning a lesson and want to do things in the right way from now on. I thanked God that CFI can be part of this miracle of a new Jewish life and family. Thanks to your donations and support, the CFI Bridal Salon could provide for them beautiful wedding rings and garments. As the Scripture in God's Word says: your efforts and generosity bring glory and thanksgiving to God, I pray that God will bless them and guide them in this new stage of their lives.

Thank you for being part of those who faithfully steward what God has entrusted to them to continue to extend his Kingdom. **You are the undergirders of this ministry!**

By **Patricia Cuervo**, Bridal Salon Coordinator



Are You on the Wall of Prayer?

“Prayer is like the dove that Noah sent forth, which blessed him not only when it returned with an olive-leaf in its mouth, but when it never returned at all” (Robinson’s Job).

What can be very powerful in the spiritual realm may not always be seen in the natural. Since laying the foundations for the Wall of Prayer, which began in the early 1990s, thousands of Christians from all over the world have been actively praying for a city, town, or village in Israel. Each assignment was facilitated by a team member at CFI Jerusalem and much effort was put into research, travel, visiting villages across the land, speaking to the people and reporting on the locations.

Today, we activate the Wall of Prayer electronically with new location assignments every two months on our existing Prayer Wall data base. You can actively assist us in carrying out our task of mobilizing the prayer forces. By sending us new email addresses of friends and prayer groups around the world or forwarding our free-online prayer publications to those who pray (shut-ins, elderly prayer warriors, intercessors and praying people) you can help us build a strong shield of prayer for Israel. Please email: listadm@cfijerusalem.org.



Investing Our Talents

“If any man serve Me, let him follow Me” John 12:26.

God gives each individual skills and abilities. He watches to see if we will use them in our lifetimes to further His Kingdom purposes. Every ministry of God needs people with gifts. CFI is taking applications for volunteers who feel called to serve the Lord in Jerusalem. Market place individuals are welcome to bring their professional leadership and administrative skills; however, just as important are those with social service care skills, hospital and nursing home experience, cooking and maintenance abilities. At the present time, our most pressing needs are as follows:

- **COOK:** Preparation of nutritious food for CFI staff
- **CHINESE TRANSLATOR:** Proficient in Chinese and English. Translation of CFI publications and documents as well as teaching materials from English into Chinese. Must have excellent verbal and written skills, Microsoft Office software

Make your life count




CFI Goa Connection

Israeli Consul General, Mr. Jonathan Miller, met with CFI Goa members Savio Coutinho, Ivar Fjeld, and Allan D'Souza. Goa is a province in the country of India located in the continent/region of Asia.

The meeting was held during his visit at the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry seminars held on 30th October, 2013. On this official visit, the Consul General held further talks with entrepreneurs of Goa who visited Israel recently for economic ties.

The important meeting together was initiated by the Secretary General of the GCCI, Mr. Kamat who partnered with the CFI team to share the vision of CFI Goa. Consul General Miller was pleased to hear of the many Goan Christians who love Israel and its people. CFI Goa team is committed to encourage more avenues to connect with Israel through art, culture, music and other ways.



 **CFI India** Contact Ephraim Smith at: zion_india@yahoo.com



Before sowing seed



After seed was sown

CFI Jungle Ministry: Where No One Goes

Sowing seeds on primitive soil can be difficult, it is not an easy task. However, CFI Representative for Sri Lanka, Mohan Weerakoon continues to plant God's Word into the hearts of churches deep in the jungle of Sri Lanka about Israel and the Jewish people. Mohan's untiring efforts to preach the Gospel and to teach about blessing Israel have produced some miraculous results.

As he teaches on the Biblical principle of "I will bless those who bless My People" from Genesis 12:3, churches in the jungles have been supernaturally blessed by their sacrificial giving. How many of us reading this magazine right now can say we are as needy as these precious children of God? Yet, when they heard of the needs, they had "ears to hear" and responded.

God bless this wonderful man of God as he travels in the hot island sun over dirt roads to speak to those who love Jesus or need to know Him—giving the people teaching they would have never otherwise received. He has heard "the call." Please pray for him.

For more information please email Mohan Weerakoon at: mohanwg@sltnet.lk

 **CFI Sri Lanka**

Joywalkers

Dedicated Christian women from Colorado, USA, come together for a purpose. As one body, they are "making a difference" in Jewish lives and using their creative talents to provide CFI Jerusalem outreach teams with prayer shawls. Each wrap is of beautiful colors and meticulously produced.

Jewish people love these stoles and each one is saturated with loving prayer from the team. You may wish to email or send us your creative ideas so that you also can use your talents and put them to work in unique ways to bless Israel.



Far East

Building a Highway to Jerusalem



Open hearts in Asia receive God's Word on Israel

CFI in Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and China

SHARON SANDERS, recently returned from the Far East ministry tour. Sharon, an ordained minister, was able to impart to the Chinese churches a deeper understanding of Israel, the Church and the Second Coming. By God's grace, her Kingdom messages touched many lives. She and her husband's religious educational background includes theological training at Good News Teaching Center and Christ For the Nations Bible College, along with sitting under the teachings of Dr. Derek Prince (Cambridge University) and Lance Lambert (London University) for nearly twenty years. Sharon's unique message also comes, in part, because of living among the Jewish people for 28 years. Understanding both faith communities helps her to be able to be a blessing to both Judaism and Christianity.



New CFI Mexico Representative



Pastor Ruperto Badillo Romero and his wife Sandra Badillo from Veracruz, Mexico are Senior Pastors for the Pescadores de Hombres Compañerismo Cristiano Church (Fisher of Men Christian Fellowship). They have been the main pastors for 26 years. Pastor Ruperto has a degree in Theology, fourth level of Biblical Hebrew which he studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel and he has pastoral training in The Potter's House in Prescott Arizona, USA. Pastors Ruperto and Sandra have a vision to make known the work of CFI and the many needs that exist for Jewish families in Israel, as well as around the world. The CFI family warmly welcomes this wonderful couple in our family of nations representing Israel.



Representing CFI-USA Board (left to right): Mark DeVito (Board Chairman), Brian Cockfield (Treasurer) and Hannele Pardain (Executive Director) in Charlotte, NC

CFI-USA Good News

IN AUGUST, CFI-USA headquarters moved to a new facility to accommodate the expanding ministry. The new offices also includes a Library with a selection of DVDs, CDs, books and other publications about Israel's past, present and prophetic future.

Harvest Fest 2013 East Coast USA, South Carolina

In September, Hannele Pardain represented Israel and CFI's work at the Harvest Fest Conference in Fort Mill, South Carolina. Annually the large conference serves Christian ministries, churches and businesses as a networking platform, encouraging and blessing participants.

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CFI-USA

Hannele at the Harvest Fest 2013





**Please pray about
helping us!**

**After almost 30 years in the Land, you hold the keys to help CFI
continue to change history and carry its vision into the next Generation.**

**We need your help to establish
a permanent home in Jerusalem!**

Please visit our website at www.cfijerusalem.org to stay updated regarding new developments; to donate click on the Building Fund Banner located on our home page.

Feel free to email us for further information at buildingfund@cfijerusalem.org

If you prefer to donate by mail please see enclosed Order Form.



CFI Representative Nearest You

Thank you for your support!