

For Zion's Sake

Second Quarter 2012 Jewish Year 5772

"A Time to Cast Away Stones"

**"...prepare the way for the people;
cast up, cast up the highway; gather
out the stones..." (Isaiah 62:10) KJV**



Christian Friends of Israel-Jerusalem

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For Zion's Sake

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FRONT COVER: Represents stones being cast away



Ray Sanders

SHALOM FROM *Jerusalem*

DEAR FRIENDS OF ISRAEL,

Unfortunately, the Jewish people are finding themselves being more isolated and marginalized in a world of growing anti-Semitism. The root cause of this phenomenon is a hatred for God and all He represents in our society today. Since the Jewish people have been supernaturally preserved by God, they become an obvious target for all those who reject God. Furthermore, the preservation of the modern state of Israel by God since her inception on May 14, 1948, is further cause for anti-Israel expressions—predominately in the Arab world and Europe.

Perhaps it would be useful to explore some of the root causes for the development of anti-Jewish/anti-Israel expressions in today's society. Historians have classified six explanations as to why people hate the Jews:

Economic—*"We hate Jews because they possess too much wealth and power."* "Historically, this accusation is unfounded as the Jews of 17th-20th century Poland and Russia were dirt poor, had no influence and yet they were hated." Recent headlines: "Israel's Greatest Threat is not Security, it's Poverty. Prosperity in the face of conflict and the stress of 1,744,800 citizens living in poverty is simply not possible" (Jackie Frankel, Ha'Aretz, 06 May, 2012). It is true, the poor get poorer. Yeshua said "...for you have the poor with you always" (Mark 14:7).

Chosen People—*"We hate Jews because they arrogantly claim they are the chosen people."* In the late 19th century, the Jews of Germany denied 'Chosenness.' And then they worked on assimilation. Yet, the Holocaust started there." While living in Israel for 27 years, we have heard a number of our Jewish friends say, "I wish God would have chosen someone else!"

Scapegoat—*"Jews are a convenient group to single out and blame for our troubles."* Any group must already be hated to be an effective scapegoat. The Scapegoat Theory does not cause anti-Semitism. Rather, anti-Semitism is what makes the Jews a convenient scapegoat target.

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“Therefore all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey. For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, ‘This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after’” —Jeremiah 30:16-17 KJV.

Deicide— *“We hate the Jews because they killed Jesus.”*

The Bible says the Romans killed Jesus, though the Jews were mentioned as accomplices. Claims that Jews killed Jesus came several hundred years later. How come the accomplices are persecuted and there is not an anti-Roman movement through history? Derek (Prince) wrote, “Although I was right in identifying the basic cause of anti-Semitism as spiritual, I did not feel I had laid bare the root...while I was preaching in our local church in Jerusalem...I heard myself say, ‘Anti-Semitism can be summed up in one word—MESSIAH!’...Satan fears more than all others...the return of Jesus in power and glory to establish His kingdom...”

Outsiders— *“We hate Jews because they are different than us.”*

With the Enlightenment in the late 18th century, many Jews rushed to assimilate. Anti-Semitism should have stopped. Instead, for example, with the Nazis came the cry, in essence: ‘We hate you, not because you’re different, but because you’re trying to become like us! We cannot allow you to infect the Aryan race with your inferior genes.’” God called the Jewish people to be separate from the rest of the nations and the nations said, “You are strange.”

Racial Theory— *“We hate Jews because they are an inferior race.”*

The overriding problem with this theory is that it is self-contradictory: Jews are not a race. Anyone can become a Jew – and members of every race, creed and color in the world have done so at one time or another. A study of God’s Word reveals to us time and again that Israel is God’s Heritage and People, His Chosen Nation and from living among them for some time, we know that they are anything but “inferior” (Quotes from www.simpletoremember.com).

As Christian friends of Israel, we need to always guard our hearts against any of these attributes influencing our feelings toward the Jewish people. Unfortunately, the false doctrine of “Replacement Theology” has done much damage in the historical and modern Church today resulting in a variety of anti-Semitic expressions against Israel and the Jewish people. We can see the effects of the heresy which began in the days of Con-

stantine and carried on down through the centuries. Today mainline denominations divest from Israel, claim her Scriptures and plan her future through a twisting of God’s Word.

With the formation of Christian Friends of Israel in 1985, we endeavored to become a Godly expression of Christian support and solidarity for the nation of Israel and the Jewish people. We have sought to accomplish this goal through the establishment of Outreach Projects designed to touch the lives personally of the Jewish people with practical, financial and emotional support. The response has been heartwarming and an encouragement to us to continue ministering in many ways as the Lord provides. Our unique Distribution Center enables us to personally be an expression of the Lord’s love for His people after so many centuries of prejudice, boastful pride and hateful actions toward them. Today we are the “face” of Yeshua they have never before seen. **We are most grateful to all of our supporters who faithfully contribute to the ongoing ministry work.**

“Neither will I cause men to bear in thee the shame of the heathen any more...saith the Lord” (Ezekiel 36:15). There is coming a day when Israel will no longer bear the shame of worldwide anti-Semitism and its ugly head will be put down and no more rise up against God’s people. We must pray for the day that Isaiah 11:6 will be fulfilled, and that time when the governments of the nations will be *“upon His shoulder” (Isaiah 9:6).*

“For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for you were the fewest of all people: But because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of the Pharaoh king of Egypt” (Deuteronomy 7:6-8 KJV).

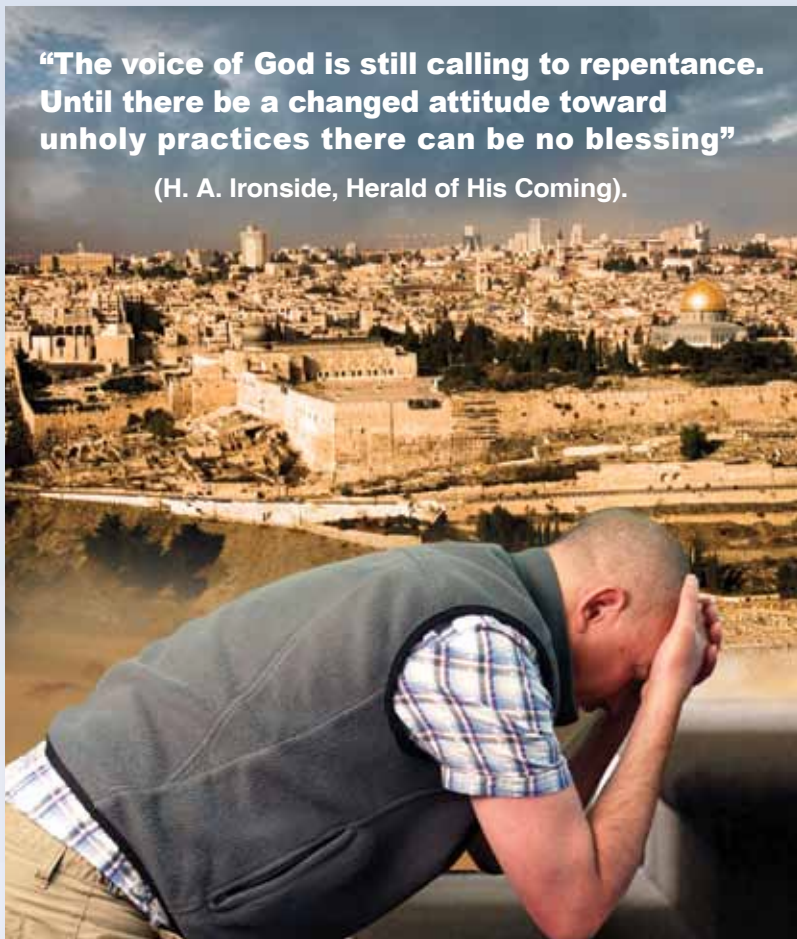
Sincerely in the Lord’s service,

Ray Sanders, Executive/International Director

A TIME TO CAST AWAY STONES

“The voice of God is still calling to repentance. Until there be a changed attitude toward unholy practices there can be no blessing”

(H. A. Ironside, Herald of His Coming).



is...no attempt made to cleanse the house? Pretended piety was all linked with the holy Name of Christ Jesus. Blessing and restoration are conditioned upon repentance...Oh that there might be a great turning to God, a repentance that would again fill nearly vacant prayer rooms and bring the churches to their knees in brokenness of spirit until God opens the windows of heaven and pours out life-giving showers to revive the barren wastes....” Such a revival is sorely needed, but it can only come in the wake of sincere repentance.” I believe unless we take this challenge seriously, revival may fail to happen or at best be delayed. **What steps does God say we should take?**

“...As touching the words which you have heard...when you heard what I spoke...you...rent your clothes and wept before me...saith the Lord” (2 Kings 22:18-20). **What God has spoken—He has spoken.** The expressions “*as touching the words*” and “*when you heard what I spoke*” stood out. I realized King Josiah captured the words of God after he heard them read and acted accordingly. This pleased God and King Josiah was blessed. If the Church would get hold of this principle what blessings we could be receiving. It puzzles me as I study Jewish-Christian relations that horrible “unholy practices” took place towards the Jewish people because of reading God’s words in the wrong way

and not acting upon what God spoke about touching the apple of His Eye. (Genesis 12:3).

Repentance or Regret?

H. A. Ironside’s reference to the words “unholy practices” clearly affirms an important truth. What is not holy is corrupted. It has been on my heart to write about genuine “revival” so greatly needed among God’s People today in Christianity — a real visitation from God. The disciples of Yeshua began their world-changing call with a holy zeal of what they *knew* to be the truth. With an unwavering commitment in their hearts, even while at death’s door, they were willing to die rather than deny the absolute truth. Surely they had no premonition that non-Jewish followers of Yeshua would one day dominate the faith and end up persecuting the very Jewish people who first brought the truth to them. A lack of holy zeal for the truth has brought unholy practices into the Church.

The Early Church was characterized by love and devotion to the Jews. Later on, the historical organized Church condoned practices that were evil and below the level of ordinary decency toward them. Ironside said, “*Is it not true...there*

While living among the Jewish people, in our earlier years, I often wondered why we were looked upon as “the adversary or opponent”—the “we and you” feeling. Then it did not take long to learn how those who professed the name of Christ engaged in immoral and sadistic acts against the Jewish people. The Church betrayed “them”. Few have admitted to the wrongdoing. It is one thing for the “world” to be anti-Semitic, but those who carry His Name must understand the responsibility they have toward Israel. To deny God’s words in Genesis 12:3 and miss the “principle and promise” God made (to all non-Jews) who bless His People is simply **ignoring truth**. The early Church did not ignore it. Another stark reality I had to face was that it was not only the historical church that persecuted the Jewish people, but much of the Church today also. **I believe “the Bride” will be clean on her wedding day as to her relationship with Israel, like Ruth.**

We Reap What We Sow

Today Christendom is reaping results of deceptive teachings which crept in over the centuries. I can say from experience that there can be no real witness to Israel about what we believe without showing we are deeply sorry for what was done in the name of Jesus. The Jewish people expected more from Christianity. **Spiritual stumbling stones have marred the road Israel must take to find the Lord.** God is the *only* One who had the authority to place a stumbling stone in Zion. He never gave anyone else the authority to place additional stones in the way. **Wouldn't it be wonderful if the whole world body of believers would join together and come to their knees in real repentance and jointly remove the stumbling stones?**

A Passing Through

It is my conviction that for a *great* spiritual awakening to occur the Church will need to pass through the Refiner's fire where all unholy things rise to the surface. The Church must admit "we have sinned" and when it does, God will cleanse and restore. If the gentile Church continues to resist remorse for centuries of misconduct, real revival may be delayed. Salvation is, I believe, for those who trust in the shed blood of Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) for the remission of sins, and justification is by His Grace; however, we were never to take lightly our walk with the Lord. In Paul's discourse of Romans 9, 10 and 11 a warning is given to believers about our responsibility toward Israel. Paul articulated well to those "grafted in" to Israel's olive tree. He pulled no punches as to the tremendous responsibility we have to conduct ourselves with *the same mercy and kindness* that God showed all believing gentiles by allowing inclusion in the Commonwealth of Israel through Messiah (Ephesians 2:12).

We were counseled to show the same behavior to the Jew that God showed us or we could be "cut off" (Romans 11:22.) I struggled with this admonition because it sounds harsh. And so I began to look into the Hebrew understanding of being "cut off," and what it means to a Jewish person. The Torah says that if someone of the camp of Israel, sinned against God they would be *cut off from the Jewish people*. This *could* be what Paul meant or the possibility of being *cut off* from the Abrahamic blessings. Christendom accepted the gift of being "included," but immediately began to preach "replacement." Ironside was right. There must be *a changed attitude* in the Church (in this case toward Israel) or there can be no full blessing.

Revival and Spiritual Awakenings

"The word revival has *the idea of bringing back to life something that has died*" but...I believe it is a sustained move of the Holy Spirit in which Jesus is glorified, and large numbers of people are swept from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light...We are praying for the spiritual restoration of Israel...*for a spiritual awakening in Israel and in our nations*. But then the question comes: **will the spiri-**

tual awakening happen in our nations if they don't pray for Israel? I began to see...one of the main things...is a great heart for Israel! ...I believe that there is a strong connection...in 1948 Israel became a nation...at the same time in the gentile Church there was a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit...great ministries began to impact the whole world... *do you think there might be a connection?* God began to do something in 1967...many things were tied to what God did in the Church at the time of the reunification of Jerusalem. More recently prayer movements began in Asia...Korea...Egypt, Dubai, and the United Emirates...*Are we willing to weep with tears over Israel...for the fullness of Israel?* If so, we'll see fullness poured upon...our churches...I believe He will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh, as we pray for Israel." (Rick Ridings) (The DVD entitled "Revival in the Church: Will It Come without Praying for Israel?" is available through the CFI Jerusalem office: info@cfjjerusalem.org)



Clear the Road

"Cast up" means to throw something aside, carry or move something out of the way. The "Church" erected barriers that blocked the road for the Jewish people in their service to God. We should be ashamed of the spiritual pride, apathy, arrogance, indifference, condemnation, betrayal, hypocrisy, ignorance, anti-Semitism, and prejudice—to name *a few* of the road blocks. It is our responsibility to remove them as they continue to obstruct the Jewish journey. We must replace the obstacles with way markers of love, respect, mercy, kindness and unconditional love. If we do not, we may be asked one day about *the stones we might have lifted out of our brother's way*." When we engage in insensitive rhetoric against Israel and then turn around and say to them: "Don't you want to know my Jesus?" is insensitive. He is their Yeshua also and we must reflect Him.

If we want to represent His true Face they need to see Him in us. Let us “cast off” the works of darkness and play our part in preparing the way for the Lord.

Yesterday and Today

Ekklesia is a term used throughout the Greek Old Testament Scriptures...When it occurs in the New Testament, English translators rarely render it “assembly”...they translate it “church”...[whereas] ...some translators did not want to imply that believers were meeting in synagogues...the early believers called their places of assembly “synagogues.” (*First Fruits of Zion*, www.ffoz.org). That was yesterday’s error (disconnection from

Coita, Mexico...they spent the middle of their Holy Week making Jewish effigies...and paraded them through the streets on Easter Sunday...(*The Times of Israel*, www.timesofisrael.com). Still there are more obstacles in their path.

More recently a Yale *Chrislam* document identifies YHWH the God of Israel with the ancient Nabatean moon god Allah of Islam...as a number of ministers turn to Chrislam... (Yale University Covenant...www.yale.edu/faith/acw/acw.htm). Still more barriers going up today. A Jewish man told me “...there *must be* a Christian revival” that the world might recognize God’s Word: “*I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you*” (Genesis 12:3). **Will the Jewish people believe us when**

friends...we will come to their aid and step into the gap! Had “Christian neighbors” reacted differently to mass killings of Jewish people in their communities, history would have turned out differently. “An inconsistent Church will cause the world (and the Jewish people) to turn in scorn from our message...surely the Church at large needs to heed the call to repent.” (Ironsides) It is when we do nothing that the Church *appears* to others to be pious and holy while *living* contrary to God’s spoken words.

Our nations need healing. If you know of a leader who is out of alignment with God’s Word, **pray for them with hearts full of love. The well being of the people becomes the responsibility of the intercessors.**

“...A time to throw stones; a time to gather stones”
—Ecclesiastes 3:5

anything Jewish) and yet a recent interview with the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem reveals another poor judgment as he declared: “*Israel’s existence as such has nothing to do with the Bible.*” Another Archbishop in Israel stated “*We do not believe anymore that the Jews are the Chosen People*” and yet another leader: “*There is no longer a chosen people.*” It is the same delusional lexicon of medieval Jew-hatred—an obstacle on their road.

The ongoing understanding of Christianity is only exacerbated by Christian divestment and anti-Semitic rhetoric toward our brother, Jacob. Christianity is sending mixed messages to the Jewish people. He who demands mercy and shows none blocks the roads over which he himself must pass. More barriers.

No time on the Christian calendar in the 1400’s is more associated with anti-Semitism than Easter. We might say “this was centuries ago,” but this past spring a Spanish town celebrated Easter by the “*burning of the Jews*” in

we speak about the *One who brings life, and they see we are disinterested in their well being and restoration?*

For generations the Church was silent on the sin of slavery. But **when the Church finally acknowledged it was wrong, it helped lead the way to reform.**” (*Word for Today*, 3/23/12). Generational prejudices shaped the Church’s conception of the Jewish People. **I am positive that prayer and repentance can change things.**

If the Church Does Nothing

It is when the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit that our words count with others. Emerson once said, “*What you are speaks so loudly, I cannot hear what you say.*” What reason are we giving Israel’s enemies today to believe that they cannot murder another six million? We should be teaching the world...instead we go out of our way to assure that no one will “over-react.” We should be saying: Our people are their people, and their people are our people. If you attack our Jewish

Now is the time to get out our tools and moving equipment to *cast off* the stumbling stones in the path of the Jewish people. **Let’s prove we are “good neighbors” and do unto the Jewish people (and all mankind) what we would hope they would do for us.** And our prayers? Cry to God to forgive the past unholy practices and to pray that today’s shepherds will not resist the urging of the Holy Spirit, but get the Church back on track picking up our assigned mission to **provoke to jealousy** (Romans 11).

Recently in Jerusalem, Arab brothers from Iran, Iraq and Turkey shared their testimonies. Hand in hand with their Jewish brothers, prejudice and despising one another departed as they gave glory to the Lord for deliverance. These men have begun to lead the way toward repentance by casting away the stones (instead of throwing them at each other). The highway has begun to be cleared in preparation for the Coming of the Lord. Beloved Church, we have a lot of work to do!

Now is the time to cast away the stones!



Top Left: Where were the comforters? (Ecclesiastes 4:1)
Above: Many perpetrators were church go-ers.

Our Neighbors

Our Jewish friend, Jonathan Feldstein lives in Jerusalem. He recently wrote an article from the memoirs of Jews from Kanczuga, Poland, a town in which Jonathan's grandmother's family lived during WWII. Jewish lives were spent in hiding. The tragedy: they endured many horrors from non-Jews who belonged to local churches. One cannot say "They were not Christians because many proclaimed Jesus as the

Christ." The desire to be absolved from blame through denial does not justify the actions in the eyes of Jewish people. Their persecutors were not Jewish and belonged to no other faith than Christendom. Jonathan reported that the town was 40% Jewish and a sense of community was felt. Then he recalls the story of his relatives. *"They were murdered...with their neighbors witnessing it all—standing by as spectators—in a town in which Jews and Christians had coexisted for centuries."*

Some betrayed them

Early one morning, two young SS men, aided by the Polish police, rounded up hundreds of Jews who had not managed to hide themselves. The police herded their prisoners past a jeering crowd." Our people struggled to stare straight ahead, but...they found themselves peering into the faces they had known all their lives—into the eyes of their closest neighbors..." Jewish families were praying when the police ordered them to trek up the hill to the cemetery where they were ordered to dig their own graves. "Dig, keep digging! ...thought you could hide from us, you filthy Jews?" Eyes opaque as marbles, did not look back. "Then they saw the other eyes, those of their neighbors, the customers in their shops, the people to whom they had just last week sold a loaf of bread, who gave them a good price on chickens and eggs. The non-Jews sat on their haunches with baskets of cheese and bread and homemade wine; chattering spectators were in a festive mood. Then the policemen raised their rifles. When it was over, the audience applauded and cheered..." When a little girl's face was shattered by a bullet...the onlookers clapped and shouted their approval...neighbors clapped each other on the back..." (To read entire article, email: jfeldstein@afmda.org).

It grieves me when I think of how the local Christian community, who the Jewish people expected more from, acted toward the Jewish people. All I can do is shake my head when I think about it. Yeshua said *"You shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind...and you shall love your neighbor as yourself"* (Matthew 22:37-39). *What happened? Did everyone forget this? "For He shall have judgment without mercy, that has shown no mercy..."* (James 2:13). We need to enter God's throne room in prayer and cry out in sorrow for what happened in the name of Christ.

How is it possible that folks who believe in Jesus say they love the God of the Jews, they read the Bible given to us by the Jews, receive the "new birth," and embrace the Jewish Messiah and yet hate the Jews? When God's Word tells us to love our neighbors it means everyone! Had the historical "church" practiced what our Lord taught—history would have turned out differently. Where were the consciences bearing witness—what were they thinking at the time when they excused one another for their actions? (Romans 2:15) These real life offenses have never been repented of by Christendom (as a whole). It is certainly past time to "cast away" the stones that have been placed squarely in front of the Jewish people...causing them to stumble further over Yeshua. God help us to see the seriousness of the mistakes made in His Name, and have the courage to do something about it. These are "spots" that can only be removed through repentance. Just think of the opportunity you and I have to help correct this situation as we follow the command *"love works no ill to his neighbor..."* (Romans 13:10).

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“Knowledge and learning are regarded only as means for better serving God. therefore, in Jewish thought, we study to learn and we learn to do.” (*First Fruits of Zion Weekly eDrash*).

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Project Communitas Under Attack

Comforting Rocket Attack Victims

Rising Above The Shadow of Despair

After Israel evacuated from Gaza, Hamas turned the Gaza Strip into launching pads to constantly fire rockets at civilians and communities of Israel—even after they signed ceasefire agreements with Israel. The damage and trauma inflicted on the civilians living in South Israel are indescribable. The inhuman and brutal rocket attacks from Gaza have continued to traumatize Israelis. **Koby Vockney** is one such victim.

On January 6, 2006, Koby was at work. He was sent to an IDF base near the Karni crossing to pick up some documents. While he was there he heard an explosion. As he and the person who was with him were running to a bomb shelter, Koby was hit by a Qassam rocket. Koby spent 18 months in the hospital as the doctors tried to reconstruct his legs, remove shrapnel from his lungs, hands, back and neck. He has gone through 26 surgeries, and even six years later he still faces two or three more surgeries to remove shrapnel from his body. But several shrapnel will remain in his body the rest of his life, because it is too risky to remove them as they will cause him to lose his hearing or to even become paralyzed.

When he was finally released from the hospital, he came home in a wheelchair. His days of having a career were over so were the days of playing with his kids. He was recognized as 100% disabled after the rocket attack, so no employer was willing to hire him. But he said the sorrow and heartache of being unable to be a normal father to his children hurt him more than the physical injuries. When all was said and done the state of Israel gave him a monthly disability pension of 5,000 shekels (around US\$1,380), which was half of his previous salary. Being unable to work after his injury, a mountain of debt has stacked up. This all took its toll on his marriage influenced by the impact of indescribable trauma. To make matters worse, the monthly disability pension was reduced to 2000 shekels, because child support had to be taken out. Then five months ago the state notified him that because of mistakes, his monthly pension amount would be 1000 shekels less. That left him with approximately 800 shekels (around US\$228) a month to live on. Because of medical expenses, so far his debt has accumulated to around 200,000 shekels (about US\$57,150).

When all hope seemed gone, during the darkest nights of his life, Koby said he heard a “*bat kol*” (a small voice or whisper, a “**heavenly or divine voice proclaiming God’s will**”) telling him that God was giving him a second chance at life for a purpose. “**But He knows the way I take; when He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold**” (Job 23:10). Because no employers wanted to hire him, he is doing volunteer work. He has contributed immeasurably, working with an organization in Sderot that helps local civilians whose lives are affected by constant rocket attack.

Project CUA team went to visit Koby in April. By all medical standards Koby should have died, let alone being able to stand up or walk again. It truly is a miracle that he not only has survived the ordeal, but now is able to walk and even help others. In spite of his life being shattered by the heartless rocket attack from Gaza, he has risen above the shadow of despair, by facing hardship with dignity, and is fulfilling God’s purpose in giving him his second chance at life. All things are possible with God. Please lift up Koby’s financial need in prayer, and if the Lord touches your heart to bless Koby with financial help, please designate your gift to “Project CUA for Koby Vockney.” **The Lord bless you and thank you for helping us uphold Koby.**

By Maggie Huang, CUA Coordinator





Remaining Humble In Our Valleys of Decision

This year's CFI Conference theme was to have been based on Joel 3:14, "Multitudes, Multitudes in the Valley of Decision...." Even though the Conference format was changed, it is still good to remember that we all face our "valleys."

A "valley" is an elongated depression or low region which lies between much higher uplands and/or mountains; a "decision" is the act or need to make up one's mind. In Joel, God warned us that we'd be placed in a situation in which we'd be made to face a monumental decision. This was prophesied thousands of years ago and written down for us for a purpose. I believe we should all be preparing ourselves and others for a time to come when we'll be faced with the decision as to whom to follow. Either we will choose to follow Yeshua at whatever cost, or we'll choose to be deceived by the crafty ways of Satan. This is the basis on which our eternity and every other person's life in this world resides.

None of us has all the answers, but as a unified Body in Christ, together we can make the right decision in a troubled world, no matter how bad things become. As Christians we must remain humble and not allow ourselves to become full of pride. I like the way Ezra Taft Benson said it, "Pride is concerned with who is right. Humility is concerned with what is right."

Living in Peace

The world teaches us that we should strive to have the answers and have everything figured out; otherwise, we'll look vulnerable and weak to our peers. However, when we're at peace with who we are in Yeshua it's easy to demonstrate the humility that the Word of God tells us we must have if we're truly to make a difference in people's lives. *"I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth... Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses,*

so that Christ's power may rest on me" 2 Corinthians 12:5-9 (NIV).

The Word also warns us not to be deceived: *"For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open. If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear" Mark 4:22-23.* But, *"Consider carefully what you hear,"* Mark continued. *"With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more" Mark 4:24.* We are living in a time when things that were once hidden about God's prophetic plans are now being brought to light. To understand God's ways, we must be willing to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying. If we're not constantly listening, and already believe we've got it all figured out, then when walking through our own deep valleys—and helping others walk through theirs—we may find ourselves lost and in search for the answers to questions we already thought we knew. **Israel will need our prayers for the coming days.** God's plans and purposes are now being revealed before our eyes in her present restoration. There will be many opportunities to stand by Israel and help her through her valleys.

Let us humbly approach God's throne on behalf of the People of Israel and especially for the soldiers of Israel. The Israeli Army is one of the world's most moral armies and yet strong. Many of our prayers need to be directed toward God for these brave warriors for what they may face in the future. Finally, we need to be at peace while we're walking through life's inevitable valleys—for it's in those times that Yeshua promises to be by our side and even carry us if need be. As we all face the decision whether to stand with Israel or not, Sar Shalom (the Prince of Peace) *will walk with us* through our valley to the place where we make the right choice.

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



Jewish people who survived the Holocaust still carry the wounds of their time in the Camps or Ghettos. Many of them suffer illnesses that are the result of hunger and ill treatment. In February, the team had the privilege of visiting Hana and her husband who are both growing older and getting frail. They have been married 66 years. Now they live together with their older son and his wife in an apartment that is separated so that they both have their own space.

Could He Have Been An **ANGEL?**

“He has sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions” Psalm 107:20 (NKJV).

Hana Remembers....

When the war began Hana’s family was living in Kryzhopol, Ukraine, while Hana’s two older brothers were sent to the front. Her parents wanted to go to Moldova where the rest of the family lived, but they were stopped on their way and sent back to the town they had come from. This journey saved their lives. While they were walking back to Kryzhopol they heard that all the Jews of Kryzhopol had been killed! Around the same time their family in Moldova was killed also! Hana’s family was stopped near Bershed where they observed how Germans were punishing the Jews and creating a ghetto. **A Christian man helped them and gave them a hiding place for one day. The next day he showed them a safer road back to their town.** Then they discovered that the Germans had made a ghetto in Kryzhopol, Vinitze, and they found out that not many Jews had survived from their area.

They were in the Ghetto from July 1941 until April 1944. Authority for the Ghetto changed from the Germans to Romanian Police. Hana said, “The Germans killed! The Romanian Police were very cruel, but they did not kill!” Once Hana was beaten with a belt and the policeman broke her skull with the buckle of the belt! Hana couldn’t relate much about the horrors of the war because it made her sick. She told us that after the war she wanted to study medicine but couldn’t finish the study because all the suffering she saw reminded her too much of the things she had seen in the Ghetto. Later Hana studied to become a teacher. In 1994 Hana and her husband made *aliyah* to Israel.



Hana Melemud with her husband

Hana and her husband do not enjoy good health now. They have to buy a large amount of medicine, which is not subsidized by the government. As we were leaving Hana told us this wonderful story:

Hana’s husband was very sick recently with cancer. After many appointments he was finally admitted to the hospital for treatment. **On the morning of his treatment as he sat waiting he felt the touch of a man walking by. He and the man chatted a little; then as the man left he placed a hand on his shoulder and said, “It’s going to be alright.”** When the doctors did their final examination, immediately before treatment, they were amazed to discover that the cancer had all gone!! No treatment was required! Later that day Hana came to visit her husband. She expected him to be in recovery, so she was surprised to learn that no treatment had been done. He told her about the man who had said, “It’s going to be alright.” They wondered, “Could that man have been an angel?” They asked us the same question. **“Could he have been an angel?”**

Thank you so much for your prayers and gifts which make it possible for us to bless these **special people week by week!**

NOTE: Jacob van der Wal has been the Coordinator for the Forsake Them Not team for the past five years. At the end of January he and his wife Loes, returned to their family and friends in Holland.

God Says....

"He who shuts his ear to the cry of the poor will also cry himself and not be answered" (Proverbs 21:13).

Many of our outreach projects reach into the homes of the elderly and those lacking material possessions. Some do not have the strength or resilience to make their needs known. How we find them is often a miracle. The compassionate hearts poured out through CFI staff to all Jewish people in all of our outreaches makes a difference to those who are depressed, lonely and needing to feel God's love. **Thank you for making it possible!**



Michael, Alva, Dr. Bill and Cindi Duerfeldt

Obeying God's Voice

Michael Bukin was a career army veteran in engineering construction for thirty years. He served in the blockade of Leningrad, and also the Afghanistan war. Alva and Michael have been married 50 years, and have two children and six grand-children. In 2001 they made the decision to join their daughter and family in making Aliyah to Israel.

Michael told us that he feels he has always "had someone looking after me – protecting me." What an amazing meeting we had. CFI team members live in N. Carolina, USA, Alva immigrated from Belarus, as a couple they came from St. Petersburg and everyone was brought together by God around a table of friendship and fellowship in Israel. Alva and Michael are the youngest war veterans in the War Veteran group in Jerusalem and both are volunteers at local social agencies. CFI staff gave them a handmade quilt, and a financial gift along with a Book of Psalms. Alva was particularly delighted with the Psalms. **They told us, "Much more than the assistance you have given to us, we appreciate your visit...we hope you will come see us again...and that you will again obey God's voice"!!!!**

A Work of Faith and a Labor of Love



CFI visit just before Pesach
Building relationships

The truth is we have been called to feed, shelter and clothe the needy (**Isaiah 58:5-12.**) God is compassionate and generous to the poor, and He promises us His blessing for following His example." "This was my first home visit to a Jewish war veteran's home. I was excited, nervous, and so very honored. I had listened intently to Sharon's experiences of years of ministry...and felt compassion growing in my own heart.

On this special day, that compassion increased with each flight of stairs knowing this was a couple in their late 80's...David and his wife told us of their life together, of the war, David sang a beautiful Yiddish song that spoke of King David's victories and the one the Messiah will bring...we took the elderly couple a Pesach gift and to let them know they are loved; however, I received the greater gift: a kiss on both cheeks by the whiskered old soldier, 2 pieces of fruit and the knowledge that I shared the presence of God with Ray, Sharon, and Vicka in this precious Jewish home." **Thank you for partnering in the work with us.**



By Tommie Coleman,
Streams of Blessings Coordinator

The **IRON** Kippah

"You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day" (Psalm 91:5).

There has been a lot in the news about the success of the Iron Dome (Kippat Barzel in Hebrew, translated to "Iron Kippah") during the week-long rocket barrage from Gaza terrorists last March. The Iron Dome is the new mobile air defense system that the IDF created as a defensive counterattack to the rocket threat against Israel's civilian population in the south. I was able to have a private tour of this unit and they explained to me how the defense system works.

First, the Iron Dome radar detects and identifies the rocket or artillery shell launched and determines its course. The data is then transmitted to the Battle Management Weapon Control (BMC) room for processing where the path of the rocket is quickly analyzed and the expected impact point is estimated.

Intercepting Enemy Targets

If the rocket is estimated to fall onto a populated area, the Iron Dome fires a guided missile to intercept it. Each missile is fitted with its own radar and once the course of the rocket is set, it guides itself toward the target. When the guided missile is within passing distance, the interceptor detonates and takes down the rocket, in the air above a neutral area so as to avoid collateral damage.

I was told that the Iron Dome can operate day and night, in all weather conditions and intercept rockets and mortars with a range of less than 70 km (39 miles). Its performance during the latest Gaza attack in March was better than expected. They told me during the month of March the Iron Dome intercepted more than 98% of the rockets that were targeted.

The cost for each missile from the Iron Dome is estimated to be around \$50,000, whereas the Kassam and Grad rockets from Gaza cost around \$200-\$800. Overall, many in Israel feel that the expense of the Iron Dome has proven itself to be cost effective in spite of the differences in the cost of the rockets.

First of all, it has been proven to save lives, which is priceless. In Jewish tradition anyone who saves

a single life is seen as saving the entire world. Secondly, the economic damage caused by Kassam and Grad rockets that hit houses, schools or businesses can easily amount to millions of dollars. Most important of all the Iron Dome significantly improves Israel's defenses. Hamas now knows that the majority of their rockets targeting population centers will be shot down, so they will be under pressure to fire more rockets. However in order for them to fire more rockets, they must temporarily come out into the open and be exposed to Israeli helicopters and planes.

The Iron Dome is indeed an amazing defensive system, however, it provides little solution to the yet bigger problem: Gaza is a terrorism hotbed and whenever the terrorists feel like it, they can disrupt normal life in the southern part of Israel. Contrary to Hamas' expectations God has once again supernaturally protected His Chosen People! We are thankful for those around the world who pray for Israel's security!

Summer Needs for the Soldiers

Summer months in Israel can bring very long and hot days for the Israeli soldiers. During the summer months it is our goal to "cool off" the soldiers with practical gifts such as t-shirts, hats, water bags (camel bags), dry-fit clothing and backpacks. Your gift of support to the Israeli soldiers during the summer months would be a tremendous blessing to them! Your faithful support continues to touch many lives!!

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



Iron Dome Guided Missile System



Radar System

PART OF THE FAMILY

“Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name: make known among the Nations what He has done!” (Psalm 105:1).

Thank you for being such a huge blessing to the Ethiopian people through your love, gifts, prayers and letters! We are only able to reach out and touch these precious lives, often at times of extreme brokenness, because of your generosity.

There continue to be many, many needs for financial assistance. Some of these recent requests have included help with food, rent payments, utility bills, school fees, a hospital day admission, dental work and a bat mitzah celebration, where a parent was unable to provide for this special milestone in her child’s life. Each request speaks volumes of what families are currently experiencing. But it’s not only about money – families long for emotional and spiritual support as well, especially when they have experienced so many different adjustments to living among “sabras” (Israeli-born Jewish people). They struggle to assimilate into a modern Jewish society. Many Ethiopian Jews seek to be heard by local housing committees who have made it difficult for them to lease or purchase properties as well as to gain equal status. Thus the building of close connections is always important, but especially crucial in this community. One beautiful young woman commented yesterday – you are part of my family...I feel I have “real family” here (because of our Hope for the Future outreach which touches so many hearts). “May you live for 120 years!”

Extreme **HARDSHIPS**

A 32-year-old man who had held a very responsible position in supervising seventy people had been without work for a few months and didn’t even have the bus fare to visit his four children in Netanya! His mother died in Ethiopia when he was two years old and his father remarried. He purchased an apartment where he lived with his father, stepmother, wife and children. His stepmother remained in his apartment, while his wife and children moved to Netanya following his divorce four years ago. He moved in with one of his brothers while he looked for a new position. Another of his brothers died in Israel three years ago. He has experienced so much tragedy in his short life. We were able to assist with food coupons and provide the bus fares for him to visit his children during this time of extreme need and unemployment. He was deeply grateful for assistance given because of your gifts. Thank you for blessing him in his time of real need. I’m so pleased to say he has since found another cleaning position at a hospital in Jerusalem!

Answered **PRAYER**

Many of the Ethiopian people have a strong faith in God and cry out to Him for their needs. One mother shared recently of the situation with her girls’ schooling. Her older daughter, aged 11 had had a very good relationship with her previous teacher for the past three years but struggled when a new teacher was appointed. She was very upset and often in tears at home. Her mother fasted and prayed. Then, she shared with delight the way God answered her prayers and changed this distressing situation. **The mother remarked, “I’m poor, and have nothing in this world but am rich in my heart. God lives in my heart.”** This testimony was from a sponsored family who receive a gift from their sponsor each month, which assists in providing for their family’s needs. Without this financial assistance they would struggle greatly.

By Ruth Bembrick, Hope For The Future Coordinator



The Love of God is greater ...



In deep need...

TIMES AND SEASONS

“Distributing to the Necessity of the Saints” (Romans 12:13).

Dighe H. was born in 1986 in Eritrea. His parents still live there and are farmers who depend on agriculture to live. He has three brothers and three sisters. His parents are Christians and raised Dighe in a true Christian lifestyle. Dighe says, **“It made us always depend on our true lover and creator GOD for any issues in our lives—whether today or tomorrow, because God’s love is without any condition for anyone.”** Today, he is in his fourth year in exile.

He misses the days when he attended his local church with his parents at 4:00 am on Sunday mornings. It helped him strengthen his spiritual life and connection with God. Those days he remembers as “the most significant moments of my life, because here in Israel, **I am absolutely trusting and believing in Almighty God without any shaking or doubt—even for a fraction of time.**” He wanted to pursue his dream for higher education. Last year he applied to IDC [Interdisciplinary Center] Herzliya. He was accepted and it opened a huge opportunity for him to continue his studies in the school of Government, thanks to Israel. This brother really trusts God from day to day. Israel has given him a head start. Now he needs those who will believe in him and are able to assist him along his way. Thank you so much for your support! Our First Fruits department at CFI is open to the many necessities of life that churches, congregations, individual believers and spiritual leaders have living in the Land. **Your support encourages many to bear much fruit in the Land of Israel today.**

By **Ray Sanders**, First Fruits Coordinator



Ray Sanders with Eritrean brother

Thank You Notes

www.cfijerusalem.org

Dear Ray, Staff and Supporters of CFI: “Last spring we were told that CFI could help us...we have five young children, living outside Jerusalem and had gotten into an unfortunate financial bind...making a living in our homeland is not so simple, especially for an immigrant...I worked...ran my own business...we just kept falling farther and farther behind...greatly overdue on many bills...taxes...struggling...with groceries, utilities and rent...Praise the Almighty...when I visited the CFI office in Jerusalem...everyone there was extremely friendly and gracious...Ray was so understanding and encouraging...then in May, Ray called me personally to tell me the great news. CFI was so generous that they even extended the grant for a somewhat greater amount than requested. (How did they know that a family with five children might need a little bit more?!)...we appreciate CFI so much...but our entire family encourages everyone reading this letter to both donate to and pray for CFI and its wonderful programs, as they help real people in Israel in genuinely difficult personal situations. When we testify that our CFI grant was an answer to prayer and got us out of a very tight spot that we had no other way to remedy, we really, really mean it! Thank you Ray and CFI for being there when we needed you.” **The G. Family**

Dear CFI: “My brother in God, in my name and the name of Lebanese children, we will thank you from our hearts to all the people in your organization Christian Friends of Israel to give to me and my wife help. And to the children at Easter. We praise the Lord Jesus to give you and your wife all the chance and help that you need.” **T.M.**



**“The Word...
was published
(proclaimed and spread)
throughout... (Acts 10:37).**

FocalPoint

Christian Friends of Israel's latest endeavor **“FocalPoint”** is already generating a lot of discussion. Responses from readers just like you are coming in from all over the globe. So far, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, South Africa, the U.K. and the United States are among the first to respond with “where can I find FocalPoint in my area and on my Christian network?” Won't you join them by being the next one to find out more about FocalPoint in your area? Just email your response and questions to: info@focalpoint-tv.com today! A great door has been opened, will you help us walk through it?

The battle for Israel is for truth!

Offering viewers around the world 30 minutes of positive, relevant and Biblically based information about Israel and the Middle East, ‘FocalPoint’ is just what Christians are looking for in the time and season where we find ourselves. As you no doubt have gleaned from this issue of *For Zion's Sake* now is the time for concerned mature Christians to stay informed about what is really going on in Israel according to God's prophetic Word. While broadcasting we will herald the truth in all directions at the same time.

FocalPoint will bring you exceptional analysis from seasoned teachers and scholars who have devoted years

of study to Israel and the Middle East. You will also hear from knowledgeable experts on Israeli policies, Christian-Jewish relations, and the latest innovations being developed in Israel. Bringing a half hour of well-paced magazine-style information to your screen, hosts Stacey and Kevin Howard present stories and interviews that you've been wanting to see, while stretching across the globe to bring you the added talents of Geoffrey Smith, Dan Tracy and Sam Hailes.

In addition, Ray and Sharon Sanders and Coordinators will bring you the very latest on what is happening with CFI's nine projects in Israel. Once again, as you've been reading through this issue, you probably understand that now is the time for you to be involved, informed, and ready for whatever the future has in store. If the Lord has placed it upon your heart to become more involved in bringing this information to the world airwaves then you may want to financially support this program with your gift by going online now at www.cfjjerusalem.org and clicking on **“Contribute,”** then choosing **“FocalPoint TV.”** with your gift amount or designate your gift directly to **“God's Word.”** You can help us reclaim the air waves for God.

**By Kevin Howard, Director
Technical Operations**

info@focalpointtv.com

“...Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together...” (1 Chronicles 16:35)

Not Leaving Any Behind!

What is going on? What year is it outside? Is it again the 1930's? –These things I ask myself. Isn't there a loud call like never before in history for peace, tolerance, love and understanding? Isn't there a trend of “multiculturalism” propagated in almost every western country? I think the most frustrating thing is to admit that many headlines are taken from media resources of so-called civilized countries.

Those who trust God's word are not surprised. They know that The Time is approaching and one of the most visible signs is the rise of anti-Semitism around the world. The Lord is gathering His people home; He is preparing for the final battle. Let's have a close look at the following prophecies:

“When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself Holy through them in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind.” (Ezekiel 39:27-28).

“However, the days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when men will no longer say, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,’ but they will say, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.’ For I will restore them to the land I gave to their forefathers. “But now I will send for many fishermen,” declares the LORD, “and they will catch them. After that I will send for many hunters, and they will hunt them down on every mountain and hill and from the crevices of the rocks.” (Jeremiah 16:14-16).

God's Plan Being Fulfilled

Nothing can stop Messiah from coming, nothing can prevent God's plan from being fulfilled. “Hunters” is the last stage of the gathering process. Hurry up, my people, don't delay! Isn't it what you have been praying for all these thousands of years? Don't you pronounce in your daily *Amidah* prayer “Next year in Jerusalem?!”

Twenty years ago God miraculously opened a big heavy door that allowed Jewish people from the former Soviet Union to immigrate to Israel. More than half of all European Jewry streamed from the Communist bloc. Looking at the *aliyah* statistics today you could think that the process of immigration is coming to an end, but the Jewish Agency for Israel reports that in 2012 the number of immigrants from the former Soviet Union is increasing. A growing number of new citizens come from Russia and the Ukraine, and there are inquiries for repatriation from tens of thousands of interested people.

In 2011 alone, 7,813 people from the former Soviet Union immigrated to Israel, 5% more than a year earlier. The Jewish Agency reports that over the last year 27,000 people from the former Soviet republics have asked for information regarding immigration to Israel. According to the Ministry of



Tony dedicates the new Lighthouse



A wonderful experience for all

“In 2012 the number of immigrants from the former Soviet Union is **INCREASING.**”

Sandy making someone happy



Aliyah

“..that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf” (2 Corinthians 1:11).

Immigration and Absorption, because of recent events and the politics in Russia, the flow of repatriation from there next year could rise threefold. To those of us who read and trust God’s word there is no doubt that God is not changing His mind; and His covenant is irrevocable and everlasting. God will continue to gather His people and the immigration will continue into the future. He is not going to leave His children as outcasts, but He also gives them the freedom of choice to come or not to come to Israel. As at the time of the first Passover, He will use the rise of anti-Semitism to accomplish His decreed purpose of gathering Jews into His promised land. **“The LORD does build up Jerusalem: he gathers together the outcasts of Israel”** (Psalm 147:2).

The Distribution Center will need to be prepared for another massive wave of *olim* who are going to escape from oppressed countries, saving both theirs and their children’s lives. It may be that they will not have enough time to pack their belongings and manage to sell their properties in their country of exile bringing only one or two suitcases with them. **We will need to have enough resources to help those people at that difficult time with food, clothing, household items, vouchers, etc.**

We must all share in the burden of the next big ingathering. Be assured God’s plan is right on schedule.

New Shipments Arrive On Time!

The newly renovated CFI Distribution Center recently received a container for new immigrants from H.E.L.P. International USA. Some Jewish people walking by offered their help to unload our 40ft. container (1,300 boxes) packed with **highest quality clothing**. It was a delight to see our team of volunteers joyfully working. **Olim from different corners of the world and local Israeli Arabs and an Orthodox Jew joined in to help us, shoulder-to-shoulder.** Isn’t this what we are praying for? When our Orthodox and Arab friend saw us unloading the huge container...they offered their help. Bypassers looked upon us with wide open eyes and disbelief, totally shocked...**we were all working together!**

By **Ruth Rishton**, Distribution Center Manager



Immigrants waiting for the D.C. doors to open



Blessings from the Nations Flowing In



“Thank you with all my heart”

Groups arriving

Those who passed by came and helped unload the shipment

Ruth, our DC Manager



Bridal Salon...

www.cfijerusalem.org

The CFI Bridal Salon project loans special occasion wear and accessories for significant events in Jewish life, such as weddings and Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. We have a selection of garments, jewelry and accessories that have been generously donated by Christians and Jews from all over the world. The Salon provides an environment where friendships can be formed, and often invitations to join in the wedding celebrations are extended.

One week before her wedding a bride came for her final try on and collection of her gown, "I don't have words to say... thank you. A hug is a must..." These are the words that flowed from a heart about to burst with joy and appreciation! Not only did our young bride find a stunning gown fit for a queen, but also a tiara, a necklace and earring set, gloves and a veil. Her mother and father also found clothing and accessories for the special day. Joy beaming from her face as she left the salon, with gown in hand, she said, "Everyone on the bus will wonder what I have in my bag, because I can't stop this silly smile which is stuck on my face!" With English being the second language of a majority of our brides, they find words rather difficult to express their thanks, but the joy on their faces says it all! They want me to pass on how very grateful they are for the support and generosity you have shown to them through the Bridal Salon. Weddings in Israel are expensive, so when our brides and grooms come into the salon they are not only relieved of additional financial stress, they are overjoyed with the broad selection they have to choose from.

With These Rings

A young Russian couple encountered miracle after miracle..months ago they visited the Lighthouse to donate garments to other new *olim* at the D.C. After finishing their time in the army they visited the D.C. again and mentioned they were engaged. To their delight, both bride and groom-to-be found just the right garments and were the first to be given wedding rings since the re-opening of our new Bridal Salon. They indeed received a double-fold blessing.



Bride with her family



Garments for the family

A Religious Wedding

The salon was filled with giggles of delight and Spanish whispers. First had come the beautiful religious bride and her mother, both leaving the Salon, smiling, with hearts full of gratitude and beautiful gowns in hand. The bride had also been presented with a gift. Both women were amazed at the love shown through this practical display of generosity. On the eve of the wedding, the excited bride returned to the salon with some of her extended family, who had just arrived in Israel and are in the process of making *aliyah* from South America. In total, the gowns that were borrowed by this wonderful family amounted to eight, plus accessories!

At the end of their visit an invitation was extended for me to attend the wedding and join in the celebrations. The joy, the dancing, the celebration of two families joining in a religious wedding, was incredible to say the least. **During the dancing the bride came over and led me by the hand into the center of the dancing women, thanking me and the Christian Friends of Israel, again and again for the wonderful help the Bridal Salon had given them. The friendships formed during this time have extended well beyond the wedding.**

By **Letitia Warin**, Bridal Salon Coordinator

Letitia in her calling from God

God provides everything

Representing His Excellence

The blessing of a new ring



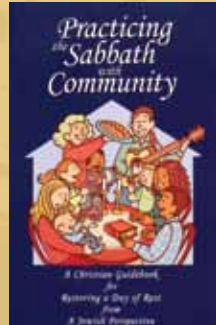
CFI BOOKS ONLINE

*"Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come—
and the books, especially the parchments" (2 Timothy 4:13).*

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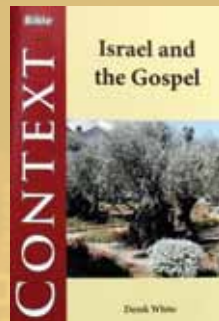
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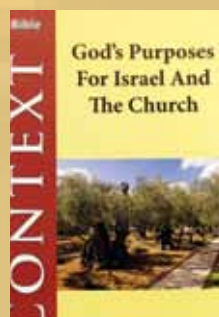
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"I am Pastor Bobby, I read one of your booklets in Liberia, West Africa Tell The Children. This really moved me... I once was a Muslim...can I be in partnership with you so that we can work together?" Liberia, W. Africa

CFI Online Resource go to www.cfijerusalem.org

A Time to Support Israel!

Umar Mulinde was born...and trained in Islam. One day he met the Savior, Jesus Christ, who transformed him into a dynamic international Gospel Preacher, conference motivational speaker, Senior Pastor, theologian and author. He is regularly featured on television and radio programs with inspiring teachings. He is married and has six wonderful children, including twin boys. From his Prayer Tours to Israel, he has recorded a documentary (video) which is very interesting, spiritually imparting, and educational. He has also written a book entitled, *A Christian Response to Islamic Challenge*.

The attack was December 24, 2011, in the evening. As he was coming out of the church as a voice said: "Pastor can you help me?" As he turned, acid was poured all over the right side of his face, head, back and even the left side. Immediately as the burning began—which begins from the inside out destroying the outer skin—Pastor Mulinde knew that his enemies were out to kill him. Even today he and his family are at risk for their lives. **After some treatment for his burns in India, an Orthodox Rabbi heard Pastor Mulinde's story and how he loved Israel. He made arrangements to fly him to Israel to be treated for his burns at Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer, Israel. If it were not for the Israeli doctors who have taken him under their care and are carefully grafting and taking him through a long healing process, he would have died.**

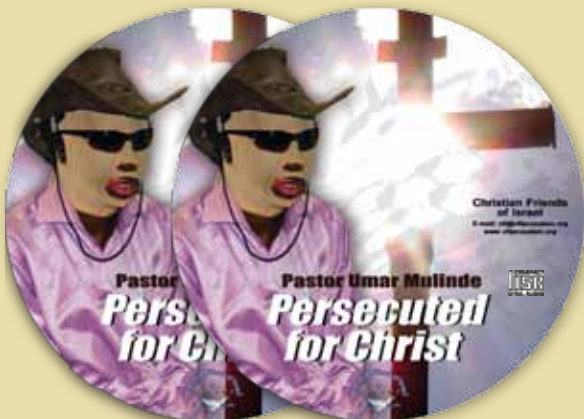
He is in Israel for a few more months while his treatments continue. CFI heard about his story and asked him to come and share his testimony with the staff and the tragic attack on his life. He wears a special face covering while the healing is taking place. Following is a small part of his message "to the Church." The whole message is available on the CD. Be sure to order your copy and share it with your Pastor and others.

Love is Telling the Truth

He proclaimed, "The Church compromised in the year 600 with Islam, centuries ago...Many of the eyes on Jerusalem are not Christian, but Moslem now... Because of fear, the Christian church has stopped speaking out...[but] love is all about telling the truth. We are not meant to fear...As a former Moslem [I can tell you] there is a law in the Koran not to make a Jew or Christian a friend. But some say Islam is a "friendly" religion...They are deceived...People want to hear what they want you to tell them...It all results in compromise...There is a force [Islam] that wants to conquer the world and to set up a demonic kingdom and empire...They are out to fulfill their goals...It is now time that the Church speak publically about their stand with Israel—it is a mistake not to. There is no 'peaceful spirit' coexisting with anyone in Islam."

Pastor Mulinde paid with his life being forever changed, and as he stood to speak to us, he was very weak. But the Holy Spirit came over him and he not only preached, but spoke with power and authority as he did what God has called him to do: speak the truth. Please make sure you get his message!

By Sharon Sanders



Pastor Mulinde's message given at CFI is available in full through purchase of this CD. Price: \$10.00 (for one).



Preaching in Uganda



With wife before the attack



Praying for Pastor at CFI



Anointed preaching once again



Merlin & Margaret Hampton, grandson Caleb and Marita



Production of CFI banners

Serving the Lord in Israel

CFI America is an all-volunteer organization in Burleson, Texas. All gifts are legal tax deductions in the US. Mr. and Mrs. Merlin (Margaret) Hampton have been serving the Lord by being representatives in the US for CFI Jerusalem, and are a channel for your giving of love gifts to the ongoing work in Israel. The CFI America website is available online and donations are sent by wire transfer directly to Jerusalem. Each donor receives a personal thank you letter from the Hamptons on behalf of CFI Jerusalem, and promptly provides a tax deductible receipt for each supporter. The Hamptons attend meetings and conferences on behalf of CFI, engage in the production of CFI banners, run a busy CFI office, and a host of other CFI work related activities each month.

Their home has been the oasis of refreshment and restoration for several CFI volunteers who have returned home from Israel. They report that it has been their great honor and pleasure to host CFI Jerusalem's Senior Graphic Artist, Marita Brokenshaw, for two years. The first part of her time back was spent in the gracious care of CFI USA, assisting Hanelle Pardain, in the CFI USA office. Marita has now returned to Jerusalem to serve in her 14th year. She is originally from South Africa and in her early 20's heard the call of God to bless Israel and the Jewish people with the talents and gifts He had placed within her. While it has been a joy to have her, we have released her back to Jerusalem to bring a blessing to many in the nations through her marvelous gift of creative graphic design for CFI publications, magazine and resources.

Contact CFI America at: mhampton1@sbcglobal.net.



CFI America

"But in every nation he that fears Him, and works righteousness, is accepted with Him" (Acts 10:35).



David Soakell

CFI UK's year of 2012 began with a busy start. Many meetings have been provisionally set up by Oliver Manyemba, London Area Representative in the black church communities. Rev. Manyemba is such a blessing and it is a joy working with him. An Area Representative Conference is to take place in September before the CFI Annual Conference. A Northeast Prayer Conference is set for June 25-2012. A special meeting at New Wine at Nottingham will be 28 July – 3 August. David Soakell spoke in London at the Black African Church Leaders conference along with Robin Benson in May. He will also be covering the CFI projects in Israel. A week following he will be the main speaker at another Black African Church Conference in Birmingham. Praise the Lord for the Word going forth.

For events in the UK, please contact: jacob@cfi.org.uk or david@cfi.org.uk.



CFI UK

Celebration of Jerusalem Day

The Zionist Federation, together with Christian Friends of Israel organised a special Jerusalem Day Event on May 20th at the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster. The speakers included His Excellency the Israeli Ambassador to the UK Daniel Taub who received a standing ovation from the entire audience upon his arrival. Other speakers included David Nekrutman, Director for the Centre for Jewish Christian Understanding and Cooperation, Zionist Federation Co-President, Professor Eric Moonman, Former Director of Christian Friends of Israel UK, Geoffrey Smith and Former MK Zaiden Atashi.

Over 200 people attend the event and 9 organizations came together to celebrate this special day. Alan Aziz, ZF Director said: "It is an honour and a pleasure to have the opportunity to work with so many friends of Israel outside our own community."



Conferences in USA

Pastor Robbie Coleman and his wife Tommie recently represented CFI Jerusalem at a number of Assembly of God conferences and Nights to Honor Israel. It was a fruitful time meeting many who love Israel and the Jewish people and connecting and reconnecting with those who wish to partner with CFI. The Colemans have joined our staff in Jerusalem.

Contact: robbie@cfijerusalem.org



The victims

In Solidarity with Grenoble Jews

Recently CFI France -Grenoble paid tribute to the innocent victims of the Ozar Hatorah School in Toulouse, by joining the silent march appealed for by Madame Edwige Elkaïm, the Chairwoman of the CRIF–Grenoble-Isère. The march was organized with the help of the Union of the French Jewish Students. The dignified demonstration, gathering between 800 and 1000 people on their way from the Townhall square ended in front of the Isère Préfecture. Friends from the Grenoble Jewish Community among whom were many Christians and numerous pastors—marched, united in the same thoughts and the same suffering. They were all together, protesting against anti-Semitism and all the violence and pain it generates. At the head of the procession, the names of the victims were respectfully held like banners. There, on the curb stone of the fountain, the students who had carried the banners—surrounded by young school children started to light candles—one for each life too early torn away. The hearty embraces and thanks afterwards have once again confirmed to us that every Christian has to stand firm with Israël, our friend.

Contact: caifrance@aol.com



CFI France



French Christians protesting anti-Semitism



CFI Representative Mohan Weerakoon from Sri Lanka continues to cover the islands of Sri Lanka with the Gospel and the message of Israel and the Church. Contact: mohanwg@slt.net.lk

“For we are laborers together with God” (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Passover Seder for Christians

In April the NADD office sponsored and organized a first community Passover Seder. The event was hosted by the Highland Hope Church and a special thank you goes out to them for their gracious hospitality. It was a lovely evening with approximately 100 in attendance. For most of them it was a first-time experience to attend a Passover.

“Why was this night different from all other nights?” Kevin and Stacey Howard were blessed with the opportunity to teach “The Church” about the Lord’s special holiday. Those in attendance—both young and old—learned how Christians can share in the remembrance of the Passover with Jews around the world. They heard how Yeshua is being foreshadowed throughout the whole Passover celebration and how important it is for us, as Christians, to grab hold of the Jewish roots of our faith. The one comment that stood out most, came from one of the laymen of the church who said, “I will never look at Passover the same again. I will forever remember what I learned on this very special night.” Stacey said, “If that had been the only positive feedback received from the entire night it would have been enough to make all the work of putting something like this together worthwhile!”

The North American Development Division (NADD) welcomes the opportunity to both speak in churches and/or attend Israel related venues throughout the United States. Recruiting volunteers that will help raise awareness of Christian Friends of Israel Jerusalem, is one of its main objectives, as well as being a bridge between America with Israel. We utilize social media, interactive web and are involved in the development of a new 30-min. television program. **“All must quickly carry out the task assigned to us” (John 9:4).**

By Stacey Howard, Administrator, North American Development
Contact: stacey@cfijerusalem.org



CFI North American Development Div.



Kevin and Stacey leading the service



Christian Education about Passover

Yad Vashem Memorial Service

“Let all your work be done with love” (1 Corinthians 16:14).

Jenny Milmine our new Forsake Them Not coordinator and her husband Gordon, joined others from Israel and the nations, with saddened hearts to mourn the passing of millions cruelly torn from this world and hidden in the dark earth. Old soldiers, bedecked with medals, carefully placed wreaths of orange, red and yellow flowers beneath the bronze murals of those who have gone before their time. Many remember and will never forget! Jenny Milmine and her husband Gordon are from Nelson, New Zealand.



A Tribute to a Brother and a Friend

Rev. Michael Neil Cohen

Born 26 Oct., 1945. Died 2 April 2012).

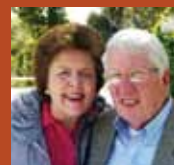
CFI Jerusalem would like to give honor to a dear brother in the Lord, Michael Cohen. He was highly esteemed both here at CFI and in the Land. His wife Fran continues her part-time work with CFI. Michael is very much missed by all. Born in North London, he was an ordained Anglican Clergyman, worked for CMJ, was a travelling speaker and teacher, and became Rector of Christ Church Jerusalem. He and Fran became citizens of Israel in 2003.

His special friendship with Ray Sanders, and his great respect for the work of CFI in Israel, was an important part of his life. It was reported a few years ago when Israel was celebrating Independence Day Michael Cohen said “I wonder what the Jewish people read in the synagogues on that day...the “Parasha” reading of that week, Amos 9:11. They had just signed the Declaration of Independence and God was speaking “I brought you back not to be uprooted again, I have brought you back to plant you in the Land” (Amos 9:11). The funeral service that was held in Jerusalem proved the impact this brother had on the Body in Israel. He is greatly missed by many.



CFI INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Ray and Sharon Sanders will travel to the Far East in the Fall. For booking in **Hong Kong** contact: mmteddy7@gmail.com. For **Singapore**: babygoh@apac-im.com.



“..having a great desire... to come unto you....I trust to see you in my journey.”
(Romans 15:23)

Sharon and Ray Sanders

Open Positions—Everyone has a Ministry

We each have a ministry. *“If you set up chairs in church, do it for the glory of God. There are no small duties.”* (Zola Levitt)

- If you have a **graphic designer portfolio** and inspirational creativity we would like to interview you for our Print Media Department in Jerusalem.
- If you have any **experience in International Relations** we are looking for an International Representative Assistant for the International Director.

- Use your **expertise in Bookkeeping and Accounting**, as an Accounts Payable Clerk, to facilitate and support the integrity of our Accounting Department.
- If you are **fluent in English, Russian**—(German and Hebrew helpful but not required)—consider partnering, with Forsake Them Not, our outreach project to Holocaust Survivors as a team member.

For details e-mail to: personnel@cfijerusalem.org to request a Volunteer Application Form.

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. Please send all communication relating to *For Zion's Sake* to: **CFI, PO box 1813, Jerusalem 91015, ISRAEL.**

CFI Representative Nearest You