

2ND QUARTER 2019

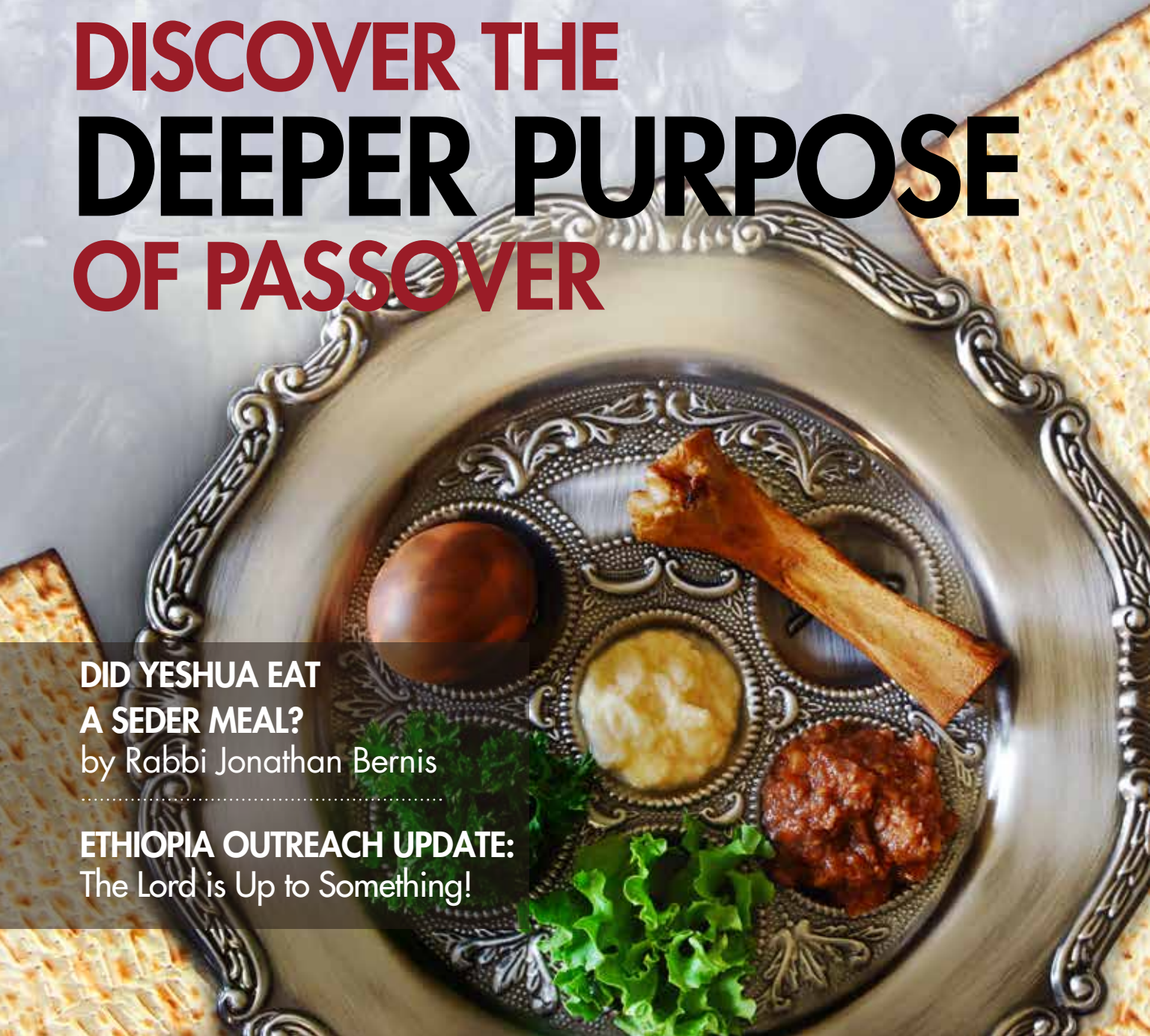


JEWISH VOICE TODAY MAGAZINE

DISCOVER THE DEEPER PURPOSE OF PASSOVER

**DID YESHUA EAT
A SEDER MEAL?**
by Rabbi Jonathan Bernis

ETHIOPIA OUTREACH UPDATE:
The Lord is Up to Something!





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SHALOM



Dear Partner in Ministry,
Shalom, my friend!

In this second quarter 2019 edition of *Jewish Voice Today*, we take a multifaceted look at a very meaningful holiday on the Hebrew calendar – Passover.

For those of us who believe in Yeshua (Jesus), every aspect of Passover is layered with symbols and imagery that paint a picture of the Messiah.

This beautiful feast connects us to our past, as well as to the future restoration of the Jewish people, and ultimately, the entire world.

My prayer for all who call on the name of Lord is that we see ourselves more clearly in God's story of redemption. May you also experience, on a deeper, more profound level, the power and wonder of

Passover and the Passover Lamb, who delivered us from a bondage far greater than what ancient Israel endured in Egypt, the bondage to sin.

I hope that the articles in this issue of *Jewish Voice Today* will help the events of Passover and the Exodus bring your own faith journey to life.

As you read, please pray for Jewish Voice Ministries International and for our work of providing both physical and spiritual care to Jewish people and their neighbors during this sacred Passover season.

We are so grateful for your partnership in the Gospel.

To the Jew first and also to the Nations,

Jonathan Bernis
Jonathan Bernis



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Did *Yeshua* Eat A *Seder Meal?*

BY RABBI JONATHAN BERNIS

Passover is the most important of all biblical Jewish holidays, commemorating the Exodus – God’s miraculous rescue of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

This year, Passover starts on the evening of Friday, April 19, and ends on the evening of Saturday, April 27.

Passover – *Pesach* in Hebrew – has always been seen by Jewish people as the ultimate act of God’s redemption and an affirmation of their status as His chosen people. That’s why, throughout the Hebrew Bible, God’s people are frequently reminded of the events surrounding Passover. Of how God “. . . brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of bondage . . .” (Micah 6:4).

Yeshua celebrated the traditional Passover with His disciples in the upper room before His death, adding additional meaning to the Seder meal as the story of *spiritual exodus* out of sin and death.

This event that is now called the “Last Supper” was a true Seder meal, commanded in Scripture, according to the context of the time when Yeshua lived. I believe Yeshua chose to celebrate this with His disciples a day early, since He was to become a sacrifice the next day – not coincidentally, at the same time and same hour as all the other Passover lambs.

If we call it “the Last Supper,” this separates it from what it was – the sacred biblical event that Yeshua was celebrating as well as the sacred foreshadowing of what was to come.

Passover is the watershed event in all Jewish history. And Yeshua celebrated His Last Passover the night before becoming our sacrificial Passover Lamb. As followers of Yeshua (Jesus), we now know that the great delivery of the Exodus was a foreshadowing of God’s ultimate plan of redemption. And this redemption was the greatest event in the history of the world.

It is essential that, within the Seder meal, we tell the great story of the Exodus:

Passover – *Pesach* in Hebrew – has always been seen by Jewish people as the ultimate act of God’s redemption and an affirmation of their status as His chosen people.

God’s chosen people lived in great favor in Goshen for many years. A successive pharaoh, however, did not remember Joseph and the story of how he saved Egypt from a great famine. This new Pharaoh was a very cruel dictator, a kind of anti-Christ, who was afraid of the Jewish people because of their growing numbers. So he enslaved them. They remained slaves for 400-450 years, in what became one of the most bitter moments in Jewish history.

This tyrant additionally demanded that all male Jewish babies be put to death. But Moses was hidden when he was a baby, and he was miraculously rescued by Pharaoh’s daughter and raised in privilege in that very Pharaoh’s house.

Seeing Yeshua in the Passover Seder

In Exodus 12, we see that on the 10th day of the first month of the year, each man is to take a lamb for his household. It is to be a one-year-old lamb without defect. The lamb is cared for in the home until the 15th day.

This is the story of the Messiah – an incredible foreshadow of what Yeshua would do for us – detailed by God more than 1,000 years before Jesus is born.

It specifies that:

- The blood must be applied to the doorpost
- The lamb must be without defect and within the prime of life
- Every household needs a lamb

Without the blood of the lamb, there is no relief from the Angel of Death. Blood is the only thing



that saves. God told the Israelites that the Angel of Death would pass over “when I see the blood...” It wasn’t about being Jewish or Egyptian – or part of any specific group.

This is the Gospel message, my friend. And now it is the Angel of *Eternal* Death who sees the blood of Yeshua on the doorpost of our hearts. And that enables us to know safety, peace and rest – while havoc is all around us.

How the Passover Seder has Evolved

In Yeshua’s day, it was a very simple celebration. The traditional meal included only three foods and four cups of wine. The three foods were:



A Seder is the feast celebrated on the first night of Passover, the Jewish holiday of freedom, which commemorates the Israelites’ exodus from slavery in Egypt more than 3,500 years ago.

On today’s Seder Plate, the Matzah is still included but is unlikely to be home baked. The Bitter Herbs are generally ground horseradish or romaine lettuce (sometimes endive). But you’ll see additional items that have been added to the Seder Plate, including:



A roasted egg – a reminder of the destroyed Temple and that sacrifices have ceased



Parsley – a symbol of new life



Matzah – unleavened bread, baked without yeast because they left in haste



Bitter Herbs – so they would never forget that they were slaves in Egypt



Roasted Lamb – because roasting represents judgment. They were to eat all of it and leave nothing until morning



A mixture of apples, pears, nuts and wine – a sweet dish, but it represents the mortar and brick made by the Jewish people when they toiled for Pharaoh



A lamb shank – representing the sacrificed lamb (it appears on the Seder plate, although today, chicken is more commonly served as the meat portion of the meal)

The purpose of Passover is to retell the Exodus story – and it also tells the story of Yeshua. It is a joyous celebration. It includes the four cups of wine, each with its own meaning.

The most important is the third cup – the cup of redemption. This is the cup that Yeshua raised when

he said, “This is the cup that now is my blood...” It was a foreshadow of the blood He shed a few hours later for our redemption.

I encourage you – as a Believer in Yeshua – to learn about Passover and understand the Jewish roots of your faith. It will enrich your faith.

Celebrate the Passover with the Messianic Seder Kit

You’ll be completely prepared to offer a Seder meal with this kit, which provides step-by-step guidance from Jonathan Bernis for conducting your own Passover Seder and to understand how Yeshua is the fulfillment of Passover. It includes:

- **Yeshua’s Final Passover DVD** – Rabbi Jonathan Bernis teaches you how to celebrate the Passover Seder – just as Yeshua (Jesus) did with His disciples over 2,000 years ago
- **Haggadah** – A Jewish text that sets forth the order of the Passover Seder, use this during Passover and see how Yeshua fulfilled this Holy Day being the Passover Lamb
- **Seder plate** – a special plate to hold symbolic foods eaten or displayed at the Passover Seder
- **Kiddush cup** – an ornate cup for drinking ritual wine
- **2 candle holders** – light the candles to welcome your holiday celebration
- **Matzah cover** – a special cover to protect your Passover matzah

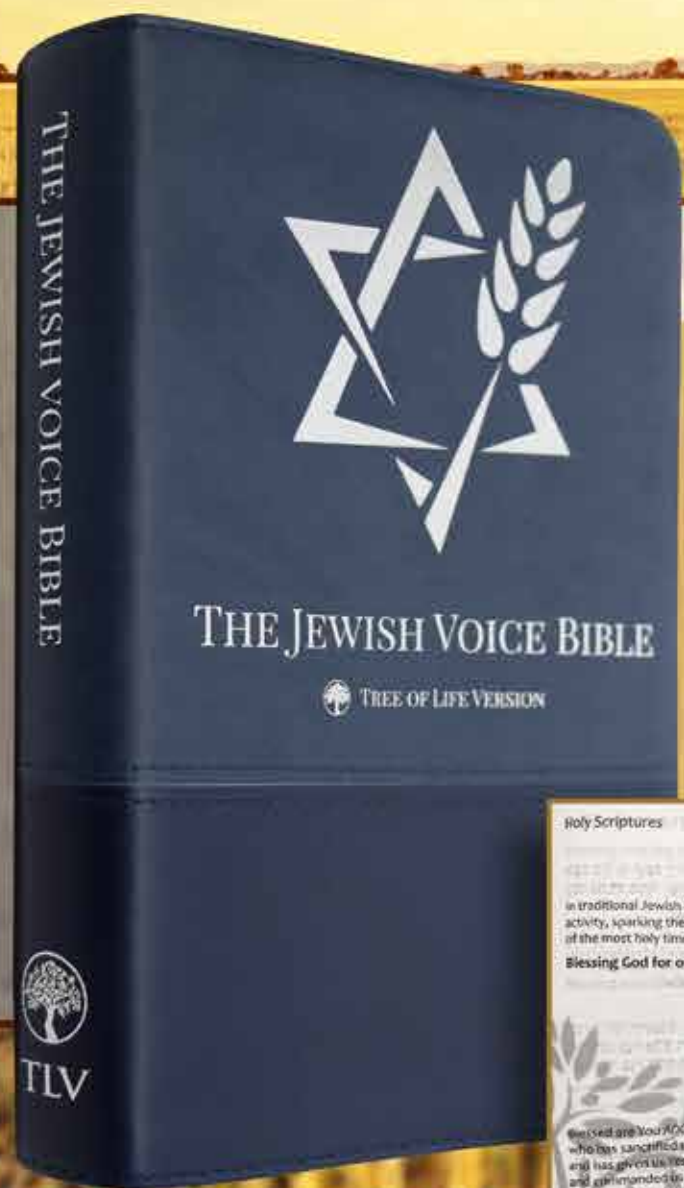
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Don’t miss these tools to help you celebrate a Seder meal in your own home this year



See page 17 to learn more!

A Bible Unlike Any Other...



This Bible has a duo-tone blue leatherette cover with silver lettering and matching silver-gilded pages. It measures 6.5" W by 9.375" H.

Receive this one-of-a-kind Bible as our thank you for your **gift of \$100 or more** to the ongoing international outreaches of Jewish Voice Ministries International. Thank you for your heart for Israel and God's chosen people.

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The Jewish Voice Bible presents the Holy Scriptures in the *Tree of Life Version (TLV)* with an abundance of special features to enrich your Bible reading. The TLV Bible translation unites Old and New Covenants with a consistent Hebraic perspective. It introduces important Hebrew words that clarify scriptural meaning and restores names to their original Hebrew. *The Jewish Voice Bible* includes such helpful tools as:

- An explanation of God's covenant with Israel, with scriptural references and notes written by Jonathan Bernis about the history of our Jewish roots
- Weekly Scripture readings from the Torah, Writings and Prophets and the New Covenant

- Important Messianic prophecies and scriptural references related to those prophecies, both New and Old Covenant references
- Guidance to help you lead someone to Yeshua (Jesus) and prayers for accepting Yeshua, as well as specific ways you can pray for Israel
- Shabbat prayers and blessings
- Overview of biblical feasts and holidays, such as Passover, Shavuot, Chanukah (and more) along with scriptural references and their connection to Jesus
- A history of the "Lost Tribes of Israel" – who they are, where they came from, where they are now, and how Jewish Voice is serving them
- Hebrew word glossary and 82 artist illustrations
- Intercessory Prayer Guide for Israel

THE FOUR SONS OF THE SEDER



BY RABBI BARNEY KASDAN

Certainly one of the highlights of the Jewish religious year is the Passover Seder. This is more than just delicious foods like matzah ball soup and brisket. The main purpose is to retell the story of Israel's redemption from the slavery of Egypt through the reading of the Haggadah. This booklet gets its name from Exodus 13:8 where Jews are exhorted to "tell" their children about God and His works. A most interesting part of the traditional readings includes four sons who have differing responses to the same story.

One child (not in sequential order for this article) is called the Simple Son (Hebrew – tam). He is described

like this because, as he is participating in the Seder meal, he poses a simple question: "What is this?" Perhaps the details of the holiday are new to him, and he simply does not understand their significance.

Evidently, he is not asking out of a rebellious spirit, but he is merely confessing his ignorance.

The answer for this child is therefore simple, explaining that God brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand.

This seems to be basically a good kid who has a childlike approach to things. Some adults may wish that this attitude was different, but it is often commended in the Bible.

Too many people today approach life with arrogance and self-sufficiency that can actually lead them away from the things of God. Our Messiah Yeshua reminded us that it is often those who have a simple, childlike approach who will enter the Kingdom of God (Matthew 19:13-15). The Haggadah reminds us that there are many who may be ignorant but who want to know the reality of God.

A second child is called the Wicked Son (Hebrew – rasha).

This son is so described because he frames his question in a negative manner: "What is the meaning of this to you?" He seems to doubt that the Seder ceremony relates to him in a personal way but only relates to others.

In essence, the Wicked Son separates himself from the reality of the redemption story and excludes himself from the group. This is like the person that we may meet who says they are "happy for you" concerning your faith but doesn't see it relating to themselves.

The Haggadah has a direct answer for such a person: "It is what God did for me when I came out of Egypt." At the first Passover, each person was required to personally taste of the Passover Lamb. If not, then the Angel of Death would bring judgment. As with the Wicked Son of the Haggadah, there are still people who exclude themselves from God's way of redemption which comes through the work of Yeshua as the Passover Lamb.

A third child is described as the Son Who Doesn't Know How To Ask (Hebrew – sh'eyno yodea lishol). This

son is not even asking probing questions and perhaps not even seeking. This may seem like a great barrier; where do you even start with such a person?

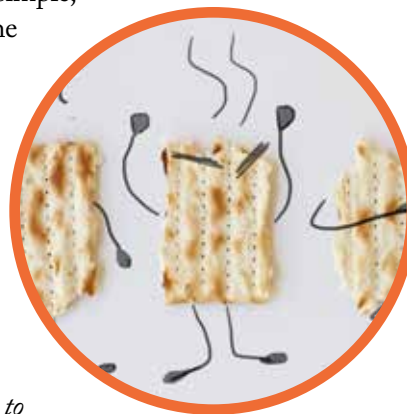
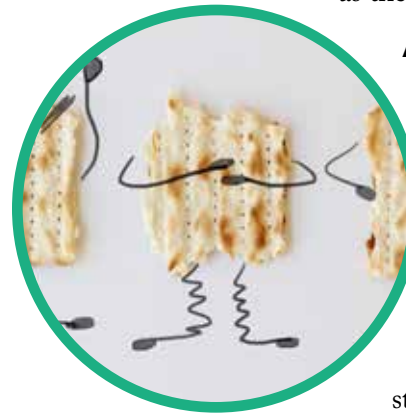
The Haggadah seems to skip over those concerns and simply gives the Torah exhortation that we have an obligation to tell our children whether they are interested or not. God did some great things for us, and we are commanded to proactively tell the story! As the Passover story must be shared with all, so too must the later Messianic redemption of Yeshua on that Passover of the first century.

There are many people today, both Jews and non-Jews, who would love to know the whole story of Messiah's work on our behalf. In some of His last words, Yeshua gives the Great Commission to share this story with all people, even those who may not be asking (Matthew 28:19-20).

The fourth child of the Seder especially stands out as he is called the Wise Son (Hebrew – chacham).

This son is commended as he asks the deeper question: "What is the meaning of these customs which God has commanded us?"

This child seems to be aware and educated on some of the significance of Passover but still wants to know more.



The answer given in the Haggadah is profound as it says to explain to him all the laws even "to the very last detail about the Afikoman (AH-fee-KOH-men)." Those who are familiar with the Seder know that the Afikoman is a central part of the meal that has great spiritual significance. It is the middle matzah (unleavened bread) which is part of the container of three matzahs placed on Jewish tables every Seder.

After all these centuries, it is still a mystery as to why we take out the middle matzah, break it and hide it away. After a period of time, our kids search for this hidden matzah and, after it is broken, we share it with all at the table.

One possible explanation is found in the name given to this special broken matzah, Afikoman meaning "that which comes last" or even "dessert." This is logical as the Afikoman is that last thing tasted at the Jewish Seder after the full meal.

This fourth child asks a very intriguing question that all Believers in Yeshua can understand. Yeshua our Messiah explained the details as He told His Jewish disciples how all aspects of the ceremony point to Him! He would be broken, hidden away for a while and then reappear. He then encouraged us at every subsequent Passover Seder to partake of this Afikoman as a picture of His redemptive work as our Passover Lamb.

Many Christians call this Communion or the Eucharist, but educated Believers also understand that it all comes from the Seder traditions.

This year, Jews around the world will recount the interesting details of the four sons of the Seder. Each person has a different response to the same Seder meal. May we be like that Wise Son who seeks the deeper meaning of the holiday customs. As the Scripture says, "When you seek Me, you will find Me" (Jeremiah 29:13).

Rabbi Barney Kasdan

Rabbi Barney Kasdan came to his faith in Yeshua as Messiah in 1971. Ordained with the Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations (UMJC), he has written numerous articles on Messianic Judaism and is the author of several popular books. He speaks frequently in various venues about the importance of modern Israel and the Jewishness of Yeshua with the hope of helping the Jewish and Christian communities to better understand each other. Rabbi Barney and his wife Liz (also a Messianic Jew) reside in San Diego and have four grown children.



JVMI IN KOREA

Editor's Note: Chung Sun Moon (American name, Barnabas) recently became Executive Director of JVMI-Korea, the first permanent Jewish Voice Ministries International presence in Asia. We interviewed him for this issue of the magazine to share with you our plans for JVMI in Korea.

Background: Barnabas has been Senior Pastor of San Somang Church in Korea for 21 years. He also serves as Executive Director of Withee, a missionary organization reaching out to Korean Diaspora Migrants, and has served in this capacity for 26 years.

Additionally, he is:

- Vice President of Lausanne Diaspora Network (since 2010)
- International Director of, "The Joy of Sharing," a network of approximately 70,000 churches ministering to welfare needs of Koreans
- Visiting Professor at Vision University
- Executive Director of Feed the Children Korea since 2015

We recently talked with Barnabas to learn how God brought him into ministry with JVMI and more about his plans for this growing new segment of our organization.

JVMI: You were asked to help Jewish Voice build support in Korea. What was appealing to you about this undertaking? Why were you particularly attracted to ministry reaching the Jewish people?

Barnabas: To reach out to the worldwide Jewish Diaspora, to serve and minister to them until Yeshua (Jesus) returns again is such a joy and honor. Moreover, just the fact that we are able to work together with JVMI in medical ministries brings great joy to my heart.

The Korean Church in particular has a strong belief – even a passion – for missions. While Korean Believers follow with their whole hearts the Great Commission of making disciples of all nations, many are particularly interested in reaching out to Jewish people because of the biblical mandate to do so. Therefore, I believe a great synergy will be created when the Korean Church serves together with JVMI.

I also think that all of the experience and ministries I've been a part of were preparing me to fit

into the bigger picture of Jewish Voice's ministries. I consider it much the same as what is said in the book of Esther: "Was it not for such a time as this?"

As a pastor who believes in teaching what the Bible says, I know that the Scripture clearly talks about God's providence to the Jews. It's such an honor to serve together with Jewish Voice through JVMI-Korea.

JVMI: How did you become a Believer? And please tell us a little bit about the journey that led you to become a pastor.

Barnabas: When I was a young child, my mother used to carry me on her back to church. While I learned about God and Jesus from my mom, it was when I was 25 years old in Korean military service that I felt the special touch of God. It was a hard time and difficult to survive. His presence had never left me, but I didn't recognize that before. From then on, it was no longer our Lord, but my Lord, and my life changed.

I started attending Seminary in

1992 and was ordained as a Pastor in 1997. About that time, my wife and I lost our daughter as the result of an automobile accident. We decided to use the funds we received from the auto insurance claim to establish San Somang Church, where I am Senior Pastor – and plan to continue to serve until the Lord returns.

JVMI: We are told that evangelism is very important to Korean Believers. Why is that true?

Barnabas: The Korean Church experienced such explosive growth and revival in such a short period of time. Therefore, many Korean Christians understand firsthand the importance of supporting evangelism. Unfortunately, there are also a lot of cults in Korea, so the Korean Church requires strict vetting of people who claim to be Christians and also strictly enforces proper interpretation of Scripture.

JVMI: We have also seen, as you say, that Korean Believers love medical missions. What involvement have you seen with that type of outreach? Why is it so appealing to Believers in your country?

Barnabas: Korea experienced extreme hardship and poverty following the Korean War. It was a country that was able to survive only because of the help of other nations. As a result of that help, Korea transformed from an underdeveloped, poor country to a developed, economically thriving country. History shows that Korea is one of the few countries in the world that went from receiving help to giving help.

So, Koreans know the pain and difficulty that many poor nations face. It's because of this understanding that Korea is helping poor third-world countries. Most Korean Believers make

donations to two or three NGOs. They understand the importance of helping poor people through medical missions.

JVMI: How do you think the Korean Church will receive teachings on the Jewish roots of the Christian faith?

Barnabas: Frankly, there are many Koreans who are pretty ignorant of the Jewish roots of their faith – and in their knowledge of Christian theology in general. Therefore, there is a need to provide consistent education to the Korean Church about the importance of the work that JVMI is doing.

Right now, the Korean Church's interest in serving Israel springs mostly from knowing that it is the land where the Messiah lived. We need to increase their understanding of what the Bible says about praying for and blessing Israel and the Jewish people.

JVMI: What are your goals for JVMI-Korea for the rest of 2019?

Barnabas: Our goal for 2019 is to promote JVMI-Korea to the Korean Church and, in particular, the various ministries that JVMI-Korea is now a part of – and to show how individuals and churches can become involved.

We plan to participate in the Jewish Voice Israel Tour this May and hope to bring enough Korean Believers to fill two buses!

Dentists, ophthalmologists, internal medicine doctors, plastic surgeons and pharmacists are organizing to participate this fall in JVMI Medical Outreaches. Additionally, other Koreans will participate in non-medical capacities.

JVMI: It's my understanding that you are also doing work in India. Could you tell us a bit about your

involvement there and how it might relate to JVMI?

Barnabas: In 2002, I helped establish Nagaland Seminary located in northeast India. Since then, I've also been helping people in Nagaland through economic and disaster relief ministries. In addition, I've made several visits to Manipal and Mizoram and am working on spreading ministries to these areas as well. I also have plans to meet with a Jewish settlement known as the HMAR in the Mejjipime region of Nagaland.

JVMI: You and Dr. Ted Yamamori, one of the world's foremost authorities on global evangelism, are doing work with the Korean diaspora around the world. What can you share about that undertaking?

Barnabas: Dr. Yamamori and I together reach out to the 7.3 million members of the Korean diaspora worldwide in an attempt to inspire them to take part in Christian ministries. We also continue to research the Korean Diaspora. I'm confident that they will support and participate in the many ministries and relief projects for the Jewish diaspora.

JVMI: How do you plan to get churches in Korea involved with Jewish Voice?

Barnabas: Our first step is to translate and share Rabbi Jonathan's books. In addition, we plan to hold seminars and educational programs regularly about challenges that face the Jewish people. Starting first with smaller churches, we also plan to hold regular studies and prayer meetings. As I mentioned, we are also planning an Israel Tour in May. Lay participants from each church will take part in medical and disaster relief ministries through Jewish Voice next year. 🇮🇱



THE LORD IS UP TO SOMETHING!

JVMI STAFF WRITER

THE RUACH ADONAI ELOHIM IS ON ME, BECAUSE ADONAI HAS ANOINTED ME TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO BIND UP THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES, AND THE OPENING OF THE PRISON TO THOSE WHO ARE BOUND.

—ISAIAH 61:1

Our last Outreaches of 2018 were in Alamata and Jijiga, Ethiopia. Although this had already been an incredible year of ministry impact, during our time there, we experienced something amazing ... unlike anything we'd ever seen before.

This was the first time in several years that we did back-to-back Outreaches. It began with a full week of Medical Clinic services in Alamata in the North, in what's called the Tigray region. There is a power struggle there involving a minority tribe that has held control for more than two decades. This made things a little tumultuous at first, but the Lord provided an open door of ministry for us to be in Alamata.

During our time there, 14,000 were treated in four and a half

days in Yeshua's (Jesus') name! And three new Israel communities from the mountains came down to meet Messianic leaders. God's timing was perfect as our Clinic concluded just days before the city itself was unexpectedly shut down. Had the Clinic been scheduled one week later, it would have not even been possible. We thank the Lord for His providential timing!

From Alamata, we traveled southeast to Jijiga in the Somali region. We faced a new set of challenges there because the Somali region of Ethiopia is predominantly Muslim. The vast majority of the government leadership – nearly 100% – is Muslim. We weren't sure how much, or what kind of, opposition we might face. One of the government leaders told us how

his people had been taught to be suspicious of people like us. He told us he had never met a Jewish person until that day.

When he asked us what the name of our organization was, without knowing what the consequences might be, we said, "Jewish Voice."

He said, in his broken English, "I have only seen Jewish (people) or (those from) Israel on TV. I've never met (any) in person." Then something remarkable happened. He said, "But because of your name, I promise you you'll have no problems during this Clinic, and we'll protect you. Because we've never met a Jewish group before. But we want a relationship."

We were stunned. We received full permission to do the Clinic in Jijiga with great favor from the Muslim government!

More amazing timing for this Medical Clinic followed. The Somali region is a desert in the

Horn of Africa right on the border of Somalia and Somaliland. It rains very infrequently through much of the year, but they do have a rainy season, which ends around the middle of August. We arrived in the middle of October, but as the last eye patient left the Clinic with the needed medicine, huge thunderclouds were coming over the mountains. Torrential rains began, and soon all had to stop what they were doing and run to take shelter!

The director of the Clinic, a local Somali, came to Doctor Adane, the JVMI Africa Medical Director, and said, "This is God! You brought the blessing of God!"

Because of God's favor, the leadership in this city understood something important happened when a Jewish group came and served them selflessly. Something changed – not just for that Clinic, but for the future opportunities we have to share the Good News among Ethiopian Jews and their neighbors in that region.

Even now, we're seeing increasing numbers of miraculous opportunities.

We just received the formal invitation for Jewish Voice Ministries International (JVMI) to return to the Muslim region of the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia for a 2019 Medical Outreach!

We believe this will become a health center just five hours outside of Jijiga in the middle of a 7,000-person Yibir Jewish community surrounded by Muslims. **The Lord is up to something!**

The impact of these Outreaches continues to grow.

2018 GLOBAL OUTREACHES – ETHIOPIA

PATIENTS SEEN 45,720

PROFESSIONS OF FAITH IN YESHUA 467

A 16 year old named Nachum came to the Clinic in Alamata. When we began to share with him about Yeshua, it became clear he was a young man filled with questions.

Through the interpreter, he said to us: "My questions might confuse you. I believe in science. I believe in philosophy. So, what about God? I don't believe in God. What do you think about God?"

His words indicated that his mind was made up, but his questions showed that wasn't the case. He was searching for truth. He said, "If nothing matters, if life doesn't matter, if the planet's not real, and you're not real, and I'm not real, then where is purpose? Where is destiny?"

As he continued to share, he revealed that his father had passed away and, on his deathbed, had said to him, "I believe that you have a destiny." It was clear that he was seeking this destiny.

By the end of the conversation, he said, "I am ready. I am ready to receive Jesus."



As surprising as that declaration was, the story doesn't end there. The next day, he came back to the Clinic and brought a friend that he had just led to the Lord! He now wanted help to know how to disciple him. This is why we do what we do!

Wherever we go – whether Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Israel or beyond – JVMI Medical Clinics serve physical, emotional and spiritual needs of Jewish communities and their neighbors. But these Medical Clinics have a deeper and greater purpose.

The “good works” we do in Yeshua’s name open doors to share a life-changing message.

We reach out to these communities, praying that the Medical Clinic will provide transformative one-on-one encounters with the Lord for Jewish people and their neighbors. We want above all else to see people accept Yeshua as their Savior. But our work doesn't stop there. Our Outreaches lead to congregational planting and growth in the areas where we serve. This is the fruit that will last. 🌱



THIS YEAR WE HAVE PLANNED EVEN **MORE OUTREACHES, AND WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO MAKE THEM A REALITY.**

We're especially excited to be including a few brand new destinations this year. We'll be sharing details very soon. We're also returning to familiar locations in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe. There's a lot to do to prepare for these life-changing Outreaches. We could not do it without your prayers and your support. We appreciate them and ask that you continue to pray for us and give generously.

Together we're transforming thousands of lives. We've reached so many, but thousands more still need your help.

Please send your most generous gift possible today. Your support helps provide life-saving medical care, but even more importantly, the soul-saving Good News that Yeshua, the Messiah of Israel, has come.

JOIN US AS WE SERVE AS THE HANDS, FEET AND HEART OF YESHUA TO THOSE IN NEED.



OUR THANK YOU GIFTS TO YOU

As you give to these important Outreaches, we have some very special gifts we'd like to sow into your life as our way of saying “thank you” for your wonderful generosity. They're a small token of our great appreciation for standing with us as, together, we stand with Israel and God's chosen people.

For your gift of \$40 or more:

The Spring Feasts and Purim, Book

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is an amazingly detailed and inviting God. He set seven specific “appointments” with His people, calling them to meet with Him during the year. Through each of them, He reveals more of Himself and beckons His people into a deeper understanding and awe of Him. Discover what God's appointed times hold in store for you.

Appointments with God: Reflections on the Jewish Feasts, Book

Appointments with God includes teachings about each Feast as well as daily devotions for Passover, Sukkot and Chanukah. It presents many Scripture readings, insightful questions and designated spaces to record your thoughts. This book will guide you to find deeper meaning each year in these celebrations.



2108

For your gift of \$70 or more:

The Spring Feasts and Purim, Book

Appointments with God: Reflections on the Jewish Feasts, Book

His Final Footsteps: Retracing the Last 24 Hours of Jesus' Life, DVD by Jonathan Bernis

In this exciting DVD presentation filmed on location in Jerusalem, Jonathan Bernis serves as your guide to re-living and understanding the most important 24 hours in human history, Yeshua's (Jesus') final, pivotal hours on earth.

His Final Footsteps – A 24-Day Companion Devotional, Book by Jonathan Bernis

This 24-Day Companion Devotional will take you deeper into the pivotal hours of Jesus' final hours to help you draw closer to the One who gave His life for you. With Scripture passages, inspiring insights and inviting questions, you will be led into intimate communion with God.



2109

For your gift of \$225 or more:

The Spring Feasts and Purim, Book

Appointments with God: Reflections on the Jewish Feasts, Book

His Final Footsteps – A 24-Day Companion Devotional, Book by Jonathan Bernis

His Final Footsteps: Retracing the Last 24 Hours of Jesus' Life, DVD by Jonathan Bernis

Messianic Passover Seder Kit

The Passover celebration is a picture of God's final deliverance through His Son Yeshua's sacrifice, the bread of His body and the blood He shed for us. This kit provides step-by-step guidance from Jonathan Bernis for conducting your own Passover Seder meal and explains how Yeshua is the fulfillment of Passover. Included is the *Yeshua's Final Passover* DVD, a Haggadah, Seder plate, Kiddush cup, 2 candle holders and a matzah cover.



2110

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT.



PASSOVER, KEY TO OUR PRESENT SALVATION AND FUTURE VICTORY

BY DR. DANIEL JUSTER



View from Mount Sinai

PASSOVER is the foundational miracle in ancient Israel that establishes the paradigm of our salvation in Yeshua and also is the key to understanding the last of the Last Days leading up to the return of Yeshua.

The Covenant Nature of Passover, Exodus and Sinai

Bible scholars have pointed out the covenant of grace nature of the Passover-Exodus Events (Dr. Samuel Schultz in *The Gospel of Moses*).

Israel is enslaved in Egypt. She cannot save herself, and no good works of hers measure up to earn her salvation. Her deliverance is because God had a covenant of love with Abraham and committed himself to his descendants forever. Her deliverance is an act of God's grace and mercy.

That deliverance begins with the blood of a pure and spotless lamb. God delivers the people of Israel from the angel of death and judgment. The Exodus through the sea continues the amazing story. Once they are delivered, God offers His people a covenant of grace on Mt. Sinai, that begins with the announcement that He is the Lord, who brought Israel out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage (Exodus 20:2).

The covenant then calls for Israel's obedience on the basis of the gracious salvation offered. This is the character of all God's gracious covenants; the Covenant with Humankind (Noahic), the covenant with David and his descendants, and the New Covenant.

Yeshua's Passover and Exodus

Yeshua's own death and resurrection is described as a Passover Exodus where His blood is shed, for He is our Passover Lamb that delivers us from judgment. In the

transfiguration account in Luke, Moses and Elijah speak to Him about His exodus (departure) which was about to take place in Jerusalem (Luke 9:31).

All of the Gospels connect Yeshua's death to the Passover and His Exodus resurrection to His triumph and His enthronement in heaven, an Exodus where He passed through death to life for us. So our own salvation is a Passover-Exodus experience, where we die with Him and are then raised to new life (Romans 6).

The Passover Exodus of the Last Days

The Book of Revelation is an amazing presentation of a time of judgments and trials. We are presented with plagues and judgments that parallel those that occurred in ancient Egypt.

We also see the protection of the followers of Yeshua and the nation of Israel. In the end the forces of evil under the Last Days' Pharaoh, the Antichrist, are defeated or drown in the sea of the judgment of the returning King Yeshua.

We know that hard trials are ahead. But just as was true of Israel in its deliverance from Egypt, our victory is secure. We have the Spirit and His gifts, and we overcome the devil by the power of His blood and the word of our testimony (Revelation 12:11).

That overcoming by His blood is parallel to the blood on the doors of the Israelites. We are always to be prepared for the Last Days' trials and also to be confident of our victory. In this time we will finally see all Israel saved (Romans 11:25-29).

Let's look at this more closely. The book presents us with an amazing parallel to the Passover-Exodus events.

In the early chapters of Revelation in the letters to the 7 churches, we see God bringing warning and correction so that the churches may go through the trials of the Last Days with victory. These chapters exhort passionate love for the Father and the Son, fleeing from all immorality and eschewing false doctrines. Only those who heed this call receive the various rewards enumerated after the trials are past.

The sealing of Israel, the 144,000 shows us that God's people are protected at this time, just as Israel was protected in Goshen (Revelation 7). The description of those from every tribe and nation show us a people

in their ascended position of worship and clothed with righteousness. They are also in God's protection.

This does not mean that there will be no martyrdom, but those who lay down their lives will do so from a place of strength and confidence. No one needs die prematurely, or outside of God's purpose.

The picture of the Antichrist, the Last Days' Pharaoh, is fearful and deceiving to those who do not know the Father and His Son. In Revelation 13, we read of the Antichrist, the Beast, being served by a false prophet and their false signs and wonders.

We are reminded that Pharaoh also had his false prophets/magicians, who did signs and wonders. But God's power was greater (Revelation 13).

Hence no one could destroy the two witnesses in Jerusalem, who minister as Moses and Aaron or Moses and Elijah in chapter 11. They are able to announce the plagues on the earth as did Moses and Aaron. They are martyred only in God's time after their work is done. Their resurrection leads to the soon coming of Yeshua. His Kingdom rule is announced, and the last bowls of God's wrath are poured out on evil.

Antichrist and his forces invade the Holy Land, but these forces are destroyed by the wrath of the returning Son of God (we could say that they drown in the judgment of God). The devil is bound. We then enter that the 1,000 year reign of the Promised Land on earth, awaiting the full renewal in the New Heavens and New Earth at the end of the 1,000 years.

Passover Exodus is to lead us to something that we are to live every day, the overcoming life of the Promised Land or entering Sabbath rest in Him. There is a rest for the people of God, a rest in which we can live even in the midst of the shakings that take place on earth. Hebrews 4 is a wonderful explanation of this, and we are exhorted to make sure we enter into this rest and live from it. 📖

Dr. Daniel Juster

Daniel Juster, Th.D. ministers under the name Restoration from Zion of Tikkun Global. His book *Passover, the Key to the Book of Revelation*, is available from Tikkun International, Amazon and Barnes & Noble in hard copy and electronic form.

Dr. Daniel Juster, founder and director of Tikkun International, has been involved in the Messianic Jewish movement since 1972 and currently resides in Jerusalem, Israel, from where he serves and supports the Messianic movement worldwide.

LOOKING PAST THE PASSOVER

BY RABBI ERIC TOKAJER



Passover is one of the most meaningful and exciting biblical Holy Days, especially to those of us who believe in Yeshua (Jesus) as our Messiah. Every aspect of the celebration provides a beautiful connection symbolically with the Gospel.

Yeshua's death, burial and resurrection all took place within the eight days we call the Passover season. The elements of the Passover Seder meal – the matzah, bitter herbs, parsley, charoseth and the shank bone – all help tell the story of the Exodus of Israel from Egypt.

Each item on the Seder plate symbolically shares part of the story of the Exodus – as well as its prophetic fulfillment in Yeshua. The spotless lamb, the bread made without yeast, the blood on the doorpost: each component shares insights that help us understand the perfect atonement provided by Yeshua's death.

However, I would like to take a deeper look at an aspect of the Passover story that, while it is always viewed as one of the greatest miracles in the Bible, it is also often left disconnected from the greater narrative of the redemption/salvation story.

When we consider the events of the Passover, we immediately think of the Passover lamb, the blood on the doorposts, the ten plagues and parting of the Red Sea. But then, when we discuss the spiritual applications, we usually end the discussion with the blood on the doorposts and the ten plagues.

When we stop there, we miss some very important aspects of the complete Passover story. It begins in the book of Exodus, with the birth of Moses, but it continues through the book of Joshua.

It is the history of both the redemption and the salvation of the children of Israel. It tells not only of their deliverance from Egypt, but also of their establishment as a nation within the boundaries of their own land – the Promised Land of Israel.

In Judaism, every year our families gather and have a Passover Seder meal together. We follow a book called a Haggadah, which helps us to recount the Exodus story to our families using the various foods as instructional aids.

We view it as the responsibility of every parent to share this story from

generation to generation. As we share, we speak of the birth of Moses, his years in the wilderness, his experience at the burning bush, his visits to Pharaoh, the ten plagues, and finally, the redemption of Israel.

One of the highlights of the redemption story is the parting of the Red Sea. While the parting of the sea, the crossing on dry ground, and the death of the armies of Pharaoh are mentioned as a part of the complete Exodus narrative, the importance of the parting of the sea within the scope of the spiritual application is often missed.

This supernatural event, when connected with the parting of the Jordan River and looked at in its proper context, provides much more than a really amazing special effect in the middle of the story.

To establish context, let's look at the very first time God parts water and dry ground appears. In Genesis 1:9, we read:

Then God said, "Let the water below the sky be gathered to one place. Let the dry ground appear." And it was so.

As we read these words, we need to remember that before God spoke the world into existence, it was described as chaos, waste and darkness. As Genesis 1:2 says:

Now the earth was chaos and waste, darkness was on the surface of the deep, and the Ruach Elohim was hovering upon the surface of the water.

As God redeems the earth from disorder, we see Him parting the waters so dry ground appears. The parting of water was necessary to bring the earth from one



Just as Israel was redeemed from slavery to salvation to become Israel, we as Believers were brought from the chaos and slavery of sin to the freedom of being new creations. We as Believers are redeemed from sin and saved to become a part of the commonwealth of Israel as we read in Ephesians 2:12-13:

At that time you were separate from Messiah, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Messiah Yeshua, you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah.

This same pattern is found again in the book of Joshua when the Jordan River is parted, and Israel crosses on dry ground. Notice when the waters of the Jordan parted, the children of Israel were redeemed from the wilderness and saved to the Promised Land.

To understand our complete faith journey, we need to remember both of the partings, the Red Sea and the Jordan – and that each example includes being redeemed from something and saved to something else.

We have been redeemed from Egypt to the wilderness. But soon – when Messiah returns – we will be redeemed from the wilderness to the Promised Land.

As it says in Philippians 3:20-21:

For our citizenship is in heaven, and from there we eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Yeshua the Messiah. He will transform this humble body of ours into the likeness of His glorious body, through the power that enables Him even to put all things in subjection to Himself. 🇲

Rabbi Eric Tokajer

Rabbi Eric Tokajer is the director and publisher of *The Messianic Times*. He also founded and leads Brit Ahm Messianic Synagogue in Pensacola, Florida. Tokajer has authored several books. *Oy! How Did I Get Here*, which is a practical guide on ministry targeted at up-and-coming leaders; *Transient Singularity*, which is a Sci-Fi novel; and his newest book, soon to be released, *With Me In Paradise*, about a new perspective learned from the conversation between Yeshua and the thief on the cross.

condition to another, from disorder to order, so that the creation of life could take place.

After creation, the next time we read in the Scriptures about the parting of waters so that dry ground appears is in the parting of the Red Sea in Exodus 14:21-22:

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. Adonai drove the sea back with a strong east wind throughout the night and turned the sea into dry land. So the waters were divided. Then Bnei-Yisrael went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, while the waters were like walls to them on their right and on their left.

Because God is always consistent in His Word, we see that – just as in Genesis 1 when the waters parted – disorder became order and opened the door to creation.

In the same way, when God parted the Red Sea, He brought Israel out of the disorder of slavery in Egypt, allowing them to become a new creation – the Nation of Israel. The pattern is consistent: waters part to bring order from disorder and allow new creation. In this we see a model of redemption from something and salvation to something.

The symbolism of the Passover doesn't end with Yeshua's death, burial and resurrection; it continues to our personal redemption and salvation stories. Israel's redemption from Egypt and journey to the Promised Land provides a roadmap for our own experience. That is why it is so important that we do not leave out the parting of the Red Sea and the parting of the Jordan when we are looking for the spiritual application of these events.

Farewell to a Beloved Friend



It is with great sadness tempered with grace and hope that we share with you this report. At about 5pm Sunday, December 9th, Ethiopian time, our beloved brother, Gerald Gotzen, went home to be with the Lord. He was in Ethiopia returning to Addis Ababa from a meeting in Hosanna when the car he was riding in collided with a truck. It is our understanding he died en route to the hospital. His body was then transported to Addis Ababa.

Just 10 weeks ago, on September 22, his beloved wife, Elly, passed away suddenly in a fire. They were married for 55 years.

Gerald deeply loved Ethiopia and devoted more than 50 years of his life to this unique land and people. He told Jonathan Bernis, CEO of Jewish Voice, many times that he wanted to be in Ethiopia when he went to be with the Lord. Sadly, his passing was far sooner than any of us would have imagined. Gerald, born in Redhill, England, was 77 years old.

"I met Gerald in Addis Ababa back in 2004," Jonathan recalls, "and we immediately became friends. His love for

Ethiopia was contagious and, through him, I grew to love Ethiopia as well." Gerald soon became a member of our Jewish Voice UK Board and served faithfully in that role for more than a decade.

Gerald Gotzen was a world-renowned leading authority on Ethiopian Jews. He discovered the Kechene community of Beta Abraham Jewish people of Addis Ababa, the Gefat of Woliso, and the Yibir of Somaliland. For each discovery, he credits the help of a different man with whom he partnered. In 2014, together with JVMI's Africa Director at the time, he also discovered the hidden Beta Israel remnant in Tach Gayint, Ethiopia.

Gerald made four to five trips to Ethiopia each year, spending three weeks or more on each visit. He and Elly distributed large consignments of Bibles and literature and ministered practically to the Ethiopian people. Gerald Gotzen opened many doors for JVMI, and he will be greatly missed.

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Passover AND Immersion



BY ASHER
INTRATER



The most important saying of the rabbis concerning Passover is that “in every generation, each person must see himself as if he came out of Egypt.”

This is parallel to the New Covenant concept that each person must see himself as if he participated in the death and resurrection of Yeshua (Jesus). In fact, the meaning of immersion in water is to participate vicariously in Yeshua’s death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:4-5).

Why did God choose immersion in water as the New Covenant declaration of faith? In God’s eyes, the Exodus from Egypt and the Resurrection of the Messiah are one and the same event. Both events took place at the same time.

John 20:1: “On the first day of the week, before morning, while it was still dark ...”

Exodus 14:27: “Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and the sea returned to its full depth before morning ...”

At approximately 5 a.m. on the morning of the third day after the Passover, while it was still dark, the people of Israel passed through the waters of the Red Sea. At that exact hour, on the third day after the Passover, Yeshua rose from the dead and stepped out of the tomb.

The children of Israel symbolically were baptized in the waters of the Red Sea (1 Corinthians 10:2), and every baptized Christian is symbolically participating in the Passover of Israel (1 Corinthians 5:7).

The waters of the Red Sea and the waters of Baptism are designed by God to be a parallel experience – both powerful and liberating. By the death and resurrection of Yeshua, every Believer participates in his own personal liberation from Egypt.

Passover and the End Times

The rabbis also have a saying that “the last redemption will be like the first redemption.” By this they mean that the coming of Messiah in the End Times will be similar to the story of the Exodus from Egypt.

In *Passover: The Key That Unlocks the Book of Revelation*, Dan Juster describes many parallels between the book of Revelation and the book of Exodus. The two witnesses (Revelation 11) are parallel to Moses and Aaron. Pharaoh is parallel to the Antichrist. The plagues in the Tribulation are parallel to the plagues of the Exodus.

Israel remained in Egypt in the land of Goshen during the Ten Plagues. The Lord protected them. By that protection, God demonstrated His holiness and power as a witness to the Egyptians. So will it be in the Tribulation: We will stand protected by God’s grace as a witness of the truth of the Gospel to the whole world. There will be “light in Goshen” (Exodus 10:23) in the midst of the darkness of this world.

Passover and Zionism

It is exciting to celebrate Passover in the modern restored State of Israel after 2,000 years of exile. The regathering of our people to the land of Israel is an even greater miracle than the Exodus itself.

Jeremiah 16:14-15: “The days are coming that it shall no longer be said, ‘The Lord lives who brought the children of Israel up from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘The Lord lives who brought the children of Israel up from the lands of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.’ For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their forefathers.”

What an incredible blessing we have to be able to see these different levels of revelation and miracles working together into one plan!

The Witness of Passover

Today in Israel, many families who celebrate the Passover will have a relative who is a Believer in Yeshua. Pray for the grace of the Holy Spirit as they see members of their own families who believe in Yeshua keep the Passover.

May the people of Israel see that the Passover lamb is a symbol of Messiah! May Christians worldwide recognize the covenantal and prophetic meaning of the Passover!

Reversing the Curse

Two thousand years ago, our forefathers cursed themselves and us by rejecting Yeshua and proclaiming:

Matthew 27:25: “His blood be upon us and upon our children.”

Think of the power of this curse: As a result, Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed. Our people were sent into exile and suffered in every country where they lived.

Yet the blood of Yeshua was not intended as a curse. How much stronger the power of the blood will be when it is proclaimed by our people as a blessing? Romans 11:15 asks that question, “What will their acceptance be but life from the dead?”

The same power that dispersed and destroyed will then regather and restore. It will bring resurrection from the dead, the unity of the Church, the ingathering of the saints, and the Kingdom of God on earth.

We Messianic Jews in Israel stand with one voice to reverse the curse. We proclaim that the blood of Yeshua will be upon us and upon our children for good and not for evil. We proclaim the power of that blood to bring blessing to the people of Israel and to the whole world. Please join together with us in making this declaration.

Our Words Change Our World

The things that we say have a great effect on the way that we live and act. Let’s use our words to free ourselves from being slaves to instead becoming children of God. 🇮🇱

Asher Intrater

Asher Intrater is the founder and apostolic leader of Revive Israel Ministries and oversees congregations in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Asher was one of the founders of Tikkun International with Dan Juster and Eitan Shishkoff and serves on the board of the Messianic Alliance of Israel and Aglow International. For more information about Dan Juster’s book referenced in this article, please visit Tikkun.tv.



RABBI JACK ZIMMERMAN

Hebrew School

WITH RABBI JACK

The annual Festival cycle is once again about to begin!

Each Levitical festival comes with profound symbolism, pointing to Yeshua as its fulfillment. Among the Spring Feasts, there is none with greater symbolism and more parallels than Passover.

You already know that Yeshua is the fulfillment of the Passover lamb, sacrificed to free the Jewish people from slavery. Now, let's unpack an important Hebrew word connected with this festival, so we can go deeper.

The word looks like this זְרוֹעַ and is pronounced zeh-ROW-ah. Zeroa is the name of one of the elements on the Passover Seder plate, specifically the lamb shank bone. The significance of the zeroa is, of course, to remind us of the blood of the lamb that was smeared on the doorposts of the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. The blood on the Israelites doorposts ensured that God's angel of death would "pass over" their homes as it was striking down the first born of the Egyptians. But "zeroa" means so much more.

For example, in Exodus 6:6 (CJB), God tells Moses:

Therefore, say to the people of Isra'el: 'I am Adonai. I will free you from the forced labor of the Egyptians, rescue you from their oppression, and redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.'

See that word "arm" in the verse? Care to guess the Hebrew word for "arm"? It is zeroa! And here's something else you'll find interesting: Whenever you see the term, "the arm of God" or "the arm of the Lord," in Scripture, it's a direct reference to the Messiah, Yeshua!

One of the verses where that can be so powerfully seen is Deuteronomy 5:15a (NIV), which says in part:

Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm.

Again, the Hebrew word used in this passage for arm is zeroa, the same word used to describe the shank bone on the Seder plate, there to indicate to us that Yeshua is our true lamb. So, we should not be surprised that the Deuteronomy verse is really saying that the redemption of the Israelites from Egypt was the result of God's divine plan, which of course includes the arm of the Lord, Yeshua!

So, this Passover, as you gather around the table and participate in the Seder that brings to life the wondrous story of this biblical feast, be reminded that the lamb shank bone, or zeroa, on your Seder plate is yet another picture of Yeshua, the all-powerful arm of the Lord who brings us to salvation! 🇲



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