

3RD QUARTER 2016



JEWISH VOICE TODAY MAGAZINE

An aerial photograph of Jerusalem at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of orange, red, and purple. The city's lights are beginning to glow, and the golden dome of the Dome of the Rock is a prominent feature in the center of the image.

STORM CLOUDS GATHERING

HAS THE WORLD
TURNED ITS BACK
ON ISRAEL?

What You Need to Know About the
Boycott, Divest, and Sanction
Movement Against Israel

Why Support for Israel is Waning
Among Younger Evangelicals



SHALOM

Dear Friend,

I am so pleased to share the latest issue of *JVT* with you so we can rejoice together. God is using our partnership to make a wonderful impact on Jewish people in Israel and around the world. These are truly amazing days of ministry and outreach!

In this issue, we have taken a deep look at the relationship between the U.S. and Israel. Long a staunch friend and ally of Israel, American attitudes and opinions toward the Jewish state have undergone a dramatic shift in recent years. The growing BDS (Boycott, Divest, and Sanction) movement is a major threat to the economy of Israel, and beyond the financial impact, it is a program designed to destroy the legitimacy of Israel as a member of the world community of nations. (My article on page 4 explains why it is so critical that this movement be stopped and what we can do about it.)

There are so many implications to America's position toward Israel. The stance we adopt has economic, military, political, and most of all, spiritual repercussions. Because of the infallible promises of God throughout history, the nations that have taken a stand against Israel have never succeeded, and those promises of God are still in full effect today and forever.

I know you will be inspired by the work we're doing through our clinic in Israel—what a wonderful open door to Holocaust survivors! We are privileged to share the work to which God has called us, and I want you to know how much we appreciate your prayers and financial support.

There is no question that events are moving rapidly, and the work we do for Yeshua must be done quickly. This is His calling on our ministry, and together we will continue to do great things for His Kingdom. May God speak to you and encourage you in the pages that follow.

Your Co-Laborer in Messiah,

Jonathan Bernis
President and CEO
Jewish Voice Ministries International



ON THE COVER

Storm clouds gather over Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Considered one of the most sacred sites in the world by three major religions, it is also a focus point for the conflict facing Israel.



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BOYCOTT, DIVEST, AND SANCTION MOVEMENT

BY JONATHAN BERNIS

BDS



Have you heard of the Boycott, Divest, and Sanction (BDS) movement? If you're a student on a college campus, or if you're involved with businesses or organizations doing business with Israel, you may be familiar with BDS initiatives. But as this anti-Semitic movement wrapped in a cloak of social justice continues to gain traction on campuses, businesses, and even in some religious denominations, it is important for each one of us to learn more about it so we can be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16, TLV).

The goal of the BDS movement is to apply political and economic pressure on the State of Israel in order to "encourage" a two-state solution. By boycotting products and services made in Israel, encouraging corporations to divest themselves of holdings that might in some way provide economic benefit to the country, and attempting to brand Israel as a human-rights violating apartheid state, BDS organizers hope to bring their own vision of justice to the region. It is a vision that doesn't include the State of Israel in its viewfinder.

BDS leaders use the rhetoric of religious and moral authority to condemn Israel in sermons, essays, press releases, reports, and other publications. Palestinians are portrayed as the weak, oppressed people who must be defended against Israel's bullying and injustice. These anti-Israel sentiments are used to mask anti-Semitic attitudes.

Dr. Harold Brackman of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a human rights organization dedicated to confronting anti-Semitism, said the BDS movement, "...presents itself as a pro-peace initiative but in reality is a thinly-veiled, anti-Israel and anti-Semitic 'poison pill,' whose goal is the demonization, de-legitimization, and ultimate demise of the Jewish State. Taking a page from the late twentieth century worldwide campaign against the South African Apartheid regime, BDS casts a global anti-Israel net on campuses, among

unions, entertainers, and Churches."¹

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL), another organization dedicated to tracking and combating anti-Semitism, noted that the movement has gained traction on college campuses. They noted that there were 520 anti-Israel events on U.S. college campuses last year, and over half of these focused on BDS

themes. These gatherings and forums often linked the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to other popular social justice issues like the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement.² In these settings, BDS is promoted on campuses as a non-violent way to work for justice for the Palestinian people. Idealistic young adults are a key target for the efforts of BDS organizers.

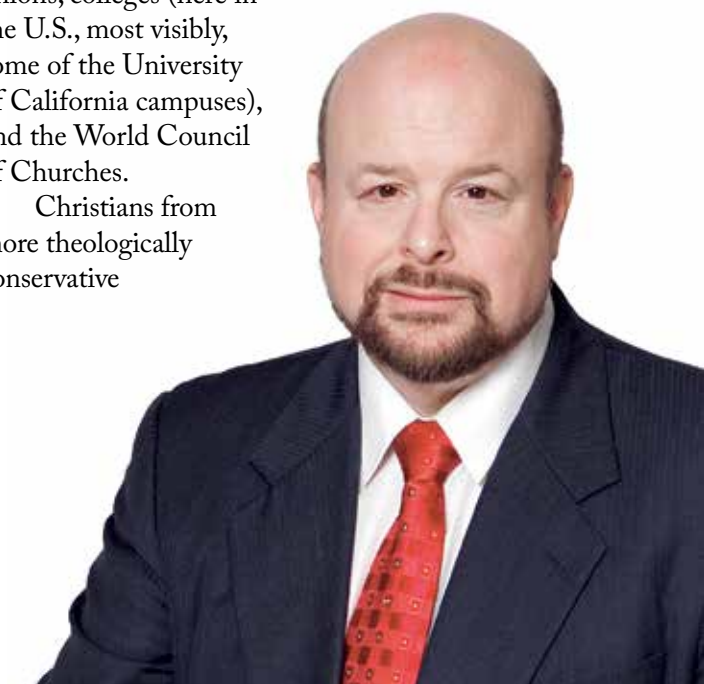
It should come as

no surprise that the primary drivers of this movement are a confederation of Palestinian groups.³ They've managed to gain support from a sizable number of international banks, trade unions, colleges (here in the U.S., most visibly, some of the University of California campuses), and the World Council of Churches.

Christians from more theologically conservative



BDS supporters protest in London with banners reading "Boycott Israeli Products" and "Stop the Massacre. Free Palestine."



denominations and churches historically have been known for their strong support of Israel. Yet this is changing among younger Evangelicals. Reporter Nathan Guttman, writing about this trend in the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*, noted, “For some on Christian college campuses, the appeal of pro-Palestinian views may be part of a general trend among young evangelicals to question the conservative ways of their parents’ generation.”⁴



Activists hold a banner reading “Boycott Israel” during a protest in Oslo, Norway.

BDS is presented as a thinking person’s way of combating injustice, with no mention about the injustice of rabid anti-Semitism it engenders. To be sure, terrible injustice is taking place across the entire Middle East. The refugee crisis brought on by Islamist-led military events across Northern Africa, Syria, Iraq, and Iran has forced hundreds of thousands of innocent people into fleeing their ancestral homes in search of safety. Many living in Gaza and the West Bank are living in difficult conditions while dealing

with the consequences of the ongoing terrorism aimed at Israel and originating from within these territories.

I believe the quest for stability in the region will not be advanced by efforts to weaken Israel via the BDS movement. I also believe that efforts like BDS are a reminder that as we move toward the End of Days, the words of the prophet Zechariah are as fresh as today’s headlines: “*I will*

gather all the nations against Jerusalem to wage war...” (Zechariah 14:2, TLV). Truly, BDS is another sign of the times. 🇺🇸

ENDNOTES

1. http://www.wiesenthal.com/atf/cf/%7B54d385e6-f1b9-4e9f-8e94-890c3e6dd277%7D/REPORT_313.PDF
2. <http://www.adl.org/israel-international/anti-israel-activity/c/anti-israel-activity-on-campus-2014-15.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/#.VxqLWxMrIXo>
3. <https://bdsmovement.net/bnc>
4. <http://www.haaretz.com/jewish/news/1.579182>



1.
2.
3.
4.

These are times that call for us to be wise in our actions and pure in our motives. **How can we do both in regards to the growing influence of the BDS movement?**

Learn. Find out where your church leaders stand on BDS-driven investment policies. Ask questions of your lenders and those who handle your finances. Pay attention to news stories about the issue, and share the information with others in your sphere of influence.



Support Bible-faithful ministries involved in providing aid to refugees across the Middle East. Before you make a donation to any organization at work in the region, it is worth a few moments of your time to email them to find out what their position is on BDS. It is also worth noting here that Jewish Voice has long been involved in providing practical care to people who were once refugees across Europe: the aging, often-destitute population of Holocaust survivors living in Israel.



Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. There are no loopholes in the imperative found in Psalm 122:6. Jerusalem has always been the key to the region, and only the shalom of God can bring the kind of peace for which every human being longs.



Share the Good News about Yeshua. Only He can transform hardened hearts—in your neighborhood or in Gaza and the West Bank. We at Jewish Voice Ministries International are committed to doing so wherever we go, as long as He gives each one of us breath to proclaim His salvation.





MIDEAST ON FIRE: JERUSALEM, THE CENTER OF A COMING 'PERFECT STORM'

JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

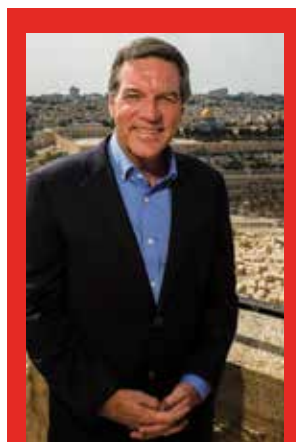
Since the dawn of what is known as the Arab Spring in 2011, the Middle East has gone through profound and historic changes, killing hundreds of thousands of people and forcing millions of others from their homes.

Some believe the region could be on the verge of regional war with global consequences.

In just the past three years, the ISIS terror army conquered huge areas of Syria and Iraq, Iran struck a landmark nuclear deal with the rest of the world, Russia made its biggest military move into the Middle East in decades, and two main rivals within Islam—Sunni Saudi Arabia and Shiite Iran—appeared on the brink of war.

Israel's former national security advisor describes what is happening in the Middle East now as a "perfect storm."

He believes a series of events are converging that will create a situation far more dangerous than the individual events themselves. Sitting right in the center of the Middle East storm is the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem.



CHRIS MITCHELL
Middle East Bureau Chief
CBN NEWS

IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE

Middle East expert and bestselling author Joel Rosenberg told CBN News he believes this chaos portends a gloomy picture for the year ahead.

"The state of the Middle East is a catastrophe right now. The Middle East is on fire," Rosenberg said. "2016 is going to be a very dangerous year because you are watching the complete catastrophic failure of American foreign policy under President Obama."

"You're watching the Russians and the Iranians trying to rush into the vacuum of the American retreat,"

he continued. "You're watching the Islamic State on offense. You're seeing Iran being rewarded for its belligerent behavior and now has two ways to nuclear weapons."

"This is a disaster in the making," Rosenberg warned.

Some are convinced that one of those disasters in the making is the nuclear deal with Iran. Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., calls it one of the worst diplomatic agreements in U.S. history.

"Even if Iran follows the deal to the letter, they're going to be a nuclear threshold state in a mere 10 or 15 years, which Prime Minister [Benjamin] Netanyahu says is a blink of an eye in the life of nations," Cotton explained.

He said it could lead to a Middle East nuclear arms race and put the region on the brink of a nuclear holocaust.

"We are at risk of entering a second nuclear age and the loss of life, not in the tens, not in the thousands, not in even the hundreds of thousands—but in the millions," Cotton warned.

"And that loss of life could include American life because Iran is also developing a ballistic missile program, and they also have shown they are willing to kill Americans," he added.

IRAN VS. SAUDI ARABIA

Another storm cloud on the horizon is the growing battle between Sunnis and Shiites, led by Saudi Arabia and Iran. The feud began to boil when the Saudis recently executed a top Shiite cleric.

Although Middle East analyst Michael Barak doesn't expect a direct war between two of the region's giants, proxy wars around the region could intensify.

"Executing this guy is meaning like a declaration of war against Iran," Barak said. "Actually, we are already witness to the clash between the Shia and Sunni in Yemen and Iraq and Syria. It will get worse, of course."

ENTER THE RUSSIAN BEAR

Russia's actions have generated yet another storm cloud. When it entered the Syrian civil war, it formed an alliance with Iran.

That unprecedented coalition fuels a greater danger to Israel, according to Rosenberg.

"The alliance between Moscow and Tehran is a match made in hell," he said.

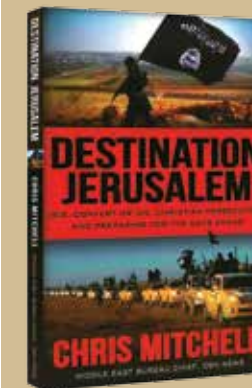
"And so what you have now [is] the two countries

now operating in Syria supposedly against the Islamic State. But it puts them dangerously close to Israel," Rosenberg cautioned.

"And the United States under President Obama is just throwing up [its] hands and say[ing], 'Well, whatever, why don't you guys take care of the problem?'" he said.

"We are ceding the Middle East over to Moscow and Tehran," he warned. "This has dangerous implications for the United States, for the world, and for Israel like we have not seen in generations." ❏

(used with permission)



DESTINATION JERUSALEM Chris Mitchell

As Israel's enemies continue to rise up against her, CBN News Middle East Bureau Chief Chris Mitchell has been an eye-witness to the unfolding of biblical prophecies. Dramatic stories of men, women, and children caught in the fiery path of radical Islam will provide you with insight on how you can pray and prepare for the challenging days ahead.



THE MIRACLE OF ISRAEL (DVD)

Israel is the only nation in history that has maintained a national identity for centuries without a homeland. This documentary film explores four ancient prophecies in light of modern events and highlights four miracles that are distinct threads of the fabric of the Jewish People's survival and restoration.

Receive these thank-you gifts when you send your **gift of support of \$75 or more**. Every dollar makes a difference as together we're sharing the love of Yeshua the Messiah to the Jewish People all over the world. 1320



A SOLEMN WARNING

On March 3, 2015, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed a rare joint session of the U.S. Congress. He sounded a solemn warning that day about the intentions of Iran that has, sadly, gone largely unheeded. In recent days, Iran has repeatedly flouted the terms of the agreement through continuing their uranium enrichment, buying and selling prohibited weapons, and testing long-range missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads to strike Israel.

Mr. Netanyahu's remarks were direct and blunt:

Thank you, America. Thank you for everything you've done for Israel. My friends, I've come here today because, as prime minister of Israel, I feel a profound obligation to speak to you about an issue that could well threaten the survival of my country and the future of my people: Iran's quest for nuclear weapons.

We're an ancient people. In our nearly 4,000 years of history, many have tried repeatedly to destroy the Jewish people. Tomorrow night, on the Jewish holiday of Purim, we'll read the Book of Esther. We'll read of a powerful Persian viceroy named Haman, who plotted to destroy the Jewish people some 2,500 years ago. But

a courageous Jewish woman, Queen Esther, exposed the plot and gave for the Jewish people the right to defend themselves against their enemies. The plot was foiled. Our people were saved.

Today the Jewish people face another attempt by yet another Persian potentate to destroy us. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei spews the oldest hatred, the oldest hatred of anti-Semitism with the newest technology. He tweets that Israel must be annihilated—he tweets. You know, in Iran, there isn't exactly free Internet. But he tweets in English that Israel must be destroyed.

For those who believe that Iran threatens the Jewish

state, but not the Jewish people, listen to Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of Hezbollah, Iran's chief terrorist proxy. He said: "If all the Jews gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of chasing them down around the world."

**IRAN'S REGIME
POSES A GRAVE
THREAT, NOT ONLY
TO ISRAEL, BUT
ALSO THE PEACE OF
THE ENTIRE WORLD.**

But Iran's regime is not merely a Jewish problem, any more than the Nazi regime was merely a Jewish problem. The 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis were but a fraction of the 60 million people killed in World War II. So, too, Iran's regime poses a grave threat, not only to Israel, but also the peace of the entire world. To understand just how dangerous Iran would be with nuclear weapons, we must fully understand the nature of the regime.

Iran's goons in Gaza, its lackeys in Lebanon, its revolutionary guards on the Golan Heights are clutching Israel with three tentacles of terror. Backed by Iran, Assad is slaughtering Syrians. Backed by Iran, Shiite militias are rampaging through Iraq.

Backed by Iran, Houthis are seizing control of Yemen, threatening the strategic straits at the mouth of the Red Sea. Along with the Straits of Hormuz, that would give Iran a second choke-point on the world's oil supply.

Iran's regime is as radical as ever, its cries of "Death to America," that same America that it calls the "Great Satan," as loud as ever. Now, this shouldn't be surprising, because the ideology of Iran's revolutionary regime is deeply rooted in militant Islam, and that's why this regime will always be an enemy of America.

As the tiny nation of Israel stands surrounded by enemies in a volatile region, we see the growing importance of standing with Israel and keeping a watch on activities in the Middle East. Here at Jewish Voice, we consider it an honor to keep you apprised of world events that carry possible prophetic significance. Thank you for standing with Israel in the face of turmoil and continuing to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6). 🇮🇱



DON'T LET THE GOVERNMENT DECIDE HOW TO DIVIDE YOUR ESTATE

Through your participation in the Abraham Promise Fund, you will make a lasting, long-term impact on countless lives.

When you make a legacy gift to the Abraham Promise Fund, you will be a part of proclaiming the Good News of Yeshua to hurting Jewish People all around the globe for generations to come.

Jewish Voice has also partnered with the Financial Planning Ministry to provide FREE WILL AND TRUST PLANNING to JVMI partners like you if you have a need. You will have peace of mind knowing your gifts will be blessing God's Kingdom well into the future.

JOIN with us and create an enduring legacy of reaching the Jewish People with the Gospel!

CALL 1-855-550-1455 or VISIT jvmi.org/apf to learn more.

WHY IS SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL WANING AMONG YOUNGER EVANGELICALS?

BY DR. MICHAEL BROWN

When I came to faith in Jesus as a 16-year-old, Jewish, heroin-shooting, LSD-using, hippie rock drummer, my dad was thrilled to see the change in my life, since I was immediately delivered from drugs.

“But,” he said, “we’re Jews, and Jews don’t believe in Jesus.”

He then introduced me to the local rabbi, who quickly befriended me and gave me a book to read documenting the history of anti-Semitism in the Church.

The quotes from the lips of Christian leaders were terrible and the accounts of anti-Semitic actions were shocking, but the Lord’s work in my life was so wonderful and the Word of God so real in my life that I really wasn’t fazed by what I read.

Plus, the church where I came to faith had a great love for Israel and recognized the Jews as the Chosen People. It was clear to them from the Scriptures, and it seemed as if the Spirit put this love for Israel into their hearts.

For the last 45 years, as I have traveled throughout the United States and around the world, I have encountered countless thousands of believers who share this same heart for Israel, some of them living in rural areas of India or Africa. Yet even there, in these remote locations, this same message of solidarity with the Jewish People touched their hearts in a deep and profound way.

Here in America, evangelical Christians have proven to be Israel’s best friends—their most solid and unwavering allies—to the point that even the Israeli Knesset recognizes them.

But things are changing with the younger generation of evangelical Christians.

Many of them do not share this same heart for Israel, and some are so solidly pro-Palestinian that they have become anti-Israel.

How do we explain this shift?

Here are some of the factors.

1. The older generation was much more aware of the miracle of Israel, as the modern nation was birthed out of the ashes of the Holocaust and supernaturally preserved by the Lord.

In its infancy, in 1948, Israel survived against all odds, and then the old city of Jerusalem was returned to Jewish hands through the amazing events of the Six-Day War in 1967.

There was no denying that the rebirth of Israel was a divine act.

The younger generation doesn’t see things this way. Israel has been here a long time now, and the Holocaust is even more distant. And Israel’s existence doesn’t seem that miraculous to many younger believers.

2. The younger generation of believers is less biblically literate.

Because of this, it is not as apparent to them that God’s Word promised Israel’s scattering and regathering, which is another reason that they will not recognize the miraculous hand of the Lord in the existence of the modern State of Israel.

3. The younger generation of evangelicals is more relational than theological.

This, of course, can be good or bad.

On the positive side, these evangelicals get to know Palestinians as well as Israelis, and that means they want to see equality and justice for all their friends. So, when they see Palestinians treated unfairly—especially when it is their own peers—they will naturally side with the perceived victims.

On the negative side, they can lose sight of what God is doing in the midst of human imperfection, causing them to lose sight of the larger divine purposes.

4. The younger generation is more focused on the micro-narrative, because of which they miss the macro-narrative.

To give an example from the broader culture, a young person might think like this: “Billy came out as gay, and he’s a really nice guy. But he gets picked on by the other boys, who call him a sissy (and worse). Well, Billy is going out with another boy named Bob. Why is it wrong for them to get married?”

So, this sincere young person doesn’t look at the larger meaning of marriage and doesn’t look at what God’s Word says about marriage and sexuality. Instead, he looks at Billy and Bob and says, “Why not?”

In the same way, young people might see a wall in Bethlehem and say, “It’s not fair that the wall is there. It divides families and makes life very hard for the Palestinians living there.”

What they fail to realize is that the wall is there to keep Palestinian murderers out, and so they lose sight of the larger narrative because they focus on the smaller narrative.

5. The younger generation has been heavily influenced by years of biased media reporting and anti-Israel sentiments on university campuses.

The secular media often portrays Israel as the evil Goliath attacking poor little David (the Palestinians), while many campuses are marked by a growing, even virulent anti-Zionism (and even outright anti-Semitism).

Without outside help, they will have a hard time recognizing this slanted, biased reporting and lecturing—it’s often found on social media as well—and this also contributes to their lack of support for Israel.

6. The theology of preterism is rising in some circles teaching God judged Israel forever in 70 A.D. and that no national promises remain for the Jewish People as a nation.

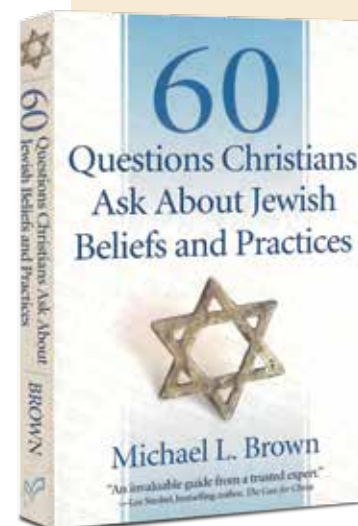
While not widespread, this error is spreading with disastrous implications for the theology of these young people.

That’s the bad news.

The good news is that there is a strong, pro-Israel prayer movement among young evangelicals, and that as younger Christians are visiting Israel for themselves, their hearts are changing.

Along with this, to the extent these young people see how Israel itself is threatened by radical Islam, they can have sympathy for Israel as well.

Most importantly, as the Lord turns their hearts back to His Word, their hearts will turn towards Israel as well. 🇮🇱



60 Questions Christians Ask About Jewish Beliefs and Practices

Filled with interesting stories and background information, Dr. Michael Brown’s comprehensive guide answers the 60 most common questions Christians ask about Jewish People and culture. As a Messianic Believer, Dr. Brown provides articulate answers to questions about modern and historical Jewish practices and beliefs.

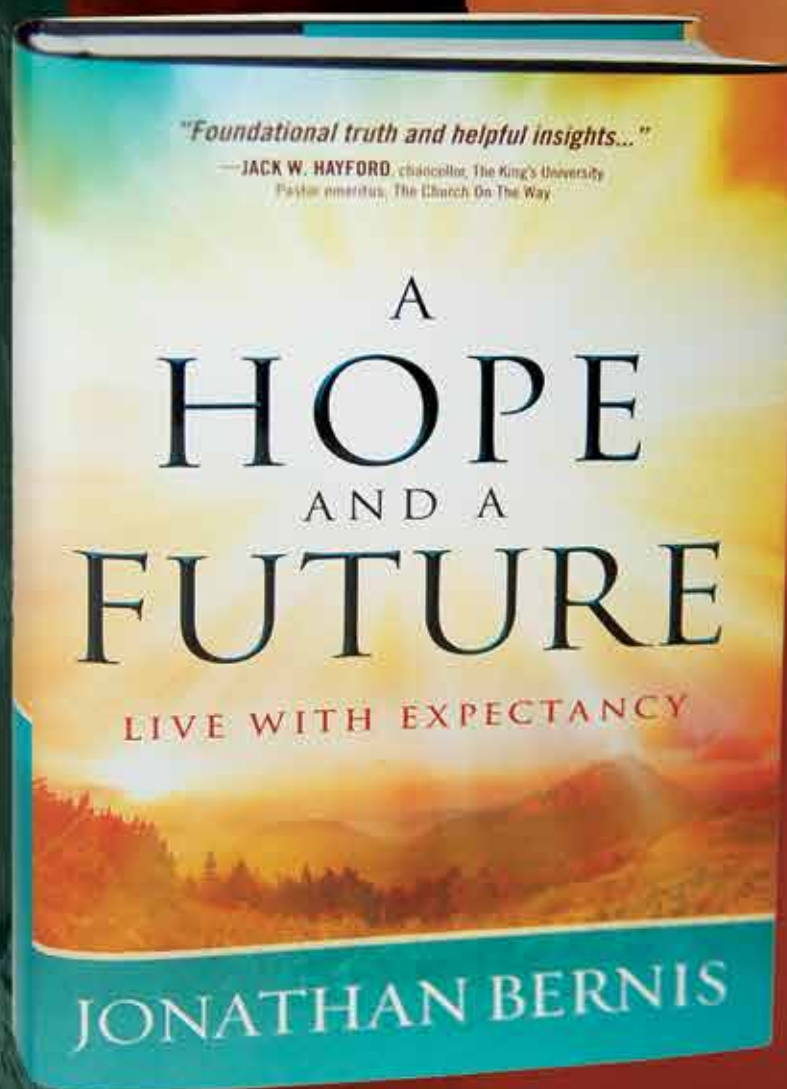


Dr. Michael Brown
askdbrown.org

Receive this helpful book today with our appreciation for **your gift of support of \$25 or more** for the international outreaches of Jewish Voice Ministries. 9195

“As a Believer,
you can know
that God is at
work both in
you and for you!
He has plans to
prosper you, to
give you a hope
and a future.”

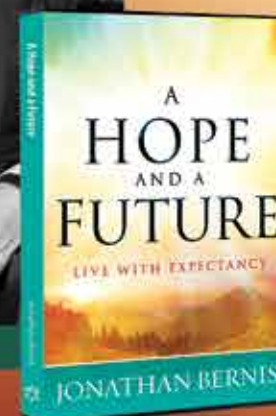
—JONATHAN BERNIS



A HOPE AND A FUTURE

Learn how you can unlock one of
God's most powerful promises and
transform your life today with this new,
revolutionary book from Jonathan Bernis.

The promise God gave to Israel through the prophet
Jeremiah came at a time when everything looked
hopeless. The Babylonian captivity seemed like the



end...but God was still at work! The powerful words
of Jeremiah 29:11 hold great meaning for you as well
as the captive Israelites of that day. God knows who
you are, where you are—and most importantly, what
He has planned for YOU!

In this timely book, Jonathan Bernis explores reasons
why it's easier to believe God for the lives of others
than for ourselves and challenges us to see ourselves
and our future through God's eyes.

A Hope and a Future will build your faith and lift your
heart with the powerful message of...

- His unique and intentional plans for you
- His unwavering faithfulness
- The joy and hope available to you as you trust in His promise

These may be challenging times, but God's message
of hope and His good plans for your future are still
true...and more important than ever before!

Receive your copy of *A Hope and a Future* book and
accompanying DVD as our way of saying “thank you”
for your gift of \$40 or more to support the global
ministry outreach of Jewish Voice. 1229

For a gift of \$100 or more, you'll receive *A Hope and a
Future* hardcover book personally signed by Jonathan
Bernis plus the accompanying DVD. 1234

BRINGING HOPE TO HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS LIVING IN ISRAEL

JVMI STAFF WRITER



Sara might not look like a typical war hero, but that's just what she is. Born in Donetsk, Ukraine, in 1921, Sara worked on machinery used to shoot down Nazi war planes during World War II. In 1991, Sara emigrated from the former Soviet Union to Israel. She was part of the first Russian *aliyah* and still lives in Tzfat in northern Israel to this day. But things have not been easy for Sara. Although happy to be in Israel, she, and so many others like her, face significant hardships once they arrive. Many like Sara find themselves forced to live in isolated communities, cut off by a language barrier. Immigrating as adults, many



Your generous financial support is demonstrating compassion to the broken and transforming lives just like Sara's. But thousands more still need your help.

have difficulty learning Hebrew. At their advanced age, their needs exceed their fixed incomes. For the elderly living on government support, it is almost impossible to make ends meet.

Remarkably, Sara is now 95 years old! Like so many, she needs glasses to see properly. But eyeglasses are more expensive in Israel than they are in America. Something many of us take for granted is a luxury out of reach for Sara's minimal budget.

Sara is not alone in her need. The majority of the elderly in Israel, whether from Europe or Russia, were affected by the terrors of the Holocaust and the Nazi regime. Sara's is a generation of concentration camp survivors, ghetto survivors, and Nazi resistance fighters. Hers is a generation of people who escaped from Nazi-occupied countries or survived the war in hiding. Or like Sara, they lived through these violent times in Soviet countries.

Today, there are over 180,000 Holocaust survivors living in Israel. As shocking as it may seem, 25% of them live below the poverty line, and over 10,000 of

these survivors have no living family members left to help them. They are utterly alone. In Israel, they even have a name for these forgotten people. They call them "lone survivors."

They have no one! War heroes like Sara and other Holocaust survivors shouldn't have to choose between food, clothing, or eyesight. They have endured so much already; they shouldn't have to endure a destitute existence in their last years. That's exactly why Jewish Voice is doing something about it.

Our eye clinic in Israel is distributing reading glasses to the precious people of this generation. When we first brought Sara her new eyeglasses, she was so excited, she burst out in song!

Each morning of our trip last year, we traveled to a different



Israeli city and worked with local coordinators in city centers. We set up temporary examination and distribution centers all across Israel. Often, there were lines of people waiting for us when we arrived.

From Sara's city of Tzfat in the north to Beersheba in the south to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, our team of opticians worked alongside a local organization and other volunteers to serve this needy Israeli population. We conducted vision examinations and distributed 1,425 pairs of

eyeglasses to these grateful Jewish People.

You are such a vital part in this important outreach. Without your generous support, none of this would be possible. As you bless the Jewish People, God promises to bless you. Thank you for your faithful giving.

BY THE NUMBERS
EYEGLASSES DISTRIBUTED IN 2015

ISRAEL	1,425
WOLISO, ETHIOPIA	1,069
GONDAR, ETHIOPIA	3,650
GUTU, ZIMBABWE	1,503
MBERENGWA, ZIMBABWE	900
TOTAL	8,547

TO THE JEW FIRST AND ALSO THE NATIONS



As followers of Yeshua, we should demonstrate the same compassion for the broken as He did in His earthly ministry.

Whether through healing the sick, casting out demons, or setting captives free from physical and spiritual bondage, everywhere Yeshua went, He reached out His hands to embrace those desperate for a touch from God.

You have an opportunity now to be His hands, to embrace the broken and to bring healing and salvation in Yeshua's name. Your support of Jewish Voice is offering hope to impoverished Jewish communities in Africa through free medical, dental, and optical clinics, plus the distribution of

life-saving vitamins, medicines, and nutritional support. And in our prayer rooms, we are seeing miracles, signs, and wonders of God's awesome power.

But most of all, the Good News of the Messiah is being proclaimed *"to the Jew first"* and also to the nations (Romans 1:16).

Your generous financial support is demonstrating compassion to the broken and transforming thousands of lives, one soul at a time. But thousands more still need your help.

In our recent outreach to Gondar, hundreds received Yeshua as Messiah, and thousands more heard the Good News while receiving much-needed medical aid. But the work there—and in so many other places—isn't finished.

The need may seem overwhelming, but together we are making a difference. Will you bring the Good News? Will you be His voice? Will you be His hands?

Will you be the one who demonstrates God's compassion and shares His message of eternal life?

Please send the most generous gift possible. Your support of the international outreach of Jewish Voice means Jewish people in places like Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and around the world are receiving life-saving medical care, but even more importantly, the soul-saving Good News that Yeshua, the Messiah of Israel, has come.

OUR THANK-YOU GIFTS TO YOU

We know your heart is to give to demonstrate your support for Israel and the Jewish People. We know the work we do is important to you because it's important to God. These gifts are just our way of saying "thank you" for supporting the worldwide outreaches of JVMI and standing with God's Chosen People. Those who bless Israel will be blessed (Genesis 12:3)!

For your gift of support of \$40 or more...

Metal Mezuzah

Adorned with the "grafted in" symbol (Christian fish, Jewish star, and menorah) and a dash of sparkling color, this pewter-finish mezuzah placed on your doorpost will be a beautiful reminder of the Torah's commandment to remember God's Word, that He is One, and to pray for Israel.

7 Keys to Unlock the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel by Jonathan Bernis

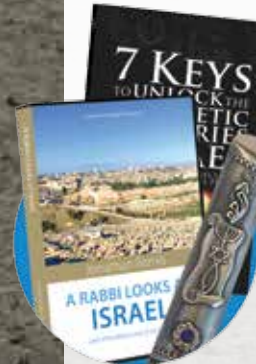
What crucial role does Israel play in the Last Days? Discover seven keys to understanding Israel's place in the End Times in this insightful book by Jonathan Bernis. You'll discover what to look for in tomorrow's headlines, the startling truths about the relationship between Christians and Jews, and the fascinating responsibility Christians have toward God's Chosen People. 1484



For your gift of \$70 or more...

Metal Mezuzah, 7 Keys to Unlock the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel PLUS A Rabbi Looks at Israel (DVD)

The Bible comes alive as Jonathan takes you to beautiful Israel for this in-depth and inspirational Bible teaching DVD. Filmed on location at biblical sites in the Promised Land, Jonathan shows you where Yeshua walked and lived, and where different prophetic events of the Last Days will take place. This DVD also delivers a poignant look at the history of Israel through the ages from a Messianic perspective. 1493



For your gift of \$120 or more...

Metal Mezuzah, 7 Keys to Unlock the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel, A Rabbi Looks at Israel (DVD), and The Lord's Prayer Parchment

A truly unique presentation of The Lord's Prayer, this book-like folder opens to reveal The Lord's Prayer written in Hebrew, English, and the Hebrew transliteration. Reproduced on authentic parchment, it includes beautifully designed artwork and a colorful border surrounding the model prayer taught by Yeshua. 1494

[The Lord's Prayer parchment measures approximately 8.5" x 9" when folded and opens to stand on its own for display.]



Thank you for your faithful support. The need is great, and every gift is important. Please be as generous as possible.

Be His voice. Be His hands. Jewish People need you now more than ever.

GOOD REPORT

Bob Aiken is passionate about ministry and sharing his faith in Yeshua (Jesus). He's been on 16 Jewish Voice outreaches, 14 medical and two Festivals. He has walked the streets of Ukraine passing out Festival flyers, shared the Gospel with hurting people in outreach prayer rooms, brought smiles to children with his balloon artistry, and served thousands of people waiting in line to enter our medical clinics in both Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

Most recently, Bob takes pictures for us on outreaches. He hiked the hills of Tach Gayint, loaded down with camera gear, to get to villages of the outcast Beta Israel. The climb wasn't easy for him, but he wouldn't have missed the privilege of witnessing an entire village accept Yeshua as the Messiah.

The hike was a bit of a challenge for him because Bob has a prosthetic leg. The retired/disabled iron worker has no problem talking about it, though. "This leg is my salvation," he says, referring to the motorcycle accident that also resulted in his coming to faith in Yeshua.

One week before going on his first JvMI outreach in 2013, Bob was getting a new prosthesis. He asked the prosthetist if he would put a cross on it for him. "Sure, if you bring me an image," the specialist answered. Bob went shopping and came back with a t-shirt, the only cross he could find in the short time he had. It also had the Scripture reference of Isaiah 53:5 on it, and the prosthetist left it in the design he placed on the artificial limb.

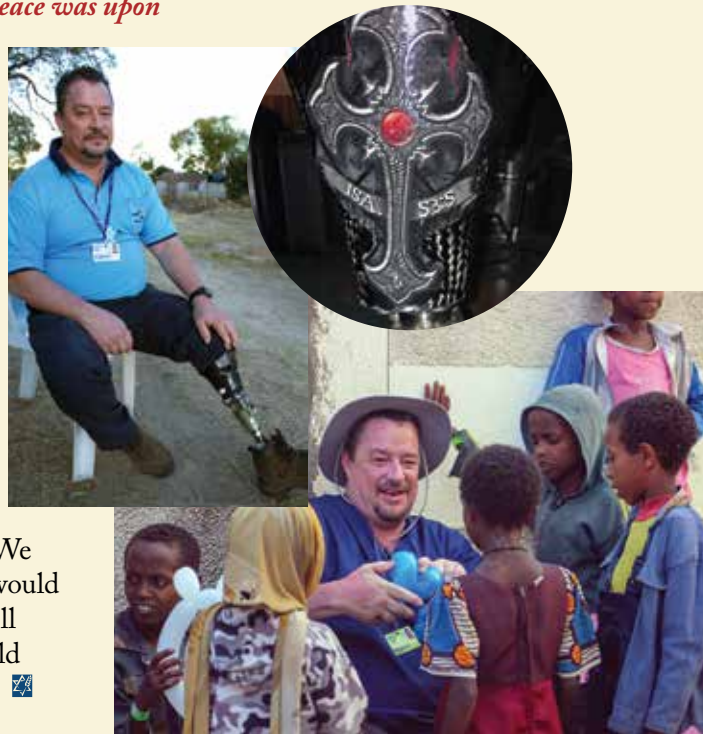
But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
—Isaiah 53:5, KJV

Because Bob knew people would ask about it, he memorized the verse. But when he was a new Believer about to go on his first outreach with Jewish Voice, he admits he had no idea of its significance in sharing Yeshua with Jewish People. Since then, his leg has been a dynamic witnessing tool, sparking many conversations and opening doors to talk about Yeshua with both Jewish People and Gentiles. "The Lord has taken me so much further than I ever thought I could go."

As an avid outreach partner, Bob notes, "We are blessed above so many in this world that would fight to have the conditions that we have. I still think I don't have a clue how most of the world lives, even after seeing poverty beyond belief." 🇺🇸



Bob has truly fallen in love with serving the poor with Jewish Voice, saying, "When I leave Africa, I don't know if I'm going home or leaving home. This is a passion that I have, and I will give up everything I have to keep going."



REGISTER NOW!

50 YEARS OF JEWISH VOICE

MAY 17-26, 2017

Not only does 2017 mark the 50th anniversary of Israel's miraculous victory, retaking the capital city of Jerusalem during the Six-Day War, but it also marks Jewish Voice's 50 years of ministry!

JOIN Jonathan Bernis and his family on this once-in-a-lifetime historic tour as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, as well as the 50th anniversary of Jewish Voice!



Celebrate
ISRAEL 2017

Visit our website for more information:
jvmi.org/israel2017 or call 800-299-9374

IN ISRAEL, TIMES ARE CHANGING – FOR THE BETTER

BY WAYNE HILSDEN
AND VANESSA JOELLE

INFLUENCE. HOPE. LOVE. LIFE-GIVING.

These are just a few of the characteristics that we as believers seek to exhibit in Israel.

Being a believer in Yeshua means that we have encountered God and fully believe in His life, death, and resurrection. But it should not just end there; it should drastically change us, from the inside out.

Community is vital to our growth. Engaging in a biblically-based, believing community is essential. But it's also essential to build relationships and develop our skills in order to excel in Israeli society outside the so-called "believing bubble."

Regarding those who do not yet believe in Yeshua, our goal is to love them into the Kingdom one step at a time. This means that it's not enough to treat people like targets to be saved, moving on if they don't respond the way we would like them to. Instead, we must go beyond outreach events and actually live life side by side with those who are yet to understand the truth and love of Yeshua.

The resistance towards the believing community is lessening day by day. Why? Because we are participating in the development of our society. We are a part of Israel, not just because we live here, but because we are dedicated to who Israel is becoming.

We are fully integrated into the greater community.

When a sabra, an indigenous person, has an encounter with God, the platform they have to share about their experience with Yeshua is very different than those who have immigrated to the Land.

It is great to see that there are more ministries being established and led by sabra believers. A unique ministry based just outside of Tel Aviv operates a music school staffed by believers. The two sabra leaders both had a radical experience with God—one coming out of a secular environment, and the other coming out of an Orthodox religious home. Another ministry leader tells us how his family was going to cast him out for his faith years ago, and just this year, he was asked to lead his family Passover Seder. What a change!

The number of believers is growing, as are the number of congregations. It is hard to choose a kehilah because there are so many great ones around, whereas 30 years ago, there were only a handful of them in the entire nation.

It is hard to choose a ministry to highlight because there are so many doing incredible things for the Kingdom. Young people are being disciplined all over the country, and there is a new focus on pre-army and post-army preparation with specific ministries like Lech L'cha and Hope for Israel (lechlcha.com; hope4israel.org). The need for these initiatives is vital because of the hardships that are experienced through

this challenging season.

We keep hearing about younger believers who want to work in the corporate world. This is important because this is how we can exercise our influence in Israeli society. Everyone is called to minister, but not everyone is called to work in ministry. There is a hunger to excel in the marketplace. There are strong leaders and incredible organizations that are equipping young believers to succeed in their efforts and expand their spheres of influence.

There are an increasing number of ministries that are finding favor with the government because we, as believers, are making a difference in our communities. One in particular is HaTikva Project (hatikvaproject.org), which partners with Israel's Ministry of Health. Israeli believers are taking care of the needy, feeding the hungry, and bringing aid to the hurting, all through the love of Yeshua. It is not just talk; there is action behind it. How can the government turn down love and generosity like this?

Things are changing. We are growing as believers in this country, and it is noticeable. It is hard to keep up at times, as Israel is so fast-paced. But when it gets tiring (because it does), we look outside and remember the faithfulness of God for this Land. And the growing

body of Israeli followers of Yeshua is a walking miracle of God's goodness and faithfulness to His word. He is faithful to His promises, including this in Jeremiah 31:10: "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare in the coastlands afar off, and say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock...'"

Disclaimer: Some organizations prefer to stay private, so if you read a story that was not sourced, please contact us for their information at: hello@firm.org.il.



Pastor Wayne Hilsden is the president of FIRM: Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries and the co-founder of King of Kings Community, Jerusalem.



Vanessa Joelle is a Messianic Jewish believer and has served on staff with a variety of Messianic ministries in Israel and the U.S.

YOUR MINISTRY

Adventure Awaits



Join Us On A Medical Outreach!

Whether you're a medical professional partner or a non-medical partner, we need **YOUR** talents to work with us to change the world!

Jewish Voice and teams of outreach partners like you volunteer their time to offer desperately needed, free medical and dental care to poverty-stricken Jewish communities as the Lord directs us.

JOIN JVMI on an international medical outreach mission and bring the compassion and care of Yeshua to those in need.

VISIT jvmi.org/2016outreach or call 800-299-9374 to learn more and partner with us.

SCRIPTURAL DECLARATIONS: *Israel & the Middle East*

BY DR. JAMES GOLL

It is imperative that we stand with God and stand with the Jewish People in this hour. Not only does Scripture provide Seven Clear Demarcations and Declarations regarding Israel and His plan for salvation, which I outline below, it also shows us how we are to respond in Proclamation, Praise, and Prayer! Join me for such a time as this in calling forth God's purposes for the Jewish People around the world!

The Bible is our foundation for life, revealing the very nature of God Himself, and how we should then live in relationship with Him in light of these absolutes. The people of Israel are God's Chosen People, through which He foretold, demonstrated, and then extended His plan for the salvation of all mankind through Jesus Christ. Let's look to Scripture as our roadmap for End-Time events related to Israel and the Middle East and accept the invitation God has extended for us to partner with Him as watchmen on the walls for the days in which we live!

The Miraculous Birth of a Nation

The Scriptures foretell a regional dispersion of the Jewish People followed by a regional regathering. In detail, the prophetic Scriptures predict a second worldwide scattering followed by a second worldwide regathering. We have these Scriptures being fulfilled in our lifetime!

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 – *“Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ And to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring My sons from afar And My daughters from the ends of the earth.”*
2. Isaiah 11:11-12 – *“Then it will happen on that day that the Lord will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of His people, who will remain, from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And He will lift up a standard for the nations and assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.”*

On May 14-15, 1948, the nation of Israel was reborn out of a time of tremendous persecution and out of the ashes of the horrific Holocaust of World War II. But ultimately, God's redemptive plan and purposes prevailed. God's redemptive purposes for the Jewish People and all the peoples of the earth are under attack again. Satan and his lying demons are stirring evil men's hearts to *“wipe Israel off the face of the earth and let she be remembered no more”* (Psalm 83). But we must take a stand and be God's friends and Israel's friends in this tumultuous hour.

Seven Clear Scriptural Demarcations and Declarations

1. The Only Reliable Source

The Scriptures, God's distinct prophetic words, provide the only reliable source of light upon the current situation in the Middle East.

2. The Ultimate Destiny

God has determined the ultimate destiny of both Israel and the Church in eternity on the basis of His foreknowledge. Its outworking in time is guaranteed by the irrevocable

covenants which God has made with each of them. God will perform His very own Word!

3. Dependency Upon God's Grace

For all the good that God has promised to Israel and the Church, both are equally and totally dependent upon God's grace, which can be appropriated by faith. We are saved by grace through faith!

4. Tests and Pressures Lie Ahead

Tremendous tests and pressures lie ahead for both Israel and the Church, but those who faithfully endure will be privileged to share God's Kingdom with Him throughout all eternity.

5. Acknowledging our Spiritual Inheritance

Authentic Christian believers from gentile backgrounds owe their Spiritual inheritance to the God of Israel. One appropriate way to acknowledge their gratitude is to stand by Israel and to uphold them with fervent intercession.

6. The Future of the Middle East

The people of the Middle East will never know true justice and lasting peace until they are submitted to God's ruler, Yeshua. This is true for every nation, all mankind, every ethnic background, every individual person, and every people group of the earth.

7. God's Plan of Salvation

There is only one way to salvation, and it is by placing faith in the atoning work of the Cross of God's only son, Yeshua. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, and no one comes to the Father except by believing in Yeshua!

Lessons From Our Bible - A Jewish Book

President Abraham Lincoln once said, “I believe the Bible is the best gift God has given to man. All the good Savior gave to the world was communicated through this Book.”

The Bible is essentially a record of God's plan for salvation of mankind highlighting Israel's history, written by Israelites, partly in the form of history and



8. The Condition of the Future City of God

The future city of God, the New Jerusalem, as recorded in the Book of Revelation is inscribed with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel (see Revelation 21:12).

9. Characteristics of the Foundation

Its foundations carry the names of the 12 apostles of Jesus.

Statements by Early American Fathers Emphasizing their Reliance on the Word of God

The statements below, and many others like them, reinforce the inspiration, authority, and the necessity of relying upon and building within the constructs of the Bible. They also give us a warning of consequences that could occur when we as a people or any governing society err from the absolutes in the Word of God.

George Washington – “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”

Abraham Lincoln – “I believe the Bible is the best gift God has given to man. All the good Savior gave to the world was communicated through this Book.”

Daniel Webster – “If there is anything in my thoughts or style to commend, the credit is due to my parents for instilling in me an early love of the scriptures. If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering, but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity.”

Our Significant Scriptural Response

Proclaim – Jeremiah 31:10 – “Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare in the coastlands afar off, And say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.’”

Praise – Psalm 8:2 – “From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength because of Your adversaries, to make the enemy and the revengeful cease.”

partly in the form of prophecy.

1. Old Testament Authorship

Jewish authors wrote all 39 Books of the Old Testament. (Of course, this is the human agency we are acknowledging, as we believe God inspires all Scripture directly.)

2. The Messiah’s Background

Jesus was born a Jew, died a Jew, and will return as a Jew.

3. Location of Gospel Accounts

All the events of the Gospels (except the flight to Egypt) take place in the land of Israel.

4. The People of the Gospels

Over 90% of the people portrayed in the Gospels are Israelites.

5. New Testament Authorship

Every one of the 27 books of the New Testament has Jewish authorship. (Luke might be considered as a possible exception, but he was a proselyte to Judaism.)

6. The Establishing of the Early Apostolic Church

The main instruments for establishing the early apostolic churches and spreading the Gospel of the Kingdom were Jewish.

7. Background of the Disciples

All 12 apostles chosen by Jesus were Jewish.

Pray – Jeremiah 31:7 – “For thus says the LORD, ‘Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise and say, “O LORD, save Your people, the remnant of Israel.”’”

keeps his flock,” and declare, “O LORD, save Your people, the remnant of Israel.” Amen and Amen! 🇺🇸

Blessings to You as Watchmen on the Walls!

Our Prophetic Posture in Prayer

We are called to stand in the gap as believers in the Messiah and pray and take a stand for the God of Israel and the nation of Israel. God is raising up a corporate Esther for such a time as this. Join me in proclaiming, praising, and praying, “He who scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd

YOUR Prayers Affect GOD’S Prophetic Timeline!

Pages are turning on God’s prophetic calendar, approaching the mysterious day when He will step once again into the world of time and space. What is the key to this fulfillment? The answer is Israel. And the controversy over her destiny affects every nation on earth. No intercessor can miss the importance of prayer for Israel.

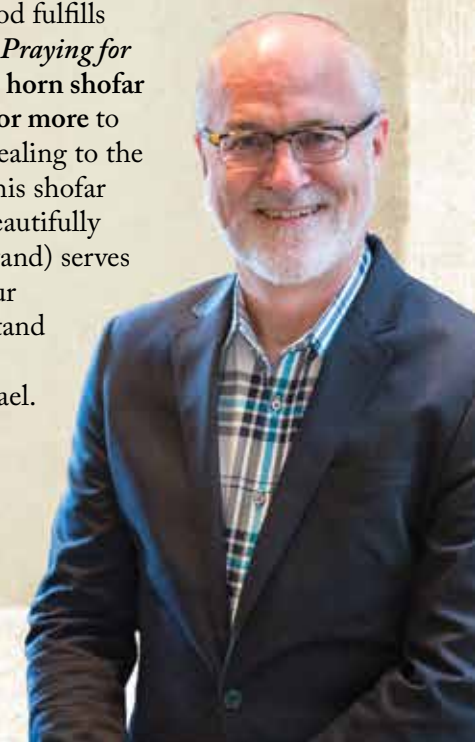
JOIN with intercessors worldwide

to pray for Israel—and watch as God fulfills His promises through her. Receive *Praying for Israel’s Destiny* and a genuine ram’s horn shofar as our thanks for your gift of \$100 or more to help continue bringing hope and healing to the Jewish People all over the world. This shofar (complete with beautifully crafted wooden stand) serves as a symbol of your commitment to stand in the gap as an intercessor for Israel.

1303



DR. JAMES GOLL





Become a Shalom PARTNER TODAY

The word “shalom” means more than just “peace.” It means “completeness” and “prosperity.” It’s also a beautiful word we use to describe the friends of JVMI who have a special love for the Jewish People and show it through their faithful monthly giving.

Your monthly support does so much!



Jewish People across the globe will hear the Good News and receive Yeshua as Messiah



The elderly, whose eyes have been blinded by cataracts, will receive new sight and a transformed life



Children in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe will receive daily vitamins to strengthen their bodies



African Jewish families with no access to clean drinking water will receive Family LifeStraw® units, providing them with up to five years of safe drinking water

Whether your gift is \$25, \$50, \$100 or more each month, you’re having an incredible impact.

SILVER **\$25**
MONTHLY GIFT



With your monthly contribution of \$25 or more, you will receive:

- Jewish Voice Notecard Set
- JVMI Keychain
- Insider's Report
- JVMI Exclusive Annual Gift

GOLD **\$50**
MONTHLY GIFT



With your monthly contribution of \$50 or more, you will receive all of the items in the Silver level along with:

- 'Shalom Partner' Dedicated Toll-Free Phone Number and Email Address
- Reserved Seating for Select Jewish Voice Events

PLATINUM **\$100**
MONTHLY GIFT



With your monthly contribution of \$100 or more, you will receive all of the items in the Gold and Silver levels along with:

- Exquisitely Designed JVMI Sun Catcher
- 10% Off Designated Events
- Receive Select JVM Publications

Visit jvmi.org/shalompartnership to learn how you can become a Shalom Partner **TODAY!**