

1ST QUARTER 2018



JEWISH VOICE TODAY MAGAZINE

UNLOCKING THE PROPHETIC MYSTERIES OF ISRAEL

**Bringing the Gospel to the
Jews** by Jonathan Bernis

Zehra Kids Program A Brand
New Outreach in Zimbabwe



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SHALOM



Dear Partner in Ministry,

I just released my newest book, *Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel*. I address Israel's foundational role in the Last Days and God's plan of redemption for the world.

In this issue of *Jewish Voice Today (JVT)*, we expand on those themes, featuring further insights from other authors within the Messianic community. These themes include:

- *The importance of the Abrahamic Blessing to Abraham and his descendants*
- *The ongoing priority of the Gospel to the Jew first*
- *The future restoration of Jerusalem and the redemption of all things*

I believe these articles demonstrate the critical role of Israel and the Jewish people in God's plan. I'm sure you'll be excited about the content of this *JVT* magazine, and I'm pleased to be able to send it to you.

I believe we are living in the Last Days and the return of Yeshua is at hand. That is why we are accelerating our efforts to reach the Jewish people and the Nations while it is yet day. With your continued help, we will fulfill our mandate to "see all Israel saved."

As you read this edition of *JVT*, please pray for Israel and for the Jewish people. And as you do, please continue your prayers and financial support for the ministry of Jewish Voice. You have been a faithful partner, and we thank you for your continuing generosity and compassion.

To the Jew first and also to the Nations,


Jonathan Bernis
President and CEO
Jewish Voice Ministries International



THE GOSPEL TO THE *Jew first*

BY JONATHAN BERNIS

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. —Romans 1:16 (NIV)



Editor's Note: Following is an excerpt from Chapter 5 of Jonathan Bernis' new book, *Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel*. To learn more about this exciting new book, including how to receive your own copy, please see pages 8-9.

The woman was shocked when the young man spoke to her. She was a Samaritan. He was a Jew. And everybody knew Jews looked down their noses at Samaritans. They considered them to be half-breeds, mongrels who had thrown away their godly heritage by intermarrying with non-Jews.

The Jews were also incensed that the Samaritans had the temerity to look down on them. They insisted that they had an older, and therefore more accurate, version of the Holy Scriptures and that their Mount Gerazim, not Jerusalem, was sacred to God.

Jews hated the Samaritans so much that when they were traveling from Judea to Galilee, or vice versa, they usually went miles out of their way to avoid setting foot in Samaria. But here was this fellow, apparently going straight through her country and also asking her to draw Him a drink of water from the nearby well. The rest of the story is found in the fourth chapter of the Gospel of John:

Then the Samaritan woman tells Him, "How is it that You, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (For Jewish people don't deal with Samaritans.)

Yeshua replied to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman tells Him, "You don't have a bucket, and the well is deep. Then from where do You get this living water?"

Yeshua replied to her, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never be thirsty. The water that I give him will become a fountain of water within him, springing up to eternal life!"

"Sir," the woman tells Him, "give me this water, so I

won't get thirsty or have to come all the way here to draw water!" He tells her, "Go call your husband, and then come back here."

"I don't have a husband," the woman replied.

Yeshua tells her, "You've said it right, 'I have no husband.' For you've had five husbands, and the man you have now isn't your husband. This you've spoken truthfully!"

"Sir," the woman tells Him, "I see that You are a prophet!"

"Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you all say that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

Yeshua tells her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming—it is here now—when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people as His worshipers. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman tells Him, "I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called the Anointed One.) When He comes, He will explain everything to us."

Yeshua tells her, "I—the One speaking to you—I am."
—John 4:9–11, 13–26

What the World Owes the Jews

There are so many lessons to be learned from this passage of Scripture. For example, when the woman asks, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?" we see that *Yeshua's* ministry will extend beyond just the Jewish people and include Gentiles and even Samaritans (who were even more despised than the Gentiles).

The Jews and the Samaritans were well aware that sin had brought sickness and death into the world. When *Yeshua* tells the woman about the water He can give her,

the water that will make it so she never thirsts again, He is telling her that she too can have eternal life through faith in Him. This is a signal that His Messianic mission goes beyond what the Jews were expecting. Yeshua is more than just the King Messiah who will liberate the Jews from Roman occupation of their land and reestablish the kingdom of Israel. He is the Savior of the world.

But the main thing I want us to take away from this conversation is Yeshua's proclamation that "salvation is from the Jews." From the very first time He spoke to Abraham, God had already chosen Abraham's descendants to be a light to the nations and bring blessing and salvation to the world. But salvation was to be offered to them first and then through them to all the nations of the world.

The world owes the Jewish people a great debt of gratitude. Yeshua came into the world through the Jews, and they will also play a central role in His return. Any discussion of the last days is incomplete if it doesn't give a prominent role to Israel and the Jewish people.

It is only because of what Yeshua, a Jew, accomplished when He suffered and died on the cross on our behalf that God sees us as holy, set apart, sanctified, and pure. This is a wonderful promise of the new covenant—a promise that was originally given to Israel alone but that Gentiles receive by an engrafting into God's family through faith in Yeshua. It is through this engrafting that Gentiles become partakers in all the promises and blessings of God.

Paul says the gospel is to the Jew first (Romans 1:16) because all the promises of God were first given to the Jews. Yeshua the Messiah came as a Jew, born of Jewish parents in a Jewish land, and followed the Jewish customs and practices. His disciples were all Jews and, as we've already seen, His earthly ministry was devoted to His own people. He fulfilled the prophecies written by Jewish men in the Jewish Scriptures. What

It is only because of what Yeshua, a Jew, accomplished when He suffered and died on the cross on our behalf that God sees us as holy, set apart, sanctified, and pure.

could be more Jewish than to believe in such a Messiah?

John 3:16 says God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son for all of mankind—Jews and Gentiles alike. But His earthly ministry—His miracles, healings, and teachings—were given to and for the Jewish people. This is very important to understand: the promises and blessings of the new

covenant were given to the Jew first, and then, some thirty years later, were opened to the Gentiles.

Thus, the fifth key to unlocking the prophetic mysteries of Israel is to understand that the gospel is to the Jew first, and this precedent remains in effect today. In fact, it is the key that unlocks the gospel's growth to the nations. When we grasp the truth that every Gentile who has received Jesus as Lord and Savior heard the gospel because of the faithfulness of those original Jewish disciples who took the gospel to the ends of the earth, we then realize what a great debt of gratitude we owe to the Jewish people.

The Gospel to the Nations

In my book *A Rabbi Looks at the Last Days*, I told of how God called me to move to Russia to share the good news of the Messiah with the Jewish people there. It was a truly amazing time in my life, and if you haven't yet read that book, I invite you to do so. There is so much I'd like to share with you regarding those years in Russia, but, as I said, much of it is already recorded in my previous book.

One of the stories I related had to do with an experience I had while flying from the former Soviet Union to a speaking engagement in Uppsala, Sweden. On the airplane as I was reading Matthew 24, which talks about the Messiah's return from heaven in the last days, the Holy Spirit drew my attention to a single word in verse 14: "nations."

This verse says that the gospel must be proclaimed to all nations before Yeshua's return. Now, I knew both the Hebrew and Greek translations for this word. In Hebrew, nations is *goy* (Gentiles), and *goyum* means "people of the nations." The Greek word for nations is *ethnos*, from which we derive the word ethnic.

Whenever I read this passage of Scripture previously, I thought of nations as landmasses set apart by geopolitical boundaries established by man. Yet on

that flight, I realized the word used in this verse literally means "race," "tribe," or, in today's vernacular, "people group" or ethnic group.¹

As we have already discussed, the Jewish people have been scattered all over the world. It is rare to find a country without at least some Jews. And the same is true of many other ethnicities. In nearly every nation on earth, you will find a number of distinct people groups. Think of the United States, where there are millions of people of African and Hispanic descent, plus Americans from China, Korea, Vietnam, Ireland, Britain—people from every nation on earth.

When Jesus said the gospel of the kingdom must be preached to every *ethnos*, He was not saying we had to reach only geopolitical countries. He was saying we had to reach the distinct ethnic groups that live within those countries. This is a great calling for us!

When this is coupled with what Paul tells us in Romans 1:16, that the gospel is "to the Jew first" and then to the nations, we see the priority of taking the gospel to every community in every country where the Jewish people have been scattered. In my mind, this is the missing link in world missions. Reaching the Jewish people is a vitally important key to reaching the nations for Yeshua.

In Romans 11:11–15, we are told that Israel's rejection of Jesus as their Messiah has now caused the gospel to go to the nations (*ethnos*). What a blessing this is for those who were not born Jewish. But if that was a blessing, what greater blessing is in store when the Jews come back to God by recognizing Yeshua is their promised Messiah!

Paul called himself "the apostle to the Gentiles," and it's easy to see why. He traveled throughout the entire known world to spread the good news of the Messiah, Jesus. Even so, everywhere Paul went, he demonstrated this precedent that the gospel was to the Jew first. A careful reading through the Book of Acts will show that whenever Paul went into a new community, the first thing he did was preach the gospel in the local synagogue. Following are some examples:

Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was immersed; and when he had taken food, he was strengthened. Now for several days, he was with the disciples in Damascus. Immediately he began proclaiming Yeshua in the synagogues, saying "He is *Ben-Elohim*."

—Acts 9:18–20

When they arrived at Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. They also had John as a helper.

—Acts 13:5

Setting sail from Paphos, Paul's company came to Perga in Pamphylia. John left them and returned to Jerusalem. But they passed on from Perga and came to Antioch of Pisidia. Entering the synagogue on the *Shabbat*, they sat down. After the reading of the *Torah* and the Prophets, the synagogue leaders sent to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, speak."

—Acts 13:13–15

Now in Iconium, the same thing happened—they entered as usual into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a large number of Jewish and Greek people believed.

—Acts 14:1

After passing through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. As was his custom, Paul went to the Jewish people; and for three *Shabbatot*, he debated the Scriptures with them. He opened them and gave evidence that Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead, saying, "This Yeshua, whom I declare to you, is the Messiah."

—Acts 17:1–3

¹ The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, s.v. "ethnos," Blue Letter Bible, accessed August 7, 2017, <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?strong=G1484&t=KJV>.

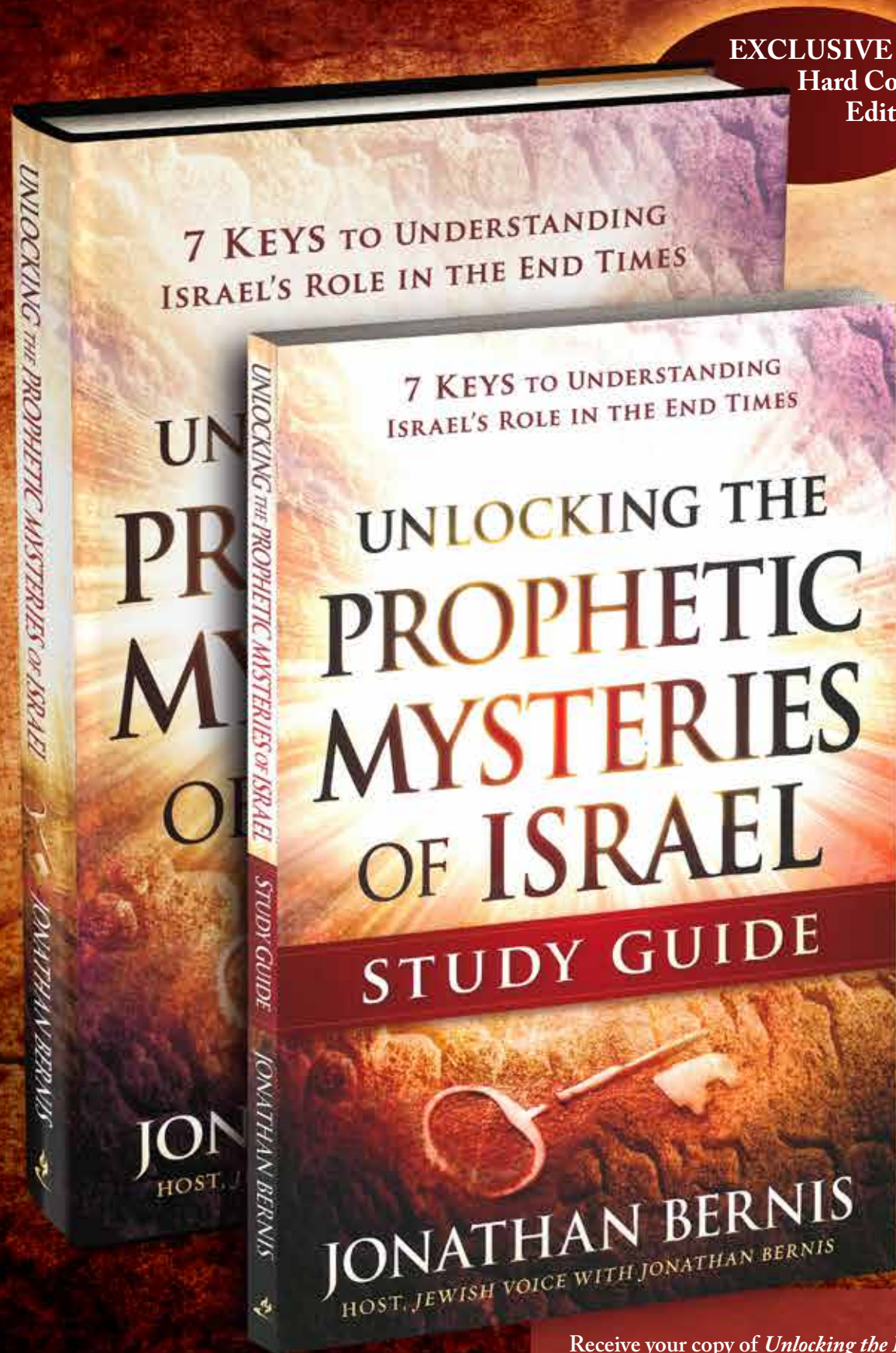
Finish reading this chapter and learn about the other six keys to unlocking the prophetic mysteries of Israel.



SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS.



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IF YOU WANT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD IS DOING IN THESE LAST DAYS, YOU MUST KNOW HIS PLANS FOR ISRAEL

Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel by Jonathan Bernis

In God's eyes, Israel is the sign-post nation on earth. And it's there that the Bible's end-of-the-age prophecies will all unfold. In *Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel*, Jonathan Bernis reveals:

- 7 keys to understanding Israel's past, present, and future role in God's plan to recover a corrupt and lost world
- 3 reasons Israel plays such a prominent role in God's plan for the future of this planet
- 10 hallmarks of the coming Messianic Age of peace and prosperity
- The vital significance of the city of Jerusalem
- The dramatic connection between Israel and the Church
- And much more!

DIG DEEPER!

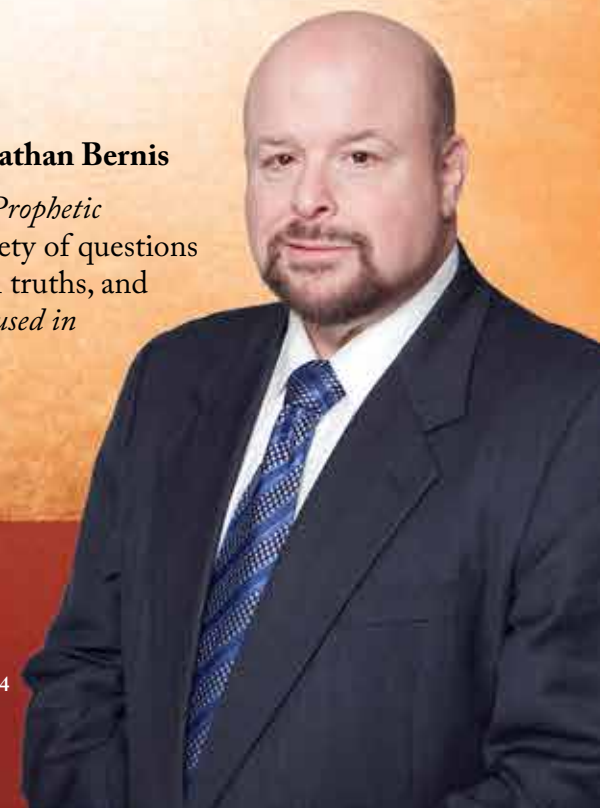
Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel Study Guide by Jonathan Bernis

This companion study guide to the book *Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel* includes relevant Scriptures and a variety of questions to encourage reflection, start discussions, unlock biblical truths, and discover application for your own life. (*The guide can be used in personal study or with groups.*)

Receive your copy of *Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel* and the accompanying study guide as our way of saying "thank you" for your gift of \$40 or more to support the global ministry outreach of Jewish Voice. 1955



For a gift of \$100 or more, you'll receive *Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel* personally signed and endorsed by Jonathan Bernis, plus the accompanying study guide. 1964





We Should Stand with Israel Because Israel Holds the Key to World Redemption

By Scott Volk

“I am as likely to reject My people Israel as I am to abolish the laws of nature!” – God



In a day and age when Israel is being increasingly delegitimized in the press, in politics, and even in the pulpit, God is looking for a people who will carry His heart for Israel. In this short article, I want to give you five rock-solid, biblical reasons why every Believer should stand with Israel. When I say “stand with Israel,” I’m not speaking from a political perspective, but rather from a biblical perspective. If you look at Israel through a political lens, you’ll end up hating Arabs or Jews—or both! But if you look at Israel through a biblical lens, you’ll end up loving both Arabs and Jews.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive study, but rather just some basic principles backed by Scriptural evidence that I think will help equip you to answer those who seek to delegitimize the nation and the people of Israel.

1. God’s Heart is for Israel and the Jewish People!

If the title of this article was “The One Reason Why Every Believer Should Support Israel,” this would be the reason: God’s heart is for Israel and the Jewish people! That really should be good enough for us and should seal the deal. Listen to some of these indisputable statements made by God Himself to Israel and the Jewish people:

“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the LORD who has compassion on you” (Isaiah 54:10 NIV).

“I have loved you with an

everlasting love ...” (Jeremiah 31:3 NIV).

“I will not forget you! See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me” (Isaiah 49:15-16 NIV).

“I am as likely to reject my people Israel as I am to abolish the laws of nature” (Jeremiah 31:36 NLT).

These Scriptures are just a few that scratch the surface of God’s heart and His feelings for Israel. If God is the same yesterday, today and forever, how can we think that He would ever change how He feels about this?

Of course, God’s heart is for every nation of the world. It’s His desire that no one would perish (Jew and Gentile alike), but there is only one people group on this planet that He chose as the agent through whom salvation would come, and that is Israel!

2. It Reconnects Us to Our Heritage, Our Identity and Our Destiny

The Jewish people are the Messiah’s own people because Jesus is Jewish! He wasn’t just Jewish for 33 years and then became a Christian when He ascended to heaven. He was born King of the Jews, He was raised by Torah observant parents, He was called “rabbi” by those who followed His teachings, He was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, He died King of the Jews, and He’s returning as the Lion of the tribe of Judah!

Our heritage in the Messiah is a Jewish heritage:

Romans 9:3-5 – “For I could

wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh, *who are Israelites*, to whom belongs the adoption as sons and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the



Law and the temple service and the promises, whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ.”

Ephesians 1:3-5 – “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus the Messiah, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing

in the heavenly places in the Messiah...He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus the Messiah to Himself..."

Jeremiah 31:31-34 – “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new

“I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

– Jeremiah 31:33

3. We Have Been Grafted in to Provoke Israel to Jealousy

Unfortunately, rather than provoking Israel to jealousy, the Church has been a source of much pain to Jewish people throughout the centuries. In the name of Christianity, Jews have been maligned, persecuted, and even killed by cross-bearing men and women who faithfully attended church on a weekly basis. As a matter of fact, many of the “Church fathers” have actually taught that God was through with Israel and that His promises were now transferred from Israel to the Church.

Romans 11:11 – “I say, then, they [Israel] did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles [nations], to make Israel jealous.”

Romans 11:17-18 – [Paul is speaking to the Gentiles] “...But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you.”

4. Jewish Revival Will Lead to World Revival and the Return of the Messiah

We should stand with Israel because it holds the key to world redemption. As a result of Israel rejecting the Messiah, salvation has come to the Nations of the

world. However, Scripture is clear that when Israel accepts their Messiah, it will be life from the dead! Yeshua can't return until Israel welcomes Him back. Therefore, we must remember that the Gospel is still the power of salvation to the Jew first and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16).

Romans 11:11-15 – “Again I ask: Did they [Israel] stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles [nations] to make Israel envious [jealous]. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring! I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles...For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?”

Matthew 23:37-39 – “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

5. The ‘Church’ Has a Debt to Israel Who Brought Them the Messiah

Romans 15:25-27 “...but now, I am going to Jerusalem serving the saints. For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. Yes, they

were pleased to do so, and they are indebted to [the Believers in Jerusalem]. For if the [nations] have shared in [Israel’s] spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things.”

We entered the Jewish new year with the celebration of Rosh Hashanah, and in this special season of renewal, I want to encourage you with this important fifth point. Amazingly, Paul would travel to the Gentile Believers around the region to collect money for the Believers in Jerusalem. And just as Paul ministered to

Israel in material things in order to fulfill a spiritual debt, when you give to organizations that support Israel and her people, you are also fulfilling this Biblical mandate. Together For Israel exists to “partner with the Church for the salvation of Israel” and, by God’s grace, we are seeing people around the globe participate in a supernatural way. When we give financial help to the needy in the Land, we always tell them that it is not from us, but rather from Believers around the world who have a love for the God of Israel. 🇺🇸

Scott Volk

Scott Volk is a Messianic Jew who came to faith in 1975. After graduating from North Central University in Minneapolis in 1988, Scott has served in various pastoral capacities in Arizona, Florida, and North Carolina. After more than 20 years in pastoral ministry, Scott founded Together For Israel, a non-profit ministry that exists to partner with the Church for the salvation of Israel (Romans 11:26).



Show the World You Stand with Israel

Let this special shofar serve as a conversation starter and reminder of God calling our hearts to worship Him, the God of Israel who is ever faithful. This beautiful Yemenite shofar is made of a Kudu horn and is exquisitely adorned with handcrafted silver-plated accents. The shofar is the trumpet of the Bible and was blown in Bible times to announce the beginnings of religious holidays, ceremonies, and even battle. Today, the shofar is sounded at Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year) and Yom Kippur and is a powerful symbol of support for the Jewish people. (Colors, textures, and finish vary in these natural animal horns, but all are beautiful and have been tested to be functional before shipping. They range between 36" – 40" in length, including curvature.)



Receive this thank you gift when you send your very generous gift of support of \$1000 or more to bless Israel and the Jewish people all over the world with hope and healing. See enclosed reply. 3073

WE KNOW THAT JESUS LOVES KIDS

JEWISH VOICE STAFF WRITER

When His disciples were trying to shuttle some young children away so they wouldn't bother him, in Matthew 19:14, He responded: *"Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

That is the heart behind an exciting new program within Jewish Voice Medical Outreach Clinics. Called "Zehra Kids Program," it debuted at the 2017 Outreaches in Zimbabwe.

Zehra (pronounced, Zehr-

ah) is a Hebrew word meaning "seed," and the Zehra Kids Program is designed to bless, minister to, and plant the seeds of the Gospel in children who attend Jewish Voice Medical Outreaches.

From a practical perspective, the idea grew up in part as a way to occupy and even entertain children enduring a long day of waiting in Clinic lines.

But it was quickly decided that it could be much more, explained Alfius Matandu, National Overseer of Congregational



The children were so excited about the stickers we brought that they all started sticking them to their foreheads.

From the moment the children arrive, they are greeted and brought to the playground area where they can swing, slide, run, and play with other children.

THE ZEHRA KIDS PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Create a short-term program area for kids to attend while waiting to receive medical treatment at our clinic Outreaches
- Provide an avenue for every child to hear the Good News of Messiah that fosters their identity, purpose, and calling
- Teach and administer a kid-centered curriculum that celebrates Yeshua and our shared Messianic Jewish identity through creative arts
- Facilitate recreational activities that encourage community building and trust
- Deepen the level of care we provide for children in the communities we serve

Development for the Lemba tribe in Zimbabwe.

"We wanted to give the children something to do that wouldn't just occupy their time," said Matandu. "In addition to having fun, Zehra gives them the chance to hear about the love of Yeshua!"

After receiving medical care and any needed prescriptions, adults are given an opportunity to visit the counseling and prayer tent, while children can choose to take part in songs, games, and teaching that are part of the Zehra Kids Program.

"We believe that every child is a gift from God and can make a difference in the world," said Aviva Goodman, International Logistics Manager at Jewish Voice and founder of the

Zehra Kids Program.

"Most importantly, we believe God places great value on the salvation of children."

That, she says, is why the Zehra Kids Program is biblically-based, emphasizing the love, hope, healing, and salvation found only in Yeshua. "It's a Messianic Jewish program sowing into their identity in Messiah," she added.

Through games, songs, and activities, the children learn about their life-long calling and purpose to love God and others.

And even though this is a brand-new program, we're already seeing great results! 🇺🇸

Inside the Zehra Kids Program tent, workers lead children in games, coloring activities and songs. They are taught songs in Hebrew and sing with beautiful joy!



RESULTS FROM THE 2017 ZEHRA KIDS PROGRAM IN ZIMBABWE:

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING

MASVINGO CLINIC **561**

BUHERA CLINIC **624**

MBERENGWA CLINIC **699**

MOBILE PROGRAM

1 BUHERA SCHOOL **500+**

4 MBERENGWA SCHOOLS **2,000+**

LIFESTRAWS® DISTRIBUTED

BUHERA SCHOOL **30**
FAMILY UNITS (EA. DEPARTMENT)

THROUGH ZEHRA KIDS PROGRAM MBERENGWA SCHOOL **16**
FAMILY UNITS (EA. DEPARTMENT)



Bringing Healing, Health, and Hope

At the heart of Jewish Voice Ministries is a clear focus: to introduce people, especially Jewish people, to the Good News of Yeshua (Jesus). This is accomplished, with your help, through our television specials, vibrant worldwide *Hear O' Israel!* Festivals of Jewish Music & Dance, the work we do with our ministry partners in Israel, and so much more.



It's also the principal emphasis of our Outreach Medical Clinics in Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, and other places where there are many Jewish people and the need is greatest. We are thrilled to be able to offer free, life-saving treatment through these humanitarian outreaches. We provide access to clean water to prevent disease, as well as expert medical and dental care. The greatest need and longest lines at our Clinics are for eye care, including surgery, which we provide throughout the weeklong Clinics.

But even more important than all of that care and service is what happens in the counseling and prayer department at one of these Medical Outreach Clinics. After each person has received care, visitors to most of our Clinics have the opportunity to stop in for counseling and prayer.

Our prayer teams listen to their needs, pray for them, and share the Good News of Yeshua with all who wish to hear. It is in those prayer tents at these JVMI Clinics that an incredible number of Jewish people and their neighbors profess their faith in Yeshua.

Your generosity makes it possible to do these things, as Yeshua commanded. Together, we heal the sick who have nowhere else to turn for care. We offer life-saving water. We help those who are oppressed and even persecuted, often because of their Jewish traditions. And we share the Gospel, first to the Jew and then to the Nations (Romans 1:16).

The need is great. And we will continue, with God's help and your support, to return to these people we have served and continue to reach out to many more.

Through your support right now, you can show your

love—and the love of Yeshua—for Jewish people and their neighbors worldwide. You'll provide the expertise, medicine, and facilities to serve those who need it most.

But, most important of all, you will give them the opportunity to receive prayer and hear the Good News of Yeshua, the Messiah.

Please give now to bring healing, health, and hope to an impoverished Jewish person somewhere in the world.

And when you do, you can be assured you're not only bringing physical healing to Jewish people, but also the Good News of Yeshua as Messiah, the Yeshua Who wants to save all who will turn to Him.

Please send your most generous gift right now to demonstrate your continued commitment to care for and proclaim the Gospel to Jewish people around the world.

Thank you for your wonderful partnership!
May God richly bless you!



As our way of saying "thank you" for any support you can provide, we would like to send you some special gifts in appreciation for your partnership in this valuable ministry.



For your gift of \$40 or more:

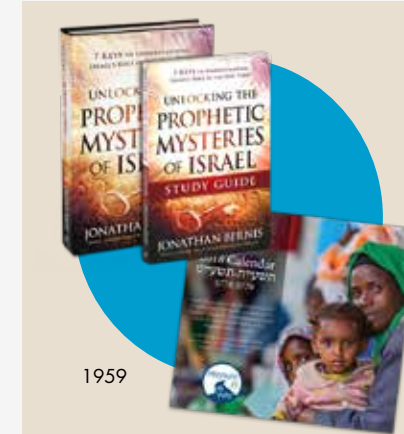
2018 Jewish Voice Wall Calendar

This exclusive 2018 Jewish Voice 12-month wall calendar features stunning full-color photographs of the work you help Jewish Voice accomplish around the world and the beautiful people your support touches. (Includes holidays for the United States, UK, Canada, and Israel, as well as the Hebrew months and years for 2018.)

Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel book PLUS study guide

by Jonathan Bernis

(see detailed descriptions on pages 8 – 9)



For your gift of \$70 or more:

2018 Jewish Voice Wall Calendar

Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel exclusive hard cover book PLUS study guide

by Jonathan Bernis

Unlocking the Prophetic Mysteries of Israel DVD set

Includes bonus material not found in the book!

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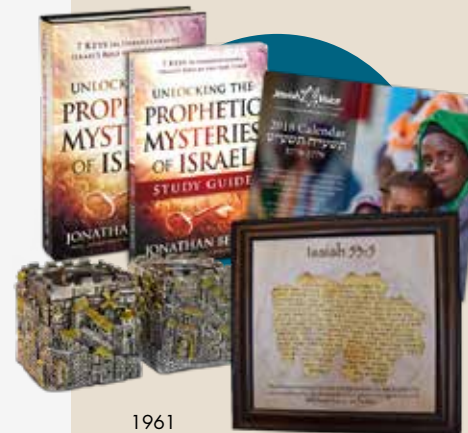
by Jonathan Bernis

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RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS

BY ASHER INTRATER

GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION NOT ONLY SAVES US FROM DAMNATION, IT ALSO RESTORES THE DAMAGE THAT WAS CAUSED BY SIN.

We believe in the biblical principle of restoration. God made everything in the world “very good” (Genesis 1:31). Yet, Adam's sin and Satan's rebellion caused much destruction. **God's plan of redemption not only saves us from damnation, it also restores the damage that was caused.**

That restoration is first personal. Our spirit, soul, and body are redeemed. However, God's restoration is also general, and includes everything in the world. Personal restoration is better known in the Christian world, while world restoration is better known in the Jewish world. The New Covenant includes both.

The traditional Jewish prayer, “Aleinu” (It is incumbent upon us), which closes every service, three times per day, makes a petition “to repair the world in the kingdom of El Shaddai.” The word here for “repair” is “Tikkun.” [This is the name used for the cooperative ministries with Dan Juster, Don Finto, David Rudolph, Eitan Shishkoff, and Paul Wilbur.]

World restoration (Tikkun Olam) is central not only to the Tikkun ministry, but to the worldview of the kingdom of God. There are five passages in the New Covenant that speak specifically of world restoration.

Matthew 17 – The Church

Romans 11 – The Messianic remnant

Matthew 19 – Natural Creation

Acts 1 – Kingdom of Israel

Acts 3 – All Things

MATTHEW 17:11

Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.

Yeshua prophesies that someone in the spirit and power of Elijah will come “first” – that means before Yeshua returns. The “days of Elijah” restoration will take place before the 2nd Coming. The phrase, “all things,” cannot mean all things in the world, because that will only happen after Yeshua returns. This restoration is

parallel to the prophecy that “the bride will make herself ready” (Revelation 19:7). The elements of the kingdom of God will be restored within the community of faith before Yeshua returns. When He returns, what is within the people of God will be revealed and given to the nations. A central theme of prophetic ministry in our generation is the restoration of the true Church as we approach the 2nd Coming.

ROMANS 11:15

What will their restoration be but life from the dead?

There will also be a restoration of the Messianic remnant of Israel. This dual restoration can be seen in Revelation 7:4 and 9. The elements to be restored are those found in the early community of faith in the book of Acts. There we see sacrificial love, extravagant giving, bold evangelism, miraculous signs, and unity of the saints.

The end times remnant of Israel will be even stronger than the apostolic community of the first century (Romans 11:12). The revival of the end times will be greater than the revival they experienced (Acts 2:17). The Messianic remnant will be a key element leading to the resurrection of the dead.

MATTHEW 19:28

In the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.



As both the international Church and the remnant of Israel come into their fullness (Romans 11:15 and 25), they will together call upon Yeshua to return (Matthew 23:39, Revelation 22:20). At that time, the kingdom of God will be established on the earth for a thousand years. This Millennial kingdom will include two key elements.

The first is “regeneration.” The Hebrew translation says, “renewal of creation.” The Greek original is *paliggenesia*. *Pali* means “again” and *genesia* means “genesis,” like creation in the book of Genesis. Natural creation will be redeemed (Romans 8:19-22). The heavens and earth will be renewed as they were immediately after the flood of Noah (II Peter 3:3-5). People will begin to live longer lives (Isaiah 65:17, 20).

The second element is a worldwide kingdom with its capital in Jerusalem.

ACTS 1:6

Will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?

The apostles expected Yeshua to restore the Davidic kingdom immediately upon His resurrection from the dead. However, He told them they first had to receive the Holy Spirit and preach the gospel to the nations. His kingdom was to be international, not just Israelite; and spiritual, not just governmental. It is a renewal and expansion of the Davidic kingdom (Isaiah 2:2-4). The former dominion will be restored

(Micah 4:8).

Yeshua will sit upon His throne in Jerusalem; the apostles will sit on twelve thrones governing the tribes of Israel. Those who have “followed Him” will sit on thrones governing the rest of the nations when Yeshua returns in glory (Matthew 16:27; 19:28; 24:30; 24:46-47; 25:21; 25:31; 26:64).

ACTS 3:21

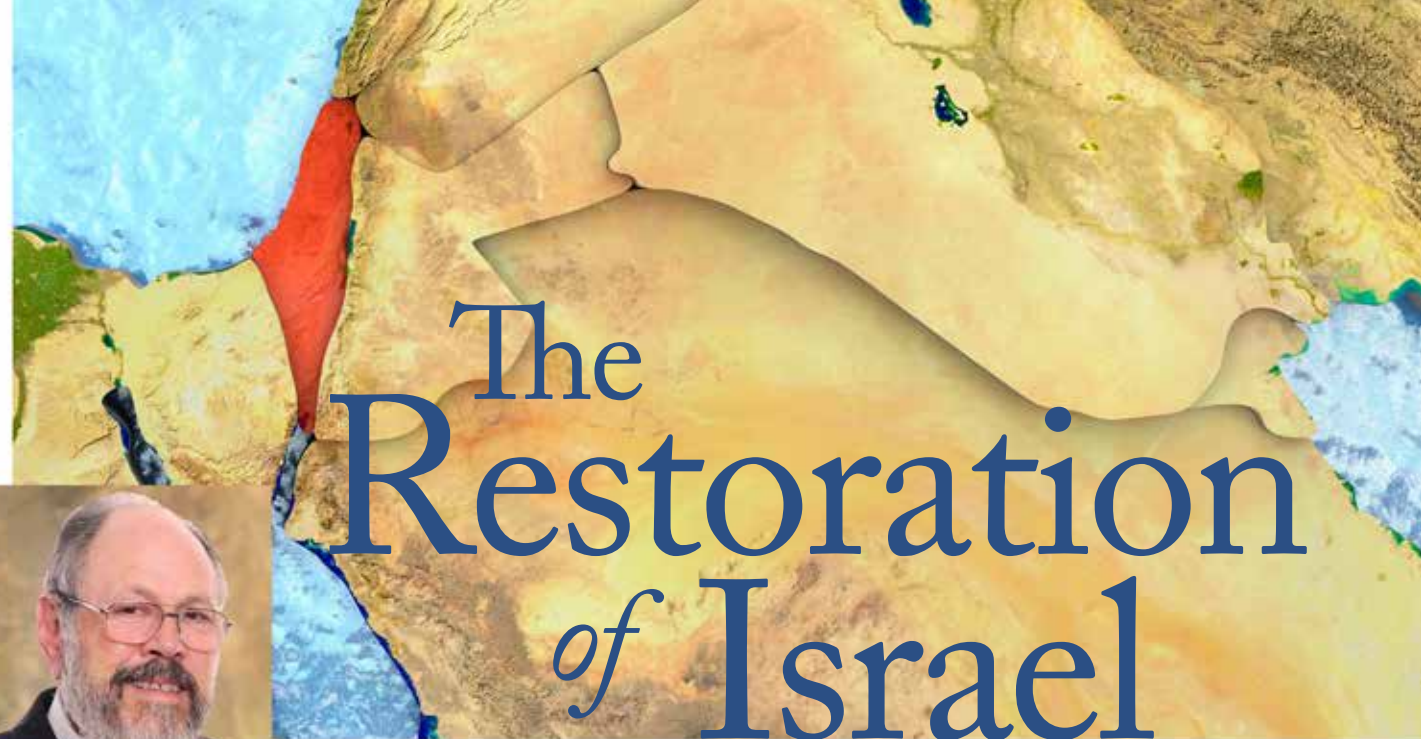
Whom the heavens must receive until the time of the restoration of all things; which God has spoken by the mouth of all His prophets since the world began.

Ultimately, God will restore all things. There is nothing that will not be restored. This includes everything planned at creation; everything prophesied to Israel; everything promised to the Church. It includes all things in heaven and earth (Ephesians 1:10). God's commitment to restore all things is a source of great hope and encouragement to us all. 🇺🇸



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.



BY DAN JUSTER

The doctrine of the restoration of Israel has a long and revered place in the history of Protestant theology. Its roots go back to the Puritans. From there it passed to the Lutheran Pietists in Germany and Scandinavia. By the mid-19th century, it was the consensus doctrine of British and American Christianity. I summarize this history in my book, *Passion for Israel*.

The basic doctrine of the restoration of Israel teaches the following points: First, that the Jewish people are still God's elect people and will be preserved as a distinct people forever. Second, that they will be returned to their historic homeland in the Middle East. Third, that they, as a nation, will finally accept Yeshua (Jesus) and be submitted to His Kingship over Israel.

Some taught that the return to their homeland would take place after the embrace of Yeshua. But by the mid-19th century, the return

to the land—at least in part—was seen as preceding that restoration. In addition, many, but not all believed that Israel's salvation would lead to the Millennial Age when Israel would be the chief of the nations and would rule with the resurrected or translated Body of the Messiah.

So convinced of this were the British Anglicans and German Lutheran Church leaders that they agreed to cooperate on establishing an Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem to receive the returning Jewish people that they might accept Yeshua. Anglican Christ Church still stands in the same location as a testimony to the planting of the church by Jewish Bishop Solomon Alexander. The project of Christ Church was endorsed by Queen Victoria and British Parliament. At this point, it looked like replacement theology was in decline and being overcome.

In the mid-20th century, this doctrine was used as part of effective evangelism in the Jesus

movement. One of the most important books popularizing this was Hal Lindsay's, “The Late Great Planet Earth.”

Though I disagree with some of his dispensational scheme, his presentation of the return of the Jewish people to the Land is solid. A copy of his book can be found on the desk of Prime Minister David Ben Gurion in the Kibbutz Sde Boker residence of his last years.

The doctrine was also used effectively in launching the modern Messianic Jewish movement. The greatest example of this was in the evangelistic pioneering work of Manny Brotman in his, “Jewish Bible Approach,” and in the presentation in John Fischer's, “His Ambassadors to God's People.”

The average person reading Scripture will quite easily see what the text says and can conclude that the Bible is a supernatural book. So the anti-restoration people give up a most powerful evidence for believing in the Bible

as God's word.

I argue that our doctrine of restoration is solidly based on a natural reading of the Bible in its original context, and the meaning of a text is first of all its original context. We quote only a few of these important texts.

“I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them, says the LORD your God” (Amos 9:15).

Does this verse speak to the ethnic-national people or a metaphorical future people from all nations who will inherit the eternal Kingdom which is metaphorically the Land? Would this interpretation be a comfort to faithful ancient Israelites?

“Judah will be inhabited forever and Jerusalem through all generations. Their bloodguilt, which I have not pardoned, I will pardon. The LORD dwells in Zion” (Joel 3:20-21).

This passage comes after the description of a severe world judgment of nations that are described as invading Israel. It is hard to see how this would be the Church.

“Is it too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept? I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth” (Isaiah 49:6).

There is no legitimate way to confuse the meaning here. The promise is to Israel and includes

“I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.” ISAIAH 49:6



the salvation of the nations. A new Israel of Jew and Gentile replacing Israel cannot be the interpretation.

“Can a mother forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you. See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me. Your sons hasten back and those who laid you waste depart from you. Lift up your eyes and look around; all your sons gather and come to you. . . Though you were ruined and laid waste, now you will be too small for your people, and those who devoured you will be far away. The children born during your bereavement will yet say in your hearing, “This

place is too small for us; give us more space to live in” (Isaiah 49:15-20).

Can this be the situation after the first return after Babylonian captivity? No, for this glorious turning of the nations to favor Israel to this extent has not yet happened. Indeed, the first return was a small minority. The Jewish people of the first century were a minority, less than 1/3 of those alive at the time. Israel remained under foreign domination except for one brief and corrupt period.

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; . . . Foreigners will rebuild your walls and kings will serve you. Though in anger I struck you, in favor I will show you compassion. Your gates will always stand open, they will never be shut, day or night, so that men may bring you the wealth of the nations, their kings led in triumphal procession. For the nation that will not serve you will perish; it will be utterly ruined. . . No longer will violence be heard in your land, nor ruin

or destruction within your borders, but you will call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise. . . the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end. Then will all your people be righteous, and they will possess the land forever. They are the shoot I have planted, the work of my hands . . . for the display of my splendor” (Isaiah 60 selections).

It is a comfort to know that Jerusalem's destroyed (or past) glory will soon be restored.

“So then, the days are coming,” declares the LORD, ‘when people will no longer say, “As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,” but they will say, “As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the descendants of Israel up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.” Then they will live in their own land” (Jeremiah 23:7-8).

Can this be the Church? No, the Church was not banished. Can this be the return from Babylon? No, this was a small remnant that returned and 500 years later was still a minority of the Jewish people, perhaps less than a third. There was never such a mighty and great return such that this language was used, not until today. There is still more to come from this verse. This return is to make the Exodus pale by comparison. This has to be a prophetic word about the literal

national people of Israel.

“For I will take you out of the nations, I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities, and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees, and be careful to keep my laws. You will live in the land I give your forefathers, and you will be my people, and I will be your God. I will save you from all your uncleanness” (Ezekiel 36:24-29).

In this passage on the New Covenant, parallel to Jeremiah 31, we have an amazing promise to the national people that has not yet been fulfilled. The meaning is plain. The promise of being born again is connected to the return to the Land, and there is a national salvation.

Certainly Paul had many passages in mind when he wrote looking forward to this national salvation in Romans 11. Note this and the wars that are described at the end, including in Joel 3, Zechariah 12 and 14, and Ezekiel 38 and 39 would not fit if the return to the Land was only after the Jewish people embrace Yeshua.

So in all these ways, the doctrine of the Restoration of Israel has the most firm foundation and is solid indeed. When Romans 11:28 and 29 tell us that the gifts and call of God to Israel are irrevocable, we clearly are to understand the fulfillment of all God's promises to Israel in their Land! 🇮🇱

Dr. Daniel Juster

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.

This book was written to counter destructive and widespread distortions that cause Christians and Jews to misunderstand each other. *Passion for Israel: A Short History of the Evangelical Church's Commitment to the Jewish People and Israel* aims to help heal past wounds and inspire more Christians to stand together in support of Israel.

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UPDATE THE IGBO OF NIGERIA

Last February, we went to a group of people in Nigeria who strongly identify with and believe themselves to be descended from the ancient Jewish people of Israel. We were hosted by an organization called the Redeemed Israel Community of Nigeria (RICON). We conducted DNA testing on 124 males identified by RICON (as representative of the Igbo community).

The DNA samples were sent to a trusted DNA lab in the United States. They were then compared to the worldwide data repository of Jewish samples amassed over the past 17 years. This repository includes the datasets of Dr. Michael Hammer, Ph.D. from the University of Arizona's Anthropology department, along with



the sample collection of Dr. Doron Behar, M.D., Ph.D. from Israel. These two scholars are the authors of all the relevant scientific papers on the DNA analysis concerning the Jewish people published over the past 20 years.

After a careful comparison, the lab was not able to find any connection to the samples we collected. Jewish populations from around the world are found in 9 discrete subsets of humanity. These are in the following scientific groups: E1b, G, J1, J2, Q, R1a, R1b, Q and T. The entire sample set collected from the 124 Igbo males are from a different branch, commonly known as E1a, an African branch of the tree, like the E1b mentioned above. However, while the Jewish E1b group is from North Africa (Arab) populations, the samples from the Igbo tribe are from E1a, which is restricted to sub-Saharan African populations.



Our purpose for providing this DNA testing for RICON was to assist them in their pursuit of truth concerning their historical lineage and identity. They are a remarkable group of people, and, although the DNA test results did not support their claim to be descendants of the ancient people of Israel, we consider them our brothers and sisters through our common faith in the Messiah, Yeshua. 🇺🇸



Members of the Igbo tribe of Nigeria

Do you ever wonder if **YOU** might be Jewish?

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Hebrew School

WITH
DANNY BEN GIGI



The Meaning of the Name Israel, *Yis•ra•el*

The important names in the Bible are not random. As the story concerning each character unfolds, we learn how closely connected the Hebrew name is to the narrative. **All other languages fall short in demonstrating how:**

- 1) The biblical name foreshadows the future of each personality,
- 2) The Hebrew name both mirrors and substantiates the truthfulness of biblical events and prophecies.

Although reading the Bible in English is also perceived by Believers as reading truth, the immediate sense of substantiation, as reflected in the mere Hebrew name, is missing from the non-Hebrew reading experience. This is just one reason why it is so important for every Bible follower to obtain some knowledge of Hebrew. Certainly, it will help you understand Israel better.

The most prevalent name in the Bible is *Israel*. It appears more than 2,500 times in the Old Testament and about 80 times in the New Testament. Israel is also a perfect example of the Name-Fate connection we see frequently in biblical names.

The name *Israel* was first introduced in the Bible in Genesis 32:28: 'And he said, **Your name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel; for as a prince you have power with God and with men, and have prevailed.**' In fact, the translation: 'you have power' is somewhat weak. The Hebrew word that is used in this verse is 'sa•ri•ta'

יִשְׂרָאֵל

It is a past tense verb that comes from the root word 'Sar.' Sar is 'a prince' or 'leader,' but as a verb, such as in this verse, it relates to the main characteristic associated with leadership: fighting. In the verse above, 'sa•ri•ta' relates to the biblical verb that means 'to fight' or even better, 'to wrestle.' In a way, taking the action of a prince, leader, or hero...giving a fight! Say 'Israel' out loud, and you won't miss the sound connection between the two words: 'Israel' and 'wrestle.' Can you hear the similarity between these two otherwise unrelated words? Now you know the origin of the word 'wrestle' and you also know the full meaning of the name Israel: 'wrestled with God.'

CORRECTION

In the Glen Campbell article of the 4th quarter magazine, we incorrectly identified the woman in this photo as Glen's wife, Kim. It is actually Messianic Jewish singer and worship leader Corry Bell with Glen Campbell and Jack Zimmerman.



IN MEMORIAM



It is with sadness that we report the passing of Dorothy (Dotti) Solomon, a beloved member of the Jewish Voice Ministries International Board of Directors.

Dotti was a dedicated leader, servant and an inspiration in Messianic Jewish ministry. She served two elected terms as the only female president of the 102-year-old Messianic Jewish Alliance of America (MJAA). For two decades, she was Executive Director of the Messianic Jewish Israel Fund (MJIF).

Dotti and her husband, Robert, co-founded the first Messianic Jewish synagogue in the Southeast United States, Congregation Beth Hallel in Roswell, Georgia. Her commitment to the Jewish people and Messianic movement was further evidenced by her faithful service on the boards of several organizations in addition to JVMI, including Jewish Believers & Friends, Yachad Ministries, MJAA, and the Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries (FIRM).

"It has been a privilege to know and serve with such a dynamic, faithful woman of God," said Jonathan Bernis, president and CEO of Jewish Voice Ministries. "We will greatly miss Dotti and extend to her family our prayers for God's comfort and peace."



Be a part of these life-changing trips as together we prepare the way of the Lord!

God has called Jewish Voice to be on the front lines of the battle to take the Good News of Yeshua to the world. Now we invite you to join us on this journey as together we live out the ancient words of Isaiah 40:

"Prepare the way of the Lord."

Whether you're a medical or a non-medical professional, we need volunteers like you on medical outreaches to Jewish communities in some of the most impoverished parts of the world.

We're preparing the way of the Lord, bringing much-needed medical treatment and the truth that these precious people can have a hope and a future through Yeshua the Messiah.

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