

JEW for JESUS

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE CHRISTIAN WHO WANTS
TO KNOW MORE ABOUT JEWS AND EVANGELISM

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Out of Egypt

By David Brickner, executive director

A Passover riddle to ponder: *when does a haven of safety become a house of slavery?*

Along with that riddle, I'll pose one of the most difficult commands for believers in Jesus to get straight: how to be in the world but not of it. It is a challenging paradox. Many of us are either "so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good" or else as Hemingway once said, "the world is too much a part of us."

The story of Passover provides an interesting parallel to that paradox and helps to solve the riddle. Egypt represents a divine irony in Scripture. God delivers His servants out of Egypt, yet it was He who sent them there in the first place.

It was part of God's great plan for the Jewish people to sojourn in Egypt. He told Abraham of His plan well in advance. (Genesis 15:13) We know that God allowed Joseph to be sold into slavery in Egypt in order to prepare the way. When famine threatened the lives of Jacob and his children, the Lord had already secured a refuge. That is why Joseph was able to tell his terrified brothers, "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive" (Genesis 50:20).

Egypt became God's incubator for the nation of Israel. Jacob and his offspring numbered only 70 people when Joseph called for them. Egypt became a haven of safety, and it was in the safety and security of affluent Egypt that Israel grew to be a mighty nation.

Jacob's descendants might have been content to remain in their relative comfort, yet Egypt was not to be the destiny of the Jewish nation. As surely as God had sent them there, God arranged to bring the Jewish people out of Egypt. A pharaoh arose who did not know Joseph, and the haven of safety became a "house of slavery" for Israel.

The suffering of the Jews in Egypt was extreme. Forced labor was the only occupation permitted. When it came to Jewish

babies, infanticide was official public policy. The people became desperate and cried out to God, who it seems had been waiting to hear from them, because He was quick to raise up a deliverer.

The identity of the nation of Israel is wrapped up in the story of Passover and how God delivered us "out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be His people, an inheritance . . ." (Deuteronomy 4:20). Through deliverance from Egypt, Israel was reborn. God sealed His relationship with the Israelites and demonstrated His power to the nations of the world.

For Israel, Egypt was both a haven of safety and house of slavery. The key is the ability to distinguish one from the other. When does a haven of safety become a house of slavery? When you try to stay too long . . . when you mistake safety for security and comfort distracts you from destiny. In other words, you have to know when to stay and when to get going.

**You have to know
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when to get going.**

In the Bible, Egypt is a good place to be *from*. The most common prepositions associated with Egypt in Scripture are "out of." But it took an onslaught of persecution for Israel to recognize that her destiny lay elsewhere. I sometimes wonder if we Christians might require a similar wake-up call. Like the Jewish people in Egypt, many believers in Jesus, especially in the United States, have enjoyed a safe haven for years. The freedoms we enjoy and the prosperity with which we have been blessed have enabled us to grow strong. Much good has been accomplished for God through the free exercise of our faith. Yet I am afraid that we may have forgotten that, like Israel in Egypt, we are but sojourners on this earth. Our destiny lies elsewhere.

Could it be that our haven of safety has become a house of slavery and we haven't realized it yet? God wants His children to be in the world, not of it. He wants us to evangelize the world, not become ensconced in it. He wants us to bear witness to the world that there is salvation only in Messiah Jesus. Have we become so comfortable that we can't hear the call of God, "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord"? Have we become slaves to the pleasures of this world?

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Many churches and Christian ministries today have become what Moishe Rosen has called, “non-prophet organizations.” They are so eager to preach from a platform of respectability that they become unwilling to risk offending anyone with the truth. Consequently, they are no longer able to declare with conviction, “thus saith the Lord.” Maybe you’ve heard the aphorism, “God has called us as Christians not only to comfort the afflicted but to afflict the comfortable.”

If we become too comfortable, then it is we who will need to be afflicted in order to realize our destiny and move accordingly. If we become enslaved to the perpetuation of our own comfort, how will we bear the reproach of Christ? God forbid that our churches stop being a haven of safety and become a house of slavery. I’m afraid that is what many do become when people are unwilling to shine the gospel light outside of the four walls of their sanctuary.

The struggle against giving in to one’s own comfort is not peculiar to local churches. It is universal. I have to confess, we struggle against the very same inclination in Jews For Jesus. Our ministry exists to speak of Christ to the unsaved. Yet we can find many worthwhile ways to promote Jewish evangelism that would not include facing direct rejection by our fellow Jews as we personally invite them to consider Jesus. That is why we need your prayers; it’s why we have systems in place to hold one another accountable. Many ministries and missionaries to the Jews who have not had these safeguards have lost their effectiveness. I don’t want Jews for Jesus ever to become a “non-prophet organization.” We have a commitment to spend the majority of our time and resources sharing the gospel directly with those who don’t yet believe. I hope that you will continue to uphold us in this commitment.

Don’t forget that Moses had to face the problem that many Christians face today. He faced that problem, and he overcame it. Although he was a Hebrew, he had gained acceptance and acceptability into the highest echelons of Egyptian society. He was comfortably ensconced in Pharaoh’s household. Yet God called him out of that haven of safety to be His prophet and the one by whom he would deliver Israel from slavery. “By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt . . .” (Hebrews 11:24-26). Moses was *in* Egypt but was not *of* Egypt. He knew when to come and when to go.

And what shall we say of Y’shua (Jesus)? He, too, found a haven of safety in Egypt. When Herod was seeking our

Lord’s life, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. Joseph and his family were to flee from Herod, escape to Egypt and remain there until it was safe to return home. Matthew tells us that this was to fulfill the words of prophecy, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.” Once again we see the irony in Scripture. God provided safety for the Savior in Egypt in order that He might provide salvation for everyone in the world, including Egyptians!

Imagine if Miriam (Mary) and Joseph had not responded to the angel’s message that it was time to leave Egypt. Imagine if they had balked at the inconvenience of being uprooted or if they did not trust the message that their baby’s life was no longer in danger.

We can’t always be “safe” but we can always be secure when we follow the path that God has laid before us.

Jesus had to leave Egypt in order to bring us salvation. His destiny on this earth was not to hide from His enemies or to use His gifts to make a comfortable living. His life

was preserved in Egypt so that He could willingly lay it down. He calls us to follow Him, to come out of our own safe havens to bring the message of salvation to the whole world.

God in His grace might bless us with many comforts, but if we cling to those comforts, they ensnare us . . . and our safe havens become houses of slavery. God’s blessings are not only material. He might provide us with a very special experience to encourage us, to reveal His presence or His will. We should enjoy these experiences, but they, too, can become a prison if we cling to them. After Peter, James and John witnessed the Transfiguration, they were ready to camp out permanently with Jesus, Moses and Elijah—but their destinies lay elsewhere. God had allowed them to witness this “high point” knowing that they were about to experience a deep and dark valley of sorrow.

We can’t always be “safe” but we can always be secure when we follow the path that God has laid before us. And our ultimate safety has been guaranteed by our risen Lord.

May God deliver us from becoming “non-prophet” Christians. May we lay down our “respectability” and, if need be, our lives in obedience to Him. May we remember that we are in the world so that we might bring His message of salvation *to* the world. And may we refrain from setting our hearts on those things that are temporary. For whatever we may encounter here on earth is not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to come . . . when our sojourn on earth is ended and we enter the ultimate, unending and altogether glorious safe haven in the very presence of our Savior. ☆

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Passover Memories

If you really want to experience the “flavor” of the Passover season, Melissa Moskowitz offers the following memories and recipe:

When I was a little girl growing up in New York City, a highlight was having Passover each year at my grandparents’ house in Washington Heights (a neighborhood in upper Manhattan). I imagined that I could smell my grandmother’s cooking as soon as I emerged from the subway station, five blocks away! Her tiny apartment consisted of a combination living room/dining room/kitchen plus a separate bedroom and bathroom. The “kitchen” was too small to store anything extra for the holiday, so the bedroom was transformed into a “keeping room.” Cookies, cakes and boxes of matzoh filled every available windowsill and spilled over onto the tops of dressers and night stands. I always headed straight for that bedroom as soon as we arrived. I would sit on the bed, inhale the fragrance deeply and pretend I was in some sort of Passover heaven.

I remember the year my cousin and I got scolded for

sneaking too many bites of Grandma’s toasted walnut cake—it was halfway gone by the time my grandmother brought it to the table! We suggested that maybe a squirrel had eaten it off the windowsill and observed that Grandma should find a better place to store Passover goodies. We went home stuffed with Passover food but were unable to sit down for the seven remaining days of the holiday!

Unfortunately, I never thought to copy down any of my grandmother’s recipes, and they seem to have disappeared over the years. This recipe comes amazingly close to the cake that got my cousin and me in so much trouble. So watch out for little squirrels, and enjoy!



Toasted Walnut Cake

1 1/2 cups walnut halves or pieces
7 egg whites (or the equivalent in “Simply Whites,” a powdered egg white product)
2/3 cup sugar
7 egg yolks OR 3 egg yolks plus enough liquid egg substitute to equal four eggs
3 tablespoons matzoh meal (NOT matzoh cake meal)
1 tablespoon finely grated orange or lemon peel
confectioner’s sugar, if desired

- In a 325 degree oven, toast walnuts on a cookie sheet until lightly browned (about five minutes—watch carefully to prevent burning). Set aside to cool.
- In a deep, medium-sized bowl, beat egg whites with electric mixer (medium speed) until frothy. Add 1/3 cup sugar, increase speed to high and beat until glossy, stiff peaks form.
- In another bowl, beat the egg yolks or yolk/egg substitute mixture with a whisk (or clean, electric mixer on medium speed) until light and frothy. Add the remaining sugar and continue beating until thick and lemon-colored.
- Grind cooled walnuts in blender or food processor to meal-like consistency. Stir in matzoh meal and grated peel.
- Fold walnut/matzoh meal mixture into the beaten yolks. Fold yolk mixture into the beaten whites. Combine until few white streaks remain, being careful not to break down the egg whites.
- Pour into a 10x15x1-inch cookie sheet or jelly roll pan lined with brown or parchment paper. Bake 15 minutes or until cake springs back when lightly touched. Cool completely in pan on wire rack. When cool, cut into three equal rectangles and peel off paper. If desired, top can be sprinkled lightly with sifted confectioner’s sugar. Makes at least 12 servings.



Would you like to see your recipe in print? Melissa Moskowitz edited our first full-sized collection of recipes known as the *Jews for Jesus Family Cookbook*, with over 300 taste tantalizing dishes, many of which were contributed by friends like you. The cookbook was a great success, but since Melissa has gotten fit she is now watching her fat grams. “Many recipes in my first cookbook require a two hour workout to burn off the calories,” she sighs. Now Melissa is compiling the second *Jews for Jesus* cookbook, and she is looking for healthy, low fat

recipes. She needs your help!

Foods of all ethnic origins are welcome. Melissa promises to consider all suggestions. You can contact her either by e-mail at holicow2@aol.com or c/o Jews for Jesus, 4550 Oakton, Skokie, IL 60076. Don’t send her your recipes, but let her know what recipes you’d like to submit. Send your suggestion by May 30th.

This is a one-time offer. The last cookbook took 13 years to put together. Melissa says she won’t last that long this time.

A Passover in Russia

The evening before, all of us had participated in a public Passover seder demonstration that the Moscow station of Jews For Jesus hosted in a local movie theater. Now it was the traditional “second seder night,” and our family of staff and volunteers gathered in Ella Libkina’s home to celebrate more privately our redemption through the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

More than once that night, my eyes wandered to the punctured window pane that overlooks the building where the Duma, the Russian Parliament, meets. Coincidentally, the building is called the White House. The puncture in Ella’s window is a legacy from a night in 1993, when a conflict between Russia’s president and Russia’s parliament had to be resolved with tanks and troops.

Some might think that the puncture in Ella’s window is a reminder of the precarious state of affairs in a Russia that struggles with its first experiment in democracy. Some might think it is a sorry promise of what is yet to be. We’ll see.

Yet regardless of present problems, regardless of the possible perils of the future, there was great rejoicing on the night that we celebrated Passover in Ella Libkina’s apartment.

Whatever the future might hold, these Post-Soviet Jews For Jesus were free. And not just free. They were redeemed in the fullest sense of the word—redeemed for service. Through their faith in the death and resurrection of the Messiah Y’shua, they had been freed from one master—sin. Now, they were servants of another Master—the Lord who had purchased them with His blood. For the present, all of them had chosen to remain in Russia so that together we might proclaim the Gospel to our people in the place where

they are most willing to listen—within the confines of the former Soviet State.

Before the seder ended at Ella’s place, the thought came to me that I had been sitting, eating and fellowshiping in the midst of an answered prayer. So, I decided to tell the others.

“I won’t make a speech,” I promised in Russian.

“We don’t believe you,” Nadya quickly cut in.

“Okay, okay, I’ll make a speech,” I admitted.

“See?” Nadya said.

“When I was a boy in America, every year at Pesach we talked about the Jewish people who were still imprisoned within the Soviet Union. And every year at the seder, we recited special prayers for the liberation of all people who were still enslaved, especially for our people behind the iron curtain. Now we’re here together.” I stopped for a moment. Then I added, “You’re an answer to my prayer.”

When I was a boy, I had no idea of the freedom I would one day find . . . or that I would travel thousands of miles and learn a new language to help bring it to my Russian brothers and sisters.

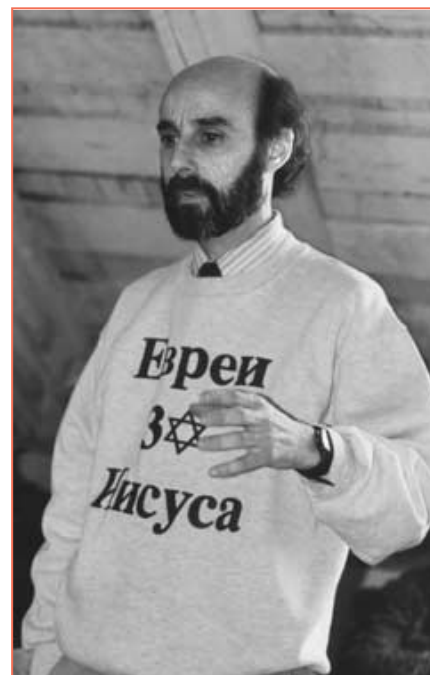
Real freedom is not found in a place. It’s found in a Person.

Real freedom is not a license to pursue our personal goals. It’s a responsibility to perform the will of the One who purchased us.

Real freedom is not liberation FROM service. Rather, it is being set free IN ORDER to serve.

“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36).

—Avi Snyder, chief of station
Moscow



Avi Snyder



Outreach workers in the CIS

It Began With a Taxi

Here is the way that God works; it is beyond anything we could imagine or plan! I had occasion to take a taxi to Queens from Manhattan. Noting the driver's accent, I asked if he spoke Russian, and he said "Yes." Then I asked if he spoke Buhareian, which is a Russian-Jewish Ukrainian language. He again said "Yes." When I asked his last name, it was a name I knew. I asked if he knew someone I had gone to school with—her first name is Maffrat. "She is my father's sister!" he replied. I told him that I had gone to school with his aunt since kindergarten, although I had not seen her for 50 years. He was so happy to meet an old friend of the family that he invited me to his home.

After two days I went to visit the taxi driver with a Bible in my hand. His mother and father recognized me because they had been my neighbors in Uzbekistan. When I began to talk about Jesus, they told me, "This is not for us, we are Jewish." While I was speaking to them, their upstairs neighbor, Sasha, who was visiting listened intently. Finally he asked "How can I find this book [the Bible] like you have?" I said, "If you are serious you will have this book."

Sasha did not invite me to visit, but when I did come to visit they were so happy to see me. I gave him and his wife, Ilana,

a Bible and began to meet with them regularly.

Shortly after the first of January, I came to wish them a happy New Year and to ask if they were ready to open their hearts to

Jesus. I opened the Bible to Revelation 3 and asked who they thought was knocking and what the door is. They responded that it was Jesus knocking on the door of their hearts. They both desired to invite Him in and accept the salvation He offers.

Sasha has been attending the Bible study regularly. Ilana works late and is not able to attend, but they are reading their Bible and have many questions. It is a joy to see God work in their lives—and it all began with a taxi ride!

—Elizabeth Terini, missionary
New York City



Elizabeth Terini

Campus Evangelism in the United Kingdom

Our London chief of station Richard Harvey and missionary Jonathan had the opportunity to visit Oxford and speak to a group of Christian students about Jesus and having faith in light of the Holocaust. Students were encouraged to bring their Jewish friends, and they did. There was enough interest for two sessions. Four Jewish students came to the first session and joined Richard and Jonathan for supper later that evening. The Christian friend who invited them wrote a letter to say,



Richard Harvey

Dear Richard,
Thank you very much indeed for giving the time to do both the talks and for coming to supper. God was amazing in bringing Aaron, Justin Brenda and Susie [her Jewish friends] along. It is brilliant that now my Jewish friends realize that it is possible for a Jew to consider the claims of Jesus seriously and I look forward to and pray for many more conversations about Him, which this mission has helped to make possible. I learnt a lot from the evening too. It was great too that they really enjoyed the evening too—we stayed on chatting until after 1:00 a.m. after you went, and they all took some of your booklets. [We published Richard's testimony in booklet form.] I was also excited that another [Jewish] friend Jack came to the 2nd talk, as well as Daniel. Thank you very much for your prayers and I will keep you posted about what goes on here.
Many thanks again for everything.

Love in Jesus .
Claire

Prayer Prompters

Please pray for:

- the peace of Jerusalem through Jesus, the Prince of Peace
- the window of democracy to remain open in the former Soviet Union so we can continue to proclaim the message of freedom in Jesus (p. 4)
- grace and strength for new believers Sasha and Ilana in New York (p. 5)
- salvation for Jewish students Aaron, Justin, Brenda, Susie, Jack and Daniel at Oxford (p. 5)
- grace and strength for new believer Lara in Washington, D.C. (p. 8)
- salvation for Frank in Florida (p. 8)
- salvation for Joy in Florida (p. 8)
- grace and strength for new (83-year-old!) believer Lucille in Southern California (p. 8)
- grace and strength for new believer Ginger in Rockland, MA (p. 8)
- grace and strength for new believer Selma in New York (p. 8)
- grace and strength for new believer Evelyn in New York (p. 8)
- grace and strength for new believer Vlad in New York (p. 8)
- grace and strength for new believer Steve in Atlanta (p. 8)
- continued encouragement and spiritual growth for Valentin in Odessa (p. 8)

From Our Israel Correspondent: A Day To Remember



One name after another flashes across the television screen. Every twenty seconds the name of a soldier and the year he or she died in defense of the nation appears. Within twenty-four hours, 18,200 names flicker on and off the screen just as their lives briefly flickered on and off this earth. It is the national Day of Remembrance for those who gave their lives in defense of the nation of Israel.

Regular television programming is suspended. Instead, stations broadcast special programs of a very personal nature. Many include interviews of families who lost sons and daughters. Newspapers publish touching articles about personal loss and heroism. National empathy is enormous for the widows and the fatherless, and for the parents who hoped their children would outlive them. Hardly anyone in this small nation has been untouched by the icy hand of war.

From a national view point remembrance is essential for a young country that is still very much unsettled and at war, or at least beset on many sides with the threat of war. The reminder is if we want a homeland, if we want a place where Jewish people can live without fear, then we must defend that homeland with our most precious resource, and that is our lives and the lives of our children.

It is interesting that the Day of Remembrance comes nineteen days after the Passover. God gave Passover as the occasion for remembering the Exodus from Egypt. Every year for the last 3,500 years, Jewish families around the world have gathered to remember the goodness of God who created the rebirth of a nation, bringing our people from slavery to freedom.

The Lord often urged the Israelites to remember that they were slaves in Egypt and it is the Lord who brought them out (for example, Deuteronomy 5:15). God frequently offered this humbling reminder that Israel exists because of God's love and watch care, and not because of our own efforts.

The basis for God's commitment to Israel is the divine promise that He, too, will remember. "But for their sake I will remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that I might be their God: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 26:45).

The contemporary Day of Remembrance emphasizes the sacrifices that people have made for the sake of Israel. I think it is right to honor those who have died in their country's service. How much more important is it to remember what God has done for us.

Remembrance isn't just for Jews or the nation of Israel. All believers in Y'shua (Jesus) are called to remember the greatest event in history. It is the sacrifice of God's only Son, a sacrifice He made in His war with sin and death. Y'shua foreshadowed that event as He celebrated Passover. When He took the bread, He blessed it, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, ". . . 'This is My body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you'" (Luke 22:19,20).

Y'shua's disciples did not know at that point exactly what they would be remembering, but it all became clear with Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection those next few days.

God wants us to remember what He has done for us so that we can appreciate Him, and because what He's done in the past helps us trust Him for the future. Whether it is Israel's Remembrance Day, American Memorial Day or just a time when you are reflecting on life and freedom, God wants us to remember that His great salvation in Y'shua is what makes us truly free.

As you think of Israel's Remembrance Day this month, please pray that the Prince of Peace will come soon to reconcile the peoples of the Middle East. Even more, pray that He will make their hearts receptive to Jesus, who alone can reconcile both Jews and Arabs to Himself.

A Word From Moishe

Please don't leave but . . .

We hope you'll wait with us until the Lord comes and we can all go home together. But in case you do find it necessary to leave this planet before He comes, we'll understand and be reunited in His presence.

Some of you have planned well for your departure; others need to do some planning. Otherwise, some things that you worked for, believed in, and want to support won't get done the way you want. Please leave behind instructions as to what you want done with what you can't take with you. If those instructions include a bequest to Jews for Jesus, please let us know. We're not looking for your departure date (we still hope the Lord will arrive first!) or your destination (if you belong to Him, it's clear), but it will help set-

tle your estate earlier if all parties named in your will receive notification.

We don't talk much about naming Jews for Jesus in your will. We would prefer that you stay and continue giving donations rather than leave and arrange a bequest. However it's a good idea to have a contingency plan, should the Lord tarry.

If you're like me, you get many letters from all kinds of Christian organizations telling you that if you don't have a will, the government has a "will" for whatever you might leave behind. Now I don't know about you, but I plan to spend it all. However, I don't know the exact date of my departure and I can't reserve a ticket to arrive at my final destination at a particular time. I'm not worried about the journey, though, because I know there will be a great welcoming committee. Nevertheless, I did make out a will.

There is a difference between a Christian will and the last will and testament. Let me tell you a few things that might help.

1

Let it be your will—that is, your determination—that everyone knows how much you love Jesus. Write your testimony into your will. Attorneys will tell you that including your testimony will complicate matters, or they'll strongly suggest that you include anything that's not "legalese" as a separate addendum. Don't be intimidated by attorneys, accountants or anyone else. Arrange for a reading of your will and those who gather will patiently listen to what you have to say about Jesus.

2

In your will, be sure to tell each and every person who will be present at the reading how much you love and appreciate them. This is also a time when you can frankly straighten out misunderstandings.

3

Tell how you want your assets disposed. Don't forget that if you've been a believer for a long time and you have marked certain places in your Bible, your copy of the Scriptures will be very valuable to someone who loves you and loves the Lord. Think about your books, your jewelry—children and grandchildren will cherish those keepsakes.

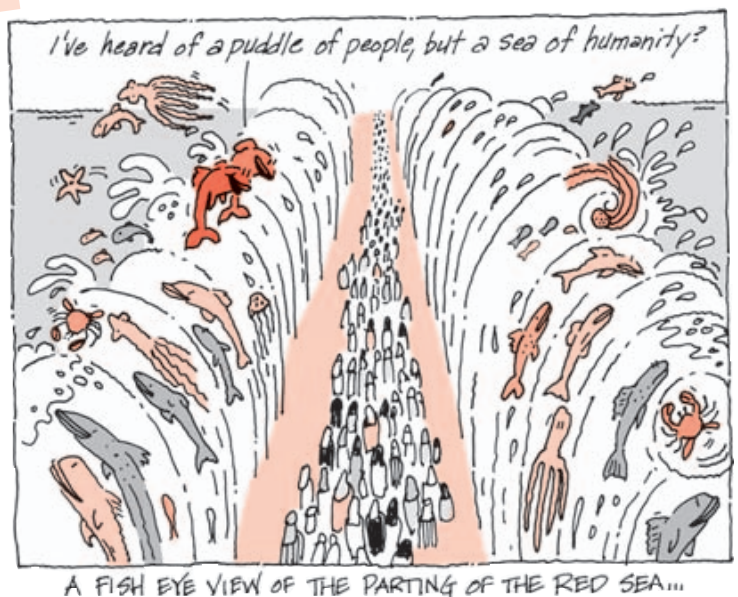
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Now I'm going to tell you what few Christian leaders will say: If your children are unbelievers, please remember them with the bulk of your estate. If bequeathing money to organizations like Jews for Jesus would cause resentment, it's better that you don't. God will keep us going. Just make sure that you witness to the unbelievers in your family.

You might tell your children that you wanted to leave money to your church and to Christian organizations like Jews for Jesus, but that you're leaving the money to them because they don't yet believe in Jesus. God forbid that any person should feel that the church got their inheritance. Perhaps in the future they will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus and will honor your desire to contribute to the Lord's work in their own will.

If you feel free to leave money to Jews for Jesus, it really will help if you'll let us know. If you need some help, feel free to contact us and we'll talk it over on the telephone.

If you would like a sample of a testimony to be a model for what you want to say in your will, let us know and we'll provide it. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



When we sow gospel seed, sometimes it falls on different ground than we had anticipated. Outreach worker Victoria Lannon reports from **Washington, D.C.**, “A Jewish believer asked me to visit with his ex-wife who has a brain tumor. In doing so, I met Lara, who takes care of this woman. Lara, who is also Jewish, was interested in the gospel and we began meeting regularly to study the Scriptures. Lara has now come to faith in Y’shua!”

We thank God for Christians who are alert for opportunities to witness in the workplace. From **Florida**, David Rothstein reports, “I went to visit Tovia Rose’s (see March issue of newsletter) grandfather, Frank, at the hospital/home where he resides. A nurse was attending to his roommate during the visit. As I was leaving, the nurse said to me, ‘Come tell Mr. Goldstein [the roommate] about Y’shua Hamashiach [Jesus the Messiah]’ Mr. Goldstein was willing to hear the gospel and he even prayed with me, asking God to show him the truth!”

Another of our **Florida** missionaries, Sharon Freeman reports, “At the Las Olas Art Festival a Jewish woman named Joy approached me and admitted that several years ago she marched up to a Jew for Jesus in New York City to say, ‘Your mother ought to be ashamed of you.’ Now she can hardly believe that she is beginning to see how people can be Jewish and believe in Jesus. She gave me her address to receive literature but commented that she would not be open to a phone call at this point.” Please pray that Joy would soon find her joy in Jesus.

From **Orange County**, Rob Wertheim reports, “It took Lucille nearly a year to contact us. It seems she saw our gospel ad in December of 1995, sent away for our booklet *A Messianic Look at Christmas and Hanukkah*, read it and accepted the Lord!! She lives in the San Diego area and I recently had my first visit with her. Lucille is 83 years old and in poor health. However, she told me that since she came to believe in Y’shua, she has a new peace about her situation.”

Mitch Forman had an amazing week of ministry in **New York City**. He reports, “72-year-old Ginger from Rockland, MA saw our gospel ad in the secular media. She returned the coupon and wrote on it: ‘Very interested. Please tell me the closest chapter.’ I called and discovered a

woman who has been interested in Jesus for years, but never committed her life to Him. We talked and prayed together, and she finally took her step of faith. Praise the Lord!”

Mitch continues, “This week was unbelievable. In addition to Ginger, I had a chance to see three other people give their life to the Lord: Selma, Evelyn, and Vlad.

There is much rejoicing in **Los Angeles** as Chief of Station Tuvya Zaretsky reports, “We want to announce an addition to the family!!! My brother-in-law is now part of God’s family. After years of prayer, Ellen’s brother, Steve, called from Georgia to let us know that he is now a believer in Jesus. Meanwhile, Joshua, Steve’s teenage son from his first marriage, really looks up to a Jewish step-cousin who is bright, kind and a great soccer player. That cousin has recently become a Jewish believer in Jesus! We hope that Joshua will be ready to consider the claims of Jesus as well.”

From **Moscow**, outreach worker Lena Akachonic reports, “I met a ‘child’ of our ministry while I was handing out literature. Alexander had received a tract from us in the metro during our Witnessing Campaign last May. After receiving our tract, he called our office and repented of his sins. He is now established at a church in Moscow. He was so delighted to see Jews for Jesus handing out more of our tracts. Praise the Lord! It was a blessing and encouragement for me to meet him.”

From **Odessa**, outreach worker Galya Bogomolova reports, “I was happy to see a Jewish man named Valentin at our weekly meeting. He is a believer who said that he did not feel God’s closeness. A few days later I was coming home in Tairovo (Tairovo is a huge neighborhood with many new buildings). I saw Valentin on the street and greeted him, but he was very upset. He said he had a very important appointment with his boss and he had lost the address. Praise Jesus—when Valentin mentioned his boss’s name, I realized he was talking about a neighbor of mine. So, I led Valentin directly to his boss and suggested that we thank the Lord for His love and tenderness and for the fact that He is always with us. Valentin was so shocked that he kept asking: ‘Could it be a mere accident?’ Then he kept answering his own question: ‘No, it is God Himself who sent you.’ Please pray for Valentin’s spiritual growth.”

