



The Zion Letter

The Newsletter of For Zion's Sake Ministries, Inc.
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Every Kingdom Divided Against Itself Is Brought To Desolation. (Luke 11:17)

In case you haven't noticed, America is deeply divided as a nation. American liberals and conservatives share a disdain for one another that has only grown since the cliff-hanger election between Al Gore and George W. Bush in 2000. Remember "dimples and chads?" Jesus told us that a house divided against itself will not stand. The Lord was right-on! Americans are more divided than ever about issues such as abortion, how to fix the economy, gay marriage, the war on terror, stopping Iran from gaining nuclear weapons, defending our borders and supporting Israel (to name a few). When I watch the so-called "news programs", I say so-called because the media clearly has a biased-agenda, I know I'm not getting the whole truth. Objective reporting is a rare commodity and a pearl of great price! The Congress and the President are at each other's throats, the swamp never got drained and very little is getting done in Washington these days.

So what's an average American citizen to do? Do you feel powerless? Do you feel like nobody cares what you think? Do you feel like there's not much you could do to change things? Well if you happen to be a follower of Yeshua (Jesus), then you have more power than you may realize!

What if One Day of Prayer Could Change the Destiny of America?

The ancient Israelites had one day a year in which they could repent of their sins corporately (together) by bringing offerings to God so He would erase all the sins of the people and their leaders for the previous year. That day

was and is called "Yom Kippur," The Day of Atonement. The Torah prescribes many types of sacrifices and offerings that the people could bring before God along with true repentance, to take care of anything from leprosy, breaking the Sabbath, lying, coveting, cheating, wanton glances, greed, etc. If you missed a sin throughout the previous year, you could make atonement for it on "Yom Kippur." What a great deal!

Today we have Yeshua. John wrote, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of all unrighteousness (sin)." So in Messiah, everyday a believer brings his/her sins to the foot of the Cross is a Day of Atonement!

7:14 Prayer Initiative

A couple years ago the Holy Spirit prompted me to call for a fast on behalf of America and Israel. The prompting came during a Shabbat service one Saturday in July. We called the fast for the

following Wednesday. The Ruach (Spirit) placed two verses on my heart: Isaiah 10:27, which talks about "*The Anointing*" destroying the yoke of oppression from off of the Jewish people and God's people in general. The second verse was Second Chronicles 7:14, "*if my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land*". So we held our day of prayer and fasting but we didn't realize until the day of the fast

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

that it was 7/14. That's right; God moved us to pray 2Chronicles 7:14 on the calendar date of 7/14/2010. At the time I felt prompted to invite other believers and congregations to join us or have their own day of prayer and fasting for America and Israel on 7/14. But I had no time to get the word out about it since it was the day of the fast. So I said, Lord I feel you want me to spread the word about a 2Chronicles 7:14 day of prayer to many of your people, but I'll have to wait a whole year for the next one? This didn't seem right to me. Then God reminded me of His calendar. He reminded me that the Biblical 7/14/2010 was two months after July 14, 2010! You see the seventh month on God's calendar is called Tishri and it usually corresponds to the ninth month on the Gregorian calendar. In other words, God's 7/14 usually takes place in September or early October. So God was giving me two months to spread the word about His 7/14, the Biblical 7/14.

We actually prayed and fasted on both 7/14 dates. Last year at the end of our day of prayer and fasting I heard the Spirit say, "America's finest hour is still to come!" If you feel powerless to change the way things are going in America and in the world, will you consider gathering with your church, prayer group or Bible study group to spend the two 7/14s in prayer and fasting? The rabbis teach that to humble ourselves before God means to deny ourselves and that food is the natural thing to deny ourselves like Moses, Elijah, Daniel and the Lord Himself did in Matthew 4. We are not asking you to give up food for forty days. — only one day. Is that too much to ask for God to forgive our sins and to heal our land?

Again, you don't have to join us directly, you can organize your own 7:14 prayer initiative, or you can contact us at For Zion's Sake Ministries and join together with us on 7/14. Friend, you are not powerless, you do have the power to move God to heal this nation and save Israel!

Conclusion

The Presidential election won't be won with money or in the voting booth. It will be won in prayer closets across America and around the world. We as believers coming together corporately across this land and in Israel have the power to move God to heal our land, save our nation

and save Israel from the Iranian menace. Will you consider participating in the 7:14 prayer initiative?

We will be sending out prayer prompters to help guide you through the day of prayer. And as for fasting, it doesn't hurt to practice going without food a day or so a week leading up to 7/14 to prepare yourself. If you are not used to fasting you'll find that it gets much easier with practice. And for those with major health issues such as diabetes or cancer, God understands your situation. Perhaps you could give up coffee, cigarettes or sugar on 7/14?

Thank you for your faithful support to "For Zion's Sake Ministries". Your contributions help us to get the message out about Israel, the 7:14 prayer Initiative, and the Gospel. Thru the use of television, other forms of media, and social networking you enable us to potentially reach millions of people.

In Yeshua's love,
Joe and Dawn





Ministry Update

Dear Friends of For Zion's Sake Ministries,

Shalom Everyone! The date was Saturday, January 28, 2012 when our realtor informed us that somebody else was seriously interested in the Church property that we were intending to buy for Lion of Judah Messianic Congregation. The realtor told us that we would need to make an offer right away or risk losing the property. There was only one minor obstacle to our making an offer; I was to start chemotherapy the very next day for a rare form of Leukemia.

At the time I didn't even know whether I'd be around by the time it came to close on the building. But Dawn had great faith and said we needed to make the offer! So I did a miraculous thing for a husband to do, I listened to my wife.

We made the offer and it was accepted! It had been a Pentecostal church. The sanctuary was double the size of the Bagel shop and it had class rooms and offices downstairs. There is a fellowship hall on the property and it even has plenty of grass for the kids to run around and a gentle creek runs along the entire property!

We closed on the new property at the end of March 2012. Two weeks earlier I was still wearing a mask because my immunity was so low due to the chemotherapy, but by the beginning of April my blood counts were returning to normal levels and I was able to teach Messiah in the Passover in three states! However, we decided not to host our annual *For Zion's Sake Messianic Passover Banquet* this year. We were a bit disappointed, but thought it better to rest up and recover than to push too hard. So we just had a small congregational Passover Seder meal in our new fellowship hall! I must say it was one of the sweetest Passovers I can remember, perhaps because I was experiencing such a great personal redemption!

We dedicated the new synagogue on May 11th and 12th with back to back worship services featuring Ted Pearce! You can check out pictures on our facebook page at For Zion's Sake. For thirteen years I had a vision in my mind of a Messianic Jewish campus in the Tri-cities called "*The Tri-Cities Messianic Center.*" On May 12, 2012 we dedicated *The Tri-Cities Messianic Center, home of For Zion's Sake Ministries, Inc and Lion of Judah Messianic Congregation.* A dream come true, like so many others since I have met the Lord. He is truly in the business of Dream making and fulfilling. We hope you'll come and see it at 1128 New Hampshire Avenue, Bristol, VA.

Your servant,
Rabbi Joe Bell

P.S. Our new mailing address is P.O. Box 1486, Bristol, TN, 37621.

*For Zion's Sake Ministries, Inc.
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