

# The Zion Letter

Newsletter of For Zion's Sake Ministries, Inc.  
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## Israel is the Future!

Long before Abraham set out on his journey to the Promised Land, Eretz Canaan (the land of Canaan, later named Israel), God had His eyes on Israel. Israel is the **"Apple of God's Eye"** meaning literally the pupil of God's eye, but according to Nelson's Bible dictionary, it symbolically means something cherished, precious and protected. Israel, the Jewish people, and the land are the Apple of God's eye, (see DT 32:10, Zech 2:8). Paul says Israel's calling remains, **"for the gifts and callings of God are without repentance"** **Romans 11:29**. Israel is the only nation to whom God revealed Himself; to whom He gave His covenant promises, and to whom He entrusted his Holy Word, (see Rom 3:1-4). Israel was the cradle created by God for the Messiah to come into the world in the flesh (Yeshua Ha Notzri – Jesus of Nazareth), born in Bethlehem of the tribe of Judah (meaning praise and also where the word Jew is derived from). It was the Jews that God made custodians of His Sabbaths and Feasts, New Moons and calendar beginning in the month of Nissan, which falls around late March or early April. God gave us the Hebrew language, the language of the Tanaach or Old Testament scriptures telling us of Moses and the Patriarchs, the Judges and Kings and of the Prophets as well as Esther and Job, etc. Even the New Testament scriptures were written by Jews. Naturally, Jerusalem is the site of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection; ultimately, Israel is the place of Yeshua's eternal throne, David's throne (Luke 1, Ezekiel 43:7) and His dwelling place forever (Zech 8)! It is clear the Jews are the Chosen People. God also has a marvelous plan for the Gentiles that centers around Israel. Let's look at what the Bible says about His plan for Jew and Gentile.

### God's Plan for Jew and Gentile in Messiah:

According to Romans 9, 11:11-13 and Eph 2:11-22, God welcomed the Gentiles into the Jewish family of God. God says in Ephesians 2 that He brought the Gentiles *near* and gave them who had no hope and who were without God in

the world, **access**. Nearness and access are not the same as **being in covenant**. A bride or bridegroom who skips out on going to the altar does not enter into the covenant of marriage; they actually have to show up and say their vows before God, their partner and all the witnesses. In the same way, all the covenants and promises of the Bible belong to Israel (the Jewish people). So in Messiah, Gentile believers have nearness and access to the Messianic Jews so that they might become partakers of the blessings of all the covenants God made with Israel! In fact when I arrived in Tennessee having left my Messianic congregation in Boston 3 years earlier to serve as an evangelist to the Jewish people for three years; I remember hearing God tell me, **"Joe, you are not in covenant with your people; you need to be in covenant with your people."** To



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which I responded, **"Lord, who are my people?"** After all, I was raised in a very religious Jewish family, instructed by three of the greatest Jewish theologians of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and after having found salvation in Yeshua, I had just completed my contractual term of service with Jews for Jesus bringing the Gospel to thousands around the world. After much prayer and searching I found the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America, the original modern Messianic Jewish community founded back in the late 1960s. I began attending

conferences, and after four years of study was ordained a rabbi by over a dozen elders of the tribes of Israel with prayer and laying of hands. Friend, if I needed to be in covenant with the Messianic Jewish people, how much more do you need to be in covenant with them? Paul wrote of the Jewish People, **"to whom belong 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 according to the flesh who is over all, God blessed forever, amen."** **Rom 9:4-5**. Paul goes on to say, **"I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham of the tribe of Benjamin,"** **Rom 11:1**. God brought the Gentiles near

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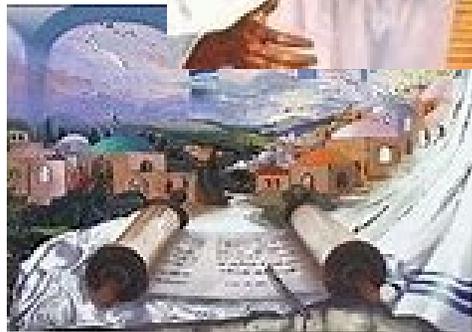
by His sovereign will just as He chose the Jewish people in Deuteronomy 7:1-12. All who are **near** to a Messianic congregation have **access**, but not all exercise this God given privilege. A Christian friend called me recently with a bunch of questions about the Sabbath. If only she would stop resisting and attend our synagogue, she would have more than just understanding, she would be living it out just like the it was done in the New Testament. I underscore, it is the Jew who still possesses all the covenants, **“for the gifts and callings of God are irrevocable,” Rom 11:29.**

This means the covenants cannot be undone. Why is it so important for Christians to connect with Messianic Jews you may ask? It is because Yeshua said, **“He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one,” Eph 2:14.** He goes on to say that Gentiles are citizens with the (Jewish) saints, and are of God’s household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted **TOGETHER**, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built **TOGETHER** into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.” But the truth is we are not one body, nor are we truly being built **TOGETHER** into a holy temple of God, or **TOGETHER** into a dwelling in the Spirit; are we? I bring up this entire subject because according to scripture, Israel is our shared destiny. Nevertheless, in order to be part of God’s plan, we must not just be near and have access. We must initiate, activate, and cultivate our relationship and allow God to build us together into that temple, that dwelling place of the Spirit.

### **What Separated Us?**

Anti-Semitism separated us. How you ask? Long ago Anti-Semitism was growing in the early church that culminated at the Council of Nicea over a dispute as to whether the Church should celebrate Passover (as the Lord and His Apostles did) Constantine excommunicated the Jewish brothers over the issue of Passover vs. Easter 1698 years ago.

These are some of his words: **“When the question arose concerning the most holy day of Easter, it was decreed by common consent to be expedient, that this festival should be celebrated on the same day by all, in every place. For what can be more beautiful what more venerable and becoming than that this festival from which we receive the hope of immortality, should be suitably observed by all in one and the same order, and by a certain rule. And truly, in the first place it seemed to every one a most unworthy thing that we should follow the custom of the Jews (Passover) in the celebration of this most holy solemnity, who polluted wretches! Having stained their hands with a nefarious crime, are justly blinded in their minds.” It is fit, therefore that, rejecting the practice of this people, we should perpetuate to all future ages the celebration of this rite, in a more legitimate order, which we have kept from the first day of our Lord’s**



**passion even to the present times (untrue). Let us then have nothing in common with the most hostile rabble of the Jews. We have received another method from the Savior (really?). A more lawful and proper course is open to our most holy religion. In pursuing this course with a unanimous consent. Let us withdraw ourselves, my much honored brethren from that most odious fellowship.”** And with those words Emperor Constantine excommunicated all Jews from the Church and replaced Passover with Easter. This is why Jews have a real difficulty with Easter. This judgement of the council of Nicea was the evil seed that spawned centuries of hatred toward God’s people and God’s established design for worship spelled out in His word, completely separating Jew and Gentile.

For those of you who grew up in Church before the 1990’s do you recall worshipping together with Jews? I will wager that for most of you the answer is no. I grew up in the 80’s and 90’s and until 1995 I had no knowledge of Jews who believed in Jesus. But God says we will eventually be one flock with one shepherd as Jesus told His Jewish disciples on a hillside near Jerusalem, **“As the Father knows me, even so I know the Father, and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold (Israel); them also I must bring and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.” John 10:15-16.** We are not there yet, but we will be...!

### **Israel is the Future:**

I feel I had to teach a little history and God’s plan for Jew and Gentile in Messiah before I could share what the future holds. Now I will tell you:

**“Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the Lord will be**

**established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; And all nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say,**

**“Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths. For the law will go forth from Zion and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” Isaiah 2:2-3.**

Why will the nations stream to Jerusalem in the last days? Zechariah told us, **“I Am exceedingly jealous for Zion, yes, with great wrath I am jealous for her. Thus says the Lord, I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts will be called the Holy Mountain... Thus says the Lord of hosts, behold I am going to save My people from the land of the east and from the land of the west; and I will bring them back and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem; and they will be My people and I will be their God in truth and righteousness.”**

**Zech 8:2-3, 7-8.** Are you planning on spending the millennium in Jerusalem with Jesus? Unfortunately many won’t. Many have outright rejected Israel and, many others resist their access and unity with the Messianic Jewish community. The sad result is to be possibly left behind when the great 2<sup>nd</sup>

Exodus from the nations occurs (See Jer 16:14-17, Isaiah 43:4-7, Isaiah 11:11-16, Rev 12:14). I am not speaking of the rapture, but a great Exodus that will precede the rapture that the Jewish people call "Aliyah". Isaiah 11:11-16 describes how God will gather His remnant a second time from the "four quarters of the earth", referring to the Exodus led by Moses, and even describes how God's people walk across the rivers of the Nile and Euphrates "dry shod". This is a physical exodus, not a spiritual exodus. Zechariah 14:16 says, ***"Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths (Sukkot in Hebrew, see Leviticus 23:33-39). And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, there will be no rain on them. If the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no rain will fall on them; it will be the plague with which the Lord smites the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths."*** Zech 14:16-18. Why will God require the nations to return to the mountain of the House of the Lord during the millennial reign? Because Yeshua/Jesus will be dwelling there as I have pointed out and he will be sitting on King David's throne: ***"He said to me, "Son of man this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever," Ezekiel 43:7.*** Isaiah 66:23 says, ***"And it shall be from new moon to new moon (celebration of the beginning of each Biblical month), and from Sabbath to Sabbath, All mankind will come to bow down before Me, says the Lord."*** Jesus is not only going to dwell in Jerusalem during the millennium and forevermore, but will also restore all the Biblical Feasts, Sabbaths, the Levitical priesthood and the sacrificial system during the millennial reign (see Ezekiel 43:18 – 46:15); All flesh, even Christians will be keeping Jewish Sabbaths and feasts in that day. I teach extensively on this subject in my newsletters about Hanukkah and the Millennial Temple and on Bride of Messiah which can be found at [www.forzionsake.org](http://www.forzionsake.org).

If what I am saying is challenging you, then I encourage you to study and pray. I believe God sent me to teach things such as this. Some will be like Ruth and embrace the Messianic Jewish people in covenant, others will be like Orpah her sister and reject the Messianic Jews. Those are the ones who will be left among the nations to fend for themselves when the Beast system and the Great Reset under the power of Artificial Intelligence and the direction of China (The Dragon) who gives authority to the Beast of Revelation 13. (See my teachings on the Beast also at my website). The Messianic Jews will be living for 3 and a half years under the protection of God (See Rev 12:14). On the other hand, living apart from the Messianic Jews and their friends will be very dangerous and many will not survive. Life for those who stay among the nations will probably be like trying to survive a real life Terminator movie. Joining us is a choice and will be a lifesaving blessing.

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## Synagogue of the City Friends of For Zion's Sake Ministry,

According to Luke 7, the Roman Centurion built the synagogue of his city because he loved the Jews. High favor and blessing, the blessing of the Roman Centurion, comes to those who choose to give by faith to build up this community's Messianic synagogue. If you want to bless Israel, you can do it by blessing this synagogue which is a standing symbol of our future together in the Messianic kingdom.

Thank you for your prayerful support and prayers.

See Rabbi's update on the insert:

### Needs for The Synagogue of the City:

- We owe about \$38,000 on our mortgage

### **New need: Fellowship Hall Major Repair:**

- \$40,000 to clean out the blocks and dirt that fell into the hall, grade the hill behind the building, install a french drain, and to rebuild the wall.
- additional \$30 - \$35,000 to rebuild the interior of the building, including sheetrock, paint, carpet,



**What about God's wrath?**

Some of you may say that believers are not appointed to wrath. It is true that we are not appointed to God's wrath, but choosing to reject God's plan for the end of this age will come with consequences. God lays out a plan that I have shown in this article of how to escape the wrath of the Anti-Messiah, but it involves connecting with the Messianic Jews and being family with us. I have to be honest with you that right now we are not there. I left my synagogue, my family, my job, my friends, my home and my life to travel 1000 miles to Tennessee in obedience to the Lord. I am here to bring you a blessing of prophetic truth. It is not blind belief that God is looking for but rather He is looking for open hearts to a prophetic understanding that will give access to extraordinary blessing. I encourage all to spend much time in prayer about what I am saying and let God Himself show if I am right or I am wrong.

**Conclusion:**

I hope to have planted a seed of hope and excitement of knowing how to find your future with the family of Israel, knowing Israel is the center of our beautiful future world. I have given a broad outline of Biblical end-times here, but it is a key foundational principle. I am here to help restore the unity and togetherness that Yeshua prayed for. I am here to help bring His reformation of faith that He established to its intended conclusion. My wife and I are here to help restore the unity of Jew and Gentile, one in the Messiah as it was in the New Testament, not as it is today, splintered into hundreds of denominations. I invite you to join us in our endeavor. I am not asking you to leave your church, I am inviting you to get to know us and to open your mind to new things. God will lead you in what you should do. Time is short, very short. Israel is the future and you have access, but you must tear your tickets, take your seats and get on the airplane to Israel!

In His Love,  
Rabbi Joe and Dawn

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