

For Zion's Sake

Ministry and Teaching Magazine for Prophetic Times
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שְׁמַע, יִשְׂרָאֵל
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְהוָה אֶחָד

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The Only Bible
JESUS READ



Christian Friends of Israel

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For Zion's Sake

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Shalom *from* Jerusalem



Tristan Hall

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isaiah 35:10

For the Lord hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. Jeremiah 31:11

I thank God Most High for the recent redemption of numerous hostages from the jaws of death, from the fowler's snare. These precious souls are now back within the arms of those they love, where the process of healing can only now even begin to begin. Ransomed by Israel, for a very, very high price comprising very exacting terms, their tears have finally now turned from sorrow into joy. What a picture. Isn't this the very thing that God has done for each of us spiritually? It is what He is doing and will do for Israel. We were lost, we were forlorn, we were torn away from the land of the living, but God has revived us. I am reminded of the precious promises at the beginning of Hosea 6:

Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

Please continue to pray for the hostages still remaining. Our team is continuing to give support and comfort to terror victims and their families wherever we can. We have been standing in particular alongside the Braslavski family, but Tammy's precious son Rom was sadly not on the recently published hostage list. Hope falters. Many are still desperate for their loved ones. Yet we must continue to *hope all things* (1 Cor 13:7). Thank you deeply for continuing to stand in prayer and in hope!

**In His service,
Tristan Hall
International Executive Director**



"Our help comes from The Lord." Psalm 121:1

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The Only Bible JESUS READ

The only Bible that Jesus would have schooled others from were Torah scrolls, which He stood up and read in the synagogues. There were simply no other means of understanding the Words of The Almighty at the time. There were no printing presses nor forms of printing works. The hand of the Jewish scribes meticulously penned the God-breathed words given by the Spirit of the Living God in Hebrew to holy Jewish men. Derek Prince taught us; we owe a great debt to the Jews for preserving God's sacred words for all to read. With this great gift to mankind—it is heartbreaking to hear that some Christians still suggest that we need to toss the “Old” Testament in the dustbin of religious literature as “outdated.” Let us give our attention to the inspiring words of Godly Christians who walked in wisdom and understanding in relation to the Bible. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Charles Spurgeon

“People read the view of their denominations ... they read the view of their leader ... but the Divine fountainhead from which all revelation wells up – this is too often left out ... read books, by all means ... but especially the parchments ...”

This great Minister of God was not afraid to speak truth. Standing on his bedrock of faith, Spurgeon explains that most church attendees read the opinions of their religious orders in mainstream Christendom and lived by them. He also deemed it necessary to express his view that the Jewish Scriptures were often incorrectly omitted from Sunday sermons, meetings, and Bible studies. Using his authority in the Word, he said, “**read the parch-**

ments ... often termed “*irrelevant*.” As an influential Victorian preacher of his day, Spurgeon taught that the words of the Torah (the Bible of Jesus) was and is the “**fountainhead**” (the spring) from which flows all revelation, prophecy and understanding of God's plan for all humanity. The Torah and the Tanach (Genesis to Deuteronomy and through to Malachi) once called “*parchments*” or “*scrolls*” were the origin from which our faith emerged and from which many were fed from the early days of Jesus. To Jerusalem scholars, it is not surprising that there were translation errors found in different interpretations of scripture – as the ordinary translator would have interpreted a word the best way they could understand from their time and culture using vernacular familiar to them but when the Master taught in the synagogues, He held up a scroll and interpreted it with full revelation. It raises a question of “why” does the original biblical expression of faith in Jesus (from the Writings of His Jewish Apostles, known to us as the Old Testament) often get put on the shelf as “outdated?” It is a fitting question everyone should be able to ask. Could it be that we just do not realize that the original Words of God which are unchanging are not to be termed “Old”? D. Thomas Lancaster, Director of Education at First Fruits of Zion in Jerusalem says “... *Torah is the foundation upon which all subsequent Biblical revelation is built.*” It appears Spurgeon and Lancaster hold the same view.

Legendary preacher Leonard Ravenhill said – “the world out there is not waiting for a new definition of Christianity; it is waiting for a new demonstration of true Christianity.”



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Christendom's teachings impacted a lot of people over the centuries but at the same time it often demonstrated a separation from the Jewish Torah which Jesus loved. As we who work at CFI in Jerusalem are "*repairing the breach*" (**Isaiah 58:12**) (brought about through separation from the Jewish people and their scriptures) it behooves us to work at reconnecting that split which Jesus never authorized. If He were here with us today on the earth, He might pick up a Torah scroll and read from (**Isaiah 56:3**). "*Do not let foreigners who commit themselves to the Lord say, 'The LORD will never let me be part of His People...'*" (**Isaiah 56:3**). As followers of Jesus, we are forbidden to part from the words He and His disciples delivered to us. In our search to change to a new demonstration of Christianity which Leonard Ravenhill was looking for – our question might go something like this: "When Jesus, the Living Word, the Torah – God's Voice to mankind that was never changed, made a statement, why would Christian pulpits take it lightly?"

I remember well having meetings with a former General in the IDF, General Shimon Erem, who founded the Israel Christian Nexus Alliance for Jerusalem. He told me 'I lectured to a Christian Catholic University and told them "I read the words of Jesus and found He tore down the wall between us – but you – you Christians put it back up!"' He explained how their jaws dropped – but he told the truth and truth is what matters. The flames of the candles of our hearts need to shine the truth within our spheres of influence to *encourage* believers to study the "*whole counsel of God*" (**Psalms 33:11**). Replacement Theology says the Torah has been replaced by the coming of Jesus. But God says: "*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work*" (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**). Isaiah, Peter and Timothy would all have been holding a Torah scroll at the time they wrote for future generations.

Torah: a Permanently Sworn Oath

Let us remember that the power and authority behind the Words of God are God Himself. In the Torah God swore by Himself that what He had declared in His Word He would fulfill. He also emphasizes that not one word will pass away until all is fulfilled (**Matthew 5:18**). Further God also said that whoever takes it (Torah) *lightly*, i.e., we dismiss or play it down, we end up being the least esteemed (regarded as small) in His Kingdom (**Matthew 5:19**). In my childhood, I attended church camps. Early at dawn a bugle would sound for all of us to "wake up." It seems to me that we need someone to arouse and activate within us the desire to fill ourselves full of the beauty of the Jewish Scriptures and to gather our friends together who love the LORD and say, "let us study the Torah in my home!" Someone once told me of a Pastor who informed his congregant that the Old Testament is no longer applicable, and that he only needed to read the New Testament. With hardly a thought, the Torah was dismissed as ancient and outdated. (www.foi.org, Friends of Israel). This is the tip of the iceberg. Speaking of icebergs, it appears that many in the church have hit an iceberg when it comes to Israel. It is shocking to our Israeli friends. In meetings between Jews and Christians in Israel, truth surfaced. Christians were not able to hold a candle to Israel's avid scholars. Torah **is** the fountainhead and foundation of the faith of Jesus. The Torah **must** remain **our** fountainhead.

One day the Torah will go forth from Jerusalem to the entire world (**Isaiah 2:3; Micah 4:2**). Jewish sages tell us "... Messiah will elucidate the words of the Torah ... and He will correct (human) errors in its interpretation" (First Fruits of Zion). I believe many people's erroneous perceptions about the "Old" Testament will be *shattered* at that time. When Jesus returns in His Second Coming, we are told that "*out of His Mouth will come a razor-sharp sword and that He will 'strike down' the nations with it*" (**Psalms 2:9**). The Word of God (the Torah) is "*alive*"



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and it is sharper than a two-edged sword (**Hebrews 4:12**). Like a fierce weapon of the Spirit, it will penetrate and dive deep into the human spirit discerning the hidden secret places of the heart. We also learn that in righteousness the Lord will pass judgment and go to battle. The rider on the white horse in Revelation was THE WORD OF GOD which eventually became flesh (**John 1:14**) and as a human God came as a Jew. The written and declared WORD became embodied in Jesus, linking hearts to the One True God. *"The conclusion of the matter is that the controversy that Jesus had with His religious friends was to 'show how best to observe the Torah, but none, it is argued, about whether to observe it..."* (Jewish Gospels, Rabbi Daniel Boyarin).

Jesus Did Not Start a New Religion

What a joy it is to learn about where our faith originated. The early believers would have never considered starting a "new religion." In actual fact, a Jewish rabbi asked me one day "Why did not the Christians follow the Judaism of Jesus?" At the time, I had no answer. But today I know now. Replacement Theology played a monumental part in removing Torah from our vocabulary. Torah scholars and Rabbis from Israel and abroad were reported to have said "... *he (Jesus) strengthened the Torah of Moses majestically ... and not one of our sages spoke out more emphatically concerning the immutability of the Torah*" (Israel Today, January 2020). In 1960, Norman Cousins, former editor of the Saturday Review, wrote, *"There is every reason for Judaism to lose its reluctance toward Jesus. His own towering spiritual presence is a projection of Judaism, not a repudiation of it."* To sum up, what the great Christian men of God said above, a dear friend who we knew well said *"God says when I achieve my purposes (which came from the Torah) in the earth; it will involve the people of Israel, the Jewish descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob"* (Dwight Pryor). The Church cannot afford not to promote the Torah. I totally agree with the rabbis ... **no one has ever established the only Bible Jesus ever read from, more than the Master Himself.** God bless you, our beautiful Christian friends of Israel!

—Sharon Sanders—

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Signs in the Bible all mean something ... pointing to the Messiah

The Sign of 3

3 Patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. 3 Matriarchs – Sarah, Rebecca and Rachel, struggling to conceive. 3 Heavenly visitors to the tent of Abraham & Sarah, with a message of a son of promise. 3 kingly gifts by the night visitors to the stable of Messiah at His birth. 3 days and 3 nights for Jonah in the belly of a great fish. 3 days and 3 nights for Messiah in the heart of the earth before a glorious resurrection to life anew. What's in a number? Why does it matter? Nothing is for nothing when it comes to the Word of God – everything has meaning.

As we approach Passover, it is a good time to meditate upon what Yeshua (Jesus) meant when He said, *“A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.” And He left them and departed.’* Matthew 16:4. Earlier, Yeshua explicitly stated in Matthew 12:40 that *“as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”*

Many have tried to brush away this very precise (though for some, perhaps inconvenient) reference to **3 days and 3 nights**, seeking to palm it off as merely a Jewish idiom of the era, and tantamount to really any amount of time from 3 full days and nights, right down to just one day with a few minutes on the evenings either side. Would our Lord have been so precise in the words He selected, if

the meaning of those words were so imprecise? Surely, He did not engage in sloppy speech about so solemn a subject; resorting to idioms containing words that did not align with their meanings. Remember Numbers 23:19. There surely was a Jewish idiom of ‘3 days’ which generally referred to today, tomorrow and the day following (but not necessarily a full 72-hour period) and this can broadly be compared to the English idiom of ‘a few days’; a rather vague timespan. However, in referring to specifically to 3 days and 3 nights, Yeshua went beyond the idiom used in common parlance. Bearing in mind His literal death and literal resurrection, it is specious to simply claim it was an allegory or figure of speech, as some do. This is the usual riposte wherever problematic passages are encountered. Many also claimed that the restoration and regathering of Israel in the latter days was allegorical, until the prophecies were literally fulfilled. God is

able. Indeed, the number 3 is imbued with great significance throughout the scriptures, to point us towards our Messiah. The period of time therefore reflects the meaning attached to that symbolism.

The traditions of Christendom have taught us that Yeshua was crucified on 'Good Friday' and that He was resurrected on 'Easter Sunday.' Yet, even if Christ had been crucified at dawn on Friday, the period of time from Friday to very early Sunday morning could never be 3 days and 3 nights. If the Sunday is accepted as the third day, and partial days counted as full days, at the very best this timeframe might yield 3 days and 2 nights. This is problematic because it is a whole night less than Yeshua stipulated. There is simply no way possible to make it fit other than attempt to change the meaning of what He said – a dangerous pathway.

Again, why does it matter? Is this line of enquiry merely raking over pedantic contentions? Are we not to judge each other regarding a feast day and just celebrate every day as unto the Lord? Yes, this matters, because the reputation and authority of the Word of God have been called into question by some over these passages, and it is very important to gain clarity in order that the words of Yeshua can be shown to have been truly fulfilled. Here are some points to consider:

● **Misunderstanding Shabbat and the Passover week:**

Many Christians have assumed that the reference to the *Preparation Day* e.g. in John 19:42 refers to a Friday as being the day before the regular weekly Sabbath on a Saturday. However, during the Passover week, there is an extra Sabbath / solemn assembly that often falls mid-week, being the Feast of Unleavened Bread. According to Leviticus 23:4-7, the Passover meal always falls at twilight on the 14th of Nissan, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread begins the next day on 15 Nissan (and like all the other high holidays, it would begin at sundown). Hence the *Preparation Day* mentioned at various places during Yeshua's final hours did not necessarily fall on a Friday. It was a day of preparation for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when no work could be done. John 19:31 agrees that this was indeed a high holiday, not just a regular Sabbath.

● **Misunderstanding night and day:** In God's order of time, a 'day' i.e., a 24-hour period begins at sundown and ends the following sundown, hence '*the evening and the morning were the first day.*' Genesis 1:5b. This has been the Jewish understanding of time across aeons. Therefore, when it said in John 20:1 and also in the Synoptic gospels that Yeshua was found by the women to have arisen from the tomb early on the first day of the week, this did not necessarily mean He arose at day-break on the Sunday – it could have been some hours prior, as the first day of the week was deemed to have begun at sundown on the Saturday.

● **Misunderstanding the orders of time:** In Jerusalem at the time of the first disciples, two forms of time were in usage. Jewish time reckoned the hours from sunrise, around 6am, whereas Roman time calculated hours from midnight. Therefore, the *sixth hour* mentioned in John 19:14, when Pontius Pilate presented Yeshua to the people, would have been about 12 noon by Jewish time but about 6am by Roman time. There are several good incidences within the gospels that indicate that the Synoptic gospels used the Jewish reckoning of time,



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There are two sets of Times

whereas John, compiling his gospel some years later under the waxing Roman empire, used Roman time. Thus, the accounts can be harmonized together without contradiction.

Counting back from a resurrection somewhere in the night from late Saturday to early Sunday, 3 nights backward brings us to at least mid/late afternoon on Thursday, with the resurrection being on / during the third day i.e. the Sunday. For some who are proponents of a full 3 days and 3 nights, this understanding leads them back even further to twilight on Wednesday. It all depends on whether one counts partial days and nights amongst the 3 days and 3 nights or maintains full days and nights. Hosea 6:1-2 is also pertinent. In such a brief article as this, it is better to avoid undue dogmatism. Rather, this is only a starting point; an encouragement to search the scriptures and grapple with all the wonderful keys woven into the texts. Proverbs 25:2: '*It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter.*' Yet as we study, we must not place our church traditions and so-called 'founding fathers' above the words of Yeshua who left His generation the abiding sign of Jonah. It is a symbol of three that retains its significance for our generation today, both in Israel and worldwide. "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*" Matthew 24:35

Tristan Hall
International Executive Director

“...the Sun of Righteousness will arise with Healing in His Wings.” Malachi 4:2

Repairing **BROKEN** Homes and Hearts

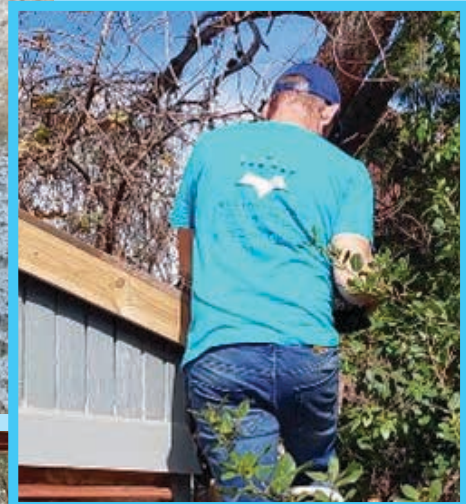
Gerrit and Team renovates destroyed houses from October 7th Attack

As Coordinator of CFI outreach program ‘Communities under Attack,’ CFI helps people in Israel who have been under rocket fire or terrorist attacks. Many have severe physical damage, but also emotional trauma. We do everything we can to help them, both physically and spiritually. We comfort, help people return to their homes, pray for them, and try to represent Jesus in the right way to His people. It is a true honor to represent Him in His country through Christian Friends of Israel in Jerusalem.

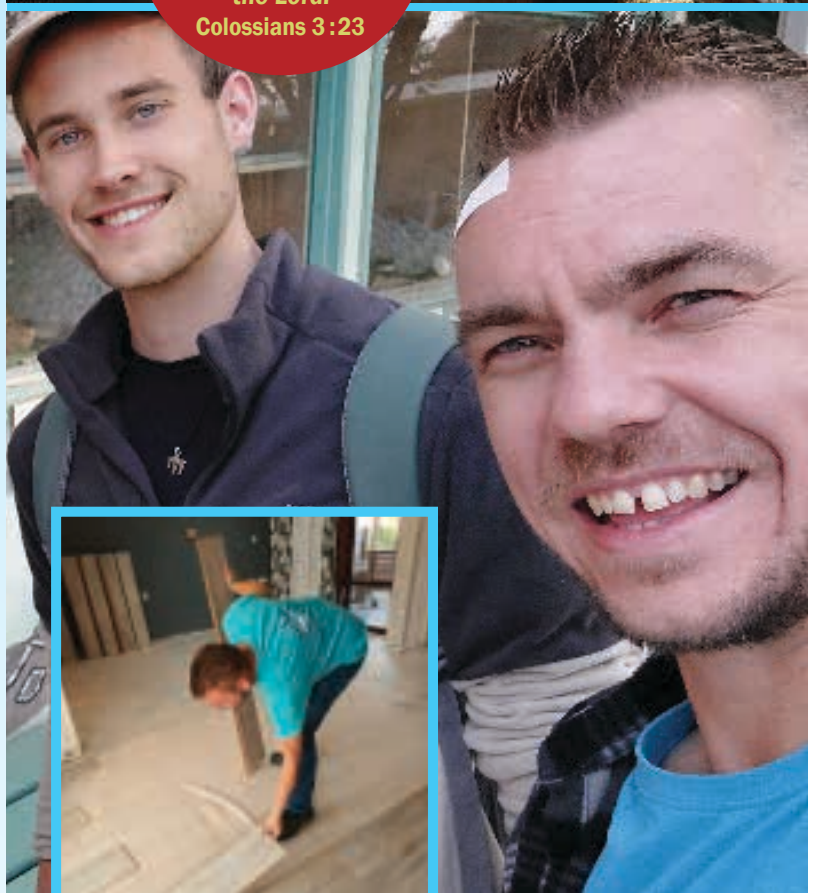
I came here with my wife and four sons to work for CFI arriving in September 2024. I like to meet people, to encourage and to serve. I cannot describe how much satisfaction this gives to my heart. I truly believe that God’s heart is longing to comfort His people and that is what I am trying to do. It is already a miracle that so many people from all over the world are united inside CFI with the same love for the Jewish Messiah and the God of Israel. That is what I like the most inside CFI. **God is making one flock from His children from the nations and His Chosen People – Israel.**

My most unforgettable moment was on a visit to Kibbutz Hazerim where we met with survivors from Kibbutz Be’eri. Listening to heartbreaking stories first hand. Every visit I make to communities who were under attack makes a huge impact on me. Recently, CFI helped a family to return to their houses in Metulah, that is on the northern border of Lebanon. **They were hugging me after seeing that I repaired their roof. Daily, I experience a lot of tears and gratefulness. I am a blessed man to work for CFI!**

Gerrit Van Vliet
Outreach Coordinator
Project Communities Under Attack
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“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord. Colossians 3:23



TURNING TO CFI FOR HELP

*I will praise thee,
O LORD MY GOD,
with all my heart: and
I will glorify thy name for
evermore. For great is
thy mercy toward me."*

Psalms 86:12

Building Jewish Relationships

PRAISE THE LORD, He is good and merciful. It was David's great desire to praise the Lord and to glorify His name forevermore, because His mercy was great toward him and He delivered his soul from the lowest hell, from the hand of King Saul. God's mercy is also great toward us. He has delivered us from hell, from our problems and our distresses. He never lets us down, but He cares for us and helps us.

A GREAT TESTIMONY

His parents divorced when he was three years old, and he grew up and was educated in monasteries in the area of Jerusalem. Later on, he was drafted into the army and served in the war between Israel and Lebanon. During his service, he experienced difficult traumatic events and was diagnosed with PTSD. He married and had three children. However, throughout the years, he found it difficult to get out of the drug cycle. After his resulting divorce, he worked in woodworking and roofing. Following a period of hospitalization, he was better able to maintain stability, working and supporting his children. Since 2023, he has been working at Beit Hased, a rehabilitation therapy hostel designed for the treatment of released prisoners. God did remarkable things in his life and gave him a new, fulfilled life. He urgently needed dental treatment which he could not afford, and he was very grateful when CFI stepped in to help with this.

Building Trust with the Peoples of Israel

L., his wife, and their four-year-old child were in a difficult financial situation. Two years ago, they immigrated to Israel from Russia, hoping for a good life here. However, shortly after arriving, L. suddenly fell ill with a rare disease and became an invalid. He could no longer work and pay his rent. When he turned to us, we helped him pay his rent and prayed for him. He was extremely grateful to us. Over time, his health improved, and he began to learn a trade. When his wife started working, she suddenly broke her toe and could not continue working. Now they were having great difficulty paying their rent and turned to us in their distress. I visited them and gave them a check for their rent. They were both very grateful, showed great hospitality, and invited me to visit them again when I came to Ashdod.

Many people turn to us with their financial problems, and we are thankful to have the opportunity to help them. Thank you so much for your prayers and donations which enable us to help many people. I want to praise the Lord and glorify His name because His mercy is great toward us. **May He always be with you, to help you in everything you do, and bless you abundantly!**

Viktoria Muller
Outreach Coordinator
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BRINGING **GOOD** NEWS

In January 2025 Rudy and Sharon Friesen transported hundreds of Derek Prince's teaching materials to Arabic speaking congregations in Nazareth and in Haifa congregations. The Pastors we support have many contacts with Arab Christian leaders in Israel, Judea and Samaria, and Gaza. These ministries aims to bring Jews and Arabs together in true peace. Delivering over about 360 teaching books in Arabic (and a few in English), they found that "deliverance" Is an Important teaching for all believing communities.

FORMER DRUG ADDICTS

Former drug addicts found a new way of life. Visiting a local Pastor, CFI staff delivered 150 books, one being a Self-Study Bible Course by Derek Prince. This particular leader reported to us that Derek Prince's books are well received. Traditional congregations are growing in their deeper understanding of the Bible through the teachings provided by Derek Prince Ministries.

From different walks of life, the peoples (Arab and Jew) of the Land gave their lives to the Lord God of Israel and often they come from the Arabic world. The ongoing demand for supplying materials is growing rapidly and it is such a joy to assist many to become disciples or *Taalib* in Arabic. Many leaders are former anti-Bible proponents from various backgrounds.

A VOICE BEING HEARD IN ARABIC

CFI First Fruits department has distributed 800+ books to various congregations so far this year (and about 6,000+ books over the past two years) of different teachings. Dr. Derek Prince, who once lived in Jerusalem just before his passing always taught **Genesis 12:3** and the blessings that follow those who love the Jewish people. He was also a good friend of CFI and was an Advisor from the beginning of the ministry. His teachings "live on." God is opening many doors to feed Arabic flocks in the correct way of life and love. Praise the God of Israel.

Rudy and Sharon Friesen
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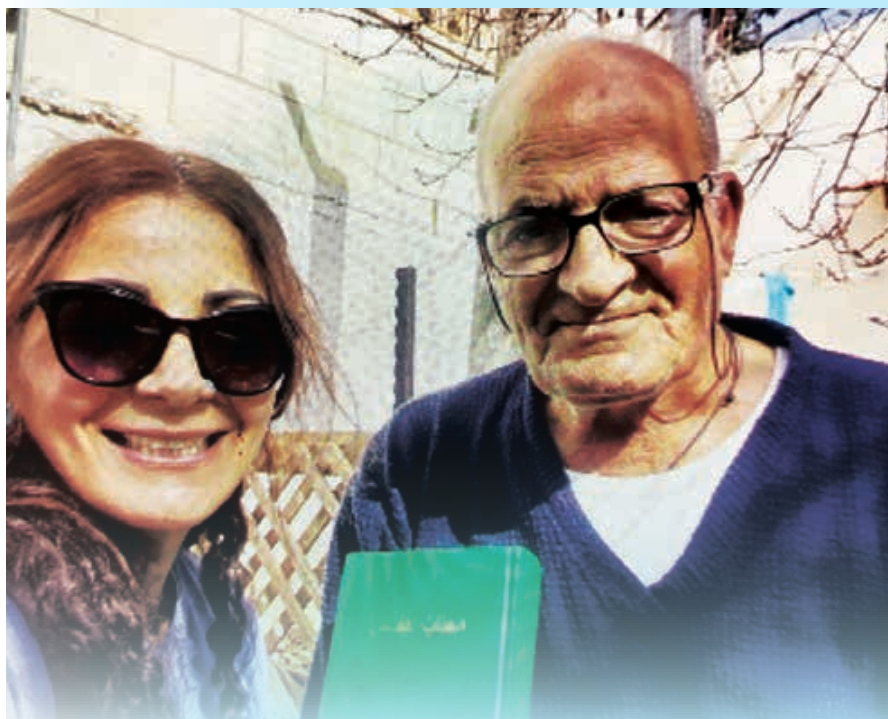


Giving Spiritual Guidance to our Arab Friends

A VOICE OF TRUTH
LIVES ON IN TODAY'S
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Bulk mailings are 100% free for you! CFI is happy to make this investment into spreading the important message we carry about God's faithfulness to Israel and what is happening here today.

This Must Never Happen Again!

“And you shall put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod, as memorial stones of the sons of Israel. For Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD upon his two shoulders for a memorial.” Exodus 28:12

There are many events during the year which Christian Friends of Israel attends alongside of the survivors or victims of WW II who remain alive. Fewer than 80 years have passed since the tragic events that ravaged the European Jewish community during the Second World War. Yet today, we witness the ominous resurgence of antisemitism, not only in Europe but across the globe. This hatred brings with it the peril of inhumane devastation, as evidenced by the events of October 7, 2023 – now often described as the “one-day Holocaust.” It is almost inconceivable that such horrors could recur – yet they are. Each year, **the Association of Camp and Ghetto Survivors** in Israel gathers to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Marking the liberation of Auschwitz, it serves as a poignant reminder of the atrocities committed during the Holocaust. A special meeting took place at the Community Club in Holon, Israel. Not a single participant stayed at home (in spite of the distance they had to travel). For every survivor, this gathering is a cherished opportunity to come together, light candles, and honor the memory of those lost. United, they proclaim: **This must never happen again.**

This year, Yitai, the grandson of a Holocaust survivor, had the solemn honor of lighting a candle in memory of four of his friends. They had accompanied him to the Nova Festival, but tragically, only Yitai survived. He bore witness to the horrific execution that unfolded that day. By lighting the candle, he not only remembered his friends but also carried their stories forward. The FTN team of CFI was present, honoring the memory of



Honoring the memory of those who perished

those who perished and demonstrating their unwavering support. **Our presence served as a powerful reminder that the fight against antisemitism requires collective action.** That is why we are deeply grateful for our friends around the world who support our work here in Israel. By coming together, whether through prayer or action – we renew our commitment to ensuring such atrocities are never repeated. As survivors and their descendants continue to share their stories, we are reminded that memory and empathy are responsibilities we all share. In the end, the message is clear – it must not happen again! **Thank you for your support of our survivors!**

Tanya Lukomskaya, Outreach Coordinator
Project Forsake Them Not; ftn@cfijerusalem.org



Shepherding Flocks in the Heartland

“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.” Isaiah 66 : 13

The WhatsApp call came to ask if CFI could help provide large refrigerators to a shepherd (and farmer) on his farm in Judea-Samaria. The sheep, now beginning to deliver, are in the calving season. It is important to have the right appliances to keep proper food fresh for the mother and little baby lambs being born. **You can help the shepherds by prayerfully supporting our new work to equip pioneers which is part of our relationship-building in the Land of Israel. Most importantly, we must care for these baby sheep as a mother does for her children.**

Designation: Stepping Stones



Large Industrial Refrigerators needed for food for many new baby calves

A Shepardsess watching her Sheep as if they are her Children



**Thank you for Helping CFI
To Fulfill Bible Prophecy!**



***Project Stepping Stones
(a subproject of David's Shield)
Sharon Sanders / Project Coordinator***

Ethiopians Citizens Learn In Educational Workshops

Eager to Learn

Seminar with Betty

Visit in Kiryat Gat

number of Home visits also continues to increase, with more individuals reaching out to us for financial assistance from various parts of the country. We have seen an increase recently in the number of single moms needing help with things such as paying for the utilities, requesting food vouchers, asking for furniture, and even needing help with home repairs which CFI volunteers have undertaken.

One of these women we visited is a mother of 7 children, the oldest of whom is currently serving in the IDF, and the youngest is still under the age of one. They live in a 2-bedroom apartment and have many material needs; however, this mom never complained and had a smile on her face during our entire visit, expressing her gratitude for whatever we might be able to do for her. **It is a great privilege to be here in the Land of Israel and to serve the Chosen People!**

Monica Ruby
Outreach Coordinator
Project Hope for the Future
hope@cfijerusalem.org

These past few months have been very exciting due to the amount of progress that has been made within the Hope for the Future project! We have been working with Ethiopian immigrants and have begun teaching English classes. In the next few weeks we will begin sewing classes, with ladies who were very eager to sign up. We also have a waiting list for the next session. These immigrants have inquired about our assistance in creating a sound studio for young adults. In addition, we will be helping to create a Youth Activity Center.

The sound studio will be a place where young adults (and others) can come and record their music, making it available for others in their community. It will provide an opportunity for members of all ages to record other projects, for example interviewing those who have made *Aliyah* and sharing those interviews with others still waiting in Ethiopia to do the same. As for the Youth Activity Center, the plan is to have a place where young people can come after school for help with homework, to play games, and just a safe place to be together and avoid getting into trouble. We were able to assist with putting on a Relationship Seminar for their Young Adults, and that was well attended. The

Beit El future studio visit



Redeeming the Ransomed Through Prayer

Suzie and Irina at CFI Wall of Prayer

“Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story – those he redeemed from the hand of the foe; my heart is ready.” Psalm 107:2

We rejoice with the returnees that have been delivered from their captivity through the polarizing Israel-Hamas 42-day ceasefire in Gaza. Though many struggled with the realities of seeing almost 2,000 convicted terrorists set free (among them murderers), all Israel shed tears of joy at seeing the first group of hostages enter Israeli territory back into the arms of their families.

God does Hear our Prayers

On Day 471, three hostages were returned, Emily Damari, Doron Steinbreicher, and Romi Gonen. **Our Wall of Prayer team has been in unceasing prayer for their return since that dark Shabbat on October 7, 2023. We have now facilitated over 100 prayer meetings over the past 400+ days since they were first kidnapped.** We have continued to remain connected with the family of Rom Braslavski and in continual support of the efforts of the volunteers that support the families at Tel Aviv's Hostage Square with consistent visits and prayer. We rejoiced with our CFI intercessors in our Zoom meetings knowing God answered the global cry of our hearts.

Suzie preparing prayer breakfast for hostage Rom Braslavski



The road ahead is still a long one that needs our prayers and intercession. The freed hostages have been delivered out of their *physical captivity*, but we know their emotional and spiritual redemption is a journey they will be navigating in the days ahead. It will not be easy as they begin to process what they have just experienced and begin telling their stories of what they endured. Pray for their healing and for encounters with the Redeemer of Israel. There are still 59 hostages that will remain in Gaza after the completion of Phase 1, including Rom Braslavski – they all need our prayers. Artists like shown here are shining lights in the darkness in creative ways. He collected missile fragments that have been launched toward Israel. We know our Redeemer, Jesus, ransomed the world with His own incomparable and precious blood. For us who believe and have claimed this freedom, let us continue to stand in the gap for God's beloved and cherished Israel. Pray for Israel's enemies, that they would turn from their hatred and sin, and call on the name of the God of Israel.

Suzie Georges
Outreach Coordinator
Project Wall of Prayer
prayer@cfijerusalem.org

Irina reflecting on Avinatan hostage in Gaza



Eli Gross artist with his creation at Tel Aviv Hostage Square





IDF SOLDIERS: IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER

The Lions of Zion visited Open Gates Center

Happy to get the Jewish scriptures

David's Shield started 2025 by distributing nice warm quality coats for a specialist unit of soldiers who have been in Gaza since the war began. We provided these brave warriors with winter coats with uniform emblems. Because we were not allowed to enter Gaza, the soldiers visited CFI. We enjoyed talking with them. CFI presented the soldiers with the Jewish scriptures and letters of encouragement from believers in South Africa. They also accepted verses from the Tanach with cards and special prayers. **Later their commanding officer texted me, saying "Thank you" many times.**

"I will whistle for them and gather them, For I will redeem them; And they shall increase as they once increased." Zechariah 10:8

A couple from Brazil who have triplets serving in the IDF, came by to visit at the CFI Open Gates center. Seeing that they were comfortable with us, they began to share photos of their family. They said that their young girls needed clothes as well as rain coats, which CFI arranged. It was a very special time God ordained for them and for us.

CFI is now preparing army approved helmets and clothing for an Artillery Battalion who has been serving since the Yom Kippur War whose orders are to move to Gaza.

Repairing Damage by Christendom

We provide very high-quality warm jackets for the IDF soldiers during these cold winter days and nights when they are protecting the nation of Israel. CFI also purchased throat warmers, vests and helmets which is needed for a specialist unit. A gracious and thankful expression was on their faces as they received GOD's love from the nations. It is because of YOUR HELP TO US, we can continue to touch countless lives with comfort, love and healing lives, repairing the damage of centuries done by institutionalized Christendom. *We are pleased to be YOUR "hands and feet" in Israel today.*

Soldiers Share With Us

"From the very first day that the IDF was there, we were there for the citizens. We are needed and we will do what is necessary until the very end, we must win at all costs."
(Daniel)

"We have to fight evil. The more we hesitate, the more we pay a big price. God wants us to inherit this Land, and our Bible tells us many times, "go ahead and inherit the Land I am giving to you ... to the People of Israel."
(Ezra Y. (Israeli))

Lyailya Telgarina, Outreach Coordinator
Project David's Shield; shield@cfijerusalem.org

Packing warm clothing for the soldiers

CFI visits with IDF soldiers

Gerrit building relationships



My Service for Jerusalem

"Your People shall be volunteers in the day of Your Power..." Psalm 110 : 3,6

In context, GOD is speaking to His Chosen People, but we are a chosen people also wanting to bless the chosen people whom we stand shoulder-to-shoulder beside. Thank you for making our giving of our lives, to seek the welfare of the Children of Israel as the LORD has commanded, possible.

A Place for You!

- Short-term service
- Using your professional skills for God
- Touching lives in Israel
- Helping supply our needs
- Working alongside the people of Israel
- Work remotely
- Many more opportunities
- Long-term service



Positions Available in Jerusalem

Choose Jerusalem as your next step to attain your goals in reaching the lost, and the hurting, it will change your life. God will lead you in every situation along the way. Contact us if you would like to volunteer relevant skills or work remotely from your home. **For more information regarding any of these positions, we would love to hear from you.**

- Executive Secretarial Assistant
- Project Assistant and Coordinator
- Administrator
- Media Assistant
- Finance
- Cooking/Chef-CFI Kitchen

Contact us at: personnel@cfijerusalem.org

Gathered One By One

CFI welcomes Jewish Olim from Chile, Portugal, Argentina, Mexico, and Brazil

Isaiah 27:12

photo by jr.co.il/aliyah

Since the beginning of the New Year, CFI's Open Gates (Distribution Center) doors have been receiving new Jewish immigrants from Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries such as Chile, Portugal, Argentina, Mexico, and Brazil. And the Word of the Lord says, **"But they delight in doing everything the Lord wants ..."** (Psalm 1:2). Coming home from the nations is a Biblical command and Israel is their only safe haven from a world of anti-Semitism and hatred.

The Spanish and Portuguese-speaking Jews, most of them young, are **so grateful to the God of Israel for bringing them home to Israel**. They are pleased and amazed that believers who follow Jesus, welcome, support and help to establish them in their own Land. Most of them do not speak any other language but Spanish or Portuguese; however, the Lord has brought to us Spanish speaking staff. For this we are very grateful to God.

Monica (of Hope for the Future outreach project) reads to them verses from the Jewish scriptures (Tanach in Spanish and Paula, assisting in Open Gates explains who CFI is and what we are doing. She also assists the immigrants in choosing the best gifts that are available in our Open Gates center as well as translating our conversations. It is good as we at CFI work as a team of the Most High – right in Jerusalem where we serve His chosen nation for His purposes and for His Glory!

Lyailya assisting with the Olim in the Open Gates store

A new immigrant, **Daniela**, from Argentina shared with me that her whole family immigrated to Israel a long time ago. She was the only one to remain in Argentina. She told me that she finally decided to make *Aliyah* and be reunited with her family. We welcomed her at CFI and the Land, and she saw with her own eyes that she did the right thing by coming "home." She hugged me continually and told me that she is willing to come to help us when needed. **Building relationships is such a wonderful work that we have been given to do.**

Every day in my work at CFI I fellowship with many new immigrants on the phone and those who come through our doors. It is so encouraging that Jewish people are returning home from the entire world and that they find their way to our Distribution Center. For certain, Bible prophecy is coming to pass as it takes place before our eyes. **God bless each and every one who reads about our work and prays about helping us** to remain in this beautiful Land to bring blessings to the Jewish people in order for us to represent the LORD in the right way!

Lyailya Telgarina, Outreach Coordinator
Project Open Gates; gates@cfijerusalem.org

Checking the Jewish Scriptures



*"Can a virgin
forget her
ornaments, or a
bride her attire?"*

Deuteronomy 2:32

Born To Be His Worshippers Together

"Thank you from the very bottom of my heart for your hospitality and for making my wedding season so special and memorable. Your team is so kind and caring, and I am still in disbelief that such a wonderful place as the CFI Bridal Salon exists!" –Tehilah

Tehilah was born in the U.S.A. From her early years she became aware of her Jewish identity. Her parents believed in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and taught their children the ways of the Lord. Jewish traditions were part of their life. After finishing High School, Tehilah studied languages and foreign relations. She was offered an opportunity to visit Israel ten years ago. The small voice of God was speaking to her, and she obeyed. When she arrived in Israel, Tehilah experienced something very special. She understood that this is her Land. She felt that she belonged here, and that these were her people.

After a couple of years, Tehilah moved to Israel as a student, and she did further university studies. At the same time, she became a true worshipper of God by serving Him in different places. One of her teachers became a friend of Tehilah. The same lady had many contacts also in the Negev. There were young people who became close to her heart like her own children. One of them was Boaz. While praying for him, this "mother" got a thought that Tehilah and Boaz would be a great match. She asked if Boaz would be interested to meet a young lady from Jerusalem, and asked Tehilah if she was interested in meeting "someone nice." He was interested and agreed to travel to have a cup of coffee with this girl. Tehilah

did not know what to expect. But these two worshippers met, and Tehilah was impressed by the humbleness of this young man. While sharing things they felt a real connection between each other. Boaz was so blessed that he kept coming to Jerusalem every week to visit with her. After seven months he proposed.

Tehilah sought out our Bridal salon with her best friend. She had prayed that there would be a beautiful dress for her at our place. God answered and blessed the appointment richly. We found two gorgeous dresses ... a veil and other accessories for our bride-to-be. Both gowns were a perfect fit. She did not need to make any alterations to them. Boaz received a suit from CFI. The wedding celebration took place in 2024.

Now Boaz and Tehilah want to worship together as a family. May the Lord bless them and keep them close to Himself all the days to come.

"Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together." Psalm 34:1-3

Tiina Danilevski, Outreach Coordinator
Project Bridal Salon; bridal@cfijerusalem.org

CFI JERUSALEM—WELCOME TO OUR

“Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised ...” Psalm 48:10



CFI GREECE

For Zion's Sake Prophetic Teaching Magazine

Introduction in the beautiful nation of Greece. Watch for more information in our next edition of 'For Zion's Sake.'



Introducing 'For Zion's Sake' magazine in Greece



CFI ITALY

The Opening of New Doors

I am pleased to announce that we just recently had the privilege of appointing new representatives for CFI in Italy. We welcome Doreen and Giuseppe Cipolla to our family of friends worldwide. We have been praying that the Lord would open doors for us in new nations and new language groups to share this message we carry further afield, about the Lord's love and faithfulness to Israel, and we are grateful to Him to see Him opening the doors!



'For Zion's Sake' growing Worldwide

Doreen and her husband Giuseppe (known as Pino) are busy making preparations to open a new Christian retreat/guest house in the Tuscany region of Italy, and sharing the message of God's plans and purposes for Israel both at the house ministry and to the regions surrounding are part of the vision that the Lord has been imparting to Doreen and Pino. We are excited to be with them on this journey. Special thanks to Amber Sutter, who played a pivotal role in bringing this to birth.

Contact: Doreen and Giuseppe Cipolla
Email: Doreen.cipolla@gmx.de

**WELCOME
FRIENDS IN
ITALY**

THE NATION OF CANADA MOVES FORWARD

The Newmans' at their booth with CFI materials



CFI CANADA

CFI Canada at Mississauga Feast

CFI Canada Representative, **Elaine Newman and her husband** participated in the 2024 MissionFest GTA in Mississauga recently. With distribution of CFI's much loved 'For Zion's Sake' prophetic teaching magazine, teaching materials, 2025 Calendars, and Sharon Sander's new book "A Principle and a Promise" many visited the booth. Surrounded by Christian love, fellowship and worship, CFI listened to testimonies and stood in allegiance with the Land of Israel, the Jewish people, and Arab Christian believers – in the midst of war and much antisemitism. **More information on CFI Canada in the next issue of FZS.**

Contact: Elaine Newman
Email: enewman210656@gmail.com



Helene' with World Zionist Organization women



Singing Hebrew Songs to our Jewish Friends in France



Rallying for Israel in a major city with Dennis McCleod, CFI New Zealand Director



CFI NEW ZEALAND

Israel Lives in Their Hearts

New Zealand friends displayed flags of Israel and Dennis McCleod, CFI Representative in New Zealand led in the moderating and prayers. Mr. McCleod led the way for hearts to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Jewish people. A group of young Christian friends of Israel also made their stand with the Jewish flag. Praise God He has His remnant in all nations who will receive the blessing of standing firm with Israel. The people of Israel live in the hearts of many New Zealand Christians. Recently, the rally was held in a major city where CFI Representative, Dennis McCleod, led the vanguard.

Contact: Dennis McLeod
Email: dpmcleod2@icloud.com



CFI FRANCE

With WIZO – Mulhouse

Before the holidays, CFI France from the Mulhouse region (in Alsace, in the north-east of France) responded to the invitation sent by its President, Ms. Manuele Amar, at a brunch organized by WIZO (Women's International Zionist Organization) in Mulhouse. What a joy to meet our Jewish friends! The mission of WIZO which was created in 1920 (well before the declaration of indepen-

dence of the Jewish state in 1948: It was created by Zionist Jewish women first in England for the rebirth of a sovereign Jewish state on its ancestral land. It's mission is to work for the protection and education of children (more than 165 nurseries in Israel) and the protection and promotion of women. WIZO has a presence in 38 countries on five continents. Since 7 October, its members have been very active in working for the release of the hostages (among others: every Friday gathering at the Trocadero in Paris), also for the support of widows and orphans of soldiers killed in action, and traumatized children.

At the end of a delicious meal prepared with love for local 'Wizans,' Christians offered them in return several Hebrew songs presented by Betty on guitar, and which were taken up with emotion by the audience!

With CFI France in attendance, we were able to express our unconditional support for the people of Israel and the diaspora and make this verse from Proverbs 17:17 (chosen by CFI Jerusalem) our own again: « ***The friend loves at all times, and in misfortune he shows himself a brother.*** »

André & Hélène – Betty, Rachel - Henri & Christine – Marcel & Sylvie ...

Contact: Andre Van Nieuwenhuysse
Email: contact.caifrance@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL USA PRESENTS

40th Anniversary Celebration CHARLOTTE, NC

AT THE BEAUTIFUL RENAISSANCE
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A NIGHT TO HONOR THE GOD OF ISRAEL AND
THE MASTER'S MINISTRY

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For former 'CFI'ers, this event of renewing friendships with lifelong friends and Leaders will be very special and

rewarding. Our visionary Leaders are shaping the future, strengthening relationships with Israel and leaving a lasting impact on the world. We hope to see you there!

Receive a Great Jerusalem Blessing and Israel Digital Diorama scheduled Jerusalem Teachers

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HANNELE PARDAIN



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On becoming a CFI Representative contact: internationalreps@cfijerusalem.org



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