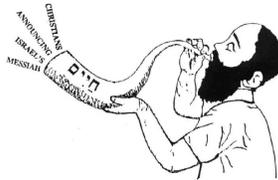


# CHAIM TIMES

The Newsletter of CHAIM, "CHristians Announcing Israel's Messiah"

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## When Lies Become Truth Persevere by the Spirit

We live in a society today where the truth is called foolishness and lies are believed as truth. It has become a topsy-turvy world where good is called evil and evil good. Murdering unborn babies is now called "reproductive rights." Somehow terrorists are perceived as victims even though they are shooting rockets at Israeli neighborhoods—often from school and hospital sites in order to use their civilian casualties, resulting from Israeli retaliation, as propaganda—and digging tunnels in order to attack primary schools. Gender is no longer connected with biological fact. Lovingly and humbly declaring God's truth is seen as pushing your religion on someone, or perhaps even hate speech. Postmodern social narrative trumps fact and reason. Believers in Messiah Jesus need to wake up to the reality that we are facing an increasingly hostile culture.

This is not really something new. Ungodly thought has always distorted or denied reality. Isaiah said: "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20) Ancient pagans sacrificed their babies, worshiped false gods, and celebrated sexual immorality. Is today's emerging neo-pagan culture really any different? (Check out our dear friends at [www.truthexchange.com](http://www.truthexchange.com) for more on neo-paganism.)

Those of us in Jewish ministry have for a long time been aware of this dynamic of good being called evil. We minister out of a love for the Jewish people. We absolutely despise anti-Semitism and speak against it. We desire to see Jewish people, and all people, saved from the judgement of God through faith in the sacrifice of the Messiah on the cross for our sins. Jews who believe in Jesus are almost always more zealous

for their Jewish identity and traditions than the general Jewish population. Yet we are often characterized as the destroyers and enemies of the Jewish people. We have learned this just goes with the territory. More and more this is becoming true for anyone who takes a stand for Jesus in our increasingly hostile culture. This is exactly what the apostles and prophets faced, and much worse. It is only by the grace of God and the empowering of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8) that we will be able to hold our ground and proclaim the truth of the Good News.

We know our Lord Jesus came to fulfill the sacrifice of the Passover Lamb in order to bring forgiveness and reconciliation with God to people of all nations, to the Jew first and also to the gentile. He has commanded his people to take this message to all nations starting with Jerusalem. We should expect

**You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8**

opposition and we will be required to sacrifice in order to accomplish this great commission. It may mean giving of our finances; it may mean giving of our time in prayer and work for the kingdom; it may mean rejection from our society or even those we love dearly; and for some it will mean outright persecution or death. But we will persevere.

No matter what, the Lord is risen. Over 500 witnessed it at the same time. (1 Cor. 15:6) The Good News is being proclaimed to all nations. (Isaiah 49:6) The redemptive suffering and resurrection of the Messiah happened just as the Jewish Scriptures said it would. (Isaiah 53)

This Passover/Easter season pray God will give us and give you boldness and wisdom to proclaim the truth that Jesus is our Passover Lamb and Risen Lord to all people, starting with our Jewish friends. Let us persevere in our witness by the power of the Spirit.

—Director Fred Klett

# CHAIM Ministry Updates

A Passover/Easter program is scheduled for April 17 at a Russian Adult Day Care Center. We have done similar programs in the past, and it is a great opportunity to share the Good News with Russian-speaking Jews. Rick Anderson set this up. Fred Klett will be doing music, and Vitaly Kalinovsky will be speaking. Rick will be schmoozing with Jewish grandmothers, who just love him! Please pray that God will move in the hearts of these older immigrants. It may be the last chance many of them have to hear the message of forgiveness through the Messiah!



**In Memoriam: Our dear friend Mara has suddenly left us.**

We mourn the loss of our dear friend Mara from Azerbaijan. She was a sweet and wonderful woman. Mara is a Persian Jew, called "Tat" or Mountain Jews. Tat people speak a dialect of Farsi as their Jewish language, rather than Yiddish, which was used by Ashkenazi Jews. Mara not only spoke her Tat dialect, but also spoke Russian, Georgian, Azeri Turkish, and

English. We have been privileged to have her as a part of our fellowship at Rock of Israel PCA for several years. She came regularly to services, picnics and excursions, and often came to prayer meetings. As I preached the gospel Mara listened attentively with real interest and seemed to bow her head in agreement. Was she a believer? God only knows, but I think and hope she was. She suddenly died of a heart attack while visiting family in New York. We lost her husband, Yasha, last December. (He was quite a fun and colorful character.) Many of us attended the funeral, lead by an Orthodox rabbi. Strangely he used a lot of Yiddish, but the Tat Jews there did not know Yiddish at all! We will miss this dear woman immensely. Please pray for her family.

Funds are needed for our Independence Week Campaign. We estimate a budget of about \$1200 for tracts, shirts & accommodations. If you would like to join in, let us know. We also need funding to attend the International Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism in Toronto this August. Expenses will be about \$1000. This is an important & informative gathering where those engaged in Jewish evangelism can share information and compare notes.

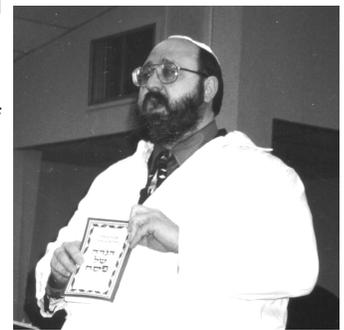


**Vitaly with Russian senior center members. We will all be there again this April. Please pray!**



Street evangelism is ongoing. Rick Anderson (left) has been very faithful in this. If you would like to join in our July 4<sup>th</sup> week activities in Philadelphia, just email us. We have a new street tract in the works that addresses current demands for justice and our need for mercy rather than justice from God.

All of us will be involved in proclaiming Jesus as the final sacrificial lamb of Passover. Jewish holidays are a great way to share the good news. Send an email to request our bulletin insert that gives advice on sharing the gospel through Passover.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUTREACH EVENTS CURRENTLY PLANNED:

- Passover & Holiday Presentations (Spring & Fall)
- Senior Center Program (April 17)
- Independence Street Campaign (July)
- Door-to-Door Soviet Immigrant Community\*
- Matryoshka Festival (September)
- Bensalem Community Fair (Fall)
- General Street and Door-to-Door Work\*
- Friendship Evangelism\*
- Harp Concert (Late Fall)
- Rock of Israel PCA Church Plant\*

\*Ongoing