

Seek First The Kingdom (Part 2 of 2)

“But seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

– Matthew 6:33 CJB



Seek First The Kingdom

Part 1 Recap

1. The Kingdom Is Part Of The Gospel Proclamation

“But when they came to believe Philip, as he announced the Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Yeshua the Messiah, they were immersed, both men and women.” Acts 8:12

2. The Kingdom Will Bring Judgement Before 1000 Years Of World Peace Where Yeshua Will Reign From Jerusalem

“The Son of Man will send forth his angels, and they will collect out of his Kingdom all the things that cause people to sin and all the people who are far from Torah; and they will throw them into the fiery furnace, where people will wail and grind their teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let him hear!” Matthew 13:41-43 CJB

3. When People See Us They Should See The Kingdom

“So don’t let anyone pass judgment on you in connection with eating and drinking, or in regard to a Jewish festival or Rosh-Hodesh or Shabbat. These are a shadow of things that are coming, but the body is of the Messiah.” Collosians 2:16-17 CJB

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Disclaimer Before Teaching Part 2

- I am not a historian nor qualified to be considered an expert authority in the field of church history
- I invite everyone listening to fact check the sources I cite in this presentation along with consulting scholarly opinions
- I am more than happy to publicly correct and update any proven historical errors to this presentation
- If I summarize or skip over certain events it's not because those details are not important but because I'm mainly focusing on the events that affected the Messianic movement

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Simplified History Of The Messianic (Kingdom) Movement

- The Story Of Joseph Foretold The Messiah Would Be Clothed And Exalted Among The Gentiles



- And Hidden From The Hebrews Until Fully Revealing Himself First To His Brothers



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Simplified History Of The Messianic (Kingdom) Movement

- 4th Century Roman Empire Becomes Christian & Outlaws Anything Disagreeing With Nicene Orthodoxy



“Edict of Thessalonica XVI, 1, 2 - A.D. 380 “All are to be Catholic Christians. “Those who follow this law we command shall be comprised under the name of Catholic Christians; but others, indeed, we require, as insane and raving, to bear the infamy of heretical teaching; their gatherings shall not receive the name of churches; they are to be smitten first with the divine punishment and after that by the vengeance of our indignation, which has the divine approval.”

Edict of Thessalonica XVI, 1, 3 - A.D. 381 Trusted bishops “all who dissent from the communion of the faith of those whom the special list has named ought to be expelled from the churches as manifest heretics... that the priestly orders of the true and Nicene faith may remain pure”

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Simplified History Of The Messianic (Kingdom) Movement

- Late 4th/early 5th Century - There Is Still A Remnant Of The Early Messianic Movement

“We must first root this ailment out and then take thought for matters outside; we must first cure our own and then be concerned for others who are strangers. What is this disease? The festivals of the pitiful and miserable Jews are soon to march upon us... others will join the Jews in keeping their feasts and observing their fasts. I wish to drive this perverse custom from the Church right now... Therefore, flee the gatherings and holy places of the Jews. Let no man venerate the synagogue because of the holy books; let him hate and avoid it” - John Chrysostom, Against the Jews (To Church In Antioch) Homily 1

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- 4th/5th Century – Clear Prophecies About The Millennial Kingdom Become Spiritualized Away

“If we accept [the Apocalypse] literally, [we] must Judaize; if we treat it spiritually, as it is written, we shall seem to go against the opinions of many of the ancients” - Jerome 4th Century Commentary on Isaiah Preface to Book 18.

“Therefore the Church even now is the kingdom of Christ, and the kingdom of heaven. Accordingly, even now His saints reign with Him” – Augustine 5th Century City Of God Book 20 Chapter 9

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- 7th Century – Islam Takes The East By Storm & Conquers Antioch (Battle of Yarmouk 636 AD)



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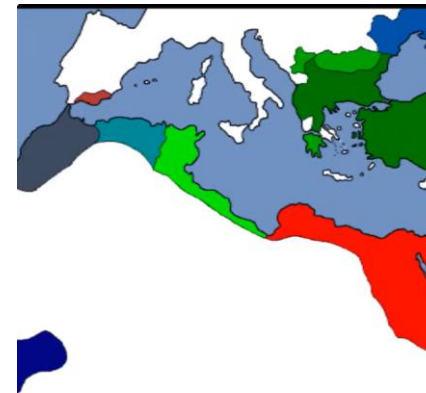
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- 7th Century – 1453 AD Messianic Believers Are Sandwiched Between Islam & The Roman Empire



1453	Mali Empire
	Uyunid Dynasty
	Marinid Dynasty
	Imamate of Oman
	Hafsid Dynasty
	Emirate of Granada
	Mamluk Sultanate
	Yemen
	Sultanate of Adal
	Anatolian Beyliks
	Golden Horde
	Ottoman Empire
	Hafsid Dynasty
	Zayyanid Dynasty

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- 1500's AD Messianic Movement Persecuted Under Holy Roman Empire

“heresy and treason—that is, who had in any way practiced anything Jewish—to confess. If New Christians admitted their crimes early and willingly, perhaps also beneficently supplying the names of other lapsed Christians, their punishments varied—but were guaranteed to be less irrevocable than death. If they confessed after a conviction, they earned themselves a “good” death: quick and merciful strangulation before being burned publicly at the stake [the quemadero]. If, like Isabel, they insisted on their innocence to the end, they were often first tortured, and then delivered to the ghastly pain of conscious cremation” - Legajoo 162: The Rediscovered Case of Isabel Lopez, Burned at the Stake November 30, 1518

“Jews who never converted to Christianity were not under the jurisdiction of the Inquisition, and could practice their religion freely and openly. It was only conversos who were considered heretics for forsaking the Christian creed and practicing Judaism. If the Inquisitors could not obtain a confession from a suspected heretic, they employed torture to extract one” - Chabad.org The Spanish Inquisition By Yosef Eisen

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- October 31, 1517 Martin Luther Posts His 95 Theses



“I hope that if one deals in a kindly way with the Jews and instructs them carefully from Holy Scripture, many of them will become genuine Christians and turn again to the faith of their fathers, the prophets and patriarchs. They will only be frightened further away from it if their Judaism is so utterly rejected that nothing is allowed to remain, and they are treated only with arrogance and scorn. If the apostles, who also were Jews, had dealt with us Gentiles as we Gentiles deal with the Jews, there would never have been a Christian among the Gentiles.”
Martin Luther 1523 That Jesus Christ Was Born a Jew

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- Mid-To-Late 1500's Some Jews Converted To Protestantism (Though Extremely Rare)



Immanuel Tremellius - “was converted about 1540 to the Catholic faith through Cardinal Pole, but embraced Protestantism in the following year, and went to Strasburg to teach Hebrew. Owing to the wars of the Reformation in Germany he was compelled to seek asylum in England, where he resided at Lambeth Palace with Archbishop Cranmer in 1547. In 1549 he succeeded Paul Fagius as regius professor of Hebrew at Cambridge.” – <https://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/14495-tremellius-john-immanuel>

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- England 1534-1809 Steps The Reformation Closer To The Original Messianic Movement



- 1534 England Breaks Away From The Catholic Church
- 1656 Jews were readmitted to England (after being banned for over 366 years)
- 1809 The London Society for Promoting Christianity Amongst the Jews is created (later became The Church's Ministry Among Jewish People/CMJ).

Missionaries were sent to major Jewish population centers in Europe, Russia, North Africa, and the Middle East.

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- 1884 Joseph Rabinowitz A Russian Jew Who Came To Faith In Yeshua

Establishes The First Modern Messianic Synagogue – B’nai Israel, Bnai B’rith Chadashah



The Jewish community of Kishinev was outraged at the establishment of this supposed “church-synagogue” and told czarist government officials about it. Eventually, the government ordered the church shut down. “The Russian authorities were nervous about the rapid rise of Protestant Christianity,” explained Iemima Ploscariu, an expert on 19th century messianic Jewish leaders. “They saw it as heretical to Russian Orthodoxy.”

- https://forward.com/yiddish-world/549257/messianic-christian-jews-joseph-rabinowitz-yiddish/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

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- 1885 Joseph Rabinowitz published a "Symbol of the Israelites of the New Covenant"



Rabinowitz's work gained support from Western European missions and was a significant development in the Messianic Jewish movement because it gave guidance on how Jews could continue to keep the Torah while believing in Yeshua as Messiah; something that for many centuries was deemed incompatible.

Joseph Rabinowitz's influence reached Rabbi Leopold Cohn in Brooklyn, NY who after becoming a believer in Yeshua, in 1894 founded Brownsville Mission to the Jews (eventually became Chosen People Ministries)

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- 1866-1915 The Rise Of Hebrew Christian Alliances (Jews Who Practiced Protestant Christianity)



- 1866 Hebrew Christian Alliance of Great Britain
- 1915 Hebrew Christian Alliance of America

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- 1948-1967 Marked The End Of “The Age Of The Gentiles”



- 1948 The State Of Israel Is Reborn
- 1967 Jerusalem Back Under Jewish Control For The First Time Since The Destruction Of The Temple In 70 AD
- “Jerusalem will be trampled by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” Luke 21:24
- “For I do not want you, brothers and sisters, to be ignorant of this mystery—lest you be wise in your own eyes—that a partial hardening has come upon Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; and in this way all Israel will be saved” Romans 11:25-26

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- 1970's Joseph Shulam Yehuda Bachana Starts Netivyah (The Way Of The Lord)
The First Modern Messianic Congregation In Jerusalem



- “So after sending two who were assisting him, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while. Around that time, there arose no small uproar concerning the Way.” Acts 19:22-23
- “But this I confess to you, that according to the Way (which they call a sect), I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything written in the Torah and the Prophets.” Acts 24:14

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- 1970's -1980's The Rise Of Messianic Jewish Alliances (MJAA/IMJA/Jews For Jesus/UMJC)



In 1970 Martin Chernoff had a series of visions The 3rd one said “Two electrifying simple words stretched across the sky in the form of a banner.” He saw the words: Messianic Judaism.

The small group of Jewish believers in Cincinnati confessed: “We are Jewish believers in Yeshua as our Messiah. We have our own destiny in the Lord. We will no longer be assimilated into the church and pretend to be non-Jews. If Yeshua Himself, His followers and the early Jewish believers tenaciously maintained their Jewish lifestyles, why was it right for them, but wrong now? Gentile converts are not expected to forsake their families, culture, holidays and traditions; nor shall we do so.” No longer would they call themselves Hebrew Christians, but Messianic Jews. .. Two years later, the young hippie believers far outnumbered the old guard and the name was changed from the Hebrew Christian Alliance of America HCAA to the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America (MJAA).” - <https://mycharisma.com/news/martin-chernoff-the-father-of-20th-century-messianic-judaism/>

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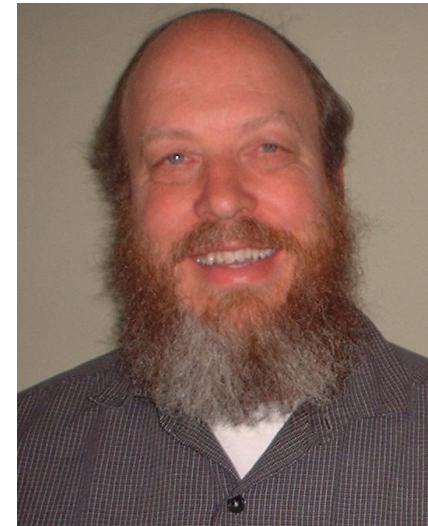
- 1990's-2000's Restoring One-Law For Jew & Gentile Together (Not Separate Congregations)



Bob & Jacquie Himango



Monte Judah –Lion & Lamb Ministries



Tim Hegg –Torah Resource

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- Late 2000's/2010's Rise Of The Gentiles Inviting Other Gentiles Into The Messianic Movement



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Where Does Tree Of Life Tabernacle Fit In Messianic History?



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Simplified History Of The Messianic (Kingdom) Movement

- 1970's-1980's Chicago's Modern Messianic History

Adat Hatikvah (1st MJAA & Only MJAA Congregation To This Day)

Olive Tree (Prospect Heights)

ADAT HISTORY

Founders



Adat was founded by David and Ester Bronstein in 1934, as the First Hebrew Christian Church of Chicago. It was formed out of the Jewish mission house ministry known as Peniel Center. The name was changed to Adat Hatikvah in 1974.



Locations



Adat is currently located in Deerfield IL. However it was located in Albany Park, East Rogers Park, West Rogers Park, and Evanston.



How did Olive Tree Congregation come into existence?

Olive Tree was planted in 1978 by Roy Schwarcz and John Bell who were serving as missionaries with what is now Chosen People Ministries. Their desire was to plant a Jewish sensitive theologically conservative congregation that could disciple the many Jewish people who were coming to faith at that time. The congregation became financially independent of CPM three years after it was planted.

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Simplified History Of The Messianic (Kingdom) Movement

- 2000's-2010's Deborah's Messianic Ministries – 1st Messianic Congregation In Chicago Suburbs



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From DMM Came Ba'Peretz In Downers Grove - Rabbi Rich Perez



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Both The Himango Family & Ruiz Familia Spent Time At DMM



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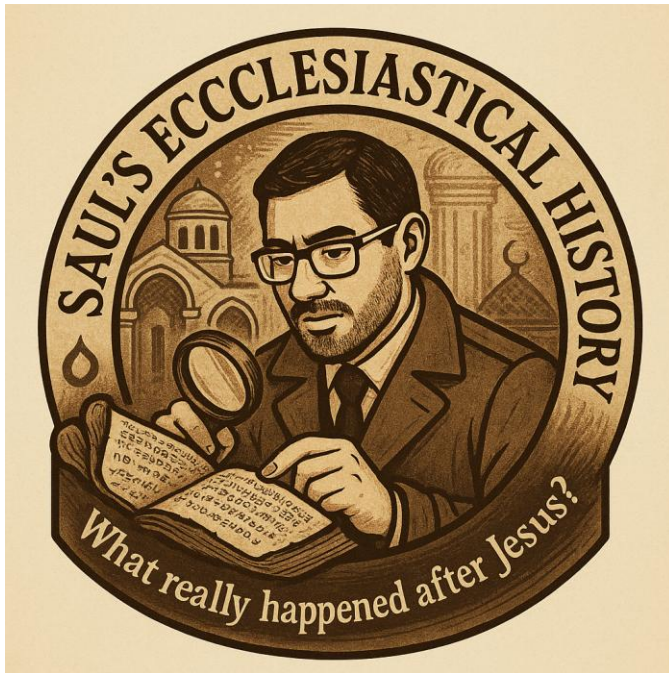
- 2020's Tree of Life Tabernacle Established By Jesse & Sam Himango -2nd Generation Messianic Believers
First Messianic Congregation In The Chicago Suburbs To Publicly Evangelize



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- 2025 Saul's Ecclesiastical History Created



- First Messianic Ministry To Target Churches Who Have Apostolic Succession Such As Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, High Church Protestants, etc.
- Historical Apologetics
- Lord Willing Will Publish A Doctoral Dissertation Defending The Historicity & Apostolic Legitimacy of the Messianic Movement At The Institute Of Orthodox Christian Studies In Cambridge

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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?



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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?

“Let no one deceive you in any way, for the Day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the one destined to be destroyed. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he sits in the Temple of God, proclaiming himself that he is God.” 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?

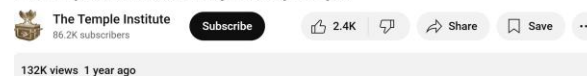
- August 2025 Disqualified Red Heifer Was Sacrificed For Practice



“a groundbreaking test run was taken using a disqualified heifer. The experience better prepares us for the ultimate performance of the ceremony with a kosher heifer” - The Temple Institute



The Temple Institute: Building the Holy Temple!



<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1175111571314805&id=100064479202682&set=a.627296572762977>

<https://ffoz.org/messiah/articles/did-we-just-sacrifice-a-red-heifer-for-real>

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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?

“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.” Matthew 24: 36-37

“Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence” Genesis 6:11

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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?

“Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence” Genesis 6:11

חַמָּס (ḥā·mās)



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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?

- We Are Still In The Beginning Of Birth Pains (2025) But Persecution Will Increase

“And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but the beginning of the birth pains. “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. “So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short” Matthew 24:6-22

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How Close Are We To Kingdom Time?

- Yeshua's Lesson From The Fig Tree



“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things (*persecution, lawlessness, antichrist in temple*) , you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” Matthew 24:32-25

The Fig Tree Yeshua found with no fruit (Matthew 21:19) represented that generation of religious leaders In Israel who rejected Yeshua, so he cursed them to destruction



The Fig Tree In Matthew 24:32-35 that becomes tender and puts out its leaves is Israel coming back into the land. And after 1967 more biological Israelites are beginning to bear fruit. The generation that sees this will likely precursor the final harvest. Summer is the final harvest of fruit before Yeshua fulfills the fall feasts (Jeremiah 8:20, Amos 8:1) with Sukkot being the final feast of ingathering.



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In Summary

1. We are to continue emulating how Yeshua & the Apostles preached about the kingdom

“But when they came to believe Philip, as he announced the Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Yeshua the Messiah, they were immersed, both men and women.” Acts 8:12

2. Persecution Is Coming As We Will Be Surrounded By Hamas - All Nations Will Go Against Jerusalem

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.” Revelation 2:10

3. Endure Til The End – We Are Almost There! - There Is Nothing Better Than This Kingdom

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field. A man found it, hid it again, then in great joy went and sold everything he owned, and bought that field.” Matthew 13:44

Seek First The Kingdom (Part 2 of 2)

“But seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

– Matthew 6:33 CJB

