

## SAR SHALOM ISRAEL

"The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men

Gang aft agley,

An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain,

For promis'd joy!"

Robert Burns 1785

## Shalom,

Sometimes there are no words, other than Thy will be done. No matter how much planning, praying, seeking, organizing, etc, one can do, God will have His good way. Proverbs 16:9 The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

One can be prayed up, one can go out feeling victorious and yet things happen. Dashed expectations affect each of us. One of the most difficult verses in all of scripture for me is Colossians 1:24:

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body (which is the church) in filling up that which is lacking in Messiah's afflictions.

For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh (2 Corin. 4. 11). Soldiers cannot truly be trained unless they are in war. We are trained for war by fighting battles, and this involves suffering and facing the possibility of death.

And if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Messiah, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him (Rom 8:17). My flesh wants to be glorified with Him and skip the suffering. Yet as an heir of God, and fellow-heir with Jesus, I must endure hardship. I must encounter suffering.

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings (Heb. 2:10)...because although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. (Heb. 5:8).

In my comfortable place of worship, I can sing with the throngs, "I want to be more like You, Jesus, I want to be more like You..." But do I truly mean it? Do I truly understand that to be more like Him, I must be willing to go to the School of Afflictions, and endure the tests that will require suffering so that I may learn obedience?

Jesus was mocked (Matt. 27:29); He was insulted (Matt. 27:39). Were those 'easy sufferings' in comparison to His crucifixion?

Mark 14:36 exemplifies Yeshua Jesus' deep travail: and He was saying, "Abba! Father!
All things are possible for Thee; remove this cup from Me;

yet not what I will be what Thou wilt.

Although we may pray for deliverance from the test or trial, it is often the Father's will that we remain in the trial, for our faith to be tested and purified. "The cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?" John 18:11. Even Jesus realized that He must go to the cross. His travail in Gethsemane prepared Him for Calvary.

Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He

With Messiah in the School of Affliction is a hard course to pass. However, our God does not grade on the curve. He graces by the cross. Through the power of the Spirit, He under girds you and me, and He equips us to endure and pass the test, He enables us to endure.

Therefore, do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Messiah Yeshua Jesus from all eternity. 2 Tim 1:8-9

For momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,

while we look not at the things which are seen, for the things which are seen are temporal,

but the things which are not seen are eternal....2 Corin 4:17-18

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. Ps. 34:19.

You might be expecting an update about our trip to Israel. Several have sent wonderful prayers, encouragement, and support. We sat all day yesterday, never expecting to encounter a complete ground-stop at the Dallas Fort Worth Airport. Three of us were directly affected. Somebody also was affected in Atlanta because of the route of their airplane. None of us four have made it to Israel yet. I never left the Dallas airport. Having arrived at 9:00 AM on Wednesday morning, full of anticipation, never would I have expected that I would be leaving Dallas airport 12 hours later.

To say that I was disappointed is an understatement. I plan our trips 11 months in advance, sometimes paying a little bit more money for seats so that I know that I can get a seat that can accommodate my leg length and the hip width, especially because I got my hip replaced 2023. No I don't fly first class, but I do have to plan the trip out far enough ahead, to get leg length and so that everybody will know how to purchase their own tickets.

Because of this severe weather, we were all grounded. Because the

Airlines had pushed back our flight, we missed our connecting flights out of JFK airport in New York. Trying to get a seat at this late date was impossible. All the flights were filled and I have to wait until Friday to depart on Air France, hopefully arriving in Israel on Saturday.

Thankfully, there are some wonderful people that have traveled with me before. Pastor Ronnie and his wife are celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary and everything has gone perfectly for them. He is taking the helm until I get there.

Another miracle is that back in 2006 when I began doing Israel tours, not Charity trips, I had a wonderful driver named Eli. He is actually going to be our driver for this trip and I'm so excited. Relationships matter, and my relationship with him is almost 20 years old. He is not yet a believer and we ask for prayer for him. I'm sure that there are divine encounters that God has planned and these delays and stops are all part of it. I am not blaming the Airlines. I'm grateful that they always lean on the side of safety. Thank you so much for praying. Our itinerary remains the same below. All of the humanitarian aid that people have sent is going to have to wait until I return in October or I will ship it to Israel. Thank you, thank you thank you for your heartfelt donations, homemade items, etc.. At this point, things don't matter as much as living stones do, so when we take the message of the good news, the gospel, the Besora, we share the love of Jesus, and that's what counts.

I do cover your prayers. I desperately need your prayers, feeling quite defeated today, but I know I am more than a conqueror. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I'm so grateful that we live in a country that honors the National day of prayer today. Father, help us when we encounter these courses in the school of affliction. The pain is great, the pain is real, the rejection hurts. Help us to surrender our pride. Help us to surrender to You, knowing that the great exchange happened at the cross, and that Resurrection life is ours. Not by might and not by power, but by Your spirit, we go forward. We gratefully say thank You for salvation and for eternal life. We love You. In the name of Jesus we pray.. amen

Sar Shalom Israel
TENTATIVE
2025 ISRAEL CHARITY TRIP MAY

Flight to Tel Aviv

May 1 Thursday
Arrive Tel Aviv

BY 14 hotel

May 2 Friday

Awake Israel. Connecting with elderly Holocaust survivors---Go to Aroma to purchase gift cards---Beach singing, sharing about Yeshua \* Hostage Square

May 3 Shabbat Saturday Congregation Adonai Roi

May 4 Sunday

Tel HaShomer hospital --- Nazareth Saleem Shalash--- Misc

May 5 Monday

Ziv Hospital --- Danny Carmel 12pm--- Baptism 2pm

May 6 Tuesday

Be'ad Chaim -Sandy Shoshani –& Laurel Garden of Life www.beadchaim.co.it
Rehovot-- Veggie picking or planting
US Embassy visit

May 7 Wednesday

Schneider Children's Petakh Tikvah 9:30am

Joseph Project. https://josephprojectinternational.org.il/
Pina Chama Warm Corner. https://oneisraelfund.org/impact/pinot-chamot

May 8 Thursday
Travel to Sderot Michael Beener. https://www.clm-israel.org/
Kibbutz Beeri, Re'im, Nova site

May 9 Friday
Temple Mount Sifting project https://tms

Temple Mount Sifting project https://tmsifting.org/ 9am Mahane Yehuda shuk

May 10 Shabbat Saturday
Santa's office in Jerusalem - Childrens ministry
Walking tour
Garden Tomb appt 11am

**City View Jerusalem lunch Mount Scopus** 

May 11 Sunday
Shaare Tzedek Hospital https://www.szmc.org.il/eng/home
Aviv Ministry – Outreach to drug addicts, prostitutes, homeless
https://avivministry.com/en/
Farewell dinner
Travel back to the USA

May 12 Monday Arrive in USA

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with love, barri www.sarshalomisrael.org

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