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New York 23, N. Y.

Fifty-fifth Year

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NOVEMBER, 1948

No. 2

THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

"He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."
Psalm 121:4.



JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, Editor

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medium of information concerning Israel, and the Work of the

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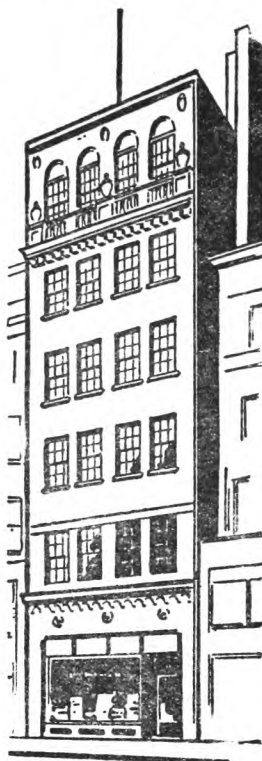
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JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN
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NOVEMBER, 1948

No. 2

Salutation

"We go down to salute the children of the king" — 11 Kings 10:13

Dearly beloved friends:

The Summer's End 1948 meetings are now history. This 1948 Conference was considered by many of our friends as the finest of all that we have held so far. Greater spiritual heights were attained, deeper spiritual life was experienced; over and over again as precious friends would leave the meetings, one could hear them give vent to expressions of deep gratitude, all of which might be summed up in the words of the Patriarch of old, "Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not!"

"THY SONS SHALL COME FROM FAR"

From the north, from the south, from the east, from the west, came eager pilgrims on their way to this blessed mountain height of spiritual illumination. There was no bombast, no ballyhoo, no begging for money, no exploiting of hobbies, no fanaticisms. We all sat together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, and the word of God was given out to us hour after hour and day after day, with particular emphasis upon these strategic times in which we live. Sometimes it was awe-inspiring when one of our speakers turned a piercing searchlight from God's Word upon this very hour of world history; we sensed, many of us, the almost palpable nearness of His coming, Who alone can speak the word that will bring peace to a world torn into shreds with hate, murder, and ruthless shedding of blood.

It is difficult to select any one message or series of messages that might be said to have achieved prominence over everything else. All the messages rang true as a bell to the revealed Word of God.

"WHAT THE CHURCH HAS LOST"

Perhaps one message from Dr. Charles H. Stevens was as startling as anything we heard, and created a sensation. It was on the theme, "What it Has Cost the Church to Withhold Christ from the Jews." Immediate demand was made that this searching message be put into a printed tract and given nation-wide circulation. This we are doing.

The opening service of the Conference on the Lord's day morning of August 29 was uniquely solemn, and blessed. Together, Jew and Gentile, united into one body according to Ephesians 2:15-18, through the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, brake bread, and gave honor to Him Who re-

deemed us and washed us in His own blood. The testimony hour which closed this morning session, was truly impressive; for the hush of the Holy Spirit upon the meeting was clearly evident as believers, one by one, both from among Jews and from among Gentiles, arose to give testimony to what the Lord had done for them.

But now we must go on because we cannot give more space in this report. To satisfy the pleadings of many of our people, we are printing the principal addresses of the Conference in a book, and we hope to have these books ready in just a few weeks. We trust in time for Christmas giving. We hope also that we can keep the price down to \$1.00. Announcement will be made later on as to when the books will be ready for your order.

STORM CLOUDS ARE GATHERING

But now let us look again on the current world scene. As I write these lines, the gathering of the United Nations in Paris is having put before it the desperate plight of the Western Nations in their dealing with the Beast of the North over the blockade of Berlin. This may well be the crisis hour, the supreme test, for the life of the United Nations. The whole world teeters on the brink of the precipice of total destruction. Our own country has been shown to be honeycombed with treacherous spies that had no conscience and not the slightest sense of loyalty. Our Capital at Washington presents the tragic vacuum of pusillanimous do-nothingness. Then while Rome burns, the titular head of our desperately hard-driven country is away from Washington campaigning for votes! What a disillusioning exposure this is of the failure of so-called democracy to function in the hour of crisis! We must not dabble in politics, and may the Lord always keep us out of politics; but we are just presenting to our readers an objective observation on what is going on. And we want to show how this fits in with specific Bible predictions concerning the end-times. There is nothing we can do about it, but just look to the Lord for ultimate deliverance. In the meantime, it does not hurt to say that if the President of our country would stay home in such a crisis as this and give to the nation which pays him his salary, his honest time and strength to help to solve the crushing evils facing us, would not all of us have more respect for him and for our Government processes?

ALL HUMAN GOVERNMENTS WILL FAIL

But it is as has been so clearly foretold by the Prophets of the olden times, that we have now sunk almost to the very toes of the image which Daniel was shown in his vision. The statue began with the marvelous head of gold, showing that Nebuchadnezzar was indeed a king without parallel in the history of the world. And from that head of gold the statue goes down in a gradual but sure process of deterioration, through the silver of the Medo-Persia Empire, the brass of the Grecian Dynasties, the iron of the Romish brutalities, until finally we reach the division of Rome into east and west, and end up with the toes of the image composed of iron and clay, which could not mix. And so today we have the iron of demagogic savagery, as we see it manifested in a Stalin, in a Tito, in a Franco, in a Peron; and then we have the clay which is the miry dust of the fickle mob. One day it is, "Long live Roosevelt!", and the next, "What a rascal he was!"

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General Information

The American Board of Missions to the Jews is a missionary society incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, to promulgate the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ among the Jews. It had its inception in 1894 when Leopold Cohn, then recently converted from rabbinical Judaism, in obedience to the call of God, and in full dependence upon Him for support, established the beginnings of the present work.

Object—To reach the entire field of world Jewry. Mission stations are being established in such important Jewish centers as may be in greatest need of a Gospel testimony, consistent with the Lord's will, as evidenced through His provision of workers and funds.

Field Missionaries. The work of evangelizing the Jew is further being accomplished by Field Missionaries who come into personal contact with Jews.

Evangelization by Mail. A work of growing importance and one in which we have been the pioneers for many years past, is the use of letters, tracts, Gospels and Testaments mailed to selected lists of Jews in practically every city and many towns of the United States. *The Shepherd of Israel*, published monthly in Yiddish and English, has a circulation among Jews in all parts of the world.

The Gospel by Radio. Broadcasts are now maintained in the United States ("The Chosen People Broadcast") and in Cuba ("The Message of the Christian Jew") with South America in prospect. Stations are being added as funds permit. List sent on request. Pray for this far-reaching ministry. Gifts for this department should be specified "For Radio Fund."

Budget. Under God's leading and blessing, the needs of the Mission have grown to over \$250,000 annually. The Lord has never failed us. We have no guaranteed support from any human source; nor are worldly methods of raising funds resorted to. The Mission exists as a testimony to the God of Israel Who has never failed to move the hearts of His children to come to our help.

We covet your prayers and your sympathy. We invite fellow believers to cast in their lot with us, taking fellowship in the great task He has committed to our charge.

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The Jews in Your Town. Send us 50¢ with each name and address. We will mail them monthly *The Shepherd of Israel* for a year. When a Jew shows a spirit of inquiry, we will inform you.

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"WHICH SHALL NEVER BE DESTROYED"

All of which is only to say, not that our country is worse than any other country, but only that the Word of God is being fulfilled to the very letter as showing that every government that has been tried, that is, every form of government—despotic monarchies, limited monarchies, democracies, all in their turn—has proved an utter failure, and there will be no possible hope of relief until that day shall come of which Daniel speaks,

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Dan. 2:44.

And now we wait with breathless eagerness for that precious hour to come when the God of heaven through His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, shall establish that kingdom that shall never be destroyed. No man and no group of men living can ever do this. It will take God and God alone to accomplish His eternal purposes.

PALESTINE TO THE FRONT

Who would have thought 50 years ago that the pin-point of land called Palestine would become the focal greed-center for the nations of the world? Who would have dreamed that in the kaleidoscope of world tragedies, things should have been so shaken and re-shaken until this little plot of earth has come to take prime position in the world's doings? And yet this is clearly adumbrated in such a prediction as Zechariah 12:2,

I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the peoples round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

"A cup of trembling." Literally, the translation should read, "a cup of poison." God is saying to these world nations, after He has given them a two-thousand-year chance to accept His Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father, and they have deliberately rejected and blasphemed this holy offer—God is saying, "Very well, you will all come together and I will meet you in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and there I will put before you Jerusalem, as a cup of poison, and I will say, Drink". And drink these nations will indeed have to do, and they will reel like drunken sots in that terrible day of God's vengeance.

THEY THINK THEY ARE SOMEBODY

We have been putting this before you because we want to bring to you now a sad and tragic fact. That fact is that in the face of all this that is going on, and with God almost shrieking at these nations that the people of Israel must have primacy and priority and the right of way, we have the amazing spectacle of a gathering of what is called "The World Council of Churches," in Amsterdam, where the leaders of Christendom are passing a lot of innocuous, and in some cases stupid, resolutions, and will then go home to say that they accomplished something wonderful!

They prattled like infants with their rattles in their cribs, about "human disorder," about "capitalism," about "communism." But we hunted in vain for one single word to come from their lips, which should say to a sin-crazed world, "Ye must be born again!" Of course, there is an ex-

planation for all this, and it is found in the fact that practically all of these so-called "communions" are representatives of what we call state-controlled religions. And of course such "Christian" leaders reveal an abysmal ignorance as to what the true Church is and as to what its functions are. There is not a shred of authority, for instance, in all of the Word of God for such a thing as an Anglican Church, which means an official church owned and controlled by the British Government. What possible spiritual message can a man have who preaches from a pulpit to which he has been appointed by political pull, and from which he gets what they call a "living"? Of course, all of this sprang originally out of the old Romish popery idea that the church and state should be synonymous. There are indeed in these days some bold and insolent Roman Catholic "prelates" who dare to declare that Rome has always stood for separation of church and state! This utter falsehood makes good propaganda for American innocents who do not know the simple facts of history.

GATHERING OUT THE ECCLESIA

There is no such thing in the Word of God as a Dutch Church, or a German Church. It is always the Church of God, the Church of the living Christ. If only these deluded "churchmen" would understand that God in the present hour is calling out an ecclesia, calling out a people unto His Name! And these saved souls are to make up His body when He comes from the heavens for our deliverance.

ALWAYS "APPROACHING"

It appears also that this so-called "World Council of Churches" had a committee on "The Christian Approach to the Jew." This is laughable, because these befuddled people are always "approaching" the Jews, but never quite get there! They do enough talking about it to make a Niagara Falls of their words; but when we demand that they produce actual converts, Jewish souls born into the Body of Christ, they become strangely mute! It is particularly pathetic to read the following item in the *New York Times*, which tells somewhat of this "World Council of Churches" and speaks especially about the resolutions having to do about their "approach to the Jews." Here is one paragraph:

The report closed with a series of recommendations encouraging Christians to seek "brotherly" contact with their Jewish neighbors, urging churches to participate in agencies combating misunderstanding and prejudice, and cautioning the churches "to scrupulously avoid all unworthy pressures or inducements in their mission work among Jews."

It does not take much keenness to discover in this innocent wording that the whole program is to be one of compromise and sell-out. We are cautioned scrupulously to avoid "unworthy pressures or inducements" in our efforts to win the Jews to Christ! Just contrast this with Paul's drastic and sweeping declaration, "If by *any* means I provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them!" (Romans 11:14).

Therefore, dear friends, you see what we are facing in these last days, and you will see how more and more we will be driven into a hidden life with Him as the days hurry on to their cataclysmic denouement. This is going to be the price of the Jewish Mission interest on your part and on

like the early judges in Israel during the days of the theocracy when God ruled His people directly, will ascend Mount Zion to judge, to punish, the Mount of Esau, and the kingdom shall be Jehovah's—blessed consummation. See Judges 3:9, 15. These deliverers will exercise authority in the name of the Lord, but ultimate sovereignty will be His alone. To recapitulate the salient features of this important prophecy: Obadiah in pre-exilic days sees by the Spirit of God the culmination of Edom's hatred for Israel in her vicious conduct toward the distraught people in the day of their exile by Nebuchadnezzar. The prophet traces the sources of this attitude and pictures vividly the features of the punishment of God upon Edom for her attitudes, arrogant speech, and actions. When is the time of the fulfilment of this prophecy? The fulfilment of the ruin of Edom foretold by Obadiah was begun in the Chaldean period. Edom was laid waste by them, Jeremiah 49:7ff. and Ezekiel 35. The Macabees further subjugated them. The Romans completed their ruin at the time that they destroyed Jerusalem

in 70 A.D. Through these centuries we hear nothing of Edom. In the end time and before the gathering of the nations against Jerusalem in the Battle of Armageddon, Edom will again be on the scene of world history. There is to be revival of many ancient nations. See Luke 21:29, especially the words "and all the trees." Then Edom will experience to the full the wrath of God in destruction, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself executing the judgment of God on Edom and her allies. Isaiah 63:1-6. With the wicked nations destroyed and Edom cut off, Israel restored from captivity will possess all the land originally promised by God to Abraham and the Lord will reign over the earth.

LEARN FROM EDMO!

What shall we learn from Edom? We can learn, first, the displeasure, unspeakable and abiding, of God on those who treat Israel ill; and the pleasure of God to establish the kingdom of His dear Son on Mount Zion over restored and converted Israel. Let us hasten that glad and consummating day by evangelizing Israel to a finish!

Our Radio Ministry

"THE CHOSEN PEOPLE BROADCAST"

WADC	Akron, Ohio	Friday	9:15 a.m.	1350 K. C.
WLAW	Boston, Mass.	Sunday	10:45 a.m.	680 K. C.
WERC	Erie, Pa.	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	1230 K. C.
KGER	Long Beach, Calif.	Sunday	7:45 a.m.	1390 K. C.
WKAT	Miami, Fla.	Sunday	7:45 a.m.	1360 K. C.
WINS	New York, N. Y.	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	1010 K. C.
KOCY	Oklahoma City, Okla.	Sunday	9:15 a.m.	1340 K. C.
WORZ	Orlando, Fla.	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	740 K. C.
KING	Seattle, Wash.	Sunday	7:30 a.m.	1090 K. C.
WOOK	Washington, D. C.	Saturday	7:45 a.m.	1590 K. C.
KFBI	Wichita, Kansas	Sunday	11:00 a.m.	1070 K. C.
CKPC	Brantford, Ont.	Sunday	8:45 a.m.	1380 K. C.
CKTB	St. Catharines, Ontario	Sunday	8:30 a.m.	1550 K. C.

"MESSAGE OF THE CHRISTIAN JEW"

CMCQ	Havana, Cuba	Sunday	8:30 a.m.	1460 K. C.
COBQ	Havana, Cuba	Sunday	8:30 a.m.	9235 K. C.

lence, verse 10; (2) hostile attitude, verse 11; (3) joy at Israel's calamity, verse 12; (4) boasting in Jacob's time of distress, verse 12; (5) spoiling of God's people, verse 13; (6) prevention of the escape of the fugitives, verse 14; and (7) the betrayal of them into the hand of their enemy, verse 14. Should not the Lord take account of this? His wrath kindled with reason. Edom has merited her punishment.

THE DAY OF JEHOVAH AT HAND

Dwelling on the theme of God's visitation in wrath, Obadiah is carried on in mind and heart by the Spirit of God to the great day of judgment for all nations. In God's reckoning the day of the Lord is near for all the nations who have similarly maltreated the people of God. They will, as Edom, be requited in kind. Edom will come in for judgment in the day of the Lord. As the seed of Esau have held their wild carousals with the conquerors in the captured city of Jerusalem in their time, so shall all these nations drain to the dregs the cup of calamity and wrath of God. See Jeremiah 25:15-33. In so doing they shall be so completely annihilated, that it will be as though they had never existed. The time of this judgment will be just before the establishment of Messiah's kingdom; then the power of Edom will be finally and completely broken. When the last great confederacy against Israel takes place (Zechariah 12:1ff.; 14:1ff.), the Edomites will be among these adversaries of God's people. They will be routed and Edom will be blotted out as a nation. When other nations, like Assyria and Egypt, are restored and brought into millennial blessing, Edom will have been utterly destroyed. Edom, representative of the flesh and the carnal mind with its enmity against

God and His law, must be irrevocably cut off.

ISRAEL'S SALVATION AND MESSIAH'S KINGDOM

Whereas Edom can only expect destruction in the wind-up of God's prophetic program, Israel awaits a restoration from world-wide captivity. In Mount Zion will be those of Israel who have escaped the rigors and ravages of the centuries of cruel treatment accorded this people of God. They will be resettled upon their own land. Mount Zion, so often polluted by the repeated invasions of the foreigner, will be holy unto the Lord. Compare Isaiah 52:1. The house of Jacob will then possess their possessions; they will fully occupy those provinces and countries which were theirs in the time of the greatest expansion of the monarchy in Israel. She will no longer be shorn of her possessions. Then Israel, before this the butt of every attack, will be God's instrument in punishing Edom. Note Isaiah 11:14; Zechariah 12:6. The houses of Jacob and Joseph, the reunited kingdoms, will be as fire to stubble when they execute God's wrath in the last days upon an Edom revived in prophetic times for this very judgment. No remnant is specified for Edom from this judgment. All will be cut off. Then Israel will regain the territories that rightfully belong to her. Those who dwell in the southern portion of Judah will appropriate to themselves Mount Esau; those of the lowlands on the west will gain the land of the Philistines. The territory of the northern kingdom will be restored and enjoyed; and Benjamin, loyal to the Davidic dynasty, will expand to the east of Gilead. We have here a fulfilment of Genesis 28:14. Judah and Israel respectively will possess the land adjoining them. And then saviors, deliverers and rulers

our part. We will do as Isaiah did of old, we will set our faces as a flint and move with determination forward into the path which He has so clearly marked out for us. And so it will be in the days of the end that He will have joy in presenting us to His Heavenly Father in the heavenly places, and will not be ashamed of us, because we were not ashamed of Him.

"HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS"

The work of your hands which the Lord has entrusted to our care, continues with amazing and abundant success, with the Lord's blessings upon us on every side. All day long, day after day, hungry souls press upon us in our Reading Room here in New York. Sometimes our missionaries do not even have a chance to go out at lunchtime. There is surely "the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees," and we must be ever on the alert to buy up every Gospel opportunity as the Lord puts it before us. This winter promises an abundant harvest. Your prayers and your fellowship are the foundation stone upon which we rest the undertakings of this Mission. You have no idea what it means when letters come to us from our most precious friends, saying, "Every morning of my life I pray for you, and I thank God for the marvelous and amazing work that you have been called upon to do." Such were the prayers that supported us all of those perilous days last summer when we trudged over the hills and the valleys of the European holocaust, and saw with our own eyes what the scattered and desperate people of Israel have to endure.

"THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH"

It is again the Thanksgiving month of November, and we shall again reach out the helping hand of Christ-love to our poor people. You have always been generous not only in caring for the vast needs of the work, but in taking interest in these lesser items, lesser only in point of total money needed, but otherwise of profound importance in the maintaining of a fully-rounded program of Gospel testimony.

And now may the Lord Himself bless each one of you as you read these lines. These days are not easy days in which to live; fear and terror and the uncertainty of the days ahead, these things press in about us. But shall we not take refuge in simple obedience to the comforting injunction of I Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

May this indeed be your joyful experience in the days of discouragement and uncertainty and fear—He careth for you! The Lord's blessings and watch care are upon all of those who will gather under your roof on Thanksgiving Day, to make it a day of remembrance and prayer and true thanksgiving. And may the shamefully neglected scattered people of Israel find a warm spot in the hearts of those who meet with you on that day, so that they shall partake of the blessing promised in Psalm 122:6, "They shall prosper that love thee."

Ever faithfully yours,

J. Hoffman Lohr.

Incidents In The Work

OUT OF THE HEART OF JUDAISM

A heart-gripping story of how the Lord called Anne Rayner to His Word and Work. Miss Rayner is our missionary in London, and works under the kindly and volunteer supervision of our good brother, Mark Kagan.



MISS RAYNER

I WAS born in Bessarabia, Rumania, of orthodox parents; but rumours of war and persecution of the Jews caused my parents to bring my elder brother and me to England whilst my age was still counted in months.

My parents, being very religious, naturally brought up their children (there were five of us, a younger brother and two younger sisters having been born subsequent to our arrival in England) to observe all the ritual of the Jewish faith. Our home was a very happy one; the name of Jesus Christ was never mentioned by my parents, the only occasions on which I ever heard it was when street urchins used it in blasphemy. We, my brothers and myself, were taught to read Hebrew and to pray in Hebrew every morning and night.

On Friday evenings my father would attend the synagogue and on his return, after greeting each one of us with a kiss, he would bless the household (make kiddush) and take his seat at the table on which had been spread a snowy cloth and on which the Sabbath candles stood, burning brightly. When the rest of the family was seated I, as the eldest daughter, would help my mother serve the evening meal, after giving my father the water for the ceremonial washing of the hands. Before and after meals we would all sing grace. We were a musical family, loved singing; and all, especially our parents, had good voices. Frequently visitors would join our Sabbath meals; sometimes they were strangers to the country and sometimes they were needy. They too enjoyed our Sabbaths.

STORM CLOUDS GATHER

At eighteen I was engaged to be married: my fiancé was an orthodox Jew, religious and upright, and I counted myself one of the happiest of girls. Then, suddenly, my mother died and it was necessary for me to take her place, so far as I could, in the home. Everything was changed. I felt unequal to the task; there seemed no one to whom I could turn for advice and comfort. But it just had to be done, and God seemed to be so far away.

One day, going about my household tasks, I could hear singing in the street. I was and am fond of music and, being curious, went out on the street to see what was happen-

dered condition of Edom, the land of Esau will be left with nothing. Her ruin will be complete. The enemy in seeking plunder will search out the hidden treasures of Edom. The capital of Edom, Petra, was the great market of the Syrian and Arabian trade where many costly articles were treasured. These will all be looted. Moreover, their own confederates will deceive them and prevail against them. As a recompense for their treachery, their allies will drive them into captivity, and will not give them aid in the hour of their need. The ones who had in other days enjoyed the bounty, the bread of Edom, will employ treachery to bring about her certain downfall. The Edomites will be able to look to no one for help. By open means or deceptive snares those who were their allies would compass their undoing. Esau will manifest none of that discernment for which he had been renowned. The wise men of the Mount of Esau will be destroyed. Because of its communication with Babylon and Egypt and because of the information gleaned through the caravans going to and from Europe and India, Edom had gained an enviable reputation for wisdom. Now their wisdom will be withdrawn from them. The wise and powerful men of Teman will be dismayed, because the Lord purposed to slaughter every one in Edom. It was to be a stroke without mitigation. [For the wisdom of Teman see Job 4:1 and Jeremiah 49:7.]

THE REASONS FOR THE JUDGMENT

Such condign punishment calls for a presentation of the underlying causes for the wrath of God against Edom. Verses 10 through 14 give us the bill of particulars against this stubborn enemy of Israel. They portray conditions in Israel when Judah was invaded by Nebuchadnezzar. Edom resorted to violence against

his brother Jacob. Compare Joel 3:19. It was directed against Jacob, his twin brother. There were to be two phases to their punishment: (1) a period in which they were to be a captive people—shame covering them; (2) a time in which they were to become extinct as a people. They were ultimately reduced by John Hyrcanus of the Maccabean dynasty and lost their national existence under the Romans. They were cut off forever as a nation, though the land would again be populated, as we shall see from the latter part of this prophecy. When the Chaldeans invaded Judah in later years, Edom, like the enemies of God's people, had assumed an attitude of hostility. Judah's goods were carried off; her cities were entered by force; lots were cast upon Jerusalem (Joel 3:3) to sell her population into slavery; but Edom knew only hatred for her kin, entering into the calamity as one of the accomplices of the outragers. For the hatred of Edom in this hour see Psalm 137:7; 83: 4-6 especially; Ezekiel 35; Jeremiah 49; Isaiah 34 and 63. In addition, Edom feasted on his brother's disaster and rejoiced in the destruction of Judah, when he was exiled as an alien from his homeland. Not only did they revel in the calamity of Judah, but they used arrogant language in exultation over their conquered enemy. The Idumeans went from looks and rejoicings to insults and actions. They assisted in the spoliation of God's people when they were being robbed by the invaders. Finally, they took their stand at the crossway to cut off the retreat of those who wanted to pass through Idumea to Egypt whereto they were fleeing from the Chaldean hosts, and then delivered them over to the enemy. They surely compounded their outrages against the distressed ones of Jacob. Note the extent of them: (1) vio-

Studies in Obadiah

By CHARLES L. FEINBERG, Th. D., Ph. D., Professor of Semitics and Old Testament, Los Angeles Bible Theological Seminary, Los Angeles, Calif.

THE PROPHET AND HIS TIMES



DR. FEINBERG

THE prophecy of Obadiah is the smallest book in the Old Testament, containing a total of but twenty-one verses. It is not quoted in the New Testament, yet its message is a vital part of all the prophetic Scriptures. It is written in lucid and forceful language.

It is given to Obadiah to pronounce God's message of final doom upon Edom, this incorrigible foe of His people. The prophecy, though centuries old, has a familiar ring, for it echoes events and deeds of recent years that have been perpetrated upon the sons of Jacob throughout the world.

THE PRIDE AND FALL OF EDM

The prophecy begins with the concise statement that it is a supernatural revelation, a vision, granted to Obadiah; the word of the Lord that came to him concerned Edom specifically. The prophet and the nation Israel are made cognizant of the fact that the Lord has sent a messenger among the nations to stir them up to war against Edom. It is made known to them by God directly, for He takes His own into His plans for them and those about them. It was God's overruling providences that led the Assyrians and then Nebuchadnezzar with his confederates against Edom. The Lord says of Edom that He has made her small among the nations and greatly despised; indeed, He speaks this word

to her directly. God's resolution to do so makes the humiliation as certain as if it had already taken place. It will be accomplished through the enemies aroused against her. What causes the fall of Edom? Her unbearable pride. Her pride and conceit were nourished by the fact that her land was full of high mountain fastnesses. She truly dwelt in the clefts of the rock, for the land of Edom is a rocky mountain full of caves and dwellings hewn out of the rock. The former inhabitants of Mount Seir were troglodytes (cave-dwellers), the Horites. See Genesis 14:6; Deuteronomy 2:12, 22. The haughty spirit of Edom evidently stemmed from her belief that she was invincible and impregnable. No one, she thought, could bring her down from her lofty habitation. God assures her that, though she emulate the eagle and though she set her abode among the very stars, He will cast her down thence. Compare Amos 9:2; Isaiah 14:12-20 (the fall of Lucifer); Job 39:27, 28. Edom may be inaccessible to man, but not to God. The greater her pride, the more disastrous her fall.

DESTRUCTION AND TREACHERY

The prophet sets forth now the thoroughgoing character of the destruction of the Idumeans. If robbers break in at night, they steal all they need or can carry away. They do not take all. When grape-gatherers harvest the vintage, they always leave gleanings as a matter of course. The vineyard is not left completely bare. But, says Obadiah as he interjects an exclamation of surprise and amazement at the plun-

ing. An open-air meeting was in progress and, because I had a fair knowledge of the Old Testament Scriptures, I listened with interest to the missionary who was speaking of the Messiah, whose coming was prophesied in the Old Testament. I had a pencil and a scrap of paper in my pocket and noted the references the speaker quoted from: Isaiah 9:6, 4:14 and chapter 53. I wanted to argue to prove the speaker wrong; for, in my heart, I condemned him as a traitor to the Jewish race and faith. You see he was a Jew!

I was a member of a religious Zionist movement, the Young Mizrachi, and I went to their reading room, borrowed an Old Testament in English, for the Bibles we had at home were in Hebrew; and, to my amazement, I found the references were exactly as they were quoted by the missionary I had heard. I began to wonder why our rabbis apparently did not believe what was written in our own Bible. I decided to visit the mission to the Jews to hear more. I did go to the mission, but being terribly afraid of being seen entering, I passed the door several times before I finally slipped inside.

"THEY WON'T GET ME"

The meeting had already commenced and I sat in a corner in the back row, hoping I would not be noticed. The missionary who first captured my attention was speaking again, and somehow he seemed to be addressing me alone. He said I was a sinner (and I resented that!); the hymns seemed to have been chosen just for me, and to myself I said, "These missionaries are artful; they saw me come in and they are specially trying to win me over; but they won't get me!" Before the meeting was over I slipped away, resolved never again to go there. But the following Sunday evening found

me in the same place at the back of the hall. Actually, I never remember going to the mission, but I was certainly there. Again it seemed as if all the speakers were addressing only me; and again I was filled with anger and resentment that they should dare to speak as they did. Yet I could not prove them wrong. This time before I could get away unobtrusively, one of the missionaries stopped me, inviting me to a discussion the following evening. I went and afterwards began reading my Bible, the Old Testament, with a new interest, comparing it with the New Testament which had been given to me.

THE LIGHT SHINES IN

All this time I had kept my visits to the Mission a secret, and so it continued for a month or more. One night I was too restless and thoughtful to sleep, and in my heart I cried out to God for help, asking Him to show me the truth and what to do about it, and, like a flash, the light dawned on me and I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour. Then I wanted to sing for sheer happiness.

TROUBLES BEGIN

I was not to have things easy, however; for, as my new faith became known at home, so persecution began. My father tried to commit suicide; for, he said, he could no longer face the Jewish people (who looked up to him with great respect) since his daughter had brought such disgrace upon him; my elder brother threatened to kill me; wherever I went I was followed; when I brought a Bible home it was burned; no matter where I hid them, they were found and destroyed. I told my fiancé of my conversion; at first he thought I was not serious and replied that "such jokes are in bad taste"; when he realized I was in earnest he stormed for a time and

then pleaded with me to give up "such madness," and it was only by the Grace of God that I stood firm. My fiancé promised to wait a year and, if I had given up my new faith and had "returned to sanity," he would still marry me.

Eventually I became ill, but somehow my family did not cast me out. God in His mercy strengthened me and, when I recovered, I found I still could not read my Bible at home; so I would visit the reference library for hours at a time and pore over chapter after chapter of the Scriptures, committing long passages to memory; no one could rob me of them then.

My father became very ill; after he had a serious operation I nursed him for four years and often had an opportunity of discussing the Scriptures with him then. I like to think that perhaps before he died he too had accepted Christ; but I don't know. I felt that, from so many trials, I must have been saved to serve. I encouraged Hebrew Christian girls to come to my home and, on Friday evenings, quite a number would gather to relate experiences, advise and pray for one another's needs. Some came to stay when they were turned out of their homes. In 1933 a hostel was opened for girls such as these and I became its matron; many times we had experiences there of answered prayers. During my stay at the hostel, for six months, I also did part-time work at the mission, the Hebrew Christian Testimony to Israel; later, my younger brother accepted Christ and was baptised in His Name. He said then that, after watching me for ten years, he felt that I had found something worth having, and he wanted it too.

I DRIVE AN AMBULANCE

When war broke out in 1939 I was called up for Civil Defense Ser-

vice. At first I was nursing and assisted with First Aid Training (I was a member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade). The hospital I was in was badly bombed during the Battle of Britain in 1940. I was transferred to the Ambulance Service and learned to drive an ambulance. There were many anxious, hectic days and nights which I often expected to be my last, but the Lord kept me safe to serve again.

Mark Kagan, the missionary whose words so many years ago changed the course of my life and led me to Christ, has been a spiritual help to me ever since, and I thank God for him. Because I have found Jesus to be so wonderful a Saviour to me I long that all my Jewish brethren may also find salvation through Him and be led with joy into Everlasting Life.

OUR OPEN AIR MINISTRY

By Rev. Bernhard Schatkin

"GO ye therefore into the highways" (Matt. 22:9). Since some Jews will not enter a Jewish mission, in order to reach them, our brethren, with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, we hold open air meetings. These Gospel services are held on one of the busiest thoroughfares in the Metropolitan area, at the corner of 73rd Street and Broadway, Manhattan, just one block from our Headquarters Building at 236 West 72nd Street. In these services we follow closely in the footsteps of the greatest open air Preacher, our Lord Jesus Christ, whose glorious ministry was mainly under the blue canopy of Heaven.

The writer is ably assisted by members of our Headquarters Staff, —our faithful brother, Joseph Serafin, our loyal sister, Mrs. Anna Frank, our gifted and talented brother, Harry Fargo, and Mr.

light upon this question, if you look at a verse like Neh. 13:14, when after the restoration of the wall and the temple, Nehemiah is sort of laying up a little treasure for himself in the world to come, because he has labored incessantly for the welfare of Jerusalem. The second half of the verse that you have quoted from Psalm 122:6, tells us, "they shall prosper that love thee." The literal translation would read, "It shall go well with them that bless thee." Which would lead to the thought that there is going to be a day of rewards in a world to come, and those who have shown kindness to the people of Israel, kindness to Jerusalem, will receive some special token of God's blessing and approval.

Answer: 2. With regard to Joel 2:28, it seems to me that the plenary fulfillment of this promise will be made to Israel in those last days just before the close of the Armageddon battle. You remember we are given to understand that it will be Jewish missionaries who will make known the Gospel of the Kingdom (Matt. 24:14).

Question: Would you please explain Jos. 6:26 and I Kings 16:34?

Answer: The passage in Joshua is a curse which Joshua pronounced upon anyone who had rebuilt the city of Jericho. Deut. 13:12-17 indicates God's command to the children of Israel that a city which they may have destroyed because of its wickedness and idolatries, must never be rebuilt. And so Joshua follows this policy after the conquest of Jericho. This city had now been destroyed, after Rahab had been delivered, and Joshua, in the 26th verse adjures the nation with the words, "Cursed be the man before the Lord, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest

son shall he set up the gates of it" (Josh. 6:26).

In I Kings 16:34, we read that Hiel the Bethelite did actually rebuild Jericho. It is adduced by some historians that this Jericho was somewhat distant from the original Jericho, and that we can pass this matter by, because the main point is that the curse which Joshua pronounced upon that one who would rebuild Jericho was actually fulfilled in Hiel, some five hundred years later. Winer, the noted theological historian, claims that what Hiel did relates only to the *fortifications* of Jericho and not to the actual rebuilding of the city. It was an ancient custom among world conquerors to destroy the cities they conquered and then to make impossible the rebuilding of such cities. Such curses, for instance, Agamemnon passed upon Ilium and Scipio upon Carthage. When Hadrian destroyed Jerusalem he followed the same policy and had the whole city area ploughed under. Knobel claims that the Jericho destroyed by Joshua was in a different place from that which Hiel rebuilt.

And now we come to the question as to what was the curse that Joshua pronounced upon the future Hiel. It was simply that this man Hiel would suffer the death of his first-born. Abiram, while he was building the fortifications, and before he would finish them he was to experience the death of his youngest son, Segub.

Question: I still haven't been able to find out whether present-day Jews know to which tribe they belong — whether there are some of each of the twelve tribes in existence.

Answer: The 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 Jews now living in all parts of the world, comprise in themselves all the original 12 tribes of Israel.

Questions and Answers

Question: In a previous issue of The Chosen People, in your fine article on Christ's Crucifixion, you said in the second paragraph, "an earthquake shook Jerusalem, the veil of the Temple, almost a foot in thickness, was ripped." I had always supposed that the veil was just a heavy curtain. Can you give me any more information about your source of information?

Answer: The Jewish Encyclopedia has this to say concerning the dividing wall which separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place, or Hekal. "The dimensions of the Holy of Holies were 20 x 20 x 40 cubits. It was divided from the Hekal (the Holy Place) by two curtains. The outer one was folded back to the right; the inner, to the left. *There was a space of one cubit between the two.*"

The Encyclopedia Britannica discussing the same question contains this paragraph: "Adjoining the Hekal on the west lay the Debir, or sanctuary, later termed 'the most holy place.' The Debir was separated from the Hekal by a transverse wall, whose existence we are left to infer from the obscure description of the door between the two compartments."

Summarizing these two statements, we have concluded that the Holy of Holies was separated from the Holy Place by a wall one cubit in thickness. Both sides of this wall were covered by a curtain. Thus, the whole partition, including the wall and the two curtains which draped each side of the wall, made up the Veil of the Temple. The measure of a cubit has been accepted as being about 18 inches, so that we have assumed a minimum thickness of 14 inches. Is this not a reasonable assumption?

Question: 1. What does it mean to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem?" Must we ask God to keep them from shooting each other? To keep the fighting countries out? Or what? 2. Is Joel 2:28 to be fulfilled before the rapture? I know Peter said, "this is that," but the wonders did not follow that Pentecost. Will we see a world-wide revival, a speedy completion of the Church before the shout?

Answer: 1. The injunction to pray for the peace of Jerusalem means just what it says: a literal rendering of this verse is, "Seek after the welfare of Jerusalem." It simply means that the child of God is to have in His heart at all times a love and a prayer for that city which still is going to be the city beloved and place where the Lord Jesus shall establish His Throne and reign forever. You may get a fair idea of what all this means if you look through other parts of Scripture. For instance, read through the Psalms and see how many times the Psalmists remind God of His promises concerning Jerusalem. Is it not rather striking that in so penitent and heart-breaking a Psalm as the 51st, we find such deep confession of sin and deep penitence to God, and with all that in front of us, we find the verse, "Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the wall of Jerusalem." Or take a Psalm like the 67th and we read, "God shall bless us (Jerusalem and Israel); and all the ends of the earth shall fear him." Which should be properly understood and digested, for it means just one thing, that world blessing waits upon that day when Jerusalem shall be established as a praise in the earth. Another window opens itself for us and throws

Frank. They are a blessing to us with their testimonies and their co-operation in this important work for the Gospel of our blessed Lord.

Preceding these open air meetings, we meet regularly for one hour of prayer, seeking His benediction of grace and courage. Then, with our hearts sanctified with His love, we come face to face with a mixed multitude of agnostics, Atheists, Communists, who deliberately come to annoy the speaker and disturb the service.

As the service proceeds, the attendance generally increases, and many gladly listen to the Gospel message, perhaps for the first time in their lives.

The message is mainly aimed to convince the Jewish people in the audience that our blessed Lord Jesus is Israel's Messiah, long foretold by the prophets. At all of our meetings we never fail to quote the wonderful Messianic prophecies which run like a golden thread from Genesis to Malachi.

With an ample supply of New Testaments, tracts in Yiddish and English, and THE SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL, we are prepared to witness to our Hebrew brethren, with the spoken and written word.

There is not enough space in this brief report to write of our manifold experiences at these open air meetings. All told, eighteen open air meetings have thus far been held this summer; and hundreds of Jews have been reached in this way with the glad tidings of salvation through our blessed Lord. I feel certain that our Lord bestowed His benediction on this open air ministry and that some of our Hebrew people will come to know our Redeemer as their Saviour and Lord.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to God to report that two Jewish women accepted our Lord as their

personal Saviour through our humble efforts at these open air meetings.

"HOW GOD DELIVERED ME FROM HITLER'S CLUTCHES"

The thrilling story of how an eager Jewish youth in Germany, seeking rest for his soul, found joy and peace even in the midst of Nazi hate and cruelty. As our friends know, Mr. Singer was in charge of our work among the refugees from the time that he first came to America, and the Lord blessed his labors abundantly. Now that Mr. Singer is at home with his Lord, we print this testimony as a matter of grateful memory.

I WAS born in the city of Cottbus, Germany, and brought up in a very strict orthodox Jewish home. My father saw to it that we observed carefully all the laws and ceremonies of Jewish tradi-



REV. H. SINGER

tion. When I got up in the morning, I had first to say my prayers before I could have my breakfast; and in order to make my prayers acceptable, I had to put on my phylacteries, and recite from the prayer book the prescribed number of prayers. I did not know why I should do these things nor did I understand the purpose then. I did them in obedience to my father's command.

However, as I grew older, I became dissatisfied. I was longing for real fellowship with God. I was taught to fear God, but I wanted to love Him.

MY FIRST CONTACT WITH CHRISTIANS

At that time I had a friend, a schoolmate, whose home I often vis-

ited. I remember that his family, when they sat down at the table always folded their hands and thanked God, in simple, plain language for the food, and other blessings. I was powerfully impressed by the atmosphere of peace, and harmony in that Christian home. They were talking to God as a child would talk to his father. I desired very much to know God the same way and to pray to Him without a printed prayerbook. Today I know that these dear people were true Christians, and I know that they also prayed for me.

In my friend's home I often heard the Lord's Prayer recited, and since that prayer suited my spiritual need I learned it by heart and prayed it every evening in my bed.

WHAT I EXPERIENCED IN BERLIN

When I was twelve years of age my parents moved to Berlin where I attended high school, and later graduated. Though most of my friends were "Christians" I never again came in contact with real Christianity until I was twenty-four years old.

One Sunday afternoon, as I walked through the streets in Berlin, an invitation card was given to me to attend an evangelistic meeting at the Y.M.C.A., at Wilhelm Street. The subject announced on the card interested me, and so I went. In that meeting I heard about the Lord Jesus Christ for the first time in my life. I was deeply impressed by the message of the evangelist, and I felt that the Lord Jesus was the One who could still the longing of my heart.

After the meeting, a brother, who happened to be a Jewish missionary, came to me. He had noticed me, as I was sitting in the back of the hall, and had recognized me as a Jew. He invited me to accompany him to his home. I felt that I could place my confidence in this brother,

and while we were walking to his home, I told him about my longing for peace. I asked him whether he could help me. He pointed me to the Lord Jesus Christ, who alone was able to give permanent joy and peace. When we arrived at his home, we had earnest religious discussions together, after which we kneeled down and prayed to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to show me the truth. When we arose I felt wonderfully comforted, and with gratitude I accepted a copy of the New Testament which that dear brother urged me to read.

IN HAMBURG

A short time after I went to Hamburg in order to find a better-paid occupation. Before I left Berlin, the brother, who was a missionary, asked me to see Rev. F., in Hamburg, whose address he gave me. I promised to do so, but first I tried to find work, only to meet with failure wherever I turned. Today I know why. God had other plans for me. Then one rainy day I went to the address of Rev. F. It was a mission. I rang the doorbell, and a Jewish man with a smiling and shining face came to the door and kindly invited me to come in. He led me into a hall where about twenty-four young Jewish men were sitting at a long table, each one of them with an open Bible before him. They were all listening attentively to a lecture that was being given by Rev. F. I shall never forget what I saw and heard the first hour of my visit there. There was such a wonderful atmosphere and such a fine spirit in that mission house that I desired very much to be one of those men who were privileged to live in that place. Thus, when the hour was over, I asked Rev. F., the pastor, if he would allow me to stay there, telling him that I was earnestly seeking the truth. To my

in the significance of her husband, who died twenty-five years ago. They have come to Argentina about forty years ago as wheat brokers, having settled down in the Province. Orthodox Jews by conviction and tradition, they nevertheless gave up non-cooking on Sabbath right away, "so our neighborhood would not note we are Jews!"

WHO FREED YOU FROM THE LAW?

I asked her, if she had a special permission from God not to abide by the laws regarding the Sabbath, and yet call herself a "good Jewess," which I could not understand, while, on the other hand, we Christians have been freed from these and all the other "obsolete" laws by our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Son of man, Lord also over the Sabbath. She countered very lively, "You seem so completely to be a Christian, and yet this can impossibly be, as your very own grandfather has been a Jewish rabbi!" I told her, "Indeed, my grandfather being a Jewish rabbi and a teacher of Scripture came to the conviction by the clear words of our Holy Bible that Jesus from Nazareth is the foretold Messiah of the Jews. And he was not the only rabbi, who gained this holy and rock-solid conviction and knowledge which he abided by ever unto his homegoing." I then related to her the wonderful story of the conversion of the former rabbi, Dr. Leopold Cohn, the history of whom has been printed in the German language by this Mission, and is entitled, "A Rabbi meets Jesus." She promised to read it before my next visit.

Very especially interested was my aged listener, as I told her of my hopes to die joyfully, and that for this cause I am not afraid of death. So much interest did both of us take in our conversation (the children of my hostess had left us by

ourselves intentionally), we did not note when the room had become quite dark. It seems to me our next conversation will be about life eternal, which naturally is of special interest to this aged lady, even though I explained that many times the younger are allowed to go first, while the aged people like herself have to wait a while yet. She wants me to pay her a monthly visit; also she wants to listen to a missionary sermon of mine in the meanwhile.

It was indeed late already when I got to the queue in order to catch a bus home, which system has been introduced to help better the undescribable misery of the local traffic situation. And our South American winter is quite disagreeable at 1 or 2 degrees below zero already, while the bus queues appear being endless! Anyway I felt cheerful, as there is one more soul I can include in my daily prayers to the Lord.

Asking you again, dear Doctor Cohn, to air mail me your Midsummer Letter, as also for a copy of the program of your Summer's End Conference. I would like to inform you that I have before me the German translation of "I have Loved Jacob" already, and that God providing, you will certainly hear more about this very soonly.

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him."

—Romans 10:9-12.

"CAST THY BREAD"

Argentine Marches On. Our Mr. Lichtenstein reports the wonders of God's blessings on his testimony.

I FIRST met her about two years ago. She is now twenty-three years of age, and is a furrier in her father's shop—a Jewish shop. Her mother is an evangelical Christian. For quite a number of years she was a clerk of the "Argentinisches Tageblatt," and as such she received out of my hands my weekly and other announcements regarding our work among the Jews of this city, inviting them to our meetings and giving them the Word chosen for the next Saturday. It has happened many times that clerks asked questions on our work here, but mostly by courtesy and curiosity, as I do not think any of them were Jewish or in any way interested in the Jews. But this girl came to me, some months ago, telling me she had been fighting a bitter inner struggle in order to make up her mind as to whether to follow her father in his religious convictions or to take her mother's. She brought with her to me her Bible that her grandmother had given her before she left Europe. We had more and more conversations on this matter, until she was baptized Sunday, the 11th of July, in the mission hall of our church in Buenos Aires during a solemn service, with Pastor Rev. Graefe attending and assisting.

A CHRISTIAN FROM THE HEART OUT

I am describing and reporting this case with special joy, as it again confirms something you, dear Doctor Cohn, are always underlining, that is: We never know when or where our work will bear fruit, as this is entirely a matter governed by the Holy Spirit. On the other hand, it also goes to show that we must behave just like in church and on the

pulpit wherever we are, in the street, as well as in all places, so that our fellowmen feel always that the man who invites the Jews to meetings for evangelization, takes his work seriously and at heart, and he is not doing his job as a means of earning his "bread and butter," but that it really is a matter of conscience and a call from above.

REACHING THE MOTHER IN HER GIRLHOOD TONGUE

Yesterday afternoon I made an interesting "home visit" at an aged, very old but quite lucid and spiritual lady. This Jewish lady has three sons and three daughters, one is already dead. The oldest son, forty years of age, was brought to us by a mutual friend, who comes to our German language services. He is a Christian believer. His brethren, regarding whom I have no exact information, have become disciples of our Lord, at least some of them, by baptism already. They are trying since a long time ago to gain their aged mother for Christ. When this Christian Jew found here was a missionary to the Jews from Hungary and, since the children do not speak that language, he was confident that the mission work on his mother would have much better success using her native tongue.

Exactly to the agreed time I was there (for five o'clock tea, i.e., coffee) even if the extension and traffic troubles in this metropolis often make punctuality a problem without solution.

"SO THEY WON'T KNOW WE ARE JEWS!"

"My son has told me that you will convince me, that Jesus was our Messiah!" This greeting in Hungarian language by the old lady caused the subsequent conversation to be already started at the beginning and made easy in extreme. She explained why she wants to remain a Jewess

great joy and gratitude my request was granted; and in February, 1909, I entered the mission. It was called "Jerusalem," and became for me the gate of Salvation in Christ.

I ACCEPT THE LORD JESUS AS MY MESSIAH AND SAVIOUR

Wonderful months I spent in that house into which God had led my steps. Some of the Jewish men whom I met there were already believers, and they could satisfactorily answer all my questions concerning the Messiah of Israel. We had blessed hours of fellowship together. In that Mission house I saw real Christianity. There I studied the whole Bible, the Old and New Testament, and there I became acquainted with the Lord Jesus Christ whom I came to admire more and more. Soon I recognized that Jesus was the promised Messiah, of whom Moses and the Prophets had written. About three months after my entrance, I accepted Him as my personal Saviour from sin. My longing was then stilled, joy unspeakable and peace entered my heart. When Jesus became my Saviour, my whole life became new, and I experienced what Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away, behold all things become new." On Easter Sunday, 1909, I confessed my faith in Him by baptism. That day was the happiest in my life.

MY FATHER CONSIDERS ME INSANE

After my conversion I wrote to my parents and told them of my new found faith in my Messiah. I was very happy and longed to share my happiness with them. But when the answer to my letter came I was very sad. My father informed me that he considered me insane, that I should never write to him or any member

of the family again, and that he regarded me as dead. Two years passed. All of a sudden I received a telegram from my father, urging me to come to Berlin. My dear mother was very ill and wanted to see me before she died. I took the next train to Berlin, and when I arrived in my parents' home, my mother was still alive but very weak. She was happy to see me and with tears in her eyes, forgave me and blessed me. I stayed with her to the hour of her death, which came very soon after.

MY BROTHER BECOMES A CHILD OF GOD

My father still refused to talk to me, but I had a wonderful opportunity to speak to one of my younger brothers and to witness to him of what the Lord Jesus had done for me. My brother Fritz seemed to be receptive to the Word of God.

After I had returned to Hamburg I tried again and again to become reconciled to my father. I finally succeeded. Then I asked my father to let my brother Fritz come to Hamburg. To my great joy, permission was granted. My brother came, lived with me at the mission house; and I had the privilege of leading him to the Lord Jesus Christ. He became a sincere believer and a faithful follower of the Saviour.

Soon after Hitler came into power, Fritz was one of the many thousands of Jews to be thrown into a concentration camp for the only reason that he was born a Jew. I never heard of him again, and I am afraid that he is one of the six million victims of barbarian Hitlerism.

I ESCAPE FROM GERMANY AND COME TO AMERICA

It was in 1936, four years after Hitler had risen to power, that our Dr. Joseph Hoffman Cohn came to

Hamburg to see Pastor F. Dr. Cohn had helped our mission in many ways for a number of years, and now he came again with a helping hand and a heart full of love for us. After he had visited a number of Hebrew-Christian families in Hamburg and had given them financial and spiritual help, we had a time of sweet fellowship together. Dr. Cohn then predicted that our work among the Jewish people would soon be finished under Hitler and his anti-Semitic laws against the Jews, and he told me to write to him if that should happen.

It happened not long after Dr. Cohn left Germany. Our mission house was closed up, our work destroyed, and our pastor, Rev. F. then an eighty-year-old servant of the Lord, was thrown into a concentration camp. There was no future for me and my family in Hitler-Germany; no possibility to earn our livelihood. Anti-Semitism, all kinds of restrictions and humiliations, increased day by day. Life was unbearable for a Jew in Germany. More and more Jews were tortured and thrown into concentration camps, and I knew that it was only a question of days or weeks before I too would be a victim of anti-Semitism.

I wrote an S.O.S. letter to Dr. Cohn in New York, and he immediately answered, advising me to take the necessary steps to come to America to work with the American Board of Missions to the Jews among my Jewish people. In March, 1937, I landed on the shores of America. Seven months later my wife and children joined me, and today we are all proud of being citizens of this so-richly blessed country of God.

The Lord is richly blessing my work here. A great number of refugees from Germany and Austria with whom we have been working

have come to the knowledge of Christ, and it is my earnest desire that many more of my Jewish brethren and sisters may recognize and accept the Lord Jesus as their Messiah and Saviour from sin, and so experience the same joy and happiness that I had experienced when Jesus came into my heart.

OUR LONDON LETTER

A chat with our missionary in London, Miss Anne Rayner.

Hebrews 13:15, 16 tells us, "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

I INDEED give thanks to God continually for the joy and privilege of serving Him. This has been a month of blessing, for it has pleased the Lord to add to the numbers of those who meet week by week in my home. Now I cannot invite any more, for there is simply *no room*. The need for larger premises is very urgent and necessary. Please pray on our behalf, that the Lord will supply this great need, for He is able.

VISITORS FROM AMERICA

It has been a great pleasure to us and a privilege to have present at our meeting this month our beloved Dr. Cohn, together with our dear friends, Mr. and Mrs. Gossett from California. Mrs. Gossett very kindly and ably played the organ for our hymns and Mr. Gossett brought us greetings from America and a message from the Lord, with an appeal to those who have not yet accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour, not to put it off, but to accept Him before it is too late. We could not let Dr. Cohn go without a message from him, so he first of all read part



A summer outing at Westcliffe-on-the-Sea by our London believers. In the group are also our Miss Rayner, and our dear Brother Mark Kagan, with his good wife.

of Isaiah 60, and spoke of the darkness which has come upon the earth and gross darkness upon the people, and of the promise in verse 3, "And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." His message was so clear and simple that even a child could understand it. He went on to say, that, "not one of us can convert a soul, for that is the work of God Himself. We are His messengers, the choice rests with us." His message made a deep impression on quite a number present and when he asked if anyone would care to ask questions there was a dead silence, then one person said, "The message was so clear there is no need to ask questions." If only some of these folk had the courage to confess Christ openly, how much happier they would be. Please pray for them. We had an outing to Westcliffe-on-the-Sea on Saturday, July 24th. Fourteen adults and two children came. The day started with heavy rain, so we were all disappointed, but during the morning it cleared up and we all had a grand time. For some, this will be the only holiday they will get. The Lord was with us all the time, for everything went off without a hitch. We had the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. Kagan's company and a happy though tired

crowd arrived safely home. The sudden heat of these two past weeks has made visiting very difficult and tiring, but praise be to God for the number of tracts and copies of *THE SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL* that have been distributed. Also some New Testaments in Yiddish and in English.

A SEEKER AFTER PEACE

A middle-aged man, intelligent, educated and of good appearance, was sent to me with a letter of introduction by Brother Andre Frankl of Paris. This man, born of Jewish parents in Germany, suffered the agonies of concentration camps; he has now come to the conclusion that there is a God. He knows nothing of Judaism and nothing of the Bible. He is seeking peace; he thinks that by going to another country, and having a home and children of his own he will find peace. I told him that he will be sadly disappointed, for true peace can only be found in Jesus Christ. He was very much interested in all that I could tell him and asked if he could call again the next Sunday, to continue our discussion of the Scriptures. He is leaving this country soon for America. I pray that God may speak through me and that this man may find Christ and leave this country born again, by the precious blood of Jesus. I wish to thank all prayer partners and friends for their prayer support. Praise God, He hears and answers prayer. All glory and honor be to Him Who loved us and gave Himself for us. Amen.

"Whosoever shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father who is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father who is in heaven — *Matt. 10:32, 33.*