

THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

"He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Psalm 121:4.



JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, *Editor*

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HERE are your Mission's Summer Bible Conferences: speakers will include Dr. Henry J. Heydt, President of the Lancaster School of Theology; Rev. Sydney L. Parker, resident pastor, American Board of Missions to the Jews; Rev. Daniel Fuchs and Rev. Emil D. Gruen of our field staff. We are glad to announce also that Mr. Mark Kagan, a Christian Jew, a beloved Bible teacher of Great Britain, who is a director of our London Branch, will also be with us. Printed programs are yours for the asking.

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We shall hope to send you the detailed program with your **MIDSUMMER LETTER**.

AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS, INC.

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JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN
Editor

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Salutation

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

DEARLY BELOVED FRIENDS:

A friend writes us to say: "I just love those heart-gripping reminiscences that you have been giving us in the Salutation Letter; but I do earnestly hope that you will not forget to open the Word of truth to us also. I have been so blessed with the expositions of Bible truth that have come from the pages of my beloved paper, THE CHOSEN PEOPLE."

In one issue, we just cannot give you both.

So it is evident that of the faithful family of THE CHOSEN PEOPLE it can be said, in the words of Psalm 42, "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." The word translated here as "panteth" has a far deeper value in the Hebrew text. The essence of the Hebrew word is, to quote Delitzsch, "a violent panting at a time of prevailing drought."

GOOD-BYE TILL OCTOBER

We shall therefore declare a recess on the Reminiscences, and interpolate a message to you out of the Book itself, for this month of May. After all, it is a good-bye letter that we must now write you, because we will not be greeting you again in these pages until next October, in the Lord's good providence. Some of our friends sometimes forget that THE CHOSEN PEOPLE is not published during the months of June, July, August and September, and they keep bombarding us with complaints, "Why did I not receive my paper for June?" And we have to answer always, "Won't you please read the paper carefully, and notice that we do not publish the paper again until October."

Of course, we will try as before, with the Lord's enabling, to keep at least this much contact with you during the summer months, that we will send you our MIDSUMMER LETTER, which we will try our best to mail before the first part of August. That letter may be written to you from the shores of Galilee, or perhaps from the mountains of the Swiss Alps. Friends are urging us mightily not to go across the water this summer, because of the very serious danger of world catastrophe, which may well lead to the Armageddon. Who knows how near we are to the final plagues of blasphemy, hate and unspeakable wickedness which will surely be visited upon this earth? We shall not go across, you may be sure of that, if there is any sign of imminent disaster, and we know that your prayers will go out for us day by day, as they have done in the years gone by; these are the prayers that have ascended into

the heavens these many years, and have kept alive and ever pressing forward, the blessed work of your beloved Jewish Mission testimony. One thing we must urge upon you, and that is to see to it that we have your correct address at all times. You would be surprised to know how many of our people forget to tell us of their changes of address, and then they fail to receive our MID-SUMMER LETTER, and they write to us to complain that we have been remiss! Please, therefore, do your part faithfully and arrange that the MIDSUMMER LETTER and the annual Jewish Art Calendar shall reach you even though you may be away for a few weeks of holiday.

COMMUNISM UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

We sometimes wonder if those who have tried to analyze the present world tumult, and especially the frightening growth of that demoniacal thing called Communism, have not missed in large measure the basic meaning of what is going on in the world. Communism is more than just a political devilry; it stems directly out of the very heart of that serpent who first tormented the souls of the human race when he cried out, "Hath God said?" This fiendish thing has to do with the world upheaval, not with localized political evil doings.

Let us start at the beginning so as to get proper focus. Karl Marx was a Jewish lad born into the home of a godly Christ-believing and Christ-honoring Jewish mother and father. In other words his was a home of Christian Jews, and the parents were devout followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, and devoted to the church where they belonged. The one flaw in this general definition was that this Christ-loving Jewish couple belonged to what was the Established Church, sometimes called the Reformed Church. In those days and in their particular environment, they had no teaching, indeed they knew nothing, about the blessed truth of our Lord's imminent return; they were not taught that only the personal appearing of our Lord would bring in the millennial kingdom; that now, in this age, the Holy Spirit is gathering out an elect remnant. They lived in the false idea that the Church, or the thing called "Christendom," was committed to the task of conquering the whole world, and setting up what they called "the Kingdom." It was through the "church" that the millennium was to be brought in, and Christian domination was to break down all world oppositions, all unbelief. This was the underlying motive in the horrifying records of the brutalities of the Romish Church through the Dark Ages, and the Middle Ages. The idea was that through the armies of conquest, through the snuffing out of the lives of the thousands and millions of unbelievers, the "church" was to emerge triumphant, with her victims crushed under the iron heel of bigotry, and thus would be established the millennial "reign of justice and righteousness."

KARL MARX DISILLUSIONED

So little Karl, born May 3, 1818, was baptized, and was brought up in this stifling atmosphere of world conquest. At the Universities of Bonn and Berlin, he studied law, history and philosophy. Slowly but surely, as he began to mingle among men, as he began to dig deep into the tomes of politics and philosophy, he awakened to the shocking realization that there was no possible hope that the "church" would ever bring about the millennium. He had come into such close contact with the inconsistencies and cruelties of the Romish hierarchy that he found himself compelled to abandon all

faith in the "church," all faith in millennial accomplishments. And so he denounced Christianity, turned his back on the teachings of his father and mother, and became an out and out atheist. He thought, only through political agitation, indeed, through revolution, was there hope for establishing the reign of righteousness and peace and individual freedom. He came into touch with brains far more astute than his own in those days, men like Bruno, Edgar Bauer, Engels. These were wild radicals, and soon Marx found himself in the midst of such revolutionary programs that had no parallel in all previous philosophies or histories. He announced publicly that there could be no partial political emancipation in Germany; such emancipation could only come from the proletariat which should break all its chains, dissolve the whole of constituted society, and recreate man as a member of the human society in place of established states and classes. In 1847 the world was startled with the publication of "The Communist Manifesto," a document prepared by Engels and Marx.

Thus Karl Marx was embarked on a career which he claimed would bring in the millennium. No more would he trust to so-called Christianity to bring about the golden age when every man would sit under his own vine and fig tree. Communism was going to do the trick. And now the challenge was thrown at God Himself, a challenge which said virtually that God had failed in bringing about the millennium of eternal peace and bliss upon the earth, and that now Marx was going to do it with his newly concocted upheaval which he called Communism.

This phantasy of a "classless society" is of course a preposterous and a wicked deception. If only Moscow would allow us to get in behind the Iron Curtain, what a cauldron of brutality would shock our eyes! This is the disillusioning skeleton in the closet which the beasts of the Kremlin are so meticulously screening from world gaze.

The stunning blow that strikes us squarely between the eyes, is to behold, and not without trembling, the alarming infiltration of these demoniacal falsehoods into the very heart of what we may call Christendom. The recent convictions of treason in our criminal courts, of men who held places of confidence and authority in the various Government activities of our country, certainly give abundant cause for alarm. It has been charged openly that all sectors of our life, governmental, military, naval, economic, industrial, all are thickly infested with Moscow-trained Communist spies, ready at the proper signal to seize control of our country, and "liberate" us from the "slavery" of Capitalism into the millennial bliss of Communism!

POISON SEEPING INTO OUR PULPITS?

And the tragedy becomes still more frightening when we hear these things from the mouths of preachers of the Gospel, who took ordination vows to uphold the blessed name of our Lord Jesus Christ, as Lord of Life, Lord of all.

Before us now as we write, is a lamentable story from TIME magazine of January 1st, 1951, page 51. It tells of a hitherto trusted missionary in China, a man brought up in America, who comes out in a public statement in which he speaks of the Communist movement and Communist blasphemies in these words:

It is the most profoundly religious Christian experience I have ever been through. I absolutely believe this to be the most comprehensive renaissance the human spirit has ever experienced; and the most dynamic change in human

history. God is working alongside of these Communists Ninety-five percent of the U. S. press on the Far East is absolutely false. Believe the opposite and you will be close to the facts. The South Korean government first attacked North Korea

"God is working alongside of these Communists!" And this is Christianity and a Christian missionary in China! If this is not enough to stir the hearts of the Lord's people, then we give up. It is only fair to add, however, that the Society under whose employ this poor confused and bedeviled "missionary" labored, immediately ordered him to return to America, upon the publication of this terrible story. But does he not reflect the teachings of our Modernistic Seminaries, which began about 50 years ago to belittle the Word of God and set up in its place a lunatic philosophy of world conquest, world betterment, and the promise of two cars in every garage? We have been sowing the wind, and just as sure as God's Word can be counted on, we are beginning to reap the whirlwind!

Nor is this all: Before us is a report of a whole Denomination, known as Congregational-Christian. They met in Wellesley, Mass., and claimed to represent "three million Congregationalists" throughout America. Their annual meeting was called, "for constructive and creative programs to increase the areas of economical and social health." We find nothing of this sort of dream stuff in the Book of Acts. The first Christians must have been very simple minded people, because when they met together for convention it was to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and to tell how honored they were to be allowed to suffer for Him, to be persecuted on His account, and to die as martyrs for him. How times have changed!

LIBERALISM GONE MAD?

But here is the nub of what happened in Wellesley, Mass., and this may bring your blood to the boiling point: A resolution was offered that called attention to the "unbridgeable gap between Christian principles and the Communist movement"; the resolution further condemned "the violent acts of Communist Aggression." But did the resolution pass? Not a whiff of it! At the insistence of Dr. Audry R. Vine, the resolution was set aside. Dr. Vine made the statement that "we may be on good Christian terms with the Communists of a few generations hence!" Then he added, "properly understood, Communism may be nearer Christianity than any political form at present!"

This truly makes the heart sick, and calls for an uprising among the true followers of Christ, an uprising that will rebuke these blind leaders, remove them from office, and take over control by electing men in whose hearts there really dwells the Holy Spirit and a loyal love for the Lord Jesus Christ. We can only sound out the alarm. We are a voice in the wilderness; but at least we try to be faithful and give the warning of a faithful prophet.

Nor is this all. In last year's series of *THE READERS DIGEST*, there appeared more than once an open and public exposé of one of our largest "Christian" denominations, showing that it is literally honeycombed with Communism, and with blatant defiance of the plain teachings of the Word of God. In each of these articles, definite names were given, definite charges were made, definite addresses were cited. Facilities were thus provided to make an investigation, to make proper indictments, and to unhorse these false prophets from their saddles of disaster.

So blind have become some of our leaders that even the imminent threat of world calamity does not seem to divert them from their determined ob-

stinacy. Everything is all right, we are marching on to victory, and the world is getting better every day! We are asked to believe that only we pessimists are to blame for all that is going on!

When will they wake up? When will they come with bended penitent knee before God and ask His forgiveness? When will they understand that God is not in the present age interested in dealing with world nations as such; that God has foretold, definitely and clearly enough for a ten-year-old child to understand, that this age will end in blasphemous defiance of the world nations against God? When will they understand that God is now calling out an elect people unto His name, a remnant, and that He is preparing them to reign with Him throughout the eternities, "one of a city, and two of a family?"

"MY WAYS NOT YOUR WAYS"

Let us look for a minute into a striking and sweeping passage in the Word of God which will demolish at one stroke all of the sophistries of this poor misguided revolutionary—Karl Marx. We take it from Hebrews 4:2-4.

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

Now we are near the heart of the problem. These verses not only answer the follies and fiendish assumptions of the Communists of the present hour; they come to grips with every delusion of modern religious twistings, including even the abysmal ignorance of Eddyism, Seventh Dayism, Spiritism, and the thousand and one other isms, with which the world teems and reels today. "We which have believed do enter into rest." Further on we read, "He spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works."

It is at this point that Communism blasphemously defies the blessed Word of revelation. God certainly, when He created the world, destined it for millennial glory, and peace and freedom, and joy. And when the human race, then represented only by the lone couple, Adam and Eve, defied God, the cosmos came crashing down over their heads: From that time on to the present day, there has been no cosmos, but only chaos.

But even with the shattering of the broken pieces of the paradise world of the Garden of Eden, God already had a plan whereby millennial glory would emerge into the fullness of its beauty and joy. That plan was through the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through the seed of the woman, the Lord was to crush the serpent's head once and for all.

"I WILL TAKE THE STONY HEART OUT"

But we come to the parting of the ways very quickly. Here is God's method for bringing about the millennium:

And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh. Ezek. 11:19.

To get to the point quickly and sharply, we need to comment that God's method will be that He will change the inward nature of man and give him a heart of flesh, so that from within himself there will spring the natural born

again desire to worship God, to love God, to love our neighbor as ourself, to do that which is always pleasing in His sight. That indeed will be millennial glory and millennial joy.

"We which have believed do enter into rest." Let us now for a moment detour, and apply these basic truths to ourselves as individuals; then it will be easier to fathom the larger reach over a world empire. May we repeat, "We which have believed do enter into rest." Ever since the crash of the human race back in the Garden of Eden, there has been no rest in the world. The only time that we read of God resting, and resting in fullness of satisfaction and pleasure, is when He had finished His perfect creation, "God did rest the seventh day from all his works." Hebrew 4:4. Our God surely had reason for resting on that seventh day; the finished work of creation was before him; and in the words of the opening chapter of the Book, "And God saw . . . that it was good." This is what God saw with regard to everything that He had made. It was perfection. It gave Him delight.

"THERE IS NO PEACE, SAITH MY GOD"

Then came the shattering collapse of that day when the slimy, power-seeking Lucifer hissed the question into the ears of poor unsuspecting Eve, "Hath God said?" From that sordid hour never again has God had rest. And as an unavoidable corollary, the whole of creation has never had rest. How then can any one keep the Seventh day and call it a day of rest?

Just look a moment at the incisive pronouncements that God puts forth through the mouth of the prophet Isaiah in those staccato-like declarations in the closing chapters of this golden book of prophecy. With the cadences of musical rhythm comes the warning, "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." Isaiah 57:21. If you look back a verse you will read, "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." The fugue begins indeed back earlier in Isaiah; see again the same warning, the same passing of judgment, "There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked." Isaiah 48:22. The very closing verse of the final chapter, which marks the end of the thundering oratories of Isaiah, tells of the ultimate and horrible fate of these same wicked, "Their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

Who then are the wicked? Are they not all those that are included in the sweeping condemnation, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God"? And what has been the cry of the gangsters of Moscow? Has it not been, "There is no God! Religion is the opium of the people!" So here we have the issues joined, and for these evil doers there is the judicial declaration, "There is no peace to the wicked." All we have to do is to put this assertion to the test, to discover its overwhelming factual integrity. Is there peace in Russia? Does Stalin, think you, spend one night in peace? Are these leaders not forever knifing each other, and plotting the lives of their own gang? Does anyone of them trust the other?

There will be no rest—there can be no rest—until the Christ has entered into the hearts of men—until He possesses our soul. Only then can we enter into eternal rest. We have eternity in our hearts, we have rest in our hearts, the moment that we have opened the door to Him, Who has stood outside knocking. Then indeed we do not have a Saturday or a Monday that we call the Sabbath. We have one blessed eternal sabbath in our hearts.

Thus comes peace to believers. Contrast all of this picture with the deviltries and the fiendishness that today calls itself Communism. We cannot find suitable language in our poor vocabulary to describe the loathing and the terror which fills our hearts when we behold these unclean spirits brazenly announce that they are bringing in the millennium through their brutish slavery called Communism. Here you see, the "millennium" means only bestial power for the overlord. Shrewd enough are these demon-possessed mortals when they drop down the iron curtain before an agonized world. Behind the iron curtain, from twenty million to forty million broken men and women are digging in the salt mines of Siberia, are penned in behind barbed wire entanglements, are driven like cattle to the factory, to the ammunition plant, to the railroad siding. Over these cadaverous mortals there stand the husky slave-masters of an age that we thought had been doomed years ago. With knouted whiplashes, they beat upon the backs of these poor helpless mortals. The blood flows freely, shrieks ascend to the heavens; then one by one these human derelicts, victims of a savagery unknown even to the fiend of Berlin, Adolph Hitler, they pass on into the world beyond. What a horrible picture! And this they call the millennium! And we over on this side shake hands with their "representatives," at the United Nations gatherings in New York, at the diplomatic banquets in Washington. We shake hands with these beasts and treat them like human beings; this is the democracy of ours which may be indeed our undoing. We began this foolish business in World War 2, when with the blood of our own sons and daughters and with the money wrung from the blood and sweat of our citizenry, we poured the billions of dollars, and ammunition, and jeeps, and airplanes, and some 700 of our best ships, into the laps of these despicable characters. These are the characters that we—we here in America—raised to their present status, which enables them to defy the world and to determine to force upon free men and women, their whiplashes, their blood letting, their ruthless slavery. This is Communism!

INIQUITY TO THE FULL

But it will not work. In the end, God must conquer. In these last days evil will come to its final head, the true Church of Christ will be taken out, and those who are left will witness the most awful tragedies of history.

So it will continue until His feet shall stand yonder upon the Mount of Olives, and His voice shall speak vengeance to those Christ-defying powers. Then it will be that He will destroy them with the very breath of His nostrils, and through His supernatural appearing. It will be this very Christ who will establish in the hearts of men the glory of the millennial reign, when the law shall go forth from Jerusalem, and righteousness shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea!

This is the picture and this is the outlook. Communism is only the devil's counterfeit for that real thing which God has destined for this world. Let us therefore enter into that rest, and let us not be among those who "enter not in because of unbelief." Do not let these things frighten you, you have already the eternal rest, and He Who has promised, will never fail; but He will take you up, He will take all of us up, who are truly His, and we shall be with Him in the air, and away from this world of sorrow and suffering and strife.

"THIS IS THE WAY, WALK YE IN IT"

And now you see once more how inexorably the road narrows. For God is calling to us in these last hours of a hectic age, to bring to Israel, persistently, affectionately, patiently, the message of salvation through the Cross of Christ. There is no other salvation, for Jew or Gentile. We here, together with you who read these lines, are committed once and for all, to this task which He has given to us, that Israel must be reached, the remnant spoken of in Romans 11:5 must be gathered in, the Church of Christ must be made complete, so that we may all the sooner hear the blessed shout from on high, "Come up hither!"

"TILL WE MEET"

Good bye, beloved friends. In God's good mercy we hope to report to you again in these pages next October. Also, in His gracious providing and leading, we shall hope to write you at least a brief note sometime toward the first of August by way of our MIDSUMMER LETTER. Keep on praying for us, stay by us in fellowship. The days are now here when the taxes of ruthless politicians are pressing sore upon us all. So heavy have become these exactions of too many conscienceless political schemers, that there are complaints from many directions, that the Lord's work is suffering. The heavier the taxes become, the harder it is going to be for the Lord's people to continue the support of His testimony in the world. It may well be that Satan will use this form of deprivation to prevent larger gifts to be made for the Gospel testimony. We need to be on guard against this, and we want to ask every reader to pray especially that your Jewish Mission testimony shall never be halted, shall never be hindered from an ever-increasing outreach across the seven seas. With the continued rise of Jew hate which seems to threaten once more our country as a flood, it is going to be harder and harder to secure the funds for carrying on the Gospel preaching to the people of Israel. But God, and God alone, can overrule all this for our good; it is He Who can change the hearts of men; in spite of threatening clouds, it is He Who can make the sunshine pierce through the darkness, and provide for your Mission such an abundance of funds as to startle the very devil himself.

And now for yourself who read these lines, the Lord's blessing upon you; the days are evil, the time is short, the trials will be many, the saints will be buffeted. But through it all may He indeed give you that eternal rest, that rest which was promised you from the foundation of the world; and may your home be one of placid joy and peace; may your loved ones be joined with you in looking forward to that blessed day when we shall be caught up with Him and with Him reign forever and ever.

Faithfully yours in His service,

J. Hoffman Cohen.

World Vistas Panoramic—1950

Voices from across the seven seas. Messages from our missionary outposts. Our firing lines are ablaze with battle on the five continents of Earth, in 18 intrenched Beachheads.

INSTALMENT III—(Held Over From April)

"Jesus Boy" Stands His Ground

By Miss BONNIE HAYES, of our
Brooklyn Branch

THE experiences of one of the teenagers of the past year bespeaks the truth of "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee."

Martin has attended regularly the club meetings of the boys of his own age level at the Mission for about seven years. Last spring he accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour. Shortly afterwards he told his parents and his brother and sister that he believed in Jesus as his Messiah. Then his parents attempted to persuade him to discontinue going to the Mission. Their persuasion had no effect upon Martin; so his immediate relatives began to call him various names, such as "The Jesus Boy." But this type of ridicule also failed in its intended purpose of turning Martin from following the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE RABBI IS BAFFLED

He continued to give open witness to his friends and relatives concerning his faith in Jesus. One day an uncle came to visit the family with the purpose of persuading Martin to return to Judaism. He asked Martin if he would go with him to see a rabbi. This rabbi is a student of Judaism and well-known for his work in seeking out followers of Jesus and trying to persuade them to give up their faith in Him. Upon their arrival at the rabbi's home, the rabbi attempted to shatter Martin's faith in Jesus as the Jewish Messiah. When this failed, he offered to send Martin to a special Jewish school for Jewish

boys who have been searching for knowledge as to whether or not Jesus is the Promised Messiah of Israel. All of the efforts of the rabbi were in vain; so Martin and his uncle returned to their homes.

"DEAD" TO JUDAISM

Several days later the rabbi visited Martin's home. Here he explained to the parents that according to the teaching of Judaism, their son was dead. He also told them that it was their responsibility to induce Martin to return to the teachings of their fathers. The rabbi suggested that Martin be consigned to a mental institution. (Martin is recognized as being mentally alert, as he is sixteen and graduates from high school this spring.) However, before the rabbi left, he gave Martin some religious literature, and urged him to read it. Later Martin's mother saw him reading a book, which was the New Testament; she did not object to his reading it because she thought the rabbi had given it to him. At the present time he continues to read God's holy Word, and earnestly desires to know and do God's will for his life. Let us join with him in prayer for the salvation of the members of his home, and that he shall continue to be led in paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.

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

"Thin, Short Ladies"

FROM our missionary in Jerusalem, Mr. H. J. Haimoff, comes an SOS. We have clipped the following important paragraph:

I hope you have already announced in THE CHOSEN PEOPLE that our friends should suspend the dispatch of used clothing to me, except those to whom I have written for some special needs, as I have also been requested by some of our friends to write to them what things we mostly need. 80% of the things sent are clothes for thin, short, ladies. Many parcels have arrived and there are many on the way, as I understand from the many letters I have received. There is now an acute need of food in the country. At times we receive in the interval of two or three weeks just 150 gr. (about 6 oz.) of meat per person. I have shared the package you sent for my family with some of our friends and you cannot imagine how thankful they have been. Let now those that are able and willing send food packages instead of clothes. We are in terrible need of sugar and products made with sugar. When guests come, we cannot simply serve a cup of tea.

A word to the wise is sufficient. We only hope that Mr. Haimoff doesn't get the impression that all the ladies in America are thin and short! If you send food packages they will be allowed to come into Israel without any limits, but only a very small customs charge. All packages sent by CARE are allowed in free of all customs; but CARE cannot undertake to send packages containing only sugar or only sweets.

The CARE packages are staple make-up. There is no choice beyond the word "Kosher" as to the contents of the packages. They are standardized and shipped just exactly as the CARE people have arranged ahead of time. They cannot be changed as to contents. If you prefer to send your own package of food, please notice that the following items are the most needed at the moment: Sugar, products with sugar, laundry soap and oils for cooking.

We here make shipment through CARE, because it saves us a good deal of trouble, and we know that CARE does ship efficiently, systematically, and dependably, and gets no profit out of it. We do this even though we cannot make choice as to the food content.

All food packages may be sent by you addressed as follows:

Mr. Haim J. Haimoff,
Post Office Box 419,
Jerusalem, Israel

The Post Office department in Jerusalem then notifies Mr. Haimoff that the packages are there at the post office waiting for him, and then he goes and collects. There is no letter-carrier delivery service in Israel yet. That is why each person has a Letter Box at the post office. If we gave you the house address of Mr. Haimoff (he is now occupying the apartment which we purchased for him last July) it would do no good, but would only add to the confusion at the Post Office in Jerusalem. So it is better to leave out the actual house address and just give you the post office box number.

Good News From Israel

ON the opposite page you will find a photographic reproduction which will give all of our readers much cause for thanksgiving. The Government of Israel has now given us official recognition as a foreign missionary society properly registered to do business in the Land of Israel. We think this is the first time such recognition has been given to an American Missionary Society. Our hats are off to the Government of Israel for having shown by this act that they sincerely want to carry out the policy which they announced from the beginning of their independence, that there shall be freedom of religion and opportunity for

all who have different convictions with regard to God and His requirements of us.

May we express the hope also that our future experiences in Israel will only tend to strengthen our confidence in the Government's fairness in their treatment of our Society and of our missionaries. Our friends will give thanks with us, and will surely

join us in prayer that the Lord will use our workers in Israel to open the eyes of many of those who have now sought a haven of refuge in the land which God did promise to Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, and especially that the higher officials of the Government will understand particularly what we are trying to do, and will be sympathetic.



№ 010

מדינת ישראל

פקודת החברות. 1929

תעודת רישום של חברה נכרית

זאת התעודה כי

AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS, INC.

חברה שנתאגדה ב ארצות הברית

נרשמה בישראל לפי פקודת החברות. 1929.

ניתן בחתימת ידי בירושלים ביום ל לחודש שבט שנה חשי' א
1951 פברואר

הרשם הכללי.
רושם החברות.



כל ב'ק

1099/9.50/1000 י"מ ת"ש 1951

Free Translation: State of Israel. Registration Certificate of a Foreign Society. This is to certify that the American Board of Missions to the Jews, Inc., a Society established in the United States, has been registered in Israel according to the 1929 Regulations governing Corporations. Issued by signature in Jerusalem on the 30th day of the month of Shevat, in the year 5711 (February, 1951). The Chief Registrar, Registration of Societies, State of Israel.

THE AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS is now registered under the laws of the State of Israel—the first and only independent missionary society in the world to enjoy that privilege.

Hungry Souls In Montreal

By MISS GLADYS MIDCLEY

“FOR what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Matt. 16:26. This was the text upon which we spoke to our group of women recently. They have each heard the gospel explained very carefully many times from the Word of God. On this particular day, we used the simile of an auction sale to demonstrate how Satan was bidding for our souls with many bright attractions. The momentary pleasure of sin is sufficient to hinder the natural man from following the Lord. We need our inner man changed by the confession of sin to Him of whom Peter said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Matt. 16:16. During this part of the lesson three of the women interrupted the message to assent audibly to the truth of what was being said. We were conscious that God was speaking to their hearts. When confronted with the claims of Christ upon their lives and invited not to continue selling their souls for a mere nothing, a look of consternation came over their faces. They went out at the close of the meeting, as far as we know, unbelieving, but God is able to deal with the hardest of hearts. We trust, and ask you to pray with us, that these women will not continue without a Savior.

THE MAMMON OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

Just recently I laid a bill on the counter before me while I waited for the salesgirl to wrap my parcel. A Jewish man picked up the money passing it to the clerk, remarked about money being the great thing. I suggested that there was something more important to me than money. He seemed surprised and said that it must be to be healthy and to be able

to walk in the sunshine and breathe the fresh air. I readily agreed that this was wonderful and much to be desired, but that there was something of still more importance. This statement puzzled him and he stared at me. I told him that it was to believe in God. “Yes,” he said, “we must have somebody that we put before ourselves”. After speaking to him for a few moments on the fallen race of mankind and the need of God, he made himself busy. He evidently did not want to hear any more, but he gave definite signs of having begun to think about the implications drawn at the moment.

Space does not permit me to write in detail about Miss S., who is spending six months in Montreal. She has come from Palestine and possesses a New Testament. On one occasion she said, “Why did not the Jewish people accept the Christ as Messiah when he lived on earth?” I told her that it was because they wanted a ruler to free them from oppression and had hoped for the fulfillment of the promises of a coming King, and thus failed to recognize Him as suffering Servant. We studied the Scriptures together for more than an hour. Then she said, “I can’t change, but I wouldn’t mind adding Christ to my Jewish belief”. We advised her to receive Him as Savior and Messiah. A Jew who believes is a true Jew according to Romans 2:28, 29. She has visited the Mission several times since and said that she dreamed about Christ. She saw the wounds in His hands as though they had been presently inflicted. Her thoughts seem to be continually of Christ. We shall greatly rejoice, if when she returns to Palestine, she carries a sure hope of salvation in her heart.

Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. *John 10:17.*

And in French Indo-China — One Out of Sixty-eight

(Here is a sequel to the thrilling story of that Jewish boy in French Indo-China. It speaks for itself, and you will read it with joy, and thanksgiving, and earnest believing prayer. It does seem as though the Lord has His hand upon this young man for a future work that will bring glory to His Name.)

MY DEAR MR. COHN:

What a wonderful surprise it was to receive your letter. I had almost given up hope of receiving an answer. Since I first wrote you, a great deal has happened. We have suffered a series of colossal defeats at the hands of the Communists. We have been driven literally from “pillar to post.” I am now in a hospital where I am recovering from the bullet wounds. During the past month I have suffered the tortures of the damned. I marched and climbed four days and four nights without food, water or sleep, with two bullets in my shoulder. I am the sole survivor of a company of 68. I believe now that the Lord has decided to spare me and to use me later for His power and glory.

Only a superior constitution and an irresistible will to live has preserved me. I have been decorated with the Croix de Guerre and made a sergeant “aufeu” (under fire); that is to say, I have been promoted without passing the military school and only the President of France can downgrade me, for it is he that has awarded the commission. I am in the middle of a dilemma now. Can I, or can I not, be proud of this recognition?

I should like very much to recount the experience which has made me confident that the Lord will preserve me.

AU TERRE!

We were a combat group of twelve. Our sergeant had been killed by a

stray bullet an hour previous and I had taken command of the group. We were making a special patrol to discover if a certain friendly village still remained in friendly hands. As we entered the path which led to the village, shots broke out from the village. I shouted, “Au Terre!” (to the ground!). We tried to return the fire but could see nothing. We were ambushed and surrounded, and it looked like the end. Machine gun fire sprayed a vicious message of death from the largest house, and my comrades, even though spread out flat on the ground, were being wounded or killed. It was then, at that precise moment, that I felt the urge to pray. Not because death was imminent; on the contrary, it was because of an exhilaration, a joy of being so near to death and feeling not the slightest qualm of fear. I felt I was to meet my Lord Jesus at last and I began (I knew no precise prayers), “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want, He leadeth me in green pastures,” and so chanting, I slowly arose and marched directly to the large house which held the machine gun nest. A spray of bullets greeted me, but none found me. I unbuttoned two grenades and slowly, slowly, deliberately, each found its mark, and the house exploded.

HOW EXPLAIN?

Explain to me, dear teacher, how can one explain this? A machine gun capable of firing 600 times a minute pointed apparently directly at me in plain daylight at a distance of less than fifteen yards, failed to touch me. I believe the Lord Jesus showed Himself to me then, and now I know I must devote my life to His service.

When I first read your letter, I followed your counsel and got down on my knees to pray. But I don’t know any prayers and so I just remained there for fully five minutes in complete silence; and it came thus:

Blessed be Thee my Lord, for thou art my master. In Thee will I find my Salvation. Take this ignorant sinner to thy heart and show him the mercy of thy blessing. Teach me to live in thy glory. Grasp me to thee my Jesus, so that I may share in thy blessings. Bless thou also Joseph H. Cohn and shed thy Grace on his mission and on the work He has consecrated himself to. Give me the strength and courage to go to my Jews and to show them also the glory that I have found. Spare me for this my Lord.

I look forward to your brochure and I shall treat it as a weapon of Jesus. For every heathen that I smite dead here I shall deliver a believing Jew to the Messiah. This I promise fervently and also in calm deliberation.

God bless you for your interest in me.

* * * *

MY DEAR MR. COHN:

Weight restrictions on our mail did not permit me to finish what I had on my mind and so I am actually continuing my letter. After I am discharged from the hospital I shall most assuredly be sent out on operation and then my letter-writing opportunities will be very infrequent.

In the Legion, seventy percent of us are German. You would expect violent anti-Semitism from them. They are nearly all between 20 and 25 and so grew up under the Hitler influence. Most of them were members of the Hitler gang. Yet they are not anti-Semitic. One hears references to the "Jews" or "Juden," but it is in a comic strain and without malice. Those of them who are politically or economically inclined feel that Hitler committed a grave "faux pas" in his treatment of the Jews. They are the Protestants.

The French, on the other hand, are the supposed sponsors of liberty and fraternity. But some of them are violently anti-Semitic. The first few days when I let it be known that I

was a "Juif," I began to hear mutterings. One became involved in an argument with me and suddenly shouted, "sale Juif! Juif!" I beat him within an inch of his life. I smashed his face with the butt of my rifle. We are not gentle in the Legion in a fight. There are no rules. There have been fights which last until one is dead. No one interferes. Well, he spent three months in the hospital. When he came out, the company commander awarded him a little present of 60 days in prison at hard labor. You see it is forbidden to call any one a dirty Jew, or a dirty German. A good rule, but we have to take the law into our own hands to enforce it. Yet such remarks came only from the French Catholics.

I have decided to stop smoking and drinking—not that I consider them evils. It is just that I probably will never suffer privation as my Lord did, and as I want to purge myself mentally of all evil and poison, so I shall purge myself of the physical poisons of nicotine and alcohol. My service will be over in August of 1952. Thus, if the Lord spares me, I shall devote these 20 months to study and meditation and so prepare myself for His service. Will you help along these lines? Perhaps without your continued help I can learn to be a Christian, but if I am to be capable of instructing others, I must have your help. Gratefully I await further word. God bless you and your work.

You Never Know

By REV. H. M. FARCO, Boys' Work,
Coney Island

LAST Spring, just before our clubs closed for the summer, a group of boys came to my Junior Boys Club. They were wideawake and full of life and out to get all that life offered them. During work and social periods they were most interested

and cooperative, but when it came time for the Bible Lesson they definitely were not interested.

When clubs opened in the fall they were right back and ready for fun, work or play, but put up a great protest when it came time for the regular Bible Lesson, and it was with some difficulty they were persuaded to listen. This continued until about two weeks before Christmas, and we wondered if they had been sent by some of our enemies to cause trouble. But just as we were about to give up, several of the boys came to me and said that S. was not coming to this club any more because he had seen a Bible the week before that taught other religions.

Then in almost the same breath two of the boys asked if at the Christmas program they could sing the choruses, "For God so Loved the World" and "I Have the Love of Jesus in My Heart." Permission was granted and they sang with a zest that showed they were singing with understanding as well as with their voices. I covet your prayers for these lads that they really may come to love Him of whom they sang. As a postscript I might add that S. came back to see the Christmas program and we are hoping that he will continue to come.

Salvation In the Rockies

Mrs. Wago reports continued Gospel acceptance in Denver, and faithful friendships in the churches.

THE hearts of Denver lovers of Israel were greatly cheered, the past year, because of God's wonder working power, in the salvation of a number of precious Jewish believers; and our souls abound in gratitude for His faithfulness. Soon the Jewish remnant, "according to the election of grace," may be completed, and we shall be ushered into the presence of our lovely Lord and Saviour.

But I doubt not that many more of Israel could be won to the Saviour, and the meeting in the air be hastened, if leading radio evangelists and Bible teachers could be converted to love Christ's earthly relations, and include them in a gospel of love and peace. Of course, in these lukewarm days of Christendom, putting aside Christ's own interpretation of the barren fig tree, according to Mark 11:21-24 and Matthew 21:20-22, and substituting one of their own, does make for more popularity, for the moment. But I have often wondered how these servants of God will meet the Saviour's searching eyes when He questions them concerning His brethren according to the flesh, whom He came to save, first, and whom He loved to the end, as He asks: "Did you go and tell MY brethren?" (Mat. 28:10). "Did you comfort MY people, and speak comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned?" (Isa. 40:1, 2.) "And did you try to pay your debt to Israel—for the privilege of 'living in the tents of Shem' (Gen. 9:27), and being made partakers of their spiritual things?" (Rom. 15:27; John 4:22.)

How we thank God for the continued love and interest of individuals and individual churches, who are not only friendly, but eager to have a part in the work so dear to the Saviour's heart. May their joy abound throughout eternity, hearing their Lord's blessed commendation for having included and ministered to "the least of His brethren!" (Matthew 25:40.)

A Prayer Reminder

By MISS ELEANOR BULLOCK

ALREADY the children are making definite plans for the coming Camp Season. In February we had Camp Reunions for the three differ-



Prospective campers from Manhattan and Coney Island hold a reunion in Brooklyn.

ent age groups bringing the old Campers together with the prospective new ones from Manhattan and Coney Island, to Brooklyn for a day of fellowship. The accompanying picture was taken on the day of the little girls' group.

One of the girls said, "I have my suitcase all packed and ready to go to Camp Hananeel next summer."

Please pray for these children this year that as they are taught more perfectly God's precious Word they may grow to love the Lord Jesus Christ better each day of their experience at Camp Hananeel.

Fruitage in Indiana

By REV. SANFORD C. MILLS, Ohio

THE end of last January, we were holding a four-day meeting that began on Sunday and closed on Wednesday. At the Sunday morning service, I noticed a Jewish man at our meeting. As I spoke, he listened

very closely and did not take his eyes off me. After the message, he walked out and did not say anything to Brother Den Arend or myself. When the evening service started there he was again, listening to Brother Den Arend! I approached him at the close of the service, introduced myself, and told him I would be more than glad to help him in any way. I also offered to come to his home and discuss things further with him. He thanked me and went home.

On Monday he came again to our service. He listened to what I was saying very carefully. At the close of the message, he came to me and asked if I would come to his home Tuesday night to talk with him and his Gentile wife. We went to his home Tuesday after the service. There I talked with him for several hours. He and his wife asked many questions, which we answered. Before we left, he and his wife knelt in their living room and both confessed the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

On Thursday morning, very early, he phoned me at my hotel and asked me more questions. I told him that I would write to him giving him all the texts and information that he wanted. I wrote to him several days later giving the information and the texts. In a few days I received his reply. I am quoting parts of it so that you may read his exact words.

Yes, I was in Church the following Sunday, and also my wife. We stepped forward when Dr. _____ asked if there are any who wish to confess and take Christ as their personal Saviour to come forward. We confessed and accepted Christ as our personal Saviour, and the congregation accepted us as members of the Church. I doubt if I would have confessed Christ as my Saviour that day had it not been for you. I shall never forget the choice I made. I only pray that others like myself may have the chance I had and that their eyes may be opened. I would enjoy hearing from you again and I also wish to say that I thank God that He sent you both to us so that at least some may be saved, and that surely He will reward those who serve Him, and teach His ways.

It is experiences such as this that make our work worth while, in spite of all the persecutions that came upon us. We praise Him for this token of His Grace and His benediction upon our efforts.

Your Summer Package — 1951

WILL you do your part this summer in propagating widely the news concerning the work of your beloved American Board of Missions to the Jews? "Publish, and Publish and Publish," these are the repeated exhortations in the Word of God to His faithful children. The evil doers are busy day and night, never neglecting the least opportunity to sell their Satanic wares and to propagate their false teachings. Shall not the children of light be equally alert, and on the firing line?

Our Summer Package for this summer will have in it ten copies of the recently released, "Dr. Ironside Corrects An Injustice." Because of the persistent circulation of false rumors against your Mission, it has become doubly important that these tracts shall be widely circulated. We will also include:

- 12 assorted copies of THE CHOSEN PEOPLE;
- 12 copies of "The Lengthened Shadow of Leopold Cohn";
- 20 copies of "Are You Ready?";
- 12 tracts, "It Was Just As Good But The Patient Died."

The total list value of the assortment is better than \$3.00 worth. But it is all yours for \$1.00. Just say: "Send me my Summer Package. Here is \$1.00." You will be surprised to see how the Lord will bless you as you carry out this testimony during these vacation months, whether you are in camp, at a Bible Conference, at the seashore, in the mountains, or just remaining quietly at home.

Another Volume by Dr. Feinberg

THE third volume in the series of "The Major Messages of the Minor Prophets" is now ready. Dr. Feinberg has been carrying on an illuminating series of expositions in THE CHOSEN PEOPLE, on the Minor Prophets. As rapidly as the expositions are finished, they are made into a book. The books already in print are "Hosea—God's Love For Israel", "Joel, Amos, and Obadiah."

Now comes the third book. It is entitled, "Jonah, Micah and Nahum." The price is \$2.00. Our friends will want this new book to add to the other two they now have. So just send your check or money order for \$2.00 and say, "Please send Dr. Feinberg's third volume, "Jonah, Micah and Nahum."

Studies In Zephaniah

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

CHAPTER III — Instalment 3

WOE UPON GODLESS JERUSALEM

AFTER the series of woes on the nations in chapter 2, the prophet returns in his message of denunciation to Jerusalem. Because she was so highly favored and privileged, much more was to be expected of her in the way of faith and obedience to the Lord. Although the city addressed in verse 1 is not named, it is abundantly clear from verse 2 that Jerusalem is meant. She is accused of rebellion, pollution, and oppression. She was rebellious because she would not submit to the known will of God; she was polluted because of long continuance in sin in spite of her outward ceremonial exactness; she was oppressing because she regarded not the rights of the poor, the orphans, and the widows. The nation seen corporately has four distinct charges laid against her. She obeyed not the voice of God in the law and by the mouth of the prophets; she received not correction—when God's chastisements were upon her, she did not learn the lessons intended; she trusted not in the Lord, but in herself, her idols, and her allies; and she drew not near to her God in faith, worship, and repentance, estranging herself from Him, though He sought to be nigh her (Deuteronomy 4:7). As the people, so were the leaders. Three classes in the nation—the princes, the prophets, and the priests—are singled out for special condemnation. There is no denunciation of the godly king, Josiah. The princes, however, were like roaring lions in the midst of her. They were ever on the search for more prey. Those who should have shepherded the flock were devouring

them. See 1:8, 9; Micah 2:2; Zechariah 11:4. The judges of the people were filled with insatiable greed, devouring all at once in their ravenous hunger. They left nothing till the morning. In verse 4 we have the only denunciation of the prophets in this book. They were guilty of levity, trifling with the weightiest matters. There was no gravity or steadfastness in their life or teaching. They were treacherous because unfaithful to Him whom they claimed to represent, rather encouraging the people in their apostasy from the Lord. By their unholy deeds they profaned the sanctuary; they made the sacred profane. They did violence to the law by distorting its plain intent and meaning when they were teaching the people. Compare for a similar charge Ezekiel 22:26. Princes, prophets, and priests were alike guilty of polluting the nation by their wicked example and ways.

THE CHASTENINGS AND WARNINGS OF GOD

In spite of Jerusalem's iniquities and corruptions the righteous Lord is in her midst. His presence in her midst makes all the more certain her judgment for sin. He is never implicated with iniquity. The morning is the time in the East for the administering of justice, so every morning the Lord brings His justice to light. His righteous conduct is made known through His true prophets who exhort to godliness, and through His judgments on the ungodly in the nation. By chastisements and warnings He continues to manifest His justice. He does not fail or miss, but the ungodly have no shame such as would

lead them to repentance. God had meant that by His judgments on other nations His own people would have been warned and turned to Him. During Josiah's reign Judea enjoyed peace though wars troubled other peoples. She was spared during the ravaging invasion of the Scythians into Western Asia. Even the fate of the ten tribes did not deter the southern kingdom from sin. Verse 6 describes the desolations the Lord wrought among the nations surrounding Judea, and these were meant as warnings to her. But she did not heed the example of other nations in their judgment. God intended by these visitations that Judah would learn to fear Him and receive correction, so that her dwelling-place would not be destroyed. Howsoever the Lord had marked them out for punishment because of their sins, yet if they had repented, He would pardon and not cut off the city. But they in defiance of the Lord and his displeasure, rose early, indicating the deliberateness of their sinning, and corrupted their ways. The early morning in the Orient is the best for doing business. With great zeal and earnestness they pursued their sinful course. Great is the enticement of sin and great is the penalty it incurs, but man rushes headlong into it, nevertheless.

WRATH UPON THE NATIONS

In order to complete the entire cycle of prophecies of God's wrath, Zephaniah reverts in verse 8 to the theme of chapter 1, the judgment of God upon all the nations. The godly among the Lord's people are exhorted to wait for Him, to trust Him. As the beast ready for plunder the Lord will yet rise up to the prey. The prey has been understood as those among the nations who will fall to Him as His portion in salvation. Compare Isaiah 53:12 with 52:15; 49:7. But there must be destruction and extermination before this can be

realized. The godly are to await the judgment of God upon the nations, for it will ultimately issue in their redemption. The Lord is determined to gather the nations (Zechariah 14:2) and kingdoms to pour out upon them in one great act of judgment His indignation, His fierce anger, and the fire of His jealousy. The words are vivid and portray a scene of great prophetic importance. See also Joel 3:1-3 and 3:12-16. (According to the Massoretic scholars who labored faithfully on the text of the Old Testament, verse 8 is the only verse of the Old Testament in which all the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, even the final letters, occur.)

THE CONVERSION OF THE NATIONS

The remainder of our chapter treats of Messianic times. In these verses we have glowing promises of blessing and restoration for God's people and the nations. Zephaniah now outlines what the results will be of God's judgments on the nations. After His wrath is poured out upon the ungodly among the nations, then in the program of His mercies He will bestow upon the Gentiles a pure language in order that they may call upon the name of the Lord and serve Him unitedly. The prophet is not predicting a universal language (some say Hebrew, as though we have here a reversal of Babel), but that the impure speech of the nations will be cleansed. It will be a purified, uncontaminated speech, rather than clear, easily understood speech. Note Isaiah 6:5 for the opposite thought. The impurity of which they were formerly guilty arose from their swearing by and praying to false gods. The remnant of the nations is thus indicated as converted to the Lord. The nations learn righteousness through judgment. All will call upon the name of the Lord, a restoration of the conditions indicated in Genesis 4:26. They will not only worship the Lord by

word of mouth, but will also serve Him with one consent (literally, shoulder). The figure is taken from the yoke or burden borne by two, helping one another. Compare this expression with that found in I Kings 23:13, "with one mouth." There is no basis here for teaching a restoration of Pentecostal gifts. The verse does not have this in view. In their converted condition the nations will show their willingness to be used of the Lord in behalf of Israel. From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia they shall bring the dispersed of Israel to their own land as an offering to the Lord. Isaiah 49:22, 23; 60:4-9; and 66:20. The rivers of Ethiopia are the branches of the Nile: the Atbara, the Astasobas, the Blue Nile, and the White Nile. The land is Ethiopia itself. Isaiah 18:1. There are some who suggest that the ones meant by the suppliants are Jews dispersed in Ethiopia. They point to the west of Abyssinia where the well-known Falashes (the word is from the same Semitic root as Philistine, meaning emigrant) live. They are said to trace their origin to Palestine and the Jewish religion. It is thought that the Abyssinian Christians were originally in part Hebrew believers. We prefer with others to understand the words "my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed" as the object of the verb and not the subject. In other words, the Lord's people dispersed in Ethiopia will be brought by the Gentiles to their homeland as an offering to the Lord. The passages from Isaiah indicated above amply attest this truth. Such is the meaning rather than that the dispersed ones bring an offering to the Lord. The effect of the conversion of the Gentiles will be to place them in alignment with the purpose of God for Israel in their restoration to Palestine.

THE REMNANT IN ISRAEL

Now the prophet describes for us the condition of Israel as cleansed,

restored, and rejoicing in their land. When they are gathered out of the nations, they will have no cause for shame, because the Lord will have removed from her the ungodly and impious ones. Every shameful deed will have been cleansed. Former transgressions will be put away.

But the full story of blessing and restoration has not been recounted. The prophet now describes it in fuller detail. In view of the glad day that is coming they are exhorted to sing, shout, be glad, and rejoice. God never multiplies words like these without intending an emphatic declaration. The reason for the rejoicing is given in verse 15. Israel's day of judgment and chastisement is past; every adversary has been cast out; and the Lord, the King of Israel, is in her midst. No wonder then that she has no further cause for fear. Slackness of hands from anxiety and fear will be an experience of the past. The promises seem to reach a climax with verse 17. The Lord's presence in her midst is repeated (v. 15); this is the source of all the blessedness. He is the mighty Savior. As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so the Lord rejoices over His people. The marriage contract between the Lord and Israel will be restored. Isaiah 62:5; 65:19; and Hosea 2:19, 20. Then He will rest (literally, be silent) in His love. This is one of the boldest statements in the Bible. It is stated that God will rest in silent ecstasy over His people, Israel. What assurance for Israel! The love is too great for words to express. The Lord will rest complacently in it. The idea that God will no longer have occasion to rebuke and denounce can only be a secondary one here. He has quiet joy in His love. Then the silence is broken with singing. Read what the Word of God says of the voice of the Lord in Psalm 29:3-9 and imagine, if you can, what that singing with joy will be.

THE KING OF ISRAEL IN HER MIDST

Zephaniah's message centers about judgment and especially that of the fearful Day of the Lord. No nation is exempt. But we do him an injustice if we think of him only in the light of chastisement. He concludes his prophecy with words of blessing and promise for the nations and Israel. But these promises to the nations can only be realized when the blessings of God are upon the nation Israel. The

King of Israel in the midst of Israel is the Lord God Himself. Would God that were already fulfilled! It can only be hastened as we apply our every energy to the evangelization of this needy and oppressed people. They must be told of salvation in the crucified and risen and coming Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. Every day that the salvation of Israel draws nearer, that of the world's salvation draws nearer also. Psalm 67. Let us be up and doing.



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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.

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