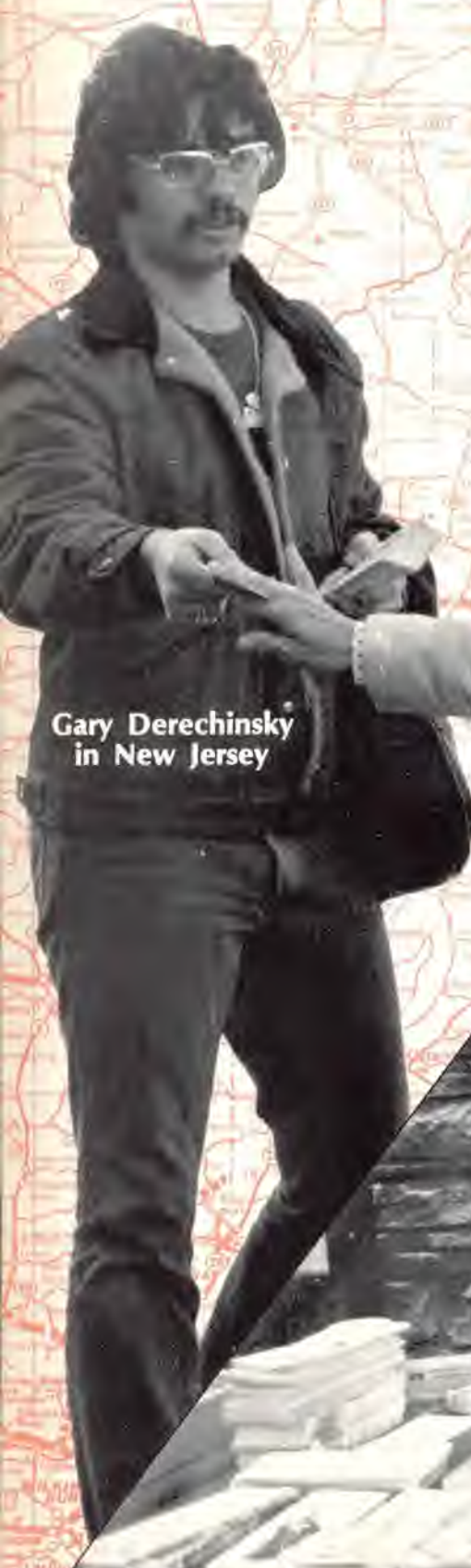


# the CHOSEN PEOPLE

May, 1976

ABMJ:  
THE MISSION  
ON THE MOVE



Gary Derechinsky  
in New Jersey



Eliezer Urbach  
in Denver

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THE CHOSEN PEOPLE is published monthly, September to June, as a medium of information concerning the Jews, Israel and the work of the

AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS, INC.  
 460 Sylvan Avenue • Englewood Cliffs, N. J. 07632

In Canada: BETH SAR SHALOM MISSION, INC.  
 P.O. Box 4400, Station D, Hamilton, Ont., L8V 4L8

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20 cents a copy • VOL. LXXXI NO. 9 • MAY, 1976 \$2 a year

# Will the United States Be a Victim of The Genesis Curse?

Dearly Beloved Friends:

"God Bless America, Land That I Love" is not just a sacred song. It's our prayer as we begin to celebrate our two hundredth birthday. We need God's blessing, but God will not bless America apart from America blessing the Jews.

On the corner of Wabash and Wacker in Chicago there is a 20-foot-high statue honoring three Revolutionary heroes: George Washington, Robert Morris and Haym Salomon.

Salomon was a Jew who was forced to flee from Poland in 1772 along with Pulaski and Kosciusko — men who became military heroes of the Revolution. Salomon prospered quickly and showed his gratitude by joining the Sons of Liberty, a group of revolutionary patriots.

He was arrested twice by the British but both times the Sons of Liberty engineered his escape — the second time just a few hours before he was scheduled for execution. He fled to Philadelphia where he met Robert Morris, the Superintendent of Finance.

Calvin Coolidge said of Haym Salomon:

"He negotiated for Robert Morris all the loans raised in France and Holland, pledged his personal faith and fortune for enormous amounts and personally advanced large sums to such men as James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, Baron Steuben, General St. Clair and many other patriot leaders who testified that without his aid they could not have carried on the cause."

Early in our history the colonies opened the doors to Jewish immigration and this has paid ample dividends. Without Salomon's contributions we would never have celebrated a tenth birthday much less a two hundredth!

I believe one of the reasons our nation has been blessed is because it has been a haven to the Jewish people.

Please don't misunderstand. Our national record is far from perfection. But until recently our national policy has been favorable to the Jewish people.

I fear it is changing, for we are apt to forget the economic aid of Haym Salomon and use economics as an excuse to aid Israel's enemies.

God has always judged the nations on their treatment of the Jew and the



United States of America is not an exception. The Abrahamic Covenant has always been God's basis of judgment of the nations.

*I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed (Gen. 12:3).*

We are being tested by God during our Bicentennial year. As I write this letter a *Jerusalem Post* editorial states



The United States:

"... will shortly sign a \$1.2 billion arms deal with Saudi Arabia, which should bring the value of military equipment and services contracted for the Saudis from U.S. within a period of six months to the staggering total of some \$5 billion.

"Included in the new list are 150 M-60 Patton tanks, 1,400 troop carriers, and 1,000 Dragon anti-tank missiles. These are, of course, only the latest items of an enormous arsenal.

"Saudi weapons purchases from the U.S. have been soaring ominously for some time now. Recently, however, they have rocketed straight into the financial stratosphere.

"Why should the U.S. help whip up this orgy of arms overspending by a country which is not visibly threatened by anyone? Two main reasons are given.

"First, as John Foster Dulles argued 20 years ago in defending the earliest proposed sale of tanks to the Saudis, it is necessary to assure that the vast expanse of the sparsely populated desert kingdom is efficiently 'policed.'

"Secondly, it is necessary to assure that the U.S. rather than its competitors — not so much Soviet Russia as Britain and France — turns out to be the main beneficiary of the Saudi's 'recycling' of their bloated oil revenues.

"The first argument is as fatuous as the second is unseemly. Although attempts have lately been made by some people in Washington to discount the role of any but the neighboring Arab countries as a military problem for Israel, it is surely no secret to American leaders that the Middle East balance of power is decisively affected by the arsenals of such non-contiguous states as Libya, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia."

It should be emphasized that our

thesis that God judges the nations on the basis of the Abrahamic Covenant is not merely a by-product of our "dispensational theology" but rather the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

*And before him shall be gathered all the nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats (Matt. 25:32).*

Notice this is the judgment of "all nations." They are divided into two groups: the sheep and the goats.

They are not judged on the basis of grace, but by merit. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40). "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me" (vs. 45).

So the sheep and the goats are judged by their treatment of a third group who are called "my brethren."

I realize there are schools of biblical interpretation which teach that our Lord was speaking of a general judgment, not the judgment of the nations.

It makes no difference what method of interpretation is employed. It is not just sheep and goats. There is a third group who are "my brethren."

Those who teach this scene is the judgment of the saved and the un-

saved at the end of the world simply cannot identify the third group whom the King calls "my brethren."

If the sheep are the saved people, who are "my brethren"? If they are the church, who are the sheep nations? If those who are the sheep are those "who are saved by faith apart from works of the law" how can our Lord judge them on the basis of works?

Those who assume the saved are on the right hand of our Lord and the lost on the left hand cannot account for the group whom our Lord calls "my brethren."

This is not the "Last Judgment." It is the judgment of the nations. They are judged by their treatment of the Jews.

*"There is no mere accident in the fact that the two words blessed and cursed appear in the Abrahamic covenant respecting the attitude of Gentiles toward Abraham's seed according to the flesh (Gen. 12:1-3), and that these words appear again when Gentiles are being brought into judgment respecting their treatment of God's elect people.*

*"In Genesis it is written, 'I will bless them that bless thee,' and in the description of the judgment of the nations it is said, 'Come, ye blessed of my Father.'*

*"In Genesis it is said, 'I will curse him that curseth thee,' while in this same judgment it is said, 'Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire.'*

*"But why? Only because ye did it, or ye did it not unto one of the least of these my brethren. Existing without attention to the Word of God, the nations have never realized the favored place Israel holds in the love and purpose of God."*

*Lewis Sperry Chafer, Systematic Theology, Vol. 5, p. 139.*

Why does Israel hold this favored place? There are many reasons. One of which is "they are beloved for the fathers' sake" (Rom. 11:28).

It has always been God's purpose that all men everywhere would know Him and worship Him. God tested Adam and he failed. God also tested Abraham and he did not fail. "Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

"God bless America, land that I love." We can assure this blessing by opening our hearts of compassion to all men — which includes bringing the Gospel to the seed of Abraham.

Faithfully yours in His service,

*Samuel Truck*



## A SHATTERED SOUL RESTORED

By Rev. Robert E. A. Miller  
Missionary, Orange County, Ca.

The phone rang and rang. No answer. It was Monday morning and Jack, if not at home, should have been at his office. What was wrong?

Jack's partner drove more than thirty miles to find out.

There he was, at home, in a coma since Saturday night when he had taken an overdose of a drug. He had tried to end it all — a shattered body due to cancer, a shattered marriage due to psychotherapy that failed and a shattered soul with no hope for eternity.

At the Veterans Administration Hospital God had an appointment for Jack in his hopeless state. An alert, compassionate physician who knew the Lord saw Jack in his desperate need and shared with him the hope he would find in Messiah Jesus.

This glimmer of hope triggered a genuine response in Jack's aching heart, for he had not found any such hope in the vague religion of his ancestors.

Now he was convinced God had rescued him from death — God had to have something for him to learn.

At the doctor's request I came to see Jack. He had many questions, but was now a believing soul with faith in Jesus his Messiah. He was ready to grow in the faith.

"Please bring me a Bible with the book of Isaiah and the book of Job," he requested. I saw Jack's faith blossom and strengthen each week. Very soon he left the hospital without a trace of depression or despair.

I took him to a meeting of our Long Beach fellowship and this sparked a response in his heart. "I want a class in my home every month," he said. Two months later five of us, including two Jewish friends, fellowshipped around God's Word in Jack's home and he gladly shared his experience.

"I am grateful to the Lord for redeeming me from death to life."

The monthly fellowship in his home has now tripled and includes as many as eight new Jewish friends. "I want to help everyone I can to find the same hope I found in Jesus my Messiah," Jack says. "I know what the Lord can do!"



## ELIEZER URBACH: A MILE HIGH IN DENVER

**By Rev. Eliezer Urbach**  
**Missionary in Charge, Denver**

During this new semester's outreach at Colorado State University we had no sign to put up, so we wrote on a piece of carton a few words: "Prove us wrong."

Surely it didn't take too long when someone came and wanted to prove us wrong! He started asking pertinent and impertinent questions.

Wonder of wonders, he was not that antagonistic and sat down. Having read some New Testament portions he questioned us about the book of Rev-

elation and Satan's being the main mover there.

To this we replied that the book of Ezekiel the prophet and the book of Revelation are in many ways similar, and we pointed out that the appearance of the Messiah is very much alike in both books.

Now this young man explained he comes from a very Chassidic family, but his knowledge of the Word of God was very scarce.

He took our address and phone number and promised to come back. He didn't agree to our basic beliefs, but it seems he is eager to know more.

The Bible tells us in Romans 10:17 that "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Please pray God would move Jeff to come again and God would give us the word that would touch his heart and bring him to the Messiah.

It is very encouraging to us that one of the young sisters who had previously helped us with the outreach in Ft. Collins came by and offered her services by securing a room for us to meet in at the Student Union.

How we praise God for His children who love Him and have a burden for Israel!



### A STORY FROM DENVER

## From Yoga to Yeshua

**By Gilda Steinhauser**

I grew up believing there was a God, but there was just no way I could have Him in my life. Being Jewish and not following the Jewish laws, I didn't think I could ever be close to God.

I always knew there was something missing in my life — an emptiness in me I could not explain.

Why would I love to sing hymns and Christmas carols in the Junior High glee club? Why was I interested in reading books about Christ or attracted to pictures of Jesus in the Museums?

God was already beginning to work in my life but I didn't know it.

Then there came a time when I couldn't understand myself. Normally I was very pleasant and even-tempered, but I became very irritable and nasty to people.

I had little talks with myself every night. *What is the matter with you? Do you want to be fired from your job?* I couldn't seem to control myself and I was fired.

I was so depressed I could do nothing for three days but sit on my porch and stare into space.

I received a bulletin in the mail of classes in adult education and thought a course in Yoga was just the thing I would need: exercise and meditation. Yet I didn't like having to kneel and say strange words in Hindu.

The Yoga teacher gave us some 'good works' homework. We were to help someone physically. I decided to try this with retarded children.

The ladies I came in contact with at this time happened to be a group of Christians — who happened to be having a Bible study — which I happened to be interested in as they were reading the Old Testament.

When I started reading about Abraham having conversations with God I became excited. If Abraham was my ancestor, and he could talk to God, there must be some way I could also!

When I was told that Joseph's life was parallel to Jesus' life, I didn't want to hear about it. Even though I was stubborn about this I sincerely wanted God in my life, so He let me see Jesus in the Christians and it made me jealous.

Finally I received Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. I became His child and an heir to all His promises. I know for sure that someday I will be going to heaven and can have the abundant life that He promises while I am here on earth.

In the past few months we have visited a young Jewish man who is in prison.

"I was in prison, and ye came unto me." (Matthew 25:36). He is to stay in prison for a long time unless he's paroled, and our visits to him seemed to be fruitless.

How great was our surprise recently when we were honored with the visit of his former athletic coach who happened to be Jewish himself and a seeker for the truth.

He made an appointment to visit us for an hour and it became the whole evening. Questions, questions, questions to which Judaism — as it is today — could not provide answers for him.

Someone had given him *The Late Great Planet Earth* to read and this caused him to think that if it is so, where are the Jewish people going? What is God's plan for Israel as of today and for the future?

When we questioned him about his faith he declared he has come to believe Jesus is the Messiah of Israel, but not his own Messiah. Our young friend



## Questions Without Answers

can only visit us while his wife is away because she is strongly opposed to his search for the truth, his search for God.

At his next visit we found out he had been in the hospital because of a minor accident at his job. He was struck by a tennis ball in his temple and found himself in Intensive Care for a few days.

At his next visit he seemed to be much more soft and responsive. In the

course of our conversation I asked him again where does he stand in his beliefs as to Jesus being his own Messiah.

At this time his answer was positive, and laughingly we said it took God to hit him over the head so he could realize his need for a personal Messiah and claim Him for his Savior.

Please pray for this man and for his wife that she might accept the Messiah as well.

## "We Cannot Convert."

On the campus of Colorado State University at Ft. Collins another young Jewish man wanted to speak to us. He was very excited and aggravated. The Bible says in the Proverbs, "A soft answer turneth away wrath."

He asked us whether we were missionaries trying to convert Jews.

"We cannot convert," I said, "this is the work of God."

We explained we have a message to share and if our brethren accept the message we are happy. If they don't we still continue to love them. He had spent some time in Israel and we discussed the Middle East. He came for a few minutes and left after half an

hour. We shook hands and he wished us well, saying he would return.

Later, to our great surprise and joy, while we were attending registration and passing out tracts, he appeared with his wife and said "Oh, how glad am I to see you!"

We had a good conversation with him and his wife and a friendship was established. He even proposed I teach Hebrew to his friends' children!

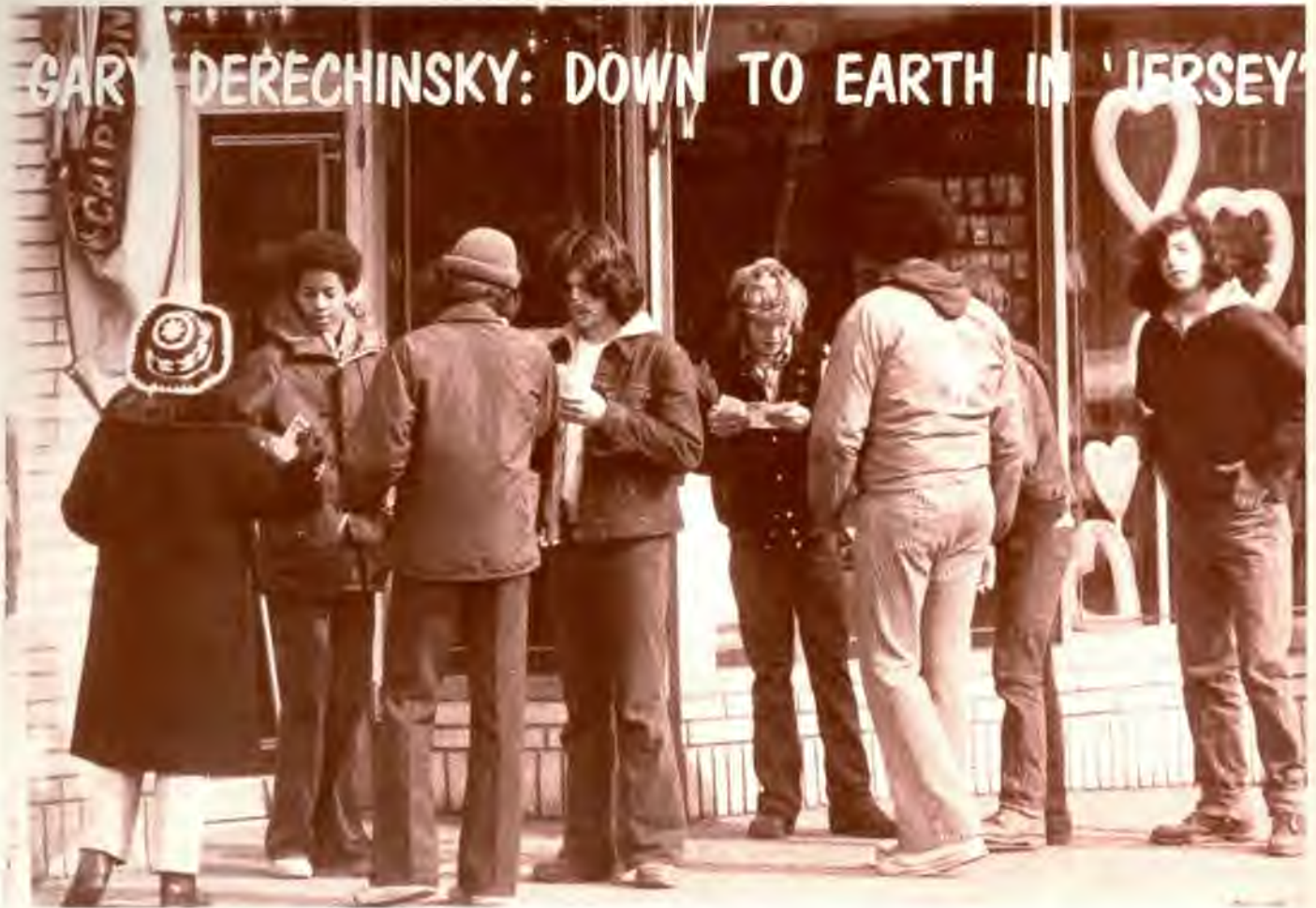
Please pray for this couple that the Lord would continue to lead them on our path and some day soon they'd come to know Him Who is the Way, Who is the Truth and Who is the Light.



*Eliezer Urbach is a native of Poland Not realizing he was Jewish, the Russians had him jailed during the war for being a Nazi spy. He was released and served in the Russian army as a newspaper editor for a propaganda journal.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Urbach are Hebrew Christians. He first heard the Gospel in Brazil and was later baptized in Israel. Besides his fluent, if slightly accented English, Mr. Urbach speaks a fluent Yiddish, Polish, Russian, Hebrew, Portuguese and Spanish.*

## GARY DERECHINSKY: DOWN TO EARTH IN 'JERSEY'



Gary Derechinsky, our energetic young Hebrew Christian missionary from northern New Jersey, has a small army of volunteers who are rapidly invading their Jewish community with news of the King of Peace.

These gentile and Jewish believers either accompany Gary or head out on their own to witness and hand out tracts at shopping centers, downtown business areas and — in airports.

"We stand by the gates at the airport where people are coming off their planes," Gary explains, "and often we get into conversations with them."

"They often have the same problem: how can a Jew believe in Jesus?"

"Once a Catholic woman called us and said she and her Jewish fiancé had been arguing with their parents over how they should raise their children.

"They wondered if Jewish people who believe in Jesus might be some kind of compromise.

"We shared the Gospel with her and sent tracts to her. We're praying for God to deal with her and her Jewish fiancé, to bring them to Himself."

As they seek to evangelize the Jew first it is only natural that gentiles will also be reached. One young lady who grabbed a tract at the airport was the sister of a girl who works with Gary's team.

She was waiting for her boyfriend to arrive, and so — to kill a little time — she accepted some literature. She told Gary that their conversation helped her a lot, for she "always wondered what my sister was doing!"

"We met another fellow at the airport," Gary recalls, "who had tried to commit suicide. It had been necessary for him to commit himself to a mental hospital in order to receive help.

"After leaving the hospital he still needed help — he

was still searching.

"He met one of our girls who was handing out tracts on a street corner. About a week or two later he came to our church and — gave his life to the Lord!"

A young Jewish man had been attending Gary's Bible studies while considering Jesus as his Messiah. One week, two weeks — finally a month went by.

One night he left, still full of questions, but returned the next day and accepted his Lord and Messiah into his heart. He is now praying for God to bring peace to his family.

Along with the blessings comes the *tsuris*, the trouble, but all for a purpose. Gary's wife, Mary Lou, is a beautiful petite believer whose natural shyness has to flee when she's thrown into a heated situation while witnessing.

Once an older Jewish woman began yelling and shaking her fist at Mary Lou, telling her she had no right to proselytize Jewish people. Gary says his wife was scared but held her ground as the woman became more and more agitated.

"How could Jews believe in Jesus?" she asked Mary Lou.

She explained that she, herself, was not Jewish but nevertheless loved the Jewish people and fully supported the State of Israel. She then explained from Scripture and several related testimonies how a Jewish person, such as her husband, could believe in Jesus as the Messiah.

The woman quieted down — listened intently — took a tract and patted Mary Lou on the head.

"I don't know whether I should say 'The Lord bless you,' or what," the woman said, half astonished, "but keep up the good work."

Praise God that Gary, his wife, and their army of enthusiastic believers are doing just that.



**By Mr. Gary Derechinsky**  
**Missionary, Northern New Jersey**

I was raised in an Orthodox Jewish home. From five years old to age thirteen I went to Hebrew school four days a week.

I wanted to play baseball with the rest of the guys but, coming from an Orthodox Jewish home, I was supposed to learn about my God and the Scriptures.

At thirteen, when I was bar mitzvahed, my father said "You are a man now. You are a son of the Law. You are now responsible for your own sin according to Rabbinical Law."

My father was responsible for my every act until I became a man. Now I was responsible. "If you want to continue your studies in Judaism that is fine," he said. "If not, you don't have to."

I chose not to.

When I was in school my best friend used to say to me "The way I get to God is through Jesus, barring anything about the saints and Mary."

But I was a Jew and, without Jesus, would go straight on to God. Yet that still didn't satisfy my heart. In Hebrew school I always asked my rabbi "What is this with Jesus? Who is He?"

I must have gotten on his nerves. One day he said, "Joseph (that was my name in Hebrew), get out of the class."

He put me out because I kept asking about Jesus.

Even when I was a kid and the film *King of Kings* first came out I slipped away from home and went to see about this man Jesus.

A few years passed by before I heard something very startling:

Charley Rizzo, a guy I went to high school with — and used to take drugs with — was studying to be a pastor in a church!

This was too much to believe so I went to see him.

"Charley, what's going on? What's this all about?"

"It's real, Gary."

"I can't accept it. I'm a Jew. This isn't for Jews."



What was there in Christianity? I already had Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the Old Testament. I didn't need anything else. I thought gentiles were supposed to believe in Jesus and Jews weren't.

"Rather than argue with you, Gary," Charley said, "I'll tell you what. If you're willing to read it I'll give you a Bible."

"Okay, fine."

up the book and threw it across the room. I was mad! It just wasn't the way for the book to end!

A few weeks later I decided I'd better finish the book. I realized there was another aspect to the life of Jesus I had missed.

It was the fact He had risen again.

Even then I didn't give my life to Jesus. I said "Wow, that's tremendous," and that was it.

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## "Now — or not at all."

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He went upstairs in the church and took a Bible from a pew. I didn't realize Bibles were given away by churches because in synagogues they don't do that. I thought he was stealing the thing.

I didn't know it at the time but Old Testament prophecies were impressing me. I wondered what was going on. I began to read and it said "Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."

Immediately I wondered what these Jewish guys were doing in this gentile part of the book?

It just didn't click with me. But that got me to reading on.

And then I found Jesus to be totally different from what anybody had told me about Him.

Christians might have said some things that were true, but I had to find out for myself. When I saw what Jesus had to say about Himself I knew it was credible and I could believe it.

As I read I began to really cheer for Jesus. When the scribes and Pharisees came against Him I said "C'mon Jesus, let them have it!"

I tried to match wits with them, but I could never do it.

I continued on in my journey in the life of Christ and came to the portion where Jesus was being crucified.

"This doesn't make sense at all," I thought. "Here is a man that is great and His teachings are tremendous. Why in the world is this guy dying?"

It just didn't make sense and I picked

About seven months after I had given up taking drugs I was invited to a rock concert.

We camped out in Washington, D.C. and for two days there was no problem. The third day I decided to take anything that came my way.

Pills, drugs and alcohol — I just dumped them all down. When I got up the next morning it was terrible — police all over the place.



I went for the music and ended up in the middle of a firing range or something during a riot.

When I arrived home and walked in the house something hit me smack in the face. It was the fact that before I had left for the concert I was praying to Jesus — one of the things I did when I was reading the Bible. Charley told me I couldn't understand it unless I prayed. Every time I'd open the Bible I would pray to Jesus "If You're real then show me. Amen," and would then start reading.

# SIX HUNDRED GREEKS — PERSON TO PERSON

By Demetrius Papanikolaou  
Missionary, Athens, Greece

There recently have been numerous chances to approach our Jewish friends to offer them Christian calendars.

One thinks it is not only the distribution itself that counts, but the door by which we approach them has been opened by the Lord

It would, of course, be considered as a great work of God by His Spirit that He brought us to where we were able to knock on the doors of six hundred Jewish citizens, be welcomed by them and pass on to them such literature that they will have messages for all the days of the year.

In the past, when the ground of their hearts was so hard, none of them would listen. It was rare that one of them could be approached and be willing to hear.

Now the Lord has opened a door!

It is grand that they listen now — they open the door — they gladly receive literature — and some come to Christian meetings.

As a people, it is true, they are going through a hard crisis owing to the events in the international sphere, and so have become thirsty to hear a good word.

In this way they hear the witness of the One Who was crucified and Who is their only Savior.

As I was on the way home a Jewish man came to me (he is a writer) and very pleasantly said "Do not worry, in a little while there will take place great events and many Jews will believe in Christ."

I told him it is also my belief, as the Lord promises



He will not forsake His people. Incidents like this are numerous!

One calls me to his home to "talk about the apostle Paul." Another says his wife is ill and requests me to visit them. Another phones saying he cannot find words to thank me for the literature I sent to him.

Another asks me for another four calendars. "Why do you want four?" I asked. "I send them to Israel," he said.

Another invites me to visit his home or shop. And the Word of God, in the wisdom and grace He grants, flows on and on. All of this implies a very, very big burden of work and only God can give strength to walk and to give the Word.

Before I went to the concert I prayed and said "Jesus, I haven't taken drugs for about seven months and I'm going to this concert where there will be drugs. I'm not going to give in to that temptation.

"But if I do (and I knew I would) you've got my life. It's yours."

I walked into the house and remembered I had prayed and I thought *if I started in on drugs I was to give Him my life* and the Lord was saying to me "Now — or not at all."

It was my decision.

I went into the bathroom because we didn't have locks on other doors. If my parents walked into my bedroom while I was praying they would have thought I was crazy.

I didn't have to kneel, but I did — using the hamper like an altar — and I prayed. "Jesus, You've got my life. Come into my life and (with the same breath) make me a witness to my Jewish people." That was my concern.

When I walked out of that bathroom I had to tell someone about Jesus! I walked into the kitchen where my mother was doing the dishes.

"Hey, Mom, I found the Messiah of Israel. It's Jesus!"

"Did you hear what your son just said?" I heard a paper rustling and my father came in and . . . "What are you talking about Jesus?" Yelling. Screaming. Dishes flying.

I went into my bedroom and the



Lord opened my Bible for me because it fell open at the Sermon on the Mount.

"Blessed are you when men revile you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me. Rejoice, and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." (Matt. 5:11-12)

When I read that I was in tears. I was crying my eyes out and my mother was upset. "Why is he crying? He's not supposed to do that."

Then she came in and I was laughing! I was overjoyed. I ran right out of the house and to my best friend, Jules.

"Hey, Jules, I found the Messiah!" He rejected me. All of my close friends I grew up with, many Catholic fellows, would not acknowledge Jesus is the Messiah. I still have contact with them but they haven't accepted Jesus.

Wouldn't you know it, but that prayer I said when I accepted the Lord made me a witness to the Jewish people — exactly to the day.

I was born again May 1st and four years later to the day — May 1st — the ABMJ gave me a call and told me I was on staff starting that day as a missionary to the Jewish people.

I pray He encourages all of us to get into the Word of God more and ask the Spirit to really reveal His Word as we learn more about Him.

By Miss Sandy Wingate  
Missionary, Los Angeles

When I was three years old I made my debut with *Jesus Loves Me*.

Now I love to sing Jewish songs and contemporary Christian melodies.

I think music is great, and can accomplish things that speakers can't. Music softens the hearts of people

A

Song

when they won't be touched by words. I really see God using music to reach the searching ones.

When someone comes to a meeting the music prepares their hearts for the message. It puts them in the mood of the meeting. I can readily recall when music had a direct effect on those listening. At Christmas time Ellie Gerstein had played the piano for us in our Sunday School — she played a medley of music. Her songs were both Jewish and Christian.

It really was touching. Several people came up afterwards to talk to me about the music.

Also, when I sing *Love Was When* people are touched. It's really beautiful because of what it says.

Love was when God became a man, locked in time and space, without rank or place.

Love was God,  
(born of Jewish kin,  
just a carpenter with some  
fishermen.

Love was when Jesus walked in  
history,  
loving me, He brought  
New life to me.

It really brings out the Jewishness of Jesus and humanity and it touches a lot of hearts.

In all my missionary work I've learned it is really important to relate to the people I meet as another human being — and not always on a spiritual level.

My philosophy is to become a friend and then to be able to share Christ. I'm not aggressive in evangelism. I

to

Soften

don't believe in just going in and shoving it down their throats.

I've had the idea of being a missionary since I was eight years old. But it wasn't until I was at Biola College that I wanted to work with Jewish people.

God used many factors to impress me with this. One was that He gave me a real strong burden for a Jewish TV celebrity. I wrote to him for four years and he corresponded with me as I shared the Gospel with him.

Even when I was a child I learned to love Israel and prophecy and study the timetable when everything was going to happen. I never forgot it.

I didn't think of Jewish people in the modern sense because I didn't know any Jewish people in my little town.

Yet I loved everything about the kings of Israel, and studying about the kingdom being the capital of the world.

At one time I was very upset because I thought that if the Jewish people were God's Chosen People it meant He loved the Jewish people more than He loved me. I used to pray God would help me understand what it meant.

Today I know God doesn't love the Jewish people more than the gentiles, but that the Jewish people are to be the instruments to reveal Himself to the world.

Gentile Christians today should become familiar with the way Jewish people think and look at things. The

Hearts

main point I'd like to emphasize is to love unconditionally.

I believe in loving them — even if they're on their death beds and deny Christ. We should never stop loving our friends and acquaintances — both Jewish and gentile!



Victor Vargas, B, gives Sandy a thank you kiss.

# THE MISSION ON THE MOVE

By Rev. Harold A. Sevens  
Executive Vice President

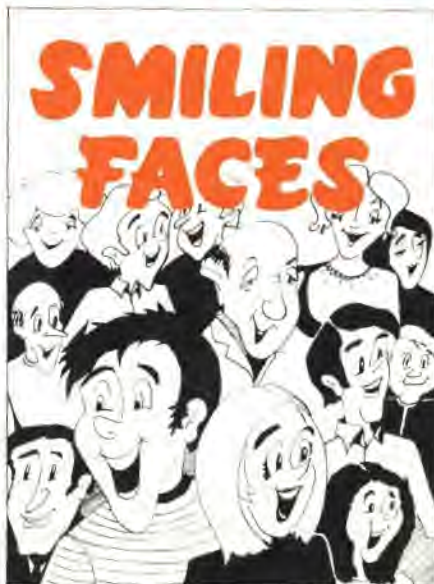
I am greatly impressed with the fact we are living in the most exciting and challenging days Christians have been privileged to see.

We are viewing a revival — not so much within Christianity, but within our Jewish people.

It is no longer unusual to see Jewish believers in the Messiah Jesus attending churches, enrolled in Bible colleges, in seminaries, forming congregations or witnessing in the streets.

In the past few years we have been privileged to see a great harvest of Jewish believers for the Lord.

I feel this great harvest, in part, has come about because of the faithful missionary work of many fine organizations and the American Board of



Jewish Christian movements became active. Young people began to witness in the streets and synagogues. "Jews for Jesus" became a slogan among the young people while older Jewish people became further interested in the claims of Messiah Jesus — reading more traditional evangelical literature and attending churches.

Books written about Hebrew Christianity and by Jewish Christians began appearing in Christian book stores and requests poured into the many branches of the ABMJ requesting our missionaries to visit families and friends of these new Jewish believers.

Our workers faithfully followed through with each request. The result: more decisions for the Lord! Once again we felt God was moving in an

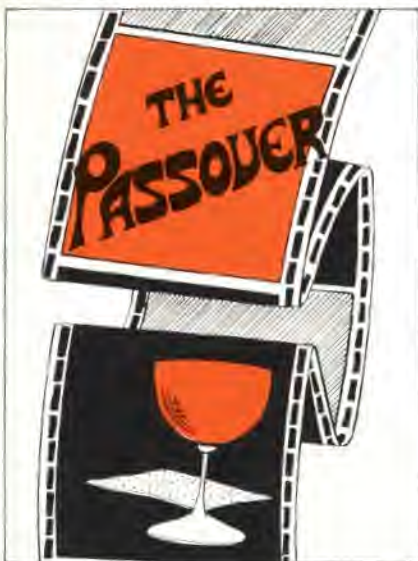
unusual way within the Jewish community.

In order to meet this challenge we felt led to add new missionary workers as well as create a volunteer program where concerned Christians could assist our missionaries in this great task of evangelism and harvesting.

Take just a few moments and glance through our staff listing in the front of *The Chosen People*. Note some of the new workers and new stations which have been added.

These choice servants of God have dedicated their lives, their efforts, their talents and gifts to full-time missionary work among our Jewish people.

Week after week, month after month we are becoming more flexible and mobile in our outreach and witness. Our workers are going to where the



Missions to the Jews in particular.

For over eighty years now the ABMJ has been faithfully planting the seeds of the Gospel through the Jewish communities of the world. It is a Biblical principle that if you sow much you will reap much.

About ten years ago the ABMJ produced and presented on prime time television our film entitled *The Passover*. As responses poured into our mission headquarters by the thousands we were convinced God was moving in the Jewish community in an unusual way.

We began to sense a time of harvest was approaching.

We then placed full-page ads in the major newspapers across the United States. They have now become known as the "Smiling Faces" ads.



people are, carrying the message of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We then went one step further. The ABMJ created one-minute radio spot announcements which could be placed on secular radio. These spots were aired on 680 radio stations across the United States.

A brand new series of three spots, designed to reach the Jewish people, is now available to churches and groups who wish to sponsor them on the radio in their own areas.

Responses to our radio spots came not only from Jewish people but also from Christians inquiring how they could become a part of this evangelistic thrust and assist in reaching their Jewish friends with the Gospel on a one-to-one basis.

To meet this need, Bob Friedman, editor of our *Chosen People* magazine and ABMJ Director of Communications has just completed a unique cassette tape — the first of its kind — to introduce Christians to the whole ministry of Jewish evangelism.

It is done with professional quality and is unique in that it not only serves to educate Christians on how to witness to their Jewish friends, but can also be used in an entertaining way to share the claims of Christ with Jewish people. These tapes are available by writing to the ABMJ at our headquarters address. (See back cover.)

I trust you will agree with me that these are indeed exciting and challenging days. We feel God has preserved and blessed the ABMJ like Esther and Mordecai of old for such a time as this.

Each day our workers are reporting new contacts and new decisions for

*"... a unique cassette tape — the first of its kind ..."*

Christ. Estimates of Jewish believers in the United States have been set as high as fifteen thousand.

Our experience leads us to believe these estimates are low!

The Messianic Jewish Alliance will be hosting more than 700 Jewish believers at their annual conference. Indigenous congregations are springing up across the United States as Jewish believers wish to express their faith in the Messiah Jesus in their own cul-

ture and background.

If history has a way of repeating itself, and I am sure it does, it would seem as if we were living in the days of early Christianity when Jewish believers were multiplied and were added to the Church daily.

All of this has happened within the last decade and your faithful prayers and support has made this possible.

As the Lord tarries what will the next decade bring?



## *Thanks for not calling me*

**By Wesley J. A. Jones**  
**Director of Stewardship**

While changing planes recently at a southeastern airport I took advantage of an hour's delay in my trip to phone a lady there with whom I had previously corresponded.

Nearly a year before she had read an article in *The Chosen People* explaining the use of a gift annuity as an alternative to a testamentary gift and had written for our annuity brochure.

We answered her questions by mail and she then made an annuity investment for the Lord's work, designating herself and a widowed, older sister-in-law as successive beneficiaries. Upon their deaths the ABMJ would have the gift remainder available for its ministry.

I simply called to thank her for her interest, her support and for her exemplary stewardship of the assets with which He had entrusted her.

Our conversation was refreshingly uplifting. She genuinely welcomed my unexpected phone call and I sincerely regretted having to say goodbye as I heard my flight being called.

During our too-short conversation she told me she and her late husband had been regular supporters of this ministry with prayer and gifts for nearly thirty years, ever since they had first heard Joseph Hoffman Cohn, son of the founder of the ABMJ preach in their local church.

Then she said something which I particularly noted and which best illustrates my appreciation for our heritage in this ministry.

"Never once in all of those years," she said, "have I ever received an appeal from the ABMJ for funds or gift support. Never a letter. Never any solicitation. Never a caller. My husband and I always appreciated that fact — and so we continued to give regularly 'to the Jew first.'"

"That's why I chose ABMJ for this annuity."

I could almost feel her genuine, enthusiastic endorsement as I reluctantly said goodbye, probably never to meet until Glory.

I often think about the importance of her statement as it applies to our present day stewardship service which the executive committee established just a few years ago.

Indeed, our sole purpose and only function is to provide general financial information and estate planning ideas for our constituency so they may fulfill their responsibilities as good stewards of His assets.

We will not solicit. We will not ask for estate bequests. We will never make unannounced calls at the door.

God alone knows there always are needs. But His Spirit will continue to move His children to answer His call both with living and with testamentary gifts, as He has for more than eighty years.

On the authority of His Word we will not be guilty of ever breaching His covenants or doubting His faithfulness.

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# THE MESSIAH'S EARTHLY MINISTRY

By Rev. Harold A. Sevens  
Executive Vice President

A close examination of the life of Christ as recorded in the New Testament will reveal at once that Christ is both God and man.

His miraculous birth, the pronouncements of John the Baptist and the disciples and the testimony of Christ Himself prove this:

"I and my Father are one." John 10:30. He is God and He is man—two natures but one person. This is the result of the Incarnation.

Christ did not come into the world just to die. If so there would not have been any need for His three-and-a-half year ministry.

We know Christ fulfilled the Old Testament type of the Passover Lamb, giving purpose to the length of His three-and-a-half year ministry. Now let's see what else He accomplished.

## He Came To Reveal God To Man

"No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him." John 1:18.

Some have better translated this verse to mean:

"No man hath seen God at any time: The only begotten God, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath led him forth."

Christ throughout Scripture is presented as the only one through whom the person of God the Father is revealed. He has always been the revealer. Hence, the Angel of Jehovah in the Old Testament is Christ.

The one speaking in the Garden of Eden and the one appearing unto Abraham—these are all pre-incarnate revelations of the person of God through Christ.

But now He is come to reveal God as perfectly as possible to man. The writer of the Book of Hebrews states:

"God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world," Hebrews 1:1, 2.



Without the perfect revelation of God through Christ there would be no knowledge of the person of God nor of His love for man. As the written Word declares God to man, so Christ the living Word perfectly declares God to man.

## He Came To Reveal His Love For The Father

"But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go from here." John 14:31.

This is Jesus Christ's own declaration concerning His love for the Father. It was the Father "who so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son." John 3:16.

But it was the Son who so loved the Father that He voluntarily surrendered Himself unto the plan and purpose of God. How great is this love that Christ should willingly humble Himself, to take upon Him the form of man (Phil. 2:5-8), to be obedient unto death and to bear the sin of the world.

The writer of the Book of Hebrews, directed by the Holy Spirit writes:

"Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, Sacrifice and offering Thou hast not desired, But a body Thou hast prepared for Me;

"Then I said, 'Behold, I have come (In the roll of the book it is written of Me) To do Thy will, O God.'" Hebrews 10:5, 7.

It was the fact of His love for the Father which prompted Christ to come, and it was a demonstration of His love in obeying the commandments and fulfilling the will of the Father, throughout His earthly ministry.

Accordingly it is written:

"We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." 1 John 3:16.

Christ's love for the Father, divine love, would not be known except

through the revelation of God in Christ.

## He Came To Fulfill The Righteous Demands Of The Law

"But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law." Gal. 4:4.

Two things are immediately noted of this verse. Christ was made of a woman, bringing Him into relation with the human race, and He was made under the Law, thus bringing Him into relation with the Jewish nation.

He took upon Himself all the general obligations imposed by God upon mankind in the Law written in their hearts (Rom. 2:15), and the particular obligations imposed by God upon the Jews in the Law given at Sinai.

The fulfillment of the Law by the Lord was the outward and evident token of His acceptance by God, and of His competence for the work He had undertaken to do.

Christ was born under the dispensation of the Law. This was the rule of life.

"For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, 'Cursed is every one who does not abide by all things written in the book of the Law, to perform them,'" Gal. 3:10.

It is not that Christ had to keep the Law in order to redeem us.

Neither is it said that He bore our sin during any part of His life; it was at the Cross that He became the sin-bearer. (1 Peter 2:24).

Therefore it was necessary for Him, being born under the dispensation of the Law, to fulfill its righteous demands in order to show outwardly His perfection and spotlessness as the Son of God.

**QUESTION:** I have not come to understand what is meant by: The calling out of the gentiles would "provoke the Jews to jealousy."

**ANSWER:** Perhaps the answer to your question lies in the fact that you have not actually seen this in action. Let us face it — there is very little about the average gentile Christian's life that would cause the Jew to desire what he has so far as his faith in Christ is concerned.

He sees him fighting denominational issues and continually fussing within his own ranks. Answer it for yourself. Is the Christ-life of the average Christian the kind of thing you wish you had?

Are the fruits of the Spirit there; is he patient in tribulation, not provoked, taking no account of evil, never envying nor seeking his own, bearing all things, enduring all things, etc., etc.?

The *Lutheran Commentary* hits the nail on the head when it says: "The knowledge that the gentiles enjoy the exalted spiritual blessings, intended originally for the Jews will fill them with the desire, previously absent to obtain their gifts."

Are we missing the most important aspect of winning Jews to Christ?

**QUESTION:** A Jewish lady who is a Christian tells me that the Jewish people are looking for Elijah before Christ. I don't understand. Maybe you can explain.

**ANSWER:** The truly orthodox Jews are expecting Elijah to appear as a forerunner of the Messiah. This hope is properly based on Mal. 4:5 and is the same hope that all Bible-believing Christians have based on this same Scripture and verified by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself in Mk. 9:12.

In the course of the Jewish Passover meal a cup is poured for Elijah, called *Koso Shel Eliyahu*, who is to come and smooth out all difficulties before the Messiah arrives (Mal. 4:6).

However, it must be remembered that even in many orthodox Jewish homes there is no longer any actual expectation of the return of Elijah or the coming of the Messiah. The cup, therefore, is said to be set aside as a toast to the nobility of the spirit of Elijah.

The door is opened, not in actual expectation of him but "as a symbol of welcome to the prophet of universal peace and brotherhood" (Abraham Mayer Heller in *The Vocabulary of Jewish Life*).

**QUESTION:** If God is a God of love, mercy and concern, why does He allow earthquakes, floods and other disturbances of nature to kill countless thousands of innocent children each year?

**ANSWER:** Natural calamities are a fact which no amount of reasoning and no attempt to condemn or justify God can alter. Nor can we change the fact that in this life "we see through a glass, darkly."

Certain things, however, need to be said. We can speak of "innocent" children only in a qualified sense since we are shapen in iniquity and conceived in sin (Ps. 51:5) and are by nature children of wrath (Eph. 2:3).

Not only is the entire human race affected by the fall but all of creation as well (Rom. 8:21, 22). Just as God causes the sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends the rain on the just and unjust (Mt. 5:45), so it follows that any variations, for whatever reasons, fall upon all alike.

Nor do these calamities necessarily indicate a special degree of sin existing where they fall. The Lord made this clear in Lk. 13:4 when He used the illustration of the tower in Siloam falling and killing eighteen persons.

## Questions and Answers



By DR. HENRY J. HEYDT

**QUESTION:** What is "Jacob's Trouble"? Has it already started? If not, when will it start?

**ANSWER:** The time of Jacob's trouble (Jer. 30:7) is yet future. It will take place in the latter days and will consist in tribulation, the purpose of which will be to bring Israel to repentance and the acceptance of her Messiah (Dt. 4:29-31; Hos. 5:15).

It is looked upon as a time of trouble or travail because it will result in the spiritual birth of the nation (Isa. 66:8; Zech. 3:9). Its intensity will be unsurpassed (Dan. 9:27; 12:1; Mt. 24:21), and two-thirds of the Jewish nation will not survive it (Zech. 13:8-9).

It is a part of the day of the Lord (Joel 2:1-3) and will be preceded by the gathering of believers to Christ (an event known as the rapture of the Church), the apostasy of professing Christendom and the manifestation of the antichrist (2 Th. 2:1-3).

It will be concluded by the return of the Lord to the earth (Mt. 23:39; Acts 3:21; Hos. 5:15; Ps. 110:1; 2 Th. 2:8).

**QUESTION:** I have always heard that the chariot which came down from heaven came for Elijah and they went up in a whirlwind. Some say that the chariot just came to part Elijah and Elisha. What do you have to say?

**ANSWER:** 2 K. 2:11 does not say where the chariot came from and only mentions that it "parted them both asunder." The following clause states that "Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven" not that the chariot went up.

Some commentators have assumed that Elijah was borne away in a chariot of fire (Adam Clarke), while others insist that we must not fill in anything that the text does not absolutely demand (Lange's Commentary).

Why worry about it? James Martin correctly says in Keil and Delitzsch: "All further questions . . . are to be set down as useless and trifles. . ."

Far more important is the fact of his ascension as showing the reality of heaven, and his appearance on the Mount of Transfiguration as showing the continuance of life after life in this world.

**QUESTION:** In Psalms 56 and 116 the Psalmist speaks of walking in the light of the living and in the land of the living. I wonder if the same word for land and light is used in the Old Testament, or if this is the correct translation.

**ANSWER:** The expressions are also different in the Hebrew. In fact, there is even a difference between "the land of the living" in Ps. 27:13 where the word for land is in the singular, and "the land of the living" in Ps. 116:9 where it is plural.

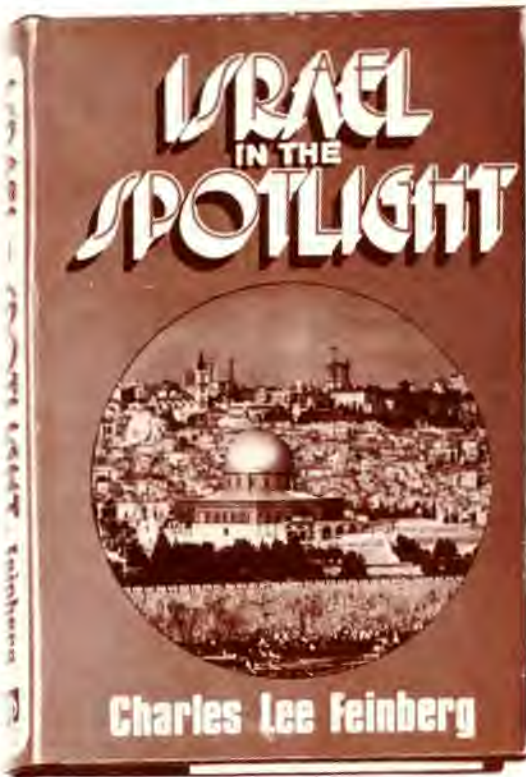
The latter contains more of the concept of space—the broad lands. The Psalmist sees himself walking before the Lord with nothing to hinder either his feet or his view.

The expression "the light of the living" refers not only to the sunlight of this present life but to its hope also. Life is the opposite of death, and so the light of life is the opposite of the darkness or night of Hades.

To walk in the light of life or of the living is to walk in the light of the Lord. Thus the Lord Jesus said in Jn. 8:12, "he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."



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