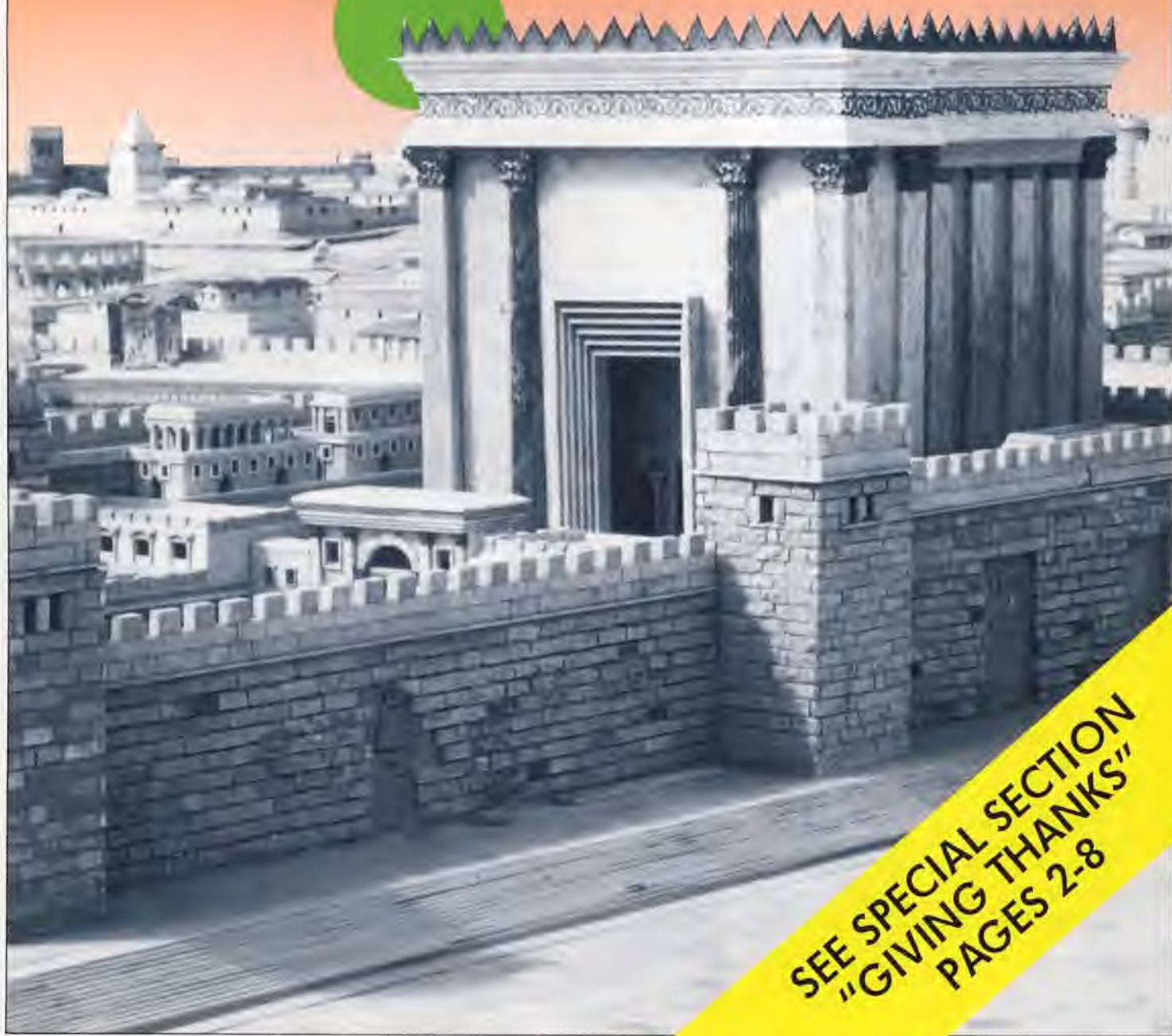


The Chosen People

NOVEMBER 1992 ISSN 0164-5323

THE TEMPLE

Where Did It Stand?
Where Will It Be Rebuilt?



SEE SPECIAL SECTION
"GIVING THANKS"
PAGES 2-8

FROM THE PRESIDENT SAM NADLER



SAM AND MIRIAM NADLER

A wonderful thing about giving thanks is that our faith in God for the future rises in our hearts as we remember the blessings that He has provided in the past.

Though we are certainly thankful throughout the year, this special season provides a wonderful opportunity to praise God together for who He is and for what He has accomplished.

As I think of what the Lord has done in bringing victories through the difficulties...blessings through problems...and triumphs through trials, I especially want to share my deep sense of thankfulness with you.

You are the ones that have prayed for us...for the peace of Jerusalem...and for the salvation of Jewish people. Those of you who share my concern and burden are the ones with whom I really want to share from my heart.

For you see, I think of you as family! Our missionaries around the world are also members of this marvelous family that God has brought together as one in the work of evangelism.

I pray you will be blessed and thank God with me as I share some great answers to prayer that have come during this past year.

Israel

Your prayers have made the difference as we have shared our burden for the nation of Israel with you. We've seen Albert Israeli become established in that needy country and develop as a most effective man of God. Perhaps the greatest evidence is in the many Bible studies that he has started.

Many of you know how I love Albert as a younger brother. Of course I am personally concerned for every member of our staff, wherever they are serving. But I've shared so much with Albert in ministry experience. (Some of you know that Albert and I went together when God opened up the work in the former Soviet Union.)

I'm always concerned for him, especially when he serves in the Army as an Israeli citizen, or takes part in evangelism campaigns in areas where there could be difficulties. God has not only preserved Albert, but given him great victories, for which I am so very thankful.

Los Angeles

Gratitude fills my heart as well for Chris Melisko, who serves in Los Angeles, California. It's been a hard year for Chris in many ways. His mother has been very ill, the ministry has been growing, and he and wife Marsha have experienced the entry of their first child into the world.

Your prayers have not only buoyed him up in all these situations, but have been instrumental in God's blessings of Grace and victory.

By the way, Chris thinks he has the cutest baby in the world. Amazingly, Steve and Lisa Cagan, and other couples on the staff all think their babies are

"Todah A

The Chosen People

The Chosen People is published monthly, except for August. A one year subscription is available for a donation of any amount to Chosen People Ministries.

Chosen People Ministries, formerly known as American Board of Missions to the Jews, has been taking the love of Messiah to Jewish people worldwide since 1894.

For more information or a subscription to *The Chosen People*, please write Chosen People Ministries, 1300 Cross Beam Dr., Charlotte, NC 28217-2834

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EVANGELICAL
PRESS ASSOCIATION



"Adonai" . . . Thank You, Lord!

also the cutest in the world! (Parents have a perfect right to be biased, don't you think?)

Headquarters Office

I'm so thankful for your prayers concerning our Chosen People finances. Even with the recession and economic downturn, we've still been able to maintain health insurance for the staff.

This was no small accomplishment, but the Lord has blessed us by giving Bill Caldwell and others in our administrative management team wisdom to work through the problems and preserve our coverage. As you can well imagine, our staff is most thankful for this provision.

Television Outreach

The opportunity to share our message and burden, plus the evangelistic outreach through television, are things for which I also give thanks. It was thrilling to see the Gospel go out over the airwaves to so many Jewish people, not only in New York, but in other areas of the nation as well.

You share in this excitement, also, because you prayed that God would open up doors and new opportunities, and provide the means to reach out to Jewish people all across the United States.

Toronto, Canada

With the new congregation, Beth Sar Shalom, "House of the Prince of Peace," starting in Toronto this year, your prayers were especially needed. Not only for the new people coming to faith, but because of this very important testimony in Toronto's Jewish community.

How my heart rejoices in thankfulness for



CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Grace and I have so much to give thanks for! Our personal blessings include a new grandson, Zachary Michael. Our ministry blessings include the joy of hosting CPM's tours to Israel. God always brings such wonderful groups of people to share this experience with us!



HAROLD AND GRACE SEVENER

HAROLD AND GRACE SEVENER

We praise the Lord for the many new Jewish contacts He has given us this past year and for allowing us to reestablish the work of Chosen People Ministries in Florida.



LARRY AND GAIL JAFFREY

LARRY AND GAIL JAFFREY



CONNIE BEHN

This year in April was my first time to participate in a full seder. It was a beautiful symbolic depiction of God's love and salvation. I never knew so much symbolism in the Passover pointed to our Messiah Jesus. I fully intend to make this a yearly event in my life, one can never be over reminded of such a great gift!

CONNIE BEHN



JAYNE JOHNSON



RUTH BERNSTEIN



STEVEN AND STEPHANIE COHEN

While on S.T.E.P. I had many experiences sharing the Messiah with Jewish people in New York. In particular I had the opportunity to share the Messiah, from the Prophets, with one young man from the Hebrew University in Tel Aviv.

STEVEN AND STEPHANIE COHEN



WINN AND DANA CRENSHAW

We praise God for our new assignment and fledgling congregation in South Florida. Pray that God will give us wisdom in developing committed leaders within the group of people He is bringing us.

WINN AND DANA CRENSHAW



SCOTT AND MARJORIE BROWN

I praise God for the Son of David Congregation (Rockville, MD), once a dream for a few men with a vision, it is now a vibrant reality with expanding ministries.

SCOTT AND MARJORIE BROWN



CHARLES BURRALL



MARK WACHTEL



BEN AND BONNIE ALPERT

We Praise God for: House of David Messianic Fellowship-Montgomery, AL; House of David Messianic Fellowship-Dothan, AL; new believers and their growth; God's provision and care.

BEN AND BONNIE ALPERT

I praise God for the opportunity He gave me to share my testimony with a group of Russian Jews and Gentiles from the Ukraine now living in Columbia, SC.

FRANK AND ROSEANNE POTTER



FRANK AND ROSEANNE POTTER

Percy Johnson. I remember hearing from Larry Rich, our Canadian area director, when Percy and his family first went to Montreal this past spring. Within 24 hours of arriving he had led his first Jewish person to the Lord.

I still recall the overpowering sense of appreciation for the awesome power and Grace of God. It was God's perfect timing and sovereign will which brought His man, Percy Johnson, to exactly the right place at exactly the right time. Only our God can do that!

Philadelphia

Ken Alpren and I have been friends for quite a long time. I had spoken to him off and on about working with Chosen People Ministries. What a joy to see him move to Philadelphia to work with us in that large and growing Jewish community.

His challenge is to plant a congregation among the Jewish people there, made up of Jews and non-Jews worshipping the Lord together.

But before he ever arrived, I remember praying with Ken through so many of the decisions he had to make. We prayed that God would show him clearly if it be His will for Ken to leave his work in Nashville.

We prayed together as the evil one tried to undermine his faith and bring discouragement. Then we praised God together as God gave him the grace, victory and assurance to follow the



JEFFREY BROWN

leading of the Holy Spirit in ministering with Chosen People in the Philadelphia area.

And many of you had prayed with us as well, because you were concerned for that area. You were concerned that there be godly leadership for our work there.

South Florida

I remember praying with Larry Jaffrey a couple of years ago about the southern area of Florida. We wanted quality staff there because the area is so strategic, yet so needy.

Then I saw Winn and Dana Crenshaw come on staff. I watched Winn develop into a leader, ready to go wherever God would need him.

I thank G-d for growth and the many lessons learned this year through the circumstances of life and ministry. Also for a warm reception and effective ministry in the churches.

IRVING SALZMAN



IRVING SALZMAN

We rejoice in seeing the first-fruits of our new appointment in Messiah here in Cherry Hill, NJ. A neighboring Russian Jewish family attended our Wednesday evening Bible study, then received the Lord at Hope of Israel's Friday evening service!

KEN AND FRANCES ALPREN



KEN AND FRANCES ALPREN



MICHAEL AND EVA RYDELNIK



JOSEPH DORAIS



STACY DORAIS



SUSAN KURTZER

I praise you Father for the church leaders I meet through church ministries work. Thank you for churches with a heart for your chosen people.
SUSAN KURTZER



JAMES AND REBECCA FOX



LARRY AND FRAN FELDMAN



MICHAEL WECHSLER



LISA SPADAFINO



LYDIA ONBREIT



STEWART AND SHOSHANNAH WEINISCH



ISRAEL AND JUDY COHEN



DANIEL AND MADELINE GOLDBERG

I praise God for the increase in believers, around the world, committing to pray for the salvation of Jewish people; glory to our Messiah! Many, for the first time, are awakening to the spiritual need of the Jewish people.
DANIEL AND MADELINE GOLDBERG



PHYLLIS ADAMS

I praise God for the opportunity and the joys of working in Chosen People Ministries' office. This allows me to be available to the phone call of a needy inquirer, give an encouraging word and referral to a nearby missionary.
PHYLLIS ADAMS



STEVE SINAR

We thank the Lord that a Christian businessman I met several years ago held on to my business card. This reminded him of Chosen People Ministries and he called us, regarding a Jewish lady he had been witnessing to, requesting someone contact her. Now this Jewish person has been led to her Messiah.
STEVE SINAR



STEVE AND LISA CAGAN

Praise God for Steve's continued healing for Rheumatoid Arthritis. Praise God for Lisa's new job as an after school/preschool coordinator.
STEVE AND LISA CAGAN



IRVIN AND CORDELIA RIFKIN

We are thankful to our Messiah for the hospital ministry. Irv visited with Ilene as a patient and Cordelia followed up after she was discharged to her home, and led her to her Messiah.
IRVIN AND CORDELIA RIFKIN

Winn went to Florida to open the work, and this has been a year of tremendous opportunity there.

It's been a wonderful blessing to see Winn not only develop, but then demonstrate that maturity in reaching out to the Jewish people of South Florida. We asked so many of you to pray for the work down there, and we praise God together in this accomplishment.

The Nadlers

Some of you have prayed for the Nadlers for many, many years, and I'm so very thankful to you.

There's a special blessing that has been given by the Lord this year. Some of you know I have an older brother, Jerry, who lives in Atlanta. Of course I've shared my faith with him, but he never seemed very interested in what his "kid brother" had to say. Though I spoke in some of the larger Atlanta churches, was interviewed by the media, still the message of the Gospel didn't appear to interest him.

I prayed and prayed, sometimes crying my eyes out over concern for my family, my sister Sandy, and Jerry.

Then a wonderful thing happened. Someone that I helped disciple in the faith was moved by his company to my brother's area. He felt specifically led of the Lord to call Jerry. He's been sharing the Lord with Jerry, and my brother is somewhat interested, somewhat open. It's so wonderful to know that my God has not



SEAN EMSLIE

I praise God for the salvation of 19 young people and the rededication of 19 others at a summer Bible camp where I was camp missionary.

ARTIS AND LEONARD CLOTFELTER



ARTIS AND LEONARD CLOTFELTER



CHRISTOPHER AND MARSHA MELISKO

FROM THE WEST

given up on my brother. Keep praying for Jerry and the Nadlers!

The Peace of Jerusalem

God also placed a burden on many of your hearts to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and for the lost sheep of the house of Israel. These things that are upon our hearts...the very heart of Chosen People Ministries...are upon your heart too, because of God's burden and great love.

Oh, I could fill up an entire book with the wonderful stories of our courageous missionary and support staff members! Even though I've not mentioned each individual by name I am so thankful to God for each and every one and join with them in saying, "Todah Adonai." They are all so special, this family of dedicated workers.

I know they are special to you, as well, and we will use every opportunity to keep you current on developments in their lives and on the front lines of evangelism where they labor.

For all these things and more, I'm thankful, and it gives me great joy to share my thanksgiving with you. As we cry "Todah, Adonai"...giving thanks and praise to our God for all He has done...for who He is...we can together face the future with full assurance!

We look to the victories He will bring through all the difficulties...in this work of ministry, and in your life as well. We look for the triumphs He will bring about even through the trials and tests.



YVONNE BECKER

I am a Jewish believer and volunteer for Chosen People Ministries. I praise the Lord for Chosen People Ministries...especially Mike Campo. He's a tremendous blessing, leader, teacher, encourager and we would be lost without him. We encourage Gentile Christians to witness and pray for Jewish people.

YVONNE BECKER



LEON AND ANNA ENGMAN

Itzak, a Russian Jewish surgeon, and professed atheist, asked me for a Bible before moving to Boston eight years ago. He is now back in our midst and admittedly searching for truth. Pray that his heart will find its true home in Messiah Yeshua.

WILMA KOCH



SHERRY GOTBAUM



PATRICIA FLETCHER



WAYNE KAIPAINEN



MARILYN KAIPAINEN



WILMA KOCH



HAROLD COHEN

We Akronites praise the Lord for CPM volunteer, Harold Cohen. This Jewish believer never refuses a call to fill in as a speaker, even on short notice.

WAYNE AND MARILYN KAIPAINEN



DIMITRI RIZNIK

NOT PICTURED:
SAMUEL LICHTMAN



ALBERT AND GRETTA ISRAELI

Praise the Lord for an excellent summer of outreach. We held our first Taste of Chicago Outreach, where we saw a middle-aged Jewish man pray to accept Jesus as Messiah. We also had S.T.E.P. in Chicago which gave us almost two dozen Jewish contacts who wanted information about Jesus.

KIRK AND CARLA GLIEBE



KIRK AND CARLA GLIEBE

I am praising God for the salvation of a Jewish man who came to Messiah in April and then went home to be with his Messiah in July. Please know that this is a mixed blessing, yet we are thankful for his salvation.

MICHAEL AND SANDRA CAMPO



MICHAEL AND SANDRA CAMPO



PERCY AND RHONDA JOHNSON



WINNIE MARRINER

I praise God as I salute our wonderful partners in the faith who have made it possible to plant, this year, our Messianic congregation "Shear Yashuv," (A Remnant Will Return!).
WINNIE MARRINER

Praise for God's faithfulness to each staff member at the Hamilton office. For the many pastors who tell me they are personally upholding our work in sincere prayer.
JANICE BEURLING



JANICE BEURLING



PAULINE WYLIE

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to attend S.T.E.P. It was a time of personal growth and a most valuable learning experience. I recommend this training for all.



LORRAINE ST. ONGE



LARRY AND JAN RICH

We are grateful in Canada to see in 1992 the starting of one congregation (Toronto) and the preparation for the starting of another (Montreal).

LARRY AND JAN RICH



ROB AND SHARON STYLER

The biggest praise we have is the establishment of Beth Sar Shalom Congregation. We have had steady growth since we began in January. The congregation is off to a good start. We have also seen three people come to faith, all regularly attending services.
ROB AND SHARON STYLER



MARY WADDELL

Yes, as a big family, with a big heart of love that God has given, we face the future with confidence, remembering the blessings our God has provided this past year.

Your continued prayer and involvement as a most important member of our team will cause us to exclaim to our God, "Todah, Adonai!"

Yours...and His...for the lost sheep of the house of Israel,

Sam

SAM NADLER
PRESIDENT, CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES



Joyfully we praise the Lord and we thank Him as we see and taste every day His mercy and faithfulness in our ministry among the Chosen People here in South America. We praise Him for the support we receive from our mission, and especially for those churches and believers that support and pray for us.

Another matter of praise...our new missionaries the Rivoires! They are learning Spanish very quickly and settling down here in this new country and culture. Our staff (now 8 workers and more than 160 volunteers) is a great blessing for our ministry in South America.

PRAISE FOR SOUTH AMERICA



ALEJANDRA GIAMPAOLO



STEPHAN AND MARIANNE RIVOIRE



ELIAS AND ROSA HABIF



ROBERTO AND AZUCENA PASSO



CANADA

HEADQUARTERS MOVING DAY

AFTER MANY SUCCESSFUL years of operation in Hamilton, Chosen People Ministries has moved its Canadian administrative offices to Toronto. The 50-mile move took place at the end of October under Director, Larry Rich. The new location will provide increased ministry opportunities in a higher profile area. The outreach will be far reach-

ing, still touching lives in the Hamilton area as it has in years past. Larry Rich shared, "We are looking forward to combining our Canadian headquarters with our Toronto ministry, and believe our service to the Lord will grow in effectiveness as a result."

Currently, Chosen People Ministries will be renting its facilities in Toronto, with hope of purchasing a

building soon, as donations to the building fund continue. The support of everyone, both prayerfully and financially, is greatly appreciated. As we complete this move, please pray for all the outreaches in Canada. Our new mailing address is Chosen People Ministries, Canada, P.O. Box 897, Station B, North York, Ont. M2K 2R1.

FLORIDA

AFTER ANDREW— Ministry update

WITH SEEMING DISINTEREST in the vast destruction it was causing, Hurricane Andrew ravaged southern Florida and Louisiana in late August. The storm hit 70 miles south of Chosen People Ministries' south Florida office, causing only minimal damage with heavy winds and downed tree limbs. Winn Crenshaw, missionary from that office, shared how blessed they were by everyone's prayers and calls of concern.

But they, too, hope to share the blessings they have been given. Chosen People Ministries joined other Messianic ministries in Broward County on October 1st, to plan relief efforts further south. They plan to bring both physical and spiritual help to the families there. Please continue to pray for those who are trying to rebuild their lives and that our missionaries will find open doors and open hearts as they minister to needs.

Albert left Kiev and arrived in Israel into the waiting arms of his family and pastor. A cardiogram there indicated his heart was okay. Currently, he is undergoing additional tests and some much needed R & R from his hectic schedule. Chosen People is thankful that ministry is continuing to go forth in a mighty way from both Kiev and Israel. Please keep Albert in your prayers as the Lord restores him to perfect health.

KIEV UKRAINE

God's Perfect Timing



Dan and Arlene Rigney

WHEN ALBERT ISRAELI LEFT Israel for Kiev, little did he know just what was in store. He went there to orient a missionary couple, Dan and Arlene Rigney, on loan from another ministry in the States. While in Kiev, Albert suffered what doctors termed a microinfarction of the heart. The Lord's perfect timing allowed the Rigney's to be there to not only learn from Albert, but also to help him in his time of crisis.

There was so much work to do since our first congregation, led by Vladimir Viner, is now fully independent and an additional congregation needed planting. We praise God that with the Rigney's standing in the gap, establishing the church in Kiev and discipling believers, Albert was able to return to Tel Aviv for rest and recuperation.

Purchasing your Holiday gifts from Chosen People Ministries not only provides you with some unique and inspirational items, for your friends and relatives, but your purchase will also help us to reach Jewish people, around the world, with the Gospel.



SPECIAL GIFTS FOR

1 Jewish Art Calendar

Our "Types and Shadows of Messiah" calendar is a perfect gift for the believer who is interested in the Jewish roots of their faith. It is also a perfect nonoffensive way to share your faith with your Jewish friends and neighbors. Each month includes a devotional pointing the reader to Yeshua (Jesus), and in the back pages is the testimony of the calendar artist, a Jewish believer in Jesus. ITEM NO. JC2 \$7.95 (CANADA \$8.95)

2 Christ in the Passover Seder Dinner Kit

Conduct your own Passover Seder (dinner) and join the thousands of believers who have gained greater understanding of the Jewish background of the Lord's Supper using our easy-to-follow kit. The kit includes: a step-by-step Haggadah (guide of the service), a Leader's Manual with Christological insights into the Passover service, a how-to-prepare booklet with menus and recipes and a cassette, with song book, of Messianic Passover music. ITEM NO. CPKSG \$24.95 (CANADA \$32.95)

3 Messiah in the Passover

You will find the answer to why Passover was our Messiah's Last Supper and other questions about the Passover meal in this 30-minute video. A presentation that vividly portrays the unique spiritual and symbolic relationship between Passover and Easter, presenting thought-provoking insight for both Jews and Gentiles. Use this video and invite your Jewish friends to Passover. You will find this video presents the Passover in a way that is sensitive and relevant, yet clear that Jesus, Yeshua, is the

Messiah of Israel. This video is ideal for use in a Bible study, fellowship group, Sunday School class or for your own edification and knowledge. ITEM NO. VPAS \$19.95 (CANADA \$24.50)

4 Messiah in the Day of Atonement

You will learn of the beauty and pageantry of the Jewish temple tradition on the most sacred of all Jewish holy days. You will see how Jewish people celebrate this holy day and also how Messianic Jewish believers in Yeshua remember this special day. Join us in this 30-minute video on a journey through time and explore how Yeshua, the Messiah of Israel, fulfills the biblical Day of Atonement. ITEM NO. VATO \$19.95 (CANADA \$24.50)

5 Messiah in the Day of Pentecost

Do you know that the ancient rabbis teach that the Law was given at Pentecost? Is it just coincidence that when the Law was given, 3,000 Jewish people died and that 1,400 years later on the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was given, 3,000 Jewish souls were saved?

- What is the Jewish connection between the two Pentecosts?
- What is God's Jewish power in Pentecost?

In this 30-minute video you will explore God's purpose for the Day of Pentecost and learn about the fascinating Jewish roots of your faith. ITEM NO. VPEN \$19.95 (CANADA \$24.50)

6 The Footsteps of the Messiah

This study of the sequence of prophetic events, by Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, is both educational and stimulating. This work



THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Examines prophecy chronology and deals with the sequence of events as they are revealed in Scripture. It addresses the prophecies which are being fulfilled at the present time and with the sequence of events as they unfold in the Tribulation and the Millennium. A must for serious prophetic study. ITEM NO. B131 \$14.95 (CANADA \$16.95)

7 Prelude to Glory

It is important you understand both the man, Jesus, and the times in which He lived. This book, by Wayne Leeper, is a history of the last days of Jesus upon the earth. It deals with a period of less than 100 hours—hours during which the history of the world was radically altered by the actions of one man. *Prelude To Glory* is an attempt to place the man, Jesus, in His historical setting and to increase your understanding of this period of time. ITEM NO. B119 \$9.95 (CANADA \$11.95)

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2MAB/SPAD

PART I

THE TEMPLE

Where Did It Stand?

Where Will It Be Rebuilt?

BY HAROLD A. SEVENER

What will be the sign of your coming; when shall the end come?" the disciples hungrily questioned the Messiah, the Lord Jesus, concerning the unbelievable statements that He had just made regarding the Temple. They listened transfixed with awed expressions upon their

faces as Jesus told them of coming future events; false messiahs, famines, and earthquakes.

But a cold chill ran down their spines when Jesus mentioned the event that would most certainly start the end times countdown: the desecration of the Holy Place in Jerusalem.

According to our Lord's words, the end of this age cannot come

without the Holy of Holies being desecrated by abomination of desolation (Mat. 24:15).

The disciples waited and watched for that event to take place in A.D. 70 when the armies of Titus surrounded the city of Jerusalem. Most of the believers fled Jerusalem, thinking that this surely was the fulfillment of Jesus' prediction regarding the Temple. However, this was not God's timing.

Instead of desecrating the Temple, instead of erecting an abomination of desolation in the Holy Place, the armies of Titus ransacked the city of Jerusalem and the Temple area, setting the Temple buildings on fire.

Intense Flames

Tradition tells us that the flames were so intense the gold and silver



adorning the Temple buildings melted and ran between the cracks of the rocks. When the fires were put out the Roman soldiers began dismantling the Temple buildings, extracting the gold, silver and other precious metals, thus fulfilling the words of Jesus that one stone would not be left upon another (Mat. 24:1,2).

As shocking an event as this was it did not fulfill the prophecy concerning the abomination of desolation. Thus if this prophecy of Jesus is to be fulfilled, and the Holy of Holies is to be desecrated, there must be a Temple rebuilt in

Jerusalem. The question is: *where* in Jerusalem?

Two Theories

Every archaeologist and Bible scholar has his own pet theory about where the Temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem. Some say it must be located where the Dome of the Rock—one of the holiest sites in the Muslim world—now stands. Others theorize that it can be rebuilt a little to the north of the Dome of the Rock, over a site which is called the Dome of the Winds or Spirits or the Dome of the Letters. Which location is correct?

Until a few years ago, no one could tell. But now there is new evidence and a tunnel which may very well establish, once and for all, the exact site of the Temple.

To fully understand this new evidence we must first look at the Temple site in Solomon's day, in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, as well as in the days of Herod.

The original site of the Temple was the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. King David purchased this floor to build an altar to the Lord, in order to stop the plague which David had brought upon the people by numbering his fighting

Until now scientists and archaeologists have only speculated on the location of the Temple. New evidence may pinpoint its exact location sooner than we think.



men (2 Sam. 4:1-25; 1 Chr. 21:18-30).

Who Owns the Temple Site?

Notice incidentally that Araunah wanted to *give* David the threshing floor as a gift, but David refused. He insisted on paying for it. By doing so, this established title to this land and to this site.

Thus, Israel holds title to the Temple site; not by conquest, not as a gift, but as a direct purchase. That title deed is still valid; it was never nullified nor transferred.

The present occupation of the Temple site by the Muslims has been on the basis of conquest. Israel allows them to maintain their mosque and religious shrines on the Temple site in order to keep peace in the Middle East. But the Muslim world does not have a valid title deed to the Temple site, only Israel.

Since David was a man of war, God did not allow him to build the Temple (1 Kngs. 5:3-6; 1 Chr. 22:1-10). He drew up the plans according to God's instructions but he told his son Solomon that he (Solomon) would build the Temple.

Not a House of Prayer

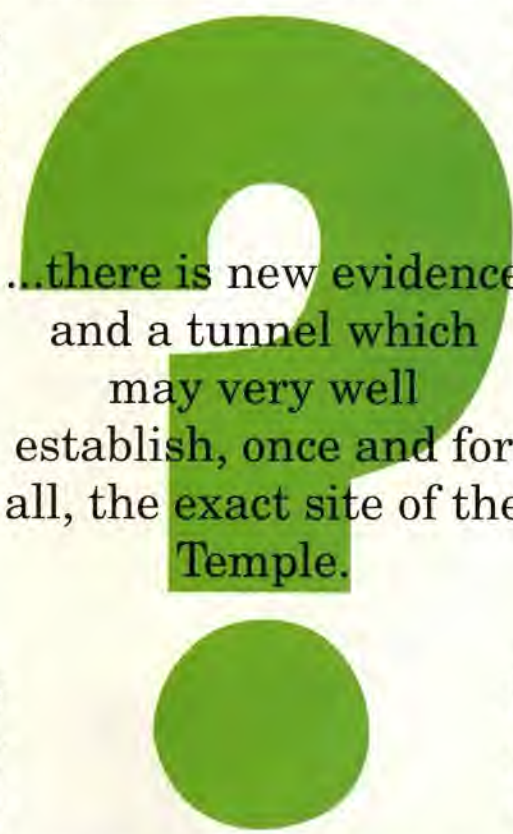
Interestingly, the Temple building itself was *not* built to be a house of prayer, like synagogues or temples today. It was built to provide a house for the Ark of the Covenant. It was thus called the House of the Lord. As such, it did not need to be a large building, but it did need to be decorative, and glorious in splendor.

The Temple, as Solomon built it, was unique in its construction. Its roof was not supported by pillars that stood in the center of the rooms as was the custom in that day. Instead, the cedar beams of the roof were stretched across its full width, thus giving an illusion of openness and great expanse. It was built as a rectangle, 90' long, 30' wide, and 45' high—much taller than most of the Canaanite temples of that day.

Because of the pillars and ornamentation in front of the Temple, it

was according to Talmud more massive in the front than in the rear, and resembled a lion crouching; thus symbolizing the lion of the tribe of Judah (Middoth IV, 7, p. 20).

The Temple building (hekel) was divided into two main parts: the Holy of Holies and the Holy Place. The Holy of Holies was located over a flat stone on the Temple Mount, upon which the Ark of the Covenant was placed (Tosefta &



...there is new evidence and a tunnel which may very well establish, once and for all, the exact site of the Temple.

Yom Ha Kipurim III, 6, Yoma, Mishnah IV, 2).

This foundation stone, upon which the Ark of the Covenant was placed, is called in Hebrew, *Even Shetiyah*, meaning foundation stone. Evidently, this was a flattened high place upon the threshing floor of Araunah, which is an outcropping of Mount Moriah upon which the Temple was built.

Now the question remains: Where is this foundation stone? Is it under the present Dome of the Rock; the same stone upon which the Muslims believe Muhammad ascended into heaven?

There is no doubt about it. If this

foundation stone were located we could immediately fix the site of the Holy of Holies and thus the Temple. But since this immensely significant stone may be obscured from view somewhere on the Temple Mount, are there any other remaining clues that might lead us to the Temple's location?

Pinpointing the Temple Site

To date no excavation has turned up even a fragment of the original hekel (temple building). But other structures that were built *around* the Temple have survived in one form or another. Since we know the approximate distance between these structures and the Temple, it is possible to pinpoint the Temple's location.

The most substantial of these remaining structures are the walls that encompassed the Temple.

Solomon was the first to build a great walled court around the Temple. He built a court and then an outer court around the Temple with gates facing toward the east, the north, the south, and the west.

According to tradition, these gates were exactly opposite each other. Thus, Solomon's eastern gate looked directly into the eastern entrance of the hekel, its only entrance. This would have placed the western gate directly behind the Holy of Holies.

As we mentioned previously, the locations of these gates in the court are very important. If we can locate these gates we can then locate the position of the Temple.

Unfortunately, Solomon's temple along with these gates was destroyed in 586 B.C. by the armies of Nebuchadnezzar. Almost 50 years later, however, in 538 B.C. Cyrus issued a decree which allowed the Jewish people to return and rebuild the temple. There is no description of the construction of the temple which Zerubbabel built, but we do know that it was built *directly* over the site of Solomon's temple. Even the foundation stone remained a part of the Holy of Holies.

When Antiochus IV Epiphanes came into power in 169 B.C., he broke into the temple and carried off all of its treasure. Two years later he erected the abomination of desolation on the altar, turning the building into a temple of Zeus.

Temple Rededicated

The Temple was then recaptured by Judas Maccabaeus who claimed the Temple site and rededicated the altar, establishing the festival of Hanukkah (1 Maccabees 4:58; 2 Maccabees 1:9; 2:18; Jn. 10:22).

Through the years the Temple Mount continued to be expanded and built up until it was the highest point in Jerusalem. But no one took on the job of renovating the temple with more zeal than Herod.

In the eighteenth year of his reign, Herod decided to rebuild the temple. It took him 46 years to complete its construction (Jn 2:2). During the Herodian renovation, the area of the Temple Mount was doubled. This was accomplished by erecting gigantic supporting walls. These foundation stones can still be seen today at the Western (or Wailing) Wall.

An Empty Holy of Holies

Herod positioned his new hekel (temple building) directly over the original site of Solomon's temple, once again placing the Holy of Holies over the foundation stone (Even Shetiyah). Of course, Josephus and Talmud both tell us the Holy of Holies was empty, the Ark of the Covenant having been lost in battle, carried off to Babylon and destroyed, or perhaps hidden away.

The Mishnah tells us that Herod built five gates as entrances to the Temple Mount.

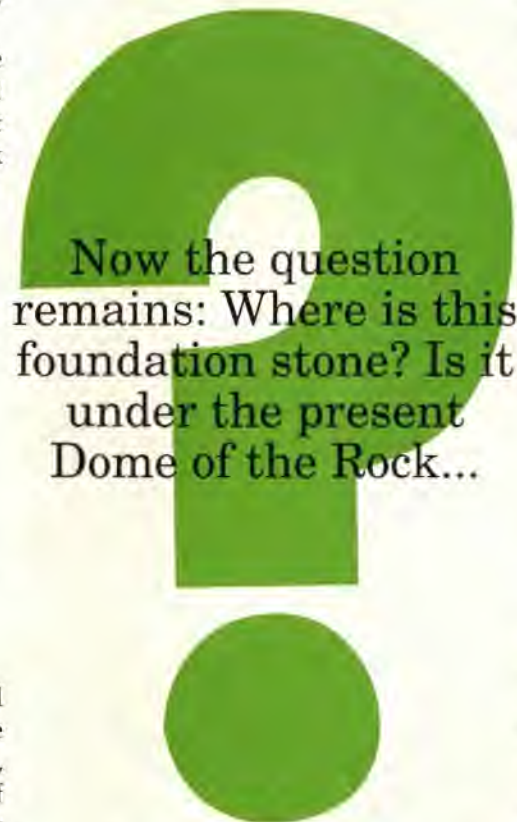
Once again the positioning of these gates becomes very important. Like Solomon's temple and Zerubbabel's temple, Herod placed these gates exactly opposite each other. Thus, the eastern gate faced the only entrance into the temple and was directly opposite the western gate

which stood behind the Holy of Holies.

It is interesting that the archaeological record speaks of two gates and a bridge on the western side.

According to Josephus, there were four gates on the west.

The evidence seemed clear: the gates that were found on the west did not align with the eastern gate. Anyone using the western and eastern gates to locate the temple had reached an impasse.



Now the question remains: Where is this foundation stone? Is it under the present Dome of the Rock...

Then in June 1967 the Israelis conquered the city of Jerusalem and gained access to the Western Wall and the Temple Mount. They immediately began archaeological explorations around the Temple Mount.

The Rabbis' Tunnel

One of these excavations began around the Western Wall, commonly known as the Wailing Wall, which belonged to the court of Herod's temple. This excavation created what is today known archaeologically as the Rabbis' Tunnel.

This tunnel is under the modern streets of the city of Jerusalem. It is

almost 900 feet in length and was painstakingly dug by hand over the last few years, so as not to upset the delicate, uneasy truce between Jew and Arab over each other's holiest place.

The tunnel now extends to the northwest corner of the Temple Mount. At that northwest corner one can see the bedrock of Mount Moriah and the carving away of the mountain so that the massive Herodian and Solomonic stones could be fitted into place to form the foundation for the Western Wall of the court of the Temple.

Several of these foundation stones are almost 50 feet in length, six to eight feet in height, and weighing over 100 to 200 tons. They are fitted together so closely, and so evenly, that not even the slightest crack appears.

A Greater Surprise

The discovery of these foundation stones was an exciting and important find. But a greater surprise awaited the grimy diggers, scholars and archaeologists.

As the archaeologists excavated, building this underground tunnel, shoring up the buildings and streets of Jerusalem overhead, they came upon an amazing find! Several hundred feet into the tunnel they discovered a gate—an Herodian gate; that is, a gate that dates from the time of Herod.

What made this gate unique was not only the fact that it dated from Herod's time, but it was a gate that was *directly opposite the traditional eastern gate*, which faces the Mount of Olives. This would then place this "new" gate directly behind the Holy of Holies.

Harold Sevener will continue this topic next month with a focus upon the Rabbis' Tunnel and how it locates the position of the Temple..

For additional information regarding all the recent preparations to rebuild the Temple see our ad on the back cover of this magazine. ☺

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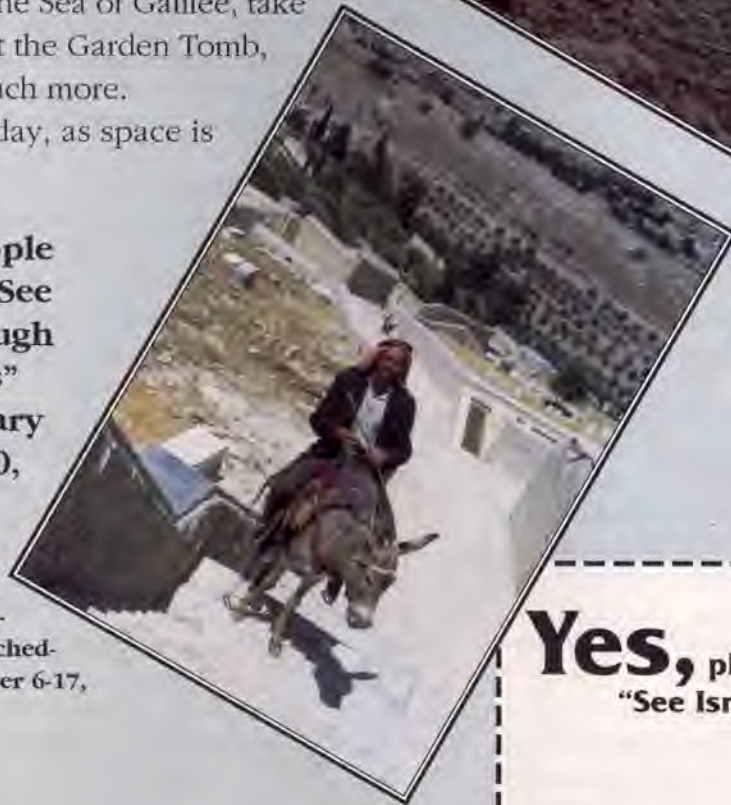
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THE PROPHET DANIEL HAROLD A. SEVENER

"IN THE FIRST YEAR OF DARIUS, SON OF XERXES (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom—in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years" (Daniel 9:1,2).

Daniel was a prayerful man who fully trusted God. Rather than worry over the visions of the future which God had given him, Daniel prayed and searched the Scriptures. He knew God in a very real and personal way and that God heard and answered prayer. Daniel also understood that the answers to his questions about God's program and plan for his life, and for the lives of his people, Israel, could be found within the revealed Word of God.

It must be clearly understood that the visions of Daniel have not been arranged in a chronological sequence. Rather, they have been arranged to specifically show how God will deal with Israel, once Israel has returned to the Land. Daniel's visions represent God's redemptive and judgmental programs which He will bring upon Israel, and the nations.

In Daniel 9:1,2 we are told that Daniel had been reading the prophet Jeremiah during the time when Darius, son of Xerxes (a Mede), ruled the Babylonian kingdom and that it was during the first year of Darius' reign, or after the Persians had taken control of the Babylonian empire. History records that Darius would have begun his reign sometime during the spring of 538 B.C., and continued his reign until the spring of 537 B.C. These dates and names are important because they tell us that the 70 years of captivity, which God had promised through the prophet Jeremiah, were drawing to a close. Nearly forty-nine years of the captivity had elapsed and to those not looking through "eyes of faith," there seemed to be no end in sight. The Gentile empires were growing in strength, not weakening, and persecution and hatred of the Jews was increasing, not decreasing. Thus, Daniel was driven to the Word of God to seek answers.

In contrast to many believers, who look to various sources for answers to life's problems, Daniel knew exactly where to look. He knew God's Word held the answers and went directly to the prophet Jeremiah.

Daniel was a young teenager when Jeremiah uttered his message of doom in Jerusalem, in the year 605 B.C., during the reign of King Jehoiakim. Soon the invading Babylonian army arrived, which swept

Daniel and his people away to Babylon, and Jeremiah's prophecy took on new meaning for Daniel. He had predicted, "Therefore the Lord Almighty says this: 'Because you have not listened to my words, I will summon all the peoples of the north and my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon,' declares the Lord, 'and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin. I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp. This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years. But when the seventy years are fulfilled, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians, for their guilt,' declares the Lord, 'and will make it desolate forever'" (Jeremiah 25:8-12).

The prophecy of Jeremiah indicated that when the 70 years had expired, God would punish the Babylonians and restore the Jewish people to their land. Jeremiah 29:10-14 states, "This is what the Lord says: 'When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,' declares the Lord, 'and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,' declares the Lord, 'and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.'"

Daniel was perplexed since this prophecy is so specific. If the seventy years began before the destruction of Jerusalem, and if these years were literally fulfilled when Babylon fell in 539-538 B.C., why were the Jews not returning to Israel as God had promised? On the other hand, if the 70-year prophecy began with the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 B.C., how could a literal fulfillment of this prophecy have taken place, seeing that with the fall of Babylon, in 539-538 B.C., only 47-48 years had elapsed? Had God made a mistake? Was the word of the prophet Jeremiah accurate and true? Would the Jews remain in captivity throughout all of the empires which had been revealed? ☺



STEWARDSHIP DAVID HENSCHEN

CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES supporter Justin Meyer and his wife Jacque have been personal friends of mine for many years. They deeply love the Jewish people and are excited about our work here at Chosen People Ministries. In fact, we received a much larger than usual gift from Justin not long ago. He told me he felt led to tithe his tax return to the work of our ministry.

What he didn't do, I did for him. You see he wasn't really aware of our Memorial Gift Program. When someone gives above and beyond their regular giving, we encourage them to memorialize that gift by giving it in memory or in honor of someone special.

While Justin didn't specify it, I turned his gift into a memorial for a close friend of mine who passed away last year, Mrs. Jeanne H. Meyer, Justin's mother. In fact, I

even made a personal addition to that gift in memory of that special lady.

Mrs. Meyer was a new believer when the terrible ravages of cancer slowly squeezed the life from her body. Even so, it was such an encouragement to see her new-found faith carry her through to the other side. And how grateful I am that she came to know the Lord through the loving prayers and persistence of her son, Justin. As prayer partners, Justin and I spent years praying for her salvation. We can now spend years thanking Him, for we know she will now spend eternity with our Lord.

I want you to know I would never change your gift designation without permission, and I would certainly never publish your name unless you allowed me to do so. However, in the case of my close

friend Justin, who is being made aware of this for the first time through this article (and probably trying to hold back the tears), I know that it is appropriate. May God richly bless you, Justin, for your gift!

Perhaps Justin's story brings to mind someone you would like to memorialize or honor. If so, all you need to do is send in an extra gift with a note that designates who it is in memory or honor of and their relationship to you. A little story about that person, while not necessary, might be an encouragement to us and will be placed in the records. Also, please let us know if we may or may not publish your names in this magazine.

If you have included Chosen People Ministries in your will, please let us know so we can say thank you!

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