

The Chosen People



*100 years...
only a prelude
to this critical
moment in history!*



IN SEARCH OF THE MESSIAH



*Leopold Cohn, Founder
Chosen People Ministries*

These are strange words to come from an Orthodox rabbi. Yet they were the instructions given to Leopold Cohn, a young man engaged in rabbinic study before the turn of the century in eastern Hungary.

Obediently, Rabbi Cohn

sailed for America in 1892. On his arrival, he found a large European Jewish community. Some had come to seek material fortune. Others were more concerned with spiritual freedom.

Scripture opened his eyes to the truth.

From a Jewish man who had made a similar journey of faith, Leopold Cohn received a Hebrew New Testament. In it he read, for the first time, "This is a book of the generations of Yeshua, the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham." As Rabbi Cohn read, he found the answers to all of his yearnings and concluded that Jesus (Yeshua) was truly the promised Anointed One.

Naturally, Cohn began sharing the Scriptures with the Jewish



Women came to learn English and sewing. Many also found the Messiah.

**CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES
100 years of
amazing history!**

Rabbi Leopold Cohn establishes a ministry to Jewish people in Brooklyn, New York that evolves into Chosen People Ministries.

1894

A dispensary, sewing class and English class are organized to meet the needs of Jewish immigrants in Brooklyn. Along with these basic helps, the Gospel is shared from a Jewish perspective.

1920

A soup kitchen is set up in France to snatch Jewish people from the jaws of the Holocaust.

1944

Israel is established as a state -- CPM plants an evangelistic presence that continues to this day.

1948

Established an outreach in Canada

1967



“Go to America, where people know more about the Messiah!”

people around him in Brooklyn. “I showed them from the Scriptures that to believe in Yeshua was Jewish faith, real Jewish faith.”

His faith discovery became a lifelong calling.

Sharing his discovery of the Messiah became Leopold Cohn’s life calling and the guiding principle for the mission he founded in 1894 – which developed into Chosen People Ministries.

Meetings were first held in a storefront that once served as a horse stable. The mission’s first Bible study was attended by eight Jewish people. In the course of his lifetime, Leopold Cohn baptized over 1,000 people! ☺

Leopold Cohn based his work for the Lord on faith and in response to Romans 1:16:

“For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”



This building in New York City once served as CPM’s headquarters. The headquarters moved to Charlotte, North Carolina in 1988.

A nationally televised “Passover” program is aired in the U.S. Tens of thousands hear the Gospel from a Jewish perspective. Out-reaches expand to South America.

1971

Full-page evangelistic ads carried in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune and other major dailies generate an avalanche of Jewish inquirers. “Jews for Jesus” evangelistic programs launched.

1972

Spearhead movement to plant Messianic congregations sensitive to Jewish culture and traditions.

1980

New freedom in the former Soviet republics allows CPM to expand its ministry into Ukraine and Russia.

1990



Critical steps to "SHALOM -- 2000"

1. Establish a CPM ministry in every location around the world where there is a Jewish population of 100,000 or more.
2. Send 20 new missionaries to key cities in North America.
3. Send 20 new missionaries to Israel.
4. Send 20 new missionaries to other key countries around the world.

1994 marks CPM's centennial year and a time to celebrate God's blessing and direction over the past 100 years. It's a time to thank God for the missionaries and workers who have proclaimed the good news of our Messiah to God's chosen people.

Today there are more than 300,000 Jewish believers in the U.S. Add to that the thousands in Israel, Canada, Argentina and the former Soviet republics, and it is evident that celebration is appropriate.

But because there's a greater movement of the Spirit among Jewish people now than at any time since the early church, Chosen People Ministries is using this unique "moment in history" to launch an exciting new evangelism initiative called SHALOM 2000 -- Lasting Peace for God's Chosen People!

Over the next 6 years we are determined to establish dynamic evangelism outreaches in all 11 key countries that are home to more than 80 percent of Jewish people.

Photo by Blackstar



SHALOM

Reaping the pro

Israel...our first priority.

Because we believe Israel will soon surpass the U.S. in Jewish population, we want to place 20 missionaries in the Jewish State by the year 2000. These will be evangelists and disciplers who will reach the unreached, plant churches, train believers in evangelism and assure the presence of a dynamic witness in all major cities of Israel.

America...a field ripe to harvest.

According to *National & International Religion Report*, "Jews are among the United States' most 'unchurched' people. There is a great need for evangelism and church planting in the United States."

Russia and Ukraine... incredible new opportunities.

Persecution and isolation have left almost 750,000 Jewish people more open to the Gospel than any Jewish population group in the world today. We dare not miss this opportunity.

France...Western Europe's largest Jewish community.

At 530,000, the substantial Jewish population of France has long been ignored. Evangelical Christians are few among the



M 2000!

omised harvest.

French. And only help from the outside will impact this significant unreached people group for Jesus Christ.

Great Britain...

Historically a safe haven for Jewish people. Today the Jewish population numbers 300,000.

Canada...

A welcome refuge now has 310,000 Jewish people, mostly in urban areas.

Argentina...

Claims Latin America's largest Jewish concentration with approximately 213,000.

South Africa...

Largest among the Jewish populations in Africa with 105,000.

Brazil...

More than 100,000 Jewish people claim South America's largest country as their home.

Australia...

Even the land "down under" has 89,000 Jewish people and almost no Messianic witness.

Over the next 6 years, we want to send 60 new Missionaries into key Jewish population centers.



Photo by Steve Burns

Come celebrate with us!

Longstanding traditions are more important to Jewish people than any people group I am aware of in the world today. We celebrate Yom Kippur -- the Day of Atonement, Pesach -- the Passover as recorded in Exodus 12, Sukkot -- the Feast of Tabernacles from Leviticus 23 to name a few.



*Sam Nadler, President
Chosen People Ministries*

From an historical perspective, 100 years of outreach by Chosen People Ministries is not a huge milestone. Yet CPM is one of the oldest ministries to Jewish people in existence today. Jews for Jesus and Friends of Israel both developed out of CPM outreaches. And we're glad for their ministries.

But God has blessed us with 100 years of sharing His truth. And we're facing an incredible challenge between now and the year 2000.

I trust you'll join us in celebration. Pray for our expanded vision. And consider sending a special gift right now in thanksgiving for the 300,000 Jewish believers in our nation today -- and the tremendous challenges we face around the world.



Scott Brown
CPM Missionary
(93)

IF IT'S JEWISH -- WE HAVE IT!

The neon sign in the window reads, "If it's Jewish, we have it." The little bookstore is one of the hubs of the Orthodox Jewish community in greater Washington, D.C.

I was there trying on a kittel (a garment worn by the person who conducts a Passover seder). While buttoning up the long laced shroud, I overheard a young man urgently asking the owner, "How do I learn to interpret the Scriptures? I need to learn!"

Such a scene isn't uncommon; young Jewish people growing up

in nonreligious families often come to a place in life where they need to know what Jewishness means.

My heart was breaking as the young man clung to the store owner's every word.

The two men walked through the store as the elder heaped books upon the zealously attentive young man. Then the young man asked, "How can we know He is not our Messiah?" At this point, I moved closer.

The storeowner explained, "The Messiah couldn't have

come! After all, the world is not at peace. Were He the Messiah, wars would have ended!" I was saddened to hear this classic misrepresentation of Jesus's ministry. His first coming brings internal peace to every faithful believer, and His second coming will bring external global peace.

I waited in the parking lot, praying for the right words to say to this young Jewish seeker. As he opened his car, I said, "Excuse me. My name is Scott Brown. Forgive me for eavesdropping. I overheard your conversation in the bookstore. And the questions you were asking are among the most important questions a Jew can ask."

The young man introduced himself as Eric and poured out his story with passion. He was married to a Christian who said she would love him regardless of what he believed. But what did he believe? Eric felt he should at least know what he was supposed to believe as a Jew.

I was so overwhelmed by the providence behind our meeting, I could barely hold back my tears.

"Eric, I have some wonderful news!" I told him.

Have you ever wondered...?

Why do Jewish believers not observe the same traditions most Christians do at Christmas time?

**Q
&
A**

Jewish believers honor the importance of God sending His Son into the world. We share the wonder of the supernatural event that caused a virgin to conceive and bear a son by the Holy Spirit. We celebrate His coming into a humble stable in the Holy Land.

But for the sake of our people, many Messianic believers choose not to adopt the Gentile traditions that go beyond the biblical truth. Christmas trees and all the adornments the holiday season has taken on tend to build walls between us and our Jewish families and neighbors. In order to keep the lines of communication open and maintain our Jewish distinctives, it's not always wise to adopt these Gentile traditions.

How an "accidental" encounter in a bookstore changed a life forever.

"The Bible contains the solution that doesn't compromise your marriage, your Jewishness, and best of all your relationship with God!"

Eric was interested in learning from the Scriptures, so we met weekly to discuss the Torah and the Bible. Over time, we developed a sincere friendship. After one particular Bible study, I felt it was time to risk our friendship for the sake of his eternal destiny. As we parted, I asked him, "Consider the facts of history, the facts of prophecy fulfilled and decide if the Bible is trustworthy. And if it is, what will you do about your separation from God, your need for forgiveness of sin.... What will you do with Jesus?"

Ninety minutes later Eric called. He had gone directly to find his wife so they could pray together. Eric had asked God to forgive his sin. "Scott," he said, "Yeshua (Jesus) is my Savior!"

The neon sign at the bookstore had promised everything Jewish, but Eric had discovered the one Jewish thing the store did not offer: the Jewish Messiah, Jesus.

Editor's Note: Shortly after this story, Eric proclaimed his faith before Son of David Congregation and was baptized. Scott Brown is the CPM missionary and church planter of Son of David in Silver Spring, Maryland. Eric and his wife, Aletha, are faithfully serving in various capacities in the congregation. ☺



GOOD NEWS...BAD NEWS... PRAYER NEWS

Please use these news briefs as a basis for prayer and thanksgiving.

NEW CONGREGATION FOR ISRAEL...

A 100-year-old building in Jaffo houses the newest location for a Chosen People Ministries congregation in Israel. In September, Chosen People missionary Albert Israeli opened the doors of Beit Sar Shalom (House of the Prince of Peace) for services.

The first service was filled to capacity! Already, Albert is faced with the dilemma of needing a larger facility.

REVIVAL IN BRAZIL...

In Brazil, Pastor David Klawa of the First Baptist Church of Da Lapa has noted that revival is taking place, and in particular, Jewish people are coming to faith. Seeing a need for Jewish-sensitive teaching, Pastor Klawa has invited Sam Nadler, President of Chosen People Ministries, to come speak at his 12,000 member church.

COMMUNITY SEMINAR ON INTERMARRIAGE...

Because one out of two Jewish people marries a non-Jew, Olive Tree Congregation in Plainview, New York, sponsored a community seminar on intermarriage at the local public library. In addition to members of Olive Tree Congregation, 35 other Jews and Gentiles attended the seminar. CPM missionary Michael Rydeinik reports one couple from the seminar has already visited his congregation. And he expects others will also come to visit.

PROVING THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH.

Skeptics will never be satisfied -- only sincere seekers will discover the truth.

*by Larry Jaffrey
U.S. Ministries Director*

At that time the Feast of the Dedication took place at Jerusalem; it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple in the portico of Solomon. The Jews therefore gathered around Him, and were saying to Him, 'How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered them, 'I told you, and you do not believe...'" (John 10:22-25a)

The Feast of Dedication is more commonly known by its Hebrew name, Hanukkah. This year Hanukkah begins on the evening of December 8 and concludes December 16 at sunset. This holiday commemorates the rededication of the Temple in

165 B.C., three years after it had been vilely desecrated by Antiochus Epiphanies.

The first book of Maccabees* records that when the priests came to cleanse the Temple they tore down the stone altar which Antiochus had defiled with pig's blood. Not wanting to discard the stones, they stored them away "until there should come a prophet to show what should be done with them" (see 1 Maccabees 4:42-46).

When Herod remodeled the Temple a hundred years later, a special chamber was even built to hold the stones. Each year when Hanukkah approached, the Jewish people remembered the stones and wondered about the prophet.

It was during the Hanukkah season, recorded in John, that rumors were circulating amongst the Jewish people that Jesus of Nazareth was at least a prophet and maybe even the Messiah.

As Jesus walked through the Temple, the people surrounded Him, challenging Him to prove His Messiahship -- probably with the implied question: What are



You, Jesus, going to do with the defiled stones?

Jesus responded, "The works that I do in My Father's name, these bear witness of Me." Jesus was suggesting that the fulfillment of man-made signs did not prove His Messiahship, but rather it is seen in the fulfillment of prophecies that were spoken by the prophets of old and readily found in the Scriptures.

*Chosen People Ministries does not view the book of Maccabees as Scripture since it is not part of the accepted biblical canon. We do often use the apocryphal books because they are significant historical documents. ☺

Yes it's Jewish -- and we have it!

That's the message we have for the more than 13 million Jewish people around the world. Jesus the Messiah is Jewish -- and we can help you invite Him into your life.

Please take the response card that accompanies this newsletter. Pray and ask God how He would have you become involved as we face the challenge of Jewish evangelism through SHALOM 2000!

The Chosen People Newsletter

Chosen People Ministries has been taking the love of the Messiah to Jewish people worldwide since 1894.

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