

The Chosen People



***From Skinheads to Demagogues:
Prelude to a Massive Exodus!***



FRIGHTENING SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The fall of communism in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe was supposed to be reason for celebration. But the economic and political chaos that is now plaguing many of these same nations leaves an ominous cloud over our world today. And Jewish people sense an even darker side to recent developments.

Freedom brings "hidden diseases" to the surface.

Communism in the former Soviet Union was a tyrant that controlled people through fear. When that tyrant was driven off and people experienced freedom, both the good and bad began to emerge. Seventy years of totalitarian dominance have resulted in horrible consequences. The superpower that declared war on God and elevated humanism to heights never equaled in all history is now discovering their house is built on sand. And the great thaw in the cold war has left their empire in ruins.

Russian society today has no solid values. It's like a plant that has been uprooted but not replanted. They have recognized the lie of communism but have not received the truth. Anarchy reigns. And its power is no less destructive than the godless ideology that preceded it.

"Fuzzy fears" have come into focus in the personage of Vladimir Zhirinovsky.

He emerged from anonymity. Yet Vladimir has brought turmoil to all levels of world politics. His Liberal-Democratic party, a name that seems strange for right-wing, nationalistic neo-fascists, won the largest number of the seats in the Russian Parliament in December of last year.

Zhirinovsky's rhetoric is frightening, especially to Jewish people. Most of his speeches carry Nazi fascist slogans. He threatens to regain all the splendor of the former Soviet Union. He has even claimed that Russia will once again border Germany



Fear from the past and fear of the future force Jewish people to flee places their families have lived for generations.



The search for physical safety also drives people to search for spiritual peace. That's why this is a critical period for Jewish evangelism.



History seems to be repeating itself... troubled nations again seek a scapegoat.

on the west, which implies the occupation of the sovereign countries of Ukraine, Poland and others. He has also made it clear that he will fight to wipe out the cancer of the world -- namely Zionism.

God's plan once more comes to light.

In Jeremiah 23:7-8 we read prophecy of what we're seeing today. "Therefore, behold the days are coming, declares the Lord, when they will no longer say as the Lord lives who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt, but as the Lord lives who brought up and led back the descendants of the household of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the countries where I've driven them. Then they will live on their own soil."

So we have a new sign. It's not coming out of Egypt or the Passover any longer. But this returning, especially from the lands of the north, is from Russia and other lands.

An Israeli newspaper published the results of a recent survey among Jewish people in the former Soviet Union. More than half (56 percent) said they had no intention of emigrating to Israel. Zhirinovsky's increasing

power may change that for many Jewish people in Russia.

Loving God's chosen people begins with sharing His truth.

Christians can respond to this growing threat with fervent prayer and a renewed commitment to share the Good News with Jewish people everywhere. Chosen People Ministries is increasing our efforts both in places like Russia and Germany -- where hostilities against Jewish

people are mounting -- and in Israel, across Europe and North America, wherever they are fleeing. With the projected turmoil in the coming months, this will be a critical period for Jewish evangelism.

In the ugly face of rising anti-Semitism, the most important thing Christians can do is share the truth of our Messiah.



*Sam Nadler, President
Chosen People Ministries*

No time to relax!

As believers, seeing the prophesied return of Jewish people from "the north" to Israel should not lull us into complacency. Yes, they may be out of danger and back in their own land. But God's full, final and eternal work is that His people receive the Gospel. Now is the day to take full advantage of these opportunities.

One day I'm going to be in heaven. And I'll worship as I've never worshipped before. But there's one thing I won't be able to do then -- that is witness! All believers will be held responsible for how we utilize the opportunities we are given to share the Gospel.

That's why we are working so hard to advance SHALOM 2000, our new initiative to reach all 11 major Jewish population centers by the year 2000. We want to evangelize Jewish people while the opportunities exist -- while they are at their most accessible point for the Gospel. And we want every born-again believer to pray as they've never prayed before. To support us as we desperately need them to do. And to, where possible, volunteer their time to help evangelize God's chosen people.

This is the appointed hour. "Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:35b)



On the surface, it appeared that there was little interest in Isaiah 53. The rabbi had prepared his students well. Instead, they wanted to express their disgust at the concept of hell. During the evening, they kept going back to the idea of hell,



HELL IN A SYNAGOGUE

over and over. They wouldn't let it go. Messianic believers were called "extremists."

Through the discussion it was revealed that it was more than Jesus that they rejected. These young people didn't believe any biblical aspect of Judaism or even the idea of a personal God.

A glaring example of the blind leading the blind.

These students are lost. But the rabbi had told them that as long as they were "good people," they were okay for eternity. It's the same old lie heard so frequently: all good people to go heaven.

But the most tragic revelation of the evening was from the rabbi himself. Christopher later rebuked him for allowing these students to attack our biblical Jewish faith when they themselves had no personal belief in God, let alone biblical convic-



tions. His sheepish reply was, "I bring them along in my own way."

Results from the trial: the jury is still out!

From past experience, we know that one day at least some of these students will come to faith. And they will remember some of the things that were said that evening that touched their interests and tugged at their hearts. God's Word will not return to Him in vain. Pray that these seeds will grow to the glory of God and salvation of many.

Please pray for these unbelieving students.



Reaching young people with the truth about our Messiah Jesus while their hearts are tender and their minds are open is a tremendous challenge.



THE ULTIMATE SIGN.

by Larry Jaffrey
U.S. Ministries Director

Spiritual rebirth for Israel is even more critical to prophecy.

End time prophecy is an exciting and often controversial subject in the Christian community. When the subject of prophecy is mentioned, an air of excitement and expectation enters the conversation.

We all want to see evidence that God is presently working in our world and prophecy provides that truth. With that proof we can provide to our detractors evidence of God's existence.

The existence of Israel stands as the ultimate sign of God's power and control.

Though each of us has his or her own list of "signs of the last days," the one prophecy most everyone will mention as evidence we are close to the end of

Photo: Steve Burns



Reaching Jewish people with the Gospel is the most important thing we can do today for the nation of Israel.

this age is the existence of the nation of Israel. God repeatedly said He would bring the Jewish people back to their land in the last days. (Deut. 30:3; Is. 11:1-12; Jer. 16:15, 23:8, 32:27; Ezek. 37:21)

Israel, though a country surrounded by nations bent on her destruction, has survived. This small country, with a population only about the same as the state of Maryland, has caught the

It is exciting to see how God is working today in bringing His



"For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands, and bring you into your own land."

(Ezekiel 36:24)

land has been turned into a garden. Ezekiel quotes God as saying this return was to "vindicate the holiness of My great name." (Ezek. 36:23) Truly with the return of the Jewish people to the land, the world is once again obligated to consider the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

attention of the world. A visit to Israel reveals how a waste-

people back to the Promised Land. But there is a danger that we must avoid. Often Christians become so enamored with Israel as a nation they forget God's ultimate desire is that His people worship Him. Every prophecy about people returning to the land includes a prophecy about a spiritual rebirth of the people. The passage in Ezekiel 36 goes on to say, "moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you." (Ezek. 36:26)



Proof we can provide our detractors that God exists.

Our excitement about what is happening in the Middle East should include a burden to see the Jewish people come back to God through the Messiah.

As we are reminded of how God is bringing His people home, let us not forget to pray for their salvation, for that is God's ultimate desire for them.



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

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

LOS ANGELES EARTHQUAKE.

We praise the Lord that none of our missionaries or support staff were seriously hurt in the January 17 earthquake in Los Angeles, California.

The staff reports a loss of many personal items and minor cuts from broken glass but most importantly that their families and homes are still intact.

The Chosen People Ministries office building in Los Angeles fared well in the earthquake. But the building where CPM's church planting work, Shepherd of Israel Congregation meets weekly was damaged. Please pray as Chosen People missionaries look for a new location for the congregation.

ISRAELI CONGREGATION FULL AND OVERFLOWING.

There is no room left to accommodate new believers at the fellowship in Tel Aviv. Missionary Albert Israeli has reluctantly scaled back his schedule of evangelistic campaigns to focus on discipling believers for leadership and on finding new meeting locations in and around Tel Aviv.

Albert confesses it is not so simple to find a building to rent in Israel. Most proprietors do not welcome Messianic believers.

The location they currently rent is not only too small, but it is also in a "rough" neighborhood. When Albert and another member of the congregation tried to hang a sign for Beit Sar Shalom (House of the Prince of Peace), they were almost assaulted!

CONGREGATION IN UKRAINE CONTINUES TO GROW.

Despite the fact that many Jewish people in Ukraine and the former Soviet Union are emigrating to other countries, such as Israel, the United States, Canada and Germany, our Chosen People congregation in Kiev, Ukraine continues to grow with Jewish believers. At least 20 more people have recently come to faith and are now being disciplined.

The congregation in Kiev is planning to extend its ministry to the Jewish people through evangelistic campaigns in surrounding cities. The first team will be in the city of Zitomir. Pray for the success of their first outreach.

HELP FRIGHTENED PEOPLE FIND PEACE AND HOPE IN OUR MESSIAH.



***Fear and uncertainty open hearts
and minds to the truth.***

Today's tumultuous economic conditions require tough, smart planning.

Seminars and books on financial planning and personal investment are rising in popularity because of changing and uncertain economic conditions. Families need a financial plan that is both tough and smart in order to be good stewards in today's economic climate.

Many people are choosing to combine their charitable interest in Jewish evangelism with their long-range financial planning. Preserving your economic security can go hand in hand with your desire to further the Gospel to Jewish people.

For example, Reverend Alfred and Bonnie Stone tested the Chosen People Ministries annuity Program in 1986. Later realizing that this was a great financial plan for their retirement, yielding a high interest rate with regular, predictable payments and a tax deduction as well, they took out another annuity.

The Stones had other funds to invest, but they weren't sure that they wanted to tie up money that they might need in an emergency.

Chosen People Ministries was able to help them by placing this money in a Withdrawable Gift Agreement (WGA). Again, the Stones were receiving a high interest rate on their money, but with a WGA they could withdraw their funds if ever an emergency arose.

Investing their money with Chosen People Ministries has been a twofold blessing to Alfred and Bonnie. Their financial investment is not only securing their future, but it is making a contribution to the evangelistic work of Chosen People Ministries.

Chosen People Ministries wrote its first annuity in 1907. Never – even during the Great Depression – has Chosen People ever defaulted on an annuity. An investment with Chosen People is always backed dollar for dollar.

For more complete information on annuities, Withdrawable Gift Agreements or any of Chosen People Ministries many other planned giving opportunities, write Chosen People Ministries.

During periods of turmoil and stress, people look for new answers to basic issues and a new foundation for their lives. We find that God's Good News is most readily accepted if we can get to Jewish people even before they emigrate.

That's why we need your help right now to expand our efforts in Russia and Ukraine. We also want to be ready for the flood of immigrants we expect in Israel and

North America over the coming months. If we can reach them while they are seeking answers, many more Jewish people will be fulfilled in our Messiah.

Please help share Jesus' love with Jewish people overwhelmed by hatred.

As Christians, the most important thing we can do for Jewish people facing the frightening uncertainty of being driven from their homes is to share our hope in the Messiah of Israel. Please use the enclosed form to send a gift now. We need to respond as quickly as possible to this tremendous opportunity.

The Chosen People Newsletter

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

For more information or to receive THE CHOSEN PEOPLE newsletter by including your gift of \$25, write:

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