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*For Zion’s Sake*

**Ministry and Teaching Magazine in Prophetic Times**

**Second Quarter 2021 Jewish Year 5781**

***“Every jot and tittle shall in no wise pass from the***

***law, till all be fulfilled”* (Mathew 5:18).**

**Taking the WORDS OF JESUS Seriously**

**Christian Friends of Israel**

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Shalom *from* Jerusalem

**These past weeks**have been a nightmare for many Israelis living in the Land, which belongs to them, according to the Bible.

The world media has been condemning Israel for defending itself and the people of Israel. The Israeli army has conducted themselves properly and a most unfamiliar (for most armies) way of informing Gazans before they strike a target near civilians by dropping leaflets ahead of time. At the same time, IDF operations are carried out in a well-thought-through manner. Meanwhile, our towns and village citizens have been attacked outside their doors in many major cities across the Land.

Living here, I have seen and know that the Israelis want peace and to live in peace with their Arab neighbors. Still, as long as the escalation continues, we need to truly pray for our Arab friends to find the Lord. There are millions of new believers in Jesus in Iran, and they tell us they love Israel and Israelis since their new birth spiritually. Join with us for a restoration of peace and quiet, and may God give Israel victory over terrorism that threatens the welfare of the People of Israel. Now is the time to show them we are their Christian friends!

**– Sharon Sanders–**

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Dearest Friends

**Defining Moments**

**Someone wrote to me**the other day and said they had been told by a church member, “What the Jews are suffering they deserve.” I could hardly believe it. A follower of Jesus said this! The Master was a full Jew in-the-flesh, and people claim to love Jesus but hate the Jews? How can this be conceivable? It is hardly credible. I read recently that we live in “defining moments.” Christianity is being tested as to its stand with the Jewish people. Our stand with Israel is being determined. From God’s view, the die is cast for Israel and is unchangeable. His promises are irreversible and final**(Romans 11:28; Deuteronomy 7:7-8, 10:15, 33:3).**

In this day of itching ear messages, it is paramount to be sure we are listening to sound words and doctrine**(2 Timothy 1:13, 2:7-8; Revelation 22:16, 5:5).** Where there is little sound doctrine, immaturity and unreliability are common**(2 Timothy 4:3-5, 3:1; 1 Timothy 1:10).**I try to give diligent effort in monitoring the state of the church today in different parts of the world. Dr. George Barna described the state of the church as “watered-down, feel-good, fake Christianity.” This breaks my heart, but I am not surprised because timely messages grounded in scripture are not coming forth. Shane Idleman, the pastor of Westside Christian Fellowship in Southern California, wrote, “The American church today has an Achilles’ heel—a lack of prayer and powerful preaching.” It is upsetting to hear such reports by pastors and leaders who feel this way. Still, some are awakening and discerning what is now happening. If ever we needed to experience solid teaching from God’s Word which incorporates and builds into Christian education, Bible prophecy, the Second Coming of Christ, the Coming Kingdom to earth, the Jewishness of the Lord Jesus, and the Jewishness of Christianity - it is today. These significant topics all include the nation of the Jewish people.

It is not what religion has taught through the centuries or movements which developed who were often anti-Semitic, **but what God’s Word says about a matter.** Leaders who do not understand nor comprehend Bible prophecy cannot understand what God is doing in Israel. As one Polish pastor told us recently, “Christianity requires a healing of our theology.” Without Israel, we are like a plant without a root.

Derek Prince and Lance Lambert, special fathers of the faith to CFI, had a lot to say about supporting Israel and praying for her welfare. Neither of them was afraid, to tell the truth—that Replacement Theology is a lie. The end-time church must be found standing shoulder-to-shoulder with Israel. It is true that in the coming years, our faith truly will be *defined*. **We will either be found standing with or turning the head away from Israel—as with Orpha and Ruth.**

**Praying for Israel’s Welfare**

It was God who appointed the Jewish people**(Isaiah 45:11; 44:1,7).** It was God who chose Jerusalem, not man**(Jeremiah 3:17).** It was God who chose the Land of Israel as “His Land” **(Joel 3:2).** It was God who gave the Land of Israel to the Jewish people**(Ezekiel 36:28).** It was God who made Jesus a Jew in-the-flesh, “like unto His Brethren"**(Hebrews 2:17).** God sent the Jewish Apostles to the nations to give the truth about Him and the Kingdom in which He will rule**(Mark 16:15-16).** It was a Jewish Bible God gave to us**(2 Timothy 4:13).** It will be a Jewish Kingdom coming to this earth **(Romans 3:2).** Will we believe the promises of God for Israel from God’s Word? We must remember, the die is cast for Israel, and we must be found on the side of the Lord standing with Him and His People.  Thank you to all of our wonderful family in the nations. This is your ministry and God’s vision, and we are honored to represent you in these defining moments.

**– Sharon Sanders–**

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***“Every jot and tittle shall in no wise pass from the***

***law, till all be fulfilled”* (Mathew 5:18).**

**Taking the WORDS OF JESUS Seriously**

**Bible Prophecy, the Second Coming, and the Kingdom on earth fall into a prerequisite**

**preparatory knowledge needed for the end times; especially, for all Christians.**

**Every pulpit should be strengthening the Master’s sheep and laying the groundwork**

**for the future. It has been said, “Israel is God’s Key to world redemption.”**

**Why is there so much silence?**

**It was an ordinary morning** when my Husband and I were listening to Pastor Carter Conlon from Times Square Church in New York. While preaching, he spoke the words, **“we need to take the words of Jesus seriously.”** I quickly ran to write down his stimulating words. My conscience was convicted that all of Yeshua’s words are of equal importance—not just ones we are familiar with or choose to memorize. I hope that all of us, as Christians, read the whole Bible because I am confident that Yeshua was saying to His Disciples, “believe me—everything My Father has spoken in the Torah will come to pass—everything, nothing will be left out.” Since the King declared it, I would think our pulpits would be teaching the Biblical prophetic promises from the Jewish Scriptures in order to be prepared for the future so we can absorb His Wisdom. Both testaments solidify and cross-reference one another and communicate their significance to our faith. Jesus strongly implies that for the Torah’s prophetic nature not to be fulfilled—would be unimaginable.

**Hungry Sheep**

In the natural, animal experts tell us that sheep are almost always hungry. They bleat in anticipation of being fed and will rapidly approach a feeding area. A lack of appetite is probably the most common symptom exhibited by a sick sheep. While I realize we are not sheep, we are likened unto “sheep” as Yeshua taught His parable stories to His Disciples. Doesn’t it seem strange that our fellowships and congregations are not taught about this wonderful Coming Kingdom to earth foretold by Jesus when He walked the earth? It amazes me why more sheep are not fed ‘whole’ milk instead of ‘1%’ of God’s Word these days!

In the United States, the decline in church membership coincides with an increase in Americans who do not identify with a particular religion. A crisis of faith is being reported. Young adults often participate less in religious activities than older generations. The most recent Gallup poll survey finds that fewer than half of Americans have formal membership in a local church. (www.WND.com/2021, WND News Center). Around the world, we either see famine or revival and frankly, revival is usually happening in the underground church somewhere or in impoverished nations. Suppose Christians are pressing into what the Spirit of God is saying about the Coming Kingdom. In that case, they will be excited to know all of the promises of God and how to hang on for a rough ride. His Kingdom will break through in His Timing (Revelation 21:2, 10). I like to think of a genuine United Nations coming—formed under Almighty God, no democracy—but a theocracy under His Rule. Kingdoms are going to crumble, and governments fall, but God, in the end, will be “all in all”(1 Corinthians 15:28).The appearing of the Messiah, King Jesus, is coming closer each day. We are moving towards an authentic “One Nation Under God.” **What a glorious event will come to Jerusalem. We need to let it sink in that it will not be the establishment of a Christian nation but a new humanity (Ephesians 2:15) born of God.** Don’t let Dr. David Stern’s proclamation startle you. He says, “There is no ‘Christian’ Messiah!” (Complete Jewish Bible). He is correct. The Messiah must be a Jewish Messiah and fulfill the Jewish scriptures. Jesus meets all the requirements. Since we appear to be in high gear racing towards the intensity of the end times, we definitely need the meat of the Word from the Torah of God, the Voice of His Words, what is called the Old Testament. The Torah and the Newer Testament are a perfect combination to compare with each other. I’ve spent my life cross-referencing my Bibles and learned that both testaments go hand-in-hand.

Most Christian pulpits remain silent about the coming 1000-year reign on earth. Why are we not hearing more about it? Why are we not taught to yearn more about this Coming? **God forbid that Christians betray God’s Chosen People in the end times; if we betray Israel, we are betraying the Lord Jesus** (Matthew 25). The Lord is busy restoring “all things” (Acts 3:21); part of that “all things” is that Christians return to their spiritual foundations—built upon the Prophets and Apostles (all Jews) (Ephesians 2:20). Each man followed God’s Torah. The truth was suppressed during the Dark Ages and Reformation; however, I find Christians from different nations today very hungry to hear the whole counsel of God expounded upon and made clearer. If anyone is looking for a gentile Jesus, they will never find Him. He is a Jew in the flesh, and in John 4:22, he makes it clear about with whom He identifies when He says, “We Jews...”. Prepare for the future now. As a deluge of Bible prophecy headlines inundates the media in Israel these days, I will continue to speak in support of Israel and the necessity for all Christians to buckle down and climb on board as we fly into the end times. Let’s make sure we are flying on the right airline—with God!

**Mark My Word!**

Basically, in modern-day English, Jesus would have been saying about the Torah something like: mark my word. Jeremiah reminds us**, “Who has marked His Word and heard it?” (Jeremiah 23:18).** In an article written by Dr. David Bivin (Jerusalemperspective.com), he makes a point on the finality of Yeshua’s statement in Matthew 5:18. He says “...Jot” and “Tittle” are not everyday words in English. In a statement about the continuing validity of the Torah, Jesus uses a difficult-to-understand idiom. The Greek reads: ἕως ἂν παρέλθῃ ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ, ἰῶτα ἓν ἢ μία κεραία οὐ μὴ παρέλθῃ ἀπὸ τοῦ νόμου (“…until pass away the heaven and the earth, iota one or one point by no means will pass away from the law…”). English translations have not helped readers understand the idiom. When something is jotted down, Jesus tells us not even a little bit, or the tiniest fraction—not even a suggestion or suspicious question should be raised about the Torah’s predictions.” All of it will be completed and fulfilled as it was God-given.

Bible prophecy always lends an air of seriousness to what the Bible is saying regarding the significance of the Lord’s Coming. God’s Everlasting Voice (the “Bat Kol” of God) behind the Torah has been misunderstood and all but forgotten by many Christians. While not attempting to bring anyone “under” the Law, I believe that we need to see the importance of obeying God’s commands through the eyes of Yeshua as He taught them. For those of us who are believers in Jesus (Yeshua), we must let it sink in that He taught Torah when He walked the earth—just not according to man’s doctrines. The New Testament was founded upon the Torah. In the future Kingdom coming to earth, it is the same message (every “jot and tittle”) which Yeshua spoke about that will **“go forth from Zion.” (Isaiah 2:3)**. I believe the earth is groaning for a return to its Creator—crying out for the breaking through of God’s Kingdom where He will rule. That is why we have so much spiritual warfare in Israel today. The Torah prophesies about the Coming Kingdom. It will be a time when the Government will be upon His Shoulders (Isaiah 9:6), not run as a Democracy but a Theocracy. The rule of law will be interpreted by the Messiah of God (Psalm 2:7-9). The Voice behind the words (not rabbinical nor pastoral interpretations) will be delivered the way the Almighty wants it delivered to the world. Light will be shed on every “jot and tittle.” It is also imperative that we realize there will be no dominating “religion” in the Coming Kingdom. Religion itself will have to bow the knee to the name above all names (Isaiah 45:23; Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:10-11). As we presently watch the kingdoms of this world fall into the shadows, His Kingdom will arise.

We Christians often quote and proclaim the Scriptures over loved ones who are ill or infirm. This proclamation is scriptural and expresses our faith in the Word of God to heal. In the past year, around 304,805 Jews composed a letter and copied a new Torah scroll from God’s Word, hoping that this unity of believing God and what He has decreed in Heaven might produce healing for the world from the plague of Covid. It brought unity to those walking in faith. The Jewishness of the Master and the Jewishness of Christianity should bring us a deeper understanding of the Scriptures and closer unity. It should be a tool in the Hands of God to bring us into holy unity where ONE GOD, ONE MESSIAH, and ONE NEW HUMANITY are transformed through God’s Love, and the blood of the Lamb shed from the foundation of the world. In God’s Coming Kingdom, there will not be one speck of anti-Semitism found. “There will be One Flock, (John 10:16); One Tree, not two, (Romans 11:15-18, 23-26); One Commonwealth of Israel (Ephesians 2:11-13); One Body, (Ephesians 2:14-17); One United Stick (Ezekiel 37:16-19; Ezekiel 37:21-23); One Bride, (Revelation 19:6-9; 21:9-12); and One House or Temple of God, (Ephesians 2:19-21)” (Jan Willem van der Hoeven). There will be no more divisions, for God is a God of unity and not division. Messiah will be our teacher. We will inherit the blessings of Israel through joining the Israel of God, the Commonwealth, during the Coming Kingdom (Ephesians 2:11-21; 3:5-6), where we are fellow heirs with a redeemed Land and People. All of man’s traditions, dogmas, creeds, and commentaries do not exist, and only God rules in this Kingdom. Thousands of denominations that evolved over the centuries in Christendom will have to bow and become one in Messiah Jesus. Doesn’t the future excite you? It does me. The same within the Jewish world; people will need to come together. The wall between Judaism and Christianity will be torn down again, and every “jot and tittle” of the Scriptures will be explained with authority.

**The Wall will be Torn Down**

I remember a bestselling Christian book from years ago. The author told his readers that Bible prophecy was not important and to basically forget it and get on with more significant issues. Just recently, Jan Markell, a long time friend who heads up *Understanding the Times* ministry in the USA, wrote on her site (harbingersdaily.com); “In the 1970s, only a few prophecy-related events were happening...now I am watching the signs “converge”...they are stunning and breathtaking. But most pastors will not talk about them...their pulpits are silent...50% of Protestant pastors believe in a coming Millennium...but their pulpits are silent...only a small percentage of churches teach this crucial part of God’s message to our generation. Pastor Tom Hughes, who leads the 412 Church in San Jacinto, California, says, “more than a quarter of the Bible is prophecy, much of it yet to be fulfilled. How can we give congregations a well-rounded understanding of scripture if we leave out such a vital part of it?”

In the Coming Kingdom, we will see the King in His beauty (Isaiah 33:17); He will be the Judge, Lawgiver, and King (Isaiah 33:22). Waters will burst forth in the wilderness; the streams in the desert will flow (Isaiah 35:6). All the Kingdoms on the earth will know that the God of Israel is Lord, Him alone. (Isaiah 37:20). **The Word of God, which stands forever, will be taught by Messiah (Isaiah 40:8), and to Him, every knee will bow (Isaiah 45:23). All will see eye-to-eye (Isaiah 52:8), and His Love will abound. Don’t we want to learn more about this wonderful redemptive plan now? If so, we need to be taking what Jesus said seriously.**

**-Sharon Sanders-**

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Encouraging those who struggle within the Land **STREAMS OF BLESSING**

**Encouraging *the* Broken in Spirit**

 ***“Doers of the Word”* (James 1:22, 25)**

**improving someone’s life makes a difference**

**Many issues across the Land today** bring daily problematic matters to those who want to obey the Word of God (Torah) and establish Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria (the Biblical Heartland) according to God’s wishes and command. ***“Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings”*(Isaiah 58:12).**Many of our Jewish friends are beautiful families who have moved home to Israel to “build” as the Lord said they would 2000 years ago. It is a spiritual battle, not only a physical battle, to holdonto what the Lord has given to them. We endeavor to be an encouragement, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with them and assisting them in whatever ways they need.

Moshe and Ester are religious Jews. When we visited their home, Moshe was suffering and struggling with health problems and post-trauma resulting from four wars that he fought when he served in the Israeli army. The toll was significant on him. They were comforted by our visit (Isaiah 40:1). Yehuda and Natalie literally walked through the valley of the shadow of the death of the coronavirus, but God spared his life. He is still in serious condition and needs our prayers. Since being sick, he has not been able to work and raise their five children. The family is in a dire financial situation. The help we brought deeply touched them – God was praised. The people who apply to us are often helping others who are disadvantaged, discouraged, and often impoverished. Streams of Blessing often take up the slack to improve someone’s life. Your faithful giving to help us represent the Lord as a good witness we should have always been for centuries—does make a difference. Today an Orthodox friend who helps bring Jews home to the Land wrote and asked us if we would pray for over 500 new immigrants they want to bring to the Land. Another Orthodox man asked to come and share with us how God protected him when he escaped Iran. **When we give, people’s hearts are changed. When we love unconditionally, people are healed from their wrong perception of true believers.**

**When we Love - Hearts Change**

**Thank you for the way in which you support Streams of Blessing. We will go on touching many Jewish lives, both individual, one-by-one, and communities who need our help. Let us continue to do it “together.”**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project Streams of Blessing*

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**CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL—JERUSALEM**

**Will you Help us Give the Love of God That should always have been given?**

**As a Legally Registered Pioneer Christian Ministry...**

We were here when terror broke out during the first Intifada

We were here when the first Ethiopian airlifts made it home

We maintain the only Christian Bridal Salon in Jerusalem

We have supported and stood by congregations across the Land

We have established relationships with IDF

leaders on bases across Israel

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**Watch for News in our next edition of FZS about our**

**new vision for the CFI Outreach Center:**

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**Ad**

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*Bringing Comfort to Survivors* **FORSAKE THEM NOT**

**Working with the Almighty to Heal**

TODAY *we say* Never Again

**“I will remember the works of the Lord; surely I will remember Your wonders of old. I will also meditate on all Your work, and talk of Your deeds” Psalm 77:11-12.**

***“Comfort and keep comforting, my people, says your God”* (Isaiah 40:1).**

**Olga bringing Comfort and Assurance**

**To remember is a decision,**an actual action that takes time and often effort. We tend to have short memories, as often it is a painful decision to remember the wonders of old. However, by remembering, the events and people long gone are preserved. It is because someone in the past remembered to remember that we have history today. Our precious Holocaust Survivors – they all are the history writers as they share their experiences during the Holocaust, telling their stories to future generations. We also can choose to be a part of that history as we continue to remember, meditate, and talk about it. Every year CFI participates in Holocaust Remembrance Day at Yad Vashem Memorial Center in Jerusalem. As we hear many personal testimonies and historical facts, once again, we are reminded to remember and to speak out for those who will never again be able to speak for themselves. Raisa was 97 when she passed away. She was a lovely lady but always found it very difficult to share her memories. I want to honor Raisa’s memory by sharing a small part of her story:

Raisa was born in Luchnitsi in Ukraine. When the war started, she was 18 years old, but her younger sister was only six months old. Raisa remembered the horrible cold and constant hunger during their time in the ghetto. Their house had an extensive underground cellar, and during the times of the pogroms, the whole family and some of the neighbors would hide there. Raisa’s sister was still very small and would often cry. Some wanted to kill her sister, thinking her crying would give them away, but Raisa’s mother never agreed. Raisa’s grandfather had taught her to sew, to earn some food by mending people’s clothing. Once, during her time in the ghetto and with her uncles, Raisa was taken to Tulchin, a long way from Luchnitsi. They were forced to work there in bog peat. The work was really tough, and her uncles decided to run away. Even though Raisa begged them to take her with them, they left one night without her. A few days later, she learned that all those who had run away had been caught by the Germans and killed. After being in Tulchin for eight months, Raisa was finally liberated and came back to her family. We do remember and appreciate Raisa’s life. Today we are saying for Raisa,**“Never Again!”**

**Thank you so very much for your love and support, shown through action.**Thank you for helping us remember, speak out, preserve their memories, and write history. Let us not forget to remember. As we run this race against time to reach out to as many Holocaust Survivors as possible, we highly appreciate your prayers and your stand with us. We do remember those who died. We do remember those who are living.

**Olga Kopilova**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project ForsakeThem Not*

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**FIRST FRUITS** *Encouraging the Household of Faith*

**Our Hearts Reaching Out To the Brethren**

**“He who encourages, in the act of encouragement; he who gives, with generosity; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy [in caring for others], with cheerfulness” Romans 12:8.**

**This portion of our First Fruits year**included the observant times of Purim and Passover. Both of these holiday periods have special and perhaps ultimate significance to the Jewish nation in that during both events, the Jewish people group and nation were preserved miraculously. The preservation of the Israelite nation not only meant the people could survive and move forward, it meant that the root system of the faith of those that CFI Project First Fruits serves was also secured.

I met the**Nassers,** a Christian Arab family, who reside in the wife’s parents’ home in the Old City. They are quite young with two small children, one being a newborn. They hardly seem old enough to have the responsibility of parenting. Still, within this rich Arab Christian culture, they are attempting to thrive in the face of sporadic school openings, closures, and other inconveniences associated with the pandemic. I also met recently to encourage a young worship leader originally from Ukraine. **Dmitry resides in Haifa** and is employed as an industrial engineer, is new to the Land, and active in his congregation. Having been connected with the *Aliyah* that took place during the period following the Soviet empire breakup, he is very excitedabout his life in Israel. His dream is to re-establish a travel/tour service from eastern bloc nations once COVID restrictions have lifted. CFI’s support has been timely for them and possible because of your support for First Fruits.

I was also able to make a courtesy visit to**Yuval Arts,** a school of music and media being stewarded in Yad Hashmona. This young couple, the Davises, were able to share their vision for pushing students toward excellence in vocal and instrumental music, and with the use of social media and graphic arts, alongside a strong curriculum of Biblical and Hebraic relevance to both tracks of learning. They bravely assumed the mantle of a previous ministry leader during this challenging period, and CFI will partner with them on future projects to fortify their assignment in the land. ***“Chenaniah, leader of the Levites, was in charge of the singing; he gave instruction in singing because he was skilled”*(1 Chronicles 15:22 AMP).**

**The First Fruits project continues to appreciate your steady, consistent support in prayer and contributions for those who share your faith in Jesus and His eternal Word!**

**Mr. Kim Brunson**

*Outreach Supervisor*

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*God’s Servants Serving with Zeal* **HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Thanks to God for CFI Staff!**

**From our Personnel Coordinator:**

**“Before telling my story,**I want to thank the hundreds of people who prayed for me; my family, friends, those prayer chains, CFI Wall of Prayer and Reps, and my CFI family here in Jerusalem. When I was too weak, they were the ones that called the ambulance. They made the extra effort to make sure I had a prayer chain, created a WhatsApp group to keep up on my progress, and sent encouraging messages.

When I got home, my colleagues made me soup, and the chef sent me lunch meals. My flatmate washed my bedding and contaminated clothes, disinfected my bedroom and restroom, put clothing together for my stay in the hospital, made a few meals, and bought me ‘welcome home’ flowers. She and others bought needed groceries. I have not written everything down, but there is more. They have surrounded me with prayers and encouragement. May the Lord bless you all.” (If you would like Norene’s whole story, please feel free to email her at:**norene@cfijerusalem.org).**

**CFI Ministry Posting**

Outreach Project Supervisors

Media Manager

Multi-Media positions: Social Media, Production, Graphics

Administrative Assistant

Trade Skills-Maintenance

Bilingual Translators: English/Russian, Amharic, or Hebrew

Accounting

**For details, Email:** **personnel@cfijerusalem.org**

**Pray for our Staff**

Please Pray for our Volunteers to lift each other up, to express love, patience, and endurance, and for the Lord to watch over loved ones in their home countries.

Pray about joining our staff and volunteering with CFI Jerusalem.

**Did You Know?**

The Israel Postal service has a unique Letters to God department. All the letters arriving in Jerusalem from around the world addressed to God are opened and placed into the cracks of the Western Wall. –Facts About Israel–

***“Don’t owe anyone anything except to love one another; for whoever loves his fellow human***

***being has fulfilled the Torah”* (Romans 13:8).**

**Norene Fritz**

**CFI Personnel Coordinator**

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**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE** *Helping Jewish Ethiopians*

**Will you Help Us to carry and**

**Develop in Our Vision**

**The needs of the Ethiopian Jewish** communities in Israel are enormous, and, frankly, what needs to be done is mind-boggling. When there are so many needs across a nation that is still being rebuilt and people coming home from the nations, there are circumstances in which people fall through the cracks, and sometimes people are desperate for help.

**How can we make a difference?**

One of the major concerns we have in Hope for the Future is that the Ethiopian Jewish people who longed for centuries to return to the Promised Land were told a big silver bird would one day fly them there. We do not want them to be let down and not helped at this time of their return. A primarily rural society has been relocated to a modern fast, high-tech democracy in the Middle East. What do they need? How can we, as Christians, really help them and make a difference?

Our goal this year is to organize and provide a Community Resource Center for Ethiopian Jewry, which will be housed in our current Distribution Center location. We have a large room which can offer introductory short courses in computer and sewing skills. Both classes would be mentored and given an excellent opportunity to learn free-of-charge business skills, high tech, and financial principles. We want to assist through parallel creative input to help mobilize an entire community wherever they are living. By seeking the welfare of this important group of Jewish people God has brought to the Land of Israel, we are repairing the damage done to this precious people through anti-Semitic attitudes which the church through the centuries perpetrated upon Jews worldwide. We are pouring healing oil on wounds and helping to alleviate the fear of being around Christians. We must be genuine Christian friends of Israel and love unconditionally as our Master taught us to love. **Please will you help us?**

**Marcia Brunson**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project Hope for the Future*

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*Supporting Brave Soldiers in Israel* **DAVID’S SHIELD**

**Guardians of The Walls**

**Beginning May 10th,** thousands of rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip toward Israel. In response, the IDF struck military targets belonging to Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Gaza. These events highlight and remind us that Operation ***Guardian of the Walls*** is not the first time the Jewish people have been asked to **guard** God’s property.

The most recent activities of the IDF were occurring during the Biblical festival of Shavuot (or Pentecost). Shavuot marks the culmination of the redemption of God’s chosen people from Egypt through the revelation given at Sinai. The giving of the Torah to the Jewish people - likened to a marriage contract (a ketubah) - was also given for them to **guard**, protect, imitate, and deliver to the Nations as a foundation of moral conduct.

The Book of Ruth is read in synagogues during Shavuot and is one of the great success stories of the Jewish people as Light bearers to the Nations. Leaving behind the gods of her ancestors, Ruth determined …***“for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die; and there I will be buried…”* (Ruth 1:16-17).**

**Taking a Stand for God**

We stand with the Nation of Israel and the Jewish people, not strictly in the political or national sense, but rather because of God’s plans for His people and mankind. King David (the great-grandson of Ruth) was a man after God’s heart **and** a physical guardian of God’s Land and People. The IDF is a modern-day King David’s army. As **guardians**, the IDF applies defense and deterrent operational strategies with a strict moral code of ethics. The instructions for ethical conduct given in the Torah are the Jewish people's foundational principles.

In contrast, the enemies of Israel indiscriminately attempt to inflict death and destruction. One such unit reported additional concentration on stopping terror attacks from Judea and Samaria and Arab towns within Israel. They also are asked to cover the rough terrain on the second line of the Gaza border. Project David’s Shield also currently supports reserve units such as those who are called into active service during wartime operations.

CFI Project David’s Shield supports numerous IDF units with encouragement and comfort items to be as Ruth…to state that we are on your side because it is God’s side.

***Thank you for your prayers and support for Project David’s Shield. Through times of peace and war, Christian Friends of Israel have determined to be true friends. “… a friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for such a time as this, to help in a time of adversity” (Proverbs 17:17).***

**Jim McKenzie**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project David’s Shield*

*shield@cfijerusalem.org*

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**WALL OF PRAYER** *Praying for Israel*

**Living** **Stones**

**“...you are no longer strangers and aliens...As God’s household, you are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus**

**himself as the cornerstone.” (Ephesians 2:19-20)**

**“Now you are coming to him [Christ] as to a living stone...You yourselves**

**are being built like living stones...” (1 Peter 2:4-5)**

**Stones are abundant** in the Holy Land and are often mentioned in Scripture. Sand, rocks, gravel, and stone are among Israel’s natural resources; in fact, the highlands are mainly underlain by sedimentary limestone and dolomite. “Jerusalem stone” has been used since ancient times in many structures, including the Western Wall, and is still quarried for building purposes. Today, municipal law requires that all Jerusalem buildings be faced with local Jerusalem stone.

In Biblical times, a city’s stone walls were an essential means of security to guard the inhabitants from enemies or predators. The scriptures compare believers to a stone structure. The Word of God given through the prophets and apostles is the foundational bedrock on which our faith is built, and Yeshua (Jesus) is the cornerstone of which Isaiah prophesied. (Isaiah 28:16) In construction, all other stones are set in reference to the cornerstone, thus determining the position of the entire structure. Believers are also referred to as living stones who are being built upon Him.

Like a strong wall, people from various nations are unifying in prayer around Israel. The mortar of faith causes us to adhere to one another. Some pray with their lips moving, hands raised, or voices calling out, yet others with heads bowed, rocking, kneeling, crying, or even groaning. Although our faces may look different, our goal is the same: to provide a spiritual barrier that hinders the enemy's schemes. We are the moving, breathing, living stones assembled for the glory of God!

When Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a colt amid the cheering crowds praising God, the Pharisees complained, asking Him to quiet the people. Jesus answered them from Isaiah’s words, “I tell you that if they keep quiet, the stones will shout!” (Luke 19:40 CJB) We are those living stones that must continually resound with worship and intercession to God on behalf of Israel and the nations!

**Thank you for joining us in this endeavor of prayer and support for Israel. Your gifts help make this possible. For more information, please contact us at: prayer@cfijerusalem. Shalom!**

**Linda D. McMurray**

*Wall of Prayer Coordinator*

*prayer@cfijerusalem.org*

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*Responding with Relief Funds to Rocket Targeted Areas* **COMMUNITIES UNDER ATTACK**

**Israel Under Severe Rocket Attack**

**Terrifying moments cause lifelong Trauma**

**“Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, ‘Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution He will come to save you.’” (Isaiah 35:3-4)**

**One illegal Palestinian** residential issue in Jerusalem eventually spilled over into full-scale riots on the Temple Mount near the al-Aqsa Mosque. It culminated with the firing of rockets from the Gaza Strip into Israel since 10 May (Jerusalem Day this year) – with seven of them aimed at Israel’s capital Jerusalem in the past weeks.

A record in 10 days

During an escalation with Islamic Jihad in November 2019, 570 rockets were launched at Israel from the Gaza Strip. During the war with Hezbollah in the summer of 2006, 4,500 rockets were launched from southern Lebanon towards Israel in 19 days. But from 10 – 21, May 4,360 + rockets were fired from Gaza at Israel in 10 days, sending 70% of Israeli citizens to bomb shelters. This beat the pace of fire in the escalation of 2019 and the 2006 war against Hezbollah in Lebanon. Terror militants in Gaza were openly thanking Iran for providing them with these advanced missiles. While the Iron Dome defense system successfully shot down most rockets on course for highly populated cities, several still hit civilian areas. Home Front Command officials decided to shut down schools between 7 and 40 kilometers of Gaza.

Thank you in advance for your help

As of 21 May, 13 people in Israel, including small children in Sderot, were killed, and more than 300 were injured by rocket fire. Houses, cars, buses, and properties were also damaged. If not for the Iron Dome antirocket systems, the casualties and damages would be much more. One leader of Kibbutz Nahal Oz (about 800 meters from the Gaza border) told me that part of the Israeli civilians living in communities bordering Gaza were evacuated from their regions for safety. He contacted me asking for help from Project “Communities Under Attack” (CUA) for their citizens. He said some of their Kibbutz members’ homes were hit by rockets, and for those who remain, they have been traumatized by the severe rocket fire from Gaza. The Israeli Air Force carried out airstrikes targeting terror targets across the Hamas-controlled strip in response.

Some Israeli citizens I also spoke with were having difficulties coping with this ongoing barrage of rocket attacks. The need for relief aid is very great.

**Thank you in advance for enabling Project CUA to do that (Isaiah 35:3-4). For financial support toward the relief aid for Israeli citizens and communities affected by this barrage of rocket attacks from Gaza, please send designated gifts to Project Communities Under Attack. Thank you.**

**Maggie Huang**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project Communities Under Attack*

*CUA@cfijerusalem.org*

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**Another Jesus?**

**A Closer Look at a Possible Mistake in Identity**

**“For if someone comes along and preaches another Jesus than the one we preached, or should you receive a different spirit from the one you received or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you are all too willing to listen” (2 Corinthians 11:4).**

**I have been intrigued for years, ever since moving to Israel some 36 years ago, at the lack of our Christian knowledge about what is the real Jesus like? I have written on the Jewishness of Jesus in previous For Zion Sake magazines. However, I wonder if we should not take a further look still into this subject and its relevant importance to Christianity. Since we are in a time of the “restoration of all things” (Acts 3:21), I am interested to know of those among us who live in the expectation of His Second Coming, if we are honestly expecting the Lord to be who He was when He left or did He become another person through the centuries? Did He change His Identity, maybe?**

I believe we need to be correct on this matter to truly understand His Words and His Teachings which all came from the Torah given to Israel by God. Some of the questions Christians have are heartbreaking such as, “My Jesus? A Jew? Never!” This is the thinking of some of us. Was it not written forever on His Cross “King of the Jews?” He could not have been a gentile and be King of the Jews. It’s clearly stated in three different languages that no mistake in identity about the Messiah is ever questioned. Dr. David Stern says, “There is no such thing as a Christian Messiah.” (Jewish Complete Bible, David Stern). He is right. And yet, statements made to us over the years tended to be like this: *“I have been a Christian all my life, and I never knew Jesus was a Jew!”* This shocking revelation came to a dear Christian sister who loved Jesus with all of her heart. Her heart was broken that she had never realized this or seen this or was taught this before! I have heard not only disciples of Jesus say this but seasoned pastors also. “Why was I never taught this before?” And so, let’s begin by taking a deeper look into this matter at this time. There is a time to be silent and a time to speak. Now, I believe is the time for you and I to speak about the Soon Coming King and who He truly is **(Ecclesiastes 3:7)**. The best way to begin is to examine the Scriptures for truth and let the Bible challenge us. What does it really say? If we are ever going to learn about our foundations, perhaps it is time that we get a grasp of Jesus in His Jewish world and place Him back in the setting of His original time on earth. Why would Christendom and its gentile fathers of the faith from the later centuries want to camouflage or shroud the face of the One we love? It did nothing but cause separation and a longstanding discord with His People: Israel. It is not time that we allow Him to be who He truly is?

**The Removing of Jesus from His Jewish World**

“To wrench Jesus out of His Jewish world destroys Jesus and destroys Christianity.” (Bible Review, June 1999, Anthony J. Saldarini) Some of us will say, “Why does it make a difference at all? Why can’t He just be whatever I want Him to be? There are thousands and perhaps millions of ethnic Christians all over the world who were taught that He was Chinese or African or Arayan? Some think He spoke English! When a teacher utilizes the theological teaching method of eisegesis (the reading into the Scriptures), they can make any Scripture read the way they want it. They can make someone into someone he is not and twist the Scriptures to fit their theological training. This is not good. ***“For*** ***if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the Spirit you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough”* (2 Corinthians 11:4).** You put up with it easy enough? ***“As I urged you on my departure to Macedonia, you should stay on at Ephesus to instruct certain men not to teach false doctrines...”* (1 Timothy 1:3)*.***

A mistaken identity has put some people behind bars when they were assumed to be someone else. If we see Jesus for who He truly is, a Jewish teacher of Torah, we will begin to understand the New Testament so much more and learn the meaning behind the words He spoke from the original interpretation.

Jesus declares with whom He identifies.***“Ye worship ye know not what; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews”* (John 4:22).** “The Greek New Testament’s translation of the term, Christos, became the accepted Christian designation and title of Jesus of Nazareth, indicative of the principal character and function of his ministry. More loosely, the term messiah denotes any redeemer figure; and the adjective messianic is used in a broad sense to refer to beliefs or theories about an eschatological improvement of the state of humanity or the world. (Biblical Archeological Society, Bible History Daily, September 14, 2020). I checked several other translations, and it seems that we are being warned that we put up with this error too easily (Berean Study Bible); it is tolerated very well (New American Standard); you are ready to accept a different message (Contemporary English Version) and one more, you are all too willing to listen (New International Version).

Our Friend and Brother of mankind, who died for all mankind, was a Jew. (Let’s not forget His Manhood)! Ellicott’s Commentary for English Readers states that the people spoke of Him as the head of a Jewish kingdom, requiring circumcision and all the ordinances of the Law as a condition of admission to it. Parallel commentaries teach that Jesus taught the Torah, not the New Testament. He did not write the New Testament (see footnotes\* from the Complete Jewish Bible, David Stern) and the list of Rabbis who contributed to it. “Jesus was born into a Jewish home and lived in the Jewish culture and the Land of Israel. Was Jesus a Jew? Yes, Theological study is further discovering the Jewish Jesus and what his Jewishness means to Christian theology and Jewish-Christian relations. Disassociating Jesus from

his ethnic roots can lead to violence toward Jesus’ own people...” (Biblical Archaeological Society Staff, September 14, 2020). To wrench Jesus out of his Jewish world destroys Jesus and destroys Christianity, the religion that grew out of his teachings. Even Jesus’ most familiar role as Christ is a Jewish role. Suppose Christians leave the concrete realities of Jesus’ life and the history of Israel in favor of a mythic, universal, spiritual Jesus and an otherworldly kingdom of God. In that case, they deny their origins in Israel, their history, and the God who has loved and protected Israel and the church. They cease to interpret the actual Jesus sent by God and remake him in their own image and likeness. The dangers are obvious.

If Christians violently wrench Jesus out of his natural, ethnic and historical place within the people of Israel, they open the way to doing equal violence to Israel, the place and people of Jesus. This is a lesson of history that haunts us all at the end of the 20th century.” (Amy-Jill Levine) Eisegesis allows anyone to create another Jesus and interpret the Bible the way an individual wants it to be read. Unfortunately, some major gentile Church fathers used this method, and we ended up with an anti-Semitic church saturated in Replacement Theology. The devil, indeed, is a deceiver. There are enough areas in today’s world where we cannot afford to be deceived. This is a major one. Satan would try to do all he can to sway people away from the true faith and trust in the Savior.

His Forgotten Identity

Through the centuries, “another Jesus” did emerge. We need to rediscover His forgotten identity as a Jew; it is time to remove the mask. He did not change; however, people changed Him. Ethnicity, race, and culture do shape identities. It defines the group of people from which we belong. We need to shake off the shackles and let Him come home to His People. Perhaps Joseph’s tears tell us something about missing your own people when you are away. I know that I long to be reunited with my own family who lives in America. I long to hold my grandchildren (and now great-grandchildren), and I am praying for a family reunion soon, which would thrill us all. Joseph had to be away for a certain period of time from his real family. One can imagine his passion and whole-hearted desire to be Jewish again with his family. It was a time of revealing His true identity to His own. Ecclesiastes 3 says there is a “time for everything”; perhaps we are teaching this now ***“for such a time as this”* (Esther 4:14)*. -* Sharon Sanders-**

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**CFI**

**YOUR GATEWAY INTO ISRAEL**

***Where can you find us on your next visit to Jerusalem?***

God strategically placed both ourrented **Ministry offices** and our

**Outreach Cente**r for new immigrants, Bridal Salon, Hope for the Future, Learning

Center and our David’s Shield soldiers center right at the entrance to Jerusalem.

The location makes it easy for our visitors, supporters, and Israeli guests to find us.

All of our visitors can arrive at our door by taking the Israel Egged bus, riding

the Jerusalem Lite Rail system, or walking. ***It couldn’t be easier!***

**You are Invited to Meet our Staff**

**Please visit us and learn more about the ministry of CFI in Israel on your next trip. Please make sure we know you are coming, and we will book your day with us.**

**From overseas, call 972-2-623-3778 and ask for Reception. Or Email:** **cfi@cfijerusalem.org**

***“Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem”* (Psalm 122:2)**

**Contact us at:** [**www.cfijerusalem.org**](http://www.cfijerusalem.org)

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*Assisting New Immigrants* **OPEN GATES**

**Aliyah Blessings**

**“And it shall be said, ‘Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people’s way… I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him...” Isaiah 57:14, 18-19.**

**“My name is Anna Soldatova.** I want to thank you greatly for all the help that I get from your distribution center. My daughter wears clothing given by you. She is always happy to get new dresses and a new toy from you. She even sleeps hugging a big teddy bear given by CFI. I am so grateful for everything! Your help is very important, especially during the first years in the Land. Your work is needed. Thank you!”

Anna grew up in Odessa, Ukraine. They did not keep Jewish traditions in their home. Still, every family member knew stories of their grandparents who survived during the horrible time of the Holocaust in the occupied Western Soviet Union. You could not speak about those things aloud. Because of the great fear from the past, many families kept their Jewishness a secret, and in many cases, their documents were destroyed. Thank God Anna’s family had kept and saved all the papers.

**Moved to Israel**

Anna got married in 2019. While planning their future, she and her husband decided to make *Aliyah*. Anna’s sister made the same decision and moved first to Israel with her family. Anna and Konstantin needed to wait one year until they received permission to move to the Land. The State of Israel wanted to be sure that their marriage was valid, then their parents moved to Israel a year later. While still in Odessa, they were given a flyer with names of different organizations helping new immigrants in the Land. CFI was on the list.

As a new immigrant, Anna visited our Distribution Center four times. She was pleasantly surprised at the quality of the items we displayed. Their daughter was then born in Israel. CFI has been an abundant source of children’s clothing for her. The family has had some financial difficulties, and Anna was given ‘a restart,’ an opportunity to visit our Distribution Center after finishing the first three years in the Land. “In Israel, I have seen how people are ready to help you in different situations, even not knowing you personally. It touches my heart. We did not have this in Odessa.”

**Changing Lives**

Our calling as Christians is to be the light of the Messiah to His chosen people. Giving clothes makes a big difference in the lives of many individuals. Hundreds of tons of high-quality garments have arrived to us over the years, and many Israelis are found walking on the streets of Jerusalem with garments you have sent to us. By being a light, we take away some of the stumbling stones hindering God’s people from finding their way and fulfilling their calling. Isn’t it exciting? May the Lord help us be real Friends of Israel at this specific time we live in today.

**Thank you for being with us in this team effort!**

**Tiina Danilevski**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project Open Gates*

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**BRIDAL SALON** *Helping Jewish Brides Plan Weddings*

Bridal Salon

**Wedding Dress Shop**

THE JOY *of meeting* Our BrideS

**After the Covid-19 lockdown,** our Bridal Salon in Jerusalem opened for clients in February 2021. It was a great joy for us to give wedding gowns to two young couples that decided to get married this spring here in Jerusalem. Hanna and Alvaro were happy to share about themselves with us. ***“And the greatest of these is love”* (1 Corinthians 13:13).**

**Hanna comes from Brazil,** making *Aliyah* seven years ago. She studies at the University in Jerusalem. **Alvaro came from Nicaragua** four years ago. He is still in the process of getting his citizenship in Israel. He works in an organization in Jerusalem. They met each other on a local bus. They knew each other as friends for three months and then decided to develop their relationship. They got engaged at the end of 2018. There were some reasons why they had to wait with their wedding plans: money, work, studies but finally, there was an open door for them to become a family. Both Hanna and Alvaro were friends with some of the volunteers in CFI, and of course, were invited to our Bridal Salon. Hanna found a gorgeous dress for herself. We also presented her with a beautiful veil, a necklace, a bolero, and shoes to make her outfit complete for the wedding. She was amazed at how beautiful she looked in her gown. Alvaro came to the Bridal Salon a week later. He was so happy with a new jacket and a vest, a shirt, and a bow tie that we found for him.

Their wedding was a lovely celebration of faithfulness. The best part of the celebration for Hanna was to see her future husband waiting for her in the aisle. She had to hold back her tears so as not to ruin her makeup. Also, for Alvaro, the most significant moment of the wedding was to see his future wife walking towards him in her white dress. She looked stunning. What is this young family doing now? Hanna is completing her studies in technology while Alvaro is working. They want to build a family that honors God, to have children, and, why not, to have their own house in the Land of Israel. They wanted to say some words to you personally:

**“We are very thankful to CFI.** Without your help and support, our dream of getting married would not have been completed. Many thanks from the bottom of our hearts to the directors and the volunteers of the organization. We want to tell you that the work and all you are doing here in the Land is very important. There is a lot of need here in Israel. That is why the work you do is not in vain.”

**– Hanna and Alvaro-**

**Tiina Danilevski**

*Outreach Supervisor*

*Project Bridal Salon*

*bridal@cfijerusalem.org*

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***Online Book Store***

**EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

**These Educational Resources reveal the truth about the relationship between Israel and the Church according to biblical scripture.**

**Our Lost Heritage**

**Dennis McLeod**

The feasts of the Lord have a fuller meaning than something just to read about in the Book of Leviticus. They reveal to us the plan of God for the coming of the Messiah, our understanding of the Scriptures, the ingathering, and His final return and celebration. Read this inspiring book about the Hebraic foundations of our faith. **$6.00 US**

**Cup of Salvation**

**Rabbi Pesach Wolicki**

A powerful journey through King David’s Psalms of Praise is a careful study of the original Hebrew text of Psalms 113-118, also known as the “Hallel,” leading us on a journey of praise and worship for all that God does in our lives. **$12.00 US**

**Beauty of the Hebrew Language**

**Nathalie Blackham**

Nathalie’s interest in Israel started in 1997 when she began to intensively study and investigate the Hebraic Roots of the Church. This led her to teach and explain the significance and wonders of the Hebrew letters by way of television and conferences. **$12.00 US**

**Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus**

**Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg**

It is 30 AD. And you are studying with the greatest Rabbi of all time. What would it be like to journey back to the first century and sit at the feet of Rabbi Jesus as one of his Jewish disciples? **$15.00 US**

**Appointment in Jerusalem**

**Derek & Lydia Prince**

This is the riveting true story of a young schoolteacher and her courageous quest to know God’s will for her life. In Lydia Prince’s search for God and her life’s purpose, she is led to Jerusalem, where she learns the power of prayer and experiences many miracles of provision and protection. **$15.00 US**

**Arise and Ascent**

This book present, in a most fascinating manner, a guide will help the visitor to the Temple Mount gain a glimpse into the hitherto unknown,

otherworldly Jewish Temple and understand that there is not other place in the Holy Land more important and valued than this. **$20.00 US**

**To purchase these Inspiring Books and other Resources, visit www.cfijerusalem.org or return the inserted Order Form.**

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**CFI FAMILY OF NATIONS**

**CFI Brazil**

**Bible Studies on Israel Growing in Portuguese**

**As CFI Brazil,** we believe that the Lord has called us to teach the Brazilian church about its Hebrew heritage and Biblical responsibility to the Jewish people. This is what we started doing by traveling through several churches, promoting seminars, bringing teaching, and sharing with these churches about the work of CFI Jerusalem.

With the pandemic situation and more and more restrictions on the functioning of the churches, our work was also significantly affected, which led us to look to God for ways to reinvent ourselves to fulfill our call as CFI here in Brazil. Exactly one year ago, the Lord led us to start a weekly online Bible study meeting, which began with 12 participants, and since then, we have continued to meet every Friday. We began with a study entitled “*Israel in the Past, in the Present and in the Future,”* but when we finished this study, we felt that we should continue with other topics related to Israel and the Jewish people.

However, something that we did not expect happened; people in our study group started to tell others about our study. More people became interested in participating, which resulted in two new groups on different days. Today we have three weekly online meetings. We teach about our Hebrew heritage and our Biblical responsibility to the Jewish people and a fourth online meeting of intercession to pray for Israel. Currently, the possibility of starting another study group is already emerging, as more people have shown interest in joining us to learn more about Israel.

The Biblical Festivals has been one of the topics covered in our study groups, so we decided to celebrate these festivals even online. So, on Pesach, on the 14th of Nissan, we had our online celebration. All the groups were invited, and together we had a beautiful celebration. We had an explanation about what Pesach means, how it was celebrated since the departure from Egypt to the present day (including by the Early Church), and where and when that feast was disconnected from Israel, becoming the Easter feast is currently celebrated in the church. At the end of our celebration, we had the testimony of some people and even some pastors who were very moved and praising the Lord for the privilege of participating in such a celebration for the first time in their lives. For all this, we praise the Lord because He has opened a way for us to fulfill our call as CFI here in Brazil.

**Contact: Abeni Bastos**

**Email:** **acisraelbrasil@gmail.com**

CFI BRAZIL STANDING WITH ISRAEL

**CFI BRAZIL STANDING WITH ISRAEL**

CFI Brazil has been leading in the vanguard of nations with celebrating the Feasts of the Lord in their country online. Abeni Bastos, CFI Representative in Brazil, hosted a webinar in Portuguese and dedicated to the celebration of Pesach 2021. Everyone was quite excited to participate and let Israel know that they are praying for them as a nation and standing alongside them. Thank you to all of our Brazilian brothers and sisters at CFI Brazil for fulfilling their call to Israel from the nations through CFI Jerusalem. Greetings from our lovely brothers and sisters under Abeni Bastos's leadership.

ANNOUNCEMENT! Christian Friends of Israel Brazil has taken wings to flight in completing the first For Zion Sake magazine in PORTUGUESE! Please pass this information on to your friends who would love to receive the ministry and teaching magazine free of charge online. We welcome all of our Portuguese friends of Israel!

**Contact: Abeni Bastos**

**E-mail:** **acisraelbrasil@gmail.com**

CFI Australia

Spirit of Esther Conferences

**For the last five years,** CFI Australia has sponsored a yearly woman’s conference entitled ‘The Spirit of Esther.’ The Biblical story of Esther and how she came to the kingdom for “such a time as this” and saved her people from destruction is the inspiration behind the conference. The conference is the vision of local pastor Lyn Munns and is organized and run by a local committee of dedicated women from different churches in the community.

The Spirit of Esther conference is a call to all godly women to rise up and fulfill their call and purpose in God for the days in which we live. Through guest ministry, godly women are challenged, inspired, and equipped to bless their churches, communities, and families in following the Lord. The conference also gives a platform for women to express their God-given ministry and gifts. The Spirit of Esther is usually an annual one-time conference. Still, lately, it has become a ministry that travels out to other regional communities to minister to the smaller regions. The Spirit of Esther conference was recently held in a small regional town to bless the local women, as seen in the accompanying photos. CFI Australia is proud to sponsor this event and is given a wonderful opportunity to promote Israel and the work we do through CFI Jerusalem.

**Contact: Patrick Russell**

**Email:** **cfiaustralia@hotmail.com**

**Top left: Community elder Desley Barba sharing her over 60 years of ministry experience, Middle: Bernadette and Patrick Russell and PNG Director Pastor Tony Dalaka, Below: Organizing committee and some conference delegates, Right: Founder of Spirit of Esther Conferences Pastor Lyn Munns**

**Ad Saluting a Special Person**

**“It Matters Not How Long We Live—but How!”**

**Jean Hoole** has been sewing for a lifetime. Jean is 85 years young and was very happy to help make cushion covers when asked. Jean recently lost her husband of 63 years – Bill. Her widowhood is recent, yet Jean has been busy sewing hand-designed and sewn cushion covers for the survivors of the Holocaust in Israel. She lives in a village outside of Preston, Lancashire. Will you thank the LORD for her life with us? God bless you, Jean.

**Each one of us can make a difference. Together we make change —Barbara Mikulski**

**Ad CFI UK: A group of 14 MP’s and peers addressed the annual lobby for Israel organized by Christian Friends of Israel UK and the Zionist Federation on 3 March 2021. This year’s topic was the UK’s extensive record of voting for UN resolutions that condemn Israel.**

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**CFI MEDIA** *Sending Light to the Nations*

**Will you Celebrate with Me?**

**September 6, 2021 – Erev Rosh Ha Shana**

**Time to be Announced**

***Eshet Chayil*** / **The Capable Woman**

**Proverbs 31**

A Birthday Celebration in Jerusalem

It is my distinct honor to invite my sisters from around the world to celebrate my birthday with me this year. Sisters make the best friends in the world. We may not be sisters in name—but we are “sisters” just the same. Will you join me so that I can see your faces from around the world? I would like to speak a blessing to many of you as my birthday gift to you. I would also like to speak for a short time on what the “Eshet Chayil” of Proverbs 31 really means to bring another blessing to you.

**For information, please write to us at: internationalreps@cfijerusalem.org or to the CFI office in your nation.**

**Join Us! For our Shavuot Event from Jerusalem**

**From CFI’s Headquarters to the World**

**June 4, 2022**

**Time to be Coordinated and Announced**

**Register online through your National Representative Office**

**Register Now! For our Shavuot Teaching Event**

**Sharon Sanders to speak about Bible Prophecy and Israel’s**

**Role in the End Times**

**Jerusalem Worship and Prayer for Shavuot Celebration**

**Top Israeli Archeologists will explain the newest Biblical**

**Finds in Israel**

**Reading of the Word for Shavuot**

**A well known Rabbi will explain how Biblical Prophecy**

**is happening nearly every day**

**Don’t miss this exciting time together!**

**the LOVE of RUTH Ruth 1:1-5**

**Ad CFI Family of Nations —is your Country listed in Jerusalem as a Member of our International Office for Israel? For more information contact:** **internationalreps@cfijerusalem.org**

Please make sure you contact the CFI Representative nearest you!