



# Light of Messiah Ministries

...Bringing Jesus to the Jewish People

Volume 18 Issue 7

www.lightofmessiah.org



July 2010

## Current Events and the Gospel to the Jews

Using current events or life situations to talk to people about the Lord is sound advice. This advice is not just personal preference, but there is also biblical precedence. **Throughout Old Testament scriptures sociological and even environmental conditions were used by the prophets to tell their lost community to turn back to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.** Famine, floods, natural disasters, and economic turmoil was used by God to get the people's attention. And, the prophets of God were sent out during times of turmoil to proclaim the Good News.

I am sure that the residents of Nineveh were having a good time in their own eyes, but there were probably a lot of very empty people in that city! And so Jonah was called to bring the Good News. As Israel went through slavery and suffered in the wilderness God came to them. **He met them in their difficult circumstances. He heard them when they cried out.**

In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul spoke to the Athenians using the context of their philosophical environment to bring them hope. **The Gospel itself was proclaimed to the Jewish people during a time of captivity.** Violent and oppressive Roman captivity was the setting for the coming of the Savior of the World who came to the Jewish people first.

**Using current events is not only an effective way to broach spiritual topics, but we need to understand that unbelievers are affected by what is happening in the world around them.** Earthquakes, volcanoes that disrupt travel, tsunamis, oil spills, wars, fighting between countries, nuclear prolif-



eration, and financial crisis all generate fear in the lives of those who do not know and understand a sovereign God who is at work in current events.

**As a ministry we experience this phenomenon in our daily work.** With all that is happening around the world, and especially in Israel, Jewish people are asking questions. **Personal life events bring us into contact with Jewish people as they experience illness, financial difficulties, and marital struggles.** We are there to share our hope with them.

**General life events also make Jewish people think about spiritual issues.** When international financial crisis occurs, people wonder, what is tomorrow going to look like. When earthquakes rumble, volcanoes erupt, and hurricanes rage people wonder why creation is in such turmoil. **Our ultimate mortality and powerlessness is made evident through the overwhelming power of creation.** We drill wells that explode and we are unable to stop the destruction. **We come face to face with the eternal through life and the events that happen around us.**

When Casey returned from Israel she told me that Israelis are especially affected by geopolitical events that open their minds and eyes to the spiritual. Living in a land that is the target of the worlds aggression makes one wonder.

Casey writes:

*During my recent time working with Jews for Jesus in Israel I was given the unique opportunity to share Jesus and His hope with Israelis through a geopolitical event. While I was in Israel, all the eyes of the world became focused upon that country, yet again, because of the situation that developed with the flotilla from Turkey. Tensions were running high. **Israeli's were focused on the situation as an everyday survival mentality. This is their reality, day to day.** Not always Turkey, but someone, somewhere, is always causing concern with murderous intent toward Israel.*

*This presented a unique opportunity to begin dialog about prophecy in scripture, about Israel itself which then allowed a natural progression to prophecy about Israel's Messiah. **Jesus frequently used everyday circumstances and common events to make His point. I found I was able to do the same.***

*What surprised me, was that while most Israeli's today are not very well versed in the Bible, they have a general knowledge about what is said about "end times". I have to say, they were thinking about end times a lot while I was there. **Even those who are perishing without Messiah, can see events happening around them and draw conclusions that something very big and probably very bad is coming. Modern Israelis can see that without divine intervention, their future could be very bad indeed.***

*God's prophecies are true and accurate. I would show them in Zechariah 14:2 that all nations will come against Israel. They could read in Jeremiah 16:14-16 that the Lord spoke of restoring the Jews to the land of Israel from all the nations.*

*I lead them to actually consider the Messianic prophecies about how the Messiah would suffer and die and be raised back to life. I showed them in the scriptures how He was predicted to come before the destruction of the second temple. Then I shared with them how Zechariah also predicted that one day they will look upon the One they have pierced and mourn bitterly. One day, through terrible circumstances, they will indeed recognize Jesus as their Messiah and be grieved! Oh that they would come to Him before then.*

*We were offering an incredible book in Hebrew, that detailed Messianic prophecies that they could open up, side by side with their Tenach (the Hebrew scriptures-Old Testament) and determine for themselves, did Jesus fulfill these prophecies? Ultimately, by the end of the outreach, almost 2000 Israeli's did actually give contact information to receive further ministry, either through that book, through continued meetings, through receiving a free New Testament!*

*I'm not an expert in end times prophecy, but I can see that world events are coming to pass that God has predicted! I can also see that perhaps, some of the fruit of the labor we put forth in Israel will be lasting fruit that will ultimately usher in the greatest time of Jewish evangelism in the history of the world. My hope is that some of the seeds planted will in fact ripen unto harvest and be there, to share the promise of hope to those who are suffering greatly in the future during those "end times". I can know this and believe in perfect faith. Because our God is faithful and true. Because He said so.*

*Please pray for us as we bring Jesus to the Jewish people during these important days.*



## Shalom Baskets

**Our most exciting and effective outreach is quickly approaching and this outreach involves you!** Our Shalom Basket Outreach will take place the week before Rosh Hashanah (September 4th -9th).

A **Shalom Basket** is filled with holiday goodies for your Jewish friend. They are beautiful. You may order them through our ministry. **This year we are also encouraging you to pick up and deliver your basket yourself.** It is a great way to deepen your relationship with your Jewish friends.

Order your Shalom Baskets by calling our office (credit card orders only), **order online at our web site**, or send \$30.00 per basket to our P.O. Box made payable to The Shalom Store. **Orders must be in by August 20th.**

**You can be a blessing to someone who cannot afford a basket by making an extra donation this month in support of our Shalom Basket outreach.** We also bring baskets to our Russian Jewish contacts who do not yet know the Lord. Send one to them!

### How to Contact Us

**Light of Messiah Ministries**

**P.O. Box 501179**

**Atlanta, GA 31150**

**Phone: 770-642-4706**

**Fax: 770-642-0319**

**E-mail: [lightofmessiah@yahoo.com](mailto:lightofmessiah@yahoo.com)**

**[www.lightofmessiah.org](http://www.lightofmessiah.org)**

## 2010/2011 Messianic Calendars

We are again carrying **Messianic Calendars** to help you keep track of the Jewish holidays, pray for the Jewish people, and learn about the Jewish roots of our faith as believers in Jesus. This year we are supporting a Messianic ministry in Israel by using their calendars.

**If you desire to celebrate the Jewish holidays in your home, or want to pray for the Jewish people, this calendar is invaluable.** They make beautiful gifts as well.

Call our office to order one by phone (credit card orders), **order online at [www.lightofmessiah.org](http://www.lightofmessiah.org)**, or send \$14.00 per calendar to our P.O. Box made payable to **The Shalom Store**.

**Remember our ministry and the Jewish people as the Jewish holidays approach. This is an important time of the year as the Jewish community is focused on spiritual issues.**

## Thank You!

We have many wonderful God given opportunities to see Jewish lives being changed by the message of Messiah Jesus.

Thank you for loving the Jewish people. Thank you for praying. Thank you for standing with us to bring Jesus back to the Jewish community.

**Your prayers and financial support make what we do possible.**

In the service of the King,

Murray Tilles...for the staff  
Light of Messiah Ministries