

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John
5:39



A Quarterly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

Volume 24, Number 1

Winter/Spring 2025

God's Love Compels Us to Preach Yeshua to Israel (2Corinthians 5:14)

Dr. August and I completed this ministry 56th Gospel outreach to Israel this past November during the war with Hezbollah and Hamas. Our Gospel ministry began in Tel Aviv. While strolling in the Dizengoff Mall in this bustling city, I immediately felt led to walk into a oriental food shop where August and I met Mykie, working there. She is a young American Jew that made Aliyah to Israel 14 years ago. She told us she's returning to the U.S. to pursue a career on Broadway. We struck up a conversation with her about why we frequently visit Israel—to bring the Good News of Yeshua back to His ethnic people and distribute free Hebrew Bibles to the Israelis. We further shared with Mykie that both Testaments of the Hebrew Bible complete and complement each other because God revealed to all the Jewish Prophets and writers specific things concerning the Messiah. To our amazement Mykie articulately completed many of our sentences when explaining back to us that Christianity came directly from the Jewish people and the Church has sadly divorced itself from its Jewish roots. She enthusiastically listened to us as we went on to share the Gospel of Yeshua and how He proved His eternal love for her by dying for her sins. Mykie accepted our free gift of a Hebrew Bible, telling us she had read a little of the New Testament before, but she can read all of it in Hebrew! Lord, sovereignly guide Mykie by your saving hand and direct her to believe in You through the Holy Scriptures we gave to her.

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August, Mykie, and Todd

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Tom and Todd

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August, Shiri, and Todd

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The Lord also led us to a music store where we have had good Gospel ministry in the past. This time there we met Tom the guitar salesman. Upon hearing our case for Yeshua being the Messiah, Tom politely told us he was an atheist. But, he added, he was open to considering the claims of the Bible and Yeshua. So Tom respectfully listened to our citation of evidence from Messianic

prophecy and of the latter day restoration of the nation of Israel as a clear fulfillment of Bible prophecy for the existence of God. Tom's mind was so open to our witness that he ended up receiving a complete Hebrew Bible and Messianic Gospel literature from August and I. The Holy Spirit obviously opened Tom's heart and mind to our Gospel ministry. I also told him I was a former, militant atheist; but when Yeshua revealed Himself to me in glory and power, I firmly believed in Him and have followed Him the rest of the way.



August, Noa, and Todd



Jalah



Priya and Lucy

“What God did for me, He will do for you, if you are open”, I said to Tom. Beloved, let us pray the promise of Jeremiah 33:3 will come to pass in Tom's life. In the days following, our Gospel ministry took us to the bucolic, northern Galilee. We journeyed to the small town of Rosh Pina. Here, God granted us favor among the Jewish residents there. August Rosado and I had joyous and effective ministry with Shiri. She owns a small cozy shop filled with soaps and medicinal herbs. She amusingly told us several times, as we shared the Word of Yeshua, that we had “good energy.”

Our topic of conversation concerned how Messianic prophecy given in the Tenach (Old Testament) unequivocally was fulfilled by Yeshua of Nazareth in the Brit Hadashah (New Testament). We then showed her some of these prophecies from a Messianic Prophecy pamphlet we would later give to her. Shiri was so intrigued by this revelatory truth that she was

more than willing to accept a Hebrew Study Bible with a thorough appendix listing all the major First Coming prophecies Jesus fulfilled from the Old Testament (Acts 3:22-26).

Later at the same shopping location, we met a Noa—a friendly, young ebullient Jewish lady. She was very touched at our coming to Israel during a dangerous time of war. That fact directed August and I to tell her it was the love for our Jewish Messiah Yeshua,

(continued on page 5)



About the Author

Dr. Todd Baker is president of B'rit Hadashah Ministries and Pastor of Shalom, Shalom Messianic Congregation in Dallas, Texas. He was a chaplain at Medical City Hospital for 16 years. Todd holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biblical studies, a Master of Theology Degree from Dallas Theological Seminary, a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Apologetics from Trinity Seminary under the auspices of Liverpool University at Liverpool, England, is a Fellow of the International Academy of Apologetics, Evangelism & Human Rights in Strasbourg, France. He is a theological consultant and writer for Zola Levitt Ministries and has appeared on Zola Levitt Presents. With his extensive experience in Jewish evangelism, he has led many Gospel outreaches to Israel. †

Special thanks go out to Zola Levitt Ministries / To The Jew First Ministry for their ongoing funding contributions, helping to make these mission trips to Israel possible. Also special thanks to Rabbi Samuel of Sar El Tours for supplying us with Hebrew Bibles.

The Parable of the Wicked Husbandmen

(Matthew 21:33-44) Part 13



“Hear another parable: There was a certain householder who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to husbandmen and went into a far country. Now when the time of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first, and they did to them likewise. But last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘they will reverence my son.’ But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘this is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.’ And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the lord therefore of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those husbandmen? They said to Him, ‘He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and lease his vineyard to other husbandmen who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. And whoever falls on this stone shall be broken. But on whomever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder”

The earthly aspect of the kingdom of God in full power waits for Christ’s return from heaven and has been postponed until the commencement of His 1,000 reign over all nations from Jerusalem. After the millennial reign of Christ on earth, the kingdom of God will extend outward and merge with time, swallowing it up with eternity. Then will the kingdom of God visibly rule over all “when all things shall be subdued to Him...that God may be all in all” (1Corinthians 15:28). During the present age, the kingdom of God exists in the spiritual dimension and is visibly expressed and extended to those who have put a genuine trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The term is never used to include unbelievers, but rather in exclusion of them. The murder of the Messiah resulted in the taking away of the kingdom from unbelieving Israel the degenerate vine, as represented by the Scribes and Pharisees (Jeremiah 2:21). Jesus came to establish the kingdom of God among men through the ratification of the New Covenant. The Jewish nation, by and large, did not accept this Messianic offer from Jesus, and the kingdom was subsequently withdrawn from them and offered to the rest of the nations of the world—which from a called out body of believers, the church is being formed and built. There yet remains the acceptance of Jesus Christ by Israel in the future. But this kingdom, of which the Church entered into from the day of Pentecost until the close of the present age, is now known under the sphere of the kingdom of heaven. Immediately after the kingdom of God was removed from Israel, the kingdom took on a “mystery” form under the designated title “the kingdom of heaven.” The kingdom of heaven started with the birth of the Church at Pentecost and will last until the second coming of Jesus Christ.

The kingdom of heaven is the limited reign of God confined to this earth under the heavens. Literally translated, the term means the kingdom of heavens, or the kingdom of the heavens. The phrase

“kingdom of heaven” is mentioned only in the Gospel of Matthew; it is limited in time span, and now exists residing in and over the Church in “mystery” form—“which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it is now revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body and partakers of His promise in Christ by the Gospel” (Ephesians 3:5-6). The kingdom of heaven takes on a visible, outward aspect in that it is popularly seen through world Christendom. For the kingdom of heaven pictures both saved and unsaved within the borders of the Church, and includes a mixture of both good and evil, saved and unsaved, the wheat and the tares, and the good fish and the bad fish (Matthew 13). From the beginning of time, God desired to establish His kingdom on earth. In the Garden of Eden, the Lord delegated to man dominion over the earth to “subdue it” (Genesis 1:28). But man forfeited this right by the fall, and Satan the usurper sought to rule over man in place of God, and set himself up as “the god of this world” (2Corinthians 4:4). Not content with corrupt leadership over the earth, the devil also sought to rule in the heavens as “the Prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2). But the God of all mercies promised the fallen human race redemption through “the Seed of the woman” (Genesis 3:15).

Now that salvation from sin was to come through a man, a particular group of people would have to be selected for the Redeemer to come through. The means of accomplishing this began with the calling of Abraham from which the Jewish nation was born. Through Israel, God planned to set up His visible kingdom—the theocracy—the initial administration of which was ministered through Moses, Joshua and the elders, and later on the Judges of Israel. God ruled over His people through these human intermediaries. But the nation wanted a human, tangible king like the other heathen nations. In angry response, God gave them Saul,

but he miserably failed, and so the Lord quickly removed him (Hosea 11:1). God then chose David the shepherd to succeed Saul as king. The Lord made a solemn covenant to King David in which a great King would come from his lineage and would rule not only over Israel, but also over the whole world (see 2Samuel 7). But David's lineal successors terribly failed to uphold godly rule and fell into abominable idolatry. The kingdom of Israel became divided and the Jews were taken away in the Assyrian and Babylonian captivities. Consequently, the theocratic kingdom ceased from Israel around 600-550 B.C. until the first coming of Jesus Christ the true King (Ezekiel 21:25-27). After the slow passage of five centuries expired, God finally sent His divine King to Israel to proclaim the kingdom of God. The angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary she was chosen of God to give birth to this King from her womb (Luke 1:31-33). Three decades later the forerunner (John the Baptist) of the King declared His kingdom was at hand (Matthew 3:12).

When the King appeared, He too proclaimed this imminent reality, and went about preaching the kingdom of God in all the cities of Israel, confirming the Word with signs and wonders (Mark 1:15). Tragically, however, the leaders of the nation spurned and rejected God's King and the offer of His kingdom. This in return caused the Lord to reject the unrepentant nation and remove the offer of the promised kingdom from them, leaving the nation "desolate" (Matthew 23:38). Subsequently, the kingdom was removed from Israel with the resurrected King returning to heaven until His future return (Luke 19:11-12; Acts 1:6-7; Romans 9-11). Returning to our parable, we note that this kingdom, as previously defined and considered above, is taken away from the nation of Israel and given to another nation bearing all the right fruits. But what, and who is this nation? Many Bible commentators are divided over the precise identity of this "nation" to whom the kingdom of God is given. Some have assigned the nation as being the Church, while others say it is redeemed and restored Israel in her millennial glory under the reign of Messiah Jesus. Actually, both interpretations are correct, although occurring at different intervals in God's eternal and variegated plan of the ages. Currently, verse 43 is being fulfilled among the redeemed in the Church who have accepted Christ the Son of God as their King and are citizens of God's kingdom. They wait for its full earthly manifestation at the return of Jesus to the earth. In the future, after the expiration of the church age, verse 43 will more prominently come into mature fulfillment when God removes the partial blindness of unbelief from Israel at Messiah's Second Coming (Isaiah 25:7; 2Corinthians 3:13-16). The Jewish nation will then openly receive Jesus as their Messiah and King, whereas before they rejected Him in this role at the First Coming. The fact the Jewish people are returning to their ancient homeland as a recognized nation shows the nearness of the prophetic fulfillment to come in regards to their acceptance of Messiah Jesus.

Due to Israel's spiritual blindness and hardness of heart toward their King, the Gentiles believers in Jesus Christ are currently admitted into the Messianic kingdom that was originally first promised to Israel, and are collectively known as the Church of Jesus Christ. The present rejection of Jesus by Israel is termed in Scripture as a "mystery" (Romans 11:25). Presently, Israel has

rejected Jesus as their Messiah. And because of this, God has now embraced the believing Gentiles collectively into His Church, which were not originally chosen to be His spiritual nation, from every tribe, kindred, tongue and nation. This God ordained plan is designed to provoke the Jews to jealousy at this "foolish nation" (Romans 10:19-21). The Gentile inclusion with the Gospel was not expressly revealed in the Old Testament, the blindness of unbelief happened as the response of God's judgment on Israel for their unbelief toward the Lord Jesus Christ. This momentary rejection of Israel has given the excellent occasion for God to draw out from the Gentile nations—a body of believers who have believed the Gospel and accepted Jesus as Lord, King, and Savior (Romans 11:11-12, 30-32). The true church of Jesus Christ is the ongoing fruitful result of the kingdom of God in this present age. In her pure, regenerate state, the real Church is esteemed "an holy nation" before God (1Peter 2:9). The Church has neither replaced nor uprooted Israel from their calling to the kingdom, but are rather joint heirs with them in the promises of God. The Church as this holy nation has been engrafted as wild branches into the olive tree of Israel under the New Covenant of Jesus Christ and the covenant promises of Abraham as his spiritual seed. Hence, every true born-again Christian becomes a spiritual heir of the kingdom of God by faith in Jesus Christ. Unbelieving Israel are cut off as the natural branches from their privileged position of being the sole nation to represent and benefit from the kingdom of God. But this "cutting off" is not absolute, irrevocable or permanent. For the Holy Scriptures assure us that "some," not "all" of the national branches (Israel) were broken off because of unbelief in Messiah (Romans 11:16-17).

Israel, then too, in the day Jesus returns to reign a thousand years from Jerusalem, will be that nation to receive the kingdom of God with heart wrenching sorrow and tearful repentance for the sins of their ancestors who shamefully rejected and murdered their Messiah (Zechariah 12:9-10). In that day Israel shall be born again as one obedient nation under the universal reign of King Jesus (Isaiah 2:2-3; Jeremiah 23:5-6), and the King of Israel will establish the theocratic kingdom in their very midst. He will remove the sin of unbelief by the blood of the New Covenant which He ratified on the cross of Calvary long ago. In the spirit of the "sure Word of prophecy" Zephaniah wrote with certainty of this future day, foretelling the glorious restoration to occur between Israel and their Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. "Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away His judgments against you. He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst. You will fear disaster no more" (Zephaniah 3:14-15). This will happen when Jesus Christ establishes His millennial kingdom from Jerusalem. The dual fulfillment of verse 43 is now initially being accomplished in the true born-again Church and will in the future see its greatest, outshining fulfillment in the restored and redeemed Jewish nation.

What is the Old Covenant?

The Old Covenant was a formal conditional covenant God made with the nation of Israel alone on Mount Sinai. The mediator of this Covenant was primarily Moses. (See Exodus 19). The Old Covenant has also been variously called the Mosaic Covenant, the Sinaitic Covenant, or the Covenant of the Law. The outstanding feature of this covenant is the giving of the Law or Torah by God through Moses to the people of Israel. The Law has 613 commandments and comprises the Torah, or also called the Pentateuch which are the first five books of the Bible written by Moses—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Some theologians have classified the Law of Moses into three categories: (1) the ceremonial, (2) the civil, and (3) the moral. Under the Old Covenant the nation of Israel were required to keep all the commandments of the Law—obedience to it brought God's blessing, but disobedience to it brought down the curses of God. This is made quite clear in Deuteronomy 28 and Leviticus 26.



In the Old Covenant God made a temporary provision so that Israel could atone for their sin and continue in their relationship and fellowship with a holy God. To facilitate this, the Old Covenant provided a High Priest and the Levitical priests from the line of Aaron who was the first High Priest of Israel ordained by God to act as an intercessor between the Lord and Israel (Exodus 28:1-43; 29:1-9; Leviticus 8:1-36; 9:1-24). In this role God required them to offer up animal sacrifices to pay and atone for sins Israel had committed against the Lord. Indeed, the shedding of innocent animal blood was demanded in the Old Covenant for the remission of sins (Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22). The Old Covenant was ratified by the shedding of sacrificial blood (see Exodus 23). The Old Covenant further stipulated that every year on the Day of Atonement the High Priest had to take the blood of a goat into the Holy of holies and sprinkle it upon the Ark of the Covenant to atone for the national

sins of Israel for that year, which in turn had to be renewed every year on the same day (see Leviticus 16). The Old Covenant was largely a set of external rules and regulations governing the moral, civil and religious aspects in the life of Israel. The moral authority of the Law is universal and still in force under the New Covenant; for nine of the Ten Commandments are repeated in the New Testament for the believer to obey.

In order to be completely blessed under the conditional terms of the Old Covenant a person had to perfectly obey the Mosaic Law at all times. But imperfect sinners cannot possibly do that and so the curse of God falls on all those that disobey the Law, as it is written in Deuteronomy 27:26: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." (see also Galatians 3:10-12). Scripture teaches that the ultimate purpose of the Old Covenant was not to bring final salvation, but to show and prove we are violators of the divine law and unequivocally stand guilty and condemned before God (See Romans 1-3) and that we need a Redeemer to save from the damnable penalty of the Law we have all broken. The Law of the Old Covenant makes it quite clear there is no one perfectly righteous before God (Psalm 14:1-3; Ecclesiastes 7:20) and that no person can save himself by trying to keep the Law (Acts 13:38; Galatians 2:16). The Old Covenant was temporary and has been fulfilled, removed, and replaced by Jesus Christ and the New Covenant He ratified and introduced by His once for all atoning sacrifice on the Cross for the salvation of sinners. This is the predominate theme of the New Testament book of Hebrews. Christ has fulfilled on our behalf all the moral and sacrificial demands made by the Old Covenant—for the Old Covenant was a type and shadow paving the way for the permanency and superiority of the New Covenant of Jesus Christ for the eternal salvation of sinners (Read Hebrews 9:13-15).



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Daniel E. Woodhead Ph.D., President

God's Love Compels Us to Preach Yeshua to Israel (2Corinthians 5:14)

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and His love in us for the Chosen People, to come to the Land and bring the comfort of the Gospel to the Jewish people (Isaiah 40:1; 2Corinthians 5:14).

We then gave Noa a detailed teaching on the biblical and historical proofs for the Messiahship of Jesus and the salvation He purchased for Israel. To better grasp this all important truth, Noa was visibly impressed and gratified to receive a Hebrew Study Bible and Messianic Gospel tracts. We showed her how to use both for a Bible study to see that Yeshua alone is the Hope and Redemption of Israel (Luke 24:21). The Lord then led us to travel to Gamla National Park where we met Jalah. He was a gentle and friendly Druze Muslim from Majdal Shams. He was a Park Ranger at Gamla. We expressed to him our sincere sorrow for the Druze children recently killed by a Drone attack carried out by Hezbollah terrorists. This caused us to then point to the risen Messiah Jesus whose atoning death and resurrection provides the only answer and remedy for death and evil in the end. After sharing the Good News of Jesus with him, Jalah was blown away when we gave him a free Hebrew Study Bible and Arabic Gospel tract. Right then and there, he literally took hold of the Scriptures to his heart in full embrace (as the photo of him below shows). August and I encouraged Jalah to start his biblical study of the Savior, come to save Him, from the Gospel of John, and work from there. May the light of the glory of the Gospel shine on Jalah's life for salvation to the glory of God.

After we left the beautiful Galilee for Jerusalem, "the city of the great King" (Matthew 5:35) The Lord opened more witnessing opportunities along the way. It was the Sabbath, and anytime on that day we go and minister to the employees of the National Parks in Israel because most of them are open on the Sabbath. This day was no different, praise God. August and I visited Belvoir National Park where he and I spoke with co-workers Priya, a secularist and Lucy, a Russian Jew. Our Witness to them emphasized that the covenants with Israel revealed in the Scriptures of both Testaments assure and promise the protection and preservation of Israel forever (Psalm 121:4-8; Jeremiah 31:31-37). Yeshua came as the prophesied Messiah to offer eternal life to the House of Israel. To read the Hebrew Bible is to know the God of Israel sent the Messiah, Yeshua

His Son to bring eternal life to those who believe in Him for this, starting in Israel with the Jews first (John 4:22; Romans 1:16). Both ladies graciously accepted complete Hebrew Bibles with Messianic Gospel tracts to confirm what we proclaimed to them was true and indeed the word of God for salvation.

Beloved in Messiah, I will be heading back to Israel in less than a month from March 25th to April 6th to carry out this ministry's 57th Gospel outreach to Israel in obedience to Roman 1:16. As many of you know, I took a step of faith and went back into full time ministry this past May. If you could please support this outreach and help us continue going full time, as well, it will be deeply appreciated. Doing this enables us to commit uninterrupted, full time devotion and commitment to soundly teach God's Word, and take the Gospel to Israel and the nations several times a year. We need your financial help. Please consider becoming a regular financial supporter of this worthy ministry. As you give, God will bless you in return according to the promise of Genesis 12:3. Please help us reach both Jews and Arabs in Israel with the saving message of the Gospel during this critical crises of war going on there. You can donate by clicking on our secure link here: <https://www.brit-hadashah.org/donate/>

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Thank you so much for letting the Lord use you to allow us to continue this crucial ministry of sound Bible teaching and Jewish evangelism in Israel.

Your servant in Messiah Jesus,



Dr. Todd Baker



B'rit Hadashah Ministries

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Having been to the Holy Land over 50 times, I can assure you that Israelis deeply hunger and thirst for the Word of God and appreciate the believers in America who support ministries devoted to bringing the Word of God to the Jews. We need your support to help us continue to take the Gospel to the land from whence it came.

In light of the Last Days' realities, we appeal to you. We ask for and appreciate any support you can give us during this

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SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A Quarterly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

John
5:39



Winter/Spring 2025 Issue

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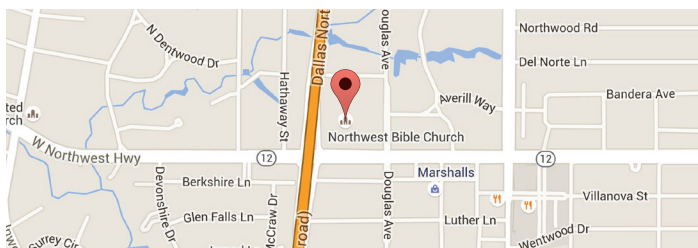
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Friday Evenings at 6:00pm
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Christian Life Center, Room 301
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Dallas, Texas 75231



If you would like to have Todd as a guest speaker at your church or function, visit our website: www.brit-hadashah.org or contact him at: toddbus@yahoo.com or call **(214) 356-2583**.

For more information, please visit www.brit-hadashah.org and click Contact, or call **(214) 356-2583**.

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