

# SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John  
5:39

A Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries



Volume 5, Number 6

June 2007

As always, special thanks go out to Zola Levitt Ministries / To The Jew First Ministry for their ongoing funding contributions to B'rit Hadashah Ministries, helping to make these mission trips to Israel possible.

The following series of articles is a detailed account of our thirteenth Gospel outreach to Israel that occurred from March to April 2007. I am happy to report that the Lord gave our outreach team, consisting of Robert Cuccia, Teresa Brown, Sue Legrand, and myself, ample opportunities to boldly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus the Messiah to His own people.



Todd Baker

This trip and these series of articles are devoted to the memory and ministry of Zola Levitt, whose passing into glory has now approached a year. But his vision of Jewish evangelism lives on in this very ministry to Israel. In these series of articles, the reader will hear from all four outreach team members.

During our second day in Jerusalem, our Gospel outreach team went to the Quotel (the Hebrew term for the Western Wall) to pray and place our written prayer requests in the Wall—a custom practiced by both Christians and Jews. While I was praying at the Wall, two Orthodox Jews, Eyal and Avraham, approached me. They were asking for alms for a philanthropic organization that helps children in need. During this time, I was able to share with both of them



the compelling evidence from the Scripture for Yeshua being the Messiah. I was able to give both of them a list of Messianic prophecies about the Messiah in the Tenach and how these were exclusively fulfilled and historically recorded in the B'rit Hadashah by His Jewish *Talmidim* (Hebrew word for disciples) who followed Him throughout his three-year ministry in Israel.

The two men listened with interest as I gave a Gospel witness to them. Eyal then asked me if this was the case, why do so many of the followers (Christians) of Jesus despise and kill Jews. This is an important question and concern Jewish people legitimately have with Christians especially since many claiming the name of "Christ" killed and persecuted Jews throughout the centuries (e.g., the Inquisition and Crusades).



Todd with Eyal and Avraham at the Western Wall

I respectfully and gently answered Eyal by pointing out that Yeshua and His Jewish followers who wrote the



B'rit Hadashah from cover to cover (the New Testament) taught that the **true** follower of Yeshua walks with Hashem's (God) love toward Jew and Gentile alike. Therefore, **true** believers in the Lord Jesus will unequivocally love His people because He came from the land and people of Israel. Jesus is a Jew and the Bible-believing Christian will simply love the Jewish people for giving him the Savior of the world. Furthermore, any person claiming to believe Jesus will walk in love. But if he claims to be a believer in Jesus yet harbors hatred or murder toward his fellow man, he is neither of God nor a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. Scripture is clear on that: **"If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also"** (1 John 4:20-21). Therefore, so-called "Christians" who harassed, hated and persecuted the Jewish people were obviously not saved or genuine followers of the Messiah for the simple fact they hated God's people. There is no such thing as Jew-hating Christians based on the love principle of 1 John 4:20-21.

This simple truth serves as a litmus test for deciphering the true Christian from the false Christian. Thus, if a person truly believes in Jesus the Messiah, he or she will invariably love the Jewish people with the Messiah's divine love. If one does not, then that person is simply not a real Christian, and that is all there is to that! Both Orthodox men graciously received my testimony for Jesus and accepted Bible study materials about this in Hebrew.

Our next encounter came as we were walking through the esplanade in front of the Western Wall. Sue, Teresa, and I were given another opportunity to share the Gospel with police officers. Sue Legrand's job as a police officer back in the states was of great



Continued on page 2

# B'rit Hadashah Ministries

## † PARTNER WITH US ☆

*This is a humble but effective ministry whose goal is to bring the gospel of Yeshua to Israel and to raise awareness in America about God's preeminent call to take the Gospel to the Jews - Romans 1:16.*

*Because of the support of our faithful partners, there is a young Jewish woman attending a university in Jerusalem who now has a B'rit Hadashah (New Testament in Hebrew), and IDF soldiers in Haifa who can read that the Messiah Yeshua has come to bring hope and peace to their souls. Your donations have changed the life of an Arab shop keeper in*

*Tiberias who has accepted Yeshua as his Messiah and Savior.*

*Please consider (if you have not already done so) becoming a monthly partner. As you can read for yourself in the newsletter articles, these worthwhile donations are directly impacting individual lives in Israel. Isn't that what Yeshua's earthly ministry was about?*

*We thank you deeply for your support, whether you are able to give monthly or a onetime donation. It all goes a long way in helping us achieve God's purpose and plan for this outreach ministry.*

Make checks and money orders payable to:

**B'rit Hadashah Ministries**  
PO Box 796127  
Dallas, TX 75379-6127

We also accept:



You can also make your donation online at:

[www.Brit-Hadashah.org](http://www.Brit-Hadashah.org)

*\* Donations are tax deductible in the U.S. as you give to this 501(c)(3) Non-profit ministry. \**

### thank you for your support

## Welcome San Angelo Readers!

*We would like to thank Pastor Jim and Pat Stanley and the brothers and sisters at Angelo Bible Church in San Angelo for hosting us at their two-day prophecy conference in April. It is a blessing to see the spiritually mature recognize the importance of Israel in prophecy and to the Church. Thank you for opening your church and your hearts to us, for your support and for sharing in the vision of Jewish evangelism in Israel.*



To have Todd speak to your church, organization, or Sunday School class, please contact Teresa Brown at (940) 367-7939 or email [BHMengagements@gmail.com](mailto:BHMengagements@gmail.com).



## Invite Todd to Speak to Your Group



### Reaching Israel... Continued from page 1

interest to these young officers. It opened the door for us to share with them that the God of Israel is bringing back the Chosen People to their ancient homeland in preparation for the events foretold by the Hebrew Prophets to occur at the end of days. A These events, which include a corporate hatred and consolidated effort to destroy the Jewish state by the Gentile nations of the world, will culminate in the return of the Messiah to defend Israel and destroy their enemies (Psalm 2; 83; Zechariah 12-14). We gave them materials from the Scripture showing evidence that this Messiah did come a first time and will be the same One to come again in the near future to accomplish these things. Maranatha! †

*Teresa and Sue with two Israeli police officers; Sue being a police officer back in the states opened the door for this witnessing opportunity.*





# Sue's 2007 Travel Journal

## Destination: Israel!

### Part I



by Sue LeGrand

**T**o my delight, I was invited on my second short term mission trip this spring with "To the Jew First" mission team members Teresa Brown, Robert Cuccia and Dr. Todd Baker. Once again, what a privilege to have my heart's desire to return to the Chosen People of Israel and share the good news with God's beloved family and people who first shared His Word with us.

I am still overwhelmed by the message we have to share and being part of this outreach. The people we met there are on my heart and in my prayers.

As we were still in the air nearing our destination of Tel Aviv there were Torah devoted men in their prayer shawls reciting their morning prayers to Adonai. It was good and I was blessed. I felt I was in His will. We landed and arrived in Tel Aviv in time for dinner.

### **DESTINATION: TIBERIUS/GALILEE**

We drove the beautiful scenic route by the Valley of Megiddo near Mt. Tabor and the city of Alfua, which has a mixed population of Arab and Jew. There was an olive grove at the bottom of Mt. Tabor. The springtime is the best time to visit Israel in my estimation. Although, I would go at anytime at all! The groves of olives, almonds, oranges, bananas and such are abundant and the flowers are beginning their magnificent blooms.

Mt. Tabor is sited as one of the possible locations of the transfiguration

of Yeshua, Elijah and Moses. And the Valley of Megiddo is where the last battle will be fought and where so many have been fought in the past. We passed an IDF training camp and a truck with armed soldiers. Todd pointed out a terrorist prison to us on this drive. Also, there was a rock quarry. The IAA - Israeli Antiquity Authority, responsible for all archaeological excavations, and findings in Israel, slows the worker's schedule.

Tiberius is on the Sea of Galilee, Lake Kenneret, which is harp shaped and about 5 miles by 8 miles in size. So many of Yeshua's miracles took place here.

We visited The Galilee Experience here that has a Messianic shop and where Todd picked up more complete Bibles in Hebrew.

The morning before we began our witness in Tiberius, Todd drove us to a secluded spot to pray and he read to us of the Great Commission in Matthew 28 near the very spot where Yeshua issued this awesome instruction:

Matthew 28:16-20 "Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;

and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

In the marketplace, we observed three young women and a male student who were busy videotaping an assignment for their class. Teresa explained to them that we were here because we love the Jewish people and because Messiah is Jewish. They taped as Teresa shared with them. The Holy Spirit's presence was very evident and the video of Teresa sharing with these teens may be seen in their classroom. As we were departing, another young man was watching with interest and accepted a tract from me.

Later, as we were resting and waiting for Todd and Robert in a parking lot, I noticed a very unusual tree and took a picture of it. As a young man walked by I asked if he happened to know what kind of tree it was. He didn't, but stayed and talked to us. His name was Boaz and he worked with young people and would be in the army soon. We were able to give him a B'rit Hadashah, New Testament in Hebrew, and pray with him. He also gave us his email address and I later emailed a



Teresa and Sue pray with Boaz

picture to him that Teresa took. He also accepted a Messianic pamphlet and tract. Boaz has contacted me twice by email since we have returned. Hopefully, we will meet with him again next year.

### **DESTINATION: MT. HERMON**

Mt. Hermon is also a possible site of the transfiguration. Matthew 17:1-8 "Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them.

*Continued on page 5*

# Matthew 13 and the Prophetic Parables About the Present Age



The Parable of  
Hidden Treasure  
Part 9  
(Matthew 13:44)

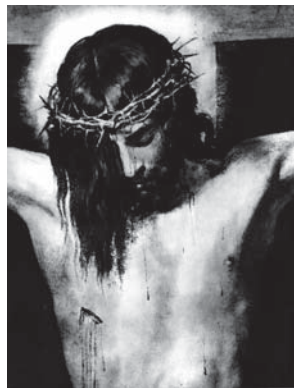
**T**he field where the treasure is hid is the world of humanity (Matthew 13:38). The strange and puzzling problem here is why would Christ the purchaser have to buy the field if His heavenly Father is the lone owner of it? In order to answer this correctly, it is necessary to make a distinction between a purchased and redeemed object. If the reader will turn back to Genesis chapters one, two, and three, he will notice that God created the world and originally placed the "first man," Adam, over His creation to take dominion and subdue it (Genesis 1:26-28). Failing to resist the



temptation of Satan, Adam and Eve surrendered their dominion over the earth into the hands of him. The devil became "the prince of the power of the air" (Ephesians 2:2) ruling over the world-system ever since the tragic fall of man in the Garden of Eden. Therefore, Christ the second Adam (1 Corinthians 15:47) came down from heaven to save the posterity of Adam and restore back to them what they lost.

When Christ gave His soul as an offering to God on the cross, He took back what Satan unlawfully stole from Adam in the beginning. The price He paid was His own shed blood. He did not face the cross reluctantly, or with paralyzing hesitation, but like the man in this parable joyfully gave all He had for the redemption of creation, **"who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God"** (Hebrews 12:2).

Redemption is reserved for those who are the "elect" people of God based on His predestined will, **"just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will"** (Ephesians 1:4-5). God has elected beforehand those who will believe in Christ and be redeemed and adopted into the family of God. Efficacious redemption is therefore selective according to God's predetermined plan that pertains to a certified number of redeemed people composing the "elect" body of Jesus Christ. Being purchased or ransomed is more inclusive and much wider in scope than efficacious redemption.



The extent of the purchase made by Christ is the whole world. Even the unsaved are bought according to 2 Peter 2:1. The Bible declares Christ is the propitiation for the believer's sins, and also for the whole world as well. **"And He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for our sins only, but also for the sins of the whole world"** (1 John 2:2). The Lord Jesus has purchased His "peculiar treasure"

**"Again the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hid in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."**

- Matthew 13:44



along with the world. But His treasure remains hidden among the nations of the world during the present age. The terrible price He paid for both was all He possessed. **"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that through His poverty you might become rich. Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. And being found in the fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name"** (2 Corinthians 8:9 and Philippians 2:6-9).

Christ has bought the field of the

*Continued on page 6*



His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only".

Before leaving for Mt. Hermon we had devotions at the beautiful garden at the Mt. of Beatitudes. Then, we each separated for a few minutes of private prayer. The waters from Mt. Hermon run to the Jordan River and then to the Dead Sea. When Messiah returns the Dead Sea will be a very living sea.

At 9,200 feet above sea level, Mount Hermon is the highest mountain in Israel, Syria and Lebanon. There was still snow on Mt. Hermon and many people were at the ski lodge and skiing. It was the last day to ski there. We drove along the winding roads of the Golan Heights to the slopes of Mt. Hermon where Todd was able to share with two IDF soldiers and give them a Bible.

I had a cup of hot cocoa at the lodge and eventually started a conversation with a young woman named Shai. Shai is 22 years old and had served in the army for three years. We talked about 35 minutes. She is getting ready to take a trip to China, Tibet and India. I told Shai about my belief in Yeshua as the Jewish Messiah and she was very open to discussion and friendly. She accepted a B'rit Hadashah and a prophecy pamphlet to share with her boyfriend.



Shai and Sue

As we drove away Todd pointed out the Nimrod Castle to us. We also saw cattle. In Biblical times this area was called Bashan and is mentioned in Amos 4:1-2 "Hear this word, you cows of Bashan..."

Before leaving Tiberius, I left three tracts in the Hotel Synagogue. While having a cup of coffee in the lobby one of the Hotel managers, Avi, spoke with me and accepted a tract in Arabic and said he would read it. Another man at the hotel gift shop accepted a LOVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE booklet from me. He had been to the east coast of the U.S. He said he would read the booklet.

The Lord then directed me to the Hotel spa to talk to Mali who is the receptionist there. She stated that she would

like to travel to America to visit friends and relatives, but is unable to acquire a visa after 9/11. She said that to get a visa requires that she remain at one job for ten years and she has worked four years at the spa and also two years in the IDF. She was very appreciative to receive a B'rit Hadashah from me as well as a prophecy pamphlet in Hebrew and English published by Zola Levitt Ministries.

### **DESTINATION: JERUSALEM**

In Jerusalem, we met up with Zola's Spring tour and had Shabbat dinner with Sandra Levitt, Jeff Seif, and the group.

On our visit to Gethsemane, Todd read from Luke 22:39 "Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him." Again, we each separated for independent prayer time.

At the Eastern Gate of the Wall, we viewed the Kidron Valley. You can read many verses in the Tanak and the B'rit Hadashah that mention the Kidron Valley. (2 Samuel 15:23-30, 1 Kings 15:13, 2 Kings 11:16, 2 Kings 23:6, John 11 and John 12, Luke 19:28-44, John 18:1-11). And, we visited the awesome and beautiful garden of the tomb where Yeshua was buried and resurrected.

That evening, Robert and I visited Ben Yahuda Street. We met a young soldier and shared our concern for Israel and love for the Jewish scripture including the B'rit Hadashah. He was in plain clothes with a machine gun on his shoulder. He was off duty. Many young soldiers are seen in plain clothes, still carrying their weapons, when they are off duty. This young man knew both English and Hebrew very well as his parents had moved to Israel from the States. He caught a bus leaving before we could offer him a copy of the B'rit Hadashah. He and Robert enjoyed talking to each other.

We were each able to leave tracts and complete Hebrew Bibles at the Cardo shops in Jerusalem.

Back at our hotel, I visited one of the many gifts shops and met a woman named Martin who had moved to Israel from France. She was not religious but believed and hoped in God. She knew of Yeshua and was pleased to accept a B'rit Hadashah.

The Western Wall, also called the Kotel, was our first stop the next day. There, we met two police officers (see *Todd's article in this issue*). They accepted some Messianic literature from us and offered to get us a special tour through Hezekiah's Tunnel. We were grateful, but not able to accept their offer because we were scheduled to go to the Temple Mount.

Our mission team visited the Temple Mount together before splitting up and returning to the Cardo. I bought a print-on-silk picture of the Jaffa Gate from a shop owner named Nathan. Nathan was originally from New York but had been in Israel for many years. He was not interested in discussing or receiving materials about Messiah, but there were still other promising witnessing opportunities to come. Read about them in next month's issue!✠

# SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

**B'rit Hadashah Ministries**

P.O. Box 796127

Dallas, Texas 75379-6127

e-mail: toddbus@yahoo.com

John  
5:39

June 2007 issue



Visit our website:  
[www.Brit-Hadashah.org](http://www.Brit-Hadashah.org)

PRSRRT NONPROFIT  
US POSTAGE PAID  
DENTON TX  
PERMIT NO. 11

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### Search the Scriptures

This publication is a monthly newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries. For more information about our ministry, or to be added to our subscription list, you may contact Elisa at: [elisar@cebridge.net](mailto:elisar@cebridge.net).

## In This Issue

<i>Reaching Israel for the Redeemer (Isaiah 62:11) .....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Sue's 2007 Travel Journal .....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Matthew 13 - Hidden Treasure .....</i>	<i>4</i>




Join Dr. Todd Baker in an enriching evening of teaching the Bible and the Jewish roots of Christianity. The Shalom, Shalom Congregation meets each Friday evening at 7:00 at Fellowship Bible Church now located at 9330 N. Central Expy, Room 101, Dallas, Texas.

For more information, please visit [www.searchthescripturesonline.org/fellowshiptours.html](http://www.searchthescripturesonline.org/fellowshiptours.html) or call (214) 356-2583.

שלום

## UPCOMING MESSAGES

Topics for June's lessons are:  
Messiah in the Tabernacle series  
Illuminations From Isaiah series

### Matthew 13... Continued from page 4

world. But those who are chosen by Him according to the election of grace are redeemed. All those who are of the world have been bought through the atonement of Christ also. Unless they personally appropriate this redemptive payment into their lives by faith, they still remain unsaved, lost, and bound for hell. Even though Jesus Christ purchased the field of the world on the cross, He has not taken actual possession of it as yet. This will not occur until the number of the redemption of the purchased possession is completed which Christ purchased "with His own blood" (see Ephesians 1:14; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:18-19).

The fifth mystery parable describes Israel's abeyance during the present age. Christ gave all He had to redeem the nation, but they refused Him, by and large, and He scattered Israel throughout the world. He will fully regather and reclaim Israel when He returns to reign for a thousand years from Jerusalem (See Isaiah 49:5; Zechariah 12:7-10; Romans 11:25-29). But Israel must remain hid as being the ruling nation of the Messianic kingdom among the other nations of the world in the present age. Christ will not take possession of them until the fullness of the Gentiles is complete when the Rapture of the Church occurs. In the closing days of the Tribulation period He will return and claim His hid treasure. Then at that time all the House of Israel will be unearthed from the graveyard of the nations to return to their own land rejoicing in the recognition of their Messiah and Redeemer who will reign on the throne of David forever (Luke 1:32-33). Never again will the children of Israel weep or mourn but will take great joy in the Messiah's light that will shine upon them (see Isaiah 52:8-9; 60:1; 65:18-19; Jer. 16:15-16; Ezekiel 37:1-14). ☆