

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

John
5:39



Volume 6, Number 6

Nov/Dec 2008

"You Search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;"

John 5:39

One Road, One way - John 14:6

(Part 4 of Israel Mission Trip Stories from 2008)

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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.

Search the Scriptures

This publication is a bi-monthly newsletter, free of charge, from B'rit Hadashah Ministries. For more information about our ministry, or to be added to, or removed from, our subscription list, you may contact Elisa by E-mail at:

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Front cover: a beautiful Hannukah menorah in Israel
(courtesy of www.wildolive.co.uk)

Dear Readers,

Once again, we head into the holiday season! But this year, just as important, we're heading into a major election of a new leader for the United States. Please pray for this nation, that we remember to pray about our choices, and that we vote what the Bible teaches.

In this issue, we announce Todd's brand new book, as seen below! This is a short book compared to his others, but it covers a very important topic which has been used as an excuse to hate Jews since the death of Jesus. You'll also read about God's provision during our mission team's outreach in Israel. And Todd is bringing together the prophetic parables of Matthew 13. Stuart Arden tells us about the Israeli tradition of Friday bouquets for Shabat, and then gives a lesson on Muhammad and the Islamic opinion of treaties.

Let's spend some time in prayers of thanksgiving, celebrate knowing the Light of the World, and rejoice in the remembrance of the birth of our Savior in the months to come. Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hannukah, and Merry Christmas!

Your newsletter editor,
Elisa

P.S. Our next Mission Trip to Israel is scheduled for
March 15-April 2, 2009!

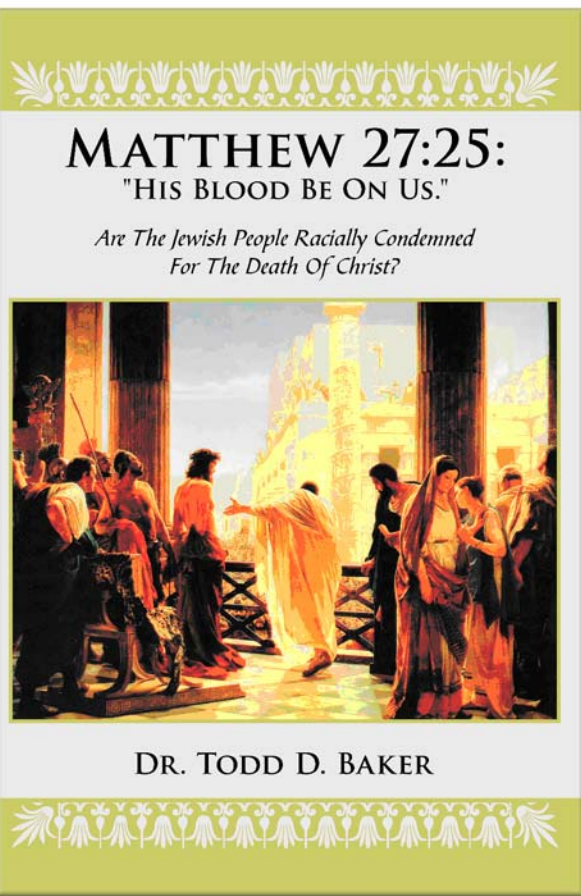
MATTHEW 27:25: 'HIS BLOOD BE ON US'

ARE THE JEWISH PEOPLE RACIALLY CONDEMNED FOR THE DEATH OF CHRIST?

This book is an exegetical study of Matthew 27:25 conducted within the context of the Gospel of Matthew and the broader contexts of the Old and New Testaments. The purpose for this study is to dispel and disprove the traditional anti-Semitic meaning of Matthew 27:25 that has tragically led to the unwarranted condemnation of the Jewish people for the death of Jesus Christ. Hence, the particular focus of this book will directly address and answer the perennial, theological question that asks, "Does Matthew 27:25 mean and teach the Jews are altogether condemned by God for the crucifixion of Christ?" While it is true the Jewish nation, by and large, tragically rejected Jesus at His first coming, this in no way gives Christians theological license for the wholesale hatred, persecution, and destruction of the Jews, or for holding an anti-Semitic bias against them. Nowhere in the New Testament Scriptures is it taught that the Jewish race—past, present, and future are condemned and morally indicted as "Christ killers" for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. This study is necessary to expose and correct the flawed interpretation of Matthew 27:25 that has historically persisted in Christendom and leads a person to build and develop an anti-Jewish theology. Factoring all this together, in a careful exegesis of Matthew 27, will manifestly demonstrate that the Jewish people are not guilty of deicide and therefore arbitrarily condemned by God as a race of "Christ killers." Quite the contrary.

See Page 10 for more information about how to order.

TODD'S LATEST BOOK IS HERE!



March 2008 Gospel Outreach to Israel - Part 4

One Road,

new
way



On Day four of the March 2008 Mission Trip, Paul and I spent our morning prayer time at the Mount of Beatitudes—the traditional site where Jesus spoke the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). We still had not received our luggage from the airlines and had only two Hebrew Bibles left with twelve days still to go on this Gospel outreach. All our Bibles and Gospel tracts were in the lost luggage. When praying at the Mount of Beatitudes, I recalled that the



by Todd
Baker



Todd with Sister Salvatore of the Franciscan Nuns who provided our team with Hebrew New Testaments

Franciscan nuns at the church there offered copies of the New Testament in the Hebrew language for a small donation. When we entered the chapel, I looked around to see if there were any Hebrew New Testaments. Sure enough, I found two much needed copies. A nun by the name of Sister Salvatore came up and told me the price for each copy. Paul asked her if she had any more copies. She said she had four more New Testaments to give us for a small donation. I told the nun that we distribute these Hebrew New Testaments to the Jewish people that they might be introduced to their Messiah. Sister Salvatore said, "That is good." In His providential timing, God knew we desperately needed more Hebrew Bibles for our Gospel outreach. And so the Lord used this compliant and humble nun to provide, at just the right time, much needed Bibles to continue our Gospel testimony to the Jewish people.

After we left there, Paul and I felt led to stop at a shopping center. As we were walking past a sidewalk flower stand, the proprietor greeted us. This brief exchange caused Paul and I to stop and carry on a conversation with him. His name was Elad. During the course of our discussion it was apparent that he was a devotee of some sort of New Age religion that espouses an eclectic spirituality which believes all world religions can be merged into one belief.

When Elad learned we were Bible believers in Yeshua, he expressed his belief that Jesus was one of several "spiritual guides" sent to guide man to a higher level; Paul and I patiently listened to his views on these important subjects. When he finished, we firmly but gently responded that there are too many irreconcilable differences between the world religions whose absolute claims cannot be compromised with each other without losing its specific beliefs that make it distinct from the other religions.



Elad (with Paul) believed that all world religions can be merged into one belief, and Jesus was just one of several "spiritual guides."

We informed Elad that Jesus of Nazareth is not just another spiritual guru but the supreme revelation of God Himself to mankind (see Hebrews 1:1-3). Jesus based His claims of deity on what He did which excludes any other rival, equal, or superior. This was best epitomized when Elohim raised Jesus from the dead three days after His atoning death on the cross for the salvation of humanity. Every other great religious founder and leader is dead and is, therefore, obviously a powerless victim of death. Only Yeshua has physically conquered the greatest

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enemy in the history of the world and thereby historically proved by the resurrection that He is God and reigns overall. We offered Elad the historical record of this actual event in the pages of a Hebrew New Testament. He was noticeably reluctant; no doubt the demonic forces influencing his mind did not want him receiving the Word of God so that he could be set free from the spiritual deception he was under. Elad maintained there were "many ways" and used the analogy of a highway system. He reasoned that just as there are several different roads to a city like Haifa so too are there many roads to God whether it is through Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, etc. Paul contradicted this by pointing out that Jesus Himself claimed to be the only way to God and quoted John 14:6 where He said, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by Me."** I then added that God has established inviolate laws that govern His universe so that it can run and operate in an ordered and proper fashion. To break those physical laws is to suffer deadly consequences.

For instance, the law of gravity states every object that has mass and weight will fall to earth if dropped. This is an inviolate law. I can sincerely believe that if I run my car over a cliff, I will float in the air; but the law of

gravity will invariably take effect and my car will go plunging down the cliff, in spite of my sincere but deluded belief that it won't.

We then concluded by saying that just as the God of Israel has established physical laws like this one, He has also established spiritual laws that are inviolate, which govern His eternal kingdom. One such spiritual law is that God the Father has decreed that eternal life and fellowship with Him can only be fully achieved through His Son, Yeshua the Messiah. God laid these spiritual laws in the Jewish Scriptures. And the overarching law that Yeshua is the only way back to the one true God is the supreme spiritual law established in the New Testament and the only means by which we enter heaven for those who believe the Gospel message. To deny that law by rejecting who Jesus is and what He exclusively did is to go the opposite direction and bring ruin and spiritual damnation on oneself (Mark 16:16; John 3: 16-21, 36)! Although our conversation ended with Elad on this somber and serious note, he did receive a Messianic Gospel tract explaining how a Jewish person can accept Yeshua the Messiah for salvation.

Dear readers, pray that Elad will take that narrow road that leads to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Matthew 7:13-14). ✠✠✠



Only in Israel

from Stuart Arden

In this issue, we continue with our "photo-essay" series by our resident Israeli correspondent, Stuart Arden. These photos and captions will explain some of the behavioral, cultural, and religious practices of Israel and Israelis; some are unusual, most are unique, and all are informative.

Friday Bouquets



It is a custom in modern Israel that husbands bring their wives a bouquet of flowers on Friday afternoon as part of the celebration of *Shabat* (the Sabbath).

On many streets and street corners, on a Friday, one can see young people, usually sitting under a large umbrella, with buckets of flowers for sale and prices marked in Shekels. However, check-out this dapper-looking, jolly gentleman, named Marcel, who immigrated from France in 1972, and goes by the name of Menachem in Hebrew, or Mendel in Yiddish. When asked about his previous occupation, Marcel said that he had been in the "*shmata* business." *Shmata* is Yiddish for rag, and this is the Yiddish way of saying the "clothing business."

He has a wide selection, including asters, carnations, chrysanthemums, daisies, gladioli, marigolds, roses, and of course colorful mixed bouquets. Flowers in Israel are a lot cheaper than in the U.S., and his mixed bouquet sells for around \$5.70.

Matthew 13 and the Prophetic Parables About the Present Age



The Parable of the Dragnet Part 2 (Matthew 13:47-50)

by Todd Baker

In the second parable of Matthew thirteen, after the solid establishment of the Church, the enemy, Satan, placed an opposing force within the Church, the tares, to oppose the servants of Christ, the wheat, for the purpose of destroying Christianity with a counterfeit one. The tares shall continue to grow until the end of the age, but they will not be able to successfully overcome the people of God. Therefore, we see here, the kingdom of heaven under the assault of the Wicked One and his spiritual children, who nominally profess Christ, but actually serve Satan, the devil.

The Church of Smyrna corresponds to the parable of the wheat and the tares (Revelation 2:8-10). This Church period extended from 170 A.D. to 312 A.D. with the rise of Constantine. This particular era in church history was a time of intense persecution under the Roman Empire. The Church was invaded by the infiltration of various heresies by different groups and by the ancient Church of Rome pioneered by the Wicked One and his supposed 'Christian' Emperor and the so-called "Christians" who promoted and accepted his "Holy" Roman Empire—"which say they are [spiritual] Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan" (Revelation 2:9).

The third parable, the parable of the mustard seed, looks ahead centuries after the apostolic era when Christianity suffered an outward growth of monstrous proportions wherein that which had been spiritual became carnal, that which was worldly became paramount and was the ruling standard, and that which was spiritual concerning the Gospel and the kingdom of God was secondary and pushed into the

"Again the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered of every kind, which when it was full, they drew to shore; and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the age. The angels shall come forth, and separate the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

- Matthew 13:47-50



background. This subversive seed grew into the huge ecclesiastical tree of the "Holy" Roman Empire. The Church suffered a radical corruption of an external nature in which the agents of the Devil, portrayed as "the fowls of the air", secured a ruling habitation within the spreading branches of the tree. Thus, what takes place here is the creation of a false Christian church ruled by the Devil and his demonic viceroys. The events of the parable of the mustard tree correspond to the Church of Pergamos in Revelation 2:12-16.

Satan chose to cleverly mix Church and State together with the pagan mystery religions of Rome to pollute the pure teachings of Biblical Christianity. They substituted the truth of divine grace with "the doctrine of Balaam"—a teaching that presumes the free gift of God can be bought or earned through religious ritual and observance for selfish gain, of which its popular form is manifested under the religion of Roman Catholicism. The religious and political merger of the Church with the State in the fourth century at Rome furnished "Satan's seat" of dictatorial authority, which later evolved into the Papacy. The Church of Pergamos era lasted from 312 A.D. to 606 A.D.

Coming to the fourth parable, we observe that just as the last parable symbolically portrayed the outward corruption of Christendom, so this fourth parable, the parable of the leaven, discloses to us the inward corruption of it. The woman of disobedience secretly introduced leaven, an emblem of decay and corruption, into the meal, which represents the pure doctrinal teachings of Jesus Christ. The foreign element introduced under the appearance of leaven speaks of the poisoning and diluting of God's Word in His people, which entails calling evil good, and good evil, putting bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter (Isaiah 5:20). Jesus said this immoral fermentation would continue until the process would be complete, until the whole lump is leavened. Judging from present day conditions, the process of this corruption is near completion and the Church's heavenly departure is close at hand—all the more why we as Christians should live pure and sober before the Lord in this increasingly wicked and perverse generation.

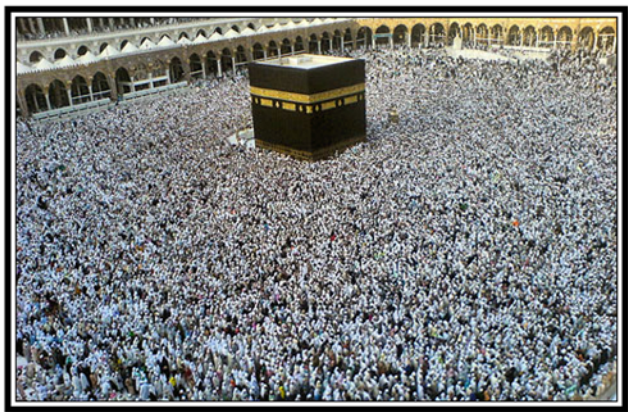
The parable of the leaven topically parallels the Church of Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-24). This Church had

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Anything connected with the prophet Muhammad or written in the *Qur'an* becomes a "sacred" paradigm affecting the mindset of Muslims; determining their affairs among themselves, and their affairs with others. Furthermore, in Islam, it is OTHERS, because to Muslims it is always a question of "believers" and "infidels." One such recurring paradigm having

particular reference and relevance to Israel is the Treaty of Houdibiya which Muhammad concluded with the *Quraysh* tribe of Mecca in 628 c.e.

Muhammad the prophet (Muhammad ibn Abdullah ibn Abdul Muttalib, 570 c.e. to 632 c.e.), supposedly a descendant of Ishmael (*Ismail* in Arabic), was born into the *Quraysh* tribe which controlled *Makkah* (Mecca). The central feature of Mecca for Muslims (meaning those who have submitted to Islam), is the *Ka'aba*, the black-silk-draped cubical structure within the courtyard of today's Grand Mosque (*Masjid al-Haram*). According to the *Qur'an*, Adam, the first man, built the *Ka'aba*'s original foundation, and Abraham (Ibrahim) the patriarch rebuilt the structure with his son Ishmael; later refurbishments were also done.



More than a million Muslims in the courtyard of the Masjid al Haram in Mecca, during the Haj

The *Encyclopedia Britannica* (2002) says: "before the rise of Islam it [the *Ka'aba*] was revered as a sacred sanctuary and was a site of pilgrimage." Both the sacredness and the pilgrimage (from before Muhammad's time!) have been preserved in Islam, with the pilgrimage being today's annual *Haj* to Mecca. Also, Muslims all over the world recite their five-time-a-day prayers while facing Mecca, and there are *Qibla* Compasses for determining the correct direction. Muhammad originally faced Jerusalem when reciting prayers (because both

THE TREATY OF HOUDIBIYA



BY STUART
ARDEN
ISRAELI
CORRESPONDENT

Judaism and Christianity are the inspirations for his "new" religion!), but Islamic tradition

says that during prayers in the *Al-Qiblatain* mosque in Medina, God told Muhammad to change the direction to the *Ka'aba* in Mecca. Nevertheless, most historians state that the real reason was because of the refusal of the large number of Jews in Medina to accept Islam.

Muhammad wound-up in Medina because of events connected with his formation of Islam, as well as his attempts to install it in Mecca. From about age 35 on, Muhammad had begun the habit of seeking solitude and meditation in a cave called "*Hiraa*," located in Mount al-Nur just outside Mecca, his birthplace. Muhammad claimed that while there (in 610 c.e.), he had been visited by the angel Gabriel (*Jibril*) who commanded him to write down certain things. Since Muhammad could neither read nor write, he supposedly memorized these ideas and later communicated them to others, who wrote them down in what became the *Qur'an*. This process lasted for 23 years, until Muhammad's death in 632 c.e. The essence of these ideas was monotheism, submission and obedience to "the Almighty," and various socio-political ideas. The religious ideas expressed in the *Qur'an* were the outgrowth of Muhammad's interactions with Jews and Christians as he plied the caravan route from Mecca to Damascus and back. Thus, Muhammad invokes the names of Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus, and declares himself to be the final prophet (even though some of those preceding names were not prophets). Interestingly, and impossible for Muhammad to have known, other "prophets" did follow him, such as *Baha'ul'lah*, founder of the Baha'i faith, and Rev. Sun Myung Moon of the Unification Church.

Muhammad's attempts at proselytizing among the Meccans raised the ire of the pagan, idolatrous *Quraysh* who controlled the city and the *Ka'aba*, and who viewed Muhammad's attempts as a threat to their hegemony; both "religiously," and more importantly, economically. From his standpoint, Muhammad understood that his new religion would not be fully-accepted, nor have "mystical" associations unless he could control the *Ka'aba* and reinterpret its symbolism in Islamic terms; an example is the linkage to the Patriarch Abraham. Abraham would have been



Using the crescent (a carry-over of the moon god) on minarets, and as a symbol of Islam, undoubtedly aided in converting the former pagans.

unknown to the pagan Meccans, or at the very least, someone that they wouldn't have been able to relate to. With regard to the foregoing, Muhammad's name for the monotheistic God was *Allah*, the Arabic name for the moon god; a male god (*Allat* is the feminine goddess) of whom the *Ka'aba* was a "shrine." As a result of the aforementioned conflicting motivations, Muhammad's few converts were persecuted, and his life was in danger. However, due to the influence of Abu Talib (Muhammad's uncle), the leader of the *Banu Hashim* clan among the *Quraysh*, and "foster father" after the death of his own father, no attempts were made on Muhammad's life. Nevertheless, in 622 c.e. Muhammad took his followers and went to Yathrib (later renamed *Medinat al-Nabi*, the "city of the Prophet," or just *al-Medina*). This journey is called the *Hejira* and forms the basis of the Muslim calendar (B.H./A.H.). Some sources say that Muhammad had been invited to arbitrate between two feuding tribes, the *Aws* and the *Khazraj*, and after his successful mediation many of these tribesmen converted to Islam, greatly increasing the number of his followers.

Preceding the above by one year, in 621 c.e. Muhammad supposedly took two miraculous journeys in one night. The first of the two journeys is called the *Isra* ("Night Journey") and finds Muhammad sleeping in or near the *Ka'aba* when he's called by the angel Gabriel who brings him Buraq, his winged steed ("larger than a donkey but smaller than a mule"), which has the face of a woman. Buraq carried Muhammad to the "farthest mosque." This destination is never specifically identified in the *Qur'an*, nor could it be, because Islam was in its infancy and there were NO mosques outside of Arabia! Nevertheless, Muslims, in their attempt to supersede Judaism and spiritually appropriate the Temple Mount, claim that Jerusalem was the destination, even though there were



A Pakistani truck decorated with a picture of the Buraq



Today's Temple Mount; the al Aksa Mosque with its slate-covered dome at the left, and the gold-covered Dome of the Rock to the right

absolutely no mosques in Jerusalem at that time. The *al Aksa* Mosque, on today's Temple Mount, was built by Muslim Caliph Al-Walid the son of Abdul Malek bin Marwan in 709 c.e., 88 years after Muhammad's "miraculous journey," and 77 years after his death. Wikipedia says this about the farthest mosque: "there were already two places that Muslim tradition of that time period [author's emphasis] called 'the farthest mosque;' one was the mosque in Medina and the other was the mosque in the town of Jirana, which Muhammad is said to have visited in 630." Furthermore, calling it a visit to Solomon's Temple is ridiculous, as that Temple had been destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 b.c.e. The second journey is the *Miraj* ("Ascent") in which Buraq carries Muhammad from the Temple Mount up to the seventh heaven, where he speaks with earlier prophets, and even with Allah. Muslims accept these two stories as being factual, actual journeys, but Ibn Ishaq (Muhammad ibn Ishaq ibn Yasar), Muhammad's first biographer (*Sirat Rasul Allah* - "Life of Allah's Messenger"), who collected oral traditions in writing his biography, says that he has it directly from the mouth of Aisha, Muhammad's favorite wife (in whose arms he died in 632 c.e.), that it was Muhammad's spirit, and not him physically, that had undertaken these two journeys (a vision or a dream!).

From the Battle of Waddan in 623 to the Battle of Khaibar in 627, until the Treaty of Houdibiya in 628, Muhammad and his Muslims fought more than twenty battles to spread Islam; and even after Muhammad's death fought many more battles. In this regard the flag of Saudi Arabia is symbolic of Muhammad's efforts. On a green background the white Arabic script says, "There is but one God, Allah, and Muhammad is the prophet of Allah;" strongly reminiscent of the holiest Hebrew prayer, the *Shma*, which begins, "Hear O Israel, the Lord Our God, the Lord is One." What is beneath the Arabic script? A dove, the bird of peace? An olive branch, another symbol of peace? No, a sword, symbolizing the Muslim practice of submit or die!

A number of *Hadiths* (oral sayings of the Prophet) state that Muhammad ruled that thievery, even for small



The flag of Saudi Arabia

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permitted an evil and imperious woman, by the name of Jezebel, who claimed to be a prophetess, to remain in the congregation. She was allowed to teach her infernal doctrines of fornication that had a defiling influence on the Christian community. She led many servants of God astray. Undoubtedly, this idolatrous and promiscuous woman of unholy divination typifies a religious system that arose with the emergence of the Papal Church. This despotic church presumed, as the woman did with the leaven, to introduce the "leaven" of false doctrine into the meal of the Gospel. The Papacy claimed that the traditions of the "Church" were equal in weight, authority, content, and divine inspiration with the Word of God. They also leavened the uniqueness of Christ by refocusing rightful worship and prayerful attention from Him and unduly placing it upon His human mother, Mary. The religion of Mariolatry is a powerful tool in the hands of Rome. By it they are able to successfully manipulate some untold millions under these blasphemous errors for power and personal gain. This kind of unbiblical insertion into the Church was merely the reintroduction of the Babylonian Mystery religious system of idolatry into the Church dressed up in shallow Christian clothing. The Church of Thyatira period extended from 606 A.D. to the great Reformation in 1520 A.D.

The fifth and sixth parables of Matthew thirteen illustrates the blessed and gracious labors of Christ in

purchasing and redeeming two valuable objects dear to Him—Israel and the Church. In the fifth parable, the treasure hidden in the field foreshadows the redemption of Israel. The fifth parable also can in some way be applied to the Christian dispensation that corresponds to the Church of Sardis (Revelation 3:1-4). This era in church history saw the rise of a Church that had been dormant for centuries.

The Reformation brought back the recirculation of the Scriptures on a mass scale and liberation from the blind tyranny of Papal Rome. Although the Reformers did away with a lot of empty, barren ritualistic and ecclesiastical nonsense, they failed to recapture a proper understanding of prophetic Scripture from a pre-millennial perspective of the Second Advent of Christ, a view that the ancient Church predominately held to for the first three hundred years of the Church's existence. Nor did the gifts of the Holy Spirit move freely among the churches of the Reformation period as they did during the early days of the Church, from the days of the Apostles up until the time of Constantine. But both of these necessary ingredients have been restored to the Church within the last century and a half. The Sardis Church was a "dead" church according to Christ. It still contained some by-products of Romanism. For proof, one only has to look at some aspects of the Lutheran and Episcopal Church rites to see this. The Sardis era lasted from 1520 A.D. to 1750 A.D. †

About the Author

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of the Believer," in order to make them available to you. They will be put on the website as we get them cleaned up and ready to go. These lessons are available in two formats:

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Todd has been recording his teachings on the "Illuminations from Isaiah" series, the "Daniel's Seventy Weeks of Years" series, and the latest series, "The Eternal Security



amounts, was punishable by the cutting-off of a hand. Nevertheless, seeing that his followers needed money to survive, in 624 c.e. Muhammad authorized the raiding of caravans, and claimed that he had received approval from Allah to do so. An internet entry entitled "Thievery and Prophet Muhammad" says, "Was Muhammad so imbued with old Arab customs that he did not see *razzia*, robbing caravans, as theft? A number of those he robbed were worth 100,000 *dirhams* and yet he would cut off a man's hand for the theft of 3 or 4 *dirhams*." An example of Muhammad's treatment of rebellious and rejectionist Jews is this: *Bukhari* 5:59:362 "The Prophet killed the men of the Jewish tribe *Bani Quraiza* (some 600 or 800 of them [in front of their families]) and distributed their women, children, and property among the Muslims. All the other Jews of Medina were exiled."

In 628 c.e., as a result of a revelation to Muhammad (see *Qur'an* 48:27), he and 1,400

of his followers approached Mecca to make "the pilgrimage." They were clad in the *ihram*, the garment of the pilgrimage. Ten miles from Mecca, at an oasis called al-Houdibiya, the *Quraysh* tribe of Mecca stopped Muhammad and his Muslims. Negotiations between the two sides produced the Treaty of Houdibiya which had two main ideas: the Muslims would be able to make the pilgrimage, but only beginning the following year; and, the peace, or truce, was to last for ten years. Since this was something that the Prophet Muhammad himself had agreed to, it became paradigmatic and henceforth any treaty agreed to by Muslims could be for no longer than ten years. However, a mere two years later, in 630 c.e., and now with an army of over 10,000, Muhammad found a pretext and marched on Mecca. It should be mentioned that for his "Conquest of Mecca" Muhammad was unopposed by the obviously stunned *Quraysh*. After entering Mecca, Muhammad removed all 360 idols that were inside the *Ka'aba*, but left the black stone that has been called "a stone from paradise," and is thought to be a meteorite.

Various leaders of *Hamas* have offered Israel that "classic" ten-year truce. However, as proof of their real intentions, we have the (secretly recorded) words of Yasser Arafat, speaking in a Johannesburg mosque on 10 May 1994, less than a year after signing the Oslo Accords: "This agreement, I am not considering it more than the agreement which had been signed between our prophet Muhammad and *Quraysh*, and you may remember the Caliph Omar had refused this agreement and [considered] it a

despicable truce." Arafat's use of the word "truce" is quite revealing. "Oslo" was intended to be a comprehensive peace agreement, not just a "truce." Representative Jim Saxton of New Jersey wrote [in 1998]: "how can anyone trust an agreement compared to the Treaty of Houdibiya enacted by the Prophet Muhammad, in which a treaty lasts as long as political expediency dictates[?]" ☆



Source: thehounds.blogspot



According to Islam, no living things may be depicted; nevertheless, here is a 17th century Turkish miniature of Muhammad during the Mi'raj with the Ka'aba beneath him. However, leaving Muhammad's face without details acquits the artist of "sacrilege" – he's only drawn the clothes of Muhammad!

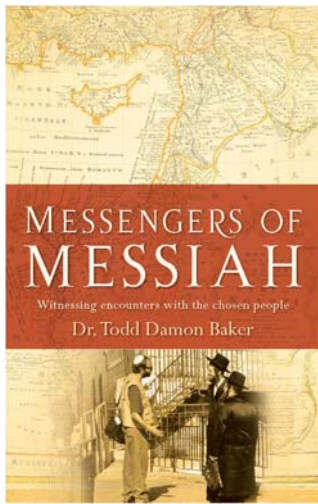
Source: mrzine monthly review



Protestors at French Embassy in London, 2006

Source: standwithus

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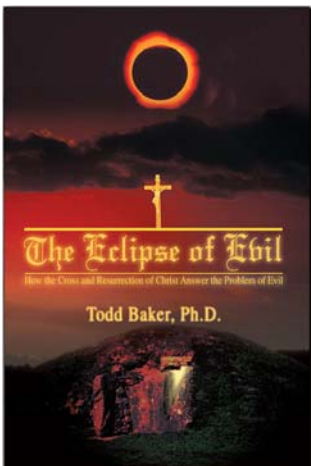
MESSENGERS OF MESSIAH **WITNESSING ENCOUNTERS WITH** **THE CHOSEN PEOPLE**

There is something subtle going on in the Middle East that is foretold in Scripture. It is a bookmark of the end of the age. Those who know the Word of God can see prophecy being played out and fulfilled in our newspapers and on TV. But underneath the media's deluge of coverage of the Holy Land crisis, God is raising up watchmen to the house of Israel...

In an age of mega-Church and high-profile ministry, this book chronicles the heart and soul of a humble ministry that is reaching out one-on-one, on the streets of Israel, to prepare the Jews for the return of the Messiah, Yeshua. Much like John the Baptist who personally prepared them for the Messiah's first coming to Israel, Todd Baker and his team are one group of Watchmen called "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17).

Isaiah 62:6-7

I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem: They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the Earth.

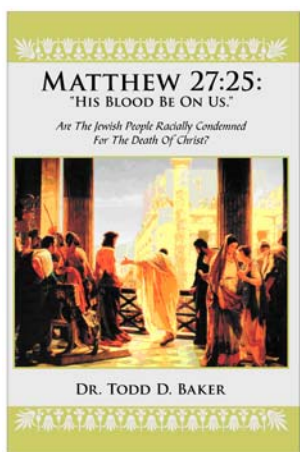


THE ECLIPSE OF EVIL **HOW THE CROSS AND RESURRECTION OF** **CHRIST ANSWER THE PROBLEM OF EVIL**

Suffering and pain affect every human being. They are the results of evil in our world. The problem of evil is something both Christian and non-Christian must face and answer. How do we deal with such unpleasant realities? If there is an all-powerful, all loving, perfectly good God, why is there so much evil?

This book honestly grapples with these and other fundamental questions that are related to the problem of evil and the existence of God. The existence of evil is the chief argument traditionally used against the God of the Bible. The author argues the opposite: that the existence of evil actually justifies the argument for the existence of the God of Christianity.

The answer proposed in this book is not one of theory and hypothesis alone, but comes from the historical life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through a combined theodicy (defending the justice of God for allowing evil) of the cross and resurrection, the case for the Christian faith is reasonably presented and defended.



MATTHEW 27:25: **'HIS BLOOD BE ON US'** **ARE THE JEWISH PEOPLE** **RACIALLY CONDEMNED FOR** **THE DEATH OF CHRIST?**

(See page 2 for a complete description of this book!)

To order any of these books, you can go to our website (www.brit-hadashah.org) then click on the *Books & Media* tab at the bottom, then follow the instructions. Or write to us at the address at the right.

Messengers of Messiah - \$12.00
The Eclipse of Evil - \$14.95
Matthew 27:25 - \$14.95

Shipping and handling charges will be added when you order.

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† 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.

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

thank you for your support

Our next Mission Trip to Israel is scheduled for March 15 - April 2, 2009! Please add this to your prayer list, and start praying about supporting this outreach financially. Thank you for any help you can give!



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 us at:

BHMengagements@gmail.com or call
866-910-0444.

"STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES" RADIO SHOW

We are thrilled to announce that Todd has a radio show! If you live in the Albuquerque, NM, area, you should be able to listen to him on KXKS (AM 1190). The show is called "Studying the Scriptures" and airs Saturdays from 12:30-1:00pm, then repeats Sundays from 6:00-6:30pm. This is a great new opportunity for our ministry to grow and reach more people about the Jewish roots of our Christian faith.

In case you don't happen to live in Albuquerque, we are making copies of his shows available to you on our website!



Planning on moving?

Please let us know what your new address will be so that you don't miss an issue!! You can write us at BHM@brit-hadashah.org, or send a change-of-address postcard to the mailing address above.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Brit Hadashah Ministries

John

5:39



Nov/Dec 2008 issue

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www.Brit-Hadashah.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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 202, Dallas, Texas.

For more information, please visit www.brit-hadashah.org, click Fellowship & Tours tab or call (866) 910-0444.

שלום

UPCOMING FRIDAY NIGHT MESSAGES

Topics for November and December's lessons are:

- The Eternal Security of the Believer series
- Illuminations From Isaiah series

We will not have services on Nov. 28 or Dec. 26