

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

John
5:39



Volume 8, Number 5

Sep/Oct 2010

Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand (Matthew 3:2)

I have just returned from Israel after completing the June 2010 summer outreach. Accompanying me on this latest trip was longtime friend and co-laborer, Paul Colley. One unforgettable witnessing encounter on this outreach occurred in Jerusalem. While driving through a certain section of the city, I saw a road sign for the small town called En Kerem—which is about five miles west of Jerusalem. This was the Jewish village where Yochannan Ha Matbil (Hebrew for John the Baptist) was born and where his parents, Zacharias and Elizabeth, lived. The Lord had been dealing with me to go there for about two years and boldly declare that Messiah's forerunner, John the Baptist, has come and prepared

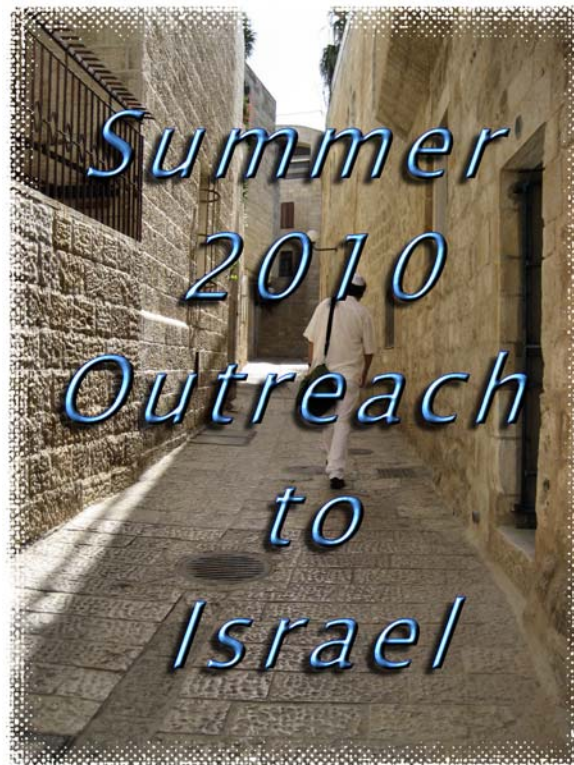


by
Todd Baker



Outreach Team: Paul Colley and Todd Baker

the way for the first coming of Messiah; and we now in his footsteps have come to Israel to declare Messiah's soon return! In this simple message I was to declare the message of repentance to Israel so that He could redeem Israel and establish His kingdom among them. But I must admit I did not obey right away. Usually, I preferred to stay in Jerusalem and focus my Gospel witness there and thus rationalized the fact En Kerem was a tiny village and too small for effective witnessing there. But the Lord would not relent! He had people there who needed to hear His message of repentance and redemption John the Baptist and Jesus the Messiah proclaimed to Israel and the nations (Matthew 3:2; 4:17; Luke 24:47). For two years, God's Spirit contended with me about this. While passing this road sign, I mentioned to Paul about En Kerem being the birth place and hometown of John the Baptist and said nothing more. Yet the very next day, early in the morning, as we were leaving the kibbutz we had been staying at in Jerusalem, Paul felt compelled to turn and ask the security guard,



whom we had ministered to several days before, where in Jerusalem would be a good place to go. The guard smiled and clearly answered, "En Kerem." Shocked and convicted by this answer, I immediately knew then and there this reply was from God as spoken through this young man's mouth! The Lord was again calling Paul and me to go there. Right then I repented to the Lord in my mind and heart for putting this off for two years. I realized at this point that the excuses I used (getting lost, not enough people to justify going there, etc.) were really excuses for tacit disobedience! And so Paul and I decided to go there since we already knew how to take the route leading to En Kerem from the prior day's trek in that direction—a circumstance ordained by the providence of God for the journey there.

I told Paul about my two year recalcitrance on the way there. And he being a precious brother and co-laborer in Christ reassured my heart. We arrived in En Kerem around noon. En Kerem is a lush green, modern town nestled in the southwestern Judean hills and pine forests just outside of Jerusalem proper. Immediately we were led to visit an art gallery there owned and operated by artist Isaac Greenfield. At first we talked about Isaac's unique works of art which focuses on the

Continued on page 6

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.

GOING BACK TO THE HOLY LAND

OCTOBER 17 TO NOVEMBER 2

We will be returning to Israel this Fall with a new Mission Outreach team member, Harvey Zion. Todd and Harvey will be in Israel from October 17 to November 2. Please be praying for them before and during the trip. Here is our Prayer List for Mission trips to use as a guide:

- ✧ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).
- ✧ Pray that we have the Father's wisdom and guidance in everything we do (Psalm 32:8; 48:14; Colossians 4:5).
- ✧ Pray for witnessing opportunities (John 4:35; Luke 10:2; Acts 1:8).
- ✧ Pray that God will open the hearts of those who will hear (Psalm 110:3; Acts 16:14).
- ✧ Pray that God will give us the boldness to proclaim the Gospel to the Jew first and also the Gentile (Acts 4:31; Romans 1:16; Ephesians 6:19).
- ✧ Pray for spiritual unity and agreement among us (Psalm 133:1).
- ✧ Pray for our health, protection, safety, and God's protection from the hand of the enemy, both seen and unseen (Psalm 91; Matthew 6:13).
- ✧ Pray for spiritual fruit that will last (John 15:7-8; Galatians 5:22-23).
- ✧ Pray for favor among the Chosen People as we share the Gospel with them (Proverbs 12:2).
- ✧ Pray that the Chosen People will come to faith in Messiah (Christ) Jesus (Romans 10:1; Matthew 15-16; Mark 8:27-29, 14:61-62; Luke 9:18-20; John 4:25-26).

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:

bhm@brit-hadashah.org

or by mail at:

B'rit Hadashah Ministries
P.O. Box 796127
Dallas, Texas 75379-6127

Visit our website at:

www.brit-hadashah.org

New Book Available for Purchase!

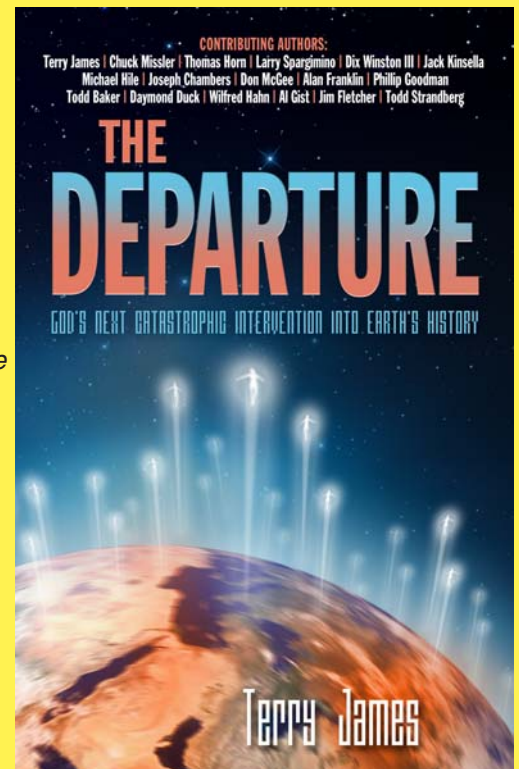
Dr. Todd Baker was honored to be asked to be a contributing writer for this new book compiled by Terry James. Get your copy by ordering it on our website at www.brit-hadashah.org on the Books & Media page.

From the back cover:

As the world races toward its momentous end-times encounter with God, cascading fulfillment of Bible prophecy clearly points to the catching away of the saints -- an event popularly known as the Rapture of the church. Specific circumstances are prophesied to occur that point to the Tribulation (last 7 years of history before Christ's return). Most all of these signs are already in view. Therefore the departure (Rapture), which will occur before that 7 years of God's wrath, must be near indeed. Those signals include:

- *The emergence of a new global order and global government*
- *Technological developments making possible the Mark of the Beast*
- *Apocalyptic turmoil in the Middle East, pointing toward nuclear Armageddon*
- *Global fascination with occult, demonic, and otherworldly manifestations*
- *Departure from the faith, giving space to false doctrines*
- *Worldwide violence, upheaval, like it was in the days of Noah*

In The Departure: God's Next Catastrophic Intervention into Earth's History, leading national and international researchers, scholars, authors, and speakers share their specialized knowledge about what you can expect in the coming days, and, more importantly, what you can do to be prepared for the Rapture of the church!



Available online for \$16.95 (plus shipping and handling)

Matthew 13 and the Prophetic Parables About the Present Age



The Parable of the Scribe and the Householder
Part 2
(Matthew 13:51-52)

by Todd Baker

The scribe was a writer who transcribed the Holy Law. By the same token, the minister of the Word, as the serving scribe of Christ, must make diligent use of the divine gifts of teaching, preaching, and exposition endowed by His Creator to demonstrate how the principles of God's Word apply for the Church today. The minister of Christ should not foolishly presume that every time he steps into the pulpit the Spirit of God will immediately transfer spiritual wisdom from whence he can effortlessly preach so that his congregation might be sufficiently fed with the bread of God without prior preparation and study. The minister of Christ will adequately prepare beforehand. Often God reveals a much needed message from His Word after much fervent prayer. The minister of God will always undergird his message with a sufficient amount of time in prayer seeking the face of the Lord coupled with a devotional study of the Scriptures.

The ministers of Christ today must equip their minds with the same mentality as the apostles of the New Testament did, **"giving themselves continually in prayer, and to the ministry of the Word"** (Acts 6:4). Once the Lord has imparted to the minister that particular message he is to deliver, he will carefully record and proclaim the message clearly and simply so that it can be easily understood by all who read or hear it. The use of notes in the pulpit is definitely advantageous, especially to the minister poor in memory. The minister of Christ, like the scribe of old, should be well experienced,

"Jesus said to them, 'Have you understood all these things?' They said to Him, 'Yes Lord.' Then He said to them, 'Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.'"

- Matthew 13:51-52



ready, and studied to write and communicate faithfully whatever the Holy Spirit desires to share with him from the Word of God for the spiritual edification of the Church. **"Let him that is taught in the Word communicate to him that teaches all good things"** (Galatians 6:6). It would be, and has been, certainly beneficial for the seasoned minister to write down what God has shared with him so long as it is in line with the Word of God. The many Christian scribes such as Bible commentators, expositors, preachers, teachers, and instructors have written down their insights. As a result of their faithfulness, we as Christians today have an unlimited storehouse of Bible study material at our fingertips. The minister should carefully use these resource materials wisely and correctly for the noble purpose of advancing the Gospel of Christ to a lost and dying world, and to a hungry congregation needing spiritual growth.

The scribe of Christ needs to make an ample and thorough use of study resources that are proven, sound, credible, and worthy of use in the searchlight of Scripture. But these study aids of the Bible should

in no way replace the ministry of God the Holy Spirit, they should rather compliment it. The Holy Spirit is the supreme person of illumination that allows the student of the Bible to understand the spiritual truths of God's Word. **"But God has revealed them to us by His Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God . . . which things we also speak not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual"** (1 Corinthians 2:10, 13). The Christian in the office of the scribe needs to utterly depend upon the Holy Spirit's illumination in determining what the Scriptures mean word for word in interpretation and application. The Holy Spirit is our divine teacher. He gives believers a correct understanding of the Scriptures allowing them to appraise the spiritual truths of God's Word teaching us how to practically apply them in everyday living. The Christian scribe **"which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven"** will arrange and set in order the expository tools that are available to aid him in the study of the Scriptures. The scribe of the

Continued on page 8

The Marvelous Mess



by Paul Colley

The first thing that comes to mind when I think of the land of Israel is ~ God. It's a unique situation, an unprecedented history and a continual mess. Neat and tidy does not describe God nor His methods. His notorious patience, grueling ability to endure centuries of man's insanity with sin, endless tenderness of heart for man's plight, coupled with a force of judgment that frightens most contemporary Christians to even consider, makes Him out to be quite the most forever mysterious Person. Mankind is ceaselessly contemplating who, what and why concerning Him. A Person that is beyond the confines of the very universe He created, yet observed subjectively within that universe. The mystery of mysteries, God Himself, dwelling among His own at the appointed time. ~ *This God has called us to participate in His plans.*

He entered the world to fulfill His plan of redemption for His glory and His purposes alone. It's not about us, it's about Him. And because He is a God of love, we can receive the benefits and blessings of this Heavenly Father that in His infinite wisdom made a way for us to know Him and become the very sons and daughters of God. Jesus showed us the Father. Jesus and the Father are one. When we look at Jesus, we see the Father. These truths are laid out for us in the writings of the early followers of Jesus Himself. A patient path of study using logic and reason coupled with humble childlike faith will inevitably lead to the simple and life-altering embrace of the God-Man, Jesus. ~ *This God has called us to go - to become living bridges that connect others to Himself by the good news found in the Messiah.*



Paul at Herimos

"The Kingdom of God is at hand" — this declaration is a bold reality that proceeds from the mouths of two very imperfect, relatively average men. Todd and I walked about the land of Israel for two and a half weeks this past June, 2010. Completely dependent on God for direction, wisdom, patience, persistence and love, we spent every day seeking out people that might be open (if only slightly...barely interested or even just friendly and gracious to us as visitors) to the reality that Jesus really is who His followers in the first century claimed that He was - the Jewish Messiah, the Savior of the world, the One, the Way, the Truth, the Life and Light of men. For three months prior to this outreach, we'd get on the phone and go before God in faith praying each week for His help, interceding for the "lost sheep of

Israel". The responsibility is haunting, but His grace and joy make it doable in the face of the enemy's plans otherwise. Without His presence, power and direction, we'd be lost and disconnected in a land so utterly disconnected with its spiritual heritage. ~ *This God has chosen us - He has made us into salt and light.*

Walking by faith isn't easy, but it can be a learned discipline as we step out and believe that God is with us and for us...that we are a significant small part of His larger plan for bringing about redemption to those in darkness. Our confidence is then rooted in God (in us), not us, once we resign ourselves to the fact that it's God that does the redeeming and we're simply His workers in the field. We sow seed, maybe water a bit, fertilize or pull some weeds, but God does the growing, He brings about the fruit. In this, we find the joy of watching Him use us to deliver the seed of Truth to those whom He divinely intersects on our journey. The fun, the joy, the stories are always wrapped up in the moments when we engage with people...when Truth begins to get into the soil, when water is sprinkled on dry ground, when weeds are pulled up by the power of God's Word. "For God so loved the world..." (people). You are worth more than many sparrows. Jesus' words always reveal the value of people. It's the individuals we connect with that bring about a deep resonate joy as we watch the Holy Spirit do what He does best - make messes of the "neat and tidy", while bringing strength and straightening to the weak and restless. ~ *This God leads us all to the "rock of offense" where we're broken so we can be made whole.*

God and politics, what better way is there to begin dialogue with complete strangers in the Middle East? Ha! I'm sure it sounds ridiculous, but that's exactly what we do. Time and again, we walk the streets, discouraged more often than we'd like to admit, tired, hot, rejected by many before we even get the chance to actually engage in a real conversation; but then,

like a stream in the desert, we watch as God miraculously opens doors to so many precious people. As we end each day, we look back and are continuously amazed at the number of Bibles we passed out, the people we conversed with and the openness we witnessed. God is with us, He is directing even when we feel like we're wandering in an endless desert of streets and malls. All it takes is one person receiving the New Testament in Hebrew for the first time in their life and the dry wandering dearth is dispelled in the magnitude of what has just occurred. ~ *This God desires obedience birthed out of personal relationship with Him.*

It's a mess. Pursuing God! ...wrangling with personal doubt, triumphing over selfish tendencies! ...and then getting angry over a small offense; we're doing "our best", but we feel like we're just so ordinary - so simply human. Wandering about like a couple of lost tourists way off the normal routes, hoping, praying for a divine appointment. Moments of faith and energy! ...only to be broken by passive bouts of "what are we doing out here!?" Then just like a superhero, God enters a scenario like a staged fight and *voila*, an open heart is touched by the presence of Christ in us! I'm talking about a real encounter of Truth with someone who woke up that day with no idea that they'd enter into a serious conversation with a couple of "Jesus followers" from north Texas discussing Bible prophecy, politics, the Creator of the Universe, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the deepest most crucial questions a person asks within their heart. We find that we are smack in the middle of Light shining into darkness. Truth is being revealed, Life is present, The Kingdom of God is at hand in that moment and we're witnesses of God's love reaching out to another human being in a palpable, undeniable engagement. It's in this that we're reminded of who we are in Christ and what He's achieved in us. We're not simply ordinary

humans wandering about. We are His servants, gifted and given wisdom by His Spirit in us. ~ *This God has declared us to be His workmanship for His glory and renown.*

I firmly believe that the foundation of prayers prayed beforehand and the prayers prayed by those supporting us back home allowed for the critical difference in the spiritual warfare that was occurring against us and those hearing the message we were sharing. While at a mall in Haifa, God gave us unfounded favor with a woman in her mid sixties, Henia. About an hour into dialogue with her, we offered the Scriptures. She politely refused to receive the New Testament in Hebrew, because it was something she was taught her entire life that wasn't allowed in the home according to the rabbis. A minute after she declined, she literally interrupted herself only to completely reverse her position, saying, "You know, I think I will take it, why not!?" Todd and I looked at each other in amazement. We had just witnessed a powerful miraculous moment, a supernatural battle over her mind, a victory, an intelligent 63 year old woman, opinionated and set in

her ways, accepting a copy of the New Testament into her life and home for the first time! Within minutes she was reading from John 3, translating the Hebrew to English - reading the very words of Jesus back to us.



Henia reading from the Book of John

The very next morning, miles away at another mall, she walks right into us upon entering. Keep in mind that Haifa is a city of over 265,000 people with an additional

300,000+ living on the outskirts. We were standing at the entrance following up another positive witness encounter with Erik to whom Todd had given Scriptures on a previous trip. Henia's mouth dropped open as she ran forward with an embrace and a kiss. Even she saw this as some kind of sign that our meeting was not accidental! She couldn't deny that something unusual was happening. God is pursuing Henia.

(To be continued in our next issue...) ✨

“STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES” RADIO SHOW

Todd's radio show, "Studying the Scriptures," is playing on **WNVY (AM 1070)** in **Pensacola, FL**, on Saturday mornings from 8:30 - 9:00am, then again Saturday nights from 8:30 - 9:00pm.

The show is also available in the **Albuquerque, NM**, area on **KXKS (AM 1190)** airing Saturdays from 12:30-1:00pm, then repeating Sundays from 6:00-6:30pm.



If you have friends or family in either of these locations, tell them about his show so they can learn about the Jewish roots of our Christian faith.

As always, if you don't happen to live in Albuquerque or Pensacola, we are making his shows available to you on our website. Just go to www.brit-hadashah.org and click on the *Books & Media* tab at the bottom.

twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet. He noted from the Kabala that each letter had a divine meaning which God ordained to communicate His message to man. This observation was another opening for us to share the truth about the deity of Yeshua the Messiah. We commented on how the



Artist Isaac Greenfield talks about his work which focuses on the Hebrew alphabet.

book of Proverbs views divine wisdom as a person who fellowships with God. This personified wisdom incarnate existed with God from eternity past before the creation of the world (see Proverbs 8:22-36). The New Testament parallel and reference, we related to Isaac, was found and described in similar detail in the prologue of John's Gospel where Yeshua the Messiah is called the divine logos (the Word of God) who existed with God as God from eternity past (John 1:1-2)—the same divine Word who became a flesh and blood human being (John 1:14). I even said to Isaac that such an idea of the divine Word becoming incarnate was reflected in the Kabala by the concept of Metatron. This astute and cerebral man expressed a fascination over this compelling parallel. Since he already had the New Testament in Hebrew he did not need one from us. Isaac did, however, accept a few pieces of literature listing and explaining in detail from Scripture why Yeshua is the Messiah of Israel by His fulfillment of Messianic prophecy.

As we were leaving his art gallery, Isaac said in parting, "To give out your Hebrew Bibles here is a mitzvah (a good deed in Judaism) and may you have good success in doing so." Paul

and I were amazed at his words; especially in light of the fact Isaac said this knowing full well we were handing out Jewish Bibles, which included the New Testament, and speaking openly about Jesus being the Messiah when Jewish tradition has historically frowned on such things.

Following Isaac's recommendation, we visited one of the local restaurants in En Kerem. It was called the Café Inbal. A young Israeli woman, her name was Shai, with an infectious smile waited on us. When we mentioned how En Kerem was the hometown of John the Baptist, she further explained how the various churches in the area commemorate this historical person of the Bible. We then shifted the conversation on the importance of what Yochannan Ha Matbil did in Israel. We told

Shai God had foretold the coming of John the Baptist centuries beforehand by the prophets Isaiah and Malachi (Isaiah 40:3; Malachi 3:1-2). We also said John was considered the greatest prophet of the Old Testament period because he would prepare the way for the Lord and Messiah to come (Matthew 11:11). Right here Shai knew we meant Jesus of Nazareth; we affirmed this to be so. Moreover, we explained to her John's message was one of repentance and belief that Jesus is the Messiah and the One whose way he prepared for Israel to accept (Matthew 3:1-12). Repentance is what Judaism, from its glorious and ancient past, calls *Te Shuva*—a radical turning away from doing wrong, evil, and sin to then surrender in faith to God. John's act of water baptism came from the ritual immersion in the *mikvah* (a bath) observant Jews have done for several millennia. So biblical repentance as John proclaimed means the sinner must repent by acknowledging his guilt as a sinner before God and be willing to turn from sin to believe Yeshua is the Messiah who alone can save us from the guilt and punishment sin has produced.

Shai was a student of history and knew some of the connections between biblical Judaism and first century Christianity. She listened patiently and when we offered her a complete Jewish Bible, along with Messianic Gospel tracts giving more details about these important biblical truths we spoke about, she gratefully received them. About five minutes later Shai came back to our table and told us the chef inside the restaurant also wanted a copy of the Old and New Testaments. We gladly gave her one to give him and asked her if he could come out and talk to us. Paul and I surmised Shai had excitedly spoken to the chef (whose name was Tomer) about the amazing things we shared with her. Several minutes later, he came out to speak with us and we repeated what we had preached to Shai. Tomer repeatedly shook his head in agreement and thanked us for the gift of God's Word we gave him. He replied by saying, "All of this is very interesting. I will read what you have given me." We exhorted him to pay close attention to studying the New Testament and see it as the completion and Messianic fulfillment of the Tenach.

What an unspeakable privilege to continue proclaiming the message of repentance and salvation that John the Baptist and Jesus faithfully proclaimed to the Jewish people! For as John the Baptist prepared the Jewish nation for the first coming of Yeshua the Messiah, so too B'rit Hadashah Ministries seeks to humbly prepare Israel for His glorious return. ✠✡



Tomer the chef and Shai the waitress pose for a friendly picture with Todd and Paul

B'rit Hadashah Ministries

† Partner With Us ☆

Now that we have begun full-time to reach Israel with the Gospel, we need your support more than ever. Having been to the Holy Land more than 15 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.

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

this critical time of need. We need your thoughts, your prayers, your words and your financial support as the Lord leads your heart.

Please consider becoming a monthly partner. As you can read for yourself in the newsletter articles, these worthwhile donations are directly impacting individual lives in Israel.

Thank you for supporting this Gospel ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ to His Chosen People in the land of Israel. May He come quickly! Until then, we continue to labor for Him.

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

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

thank you for your support

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 fifteen years. Todd holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biblical studies, a Master of Theology Degree from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Apologetics from Trinity Seminary under the auspices of Liverpool University at Liverpool, England. 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 several Gospel outreaches to Israel. †

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 September and October's lessons are:

- Defending the Faith series
- Illuminations From Isaiah series

We will have guest speakers while Todd is in Israel in October. We will also have a slideshow from the Israel trip with Todd narrating when he returns.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries



Sep/Oct 2010 issue

Visit our website:
www.Brit-Hadashah.org

PRSRRT NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
DENTON TX
PERMIT NO. 11

B'rit Hadashah Ministries

P.O. Box 796127
Dallas, Texas 75379-6127
e-mail: todd@brit-hadashah.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

In This Issue

Summer 2010 Israel Outreach 1

Matthew 13 and the Prophetic Parables about the Present Age..... 3

The Marvelous Mess 4



Matthew 13... Continued from page 3

Old Testament era reverently classified and arranged the Law letter by letter with minute and scrupulous accuracy. He took extreme caution that no mistake would be committed in transcribing the Scriptures from one scroll to another. The disciple of Christ should be a diligent student of the Word, and no less, handling the Word correctly both in analysis and presentation. The minister of Christ will be eager to comply with the wise injunction Paul gave the young pastor, Timothy— **"Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth"** (2 Timothy 2:15).



Another responsibility of the Jewish scribe was to count the total number of letters used in sacred Scripture. As a beneficial result, this rigorous exercise allowed the scribe to recite by memory "precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little" from the Scriptures. Memorizing Scripture is an important

weapon in the life of the Christian. Scriptural recitation is an effective deterrent against the adversary and his ruinous darts of doubt and unbelief. The Christian steward should never neglect the memorization of the Word; for it brings certain victory and comfort to the

heart of the saint during times of trial and temptation. The Lord Jesus perfectly possessed the recollective ability to recall the Scriptures during His time of temptation in the wilderness. He effectively used them as the overriding authority against the devil. The child of God does well to follow the example of the Master in this regard and retain the Word of God in his heart as the Heavenly Father exhorts him to do in

the following command: **"My son forget not My Law, but let your heart keep My commandments . . . bind them around your neck, write them upon the tablet of the heart"** (Proverbs 3:13). †