

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John
5:39



A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

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WATERING THE SEED THAT HAS BEEN PLANTED



Pastor Ralph Conn joined me on this June 13th-29th 2011 Gospel outreach to Israel. The Lord gave us a wonderful opportunity to witness to our first Jewish person when we arrived in Tel Aviv. This happened in the Budget car rental place at Ben Gurion Airport. The customer representative was a young lady by the name of Maya. When I presented my driver's license to rent the car, Maya looked at my license and did a double take when she learned I was from Texas. Maya exclaimed, "I love the State of Texas. I have always wanted to go there." I replied by telling her I love coming to Israel. This opening allowed Ralph



by
Todd Baker



Todd with Maya who finds Jesus "interesting"

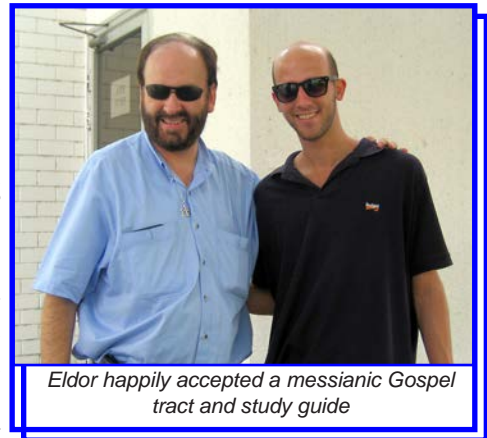
and me to then share with Maya about why we come to minister and bring back the good news and word of Yeshua the Messiah. Maya gave a look of surprise and then related how she has a Jewish friend who is a believer in Jesus. I knew then why God allowed our paths to cross—so we could confirm and water the gospel witness Maya's friend gave to her about Yeshua being the Jewish Messiah. Concerning this vital subject on which every person's eternal destiny rides, Maya simply said the whole subject about Jesus as Messiah was very "interesting" to her. Such a compelling statement allowed us to tell her the best way she could learn about Yeshua the Messiah's life and ministry was by reading the B'rit Hadashah with a simple study guide listing all the Messianic prophecies He fulfilled which pertained to His first coming.

At first Maya said she would give a copy of the complete Bible in Hebrew that we had offered her to her believing friend. But I said we wanted to give a



copy to Maya for her own personal study and then she could ask her friend to help guide and teach her about its revelation concerning Jesus of Nazareth. Maya took the Scriptures and Messianic prophecy materials from us on this point. We were able to pray for her asking Yahweh to give her understanding and faith in Yeshua the Messiah for salvation as she read the Jewish Scriptures we had just given to her. Ralph and I praised God for this great start to the 21st Gospel outreach in Israel.

When our rental car was ready, a young man by the name of Eldor assisted with checking out the car to make sure everything was in operating order. He also happened to take the picture of Maya and myself and thus overheard our Gospel witness to her. We were able to further explain to him how Messianic prophecy is a true means of identifying the real Messiah when He comes. So we pulled out a list of the ones given in the Tenach and then cross-referenced their historic fulfillment by



Eldor happily accepted a messianic Gospel tract and study guide

Yeshua in the B'rit Hadashah. Eldor was intrigued by this and joyfully received a Messianic Gospel tract and study guide about the compelling case for Jesus

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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.

Matthew 13 and the Prophetic Parables About the Present Age



The Parable of the Scribe and the Householder
Part 8
(Matthew 13:51-52)

by Todd Baker

The Old Testament types, characters, and shadows all point to the person of Jesus Christ—the God-Man who was manifest in the flesh to be the final offering for our sins. The New Testament fulfillment is the visible, physical realization of this. For example, the prophetic spirit of Christ spoke through King David one thousand years before the birth of Jesus about the Messiah freely presenting His sinless body as the one final sacrifice for all sins prepared up to God for humanity's redemption. This is found in Psalm 40:6-8: **"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared from Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said Lo, I come (in the volume of the Book it is written of Me) to do Your will O God."** The New Testament fulfillment

of this Messianic prophecy is found in Hebrews 10:5-12 which speaks of Jesus the Man who efficaciously offered Himself up to God on our behalf as the one sacrifice of sins forever.

The Old Testament prophecy quoted above, with the companion fulfillment of it in the New Testament is one of many like it in the Bible. If you were to discard the Old

will the Christian steward take things from the Old and New Testaments to learn and profit by, but he will also depend on the "new" regenerated nature implanted in him at conversion when studying the Scriptures and receiving the power to live the Christian life. From hindsight he will learn from the "old" nature by not giving it preeminence in his new life in Jesus Christ. The believer is to put

"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



off the "old" man and put on the "new" man which is in the image of Jesus Christ. **"Put off concerning the former life the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man, which after God is created**

in righteousness and true holiness" (Ephesians 4:22-24).

One common denominator shared among all genuine Christian ministers is the preaching and teaching of God's Word contained only in the Old and New Testaments. They should act as the submitted mouthpiece of God declaring His written oracles and not their own self-concocted theological opinions and doctrines. **"If any man speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God gives, that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to Whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen"** (1 Peter 4:11).

It is a grievous thing to observe those in the pulpit today preaching

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Search the Scriptures

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Testament in favor of the New, you would immediately destroy the intrinsic continuity of the Bible. Both testaments are inseparably one. One cannot exist and function without the other. The Old Testament is the precursor of the New, whereas the New Testament is the completion of the Old. **"He takes away the first that He may establish the second"** (Hebrews 10:9).

In keeping with our parable concerning the householder taking things new and old out of his treasure, the Christian minister can glean from the Old Testament in the glorious light of the New. He will joyfully discover that the Old Testament revelation is best clarified and understood in the context of the New Testament and vice versa. Not only

When our Lord calls, we must go! I have been praying that He would call me and I would hear Him without question, have the courage to go where He tells me and then have the wisdom to do what He has called me to. This 21st outreach to beloved Israel was just that calling. We arrived feeling excited and ready to get to work.



by Pastor
Ralph Conn

It's always great to arrive at the Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv and this trip was no exception. We rented our car and started for our hotel, but we decided to hit the streets first. Wouldn't you know we made a wrong turn and found ourselves stuck on a highway we couldn't get off of. We drove an hour or so and found ourselves right in the middle of anointed ministry. You find that when you are serving the Lord in Israel, you just relax and let it happen, and boy did it ever. We found this same thing throughout the whole outreach.

From the friends we have in Tiberias then on to the cave high on a hill, where the Lord always speaks to us and sets the theme of the outreach; then on to Mt. Hermon and an opportunity to meet and minister to the IDF—this time with two very young liberal soldiers to whom the Lord allowed us to give our biblical perspective. They received our words of encouragement and then the Scriptures that would change their lives. You sometimes are unsure of the effectiveness but in this case, as we were walking away some time later, there they were with the Scriptures we gave them, discussing them. Wow, what a sight because we know that God's Word will produce a harvest of righteousness.



Pastor Ralph with one of the IDF soldiers ministered to

We experienced such anointed ministry everywhere we went. This trip wasn't one of trying to seek people to talk to, they actually came to us as we walked and greeted people. We went to a mall and a couple approached us because they saw a necklace we wear with the Cross over the Star of David. They were curious and that enabled me to explain to them why I wear it and how it shows our love for Israel and the Messiah Jesus Christ, who will be coming back right there in God's chosen land. Then

I was approached by an Arab Christian Pastor who overheard our explanation to the couple and wanted to talk to us. Then walking down the street we were approached by a young woman who was impressed to ask us for help. We found out that she was in desperate need because she had been separated from her little daughter. We were able to talk to her about the Lord and how He loved her and after offering her prayer she accepted the Scriptures and tearfully asked Him for help.



Todd with a young woman seeking help

Wherever we went in the 18 days we were there was filled with story after story of miracles as the Lord sent us from one place to another. We felt like we were experiencing the call of an evangelist as we were sent out throughout Israel. Thinking about how the disciples went out two by two at the Lord's calling brought us to our knees each night as we prepared for the next anointed day in His chosen land, Israel. What a blessing to be called there.

In the coming months, Dr. Todd Baker and I will be sharing with you these stories so that you can understand how vital you are to this end-time ministry. We go to the streets of Israel three times a year and know that we need at least four people on each outreach, but the difficult task of raising finances is always right in front of us. Most of our outreaches only have a team of two when we know it should be two teams of two. If all of us will stay the course and pray, I believe the finances will come in to see more of these end-time miracles take place. Please get those you know to support what this ministry is doing.

When the Lord sends us, we find we are involved in all aspects of His Ministry. We had the privilege and great honor to visit a friend of ours in the hospital in Jerusalem just days before he went home to be with his Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, Yeshua. Zvi was a great tour leader that Zola Levitt Ministries knew and worked with for many years and was the best at his profession. Debbie and I had been with him several times and he became a good friend. He was stricken with cancer and leaves behind a wonderful family who will miss him, as will we.

We were also blessed to be able to encourage many Christian friends while we traveled: shop owners, hotel

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PASTOR RALPH CONN'S OVERVIEW OF THE 21ST GOSPEL OUTREACH TO ISRAEL

manager/owners, those we had been blessed to see come to a blessed knowledge of their Messiah, Yeshua. Then we were asked to come to a messianic congregation service where we encouraged and prayed with the Saints. And we must not forget our new friend that we met in a mall, an Arab Christian Pastor who we will preach for on our next trip. The Lord Jesus had us ministering in so many ways that it was so easy to see that we were called to do what all Christians are supposed to do. I am so thankful to all of you who support what we are doing. When you respond to the calling the Lord has for you, you find that the work isn't work at all but a pleasure. Make no mistake you who support this ministry are very much connected to it. Get involved and see God's miracles unfold. May He bless you as you stand with us. Our next outreach is in October and then again in March. We are praying that the team of four will be provided for in March. Please pray that the Lord will provide the necessary funds for that. This end-time ministry is indeed a blessing.

As I write this article to you, I am reminded of our time in Jerusalem. We were standing at the Hakotel Hama'arabi (the Western Wall) where thousands upon thousands of prayers are said and slips of paper placed in the cracks between the huge blocks of stone. People from all over the world come here to petition the Lord for the things that are on their hearts and those who they love. This place holds a special feeling because when you are there you know that every single person is praying. I

have never stood at this place and not felt His presence. We always go there and pray for you, placing our slips of paper in the ancient cracks of that western wall of the Temple. We took a break from our travail and stood quietly taking in God's anointing. It was peaceful and so wonderful to be in this place talking to our Lord and feeling Him as He basked us in His love. I looked to heaven and there above us about 20 or 30 feet sat a beautiful white dove. We just stood there and wept at the confirmation the Holy Spirit gave us in this dove.

When we packed for our trip back to America, we felt a loss because we love Israel so much and we know that in these end-times the Lord has prepared the people to hear the wonderful message of Messiah and His soon coming. To be able to be used to bring this message is more than we could ever express in words. We want you to know that you are very much a part of this ministry and without you it would be so much harder to accomplish these wonderful encounters with the Jewish people in God's chosen land, Israel. I am ready to return anytime the Lord provides for us and I appeal to you to get involved in any way you can to help make that happen. Of course your prayers for us come first and then perhaps you could give a monthly or one time financial gift. I thank you for helping us in this wonderful end-time ministry.

In closing let me say may the Lord bless you and please always remember "As you give Jesus the priority, He grants us the opportunity to serve Him more completely." ✠✠✠



22nd Gospel Outreach to ISRAEL! Oct. 23 - Nov. 8, 2011

We will be returning to Israel this Fall for our 22nd mission trip to the Holy Land. Harvey Zion will accompany Todd on this outreach, and we ask that you 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).



B'rit Hadashah Ministries

† PARTNER WITH US ✪

Having been to the Holy Land over 20 times, I can assure you that Israelis deeply hunger and thirst for the Word of God and appreciate the believers in America who support ministries devoted to bringing the Word of God to the Jews. We need your support to help us continue to take the Gospel to the land from whence it came.

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

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thank you for your support

Matthew 13... Continued from page 2

their own political agenda or social programs to cure the sins of society instead of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ which is the only way of salvation and forgiveness of sins. The primary function of all Christian servants is to exhibit the Word of God in thought, word, and deed. The aim and action of the Christian minister should never be to use the ministry as a means for obtaining fame, fortune, and popularity, or any other selfish gain but to please the Lord and serve his fellow man in the charitable spirit of Christ. Colossians 1:10 should be the ruling standard for every Christian scribe, disciple, and

householder to live by: **"Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of the Lord."** †

This concludes Dr. Todd Baker's series on the Prophetic Parables about the Present Age of Matthew 13! We hope it has been educational and edifying for the reader.

Stay tuned as our next issue of the newsletter will see the beginning of a new series on the parables of Matthew 18. Also, coming soon, the entire series on Matthew 13 will be available as a book!

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. †

Come learn about the Jewish roots of Christianity, enjoy great teaching from the Bible by Dr. Todd Baker, and join in loving fellowship with the Shalom, Shalom Congregation each Friday evening at 7:00pm at Fellowship Bible Church in Dallas, Texas. 9330 N. Central Expy., Room 202

UPCOMING FRIDAY NIGHT MESSAGES

Topics for September and October's lessons are:

- Defending the Faith series
- Illuminations From Isaiah series

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Our 21st Gospel Outreach *Continued from page 1*

being the Messiah by the fact He fulfilled all the major Messianic prophecies given in the Tenach about His first coming.

Later in the evening, Ralph and I decided to take a taxi and go and visit Zvi Rivai at the hospital. He was the leading tour guide for Zola Levitt ministries. Zvi has what appears to be terminal cancer. He was a very close friend of mine whom I have known and worked with over ten years in Israel (ten days later Zvi died and went to be with the Lord). When we got into a taxi to take us to the hospital where Zvi was, Ralph and I ended up having a Gospel witness with the taxi driver. His name was Simon.

He, like any other taxi driver, began by entertaining us with local news events showing little interest in learning about the Gospel of Yeshua Ha Mashiach. However, by our arrival to the hospital, fifteen or twenty minutes



Simon, our taxi driver, who became curious about God's plan of salvation

later, Simon was not only interested, but quite curious about our words concerning God's plan of salvation revealed through Israel, the Jewish Messiah, and the Hebrew Scriptures. We proceeded to make available to Simon a complete Hebrew Bible to read and

Gospel tract materials to help him grow and gain a saving knowledge of Yeshua. By the end of our witness, Simon was beaming and gladly accepted these spiritual riches God first gave to the world through the Jewish people.

The next morning, before we left our hotel in Tel Aviv, we were able to give a witness for Messiah with two young Israeli men (Ophir and Aveshal). The discussion centered on the grand reason and purpose God brought the Jewish people into existence—to bring God's salvation to the world through Yeshua the Messiah who said ***"Salvation is of the Jews"*** (John 4:24). It is this wonderful Savior who has sent us to Israel to give this message of the Gospel back to His people. To best facilitate this errand of mercy to the Jewish people, we offer them the opportunity to receive the Hebrew Bible including the New Testament which records the sending of God's Son from the nation of Israel to save the Jew first and also the Gentile. Both young men understood our message of Yeshua the Messiah and accepted a complete Jewish Bible with Messianic Gospel tracts explaining the plan of salvation in its original Jewish context. ✠✡



Ophir and Aveshal understood our message of Yeshua the Messiah