

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John
5:39



A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

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33rd Mission Trip to Israel



Mission Team: Eric Oler, Todd Baker, Sue and Robin Hopper

During the last day of ministry in Jerusalem on the 33rd Gospel outreach, Eric Oler and I met an affable Israeli man working in the Gali shoe store. His name was Bashar. He came up to us, asked if he could help us. Bashar was so incredibly open to our Gospel witness about Yeshua the Messiah from the Jewish Bible. It was obvious from the outset this young man had an open and accessible heart and mind with no stones of opposition. He openly and cheerfully embraced the Gospel with open arms. Bashar was also very happy to accept a Complete Jewish Bible with a New Testament and Messianic Gospel reading materials. Bashar



Eric Oler and Bashar looking over the Messianic prophecies in the Hebrew Bible we gave him

high-fived us and repeatedly hugged us over learning about God's great, infinite love for him through Yeshua the Messiah and also learning that God's biblical plan for Israel is moving forward with His bringing the Jewish people back to the land

He promised to give them "for an everlasting possession" (Genesis 17:7-8) so they can be here for the glorious return of Yeshua the Messiah at the Second Coming (Zechariah 12:10; 14:3-4). But we quickly reassured Bashar that he can personally know this Messiah now through what the living Word of God we gave him has supernaturally revealed about Yeshua—Who He really is, and what He has done for our salvation!

Leon was another amazingly open Israeli to the Gospel of Yeshua. I met him at the Igloo Mall in Eilat. This inventive genius

"THE ENTRANCE OF YOUR WORD GIVES LIGHT" (PSALM 119:130)

invented and was selling a steam iron that was lightweight. It did not overheat or burn when accidentally left on clothing to be ironed. Leon was a very humble Israeli about his revolutionary invention; he gave the God of Israel all the glory for giving him this idea! I sensed by the Holy Spirit this righteous acclamation from Leon gave a perfect opportunity to share with him the Messiah of the Jewish Bible.



by
Todd Baker



Leon

So, I showed Leon some of the major First Coming prophecies about the Messiah given in the Tenach (the Old Testament). Leon looked at some of these Messianic prophecies and seriously pondered their specific contents only to be amazed at how they were individually, historically, and exclusively fulfilled by Jesus of Nazareth in the New Testament Jewish Scriptures.

The look of amazement on Leon's face at this newfound discovery was quite moving. The epiphany of discovering this by the light of God's Word giving light and understanding about Yeshua the Messiah, then led Leon to receive, not only the Messianic prophecy reading materials detailing more on this important theme, but also caused him to receive, without hesitation, a Complete Jewish Bible with Messianic Gospel tracts showing the reader where in the Tenach to find the major Messianic prophecies Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled at His First Coming.

Tzil, a 21 year old Jewish lady in Eilat, was another welcoming, inquiring and curious Israeli who wanted to know why Yeshua was the most important Person in Jewish history. I eagerly informed her that Jesus was the only One who singularly fulfilled all of the First Coming Messianic prophecies God gave Israel in the Jewish Bible and will also literally fulfill all the Second Coming Messianic

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

33rd Gospel Outreach to Israel — A Bittersweet Journey



By Robin
(Aviel) Hopper

Starting even before the trip was underway, I had an uneasy feeling that I could not put my finger on. But I was excited — I was about to embark on my fifth trip to my ancestral home Israel, and for the fifth time I was going to be taking the HaBesorah (Good News) to the people that G-d Himself chose to be Holy unto Him.

On March 15th, we had to meet up with the Levitt group as Dr. Todd Baker, our team leader, had to address the tour group in the chapel before we left for Israel and he needed to make sure everyone was on the plane or was accounted for. While at the chapel, the L-rd spoke to me and told me to place a complete Hebrew Bible with both the Tenach and the Brit Chadashah together in one volume (in Hebrew) in the airport Synagogue. I went to the Synagogue and prayed and the L-rd said again place the Sefer (Book) in with the prayer books and I did as G-d had instructed me.

After we had boarded the plane for Israel, we had a young Israeli woman that was seated with us, and Sue started a conversation with her. Her name is Dalit; she worked in the medical field with burn victims. She and Sue hit it off right away and before we even left the ground they were in deep conversation with each other. They discussed family, work, the politics in Israel, 17 Prophecies foretold, 17 Prophecies fulfilled... she did



Dalit and Sue at the baggage claim area in Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion International Airport

not want the Bible but she did want the study material that Sue had shared with her. After we went through Passport control, we saw Dalit one more time at the Baggage claim area and she and Sue exchanged contact information and allowed us to get a photograph with her and Sue together. We need to keep this young woman in prayer that the L-rd speaks to her.

On the 17th of March, I had good follow-up ministry with Aviv, the owner of the Gentleman's store in the Natanya Mall. A year and a half ago, I met Aviv and had given him the scriptures and study material, then "Isaiah 53 Explained", on another occasion. Aviv always smiles



Aviv and me in the Gentleman's Store in Natanya

when I walk into his store and is glad to see me. We had a good visit and before I left, he asked "Are you coming back in the fall?" I told him I was and was looking forward to seeing him then.

Please continue to pray for Aviv's salvation. He is a gentle and loving man. The answers that he has about

life can only be found through Yeshua.

The next morning, we checked out of our hotel and headed for Jerusalem, as always we go to Har Hermon (Mount Hermon) and minister to the IDF there. Every time we go to Har Hermon, we have good ministry - the young men and women in the IDF are so isolated and they want someone to speak with that is not another soldier or workmate.

In the back of my head and under my skin, I still had this uneasy sensation and feeling that something was not right and unbeknownst to me, my mother had fallen and was in an unresponsive state back in Plano, Texas. And here I was headed to the city I love the most - Jerusalem - and doing ministry on Mount Hermon. Here I was uncomfortable in my own skin and I was feeling restless.

Even though I was feeling uncomfortable and at dis-ease, I really wanted to have contact with the IDF before we left for Jerusalem and it was beginning to look as if that was not going to happen when out of the blue at the head of some stairs in a restricted area we saw Aviod, an IDF member. We asked if we could talk to him and he came down to talk to us. We told him how much

we supported the IDF and we wanted to encourage him and his mates. We talked about Bibi's win and we shared about why we come to Israel. As the team shared with Aviod, I offered him the Scriptures and the study material... I shared with him "The Promised Messiah", 17 Prophecies made 17 Prophecies Fulfilled. As we were talking, Eric was led to also give Aviod "Isaiah 53 Explained." Aviod graciously and humbly accepted our gifts.



Eric, Aviod and myself meeting on Har Hermon on the Syrian/Israeli Border

We need to keep these young men and women of the IDF in our prayers for safety and that they have Yeshua revealed to them as their personal Savior.

Again we were on the road to Jerusalem.

When we Arrived in Jerusalem on the 20th of March, it was close to Erev Shabbat (Shabbat evening).

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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 Todd by e-mail at:

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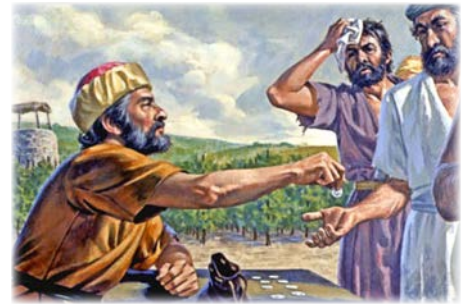
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The Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard

(Matthew 20:1-16)

Part 3



¹“For the Kingdom of heaven is like to a man that is a householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard. ²And when he agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into the vineyard. ³And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ And they went their way. ⁵Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, ‘Why do you stand here all day idle?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no man has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you shall receive.’ ⁸So when evening had come, the lord of the vineyard said to his steward, ‘Call the laborers, and give them their wages, beginning from the last to the first.’ ⁹And when those came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. ¹⁰But when the first came, they had supposed they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. ¹¹And when they had received it, they murmured against the Goodman of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last have labored but one hour; and you have made them equal to us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.’ ¹³But he answered one of them, and said, ‘Friend, I do you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a penny?’ ¹⁴Take what is yours, and go your way. I will give to the last, even as I gave to you. ¹⁵Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with my own? Is your eye evil, because I am good?’ ¹⁶So the last shall be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.”

The infinite Fatherhood of God is wrapped up in the earthly type of the householder who is both supplier and caretaker of the Church, **“who gives to all men generously; for the Lord loves justice, and does not forsake His saints. They are preserved forever”** (Psalm 37:28). God the heavenly Householder is both provider and preserver of the laboring household of the saints. **“He preserves the souls of His saints. Blessed be the Lord who daily loads us with benefits—even the God of our salvation”** (Psalm 47:10; 68:19). Secondly, the householder is the single owner of all capital and property of his estate. The sovereign Lord of creation is sole owner of all on the earth. **“Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine”** (Job 41:11). **“Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the Lord’s your God, the earth also, with all that therein is”** (Deuteronomy 10:14). Third, the householder is one who builds a particular business incorporating assorted workers for the systematic fulfillment of the householder’s architectural objectives. Currently the Lord is building the body of Christ to be solidly intact upon the sure foundation. The Lord Jesus Christ declared, **“Upon this Rock I will build My church”** (Matthew 16:18). Jesus will fully construct the church Himself, being the Pioneer builder and founding Rock upon which it is laid. This sacred institution of God is built **“upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone”** (Ephesians 2:20).

The builders utilized by the Master Architect are the various ministerial trades and spiritual skills. It is by the five-fold engineering of Christian service the Church is being built into a solid construction. **“And He gave some (1) apostles, and some (2) prophets, and some (3) evangelists, and some (4) pastors, and some (5) teachers for the perfecting of the saints, to labor in their appointed service for the ultimate building up of the body of Christ”** (Ephesians 4:11-12). Fourth, the householder speaks of paternal implications. He is a governing father over his submissive family. God is a life-imparting Father of all living humanity. “But now, O Lord You are our Father; we are the clay and You our Potter, and we all are the work of Your hand” (Isaiah 64:8). God claims living ownership over all souls. **“Behold, all souls are mine! As the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine”** (Ezekiel 18:4). Sonship for the child of God is strongly impressed by the indwelling influence and presence of the Holy Spirit in the renewed conscience of the mind; and thereby causes the instinctive yearning for God as heavenly Father. **“For you have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father”** (Romans 8:15). The Christian believer becomes the adopted child of God and an accepted member of His sanctified family. God as a Father of all born-again believers provides

physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual provision for them. **“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of His own will begat us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of His creation, having predestined us to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will”** (James 1:17-18; Ephesians 1:5).

Now that we have succinctly defined the exact identity and functionary nature of the householder, we will, in the course of this exposition, carefully scrutinize his ambulatory action—which entailed making a short predawn pilgrimage into the hustle and bustle activities of the town marketplace for the hiring of people willing to work in the vineyard. Upon finding a suitable number of able workers, an agreement for the amount of payment is established by both consenting parties. A covenant for a penny (denarii) a day was officially agreed upon between the householder and the laborers. But first, before the whole transaction between employer and employee is fully explained in the parabolic teaching of Jesus, a thorough analysis of who the laborers represent, the marketplace from which they were drawn, and the meaning of the vineyard they were sent to work in must be ascertained that

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is unmistakably clear to the careful reader of Scripture. If this is done with the utmost awareness of the plenary inspiration every word sacred Scripture contains, especially of Matthew 20:1-16, the message of the laborers in the vineyard will uncover before our investigative eyes the simple truth of what the holy parable is trying to teach. We pray God will bless our sincere attempt to successfully accomplish this veritable end.

The second character of this parable is the group of laborers that are sought and chosen for work by the ethical householder. These hired workmen are the Lord's ministers—His evangelistic and missionary workmen. In many instances of the Scriptures, God has deigned the instrumentality of man an essential component in assisting Him for the fulfilling of divine objectives, especially in this present age for the universal promulgation of the Gospel—the duration of which has now lasted over 2,000 years! The universal proclamation of the Gospel is the major work primarily undertaken of redeemed man appointed by God Who is the official overseer of the grand work that it may be finished on a note of assurance and victory. The laboring church triumphant already accomplishes God's zenith revelation of Himself through the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, from the eternal, omniscient perspective. The prophetic word of God in the Colossian epistle seals the finished work of the Church as already being completed, whose arduous labors in Christ will have brought forth spiritually procreative fruit unto eternal life from the time of the preaching of the Gospel to the final reception by its listening receivers. **"For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof you heard before in the word of the truth of the Gospel; which is come to you as it is to all the world and brings forth fruit, as it does also in you since the day you heard of it, and know the grace of God in truth"** (Colossians 1:6-7). The Gospel continues on and is traveling throughout the world capturing millions of souls bringing eternal life to those who hear and believe it.

The preaching of the Gospel by the laborers of God will be successfully offered to the whole world, although most of humanity will have rejected it! The Gospel of Jesus Christ is to have a universal effect reaching every part of the world via the active, working Church empowered by the Holy Spirit. Even so, if one were to say these Christian workers have not reached my particular area of habitation, we are forced to reply, "untrue,"

It is because you have not sought extensively for them. In the end, the Gospel will reach every area of the Lord's vineyard. Holy Scripture declares this will be so. **"But I say, have they not heard (referring to those yet eligible to hear and receive the Gospel from the Lord's ministering body of believers in Christ). Yes truly, their sound went into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world"** (Romans 10:18). Not one place will have remained unreached for Christ by the close of the present age. Therefore, the householder hires his laborers with the full intent of accomplishing his momentous task, just as God likewise does with all Christian workers serving His Son Jesus Christ, offering His promise of eternal life to a spiritually dead world. The common meaning of laborer is a person who is hired to work by another individual or organization for hourly or daily pay. Even so with every Christian worker hired of the Lord. **"Every man shall receive his own reward according to his labor"** (1 Corinthians 3:8). The Lord makes an analogous parallel between the laborers in the vineyard and the studious ministers of the Gospel. He assures them a bountiful reward for them in heaven: **"Where neither moth nor rust corrupts, and where thieves do not break in to steal—to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you"** (Matthew 6:20; 1Peter 1:4).

The laborers are especially emblematic of the preachers of the Gospel. They sow in faith and reap a spiritual harvest by God who gives the increase. They prepare and make ready the way of the Lord, to gather in and glean Christ's ripened grapes from His vineyard. One sows the incorruptible seed, while the other reaps. Both are mutually used of God and share in the same joyous reward of seeing a soul saved with eternal life in Christ by their fruitful endeavors of evangelism. **"And he that reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit to eternal life; that both he that sows and he that reaps may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, one sows and another reaps"** (John 4:37). This is the evangelistic framework God intends the Church to work in. The Lord Jesus Christ deems each regenerate soul co-operative **"workers together with Him"** (2 Corinthians 6:1). Each worker for Christ, like the laborers in the vineyard, will not go unrewarded by God, but will earn an enduring reward, **"to him that sows righteousness shall be a sure reward"** (Proverbs 11:18). †



The Entrance of Your Word... Continued from page 1

prophecies at His glorious return to the land of Israel. But, I now insisted with Tzil, "You can know Yeshua the Messiah now, and don't have to wait for His return. His love for Israel and the world led Yeshua to come and voluntarily die



Tzil

for our sins which God accepted as the redemptive sacrifice when He raised His Son from the dead to give all who believe and trust in Messiah the forgiveness of sins, eternal life and fellowship with God the Father." Prompted by hearing this Good News, Tzil joyfully accepted a complete Jewish Bible with Messianic Gospel tracts to learn more of how she could receive the blessings of salvation and spiritual rebirth by faith in Messiah Jesus into her life. ✨†

About the Author

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

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Having been to the Holy Land over 30 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.

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Thank you for your support.

A Bittersweet Journey... Continued from page 2

I received word that my mother had fallen, was not responsive, and was not expected to live much longer. I received this word after we had had dinner and it was now Shabbat and ELAL was shut down until after the Sabbath. I did not know what to do and did not believe we could leave before Monday or Tuesday at the earliest. I just knew I needed to get back to the states.

On Shabbat, we had good follow-up ministry in Independence Park, and good ministry at the King David Hotel over lunch. We had planned on going to Ben Yehuda Street that evening for ministry. But the L-rd said to stay at the hotel and contact our travel agent in the states to see what arrangements he could make for us to get back as soon as possible. Within two hours he had made arrangement for us to leave on Sunday the 22nd of March at 1030 (10:30 am) Israeli time and arrive in Dallas about 2230 (10:30 pm) Dallas time.



Robin's mother who is now with the Lord

My mother passed at 0730 (7:30 am) Dallas time while we were halfway between Israel and the states. There were two miracles that took place from the time we found out my mother was dying:

1) I was afraid she would be alone when she died. She had no less than two people with her from Eitz Chaim (our Messianic Synagogue) with her from the time she went into the Hospital until she went Home to be with the L-rd.

2) I was afraid I was going to have to take her off "Life Support". The L-rd removed that decision from me and she passed very peacefully with people loving on her and praying with and for her and surrounding her.

Yes it was a Bitter Sweet Journey... but we had sweet ministry in the Land. And my mother went to be with the L-rd... and that is all good. The bitter is, even though we left Israel as soon as we could, it was not soon enough.

Looking forward to the Fall and the 35th Outreach to my people.

Blessings in Yeshua. ☆☆☆



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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

For more information, please visit www.brit-hadashah.org or call (866)910-0444.

שלום

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If you would like to have Todd as a guest speaker at your church or function, visit our website: www.brit-hadashah.org or contact him at: Todd@brit-hadashah.org or call 866-910-0444.