

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John
5:39



A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

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September/October 2016

A RABBI LEARNS ABOUT THE RABBI

By: Todd Baker



On the 39th Gospel outreach to Israel completed this past July, an incredible thing happened in the Old City of Jerusalem near the Western Wall. The Holy Spirit gave me the rare opportunity of sharing Yeshua the Messiah from the Tenach (Old Testament) and Brit Hadashah (New Testament) with Orthodox Rabbi Eliezer Moshia. I was able to show him in a Hebrew booklet containing a list of 100 Messianic prophecies given in the Tenach and the corresponding listing of how each one was literally, accurately, and historically fulfilled by Yeshua of Nazareth in the New Testament. Rabbi Eliezer understood by this observation why belief in the Messiahship of Yeshua is valid. Consequently, I boldly encouraged the Rabbi to take the Messianic prophecy booklet along with a Bible in Hebrew that included the New Testament to verify the fact Messiah did come and is soon coming again. The Rabbi voiced no dissent as I saw from the expression on his face that he was connecting the dots to see the connection between each Messianic prophecy foretold and their fulfillment by Jesus in the New Testament.

Rabbi Moshia accepted my offer and blessed me. Incredible! Pray this dear Rabbi, in reading the Bible this ministry gave him, finds the Supreme Rabbi - Yeshua the Messiah - in the



Rabbi Eliezer Moshia

Old and New Testament Scriptures he took from me, and in faith believes and says to Him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel" (John 1:49). Now that this ministry provided an open and receiving Rabbi Eliezer the answer and fulfillment of the Messiah found in the New Testament, pray this man of Israel "without guile" can now read and believe Yeshua for salvation. God is moving among the rabbinic community as Messianic expectations in Israel is the highest in the land, as it was in first century Israel when Messiah Jesus came the first time.†

State of Emergency in the Ministry

I normally do not like to do this, given how the Church in America has a bad reputation for asking for money all the time. But this is different, Beloved of Messiah. We are experiencing a financial downfall of exponential proportions. Due to lack of giving in the last four months, this ministry's income has fallen nearly fifty percent! Please help us in this critical hour. Things have gotten so bad that I seriously may have to seek part time employment, as Paul did with his tent-making job. But I would prefer not do this, primarily because our Gospel outreaches in Israel are very important given the time we are living in and so few in the church go to the Jewish people with the Gospel on a consistent basis. The financial depletion has gotten so bad that now we might have to cut down our trips to Israel from four times a year to only two. How else can I say this - WE NEED YOUR HELP! Zola Levitt Ministries helps us facilitate some of these trips, and they too have taken a financial hit in this famine of giving. I would humbly ask that some of you would donate on a weekly to monthly basis, and others of you to please give generously now so we can get back on track and continue taking the Gospel back to the Chosen People in the land of Israel without let up.

This ministry needs help now. To give you an idea of my dedication to this End-time cause, I was offered a decent part-time job. But when the employer found out that I do take short-term mission trips to Israel, the company said that would be a problem for work. I declined their offer because I love the Jewish people too much to allow any job to interfere or cancel this out! Brit Hadashah Ministries stills plan to embark on the Fall Gospel outreach coming up this September. We still have just enough funds to manage this. But if the financial downfall continues I honestly don't know when we will return and how many times we can go to Israel in the future. We cannot let this happen.

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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.

How To Make God Laugh

By: Nancy Baker

Tell God YOU have a 5-year plan for your life that can't go wrong! Any adult or teen who expects their plans to go smoothly without any bumps in the road is living in dream land. We don't exist in a perfect world. There is an old saying that relates, "Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong." How many of us have expected a perfect vacation and ended up with delayed or canceled air flights, someone got sick and couldn't go, etc. Then there's the school that we expected acceptance in order to fulfill our career goal or the job that we wanted so badly! Did Christ have an easy life? We follow in his footsteps. He said, "Come, follow me." He's our example.

Tell God you don't have any responsibility for our politicians and today's world mess. Think again. How much study did you put into the ethics and morality of candidates for which you voted! Worse, yet, you opted not to vote. See how many in office, who are supposedly ethical, not only support the taking of babies at the beginning of their lives, but those at the moment of birth. Rejecting their church's teachings, they support Planned Parenthood, and actively set up laws that allow taxpayers' money to go to those who have no respect for human life. Some politicians accept money from our country's enemies to line their pockets with gold to keep their power. Do your duty and carefully research candidates and different party's policies! Quit pouting your candidate didn't make it! Vote for the person who MOSTLY aligns with your moral, Constitutional, and patriotism beliefs.

Tell God YOU won't be bugging him all the time with prayer requests because you are in control. If we think that everything and everyone are under your control—forget it. Can we control nature (earthquake, floods, lightning strikes, tsunamis, drought, meteors, etc.)? Can we rule with absolute control over our friends, families, and teachers? Come on—we are lucky to control ourselves! Tell God you expect a "yes" to all prayers. God's ways are not ours. He always answers our prayers, but those answers may not be what we're expecting! The answers may be "yes", "no" or "not now". Imagine God as the Good Year Blimp looking down on a Dallas Cowboy game in their stadium. Now imagine a fan seated in the third row. The fan can only see what is directly in front of him, but God from above can see all the field and the players at the same time. He sees what direction is best for each player and guides them along the field to achieve the best results. He does the same for us.... "No, having that friend is not a good thing for you because he/she will have a disastrous influence over you," He says.

Explain to God why the Bible is old-fashioned and doesn't apply to today's times. The Bible is alive and well just as it was in ancient times (Hebrews 4:12). It's all a matter of looking at the words of those times and translating for today. Do we worship idols? You bet we do. How about those of us who put money, success, social positions, ambition, material things, and ego before all else - even God. Tell me what a person values most and we can figure out all about what makes that person tick! God can stop worrying about ME. I'm a fairly bright person - I know what's right and wrong! Not so fast about distinguishing between good and evil. If an evil presence or situation looks horrible with flames spewing everywhere, horned monsters, or persons with warning signs of hell, we could get the picture in a minute! The thing that throws us off is evil often appears as very attractive or something that would make us happy (2 Corinthians 11:14-15). The Bible tells us that Satan is the master of deceit (John 8:44)! Should we be terribly fearful of evil? Let's say, "No" because believers are protected by God and guardian angels always at our sides! "I will be with you until the end of time," Christ said (Matthew 28:20). The Bible also warns "Be alert."

"Science" and belief in God are totally different. Science can prove everything. Not at all. Science and belief in our Creator go hand in hand. Science helps us to marvel at God's creation. There has to be a Creative force who can make mankind, the universe and all of creation from nothing. Man doesn't have this power. Understanding science is a path to believing there is a God. Remember nothing comes from nothing, and man can't create anything without using something.

Man has never seen God. How do we believe in something never seen? Man has seen God in the presence of Jesus Christ, man and God in one (John 1:18). When Philip and the apostles kept nagging Jesus to show them God, He more or less told them that they still didn't get it. When they look at Christ, they are seeing God (John 14:8-9)!

Notify God you are not going to tolerate obnoxious people! Not true. We will have to put up with people we don't like because that's the way life is. Christ endured insults, hatred, doubters, torturers, and murderers (1 Peter 2:21-23). That's pretty tame with what we have to face. Follow the actions of Christ in forgiving prayer and trust in the power of the Almighty. Remember, prayer is constant communication and conversation with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Rout reciting of words that don't mean anything to us is useless. Asking the believers to pray for us is always a good idea.†



The Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard

(Matthew 20:1-16)

Part 8



"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. And when he agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into the vineyard. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' And they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here all day idle?' They 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.' So 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.' And when those came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first came, they had supposed they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. And when they had received it, they murmured against the Goodman of the house, saying, '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?' But he answered one of them, and said, 'Friend, I do you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a penny? Take what is yours, and go your way. I will give to the last, even as I gave to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with my own? Is your eye evil, because I am good?' So the last will shall be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.

"And when those came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first came, they had supposed they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny" (Verse 10).

The day ends in pleasant surprise for the workers who labored only one hour in the vineyard. In the householder's abundant generosity, he paid them as if they labored all the day long. One has to imagine little of the great pleasure they experienced when receiving a full day's pay for so little done in the vineyard. How true this accurately portrays the overflowing gratitude sinners exuberantly display upon receiving the unbounded graces of God. Like the eleventh hour workers, the honest recipients of God's unbounded favor never once anticipated the all-sufficient inflow of redemptive grace poured into their transformed lives and the preserving benefit it will have on them for all time to come. What little they did for God in their own humble estimation, God in return, honors them with multiple blessings beyond any measure of hope or expectation conceived. Unspeakably blessed is it for the child of God. All legitimate needs, wants and desires, whether spiritual, emotional, mental, intellectual, or physical are fully given through Jesus Christ. He is our inexhaustible Provider, satisfying our every need and want. **"And of His fullness have all we received, and grace upon grace"** (John 1:16). There is no other reward

bestowed on us by God than His own self in the immaculate Person of Jesus Christ **"who gave Himself for us"** (Titus 2:14). The Lord God says, **"I am your shield and your exceeding great reward"** (Genesis 15:1). Christ, like the penny, is highly treasured of the deeply appreciative among His saved people, yet He remains common and trite like the Lincoln "penny" to the multitudes of mendacious Christians who cast Him aside as worthless and value Him as nothing more than just expedient religion used to embellish and improve their societal reputation among the civic community, **"which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that comes from God only"** (John 5:44).

It is in this vein of thought we examine the early morning laborers' response when paid the same sum of a "penny" by the householder. The early hour workers became ruffled and highly displeased at seeing their co-workers receive equal pay for only one hour of work. They expected more - or at least less pay given to the eleventh hour workers. Yet, their displeasure was entirely unwarranted. For had they not agreed by contract to work a certain amount of hours according to a specified rate of pay? They certainly

did, and therefore were without excuse to grumble and complain about the set payment. The perversity of the human heart always attempts to usurp the unwavering goodness of God into outright malice, especially when carnal inclinations are frustrated and presumptuous expectations unmet. Be ever so cautious, dear Christian, to hold your tongue from accusing God when irritating displeasures come and rob you of the fulfillment of anticipated expectations. The writer can well testify from his own life, the many times wherein difficulties came and the deceitful heart led him to find fault with God for apparent injustices supposedly suffered. The eventual outcome was exactly opposite and thereby led him into immediate repentance. How dare we, like these wretched servants, charge the Almighty with flagrant injustice. The householder remained firm to the agreement and refused revocation. The same with us, whatever our heavenly Householder desires to give and withhold is His sovereign pleasure, regardless of man's free will. **"For all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing, and He does according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth. And none can stay His**

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hand, or say to Him, what are you doing?" (Daniel 4:35)

The householder's volitional supremacy prevailed. He extended the hand of generous blessing to the late hour workers of the vineyard, and none could effectively stop it, despite the puny clamoring of greedy man. **"For the Lord of hosts has purposed, and who shall disannul it? And His hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back" (Isaiah 14:27).** On the other side, God does at times withhold His hand of provision from us. The householder gave no more than a penny to the early hour workers, despite their demand for more pay. We should continually thank our concerned Lord who withholds those things we desire that would only harm us in the end. The excellency of His irrefutable sovereignty is equally manifest both in giving and reclining to give within every needy circumstance. The unsatisfied workers could do nothing but acquiesce to the householder's mode of payment. Those who insist they are entitled to everything God has through the ludicrous "Name it and Claim it" doctrine do well to heed Job 9:12: **"Behold He takes away, and who can hinder Him? Who will say to Him, 'What are you doing?'"** No doubt if the early hour workers received more, it would have done serious damage to their own moral estate. They would have fatally adopted the ideology of the rich young fool and the rest of the wealthy without God that trust in their wealth and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches and say in their heart, **"My power and the might of my hand has gotten me this wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:17).** If the workers of the morning had avoided the pitfalls of accumulating wealth, they no doubt would have been content with what they received. The early hour servants had no room to complain. They were given the opportunity and the means by which to work ending with the householder's liberal blessing. It is God alone who is solely responsible for enriching our labors. **"For the blessing of the Lord, it makes rich, and He adds no sorrow with it" (Proverbs 10:22).** In light of this, all boasting in self-achievement by "works done for the Lord" is excluded. **"But he that glories, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends" (2Corinthians 10:17-18).**

The two classes of laborers characterize two types of individual Christians in the kingdom of heaven. Our parable illustrates the distinctive features of nominally "religious" Christian under "the law of works", and the genuine born-again Christian blessed under the covenant of grace. Let us further expound on what we mean. The early hour laborers well exemplify the "religious" multitudes that casually profess they know Christ, but have a faulty concept of His divine benevolence. They suppose it comes by human merit and nothing else. These people base their favorable standing with God on such things as frequenting the church house, Bible reading, prolonged prayer, alms to the poor, tithing, penance, observance of holy days, abstinence from meat on Fridays, saying novenas, Bible school attendance, water baptism, joining a church, keeping the Sabbath, and many other religious exercises repetitively done in the flesh.

Repentance from "dead works" and total reliance on the sure mercies of God is the only curative solution for these infinitely deficient substitutes for grace. People with the mindset of the early hour workers often have a legalistic appraisal of their work done in service to the householder. Instead of joyfully bearing the self-sacrificing activities of serving God, and leaving the matter of reward entirely up to Him, they are more concerned with what they can get from serving from God, and not with what they can give.

Much of the "Prosperity Gospel" bellowed forth from many ill-informed pulpits of contemporary Christendom espouses this sort of teaching. The mentality of sanctified self-aggrandizement unwittingly catalogues its many formulae in the selfish maxim: "Give to God so that you can get." In contrast, our Lord denounces this when saying, **"It is more blessed to give than to receive. Do good and lend, hoping for nothing again and your reward shall be great and you shall be the children of the Highest" (Acts 20:35; Luke 6:35).** If one makes a casual observance of Christian television, he or she will see that various appeals for money are made with the assurance to the donor that God is legally obligated to pay him in return. The "super minister" personally promises, or in reality presumes, to send a prayed over, oil anointed handkerchief that somehow has the innate power of divine healing emanating from it. All of this can be yours for a measly contribution of five dollars. The writer has personally witnessed this sacrilegious scam on television more than once! One financially affluent ministry based in the State of Oklahoma, made the daring appeal of asking twenty-five dollars for prayer cloths. If Protestants give their involvement and complicity to these unsavory practices, they stand in no different light than the Catholics involved in indulgences and the active veneration and adoration of holy relics - be it the statue of Fatima, or prayer cloths guaranteed to heal the sick. It's all from the same cesspool of greed and exploitation. Would to God there would arise bold, holy men of God "full of the fury of the Lord" to do what Christ did, which desperately needs to be done in the churches of America today. **"And when He made a whip of small cords, He drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen, and poured out the changer's of money, and overthrew the tables; and said to them that sold doves, 'Take these things hence; make not My Father's house a house of merchandise'. It is written, 'My house shall be called the house of prayer; but you have made it a den of thieves'" (John 2:15-16; Matthew 21:13).**

The minister constantly notorious for excessive fund raising is a liability to the cause of Christ, rather than a valuable asset to it. Many a minister greedy of filthy lucre, like John Tetzl of old, have ransacked God's flock for money leaving them with nothing in the end. Is it not because **"everyone from the least even to the greatest is given to covetousness, form the prophet even to the priest every one deals falsely" (Jeremiah 8:10).** The succulent grapes are gorged by the pastoral gluttons, leaving the rest of God's servants hungry and needy with nothing to glean from; consequently,

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B'rit Hadashah Ministries

† Partner With Us ☆

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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PO Box 796127
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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.

State of Emergency... Continued from page 1

Again, I ask you to please help avert this disaster for the sake of the people of Israel - of whom most we have talked to have never heard the Gospel of Jesus their Messiah or read the New Testament within the context of the fulfilled First Coming prophecies of the Old Testament! But this ministry is changing that after 39 Gospel outreaches to Israel and after 1,154 Old and New Testament Bibles in Hebrew have been passed out to open and receptive Israelis. We now urgently and humbly ask that you generously give to this Gospel cause to the Chosen People. God will richly bless you in return as He promised in Genesis 12:3.

To donate online, you can go to the following secure web link on our ministry website:

www.brit-hadashah.org/donate/

You can also donate by mail to:

Brit Hadashah Ministries
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Brit Hadashah Ministries is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit ministry, so your donation is tax deductible in the United States. Now is the accepted time, today is the day and year for the Gospel of salvation to be preached in Israel (2 Corinthians 6:2). Partner with us in this exciting End-Time effort.

PLANNING ON MOVING OR CHANGING YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

*Keep us updated so you don't miss an issue!
(It also saves us money on postage returns!)*

Parable of the Laborers... Continued from page 4

the vineyard is left trampled and ruined. Are things really like this in the modern church today, or are we being overly pessimistic and unfairly critical? What says the Scripture? ***"Many pastors have destroyed My vineyard, they have trodden My portion underfoot. They have made My pleasant portion a desolate wilderness"*** (Jeremiah 12:10). Be not despaired, O reader, over this commonplace occurrence. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God! God will render unto them contrary to their avaricious desires. ***"They shall have sown wheat, but they shall reap thorns. They have put themselves to pain, and they shall be ashamed of your revenues because of the fierce anger of the Lord"*** (Jeremiah 12:13). The many recent exposes of corrupt, materialistic ministries are positive proof of this. And if it begins with them, rest assured many will follow, yet to be exposed.†

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, is a Fellow of the International Academy of Apologetics, Evangelism & Human Rights in Strasbourg, France, and is currently a Doctor of Ministry candidate at Liberty University. 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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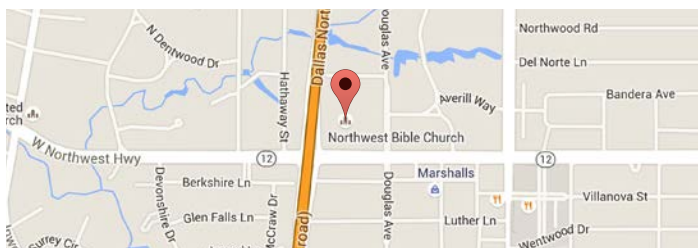
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Come learn about the Jewish roots of Christianity, enjoy great teachings from the Bible by Dr. Todd Baker, and join in loving fellowship with the Shalom, Shalom Congregation.

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