

# SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John  
5:39



A Quarterly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

Volume 26, Number 2

Summer 2026

## Proving to Israel Jesus is the Messiah of the Jewish Bible (Luke 24:44-46)

Continuing with our account of the 59th Gospel outreach in Israel, August Rosado and I had a transition day traveling from the Galilee to Jerusalem—the Golden City of our God (Psalm 48:1). Before leaving the Galilee, we spent time sharing the Gospel with Ramis. We went over the life of Jesus the Savior with him from the Lord's Virgin birth to His Second Coming in glory to the land of Israel (Matthew 1:21-23; Revelation 19:11-16). Ramis learned about the atoning death Messiah died to cleanse us from all sin and the free gift of that salvation giving the believer eternal life and a forever home in heaven (John 14:1-4; 1John 1:7).



Todd and Ramis

Ramis heard us gladly and with the hands of faith received a Bible and Arabic Gospel tract from us to learn much more of the way of salvation. Nearing the highway leading up to Jerusalem, we stopped once again to visit



August, Eido, and Todd

Kasser-Al-Yahud—the likely site of Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist in Matthew 3:13-17. At this location, August and I met a very friendly and wise Jewish Park Ranger whose name was Eido. He was quite familiar with the message of repentance preached by John the Baptist. From that knowledge we discussed with Eido the need for teshuva (repentance) to receive salvation from Yeshua the King Messiah (Mark 1:15). Eido agreed that God is looking for acts of obedience and repentance to show forth evidence one's faith in the Lord's salvation is genuine—the fruits of teshuva and good works that follow and result from true saving faith in Yeshua the Messiah (Matthew 3:8; James 2). Eido gladly received a Hebrew Bible which included the New Testament and Messianic Gospel literature. Let's pray that God's Ruach (Spirit) will, through His Word, grant this open and receptive Israeli the



August, Nofar, and Todd

gift of repentant faith in Yeshua the Messiah for eternal life; just as God calls all of us to do so that He might be the justifier of them that believe in Jesus (Acts 2:38-39; Acts 17:30; Romans 3:26).

Once again, the Lord blessed us with effective Gospel ministry at the Malcha Mall in Jerusalem. We met Nofar in the Yves Rocher skin care shop. She was unabashedly delighted to hear that we frequently travel to Israel to stand, pray, and support the Jewish people (Psalm 122:6). We said to Nofar that the God of Israel sent Yeshua the Messiah to the Jewish people to bring salvation and the eternal benefits of the New Covenant to them (Jeremiah 31:31-34).



August, Todd, and Elijah

God gave proof Yeshua is the Messiah by the very specific Messianic prophecies in the Tenach that He fulfilled at the First Coming. Nofar expressed delightful surprise as we showed her several of these prophecies for the first time from a pamphlet we gave her entitled "The Promised Messiah." Nofar told us how much she appreciated our coming to the Land to bring this Good News about the Messiah Yeshua of the Hebrew Bible. Needless to say, she was more than happy to accept a complete Hebrew Bible from us.

The Lord Jesus gave us great ministry on Ben Yehudah Street in the modern day city of Jerusalem. Walking into a Judaica shop a young Jewish man by the name of Adel warmly greeted us and was happy to hear of the Messianic link of Yeshua connecting both Testaments of the Bible together in Him! Adel not only agreed with this fact but chimed that both Testaments are indeed joined together and are completed through the vital connection of the Messiah. The young man further added that this was an

*(continued on page 5)*



### 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. 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. †

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 Rabbi Samuel of Sar El Tours for supplying us with Hebrew Bibles.

# The Parable of the Wicked Husbandmen

(Matthew 21:33-44) Part 15



*“Hear another parable: There was a certain householder who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to husbandmen and went into a far country. Now when the time of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first, and they did to them likewise. But last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘they will reverence my son.’ But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘this is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.’ And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the lord therefore of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those husbandmen? They said to Him, ‘He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and lease his vineyard to other husbandmen who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.’” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. And whoever falls on this stone shall be broken. But on whomever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder”*

The spiritual pride, hardness of heart, and the misuse of divinely given privileges Israel continually showed towards God in the kingdom, led to the subsequent withdrawal of it from that nation two thousand years ago and was given to the New Testament Church and its leaders who have been the caretakers in place of the Jewish nation during this long span of two millennia. Does the historical Church have any more room to boast and flatter herself over and against Israel? Nay, but the exact opposite is found to be true! The divine judgment that befell Israel for their unbelief will also fall in like manner on the unbelieving, impenitent multitudes of the visible, professing church of the last days. Alas, that the bulk of professing Christendom has followed after the same rebellious path Israel took in Christ’s day is sadly evident from history and the present day condition of the world we live in. In these closing days of the Church age, of which the tepid, worldly church of Laodicea is graphically indicative of, the sudden withdrawal of the kingdom of God will occur followed by catastrophic judgment on the whole anemic, apostate mass of professing Gentile Christendom, which will utterly be rejected and finally expelled from the glorious kingdom of Jesus Christ, whose illuminating presence will be removed from their midst along with the attendant blessings and privileges of the Gospel (Revelation 2:5; 3:15-16).

We heartily agree with the great Messianic Jewish scholar David Baron on this tragic and sobering judgment to come. Therefore, it will do well for all Post-millennialists and Dominionists alike to watch and take heed, lest “that day overtake them as a thief”.

“The long-suffering of God manifested in His dealings with Christendom has been great, and even greater, than in His dealings with Israel, He has had, nevertheless, to remove from His sanctuary, one by one, the candlesticks of Gentile Christianity, and to disown them in their corporate capacity from being witnesses for the truth

and representatives of Christ on earth. The history of corporate Gentile Christianity is not as the shining light “that shineth more and more unto the perfect day,” as some who boast in the supposed progress and speak of the conversion of the world before the glorious appearing of Christ ignorantly suppose, but rather that of a bright dawn, developing into an increasingly dark and cloudy day, and ending in blackness of darkness. And there is no hope for Christendom which continued not in the goodness of God when once it is “cut off”; nor is there any promise of the restoration and relighting of its candlestick when once its light has been quenched in anti-Christian apostasy. But it is different with Israel. There is always hope in the end” (David Baron, *The Visions and Prophecies of Zechariah*, pages 133-134).

We also observe that at the beginning of the Church age, Christ gloriously dwelt among His Church and freely moved among its Spirit-filled members (Revelation 2:1). But due to apostasies, immorality, false doctrine and worldliness, the Church at the closing of the present age, will find the Lord Jesus barred outside the doors, seeking access back into it (Revelation 3:20). Beloved body of Christ, let us realize that this parabolic lesson from Israel’s recreant history before God given in Matthew 21:33-44, did not happen by chance; nor was it recorded for mere historical recollection, but “all these things happened to them” (Israel) “for examples. And they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come” (1Corinthians 10:11). Indeed, in a far greater degree as the God of Israel has been mercifully forbearing toward iniquitous Gentile Christendom for long centuries, and like unbelieving Israel of old, Christ the descending Stone “made without hands” has come into the world to either break them through the spirit of contrition that they might be saved, or crush them with eternal damnation who willfully refuse Him and sin against the knowledge of the Gospel truth. Returning to the figure of the cornerstone in verse 44, raised either

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to lift up or crush down, Christ announces to Israel, to the Church, and every human soul what will occur if one chooses to accept or reject Him, the elect, precious Cornerstone of God.

“And whoever falls on this stone shall be broken. But on whomever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder” (verse 44).

The parable of the wicked husbandmen naturally concludes with the inevitable consequences that will happen on two exclusive classes of people—the believer and recipient of Jesus Christ, and the intractable unbeliever who refuses to repent and believe in the claims of Jesus Christ. Both of these two classes represent the whole world in the eyes of God. All who come to Christ must first bow in reverence, stoop in awe, bend in believing submission, and yes, fall in shame before Him with heart wrenching repentance, fully owing to the fact that as a vile and habitual transgressor of the Holy Law, he stands before the fierce and unbending justice of God guilty and good for nothing but to be cast into the unquenchable fires of perdition. Falling before the Almighty, who dwells in unapproachable light, the broken in spirit will readily acknowledge his utter unworthiness in measuring up to the perfect standards God requires and will humbly pray and plead in the spirit of the publican in Luke 18:13 crying, “God be merciful to me a sinner.” It is precisely at this point God, in infinite grace with pitying condescension, freely pardons the admitted, self-condemned sinner and comes to save and lift up the crushed and fallen in spirit. “For He gives grace to the lowly” (Proverbs 3:34). Only those who fall humbly on the nail pierced feet of the lovely Redeemer with repentance and deep remorseful contrition can be saved! O obstinate sinner should not your hardened heart melt like wax before such a warming love as Christ’s Who paid for you redemption in full? Why not then throw down your godless weapons of rebellion and faithless futility and surrender to Him with embracing repentance. For the redeeming love of Christ to all sinners everywhere assuredly promises: “The Lord is near to them of a broken heart, and saved such that be of a contrite spirit” (Psalm 34:18).

The same word for “broken” used in verse 44, as portraying the active result of the person falling on Christ the Stone no doubt carries the same meaning for “broken” in the Old Testament. To be broken is to be totally emptied of all self reliance, human striving, and vigorous religious efforts in trying to earn or obtain salvation and acceptance with God based on one’s own works of merit. In place of this, the sinner will recklessly abandon himself into the hands of the merciful Christ. It is in this discomfiting torment of stinging honesty and complete brokenness of heart and despairing of mind that a repentant soul knows all too well that apart from God’s intervening grace, he is “without strength” (Romans 5:6); and powerless to save himself, since it is the power of sin that dwells within him (Romans 7:20), leaving him captured and enslaved to the cruel tyranny of it (Romans 7:23). He knows all ethical works of righteousness performed in the duty of religion are nothing but foul and filthy, discarded menstrual “rags”

before God (Isaiah 64:6). But to those repentant and contrite that loathe sin in themselves and grieve over the polluting and crushing influences it has had in their lives, and the sheer effrontery of it before God, to them, will God not only save, but fully accept their repentance as a true sacrifice preparing the heart for salvation. “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise” (Psalm 51:17).

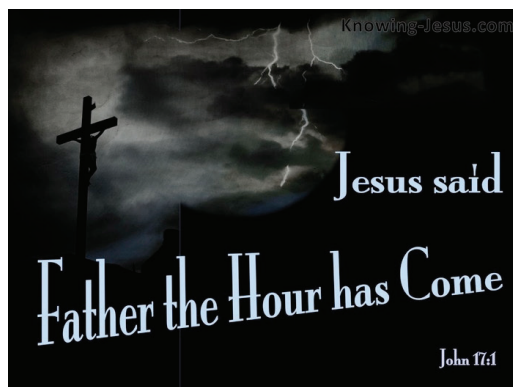
Yes, it is to the repentant in heart, who freely confess they are beaten down by sin and crushed by Satan that Christ has come to save and set free; instead of all the presumptive works done by the arrogant religious crowd, who base acceptance with God on an impersonal and ritualistic observance of codified rules and regulations, and not on the free and forgiving love of Jesus Christ. Nothing but the mercy of God can alone save man. In order to receive the outflow of divine mercy, a man must first strip himself of all self-assurance in the flesh. He must cease from trusting in the ineffectual “dead works” of man-made religion and philosophy that has already sent untold multitudes to an eternal, devil’s hell. The truly contrite of heart will despairingly admit of himself from common experience—“for I know that in me dwells no good thing. O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from this body of death” (Romans 7:18, 24)? It is only at this point of self revilement that God will save and restore such a one and give him a new nature with a redeemed nobility in Jesus Christ, thus making the sinner’s entire being whole, where it formerly was broken and beaten down by the shameful ravages of sin and spiritual death.

Note, beloved, these solemn words of verse 44 spoken by the “Man of sorrows” was not addressed to the flagrant and base sinner, or to the overt criminal, as might commonly be presumed by the self-righteous religionist. These words of grave admonition carrying eternal importance were directly spoken to the highly esteemed and well-respected religious leaders of the community that were thoroughly reared and trained in the Law of God. They were therefore quite familiar and knowledgeable with the concept of repentance and the coming of the Messiah according to Old Testament prophecy; but alas, as with the millions today of world Christendom, only held to the outward observances of it, while all the time thinking they are achieving great merit and personal acclamation before God for their empty external expressions of mourning, prayers of penance, and acts of contrition. Yet their inward selves still lacked the true spirit of repentance producing action that turns one away from sin and all notions of salvation accomplished by personal merit to the all sufficient grace of Jesus Christ, that is able to save “unto the uttermost.” Nor is this attitude of true repentance and humility to be exercised in the life of the Christian once at salvation, but should always clothe the genuine follower of Christ and be practiced daily, so as to guard against spiritual pride and self-righteous scorn against those struggling with sin, and other less spiritually advanced and weaker believers. It is only with the contrite and humble that the high and lofty God dwells with (Isaiah 57:15).

## What was Jesus' Hour in the Gospel of John?

The phrase “My hour, or “the hour” that Jesus repeatedly referred to in the Gospel of John mainly points to Jesus’ death on the cross, and later His resurrection, and exaltation. Seven references of Jesus’ hour of death are mentioned in the Gospel of John. The first time we come across this enigmatic phrase is in John 2:4 when Jesus addressed His mother Mary at the wedding of Cana. “Jesus said to her, “woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not come.” What Jesus meant here is that once He officially started performing miracles this would start the inevitable process down the road to the cross—so he had to make sure this would not happen prematurely.

The second mention of the hour of Jesus’ death is in John 7:30: “Therefore they sought to take Him (the temple guards sent by the Sanhedrin); but no one laid a hand on Him because His hour had not yet come.” The leaders of Israel could not arrest Jesus simply because it was not the exact time determined by God’s sovereignty for Jesus to be crucified. The third mention of the hour in John 8:20 refers to a similar situation when that verse also says, “And no man laid hands on Him; for His hour was not yet come.” The fourth mention of the hour of Jesus is in John 12:23—“And Jesus answered them saying, the hour is come that the Son of Man should be glorified.” To this point in John’s Gospel the hour was



spoken of in the future tense, here, it is spoken in the present tense for the first time. The fifth time the hour is mentioned is in John 12:27—“Now is My soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour; but for this cause I came to this hour.” Jesus did not shirk from His hour to suffer and die on the cross.

The sixth mention of the hour is in John 16:32—“Behold the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave me alone. And yet I am not alone because the Father is with Me.” The hour of Jesus’ death also included the abandonment of the Disciples when Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. The seventh mention of the hour is in John 17:1—“Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that Your Son may glorify You” The end point of Jesus’ mission to save mankind has finally come as He now faces the cross He will die on. The hour of His glorification through the cross and resurrection is the greatest hour in the history of the world. Now that this greatest climatic hour has passed, Jesus Christ has passed on to the Church the mission of declaring this Gospel to the whole world. That one hour has changed the course of history and time forever.



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Daniel E. Woodhead Ph.D., President

# Proving to Israel Jesus is the Messiah of the Jewish Bible (Luke 24:44-46)

(continued from page 1)

undeniable fact and anyone who denies this simply does not know what he is talking about. Adel ended up taking a complete Jewish Bible from us with accompanying Messianic Gospel tracts to further deepen his understanding of what he already knew and what August and I shared about Yeshua being that very Jewish Messiah of the Bible who fulfills and joins together both the Old with the New in God's Word (Matthew 13:52). At another Judaica gift shop, August and I met and witnessed to Elijah who was an elderly man who owned and operated his gift shop for forty-six years! He told us he knew many Pastors and Christians leaders who had visited his shop over the years. When we mentioned how both Testaments are joined together by the paramount Person of the Messiah, Elijah said it was true and further agreed about how Yeshua is the central link of Scripture via His exclusive fulfillment of all First Coming Messianic prophecy. Elijah pulled out a copy of the New Testament in Hebrew that he had read. August and I then offered to give him a complete Hebrew Bible with both Testaments in one volume, and a Messianic prophecy pamphlet listing these major prophecies Yeshua alone fulfilled. Elijah jumped at the opportunity saying this was better to have than what he had before! He eagerly accepted these blessed gifts and reiterated the Bible we gave him was a better one because it has both the Tenach and Brit Hadashah in one bound volume as it should always be. August and I praise God for how Ruach Ha Kodesh (the Holy Spirit) is using this ministry to open the eyes of Israel to see Yeshua the Messiah from their Scriptures (Luke 24:44-46).

Beloved in Messiah, I will be heading back to Israel this July to carry out this ministry's 60th Gospel outreach to Israel in obedience to Roman 1:16. As many of you know, I took a step of faith and went back into full time ministry. If you could please support this outreach and help us continue our Gospel outreaches

to Israel, it will be deeply appreciated. We are one of very few ministries in the Church that is regularly traveling to Israel and taking the Gospel to the Jew first there as Scripture mandates (Roman 1:16) Supporting us with your donations enables us to commit uninterrupted, full time devotion and commitment to soundly teach God's Word, and bring the Gospel back to Israel several times a year. We need your financial help. Please consider becoming a regular financial supporter of this worthy ministry. As you give, God will bless you in return according to the promise of Genesis 12:3. Help us reach both Jews and Arabs in Israel with the saving message of the Gospel. You can donate by clicking on our secure link here: <https://www.brit-hadashah.org/donate/>

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Thank you so much for letting the Lord use you to allow us to continue this crucial ministry of sound Bible teaching and Jewish evangelism in Israel.

Your servant in Messiah Jesus,



Dr. Todd Baker



## B'rit Hadashah Ministries



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Summer 2026 Issue

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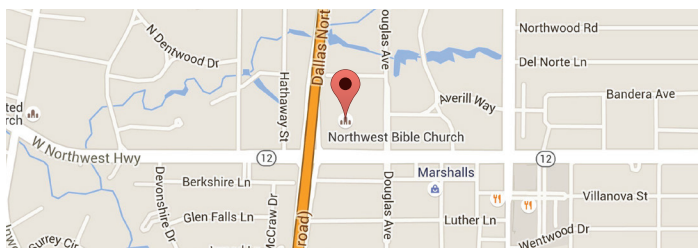
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