



December 2017

Dear brothers and sisters in Messiah,

Shalom! שלום

"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith Jehovah of hosts." Zechariah 4:6

Every December, we are amazed that the current year is coming to an end, and this year is no different, how quickly it has passed by. Solomon - Shlomoh, the king of Israel, in his old age, reminded his people of this fact. He said to them in Ecclesiastes 1:4, **One generation passes away, and another generation comes: but the earth abides forever.** For this reason, Solomon reminded Israel to Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, and to **fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.** Ecclesiastes 12:13b. The words, **remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth,** became very real for us, when the Lord took home to himself, our sister in the Lord, Daniela. She was only 34 years old, when suddenly and unexpectedly, she died in her sleep and passed into the presence of her Lord. Daniela, a Jewish believer in *Yeshua*, who lately had been attending our Friday evening Bible classes, and brought her two young children to Awana in the Willowdale Assembly hall in Toronto. Daniela's husband, who is not a believer, started to attend our Bible studies with her, he is the one who called to let us know of her passing. The family is still reeling from the shock of Daniela's sudden passing and need much grace from the Lord. Daniela's mother and sister, who are believers, told me at the cemetery that our Bible studies had given Daniela much needed comfort and joy to her heart. On this side of heaven we will never understand why the Lord *Yeshua* allowed this to happen, but we know that God loves us, He is sovereign, He never makes mistakes and He knows all things. We need to trust him that He knows best. Please remember this dear family in your prayers, that they may be comforted and sustained. Pray please also for the salvation of her husband Avi.



As you receive this December newsletter, our Jewish people worldwide have just concluded the celebration of the Feast of Hanukkah. This feast commemorates the faithfulness of God, when our Jewish people of old were delivered from the hands of Antiochus Epiphanes. Antiochus, was a Greek king of the Seleucid Empire, who reigned over Syria from 175 until 164 B.C., he is famous for his brutal persecution of the Jewish people. This wicked king desecrated the temple of God in Jerusalem, setting up an altar to the god Zeus and sacrificing pigs on the altar. Our people of old were forbidden to follow the Law of God, to circumcise their children, to keep the Shabbat day and much more. The prophet Daniel, in chapter 8 of his book, foretold of this

wicked king. **Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.** Daniel 8:11-12. Antiochus Epiphanes was a wicked king, he wanted to be worshiped as if he was god. He took upon himself the title Epiphanes, which means god manifest. However, his evil behaviour earned him another nickname



among the Jews, Epimanes, which means a mad one. God by His grace, raised up faithful men in Israel, who stood and fought against Antiochus and his armies, driving them out of the land and cleansing the temple. These men, known as the Maccabees, rededicated the temple to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They used a single pot of oil, which was found, to light the Menorah, the Lampstand. That pot of oil was sufficient to light the Menorah for only one day, yet miraculously the oil kept the Lampstand lit for 8 days, this is why our people celebrate Hanukkah for 8 days. It is not a coincident that some 200 years later, our blessed Lord Jesus, the Messiah, came to this very same temple. It was in this temple, that *Yeshua* publicly proclaimed that He is the true Messiah, and that He is one with the Father. He said, **I and my Father are one**, John 10:30. Sadly, and unfortunately, the leaders of Israel did not accept *Yeshua*. Not as God the Son, and not as the promised Messiah of Israel. Yet, we are thankful that many of our Jewish brethren, in the past and in this present day, are coming to faith in the Lord *Yeshua*. We are privileged to see how God is still working in Jewish hearts, leading them to salvation.

Last Saturday, we hosted a special Hanukkah event at the Holy Scriptures and Israel, Saturday – Shabbat meeting. As we read the verses when the Lord, *Yeshua* walked in the temple in Jerusalem during the feast of Hanukkah - the Feast of Dedication. We were reminded of the promises that our blessed Lord *Yeshua* gave during the feast, to all who will truly believe in him.

The Lord *Yeshua* said in John 10:27-28. **My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.** What a wonderful assuring promise, a promise of **ETERNAL LIFE** to all that believe on the name of the Lord Jesus the Messiah. You can listen to that message through our website: holyscripturesandisrael.com/radio.



We were happy to have many guests join us, some unsaved friends and family members, as well as our sister Dr. Kitty-Joy Kreuger, who shared her testimony with us. We were blessed to hear how the Lord has worked in her life, using her for his glory. Dr. Kreuger recounted the story of how, at the age of five, she and her mother were constantly on the move, hiding from the Nazis in the German occupied Netherlands. Her father was sent to Auschwitz and never seen again, while she and her mother survived the holocaust. When she was fifteen, she heard the gospel and accepted the Lord *Yeshua*. When forced to make a choice between staying at home or denouncing the Lord, she found herself homeless once again. It was wonderful to see the faithfulness of the Lord these many years, how He has worked in the life of Dr. Kreuger, using her for His honour and glory.

On the 17th of December, Irene and I were privileged to participate in a special gospel outreach meeting, with the brothers and sisters of the Willowdale Assembly in Toronto. The brethren, young and old alike canvassed the neighbourhood, reaching out with song and word. Invitations were given for a special outreach evening, which included a nice meal, a time of singing and a gospel message. There was a good turn out, a couple of Jewish people from our Holy Scriptures and Israel outreach meetings also came to join us. It was my privilege to share the gospel with those present, we pray that the Lord will bless these efforts for His glory.

As to the radio ministry, we would like to inform you that the Lord has opened the door for us to start airing Holy Scriptures and Israel bible teaching message programs on the Trans World Radio website, called TWR360 <https://www.twr360.org>, we just signed a one-year agreement, which will give us an open door world wide, including to our Jewish people in Israel. We are thankful to the Lord for this new open door, and are thankful to you dear brothers and sisters for

Early in 2018, our programs will be available on TWR360.org, and on the TWR360 Android and iOS apps, reaching a new audience worldwide.



your prayers and financial support in this ministry. As we are preparing the messages for the radio stations and websites both in Canada and the USA, we do believe that the word of God will not return unto Him void, Isaiah 55:11a. **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void.** The gospel of Messiah is the power of God unto salvation. It was Shaul - Paul who wrote in Romans 1:16. **For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Messiah: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.** We are also seeking the will of the Lord in regards to airing the Holy Scriptures and Israel Bible teaching programs on the Israeli radio station called Agape.fm, this radio station is a Messianic station in the land of Israel. We thank God that this kind of station exists and is available in Israel, as our people need to hear the gospel of the Lord *Yeshua* the Messiah. We leave all

this in the hands of the Lord, may His will be done.

From time to time we get feedback from listeners to our bible teaching programs on the radio stations or through the websites. It was encouraging to receive an e-mail from this dear brother

who listens to our program aired on the KDIA 640 am station in San Francisco, USA. Dan wrote last month saying, **At this time, I am eagerly awaiting to 7:30 when I get the chance to continue studies in Esther with you on station KDIA. Simultaneously, I am studying 1 Samuel and Exodus. Both in English and German, since I can read both languages. It benefits me that you bring out the New Testament applications as we read these Old Covenant books. Sometimes I am also awake for the 3:30 broadcast of Holy Scriptures and Israel on KDIA, blessings in Christ, Dan.** These kind of responses are encouraging. It gives us joy to know that there are those who are benefitting from the Bible teaching programs of Holy Scriptures and Israel. To God is the glory.



Brothers and sisters, this is our last newsletter for 2017. We praise God for His ongoing faithfulness to us. We also thank you for participating in this ministry through your prayers and financial support. We wish you a blessed season and a Happy New Year. Our Lord *Yeshua* may come today but if He tarry, Irene and I wish, with the help of the Lord, to continue on in the ministry that He placed before us. For He said, **Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.** Mathew 24:46.

Please pray for:

- The family of Daniela.
- The people who attended our outreach meetings.
- Our new radio ministry through Trans World Radio.
- The preparation for bible teaching messages.
- Our regular weekly ministry meetings and bible classes.
- The spiritual growth of those who attend Holy Scriptures and Israel.
- The needed physical and spiritual strength for Irene and I.
- Our families in Israel and around the world.
- **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.** Psalm 122:6

"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth."
Isaiah 62:1

God bless you.

In Messiah,

G. Leon & Irene