



January 2019

Dear brothers and sisters in Messiah,

Shalom! שלום!

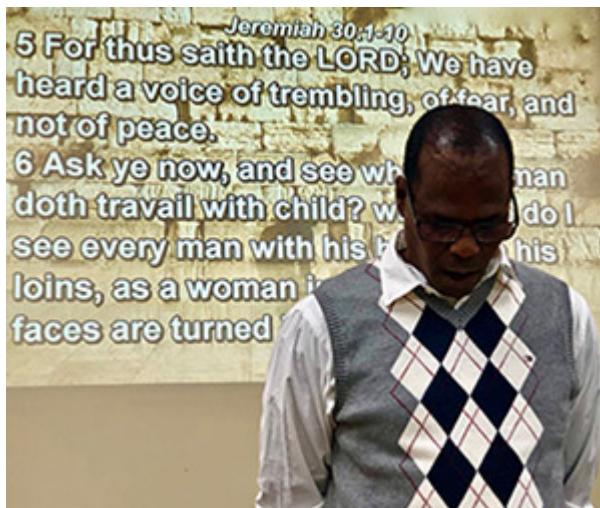
"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith Jehovah of hosts." Zechariah 4:6

זְכַרְיָה 6:4 "וַיֵּשֶׁן וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר זֶה דְּבַר יְהוָה אֶל־זְרֻבָּבֶל לֵאמֹר לֹא בִמְיֹל וְלֹא בִכֹּחַ כִּי אִם־בְּרוּחִי אֶמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת:

As we begin a new year we are ever mindful of the faithfulness of *Yeshua* our Messiah, during the past year, in times of joy and also in times of trials and hardships. We especially think of those who have lost loved ones and are still keenly feeling their loss. We pray that the Lord will continue to be their source of comfort and draw them closer to Himself.

As we at Holy Scriptures & Israel held our first meeting in 2019, we reflected on the goodness of God, and committed ourselves to His loving care, asking His blessing for the year ahead of us. We also expressed our thankfulness for the many blessings already received, and for those whom the Lord has brought into our midst with the desire to study the Word of God and to grow spiritually. We were reminded of the blessings God promised to anyone who will delight in His word, in Psalm 1:2 we read; **But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in his law doth he meditate day and night.** We will find joy in our hearts when we meditate upon the Word of God, for the scriptures will always lead us to the lovely person of our Lord *Yeshua*.

These days, the last days of the church, are days of small things, and yet we are so blessed to see God at work. God works through His Spirit in hearts, including those of our Jewish brethren, who, by reading the Scriptures find *Yeshua* as their Messiah. Together, we can grow in our



appreciation of the person of the Lord Jesus. We are thankful for each and everyone at Holy Scriptures & Israel Bible Fellowship, and it is so encouraging to see God-given spiritual gifts being utilized for the good of everyone. While some might be evidenced in a more public manner in the reading of the scriptures, opening or closing the meeting with prayer, there are many more who work behind the scenes, who with their service to the Lord have been a real blessing.

It is truly refreshing to see believers in *Yeshua* our Messiah, grow spiritually and be used by the Lord. During our weekly meetings, the Word of God is taught from both Testaments, the

Tanach - the Old Covenant, as well as the Brit Ha-Hadasha - the New Covenant. It is important to have the person of our Lord Jesus set before us, as He is our example. When challenged and tempted during His life, *Yeshua* went back to the Hebrew scriptures, quoting Moses and rebuking satan, the tempter, in Luke 4:4b, **It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.** Later, standing up in His hometown synagogue in Nazareth, we find *Yeshua* once again speaking from the Hebrew Scriptures, quoting Isaiah, who prophesied of the Messiah, saying to His countrymen in Luke 4:18-21; **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.**



We would like to mention, as a matter of prayer, regarding the exercise that some of the believers from a Messianic congregation in Toronto had, to go door to door with the gospel to the Jewish community in the city of Toronto. We thank the Lord for this exercise, and for those who went door to door sharing the message of the gospel of our Lord *Yeshua* the Messiah. The Lord blessed this outreach and we are thankful for the good report which we received. Many, especially Russian Jews, were willing to listen to the message and to hear of the person of *Yeshua* the Messiah. As expected, it has also brought about a negative response, resulting in the Jewish community being warned by their rabbis against the missionary activity going on. They are now distributing a rabbinical booklet written years ago by one of the rabbis, as to how to respond to missionaries. The booklet seeks to prove that *Yeshua*, Jesus is NOT the Jewish Messiah. Due to this situation, I received a request for copies of my booklet, which was written some years ago, as a response to the very same booklet that they are now distributing to the Jewish community. We were happy to supply them with our booklet entitled *A Response to Anti-Missionaries*, which addresses the points brought out in their booklet, and using the Word of God, proving that *Yeshua* is indeed the promised Messiah of Israel. These booklets have been



printed in Russian as well as English, and we trust that this booklet will be helpful for those who are searching for answers to their questions. We appreciate your prayers for this outreach, for those who shared, and for those who heard the gospel, that their eyes and their hearts would be opened. As the apostle Paul wrote; **Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.** Romans 10:1.

Speaking of Jewish people coming to know the Lord, I am reminded of our dear sister Doris Nixon, whom the Lord took to be with himself, just last week. You might remember that we recently asked for prayer on her behalf. Our sister Doris was one of those early Jewish believers, who have been an example and source of inspiration to those of us who have come after. If you think it is difficult to be Jewish and a believer today, it was much more difficult sixty years ago, believe me. I remember when I became a believer, I thought I was the only Jewish person who believed that *Yeshua* was the Messiah, I soon found out I wasn't, but back in the day, they were few and far between. We really

owe a debt of gratitude, to those who against much opposition stood firm in their faith, and were able to encourage us young believers in our faith. We will certainly miss our dear sister Doris, but we know that she is now home with her Lord and Savior. Well done, thou good and faithful servant!

Another matter of prayer that has just presented itself, Through the Bible ministry is currently seeking the guidance of the Lord in finding an Israeli believer in *Yeshua*, Jesus the Messiah, who would be able to translate the Through the Bible program of J. Vernon McGee into Hebrew. These messages will be aired through Trans World Radio and will be available for many around the world including the land of Israel. They have contacted me regarding this matter, and the possibility of doing the translation and preaching the message in Hebrew. It has been on my heart for many years, to reach my Jewish brethren in the Hebrew language, and perhaps this might be the opportunity to do so. We are seeking the mind of the Lord in this, if it is His will, we are assured that He will bring it to fruition.



As a reminder to those interested in our upcoming Israel: The Land of the Bible Tour, time is running out to register. You can visit holyscripturesandisrael.com/tours for details.

We want to thank you all for keeping us in your prayers, it is encouraging to our hearts to know that we are being held up with your prayers.

Please pray for:

- The believers who attend our weekly Bible classes.
- The outreach meetings and radio ministry.
- The family of Doris Nixon, that they would be comforted.
- The possibility of translating Through the Bible into Hebrew.
- Our son Joab, who just had another surgery on his leg, that it would heal well.
- **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



Please pray for Israel to open their hearts and see Yeshua our Messiah who said, "I am the light of the world." John 8:12

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