



April 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 4:6 "וַיַּעַן וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר זֶה דְּבַר יְהוָה אֶל־זְרֻבָּבֶל לֵאמֹר לֹא בִמְחִיל וְלֹא בִקֶּחַץ כִּי אִם־בְּרוּחִי אֶמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת:



We trust that you are doing well, thankful for the grace which the Lord *Yeshua* provides for each of us every day. We are now back in Canada after our Bible teaching tour to Israel, and though we are still somewhat jet lagged, the Lord blessed us and we are thankful for the safe return of the whole group.

A few days prior to our departure for Israel, Irene and I attended the funeral service of the father of our friend Tony. We were encouraged to know that his father was a believer in our Lord *Yeshua* the Messiah, and though now absent from the body, he is present with the Lord. It was my privilege to share a message of comfort and hope for the family from John 14:6-7, where some 2000 years ago *Yeshua*, Jesus the Messiah, encouraged His sad and perplexed disciples with these words, **Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.** John 14:6-7. These are amazing words of comfort to all those who are believers in the Lord Jesus the Messiah, how wonderful to know that we have a hope to be with the Lord in His home, in

heaven. So, even though we grieve the loss of a loved one, we can rejoice and be glad that they have gone home to be with the Lord.

While in Israel we had the privilege to witness the baptism, טבילה of dear brother Chris and sister Justyna who traveled with us to Israel. Chris and Justyna wanted to identify with the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus the Messiah. The immersion took place in the Jordan River, a place called Bethany beyond the Jordan. It is in the vicinity where John the baptizer performed the baptism of repentance for many in Israel who waited for the coming of our promised Messiah, and where the Lord himself was baptized. We read in John 1:28-29.

These things were done in Bethabara, בְּבֵית הָעֵרְבָה beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing. The next day John seeth Yeshua coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. Chris and Justyna were very thankful to have our group witness their baptism



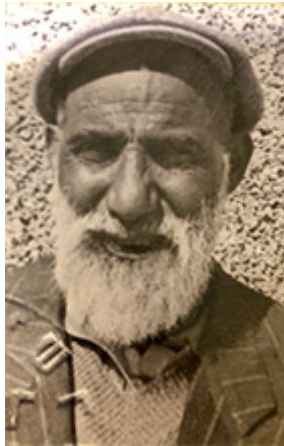
and share this special occasion with them. As we read some verses from the Bible, with a time of singing and prayer, we had an audience from both sides of the Jordan River, Israelis and Jordanians, who also witnessed their testimonies as they were baptized. As they exited the water, we sang together the chorus, I Have Decided to Follow Jesus. One never knows what sort of impact is left on those who are observers, but the Lord is able to use these occasions for His honour and glory. We recently received a note from Chris and Justyna expressing their joy and thankfulness in sharing their baptism with our group, they praise the Lord for all he He has done for them. Chris and Justyna enjoy the things of the Lord Yeshua and want to be where His Word is taught, we are thankful to have them with us at our outreach meetings in Toronto.



It is good to return home to Canada, and to see our sons Shalom, Yoav and Nathaniel, as well as Irene's mother. We are also happy to be back with the believers in our fellowship who consistently come to study the Word of God with us. We are thankful for brothers Alfred Bouter, John Neufeld and Tony Tsoi, who ministered the Word during the time that Irene and I were in Israel. God is so good, providing the needed help in order that the work of the Lord and the ministry of His Word will continue. During our Friday Bible classes, we are continuing with the studies of the letter to the Galatians and the book of Isaiah. This past Shabbat / Saturday we concluded, by the grace of God, our study of the book of Lamentations, Eycha אֵיכָה in Hebrew. Lord willing, the studies on the book of Lamentation will be uploaded shortly to our website, <http://www.holyscripturesandisrael.com/radio>, and eventually the series will be aired on the radio stations. The study of Lamentations was a very moving study, we learned of the severe

punishment which the God of Israel poured upon His chosen people, He allowed them to experience unimaginable sufferings by the hands of the Babylonians, who in 586 B.C. destroyed Jerusalem, burnt the Temple, and carried our people Israel away captive to Babylon. **By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion.** Psalm 137:1. We also learned of the loving care that Jeremiah the prophet had for His people Israel. May the Lord help us, that like Jeremiah, we might show love and care towards the saints of God, to all who belong to the assembly of the Lord Jesus the Messiah.

Within a few days the feast of Passover, פסח, will be celebrated by our families and the Jewish communities, both in Israel and around the world. Each year as this season arrives, I look back with fond memories of my youth, when Yosef, my grandfather led our family in the celebration of Passover, keeping the God given ordinance the people of Israel were given in Exodus 12. As year after year our family sat together to commemorate when our forefathers were redeemed out of bondage through the blood of the lamb, little did I grasp then, that the blood of the lamb which was killed some 3500 years ago, is a miniature picture of our beloved Messiah, *Yeshua*. *Yeshua* loved us so much, that He was willing to die and shed His own blood in order to redeem us, not only the nation of Israel, but all humanity from sin, all those who put their trust in Him out from every people, tongue and nation. We read, **for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.** Revelation 5:9b. How blessed are we, who believe on our Lord *Yeshua*, Jesus the Messiah!



This year, Passover falls on the evening of the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Nissan, it will begin on Friday, April the 19th and will end on the evening of Saturday, April the 27th. Passover falls on a different day each year, as the Jewish community uses the biblical lunar calendar, rather than the Gregorian calendar used by most of the western world. In the will of the Lord, we at the Holy Scriptures and Israel outreach, will once again host a special event on Saturday, April the 27th at 1:00 p.m. We will look into the word of God, reading of the amazing redemption from bondage, provided by God through the blood of a lamb, some 3500 years ago. With the help of the Lord, we will present the pure message of the gospel, pointing to the Lord *Yeshua*, Jesus the Messiah, who became THE Passover Lamb, it was He who shed His precious blood in order to provide a greater redemption from sin to all who will sincerely believe on His name. We value your prayers for this outreach meeting as we anticipate the coming of both Jewish and non-Jewish friends and family members who do not know the Lord Jesus as their Messiah. Should you wish to join us for this Messiah in the Passover presentation meeting, you can reserve a seat, by contacting Irena Boltyansky, Phone: 416-473-5095 Email: irabol@hotmail.com or Esther Salomon, Phone: 905-881-9100 Email: eesalomon1@gmail.com you will need to register as we are having the meal catered for this occasion.



As always, we thank you dear brothers and sisters for your love and prayers for our family and the ministry which the Lord has given us, your on-going prayers are much appreciated. We are reminded of the words of the apostle James / Yacov, who reminded his readers that; **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.** James 5:16b.

Please pray:

- Tony and his family, who's father passed away.
- Chris and Justyna to continue to grow spiritually.
- Growth for our group who was with us in Israel.
- Our people Israel, to come to know the Passover Lamb.
- Our upcoming outreach, Messiah in the Passover presentation.
- The Holy Scriptures and Israel radio ministry.
- Irene, me and our family.
- **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

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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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P.O. Box 1411,

Niagara on the Lake, Ontario

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