



June 2020

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 "וַיַּעַן וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר זֶה דְּבַר יְהוָה אֶל־זְרֻבָּבֶל לֵאמֹר לֹא בְחַיִּל וְלֹא בְקוֹחַ כִּי אִם־בְּרוּחִי אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת:

As time passes and the Covid - 19, coronavirus pandemic is still here, we continue to give thanks to God for His grace and for His Word, which is a wonderful source of encouragement. We can rest assured that our God knows all that is happening in the world and that nothing is hidden from Him. **Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.** Hebrews 4:13. Locally, in the Niagara peninsula, we are still in phase one, to the disappointment of many. Irene and I often take the opportunity to walk around our neighbourhood for some physical activity and mental refreshment, while keeping the necessary social distance. Thankfully, we have a lot of green space around us and there is plenty of garden work to do this time of year.

As to our local assembly, here in Niagara on the Lake, we are able to meet regularly via the internet for our normally scheduled weekly meetings. Of coarse, it would be better if we could be together at the hall, yet, we thank the Lord for what He provides. We have just heard from our local government that local congregations could start meeting together at a 30 percent capacity rate, with social distancing measures in place. We are looking to the Lord for His guidance. At the same time we are looking to the Lord for direction as to the right time to physically return to our regular outreach meetings and Bible studies in Toronto. On the one hand, some would like to return to the meeting hall as soon as possible, while others prefer to wait a little longer before returning. Many have found the Bible studies on zoom to be very practical, allowing those who have difficulty attending or not able to attend for various reasons, able to do so. Our number of

attendees has been climbing weekly, for which we praise the Lord, and we look to Him for wisdom as to how we should proceed in the coming weeks ahead.



During this pandemic, which has changed millions of lives, one may ask why has this happened? Why have so many people died, and so many more been infected by this virus? Why has the world economy come to a halt? Why is there so much growing unrest all around us, all over the world? Why is it that people who live in countries that are blessed with so much, are so dissatisfied and are willing to harm themselves and others?

These are just a few of the many questions one could ask about all that is going on in this sad world. Thankfully, God gives us answers to all these questions in His Word. Scripture clearly teaches us what God has to say about the human heart. Each and every one of us, who are part of His creation, have fallen into sin and turned away from Him. In Genesis 6:5 we read. **And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.** On the other hand, we read in the scriptures what the unregenerate think about their Creator God. **The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us.** The reality is that as long as God is rejected, and man wilfully pursues after his own imagination, this world will continue to experience endless disasters of which God foretold in His Word. The only answer to the problems this world faces is found in the person of our Lord *Yeshua* / Jesus the Messiah, He is their only Hope. The gospel of the Grace of God which is preached in the power of the Holy Spirit, brings Hope to the hopeless.

With the help of the Lord, we continue on in the service which the Lord has laid upon our hearts. Our radio and website programs continue to be aired daily in Canada and the USA, as well as internationally. We are able to virtually study the scriptures together weekly, with a growing group of brothers and sisters who show interest in learning from the Word. Last Shabbat day / Saturday we began with an introduction to the gospel of John. We took note of the fact that our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, is Divine. The point was made that had the Lord *Yeshua*, not been God the Son, He could never have become the sinless Man who took upon Himself the Sin of the world. We read these two strikingly clear verses, right at the beginning of the gospel in John 1:1. **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Also in John 1:14, And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.**



The question arises, is Jesus the Messiah a Divine person? The subject of the Divinity of *Yeshua* has troubled and continues to trouble most of our Jewish people, through the entire 2000 years of church history. The thought of God becoming a Man, and then as a Man dying on a Roman cross, is that which has become a stumbling-block to our Jewish brethren. This is the reason why any who would seek to reach our Jewish people with the message of the gospel must bear in mind that he needs to explain this truth from the Hebrew Bible, the *TANACH* - תנ"ך, and do so from a Hebrew Messianic perspective, just as the apostles did when they shared the gospel of the Messiah with their own brethren. It is very interesting to note that the Hebrew scriptures which point to the Divine nature of *Yeshua* are read daily in Jewish homes and in Synagogues worldwide. These very scriptures clearly point to the fact that *Yeshua* is Divine, He is God the Son, the Emmanuel of Isaiah 7:14. It was the apostle Shaul / Paul who wrote to the Corinthians saying, **For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Messiah crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness.** 1 Corinthians 1:22-23. Knowing this, we give thanks to our God. In His love for all humanity, He, in the person of the Son, was willing to make himself of no reputation. He was willing to take upon himself the form of a servant and become a man who would give Himself a ransom for many, all this in order to become a substitute, the just for the unjust, to bring men to God. For this, we will praise Him throughout eternity.

Irene and I are encouraged by the Lord to continue on with that which He has laid before us. We also appreciate dear brothers and sisters your faithful support of this ministry, your love and prayers are felt and much appreciated. Please remember especially the new Bible teaching programs on YouTube. This avenue provides us with a door of opportunity to reach out to both Jews and non-Jews via video. You can watch the latest videos and subscribe to our channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/HolyScripturesIsrael>.

Please pray for:

- Our ministry gospel outreach through Youtube.

- The Holy Scriptures and Israel radio program outreach.
- The encouragement of those who are discouraged.
- Our weekly Zoom Bible studies.
- Our family in Israel.
- Our health.
- **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,

Aaron & 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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Tax Registration No. (BN) 11923 7782 RR0001

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