



February 2021

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 "וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר זֶה דְּבַר יְהוָה אֶל־זְרְבָבֶל לֵאמֹר לֹא בִחַיִל וְלֹא בִכֹּחַ כִּי אִם־בְּרוּחִי אֶמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת:

We trust this newsletter finds you encouraged by our Lord Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God who loved each of us and gave Himself for us. We have a good reminder of this through the apostle Shaul / Paul who wrote, **the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.** Galatians 2:20b.

Irene and I are sustained by the grace of God, as we continue with the ministry among our Jewish people with the help of the Lord. We continue to record the messages for our Holy Scriptures and Israel radio programs from home, which normally would have been recorded at our regular Shabbat / Saturday outreach meetings in Toronto. We thank the Lord for our brother Scott Cassell, his wife Connie and our sister Lisa Shankman who clean and prepare the messages for the various radio stations. We have been led of the Lord, to study and teach the Word of God one book at a time, systematically, verse by verse, giving those who join us through zoom a good understanding of the theme of each book. This method of study has proved to be very beneficial for all those who join our studies locally and internationally, and is especially helpful for young believers. The Bible teaching programs for the radio stations are also systematic, verse by verse studies on various books of the Bible.



We would like to share with you an encouraging letter which we recently received from one of our listeners.

Dear Sir, I wanted to take the time to tell you how much I greatly appreciate your teachings. I am an older veteran, but very young in the Christian faith. I come from many generations of non believers, so I didn't quite know what to do when the Lord was first drawing me to Himself. I thought God was in the church, so I went to the local Lutheran church and began catechism classes, it was like learning a new language, there were so many words and things I had never heard before. I wanted to better understand, but they insisted that I had learned all that I needed to within a few classes, so at 56 years of age along with a 14 years old boy, I was confirmed a Christian, but really I still knew very little. After six months of the same ritual every Sunday, and no one teaching or explaining the Bible, I left. I visited 22 churches in a one year period and was even more disappointed than when I first began. I live in a rural farming area 45 miles outside of Buffalo, but amazingly, the churches around me are either old dying denominational, new liberal charismatic, women calling themselves pastors, or many others where anything goes. I thank the Lord everyday for the few that He has led me to, that truly help me understand the Scriptures and help to bring me closer to Himself. The Holy Spirit confirms in my heart and mind that you are expounding the truth. It is especially enlightening to hear it from a Messianic Jewish perspective. I first heard your 15 minute show on WDCX radio a few months ago, and then recently discovered your website with teaching messages. You helped me understand some things I was struggling with in Mark, and now beginning in Colossians, I have put the bottle down and I am eating steak and potatoes. I thank you from my heart, and may the Lord richly bless you and your family. Shalom Aleichem.

For our [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) video outreach ministry, we seek to deal with topics which are relevant for our Jewish people, such as the feasts, the sacrifices, the Parables etc., presenting the Scriptures from a first century Hebrew Messianic perspective. We are currently preparing a message on the Feast of Esther, called PURIM, פּוּרִים. On February 13th, the biblical Hebrew month of ADAR began, there is an expression among our Jewish communities worldwide which says, **when the month of Adar arrives, we increase in joy**, in Hebrew, מְשֻׁבְּחָס אֶדָר מְרֻבִּים, בְּשִׂמְחָה. One might ask WHY, well, it was in ancient Persia, in the fourth century B.C., on the 13th day of the month of ADAR, that the Jewish people were supernaturally delivered from the hand of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. Jewish communities in Israel and around the world will

be celebrating one of the most loved feasts among our people, called PURIM. This feast is one of the most joyous feasts, because it commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people from one, named Haman, the enemy of the Jews, of whom we read in Esther 3:6b. **Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.**



Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, wished to destroy all the Jews, worldwide, in one single day, as we read in Esther 3:13; **And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.** One can only imagine how our people felt, when that terrible verdict was publicly declared and sent to all the nations of the then known world. Yet, the plan of Haman did not come to pass, as our sovereign God turned the tables against Haman, and preserved His people from that terrible verdict. A feast was instituted by Mordechai and Queen Esther called PURIM, פורים which translated means LOTS, God overturned the plan of Haman and provided a joyful celebration of deliverance for His people. We read in Esther 9:18. **But the Jews who were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day, as well as on the fourteenth; and on the fifteenth of the month they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.**

Even though the name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther, yet we see how God is in full control over the affairs of this world. In His providence, God directs all things in order to fulfil His own will, this only serves to encourage us, who are believers in the Lord Jesus, especially in light of the current situation in the world today. Paul wrote of God the Son, Jesus the Messiah, saying; **In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.** Ephesians 1:11.

We have brothers and sisters among us with various health issues, as we seek to be an encouragement to them, we would ask you to remember them in prayer. **Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.** Psalm 55:22.

We thank you dear brothers and sisters for supporting us in the ministry and value your continued prayers. If you wish to join our weekly Bible studies on Zoom, please provide us your full name, e-mail address, and phone number. We will gladly add you to our meetings and send you invitations.

Please pray for:

- Our weekly zoom outreach meetings.
- Our Holy Scriptures and Israel radio program.
- Our brothers and sisters with health concerns.
- The Jewish people during the Feast of Purim.
- The needed grace and strength for Irene and me.
- **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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The Holy Scriptures and Israel Bible Society

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