



October 2023

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 "וַיֵּעַן וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר זֶה דְּבַר-יְהוָה אֶל-זְרֻבְבָּל לֵאמֹר לֹא בִחַיִּל וְלֹא בִכֹּחַ כִּי אִם-בְּרוּחִי אֶמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת:

We trust that by the grace of God you are doing well. We are sending this October newsletter with a heavy heart, requesting your prayers for the people of Israel in light of the current situation, as once again, Israel finds itself in a state of war. As you are probably aware, on Shabbat morning, October the 7th at about 6:30 a.m., the Iran-backed terror group Hamas who controls the Gaza strip, launched a vicious surprise attack on Israeli towns, kibbutzes, villages and communities in the south of Israel, occupying these communities inflicting mass atrocities and crimes on Israeli children, women, men and the elderly. Many Israelis feel that this event took us back to the terrible years before its independence in 1948. Yet we read. **Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.** Psalm 121:4.

The terrorists infiltrated into Israel, using paraglides, boats, motorcycles, vehicles and other means, killing more than 1,400 people, wounding over 3,400 and kidnapping some 199 babies, children, women, elderly and others in order to use them as hostages. The Hamas terrorists came into Israel in the early morning hours of the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, on the eighth and final day, which is called, Shemini Atzeret, also known as SIMCHAT TORAH, The Rejoicing of the Law, as found in Numbers 29:35. It is a day which is usually characterized by joy and celebration in the Law of the LORD. It is a day in which conservative Jews celebrate the conclusion of the yearly reading of the Torah and begin the new yearly cycle of Torah reading.



Some eleven days have passed-by since the beginning of the war, in which over 6000 rockets have been shot from Gaza towards towns and cities in Israel. Irene and I are daily and continuously in connection with our family members in Israel, who by the grace of God have been spared thus far. In response to this horrific terror, the Israeli airforce is seeking to root-out the terrorists and their rockets which have been threatening Israel for years. Sadly, the

innocent people of Gaza are affected, as they are used as human shields, many become refugees, and the cycle of war and conflict continues.

The answer to this 4000 year-old conflict between the sons of Abraham, is only by God, who provided His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus the Messiah. While this evil continues on, the Lord is working by His Spirit in the hearts of many, both Jews and Arabs. At this point of time, many of our Jewish people are seeking for God, Israelis are turning to God, asking how could such a thing happen to their families in the land. We, as believers can clearly see that the events that are taking place in the world, especially in relationship to Israel and the Jewish people, are pointing us to the return of the Lord, first to rapture His church and then to restore Israel. As we read the Word of God, we become aware of the truth that there will never be peace in the middle east, or any where else in the world until hearts are turn to God. The nation of Israel will returns to God, through the person of the Messiah Yeshua, Jesus. At His first coming, when Jesus was rejected, our Messiah wept for His people and His city of Jerusalem, saying **Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.** Luke 13:35. We praise God that the Lord said UNTIL, knowing that the day will come, according to His will, when Israel will turn to Him and say, BARUCH HABAH BESHEM ADONAI, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the LORD. What a glorious day that will be for all the people of the world.

Until that longed-for day, the day of Israel's repentance, satan, and his followers who are the enemies of God, are seeking to do away with the Jewish people, in order to stop the plan and the program of God. No wonder the psalmist of Israel prayed for the help of God for His people Israel, saying **They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.** Psalm 83:4. It is fascinating to read and observe how God is so true to His Word. While His enemies are seeking to annihilate the nation of Israel, God sustains Israel, assuring His protection for His people. We read, **But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.** Isaiah 43:1-3.

As to our outreach ministry of the Holy Scriptures and Israel, we continue with the help of the Lord and are thankful for His all-sufficient Grace. We were contacted by WDCX radio station in Buffalo for an interview regarding the events which recently took place in Israel. We had a discussion relating to the responsibility of bible believers to have a clear understanding on the plans of God regarding Israel. It was a good opportunity to provide answers from the Scriptures, for which we are thankful. You can listen to the interview by clicking on [this link](#) on our website.



We enjoyed to see a good number of people out to our monthly in-person meeting in Toronto, we took some time to pray together for the many needs which the people of God have, including the salvation of souls. It was good to sing together some of the songs that direct us to the person of Yeshua our Messiah. The ministry of the word we taken from Deuteronomy 8, pointing us to the faithfulness of God to His people during their wilderness journey. We were reminded that we should never forget the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus the Messiah toward us. You may listen to the message by using [this link](#) and passcode: **sLfP.+c3**.

While in Toronto we were able to make visits with some of our brethren, including a visit to our elderly brother Hans who is currently in a retirement home and not in the best of health. It was a good opportunity to have these visits and be an encouragement for the people of God, who are experiencing many challenges.

By the grace of God, the recordings and the posting of the study on 2 Corinthians has finally been completed. After many interruptions due to other responsibilities, we have finally concluded 2 Corinthians. Should you wish to listen to the messages, you can do so through the website of the Holy Scriptures and Israel using the [messages](#) tab. In time these messages will be aired on the various radio stations and on the websites where the Bible teaching programs of the Holy Scriptures and Israel are available.

As to our weekly international Zoom meetings, thankfully the interest by many is there, there is a faithful core group of believers who faithfully attend the meetings. From time to time new individuals attend the bible studies, whom we are happy to have them join us. Anyone who wishes to study with us can send their request by using this e-mail, gideon@holyscripturesandisrael.com.

Presently, we are studying these three books, Romans, Zechariah and Revelation. For those who are not registered for our Zoom Bible classes, they can listen to these bible classes on the [Holy Scriptures and Israel YouTube channel](#) and the [Facebook page](#).



As things in this world continue on its current path, as believers in the Lord Jesus the Messiah, we pray that the Lord will provide the needed grace to His own, to be encouraged and occupied with Him. We are called to remember to give thanks to God for His great love and for His unmerited favour towards us, He was willing to give His Son, Jesus the Messiah for the salvation of mankind, we read, **And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.** 1 John 4:14.

We thank those who have e-mailed, texted, or called us concerning our family in Israel. Please remember in your prayers our family in Israel. Our prayer is that the Lord will use His Word to reach out and lead many unto salvation during these days. We appreciate your prayers for us, dear brothers and sisters, as we share the Word of God with our Jewish people and with others who are willing to listen. **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.** James 5:16b.

Please pray::

- For the situation in Israel and Gaza
- For the Israelis who were kidnapped to Gaza
- For the Israelis whose family members were kidnapped
- For the the families of those who died
- For the wounded in the war
- For the innocent who become refugees in Gaza
- For the salvation of many during this war
- For brother the Holy Scriptures and Israel outreach
- For the believers who attend our meetings
- For those who are sick among us
- For brother Hans in the retirement home
- **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