

Endeavoring to Support:

- "The Messianic Times"—Publisher
- Israel Legal Defense
- Jewish/Gentile Fellowship
- International Conferences
- Forum for Debate
- Emigration to Israel
- Dispute Mediation
- International Affiliations
- Monthly Essays
- Theological Papers

Early Foundations:

Our Alliance was originally established in England in 1925. During the Nazi era, some of our European affiliates were decimated. The remaining groups worked together to fund the escape of many fellow Jews.

This life saving work was officially recognized by Great Britain. Our earliest leaders were honored i.e. Sir Lawrence Levinson was knighted by royal decree and Harcourt Samuel was given the "Order of the British Empire" (OBE).

In 1976, the IMJA, in conjunction with two other founding charities established the Ebenezer Home in Haifa, Israel. This institution continues today and the IMJA annually helps fund its operation. It is home to 30 individuals, without regard to original nationality, race or religion. Food, clothing, medical care and transportation are provided. About a hundred people can be seen at some of its social events and there is always a waiting list to become a resident.

natural and perfect order.

After the fall, mankind increasingly depended upon his own reasoning, rather than have confidence in his own spiritual impressions. Thus, man's spiritual apparatus became vestigial (dead), until Yeshua came to once again give it life.

If this is an accurate model, we might take it as an encouragement to emphasize prayer and reading of the Scriptures, as our sources of nourishment from God. The reading of commentaries can be interesting, but we cannot elevate them to substitute for our own spiritual radar.

How much of the Scriptures were written by the highly educated? Wasn't the Bible given to us plain folks, with ease of understanding? Sometimes "error" poses itself as "nuances" and "higher criticism" is another name for doubt or heresy. So often, theologians quietly consider themselves a cut above the rest of us.

Don't we find it refreshing to read John 9:24-25, when scholars inquired about a theological matter?

" then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him. Give God the praise' we know that this man is a sinner. He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not, one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."

Isn't this an example of truth being profound and yet not complicated? Perhaps, we would all do well when hearing of a new revelation to ask, does it match with the old Scriptures? If that doesn't make it clear, prayerful inquiry can be the final arbiter.

Regards in the Messiah,

Paul Liberman
Executive Director

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SCRIPTURAL TRUTH

Dear Fellow Workers,

Twenty years ago our local congregation, Tree of Life, in San Diego, was located a block from an Orthodox Jewish Synagogue. At that time, we met on Friday nights with a large Star of David sign facing a busy street.

As the traditional Jews walked past on the way to their synagogue, they would hear lively Messianic music and see Israeli dancing through the windows. Occasionally, some Jewish people would stop in to see what the excitement was about.

Eventually, two rabbis dressed in black coats and hats and long side curls (payis) came in to the services. The message was about Israel in Old Testament prophecies. They were intrigued and came back the following week.

Our congregational members were a little intimidated, so I thought a hearty welcome was in order after the services, during the time of Oneg Shabbat (refreshments). In a jocular way, I said we each represented two extremes on a Jewish spectrum of thought. They said, that wasn't how they saw it. We believed the Scriptures, whereas the Reform and Conservative Jews do not.

The older man explained there was a weekly meeting of rabbis from around the city, who gathered to study together, and I was invited to attend. He was the head of the school. The rabbis were paired up together as is their custom. However, both rabbinical attendees of our services wanted to study with me. They enjoyed going over the Messianic prophecies.

They knew I was a businessman and had written a book about Messianic

What We Do

Israel Support:

- Home for the elderly
- Humanitarian aid of goods from local warehouses
- Unwed mothers and widows
- Civil Rights Defense for Messianic Jews in Israel
- Jerusalem Headquarters utilized by Ethiopian Jewish Believers

Among the nations:

- Fostering the growth of New Testament Messianic Congregations (now numbering 750, including 120 in Israel).
- Small Ministries—Poor Countries: In many countries fund raising is not a practical possibility, especially for Jewish work. These works are volunteer efforts where even small amounts go a long way. It is our fervent wish to do what we can to facilitate Jews and Gentiles worshipping our Lord together.

Witness:

- Jewish outreach and evangelism
- New Testament Jewish roots
- Jews & Gentiles in joint worship

National Alliances

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Colombia
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Holland
- Israel
- Mexico
- New Zealand
- Russia
- South Africa
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- United States
- Uruguay

Judaism. They read it and had many questions. Overall, they wanted to know why our group was growing, while theirs was shrinking. Eventually, they concluded it was our guitar playing, which they then included in their services.

After a number of months of discussing prophecy, the head rabbi said he considered himself an expert about observances, but he didn't feel sufficiently knowledgeable to debate Messianic prophecies. He proposed bringing in an expert from out of town.

I replied, "I am only a businessman without special training and you have to bring in a "ringer"? Maybe, I'm simply armed with the truth." That's when I concluded a peaceful witness in the Spirit trumps knowledge.

Eight months later, one rabbi said Messianics were amazing in that we were attempting to reform both Judaism and Christianity at the same time. He was astounded, because we acted as though we were going to win. I told him we believed our success was a certainty.

That truth resonated within me. We were an agent of change and God wanted our Faith to be purged of rabbinic idolatry and Christian paganisms. Of course, human nature being what it is, we Messianic could have problems as well.

In the past, we have discussed the Biblical holidays, traditional Jewish observances and Christian celebrations. We have also discussed deviations from the Holy Scriptures, which has a long history.

The main groups giving Yeshua (Jesus) problems were the Pharisees and the Sadducees. The Pharisees added to the Scriptures. They included human laws, which were passed on to later generations, which became known as the "traditions of the elders". These were put on an equal level as the Scriptures.

The Sadducees had the opposite tact. They deleted portions of the Old Testament, only respecting the Law of Moses. Thus, the doctrines of after life, resurrection, angels, and the soul/spirit were cast aside.

Yeshua didn't fit into the scheme of either of these groups and so they challenged Him. Judaism does not

hold a monopoly on either adding or subtracting. Christianity also did the same. It would seem, so long as we have a fallen nature, we are exposed to the danger of false doctrine, which needs to be monitored.

John addressed the peril of adding or subtracting from the Scriptures in his book of Revelations, chapter 22, verses 18 and 19.

"If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life."

Those are pretty strong statements! It must be a very important and dangerous matter. We have become accustomed to regularly hearing the latest spiritual fad. They come and go and the process usually takes years to run its course. Such may be "vain imaginations" mentioned in Romans 1:21. Luke 1:51 tells us the "imagination of their hearts" is the result of pride.

We in Western culture seem particularly enamored of knowledge. It has its place when accompanied by wisdom (Ecl. 7:12). The Greek philosophers taught that this was a virtue. Somehow, by increasing our learning, we think this is an expansion of good. However, spirituality and knowledge are not necessarily congruent.

Rather, the Bible tells us, "knowledge puffeth up, but charity (love) edifieth (builds up)." I Cor. 8:1.

In Genesis, Chapter 3, we are told Adam and Eve were warned about avoiding the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. They had been informed their safety was in taking in from the Tree of Life. However, the forbidden tree was seductive in that it promised to make them wise. It was misperceived to be "good for food", being that it was "pleasant to the eyes".

Perhaps, it could be said the first sin was elevating the intellect above our intuition. As originally made, our intuitive spirit communed (communicated) with God and gained all necessary direction. This guidance was passed along to our intellect, which is a biological computer, useful in devising a way of implementing God's instructions. Lastly, our bodies physically carry out God's intention. This was the

Foreign Translations

The Fig Tree Blossoms is a primary book about our Movement translated into Hebrew, Russian and now Spanish. It is a 30 year old classic and explains why accepting a Jewish Messiah, foretold by Jewish Prophets in a Jewish Land is a very Jewish thing to do.

Distributions of the Holy Scriptures are available in 17 languages:

- Yiddish
- English
- Armenian
- Bulgarian
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- Hebrew
- Ukranian

