

For Zion's Sake

Ministry and Teaching Magazine for Prophetic Times
Fourth Quarter 2024 Jewish Year 5785

"O Lord, my Strength and my Stronghold, And my Refuge in the day of distress and need, the nations will come to You From the ends of the earth and say, 'Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies and illusion, [Worthless] things in which there is no benefit!' (Jeremiah 16:19, AMP)

The Hands that **Robbed** the Cradle



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For Zion's Sake

Third Quarter 2024 Jewish Year 5785

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Shalom *from* Jerusalem

HE HEALS THE BROKENHEARTED AND BINDS UP THEIR WOUNDS. PALMS 147:3

DEAR CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL,

YESTERDAY, I attended a prayer event at the Knesset attended by several Knesset Members. Many of them shared their hearts of gratitude towards the Christians assembled in the room and around the world whom they knew were standing alongside them, fighting and advocating for Israel's right to exist, standing up for the Jewish communities in their nations, speaking out for the sake of truth amidst a tsunami of lies. Yet there was one Knesset Member who told how he couldn't smile for six months after October 2023, but his frozen life was finally melted by love and a hug, in particular the love of knowing that the Jewish people are not alone – there are true friends in the nations who care. I thank you, Christian Friends, that you care enough to express your love in deeds as well as speech and sentiment. Your love is helping to melt numb and sometimes lacerated hearts, binding them up to heal and hope again. It is the ministry of our Lord.

Tristan Hall
International Executive Director



CHRISTIANS AND JEWS PICKING OLIVES SIDE BY SIDE **NEAR GAZA BORDER**

A TEAM FROM CFI joined the Root and Branch Project which brought Jews and Christians together to harvest olives in the southern communities near Gaza border who suffered so greatly from the horrific Hamas attacks on Oct 7th, 2023.

The Project is an initiative of **Marziyeh Amirizadeh** from the New Persia organization and **Jonathan Feldstein** from the Genesis 123 Foundation (bottom right). It was a hands-on, meaningful, and tangible way for Christians to make a personal connection to Israel, the Israeli people, and to be a blessing to the people and nation. All proceeds from the olive oil and other olive products will directly benefit these devastated communities in the south. CFI is delighted to be a part of this wonderful Project.

Galya Hall, Director of Media and Public Relations,
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The Hands that **Robbed** the Cradle



“No one can be a great thinker who does not recognize that as a thinker it is his first duty to follow his intellect to whatever conclusions it may lead.” – John Stuart Mill –

A RECENT NEWSCAST REPORTED a man spending twenty years in prison for a crime he did not commit. His honor was severely harmed and his reputation, completely ruined. During the interview, a reporter asked him how the lengthy prison sentence affected him. His response was clearly, “It stole the perception of who I am – my name is my identity.”

Should a thief snatch a baby from its crib, the baby be taken away and raised under someone other than its parents, then the baby loses its parental qualities, received while cradled under its parents’ environment. In due time it will not resemble its birth family or culture into which he or she was born. I share this real-life illustration in order to explore history and clarify what transpired between time and era to the Jewish faith movement of Jesus which was removed from its Jewish cradle (the cradle of Christianity). The spiritual consequences of that removal from its surroundings in which it emerged, is incalculable. While Jesus and His disciples were present on earth, the faith movement retained its Jewish character, and His followers felt comfortable worshipping with the Jewish people in the synagogues. Later as it grew, the movement developed a personality other than its Jewish one. After Jesus and the Jewish apostles died, the hands of the gentiles lifted the Jewish faith out of its Jewish crib and placed it in a foreign atmosphere where it developed into an independent religion and rejected its Jewish origins. Today we have two separate religions which began as one. It is unrecognizable to the world as a Jewish sect, no longer desiring to relate to its real parents. In Judaism “...the cruelest thing a child can do is not to acknowledge his or her parents.” (Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Koren Publishing) Jesus, whose Hebrew birth name was “Yeshua” would have been listed as a

Hebrew child written in the rolled scroll documented as Census in Judea. Born as prophesied in the scroll of **Isaiah (9:6)** which was the only “Bible” Jesus taught from, were sacred scriptures which eventually came to be labeled “outdated and old” by non-Jews. We need to grasp how a kidnapping occurred, in order to be able to understand the hands that robbed the cradle.

I Never thought to ask Questions

Since called by God to live in Israel, Ray and I have been confronted by questions which we never had to think about before. Raised in traditional church denominations, we grew up in a Christian world. There were no Jewish people around us. There was no knowledge of the origins of our faith – everyone our age, was confirmed under the auspices of the local Reverend sent by the local diocese and assigned to our community. I would never have thought to ask where my faith originated – how many of us ever would? I have no doubt that most of you reading this prophetic study had similar upbringings. It was only later in life when we were born again, spirit-filled and in Israel, that we were challenged face-to-face with questions that inspired us to “think” and was the real reason we could not immediately respond in a well-informed way. We had never been taught to ask questions in church. We, like everyone else, accepted what we had been told in church and never checked whether it met the criteria of Scripture.

I recall Dr. Billy Graham stating, “*the Bible says!*” He could always prove that what he was preaching could be found in the Bible. The sad evidence of history requires that I share what I have learned and what can be proven to be true – as hard as it may be to believe. If I do not speak the truth, I could be asked one day,



Sharing what you have Learnt from the Scriptures

Searching the scriptures

“Why did you not share with the sheep of my pasture (your brothers and sisters) the truth which you uncovered on your life’s journey with the Jewish people?” This thought propels me to tell our story of the questions we faced. We were now living in a Jewish world (not a Christian one) that had come head-to-head with “Christian” neighbors through the centuries and had been confronted by blatant Christian anti-Semites with no interest in helping them, spewing hatred from vicious lips and turning away, which the Jewish people will never forget. The Jewish communities had expected more from those who preached love. We need to realize that there is a substantial difference between Christendom (the institution driving Christianity) and (the life-preserving faith) in which we believe, in order to understand the horrible truth.

God Never Ordered Two Bibles

Contradictions and discrepancies began to show up in the writings of Christendom’s “new” separate Bible. Had God ordered two Bibles? No! Secondly, in some texts, translators who did not understand Hebrew or the Jewish context at the time of their translating, sometimes inserted words they knew best to translate the sentence structure. This is a hard message to convey to those who may be opposed to questioning; however, I know in my heart, that this scholarly evidence needs to be distributed worldwide. It will be, “up to us” what we do with it!

I take very seriously the words Jesus spoke in the Writings of the (Jewish) Apostles known as the New Testament. *“**Not everyone** that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, **shall enter** into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you**: depart from me, ye that work iniquity”* (Matthew 7:21-23). The part about “I never knew you” troubles me and I know I have to make the effort to explain that, in reality, the hands that robbed the cradle of Christianity of its identity made serious mistakes when they stole the faith in its infancy.

Church was drilled into us from childhood in Sunday school and through confirmation day until it became our status and identification, such as, “Which church do you belong to?” Having been born after WWI, no one was talking about religious origins. You just needed to be in church on Sunday in your local village. Church bells rang and we settled into our regular pews. Since we were *all* Christians, we just never thought to ask. I had never met a Jew. There were none in our community. Today my view from my balcony overlooks the City of the Great King. Every morning, I can gaze at the Jerusalem of old; the home of my faith. It took an understanding of a Chosen People to comprehend the missing pieces of the puzzle. The, “*other sheep*” of which Jesus spoke in **John 10:16** and the, “*sheep of the House of Israel*” in **Matthew 15:24** had been separated and did not recognize each other when we arrived in 1985. It has not been easy for us and certainly very embarrassing and humbling. Well-grounded truths forced us to find answers. It has been said that wisdom and faith cannot be fully embraced without searching for truth!

A Christian living among the Jewish people becomes a minority. For anyone who thinks they have all the answers – just spend a month among the Jewish people and you will get a quick and stark awakening. Every Jewish person alive knows the long list of murderous atrocities that have been committed against the Chosen People through Christendom for two THOUSAND years. Their perception of Jesus has been challenging to say the least because of the actions of Christians which

spoke louder than words. Betrayal and spiritual pride shocked them, as they had expected more from their Christian neighbors. I was approached one morning with the question, “Why didn’t the Christians follow the Judaism of Jesus?” A question that made me “think” once again. Life has been a classroom of learning, and I had to find out the hard core evidence to respond.

I ask why Christianity has totally separated from the Savior’s manhood? The mother of the baby in the cradle remains the mother no matter how much time has passed or how far away from home she has journeyed. Savior’s birthplace can never be changed, just like our birth certificates. Our parents are still our parents. As we pull the cover back and see what has been covered over for centuries – we discover the “hands” that robbed the cradle.

Accepting the historical facts of history, our Hebrew heritage was born in Bethlehem of Judea. Sadly, our history is a bit like the wayward son who squandered his inheritance and had to return to his father (**Luke 15:11-32**). I was shocked when I re-read the Prodigal parable and my conclusion was, “we” are the prodigal son that needs to return home and the God of Israel is the Father waiting to welcome us. If we do nothing but continue to take Israel lightly when Jesus is the embodiment of the Torah of Israel, the “church” will continue to fade away in this last dispensation before the return of Jesus.

If we learn now, we can correct our, “thinking.” Israel is the heart of our faith in Jesus. We must love His nation, His Country and people as naturally as waking up in the morning. Our inheritance through Jesus brings us into the Commonwealth of Israel spoken about in **Ephesians 2:12**. We, “join” Israel in the days of redemption; we do not replace them. It only requires that we realize Jesus was a Jew. Miriam’s womb was chosen by God to bear Israel a virgin birth. (**Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:22-23; Luke 1:27**)

“What? I never knew Jesus was a Jew!”



Our spiritual DNA is Jewish. The only way to fix things is through repentance towards the people we should be loving; being in the same family.

Jesus said, “Feed My Sheep”

I do not judge the, “crib snatchers,” however, I do have a responsibility to warn about the consequences of not coming to grips with asking forgiveness. It is my prayer that every pastor and teacher, along with serious students of the Bible, will receive this truth and feed our sheep “*meat in due season.*” (**Matthew 24:45**) Most institutions and educational halls of learning will remain deprived of curriculums which include our Hebrew heritage because of the deceptive teaching called Replacement Theology. Those who prepare themselves in the Spirit as “bride” or “remnant” *will hear* the call to “*come*” (**Revelation 22:17**) receive forgiveness and prepare for the Lord’s second coming.

If it feels as though the earth is shaking beneath your feet, I encourage everyone to read what Christian antisemitism did to the Jewish people. It is the longest hatred in history on record toward the Jewish people. We cannot continue to pretend it never happened: judgment day may not be too far away. While gentile teachers (called forefathers of the faith) settled in to spread anti-Semitic, deceptive teachings which do not line up with what, “the Bible says,” the face of the child in the crib, changed.

As Balaam, we must once and for all time, open our eyes to see that a very Jewish movement, begun by God’s only Son, (a Jewish Rabbi) taught a Torah (instruction) based faith. Forsaking family ties, this movement was totally raised and trained not to recognize its true forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Instead, it became a, “new” faith, other than the one Jesus taught and wound up being an alternative religion, separate from Biblical Judaism, for the foreigner (not born of the House of Israel). God’s voice spoke clearly in **Isaiah 56:3** that any foreigner not born of Israel who embraced the God of Israel was forbidden to separate from Israel. “*Our hidden identity cannot be seen today because it has grown up, but its birth certificate – has never changed. It was meant to be Jewish and shall return home.*” (Dr. Tom Bradford, Torah Classroom, Florida, USA)

The modern-day church is seeping with humanistic and theological errors, which crept in when the crib snatchers took the Jewish baby away. Since we began as an offshoot (a *netzer* in Hebrew) from the original olive tree which was carved into two individual identities, we need a change in heart to see the destiny of Israel of which we are a part. I find it interesting that “the word *church* is actually an acronym, something that was inserted into the sacred scriptures, which was never there in the original writings” (Dr. Tom Bradford, Torah Class). The snatchers were false prophets of the doctrines of man which were

CONNECT TO THE REAL FAMILY TREE!

THE BRANCHES
12 TRIBES
(JEWISH AND
GRAFTED IN CHRISTIANS)

THE TRUNK
FOREFATHERS OF OUR FAITH
(ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB)

THE ROOT
YESHUA
(OFFSPRING OF DAVID) ISAIAH 49:3,
REVELATION 22:15, ISAIAH 53

introduced when Replacement Theology infiltrated the faith, and *they* became our church fathers. They may have called themselves Christ lovers but they followed “*another Jesus*” than The One the Jews brought to us (2 Corinthians 11:4). These non-Jews, namely anti-Semites, such as Constantine, Marcion, Justin, Origen, and others are *not* our original forebears! Our forefathers are Abraham, Isaac and Jacob from the twelve tribes of Israel. It appears the church is now reaping what it has sown ... intolerance of the Jews ... and now it has come home to roost. The hands that robbed the cradle committed a serious crime. Whether the propagators of Replacement Theology knew they were in error or they did not know, they poked God in the eye.

Having a Right Relationship with Israel

After many centuries of having our faith's identity stolen, I believe it is the time to return home spiritually and have a right relationship with Israel in all of our churches. We must connect to our true family tree. It will require learning about the Son of man (*Ben Adam* in Hebrew) which means, “fully human” as well as “Divine.” Yes, the church strayed, and it is obvious today. An unauthorized removal of the identity of our faith took place. Let us all be a part of the Lord's, “*restoration of all things*” (Acts 3:21). It is up to our generation to help repair the damage of two thousand years.

As the man who was wrongfully put in prison lost his identity and the perception of him was changed, so Jesus underwent an identity change, and the understanding of His Manhood was taken away from Him. **The underlying reasons for why our identity was stolen are legion when it comes to what motivated the hands that robbed the cradle, which theft, stole the identity of who we truly are.**

—Sharon Sanders—

The first duty of man is the seeking after and the investigation of truth.” – Cicero

SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT ZION

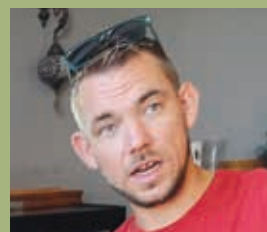
A growth and increase in reading our prophetic teaching magazine is developing around the world as desire for deeper teaching about the church's relationship to Israel is acknowledged worldwide.

In some nations, the spiritual interest in Israel is low, in other nations it is extremely high and still in other countries there is such a hunger for more knowledge about Israel. Join with us as we distribute our magazine to Christians everywhere. All you have to do is push “SEND” and forward it to your friends around the globe. **Thank you for your help we appreciate you getting the word out to stand with Israel and the Jewish people. For more information please email us at: cfi@cfijerusalem.org**



Our lovers for Israel from Greece

Brothers With Front-Line Warriors



DS Coordinator
GERRIT VAN VLIET



Breaking Down Walls

CFI'S STAFF COORDINATOR (Gert, in the middle photo from the Netherlands) with an IDF Battalion and the Director of Heritage Center Christ Church from the Old City of Jerusalem. Idan belongs to this Battalion which keeps the nation safe and protects Judea and Samaria as they base near the Check Point to the area. This was a special day in which Jews, a Christian and a Messiah believing Jew can work together and engage on conversations about the war and the love of God for Israel. Many soldiers are not religious warriors but praying together to the One True God is not a problem for them. CFI purchased about 350 new towels for the soldiers, supplies of bottled water and special treats for the entire Battalion.

The 'Spirit' is Back!

A friend of mine, a reservist in the IDF, and also a man of God's Word (a Rabbi) works to bring all soldiers to the realization that the Torah is God's Word and that now Israel is back in her Land, the Spirit of God wants them to study Torah whole heartedly ... and he told me "many soldiers sit on the edge of their seat listening and seeking God's Voice." – **Sharon Sanders** –

Through David's Shield we have had countless contacts in the IDF for over 26 years and today we enjoy being a blessing to many soldiers who need our support and love to continue to fight the wars against evil surrounding them on many fronts. Your prayers, support and love means so much to them!



An Entire Battalion is Supplied





I am managing "Never Alone

A YOUNG LONE SOLDIER visited the CFI ministry offices some time ago, he needed assistance and we helped him. About two years later Sharon Sanders contacted the soldier and found that he had been given a vision to help other lone soldiers, as he was helped. Being a soldier (presently serving in reserves) at this time, has built his vision to open a soldier base in the heart of Jerusalem. At first he had assistance from the government but at this present time, he is "chief, cook and bottle washer" (as we used to say) ... in other words, he is short staffed but works long hours meeting the needs of the lone soldiers who come to him, helping to guide them and supply them with the basic needed items until they are called into the army. During times of holidays and at family events or weekends, sometimes they get invited to a BBQ or very special evening will be planned by 'Never Alone.' Some of these soldiers are from religious homes and from abroad in a number of countries.

Lone Soldiers Come to Serve

All the lone soldiers decided to leave their comfort zones and come to Israel to join in the IDF to serve their nation. After arriving in Israel there is adjustment to a new way of life and society in Israel. They need help getting their paperwork for the army done, a place to lay their heads (housing) until they are called into the army, which time could be as much as several months. During this waiting period, most do not have any jobs, work is scarce and money is tight or almost nonexistent. A few help pay for their lodging while with the "Never

Alone" base but many cannot. The burden then lies on this one lone soldier to raise the funds to help them be taken care of during this waiting period before army service. Once they are in the army, then their support and provisions are met, connections are made and provisions for social and mental health agencies provided. When army service is finished they can continue with their studies and there are many options with employment and building communities for them and their families to grow and build a successful life in Israel such as working with those suffering from trauma, mentoring new soldiers, clubs, Big Brother programs, and more. CFI aims to be a blessing to this army base and the founder, whose name is "Tzvi." For those who will take "Never Alone" into your hearts, we will make sure that you get a special photograph of Tzvi and the soldiers in his base, for each donation you send to us will be given to them one-hundred percent for the needs of those who are pre-army (waiting to go into service) and those who come out of the army (after they have served, often with trauma and problems they did not have before they went in).

Thank you for your donations to this more than a worthy cause and for praying for Israel and for 'Never Alone' to continue to bring blessings to lone soldiers entering the country to serve their nation.

Gerrit Van Vliet/Sharon Sanders
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Fellow brothers in arms



JOSEPH'S LEGACY

Messiah Prefigured in the Life of Joseph

Above illustration by Sam Lawlor



By FreeBibleimages



The brothers tore off Joseph's coat, just as the Roman soldiers removed Yeshua's clothes and divided it to cast lots. This points to Him being the Son of God as scripture foretold.

You may have heard it stated that two types of Messiahs are depicted in Scripture, representing the two advents of Messiah. The first is often termed Messiah *ben Yosef* or son of Joseph, and the second, Messiah *ben David*, the son of David, the conquering King. In this brief article, we will reprise some of the beautiful and moving images of Messiah Yeshua, Jesus, in the life of Joseph, the suffering servant.

LINEAGE: In the lineage of Yeshua, the husband of his mother just happens to be named Joseph, and Joseph's father's name was Jacob. A clear nod towards the one who prefigured our Lord at His birth.

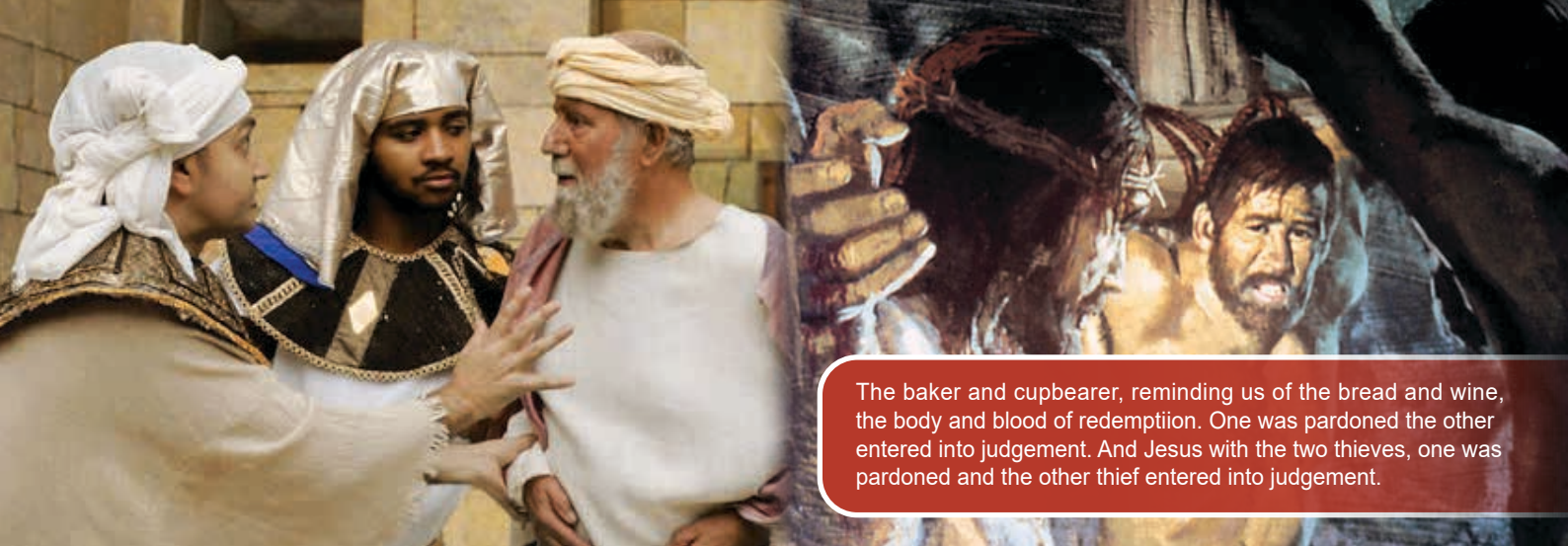
BARRENNESS: Until Joseph was born, Rachel had been barren for many years, like Sarah and Rebekah before her. In Joseph, life emerged from the deadness of Rachel's womb, in itself, a visceral picture of resurrection – life from the dead.

NOT FIRSTBORN: Joseph was not the first-born son, yet he was God's chosen conduit for blessing. This follows a strong pattern in Torah (Able not Cain; Isaac not Ishmael; Jacob not Esau, etc.). This represents Yeshua being the 'second Adam,' through whom alone come the spiritual blessings of eternal life (1 Cor. 15:45-49).

RAIMENT: Joseph's coat was not some random foray into rainbow-style fashion, but a specific garment known as a *ketonet passim*, traditionally worn by the children of kings. The brothers tore off Joseph's coat, just as the soldiers removed Yeshua's clothes and divided them in John 19:23-24. This points to Yeshua's identity as the Son of God.

BLOOD: At Yeshua's second advent, when He returns as King, we read in Rev. 19:13 that His garments will be demarked by a bloodstain. Likewise, Joseph's precious coat was dipped in blood.

CONSPIRACY: The Pharisees conspired against Yeshua – Matt. 27:1. So also Joseph's brothers plotted together to kill him.



The baker and cupbearer, reminding us of the bread and wine, the body and blood of redemption. One was pardoned the other entered into judgement. And Jesus with the two thieves, one was pardoned and the other thief entered into judgement.

By FreeBibleimages

FALSE WITNESS: Both Yeshua and Joseph experienced false accusations – the latter by Potiphar’s wife, the former as seen in Matt.26:59-60.

PIT: Joseph was cast into a dry well where his brothers intended for him to die. Yeshua’s body was placed in a tomb for 3 days and 3 nights. When Reuben went back to rescue Joseph, he found only an empty pit – Joseph had allegorically been resurrected. So too did the three Miriams find Yeshua’s tomb empty upon their arrival.

SOLD: Joseph was sold into slavery for 20 pieces of silver. Yeshua was also betrayed by Judas for 30 pieces of silver.

REJECTION: Joseph was rejected at the first, just as Yeshua was rejected and put to death at His first advent. After a long period of time, Joseph reappears to his brethren, but at first is unrecognized because of his Egyptian appearance, name and apparel. Isn’t it interesting how so often, a ‘gentile’ version of Yeshua is depicted, replete with a Greek name, sometimes with blond hair and blue eyes, sometimes even beardless... no doubt unrecognizable to how He really looked. Apparently, facets of Christendom were not ready to embrace a ‘Jewish Jesus’ in time past – and many are still not today. What a surprise it will be for many in the church when they recognize Him for who He truly is – just as it was for Joseph’s brothers when he re-entered their lives for a second time. We see the same pattern in the Torah of rejection followed by later acceptance in the lives of Moses, David, and Jephthah.

PROPHECY: Consider the dreams Joseph received whilst incarcerated with two criminals, the baker and the cup-bearer (themselves hinting of bread and wine; the body and blood of redemption). One was destined to be pardoned in 3 days, the other destined to death in 3 days. What a parallel to Yeshua at His crucifixion, flanked either side by two thieves, one who sought and received pardon, the other who cursed and entered judgement.

GENTILES: Yeshua was crucified by Roman soldiers, not directly by the Pharisaical leadership. So also, Joseph was not killed by his brothers, but after initially being left for dead, was sold into the hands of gentile traders.

RIVEN VESTMENTS: At the moment of Yeshua’s death, the veil of the Most Holy Place in the Temple

was rent asunder from top to bottom. The Father heart of God was broken for His Son, just as Jacob’s heart was broken at the news of the death of Joseph, when he also rent his garments.

SALVATION: Through Joseph, the whole House of Israel was saved from death by famine, besides multitudes of Egyptians. So too Yeshua has opened the way of salvation through His atoning death on the tree, when He became a tree of life for the whole world.

GENTILE BRIDE: Joseph’s wife, Asenath, was Egyptian – as with Boaz and Ruth, this is a picture of the One New Man (Eph.2:15)

It is so vital to grasp these precious foreshadowings because they so clearly anchor the life of Yeshua in the Torah. Recall that Yeshua said that Moses “wrote of me” (Jn.5:46). Any church that teaches a divorcement between the writings of the first and second covenants / old and new testaments, either explicitly or through omission, is not teaching the ‘*whole counsel of God*’ (Acts 20:27). In Joseph’s life, we see how ardent his love is for his brothers at their reunion. As Christians, we must never be haughty towards Yeshua’s own brethren, the Jewish people, for as Paul asked in Rom.11:24b ‘*how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?*’

Tristan Hall
International Executive Director



Painting by Michael T. Malm.

Serving Israel in the Promised Land

“Remove every obstacle out of the way of My People.” Isaiah 57:14

“Comfort, Comfort My People, says Your God.” Isaiah 40:1

This verse is very current. The war has been going on for over a year now. Many villages along the border, both in the north and south, have been attacked. Thousands of rockets have been fired towards Israel. In a conversation with someone from Metulah, which is a village on the border with Lebanon, he told me that eighty percent of the houses have some damage. Big and small damage from rockets. That means that most of the help is yet to come when people return to their homes. People have been evacuated and are missing their homes and belongings. Our ministry is more current than in previous years. Our main task right now is to comfort, and to be with, and to pray for the victims, and wherever we can to support in finances and practical help. I want to introduce myself shortly. I am Gert van Vliet from the Netherlands. I am the new coordinator of ‘Communities Under Attack.’ I came to Israel with my wife and four children to serve the Lord. I came to faith in the Lord Yeshua, eleven years ago. At the same time God opened my eyes for His plan with His people, Israel. As my journey started, I ended up serving CFI in the Promised Land.

Since the beginning of the war, we see a big difference in the hearts of the people. There is pain, there is trauma, and people are looking for support from God. Almost always we are welcomed with open arms, and we are allowed to share in their pain. In the last months we have visited evacuated people from the villages along the northern border several times. It may sound nice to stay in a hotel, but to do so knowing that your house has been damaged by rockets is not so nice. People are often depressed and have no perspective. But God gives

perspective. We can know that even though we sometimes do not see it right away, He is faithful to His people. Many people had written personal cards for them, and we were allowed to give gifts for Rosh Hashanah. People had tears in their eyes and were very grateful that we as Christians thought of them. I think this is exactly what Isaiah 40:1 says. When they can be comforted, we need to be there to do it. We carry this calling in our hearts as followers of the Jewish Messiah, Yeshua.

We have also visited several Kibbutzim on the Gaza border. We visited Zikim and Shlomit, both communities are largely back in their kibbutz. We were allowed to receive aid requests and are now working on several projects. We helped a farmer to milk the cows, and we also were able to support a family in Nahal Oz, to paint their safe room. They were hiding and passed very scary moments when terrorists entered their home on Oct. 7th 2023. They want to get pass this traumatic

Gerrit and team handing out gifts



experience by painting everything different colors. We are honored and blessed to be able to contribute to their needs. God protected them in a divine way. Even though I am serving for just a couple of months, I already have insufficient space to tell you all of my experiences. We at CFI are grateful for your unconditional support, prayers and contribution to the land of Israel. Because of you, we are able to be here on behalf of you and to serve God. At almost all of my visits I mention that I come on behalf of Yeshua followers from all over the world, not just me. I am aware that I am honored to act on behalf of the body of the Jewish Messiah, Yeshua. **With a grateful heart I would like to thank you on behalf of CUA for your contribution and support. May God richly bless you in all your endeavors for Him.**

Blessings from Mount Zion,

Gerrit Van Vliet

Outreach Coordinator

Project Communities Under Attack

cua@cfjjerusalem.org

**LISTENING
IS AN ART
OF LOVE**



REPAIRING THE DAMAGE OF TWO THOUSAND YEARS BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

One Jewish friend said: "You are two thousand years late, but thank GOD you came!"



We are to separate ourselves from the world but never from Israel. Isaiah 56:3



*First Fruits Coordinators
Rudy and
Sharon Friesen*

HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH REVIVED

**“He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.”
2 Corinthians 9:10**

RECENTLY WE WERE able to assist a local believer who was in need of financial assistance to help with extensive dental work. His teeth were in need of dental care badly. Since the labor market is tight and the work that he has does not pay sufficient to cover his bills. This makes the support of his young children at home and paying dental expenses very difficult. Much joy was brought to his heart as we continue to supply seed to the sowers and bread for food supplies to personal households.

Helping our Arab Believers in Bethlehem, Judea, and Samaria – with Quality Christian Printed Material in their native Language

CFI has a partnership with Derek Prince Ministries to distribute their Christian teaching materials in the land of Israel. Many Arab speaking believers are very familiar with these materials. These are very gratefully received wherever we take them. We even had the opportunity to bring some to Bethlehem to be used within the Christian community there. As you can see (below left) to enter Bethlehem one passes through a border check point with a reminder that you are now coming under the Palestinian Authority, and Israeli Citizens are not allowed to enter there.

Rudy and Sharon Friesen, Outreach Supervisors
Project First Fruits; fruits@cfijerusalem.org



Listening is a big part of feeling “their” pain and needs



And the Lord brings JOY when brethren help one another.



Delivering Derek Prince materials to Bethlehem



Distributing Derek Prince literature to Arabic citizens



Streams Coordinator
VIKTORIA MULLER



EASING THEIR BURDENS

THE LORD IS GOOD, HE IS WONDERFUL! Blessed are His children who trust in Him, because He hears our prayers and will help us in His perfect timing. There is no want to those who fear Him. Even young lions can lack and suffer hunger, but those who seek the Lord shall not lack anything. What wonderful words! God will provide us with everything we need when we fear and seek Him.

With Grateful Hearts we Provide for their Practical Needs

On one of our visits this month, we visited a single mother with two children who was in a very difficult financial situation. Because of the war, she could not work at her job for two months. Her financial situation became much worse due to the large debts she had incurred and had to resort to filing for bankruptcy. Her landlord increased the rent; however, she cannot move to another cheaper apartment as she simply has no checks and available finances. She could not even pay her electricity bill for several months even though the electrical company sent several warnings that she needed to pay her debts. One day she came to us for help. We visited her in her home and Streams funding paid her debt for the electricity. She was very grateful for this help, and we enjoyed a good and fulfilling fellowship with each other.

We have also been blessed to reach out and help more single mothers and their children in Ashkelon. There is a group of women who are helping needy families in different ways in that city, and we are in touch with one another in this work. Then a request to us came to assist the children who were about to go back to school. We delivered school bags full of school and stationery supplies to the children and their parents in the municipality building of Ashkelon. We are so glad that we can give glory to God when we tell them Christian friends

in the nations love and want to support Israel. May our words together with the gifts we are able to give be an encouragement for the families in these challenging and difficult times.

God provides for His children. The Bible says, ***“those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing” (Psalm 34:10).*** Many Israelis from all walks of life turn to us with various needs and we are grateful to God to have funding in which to help them. So many others are also turning to CFI for additional help to ease their burdens here in Israel. They await our help. Thank you for your financial support and prayers for our Project Streams of Blessing! May the Lord bless you abundantly so that you will never lack any good thing.

Viktoria Muller
Outreach Coordinator
Project Streams of Blessing
streams@cfijerusalem.org





**FTN Coordinator
OLGA KOPILOVA**



On A Battlefield

“We hoped for peace but no good has come, for a time of healing but there is only terror.” Jeremiah 14:19

She said, “I am not forgotten!”

This past year, more than at any other time in modern Israeli history, our nation is engulfed in war. This conflict permeates every segment of our society, reaching every household and seizing the hearts of individuals across the land. The events of this year have deeply impacted Israeli society on physical, emotional, and also spiritual levels. No one can remain indefinitely unaffected by the reality we face; each of us is drawn, in one way or another, to the battlefield.

As CFI – through our organization, projects, we stand alongside Israel. We offer God’s comfort, prayer, emotional and practical support **as never before**, finding ourselves now on the frontline, especially when it comes to the spiritual dimension of the ongoing war.

It is no surprise that this year, in particular, we have faced intensified pressure from various directions, including within our own FTN project. Team members have encountered personal struggles with health and

family issues, while our project budget has felt the strain of rising expenses, and we have faced challenges in recruiting new volunteers. These factors have affected the number of visits we could make this year, but not the quality. Ninety-eight-year-old Sima, Holocaust survivor from Minsk ghetto, began to cry with joy upon seeing Olga enter her room at the nursing home, saying to the nurses, “These are tears of joy; I am not forgotten. My friends have come to visit me!” She expressed gratitude for the visit, which took place on October 7, a day of remembrance, and shared how much this visit caused her to feel God’s love for her and for her nation, in spite of memories of past sorrows and ongoing present trials.

Even in difficult cases like Elena, who lost her only grandson – a young soldier – in the early days of the war and now declines visits and comfort, we believe we are fulfilling our purpose by continuing to be God’s Healing Balm to the survivors, praying for them and sending them birthday cards with Bible verses. We represent the



***“And be ... tenderhearted ...”
Ephesians 4:32***

Nothing is worse than leaving the elderly totally alone. Can we imagine what it is like not to have any visitors during the day or night? What if we lived with the memories these Jewish people remember from years before, frozen often still in “time.” CFI Holocaust team members visit many hundreds of homes during the year remembering the forgotten. You just cannot imagine unless you look into the eyes of how loneliness can be frightening to the elderly. What a joy it brings us to carry with us the unconditional love of the Lord. Such a privilege. **We represent YOU! Thank you for your continual help to us.**

Sharon with Rabbi from Mea Shearim



Remembering the Lonely is Imperative!

LORD as Christians in the way He should always have been presented to them.

We face resistance and challenges in many forms. Spiritual warfare has increased. Yet, we remain unwavering in our mission to bring comfort, support, and encouragement. It is our privilege to be in this Land, especially during such a time of war, standing with God's chosen people in this ongoing struggle.

We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to you, our friends and partners, who choose to stand with us in this challenging place where the battle rages. Despite the circumstances, you continue to support us in prayer, with financial assistance, and through your attention and care. Whether your support is long-term or short-term, it is notable and greatly valued. **We need you, appreciate you, and are deeply grateful to you, especially as we stand together in this critical time on a battlefield.**

Olga Kopilova
Outreach Coordinator
Project Forsake Them Not
ftn@cfijerusalem.org

Carrying Beta Israel On Our Shoulders



HFF Coordinator
MONICA RUBY

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:13

I HAVE NOW BEEN IN the Land 6 months, attempting to rebuild former relationships within this ministry, as well as establish new ones. And though progress has been made, it has been slow.

We continue to distribute food vouchers to needy families during the holidays, this time serving over 40 Ethiopian families in B'nei Brak, with the help of dear Rachel.

Rachel continues to try to re-open her Youth Center/ After School Program, however that is currently encumbered in bureaucracy and red tape. In the meantime, though she maintains her contacts within the community, even having a tutor available to visit the homes of the children in need of assistance with their schooling. And we continue to try to help wade through all the obstacles and will prayerfully have a positive solution soon.

In the meantime, we have been able to make contact with a congregation in Talpiot, near Jerusalem, and they would like our assistance with establishing a new Youth Center of their own! We envision having tutors available 2-3 times per week to assist with Mathematics, English, and Computer Skills, and there has also been some interest expressed in the area of learning to sew, and we will assist with our volunteers.

Assisting Needs of the Community

And of course we continue to assist various individuals as well, including a young man I'll call Solomon, and one woman I have previously mentioned, who I'll refer to as Yahalom. Solomon previously served in the IDF (military), and due to injuries and other issues, he returned from his service with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). As a result of everything he experienced, he is now disabled and cannot work, however Hope For The Future was able to provide him with some much-needed financial assistance. As for Yahalom, she has been helped by us in the past, however we continue to see what more we might be able to do for her, as she is an older woman who lives alone, and has to deal with many health challenges.



Monica with Almaz prepared a meal



Monica giving out food vouchers in B'nei Brak



Write me to day and I can tell you the greatest needs many of these precious ones have...things that you and I often take for granted. **WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU! Thank you for all your faithful prayers, encouragement, and financial support, we would not be able to do this work without you! Thank You.**

Monica Ruby

*Outreach Coordinator
Project Hope for the Future
hope@cfijerusalem.org*

Pray with the End Result in Mind

"I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Genesis 28:15

I can think of many prayers that I have prayed in the past that I'm glad our Sovereign God did not answer with a yes, learning in hindsight that His acquiescence to my request may have been harmful or tragic for me or maybe even others. Thinking back over your own life, can you relate? There are those things, relationships, or circumstances that we either wanted to pray into existence or out of existence and it was not until later that those very things revealed themselves to be the central instruments that would form us, shape us, and transform us, building character and Christlikeness or revealing lack thereof. There are circumstances God allows in our lives that are tied to His higher ways and thoughts that are connected to His redemptive purposes for us, and it is the same for Israel.

Israel is in a defining season – an existential crisis for sure – as a result of the last year of war with Hamas, and by provocation a de facto war with Hezbollah in Lebanon that has broadened to include Iran and its proxies in the Arab states from Yemen to Iraq. The Middle East is on the brink of an all-out war, but Israel must defend itself against all these threats. We have had the last year to pray, fast, intercede, and travail for this current crisis, but somewhere along the way as the war continued to persist, leaders from the religious and spiritual echelon in Israel and abroad began to wonder out loud about all the stalled and failed diplomatic negotiations.



WOP Coordinator
SUZIE GEORGES

Many have wondered why the hostages are still in captivity in Gaza, why rockets are still infiltrating Israeli airspace, and why there are still terror attacks happening as malevolent jihadi-spirited perpetrators lurk at every turn waiting to spill Jewish blood.

From October 7th remembrance ceremonies and events, to prayer assignments from Haifa to the Negev, in addition to visiting Christian Friends of Israel from the nations that put God in remembrance of His Word, we do not take for granted the privilege of being in the Land for such a time as this, serving and loving Israel unconditionally. Our presence in the nations through our international representatives stationed in over 20 countries globally spurs us onto unceasing prayer, being your hands, feet, and heart tangibly touching the people and Land for God's glory. We are blessed to pray with the reps monthly via Zoom.

Reminding God of His Promises

We visited Beit El where the patriarch Jacob had his dream chronicled in Genesis 28. The presence of God was palpable there as we declared to the powers of the air and lifted our voices to God reminding Him of His promise to Jacob thousands of years ago. God is sovereign and is watching over His Word to perform it.

Suzie Georges
Outreach Coordinator
Project Wall of Prayer
prayer@cfijerusalem.org

Suzie meeting and praying with people in various places, touching hearts that are hurting and giving love wherever is needed.





“Then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where He scattered you.” Deuteronomy 30 : 3-4

Lea (a pseudonym) was raised in a traditional Jewish family in the United States, surrounded by the customs and beliefs of her heritage. However, as she entered her teenage years, she decided to take a different path. Lea wanted to blend in and lead an ordinary life rather than stand out. She eventually chose to distance herself from her Jewish heritage and religion.

Years passed, filled with both joyful and challenging times. Lea built a family and pursued a career like many others, yet she still felt an emptiness within. Then, one day, God touched her heart unexpectedly. She began to realize that she belonged to Him and to His Chosen People. Lea rekindled her passion for studying Torah, although she never imagined she would make *Aliyah*. In 2019, she joined a certain group for a three-week trip to Israel. From the moment she arrived, she felt an undeniable connection to the land. “I realized my roots were in Israel. This is my home and my people. I wanted to move to Israel immediately.” However, due to the pandemic, her plans were delayed for two years. Finally, in 2022, Lea returned to Israel, this time for three months. She enrolled in a language school to learn Hebrew, and her fellow students encouraged and advised her, fueling her determination to pursue *Aliyah*.

A Decision Tested by Fire

By 2023, Lea had gathered all the necessary documents and was ready to make the move. But in October, war broke out, putting her decision to the test. During this challenging time, she had a vision in which the Lord encouraged her to take this step of faith. Lea chose to follow that call. Her relatives were worried, and even her Jewish friends advised her against making *Aliyah*, but Lea remained resolute. In early summer 2024, she finally received her citizenship.

Facing Many Trials

At first, Lea was unaware of many things around her. New immigrants are often targets for people and organizations that exploit their inexperience in various ways. Many scammers reach out through the internet or through a simple phone call, and thousands of new Israelis fall into their traps. Lea’s experience was different, though. A man with his own agenda expressed interest in marrying her, presenting himself as a successful, well-educated, Jewish businessman. Everything seemed perfect until Lea discovered he had been lying. The engagement ended before the planned wedding. She thanked God for His protection.

Lea received a gift from CFI’s Start-Up Store. She shared with us that American Jews are too accustomed to an easy life, which becomes the biggest obstacle to making *Aliyah*. Leaving the comfort zone of the U.S.A. is challenging, but now is the time to move, so even if it means sacrificing cherished habits and belongings. God has a greater plan.

Tiina Danilevski, Outreach Coordinator
Project Open Gates; gates@cfijerusalem.org

Lea received a gift from CFI’s Start-Up Store



Created to Carry Gladness

Rada and Avi got married in Israel in September 2024. They both were served and dressed by CFI Bridal Salon. Rada came to our place first with her mother and friends. Some days later she brought her fiancé to our Salon. This sweet young couple shared with us their story. I see God's hand behind it all. Our Creator is the best Match Maker.

The name "Rada" means "joyful." She was born in Russia. Her parents decided to make *Aliyah* when she was two years old. This child has been a great blessing to the family. She carried joy wherever she went.

When Rada was fourteen, her father died from cancer. Rada's heart was broken, and she lost her joy for many years. She finished school and then served in the IDF for three years. She became a successful commander in combat troops. After her army service Rada travelled for nine months by herself in different countries. After that she started her studies at Jerusalem University. During these years she did not have any serious relationship with men.

Rada loves her grandparents very much. Besides her studies she works as an official care giver for them. She visits the nursing home 2-3 three times a week. During the time of pandemic, the rules were strict. Trained guards watched carefully that nobody did not get into the building without a good reason. Most of them were unfriendly and even rude. One guard, as an exception, was friendly and helpful. It was Avi. He worked there a while to cover the costs of his studies. Everyone used masks. You saw only the eyes of the person. However, these two young students started to pay attention to one to another. One day Avi asked Rada's phone number. They became good friends.

Avi proposed to Rada

After three years of dating Avi proposed to Rada. It happened in a park. Avi had already asked for her mother's blessing for their marriage, and together they made a plan for the proposal. Rada thought that she and her mom were just taking the grandparents out for a walk. Suddenly Avi appeared with flowers and the ring. Rada was so surprised and happy that she almost forgot to say "Yes."

Later both the mother and the grandmother came and found gowns for the celebration in our Salon. At the wedding Rada gave a beautiful testimony: "After my father's death my heart was crushed into a thousand pieces, but Avi, you have been able to gather all the pieces together and bring back my joy." Thank God for His goodness!

We were privileged to bless this beautiful couple who are starting to build their life and home in Jerusalem. May the Lord shine His face upon them and be their Guide in all they do. Avi and Rada are a good picture of the joy that is promised to the Chosen People of God. May the words of the prophet become true for all Israel.

Tiina Danilevski, Outreach Coordinator
Project Bridal Salon; bridal@cfijerusalem.org



Rada with mom and parents



"Can a virgin forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire?"

Deuteronomy 2:32

A special moment

GLOBAL OUTREACH CFI GLO



CFI INDIA

Israel and the Church Three Day Seminar

Held in Satara, the Seminar was in three sessions (Pastor Sonny Chandra) covering Israel and the Church being two sides of the same coin, with a teaching chain from Genesis into Revelation, prophecies of the *Aliyah* being fulfilled in our lifetime. Pastor Nicky Chandra covering Israel a blessing to the World, Replacement Theology and the Church Grafted in with Israel. Pastor Yoseph Pawar in the Marathi covering the need for the Church all over the World to wake up and openly stand by Israel. The venue the Anglican Church of Satara, and was attended by Pastors and Leaders of mixed denominations. A total of about 240 people attended which included over 20 Pastors. The feedback from the Presbyter of the Church and from various Pastors, was plain and simple; please come again and do the next level of teachings. CFI Prayer Group from Mumbai also attended the Seminar, travelling almost 600 kilometers. Anti-Semitism is deeply entrenched, in the 'Church' in India, irrespective of the denomination! We have planted the seeds, something that has been said to us, by many Pastors.

Contact: Pastor Sonny Chandra
Email: nirmalkchandra@gmail.com



Pastor Chandra teaching



Pastor Sonny and Pastor Nicky with CFI Team from Mumbai



Pastor Sonny sharing the word of God

HE SAYS: "IT IS TOO LIGHT A THING THAT YOU SHOULD BE MY SERVANT TO RAISE UP THE TRIBES OF JACOB AND TO BRING BACK THE PRESERVED OF ISRAEL; I WILL MAKE YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE NATIONS, THAT MY SALVATION MAY REACH TO THE END OF THE EARTH."

ISAIAH 49:6 ESV

BAL OUTREACH CFI GLOBAL



CFI GERMANY

CFI International Development Director Reports from the Field

As the newly appointed CFI development director I have been reaching out to new contacts. Our newest addition to our CFI FAMILY OF NATIONS has added a Representative in Italy. Soon the nations of Italy, Greece and others build a stronger future in the world arena of nations for CFI and Israel will help.

Only recently my husband Ewald and myself created a template for the CFI calendar in Indesign (graphic design program) that will make it much easier to create new calendars year by year and which will also help other nations in translating the calendar and producing it in their own language (printing it in their own country). Please be sure to order your new calendar and let us know how you like our new look and style.

We've been doing zoom meetings and international calls with Switzerland, Mexico, France, Italy, Brazil and the UK. Visiting in Tuscany, Italy, was particularly encouraging as we plan and talk about practical details is setting up a CFI office in Italy. Meeting the CFI Jerusalem team in Spain recently at the Derek Prince Ministries International Representative meeting was a very special blessing for all of us which we will never forget. Partnership with other like minded ministries is on the heart of our leader Tristan Hall and we look forward to strengthening new relationships and contacts around the world. If you do not have a CFI Representative in your country, please feel free to contact me. I would love to meet you and speak to you about representing us in your nation for Zion's Sake. Please don't forget to contact me at the email below. GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU!

Blessings for Jerusalem from Germany,
CFI-Germany Representative
International Development Director, CFI Jerusalem

Contact: Amber Sutter
E-mail: info@cfri.de



CFI USA



**UPCOMING
2025 CFI
CONFERENCE**

**Skyline of Charlotte,
North Carolina**
**Right: Hannele with
CFI-USA display**



Welcome To Charlotte, North Carolina

It is a joy to welcome you to celebrate, thank the Lord for the past decades, and learn about the current challenges the Jewish people face in their own land and around the world. Anti-Semitism is threatening again the future of the Jewish State and the lives of the Jews everywhere they live.

We, as friends of Israel, have the privilege and responsibility of transmitting to the coming generation the knowledge of God's love to His Chosen people.
See you in May 2025 in Charlotte, NC for CFI's Celebration of the 40th Anniversary Conference!

Contact: Hannele Pardain
Email: cfiusa@cfi-usa.org

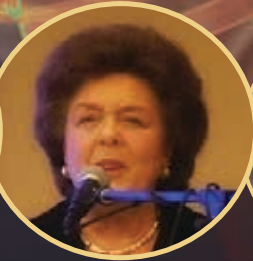
"NOW THEREFORE, IF YOU WILL INDEED OBEY MY VOICE AND KEEP MY COVENANT, YOU SHALL BE MY TREASURED POSSESSION AMONG ALL PEOPLES, FOR ALL THE EARTH IS MINE; AND YOU SHALL BE TO ME A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS AND A HOLY NATION."

EXODUS 19:5-6 ESV

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL JERUSALEM

40th Year Celebration

May 29, 30, 31 2025



HOST:
HANNELE
PARDAIN

IN PERSON DIRECT FROM JERUSALEM

"Not unto us, O Lord, but unto Thy Name give glory..." Psalm 115:1

**Venue: Renaissance South Park Hotel
Charlotte, North Carolina**

Hosted by CFI-USA

**A Night to Honor the God of Israel
The Master's Ministry**

Personal Invitation: Limited Space

CFI-USA invites our family, friends and supporters to our **once-in-a-life-time generational celebration to honor God** for our world-wide service to Israel. This is a celebration of Jacob's Generation. It will also be a reunion for former CFI'ers. This time of renewing friendships with life-long friends, leaders, pastors, Churches for Israel and times with one another will be rewarding.

This is a celebration coming directly from Jerusalem, Israel, to bring you the latest news, miraculous events, Jerusalem spectaculars and in-depth Bible teaching on Israel from our frontline ministry team.

This is our initial Invitation – watch for more information to come in our next For Zion Sake magazine and online website.



For Inquiries:
Email: cfiusa@cfi-usa.org
Website: www.cfi-usa.org



Welcome to our joyous Celebration Reunion!



CFI Media & News

We keep you well informed
via Social Media: Youtube,
Instagram, X, and facebook.
To learn more please click on
www.cfijerusalem.org