



July

Rev. Fred Klett, PCA Evangelist, Executive Director  
Rev. Richard Anderson, OPC Evangelist, Senior Missionary  
Rev. Bruce Howes, Heritage PCA New Castle DE, Chairman  
Todd & Sandi York, Bi-Vocational Missionaries, Alabama

A number of us have become convinced there is a need for a new association to be formed for Jewish Christians. Jewish people who believe in Jesus need to be able to come together for fellowship, encouragement, and addressing special issues—but without jeopardizing the purity of the gospel, the unity of all believers, or the legitimacy of Jewish believers being free to enjoy a continuing Jewish identity within the church. There is an organization that was formed for that purpose about 90 years ago, but that organization has shifted so radically in focus that it is no longer relevant for most Jewish Christians. Now Messianic Judaism is what Messianic Jews are being called to follow. Jewish Christians in churches are encouraged to leave them and join Messianic synagogues. Rabbinic practices and Old Testament ceremonial laws are often emphasized and the unity of the one New Covenant people has been endangered. Some are even teaching it is a *sin* for Jewish Christians not to keep kosher. Three men concerned about this problem, Baruch Maoz, an Israeli Reformed Baptist pastor, Stan Telchin, Jewish Christian author of the books *Betrayed* and *Abandoned* and CHAIM's director Fred Klett began to plan a new international conference for Jewish and other interested believers. We had our first conference, have set up a web site ([www.ijef.org](http://www.ijef.org)), have formed a new committee of seven chaired by Baruch Maoz, and are planning another conference to further this new movement. Please pray. Here is the statement to the press that came out of the first conference:

#### Statement to the Press

On May 22-24 a group of Jewish and gentile Christians, lovers of the Jewish people, met in Vienna, Virginia, USA for the first International Jewish Christian Conference.

We gathered because we love God and believe the message of salvation he has sent "for Jews first and also for gentiles."<sup>1</sup>

We call upon our people, to turn from the errors in secularism and rabbinicism, to repent and to put their trust in Jesus, Israel's promised Messiah.<sup>2</sup> Rabbinic authority was established in the course of our people's exiles and represents a departure from the biblical faith of Israel.

We call upon our Jewish brethren in the Faith who are in evangelical churches around the world to be faithful in their respective churches.

We call upon our Jewish brethren in the Faith to avoid making Jewishness their focus. We believe that none but God in Messiah should be the focus of individual and congregation life.<sup>3</sup> There is no biblical requirement for Jewish believers to gather in ethnically focused congregations.

We call upon our Jewish brethren in the Faith who are in evangelical churches to make their distinct contribution to the church.

We call upon our Jewish brethren in the Faith to retain, cultivate and nourish their Jewish identity<sup>4</sup> as a matter of national and cultural heritage, not as an aspect of their obedience to God.<sup>5</sup> Above all God has commanded us to love him sincerely, to strive for godliness and high moral standards, and to honestly care for our fellow man.

We call upon the evangelical Church to accommodate itself more fully to accept and respect Jewish Christians in its midst, and to rid itself of thought patterns and of expressions that have anti-Semitic roots. Jews who cherish their national and cultural identity are not necessarily Judaizing.<sup>6</sup>

We call upon the evangelical Church to renew its recognition of the Bible, not rabbinic Judaism, as the roots of its faith. Rabbinic Judaism ought to be challenged, not embraced.

We call upon the evangelical Church to renew its commitment to "provoke Israel to jealousy" (Rom. 11:11) by its holiness and godly conduct and to proclaim the good news of the Messiah to the Jewish people.

We call upon all our Jewish brethren in the Faith to renew their commitment to the truth and supreme authority of Scripture, and to reaffirm

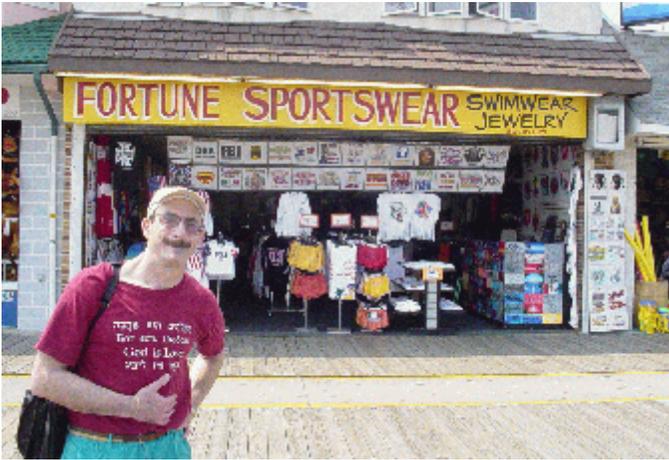
- that the Father, Son and Spirit are fully equal in their deity, together, one God
- the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation is our supreme authority for all matters of faith and conduct
- that the Mosaic Covenant was "our schoolmaster to lead us to Messiah". Now that he has come we are "no longer under the schoolmaster" (Gal. 3:24-25).<sup>7</sup>
- that being Jewish or maintaining Jewish tradition in no way accords us spirituality, holiness or proximity to God,
- that the body of Christ is one, in which Jews and gentiles, men and women from various social, educational, financial or political strata are united

We call upon adherents to Messianic Judaism to dialogue with us. We love and respect you. We humbly differ with you on important issues. We are eager to hear and be heard, so that you and we might together better serve God and Messiah's cause.

<sup>1</sup> Rom. 1:16; Acts 3:26. <sup>2</sup> Acts 3:19-26. <sup>3</sup> Col. 1:18. <sup>4</sup> I Cor. 7: 17-18  
<sup>5</sup> Rom. 2:25; Gal. 5:6, 6:15. <sup>6</sup> Rom. 11:1. <sup>7</sup> Gal. 3:24-25.

# CHAIM MINISTRY UPDATES

From Executive Director, Rev. Fred Klett



Above is Rev. Rick Anderson during a recent trip we took to the Jersey shore. We didn't get into the ocean—we got our feet wet in Israeli outreach! Our *God is Love* shirts in Hebrew, Russian, English and Yiddish really opened conversations.

On an exploratory trip several weeks earlier, my wife Jean and I met an Israeli store owner, David. He was willing to receive a Hebrew New Covenant. This was the first stop Rick and I made on our next trip. We asked if David was in , and his partner said he wasn't and asked what we wanted. He wasn't overly congenial, as it turned out, because he thought we were Hasidic Jews! When he found out who we really are, his whole attitude changed and he became very agreeable. We had a friendly conversation and said we would stop back later to see David.

As we walked down the boardwalk we met Malka, a young Moroccan Jewish woman from Canada. She said she was Orthodox, as do most Moroccan Jews. We had a good conversation about Messiah and she took two pamphlets I have written, one about Isaiah 53 and another about the resurrection of Jesus. Next we met a Lebanese Arab, Ishan, who was very willing to talk and also took a New Testament in English. In another store Rick shared with another young Moroccan Jew while I spoke with his Orthodox Jewish Israeli boss. We plan to bring this young man a French Bible. Another Israeli was willing to talk a bit, but wouldn't read anything about Jesus—even though he had a t-shirt in his shop that had a cross and read "Messiah died for your sins!" We now realize we also need materials in French and Arabic.

Finally we returned to see David, who was very happy to see me and received the Modern Hebrew New Testament. David didn't have much time to talk, as the shop had gotten very busy. He apologized and really seemed to want talk more, but we know he needs to make a living, so we excused ourselves. We'll see him again. All in all, it was a good first outing. We're planning more of these trips during the summer. Pray for them. Also pray for some Presbyterian ministers in Korea we are in touch with who are very interested in Israeli ministry, speak modern Hebrew, and believe Koreans should be involved. They are praying about a visit here next fall. Rick and I are doing outreach ourselves, but perhaps we are also like Joshua and Caleb, scouting the territory for greater outreach in the future. Pray that God would continue to open doors as we seek to develop this ministry.

## A Chinese-Jewish Wedding, Prayer Meetings, & A Seminar

Todd and Sandi York are volunteers working in Birmingham Alabama. Recently they asked many for prayer for their trip to attend a family wedding. This is the side of Sandi's Jewish family which had not come to their wedding because they knew Jesus would be mentioned. Interestingly, the wedding they attended was a Chinese-Jewish wedding! (Todd says there are many parallels between Chinese and Jewish families: both communities have strong family ties and traditions and both Chinese and Jewish mothers are known for passing along those traditions and making sure everyone is well fed!) Sandi felt there was real answer to prayer as she was very much included back into her family. Quite a few relatives who had refused to come to their wedding came up to Sandi and apologized for any emotional distance that they had caused to come between them. They warmly expressed their joy to see her again. We rejoice with Todd and Sandi to see this welcome reunion with family members.

Todd and Sandi have organized a prayer ministry which meets about every 6 weeks. One of the couples involved lives in a small exclusive Jewish neighborhood. One of the neighbors has prayed to receive the Messiah. There is a women's Christian Bible study in that neighborhood and this new believer's mother, an older Jewish lady, is now attending. Pray for her. We are planning a Jewish ministry seminar at Briarwood PCA next fall right before Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. Pray for these plans and for Todd and Sandi's work in our Southern Outpost!



Above are three Russian speaking Jewish friends. Igor (middle) hosts the Monday night Bible study, which is starting in Genesis and going through the history of redemption and the coming of Messiah. Pray for him to be reconciled with his wife and for her salvation. Our "Mountain Jewish" friend (right), meaning of Persian Jewish ancestry, needs to come to faith. Yuri (left) has helped with translation. Both Igor and Yuri have also helped follow up new contacts. Pray for this outreach as it goes forward.

[www.chaim.org/donate.html](http://www.chaim.org/donate.html)