



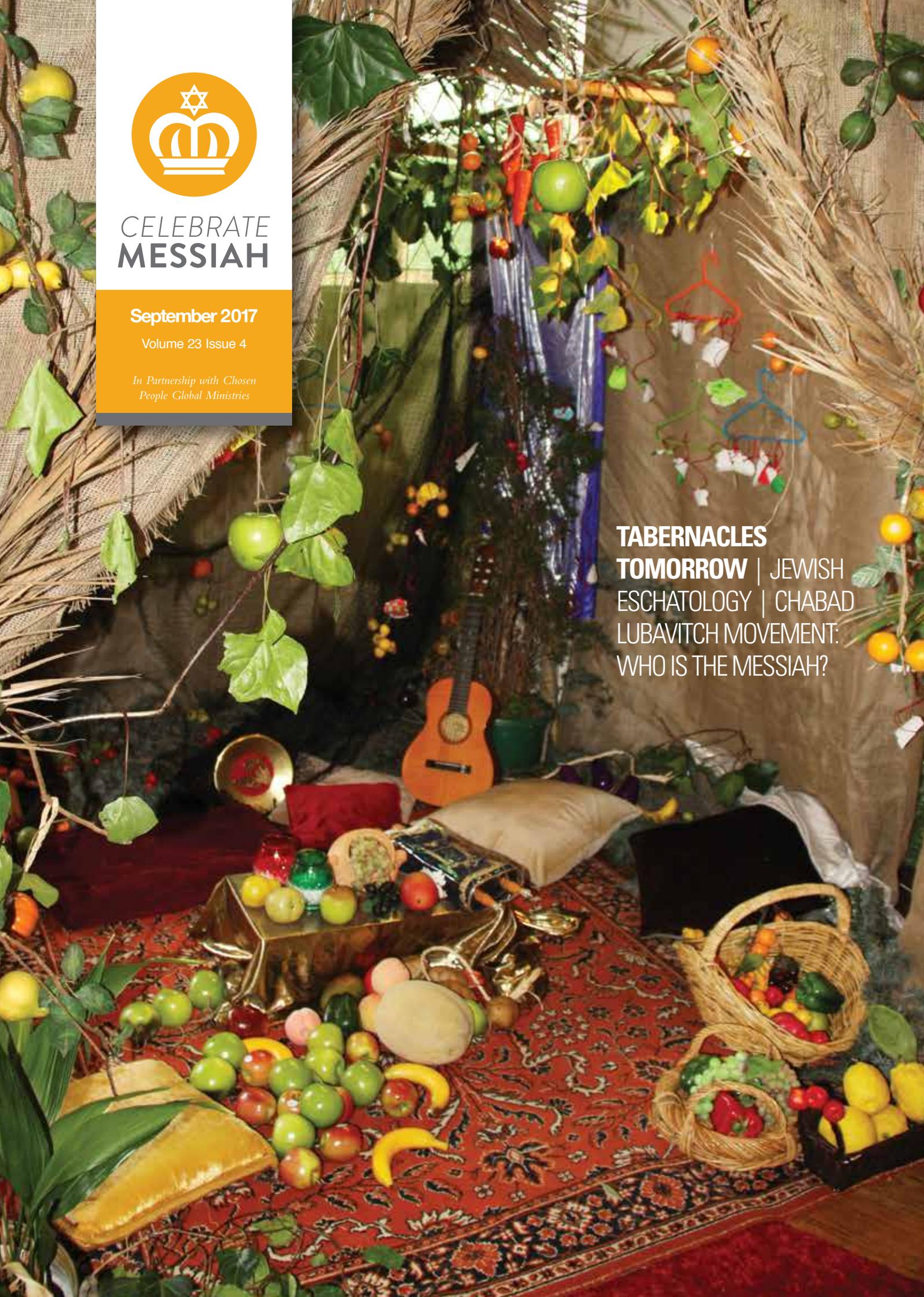
# CELEBRATE MESSIAH

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*In Partnership with Chosen  
People Global Ministries*

**TABERNACLES  
TOMORROW** | JEWISH  
ESCHATOLOGY | CHABAD  
LUBAVITCH MOVEMENT:  
WHO IS THE MESSIAH?



# TABERNACLES TOMORROW

Shalom,

It is hard to believe another year has passed! The Fall Feasts are upon us, and Jewish people all around the world will soon begin to celebrate the New Year (Rosh Hashanah), the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), and the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) – the three great Fall Festivals described in Leviticus 23:23-44.

We believe that each of the Festivals points to Jesus in one way or another, and this is wonderfully true of the Feast of Tabernacles! This Feast, in particular, carries a rich meaning for both Christians and Jewish people alike.

## YESHUA THE MESSIAH AND THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Jesus (*Yeshua* in Hebrew) is the fulfillment of all the Jewish Festivals, and this includes Sukkot. First of all, we understand that Jesus Himself is the fulfillment of the Festival in that He is God in the flesh who “tabernacled” among us. As John wrote,

*And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)*

The Greek word John used for “dwelt” is *skene*, a word that refers to the pitching of a tent. The image is easy to grasp – through the incarnation, God pitched a tent, which was His flesh, to veil His pure glory. Jesus pitched His tabernacle and dwelled among us for a short sojourn until the day He returns to reign as King.

The incarnation was a foretaste of the experience of God’s glory we will enjoy when the kingdom is established on earth. In that day, the Messiah will be King

over all, and both Israel and the nations will bow to Him as their sovereign Lord.

*...so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:10-11)*

In the 7th chapter of John, we see that Jesus Himself celebrated the Festival and, in fact, He used the celebration to make one of the most profound announcements regarding who He is. Specifically, it was on the seventh day of the Feast, called *Hoshana Rabbah*. This day is also known in Judaism as the last Day of Judgment. It was customary at that time for the Jewish people to send a Levite choir and orchestra to the pool of Siloam to gather water in giant urns, which were then brought back to the altar.

They would march around the altar crying out *Hosheanah* – “Lord save us...Lord save us,” many times over. They would then pour the water from the urns at the base of the altar. This ceremony symbolised the future hope of the Jewish people – looking forward to the day when the Messiah would come and pour out His Spirit upon the people of Israel in fulfillment of Joel 2:28-29:

*It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind: And your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.*

According to Jewish tradition, these events were expected to take place when the Messiah appeared on the earth. This “pouring out” was foreshadowed in the Temple by the pouring out of the water at the base of the altar. The *water drawing ceremony*, as it was known, was a portrait of the day when God would send His Messiah and His Spirit, and the Jewish people would become alive spiritually as they had never before.

Jesus understood the traditions associated with this great day of the Feast, and He knew this was the last opportunity on the Jewish calendar to repent of sins and be cleansed. It is a common misconception that Judaism teaches that the Books of Life and Death are sealed at the conclusion of the Day of Atonement; however, Jewish tradition dating back to the first century tells us that the judgment, which determines one’s fate for the year, is

actually finalised on Hoshana Rabbah – literally, the great day of salvation.

It was at the high point of this ceremony when Jesus rose up and cried out:

*Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39)*

Clearly, He was telling the crowds He was the Messiah...the Spirit of God is now being poured out...and He is the living water. Those who drink, or believe in Him, will never thirst again! The Jewish people had one more chance to find forgiveness of sin at the conclusion of the High Holiday cycle, and that moment had arrived – the way of salvation was through faith in Him!

It is safe to assume that Jesus' declaration was heard by many ears that day, because Sukkot is one of the three biblical Festivals which required all Jewish males to travel to Jerusalem from around the world.

## THE FUTURE SUKKOT

We will also see the Feast of Tabernacles fulfilled in the Kingdom period when the nations will be commanded to come up to Jerusalem and celebrate the Feast (Zechariah 14:16-19).

We would be remiss not to mention the ultimate significance of the Feast of Tabernacles, for the Apostle John wrote,

*And I heard a loud voice from the thrones saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among men and they shall be His people and God Himself shall be among them, and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, crying, or pain, the first things have passed away. (Revelation 21:3-4)*

We believe God will fulfill the kingdom promises to the Jewish people and establish the throne of Jesus in a literal and renewed Jerusalem. But that is not the end of the story — there

is more to come. Ultimately, the whole earth will become the Sukkah booth of God, and He will reign through His Son for all eternity. As Paul describes,

*When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15:28)*

This is a description of heaven, as after He reigns as King over Israel and the nations for what many believe is for a literal thousand years (Revelation 20:1-5), then the events described in Revelation 21 and 1 Corinthians 15 will take place. First, He literally fulfills His promises to Israel based upon the Abrahamic covenant (Genesis 12:1-3), and then the eternal reign of the Triune God is established forever.

I hope this gives you a whole new perspective on why the Feast of Tabernacles is also called the "Season of Our Joy." What can bring greater joy than remembering how God tabernacled among us, while also looking forward to the day when we will be in His presence forever?

## ISRAEL 70TH BIRTHDAY TOUR

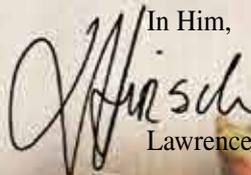
We look forward to leading a large group from Australia next year to celebrate Israel's 70th anniversary of modern nationhood, with a 10-day tour including the main sites and an eminent array of expert speakers for our special Chosen People Ministries conference. This is a

unique tour to *See Israel Through Jewish Eyes*, and we have packaged the airfare, accommodation and conference into a most affordable price. For more details see the ad on page 6 of this newsletter.

Thanks for your prayers and faithful financial support as we share the Good News of Jesus the Messiah with Jewish people around the globe.

Enjoy the remainder of the newsletter, especially the information about Jewish views of the end times. I pray you have a blessed High Holiday season. Please remember to pray for Your Mission to the Jewish People and for the many outreaches we are having at this time all around the globe.

In Him,

  
Lawrence



LAWRENCE HIRSCH  
DIRECTOR, CELEBRATE MESSIAH

YESHUA, IS THE  
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# Jewish Eschatology

THE FUTURE GOD HAS PLANNED  
FOR THE WORLD IS UNSTOPPABLE!

Jesus spoke about the future quite often, as it was one of His favorite subjects. After all He is the greatest of all the prophets (Deuteronomy 18:15ff).

In Matthew 24:32-33, Jesus said,

*Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door.*

Knowing more about our biblical future and the coming kingdom is one of our duties as disciples of Jesus the Messiah. We are not only part of God's kingdom today, but we also have starring roles in His forever story! We must discover what He has planned to the best of our ability and allow the future to inform the way we live and serve in the present.

The Savior calls His disciples to live today in light of tomorrow. The future according to the Bible has also been important to the Jewish people since the sacred text was penned by Moses and the prophets thousands of years ago.

Central to this Jewish understanding is the idea that this world is not currently what it is supposed to be. Swords and spears characterise relationships between nations today, but one day the Bible tells us that war will grind to a halt (Isaiah 2:4)! Our experiences of personal loss, weakness, and the impact of sin on society will come to an end, blessed be His name.

On a national scale, the people of Israel have spent more years in exile than they have in their homeland, which is surely the reverse of what God promised to Abraham (Genesis 15). The exile has brought national humiliation and diaspora, but one day, this will be reversed when God brings His people back to the Holy Land. At that time, the Jewish people will live in perfect peace with their neighbors. We can easily argue that this return to the Land has begun. Yet, things are still not what they will be, as the Jewish people are not yet living in the Land in peace. But, this day will come!

Understanding modern Jewish views on the future is difficult as there is little consensus on the topic. More liberal forms of Judaism downplay the specific events the

Bible describes as taking place in the last days, and focuses on repairing or healing the world (tikkun olam) today. On the other hand, the future according to classical Judaism, practiced within Orthodox communities, will be more familiar to students of God's Word.

Classical Judaism understands that the last days will bring about the great reversal of Jewish exile and reestablishment of the Davidic kingdom under the reign of the Messiah. Instead of living under the curses of exile, Israel will live in light of the blessings promised in the Bible (Deuteronomy 28:1-14, 30:1-10). Antisemitism will be a thing of the past (Micah 4:4, Zechariah 8:23), and Jerusalem will be restored to its rightful place in the plan of God (Isaiah 60). All of Israel's enemies will be destroyed through an end-times series of wars, which God will fight on behalf of His chosen people (Zechariah 12, Ezekiel 38-39). Righteous Jewish people from all eras of history will rise from their graves in a miraculous resurrection (Daniel 12:2) to live in peace and harmony for eternity.

Of course, as believers in Jesus, and those who accept the authority of both the Old and New Testaments, we understand the glorious future God has prepared for the Jewish people will only come about when the Jewish people turn to the Messiah Jesus. As Paul writes,

*For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery – so that you will not be wise in your own estimation – that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; and so all Israel will be saved....*  
(Romans 11:25-26)

It is important to remember that Judaism does not teach two comings of the Messiah: one to die for sin and the other to reign as King. However, Judaism does connect the coming of the Messiah and the future kingdom with the Feasts of Israel. Some Jewish traditions expected that the Messiah would arrive on the eve of Passover, leading the Jewish people out of exile just as Moses led the people out of Egypt. Interestingly, we see the fulfillment of this in the coming of *the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world* (John 1:29).

Other Jewish traditions link the sounding of a great trumpet (*shofar* – rams horn) from heaven, associated with Rosh Hashanah (the Feast of the New Year), announcing the coming of King Messiah, who will reign as the true King of Israel.

The Apostle Paul may very well reflect this expectation when he writes,

*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. (1 Thessalonians 4:16)*

However, the festival most associated with the future Messianic redemption of Israel and the nations, according to the Bible and Jewish tradition, is the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot). Zechariah prophesies that all the nations of the earth will come to Jerusalem to worship the Lord during the Feast of Tabernacles

(Zechariah 14:16-19), celebrating the presence of God finally dwelling with humanity.

The temporary booths Jewish people build during the holiday remind us of our human frailty and point us to the day when God will establish His permanent presence on earth during the Messianic Age.

The festivals are a roadmap to redemption and direct our minds and hearts to what is to come...and as sure as Jesus came once, He will come again! As Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshua, there is much in the traditional Jewish understanding of the Last Days that we can affirm with eager expectation.

The Chabad movement started in the late 1700s as a part of the larger Hasidic community present in Eastern Europe. Hasidic expression was marked by mystical practices and charismatic leadership. Chabad Lubavitch is one movement that grew out of Hasidism, which was a reactionary movement against the rationalism and growing liberalism of the Jewish enlightenment (Haskalah). The Hasidic movement prized joyful expression over the cool reserve of the Reform movement. Chabad was also unique in that it believed that one could communicate directly with God through mystical prayer.

During the rise of Hasidism, Jewish people were disappointed about many false Messianic claims.

However, they still hoped for their Messiah to come.

The Hasidic movement channeled this Messianic longing and encouraged their followers to hope for the Messiah and perform commandments in the spirit of bringing on the Messianic age. The Chabad teaches that when every Jew is following Torah, the Messiah will come.

In the 20th century, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson was the seventh and last Rebbe. He encouraged unity among Jews and considered it his mission to bring every Jew back to Torah-observant traditional Judaism so that the Messiah would return. However, Rebbe Schneerson was so loved by his followers that he was hailed to be the Messiah after his death in 1994. To this day, Schneerson's kind, charismatic memory lives on through the many who loved him; they continue to spread the message of the Rebbe far and wide.

The Hebrew Scriptures set out the many qualifications for the Messiah. Among them are requirements that the Messiah:

1. Must be from the line of David. (Isaiah 9:7, Isaiah 11:1, Psalm 132:11, Genesis 49:10)
2. Must be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
3. Will be called the Son of Man and will have an Everlasting Kingdom (Daniel 7:13-14)
4. Will judge between nations and end all war and bring an age of peace. (Isaiah 2: 1-4, Micah 4:1-4)
5. Must make an end of transgression and be cut off before the fall of the Temple. (Daniel 9:24-27)
6. Must come as a suffering servant, with his afflictions making many righteous. (Isaiah 53:11)

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF REBBE SCHNEERSON IN LIGHT OF THESE SCRIPTURES?



## CHABAD LUBAVITCH MOVEMENT: *Who is the Messiah?*

# ISRAEL'S 70<sup>th</sup>

## BIRTHDAY TOUR & CONFERENCE

July 4 - July 17 2018



You are invited to join us in Jerusalem in 2018 to celebrate Israel's 70th birthday! This once in a lifetime opportunity includes air fares, accommodation, meals, day tours, nightly bible conferences, times of worship and celebration, as well as opportunities to learn more about the work God is doing in Israel through Celebrate Messiah and our International partners, Chosen People Ministries. You will also have the opportunity to attend the **Joel C. Rosenberg Epicenter Prayer Summit** as an optional extra.

### COSTS

**Full Package Cost:** \$4390 (AU Dollars)

**Single Room Upgrade (optional):**  
+\$780 (AU Dollars)

**Joel C. Rosenberg Epicenter Prayer Summit (optional):** +\$129 (US Dollars)

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Bible Conference:** July 5-10, 2018 | 7:00-9:30pm

**Tours:** July 6-11, 2018

**Joel C. Rosenberg Epicenter Prayer Summit:**  
July 11-12, 2018

**Closing Banquet:** July 12, 2018

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- **Return flights**
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- **10 Nights at the Dan Jerusalem 4 star hotel** inc. daily breakfast and dinner buffet.
- **Tours, transportation, entrance fees and tips**
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- **Bible Conference:** An evening Bible Conference will be held at the hotel after dinner most nights (7pm - 9:30pm). Expert speakers include Dr Richard Averbeck, Dr Darrell Bock, Dr Randall Price, Dr Greg Thornbury and Dr Mark Yarbrough.



For more information, to register and make payments please contact Inner Faith Travel on 1800 074 426 (Toll Free) or email [holyland@ift.net.au](mailto:holyland@ift.net.au)

BOOK SOON as limited places available

# NEWS BRIEFS

## YESHUA THE BEST MEDICINE

A Russian Israeli couple, Lana\* and Jerry\*, now living in Australia reconnected with a local GP who had helped take care of their sick daughter when she was a child. Dr Noel\* has since ceased practising medicine and is now a full-time pastor. During the friendly visit the couple asked, “Why do you have such a strong love for Israel.” Dr Noel responded, “My Saviour came from the Jewish people, and without him I’m nothing.” Lana said that she felt a need to get back to the roots of her Jewish religion. Dr Noel replied boldly, “What you need is Yeshua!” Praise God that Lana agreed, “Yes, I do need Him.” Please pray as we begin to minister lovingly to this precious Jewish family.

## PHILLIP, MORRIS DRAW TOGETHER

New Jewish believer Morris\* shared his testimony with young rabbi Phillip\* at an Orthodox Jewish event. Since then they have become great friends despite their significant theological differences. Rabbi Phillip continues to invite Morris to shiurim (lessons) and social events, and dialogue about the identity of the Messiah, including watching debates by Messianic apologist Dr Michael L Brown.

This kind of friendship between an Orthodox rabbi and a Messianic Jew is a promising sign of the times. Please pray that Rabbi Phillip will soon recognise Yeshua as the Jewish Messiah that the Orthodox community awaits.

## MOVED BY LOVE FOR ISRAEL

At a Jewish Community forum on the proposal to move the Australian embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Elly met an Israeli woman who is teaching Hebrew to a member of her Messianic congregation in Canberra. She asked if Elly was Jewish or Christian. Elly said she’d studied the Tanach (Old Testament), celebrated the feast days and loved Israel. Then the member of the congregation mentioned how she observed

Shabbat along with around 30 others who loved Israel and the Jewish people. “Our congregant told her that we are Messianic and invited her to come and celebrate Shabbat with us,” Elly shared with excitement. The Israeli woman is now very interested in attending a service and meeting so many who love Israel. Please pray that the Lord will continue to draw her to Himself.

## ANCIENT RITE TO BLESS BIRTH

Barry needed to collect a few things at his local Jewish kosher supermarket. Jeremy, the Orthodox shop owner has become a family friend over the past 7 years. Just before Barry left the shop, he felt the need to tell Jeremy that soon he was to become a grandfather. “His face lit up, and as he was walking with me to my car, for the first time in our friendship he asked would I share in a mitzvah (a religious good deed) and put on tefillin to bless the birth.” Tefillin are a set of small black leather boxes containing scrolls of parchment inscribed with verses from the Torah. They are worn by male observant Jews during weekday morning prayers. Barry accepted the invitation. “I knew then that God’s mitzvah was not only to be presented on my forehead and my arm but He had placed His divine mitzvah upon my heart.” Barry said that Jeremy was fully aware that he and his family were followers of Yeshua as Messiah.

## EVANGELISM IN THE AIR

On a return trip from Israel to the US, veteran evangelist, Doug, was seated next to Yitzhak,\* a young Hasidic man. Yitzhak was curious about Doug’s book, *What the Rabbonim say about Moshiach*, and they fell into a deep discussion of the Scriptures. Doug was not only able to look at some of the Messianic prophecies with him, but also to open up the New Testament and read of their fulfilment, and how the Apostles and Jesus applied these prophecies to Himself. A doubly strong picture of *Messiah!*

\*Names changed for privacy

NATIONAL MESSIANIC CONFERENCE

Phillip Island Adventure Resort

24-26 November



Bookings online at [celebratemessiah.com.au/events](http://celebratemessiah.com.au/events)

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Moti Vaknin

*Zealous Over Zion!*  
Israel, Jerusalem and the Nations

# ZECHARIAH

THE PROPHET SPEAKS TODAY!

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Youth and Children's Programs



Lawrence Hirsch



Paul Cohen



Dr Ashley Crane

# MESSIANIC RESOURCES



To order, please use the response form enclosed with this mailing or for these and other resources visit us online at [www.celebratemessiah.com.au/store](http://www.celebratemessiah.com.au/store). For phone orders call 03 9563 5544.

NEW! In 1948, Israel became a nation, but it has been the homeland of the Jewish people since Abraham was called there by the Lord. This year's Messianic Jewish Art Calendar beautifully illustrates the vibrant life and beauty of the Promised Land. It features the photography of Lawrence Hirsch, the founder of Celebrate Messiah.

\$19.95<sup>AUD</sup> + p&h

The shofar has sounded through the centuries as a call to repentance, to gather God's people and a call to battle. This kudu horn shofar will look incredible on display or to use as a reminder of Messiah's presence and power.

Three shofars to choose from. Each shofar is unique and may vary slightly in size and shape from the one shown as well as the timbre of sound. All shofarot are polished triple-twist from Israel.

Shofar Large (90-100 cm) **\$225<sup>AUD</sup>**

Shofar Medium (70-80 cm) **\$165<sup>AUD</sup>**

Shofar Small (50-65 cm) **\$119<sup>AUD</sup>**



CELEBRATE MESSIAH

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