

“Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Messiah our Pesach also has been sacrificed.”

1Corinthians 5:7 NAS

Jewish Believers and Christians
 working together since 1963



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Shalom, my friends,
 As the cold of winter begins to fade, I want to once again take this time to thank you for being partners with MJMI. By your prayers and financial giving,

you have helped to make possible all the good things ADONAI has done through MJMI. Our Israeli evangelists have done their part of this mission. Also, many other things have been accomplished through the work of MJMI: aiding Jewish people from many areas of the world to make Aliyah, so that they now live in Israel; feeding the hungry, and other humanitarian projects; discipleship training and equipping; planting congregations; mission work; working with youth and children; and supporting the work of congregations in Israel, the U.S., and people in the U.K.

God Preserves His People

As I write this letter, we are quickly approaching the holiday of Purim, also known as the Feast of Esther. Purim, beginning this year on the evening of March 19th, is a joyous celebration in remembrance of how God used Esther to save the Jewish people from destruction at the hands of their enemies. On this holiday, Jewish children dress up in costumes, the book of Esther

is read, and special desserts are enjoyed by all.

This year, I believe the feast of Purim holds a special significance in light of the current events in Israel. Hamas, an organization that exists specifically to unleash horrific attacks of terror against the Jewish people, continues its attacks from Gaza. Like Haman of old, this group is bent on the destruction of Israel—in fact, they will be satisfied with nothing less than her complete annihilation. The world stands by and watches as the enemies of God’s people make their plans.

Yet there is hope! The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is still on the throne. He has promised to preserve His people, and He has proven again and again that He will keep His word. Just as He placed Esther in a royal position at just the right



During the holiday of Purim, Jewish people around the world remember how God used Esther to miraculously preserve His chosen people. On this special day, Jewish children dress up in costumes, the book of Esther is read, and special cookies, called Hamantaschen (right) are eaten.



time to bring relief and deliverance to her people, so He can crush the plans of those who seek Israel’s destruction today. While we may not know exactly how these events will unfold, we know that the Lord will always be faithful to keep the promises He has made to His chosen people!

My friends, we need to use this opportunity to lift the nation of Israel in prayer. God has called us to be watchmen on the wall, to never rest or be silent, to “give Him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth.” (Isaiah 62:7 NIV) As the Jewish people celebrate this feast and remember the preservation of the Lord, let us pray that they will recognize Yeshua, their Messiah—the One who has already been placed in His royal position to bring relief and deliverance at just the right time.

The Season Is Changing

Shortly after Purim, we will be entering a new season, coming once again to spring. It was at this time that ADONAI declared, “You are to begin your calendar with this month; it will be the first month of the year for you.” (Exodus 12:2, CJB) At this season, God desires to do a mighty work in His people—both the Jewish people and all who are in the Messiah Yeshua.

Dear friends, the season of redemption is upon us! The Lord has designated two very special times for us to meet with Him during the first month of the biblical year. I want to share about them right now, so that we can have time to prepare our minds and hearts for these momentous events (occurring

April 18-25th this year). Scripture tells us, “In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, between sundown and complete darkness; comes Pesach (Passover) for ADONAI. On the fifteenth day of the same month is the festival of matzah (unleavened bread); for seven days you are to eat matzah.” (Leviticus 23:5-6, CJB)

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But why is Pesach so important? It is at Pesach that we see the two greatest deliverances in the history of the people of Israel! The first—the exodus from Egypt and deliverance from the bondage of slavery—was accomplished by the mighty hand and outstretched arm of ADONAI our God through His servant Moses. The second—the exodus from Death and deliverance from the bondage of sin—was accomplished by the power of ADONAI our Father through His one and only Son, our Lord Yeshua the Messiah!

This final deliverance from the power of sin and death began at a Pesach meal about 2,000 years ago. Our Savior and Redeemer took a cup in his hand and said, *“Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.”* (Matthew 26:27-28, NAS) The next day, Yeshua, “our Pesach” was sacrificed. Just as an innocent lamb was slaughtered each year, its blood smeared on the doorposts of the home; so was our Messiah—an innocent lamb—slaughtered, His blood smeared on the doorposts of our hearts, and our lives consumed by His love.

We Are Set Free!

So, we’ve been set free from sin, but how does this affect our lives today? Paul shows us the importance of this season when he writes, *“Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough? Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Messiah our Pesach also has been sacrificed. Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”* (1 Corinthians 5:6-8, NAS)

What a beautiful truth! Because of the blood of our Pesach—Yeshua—who has been sacrificed, our new creation identity is now unleavened! Chag HaMatzah, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, teaches us who we have become through the work of

Yeshua. The matzah is not just a symbol of Israel’s freedom from the hands of a cruel oppressor. It is a reminder that through the finished work of Yeshua, we, too, have been set free from a life of slavery—we are new creations, and we no longer need to live a life bound by sin!



All too often, we forget that we are set free from sin, so God has given us a practical exercise to sear it into our hearts and minds. Moses instructs us regarding the Feast of Unleavened Bread, *“For seven days you are to eat matzah—on the first day remove the leaven from your houses.... No leaven is to be seen with you anywhere in your territory for seven days.”* (Exodus 12:15, Deuteronomy 16:4, CJB) As we abstain from leaven—even the presence of leaven—for seven days, we are reminded of the reality that we are actually unleavened ourselves. When we clean the physical leaven from our homes on that first day of the Feast, we are living out a wonderful picture of the spiritual reality Paul is teaching us: *“Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened.”*

Celebrate the Season

So now, we prepare ourselves once again for this special time. We anxiously anticipate the season of redemption—an annual reminder of what Yeshua has done for us by His sacrificial act. We have been

purchased by the blood of the Lamb, and we are now made the righteousness of God in Messiah! Let us embrace this season and God’s appointed times with great expectation that as we remember, we will again be changed.

As you are celebrating this season, please also use this time to lift up the Jewish people around the world. Even for those who are completely nonreligious, the Passover Seder is often a special time. Let us join our voices together, asking the Lord to once again deliver His people during this season. As they celebrate the Passover, may all Israel finally see their Messiah and cry out, *“Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”*

This is our heart’s cry here at MJMI—we long to see the salvation of the Jewish people. Thank you for standing with us in our calling! Without your support, this ministry could not continue. Please take some time with the Lord right now, asking Him to show you how He wants you to partner with MJMI. Your gifts, no matter how large or small, will touch the lives of Jewish people who don’t yet know their Messiah. Many are searching for Him, and we must be available to tell them the Good News, *“...for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first....”* (Romans 1:16, NAS)

The ministry of evangelism in Israel is an ongoing process. Our workers are in the fields, doing this work on a daily basis. Thank you so much for continuing to support these efforts with your prayer and finances. As we continue to work together to proclaim His salvation to the Jewish people, I pray that ADONAI will pour out His many blessings upon you.

With all of my love in Yeshua,

Nathan L. Jacobus,
President/Executive Director

