

Proclaiming  
**Jesus**



In a  
Distinctly  
**Jewish Way**

Rock of Israel Ministries



P0 Box 18038 Fairfield OH 45018

Since 1971

Call us: 513-874-2566

Celebrating  
**50**  
YEARS  
1971 - 2021



## December 2021: Here's an update of the ministry in the past month.

We LOVE encouraging notes! [Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com](mailto:Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com)

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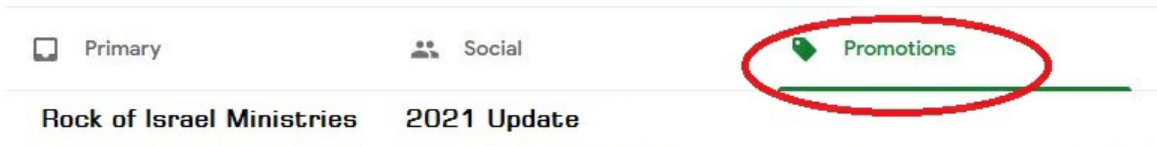
To visit our online store: <http://www.rockofisraelstore.org/>

Visit our main Website



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### \*\*\* Special note to Gmail users \*\*\*



Some of you are missing out on our emails each month because Google has been sending our updates into your "promotions" folder instead of your main inbox.

To fix this, simply click on your promotions folder, click on our name "Rock of Israel" and then drag our name to the word "primary" and let go. That's all.

Or just simply check your "promotions" folder the first week of each month for our newsletter.

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**While we know that Yeshua/Jesus was not born on December 25th (please save the protest emails) for those of you who do remember His birth this month, we here at Rock of Israel Ministries wish you and yours a....**

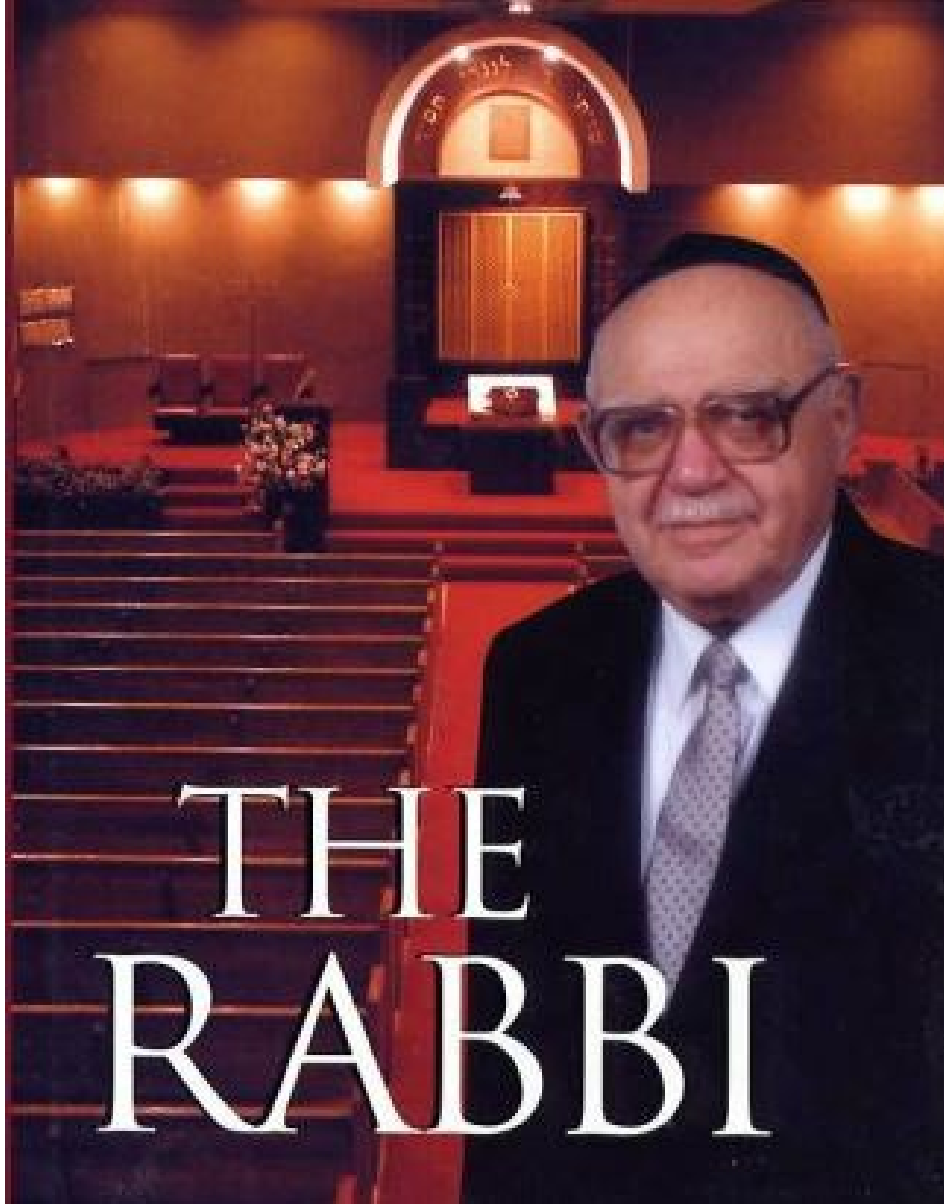
Happy Hanukkah and



Merry Messiahmas

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**The Day the Rabbi Walked in....**  
**by Doug Carmel**



**Note: Photo above for illustrative purposes only.  
Not the actual Rabbi who walked in.**

By God's grace, I have been sharing in Bible believing churches across the United States for 27 years now. In those 27 years, I have never, ever had a Rabbi walk into my services, until now.

Last month I was sharing at a church in Connecticut. The pastor and I go back many years. Every time I visit, he tells me about a local Rabbi friend "Samuel" (not his real name) with whom he is friends with.

Well last month I was at this church and I was sharing a message on the Mosaic Tabernacle and how it points forward to the Messiah - Jesus. I was about three-fourths of the way through when down the center aisle comes a distinguished older man wearing a suit and a kippa (also know as a yarmulka / head covering). He sat right next to the pastor and began to listen to me. Since I had never met the Rabbi, I was not even sure that it

was him. After all, it could have been anybody.



**Doug sharing at a different church last year**

I finished talking about the Altar of Incense, the Golden Menorah and the Ark of the Covenant (all with color slides) relating it to Jesus. I made a closing gospel point and prayed. When the pastor closed the service and stepped down from the pulpit he introduced me to his friend “Rabbi Samuel”. Rabbi Samuel apologized for being late (he had a zoom call that morning) and then he complemented me on my Hebrew pronunciation. We spoke for a bit and he asked me how long I have been a believer. I replied, “35 years”.

There was a Missions Banquet in the sanctuary afterwards and the Pastor, The Rabbi and myself all sat down at a table to eat. Actually the Rabbi only had lettuce (salad) and water as he keeps kosher and the food was not kosher. We spoke about several things theologically, including how he did not believe the Bible was literal – like in Genesis and the Garden and such. I spoke up for the entire table saying, “Well, we might have to disagree with you on that one.”

He said there are many interpretations in the Jewish community about Biblical texts. I said, "That is true. When you get two Jews together, you get three opinions." We all laughed. (Yes, that really is a Jewish saying and the Rabbi confirmed it for the table.)

Afterwards the Rabbi and the Pastor came out to my book table. I had a Hebrew "Names of God" banner and the Rabbi read off all the names in Hebrew with no problem. He asked the pastor if He could read the names and the pastor said, "Sure" and proceeded to read all the Names of God – but in English. We all laughed.

As the Rabbi was leaving, he asked for my card. I gladly gave him one. When he had gone, my Pastor friend told me they have been friends for 25 years and he has never once visited on a Sunday morning. I assumed that he had simply invited the Rabbi that morning since I was there speaking and he said, "Nope." The Rabbi had come that morning on a random day!

"Wow" I thought, "I - as Jewish believer in Jesus - was speaking on the same morning this Rabbi shows up for the first time in his 25 year friendship with the pastor. What a coincidence!"

He was expecting to hear his pastor friend that morning and instead heard about the Messiah of Israel from the lips of a Messianic Jew.

Do you see the hand of God in this all?

I do.

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**A message from Ministry President Robert Specter:**



Rock of Israel had 9 outreaches at Fairs in 2021!

Even with some fairs closing due to Covid (our most productive evangelistic fair, the Canadian National Exposition has been closed for the last two years.)

Considering some of the fairs boast over 1 million attendees, we are sure thousands of people read our signs (“Jesus/Yeshua is the Messiah”, “and Jesus made me Kosher”).

Many were surprised, that we as Jews, believed that Jesus is the Messiah. (Only about 1 percent of Jewish people are Believers in Yeshua. Talk about un-reached people groups. This is a tragedy since the Gospel first was preached by Jewish believers!)

Not only were the conversations wake up calls to Jewish people but we also encouraged Christians to share their faith with their Jewish friends. Even many Christians are not aware there are Jewish believers. Some even think that Jewish people can't believe in Yeshua/Jesus.

I want to also thank the great volunteers who helped us at the fairs. Some of the volunteers are seasoned missionaries but some this was their first time to do this type of evangelism. I thank God they were able to step out of their comfort zones to help share the Gospel with Jewish people.

Please keep our ministry in your prayers! We have 8 or 9 fairs planned for 2022. We will keep you updated.

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# Our Facebook and Google Internet Hanukkah Ads are currently running.

 **Rock Of Israel**  
Published · November 22 at 12:27 PM · 

Hanukkah and the Messiah of Israel - what's the connection?



[WWW.ROCKOFISRAEL.ORG](http://WWW.ROCKOFISRAEL.ORG)  
**Did Yeshua / Jesus celebrate Hanukkah?**  
How do Messianic Jews see the connection between Jesus and Hanukkah. [Learn More](#)

















  417 72 Comments 149 Shares

Hanukkah started last month and still continues until December 6th. As part of our annual online Hanukkah outreach we purchased ad space on two platforms: Facebook and Google.

Our ads are concurrently showing in Israel and the USA. Since the ads are currently running until December 4th, we do not have any final numbers to report on, however so far we have 14,500 Facebook impressions and over 400 likes. Google ads are running in Israel 24/7 and we have over 37,800 Google impressions with over 300 people clicking through to read the article.

Here are some of the comments made on our Facebook ad:



- 1 Reply
-  Dave   
Of course he celebrated Hanukkah! Jesus was born a Jew, lived as a Jew, and died a Jew !! Why would he not celebrate Jewish holidays ??? ...
- Like · Reply · Hide · Send Message · 2d  2
-  Ruth   
I believe in the Old Testament it was called the days of dedications  1
- Like · Reply · Hide · Send Message · 4d
- ↳ 14 Replies
-  Laurel   
Of course. He followed the Laws.   3
- Like · Reply · Hide · Send Message · 4d
- ↳ 5 Replies
-  Renee   
BEWARE! This is written by a proselytizing Jew for Jesus.  
The Jewish religion does not proselytize.  2
- Like · Reply · Hide · Send Message · 5d
- Most Relevant is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out.
-   Author  
Rock Of Israel  
Renee Schwartz Douglen Isaiah 40:9 calls us to proclaim! You have been taught a wrong view of scripture.
- Like · Reply · Commented on by Lynn Wein McCoy  · 4d
- ↳ View 2 more replies

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**This month's offer:**



## A Mezuzah for your door!

**Start the year 2022 with a reminder of God's Word right on your door.**

Has the Hebrew "Shema" (Deut 6:4) with the English translation underneath it.  
\*\* 5 inches tall.

The Mezuzah contains a small scroll of a Biblical Hebrew text from Deuteronomy chapter 6.

“And you shall inscribe them on the doorposts (mezuzot) of our house and on your gates” (Deuteronomy 6:9, 11:20).

It goes on the doorpost. As you see it when entering the home - it is a visual reminder that God's Word is honored in this home.

Mechanically printed Hebrew text from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 included.

About 5 inches tall

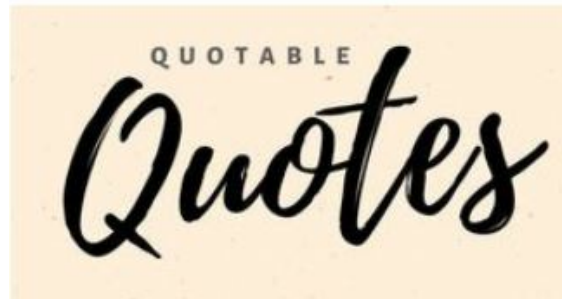
Choice of color: Brass or Pewter

**Normally \$15 - must use discount code word - doorpost - for \$3 off at checkout.**

Find it here:

Brass - <https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/products/brass-mezuzah>

Pewter - <https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/products/hebrew-shema->



"I must say that I find television very educational. The minute somebody turns it on, I go to the library and read a book."

~~ Groucho Marx

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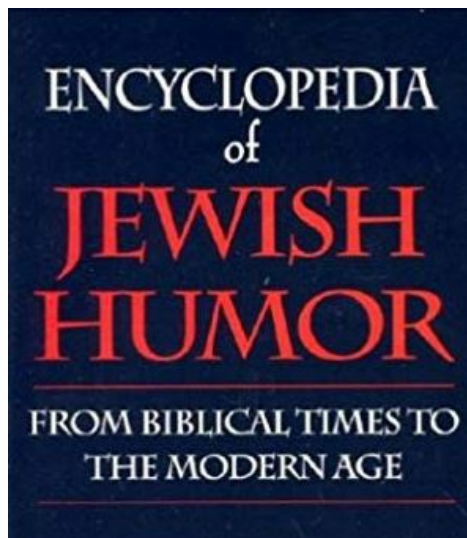
THIS MONTHS TRIVIA:

**The most sacred annual Jewish Holiday to the Jewish people is \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A. Hanukkah**
- B. Passover**
- C. Yom Kippur**
- D. Christmas**

**Answer near bottom**

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## **This Month's Jewish Humor**

Two old Jewish women are sitting on the park bench talking.

One asks, "Sarah, are those real pearls?"

"Yes, they are," replied Bernice.

"Of course the only way I could tell would be for me to bite them," smiled Sarah.

Bernice responded, "Yes, but for that you would need real teeth."

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## **O' Little Town of "House of Bread"**



In the USA, this month begins the onslaught of all things Christmas. Christmas sales, Christmas decorations and Christmas songs.

Now we are certainly not saying that December 25th was when the Messiah of Israel was born, (so please save your protest emails). But we do know for sure that He was indeed born on some specific date (Feast of Tabernacles anyone?) – and we just simply want to talk about it this month.

If we go back to the time of King Ahaz and King Hezekiah, we are looking at about 740 - 686 BCE when the Jewish prophet Micah had his ministry. He preached a message of judgment against Samaria and one of warning to the cities of Judah. However, with our God there is often a message of hope mingled in with the message of impending judgment. In other words, 'I am going to discipline you, but there will be hope afterwards.' And this is where Micah's most famous prophecy comes in.



In the midst of his message of judgment, God gives the Jewish people a big ray of hope. Here it is:

*“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.” (Micah 5:2)*

The people may have thought that Israel would cease to exist after the judgment of the Assyrians and the Babylonians. However,

God's promise is that the Kingdom (and a King) will one day sit on the throne of Israel again.

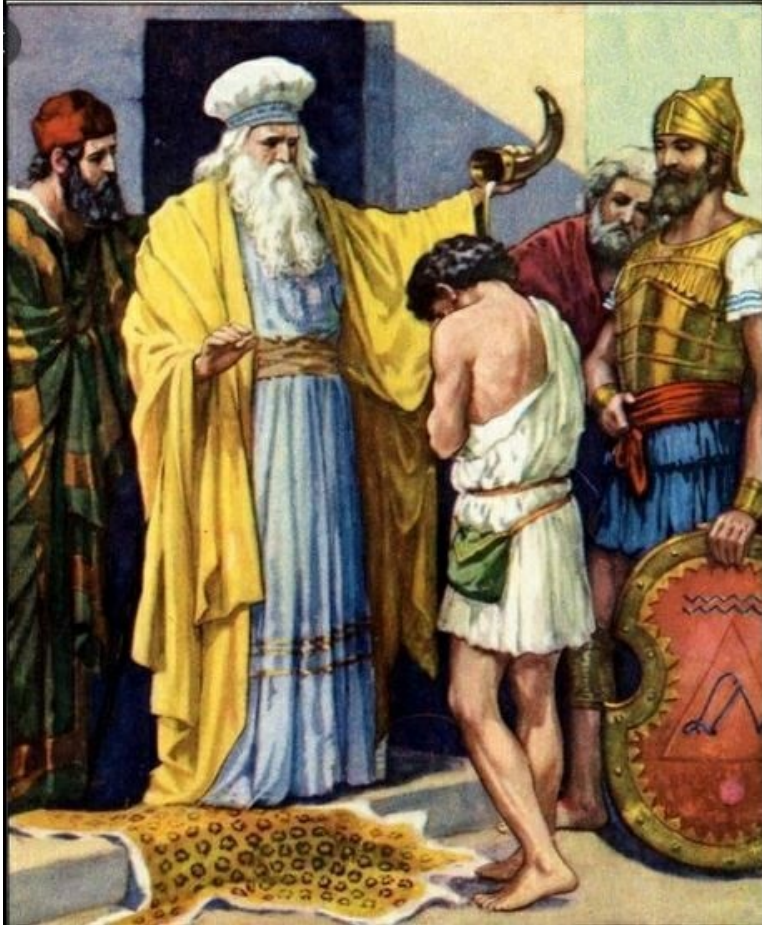


Bethlehem hill from above. circa 1930

This tiny town of Bethlehem is where the prophet Micah tells Israel to 'keep a lookout' for their next major Ruler. Remember that Bethlehem is where God sent the prophet Samuel to find this ruddy, handsome boy named David and anoint him King. And King David was most probably born in Bethlehem, as his father lived there:

*"I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." (1 Samuel 16:1)*

And notice that Micah gives us some additional information about this coming Ruler, his goings forth are, "*from old, from everlasting*". In other words, this Ruler's origins go back to an eternal past. Sounds like this is no ordinary Ruler. You and I have a beginning, a starting time. Not this Ruler, He goes back forever.



*David was anointed to become King by Samuel in Bethlehem*

Moving forward to the first century, of the four gospels, only Luke mentions the specific details about Yeshua's birth. Luke tells us how Joseph and Miriam (yes, that was her name) traveled to Bethlehem.

*"and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them." (Luke 2:7)*

While the Bible does not mention that the birth was in a cave, the mid-second century Christian writer Justin Martyr tells us he knew of a cave in Bethlehem said to be the location of the Nativity. The non-biblical book called "the Gospel of James" – which dates from the second century – also mentions such a cave at Bethlehem.

And when we look at the name of the town – Bethlehem, we see something very interesting in Hebrew. Bethlehem is actually two words in Hebrew - "Beit" (which means house) and "Lehem" (which means bread).

So the meaning of the name of this town is actually, "House of

Bread.”

So it was from this town that God chose to bring 1) Israel's eternal King and 2) the “Bread of Life” to a world that is dying of spiritual starvation.

Merry Messiahmas!

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**QUIZ ANSWER:**

**Answer - C. Yom Kippur**

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