

Proclaiming  
**Jesus**



In a  
Distinctly  
**Jewish Way**

Rock of Israel Ministries



P0 Box 18038 Fairfield OH 45018  
Call us: 513-874-2566

Since 1971



Celebrating  
**50+**  
over 50 years



Rev. Robert and Carrie Specter

**May 2022: 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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**\*\*\* Special note to Gmail users \*\*\***

Primary

Social

Promotions

Rock of Israel Ministries 2021 Update

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, on a desktop computer 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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## Our newest YouTube Video Ad



Last month we hired a live actress to read our script in a new

video ad for YouTube. We believe that she did a very good job on it. Right now - it is running 24/7 in Israel exclusively, and appearing on Israeli phones and computers every day with several thousand people seeing them per week. We trust it will speak to the Jewish people who are searching for truth.

To view it click here:

<https://www.rockofisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/Kosher-video-ad-live.mp4>

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## Last month - a very busy month for our staff



Last month was a very busy month for our staff. Since it was the month that contained both Easter and Passover, we were busy traveling to services around the USA sharing about how Jesus is our Passover Lamb and leading Passover Seders.

In April alone we spoke before combined hundreds of church members.

**Our small ministerial staff of three shared in 26 different churches in these states: Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Florida and California. Whew!** We drove combined thousands of miles – all safely, Praise the Lord! We love teaching the church about the Jewish roots of their faith. This helps the purpose of Jewish evangelism grow.

In April, we mostly shared a message called “*Christ in the*

*Passover*" which is an interactive service. All those in attendance will read the liturgy from the Passover booklet (called a Haggadah) we provide. They will say the Hebrew blessings over the bread (matzah) and juice. We will sing songs and even incorporate the children. It is a real learning experience. If you missed out on this, contact us next spring in order to attend one near you.

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## Joyful Jewish Testimonies?



### Joyful Jewish Testimonies?-

by Robert Specter

President, Rock of Israel Ministries

Joyful Jewish testimonies? Yes and No. We praise God for the often-miraculous testimonies of Jewish people coming to faith in Jesus as their Messiah. We marvel at instances when God broke through barriers that kept Jewish people from their Messiah and King. There are multiple types of such barriers: historical anti-Semitism and persecution by the very people who said they were followers of Jesus. Among many theological barriers, the argument citing the Shema ("Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One." Deut 6:4) claiming that since there is only one God, Jesus can't also be God.

Or even the logical barriers like "how can a virgin have a child?" These instances are only a few of the many barriers for Jewish people. If you would like to read more, be sure to get Dr. Michael Brown's 5-volume set of books titled "Answering the Jewish Objections to Jesus."

We rejoice when even one Jewish person can overcome those barriers. However, I also want you to understand the cost. Most Jewish people do not believe Jesus is God; in fact, the percentage of Jewish people who do believe is estimated by some to be under one percent (talk about an "unreached people group"). When a Jewish person becomes a believer, he is often ostracized. For the ultra-orthodox he is even considered dead to the community. It is not uncommon for a Jewish new believer's spouse to file for divorce over this issue. For other Jewish sects (think 'denominations'), she will not be welcome in family settings and is considered meshugana (crazy),

or at minimum made to refrain from sharing her beliefs.

Many Christians have had mothers or grandmothers who pray for their children to know Jesus; however, Jewish mothers and grandmothers pray that their children do not become Christians!

With all this in mind, I ask you to pray specifically for the Jewish believers! Each prays that his or her family members will come to know the Messiah. Since their witness is rebuffed, they often despair that their loved ones will ever come to faith. This is a very serious personal prayer for our ministry, as each of our staff members has Jewish relatives who are not believers. For instance, our office manager's Jewish mother is not a believer. She is elderly and "set in her ways." Please keep our staff, among the many Jewish believers struggling with this burden, in your prayers.

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### **This month's offer:**



**The 12 Tribes of Israel necklace**

This necklace has a small symbols representing each of the twelve tribes of Israel.

It is costume jewelry and comes in two choices: gold tone or silver tone.

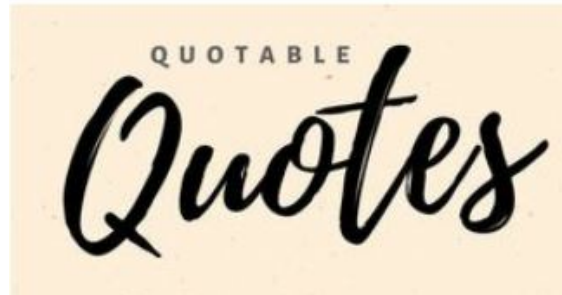
**\$9 - No discount code needed.**

Find it here:

<https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/products/twelve-tribes-star-of-david-necklace>

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“Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.”

—Emma Lazarus, Jewish author

*Note: This quote appears on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.*

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**THIS MONTHS TRIVIA:**

**Which statement is False?**

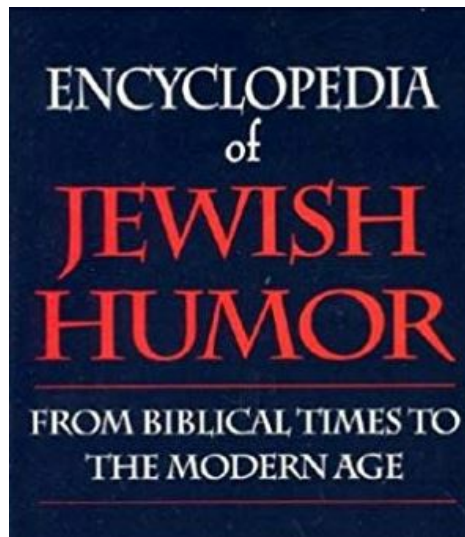
- A. Israel has the world’s highest rate of university degrees on a per capita basis.
- B. Israel has more in-vitro fertilization per capita than any other country, and it’s free.
- C. Israel does not allow Arabs to be in their Knesset (government).
- D. The largest central bus station in the Middle East is located in Tel Aviv,

Israel.

**Answer near bottom**

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

A Jewish man took his Passover lunch to eat outside in the park. He sat down on a bench and began eating.

A little while later a blind man came by and sat down next to him. Feeling neighborly, the Jewish man passed a sheet of matzah bread to the blind man.

The blind man ran his fingers over the matzah for a few minutes, looked puzzled, and finally exclaimed, "Who wrote this nonsense?"

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**A Jewish believers testimony this month**



*This month is one of our staff members' spiritual birthday -  
Doug Carmel's 36th year with the Messiah.  
So, we thought we would share with you his story of coming to faith in the  
Messiah Jesus.*

### **A Jewish Young Man Meets His Messiah - The Testimony of Douglas Carmel**

I was born in the Bronx, New York City to a newly immigrated Israeli man (Sephardic) and an American Jewish woman (Ashkenazi). Their marriage lasted only two short years. My mother eventually left the marriage and went back to her mother's house. It was under the care of these two Jewish women that I received much of my traditional Jewish upbringing. We also attended a Conservative "Shul" in New York City and I attended Hebrew School there for several years preparing for my Bar-Mitzvah.

My mother had to find work to support us which meant that much of my time was spent with a dear Jewish immigrant from the old country affectionately known as my grandmother. She spoke fluent Yiddish



and as a result, I learned to understand much of the old country language.

My grandmother's sense of Jewish tradition burned bright against the NYC gentile background. We kept two sets of silverware: One for milk, and one for meat. We lit annual Yortzit candles in memory of her husband, my grandfather. We always observed the Jewish holidays in the Spring and Fall. We attended Seders. I loved looking at our Shul's Sukkah. We celebrated Hanukkah. We even took vacations to Collins Ave in Miami! We were a very typical Jewish family in New York City!

While most of my friends were allowed to play ball on the street every October day, there were two specific days during that month that I, as a Jew, was not to participate in such activity. It was not under the threat of mom's punishment that I abstained, but rather from a sense of belonging to my people. On the Jewish Holy Days of Yom Kippur and Rosh HaShanna I simply did not act as the gentiles did. Why? We had to attend synagogue for special services. In the synagogue, I was told that Yom Kippur was the day that we were to fast. God would forgive us of our sins on that day for the entire year. We were not to engage in any normal activities that day - not even turning on a light switch! You can imagine how difficult this must have been to this ten year old boy, but we were Jewish... And if this is what God wanted us to do...

As I entered my teens I began to ponder the meaning and value of these and other traditional observances. This idea of just fasting one day a year for the forgiveness of my sins raised perplexing questions in my heart and mind. How could I fast just one day a year and the rest of the year do whatever I wished? No one in synagogue ever spoke about avoiding sin. And then the question of forgiveness began to loom greater and greater as time passed and I progressed into areas of life that I inherently knew were not pleasing to God.

I graduated from High School at the age of sixteen (almost seventeen) and went on to college, becoming fascinated by a lifestyle that would eventually shape all of my activities during that period of time. The life of wine, women and song. Rock music and my large collection of albums and tapes became a kind of inner haven as the rock musicians seemed to strike chords deep within my soul. I was also lured by the beauty of women in different girlfriends, videos, etc – all the time trying to keep things hidden from my parents.

*Due to space limitations – to finish reading the rest of Doug's story click here:*

<https://www.rockofisrael.org/2017/11/08/dougs-story/>

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**QUIZ ANSWER:**

**Answer - C**

Arabs are certainly allowed to run for office in Israel - and some win!

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**We are thankful for your support each month to do this work.**

**We are not a big "world-wide" TV ministry  
with tens of thousands of donors.**

**We are a small ministry - seeking to do BIG things** for the Kingdom of God.

Our office staff is waiting and ready to help you with any questions you might have. 513-874-2566.



Three ways to give:

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