Proclaiming **Jesus**

In a Distinctly **Jewish Way**

Rock of Israel Ministries

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**Ministry President Robert and Carrie Specter**

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# August 2026: Here's an update on the ministry in the past month.

We LOVE encouraging notes! Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com

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1) Please check your Spam or Promotion folder each month. Sadly, sometimes email servers send our newsletter there.

**2) Gmail sometimes shortens our newsletter! If so, then click this at the bottom.**




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## More San Diego Conversations




San Diego Fair - right outside our building

There were so many stories from San Diego booth that we could not fit them all into last month's newsletter. So here is part two. Incidentally, August has a HUGE amount of outreach time for us. *We will be at the Ohio State Fair, the NY State Fair and the Toronto Canadian Exposition. The last one in Canada is where there are many Muslims. Please pray for our effectiveness - and safety!*

**Now on with the actual stories from San Diego - part 2!**

* A Jewish woman looked a little confused and asked, “Jews for Jesus?” I replied, “Well, we're not that specific group, but 'Messianic Jews' is more of the general term used around the world. But yes, I'm Jewish, and I believe Jesus is the Messiah. We are a minority, but we're still Jewish, and we're out there.” She replied, “But he didn't fulfill the requirements of the Messiah?” I answered, “Well, he did, but the rabbis have lied to you, or rather, they've misinformed you.” She got this really baffling look on her face, and I continued, “I love my people, but they only tell you about part two of the Messiah. It's like if I tell my kids, "Clean your room, and we'll get ice cream. What two words do they only hear?” She said, “Ice cream.” I said, “Exactly. They didn't hear the first part of ‘clean your room.’ And that's exactly what the rabbis have done. They don't tell our people the part about the Jewish Messiah suffering first—only the part of the reigning king." And on her face she got this look like… “Oh, okay, I understand a little bit now.” It was a great conversation, and I gave her a prophecy flyer, which she took.




Pat and his wife Debbie at our Alameda, CA booth
with a family that stopped who loves the Lord and Israel.

* A Jewish man who was originally from Massachusetts stopped and we talked about the Yankees and Red Sox for a little bit, and then I explained that I'm a Messianic Jew. He said, "Well, I'm not really anything. I just try to be a good person.” I explained the gospel to him: that we have all fallen short of perfection and that Jesus is my payment for my sins. He said, "The problem I have with that is a person can go out and mass murder people and just come back and say, ‘I'm sorry,' and that's enough.” I quickly replied, “It doesn't work like that. There needs to be deep

repentance for deep sin.” And I tried to give him some literature, but he wouldn't take it. It was still a good conversation, though.

* A Jewish woman wearing a Star of David came up, and she asked, “Tell me the difference between a Messianic Jew and a Christian." I explained that I'm not a Gentile, and if you just say the word 'Christian,' people automatically assume that you're a Gentile.  I said, “Being Jewish is very important to me.” We talked for a while, and she said, "I think all religions are leading up different paths to the same mountaintop.” I replied, “That's can’t be true because different religions teach very different things. For instance, Islam never calls God "the God of Israel. And God is a God of truth.”  I said, “It's important to learn, even if you don't agree with me. On that she agreed, and so she took a prophecy book, a testimony book, and a prophecy flyer. We shook hands before she left.

* An Israeli man stopped and asked if I speak Hebrew. I said, “I speak a little Hebrew” and then I explained, “I'm a Messianic Jew.” At first he didn't know what that was. Then I gave him our card in Hebrew, and he said, “Oh... You're talking about Jesus.” Then he shook his head no, but I said, “He's the Messiah.” He replied, “He was just a man.” I said, “No, He was the Messiah, and He changed the world.” He said, “So did Moses.” I said, “They were both from God.” He shook his head again. We both politely left one another.




Our San Diego Booth

* A retired Jewish lawyer stopped. He was looking at the book ‘Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus.' He said, “The Jewish people do not accept Jesus as Messiah.” We began a discussion, but then he said he was actually an atheist. I replied, “But there are plenty of reasons to look at Jesus as being the Messiah. The problem is, most Jewish people don't even look at the evidence.” I also said, “There's good evidence to show God exists and good evidence to show Jesus is the Messiah. I can go with either pathway with you, if you like, right now.” We had a good

conversation, and he took a gospel bookmark. He said, “We're going to have to agree to disagree.” Before he left, I said, “The problem is there's evidence, but most Jewish people never look at the evidence; that's why they say Jesus is not the Messiah.” Then I asked him, “Have you ever looked at the evidence?” He said, “Well, no." I slightly laughed, “You just proved my point.” It was a good conversation.

* A college-age girl and her mother stopped by the booth. The girl was telling the mother everything about the items in the booth, pointing to them for her to see. She was speaking Arabic. Eventually I spoke to her, and she said she was just in Israel a couple of months ago for her schooling. That she is in her senior year of college (a major having to do with international affairs), and she said she loved being in Israel. She explained that her family is Christian, originally from Iraq, but they had left Iraq about thirteen years ago. She asked me if I could speak Arabic, and I said no. It was a great conversation. She was looking at the El Al (Israeli airline) model airplane that we had on the table and was admiring it. She said she wanted to buy it to give her memories of her recent trip to Israel. I felt impressed with the Lord to just give it to her (I paid for it after she left). She was so touched by that.

* A family came up speaking ‘Aramaic’ (not Arabic), and eventually we got to talking, and they said they were from Iraq (different than the previous family.) I explained that my father was actually born in Iraq before he moved to Israel. I (Doug) showed them some pictures on my phone of my family before they left Iraq for Israel. We talked about some of the connections between Israel and Iraq, between the Jewish people and Iraq. It was a great conversation.

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## Past Work - Present Results




Steve Kaplan on our street team in NY,
stopped by an Orthodox Jew and asked to put on Tefillin (phylacteries)

Before we started our fair outreaches, we used to do much street ministry. We would take teams of people out onto the streets to pass out our unique gospel tracts. Steve Kaplan was one of these volunteers, and he just posted a very inspirational story that we would like to share.

***Steve writes:*** Over the years, I've been on more than 100 mission trips and shared with many people. I'll never forget a trip to Boston, about 20 years ago, **with Rock of Israel**. I was assigned to stand outside a subway entrance, early in the morning, and distribute Gospel tracts. There were few people; I was tired and rather bored. I bowed my head and asked God for an open Jewish person to share with. I looked up and there was a man nearby wearing a Star of David necklace!

I asked the man, "Who do you think Jesus is?" The man said, "That's what I've been trying to figure out. I've been reading the Bible, and I'm up to the Book of Revelation. Can you explain it to me?" I explained it to him (Bruce), and we kept in touch. Bruce came to faith shortly afterwards. Last week, Bruce's wife sent the following: "*Hi Steve. You touched my husband's spiritual heart many, many years ago. He passed away last week. His memorial is Saturday. Thank you for inspiring him to follow Jesus. He always remembered you and shared his experiences with others*." Praise God!

Steve Kaplan is a great friend of our ministry. His website, Jewish Outreach International, can be found here: https://savethejews.org/

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## Germany - We Applaud You!




Did you know that in Germany it is a crime to deny the Holocaust happened? Now the German legislature is seeking to expand that law. Germany's upper house of parliament just voted to advance a proposal that would make even publicly posting/denying Israel's 'right to exist' a criminal offense. The bill seeks to expand Section 130 of the German Criminal Code (which already covers Holocaust denial) to include existential threats against the State of Israel. How nice to see that in this

tide of anti-Semitism around the world, Germany has said, ‘Enough is enough.’

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## August reminder:




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## This month's offer:




**Finish the summer with a guaranteed conversation starter!**

**A "My Boss is a Jewish Carpenter" T-shirt**

A sure conversation starter. Tell the world who your boss is! What a great way to start a conversation about the Messiah without even trying!

- Short-Sleeve Unisex T-Shirt w/ Black letters
- Many colors to choose from! (Front side printed only.)

$18 plus S&H Larger sizes 2XL and up may need to add extra cost.

https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/products/my-boss-is-a-jewish-carpenter-short-sleeve-unisex-t-shirt-w-black-letters

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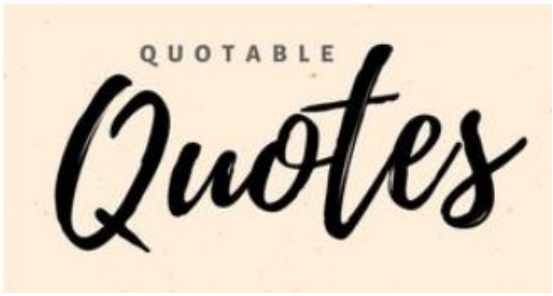


"It takes 20 years to make an overnight success"

~ Eddie Cantor, actor

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TRIVIA
CHALLENGE

**THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA:**

The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls is considered one of the most significant archaeological events of the 20th century. Near which ancient settlement were the majority of these manuscripts discovered?

A) Qumran
B) Jericho
C) Ein Gedi
D) Masada

**Answer near bottom**

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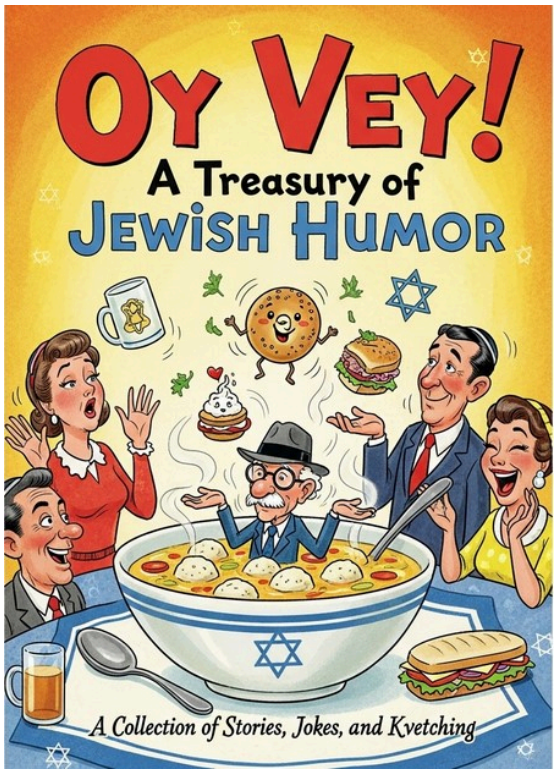


## This Month's Jewish Humor

Barney visits Abe and sees a dog in the house. "So what kind of dog is this?" asks Barney. "It's a Jewish dog. His name is Irving," says

Abe. "Watch this," continues Abe as he points to the dog. "Irving, Fetch!"

Irving walks slowly to the door, then turns around and says, "So why are you talking to me like that? You always order me around like I'm nothing. And then you make me sleep on the floor, with my arthritis... And do you ever take me for a decent walk? NO, it's out of the house, a short walk, and right back home. Maybe if I could stretch out a little, the sciatica wouldn't kill me so much!"
Barney, amazed, tells Abe how remarkable this is, to which Abe answers,
"I don't know, I think Irving has a hearing problem. I said fetch, and he thought I said kvetch."

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A Sobering Warning for the Church
Every Believer Needs to Read:

Note: This article is NOT saying we need to approve of every little thing Israel currently does, but RATHER we want to deal with the larger picture of those who, in the church, deny Israel's right to exist.

**A warning against standing opposed to Israel in the Last Days:**

**Point 1)** *A Serious Claim*: Scripture presents a reality that should cause deep reflection:

> To oppose God's 'big picture' purposes for Israel is to oppose the very framework through which Christ will return and reign.

**Point 2)** *The Patterns of the Nations:* In the last days, the nations will unite against Israel; nobody will protect her or come to her aide, not even America. "For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle..." — Zechariah 14:2

> This is not accidental. It is prophetic alignment.

**Point 3)** *A Dangerous Alignment:* When believers adopt the posture of the world toward Israel, they risk aligning with what Scripture says the nations will do in rebellion against God's plan.

> This is not a small issue, it is spiritual discernment. Whose side do we want to be on?

**Point 4)** *The Turning Point in Israel:* Christ's return is directly connected to Israel's national awakening. "They shall look upon me whom they have pierced..." — Zechariah 12:10

> There will be a remnant at the end of the Tribulation, and they will believe in Jesus their Messiah.

**Point 5)** *"All Israel Shall Be Saved":* Paul confirms a future national turning to faith in Christ: "And so all Israel shall be saved..." — Romans 11:26

> This is not symbolic, it is a promised future event.

**Point 6)** *The Condition for His Return:* Jesus Himself ties His return to Israel's recognition of Him: "Ye shall not see me henceforth till ye shall say, 'Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord'."— Matthew 23:39

> The cry of Israel precedes the coming of the King.

**Point 7)** *The Order of Events:*
•Israel's Repentence, which leads to...
•Jesus's return, which establishes...
•His Kingdom on earth.

> Just as the first coming came through Israel, so does the millennial Kingdom.

**Point 8)** *The Warning of Apostasy:* Scripture warns of a falling away in the last days. "That day shall not come, except there come a falling away first..."— 2 Thessalonians 2:3

> Apostasy includes rejecting God's truth, including His covenant purposes with Israel.

**Point 9)** *Joining the Wrong Side of Prophecy:* Those who echo hostility toward Israel are unknowingly mirroring the very nations gathered in opposition... "He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye." — Zechariah 2:8

> This should give pause.

**Point 10)** *A Call to Be Vigilant:* Discern the times and test every narrative. Do not conform to the spirit of the age.

> God's Word, not cultural opinion, defines truth.

**Conclusion**: *God's Plan is Consistent:* Through Israel came the Messiah.

Through Israel comes the Kingdom. "For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." — Romans 11:29

Let's stand where Scripture stands.

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***QUIZ ANSWER:***

**Answer -** A / Qumran

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