

Proclaiming
Jesus



In a
Distinctly
Jewish Way

Rock of Israel Ministries



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

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Celebrating
50+
over 50 years



Ministry Pres. Robert and Carrie Specter

July 2023: Here's an update of the ministry in the past month.

We LOVE encouraging notes! Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com

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***** Special note to Gmail users *****

1) Please check your Spam or Promotions folder each month

Sadly, sometimes email servers send our newsletter there and not to your regular 'inbox'.

2) Gmail sometimes shortens our newsletter!

If so, then click this at the bottom.

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)



Our San Diego Fair outreach report

This month we began our first fair outreach of the summer at the San Diego County Fair. They are expecting one million attendees and we can be found there in the vendor hall with our large banners and gospel bookmarks.

The Fair runs from June 7th - July 5th and is open for 11 hours each day. Every day, Jewish people see our booth and come over because they want to shop for Jewish products. At the fair this year, the numbers of Jewish people coming to our booth have doubled! Of

course, we try to have a conversation with each one who stops. And of course, Christians also come over, excited to see the booth as well.

Here are a few of the memorable conversations that we have had so far:



Greg talking with three Iraqi believers.

** One couple came up to our booth and were looking at the jewelry and mezuzot. I asked if they were Jewish. Scott pointed to his fiancée, Stephanie, and said "She is." I told her I was Jewish and believed that Jesus/Yeshua is the Messiah. Then I asked if she was Messianic (believing Yeshua is the Messiah). Scott answered and said that he was a Christian and was trying to help her see that Jesus is the Messiah. He said that we were an answer to his prayer. I shared with Stephanie about how my father was challenged to ask God if Jesus was God's son. I asked if she would pray and ask God if He would show her the truth. She said she would. I asked, "Will you pray right now?" She said, "Out loud?" I said she could pray silently, but to tell me when she finished. She did! Pray that God reveals Yeshua to her! I got Scott's email and gave Stephanie the testimony book "They Thought for Themselves." I also suggested they attend a Messianic Synagogue where there are a lot of couples that are Jewish/Gentile.



Robert spoke with the couple mentioned above (faces blurred for privacy)

** A Jewish guy said he is 52% Ashkenazi, but he was raised nothing. He took everything we gave to him. He and his girlfriend seemed excited.

** One Jewish woman and her mother said, "We know all about prophecies" in a condescending way. I asked her, "Have you ever read Isaiah 53?" She started to walk away, and I said, "Check it out?" She said, "Why are you yelling at me," I said, "I am not yelling. I am just asking a question." I asked two Christians if I was rude or yelling, and they said, "No, you just asked them a question they could not answer, and they were rude to you."

**Two Jewish women said, "we are just Jewish." They refused a prophecy pamphlet. I challenged them to read Isaiah 53 because they would find it interesting. They both nodded and said sure.

**One of the highlights was meeting 3 Iraqi Christians on fire for Jesus. They bought a large ark and our big 10 Commandments Plaque. (See photo above of Greg talking to them.)

** A Jewish man said, "I once thought I liked you, but now, I don't." I quickly said, "Jesus loves you. He died for your sins. Read Isaiah 53." A vendor neighbor, beside our booth, Doug the Bathtub guy, said, "You guys get a lot of angry people." I said that that was mild to some of our other responses. I imagine he does not get hostility selling

bathbubs.



Pat greeting a lizard-like creature someone showed him at the booth.

** Two Jewish teens were looking at the Jesus Made Me Kosher banner. I inquired about her background; she was Jewish. She took the prophecy pamphlet with a huge smile. It is so fun to watch people looking at our large “Jesus made me Kosher banner.” I have seen various responses: disgust, nodding in agreement, or some walking away confused.

**This fair was amazing despite a few hostile interactions. I really felt that people were listening to our gospel presentations. I felt that people genuinely took our material with interest. Seeds were planted.

Church of the Nazarene General Assembly



Last month we were invited to have a booth at the Church of the Nazarene's General Assembly in Indianapolis.

They had 15,000 in attendance. This conference occurs every four years, and delegates come from all over the world. Many of these countries have little or no material about Israel, so you can imagine their excitement as we had tables of items relating to Israel, the Bible, and Jesus in Hebrew.

We met people from South Africa, Korea, Madagascar, Chile, Costa Rica, and more! Our booth was even loved by the attendees from Papua New Guinea. Also in June, Robert had a booth at the Foursquare Church International Conference in California. He had the same good response.

We trust that the items they took back to their countries will enrich the churches there and help them love the God of Israel and the Messiah of Israel even more.



Our booth at Nazarene General Assembly



Our booth was non-stop busy



Christians from Papua New Guinea loved our booth.

July reminder: Jesus is our High Priest

Messiah Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us." Romans 8:34



Visiting with an old ministry friend



Before we began doing Fair booth evangelism, we used to take teams of believers out onto the streets and pass out our humorous, yet accurate, gospel tracts. We did this for many years and have since passed out over 1 million of these tracts. One of our volunteers was an Egyptian believer named "Fahmy".



Our evangelism teams in the early 2000's.
(Note: Fahmy was not on this team, but a different one not shown).

Fahmy was on our Pittsburgh team and is our only team member who ever got physically assaulted. Since many Muslims whom he met on the street assumed that he too was a Muslim (he clearly looks Egyptian), he would tell them he was a follower of Jesus and not Muhammad. Sometimes his words got a bit strong (we told him to tone it down) and one Muslim man could not hold back and hit Fahmy. He fell and hit his head, but was still preaching to this man with blood on his head!

Robert recently met up with Fahmy who still lives in California and is 92 years old. He told us he still passes out Rock of Israel gospel tracts when he can!





Before our Fair booth evangelism - this is how we rolled

This month's offer:

The Flag of Israel



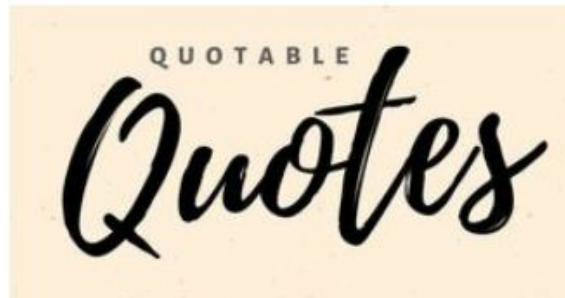
It's finally summertime.

In addition to the American flag that you fly
- why not confuse your neighbors -
show your support for Israel too.

3 x 5 feet Israeli Flag - lightweight polyester

Order yours now - \$10

FREE SHIPPING.



"Retirement at sixty-five is ridiculous. When I was sixty-five I still had pimples. "

~~ George Burns (lived to age 100)

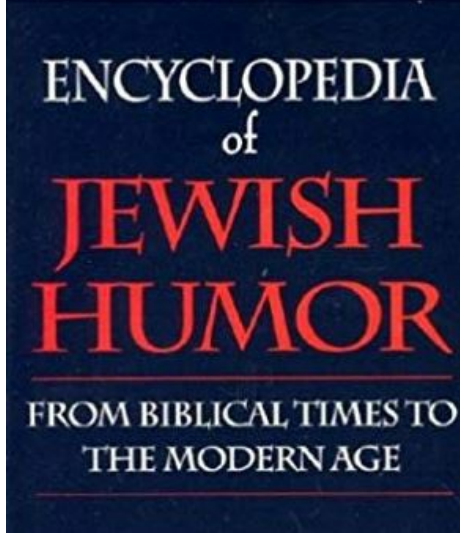


THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA:

What are the top three languages spoken in Israel today?

- A) Hebrew, Arabic, Russian
- B) Hebrew, Aramaic, Russian
- C) English, Russian, Aramaic
- D) Hebrew, Arabic, English

Answer near bottom



This Month's Jewish Humor

A Jewish father in Florida calls his son in New York and tells him, "I hate to tell you, but your mother and I can't stand each other anymore, and we are getting divorced. That's it! I'm moving out on Sunday. I am telling you now, so you don't go into shock later when I move out."

The father abruptly hangs up. The son immediately calls back and leaves a message on their machine. "Mom, Dad - don't do ANYTHING until I get there! I am flying down. I will be there Friday night."

When the father hears the message he hollers to his wife, "Okay, honey, all set. He's coming for Shabbat dinner Friday night. Now, what are we going to tell him next month to get him here for Rosh HaShanah?"

**Did Yeshua exist?
Even a secular voice from the past gives us
some evidence.**



Pliny the Younger—Statue on the Duomo in Como *Emperor Trajan—Reigned 98 to 117 AD*

Many times, critics of the Bible will say things like, “Jesus never existed.” Well, even the most liberal scholars generally agree that Jesus existed. However, there is even more historical evidence that there were already a large number of followers of Jesus throughout the Roman Empire a mere 70 to 80 years after the crucifixion.

Pliny the Younger (born in 61AD) was governor of Pontus/Bithynia from 111-113 AD. He trained as a lawyer and worked at various levels within the Roman Empire. Historians have his correspondence letters with the Roman Emperor Trajan on the topic of “Christians” and what to do with them.

Basically, this is one of our earliest sources of the Biblical faith from an outsider's point of view. Truly amazing.

Following is a list of what Pliny learned about Christians (followers of Jesus) from his "interrogations", which he obtained through their torture.

The text of his letter to Emperor Trajan is online here. [Pliny letter](#)

Pliny reports to the Emperor that:

** Christians met together on one particular day of the week before dawn.

** When Christians gathered, they would sing hymns to Christ as to a god (his words).

** Christians promised not to steal or commit adultery, and vowed to

pay back money when they owed it.

** There was a role in the Christian community called a deaconess and furthermore that slave women could become deaconesses.

** Christian associations were comprised of males and females, older and younger, and people of various social classes.

** Christians were not just found in towns but were spread out in villages and rural areas as well.

This is fascinating to learn. We stand on an unbroken chain of believers from the time of Jesus/Yeshua until today.

So be encouraged, family of Messiah. The Messiah promised to build His congregation of believers (Matthew 16:18) and nothing would stop it. We are evidence of that today!

QUIZ ANSWER:

Answer - D

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with tens of thousands of donors.**

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



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