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Jesus



In a
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Jewish Way

Rock of Israel Ministries



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over 50 years



Ministry President Robert and Carrie Specter

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

We LOVE encouraging notes! Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com

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Our Florida State Fair Outreach Last Month

Our second outreach of the year was completed last month at the Florida State Fair. We have been there about 17 years now, and some people come to see us every year. We spoke with over 100+ Jewish people, and of course, even more gentiles. We had many excellent conversations. To read more of our conversations, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/4hx646mv>

Here are just a few:



* An Israeli man, whom I spoke with on the first day, returned to the booth a few days later. He shared that since our initial conversation, he has had several discussions about Yeshua. These conversations haven't just been with people here at the fair but also with friends in Israel over the phone. He expressed surprise at how naturally the topic of Yeshua (Jesus) has been coming up in his interactions. As he walked away, he pointed at his ears and said, "I'm listening."

* A Jewish man in his 40s showed up with his wife. He had a very strong, thick New York accent, so of course we spoke about New York for a bit, and then he said, "Is this Jews for Jesus?" And I said, "Well, Messianic Jews is more of the general term." He said he wanted to understand it, and I explained it to him briefly. He said, "Organized religion is a bad thing." I said, "Yes, it can be, but we're here talking about faith in the Messiah, not organized religion." He did take a prophecy flyer and a book of testimonies.

* A young girl stopped by with her mother, and she said her father was Jewish. She is in her twenties, and she's trying to 'figure things out' because she doesn't understand the difference between the faiths. She mentioned that she grew up going to church only a small amount of time, but she's always felt drawn to the Jewish people, and I explained how being a Messianic Jew is the best of both worlds. I pointed her to a congregation locally, and she said she would try to attend. As I gave her a free prophecy book, she said, "I'll take whatever you've got." So in addition to the prophecy book, I gave her a Jewish testimony book, a messianic prophecy flyer, and a small New Testament. She was very appreciative and said, "I'm trying to learn."



* A family of about five Israelis came by. I gave them Hebrew gospel literature and showed them the “Yeshua loves you” (in Hebrew) T-shirt hanging on the wall. They were amazed to see everything. I said I was a Messianic Jew and shared with them.

* A Christian couple came to the booth with their Jewish friend who was ‘hanging out’ with them for the day. The Christian man was very excited to see the booth; he asked me, “So how did you become a believer in Jesus?” making sure that their Jewish friend was listening. So I gave my testimony to him, and the friend listened too. I also explained how Jesus fulfilled the prophecies of the Messiah. The Christian man was so excited over the encounter. He joyfully shook my hand before he left the booth with their Jewish friend in tow.

* A Jewish man came over to the booth with his wife. He was looking at all the items, and we had a short discussion. As he was walking away, he said, “You have your truth, and I have my truth.” I said, “That’s not logical. Truth doesn’t work that way.”



* A mother and daughter stopped on a Thursday. They were excited to tell me that she (the daughter) is engaged to an Israeli man. Then on Sunday, they came back again, with him this time, to show him everything in the booth. He was excited to see the booth as an Israeli. I explained that I was a Messianic Jew. He said to me, more than once, “Thank you for being here representing my country.” He took a Hebrew gospel bookmark, and he shook my hand in thanks before he left.

* A young couple in their early twenties stopped by the booth. He was wearing a chai (a famous Jewish word meaning ‘life’), and she said, “I’m really glad to see you guys here because we were just talking

about the Messianic faith.” After asking a few questions, it turned out he was Jewish (unbeliever), she was a gentile Baptist, and they were both dating. They were looking for something in common about that part of their relationship and just came across our booth. I explained, “Being Messianic is the best of both worlds!” She had a big smile on her face. I gave him a free testimony book and also gave them a local congregation card where they could visit.



T-Shirt says "Jesus Loves You" in Hebrew

* A Jewish woman said, “I don't understand. Do you think he's just a prophet? I have no problem believing he was a prophet.” But I replied, “No. We believe He is the God of Israel, Hashem, visiting us in human form - just like He did with Abraham in the Torah.” I continued, “He is my atonement. Whenever we break something, either we pay for it or someone else does. And that is what Yeshua did for me. He paid for my sins. All of my sins are paid for.” When the conversation ended, she took the prophecy book and the testimony book that I offered her.

* A Jewish man stopped with his wife. He said he knew a lot of the items we had for sale because his dad still had some of them from 'the old country.' I explained I was a Messianic Jew and what that meant. He sounded interested, but his wife interjected, “Well, I'm a Buddhist.” I explained how I became a believer in Jesus because of the prophecies in the Hebrew Bible. I did give him a free prophecy book, and he happily accepted it.

Surprise!

Heaven Says 'Happy New Year' This Month



Now this may come as a major shock to many of you, but feel free to fact-check this with what the Biblical text says. Despite what the world's calendar says about January 1st, it is not the New Year according to God. And neither is Rosh HaShana, usually in September, which is called the 'New Year' by Jewish culture and rabbinical teaching. Here is what the Torah actually says about when the first month of the year begins:

“The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of the months; it shall be the first of the months of the year for you” (Exodus 12:1-2).

“On this day you are going out, in the month Abib.” (Exodus 13:4)

Today the month is called “Nisan,” but its original name during the time of Moses was “Abib” or “Aviv”.

Sounds pretty simple, right? The month they left Egypt – God says start the calendar then. New life, new calendar. But when man gets involved, as usual, it gets twisted.

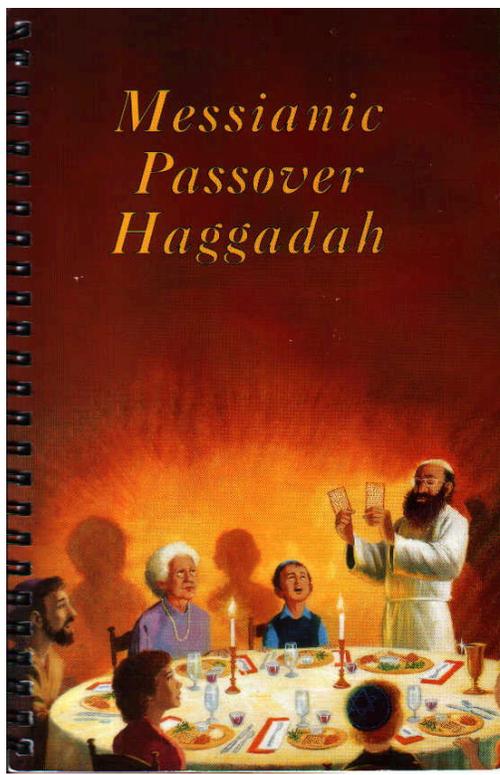
So when is God's 'New Year' on our calendar? It is coming up on March 18th - specifically, at sunset. That is when the month of Nisan (Abib), containing Passover, begins. This also reminds us that when we were individually delivered from the bondage of slavery to sin, through faith in Yeshua/Jesus, that is when we began our new year/ life as well.

So let us be the first (and probably only ones) to wish you a very blessed and godly New Year - starting this month.

March reminder:



This month's offer:

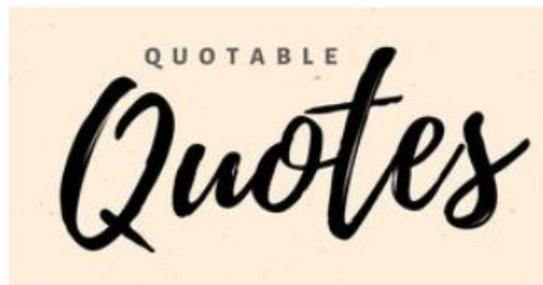


Lead a Passover Seder In Your Home

Order our Messianic Passover Haggadah soon because Passover is coming up the evening of April 1st. This book is for leading you (and your guests) through the Seder dinner step by step. It has songs to sing, recipes to make and more. Usually each person at the table has a copy so they can follow along. Spiral paperback about 50 pages.

Normally \$5 each, but use code 'Passover' at checkout for \$4 each

<https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/products/messianic-passover-haggadah>



""I'm not crazy about reality, but it's still the only place to get a decent meal."

-- Groucho Marx

TRIVIA

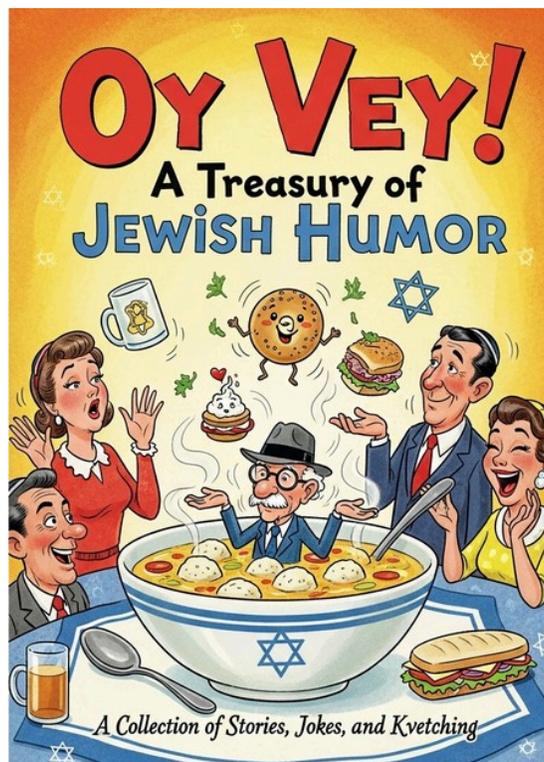
C H A L L E N G E

THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA:

Which one of these writings are NOT Jewish in origin?

- A) The Talmud
- B) The Zohar
- C) The Siddur
- D) The Bhagavad Gita

Answer near bottom



This Month's Jewish Humor

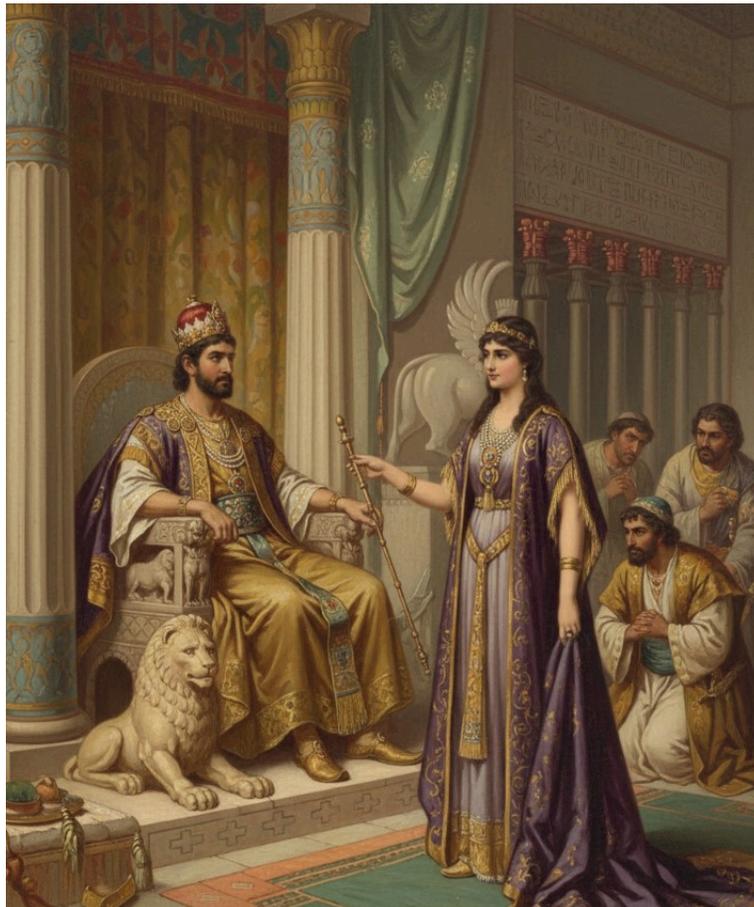
Morrie asks his wife, "What would you most like for your birthday?"
She answers, "I'd love to be... ten again."

So on the morning of her birthday, he gets her up bright and early and off they go to the local theme park. What a day! He puts her on every ride in the park, the Death Slide, The Screaming Loop, the Wall of Fear...everything there is! Wow!

She staggers out of the theme park five hours later, her head reeling and her stomach upside down. Then off to a movie... it's the latest Star Wars epic, and hot dogs, popcorn, Pepsi Cola and M&Ms. What a fabulous adventure! Finally she wobbles home with her husband and collapses in to bed.

He leans over lovingly and asks, "Well, dear, what was it like being ten again?" With one eye open she groans, "Morrie, I meant dress size. A size ten dress size!"

Purim - Now and Then



There is a joke among Jewish people that goes like this: "Every Jewish holiday is simply, 'They tried to kill us, we won, let's eat.'"

That joke reminds us that the Jewish holiday of Purim is coming up this month. It begins at sundown on **March 2nd**. If you have never read the book of Esther, it is really quite special. It is the only book in the Bible where God is not mentioned (but His hand is all over

it.) During the 5th century BCE, the Jewish people had been exiled to Persia (modern-day Iran).

Through a series of unique events, a young Jewish girl became Queen of Persia. And with a one-two punch, Queen Esther got the king to save her Jewish people from annihilation and simultaneously strike down their arch nemesis, the wicked man, Haman. To celebrate this event, many Jewish children dress up as Queen Esther or Mordecai (or other heroes) on this day and have a wonderful celebration time in their school or home.



Sadly, today Israel still hears annihilation threats from modern-day Iran. (We should note that it is specifically the Iranian government which says this. Many Iranian people hate their government and stand with Israel). Just as God used Esther and Mordecai to turn "sorrow into gladness and mourning into a holiday," we pray for a similar reversal today. We pray that the modern-day "Hamans" would be thwarted and that the "Watcher of Israel" would again deliver His people from those who seek their harm.

Bonus: A traditional food eaten during Purim is Hamantaschen. It is a triangular, filled Jewish pastry filled with raspberry jam or similar. Google a recipe for it today and make some. Delicious.



QUIZ ANSWER:

Answer - D. The Bhagavad Gita is Hindu scripture.

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