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Jesus



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Jewish Way

Rock of Israel Ministries



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over 50 years



Ministry President Robert and Carrie Specter

Oct. 2025: 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 us. If so, then click this at the bottom.

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

New York and Toronto Stories - Part 2

Last month we finished our two most intense outreaches of the year. New York and Toronto have a significant Jewish population, and Toronto has a strong Muslim population to boot. So we were expecting negativity from both ends. Thankfully the negativity was kept at a minimum. Here are more booth conversations from our outreaches from those two cities:



Toronto 2025

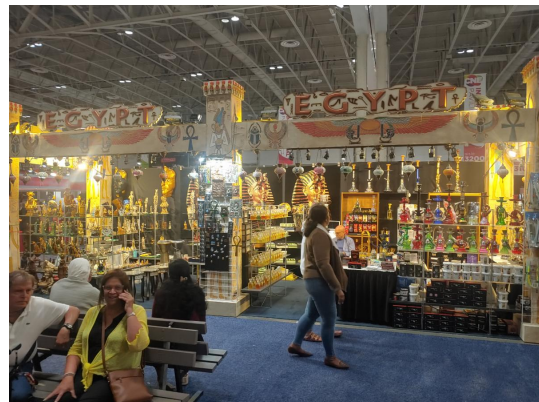
** The Israeli booth in NY, which sells facial cream a few rows over and whom we are friends with, had a disturbance. One of the girls there came to our booth and said a Muslim man just came up and said something to her face, including a curse word about Israel. She told me that she said, "You can't say that about my country!" He

walked away, so she called the police and was waiting for them. I told her that two days ago a Muslim woman put a sticker on our booth that said, "Free Palestine." When the police came, she left our booth to speak with them, and then she even brought the cop over to us. (Not that we wanted that.) He thought it was the same incident, and I said, "No, ours was a few days ago." He said there was not much he could do because people are allowed to say things in America. I agreed, and I explained to the Israeli woman that as much as we don't like them saying bad things, America is a free country, and they're allowed to say it.

** An Orthodox Jewish man came by our booth in NY and began yelling, "the largest Ponzi scheme in the world." He did this for about two minutes, and everybody was just watching him and wondering what he was doing. I didn't respond to him at all. After a couple of minutes, he finally walked away.

** Devorah stopped at our booth, and I asked if she was Jewish. She said yes but said she didn't believe Jesus was the Messiah. She asked questions about what we believed and if we kept Jewish traditions. I offered a free book, but she declined and went her way. But a few minutes later she came back. She said she was so intrigued by our booth. She asked if I was Jewish and how I changed to Christianity. I shared that my father grew up Orthodox. She asked, "Orthodox Christian?" I said, "No, Orthodox Jewish!" I shared how he came to believe Yeshua is the Messiah. She was so interested in how that came about, and I told her that he was challenged to ask God. I challenged her to ask God; I assured her that God would answer her. She said she might do that.

** A Muslim man (in Toronto) came by and leaned into the booth, asking, "How many dead Palestinians do you have back there?"



People stopping at our Toronto Booth

The huge Egypt booth a few rows away.

** Mark and his friend (not Jewish) stopped to read our "Jesus made me kosher" sign. I asked if he was Jewish, and he said he was. I asked if he had heard of Messianic Jews, and he said no. I shared

that I was a Messianic Jew, that I believed Yeshua (Jesus) is the Messiah. I asked if he would read a book if I gave it to him free. He said yes, so I gave him the book of Jewish testimonies. Then I asked if I could take a photo of him with the Kosher sign. He said yes.

** A girl in her 20s came up wearing both a star and a cross pendant. I asked why. She said her father was Jewish and her mother was Episcopalian. I asked what she was, and she said she was leaning towards Judaism. I asked if she had heard of Messianic Jews, and she had not. I told her what we are, and she said, "I don't know why there are Christians who hate Jews when Jesus was Jewish." (And so were His disciples, I added.) I said, "You are Jewish, and I have a free book for you." She took a book of 10 Jewish testimonies.



Muslim booth a few rows away offering free Qurans and telling people they believe in Jesus. (But when you speak with them, it's a different Jesus - who was a Muslim.)



Asian booth selling Buddha's



A very crowded fair!

** An Iranian woman and her husband stopped. She said, "I love my country, but I love Israel even more." She explained that the Iranian people are under an oppressive regime, and she remembers it as a

child, before it was a Muslim Republic. She said, “The people of Iran and Israel go way back. It was Cyrus, an Iranian, who released the Jewish people from captivity.” (NOTE: we find this over and over again at our booth with people from Iran – called Persians. They typically love Israel and hate their country’s leadership.)

** Jeremy, a Jewish man who's married to an evangelical woman, understood that the evangelical Christian is the best friend Israel has. He even thanked us for being there.

To read MORE of our summer conversations [click here](#)

A Blast From The Past



Did you ever look through some old photos and reminisce? Recently I remembered an event that happened a number of years ago in the Times Square subway station, in New York City.

We had been there with a small team for New Year’s Eve, passing out our humorous but pointed “Happy New Year” cartoon gospel tracts in the subway. So when I (Douglas) came across these two Hasidic men (Ultra-Orthodox) who had set up a table in Times Square Subway station proclaiming their late Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, who died in 1994, as the Messiah. This was too good to pass up! I stopped and began a conversation with them.



They had even put up a banner saying “Moshiach” (Messiah) with duct tape on the overhead pipes. While there is not enough space to talk about the entire conversation, I proclaimed Yeshua (Jesus) as Israel’s true Messiah. When I said to them, “Rabbi Schneerson was not the Messiah,” one of the pieces of duct tape came loose and the banner drooped. (No exaggeration!) After a few more minutes of conversation, I said it again, “Schneerson was not the Messiah!” And within 30 seconds, another piece of duct tape came loose, and now the banner was hanging, like by a thread, with only one piece of duct tape left! (Again, no exaggeration!)

They then said in a mocking voice, “Oooh, you can do magic...” I replied, “It’s not magic; it is God showing you that Jesus is the Messiah, not Schneerson.”

Some women then came over, and they left my conversation and spoke with them. (See photo above.) But I will never forget how that day, God used me to tell two Jewish men in the NY Subway about their Messiah, whether they accepted it or not.

**October reminder:
Read Your Bible**

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THE OLD TESTAMENT

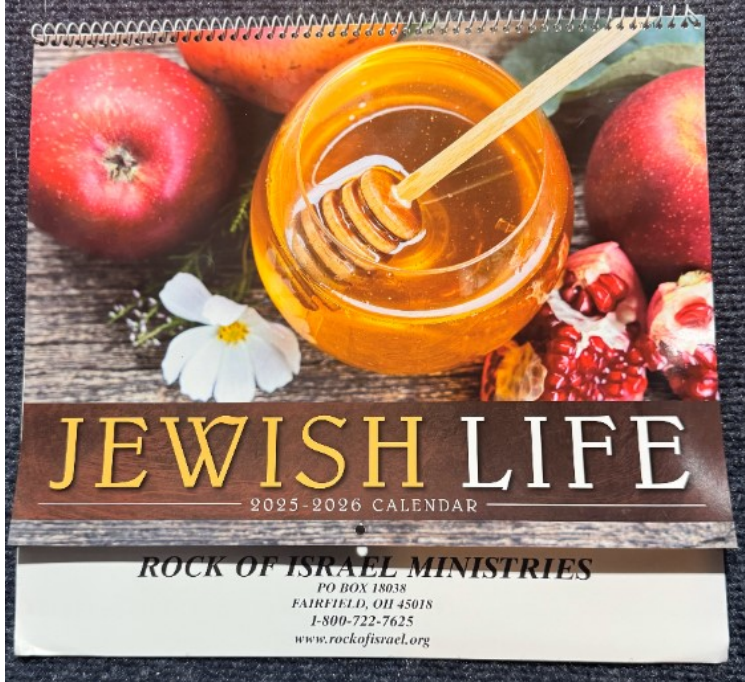
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This month's repeat offer:



2025 - 2026 Jewish Calendar

NOTE: Due to our busy outreach schedule - we cannot ship anything until October 7th at the earliest!

Due to popular demand, we are relisting our calendars! The Jewish calendar runs from September to September, so the new 2026 calendars are now out. The Biblical and traditional holidays are all listed.

Contains the dates for:

- * Rosh HaShanah
- * Yom Kippur
- * Sukkot (Tabernacles)
- * Hanukkah
- * Pesach (Passover)
- * And much more!

Beautiful monthly photos can be framed at the end of the calendar's life. The calendar is 10 3/4 inches wide. \$7 plus shipping. To order, visit our store here: [CALENDAR](#)



"The man who thinks he can live without others is mistaken; the one who thinks others can't live without him is even more deluded."

~~ Hasidic Proverb

TRIVIA

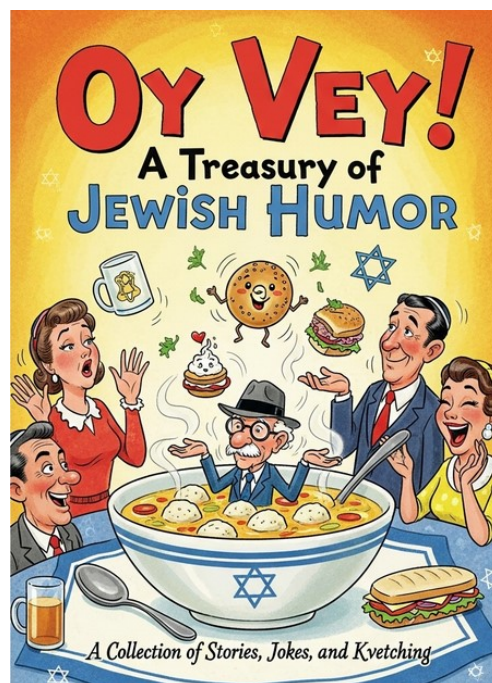
C H A L L E N G E

THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA:

Which fact about Yom Kippur is not accurate?

- A) Religious Jewish people will fast for 24 - 25 hours.
- B) On Yom Kippur, religious Jewish men will walk in a full bow as they cross the entrance to threshold of their synagogue.
- C) A single blast of the shofar is sounded to signify the fast is over.
- D) In 1965, a Jewish pitcher named Sandy Koufax refused to play in Game One of the World Series because it fell on Yom Kippur.

Answer near bottom

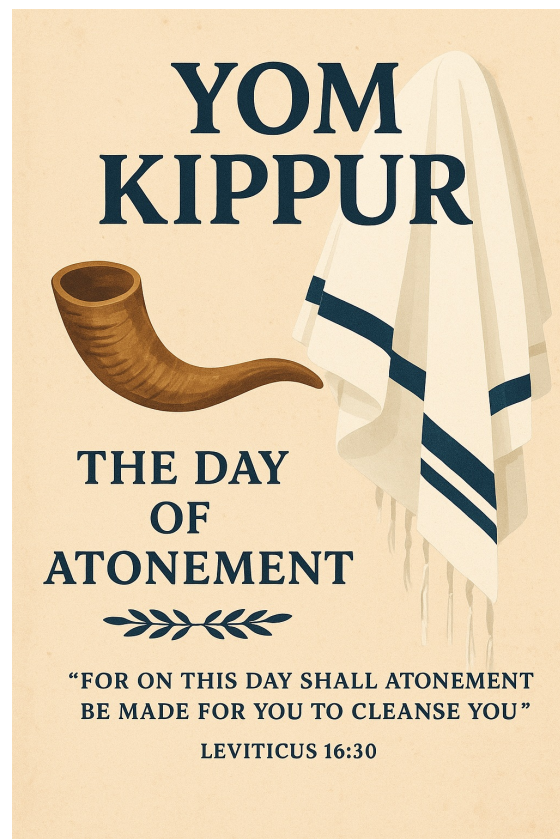


This Month's Jewish Humor

A tourist flew to Israel. At the airport, taking a taxi, he asks the taxi driver, "Tell me, is there really a unique, healthy climate here?" The taxi driver said, "Yes, absolutely. When I arrived here, I could not say a word; there was not a single hair on my head. I didn't even have the strength to walk, and they carried me in their arms."

The tourist asked, "Wow. How long have you been here?" The taxi driver responded, "I was born here."

Yom Kippur starts the evening of October 1st



Yom Kippur (יום כּפּוּר), meaning the *Day of Atonement*, is rooted in the Torah, primarily in **Leviticus 16**, where God commands Israel to observe it as a “Sabbath of Sabbaths.” In the days of the Temple in Jerusalem, it was the only day each year when the High Priest would enter the Holy of Holies to offer blood from a sacrifice and seek atonement on behalf of the nation. After the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, the Jewish leadership shifted the emphasis from sacrifices (which could no longer be done) to just prayer, repentance, and fasting.

Most all observant Jewish people will do a complete fast, abstaining from food and drink lasting about 25 hours, from sundown to sundown the following day. In addition to fasting, observant Jews refrain from the pleasures of bathing, wearing leather shoes, applying lotions or perfumes, and engaging in marital relations. These restrictions help emphasize humility and make the day a spiritual focus.

Most of the day is spent in synagogue. The services include the solemn **Kol Nidre** prayer, which annuls certain unintentional vows made during the year (probably originating from ancient times when Jews were forced, under duress, to “vow allegiance” to Christianity), and the **Neilah** service at the close, where the “gates of heaven” are said to be closing (meaning the upcoming year has now been determined for every Jewish soul.) The final blast of the shofar at the end of Yom Kippur marks the conclusion of the fast and symbolizes spiritual cleansing and renewal.



Attribution: [Government Press Office \(Israel\)](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Government_Press_Office_%28GPO%29_-_The_%22Kaparot%22_Ritual.jpg) https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Government_Press_Office_%28GPO%29_-_The_%22Kaparot%22_Ritual.jpg

Since there are no more sacrifices offered in Jerusalem, hours before Yom Kippur begins, many religious Jewish people participate in a very strange ritual called “Kapparot.” This is where a person swings a live chicken over their head to symbolically “absorb” their sins, after which the chicken is ritually slaughtered. (*Google the word: “Kapparot,” and you will see some amazing photographs of this ritual.*)

As Messianic Jews, this shows us that the rabbis have a deep-seated understanding of the Scripture which tells them that a “substitute” is required to die for your sins. (Leviticus 17:11). However, they do not understand that this is the very reason that Yeshua/Jesus came! He is to be our substitute. If you know Yeshua / Jesus this Yom Kippur, be

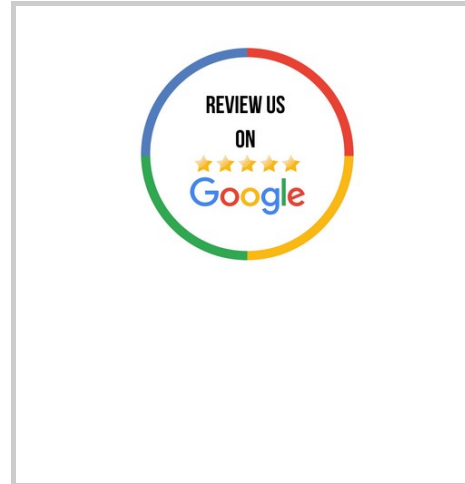
thankful that you don't have to swing a live chicken over your head every year and then kill it. Yeshua / Jesus died once for all on a stationary cross in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago. And we can claim that substitute as ours, even today. Hallelujah.

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If you would ever wish to leave us a good review on Google, AND Facebook we would appreciate it!

For Google: Simply Google these five words: "Rock of Israel in Ohio" and there will be a link on the right that says, "Google reviews". Thank you!

For Facebook - The link is: [Here](#)



QUIZ ANSWER:

Answer - B is false

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