February, 2023



Dear Friends,

The famous words of the Purim story still ring true today. "...yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14)

I'd like you to read the testimony of Nicci, one of our key staff members whom God has called into the Kingdom to serve our Jewish people in these last days:

"There has to be something more!" Looking for purpose and meaning to life, I took some time off university to "find" myself. I became convinced that the answer to my questions lay in a deeper relationship with God. Growing up in a Conservative/Orthodox traditional Jewish home, I believed in God and prayed to Him. But I wanted the kind of personal relationship with God that we read about in Scripture, and I didn't see that in anyone around me – not in Synagogue, not even in the Rabbi.

During that time, I met family members whose lives had been amazingly transformed by faith in Yeshua the Messiah, and whose lifestyles exemplified a vibrant living Judaism.

Initially, I was offended by their claims that there is only one way to God — through believing in Yeshua the Messiah. Not only did it seem narrow-minded, but also very dangerous. Our Jewish people have suffered terrible persecution in the name of Jesus Christ, the Crusades, the Holocaust, and everyday antisemitism. In addition, I wasn't looking to convert; it was a clear understanding in our home "if you are Jewish you cannot believe in Jesus." I was hungry for a real, living relationship with my own God, the God of the Jewish people.

However, the claim that Yeshua is actually the Jewish Messiah and the redeemer of the whole world, was a claim that I could investigate. Surely God who made us, who is the God of truth, is also able to show us the truth. So, I asked "is Yeshua our Messiah?"

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I read the New Covenant for the first time, while simultaneously re-reading the Tanach, the Old Testament. I was shocked. Instead of finding another religion, I found Jewish scriptures by Jewish authors about the Jewish Messiah. And I was surprised to find so many scriptures about sin in the Tanach. Sin and sacrifice had always seemed like non-Jewish concepts to me, yet there in my Scriptures I read that we have all sinned against God, and that our sins separate us from Him (Isaiah 59:1-3). Although I could see how the New Covenant and the Tanach lined up, my heart was still conflicted. As I read the Scriptures I eventually came to a place of surrender and agreed to believe God. One day while reading, I received such peace in my heart. I knew that God had answered me. Yeshua is the Jewish Messiah.

Since then, God's Word and His presence are increasingly alive to me. Our traditions, people, and our land – Israel - are more meaningful and important to me. I am so grateful that God has set me into a wonderful Messianic Synagogue here at City of David and has given me the privilege to serve here. As I continue to serve and grow in a real relationship with the true and living God, it is my heart's desire that our Jewish people will also seek Him and find Him as they search with all of their hearts (Jeremiah 29:13).

Nicci has been faithfully serving the Lord in our ministry for many years. Having come from a Jewish home, she is sensitive to the needs of the Jewish people we are reaching



out to. She is married to another key staff person on our team, Michael Katz. They have a beautiful daughter named Ayelet.

When you support Messianic Mandate, you are supporting key people like Michael & Nicci whom God has called into the Kingdom, "...for such a time as this."

We are deeply grateful for your prayers and financial support!

In Messiah,

Rabbi Jeff Forman, Executive Director

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PS: I have enclosed a special Purim bookmark for you. When you use it, may it remind you that God has called you into the Kingdom for such a time as this!

PPS: Join us as we host a live Joshua Aaron worship concert on Saturday, April 22! Go to www.MessianicMandate.com for more details.

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FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS...

	Yes, keep build	ding a grea	at team fo	r God! E	nclosed is my gift o	f:
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