



OUTREACH ISRAEL NEWS

REACH TEACH ENCOURAGE DISCIPLE

JULY 2010
HISTORIC ANNIVERSARIES
CONTRASTED

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STATEMENT OF BELIEF

Outreach Israel Ministries and TNN Online

There is One Almighty Creator God of the Universe, who has revealed Himself to us in the manifestations of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Yeshua the Messiah (Jesus Christ) came in fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies of the Scriptures and is fully God. It is mandatory for us to believe in a Divine Redeemer to be saved. Salvation is a free gift of God to all who receive Messiah Yeshua into their lives and confess of their sins. Those who reject Messiah will be consigned to eternal punishment.

The Holy Scriptures, Genesis-Revelation, are the inspired, infallible Word of God as revealed in the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek texts.

There is only one assembly of chosen ones/elect, the people of Israel, of which all Believers in Messiah are a part. God does not have two groups of elect: Israel and "the Church."

The Torah (Genesis-Deuteronomy) is the foundation of all Scripture, was followed by our Messiah Yeshua, and is to still be followed and studied by Believers today.

Yeshua the Messiah is coming to gather the saints after the Tribulation period.

OIM is an *agapē* ministry, freely and benevolently giving the vast majority of its teachings and resources, without charge, to those who desire to be spiritually nourished.

For a fuller Statement of Faith, consult the OIM website

Outreach Israel News is the monthly newsletter of Outreach Israel Ministries, a non-profit organization with an emphasis on reaching, teaching, and encouraging the Messianic community. Subscription to **Outreach Israel News** is without cost and supported only by donation.

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OIM UPDATE

July 2010

The month of July gives American Messianics an opportunity to commemorate and contemplate *two* anniversaries that occur during the heat of the Summer. First on the **Fourth of July**, Americans are reminded of the 234th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence by fifty-six courageous men who represented the majority will of the colonial population. Secondly, for Messianics who highly value and respect the customs of the Jewish Synagogue, the **Ninth of Av** (19-20 July) gives us some rather sober and serious reasons to pause and reflect on various horrific events which have occurred to the Jewish people down through the centuries, so that they will never occur again.

While anticipating these significant commemorations in the opening days of July, I had the privilege of being able to watch a Fourth of July sermon by Dr. Charles Stanley of In Touch Ministries. His message was so compelling and convicting that I posted a McHuey Blog named **"Fourth of July Worship and Prayer"** on July 5th, encouraging the Messianic Believers we reach out to, to go watch it online, and to take his message to heart seriously. Several days later as I pondered the significance of the July commemorations and the call to prayer that Dr. Stanley was issuing to evangelical Christians in America, I was prompted to write this month's lead article entitled, **"Historic Anniversaries Contrasted."**

After some contemplative prayer, I have concluded that the convergence of these two significant anniversaries this month is much more than coincidental. I feel that perhaps it is providentially ordained by the Holy One so that He can get the attention of not only Christians who love and support Israel, but also the American Messianic community of faith who can pray knowledgeably during this time as a designated season of intercession and spiritual consideration. It is my fervent hope that after reviewing Dr. Stanley's message and reading my article, that you will be piqued to confess and repent of any misdeeds, and pray for the United States and Israel. We also have many things to pray about in the wider world, especially as many of us believe that the Messianic movement will inevitably shift toward having a global impact, as we edge closer to the return of Yeshua and the restoration of all Israel.

This month we will be taking an important step forward in our ongoing TNN Press Book Printing project, as the new commentary *Acts 15 for the Practical Messianic* is presently at the printers. Throughout the Messianic world in the past year, there has been a great deal of discussion and debate over the scene of the Jerusalem Council and the relevance of the Torah for non-Jewish Believers. While there has been much talk, there has not been a huge amount of detailed examination from the text of Acts 15. This new resource approaches the subject matter from both an academically engaged and application minded vantage point. I believe you will not be disappointed, as any questions you have regarding Acts 15 will be sufficiently answered. Your continued support for our efforts is most appreciated!

I wish you all the best this month, as you seek the face of our Heavenly Father and desire His will for your life!

Until the restoration of all things...

Mark Huey

HISTORIC ANNIVERSARIES CONTRASTED

by Mark Huey

Although people should live in the present with positive expectations for the future, it is inherently beneficial to contemplate and reflect on the past. After all, learning from the triumphs and achievements *or* the trials and tribulations, of past human experiences, should compel informed cultures and societies to improve upon the successes while avoiding the pitfalls. This does not always happen, as different generations often fail to learn meaningful lessons from past missteps. The Spanish philosopher George Santayana (1863-1952) is noted for writing in his work *The Life of Reason* this rather negative assessment: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

But what if we put a slight twist on Santayana’s axiom, and take a more positive approach to some of the successes of humanity, so that “**Those who can remember the past are blessed to repeat the good and avoid the bad!**” It can certainly be most useful for a culture or society to remember and celebrate past positive accomplishments, emulating and striving to see them continue, and learning the lessons of negative things so that they never have to be repeated again. Too frequently though, one strain present throughout history is that some will overlook or minimize *either* the positive *or* negative actions witnessed in time, and such has resulted in a rewriting or reorientation of history, often by those seeking change in a society. When looking at the more modern period, I personally find historical revisionists to be unscrupulous usurpers—typically employing some kind of agenda of “political correctness—to rewrite or reorient facts, frequently bringing forth negative reinforcement or a distortion of what can be clearly documented. Thankfully, God has granted each person a mind and reasoning skills so that we can learn from *both* the good and the bad, and we will never have to forget positive and negative lessons from history.

These contrasting thoughts and contradistinctions came to mind this month, as the relatively uplifting celebration on the **Fourth of July** by Americans, can be contrasted to the fasting and mourning on the **Ninth of Av** (18-20 July) by the Jewish community worldwide. The Ninth of Av is remembered for sure by observant Jews, both in Israel and abroad, and to a certain extent by many Jewish and non-Jewish Believers in the Messianic movement as well. Paradoxically, when it comes to the **positive remembrance** of the birth of America, only one day is set aside for traditional parades, barbecues, and fireworks—albeit with the “national holiday” recognized by the United States government. On the other hand, it is probably true that most Jews, and for that matter Messianic Believers, only devote several hours to considering the **negative remembrance** of the Ninth of Av.

How many of you, who attend a Messianic congregation or fellowship, are even aware of the Ninth of Av? Perhaps you have not heard that much about it, because it is not one of the appointed times of Leviticus 23, but is an important date throughout Jewish history when terrible things have occurred. The Ninth of Av or *Tisha B’Av* in the Jewish tradition is second only to *Yom Kippur*, as a day of great remorse accompanied with fasting and prayer. The Ninth of Av is an infamous day that commemorates the time when Ancient Israel believed the bad report from the ten spies

(m.*Ta'anit* 4:6). The Ninth of Av is one of the saddest days on the calendar for the Jewish people, because *many more* tragic events have also occurred on this very day throughout history. Alfred J. Kolatch summarizes the main significance of the Ninth of Av in Jewish tradition:

“Tisha B'Av, the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av, is a day of mourning for the destruction of the First Temple in the year 586 B.C.E. by the Babylonians, and of the Second Temple in the year 70 C.E. by the Romans. (According to tradition, both Temples were destroyed on the same date.)

“Next to Yom Kippur (a biblical holiday), Tisha B'Av (a post-biblical holiday) is the most important fast day in the Jewish calendar. It marks the final day of a three-week period of intense national mourning for the events that led to the loss of Jewish independence with the destruction of the holy shrines of Jewish life.

“Aside from these two major historical events, other happenings in Jewish history have been said to have occurred on the ninth of Av. These include the fall of Betar (the last Jewish stronghold during the Bar Kochba rebellion against Rome) in 35 C.E. and the beginning of the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. The importance of Tisha B'Av as a fast day was emphasized in the Talmud (Taanit 30b), where the comment is made: ‘He who eats or drinks on the ninth day of Av must be considered as guilty as one who has eaten on Yom Kippur.’ The fast of Tisha B'Av, like Yom Kippur, begins at sunset and ends the next evening with the appearance of the first three stars.”¹

There have been some other tragedies which have been associated with the Ninth of Av throughout history, but the most overshadowing events have still been the destruction of the First and Second Temples—which have been used to literally change the face of Israel in Biblical history. One might argue that the Ninth of Av is a time when the Jewish people have reflected on some of their specific faults before God—which caused the destruction of the two Temples—and have desired restitution for past errors. At the same time, remembering the Ninth of Av can be employed as preparation for the even more serious Day of Atonement.

Rabbinic commentary often refers to the period between the 17th of Tammuz and the Ninth of Av as *bein ha'mitzarim* (בֵּין הַמִּצְרִים) or “between the breaches.” This is derived from Lamentations 1:3, where we see, “Judah has gone into exile under affliction and under harsh servitude; she dwells among the nations, *but* she has found no rest; all her pursuers have overtaken her **in the midst of distress**” (Lamentations 1:3). A three week preparation period for the fast of the of the Ninth of Av begins on the 17th of Tammuz, when the walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans, before the destruction of the Second Temple. **Any reader of either the Bible or ancient history can understand the severity of the need to remember and never forget such tragedies that have occurred in the past!** The litany

¹ Alfred J. Kolatch, *The Jewish Book of Why* (Middle Village, NY: Jonathan David Publishers, 1981), 286; cf. Ronald L. Eisenberg, *The JPS Guide to Jewish Traditions* (Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2004), pp 304-305.

of troubles, that have occurred in association with the Ninth of Av down through the centuries, have given the Jewish people ample reason to take this time period very seriously.

Today's Messianic movement, which has inherited much of its theological and spiritual heritage from the Synagogue, should similarly take notice of the Ninth of Av. Providentially, the fact that for over two millennia the Jewish people have been able to overcome many serious challenges—perhaps best epitomized by the themes of the Ninth of Av—to their social fabric, unique culture, religious life, and often their very existence, affirms in many Jewish hearts and minds that the Creator has indeed chosen and preserved them for a special mission and purpose.

I do not think that anyone true to the Scriptures can casually dismiss Yeshua's important axiom, "salvation is from the Jews" (John 4:22). The Apostle Paul instructed that the Jewish people must be respected because they have been entrusted with the oracles of God (Romans 3:2), and that they have an irrevocable calling (Romans 11:29). Even if the three weeks between the 17th of Tammuz and the Ninth of Av are not the most positive of experiences, God has seen the Jewish people through these *and many other* tragedies (cf. Psalm 83). Even up until today, we see that the enemies of the State of Israel continue to threaten by rattling their swords or aiming their missiles, but probably deep down in many Jewish hearts is the conviction that God is watching. Even with attempts by revisionists to change or alter historical truths, such attempts will ultimately be futile. I praise the Lord for His faithfulness to the Jewish people, modern-day Israel, and have confidence that as we steadily approach the return of Yeshua the message of the Ninth of Av will become more real to us all.

While contemplating some harsh realities regarding Israel over the past month, and not only troubling circumstances in the Middle East—but also some of the challenges facing the United States—a number of curious questions came to mind as the month of July approached. In attempting to reconcile my patriotism and concern for my native land, with my heartfelt allegiance to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and His Messiah Yeshua—I found myself wanting to not only celebrate the birth of America, but also wanting to be on guard for the safety of Israel. The fast of the Ninth of Av certainly allows us to press into the Lord and consider past events.

At present, there are a variety of voices out there in the Messianic community who are paralyzing many people via fear mongering hype of an imminent war in the Middle East, which they think will bring about the apocalypse. But too much of what is being said has been declared before—by these same voices—and they were wrong! Rather than listen to such things, *I actually found something far more useful to devote my thoughts and energy to.* On the Fourth of July, I was very blessed to listen to a sermon delivered by Dr. Charles Stanley of In Touch Ministries (www.intouch.org), an evangelical Baptist minister who succinctly summarized some of the problems facing the United States today. He appropriately suggested that the primary Biblical solution, to what we have witnessed, is prayer. While he did not propose a three week prayer schedule that would have coincided with the days between the 17th of Tammuz and the Ninth of Av, he did challenge his audience to pray for the next 140 days beyond the next political election, to plead for God's mercy on the United States. **I found the parallels to pray and seek God's mercy more than coincidental, and in fact providentially inspired to draw more people to Himself!**

There are many potential signs out there of troubling circumstances in the United States today. These include, but are not limited to:

1. An out of control national debt, increased by expanding annual budget deficits
2. Dramatically increasing taxation, targeted to acquire the wealth of corporations and individuals
3. A rise in unemployment, destroying a sense of security and self worth to those without jobs
4. Steady moves toward socialism, where the state owns the means of production and distribution
5. A significant restructuring of freedom of speech and of religion, by claiming hate crimes
6. Corruption in government evidenced by bribes that influence legislation and policies
7. Confusion under the guise of crisis, in order to achieve radical objectives and/or the transformation of society
8. A government that disdains a day of prayer, suggesting that America is not a Christian nation
9. Turning against the State of Israel, for misguided reasons to appease Muslim countries
10. Approving the abortion of innocent life, and requiring by law funding of abortion
11. Destruction of traditional marriage with the acceptance of gay marriage
12. Controversies associated with stem cell research
13. The ecological disaster in the Gulf of Mexico

Not all of us may agree on where these different troubling circumstances may rank, some of you may consider these more important than I do, and others of you may think that some of these being classified as “troubling” is debatable. *Some of you may want to add a few things to this list.* The overarching concerns that I have, with each one of these troubling circumstances, is that I am witnessing an accelerated thought and mindset that have relegated God and His principles to not just the proverbial sidelines or the bleachers, but has ejected Him out of the stadium. There is a growing blatant disregard for the foundational Biblical roots of the American culture, that should be recognized and celebrated on July 4th. To many Believers it suggests that He has momentarily turned His face away from favoring America. The peace of mind that is attributed to the favor of God appears to not be fully present (cf. Numbers 6:24-26).

When considering all of this, it can be quite easy to simply get depressed, down-trodden, unproductive, and defeated. But we too often forget Yeshua’s sound word, “In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). I believe that it is far more productive and edifying if we all, as Messianic Believers, join with countless Christians around the world in a concerted season of prayer for the problems of the age, and the individual issues that we each have. By dedicating our time and energy to a **Summer of repentant prayer and petition for mercy** for not only the United States, Israel, but our planet—will the Crea-

tor God hear our cries and heal our lands (cf. 2 Chronicles 7:14)?

As things appear to stand right now, the State of Israel is finding itself more and more isolated in the world community—with even American governmental leaders turning a cold shoulder and a disapproving eye, to Israel's attempts to simply maintain its existence in a hostile neighborhood. Perhaps the merciful God who watches over Israel, the One who neither slumbers nor sleeps (Psalm 121:4), will hear the pleas of His people from Israel, America, and the rest of the world. The Biblical record informs us that it is usually at times of great distress, caused by either natural disasters or human instigated affliction, that God's people fervently call upon Him for His protection and mercy!

More sobering questions arise. Is it ironic or simply by chance that the United States and Israel are the two most prominent countries on Earth that have based their laws and/or existence on the Holy Scriptures, but are under such societal trauma from within their borders and existential stress from beyond the borders? Some would suggest that these two countries are inextricably linked by Judeo-Christian principles and ethics, which helped form their national ethos, and that their mutual survival depends on maintaining a strong bond. I would submit that wicked forces (i.e., the Amalek spirit of Exodus 17:16) which have forever been trying to destroy Israel since ancient times, appear to be gaining a foothold in America. *It is certainly affecting the "policy elite," as American attitudes toward Israel change.* As a Believer in the God of the Bible, does this at all disturb you? Even more so, does the changing relationship between the United States and Israel concern you as a Messianic Believer? Are you at all motivated to pray forth 2 Chronicles 7:13-14?

"If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:13-14).

In this familiar passage originally given during the dedication of Solomon's Temple, the Lord came to Solomon at night and communicated these words. Conceivably, this admonition could very well apply at this hour of need for the United States and Israel, collectively and individually. Even if you are not an American, but whose country has always looked to the Holy Scriptures for guidance and solace, *pray for your country's healing.*

Typically, many Christians today who quote from 2 Chronicles 7:13-14 have a tendency to only focus on v. 14, as it has been used innumerable times to rally those opposing abortion or fighting other important causes. Yet, some severe and/or devastating phenomena may have to precede God's people really going before Him and pleading for His intervention.

If you think about this passage, realize that as far as the United States is concerned, the partial list of ailments I noted above is actually a result of man-made policies and choices. They are not natural disasters or "acts of God" like droughts, famine from locusts eating crops, or some plague or disease coming from bacteria or pestilence. The problems that bewail America today could become *much worse* if the Holy One decides that His people in America—or wherever disaster may strike—are simply not doing their job as His representatives. He has always expected His people to be a Kingdom of priests and a holy nation, obeying Him, and being easily recognized as His own in a world that largely does not acknowledge Him:

“‘Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.’ So Moses came and called the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD had commanded him. All the people answered together and said, ‘All that the LORD has spoken we will do!’ And Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD” (Exodus 19:5-8).

The Ancient Israelites answered back and enthusiastically responded with the affirmative statement, “We will do everything the LORD has said” (NIV)! Has this basic principle at all changed? I do not know any Believer, Messianic *or* Christian, who would argue against the Lord expecting His people to obey Him—especially if such obedience is to have a resonating effect on those who witness such obedience.

In our current time, societal problems seem to be compounding almost daily. As a ministry, we believe you need to consider entering into a special season of prayer and reflection—not just leading up to the Ninth of Av, but also from now through the next American election. We ask you to seriously consider interceding for the United States and Israel in this period of stress on the relationship between them, but most importantly for how we as the people of God, a “kingdom of priests”—and especially those of us who make up the Messianic community—are to point greater humanity to the Messiah Yeshua for salvation (cf. Isaiah 2:6; 49:6; 60:3; John 8:12).

Eventually in God’s timing the good news will be embraced by not only Believers from every tongue, tribe, and nation (Revelation 5:9, 4:6)—but by those of the House of David who will finally look upon Him who was pierced for their transgressions:

“I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn” (Zechariah 12:10; cf. John 19:37; Revelation 1:7).

In the meantime as we await this prophetic fulfillment, let us be about the Father’s work—and make sure that as few people as possible actually have to mourn when the Lord returns! The societal stress is definitely creating fields of confused and searching humanity—who are ready for harvest (John 4:34-38). So, this July and throughout the Summer and into the Fall, join with faithful Believers around the world to not only fulfill our priestly responsibilities as Messiah followers—but intercede and pray for the Lord to have mercy on us and our nations, as we confess and turn from our wicked ways and look to Him for a degree of restoration. Consider this to be a great opportunity to exercise your faith and be used by the Almighty so that others can come to Him in repentance. *Even with judgment coming one day (Psalm 19:9; Revelation 16:7), now is the day to see that others truly know Him!* May the Holy One hear our prayers and continue to have mercy on us all!

Until the restoration of all things...

JOIN THE TNN PRESS BOOK FUND

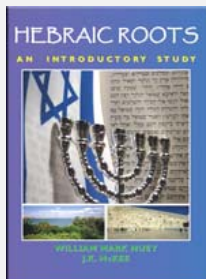


Would you like to see high quality, scholastic, and loving Messianic books like *The New Testament Validates Torah* or the *Messianic Sabbath Helper* available from major booksellers? Do you want your friends to be able to purchase these books without the “fear” of having to contact a Messianic ministry? Join the ongoing **TNN Press Book Fund** today and make this a reality!

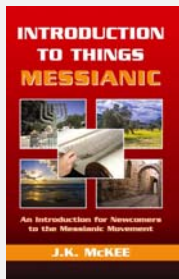
The TNN Press Book Fund is the most ambitious project ever embarked upon by our ministry. For over five years, we have been on the cutting edge preparing materials for the long-term future of the Messianic movement, ranging from introductory books to home study guides to commentaries on various books of the Bible. These publications *now* need to be able to have a wider distribution than *just* our ministry. They need to be out there to counterbalance some of the unfair and unloving materials that bring discredit to the Messianic community. They need to promote a Messianic movement that is going to be an influence of positive change in the world. TNN Press offers some of the most well-researched and theologically stable Messianic materials on the market, and it is time to see that our publications are professionally printed.

Hebraic Roots: An Introductory Study, Introduction to Things Messianic, the Messianic Fall Holiday Helper, When Will the Messiah Return?, the Messianic Winter Holiday Helper, Torah In the Balance, Volume I, and the Messianic Spring Holiday Helper are now available in paperback!

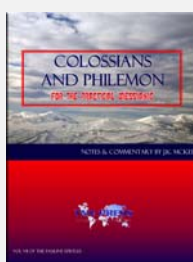
Acts 15 for the Practical Messianic is now at the printers, and *TorahScope, Volume I* and *Haftarah Reflections* are being readied for the printers.



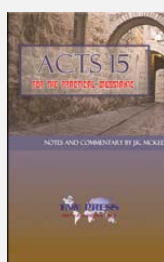
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NEW RELEASE!

Fourth of July Worship and Prayer

by Mark Huey

For citizens of the United States, the Fourth of July commemoration that recognizes the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 is an annual celebration that generates a number of mixed emotions. Great joy and admiration for the courage and strength of the signers of the declaration can most assuredly be superseded by reflecting on the Source of their inspiration. No doubt the fingerprints of the Almighty are evident as the preamble recognizing "Nature's God" is followed by these immortal words:



"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Additionally, the very Liberty Bell, that rang forth the good news that something historic had occurred on this day some 234 years ago, was inscribed with a partial quotation of Leviticus 25:10:

"And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and **proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof**: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV).

Obviously, the founders of the American Republic for which citizens stand was one nation, indivisible, under God, with liberty and justice for all. This statement is naturally a reference to the later Pledge of Allegiance that was given a final edit by President Dwight Eisenhower, who on Flag Day, June 14, 1954, added the reference to "under God" with these words:

"In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war."

This year, the Fourth of July just happened to fall on a Sunday, when many in America are first turning to church and worship, before other more secular celebrations usually involving fireworks and/or barbeques that reflect on the historical remembrance of the birthday of the United States. However, if you have some concerns that the America that you remember is being radically transformed into a country that you do not recognize, then I would recommend that you take a short amount of time to watch a video/sermon by Pastor Charles Stanley of In Touch Ministries at the following link:

<http://www.intouch.org/broadcast/this-week-on-tv>

While I am not in the habit of recommending various videos from other individuals or ministries, I found that watching this presentation was so concise and accurate that I felt it should be viewed by all who call upon the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and who specifically look to Outreach Israel Ministries for a reasonable and spiritually uplifting Messianic voice of instruction. We all know about the many rash approaches used by

some Messianic teachers and self-proclaimed prophets, who use the fear of imminent wars and hyperbolic invectives to stir up emotion and action (usually to support their enterprises), and how the credibility of the Messianic perspective has been damaged by it. This is especially true when false predictions fail to happen and the disappointed devotees either lose heart or resources because of actions taken—or worse, fall away from the faith. Lamentably, this is something we have witnessed multiple times over a period of two decades.

As a student of history and a teacher of the Bible who has studied the ebbs and flows of civilizations down through the millennia, my concern for not only our country but for my children and future generations was definitely piqued by Dr. Stanley's message. After watching this video, the compulsion to pray for our country was definitely instilled in my heart. Perhaps your viewing will do likewise.

Until the restoration of all things...



PASTORAL EPISTLES BIBLE STUDY NOW AVAILABLE!



Unlike some of the other letters of the Pauline corpus, there has been no significant demand for a detailed, Messianic examination of the Pastoral Epistles of 1&2 Timothy and Titus. Many of today's Messianic teachers and leaders think that they already know what these letters mean, and so putting out the effort of analyzing them beyond a cursory reading or survey is thought to probably not be needed. Sadly, today's broad Messianic movement is largely unaware and uninformed of a literal factory of academic proposals and perspectives, from over the past fifty years, regarding 1&2 Timothy and Titus. Much of this scholarship has affected various trends present in evangelical Christianity, the clergy of the contemporary church, and the debate over complimentarianism and egalitarianism. It is time for our faith community to join into these discussions.

This lengthy study of the Pastoral Epistles will take into consideration much of what has been offered by various scholars, not only in terms of the ancient setting of 1&2 Timothy and Titus, but also with how these epistles should be accurately applied in a modern setting. It will be our intention, as we probe these letters, to weigh our Messianic strengths and weaknesses of them, in an effort to be a faith community that is no longer lacking an adequate understanding. What are the things that we have actually interpreted correctly from the Pastoral Epistles, and what needs to be improved upon? How might some Messianic congregations and fellowships look if we took a good, hard look at 1&2 Timothy and Titus, and made a few required changes?

Be sure to be subscribed to our e-mail updates to receive this study!

KOSHER YOUR PLATE

edited by Margaret McKee Huey

It is my intention to bring our Messianic cooks timely recipes of interest in each issue of the OIM News. Here is a wonderful and refreshing Summer recipe!

Margaret's Yogurt Smoothie

1/2 cup 1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries*
10 oz water
1-cup plain fat free yogurt
1-teaspoon stevia
1 scoop vanilla whey protein powder**
2 teaspoons Psyllium husks powder
1-tablespoon flaxseed oil (Omega-3) or coconut oil

Blend until smooth! Great for breakfast or lunch. You can drink 2 a day if you want.

*Substitute fresh or frozen strawberries and

**strawberry protein powder

Fresh or frozen cherries with vanilla protein

Pineapple with vanilla protein

Peaches with vanilla protein

Cherries with chocolate protein

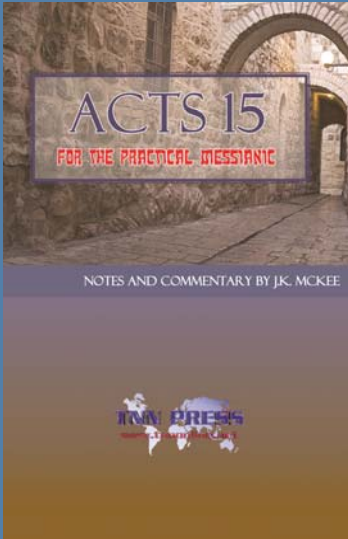
etc etc

These smoothies have about 370 calories, 35 g protein, 45 g carbs. They will really take your sweet tooth away and you won't want to snack.

Please submit your recipes to Margaret Huey at the OIM office for inclusion in this column and our upcoming cookbook "Kosher Your Plate."

A new commentary coming soon from TNN Press:

ACTS 15 FOR THE PRACTICAL MESSIANIC



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Around two decades after the ascension of Yeshua into Heaven, the message of salvation began being spread to the Mediterranean world outside the Land of Israel, and many from the nations eagerly embraced it. Was this just a bi-product of the message going to the Jewish people in the Diaspora, or was it the Father's Divine plan? What was to take place with the new, non-Jewish Believers? Did they have to be circumcised and become Jewish proselytes? Or were *all* of the Believers, regardless of their ethnicity, to come together in a new environment rooted in the completed work of God's Son? The Jerusalem Council of Acts 15 assembled to consider these issues, and it fairly ruled on what was to be done.

Too many of today's Messianics refer to Acts 15 without a great deal of consideration for the context of the events as they took place in the First Century C.E. We often assume things that

we should not assume, and we overlook things that we should not be overlooking. This study critically examines Acts 15 in detail, is engaged with current Acts scholarship, and tries to properly compare and contrast the ancient setting of the Jerusalem Council with some of what we see going on in the emerging Messianic movement today. What can we learn from all of this? What important lessons have we avoided for far too long?



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