

TZEDAKAH MINISTRIES
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Tzedakah Times

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **AS TZEDAKAH MINISTRIES GEARS UP FOR THE 2014 DAY OF PRAYER, THE PRAYER OF THIS MINISTRY IS FOUND ON PAGE 4.**
- **ARE YOU “WHOLLY” SERVING GOD? SEE PAGE 4.**
- **DREAMS AND PROJECTS ARE A PART OF THIS MINISTRY. READ MORE ABOUT IT ON PAGE 3.**

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Redefining Christian Zionism...?

During the last week of May, I was privileged to represent Tzedakah Ministries at the 4th LCJE CEO Conference in St. Chrischona, Basil, Switzerland. At the conference, I presented a paper on the need for a redefinition of Christian Zionism for the 21st century. Tough topic!

I hope you won't mind if I reproduce an edited version of what I presented with this newsletter issue. If you would like to receive a full copy of the presentation, please contact the ministry and it will be sent to you.



Defining Christian Zionism for the 21st Century

...The 20th Century, it could be argued, primarily revolves around one catastrophic event – the Holocaust. The death of six million Jewish souls, including 1.5 million Jewish children under the age of 14, is a moment in time that should never be forgotten. Aside from the tragic attempted genocide of God's Chosen Ones, the greatest loss is the fact that for some, including some of those who would call themselves Christian Zionists, the need and urgency of Jewish missions/evangelism has been lost due to the overwhelming guilt related to Christian apathy during the period of the Third Reich.

This presenter agrees that a Post-Holocaust world did something adverse to the interrelationship between Jewish mission organizations and Christian Zionists. The pictures of the dead and the stories of the atrocities created an overwhelming sense of “Holocaust Guilt” which made discussions of an eternal hell appear inappropriate. However, and as was stated in other works, that “failure to acknowledge this guilt and respond appropriately creates an entity which ‘does not deserve to call itself a church’ and ‘perhaps should cease to exist because it has ceased to be effective in its mission’ as it has abandoned the Jewishness of its beginning and the heritage of its Messiah.”

... The third organization does not actually fit the parameters of a Christian Zionist organization, but yet it is one that has a donor base that encompasses a Christian audience of 98%. The International Fellowship of Christian and Jews was founded in 1983 by Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein as an organization that will “promote understanding between

(article continued on page two)



“... the time has come for those of us who care not only about Israel but also about Jewish evangelism to declare that if one does not become proactive in reaching the Jewish people for the New Jerusalem then they cannot be called true Christian Zionists.”



Christian Zionism...? (continued)

Jews and Christians and build broad support for Israel and other shared concerns.” However, and regardless and despite the benign exterior found on the plethora of infomercials, Rabbi Eckstein is not interested in sharing Jesus as the Jewish Messiah to the people for whom his organization assists. This is evident when one considers his own words via his introduction to the Christian world in *What Christians Should Know about Jews and Judaism* (1984): “Certainly Jews will ask **responsible** Evangelicals to be especially alert to evangelizing efforts that involve any sort of manipulation, deception, or excessively aggressive tactics and **to refrain from giving moral and financial support** to the many Hebrew Christian para-church groups that target Jews for conversion (emphasis added).” Sadly, many major Christian pastors and churches, perhaps in benign ignorance, endorse Eckstein’s organization and thereby are complicit in a Christian Zionism that has lost its evangelistic mandate.

... The time for Christian Zionism to end this dichotomous approach to the Jewish people has come. Words such as “[w]e must accept each other as we are. We must candidly remain what we are” while also being evangelistic to the rest of the world must end. We must end the equivocation and return to the passionate “Spiritual Zionism” defined by Barry Horner as “circumcision of the heart” that is revealed in the “Pauline passion for the very soul of Israel after the manner of the Lord Jesus weeping over Jerusalem” and will be revealed in the “distinctive incorporation of both Israel and the Gentiles nations.”

Therefore, the time has come for those of us who care not only about Israel but also about Jewish evangelism to declare that if one does not become proactive in reaching the Jewish people for the New Jerusalem then they cannot be called true Christian Zionists. For if we do not end this Christian Zionism that not only ignores Jewish missions but also gives “comfort” to those who resist the evangelistic call, then this movement will have disgraced the mandate of Romans 1:16. And for that, we will have to answer why not only to God but also to the Jewish people who are consigned to perdition because of our lack of action.

I know the above words are strong and perhaps would be considered harsh by some; however, time is drawing to an end and 99% of the Jewish people around the world are still lost and without Messiah Jesus. Not everyone at the LCJE CEO conference agreed with me but I will stand behind my words because I believe they reflect the words and heart of Paul in Romans 1:16 and 9:1-11:36.

Acts 20:24,

Amy Downey

Tzedakah Ministries' Dream Projects

My father's favorite verse was the first words of Proverbs 29:18 — **“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”** He also defined a vision as a **“dream with a plan.”**

Tzedakah Ministries has a few dream projects that we want to share with you, the supporters and partners of this ministry. In addition, Tzedakah also covets your thoughts and inputs for these dream projects as the urgency to see these projects become an evangelistic vision is **NOW**.

The time for Jewish evangelism is now approaching midnight on the universe's clock. We must take these projects from a dream to a reality! For while this ministry recognizes that some of these dream projects could be seen as climbing a ladder to an unknown goal, the salvation needs of the Jewish people around the world demands that we begin the ascent to even more aggressive evangelism.

The **first project** for this ministry is to revamp and relaunch the ministry's radio program on Blog Talk Radio. The program, “Mystery Solved with Messiah Jesus,” ran for a few episodes at a very difficult time for the ministry and myself personally. The hope is that Tzedakah will soon be able to secure a more listener-friendly time slot and have the opportunity to promote the show on a larger



scope and for an audience of not only believers but also Jewish people who are searching for answers to “life's ultimate questions.”

The ministry's **next project** is to offer even earlier next year the option for churches to have

Jewish evangelism as the focus and aim of their Vacation Bible School programs. Crafts from creating a menorah, a Matzah Tash, or homemade shofar are only a part of the curriculum that Tzedakah Ministries has in mind for its Vacation Bible School dream project.



The **third project** is to finally finish the Sunday School literature/curriculum for churches who want to teach the meaning of Romans 1:16 for the 21st century. This project will take a great deal of time for it requires not only theological research but also the development of curriculum that will meet the needs of different kinds of teachers and learners (tactile, visual, auditory, etc.). I would appreciate your prayers on this very, very large project.

The **fourth and fifth projects** are in many ways inter-related. Kehillah, the focus of last edition's newsletter, is a call for a Christian community for new and old Jewish believers in Jesus. Connected to this is a dream to expand Tzedakah Ministries into a college realm as Jewish students are not only searching for community, hence the reason for Hillel Houses, but also for spiritual meaning in life. Through the Kehillah and the College Projects, Tzedakah Ministries hopes to reach Jewish people with the truth of the Gospel message of Messiah Jesus.

This article has not even touched on the projects related to expanding in social media! However, I do pray enough information has been provided so that you can pray regarding these ministry dream projects. Shalom!

The time for Jewish evangelism is now approaching midnight on the universe's clock. We must take these projects from a dream to a reality!



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Tzedakah Ministries' Prayer

"Father, God, you know Tzedakah Ministries' heart.

You know this ministry's weaknesses and failings.

Father, you know how much Tzedakah Ministries loves your people and wants your Chosen Ones, the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to come to see that Jesus is the JEWISH Messiah for which many have given up faith and others are trying to manufacture from

Schneerson's bones. Tzedakah Ministries is so overwhelmed at this moment because this ministry just wants them to know you. Please save the Jewish people, God. Please, help Christians and churches know that the job of sharing the truth begins with us. Lord, please use Tzedakah Ministries as your vessel of evangelism as long as this ministry has breath. Please help Tzedakah Ministries to never waver, sidestep or backstep from the truth that without you none of us, Jew or Gentile, has any hope for tomorrow or for eternity. Amen.

What Does It Mean to “Wholly” Serve God?

I am approaching the final year of my Ph.D. seminars at Liberty University. This summer, I am taking two courses: Moral Apologetics and Joshua/Judges. As with any doctoral seminar, there is a lot of reading! In fact, I rapidly am becoming addicted to coffee from all the reading! However, I am blessed by all the things I am learning.

During the readings for Joshua/Judges, I came across a verse that I have read before but never really considered the import of it all ... Joshua 14:9. This special passage is the argument that Caleb offers for being granted access to the land he requested of Moses during the Wilderness period. Caleb reminds Joshua and the others listening that he had “wholly” served or followed the Lord and it is this word, “wholly,” that has remained with me for weeks now.

The essence of this word is fullness or completeness or totally accomplished. Caleb was telling the audience that Moses, the leader who brought the Israelites out of Egypt, saw that Caleb was devoted not only to the Jewish people but also to God Himself. He had followed God when everyone else in the camp was against God's design for conquering the Promised Land. He had checked all the boxes when it came to service and devotion for God ... even when it did not make sense on a human level.

This is the kind of attitude that God wants from all of us. An attitude that “wholly” follows God's plan for our lives, especially when it makes no sense to anyone else. He wants us to focus on Him in order that we can become the person we were meant to be. This “wholly” service might involve taking on some giants, as Caleb faced, but it promises us the mountaintop experience of being completely in the will of God. For where else do we want to be?

