

TZEDAKAH MINISTRIES
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Tzedakah Times

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Have you Made any New Year's Resolutions for 2015?

I resist making resolutions. It is because they are so often broken before January is over! Tzedakah Ministries, however, has made some “resolves” that will interest you on page 3.

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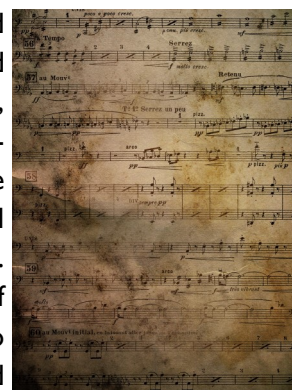
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Who Is on the Lord's Side?

Every December, I look forward to going to the mailbox. Cards from all over the country arrive, including from many of you reading this article, with such wonderful and encouraging messages. However ... I have to confess that I do have a special and favorite Christmas card every year.

The card always includes a message from a wonderful woman in upstate New York who has a garden, taught piano lessons for years, and had a wonderful husband that she still misses. Mrs. Doris' lovely card always encourages **Tzedakah Ministries** because I know it will arrive in early December ... just when the ministry needs it most. And this year was no exception!

This year, Mrs. Doris included a copy of a wonderful old hymn written by Frances Havergal (1836-1879) with the card and books of stamps that she always includes. The hymn, “Who Is on the Lord's Side,” was written only two years before Miss Havergal's death at the age of 43 in 1877. I love many of the old hymns and I remember singing this wonderful old song in the small Baptist churches that my dad pastored. Frances Havergal was also a pastor's kid and from the brief biographies that I read and was a bit of a spitfire and prone to speaking her mind. She also loved to write and moved around a great deal as a child. Perhaps she was a kindred spirit!



Mrs. Doris wrote in her Christmas card that this particular hymn came to mind in regards to **Tzedakah Ministries** because this ministry of Jewish evangelism seeks to be “faithful and unwavering.” What an honor and this hymn is going to remain on my desk as a reminder and a challenge for what must be done in 2015 and beyond!

For Miss Havergal wrote this hymn after she considered the words of Moses when he encountered the sins of the people at Mount Sinai in Exodus 32. He asked, “Who is on the Lord's side?” An interesting question that Moses asked around 1445 BC. Miss Havergal asked this question in 1877. Dietrich Bonhoeffer asked a very similar question in World War II Europe with his poem “Who Am I?” And we need to ask this question today as the clock changes from 2014 to 2015 — “Who Is on the Lord's Side?”

(article continued on page two)

To Equip His Church To Reach His People

... the Lord's Side? (continued)



The REASON for this question is because we are in the midst of a battle for Jewish souls.

The REASON for this question is because we are in the midst of a battle for Jewish souls. It is not a battle that will be without some scars. It is not a battle that will be without some injuries. It is not a battle for the timid. However it is a battle that must be fought because the “**Gates of Hell**” are waiting and we must do all that we can to share the true Gospel of Messiah Jesus with the Jewish people before they reach that final entrance!

Therefore, I love Mrs. Doris' Christmas card this year more than ever ... because of the inclusion of Miss Havergal's hymn. The first and fourth verses states the following:

Who is on the Lord's side? Who will serve the King?

Who will be His helpers, Other lives to bring?

Who will leave the world's side? Who will face the foe?

Who is on the Lord's side? Who for Him will go?

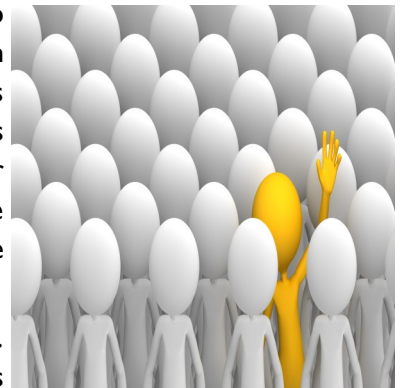
Fierce may be the conflict, Strong may be the foe,

But the King's own army None can overthrow.

Rough His standard raging Victory is secure;

For His truth unchanging Makes the triumph sure.

Tzedakah Ministries will continue “**To Equip His Church to Reach His People**” in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and as many years as Messiah Jesus allows before He returns or this director goes home to heaven. Thank you for being a part of this missions effort, not for the sake of **Tzedakah Ministries**, but for the sake of the salvation of the Jewish people.



It is not easy work. It is not always popular. It is, however, Biblical (Romans 1:16). There is only **one percent (1%)** of the Jewish world who knows Jesus as their Messiah and so we must continue this work. Miss Havergal's chorus line states it perfectly that she wrote in 1877 — “**By Thy call of mercy, By thy grace divine, We are on the Lord's side; Saviour, we are thine!**” Shalom and Happy 2015!

Acts 20:24,



Amy Downey (Director)

New Year's "Resolves" for Tzedakah Ministries

In 2014, **Tzedakah Ministries** "resolved" to set up a series of affirmations regarding the work of Jewish evangelism based on the concept of **#NoRetreat**, **#NoRegrets**, and **#NoReservations** (t-shirts are still available with the front logo below).



Nothing will change in 2015. In fact, **Tzedakah Ministries** resolves to live these set of affirmations to an even higher degree! However, and because you are such an integral and necessary part of this ministry, **Tzedakah Ministries** wants you to know what is behind each of these statements and affirmations.

#NoRetreat — There are days when the temptation to slow down and take it easy is truly appealing. However, there is no such idea as slowing down in Jewish evangelism and that is where the **RESOLVE** of **#NoRetreat** was born. This resolution states that "**Tzedakah Ministries** will never cease the work of Jewish evangelism ... regardless of the cost involved as true service to Messiah Jesus involves true sacrifice of oneself (Matthew 10:38-39)." We cannot stop the work of Jewish evangelism because at this moment 99% of God's Chosen Ones are headed to eternity without Messiah Jesus. There must never be a retreat!

#NoRegrets — I (Amy Downey) have shared in my personal testimony that I had other plans for my life — marriage, children,

money, success, etc. However, God had other plans for my life and while I still miss the idea of children and a husband, I know that His plans were better than any I could have imagined for myself. There are **#NoRegrets** in my life and this is manifested by the second **RESOLVE** — "**Tzedakah Ministries** will never cease the work of Jewish evangelism ... for Jesus is Jewish. We must return the Jewish Messiah to the Jewish People (Romans 11:11-24) as they have already waited too long to hear His message." They have waited long enough — 2,000 years! Would not 2015 be the perfect time for His Chosen Ones to hear that Jesus is their Messiah?

#NoReservations — Doubts are something that often plague many of us; however, the question of whether this ministry should exist is not in question. Christians and churches need to be equipped to reach the Jewish people with the message of their Messiah. There is such a need for Jewish evangelism, especially as the world at large (sadly even within the church) turns increasingly against the Jewish people. There is no question and **#NoReservation** about this final **RESOLVE** of the ministry. It states — "**Tzedakah Ministries** will never cease the work of Jewish evangelism ... as this ministry has been given a holy charge and the work "To Equip His Church to Reach His People" must continue until time is no more or God calls this ministry home (2 Timothy 4:6-8)."

Will you join **Tzedakah Ministries** in these resolves for 2015? Will you be one who stands with us with **#NoRetreat**, **#NoRegrets**, **#NoReservations**?





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Day of Prayer 2015!

The Day of Prayer for the Salvation of Jewish People is scheduled for 16 January 2015. You can still be a part of this worldwide effort to pray for the salvation of God's Chosen People. You can go to the official page on Facebook and sign up or you can email the ministry at info@tzedakahministries.org. Prayer Guides for the week of January 10th to 18th will be sent out at the first of the year! Sign up today!



What Does Psalm 122:6 Really Mean?

שְׁאַל, שְׁלוֹם יְרוּשָׁלַם; יִשְׁלֵיו, אֶהְבֵּיהָ.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee. (Psalm 122:6)

This is one of the most misunderstood passages in the Tanakh (Old Testament). The word translated as pray could really be understood as "seek, ask, beg." The verb in the Hebrew is also in the imperative form which means that it connotes a sense of real urgency. Therefore, this psalm sung as the Israelites traveled to Jerusalem for the three pilgrimage festivals (Passover, Shavuot, Sukkot) has as much importance in verse 9 as it does for verse 6.

Additionally, the idea of peace (shalom) does not mean the absence of war but of completeness and wholeness in the sense that they were going to Jerusalem in order to be restored/revived in their relationship with God at His Temple. Therefore, those who tell Christians and churches this verse means that all they have to support Israel is to give a little money and pray for physical peace are taking this verse completely out of context!

True peace comes by having a complete and whole relationship with Messiah Jesus. True peace for Israel come when we who have this relationship already beg/seek/ask IMPERATIVELY to God for the Jewish people. True peace and prosperity (which can also be translated as REST) for the Jewish people only comes when they hear the Message of Jesus from us who have already discovered the truth of Psalm 122:6. Let's share today what Psalm 122:6 really means. And perhaps, the Day of Prayer 2015 might be a good time to begin!

To Equip His Church To Reach His People