

Steward^{stichting} to Joseph

"...zoals de huisknecht dienstbaar was bij het openbaar worden van Jozef aan zijn broers, zo wil "Steward to Joseph" dienstbaar zijn in het openbaar maken van Jeshua aan Israel..."

"Be persistent in prayer, and keep alert as you pray, giving thanks to God, At the same time pray also for us, so that God will give us a good opportunity to preach his message about the secret of Christ". Colossians 4:2,3

With a grateful heart we look back on a God-blessed time over the last period. There were two Evangelism campaigns in Israel, in which Steward to Joseph could take part. Furthermore, a team of four brothers of "God's Grace Team" has been active in the same period in the country, spreading the Gospel. Steward to Joseph and GGT activities are closely connected. This newsletter tells you about these three outreaches.

The persistence in prayer of the supporters of Steward to Joseph is the best and most powerful contribution that could be delivered by you, to the work of the outreach groups of Steward to Joseph and the GGT-group over the last period. The message of repentance and the coming kingdom of peace of our Lord Jesus Christ is again scattered among the Jewish and Arab people. The Kingdom of Peace! Yes, peace!

Isn't that the main goal for which every man in his essence is looking? The world is brought in such great confusion by the many different ideologies and religions in which the world is divided. The person, who gives somehow account to a "higher power", becomes more and more away from the ideal of the Almighty Creator. The condition of the person, who opted for a life without God, is now so bad, that he is openly against God and even to annoy Him with their actions. Mankind does that so boldly and with great eagerness.

Because those people refuse to keep in mind the true knowledge about God, he has given them over to corrupted minds, so that they do the things that they should not do. Romans 1:28 says. Thereafter, in this section a list of evil acts and qualities, that mankind has decided to do: Brutal rebellion towards his Creator. Man seeks peace by their own means by getting a lot of money and power to reign over others. Furthermore people require a kind of freedom which exceeds all boundaries of morality. The result of all this is "war among themselves" and finally condemnation by God Himself. The wicked media shows the evidence of this result every day.

It is very sad to realize that the One to whom all humanity has a huge debt, gave Himself as the Solution for our problem and yet many refuse this Salvation. Even the Son was slain when he came with the message of repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation. He came with the only condition that man himself would have to choose honestly, to get out of his miserable state, willing to step to the narrow road of reconciliation with God the Father. Then healing, cleansing and sanctification would become reality in the lives of redeemed people. After acceptance of His grace, freedom from bondage of sin and death, one would suddenly be aware of. This was all paid by our Savior, with His precious blood. Thank You Lord Jesus! And this wonderful message has again been spread among the Jewish people, the people which we love so much. Israel is a clear example and a proof of God's great faithfulness to those with whom He has an everlasting covenant. Also for us, as believers this is a great comfort and encouragement. He is faithful! The Word of God has been brought back to Zion, by those who were first not a nation. And they have provoked the people to jealousy and 'a foolish nation brought them to anger', just as the Bible says. (Romans 10:19).

M&E participated in the "Behold your God" campaign of Jews for Jesus. This took place in May and June. It was a blessed time, as many showed interest in the message of Israel's Messiah: Yeshua. 2195 new addresses have been listed of people who wanted to know more about Him. There were many responses because of the banner which was displayed along the highways during peak hours. Praise the Lord! But with this victory we had to receive severe opposition as well. M personally experienced a hard, physical resistance, where he almost



became strangled. A few days later it became clear that his identity was known by the Yad l' Achiem. This is a group in Israel, dedicated to prevent spreading of the gospel by any means. Since a little while this group even no longer avoids serious physical violence. In a number of newspapers of Orthodox origin, M's name and origin were mentioned, as well as a picture of him was shown there. None of us should be surprised by this kind of opposition, as also Paul and the other disciples and even the Lord Jesus had to face this constantly. But the Bible calls these men enemies of the gospel, but beloved because of Gods promises to their ancestors. Therefore, we want to bless those, who have persecuted the Lord Jesus, and now persecute us, in the name of Messiah Yeshua!

In order to keep M out of the frontline for a certain period and in order to prevent unnecessary misery, the leaders of the organization of Steward to Joseph decided, together with M, to let him not lead a group in Israel for the coming year. These next twelve months, M will focus much more intensive on informing Christian churches. During this time he wants to urge believers to stand up for Gods plan with Israel. This plan is contradicts with the "roadmap" to peace, which the UN has outlined for the Middle East. But we want to stand behind God's sovereign will, pray and proclaim that: 1) the land of Israel is GOD'S country that he gave to the Jewish people. 2) The Jewish people is and remains God's chosen people 3) The Lord Jesus, Yeshua: is the only Saviour and King of the Jewish people, and also the only Way and Truth for the Gentiles. This will be announced in presentations and speeches held by the foundation. This is also the second objective of the Foundation of Steward to Joseph, which includes: informing and mobilizing the Christian world for the wonderful plan of God with Israel.

Outreach Team

P. J., our brother and friend, with whom we have been working together for many years, led the team in Israel this time, because of the reason described above. The group was well structured and consisted eight young American Bible students, three older American brothers and one dear Dutch brother. The latter, in his daily life helps people by selling them glasses to see better. These days he implemented this kind of job in a much more spiritual way. As he now tried to help people getting a clear insight into God's plan by sharing the message of salvation through Yeshua the Messiah. It is wonderful to share that at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, long conversations took place with Ultra-Orthodox people, where clearly could be stressed from Scripture that all the prophecies about the Messiah point to the Lord Jesus. Below is an initial report from Mike, but in the next newsletter, several impressions of other members of the Outreach team will follow.

MIKE (outreach member) writes:

First a brief review: ... Last Summer (2009), a small group from the U.S. was sent to Israel with one goal: God's command to bless Israel. What they found were many contradictions. To get in touch with people was sometimes very easy, but other times even impossible. They saw great joy, but also an incredible loneliness. They met brothers and sisters who love the Lord, and others who spat and threatened to stone them. But what was the result of this outreach? ... The same group this year (2010), went back and this time brought their friends. Their return was now an even deeper desire to bless the children of Israel by sharing with them the personal knowledge of the Living God!

We praise God for His faithfulness, because under His admission we experienced many wonderful meetings in this 'rocky' area. Our arrival in Tel Aviv went well. The same evening we traveled to Jerusalem to the Petra Hostel in the old city. Monday we received education from a Bible teacher who also was our guide. He gave us more insight in how to share the Gospel of Yeshua ha Mashiach in Israel. With that knowledge in our minds we traveled through the country. In Bethlehem, we visited the place where our Lord was born. Immediately we got the opportunity to share the gospel with several young people. Later in the afternoon, we celebrated the Lords supper in the garden of 'the garden tomb'. This is where many believe is the place that our Savior was buried three days and three nights, before He Alone conquered death! In the same evening we went to Ben Yehuda street (in Jerusalem) to do our Godly work. The enemy may seem smart, but fortunately many hungry hearts were ready for hearing the truth. Wednesdays we met an enthusiastic group of Dutch brothers and went together to Tel Aviv to evangelize on the beach. Through some joint sports and games we got a lot of contacts with people and could give them flyers with the Message. During the bus trip that followed, the group was divided into three parts, all over the bus. The Lord God put us right next to fellow travelers with whom we could share the gospel. From soldiers to students and managers. ...The Word was made known to all. Unto that end, we

spend much time in prayer, which is so important. Then one can be correctly obedient to His voice. After this special event, we arrived in Jerusalem, where we spent time at the Damascus Gate, the place where many Arab people pass along. We sang, prayed and preached that true peace should cover this place and these people. We were sharing the Gospel with some Arab women and left them behind in the knowledge that the Author of Life knows their past, their present and their future. We constantly reminded ourselves that we struggle the battle of faith, the battle of the Lord!

On Sunday we drove south towards Masada, a Jewish memorial. We were so grateful for our bus driver who knows the way like the back of his hand. He knew exactly the bus stops where buses stopped to let out passengers, so we were able sharing the Gospel with many. We raised the Israelis' attention by the fact that we stand behind them. Furthermore, we told them that many municipalities in the USA and the rest of the world, are also worried about Israel's position in the world. Israel can count on a lot of prayer support! A Jewish lady told her regrets about all countries that had betrayed them, but America was Israel's friend, she said. This opened the door to tell her about the friends who would never abandon them, nor would leave them. Many soldiers which we could find there are still so young, but so open. At one point we met six soldiers and six gave their all "facebook-Info (contact via the internet) and their phone number. This was way to many more meetings and if possible we remain in contact with them. During the bus rides we watched a movie about the Lord Jesus. This strengthened the vision of our mission; just as John 3:17 reminds us: "That God sent His Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world, through Him, might be saved." And further on: "how can they hear if no one is preaching to them ...?"

Finally, we worked together with "Jews for Jesus", wearing T-shirts, with the text: "Jesus is the Savior." The goal was to use this text in order to start conversations and immediately release it also as a living billboard. We had very good conversations, yet tough opposition from orthodox religious people. We hope that these two reactions may ultimately help people to get to know the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior and Friend.

In short: We have traveled over 1500 kilometers. From Eilat in the south to the northern border with Lebanon, and from the Judean Mountains to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. We saw people with inner conflict and sadness. Often sustained by lies and a poor lifestyle. We struggled and fought for Truth, which is timeless and knows no difference in persons. Through sporting together, singing songs; now and then with a laugh, we went to challenge the barrier of starting conversations. Again and again we had the ability to offer hope to those who were mentally tired and exhausted.

God's Grace Team

A group of "GGT", led by R.B. and B.S. were simultaneously in Israel with the team of P. One day they reached out together to the people on the beach at Tel Aviv. It was very encouraging for the two teams in "the field" to join together in doing the will of the Father.