

## Endeavoring to Support:

- "The Messianic Times" - Publisher
- Israel Legal Defense
- Jewish/Gentile Fellowship
- International Conferences
- Forum for Debate
- Emigration to Israel
- Dispute Mediation
- International Affiliations
- Monthly Essays
- Theological Papers

### Early Foundations:

Our Alliance was originally established in England in 1925. During the Nazi era, some of our European affiliates were decimated. The remaining groups worked together to fund the escape of many fellow Jews.

This life saving work was officially recognized by Great Britain. Our earliest leaders were honored i.e. Sir Lawrence Levinson was knighted by royal decree and Harcourt Samuel was given the "Order of the British Empire" (OBE).

In 1976, the IMJA, in conjunction with two other founding charities established the Ebenezer Home in Haifa, Israel. This institution continues today and the IMJA annually helps fund its operation. It is home to 30 individuals, without regard to original nationality, race or religion. Food, clothing, medical care and transportation are provided. About a hundred people can be seen at some of its social events and there is always a waiting list to become a resident.

Hebrew was as dead as Latin, but God promised:

*For this I will return to the people a pure language*  
(Zephaniah 3:9).

(Interestingly, there are no swear words in Hebrew. They must be borrowed from Arabic or some other tongue.)

An agricultural miracle is predicted for the arid lands of Israel:

*The wilderness and the parched land will be glad; the desert will rejoice and blossom as the rose.* (Daniel 35: 1).

Best of all, there is Jeremiah 31:31-34:

*"The time is coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."*

From these Scriptures and so many others, we know God's heart is for all Israel to be saved (Romans 11:26). We have the Lord's leading and His timing seems to be with us. We get to participate in this great Biblical event.

Doesn't it make sense that if we are instrumental in what our Lord is clearly directing, we will be blessed? Nowhere does the Bible indicate otherwise. With these – and so many other predictions by God – we can rest assured we are on the right track. So, we do what we can to lift from the top and push from the bottom, to implement God's goal. Together, we are succeeding.

In Messiah,

Paul Liberman  
Executive Director

# International Messianic Jewish Alliance

## האגודה הבין לאומית של היהודים המשיחיים

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## ESSAY # 162

### FEAR VS. FAITH

Dear Fellow Workers,

Much of our days are spent anticipating both the good and the bad that might be ahead. It's as though the voice of optimism is speaking into one ear, while pessimism is whispering into the other. Truly, our minds are a battlefield.

Before The Ten Commandments were given, and even before the Bible existed, Abram experienced these identical conflicts. However, Genesis 15:6 says of him:

*And he believed the Lord and He counted it to him for righteousness.*

Trusting in the Lord is considered to be of eternal value to our Creator. How then shall we cope with faith and doubt.

#### FEAR

Anxiety is the apprehension of an unknown outcome. It provides some of the motivation for men's drive for success, which seeks protection and provision for one's family. When a man feels respected, it alleviates his distress.

Insecurity is an uncomfortable emotion which stems from a concern about the rug being pulled out from under us. When we experience love, our fear is cast out and this provides relief.

#### ANTIDOTE

Both of these human feelings are fear-based. Neither existed before the fall in the Garden of Eden. Originally, Adam and Eve enjoyed total confidence in their Creator's care, provision and plan. Since then, we worry.

Perhaps you have noticed an irony. To our natural minds, an increased focus on our concerns seems like the way to relief. Actually, it often works out that the

## What We Do

Israel Support:

- Home for the elderly
- Humanitarian aid of goods from local warehouses
- Unwed mothers and widows
- Civil Rights Defense for Messianic Jews in Israel
- Jerusalem Headquarters utilized by Ethiopian Jewish Believers

Among the nations:

- Fostering the growth of New Testament Messianic Congregations (now numbering 750, including 120 in Israel).
- Small Ministries—Poor Countries: In many countries fund raising is not a practical possibility, especially for Jewish work. These works are volunteer efforts where even small amounts go a long way. It is our fervent wish to do what we can to facilitate Jews and Gentiles worshipping our Lord together.

Witness:

- Jewish outreach and evangelism
- New Testament Jewish roots
- Jews & Gentiles in joint worship

## National Alliances

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Colombia
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Holland
- Israel
- Mexico
- New Zealand
- Russia
- South Africa
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- United States
- Uruguay

more we obsess over matters, the worse the fear grows.

Alternatively, when we read His Scriptures, attend worship services, praise the Lord,, etc., the upbeat feelings we experience are quite beneficial. It draws us into the Holy Spirit of the Comforter, who does His work exceedingly well. This is a good time for decision making, because that's when we hear the truth. We feel less anxious and more secure.

### ROLE OF FAITH

Halfway measures won't do. A woman is either pregnant or not, we are either born-again or not. When we exercise our trust in God, it isn't that doubt doesn't exist, but we handle it better.

*Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.* (Mark 9:24)

This is largely a conscious decision on our part. Seasoned believers know that walking in faith is taking one step at a time. The more we focus on the positive, the more faith comes through. Conversely, negative thoughts will cause us to think of more reasons why Biblical expectations won't apply in the current situation.

However, we cannot plant stones in the ground and expect trees to grow. Alternatively, planting acorns could be likened to a productive prayer, in this regard.

*You ask and receive not because you ask amiss, that you may consume it on your lusts.* (James 4:3)

"Consuming it on your lusts" could refer to a prompting that comes from our spirit, rather than the Holy Spirit. That's why it is so important to commune with the Author of our faith. This is to be certain our direction is from Him.

Some put total emphasis on the Scriptures. Others find intuition and/or Providential indications as guidelines. Many people have spiritual mentors upon whose views they rely. In general, mature believers have found it desirable to have a combination.

Perhaps all of this sounds like it is without struggle. In general, it is not. However, once we know what the Lord wants us to do, we must deflect our doubt.

*Resist the Devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God*

*and he will draw near to you.* (James 4:7-8)

When your minds are troubled with doubt, consider keeping this list in your Bible, and say "I'll try to:

1. not say can't, because "*I can do all things in Messiah who strengthens me*" (Philippians 4:13).
  2. not confess lack because "*My God shall supply all my needs according to His riches and glory*" (Philippians 4:19).
  3. not think of weakness, as *The people who know their God shall be strong and do exploits* (Daniel 11:32).
  4. not reflect on the effectiveness of evil, since *Greater is He that is with me than he who is in the world* (John 4:4)
  5. resist loneliness, remembering Yeshua (Jesus) said *Lo, I am with you always, even until the end of the world* (Matthew 28:20).
  6. refuse failure, even when all seems lost, because *In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us* (Romans 8:37).
  7. dwell on fears, but confess *God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power and love and of sound mind* (II Timothy 1:7).
- (All thoughts from the contrary are not from the Holy Spirit.)

You get the picture. Choosing to remain as much as possible in a God-pleasing mode can help us to feel more content. Evangelism is a wonderful remedy. We just need to feel passion toward the work. It will come, if we get started. The basic issues of life haven't changed, only the technology.

Readers of these essays typically have a zeal for Jewish soul-winning and building up a Messianic community as an adjunct. This is because it seems like God's season for Israel. Over 300 prophecies foretell the identity of Yeshua the Messiah. Hundreds of other predictions pertain to the destiny of the Jewish people, the Promised Land and the Middle East.

In our life journey, we want as much as possible to be "in the middle of the middle of" what our Lord is doing in our generation. To many of us, Jewish outreach is central to the Biblical drama. A vision such as this is caught, not taught. As supporters of this ministry, it is likely you have grabbed onto the regathering of Israel, prophesied in Isaiah 43:5,6:

*Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east and gather you from the west; I will say to the north "Give them up" and to the south, "Do not hold them back." Bring my sons from afar and my daughters the ends of the earth.*

## Foreign Translations

The Fig Tree Blossoms is a primary book about our Movement translated into Hebrew, Russian and now Spanish. It is a 30 year old classic and explains why accepting a Jewish Messiah, foretold by Jewish Prophets in a Jewish Land is a very Jewish thing to do. Distributions of the Holy Scriptures are available in 17 languages:

- Yiddish
- English
- Armenian
- Bulgarian
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- Hebrew
- Ukranian

