

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.

of me? The more I focused, the more I valued the relationship. For example, I realized my very influential Eternal King had quietly almost secretly given me His most valued gift.

Our Spiritual Father gave what was hardest for Him. He determined that for my sake (and yours), He would solve our dying problem. This would be the most comprehensive solution for all the rest of the consequences of our sinful, defective human nature. He gave His son, as an act of love. We parents know how it pains us for our children to be reviled, slandered or physically hurt. We would rather take the abuse ourselves.

Older people tend to have too few friends. However, we have an advantage. We more easily can see the end of our days and can appreciate the future promised to us. Yes, we have an invisible friend, who never fails us.

In Him,

Paul Liberman
Executive Director
International Messianic Jewish Alliance

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in Him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed".

John 3:16 (Complete Jewish Bible)

International Messianic Jewish Alliance

האגודה הבין לאומית של היהודים המשיחיים

72-877 Dinah Shore Dr., Ste. 103-141 • Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 • TEL: (760) 668-3011 • FAX: (760) 837-0451 • Website: www.imja.com

Number 144

FRIENDSHIP

Dear Fellow Workers,

"...there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." (Proverbs 18:24)

When we are very young, it seems we easily establish close ties with others our age. Perhaps, you are old enough to recall "Cops and Robbers" or "Cowboys and Indians". We cooperated with others to bring our illusions into reality. Some little girls loved to play "Nurses and Patients" or build dollhouses together.

This was "make believe" and some of us have forgotten how to do it. Sports also provided joint activity toward some goal; it forged friendships. After all, play is the work of children. We learned some skills and tested our abilities. More importantly, we did it with others.

Later, we took pride in what we perceived was our growing strength, ability, good looks or popularity. Life began to become competitive. Cliques and social politics crept into our lives. At this stage our circle of close acquaintances began to narrow.

Most young adults begin to pair up for purposes of mating. The Scriptures mandate procreation. As we had children, we tended to gravitate to others involved in the same challenge.

There seems to be a pattern in the common experiences indicated above. The human dynamic is that friendships are frequently 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

result of being welded together with someone by working together.

King Solomon spoke in the quotation cited above, of a Godly force that expresses itself in deeds and intimacy. This revelation extends the concept offered in Exodus 33:11 wherein:

“And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face as a man speaketh unto a friend...”

The writer of II Chronicles 20:7 says that Abraham was to be God’s friend forever. So, even in these ancient times, it was understood Godly relationship extends beyond our lifetime.

An explanation of why Abraham was so singled out for friendship is given to us by James in Chapter 2, verse 23.

“Abraham believed God and it was imputed to him for righteousness and he was called a Friend of God.”

This was a commentary on Genesis 15:6, which speaks about Abraham, who believes God’s promises regardless of how things appeared. Yes, there were Messianics long ago, who looked forward to the coming of the Messiah and were willing to risk everything on that perceived certainty.

These people threw in with God’s plan even though they couldn’t know exactly what it was. It called for actions proving sincerity. Giving something up for us voluntarily is touching, especially when we didn’t ask for it.

One story in the Bible stands out as an example of human friendship i.e. David and Jonathan. In I Samuel we are told that Jonathan was convinced God wanted his friend to be King. He gave up his earthly inheritance of his father’s throne. David didn’t ask for this and it wasn’t required. Yet, Jonathan wanted to express his love for David. He was so committed to God’s will, he

performed an act of generosity still spoken about 3,000 years later.

Note in each of these examples described, there was an act of giving, proving love. There is a reason why this subject recently has become a preoccupation. Please permit this personal explanation.

After becoming a believer, over 36 years ago, it took about a year to learn there were other Jews who shared my New Covenant faith in Yeshua (Jesus) as Messiah. One of these was the leader of a group living far away. Although I admired their work, there wasn’t much contact. My work was heavily focused on the necessity of Messianic Congregations, while theirs was more overtly evangelistic.

As the years went by there were infrequent occasions when our paths crossed. I was so focused on my work that I didn’t notice that every time I asked this man to do anything, he did it. Moreover, he took an interest and did things for me I didn’t ask him to do.

Over the years, my admiration grew, for what this man had done with his life and the example of integrity he manifested. For over a year, these thoughts would creep into my mind again and again, but I did nothing. Finally, to discharge these reminders that never went away, I wrote to this person, telling him of my admiration and why.

The gracious reply was surprising in its contents. He told me he was selective in choosing his friends. He said he had wanted and tried to be my friend, but I failed to respond to his overtures and actions. However, he never gave up.

These events so much seem to parallel my experience with my God. He was my friend long before I knew it. He always did for me, even beyond what I wished. He seemed so distant, and uninvolved. Nevertheless, He kept pursuing me and never turned away from my heart’s true desires.

It wasn’t until age 29, that I realized the God of Israel was extending a hand of friendship. I had been too busy to notice. Once catching an initial signal, it caused me to wonder, why was He taking notice

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

