

# OIM UPDATE

December 2015

As another year comes far too quickly to a close, our family is forever mindful that every day we have to serve the Holy One of Israel is to be a blessing which humbles our souls. What a joy to know that at some point along our life's sojourn to know and understand our Creator, we each made the distinct decision to "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). By faith, we individually and collectively believe that in doing so, all of the things we need to live will be added unto us. Assuredly, He has been true to His Word! But lamentably, we know far too many professed followers of Yeshua the Messiah who are confronted daily with the dilemma to choose whom or what they will serve:

**"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth"** (Matthew 6:24).

Back in 2010-2011 in our transition back to Dallas—after our family's "spiritual scavenger hunt" led us by His Spirit from Honduras, to Oklahoma, and to Florida—I got reacquainted with several of my previous Christian and Messianic friends and fellow sojourners. At one point, as I contemplated our choice to follow the proverbial "cloud" and trust in Him, I envisioned some people straddling a rail fence while reaching right and left, but invariably stuck. One person in particular was actually on the post, seemingly paralyzed with only the ability to turn his head in multiple directions and talk. Immediately I discerned that although those on the fence were able to do some good, but limited works, for the Kingdom of God, their volitional choice to pursue both the Lord and mammon resulted in constrictions that afforded them relative comfort, but lack of freedom to wholeheartedly engage in whatever the Spirit of God wanted to do through them. This thought led me to reflect on this complimentary admonition spoken by Yeshua to John, regarding the assembly at Laodicea, as recorded in the Book of Revelation:

**"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. Because you say, 'I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,' and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked"** (Revelation 3:15-17).

Thankfully before concluding this reprimand, Yeshua issued a solution to those who were lukewarm and conflicted in their choice about what or whom to serve:

**"Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the [assemblies]"** (Revelation 3:19-22).

Consequently, those who have the ears to hear what the Spirit is declaring, will "overcome" their fleshly desires influenced by the world, the flesh, and the evil

one:

“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever” (1 John 2:16-17).

We each have an opportunity, if being led by the Holy Spirit, to be conformed to the image of the Messiah Yeshua, who was the epitome of a person consumed by His zeal for accomplishing the task before Him—especially as He was the sacrificial Lamb of God, providing atonement for the sin of humanity:

“Because for Your sake I have borne reproach; dishonor has covered my face. I have become estranged from my brothers and an alien to my mother’s sons. For zeal for Your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me” (Psalm 69:7-9).

But hope always springs eternal, and by the grace of God, I have been led over the past five years since returning completely to the Dallas area to find a group of relatively young zealous followers of the Messiah, who I believe are going to be used by the Lord to turn this area “upside down” for the Kingdom of God. Uniquely, my time spent in weekly prayers for the city’s transformation over the past four years, and the providential network of fellow Believers I have known for decades, has me in a position to be used by God to assist in these efforts. Accordingly, this month’s lead article entitled, “**Revival: A Generational Shift,**” communicates what I see the Holy One of Israel preparing His body to experience in 2016 in the DFW area, and I also pray throughout the country and world.

Nevertheless, as our service to the Almighty expands, Outreach Israel Ministries and J.K. McKee’s Messianic Apologetics continue to require your prayerful and monetary support, to complete the many tasks we have been commissioned to accomplish. Personally, Margaret and I both know that John, in particular, is one of the Messianic community’s **next generation of teachers**, who will bring scholarly, balanced, and loving instruction to the entire spectrum of Believers who are zealously seeking the face of our Heavenly Father. This is why a number of years ago we formed the **Theological Defense Trust**, to encourage those with the financial means to support our many writing projects. Additionally, due to the ever-increasing demand for solid teaching, we continue to send written materials to incarcerated souls through the **Prison Ministry Free Book Fund**. Your faithful support of our efforts to serve those who in many cases, could be considered, “the least of my brethren” (Matthew 25:40), is greatly appreciated.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider making a contribution to our efforts this last month of the calendar year 2015, so that we can continue to bless the seekers and those in need of sound instruction from the Word of God. In so doing, we believe the Father of Lights will not only allow you to co-labor in our endeavors, but bestow upon you His favor in the anticipated restorative/revival year to come! (James 1:17).

*“The LORD bless you, and keep you; the LORD make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace” (Numbers 6:24-26).*

Advancing His Kingdom, until the restoration of all things...

Shalom and blessings,

Mark Huey

# REVIVAL

## *a generational shift*

by Mark Huey

Back in the middle of November, I was included in the first formal gathering of about forty ministers from various Christian denominations, who were being introduced to how, through a concerted and focused effort, they could collectively take the gospel of the Kingdom of God to the greater Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex. I deliberately sat in the back of the auditorium in order to survey the crowd for various individuals I have known from years of pursuing the Holy One of Israel in this area since 1978. Ironically, although I recognized a few people, the overwhelming majority of men and women were without the thinning gray-white hair which currently adorns my head. If I had to make a guess, I would estimate that the average age was around 35-38. While this did not bother me at all, because unless I look in the mirror, my mindset is generally of a twenty-eight year old, the age I was after a year of coming to know Yeshua the Messiah. But because I had spent from 2010-2014 praying weekly with the principal organizer of the meeting for the spiritual transformation of the Dallas area with the 2020 Summer Olympic bid as a catalyst, I was truly amazed by how much he had learned and matured from his calling to bring revival to our nation.

Additionally, I was hoping to reconnect with a young man in his late twenties, who I had spent two hours with ten days earlier over coffee, because he was the person who had the original vision for what has become over the past month or so coined **reviveDALLAS!** When I first heard about what was envisioned by this youthful minister through a dear friend who I helped coordinate **Youth JAM (Jesus Amazes Me)** at Reunion Arena in 1993, when 10,000 young people showed up, I was perplexed. After all, the timing of what has been further labeled **"The Great 50 Days"** was going to begin on Christian Easter Sunday and conclude on Christian Pentecost. My initial concern was that in 2016, the Christian calendar and the Hebrew calendar do not coincide, so that when Easter is observed, it usually occurs near the Passover week, as is generally the case in most years. I thought it would be good to point this out to these zealous young people—if for nothing else but clarity about when God's appointed times (Leviticus 23) were being held in the Jewish and Messianic communities of faith. But because I did not push my observation with what I thought would be a "teaching moment" upon my prayer partner, or seek to lovingly instruct the visionary I had just met, I simply waited upon the Lord, and watched from a distance what was going to transpire. Since September-October, the vision for revival was communicated to the revivalist organizer and those present, what I believe is going to impact this region like nothing I have ever witnessed in my walk with the Messiah of Israel is going to take place in 2016. It was not difficult for me to conclude that after many years of pursuing the Lord, that Isaiah best summarizes why our finite knowledge is best reserved to instead depend upon the infinite wisdom of our Creator:

**"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without**

accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:8-11).

Who was I to believe that my understanding of the Hebraic and Jewish Roots of our common faith, should be interjected at this time to these two young men? Instead, as I prayed about what was forming in the hearts and minds of those young people in the city, I surveyed the calendar for 2016, took into my consideration the responsibility I have to organize a **March of Remembrance** for Holocaust survivors and their descendants on May 1, 2016 in Dallas, and just marveled how the Holy One can indeed, if He so desires, cause all things to work together for good. But in the larger context of this often-quoted Scripture, we find so much more about what the Holy One has done, is doing and will do for us:

“In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*. And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His purpose*. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to *become conformed to the image of His Son*, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who is against us?**” (Romans 8:26-31).

Among the significant benefits of being born from above is the reality of being conformed to the image of God’s Son. From my experience of being a born again Believer in the Messiah of Israel for over thirty-eight years, I recognize that the conformation process is *not* instantaneous. We each tend to have many fleshly inclinations, worldly influences, and demonic challenges to be delivered from—as we learn to daily offer our corporeal beings to Him as a living and holy sacrifice, hopefully emitting a pleasing fragrance of the Messiah to God, an aroma of “life to life” unto Him (2 Corinthians 2:15-16):

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is your spiritual service of worship*. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith” (Romans 12:1-3).

Thankfully, back in 1991-1992, during a season of testing and trials, I was led to read a book by Arthur Wallis written in 1956 entitled, *In the Day of Thy Power*. In this volume, where the author concentrates on the history of revival both Biblically and primarily in Great Britain and America, there was an anonymous statement printed between the title page and introduction that defined “success” from a spiritual perspective. It moved me to the point where I took it to heart, framed a copy to hang on my wall, and made a commitment to contemplate it often. The concise definition of “success,” by this unrecognized writer, was simply this:

***If you would make the greatest success of your life, try to discover what God is doing in your time, and fling yourself into the accomplishment of His purpose and will.***

For the past twenty-three years, after I decided to wholeheartedly choose to serve God rather than the pursuit of “success” as defined by the world of wealth or mam-

mon (Matthew 6:24), and end up being a double-minded man (James 1:8), the blessings have been immeasurable. In fact, since my marriage to Margaret in 1994, we both pray for more faith all the time, and as true favor from the Lord, I have been blessed with a wife who has the gift of faith (Proverbs 18:22). But beyond those blessings, we as a family have sought with all our hearts to discover what God is doing at this point in human history, and believe without a shadow of doubt that He is currently in the process of accelerating the prophesied “restoration of all things” (Acts 3:19-21) for His chosen vessels. What a blessing to witness, especially when we are seeing some of the final prophecies of the Tanakh (Old Testament) occurring:

**“Remember the law of Moses My servant, *even the statutes and ordinances which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel.* Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to *their* children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse”** (Malachi 4:4-6).

For the first time since the First Century C.E., the Messianic Jewish influence which prevailed from the Yeshua generation to a substantial part of its immediate descendants, has become relevant, with the post-World War II “baby boomer” generation of Jews, and in recent decades, many non-Jewish Believers led into a fuller understanding of the roots of the faith. But the pioneers of faith movements are not necessarily equipped to build upon the foundation they have laid. Hence, for those of us who are in the sixth or seventh decade of life, it appears that the time has come to pass the baton of leadership to the next generation—a generation which is widely unencumbered with arrows of affliction that have fostered barriers and impediments for basic survival, and in some cases control of the movement. Now as the spirit of restoration and revival is being poured out on this younger generation, the old wineskins are just not capable of handling the new wine. Consider this parable spoken by Yeshua to the “old guard” of ecclesiastical elite, who was unable to adapt to the revelation that was coming forth from Him and His dedicated disciples:

**“No one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost and the skins *as well*; but *one puts* new wine into fresh wineskins. And it happened that He was passing through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples began to make their way along while picking the heads *of grain*. The Pharisees were saying to Him, ‘Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?’ And He said to them, ‘Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions became hungry; how he entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar *the* high priest, and ate the consecrated bread, which is not lawful for *anyone* to eat except the priests, and he also gave it to those who were with him?’ Yeshua said to them, ‘**The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath**” (Mark 2:22-28).**

Notice that the Pharisees who questioned the Messiah were unable to understand some of the basic elements of the Torah, because of a number of their human traditions, which made feeding the famished disciples an abrogation of what they considered to be proper Sabbath observance. Yeshua directly corrected their misapplication of the Torah, and pointed to an example of David’s companions not only in need of food, but who even ate the consecrated bread set aside for the priests of Israel. Obviously, the Messiah was not breaking the tenants of what should or should not be done on the Sabbath, but pointing out to His detractors that even on the Sabbath, it was certainly legitimate for those in need of sustenance to obtain it. This does not mean that people even today should disregard the opportunity to honor and observe the

*Shabbat* rest, the first of the appointed times (*moedim*) listed in Leviticus 23:1-3. But it does establish the precedent that in the case of sustaining life, whether it was David's companions or Yeshua's disciples, formal Sabbath regulations are secondary. The Yeshua generation was mindful of the precepts, and ordinances of the Torah—but they were also being led by the Spirit of God, and were able to properly understand the heart of God's Instruction, not making it an unnecessary burden.

The historical pattern of the old guard questioning the methods and actions of another generation, freed up from some of the old thinking and traditions that the established ecclesiastical order can be too locked into, always creates some challenges that need to be addressed. This is especially true when the heart of the current generation wants to go to the highways and byways to proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom of God. *They recognize that every kingdom must have a king, and they absolutely affirm how Yeshua the Messiah is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.* With that understanding and mindset, they are receiving their instructions on how to present the reality of the Kingdom of God from the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit. It is the Teacher, Comforter, Helper, and Spirit of the Most High who they are listening to when it comes to taking the Word of truth to the lost generation from whence they have come. They see their peers in absolute disarray, with the world seemingly out of control, and they know without any hesitation that the only solution to the quandary of life that their generation is struggling with is the hope of salvation provided by the blood of the Lamb of God. They innately understand from their own personal experience that when they assess their own journeys, they came to the conclusion that they were bankrupt and in desperate need of a Savior. Hence, they confessed their sin, received the forgiveness provided by the atonement, repented of their wicked ways, responded to the mercy offered by their Heavenly Father, and then, filled with the love of the Messiah and led by the Holy Spirit, they simply want to share that love with their family, friends, and to all who will believe. *Eternal life and the hope of living forever with God is quite a motivation!* And this “revival generation” has been called and is preparing for the task at hand.

Personally, I consider it a tremendous privilege to be among those who are hearing and responding positively to the call to take the gospel of the Kingdom of God to yet another wicked and perverse generation. It is my concerted prayer that those in my generation (the baby boomers) will not in any way impede the thrust or the zeal of this current generation, which, perhaps providentially, has been labeled by some, as the “Millennial generation.” This shift in leadership will not come easy for many of those who have been established with congregational and ministry responsibilities in the past. But one thing that has surfaced which is very encouraging by the younger men who I am acquainted with, who are in position to lead the charge, they have the wisdom of respecting and honoring their elders, and are making a genuine effort to consult with those who have spent more time in the trenches fighting the spiritual battles which are always present, no matter what generation you come from. By the grace of God, these young people understand some basic principles about how the spiritual world works. Already they are counseling with their elders, because they know that in so doing, their odds for success in reaching the lost is enhanced:

**“Where there is no guidance the people fall, but in abundance of counselors there is victory” (Proverbs 11:14).**

Because they are hearing from the Holy Spirit, they appreciate the basic understanding that through the aging process on anyone's spiritual journey, there is wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of how the Holy One works with and through His beloved children. Hence, as young men and women, they know they have the strength to

take on the assignments they have been given, but also know that beyond the forgiveness of sin as children in the Messiah, they concede that “the fathers” have some wisdom to impart, and are actively seeking the counsel of their elders in the faith:

“I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name’s sake. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever” (1 John 2:12-17).

In my interactions with these young men, I am convinced that they are *not* fence sitters. They have made the decision to serve the Holy One of Israel, and not at all be worried about the acquisition of wealth or mammon or fame or notoriety. They seem to fully grasp the proverbial concept that “**the fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls**” (Proverbs 11:30). I am excited to not only watch what the Father is going to do among them, but even as a hoary-headed father who has been zealous for the anticipated restoration of all things for decades—I relish the thought of participating in the outreach to the mass of humanity that is desperately seeking answers, to soothe and redeem their souls. I am more than confident that there will be a measure of success, albeit with the frustrations that occur with any move of the Holy Spirit—not only by the enemy of our souls—but unfortunately, among many of those “old wineskins” which are unwilling to molt or shed their old skins and instead, “be wise as serpents and gentle as doves” (Matthew 10:16).

Over two decades ago, our family believed by our choices and ministerial actions, that we “discovered” what God was doing at this point in human history. For those years, we have closely monitored what has been transpiring among both Messianic people and evangelical Christian Believers, who all claim to be pursuing the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, through His Son Yeshua, albeit in different and unique ways. Our “cross-examination” ministry has had us focus on the tasks at hand, to bring to the Body of Messiah what we believe is sound Biblical instruction that we pray will be useful to advance His Kingdom on Earth, as we anticipate the eventual return of the Messiah to rule and reign from Jerusalem. Now that we are approaching what I envisioned to be a “**freight train of revival**” slowly heading toward our region, I am encouraged to note that the Prophet Joel still considers me a “young man,” because I was not dreaming a dream, but instead, was seeing in my mind’s eye this move of His Spirit approaching along a winding track without any impediments in its way:

“Thus you will know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and there is no other; and My people will never be put to shame. **It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.** Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days” (Joel 2:27-29).

*The generational shift is coming, whether we want it or oppose it or simply want to ignore it.* But when we see His Spirit being poured out on all who are willing to receive it, a people who will not be shamed, and will instead, joyfully embrace the full-

ness of their Hebrew heritage—then we will all be much more prepared to welcome the Messiah Yeshua, when He returns to rule, reign, and judge the world in His righteousness:

“Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, and He will not judge by what His eyes see, nor make a decision by what His ears hear; **but with righteousness He will judge the poor, and decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth;** and He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. **Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, and faithfulness the belt about His waist**” (Isaiah 11:1-5).

“Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, **God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead**” (Acts 17:30-31).

The Holy One expresses delight not in our presumed sacrifices or “burnt offerings,” but instead He delights in our steadfast love, kindness, goodness, and “loyalty”—qualities which are best epitomized by freely choosing to serve Him rather than self, the world, the acquisition of wealth, or anything else that competes for our attention:

“O Ephraim, what shall I do with you? [says the Lord] O Judah, what shall I do with you? **For your [wavering] love and kindness are like the night mist or like the dew that goes early away.** Therefore have I hewn down and smitten them by means of the prophets; I have slain them by the words of My mouth; My judgments [pronounced upon them by you prophets] are like the light that goes forth. **For I desire and delight in dutiful steadfast love and goodness, not sacrifice, and the knowledge of and acquaintance with God more than burnt offerings.** [Matt. 9:13; 12:7.] But they, like [less-privileged] men and like Adam, have transgressed the covenant; there have they dealt faithlessly and treacherously with Me” (Hosea 6:4-7, The Amplified Bible).

A revival train is coming, engineered by a zealous new generation, which has the wisdom to ask their fathers where some of the curves, grades, and dangerous crossings are on the tracks, which should be expected from years of traveling the narrow way. *Are we going to jump aboard?* Or are we going to end up on the cowcatcher? For all who have the eyes to see and the ears to hear, this move of His Spirit is certainly going to be a trying, yet learning, time. Our dependence upon the Almighty is going to be tested like no other time in recent memory. Ultimately, a Body of Messiah represented by passenger cars attached to the Yeshua engine, will be loaded with unimaginable numbers of new travelers—who by His grace and mercy, have heard the gospel proclamations, confessed their sin, received forgiveness and mercy, repented without reservation, and filled with His immeasurable love!

If a timely, generational shift comes in 2016—then may the Holy One of Israel, the Almighty Creator God, receive *all the glory* for what He will do by the power of His Holy Spirit resident in the hearts of these called out ones. May this be a generation which seeks nothing more than that the Kingdom of God would be as real on Earth as it is in Heaven (Matthew 6:10), and can experience what Yeshua told His Disciples *after* He recommended they deny themselves, lay down their lives, take up their cross, and follow and serve Him:

“And He [Yeshua] summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, **‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and**



follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? For what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this **adulterous and sinful generation**, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Yeshua was saying to them, "Truly I say to you, **there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power**" (Mark 8:34-9:1).

After all, with the "birth pangs" of the Messiah's return being discussed incessantly on the evening news, Internet, Twitter feeds, and YouTube videos—Yeshua clearly articulated to His Disciples what to expect, as the End of the Age would approach and the gospel of the Kingdom would be preached to the whole world as a testimony to *all* the nations:

"As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will these things happen, and what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?' And Yeshua answered and said to them, 'See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name, saying, "I am the Messiah," and will mislead many. You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end. For **nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs.** Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another. Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. **This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come**" (Matthew 24:3-14).

For the older generations of faithful souls, who will be either participating or watching (or God forbid, opposing what I believe is going to take place in 2016), let me conclude with this final exhortation. We each have several choices to make. First, we need to fall on our faces and seek the Lord in prayer and supplication, in order to discover what He is doing in our time! Then, if you discern that this generational shift is from the Holy One of Israel, you need to choose whom you will serve and just how you are going to serve Him (Joshua 24:15). It is highly recommended that you do so with all your heart and loyalty, rather than some casual sacrifice or burnt offering. Our Heavenly Father wants each of us to actually *be* a living and holy sacrifice, which places his or her body on His altar daily (Romans 12:1).

***The time for revival is coming.*** A generational shift is upon us. The choice is ours. *Are we ready? Are we willing?* He is able and willing, and in the end, everyone who has the privilege to be a part of what the Holy One of Israel is doing will do nothing more than praise His Holy Name and give Him *all* the glory for what He has done, is doing, and has promised to do! Hallelujah, Messiah Yeshua!

Come quickly, for blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. *Barukh ha'ba b'shem Adonai* (ברוך הַבָּא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה).

# MESSIANIC APOLOGETICS UPDATE

December 2015

Dear Friends:

I can remember some of the anticipation that I had six years ago in December 2009, when we were preparing to enter into the 2010s. This December 2015, we are preparing to enter into the last four years of the 2010s, and as such we



should be considering a variety of critical and probing questions. Individually: *How far have I progressed as a Believer in my understanding, appreciation, and implementation of the truths of God's Word?* Corporately: *How well can we address and approach the theological and spiritual challenges of the day?*

I entered into 2010 with a huge series of expectations for myself personally, as well as a teacher and writer. Many of the issues that I have wanted to research and write about, I have been able to see addressed. There are, to be sure, many more things on my list, but even those issues—over the past five or six years—have seen some preliminary writing produced, at least in FAQ form. The two most unanticipated things which took place since 2010 by far, were our ministry and family relocation from Central Florida to North Texas (2012), and more recently the transition from TNN Online to Messianic Apologetics this past Summer. It is hardly surprising for me to say that I wish some things like the *Messianic Kosher Helper* (2014) or *Messianic Sabbath Helper* (2015) had not taken as long as they did. And, I do wish that there would be a greater selection of YouTube video podcasts available as well—something that I have made efforts the second half of this year to see remedied!

While I have stressed in the past how all of us are a part of an “emerging Messianic movement”—which we do not quite know what it will *emerge into*—most of us have a significant witness of the Spirit that what the Lord is doing in this hour through our faith community is something very critical and vital, to culminate in the return of Yeshua. When you see Jewish people come to faith in their Messiah, and non-Jewish Believers embrace their Hebraic and Jewish Roots in a very tangible way—there is a **huge amount of potential and power** to be seen when the virtues of both Judaism and Christianity can be employed for the Kingdom of God. We also know that there are various forces, external and internal, which want to see salvation history deterred.

I try not to make predictions regarding what the period of 2016-2020 will bring. That there will be new work to do, with new challenges to be overcome, is a given. That there might be unanticipated things, both good and bad, is also likely. How we facilitate a sense of stability for God's own, with a tenor of moving forward in spite of the battles to come, is up to the decisions of each one of us, as we are guided by His Spirit. We will need to see greater improvement in our obedience to those critical commands *to love God and love neighbor*. And, we will need to exhibit more temperance and patience, as we place what the Messiah has accomplished for us, in being sacrificed for our sins, as **the most important thing**. If we can properly center ourselves around what He has done, then we should be able to handle and overcome the challenges of the future!

Until next month...

J.K. McKee