

Proclaiming
Jesus



In a
Distinctly
Jewish Way

Rock of Israel Ministries



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50+
over 50 years



Ministry Pres. Robert and Carrie Specter

February 2024: Here's an update of the ministry in the past month.

We LOVE encouraging notes! Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com

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***** Special note to Gmail users *****

1) Please check your Spam or Promotions folder each month
Sadly, sometimes email servers send our newsletter there.

2) Gmail sometimes shortens our newsletter!
If so, then click this at the bottom.

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The South Florida Fair Highlights



Last month we completed our first outreach of 2024. It was at a smaller county fair in West Palm Beach, Florida. While it is one of the smallest fairs we do all year, it is also the one with the highest concentration of Jewish people who need to know the Messiah of Israel.

Here are some highlights from our staff (Robert, Doug, Greg & Pat) who manned the booth for seventeen days.



* A man and woman stopped to look at our rings. I asked if they were Jewish. The woman said that she was "very Jewish." The man said that he was not Jewish. He then asked me what I was. I said a "Messianic Jew". I explained what that meant. He then hinted to her to 'listen to him'. She indicated that she was not open as she browsed our items, but then surprisingly also asked a minute later if there was a messianic congregation in the area. I said "Yes!" I did offer her a book which she politely declined, but then said, "Happy to see you here" as they left.

* I met a Jewish believer who was dealing with anger because of the persecution and murder of Jewish people. She was looking at our earrings; but didn't buy any and walked away. After she left, I felt that I should buy her a pair. I found a pair, walked, found her, and gave them to her. She began to cry, saying that she needed to know that God cared and that this showed her that He in fact did.

* A man stopped by and excitedly said, "I bought the best book here ever last week!" (Turns out it was our Messianic Jewish Study Bible, which is a Bible with Messianic Jewish notes.) He also said, "I can't put it down. I have been spending four hours a night in it."

* I had a Jewish woman come to the booth asking if we had an evil eye protection necklace. She was confused when I explained that's not in the Bible. She was not a believer, but she said she was "one hundred percent Jewish". She did buy a ring, and she took a testimony book when we offered it to her.



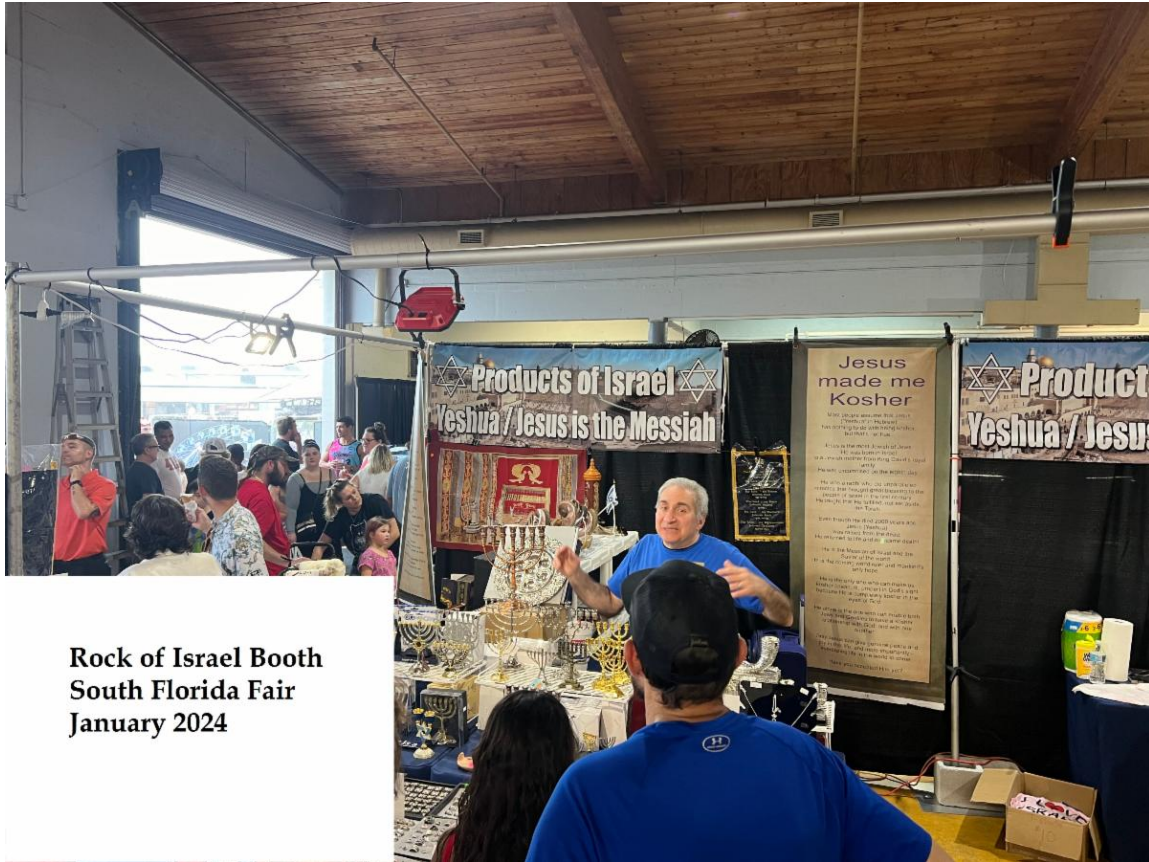
* We had some major drama at our booth on Saturday night. A Palestinian man (loud and possibly drunk) came to our booth and said, "**** your booth. **** you, free Palestine!" and strode away. We remained silent. A random person was standing nearby looking at our table and she called him a slur. Of course, what the woman said was wrong, but this happened near our booth and so it involved us. It all happened so fast. It was a crazy moment. He was screaming, shouting, swearing, and physically threatening the woman and her husband in front of our booth. The Palestinian guy was ready to hit the husband. I went out of the booth to protect our products and to encourage them to go outside. The woman was crying. It was a mess. Another vendor had called security for us. Security came with three policemen and escorted out the guy who initially cursed us. The police wanted us to explain the situation with their body cams on. A new age vendor near us said he felt that man had bad energy when he talked to him earlier.

* A Jewish lady bought two bracelets. She took a book we offered her on the Biblical prophecies. She said she was "all about the Old Testament." I told her, "Yes, this book points to the Jewish Messiah from the Old Testament."

* A Jewish guy read our 'Jesus Made Me Kosher' sign. Susan (Greg's wife) boldly asked him what he thought. He said he did not believe it was true so Susan asked him if he would be open to reading a sheet of Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by Jesus in the New Testament. He said yes and took the flier. He then shot back, "Why don't the rabbis believe" to which Susan responded, "Would you like a free book of 12 rabbis who have come to faith in Jesus?" He said he did not want the book on the rabbis but would check us out on the internet.

* This is a sweet story. On Friday afternoon, an Orthodox family came by. I told the mom what we were about. She had an Orthodox Jewish

look with three teenage girls, and they all took the bookmarks we offered and free ROI rubber bracelets. The mother smiled at me. The oldest teenager, very friendly, said to Susan and I, "Good Shabbos." (meaning Good Sabbath). I hope that this is a step forward. Since the October 7th attacks, we have been, in my opinion, more a part of the Jewish community, not the enemy anymore.



Rock of Israel Booth
South Florida Fair
January 2024

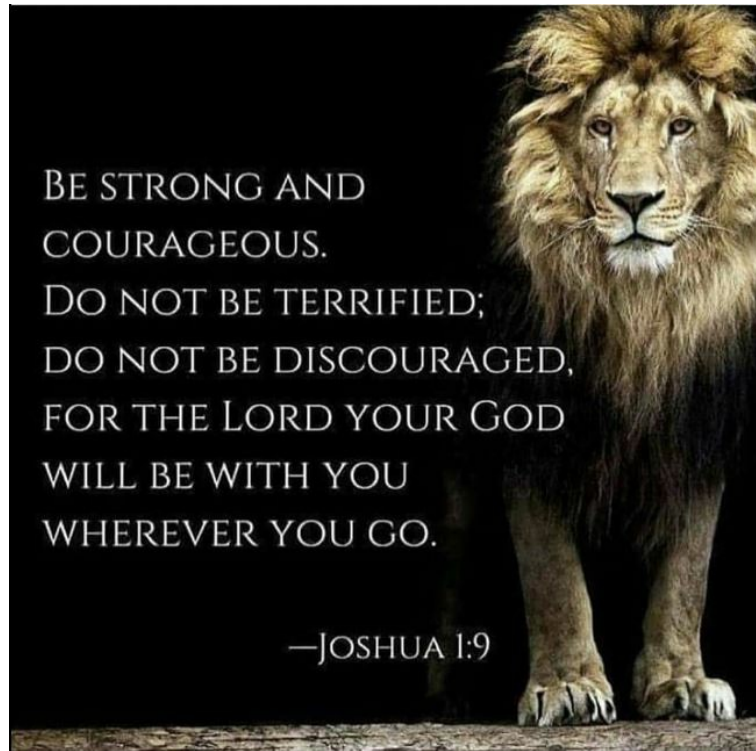
* A Jewish woman from New York (where I am from) bought an "I Love Israel" tee-shirt. I explained that I grew up in NY and am now a Messianic Jew. Then she leans in and whispers to me, "He went up on the cross as a Jew, and He came down as a Jew." I replied, "That's true."

* A couple stopped at the booth and I asked if they were Jewish. He said only she was. I asked if she was from New York and she was (as I am). I told her what a Messianic Jew was and I asked if she would read a book of testimonies of Jewish people who came to faith in Jesus. She said sure. When she saw Sid Roth's name on the cover (the man who edited the stories) she said, "I've heard his name before!" I said he has been on TV for many years sharing the Messiah.

These are just some samples of the many dozens and dozens of encounters we had over 17 days. Pray for our next outreach at the Florida State Fair in Tampa later this month.

February reminder:

Be strong



Rock of Israel staff invited to share our work on Moody Radio



Last month our own Greg Savitt was invited to share on a local Florida Moody Radio station about our outreach at the South Florida Fair. Greg shared about how our booth attracts many Jewish people and

how we are able to tell them about how we are Jewish and also believers in Jesus.



A few hours later, we received this note from a Jewish believer who felt inspired by Greg's interview. She wrote:

“Hi, I heard you on Moody Radio and felt so inspired. I am the only Jewish believer in my entire family and nobody listens to me. It is also very hard to talk to Jewish family members about Jesus when they barely know Father God or believe in Him either. I stand alone and apart from all family and friends in my beliefs, but love Jesus with my heart and soul, and I'm so grateful I somehow got to the cross as a Jew. Thank you for your ministry.”

To listen to Greg's interview click here:
<https://www.moodyradio.org/radioplayer>

This month's offer:



We have a wide selection of Mezuzah

What is a mezuzah? Read the article below and find out.

<https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/collections/mezuzahs>



"A summary of every Jewish holiday: They tried to kill us, we won, let's eat!"

- Alan King

TRIVIA

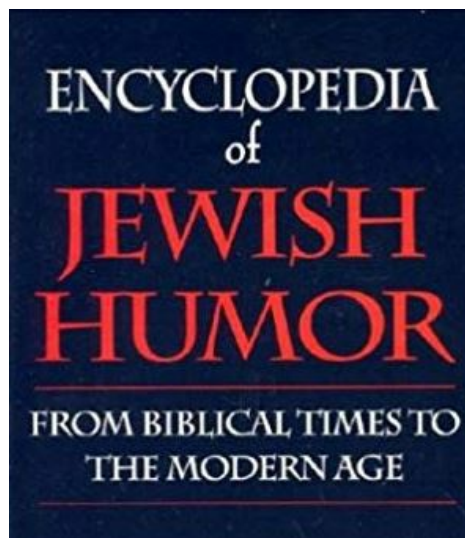
C H A L L E N G E

THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA:

What percentage of Israel's population is Muslim? (excluding the West Bank and Gaza).

- A) 3%
- B) 8%
- C) 15%
- D) 30%

Answer near bottom



This Month's Jewish Humor

At the local Hebrew School, the Rabbi just finished the day's lesson. It was now time for the usual question period.

“Rabbi?” asked little Samuel “there's something I need to know.”
“What's that my child?” Asked the Rabbi.
“Well according to the Scriptures, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?”
“Right.”

“And the Children of Israel defeated the Philistines, right?”

“Right.”

“And the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?”

“Again you are correct.”

“What I need know is this...” demanded Samuel. “What were all the grown-ups doing???”



What is a Mezuzah?

If you have ever visited Israel or visited a Jewish home, odds are that you will see something like this on their doorframe. It is called a mezuzah and religious Jewish families place a mezuzah on their door as one of the very first things they do whenever they move into a new home. The word “Mezuzah” literally means “doorpost”.



It all goes back to what Moses told the children of Israel to do:

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts..... Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (abbreviated)

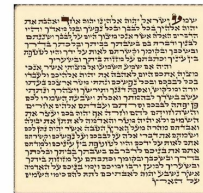
God wanted Israel to place His Word everywhere. After all, the more we see of His Word – the more our memory is reminded of who God is.

The Jewish community takes this command quite literally and places a small Hebrew scroll into the Mezuzah case and then affixes it to the upper third of the doorframe of the front door. This is done on the right side and with two nails. It is usually placed on an angle with the top pointing into the house. Perhaps this is to show visually that God’s Word is honored inside this house.

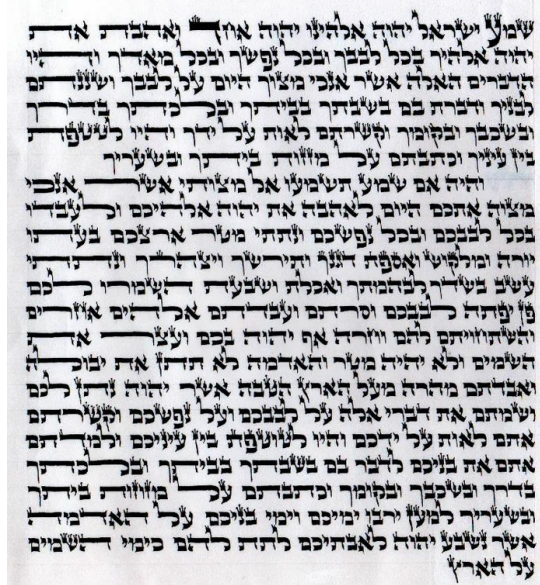
Today, in Judaism, this command has grown into a mezuzah being placed in every single doorway of the home - with the exceptions being the bathroom and small closets.

The mezuzah is actually made up of two parts. The scroll itself and the holder.

The scroll never changes. Upon unrolling it, you will see in Hebrew the words of Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21. The Rabbinic authorities say that it has to be written by a scribe (a trained Hebrew copyist) to be “kosher”, but not all follow that rule.



The second part is the outer casing and that can be made up of any material, from metal to plastic. The designs can be very plain or quite ornate. Technically speaking, it is not the case that makes the mezuzah special, but the Biblical text inside.



One common feature that almost all Mezuzah's (plural is Mezuzot) have is the Hebrew letter "Shin" on the top. This is the first letter in one of the important names of God – "El Shaddai".



Sadly, many of the Jewish people look to the mezuzah to protect their house from forces of evil. One Jewish website even encouraged using a mezuzah to protect the inhabitants from Covid!

COVID-19

MEZUZAH PROTECTION

INITIATIVE

According to one study, approximately three-quarters of adults in Israel believe that the mezuzah literally guards their houses.

Even today, when we are at the State Fairs and someone wants to buy a mezuzah they will sometimes ask, “Will this protect my home?” Our answer is a firm “no”. God protects people and property – not superstitious objects.

No Talisman should be trusted in; that is what pagans do. We should only look to God for protection.



B"H

Chabad
SOUTH SHORE

Buy a new
Mezuzah,
or have yours
checked today!
Complimentary
installation and pickup!

Mezuzah

the gift of
protection
for your
**home,
business**
and beyond

A Mezuzah is a small parchment scroll upon which the Hebrew words of the Shema are handwritten by a scribe. Mezuzah scrolls are rolled up and affixed to the doorposts of Jewish homes and businesses.

But objects dont protect us!

Ultimately, the mezuzah is just a reminder.

Today, many believers in the Messiah will put beautiful scripture

verses upon the walls of their homes. This is a blessing to see and ultimately fulfills the same principle of the command God gave to Moses for Israel - let God's Word be seen everywhere.



QUIZ ANSWER:

Answer - C. About 15% of Israel's population is Muslim.

We are thankful for your support each month to do this work.

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with tens of thousands of donors.**

We are a small ministry - seeking to do BIG things for the Kingdom of God.

Our office staff is waiting and ready to help you with any questions you might have. 513-874-2566.



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