Proclaiming **Jesus**



In a Distinctly Jewish Way

Rock of Israel Ministries



PO Box 18038 Fairfield OH 45018 Call us: 513-874-2566 Since 1971





Ministry Pres. Robert and Carrie Specter

June 2024: Here's an update on the ministry in the past month.

We LOVE encouraging notes! Rockofisraelministries@gmail.com

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*** Special note to Gmail users ***

- 1) <u>Please check your Spam or Promotions folder each month</u>. Sadly, sometimes email servers send our newsletter there.
- 2) <u>Gmail sometimes shortens our newsletter!</u> If so, then click this at the bottom.



Our Summer Outreaches Begin This Month



"...and the wise man wins souls." Proverbs 11:30

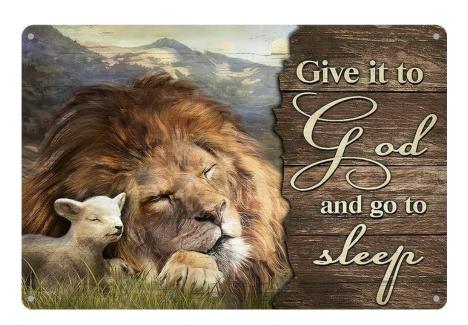
Our summer State and County Fair outreaches begin this month. The first fair of the summer begins on June 12th in San Diego and runs for 22 days. We have a very ambitious calendar with a "Products of Israel" booth to be set up in San Diego, Dallas, Toronto, New York, Maryland (Wash. D.C.), Sacramento and more!

The Fairs usually run 16 - 22 days on average. Our staff (and volunteers) will be talking with thousands of people at these events. Some stop for a minute to talk, others stop for much

longer. However, we try to share the Lord with all people in our conversation, literature, and signage.

Please pray as the situation in Israel may give us undesired "accusations" with people who stop and want to tell us their opinion of Israel right now. Also, we expect a greater rapport with Jewish people who see "Israel Products" as "their" products, therefore we must be their friends (even though many Jewish people think that we can't be Jewish since we believe in "Jesus").

June reminder:



An Amazing Testimony From a Previous Fair. An atheist turns to God.



This is an actual email that we received in the past from a Christian named Roger, who stopped by one of our Fair booths.

Robert Specter, president of Rock of Israel, who was manning the

booth that day, shared with Roger how his father (raised in an orthodox Jewish home) was challenged by someone to "ask God" if Jesus was the Messiah. This motivated Roger to send a note to his Facebook friend named "Rick." The following is the result of what then happened:

(Note: Any typo errors are the way they happened.)

Roger to Rick:

... I met a Messianic Jew last night at the fair and he said that his orthodox Jewish father came to believe Jesus was the Jewish Messiah because someone challenged him to pray a prayer. So, if you are truly "open" then I will ask/plead/ ask for a favor of you, to say the same prayer. He prayed WITH SINCERITY, God, if your Son is Jesus the Christ please reveal Him to me.

That's it. Would you do that for me? please, what can it hurt? If He is not real anyway and you are right, What will it matter? Just so you know, I am praying that God reveals Jesus to you and that He helps you with interpreting the Bible. Also, I'm praying that TOONIGHT when you lay your head on your pillow that you will ask God this question.

Rick to Roger:

Prayed it.

Roger to Rick:

You made my day !!!!!!!!!!

I've been praying all morning that you would.

Thank you God !!! I'm trusting God, that you will see his hand working in your life.

Man, I'm so happy right now.

:) rog

Rick to Roger sometime later:

I'm going to be sending this letter to a few people in the next few days but I wanted YOU to be the first to know brother.

I wanted to take time & let you know what's happened to me. On Monday morning my journey into atheism came to fruition. I declared to another person that I was, in fact, an atheist and that I didn't believe God was real. I had come to conclude that God was the creation of man rather than man the creation of God. I believed I had finally liberated myself from the superstitions of my upbringing & was free to live out my higher self. As my Monday continued I gradually entered a state of mind unlike any I have previously experienced. I felt empty,

alone & apprehensive. As the day progressed these feelings and thoughts intensified. I was in what can best be described a dark & cold abyss.

Tuesday morning came and my feelings migrated to total hopelessness & despair. I begged the God I didn't believe existed to reveal Himself to me so that I would have no doubt of his existence and what he wanted from me. After making this plea two partial verses of Scripture came to my memory. They were, "be still and know that I am God" (Psalms 46:10) and "so then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). I knew that something supernatural was unfolding. I wrote down the two partial verses and sat still. As I sat a third partial verse came to mind. It was, "There is a way that seems right to man but the end thereof is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12). I realized the absolute truth of that Scripture.

As I sat still, walked the floor and pondered these three partial verses a fourth came with bluntness & authority, "You must be born again" (John 3:7) and a fifth followed, "God is not willing that any should perish." (2 Peter 3:9) I was now at about the second or third hour of this process. I had to stop and rest. The experience was exhausting both physically & emotionally. At about two in the afternoon the process began again. To my surprise a sixth partial verse came, "I came to give you life" (John 10:10).

My unbelief, rebellion and antagonistic attitude began to give way to brokenness & the beginnings of faith. God Himself had brought me to the precipice. Two final partial verses came to mind, "There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10) and "repent & believe the Gospel" (Mark 1:15). I listened to an audio recording of the Gospel of John. I listened to the first nine chapters and could no longer resist.

At 4:17 pm. on Tuesday, the Holy Spirit quickened saving faith within my being & led me to confess, renounce & repent of my sin. I asked the Creator and God of Heaven and earth to forgive me, I placed my whole trust in the gracious, undeserved work of His Son, Jesus and God birthed a new creation.

I apologize to each of you who I have offended with my antagonistic & sarcastic attacks on Christianity and thank you for all the kindness you've extended to me. I will be meeting with a small group of local believers tonight here in Nixa. I have no idea what the future will bring but I can't wait.

I'll close with the full text of one of the partial verses the Holy Spirit gave me, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Thank you for praying for me.

Thank you Roger......thank you. :-)

Roger to Rick:

Bro, God and you just made a 48 year old man cry. I still have tears in my eyes right now.! I don't know if I can continue to keep working today. I am SO happy for you and your family





Since we have ads running in Israel (and other countries) 24/7, we get emails from people who are not too happy with us declaring Jesus (Yeshua) is the Jewish Messiah.

In Israel, they call us "missionaries" and that is a term used in a derogatory way. This fellow (or woman) was certainly anxious for us to hear their threat. Thankfully, almost all threats are just them venting their emotions. This message was sent to us last month via our website... anonymously, of course.

Message to us: You thought the jews blind? That we don't see your missionary work? That's the beginning of the end for u. You knew this day will come

This month's offer:



Michpacha Handpainted Ceramic Mug

Michpacha (pronounced Mish-Pu-Cha) is a Yiddish word meaning family. Used like this, "Wow - You brought the whole Michpacha!"

Mug says, "You're like family" (in Yiddish).

Normally \$10 now \$4 clearance! (plus S&H)

https://www.rockofisraelstore.org/products/mishpacha-coffee-mugmeans-family



"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new. "

~~Albert Einstein

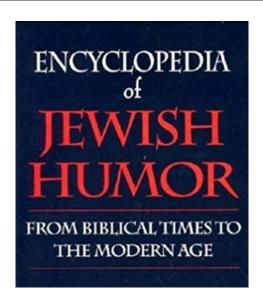


THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA:

Which one is NOT in Jerusalem?

- A) Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum
- B) The Tower of David
- C) Masada
- D) The Western Wall

Answer near bottom



This Month's Jewish Humor

In Philadelphia, the following sign was in the window of a business:

"We would rather do business with 1000 terrorists than with a single Jew."

Ordinarily, this might be cause to get the anti-hate groups involved but perhaps in these stressful times one might be tempted to let the proprietors,

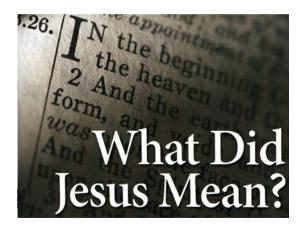
Goldstein's Funeral Home

simply make their statement.

We never know where we may meet a Jewish person



Last month our staff member Pat met another vendor at the Florida Home School Convention who happened to be a Hasdic (Ultra-Orthodox) Jewish man. They spoke a few times as Pat shared about the Messiah, but he simply said that he "respects all religions" and so that is where it ended.



He Taught Us To Hate Our Family, Right?

One of the many verses that Jewish people will use to say they could never follow Jesus is this one.

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be My disciple." Luke 14:26

Are they correct? Jewish people exclaim, "God taught us to love and honor our parents in the Torah, not hate them!" So was Jesus teaching something opposite of that? God forbid.

The issue here is what we call an idiom. For instance, in America, when we say, "It is raining cats and dogs outside" we know for certain that no animals are falling from the sky, but rather it is an expression used to describe a heavy rain. That is the same situation here. The love and hate used here have nothing to do with the human "emotions" of love and hate. In the Bible, they mean 'more than' and 'less than'.

The 'hating', used in Luke 14:26, clearly means "loving less" and is shown by the parallel passage in Matthew 10:37:

"He who loves father or mother **more than me** is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

So in the Bible, **hate** means loving someone less than the other. We see this by Matthew clarifying the same concept told by Luke. Loving God as compared to your parents (or anyone) should be "less than" (or like hate) in comparison to how much you want to love God.

QUIZ ANSWER:

Answer - C Masada is near the Dead Sea

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We are <u>not</u> a big "world-wide" TV ministry 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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