



## Miracles that follow the plow :: Jewish Testimonies

### Jewish Testimonies - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/8/14 20:25

Hi everyone! I recently came across the website Jewishtestimonies.com and it is so encouraging to read the testimonies of Jewish people who have come to faith in Jesus as the Messiah. JewsforJesus.com is also a great resource.

Will start this thread off with the testimony of Stan Telchin who wrote a book entitled : "Betrayed!" in 2007...

"My parents fled from Russia to America in the early 1900s to get away from the pogroms. In 1924 I was born and I began to learn about Jewish ghetto life from early childhood. One day I was called a "Christ killer". I didn't know what that meant, but it was the hatred in the accusation, which frightened me. I ran home, crying "Mummy, Mummy."  
• She calmed me and said, "Don't cry. Let me tell you something very important that you have to learn. There is "us", the Jewish people, and there is "them", the goyim, the Christians. They hate us and we have to stay a way from them. Everything is all right now. We are in America and you are safe."

Shock

In 1948 I married Ethel David, a friend from junior high school. Two daughters, Judy and Ann, were born and I became highly successful in the insurance business. Twenty-six years into our marriage, we had a very large home complete with swimming pool, four BMWs and a full-time housekeeper. Then my world felt like it had suddenly come apart when Judy, by then a student at Boston University, phoned me and told me with great caution that she had come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah. I was speechless, outraged and I felt betrayed. How could a child of mine join the enemy?

Challenge

A few weeks later Judy came home for her vacation. We talked and talked and finally she challenged me, "Daddy, you are an educated man. Read the Bible for yourself and make up your own mind. It is either true or it is false and if you read it carefully and ask God to reveal the truth to you, He will." Immediately I decided to read the Bible to prove that Jesus is not the Messiah and win her back! The very next night, I picked up the New Testament for the very first time. I was prepared for a book of hate aimed at the Jewish people, but I found it to be a book written by a Jew, for other Jews, about the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and the Messiah He sent to His people.

For Jew and Gentile

I read the accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and then the Acts of the Apostles. Here I read about Peter, reluctant at first, going to the house of a Gentile called Cornelius, a Roman Centurion. Peter was told that Cornelius had had a vision in which he was told that Peter would tell him about God. Upon this, Peter began to speak in his home about the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and about Jesus, the Messiah. While he was speaking something totally unexpected happened: the Holy Spirit fell upon Cornelius and on all the Gentiles that heard the words. Peter and the Jewish believers who were with him were astonished. Afterwards Peter went to Jerusalem and explained at a meeting of apostles and other Jewish believers what happened. At his report, they also realised that Jesus the Messiah must be for Gentiles as well as for Jews!

Thorough study

I had many questions, "Do I really believe in God? Do I believe that the Tanakh is God's word to us? Does the Tanakh contain prophecies about a Messiah Who is to come? Has anyone ever lived who fulfilled these prophecies? Did Jesus fulfil them?" The next months were filled with study. I read the entire New Covenant (New Testament) and a good portion of the Tanakh. I obtained books about Jewish religion and Jewish history. I talked to rabbis. I studied the Messianic prophecies in the Tanakh. I didn't know how many there were, but came up with a list of over forty of them and it staggered me to realise that Jesus fulfilled each and every one of them!

Promises

Of particular significance to me was Jeremiah 31:31-34, where God promised to make a New Covenant with the Jewish people! How could I not know of this promise? Then there was Proverbs 30:4 which spoke of God's Son; and the 22nd Psalm which revealed Jesus hanging on a tree; and Isaiah chapter 53 which explained that our sins were placed upon Him and that He was punished instead of us; and Daniel 9 which prophesied that Jerusalem would be destroyed along with the Temple by the prince who would come after the Messiah had been killed! By now I knew when that had taken place. It was in the year 70! I was stunned.

Whom do you worship?

Once I decided to attend a meeting of Messianic Jews. Here I met a woman, who asked me to read Exodus 20:2-3 aloud. I read, "I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me." She said, "Tell me, who is your God? Is He the God of our Fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob or are you worshipping false gods like your business, your home, your wife, your children?" I was struck by her question and realised that I spent a good part of my time thinking and even worshipping these things. Yet I almost never thought about God or considered worshipping Him.

Family united

The pressure within me kept building. I knew that in my heart I believed that Jesus is the Messiah, but I was afraid of the consequences such a decision would have on my life. I argued with myself and raised the objections of the Crusades, the Inquisition, the Pogroms and the Holocaust. Nevertheless, on the inside I would hear, "Yes, but it's true! Jesus is the Messiah!" July 3, 1975 at 7:15 in the morning, the pressure within finally found its release. It burst forth from my lips. Jesus is our Messiah! He is my Messiah! I do receive Him as the Lord of my life! When I told my wife, I found out that she had already repented and accepted the Lord Jesus as her Messiah and Saviour and had just been waiting for me to come to the same realisation! Now our whole family was united again.

Search the Scriptures

I invite my readers to do exactly what I did. With an open mind search the Scriptures specifically the Messianic prophecies and be honest with your findings. You have nothing to fear from the truth. Indeed, you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

**Re: Jewish Testimonies - posted by docs (), on: 2019/8/15 11:05**

This is very good. I have found similar sites. There are approximately 400 Jewish Messianic synagogues worldwide and this is unheard of since the days of Christ and the commencement of Jewish blindness. We are among the first Christian generations in almost 2,000 years to be able to gaze upon a Jewish nation in the very same land as their forefathers. That doesn't mean they are in the clear because they are still coming to the time when the nation will have to go to the mountain again and wrestle all night until their natural strength is exhausted. But PTL everywhere of Jewish testimonies of coming to Christ.

**Re: Jewish Testimonies - posted by Renocer, on: 2019/8/17 5:26**

Here's a bunch of video testimonies of Messianic Jews:

<https://www.oneforisrael.org/category/bible-based-teaching-from-israel/video/israeli-testimonies/>

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/8/21 13:31**

Isaac Lichtenstein was born in 1824 and passed on in 1909. He was a Jewish Rabbi who became a believer in Jesus and stayed among the Jews as a missionary to his own people, openly proclaiming that Yeshua is the Messiah.

from [jewishtestimonies.com](http://jewishtestimonies.com):

Isaac Lichtenstein was not quite twenty years old when he became a rabbi. After officiating for several years in different communities in northern Hungary, he finally settled in Tãpiãszele. There he served the local Jewish community for nearly forty years.

Early in his career, a Jewish teacher in the communal school of his district casually showed him a German Bible. Turning the leaves, his eye fell on the name "Jesu Christi". He became furiously angry and sharply reproved the teacher for having such a thing in his possession. Taking the book, he flung it across the room in a rage; it fell behind others on a shelf where, dusty and forgotten, it lay some thirty-odd years.

#### Anti-Semitism and the New Testament

Then during a fierce wave of anti-Semitism in Tiszaezlár, situated on the Tisza, thirteen Jewish people were thrown into prison. They were accused of killing a Christian girl in order to use her blood for ritual purposes. As in every other case this satanic accusation was false and baseless. Strangely enough, it was this incident which first drew Rabbi Lichtenstein to think that there had to be something in the teachings of the New Testament that stimulated the enmity to the Jews.

While he was browsing through his books, he saw in a hidden corner the New Testament that he had thrown there in his anger some thirty years ago. He picked up the book and all kinds of memories flashed through his head. The bitter experiences and grief that made him suffer since his youth by the hand of people that called themselves Christians.

It was no wonder that Lichtenstein held the view that Christ Himself had to be the plague and the curse of the Jews. It was remarkable therefore that the exact anti-Jewish crime in Tiszaezlár, where many misused the name of Christ as a cover for their practices, drove the Rabbi to read the Brit haChadashah {Hebrew for "the New Testament"} for the first time.

#### New though familiar

After some hesitation Isaac Lichtenstein opened the book, turned over its leaves and read. "Immediately I was captured by the greatness, power and glory of this Book, formerly a sealed book to me. All seemed so new, yet also very familiar. It was like the sight of an old friend who has laid aside his dusty, travel-worn garments, and appeared in festive attire, like a bridegroom in wedding robes." Lichtenstein could come to only one conclusion, "Yeshua is the Messiah!"

For some years Rabbi Lichtenstein kept these convictions to himself. He began, however, to preach new doctrines in his synagogue, which both interested and astonished his hearers. At last he could not contain himself any longer, preaching one Sabbath about the whited sepulchre, he openly avowed that his subject was taken from the Brit haChadashah. Subsequently he spoke of Yeshua as the true Mashiach, the Redeemer of Israel.

Ultimately he embodied his ideas in three publications, which created a tremendous sensation among the Jews, not only in Hungary, but also throughout Europe. No wonder, for here was an old and respected Rabbi, still in office, calling upon his people to align themselves under the banner of Yeshua of Nazareth.

#### The true Judaism

As was inevitable, a storm of persecution broke loose upon him. Lichtenstein, who was counted among their most noble leaders and teachers, was now portrayed as a disgrace, an apostate that had sold himself to missionaries. He had to appear before the rabbinate in Budapest, but Lichtenstein did not give in. He explained that he found in the Brit haChadashah the true Judaism and would remain as before with his congregation. In spite of many persecutions and reproaches he continued to teach and to preach from the Brit haChadashah.

To Christian organisations that sought his services, he had but one reply, "I will remain among my own nation, I love the Messiah, I believe in the New Testament but I am not drawn to join Christendom." He remained among his own brethren, to plead with them to behold in Yeshua the true glory of Israel. For over twenty years Rabbi Lichtenstein witnessed in many parts of Europe to the truth of the Messiah.

At last the storms of controversy, of misunderstanding and antagonism, began to tell on him. His spirit, however, remained undaunted. About this time he wrote, "Dear Jewish brethren, I have attained the age of eighty years. When others of my age are reaping with joy the fruit of their labors, I am alone, almost forsaken, because I have lifted up my voice in warning. I am become a butt of mockers who point their fingers at me. Yet while I live, I will stand on my watchtower though I may stand there all alone. I will listen to the words of G-d and look for the time when He will return to Zion in mercy and Israel shall fill the world with his joyous cry, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He that cometh in the name"

e of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/8/24 19:37**

The testimony of Rabbi Sam Stern:

I was born during World War I and grew up in a strict orthodox Jewish home. My father was a devout rabbi and his overriding desire was to make one of me, too. My family lived in a little town near Warsaw where Jewish and Polish families lived, divided by culture, language and religion. Growing up I inevitably came into contact with Gentiles. Sometimes they threw stones at me and shouted "Jew, Jew."

My mother told me, "They are Christians and Christians are Jew-haters, but when our Messiah comes we shall be the head and not the tail. Then we will go back to the Promised Land and no one will persecute us any more." "But when will the Messiah come?" I asked. "We don't know the exact time, but He will come some day." This hope accompanied me all my life, it gave me power to endure the suffering and humiliation from my Gentile neighbours.

Holocaust

In September 1939, World War II broke out. I had just received my rabbinical diploma called "Smicha" that past summer. The war however destroyed all my plans. Within six years, six million Jews, among them one million children, were murdered. One third of the world's Jewish population was annihilated.

When in May 1945 the War was over, I was in a concentration camp. I had survived and had high hopes of seeing my relatives again. To my great sorrow I learned that all my loved ones had perished. I came to realise the bitter fact that I was alone in the world without a friend. "Why God," I asked desperately, "why were You silent in these terrible times for Your chosen people?"

Great conflict

I decided to go to America in the hope that I would forget the dreadful past and start a new life. In 1952 I went to Rhode Island, where I worked as an assistant rabbi. However, there was a great conflict in my heart. I had lost faith in mankind and in the rabbinical legends and teachings. I felt miserable knowing that I, as a rabbi, was teaching the people things that I did not believe myself. I knew that the Talmudic teachings, sayings, scholastic debates, laws, rules and regulations were really of very little significance to us. I saw that 2,000 years of Talmudic, Chassidic, cabbalistic and worldly teachings could not save one Jew from destruction. I realised that we needed a really solid spiritual truth.

The true teaching

One day I came into contact with a missionary on the street who told me, "The Lord sent us to the Jews to let them know that God loves them and wants them to be saved." "What do you mean saved? How can you speak about love after the Holocaust?" I asked. He smiled and said, "I know how you feel, but real Christians love the Jews and all those who harm them are no true followers of Christ."

I retorted, "Weren't all those who carried crosses and had pictures of saints in their homes, yet organised pogroms against the Jews of Europe, weren't they Christians? Weren't the churches in Poland and Ukraine the main source of anti-Semitism? Didn't the priests incite their people against the Jews?"

He looked at me and said, "The Lord teaches us to love our enemies, to show love to those who hate us. All those who do not obey His teachings are not His followers." Then he gave me a Yiddish New Testament and said, "Read it and you will find the true teaching of Christ."

Great revelation

In the next few nights I had much to read. Every line was a great revelation to me. Beginning with the book of Matthew, I was surprised to read that Jesus is of the lineage of Abraham and David. I also noticed that on nearly every page it says, "As it is written," which means that it was written in our Jewish Bible, the Old Testament. It became clear to me that this book called the New Testament is actually the fulfilment of the Old Testament.

## Isaiah 53

The same missionary brought me into contact with a Jewish believer. Together we read the Yiddish New Testament. After a while he told me about a poem called "The Sufferer". He started to read it and asked, "Who is the subject of this poem? Who suffered for our sins? By whose stripes are we healed?"

I answered, "It probably refers to Jesus Christ." Then he said, "I just copied out and read to you the 53rd chapter of Isaiah. He was the one who wrote about the Messiah." Imagine my surprise and shock. I did not know Isaiah 53. The only conclusion I could reach was that the main reason so many rabbis and other Jews don't know the Messiah is that they don't know the Bible. The same evening I went back to him and told him that I believed in the Lord Jesus. We knelt together and prayed for the forgiveness of sin and for salvation. As a repentant sinner I accepted the Lord Jesus as my personal Saviour.

Peace, joy and happiness

What a change came over me. I was so happy! I felt a peace, joy and happiness that I had never known before. I was a new person. When I came home I read Isaiah 53 over and over again. It became clear to me that this prophecy expresses God's glorious plan of forgiveness, reconciliation with God and salvation clearer than perhaps any other passage of scripture. I was baptized and eventually became a preacher of the Gospel. Ever since that day it has been my one desire that others of my fellow-Jews should also come to know the One spoken of in Isaiah 53.

Source: Messiah. Five Jewish people make the greatest discovery. Penfold Books 2001, England.

### Re: Jewish Testimonies - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/8/27 8:53

Rabbi Gurland wrote: "I have lived in two entirely different worlds, first as a Jew, and then as a Christian; first in a limited world of doubt and superstition under the fearful curse of the law; then, by the grace of God, I penetrated from darkness to light, from death to life. Since that time I have been privileged to be a messenger of the Gospel, the good news of the free and joyous grace of God in Messiah Yeshua, proclaiming the reconciliation which is in Yeshua, both to Jews and non-Jews, for I am a debtor to both."

"Chaim Gurland (1831-1995) was born in Lithuania, where he grew up in Vilnius as the son of a zealous rabbi. He was not yet five years old when his father taught him from the Word of God. Soon he was able to read the Holy Scriptures himself. One day he saw a picture of the crucified Messiah in a biblical narrative. He was touched by it and wished to impress it on his mind. He therefore sneaked into the attic and made a copy of the picture. This took many hours and his parents went in search of him. At dusk his father, shaken and disappointed, suddenly stood beside him. In his eyes Chaim had committed a terrible crime. He rebuked his son severely and gave him a good hiding.

Doubts to the Talmud

Still Chaim was destined to become a rabbi. After three years of study he was inducted, but he saw the days of his induction as the most terrible, most unhappy day of his whole life. He had great doubts as to the divine origin of the Talmud, but in obedience to his parents, Chaim became a rabbi, knowing well that it could not satisfy him. Although his conscience troubled him greatly, he accepted the call to be rabbi.

However he could not endure it for long. In the synagogue he publicly preached against the Talmud and challenged his hearers to a discussion, but no one accepted his challenge. The Chief Rabbi demanded a revocation but Gurland refused. He remained in office for another two years, but then had to leave.

Search

For some years he made a meager living as a private teacher. Then, one day, a Jewish peddler brought him a Hebrew New Testament in which the rabbi read for the first time the Sermon on the Mount, the epistles of Paul and other passages. His reading led to fresh doubts and great sadness came over him. His search ended with a pastor in Kishinev in Moldavia, who was in contact with many Jewish people. Their acquaintance led to an agreement: Pastor Faltin would give

x-rabbi Gurland drawing lessons and German lessons if Chaim would help him to read the Bible in Hebrew.

Isaiah 53

In the course of their reading they came to the fifty-third chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah. Although it is one of the most wonderful portions of the Bible, this chapter is never read in the synagogue. Gurland therefore asked Pastor Faltin not to read it. Pastor Faltin said patiently: "I shall pray that God may give you courage to be willing to know His saving truth."

From that time the rabbi could not help thinking about that remarkable chapter, and felt it was cowardly to be afraid to know what God had revealed in it. At their following meeting Rabbi Gurland expressed his willingness to read the fifty-third chapter with him. But first of all the pastor read to him the story of Christ's sufferings as contained in the New Testament. When they read then the 53rd chapter of Isaiah, Rabbi Gurland had to admit that the chapter was a perfect picture of what Jesus had suffered at Calvary.

Jesus the promised Messiah

Together they read the Holy Scripture regularly and eventually Chaim Gurland desired to confess the Lord Jesus Christ in immersion. The excitement and indignation of the Jewish population was terrible, when they heard about this intention. They even threatened him with the death if they dared to go through with it.

When pastor Faltin asked the rabbi whether he would not prefer to be baptized quietly in the manse he answered without hesitating, "No, Jesus the Messiah is a living, mighty Saviour. He can protect me; but even if He does not, I am willing to suffer and die for Him."

When the day of the rabbi's baptism arrived, the church was overcrowded with both Christians and Jews. The minister preached about the Messiah who came to seek and to save that which was lost. Before the baptism, Gurland gave a short address, in which he stated how he received the heavenly light through reading the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah, and that he believed Jesus of Nazareth to be the promised Messiah and Saviour. The Lord himself had calmed the raging hearts and during the act of baptism and the rest of the service everything was quiet.

Called to his own people

To his joy the Lord called Chaim, or Rudolf Hermann as he was called since the day of his baptism, to go out as a missionary to his own people. He showed many Jewish people the way of salvation and led many Jewish brothers to see that the Lord Jesus is the Messiah. Also he spoke in many churches about the work of the Lord amongst the Jewish people. He was able to sow love for the Jews and for work amongst them in the hearts of many Christians."

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2019/8/27 17:52**

Thank-you for posting these testimonials. They are uplifting and encouraging to read how the Holy Spirit draws people to himself, even against their own will!

God bless.

Sandra

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/8/29 10:41**

"John Moses Levi was born as the son of a Prussian couple. Soon after his birth his father died and his mother, now a young widow, was supported in his upbringing by her father, rabbi Benjamin Eppstein. When he was nine years old, he left with his grandpa for Jerusalem. The old rabbi adopted him as his son and gave him his name Eppstein.

Study of the Talmud

Learning Hebrew and studying the Talmud were his passion and when several of his friends came to believe in Jesus Christ, he became more fanatic. At the age of sixteen he even went about with a dagger, determined to kill his cousin Laur

ia. Lauria, who was a rabbi, received Jesus Christ as his Saviour and God used him to get John to read the Prophets and eventually, the New Testament.

Eyes opened

His eyes opened to the truth that Jesus of Nazareth had to be the promised Messiah. John put the Talmud aside and threw himself on the Word of God, the Old Testament as well as the New. In his own words, "My convictions deepened daily. I longed to openly confess the Lord Jesus, but I didn't have the courage to give up all for Him."

At the local synagogue he was the only Levite, so it was his duty to read from the Torah.

As he was going up to the desk his sash caught and the tracts that were hidden in it fell out on the ground. When the bystanders saw the tracts, they yelled to him, "Apostate! How dare you desecrate this place! Were you going to read the Torah like that?!" The whole congregation began beating him and he narrowly escaped being murdered.

Missionary

John fled, gave his life into the hands of the Lord and found a safe place in the house of Christian brothers. On July 13, 1844 he was baptized. He stayed for some years in Cairo and then went to Malta where he studied theology for five years. His first post as a missionary was Baghdad and after that he worked from 1867 until 1885 in Smyrna, where many Jews were born again. During his missionary career he baptized more than 260 Jews.

John Moses Eppstein had friends amongst the rich as well as the poor. People looked up to him for his linguistic talent (he spoke fourteen languages!) and his great knowledge of the Bible as well as the Talmud. Shortly before his death he said, "I am the happiest man in the world," and "I thank God that He enabled me to find the Pearl (Christ Jesus) and to lay hold of it with both my hands."

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/9/2 20:12**

The testimony of Lisette Hutton-Orscher. In this testimony she would like to show the grace of God and His wondrous ways. Ways in which we often have to carry a heavy cross, but in which we also receive many blessings.

Love, the silent witness

"I grew up in Belgium in a Jewish family. My parents lived in a large house. They had five children and sheltered Jewish refugees from Eastern Europe. For this they had many servants and among them was a Christian girl. She was a simple girl from the country and had received little education. However, she had a wonderful treasure, she loved the Lord Jesus and also loved the Jews. We could not understand how she, a Gentile, could love the Jews so much. At that time I was a small girl that loved the Lord. My mother taught me how to pray in Hebrew, but I liked to listen to this servant girl that told me all the stories of the Old Testament. My mother died when I was very young, but this girl stayed with us and helped us faithfully.

A Bible as wedding present

When I got married this girl gave me, as a present, a Bible, the Old and New Testament in French. After our wedding day we moved to England where my husband had a large business. However he had to travel a lot for his work and because of that I felt lonely at times. At those times I would read this Bible, but I never would open the New Testament. I was afraid of that, because I was a Jew.

"Don't read the New Testament"

We went back to Belgium frequently to visit our family. At a wedding I met a young Jewish girl, Maria, who I knew from before. She was very sad as her father had died and her mother had remarried. Her stepfather treated her very badly. I felt sorry for her and said, "Maria, I have something for you that will help you not to feel so lonely." I gave her my Bible and kept on corresponding with her from England. After a few weeks I noticed a large change in her letters. On our next trip to Belgium I visited Maria. I hardly recognised her. She was not sad anymore, but looked happy. She said, "I didn't follow your advice not to read the New Testament".

The blame is mine

Maria read the New Testament first and then the Old. She told me that, through the grace of God, she found the Lord Jesus as her Messiah in the Bible, without going to some gathering or without meeting a preacher. I was in shock. I felt I was to blame that I was the reason that Maria believed in Jesus. I told her, "You are on the wrong road, Maria. You are lonely. You need to meet people." Maria smiled and said, "No, I know now, that my Redeemer lives. He has saved my soul. He is my Messiah." She begged me to read the New Testament too.

Everything became clear

My heart was broken, because I thought I had done something very bad. Back in England I started to pray to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. I told Him, that I was afraid that I had made a mistake and that I wanted to read the New Testament, but that I was afraid to end up on the wrong road. I asked Him to show me the truth.

Then I started to read the New Testament and praise the Lord, everything became clear. I felt that I was a sinner just as my own people, the Jewish people. I felt that I needed salvation. I went down on my knees and gave my heart to the Lord Jesus. I cannot describe to you the joy that filled my soul.

My husband evangelist in Auschwitz and Dachau

My desire was that my husband would be saved, too. With a firm belief I started to pray for him. In 1939 he had to join the Belgian army and during heavy bombardments he felt he was not ready to meet God. He realised he was a sinner and amongst many dead soldiers, he fell on his knees and gave his heart to the Lord Jesus.

In 1942 the Germans started a heavy persecution of the Jews in Belgium. Our family asked us if we could help them. We could not even protect ourselves, but had peace, because we knew that the Germans could only kill our body and not our soul. We were prepared to offer our lives for our family to show them God's love and our love.

In 1944 my husband ended up in a concentration camp. He was a great blessing to the prisoners in the camps. From the moment of his conversion, the Lord has blessed him wonderfully with a great gift as an evangelist. The war didn't bother him, he had only one goal: to serve his Lord and Saviour and to glorify Him.

Risen out of the ashes

After the war I was completely broken. We had lost everything in Belgium, in England, our company, everything and I had no home. At the age of 27 I was a widow with a daughter of one year old. My father was an old man and my mother in law was totally broken. She had lost both her sons, a grandchild, a brother, sister, brother in law, a sister in law and a cousin.

I went on my knees and said to the Lord, "You are my Father. Give me the strength to give my parents, my mother in law and my baby a good home." I also said, "If I ever get a house again, it will be dedicated to you." I have experienced with joy that the Lord Jesus is a Husband of the widow and the Father of the orphan. I don't have a beautiful house, everything is very ordinary, but for all that I have, I say, "Thank you, God. Thank you, Lord," because He has given me everything that I need. He has helped me to build a new home on the ashes of my previous life.

Peace for tired hearts

I have suffered a lot, but I would not like to have missed it, because the Lord has brought me into contact with many unhappy people. I can see now why I had to go through all this misery: because I can understand the suffering of the people who come to me. I have been spared to help others to find peace for their tired hearts."



**Re: - posted by Elibeth, on: 2019/9/2 21:55**

Brandi,  
It is a joy to read this testimony.  
Thank you  
'â€'â€'â€'â€'â€'  
elizabeth

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/9/5 20:57**

Testimony of Susan Perlman

"I was brought up in a traditional Jewish family in Brooklyn, New York. We observed the dietary laws, rested on the Sabbath and celebrated all Jewish holidays. I knew it was good to be Jewish. I didn't really know the God of the Jews, but that did not seem to be of much significance, until my life took a sad turn.

When I was twelve, my father died of a heart attack. It was very sudden and unexpected and our family was in shock. After the funeral, as is customary in the Orthodox Jewish tradition of mourning, our family spent a week sitting shiva. During this period we were not allowed to leave the apartment and I remember we sat on wooden crates in the living room. Many relatives and friends came to visit us, bringing food and recalling their fondest memories of my dad.

Pressing questions

To the rabbi who visited us, I had a pressing question to ask, "Rabbi, is my daddy in heaven?" He paused, not expecting the question, but his smile seemed reassuring. "Susan, your father's memory will live on in the life you lead. You can be his legacy." It was a nice thought, but it didn't satisfy me. "Rabbi," I went on, "you didn't answer my question. Is my daddy in heaven now?" He was a little more serious at this point and looked straight into my eyes and said, "I wish I could give you a definite answer, Susan, but I can't. We don't know for sure what is beyond the grave. We can only hope and remember, your father was a good man." This troubled me even more. "How come we can't know for sure?" I thought.

One thing I did know at the time was that I was bewildered. I was angry with God, yet paradoxically, I questioned whether or not He was even real. Maybe he only existed in my imagination and in the traditions of our religion. Even the rabbi seemed a little uncertain about it.

Doing things "right"

Regardless of whether or not God existed, my positive feelings about my Jewishness remained strong and I would certainly not be anything other than Jewish. I felt Judaism taught people to take responsibility for their own actions. I really worked hard at doing things "right" at least, according to my own perception of "rightness."

After high school I started studying and I saw myself as a cause-motivated, action-oriented independent woman. I participated in marches for peace and I never gave up my efforts to "make a difference." I tried to be a modern day heroine defending what I felt was basic to human survival. In all this, I was not looking for God "but apparently God was looking for me.

Jews don't believe in Jesus

One day I met Larry at the corner of a street in Manhattan. He told me that Jesus was the Messiah, that He came to die for the sins of humanity, that He conquered death and that by accepting His sacrifice I could have my sins forgiven and live for eternity with my Creator. Well, I let Larry know I was Jewish and that Jews don't believe in Jesus. I figured there might be an awkward moment, maybe even a mumbled apology and then we would talk about something else. Yet Larry continued to talk as if Jesus was still relevant to the discussion.

Then he invited me to a church in New Jersey. I went and was impressed by some of what I saw and heard. The people were young and seemed to have an idealism that was, in some ways, like my own. Of course, they weren't Jewish, so I was certain that what they believed was not for me "still, I respected them. Larry and I became friends. I found him kind, creative and contemporary in his outlook, even though he had certain standards of morality that one didn't often come across in the big city. My friendship with Larry, my curiosity and my avid interest in reading were enough to convi

nce me to look into the Bible. That was a life-changing experience.

#### Spiritual need

I took my Jewish Bible and began reading in Genesis. It didn't take long to discover the fact that God is holy. I could also see that the Bible was not an ordinary book and the God of Abraham and Sarah was no ordinary god. There was something so wonderful and right about God that I could not help being attracted to Him. However, the discovery of God's holiness had led me to another revelation—I was unholy. My own spiritual need became evident for the first time.

Larry's words began to make sense. All the good and right things I could do seemed inadequate to bridge the divide between this awesome God and myself. I continued to read the Bible and to discuss these things with the new acquaintances I met through Larry.

My awareness of this spiritual need and my findings from the Bible caused me to view the things they said in a different light; I was no longer merely hearing about someone else's religion. They were talking about things that were of deep interest to me, things that I was seeing in my own Jewish Bible.

#### A life forever changed

Within days, I went back to the church. I had just been promoted at work, I had the love of my family and friends, a nice place to live and a promising future. I should have been very happy that night, but as I sat in the church service all I could think of was the fact that I was in the midst of holy things and I felt unholy. I knew I didn't belong not because I was Jewish but because these people had a relationship with God and I didn't. I knew that Jesus just might be the promised Messiah and I was frightened.

I left the church building and sat out on the front lawn. It was a summer night and the air was warm. I knew I had a choice to make as I sat cross-legged and looked up at the stars. I told God that I too, wanted to have a relationship with Him. I found myself tearfully confessing to Him right then and there that I believed Jesus was the Messiah. I accepted the fact that He had taken the punishment for my sin.

I told God that I wanted the forgiveness He offered through Jesus and that I wanted to live for Him. He heard my plea and that night He changed my life forever. He gave me the assurance that His promises in the Bible are true and lasting. Now I had a strong basis for my hope, rooted in my Messiah.

#### Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/9/9 12:38

As a child, Paul Liberman was deeply touched by the words from Psalm 118:22 — "The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner." — "What or Who can be this Stone?" Paul wondered, "Is it that Jesus of Nazareth against whom the rabbi warns us so much?"

#### No satisfying answer

"I was only eight years old when I started to fire questions about God at my parents, but their replies were hardly satisfying. I longed, therefore, to go to an orthodox Jewish school. My father was not happy about it because it was so expensive, but my mother knew how to persuade him. Yet this school didn't bring a spiritual breakthrough in my life.

#### Money — my new religion

When I started to earn some money after finishing my education, my interest in religion was pushed aside by the desire for money. For fifteen years that was my religion. Owing to my follow-up study at a liberal university, I even started to doubt if there was a higher Being. As my job didn't promise much financial success, I decided to give up my economic ambitions and go into politics. This all went well, and anything I did, I was successful. Then I got an interesting job in a business office in Washington, but the joy was short-lived. The man who hired me was dismissed and soon after I met with the same fate.

#### Worries about the future

In this uncertainty I worried about the future. Looking for work I used public transport a lot. On the bus I regularly saw a lawyer who was always reading his Bible and one day we got to talk with each other. I told him that I thought that the cou

rise of events in life sometimes is so unusual that it looks like everything has been programmed. "There must be a programmer," I said. He knew that I was Jewish because of my Jewish name so he showed me the prophecies in the Old Testament that point towards the new state Israel. I was very interested in this, so on further journeys I always sat down next to him.

### 300 Messianic prophecies

Once he asked me with a penetrating look, "What do you do to get into heaven?" "I try to be a good human and I further hope for the best," I replied. He then said, "According to the Old Testament, that reveals to us the future so accurately, a bloody sacrifice is needed to reconcile sins." When he started to talk about blood I didn't want to continue speaking with him any further. Just before I stepped out of the bus angrily, he gave me a booklet that contained more than 300 Messianic prophecies from the Old Testament. These appealed to me so much that I went to a library to read "The story about Jesus".

### God on my side!

After reading the New Testament, I couldn't understand why we Jews had so little respect for Jesus. He didn't do anything other than helping people. Could He really be the Messiah, as He said Himself? I prayed, "If you are really God, show me if the carpenter of Nazareth is the Messiah." I reached a crucial point. My prayer had been sincere and if God couldn't hear that, I knew for sure that He was fiction. However, if there really was a God that sent the Messiah, I knew that He would answer my supplication and that Jesus was my Messiah.

At that time I also read about many other religions, but nothing touched me so much as the Bible. The Bible consists of many books, written by different people over a long period of time. However, it seemed as if all these Books were written by one Author. Slowly the truth of the Gospel started to penetrate my heart, "Whatever people say, I consider it, if God is on my side, what does it matter!"

### Gone mad?

In the months following I got to know a number of other Jewish believers and I needed those contacts, because for two years my wife thought that I had gone mad. Someone told me, "You are the only Bible, that she may ever read." I understood the message and decided to actively show her that I had been changed. God worked it out this way, that she also started to read the New Testament and became a believer.

### A double identity?

Now we had a new problem. How were we to raise our children? We didn't want them to have a double identity: Jewish and Christian and my wife only felt happy when she prayed with other Jewish believers to God. Everything else she experienced was in conflict with her Jewish heritage. Concerned about the unity in our family, I started to speak with other believers about the founding of a New Testament church in our own Jewish style. They were motivated and so we held our first gathering on May 18th 1973. We had invited a Jewish evangelist and later we got a Jewish pastor for our own small group.

In time I was able to devote myself full time to spiritual work. We moved to Israel and I got involved in the leadership of several Messianic organisations and church in both the United States and Israel.

In a miraculous way the desire of my childhood to get to know God and to be available for Him was fulfilled. What a richness to let the Lord lead your life!"

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2019/9/9 15:33**

Love these testimonies from Jewish Believers. They are special people. Thanks for sharing.

Sandra

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/9/11 13:38**

The testimony of Rose Klein...

"I was born in Hungary and my parents were very devout orthodox Jews. They taught me how to pray and explained to me the meaning of the Jewish traditions. We lived among the Gentiles, but my mother never allowed me to play with their children because they served Yeshua and we had nothing to do with him. She even forbade me to ever speak out His name.

I was taken to synagogue every shabbat, but I didn't like going there because I didn't understand what was going on. I had to sit next to my mother on the balcony for women and girls. Furthermore, I didn't receive any education, because the Jewish school was only for boys. That is why most Jewish women hardly know anything of the Old Testament and just follow the traditions of their mothers.

Communitistic

During World War I came into contact with communists in Budapest. They believed that there is no God and that all people are equal. Since Judaism could not satisfy me, I guessed that they were right and I became a communist.

When my father died, I was six years old. A few years later my mother left for America leaving me behind. When I was twenty-one, I joined her as she insisted to. Out of love and respect for my mother, I kept it a secret that I had become a communist. I joined her when she went to the synagogue, but everything there seemed so empty for me. The ceremonies and prayers, the sermon of the rabbi, nothing could impress me.

Spiritual need

I married a Jewish man and I expected that we would be very happy. However, we often felt very unsatisfied and had no peace. We went to the synagogue but could not find, spiritually, what we searched for. Communism didn't satisfy us at all. My husband became so restless that he never could stay long at home. We felt very low even though we had a beautiful house and my husband earned a good living. We often had arguments over trivial issues as a result of our spiritual need.

One day a believing friend visited me and I told her about our difficulties. To this she replied, "My dear friend, you need Yeshua. Do you have a Bible in your home?" I didn't understand what she meant. We Jews only know a prayer book so she showed me her Bible and explained that it consisted of an Old and New Testament. It was the first time of my life that I saw a Bible and I desired so much to read this Book that she left it behind for me.

Salvation received

With avid desire I started reading the Bible, but I could not understand why she had told me that I needed Yeshua, for He belonged to the Gentiles. A few days later she returned with a few Jewish people who told me that they had received Yeshua as their Saviour and how happy they were now. At that moment, however, I could not see what they meant. A Jewish brother then took me to some meetings where they explained, from the Tenach, that Yeshua is the Messiah of Israel. He also brought me to the Hebrew-Messianic synagogue. It surprised me that there were so many Jews who testified that they belonged to Yeshua.

Dr. Michelson was the speaker that day and he explained so clearly that Yeshua is our promised Messiah that I was deeply moved and came to the conclusion, "Yeshua is the One to whom we Jews long for so much." Without Dr. Michelson knowing me, he addressed me at the end of the sermon and said, "Dear sister, would you like to accept Yeshua as your Saviour?" With tears in my eyes I said, "Yes!" Then he prayed for me with a few others and as we knelt down, I gave myself over to Yeshua. I confessed to Him my sins and I experienced that in His grace He forgave me. He cleansed me with His precious blood.

Also my husband

It was rather late when I arrived home and my husband was already asleep. I was so happy that I couldn't keep the good news till the following day. So I woke him up and told him, "Do you know what happened? I came to know that Yeshua is really the Jewish Messiah!" He looked at me as if he had lost my mind and shouted angrily, "You know that we are Jews and I do not want to hear anything about Yeshua!" The next morning my husband reproached me that I disturbed his sleep and he didn't want to have anything to do with it. I sought my refuge in prayer and asked the Lord to save my husband, who needed Yeshua so much in his restlessness and dissatisfaction. I was so happy when a few days later he too went to see Dr. Michelson to ask all his questions. Finally he surrendered to the G-d's voice and accepted Yeshua as his Saviour.

Unspeakable joy

My husband and I were baptised on Easter Day. It was the happiest day of our lives. It was so wonderful to testify of the change in our lives to the many Jews and non-Jews who were present. My husband and I felt the closeness of the Lord more than ever. We had searched everywhere and every time it had ended in disappointment! How different it had become when Yeshua came into my heart. No words can describe the unspeakable joy with which He filled my soul. Now I can rest in the eternal arms of my Redeemer. In the past I hated Yeshua, now I love Him and want to go with Him as His faithful disciple."

**Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/9/12 15:16**

The conversion of David Baron, "Longing for reconciliation" (1855 - 1926)...

"David was born into a religious family in Russia. He was aware of God from an early age, aware of his need for reconciliation with his maker. When he examined his heart he found, in his own words, nothing but "blackness of darkness". His soul was on a search and despite keeping all the laws and ceremonies of the Rabbis and the Talmud, he was restless. He had an early sense of the futility of his good works and religious observances, because they were done out of religious duty rather than love of his Creator. The more religious he became, the more miserable he became. He prayed for something more, the "right spirit" and the "new heart" that King David himself yearned for. So he consulted others, who told him not to worry, he was a good Jew, what more could he do?

Burdened

His knowledge of the Bible became a condemnation for him. He knew that "the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20) and that "it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul" (Leviticus 17:11). Where could he find that forgiveness for his sins that he ached for? He yearned for the burden to lift, but without reconciliation with God he could find no relief in the religious system he was born into.

When he was young, he had a serious accident and nearly died. This terrified him and he begged his mother for reassurance. His mother responded, "You have been such a good boy, and should you die you will go to heaven." This did not impress him and he rebuked her saying, "I have not been good, and if my getting to heaven depends on my own goodness I shall never get there." His was a tortured childhood.

Yearning for peace

But God had a plan for him and brought him in contact with two Christians, a Jew and a Gentile. They spoke to him of a Saviour but, at the mention of his name, David was filled with hatred and prejudice. No wonder really, as his only knowledge of Jesus was one who urged his followers to serve idols and persecute the Jews. From the age of four his mother taught him to say, whenever he passed a Church, "thou shalt utterly detest it, thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing" (Deuteronomy 7:26). He was taught that Christianity is for Gentiles and so to meet a Jew who professed to believe in Jesus was startling and disconcerting. The man must have been bribed, was his conclusion.

Yet this apostate, this meshumed seemed happy and contented and had a peace and an assurance that David had yearned for his whole life. In one conversation, the Jewish believer confessed, "As for me, I tell you honestly, as in the sight of God, that I have never known what true happiness is until I found it in Christ." David tried his best, using his knowledge of the Hebrew Scriptures and Talmud to argue against the Messiahship of Jesus, but the one stumbling block was

s the evident happiness such a belief had brought to this man.

#### Worship the One God

Soon afterwards, David read the New Testament for the first time. The words exploded at him. Having been brought up to believe that Jesus of Nazareth was a false prophet, here was this man teaching men to do nothing other than worship the One God, the only living and true God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of Israel. Of particular impact were the words of Jesus, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." (Matthew 4:10). The following section, the Sermon on the Mount, simply blew him away. As he continued to read he came to the realization that "this man spoke as never man spake!" Yet this was the man that the Talmud spoke of as "the greatest sinner in Israel".

#### Thorough study

David was nothing if not thorough. Without any help or counselling, he read and examined the New Testament over a period of twelve months, analysing it and comparing it with the Old Testament. Yet the effect of this was to burden his heart even more as he came to the realisation that salvation can only be obtained as a gift from God through faith in Jesus Christ and that his own righteousness, apart from this salvation, avails nothing in the sight of God.

His training and upbringing gradually unraveled as he considered his prayer life, his strict observance of the ceremonies prescribed by the Rabbis and the study of the Talmud. It all seemed so easy, to be saved just by faith in Christ? What about his years of training and learning? Did it count for nothing? Yet he still clung on. "Oh, my God!" he cried, "cast me not away from Thy presence in this manner. I am a Jew, a child of Abraham, Thy friend; from my youth I have tried to keep Thy holy law. Why dost Thou thus punish me, withholding from me that peace and rest of heart without which life is a burden to me? Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be as those who go down to the pit!" And still no peace came.

#### Hatred broken down

Gradually his ingrained hatred for the Name of Jesus broke down, as the Scriptures sunk in. Did Jesus not show anything but love to the Jews? Did He not weep over Jerusalem? Was He not moved with compassion for them? Did He not even pray for his murderers on the very cross on which they crucified Him?

One day, he just gave in. In his own words he explains, "By the help of God's Spirit, I cast myself on my knees one evening and exclaimed, "Oh, my God, if Thou canst not save me on any other condition but faith in Jesus, be pleased to give me that faith and help me to love that most precious Name which I have so long hated and despised. Thou hast promised to save unto the uttermost all those who come unto Thee in His Name. Oh, save me!"

I remained on my knees some time and when I rose, I could indeed sing, "O, LORD, I will praise Thee: though Thou wast angry with me, Thine anger is turned away, and Thou comfortest me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my Strength and my Song; He also is become my Salvation" (Isaiah 12:1-2).

David Baron became a mighty man of God. Having worked with missions to Jews, he co-founded the Hebrew Christian Testimony to Israel in 1893, in Whitechapel, London. Amongst the books he wrote are "The Ancient Scriptures for the Modern Jew", "The Visions and Prophecies of Zechariah", and "Types Psalms and Prophecies."

Source: Jewishtestimonies.com : "Written by Steve Malz and reproduced by permission from Premier Christian Media."

#### Re: - posted by followthelamb, on: 2019/9/16 15:36

"The Russian born Joseph Zalman fled to the west and waited in Amsterdam for a ship to America. He ended up in a meeting where the Name of Jesus was mentioned. He was outraged, but also fascinated. In time he discovered, in a miraculous way, that He also is his personal Saviour.

#### Pogrom

Joseph Zalman was born in 1860 in Turkey into a strict Chassidic family. Shortly after his birth his mother died, so he was raised by his grandmother. When he was twelve, his father remarried and they moved to Odessa in Russia. While they were there, "Christian" Cossacks killed his younger brother in a pogrom and from then on he hated the Christians intensely. After some time they overcame this strike and they even prospered a little. His Father made name as a builder

and architect and Joseph followed in his footsteps and co-operated with him as a building architect.

To America

Joseph married in 1883, but the young couple had a hard time. There were building orders, but the anti-Semitism was rising more and more. In addition, the government charged extra high taxes on Jews so many Jewish traders were forced to leave. Joseph planned to immigrate with his wife to America, so with little money in their pocket they took leave of their parents and family.

The New Testament

They took the train for the long journey west. In their carriage sat a young man who was completely fascinated with reading a book. He acted very mysteriously until Joseph could no longer suppress his curiosity and said "Show it to me." To his surprise it was a New Testament, forbidden reading for Jews. The man was travelling to London to be baptised and to become a preacher. When the man had to change trains, he gave the New Testament to Joseph, who started to read in it immediately. Some time later his wife noticed what kind of book it was, "What? Do you want to become an apostate now too?" she said angrily. She snatched it out of his hand and threw it out of the window.

In Amsterdam

They travelled further to the Netherlands and ended up in Amsterdam. One Sunday morning Joseph walked into town and heard music. He thought it came from a teashop, as there are many in Russia. He opened the door and noticed immediately his mistake. He saw someone in the pulpit that looked a bit like a Jew. However, it was not a synagogue because the women and men sat mixed up. There was no orchestra but an organ. It was also no church, because he didn't see icons or images of saints.

When he wanted to leave, a man showed him a seat. Bewildered he looked around and listened to the foreign sounds of the preacher. Suddenly he heard the Name of Him. Outraged and filled with hate he spat on the ground as he now knew that he found himself in a Christian meeting. Nevertheless it fascinated him enormously and after the service he was brought to Reverend Adler, a missionary preacher from London. The evangelist spoke with him as a friend and won his sympathy. His compassion made Joseph tell him all his concerns.

Study of the Word

The boat to America left without them because Joseph became interested in the Word of God. Reverend Adler provided for their cost of living and later he found regular work for Joseph. This enabled them to continue the study of the Scriptures that finally led to a total surrender to their Messiah and a baptism of the couple on Ascension Day. The Jewish community flew into a rage. Zalman survived a barrage of questions from the Jewish council and didn't give in to the temptation of a large sum of money. Subsequently he was attacked physically and battered. Finally, they convinced his wife that his religious conviction was wrong and, under pressure, she left him.

His own Saviour

Joseph then left on a ship to Java in the hope to find work there. The daily struggle to earn a living burdened him heavily, but when a cholera-epidemic broke out on board, fear grasped him. Was he prepared to face God? Never before was he so deeply aware of his sins and then came the most decisive moment in his life. The Spirit of God revealed to him that the Messiah is not only the Promised to the fathers, but also his own Saviour. In the lower part of the boat, between the coals, he was filled with joy and cried out, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

Preacher of the Jewish Messiah

He returned to Holland and Reverend Adler asked him to become his assistant in the growing mission work and on the 1st of December Joseph Zalman started work at the London Society. Day in day out he cycled through the cities and villages in the Netherlands and Belgium. In 1901, he opened the house Elim in Rotterdam where many immigrating Jews found shelter. They received food, clothes and medical care and Joseph opened factories to provide in work. Above all that, he gave them spiritual food and a place to study of the Scriptures. Joseph worked in the full conviction that God did not cast off his people, which he foreknew (Romans 11:2)."