



CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES

# SECTION I

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## WE ALL NEED SHALOM

We know we need peace; both as individuals and nations. The desire for peace transcends our economic, political and various personal needs. We recognize that we can better face the challenges within our countries and within our own soul if we have this deep sense of peace and purpose that gives us the fortitude to go on!

Look at the experience of modern Israel for a moment. We all know that the Holy Land is struggling! The politics at home is hard on Israelis and the probability of a nuclear Iran is an ever-present threat to the existence of the Jewish state. The crumbling of neighbor states, the rise of ISIS and the growth of a more virulent global antisemitism together cause us to believe that we see the prophetic portrait painted by the Hebrew prophets coming to pass before our very eyes.

As Jews, we are alarmed to see a decline in support for Israel. We hope the countries where we reside will remain resolute in support of the modern state of Israel—even in the midst of a sea of hostility. We also see that those who have made themselves enemies of Israel also have a fierce disdain for our Judeo-Christian heritage. Some have captured, killed, tortured and sought the destruction of the Gospel, Christianity and even various other forms of Islam throughout the Middle East.

It is not our intention to fan the flames of hatred against Arabs, Muslims and the citizens of the Middle East! I mention the above to remind us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for Israel's neighbors—especially those who are suffering for their faith.

There is no doubt that Israel needs a path to peace—and so do we!

# SECTION 2

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## SEARCHING FOR PEACE

The word *shalom* is the Hebrew term most often translated “peace.” It also means “hello” and can even be used to say “goodbye!” The word summarizes the timeless aspirations of the Jewish people looking towards the day when Messiah comes and reigns on His rightful throne in Jerusalem. On that day, the wolf will lie down with the lamb, instruments of war will be transformed into farming equipment and both Jews and Gentiles will live together in harmony! We know that this true peace Jews and others are looking for will come with the Messiah, and His kingdom will be characterized by peace.

So, when we pray for the peace of Jerusalem, as David writes in Psalm 122:6, “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ‘May they prosper who love you,’” we are praying for the Lord to bring peace to the hearts of individuals and to cities and nations fractured by war and seemingly insurmountable conflicts. The peace we pray for is not simply a superficial halt in hostilities, but includes the unleashing of His magnificent and transforming power to change lives, communities and even nations.

The challenges to peace today in Israel as well as in our countries are complex. We need more than political and economic solutions to experience the depth of peace our souls long for these days! This demands some type of spiritual peace, as without spiritual transformation, there can be no earthly lasting solution to the problems that afflict Israel, her neighbors or you and me.

Yet, realistically, we must ask ourselves, “How can there be peace in Israel?” It seems impossible! So, allow me to share a few stories, which I hope will encourage you to continue praying for and believing that God can bring peace to a troubled land.

Here are some illustrations of individual Israelis who have found lasting peace according to the promises of God.

## **Henry N. – From Slavery to Addiction to Freedom in Messiah’s Service**

Henry N. was born in Moscow in 1961 to a well-known family of musical prodigies. His extraordinary prowess as a young pianist seemed to hold out the promise of a great career. However, drug and alcohol addiction dogged his steps from his youth. He tried every avenue of help from psychiatry to hypnotism to free himself. For a time, suicide seemed the only way out. In 1991, Henry and his wife, Irena, decided to relocate to Israel. Henry continued to abuse alcohol while Irena worked two jobs to support them. Despite a change of scenery, the old patterns persisted.

While reading the newspaper, Henry and Irena noticed an announcement about a meeting being held by Jewish believers. Now desperate for any lifeline, Irena urged Henry to attend. For the next two months, they did not miss a meeting at Chosen People Ministries’ Messianic congregation near Tel Aviv. Finally, in September 1991, Henry received Jesus as his Messiah. Immediately, he was healed of his alcoholism and drug addiction. Two months later, Irena also accepted the Messiah. Because of this decision Henry experienced peace for the first time in his life!

## **Racheli S. – Born in Israel and Born in Messiah**

Born and raised in the town of Bat Yam, just south of Tel Aviv, Racheli S. grew up in a traditional, religious Jewish home. Her parents immigrated to Israel – her mother from Canada and her father, a Holocaust survivor from Germany. Her testimony bears witness to the way the Lord is able to draw people from around the world to serve His sovereign purpose. While walking in her neighborhood with a girlfriend, she met a young man from Ghana who was studying at the university.

A friendship began, and through this young man, who was a believer in Yeshua (Jesus), Racheli was drawn to visit a congregation where African foreign workers would worship. Racheli enjoyed the worship, particularly the music, and the Lord began speaking to her through her African friend and a young German woman he introduced her to who was also a student. She became increasingly open to the Gospel. She was particularly impressed by

the connection between Yeshua and the prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures, which helped her to see the Jewishness of the Gospel message. She received the Lord in 1990.

Racheli found peace that sustains her through difficulties, the challenges of raising children in Israel and so much more!

The remainder of this booklet describes many others—men and women, Jews and Gentiles—who have discovered Yeshua the Messiah, and by inviting Him into their lives as their Redeemer have found forgiveness of sin, joy, happiness—and peace! We hope you will enjoy these stories.

May the Lord of Israel open your heart and eyes to Yeshua and give you peace!

# SECTION 3

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## THEY FOUND SHALOM... AND YOU CAN TOO

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It helps to know that there are other Jewish people who believe that Yeshua is the fulfillment of Isaiah 53. We can be strengthened and filled with greater courage when we know we are not alone. The following are stories of Jewish people who have found the prophecy of Isaiah to be true—and fulfilled in Yeshua!

### **Debra Goldstone**

Born into an occasionally observant Jewish home, Debra was raised to believe that the stories in the Hebrew Scriptures were more or less fairy tales. An unhappy, tension-filled family life left her angry and rebellious in her college years. Although somehow anchored in a belief in God through a child's prayer her mother had taught her, Debra became involved in the hippie culture as she restlessly searched for life's meaning. A growing friendship with a Jewish man, Michael, took an unexpected turn when he announced to her he had become a believer in Yeshua (Jesus). Cautiously open, Debra found great power in Jesus' words as Michael read the New Testament to her. After much struggle and soul-searching, she became a believer. After they married, Debra and Michael were able to form the loving family life she had missed out on as a child.

### **Diane Cohen**

Growing up Jewish in a family in Columbus, Ohio, where everyone seemed to be talking at once, it was no surprise when Diane became an attorney and an active leader in the synagogue. Although warned by her old-world grandmother to be careful about Christian antisemitism, Diane was drawn to a book entitled, *Rabbi Jesus*. Reading it on an airplane, she struck up a conversation with a Christian woman, herself an author. Diane then entered a difficult time, when her marriage of 28 years dissolved. Some time later, she received a package in the mail from the woman she had met on the plane which contained one of her books and a card with the scripture, "He will delight in you with song" (Zephaniah 3:17)—the verse of scripture Diane had in her mind when she awoke that very day. Deeply moved, Diane attended a service with her believing sister, received prayer and became a believer in Yeshua!

## **Grant Berry**

Journeying to America in pursuit of the American Dream, Grant Berry and his brother worked hard and achieved success in the cosmetics industry. But Grant knew that material success meant little without the spiritually meaningful life he had failed to find in the synagogue of his upbringing. Introduced through work connections to Maria, a make-up artist, he was intrigued to find she was a committed Christian with a vibrant walk with God that he wanted and knew deep down he lacked. Her persuasive witness, which stressed the Jewish background of the Gospel, drove him to pray more intensely than ever before. Pouring out his frustration that nothing seemed to be happening, he finally prayed, “God of Abraham, if Yeshua is your Son and the Jewish Messiah, I want to know the truth.” Suddenly feeling a powerful sense of affirmation, Grant became a believer from that moment on.

## **Rich Flashman**

Rich was always searching for something more to life than a good job and a good education. He was introduced to the person of Jesus at an early age, but after talking to his rabbi decided that Jesus could not be the Messiah because He did not establish peace on earth. Rich’s experiences in college led him to be an activist working for social change, but he quickly realized that without God’s intervention, humans could not bring about any real transformation.

Rich began to search and question matters of faith, all of which led him to read the 53rd chapter of Isaiah. He soon realized that the answers to peace and the meaning of life were in the Bible. Rich also saw that the Bible pointed to a Messiah that makes peace between man and God and then ultimately brings the peace that humanity so desperately is longing for.

## **Steve Fieder**

Steve grew up in a Reform Jewish household, but never really thought about what it meant to be Jewish. It was only after one of his children asked him, “Why don’t we believe in Jesus?” that Steve began to search for what being Jewish really meant. Although Steve did not believe that Jesus even existed, as

time went on he saw that followers of Jesus had something different. He wanted to find out what that was. His journey led him to realize that he too could have the joy and peace Christians had—through Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah.

## **Rose Harrison**

Rose grew up during World War II and faced a lot of hardships, including antisemitism. Despite overcoming great odds, she felt empty. Rose was determined and passionate; she went on to get a doctorate and became a college professor. But still she felt something was missing. During one of her classes, a student wrote a paper that changed her life. The student wrote about virtues and values. This paper was very different from any other she had seen written on the subject.

Rose ended up befriending the student and he shared with her how his faith in the Messiah changed him and gave him meaning and fulfillment in life. After attending a church and seeing a faith community that was loving and caring, she realized there was something to Jesus and Christianity she had not known existed. Rose found the peace and fulfillment she was looking for through a relationship with her Messiah.

## **Roy Schwarcz**

Roy grew up in a successful Jewish family. He had everything he wanted materially, but still felt unsatisfied. He was distressed by the injustice he saw in the world and decided that he wanted to change the world—to help people. He thought one way he could do that was by becoming a lawyer.

Before embarking on his law career, he decided to travel cross-country. While in Wisconsin, he met a girl and her friends who shared with him the message of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. At first he dismissed their views because he thought Jesus was a stranger to the Jewish people. But Roy soon realized after reading quite a bit of the New Testament that Jesus was very Jewish.

As he continued to read the New Testament, he now viewed Yeshua as a Jewish man, who willingly faced injustice to be the Messiah of the world.

He was wise, sacrificial and the epitome of the set of values Roy affirmed.

Roy finally decided to give His life to the Messiah Jesus and in so doing found shalom.

### **David Rosenberg**

David only wanted his dad to love him. He grew up in an observant Jewish home, where attending synagogue was at the center of their lives. His brother became mentally ill and was in and out of the hospital. David wondered if he would ever get his brother back and was deeply afraid his close relationship with his brother was irreparably broken. One day, when they were both in the early years of adulthood, David found his brother sitting at the table and talking to his mom... about Jesus. Over the next few weeks, he noticed that his brother had changed. David had to know the source of what saved him from his tumultuous life. He found that he too wanted to believe in Jesus, although he dreaded the fact that his father was angry about the decision of both brothers to follow Yeshua.

As a result, David had second thoughts about becoming a follower of Yeshua. But a few years later, David stopped running from the truth and decided to truly give His life to the Messiah Jesus he had already sought. As he did so, he found shalom even in the midst of his turmoil.

### **Mottel Baleston**

Growing up Jewish, Mottel's only contact with Christians was with Italian Catholics, which led him to picture Jesus as Italian. Mottel was told to stay away from the Christian Bible. So he did what any person does when forbidden to do something. He began reading the New Testament! He expected to find an antisemitic handbook, but was surprised it began with a statement about three Jewish men (David, Abraham and Jesus) and how one is the anticipated Messiah of Israel. He was shocked to discover that the New Testament was written by Jewish men about a Jewish Jesus who lived in a Jewish village, in a Jewish country, claiming to be the Jewish Messiah. Mottel's life was changed when he tapped into the powerful truth that following Jesus is the most Jewish thing a person can do.

## Michael Goldstone

Michael grew up in a traditional, but not very religious Jewish home. He started searching for spiritual truth in his later teen years. He experimented with drugs, read books on Eastern religions and looked for fulfillment in a variety of ways. There was a longing deep in his soul. He and his friend Ron moved from upstate New York to southern Oregon, where they purchased 20 acres to grow tomatoes. It was not very successful or satisfying. Michael grew more depressed and discouraged so they hitchhiked to southern Mexico in search of *magic mushrooms*.

While in Mexico, they encountered a group of hippies who talked about the Bible and Jesus. Michael could not understand this and it was hard at first to think about Jesus because of the way he was raised. He was Jewish and it did not make sense to him.

On his way back to Oregon, Michael met Debra in San Francisco. As they fell in love, something changed. He started reading the Bible and his heart and understanding began to change. God had met him, and as he opened his heart to the truth, he believed that Yeshua was the Messiah and found shalom!

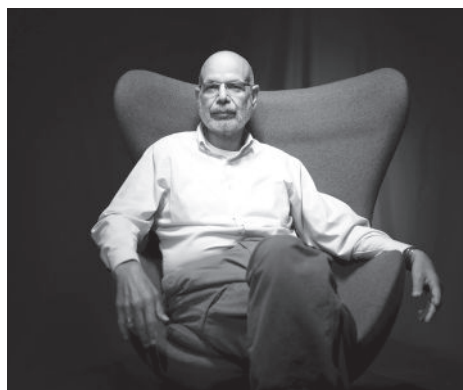
## Laura Fels

Laura was searching, but could not find fulfillment. As a child she frequently joined her grandmother in synagogue and warmly remembers the liturgy, but rejected the Jewish religion. She thought she might find fulfillment in love, success, possessions and life experiences. After a failed marriage, she wore divorce as a badge of honor. She climbed the corporate ladder. With each promotion, she encountered more emptiness. Nothing satisfied her. Religion was the last place she expected to find meaning and happiness. To Laura, religion was irrelevant and senseless. Her misgivings dramatically changed when she encountered a woman who seemed to be so happy with her life.

Her friend persuaded Laura to join her at church. Laura agreed and was intrigued by the people she met. They evidently had a relationship with the Creator of the universe. She thought, "How can Gentiles have this, but not me?" Laura discovered happiness, hope, love and peace when she realized that Jesus was not only for the Gentiles and accepted Him as her Messiah.

# SECTION 4

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## THE MESSAGE OF PEACE IN A VIOLENT WORLD

Our storytellers believe that Yeshua is the ultimate answer to the violence we see in our country and around the globe. Have you ever noticed how many times the word peace is associated with the Messiah? He is the Prince of Peace according to the prophet Isaiah,

*For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6 – verse 7 in the Hebrew Bible).*

In the New Testament, a book that has also changed the lives of our storytellers, we read that Jesus assured His disciples at His last Passover Seder (Last Supper) that His peace could reign in their lives even during the difficult times to come after He would depart to return to His Father,

*Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful (John 14:27).*

I remember years ago when I was part of a travelling singing group invited to perform in Northern Ireland. The violence at the time was extreme and we actually witnessed a half dozen bombs go off during our time of ministry. Before we left for this trip, the president of my university at that time, Dr. Clyde Cook, prayed a prayer with my wife and I that I will never forget.

Dr. Cook said, “*Lord, teach Mitch that safety is not the absence of danger, but the presence of the Lord.*”

His prayer meant so much to me, especially during some very tense moments when we were in the midst of outdoor concerts and heard the BOOM of an explosion and witnessed the fear of the crowds as they scattered in search of safety!

I learned that peace is not something you feel, but rather something that comes from knowing that the Lord is with you and will never forsake you—especially during difficult times!

Yeshua also told His disciples that His peace is not dependent upon circumstances, but is founded upon the promise of His presence.

*These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world (John 16:33).*

The Messiah tells us to expect tribulation and challenges in this present sin-tainted world. He warns us of problems to come that He allows and are intended to drive us to find rest in His powerful arms. He wants us to respond to the “big” problems of war, persecution, world terrorism and other seemingly insoluble problems by learning first to trust Him and thereby experiencing His shalom!

He wants us to have a similar response to the problems we face, whether they be financial, challenges with children, grandchildren or parents, or the variety of health issues we face day in and day out... No matter what the difficulty might be—He wants us to have His peace by learning to trust Him.

As the prophet Isaiah promises,

*You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You (Isaiah 26:3).*

Clearly, the Rabbi Shaul, the great Apostle Paul, writing in the New Testament, understood this as well. He writes,

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).*

I want to assure you that we have a sovereign God who wants us to enjoy His peace in every circumstance. One day, our Messiah will come and conquer the enemies of God and of Israel. Then He will reign on His throne of peace in Jerusalem.

I look forward to the day when authentic and lasting world peace will come, don't you? But, like our storytellers, we do not need to wait for His return to experience His peace. It is available today.

## The Path to Peace

Rabbi Shaul tells us that before we can experience God's peace we must have peace with God! He writes to the Romans,

*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).*

It is through the death of Yeshua that God made atonement for our sin and forgives our sin...forever! We are no longer His enemies, but have become His beloved children. I am sure the great Rabbi Shaul based his understanding on the words of Isaiah the prophet, who wrote,

*How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces salvation, and says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (Isaiah 52:7).*

You have now met quite a few Jewish people who have come to know Jesus as their Messiah. Jewish people have come to faith through these accounts in Israel, among the elderly Holocaust survivors, and in the heart of Orthodox Jewish Brooklyn. They are young and old...those with deep experiences in life and others just beginning their pilgrimage on earth.

The common testimony of those I have met now coming to faith is that they now have peace! You can see it on their smiling faces!

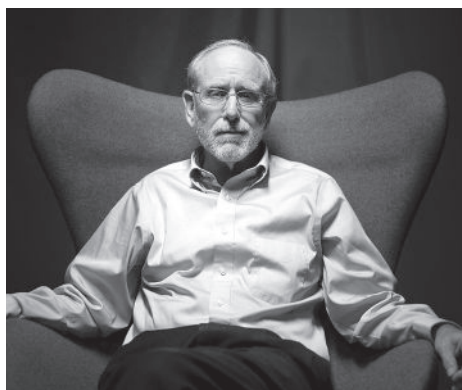
I hope that you will turn to the Messiah and Prince of Peace today and tell Him from your heart that you want Him to come into your life and to make peace in the depths of your soul. Tell Him you have sinned, that you believe Yeshua died and rose for your sin and that you are determined to follow Him from this moment on as He enables you by His grace.

And now,

*May 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).*

# SECTION 5

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## THE PROMISE OF A MESSIAH

### **He will be a Descendant of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)**

*The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

### **He will be from the Tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10)**

*The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.*

### **He will be from the House of David (2 Samuel 7:12-13)**

*When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.*

### **He will be Born of a Virgin (Isaiah 7:14)**

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*

### **He will be Born in Bethlehem** (Micah 5:2) (5:1 Heb.)

*But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.*

### **He will be God Himself** (Isaiah 9:6-7; 9:5-6 Heb.)

*For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

### **He will be a Prophet Like Moses** (Deuteronomy 18:15)

*The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.*

### **He will Come Humbly** (Zechariah 9:9)

*Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

### **He will be Crucified** (Psalm 22:16-18)

*For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.*

**He will be a Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53:5-6)**

*But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;  
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.  
All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;  
And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

**Israel Will Mourn for Him (Zechariah 12:10)**

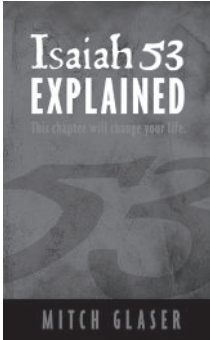
*And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a  
spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced,  
and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly  
for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.*

**There is no person in all of recorded history who fits these descriptions  
more perfectly than Yeshua (Jesus)!**

Author: Dr. Mitch Glaser, President of  
Chosen People Ministries...you can watch  
his story on **ifoundshalom.com** too!

## FEATURED RESOURCES

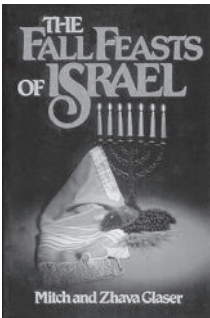
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### ISAIAH 53 EXPLAINED

Price \$12.95

Do you have questions about the meaning of life and spirituality? Maybe it is time to go right to the source and rethink your relationship with the Creator? “Isaiah 53 Explained” will help kick start your personal pilgrimage and introduce you to a chapter in the Scriptures that has the potential to revolutionize your life!



### THE FALL FEASTS OF ISRAEL

Price \$14.95

Israel’s three most significant biblical festivals—Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot—are examined in full, including a look at their biblical roots, their celebration in the time of Messiah, and by Jewish people today.

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Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

Qty	Item	Code	Price each	Total
	<i>Isaiah 53 Explained</i>	3135	\$12.95	
	<i>The Fall Feasts of Israel</i>	3042	\$14.95	
SUBTOTAL				
Add Shipping & Handling*				
TOTAL				

\*Add the amount below that matches your product total and shipping destination.

Product Total	Continental U.S.	Foreign Surface / Air
\$0-\$10 .....	\$5 .....	\$7 / \$11
\$10.01-\$20 .....	\$6 .....	\$8 / \$13
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