

THE GOSPEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE

AN EVANGELICAL STATEMENT

As evangelical Christians, we want to express our genuine friendship and love for the Jewish people. We sadly acknowledge that church history has been marred with anti-Semitic words and deeds; and that at times when the Jewish people were in great peril, the church did far less than it should have.

- We pledge our commitment to be loving friends and to stand against such injustice in our generation. At the same time, we want to be transparent in affirming that we believe the most loving and Scriptural expression of our friendship toward Jewish people, and to anyone we call friend, is to forthrightly share the love of God in the person of Jesus Christ.
- We believe that it is only through Jesus that all people can receive eternal life. If Jesus is not the Messiah of the Jewish people, He cannot be the Savior of the World (Acts 4:12).
- We recognize that it is good and right for those with specialized knowledge, history and skills to use these gifts to introduce individuals to the Messiah, and that includes those ministries specifically directed to the Jewish people (1 Corinthians 9:20-22).
- We deplore the use of deception or coercion in evangelism; however, we reject the notion that it is deceptive for followers of Jesus Christ who were born Jewish to continue to identify as Jews (Romans 11:1).

We want to make it clear that, as evangelical Christians, we do not wish to offend our Jewish friends by the above statements; but we are compelled by our faith and commitment to the Scriptures to stand by these principles. It is out of our profound respect for Jewish people that we seek to share the good news of Jesus Christ with them, and encourage others to do the same, for we believe that salvation is only found in Jesus, the Messiah of Israel and Savior of the World.

Due to space constraints, the following is a partial list of the evangelical Christian leaders who affirm the above statement.

Rev. Dr. Lon Allison—Director, Billy Graham Center
Dr. Mark Bailey—President, Dallas Theological Seminary
Joel Belz—Founder, *World Magazine*
Richard Bewes—OBE, former Rector, All Souls Church,
Langham Place, London
Lyndon Bowring—Executive Chairman, CARE
Doug Birdsall—Executive Chair, Lausanne Committee for
World Evangelization
Dr. D. A. Carson—Research Professor of New Testament, Trinity
Evangelical Divinity School
Dr. Paul Cedar—Chairman, Mission America Coalition
Dr. Yonggi Cho—Senior Pastor, Yoido Full Gospel Church,
Seoul, Korea
Chuck Colson—Founder, Prison Fellowship
David Evans—Bishop, Church of England
Mark Greene—Executive Director, London Institute of
Contemporary Christianity
Stan Guthrie—Managing Editor, Special Projects,
Christianity Today
Dr. David Harley—former General Director, OMF International
Dr. Harold Hoehner—Distinguished Professor of New
Testament Studies, Dallas Theological Seminary
Dr. Jim Holm—President, Mennonite Biblical Seminary
Dr. Kenneth Hutcherson—Senior Pastor, Antioch Bible Church
Dr. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr.—President Emeritus, Colman M.
Mockler Distinguished Professor of Old Testament,
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
Joe Kapolyo—Minister, Edmonton Baptist Church
Dr. R. T. Kendall—President, R. T. Kendall Ministries
Dr. Jerry B. Jenkins—Owner, Christian Writers Guild
Prof. A. N. S. Lane—London Bible College
Rev. Dr. John-Paul Lotz—Lecturer in Church History, London
School of Theology

Steve Moore—President & CEO, The Mission Exchange
(formerly EFMA)
Rev. Dr. Steve Motyer—Lecturer, London School of Theology
Dr. Marv Newell—Executive Director, Cross Global Link
(formerly IFMA)
Hugh Palmer—Rector, All Souls Church, London
Dr. Raymond Pfister—Principal, Birmingham Christian College,
Birmingham, England
Dr. Phil Roberts—President, Midwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary
Dr. Haddon Robinson—President, Gordon Conwell
Theological Seminary
John H. Rodgers, Th.D.—Bishop in the Anglican Mission
in America
Russell Rook—Director, ALOVE, Salvation Army
John Seawright—Minister, Abbey Presbyterian Church,
Monkstown, Ireland
Gordon Showell-Rogers—General Secretary, European
Evangelical Alliance
Dr. Lon Solomon—Pastor, McLean Bible Church, McLean, VA
Stephen Strang—Publisher, *Charisma Magazine*
Matt Summerfield—Executive Director, Urban Saints
Dr. Vinson Synan—Dean Emeritus of Regent University
Dr. Geoff Tunnecliffe—International Director, World
Evangelical Alliance
Clive Urquhart—Director, Kingdom Faith Ministries,
Horsham, England
Phil S. Walker—Pastor, Ridgecrest Baptist Church,
Madison, MS
Mike Wall—Executive Director All Nations Christian College,
Ware, England
Mark Weeden—Pastor, Worthing Tabernacle
Chris Williams—Pastor, London Community Church

World Evangelical Alliance is the sponsor of this statement. Those evangelical Christians who would like to add their names to this list can do so by contacting World Evangelical Alliance at www.worldevangelicals.org

