



How are Jews saved? Or are they?

Most Jewish people do not consider salvation for themselves individually. Redemption is something national and political. Consider how we imagine the individual Jewish person would have responded in Egypt after 400 years of slavery, when Moses said, “put the blood on the doorposts” and then they ate the Passover. Although it’s familial, they would have seen themselves as part of a national redemption. That is the general Jewish view today. Salvation is national, perhaps Israel, perhaps international, but not individual. (Gen. 47.25, Ex. 14.30, Num. 10.9, Dt. 33.29, Judg 3.31, Psalm 80, Psalm 106)

However the Bible gives an even bigger picture. Individual salvation (same Hebrew word: “Yasha”) comes from the pen of King David. 2Sam. 22.4 reads, “I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.” This is repeated in Psalm 18. And Psalm 34.6 makes it clear that David considers himself a poor man who is YASHAd by the Lord. Psalm 116 sounds the cry of the poet for individual salvation.

Then how does an individual Jewish person obtain salvation? Isaiah 63 records it this way, “In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His

presence saved them; In His love and in His mercy He redeemed them,” This is the one who died for us all in chapter 53 of Isaiah and who is named in chapter 63 as “Mighty to save” in verse one. This One “poured out their lifeblood on the earth.”(.6) The one who in verse 8, “became their Saviour.” In other words Jews are saved the same way Gentiles are—by grace through faith in Jesus. Jesus died and rose again...that’s God’s testimony, and we receive Him by faith and confess Him as Lord. (Romans 10.9-10)

Then finally is it only for Jewish people? No. The Bible is clear in Isaiah, “Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other.” (45.22) The option for salvation was to be administered by the Jewish people unto the ends of the earth, even here in AustralAsia. Singaporeans and Kiwis, Maori and Malay, Aussies and interlopers everywhere...all can be saved by turning to the Lord. That word “Turn” actually means to “face” Him. If we are by nature turned away from God, then ‘turning’ means to turn around and return, to face Him and humbly cry out for mercy. The way a Gentile gets saved by faith in Jesus, that’s the same way a Jewish person is saved.



Identify with us

So many of you have been writing us lately about taking the messianic perspective on as a project, or as a life perspective. Some write about Hebrew roots and others say they are now celebrating Jewish holidays. For us Jewish believers, these are normal parts of life and we welcome those of you who are not Jewish and want to participate in these matters. That said, there is something you have probably not considered before of which we want you to be aware.

At Woronora Cemetery in Sutherland, Sydney, we have secured the rights to at least 80 burial plots and 130 niche drawers for Messianic Burial. Being identified with the messianic cause, in life and in death, will certainly tell others what you believe, and in burial, will last much longer than anything we say about ourselves in life.

All arrangements are made directly with Woronora by ringing their office on 02.9545.4677 or email them on mail@woronoracemetery.org.au Please tell them you desire to be buried or ashes placed in the “Messianic” section. Because Bob Mendelsohn, our national director, has organized this section, we think it right that you let us know of these arrangements for our administration as well. Thanks so much.

For more information from Jews for Jesus in this regard, please read bit.ly/MJBurials. Thanks.





by Rich Robinson
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Thank God for Chesed

In one Bible translation, we find “steadfast love” and “loyalty.” In another, we find “mercy,” “kindness,” “goodness” and “lovingkindness.” Which Hebrew word is rendered in all these different ways? It is “chesed,” (pronounced kheh-sed) which is found 249 times in the Old Testament. Most often, we encounter chesed in the Psalms—26 times in Psalm 136 alone! You might recall the familiar refrain from that wonderful Psalm of thanksgiving: “For His love (chesed) endures forever.”

One dictionary renders chesed as “unfailing love, loyal love, devotion, kindness, often based on a prior relationship, especially a covenant relationship.” Since the word is often used in the context of a covenant, it has been suggested that chesed also can be translated as “covenant love”—meaning the faithfulness required by the covenant.

You might say that chesed “lives” on a two-way street, as something which God certainly shows to His people, but also desires for us to give back to Him, as well as to one another.

Thank God for His chesed, because:

- like King David, we can cry out to God for forgiveness of sin based on His chesed: “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness (chesed); according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions” (Psalm 51:1).
- like the prophet Jeremiah, we can be confident in the midst of great trial, “Through the LORD’s mercies (chesed) we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not” (Lamentations 3:22).

And also because

- chesed is what He desires from His people: “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, (chesed) and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8). To belong to a God who so instructs His people is a wonderful thing.

Of course, God’s people don’t always give Him His due. In Jeremiah 2:2, God recalls the earlier devotion of Israel (His covenant people), also likening it to a marriage covenant: “I remember you, the kindness (chesed) of your youth, the love of your betrothal . . .”

But while we human beings often fail in showing chesed, God never does. Rather, His response to Israel’s failure, and to the failure of the human race, was the greatest act of chesed of all time. He sent His son Yeshua to atone for our sin.

All believers in Yeshua are under the New Covenant predicted in Jeremiah 31:31ff. That means all believers have become “covenant people” and recipients of God’s chesed. God desires that we reciprocate His loyal love as well as showing chesed to one another.

The ‘silly season’ is a good time to think about God’s chesed, to thank Him for it, and to look for ways to show it to others.

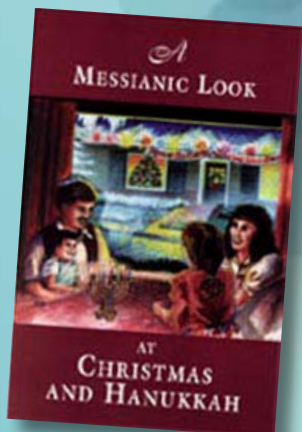


Messianic Resources

Featured resources for your learning, celebrating, and growth

A messianic look at Christmas and Hanukkah

BOOKLET. A wonderful collection of testimony, prose and poetry to add a little touch of love to the blessed season--from Jews who believe that Jesus is the reason for the season. A good booklet to give to an unbelieving Jewish friend. **Cost \$6.**



Wooden Dreidel

Wooden dreidel, with colored letters for easy reading. Nes gadol haya sham, a great miracle happened there. A perfect present for your boss or the teacher at your kids' school. **Cost \$7.**



Aquamarine Necklace

Handmade in Israel made out of Fine 14K gold-filled. This stunning Aquamarine necklace (chain is 46 cm) is actually a high-grade Swarovski crystal. A great gift as well. **Cost \$56.**

Women at the Time of the Bible

From her education and contribution to the community to her dress and adornments. Included are colour photographs and drawings of rare finds unearthed in the Holy Land. Written by Israeli Miriam Feinberg Vanosh. **Cost \$28**



"Messiah Revealed"

The stunning artwork of this substantial poster features a poem by Jon Isaac in which various verses correspond to Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah. A great addition to a den or dorm room, and it could even lead to a conversation with visitors or a roommate about Yeshua. Approx 55 cm x 71 cm. **Cost \$26.**



Jews for Jesus Bumper Sticker

Comes in varied colors combinations. 30 cm. Perfect for a brief case or back of a car (bumper sticker). **Cost \$4.**

All costs include shipping in Australia. For other countries, please add \$4 per item. Prices are going up very fast for postage. We have no control over that.

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