



## News From Our National Leader

February 2015

By Graeme Lee, National Leader, Christians for Israel NZ



### 2015 Is Here

New Year greetings to you all. I must confess that I've been a New Year goal setter all my Christian life.

1. My first for 2015 is the Apostle Paul's positive declaration found in Philippians 3:13-14 "Forgetting those things which are behind, I press forward to the goal – the high calling of God in Christ Jesus!" (*abridged King James version*).

2. The second is Ephesians 6:10-20 where we are told to put on all the armour of God.

3. The third is found in Ephesians 1:17 that God might give me (and us all) the Spirit of wisdom and revelation that we might know Him better.

So although I believe 2015 will be a very challenging year with anti-Semitism already exploding again in Europe. I also believe God is saying from these verses that we are to:

1. Forget the 'things' that hold us back and move ahead.
2. That we must put on all the armour.
3. That we rely on God's gifts of wisdom and revelation not on ourselves.

### Adrian Bates

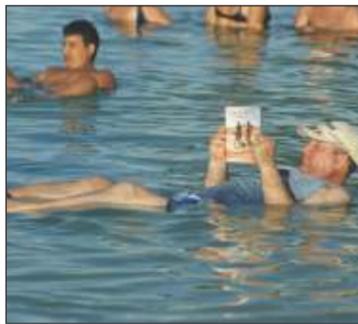
We have been greatly blessed to have Adrian as our Church Presenter and friend. We will greatly miss him. We wish Adrian and Ngaire God's richest blessings as they consider their future ministry.

### For Zion's Sake

I am very pleased that Peter Besant's report on his visit to 'For Zion's Sake' now gives our readers a better picture of this strategic ministry. The Director/Founder of the Ministry, Bradley Antolovich is a great guy. Please be prayerfully exercised about financially supporting FZS.

### Tour Group to Israel

John Gummer (Tour Organiser), Rochelle White (our Travel Agent), and Keshet (our Israel Agent) have done very well to assemble a tour group of 32 people! This is our first ever tour undertaking and my wife and I are looking forward to being a part of this exciting time.



## Israel Study Tour May 2015 Report

By John Gummer, Administrator/Secretary, Christians for Israel NZ

As I write this I am looking at a list of a total of thirty two Christians for Israel supporters who have paid the air fares and are set to join us on this epic tour of Israel. Epic because it is a very big ask for Kiwis to commit to the extra cost for air travel that we have to pay to get from "the Outer Ends of The Earth" (New Zealand) to "The Centre of God's Creation" (Israel). Also it takes quite a bit of organising finance, time, and all that goes with such a commitment.

However it will be worth it. I well remember flying to Israel, arriving at night, going to a hotel in Jerusalem and awaking the next morning to a view of the surrounding hillside and looking across at Bethlehem. The excitement begins to build as everywhere you go more and more of the Bible comes alive before your eyes. Israel is such an old country with so much history in almost every square inch so that you could spend days and days in any part of the country exploring and discovering places of interest from the Old Testament to the New Testament.

Jerusalem with its Old City crying out with stories and events, smells and noises that make it easy to imagine what it was like in Biblical Days. The City of David is another highlight where you look down from the same spot that David did when he spotted Bathsheba taking a bath on her roof top. The Western (Wailing) Wall along with the Mount of Olives, Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, The Garden Tomb, a Traditional Shabbat dinner, these, plus many of the old sites that bring the Bible alive are what we will be seeing and experiencing.

Then we have modern Israel with its infrastructure of transport, motorways, buildings and hotels, trains, agriculture, and their defence infrastructure. We visit kibbutz on the border of Lebanon where the Israel Defence Force demonstrates defending the border and

believe me you would not want to tangle with them.

As the weeks quickly rush by until we depart in early May, excitement starts to mount. For most people this is a once in a lifetime opportunity so it would be good to start praying for those that are travelling. If you have not been able to make it on this trip then maybe you could join our next trip in either 2016 or 2017.



Israel Defence Force with the border in the background

## A Word from our Treasurer

By Denis Smith, Treasurer, Christians for Israel NZ

### Financial Update:

We thank our Lord, for your wonderful prayer and financial support. Without prayer, our work lacks power. A quote that I read stated "Our prayers do not guarantee that something will happen, but if we do not pray, nothing will happen".

Also, although we endeavour to keep costs to a minimum, we cannot keep the ministry going, without financial help – and you are wonderful.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless you and your families, throughout 2015.

### Receipts:

When Henk Kamsteeg originally set up the ministry in New Zealand, he sensibly sent out receipts for each donation. However as the ministry has grown, the cost of sending out receipts for each individual donation, has steadily increased, and basic postage is now 80 cents.

We would like to change to annual donation receipts for the full financial year, after March 31 each year, which would provide a great financial saving to the ministry.

However we are aware that some of our faithful supporters like to ensure that their donation (particularly cash donations) have been received, so we are happy to continue to send out individual donation receipts where required. Should you want to continue to receive individual receipts, would you please let us know by telephone, email or preferably a note enclosed with your donation.

## Meet the Team - Denis Smith

Denis is a retired senior Bank Manager, who is married to Pam, a recently retired Primary School teacher and Syndicate Leader. They have been happily married for over 50 years and have two children and three grand-children. They attend Forrest Hill Presbyterian church, a strong evangelical church, which is now very multi-cultural. They have both served in various roles, Pam primarily in the Sunday School. Denis has filled many roles and has been the Convenor of the Missions committee for far too long. In the 1980's the church embraced the Missions Faith Promise scheme, and still has an annual target of \$30,000.

Over the years Denis served as Secretary of the Kindergarten, Primary school and Table Tennis club; Chairman of the Intermediate school, and has been and is Treasurer for a number of Christian organisations. Denis has had a long involvement with Open Air Campaigners (now OAC Ministries) and at one time served as National Chairman, Administrator and Treasurer.

12 years ago Denis was diagnosed with aggressive and advanced cancer, but has been wonderfully healed, and all praise goes to God.

Since retirement Denis has filled many roles, including being the initial Church Manager at the Baptist Tabernacle. Since her retirement Pam has been very involved with helping with the three grand-children.



# Palestine - the Name, History and the Confusion

By Denis Smith

*My wife and I went to Israel in 2013 and thoroughly enjoyed visiting the biblical sites and walking where Jesus walked. In addition I came back to New Zealand with a great concern to help Christians and others to know about the true history of the area named 'Palestine', following the end of the 1914-18 World War.*

*The following is my abbreviated summary of what I understand are the facts, particularly the fact that "Palestine" has already been divided up - a fact that those, including our Government, who state that they are in favour of a two-state solution, are ignoring.*

*I would be happy to receive any feedback that you have regarding my article, particularly if you have a more correct version.*

The first mention of Palestine was by the Romans, referring to the Jewish nation. Jews and Arabs (Palestinians) have never been the same people. Arabs believe that they are descended from Ishmael, who was Abraham's son by his concubine. The Bible tells us that Jews are descended from Isaac, Abraham's younger son by his wife. The Koran draws on some stories of the Old Testament of the Bible, but the two books are vastly different.

After the Turks were defeated in the First World War, the area that today we refer to as Israel/Palestine was very, very sparsely inhabited, making Arab claims a little far-fetched. It was only after Jewish settlers moved into the area and developed the land using irrigation etc., that the land was made fertile, encouraging both Jews and Arabs to settle there.

In the 1920's the area currently covering Jordan, Israel and the West Bank/Gaza, was designated "Palestine". At the San Remo conference (a valid world decision-making-body comprising the victorious WW1 nations), the decision was made to create Mandates to give indigenous people self-government. These Mandates were later adopted by the League of Nations, and later again by the United Nations.

In 1922 the UK, which held the Mandate, created Transjordan (today's Jordan) for the

Arabs, giving them 77% of Palestine. Sadly the UK, probably due to Arab pressure, did not give the Jewish people the remaining 23%.

Finally in 1947, the UN voted to give the Jewish people a much smaller area, which because they had no alternative, the Jewish people accepted. The UN resolution was subject to acceptance by all parties, but the Arabs refused, and their answer was an immediate invasion of the Jewish lands on April 15, 1948, with five armies. Israel took in approximately one million Jewish people who had been living in the Arab nations. The Arab nations refused to let them stay in their countries.

Conversely the Arab nations **REFUSED** to take the Arab people who lived in Israel. Many of these Arabs lived and continued to live happily in Israel. However a number moved into the refugee camps and there are now 3rd and 4th generation refugees there. Where else in the world have refugees not been re-settled? These people have been left like a cancer to fester in what should be the Jewish part of Palestine.

The fighting ceased with an armistice, which left the armies in the positions that they were in, at the date of the armistice - these lines were not **INTERNATIONAL** boundaries, but cease-fire lines. Sadly Egypt then claimed Gaza, and Jordan claimed the so-called West Bank, which neither nation had the right to do. There were no borders established.

Many Arabs actually settled in the West Bank, (Israel's Judea/Samaria), during the Jordanian occupation. There were further wars and in 1967, Israel strongly urged Jordan not to come in on the side of Egypt and Syria. Sadly Jordan did, and was soundly defeated. At the conclusion of this war, Israel had taken East Jerusalem and the so-called West Bank).

I cannot condone all that the Israeli's have done. However I have great sympathy for their predicament.

They are **NOT** occupiers of the West Bank, as the world's media seem intent on claiming.

At worst the so-called West Bank should be designated as a "disputed area", just like Kashmir on the borders of India and Pakistan.

## The Menorah and the Messenger Supplied by Brian Hooper, Menorah Group

*"Make a lamp stand of pure gold. Hammer out its base and shaft, and make its flower-like cups, buds and blossoms of one piece with them. Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lamp stand - three on one side and three on the other." Exodus 25:31-32.*

The Menorah (photo on right) is a reconstruction of the original Temple Menorah that was made by Moses and that occupied a place in the Temple right down to the time of Jesus Christ.

**So what is the connection between the ancient Menorah and the Manger?**

1. The Menorah, made of pure gold, represented the pure, sinless, exceedingly precious, nature of the one true God. The Manger was the birthplace of the pure, sinless Jesus Christ - Lord and God.

2. The Menorah occupied central place in the first temple in the wilderness. The Manger was the very first earthly house (habitation) to contain Jesus Christ.

3. The Menorah brought the presence of God down to earth among God's people. The Manger brought Jesus of whom it was said: "So the

Word became human and lived among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the only son of the Father." *John 14; 20 NLT*

4. The Menorah was lit to reveal the God of light. *Leviticus 24:1-4*. The Manger's baby, eight days on, was called by Simeon: "A light to show truth to the gentiles and bring glory your

people Israel." *Luke 2:29-33*. Later, in his ministry, Jesus said: "I am the Light of the world." *John 8:12*

5. The Menorah, in its making, was accompanied by other items YWEH required: "You shall accept gifts for me from every person whose heart so moves him. Gold, spices for the anointing oil, and for the aromatic incense." *Exodus 25:1-7*. The Manger was where the Magi gave gold, frankincense and myrrh. *Matthew 2:11*

6. The Menorah was in a sanctuary: "And let them make for me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them." A tabernacle... that God inhabited. *Exodus 25:8-9*. The Manger

birthed the One who was to become our tabernacle dwelling place. The Manger brought Jesus who said: "You are in me, and I am in you." *John 14; 20*.

7. The Menorah's seven lamps were lit every day using fresh, consecrated, olive oil for burning from evening until morning. Then the centre one only was lit for daytime (So records Flavius Josephus). This meant that God was present both night and day. The Manger's baby was the 'light' from the beginning (*Simeon's words*) and when he ministered as an adult he claimed:

**"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD".** *John 8:12*

The seven stars in His right hand



This is a famous painting by the artist Francesco Hayez in 1867. It depicts the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem by Rome in 70CE. Josephus tells us that the Temple Menorah was taken to Rome and paraded through the streets. The artist has shown the Menorah being taken away, if you look carefully in the bottom left corner.



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# My Visit to “For Zion’s Sake” in Israel

By Peter Besant, Christians for Israel, Christchurch



As a Bible reading Christian my long held dream was to visit the land of Israel. The land the Bible says belongs to God.

The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants. *Lev: 25:35*

This is the land Abram journeyed to; The land King David ruled, The land Jesus was born in and walked on and shed his blood for my sins on. This is the land that I was fortunate to visit and stood on myself for nine weeks in September and October of 2014.

Months before leaving I read an article in C4I about “For Zion’s Sake Ministries”. With help from the friendly people at Christians for Israel, I made contact with Bradley Antolovich at the ministry in Israel. “Come and see us when you’re in Israel” he said.

I left a Christchurch winter and arrived in a hot Tel



Aviv and gave myself a few days to acclimatise, walking around streets, discovering a market, walking along the beach with the Mediterranean on my right and the ancient city of Jaffa straight ahead. “Am I really here?” is a question I would ask myself often in the coming weeks.

Making my way by public transport to the Old City in Jerusalem and getting lost in the process was all part of the adventure. Learning that some people in Israel speak English, many do not. Asking for information can be both humorous and frustrating.

A good ten days exploring the old city and criss-crossing the footsteps of Jesus, going to the Temple Mount (my personal highlight), the Mount of Olives, Gethsemane and the Kidron Valley. All these places mentioned in the Bible were fantastic!

I made contact with For Zion’s Sake (FZS). Bradley was in Switzerland because FZS has an office there. They also have an office in California from where container loads of clothing depart for destination FZS Israel. FZS is in an industrial area of Jerusalem.

Because Bradley was in Switzerland it meant I could stay in the bedroom above the warehouse. I arrived at FZS at a time when they were pulling up carpet in the warehouse and laying tiles. The small staff team are Ukrainian Jews. English is quite limited and communication was often difficult but they all love Jesus and the short time of 15 days I spent with them was very enjoyable. What a beautiful team of people they were, providing clothing, food coupons, toys, medicine and support to the needy in Israel.

On Shabbat a small congregation would meet in the warehouse to worship Jesus. What a privilege it was to be there, 14 Ukrainians and me. The music from a computer and their singing was just beautiful. Then a Skyped message from Bradley in Switzerland. Most mornings began with a devotion.

My arrival at FZS was quite timely as I was able to help tear up carpet and shift furniture. The bloke laying the tiles could not speak a word of English but I enjoyed working with him. It’s amazing how two people who can’t talk to each other can still work together using pointing grunting and demonstration. I was also able to help build a small fence, do some painting and cleaning neglected corners.

I would like to have seen the ministry side more but the mission was to clean up and refurbish and I was extremely grateful for the chance to serve in anyway I could and to live in their space for a while.

Bradley’s arrival from Switzerland with his family meant I had to vacate. With no accommodation in the vicinity that I knew of I made the decision to go off and explore Israel.

I did finally get to meet Bradley and his family. I liked him and his family immediately, it was like we had known each other for ages. It was also nice to have someone understand me when I spoke! Sometimes that doesn’t even happen in New Zealand!

So it was with a tinge of sadness that I left Bradley, his family and my new found Ukrainian friends, but there was also excitement because of what lay ahead for me as I set out to discover the Holy Land.

Next stop Tiberias. In a land where the journeys are as good as the destination. So many highlights. As well as a few insights.

**One highlight:** In a place called the Timna National Park, just north of Eilat there is a complete and precise model of the Tabernacle of Moses. Standing in the Holy of Holies is something special.

**One insight:** I was fortunate to be part of an organized day trip to Bethlehem, the Jordan, Jericho and Ramallah. The West Bank. Our guide was a Palestinian.

**Personal insight:** The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Many other things and analogies. In the Bible there are specific verses about: the Land of Israel, the Israelite people and Jerusalem. God bless Israel!

*Bradley Antolovich, Director of For Zion's Sake (FZS) Ministry has sent this comment about Peter's visit...*

*“Peter was indeed a blessing, not only to us at FZS but to all he met and ministered to! Peter is a true servant and he would be welcome back with us anytime.”*



## Christians for Israel Fiji Sets Up Prayer Groups

By Lepani Makubuna, National Leader, Christians for Israel, Fiji

- **Prayer Co-ordinators** - We need one co-ordinator each for the East, West and North. If you know that this is an area that God has laid in your heart to be involved in, then please do let us know. We need Prayer Warriors. I look forward to hearing from you soon.
- **Assistant Co-ordinator** - Once each group meet, it is advisable for the group to appoint an Assistant Co-ordinator to share the work load with the Co-ordinator.
- **Communication** - The Coordinators will be contacting members in their respective locations. They will be provided with the list of names and contacts of members in each of the 3 locations.
- **Venues** - For now, we can start in own individual homes on a rotation basis. Otherwise, it is up to each prayer groups to decide on this.
- **Prayer Points** - these will be communicated ahead of time to the respective Prayer Co-ordinators.
- **Dates and Time of Prayer** - This will be communicated to you once the three prayer co-ordinators from the East, West and North meet and agree on this. The idea is that all the three prayer groups will be praying together on the same day at the same time (*power of agreement!*)

- **How Often Will We Meet in Prayer?** This is to be decided upon once the three prayer coordinators meet and this will be communicated to you in due course.

Please remember the Jews throughout the world in your prayers, particularly those who are currently being persecuted. Right now wherever you are, can I ask you to please pray for the Jews in Ukraine

The state of Jewish people living in Ukraine is tragic. They face great persecution and the threat of violence at any moment. Many live in extreme poverty and hunger. The government is crippled by the rebellion and the ongoing fight with Russia and couldn't do much to meet their needs even if they wanted to.

Though it isn't being talked about as much in the media now, the situation facing the nation of Ukraine, and especially the Jewish people who live there, is growing increasingly dangerous. The greatest desire in their hearts is to move to Israel and live in their ancient homeland.

*“Twenty one then say to them, thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all around, and bring them to their own land.” Ezekiel 37:21*



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# Response - Yes, I want to support Christians For Israel

## DONATIONS

- Christians for Israel New Zealand Support \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Aliyah
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- For Zion's Sake \$ \_\_\_\_\_
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| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Why End Times</i> by Willem Glashouwer   | _____ | \$12.00 ea Book |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Why Israel</i> by Willem Glashouwer  | _____ | \$20.00 ea Book |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Messages by Willem Glashouwer:<br><i>Israel's Biblical Background and the Resurrection of Christ</i><br>(ICEJ & Holy Trinity Tauranga meetings) | _____ | \$8.00 ea CD    |

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## For Zion's Sake Ministries

For Zion's Sake Ministries is a non-profit humanitarian aid organization - established and dedicated to assisting the needs of newly arriving immigrants. For most, starting over in Israel is physically and emotionally, as well as economically, overwhelming. Thousands of new immigrants go home to Israel every year. Most of these immigrants arrive in Israel with only the clothes they carry with them in their suitcases. The transition of starting over in a strange land is extremely difficult for most of the immigrants (Olim). For Zion's Sake Ministries assists those in need both spiritually and physically by providing humanitarian aid through their warehouse distribution of furniture, medicine, food coupons, and clothing. Direct financial assistance is given through various Outreach programs.



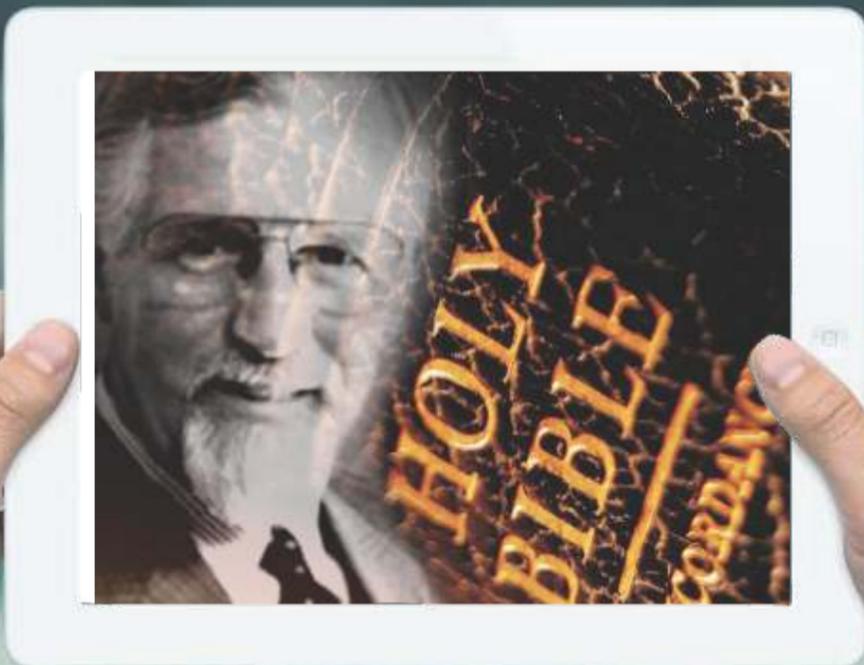
## Hineni Jerusalem

Hineni Jerusalem is a not for profit organization with a focus on Jewish unity, social, and spiritual concerns, while inspiring people of all Faiths, Cultures and Nations to a pursuit of bettering society and a desire for a world of justice and peace.

Hineni Jerusalem's contribution to society includes: assistance to survivors of terror, the needy, troubled youth, survivors of the Holocaust, disadvantaged people, and provides humanitarian aid in times of war and need.

As a result they have introduced, in the heart of Jerusalem, a center that offers a soup kitchen, various therapies for support and recovery, educational programs, cultural events, National and Jewish holiday celebrations, commemorations, continually creating additional programs as the need arises.

## David Pawson WEB BROADCAST EVERY SATURDAY 8:30AM-9:30AM NZ TIME



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“The Bible has become a new book for me!”  
is the typical response from viewers.

Ian Grant brought David Pawson on tour to New Zealand after hearing David Pawson teach and seeing the impact his teaching had in England.

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