

ReflectionNZ

Christians for Israel New Zealand

Newsletter Issue 6
July 2018

By Bryce Turner, NZ National Executive Director

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Meet

Our NZ Team

Introducing: Denis Smith



Before retiring as a Westpac Senior Manager in Auckland, my wife Pam and I lived in Christchurch and Wellington, as well as Oamaru, where our two

children were born. We also now have three lovely grandchildren.

I was a sickly child (I found out it was due to chemical poisoning and probably contributed to my cancer) so I needed to rely on God when I could not cope. I attended Sunday School and different denominations. In Forrest Hill, we participated at the local Presbyterian church with expository preaching, and I began to grow as a Christian. I am still an elder and Convenor of the Missions committee.

I was introduced to OAC Ministries and later found myself as National Chairman. In 2001 I met Graeme Lee which meant terrific evangelical outreaches with Greg Laurie.

In 2002 I was diagnosed with aggressive and advanced prostate cancer. Wonderfully the Lord healed me, although I still get closely monitored. Having a personal relationship with Jesus is the highlight and strength of my life.

When Christians for Israel New Zealand was established, Graeme Lee asked me to be Treasurer, a role I readily accepted.

Privileged to Live in New Zealand

Looking out through the office window right now, although the ground is very wet, the sun is shining in a clear, blue sky. It is a great privilege to look out across the beautiful, peaceful country we live in, a privilege I must remind myself not to take for granted. Where the biggest news in Auckland at the moment is the new fuel tax, it is hard to imagine just how many others around the world feel as they struggle even to stay alive. Our local news media report that another 270,000 refugees are fleeing the civil war in Syria, most pouring into an already struggling Lebanon. The situation in Iran too worsens by the day as more people join in protests, in particular challenging Iran's massive spending outside the country – this in a country where protestors face the death penalty. The value of the Iranian currency has dropped by nearly half in recent months, unemployment is rife, and citizens are starting to struggle just to make ends meet really. It is interesting to see the perspective of some of these average Iranian people, with many protestors waving placards and shouting “*Death to Palestine*” and “*Help us, not Gaza*”. This unusual display certainly goes against the trend in the Middle East but may be a sign that things are changing? Perhaps at least some are realising that Israel is not to blame for every problem in the Middle East. The UN, however, has remained largely silent. I do not doubt that yet another resolution will be produced in due course, however, somehow attributing the problems in the Persia of old, to the Jewish homeland.

We have been encouraged to see clips of Prince William's recent trip to Israel. Although his tour was carefully planned so as not to be seen favouring any particular group or making any particular political statements, watching the Prince visit Yad Vashem, the Western Wall and other special sites, and the grave of his Great Grandmother who is honoured as Righteous Among the Nations, was stirring. The Prince seemed to have a real sense of peace throughout his visit, albeit interrupted by stone-throwing youths in Ramallah.

The greatest news of the day, however, has to be the discovery in a cave network in Thailand of a missing boys' football team and their coach. Missing, presumed lost, after nine days, the images of parents, relatives, friends and even just members of the public crying with delight upon receiving news of their loved ones being found alive is truly uplifting. How much pain and agony have these people gone through as they waited, every hour further diminishing hopes of seeing the missing 13 again? How amazing must it feel then, for the parents of the 13 to finally have news that their missing children are alive and soon to return to them? As I write, plans are underway to carefully bring the boys and their coach back to the ground, back home safe and sound.

As a parent, I can relate, albeit in just the smallest of ways, to that feeling of having lost a child. That terror, the deep, agonising sense of emptiness, loss and helplessness – for me even just a couple of terrifying minutes after losing a toddler in a shopping centre – is a feeling like no other.

I am reminded of another father who longs for His children to be returned home, safe and sound. One of the great joys I have experienced working for Christians for Israel NZ is seeing the tears of joy when a person, a family, makes Aliyah – returning to live in Israel. As they share of their hopes and dreams, for just a moment you could think you were talking to any other refugee or migrant; then you realise that this is not just the fulfilment of a dream, but of prophecy. It is a great honour to be able to sponsor people making Aliyah, thank you so much to every one of you – our supporters – who make this possible. While the work keeps growing, the costs keep going up – our postage costs are about to increase hugely – and there's still so much more to do, we will nevertheless continue doing this because we believe it is part of God's plan to do so, and time is running out. Thanks so much for supporting Christians for Israel New Zealand.

Jewish Kitchen

Salt & Pepper Kugel with Roasted Garlic



Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the year - the day on which we are closest to God and to the quintessence of our own souls. It is the Day of Atonement..

For nearly 26 hours, the Jewish people abstain from food and drink, do not wash or apply lotions or creams, do not wear leather footwear. Instead, they spend the day in synagogue, praying for forgiveness.

While there are no rules about what can and cannot be consumed, it's common to serve dairy-focused dishes - rather than meat-based ones - because many people find them easier for empty bellies to digest. A typical spread includes bagels with smoked fish and cream cheese, baked casserole-style dishes like strata and kugel, blintzes, and assorted cookies and cakes. Here we share a Salt & Pepper Kugel with Roasted Garlic - yum!

Ingredients

Cooking spray
10 cloves garlic, peeled
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1 (450g) package fine egg noodles
1/3 cup extra virgin olive oil
4 eggs
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon black pepper
Pinch cayenne pepper (optional)

Preparation

Preheat oven to 250°F (120°C). Lightly grease a 23cm x 8cm baking dish.

1. Place garlic in the baking dish in a single layer and drizzle with olive oil. Bake for 15 minutes, until garlic is soft. Remove garlic from the oven, mash and set aside. Raise the oven temperature 350°F (175°C).
2. Meanwhile boil egg noodles until just tender. Drain and toss with oil and set aside.
3. In a large bowl lightly beat eggs with salt, black pepper, and cayenne if desired. Stir in garlic, followed by noodle mixture until well combined. Spoon into prepared pan and bake for 1 hour.

We Remember

Courtesy of God TV

Chuck Missler Passes Away Leaving Bible Teaching Archive

Chuck had an extraordinary teaching gift, with a unique ability to teach God's Word, verse by verse. Over the years, God TV aired his programming on Genesis, Revelation, Daniel and many other Bible books as well as his highly popular series, Learn the Bible in 24 Hours. These will never lose their impact.

Born, Charles W. Missler on 28 May 1934, in Illinois, USA Chuck died on 1 May 2018, aged 83 years, in Reporoa, New Zealand. According to Koinonia House, he is survived by his two daughters Lisa and Meshell and several grandchildren. His wife Nancy passed away in 2015. The couple also had two sons, Charles and Mark, who are also deceased.

Koinonia House, now led by Ron Matsen will continue Chuck's far-reaching vision to facilitate serious study of the Scriptures. What a legacy he leaves. The Church has lost one of its most prolific Bible teachers with Chuck's passing, but his messages will continue to make a huge impact.

For those who've listened to Chuck's '66/40 Series,' you will remember it's catchy introduction: "It is sixty-six books written by forty authors, written between 1446 BC and 90 AD, an integrated message system from outside our time and space domain." An engineer by profession, Chuck had the ability to appeal to a wide audience and reached everyone.

A Great Love for the Bible

First and foremost, Chuck revered God's Word. He said "the Bible bears evidence of supernatural engineering in every detail," and he would expound Biblical truths in a way that captured the attention of even hardened sceptics. "I was a sceptic until I was 17, but when I listened to Chuck Missler's Learn the Bible in 24 Hours I knew that the Bible was the infallible word of God," said Brandon on social media. "I was a sceptic, now I'm a believer!"

Chuck was also often quoted as saying, "The Bible is the only book that hangs its entire



credibility on its ability to write history in advance, without error." As he taught in meetings in many different countries, on podcasts, through video and on TV, many came to this same conclusion. "Dr Chuck Missler showed me how to scientifically prove the Bible's authenticity and God's creation," wrote one viewer.

Following Chuck's passing many took to social media to share about his passion for God's Word. Comments include:

"What a wonderful life. I learned more about the Bible from him than any other person I've ever met or heard."

"Chuck Missler, I have learned so much from you. Your love of the Word has encouraged me and contributed greatly to my desire to learn the Word. For that, I am truly grateful."

Fascinating Insights

In addition to his teaching on many different topics, Chuck is also regarded as "a colossus of an End Times Teacher." Indeed he was not afraid to tackle the most controversial of topics, bringing Biblical answers to age-old questions. It was from Chuck that many of us first heard terms like 'the Nephilim'. He taught on many End Time topics including Transhumanism: Recreating Humanity and The Magog Invasion.

Prominent Christian leaders have responded to Chuck's passing. John Arnott of Catch the Fire Toronto referred to him as "A GREAT man, a brilliant and amazing Bible teacher."

What's Happening in the Office?

By Cathy Eksteen, Office Manager

Thank You for Your Generosity

I'd like to start by sincerely thanking everyone who made donations this last year. We are truly humbled and grateful for your incredible support. Please be encouraged to know what a huge difference you are making in the lives of the Jewish people, the welfare support organisations, Aliyah and allowing the Christians for Israel ministry to continue to grow and be a resource and support ministry here in New Zealand and Internationally. God is good. If you haven't received your 'Acknowledgement letter' by now and wish to receive one please get in touch with us. Don't forget to pre-order the new magazines! Chat soon...

Youth View

By Reuben Turner

Israel Through the Eyes of a 15-year-old



After the hype of his brother's wedding, Prince William has recently featured in the media with his trip to The State of Israel and Jordan. While in Israel he visited Yad Vashem- Israel's official monument to the many

Jews who had their lives horrifically cut short by the Nazi regime. William's great-grandmother, Princess Alice of Battenberg, is recognised at Yad Vashem as a 'Righteous Among the Nations' for saving a Jewish family in Greece during the 'ethnic cleansing'. I visited Yad Vashem myself last year, and seeing the images and articles of the Holocaust has impacted me forever. This visit, I can imagine, would have been a deeply moving experience for the Prince. Pictures of the Jewish children, for example, severely malnourished, have caused millions of people over the 65 years of the museum's existence to become overwhelmed with even a small glimpse of what were unimaginable events. Despite nations around the world either denying their participation in the Holocaust or denying the Holocaust altogether, you cannot ignore the disappearance of six million Jews, many of whom suffered immensely while waiting for their deaths. The fact is that we cannot afford to forget about the Holocaust, as the only way to prevent such evil from happening again is by raising awareness of it. We read now about Poland trying to deny any involvement in, or certainly any responsibility for, the deaths of those 6 million Jewish people, which has caused a backlash. This is encouraging, as the Jewish nation needs to know there are others who 'have their back'. With anti-Semitism on the rise once again it is important that, despite any UN resolutions condemning Israel, we continue supporting the Jews. In the face of international criticism, Poland has since amended their laws on the denial of their involvement in the Holocaust. It would seem that despite rising tensions with countries such as Iran and now Poland, Israel is still supported by Prince William and many others. Furthermore, the recent media coverage has been great for Israel, as many people really only hear about the violence in the Middle East. The peacefulness shown throughout media coverage of the royal visit contradicts what the general public is often led to believe. In a world revolving around media image, this is promising for the Jewish people. I trust that many more celebrities will come to visit The Holy Land, as it is truly a beautiful place. I would like to encourage all to take the time out of your busy lives, to go and visit the Holy Land, as it is amazing to see all the Bible stories and events come to life right in front of your own eyes. I hope it will solidify your faith as much as it did for me.

Current Affairs

Courtesy of Shalom.Kiwi

Kiwi Commentators Reveal Holocaust Ignorance

Amongst the recent legitimate outcry about the Trump administration's policy of separating children from their parents on the southern border of the United States, many commentators around the world have been quick to raise analogies with the treatment of Jews by the Nazis.

In New Zealand, cartoonists and columnists made the same comparison, in several cases revealing a concerning historical ignorance about the unique scale, nature and horror of the Holocaust.

The Otago Daily Times, for example, published this cartoon by Garrick Tremain, which wrongly suggests that the Nazis were more humane than the Trump administration as they did not separate children from their parents.



Jewish children were in fact separated from their parents on arrival at the death camps, and sent immediately to their deaths, as the Nazis did not see an economic purpose in keeping them alive. In an effort by desperate parents to save their lives, many Jewish children were taken from their parents, never to see them again, and passed to non-Jews to hide them. Those children who survived suffered lifelong trauma and grief from the separation.

Similarly, in a Saturday Herald, columnist Lizzie Marvelly opined: *"I thought back to Nazi Germany this week and felt a chill run down my spine. We often wonder how Hitler came to be able to do the horrific things that he did. Ripping children away from their families and imprisoning them in concentration camps was one of them. Lest we forget what the Anzacs died for..."*

Marvelly appears unaware that the Nazis did more than *"ripping children away from their families and imprisoning them in concentration camps"*. The Germans and their accomplices murdered approximately 1.5 million children. The murder of all Jewish children was central to the Nazi quest for the destruction of the entire people. Of the small number of traumatised

Jewish children who miraculously survived concentration camps, most of those had been subjected to horrific scientific experiments.

In an age when knowledge of the Holocaust is receding, it is alarming that columnists and cartoonists, of whom the public expect certain subject-matter knowledge, are so lacking in basic understanding and that editors would see fit to publish such Holocaust distortion. Other cartoonists, such as Tom Scott in the Dominion Post and Rod Emmerson in the NZ Herald, have made less egregious factual errors but still relied on an inappropriate Holocaust analogy to convey their point.

It is possible to criticise the inhumane family separation policy without resorting to glib and historically inaccurate comparisons with the Holocaust. As historian Professor Deborah Lipstadt argues, equating the two is not only historically wrong, but also strategically wrong, as it provides supporters of the policy with a chance to defend their position, and dismiss critiques as hyperbolic. Brendan O'Neil argues similarly, saying the false comparisons reduce the Holocaust to *"just one of those things that happens when politicians go overboard with legislation"*, denuding it of its uniqueness, and *"in doing that... [making] Trump's own excesses seem almost forgivable in comparison."*

False Holocaust comparisons diminish the singular, unprecedented horror of the Holocaust and the genocidal nature and intention of the Nazi policies. Professor Lipstadt has described the glib comparisons as a form of *"soft-core Holocaust denial"*. Lipstadt, who won a celebrated legal case against notorious Holocaust denier David Irving, sees soft-core Holocaust denial as harder to fight and yet more dangerous than the form of denial that she fought in court.

The separation of children from their parents that occurred on the US border is a moral outrage. It is also not, as some claim, the Holocaust all over again. The intention of the Holocaust was the extinguishing of an entire group on an entire continent; as Lipstadt explains, the aim was not separation, but extermination.

It is vital that the memory of what befell the Jewish people between 1939 and 1945 is kept alive – both out of respect for the victims and to ensure that it does not happen again, and we must insist that those who invoke the memory of those murdered, do so with knowledge, good faith and accuracy.

BOOK
TODAY

JOURNEY TO ISRAEL 2019

With Optional Extension to Jordan/Eilat

CHRISTIANS FOR
ISRAEL
NEW ZEALAND

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rhema media



9 March - 23 March 2019

(PLUS OPTIONAL JORDAN/EILAT EXTENSION TILL 27 March 2019)

Escorted by Bryce and Eleanor Turner, and
Graham Simpson of Christians For Israel New Zealand



Graham



Bryce

Christians for Israel NZ, supported by Rhema Media, are pleased to offer you the opportunity to join us on our next study tour to the Holy Land. Previous tours have surpassed all expectations with many finding it just too difficult to name a highlight, as there were highlights every day. You have the incredible opportunity to travel the land where Jesus lived and walked. Explore biblical history and layers of civilization, the ancient to the modern, escorted by our experienced tour leaders and a fantastic Jewish guide with a profound knowledge of the Bible. The trip of a lifetime – come join us!

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 15 DAY VISIT INCLUDE:

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- Take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee
- An opportunity to get baptised in the River Jordan
- Float in the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth
- Ascend the mountain of Masada in the Judean Desert
- Explore the Old City of Jerusalem and walk in the footsteps of Jesus
- Walk through the tunnels under The Western Wall
- Celebrate Communion at the Garden Tomb

HIGHLIGHTS OF JORDAN/EILAT OPTIONAL EXTENSION INCLUDE:

- Enter the Red Rock City of Petra
- Explore red desert of Wadi Ram
- Visit Tabernacle in the Wilderness

For further information and a
detailed itinerary, contact:

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