

O Israel put your hope  
in the LORD...

Psalm 130:7

Spring 2006

# HOPE for ISRAEL

## A Word From Moran

### Where Do We Find Hope?

Dear Family, Shalom.

During the past months, many people have asked me for my opinion about the changes that are constantly happening in the Middle East. They speak to me with concern in their voice over the uncertainty in that part of the world. When we look at things from our *fleshly* perspective, we have every reason to worry and be concerned over the future of Israel.

Worrisome events are happening everyday: Iran is getting its power back again while its President continues to call for the destruction of Israel, along with denying history itself by denying the Holocaust; there is the constant threat of attack from the Hizballah on the northern border of Israel in order to pull Israel back into a war; and finally, we have witnessed the recent election of Hamas, an active terror organization, whose goal is the complete and total destruction of Israel...they desire to push

dealing with very difficult issues amongst themselves: The disengagement and expulsion of thousands of Jews from the Gaza strip and Judea and Samaria, which opened a deep



*Prayers against the disengagement.*

wound among our people, and the election of the new government, which plans to shrink Israel back to its pre-1967 borders. If that weren't enough, the economic situation is steadily growing worse.

It is easy to see why many people in Israel live today without much hope for the future. The reality that I have just described is one of the main reasons I left Israel nine years ago. It was during this time, however, that a major change happened in my life. Through a newfound faith in Yeshua the Messiah, I gained a new understanding of God's promises to Israel: "*For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. And I will be found by you...and I will restore your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places*



*Tears during the disengagement.*

Israel into the sea. In early April there was a suicide attack in the city of Tel Aviv, where 9 people were killed and over 60 were wounded. The Hamas representative justified it as an act of "self-defense".

At the same time, the Israeli people are



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# Persecution of Believers

For us, followers of Yeshua the Messiah in Israel, there is another challenge that we have to deal with – persecution. The persecution against the Body of Messiah, both Jewish and Arab, is growing and becoming more and more extreme. The different Jewish groups that are opposing the Messianic believers in Israel are becoming more and more violent. For instance, in the city of Arad, a store owned by believers was burned down by fanatic people who oppose Yeshua the Messiah. In other cities throughout Israel, we hear of constant attacks against believers – attacks which include physical violence, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, the throwing of Molotov bottles, and the destruction of property. In addition to this kind of abuse are lies that are constantly spread against the believers.

Despite these troubling things, I am always amazed at the truth of God’s Word

and how over and over again He is using this difficult situation to bring Himself glory. For example, whenever there is persecution against the believers, God uses it to bring “free advertisement” of the Good News through the newspapers that report these events.

The other group that has been greatly persecuted is the Arab believers, especially former Muslims who now proclaim Yeshua as their Messiah. Every time I meet with Arab believers,



*A hiding place for a persecuted believer.*

we always greet each other as though it might be the last time we will see one another. They live under a constant threat for their lives and their families.

Hope for Israel is standing behind both the Jewish and Arab believers in prayer, financial support, and through providing for material needs they may have. I believe it is the responsibility of all members of the Body of Messiah to support these precious brothers and sisters, not just with words, but also with action.

## A Word From Moran, cont’d.

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*Hamas training camp.*

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desire to push Israel into the sea. In early April there was a suicide attack in the city of Tel Aviv, where 9 people were killed and over 60 were wounded. The Hamas representative justified it as an act of “self-defense”.

At the same time, the Israeli people are dealing with very difficult issues amongst themselves: The disengagement and expulsion of thousands of Jews from the Gaza strip and Judea and Samaria, which opened a deep wound among our people, and the election of the new government, which plans to shrink Israel back to its pre-1967 borders. If that weren’t enough, the economic situation is steadily growing worse.

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faith in Yeshua the Messiah, I gained a new understanding of God’s promises to Israel: “*For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. And I will be found by you...and I will restore your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you...and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.*” Jeremiah 29:11-14 (NASB)

It was my acknowledgment of Yeshua the Messiah of Israel that restored my life and gave me hope not only for my life but also for my fellow countrymen whom I love. This is indeed the greatest hope my people can have; it is not a temporal hope, but an eternal hope.

My opinion of the recent events in Israel is that they are nothing new; it’s thousands of years of the same reality. There are only different names and faces.

God has always been faithful to Israel, even when Israel was not faithful to Him; this is evidenced in the Bible over and over

# Youth Outreach

*One of the greatest problems that Israel faces today is its youth, its future generation. The youth in Israel are looking for something. Unfortunately, many of them are finding their comfort in alcohol, drugs, etc. Throughout Scripture, we see the importance of teaching our children the ways of God. We at Hope for Israel consider it a priority to invest our resources in the future generation of Israel. Therefore, we have partnered with Ner-Yah (literally, "candle of God"), a youth outreach, to achieve this goal. We will disciple them, support them in prayer, and support them financially as well. One of the things that grabbed my attention about Ya'el and her group of leaders is the fact that they did not sit around idly, waiting for things to happen, but started reaching out by practicing their faith.*

*"Arise, shine; for the light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."*

Isaiah 60:1

I grew up in Israel in a family of new immigrants who were also new believers. I came to the Lord when I was 14. Before that, my life was a big mess, a mixture of hopeless routine. I never used drugs or went to wild parties, but what was happening within me was pretty horrible, and I felt like I was losing every bit of hope and sanity with every moment that passed by.

I was so very near to falling into an unending abyss of death! My calls upon the Lord never seemed to be answered.

After a long period of crying out to the Lord, I was convinced to go to a youth conference. Later I realized that my parents made real, bold and unexpected efforts in order to save me spiritually. Many people around the world, spiritual co-workers of my parents, prayed for me and our family. God answered their prayers.

During the conference I saw young people praising and worshiping the Lord.



We know that the Lord had chosen this nation, these people, to be

I saw passion and love in their eyes and I knew they had something I didn't: a relationship with God. I did not have a chance to talk to these people since I didn't know most of them, but I was changed by simply observing their lives. So when the Lord knocked on the door of my heart, I said yes to Him. I've come a long way since that moment, and have been through a lot of experiences, all of them good in the final account, thanks to God's mercy and leading. I believe there is a reason for the fact that my life with God started in a youth conference. God has given me a heart and a vision for the youth, for His generation.

When we started our Ner-Yah movement in 2004, it was no more than four believers at the same school meeting to pray during the breaks at school, but that in itself was a small miracle. Since then, God has led us through a miraculous process of growing and developing.

Today, we have youth group meetings once a week, with about 25 young people attending, and different activities such as Bible study and social events. The staff of the ministry also meets weekly for prayer (the staff includes four youth, all of them under 18:

myself, David Seguin, Angelika Mikuyan, and Keren Shoshani). We also stand in prayer and quiet time for Ner-Yah in our private lives.

We believe that God has a unique, wonderful plan for the new generation of His Land: we believe that God has chosen and anointed us to step forward in this land, carrying the banner of His love and salvation, declaring the name of Yeshua.

His sons and daughters, and we believe that the revival promised to them is approaching fast.

The situation of the young generation of believers in Israel is not good: many are completely lost and confused, walking the other way and ignoring the true "road less traveled". That's the reason why Ner-Yah was born. The truth on which the movement stands is this: we believe that it is time for us, the youth of the Body of Messiah in Israel, to stand up and carry the responsibility and blessing which God has placed upon our shoulders. We want to build a generation that is faithful to the Lord and is totally committed to walking with God.

We know that our main calling is to bring the light of Yeshua to the darkened hearts of young people. That is why we pray for and invest in this generation of servants who are humble and who respect their parents and their authority out of obedience and love. We are a generation of men and women of God, who know God's word and promises, who stand up together as one in order to bring God's will to this land. We are a generation of united sons and daughters of God, loving, giving, serving, and reaching out into the darkness.

We know that there is much hard work ahead, but also that the harvest is great. We have lots of plans and ideas for this year, and we believe that this year will be a special year, the year of waking up and becoming an army for God.

It's all just a tiny part of the picture. God's indescribable miracles and wonders in Ner-Yah and in our generation occur daily. We thank the Lord for the great privilege of working with His precious chosen ones, and we know that the fruit, which is now ripening, will eventually become sweet and precious in the eyes of our Lord, and that Israel will be a light for the nations.

Ya'el Blum



MARCH  
2007

# "Experience Israel" Tour

One of Hope for Israel's goals is to see followers of the Messiah from around the world receiving a heart for Israel and for its people. We desire to equip believers in praying for the peace of Jerusalem and to give them a deeper understanding of God's plan for this place. In order to achieve this, we have

meet Jewish and Arab believers in the Land and hear their testimonies along with the difficulties of living in the Land. We will explore the different



created a special "Experience Israel" tour! We would like to extend a personal invitation to each of you to join us **March**



**9-24, 2007** as we explore Israel within its biblically historical context, its modern reality, and its struggles.

We will go on a journey like none other where we will learn about and meet the different groups of people who live in Israel. We will meet Arab people, Druze people, religious people, and secular people. We will explore difficult issues facing Israel today, such as the security fence, the Israeli settlements within Judea and Samaria, Syria's conditions for peace, as well as hearing first-hand from families who have been victims of terror. We will



cultures within Israel; for example, we will enjoy a traditional lunch in a Druze village, experience an exciting evening in a Bedouin tent with a traditional dinner and optional camel ride, visit a Kibbutz and learn about this unique way of life, and spend time with families during a Shabbat dinner. And of course, we will walk in the footsteps of our Messiah, which will give us a deeper understanding and appreciation of Him and the Bible.

Here is what some people who joined our first tour had to say about their experience:

*"I decided to join this tour and have no regrets about it; in fact, I want to go back to see and learn more! What stood out for me was meeting with so many very different people from different backgrounds and learning about their life stories and culture... These are things you do not get on a 'normal' guided tour... only on a Hope for Israel tour."*

Irene, Switzerland

*"Yes we were in for a treat, but little did we know that we were actually in for a blessing that can only be described as divine... For me the most compelling story is the geography of the land of Israel. I suggest that if you could take all the highlights from America, the deserts of Arizona, the forests of Appalachians, the Grand Canyon, the Colorado River, farm land from California, Nebraska, Kansas and Ohio, beaches from the Gulf coast and compress all these various geographical diversities into a little strip of land, I would say that's Israel!"*

*If you've ever wondered about going to Israel, if you've ever had the curiosity to explore a different culture, if you wanted to touch, taste and feel God's chosen land, I encourage you to go and find what the Lord has for you! I am confident that you will find your desires quite*

*fulfilled indeed!"*

Michael,  
California

## Final Word

In order to accomplish the great work the Lord has for us, we do need your prayer and financial support.

Please prayerfully consider supporting the **Hope for Israel** ministry.

Please make all checks payable to **Hope for Israel**.