



LETTER FROM THE AUSTRALIAN DIRECTOR



Bruce and Merrilyn Garbutt

"I WILL TAKE YOU FOR MY PEOPLE." EXODUS 6:7

On the evening of the 8th April this year, the vast majority of Jewish people all over the world celebrated the Feast of Passover, during which time they remembered how God brought them out from under the bondage of slavery of the Egyptians (Exodus 6-12).

At the same time in the Christian world, the vast majority of Christians celebrated Easter, during which time they remembered the death and resurrection of Jesus, an event that delivered the world from the bondage of sin.

The fact that both celebrations coincided this year reminds us of the unique nature common to both. That is, that they are built on the same foundation. This foundation is called a Jewish root in Paul's epistle to the Romans:

"But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you." Romans 11:17-18 (NASB)

In essence, Christianity is Jewish, as Schaeffer pointed out some years ago, and thus by implication the Christian world is indebted to the Jewish world.

"Yes, they were pleased to do so, and they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things." Romans 15:27 (NASB)

Sadly, the Christian Church has not always picked up its obligations in this regard. As a consequence, it has failed to be "salt and light" and the result has been the growth and manifestation of anti-Semitism. Nowhere is this more evident than in Europe today. It is astonishing, to say the least, that in Geneva a conference can be held under the auspices of the United Nations, supposedly against racism and then opens with the keynote address being given by none other than the world's most infamous anti-Semite, Ahmadinejad of Iran. Not only does he deny the Holocaust but calls repeatedly for Israel's destruction!

More disturbing still is the fact that this takes place in Europe just 69 years after the Holocaust. All this demonstrates that our foundations can be so easily eroded if we are not watchful.

Passover and Easter are two unique celebrations, but in essence one. We should not forget this because forgetfulness is the road to exile!

Bruce Garbutt

PLEASE SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE ICEJ

Contact your Branch for information or to see how you can comfort Israel through ICEJ.

You can also fill in the donation form on the other sheet. Thank you!

Visit the Web site at www.icejaus.org.au for events, information and Australia's assistance of projects in Israel

**COMING – A HEBREW
ROOTS SCHOOL IN
SYDNEY, AUG. 22 &
23 INQUIRIES TO THE
AUSTRALIAN OFFICE.**

WHEN YOU GIVE TO ISRAEL THROUGH ICEJ AUSTRALIA

- ✓ Your gift will help distribute the Word From Jerusalem without charge, throughout the Australasia/Pacific Region and to Pastors in Malawi and Kenya.
- ✓ Your gift will help us maintain our commitment to the lease of a food van that is an essential part of an Israeli food assistance program.
- ✓ Your gift will go towards social aid projects in Israel that encourage and speak love to the people of Israel.
- ✓ Your gift will help maintain our Embassy in Jerusalem that declares 'Christians stand with Israel'.

JOIN BRUCE AND MERRILYN ON A VISIT TO ISRAEL IN OCTOBER 2009

- Spend 13 days in Israel studying the Bible in the places where the events took place
- Join thousands of pilgrims from around the world at the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem
- Take the optional Pre and Post Feast Tours of Poland and Turkey

For more details please contact B and M Garbutt

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CAN A NATION BE BORN IN A DAY?

On the 14th May 1948 the new Jewish state named the State of Israel, was brought into existence and established in parts of what was known as the British Mandate for Palestine and where, in antiquity, Israel's ancient kingdoms had once been. On that day of the western calendar, David Ben Gurion declared the State of Israel born, beginning with the words: "The Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books". His speech then traced the history of modern events that had set the scene for this opportunity for the Jewish people to have a homeland once again.

Australians and New Zealanders played a vital part in the dramas that resulted in the fulfillment of God's word. In March 1916, the ANZAC Mounted Division was formed from the Australian Light Horse and the New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigades. From their daring capture of Beersheba in the south, to their significant participation in the capture of Jerusalem and other battles, they contributed greatly to British General Allenby's conquest of Palestine during World War I. The defeat of the Ottoman Empire and Muslim domination over the Holy Land opened the way for a Jewish homeland to finally come to pass.

“Exalt the name of the LORD, the God of Israel, in the islands of the sea.” Isaiah 24:15 NIV

A volcano belching black smoke and ash and tropical downpours formed the backdrop to the March visit of Jesma and John O'Hara to a group of islands in the north of Papua New Guinea. They were accompanied by ICEJ's PNG Director Pastor Bezalel Tegi. Enthusiastic local Toli people and the leaders of all the local churches ensured the church was full for the seminars that totalled 5 hours each day. Over a period of several days they listened to the teaching of God's word and His heart for

Israel. Radio and newspaper interviews heightened interest resulting in a number of people attending who had never been to previous seminars. At the conclusion of the conference the Chairman of the Council of Churches gave the wonderful news that the Council would like to host the conference next year. This means that pastors from every denomination would have the opportunity to receive this vital teaching. Before their return to Australia, Jesma and John flew to Port Moresby, the nation's capital, for a further 2 nights of teaching in which a member of the PNG parliament was an eager listener and declared his intention to join the Feast of Tabernacles Tour this year.

