DEFENDING THE FAITH
NEW YEAR LESSONS FROM THE SEASON OF LIGHT

“At His appointed season He brought His word to light...” Titus 1:3
The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ)

The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem was founded in 1980 as an act of comfort and solidarity with Israel and the Jewish people in their claim to Jerusalem.

Today, the Christian Embassy stands at the forefront of a growing mainstream movement of Christians worldwide who share a love and concern for Israel and an understanding of the biblical significance of the modern ingathering of Jews to the land of their forefathers.

From our headquarters in Jerusalem and through our branches and representatives in over 80 nations, we seek to challenge the Church to take up its scriptural responsibilities towards the Jewish people, to remind Israel of the wonderful promises made to her in the Bible, and to be a source of practical assistance to all the people of the Land of Israel.

The ICEJ is a non-denominational faith ministry, supported by the voluntary contributions of our members and friends worldwide. We invite you to join with us as we minister to Israel and the Jewish people worldwide.

If you wish to make a donation to the general work of the ICEJ or to a specific project described in this magazine, please use the attached response envelope, use the address below or visit our secure Web site at www.icej.org/donate.php to send your gift. All donations are tax deductible according to the law of your country.

The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem
20 Rachel Imeinu Street P.O. Box 1192
Jerusalem – Israel
Tel: +972 2 539 97 00
Fax: +972 2 566 96 12
www.icej.org

COVER: “A light shining in the darkness...” a candle pictured against the US Capitol and European Parliament buildings, flecked with a Bible and the star emblem of the EU. The reality of the Incarnation is the source of our hope in the midst of a world filled with uncertainty and fear.

(Graphic: Beverley Dwyer)

Table of Contents

ICEJ Worldwide

Viewpoint

Inside the Embassy

Bible Teaching

New Year lessons

Pages 06-08

Aliyah flight 55

Pages 10-11

Serving the Nation

For the least of these

Pages 14-16

Only justice?

Pages 18-20

Inside the Embassy

News in Brief

Page 22

Director’s letter

.......................................................... 05

Defending the faith:

New Year lessons from the season of light

.......................................................... 06-08

Sharing the light:

ICEJ Hanukkah and Christmas celebration

.......................................................... 08

ICEJ Worldwide

Aliyah flight 55:

The pilgrims, the turtle and two dozen olim

.......................................................... 10-11

100,000 home:

ICEJ marks a milestone in aliyah

.......................................................... 11

ICEJ 2007:

The challenge ahead:

Get involved in the coming year!

.......................................................... 12-13

Serving the Nation

For the least of these:

Social Assistance and Homercare project focus

.......................................................... 14-16

Viewpoint

The question of justice:

Palestinian Christians and the ‘one-state’ solution

.......................................................... 18-20

Inside the Embassy

News in Brief

.......................................................... 22

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Malcolm Hedding
FINANCIAL DIRECTOR: Timothy King
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR: Jürgen Bühler
EDITORS: Kathy Rowlands, Michael Hines
LAYOUT & DESIGN: Beverley Dwyer
ADMINISTRATION: Doron Schneider

CONTRIBUTORS: Mark Bish, James Cheatham

Director’s letter

.......................................................... 05

Bible Teaching

New Year lessons

Pages 06-08

Aliyah flight 55

Pages 10-11

Serving the Nation

For the least of these

Pages 14-16

Viewpoint

Only justice?

Pages 18-20

Inside the Embassy

News in Brief

Page 22

Director’s letter

.......................................................... 05

Defending the faith:

New Year lessons from the season of light

.......................................................... 06-08

Sharing the light:

ICEJ Hanukkah and Christmas celebration

.......................................................... 08

ICEJ Worldwide

Aliyah flight 55:

The pilgrims, the turtle and two dozen olim

.......................................................... 10-11

100,000 home:

ICEJ marks a milestone in aliyah

.......................................................... 11

ICEJ 2007:

The challenge ahead:

Get involved in the coming year!

.......................................................... 12-13

Serving the Nation

For the least of these:

Social Assistance and Homercare project focus

.......................................................... 14-16

Viewpoint

The question of justice:

Palestinian Christians and the ‘one-state’ solution

.......................................................... 18-20

Inside the Embassy

News in Brief

.......................................................... 22

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Malcolm Hedding
FINANCIAL DIRECTOR: Timothy King
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR: Jürgen Bühler
EDITORS: Kathy Rowlands, Michael Hines
LAYOUT & DESIGN: Beverley Dwyer
ADMINISTRATION: Doron Schneider

CONTRIBUTORS: Mark Bish, James Cheatham
Dear Friends,

As we begin a new year we do so with the thinking that there is not much that is “new” about our world. International instability, coupled with global terrorism and the threat of nuclear proliferation, is making our world a very dangerous place. In addition, Israel remains under the threat of liquidation!

Just recently the papers have been warning about the very real possibility of war on three fronts in the year 2007. That is, Israel is facing the very real possibility of a renewed war with Hizb’allah; a Hizb’allah-style guerilla war with Hamas in Gaza; and a confrontation with the Syrian/Iran axis.

If one puts all these pieces of the puzzle together, then the picture can look depressing and bleak, to say the least! However, we have to add the most powerful “ingredient” of the God of the Bible to this equation. Once we do this, everything changes. He is in control and not the forces of chaos and of evil. In fact, He is so in control that He is orchestrating the international order. To what end, we may ask? The answer is simple: To judge and humble the nations and to deliver and redeem Israel. No doubt, to also cleanse and purify the Church!

Scripture abounds with scriptures promising deliverance, salvation and blessing to Israel. We serve a God Who cannot lie (Titus 1:2) and therefore our focus is away from the ‘depressing’ to the “all glorious”. Scripture affirms that we are to live and behave with our eye of faith upon the very real but unseen God. This is the only ultimate reality and it is this reality that fills us with joy as we face a new year. How wonderful to be called into His purpose and what a blessing to be part of a worldwide family that shares the same values.

In the end the God we serve will wipe away all tears and make all things new. This too is His promise, particularly for Israel!

May you and your loved ones enjoy a new year filled with His great love and peace.

Yours in Jesus,

Malcolm Hedding
Executive Director
International Christian Embassy Jerusalem

** FEAST OF TABERNACLES

"BLOW A TRUMPET IN ZION"

THU 27 SEP Opening Ceremonies 6:30pm: Ein Gedi Desert Celebration and Dinner (Gates open at 5pm, dinner 5-6:30pm)
FRI 28 SEP Evening Alternatives 7:30pm: Healing Services YMCA Succah Celebration Ramat Rachel Evening of ministry Pavilion
SAT 29 SEP Evening Celebration ICCJ** 7:30pm
SUN 30 SEP Morning Seminars 9am-12:30pm Evening Celebration ICCJ 7:30pm
MON 01 OCT Morning Seminars 9am-12:30pm Evening Celebration ICCJ 7:30pm
TUES 02 OCT Morning Seminars 9am-12:30pm Evening Celebration ICCJ 7:30pm
WED 03 OCT Feast Grand Finale 9am-12:30pm

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Malcolm Hedding
Jane Hansen
Lance Lambert
Wayne Hillsden
Lance Lambert
Mosy Maduga
David Pawson
Robert Stearns

ICEJ Feast Registration Office
PO Box 1192 • Jerusalem, Israel • 91010
Tel +972 2 539 9700 • Fax +972 2 566 9612
Email: feastreg@icej.org • Web: www.icej.org

If one puts all these pieces of the puzzle together, then the picture can look depressing and bleak, to say the least! However, we have to add the most powerful “ingredient” of the God of the Bible to this equation. Once we do this, everything changes. He is in control and not the forces of chaos and of evil. In fact, He is so in control that He is orchestrating the international order.

To what end, we may ask? The answer is simple: To judge and humble the nations and to deliver and redeem Israel. No doubt, to also cleanse and purify the Church!

Scripture abounds with scriptures promising deliverance, salvation and blessing to Israel. We serve a God Who cannot lie (Titus 1:2) and therefore our focus is away from the ‘depressing’ to the “all glorious”. Scripture affirms that we are to live and behave with our eye of faith upon the very real but unseen God.

This is the only ultimate reality and it is this reality that fills us with joy as we face a new year. How wonderful to be called into His purpose and what a blessing to be part of a worldwide family that shares the same values.

In the end the God we serve will wipe away all tears and make all things new. This too is His promise, particularly for Israel!

May you and your loved ones enjoy a new year filled with His great love and peace.

Yours in Jesus,

Malcolm Hedding
Executive Director
International Christian Embassy Jerusalem
Bs the Christmas festivities fade, a new calendar year offers the chance to reflect and pray about the months to come. From the imminent rise of a nuclear Iran to the prospect of unconventional mass terror, 2007 poses unprecedented challenges to Israel, the Church and the wider world.

But, according to Rev. Malcolm Hedding, Christians can draw valuable hope from the twin festivals of Hanukkah and Christmas and apply them to a New Year filled with uncertainty and fear: Namely, the intervention of God on behalf of those who stand up for truth and the gift of His Son to a world full of sin…

Defending the faith, celebrating grace
New Year lessons from the season of light

By Malcolm Hedding

Hanukkah and Christmas: Neither is a required biblical festival, but both are recorded as unique celebrations in the pages of scripture. Hanukkah, otherwise called the Feast of Dedication in John 10:22, recalls the courageous actions of the Hasmonean Dynasty in defence of biblical worship and practice. As a matter of fact, Judas Hasmoneas (Macabee) rebelled against the first manifestation of anti-Christ in the person of Antiochus Epiphanes.

The book of Daniel refers to this wicked individual as the Abomination of Desolation (Daniel 9:27; 11:31), a term that Jesus picked up on in his Olivet discourse recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21.

Antiochus desecrated the Temple in about 169 B.C. and placed within the Holy of Holies a statue of Zeus. He attempted to Hel- lenize the Jews and the entire Middle East region by eradicat- ing biblical times and dates. The worship of the God of the Bible was forbidden and those who disobeyed were put to the sword. Their story is partly told in Daniel 11 and Hebrews 11.

The revolt under Judas began in what is still modern day Modi’in and concluded in Jerusalem at the Temple, which was cleansed and rededicated.

It is at this point that an unusual and remarkable miracle took place. The rededication process was challenged by the lack of olive oil by which to light up the Menorah that stood in the holy place. There was only sufficient oil for one day but in fact the Menorah kept shining its glorious light for eight days – the time it took to retrieve fresh supplies from the Galilee.

That Jesus celebrated this event is an indication of its authenticity. The mes- sage is clear: Those who rise up to hon- our God and defend His truth will enjoy His miraculous intervention.

Today the challenges we face are just as acute, though more subtle. At every corner biblical truth is being challenged, laughed at, and discarded. In short, the truth of God’s Word is being trampled upon. This impacts on the Church in the Nations and upon our understanding of Israel.

As to the latter, the Bible is clear that Israel’s modern day restoration is not a political accident but indeed fulfill- ment of God’s word and promise given first to Abraham and then validated by all the prophets. The world says “Not so!” because it rejects the scriptures out of hand. So, the battle rages but it will end in the triumph of God’s Word over the foolishness of men. This is most certain- ly the warning of Psalm 2. Until this day of triumph arrives we will, by faith, wage this battle faithfully. This is the abiding message of the Feast of Dedication.

The Feast of Christmas reminds us, yet again, of the greatest event in history which is the incarnation. God became man and died for His broken and sinful world. Paul writes to Titus about this and refers to the incarnation three times in particular.

In chapter one he tells us that by the incarnation the Word of God has appeared or been manifested (Titus 2:13). This word is eternal; it cannot lie and has been per- sonified in the person of Jesus.

In chapter two he states that by the incarnation the “grace of God has appeared” (Titus 2:11-14). This grace fills our hearts by Jesus Christ and teaches us how to live, all the while looking for the Saviour’s second coming.

Finally in chapter three, Paul tells us that in Jesus Christ the kindness of God has appeared (Titus 3:4-7). We who were...
lost, undeserving of God’s love and kindness have become the recipients of these. Not only has this kind and loving God forgiven our sins but in Christ He has poured out His very life in abundance, upon us by His Spirit. We are a blessed people and as a consequence we should be a thankful people as well.

Christmas is a time to thank God supremely for His indescribable gift of Jesus. We do well to celebrate it in this light. If all of heaven could sing and celebrate on the night of our Saviour’s birth, then we can too!

Hanukkah reminds us of the intervention of God on behalf of those who stand up for truth and defend it and Christmas reminds us of the gift of God on behalf of those who don’t deserve it but desperately need it.

May God fill your lives with light today and throughout the year ahead.

Foreign Ambassadors, local Christian leaders and Israeli friends filled the reception area of the ICEJ’s Jerusalem headquarters in late December for the Embassy’s joint holiday celebration of Christmas and Hanukkah.

Welcoming the guests as those who believe in and strive for peace, ICEJ Executive Director Rev. Malcolm Hedding underscored the strong connection between these Christian and Jewish festivals.

“Both celebrations are about light and our hope that the light of peace may shine more brilliantly upon this region in the year to come,” he said. “We gather together as men and women who work for that, believe for that and strive for that with our very being.”

Speaking on behalf of the Embassy’s Israeli friends and colleagues, Shaya Ben-Yehuda of Yad Vashem (pictured above) drew attention to the Jewish tradition of lighting of the nine-candle Hanukkah in public.

“The commandment of lighting the Hanukkah is that it must be lit outside the doorpost or window, to let the world know about the miracle of the Hanukkah story.”

Drawing parallels with Christian traditions, Ben-Yehuda spoke of the visibility of the Christmas tree. The “celebration is visible”, he added, one that “invites the other side to participate.”

“You put it in the window because you want others to share your story,” he said, “to share and not compete.”
Building on nearly two decades of tireless efforts and investment, the 55th ICEJ-sponsored aliyah flight touched down at Israel’s Ben Gurion International Airport in early November, bringing with it 28 new immigrants from Russia, a group of Finnish Christians and a pet turtle.

Organized by the ICEJ’s Finnish Director Dr. Ulla Jarvilehto, in conjunction with the Embassy’s Aliyah Director, Howard Flower, the Nov 2 Finnair flight from Helsinki was the culmination of months of collaboration between the ICEJ Russian Branch, The Finnish Exodus Committee and the Jewish Agency.

Help varied from paying transport and housing costs so each of the new olim (immigrants) could clear bureaucratic hurdles in St. Petersburg prior to departure, to pairing them up with Christian host families in Helsinki at the end of the long October 30th bus journey out of Russia.

After 3 days of Finnish hospitality, the olim joined Christian pilgrims en route to Israel, but not before being greeted at the airport by dozens of local volunteers on hand to assist with baggage and translation, and to provide a welcome dose of early morning coffee and cake.

As Jewish Agency representatives ensured each of the Russians passed smoothly through passport control, the Finnish airline pilot gave specific permission for the beloved pet turtle of one immigrant family to fly in the cabin.

“We all felt that we had fulfilled the scripture from Isaiah, chapter 49,” reflected Howard Flower afterwards in St. Petersburg. “Thus says the Lord GOD, behold, I will lift up my hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.”

Building on nearly two decades of tireless efforts and investment, the 55th ICEJ-sponsored aliyah flight touched down at Israel’s Ben Gurion International Airport in early November, bringing with it 28 new immigrants from Russia, a group of Finnish Christians and a pet turtle.

Organized by the ICEJ’s Finnish Director Dr. Ulla Jarvilehto, in conjunction with the Embassy’s Aliyah Director, Howard Flower, the Nov 2 Finnair flight from Helsinki was the culmination of months of collaboration between the ICEJ Russian Branch, The Finnish Exodus Committee and the Jewish Agency.

Help varied from paying transport and housing costs so each of the new olim (immigrants) could clear bureaucratic hurdles in St. Petersburg prior to departure, to pairing them up with Christian host families in Helsinki at the end of the long October 30th bus journey out of Russia.

After 3 days of Finnish hospitality, the olim joined Christian pilgrims en route to Israel, but not before being greeted at the airport by dozens of local volunteers on hand to assist with baggage and translation, and to provide a welcome dose of early morning coffee and cake.

As Jewish Agency representatives ensured each of the Russians passed smoothly through passport control, the Finnish airline pilot gave specific permission for the beloved pet turtle of one immigrant family to fly in the cabin.

“We all felt that we had fulfilled the scripture from Isaiah, chapter 49,” reflected Howard Flower afterwards in St. Petersburg. “Thus says the Lord GOD, behold, I will lift up my hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.”

An intrepid pet turtle prepares to board the 55th ICEJ-sponsored aliyah flight to Israel in Helsinki airport on November 2 together with his owner and more than two dozen other Russian olim.

As Jewish Agency representatives ensured each of the Russians passed smoothly through passport control, the Finnish airline pilot gave specific permission for the beloved pet turtle of one immigrant family to fly in the cabin.

“We all felt that we had fulfilled the scripture from Isaiah, chapter 49,” reflected Howard Flower afterwards in St. Petersburg. “Thus says the Lord GOD, behold, I will lift up my hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.”

An intrepid pet turtle prepares to board the 55th ICEJ-sponsored aliyah flight to Israel in Helsinki airport on November 2 together with his owner and more than two dozen other Russian olim.
ICEJ 2007

The challenge ahead

Three ways you can get more involved supporting the work and witness of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem this year...

1. Shomer Society

More and more of the Embassy’s longstanding friends are expressing their desire to leave a legacy of support for the People of Israel even after they pass away. None of us know what the future holds, so this year, please consider naming the ICEJ in your Will through the Embassy’s Shomer Society (Keeper of Israel). Consult your personal financial advisor or ICEJ Financial Director Timothy King about the best way to make a bequest in your country and leave a heritage of blessing for Israel in the years to come.

Contact: finance@icej.org.

“For you have heard my vows, O God; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name...” Psalm 61: 5

2. ICEJ Emergency Relief Fund

This past summer thousands of deadly missiles were launched from Lebanon at communities across northern Israel and the Galilee, driving over a million people, underground for protection in the sweltering August heat. Scores lost their lives and the devastation touched every corner of the region. The ICEJ was on the scene and quick to respond, providing refuge for hundreds of families and young children outside the danger zone, relief for thousands more who were unable to flee, and playing a ongoing role in the rebuilding of the North. When trouble engulfs Israel, there is little time to raise money to help. So, with the prospect of renewed conflict in 2007, we are determined to maintain an emergency fund. Please prayerfully consider lending us your support.

Contact: finance@icej.org or send your gift in the envelope attached.

“Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress...” Psalm 4:1

3. FrontPage Jerusalem Radio

FrontPage Jerusalem is the premier radio broadcast out of Israel, now available coast-to-coast across the USA on the Salem Radio Network and on many other Christian stations around the world. Produced weekly by ICEJ staff in our Jerusalem headquarters and co-hosted by veteran broadcasters Earl Cox and Ben Kinchlow, FPJ is a one-of-a-kind news show focusing on current affairs in Israel and the Middle East, featuring exclusive interviews with top Israeli leaders and panel discussions with regional experts. We make this program available free of charge as part of our mandate to tell Israel’s story faithfully to the world. Please help us continue to do so.

Find out more and give online at: www.frontpagejerusalem.com

“I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations...” Matthew 12: 18

Get involved in 2007!

- Pray for our ministry
- Support our work financially
- Contact your local branch

To make a donation to any of the projects listed, simply fill in the enclosed envelope and send it to your nearest ICEJ national branch. Thank you, on behalf of the nation of Israel, for your ongoing support!

“Comfort, comfort my people says your God...” Isaiah 40: 1
For the least of these...

Social Assistance and Homecare project focus

By Lena Kachinski

Breaking the Silence

2,000 battered women live in Israel and well over half a million children live under the shadow of that violence. Those affected come from all ages, faith backgrounds and income levels. Yet, for years, churches, synagogues and religious communities, like the rest of society as a whole, have ignored the reality of the abuse that surrounds them. Believing communities, like other faith groups, frequently face the additional hurdles of misapplied scripture and gender stereotyping that unwittingly fosters a culture of self-blame among women vulnerable to violence in the home.

In a bid to help believers break the silence that often surrounds domestic abuse, the Embassy’s Social Assistance Program has partnered with a unique community group, Machaseh (‘covering’) that is seeking to combat the phenomenon through classes and seminars for congregation-based workers and counselors. Machaseh’s vision is to provide a safe place for domestic violence within believing communities.

Food Aid for Survivors

J erusalem’s winter season can be unbearable. Harsh winds and relentless rains send people scampering indoors to avoid the slippery streets and frigid air. But for the capital’s elderly poor there are few places of refuge. So, this winter, the ICEJ has reached out to some of the nation’s most vulnerable people - Holocaust survivors.

Teaming up with humanitarian group Hazon Yeshaya, the Embassy’s Social Assistance Program has stepped in to cover the costs of winter food programs for survivors of the Nazi atrocities over 60 years ago. Aid packages have been delivered to those unable to leave their homes, and soup kitchens provide meals for others - funded by European Christians through the ICEJ’s German Branch. Hazon Yeshaya has also focused on identifying and documenting the stories of many of the elderly survivors whom they help, ensuring their testimonies live on for future generations.

Handmade Witness

T housands of pilgrims flocked to Israel this past October to participate in ICEJ’s annual Feast of Tabernacles celebration, many of them leaving behind winter clothing and other items to help the Jewish people they had come to support. “The colder the weather gets, the more phone calls we receive,” says SAP deputy director Yudit Setz. Feast pilgrims took steps to fill this need by leaving behind bags and suitcases full of clothing and toiletries. Some even prepared ahead of time by hand knitting blankets, scarves, hats and baby clothes. “When people receive hand knitted items, it touches them in a very different way,” Yudit explains. “When they see the amount of work done by Christian hands just for them, it really warms their hearts.”

Support similar projects - simply return the attached envelope marking your gift for SAP Homecare.

SAP works tirelessly, year-round to be your hands and feet to the people of Israel.

Handmade Witness

ICEJ Nurse Raija Karik from Finland speaks with elderly Russian patient Julia following a recent homecare visit.

Bo Ruach Elohim

A blow that could have been the death sentence for her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, a favorite of Julia’s, the yelling begins to subside and the beginning of a smile takes its place. For Corrie and Louann, their weekly meetings with Julia are one of the most challenging, yet rewarding nursing assignments.

Once a prominent journalist in Russia, 40-year-old Julia is now completely dependent on others for her needs. Several years ago she was told that her intense headaches were being caused by a brain tumor. Countless surgeries have been unable to save any but a few of her most elementary verbal and motor skills. Still, Julia has come a long way since the nurses’ first visit. Recently she gave Louann a gift that she says she could not find any other place in the world. Turning her head to look at her with an intent gaze, Julia spoke three words in English: “I love you.” These three words have made her patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s anxiety. While they gently stroke her hair and sing “Bo Ruach Elohim”, their patient’s heart.

A Hazon Yeshaya soup kitchen for the elderly.

For the least of these...
Raija’s Touch

Raija Karki, a young Finnish nurse, has a boundless amount of energy and smiles when she is providing care for Israel’s elderly Russian immigrants. It is hard to hide her love for the Jewish people that is the driving force of the work she has undertaken at the Embassy.

Two years ago, Raija heard an ICEJ representative in Finland speaking about the ministry’s work in Israel. Shortly after, she participated in a young adults tour with Grafted, an experience that further ignited her long-held desire to “comfort” the Jewish people.

Now in Jerusalem, Raija is learning the ropes of the Embassy’s homecare program alongside the long-time nursing head Corrie Van Maanen. The hardest thing, she says, is overcoming the language barrier until she learns enough Russian to communicate well. “It is a challenge because I cannot communicate using words like I used to,” she says. “The only way I can comfort them is through what I am doing, my touch, taking care of their feet, helping with showers and physical therapy. But I’m eager to learn!”

Remembering Simon

For the past ten years, Corrie has been visiting Simon in his home, an elderly man whose life has lost color since his wife’s death two years ago. While Simon is ill and significantly blind, he does not have a need for any specific nursing care. Yet Corrie persistently sees Simon once a week, spending an hour talking and reading out loud from Psalms. “Your coming here shows me that you haven’t forgotten about me,” he recently told her.

ICEJ & Knesset Allies Caucus

Women’s Summit Tour

13th – 22nd May 2007

Land Price USD 1144*

Includes 2 day registration fee to Summit

Highlights Include:

- 10 day tour including 2 day Christian Allies Caucus Women’s Summit focusing on the hardships facing women worldwide and the solutions that can be found by the application of Judeo-Christian values. The conference will focus on lobbying governments to end:
  - Abuse of women
  - Female genital mutilation
  - Trafficking of women
  - Incest
  - Honour killing

Join Christian and Jewish women from all walks of life in Jerusalem, the city of God, to become empowered by the application of Biblical values to educate and influence your nation on issues critical to women globally. Travel throughout the land of Israel and discover how Jewish and Christian women can unite to impact the present and future generations.

*Subject to change based on minimum 35 persons
The question of justice

By David Parsons

For decades now, such appeals for “justice” have been a familiar refrain from Palestinian voices – Muslim and Christian. For their part, Palestinian Christian clerics often construct their calls for “justice” in biblical terms, with a particular attachment to the words of the Hebrew prophet Micah.

“He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:8

This very passage headlined a statement released this past summer by Younan and three other Arab bishops of Jerusalem that sharply denounced evangelical Christian supporters of Israel. That declaration, in turn, was taken verbatim from the proclamation of an April 2004 conference of the Sabee Center for Palestinian Liberation Theology, convened specifically to “challenge” the “heretical teaching” of Christian Zionism.

The founder and director of Sabee, an Arab Anglican priest named Rev. Naim Ateek, has even written a book on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict entitled Justice, and Only Justice.

But what exactly do they mean by “justice”?

Only Justice?

For the bulk of the Palestinian people, 98% of whom happen to be Muslim, it means Israel taking responsibility for and completely reversing the Arab al-Nakba (“Disaster”) suffered in the 1948 War of Independence. From that conflict emerged a Jewish state on “sacred” Palestinian land, as well as a festering Palestinian refugee problem that now numbers in the millions. Though it was a war launched by the Arabs, they now want Israel to “unscrew their eggs.”

In one camp, the ‘radical’ Hamas is unwilling to compromise on the refugee issue, nor on the armed struggle to recover all the waqf of Palestine, which they would Islamicize.

The more ‘moderate’ Fatah could accept a reversal in stages – a Palestinian mini-state for now but also insisting on a significant return of refugees to the Jewish state. In time, they envision the two states merging into one Arab state between the River Jordan and the Mediterranean Sea due to their higher birth rate.

Sometimes they can be coy about these goals. Speaking at a recent international conference on Palestinian refugees, prominent Palestinian spokesman Nabil Shaath said in a conciliatory manner, “Any settlement has to have relative justice and not absolute justice.”

But what does the tiny Palestinian Christian minority mean by “justice”?

To some, it may be defined as narrowly as lifting the IDF closures and checkpoints to allow freedom of movement, or recovering their own homes lost in the fighting of 1948, such as the seven Christian villages evacuated by Jewish forces along the frontier with Lebanon. Several Jewish communities have since been built in this border area, no doubt presenting Israel with a difficult moral dilemma.

Most, however, have in mind a one-state solution, whereby the land between “the River and the Sea” becomes one bi-national, democratic state in which everyone – Jew or Arab – gets one vote. In short, “one state for two peoples and three religions.”

Many Palestinians have trouble accepting a sovereign Jewish state for theological reasons, but they also do not want to live in an authoritarian or strictly Islamic state. Thus their preferred option is one democratic nation with a slight Arab majority but enough Jews to ensure the protection of minority rights.

As a means to that end, Palestinian Christian leaders and their allies abroad have led the pursuit of the Durban strategy of drawing apartheid comparisons to de-legitimize Israel and its policies. This has spawned the twin campaigns of divestment from Israel and dismantlement of the “apartheid wall.” Former US president Jimmy Carter has earnestly joined this effort in his new book Israel: Peace not Apartheid.

Though it was a war launched by the Arabs, they now want Israel to “unscramble their eggs.”

A Righteous Judge

Still, at the heart of the Palestinian Christian cry for “justice” is a struggle over their very concept of God from a New Testament perspective. Some liken the Palestinian situation today to the ancient Canaanite people in the land when it was conquered under Joshua, and do not consider that to be the handiwork of the same God of mercy revealed in Jesus Christ. Is God just, they ask, to bring the Jewish people back into the land in our day in a manner that has resulted in such loss and dispossession for fellow humans equally loved in His sight?

In approaching this question on biblical terms, it is first worth noting a distinction between moral uprightness as an individual duty versus its obligation on a collective or national scale. The former addresses one’s conduct as it relates to eternal salvation or damnation, while the latter invokes the sovereignty and purposes of God over the nations in the course of human history.

Micah 6:8, for instance, speaks primarily of the individual charge placed upon every man to act justly with their fellow human, and the Bible has much to say in this regard – more than we have...
room for here. Suffice to say that, ultimately, there is no person that has been just enough in God’s sight to stand before Him (Psalm 130:3-4; Romans 3:10); but we were given Christ not only as the means to our justification by faith (Romans 4:5), but also as our example of someone who suffered unjustly in silence, “entrust[ing] himself to Him who judges justly.” (1 Peter 2:21-23)

Now as for “justice” on the national level, the Bible clearly teaches, first, that God is sovereign over the nations and indeed deals with them as He wills based on questions of righteous and justice as He defines them – not in human terms (Jeremiah 18:5-10, Isaiah 40:12-24).

Secondly, God has given Israel as a “light to the nations” to show us what it means to walk uprightly before Him and know His blessing or in disobedience and know His loving correction. The blessing of obedience was the right to live in the land bequeathed to Abraham’s descendants as an “everlasting possession” (Genesis 17:8), while the curse of disobedience was exile among the nations (see Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28).

How poetically the prophet Isaiah describes Israel as a “vineyard” carefully planted by God that He then had to uproot, because “He looked for justice, but behold, oppression; For righteousness, but behold, a cry for help.” Isaiah 5:1-7

Thus did a righteous God deal severely with His own people Israel down through the centuries. In fact, He actually made them pay “double” for all their sins (Isaiah 40:1-3; Jeremiah 16:18). This means that if anyone has a legitimate cry for “justice,” it is the Jews, who have suffered far more than any other people in history.

Yet the Apostle Paul, with regard to these very sufferings inflicted by God upon His elect, asks in Romans 3:1-8 essentially the same tough questions being posed by pro-Palestinian Christians today, namely:

“But if our [Israel’s] unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? The God who inflicts wrath is not unrighteous, is He? (I am speaking in human terms.) May it never be! For otherwise how will God judge the world?”

In other words, if God ever did anything to the Israelites that they did not deserve, then He has no right to judge the rest of the world.

This same God also promised a time of favor upon Israel (Psalm 102:13), in which “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd does his flock.” (Jeremiah 31:10)

The Jerusalem Post
CHRISTIAN EDITION
Subscribe Today!

Have You Kept Your New Year's Resolutions?

1. Stand with Israel.
2. Pray for Israel.
3. Comfort Israel.
4. Be informed about Israel.

There’s still time to keep these...

- God scattered them as a corrective measure, but also with a redemptive purpose, in that with their dispersion the Gospel went out to all the world (Romans 11:11-12, 15). It is His prerogative to gather them now within that same redemptive purpose.

- Though this modern-day ingathering may make some Christians uncomfortable from a humanistic perspective, it is actually the ultimate justice of God that He should recover this people who have suffered for the sake of the nations and redeem them back in the land.

- This does not mean, however, that everything Israel does today is right or that her moral shortcomings can be overlooked. She does need to act justly – but in His sight and not necessarily at the bar of nations that have always treated her unfairly, if not cruelly.

- In the end, we are assured that this process will bring God’s correction and justice to Israel and to the nations. For as Jeremiah says of this present Ingathering: “Though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished.” (Jeremiah 30:10-11)

- Indeed, “Zion shall be redeemed with justice and her penitents with righteousness.” (Isaiah 1:27)
The ICEJ’s weekly radio show, FrontPage Jerusalem hosted its annual Broadcaster’s Tour to Israel in November, introducing station managers and owners to the newcomers behind the scenes across the land. With high-level meetings with officials from the Knesset, Government Press Office, Foreign Ministry and IDF as well as briefings from some of the region’s top policy experts, the tour gave participants a unique overview of current events in the Middle East, equipping them to tell Israel’s story to radio audiences back in the USA. The week-long experience was rounded-off with tours of Bible sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee alongside informal meetings with local Israeli and Arab believers working together to bring peace in the land. To find out about future tours contact: fpjradio@icej.org.

New ICEJ Administrator Charles Lourens together with his wife Sharon who takes up her role as International Coordinator in January.

Trading Places

It was with great sadness that the Embassy family in Jerusalem said a fond farewell to ICEJ Administrator Arthur Ivey and his wife Paddy, our International Co-ordinator, in November after five years of tireless service and six consecutive Feast of Tabernacles celebrations. The Iveys have been ably replaced by fellow South Africans Charles and Sharon Lourens, also from their hometown of Durban. Charles and Sharon will lend their extensive business and teaching experience to their challenging new roles.

Durban doubles

News in Brief from the Jerusalem HQ

FPJ Broadcaster’s Tour

The ICEJ’s weekly radio show, FrontPage Jerusalem hosted its annual Broadcaster’s Tour to Israel in November, introducing station managers and owners to the newcomers behind the scenes across the land. With high-level meetings with officials from the Knesset, Government Press Office, Foreign Ministry and IDF as well as briefings from some of the region’s top policy experts, the tour gave participants a unique overview of current events in the Middle East, equipping them to tell Israel’s story to radio audiences back in the USA. The week-long experience was rounded-off with tours of Bible sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee alongside informal meetings with local Israeli and Arab believers working together to bring peace in the land. To find out about future tours contact: fpjradio@icej.org.

FPJ Broadcaster’s Tour

The ICEJ’s weekly radio show, FrontPage Jerusalem hosted its annual Broadcaster’s Tour to Israel in November, introducing station managers and owners to the newcomers behind the scenes across the land. With high-level meetings with officials from the Knesset, Government Press Office, Foreign Ministry and IDF as well as briefings from some of the region’s top policy experts, the tour gave participants a unique overview of current events in the Middle East, equipping them to tell Israel’s story to radio audiences back in the USA. The week-long experience was rounded-off with tours of Bible sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee alongside informal meetings with local Israeli and Arab believers working together to bring peace in the land. To find out about future tours contact: fpjradio@icej.org.

Please make your selection and add this total to the order form on the back page of the magazine.

Embassy Resources Ltd

Feast of Tabernacles 2006

Seminar audio CD’s available for $5.00 USD.
Shipping per CD $1.50 USD.

resources@icej.org

One year on, and the unique collaboration between the ICEJ and The Jerusalem Post continues to gather momentum with the latest issue of The Christian Edition - the ground-breaking monthly news magazine dedicated to the interests of Israel’s Christian friends. Alongside regular columns by Malcolm Hedding and Dr. Dwight Pryor. It remains the best-value single monthly publication for Christian readers looking for an in-depth understanding of the Middle East, unreported news from Israel and insight into the growing Christian Zionist movement worldwide.

Jerusalem Post Christian Edition Turns ‘One’!

One year on, and the unique collaboration between the ICEJ and The Jerusalem Post continues to gather momentum with the latest issue of The Christian Edition - the ground-breaking monthly news magazine dedicated to the interests of Israel’s Christian friends. Alongside regular columns by Malcolm Hedding and Dr. Dwight Pryor. It remains the best-value single monthly publication for Christian readers looking for an in-depth understanding of the Middle East, unreported news from Israel and insight into the growing Christian Zionist movement worldwide.

One year on, and the unique collaboration between the ICEJ and The Jerusalem Post continues to gather momentum with the latest issue of The Christian Edition - the ground-breaking monthly news magazine dedicated to the interests of Israel’s Christian friends. Alongside regular columns by Malcolm Hedding and Dr. Dwight Pryor. It remains the best-value single monthly publication for Christian readers looking for an in-depth understanding of the Middle East, unreported news from Israel and insight into the growing Christian Zionist movement worldwide.

One year on, and the unique collaboration between the ICEJ and The Jerusalem Post continues to gather momentum with the latest issue of The Christian Edition - the ground-breaking monthly news magazine dedicated to the interests of Israel’s Christian friends. Alongside regular columns by Malcolm Hedding and Dr. Dwight Pryor. It remains the best-value single monthly publication for Christian readers looking for an in-depth understanding of the Middle East, unreported news from Israel and insight into the growing Christian Zionist movement worldwide.

One year on, and the unique collaboration between the ICEJ and The Jerusalem Post continues to gather momentum with the latest issue of The Christian Edition - the ground-breaking monthly news magazine dedicated to the interests of Israel’s Christian friends. Alongside regular columns by Malcolm Hedding and Dr. Dwight Pryor. It remains the best-value single monthly publication for Christian readers looking for an in-depth understanding of the Middle East, unreported news from Israel and insight into the growing Christian Zionist movement worldwide.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book — The Basis of Christian Support for Israel (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>US$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book — The Heart of Biblical Zionism (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>US$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book — The Great Covenants of the Bible (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>US$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book — The New Testament and Israel (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>US$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book — Celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>US$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5x Book Series — Foundational Teaching Series (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>US$27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Music CD — Water From The Rock (Chuck King)</td>
<td>US$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music CD — Psalms of Ascent (Chuck King)</td>
<td>US$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music CD — Highways to Zion (Chuck King)</td>
<td>US$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New DVD — 2006 Feast Highlights, “The Great Hosanna”</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Video — 2006 Feast Highlights, “The Great Hosanna”</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Music CD — The Covenant (2-CD set) 2006 recording</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New DVD - PAL — The Forsaken Promise - 1 hour, 2 disc set</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New DVD - NTSC — The Forsaken Promise - 2 hour, 1 disc set</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New DVD — 2006 Feast Ein Gedi opening night</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DVD — The Covenant, The Story of my People (Multi-zone)</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DVD — Replacement Theology (Teaching DVD)</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DVD+CD — The Covenant <strong>SPECIAL: SAVE US$10!</strong></td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4x Tape Series — The Mystery of Israel (Lance Lambert)</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4x Tape Series — Biblical Perspective on the Restoration of Israel (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5x Tape Series — Foundational Teaching Series (Malcolm Hedding)</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important Shipping Information!**

Please send orders to the Israel office ONLY!

Please make your cheques payable to Embassy Resources Ltd.

a) fill out this form and mail to: Embassy Resources Ltd., PO Box 1192, Jerusalem 91010, Israel, cheque attached b) fill out this form and fax it to 00-972-2-5669970. Please use the following order options (Send order to Israel office only!): a) fill out this form and mail to: Embassy Resources Ltd., PO Box 1192, Jerusalem 91010, Israel, cheque attached b) fill out this form and fax it to 00-972-2-5669970. Please make your cheques payable to Embassy Resources Ltd. c) email: resources@icej.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>City:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State:</td>
<td>ZIP:</td>
<td>Country:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Card:</td>
<td>Amex</td>
<td>Diners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Card No:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exp.Date:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name on Card:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tel:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>