CELEBRATING ISRAEL AT 70
Dear Friends,

This issue of the Word from Jerusalem is dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel. What a historic occasion this is and one that Christians around the world will celebrate!

The ICEJ joined with Israelis marking their 70th anniversary which fell in April on the Hebrew calendar, and will celebrate again in Washington DC with our USA Branch May 13–15. Christian leaders from over 40 organizations are joining us to highlight the role of the US government over the years, most recently with the announced move of the US Embassy to Jerusalem.

We have much to thank the Lord for as the ministry of the ICEJ approaches its 38th anniversary and we see the movement of Christian support for Israel strong and vibrant in many parts of the world.

There are still challenges to our movement, which we are confronting, but the explosive growth of evangelical Christianity over the last century has brought with it a growth of support for Israel. We witness this each year at the Feast of Tabernacles when we routinely host some 5,000–6,000 Christians from more than 90 nations.

Included in this month’s magazine are updates on the ICEJ’s ministry including projects like Aliyah, ICEJ AID, and our Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors.

I pray the Lord blesses you as you also read the two articles in this issue by David Parsons. He gives prophetic insight into God’s plans for Israel and also provides an important historical perspective on the involvement of Christians in the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Jürgen Bühler
ICEJ President
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As the people of Israel celebrate the 70th anniversary of the nation’s modern rebirth in 1948, they are looking back with great respect to all those who worked to establish the state and then fought bravely to secure victory in the War of Independence. This includes a number of Christian figures that played a key role in Israel’s founding seven decades ago.

**Christians Impact the UN Partition Plan**
The passage of the UN’s Partition Plan for Palestine on November 29, 1947, paved the way for Israel’s independence, with the help of some unheralded Christian friends.

In the summer of 1947, with Arab-Jewish clashes mounting in Mandatory Palestine, the UN Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) was sent to conduct an inquiry and propose a solution. The committee members were impressed with Jewish advances in the Land. But they refused to meet with the 250,000 Jewish refugees in displacement camps across Europe, until the saga of the refugee ship *Exodus 1947* unfolded. The vessel was packed with 4,500 desperate Holocaust Survivors, and was attacked by British forces as it approached the coastline.

Rev. John Grauel, a Christian sympathizer with the Zionist cause, volunteered as the only non-Jewish crew member on the *Exodus*. “The *Exodus* had no arms,” Rev. Grauel insisted. “All they fought with were potatoes, canned goods, and their bare fists.” The refugees were eventually returned to Germany. The tragedy stretched out several months before the eyes of a worldwide audience—fueling the committee’s growing sense of its humanitarian mission.

Rev. William Hull also impacted UNSCOP that summer, especially the Canadian delegate, Justice Ivan Rand. Rev. Hull—also from Canada—had ministered in Jerusalem since 1935 and knew firsthand of the injustices visited upon the Yishuv (residents of Israel) by British and Arab alike. Over dinner one evening, Justice Rand listened to Hull’s views, and later admitted their encounter clarified his understanding of the dispute and gave him new appreciation for Zionist endeavors. Justice Rand was a respected member of the committee and, since Canada was part of the Commonwealth, his anti-British leanings held great sway. He took a firm position that Britain had unfairly restricted Jewish immigration and land purchases.

Guatemalan Ambassador Jorge Garcia-Granados, a revered Christian diplomat on UNSCOP, understood the real meaning of the Jewish return. In *The Birth of Israel*, Granados writes of UNSCOP’s enthusiastic welcome in Tel Aviv that summer: “I contemplated the enormous mass of humanity filling the square and overflowing into the streets ... still applauding, still cheering. It was then that I first really realized what the coming of our committee meant to the Jewish people. We held in our hands life or death.”
At 4:00 pm on May 14, Jewish leader David Ben-Gurion addressed the crowd gathered inside the Tel Aviv Art Museum. He proclaimed the moral and legal foundations for declaring the new state of Israel had been laid by “the Balfour Declaration, the UN Partition Resolution, the sacrifice of the Zionist pioneers, and the torment suffered by Jews in recent years.”

The Jewish Agency accepted this decision, but the Arabs launched an armed resistance to the plan. By the time the British Mandate ended on May 14, 1948, Arab-Jewish fighting had resulted in a de facto partition of Eretz Israel and the Jewish people were poised to declare the rebirth of their ancient nation.

An armed resistance was mounted, and within hours, the Jewish forces under Ben-Gurion’s command were poised to announce independence. At 7:11 pm on May 14, 1948, Jewish forces launched a surprise attack on Tel Aviv, and Ben-Gurion declared the establishment of the State of Israel. By 11:00 pm, the Israeli declaration of statehood had been recognized in an act of de facto partition of the Land of Israel, with the expectation that the UN would vote on the issue the following day.

The outnumbered Jewish forces under Ben-Gurion’s command now awaited the expected invasion of armies from Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq. The leaders of the Haganah, or Jewish Underground, had been trained to fight by British officer Orde Wingate during the Arab uprising of the late 1930s. A staunch Christian Zionist, Wingate had taught his officers to always command from the front, not the rear—a doctrine still followed by the IDF to this day!

During the ensuing War of Independence, some 4,700 volunteers from 39 countries who came to help defend Israel joined the Jewish forces in the Land. Most were Jewish veterans of World War II, but there were also around 200 Christians who joined them, including many of the pilots in Israel’s fledgling air force. These courageous volunteers came to be known as “Machalniks,” and they brought invaluable fighting skills and experience to the newly formed Israel Defense Forces.

One of the most notable Christian Machalniks in 1948 was Tom Derek Bowden, also known as Capt. David Appel to his Jewish troops. Bowden had started his military career as a cavalry officer in Mandate Palestine, serving under Wingate in a counterterror unit. Then, in World War II, he was back in the region fighting with allied forces in Syria where he was badly wounded in the same battle that his sergeant, Moshe Dayan, lost his eye. During these times in the Land, the affable Bowden made many Jewish friends and even dated a local Jewish girl. This would later cost him while fighting near the end of the war in Holland.

Switching over to a paratrooper brigade, Bowden took part in the battle of Arnhem, where he was wounded once more and captured by German troops. After a daring escape, he was recaptured and searched by SS guards, who found letters on Bowden from Jewish friends in Palestine. He was sent to the Bergen-Belsen death camp for a month, where he was forced to carry Jewish corpses to open pits for burial.

Bowden later recalled that the experience changed his life. As the war ended, he left the British army. However, when he heard about the Arab threats against Israel in May 1948, he rushed by boat and plane to Haifa to join the battle. Because of what he had witnessed at Bergen-Belsen, Bowden said he felt compelled to come defend the Jews from another attempt at annihilation.

At first he joined the 7th Brigade in the battle for Latrun. He was in charge of a unit of Polish Jews who had had just arrived from the refugee camps in Europe, and without knowing their language, he taught them how to handle rifles by hand gestures. He also took part in the forging of the Burma Road to Jerusalem, and continued with the brigade as it battled its way through the Galilee.

With the armistice of 1949, Bowden was asked to start a parachute school. As company commander and chief instructor of Israel’s first parachute regiment, the 72nd Battalion, Bowden brought army surplus parachutes from England and made four jumps “before breakfast every day.” He also wrote Israel’s first training manual for the paratrooper brigade, which went on to fame in the 1956 Sinai Campaign and the 1967 Six-Day War.

Today, Derek Bowden is 96 years old and resides near Norfolk, England, with his wife Eva. He is the last-known living Christian Machalnik from the 1948 war, and remains proud that he was the first Christian commander in the IDF. During a recent courtesy visit by ICEJ-UK National Director Rev. David Elms, Bowden also affirmed that it was his Christian faith and compassion that motivated him to go defend the new nation of Israel at its rebirth.
It has been 70 years now since Israel was miraculously reborn as a nation back in her ancient homeland. In that time, the Jewish state has faced many wars, terror attacks, rocket barrages, economic boycotts, and other attempts to strangle the young nation. She also had to absorb several million new immigrants, many of whom were penniless refugees of conflicts and forced expulsions. Yet despite these challenges, Israel is a nation on the rise.

Israel remains on an ever-upward trajectory because of God’s favor, and the resiliency and determination of her people. Yet some still expect the Jewish state to go through one last dark period of divine judgment and annihilation during the “Great Tribulation” before they are finally reconciled to God.

However, the Bible assures us that Israel has already been through the worst of God’s dealings with them during their times of uprooting and exile, while their future back in the land is now bright and full of hope (Isaiah 60). There is no doubt Israel will face more troubles ahead, but the Lord will deliver her out of them all (Isaiah 31:5; Joel 2:32; Zechariah 14:3). Rather, the troubles and tribulation still to come are all about God’s humbling and judging of the nations to prepare the way for Jesus to come take up the throne of His father David in Jerusalem. This was the teaching of Jesus himself in His Mount of Olives discourse, found in Matthew 24 and Luke 21.

**The Eschatology of Jesus**
The context of these parallel passages is that Jesus has just predicted the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. His closest followers ask Him when this will occur, and what the sign of His coming is and of the end of the age. We understand they are asking about what we now refer to as the “Second Coming.” But at that time, they had no idea about the return of the Lord after many long centuries in heaven. They did not even know about His Ascension yet. Rather, the disciples wanted to know when and how He would present to the entire nation the proof of His divine authority and credentials as the promised Messiah. And they expected this to trigger the restoration of the Davidic Kingdom within their lifetime.

So, Jesus is confronted with a serious challenge. He must completely reset their prophetic timetable, while preparing them for the tough times ahead. He knows that the temple will soon be destroyed and that many long centuries of exile await the Jewish people. The Luke version, in particular, sets out two clear and distinct times of tribulation and judgment—
one for Israel in the days when the Second Temple was destroyed and the Jews were forced into exile, and a second one for the nations at the end of the gentile age. The first would begin in their lifetime, while the latter would only occur after Israel’s judgment and exile was over. After all, judgment begins in God’s house first, among His people, before the unrighteous nations are judged (1 Peter 4:17).

### Judgment on Israel

The first period of judgment Jesus foresaw involves God’s wrath upon Israel, which began in the lifetimes of His earliest followers and led to the sacking of the temple and the scattering of Israel. Jesus is speaking straight from the “curse” spelled out by Moses—in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28—should Israel turn its back on God. He knew that the Father had prescribed exactly how He would punish Israel for her sins. Through sieges on their cities that would grow intense, the Jewish people would turn to cannibalism—culminating with their exile among the nations. In his farewell message to the Israelites, Moses also warned that “many evils and troubles” would surely befall the people due to their rebellious nature (Deuteronomy 31:17, 21), resulting in long and painful exiles from the promised land. He added that this was not a matter of “if” but “when.”

This manner of divine judgment becomes a common thread throughout the Hebrew prophets. For instance, it appears in Jeremiah 30–33, in Ezekiel 5 and 37, and in Zechariah 13. The Lord describes the severity of the judgment that would come upon Israel in the first century by saying: “I will do among you what I have never done, and the like of which I will never do again” (Ezekiel 5:9). This prompts Jesus to warn: “For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matthew 24:21). The apostle Paul later proclaims that, “wrath has come upon them to the uttermost” (1 Thessalonians 2:16). Again, these passages describe the worst that God would ever do to the Jewish people, and pivot around the violent expulsion and long exile of the Jews from their Land, beginning in the first century.

Yet it all finally ends in a national restoration of Israel back in the Land that ultimately gives way to her spiritual restoration as well. History testifies that this has taken place over the past 2,000 years of Israel’s violent uprooting and scattering to all nations. The firm promise of God is that we are now in a time of His great favor and restoration for Zion. This is an irreversible process, and nothing can stop or interrupt it (Jeremiah 24:6, 31:28, 32:41; Amos 9:15).

### ISRAEL REMAINS ON AN EVER-UPWARD TRAJECTORY BECAUSE OF GOD’S FAVOR, AND THE RESILIENCY AND DETERMINATION OF HER PEOPLE.

### Judgment on the Nations

The second period of judgment involves God’s humbling and correction of the nations. Again, Jesus knew that God prescribes in Scripture exactly how He will finally judge the nations at the end of the age. He points to the flood of Noah as the model for this, saying: “But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 24:37). However, this global judgment will not be by water. This time, it will be by fire! The New Testament is clear that Sodom and Gomorrah are set forth as examples of the fiery judgment that awaits the world at the end of the age (see, for example, Luke 17:28–30; 2 Peter 2:5–6; Jude 7).

### Conclusion

When we read the prophetic teachings of Jesus in Matthew 24 and Luke 21, there is a tendency to cram every bad thing spoken of in these chapters into the end times. But we can actually check off the worst things predicted in those passages for Israel, since they have already been fulfilled in their long and difficult uprooting and exile from the Land. Instead, the focus of God’s wrath still to come will be on the growing rebellion among the rest of humanity. Jesus instructed us to look to the “Days of Noah” as the paradigm for what lies ahead—for in it lies the key to unlocking the timing of “the coming of the Son of Man” (Matthew 24:37–39). That is the subject of the new book Floodgates. 🌋

You can read an in-depth explanation on the flood model in David Parsons’ new book Floodgates. 🌋

www.icej.store
In 1980, the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ) was established to answer God’s call, “Comfort, comfort my people” (Isaiah 40:1). When all international embassies left Jerusalem that same year, the founding of the ICEJ was warmly welcomed by both the government and the people of Israel.

Today the ICEJ has become a leading voice of Christian support for Israel. With offices in more than 90 nations, the ICEJ represents millions of Bible-believing Christians from around the world. From our headquarters in Jerusalem, we strive to reach every sector of Israel’s society with God’s love, reaching out to all of Israel, irrespective of their ethnic or religious background. Around the world the ICEJ has become a major voice against anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism.

Whether our work is among Holocaust Survivors, new immigrants, youth at risk, the Druze community, or Christian Arabs, the ICEJ is your Embassy in Jerusalem!

From our headquarters in Jerusalem we strive to reach every sector of Israel’s society with God’s love.

THE MISSION OF THE ICEJ

The core of our ministry:

- To show concern for the Jewish people and especially for the reborn State of Israel.
- To mobilize Christians to pray for Jerusalem, Israel, and the region.
- To demonstrate practical Christian love for the well-being of all who live in Israel, irrespective of race, background, or religion.
- To be a reconciling influence between Jews, Arabs, and Christians.
- To inform Christians all over the world what is taking place in Israel and how to be rightly related to her.
- To empower Christian leaders, churches, and organizations to fight modern-day anti-Semitism.
- To represent the love and concern of Bible-believing Christians from around the world toward the modern state and people of Israel.
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Following US President Donald Trump’s lead regarding the move of the American Embassy in Jerusalem last December, several countries announced their intention to do likewise. For example, the Czech Republic and the Philippines both quickly gave official recognition to Jerusalem, while President Jimmy Morales of Guatemala went further by deciding to return his nation’s embassy to the capital city.

The ICEJ was actively involved in urging the leaders of Guatemala and the Czech Republic to take these actions, and we have called on our national representatives around the world to continue to engage their governments on this issue. There are even certain regional blocs of nations—for instance in Eastern Europe and in East and West Africa—that could potentially take joint action in this regard.

In addition, when the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution in December denouncing the American decision on Jerusalem, 65 nations either voted against (nine), abstained (35), or were absent (21). ICEJ President Dr Jürgen Bühler has written to the heads of state of these countries thanking them for their respective stands and urging them to recognize Jerusalem and move their embassies to the Israeli capital. We encourage all our friends and supporters worldwide to join this effort by letting your government leaders know you stand with Jerusalem as the eternal capital of the Jewish state.

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**ICEJ HONORS CHRISTIAN VOLUNTEERS IN ISRAEL’S WAR OF INDEPENDENCE**

**BY DAVID PARSONS**

The ICEJ recently launched its year-long celebration of Israel’s 70th anniversary by partnering in a project to remember the courageous volunteers from abroad who came to Israel in 1948 to help defend the new nation during its War of Independence. At a special ceremony held at Ammunition Hill in Jerusalem, in the presence of Mayor Nir Barkat, a stone memorial was unveiled to honor the more than 4,900 “Machalniks” who fought alongside Israeli troops from 1947–1949. Hailing from 59 countries, they included not only Jewish men and women but also 168 Christian volunteers who put their lives on the line to help Israel survive at its national rebirth. Many were veterans of World War II, and their military experience proved invaluable in securing victory against the Arab onslaught. At the dedication ceremony for the Machalnik Memorial, ICEJ President Jürgen Bühler delivered an encouraging message affirming Israel that Christians around the world are still volunteering their time and efforts to defend Israel from those who would seek to destroy her.

In January, ICEJ-UK Director David Elms was honored to visit the London-area home of Derek Bowden (see page 5), believed to be the last surviving Christian volunteer fighter from the 1948 war. Bowden, now 96 years old, has a long and distinguished record of military service, concluding in his training of the IDF’s first paratroopers unit during the War of Independence.
The restoration of the Jewish people to their homeland is something that excites God. This is not a half-hearted matter for Him, but rather a cause that claims His passion, joy, and full attention.

From its inception, the ICEJ has been involved in the Jewish people’s return to Israel. One of our board members of many years and director in Finland, Dr. Ulla Jarvilehto, was active in Aliyah in the late 1970s—before the ICEJ was established—helping Jewish refugees escape the Soviet Union via Vienna.

Shortly after the ICEJ was founded in 1980, the Holy Spirit led us to initiate the “Mordecai Outcry.” Like Mordecai called upon Esther to stand up for her nation, we called upon our representatives around the world to demonstrate before the embassies of the Soviet Union with big banners demanding, “Let my people go!”

Many laughed at these humble demonstrations, and some even said, “This will definitely not impress the Soviet world empire.” And yet, at the end of the 1980s, the iron curtain fell by God’s intervention, bringing more than one million Jews back to the land of Israel.

Again, following the leading of the Holy Spirit, the then ICEJ director for Germany, Christian Stephan, flew to Jerusalem. He interrupted a board meeting, placed a check for $200,000 on the table, and declared that he heard from God that the ICEJ needed to charter planes to bring the Russian Jews back home. This came to pass, and dozens of planes followed in subsequent years.

To this day, Aliyah—the return of the Jewish people to their homeland—remains a central part of our work. We are currently working in Ethiopia, India, many nations of the former Soviet Union, and even in western countries to help them return home. Why? Because bringing His people home touches God’s heart, and He rejoices in doing them good.

Join us today in fulfilling this ancient call and touch the heart of God as we bring God’s chosen people back from the four corners of the earth.

DONATE ONLINE AT: www.icejusa.org/aliyah
Aliyah from China: Update

BY HOWARD FLOWER, ICEJ ALIYAH DIRECTOR

Five young ladies from Kaifeng are preparing to become citizens of Israel and will soon be receiving Israeli ID cards. These women are descendants of Jewish people who lived in Kaifeng China continuously since the Song Dynasty (960–1279). The first synagogue in Kaifeng was built in 1163 on the corner of Earth Market and Fire God streets, according to an ancient stone tablet on display in the municipal museum in Kaifeng.

The return of the descendants of the Kaifeng Jewish community to Israel has stirred up great interest from all over the world. In the Bible, the prophet Isaiah may have been predicting this return when he proclaimed: “Surely these shall come from afar; Look! Those from the north and the west, and these from the land of Sinim” (Isaiah 49:12).

The Bible explains that God will bring His people home as a sign of the holiness of His name so “the nations shall know that I am the Lord” (Ezekiel. 36:22–28). The same was true when He brought the captives out of Egypt—it was a sign for the gentiles. The Lord said the gentiles would even help them. The Egyptians donated silver and gold to the departing Israelites, and later, King Cyrus helped the Jews return from Babylonian captivity.

After the Babylonian exile, and before the formal establishment of the Kaifeng Jewish community, Jews were known to have traveled along the Silk Road into China. There are even legends that the Chinese had contacts with the ancient Israelites as early as the time of King Solomon.

The Jewish people and the Chinese people have obviously enjoyed a long and mostly harmonious relationship. Both are ancient civilizations that have existed uninterrupted for thousands of years.

The first Jewish family from Kaifeng made Aliyah through Finland with the assistance of the ICEJ in 2000. Since then, the ICEJ has been the main supporter of the Aliyah of the Chinese Jews—including these five ladies—to fly to Israel and to begin their new lives in the land of their ancestors. Their citizenship is a day of celebration for them and the Christian partners who made it possible.

To assist more Jews in their return home to Israel, please donate at www.icejusa.org/aliyah.
This map shows the principal countries from which Aliyah is now happening. The “hot spots” are countries from where Aliyah is taking place in larger numbers.
Thanks to your vision and vital support, the ICEJ continues to be among the foremost Christian organizations in the effort to bring Jews back home to Israel. We were the first international Christian Aliyah organization as we began our work in 1986, when a modern-day pharaoh in the form of the Soviet regime was refusing to let God’s people go. In recent years, the ICEJ has not shied away from extracting Jews from war and conflict zones or economically depressed countries. At the end of 2017, we had assisted 139,183 Jewish people on their way home to Israel, and as we write this we are crossing the 140,000-mark. At this year’s Feast of Tabernacles, the ICEJ will celebrate more than three decades of serving as God’s instruments and fulfilling the prophetic declarations of His word.

140,000 HAVE MADE ALIYAH THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYERS AND TO THE EFFORTS OF THE ICEJ

“Our message to the ICEJ is that we thank you. May God repay you for what you have done. We do not know God’s plan. (...) We cannot repay you. May God repay you for what you have done. And, don’t stop your good work (...) We do not have anything, but we will pray for you in this regard. We thank you! May God grant you health and bless you.”— Males Family

TOGETHER WE CAN BRING THEM BACK HOME

BECOME A PARTNER TODAY AND SHAPE THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL’S TOMORROW!

www.icejusa.org/aliyah
“LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD”

2017
ACLJ SENT LETTERS
to President Trump in support of recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and locating the US Embassy there signed by 60 Christian leaders such as: Dr. Jerry Johnson, Dr. Jim Dobson, Kay Arthur, Dr. Charles Stanley, Eric Metaxas, Penny Nance, Gordon Robertson, Richard Boll, and Gary Bauer.

2016
ACLJ SENT LETTERS to both presidential candidates asking them to commit to five guiding principles in relation to Israel signed by 650 leaders.

2015
ACLJ SENT LETTER to President Obama against the Iran Agreement signed by 720 leaders.

Join your voice to those of more than 1,200 Christian leaders who signed one or more of our initiatives. For info: www.ACLforIsrael.com/join-acli/

American Christian Leaders for Israel (ACLJ) is a project of the USA Branch of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ).

www.ACLforIsrael.com

ICEJ
INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN EMBASSY JERUSALEM
HAIIFA HOME FOR
HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS
Giving Shelter to Those Who Have Suffered Enough

Approximately one third of Israel’s some 180,000 Holocaust Survivors are impoverished, struggling with illness, or living alone. In 2009, ICEJ began a partnership with a local charity to provide a home for Survivors. It offers assisted-living facilities and a warm family environment.

The Haifa Home continues to be a significant and vital project. It is a partnership in the true sense of the word, with a warm and trusting relationship existing between the Israeli staff, residents, volunteers, and the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem.

The Home is unique in many ways. Its purpose has evolved from merely supplying accommodation for Holocaust Survivors, to providing a community. The Haifa Home family is made of residents, but local Survivors also enjoy a warm welcome and often participate in various celebrations, activities, and services.

The Haifa Home is currently packed to capacity with a long waiting list comprised of Survivors in their 80s and 90s. Every day their number dwindles. We are filled with a sense of urgency to expand our ministry to these hurting people before time runs out.

Please make a donation today at: www.icejusa.org/haifa

SARA NETANYAHU
HONORS ICEJ’S HOME FOR
HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

On January 28, ICEJ VP and Senior Spokesman David Parsons joined Sara Netanyahu, four Knesset members, and hundreds of Holocaust Survivors for a ceremony in Haifa to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Here, Sara Netanyahu cuts the ribbon to officially open a new Holocaust Museum at the ICEJ’s Home for Holocaust Survivors in Haifa.

Parsons assured the gathering that while the world’s sympathy for Jewish suffering can often wear off quickly, the love of millions of Christians for Israel today is steadfast and sure.
FAITHFULLY SUPPORTING ISRAEL

Be a part of that future generation spoken of in Psalm 102 that is partnering with the Lord in His work to restore Zion, for the set time has come.

PARTNER LEVELS

Covenant Partner
Show your love and support for Israel by partnering with the ICEJ. Become a Covenant Partner at a giving level of at least $300 a month. In appreciation, you will receive the following resources:

- A Partnership Certificate
- The Word From Jerusalem magazine
- A year-end gift of appreciation

Ambassadorial Partner
Partnership in ministry is a gift God gives to strengthen and undergird His work. Become an Ambassadorial Partner with the ICEJ at a giving level of at least $100 a month. In appreciation, you will receive everything in the Covenant Partnership level plus:

- Exclusive access to ICEJ’s quarterly Mid-East ministry update conference call from Jerusalem
- An invitation to attend our ICEJ-USA leadership briefing during our national conference

Builder of Zion Partner
Isaiah declared the Lord will call Zion's walls “salvation” and her gates “praise” (60:18). As we walk together side by side, the ICEJ would be honored if you would become a Builder of Zion Partner at a giving level of $2,500 a year or more. In appreciation, you will receive everything in the Ambassadorial Partnership level plus:

- A discount of $200.00 on a pilgrimage tour to Israel during the Feast of Tabernacles or other qualifying tour
- An additional gift acknowledging you as a Builder of Zion Partner

Gateway of Zion Partner
Show compassion for Zion and bless the people of Israel. The ICEJ would be honored if you were to become a Gateway of Zion partner at a giving level of $20,000 a year or more. In appreciation, you will receive everything in the Builder of Zion Partnership level plus:

- The opportunity to meet with ICEJ leadership and/or receive personal briefings on ICEJ projects that are of interest
- Special invites to exclusive events such as pastors’ lunches and VIP meetings that are held in your area or community
- An additional gift acknowledging you are a Gateway of Zion Partner

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ICEJ AID
A Work of Love

We love the people of Israel. And we show our love through social projects that build a stronger Israel.

Giving a Future and a Hope
ICEJ AID helps families break out of the cycle of poverty through educational programs such as vocational training and mentoring toward employment, as well as practical aid where needed most.

Blessing Holocaust Survivors
We also support Holocaust Survivors who are in the last days of their life. The Survivors enjoy emotional and physical support in an assisted-living home where their needs are met and they have a community of loving staff and volunteers surrounding them.

Aliyah and New Immigration Absorption
Together with our Israeli friends we are partnering with the God of Israel who promised through the prophet Jeremiah, “For I will set my eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; I will build them and not tear them down, and I will plant them and not uproot them” (Jeremiah 24:6).

ICEJ Home Care
“Touching hearts . . . Bring hope” is the core of the Home Care Program in Jerusalem. Our nurses visit elderly Jews in their homes, most of whom suffer from chronic medical problems or disabilities. They provide basic nursing care while also considering their social, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Among them are those who have suffered through and survived the Holocaust. A cornerstone of this ministry is encouraging these often uprooted and lonely people, visiting them over months or years as needed, and bringing hope and comfort in the midst of their daily concerns. It is a work done with love.

Become a partner today by going to
WWW.ICEJUSA.ORG/AID

17 | WORD FROM JERUSALEM
The story of modern Israel is amazing in itself, but when taken within the context of the history of the Jewish people, it is clearly miraculous. The only explanation for this epic tale is a biblical one.

Created to Bless the World
The uniqueness of the Jewish people is found in many aspects of their story but none more than in their beginnings. The story is found in Genesis 12:1–3 where God promises Abraham he would father a nation that would become a blessing to the world. The fact that Abraham’s wife Sarah was 99 and well past childbearing years makes the birth of their child, Isaac, a miracle—and proof that this nation is a fulfillment of God’s promise.

Given a Specific Land
Part of God’s promise to Abraham was the bequeathing of the land of Canaan as an “everlasting possession.” While Abraham himself only dwelt in the land as a foreigner, and died without seeing his descendants inherit the land, it surely came to pass hundreds of years later. After 400 years of slavery in Egypt, the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob entered the land of Canaan and established sovereignty over it.

Their Future Foretold
While many books in the Bible chronicle the story of the Jewish people and were written after the described events took place, the prophetic portions of Scripture foretold of many future events in the life of Israel and described in great detail how they would happen. These prophets foretold of two exiles and returns, and the centrality of the Jewish people in the establishment of God’s kingdom on earth. Israel’s story is a fulfillment of the promises and prophecies found in the Bible, and as such provides living proof of the absolute accuracy of the Scriptures.

Their Survival Against All Odds
The calling on the Jewish people was to bless the world with God’s redemptive plan—and they would suffer greatly for it. The powers of evil would forever fight against God’s plan and the best way to stop that would be to destroy the people called to bring it about. That this tiny people group survived two exiles, centuries of persecution, and multiple attempts at annihilation is a feat so beyond the norm that it is indeed a miracle—one promised by God (Jeremiah 31:36; Isaiah 66:23).

The Unprecedented Return
The story of the modern-day return of the Jewish people to their ancient homeland—the land of Canaan promised to Abraham 4,000 years ago—finds no parallel in human history. In the last 120 years or so, 3.5 million Jews have returned to their ancient homeland and reestablished national sovereignty there. This return from all the countries to which they had been dispersed was foretold in many verses, including Isaiah 43:5–6 and Jeremiah 16:14–15.

The Miracle of Israel
The day after the State of Israel was born five Arab countries with well-equipped armies attacked the fledgling nation. The newborn State had no unified defense force and many fighters were newly arrived Holocaust Survivors and refugees with no knowledge of Hebrew, equipped with few guns and inadequate supplies of ammunition. Their defeat of the vast Arab armies was nothing short of miraculous.

In the 70 years since, Israel has not known a day of peace and has had to focus its investments and energy on defense, yet is now leading the world in technology, innovation, medicine, agriculture, security, and disaster relief. The good heart of the Jewish people and their innate desire to Tikkun Olam (“repairing the world”) is increasingly making them a light to the nations.

The Future Glory of Israel
The Bible foretells of a day when it won’t be good deeds and accomplishments that will shine forth from Israel, but the actual glory of God. It will be so bright there will be no need for the sun nor the moon (Isaiah 60:3, 19), and the nations will come to worship the Lord there (Isaiah 66:18, 23). The birth of the modern State of Israel is a miracle, and there are even more to come.

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WHEN THE LORD RESTORED THE FORTUNES OF ZION,
WE WERE LIKE THOSE WHO DREAM.
PSALM 126:1

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Travel to Israel for the Christian celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles and tour the land of the Bible. Join thousands of Christians from more than 90 nations to worship the King of kings in Jerusalem! There is no better time to visit Israel than during this Feast of the Lord!