Issue 5/2021



# FULFILLING THE WORD OF GOD

"... MY WORD THAT COMES FROM MY MOUTH WILL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH WHAT I PLEASE AND WILL PROSPER IN WHAT I SEND IT TO DO."

**ISAIAH 55:11 HCSB** 

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A Christian ministry assisting Jewish people moving to Israel

## THE GREATNESS OF ALIYAH IN GOD'S EYES

BY WENDY BECKETT, ASSISTANT USA PRAYER COORDINATOR & BOARD MEMBER

"... Anyone who injures you injures the very pupil of My eye." <sup>1</sup>

Zechariah 2:8 CJB

hat other group of approximately seventy scriptures spanning the Old and New Testaments is systematically neglected by much of the Church? Is there any other large body of scriptures so ignored or misinterpreted? I do not think so. I'm referring to verses from the Word of God that describe a future return of the Jewish people to their God-given Land. At Operation Exodus USA, we proclaim those very scriptures regularly, that the Lord's beloved Jewish people will hear His call and go "home."

### OPEN THE EYES, DEAR LORD, OF YOUR BELOVED CHURCH!

For most of Christian history, nothing has been visible to indicate these scriptures would ever be fulfilled. A few isolated groups, including some Puritans in America, held on in faith. Samuel Rutherford, one of the most famous Scottish Puritans, had a passionate love for the Lord and His ancient people. In the book *Our Hands Are Stained with Blood, The Tragic Story of the Church and the Jewish People,* Dr. Michael Brown quotes Samuel Rutherford, "O to see the sight, next to Christ's Coming in the clouds, the most joyful! Our elder brother the Jews and Christ fall upon one another's neck . . . they have been long asunder."

Queen Victoria, who reigned in England from 1837 to 1901, believed the Jewish people would once again live in the Promised Land. Later came Theodore Herzel. Even though he stated he was an agnostic, he secretly believed God had spoken to him. In 1897 he helped bring together the first Jewish Congress since the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD. Even by his own Jewish friends, he was scornfully laughed at, then he stated, "This day I have founded the Jewish State."

Nevertheless, fifty years later, in 1947, the UN passed a resolution recognizing the Jewish people's right to a state of their own in the Land of their fathers. Miracles have been frequent since then as the Lord has ensured that the Jewish people would continue to possess this territory and return from other lands.

Why is *Aliyah* (the immigration of the Jewish people to Israel) so important to the Lord?

God loves the Jewish people so intensely; they are the apple of His eye (Jeremiah 31:3).

God promised they would return,

and God keeps His Covenant (Genesis

35:12; Psalm 105:10 & 11). God plans to remove the blinders

off their eyes (Isaiah 25:6-8).

The Jewish people need to be home to welcome the Lord Jesus back. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" Matthew 23:39 NKJV.

Open the eyes, dear Lord, of Your beloved Church!

<sup>1</sup> The pupil is the most tender part of the eye.

#### Prayer Points

- Lord, forgive us for our generational ignorance and pride. We humble ourselves before You and ask You to help us understand the mystery of Israel's salvation (Romans 11:25-26).
- Lord, give us spiritual wisdom and insight as we search the scriptures that declare *Aliyah* (Ephesians 1:16-17).

# **HEARTS STIRRED FOR ALIYAH**

BY PETE STUCKEN, CHAIRMAN, INTERNATIONAL BOARD

"And the LORD said, 'I have certainly seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their outcry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. So I have come down to rescue them . . .'" Exodus 3:7-8 NASB

I calling Moses to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt, the Lord made it clear that it would take a series of severe judgments to unlock the gates of Egypt and free His people from slavery. The Lord also said that He would harden Pharaoh's heart. This was already evident in the brutal slavery conditions he imposed on the Israelites.

As Moses stood before him, asking for Israel's release, Pharaoh hardened his heart (literally "made his heart heavy, stubborn") on five consecutive occasions. After this we read that the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart. He scarcely needed to. There was no fear of the Lord evident in Pharaoh despite the dramatic plague judgments. His heart was indeed hardened.

With an outstretched arm, with signs and wonders, with devastating destruction upon Pharaoh and his army, the Lord released His people from Egypt. This first *Aliyah* into the Promised Land was an *Aliyah* of rescue.

Not all Egyptians shared Pharaoh's hardness of heart. Some recognized that the Israelites in Goshen were spared the worst calamities. Israel's firstborn were safe through that first Passover. There grew a cautious respect in Egypt for the God of the Israelites, in some even a reverential fear of Him. Neighboring Egyptians allowed the departing Israelites to help themselves to stock and valuables. Some joined the Israelites as they left. Their hearts had been stirred to reverence Israel's God. They were willing to assist, even participate in, this first Aliyah.

The Israelites possessed the land of Israel, but over the ensuing centuries they drifted into idolatry. In the 8th century BC Isaiah foretold destruction and exile from the Land but also prophesied of God's grace, mercy and redeeming love. In one prophecy, precise in its detail, Isaiah spoke of a king named Cyrus, who would rise to help the sons of Jacob (Isaiah 45).

## IN A MOST REMARKABLE TURN OF EVENTS, THE LORD STIRRED UP THE HEART OF A PERSIAN KING ...

The fulfilment would follow after some 200 years. Those who had survived Nebuchadnezzar's invasion of the southern Kingdom found themselves in Babylonian exile. By the rivers of Babylon they wept as they remembered Zion. In this setting Daniel studied the Scriptures and found Jeremiah's prophecy that Jerusalem's desolation would cease after 70 years (Jeremiah 29:10). Daniel prayed, his face towards Jerusalem.

Now the time had come: in a most remarkable turn of events, the Lord stirred up the heart of a Persian king, the ruler of the great Babylonian empire — Cyrus.

You can read the full article by Pete Stucken on our website at operationexodususa.org/heartsstirred-for-aliyah/



**Operation Exodus USA** is affiliated with **Ebenezer Operation Exodus**, a ministry supported by Christians in over 50 countries around the world. We have been assisting Jewish people to return to Israel from the former Soviet Union and elsewhere since 1991. To learn more, visit **www.operation-exodus.org**.



# ALIYAH CARRIED BY THE LIVING POWER OF GOD'S WORD

**BY JOHN PROSSER, PRESIDENT & CEO** 

"... My word that comes from My mouth will not return to Me empty, but it will accomplish what I please and will prosper in what I send it to do."

#### Isaiah 55:11 HCSB

s I sit before the LORD in preparation for writing this article, I cannot escape the importance, the weight, and the power of God's Word. I marvel as I witness God's Word prosper in His faithfulness to work out His eternal purpose to gather His chosen people home.

Operation Exodus USA (OEUSA) is grateful for the abundance of God's provision. As we approach and prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, our hearts overflow with gratitude for all that God has done. Most of all, we rejoice that we've had the honor of assisting over six hundred *Olim* (Jewish immigrants) make their way home this year, surpassing the total number we helped last year.

I would like to share a great miracle God has performed for our ministry. A few months ago, I initiated a special project involving a few staff members; this project involved acquiring a facility to house our National Office Headquarters in western New York State. Through a few trials and tests of our faith, the LORD brought our attention to a facility just a few miles from our present office space. By God's grace, He made it possible for OEUSA to make this acquisition FREE OF DEBT. A friend of our ministry made a very generous offer to pay for the purchase. To God be all the glory!

#### "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34 NLT

This facility meets every one of our needs beyond what we envisioned — improving how

we operate as an *Aliyah* ministry. The building is multi-zoned for business offices and housing, and it has ample office space. Our current mailing address and contact information remain the same. The living quarters will accommodate our remote staff members as they come during strategic times of the year. Faithful friends and volunteers are just waiting to give their time to travel to our headquarters for training to help us grow the awareness of *Aliyah* in their regions.

## OPERATION EXODUS USA IS GRATEFUL FOR THE ABUNDANCE OF GOD'S PROVISION.

The completion of this incredible project will not diminish the funding we currently provide to the *Olim*. The LORD continues to pour in blessings to meet the need to furnish the living quarters and complete minor repairs. It is a blessing for Adrianne, me, and other staff members to contribute and be a part of God's miracle. A few supporters are contributing wholeheartedly as well!

We are calling this property A HOUSE OF BLESSINGS, and someday it may be A HOUSE OF REFUGE — A HOUSE OF REST for our Jewish friends.

Now is a pivotal time for OEUSA as we prepare for the greater *Aliyah*. Things can change in the blink of an eye! I thank God for the core group of faithful intercessors and supporters. Their commitment to upholding this work through effective and fervent prayer and giving is aweinspiring. THANK YOU! May God bless, protect and make provision for all of our friends and partners. We wish you all a blessed Thanksgiving. We appreciate your support of our making *Aliyah*. We are fulfilling a lifelong dream of living in and supporting Israel. *Ellen & Joseph*  Living in the Land of our forefathers, breathing the air of our forefathers, and walking the Land of our forefathers is something Jews have been striving for for generations. Now that we have the opportunity to do this, why would I not go as soon as I could?

David & Family

## YOUR IMPACT ON THE WORK OF ALIYAH

The Jewish people are dear to the Lord, and His desire is for them to return to Eretz Israel. Operation Exodus USA (OEUSA) exists to help those who long to see their dreams fulfilled and want to make *Aliyah*. By joining us in supporting the work of *Aliyah*, you are aiding in the fulfillment of God's promises to His people and helping to accomplish His will.

These are the stories of some of our Olim we

assisted as they made *Aliyah* this year. These stories have greatly encouraged us at OEUSA, and we want to pass that encouragement on to you.

Thank you for your prayers and support! Your commitment to the work of *Aliyah* continues to have an amazing impact on the *Olim* the Lord has called us to assist.

May God continue to bless you for your faithfulness to His people!



After so long of Jewish persecution, it is so special to be back in our homeland. Shoshana



We want our children to experience living fully as Jews in the Land that G-d gave us and commanded that we live in.

Amanda & Family



After COVID-19 came into full swing, we realized that times are so uncertain and that we shouldn't push off *Aliyah* anymore. Jonah & Family



Isreal is the eternal home of the Jewish people. Anyone who can move there should.



By making *Aliyah*, I'll finally be able to feel at home and enjoy the Israeli culture that I belong to.

Rimon



## ALIYAH, THE HOLY WORK OF GOD

BY JOHN MACLEAN, PRESIDENT & CEO OF TARGET FLAVORS

"There is no one like you, Lord, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. And who is like your people Israel—the one nation on earth whose God went out to redeem a people for himself, and to make a name for yourself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? You made your people Israel your very own forever,

n these very special days in which we are living, we realize that our personal dependence and guidance must be in accordance with the will of the Lord God Almighty!

Relative to Israel, the plans of our hearts must be in line with God's prophetic plans unfolding before both Gentiles and the Jewish people. In this hour, He is clearly making a way and is calling for Jewish people outside of Israel to come home! Amen! God is making a way! He has put into the hearts of Gentile believers who are praying for His Kingdom the desire to help them come "home." This work of the Holy Spirit has birthed *Aliyah* — the call of God for His people to return home!

### LET US NEVER FORGET GOD'S LOVE AND PLANS FOR ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

Operation Exodus USA is fully engaged and committed to a Holy Spirit-led process made in God's love for His covenant people to come home. All believers have a role to play in this divine process, and they have been called by God to love and assist in the provision for and you, Lord, have become their God. And now, Lord, let the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house be established forever. Do as you promised, so that it will be established and that your name will be great forever. Then people will say, 'The Lord Almighty, the God over Israel, is Israel's God!' And the house of your servant David will be established before you." 1 Chronicles 17:20-24 NIV

their going home. Let us all serve His plans!

Praying for His work and serving His plans in His ways are imperative for believers. As we pray to this end, trust the Lord to guide you in areas where you can be a servant to His plans. Let us never forget God's love and plans for Israel and the Jewish people.

May the grace of God and His love guide us all. Amen!

#### **Prayer Points**

- Lord, help us to "put into action the generosity that comes from our faith . . ." Philemon 6 NLT.
- Likewise, help us to prepare our minds for action (1 Peter 1:13) and to find our place of serving Your work of *Aliyah*.

Please consider getting more involved with the work of OEUSA. Your prayers and support are vital to the work of Aliyah. Go to operationexodususa.org/ get-involved to learn more today.



# **GREAT, GREATER, AND GREATNESS**

BY QUAY MESSNER, NATIONAL PRAYER COORDINATOR

"Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised . . ."

Psalm 48:1 ESV

#### *"For (we) proclaim the name of the LORD; Ascribe greatness to our God!"* Deuteronomy 32:3 NASB

s we transition from 2021 to 2022, we remember the core motive for all that we do, which is that all will see the greatness of our God. His character is impeccable, and His power is very great. These two facts undergird all that we pray and do in OEUSA.

"Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! . . . All glory to Him forever! Amen." Romans 11:33, 36b NLT. We thank Him from the depths of our hearts. He has led us, given us wisdom in prayer and action, and provided for us all throughout this year.

"For I will bring them from . . . the distant corners of the earth . . . a great company will return!" Jeremiah 31:8 NLT. This is only one of many scriptures upon which our calling rests. Through your prayers to our great God, we helped carry many of the great company spoken of in this verse; He is bringing them home.

### WE EXPECT AN EVEN GREATER MOVE OF *ALIYAH* IN 2022.

How do we stay focused on Him and His work of *Aliyah* in perilous times? "*But He gives a greater grace*..." James 4:6a NASB. The spiritual forces of evil and our weak fleshly nature combine in their attempt to seduce us into fear, pride, deception, and more. The power against us is real and formidable. But as we humble ourselves in His Presence, we receive greater grace from Him to overcome all the works of the evil one.

Furthermore, "... we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus ..." Hebrews 4:14 NASB. Our prayers are inspired by The Holy Spirit, based on the written word of God and offered to God through our great High Priest who ever lives to intercede for us (Hebrews 7:25).

In 2021, the great work of *Aliyah* moved forward — by the greatness of our God. We humbly expect Him to continue giving us greater grace to stand confidently before Him, interceding for the fulfillment of His promise to return the Jewish People to the Land He gave them. We expect an even greater move of *Aliyah* in 2022.

Thank you, dear Prayer Partners, for a great year of praying together. He has done great things for us, for the *Olim*, and for Israel.

Soon we will enter a new calendar year. Always remember, never forget this: "... he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world." 1 John 4:4 ESV.

If you are new to OEUSA and our prayer team, we warmly invite you to join us. Be a part of His greatness in *Aliyah* through prayer.

To get involved, please visit our website at **www.operationexodususa.org** or call **716.681.6300**.

#### **Prayer Points**

- Lord, help us to shout joyful praises to You and to sing about Your glory (Psalm 66:1). As we praise You, our hearts focus on Your greatness.
- Lord, help us to daily fulfill Jeremiah 31:7-8: To praise, shout, and proclaim the regathering and salvation of Israel.

# ALIYAH BRINGS GREAT HONOR TO THE Lord's holy name

BY ADRIANNE PROSSER, OUTREACH DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

"Cry out, 'Save us, O God of our salvation! Gather and rescue us from among the nations, so we can thank your holy name and rejoice and praise you.' Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who lives from everlasting to everlasting!" 1 Chronicles 16:35-36 NLT

A *liyah* is a marvelous expression of the longing in the Heart of God to gather and rescue His people from the nations. The fulfillment of His Word is an everlasting sign of His power and love for His firstborn — Israel!

As we pray the scripture above, we hear the cry of the Jewish peoples' hearts calling to their God to save and rescue them from their suffering in the diaspora. Our response must be a cry from our own hearts to pray on their behalf — identifying with their plight in intercession before the LORD! We have a tremendous responsibility to pray for American Jewry, especially now! We must pray for the LORD to birth this cry in the hearts of our Jewish friends and neighbors. We must stand in the gap and pray that they come to that place of surrender. They must identify with their God (be in relationship with Him) and identify with their Jewish roots and their Land. There they will rejoice and praise their God and Savior! Hallelujah!

The LORD mandates that we carry His people home to Israel by revealing His great love and compassion to them. May our deeds and words be a blessing to our Jewish friends as we reach out to Jewish communities around us, creating a pathway for a relationship built on friendship and trust.

God is jealous for His people because they are

worshiping and serving false gods (Deuteronomy 5:9). He is unwavering in His plan to be in relationship with His people — a people set apart for holy purposes. My prayer is that the Church will rise up and answer God's call to provoke them to be jealous for their God! That is God's purpose! "... Salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous." Romans 11:11 ESV.

The season ahead of us may be treacherous. The unprecedented anarchy that is ripping our nation apart is raging against the truth of God's Word. As darkness and persecution increase, we will increasingly witness God's miracles for the *Aliyah* of His people!

## THERE THEY WILL REJOICE AND PRAISE THEIR GOD AND SAVIOR!

At the end of this month, from November 28 through December 6, our Jewish friends will celebrate Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights. Let us believe in a great miracle for this season as our Jewish friends light the menorah. "Jesus spoke to the people . . . and said, 'I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.'" John 8:12 NLT.

Thank you so much for your friendship, support, and trust in the work of OEUSA. May the LORD pour out His abundant blessings upon you all during this season of THANKSGIVING to our God!

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