

# ALIYAH—A HOLY WORK OPENING THE WAY FOR THE GREATER EXODUS

*FOR BEHOLD, I AM COMMANDING,  
AND I SHALL SHAKE AND SIFT THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL  
AMONG ALL NATIONS [AND CAUSE IT TO TREMBLE]  
LIKE THE GRAIN IS SHAKEN IN A SIEVE [REMOVING THE CHAFF],  
BUT NOT A KERNEL [OF THE FAITHFUL REMNANT] SHALL  
FALL TO THE GROUND AND BE LOST [FROM MY SIGHT].*

AMOS 9:9 AMP

**GOD IS OPENING  
THE WAY FOR A  
GREATER EXODUS**

Page 3

**ALIYAH IS NOT  
AN ESCAPE FOR  
JEWISH PEOPLE**

Page 4

**SEEING EYE TO EYE  
WITH THE LORD**

Page 6

**THE GREATER  
EXODUS**

Page 7

# Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas

## A WORD FROM OUR BOARD CHAIRMAN

BY PHIL MARKWARDT, BOARD CHAIRMAN, OPERATION EXODUS USA

*Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls; all your breakers and your waves have gone over me. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.*

Psalm 42:7-8 ESV

In reading through the history of the kings of Israel and Judah, I am reminded of their frequent times of uncertainty. They faced attacks from their enemies, treachery from those within their own government or family, and illness and injury that threatened not only their standard of living, but their very lives.

Centuries later, we are facing increasing uncertainty. We have chaos on our southern border, runaway inflation, workforce shortages, ongoing effects of Covid, increased tension and polarization of political views, and attacks on Judeo-Christian values—all bringing deep uncertainty within our nation.

Yet what we are facing is nothing compared to what so many in the world are encountering, from the war in Ukraine, to lawlessness, famine and disease.

For Jews, uncertainty reigns supreme as anti-Semitism continues to increase throughout the world. In Israel, the government has been in constant flux while their enemies plot how to wipe their nation off the map.

With evil on the increase throughout the world, so much seems hopeless. So much seems unfair as evil flourishes and good is punished.

I can relate with the sons of Korah, who expressed their dismay when they wrote in Psalm 42, “My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me continually, ‘Where is your

God?’ Why are you cast down, O my soul and why are you in turmoil within me? My soul is cast down within me; . . .” Psalm 42:3, 5, 6 ESV.

The answer to their lament—tucked in Psalm 42—brings hope: “*Hope in God; for I shall again praise him. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me. Hope in God, my salvation and my God.*” Psalm 42:5, 8, 11 ESV.

---

**IT IS CRITICAL TO BE REMINDED THAT, IN THE PRESENT, OUR HOPE MUST BE IN GOD. THAT IS WHAT BRINGS CERTAINTY TO THE WORLD OF UNCERTAINTY.**

---

It is critical to be reminded that, in the present, our hope must be in God. That is what brings certainty to the world of uncertainty.

During this season, let’s remember that Hanukkah is a remembrance of the triumph of good over evil. Christmas is the remembrance that Jesus, who came into our world as Savior, will return as our King. God is the ultimate and final victor; that is certain!

May this season be truly a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah filled with hope in God.

# GOD IS OPENING THE WAY FOR A GREATER EXODUS THAT IS BUILDING MOMENTUM FOR JEWISH PEOPLE IN AMERICA.

BY JOHN PROSSER, PRESIDENT, OPERATION EXODUS USA

*All the sinners among My people will die by the sword, those who say [defiantly], “The disaster will not overtake or confront us.”*  
Amos 9:10 AMP

It is impossible to deny or ignore the decay of Christian-Judeo values in American society today—expressed by generations rejecting God and His commandments. This defiance against God has brought a great calamity in our country and around the world.

The LORD is using this time to *shake* and *sift* His chosen people Israel and the nations. A reversal must take place in the hearts of God’s people. Repentance and obedience to God are prerequisites to living our lives under the blessing and protection of the Lord. An unrepentant heart—choosing death over life—leads to deception and separation from God! *Today I ask heaven and earth to be witnesses. I am offering you life or death, blessings or curses. Now, choose life!* Deuteronomy 30:19 ESV.

In the coming days, if the levels of uncertainty and instability continue to rise in our nation, we could experience the downfall of our way of life, as we know it today. This would have a direct impact in the lives of American Jewish people, precipitating for many of them an urgent exodus and return to their God-given land of Israel.

Perilous times are the catalyst the LORD uses to propel His people to obey Him and make Aliyah. Many Jewish people are recognizing their true identity as God’s *chosen people* and their God-given rights to return to Israel. Unfortunately, the majority of American Jewry are still in denial of the dangers of disobeying God by choosing to remain in exile. The level of anti-Semitism rising in our nation is very alarming, and it should be a great concern to all American Jewry and the Church.

---

**THIS IS A CRUCIAL TIME FOR THE CHURCH (THE REMNANT) TO RISE UP IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD’S COMMAND TO CARRY HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS HOME (ISA 49:22).**

---

We cannot predict what the work of our ministry will look like in the near future. *Olim* (Jewish immigrants) may find themselves in a variety of dangerous and difficult challenges. Opportunities will arise to assist the *Olim* in new and unusual ways that we have not experienced before. Many American Jews are realizing that we have entered “a new day” in America—a “new way” that we have not been before.

This is a crucial time for the Church (the remnant) to rise up in obedience to God’s command to *carry His sons and daughters home* (Isa 49:22). As we pray and remind ourselves that our ministry’s mission is a holy work, the Father—in His faithfulness—will help us as we seek Him for His wisdom and guidance. My prayer is that our ministry, in the fear of the LORD, will remain before our Holy God in a posture of humility, prayer and worship—as the LORD opens the way for an exodus that is building momentum for Jewish people in our nation. All glory be to our God!

Thank you, dear friends and partners, for your confidence and trust in the work of Operation Exodus USA. Together, let us choose to commit ourselves to bless Israel and the Aliyah of His chosen people, no matter what comes our way! *In the fear of the LORD, one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge. Proverbs 14:26 ESV.*



Sara & Adam: "...the pull to Israel and our desire to raise our children as Israeli is stronger..."



Steven: "I believe that this is what God really wants of all Jews. Too many miracles have happened since 1948 to prove that."



Rivka: "We are making Aliyah due to the increased antisemitism in the United States."



Nathan: "I want my children to grow up... connected with our people, culture, and land and am excited to finally make this happen."

# ALIYAH IS NOT AN ESCAPE FOR JEWISH PEOPLE; IT IS A HOMECOMING!

BY SHIRLEY LAWRENSEN, USA ALIYAH DIRECTOR

*I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.*

Jeremiah 24:7 ESV

Aliyah is about knowing and understanding the heart of God. Aliyah is holy; it is the Father's heart's desire to see His people return to the land of Israel. Returning as *Olim* (Jewish immigrants), after years of longing and dreaming to be home in Eretz Israel, came by understanding that the heart of God for them is to be home in the land He gave them. God wants them to know that He is a God who keeps His promises. He is preparing the hearts of His people to be ready to return to the Land. He is a God who is faithful, true and wise. There is absolutely nothing that makes it impossible for Him to bring His people home.

**WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT A NEW WAVE OF ALIYAH IS COMING SOON, AND WE NEED YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT AND PRAYERS AS WE PREPARE FOR IT.**

Eretz Israel is not a land to which the Jewish people *escape*; for them it is a *homecoming*! We rejoice with every individual— young and old—and every family now living in the land of Israel who we have had the privilege to assist,

encourage and comfort as they made their journey to Israel. This year, we have assisted hundreds of *Olim* who needed our prayers and support while going through the Aliyah process.

The past three years have been challenging with the pandemic and the Ukraine/Russia war. However, the most amazing miracle we continued to witness is that Aliyah continued as Jewish people continued to go home to Eretz Israel. Aliyah is a modern-day miracle that we cannot deny.

One of the groups we have assisted are students from the Naale program, through which students complete their last three years of school in Israel. Most of them stay in Israel permanently.

We continue to believe that a new wave of Aliyah is coming soon, and we need your ongoing support and prayers as we prepare for it. Your prayers and giving are the fuel that enable us to assist those making Aliyah.

The Jewish people say, "Thank you"! And we say, "Thank you"! We are all in this Aliyah work together!



Naale Students: "We are grateful for Operation Exodus assistance and friendship throughout the years!"

# OVERCOMING THE DANGERS

BY TATIANA, UKRAINE TEAM

I first met Sergey, his wife Valeria and their seven-year-old twins, Denis and Yana, from Melitopol in January, shortly before the war in Ukraine began, to help them bring their documents for Aliyah together. But the Russian invasion prevented them from meeting with the Israeli Consul in Dnepropetrovsk. So I suggested going to Poland for a consular appointment.

Valeria's husband had to stay in Melitopol, so Valeria and the twins set out on a long and exhausting journey to Zaporozhye. Although it is only 133 km away from Melitopol, it took them 26 hours to get there because of a massive traffic jam of about 500 vehicles. Some women appealed to Russian soldiers at one of the checkpoints to let the cars with children and disabled people pass as soon as possible. They allowed six cars to drive by and then blocked the way again. Valeria and her children spent the night in the car, enduring explosions from the heavy shelling nearby, but they safely reached their destination in the morning.

In Zaporozhye, Valeria and her children stayed in one of the refugee centers before taking a train to Lviv, and then going by bus to Przemysl, Poland. Ebenezer volunteers met them and took them to a hotel, where they stayed for five days. *"Thank you so much", said Valeria, "My children have had some rest here, as they could go for a walk, play and sleep... We have been provided with good meals as well."*

Valeria was very anxious about her appointment with the Israeli Consul, as she and her Jewish husband married when both were only 16, followed by an official registration of the marriage two years later. *"I called the Israeli Consulate hotline and was told that my children would not be granted Israeli visas unless they had been DNA-tested",* said Valeria. *"The Ebenezer team kept encouraging me, assuring me that the Consul himself was the only competent authority to deal with the matter and make decisions."* Happily, she and the children were granted visas without the test.

*"Thank you so much for your kindness, encouragement and practical help! We are so grateful!"* Valeria told us before leaving for Israel.



Operation Exodus USA is affiliated with Ebenezer Operation Exodus, a ministry supported by Christians in over fifty-two 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: <https://ebenezer-oe.org/>.





# SEEING EYE TO EYE WITH THE LORD

BY QUAY MESSNER, NATIONAL PRAYER COORDINATOR

*Thus says the LORD: I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, . . .*  
Zech. 8:3 ESV

*The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.*  
Isa. 52:8 ESV

The idiom “eye to eye” means that two people agree on a matter. Isaiah speaks of a company of watchmen (intercessors) who agree with the word of the LORD—in this case specifically on His “return” to Zion. Now is the set time to favor her and restore her to her original calling.<sup>1</sup> Zechariah also bears witness to the LORD’s return to Zion (Zech. 8:3), which precedes the restoration of the people to Zion! Zechariah reveals deep passion in the heart of the LORD: “. . . My love for Mount Zion is passionate and strong; . . .” Zech. 8:2a, NLT.

---

**THANK YOU, OEUSA  
INTERCESSORS; YOU HAVE  
NOT LOST HEART IN THE  
FACE OF INCREASING  
RESISTANCE TO ALIYAH.**

---

Thank you, Operation Exodus USA (OEUSA) intercessors. You are a part of the company of watchmen Isaiah saw! You see eye to eye with the LORD regarding His work of Aliyah. You share His passionate love for Zion, which motivates your faithful prayers.

---

<sup>1</sup>Psalm 102:13

<sup>2</sup>Zephaniah 3:17

“. . . All this may seem impossible to you now, . . . But is it impossible for Me? . . . You can be sure that I will rescue My people from the east and the west. I will bring them home again to live safely in Jerusalem. . . .” Zech. 8:6-8, NLT.

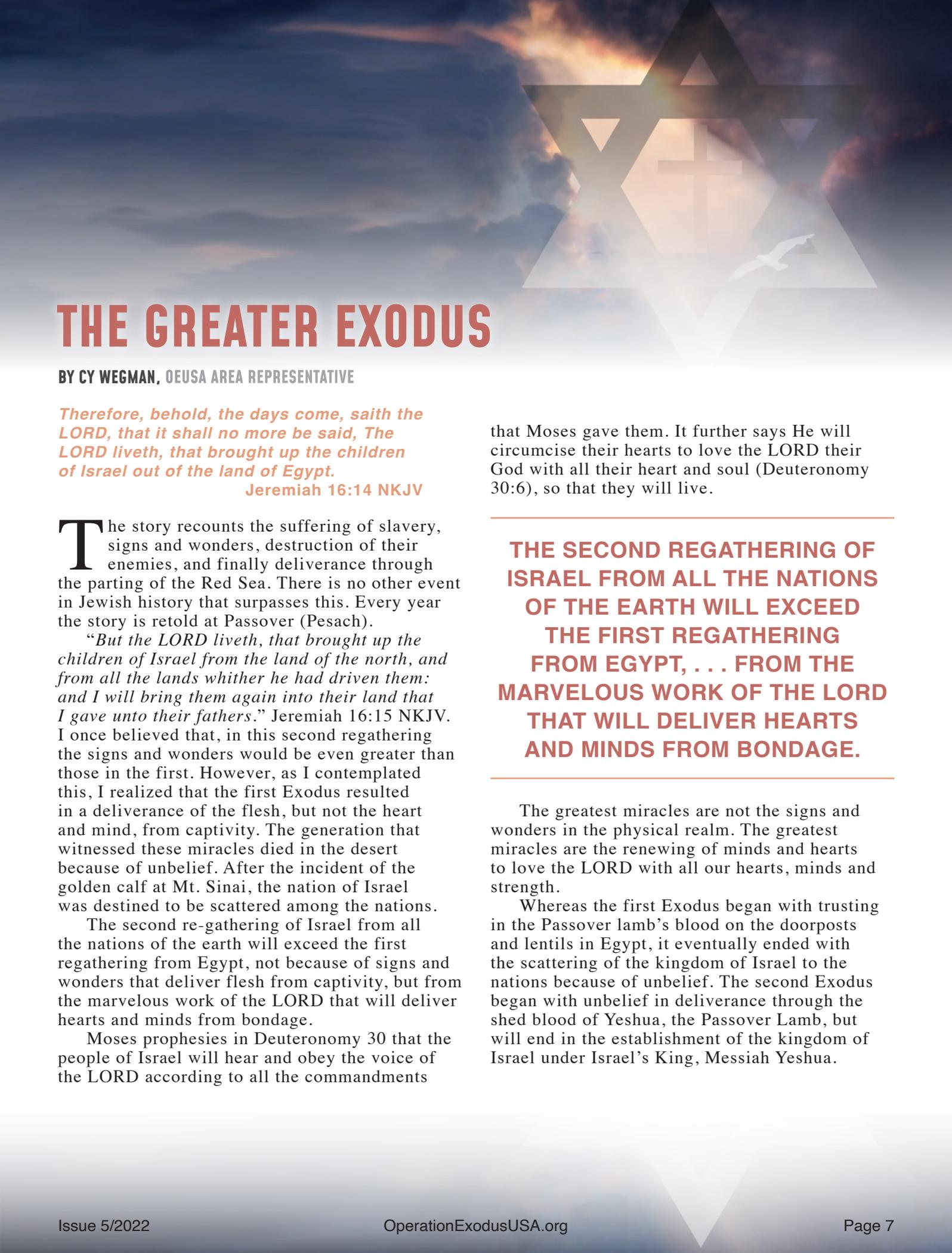
Thank you, OEUSA intercessors; you have not lost heart in the face of increasing resistance to Aliyah. Rather, we see your faith growing in and through prayer despite impossibilities.

Many of you have faced significant personal trials this year, yet you have remained steadfast in the call to pray for Aliyah from the USA. The LORD delights in you. He rejoices over you with singing.<sup>2</sup> Like Abraham you have been blessed and you have become a blessing to OEUSA and to American Jewry. May the LORD bless you more and more for the remainder of 2022 and 2023.

May He bless you to continue to see eye to eye with Him and fulfill the call: “Be strong and finish the task! . . .” Zech. 8:9, NLT.

Although He is shaking all things, your portion is this: “and He will be the stability of your times, . . .” Isa.33:6, ESV.

We especially invite those who are not members of our Intercessory National Prayer Network. Please join us if you have a desire to see “eye to eye” with the LORD and a passion to pray for the Aliyah of God’s people. OEUSA has many opportunities to pray on various prayer calls. Please visit the following link: <https://operationexodususa.org/pray/>



# THE GREATER EXODUS

BY CY WEGMAN, OEUSA AREA REPRESENTATIVE

*Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be said, The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.*

**Jeremiah 16:14 NKJV**

**T**he story recounts the suffering of slavery, signs and wonders, destruction of their enemies, and finally deliverance through the parting of the Red Sea. There is no other event in Jewish history that surpasses this. Every year the story is retold at Passover (Pesach).

*“But the LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers.”* Jeremiah 16:15 NKJV.

I once believed that, in this second regathering the signs and wonders would be even greater than those in the first. However, as I contemplated this, I realized that the first Exodus resulted in a deliverance of the flesh, but not the heart and mind, from captivity. The generation that witnessed these miracles died in the desert because of unbelief. After the incident of the golden calf at Mt. Sinai, the nation of Israel was destined to be scattered among the nations.

The second re-gathering of Israel from all the nations of the earth will exceed the first regathering from Egypt, not because of signs and wonders that deliver flesh from captivity, but from the marvelous work of the LORD that will deliver hearts and minds from bondage.

Moses prophesies in Deuteronomy 30 that the people of Israel will hear and obey the voice of the LORD according to all the commandments

that Moses gave them. It further says He will circumcise their hearts to love the LORD their God with all their heart and soul (Deuteronomy 30:6), so that they will live.

---

**THE SECOND REGATHERING OF ISRAEL FROM ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH WILL EXCEED THE FIRST REGATHERING FROM EGYPT, . . . FROM THE MARVELOUS WORK OF THE LORD THAT WILL DELIVER HEARTS AND MINDS FROM BONDAGE.**

---

The greatest miracles are not the signs and wonders in the physical realm. The greatest miracles are the renewing of minds and hearts to love the LORD with all our hearts, minds and strength.

Whereas the first Exodus began with trusting in the Passover lamb's blood on the doorposts and lentils in Egypt, it eventually ended with the scattering of the kingdom of Israel to the nations because of unbelief. The second Exodus began with unbelief in deliverance through the shed blood of Yeshua, the Passover Lamb, but will end in the establishment of the kingdom of Israel under Israel's King, Messiah Yeshua.

# HAVING A RUTH HEART—POSITIONING OUR HEARTS TO “CARRY THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS” HOME

BY LORI MEED, OEUSA INTERCESSOR

*But Ruth said, “Don’t press me to leave you and stop following you; for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die; and there I will be buried. May Adonai bring terrible curses on me, and worse ones as well, if anything but death separates you and me.”*

Ruth 1:16-18, CJB

**W**e are living in an appointed time on the earth (a “moed” in Hebrew), in which God ordained that we favor Zion (Psalm 102:12-13). In the powerful biblical account of Ruth (a Moabitess who cleaves to her mother-in-law, Naomi, pledging her life to serve her after the death of both Naomi’s husband, Eli-Melech, and her two sons) we find a blueprint for God’s call to lay down our lives for Yeshua’s family: the Jewish people. There are two daughters-in-law in the story: Ruth, who pledges to live and die with Naomi and Naomi’s God, and Orpah, who returns to both Ruth’s household (a euphemism for being able to marry again) and her gods (Ruth 1:11-15). This is a powerful tale of redemption—both for Naomi and for Ruth, who marries into Jesus’ lineage and comes under the wings of the covenant with our kinsman-redeemer.

Ruth’s love for God, and for Naomi, literally brings Naomi out of bitterness and loss, and causes her to hope again, and to believe again in the goodness of God. Ruth’s love was indeed sacrificial. In 1 John 3:18 we are told that our love should be not only with words, but with actions. *Ruth went with Naomi to care for her;*

*she worked in the fields to bring home food; and she obeyed as Naomi told her how to act toward Boaz, even to the point of getting him to propose marriage to her. Lastly, she gives birth to a baby boy—Obed—whom she gives to Naomi as her own child to continue her family line.*

**IN THE POWERFUL BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF RUTH WE FIND A BLUEPRINT FOR GOD’S CALL TO LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR YESHUA’S FAMILY: THE JEWISH PEOPLE.**

We Gentiles, too, were cut off from God’s covenant, but now we have been brought near by the blood of our Jewish Messiah (Eph. 2:11-22). It was not until Ruth helped Naomi make *Aliyah* back to the land of Israel that she once again saw the faithfulness and provision of God, and her faith was reborn. So too must we as Gentiles help the Jewish people come from the ends of the earth, back to the fullness of their inheritance in the land of Israel (Deut. 30:3-4; Is. 11:11-12). It is there that God has promised to reveal himself to them, to give them a new heart of flesh for their heart of stone, and to write his laws on each one’s heart, to be their God, and for them to be His people (Ez. 36:24-28). God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, grant to us a Ruth heart!



Operation Exodus USA  
PO Box 568  
Lancaster, NY 14086  
Phone: 716.681.6300  
info@operationexodususa.org  
www.operationexodususa.org

Please visit our website to learn more about prayer, teaching, volunteering, read our blog, and give.



A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.