



EBENEZER
OPERATION EXODUS

UNDERSTANDING PROPHECY



**“IN 48 MONTHS THE WORLD WILL BE A VERY DIFFERENT PLACE!
IN THIS PERIOD OF GRACE MY CHURCH NEEDS TO HEAR THAT IT
HAS A CALLING TO HELP WITH THE MASS ALIYAH...”**

PROPHETIC WORD GIVEN IN JERUSALEM 23/1/2016

UNDERSTANDING PROPHECY

INTERNATIONAL



PHILIP HOLMBERG
INTERNATIONAL
BOARD MEMBER

I have in my possession Webster's New International Dictionary printed in Springfield, Massachusetts, USA, in 1926. It is a big volume with 2,600 pages in small print on India paper, weighing almost 3.5 kg. It came to me when my aunt passed away in 1991. She spent several years in southern California as a companion and caregiver to an elderly artistic lady.

On page 1718 I find the entry for the word, **prophecy**: "1. The work, function or vocation of a prophet; a. inspired declaration or revelation of the divine will, including moral teaching by warning, consoling, exhorting, giving an example of fellowship with God; b. A declaration of something to come; a foretelling; a prediction; c. The power of prophesying, or foretelling the future."

I am pleased that the definition is so broad and not limited to just foretelling the future. There are many people who have such a narrow understanding of the concept, and it seems to me that many Christians do as well. A statement on the internet claims that one third of the Bible is prophecy in this sense.

But if we use the full definition from Webster's Dictionary above we can definitely say that the Bible as a whole is prophecy: inspired revelation of the divine will, including moral teaching by warning, consoling, exhorting, giving an example of fellowship with God. And some parts of the Bible deal with future events and the Lord's plans, purposes and actions for the coming days as part of the broader understanding.

We read in 2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."



This broader understanding of prophecy and the Bible will also serve as a protection against unfruitful speculation regarding the future. The Lord wants us to walk in fellowship with Him, humble, doing His will. Dead works displease Him – how could we serve the living God with dead works? No, the blood of the Messiah cleanses our conscience from dead works. He has made us alive together with the Messiah. He has saved us by grace through faith – it is not of ourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works (so that we could boast). But we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Yeshua "for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:5-10).

There are, however, a great number of passages in the Bible where the Lord speaks through His prophets regarding the future. But how does He do it?

We find a clue in Hebrews 9:11 – "But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation." I understand this to mean that when Yeshua gave His life for us on the cross, as the perfect Lamb

Two families who made aliyah from Belarus at the end of April.

© Photos courtesy of the Jewish Agency

Front Cover:
Yanya helping a young family who made aliyah in May.

Then God brought Abraham outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

Genesis 15:5

of God, something of eternal importance took place simultaneously in a tabernacle **not of this creation**, i.e. entirely outside our time and space. This makes me believe that the Lord in His eternal dwelling, eternally present, sees the past, present and the future of mankind all at once!

So from His perspective the Lord simultaneously sees events that for us will happen tomorrow, a year's time, a hundred years, or three thousand years into the future. And He not only sees the events, He moves and acts, sending His angels to help and intervene in countless ways. He prepares good works beforehand so that we as His children can walk in them (Ephesians 2:10).

From time to time He reveals some of His intentions and plans for an individual, a family, Israel, or the entire world: *"Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets"* (Amos 3:7). These revelations are very accurate!

Prime examples are all the prophetic words concerning the Messiah: His birth, life, suffering, death, resurrection,

and ascension. The Gospels abound with expressions like *"for thus it is written by the prophet"*.

Another area of major importance is aliyah, the return of the Jewish people and the restoration of Israel. We find numerous scriptures throughout the Tanakh where the Lord not only foretells the return of the Jews but also brings consolation, comfort, hope and encouragement.

The Lord does not limit Himself to speaking through the prophets and the Scriptures; He speaks through His servants today as well. During our international conference in Jerusalem on 23 January 2016 the Lord gave a word through Paul Clark regarding the burden to bring the aliyah message to the Church. Here is part of the message:

"Commission My faithful servants and anoint them for the work of aliyah. Time is short and there is much to be done. In 48 months the world will be a very different place! In this period of grace My church needs to hear that it has a calling to help with the mass aliyah that is on the horizon ... In four years it will be very different and My church has to hear about aliyah. ... there will be great challenges but My grace will be enough ..."

Exactly 48 months later, on 23 January 2020, the Chinese government placed the entire city of Wuhan in quarantine.

"Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good." (1Thessalonians 5:20-21).

"... he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men." (1 Corinthians 14:3).

"Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." (Revelation 19:10).

Let us continue to bring the aliyah message to the Church!

EDITORIAL

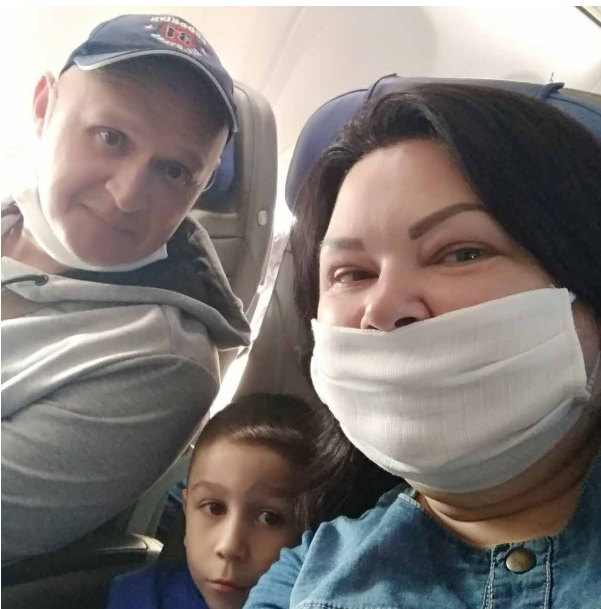
The Jewish Agency's director, Isaac Herzog, has stated they are receiving up to 1000 calls per day from those who are interested in making aliyah. As we all know, the Coronavirus pandemic has affected people on every continent, including the Jewish people.

There has been an increase in anti-Semitism due to Covid 19, fuelled by centuries-old lies that Jews are spreading infection. Israel's world class health care system — alongside many nations heading into possible recession — may also be contributing factors to this increase in enquiries.

On social media and in our prayer alerts we have reported Israel has kept her borders open to those wanting to make aliyah. Those that have been able to do so have to undergo 14 days of quarantine. However, there are many families across the world who had sold everything and were ready to go, only for their flights to be cancelled. We have been helping these families where we can.*

We believe we are in for a busy time ahead as God uses the situation to call more of His people home. Let's be ready!

Sources: Jewish Agency, Reuters, Christian News Agency, Wall Street Journal.





BIG WAVE OF ALIYAH AWAITS

RUSSIA



BORIS VASYUKOV
RUSSIA NATIONAL
DIRECTOR

Boris our Moscow Director explains how the Coronavirus pandemic affected Ebenezer's activities in Russia

The world is going through difficult times. The Coronavirus threatens most of the planet's inhabitants. As for Russia, the first signs of the pandemic emerged in mid-March, when a few infected people tested positive. Now we have many more, with the largest number being confirmed in Moscow.

As in other nations, we have been urged to refrain from travelling except for essential trips. The Ebenezer teams are aware of the importance of implementing all the requirements, so we have been working from home. Yet we realise that the Jewish people may be in need of help and special support at this time.

Even under such adverse circumstances aliyah from Russia continued and our drivers helped transport 214 olim to the airport to fly to Israel in March. There were ten flights with them on board and as airports are considered high risk areas, our drivers had to be particularly careful.

But a number of flights to Israel were cancelled that month as part of the restrictions, causing some of the olim severe problems. Many of them had resigned from their jobs and sold their property, so when the cancellations happened they had nowhere to go. One such family was Irina's from Orlov. The five of them included a young child and

an elderly disabled grandmother, so we paid more than \$300 for a hotel for a week until a flight to Tel Aviv came up. It is hard to imagine how they would have coped with the situation on their own.

Shortly after the restrictions in Moscow were imposed, the head of the Holocaust Survivors Association asked for our help because some elderly Holocaust survivors were unable to leave their flats to buy food and other essentials. The Association had made a number of food parcels for them but there was nobody to deliver them. So our drivers and several volunteers from the local churches delivered the parcels to the 70 survivors. They were deeply touched by the care of Christians for them.

In late March one of our teams went to Kineshma, 400 km north of Moscow. The town was founded during the Soviet era when a number of weaving factories were established there. However, after the collapse of the Soviet Union the factories proved to be unprofitable and they closed. A large number of people who were made redundant have been living in very poor conditions since then in the dilapidated



*Photo left: EOE drivers helping olim.
Photo right: Roads and life in Kineshma.*





RUSSIA AFTER QUARANTINE

town. While in Kineshma our team met with Lyudmila, head of the local Jewish community of about 130. She is in her sixties with a husband who is incapacitated following a stroke. She also has a sick daughter. We were so happy to answer her request to provide food parcels to the needy Jewish families in her town.

Every visit to a Jewish family left an indelible mark on the hearts of our team. One person they helped was Sasha, who went to Israel when he was a teenager. But he got seriously ill there and returned to Kineshma for lengthy treatment. During that time he married and a daughter, Nastya, was born to the couple. The years passed but sadly Sasha's disease returned and his wife left him. Sasha was then on his own with his daughter who was then aged 12. Father and daughter love each other very much and dream of going to Israel one day.

Another needy resident of Kineshma was Lyuba, a 12-year old girl with osteoporosis who looked only five. At school she needed carrying from one class to another. Her parents want to take her to Israel and were very grateful for gifts of humanitarian aid. We prayed for each of the five families we visited in Kineshma and wished them "Next Year in Jerusalem!"

Quarantine regulations are in place in almost every region in Russia. Violation of these regulations is punishable with heavy fines and even criminal charges. Although we are not allowed to leave our homes, we have online fellowship and keep praying for our ministry and for each other every day. Joy fills our hearts as we are getting ready for a big wave of aliyah which almost certainly will begin as soon as the virus restrictions are relaxed.

KEY WORDS

Aliyah is the word for the immigration of Jewish people from the Diaspora to the Land of Israel. The word in Hebrew means ascent and is defined as 'going up' – progressing towards Jerusalem.

Olim means Jewish immigrants to Israel – those making **aliyah**. In the singular, a male immigrant is called an **oleh** and a female immigrant an **olah**. Potential olim are those our teams contact and encourage to make aliyah.

Klitch concerns the absorption of **olim** after they have arrived in Israel. It includes all aspects of integrating into society, including learning Hebrew, finding employment and housing, school enrolment and serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).



Top left: Humanitarian aid food parcel delivery to Lyudmila. Top right: Nastya and Sasha. Bottom left: Nastya's place for games. Bottom right: Lyuba and family get humanitarian aid.

KYIV KIEV AIRPORT

HIS PEOPLE ARE STILL RETURNING

UKRAINE



VADIM RABOCHIY
UKRAINE NATIONAL
COORDINATOR

The restrictions imposed by the authorities in an effort to control the Coronavirus within Ukraine's borders have caused our teams problems such as cancellation of Jewish community meetings, appointments with the Israeli Consul and seminars for potential students about to embark on the Naale study programme. But probably the most difficult situation for olim was restrictions affecting transport.

For many who had already booked flights and made plans accordingly, this caused some alarm. One day in late March our team received several phone calls from olim in Kharkov, Krivoy Rog and Kiev requesting transport to Kiev's main airport the next day as all trains, buses and domestic flights had been cancelled. We realised very quickly that the only solution left to us was to transport the olim in our minibuses, which meant for some of our drivers a round trip of around 1000 km!

Thankfully, we managed to take all 12 olim to the airport in time for the

flight. Terminal D, the usual terminal for international departures, was empty and created a strange disquiet in my heart as I passed it. The olim were instead leaving from Terminal F, where a number of Israelis had gathered to return home. All passengers and staff were wearing masks and many of the staff wore rubber gloves too. The scene was more like a hospital than an airport, a reminder of the menace that lurked unseen and threatened everyone. Jeremiah 1:11-12 came to mind: "The word of the Lord came to me saying, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" And I said, "I see a branch of an almond tree." Then the Lord said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it."

I thought, "What do we see here?" On one hand we have a terrible situation where countries have imposed restrictions on their citizens, thousands have been infected and many have died but on the other hand in the midst of this horror God is still being faithful to His Word. His people are still returning home!



NING HOME TO ISRAEL!

I was especially touched by the story of Iryna from Krivoy Rog. She was deeply grateful to Ebenezer for getting her to the airport, as there was no other way she could catch her flight. She was a single mother whose son had gone to Israel on the Naale study programme. To be near her son during the Coronavirus pandemic, she sold her flat quickly and gave away all her property in order to catch this, one of the last flights out. The miracle was that after her mandatory quarantine period in Israel, she arrived in Haifa to find that some unknown people had bought her some furniture and items for her kitchen, including food. God is so faithful!

Another couple, Boris and Inna, also saw God at work. They had postponed their aliyah for several years while their daughter finished her studies in Israel and service in the Israel Defence Forces. Finally they made the decision to leave Ukraine because their health problems required special care and they could not wait any longer to make aliyah. Their daughter came back to

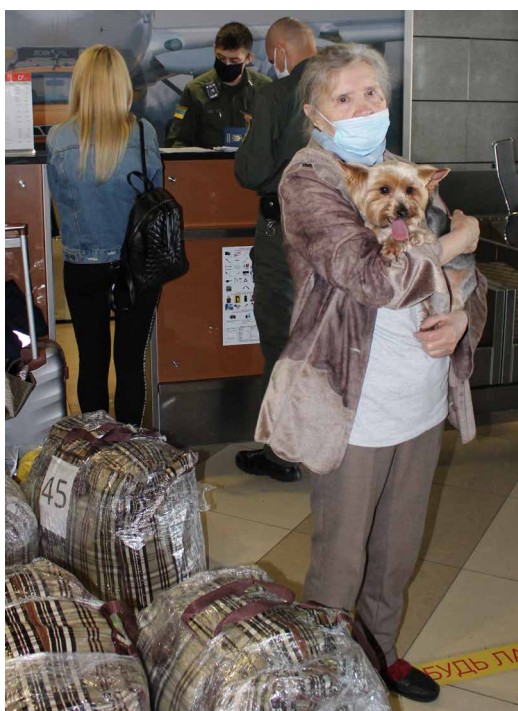
Kharkov from Israel to help them leave but as they were about to fly out, they were informed that flights were being cancelled. Thankfully, because of their health situation they were able to get seats on one of the last flights. They had a 500 km drive to the airport but were so pleased to be going to Israel at last.

A short while later, as I was musing on the events of this period, some words of a director of the Jewish Agency in eastern Ukraine came to mind; "We live in interesting times, the generation that will see Messiah's coming. However, so much depends on our willingness to fulfil His will." True words indeed!

A few days after the aliyah flight on 26th March we were asked if Ebenezer would continue to bring olim to the airport despite restriction of public transport. "For sure," I answered, "because God has been preparing us for this time – to reveal Himself to the Jewish people through us. Hallelujah!"

On 10th May an aliyah flight took place from Ukraine. To see a short film of this event go to the below link.

bit.ly/AliyahfromUkraine



Left: Two photos of olim who left for Israel on 10th May.

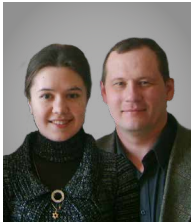
**See our
Ebenezer Operation Exodus
Channel on**



for more films.

OVERCOMING THE DIFFICULTIES

MOLDOVA



PAVEL & LINA
MOLDOVA LEADERS

The lockdown that most countries experienced during the Coronavirus pandemic caused financial problems for Gregory and Aurica, but they saw God's provision in the midst of it all.

The couple and Veronica, their six-year-old daughter, were due to fly out to Israel on 19 March. They were to join their older daughters, Vera and Nadia, who had made aliyah as students on the Naale study programme a couple of years ago. The girls were very happy in Israel and were looking forward to their younger sister and parents joining them to begin a new life in Akko where the family planned to settle.

However, because of the Coronavirus, Moldova cancelled all flights from Chisinau in mid-March and closed its land borders too. It was very disappointing for them and they found themselves stuck.

This led to a financial crisis because they had both resigned from their jobs but now couldn't leave Transnistria, the area where they had been living in Moldova. They were stranded without any income.

In this impossible situation Ebenezer offered them financial assistance, for which they were extremely grateful and much encouraged. It was a love gift from some Christian believers for the work of aliyah and very much appreciated by Gregory and Aurica.

Gregory, Aurica and their daughter now have to wait until the crisis is over and a suitable flight can be arranged for their aliyah and reunion with their older daughters. They eagerly look forward to it!





THE HELP THEY NEEDED

A family we helped to make aliyah from Colombia not only needed financial assistance for transportation and help with paperwork, but also our emotional support and encouragement.

Saray wrote to us sharing their appreciation:

“My family taught me that Israel was my nation, and that Colombia raised me and showed me where to go and that I did not have to feel frustration if returning to Israel became difficult, that it was going to happen at the right time and in that time would be such a precision and complicity

between many events, spaces, times and people and so it was, as a play rehearsed.”

Saray had always known that her destination would be in Israel: *“Everything I did in Colombia was done thinking about my aliyah.”* She anticipated going to Israel alone but as she made preparations she realised she could never leave without her family. *“Incredibly Ebenezer appeared ... and gave us all the support that was missing”*— particularly for *“the many transfers and special conditions required to make the trip safer for my grandmother, 93 years old”*.

COLOMBIA



FEDRA GARCÍA
COLOMBIA NATIONAL
COORDINATOR

CYPRUS: AN ISLAND OF DESTINY

Cyprus, the home of Barnabas, is destined to help the Jewish people return home.

Barnabas means “son of encouragement”. Our work here in Cyprus will encourage the Jewish people on their way to Israel. Cyprus will be the place of hospitality as in the days of the Early Church. During the present aliyah and the future exodus of the Jewish people (Jeremiah 16:14-15), they will find Cyprus to be a generous and welcoming

island of blessing, and a testimony to God’s faithfulness. The Ebenezer prayer ministry is increasing with about 60 participants. Our main focus is to bring awareness to the Church of God’s irrevocable call on Israel and enable it to fulfil the Isaiah 49:22 call. Regional representatives and prayer groups operate in Limassol and Larnaca. A couple in our leadership team own a boat ready for aliyah and another couple are similarly preparing. The Board remains strong and the team united in vision and faith for the future.

CYPRUS



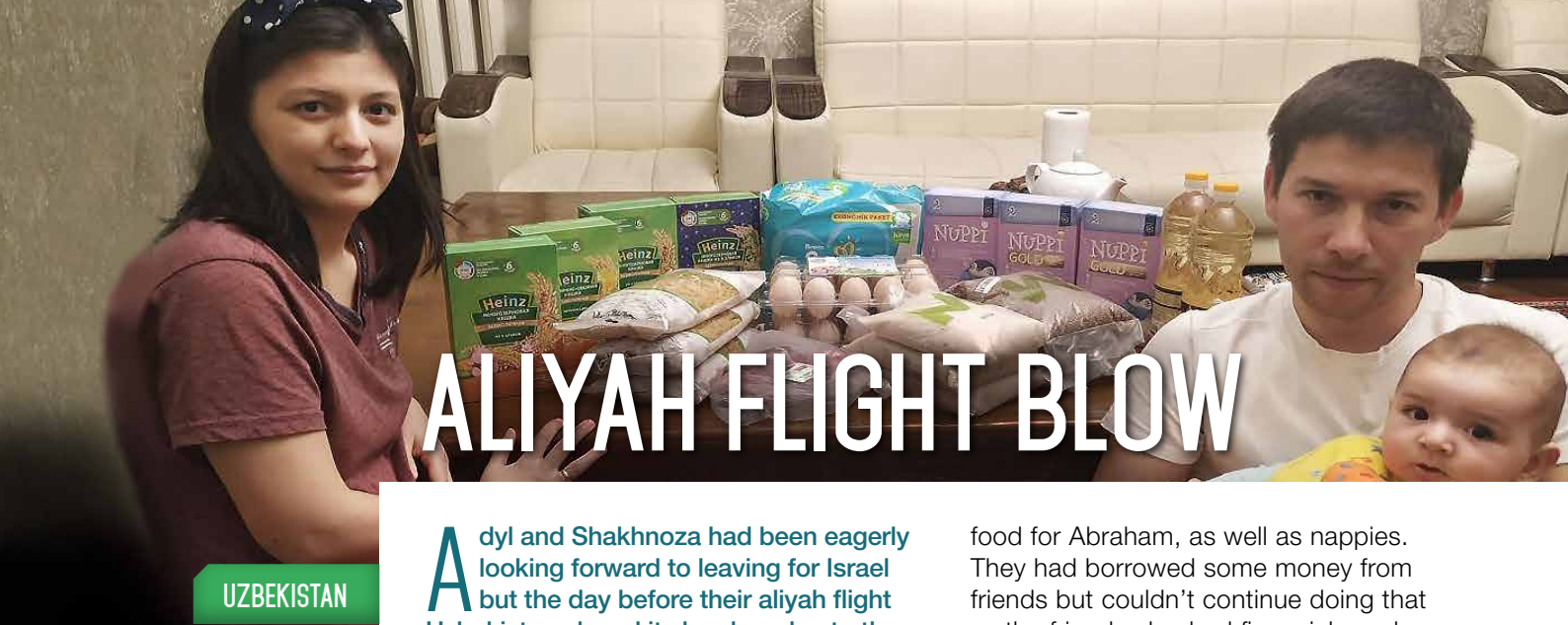
DANIEL IOANNIDES
NATIONAL DIRECTOR



LARRY JONES
BOARD CHAIRMAN



The team in Cyprus



UZBEKISTAN

Adyl and Shakhnoza had been eagerly looking forward to leaving for Israel but the day before their aliyah flight Uzbekistan closed its borders due to the Coronavirus pandemic.



ZHANNA
UZBEKISTAN LEADER

Soon after they were married the couple resolved to make a new life for themselves in the land of their forefathers. They contacted us and we explained that to ensure a seamless process they would be best to wait a year before applying for Israeli visas. We gave them advice on their documents and told them to make sure they had everything needed when the time came for their consular appointment.

During this time of waiting God blessed them with a baby boy they named Abraham and this past January they had the joy of receiving their Israeli visas. They were booked on the March 12th aliyah flight just as the Coronavirus pandemic began to tighten its grip on the Central Asia countries. Then the Uzbek government decided to close its borders on the 11th and Adyl and Shakhnoza's flight was cancelled. Although everything was in the system for them to successfully make aliyah when controls were relaxed, it meant for the time being the family would have to stay in Uzbekistan.

We contacted them soon afterwards to find out their needs and they told us that they had run out of food, especially baby

food for Abraham, as well as nappies. They had borrowed some money from friends but couldn't continue doing that as the friends also had financial needs.

Getting some supplies to the family was not easy as the government had restricted the movement of vehicles to keep the population from spreading the virus. Thankfully, after making some enquiries the Lord led us to a Christian brother who had special permission to drive and he agreed to drop off some food parcels to Adyl and Shakhnoza.

We pray that it won't be too long before the airport opens again and the young family can continue to fulfil their dream of settling in the Promised Land.





BEYOND THE RESTRICTIONS

“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know ” Jeremiah 33:3

God spoke these words to Jeremiah when he was a prisoner in the court of the palace guard under arrest for speaking the Word of the Lord to the Israelites that Jerusalem would fall, and that King Zedekiah should surrender to the Babylonians. His enemies regarded this as treasonous.

In this confined place, with the siege ramps in place for the destruction of Jerusalem and desolation all around, the Lord exhorted Jeremiah to call to Him, telling him that He would reveal to the prophet the things to come, things that Jeremiah could not naturally see or imagine. Thus Jeremiah understood that the Lord would restore Jerusalem and His people to the land. A reading of the whole of Jeremiah will give you a picture of the utter desolation and future glorious restoration.

Joseph was in a confined space, an Egyptian prison, when he was remembered by the cupbearer brought out to interpret Pharaoh’s dream. Not only did the Lord give him the interpretation of the dream

but a strategy to prepare for this time for the saving of many lives, including his family that would soon make the transition to become the nation of Israel.

These two men did not let their confinement or what they saw around them restrict their boundaries or limit God in any way. In the same way, in our place of restricted movement, let us cry out to the Lord that He would show us also the things to come and give us divine strategy for the rescuing of many Jewish lives and for their return to the land. Though physically restricted, through intercession we can expand our vision and territory and gain strategy at this time, as these two great men of God did.

Let us now cry out to the Lord believing He will show us the hidden things that we need to see, for the preservation of many Jewish lives and their restoration to the land.

Please pray

- ✓ The Lord shows us what we need to put in place now for the future aliyah – just as Noah was prepared when the rains came and Joseph was prepared for the famine.

PRAYER



DANIEL & IRENE IOANNIDES
CYPRUS NATIONAL DIRECTOR
& PRAYER COORDINATOR

Top: Jeremy Smith, our Israel Office Director, handing out much needed food vouchers to young adult olim at Haifa University.

THE PROMISE

An exciting new project by international artists to produce a CD of worship songs sharing God’s heart for Aliyah.

To order a CD and support this project.
<http://tiny.cc/ThePromiseProject>
 or email: tpp@ebenezer-ef.org

PRAISE HIM

In Jerusalem!

CONFERENCE + TOUR

Shalom!

In the previous edition of this bulletin, we advertised a conference and tour which we planned to hold in November this year.

However, we will now **postpone both** until another time. Further details will follow later in the year.



FEEDING THE HUNGRY

ISRAEL



DANIELLE MOR
THE JEWISH AGENCY
FOR ISRAEL

**The Beit Brodetsky Young Olim Program is designed for young new immigrants. **Ulpan Etzion was the very first ulpan in Israel in 1949 and has served. ... the hi-tech and educational opportunities available in Haifa and the surrounding region.*

Top: Jeremy Smith (right) delivering food baskets / boxes for Passover. Right: Two young families of new olim happily receiving their boxes.

The Covid-19 lockdown has rendered over a million Israelis unemployed. As immigrants continued to arrive in Israel, the Jewish Agency asked Ebenezer for help in feeding new olim and olim who had recently lost their jobs. We have driven to Haifa and Tel Aviv to bring hundreds of food cards to those who are in need, extending your love and support.

The grateful response from the recipients and those who help them has been heart-warming, as you will see in the following letter from Danielle Mor from the Jewish Agency:

“Am honored to thank Ebenezer and particularly Jeremy and his family, who without hesitation or delay came to the aid of new olim — those in quarantine and those that are very newly arrived — all in great financial need and provided food vouchers to help them get through this difficult time.

Since the Corona crisis began, we have welcomed to Israel over 1000 olim including 72 from Ethiopia.

All went into quarantine directly from the airport, many coming to our centers and being welcomed by our dedicated staff that made sure the apartments were fully stocked with all that is needed during the quarantine.

Lone young olim in our programs in Beit Brodetsky Tel Aviv* and **Etzion Haifa, are especially stressed as they all lost their “student” jobs about a week ago and are not entitled to unemployment payments. Alone in Israel with no financial resources, they truly need ongoing help to get through this crisis. Here is what one of them has written:

‘Dear Ebenezer, Thank you very much for making my Aliyah easier and giving me in my quarantine a little air and joy. G-d will reward you – may you have twice as much and I promise you to do the same for someone in the future.’

If you are able to secure further resources for this need it will be a huge blessing. It is clear the needs in the area of Aliyah will continue to increase.

Thank you and wishing you health, faith and strength.”



Our vision is to be servants and intercessors of the Lord, to help the Jewish people return to the land of Israel from all the nations and to proclaim God’s Kingdom purposes for their return.

All articles in this publication Copyright © Ebenezer Emergency Fund International May 2020. Operation Exodus is the operational part of Ebenezer Emergency Fund International. Started in 1991 with just three people, it now has representatives in 50 countries worldwide.



Ebenezer Operation Exodus International & UK Office
PO Box 9103, Bournemouth
BH1 9DA, UK
+44 (0) 1202 294455
enquiries@ebenezer-ef.org
www.operation-exodus.org



Ebenezer Operation Exodus Asia Pacific
15 Park Rd, Seven Hills
NSW 2147, Australia
Phone: +61 2 9838 7778
office@eoeaspac.org
www.eoeaspac.org



Ebenezer Emergency Fund New Zealand
P.O. Box 5319, Terrace End
Palmerston North 4441
Phone: + 64 (0) 6 3574883
ebenezerz@xtra.co.nz
www.eoeaspac.org



Ebenezer Operation Exodus Singapore
Phone: +65 8611 8840
mail@eoes.org.sg
www.eoeaspac.org



Ebenezer Operation Exodus Israel
PO Box 28112
9128002, Jerusalem, Israel
+972 2 624 3905
www.operation-exodus.org/israel
israel@ebenezer-ef.org



Operation Exodus Canada
P O Box 51011 Milton Central PO
Milton, ON L9T 2P2
Canada
info@operationexodus.ca
www.operationexodus.ca



Operation Exodus USA
PO Box 568 Lancaster
NY 14086
Phone: 716 681 6300
info@operationexodususa.org
www.operationexodususa.org



Operation Exodus South Africa
PO Box 61887, Vaalpark,
1948 South Africa
Phone: +27 169 711 766
southafrica@ebenezer-ef.org
www.operation-exodus.org

