

January 2007



Your dream fulfilled:
ISRAEL this year-
October 2007

Blessings in Yeshua, the Alef and the Tav!

2007: A Year of Completion

Sensing in our spirit that the year we are entering will be a critical year in the history of mankind, we sought the Lord diligently for a timely word from His heart. He led us to focus on "2007" with special emphasis on the number "7." Although we are not prone to delve in detail into biblical numerics, we sincerely believe that numbers do have biblical significance – especially the number "7" – which is considered by the vast majority of biblical scholars to signify spiritual completion, wholeness and perfection. The word for seven in Hebrew is "*sheva*" (JBw) and is derived from the primary root "*shava*" (JBw) which means to be complete or to take an oath.

The first occurrence of swearing or making an oath in the Holy Scriptures occurs in Genesis 21 where Abraham makes a covenant with Abimelech by giving him 7 ewe lambs. *"Therefore he called the place Beersheba because the two of them swore an oath there."* (Genesis 21:31) The seven lambs point to the idea of satisfaction or fullness in an oath. E.W. Bullinger in his fascinating book Number in Scripture makes the following observation: "It was the security, satisfaction and fullness of the obligation, or completeness of the bond which caused the same word to be used for both the number seven and an oath; and hence it is written 'an oath for confirmation is an end of all strife.' Beersheba, the well of the oath, is the standing witness of the spiritual perfection of the number seven."

This could be the year in which God wraps up the world as we know it. Fullness is all around us. Biblical prophecies are being fulfilled daily. The world's cup of iniquity is filled to the brim (look at Iraq, Iran, the Sudan, etc.). The fullness (Greek: *pleroma*) of both the Jews (verse 12) and the Gentiles (verse 25) spoken of in Romans chapter 11 is coming to pass. People are "full" of themselves, loving self rather than God (2 Timothy 3:4). The "fullness of time" has also arrived for remote people groups to embrace their long lost heritage and return to their ancestral homeland. Have you heard of the B'nei Menashe? World Net Daily reported in October that hundreds of Jews from a group of about 7,000 in India that believes it is one of the 10 "lost tribes" of Israel was granted permission to immigrate to the Holy Land. A life long dream of returning to their homeland was fulfilled! The B'nei Menashe believe they are descendants of Manasseh. They have preserved ancient Jewish customs and rituals for over 2,700 years. The man in charge of spearheading their return is quoted as saying: "Who ever heard of an ancient lost tribe returning to its ancestral homeland 2,700 years after their deportation? Without exaggerating, it seems fair to say that this is a miracle of biblical proportions." Note the "7's"! Truly Ezekiel 34:13-15 is being fulfilled before our eyes: *"I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land..."*

We are most probably living in the last or final generation. How do we know that? Yeshua the Messiah told His talmidim that the generation that witnessed the blossoming of the fig tree – the rebirth of the nation of Israel – would be the final generation (Matthew 24:34). Israel was reborn in 1948. Our generation is the generation that witnessed Israel's rebirth.

Completion: An Orthodox Viewpoint

Those of you who love the Jewish people, and yearn for them to be "completed" or "fulfilled" Jews, often ask us about their concept of salvation and Messiah. A quote from a book published by the Orthodox followers of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov gives us a glimpse into the theology of one of many Orthodox sects: "The soul has a natural longing for satisfaction. Our souls constantly long for inner fulfillment, which is why most people – though they surely have many enjoyable moments – have difficulty feeling satisfied with life. The body may be sated, the material requirements provided, yet one continues to long for more. Mind, soul, and the very spirit of life, remains with that hollow feeling. The Rambam thus states that when Mashiach comes, the entire world will take to spiritual pursuits, to the pursuit of knowledge, the Daat of God. This is the 'grande finale' of the six thousand years of Creation whose end is approaching." [Mashiach: Who? What? Why? How? Where? and When? by Chaim Kramer].

These Orthodox Jews believe that the "hollow feeling" inside man can be healed and filled by the knowledge of God. Yes – even Rabbi Saul of Tarsus expressed that desire "...that I may know Him..." (Philippians 3:10). However, Rabbi Saul was referring to an intimate spirit to spirit knowledge of God. In contrast, Mr. Kramer states in his book that God's life-giving intimate breath, *neshimah*, is found with the mind: "...using one's intellect to search for spirituality can bring an intimate connection with God" (page 291). Many Orthodox Jews believe that the more one studies, the more one's *neshamah* (soul) grows and achieves greater fulfillment. Pray with us that the God of Abraham, Issac and Jacob shows them this year that He is not found with the head, but with the **heart**. After all, God Himself told His people through the Jewish prophet Jeremiah, "*And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart*" (Jeremiah 29:13). Learning **about** God is not enough. Orthodox Jews, and all other people as well, need a personal encounter with the Creator. This is **only** possible as an individual receives a revelation of Yeshua as the Messiah, the One who made atonement for their sin, and receives Him into their heart and life. That's *true* fulfillment!

Concerning the six thousand years of Creation whose end is approaching, we are now in the year 5767 (approximately). Traditional Jewish belief states that the world was created to last for six thousand years and that afterwards there will be a sabbatical millenium. According to Mr. Kramer, we are in the frenzy of preparations before the "eternal shabbat" begins. "We too are now involved in the 'Friday afternoon' preparations for the Shabbat of the Mashiach" (page 310). Even more than "preparations," there are "birth pangs," pain that will usher in the messianic era – the end to all the suffering of mankind. Our traditional Jewish brothers and sisters wait for their *individual* as well as their *universal* salvation. They wait for Mashiach *for their fulfillment*. **We have already found Him, and are complete in Him!** "For in Him (Yeshua) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily... (Colossians 2:9)

A Year of Shalom

God wants us to enter into His shalom-shalom this year. Shalom means much more than "peace." It comes from the root word "*shalem*" which means "whole," "full" or "complete." Shalom-shalom actually means *double* peace. The phrase "perfect peace," used in our Bibles, includes that idea – with "perfect" meaning "complete."

Shalom is the direct result of completion. In Hebrew thought, *shalom* is more than the absence of conflict or distress. It is total wholeness and well-being. In the famous Priestly Blessing, the *Birkhat HaCohanim*, found in Numbers 6:24-26, the inherent meaning of shalom is highlighted. The blessing consists of 15 Hebrew words. There are three sentences of three, five and seven words each. The number of words increases as does the significance of the divine favor prayed for. "**The Lord bless you and keep you**" (verse 24) is 3 Hebrew words and refers to physical blessings. "**The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you**" (verse 25) is 5 words in Hebrew and refers to mental and emotional wholeness. "**The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace**" (verse 26) is 7 words in Hebrew and deals with the spirit. Shalom is the highest and greatest gift – *wholeness* and *completeness* in every way.

The Lord has impressed upon us that 2007 is the year for many of our Jewish Jewels partners to make peace – with themselves, with family members, on the job, and in their local congregations. It is a year to find closure. A year to forgive – and forget. A year of the Lord's release. *"At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release of debts."* (Deuteronomy 15:1) This especially applies to our "neighbors" and our "brothers" (Deuteronomy 15:2). It is not coincidental that when Peter asked the Messiah how often he had to forgive his brother who sinned against him – *"Up to seven times?"* (Matthew 18:21) that Yeshua responded in verse 22: *"I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven"* (implying an infinite number of times, until there is "shalom"). Forgive in 2007. It is **not** an option.

God's Dream for 2007

The Lord longs to see His beloved bride mature, grow up and be all that He has created her to be. Perfect, not in the sense of "flawless," but fulfilled, complete, lacking nothing, filled to overflowing with His Spirit. In the spiritual realm, we are already "perfect," *"for by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified"* (Hebrews 10:14). We are positionally perfect, but experientially imperfect. Some of us are still children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14). We do not always speak the truth in love. We are on a journey *"till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah..."* (Ephesians 4:13).

Our Heavenly Father looks forward to the day when we are filled to overflowing with love, joy, peace and all the other fruits of the Spirit. *"For it pleased the Father that in Him (Yeshua) all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross."* (Colossians 1:19-20) It is time to go on to maturity in our Messiah. We are exhorted in Hebrews 6:1 *"...to go on to perfection."* As we bear with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, this 7-fold unity will be manifested, and we will bring joy to the heart of God. There will be 1) one body 2) one Spirit 3) one hope 4) one Lord 5) one faith 6) one baptism and 7) one God and Father of all (Ephesians 4:3-6).

More Sevens in 2007

As you read your Bible this year, note the 7's and how many times VICTORY and BLESSING are associated with them. First, we see God creating the world in 7 days. He rests from the work of Creation on the 7th day. His Creation was full and complete, good and perfect. Hence the word Shabbat for the 7th day, the day of rest. Then Noah takes clean beasts in 7's into the ark during a period of 7 days. Jacob serves 7 years for Rachel, then fulfills her bridal week. When he meets his brother, Esau, he bows down to him 7 times. When Pharaoh dreams of years of plenty and famine, he dreams in 7's. In Exodus, we find 7 days of unleavened bread, a 7-branched menorah and Aaron and his sons consecrated for 7 days. Leviticus is loaded with 7's. Lepers are cleansed with 7 sprinklings of blood. (In 2 Kings 5:14, Naaman the leper was cleansed by dipping 7 times in the Jordan river.) An offering for sin is made by sprinkling blood 7 times in front of the veil of the sanctuary. The Fall Feasts of the Lord occur in the 7th month. Sukkot lasts for 7 days. Shavuot is celebrated after 7 sabbaths are completed, and the Year of Jubilee is celebrated after counting 7 times 7 years. In Joshua's time, 7 priests carrying 7 shofars walked around Jericho for 7 days, 7 times the final day until victory was theirs.

Perhaps this is the year for YOU to walk around something 7 times until victory comes! We are claiming Deuteronomy 28:7 for you: *"The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven before you."* May this year be your 7th day – your year of resting, completion, the year in which you cease striving. May this be your year of complete deliverance! The same Messiah who cast out 7 demons from Mary Magdalene can set you free in 2007 from: 1) anger 2) jealousy 3) bitterness 4) fear 5) self-pity 6) insecurity and 7) rejection. We proclaim this to you *"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Messiah Yeshua"* (Philippians 1:6).

Seven Gifts to be Unwrapped in 2007!

We read in Romans 12:5 that "we, being many, are one body in Messiah, and individually members of one another." All the members do not have the same function. We have different gifts, given to us by God. It has been said that what God cleanses He fills, and what He fills He uses. 2007 is the year to be cleansed, filled and used by God. Embrace Romans 12:5-8 and ask Yeshua to help you identify the gifts He has given to you! *"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."* (Romans 12:6-8) As you step out to be used by the Lord, ask Him to bless you with the 7-fold wisdom that comes from above – wisdom that is 1) pure 2) peaceable 3) gentle 4) willing to yield 5) full of mercy and good fruits 6) without partiality and 7) without hypocrisy (James 3:17).

Sevens to Come

We have many more 7's and much more completion to look forward to. The Book of Revelation abounds with 7's: 7 golden lampstands (1:12-13), 7 stars (1:16), 7 lamps of fire (4:5), a 7-sealed scroll (5:1-7), 7 horns and 7 eyes which are the 7 Spirits of God (5:6), 7 golden bowls full of the wrath of God (15:7), 7 angels with 7 trumpets (8:2,6), 7 thunders (10:3), 7 heads with 7 crowns (12:3), 7 angels with 7 plagues (15:6) and 7 mountains and 7 kings (17:9-10). In the fullness of time, all these prophecies from the final book of the Bible will be fulfilled. Until then, *"May the God of peace who brought up our Lord Yeshua from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you **complete** in every good work to do His will, working in you that is well-pleasing in His sight through Yeshua HaMashiah, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."* (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Praying for you and all Israel as God fulfills His seven-fold covenant with His people. (Exodus 6:6-8)

Much LOVE in Yeshua



P.S. **Faith Roots** is an excellent book written by a Mennonite pastor. Great gift for you or your pastor.

P.P.S. Messianic Music: **Yeshua** by Steve McConnell is an uplifting and joyful CD to help usher in 2007!

Jewish Jewels Television Airtime Schedule - January 2007

LOCAL TV STATIONS

STATE/CITY

AK	North Pole	KJNP TV 4	TUE 6:00 PM
CA	Sonora	PUBLIC ACCESS 8	MON 8:30 PM
FL	Tampa/St. Pete.	WCLF TV22	SUN 2:30 PM
FL	Orlando/Cocoa	WLCB TV 45	SUN 1:30 PM
FL	Miami/Ft. Laud.	WHFT TV 45	THU 11:30AM
FL	West Palm Beach	WFGC TV 61	SAT 10:30 PM
IL	Chicago	TLN (WCFC)	MON 1:30 PM
IL	Peoria	FAITHALIVE CH 20	FRI 6:00 PM
IL	Rockford	TLN TV 51	SUN 9:30PM
NJ/NY	NJ/New York	WMBC TV 63	SUN 4:00 PM
OH	Columbus	WSFJ TV 51	SUN 3:30 PM
PA	Philadelphia	WFMZ TV 69	SUN 9:30 AM
SC	Greenville	WGGS TV 16	FRI 10:30AM

SATELLITE NETWORKS

SKY ANGEL

Angel Two - SUN 2:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 9702]
GTN - SUN 3:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 9707]

DirecTV

World Harvest TV (WHT) - SUN 3:00 PM (EST) [Ch. 321]

God TV - The GOD Channel

TUE 3:30 AM (GMT) & 5:30 AM (Jerusalem)

Australian Christian Channel (ACC)

THU 8:00 AM (AEST)

SKY Digital - New Zealand

Shine TV - WED 11:30 AM & 10:30 PM [ch 99]



AIRTIME

INTERNATIONAL

Philippines - Shalom TV THU 6:00PM

INTERNET

www.jewishjewels.org

www.acctv.com.au

www.shinetv.co.nz
