

ISRAEL'S RESTORATION

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IF YOU LOVE ME...



By Asher Intrater
with David Ben Keshet

Reading through Deuteronomy, I noticed the word “LOVE” appearing over and over again!

The first four books of the Torah talk about the patriarchs, the Exodus, laws, the Tabernacle, priesthood, and travelling around the wilderness. **Then** you get to the book of Deuteronomy. Moses has gathered all the people together on the plain before crossing over the Jordan into the Promised Land. He’s had 40 years to think about all these laws that God has given and in this book it seems like he is drawing the Israelite’s attention to the main point.

Twelve times Deuteronomy speaks about our loving God! **Let’s feel the weight of it.**

“...showing mercy to thousands, to those who **love** Me and keep My commandments.” (5:10 NKJV)

“You shall **love** the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.” (6:5)

“...the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who **love** Him and keep His commandments.” (7:9)



“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to **love** Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul...” (10:12)

“Therefore, you shall **love** the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments and His commandments always.” (11:1)

“If you earnestly obey My commandments...to **love** the LORD your God...” (11:13)

“...to **love** the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him...” (11:22)

“...God is testing you to **know whether you love the LORD** your God with all your heart and soul.” (13:3)

“...if you keep all these commandments and do them, which I command you today, to **love** the Lord your God and to walk always in His ways.” (19:9)

“And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to **love** the LORD...” (30:6)

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to **love** the LORD your God...” (30:15-16)

“...that you may **love** the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice and that you may cling to Him...” (30:20)

This raises a few questions for us, especially: Why does every one of those passages, without a single exception, **connect loving God to obeying His commandments (mitzvot)?**

In the mind of God, there is no love without commandments, and there are no commandments without love. What God wants from us is to love Him. Keeping His commandments is coupled with it. The impact comes from the combination of the two.

How are we going to love Him? We love God **by doing what He tells us to do**, by keeping His commands, by obeying His Word. Since God is all-powerful, His word has all authority. Nothing He says is a mere suggestion; it is our commandment.

Why does God ask us to love Him? **Because He loves us first.** That’s who He is. That is what He desires. Everything that’s happened in the history of the world is because God loves us. He is love; and everything proceeds from that, including all the bad things that have happened. The bad things occurred because He gave us free will and is testing us so that we can love Him back.

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“JUST ASK GOOGLE!”



By Hannah Tekle

“Just ask Google!” our friends’ son insisted, when he didn’t get a clear answer to his question: “What does God look like?”

At age four he’s already convinced that Google is omniscient. How does electricity work? What is thunder? Any question is answered within seconds by the internet. And, now AI even digests the information and spits it out in short, analyzed and prioritized form.

How crazy is this young generation?! They are not only digital natives, but AI natives – intuitively using and accessing digital tools that seem to come right out of the most sophisticated of science fiction movies.

And how surreal is it that we are living in the age of Artificial Intelligence, not as a theoretical or laboratory-confined concept; but as a basic tool for everyday life; to plan a vacation or make a grocery list; from the esoteric – “Give me a thorough defense of the Biblical faith in Yeshua to present to an atheist,” to the ridiculous – “Create a picture of me as an animal, considering my personality.”

Information consumption has exploded. I still remember the feeling that all the answers “live” in the library – in row after row of books. I remember looking through a microfiche viewer to read

information stored in miniature on film cards. When doing my university minor in Library Science, I learned about information organization and wording queries; about the best way to find the most results for a search, and about archiving – how and why to organize and store even historical (sometimes extinct and irrelevant) information. But now?! Each one of us can hold a universe of information in the palm of our hand.

The quantity of information and the potential for learning is dizzying. But is it really so good to have access so much knowledge? And if we are all aspiring to be omniscient or at least for our computers to be, where does it end? It’s like a **digital Tower of Babel**. And with simultaneous translation apps, we can literally circumvent language barriers. So, where is the limitation? The limitation is at the place of connection.

The one thing AI will never be able to do is **offer the point of human connection** – the connection we are hardwired to give and to need more than any information. A recent scandal typified this downfall: the California lawsuit over a teen boy who committed suicide after extensive “chats” with AI in which he was encouraged to end his life!

“Omniscience” **without divine omnibenevolence** is disaster and chaos.

It’s no wonder that mental health has become a central issue. On the news, a new kind of therapy was presented called “forest treatment.” People pay a guide to be taken out to a large forest, helped to put all other things out of their minds, and focus on nature around them. What it looks like. What it feels like. What it sounds like. Basically – to spend a few minutes getting back to the way things used to be.

Our brains are flooded with information, and – what a surprise – we are not meant to contain it all! We are made in the image of God, but we are not God. Let’s not neglect **DI** while navigating AI. **Divine Intelligence** is what we were designed for. Divine intelligence connects us to each other and to our Creator.

This season of the Biblical Fall Feasts, is exactly the right time to consider our life in relation to God’s design. **May your heart seek the original design God has for you**, and may you rejoice in His salvation as your name is written in the Book of Life!

“Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, or with the breadth of His hand marked off the heavens? ... Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten Him, and who taught Him the right way? Who was it that taught Him knowledge, or showed Him the path of understanding?” (Isaiah 40:12-14)

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YOUNG EAGLES



By Leon Mazin

This year marks the 10th anniversary of our Nesher (Eagle) Project. It began in 2015, when we took a group of 12 young people who had completed their service in the Israel Defense Forces on a renewal and discipleship trip to Norway.

The Lord miraculously opened the door for us to go there, and many believers in Norway became our close friends and ministry partners. For us, Norway has truly become a place of grace, restoration, and spiritual growth. As Yevgeny, one of the key leaders of the Nesher Project, says: *"It feels like a second home."*

Over the years, several hundred people have taken part in the project. Many of them experienced a renewal of their faith, and have become strong believers in Yeshua, active leaders, and servants in Eretz Israel. At the same time, our brothers and sisters in Norway were also deeply blessed through ministering to these young Israeli men and women.

As the project grew, we gradually began including not only those who had completed their IDF service, but also 16–18 year-olds preparing to serve. Last year, for the first time, we launched the project in Texas, with over 30 young men and women who had completed their IDF service.

Today, Israel is at war. You all know the news, and there's no need to say more. There is nothing desirable or rewarding about war, but when there is no other choice, a nation must defend itself. The mass media continues to attack Israel with slander and misinformation, turning our legitimate right to defend our people into accusations of genocide. But this is not new. As Scripture

says, *"Many nations will gather against you..."* Sadly, this kind of propaganda has been especially strong in Europe, Norway included. In recent years, Israel has faced a wave of criticism from within Norwegian society. But we thank God that many Christians in Norway know the truth. They stand with Israel in love, in prayer, and in action.

For two and a half weeks this summer, the Nesher Project took place in Norway — in Hemsedal, Voss, and Bergen. Because of the situation in the Middle East, our initial flights were canceled, and we faced various obstacles along the way. But by God's mercy, everything came together in the end. We were joined by Norwegian youth, and it was an absolutely beautiful time of fellowship. The Lord richly blessed everyone.

This trip wasn't just about teaching; it was also about adventure and shared life. The participants hiked through mountains, swam in rivers, spent time in deep conversations, worshiped together, sat around campfires, shared testimonies, and supported one another. Through all of it — the Lord was there in their midst. Many of you know that unique moment when the Holy Spirit begins to move, and relationships form naturally, deeply, almost effortlessly — and unity comes. That's exactly what happened during this time.

From our experience, we know that the deepest blessings often come later — after the emotions settle, and you begin to notice God's hand in everyday things. That's when the quiet support of Heaven becomes visible in real life. We truly believe that both the Norwegian and Israeli young people will continue to serve the Lord dynamically with joy and passion.

Please also pray for the young believers all over Israel. They face real pressure from the world around them. And yet, they carry a great responsibility: to bear the Name of the Lord RIGHTLY where He has placed them.





A CALL TO ACTION



By Guy Cohen

As I write, we are in the Biblical month of “Elul,” leading up to the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. It’s a season of repentance, self-examination, and spiritual renewal. It’s a time when our *hearts are stirred to return* to the Lord.

In the Torah and throughout much of the Tanakh, the months are counted by number rather than by name: the first month, the second month, the third month, and so on. This numbering reminds Israel that time itself belongs to the Lord, beginning from the redemption from Egypt in the month of Nisan, “the first of months.” It was only after the return from the Babylonian exile that the Jewish people began using the Babylonian names for the months, such as Tammuz, Av, and Elul.

In the book of Nehemiah, we read: “*So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days*” (Nehemiah 6:15). Thus, when Nehemiah mentions “the twenty-fifth of Elul,” he uses the post-exilic name that became part of Jewish life. The rebuilding of the wall around Jerusalem was completed in Elul. For us today, this wall is a symbol of protection, restoration, and returning to the right path.

According to Jewish tradition, the sages taught that Elul is a month of repentance and preparation for Rosh Hashanah/Feast of Trumpets and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). Elul is the time when the King is near, welcoming us with love and mercy. It reminds me of the famous verse from Song of Songs 6:3, “*I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine*” and the deep intimacy between God and His people.

For those of us who have put our trust in Yeshua the Messiah, Elul carries an even deeper meaning: that of the Light of Messiah. Yeshua proclaimed: “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*” (Matthew 4:17). In the original Hebrew, repentance (t’shuva) **literally means changing direction, turning around, returning to God**. Our repentance is not by our own strength, but through the atonement of Messiah’s blood. He is our true wall, our shield, our refuge, and our living hope.

Return to Me, and I will Return to You

The prophet Malachi proclaimed God’s call to action: “*Return to Me, and I will return to you*” (Malachi 3:7).

This promise is fulfilled completely in Yeshua. He draws us near to the Father, gives us eternal life, and confirms God’s eternal promise as written by the Prophet Jeremiah: “*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future*” (Jeremiah 29:11).

This is God’s heart for every human, and also for all Israel - to be restored, redeemed, and brought into His everlasting hope.

This season is a call to action, an invitation:

- To examine our hearts and seek forgiveness.
- To return to God – in awe and in the assurance of His grace through Yeshua.
- To renew our faith and build a wall of trust around our hearts.

Amen! May these days be for us a time of deep reflection, renewed faith, and overflowing hope in Yeshua, our Redeemer and King.



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If we are not obeying what He tells us, then “love” becomes whatever anyone thinks it is. It eventually degenerates into sexual immorality and *perversion*. Our instincts may be to love, but our selfish desires pull us in the wrong direction.

On the other hand, if you just try to keep commandments and forget that the goal of the commandments is to love the Lord; then you miss it as well. Our pride and self-righteousness will cause our “obedience” to degenerate into *religious coercion*.

We want to reach that sweet spot right in the middle where love intersects with obedience. Love demands obedience, and love is performed by doing commandments. Every commandment, correctly understood, reveals an aspect of how to love – to love God and love one another.

The combination of love and obedience is not an “Old” Testament viewpoint. Look at 1 John 5:3. **“This is the love of God that we keep his commandments.”** That’s pretty clear. And Yeshua said the same thing: **“IF YOU LOVE ME, keep my commandments.”** (John 14:15)

Love keeps us out of religiosity, and obedience keeps us out of humanism. We need to walk in that balance, particularly in the face of the flood of bad influence around us today. Society calls what is good bad, and bad good (Isaiah 5:20). These backward moral views are being forced upon us.

God loves us and wants us to love Him. That is the **goal of creation**. It is also the **destiny of your life**. Many people spend years trying to get somewhere, to get a better job, a better house etc. Those who want to serve the Lord want to serve Him better and do more for Him. However, the ultimate goal is simply where you love God and He loves you.

When you get to that point, there is no more struggle. Most humans are focused on improving their circumstances – to make their lives better. But circumstances are secondary. Sometimes in the worst circumstances, you’re actually in the place you should be.

Our destiny is not dependent on our abilities. You can say, “*I may not be that smart. I may not be that talented. I may not be that strong, but I can love God; and I can receive His love for me.*”

Everybody wants to know, “*Why am I here? Where am I going? What’s the meaning of my life?*” Well, this is it.

Everyone has his or her own experience. You’re going to love God in a way that nobody else does. And God will love you in a way that He doesn’t love anybody else. You are unique, special, one of a kind.

We live in this “love triangle”: God loves us; we love God; we love one another. That’s where we need and want to be.

Tikkun Global

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Thank YOU for helping Tents of Mercy provide 900 food parcels to needy families this September for the Feast of Trumpets!



If you wish to receive regular email updates from Tents of Mercy, please write to admin@tentsofmercy.org

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Oct' 25
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PROJECT YONAH TOGETHER BUILDING A FUTURE OF HOPE



By Yonas Belay

Please allow me to share with you a vision God placed on my heart over 13 years ago – to reach out to my fellow Israelis of Ethiopian descent, and see a generation transformed from disillusionment into hope and fulfilled dreams.

In the beginning, I mainly gave lectures to families and young people on topics of hope, self-fulfillment, and love for God's Promised Land. Then, on June 30, 2019, a 19 year old Israeli Ethiopian, Salomon Tekla, was killed by an Israeli police officer. Thousands flooded the streets protesting baseline discrimination and suspicion against Ethiopian-Israelis.

Following this tragedy, I felt the need to establish the vision in a more urgent, structured manner and from this grew **Project Yonah** (Dove). I formed a think tank with the help of Israeli lawyers, social workers, police officers, and army officers. Together we built action plans to address the crisis. After being ordained as pastor of Congregation *Ahavat Yeshua* in Jerusalem, I saw even more clearly our calling as believers to discern the true needs of society around us and have an effect.

Before pastoring, I served over 20 years as an officer in the Israeli armed forces and police. I felt God prepared me with the experience and understanding of the “system” from within. Over time we uncovered deeper issues in the community of Ethiopian immigrants: **identity crises, economic and social challenges, high incarceration rates among youth, and a sense of alienation** due to skin color. Some of these issues were present among Ethiopian Messianic Israelis as well.

Project Yonah is reaching out to the community in the following ways:

Direct Support for Families and Individuals

Our primary focus is to aid the elderly and single mothers through the distribution of traditional Ethiopian teff flour, cooking products, and assistance with holiday meals. This last year we were able to provide over 80 families with food supplies and shopping vouchers, totaling 1000 NIS per family during each major holiday (Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Passover, and Hanukkah).

Counseling and Guidance

While bringing food to families, there were several instances where we learned that their sons had stopped going to high school. The parents were not involved with the situation and the authorities because of cultural and language gaps, so we mediated and advised and the boys got back on track! Other families were unaware of government assistance for their special needs children and we were able to connect them with the right agencies.

Learning Program - Empowering Children and Youth

This year we are establishing a new learning program in the Jerusalem area that will provide subsidized tutoring and enrichment classes for Ethiopian-Israeli children and youth who lack sufficient support. This is sowing into families on the fringes of society, so they can grow and break out of the cycle of perceived inferiority and failure.

There are already many improved situations and success stories. At the same time, the war has increased the needs significantly. At Project Yonah, our heart to strengthen underprivileged families is increasing (both believing and non-believing families).

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16)

I warmly invite you to make an impact with us through prayer and donations as you are led. Please pray for doors to open and God's light to illuminate the lives of children, youth, and families – guiding them toward a strong future full of hope. Thank you!



Project Yonah

Connect with us at yonahproject.org

Yonah
PROJECT



Oct '25
07

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WHAT'S COMING

REVIVE
ISRAEL

By Revive Israel Community



"Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains." (James 5:7)

We recently began preparing the soil and planting our winter seedlings. We are again reminded how important it is to care and to cultivate. Just as a builder lays a strong foundation for a house, so too must we plant carefully, to ensure that each young plant will thrive.

In the same way, our spiritual lives require intentional sowing. Are we planting in the field of our hearts, anticipating the return of Yeshua? Our world is filled with wars, struggles, and division; yet here in Israel, there is a real sense that His return is near. It's time to ask ourselves: "What am I sowing today that will bear good fruit when Yeshua returns? How am I investing my time? What are my priorities? If He comes tomorrow, where will I be?"

"For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life." (Galatians 6:8)

Just as we prepare the fields, planning what to grow to bless the community around us, we are also called to prepare our hearts for the return of Yeshua, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

A Season of Awakening

Even amid the challenges of war and political tension that Israel has faced over the past two years, we sense a mighty stirring in the Spirit. This is a season of awakening.

"Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." (Ephesians 5:14)

Many young people who grew up in believing homes are returning to their roots, coming back to Yeshua with renewed hearts. In recent weeks, we have been blessed to speak with many who desire to dedicate time at the farm to grow closer to the Creator and His Son.

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." (James 4:8)

Young men and women, some finishing military service and others returning from travel abroad, are longing to rediscover their faith and invest in the eternal values of God.

From the beginning, our heart in establishing the farm was to create a place of peace and rest, where weary souls can be restored. It fills us with joy to see young people drawn here, seeking to be filled with His Spirit.

Then Yeshua said, *"Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."* (Matthew 11:28)

The time for awakening is here. God is inviting each of us to draw near, to renew our strength in Him, and to receive the peace, joy, and restoration He offers.

We invite you to:

Pray with us for young believers and all hearts in the Land. Pray for protection in spirit, soul, and body. Pray that a hunger for Yeshua as Lord and King will awaken in them, and bring abundant new life.

Pray for those who have registered to attend the November–December discipleship program. Pray that God will prepare their hearts. Pray for our community, that God would grant wisdom, guidance, and the fullness of His Spirit as we serve and minister to each one.

