

# FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

BMF Zoom Meeting 06/04/24

By John Godfrey

A message exploring how we (Messianic Believers at Beza'el) can be of help to the Jewish People of Manchester in this rising tide of Antisemitism

## Headings

Loving the Jewish People in Dark Days  
The Rise in Antisemitism  
God's Commitment to His Chosen People  
God's Purposes in Aliyah

## Loving the Jewish People in Dark Days

- **The Darkness seems to be growing at an ever faster rate**
  - **The Pace of the Decline** in every aspect of life seems to be accelerating
    - In Morality – both individually and collectively
    - In Family Life
    - In Our Government
    - In Our Laws
    - In Community – caring less for others
    - In the Church – apostasy grows at an increasing rate
  - **Darkness in the Church** seems to be growing rapidly
    - **Increasing compromise with the world** – noticeably, in recent times, in the Anglican church in its attitude to same-sex marriage
    - **Increasing number of non-biblical trendy churches** – what began in North America with Toronto and Bethel has spread rapidly around the world
    - **Replacement Theology**, which came into the church in the third and fourth centuries as the church distanced itself from its Jewish roots, is now the dominant influence in Bible Colleges and Denominations
    - **Antisemitism in the Church**, the outworking of Replacement Theology, has become widespread and even acceptable
    - **One root of the church's problems today** is the failure to understand God's love for His chosen people and His purposes for them
- **How Does the Believer Live in Dark Days?**
  - **The Answer is to Look to the Lord**
  - **The Apostle Paul's Favourite Verse has the Answer** – quoted in *Romans 1: 17*; *Galatians 3: 11*; and *Hebrews 10: 38*:

*“Behold the proud, his soul is not upright in him; but **the just shall live by his faith.**”*  
***Habakkuk 2: 4***
  - **The Lord our God has Given Us Two Witnesses**
    - **It is vital to Understand and to Live in The Truth**
    - **God's Word is Truth** – it is living and powerful (*Hebrews 4: 12*) and we need to know it and study it from cover to cover
      - All Scripture is God-breathed (*2 Timothy 16-17*)

- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth
  - He will guide us into all truth (*John 16: 13*)
- Truth is Vital to Our Living in Dark Days where there is so much deception
  - Yeshua is the Source of Truth (*John 14: 6*)
- The Gentile Christian's Responsibility to the Jewish People
  - The Jewish People are God's Chosen and Covenant People – it was and is His decision and choosing (*Genesis 12: 2*)
  - The Jewish People are a 'Light to the Gentiles' – not the least because God's son was born as a Jew (*Isaiah 42: 6*)
  - The Gospel of Christ is to the Jew First – as Paul has written

*'For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, **for the Jew first** and also for the Greek.'* **Romans 1: 16**

- Our Faith – in our Lives, in our Speech and in our Actions – is what should make the Jewish people jealous (of our relationship with their God)

*I say then, **have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles. Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!*** **Romans 11: 11-12**

- Do you See what Paul is Saying – by the Jewish people coming to faith, in Yeshua as God's Son and their Messiah, we and the world will be enriched beyond our imaginations
- It is why believers are called by the Lord to Love and to Pray for the Jewish People and Nation
- Beza'el has a special call to outreach ministry to the Jewish people
- We (Believers and Nations) are Blessed if we Bless Israel (the Land and the People)
 

***"I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*** **Genesis 12: 3**

  - Those who bless the Jewish People and Israel are Blessed by God
  - Those who curse the Jewish People and Israel are Cursed by God
    - Note the two different Hebrew words for Curse
      - Those who curse the Jewish people – Hebrew: *qâlal* (pronounced *kaw-lal*) meaning to make light of, bring into contempt or despise
      - God's curse – Hebrew: *ârar*, (pronounced *aw-rar*) meaning to execrate or bitterly curse
  - Britain has been under God's curse since its failure to carry out the Mandate for Palestine given it by the League of Nations in July 1922 following the San Remo conference in April 1920 and the Balfour Declaration in November 1917
    - The Mandate stated 'The Principal Allied Powers (LON) have also agreed that the Mandatory (Britain) should be responsible for putting into effect the declaration originally made on November 2nd, 1917, by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and adopted by the said Powers, **in favour of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people...**' – sadly, instead we restricted numbers of Jews who could return

- One wonders how many fewer Jews would have died in the Holocaust if we had carried out the Mandate
- Britain has never repented of this failure
- We Believers have been placed here – together in Beza’el – with a ministry to the Jewish people ‘For Such A Time As This’

### The Rise in Antisemitism

- Yeshua’s Confidential ‘End-Time’ Briefing (*Matthew 24: 1-14*)
  - Recorded in *Matthew 24: 1-14* and also in *Mark 13: 1-8* and *Luke 21: 1-9*
  - It is clearly a private briefing as Yeshua sat with His Disciples on the Mount of Olives
  - Nation Rising Against Nation (*Matthew 24: 7*)
    - Nation (Greek: *ethnos*) means race or tribe
      - Today we have many Arabic peoples (and others) seeking the annihilation of the Jewish people
      - Evident in pro-Palestinian protests
      - The Joining together of the Extreme Right and the Liberal Left in Hatred of the Jewish People
      - It really is not just Gaza – it is Hatred!
      - The bile and venom come from within the heart
    - Don’t forget – Yeshua told us these things would happen!
  - These are ‘The Beginning of Sorrows’ (*Matthew 24: 8*)

*“For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All **these are the beginning of sorrows.**”* **Matthew 24: 7 – 8**

- Yeshua then speaks of Tribulation

*“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be **hated by all nations** for My name’s sake.”* **Matthew 24: 9**

- This applies to believers and the Jewish people – it was spoken to Yeshua’s disciples...who were believers and Jewish
- It would be easy to think that we are seeing the Yeshua’s words fulfilled today, but **what we see is mild compared to what will be later**
- It will be far worse for all peoples, especially for the Jewish people, in the Great Tribulation (*Matthew 24: 15 – 28*)

- Rising Antisemitism – Especially since 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023
  - Even Before 7th October there had been a rise in Antisemitism
    - The UK Community Security Trust (CST) ‘Antisemitic Incidents’ Reports
      - 2018      1,690
      - 2019      1,813
      - 2020      1,684
      - 2021      2,261
      - 2022      1,652

- After 7th October there has been a release of the spirit of Antisemitism in a dramatic way
  - The UK Community Security Trust (CST) 'Antisemitic Incidents' Report for 2023 shows 4,103 of which 2,699 occurred on or after 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023
  - This has been replicated, and more, worldwide
- Reports in Manchester – a few samples of many reported incidents
  - The Manchester Evening News on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 reported “Vile Antisemitism – fireworks thrown at children and sick graffiti and horrific chants”
  - Jewish News on 21st March 2024 reported “Children’s hospital investigates claim that nurses forced sick Jewish child out of bed” – this by nurses whose uniforms had many ‘pro-Palestinian’ badges
  - United With Israel on 26th March 2024 reported “Nova Festival Survivors Harassed by UK Airport Staff”
    - When asked why they were subject to such strict screening, the officers replied that they “had to make sure that you are not going to do what you are doing in Gaza over here”.
  - John Young has noticed how many Mezuzahs have been removed from houses in the Jewish areas of North Manchester – sometimes in fear but sometimes because the Jewish people have left
- Aliyah Applications have Surged amidst a Global Rise in Antisemitism
  - Aliyah – a Hebrew Word meaning ‘to go up’ is used to speak of the return of Jewish people to the land of Israel
  - A Surge in Aliyah since 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – a United With Israel report on 18th February 2024 said ‘Some 6,500 people have immigrated to Israel since the Oct. 7 massacre, and there has been a significant increase in aliyah applicants from Western countries, including France, Canada the United States and the United Kingdom.’
  - This is what was Prophesied – The Lord is Bringing His People Home

*“Therefore **behold, the days are coming**,” says the Lord, “that it shall no more be said, ‘The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘**The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.**’ For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers.”* **Jeremiah 16: 14 – 15**

- Initially there were the Times of the Fishermen – but now it is the Time of the Hunters

*“Behold, **I will send for many fishermen**,” says the Lord, “and **they shall fish them**; and **afterward I will send for many hunters**, and **they shall hunt them** from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.”* **Jeremiah 16: 16**

- Since the 1980’s organisations (like Ebenezer Operation Exodus and the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem) have sought to ‘fish’ and to encourage and help the Jewish people to make aliyah
- The fall of the Iron Curtain in 1989 gave a boost to aliyah from the former Soviet Union – and stimulated aliyah worldwide

- We Believers have been placed here – together in Beza’el – with a ministry to the Jewish people in Manchester in this time of Rising Antisemitism ‘For Such A Time As This’

### God’s Commitment to His Chosen People

- The Lord’s Unconditional Covenants with Abraham and His Descendants

*“And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”* **Genesis 17: 7-8**

- This is a Covenant of an Everlasting Relationship
  - The Lord is their God and They are His People
- This is a Covenant of an Everlasting Possession of the Land
  - This Land belongs to the Jewish People even when they are scattered among the nations
  - The Land Covenant is repeated several times – but Israel has never yet been in possession of all the land which God has given them (*Genesis 15: 18 – 21*)

- Scripture speaks of Two Exiles and Two Returns

*‘And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.’ It shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people who are left, from Assyria and Egypt, from Pathros and Cush, from Elam and Shinar, from Hamath and the islands of the sea. He will set up a banner for the nations, and will assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.’*

**Isaiah 11:10-11**

- The first exile was that of the Ten tribes at the hand of the Assyrians and the Two tribes at the hand of the Babylonians – afterwards they returned under the rule of Cyrus the Persian Emperor
- The second exile was that which occurred after Yeshua’s death when Israel was scattered under the hand of the Romans – that exile lasted around 1,900 years and the return began in earnest when the State of Israel was established in 1948

- The Lord’s Unconditional Promise to Bring the Jewish People back to their Land

*“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “When the ploughman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it. I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; they shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; they shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them. I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them,” says the Lord your God.’* **Amos 9: 13 – 15**

- Undoubtedly we see this fulfilled in Israel today – the Jewish people have and continue to return to the land, and the land is fruitful

- Note the Lord's Promise – the Jewish people will never again be uprooted from their land

- Physical Return Precedes Spiritual Restoration

- Read this truth for yourself in Ezekiel chapters 36 and 37 – study them
- It is all the Lord's doing – count how many times He says 'I Will' in chapter 36
- Physical Return is for the sanctification of God's name, which has been profaned by the Jewish diaspora

*“And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am the Lord,” says the Lord God, “when I am hallowed in you before their eyes. For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.”* **Ezekiel 36: 23 – 24**

- Spiritual Cleansing and Renewal will follow Physical Return

*“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.”* **Ezekiel 36: 25 – 27**

- Ezekiel's Vision of the Valley of Dry Bones is a picture of physical restoration followed by spiritual restoration
  - Ezekiel is asked 'Can these bones live?' – the answer is that only the Lord God knows
  - Ezekiel prophesies to the bones – and they come together and are clothed in flesh (physical restoration) – but there is no breath (spiritual life) in them

*‘So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.’* **Ezekiel 37: 7 – 8**

- Ezekiel then prophesies to the breath – and breath comes into them and they live (spiritual restoration) – and a great army stands up

*‘Also He said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, thus says the Lord God: “Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.”’* So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army. **Ezekiel 37: 9 – 10**

- The Vision is explained to Ezekiel by the Lord God (Ezekiel 37: 11 – 14)
  - The Bones are the House of Israel – dry bones, no hope, cut off
  - They are in their Graves – in the diaspora
  - The Lord brings them up out of their graves (it is all His doing) – back to the land, and they have His Spirit put into them
- The Truth of Spiritual Restoration in the Land of Israel is evident
  - Relatively few Jewish people have come to faith in the nations
  - The Continuing Growth in the number and strength of Messianic Congregations in Israel is quite amazing – there are now around 280



- We Believers have been placed here – together in Beza’el – with a ministry to the Jewish people in Manchester to help in God’s plan of Physical and Spiritual Restoration at ‘Such A Time As This’

### God’s Purposes in Aliyah

- **Spiritual Restoration**
  - As we have seen and read, **Return to the Land (Aliyah) of the Jewish people is principally to accomplish the Lord God’s purpose of Spiritual Restoration of the Jewish people**
    - Their Spiritual Restoration, in significant numbers in Israel, is a Testimony to the Nations that the Lord is God and is Faithful to His Covenants
- **The Holy Millennial Kingdom**
  - The Spiritually Restored Jewish people will worship The Lord God and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to Honour the Name of the Lord (*Jeremiah 3: 17 – 18*)
- **The Gentiles will Help the Jewish People to make Aliyah**
  - God’s call to Comfort His People and Prepare the Highways (*Isaiah 40: 1 – 5*)
  - God’s Call to the Nations – ‘Bring My Sons from Afar’

*“Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, and gather you from the west; I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not keep them back!’ Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth — everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”* **Isaiah 43: 5 – 7**

- It is a call to the Gentiles to do the Lords bidding and bring the Jewish people back to their land
- His word to ‘the north’ – could that be Beza’el in Manchester?
- The Lord’s Oath to the Nations – a Command to the Gentiles

*“Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, I will lift My hand in an oath to the nations, and set up My standard for the peoples; they shall bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders; Kings shall be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers; they shall bow down to you with their faces to the earth, and lick up the dust of your feet. Then you will know that I am the Lord, for they shall not be ashamed who wait for Me.”* **Isaiah 49: 22-23**

- **Highways and Refuges**
  - Through the work of ministries like Ebenezer Operation Exodus there has been much Prayer to prepare highways for travel and refuges from attack
    - Many Highways have been prayerfully prepared in the North West
    - The creation of a Cruise Liner Berth in Liverpool is one answer to prayer
  - Many others have set up places of refuge – some here in the North West
    - Places prepared for time of persecution and the need for hiddenness
    - Places equipped and ready with accommodation and food stores

- **For Such A Time As This**

- **Esther was called to be the instrument of God through which the Jewish people would be saved when there were dire circumstances in a foreign land**

*‘For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. **Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**’*

***Esther 4: 14***

- **Bezal’el has been put in a position (as Esther was) where it can – through its connections with, and love for, the Jewish people in Manchester be used of the Lord to help the Jewish people escape from persecution**
- **Future Visiting Speakers at Bezal’el:**
  - **In the month of May Bezal’el will have two noted speakers who may well give insight into this matter – Arnold Fruchtenbaum (of Ariel Ministries) on 4<sup>th</sup> May and Jeff Holloway (of Ebenezer Operation Exodus) on 14<sup>th</sup> May**
- **Meanwhile – I would suggest that we all pray about this matter, asking the Lord how we can best help the Jewish people to escape the ever rising tide of antisemitism in our nation, and instead make aliyah – and by God’s grace and mercy...find Yeshua their Messiah**

*If you would like a printed copy of any or all of the following notes just let me know (giving me your address) and I will send them to you*

*My email address is: [johnjennygodfrey@btinternet.com](mailto:johnjennygodfrey@btinternet.com)*

***See Separate Notes on:***

***The Role of Gentiles in the Church as It Relates to the Jewish People***

<https://www.jewishvoice.org/read/blog/role-gentiles-church-it-relates-jewish-people>

***Community Security Trust – Antisemitic Incidents 2023***

[https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/9/f/Antisemitic Incidents Report 2023.pdf](https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/9/f/Antisemitic%20Incidents%20Report%202023.pdf)

***The Telegraph - Pro-Palestinian protests ‘making London no-go zone for Jews’***

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/03/07/pro-palestinian-protests-london-no-go-zone-jews/>

***The Standard - 'Huge element of truth' to claim London is now no-go zone for Jew***

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/london-no-go-zone-jews-palestinian-protests-gaza-robin-simcox-b1143962.html>

***Manchester Evening News - Fireworks thrown at children and sick graffiti and horrific chants: the vile Anti-Semitism shaming Greater Manchester***

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/the-shocking-cases-of-vile-28168161>



***Jewish News - Children's hospital investigates claim that nurses forced sick Jewish child out of bed***

<https://www.jewishnews.co.uk/manchester-childrens-hospital-launches-investigation-after-family-claims-9-year-old-subject-to-vile-anti-semitism/>

***United With Israel - Nova Festival Survivors Harassed by UK Airport Staff***

<https://unitedwithisrael.org/report-nova-festival-survivors-harassed-by-uk-airport-staff/>

***Text of the Balfour Declaration 1917***

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/text-of-the-balfour-declaration>

***How the modern state of Israel was created in 1948***

<https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/formation-of-modern-israel-reading/>

***Ebenezer Operation Exodus***

Website: <https://ebenezer-oe.org/>