



WHY ISRAEL?

**THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO BE
HERE TODAY**



**Bringing the message of Messiah to the
original messengers and equipping the
church to do likewise**



Celebrate Messiah
NEW ZEALAND

**Bringing the message of Messiah to the
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EQUIPPING THE CHURCH TO DO LIKEWISE...

- Equipping the church to do likewise is a challenge
- **The Challenge:**
 - There is an great misunderstanding of Israel
 - There is an underlying distrust of the Old Testament
 - There is a widespread belief that the church replaced Israel
 - There is also an unnatural hatred for Israel in the world today
 - The church doesn't want to be caught up in politics!

THEREFORE MANY CHRISTIANS AVOID JEWISH PEOPLE

- Christians focus on the Gospel, **but avoid Israel**
- They Focus on the “Gospel”
- ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.

~ Romans 1:16

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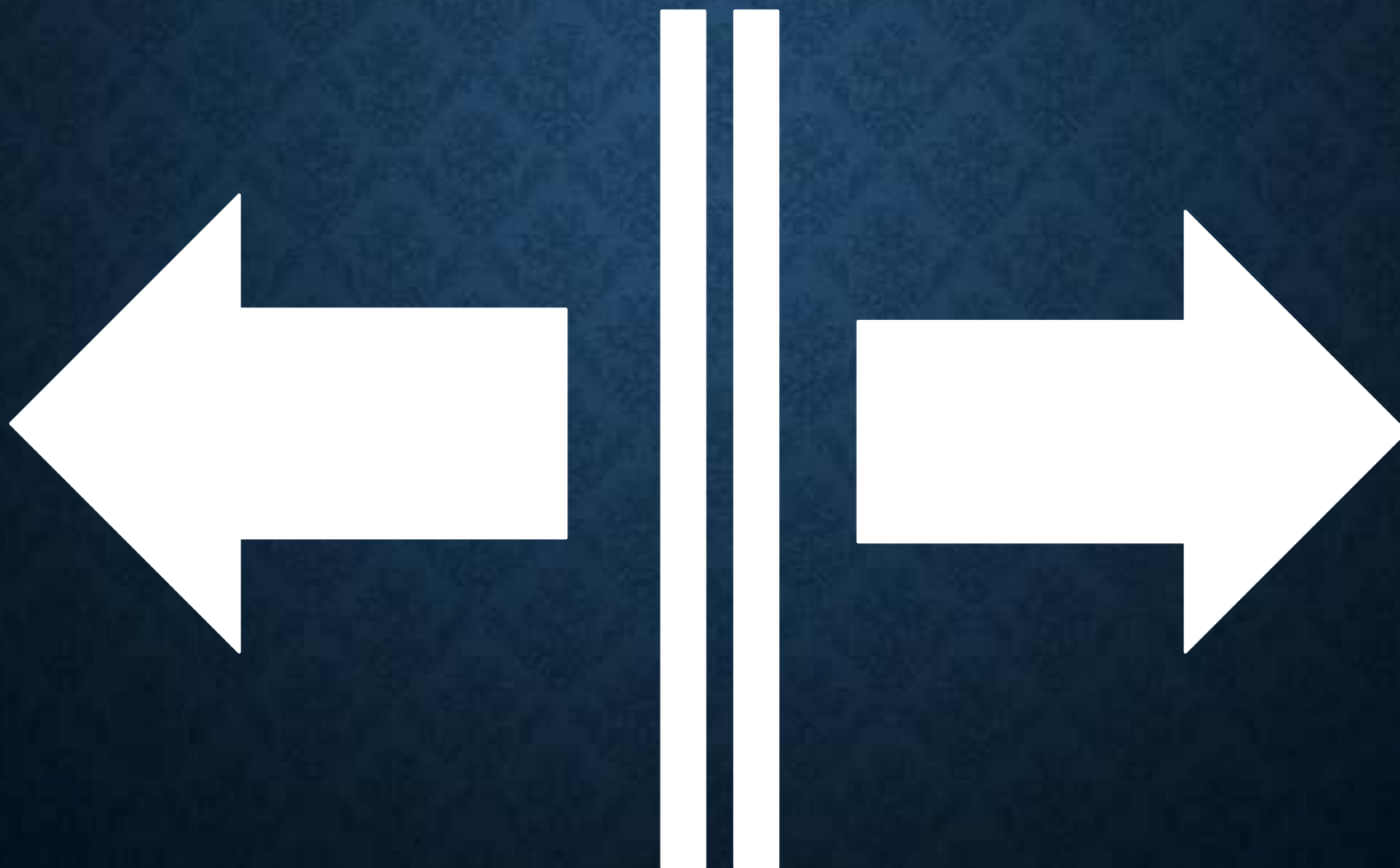
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~ Romans 1:16

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THE GOSPEL AND ISRAEL

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G O S P E L

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**THE STORY OF
ISRAEL IS
CENTRAL TO
THE GOSPEL**



WHY ISRAEL?

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- ☐ Is Israel really chosen?
- ☐ Why did God choose them?
- ☐ What about Gentiles?
- ☐ Relation to the Gospel?
- ☐ How does this affect our faith?

A close-up, low-angle shot of a human hand reaching upwards, palm facing up. The hand is positioned in the lower foreground, with fingers slightly spread. The background is a soft-focus landscape under a bright, low sun, creating a warm, golden glow. A faint rainbow is visible in the sky, arching over the horizon. The overall mood is hopeful and spiritual.

LET'S PRAY!



**IS ISRAEL
REALLY
CHOSEN?**

IS ISRAEL REALLY CHOSEN?

*But you, **Israel**, my servant, **Jacob**, whom **I have chosen**, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “**You are my servant**, I have **chosen you** and not cast you off”; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

~Isaiah 41:8-10

IS ISRAEL REALLY CHOSEN?

“My countrymen” according to the flesh, ⁴ who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; ⁵ of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen. ~Romans 9:3-5

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

~Romans 11:29

**WAIT... I THOUGHT GOD WAS DONE
WITH ISRAEL!**

JEREMIAH 31:35,36

*Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar --
the LORD of hosts is His name:*

*“If this fixed order departs
from before me, declares the LORD,
then shall the offspring of Israel cease
from being a nation before me forever.”*

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**WHY IS ISRAEL
SO IMPORTANT
TO GOD?**

THE BIG STORY OF THE BIBLE?



“You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

~Genesis 3:4-5

RUNAWAY BRIDE

- Mankind in the Garden
- First Kingdom of God
- Love, Intimacy, Trust
- Relationship is Key!
- Suspicion Entered
- Eve lost faith – ran away
- **God NEVER got over it!**



KINGDOM OF SELF

- Not based on love, intimacy, trust
- About serving & protecting myself
- Not based on loving others
- Based on what's good for me
- I am the sovereign, I'm in control
- My stuff, my choices, my best interest



HUMAN HISTORY: GENESIS 3 - 11

Genesis 6:5-7

*The LORD saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth,
and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was
only evil all the time...the LORD regretted that he had made
man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart...
“I will blot out man whom I have created ... for I am
sorry that I have made them.”*

GENESIS 12

**WE MEET
ABRAM & SARAI**

GENESIS 12

**WE MEET
ABRAM & SARAI**

HOW TO WIN BACK THE RUN-AWAY BRIDE

- God's proposal to Abram & Sarai:
 - "Leave your fathers house, country, kindred to a place I will show you, and I will bless you (Gen 12:1)
- Accepted the invitation – Crosses over in Faith (עברית)
- Entrusted himself, and all that he had, to God
- Enters into to the relationship that God designed him for

WHAT QUALIFIED ABRAHAM?

- Abraham was not a religious man
- There was no “law” to keep...
- Abraham was not a perfect man
 - *“Tell Pharaoh that you are my sister”* Gen 12:13
 - *“Abraham said of Sarah, ‘She is my sister’”* Gen 20:1
- Abraham often lacked faith in God
- **So, what sustained their relationship?**

**GOD USES TESTING TO DEEPEN
ABRAHAM'S FAITH IN HIM**

GOD TESTS ABRAHAM (GEN 22)

*Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him,
“Abraham!”*

“Here I am,” he replied.

Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love – Isaac – and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

~Genesis 22:1

GOD TESTS ABRAHAM (GEN 22)

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered up Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, ¹⁸ even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” ¹⁹ Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

~ Hebrews 11:17-19 (NIV)

ABRAHAM'S GREATEST TEST

*The Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that **because you have done this** and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars... and through your offspring **all nations on earth will be blessed**, **because you have obeyed me.**"* ~Gen 22:15-18

ABRAHAM IS THE FATHER OF THE FAITH

- *He believed the LORD, and He counted it to him as righteousness...* ~ Gen 15:9, Rom 4:29, Gal 3:6, James 2:23
- Without faith it is impossible to please God ~Heb 11:6
- For the Righteous shall live by faith
~Hab 2:4, Rom 1:17, Gal 3:11, Heb 10:38
- Abraham discovered that “righteousness” comes by faith.
That FAITH allows us to trust God to be God!

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- ☐ Relation to the Gospel?
- ☐ How should this affect our faith?

ISRAEL'S PURPOSE IS TO MAKE THE NATION JEALOUS!

See, I have taught you decrees and laws... so that you may follow them... Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations! [They] will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to Him?

~Deuteronomy 4:5-8

WHY JEALOUSY?

- Why did God want to provoke the nations to jealousy?
- God is provoking all mankind to desire a relationship with Him
- **through you all the families of the earth shall be blessed ~Gen 12:3**
- The purpose of Israel was (and still is) to be bless the Nations
- They were to be his witnesses; a light to the Gentiles (Is 49)
- The gifts and the calling of God are unrevokable. ~Rom 11:29

SO WHY HASN'T GOD GIVEN UP ON THEM?

IT WAS NEVER ABOUT THEM!

- The purpose of Israel isn't to demonstrate how great Israel is!
- The purpose of Israel is to demonstrate how **faithful** God is!
- In spite of the worlds hatred for Israel, God doesn't waiver
- Why is the faithfulness of God so important?
- God's purpose is to bring the run-away bride **home.**

WHY IS JEALOUSY IMPORTANT?

- God's purpose for Israel was to provoke the Gentiles to jealously desire a relationship with Him!
- God's purpose for the redeemed Nations is to provoke Israel to jealously desire a relationship with Him!
- Don't believe me?

PAUL ELABORATES ON GOD'S PLAN

So I ask, did they [Israel] stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.

~Romans 11:11

The Second Great Commission / Gentile Commission⁴⁸

GOD'S MERCY ABOUNDS

For just as you [Gentiles] were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of [Israel's] disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the same mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ~Roman 11:28

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HOW DOES ISRAEL RELATE TO THE GOSPEL?

- God's not looking for perfection, religion, self-righteousness
- He is looking to restore a relationship **established in faith!**
- When we trust Him to be God, we no longer have to be Him
- We can relax, allow Him to be our protector and provider
- This will free us up to trust Him, and love others...
- That is the foundational relationship that as **in the Garden!**

BUT WE MUST REALIZE

- The heart of the father is revealed in Yeshua, the Messiah!
- For us to be restored, our sins **MUST** be dealt with.
- While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us!
- Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God
- Do you want to know the heart of God?
- Look at the life of Jesus! (Life, Death and Resurrection)

BUT WHAT ABOUT ISRAEL?

CAN HE SAVE THEM?

ZECHARIAH 12:10

¹⁰ “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

DON'T BE SHY ABOUT JESUS!

- I meet Christians who are afraid to share their faith!
- They reason, it's impolite to convert Jews to Jesus!
- This is based on a massive misunderstanding
- The Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit said...

“for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” ~Acts 4:12

**SO, WHAT DOES ISRAEL HAVE TO DO WITH THE
GOSPEL?**

EVERYTHING!

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THE GOSPEL DOESN'T BEGIN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- The Gospel is throughout the Old and New Testament
- It doesn't begin in Matthew, it begins in Genesis!

“²² You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.”

~John 4:22



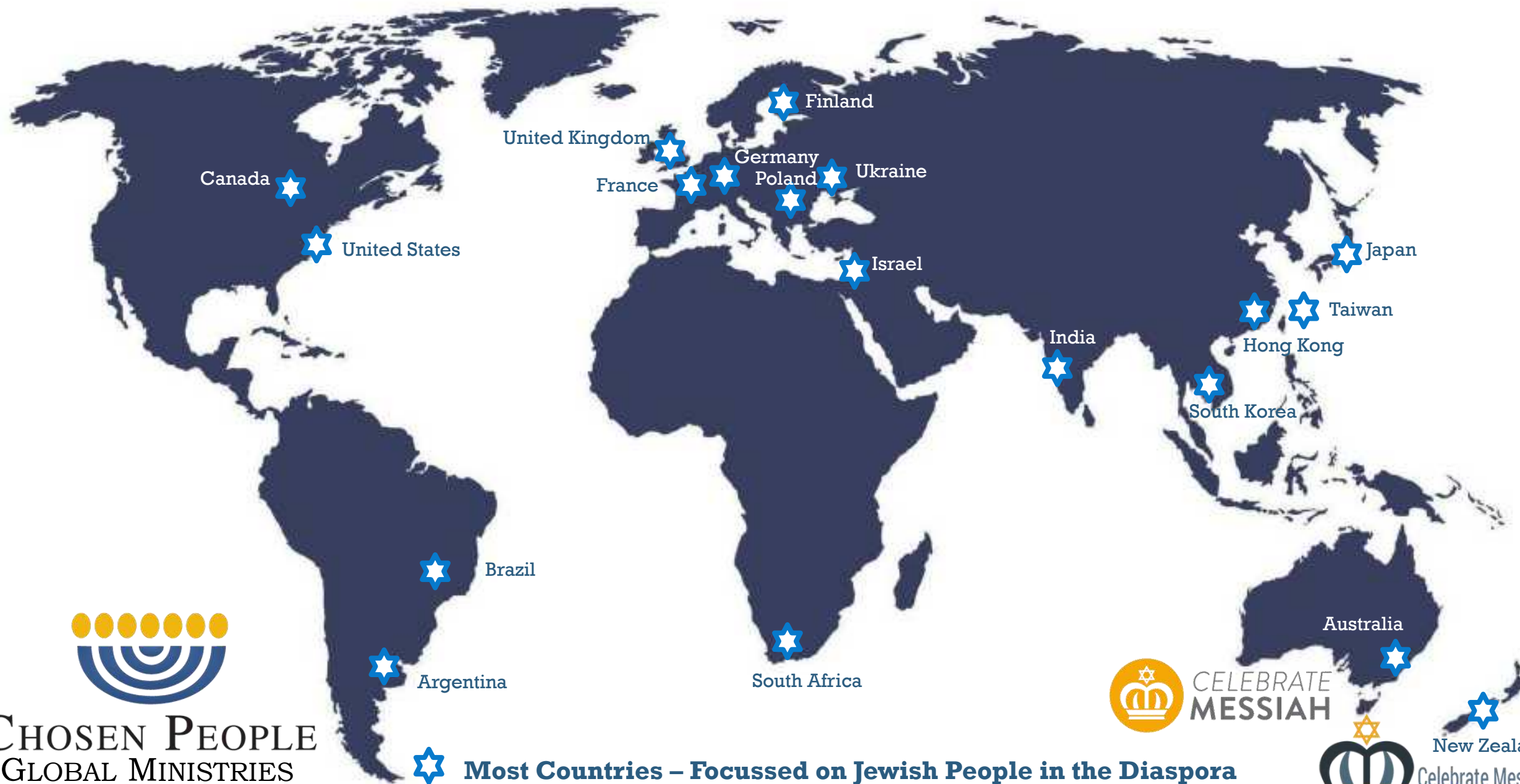
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CHOSEN PEOPLE

GLOBAL MINISTRIES



CHOSEN PEOPLE
GLOBAL MINISTRIES
18+ NATIONS

-  **Most Countries – Focussed on Jewish People in the Diaspora**
-  **Israel & NZ - Specifically focussed on Israelis**



**CELEBRATE
MESSIAH**



**Celebrate Messiah
NEW ZEALAND**



Israelis, who tend to be
closed to the Gospel in
ISRAEL

tend to be very
open to the Gospel in
NEW ZEALAND!



Celebrate Messiah
NEW ZEALAND

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STAFF & VOLUNTEERS





Celebrate Messiah
NEW ZEALAND

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VIDEO GOES HERE

HOST ISRAELIS

NEW ZEALAND

A DIVISION OF
CELEBRATE MESSIAH NZ

Opening your heart and home
to bless Israel

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WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

- Israelis are open, curious, easy to share with!
 - One-third are pleasant but uninterested
 - One-third want to know more, but are cautious
 - One-third want to go deeper, they ask tough questions
- The Gospel sounds a little different!
- Israelis need to hear from different people & backgrounds

A FEW STORIES

- “Why do Gentiles serve the God of Abaham?”
- “Are you Christians?”
- “How can Jesus be both son of God and son of Man?”
- “We don’t want to know about Yeshu, but if we did...”
- “Why doesn’t anyone tell us about our Messiah?”
- “What happens to Israel in ‘End Times’?”

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