




# FAITH



“Pray for the well-being of Jerusalem:  
‘May those who love you be secure . . .’”  
(Psalm 122:6).

## *The New Covenant and Israel*

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, He inaugurated a New Covenant with His blood (1 Corinthians 11:25; Luke 22:20). That New Covenant was then ministered by Paul and the other apostles as they planted and built-up churches (1 Corinthians 3:6). Both passages point to the New Covenant as a promise God has made with the believers, the body of Christ. And yet, Hebrews 8:10 states that the New Covenant is for the house of Israel:

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people.”

The exegesis of this verse has resulted in much theological debate within churches for hundreds of years. Its interpretation determines the primary theological distinctions between dispensationalists and covenant theologians. Understanding how Christ could inaugurate a covenant meant for Israel for a Church made up of Jews and Gentiles is a struggle for church leaders. There are two extremes

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to avoid in answering this question: The first is to remove Israel entirely and replace it with the Church. The second is to separate the church from the New Covenant and disqualify all Gentile believers from the spiritual blessings celebrated at the Lord's table.

The problem with the first extreme is that it impugns upon God's election of Israel as His chosen people. Romans 11:29–30 explains that concerning election, Israel is loved because of the patriarchs, and God's calling and gifts are irrevocable. To remove Israel from the New Covenant is to question God's faithfulness and His promises to His chosen people. We are commanded to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6), and like Paul, we pray that all Jews might come to salvation (Romans 10:1). Consequently, we expect all of Israel's eschatological promises to be fully realized in the Millennial Kingdom (Ezekiel 37:22–28, 47:1–23).

There is a danger in either extreme. The view that New Covenant promises are not for Gentile believers is a misunderstanding of Scripture. If the New Covenant does not include Gentiles, many New Testament promises do not apply to the Church. We have the assurance of a new heart and a new spirit, forgiveness of sins, and the universal priesthood, which are all New Covenant promises. The promises are for Jews and Gentiles alike. So, which interpretation or perspective circumvents both errors? The Church participates in the spiritual blessings of the New Covenant but does not replace Israel. God will fulfill all his promises to Israel, and even now, there is a remnant of believing Jews (Romans 11:5).

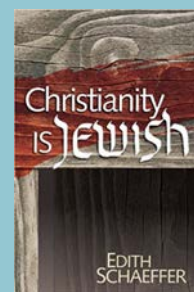
Paul explains in Galatians 3:29 that if we belong to Christ, then we are "Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise." Gentiles are coheirs with Jewish believers because they are members of the same body in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:6). Paul further explains that true Jewishness is inward and spiritual in Romans 2:28–29. The inclusion of Gentiles in the seed promise given to Abraham is seen in the Messianic genealogy, which includes Gentile interlopers grafted in by God's grace (Matthew 1:3, 5). The Lord made it clear that Gentiles adopted into the family of God should not fear exclusion from the house of God (Isaiah 56:3).

However, Paul warns Gentiles of boasting about being grafted in since they do not support the root; instead, the root supports them (Romans 11:18). Accordingly, Scripture contains both the Old and New Testaments. The tree needs its roots, just like believers require an understanding of their Jewish foundation. Edith Schaffer makes this convincing argument in her book *Christianity is Jewish*. In the manifold wisdom of God, He sovereignly included Gentiles in the New Covenant promises to draw Israel to salvation by way of jealousy (Romans 11:11). The manner in which Israel is drawn back to God is through the Church's testimony, as it lives out the fullness of the covenant blessings which God initially promised to them. So, read Hebrews 8:10–13 as a promise to everyone who has confessed Jesus as their Lord. And we are assured that God has not forsaken His people, neither will He give up on us.



—Pastor Caleb

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And each person will not teach his fellow citizen, and each his brother or sister, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least to the greatest of them. For I will forgive their wrongdoing, and I will never again remember their sins" (Hebrews 8:10–12).



This is in our church library.

# Joseph and Sarah Ryan

Global Ministries, New York



In 2013, Joseph and Sarah joined Chosen People Ministries in the heart of

Orthodox Jewish Brooklyn. Joseph served on the pastoral team and Sarah lead worship and assisted in the children's and youth ministry at Beth Sar Shalom.

Joseph was raised in a non-Christian home in Norwalk, Calif. At 26, a homeless man shared the Gospel with him, and he was radically changed. In 2006, He took his mid-tour leave from Iraq and visited Israel. While there, the Lord revealed to him the Jewish roots of his faith in Christ. He followed this leading and graduated from Talbot School of Theology in 2012.

Sarah is a Jewish believer from San Diego. She taught in the Israeli public

schools for eight years, where she became fluent in Hebrew.

The Ryans are now working from San Diego. Joseph was promoted to U.S. Coordinator for Chosen People Ministries' new Host Israelis Network that connects Israeli travelers with Christian hosts across the United States. "We believe this will be a game-changer in Jewish evangelism and a great way to fulfill the Gentile Commission of "provoking Israel to jealousy" (Romans 11:11) that they may be saved," said Joseph.

Drop Joseph and Sarah a note at:  
28845 Bristol Rd.  
Temecula, CA 92591

Anniversary: July 21  
Birthdays:  
Joseph – November 10  
Sarah – July 18  
Miriam – December 17  
Ava – Age 3

"Since the day I brought my people out of the land of Egypt, I have not chosen a city to build a temple in among any of the tribes of Israel, so that my name would be there, and I have not chosen a man to be ruler over my people Israel. But I have chosen Jerusalem so that my name will be there, and I have chosen David to be over my people Israel" (2 Chronicles 6:5-6).



"Bethlehem Ephrathah, You are small among the clans of Judah; one will come from you to be ruler over Israel for me. His origin is from antiquity, from ancient times" (Micah 5:2).



"The next day, when a large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet Him. They kept shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel" (John 12:12-13).

## Women's Fall Retreat 2022



SAVE THE DATE!  
October 7-9



Learn more:

[Faithtoyou.com/building](https://Faithtoyou.com/building)

Discover how these words are related to our people and building:

Prayer

Humility

Hospitality

Joy

# The God of Promises

from various sources

Five covenants are crucial for understanding the story of the Bible and God's redemptive plan:

1. Noahic Covenant—Genesis 9
2. Abrahamic Covenant—Genesis 12, 15
3. The Mosaic Covenant—Exodus 19, 24
4. the Davidic Covenant—2 Samuel 7
5. New Covenant—Jeremiah 31:31-34; Luke 22:14-3

## The Noahic Covenant

The covenant God establishes with Noah after the flood proclaims His reset and renewal of the blessings of creation and reaffirms God's image in humanity and our dominion. This covenant promises the society's preservation and provides for the restraint of human evil and violence.

## The Abrahamic Covenant

Central to the biblical story is God's covenant with Abraham. It includes descendants, land, and blessings that extend through him to all people of the earth. This covenant provides an understanding of terms like the Promised land, election, inheritances, etc.

## The Mosaic Covenant

God established the nation of Israel at Mt. Sinai after the Hebrews came out of Egyptian slavery. He supplies the Law to govern and shape His people. This Law distinguished Israel's kingdom of priests from other secular nations (Exodus 19:1-7) but in no way was to provide a way to salvation. This conditional covenant defined blessings and curses based on obedience or disobedience (Deuteronomy

28-29). The Mosaic Covenant helps us understand the cycles of blessings and curses in the Old Testament, the exiles of Israel and Judah, the disputes between Jesus and the Pharisees, and Paul's teachings about law and grace.

## The Davidic Covenant

God promises that a descendant of David will reign forever. This covenant becomes the basis for the hope of a Messiah. We see it in the New Testament as the Gospel writers proclaim the kingship of Jesus.

## The New Covenant

This language was first used in Jeremiah's promise of rescue and renewal of the exiled people of God in Babylon. It promises a coming day when God will make a new covenant, unlike Israel's broken one. This coming day would bring forgiveness of sin, internal renewal of the heart, and intimate knowledge of God. On the night of Jesus's Last Supper, Jesus takes the cup and declares that his death would be the inauguration of this new covenant.

## The Five Covenants

These provide the skeletal framework and context for practically every page of the Bible. They are fundamental to understanding the Bible rightly. The Old Testament covenants establish promises that look forward to fulfillment. Much of the New Testament is concerned with showing how Jesus Christ fulfills these covenant promises and what life should look like for a people living in the New Covenant inaugurated by his death and resurrection.

## Why Pray for Israel?

- ~ God will bless those who bless Abraham's descendants and curse those who curse them (Genesis 12:2).
- ~ God instructs us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalms 122:6).
- ~ God's covenant with Israel is everlasting (Genesis 17:7,19).
- ~ The Land of Israel belongs to God (Leviticus 25:23, Joel 2:18).
- ~ God gave His people the Land of Israel as an eternal possession (Genesis 15, 17:7-8, Psalms 105:7-11).
- ~ God's judgments on Israel at various times of her history do not void His covenant (Ezekiel 37).
- ~ God has not rejected Israel (Romans 9-11).
- ~ There is only one way for anyone, including Jewish people, to be reconciled to God (John 14:6).
- ~ The Gospel is for the Jewish people first (Romans 1:16).

## How to Pray for Israel

- ~ Restoration and reconciliation
- ~ Watchmen in every nation dedicated to praying for Israel
- ~ Peace and protection
- ~ Fighting terror, radical Islam, and Jihad
- ~ Fair and honest media coverage
- ~ Against anti-Semitism
- ~ Israel's Leaders
- ~ Children and Youth
- ~ Strong alliance between Israel and the United States

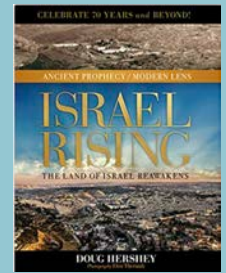


Assembly



## Fun Facts about Israel

- \* Israel has two official languages: Hebrew and Arabic.
- \* Israel is roughly the size of Lake Michigan.
- \* There are 40 kosher McDonalds in Israel.
- \* The glue on Israel's postage stamps is kosher.
- \* Israel has the highest concentration of hi-tech companies globally (apart from Silicon Valley).
- \* Most of the Windows NT operating system was developed by Microsoft-Israel.
- \* Israel is the only country where Starbucks has not managed to open.
- \* Two professors at Jerusalem's Hebrew University created the first cherry tomatoes.
- \* Over a million pounds of hummus is eaten in Israel every year.
- \* Five out of seven natural craters in the world are located in Israel.
- \* Israel receives more than 3.5 million tourists every year.
- \* The Dead Sea is the lowest point on earth, 1,315 feet below sea level.
- \* Letters addressed to God that make their way to Israel are opened and placed in the cracks of the Western Wall.
- \* About one million notes are left in the Western Wall each year.
- \* Twice a year, the notes in the Western Wall are carefully removed and buried on the Mount of Olives.
- \* There is a mandatory military service requirement for men and women.
- \* Banknotes have Braille markings on them so the blind can "read" them.
- \* Life expectancy in Israel is among the highest in the world at 82 years.
- \* Pastor Curtis Lewis loves Falafel, an Israeli "meatball" made from chickpea flour. There is a mix at Trader Joe's you can make.



Thousands of years ago, the prophet Ezekiel foretold a future time in which the arid land of Israel would come alive for its people. *Israel Rising* is a breathtaking book that documents the fulfillment of that vision—from the hills of Shiloh, where shepherds once roamed, to Tel Aviv, to Caesarea, and Jerusalem, the Eternal City of Peace. Rarely seen photos taken between the 1880s and the 1940s juxtaposed with contemporary images of the exact locations illustrate the region's biblical history as a place of monumental battle, celebration, worship, and remarkable resilience.



Encouragement



*The Chosen* video series depicts Jesus in the eyes of those who met Him. Director Dallas Jenkins quickly points out that although based on scripture, the series is *not* to supplant scripture. The storyline is written, keeping the question, "Is it plausible?" at the forefront of the writers' imaginations. This series depicts the humanity and divinity of Christ.





Save the Date!  
June 7-11

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a summer day camp at our church that lasts one week, from Monday through Friday. During this week, kids can come and sing, play outdoor games, enjoy a live skit, learn about music, and more!

The 2022 VBS will be held June 13-17. We offer two different times to choose from. The first one is from 9 a.m. to Noon, and the second is from 3-6 p.m. Our theme this year is "Circus Caroussae."

**VBS IS COMPLETELY FREE!**

**INVITE YOUR NON-BELIEVER FRIENDS!**

## Anthem Growth Year CHRISTIAN GAP YEAR

Tell your friends!

The AGY helps young men and women ages approximately 18-23 years old "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

This experience will help the participants deepen their faith and understand God's Word through daily lectures, discussions, and study sessions. It will also include a mission trip to Asia and a teaching tour of Israel.

The experience is for one year.

[Faithtoyou.com/info](http://Faithtoyou.com/info)



ANTHEM  
GROWTH  
YEAR

Voices from 2020:

"It will help you have a solid biblical foundation for the rest of your life, which can prepare you for the real world."

—Rachel Counts

"We saw so much growth in our son, Joshua, through that time. It was monumental."

—Greg Coggins.

"My advice would be to examine your heart and see if you are pushing it away or if it is something you want to do but are scared of because of the money. Then pray about it and decide."

—Josie Akers

"The growth year prepared me for leadership and taught me how to take the initiative in my own life."

—Joel Schroeder



# ISRAEL, YOUR NEXT STOP!

by Benj Foreman, Faith's 2023 Israel Tour Guide

Israel is a special place. I first visited the country in January 2000, and the very day I landed, I spotted Yael, an Israeli woman whom I instantly decided I would marry. It wasn't exactly love at first sight for her, but eventually, she came to the light (wink), and three years later—almost to the day—we were married. Ever since, Israel has been a big part of my life. Three of our four kids were born in Israel, we speak Hebrew at home, and eventually, I became an Israeli citizen. I lived in Israel for 15 years, teaching historical geography, biblical history, the life of Jesus, and other classes relating to the land and the Bible. Teaching the Bible in the land of the Bible is a unique experience, and I'm thrilled to do that again with the people of Faith this coming January!

I've seen many tour groups travel throughout the country. Most of them are Christian groups who want to deepen their faith and learn about the history and culture of the Bible. Unfortunately, many of these groups arrive through Jewish tour agencies and travel the country with Jewish tour guides. Often these groups visit Medieval churches or traditional locations that are of

little interest to evangelical Christians. Although visiting Israel in any capacity is beneficial for believers, it is much more impactful to tour the country with a Christian guide intimately acquainted with the land of the Bible.

My brother Nate and I started our small company called See the Land Tours. We want our trips to be spiritually enriching.

Our goal is not simply to increase head knowledge or gawk at ancient monasteries. We want to enliven our passion for God by expanding our understanding of his Word and its historical context.

So, for that reason, our trip will be a Bible-based tour. Over the course of ten days, we'll visit key sites from the life of David, see the areas of Jesus's ministry in Galilee and Jerusalem, and travel to places where the Israelites' faith was tested during the conquest. While we'll undoubtedly visit some ancient churches and traditional locations, the goal of all our stops will be to relate those to the Bible and consider the significance of the event(s) that occurred there.

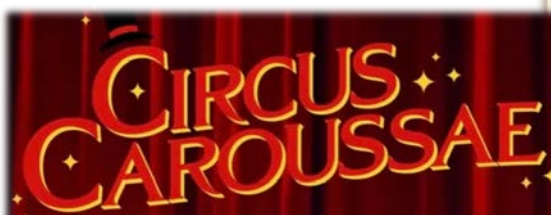


It's often said that going to Israel helps you read the Bible in color. I think that's true, but visiting this small country does more than transform the pages of Scripture from black and white to color. Seeing the land of Israel makes the Bible alive! That's because the events of this life-transforming book took place in real time and in a real place. Our faith is rooted in history (which is quite different from eastern religions). Seeing Abraham's same views, walking on the same hills that David marched around on, or crisscrossing the same city in which Jesus died and rose again brings the Gospel story much closer home to us.

I'm looking forward to a great trip. I can't wait to meet you all and enjoy some warm shawarmas together! 😊

See you soon!  
Benj

PS—if you don't know what shawarmas are yet...you certainly will after the trip!





“Now [Jesus] told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not give up” (Luke 18:1).

**Pray as the Spirit leads.**

\*Keep the Schuman family in prayer with the recent loss of their daughter. Also, Linda Schuman has continued medical needs.

\* Sara Butler continues her battle with cancer.

\*Keep Melea Weathers’s family in prayer with the recent loss of her grandfather.

\*Norma Lopez recently suffered a stroke.

\*Therese McLaughlin’s parents are dealing with heart issues.

\*Sheila Carle praises the Lord that her son Justin has found employment. Also, her grandson Josh is dealing with bullying in school.

\*Ramona McCaslin’s friend Judy and her husband have covid, and Ramona was with her. Pray for healing and safety.

\*Keep Vicki McClure’s family in prayer with the recent loss of Vicki’s dad.

\*Robyn Coggins’ friend and fellow believer Cornelia had bowel surgery.

\*Collette Espino’s mother has fallen several times and is no longer able to take care of herself. She is now living with Collette.

\*A visitor to Faith’s Poppy Festival booth

asks for prayer.

\*Bryan Willoughby’s mom has a growth on her pinkie and could lose her hand.

\*Donna Metheney’s husband continues to recover from a stroke.

\*Becky Counts’s dad Chris needs healing for his eye and other health concerns. He is living with her now.

\*Praise the Lord for Natalie Lewis’s progress and continues to need prayer for her medical needs.

\*Baby Emmerit Porter’s continued recovery from his premature birth so he can leave the hospital and go home to mommy and daddy.

\*Baby Jordan Ludwig has continued medical needs.

\*Kyle Smith has medical needs.

\*Keep Dennis Umali’s family in prayer with the recent loss of Dennis’s mother.

\*Nick Ford has stage 4 cancer.

\*Caesar Coons, Sr. has liver cancer.

\*Trevor Pencille continues to have back pain.

\*Lynn Grandinetti is bedridden with lung and heart issues.

\*Pray for our pastors, staff, and ministry directors: Caleb Schroeder, Les Counts, Bev Gonda, Saul Hernandez, Josh Kornoff, Curtis Lewis, Clint McClure, Brad Norman, Nikki Pencille, Jason Wick.

**Upcoming Dates\***

*Saturday, April 30  
11:30 a.m.  
Gideons’ Faith Fund Rally*

*Saturday, April 30  
Ladies’ Meat and Greet  
5:30–8 p.m.*

*Sunday, May 1  
National Day of Prayer*

*Sunday, May 8  
Mother’s Day*

*Sunday, May 15  
Isaac Shaw Open House  
12:30–1:30 p.m.*

*Friday, May 20  
Grace Resource*

*Saturday, May 21  
Ladies’ Spring Tea  
11 a.m.–2 p.m.*

*Monday, May 30  
Memorial Day*

*Saturday, June 4  
Ladies’ Day at the Park  
8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Marie Kerr Park  
Bev@faithtoyou.com*

*Sunday, June 19  
Father’s Day*

**Looking Forward**

*Week of June 13–17  
Vacation Bible School,  
9 am–6 pm and 3–6 pm*

*Saturday, June 25  
Anthem Growth Year  
Application Deadline*

*Week of July 11–15  
Camp Faith*

*January 2023  
Israel trip*

*\*For more information:  
Faithtoyou.info  
661-267-2200*

The Christian Standard Bible is used unless otherwise indicated.

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