

Ahavath Messiah Ministries

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Sending Church: Worth Baptist Church, Fort Worth, TX



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We finished 2022 reaching another milestone in our tract outreach. There are now 160,000 Jewish families who have received our What Will Messiah Look Like tract. When you factor in the number of people in each family that represents an extremely large number of Jewish people! However, we have received some very strong opposition. Just last week we received a voicemail from a Jewish man in the Houston area who made the effort to look up our ministry online, find our office phone number and voice his discontent. In Yiddish he simply told me to eat something, to kiss something and then to go someplace. I will allow you to figure out the details for yourself.

Again, I must ask why such hostility? I do not use any New Testament or mention the name of Jesus. I only urge my people to search the Hebrew scriptures and see what the prophets of Israel declare about Messiah. The hostility goes back to what I wrote in last month's prayer letter. Jewish people see any effort of evangelism among Jewish people as antisemitic activity. When I say this, you must understand that this sentiment cannot be equated with some calling a Christian witness among Gentiles hate speech. This goes far deeper and must not be dismissed so frivolously! When I say that Jewish people see our efforts of evangelism as antisemitism this is a universally held mindset and goes back to AD 312 when Constantine Christianized his empire and then persecuted all who did not go along, especially singling out the Jewish people who were beaten, tortured and many put to death in the name of Christ. When I say the Jewish people see this as antisemitism, they are going back to AD 1099 when the Crusaders sought to take control of the Holy Land. In their quest they locked all of the Jewish people of Jerusalem in their great synagogue, burned it to the ground while marching around it chanting hymns of the church. When I say Jewish people see this as antisemitism, they are going back to AD 1478 when the Spanish Inquisitions sought to subjugate everyone under Papal authority. Those who refused were killed as heretics. The Jewish people however, were considered infidels, so they converted them to Christianity then killed them as heretics. When I say the Jewish people see this as antisemitic activity they are going back to WWII when Hitler had an audience with the Pope prior to beginning his campaign and never seeing the Pope ever publicly denouncing Hitler for any of his atrocities. Not only this but they see the SS soldiers in church on Sunday singing praises to Jesus and then Monday killing Jews "for the glory of Christ!" When I say that the Jewish people see any attempt to evangelize the Jewish people as antisemitic activity it goes back throughout what they see as the entire history of the "church" and their consistent attacks on Jewish people worldwide. No, this cannot be simply dismissed by equating it with the attitude of a relatively small percentage of the Gentile people who in rejecting Christ call your witness hate speech. It goes far deeper!

I preached in Springfield, MO several years ago and met a 42 year old Jewish man. He had never allowed himself to ever walk through the doors of any church in his entire life. We had dinner 3 times that week just getting to know one another. Finally, at the close of our last dinner together, he told me that the next time I came to town he would come hear me. I asked if that was a promise and he said yes. I told him I would hold him to it and he agreed. I was back the following year and his friend who had introduced us called him asking if he remembered me and what he had promised. She then asked if he was going to keep his promise. He asked where I was speaking and when she told him what church I would be at he, in all sincerity asked, "are they going to kidnap me?" Knowing this long awful history, he genuinely feared for his well-being if he dared to show up. He did come, he arrived late and left early, again, trying to keep his promise while protecting himself.

Please do not be dismissive of what I write here. His fears may be irrational to you and I agree that you would never consider treating him or any Jewish person like this. However, he has no ability to separate what he knows his history to be from what true Christianity is. Please take what I write to heart. It is only by understanding these things that you will know and overcome these obstacles in providing a Gospel witness to my people!

As we embark on our 27th year as Jewish missionaries, we remain grateful for your continued faithful prayer and financial support. Apart from you our ministry could not be possible. Please always remember that it is by your mercy they shall obtain mercy! Romans 11:30-31

In Messiah, Dr. Al Reichman

BTW...I have just a couple of seats left for our 2023 Israel Tour. If you are interested, please contact me ASAP before they are gone!