THE SPIRIT OF GRACE & SUPPLICATION COMES ‘LIKE A RUSHING MIGHTY WIND’
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

Our just completed Feast of Tabernacles celebration was a source of tremendous blessing for thousands of people. If there was one comment which we heard over and over again afterwards, it was that the Feast enjoyed an extraordinary sense of the presence of God this year. The opening night in Ein Gedi was for certain an unforgettable evening for everyone involved. Right from the start the Feast theme of “The Spirit of Grace and Supplication” was powerfully manifested, as a “rushing mighty wind” quite literally blew over us gathered on the shores of the Dead Sea, along with the rarest of rain storms for this desert region.

What excited me most was the large turnout for our early morning prayer and worship sessions every day. Crowds of Feast pilgrims were lining up outside the Jerusalem convention center well before their doors opened. They all arose early for one reason – to seek God. More than 1,000 faith-filled Christians came to pray every single morning. Praise God for the hunger in His people!

If you missed the Feast, please make sure to get the DVDs and CDs of the inspiring, life-changing messages. Also be sure to mark the dates already for next year’s Feast of Tabernacles celebration from 20-25 September 2013. The theme is just as exciting as this year’s – “Time of Harvest”. We are already full of anticipation with what God wants to do next year here in Jerusalem. so keep the dates and register early.

I look forward to seeing you next year in Jerusalem!

Dr. Jürgen Bühler
ICEJ Executive Director

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www.icej.org
The first night of Feast 2012 at Ein Gedi will always remain an unforgettable experience for us. The opening evening along the shores of the Dead sea was exceptionally hot this year. But as our guest speaker Angus Buchan began his message by reading from Acts chapter 2, about the Holy Spirit falling on the disciples like a “rushing mighty wind”, the atmosphere quickly changed...

Even as Angus read these words, a fresh breeze began to blow. Upon closing his Bible to preach, the wind became stronger and eventually the stage had to be evacuated. Only Angus was left there, preaching. Within minutes, the winds also brought gentle, refreshing rains.

As all this transpired, something else took place backstage. Some overheated wires in the TV transmission truck caught fire, interrupting the live satellite feed.

Now all three manifestations – of wind, fire and rain – are frequently used in the Bible as symbols of the Holy Spirit (for example, Isaiah 44:3-4; John 3:8; Acts 2:4). The wind, fire and rain we saw were not the wind, rain or fire of the Holy Spirit. But I truly believe in my heart that God gave us a powerful sign that night of His great desire to pour out His Spirit on all of us. It became an affirmation for us of our Feast theme, “The Spirit of Grace and Supplication”. From that first night onward, we received testimonies of God changing people’s lives. Reconciliations took place! People were filled with the Holy Spirit! Our faith was increased for revival!

With the gusting winds shaking the sound and light systems around the stage, we had to ask the crowds to stay back in their seats, but still they surged forward. Angus later stated that he had never experienced a meeting like that. Normally, he said, one needs to coax people to come forward for an altar call, but here he asked them to stay back. Yet people still came in their masses. So the biggest sign for me that night was not the wind, the rain or the fire, but it was the people of God themselves. The chaotic weather actually revealed the spiritual hunger in God’s people. We continued to witness this over the following days as record crowds attended the early morning prayer meetings and then lingered late at night in the afterglow worship. God indeed visited us and our faith was emboldened to expect more from Him in the days ahead!
Every September, world leaders gather in New York for the annual Opening Assembly of the United Nations. The dominant agenda item this year was Iran’s nuclear ambitions, and the most memorable moment was that of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu literally drawing a “red line” on a sketch of a fuse bomb.

This was masterful use of a visual aid to demonstrate to the entire world the urgency of the threat facing not only the Jewish State but the entire planet. The prime minister made dramatically clear why everyone needs to take Iran’s atomic quest seriously.

Israel’s legitimate security concerns

For Israel, the Iranian threat is a question of survival. While many Western leaders still place hope in further negotiations, Israel does not put much faith in this kind of political maneuvering – for good reasons. Israel’s modern history has taught the nation’s leaders to never ignore its neighbours’ vows to wipe it out or to “drive the Jews into the sea”. These warnings were not mere rhetoric, as the Jewish state has found itself fighting six wars over the past six decades while living under a constant threat of attack. Moreover, Iran’s calls for Israel’s destruction have been accompanied by its patronage of two of the most ruthless terrorist organisations in the region – Hezbollah and Hamas. Using these proxy militias, Iran is already engaged in an active campaign to eliminate the Jewish state.

An even more tragic lesson for Israel comes from the pre-World War II era. Europe’s leaders were desperate to believe that Hitler was someone they could make a deal with. In September 1938, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain returned from talks with Hitler in Munich and proclaimed “peace in our time!” Just one year later the world was thrust into the bloodiest conflict in human history, and only four years later the gas chambers and crematories of Auschwitz were in full operation, exterminating six million European Jews.

If there is one lesson to be learned from this sad chapter, it is that Israel cannot afford to take Iran’s threats and deadly ambitions lightly.

Iran playing with fire

Yet the nation most endangered in all of this is not Israel but Iran itself. Not because of Israel’s military power, which is significant, but because history has also shown that those rulers who touch the apple of God’s eye – Israel – always come to ruin themselves. This is not only a hopeless undertaking, but also a dangerous one. Regarding the future of Israel, the Bible is crystal clear. God is restoring Zion not to annihilate the Jewish nation but to deliver them even in the midst of perilous times! Israel has returned to stay, to prosper, and to be revived by His Spirit! And the Bible is also clear that those who come against His chosen people will eventually have to deal with the God of Israel.

Still, there is hope for Iran. First, we should understand God takes “no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live” (Ezekiel 33:11). It saddens me when some of Israel’s friends eagerly hope for Israeli military strikes against Iran and even wish that God would send fire down from heaven to annihilate Israel’s enemy. Jesus challenged his disciples on exactly this attitude in Luke 9:55, saying, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of.”

In spite of the darkening horizon, there happens to be an historic Christian revival in Iran today. According to various institutes tracking global church growth, the church in Iran has the fastest growth rate in the world today. Iranian pastors we have spoken with recently are so hopeful they believe their nation may be on the verge of a huge political change. One leading Iranian evangelist recently stated on CBN News that if this trend continues, Iran could even become the first Muslim nation to turn Christian.

The prophet Jeremiah makes an astonishing statement regarding the ancient land of Elam, which comprises much of Iran today. It is a powerful declaration of hope! “And I will set my throne in Elam and destroy their king and officials, declares the Lord. And in the latter days I will restore the fortunes of Elam, declares the Lord.” (Jeremiah 49:38-39)
**Call to Action**

What does this all mean for the Church today? No one single action will bring forth change, but we need the perspective of God’s Kingdom.

**STAND FOR ISRAEL’S SECURITY**

Israelis today need to see their friends worldwide taking their concerns about Iran seriously. We must challenge our leaders to do the same and finally stop Iran’s nuclear drive. Nuclear weapons do not belong in the hands of a nation whose former ‘moderate’ president Hashemi Rafsanjani once decreed that Israel was a “one bomb country”. For this reason, we challenged parliamentarians from 17 nations attending the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem.

We need their prayers, for others pray for those in power. Our leaders must challenge our leaders to do the same and finally stop Iran’s nuclear drive. Nuclear weapons do not belong in the hands of a nation whose former ‘moderate’ president Hashemi Rafsanjani once decreed that Israel was a “one bomb country”. For this reason, we challenged parliamentarians from 17 nations attending the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem.

Also pray for wisdom for Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu, as he holds one of the most challenging positions on earth and his nation is now moving into a critical election season. If there was ever a time to pray for Israel it is now!

Finally, please consider joining our Isaiah 62 prayer campaign, which is uniting Christians all over the world to pray and fast for Israel and the region on the first Wednesday of every month. For more information on how to start a prayer group in your area, send us an E-mail at Isaiah62@icej.org (@)

**PRAYER FOR IRAN**

We must realise that the prayer of faith can have a greater impact in this region than we could have ever imagined. Hebrews 11 is inspiring when it records that great men of faith “conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight”. If the Church of Jesus Christ will arise and unite in prayer, we can believe for positive changes in the region. We need to pray for Iran, for a change of leadership, an outpouring of God’s mercy on the people, and a complete halt to their nuclear program.

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2012 FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Marked by the Lord’s presence, and solidarity with Israel

By David Parsons

Photos by ICEJ Staff

The annual Feast of Tabernacles celebration, sponsored by the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, drew over 5,000 Christians from some 90 countries this year, including a special delegation of 25 parliamentarians from 17 nations. Together, the Feast pilgrims and visiting Christian legislators delivered a powerful and timely message of solidarity with Israel. This year’s gathering was also notable for its rich spiritual content, as the unmistakable presence of the Lord was evident throughout the week of festivities, right from the opening event at Ein Gedi.

In recent years, the Ein Gedi Spa has hosted one of the driest points on earth. The stage and rain for their area – the lowest and most arid on the planet. It was an extremely rare burst of wind that filled the air with the Spirit “as of a rushing mighty wind”, all of a sudden the weather went from sweltering, dead calm to heavy gusts and driving rains. Even the local residents of Kibbutz Ein Gedi insisted on stage as the strong winds and rains began sweeping down from the Judean hills above Ein Gedi.

But then as special guest speaker Angus Buchan came on the platform to minister, the atmosphere suddenly changed. Angus spoke from Acts 2:1-4 regarding the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. As he read the verses about the Upper Room being filled with the Spirit “as of a rushing mighty wind”, all of a sudden the wind began to stir and blow on the Feast crowd gathered at the Dead Sea. Within minutes, the weather went from sweltering, dead calm to heavy gusts and driving rains. Even the local residents of Kibbutz Ein Gedi insisted it was an extremely rare burst of wind and rain for their area – the lowest and one of the driest points on earth.

Angus is a South African farmer-turned-evangelist who is known for extraordiary weather events at his meetings, particularly as he prays for rain in drought-stricken regions. So he was the right man to be standing on stage as the strong winds and rains began sweeping down from the Judean hills above Ein Gedi.

“I want to read to you about what happened in the Upper Room in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago”, Angus began. “And I’ve been praying, ‘Lord, do it again. Do it at Ein Gedi, right here on September 30th, 2012. Lord, there are enough people in this place from all over the world to change the world for Christ.’”

“I have no theological training”, Angus continued. “But I’ve been to the cross. And I know my Redeemer lives. My Redeemer is more real to me than you sitting in that chair. I have seen him move the weather. He is the Weatherman!”

“Tonight, when I heard you worshipping God, I heard a people that are of one accord… people from all over the world of one accord. Folks, this is the Upper Room! And tonight we’re going to ask Jesus to do the same thing that he did 2,000 years ago, to send his Holy Spirit so that we return to our countries and bring revival!”

As the winds intensified, Angus asked the crowd, “Can you feel that breeze? I’m praying, ‘Holy Spirit come like a mighty wind.’ I will never, ever limit God again. I have seen the Lord work signs and wonders and miracles.”

No one present at Ein Gedi that evening will ever forget the unusual manifestation of God’s presence in our midst. Indeed, His presence stayed with the Feast throughout the week, although in other dimensions. The next day, for instance, Feast pilgrims packed into the Garden Tomb for Communion services which were bathed in the unsurpassed peace of Jesus won for us on the cross.

By week’s end, the times of worship and ministry in the word – centered on the theme of “The Spirit of Grace and Supplication” – had so impacted the Feast pilgrims that record numbers were showing up early for the morning prayer and worship sessions. Surely, many lives were touched and changed forever at this year’s Feast of Tabernacles.

Feast 2012 also was noteworthy for its timely expression of support for Israel, as the pilgrim’s message of solidarity was reinforced by the attendance of pro-Israel parliamentarians from 17 nations.

The visiting lawmakers were affiliated with the International Israel Allies Foundation, which held an adjoining conference that same week of the chairmen and leading members of pro-Israel causes founded in some two dozen national legislatures around the world. The Christian Embassy, along with the World Jewish Congress, was a co-sponsor of the IIAF’s “Chairmen’s Conference” and hosted the foreign dignitaries at several Feast events.

“We were excited about hosting a number
of Christian parliamentarians noted for their strong support of Israel,” said Dr. Jürgen Bühler, the ICEJ’s Executive Director. “Their presence in Jerusalem and the message of solidarity they brought could not have come at a better time, as Israel faces serious security challenges in the region and renewed diplomatic challenges at the United Nations. So this was a Feast of joy and celebration, but also of declaring to the world that Israel is not alone.”

One evening, the Feast program included a video greeting from Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, as well as addresses by Minister for Public Diplomacy and Diaspora Affairs Yuli Edelstein, former MK Rabbi Benny Elon, now president of the International Israel Allies Foundation, and Dan Diker, Secretary General of the World Jewish Congress.

Prime Minister Netanyahu remarked, “Thirty years ago the International Christian Embassy showed what it means to be an unwavering friend of Israel. When many countries decided to pull their embassies out of Jerusalem, you decided to move in. You were willing to stand against the current then, and I know you are willing to stand against the current today.”

“I know you will continue in your unwavering support of the Jewish state and the Jewish people,” Netanyahu added. “I know you will continue in your unwavering support of the Jewish state and the Jewish people.” Netanyahu added. “I know you will continue in your unwavering support of the Jewish state and the Jewish people.”

Speaking on behalf of the World Jewish Congress, Diker commented, “Our Christian brothers and sisters, the promises of the Holy One and of our Bible are being kept. The only proof we need is to look to your left and your right. Who would have thought, in our lifetime, that the Jewish people after 2000 years of dispersion, after mass murder, would return to their ancient homeland of Israel and would be sitting tonight in their undivided capital, Jerusalem.”

Elon then called the members of parliament to the platform one-by-one, with a long line forming across the stage in an impressive display of Christian support for Israel.

Minister Edelstein noted, “The Jews of Israel possess a wealth of sophisticated technology, and God by His grace has put in our hands a keen and mighty sword. Yet, far be it from me to fall into the old error of pride, saying my power and the strength of my hands have achieved it. God has blessed us! But mortal danger still stares us in the face. But this time we will not be facing these crazy regimes all alone.”

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“I said it when I was the Minister of Tourism, and I’ll say it again, I don’t see here even one tourist,” Rabbi Elon told the gathering. “This is not tourism, this is a spiritual experience! This is not even friendship, this is kinship and strengthening us, and this is love for the sake of love.”

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The parliamentarians attending the Feast as part of the IIAF delegation included US Congressman Trent Franks, Member of the European Parliament Hannu Takkula (Finland), MP James Lunney of Canada, and South Africa MP Kenneth Meshoe, who all addressed the Feast in seminars and on Israeli Guest Night.

The Feast culminated with the popular Jerusalem March through the streets of the capital, with five of the parliamentarians joining the parade. Tens of thousands of Israelis lined the sidewalks to view the colourful and heartfelt display of Christian friendship and support.

On the following pages are more reports on special Feast events, excerpts from addresses and teaching seminars at the Feast, and a variety of photographs that take you inside this year’s gathering in Jerusalem.

DAVID PARSONS serves as Media and Public Relations Director for the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem. He also is contributing editor of The Jerusalem Post Christian Edition, and senior producer of the weekly Front Page Jerusalem radio program, the premier Christian radio broadcast out of Israel.
For the very first time at the ICEJ’s Feast of Tabernacles celebration, the traditional Communion Service was held in the beautiful and quiet setting of the Garden Tomb, located just north of Jerusalem’s Damascus Gate. The secluded, well-kept garden – arrayed around an empty Jewish burial tomb dating to the First Century – was packed with Feast pilgrims for two services held on the second day of the week-long festival.

The morning service was conducted in English by Rev. Mosy Madugba from Nigeria, while the afternoon service was held in Portuguese by Apostle Rene Terra Nova from Brazil. Each pilgrim received a souvenir Communion cup from the Christian Embassy for attending.

“It is a great honour and privilege to be here at Yad Vashem. Thank you for the friendship and excellent partnership with our ministry”, ICEJ Executive Director Dr. Jürgen Bühler told his hosts, Shaya Ben-Yehuda of the International Relations Division and Dr. Susanna Koikonen, Director of Christian Friends of Yad Vashem.

“It is on our shoulders to make sure that history will never repeat itself”, Bühler added. “We will make sure to do all we can, also in the Church, so that the memory of the Holocaust will stay alive.”

“Those were really moving and powerful words”, said ICEJ-USA national director Susan Michael afterwards. “They reminded us that memory can be wiped away and of the importance of maintaining this institution.”

“It was a very emotional and touching ceremony”, added Rev. Mosy Madugba from ICEJ Nigeria. “I honour and respect the lives of all those innocent men, women and children that were wasted by a heartless regime.”

“I realised how wicked man can be to kill millions of people because of their race and religion”, commented Dr. Abdou Maiga of Senegal. “It is my prayer for Israel that they can forgive – though not forget. We are standing with Israel in Western Africa.”

“I am very proud to be able to represent Italy here, as we were an ally of Nazi Germany and established some shameful laws against Jews. It is such a privilege to see that Germans and Italians, who persecuted Jews in the past, are now saying, ‘We are with you, Israel’. I am very thankful for that,” concluded ICEJ-Italy national director Antonio Rozzini.

COMMUNION AT THE GARDEN TOMB
BY ESTERA WIEJA

FEAST SPECIAL EVENTS

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“Can there be a more appropriate place for us to remember what the Lord Jesus did for us on the Cross in conquering sin, and near an empty tomb that speaks of Jesus conquering death?” asked Richard Meryon, director of the Garden Tomb, in welcoming the Feast attendees. Throughout both services, the speakers and worship leaders focused on the victory over death and gift of eternal life which were won by Jesus, perhaps on this very site.

After the incredible night at En Gedi, where the Holy Spirit moved mightily amid the unusual winds and rain, the Communion services at the Garden Tomb were marked by a spirit of humility and a great longing for truth. In the morning session, Rev. Madugba encouraged the pilgrims to expect to live and move in the resurrection power of Jesus in our own daily walks and ministry. He gives us authority through His victory over the grave, Madugba assured, pointing to the empty tomb as evidence.

A local Arab pastor and a Messianic Jewish leader then presided over the blessing of the Communion elements, each sharing about the unity we have as brothers and sisters in Christ.

ICEJ national director from Estonia lays a wreath in Warsaw Ghetto Square at Yad Vashem.

FEAST DELEGATION LAYS WREATHS AT YAD VASHEM
BY BIRTE SCHOLZ
The dance team praising the Lord wholeheartedly.

Ray Ramirez, the Music Director at ICEJ, leading worship.

Over 90 nations gathered for the Jerusalem March.

Vesna Bühler and childrens choir.

Pastor Umar Mulinde (second from left) is a survivor of a horrific acid attack by Muslims in Uganda. Sheba Medical Center in Israel has taken him under their wings and has provided for free world-class medical treatment. Here the ICEJ recognizes Sheba’s generous care for Pastor Mulinde.

Malcolm Hedding challenging the audience with God’s word.

Mosy Madugba speaking at the Garden Tomb Communion Service.

David Pawson, a prominent Bible expositor and author in the Christian world speaks at the Feast.
Israel’s innovative hi-tech sector has earned it the label “Start-Up Nation”, and this tour took Feast pilgrims to some of the country’s most cutting-edge entrepreneurial companies. Many of these businesses are normally closed during the week-long Sukkot holidays, but with help from the Prime Minister’s Office we were able to arrange visits to the futuristic showroom of Better Place and the prolific incubator division of Microsoft-Israel.

Former Israeli diplomat Yoram Ettinger, today a business consultant, served as guide for the tour, sharing from his wealth of knowledge on Israel’s hi-tech and Research & Development sectors. He explained that many of the world’s technological giants, such as Intel, Cisco and Philips, have opened up R&D offices in Israel. Ettinger also noted that the best computer microchips in use today were developed in Israel, and that Israel ranks as the second most educated country in the world, with 46 per cent of its population aged 25-64 having earned university or higher degrees.

"I am just amazed, blown out of my mind!" said Rebecca from Fiji. "I would buy one for myself because it is also good for the environment. It’s without noise and I think that if we had cars like this in Switzerland we would have one for myself because it is also good for the environment", said Andy after his test drive.

"It feels so wonderful! It’s really smooth, and completely quiet", enthused Evelyn Dianaga, a Feast pilgrim from Africa. "It’s like sitting in an airplane, just fabulous and such a great idea. I look forward to the day we have them in Kenya."

"It is without noise and I think that if we had cars like this in Switzerland I would buy one for myself because it is also good for the environment, said Andy after his test drive. The tour of Microsoft’s R&D center in nearby Herzliya was equally impacting on the foreign visitors, many in Israel for the first time.

"I am just amazed, blown out of my mind!" said Rebecca from Fiji. "The innovations and the country as a whole really gets me. You hear so much about the Israeli Defence Forces but never about this side of the country. Israel is contributing to several things that we often use, and Microsoft is something that we use every day. It’s amazing to know that the technology that we take for granted is developed here. From now on, every time I think of Microsoft, I will think of Israel. And I will tell my friends back in Fiji about the amazing job that is being done here in Israel."

During the ICEJ’s annual Feast of Tabernacles celebration in Jerusalem in October, the ICEJ AID Department hosted a group of Christian pilgrims from more than a dozen nations for a tour of a unique Israeli community made up of Jewish families evacuated from Gaza in August 2005.

Nicole Yoder and Yudit Setz of ICEJ AID co-hosted the visit to Nitzan, just south of Ashdod along the Israeli coast, where hundreds of families are now housed who had to leave the Gush Katif settlement bloc during the painful withdrawal of all Jewish communities from Gaza seven years ago.

Many of these families have been living in small temporary caravans for the past seven years. A number of the relocated families have struggled in rebuilding their lives and businesses. Some still remain traumatized by the experience of being forcefully expelled from their homes and familiar neighbourhoods. The uprooting brought on depression and a sense of distrust of authorities, especially among the teenagers.

But many also have managed to rebuild their lives and businesses, such as Gabi Ben-Tolila, who had lived in Gush Katif for 23 years. A farmer, Gabi had managed to move his green houses to Nitzan and start over.

"We had a good life in Gaza. I had very deep roots there. We built a paradise which now is destroyed. It is a sad story for us and it is still in my mind, but I don’t like to speak so much about it“, Ben-Tolila explained.

He showed the group of Christian visitors through one of his greenhouses and watered the plants while he talked. Ben-Tolila says it took him six months to restart his business in the new location, and all is now going well. “But when we are allowed to go back I will immediately do it,” he added emphatically.

“One of our goals is to help families who lost their homes starting all over again with such a noble spirit. That is impressive,” said tour participant Dave O’Brien from England. “It will be good to see next time we come that they have gotten proper homes. They deserve it.”

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The tour participant from Fiji, Rebecca, added: "We had a good life in Gaza. I had very deep roots there. We built a paradise which now is destroyed."
The Watsons have been true pioneers in the field of Davidic worship as well as in the Hebraic Roots movement.

The dynamic and gifted team of Merv and Merla Watson have been true pioneers in the field of Hebraic worship and dance as well as in the Hebraic Roots teaching ministry, and were uniquely instrumental in the founding of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem and the launch of an annual Christian celebration in Jerusalem of the biblical Feast of Tabernacles.

The Watsons are both originally from Canada. Merv is from British Columbia and is of Scottish Brethren heritage, while Merla hails from Toronto and is of Swiss Mennonite background.

Merv studied piano, voice, art, and pre-medicine in Vancouver, before enrolling at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, where he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Music.

Merla began piano lessons at 2.5 years, violin at 4, composition at 9, voice at 11, and viola at 13. By the time she was 15, Merla was a full-fledged professional musician, having amassed 150 awards and scholarships.

The couple met while at the University of Toronto, married in 1962, and quickly teamed up to write music, train other musicians, and teach Hebraic Roots courses. Their concerts and teaching ministry have since taken them around the world, blessing the global Body of Christ, particularly after the Holy Spirit impacted their lives in the late 1960s.

Merv has been primarily responsible for the teaching ministry, while Merla writes most of the songs they perform. Among her almost 500 musical compositions, Merla has written such popular Hebraic worship songs as “Jehovah Jireh”, “Awake, O Israel,” “Then Shall the Virgin Rejoice”, and “He That Keepeth Israel” (“Hineh Lo Yanum”).

Since 1976, the Watsons have resided almost half the time in Jerusalem and the other half in Canada, in between all their ministry travels.

It was while living in Jerusalem in the 1970s that Merv first began to speak publicly of the need to establish a “Christian Embassy” in the city, in order to express Christian solidarity with the Jewish connection to Jerusalem and to serve as a place for Jewish-Christian interaction.

Meantime, Merla began organising a worship festival for Christians during Sukkot which culminated in September 1980 with the first major public Christian celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles.

In the timing and sovereignty of God, both developments came together in the founding of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem at that first major Feast, and the ICEJ’s sponsorship of the annual Tabernacles celebration for Christians ever since.

Merv and Merla Watson have traveled the world speaking in hundreds of churches around the world about God’s purposes with Israel. Their ministry has touched countless lives around the globe with a unique passion and love for Israel and the Jewish people.

Therefore, the ICEJ wishes to honour them for the ground-breaking impact they had in the early years of our ministry and for their faithful stand with Israel over many decades. They have become true builders of Zion!
the promise that He would build a nation out of Abraham. He gave him a piece of land. And God patiently built all the circumstances in such a way that His Son could come.

Because of [God’s plan for] world redemption, the result of our work, we need to pray from the place of intimacy. For us to become a piece of land, as it was at the center of that process.

About 4,000 years ago God approached Abraham and gave him a promise. And God patiently built all the circumstances in such a way that His Son could come. And God patiently built all the circumstances in such a way that His Son could come.

I personally do not believe in the other answer. I believe orthodoxy is supportive ministry. We support the five-fold ministry. We support the five-fold ministry. We support the five-fold ministry. We support the five-fold ministry.

Revelation 5:9-10 says: And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you have purchased men from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

The wonderful truth is that God has made us kings and priests unto our God. When we look at priesthood, Jesus added to that. We were made not just priests, but also kings. Children of God, it doesn’t matter if you feel like a king or a priest – it’s done, it’s sealed.

I worked for Reinhard Bonnke, I’ve been an interceding evangelist. I say, “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you have purchased men from every tribe and language and people and nation.”

We are waiting for that outpouring. “You, who have come up to celebrate with us here in Jerusalem at the time of the pouring out of the Spirit of God on all flesh. But that promise was first given to the nation of Israel and her descendants.” What happened last night at Ein Gedi was a prophetic gesture of the end times.

However, just like we saw the wind shaking the stage so that we had to move people back away from danger, in the same way the spirit of God will shake our lives. There is no government, no political or religious leader that can hold back the move of the Spirit of God. What is happening in this region is the move of God, and even in Iran, even in催化 wallets, the move of the Spirit of God cannot stop the revival in Iran. The Chinese government cannot stop the revival there. And God promises a revival in the nation of Israel, and no one will be able to stop this move of the Spirit of God. So when will this happen? It says in Ezekiel, that He will bring Israel back from the four corners of the earth and then turn their hearts back to Him. Israel has returned to the Promised Land, so the next thing to expect is this outpouring of His Spirit of grace and supplication.

The Hebrew words for grace and supplication are related. The word for supplication contains the word “grace” within it. It’s the request for grace that is already the answer...

I have heard people say to me that the Lord wants to continue to judge the Jewish people and that we should expect another holocaust. This has astounded me, and my spirit reminded me of when the children of Israel came out of Egypt and started going to the outpouring of the Spirit of God and all flesh. But that promise was first given to the nation of Israel and her descendants. What happened last night at Ein Gedi was a prophetic gesture of the end times.

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The Theme of this year’s Feast is from Zechariah 12 verse 10, which says: “And I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh. And they shall prophesy.”

God has brought the Jewish people back to this land to heal the land, and to save them. God is waiting to pour out His Spirit of grace and supplication on the nation of Israel.
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