

THE VOICE OF THE TEMPLE MOUNT

SPRING 5757 Be'ezrat hashem

"Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes." Ezekiel 38:14-16

A WORD FROM GERSHON SALOMON

Dear friend, I send you my prayers and blessings from Jerusalem the City of G-d and the capital of Israel. I pray for you, your family and congregation that the God of Israel and the universe will keep you in good health and provide for your every need. While I am writing this letter close to the Temple Mount, the eternal place of the House of G-d, my thoughts are with you and I am looking forward to meeting you soon. I pray that G-d will give you and all of us the privilege of seeing with our own eyes the rebuilding of the Temple and the coming of Mashiach ben David. We shall stand together before G-d and we shall thank Him for all the good and the miracles that He has done for His chosen people, Israel, and for all mankind. From Jerusalem I send to you my love, friendship and deep appreciation for the love that you show to G-d, to the people and land of Israel at the most exciting time in our history when your love, dedication and devotion is so needed. We shall never forget it. Israel loves you.

A Critical Time in the History of Israel

This newsletter comes to you at a very critical time in the history of Israel, perhaps the most critical time. At the focus of our feelings, thoughts and emotions are the challenges and our expectations for the present events on the Temple Mount, Jerusalem, and the land of Israel. Also everyone in Israel is eager to see and understand what the near future is going to bring to our agenda at this special time.

It is so clear to everyone of us that, since 1948, Israel is living in end-times and that the prophetic process of redemption is led by the G-d of Israel according to His biblical plans. We don't need to imagine it; we live it day by day here in the Promised Land.

The Temple Mount and Jerusalem in the Spotlight

The Temple Mount and Jerusalem are coming closer and closer to becoming the focus of world events. The Temple Mount, the apex of everything in the land of Israel, cannot be silent. This holiest site of G-d has become like a volcano since the Six Day War in 1967 when the leadership of Israel made a terribly sinful mistake and gave this most holy site to the Arab Islamic enemy to continue their foreign pagan worship. They also forbid access to this site to the Israelis. There is no doubt that until the Israeli government does what G-d expects of them - to liberate the Temple Mount, to remove the two buildings of pagan worship and to rebuild the Temple on the same location as the First and Second Temples - there will never be peace in Israel and in the world.

The Battle for the Temple Mount Has Commenced

I would say that the main battle for the Temple Mount and Jerusalem has started. The PLO terror organization and the Palestinian Authority have declared that there will never be peace until Jerusalem becomes a "Palestinian" capital. They are doing everything they can to make this a reality. All the Arab and Islamic countries have stated that Jerusalem is an Islamic city. In the Vatican the Pope has stated on more than one occasion that he does not recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and that it has to be an international city. The UN has repeatedly decided against Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and has taken decisions which forbid Israel to build in this city. There can be only one conclusion to all these events: G-d is enticing the nations to come against Jerusalem. *Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. And it will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will be severely injured. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it. (Zechariah 12:2-3)*

All the Arab Islamic enemies of Israel and their allies all over the world know very well the symbolic and practical meaning of the Temple Mount and Jerusalem for Israel. They know that the State of Israel cannot exist for one day without the Temple Mount and Jerusalem which were promised and given by the G-d of Israel to His people, Israel, to be their eternal capital, their spiritual and national identity, their protection and a vessel to bring the light of G-d to all the nations. The Arab Islamic struggle for the Temple Mount and Jerusalem is in order to cancel the existence of the State of Israel and to destroy the people of Israel as a nation. The coming war which the enemies of Israel plan will start and be in Jerusalem. It has already started and its main parts belong to the near future. Israel must be strong and not give in and compromise on anything regarding the Temple Mount and Jerusalem. This city, which was founded by King David 3000 years ago is our heart, our soul and the focus of everything in our life. G-d will never accept any compromise in Jerusalem and on the Temple Mount exactly as He did not accept the false Oslo "Peace Agreement" and the existence of His enemies, the Palestinians, as a Palestinian Authority in the land which He gave to His people eternally. G-d gave Jerusalem to the people of Israel as an eternal capital and a permanent blessing. At the same time, He made Jerusalem as a snare and a curse to all the enemies of Israel who will try to take this holy city for themselves. Throughout thousands of years of history, The Temple Mount and Jerusalem have been a capital only when Israel has existed as a state. None of the powers who occupied Jerusalem and the land of Israel, including hundreds of years of Arab Islamic control of Jerusalem, have made Jerusalem as their capital. What has happened now that has made them struggle against Israel for making this city their own capital? Only hatred, jealousy and their attempt to destroy the Israeli existence and identity. They are trying to stop the godly prophetic plans to redeem Israel, to rebuild the House of G-d in this holy city, and to fulfill the holy vision of the end times. They are even ready to fight against the G-d of Israel exactly as they did in biblical times. They have learned nothing about what G-d did to the nations who tried to fight against Him and His people in the biblical times and after that. My advice to them is to very carefully read the Bible, especially Zechariah 12 and 14 and Ezekiel 38-40. Jerusalem is going to be for all of them a terrible snare. Perhaps the price will not be easy and I pray to G-d that Israel will no longer have to pay a price of blood. The G-d of Israel is going to show all the nations that He is One, His Name is One, and He is the only friend and protector of His Chosen People.

Birth Pains of Redemption

In these days so many people are asking what is the meaning of the pains that Israel is daily experiencing. Almost every day and every week, Israelis are murdered by the messengers of Yasser Arafat, the PLO, the Hamas, and the other bands of murderers. Only a few weeks ago, in the middle of Tel Aviv, three young Israeli women were murdered. One of them was pregnant. Many others, including babies of a few months of age, were wounded. We shall never forget the picture of the small baby whose mother was killed in this attack. Not many days ago, during the Pesach festival, two young women, 23 years of age, were murdered in a very cruel way by Arab terrorists when they went hiking in the Judean wilderness close to the home of one of them in Kfar Adumim. They have no mercy when they kill women, children and old people. They are full of hatred against Jews. Their goal is to destroy Israel in any way that they can. These are only a few of so many cruel attacks against Israel. Everyone here knows that we have to be strong and that we shall overcome because the G-d of our forefathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, is determined to protect Israel and to accomplish His promises to redeem Israel. The prophets called these pains which will be a part of the end-times, birth pains of

redemption. So many times these birth pains are a result of the hatred of so many nations against the people of G-d. Sometimes they are the result of weakness on the part of our leadership. It was not an accident that G-d chose this land for Israel. This land was dedicated by G-d to be a focus of His plans to redeem Israel and all the world. As we are strong with G-d and obey His Word and trust His promise to save Israel, we shall overcome these pains. Let us be optimistic and trust in the promises of G-d. Time is short. The time of judgment is soon to come. We are soon to see the light of the G-d of Israel at the end of the tunnel. We shall be the generation who will see with their own eyes the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem on Mt.Moriah and the coming of Mashiach ben David.

The Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement is the movement which, immediately after the Six Days War when G-d liberated the Temple Mount and Jerusalem, decided to serve G-d and history by fulfilling His prophetic plans at this big time. We knew that G-d was ready for this stage in the history of Israel and mankind. We decided to completely dedicate ourselves to this major goal and to educate and prepare the people of Israel and everyone in the world for this fulfillment. We knew that no weakness of leadership or hatred of enemies can stop G-d from leading the history according to His prophetic plans. After almost 30 years of our campaign we can see the fruits of this struggle. We feel the presence of the G-d of Israel in all of our activities and we know so clearly that He is with us to encourage us and give us the strength to continue and act for His holy goals. Even in times when this campaign is conducted in difficult circumstances, we feel that G-d is with us and leading our campaign to fulfillment and success. We are determined to continue and we know that together with all of you who are faithful and trust in the G-d of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, we shall see the big moment when our hopes, dreams and visions will become a reality. G-d is with us.

THE HASMONEAN TUNNEL

The Hasmonean tunnel which was discovered and excavated by Israel along the Western Wall of the Temple Mount is one of the most exciting remains from biblical times. The tunnel was dug by the builders of the First Temple and later used in the Second Temple to bring water to the Temple area. Even today you can still see the water running through the tunnel. Later this tunnel was used by the Hasmoneans, the guerrilla heroes who liberated the Temple Mount from Greek control and purified it from the pagan idol that had been placed there. When Rabbi Getz, the Rabbi of the Western Wall, cleared this mysterious tunnel he discovered exciting biblical remains. The main discovery was the priest's gate and tunnel which was found in the middle of the Hasmonean tunnel and which led under the walls and grounds of the Temple Mount to the Holy of Holies. I had the privilege of being there when this gate and tunnel were opened and to feel the presence of G-d in this holy place which was used by the priests to enter directly into the Temple. It was so exciting to meet, physically and spiritual, one of the most important elements of the Temple, to see the beautiful stones and arches which were built by King Herod, to close the eyes, to pray to G-d so close to the Holy of Holies and to see in my imagination the priests again walking in this holy tunnel. I remember how quickly the workers cleaned the priest's tunnel because we all knew that at the end of it we would not only come to the lower floors of the Temple but also to the secret room where the Ark of the Covenant was hidden by the King Yeshayahu (Josiah) and the priests, before the destruction of the First Temple. We were so close to this location and to this wonderful experience. Unfortunately the government of Israel decided to stop the work and to again close the priest's tunnel after the Arabs on the Temple Mount started to attack the workers, to hold demonstrations and to bring the case to the UN Security Council. Israel again missed a major moment in her life because of the weakness of her government. They preferred to give in to Islamic pressure and to fear the UN rather than to trust the promises and protection of the G-d of Israel.

Later a new government in Israel had the courage to open the Hasmonean tunnel and not to fear the Arabs, nor the UN, nor the President of the United States. I pray that this will be a lesson for Israel in the future, to open all the tunnels and the gates to the Temple Mount and Jerusalem and to renew our days once again like they were in biblical times.

SOLOMON'S STABLES

One of the most important and exciting remains from the Second Temple are what are called "Solomon's Stables". These are not stables at all but an important part of the Second Temple complex. The name "Solomon's Stables" was mistakenly given by the Crusaders who thought that these were, indeed, Solomon's stables. This beautiful complex of chambers, arches and pillars was built by King Herod, firstly to provide a comfortable entrance to the Temple Mount through a tunnel which started at the Gulda gate on the southern side of the Temple Mount and ended under the Temple Mount. Secondly, by building a few floors of chambers, King Herod wanted to prevent the possibility of any uncleanness associated with dead bodies under the Temple Mount reaching the Temple area itself. The upper floors of this complex were also used for other purposes associated with the worship on the Temple Mount. It is hard to express in words the special beauty of this place and the feeling of holiness when one walks there. What is important is that this very holy complex remained with almost no damage from the time of the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE

This holy place was in the news in the last year when the Moslems secretly built a big mosque in these chambers. The municipality of Jerusalem tried to stop them but they did not obey and the Israeli government preferred not to press the issue because they were afraid of Arabic and Islamic reaction all over the world. Again the weakness of the government concerning matters relating to the Temple Mount allowed the Moslem abomination to continue on the Temple Mount and the continuous destruction of the House of G-d which the Romans started in 70 CE. The Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement made three petitions to the Supreme Court to force the Israeli government to be strong and to do what the law and G-d is expecting them to do. Unfortunately even the Supreme Court did not have the ability to force them to obey the law and not to destroy one of the most holy and exciting places on the earth. We submitted another petition asking that they not be allowed to open the mosque in these chambers. It is still to be discussed in the Supreme Court.

This is not the first time that the Arabs have destroyed something that remained from the First or Second Temples which have existed on the Temple Mount for almost 2000 years. Besides this they also destroyed extremely beautiful ornaments depicting the seven holy biblical fruits and a pillar which still existed from the Second Temple. A major petition that we also made in this case succeeded only in part when the Supreme Court decided that they could not stop this damage (another weakness) but they ordered the Israeli government to maintain strong control and not to allow such damage to take place in the future. The Supreme Court also declared in its decision that the Temple Mount is, and will be in the future, the most holy place of the Jewish nation and the location of our most important worship forever.

Where was the outrage in the UN, the nations and even the President of the US when this evil happened? Why did all of them pass anti-Israeli resolutions when the Hasmonean tunnel was opened but remained silent as the Arabs destroyed this ancient site? No doubt the G-d of Israel will judge them and ask them to answer these questions.

A RED HEIFER IS BORN IN ISRAEL

The ashes of the red heifer is one of the most important and mysterious of G-d's biblical commandments. Many rabbis and biblical scholars have tried to understand what is behind this commandment. No-one has the answer. Only G-d can answer us. Since the early times of the Tabernacle and the First and Second Temples this commandment was strongly observed. The ashes of the red heifer were used to purify the priests who served in the Temple and also Israelites who came into contact with dead bodies. Everyone who went up to the Temple to worship had to be completely clean and pure because they walked on the most holy place on earth in the House of G-d.

After the destruction of the Second Temple the ashes of the red heifer which still remained were hidden. We know that at least a part of it was hidden in a secret room under the Temple. Perhaps more was hidden elsewhere in Israel.

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Since the liberation of the Temple Mount in 1967 and especially in the last 15 years there have been many efforts to raise red heifers in Israel and to prepare new ashes. The biblical condition is that this red heifer must be raised only in the land of Israel. Also in state of Mississippi in the United States, Mr. Claud Lot is raising red heifers to bring them to Israel and from their descendants to make the ashes. In the interim we received the exciting news that a red heifer was born in Kfar Hasidim in Israel. The significance of this is that it will allow priests and many other Israelis who currently refuse to go up on the Temple Mount because of their uncleanness to do so. It will change the status quo on the Temple Mount when millions of Jews go up to the Temple Mount. On the other hand it is a condition for the renewing of the worship in the Temple when it is rebuilt. In any case this is one of many signs from G-d that we have seen in the last years that we are living in end-times and that the Temple is soon to be rebuilt.

This news created excited emotions and reactions in the Israeli public. A few of the new-letters inside and outside Israel stated that this was some of the most important news since 1967.

PREPARATIONS FOR A NEW COLLEGE FOR PRIESTS

Another important sign of these exciting times are the preparations to open a college which will educate and prepare priests for the worship in the Third Temple which we know will soon be built. Such a college was opened some years ago in the Old City of Jerusalem near the western walls of the Temple Mount. However the new college is going to dedicate all of the time of the students solely for this purpose. Children will be dedicated at a very young age and will be raised by the college and kept from losing their purification in the same way as was done in biblical times. These children will be children that were born only in priestly families.

It is so exciting to see how step by step the Bible again becomes a reality in the State of Israel. The campaign and educational efforts of the Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement among the people of Israel which started immediately after the liberation of the Temple Mount in 1967 is beginning to produce fruit especially in the last years.

The climax of this will be the soon rebuilding of the Temple. We shall continue our campaign until the moment that we shall see this happen with our own eyes.

A RETURN TO FAITH IN ISRAEL

An exciting part of the godly end-times in which we are now living in Israel is the return to faith of hundreds of thousands of Israelis who were completely secular. This is one of the biggest signs that we are living in the time of redemption and of the Mashiach. All the prophets of Israel prophesied about this when they spoke about the end-times. It has been very well known in the Jewish heritage during the time of the exile. According to this, a short time before the rebuilding of the Temple and the coming of Mashiach ben David, the Jewish nation in Israel will return to the G-d of Israel, to faith in Him, and to the vision and the Law that He gave to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses.

This is now a big wave in Israel which is becoming bigger and bigger. Why it is happening in our time is because we are blessed to be the generation of the redemption. The State of Israel is again a reality in the land which G-d promised us and everything is moving quickly to the accomplishment of this godly process.

The return to G-d in Israel means that the Temple Mount is going to be completely opened to Israel and all mankind soon in our lifetime. We can hear the voice of G-d saying this in the streets and mountains of the holy land of Israel.

Thanks to G-d that He gave us the privilege to be born and to live in such a generation.

PAST EVENTS

CHANUKAH 1996

During Chanukah 1996, the holiday which commemorates the cleansing of the Temple by the Maccabees in 165 BCE, we held our traditional torch march from the tombs of the Maccabees at Modi'in to Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. The goal of this important event was to bring the spirit and heritage of the Maccabees from the village where they started their revolt to the hearts and attention of all the people in Israel and outside.

We started with a ceremony near the graves of the Maccabees and the memorial stone for the Israeli soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the recreation of the State of Israel. It was a very exciting when we lit an eight candle menorah and a torch. We then took the torch and menorah along the route of the battles of the Maccabees on the beautiful mountains of Judah.

The torch and menorah arrived at the gates of the Old City and, in a march along the streets of King David, we carried them to the Temple Mount. We stated that the heroic heritage of the Maccabees must be an important lesson for us and for the Israeli government. The light of the Maccabees, that we brought from Modi'in, should light Jerusalem and the Temple Mount and light our long held desire to see the Temple rebuilt and the city of King David again become the real capital of Israel and the capital of the Kingdom of the G-d of Israel.

DEMONSTRATION FOR HEBRON

Hebron is the most holy and important city in Israel after Jerusalem. Hebron, in the Judean mountains, was the city where Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and the patriarchs used to live and prophesy and where they were buried in the Cave of Machpelah. King David made this city his first capital. He ruled from here for 7 years before he moved to Jerusalem and made it the permanent capital of Israel ruling there for a further 33 years.

In the evil Oslo "peace" agreement the former government agreed to give control of Hebron to the murderous Arafat and the PLO. They did not have the courage to do this before they were defeated in the elections of 1996. It was hoped that demonstrations against this by most Israeli people would prevent this very holy city from being given away. Besides the terrible sin against the covenant which G-d made with Abraham and his seed, it was felt that this act would leave the Jewish population of Hebron vulnerable to bloody attacks by the PLO and other Arab terror organizations. Unfortunately even the government of Prime Minister Netanyahu was not strong enough to avoid withdrawing from most of Hebron and leaving it to the "Palestinian" enemy. The Cave of Machpelah and the Jewish quarter in Hebron continues to be under Israeli control but most of this holy city was given to foreign control.

The Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement acted all the time to encourage Netanyahu not to leave Hebron as he promised before the elections. On the day when Netanyahu decided to withdraw from Hebron we held a mourning demonstration in downtown Jerusalem. We could not agree with this terrible decision which cannot be accepted by G-d and history. We sat in the middle of the road, we wore sacks, poured earth on our heads, held black flags in our hands and burnt candles. We knew that we were reflecting what the Israeli nation and G-d felt on that day. We also knew that such evil cannot continue and that in the near future, G-d willing, Hebron will return to Israel. No one can change the eternal Word of G-d and change His plans to redeem the land and people of Israel.

TU B'SHVAT

This day is a very old holiday in Israel and is deeply connected to the land of Israel. Since G-d told us in the Bible that the tree of the field is like a human being, the people of Israel used to plant a lot of trees in biblical times which covered almost all of the land of Israel. They knew that the roots of the trees in G-d's land are there own roots in the Promised Land. After the Israeli people were taken into exile, the foreigners who occupied the land destroyed the trees and used the wood for many purposes. As the Israeli people started to be regathered to the land, the first thing that they did, even before the building of houses, was to plant trees all over the land. Now in 1997 the land is again covered with trees and orchards, flowers and vegetables. Still we continue to plant millions of trees wherever we can. The sons of the land returned and the country, the mother, is full of joy and happiness.

On this unique holiday we planted many trees in the City of David using the traditional blessing associated with this. The message was that Jerusalem is no longer a widow and that we renew our historical roots in the city which King David made the eternal capital of Israel. It was also a message to the Israeli government not to pull up our roots in any place in the land of Israel that G-d promised to us. Our roots are strong and deep enough to overcome all the pains of the rebirth of Israel in the land. It was an exciting moment to see the youth of the movement, boys and girls who were born in the land of their forefathers, planting young trees and to see their own young roots planted in the holy ground of this city of King David in front of the Temple Mount. Thanks to the G-d of Israel.

A SYMBOLIC PESACH SACRIFICE IN JERUSALEM

The Pesach sacrifice which was instituted at the time of the Exodus from Egypt has a special national importance and holy significance. God commanded the people of Israel to make a Pesach sacrifice as a memorial so they would not forget the miracle which G-d performed in Egypt.

In biblical times this sacrifice was performed on the Temple Mount as an individual sacrifice by families. It was done on the altar of the Temple, and after the destruction of the Temple, it was done on an altar located on the Temple Mount. According to G-d's commandment, after the lamb was sacrificed by the priests, the sacrifice had to be roasted over a fire and eaten by the family only until midnight of the first evening of Pesach in Jerusalem. This sacrifice had to be performed only between midday and midnight of this day.

Since the destruction of the Second Temple this sacrifice has been discontinued since the Temple no longer existed. However the Jews never gave up this important sacrifice. Even after the destruction, Jews continued to come to the Temple Mount when the foreign conquerors allowed them to do so. They continued to sacrifice the Pesach sacrifice on an altar that they built by hand together with the priests. However for many hundreds of years Jews could not perform this sacrifice.

This sacrifice is important in Jewish tradition. Rabbi Tukochinsky wrote early in this century that the Mashiach will come immediately following the first sacrifice on the Temple Mount. The renewal of this sacrifice was one of the biggest desires of the Jews in exile because of its special importance.

Since the Six Day War, the Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement, which understood the godly significance of the liberation of the Temple Mount and the significance of the Pesach sacrifice, has made many attempts to perform the sacrifice on the Temple Mount at Pesach. The Arabs, have opposed this. They warned the Israeli government that they would demonstrate violently against it. Unfortunately the Israeli governments were not strong enough to stand up to this Arab opposition. They preferred to forbid us from performing the sacrifice. We tried to do this in many ways. We even proposed bringing the altar to the Temple Mount with the help of a helicopter. The Israel governments did not even agree to this, weakness again.

One of the most important scholars and leaders of the underground organization, Lechi, which fought against the British Mandatory forces for the liberation of Israel, was Professor Israel Edad. Professor Edad, who was also an important leader of the Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement, stated in his book on the biblical holy days that "the sacrifices must be renewed. If not all of them then most of them. If not most of them then one sacrifice will definitely be renewed and this is the Pesach sacrifice." He wrote that "the renewed Pesach holiday and sacrifice will connect the Jewish soul with the generations, fathers and sons of sons from the first redemption from Egypt until the last generation in our time."

A modern interpreter of the Bible, Zvi Hoffman, explained that the sacrifices in the Temple and specifically the Pesach sacrifice are "the most real love of G-d by the righteous man that sacrifices everything, obeys with no conditions, knows no boundaries and naturally clings to G-d."

On April 21st, the eve of Pesach, we performed a symbolic Pesach sacrifice. A few weeks earlier we sent a letter to the Prime Minister of Israel and to the Minister of Religious Affairs asking them to open the gates of the Temple Mount to allow us to perform the sacrifice. We would perform the sacrifice on an altar that we would bring with us. We wrote that it was the dream of the Jewish nation over the last 1900 years since the destruction of the Second Temple. We also wrote about the deep significance of it in the past, the present and, mainly, in the future of Israel and of its relationship to the rebuilding of the Temple. However, we did not receive permission to perform the sacrifice on the Temple Mount. The government was concerned with the Arab Islamic reaction to this act. The did not have sufficient courage to challenge it.

We felt that this year would be the right time to fulfill this long historical dream even if we had to do it outside the Temple Mount as merely a symbolic act. We stated very clearly that this sacrifice was not coming in the place of the real sacrifice which we will do our best to do next year on the Temple Mount.

The symbolic sacrifice was performed on a hill named Givat Hananya, the name of a high priest of the Second Temple who used to live on this hill. From this hill we had a marvelous view of the Temple Mount and its glory. The Temple Mount could also see us. It was an exciting moment and we had the feeling that we were making history. Even though the sacrifice was only symbolic, we performed it according to all the biblical laws. The feeling was that we opened a new era, that we fulfilled a very long national desire, and that the Temple would soon be rebuilt.

The second event of Pesach that we held was the pilgrimage to the Temple Mount when we brought the omer hatnofah (sheaf of the wave offering) (Leviticus 23:15) to the Temple Mount. In the First and Second Temples the first wheat was brought to the Temple from the fields of Israel as an offering to G-d during the Pesach pilgrimage. It was accompanied by a beautiful ceremony and the music of the Levites. Since the destruction of the Second Temple this beautiful biblical tradition could not be observed. After the resettlement of the land was started in the 20th Century this tradition was renewed on the kibbutzim but not to Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. We renewed this biblical tradition after the Six Day War and brought the omer hatnofah to the Temple Mount even though the Third Temple does not yet exist.

PLANNED FUTURE EVENTS

TISHA B'AV

This year Tisha B'Av, which commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples, falls on 12th August. We shall concentrate all our efforts so that on this day every Israeli will be with us on the Temple Mount. We shall pray together with them for the rebuilding of the Temple and Jerusalem.

We shall also march in the streets of the Old City and around all the gates of the Temple Mount especially the Golden Gate in the eastern wall of the Temple Mount. This gate expresses very old beliefs and traditions that the Messiah will enter the Temple through it. After the Six Day War one of the followers of the movement wrote in his blue letters on this gate: "Mashiach will come soon." This will be a very special and exciting event and we invite all of our friends to come

movement wrote in big blue letters on this gate - *masiach* will come soon. This will be a very special and exciting event and we invite all of our friends to come to Israel and to take part in it.

SUKKOTH PILGRIMAGE

This year Sukkoth (the Feast of Tabernacles) will be celebrated from the 15th to the 23rd of October. The movement is planning to hold our special event on Monday 20th October.

Firstly we shall make a pilgrimage to the Temple Mount and the Old City. From the Temple Mount area we shall march in a special ceremony to the Bricat haShiloach (Pool of Siloam) which was dug by King Hezekiah to bring water into the city of David.

Together with us will be the Cohanim (priests) and Levites with musical instruments which were reconstructed according to the models of those used in the Temple. At least one of the priests will wear priestly garments which have been prepared recently in Jerusalem. We will carry with us a seven candle Menorah and vessels which were reconstructed according to the designs from the First and Second Temples. We shall also bring with us the first corner stone for the Third Temple to the City of David and we shall again try to lay it on the Temple Mount.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE MOVEMENT

THE SPIRITUAL CENTER NEAR THE TEMPLE MOUNT

The Temple Mount Faithful, together with our wonderful friends in Israel and America, are continuing our efforts to purchase a house in the Old City close to the Temple Mount. This will be a spiritual and practical center for the activities of the movement. We are coming closer to achieving this important goal thanks to the generous donations of all of our friends. However we still need more financial help from our friends to achieve it.

This house is needed even more now than at any time in the past. G-d willing, our important godly goals are soon to be fulfilled. This house will immediately become a focus and center, not only for the Israelis, but for all of you and for people from all over the world. It will be a stopping place for all of you before walking up on the Temple Mount to carry with you inspiration, faith, knowledge and faithfulness. Every donation will be very much appreciated and will be used solely for this goal.

PLANS FOR THE THIRD TEMPLE

With the help of an Israeli architect, we continue to prepare the plans for the Third Temple. This is not a simple project but we know that time is short and the plans must be ready for the moment when we can build the Temple. In this way we shall also show to everyone that this is not just a dream but a reality which is soon to come about. As progress is made we will share more information with you.

Please pray that G-d will give us the ability to accomplish this godly work.

THE GOLDEN SEVEN-BRANCHED MENORAH

We continue to raise help for the reconstruction of the seven-branched menorah for the Third Temple. It will require at least 80 kilograms of pure gold and must be made in one piece and according to the biblical design and measurements. This holy project is also not simple but we are determined to complete it as soon as we have the means to do so. This menorah will one day be in the Third Temple together with the original menorah from the Tabernacle and First Temple which was hidden in a secret room under the Temple Mount before the destruction of the First Temple.

FUTURE DONATIONS FOR THE HOLY PROJECTS OF THE MOVEMENT

We again and again wish to express our appreciation and thanks for all your generous donations. Friends and supporters in Israel and outside have opened their hearts in a spiritual, moral, and practical way to help the movement to achieve our common holy goal. Your holy donations have given the movement the ability to act and to make great progress towards our goals. The future will involve even more activities and dedication as we relate to changing circumstances. This will involve increased expenditure.

As you know all of us are acting voluntarily. All donations are entirely dedicated to the holy godly goal. It is a great privilege for all of us to do this with clean hands as an offering to G-d. Everyone of you has the privilege of playing a part in this important godly cause. The coming year will be critical. We are planning to undertake many projects. Your assistance will make these goals a reality. How blessed are those whose heart is open to understand that the rebuilding of the Temple and the redemption of the land and people of Israel is the most important cause of our time. We thank you very much for this.

Donations for this holy goal and our various projects and general donations for the operating expenses of the movement may be sent to the following address:

The Temple Mount & Land of Israel Faithful Movement
P.O. Box 18325
Jerusalem, 94386
Israel

LECTURES AND MEETINGS WITH TOUR GROUPS

Gershon will be very honored to speak to any groups that are touring in Israel. Please contact us to arrange these meetings.

A CALL FOR NEW FRIENDS

We ask all our current friends to do their best to introduce new friends to the movement and to share with them our goals and ideals and to pass on this news-letter to them. Anyone who would like to receive future editions of this news-letter are invited to send us their name, address, telephone, fax and email details.

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