



NEWS & VIEWS

EDITORIAL

I am writing this editorial having just returned from a CMJ deputation tour of North East Scotland. The tour was organised by Jane Moxon (CMJ Supporter Development Manager) and I think we both felt that the various meetings we led were well-received. Hopefully a full report of these meetings will be part of the next edition of News and Views.

As I reflect upon this tour, the one immediate thought I have is how diverse is the CMJ UK support base. The most obvious expression of diversity in this reflection is geographical. As I looked out from Gardenstown over the North Sea, I realised I had never been further north in my life! Also when I returned to Cambridge I had travelled over 1300 miles – yes our support is indeed geographically diverse, spreading out to all

parts of the UK. However, the support is diverse in other ways as well. For example the Churches with which we link reflect a wide spectrum of ecclesiastical histories, traditions and styles. Also each supporter is unique with a different story to tell of their own calling to stand with CMJ.

Such diversity is impressive, yet within this diversity there is also an essential unity, a unity rooted in God's heart towards Israel and the Biblical call to share the Gospel sensitively and faithfully with Jewish People everywhere. May we all celebrate and promote this diversity and this unity, as we seek to respond to Jesus (Yeshua) as Lord of our lives.

Shalom,
Alex Jacob

In this edition of News and Views you will see two new articles on the back page. Hopefully these articles will become a regular part of forthcoming News and Views. The first called, THINKING ALOUD is a reflective piece in which Alex Jacob will submit some personal thoughts relating to Christian ministry and life. The second called SPREADING THE WORD is a Biblical teaching slot in which the CMJ staff chaplain, Michael Martin, will give some helpful introductory Jewish Roots teaching.

RESIDENTIAL KESHER

27 Nov – 02 Dec 2011
at Willersley Castle

We are looking for someone with filming expertise to help us record the sessions of our residential Kesher course. If you feel you have the appropriate skills and are available on the above dates, please contact Jacki at the office.

If you are looking for the perfect holiday – a mixture of excellent teaching, worship, fun and fellowship, with the opportunity to explore the beautiful Derbyshire countryside, book your place as soon as you can! You won't be disappointed.

TO THE JEW FIRST...

CMJ has traditionally had a stand at different Christian camps around the country. This year we decided on New Wine at Newark, Soul Survivor and Momentum at Shepton Mallet and finished with UCCF's Forum at Oswestry. Five weeks in all. We also decided that we'd stay on site so we could be part of the community of campers and join in with worship and teaching times too. No posh hotels for us!

We thought and prayed how we might exhibit CMJ's work in an attractive but different way – we wanted an atmosphere where people could feel welcome and comfortable in order to have good conversations, yet we only had a 4x2 metre pitch in which to do it. Then came the revelation – a traditional Abrahamic Bedouin tent! Our Bedouin tent in Israel had attracted literally thousands of folk who said what a great atmosphere it had. So we set about recreating the Jerusalem tent using two B&Q gazebos and a bolt of hessian from eBay! We painted the CMJ and BIG HOUSE logo's on the front along with Romans 11:16 – 'To the Jew first...' We decorated the interior in an authentic fashion and included hospitality Middle Eastern style, with fruits and nuts and warm fruit juices to offer. Armed with samples of the 'Jerusalem' CD and lots of CMJ and BIG HOUSE literature, we set off!

We had a fantastic five weeks of sharing about our work and conversations went a bit like this:



"How can I share about Jesus with my Jewish games teacher" (12 year old boy!)

"Will you come to our university CU with your tent for our missions week and lead a seminar on the roots of our faith and evangelism?"

"I'm having a gap year and would like to do mission abroad, can you provide opportunities?"

"Does a Jewish person have to stop being Jewish when he becomes a follower of Jesus?"

You can imagine our delight as we answered these and many hundreds more questions. The majority of folk we spoke to were genuinely interested to know more about the Middle East conflict and we were able to share many firsthand stories of reconciliation between Jewish and Arab people because Jesus had become their personal 'Middle East peace process'. We were blessed to see how many young folk already had an understanding of their Jewish roots and that somehow, Israel and her people are still important to God.

Roll on next year! Why not invite us to bring our Bedouin tent to your youth group, wedding or Bar Mitzvah?!

Paul & Janey Hames



CMJ CONFERENCE 2011



The CMJ Annual Conference was held at The Hayes Conference Centre, in July 2011. Our largest conference, in recent years, with over 450 delegates arriving throughout the weekend.

Our keynote speakers were David and Karen Davis, (*Leaders of Kehilat HaCarmel, Mt. Carmel in Haifa*). David spoke candidly about the situation in Israel, in light of Scriptural prophecy and what we are currently witnessing. This included an exposition of the “Isaiah 19 Highway” which allowed us to view the situation from a different perspective. During Friday’s session, David invited his Messianic-Jewish wife, Karen, to stand side-by-side with Gentile believer, Sue Aldridge. Together they lit the candles of the Menorah, demonstrating God’s heart for the One New Man. The auditorium was silent as we weighed the significance of this simple act.

We were joined on Saturday afternoon by Canon Andrew White (Vice-President of CMJ and leader of the Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East) who shared his testimony as the Vicar of Baghdad, and his thoughts from Isaiah 19 – he hadn’t heard David’s sermon on the same passage, and spoke on it from a different, yet complementary, angle, demonstrating just how powerful the Word of God is, as the two sermons formed a whole picture. A two-edged sword!

There were a variety of seminars offered on the Saturday, from renowned speakers, including Sam Gordon of Messianic Testimony, Yoel Ben David of Jews For Jesus, David Pileggi Rector of Christ Church, Jerusalem, Theresa Newell, of CMJ USA, Adrian Glasspole, CMJ UK and many others. It was wonderful to see so many ministries, who work tirelessly to reach the Jewish People with the Gospel of Yeshua, joining together with one purpose.

Sunday morning saw us embark on an emotional understanding of the journey Kay Wilson has been walking since she was attacked in December 2010, when her friend and colleague Kristine was murdered. To hear her speak of her heartache and recovery shows how deep the Father’s love goes, as He has carried her through each difficult day.

Conference 2011 provided the opportunity to catch up with old friends, connect with new ones. People could also browse the Exhibition and Resources Room, finding out more about the work of CMJ around the world as well as purchasing a number of items, including hand-made knitted items and jewellery - the proceeds of which went to support the work in Israel and the UK, and some beautiful artwork from artists who are passionate about Israel.

Steph Cottam



BRIDE SONG

The Saturday evening also saw the premiere of the much-anticipated Bride Song production, dedicated to the memory of Kristine Luken. Bride Song is the story of a love stronger than death shown through drama, dance, powerfully-written song and amazing multi-media videos and images. It portrays a love which prevails across the pages of history, as the Jewish people and the Gentile Church move closer to the second coming of the Lord Jesus. Closing with the reminder – the Bridegroom is coming back for His bride, and an invitation which demands a response.

BRIDE SONG BOOK

This beautifully crafted book contains, in vivid technicolor, the drawings which inspired the Bride Song production, along with twelve visual biblical meditations based on Song of Songs.

Available from CMJ for £10.

BRIDE SONG CD

STUDIO ALBUM:

The songs of Bride Song were recorded by professional singers, choir and musicians, to create a beautiful timeless sound you will want to play again and again.

Available from CMJ for £10.

SPECIAL OFFER:

The Bride Song DVD, recorded live at the world-premiere at the 2011 CMJ International Conference, is now available from CMJ, price £15. *For those using the DVD for Jewish Evangelism, there is a special offer price of £10.*

Oh My dove, let Me see your face, let Me hear your voice!



FEEDBACK FROM DELEGATES:

"Overall, this was a terrific conference!"

"I really enjoyed being amongst people who share the same vision and mindset for Israel and the Jewish People."

"I thoroughly enjoyed the unity, vibrancy of this year's conference, engaging with the 'bigger picture' regarding Israel and current events. It was a privilege to hear such speakers"

"There was such a sense of excitement about the Lord's blessing on the work of CMJ"

"I have enjoyed this Conference very much - there was a real friendly and welcoming atmosphere from CMJ staff"

"What can I say about this year's conference... To say it was brilliant would be an understatement. Thank you so much for all the work which obviously went into it. I am so glad I came and am looking forward, Lord willing, to High Leigh next year!"

CD SETS:

CDs are now available of the main sessions with David & Karen Davis, Canon Andrew White and the CMJ UK, CMJ International & CMJ Israel updates - including Kay Wilson's testimony.

Each CD costs just £4.50, or you can order a full set of 11 CD's (includes three of the workshops: "Seven Pictures of Israel's Destiny" – Dr Sam Gordon; "The Warrior Bride" – Karen Davis, "Bringing Jewish and Gentile Believers Together" – Dr. Theresa Newell) for £22, including postage & packaging.

CMJ CONFERENCE 2012

Next year's conference will be held at High Leigh from FRIDAY 20TH – SUNDAY 22ND JULY 2012 with Guest Speaker: Marvin R. Wilson, Author of "Our Father Abraham".

As High Leigh is a smaller venue, you may want to book your place QUICKLY!

THE STAFF CONFERENCE:

Every year, immediately prior to the CMJ International Conference, the 60 or so members of the CMJ Staff, reps and volunteers from around the World gather for 24 hours of fellowship, teaching and prayer. It's a valuable time in the CMJ calendar, as new staff meet the wider team, and as world-wide colleagues deepen already established relationships.

This year, Martin Goldsmith led us through a study of Habakkuk under the title of: "Any Complaints, Blame God!" (He has written an excellent book with the same title). His presentation combined witty humour, woven through life-stories, with excellent teaching, bringing a timely challenge "...For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea..."

Thinking Aloud: ALEX JACOB

I probably have come to accept, albeit reluctantly, that it is now extremely unlikely that I will ever be invited as the guest on the radio show Desert Island Discs. However, this realisation has not yet prevented me from drawing up shortlists of the great songs I would select. Clearly the list varies from time to time, according to my moods, but one song which is currently firmly on the list is *Eyes like Glue* performed by the Drive By Truckers and with lyrics by Mike Cooley. The lyrics are as follows:

I see you watching me your eyes like glue- stuck like glue to every foolish thing I say and do. But there's a safer distance still not out of touch, if daddy's quiet it probably means he's tinkling way too much.

Someday you'll be a man, you'll have a big old brain, you won't need it much but you'll try and use it just the same. But it's like any house lonely people roam around, wasted empty space, a maze with only one way out.

Nobody ever told me half the things I'm telling you; even if they had I'd have the same look that you do. Sometimes you think it and you want to hear it said out loud, if no one else does then it's up to you to shout it out.

You'll want to do it all, and you believe you can. But when the best that you can do becomes all you can stand, you'll know you're just a man when you feel all the

weight press down, next time you're watching me remember that's all I am now.

The song is a melodic and poignant reflection of a father coming to terms with the 'hero worship' and 'adoration' he receives from his young son, the young son with eyes like glue. The father knows he is not what his young son thinks he is. The father is all too aware of his own fragility and failure yet he wants to help and guide his son to a truer understanding of his own identity.

As a Christian with a public ministry I often wonder what people think of me – what do they see? Equally when anyone shares the Gospel I often wonder how and to what extent do our various personalities and character help or hinder this sharing process? I think the Apostle Paul faced similar questions as he came to terms with his own strengths and weaknesses. Perhaps his own position is best summed up in the words he wrote to the Church in Corinth—“*We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that the all surpassing power is from God and not from us*”. (2 Corinthians 4:7)



Spreading the Word: AN UNSHAKEABLE KINGDOM

Throughout the world, nations, institutions, communities and individuals are experiencing a shaking. Even the earth itself seems to be groaning with constant disasters. Words like unrest, uprising, collapse, broken, recession, famine, earthquake, tsunami, tornado and flood are in the minds and on the lips of people in many nations. International and personal tragedies can make our world seem a fearful place, overflowing with evil and seemingly out of control. At these times we often turn to government or institutions for the answers

I was encouraged, however, by reading a few scriptures from Daniel as in his own situation he continued to look to God. He and thousands of his countrymen had been deported to a foreign land. Torn from home, family and nation, he found himself facing an egocentric despot, surrounded by idolaters. Instead of giving up or giving in, this young man progressed within that society and held firm to his faith. Daniel continued to pray, listen and study the word. Despite the circumstances, his God was sovereign and working His purpose out for Daniel's nation and people.

When Daniel learned that the decree had been published (“...*anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den*” DANIEL 6:7) Daniel made a choice. He went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. He was focused on God and listening.

During this time of our uncertainty we should remember God is sovereign and faithful. Remember He was in control in Babylon in Daniel's time and continues to control the destiny of nations and people to bring about His purpose. It is so important to remember these things especially

when the situations near to our heart seem impossible and particularly with regard to Israel and the Jewish people. God was able to do amazing things in the life of Daniel because Daniel was willing to seek God's face through studying the word, prayer and taking time to listen. In Daniel 9 we see that he understood what he was reading (DANIEL 9:2: “*I, Daniel, was studying the writings of the prophets. I learned from the word of the LORD, as recorded by Jeremiah the prophet, that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy years.*”) and this enabled him to pray and act in the will of God. In the middle of uncertainty, Daniel kept his focus on the eternal.

Today we are experiencing a shaking in part. However scripture is clear in revealing that eventually the world will crumble and only God's Kingdom will last. We who follow Jesus the Messiah are part of this unshakeable Kingdom. We must continue to encourage each other to be the Daniels of our day, as we study scripture and pray, listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying in order that we may pray and walk only in the perfect will of God and receive His Shalom.

HEBREWS 12:26-29 *When God spoke from Mount Sinai His voice shook the earth, but now He makes another promise: “Once again I will shake not only the earth but the heavens also”. This means that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakeable things will remain. Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakeable, let us be thankful and please God by worshipping Him with holy fear and awe. For our God is a devouring fire.*

Michael Martin



A PLEA FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

If you are making a donation by Bank Transfer and wish to restrict the donation to a particular project, please contact the office when you have made your donation to notify the finance team of your wish. We have had a couple of occasions during the summer when restricted donations have been made but the information has not reached our office and it is caused some problems. Thank you very much.