

# Yeshua MISHPACHAH

A NEWSLETTER TO THE FAMILY OF JESUS FROM RESTORATION MINISTRIES

*The Hebraic family is not simply an individual or private matter. Rather, it is an institution in which the whole community has a stake. Thus, the Hebrew word "mishpachah," meaning family, not only refers to parents and children, but to the whole extended family worldwide in the body of "Yeshua"— our Jesus.*

Dear Friends,

"It hurt my heart to see God's name so thoughtlessly taken in vain. Contact every Christian organization you know to make them aware of this blasphemy!"

These words were shared with us by an *unbelieving* neighbor who had come to our door one night after fleeing the movie *Titanic* 20 minutes into it. He was mortified by such callous treatment of God's name! Yet, everywhere we travel, so many *Christians* tell us they didn't see anything wrong at all in the movie. Do you know, that frightens me...

Our neighbor's words have haunted me. Another friend of ours who teaches at a Christian school shared with us her pain as she listened to the students discuss the movie. Many of their parents had taken them to see it, seeing no discrepancy between youthful fornication on the screen and parental admonition for purity in their own children's lives. For weeks I wondered, how hard has the spiritual callousness of God's people become in this country? What was He going to have to do to intervene and get our attention?

**"Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain!"** (Joel 2:1).

Several weeks ago I settled back in my recliner to watch an

old war movie, *The Battle of the Bulge*. It was about the last great German offensive near the end of the WWII. The Allied Commanders had received all kinds of warnings that the Germans were massing for an attack. Yet, none of them took the warnings seriously. When the Germans attacked, thousands of allied soldiers were killed or captured.

During a commercial break in the movie, I surfed over to the History Channel. The screen showed a deluge of rain, and the commentary went something like this:

*"In 1316-17 it rained in Europe for two years without letting up. No one knows the reason why. But crops rotted and many people starved. Following the rains, rats brought the Black Plague. Twenty-five million people died. In an attempt to end the plague, men traveled throughout Europe whipping themselves until they bled. They thought that by doing this they could appease God, causing Him to end the plague."*

Doesn't it seem characteristic of people that when they fail to repent, they carry out actions they hope will appease the one they have offended. Sitting in my recliner, I felt as if the Father was showing me His answer to this hardness.

Several years ago my close friend Casey Sabella wrote an insightful book about the condition of the western Church today. The title of the book is *Titanic Warning*. In his research he found that the Titanic crew's pride caused them to turn off their radios so that they could not listen to the warnings from other ships about the icebergs ahead. Casey also opened my eyes to the wonderful story of the rescue ship *Carpathia*. This ship could do nothing to prevent the accident, but it prepared itself adequately to rescue those who survived the sinking. I believe that the Church which is based on the Hebraic foundations our Lord is restoring will be the 'Carpathia' of rescue in the near future.

Early one morning a week after viewing that war movie, I believe that the Lord may have shared what He was about to do in dealing with His people's hardness. It is connected to the completion of three prophecies He gave David Wilkerson about 10 years ago:

- There will be an explosion in the United States that will get world attention.—The bombings in Oklahoma City and the World Trade Center.
- A large area of the United States will be under water.—The 1993 flooding of the Mississippi.
- Major cities in the United

***Equipping the Church to Go Back for its Future***

States will be aflame in race<sup>2</sup> riots.—This is still to come.

As I prayed that morning, the Lord reviewed all He had been showing me. Then I had a strong impression in my spirit, “Fifty million people would be dead in the United States when the next prophecy is fulfilled.”

I am not sharing this with you for shock value. But what is about to occur is exactly what history records when God deals with a reprobate nation.

(Reprobate: *depraved, perverted, immoral, having no conscience.*)

It isn't unusual for God to deal with people in such dramatic ways. Do you remember “The Flood?” Or what our Lord did in response to Korah's rebellion (Numbers 16)? He opened the earth to swallow them!

The Holy Spirit warned us of these days: “*But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, un-forgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God--having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them*” (2 Tim. 3:1-5).

Remember the difficulty Paul faced when he wrote the Corinthians, “*Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as*

*God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. **Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death**” (2 Cor. 7:8-10).*

What is needed is for each of us to *stay repentant* and to ask our Father in His mercy to pour out a *Spirit of repentance* on this nation.

These prophets treated the sins of their nation as if they were their own. Permit me to share with you what could be an updated version of Daniel's prayer that we need to ascribe to at this time:

*“We must pray to the LORD our God and confess: ‘O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his **covenant of love with all who love him and obey his commands**, we have **sinned and done wrong**. We have been **wicked and have rebelled**; we have **turned away from your commands and laws**. We **have not listened** to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to us. Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are **covered with shame**—people who call themselves by your Name **sin against you without conscience**. Just as You have written, all this disaster is coming upon us, yet will your people seek the favor of the LORD our God by **turning from our sins and giving attention to your truth**? The LORD is right to bring this disaster upon us, for the LORD our God is righteous in everything he does; yet we have **not obeyed him**” (from Daniel 9:4-14).*

I sense very strongly our Father's love and compassion

as I write this letter. It is not His actions, but *our sins and lack of repentance*, that will bring this disaster. He is both loving and holy: “*The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation*” (Num. 14:18). He will not set aside His character or His standards to accommodate our rebellion. We have misunderstood His long-suffering patience as an excuse to continue on and flourish in our sin.

Do you remember “The Moral Majority” of several years ago who sounded an alarm for repentance? Their guiding verse was: “*When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land*” (2 Chron. 7:13,14). Instead of becoming a rallying point for prayerful repentance, however, they succumbed to the idea of changing wickedness by political means.

Later, Pat Robertson attempted to run for President to bring about moral change in this nation. Today a Colorado Springs-based ministry is threatening segments of the government with the voting power of its million+ constituents. Every attempt to *politically* change things will fail. **Broken hearts** must mourn and cry out to our Father if change is to come.

True repentance—turning *from*<sup>3</sup> wrote it without understanding it. Now I see more clearly...Please read carefully an excerpt from *Pastoring by Elders*:(from Chapter 15)

I don't know how to ask you to join us except to plead with you to obey the above commands from God yourself and ask others to join you. Hide yourself in the sacrificed blood of Jesus. Possibly, as He did with the Israelites, in His compassion He will 'Passover' your home and family.

Ask God to restore *older people of wisdom* to their rightful places in our faith communities, and to open the hearts of younger followers of Jesus to yield respectfully to their wisdom and counsel. Sadly, we often hear from older people the reasoning of Hezekiah when the prophet Isaiah confronted him about his sin and foretold impending destruction: *"The word of the Lord you have spoken is good," Hezekiah replied. For he thought, 'There will be peace and security in my lifetime.'*" (2 Kings 20:19). Hezekiah, and some older people today, are relieved that the destruction will come on the next generation and not on them. This both saddens and frightens me.

The Lord keeps impressing upon me this question, "Who will be the Corrie ten Booms of today?" Corrie and her family hid Jews in their home during WWII. They were arrested and put in a concentration camp where her father and sister died. Despite all the hardship, Corrie reached out and shared the love of God.

When we wrote *Pastoring by Elders*, the Lord impressed upon me to use a particular phrase about the "dark days to come." I

### **Going Back for Your Future**

***"Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings"***(Isaiah 58:12).

The truths of the restoration are filtering into a church culture which has vacillated from authoritarianism to anarchy. The Lord has shown and confirmed for many that these truths are being poured forth in advance of the darkest moments this country has yet experienced. There is coming a time when many will repent and turn to God.

The nameless and faceless followers of Jesus who radiate His countenance will be the ones the Lord will use.

The Gospel of the dark period to come will not be the "easy believe-ism" of most so-called "gospels" found in the US today. Unbelievers will reject these for what they are, shallow and man-made. Times will be so desperate that seekers will want the Gospel that Jesus spoke of: *"Whoever trusts in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.'* *By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who trusted in him were later to receive"* (John 7:38,39).

Even now this Gospel is being embraced by more and

more people. Many were at one time deceived. They had been told that acknowledging the truth of certain Bible verses would be sufficient for salvation even if no evidence of the Spirit's work was noticeable in them. Those who believed that counterfeit gospel are painfully aware that their lives were not changed. They have continued in frustration and sin all this time. But how overjoyed they are when they hear the Gospel of the Hebrew Bible and realize that true repentance chooses to turn away from sin and walk in righteousness by the power of the Holy Spirit!

Repentance grieves you that you have grieved God. You hunger for the forgiveness, cleansing, and restoration that only Jesus can give. The believer who is indwelt by the Spirit of God continues to repent at the Spirit's prompting in order to bear Kingdom fruit.

### **Patience and Preparation**

God is calling the followers of Jesus to be patient and to hold onto their loving trust in Him. He will build the Church of His plans. You can join His labors by discovering His assignment for you. That which is being restored has not been seen since the early centuries. Although many are being prepared by the Spirit through different facets of the restoration, no one person has the full picture. Cooperation and coordination will hallmark the togetherness of the Church in the dark days to come."

*Mike & Sue Dowgiewicz*