

March 2013

TEOTE ("The Ends of the Earth")

Dear TEOTE supporter/s,

Being a New Zealand resident since March 2000, I never thought to apply for citizenship here... "Why do I need a New Zealand passport?" I thought to myself... The New Zealand citizenship was available to me after being a resident here for 3 years; all I needed to do was to pay some fee, send my application and wait for it to process but I never pursued it... This is kind of similar to the free gift of salvation that God is offering mankind – *it's available to all of us but we need to come and ask for it in order to receive it!!!* As you may recall from my November 2012 Newsletter, I was hoping to be in Australia as from the end of January 2013 to work on the establishment of the HIT network there... Now I realized, I better become a New Zealand citizen so I can come and go to Australia as the Lord leads without needing to apply for visas there each time... What I suddenly understood is that if I spend 3 month or more out of New Zealand, I would need to wait for 5 more years before I can apply for my citizenship... So, the idea now is first to process the citizenship application before going to Australia... I hope that we can all learn from my story – to take the opportunities coming our way *while we can still have them!!!* I sure hope I didn't miss my opportunity... *Please pray for no complications concerning my NZ citizenship application; that the Lord's will grant me this citizenship and above all that His will be done.*

HIT in Australia: As you can read above, this has been put "on-hold" for a (short) time (I hope). Meanwhile, I must say that I'm a little discouraged with the (no) response I received to my request for contacts in Australia... Guys – I need your help!!! If you know of *any Bible-believers* in Australia, *please email me their name/s and email address/es*. Even if your contacts may not be able to host Israelis, or set up a meeting for me they may be able to refer me to someone who may... OK? *Please pray for the Lord to bring the right contacts and for open doors (and hearts!) wherever that may be in Australia.* Also, in my previous newsletter (November 2012) I mentioned how hard it is for Israelis to get a Tourist Visa to Australia... In fact, Israelis have commented to me that *only 16% of the Israelis* applying for a tourist visa to Australia are successful... *Please pray for the Lord to turn the hearts of the Australian Authorities, and that they will show favor to the people of Israel; for the Lord's will to be done, and for no complications concerning my own Visa Application to Australia...*

KAM: Please find attached KAM's latest newsletter and with it *2013 KAM English Catalog*. Do yourself a favor – flick through the Catalog and order yourself some books! This is not just a great way to support KAM ministry, but more importantly, it will, no doubt, deepen your walk with the Lord, as the depth of knowledge and understanding that these Messianic writers had of the Scriptures is not something you come across often in this day and age... There are about 100 different titles available on a verity of topics from Jewish life, customs and history to evangelism, theology, study and interpretation of the Scriptures. Feel free to email me if you have any questions and want to find out more about any particular book or if there's any topic that you're interested with and want further advice concerning which book/s will be more suitable for you. Please note that the prices in the catalog are in *US \$\$\$*. The price conversion to *NZ \$\$\$* depends on the exchange rate *at the time the books were/are sent to us from Israel*. Take note that there are *additional* postage costs from Israel to NZ and GST, so roughly, the price in *NZ \$\$\$* will be *about 1.5 times* the price in *US \$\$\$* (e.g. - *US \$8, \$10 and \$12* will likely be - *\$12, \$15 and \$18 NZ \$\$\$* respectively, etc.). On top of that, there are postage costs within NZ. Please note that some of the books that are marked in the Catalog as "NEW" may not yet be available. Also, I have "stamped" TEOTE details at the in-sides of both front and back cover of the Catalog with (*note TEOTE new email address - teote.ministry@gmail.com*) so please email me your books order there, OK? If you know of people who are not on our mailing list, but may be interested with KAM books we would be delighted to send them a Catalog as well...

Arnold Fruchtenbaum teaching tour of New Zealand (March-April 2013): If you're not familiar with the teaching ministry of Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum, let me just say, that I see Arnold as the greatest Hebrew Scholar of our day... If you're interested in the deep things, the "meat" of the Word of God – Dr. Fruchetenbaum is your man! I would like to urge you to make every possible effort to attend any of Arnold's meetings if you can. Arnold's itinerary is attached to this newsletter.

Jacob Damkani's Tour of New Zealand (February 2014): I'm delighted to inform you that, God's willing, next year, in February 2014 I will be having a nation-wide tour of NZ, together with Israeli Evangelist Jacob Damkani. This will be 14 years after our first tour of New Zealand which has initiated the setting-up of the HIT network... This is exciting!!! The plan is to have a one month tour with 22-24 days for teachings/speaking engagements and, at Jacob's request, setting aside 6-8 days for some mountain climbing and trekking... Places where Jacob has not been to in recent tours of NZ (trying to reach those who have not heard of Jacob or his ministry before) and where there is a greater need for HIT hosts will be among the deciding factors where we will go... In the meantime, please email me if you are interested to have Jacob and I come to your town/area and let me know if you (or anyone else) will be able to host us, arrange such a meeting for us, etc., OK? *Please pray for open doors and for a clear guidance from the Lord as to which places/towns/churches to go to in this tour...*

The Other Side of the Cross: This is a one-hour professionally-made DVD Jacob's ministry has produced recently. In this DVD, Israeli experts from various disciplines who are highly-respected in their fields (historians, scholars, professors, academy people and even Rabbis and philosophers) are commenting on various aspects of Yeshua's life and the Jewish culture of first century Israel... Sadly, most Israelis today are very ignorant concerning this topic and so, while there is no gospel presentation in this DVD, the greatest value in it, is bringing the issue of "Yeshua" into a discussion to the Israeli public. The large majority of the experts featuring in this DVD, while not believers in Messiah, speak quite fondly of Yeshua... Watching this DVD with Israeli travelers staying with you can open up some discussions on that Issue. *"The Other Side of the Cross"* normal prices (in *US \$\$\$*; not include postage) is \$18 but is offered to *HIT hosts* and *TEOTE supports* at a reduced rate of *\$15 (20% discount!)* OR *half-price (\$10* when ordering 5 copies or more). Please contact Elisheva of "Trumpet of Salvation" office in Israel on +972-3-5111007 / *sales@hotelgilgal.com* mentioning **"TEOTE"** to claim your discount.

Email/s: I'm currently updating all my email contacts and their data into different groups of associations... I would greatly appreciate if you can send me a short email with your name/s and where you live, as I have some email address that I do not know who they belongs to... This is especially important if you have received no email from me in the last 6 month, OK? Thank you!

Thank you all for your on-going prayer and support.
Together for the salvation of Israel,

*** Please inform us of ANY changes to your contact details ***

Omri Jaakobovich,
TEOTE ("The Ends of the Earth")

If you want to support this work... TEOTE bank account details are as follows:

Bank: Bank of New Zealand (BNZ)
Branch: Paihia

Account Name: TEOTE ("The Ends of the Earth")
Account Number: 02-0386-0093421-000

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Stories and emails: I'm sure that you were all greatly encouraged as you read in the TEOTE newsletter (August 2012) various stories from hosts about their experiences with their Israeli visitors. Please continue to write to us such great stories and testimonies so that we can share those here with all TEOTE supporters... Here are some more emails from HIT hosts and TEOTE supporters -

"Hi Omri, concerning expanding HIT, as Bruce has had a number of HIT visitors, I am going to get him to give a testimony in two Sundays time about the blessings he has had from them, to try and encourage others to enrol. Shalom." (**Steve Wockner**, Westport Anglican Church, 15.1.13) and also from Westport: "We have had many visitors and at times many at one time. One day we were full up and another group rang looking for somewhere to stay. It had been raining for several days and the second group had been in the Nelson Lakes Park and were wet and tired so we told them they could turn up and we would see what we could do... *Seven slept in beds and eight more dosed down on the lounge floor on mattresses out of their cars.* It was like a meeting of United Nations here. We have realised that we are in a pivotal location for travellers who use Westport as a gateway to the West Coast. There have been so many passing through over the Christmas period especially. Bruce got up and shared about his experiences in church last week and some interest was shown in getting involved in the programme. We will continue to spread the good word and encourage others to get involved too. With respect to the hosting we have as I have said been blessed with many interesting visitors who without exception been great ambassadors for Israel. All of them have been very pleasant to have around and we have shared many experiences with them. (**Peter**, Westport, 3.2.13)

"Yes it has been full on here. Had a great hot Christmas with our travellers and another full house in New Year. Everything has been running smoothly." (**Ann**, Wellington, 23.1.13); "Thanks Omri, Just letting you know that we have had three lots of visitors so far since Jan 6th, 8 people in all and we have really enjoyed having them. We have had some really good talks with them and one group of 4 stayed three days. Thanks for providing this service for us and them. Blessings!" (**Cathy**, Stratford, 29.1.13); "Hi Omri, We have had 26 HIT clients here since 7 December (2012)... We have only had two young guys who were rather stressful to host but all the others have been lovely young people. It's been quite an education for us to meet them all. (**Ann & Eric**, Invercargill, 30.1.13); "Greetings, I now have a large exercise book with the guests stay dates, fun photos and comments which you recommended at our last get together meeting. Still loving and enjoying all my Israeli visitors. Regards..." (**Diana**, McLeod Bay, 29.1.13) "I am enjoying my (Israeli) visitors very much, especially when they cook me an Israeli meal - yum! Blessings..." (**Estelle**, Napier, 21.2.13)

Here are 2 emails I received recently from people wanting to join as hosts to the HIT network: "Shalom Omri, ...I'm available to host Israeli travellers. I have a spare room and lots of spare beds if there are more than one or two travellers, I'm happy for them to sleep in the lounge. Kind regards." (**Kate**, Karaka, 26.2.2013) OR "...We live in Kumeu. We get to Takou Bay every other weekend (twice a month)... The house there is a simple beach-house on 5 acres with views and a short drive to the beach. We can provide simple accommodation-fold out coach, mattresses on floor and also tenting..." (**Carl & Lavinia**, Kumeu, 1.3.2013). If you are in a position to host Israelis and are not yet listed in the HIT directory, I'd like to urge you, please, do not rob yourself from this great blessing! You can play a part in what the Lord Himself is doing with His people Israel, here at the ends of the earth... *Come and join our hosting network today!*

Now, how about some emails/texts that I received from Israeli travellers (and which I freely translated from Hebrew)? "Hi Omri, ...I'm still being hosted at HIT homes; every night in the last month was amazing! I want to thank you for this amazing project and mention Ann (Wellington), an amazing woman we simply didn't want to leave. She is such wonderful woman and the 'feeling' at her house is like 'home'. She opened my eyes to a faith I opposed all my life, and she's a sign and an example to a strong, independent woman. An Amazing hostess!" (**Noam**, 25.11.12); or "(so far) I've been hosted by more than 10 hosts. Everyone is a unique experience, because they are really special people. Many of them give you their entire house and everything that goes with it. All have beautiful and equipped homes. The money savings is huge as backpacker's hostels or even camping grounds will always cost at least twice as much. And I never heard 'no' they are always willing to host..." (**Reggev**, 15.12.12)

"Concerning HIT, it's an amazing project and a much appreciated 'start-up'... Apart of the money savings we met amazing people who want to help and hear about Israel and the Jews. At present we're in Taupo, staying at the Brodie family, wonderful people and so nice!!! It is astonishing how much people are willing to help us!" (**Omri**, 22.12.12); "Hi Omri, I wanted to say that I was a little suspicious at first, but I really enjoy HIT! Toda!" (**Nofar**, 30.12.12); "Dear Omri, we have... already spend few days with HIT families in Foxton, Picton and Wellington. We enjoy our stay very much, so thank you for all you have done, we can only salute you!!!" (**Esther**, 1.1.13); "...We sleep only with HIT (families). Most (hosts) are 'Achlah' (great)" (**Shira & Na'ama**, 26.1.13); "Hi! We met in Paihia just over a week ago... Thus far we are really happy (with HIT) and the families are so nice... Thanks!" (**Amitay**, 5.2.13);

Isn't it wonderful to read such comments from both hosts and even more so, from the Israeli travelers themselves? Knowing that this is just the 'tip of the ice-berg' and that there are so many more such-like comments that we never even hear of is, by itself, quite amazing... However, among all these wonderful comments there is one more email that I want to share here with you as in it there's a lesson to each and every one of us: "Omri... *Had a bad night stay with HIT... had Jews for Jesus rammed down our throats... Would not recommend HIT to any fellow Israeli travelling New Zealand...*" (Susan, 1.12.12) - What can I say when I receive such an email? Let's see if we can learn anything from this situation, OK? I'll start by saying that "there is... no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus..." (Romans 8: 1). Apart of that I'm very encouraged with every host that has a desire to share Messiah with their Israeli visitors... More so, if our prime motive for hosting the Israeli travelers is not for reaching them to Messiah, then something about our motives is not quite right... We also know that "...faith comes by hearing, and hearing the word of God." (Romans 10: 17)

However, we must remember a few things when we come to share Messiah with our Israeli visitors, especially if we do so through the HIT network... **(1)** It's not our job, but God's, to convince people that Yeshua is the Messiah... **(2)** Israelis are not coming to New Zealand to hear the gospel but to travel... Adding to that the fact that on one hand most Israelis are very ignorant of the Bible, history, etc. while on the other hand perceive "Christians" as those who for 2,000 years have persecuted the Jews >>> we must try and woo the Israelis toward Messiah rather than "forcing Messiah" on them... On top of that we must see the "big picture" which is **(3)** we are part of a whole network and there are plenty of other hosts 'down-the-road' and so, we don't need to rush... If we're one of the first 3 HIT hosts our Israeli visitors are staying with (and I understand that Susan's experience was at her first and only host) we first want the Israelis to feel comfortable at our homes... We want them to enjoy their stay, and when they leave our home, to be excited about going to the next HIT host/s... Let's remember Paul's words: "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase..." (1 Corinthians 3: 6) and realized that we don't have to do it all by ourselves and all at once... Just one step at a time will be fantastic! *May God bless you all as you bless His people!!!*

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