



THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

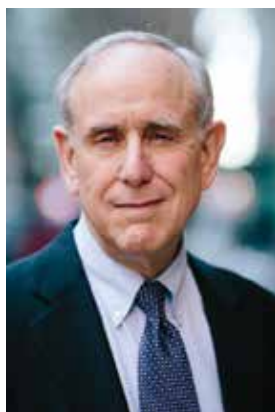
125
YEARS

Volume XXV, Issue 2
March 2019

THE NEXT GENERATION

PASSOVER AND THE NEW COVENANT | TRAINING A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS | HEBREWS BIBLE STUDY

Passover and the New Covenant



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friend,

Shalom in our Messiah. I hope you will have a wonderful Passover/Easter season and that this newsletter will help prepare your heart for the celebrations next month!

This is one of my favorite times of year as we are surrounded by symbols and celebrations to help us remember God's faithfulness through providing Jesus, the perfect Passover Lamb, to die for our sins...and to rise from the dead!

My First Family Passover after becoming a Believer in Jesus

I remember my first Passover after coming to faith in Jesus the Messiah. In November 1971, I accepted Jesus as my Savior and Messiah in San Francisco, California, and traveled back to the East Coast to tell my parents about my newfound faith. I knew it was not going to be easy, but I never imagined it would be so difficult.

My parents were wonderful and tried to understand me, but it was just too much of a stretch to understand how their son, a nice Jewish boy, could believe in Jesus. A few months after I returned home, it came time for my first Passover with my extended family. I was under strict instructions not to say anything to my relatives, especially my grandparents, about my relationship with Jesus.

It was difficult. I sat quietly through the Passover Seder at my grandparents' home in Brooklyn, but the parallels between the New Testament and the traditional Passover became so obvious to me.

I said nothing, but my heart was bursting! And surprisingly, even to me, the Passover made me feel so Jewish! I realized that Passover pointed to a day of greater redemption through the shed blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus the Messiah. I recognized that I did not need to give up my Jewishness to believe in Jesus, since Jesus and His disciples were all Jewish. In fact, my faith was the fulfillment of all God had promised to the Jewish people.

This is why Passover means so much to me. It is a time when I feel joyously whole as a Jew who believes Jesus is the Messiah. For me it all comes together at Passover! Let me explain why.

Jesus, the Passover, and Older Covenants

Jesus' last meal with His disciples before going to the cross was a Passover Seder. During that last Seder, we know that Jesus took a cup and said, "*This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood*" (Luke 22:20).

This cup is traditionally called the Cup of Redemption and is always taken after the meal. He could have chosen any of the four cups, but took the third cup as it would have the greatest meaning for His Jewish disciples. The cup pointed to the blood of the Passover Lamb, and by taking this cup Jesus was declaring that He was the true Lamb!

This event inaugurated the New Covenant prophesied in Jeremiah 31:31–35. As I reflect upon His statement, I wonder, "*What is the New Covenant?*" What about this covenant is new?

The Greek word for new, *kainos* (καινός), generally translates the Hebrew term *chadash* (חדש), and is a common word that means *new* or *renewed*, allowing for a connection to the past. The New Covenant is new, but is also built upon the previous covenants God had made with the Jewish people, particularly the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants (Genesis 12:1–3, 2 Samuel 7:27–29).

Two Types of Covenants

In the Hebrew, a covenant is never made—it is *cut*. All covenants are cut and confirmed with the shedding of blood. Additionally, we understand that, in general, God makes two types of covenants with His people—one is conditional and the other unconditional. This might very well reflect the various types of covenants made in the Middle East at the time.

A Conditional Covenant

Covenants that are conditional demand the obedience of the lesser party in order to receive the good promised by the greater. In order to



receive the blessings of the covenant, Israel had to be obedient to the Law God gave on Mount Sinai.

An Unconditional Covenant

Covenants that are unconditional depend upon the work of God Himself to ensure Israel receives the blessings of the covenant. This means that the ultimate blessing for Israel, based on the covenant with Abraham, is certain. God gave the Land of Israel to the descendants of Abraham. Isaac, Jacob, and ultimately Jacob's descendants will inherit the Land.

Jeremiah makes this clear when he writes,

“Behold, days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord” (Jeremiah 31:31–32).

The New Covenant Today

The prophet Jeremiah writes,

“But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the Lord, “I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the Lord, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.” (Jeremiah 31:33–35)

Jeremiah outlines five major promises assured by the New Covenant:

- 1) The law will be internalized in the hearts of believers (1 Corinthians 3:16).
- 2) Forgiveness of sins will be available to all who believe (Hebrews 8:12).
- 3) Israel will be reconciled to God, just as He promised to Abraham (Romans 11:25ff).
- 4) All humanity will know the Lord (Jeremiah 31:34).
- 5) The Jewish people will be preserved throughout the ages (Jeremiah 31:35–37).

The New Covenant Tomorrow

The forgiveness of sins and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit apply to both Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshua. The

other three are future and look forward to the second coming of Jesus.



The Jewish people will come back to the Land and to the Lord as outlined in the Abrahamic Covenant. When this happens, the fulfillment of His Kingdom promises will be a blessing to all Jews and Gentiles who know the one true King.

Just imagine the beauty of a renewed earth when Jesus is on His rightful Davidic throne.

Ezekiel phrases it this way: *“They will say, ‘This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified*

and inhabited” (Ezekiel 36:35).

Paul writes: *“...that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God” (Romans 8:21).*

I believe that the return of almost seven million Jewish people to the Land is a foretaste of what is to come! He is faithful! But this is not end of the story. We also look forward to the day when the Jewish people will turn to Jesus, and Your Mission to the Jewish People, by the power of the Holy Spirit, is working towards this ultimate goal day in and day out. This is why we are so concerned with training a new generation of disciples in Israel and across the globe to bring the gospel to the Jewish people. Please keep reading, as I know you will be greatly encouraged to see what God is doing among a new generation!

And please remember to pray for Chosen People Ministries as we continue to celebrate our 125th year of service for the Lord among the Jewish people. We are planning our largest outreach effort in New York City this summer, and I hope you might pray about joining us for a week or two. We are praying that 125 people will join us each week! The details are on the back page of the newsletter. We are calling it Shalom New York because we will be bringing the message of the Prince of Peace to the largest concentration of Jewish people in the world! And if you cannot come, please pray and support this massive effort to reach Jewish people with the message of the New Covenant.

Peace in our Messiah,


Mitch

P.S. I hope you will think about conducting a Messianic Passover Seder in your home next month. See the materials on the back page of the newsletter that will provide all you need to enjoy this great festival with your family, church, or small group.

Training a New Gen

Ministry to Children

King Solomon wrote, “Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6). For more than a century, Chosen People Ministries has conducted children’s camping programs. We value investing in the next generation. Our camps for young Messianic children are located on the East Coast, West Coast, and even in Israel.

Camp Sar Shalom is our children’s camp in California. *Sar Shalom* means “prince of peace” and is a reference to Isaiah 9:7. Camp Sar Shalom brings children and teens together who would not regularly see one another throughout the year. Many Messianic congregations have smaller programs for their children, so camps broaden their relationships with youth from Jewish homes or who are part of Messianic congregations. At the end of the week, we have a final evening campfire at which time many campers have given their lives to Jesus and decided to live for Him.

The counselors share their own personal walks with Yeshua through the small groups, time in the bunks, doing sports, hiking, and during worship time. The counselors are with the campers almost twenty-four hours a day. This allows them to have a major impact upon the campers’ lives that they would not normally have in any other setting. It is an excellent way to develop leadership and organizational skills. We have had many campers return as counselors and even go on to serve on the staff of Chosen People Ministries.

Camp Keshet is the name of our camp in Pennsylvania. *Keshet* is Hebrew for “connection.” We chose this name because campers form lifelong connections and, thanks to social media and regional gatherings, these connections stay strong all year long. These campers encourage each other in the faith and help each other feel part of a greater community in the Lord.

Camp Keshet is full of fun activities and traditions, along with a strong focus on studying the Word of God. We combine Scripture memory verses, devotions, and camper-oriented messages from the Bible with an active schedule to create a Jesus-centered community within a Jewish cultural context. During the past three summers alone, fourteen campers, ages eight to sixteen, have committed their lives to the Lord for the first time. Countless others have recommitted themselves to the Lord.

Last month, we had our first winter weekend camp at the Sandy Cove Retreat Center in Maryland! Keshet Ice will help us maintain and build on the momentum created from our summer camp.

In Israel, we have extensive children and teen ministries, reaching children from non-believing families in addition to those who are part of Messianic congregations. We introduce Jesus the Messiah to the children who do not know Him, and for those who do, we help them learn to love Him more through worship, Bible study, and fellowship.

Since we began these children’s camps eight years ago, more than one hundred children have given their hearts to Jesus. We offer four or five camps each year. Each camp has 125 kids between the ages of eleven and fifteen, and forty leaders and helpers. Many of our campers, especially the teenagers, are only a few years away from army duty. Going to camp helps them build a solid spiritual foundation that gives them strength to remain faithful to the Lord during their season of army service.

Ministry to Young Adults

This past December 27, 2018 through January 2, 2019, approximately 150 young Jewish and Gentile believers from the United States, Canada, Israel, Germany, England, Russia, and South America gathered in Rome for our fifth *Muchan* (pronounced mu-khan) conference. Past conferences have been held in Berlin, Paris, Prague, and Madrid—each city chosen for its unique Jewish history.

Muchan, which is Hebrew for “ready,” exists to impact young believers between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five. The conference helps connect these like-minded brothers and sisters and serves to strengthen their faith and vision for the future. They spend time learning more about what it means to be a disciple of Yeshua and to consider the various opportunities around the world for Jewish evangelism. All this happens over a week through workshops, worship, prayer, and intensive Bible study. The participants studied the Book of Romans (of course—we were in Rome), the Jewish history of Rome, Jewish evangelism, and more!

We believe these young Messianic leaders will shape the future of Jewish ministry. For this reason, Chosen People Ministries significantly subsidizes a large percentage of the costs so that finances will not hinder any young person from attending. For example, this year we had more than forty millennials from Israel who really needed the financial help!

eration of Leaders

“...for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14b).

The attendees share a deep desire for Jewish people to know the Messiah. We hope to continue Muchan and have already started praying and planning for the next one in 2020.

Autumn, one of our Feinberg student missionaries, writes,

“I am happy that there was an intentional plan to strengthen and encourage young adults toward their unique purpose and place in the wider Messianic community.”

Another attendee, Abe, commented,

“What amazes me most is the Roman connection to the Jewish people. Walking through the Jewish ghetto and trying to imagine what it was like for the Jewish people, I was reminded of God’s promises to them, as God preserved them through hardship and persecution.”

And Charlotte, from Florida, noted,

“It was inspiring to see the global vision for God’s chosen people and hear the encouraging testimonies of what the next generation is doing to advance the kingdom. I look forward to the next Muchan conference!”

Muchan gives both the participants and our leadership a sense of hope for the future of the Messianic Jewish community worldwide. Muchan makes it evident that the Lord is always doing a tremendous work among His people.

Ministry To University Students

The college campus is one of the best places to engage Jewish students with the gospel. Students are more open-minded as they are often away from their parents, extended family, friends, and their local Jewish community. Jewish young adults are generally taught not to believe in Jesus but are often willing to talk about Him in a college environment, as they are usually open to new ideas.

We encourage and provide training and resources for campus ministries, local churches, and Messianic congregations near universities.

We encourage them to offer guidance, warm fellowship, a home-cooked meal, and lots of love! We also try to motivate Christian students on campus

to share the gospel with their fellow Jewish students.

Unfortunately, antisemitism is also on the rise on many college campuses in North America. Opposing the blight of antisemitism offers Christian students an opportunity to show solidarity with Jewish classmates, and to let them know that true believers love the Jewish people and detest antisemitism. This is a great testimony to Jewish students.



We currently have campus outreaches in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and in many other cities. We also offer some very creative and exciting ways to engage college-age believers.

This year, there is a brand new opportunity, which we are calling the **House of Living Waters**. It is a wonderful opportunity for young people between the ages of eighteen and thirty to serve Jewish university students at New York University—the campus with the largest number of Jewish students in the New York area.

Participants will receive free housing and a stipend for their ministry work as part of the House of Living Waters. During the course of a year, participants will reach out to Jewish university students and train believers on campus to share the gospel with their many Jewish friends and fellow students. There is still time to submit an application. For more information, or to apply, visit chosenpeople.com/houseoflivingwaters, or pass this information along to a young adult you think would have an interest in this new ministry.

Our summer ministries in Israel provide short-term opportunities to travel throughout the land of Israel and see the Scriptures come to life as the gospel is shared with Israelis. There is something profoundly palpable about standing in the very places where Jesus and his early followers stood. The idea was born when a Chosen People Ministries staff member recognized that young adults could greatly benefit from having the opportunity to walk and serve in the footsteps of Jesus. Several hundred young adults have made the trip with Chosen People Ministries.

One of our first participants, Kayla, told us this about her experience—

“It was amazing to actually be in a place where Jesus walked, talked, cried and prayed. I will never read the Bible the same way again. It really opened my eyes to the culture of the people during the time of Jesus. I now understand so much better.”

Just recently we heard from Kayla again, and she had this to add about her trip from years ago—

I went on this trip nineteen years ago, and it still impacts my life to this day! The Bible came alive and opened my eyes to things I never could imagine. Interacting with the local Israelis was so eye opening as well. It gave me a new understanding of this country and the people God loves so much! And gave me a love for it too!

This is exactly what we hope for those who serve on our Israel teams, and we pray that there will be many others like Kayla who will make the journey to Israel with us this summer and return home to pass on their love for God, His Word, and the Jewish people.



Dr. Rich Freeman, D. Min. serves as the Vice President for Church Ministries and Conferences with Chosen People Ministries and lives in South Florida with his wife, Julia.

EXAMPLES OF FAITH THROUGH ISRAEL'S HISTORY: Hebrews 11:32–40

The author of Hebrews begins this section with a rhetorical question, *“And what more shall I say?”* The question itself indicates that the writer thought it was not necessary to cite any more examples, yet that is exactly what he does. He now moves through the period of the judges, the kings, and the prophets to show that what he taught regarding examples of faith through the patriarchs and Moses really extend over Israel's entire history. The author picks out various representatives from those different eras.

He mentions four judges, Gideon, Barak, Samson, and Jephthah, as examples of faith, who interestingly are only mentioned here in the New Testament. He also mentions *“David and Samuel and the prophets”* in Hebrews 11:32. In 11:33–34, each of the examples from the book of Judges, as well as David, *“by faith conquered kingdoms.”* Additionally, David and Samuel by faith *“performed acts of righteousness.”* By faith, Gideon, Barak and David *“obtained promises”* from God. By faith, Samson, David, and also Daniel, *“shut the mouths of lions,”* and Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego *“quenched the power of fire.”* In one way or another, all of these examples of faith *“escaped the edge of the sword,”* and avoided death through their faith in God. They became mighty warriors through their faith and thus *“put foreign armies to flight.”*

Starting in 11:35, these examples of faith from Israel's history take a different turn. The writer points out that ultimately faith will triumph even over death. He begins by saying, *“Women received back their dead by resurrection.”* In the Old Testament, it was the widow of Zarephath whose son was raised by Elijah, and the Shunnamite woman whose son was raised by Elisha. In the New Testament, it was the widow of Nain whose son was raised by Jesus, and Martha and Mary whose brother, Lazarus, was raised by Jesus. But those resurrections were resurrections to natural life, as

they would ultimately die again. Others, in order to receive a better resurrection, an eternal resurrection, subjected themselves to great suffering for their faith, *“not accepting their release,”* not taking the easy way out and renouncing their faith or worshiping other gods. Some Old Testament examples of this suffering for their faith are Jeremiah, who experienced mocking and scourging; Joseph, who experienced chains and imprisonment; Zechariah,

who was stoned; and Isaiah, who was purported to be sawn in half by Manasseh. Certainly, the writer of Hebrews was also thinking of Paul who went through all of this then was put to death by the sword.

Others because of their faith were *“ill-treated”* by their own communities; they were living in poverty, became homeless, were forced to wander in deserts and mountains, and to dwell in dens and caves. Of these people of faith, he added an important parenthetical statement: *“(men of whom the world was not worthy).”* As he wrote these words, the writer had to have seen the many parallels between those he was writing about and these Hebrew believers who were reading his letter. Many of

them had been ill-treated by their communities, had forfeited employment, and were reduced to poverty. Ultimately, the purpose of this great chapter was to encourage these believers in their walk of faith. He concludes with these words in Hebrews 11:39–40: *“And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.”*

God intended this inspiring chapter to encourage us to continue to trust and obey Him in the midst of temptations, and not to turn away from following Him faithfully. The implication is that theirs was to be seen as a future reward during the last days, as is ours. This gives us motivation to persevere until that day comes.

³² And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection; ³⁶and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated ³⁸(men of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.

STREET EVANGELISM? MORE LIKE BEACH EVANGELISM!

In Florida, the holidays have passed and Boris and Shulamit have returned to their regular ministry activities. Usually the two winter months of January and February are the best time to do “street evangelism,” or in Florida they call it “beach evangelism.” Boris is spending a lot of ministry time outdoors, usually standing with a small book table next to the entrance to the beach, handing out pamphlets and engaging people in conversations. Boris says, “I know this may not be a missionary’s usual way of reaching people, but I love it because this type of evangelism bears so much fruit.” Boris does not want to miss the opportunity to reach so many Jewish people who come to South Florida in the wintertime. Recently, Boris was blessed with a great conversation with an Israeli man, Eitan*, who was very open to talk about God and to his surprise, about Yeshua as the Jewish Messiah. At the end of their conversation, Boris told him that, God willing, he will visit Israel this coming May. Eitan got very excited and invited Boris to visit him. Boris also gave Eitan the address of a Messianic congregation near his home in Bat Yam. Please pray for Eitan’s salvation and possible involvement in that Messianic congregation.

*name changed

REPORT FROM ROME—OVER 150 MESSIANIC BELIEVERS GATHER IN ROME FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2,000 YEARS!

Israel staff member Rachel says, “Thank you for your prayers for our recent young adults’ conference that we had in Rome called Muchan (“Ready” in Hebrew!)” There are so many answers to prayer for this event. Chosen People Ministries holds these conferences for Messianic young adults every two years in a European city with significant Jewish history (past sites have included Berlin, Paris, Madrid, and Prague). There were one hundred fifty-three young Jewish and Gentile believers from ten different countries who attended this year’s conference. These men and women brought stories of how the Lord has been moving in their lives and communities, all with the desire and hope to see Jewish people come into a saving relationship with their Messiah. As Rachel was in Rome, the thought crossed her mind that this gathering may have very well have been the largest gathering of Messianic believers in Rome for many centuries...even to the time of Paul! Rachel and the group went to the Colosseum and felt the prayers of the Christian martyrs and the tears of the Jewish slaves who built it after they were captured from Jerusalem. Next to the Colosseum, there stands the Arch of Titus at the Roman Forum, which depicts Roman soldiers marching back with the golden menorah taken from the Temple in Jerusalem. The Muchan conference inspired many young men and women to serve the Lord and share the gospel with Jewish people with more fervor than ever before!

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“I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES”

After our various duties we assembled in the new Auditorium at Hananeel. Away from the other buildings and situated on a little hill, it was a lovely restful spot. Mr. Daniel Fuchs led our morning devotions with songs and a helpful message from Psalm 121, which we had chosen for the children to learn during their camp visit. It was a joy to hear these girls memorizing the beautiful verses of this Psalm and repeating it many times through the day. After devotions we separated, and the counselors took their special group to some quiet nook for the morning Bible lesson. We had decided to have as our Bible lessons, stories illustrating the Names of God. Many of the children only look upon God as their Heavenly Father, but our aim was to show Him as our Creator, Master, Judge, Captain, Healer, etc., with the final lesson that Jesus is the Messiah. We can happily say that the children were intensely interested in the Bible lesson each day, asking questions which proved their desire to know more of God. Questions from the very smallest children were a surprise, for they showed much spiritual insight, and without question they all knew the way of Salvation perfectly — that Jesus the Messiah died for their sins and their only hope was in believing this with all their heart.

Passover Recipes

Grandma Belle’s Matzah Brie

INGREDIENTS:

3 pieces of matzah	1 egg
1 tbsp butter	Salt and pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Break the three pieces of matzah into small pieces, and place them in a bowl. Add about $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of water—just enough to dampen the matzah without soaking it.
2. Drain any excess water and mix matzah with the egg.
3. Melt the butter in a pan, and add the mixture, frying it like a pancake until both sides are brown and crispy. Season it to taste. It’s good with jelly or sugar!

Yields: 1 portion

OUTREACH ISRAEL

May 27–June 24, 2019

Ages 18–30

SPEND YOUR SUMMER IMPACTING THE LIVES OF ISRAELIS WHILE EXPLORING THE HOLY LAND!

For more information, please contact us or call 1-888-YESHUA.

2019 CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES EVENTS

May 31–June 2, 2019
Israel's Glorious Future Conference and Retreat

Sandy Cove Conference Center, North East, Maryland with speakers Dr. Darrell Bock, Stuart Rothberg, and the staff of Chosen People Ministries and worship with Marty Goetz!

October 11–13, 2019
Israel's Glorious Future and Feast of Tabernacles Celebration

Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan, Wisconsin
Speakers to be announced later!

November 15, 2019
Grand Finale Banquet

Grand Prospect Hall, Brooklyn, New York



FREE SHIPPING

If you order online and use the code **PASSOVER2019** at checkout, you will get free shipping.



Our special Passover set from Israel has everything you need to host a Messianic Jewish Passover meal in your home. The **Matzah Tosh**, or matzah cover, is a pouch with three compartments to each hold a piece of unleavened bread called matzah; it is a vivid illustration of the unity of God's nature. The **Seder Plate** helps tell the story of the exodus and points to our Messiah. The **Kiddush Cup** symbolizes the blood of the sacrificed Passover lamb, or the Lamb of God. It is filled four times during the Passover meal as the story of God's redeeming work among His people Israel is told. The **Haggadah** and **Leader's Manual** has all the information you need to host a seder meal for a small or large group.

The set includes: one each of Seder Plate, Matzah Tosh, Kiddush Cup, Messianic Haggadah, and Leader's Manual. (Not included: Candles, candle holders, passover elements, decor in photo.) Each item can also be purchased individually.

Passover Set (5 pieces)	\$78.99 ^{US}
Matzah Tosh	\$17.99 ^{US}
Seder Plate	\$35.95 ^{US}
Kiddush Cup	\$23.99 ^{US}
Messianic Haggadah	\$6.95 ^{US}
Leader's Manual	\$9.95 ^{US}

MESSIANIC RESOURCES

For phone orders call **800-333-4936** in the U.S. For more resources, visit us online at chosenpeople.com/store.



THE CHOSEN PEOPLE



A higher standard.
A higher purpose.

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