

**There is a lot to tell you about our visit to Mea Shearim, the ultra-orthodox area of Jerusalem.**

(Mea Shearim and Yad vaShem, the Holocaust memorial, are always components of our campaigns.) We were not there to evangelize but to pray, to get to know the culture and to shop. We were attacked simply because we were there.

We are aware that this is actually a spiritual battle. And even though we saw profound hate in the faces of some of those in Mea Shearim, we know that God dearly loves them and fights for their souls! It was this type of people that Jesus confronted 2,000 years ago. ***"For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me."*** (John 5:46)

They have turned God's law into man-made doctrine and therefore cannot recognize our Lord. Please pray for the Haredim (the Ultra-Orthodox) that they will have a life-changing encounter with the living God of Israel. Pray that their eyes would be opened so that they could recognize Yeshua, their Jewish Messiah, the one whom they so zealously persecute.

Even though such an outbreak of violence was really unforeseeable, we probably could have avoided all of this. If we would avoid every kind of confrontation and would always pay attention so that we never offend or provoke anyone, we would be on the safe side. If we would just say what others want to hear, we would have only friends in this world and everyone would love us.

Then, while we consider that, the Lord comes to our mind, from whom we learn and who we want to follow, and we see that this really was not His way of doing things. He always proclaimed the Truth - clear and distinct - if it pleased the others or not. He was always concerned about the salvation of the people, which was much more important to Him than a fleeting good feeling or a nice relationship. Jesus dared to be unloved to reach the people who were searching for the Truth. And this is exactly what we want to do as well.

There are so many lost and desperate people in this world who are looking for the Truth. To discover these people we are ready to put up with being laughed at, spat on or even beaten. We would miss so many chances if we would not keep trying again and again! And especially in Mea Shearim are those people who truly seek God.

Also Paul is an example for us. In another context he says (Philippians 1:18). ***"What then? Only that, in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice."*** The main thing is that the Gospel is preached so that more people hear the Good News!



This incident in Mea Shearim also brought forth good. Our group learned in this hour more than we had even dared to hope. We grew closer together and received great courage for the upcoming outreaches. Thank the Lord! Furthermore, this incident brought Yeshua and our faith into conversations. Many people in Israel and all around the world started to ponder. *Jacob und Elisheva*

**Please read here some of their comments.**

*All of you holier than thou. Now you know why Messiah is not here and the Arabs have an upper hand at us!!! Bravo to supposedly real orthodox people out there. What does your Rabbi say about this? unknown.*

*Christians might have errors in their teachings. Nonetheless, they are human beings with human rights. Those who think otherwise are fools. Duke*

*Sounds to me like the orthodox have more in common with Hamas than most of us would like to think, but then again, they behave the same toward me - and I'm Jewish - go figure. Susan*

*Christians support Israel in a time of war. Does Israel need to make any more enemies than it already has? John*

*Jews can't believe in Yeshua? What a ridiculous statement. The founding apostles were Jews, the first believers were Jews, the first missionaries were Jews, the initial Jesus movement was entirely Jewish. HE came for the Jew and Salvation is still for the Jew. Your ignorance belongs in Mea She`arim!! Des*

*I don't know if these Christian tourists were distributing missionary material. But I do know that one can't get through the area of the Central Bus Station, or Mahane Yehuda market without encountering missionaries. Loud music, phylacteries, pamphlets, candles and blessing cards for a donation, of course. This isn't religion, it's a missionary bazaar. Jewish, but a missionary bazaar. Dani*

*Be more concerned about the Gay Parade in Jerusalem! Sarah*

Israel has no better friend than the Christian Zionist movement. These people must be protected and honored... period. Robert

I, as in between the Jews and Christians, want to apologize for the wrong we, Jews, do to the Christian friends in our hostile comments, to our own shame. Blessed are you who come in the Name of the LORD. Please forgive us... Sarah