



# House of Israel International Ministries



שלחות בית ישראל בן לאומית  
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Abiding in the hope of Israel. [www.hoisrael.org](http://www.hoisrael.org)

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Ethiopian Jewish News Update

According to ACTAfrica there are one million people in Ethiopia affected by HIV, including 92,000 children. Many of these children are orphans, since their parents have died of this dreaded scourge. I know you are familiar with our work among the Beta Yisrael people in the Gondar province of Ethiopia and their surrounding neighbors. For years, we have provided needy, struggling families with humanitarian aid, primarily through the distribution of cash gifts. These carefully distributed gifts have been used for food, medicine, and rent. We have also dug wells in a number of villages in order to provide fresh, safe water.



While the Messianic Beta Yisrael have a lesser incidence of HIV among their families, as an Messianic Ethiopian who now lives in America, I cannot bear to see any of my dear people suffer, especially when there are so many opportunities to share Messiah Yeshua with them as we practically and lovingly reach out to them. Fifty percent of Ethiopians live below the poverty line. Can you imagine how much worse it must be for the men, women and children living with HIV? Not only must they struggle from day to day for their basic survival needs, but they require additional medical treatment to prolong the infection from getting worse. While there are organizations and agencies worldwide working on a cure for HIV, at this point none exists that can ensure a complete recovery.



in need of physical and spiritual aid.

While my heart is burdened by all who are infected with HIV, I am especially moved by the plight of the many orphaned HIV-positive children. They face, without loving parents, not only a long-term battle to live but also a day-to-day struggle to survive. Each child is a precious soul

The House of Israel International Ministries cannot cure HIV, but we can alleviate many of the realities that these children face daily – like providing adequate food, clothing, medicine, and a safe place to live.

Together, we can ease the circumstances of these dear orphaned children and provide them with hope and comfort.

Together, we can have opportunities to share the Gospel message of Messiah Yeshua with them and the people who care for them.

Our ministry has been working efficiently and effectively in Ethiopia for years. We know how to reach the people who most need our help. Our ability to reach out is only limited by the amount of funds caring people like you donate. When I write a letter like this to you, I am reminded of the words Yeshua shared with his disciples, as recorded in

**Matthew 25:35-40 . . .**

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Then the righteous will answer him, Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.*

Your much needed gift this month will help us direct our efforts to the neediest who are suffering from the ravages of HIV. I don't want to end my letter on a somber note, but I cannot overlook the fact that your gift may well help to ease a child's difficult circumstances and even possibly prolong that child's life. Thank you for helping us to reach out to "the least of these." I know God will bless you for your love and compassion!

Kokeb Gedamu, Rabbi  
HIIM President

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