



House of Israel International Ministries



שלחות בית ישראל בן לאומית
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Abiding in the hope of Israel. www.hoisrael.org

P.O.Box 143 Wynnewood, PA 19096 Tel. (610) 348 4733

September 2010

Ethiopian Jewish News

As you know, the Beta Israel Messianic Jewish believers in Ethiopia have languished for years with the hope of making aliyah to Israel, their ancestral homeland.

Making aliyah would have been much easier had they been willing to do one thing: renounce their faith in Messiah Yeshua.

Sadly, it is their rock-solid faith that has kept them from joining family and loved ones in the Promised Land. Rather than turning their backs on Yeshua, or lying to the Israeli authorities about what they believe, the Beta Israel have chosen the “narrow way” by standing firm in Messiah.

It didn't matter that all their documents and papers were in order. It didn't matter that an Israel surrounded by over 300 million hostile neighbors needs all the Jews willing and able to come. It didn't matter that Ethiopians who had already made aliyah had proven to be hard-working and patriotic citizens, clearly a wonderful addition to the multi-cultural tapestry that represents Israel.

It is one thing to stand fast in one's faith – as the Beta Israel have staunchly done – but it is entirely another matter when they did so knowing they would face severe hardships because of their decision.

Hunger . . . sickness . . . persecution . . . lack of housing . . . little educational opportunities for many Beta Israel children . . . even death in some cases.

These are what the costs of following their Messiah have meant for the Beta Israel.



And, yet, despite difficulties on a daily basis that we can scarcely imagine, the Beta Israel fill their modest synagogue tents for joyous Shabbat and holiday services, anointed prayer, Bible studies, teaching, and home fellowships.

A courageous people like this deserves our admiration and respect, but even more they need our loving practical support.

The Beta Israel need food, clean water, medicine, housing and schools. This is what my sister and our HIIM workers in Ethiopia have been called to do - to bring some relief to these struggling families as best they can.

I know first-hand what the Beta Israel have given up to emigrate to what they believed would be only a temporary staging site in Addis Ababa and Gondar province before going to Israel. My family and I made pretty much the same treacherous journey they did in seeking to make aliyah to Israel.



That dangerous journey and the many ways God protected us are recounted in my new book, *Journey Beyond Imagination*.

The Beta Israel deserve our prayers and our support. Co-laboring together, we can ease their hardships and give them hope in knowing that they have not been forgotten by the Body of Messiah.

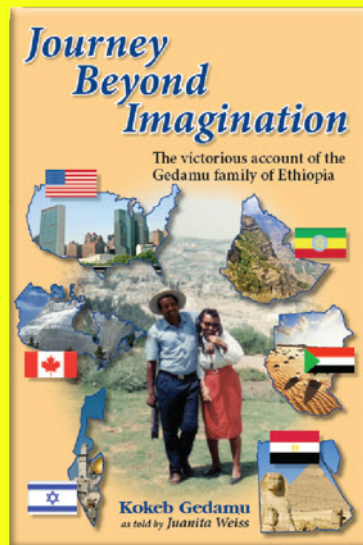


As we approach the Jewish High Holy Days season that includes Rosh HaShanah (the New Year), the Days of Awe, Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) and Sukkot (the Festival of Tabernacles), please be reminded that this is a time of the year when we are expected to be especially compassionate toward those in need of help.

Please seek the Lord as to what He would have you do to provide something extra to the Beta Israel. During this special time of the year, we would like to be able to bring an even greater blessing in the way of humanitarian aid to our Messianic brothers and sisters.

We wish you a blessed and joyful High Holy Days season as we welcome in the Jewish New Year 5771

Sincerely,
Kokeb Gedamu
Messianic Rabbi
and HIIM Founder



**Our special gift to you
from the House of Israel
International Ministries
for your Jewish
High Holy Days donation
of \$50 or more**

Kokeb Gedamu's new book "Journey Beyond Imagination" traces how he and his family miraculously undertook and survived an odyssey that took them through six nations. His inspiring story will bless you and dramatically demonstrate how God protected and brought him to the leadership role he has today among Messianic Jews and the Christians.

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