

The new community center is open: The time has come to open Gilgal, the house of the Lord!

December 2007

*Dear beloved brothers and sisters,
Grace and shalom be with you!*

Time is truly an amazing thing. No-one can buy it, add to it, or take away from it. It comes in the same measure for the poor and the rich, the prisoner and the free, the sick and the healthy, the wise and the foolish, and time is a gift from God. Only Joshua who honored his covenant with the Gibeonites and went out from Gilgal to fight on their behalf managed to add a good number of hours to God's clock (Joshua 10:12-15).

Just as the one, two and five talents were entrusted into our hands, so also is time.

The day will come when we will have the great privilege and honor of standing before the Lord to give an account of all our doings with the time that He had entrusted into our hands. Now after much prayer, hard work and trials of faith, which produce endurance, the time has come for the doors of Gilgal to finally open.

Beloved of God, remember, embrace and apply this truth: our faith as true disciples will always be tested. It will never prosper so well as when all things are against it.

Faith is precious and its trials are precious too. No faith is as precious as that which lives and triumphs in the midst of harsh conditions. Gilgal, as well as my own life, have and will continue to have much adversity. Praise be to God for His promises that if we only abide in Him and seek His kingdom first we shall be more than conquerors and overcomers.

Remember that all people will have to answer concerning their faith in regard to Yeshua, Son of God. Many people of the world are likely to answer as the "*great multitude with swords and clubs.*" (Matthew 26:47) Sadly, there are others who will answer with the kind of faith that Judas Iscariot displayed, when he pretended to be part of the family. They will try to give the impression of being a member of the church.

However, when Judas discovered that the promised kingdom was not coming in his lifetime and Israel would not be delivered from the Romans, and also that he could not gain anything for himself out of this faith, he betrayed the King with a kiss for 30 pieces of silver. The same danger lies at the corner of each of our hearts - of betraying the King with the conduct of our choice.

Still others will answer the Son of God with sleeping faith. These believers neither find the time nor the inclination to read the Word, meditate or pray. They respond to trials and issues of life impulsively from their body and soul, in a carnal way, rather than through the Holy



Spirit. When the King has need of them they will escape and scatter because neither the knowledge of the will of God nor His power shall be available to them.

May we be among those true disciples who realize so deeply our debt to our King, who has become our sacrificial Lamb, Brother and Friend, that we can't stop communicating with Him in constant prayer and in reading the Word. May we never cease to strive, fight and run to be His answer to the needs of His decaying world. Such a life, which is so meaningful, colorful, and full of adventures and beauty, is not only for full-time workers of the church but also for you whom I so much love.

In November, 2007, thanks to God and each of you, I had the great joy, privilege and honor of finally getting the license to open Gilgal to the public. It is so humbling to see such grace coming our way - after all, who am I to receive such attention, such a mission from the Almighty God?

And who am I to be blessed with such true friends from across the globe?

I look back on my childhood in the small village of Kiryat Shmona; at my youth in the city of Holon; my running away to the Red Sea beach; then my escape from the army after which I had to disappear from the Promised Land. I look back with great amazement at the way in which my Father in heaven brought me from the day of my birth by the Sea of Galilee to Gilgal by the Mediterranean Sea.

I look at Gilgal, which has finally come to completion. Its doors are now open for you who are prisoners of God in love, hope and faith. I stand on the polished platform (24 centimeters high) of the sanctuary, which can seat 200 people, and look at its beautiful painting of Joseph with his brothers and their astonished expressions when he reveals himself to them. On the right hand panel next to it, the painting continues with bread falling out of a basket and birds eating it, as well as the sheaves of Joseph's dream, while on the left side of Joseph there is a cup of wine and the stars in heaven. The bread and the wine on either side of Joseph speak of Pharaoh's two officials, the chief cup bearer and the chief baker. Lastly it was their God-given dreams that set Joseph free from prison to be a ruler over Egypt.

While we endeavor to live our lives with a pure conscience as true disciples and partake of bread and wine at our Lord's Table, God can use us to set men free from their prison of sin and enable them to rule with Christ as we shall.

I look at the amazing dining room with its painting of the story of Ruth and Boaz, depicting all the details of Orpah turning her back, the sandal being given to the first kinsman-redeemer and Ruth and Boaz gazing at each other with a great expression of love.

I look at how beautifully the fifty rooms have been finished with the colorful curtains in place, the beds made up and the well-designed bathrooms complete with bath towels, soap and shampoo.

It was 24 years ago that God miraculously provided me with the house in Jaffa. For over a year, every day at dawn, on my knees, I bowed down before the God of my forefathers, between the two pillars of the sculpture of faith that describes the story of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joshua, son of Nun. This sculpture is located on the hill of old Jaffa, 2 minutes' walk from both our Jaffa base and from the place where Peter the Apostle had his vision described in Acts 10.

My earnest prayer between these two pillars was that I would present my body as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to Him whom I so much love; that God would give me the wisdom and strength, courage and boldness, endurance and perseverance, with no fear but a heart full of love, humility and joy to present the Gospel of the kingdom; and that the house which God entrusted into my hands would bring Him glory and much fruit.

As with all my prayers, I know that the Holy Spirit also helps my infirmities, for I do not know how to pray as I ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for me with groaning which cannot be uttered.

“Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, forever. Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Now 24 years later, I stand on the roof of Gilgal overlooking Jaffa and I bow down before our Almighty God with

thanksgiving for His faithfulness, loving-kindness and answers to prayer. In His wisdom He gave birth to Gilgal that we might serve Him shoulder to shoulder more effectively than we have for the past 24 years.

Looking at Gilgal, all ready to go, it seems to me that all these 30 years of my faith and the 24 years at our Jaffa base were just a school of preparation for the real battle ahead.

Beloved of God, at this hour of Israel's history, which is His-story, our God, blessed be His Holy name, has a story to tell to His beloved covenant people. In His sovereignty, God has raised up Gilgal for you to come and be part of this prophetic hour. You are well aware of Trumpet's scripturally-based vision; you recognize the signs of the times and you well know: ***"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without preaching?"*** (Romans 10:14)

You also know that time is short and that you and I are called to redeem the time.

"Truly, truly I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself, and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will gird you." (John 21:18) Dear friends, we do not have to grow old for the Lord to gird us. Please earnestly pray and ask the Lord if you are to come for a short term or a long term. We dearly want to hear from you and remind you that the work of God in Israel is waiting for you.

You don't have to know it all in order to come. If you are willing to obey and learn, then come and be greatly blessed. Remember that when we were united by faith to Christ, we were brought into such complete fellowship with Him, that we were made one with Him, His interests and ours became mutual and identical and without doubt, the blowing of the trumpet of salvation among the Jewish people is His interest at this hour of Israel's His-tory.

As for Trumpet's finances, we keep praising God, always giving Him all the glory for His faithfulness through you who make it possible for us to pay our bills on time until today. Now that we have received our license, the time has come to pay the balance of all the costs involved, money which we had retained in order to ensure the work would be finished to our satisfaction. Please pray that we will be able to pay these bills.

Beloved of God and of Trumpet, the year is nearly over - I hope you spent this year inspired by a vision in your heart. The greatest mark of a true vision is that it is born in the heart of God. You see this in the scriptures and in the lives of people. How grateful we are to Him for allowing us to be a part of His plan here at Trumpet of Salvation, which was and continues to be God's idea.

May you be diligent to remember and to inquire of Him about all that you are to do in various aspects of Trumpet. May we seriously recognize and evaluate the impact our decisions, plans and dreams have on the plan of God who so much needs us at this hour of Israel's His-tory. May we all together strive for excellence that He might be glorified in our efforts to bring the realization of Yeshua in His Jewish context to the Jewish people.

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His loving-kindness is everlasting. Who can speak of the mighty deeds of the Lord, or can show forth all His praise?" Psalm 106:1-2

*With much love, hope and faith
to see you soon in Gilgal.
Jacob, Elisheva and the Trumpet team*