

"And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, this month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you." Exodus 12:2

God set up the new year not in January but at Passover, which falls this year at sundown on April 12th. As the new year begins it brings a new change to the environment around us. It's an exciting time, as we experience the newness of life. Since our last newsletter God has been doing great things in and thru my life. I rejoice in His faithfulness and fellowship, either in times of sorrow or joy. I have learned to rest even more in His promises as I daily yield my life to Him. While in the States I have had a busy preaching schedule. What joy it is to see God working in the hearts and lives of people.

Towards the end of February I took a trip to Israel. Just before I bought the tickets, I had a Jewish lady from Baltimore reach out to me concerning her husband. I met her and her husband Dan last fall. I only met them for a couple of minutes. I was trying to get a door opened with them to get them the gospel. Dan is dying of cancer at only 41 vrs of age. The door seemed to close for me as he was still going through treatments for the cancer. When she recently reached out to me, she was asking for advice concerning Israel. The doctors had told Dan that there was nothing else they could do and that if he had anything on his bucket list then he needs to do it. Of course, the first thing on that list was to go to Israel. They had a travel agent in the synagogue that was trying to set up a trip for him. This trip just happened to be the same time I would be there. The travel agent was trying to secure a tour guide and motels for his trip. Shockingly to the travel agent everything fell thru. Unable to get a guide and adequate accommodations it seemed his trip would not happen. As his wife explained the situation (Dan was unable to speak because of the cancer), I invited him to tag along with us. I did explain that three other men would also be on the trip and that we would be working with a lot of military personnel. I did not tell her that the other three men were also preachers! To make a long story short he ended up flying with me over there. It took some adjusting learning how to communicate with him. His speech was very difficult to understand. Being face to face helped as I could read his lips most of the time. On our second day in the land, we picked up the other men and for the next eleven days he heard enough of the gospel that all Israel could have gotten saved. He was able to watch some of the most amazing opportunities that I have ever seen in Israel to get out the gospel. Everyday we had Jewish

people asking us about Jesus. In some cases, it was for several hours. One soldier named Matan that we supplied with some medical equipment last year wanted to meet us in Jerusalem and take us down around Gaza where the massacre took place. Once we got in his car he said, "I've been waiting a year for this". For the next 2 hrs almost every question was about Jesus. It was the same way all the way back to Jerusalem as well. Once everyone in the group returned to the states, I began to follow up with those that we met earlier in the trip. Matan drove 2 ½ hrs all the way up to meet me close to my apartment. He took me out to lunch, and we had about a 3 hr discussion about Jesus. I watched his hands shaking as you could see him pondering all that was said. Back to Dan, he was present everyday as Jewish people were receiving the gospel. Unfortunately, Dan did not get saved on the trip. I have stayed in contact with him since then. Please be in much prayer for him and his family. He has four young children. He can no longer speak at all and he is struggling to breathe. They have just admitted him into the hospital with pneumonia. As soon as I got back to the states, I hit the ground running. I have been traveling and preaching in many churches in several states.

Just as the seasons are changing, there is also coming a change in our ministry. Not in what God has called us to do but in our sending Church. I have recently moved my membership from Calvary Baptist Church in Dundalk, MD to Victory Baptist Church in Hanover, PA. This change was done through much prayer and council and multiple meetings with both pastors. Both Pastor Shiflett and Pastor Myers have articulated the circumstances better then I ever could. It has been a struggle this past year fulfilling my responsibilities as well as picking up the tasks that my wife did in our ministry. One of those tasks was to handle all the financial paperwork. Thru much prayer and searching I have decided to use Central missionary Clearinghouse. I was very impressed with their focus on keeping the responsibility on the local church. Their only task is to help with the financial burden that the missionary bears. They will handle all financial aspects of my ministry. Included is a letter from Central Missionary Clearinghouse explaining this new process. Any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me. My cell# 301 712-5270 or email me at baptistforisrael@gmail.com

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support His servant, **Bro John Sasser**