



Whirlwind Missions

Outreach Update June 2016



Shalom!

WOW! What an amazing time I had on my sabbatical in the Holy Land! I've been a Christian for nearly 50 years, and next month, when I turn 58, I will have read the entire Bible 28 times! I know all the Bible stories by heart. When I went to Israel those stories became REAL!

I spent eleven days in Jerusalem. It is a city steeped in history. Every day I took a tour to learn more about this incredible place. First thing I understood is how many times foreign invaders have conquered this place. Persians, Crusades, Muslims, Greeks, Romans. . . . The list is enormous! The Jewish people have lost EVERYTHING so many times.

I was there for the 68th Independence Day for the State of Israel. There were flags everywhere! In Jerusalem, the day starts at sunset rather than at midnight. The day before Independence Day is Memorial Day. Imagine this. You're walking down the street and suddenly you hear a siren wail. Everything stops. The cars stop. The drivers get out of their cars. The pedestrians stop and stand at attention. When I saw this, of course I stopped, but I had no idea why. We stopped in honor of the men and women killed in the war for independence.

There seemed to be a real fervor for freedom. People danced in the street. Everyone waved flags. I realized that the Israelis understand that freedom is not free and it's not guaranteed! We are preparing for Memorial Day here in the USA. Near my office at FBC Doraville, the street is lined with white crosses. Yet how much time do I think about the people who gave their lives for our country? More time now, for sure!

I visited the West Bank and Palestine. The separation wall was ugly and prison like. When I went to Israel, I thought the two state solution might be viable. Not any more. With the wall, suicide bombings in Jerusalem dropped to nearly zero. The name Palestians is also a misnomer. The people living in the West Bank are not Palestinians, most are actually from Egypt. They call them selves Philistines, but they are NO relation to the actual people group. They use that term to try and give themselves some credibility.

The situation is stark. Israel is surrounded by Arab states. Their number one stated goal is, "Kill all the Jews." How can you have negotiations with a group who's goal is to kill you? The Arab states do not want peace between Israel and the Palestians. Hatred for the Jews is THE key that holds all the Arabs together. It's a sad situation with no solution in sight. Pray for peace Jerusalem! And for our soldiers around the world, may the Lord bless you and keep you safe!

LOVE, TIM AND KATHY





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