

# Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

<https://www.foi.org/zvikalisher/>

## A NEW SPIRIT

I was recently called to the tax office for an audit. The man working that day was a very religious Jew. Upon checking my records, he found I did not owe anything more.

He then gave me a slip of paper with the date on it. I said, "You are a religious Jew. Why do you use the date of the Christians?"

The man laughed and said, "You are the first one who has ever told me this joke."

"This is not a joke" I told him. "It is approximately 1,981 years since Jesus came. Why do we use this Christian date when we have our own date, 5741?"

"How do you know that?" the man asked. "I can never remember our date."

I told him, "It is good then that I have reminded you of it. Without even knowing it, you are following after Christ each day. But we must follow after His way."

My comments surprised him.

I continued, "Are you sure you are saved, that your sins are forgiven?"

He replied, "You speak too much. Our conversation was about taxes. Now you want to know all about me."

"No," I told him. "I only want to help you open your eyes so you will realize all is not taxes. We must also tell people how to be saved. If we are called before the Lord tomorrow, we must give an account of our lives."

He then asked, "Do you think I called you here so you could preach to me?"

"Yes, I do," I replied. "Maybe it was not your will, but it was His will."

"How do you know this?" he asked.

I answered, "I owe nothing on my taxes. I must be here to give you my testimony about the Lord, our Savior."

"But I am a religious Jew," he said, "I know nothing about your Jesus. How can you speak about a new faith?"

I responded, "I have not with anything new. As it is written, 'there is nothing new under the sun' [Eccl. 1:9]."

I then read Jeremiah 31:27–33, and he said, "This is good because it is written in our own Bible."

One of the other clerks in the office came over and told him, "He will tell you that you must be baptized and become a Christian."

They were surprised when I opened the Bible and showed them Ezekiel 36:25, where it says we are to be baptized in pure water: "For I will take you from among the nations, . . . and bring you into your own land. Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean."

I then told the second man, "If you want to be obedient to the Lord, you must be baptized."

Then he asked, "Are you baptized?"

"Yes," I answered. "How could I speak to you about the Lord if I myself was unclean? The Lord has promised those who come to Him, 'I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh' [Ezek 11:19]. The Lord is always ready to forgive."

"But sooner or later the end will come. You will not be able to say, 'Lord, I never heard about You.' No! The Lord warns you many times. If you will remove the dust from your eyes, you will be able to see the right way." They both were glad I came and shared my testimony. One said, "Please leave your address with us."

I replied, "You have my address and my telephone number. You can call me if you ever want to talk again. I will be glad to speak with you. Now that you know all this, do not be satisfied only to use His name, but start to follow in His footsteps."

I can truly say they were glad to hear this.