Apples of Gold

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BELIEF IN MEN RATHER THAN GOD

A few years ago, a religious school invited me to speak about the Holocaust. Few of us are left who passed through those terrible days. So students listened with great attention and asked questions.

I also spoke about my faith in Christ and how the Lord helped me. Some became angry and said such things as, "This man should not be at our school!" "Why did he come here?" "Who brought him here?"

When students asked how I came to believe as I do, I told them, "I came to know the Lord according to the Holy Bible." They were surprised and wanted to know where it is written in the Bible about "this man," meaning Jesus. I was happy to show them.

Afterward, when students would see me on the streets of Jerusalem, they would point me out to others, and say, "This is the one who came to our school and tried to brainwash us to believe in this man."

Recently someone who works at the school recognized me on the street. He asked if I remember speaking at his school. He said, "We want you to come back. Many of the pupils are new, and they will be very interested to hear you."

I was surprised. I thought the school would never invite me again. I was happy to go. The students were not quiet. Each one wanted to prove he was smarter than I. So they asked many questions and tried to attack me.

But my answers came from the Holy Bible, so I was not afraid. They do not know about the Lord from the Bible.

Finally they asked how I came to know the Lord. One asked, "Why did you leave the Jewish faith?"

"I did not leave my faith in the Lord," I replied. "You need to ask yourselves, 'In whom do I believe?' Do you follow the Lord, or do you follow men with such faithfulness that you have almost turned them into false gods?" They do not realize they respect their rabbis more than God's Word.

One demanded, "We want to see with our eyes where the Bible speaks about this man." I opened my Bible to Isaiah 53 and read:

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken (vv. 5, 8).

"How did you find this?" one asked.

"I read what is written in God's Word," I replied. "There it says, 'You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him . . . You shall not go after other gods." (Dt. 6:13–14).

"Do you have a Bible with you?" one asked. So I showed them my Bible. They looked through it very carefully.

I asked, "Have you read enough? Do you think I am telling you what is right?"

Then they gave my Bible to their teacher, who told the students, "If he is

following God according to the Bible, I cannot be against him." Then the teacher started to ask questions. "Why is it that most Jewish people do not believe as you do?" he asked.

I replied that it is because so many do not read the Bible for themselves. And when they do read, they do not trust God to show them what is right. Instead, they ask their teachers and believe their interpretations rather than what they have read with their own eyes.

I said, "If they will believe according to the Holy Bible only, which was written by the Holy Spirit of God, they would believe as I do."

Please pray for these children, that they will read the Bible for themselves and trust God alone to give them understanding.