## Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations https://www.foi.org/zvikalisher/

## HOW CAN I BELIEVE IN GOD?

People here in Israel are tense and extremely nervous. This is partly due to the economic situation. When I try to speak with them, many say, "There is no longer a God because He sees and allows His chosen nation to fall down. How can we believe in God?"

One man asked, "What do you think, Zvi?"

I replied, "What you say is not true. God has chosen us and brought us to this Promised Land. We shall live and not die. If God wants us to die, He can certainly bring it about. In October 1973, when the Arab armies attacked us, the Israeli population was very demoralized. Why did God spare us? And why are we living now? We are still alive and still a nation because God loves us. He wants us to be His chosen nation, as He promised our fathers. Is it not true that we love our children? Of course, we do. If we do not punish them for their misdeeds, they will continue to do as they wish. We do not punish our children because we hate them. No! We love them. It is the same with our God. He loves us; therefore, He punishes us when we need it until we ask for His forgiveness. If people ask for forgiveness, change their ways, and turn to God, He will bless them. If you do so, you and all your friends will know the truth about our God. He does not strike revenge upon us. And when He makes a promise, He keeps it! He is not as we humans are."

After that, this man asked, "What do you think I should do? Should I believe in God?"

"Yes," I replied. "But you should ask God what to do, instead of asking me."

With surprise he asked, "How can I ask God? Do you mean that He will answer me?"

I told him he could go directly to God in prayer because He is our Father and will answer him.

"How shall I pray?" he questioned.

I then opened the Bible and read the Lord's teaching about prayer in Matthew 6:9: "Our Father in heaven...." I also read from Matthew 5, where the Lord taught a large multitude on a mountain.

Then this man realized about whom I was speaking. "Jesus?" he asked incredulously. "He is not for the Jews. He was against our Torah. How can I believe in Him?"

I then read from Galatians 3:10: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."

This was another surprise to him, and he declared, "Jesus is the great enemy of the Jews."

"That is what people say," I told him. "And you, my friend, believe them." He thought for a moment and then replied, "That is how I felt before, but not now." Then we read together John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

"This is all so new to me," he said. "It would be nice if you would give me

some books, so that I may read about these things for myself and share them with my friends. I want to show them how they lied to me. I will visit you every week, and you can teach me from the Bible."

Through this man, two other families came to me, and I gave them my testimony about the Lord. I was sure that after such a lengthy conversation about our Savior, they would not return. But the Lord opened their hearts and now we meet every week. All of these dear people are now secret Christians. Perhaps one day soon they will openly acknowledge Jesus as their Messiah and Lord.