

# Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

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

## I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE TESTIMONY OF THE LORD

Since suffering a heart attack several years ago, I must go to the doctor every four months for a checkup. On my last visit, an ultra-Orthodox man sat next to me, shouting the Psalms.

After a while, I said to him, "I do not mind you reading the Psalms, but would you please lower your voice? If this is from your heart, God will hear even if you read silently."

He asked, "How are you so sure He will hear me?"

Then he began to stare at me intently and said, "I know you! Your name is Zvi. Were you in Cyprus in 1947?"

"Yes," I replied.

"We were in the same camp," he said, "in the same shack for eight months."

"Now that I see you closely, I remember you," I said.

He asked why I was in the doctor's office, and I told him about my heart attack. He asked many questions, as anyone would upon meeting an old friend after 44 years. I then asked him what he had been doing since arriving in Israel in 1948, and he replied, "I have become a real Jew. I study the Talmud in a yeshiva all the time."

I told him, "I can see what a good Jew you are. You spent years studying and let others fight. I fought in all the wars up to 1973. Now my children are in the military."

He replied, "I want to know more about you. Do you go to the synagogue even once a week?"

I replied, "I do not pray so others will hear and see me. I pray to the living God, and I know He answers my prayers. I can go to the Lord anytime, anywhere, and pray in His name, and I know His Holy Spirit is there."

He then said, "You were not so serious at Cyprus. What changed?"

I replied, "I have learned to whom I belong."

Many others were listening to our conversation.

One man asked, "What are you trying to say?"

I could not quickly say I believe in Jesus. In Israel, you must go slowly.

I told him, "I have never studied in a yeshiva. I came to know the Lord through reading the Bible and praying. I found what most of you will never find, even after spending a lifetime studying rabbinic writings. Also, I have never boycotted the Word of God, as you are doing."

One yelled, "We have never boycotted the Bible!"

Then I read to them Isaiah 53.

I asked, "Why is this chapter never read in the synagogue? It is part of the Bible and was written by the Holy Spirit of God."

As soon as I said that, another man said, “Now I know who you are. I would tell them, but I do not want to cause you trouble.”

I responded, “I will be happy if you tell them.”

He asked, “Are you not afraid?”

“No,” I replied.

So he started to whisper into the people’s ears.

I asked, “Why are you being so quiet about it? I am proud of who I am. I am not ashamed of the testimony of our Lord.”

I then said in a strong voice—“I believe in Yeshua Hamashiach, Jesus Christ!”

No one made any derogatory remarks, and just then I was called into the doctor’s office.

I was grateful to the Lord for the opportunities I had that day. All of those who were in the waiting room have problems with their physical health, as I do. But they have a more serious problem than mine—they are spiritually dead.

Please pray that what they heard in the doctor’s office will drive them to their knees before the Great Physician and that they will recognize and accept Him as their Messiah and Savior.