

Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

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

THIS BOOK IS FOR EVERYONE

I have lived in this part of Jerusalem for more than 35 years, and my children grew up playing with their Arab neighbors.

Today my children's Arab friends are adults, and they blindly hate Israel. Recently, after many years, I ran into some of them. They recognized me and asked about my sons. One said, "Your sons were our good friends. Now they hate us."

I replied, "They do not hate you. I have taught them to love."

"Even to love those who hate you?" one asked.

I replied, "We believe in the living God. And the Lord teaches us not to hate but to love one another. But hatred rules your lives."

"What books do you read that you speak such nice words—even to your enemy?" one asked.

"Would you like to see the Book?" I replied.

"Yes," they all agreed. "We want to read it. And we want to know who wrote it."

I showed them the Holy Bible. They were very surprised.

“You know,” one told me, “we want to read this book. But our parents are fanatic Muslims. They would kill us if they saw us reading the Jewish Bible.”

I told them the Bible was given to all people, not only Jewish people. “Do you have a Bible in our language, Arabic? And how do you know our language?” one asked.

“The Lord blessed me,” I said. “I have never studied languages, but I can speak 10 because God has enabled me to do so.”

While we were talking, two of their Arab friends were listening. “We, too, know your sons,” one said. “Many years ago we played football together [by football, they meant soccer]. We also want one of those books—but in Arabic.”

I told them, “This is the Holy Bible. And here it is not written to hate your friends. It tells us about faith and love. And those of us who have believed in the Lord no longer hate because God enables us to love.”

Now they all wanted a Bible. “Can you give us this Book?” they each asked.

“Are you sure this Book is not only for Jews?” one asked.

“I am sure,” I replied. “This Book is for everyone.” They asked me many questions. They even asked in what language they must go to the Lord.

“The language does not matter,” I said. “What matters is that you go to Him with your heart. Pray to Him, and He will answer you.” I showed them Isaiah 49:5–7, which says,

And now the LORD says, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him . . .

“It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes

of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.” Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, to Him whom man despises, to Him whom the nation abhors, to the Servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel; and He has chosen You.”

They wanted very much to read what was written there. “This is the beginning,” one said. “We will come one day and speak with you about what we have not spoken about. Are you ready?”

“It is my duty before the Lord to be ready,” I replied.

Please pray for these men. We know in prayer we see the mighty power of God.