

Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

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

WHY HAVE WE LIVED SO LONG WITHOUT HIM?

Here in Israel, the people are very tired of war, as am I. Russian immigrants living here want to know how we can live in a country that has been so long without peace. "Don't you grow tired?" they asked. "Yes, I am tired of war," I replied, "but I have peace in my heart."

They wondered how this could be, when we don't know what tomorrow will bring. "How can we have peace in our hearts? It is impossible." I told them that it is possible. "But, if you want peace, you must first let the peace of God rule in your hearts." "How can this be?" they asked. "How can we know that God is in our hearts?" "Pray in His name, and you will see God change your life, as He did mine. You will receive blessing from above because it is written, 'without me ye can do nothing' (Jn. 15:5)."

They asked me how I came to know all of this, and I responded, "I came to believe through faith in the Lord Jesus. It is a fact that without Him we cannot have peace in our hearts, in our homes, or in the streets with our friends." "How do you know this is true?" they questioned. "Did God speak to you?" "Yes," I answered, "through His Word. God is my Father, and when I pray to Him, I find rest and have great joy in my heart. If you have joy, you will also have peace."

The conversation continued, and I shared with them that the Lord has given me peace and great happiness. No one else can give these things except Him. I gave them each a Russian Bible and told them that

everything they wanted to know could be found there. They were happy to receive the Bibles and promised to read them. I told them to first pray to the Lord for understanding, for without the Holy Spirit's guidance we cannot comprehend anything.

"Zvi," they asked, "are you a Christian?" "Yes," I replied. "I am a Hebrew-Christian." "Ah—now we know to whom we are speaking," they said.

"How can you believe that Jesus is the Son of God? Is this possible? If so, can you prove it?" "Yes," I answered, "it is possible. In Genesis 1:26 God said, 'Let us make man in our image.' Jesus was a man. In Psalm 2:7 God said, 'Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.' "

"These things are in our own Scriptures. Why have we lived so long without receiving Him as our Savior?" they asked. "That's a good question," I replied. "Many times Moses told God that His Chosen People were stiff-necked. But God, in His mercy, gave His only begotten Son to die for our sins and to rise again. Through Him we can receive forgiveness of our sins."

"But if we receive Jesus as our Savior, we will no longer be Jewish," they argued. "Look at me," I told them. "I believe in Jesus and yet I am still a Jew. In fact, I have served in the Israeli army since 1948 and have gone through all the difficult times. I am doing the very best I can for my country. I try to give my testimony to all those who have never heard about the Lord. It is only through Him that we can receive blessing."

These men were extremely interested in our conversation and in my faith in the Lord Jesus, which brought about such a change in my life. I feel that the Lord is speaking to them. It is my prayer that they will come to know Him as their Savior and Lord.