

# Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

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## YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN THE LIGHT

Recently, I unintentionally walked home by a different route, through Mea Shearim, the most religious quarter of Jerusalem. I was shocked when I saw three young, religious Jewish men gambling on the street.

I asked them, "Am I dreaming, or is it true what I see?"

The three looked at me with surprise, and one asked, "Why do you think you are dreaming?"

I answered, "Because the Bible says, 'You cannot serve God and money'" (Mt. 6:24).

They said, "Who you are, that you think you can tell us what to do? We have our heads covered, but your head is uncovered, like the goyim." They were calling me a Gentile.

I replied, "You think you must please God by covering your heads, but He desires your hearts to be covered with flesh and not stone."

At this, one said, "Tell us who you are."

"I am a Jew who is saved and believes in the living God," I said. Someone responded, "You think you must tell us how to live? We have enough teachers."

I said, "But there is no one to tell you the truth about the Lord."

They began to curse me, but the Lord has told us, "Bless those that curse you" (Mt. 5:44). As they were shouting, an elderly rabbi walked by. He was ashamed of their behavior and invited me to sit with him.

The rabbi said, "Tell me who you are." I responded, "I believe in God and have been born again."

"What!" he exclaimed. "You cannot mean you were dead and are alive again."

"Yes, I was dead in sin, and now I am alive because I am born again in the Spirit." He leaned close and said, "Please speak quietly; even the walls have ears in this place." He seemed thirsty for God's Word.

He continued, "I was born in Mea Shearim. I know every stone in this place because I have never left this area. I am the seventh generation of my family to be born in Israel, and I was educated here in Jerusalem."

I told him, "I am sorry that you have lived all your life in darkness. Without God, man walks in darkness. You can see with your own eyes the picture before you. Now they are gambling, and after that—who knows?"

"How can we stop this?" he asked.

I replied, "One way is to obey God by trusting the Messiah Jesus and following Him in the waters of baptism."

"What!" he exclaimed. "Never! This is what the traitors do."

"To become born again and receive the Holy Spirit," I told him, you must give your heart to the Lord. Baptism is a sign that you have received Jesus

as your Savior.”

He did not want to hear about the Holy Spirit, so I asked, “Would you like to hear what our prophets have written about the Holy Spirit?”

“Yes,” he replied. I gladly read Ezekiel 36:25–27.

“How do you know these things?” he asked.

“Because I am walking in the light,” I replied.

He told me, “I have lived my whole life here. Do you want me to leave this place now?”

I responded, “How long will you continue in darkness? Do you want future generations to live in darkness also? I have told you the truth, and now you must tell your pupils. Remember that Moses went to Pharaoh, even though he was afraid, because the Lord promised to go with him.”

He was close to crying and wanted to hear more. I pleaded, “My dear friend, leave all this darkness behind you and let us walk together in the light of the Lord Jesus, who died for you.”

Before he left, I said, “Remember, no more darkness,” to which he replied, “Only light.”

I thank the Lord He was with me and directed my path to that place. I pray this dear old rabbi and the three young men will come to know the true Light of the world.