

# GLOBAL REPORT

**SPRING 2023**

## **THE UNITED KINGDOM A COUNTRY LOSING ITS RELIGION**

Read about the incredible ministry opportunities Trevor and Maggie Stewart-Sweet are embracing in the United Kingdom to help carry out the message of God's love for Israel.



In 2022, the death of the United Kingdom's longest-reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, marked the end of an era. Her heir and successor, King Charles III, recently expressed his intent to be the "Defender of the Faith" for all religions, as opposed to serving as the Defender of the Faith of the Church of England. Diverging from centuries of monarchs' religious commitment, this departure reflects a "modern, multicultural Britain."

A recent census revealed that the United Kingdom (UK) has become one of the most "unreligious" places on Earth, with only 46 percent of the population identifying themselves as Christian. Secularism and apathy overpower the historical prominence of Christianity in the UK; and a quiet, anti-Christian, anti-church cultural revolution is growing.

In spite of this, I am happy to report that God is blessing and expanding the work and ministry of The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry (FOI) in the UK. Our UK Field Representative Trevor Stewart-Sweet and his wife, Maggie, have served with FOI since 2016. God orchestrated a unique relationship between my colleague Meno Kalisher, pastor of Jerusalem Assembly in Israel, and the Stewart-Sweets. Meno instantly recognized Trevor's passion for Israel and the Jewish people and encouraged him to join FOI. So Trevor and Maggie did, spearheading our mission in the UK by ministering to churches and the Jewish community.

**I am excited to share with you how God is now expanding The Friends of Israel's reach throughout the United Kingdom, particularly into Northern Ireland and Scotland, and how you can partner with us to support Trevor's growing ministry. Would you prayerfully consider how your financial support might allow us to continue the reach of our ministry in the UK?**

Trevor and Maggie have been strategically laying a foundation for expansion within the local church. Because of their faithful commitment to teaching God's Word and their love for the Jewish people, they are making an eternal impact.



Trevor joyfully sharing God's love with others.



Maggie sharing FOI's literature at a speaking engagement.



Trevor teaching biblical truth in churches throughout the United Kingdom and beyond.

“Most churches in the UK hold to amillennialism and Replacement Theology [the belief that the church replaces Israel],” Trevor explains. “The vast majority of churches do not teach on the subjects of prophecy, eschatology, or God’s promises and purpose for Israel.”

Prophecy about Israel is frequently misunderstood, misinterpreted, and misapplied by the church today. Few hold fast to the biblical truth that God’s promises to Israel will be fulfilled when He returns and establishes His Kingdom on Earth. These faithful churches tend to be smaller, void of families and young people. Those fighting for biblical truth find themselves disconnected from other churches, often feeling isolated and alone. Trevor is faithfully working to build bridges, networking between these churches to unite and equip them to carry out the message of the gospel and God’s love for Israel.

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Beyond the church, Trevor and Maggie connect with their Jewish neighbors by attending special services and memorial events.

“It’s common that when we meet with Jewish people and express our love and support, together with explaining what FOI does to support Israel and the Jewish people around the world, we receive an emotional “Thank you!” Trevor says. “For many of our

Jewish friends, we are the first Christians to ever express such love and concern for them.”

The Jewish community has a longstanding presence in England dating back to the 11th century. Today’s Jewish community numbers approximately 300,000, with two-thirds of the population concentrated in London. Sadly, more incidents of antisemitism were recorded in 2021 in the United Kingdom than at any point since records began being kept. There has also been a record-high number of anti-Jewish hate incidents involving schools, students, and teachers.

Trevor has regular opportunities to partner with religious and secular Jewish organizations and advocates for the Jewish community. Trevor’s work in teaching and leading Bible studies, like FOI’s *The Common Thread*; Israel in Focus meetings; and FOI Bridges online classes is vital to combat antisemitism.

The Stewart-Sweets share God’s love with people in all they do. At one Israel in Focus meeting, a Holocaust survivor, Sharon, shared her experience in the Auschwitz Nazi death camp. Sharon lost more than 50 family members, while only she and her brother survived.

Trevor recalls, “During our time in the car together while returning Sharon to her home, we were able to share biblical reasons why we, as Bible-believing



Trevor and Maggie leading a Passover Seder with fellow believers.

## EXPANSION THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Lord continues to open doors for Trevor to connect with local churches and Jewish communities in Northern Ireland, where he speaks at churches and community centers. In October 2022, God unexpectedly opened another door to minister to local churches in Scotland. At a time when most churches and ministries have had to scale back their ministries, God is blazing a trail in the UK for the gospel.

Christians, are indebted to the Jewish people for the Bible; the Messiah; and our salvation, which leads to eternal life, and how that leads us to both love the Jewish people and support Israel.” It is these opportunities that we cherish so much at The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry.

Trevor and Maggie continue to pray excitedly and plan more ministry trips to Scotland and Northern Ireland. Their labor of love is laying a solid foundation for ministry, for more workers and volunteers in the UK for decades to come.

Educating the UK church on the issues of modern antisemitism is also a major focus for Trevor and Maggie. They lead fascinating tours for Christians throughout the historic Jewish area in the East End of London. The tours cover more than 30 sites and synagogues where Jewish people have lived, worked, and worshiped for a thousand years. Trevor teaches about the impact Jewish people have had on England’s history and culture, including their staunch support for Britain.

**The church in the UK needs your help for its own spiritual well-being and for the gospel’s reach into Jewish people’s lives with the love of Christ. Trevor and Maggie are forging a path with the help of Christ and your faithful support.**

Trevor’s tour concludes with a poignant time at the Kindertransport Memorial at Liverpool Street Station, where 10,000 Jewish children arrived alone in England by train five days after the 1938 devastation of Kristallnacht (“Night of Broken Glass”) in Germany. Many of these children became the only members of their families to survive the Holocaust.

**Will you partner with us in prayer and financial support for the work God is doing in the United Kingdom?**

*Mike Stallard*

**MIKE STALLARD**  
Director of International Ministries



**If God has spoken to you about providing much-needed support for the ministry of Trevor and Maggie Stewart-Sweet, please send your gift to The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc, PO Box 908, Bellmawr, NJ 08099, or visit [foi.org/global-report](http://foi.org/global-report) to donate online.**