

News From
Toward Jerusalem Council II
July 2003



Marty Waldman, Executive General Secretary

John Dawson, Chairman

Evan Thomas, Chairman

North American Consultation

The North American Consultation for TJC II met in Dallas, Texas on May 12-13, 2003, hosted by Baruch Ha Shem Messianic Synagogue. About 150 attended and responded enthusiastically to presentations by members of the executive committee, who spoke with great anointing. Marty Waldman and John Dawson related the story of the beginning connections. Johannes Fichtenbauer shared the moving story of his journey from Nazi history in his family to God's redemption and healing from the wound and guilt of anti-semitism.

On the first evening, Jewish members and Native Americans honored and blessed each other. Bob Cohen symbolically gave a set of ancient maps to Lynda Prince, Carrier Grand Chief, and Marty Waldman presented a shofar to the Native Americans and closed this time with the Aaronic benediction.

The meetings were significantly enhanced by the contributions of Marcel Rebiai, Ofer Amitai, and Benjamin Berger, leaders from Jerusalem. Avi Mizrachi also came from Tel Aviv. In the closing session, Americans of the executive committee apologized to the Israelis for past mistakes and insensitivities. The Lord is bringing about reconciliation and strengthening of these relationships.

Several key North American leaders took part, including Mike Bickle, Jill Austin, Bob Weiner, Raleigh Washington, Jim Goll, Jack Hayford, and David and Kathleen Moss of the Association of Hebrew Catholics. Kim Kollins attended from Germany. All of these leaders spoke encouragingly and prophetically in support of the vision.

We were privileged to have Robert Stearns lead worship in some sessions, alternating with Baruch Ha Shem's worship team. The second evening was a time of celebration in Jewish music and dance, with many of the men participating. Marty Waldman surprised everyone with his skill as a blues harmonica player.

Dave and Raquel Pyles led a group of committed on-site intercessors during the meetings. At least one hundred volunteers from Baruch Ha Shem, led by Marleen Waldman, Mary White, Terry Rucker-Wilhite, and Jo Stoll, did an outstanding job of serving and coordinating meals, registration, and transportation.

After the Consultation, the executive committee met for two days. The first day was devoted to spending time with the Jerusalem leaders to hear their concerns, hopes, and understanding of TJC II. This day was an important step forward on the journey together. On the second day, they considered future meetings and the possibility of a European office in Vienna. After prayer and several prophetic words, the decision was made to hold the Africa Consultation of 2004 in Ethiopia.

Quotations from Dallas

John Dawson – TJC II is a process, and we are becoming good friends. However, we initially underestimated the depth of commitment required as we began to walk together.

Peter Hocken - We have been in rebellion against God's design for unity. He challenges our ideas of unity. His design is not unity by outward conformity. To move on in this initiative, be ready for challenge.

Kim Kollins – God gave me a picture of a body needing a heart transplant. The heart is Messianic Jews.

Jack Hayford – This initiative is neither self-fulfilling nor humanly manageable. It depends on faith and intercessory prayer.

Dan Juster – Reconciliation is always a supernatural work of the Spirit.

Jonathan Bernis – There has been dual blindness. The Jewish people have been blinded to the Messiah. The Gentile church has been blinded to the place of Israel and her part in the one new man and to the end-time return of Messiah.

Evan Thomas – Israel is God's timepiece.

Brian Cox – Two key aspects of this work are prayer and relationship building. Prayer is not the vehicle that makes this movement work; it is the heart of the movement. And relationship building is not a means to an end. It is an end in and of itself.

TJC II in France

The TJC II vision acquired a distinctly French “flavor” when supporters and intercessors met in Paris on May 12. Those attending had been at the October Coubron meetings and Vienna II in February. After a morning of worship, personal reflection, and discussion on the history of Jews in France, they talked about practical issues in the afternoon. Sabine Aiche has been chosen as secretary to coordinate future involvement in France, to include a September meeting.

Updates and Prayer Requests

- * Dan Juster and Peter Hocken are working together to write a booklet on the Messianic movement worldwide.
- * Brian Cox and Dan Juster will be making a diplomatic mission to Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania in mid-September. Pray for open doors to Gentile leaders and open hearts to the TJC II vision.
- * Wayne, Bonnie, and Julia Wilks are in the US for the summer, with some traveling to oversee MJB responsibilities in North and South America.
- * Beit Asaph congregation in Netanya, led by Evan and Maala Thomas, is currently ministering to a number of native-born Israelis. Children’s summer camps are planned as well as the first Musalaha camp for junior high age youth, Arabs and Israelis.
- * Jonathan and Elisangela Bernis and Jewish Voice Ministries are working toward a music festival for 30,000 in Lviv, Ukraine for August 29-30.
- * John, Julie, and Rachel Dawson are traveling and ministering in Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore this summer. John will receive the mantle of YWAM international president in September.
- * Dan and Patty Juster are in Israel for four months to put down roots, study Hebrew, and fulfill ministry responsibilities.
- * Agnes Fichtenbauer, daughter of Johannes and Christy, will be married in Vienna on August 30, 2003.
- * Peter Hocken will be working on several writing projects in July, followed by two weeks of teaching young people in Hungary.
- * Marty and Marleen Waldman are taking care of their elderly parents and leading Baruch HaShem congregation as the new building is almost complete. Pray for resolution of challenges with parking issues that will allow compliance with city codes.
- * Other TJC II prayer concerns – wisdom for future strategy; finances; future Christian Orthodox participation; and strengthening of relationships with the brothers in Israel.

Booklet Online

The booklet “Toward Jerusalem Council II, The Vision and the Story” by Peter Hocken is now online. Check the TJC II website at www.TJCII.org.

Reminders

October 20-24, 2003 Executive Committee meetings in Cyprus and Israel
May 3-7, 2004 African Consultation in Ethiopia [tentative]
2005 South American Consultation [tentative]

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