

PROPOSED STATEMENT FOR CHURCH BODIES TO AFFIRM THE MESSIANIC JEWISH MOVEMENT

Consistent with the principle established in the original Jerusalem Council of Acts Chapter 15 regarding respect for diversity in the Body of Christ concerning Jewish and Gentile identity, we

_____ do make the following affirmations:

1. We affirm the election of Israel, its irrevocable nature and God's unfinished work with the Jewish people regarding salvation and the role of Israel as a blessing to the nations.
2. We affirm that Jews who come to faith in the Messiah, Jesus, are called to retain their Jewish identity and live as part of their people in ways consistent with the New Covenant.
3. We affirm the formation of Messianic Jewish congregations as a significant and effective way to express Jewish collective identity (in Jesus) and as a means of witnessing to Jesus before the Jewish community. We also affirm Jewish groupings which are part of churches when they are committed to Jewish life and identity.
4. We affirm our willingness as an ecclesiastical body to build bridges to the Messianic Jewish community; to extend the hand of friendship and to pray for their growth and vitality. We will do so even in the midst of pressure from the local or national Jewish community.
5. We affirm our willingness to share our resources with Messianic Jewish congregations, mission organizations and theological training institutes so as to empower them to fulfill their God-given purpose.
6. We affirm our willingness to be a voice within our own ecclesiastical structures and spheres of influence against all forms of anti-semitism, replacement theology (supercessionism) and teaching that precludes the expression of Jewish identity in Jesus.
7. Finally, we affirm that as Jewish and Gentile expressions of life in Jesus grow organically side by side with distinct identities that God will be glorified; that the Kingdom of Heaven will be advanced and that the vision of "the one new man" in Ephesians 2 will unfold as part of the original Abrahamic blessing to the nations.

The above suggested affirmations were recently drawn up by Dr. Daniel Juster and revised by Canon Brian Cox. The TJCII Executive Board has revised and approved the content as an answer to the question often asked TJCII, "What response are you looking for from the Christian Churches?"