

Rabbi Marty Waldman has a fascinating discussion with Fr. Roch Kereszty in Dallas, Texas.

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**Statement**

*By Fr. Roch Kereszty, O.Cist.*

I speak as a retired Catholic priest and teacher only for myself, not representing anyone else. I love the [Baruch HaShem](#) Messianic Jewish community, and their rabbi, Marty Waldman, is a good friend of mine. I am awed by the faith, fervor and love of this community and am honored to call them my brothers and sisters in Yeshua, our Lord and God. I hope that their faith will become the leaven for all Jews to recognize their greatest unknown treasure, Yeshua, the Son of David and the Son of God, whom Israel has received for giving Him to the world.

Yeshua did not come to abolish the Law but to fulfill it by His actions and preaching. At the same time, however, He freed all, Jews and Gentiles, from the obligation of observing the time-bound ceremonial and dietary laws of Moses.

I respect that Messianic Jews freely undertake to observe the entire Law of Moses (to the extent as it is possible in our times) in order to show gratitude for the First Covenant and to bear witness to God's providential protection and for His special plan for Israel throughout history. I would like to hope that the existence of Messianic Jews is the providential preparation for the welcome of Yeshua by a believing Israel at the end of time: "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."

Being a Catholic priest, I ask for further dialogue also on the grassroots level between Messianic Jews and Catholics on the basic issues of faith and spirituality. I

hope that this dialogue will lead to the enrichment of Catholic theology and spirituality by closer contact with “the sap of the noble olive tree” but also for a deeper understanding by our Jewish brothers and sisters of Catholic history, theology and life.

Our goal should be to seek that full unity which Yeshua Himself set as a goal for all His disciples. I am very grateful to learn that this unity, visible and invisible, is precisely the goal of TOWARD JERUSALEM COUNCIL II.

Personal Data:

Born in Budapest, Hungary in 1933. Entered the underground Cistercian Order in Communist Hungary after high school, studied theology 1956-1963 in Rome at Sant’Anselmo Benedictine University. After obtaining a doctorate in Sacred Theology, taught at the University of Dallas, 1963-to present, in the Cistercian Preparatory School 1968-2012, novice master of the Abbey 1975-2010. Published a number of books and articles on theological topics, several of them on Israel and Christianity.

*\*The opinions and perspectives expressed in this article may not reflect the views of TJCI.*

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