

YAIY NEWS



Kerala, India, Outreach

Praise Yahweh! Our deepest thanks and appreciation to those who knew and prayed about our three week trip to Kerala, India, in the southwestern rural part of India. Overall, it was indeed a blessed trip.

We had three new brethren immersed in Yahshua's Name, along with a long-planned wedding. There was also the anointing of a new elder and the appointment of a new deacon. Elder Mathew John and Deacon Rohan John are now in Melbourne, Australia to help further the work there, but they can also still be of help to those in the state of Kerala where the language of Malayalam is fluently spoken.

The Big Event

The wedding of Rony and Maggie was unique as a message was given explaining the basic truths of our faith to a wide audience. India weddings are such that the whole community is invited to celebrate in the joy of the newly-weds with food and neighborly fellowship.

The message was translated into Malayalam and lasted about an hour. It was well received and, of course, we presented Scripture about marriage, it's importance between a man and a woman and how it also relates to our relationship with the Messiah.

Songs of praise, *I Will Sing Unto Yahweh* and *There Shall be Showers of Blessings*, both with the Sacred Names of Yahweh and Yahshua restored, were used. The community in attendance joined in singing and praise.

The Hospitality of The Community

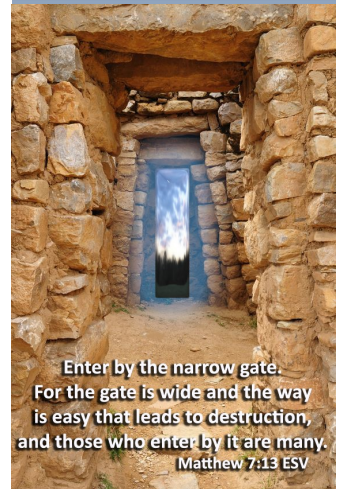
One of the most remarkable things for Carrie and me was the hospitality of the community. It was of a Biblical nature. In Genesis chapter 18 we read of how Abraham took care of the three men who came to him. He took significant steps in serving them. This is how it was for us. At the home of the bride, we were served first, and once we ate, they then sat down themselves to eat. This reminds us of how it will be in the Kingdom and how Yahshua Himself is alluded to and will serve those privileged to be at the wedding feast (Luke 12:37).



Both the photographer at the wedding and our taxi driver had us over at their homes, with essentially the same serving spirit. We were amazed, to say the least.

If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of Elohim be in that person?

1 John 3:17 ESV



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Untypical Behavior in America

When Indians go to church services, they then go to each other's homes to continue to fellowship and share the day with one another. This was what we were told occurs in the Sulthan Bathery, Wayanad district of Kerala. While we didn't go to the church services, we were invited to go to some of the homes.

It is true, that the first day of the week is not the Scriptural Sabbath. However, the attitude and community with no one lacking anything is very Scriptural (Acts 2:42-47; Phil. 2:1-18).

Often Praying and Reading of Scripture

A house was provided for all of us by Matai Abraham who is in Texas for a family member receiving treatment for Multiple Sclerosis. We would ask that you offer up prayers on their behalf.

We never left the house without praying first, in addition to praying over the food each day. We also praised Yahweh in song and read the Word every night and spoke often of Yahweh's ways throughout each day. This was not because we asked for these things, but because this was the pattern of the household of Elder Mathew John, of which all five family members are now baptized ... a unique thing to see even among the body of Messiah Yahshua: a true bond of unity.

As we read in Colossians 3:15-17 *NASB*, *Let the peace of Messiah rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Messiah richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to Elohim. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Master Yahshua, giving thanks through Him to Elohim the Father.*

Where is Israel?

In researching where the Lost 10 Tribes ended up going, there are some interesting things that come up. One is that while it's common to think of those of the Assyrian captivity and consequential dispersion, who went up through and between the Black and Caspian Seas and headed west, there are also those who apparently went east as noted in a book (translated from Hebrew into English) entitled *In The Footsteps of the Lost Ten Tribes*, by Dr. Avigdor Shachan. This Jewish scholar makes a case for some Israelites eventually going into India, through etymological and cultural finds.

There is also some evidence and tradition that the Apostle Thomas had traveled and had influence as far as Kochi, Kerala, which is one of the oldest known synagogues of four known in southern India.

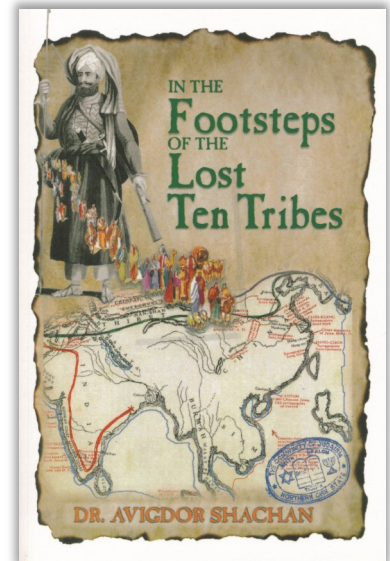
In all of this, we are reminded of the promise to Abram:

Abram fell on his face, and Elohim talked with him, saying, "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you will be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I will make you the father of a multitude of nations," Genesis 17:3-5 *NASB*.

In Conclusion

With travels to a couple of dams, other hiking areas, and a wildlife preserve — all of which will soon be shared in a video log (vlog) of the trip — they truly pale in comparison to the enjoyment we had with the Indian people themselves. They are a people exhibiting the very attitude we are to have in serving one another.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near, Hebrews 10:23-25 *NASB*.



Elder David Brett

Garden Planted

Our garden was planted and is growing well.

This year we chose to furrow rows, which was great for the last three weeks with all the rain.

It appears the weather is finally looking like summer here in the mid-west.

We hope to share the abundance of sweet corn, carrots, tomatoes, melons, radishes, red potatoes, onions, etc., with all the local brethren. It should help relieve some of the higher prices we are all seeing at the grocery stores today.



A Marathon

“The race of faith is akin more to running a marathon, than a sprint,” John W. Reece.

So many commit to *the race*, but then become distracted by the cares and affairs of these perilous times, so that they are unable to endure to the end. But though one should find himself exhausted with fatigue, having endeavored to live in a world and among a people abounding in lawlessness and endured to the end, crawling even in last place, but over the finish line, he is as acceptable as he who, with the goal in sight, sprinted across the end of his course.

And what makes even so arduous the undertaking of life worthwhile, is “for the joy that is set before” the runner (Heb. 12:2) “... and the promise of the life that shall be, with inheritance of a Kingdom undefiled and incorruptible, reserved for us who have striven lawfully, according to the Rule; for us who have forgotten those things from which we’d been redeemed; for us who have reached forth and pressed toward and forward.”



And to make it all the way, we must keep our eyes “right on” and “straight before” (Prov. 4:25), always trusting and acknowledging Yahweh that He may direct our steps. We should look well to our going; pondering the path of our feet; guiding our affairs with discretion; walking circumspectly and all, that we may please Him Who knows the thoughts He has toward us, to bring us to an expected end, in glory.

Sure, a lot has, and is, occurring in the world about us, with a lot more still to occur. Nevertheless, we’re on a journey that requires us to maintain an eye that is single, that our whole body may be full of light, having no part darkness. For He has not given us a spirit of fear that produces its own torment, but a sound mind which if properly nourished shall repulse every effort of the adversary from stealing that Good Word

A Marathon, ...cont.

that is sown in our hearts.

Therefore, it will be helpful from a Spiritual perspective to inventory ourselves – to take notice of our own growth and development in the Image of His Dear Son – the victories we’ve achieved through Him and to note also, our shortcomings in areas that yet beset us.



And can we reach the goal alone? No, we need to be part of that holy fraternity that suffers when we suffer, and rejoices when we are honored. Life in this present evil world is fraught with challenges and distractions that, if given attention, will overcome and bring us into captivity and

bondage to another, which from of old, is set as man’s adversary. And without support from brethren who have themselves weathered and passed through such sundry perils, we, like they Whom He has not called, chosen, and ordained, are become most vulnerable.

And so, meditation upon those better things He has prepared for us – hope, and “for the joy that is set before us” – is become also that vehicle by which get through ... to the end. Maybe, that’s the reason the Apostle wrote Philippians 4:8, even beginning his complimentary closing to that epistle, “Finally, brethren ...” as if he intended to have the last, Good Word.

Elder John W. Reece

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Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua

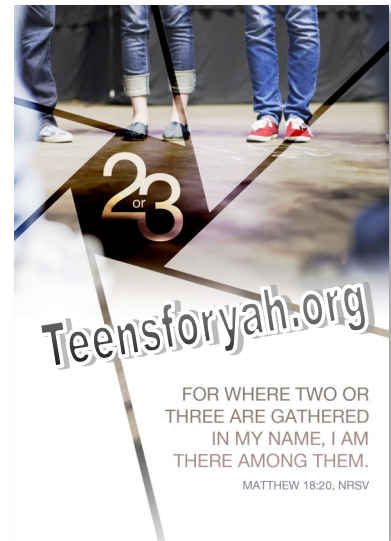
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Prayer List

David & Barbara Creel, Robert Dorchester, Stella Rogers, Sean Rogers and Family, Loretta Reyes and Family, Michael Hutchinson, Chauncey Hargrove, David & Nancy Wilson Family/Friends, Jerry Castle, Mary Giles Family, Kenneth Faulkner, Quinnten Allen, Kat Durban, Isaiah Davis, Dulcena Tessner, Marylyn Patterson Family, David Andrews, Kenya Washington, Elder Thomas Musekenya, Elder Lionel Gets Family, Joseph Miller, Adam Galvan Family, Neville & Maryke Stanton, Antionette Swart, Bertha Tidwell, Annette Heyward, Tammy Boucher, Magdalena M. Torres, Angela Bradley, Luann Campbell Family, Dwayne Mariam, Randell Serfess, Dillard & Susanna Madden, Sonja Morgan, Dianne E. Wright Family, Victor Kiiru Family, Maria Nelson Family, Hilda Driedger, David Nathaniel Malm, Susana Malm, Malinda Huck, Mike and Sheila Kemper, Susan Freeman, Paul Ingram, Elder Cornelius Kigen, Ruth Bamba, Genie Berry, Manju John, Charlie Pelton, Eric Perkins Family, Bob Covey, Marcy Mallinson, Monica Kleb, James Penn Family, Elder Jerry Healan Family, Sheila Sendeyo, NyHuff/Thompson family, Ronald Tidwell.

Also include in your prayers individuals seeking Yahweh from within prison facilities and for their families, plus overseas brethren and especially for the peace of Jerusalem (Psa. 122:6). The world’s leaders could also use our prayers (Jer. 29:7; 1 Tim. 2:2).

And give Him no rest, till He establish, till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth, Isaiah 62:7.

