

OUR RECENT TRIP TO ISRAEL

A NEW BEGINNING IS COMING!
 by **Brother Brad Ratliff**

In the month of October, My wife and I made our trip to Israel, along with us were dear Brother Gary Velie. Sister Mary Nichols and Sis. Linda Cullor.



Pictured: Sis. Lynn Cullor, Sis Amber Ratliff, Bro. Brad Ratliff & Bro. Gary Velie.

Although we had a small group with us, it is always a blessing to be in Israel. I was mainly there in Israel to get much of the needed business done that we had with our attorney, CPA and the bank. While in Jerusalem, we stayed together in the church apartment. It was good to visit the group in Gilo on Friday evening. The Spirit of the Lord came in so heavily and we took our liberty to speak to the people who attended. Brother Velie gave us a powerful message and everyone enjoyed him. The music there was filled with blessings. It was good to get back to the Old City and shop around downtown in

Ben Ye-huda and visit with old friends. We also visited our dear 104 year-old friend, Tova, who lives above our apartment a few floors up. We were able to visit with Naomi, who lives next door. She is a very big blessing to us, and very helpful while we are away.



Bro/Sis Ratliff, Sis Mary Nichols, Sis Lynn Cullor

While Bro. Yoni Simmons, an Israeli guide, took Brother Velie and the two sisters up to the Galilee; my wife and I spent the needed time on the business part of our journey. It is sometimes a bit troubling to me when they write a letter to us in Hebrew. So, we went with quite a few questions about really needing the English communication, especially with the bank. We discussed our problems and questions. It took a bit of explanation asking them to do this and they began asking us questions about why we have an apartment in Israel. They were a bit astonished but it made it easier to work with them. After that, they began to clear up some problems and we left with the promise of being sent communication in English, which will be very helpful to the answers we gave them, but it also created a friendship.

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The Feast of TABERNACLES- THE BIRTH OF JESUS

by Elder R. E. Dawkins
Reprint from 1986, "Jerusalem Digest"



Elder R. E. Dawkins - 1911 - 1965

One of the three annual festivals during which all Israelite men were commanded to take part in, according to Deuteronomy 16:16, was the Feast of Tabernacles. The other two are commonly known as The Feast of Pentecost and The Feast of The Passover. I shall deal at this time, with the Feast of Tabernacles. It is so named because during this period of one week all Jews were required to live in tabernacles, booths or huts, to remember the wanderings of their fore parents in the wilderness (Leviticus 23:40-43). They also were to remember their harvest festival, which came after all the grain and their harvest had been brought in. For this reason, it was known as the Feast of Ingathering, also Exodus 23:16. During this festival in the Temple, there were services, where there were to be 70 bulls that were sacrificed during the week. Also, there were daily offerings according to Numbers 29:12-34.

Let me refer you to Leviticus, 23rd chapter 23 "And the Lord spake to Moses, saying, *Also, on the tenth day of this seventh month, there shall be a DAY OF ATONEMENT: It shall be a holy convocation unto you and ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the Lord your God.*"(31) "Ye shall do no manner of work: It shall be a statute for ever

throughout your generations in all your dwellings" (32) "It shall be unto you a Sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your Sabbath."

HOLIEST DAY OF THE YEAR

The seventh month is known by the Jews today as "Tishri" and on the tenth day of the month, Tishri, is the Day of Atonement, which is known as Yom Kippur. It is the Holiest day of the Jewish calendar. It is a great day of reconciliation between man and God. It is looked upon as a fast day. It is spent in the house of worship in prayer for forgiveness of sins and a solemn resolution to abide by the Law of God.

The FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE SEVENTH MONTH, which is known on the Jewish calendar as the month of Tishri, was the EVE of THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES. It is referred to in the book of Leviticus 23:34, "speak unto the children o Israel, saying, THE SEVENTH MONTH, The FIFTEENETH DAY of the seventh month shall be The Feast of Tabernacles, for seven days unto the Lord. (35) On the first day shall be a holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work therein. (36) "Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD; the eighth day shall be a holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: its a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein." (39) "And in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a Sabbath. And on the eighth day shall be a Sabbath."

EVEN CRIME STOPS

The tenth day of the seventh month, which is known as Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement, is a very solemn day for every Jew throughout the world that desires the favor of God. It is even recognized in US, as such a HIGH HOLY DAY that all connections with the outside world are severed. All radio programs, television programs, all transportation, bus lines, taxi-cabs, and all places of amusement are closed during this time. According to the newspaper report, even criminals, violators of the law, ceased in their activities at this time of the year. It is a very solemn day for all Israel. It will be a

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SHOCKING STATEMENT for many people throughout Christendom to say that through many generations this tenth day of the seventh month was kept by the millions of Jews throughout the world, praying to God for forgiveness throughout the entire DAY OF ATONEMENT. They stand on their feet and fast and pray, asking God to forgive them for every sin known by the human race.

ISRAEL'S PRAYER ANSWERED

In Matthew's Gospel, the First chapter and the 21st verse, it declares that the little Jewish girl, named Mary, conceived and brought forth Jesus Christ and that his name should be JESUS, for He shall save HIS PEOPLE (that is ISRAEL) from their sins. Since this is such a HIGH HOLY DAY and God never ordained anything, especially a day to be kept throughout all generations for nothing. Something must, in God's time, take place on that day. Either God has already made a way for the sins of all of HIS PEOPLE, to be forgiven or the Messiah is yet to come who will bring deliverance. But Matthew's Gospel which was written in Hebrew for the purpose of the Church using it to convince every Jew under the Mosaic Law that Christ had appeared and was the MESSIAH, declared that ISRAEL'S PRAYER had been answered and He would save them from their sins.

Number four in God's numbers is the number of LIFE itself, which has four letters in it. It was on the fourth day that God created the two great lights and put them in the heavens, one to shine by day and one by night. He also created the stars. It was at the close of the 4,000 years (historical facts declare this) that Jesus Christ was born in this world. FOUR DAYS following the DAY OF ATONEMENT was the EVE OF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES. That is the day that the fulness of time had come according to the Apostle Paul. GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMAN, born under the Law, to redeem all the Jews who were under the Law back to God. He was to become the man that was to reconcile MAN BACK UNTO GOD. He is called the Mediator. He was to take the place of the High Priest who was to go in and sprinkle all the furniture in the Tabernacle, the sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS

Concerning the 25th of DECEMBER, known throughout the world as one of the most outstanding HOLY DAYS of the CHRISTIAN WORLD, called

Christmas or the MASS OF CHRIST. This festival of the nativity of Christ goes back in history as being closely connected with that of Epiphany, the feast celebrating the arrival of the wise men from the East. Until the fifth century, there was no agreement among the Christian world as to what particular aspect of the life of Christ, a festival of Christ that men celebrate. About AD 400, a Roman imperial order required that theatres close on Christmas Day, as well as on Easter. It was declared a legal holiday by the Roman government about AD 534. To draw your attention to the first; identification of CHRIST'S BIRTH with DECEMBER 25^T. It appears in a letter written by THEOPOLUS OF ANTIOCH about AD 180. (This cannot be proven and is probably not genuine). The first authentic identification comes from AD 354, stating, "The LORD JESUS CHRIST was born on December 25th., Friday, and the fifteenth day of the new moon." As a matter of fact, December 25th of the year "ONE", which is specified in this report, occurred on Sunday, strangely, December 25th coincided with a popular mythic feast, which celebrated the birthday of the UNCONQUERED SON. The custom of giving Christmas presents originated with Teutonic peoples. These are quotations concerning the origination of Christmas as the birth of Christ from the Bible in Alphabet.

I intend to prove to all Bible students that God's Plan was to let things happen on certain outstanding days that He had foreordained. Since Christ's birthday could not have originated on December 25th, (no Bible record to substantiate it), then let us search the record and find out if it would bear me out in saying that JESUS WAS BORN ON THE 14TH DAY OF THE SEVENTH MONTH OF THE JEWISH CALENDAR, CALLED TISHRI.

The fact that Jesus was thirty years old when He entered into his ministry, according to Luke's Gospel, the 3rd chapter and 23rd verse, "Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli," to enter His ministry the same age according to the custom of the law. A priest was not to do any work, enter into the congregation, the tabernacle, unless he was 30 years old. He could only serve from 30 years upward to 50 years, Numbers 4:3.

THE REAL BIRTHDAY OF CHRIST

EVERY RABBI, PRIEST or MINISTER should study closely the 9th chapter of Daniel, beginning at the 24th verse. "SEVENTY WEEKS are determined

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upon thy people and upon the holy city.” I am sure we would agree that the people referred to there are the JEWS and the holy city is JERUSALEM. “To finish the transgression, and to make an END OF SINS.” Connect that with the DAY OF ATONEMENT, which is the tenth day of the 7th month on the Jewish calendar, along with Matthew 1:27, “And thou shalt call his name JESUS; for he shall save his people from their sins.”

Four days after they had prayed on the DAY OF ATONEMENT, thirty years before Jesus started his ministry; the Babe Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea. He was to make an end to transgression and OF SIN and to make reconciliation for iniquity and to bring in EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS and to seal the vision, prophecy and to anoint the most holy. The 70 weeks was to start, according to the 25th verse of Daniel. From the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, unto the Messiah, the Prince, shall be seven weeks, and the three score and two weeks.” It is easy to take the number by taking a day as a year. It would be 69 times 7, which is exactly 483 years and that is the exact amount of time from the time that the commandment went forth to REBUILD JERUSALEM, until JESUS CHRIST, the coming MESSIAH, was baptized by John the Baptist, when He entered the ministry at 30 years of age.

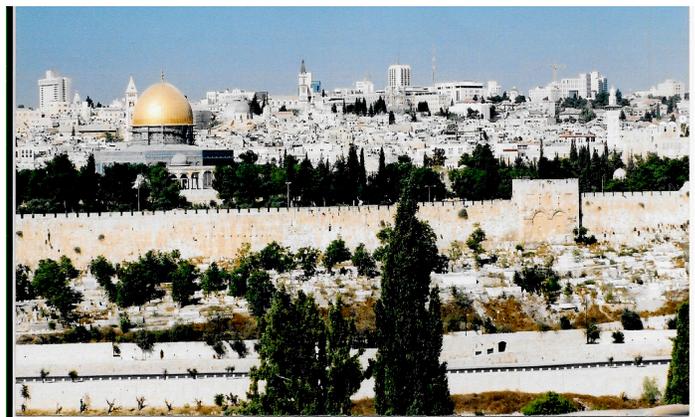
The 27th verse says, “And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week.” Of course, that is one week of years which would be a period of 7 years, and in the midst of the week, he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations, he shall make it desolate.” Meaning that from the going forth of the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem until the Messiah was introduced to that Jewish world almost 2,000 years ago was exactly 483 years. Jesus being 30-years old, preached for 3 years and 6 months. He was to be cut off in the middle of the seventieth week of Daniel, which made him 33 years and six months of age at the crucifixion. So that is the KEY, since we know the date of his death, which was the exact time that the Lamb was being slain in the Temple at the Passover on the 14th DAY OF ABIB, which is called NISSAN at this time according to the date of his birth which brings us to the eve of the FEAST OF

TABERNACLES, the 14th day of Tishri, when our LORD WAS BORN.

THE EIGHTH DAY

The FEAST OF TABERNACLES lasting seven days, the eighth day was to be a Sabbath, as it was the first day of this feast. We see Jesus, according to the record being brought to the Temple when He was eight days old, as the custom was; if Judaism could only realize what the DAY OF ATONEMENT means through accepting the Mediator, which is our MESSIAH, the LORD JESUS CHRIST, on this day. God’s favor would be upon them much more than just the keeping of the day as they are keeping it at this particular time, rolling their sins forward from year to year.

Not only is it BLASPHEMOUS to accept the inauguration of the 25th DAY OF DECEMBER as the BIRTHDAY OF CHRIST but all the added luxuries and revelry and blasphemous ways of Christ-mass like the spirit of heathenism, along with idolatry worship. That is why John said in the book of Revelation that the so-called modern world of Christendom at the end of the Gentile age would be full of the NAMES OF BLASPHEMY. It is blasphemous in the way that the priests and ministers of the modern religious world of Christendom has caused the sacredness of the birthday of the MEDIATOR and TESTATOR of the New Testament that would reconcile not only all of ISRAEL and the JEWISH PEOPLE back into the FAVOR OF GOD but also the GENTILES INTO ONE PEOPLE. I would love to be identified with people that would remember the DAY OF ATONEMENT and the FEAST OF TABERNACLES in the way the Rabbis teach and instruct their people, yet point their people to THE MESSIAH who was born at that season of the year for no other purpose but to answer their prayers that their sins might be forgiven. ☆



“WHO TOUCHED ME?”

by Sister Ruth Moore

In the Old Testament, while studying the five books of Moses which, the Jewish people read from week to week in the synagogue, I don't know how many times I have read the Book of Leviticus but I was affected very much by the following passage concerning those who have an issue of blood.

The book of Leviticus is made up of the laws, which God gave to Moses for the people of Israel. It tells of the holy days, the clean and unclean animals, the responsibilities of the Levitical priesthood and what the Lord required of the people for holiness and cleanliness.

Leviticus 15 talks of the law pertaining to a woman in time of the month when she is considered “unclean.” For seven days, she is to be set apart. Anything that touches her, her bed or her clothing is unclean. Anyone that she touches is required to bathe themselves and still, they are considered unclean until the evening.

Anyone who touches the woman, as well as anything that she touches, are unclean. She cannot fulfill her duties as a wife for there is a very stiff punishment to the husband and wife who transgress this commandment.

In the 25th verse of the 15th chapter, it tells of the woman who has an issue of blood beyond the time of her separation. As long as this issue of blood continues, she has to be considered unclean, separated from society. If it persists very long, she becomes an outcast, having to survive outside of the camp of Israel --- unclean and untouchable.

As I was reading this passage, I thought of the woman in Mark 5:25, who had an issue of blood. I've always loved this story; it was recorded three times in the Gospels. But after reading the law of Leviticus, I saw a much greater reality; what really took place during this healing.

This was a woman who had an issue of blood for 12 years. She had tried many physicians and spent all she had trying to find an answer but she only grew worse. Can you imagine how badly she wanted to be healed? Twelve years that she could not have touched

anyone or thing without it being considered “unclean.” For twelve years. Those who touched her became unclean. She was alienated from her family, an outcast from the community – untouchable!

One of my favorite ways of showing affection is to touch someone; by patting them or embracing them, or taking their hand. I'm able to convey to them things I would feel foolish or inadequate to say. How would you feel if this was not possible? For twelve years, she had not felt the kind touch of anyone.

Now the story goes, she heard that Jesus was passing by and in her heart she knew the people. “If I can but touch His clothes, I'll be made whole.” She knew the people; she had suffered many things of them over the years. She knew they followed the Law laid down in Leviticus. Would they allow her to get close enough to touch Him? Not if they recognized her.

But Jesus was passing by. There was a crowd thronging Him as she made her way and touched the hem of His garment, as recorded I Matthew 9:20. I had always felt that she was just shy and didn't want to be seen, so that is why she trembled, as recorded in Luke 8:47 When she saw that she was not hid, she knew that because of their concept of the law, she would not be welcome to come near, much less, touch the Lord.

But she touched Him – and immediately the issue of blood was staunched – she was healed. In that moment, not only her physical condition was resolved but she could once again, after twelve long years, fit into the community and live among the people. She was no longer an outcast.

Now Jesus, knowing the hearts of those around Him, wanted to give them a lesson by what happened. He realized that something had happened and He asked, “Who touched me?” Peter, standing close to Him, was incensed at this and he said, “Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, 'who touched me?’” Jesus knew how zealous the multitude was for the law of Moses, so he asked the question, “Who touched me?” In order to call attention to what had taken place. And He answered Peter, “Somebody touched me, for I perceived that virtue is gone out of me.”

The “untouchable” had touched Him. Just at that moment, the law and commandments stood eye to eye and faced Jesus. You see, the law was righteous.

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Just being in Jerusalem is a wonderful feeling. I remember when I made my first trip to Israel. I was 11 years old and was with my parents, Brother Roy and Sister Iris Ratliff. I had suffered migraine headaches for a long time due to anything I would eat with sugar in it. So we had to be careful about what I ate, as this would bring on the headaches. One day while on tour, we went to visit the Garden Tomb where Jesus resurrected. Everyone had left the tomb area and I stayed behind. I looked at where Jesus had laid and prayed a simple prayer as a boy, "Jesus, will you please take these headaches from sugar away from me?" From that time to this, I have never had another migraine headache resulting in anything I eat. He healed me! That tomb will always be a special place for me as it let me know at a young age, that He's real and He cares.

As I wrote earlier, Bro. Yoni took our guests up along the Galilee with stops all around Israel such as Nazareth where the Lord was raised up by his family and Caesarea where the oldest shipping docks were located, with stops along that area up around the Galilee. Then Bro. Velie went with Bro. Yoni down to En Gedi where David hid faced Saul, on to Masada where the Jews gave their lives, rather than to be slaves and lastly the Dead Sea. Somehow, when you come to those places, your heart gets a special thrill just knowing you read about these places in your Bible. Almost every corner of Jerusalem could be seen as a spot where He walked or of a special scene that took place there in the Bible.

We are so thankful for the soldiers who walk among the streets with the people, with rifles on their shoulders, simply to protect the Israeli citizens and their guests. Some of them look so very young, not old enough to be a soldier. Brother Orville Wallace many times told us. I can sleep restfully in my bed in Jerusalem, knowing that these soldiers are guarding the country every night." The streets are always filled with Israelis doing their business throughout the city and we enjoyed being among them. You never feel concerned or afraid walking the streets of Jerusalem.

When I came to Jerusalem this time, it was more than business. It was searching for what the Lord was wanting to do next in His City. We have seen changes in those that can't go anymore to spend three months. We also see many whom God is dealing with about going. I don't believe just anyone can go and work in Israel. I believe He has to invite you in. The work in Jerusalem is not a mission work; it's a vision work. It will not reflect exactly like the other works that the Body of Christ has in the mission field. No, we do not teach that the church has perfected itself yet, nor have we ever been taught that we have come to that divine order we strive for, yet. However, our work in Jerusalem is like one who cries out from the wilderness, "Prepare for the return of our Lord!" The Jews have enough problems around them. We are there to comfort,

love and add to them. Most want to change them; we are there to add to them and to comfort them.

In the Little Rock, Arkansas Minister's Meeting, I enjoyed all of the discussions and the covering from the Lord in that meeting. But because I was troubled in my mind on what is next in the work for Jerusalem, my mind and thoughts were there with the Lord. When I was walking into the open service in Little Rock, I was talking to my wife on the phone and I said to her, "I wish the Lord would just tell me in an audible voice what to do." I then went in to enjoy the service and the Spirit of the Lord moving in that service. Suddenly I watched Brother Dycus get up at the beginning, which is not like him. He went through a story of how God dealt with him and the Lord spoke to him before this meeting. He was really shaken by it and wanted to be sure the Lord gave him what to say to the Ministry. He put out a fleece before the Lord. The Lord answered the fleece at the very beginning of the Minister's meeting. So he turned around toward us and said, "A new beginning is coming." You could feel the Spirit of the Lord when he said it. Was this the audible voice I just asked the Lord for?!!

As we were in Jerusalem, I talked to the Lord much about this and I feel that what was said in Little Rock was from the Lord. I began to feel the Lord speak to my heart and say that He will not hold us accountable for the sins of our forefathers any longer. This is now a new beginning with a slate wiped clean! I felt this so very strongly that when I got home and told the church, the Spirit of the Lord flooded in our service. Since that day the Lord is dealing with hearts and minds for this great responsibility He has handed His people. Oh Lord, by thy grace lead us by thy mighty hand!

The time is now at hand; if you want to do a great work, just come and go along! ☆



Blessed Are The Peacemakers: For They Shall Be Called The Children of God. Matthew 5:9

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*Dedicated in Memory of our Apostle,
Elder R. E. Dawkins 1911-1965*

WHO TOUCHED ME?.....

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It could define sin in a moment, but it gave no solution. At that moment, facing the Creator of the law, not only was sin finished, but the law was resolved. The untouchable had touched Jesus and He remained clean.

What the law could not do, in that, it was weak through the flesh, was done as she fell before Him that day and confessed that she had touched Him and how that she was immediately healed. And He said to her, "Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace and be whole of thy plague."

This story was recorded three times in the Gospels. It was told in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Surely the Lord must have wanted to let us know by this example that though we are taught by the law, condemned to death, and outcasts in the society, yet He can make us clean. He is able to cleanse us from all unrighteousness and make us acceptable in the beloved. As the song goes:

"Oh, what a Savior, Oh

Hallelujah,

His heart was broken on Calvary

His hands were nail-scarred,

His side was riven,

He gave His life's blood for even me."

Romans 10:4 says, "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness, to everyone that believeth. For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, that the man which doeth those things shall live by them." But the righteousness which is by faith is sufficient, for it says, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt believe with thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

Thank the Lord, that through studying both the Old and New Testaments, we are able to read and understand the full intent of the Word of God. I'm sure the Lord wants us to know what sin is, for if we don't know, then we are not able to define what God loves and what He does not love. Yet, as it says in Psalms 103:14, "For he knoweth our frame. He remembereth that we are dust." And so God sent His Son to the world that we might not only know what sin is, but by faith in Him, we can find an answer.

Thank God for the One who is able to feel our infirmities and be touched -- and in our reaching out to Him, we can be made whole, fit for the Master's use and part of the great Family of God.

It is with deep sorrow that I tell you that our dear brother, Shlomo Hizak passed away into the arms of the Lord on October 15, 2018. He had been very ill, suffering with cancer for some time but he was faithful to the end of his journey and thank the Lord, he is now resting from his labor.

Editor's Note: As many of you know, I spent from August, 2005 until January, 2012 working with him in Jerusalem. At that time, I fell and broke my hip and after spending 17 days in Share Zedek Hospital, I had to return to the states for rehabilitation. I arrived at Kansas University Hospital in Kansas City and after about six weeks, doctors there told me that I had an infection called "Klebsiela Pneumonia and along with it, I took treatments to clear that and four more surgeries, Thank the Lord, I finally was relieved of it, I wound up quite unable to walk on my own I will always be thankful for the years that I spent in Jerusalem at AMI Center. The people there

were always very kind to me and I really had plans to stay as long as possible. I certainly love Israel and worked as part of Shlomo's team there but with my captivity now, I am not able yet to walk on my own. So, I certainly appreciated the time that I spent there with the group at Hovevei Zion 25.

To talk of Brother Shlomo's zeal for his people and his God, was very special. I don't know the exact dates with which he visited various areas of the world in order to inform the people about Israel and her needs, as well as salvation. I know that just in the last year or more, he made 10 journeys to China, was in Germany, America and other meetings. The zeal that he bore for his people and his nation is outstanding and blessed of the Lord. I have been blessed of God to work with some wonderful men of God in my lifetime. I count Shlomo as one of them and will always remember the kindness that he showed me while living and working there with him.

He had a very special group who worked with him in Jerusalem and there are many in various countries who will be missing his kindness to them. May He always be held in our hearts as one who served the Lord with all his heart.

IN LOVING MEMORY

BROTHER SHLOMO HIZAK

Jan. 7, 1941 – Oct. 15, 2018

AMI CENTER

Hovevei ion 25

Jerusalem, Israel

CARL "ADRIEL" HENDON

Sept. 12, 1934 – Oct. 17, 2018

Son of

Brother /Carl and Sister Hazel
Hendon

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