

Rosh Hashanah Message and Activity Highlights

Dear Friend,

These past few months, we have seen attacks on our health and welfare. Despite overwhelming odds, heroic individuals are fighting to restore a sense of security.

While most people are focused on their wellbeing, aggressive Christian missionaries are using the Coronavirus pandemic as a strong lever to influence susceptible individuals worldwide.

In America, missionaries are flooding retirement homes with literature preying on the elderly's fear of dying. In Israel, missionaries broadcast the gospel into Jewish homes on cable TV, enabling them to reach adults and children who are isolated at home.



In both cases, the missionary tactic is the same. Missionaries tell people to accept Jesus to forgive their sins or they will suffer eternal damnation in hell. They also deceptively insist that Jews can remain faithful to their heritage even if they accept evangelical Christianity.

This form of religious coercion is a spiritual pandemic.

The figures do not lie. Hundreds of missionary groups have succeeded in converting 350,000 Jews. **You and your children could be their next target.**

During times of crisis, such as COVID-19, missionary groups exploit people's fears and insecurities. One prominent Jew for Jesus missionary recently released a video to encourage his supporters to convert Jews:

“When people are going through grave difficulties, then that is an incredible opportunity for us to preach the gospel.”

During the pandemic, Jews for Judaism has seen a **17% spike** in visitors seeking answers to missionaries on our website, social media, and YouTube video channel.

Jews for Judaism's YouTube channel receives 4,000 views each day. Our 365 videos provide answers to every imaginable missionary claim, and to many other issues of Jewish concern.

Each week we receive emails with words of appreciation like this:

Your inspirational lectures on the Jews for Judaism YouTube channel really helped me to find my Jewishness again. – Rebecca F.

Jews for Judaism’s extensive website has more than 1,100 articles and booklets. Senior citizens as well as college students download this free information every day.

Our materials focus on critical thinking and provide tools for a wide range of real-life challenges.

I did not have answers when I was confronted by anti-Israel propaganda. I remembered reading on your website that King Solomon said, “the first to bring an answer sounds right until someone challenges him.” This inspired me to search for answers and I discovered them in one of your articles. – David M.

In Israel, when God-TV missionaries launched a 24/7 Hebrew language cable channel to share the gospel with Israelis, **Jews for Judaism responded**. We voiced our concern to the Israeli authorities and drew attention to this issue on our social media platforms and with an article in the Jewish Journal circulated worldwide.



Fortunately, our efforts contributed to the cancelation of this deceptive missionary channel.

However, Israeli missionaries continue to produce slick Hebrew language proselytizing videos for social media and promote themselves to secular Israelis as “Messianic Jews”... and the alternative to “ultra-orthodox coercion.”

In response, Jews for Judaism launched a media campaign and a Hebrew language area on our website. Postings include an audio message from a former pastor who converted to Judaism, videos with Hebrew subtitles, articles, and a 30-page handbook debunking missionary claims.

Among the emails we received, one was especially moving.

Although I grew up in Israel, I did not know the Jewish bible. So, when a Messianic Jew showed me Isaiah 53, I assumed it was speaking about Jesus. That is until I read your article ‘Debunking the Isaiah 53 Conspiracy.’ This opened my eyes to the correct interpretation and how misleading missionaries can be. – Ilana A.

Jews for Judaism also provides specialized one-on-one counseling to families and individuals coping with missionary issues. Before the pandemic, we were already using Zoom video conferencing to connect with people world-wide.

A couple from Texas turned to Jews for Judaism for advice and guidance. A year of weekly Zoom sessions provided them with the answers they needed.

Mark, an 18-year-old college student from New York “zoomed” with me **to help him abandon his Christian beliefs and anti-Israel sentiment**. He is now reconnected to his Jewish heritage.

Jewish organizations sponsor Zoom lectures to their community featuring Jews for Judaism speakers. I recently spoke for almost two hours to a group of seniors in Arizona. One couple wrote:

Not only did your words help us “a little” they helped us a lot! – we loved your beautifully clear explanations. – Joan and Bob M.

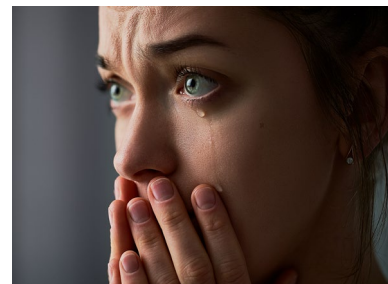
Before the pandemic, in December 2019, Jews for Judaism held a wonderful Gala honoring Suzanne and Kevin Schlanger, Michael and Joy Volk, Ron Altman, and Zalman and Chanie Kravitz. *(see images on page 5)*

Their support of Jews for Judaism, along with our other valued supporters like you, is greatly appreciated and empowers us to keep Jews Jewish.

As with all our Galas, we invited someone we helped to share their story.

This year there was an interesting twist. The featured speaker at our Gala was a Jewish woman who was actively involved in a high-profile cult.

Her words brought the 200 people who attended the Gala to tears. Here is a highlight of what she told them:



My mother begged me to speak with Rabbi Kravitz of Jews for Judaism, but I vehemently refused. In fact, this cult warned me about speaking with “deprogrammers.”

*However, Rabbi Kravitz **did not give up**. He guided my mother step-by-step on how to speak with me and encouraged her to practice Jewish mitzvahs to set an example and have a spiritual influence on me.*

It worked! Thanks to Jews for Judaism I eventually left the cult, and I am now raising my own Jewish family. – Diane G.

This is what Jews for Judaism is all about. We fight to counter missionaries, cults, assimilation, and apathy. Our mission is to keep Jews Jewish!

Jewish for Judaism's programs and services foster a passionate and spiritual connection to Judaism. **We demonstrate how Judaism is relevant in these troubling times.**

As we approach Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, I would like to extend my blessings to you and your family for good health, happiness, and success in all your endeavors.



Thank you for your past assistance of Jews for Judaism. I hope this letter demonstrated that we are putting your support to good use.

The pandemic has affected us physically, spiritually, and economically.

Despite these challenges, I trust Jews for Judaism can count on your continued support, because together we make a good team... partners in the fight for Jewish survival.

With your help, we can make a difference and keep Jews Jewish.

Shanah Tovah,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rabbi Bentzion Kravitz'.

Rabbi Bentzion Kravitz
Executive Director and Founder

P.S. During the current pandemic, missionaries are ramping up their efforts to prey on vulnerable Jews everywhere. We need your support so that Jews for Judaism can be there for them. **Thank you.**

Before Rosh Hashanah, please give as generously as possible and help save Jewish lives. You can donate online now at **JewsforJudaism.org/donate** or send your much appreciated tax-deductible gift to - Jews for Judaism, P.O. Box 351235, Los Angeles CA 90035. **Shanah Tovah.**

2019 AFTER DINNER GALA

A Fun Evening of Jazz Music, Magic, Mixology & Awards

