

# Road to Zion Update

**November 20, 2009**

**Next Trip May 29 – June 9, 2010**

*For the L-rd has chosen Zion;  
He has desired it for His dwelling place;  
This is My resting place forever;  
Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.  
I will abundantly bless her provision;  
I will satisfy her poor with bread.  
I will also clothe her priests with salvation,  
And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.  
Psalm 132:13-16*

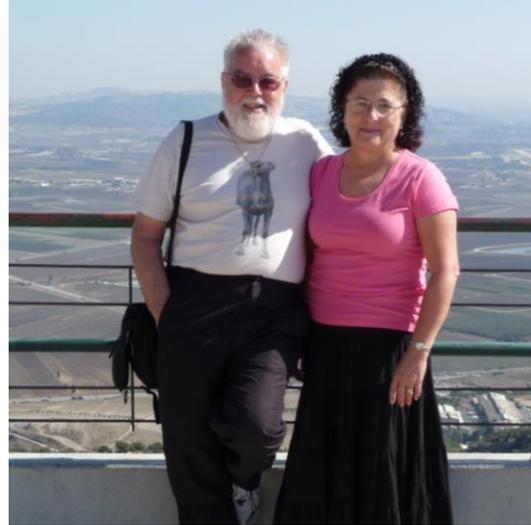
## Report from Zion

What a wonderful time we had in Israel! We had eleven of the most dedicated, fun-loving, energetic people working with us this time.

We arrived in Israel November 1<sup>st</sup> to an overcast evening. The next day we changed dollars for shekels, bought work supplies and got ourselves ready for work to begin on Tuesday. When we started loading the vans early in the morning the skies opened up and rain poured most of the day. We had to drive from Jerusalem to two towns near Tel Aviv and we felt like we could have made better time in boats.

One group worked on the small apartment of a single woman and her son. The apartment was so small the son used the bomb shelter for his bedroom. The Mother, a Messianic believer, is praying for her son. He is 20+ years old and has left a life of drugs behind. We pray with her that he will make new friends and begin a new life that leads him in a close walk with the L-rd.

The other group worked that day in the home of a widow who lives with her Mother-In-Law. Her living room was wall papered and black mold was growing underneath the paper. She wanted the room painted white. Between the wall paper and the mold it turned into quite project.



The next day both groups worked in Jerusalem. One group painted in the home of an Ethiopian family. The father has spent time in prison and the mother, Esther, cleans homes to provide food and shelter for her two children. She was a very sweet, humble lady and was thankful for the help.



You may remember we were also supposed to work in an Orthodox home. At the last minute the family cancelled. I'm sure they were nervous about Christians being in their home. The Orthodox community is very closed. Last June when we went to meet the family and look at their apartment we were met with lots of looks as we entered the building. I am positive they had many questions to answer after we left. We

will continue to pray that next year they will feel a little boldness and invite us to come paint their apartment.

Another need came up to help a single Mother in Jerusalem. We painted her living room, hallway and bedroom. She was going through a very difficult time and the stress could be felt as we walked into her apartment. But as the day proceeded she and her children began to cheer up and things were calmer. At lunch time we sat around eating pizza together and her son made a statement that summed up our day. He looked at his Mom and said, "You know, it feels like we have had family we've known forever here today." When a child of 12 feels like total strangers are family you know it is the hand of G-d . Our common factor was our faith in the Messiah and it truly bonded us together like family. We were so happy that G-d directed us to the perfect place to work that day.

One life changing event of this trip was working on the Temple Mount Archeological dig. You rarely hear about what has happened on the Temple Mount in the last 7 years since it doesn't



make the headlines. Muslims wanted an underground Mosque that would accommodate thousands of worshipers. So in 2001 they began digging under the Temple Mount in an area known as Solomon's stables. They used bulldozers to scoop up tons of artifacts and thousands of years of history. The digging went on for years. Due to the diligence of two Israeli archeologists, the material that was dug out and dumped on the side of a hill has now been moved to another location. Slowly volunteers and archeologists are sifting through the rubble to find anything of value. Many artifacts dating back as far as the first temple period have been

found. We worked one morning helping with that project. Our guide and instructor told us it will take 10 years to sift through all that has been thrown away. As we looked at a mound of material that had not been touched the archeologists asked us if we noticed the gray colored dust all over the rocks. She explained that gray color came from two levels that had been bulldozed through. These were the time periods when the first and second temples were destroyed. That gray color was ash from the burning of Jerusalem and the temples. It was a moment like none other in my life. To stand there in November 2009 knowing we had had on our hands in the dust and ashes from the burning of the first and second temple. The entire group was speechless as we tried to absorb that reality.

We have decided to dedicate one day of each trip to Israel to help Israeli archeologists sift through this huge amount of material. So if you would like to be a part of such a fantastic, once in a life time experience join us on May 29<sup>th</sup> as we go back to work and tour in Israel.

**We would like to thank each person that prays for and contributes in so many ways to the work of Road to Zion Ministries.**

*Shalom, David and Jean Dorris*

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**UPCOMING TRIP TO ISRAEL**

**MAY 29-JUNE 9, 2010**

Please contact us for an application if you are interested in going on this trip. We only have 7 places left.

