



o Israel put your hope in the LORD... Psalm 130:7

A Word From Moran

Dear family, shalom,

May the grace and peace of Yeshua (Jesus) the Messiah be with you.

As I write this letter, there is a tenuous ceasefire in the war between Hizbullah and Israel. On July 12th the war began with a Hizbullah incursion into Israel in which eight soldiers were killed and two were abducted. Though many in Israel felt confident in the IDF's ability to decisively crush Hizbullah, the uncertain outcome of the month-long conflict has left many Israelis reeling in disappointment in the government and military leadership and feeling concerned about Israel's ability to stand against another inevitable conflict with an ever-more emboldened and better-equipped Hizbullah. Even now, Iran is openly calling for the utter destruction of Israel, and Syria is proclaiming that this is the time to begin forceful resistance against Israel in order to recapture the Golan Heights.

This war has brought even more uncertainty to a region that is already in constant turmoil. The two goals that Israel set out to achieve at the beginning of the war, namely to secure the release of the abducted soldiers and decisively disarm Hizbullah, remain unachieved. In Israel's past wars of survival, there were always strong, determined leaders who, ultimately, helped lead Israel to victory. In this conflict, however, the steadfast Israeli belief in the power and ability of the IDF was profoundly shaken. Many reservists who largely manned the force that led the incursion into Lebanon now publicly criticize both military and political leadership for hesitance to use ground forces decisively and for failing to provide soldiers with some basic equipment. To further add despair in the difficult war-time situation, many civilians in the north felt forsaken by their government as there was no clear plan of action ever put into place to relocate and aid the civilians, who spent more than 30 days in bomb shelters. Finally,

adding insult to injury, the government refused to declare a state of war in the north which would have entitled the residents who suffered damages to some national assistance to help with reconstruction.

In Israel people are now seeing that it was private citizens and non-profit organizations who stepped up to assist the citizens in the north. That is where our story of *Operation Restoration* begins. While speaking to a friend of mine in northern Israel during the war, the sirens started and the bombs began falling. She and her family had to stay permanently in their bomb shelter. As she shared her family's plight with me, I was struck with the realization that God was revealing an opportunity to reach out and minister to those in Israel who were suffering. I was reminded of the word "restoration" that had come to me earlier that day during my prayer time. It was then that we decided to launch *Operation Restoration*. We were privileged to provide immediate assistance for approximately 130 people, more than half of them children. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we were able to move these families from the volatile north to safe shelter in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. There we provided them with meals and a safe and peaceful place to stay. That was phase one of *Operation Restoration*.

Phase two entails helping these families get back on their feet after over one month of being away from their homes, without work. Additionally, some may need help in rebuilding their homes or businesses that were damaged in the war. In doing all this, we remain committed to the ultimate goal of *Hope for Israel*, which is to see the spiritual restoration of the children of Israel, through faith in Yeshua the Messiah. During His own ministry, Yeshua would often tend to the immediate physical needs of those around Him before proclaiming the kingdom to them. Even though the war is over, many in

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Visit our new website at
www.hope4israel.org

A Letter From Orly

To Moran and the Hope for Israel Team:

“To give the heart and the soul, to give when you love.” So goes a song by Boaz Shar’abi. Hearing this quote, one may think about love between a couple, between brothers, between true soul friends, between a man and his family, and between a man and his country. But it’s very hard to use this quote to describe people whom you don’t know at all, people who live thousands of kilometers away. You, *Hope for Israel*, allowed us to feel something different, something that hardly exists. You allowed us to feel love and giving without even knowing us.

Twenty-seven days ago, as a result of the kidnapping and deaths of Israeli soldiers, the IDF started an operation in Lebanon which became a bloody war – a very destructive war whose results we will only know fully in the future. In these days of war, as the nation of Israel is fighting for its survival, we are fighting for the unity and

the well-being of our family. This is when we came to know you. I would like to tell you a little bit about

us and how we became connected to you. About 50 years ago, my parents emigrated from Morocco to Israel. They met in Israel, were married, and raised 10 children. My mother stayed at home to raise us, and my father worked many years as a farmer. All these years we have lived in Kiryat Shemona, a small town in the northern part of Israel. Living here,

We rejoice that there are still good people in the middle of the road, people who are willing to help, to give, to support, to exhort, to worry about us, and to be with us in their hearts.

we have constantly felt the heavy hand of Hizbullah since its inception. Ten years ago, while the Israeli Army was still in the security zone in southern Lebanon, one of the soldiers stepped on a wire during a routine operation that started a series of explosions. My twin brother, Lieutenant Ori Azulai, and his radio man, Tom Karin, were killed.

My brother, Ori, was a very special man. Unfortunately, there are not enough pages to fill with all the stories that tell who Ori was. But, I can tell you that his family, friends, soldiers, and country were always his main concern. He treated his soldiers with highest priority like he was their own father, and he always cared for other people. For example, a few months before Ori died, during Succot (Feast of Tabernacles), he came home for a few hours from Lebanon. He knew that our parents didn’t have much then. After he returned to Lebanon, my mom found a card with an envelope full with money that he had left. In another incident, as an

officer to a unit in basic training, he noticed that a group of his soldiers who were new immigrants from Ethiopia constantly came with their belongings in plastic bags. Ori didn’t think twice about buying new backpacks for them. He didn’t want these soldiers to feel embarrassed by their officer buying these things for them, so he told them that it was donated by the IDF.

It is because of Ori that I am writing you today. During Ori’s service in the

army he met Moran. There is a saying that goes, “You don’t exalt a man to his face,” so I won’t do it here. But, I will say that in his pleasant walk, his special character, his unending concern, love, and support, Moran has become like a brother and son to us. We see him as a family member and true soul friend, and we thank God for the privilege of knowing him.

During our lives, we meet thousands of people. With some of them, we develop relationships on different levels, and, with some of them, we only say hello. But, when we meet good people in the middle of the road, we want and need to keep the relationship with them. You, the *Hope for Israel* family, are these people. We can’t just simply say, “Thank you.” We want to express the fullness of our thankfulness to all of you. We are happy and rejoice for having known you. We are excited in every day that we pass due to your giving without the expectation to receive anything in return, from your giving without even knowing us at all (principles that our Ori had). We rejoice that there are still good people, people who are willing to help, to give, to support, to exhort, to worry about us, and to be with us in their hearts. We are very grateful for all the efforts, the willingness, the donations, and the help. We thank God that we got to know you and that there are still people like you in the world, especially in time of trouble.

In the name of my family, I thank you for everything and wish you health, life, and happiness, and we pray with you for better days.

With great honor,
Orly and the Azulai family

A Word From Moran, cont’d.

in Israel remain in need of help. For us, reaching out to help heal the physical damage and wounds reveals the love of Yeshua in action. The need is still great in northern Israel and the road to restoration is long. We need your help to achieve it.

As you will read in this newsletter, those who have received our help feel gratitude beyond expression. For the fellow believers we’ve helped, it has encouraged them tremendously that their

brothers and sisters in Yeshua have not forgotten them. As for those who aren’t believers in Yeshua, they have returned home touched by the love of people whom they thought would have no reason to care for them. They will also stand up to defend believers now should they hear them harassed or maligned. We cannot overestimate the power of the seeds we sow in love, and we pray that they will soon bear much fruit in the spiritual

revival that will come to Israel and the rest of the Middle East. We all await our Lord’s return and now have an opportunity to help bring a spiritual restoration to Zion. I want to personally thank all of you who have helped and are helping us with our efforts to bring the Good News to the people in Israel.

In His service,

Moran



A Letter From J. Haddad

During the conflict in the north, Pastor Josef Haddad and his family were instrumental in Operation Restoration. Pastor Haddad spent many tireless days driving families from the northern city of Nahariya to safer shelter in Haifa. When Haifa came under siege, Hope for Israel stepped in and transported these families to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Here is a letter from Pastor Haddad, recounting the situation in his own words:

Shalom Moran,

We returned this afternoon safe and sound back to our homes in Haifa and Nahariya after being 27 days in a safe place in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. We praise the Lord for you and *Hope for Israel*

for providing food, accommodation and transportation for about 60 members of our Lebanese congregation in Nahariya, Israel. *Hope for Israel* cared not only for our physical welfare but for our spiritual welfare as well; we thank you for providing for us a meeting place at the hotel we stayed at to carry on our weekly Bible study and worship meetings. Thank you for sparing our children from the horrible bombing and the devastating rockets. You put into practice the word of God from Proverbs 24:11, "Rescue those being led away to death". During the first days of the war, our children were scared and terrified because of the constant bombing. They couldn't leave their bomb shelters and they were in total

distress. A few days later as *Hope for Israel* helped moving them away to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, I was thrilled to see the smile of peace back on our children's faces as they were out of the dangerous zone and back to normal life. We praise the Lord for you, Moran, and *Hope for Israel* for standing in the gap to rescue your believing Lebanese brothers and sisters from this fiery trial, which we went through in Israel during this war. May our Lord Yeshua greatly reward you for this sacrificial act of mercy that you had shown us here in the troubled land of Israel.

The Lord's grace be with you,

Pastor Yosef Haddad

Lebanese Congregation in Nahariya,
Northern Israel

A Letter From Pierre

Hope for Israel was able to help many people, mostly families, during the recent war in northern Israel. Pierre and his family were among those relocated to safer shelter in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. They are now back in their home in Nahariya, but there is a long road of restoration ahead of them, as well as for many others affected by the war.

Hello Moran,

Thank you for providing for me and my family through *Hope for Israel* to come to a hiding place in Tel Aviv. For 12 days neither my children nor I could sleep at night or go out of the bomb shelter during the day, because of the constant bombing. The children were in great fear each time they heard rockets falling; they were in great panic. Right now, as I look at them playing freely and swimming in the

pool at the hotel in Tel Aviv, I can't help but praise our Lord for His goodness and providence and for delivering us from the fiery trial in Nahariya. Our deep thanks and appreciation to Moran and *Hope for Israel* for their true love and brotherhood.

Pierre

Father of 5 children
Lebanese Congregation in Nahariya,
Northern Israel

MARCH
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"Experience Israel" Tour



Why Go To Israel?

In light of the recent war in northern Israel, many people who would otherwise want to travel there find themselves paralyzed by fear. In fact, you may be thinking, "It's foolish to knowingly put myself in danger by traveling to a war zone!" We encounter this kind of thinking all the time, and our best response is to ask, "Are you a believer? Do you trust that your life is in God's hands?" That may sound overly bold, but it all boils down to this: our lives are in our Creator's hands and if He is calling you to go to Israel, that's the safest place for you!



It is also necessary to understand that most of what we see on TV and read in the newspaper is sensationalized and exaggerated. Yes, Israel was recently in war and things in the north were violent – we must not water down the truth. However, virtually everyone who visits Israel is shocked to find how peaceful and safe it is. The difficulty that some face is getting over their preconceived notions of what they expect Israel to be; the best way to do that is to see it for yourself!

More than ever, now is the time to show your support for Israel by traveling there. You cannot underestimate how much it blesses Israelis to see people visiting, despite the threat of terrorism. Your presence in Israel is an encouragement to those who live there; more importantly, your presence in Israel brings the light of the Messiah to all who live there, both Jew and Arab alike. And let's not forget how blessed you will be

after traveling the land of the Bible.

So what are you waiting for? If you feel the Lord calling you to experience this magical land firsthand and to bless the nation of Israel, please contact us for a tour brochure. Visiting Israel will change your life forever...

"Experience Israel" Tour

One of Hope for Israel's goals is to see followers of the Messiah from around the world receiving a heart for Israel and for its people. We want to equip believers in praying for the peace of Jerusalem and to give them a deeper understanding of God's plan for this place. To this end, we have created a special "Experience Israel" tour! We would like to extend a personal invitation to each of you to join us March 9-24, 2007 as we explore Israel within its biblically historical context, its modern reality, and its struggles.

We will go on a journey like none other where we will learn about and meet the different groups of people who live in Israel. We will meet Arab people, Druze people, religious people, and secular people. We will explore difficult issues facing Israel today, such as the security fence, the Israeli settlements within Judea and Samaria, Syria's conditions for peace, as well as hearing first-hand from families who have been victims of terror.

We will meet Jewish and Arab believers in the Land and hear their testimonies along with the difficulties of living in the Land. We will explore firsthand the different cultures within Israel, from enjoying an authentic Druze meal and exploring ancient Jewish culture to visiting a Kibbutz and worshipping together on the Sea of Galilee. And of course, we will walk in the footsteps of our Messiah, which will give us a deeper understanding and appreciation of Him and the Bible.

Here is what some people who joined our first tour had to say about their experience:

"I decided to join this tour and have

no regrets about it; in fact, I want to go back to see and learn more! What stood out for me was meeting with so many very different people from different backgrounds and learning about their life stories and culture... These are things you do not get on a 'normal' guided tour... only on a Hope for Israel tour."

Irene, Switzerland

"Yes we were in for a treat, but little did we know that we were actually in for a blessing that can only be described as divine... For me the most compelling story is the geography of the land of Israel. I suggest that if you could take all the highlights from America, the deserts of Arizona, the forests of Appalachians, the Grand Canyon, the Colorado River, farm land from California, Nebraska, Kansas and Ohio, beaches from the Gulf coast and compress all these various geographical diversities into a little strip of land, that's Israel!"

If you've ever wondered about going to Israel, if you've ever had the curiosity to explore a different culture, if you wanted to touch, taste and feel God's chosen land, I encourage you to go and find what the Lord has for you!"

Michael, California

For a free brochure, please email us at tourisrael@hope4israel.org or leave us a message at (818) 448-9818.

Final Word

In order to accomplish the great work the Lord has for us, we do need your prayer and financial support.

Please prayerfully consider supporting the **Hope for Israel** ministry.

Please make all checks payable to **Hope for Israel**.