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Tsiyon News

Tsiyon Messianic Radio Newsletter - Vol 8.22 - 03/28/6013 TAM - 06/07/13 AD



Jacob's Trouble

Genesis 35

Jacob's Trouble



In Genesis 35 Jacob's most anticipated joy soon gives way to a flood of suffering and trouble - hence the theme for this chapter - Jacob's Trouble. Since Jacob's life prefigures national Israel, we explore what this chapter means for us. And don't worry, this is far more encouraging than our theme suggests!

Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. Jeremiah 30:7

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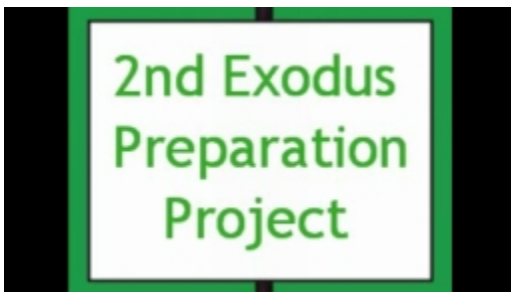
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New Video for *Tsiyon* Members!

A new video has been created by Eliyahu ben David specifically for *Tsiyon* Members only. This hour+ video will bring our *Tsiyon* members up to date with our latest preparation plans for the 2nd Exodus. This has been posted in the *Tsiyon* Tabernacle website for our members. Please take a look.

Rachel's Tomb in the News

120,000 visitors expected at Rachel's Tomb

The Jerusalem Post

Parliamentarians visit Jewish landmark on outskirts of Bethlehem ahead of event marking anniversary of Rachel's death.

Preparations are underway to secure the visit of 120,000 worshippers at Rachel's Tomb on October 25 to 28, to mark the anniversary of her death.

On Wednesday morning parliamentarians Yisrael Eichler and Uri Maklev (UTJ), Yulia Shamolov Berkovich (Kadima) and David Azoulay (Shas) traveled to the tomb, which is located on the outskirts of the Palestinian city of Bethlehem.



After visiting Rachel's Tomb, they sat around a long table, in an underground room. Representatives from the IDF, the Border Police, public transportation and emergency medical services spoke to the parliamentarians from the Public Petitions Committee about their preparations for the event.

The actual anniversary of Rachel's death, according to the Hebrew calendar falls on Shabbat of October 27. Religious prohibition against travel makes it impossible for most worshippers to pray at the tomb on that day.

Instead it is expected that worshippers would arrive one day before, and one day after.

Worshippers are encouraged to access the site through public and special transportation.

Shuttle buses are available from Teddy Stadium in the Malha neighborhood of Jerusalem to the tomb from 4 p.m. to midnight on Thursday, October 25, and until 2 p.m.

on Friday October 26. The bus service is also available to the tomb on Saturday night October 27 after Shabbat until midnight and on Sunday October 28 until 4 p.m.

But tickets will be NIS 6.60.

Azoulay said that the committee was exploring the possibility that a small number of worshippers would be allowed to stay at the tomb over Shabbat.

For security reasons the IDF and the Border Police want to discourage worshippers from walking to and from the tomb over Shabbat.

Eichler said it was important to wait an hour after the Shabbat before opening the tomb to the public, so that no one working on behalf of the event would be forced to desecrate Shabbat to prepare for the arrival of the worshippers.

"Our mother Rachel, would not have wanted us to desecrate Shabbat," he said.

But the most emotional moment in the two-hour meeting came, when Shamolov Berkovich spoke of the shock she felt when she arrived at the tomb.

It was the first time, she said, that she had traveled down the winding road, flanked by two high concrete walls, that protect the worshippers from Palestinians in Bethlehem.

Then she saw the tomb, protected by barbed wire and a guard tower.

Tears fell from her eyes as she described how hard it was to see those walls. She said that she wished people could pray to God without traveling by such walls. The large concrete barriers, she said, reminded her of the divisions that exist within Israeli society as a whole.

"As someone who immigrated to a Jewish state, it is difficult to see that people have a hard time visiting a holy site," she said.

Palestinians riot near Rachel's Tomb

Some 50 Palestinian stone security forces in northern Bethlehem; one soldier lightly hurt

Some 50 Palestinians rioted Wednesday near Rachel's Tomb in northern Bethlehem.

The rioters stoned security forces and hurled some 18 Molotov cocktails and nine pipe bombs at the troops.

One soldier sustained mild injuries and was treated on site. Security forces used crowd-control measures to disperse the riot.

One of the pipe bombs thrown at the soldiers hit the nearby security fence and damaged it.

Rachel's Tomb: 290 Firebombs and IEDs in 6 Months

Knesset discusses security measures at holy site, will consider building a roof over the compound.

Arutz Sheva 7

By Gil Ronen

First Publish: 5/20/2013, 10:50 AM



The Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee discussed the security situation at Rachel's Tomb near Bethlehem in Monday. It appears that a roof may be built over the compound, to protect the worshipers inside from incessant Arab attacks.

The IDF told Knesset Members that about 200 firebombs and 90 improvised explosive devices (IEDs) have been thrown at the compound since November's Pillar of Defense military operation in Gaza. That means an average of almost two bombs a day.

The military said that the very tall walls that have been constructed around the compound – nine meters high, or almost 30 feet – have not sufficed to provide security.

Committee Chairman Avigdor Lieberman instructed the military to examine plans that were drawn up a long time ago, to add a roof over the compound, in order to provide security for the worshipers inside. The military is to go back to the committee and report on its findings in a month's time.

MK Orit Struk said after the discussion, "I am pleased with the results of the discussion and I hope that we will have the privilege of seeing Rachel's Tomb turn from a bunker into a proper place of worship. I thank the IDF and the Border Police for the efforts they have been making in order to make the place secure."

Coalition Chairman MK Yariv Levin called the instruction to reexamine security arrangements "important" and predicted that it would lead to the protection of worshipers and of security personnel.



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From Eliyahu

We all have our times of trouble, and like they say; "when it rains it pours." Genesis 35 reports a period of troubles like that for Jacob. From the loss of friends and beloved family members, to shocking betrayal by those he loved and trusted, we would have to say that troubles poured down on Jacob. Why did all of this happen to Jacob? One reason is: Jacob was a prophetic picture of national Israel - and we all know how prone to troubles national Israel has been. In fact, the story of Jacob's troubles of Genesis 35 is prophetic of "the time of Jacob's troubles" of Jeremiah 30, just ahead. You really need to hear this. Tune in to our latest 3 hour midrash, this Sabbath.

Blessings and Shalom!

Eliyahu ben David

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