

MaozNews No. 128
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Ministry and Family News

We're home, at last. After 6 months, driving 20,000 miles and flying twice to Seattle and once to Montreal, we're home. It has been a blessed tour in the course of which we visited scores of churches and I preached scores of sermons, sometimes three in a day or four in two days. We wore out the tires of our 2018 Equinox and twice had to change the air filter, but God preserved us through the many hours on the road, including driving in North Carolina through Tropical Storm Florence, when there were moments when we had to slow down to a crawling pace because visibility was no more than 2-3 yards ahead.

God's people were kind, graciously welcoming and hospitable. We have reason to believe that God saw fit to accompany our ministrations with his blessing. Our prayers are now that he would see fit to bring himself ongoing glory through those efforts and the seed sown.

We were able to spend a few weeks with our daughters and their families in Seattle and Chattanooga. These were sweet, precious times, making our return to Israel all the more difficult. We were also able to spend some time with Katya and her family in Montreal. Our health was maintained throughout the trip: we were granted energy, strength and clarity to a surprising degree. We thank God for his kindness, and our many hosts for theirs.

As earlier indicated, this was our last extensive tour of the US. We remain open to invitations to minister in churches, conferences, seminaries and other such bodies, but will no longer devote as many months to touring as we have done for the last 15 years or so. My time on earth is drawing short and there is a great deal that needs to be done before I am called to give account. As Robert Frost put it, "the woods are lovely: dark and deep; but I have promises to keep and miles to go before I sleep". Better still, as Amy Charmichael put it, "the vows of God are upon me; I may not stay to play with shadows or pluck earthly flowers 'till my work have done and rendered up account". I intend to devote my remaining years to writing original expository and theological materials in Hebrew, with a periodic excursion into English, particularly with the Minor Prophets. More on this in the next MaozNews.

I remain concerned over the Messianic Movement and its' various offshoots. My desire is to encourage Jewish Christians to remain in their churches and, at the same time, raise a united voice for Christ among our people while sharing insights and endeavors on behalf of our people with the churches to which we belong. **The church of Christ should not be divided! Nor should the call for Israel to repent and believe the Gospel be neglected.** It is simply not enough to believe that God exists and that Jesus is the Messiah. Salvation involves a great deal more than that. A solid, thoroughly biblical, morally courageous voice needs to be raised instead of the diluted message often preached (and God is to be thanked

for those who dare not dilute it). An authentically Christian voice from *within* the Jewish people will inevitably draw attention and, in the goodness of God, might well be used to forward the salvation of many.

I cannot do this alone. I need your help. Many of you know of Jewish Christians, possibly in your own congregations. Please assist me by providing me with the contact details of any Jewish Christians you know. I will write and seek their support for a shared endeavor on behalf of Christ and our people.

A Dramatic Change

God willing, 2019 will mark a watershed of in our lives and ministry. For the past 55 years, Bracha and I labored in Israel, during most of which with the dual privileges of a pastorate and a literature and theological educational ministry. Coming December 2018, I will be 75. Bracha will soon be 70. Our three children, their families. Until now, contrary to the loving advice of many, Bracha and I remained in Israel, where we could serve more effectively. Our presence in the country provided opportunity for direct ministry and a moral basis for my writing. But years have passed and It is time for us to be near our family in this closing phase of our lives.

Somewhere after mid-2019, Bracha and I plan to move, DV, to Chattanooga TN, near one of our daughters and her family. In a sense, we view such a move a betrayal: for 2,000 years, our fellow Jews longed to have an national home of their own in the land, yet we are leaving. What is more, Bracha and I might yet be able to do some good for the church in the country by remaining there. But we believe that family comes before ministry. Should we fail there, all the rest is inevitably disaffected. In addition, we dearly long to spend our remaining years closer to family. We believe that this is the right, timely, step, but we dearly wish it was not. Leaving our homeland and the church in Israel is a painful decision, and not all responses here in Israel to our decision have been understanding.

As you will see from our Mission Statement below, we intend to continue to minister to the church in Israel. In fact, no longer engaged in annual tours, I can be far more productive. Under the oversight of Faith Reformed Baptist Church (FRBC) in Media PA and through the Reformed Baptist Network (RBNNet), I hope in the Lord to continue to work at least 30-35 hours a week writing, editing and translating expositional and theological literature in Hebrew. Bracha and I are immensely grateful to FRBC and to the RBNNet for their continued fellowship in the Gospel. FRBC has supported our work since 1976 (!). I am grateful for such faithfulness and for the willingness of the church to assume this burden.

We also intend for our home to serve Israeli Christians visiting the US. I will also be available for pulpit supply, seminars, conferences and lectures at theological seminaries and colleges in the US and elsewhere. I am especially eager to serve smaller churches that are unable to offer an honorarium. God willing, I will continue to produce MaozNews, no longer monthly but quarterly, so that you will be kept abreast of the scene in Israel and of my work.

My primary concerns remain to push back the Messianic Movement and enhance the visible unity of the church of Christ, focused on his supremacy and the sufficiency of his accomplishments, and to promote love for God, warm-hearted godliness and confidence in God's word. To that end, I will renew efforts to promote the International Jewish Evangelical Fellowship. My desire is to encourage Jewish Christians to remain in their churches, while raising a united voice for Christ among our people, sharing insights and endeavors on behalf of our people with the churches to which we belong. I need your help:

please provide me with the names and e-mail addresses of any Jewish Christians you may know. Your prayers are much needed and earnestly sought.

Thank you for your fellowship in the Gospel over the years. We are grateful for your many kindnesses and for whatever good we might have been allowed to do for the church in Israel. You have a large part in our labors. Our only regret is that we were not as faithful as we should have been.

Our income will be combined of Social Security (from Israel) and continued monthly support through RBNNet. Please consider continuing to support us – we will need that support. Our needs for the first half or so of 2019 will not change. On the contrary, they will be considerably greater due to relocation costs such as flights, shipping our belongings, setting up home in the US, the application for Bracha's residence permit and related matters. Upon our relocation, most likely somewhere between June and September, the level of support needed will change. At this stage, we do not know by how much because we do not know the final date of our relocation. That will depend on the sale of our home in Israel and the date on which we will be required to evacuate it. Our working assumption is that a reduction of some 10% in our budget for 2019 should be assumed. We therefore encourage each of you, our supporters, to reduce your present level of support by 10%.

Berean Baptist Church (BBC) in Grand Blanc MI has served us faithfully and generously, providing us with financial accountability since 2008. Upon accomplishment of the move, our support will be overseen by FRBC and channeled, receipted and accounted for through RBNNet. Until then, all support should continue to be channeled through Berean Baptist Church. Following our relocation we will provide you with a new address.

Please inform me and/or FRBC as soon as possible whether you will continue your support of our labors as of January 2019, and at what level, so we can plan accordingly. We very much need that information. We will contact you toward the end of 2019 regarding 2020 onward. FRBC's contact details are Pastor Matt Foreman, pastor@faith-reformed.org. The church's telephone number is 610-566-8959. You are welcome to address him or me with any queries.

In Christ by grace,

Baruch Maoz



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October 2018

Dear Church Leaders and Supporters of Baruch Maoz,

First of all, thank you for your faithful support of Baruch's ministry and Gospel labors in Israel. Our church has been close supporters and followers of Baruch's ministry since 1976. In the last few years, our elders have undertaken a more significant role as his overseeing elders and sponsoring church for endorsement through the Reformed Baptist Network.

As Baruch will explain in his accompanying letter, next year (2019) will bring some changes to his location of ministry and financial support.

First, in late summer of 2019, Baruch and Bracha plan to permanently relocate to the States, intending to live in Chattanooga, TN. The purpose of the move is to be closer to their children, who all live here in the States, to cut down on the distractions of yearly travel to the States, and to prepare for any future health needs and contingencies in a place where the cost of living is significantly lower than Israel.

Second, when their move is finalized, Baruch's financial support will be serviced through the Reformed Baptist Network. Baruch will inform all his supporters when the financial servicing arrangements will change and all necessary details.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Baruch is NOT retiring from Hebrew ministry! In fact, Baruch hopes to accelerate his efforts to translate and write Christian books and commentaries in Modern Hebrew, without the distractions of yearly deputation and travel. He plans to work a minimum of 30 hours a week, for 48 weeks of the year. As Baruch is one of the only people writing such books and commentaries in Hebrew from a Reformed perspective, we think his work continues to be *uniquely worthy of support* and that his ministry will continue to impact the church in Israel for decades to come. His presence here in the States will also make him available to impact churches here with a biblical perspective on the Jewish-Christian church, the unity of Jews and Gentiles in the church, and to provide an alternate perspective on the Messianic movement.

PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT! We are concerned that Baruch's changing location of ministry may result in a significant financial loss of support for his work.


Please know that the support is still needed. Baruch and Bracha do not have a pension; their savings are limited; and they are dependent on continued ministry support.

As Baruch explains in his letter, his support needs will *begin* to decrease *slightly* next year. In 2019, he will still have significant costs associated with relocation and setting up housing here. In 2020, there will likely be another decrease in needed support. Baruch and Bracha have been meeting with a financial counselor to determine their ongoing needs and to make sure they are adequately provided for. Our church will be setting a yearly budget for his continued ministry. We continue to COMMEND his ministry to you, and hope that you will consider CONTINUING TO SUPPORT and pray for his ministry.

If you have any questions for us, please feel free to contact Pastor Matt Foreman by email (mrforeman@gmail.com) or by mobile (610-329-8381). We are thankful for your partnership in the Gospel and concern for its spread among the Jewish people.

In Christ,

Matt Foreman, on behalf of the Elders of Faith Reformed Baptist Church

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Foreman", is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Baruch Maoz – Mission Statement
Goals, Process, Means and Particulars

In these closing years of my ministry I hope in the Lord to achieve the following:

Promote in Israel and abroad a greater appreciation for and practical application of the primacy of Christ by way of a recognition of the sufficiency of his accomplishments, which lay the grounds of grace for salvation, sanctification and the unity of the church, so that he might have the preeminence in all things.

Serve churches outside Israel by pushing back the Messianic Movement, contributing to the enhancement of the visible unity of the church of Christ, focused on his supremacy and the sufficiency of his accomplishments, and promote love for God, warm-hearted godliness and confidence in God's word.

To that end I shall endeavor to

- Promote appreciation of the unity of the Old Testament with the New
- Promote unity in the church, particularly between Jews and gentiles
- Seek to edify the church in Israel and beyond

The means I shall employ to those ends will include

- Writing commentaries in Hebrew on Deuteronomy, all of the Minor Prophets, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Galatians, Ephesians, Hebrews, Revelation, possibly I & II Samuel and I & II Kings
- Writing daily expository devotions in Hebrew
- Writing a Systematic Theology in Hebrew
- Writing a book in Hebrew on church life
- Writing other books in Hebrew as the Lord would enable
- Renew efforts to establish a counter-movement to the Messianic Movement
- Writing a book in English on the use of the Old Testament
- Writing a book in Hebrew on the principles of interpretation
- Possibly translate into English my commentary on Romans and those on the Minor Prophets
- Inform readers of events and developments in Israel
- Serve inviting churches, conferences, colleges and seminaries with a particular emphasis on small, isolated churches and Pastors facing challenges
- Seek ways to impact the church in Israel

Particulars

God enabling, I shall

- Devote a minimum of 30 hours weekly to writing, editing and translation a minimum of 48 weeks per annum
- Attend Messianic conferences, establish contact with Jewish Christians and seek to promote the rejuvenation of the International Jewish Evangelical Fellowship
- Advertise and respond to invitations to address seminaries, colleges, churches, seminars and conferences for preaching and lecturing, up to 10 per annum
- Maintain and further activate my website and accounts with FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn, including seeking a volunteer to help improve, activate and maintain my website and promote my materials
- Seek ways to promote the wider use of my books, sermons and lectures (via Facebook & YouTube, among other venues)

- Seek to impact the churches in Israel through my literature, opening our home to visitors from Israel and responding to invitations to preach and lecture in Israel
- Provide my books in Hebrew free of charge to publishers in Israel
- Attend evangelical conferences per annum, seeking to promote the goals indicated above

In Christ by grace,

Baruch and Bracha Maoz

You can help by purchasing copies of Baruch's books from Barnes & Noble or from Amazon, by asking for them at your local bookstore and **by posting reviews of these books** on Barnes & Noble or Amazon websites. Positive reviews help us sell.

COME LET US REASON TOGETHER (On the Unity of Jews and Gentiles in the church). Christ as the fullness of divine revelation and his work as sufficient for our whole salvation, Presbyterian and Reformed.

JONAH: A PROPHET ON THE RUN a devotional commentary on the book of Jonah, Shepherd Press.

MALACHI: A PROPHET IN TIMES OF DISTRESS a devotional commentary on the book of Malachi. Founders Press.

COLOSSIANS: The All-Sufficient Savior a devotional commentary on the book of Colossians. Founders Press.

The commentaries are suited for personal devotions and group studies

Baruch's sermons may be heard on [Sermon Audio](#)

To remain abreast of developing circumstances in Israel, visit the [MaozWeb](#) or "follow" Baruch on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) (@BaruchMaoz).

Intermittent bulletins are produced as necessary



Tax deductible **support for our ministry** should be written to the order of **Berean Baptist Church special missions account, POBox 1233, Grand Blanc MI, 48480-3233, Chemical Bank, 333 E. Main Street, Midland, MI 48640, Account 1148701325** Routing Number (ABA#): **072410013** SWIFT Code: **CHEMUS33**.

Please designate: For Maoz Ministry.

All contributions are tax deductible. Receipts are sent at the end of each calendar year or at donor's request.

Please do not send contributions directly to us; we value accountability.

Funds sent for the ministry will be used exclusively for that purpose.

We reserve the right to use personal funds for the purposes of the ministry.