

2,730 Years...and Counting!

*329 Kingston St.
Aurora, CO 80010
303-590-4920
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Shalom, Aryeh Deeri:

This letter is intended to describe my experiences and my feelings regarding my past visit to Israel and my fond hopes regarding the possibility of living in the Land in the future. Ever since spending six weeks in the Land in 2010, I have experienced a persistent longing to return and live there, as I experienced the profound sense of being in the land of my origins, especially in Ariel. In fact, the notion of the reunification of Yehudah and Yosef has become the overwhelming fire in my belly -- to the extent that I have hosted an internet radio program entitled "2,730 Years...and Counting!" ever since that visit (a program whose listenership has grown from a handful to an estimated 500-1,000 and is still growing -- worldwide!).

My congregation in Colorado Springs (currently numbering about fifty members) feels so strongly about Israel that its members exert every possible effort to return to Israel for as many of the pilgrimage feasts as they can afford...and they never go to the Land empty-handed. I myself have been chosen to be a participant in the COI (Commonwealth of Israel) Conference in Jerusalem, scheduled for May 21 through 23 of this year, which is a dialogue regarding the reunification of the houses of Judah and Israel spoken of in Jeremiah 32:31-41.

I am in complete support of the establishment of an Ephraimite cooperative in Israel, and, in fact, would do everything possible to become a member of it. It is my deepest desire to step up for my brothers of Yehudah and become a contributing member of Israeli society. Barring that, I would do all I could to assist in the establishment of the cooperative, both through contributions and purchases of its products.

My desire is to reunite with my Jewish brothers and take the Kingdom of All Israel forward -- not to impose any religious ideas on them, but instead to walk in Torah with them, providing an example to the rest of the world.

Especially during the years since that 2010 trip, I have noticed a quantum increase in the number of persons in America (and worldwide, for that matter) that have come to a realization of their Hebrew ancestry and their gut-level affinity for the Land and Yehudah. It has become such a groundswell of awakening that I can only describe it as a supernatural phenomenon, explainable only by the biblical prophecy of the rejoining of Yehudah and Yosef (Ezekiel 37). We truly are the prodigal son who has come to the somber, life-changing realization that it is time for him to return home in repentance and humility. All I can say, with all that is within me, is "Hineini!" I would estimate that there are easily 500 of "us" in the state of Colorado, and that number expands to the tens of thousands in America.

I have several friends that are affiliated with HaYovel, the organization that assists Israeli vineyard owners in the pruning and harvesting of their fields, and I share its commitment to the betterment and enhancement of life in Israel in every way. Please know that it is our deepest intention to build up Israel's economy and strengthen the nation in every respect. Please consider our request for an opportunity to demonstrate our solidarity with you! You will NEVER regret it...we are your brothers.

Sincerely,

Eugene Porter