

LightBeacon Ministry & Services, Inc.

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December 2004 News

**Merry Christmas, and Happy Chanukah to our friends and family 2004, from LightBeacon Ministries and Services, Inc.**

"Lightbeacon" is comprised of Ben, Liz (who is writing this newsletter), and even "Goodness" (our lovable, spoiled rotten cat "Goodie"). Goodie is named after Psalm 23. She is a real fun part of the household, she *CAT-scans* (very medical cat) everything I write. She lies across the printer and paws my work to see if its *purrfect* to print (ah heck, I couldn't resist that). One day, we hope to get a tiny Bichon-Frise dog named "Shirley", and another cat named "Mercy". Then the Psalm "*Shirley, Goodness and Mercy*" shall follow me all the days of my life" will be fulfilled in this house. Yes, I know, "Surely" not "Shirley", but I think the Lord will cut us some slack on that. By the way, did you know cats pray too. That's right, *Goodie told me when she goes to heaven she hopes to see plenty of 'mice on skateboards' in front of her...kind of like a pet's dream of 'meals on wheels'*. (^ . ^)

- ❖ Well, really now, we do have to know that the Lord's GOODNESS and MERCY is already with us. I think of what the Word tells us, that the Lord changes not, lest the sons of men be destroyed. Yep, there's chaos in all the nations, and even in our streets and homes, but FEAR NOT - God is not shocked, mocked or even surprised. He told us this would all happen at this hour of history (check out Matthew 24 for starters...it's far more accurate reporting than the *New York Times* ever will be. Totally unbiased news, the bible is). It was even written thousands of years before the news even happened. CNN can't even do that! Yes, God still invites us to live with ZEST, JOY and even, yes, hold onto your hats HAVE FUN IN THE PROCESS.....What, Have Fun you say, I don't have time for fun! That sounds so, well 'unchurchy', and so "Unorthodox, Rabbi". Of course, what makes you think our Lord was ever 'churchy' or 'religiously starchy'? Didn't you know He came as a real man and even ate with those many of us wouldn't want to? Yep, He even made better wine than Napa Valley does.
- ◆ We can all relate to trouble this year, can't we? God works with *time* and through *circumstances* to 'allow' to cause even the good and bad stuff to filter through His Hands, for our benefit. God allows through his allowing of it, (see the book of Job for more on this) a season of testing (personally, locally, and nationally), but it is all for the prize: to inhabit HIM, and more importantly, so He can inhabit (dwell within) us. That is what "Christmas" and "Chanukah" is all about. Our Heavenly Father sent His only Son, the "LIGHT" of the world, to be a Messiah for the world (for Jew and Gentile). What's more, not to just enroll us in 'heavenly fire-insurance', (kinda like an Insurance agents 'we'll keep ya outta hell kind of premium plan')...but more, to enroll us as royal heirs into His Kingdom, the family of God. We, who have been 'born-again' in Him, know that King Jesus (or Yeshua) said 'that to inherit eternal life - you had to go through Him' (again, kinda like you ain't getting in to see the President without going through the screening at the gate). We who are already members of a Royal Priesthood, a nation born of the Father's love, know all our attempts to get to God on our own way, fell flat on our faces. God isn't a politician: He can't be bought, sold or bribed. Did you think you would die and go to heaven and sit around playing harps all day long. No, no, no. Jesus said "*I do the work My Father sent me to do*". Guess what? We all have been chosen by God (born on planet earth) with a 'calling' or 'work to do'. What's yours? That's what 'working out our salvation with fear and trembling is all about', finding out what we are here for, and then doing it. Oh, yea, one more thing: it is a lifelong process.

\*It's been quite a year for all of us, hasn't it? Almost too much change at once, for some of us. For our families and loved one's, new challenges and mountains to overcome, and for ourselves, never a dull moment. *Have you ever thought about what God has called you to do for Him? What were you born for?* You'll never know the real "why" to who you are unless you "go to the Father" as Jesus said. I love the simplicity of the gospel (which literally means 'good news'), and the gospel says Jesus/Y'Shua "went to the Father on our behalf". After all, He really is the "Passover sacrifice" paid once and for all for all mankind. That is why He could proclaim on an Execution stake "It is Done". Not one of us can or ever will be 'perfect' in ourselves, we are made 'righteous' and 'perfect' in His sight. When the Father God hears our prayers, He sees though the blood on that cross, the Passover blood of Yeshua, and it becomes our 'mercy seat' that we may enter into His presence with Thanksgiving and Joy. Yet, some may be wondering, gee, that sounds great, but I can't even overcome getting angry, or alcohol, or screaming at the kids, or not wanting to smack that sassy brat kicking her mother in aisle 5 of the store, you name it, there are 100 ways in a day to sin. You got it. We weren't meant to do it on our own. That's the whole problem. We never ("we" being a collective term to describe all humanity since back to Adam and Eve"), believed the Lord in the Garden, and we still don't know if we can trust Him today. That 'thing' that makes us *think that way* is called 'sin'. Sin doesn't know how to trust, it only knows fear, how to hide (this is where the actors playing Adam and Eve reach for their fig-skin attire).

- ◆ Now, don't be put off by the word sin, we are all born into it. It's like being born in a human body, you can't escape it, you weren't born in the skin of a leopard, you were born a human earth-suit, with all its movable parts. That includes the inside computer works, minus the battery. God just breathed on us, and we became a living soul: no Energizer bunny needed. Sin is less than perfect, it is less than holy, it is the garment on humanity we were dressed with when our souls (made in heaven) came into the body we were living in when we were formed in our mothers' womb. We just came out that way! Face it, we is what we is. But the GOOD NEWS is that we are destined to be more than what we were. Ok: Basic religion 101 made easy here: we disrobed ourselves in the Garden of Eden. No, not the 'fig stuff' when we disobeyed God and took off our 'glory' able to think higher and be free from the confinements of ourselves, and put on our 'human thinking and reasoning, our 'soulish' natures, it was like the kings kid became a beggar. Our minds, souls, spirits and bodies, well, we went from '*designers garb to bargain basement*' as far as our soul goes. We went downhill fast, in an instant.

We fell, we went boom. (spiritually speaking). ☹

- ◆ Did you know scientists have discovered that we use less than 10% of our brain power (some days I think it's less than 2%, but that's my personal take on it). Did you ever stop to think that when we were made in God's image, as Genesis tells us, we didn't have all this baggage. No doubt, no fear, no loss, no sorrow, no illness, nothing that was 'less than'. Why, I bet there wasn't even *cellulite* or *needing my morning coffee to function kind of feeling* back then, I mean, it was perfect. Yet, having the full power to be free-moral agents, God loved us so much He chose NOT to make us robots. Would any one of you want to 'buy' your kids love? No, God is the first parent. He made all things, He is even the 'parent' of the 50 some galaxies that science has just discovered through the Hubble Telescope. Imagine being the parent of trillions and trillions of stars, solar systems, and yet, your greatest pride and joy is your own child. That is God: each child born is HIS FAVORITE. If you are reading this: YOU ARE HIS FAVORITE. *Well, when HE MADE us, HE did a major "WOW", "look Son, look Father, look Spirit, look what WE just made. They are made in our image". Talk about a party! God one was one proud papa at Creation. And then the Spirit of God (God is an ECHAD (one) Father, Son and Spirit) did a collective WOW. HE BLESSED EVERYTHING IN SIGHT! Again, science magazines wows us with the realization the earth one time knew no toxins, no poisons. The water Moses drank was crystal clear. The animals weren't injected with hormones to drag them off for a quick sale. I mean, the earth (before the flood) even had water coming up from the ground. (no rain from the sky till Noah's boat went by. God made things perfect. One day it will again be restored to perfection... "a new heaven and a new earth" according to the Book of Revelation.*
- ◆ God knew we couldn't do it on our own. Israel found that out. With God's spirit, nothing was impossible, without God, everything seems worse than impossible: it seems hopeless. I know. But the GOOD NEWS is that God is in the business of 'making all things new". That includes you and me. Have hope. This season is about HOPE. It's about the LIGHT (our Lord Himself) who makes all things new. I mean, the Son of God from Heaven came to earth to be born in a woman's body (that He made) as a little, helpless baby: if that's not new, then what is? Have hope, my friends, He is and will restore, rejoice and replenish us all this season, to make our hope, our dreams, and even our bodies. That's "peace man" for all you old hippies and yuppies and boomers out there, it's about His Peace.

☹ is-a-running out here, so let me give you some news. Ben and I had a wonderful, hard, busy, trying and simply glorious year. Change, change, then more change. But God is in control. *Here's the scoop:*

**HEALTH:** Had the most hectic, difficult and yet most fruitful year we've ever had. We have battled some health concerns. Ben had a knee operation this past year, and works hard to manage his diabetes (eats right and exercises, he has far more discipline than I do, but I'm working on it every day). I am writing to you now with an abscessed gum (tooth gone bad, didn't know it, dentist didn't know I needed a root canal) and will need oral surgery. Oh yea, this year, I think I have had some nasty run in's with '*hormones gone wild*' (no, it's not a new Reality show, though it definitely qualified as one). I'm walking through those estrogen angst-days everyone's one's mother warned me about. That ubiquitous sense of feeling upside down and inside out, and I haven't even gotten out of bed yet feeling. I'm 7 months away from being half-a-century, gee, doesn't that qualify me for some kind of *Early Bird Special* at the local diner?. Plus, some knee and heel stuff (*Arther-It is* and His nasty kin, *Bursa-It is*).☹ We try to use common sense and good medicine, good vitamins, plenty of minerals, good nutrition (as part of good health). However, we are always on auto-pilot for a miraculous touch from God, prn. What, did you think God stopped doing miracles 2,000 years ago. He only just got started...there is probably millions of answered prayers every day we'll never know about.... So believe.

I don't want to be like that man in scripture waiting decades at the Pool of Siloam for Jesus to walk by...He is already here....He is just waiting to 'find faith on the earth' to move (His request). But all in all, although it would be great to have the energy of 20 year old and the wisdom of a 50 year old, I wouldn't trade any place in my life for now. I finally am ready to start the best part of my life.

**JOB:** Ben and I had many changes this year. Ben loves Veterinary Research and science. Having published a number of scientific articles, he believes science only confirms how awesomely and miraculously wonderfully God made us...even the animals. To act on some professional goals, and pending a lot of prayer, it seemed like the right time for Ben to resign his position at the Int'l Veterinary Pharmaceutical Co. in May of 2004. This was not easy to do, as one has friends and contacts where you work, but Ben (always the visionary), knew the Lord was showing him it was time to trust Him and 'take a leap of faith' once more. In May of 2004, Ben accepted a position as Veterinarian for *Banfield, The Pet Hospital*, a state-of-the art corporation of animal hospitals nationwide. (In fact, we have owned and operated) on Sunday afternoons a "Wellness Clinic" under the "Banfield" company for 3 1/2 years right here on the Eastern Shore. (part of LightBeacon Ministry & Services). Part of that decision though, involved Ben working back in Maryland, near the DC area, for about 8 months, where the Banfield Hospitals in that area needed trained doctors. Now, as we live in Delaware (a couple of hours from DC), this presented a challenge. Ben couldn't drive back and forth 6 hours each day over the Chesapeake Bay Bridge (you need to cross that to come to the Eastern Shore), so, we had to get him a little apartment up there and we would see each other weekends. We live in a townhome in Delaware, and I work in health-care down here, so you got it: we did the weekend commute (taking turns, and did the clinic every other Sunday afternoon). We made *Verizon* and the *Exxon* a whole lot richer these last 8 months. We tried to carve out time together, often traveling during the week. We made time to do a few ministry engagements, travel to Israel, and be with families (back in MD and PA) as possible. Been quite a pace, for sure.

**NOW** - the LAST and best part, to make a long story short (*yea right, like I can do that*), the Corporate folks at Banfield's Hdqtrs offered Ben a chance to OWN and OPERATE his own Animal Hospital, right here on the Eastern Shore. We could continue living here in Delaware (which is about 35 minutes from the Animal Hospital in Salisbury, MD). Ben will still be working hard and long hours, but he's used to that. Banfield is also into Scientific Research, which is right up Ben's alley. All in all, we will be hiring another Vet, a client-service team, and pet nureses. Although we are a Banfield Hospital, running a business is still running a business. We found that out with the clinic. Bills, vendors, taxes, supplies, employees, marketing and all that. An interesting note here: we didn't (and still don't) have the moola (cash) to make opening a Hospital a reality. For those reading this who are wondering about their dreams and if it can ever happen, it can. Don't you know God gives you a dream and a vision for your life that is bigger than you?

**NOTE:** **God will give you a dream you can't make happen on your own, then you will know He is in it. First, He gives you the desire for it, then the faith for it, then you have to wrestle (like Jacob at Peniel) for it. You have to wrestle against, doubt, fear and uncertainty. You have to do what God says even when you have no clue how.** God miraculously got us a lender, who got us the loan, which will make this a reality. We already have great employees from the clinic, who are coming on board with us in January of 2005, at the Grand Opening. We are trusting the Lord will send lots of 4 legged customers who need help, so we can pay the zillions of bills that come with such an enterprise. But, I, for one, will be happy to have my hubby back here. The guy works hard: 10-12 hour days and drives home on the DC beltway, which, from my Catholic upbringing, I would definitely say qualifies as some kind of '*traffic purgatory*'. Eight months and 2 fender-benders later (not mine, I must say), we are safe and sound, even with 6 lanes passing you at 80 mph. Ugh! Give me *slower-lower-delaware* roads any day of the week! I do love DC and Maryland metro, but on trains.

**LIFE-STUFF:** Well, I am going to sound like Tevye's wife in "*Fiddler on the Roof*" here for a minute, but for 8 months, just about every weekend, "I've cooked his meals, did his laundry, wrote the checks, made the calls, I've slept with him, fought with him, loved him and laughed with him, if that's not love, what is"? (audience, you can applaud now, or just go rent "*Fiddler*"). Since last May, it's been like being back in college without the zits and cramming for term papers. Oh, and as for *yours truly*, for the time being, I will remain working at the Life Care Facility (part-time), to continue doing the PR and Marketing for the Hospital, and helping as needed, paying the bills, doing the business end of *LightBeacon* et al. Plus, I hope I can finish another book this year, and get it to print.

♦ **BOOKS:** Well, I don't know how he found the time to do it, but my husband has co-written (with a dear friend, L. A. Haig), a STAR TREK script. They hope to get it turned into a screenplay. Ben has always been a 'trekkie', and always talks about the parallels between Star Trek and things God is trying to say to us. *Whether it a moral view of life, an appreciation for life, or a respect for other cultures, 'trekkies' do know that "God is always trying to take us where no man has gone before"* (sorry honey, but I couldn't resist the alliteration). Trusting God they get a good agent and into Paramount Studio's door before summer hits.

{As for me, I need a secretary (no kidding). I'm 49, not 29 anymore, and the realization I can't stay up till 2 am on the PC at night answering emails and doing paperwork has hit me like a ton of bricks: ouch. Sometimes I think when people like me (who've always taken their good health and abundant energy for granted), start getting daily visits from the nasty "Itis" brothers (*Arthur* and *Bursa*), you start to get it. I need to rest. With me, it's been my back, my knees, my tooth, a few cysts, and a few good cries. But, I'm still here and trying to 'work smarter, not harder'. I haven't go it all figured out yet, but... It's funny, we moved to this address a year ago (and then Ben tore his ACL ligament & had knee surgery), many boxes and files and paperwork never got moved from their original '*let's dump it here*' spot as we did our 86<sup>th</sup> flight up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Uugh! I'm tired just thinking about it. And in January we move Ben out of his apartment up there back to Delaware...*No wonder they call them 'wandering Jews'*....they were going more than staying..

**SPIRIT:** As mentioned, Ben and George traveled to Israel this summer, to attend and present at an International Conference in Jerusalem. (see our website for hundreds of pictures and articles by them). I don't think anyone of us should be surprised by what is happening in the Middle East. ✪The Lord Jesus prophesied this (as did Jeremiah, Isaiah, Daniel etc). *"Israel will be a boiling pot of trouble for the nations around her" ...but all who try to move (budge) her will be destroyed"*. Did people forget what God told Moses "I will bless those who bless you, curse those who curse you". Listen, God doesn't play favorites, He does keep His Word and His promises. He loves the sons of Issac (the Hebrews and their descendants), and yes, He also loves the sons of Ishmael (all Arab nations). He has specific plans, purposes, and destinies for all people groups on earth, you just have to check out the tribes of Jacob to know that nations today all descended from the earliest peoples of we now call 'the Middle East'. To simplify history: a man 6,000 made an oath and kept it: His name was Abraham. God then swore to Him (when He offered His Only Son, Issac), a prototype of the Messiah Jesus who would come 4,000 years later on the world scene, that all the nations of the earth would be blessed through His "Seed". Who was His Seed? **Jesus Christ**, or if you prefer His Aramaic/Hebrew name "**Y'shua the Messiah (or Maschiach)**". It is too long to get into eschatology (study of bible prophecy), or the 700 prophecies already historically proved since then, suffice it to say, Israel will be the top news story until Messiah returns. There are 2,000 years from Abraham to Moses, then 2,000 from Moses to Jesus, then (give or take a few years), 2,000 years from Jesus to you and me: that means we are on HIS timetable. Remember - God worked on 6 days, then HE RESTED on the seventh. According to bible historians, the earth (if calculate from Genesis) has worked for 6 days or millenia (a thousand years), so there is a "rest" coming to God's people and to this whole earth. The Word of God says "a day is as a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years as a day". Well, read the 'Owner's Manual' (bible) for further instructions on how to assemble this mystery. What we need to know is that a Saviour who willingly died on a crucifixion stake rose to become the King He already was, and is preparing to visit this earth again to rule and reign (where do you think, you guessed it, JERUSALEM).

\***WORSHIP.** For years, Ben and I have attended a wonderful Messianic (Jews who believe in Jesus) Congregation in Rockville, MD (near D.C.), called Son of David Congregation. These folks are comprised of Jews and those with non-Jewish backgrounds, who all love the Messiah. We have a wonderful family of friends there. Of course, the services are on Saturdays (Sabbath)...[*this is where Tevye sings TRADITION*], and with our nutsi work schedule and travel schedule, we worship some weeks in Rockville, and the other Sundays at our wonderful home church here on the Eastern Shore in Salisbury, MD called "Living Stones Church". You know, when we married, we knew we were going to be "Jew and Gentile one in Messiah". Back in Jesus' day, if you were a non-Jew who loved Him, that was rare. Some folks might be confused, let me make it simple: Messianic Jews are Jews who believe Jesus is the Messiah. They didn't stop being Jewish, anymore than you stopped being Italian when you married your Greek husband....they are now '*completed*' Jews. Just like being born in America (doesn't make you a "Christian", anymore than sleeping in a garage makes you a car).

A simple course here in *what is a Jew?* Everyone knows the Old Testament is about Genesis to Malachi, the generations since Adam when God first visited humanity, and the generations of mankind. When God first revealed Himself to Abraham (called the 'father of faith'), God called Him out to be a unique people-group on earth through which He would reveal Himself. This 'people group' became known as the Judah-ites or 'Jews', or 'Hebrews'. Many centuries later God visits a man called "Moses", and through Him, He reveals His laws. Two millenia later, when the 'promised Messiah, 'Yeshua' or "Jesus", arrives on the scene, to, in His own Words, "Not ABOLISH the laws of the prophets, but to fulfill them", He came to the Jews, as a Jew, and commissioned the first 12 Jews to spread this gospel of Good News to the whole world. Well, despite the *diaspora* (dispersion of Jews to all the nations over centuries), Inquisitions, and even the Holocaust, the Jews are still here. Now, they (Jews) didn't do it all perfectly, but neither do we. God chastises nations for their sins, He does the same individually. Yet, He forgives big. He blesses and Restores even bigger! And He promised once they were back in the land (1948) they would 'never again be plucked up'. He is the LIVING TORAH (book of laws) come to life. Jesus didn't stop being a Jew anymore than a tree stopped being a tree. And when Jesus returns to earth, as He said He would (the Second Coming), He isn't setting up shop in downtown NYC, no matter how many lox & bagel shops there are: He is going to return to the same place He took off from: the Mount of Olives, in Jerusalem. So, for 2,000, "the Church Age" has been in full swing (for the gospel would be preached 'to all nations'), yet scripture tells us when this time is full, the "Kingdom Age" (preparing for King Jesus to return to earth to rule and reign from Israel) would begin. It is here NOW. That's where we are at in His-Story right now. That is why millions of Jews throughout the earth are coming to know their Messiah. If you are a Christian (grew up in a Church) reading this, pray for the Jewish people to know the Messiah, and learn how to share your faith about the Messiah to them. If you want to know the meaning of the term "Christians", it was applied to those "Jews" who were following the one they believed was the Messiah (Jesus). The term "Christ" (from "Kristos" in the greek, means "Anointed One"). If you read all through the Psalms and Prophets, you will see the Jews have always been waiting for the "anointed one", their Messiah. The difference for Messianic Jews is they have '*found Him of whom the scriptures speak*'. The gospel was given, as the Apostle Paul said, "first to the Jew, then to the Greek" (meaning all the other nations). God has ONE plan to REDEEM every soul that ever lived, and as Jesus Himself said, "No one goes to the Father but by me". What counts is if you know Him, not what your last name is. Listen, if you are Polish and you marry an Italian, you don't produce Hungarian offspring. You are what you came from, by birth. We were born into a certain religion, but what we *become* is what we are by *faith*. We are believers in Him, that is our destiny. I can still hear old Mr. Callahan (a theatre professor at college) say "*Mickel, it's all grist for the mill*". It's all part of ingredients to make this *bread of life* we all need. Whether you are a practicing Jew, Catholic, Baptist, Moslem, or none of the above, you need to know 'Him of whom the scriptures speak'.

|| *Oh vey, you should once laugh, it's really good for your soul!* Ben and I kid each other that growing up Catholic and growing up Jewish is a lot alike. I always thought the Jews got it wholesale, the Catholics got it retail. The laws, the Commandments, first dibs, the real meat of it all. Jews wore kipa's, Catholic kids wore 'beanies'. Rabbi's wore prayer shawls, priest wore fancy shoulder wraps. Jews ate fresh made Challah, Catholics had the smaller wafers. We both knew Good food, homemade soups, fasting, a little guilt, knowing some sins got frowned upon more than others, lots of relatives, mothers who spit on their hands to fix your bangs, fathers who always work way too hard and who want you to enjoy *Mitch Miller music* or *Lawrence Welk* with them when they are home. Growing up Jewish and Catholic is a few feast or High Holy days (and what are the 'low' holy days, anyway)? It's looking forward to school days off for some saint

whose name you can't pronounce. It's older relatives always telling you "to enjoy this time of your life" when you have no clue why this old person (and they are only 40!) is telling you this, and 'oh vey, if only I was young again', or, for you Catholics, "Mother Mary, if only I were young again". Growing up Jewish and Catholic is about older relatives always asking you what are you going to do when you grow up, and all you know is that you want a Tastycake pie in your lunchbox tomorrow. It's about Christmas and Chanukah, and knowing, deep inside, that God is good, life is good, and there is a purpose and cycle to it all. It is only when you get older you can understand and see how God has worked it all out. Everything I ever learned as a child still teaches me. So like the Apostle Paul, who made a living out of persecuting 'Christians' (before he became one), I too, "count it all as dung to know Christ". People misunderstand that verse. Paul wasn't saying he was throwing it all away, he was saying 'everything is grist for the mill'. Paul knew that his life experiences, knowledge and searching, none of it was wasted. Hmmm, Mr. Callahan, even though you smoked ciggy's like a sailor and cursed like one too, you were one of the best teachers I ever had. We are what we are because of all God has allowed to shape us and form us, and these are the dreams our heaven will be made of. One day in eternity these will be your 'good ol days'.

\*Whatever we've learned isn't wasted, it aids us to know Him better. Dung is a fertilizer to farming, it aids in the growing of the what is already on the ground. If your appetite is already 'whet' to know more of God, He will allow all the 'dung' of your life (\*all your life experiences), to make you a clay mold that really comes to life. So, Ben, being raised by Jewish Holocaust Survivors, who knew the Old Testament, were ready to come to Jesus as the 'promised Messiah', as they discovered He really was. Ben was raised in America, celebrating both holidays, (Christmas and Chanukah, Passover and Easter), knowing Jesus was the fulfillment of the what His Jewish ancestors tasted in traditions. *Chanukah* is about the *Light*, and *Passover* is about the *Blood*: could it be any more clear?

\*Christians who believed the gospel (and guess what, the gospel is about a Jewish Saviour and Jews wrote the whole bible), from Exodus to Revelation...that's how we got to this point: again, grist for the mill, "Salvation is of the Jews". Yet the Jews, like every soul who lives, need to pass through the same gate of salvation, called Y'shua. (*Y'shua* or *Jesus* is Hebrew meaning 'salvation'). What counts is that you are born-again. It's all as simple as "God - I give my life to you, take me as I am, and wash me clean by your spirit. You start there. He will take you the rest of the way. Give me a new heart to see you and hear you and follow you". That's Theology 101, Torah 102, sure and simple. Ask His Holy Spirit, Ruach Ha Kodesh to fill you so you can know His voice and follow Him.

◆ *A couple thousands words ago, I started this newsletter by asking, "why are you here" (on planet earth)? "What is your purpose"? "What gifts did God give you" and finally, "WHAT HURTS"? Whatever it is (inside or out) God can and WANTS to fix it. Remember, first and foremost, even with 50 billion galaxies that He knows the name of - HE STILL LOVES YOU BEST. He never sent His only Son to die for a galaxy, yet He sent His only Son to give it all for you. We've all heard the saying "so and so is going to have to pay for that, what he did to my kid or my car or whatever" yet God already did pay in full for you. He'd like to enjoy what He paid for by blood: YOUR LOVE. Won't you open up and let Him in? Life is too short to live without Him.*

*Happy Holidays!*  
*from Ben, Liz, and Goodie the Cat (^ . ^)*

**Ben and his brother George had the privilege of being invited to speak at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference at Yad Vashem, in Israel this past August, 2004.** The theme of the conference was "*The Education of Future Generations*. [Where to Find Additional Information and Resources](#)  
The following emails and web-sites are on-line (internet) addresses only.

- Go to [www.lightbeaconministries.com](http://www.lightbeaconministries.com) for more information. Click into ABOUT LBM (*LightBeacon Ministries*) or on the following (underlined) icons for great pictorial and written content. For facts on the (late) Rev. Dr. Ernest H. Cassutto and (the late) Mrs. Elisabeth Rodrigues Cassutto, click on the link that states "[The Anne Frank with a Happy Ending](#)". For a comprehensive web-site linking to Holocaust history, Messianic Judaism, Articles, newsletters, and, to order copies of "*The Last Jew of Rotterdam*" and "*Buried Treasure*".
- Also, for George Cassutto's Family Memorial page and information on Cassutto's, go to [www.cyberlearning-world.com/casspers.htm](http://www.cyberlearning-world.com/casspers.htm) for more information. SCROLL DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE – and when you see Cassutto Memorial. Click into it. This is a wonderful interactive website George developed as a teacher. Best viewed with with ADOBE or FLASH. For WOLC Radio and *Manna* Newspaper interview (on-line and print) of Benjamin & Elizabeth Cassutto (Jan 2002), go to: [www.wolc.org/manna/January\\_02/THELASTJEWOFROTTERDAM.htm](http://www.wolc.org/manna/January_02/THELASTJEWOFROTTERDAM.htm)