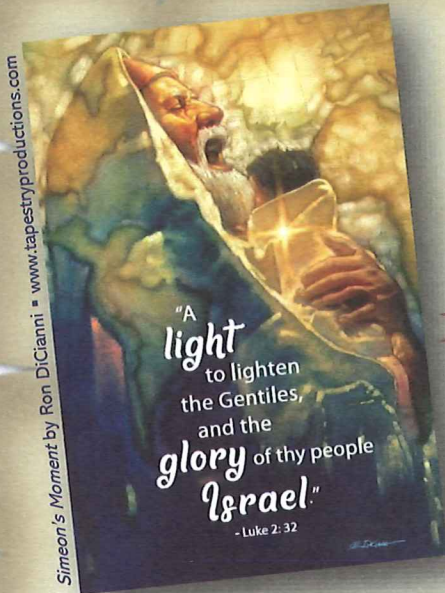


Merry Christmas & Happy Hanukkah



The Gibson Family

Shalom Haverim,

Life has changed dramatically in 2020, not only in New York City but wherever you may be. Through it all, we must keep our eyes on the Lord! Psalm 112:7 encourages us, ***"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting the LORD."***

As the world focuses on darkness, disease, and difficulty, we must dedicate our lives to walk as ***Children of Light***. Hanukkah, also known as the ***Feast of Lights***, speaks of dedication to the truth of God and His Word. The birth of Messiah Jesus, the ***Light of the World***, boldly declares God as absolute truth. Every single prophecy of the Messiah's first coming was fulfilled. So too, every prophecy of his Second Coming will fall into place in His time. For now, we are commanded, ***"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven"*** (Matthew 5:16).

This year as we reflect on God's mercy and grace during the pandemic, we know we have every reason to be thankful.

- Church life at **Shalom Baptist Church** has changed, but God is faithful! Attendance has been limited, with most people still joining on Zoom. However, many have experienced unprecedented personal growth and discipleship. We've even seen new faces in our services and increased faithfulness despite how "different" everything is.
- The development of our **"Evangelism Team"** in conjunction with All Nations Baptist Church has been a great encouragement. We travel throughout New York City sharing the good news to both Jewish and Gentile people. Praise the Lord for those who made professions of faith or received a Bible. More than ever, Hebrew Scriptures and Prophecy New Testaments have been distributed.
- The **Food Pantry** each Saturday morning provides physical sustenance, but it's a special blessing to also speak with people about their spiritual needs.
- Our children are thriving! **Zachary** (18) is a freshman at Bible college in California, seeking God's will and direction for his future. He has had a wonderful first semester.
- **Hannah** (15) is blossoming! She's learning to play guitar and loves volunteering at the food pantry ministry.
- **Valerie** (11) stays very busy crafting, creating, and making us smile. Both girls are homeschooled already, so 2020 is nothing to them!

As we close 2020, we thank the Lord for His provision and goodness and especially for you, our supporters and prayer warriors. We count it a privilege to co-labor with you to reach both Jewish and Gentile people in New York City. May the **God of Peace** be with you all!



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