

HOW TO REACH THE JEW FOR CHRIST

by

Daniel Fuchs

Copyright © 1943

CHAPTER ONE

QUALIFICATIONS OF A MISSIONARY TO JEWS

A missionary to the Jews was once approached by an earnest Christian worker. This man had been dealing with a Jewish storekeeper for several weeks with no results. He was discouraged, and complained to the missionary of the hardness of the Jewish heart. Because he could not “convert” this man in the period of a few weeks, he was disheartened. The missionary asked him, “How old are you?”

“Forty-seven years old,” was the reply.

“How long have you been a Christian?”

“For eight years.”

Pressing the matter further, the missionary found out that before this man had accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour he had been a church member, that he had heard the Gospel week in and week out from faithful ministers, and that as a child he had been in attendance at Sunday school for “as long as he could remember.” For almost four decades this earnest soul was under the teaching and influence of the Gospel before he yielded his heart to the Lord. For years he had stubbornly resisted the Truth and yet he was disappointed because this Jew who had never heard the Gospel, and who had been subject to hostile teaching until then, had not immediately accepted the Lord.

This instance is not an isolated one. It is surprising how many zealous Christians approach the Jews without trying to understand them! The nation of Israel is a peculiar people and they must be approached in an understanding way by men and women who are spiritually and mentally qualified to meet their needs. In this lesson we will study some of the qualifications of the Jewish mission worker.

I. *He must be enthusiastically in love with the Lord Jesus Christ.* It is not enough that he be a Fundamentalist; even a comprehensive knowledge of the Scriptures will not meet his needs! He must be in love with his living Lord.

If we love Jesus Christ, we will love the things that He loved. He wept over Jerusalem; we will weep over the condition of the “**lost sheep of the house of Israel.**” This love is a gift of God; we cannot practice it until we receive it from Him!

II. *He must be a believer in the Word of God.* The man who is not satisfied in his own mind as to the authority and sufficiency of the Bible, will never plant convictions in the hearts of men. If you doubt the accuracy of the Word of God, please do not go to the Jew—he is already a better believer than you are!

III. *He must be a student of the Bible.* The first requisite of a teacher is that he know more than his pupil. Orthodox Jews have been taught from the “Torah” from early childhood. In order to meet his need the missionary must apply himself diligently to the study of the Word of God.

Reading the Bible or commentaries on the Bible is insufficient. There must be diligent and purposeful study of the Bible itself. This course is not a course in Bible study. Special emphasis, must be placed on Old Testament indoctrination, for it is upon Old Testament truth that the appeal to the Jew for faith in Christ must be made. The Lord Jesus Christ had no New Testament when He was off the earth, but He established all His claims to the Messiahship on Old Testament prophecies.

IV. *He must be a lover of the Jews.* Service which is done because of a sense of duty is tedious and of little value. Unless we love the Jew we will never be able to convince him that God loves him. Duties become monotonous, our zeal wanes, our determinations fail, but “**charity [love] never faileth.**” Do you find the Jewish people irksome? Do their habits distress you? Let us examine our motives in bringing the Gospel to them. Are we evangelizing them because we love them or are we merely doing what we believe to be our duty?

V. *He must be patient.* It takes years before a fruit tree yields fruit. It may take years of labor before a Jew will be convinced concerning the Messiahship of Jesus. After three years of patient teaching and leading, the disciples of our Lord still forsook Him! But, “**having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end**” (John 13:1). The Jewish people have been walking in darkness for years. Remember, when you bring them the Light it will take time before their eyes will be able to see clearly.

VI. *He must be sensitive to the feelings and needs of the Jewish people.* People with “formulas” or set approaches in personal work usually do more harm than good. The Jew with whom you are dealing is an individual with his own needs and we should meet these needs. A kindly smile, a cheery word, or a helping hand is a much better approach than a blunt “Are you saved?”

* * *

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Make a comparative study of the personal approach of our Lord in dealing with Nicodemus in John 3 and the Samaritan Woman in John 4.

Did our Lord deal with both in the same manner? Why, or why not? Was our Lord immediately successful in the case of Nicodemus? Was He successful later on? Was He successful with the Samaritan woman?

* * *

A Quiz

True False Uncertain

- | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. A special call from God is necessary before I can witness to the Jews. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. It is important for the missionary to the Jews to know and love the Jewish people. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. The best method of approach to the Jews is through the Old Testament Scriptures. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. It is worthwhile to labor long and hard and earnestly in order to win a single Jew to our Lord Jesus Christ. | _____ | _____ | _____ |

* * *

A Personal and Preparatory **EXAMINATION**

I am willing (or unwilling) to admit members of the Jewish race—

- | | | |
|--|---------|-----------|
| | Willing | Unwilling |
| As subjects of missionary effort. | _____ | _____ |
| As fellow-workers in business. | _____ | _____ |
| As students in my school. | _____ | _____ |
| To membership in my church. | _____ | _____ |
| To membership in my Sunday school class. | _____ | _____ |
| To a seat in my family pew in church. | _____ | _____ |
| To offices in my class or society. | _____ | _____ |
| To my social functions. | _____ | _____ |

Can you give God good reasons for your decisions? God is at hand as you mark this examination paper. Is He pleased with your answers?

~ end of chapter 1 ~

<http://www.baptistbiblebelievers.com/>
