

JEWISH CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD OF THE KINGDOM

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The second Jewish Christian Conference in Basle took place on Sunday, January 27th, 1952. The hall, seating 500 people, was soon filled to capacity. Many were unable to enter for lack of space.

However, notwithstanding the overcrowding, there was an orderliness and quietness which expressed the earnestness of those who attended the Conference, fully conscious of the importance of the occasion.

Friends from all parts of Switzerland were present, as well as from France, Germany and England.

The spirit of unity and harmony was maintained undisturbed throughout the Conference. If the "adversary" had representatives in the hall that day, they had no power even to raise a voice or make a sign.

It was decided that a committee of twelve should be formed to represent France, Germany, England and Switzerland. Three delegates from each country are to be elected in their own circles, with the power to co-opt other members. The name suggested by Abram Poljak for this International Brotherhood was "The Brotherhood of the Kingdom" as the Movement in Europe is made up mainly of Gentile Christians.

This suggestion was put to the vote and defeated by an overwhelming majority in favour of "*Jewish Christian Brotherhood of the Kingdom.*" Thus the International Movement was founded and named at this second Conference in Basle.

It is hoped that this new step taken will be a means of linking up all who are called to this work, that they may go forward together, strengthened and empowered by the spirit of the Messiah, to proclaim the message of the Kingdom in all countries.

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It was my privilege to be present at the Conference in Basle as a representative

of the London Community, and to meet many of our friends in Switzerland. I was deeply impressed by the fervour of the response to the call of the Jewish Christian Community, the great interest and support of the work by the Gentile Christian brethren and the unity in spirit.

The vision of the Kingdom of Israel, and the mission of the Jewish Christian Community to prepare the way which leads to the Kingdom, has called out of all nations, churches and sects, those who have been chosen by God to herald the second coming of the Messiah Jesus, and to proclaim His approaching Kingdom in Israel.

At this Conference in Basle, friends and supporters from many countries were present: they had come from various circles of Christian believers, from different countries, different walks of life, but there was one spirit uniting them all—the spirit of Christ. At this meeting, where almost 700 people filled the hall, there was peace and harmony, unity in spirit, vision and purpose; an earnest desire to serve God, proclaim His Kingdom, and serve one another in love, tolerance and humility.

The success of the Conference was the result of much preparation in prayer. In Jerusalem, England, France, Germany and Switzerland, so many faithful and trusting hearts had been lifted up in prayer to God, asking for His guidance and blessing upon the meeting. Those prayers had been answered by a pouring out of the Spirit upon all who delivered the messages and those who were ready to receive them. It was an important day in the history of the development of the work of the Jewish Christian Community.

Now that the International Brotherhood has been founded, it is hoped that members and friends in all countries may have opportunities of

meeting from time to time, at conferences in different towns, thus linking up in the work, that the message of the Kingdom may be carried to all corners of the earth.

As Jews and Gentiles, one in Christ, with strengthened faith and vision cleared, we are called to prepare the way of the Lord. We stand on the bridge which crosses from one aeon to another. We must support and uphold one another until the bridge is crossed and the new era, the Kingdom of the Messiah will be established on earth.

Step by step God will lead us, if we answer His call without hesitation, without doubt, without thought for ourselves. Two things are necessary in this

joint work of Jew and Gentile during this period of transition, this crossing of the bridge—prayer and a united spirit, the spirit of love which overcomes all obstacles, which is the assurance we have that the Messiah is in our midst, that He is leading us, guiding our footsteps towards His Kingdom.

Only by the manifestation of the spirit of Christ in the personal life of each one of us can we be known. We will not be known by a name—only by love. People will see us, hear us, look at us, come to us according as love flows through us into the world. No names, words, teaching or preaching alone will prepare the way for Christ. Love and love only can do this work . . .