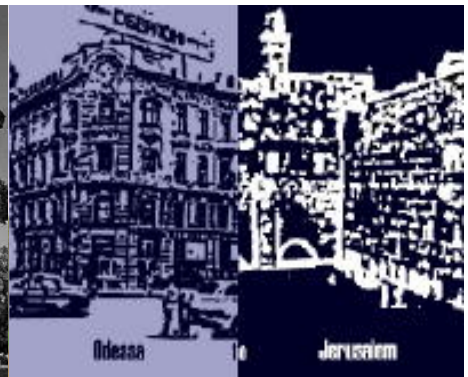


# THE PARIS TIMES

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## Gateway to Zion at the Gates of Europe

You can see from the photo on the right that we landed in a Jewish neighborhood in Paris. Around the corner from us there are many synagogues and even a kosher butcher shop. While visiting a variety store we ran into two young orthodox Jewish guys. A simple “Shabbat Shalom” earned us an invitation to a Bar Mitzvah at a Chabad congregation. It turns out the young man (David) who invited us is actually the rabbi. I sat through the Shabbat service up front at a table for special guests and the kids. After the service they had a meal (Kiddush) which included frozen vodka. The messages about Messiah got more intense as the meal and the vodka went on. I am sure I will be seeing Rabbi David again because he is around the corner from our apartment. He said “Chabad” was the best, but I pray for an openness in his heart towards Yeshua. Tonight we are going out with an elderly Jewish couple whom we met this week.



The (lawyer) husband said, “I have been a Jew all my life, and I hope you won’t be offended but I am now an atheist.” What a great opening for us, two Messianic Jewish lawyers, to explain about the Messiah Yeshua - that Jesus was a Jew and He was sent to reconcile the Jewish people and the nations to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. So we see, after just arriving in France, that all the Lord wants us to do is “*pray and show up.*” He will orchestrate all the details and that He is clearly opening the gates of France for us.

### Here are some key updates from the US, France and the Ukraine:

- (1) David was elected in July 2007 to the Steering Committee of the IAMCS (Int’l Assoc. of Messianic Synagogues & Congregations) which has approx. 130 congregational members worldwide. Also he was appointed to be the representative for the IAMCS in Europe and to a liaison group with leaders in Israel. These are very strategic and timely appointments, especially given our move to France.
- (2) We attended a Towards Jerusalem Council II (TJC2) conference with 70 delegates from all over Europe who are developing a strategy to fulfill the “*one new man/unity*” call of Eph 2 & Jn 17.
- (3) We led the teaching part of a retreat for the American Church of Paris on “*The Jewishness of Jesus*” and how that impacts our relationship with Him.
- (4) We shared about Sukkot at a Parisian church, we will preach about Hanukkah at churches in Paris in December and teach regularly in the Paris Messianic congregation.
- (5) We are meeting soon with someone who wants to restart a Messianic work in Nice, France.
- (6) We are regularly meeting with Jewish people to develop their openness to Yeshua. Our plan is to begin a home Shabbat meal where Jewish people can fellowship and discuss their spiritual interests and needs.
- (7) We will be visiting Odessa several times a year and hope to bring teams and speakers there on a regular basis. We are also scheduled to teach and preach in Nuremberg, Germany in April.
- (8) We plan to encourage groups to come to France and pray against anti-Semitism and for a breakthrough in Jewish outreach and reconciliation amongst Jews and Christians including former Muslims.

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We would love to hear from you!

And we are available to share  
at your congregation or church.

Coming soon our web site:

[www.messianicinitiative.org](http://www.messianicinitiative.org)

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*It's been a great year ministering both in Odessa and France. Below is a photo of another successful summer camp with about 70 kids and counselors joining in. We plan several trips to Odessa in 2008 and you can be part of them as well as our summer camp program. On the international front, we have been invited to speak in Nuremberg before Pesach (Passover) and in the future to Berlin. We met a young man at the TJC2 conference that has started 13 congregations amongst Russian Jewish immigrants to Germany. Several of our congregants from Odessa also moved to Germany so we may see them in 2008!*

*Our move to France was completed at the end of October and we have found a home until April or June. We still are looking for a base for the next few years so keep praying for the Lord to fulfill the vision He gave Leslye from Acts 28:30-31. Our expenses are 4 times what we experienced in Ukraine where each US Dollar is only worth 69 cents here. Plus, right now, because of the falling value of the US Dollar, the cost of ministering here rises each day. Please take time now to consider both a year-end donation as well as monthly regular support. We have so many opportunities in France, the rest of Europe including Eastern Europe, and Israel and we need your help to reach our Jewish people who have no witness of the good news of Yeshua. Thank you so much for your faithfulness this year. Love and Shalom. David & Leslye*



## COMPUTERS ARRIVE FOR ORPHANS!

40 Dell Desktops Delivered to Odessa Orphanages



What a joy to see the expressions of the gov't officials and orphanage directors as they unloaded 40 Dell desktops for 6 orphanages in Odessa. We hope to break the cycle of drug addiction and homelessness by teaching orphans usable skills which will prepare them for their future. Gateway to Zion teamed up with the other Messianic congregation in Odessa to finance and ship the computers, and now we will monitor the results of these precious gifts. If this pilot program is successful other orphanages in Odessa and throughout Ukraine may receive similar donations. Leslye and I will continue to provide senior leadership to the congregation we planted in Odessa twelve years ago, especially in areas of humanitarian aid, support of Holocaust survivors and missions trips and internships. **Please e-mail us if you are interested in coming and praying!**