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Together we fulfill prophecy!

Shalom Haveirim (Grace and Peace to you- my friends)

I am discovering something important about friends. Friends are vital to the Kingdom of God, such as Jonathan's friendship, which saved David's life; Yeshua called His disciples friends and Solomon longed for a "faithful friend." Your friendship to us goes far beyond your prayers and financial support.

Together, as friends, we are living out the desires so dear to Abba's heart.

Last week I visited my longtime friend, Ramzi and his family, in Atlanta Georgia. Ramzi originally is from Ramallah. He knows he is called to be an Evangelist to his people (The Palestinian Arabs). Recently he opened his own restaurant. His present occupation is a preparation for his ultimate calling.

Ramzi has, since I've known him over 10 years, wanted to run a restaurant in a way that brings glory to Yeshua serving good food along with the Gospel to his customers. And what seemed impossible a few months ago is happening today! What a joy to see my friend prospering- even as his soul prospers. Not only did I get to meet his church family, but also along with a supportive group of fellow believers, I helped dedicate the restaurant to the Lord.

Much like Jonathan and David, our friendship has been tested through cultural tension, politics, health attacks, family upheavals, and distance. We are now seeing in this special season the faithfulness of God to give us the desires of our heart.

How does running a restaurant fit into Abba's plan to reconcile Jews and Arabs in the Messiah? Will his witness ultimately have an impact on Israel? How can this Jew and this Arab be friends and stand with each other through difficult and changing times? How can two men, whose peoples are constantly battling, be advocates of peace? The answer is only because of the Prince of Peace, and the love of Yeshua. It is His love that impacts us. It is His vision that inspires us.

Friends have faith in friends.

I mentioned how Jonathan had faith in David, even saving David's life. At the time of Jonathan's greatest help to his friend, David had no money (he had to beg bread and "borrow" a sword). David seemed an impossible distance from his destiny as anointed King of Israel. He even took further detours living in caves and being surrounded by the riffraff of Israel.

But Jonathan had faith in David's destiny. He had faith that he had prophetically heard the voice of God and just "knew" that David would be King. When Jonathan acted on his faith - his faith became a fact. David went from a renegade surrounded by the hobos of Israel, to serving Israel as King. We read in the Psalms how he brought a Kingship of praise to a rebellious and sinful generation.

Jonathan helped David, because he was a faithful friend- not because he could see any short-term gain. Jonathan helped his friend because he knew there was a prophetic destiny, which David could not reach alone. Alone they would fail: Together they fulfilled prophecy. Friends, alone we will fail, but together we will fulfill prophecy as well.

Your faith, and my faith combined with God's promises will make it happen!

Together we will fulfill prophesy by favoring Zion, in other words the believers, both Jews and Arabs, in the Land of Israel. We will be a part of adding to the Kingdom of Yeshua. Eventually with the coming of the total Kingdom –comes **THE KING**. The Messianic leaders and believers in Israel need our help, prayers, finances and encouragement to sustain their courage to boldly proclaim the gospel.

Ezekiel's vision

Your faithful friendship manifests to me what the prophets wrote about, but only longed to behold. Each of the written prophets could only transcribe in faith.

*“Behold I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel.... They will forget their disgrace and treachery... When I bring them back from the peoples and gather them from the lands of their enemies, then I shall be sanctified through them in the sight of many nations...I will have poured out My Spirit “
(Ezekiel 39:25-29).*

Ezekiel's vision, which I have quoted, is God's promise to us. A promise made not only to you, my friends, but also *with* you, my friends. We know the end time season we live in and what this season requires from us. We know the calling God has on our lives. We know the truth of the scriptures and we know most importantly the One who has called us.

When true friends stick closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24), then we will see transformations occur and prophetic destinies come about.

I truly thank you for continuing to be a committed friend and standing with us.

Ted

PS. Your friendship expressed in prayerful support is a tangible evidence of your faith.

PPS. Plan to join Diane and me as we see where Yeshua walked in Israel and where he is walking today in The Land amongst Believers- June 5-15, 2006: a Messianic Tour of Israel.