

HELSINKI CONSULTATION

FINAL STATEMENT 2013

The Helsinki Consultation on Jewish Continuity in the Body of Christ, an international fellowship of Jewish believers in Jesus who are scholars, theologians, and educators from Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, and Messianic Jewish traditions, met in Oslo, Norway from 21-25th June 2013.

Eleven participants from Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Norway, Russia, the UK, and the USA presented papers before an invited audience on the subject of “Fulfilling the Torah in Jesus Christ.” This reference to Matthew 5.17 challenges Jewish believers in Yeshua to express how they understand the Messiah’s fulfillment of Torah in their lives and ecclesial communities. The papers, available soon on the Consultation website (<http://helsinkiconsultation.squarespace.com/>), reflect the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of the participants, and manifest varying attitudes toward traditional Jewish practice. Nevertheless, all are agreed on the theological significance and concrete expression of Torah in the life of Jewish believers in Jesus.

The Consultation founders, Dr. Mark Kinzer, President Emeritus of Messianic Jewish Theological Institute (USA), and Fr. Antoine Levy, OP, Director of the Studium Catholicum (Finland) expressed thanks to the Norwegian Church Ministry to Israel who hosted the event. Members met after the open conference to discuss future directions and developments for the Consultation. Next year’s consultation is planned for 20-24th June 2014 on the subject of “Authority, Freedom, and Tradition in the Life of Jewish Disciples of Yeshua.”