On Thanksgiving Day we are asked to remember the Mayflower and the hundred-plus passengers—men, women, and children—who sailed on her. In 1608, they had fled from religious persecution in England and established a new home in Holland. Despite the warm welcome extended by the Dutch, as contrasted with the persecutions they had endured in England, their love for their homeland impelled them to seek English soil on which to raise their children, English soil on which they would be free to worship God in their own way.

Finally, the Pilgrims landed, as we all know, on Plymouth Rock in the middle of December 1620. On Christmas Day, in the words of future governor William Bradford, they “began to erect the first house for common use to receive them and their goods.”

continued on page 2
Three Kernels of Corn
During those first years, three kernels of corn represented the daily food ration of the Pilgrims. Within three months of their landing on Plymouth Rock, “of one hundred and odd persons, scarce fifty remained.” In the following excerpt from his History, Governor Bradford vividly describes the lot of the Pilgrims during these early years. Writing about conditions in the spring of 1623, after their corn had been planted, he says: “All their victuals were spent, and they were only to rest on God’s providence; at night not many times knowing when to have a bit of anything the next day. And so, as one well observed, had need to pray that God would give them their daily bread, above all people in the world...

So They Tried Freedom
After enduring three years of near starvation the settlers experienced decades of abundance. Describing events that took place in the spring of 1623, Governor Bradford wrote:

“…they began to think how they might raise as much corn as they could [on their own], and obtain a better crop than they had done, that they might not still languish in misery. At length, after much debate of things, the Govr (with the advice of the chiefest amongst them) gave way that they should set corn every man for his own particular [private use], and in that regard trust to themselves . . . . And so assigned to every family a parcel of land, according to the proportion of their number for that end, only for present use (but made no division for inheritance) and ranged all boys and youth under some family. This had very good success; for it made all hands very industrious, so as much more corn was planted than otherwise would have been by any means Govr or any other could use, and saved him a great deal of trouble, and gave far better content. The women now went willingly into the field, and took their little ones with them to set corn, which before would allege weak-ness, and inability.

“For this community (so far as it was) was found to breed much confusion and discontent, and retard much employment that would have been to their benefit and comfort. For the young men that were most able and fit for labor and service did repine that they should spend their time and strength to work for other men’s wives and children, with out any recompense. The strong, or man of parts, had no more in division of victuals and clothes, than he that was weak and not able to do a quarter the other could; this was thought injustice. The aged and graver men to be ranked and equalized in labors, and victuals, clothes, etc., with the meaner and younger sort, thought it some indignity and disrespect unto them.

“And for men’s wives to be commanded to do service for other men, as dressing their meat, washing their clothes, etc., they deemed it a kind of slavery, neither could many husbands well brook it.”
PILGRIMS DISAVOWED SOCIALISM continued

The Importance of Property Rights

This new policy of allowing each to “plant for his own particular” produced such a harvest that fall that Governor Bradford was able to write: “By this time harvest was come, and instead of famine, now God gave them plenty, and the face of things was changed, to the rejoicing of the hearts of many, for which they blessed God. And the effect of their particular [private] planting was well seen, for all had, one way and other, pretty well to bring the year about, and some of the abler sort and more industrious had to spare, and sell to others, so as any general want or famine has not been among them since to this day.”

Our first Thanksgiving should be interpreted as an expression of gratitude to God, not so much for the great harvest itself, as for granting the Pilgrims the perception to grasp and apply the great universal principle that produced that great harvest: Each individual is entitled to the fruits of his own labor. As the notion of property rights developed from this tiny seed into a “formed body,” it became the cornerstone of our Declaration of Independence and of our Constitution, and produced the extraordinary explosion of individual human energy that took place in America.

If Pilgrims Had Had “Foreign Aid”

Suppose some foreign country, or their mother country, had taken pity on them in their misery and sent them ample food supplies during those first terrible years. Would the Pilgrims ever have learned and applied the concepts of the dignity of the individual and the sanctity of property—the idea that each individual is entitled to the fruits of his own labor? Freedom for the individual, with recognition and respect for the right of each individual to his property, is essential to the release of individual human energy, which alone can raise the standard of living.

This Thanksgiving Day, let us highly resolve to dedicate our lives, as individuals, to “planting for our own particular,” rather than living as parasites on the productive energy of others; let us dedicate our lives to a renewed application of the ideal of individual freedom and individual responsibility, which our Pilgrim forebears learned at such sacrifice, and which they passed down to us as our most precious heritage.

Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime. —Lao Tzu, ancient Chinese philosopher

The Pilgrims demonstrated the failings of the system that would come to be known as Communism. —Editor
When the topic is people’s money, the church’s message seems simple: “Give the church your money—and God will bless you in return.” Though I personally believe that givers are gifted from God in return, the over-simplified message can be self-serving at worst, and way too narrow at best.

The New Testament promises that those who do a “charitable deed” will be “rewarded” (Matt. 6:1-4). It also warns that religious institutions can, will, and do exploit charitable giving for their own gain. In Matt. 23:14, Jesus notes how some will even “devour widows’ houses”; an Apostle who worked with his own hands while among the Corinthians (Acts 18:1-3) chides Believers for uncritically accepting religious folk who plundered them of their resources (2 Corinthians 12:11-13). Bible readers are warned elsewhere that one of the surest ways to come to financial ruin is to succumb to their own acquisitive natures, over-borrow and, as a result, become overly leveraged to lenders. (See Proverbs 22:26-27.)

Our lending institutions’ problems come on the heels of their giving away easy money to ambitious borrowers. The collapse of some lending houses comes from their inability to collect on bad loans and foolish debts. Maybe we can’t blame the federal government.

Today’s banking crisis is the result of bad borrowing, bad lending, and bad personal management all around. That said, I am pleased to commend the Bible’s principles on money acquisition and management. Charitable giving, sowing, and reaping are only a part of that biblical message.

Psalm 1 promises that the righteous planted by streams of living water will prosper—even in dry times. The God who has guided His people through oppressions, repressions, depressions, and worse—and has done so through many thousands of years—will be with us now. With God as a source and with Scripture as a guiding light and resource, my suggestion to my friends is simple: irrespective of what big government does, govern your own affairs with biblical discretion. That way, you will ultimately do well personally and financially, regardless of bailout plans and politicians’ ambitions.

For more on what institutions do with money, stay tuned for coming Zola Levitt Ministries stories on how money matters factor into end-time Bible prophecy.
CLASSIC ZOLA from April 2002

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.—George Santayana, in Reason in Common Sense, The Life of Reason, Vol. 1

All lessons of history cannot prevail against prophecy. Zola believed we were walking down this road for a reason. Six years later, we’re walking down this road again. —Editor

News reports right now are telling us that companies are seeking FDA approval to implant information and tracking chips in humans. This is On-Star under your skin! How can anyone doubt the relevance of the Bible to our lives today or suggest that end-times prophecy is just allegory and not literal? Preparations are being made right now on the world stage that will, very soon I believe, allow the fulfillment of many of these prophecies.

One other item that caught my attention in this regard is the entrance of U.S. troops into the Republic of Georgia, a former Soviet stronghold. On the surface, we are simply providing training for the Georgian army in our effort to curb and root out terrorist groups like al-Qaeda. But neighboring Russia isn’t too happy about our close proximity. In fact, Russia has been quite vocal in recent weeks about our cavalier approach in dealing with Arab terrorists. The Russians have traditionally been allies of the Arab world, providing arms and intelligence to those nations that have historically come against Israel.

Ezekiel 38, in reference to Gog and Magog (the northern powers many believe to be modern-day Russia), speaks of their attack against Israel, which I see as happening at the beginning of the Tribulation period. They will come against the Chosen People with all their might, but will be vanquished by the Lord.

Russia’s current posturing puts it at odds with Israel and its ally, the United States, and should an all-out war erupt in the Middle East, we can only expect that the great “bear” will attempt, albeit in futility, to come down against “the lion of Judah.”

Look around and see what is happening. Famine, pestilence, earthquakes, wars, and rumors of wars. If the invasion of Israel happened today it should surprise no one. Jesus said in Matthew 24:37, “For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.” Get ready, the storm clouds are already gathering. The Rapture could occur even before you finish reading this letter. One pastor was asked when the End would come and replied, “Don’t buy any green bananas!”

And don’t be like the foolish virgins in Matthew 25 who failed to bring oil with them to prepare for the Bridegroom’s coming. They wanted to go to the wedding feast, but they did not believe He would arrive so soon, and so they were ultimately left out. Don’t let a single night pass unprepared for the Lord’s return for His Bride, the Church.

When God speaks, He speaks so the masses of His people can understand. And, as a result, He expects us to respond. Second Peter 3 makes clear what our response should be when we read and understand Bible prophecy. It’s time for action. First, we must be diligent to maintain personal purity. And second, we must testify that the Lord’s patience is salvation for the lost.

Why Putin should scare us!

He’s an ethnic nationalist with a mystical sense of Russian destiny. Cold and pragmatic, he won’t play by the world’s rules.
For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. —Acts 17:21

On the Greece portion of the Zola Fall Tour, I spoke aloud the passage in Acts (17:16-34) that tells about Paul on Mars Hill—and I spoke it on Mars Hill at the exact same spot where Paul told the Greeks about the Messiah. Paul arrived in Athens and spoke to the people about Jesus. He went to the synagogue and spoke to the Jewish and gentile worshippers. Then he went into the Agora (shopping area) and preached to the general public. Paul found the altar TO THE UNKNOWN GOD and used it as a starting place to preach the Good News. I often say that there is nothing new under the sun—and here we were in Greece, seeing the same sites Paul saw: the Acropolis, the Agora, Mars Hill, stone and gold statues of gods, and the things of the world.

As I read the Scripture to the group, verse 21 (cited above) jumped out at me. Here in Athens Paul found the people curious about his new religion. They listened as he preached the word of salvation because they were curious: it was new and “hip” and they loved anything that was the newest and the latest.

One would think I am speaking of our current culture. So many times, all people can talk about is the newest and the latest whatever. Somehow we lose sight of what is real and necessary in our lives.

I am humbled by Paul’s willingness to repeatedly tell about the Messiah—over and over. The Bible says that a few were saved, and names two: Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris (v. 34). Few, not many, but few. It encourages me that even if only one or two are saved, we are doing what God expects from us. It isn’t the number, but that we are out there trying.

Let me invite you on any of the Zola tours. Our next two leave on March 15 and return March 25 (Israel only) and March 29 (Israel and Petra). I know my faith is renewed each time I go.

As you go, please pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Blessings,
Sandra

Messianic Prophecy Scroll
Beautiful, useful, and revealing. A lovely and very spiritual art object for mantelpiece or coffee table display, this wood and parchment scroll is handcopied and handmade. The prophecies of Messiah are written out in Hebrew and English. A marvelous witnessing tool and gift idea for any occasion.

Please see page 19 to order.
Planning Your Christian Will

By Mark Levitt

This article summarizes a booklet that our ministry has given away for 15 years: A Guide to Your Christian Will. The booklet recently went out of print, so we obtained permission to post its entire contents at www.levitt.com/will. If you would like us to email its text to you, write to Jane at staff@levitt.com.

The will, for many Believers, is the crown jewel of their lifetime of Christian stewardship. It can be a powerful legacy when we direct what is to become of the assets we will leave behind via the Rapture or death. We can proclaim our joy in joining our heavenly Father and boldly embrace our departure into eternity. Though we cherish mortal life and the process of dying can be painful, those who face eternal life do not fear death itself. Consequently, I believe, it glorifies God when we come to grips with the inevitable task of dispensing with our earthly possessions.

That was my personal two cents worth. And now for the gist of the Christian Will booklet. It begins with a disclaimer that its contents are not to be taken as legal advice. Then it concisely answers the following 10 fundamental questions:

1. Who needs a will?
The booklet explains why you do.

2. What are the advantages of making a will?
The booklet lists seven advantages.

3. What happens if I don’t make a will?
Short answer: The courts will distribute your property.

4. How does a will protect my children?
Parents of minors need a will as badly as anyone.

5. Why can’t I just hold my assets in joint tenancy?
The booklet gives four reasons.

6. Should I have a Living Trust?
The booklet offers some advantages of trusts, but some attorneys advise against them.

7. How is a Christian's will different?
In a sense, your will is your witness. You can demonstrate your love for your family and for the Lord. The booklet offers four scriptural references in this regard.

8. How can I make a charitable bequest?
The booklet lists four options.

9. Do I need a lawyer?
According to the booklet, making a will or trust is not a do-it-yourself project.

10. What are my next steps?
The booklet lists eight steps and includes helpful forms entitled, “Key Information Organizer” and “Facts to Help Your Attorney.”

This ministry is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and accepts tax-deductible donations and bequests. Many of our readers are in no position to contribute to churches and ministries now. But creating a will would give you the peace of mind that you have done what you can. Would you like to receive contact information for Christian attorneys in your area? If so, write to our P.O. Box. May God guide you as you plan your final good deed before meeting Him.
The word “economics” comes from the Greek oikos (house) and nomos (laws). Combined “economics”—or oiko-nomos—speaks of the rules or laws of the house and governing principles which contribute to success and stability of household members.

The article draws upon the writings of the governor of the actual fledgling, thanksgiving colony, providing a real-world window into the economic experience of those intrepid American pioneers. This 1955 essay underscores how the early Pilgrims cultivated their entrepreneurial spirits. It also accentuates the premium they placed on personal responsibility, over and against the socialist economic models in Europe at the time—as now.

Underachievers often blame circumstance and other people for their own personal failures. They gravitate to the people and policies that will dole out the easiest rewards, and feel entitled simply because they live and breathe.

Though the Bible places a premium on charity, it doesn't ask the industrious to give the underperformers a free ride. While it asks the “stronger to bear with the infirmities of the weaker,” it calls upon individuals to be responsible for their actions. With the dictum that we “sow what we reap,” it underscores that individuals’ success in life stems from this economic principle. This is the Judeo-Christian way. If only it prevailed today!

The axiom that we need David-like leaders for Goliath-like times seems particularly true now—possibly prophetic.

The collective coming together of the world’s various money markets causes me to cringe—given the profound prophetic implications. Prophecy teachers have long noted that a slick problem solver will emerge on the world scene and bring answers to vexing world problems. Ingratiated, the world will then fall into his clutches. In Revelation, this deceitful anti-Messiah controls money markets—buying, selling, and credit. It has striking implications when leaders emerge to forge economic alliances and coordinate efforts to bring stability to this global market.

Our ministry will broadcast The Warrior King: David-like Leadership for Goliath-like Times in early 2009. In addition, the Zola Levitt Presents team will produce a new, cutting-edge, prophetic update on location in Europe. To keep you abreast of the news-behind-the-news, we also plan to film in Russia and possibly China and Iraq.

As you know, expenses rise with increased travel. Would you be gracious with your year-end giving to facilitate an eye-opening set of programs? If you send me off to fulfill this mandate, I promise to teach the Bible forcefully and abandon political correctness. I will responsibly tell what’s happening in our world. And with God’s help, of course, I’ll speak directly to millions of viewers’ minds and hearts, in the interest of helping them come to know the Lord.

At “thanks-giving” I arguably should be busy “thanking” and not reaching for the “giving.” But please bear with me on the basis that the moment is crucial and the appeal is not for me but for us. In 2009, I will risk all to tell all. Your helping me to do just that will advance the Kingdom of God.

[Signature]
HEADING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION?

Facts About Tax
Socialism, Christianity, and Taxation
By Steven F. Hotze, M.D.
www.AmericanVision.org

There are two competing worldviews in the United States: socialism and Christianity.

Socialism is a system where the State controls capital and production, plans the economy and redistributes wealth from producers to non-producers. It breeds a welfare environment where citizens become dependent upon the State for their daily bread. Individual liberties are replaced with the “common good,” decided by bureaucrats.

In socialism, the State claims to be the sovereign authority, demanding people's homage. Socialistic States are secular and have great disdain for Christianity which rejects this philosophy. Socialism is a de facto secular religious system which elevates the State to the position of God. Remember, the Romans proclaimed, “Vox populi, Vox Dei,” meaning “The voice of the people is the voice of God.”

Christianity acknowledges the sovereignty of God revealed in the Bible and through the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Christianity proclaims liberty under law. It encourages personal responsibility and initiative. Proverbs instructs that, “The hand of the diligent shall prosper.” The concept of private property is firmly established by the 8th Commandment, “Thou Shalt Not Steal.” Christianity teaches that all government authority is established by God and that civil rulers must govern according to a higher law.

This was the perspective of our founding fathers. George Washington wrote, “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”

Yet politicians increasingly choose socialism over our Christian heritage. Nowhere is this more evident than in taxation.

The Bible teaches tithing ten percent of your income to the Church and Christian ministries as acknowledgment that all that we have comes from God's providential hand.

The socialist State claims ownership over citizens and their possessions by taxing their income and property. Even after you have paid off your mortgage, if you stop paying property taxes, you will find out who really owns your home.

The United States has adopted a so-called “progressive” income tax policy. As income increases, the percentage of income subject to taxes rises. Those who earn the most pay the highest percentage of their income in taxes. According to the Congressional Budget Office the top 1% of income earners pays nearly 40% of the total income taxes collected by the federal government. The top 10% of income earners pay nearly 70% of the total income taxes collected. The top 40% of income earners pay 99% of all income taxes.

This means 60% of the people pay no income tax. Yet the socialists reward them with government programs. What is progressive about a system which penalizes individuals who strive to be successful? If you tax productivity, you get less of it. If you subsidize laziness, you get more of it.

The socialists promote organized theft of the producers—under the guise of good government—and redistribute their money to buy the votes of the nonproductive, disincentivizing both groups.

We have a critical choice to make: Follow socialism and lose our liberty and property, or return to our nation's Christian heritage.
With all the understandable focus on the recent U.S. presidential election and the instability of the Israeli government following Ehud Olmert’s resignation as prime minister, many overlooked one very important election: the Palestinian presidential elections due to be held in January 2009. The current president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, has already said that he will not run again, creating an interesting situation on several levels.

First, after being blessed by the United States after Arafat’s death in 2004, Abbas has been labeled by the West as a “moderate” who is serious about peace with Israel. In reality, Abbas is one of Fatah’s “old guard” (he’s been associated with known terrorists for decades), is a confirmed Holocaust denier (as per his doctoral dissertation), and is unsurpassed in his ability for inaction as leader of the PA.

Since the Annapolis Conference (Nov. 2007), the race has been on to make peace with Abbas. Condoleezza Rice racked up more frequent flyer miles in trips to the Middle East than to any other place, and the screws were put ever tighter to Israel to find a compromise before President Bush leaves office. But in everybody’s rush to achieve Middle East peace in about a year’s time, did anybody stop to ask “what next?” Even if somehow an agreement were to be hammered out, Abbas will still leave office in January after the next Palestinian presidential elections.

Which brings us to the second interesting point: how will elections for PA president be held in a fair and open manner, or even with some semblance of organization, when Hamas totally controls the Gaza Strip? And what if a Hamas candidate wins the elections? The world won’t give up its curious obsession to make Israel and the Palestinians play nice with each other, which means that Israel would be forced to negotiate with a Hamas terrorist as the head of the PA.

However, a third situation could be the most dangerous: what if Hamas simply waits for Abbas to leave office, tries its hand at elections, and if it loses, stages a military takeover of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank), as happened in Gaza? Every day, Abbas and his Fatah Party grow weaker while the Hamas Party only grows stronger—meaning that the possibility of a full-on Fatah-Hamas war in the West Bank looms ever closer. The PA would then be in full political and security chaos, and Israel would almost certainly be dragged into the conflict on some level.

But any Fatah-Hamas reconciliation and unity government will still be shunned by Israel and most of the world because it will be tainted with terror. And Hamas, at the height of its power, isn’t about to lay down its arms in order to satisfy Israel and the West. For an ambitious Hamas, the best Christmas present could be the elections, Abbas’s exit from office, and the promise of a chaotic New Year.
Compassion is a word that is thrown around by both Democrats and Republicans. While both sides approach the subject from completely different directions, both are determined that their brand of compassion is the Christian attitude. Let's address what both forms of compassion entail, in respect to Christianity.

First, socialism cannot be compatible with Christianity. It is at odds with Christian teaching. Socialism is determined to provide equality and welfare by government intervention. The idea is that the government must take care of every aspect of life, from fair wages to health care to care for the poor. Christianity, as Jesus taught, teaches that it is up to individuals to care for one another. This is why these two concepts are incompatible; socialism preaches government responsibility by compulsion, and Christianity preaches individual responsibility from love.

Capitalism, on the other hand, relies on Christian compassion. Without that, it has the potential to be detrimental to society. If capitalism is to be compassionate, people must respect one another and be driven by love for one another. It becomes mandatory that those with means care for the needy. They must exercise restraint, resist greed, and help those who cannot help themselves.

As we look at the early days of Christianity, communal living was evident. Scriptures teach that all lived in harmony and had all things in common, where those who had used their excess to care for those in need, as they had need. That does not mean that all were equal, or that those who had means split those means equally with those who did not have means, but rather they provided for the necessities of those who could not do so for themselves. It by no means meant that they simply gave to the poor without requirement that they attempt to care for themselves. The poor were expected to attempt to work and provide what they could.

In this respect, socialism is the antithesis of Christianity. It expects that all will take what they have and distribute it to those who have less, regardless of their need or attempt to care for themselves. It produces class warfare, envy, and laziness. It is often done by compulsion rather than free will. Therefore, it goes against the very teachings of Christ. Yet, capitalism that has lost its Christian soul is ruled by greed and selfishness. When a capitalist realizes his duty to be a blessing through his Christian principles, he will have compassion and will fulfill the teachings of Christ.

The problem with our American society is that we have lost our Christian soul. This is not to say that those without a Christian underpinning are unable to act with compassion, but that those who follow the teachings of Christ dutifully are more predisposed to show consistent compassion. On the other side, socialists hold that the greatest form of good in the world is government and, therefore, violate the very foundation of Christian teaching.

Truly, unless this country returns to its Christian foundation, neither socialism nor capitalism will provide the true compassion required to return this country to greatness. Capitalism provides the only path to that; socialism can only lead us down a destructive path.
Putting Party Before Principle

By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor

My wife recently told me she was ashamed to be a Jew. I’ve heard and read similar statements from a number of important Jewish intellectuals since then. In every case, the cause of this onus was the decision by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations to disinvite GOP vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin from their rally organized to protest the appearance of Iranian President Ahmadinejad at the UN.

Let me be clear. I don’t believe that anybody should be ashamed of being Jewish. I do, however, believe American Jews should be furious at their leaders for putting partisan politics ahead of the struggle against genocidal Islamism.

First some background: The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations was not formed, as American anti-Semites imply, to promote Israel’s interests over America’s. President Dwight Eisenhower asked American Jews to create an organization able to communicate Jewish American concerns to his administration. In 1956, they did so. Its members include nearly all important Jewish American organizations.

The Conference acted properly in organizing the rally, especially given the adulation heaped on Ahmadinejad by people ranging from pacifist Christian organizations to major media figures like Larry King. When Hillary Clinton found out that she was to appear in the same venue as Sarah Palin, however, Clinton withdrew. When the Obama campaign was asked to replace her, they not only refused, but encouraged the effort to force the Conference to disinvite Palin.

Liberal Jewish organizations waged a vicious campaign of threats against the Conference and, unfortunately, they won. Palin was shunned. The issue repeatedly cited as the justification for Palin’s unworthiness to speak at a rally against Iranian tyranny was her stance against abortion.

The official excuse offered by the Conference, that it needed to be “non-partisan,” was bilge. They’d asked Clinton and she had accepted. That’s all you have to know to prove the rally was not partisan. Clinton and the Obama campaign were engaged in partisanship, but that’s an entirely separable matter.

Jerusalem Post columnist Caroline Glick summarized the situation succinctly in a column titled, “Your abortions or your lives!” She wrote, “American Jews have good reason to be ashamed and angry today. As Iran moves into the final stages of its nuclear weapons development program—nuclear weapons, which it will use to destroy the State of Israel, endanger Jews around the world, and cow the United States of America—Democratic American Jewish leaders decided that putting Sen. Barack Obama in the White House is more important than protecting the lives of the Jewish people in Israel and around the world.”
Ahmadinejad, handpicked by the unelected Islamist Iranian theocracy to represent their murderous anti-Semitic policies, was already reveling in the public embraces of other UN leaders. He must have had a great laugh at the expense of America's divided and, in the opinion of many, humiliated Jews.

Palin, who keeps an Israeli flag in her Alaskan governor's office, released the text of her planned speech and went on repeatedly to defend the joint interests of America and Israel in opposing Iranian efforts to destroy the democratic nation of Israel. Those efforts, incidentally, are not theoretical or dependent on the eventual acquisition of nuclear weapons by Iran.

In 1992, an Iranian Hezbollah front group killed 29 and wounded 242 in a bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires. In 1994, according to Argentine authorities, Iranian Hezbollah agents killed 85 people and injured 300 in the bombing of a Jewish community center there. Iran has created its own army (Hezbollah) in Lebanon and already waged one war on Israel. Recently, Hezbollah dramatically increased its influence over the Lebanese government. Iran is also arming and encouraging Hamas fanatics in Gaza.

Fortunately, the number of Jews who are alarmed and ashamed by the blind political loyalties exhibited by many of their leaders is growing. The rally itself was marked by the presence of a large number of counter protesters, many wearing kippahs, who condemned the organizers' partisanship. Hopefully, this trend will continue but, right now, a lot of American conservatives are asking why they should continue to love and defend the rights of American Jews who hold them in such contempt. They should, of course, but only because it is ethically and spiritually proper. It's certainly not because American Jewish leaders have asked for or earned it.

Next-Generation F-35 Fighter Jets For Israel
By Stephen Manning www.ChicagoTribune.com

The Defense Department said in October that it wants to sell as many as 75 fighter jets to Israel in a $15.2 billion deal for the aircraft expected to be the mainstay of air power in the United States and several other nations for decades.

The Defense Security Cooperation Agency said it notified Congress that Israel has asked to buy 25 of the F-35s made by Lockheed Martin Corp., with an option to buy 50 more later.

The sale would be the first to a country outside the United States and eight partner nations that are collaborating on the F-35, also known as the Joint Strike Fighter. The jet is still under development and not in service, but the United States plans to eventually acquire 2,458 planes for the Army, Marines, and Air Force at a cost of $300 billion.

The F-35 was designed as a replacement for a range of warplanes, including the F-16, which is a large component of many air forces worldwide. Countries such as Spain, Singapore, and Japan also have expressed interest in the F-35.

Israel has said it plans to buy a fleet of F-35s as it upgrades its military technology. The first batch of 25 would be the variant of F-35 designed for conventional takeoff from military airfields, but the later 50 could include a version that can land vertically.

While the jet is expected to be widely used, the program has suffered some setbacks, including delays and growing costs that have been criticized by government auditors. When maintenance and service costs for the life of the jet are added in, the cost of the F-35 to the United States could reach $1 trillion over the next several decades.
RUSSIA: Radical Muslim Superpower?

By Jamie Glazov
www.FrontPageMagazine.com

Frontpage interviewed Ilshat Alsayef, one of the founding members of Muslims Against Sharia. He was born in one of the Asian republics of the former Soviet Union and served as a military officer for most of his adult life.

FP: Tell us about the state of radicalization of Muslims in Russia and other ex-Soviet republics.

Alsayef: There were two waves of radicalization of the ex-Soviet Muslims. The first wave started after the break-up of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s. After the fall of communism, former Soviet Asian republics, as well as autonomous regions of Russia, experienced a resurgence of religious freedom.

Not having been able to freely practice their religion for a few generations, some of the local Muslims went overboard. Salafi groups like Hizb-ut-Tahrir, and later al-Qaeda, became popular among newly-minted religious zealots.

The second wave of radicalization started at the turn of the century. Some people claim that it was a result of the American War on Terror, which many Muslims interpret as the American War on Islam, but in reality the reason is skyrocketing oil revenues of Wahhabi states.

The new generation of Muslims is more religious. Unfortunately, since most of the mosques are either completely or partially funded by the Wahhabis, the new generation is also more radical. If the trends of isolation and radicalization continue along with current demographic trends and rising oil prices, it is quite possible that by mid-century Russia will become a radical Muslim superpower.

What can be done to stop the radicalization? What is Russia's stance on the War on Terror and what is the likely result of its support for a nuclear Middle East? Read the rest of the interview at www.levitt.com/news.

Yugoslavia, where moderate imams with little financial backing are being replaced by radicals with virtually unlimited financing.

If current demographic trends hold, Muslims in Russia may become a majority by the mid-century. And if current radicalization trends hold, Russia may become a war theatre comparable to Chechnya or Lebanon, but on a much larger scale.
Russia Supporting Jihadi Terrorism—and More

By W. Thomas Smith, Jr.
www.HumanEvents.com

Vice President Dick Cheney recently blasted the Russians for supporting state-sponsors of terrorism.

“Russia has sold advanced weapons to the regimes in Syria and Iran,” Cheney said in remarks to the Ambrosetti Forum, a European security conference in Cernobbio, Italy, last September. “Some of the Russian weapons sold to Damascus have been channeled to terrorist fighters in Lebanon and Iraq.”

But we have to connect the dots from Russia and its ongoing arms sales (from assault rifles to air-defense systems) to both Syria and Iran; to the relationships between sometimes-unlikely allies like Syria, Iran, Lebanon-based Shia Hezbollah, even Gaza-based Sunni Hamas; to the ongoing weapons and cash smuggling operations between the Islamists’ allies; and finally to the various Russian-made weapons in the arsenals of Hezbollah and others in order to appreciate the “channel” Cheney speaks of.

Russia’s support of terrorists may run much deeper, and if we connect more dots we begin to see Russia’s direct and indirect support of international terrorism coming full circle in both the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.

In August, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad publicly expressed his support for Russia’s invasion of Georgia, reaffirmed his defense pact with Moscow, and agreed to increased military cooperation between the two countries. Furthermore, recently two Russian Tupolev Tu-160 strategic bombers landed in Venezuela, kicking off what will be the first major Russian naval exercise near the continental United States since the end of the Cold War.

The joint maneuvers between the Russian and Venezuelan navies will include the nuclear-powered cruiser, “Peter the Great,” a destroyer, “Admiral Chabanenko,” other combat and combat-support ships, and aircraft.

“Russia is returning to the stage in its power and international relations which it, regrettably, lost at the end of the last century,” Adm. Eduard Baltin, former commander of Russia’s Black Sea fleet, told Russia’s Interfax news agency. “No one loves the weak.”

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who—like his staunch ally, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad—has called for the elimination of the U.S. and suggested a defense pact between Iran and Venezuela, says he welcomes Russian ships and planes. Chavez has already purchased billions of dollars worth of Russian weapons over the past few years and is seeking to buy more.

For this and other reasons, it has become increasingly apparent that Russia believes it can regain some semblance of strategic leverage lost after the Cold War by cozying up to terrorists and state sponsors of terrorism. Let’s not forget many of Russia’s senior political leaders—Putin included—hail from backgrounds in that country’s infamous intelligence services like the KGB and FSB: organizations that have not shied away from employing degrees of terrorism as a means to an end.
Israel Bonds
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Former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said, “Purchasing an Israel bond shows your solidarity and helps finance the future of the Jewish State. More than just a good investment, it allows us to invest in critical infrastructure projects.” By purchasing a bond, you become a partner in building what is truly God’s Country. Sharon added, “It is not just a financial transaction, but a pledge of devotion. I call upon you, at this critical hour, to buy an Israel bond and come here to visit and see the wonderful fruits of your investment.”
For more info, please contact: Development Corporation for Israel, 9660 Hillcroft St. Suite 316, Houston, TX 77096, 1800-676-3101, or www.israelbonds.com.

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Jihad in Academia
In 1982 the radical Muslim Brotherhood developed a plan to destroy Western civilization. The plan called for developing a network of radical Islamic groups in America. Nearly 150 chapters of the Muslim Student Association (MSA) exist on American college campuses. The brief presentation at http://oldbluewebdesigns.com/MSA.swf details their relationship with the Muslim Brotherhood, a network of roughly seven sinister organizations. The MSA routinely poses as a religious and cultural organization to garner sympathy and funding from student governments and university administrators. The David Horowitz Freedom Center created this presentation. See www.TerrorismAwarenessProject.org.

Pamphlet of the Month
Our free pamphlet, “How to Protect Your Rights with a Will,” outlines why virtually everyone needs a will. It also addresses what happens if there is no will. It offers four examples of how an expertly prepared will can avoid unnecessary guesswork and confusion. The pamphlet includes a worksheet and a brief technical advisory section, plus five tax considerations. To jumpstart the preparation of your will, ask for the “How to Protect Your Rights with a Will” pamphlet.
You can email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box. Please see the related article on page 7.

“Come Home!”
Zola’s Tours to Israel:
See page 36 for details.
The Feast of Lights –
Three 30-Minute Programs on a DVD

Since the dawn of time, forces of darkness have amassed and threatened the Jews with extinction. However, in every generation, God provided a leader who would shine the Light of God’s faithfulness. Hanukkah—the Jewish Feast of Lights—harks back to a time when a cruel, anti-Semitic dictator threatened to wipe out the Hebrews. But the Lord’s Deliverer arose, lit the lamp of hope, and saved Israel. From generation to generation, Jews have lit lamps in their homes to commemorate the victory and retell the story of the Feast of Lights.

Please order from page 18

1. The Story of Hanukkah
Dr. Jeffrey Seif sets up the story of Hanukkah and the abominable Antiochus Epiphanes, where the Syrian dictator overthrew Jerusalem and desecrated the Holy Temple. Although many throughout history have sought to destroy God’s Chosen People, Jeff reassures us that, “He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.” Also, we learn about harvesting the olive and its importance to the golden Menorah, which resided in the Holy Place.

2. The Light of the World
Jesus told His disciples, “You are the light of the world.” Speaking from the Messianic synagogue Baruch HaShem, Jeff explains the significance of light to the celebration of Hanukkah as well as its prophetic image of Jesus Christ. Jeff interviews Rabbi Martin J. Waldman about the increase of Messianic Jews in the world today, and we see a timely interview with Zola and Messianic Believer Simcha Davidov.

3. The Feast of Dedication
Jeff explores the prophecy of Daniel as fulfilled first by Antiochus Epiphanes’ desecration, as well as the future abomination of desolation to be committed by the antiChrist. Discover the Feast of Dedication as observed by Jesus in the Bible, and don’t miss a heartfelt interview in which Zola and Jean Rosenberg look at the celebration of Hanukkah in the home today.

Mine Eyes Have Seen –
Zola’s After-Christmas Musical on DVD

In this “after-Christmas musical,” Zola narrates the moving story of Simeon, the aged-but-faithful servant who waited to see the Messiah face to face. This longsuffering servant finally did see Him when the infant Jesus was brought to the Temple in Jerusalem; hence, Zola’s after-Christmas musical. “And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.”

(Luke 2:25-26) This is a beautifully staged half-hour oratorio on DVD that will have you singing along with Simeon and Anna about the arrival of the King of Kings, the Holy One of Israel.

DVD and music CD or audiocassette offered on pages 18-19
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Heeding God’s Voice

Have you ever been in a situation where several people were talking at once? Perhaps during a heated exchange at a school board meeting, or when discussing political views with friends over lunch? Each person tries to get a word in edgewise, attempting to make a point, but in general most aren’t genuinely listening at all. As William James once said, “A great many people think they are thinking when they are merely rearranging their prejudices.”

We all form our opinions by listening to someone or other, and the inner voice of soul gets its conviction from some perceived authority. But the all-important question is to whom are you listening? Who is your authority as you consider the news of the day? As the world becomes ever more perilous, it’s vital to keep in mind that who we listen to ultimately seals our fate.

The world system (i.e., the political/economic and mass media manipulated social world) has its “arguments” which invariably are focused on egotistic desire or self-preservation. We are tempted, are we not, to uncritically receive such messages without serious reflection. Politicians and the mass media regularly use various types of fear mongering to exploit our desire for security and safety.

But to whom are you listening? Who is your authority? The Midrash Rabbah says that the ear gives life to all the organs of the body. How so? By listening (shema) to the Torah. This idea is repeated in the New Testament: “Faith comes from listening to the Word of God” (Rom. 10:17). Since salvation itself comes from heeding the message of God, it should be clear that the Word of God is the authoritative source of truth and meaning for our lives.

In the Scriptures, listening and obeying are intimately linked, and we are warned that heeding the messages of this corrupt world can make you into an enemy of God Himself (James 4:4). Listening to other voices (regardless of how seemingly well-intended) puts you at risk of becoming deafened to the Voice of truth... The world system always has audience with a “crooked and twisted generation” (Deut. 32:5). How else do politicians and advertisers gain their followers?

These are indeed “days of trouble,” but our verse is straightforward. The LORD is good; He is a stronghold for those who are trusting in Him. But note that we are also warned. The following verse says that those who pay no heed to God’s message of salvation will be overwhelmed “with an overflowing flood” and will be “chased into darkness” (Nahum 1:8). May God help us heed His voice and take refuge in Him.
Israeli Device Could Replace Anticoagulants In Surgery
By Susan de la Fuente, www.Israel21c.net

Surgeons are always concerned about the hazard of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) in their patients. In the wake of surgery, blood clots can form deep in the body, leading to pain and swelling, or—if the clot starts to move—even death. While patients routinely receive anticoagulants to prevent clots from forming, these drugs have a significant drawback—they increase the risk of bleeding complications.

Now, an Israeli company may have the answer. MCS Medical Compression Systems has developed a non-invasive mobile compression system that helps keep the blood circulating in the limbs, providing an effective alternative to anticoagulants in preventing DVT.

The device, called ActiveCare+SFT (Synchronized Flow Technology), combines a mobile unit with calf and foot compression sleeves that can be easily wrapped around the patient’s leg or foot during and after surgery. The unit identifies a patient’s venous blood flow pulses and synchronizes itself to these natural rhythms. It compresses the limb sleeves, automatically applying the correct pressure and inflation rate.

According to Dr. Jacob Barak, the company co-founder and chief scientist, this gentle pressure delivers an optimal hemodynamic profile tailored to the patient’s specific physiology. “Its higher blood flow speed, compact size, and the fact that it can be worn 24/7 give it a definite advantage over comparable products,” he says.

ActiveCare+SFT is small and lightweight and has received both FDA and CE approval. It can be operated by battery and its unprecedented mobility has resulted in a dramatic 50 percent increase in patient compliance, particularly among patients who start to walk. Using MCS’s device, patient compliance is actually monitored on the LCD screen, providing feedback for caregivers, physicians, and patients themselves. Study results show that while the device was just as effective as anticoagulants in DVT prevention, it had a significantly better safety profile with a major reduction in serious bleeding events.

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• Beyond Words
• Faith in the Fire
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• Love Stories of the Bible
• Thy Kingdom Come
• Unto the Gentiles

After filling the first 50 orders for these discount packages, we will either substitute DVDs and CDs for a few of the items or give full refunds. As always, your satisfaction is guaranteed until the Rapture. Don’t miss this tremendous value!
Grateful For Those Who Can Give And Do

Dear Jeff and the levitt.com Webmaster,
I wish to say how much I am blessed by the new videos posted on the ZLM website. I have not been able to contribute financially to the ministry, but ZLM is in my prayers and thoughts—more so now that older, classic television series have been posted. Thank you for continuing to share Zola’s very important ministry with the public. At my first opportunity, it is my desire to contribute to the ministry.

T.A.W.

Dear T.A.W.—
I’m publishing your letter to commend our supporters who give sacrificially to this ministry, allowing us to serve those who sincerely wish they could. Thank you for your letter, your prayers, and your intentions.
—Mark

Exchanging Ideas Clarifies The Message

Dear Brother Jeff,
Your October Letter inspired me to let you and Sandra know how much we love your show and Levitt Letter. My husband took your course, The Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies, many years ago, and we still have it on our shelf. You’re a wonderful teacher, and I love the way you “tell it like it is” regarding important issues. The reason you receive so much hate mail is that Satan is threatened by all that you’re doing for our Lord. Keep it up! I will keep you in my prayers, and continue purchasing your products.

In Christian Love,
Sister T.

Hi Sister T.—
I don’t mind the hate mail in the least. Negative responses attest to the fact that our television program gets into millions of homes. When I can interact publicly with even negative people, it clarifies the Message for everyone. Hate mail is a byproduct of penetrating the broader culture. Thanks for your concern; keep up your prayers and enjoy the exchanges!
—Jeff
LETTERS TO ZLM continued

A Flood Of Offerings!

Dear Dr. Seif,
Am happy to get to you to encourage you in your ministries! Wish my church contacts would invite you! It is their loss!

Enjoy all of your correspondence and just asked the Lord, again, to flood your office with offerings from HIS hand as HE lacks nothing!

Okay people. You heard what the man said! —Jeff

Don’t Go Down That Road!

Dear Levitt Ministries,
We have been a supporter of Zola’s ministry for many years now, and look forward to your Levitt Letter, reading it from cover to cover. Can’t tell you how astonished I was just now to see your ad (Sept. ’08) regarding Dr. Gerald Schroeder’s book explaining the Big Bang theory (Genesis One—A Physicist Looks At Creation). How can we believe the truth of our salvation if we can’t believe God’s Word regarding the six days of Creation? In the same vein, knowing that Zola’s ministry believes this myth makes all else in your news magazine suspect. I hope you get a ton of emails and phone calls about this article and rethink your support of such a bankrupt theory.

Respectfully, H. D.

Dear H. D.—
ZLM got a ton of mail when Zola featured Dr. Schroeder on television—and not everyone agreed with his theories. What I appreciate most about Dr. Schroeder’s thesis is the question he raised more than the way he chose to answer it. Evangelicals generally grant latitude with how people wrestle with questions related to Creation; so Zola’s position didn’t strike me as inappropriate. Even though Schroeder’s attempt to reconcile the biblical account with natural science doesn’t abide with you, consider the larger picture: No matter how you count the six days listed in Genesis—literally, figuratively, or from a different position in time as Dr. Schroeder theorizes—God’s being the Creator needn’t be compromised. The point is that God is the Creator. —Jeff

When Did The Sabbath Move To Sunday?

Dear ZLM,
Why is Sunday the day of gathering for Christians to corporately worship the Lord? Is there some book that explains the “transition” of gathering in the synagogue on Saturday to gathering of Christians on Sunday? I would like to be able to explain this to Seventh-Day Adventist friends.

In Jesus’ Name, D.W.

Dear D.W.-
Instead of calling the day you choose to worship “Sunday,” refer to it as “Resurrection Morning” and perhaps your friends will understand the meaning of your choice. —Editor

“He is risen.”
Choosing How To Celebrate Jesus

Dear Staff,
I have a question about how or whether it would behoove me to observe the feasts. I understand that the feasts were given to the Jews and not to the gentiles, and so gentle Believers are not obligated to participate in the feasts. My great-grandfather was Jewish, so am I only obligated in part to observe the feasts? My last name has a Jewish family connection to Leah. I was raised within a nominally Christian background and later came into a full saving faith in the Lord. Only recently did I discover to my joyful surprise that I had some Jewish blood in me. Thank you for your reply.
Sincerely, A. L.

Dear A. L.-
Let’s not give too much weight to the word "obligated." Respectful of the Old Testament, Jewish issues, and culture generally, I remember Paul insisting that individuals should not be required—or feel obligated, as you put it—to adhere to the proclamations of Moses. However, if you choose to celebrate God’s goodness in Jewish ways, you join me and thousands of others who appreciate celebrating Jesus in His original culture. —Jeff

Well Done, Good And Faithful Servant!

Jeff,
Just finished reading your newsletter and the article about insulting emails. From my conversations with others about you and the Zola Levitt Presents TV program, all I get is positive feedback.

I rate it one of the top programs on television relating to Israel and the Jewish people. I have served as mayor and school board member for a total of 26 years and I can imagine the complaints you receive.

Keep up the wonderful work and ministry you are doing.
Blessings, J.

J.-
Being a minister, mayor, school board member, or whatever, is often hazardous, is it not? Leaders face ridicule and abuse. As you surely know though, we also savor the joys that come from daring to achieve on behalf of those who uphold us. Consequently, we overcome obstacles and critics, and anticipate hearing “Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:23). Thanks for the affirmation. —Jeff
Israel Accuses North Korea of Mideast Proliferation

By George Jahn, Associated Press

Israel has accused North Korea of covertly supplying at least half a dozen Mideast countries with nuclear technology or conventional arms.

The allegation was made at an International Atomic Energy Agency meeting in Vienna where world powers urged the North to stop reactivating its nuclear weapons program.

According to U.S. officials and outside experts, North Korea has sold its military goods to at least 18 countries, mainly in Africa and the Middle East, and in mostly covert transactions. U.S. officials have said that North Korea’s customer list for missiles or related components going back to the mid-1980s includes Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

U.S. government officials have said that A.Q. Khan—the Pakistani scientist who confessed in 2004 to running an illegal nuclear market—had close connections with North Korea, trading in equipment, facilitating international deals for components, and swapping nuclear know-how.

Concerns about Iran focus on its refusal to scrap a secretly developed uranium enrichment program that could be retooled to produce fissile warhead material. Tehran is also suspected of hiding past efforts to develop a nuclear weapons program and of basing its Shahab-3 missile on a North Korean model. Iranian officials say the missile has a range of 1,250 miles—enabling a strike on Israel and most of the Middle East. U.S. and other intelligence says Tehran has studied modifying Shahabs to carry a nuclear warhead.

Syria surfaced on the IAEA’s radar screen after Israeli warplanes last year destroyed what the U.S. says was a partially built reactor of North Korean design that—when completed—was meant to produce plutonium. Diplomats have said that the IAEA has been forwarded intelligence that outlines years of extensive cooperation between the Syrians and teams of visiting North Korean nuclear officials.

Pakistan: Fight War Until Terror-Free

By Ishtiaq Mashud, Associated Press

Pakistan’s Interior Minister chief Rehman Malik said recently that the country’s war against Islamic extremists will go on until it is “terrorism-free.”

Previous Pakistani military campaigns against Islamic militants in the wild tribal belt along the Afghan frontier were halted too soon, he said—an apparent reference to the policies of former President Pervez Musharraf.

Malik said the current government, which came to power after February ’08 elections and forced Musharraf to resign in July, will fight until militants are either killed or forced to flee Pakistan.

Pakistan’s army is battling militants in at least three areas of the northwest. The most intense fighting has been in the Bajur tribal region, where the military claims to have killed 1,000 rebels for the loss of about 60 troops.

The country’s faltering efforts so far have been met with a blur of suicide bombings that have killed nearly 1,200 people since July 2007, according to the latest army statistics.
Dear President
Ahmadinejad

By Michael Ledeen
www.JewishWorldReview.com

From an open letter to Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President, Islamic Republic of Iran. Read it in its entirety at www.levitt.com/news.

Dear Mr. President,

You've won the status of the world's leading anti-Semite, which is not easy, and you've lied about it a lot. Indeed, you have denied—on CBS television—hating any religion, which is manifestly false; you've been seen on Iranian TV spouting venom against all non-Muslims, with special contempt for Christians and Jews.

In short, you're not what you say you are. You're a poseur, a fraud, pretending to be an inspired religious leader. You've proclaimed Iran “the most powerful and independent country in the world.” The implication of that silly claim is that the weaker and dependent nations—that is, everyone else in the world—must bend to your will. You’ve said that the Iranian people must prepare themselves to rule the world.

Those statements are very surprising, coming from one of the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Those words put you in direct conflict with the founder, Ayatollah Khomeini, who once famously proclaimed that nationalism was paganism, that he didn't give a hoot about Iran, and that his revolution was for all of Islam, not for one country. Indeed, if Iran perished in order to advance the global triumph of Islam, it would be fine with him.

You’d do well to study the history of your own country, which so far as I know is the only one to have had a Jewish queen—Esther, of the Purim story. The Book of Esther recounts the life and death of one of your direct predecessors, the evil politician Haman, who convinced his ruler, King Ahasuerus, to order the massacre of the Jews of the Persian Empire. The Book of Esther nicely summarizes what happens to those, like you, who attempt to destroy the Jewish people. Haman and his sons were hanged; then, a few days later, in the fighting he had authorized, some 75,000 Persians were killed by their would-be Jewish victims, and Esther reigned.

It's your destiny, too.

I don't know exactly how you will be destroyed. There are many possible scenarios. My own favorite is to turn your own hate upon yourself and your regime, and fulfill your dream of a world without Jews. Very well, then—we’ll seal you off from everyone and everything Jewish. The ultimate embargo. You’ll have no Jewish doctors or lawyers, no access to Jewish hospitals; you’ll be isolated from music or art by Jews, and everything invented by Jews. It's quite a long list, including chemotherapy, the cure for syphilis, the polio vaccine, blue jeans, oral contraceptives, azathioprine, septicemia treatment (for bacterial infections), the Barbie doll, handheld video cameras, various antibiotics including streptomycin and penicillin, the push-up bra, and, of course, most everything nuclear (sorry about that) —as you must know, the American atomic bomb began with a letter to President Roosevelt from two Jewish physicists, and the Manhattan Project involved numerous others.

Poetic justice, don't you think? You'll be throttled by your own bile.
ISRAELI CONTRIBUTIONS RECOGNIZED

Prof. Howard Cedar: The Next Israeli Nobel Laureate?
By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich www.JPost.com

A recipient of the 2008 Wolf Prize (considered Israel’s Nobel), Professor Howard Cedar of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School deserves the Jerusalem Post’s title of Person of the Year for Science and Health. The religiously observant scientist also won the Israel Prize in Biology eight years ago.

Cedar (the name was changed by his grandfather from Siddur, or prayer book), was born in the U.S. in 1943, graduated from medical school, and received his doctorate from New York University in 1970. After doing research at the U.S.’s National Institutes of Health, he came on aliya with his wife, Tzippi, and has been at the Jerusalem medical school’s department of cellular biochemistry and human genetics ever since.

His work on DNA methylation (chemical changes in the DNA molecule) focused on a very basic aspect of animal cell biology that will affect medical treatment in the future. This molecular process turns on and off the approximately 40,000 genes in the human body. Cedar explains that everyone inherits genetic information, but that it “has to be used in a programmed manner. That programming is called epigenetics. The older one gets, the more likely the programming mechanism is to make mistakes. One thing that these changes in epigenetics control could predispose a person to is cancer. That would explain why cancer is largely a disease of old age.”

In only 5 percent of cancer cases, “methylation is not involved,” he says. “The drug industry today is now heading toward customized treatment. I think methylation is the next stage, as it is common to almost every tumor. If you can find a way to prevent it, you will get a bigger bang for your buck.”

Israeli Biofuel
By Karin Kloosterman, www.Israel21c.net

It will take dedicated visionaries to help stop America’s addiction to foreign oil. And that’s what Doron Levi, the COO of Israel-based alternative energy company Galten Global Alternative Energy has his heart set on doing. In Ghana, he’s overseeing a project that’s squeezing fuel from the seeds of an African perennial—the jatropha plant.

The jatropha, says Levi, is rich in oil and doesn’t compete with food crops, making it an ideal specimen for biofuel. In Ghana, he is working with about 30 locals to grow and cultivate a 250-acre site that may give rise to some of the world’s most important biofuel reserves ever.

Not eaten by animals, jatropha plants are a vigorous, drought- and pest-tolerant plant used mainly as a hedge to protect cropland from grazing animals. It is a low-growing specimen, native to South America, but which is widely used in Central America, Africa, and Asia.
Protests Get Jews For Jesus Radio Ad Pulled In Northern Israel

By Matthew Wagner, The Jerusalem Post

A wave of irate protest silenced a Jews for Jesus radio campaign in the North. It took just a few hours for Kol Rega, which broadcasts to the Galilee and northern valleys, to cave in to pressure from listeners who phoned in to demand that the Jews for Jesus campaign be taken off the air.

“Shortly after we broadcast it, we received dozens of angry phone calls from listeners telling us they were hurt by the crudeness of the ad,” said Haim Hecht, manager of Kol Rega. “The truth is that even before it hurt my listeners the ad hurt me. It was simply too aggressive and blatantly missionary.”

Dan Sered, head of Jews for Jesus in Israel, said in response, “All we are trying to do is share our faith. We just want to provide Israelis with an opportunity to know that Jesus died for our sins and rose on the third day. Most Israelis have never gotten the chance to hear about Jesus. If they do not want to hear that is fine. But if they are interested, why shouldn’t they be given the opportunity?”

Sered said a minority of Orthodox Jews in Israel was preventing the secular majority from exercising their right to freedom of religion, speech and faith. According to members of Jews for Jesus, the municipalities of Tiberias and Karmiel each took down a large-screen Jews-for-Jesus ad located at prominent intersections.

Yoel Ben-David, a Jews for Jesus activist, said Orthodox Jews from different streams have threatened him and his peers, pushed them and, in Kiryat Shmona, removed the air from a car tire. Chief Rabbi Tzfania Drori said: “I believe we have a right to prevent these people from entering our town and promulgating New Testaments and missionary literature; it is tantamount to a woman performing a striptease in the middle of a public place,” Drori, who also heads a yeshiva in Kiryat Shmona, said.

He said a group of his students had followed the Jews for Jesus group around the town, heckling them and preventing them from distributing their literature.

Just as Bible teaching via radio faces discrimination, television ministries—such as ours—also cope with increasing scrutiny. Workers in various mission fields are being discriminated against as well. Many are not getting visas renewed, with the result that they are forced to leave Israel and other countries. Please pray for the Gospel’s advancement in Israel. Know that those of us who suffer discrimination love the Holy Land and the Chosen People even so.

—Jeff

See related story on page 30

Saudi cleric places a Fatwa urging Muslims to kill Mickey Mouse. & in a related development, a group of extremist-fanatic-Arabic cartoon characters answers the Fatwa call ...
The unprecedented nomination of a Christian candidate for Sudan's presidential election, by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, a party representing the former southern Sudan rebels, has caused public upheaval and sparked numerous reactions in the Sudanese press.

In response to the party's nomination of its chairman, Salva Kiir Miardit, the Sudanese daily Al-Watan published a fatwa by Sheik Muhammad Ahmad Hassan forbidding Muslims from voting for a non-Muslim candidate in any election, whether local or general. In the Sudanese daily Al-Sahafa, columnist 'Omar Al-Qarai criticized the fatwa, as well as how the Sudanese ruling party exploits religion for political purposes.

Following are excerpts from Al-Qarai's column:

“According to the correct religious knowledge, which is based on the basic principles of Islam, this fatwa is a priori invalid; it clearly shows this mufti’s ignorance of the veracity of religion and of the times in which we live. The fatwa's lack of validity stems from its premises, which are false both intellectually and traditionally. Indeed, the fatwa presupposes that the qualities of justice, loyalty, honesty, wisdom, expertise, and [work ethic] cannot be found in a non-Muslim. Consequently, he cannot be elected to conduct our affairs, nor can we accept his authority. This contradicts our practical experience, which shows that many non-Muslims are better qualified for [such positions] than Muslims, whether from a professional or ethical standpoint…

“Perhaps this sheik mufti is not familiar with, or does not accept, the Islamic knowledge that is rooted in basic principles. However, Islamic law [sharia], compiled and interpreted by our ancestors in their books... permits accepting assistance from non-Muslims in performing tasks for which they are more qualified than Muslims. Honest Muslims of early [generations] would have voted for capable non-Muslims, since they would have recognized their qualifications and trusted their loyalty and [moral] character.

“This ill-advised fatwa has nothing whatsoever to do with Islam. Rather, it is one of the pillars supporting the election strategy of the National Congress [Party, headed by Sudanese President 'Omar Al-Bashir]. With the approach of election day, we will probably hear of more fatwas of this kind, which exploit the religious feeling of several foolish citizens in order to sell them the National Congress Party's worthless wares.

“In the past, mosques have been taken advantage of by this party in the worst possible manner for propaganda purposes, with both subtle and direct appeals being made to the worshippers to vote for its representatives. [The preachers] linked support for the National Congress with a war for the sake of Allah, warning time and again that whoever did not vote for it was doomed to burn in Hell!

“A religiously motivated internecine war is a dangerous weapon, which has divided many a country [in the past], and will divide Sudan [as well], if wise people fail to expunge religious extremism from the political process…”

Salva Kiir Miardit
A Fatwa Against Mickey Mouse

www.YNetNews.com

Maybe Islamic cleric Muhammad Al-Munajid is just more of a Bugs Bunny sort of guy? In an interview with Al-Majd Television, the sheik, a former diplomat who once served in the Saudi embassy in Washington, condemned cartoons that endear rodents to their viewers.

Islamic law, he said, sees the mouse as “a repulsive, corrupting creature” while children today see mice as lovable and “awesome” because of animated shows like Tom and Jerry and Disney staple, Mickey Mouse.

“Mickey Mouse has become an awesome character, even though according to Islamic law, Mickey Mouse should be killed in all cases,” Al-Munajid tells the interviewer.

“Sharia law refers to the mouse as ‘little corrupter,’ and says it is permissible to kill it in all cases. It says that mice set fire to the house and are steered by Satan. The mouse is one of Satan’s soldiers,” he goes on to say.

In August the cleric, well known for issuing creative fatwas, slammed the Beijing Olympics as the “bikini Olympics,” referring to them as “satanic.”

Astronaut’s Diary Goes On Display In Jerusalem

Yigal Zalmona, a curator at the Israel Museum, held pages from the diary of Ilan Ramon, Israel’s first astronaut and one of seven crewmembers killed when the U.S. space shuttle Columbia disintegrated upon re-entry into the atmosphere on Feb. 1, 2003. “It’s almost a miracle that it survived—it’s incredible,” Zalmona said. There is “no rational explanation” for how it was recovered when most of the shuttle was not, he said.

Pages from the Israeli astronaut’s diary that survived the explosion of the space shuttle and a 37-mile fall to earth are on display in Jerusalem as part of a larger exhibit of famous documents from Israel’s history, held to mark the country’s 60th anniversary this year. Also on display will be Israel’s 1948 declaration of independence, the 1994 peace treaty with Jordan and a blood-stained sheet of paper with lyrics to a peace anthem that was carried by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at the time of his assassination in 1995.
SELECT BRIEFS continued

Iranian Air Force’s New Fighter Jets
www.JPost.com

The Iranian Air Force will be equipped with domestically-manufactured fighter jets within a few months, the commander of the air force announced.

“In Iran has made great achievements in manufacturing anti-aircraft missiles and various jet fighters over the past two years,” Ataollah Salehi told reporters, claiming that the Islamic Republic enjoys technical capabilities that perhaps no other country in the region has.

An Iranian Air Force commander, Ahmad Miqani, claimed that Iran had revamped its fighter jet fleet to fly distances of up to 3,000 kilometers without refueling, a measure which he said was aimed at improving the country’s “defense capabilities.”

In July, Iran announced that it had started producing aircraft with stealth capabilities as well as overhauling its fleet of F-14 fighter jets.

The Iranian Air Force is currently the only air force in the world to maintain an active fleet of F-14s, a model which has effectively been rendered obsolete by the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet.

UN Thugs
By Christine Williams
www.FrontPageMagazine.com

Support for Israel has never ranked high on the United Nations agenda. And the upcoming World Conference Against Racism, scheduled for early 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland, presents a valid case. Many observers are concerned that the UN-sponsored event will simply serve as yet another platform to launch attacks against Israel—as the previous world anti-racism conference did in Durban, South Africa, seven years ago.

Even by the standards of the organization’s traditional antagonism toward the Jewish State, the UN’s 2001 Durban gathering marked a low point. To the extent that “racism” was discussed, it was only to condemn Israeli policies. Little wonder that the conference, known as “Durban I,” is largely remembered as a UN-backed assault on Israel.

Now it’s back. And if early evidence is any guide, Durban II, as the Geneva event is already being called, will be a replay of its predecessor. Consider that the chair of the conference’s planning committee is Libya, whose longtime leader, Muammar Kadhafi, claimed during the recent presidential campaign that the Israeli Mossad aimed to assassinate Barack Obama. The vice chair of the conference, meanwhile, is communist Cuba. And the fact that Iran’s president has notoriously called for Israel’s destruction has not, expectedly, prevented it from playing a key leadership role in the upcoming conference.

In light of recent history, it makes sense that Israel has decided to boycott next year’s conference. Canada has also decided to boycott Durban II, and other Western countries should consider following the Canadian example. It’s the height of absurdity for free nations to have to endure lectures on human rights from its preeminent abusers. In 2001, they could have claimed to be unaware of the conference’s sinister agenda. Seven years later, ignorance is no longer an excuse or an option.

To learn all the reasons that feed the author’s conclusion, read the full article at www.levitt.com/news.
Search For Ancient Hebrew Bible
By Matti Friedman Associated Press

A quest is under way on four continents to find the missing pages of one of the world’s most important holy texts, the 1,000-year-old Hebrew Bible known as the Crown of Aleppo.

Crusaders held it for ransom, fire almost destroyed it, and it was reputedly smuggled across Mideast borders hidden in a washing machine. But in 1958, when it finally reached Israel, 196 pages were missing—about 40 percent of the total—and for some Old Testament scholars they have become a kind of holy grail.

Researchers representing the manuscript’s custodian in Jerusalem now say they have leads on some of the missing pages and are nearer their goal of making the manuscript whole again.

The Crown, known in English as the Aleppo Codex, may not be as famous as the Dead Sea Scrolls—but to many scholars it is even more important, because it is considered the definitive edition of the Bible for Jewry worldwide.

The key to finding the pages is thought to lie with the insular Diaspora of Jews originating in Aleppo, Syria, where the manuscript resided in a synagogue’s iron chest for centuries.

A turning point in its history came three days after the U.N. passed the 1947 resolution to grant Israel statehood, provoking a Syrian mob to burn down the synagogue. Aleppo’s Jews rescued the Codex, but in the ensuing years the 10,000-strong community was uprooted and scattered around the world.

Scholars believe that Aleppo Jews still hold many of the missing pages, while others have fallen into the hands of antiquities dealers. Two fragments have already surfaced: a full page in 1982, and a smaller piece last year that had been carried for decades by a Brooklyn man as a good-luck charm. Persistent rumors tell of more waiting to be found.

Read more about this interesting document at www.levitt.com/news. Follow the progress or participate in the search at www.aleppocodex.org.

Two Eyes Too Seductive For Saudi Cleric

A Muslim cleric in Saudi Arabia has called on women to wear a full veil, or niqab (burka), that reveals only one eye.

Sheik Muhammad al-Habadan said showing both eyes encouraged women to use eye make-up to look seductive. The question of how much of her face a woman should cover is a controversial topic in many Muslim societies.

The niqab is more common in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, but women in much of the Muslim Middle East wear a headscarf which covers only their hair.

Sheik Habdan, an ultra-conservative cleric who is said to have wide influence among religious Saudis, was answering questions on the Muslim satellite channel al-Majd.

Bright Spots In A Sea Of Black

A Saudi woman wears an embroidered abaya in the old city of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. For years, the only garments sold openly in Saudi stores selling women’s cloaks were of the all-black-drab-covering-variety. But now, streaks of vibrant color, bands of glittering crystal—and even sheaths of sexy leopard skin prints—are showing up on the racks. And that’s not all. Women are snapping them up and even sometimes wearing them in public!
Grandmother’s First Flight

Aboard an El Al flight from America to Israel, Bubbie (Yiddish for grandmother) Esther was taking her very first flight to visit her children and grandchildren who had just made aliyah (moved to the Holy Land). They had been aloft only a few minutes when Bubbie Esther complained to the stewardess that her ears were popping.

The young woman smiled and gave the older woman some chewing gum, assuring her that many people experience the same discomfort. When they landed in Tel Aviv, Bubbie Esther thanked the stewardess. “Thank you very much for the chewing gum, sweetie,” she said, “but tell me, how do I get it out of my ears?”

Messianic Speakers Available!

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The Reality of a Palestinian State

By Joseph Puder
www.FrontPageMagazine.com

Dean Acheson, American statesman and President Truman's Secretary of State, once said: "No people in history have ever survived who thought they could protect their freedom by making themselves inoffensive to their enemies." Since the Oslo Accords of 1993, Israeli leaders have sought to appease the Arab-Palestinians with various concessions.

Since Oslo neither the Israeli governments nor the U.S. administrations have understood the simple truth that the Palestinian struggle against Israel is not about land, it is an armed struggle that aims to replace Israel with an Arab Islamic terrorist state that would undermine American and European interests in the region.

The 1937 Peel Commission offered the Palestinian leadership a significant portion of Palestine for a state, and they rejected it. Through the years, other offers have been made, and the Palestinian leadership has opted for war and violence instead. Under the Peel Commission, the Arab-Palestinian share of Western Palestine would have been larger than the landmass proposed in 1947 by the U.N. Partition Plan, and the Partition Plan would have given the Palestinians more land than they would have had under the Armistice Lines of 1949, following Israel's War of Independence. Subsequent agreements including the Oslo Accords, Camp David II Summit (with Arafat, Barak, and Clinton), and current negotiations between Olmert/Livni and Abu Mazen (Mahmoud Abbas) and Abu Ala, have involved gradually shrinking landmasses.

The reasonable assumption is therefore simple: if the Palestinians refused settlement when they could have had 82% of the land under the Peel Commission, why would they now settle for a tiny portion of land that is seemingly ungovernable and without any natural resources? The answer is, of course, that they did not settle for the favorable Peel Commission recommendations of 1937 because they rejected the idea of a sovereign Jewish homeland, however small and untenable, and continue to refuse to accept the idea of a permanent sovereign Jewish state today.

The only reasonable solution to the Palestinians' plight is to have Jordan negotiate with Israel over borders, and absorb the Palestinian territories and people in a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. American interests and Israel's freedom are at stake, and to paraphrase Dean Acheson's words: being "inoffensive" towards a Palestinian terrorist state would destroy the oldest, most vibrant democracy in the Middle East.
New Release from the New Jewish-friendly Promise Keepers
By Raleigh B. Washington, President/CEO of The Road To Jerusalem

It is with great excitement that I greet you with this update regarding the ministry of The Road To Jerusalem (TRTJ). As you may have heard, we, Coach Bill McCartney and Dr. Raleigh Washington, have returned to the ministry of Promise Keepers (PK). This can only be attributed to the hand of God. In no way did we seek for this to happen; rather a set of circumstances that were God orchestrated led to the board of PK unanimously voting to give the ministry back to its founder, Coach Mac. This vote was taken after the entire board had been given an opportunity to hear the message of The Road and include it in their decision making process. It was made known to them, as it is being made known to you now, that our return to Promise Keepers in no way will diminish what God has called us to with The Road To Jerusalem, but rather will give The Road an enlarged audience and platform and a widened doorway into the Church.

You must also be aware that we will maintain the integrity of Promise Keepers. In fact, PK and TRTJ have become partner ministries. Coach is the Founder of both and I serve as President of both. We intend to maintain the integrity of both organizations in response to their respective constituencies. We believe that PK gave birth to TRTJ. It happened when Rabbi Robert Solomon of Atlanta challenged Coach and me by confronting us at the pastor’s conference in 1996. With 40,000 pastors in attendance, we recognized every racial group except our Messianic Jewish brothers. Our hearts still ring with his poignant words, “you forgot about us!” This spurred us on a sojourn that resulted in the founding of TRTJ.

We are immediately beginning a drive towards a stadium event in Boulder, Colorado in July of next year, 2009. The event will be a 20-year anniversary celebration and retrospective on the profound effect the ministry of PK has had on the country. It will also feature 3 major planks. These planks will be directed toward healing 3 divides. The calling of God on our lives is to agents in healing these divides. Plank 1 - is to honor women (wives, mothers, sisters, daughters); healing the gender divide. Plank 2 - is honoring the poor, oppressed and needy; healing the divide between the haves and have-nots. Plank 3 - is honoring the spiritual fathers of the faith; healing the divide between Jew and gentile. We believe these planks are driven by Gal. 3:28, 1 Cor. 12 and 1 Cor. 4:15.

Rest assured that we are more committed now than ever to our vision of “Mobilizing the entire body of Messiah to partner with Jewish Believers for the salvation of Israel—thus the world.” We will continue to have TRTJ events, build the ICCM and rally around believing Jews everywhere! God’s vehicle will be Men Transformed into warriors leading the charge to do what politics cannot do—Heal the Divides!

Dry Bones: OUTSIDE VIEWPOINT

THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IS IN A CATASTROPHIC MELTDOWN!

NO IT’S NOT!

WE’LL KNOW IT’S AN ECONOMIC CATASTROPHE WHEN AMERICANS START SNEAKING INTO MEXICO FOR JOBS!

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