

# Levitt Letter



"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved." – ROMANS 10:1



Food for thought from a Messianic Jew.

## How Does Jerusalem Fit Into End-Times Prophecy?



[www.AllNewsWire.com](http://www.AllNewsWire.com)

An Interview with **Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum** (above)

**AF:** While Israel in general creates a major stir in world events, the focus becomes more and more on Jerusalem because in the Scripture that is its major role in Bible prophecy in preparation for the Second Coming. It is against Jerusalem that all of the armies of the nations will gather together (Zechariah 12:1-14; 14:1-2). Because the Temple Compound in the Old City has become the third holiest site in Islam, for that reason there is particular conflict over that city at the present time. *(continued p. 2)*



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## What Does "Peace" Mean Anyway?

By Rob Miller  
[FallOfKnowledgeAndReason.blogspot.com](http://FallOfKnowledgeAndReason.blogspot.com)



People crave peace and pray for it. Yet few of us, especially in the West, stop to think of what we really mean by peace.

Islam is direct about the matter. Westerners are confused when Muslims say that Islam means peace (submission). Muslims divide the world into *dar Islam* (where Islam rules) and *dar harb* (non-Muslim, literally the house of war). Peace is when the entire world is *dar Islam*.

So, is peace then simply an absence of war and conflict? Not necessarily so.

*(continued p. 3)*

There is a principle in the origin of Islam that once something has become Muslim, it must stay Muslim forever. If for some reason the Muslims lose it, they must have a jihad to Muslimize the place again. That is why the true Koran-believing Muslim can never accept Israel's right to exist and that is why there is so much terrorism and attacks against Israel and those who support Israel such as the USA. Jerusalem remains a stumbling stone for we try to find a way to solve an insolvable problem and only the Second Coming will bring a final solution to it.

**ANW:** The question that these events bring to mind for most is, "what's the point?"

**AF:** God in His Word has spelled out the details of prophecy and some of these prophecies have been fulfilled in the last century such as Israel becoming a state (1948) and Israel gaining sovereignty over the Old City of Jerusalem (1967). While the Temple is not yet being built there is intensive effort by three different religious Jewish groups to get the Temple rebuilt in preparation for Messiah's coming. The fact that these things are occurring shows that God's prophetic timetable is in the process of being fulfilled and while He gives us a sequence of events chronologically He does not provide the time element between one event and another until the Tribulation starts.

What is important for us is to know the Bible also teaches there is only one way to avoid the Tribulation and to escape from it and that is by means of the Rapture of the Body of Messiah, when all Believers who passed away will have their bodies resurrected and the others living will simply be caught-up (raptured) to meet the Messiah in the air. But to qualify for this event one must be a true Believer and what one must believe is spelled out in I Corinthians 15:1-4: First, the Messiah died for our sins; second, He was buried (the evidence of His death); and third, He rose again on the third day.

If we believe the Gospel and trust that alone for our salvation, we are given eternal life and those who are given eternal life are also given the promise that they will not have to suffer the wrath of God, which is what the Tribulation is about. The Church is never promised it will escape persecution, but it is promised that it will escape the wrath of God and for that reason Church saints will be resurrected and raptured to meet the Lord in the air sometime before the Tribulation actually begins.

**ANW:** Things continue to escalate between Israel and Iran. Iran, known as Persia, is mentioned several times throughout the Bible, but most notably in Ezekiel. What can you tell us about that?

**AF:** While Iran is not an Arab country it is a Muslim country and therefore as a Muslim country it has strong opposition to Israel's right to exist. Therefore, Iran will participate in the invasion of Israel in Ezekiel 38-39. However, Jeremiah 49 also points out that the day will come when Iran will undergo a national salvation and will have peace with Israel, with the same God and the same Messiah, so as a result only then will peace finally arrive. ★

## Dry Bones

## IRANIAN NUKES



After the signing of the Versailles Treaty that ended WW I in 1918, France's Commanding General Ferdinand Foch said, "This is not a peace. It is an armistice for twenty years." While Germany had been bled white and the home front was collapsing, the German Army had not been decisively defeated; the Versailles Treaty would last only as long as the Allies maintained military superiority over Germany and occupied a strategic part of the German homeland. When the political climate was right, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis came to power in 1933.

The Middle East is currently witnessing a similar example of ending an "armistice" that arose from similar circumstances. In 1973, Egypt and Syria attacked Israel in a war of annihilation that was essentially a continuation of the Six-Day War in 1967. The Camp David Accords, by which Egypt obtained the Sinai, had the additional benefit for Egypt of removing Israeli forces from striking distance of the Suez Canal and Cairo. In war, after all, it is the victors who gain territory and concessions. What occurred between Egypt and Israel was not peace but an armistice.

With the fall of Mubarak, the key points of the armistice—diplomatic relations, trade, and the demilitarization of the Sinai—are likely to be suspended by Egypt. And Egypt will almost certainly be siding with Israel's enemies.

After WW II, the allies made a point of insisting on unconditional surrender in Japan and Germany, and refused several offers of an attractive armistice from the Nazis. There was no question either among Japan and Germany's armed forces or their people that they had been decisively defeated. Both countries had been devastated, suffered severe shortages of food, housing, medical supplies, and fuel; and were forced to accede to military occupation in order to avoid being totally destroyed.

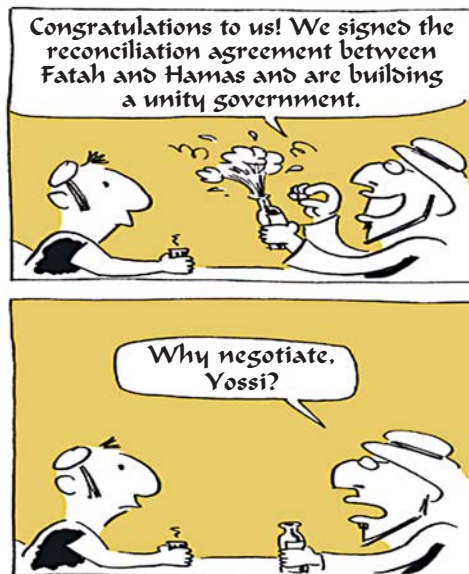


Both countries lost significant territory, both were forced to absorb and resettle a significant number of their nationals as refugees in their remaining territory, and there was never any question of ephemera like "land for peace."

As a consequence, the German and Japanese people made a collective decision that their survival lay in real peace, an end to aggression, and the pursuit of prosperity and western-style democracy.

Real peace comes when the cost has been so great for the aggressor that resorting to hostilities again for anything other than an existential threat is almost unthinkable.

Because, in the end, real peace is the fruit of decisive victory. ★



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## Sandra Remembers Zvi

**ZVI RIVAI: (r) 1949–2011**  
*Guide and later Head*  
*Guide for Zola Tours/TEI*  
*for nearly 30 years.*



I knew that if Zvi said it, it was true. I remember some Zvi “isms” (expressions he was known for). “Let’s go! ... No snow today (it rarely snows in Israel, and it was usually very hot, so we would laugh)\* ... I faxed ahead at exactly 10:04 for the ibex to be here ... you can call me Zvi or simply Zvi ... I have with me my underwater snorkel, so because we are above sea level, we are safe ... the Dead Sea is exactly 1,333 ft. and 3 inches below sea level”—(it was always the inches that we would remember). He ended any email or letter with “God bless you Yeshua name.”

Zvi had a name that no one could pronounce because English does not have the TZ sound. But Zvi was very kind when we mangled his name. In fact, one tour group made up a song with all the mispronunciations of his name. Too funny. Zee, Zweb, Zi, Z ...

I remember when Zvi became our head guide. He had been the second guide for many years when the opportunity arose to be the main guy. It was a big deal because the head guide was responsible for the sites that the pilgrims saw, the number of sites, and most of the logistics. When you are on a tour, there are certain “must see” sites, and then there are sites that make the tour unique. Zola asked Zvi to be the head guide and Zvi said, “Yes.” That was all he said, and off we went.

He was a man of few words, but that was all he needed. I have never been on a Zola Tour without Zvi. He listened to my ideas and gave me good information about their possibilities. Zvi wanted everyone up at 6 am, breakfast at 6:30, and on the bus by 7:00. We adjusted the schedule a little, but not much. We were on the bus by 8 am most days. Obviously, Zvi was not concerned with hair dryers or make-up. We would whine about the early time he wanted us up and he would say, “Okay, up at 6:01...” No one could get ahead of Zvi.

Our pilgrims would start out saying that Zvi had an accent and he would tell them he was southern ... southern Tel Aviv. By the end of the tour, his “red bus” people did not want to let him go. The men especially loved his war stories. Zvi served as a tank leader in both the 1967 and the 1973 wars in Israel. We all loved his leadership and his knowledge of the history of both Israel and the Bible. We were family.

Zvi, who died in June of stomach cancer, leaves a wife, 3-year-old son, two adult daughters, an infant granddaughter, and a son-in-law. I will miss him. He took really good care of me. ★

*Contributions to our ministry’s Good News Fund until October 1 will go to care for Zvi’s son, Joel.*

*\*J’lem snow photos: <http://wp.me/pieUD-7L>*



**Zvi teaching a tour group**

## “While it is day...”

By Myles Weiss



As global headlines play catch-up with the Bible, our mandate to preach the Gospel “to the Jew first” (Romans 1:16) becomes crucial. We also must awaken the Church to her Hebrew roots. We are preparing for the coming of the King, Whose return Scripture foretold. More than at any time since the Book of Acts, Jewish people are calling on Messiah.

In our hearts and on our lips, the phrase *Baruch Haba B'Shem Adonai* (Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord—Matthew 23:39) resounds throughout the Earth. Therefore we must “work while it is day, for the hour comes when no man can work” (Jn. 9:4).

Prophetically, the Scriptures unfold before us. The world is aligning against Israel, as the Bible foretold. Jerusalem is certainly a “cup of trembling” (Zechariah 12:2). The nations *think* they are being drawn into a confrontation with Israel. They are actually being drawn into a clash with the God of Israel, who has repeatedly defended it in its most desperate hours.

**As the summer of 2011 unwinds, we see the nations aligning in the most unlikely, yet biblically predicted, ways:**

**Iran, Russia, and China convene in what appears as a rehearsal for the Gog and Magog alliance. Ezekiel chapters 36–39 tell us about these end-times alliances that may also include Islamic African nations such as Cush (Sudan) and Put (Libya).**

**The “Palestinian” push for a unilateral declaration of statehood may be a precursor for the looming Psalm 83 pan-Arab war.**

**The Arab border-threatening “demonstrations” that force Israel to defend its sovereign boundaries are a thinly**

**veiled distraction from the Syrian government’s butchery of its own citizens.**

**The American president’s calling for Israel’s indefensible 1967 borders as a basis for negotiations puts America at risk of disappearing from history, the fate of every empire that has stood against God’s Land and People.**

**With these prophetic signs unfolding, we need to say with Yeshua, “I must work the works of Him who sent Me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work.” John 9:4**

Recently returned from Israel, I am overjoyed in spite of these threatening signs. As we put in several 16-hour days filming the Book of Ruth programs, I was struck repeatedly by the overwhelming goodness of God and the abundance of life in day-to-day Israel.



The humorous, intelligent, and hopeful hearts we encountered uplifted us. The *Shavuot* (Feast of Weeks, Pentecost) celebrations pointed to the One from Whom all blessings flow. Newborns were held aloft as “first fruits” at the Kibbutz Naan where we filmed a segment for the show. Most significantly, Believers in Yeshua, in spite of persecution and grave misunderstanding, displayed a joyful heart of service on the frontlines of Gospel truth. They are heroes for the times in which we live.

What a privilege for Katharine and me to represent you, the faithful Zola community... and to work together while it is day! ★

## Like an Olive Tree

By Eitan and Connie Shishkoff

**“But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.”** (Psalm 52:8)

Olive trees, a source of oil, food, and wood for thousands of years, find ideal growing conditions in the Galilee—Israel’s large northern district and Yeshua’s home turf. It has been called the “home of Israel’s olive industry.” Deuteronomy 8:8 lists olive oil as one of the seven crops reflecting the fruitfulness of the Promised Land; the olive tree is well known to students of the Scriptures. Pure olive oil anointed the tabernacle, the Ark, the altar, all the vessels in priestly service, and the priests themselves. Olive wood was used to construct the inner doors of Solomon’s Temple. In the account of Noah’s return to dry land, the olive branch spoke of restoration, thus becoming the symbol of peace.

Olive groves flourish the length and breadth of Israel, as God commanded, *“You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory [but those disobedient to God will not anoint themselves]”* (Deuteronomy 28:40). This amazingly hearty tree favors rocky soil, thrives on the semi-arid climate of the Middle East and usually lives for 400 years, but many produce for 700! Olive trees provide a major economic blessing in the Galilee, especially for the Arab-Israeli farmers who are the main olive growers in our area. Millions of liters of fresh olive oil are pressed every year in both simple home operations and more sophisticated voluminous ones.

How are olives turned into oil? The flesh of each olive must be pressed. Literally, the berry is crushed, rendering the once-solid fruit into a pulp. In ancient times, this was achieved with a large stone, hand-driven around a circular trough. Modern methods employ steel and motors. Yeshua’s night



of temptation took place in an area set aside for pressing olives. Gethsemane is actually *gat*

*shmanim*, the place of the *olive press*, just down the hill from the Mount of Olives. The crushing our Lord experienced that night was vividly portrayed in the very place where He surrendered His will to the Father and went to the cross. Just as the olives were crushed in Gethsemane to produce anointing oil, Yeshua was crushed to release the essence of the Spirit’s anointing for our lives.

When driving across the Galilee, my eye is often captured by the silver green olive leaves shimmering in the Galilee breezes. These were the branches the Apostle Paul had in mind when he penned Romans 11. He pictured Yeshua’s gentile (non-Jewish) followers as wild olive branches grafted into the tree that will receive back its natural branches (Jewish Believers) before Messiah returns. This united olive tree remains a guiding image for us, especially today. *“The Lord called thy name green olive tree, lovely and of good fruit. (Jeremiah 11:16)”*

*Olive press in Neot Kedumin, Israel—representing biblical period*



# Israel Is God's Timetable Part 2

By Zola Levitt

## With Teeth And Tongue

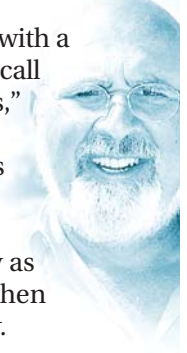
Arabs have been trying to dig the Jews out of Israel since 1948, when Israel declared its independence. It seems that it is intolerable for Arabs to have any other people anywhere in the Middle East, a territory they regard as the Arab world. They wouldn't make very good Europeans, because they consider all "others" as intruders. In every decade of Israel's existence, the Arabs have attacked, sometimes with the teeth and sometimes with the tongue.

**'40s:** After Israel declared its independence, five Arab nations attacked from all sides intending to conquer and annihilate their new neighbor. Even though the UN had sanctioned the Jews' right to recover their ancient land, the surrounding Arab nations would not put up with the idea and attacked immediately. One can only contemplate how different the Middle East would be today if the Arabs had simply said, "Welcome back." By this time, with Arab petrodollars and Jewish brains, the Middle East might well be the paradise of the world.

But instead, there was a short and bloody war in which, somehow, the new Israelis held their ground. Refugees from Europe, they could hardly find common languages, and they fought basically with handguns and hunting rifles, but they defeated five Arab armies and defended their new state.

**'50s:** Jews made *aliyah* (moved home to Israel) from all parts of the world. Israel increased in size and strength. In 1956, in a battle primarily with Egypt, Israel quickly prevailed and solidified its tenuous position as the only democracy in a sea of Arab dictatorships.

**'60s:** The Arabs came up with a new idea: They began to call themselves "Palestinians," though before 1948 this term referred to the Jews of what was then called Palestine. The Jewish newspaper known today as *The Jerusalem Post* was then called *The Palestine Post*.



It bears repeating that the term "Palestinian" has nothing to do with Arabs, either historically or in modern times. In 135 AD, the Emperor Hadrian dubbed Israel "Palestine" in another of those "final solutions to the Jewish problem." He chose that name because it harked

back to the Philistines—Greeks who settled along many



coastlines in the Middle East to pursue fishing and other marine enterprises. They were perennial enemies of Israel, but they have no connection *at all* to Arabs.

But the uneducated media of the '60s picked up the term, and "Palestine" somehow became an Arab nation with a long history. In truth, from 135 AD to 1948, it was an area at first Roman, then Muslim, then Crusader, then Mamluk, then Ottoman-Turkish, then British Mandate, but it was never controlled by an organized, internal government. There are no "Palestinian" documents or currency or government records such as any bona fide nation leaves behind. The Land of Israel, with its rightful owners away, was simply a backwater territory for whoever might settle there. But with the founding of the PLO, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in the 1960s, the Arabs began to think of themselves as a people with a long heritage in the land. (See *Whose Land Is It?*, offered on pages 17, 18.) ★

## Katharine's Story Part 2

After Myles and I married, we were “born” into a missions-centered church with a heart for the nations and all peoples. After graduate school, Myles counseled families at home and traveled overseas to set up Gospel campaigns. The importance of these campaigns led a dedicated group of women to pray for their success for hours on end. I prayed with them. Intercession became the heartbeat of my ministry, and I saw great things happen to confirm our prayer emphasis. Being behind the scenes and lifting up the hands of the ministers on the ground was a comfortable ministry for me. Eventually, I joined Myles on a trip to India, which further entrenched my love for the nations. We developed a marriage seminar, *From This Day Forward*. Presenting it throughout the States and on other continents bore much fruit and induced me to step into a more visible part of ministry.

We taught our marriage seminar for a week in Siberia. Couples married under Communism rejoiced to be reunited in the presence of the Lord! On our way home, a young man exhorted us to reclaim and celebrate Myles's Jewish heritage for our young sons, who were traveling with us. We began keeping *Shabbat* (the Sabbath) and the Feasts. At first, we invited a few people to join us; then we opened our home until there were 75 attending every time we held an event! This became Beth Shalom, the House of Peace. Guests in our home came to Christ with salvation and healing as Jews discovered the Messiah and gentiles learned about the Hebrew roots of their faith. His covenant promises came to life all around us.

In 2003, we spent two transformational weeks on Mt. Carmel. When we returned home, our lives had re-centered around issues of Israel and the Church. God awakened in us a mission to take the Gospel to the Jews and teach the Church about its Jewish roots. Myles's



service in the pastoral unity movement gave him a platform to open pastors' eyes to Israel, the Jews, Islam, and the End Times. When many expressed an interest in making the pilgrimage to Jerusalem, we hosted several hundred leaders in Israel. We saw God connect the San Francisco Bay Area to Jerusalem's East Gate... that Yeshua might be known “From Golden Gate to Golden Gate!”

Our sons, now college age, accompanied us on this journey—through Israel, Africa, and establishing Beth Shalom—beneficiaries of a dual inheritance: natural sons of Abraham in a faith-led home. In connecting us with ZLM, God is answering our prayers to help reveal *Yeshua Ha' Mashiach* to the world in His Jewish identity. Just as Joseph's Egyptian garb hid him from his brothers, so our Jewish brothers have regarded Jesus as a gentile. But *Baruch Ha Shem* (Bless THE Name), in our day He is being restored to His original personage—the Messiah of Israel and Savior of the world.

*Sha'alu Shalom Yerushalayim* ... Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! ★





## Shalom From Sandra

*To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under Heaven.*  
Ecclesiastes 3:1



I believe that everyone who works in ministry has a season, a length of time to serve in each of God's assignments. Some seasons are longer than others. By that I mean that God really controls how we labor for Him, for His glory. Think how God used Esther, Paul, Isaiah, etc. They each had a length of time to do the job God gave them to do. It has been over five years since Zola went to be with the Lord. During that time, God called Jeff Seif and me to continue working for His glory through Zola Levitt Ministries. Jeff recently left ZLM for academic pursuits. I understand and wish Jeff the very best. A new season, if you will.

It was exciting—and a little scary—to see whom God would equip and call to ZLM. As always, God's timing is perfect. I hope you are watching our new series, *Psalms of Ascent* on *Zola Levitt Presents*. I loved being back in the studio and filming some of my favorite Psalms, Psalms 120–132. They are Psalms read/sung by pilgrims going “up” to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feasts, ascending the Temple Mount. While I was filming, Myles and Katharine Weiss were working nearby on their new series, *Ruth: Your People Shall Be My People*. To wisely use our filming budgets, we got together. Wow—what a wonderful

couple! Myles and Katharine's love story is the story of Ruth. The story of Jew and non-Jew coming together to serve and love the one true God. Exactly the Zola Levitt Ministries message.

I have been to Israel many times—forty-one to be exact. I have been praying that God would let me know when it was time—my season—again. Then Mark Levitt called and asked if I would like to help with the fall Zola Tour. Not only will I return to Israel, but I will also visit Greece with my husband, Daniel. What an answer to prayer! Since then, I have started packing. Not literally in my suitcases, but in my mind. Such things as: where does God want me to teach, what new sites will He show me, what message will God reveal to me this time... and of course the “girl” thing, do I have the right clothes? I can hardly contain my excitement. Come to Israel and see what season God may have waiting for you. Check tour details on page 36.

*More tour info on page 36*



I am always humbled when the Lord calls me. My prayer is that we will serve Him when He calls, and that we appreciate our seasons.

Blessings, Sandra

# Israel Expands Solar Power

**Israel plans to expand its solar-generated electricity with preparations to bring the first of more than 40 new solar plants onto the grid this summer.**

Arava Power is building the plants, including the \$30 million Ketura Sun solar field in Israel's scorching Negev desert, which will provide electricity to some 1,000 residents.

Israel is pushing to become a world leader in alternative energy, with the government backing cutting-edge technologies and setting a goal to have 10 percent of its electricity generated by alternative means by 2020.

By Moshe Edri  
Associated Press



Israel depends almost entirely for its energy on imported coal and natural gas. Its gas supply from Egypt has become more volatile since President Hosni Mubarak's February ouster because of attacks on the pipeline, and criticism in Egypt over the pricing of the exports.

"Our goal is to green the grid so much that Israel will be the first major economy to transform itself from carbon-based to solar-based," Arava President Yosef Abramowitz said. ★

## City of Tunnels Under Jerusalem

By Matti Friedman, Associated Press

**Underneath the crowded alleys and holy sites of old Jerusalem, hundreds of people are snaking at any given moment through tunnels, vaulted medieval chambers, and Roman sewers in a rapidly expanding subterranean city invisible from the streets above.**

At street level, the walled Old City is an energetic and fractious enclave with a physical landscape that is predominantly Islamic and a population that is mainly Arab.

Underground Jerusalem is different: Here the noise recedes, the fierce Middle Eastern sun disappears, and light comes from fluorescent bulbs. There is a smell of earth and mildew, and the geography recalls a Jewish city that existed 2,000 years ago.

Archaeological digs under the disputed Old City are a matter of immense sensitivity. For Israel, the tunnels are proof of the depth of Jewish roots here, and this has made the tunnels one of Jerusalem's main tourist draws: The number of visitors, mostly Jews and Christians, has risen dramatically in recent years to more than a million visitors in 2010.

With the new underground, there will be more than a mile of pathways beneath the city. Officials say at least one other major project is in the works. Soon, anyone so inclined will be able to spend much time in Jerusalem without seeing the sky.

In a multilevel maze of rooms and corridors beneath the Muslim Quarter, workers cleared rubble and installed steel safety braces to shore up crumbling 700-year-old Mamluk-era arches.

Above ground, a group of French tourists emerged from a dark passage they had entered an hour earlier in the Jewish Quarter and found themselves among Arab shops on the Via Dolorosa, the traditional route Jesus took to his crucifixion.



*A view of Zedekiah's Cave in Jerusalem's Old City (May 2011)*

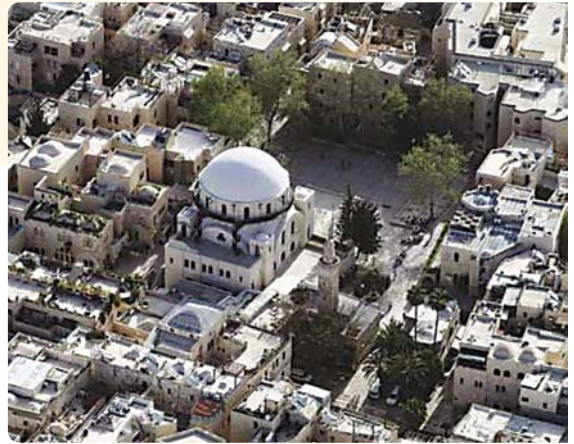


*Ultra-orthodox Jewish men pray in the Western Wall tunnel, Old City (May 2011)*

# Jerusalem From Above

*Israel Today*

On the ground, Jerusalem is a bustling city, bottlenecked and noisy with traffic, chaotic with detours because of construction or security issues, and simmering with ethnic and religious tensions. But from above, one gets a different perspective of the Holy City—quiet, peaceful, orderly. Here is an overview of the Lord’s special city, ancient and modern, as seen from an Israeli police helicopter.



**REBUILDING THE RUINS** The Hurva Synagogue in the Old City was rebuilt for the second time last year

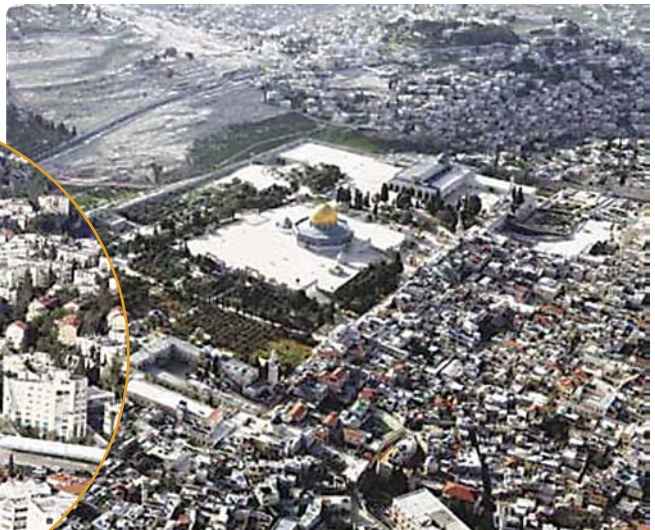


**SNAKING BOUNDARY:** The security barrier near the Shuafat neighborhood in northern Jerusalem



**NEBI SAMUEL:** The tomb of the prophet Samuel

**HANGING BRIDGE** for the light rail at the entrance to Jerusalem



**“MOUNTAIN** of the House of the Lord”(Isaiah 2:2)

# Why Muslim Cultures Lag Behind

By The Anti-Jihadist, [FrontPageMag.com](http://FrontPageMag.com)

In the past fifty years, countries like Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan, with virtually no natural resources, have created urbanized and prosperous societies with world-class technologies. India, Brazil, and China all possess affluent middle classes that did not exist a few decades ago.

The Muslim world, by contrast, has struggled during this era of global wealth creation. Beyond oil and gas extraction, economic activity in Muslim countries remains scant and low-tech. Despite vast oil revenue over the past sixty years, Muslim progress in scientific research, social issues, and education lags behind the rest of the world.

Why? Consider the following cultural traits that are typical of majority Muslim countries:

**Belief in magic.** Visitors to Malaysia get a good laugh out of such quaint cultural practices, until they realize that Malaysian belief in superstition is sincere. In Saudi Arabia, witchcraft is considered a capital offense. Iran's laws make sorcery a crime. Many Iraqis are convinced that American soldiers wear sunglasses that can see through clothing and have bases protected by force fields.

**Belief in conspiracies.** Muslims take it as an Article of Faith that "infidels" (outsiders) conspire to keep Muslims down and make Islam look bad.

**Lack of innovation.** The word in the Malay language for innovation (*inovasi*) did not exist until it recently came from English. Innovation is dangerous in the Islamic world. Islam already has a word for innovation—*bid'ah*—the same in meaning as "heresy," which is a capital crime under Islamic law. This is a major reason why a near-total lack of scientific research and reluctance to embrace technology in general characterize Islamic countries.

**No devotion outside family/tribe/clan.** People from the next valley over are foreigners to be met with suspicion or hostility. Muslim leaders maintain power by exploiting this characteristic, playing one tribe off another. Patriotism is a foreign concept.

**Subjugation of women.** How equipped for the future is a society if half of its members are denied their rights? The Koran, Islamic traditions, and core Islamic teachings render women as chattel, the property of their male relatives. As for reform—see the penalty for *bid'ah* above.

**Lack of personal responsibility.** Most Muslim countries are a patchwork of tribes who barely tolerate one another. Loyalty to one's country is next to non-existent. So, leaders—top, middle, or bottom—steal as much as they can, while they can, in order to enrich themselves and their tribes. ★

*"Who brought the sunscreen?"*



**Lack of skilled labor.** Muslim countries, even with oil wealth, have consistently failed to create large enough castes of technical specialists within their own borders, so they outsource their labor needs. In most Arab states, maids come from India or the Philippines, while engineers and others in the technical trades come from America, Europe, and East Asia.

**Lack of meritocracy.** The West rewards achievement; hence, high-performers tend to be in charge and reap the most rewards (prestige, rank, money, etc.). Westerners do not always live up to these ideals, but the concepts themselves are not questioned. In the Islamic world, tribal connections and sect membership count more. Incompetent leaders are preferable to competent ones, so long as they are properly loyal. Muslims are fond of saying, “It’s Allah’s will” at difficult times, which are more likely the consequences of their dysfunctional culture.

## CASES IN POINT:

### Maid’s Spell Broken

[www.SaudiGazette.com.sa](http://www.SaudiGazette.com.sa)

The Saudi Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice (the *Hai’a*) says it has broken a spell that a housemaid in Taif put on the five daughters of the elderly man she was employed to look after.

Muhammad Fari’, head of the *Hai’a*’s branch in Taif, said the maid cast a spell on the women, who live with their husbands and children in other parts of the country, to stop them visiting and increasing her workload.

“They would visit with husbands and children during the holidays and their numerous demands during those visits led to her putting the spell on them to stop them visiting their father,” Fari’ said. “The *Hai’a* stepped in to break the spell and return affairs to their normal course.”

Fari’ said that foreigners, and particularly women, were responsible for acts of magic in Saudi Arabia.

### Lunar Eclipse Spooks Nigerian Muslims

[www.Vanguardngr.com](http://www.Vanguardngr.com)

A total eclipse of the moon was witnessed in Kano, Nigeria on June 15th, causing some restiveness among the residents of the city. The eclipse, which began around 8 p.m, lasted for more than three hours, sending the city into total darkness.

As a result, the residents offered prayers to God for the moon to return. The prayers, which featured verses from the Koran, were offered in mosques in supplication to Allah “to make the moon recover from its sickness.”

Malam Nuhu Sulaiman, a Koranic teacher, said: “We believe that the moon can fall sick through an eclipse like this. When we see it fall sick, we are enjoined to pray for its recovery.”

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) said the prayers lasted until about 11 p.m. when the moon came out again at the end of the eclipse. ★

*7th century public flogging still practiced in Pakistan.*



# God's End-time Plans & Purpose for Libya

By David Dollins, [blogs.ChristianPost.com](http://blogs.ChristianPost.com)

The country of Libya *is* in the Bible. And it is an important player in the Bible's prophecies of the End Days. 2,600 years ago, the prophet Ezekiel was given a vision of the future.

Specifically, Ezekiel 38 lists the nations that will come together at the end of days for the express purpose of destroying the nation of Israel. Among those is Turkey, identified by multiple ancient place names that existed within that country's current borders (Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, Togarmah). Also, Iran (called Persia until 1935). Finally, Libya. Some translations use "Put," the Hebrew place name for the area occupied by present-day Libya. This coalition of nations, and many more with them, will make an all-out assault on Israel, intending to destroy it. God told Ezekiel that this event would occur in the "latter years" (Ezekiel 38:8). At the last moment, just before Israel is wiped out, God will intervene and all the aggressors will suffer a 7-fold judgment from God—a great earthquake, pestilence, bloodshed, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone (Ezekiel 38:19–22).

When God makes Libya, Iran, and the others an example of His divine judgment, He also reveals His divine purpose. Ezekiel 39:7: *"My holy name I will make known in the midst of My people Israel... and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel."* God intervenes on behalf of Israel in order to reveal to the nations that He is God alone, that the prophecies of old that spoke of Him are true, and that Jesus Christ is the true Messiah who

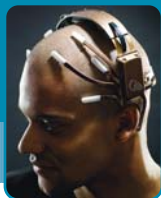
came to bring salvation to all of mankind.

**Jesus in Ezekiel?** Yes! At the end of Ezekiel 39 it says that God will pour out His Spirit upon the house of Israel... and according to the Apostle Peter in the New Testament, only Jesus Christ has been given this authority to pour out the Holy Spirit. In Acts 2:33, Peter said, in referring to Jesus upon His resurrection, *"... being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He (Jesus Christ) poured out this which you now see and hear."* On that day, Jesus will gloriously reveal Himself to Israel and to an unbelieving world as the one true Savior, Lord, Messiah, and God! Revival will come to Israel. In Ezekiel 39:28–29, God states, *"then they shall know that I am the Lord their God, who sent them into captivity among the nations, but also brought them back to their land (prophecy fulfilled May 1948), and left none of them captive any longer. And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel, says the Lord God."*

If the nations mentioned in Ezekiel 38 are coming into alignment with each other, how much closer are we to the return of Jesus Christ when he "catches up" (Raptures) those who have been "born again"? ★



# Mind-Controlled Computing For The Disabled



Emotiv headset in use

**A new Israeli-developed tool enables the disabled to send emails by thought alone, and could revolutionize the world of mind-controlled computing.**

The able-bodied can blast off an email in seconds, while eating a sandwich and calming a baby. But those less deft with their digits, such as the disabled, may not even be able to email, let alone do those side tasks.

Hoping to give more dignity and communications possibilities to the disabled, a trio of students from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev developed a program that connects brain waves “virtually” to a computer interface. They call it MinDesktop.

Taking an off-the-shelf technology—Emotiv, a headset that can record and analyze [brainwave] EEGs—the three undergraduates—**Uri Usami, Ofir Tam, and Ariel Rosen** (*pictured*)—developed a new graphical user interface (GUI) to help the physically challenged use their thoughts to communicate with their computers and the outside world.

The breakthrough was the way the students organized the system’s commands in a way that is simple for a human to learn and use.

The students programmed the Emotiv helmet’s existing software to learn the thoughts associated with simple types of actions such as push and pull—actions that are associated with specially developed commands for the mobility-challenged.

The invention

By Karin Kloosterman  
www.Israel21c.org

doesn’t allow a free-thought exchange between user and PC, but uses a kind of mechanized learning of commands to associate a thought with a certain onscreen action.

For instance, you could train the computer to learn a pushing action, such as pushing a button on a screen or media player, by associating that action with a familiar thought—say, the bark of your dog. After the computer learns the brainwaves associated with your thinking about your dog’s bark, every time you think of your dog’s bark, the headset translates your thoughts into the associated pushing action.

Such a thought-controlled computer has been the challenge for hundreds of labs around the world, but until now the ideas haven’t been altogether feasible for the masses due to the bulkiness of the equipment and the need for it to be operated in a lab setting.

“One application is helping disabled people with diseases like ALS and other muscular problems, or somebody who is using his hands for some other operation and cannot use a keyboard or mouse,” says Dr. Rami Puzis, one of the supervisors. “Of course, you could use voice also, but this thought-based application could be especially useful in noisy environments. With pilots, for instance.” ★



*Mind-control experts  
Uri, Ofir & Ariel*

Photo by Dani Machlis, Ben-Gurion University



## Testings of Life

By John J. Parsons

יְהוָה צַדִּיק יִבְחֵן

“The LORD tests the righteous...” (Psalm 11:5)

יְבִיחֵן

(2) | (1)

yiv-chan

tests

צַדִּיק

(2) | (1)

tzad-dik

the righteous

יְהוָה

(1)

A-do-nai

the LORD

**Why do we exist? What’s the purpose of our lives?** Most Christians will answer, “the purpose of life is to know God and to love Him forever,” and yet this is merely an academic answer until it is spoken from a heart that has been *tested*. In other words, we can only genuinely know and love God through the refining fires of *testing*.

The life of faith is education for eternity... “This world is like a corridor before the World to Come. Prepare yourself in the corridor, that you may enter into the banquet hall” (Rabbi Akiva ca. 50AD–135AD). God tests us along the way, disciplining and correcting us, so that we are no longer “two souled” but rather strong of faith, with singleness of vision and purpose.

A student once asked his rabbi: “Do we get punished for our sins in this world?” His concise response was, “Only if we are made fortunate...” The same can be said of *testing*: tests given to us by God are really opportunities. God “hides His face from us” (Ps. 88:14) so that we will seek Him. “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” (Js. 4:8) The process of seeking God creates inward strength that cannot be gained apart from the *exercise* of faith.

Not everyone is blessed with testing by God. Some are overlooked. The righteous person—the *tzaddik*—is always under God’s scrutiny, both in order to refine his character and to bring about correction. This scrutiny is a sure sign of God’s love, for God disciplines those whom He receives as His children (Heb. 12:5-11). If we endure chastisement, we are being received as His sons.

We are tested to become assured of our identity as God’s children. Purity of the heart is to will one thing, and God’s testing functions as a “refining fire” that removes the dross of ambivalence from our hearts. For the righteous, the various trials of life ask a divine *question* addressed to the heart of faith: Do you love Me? Will you trust Me *now*—in *this* place? with *this* trouble? in *this* darkness? As we believe, we are given more revelation, and that, in turn, further vindicates God’s faithfulness and love.

Remaining steadfast in faith is the way we express our love to God: “Happy is the one who endures testing, because when he has proven to be genuine, he will receive the crown of life that God promised *to those who love Him*” (James 1:12). The “tested genuineness of your faith” is precious to God and will bring praise and glory and honor when the Messiah’s righteousness is vindicated upon the earth (1 Pet. 1:7). **May you stay strong in faith and be strengthened in all the tests God sends your way!**

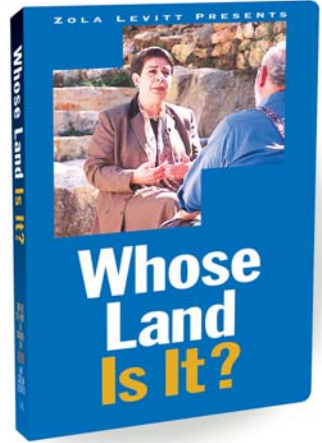




## Whose Land Is It?

(Three 30-minute TV programs on one DVD)

*Who's Land Is It?* Does Israel belong to the Jews, and if so, Who says so? In the first 30-minute television program, Zola offers irrefutable reasons why only the Jews are the Holy Land's rightful owners. He also defeats key arguments that attempt to undermine the Abrahamic Covenant, etc. Merely watching and reviewing this lesson will arm Believer and unbeliever alike to defend Israel's right to its land.



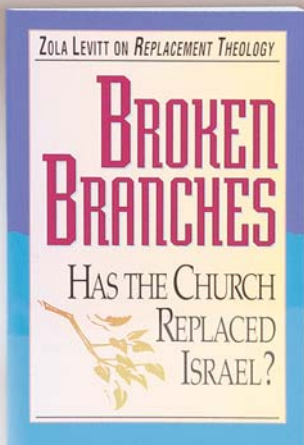
*The View from "Palestine"* What a blessing that such controversial programs weren't censored by our more sensitive TV stations! Zola visited Ramallah and interviewed Hanan Ashrawi, considered by some to be the Darth Vader of Palestinian spokespeople. She eloquently articulated the Palestinians' best arguments for being the true owners of Israel. Subsequent review sessions with two scholarly Christians—Arab-American journalist Joseph Farah and Professor Ergun Caner (a former Muslim)—unveil the fallacies in her assertions. These two 30-minute TV programs could be the ultimate crash course on credibly and diplomatically asserting Israel's right to its land. (See *Classic Zola* on page 7 and booklet on page 18.)

Please  
order from  
page 18.

## Broken Branches— Zola on Replacement Theology Book

What can replace Israel and the Jews in God's plan? Certainly not America and not the Church. Nonetheless, well-intentioned denominations seem to have sprouted blinders to their heritage, the very roots of their Christianity. Let us restore the foundation to our Christianity and quit using Grace as an excuse to cast away the Jews and the Promised Land.

(See "Ask the Chaplain" related article on page 21.)



Church Signs  
& Sayings



**Books**

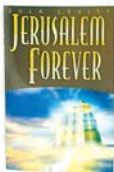
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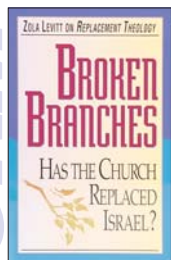
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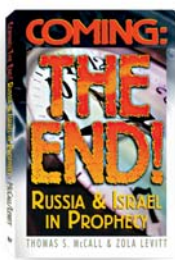
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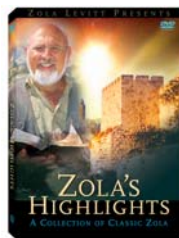
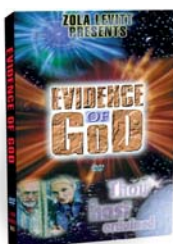


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SEE P. 17**



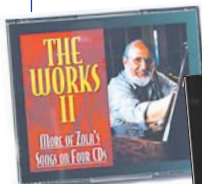
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**FEATURE ITEM SEE PAGE 36**

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# ZLM Bulletin Board

## Mighty Warrior To The Jew First

Many missionaries are lightweights. Too often their objective is to take a vacation and, while they're at it, share the Word. Not Todd Baker, with his doctorate in Christian Apologetics. He's our staff theologian who,



without pay, leads our three annual To The Jew First (TJF) mission trips. Please weigh Todd's grasp of theology as you read his replies on pages 21, 24, & 25. Then designate a contribution to our **TJF fund**. Thank you.



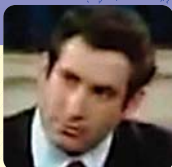
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Securing the product order pages slows them, but the store switches to secure mode on the page where you enter your personal and credit card information.

The website's 'Contact Us' link at the top shows all the ways to contact us for orders and donations (mail, phone, email).

## See Bibi at 28

In a remarkable 10-minute video from 1978, 28-year-old MIT grad **Benjamin Netanyahu** debates



whether there should be a Palestinian state created on the West Bank and Gaza. Netanyahu argues that such a state would have but one goal: to destroy the Jewish State of Israel. He reviews the history from 1948 to 1967, when Gaza was controlled by Egypt and the West Bank by Jordan and there were no calls either to end the occupation or for national sovereignty for the Palestinians.

<http://wp.me/pieUD-S4>

## Pamphlet of the Month

### "How to Make a Will that Works"

offers general information related to distributing property to family, friends, and charitable interests in light of recent tax law changes. After touching upon the Four Ps of estate planning, the pamphlet answers 38 commonly asked questions. It concludes with pointers on keeping other plans up to date, such as life insurance policies and retirement plans. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

## Program of the DECADE!

**A must see for Zola zealots who pray for ZLM: Introducing Myles and Katharine.**

Take a crash course on this ministry's legacy. See classic footage of Zola teaching Bible decades ago



with Dr. Thomas McCall. Experience Sandra's recent return from retirement to interview our new primary spokespeople, Myles and Katharine Weiss. Even camera-shy Mark Levitt steps from behind his desk revealing the secret that it was our TV producer Ken Berg who discovered Zola rather than the other way around. If you missed its TV airing, visit [www.levitt.tv/media/watch/1119](http://www.levitt.tv/media/watch/1119) to see this remarkable 30-minute story of our outreach's latest renaissance.

## "Come Home!"

**Zola's Tours to Israel:**



See page 36 for details



# Ask The Chaplain

By Todd Baker  
ZLM Staff Theologian



**Q.** Does everyone at Zola Levitt Ministries believe in hell? I'm not sure myself. —Michael

**A.** Hell is a cardinal teaching in the Bible. Jesus spoke more about hell than any other person in all of Scripture. The Bible describes hell as a place of total darkness (Matthew 8:10–12; 22:13; Jude 6,7); it consists of eternal punishment and destruction for all wicked unbelievers (Matthew 5:29–30; 13:42; 18:8; 25:41, 46; Mark 9:43; Jude 7; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Revelation 20:11–15). Hell will last forever, and the unbeliever will never escape or be allowed to leave from there after death (Matthew 12:32; Mark 9:47; Luke 16:19–31; Revelation 14:11; 20:10). Hell is a place where the person is excluded from God's presence forever (Matthew 25:31–48; Luke 13:24–28; 2 Thessalonians 1:8–9). Hell is reserved for all those who refuse to believe in Jesus Christ for salvation (John 3:18, 36). Whoever therefore denies the obvious teaching of hell is denying the truth of Scripture and contradicting what Jesus revealed on this subject. Plain and simple!

**Q.** My pastor says he does not believe the Church has replaced Israel but he does not see the

importance of Israel and the Jewish people. He believes that with the birth of the Church, the Church assumed from Israel the role of spreading the Gospel. He maintains that the Jews will resume this responsibility with the Rapture of the Church. Sounds okay to me. But he goes on to say that Israel will become the Church after the Rapture. Anyone accepting Christ will be indwelt by the Holy Spirit and will become a part of the Church. So, rather than the Church becoming Israel, he believes Israel will replace the Church. He also tends to spiritualize the promises to Israel. Can you give me any suggestions on how to address these issues? —Charles

**A.** Your pastor is mistaken and commits a fundamental error when he substitutes Israel for the Church and vice-versa. The New Testament always makes a clear distinction between Israel and the Church (see Matthew 16:18; 19:28; Romans 9–11; Revelation 2–3 and Revelation 7). To subsume Israel under the Church, as he is doing, is to endorse Replacement Theology. I suggest that he read Zola's booklet on this subject, *Broken Branches: Zola On Replacement Theology*. See pages 17 & 18.

For those on a tight budget (or looking for affordable gifts), I suggest Zola's three best sellers of all time, the study booklets: *A Christian Love Story*, *The Miracle of Passover*, and *The Seven Feasts of Israel*, together only \$14 with shipping, also on page 18. —Mark ★





# Letters to ZIM

## Comments from [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)

**From D.T. (CA):** Praying for your transitions—Your ministry is a blessing!

**From R.S. (TX):** Please discontinue mailing my *Levitt Letter*. I would prefer to log onto the website and receive emails. Done. However, please reconsider. Your plan to save us some printing and postage may be penny wise and pound foolish. Why? You probably will read a good ol' fashioned hardcopy more thoroughly. And then lend it to a neighbor. And finally leave it somewhere to be discovered, such as a doctor's waiting room. Perhaps with your underlining and exclamation marks. "The pen is mightier than the sword." And the printed word is less transient than the cyber word. —Mark

**From K.S. (UK):** Thank you for your work on behalf of our Messiah and Israel. Thank you also for sending me the monthly *Levitt Letter*. After I finish it, it gets passed around among my fellowship. We have had to establish an order of passing it around, as they all want it first after me... Praise God. A great witnessing tool, indeed. But you DO realize that the *Levitt Letter* is free to anyone who asks for one? If members of your fellowship each received one, they could pass around their own copies and you could expand your sphere of witness.—Editor

**From G.S. (AR):** Your ministry has been a wonderful bridge of understanding and communication for me (a Christian) and for my Jewish husband. Thank you for all you do to bring glory to God's name and honor Israel. Bless You! Dear G.S.—You'll appreciate Katharine's story on page 8. —Mark

**From D.L. (TX):** We have followed Zola since 1978 and find ourselves using his teachings again and again in witnessing or explaining parts of the Bible.

**From G. & K.H. (MO):** You are our connection to Israel in this world.

**From M.:** When I started to learn about the Hebrew roots, I felt like I had found what my heart had always been hungry for, and I truly felt like a completed Believer. How refreshing to hear the "completed" phrase turned right side up! So many of us Jewish Believers were told to eschew our roots and become gentile-like now that we follow Yeshua. But God has placed a plumb line, a compass in your heart that will guide you as you look for Messiah's return. He is the Lion of Judah and will return to His country (Israel), His city (Jerusalem), and gather His people (the faithful remnant of Israel) and His "called out ones" (the Church). *Brachot* (blessings) —Myles



One of our most popular items, offered p.19

**From D.N. (AZ):** I want to let John Parsons know how meaningful his article, “Be Not Afraid...” was for me. I’ve been going through scary times in my personal life, and learning that *al-tirah* (be not afraid) is the most frequent command in the Scriptures is very comforting. God used John Parsons in my life to reaffirm and strengthen a lesson He’s been teaching me. Amen, Amen, and Ditto! I have been enjoying John’s work for years and now I am privileged to work alongside him on ZLM projects. He is a gift to the Body of Messiah and worthy of our support and accolades. —Myles

**From J.M. (TX):** I enjoy very much the Jewish perspective on Bible history and culture as it relates to the past, present, and future. I am saddened that Dr. Seif is leaving but am assured that Myles and Katharine will continue bringing us a vision of the world through the eyes of the prophet Elijah.

### Oh, That “King David” Club ... Again!

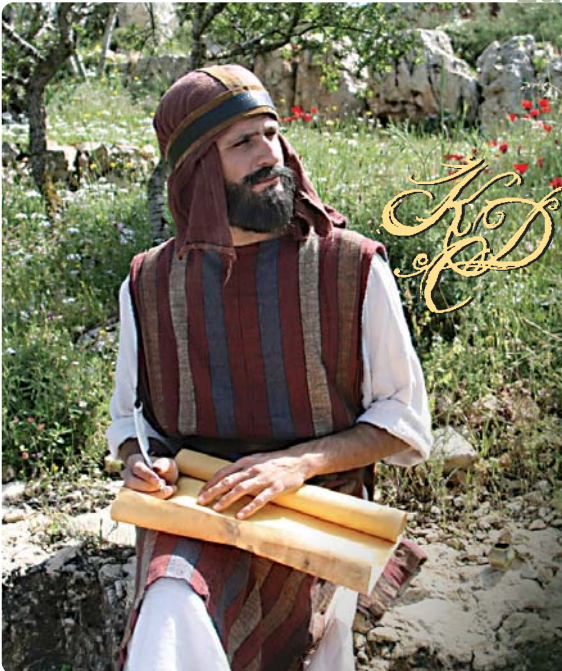
Blessings to you at ZLM,

I am writing about your King David Club. It does not display enough integrity and decency toward women: New Covenant: 1 man + 1 woman = marriage. King David had something like 5 wives, so could you please rename your club? —B.A.B. (OH)

Dear B.A.B—

Thanks for your concern regarding the name of our King David Club. For all his difficulties, David was called by God Himself “a man after my own heart” (Acts 13:22; 1 Sam. 13:14). What a picture of the redemptive work of God and what hope for you and me! Even Jesus is called *Mashiach ben David*, forever tying Yeshua into the line of David. I am grateful that in reviewing the good, the bad, and the ugly in David’s life, the testimony of the Word is positive and full of mercy. —Myles

## Ladies & Gentlemen



**Join the King David Club**  
**Help us advance the Kingdom!**  
**If you donate \$10,000, you will**  
**receive the following with our**  
**grateful thanks:**

1. One each of all our teaching materials (more than \$2,400 worth), not just for your library, but also to give away.
2. One \$500 discount on each of up to four (4) of our tours to Israel.
3. One-on-one telephone conference with Mark to discuss this ministry’s goals and visions.

## Discerning Truth

Dear Todd,

My husband and I are both gentile Believers who have recently become familiar with “Messianic Judaism.” Are you familiar with our pastor, D.T.L.?

We consider ourselves to be in an exploratory learning process and are trying to be very discerning as we weigh our pastor’s books and messages against Scripture. The Bible is coming alive to us, and we are compelled by what we’re learning. It is a joy to discover the Jewish roots of our faith as well. However, we also realize that Messianic Judaism seems to be on the extreme end of the Messianic continuum. We realize that these teachings could be considered by some to be heretical.

We would appreciate any thoughts or feedback you have. —L.P.

Dear L.P.—

I am not familiar with your pastor. But I commend your efforts to be discerning and suggest that you test *any* teacher in a church or among the Messianic Jewish community with the Word of God.

Some in Messianic Judaism are into legalism: they teach that Believers in Christ are under the Mosaic Law and therefore have to follow kosher rules, worship on the Sabbath, and subscribe to rabbinical precepts to be either saved, sanctified, more spiritual, or have fellowship with God. Paul, the great Jewish apostle of Jesus, taught against this in Galatia and in his letter to the Romans.

Faith in the Messiah Jesus—crucified and risen from the dead—is the sole basis on which we are saved, sanctified, have fellowship with the Father and Son, and receive the Holy Spirit. True Messianic Judaism places emphasis on the Hebraic and Jewish roots of the Christian faith without denying the fundamental Gospel truth of John 3:16—that salvation comes by faith in Yeshua the Messiah alone, given and received by God’s grace alone. —Todd

## A Mistranslation?

Dear ZLM,

Concerning an article written by Amil Imani on page 11 of the June *Levitt Letter* ([www.levitt.com/newsletters/2011-06.pdf](http://www.levitt.com/newsletters/2011-06.pdf)): He states that sura 47:4 in the Koran reads, “Thus are you commanded by Allah to continue carrying out jihad against the unbelieving infidels until they submit to Islam.”

I intended to bring that verse to a Muslim friend of mine who always speaks of the love in the Koran. When I went to look at the verse, while it is difficult to fully understand it, the contents appear to be entirely different from the translation by Amil Imani. The verse in my Koran said: [47:4] “So when you meet in battle those who disbelieve, then smite the necks until when you have overcome them, then make (them) prisoners, and afterwards either set them free as a favor or let them ransom (themselves) until the war terminates. That (shall be so); and if Allah had pleased, he would certainly have exacted what is due from them, but that he may try some of you by means of others; and (as for) those who are slain in the way of Allah, he will by no means allow their deeds to perish.”

Thank you in advance for clarification of this. —P.N. (NH)





Dear P.N.—

Keep reading. If you don't get the gist from verse 4, look at the passage's conclusion in verse 8: "But those who reject Allah—for them is destruction."

Or 9:5— "But when the forbidden months are past, then fight and slay the pagans wherever ye find them, and seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem (of war); but if they repent, and establish regular prayers and practice regular charity, then open the way for them: for Allah is oft-forgiving, most merciful."

It is pretty clear that Muslims are called to kill the non-believer/pagan/infidel if he will not convert to Islam. The Koran and the Hadith (the oral tradition of Islam) categorically teach jihad against the infidel based on his refusal to bow the knee to Allah and become a Muslim. This is standard belief and practice in Islam as its bloody history barbarically testifies. —Todd

## It's About God

Dear Sandra,

I am upset about Dr. Seif leaving but look forward to seeing what's next. One thing: you shouldn't be doing the Pray For the Peace of Jerusalem at the end of the show. That should be done by a Jewish man not a Christian woman. I believe a man should be the head of the church and the home. In the shows with you and Jeff, you have taken over that position. Don't take over. Be there for support, not to rule. —G.C.

Dear G.C.—

Thank you for sharing your concerns. I too shared your ideas about women in the church. But God has worked on my heart these last few years. Before Zola died, I promised him that I would do whatever and go wherever God led me regarding His glory. God gave me information. Should I not have gone to churches when they called, wanting to hear about their Jewish Messiah? Should I not have led tours to Israel when pilgrims wanted to hear the truth about Israel and see firsthand their Jewish roots? Should I not have obeyed the Bible when it says to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6)? Zola had ended each of his programs for twenty-five years with "pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Should I not honor him by continuing this tradition? This is not about me wanting to be head of the Ministry or take over; it is about God and each of us obeying His call. Blessings —Sandra

Dear G.C.—

As a Jewish man, it will be my privilege to quote Psalm 122:6 in Hebrew at the close of our TV programs, and I hope that my gentile wife will follow in English. What an expression of the heart of God: when the

"one new man" of Ephesians 2:15 (Jew and gentile in Christ) openly bless Israel in tandem. The command to pray for the peace of Jerusalem is for all to express openly and fervently. I am grateful to Sandra and to my wife, Katharine, and to ANY Believer who lends his or her voice to this greatly needed prayer!

*Brachot* (blessings) —Myles



## Bestow Territorial Rewards On Aggressors?

In a letter to *The Boston Globe*, P.S. writes:

After the creation of Israel in 1948, based on an affirmative vote by the United Nations, armies from seven surrounding Arab countries invaded the nascent Jewish state, killing about 1 percent of the population. The Arab countries were unsuccessful in achieving their goal of destroying Israel then, but some tried again in 1967. The aggressors were again unsuccessful, and this time lost territory as well.

Israel's attempts over the years to give so-called "land for peace" have been met with suicide bombers, rockets, and the indoctrination of Palestinian people by their leaders to hate and kill Jews and deny any connection of the Jewish people to their ancestral Jewish homeland.

I fail to understand why anyone would feel Israel needs to give territorial rewards to aggressors with genocidal intentions. It's an unreasonable demand to which no other country in the world would be expected to acquiesce.

## Blessed By The Support Of Others

Dear ZLM,

As age has left some disadvantages to this 80-year-old, forgetting seems to be too common. As I watched the program this week, I realized how badly I missed the *Levitt Letter*. Health problems seem to consume more and more resources, making my failure to make some reasonable contribution result in being dropped from the mailing. I am sure the costs to write, print, and mail these letters are exorbitant, so I find no fault in list purging.

As soon as a little daylight is visible, I will do my best to help with the costs of production and once again receive your mailing. Meanwhile, your TV programs are wonderful—thank you for letting us see the places our Savior walked. I often wish I had made that pilgrimage when work provided funding. —J.K. (MO)

Dear J.K. –

"Ask and ye shall receive." So it is with the *Levitt Letter*. Dropping us a line every now and then will keep you on our mailing list, even if you cannot afford to enclose a widow's mite. Other readers see that this ministry remembers our brothers in bonds—behind bars or in the bonds of fixed income. You owe this ministry nothing for the newsletters that bless you, thanks to your brethren who are willing to bear your share of the burdensome costs. —Mark

**BIZARRO**

By Dan Piraro



## “Search” and Ye Shall Find

Dear ZLM,

Why do I see menorahs with different numbers of candles? —L.B. (WI)

Dear L.B.—

Jeff answered that very question in the May 2010 *Levitt Letter*: “The menorah with seven candles is the most common and is believed to represent the seven days of Creation. The nine-candle menorah is used only on Hanukkah: eight candles for each day of the holiday, with the ninth candle (the “servant”) used to light the others.”

Let me share a computer tip with you. I remembered the candelabrum question and answer, but couldn’t remember which issue. I typed “menorah” into the search line on the [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com) homepage and the answer appeared in the top ten responses. Zola, Tom, Todd, and Jeff have answered many questions over the past three decades. You may discover the answers to your questions—and possibly other facts to interest you—by searching the ZLM website. Explore! Enjoy! —Editor

## Thanks to ZLM Supporters!

Dear ZLM,

Thank you for letting me view your shows and teachings via the Internet and, most importantly, for free. I would not be able to afford these otherwise. What you do is a gift from God and I thank you for allowing Him to do this and I thank you for being a blessing in my life. —S.P.

Dear S.P.—

Thanks for your comments. We’re happy to have you as a viewer. —Mark

ZLM Supporters—

This letter represents many like it (another on p. 26) and demonstrates how much your support is truly appreciated by ministry watchers. Don’t ever doubt that your gifts are effectively spreading God’s Good News—one letter, one airwave, one byte at a time. —Mark



## Where's Jeff?



Dear Mark,

As a supporter, I have admired Jeff Seif and deserve to know why there was such a quick departure and why there was someone immediately ready to replace him. I have used his teachings in my own studies (fully footnoted, of course!).

I would like to know what the next steps in Jeffrey's ministry are that I might pray for him (and his family).

I pray that you will respond. —W.B.B.

Dear W.B.B.—

Thanks for the affirming letter. I want to answer you personally.

Let me say that ZLM did not wrong me. I meant what I said in my *Levitt Letter* farewell (page 4, June 2011, [www.levitt.com/newsletters/2011-06.pdf](http://www.levitt.com/newsletters/2011-06.pdf)), noting that Mark Levitt honored me by giving me the opportunity to walk in his father's footsteps.

It's hard to manage, post-founder, any name-based legacy ministry, whether it be D. James Kennedy's, Billy Graham's, Oral Roberts's, or Robert Schuller's. Zola Levitt Ministries was in a precarious position when Zola passed. How does a CEO like Mark Levitt keep his father's legacy going while supporting the development of a newcomer?

I don't know the answer to that question. I do know that Mark tried his best with me, and that I gave an honest effort too.

Please know that I wasn't manipulated out by a CEO who had a more Zola-like replacement waiting in the wings. My resignation prompted the ministry to work the "What's next?" question, and what you see with *Zola Levitt Presents*, Zola Tours, and the *Levitt Letter* is how the ministry has answered it to date.

No malice. No games.

Just well-intended people dealing with the grit of life and circumstance as they find it, the best they can.

This is my perspective. I wanted you to hear it from me.

—Yours, Jeff Seif

Just as Jeff had Zola's big shoes to fill, so we are faced with Jeff's. He carried the baton faithfully and graciously and continues to display the character of Christ in his departure. The good news is that we each bring a unique perspective and gifting to the ZLM community. None of us wants to BE Zola, nor could we ever. We all share the heartbeat of the ministry: to keep the Body and the world aware of what "Christianity through Jewish eyes" looks like.

—Myles & Katharine



# Ministry in Distress? Nope.



Mark Levitt

a note  
from mark

**Isaiah 54:2 says: Enlarge your tent, ... spare not; strengthen your tent pegs. i.e. Spare no expense in spreading the Gospel and gathering all Believers. Still, some writing on the wall merits your attention ... and an explanation.**

Months ago, Jeff opined that it was immaterial that Charity Navigator (CN) gave our outreach just one star out of a possible four for *Capacity*. He reasoned that CN specializes in large, secular non-profits rather than small religious ones like ours.

Fortunately, we've consistently received CN's highest rating of four stars for *Efficiency*. Unfortunately, averaging the two scores together, based solely on our 2009 financial statements, resulted in a rating of two stars overall. A deceptively low rating like that gives many the mistaken impression that our stewardship has changed. It hasn't. Please see my article "A Star is Just a Star" on page 21 of our November 2009 *Levitt Letter* at [www.levitt.com/newsletters/2009-11.pdf](http://www.levitt.com/newsletters/2009-11.pdf).

And I disagree anyway with that bleak, one-star *Capacity* rating because it pertains to 2009, when 1) our revenue surpassed our expenses and 2) we had a healthy amount of reserve funds. 2010, however, brought a ton of red ink. Our expenses surpassed our revenue by \$538,878. Do you suppose it's possible to earn a negative-star rating on *Capacity*?

Which begs the question, what *Capacity* rating would CN have given the Maccabees on the one-day's worth of olive oil they possessed for their temple lamp on that first Hanukkah?\* How many stars would Jesus' disciples have received, with only five loaves and two fish, for

their *Capacity* to feed the crowd of 5,000? (Incidentally, we feed *Levitt Letters* to 2,237 prisoners every month.) With this ministry's supposedly miniscule capacity, is it miraculous that we are producing just as many newsletters and TV programs as ever?

Unfortunates who were supporting Jeff—rather than this ministry for which he worked—with their tithes and offerings should rest assured that he ran his fair share of the relay race.\*\* Whether our declining revenue or *Capacity* stars played a role in his dignified resignation matters less than his abiding God's will in clearing a space for a fresh voice.

It was no accident that page 8 of the June *Levitt Letter* (<http://www.levitt.com/newsletters/2011-06.pdf>) introduced Myles and Katharine Weiss while an ad on page 28 advertised "Seeking Temporary TV Host." We ministry workers are *all* sojourners here.

Rather than sounding a distress call, I submit that enduring this period of transition during the summer months of slow giving is taking its toll. We're all doing our jobs here with dedication, efficiency, and prayerful wisdom. You couldn't do better than lending us a hand. Please? ★

\*Please see Eitan's "Olive Tree" article on page 6.

\*\*Sandra speaks of seasons on page 9.





## Having Long Hair in Saudi Arabia Can Get You Killed

[www.Oe24.at](http://www.Oe24.at) (Austria)

In Saudi Arabia, the death of a young man is causing a stir because he died after his detainment by the Islamic religious police. The Saudi newspaper *Al-Watan* reported that a member of the authorities for the Advancement of Virtue and Prevention of Blasphemers arrested 28-year-old Hassan Nabil Hmeid in the province of Asir because he didn't like the Jordanian's long hair. He, along with a police officer, arrested him and cut his hair.

A friend picked Hmeid up from the building of the religious police. As the father of the deceased reports to the newspaper, his son had already fallen into a coma at this point in time. The young man was brought to a hospital where he died as the result of a head injury and a hematoma on the brain. The father believes that his son was abused by the religious police. The regional governor of Ahad Rafida, Said bin Meyri, stated to the contrary that the young man fell twelve feet in an attempt to flee his arrest. Most of the readers of this article, however, blamed the religious police for his death. "May God judge you all!" wrote one of them.

In Saudi Arabia, where the wearing of a black head cloth by women is required by law, there are no legal regulations regarding hairstyles for men. However, the religious police

can intervene more or less according to their own whims if the behavior of their fellow citizens appears "unislamic" to them.

## Muslims Offended by Satirical Joke

[www.Chortle.co.uk](http://www.Chortle.co.uk)

Muslim groups are urging a widespread protest at the BBC over a *Have I Got News For You* joke they say was Islamophobic.

On the popular TV show, host Sharon Horgan said: "*The Independent* described the Dostoevsky metro station ... as the Mecca for suicides. Not to be confused with the Mecca of suicide bombers—which is Mecca."



The campaign group The Muslim Public Affairs Committee said: "By making such a comment she is giving the message that the holiest site in Islam is the center of all terrorism and that Islam is inherently linked with violence."

It urged viewers to email the BBC demanding an apology; echoing an online campaign being propagated by individuals on Islamic forums and via Twitter.

Horgan apologized if any offense was caused, saying the line, like the show, was ironic—and that she had received threats from those who misunderstood that.

## Israel Invited to World Baseball Classic

By Tzvi Ben Gedalyahu  
[www.IsraelNationalNews.com](http://www.IsraelNationalNews.com)

Israel will be able to field some Major League baseball stars after receiving its first-ever invitation to the World Baseball Classic to take place in 2013.

The 28 teams to play in the international competition are allowed to line up only citizens of their countries. For Israel, that includes Americans whose mother and/or father are Israeli.

Under those rules, players such as the Texas Rangers' Ian Kinsler and the Boston Red Sox's Kevin Youkilis are eligible to play for the Israel team. The same goes for powerhouse batter Ryan Braun of the Milwaukee Brewers, Scott Feldman of the Rangers, and Jason Marquis of the Washington Nationals.

The Major League additions may be much needed by the delegation from Israel, where baseball has been struggling



to be a hit for four years. The first year drew small crowds and boos from critics who are used to the faster game of soccer, known as football in Israel, and where the rules are a lot less complicated than trying to understand bases, errors, balls, strikes, balks, and bunts.

If Israel succeeds in being one of the top four regional qualifying teams in the classic, it will be one of a dozen countries to play in the final round.

"The plan is to get the best team of all eligible athletes on the field," said Israel Baseball Association president Chaim Katz. ★

## FOR ZOLA ZEALOTS WHO USE IPHONES, IPADS, ETC.

PODCASTS:  
 ZOLA LEVITT PRESENTS  
[WWW.LEVITT.COM/PODCASTS.HTML](http://WWW.LEVITT.COM/PODCASTS.HTML)

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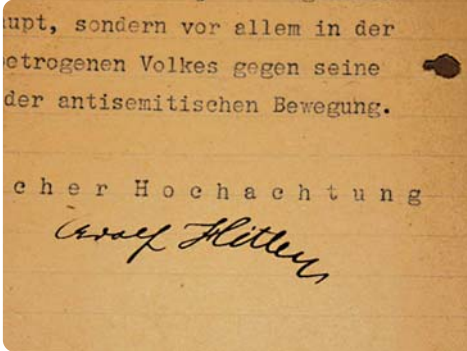
**JOIN A VAST, GROWING GROUP EVERY MONTH!  
 TUNE IN TODAY TO SEE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING!**

# Hitler's Jewish "Removal"

By Dana Garrett, [www.CNN.com](http://www.CNN.com)

A signed letter by Adolf Hitler, which contains what is believed to be the earliest written expression of his views on Jews and anti-Semitism, was unveiled at a press conference in New York in early June by the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

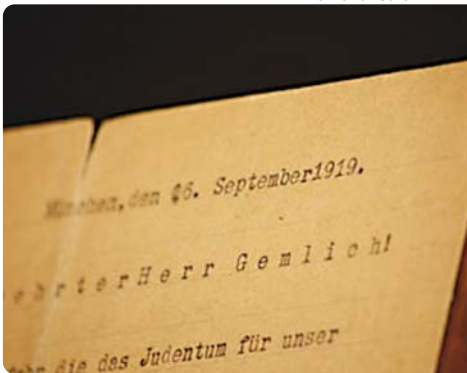
Hitler letter signature



Rabbi Marvin Hier said that the letter, written in 1919, is “one of the most important documents in the entire history of the Third Reich.”

Wearing white gloves to protect the fragile, yellowing document, Hier, founder and dean of the Wiesenthal Center, pointed out what he considered to be the most significant phrase in the four-page, typed letter—the words *Entfernung der Juden*, German for “removal of Jews”—which Hitler wrote must be the government’s “final goal.”

Hitler letter date



“In 1919 he wrote this. Twenty-two years later he implemented it as

Chancellor of the Third Reich,” Hier said. “He removed the Jews altogether.”

The Simon Wiesenthal Center, a Jewish human rights organization, purchased the letter from a private dealer for \$150,000 and will put it on permanent display at the center’s Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

Hitler was a 30-year-old veteran of World War I when he wrote the letter on September 16, 1919. At the time, he was working for the propaganda unit of the German army, Hier said. It was Hitler’s supervisor, Capt. Karl Mayr, who assigned him the task of articulating the army’s position on the Jews for Adolf Gemlich, who was an army spy.

In the letter, Hitler identifies Judaism as a race, not a religion, that has been preserved “through a thousand years of inbreeding” and is only concerned with “the pursuit of money and power.”

Hier said that the letter is significant in large part because there is no known signed order by Hitler for the extermination of the Jews. “This is the first and only document of its kind that deals with the Jews exclusively and postulates the solution,” Hier said of the Hitler letter.

Hier said he hopes the letter will be used to teach students young and old about demagogues and the consequences of taking them lightly. He said that if people had taken bets in 1919, “they all would have bet this is a lot of nonsense, nothing would happen like this. And 22 years later, it happened exactly as he wrote it,” he said.

Only “22 years later,” Hitler’s demonic desires were being fulfilled. Think of the patience of jihadists, who measure their murderous, malignant plans in terms of *centuries*. Watch and pray for America, Israel, and Judeo-Christian civilization! —Myles





## Solving The Israel-Arab Dispute

The Israelis and Arabs realized that if they continued fighting, they would someday destroy the whole world. So they decided to settle their dispute with a duel of two, like David and Goliath. This "duel" would be a dogfight.



Each side agreed to take 5 years to develop the best fighting dog they could. The dog that won the fight would earn its people the right to rule the disputed areas. The losing side would have to lay down its arms for good.

The Arabs found the biggest, meanest Dobermans and Rottweilers in the world. They bred them and then crossed their offspring with the meanest Siberian wolves. Best training, best food, best steroids. In 5 years, they had the perfect killing machine.

When the day of the dogfight arrived, the Israelis showed up with a ten-foot-long Dachshund! No one thought this odd-looking animal stood a chance against the growling beast in the Arab camp, and predicted that the Arab dog would win in less than a minute.

The cages opened and the Dachshund waddled toward the center of the ring. The Arab dog leaped from its cage and charged the giant wiener-dog. When the Arab dog came within an inch of the Israeli dog, the Dachshund opened its jaws and swallowed the Arab beast in one bite. Only a small puff of fur from the Arab dog's tail remained.

The stunned crowd let out a collective gasp.

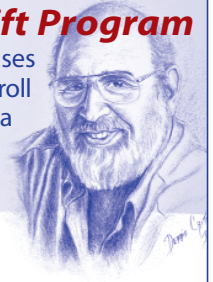
The Arabs shook their heads. "We do not understand. Our top scientists worked for 5 years to develop an incredible killing machine!"

Said the Israelis, "Well, for 5 years, a team of Jewish plastic surgeons worked to make an alligator look like a Dachshund."



### Automatic First Aid! Zola's Monthly Gift Program

Increase the effectiveness of your contributions by reducing our expenses in processing them, plus save your time and postage. Once you enroll in our **Monthly Gift Program**, our ministry will electronically receive a monthly offering from either your checking account or credit card.



If you wish to use your **checking account** for donations, please follow directions numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 below:

1. Transfer date: (please circle one) 5th 20th
2. Withdrawal amount: (please circle one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. Enclose your check payable to Zola Levitt Ministries (ZLM) for this month's gift. The monthly transfers will begin in about 4 weeks, and you can cancel at any time.
4. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (required for processing)
5. Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to use your **credit/debit card** for donations, please follow directions 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 below. Your charge date will be between the 15th and 20th of each month. You may cancel at any time.

6. Withdrawal amount: (please circle one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other \_\_\_\_\_
7. Credit card:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  AMEX Card ID# required \_\_\_\_\_
8. Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_
9. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (required for processing)
10. Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## Blonds Wanted for Islamic Sexual Slavery

By Nonie Darwish

[www.FrontPageMag.com](http://www.FrontPageMag.com)



A Kuwaiti woman spoke recently about a new law permitting men to buy and sell non-Muslim girls, captured in jihad, as sexual slaves in order to protect Muslim men against seductive sexual immorality. Salwa al-Mutairi demanded slave agencies—like agencies for maids—where slave girls will earn a whopping 50 Kuwaiti dinars (\$182) monthly to cook, clean, take care of the kids, and be the slave of the wife during the day. At night, whenever the wife is not in the mood, the husband will not have to leave the house, since it is *halal* (Islamic) for the husband to have sex with slave girls without any marriage or paperwork. Better under the watchful eyes of the wife and kids for only 50 dinars. Wow, what a deal!

Mutairi was especially interested in Russians since Muslim men prefer blonds. The plan is for Chechnyan Muslims to kidnap Russian girls in a jihad and then sell them to the Kuwaitis. Mutairi's suggested price: 2500 Kuwaiti dinars.

Mutairi regards non-Muslim girls as subhuman, and used the expression “free women” to refer to herself and all Muslim women, even while wearing her black *abaya* covering everything except her face and advocating immoral insanity as a right from Allah to Muslims. According to *sharia* (Islamic law), owning a slave against her will for sex and housework is okay, but consensual sex between lovers before marriage deserves severe punishment. The message is that women must never pick and choose their lovers—that pleasure is only for men.

This may solve the problem of Islamic terrorism since Muslim men with all these blond sex slaves will no longer be interested in dying in order to get Allah's prize of 72 virgins. But, wait, that might end jihad altogether and if jihad ends, the acquisition of female slaves will end. A dilemma!

Seriously though, Mutairi represents the worst in women: she sells her soul and her sisters to get respect and attention in a Muslim world that has no mercy or respect for her. But sex slaves would just legalize what has been happening to Christian girls across the Middle East.

I am appalled at the inhumanity and cruelty I see in Arab media. Respect for human rights was never a value advocated in the Muslim world, which is now protesting for freedom and democracy. With *sharia* values, the Muslim world will never have peace, freedom, or democracy. I am sad at the state of Islam and sad for Muslims, but they will reap what they sow.

Nonie Darwish is a consistent voice of reason and progressive thought in her analysis of the Muslim world. Her father, an Egyptian lieutenant general, led many attacks against Israel, which killed him in 1956. Darwish does not fault Israel. She accurately blames “the Middle Eastern Islamic culture and the propaganda of hatred taught to children from birth.” Her article here is on target. —Myles ★



# Christians Under Islam

By Victor Mordecai  
*Israel Today*



Islamic countries, some with sizable Christian minorities, are witnessing revolutions which on the surface appear to express a popular desire for democracy—something that cannot be found in the Middle East with the exception of Israel.

While OPEC gets richer, the Arab people get poorer. Higher oil prices mean higher food prices, increasing hardship and poverty.

When a Tunisian fruit and vegetable vendor set himself on fire after police confiscated his produce, ostensibly for not having a license (or paying a bribe), word spread on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube setting off massive riots that sparked the “Arab Spring.” Corruption, unemployment, and the lack of freedom led people in the Middle East to want and demand more, namely the work, democracy, and food that are found in the West. These revolutions quickly spread to Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria, and Bahrain—and it’s not over.

In Egypt, Muslims and Christians demonstrated together and toppled the corrupt Mubarak regime. Throughout the Middle East, governments are usually controlled by the minority and not the majority.

Now that there are no more Jews in Egypt (“Saturday people”), the Muslims say: “We will go for the Sunday people” (the Christians). The Coptic Egyptian minority is in dire straits. Women are being kidnapped, raped, and forced to marry Muslims. When Christians protest against this persecution, the Muslims riot and kill them. Churches are being burned and Christians

gunned down. The Egyptian Coptic community is facing a campaign of ethnic cleansing.

In Syria, which is ruled by a pro-Iranian 10 percent Alawite Muslim minority, another volcano is exploding. The Sunni population of 80 percent is seeking “democracy,” or at least majority rule. The Christian population is about 10 percent.

**BEARING THE CROSS:**  
*Arab Christians are living in fear.*



If the Sunni Muslim Brotherhood assume power, it could decimate both the Alawites and the Christians. We already have seen how the Sunni-Shiite struggle in Iraq killed Christians and forced them to flee to Syria. The Christian West is silent about this as are most of the churches and denominations. By the same token, the Christian world is not saying or doing anything about the slaughter of Christians in Africa.

If the Muslim Brotherhood continues to take over (as it already has in Turkey and Gaza), a Caliphate will soon surround Israel. Could this be a Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38-39) scenario in the making? Will the world do anything to prevent the demise of the ancient Christian communities of the Middle East?

It is time for Jews and Christians to awaken and unite in an alliance for the defense of Christians, Jews, and all of Western Civilization threatened by this rising wave of Islamic fundamentalism and global jihad. ★

# Jewish Heritage Calendar—*Updated*



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