

Levitt Letter

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

FEATURES

Christ, the First Fruits

Now and again, a truth that defies categorization comes home to one's spirit—a higher reality so overwhelming that it is difficult to discuss. Can you remember



a moment when you were overtaken by love?

By Myles Weiss P.2

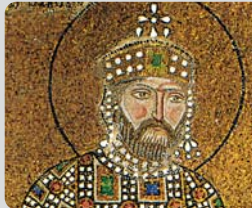


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SHALOM FROM SANDRA

More Precious Than Gold



John 11:25, 26 *I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?*

While living in California, I have had the opportunity to “pan for gold” at Coloma, the original site of California’s gold rush. I went with expectations of finding a fortune in gold lying on the ground or as I swirled water around in a pan. I thought the gold would be so easy to spot that all I had to do was pick it up. Gold!

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FEATURE STORY CONTINUED...

Christ, the First Fruits

By Myles Weiss

“first fruits”
implies a future
harvest

A scene that colors your world anew? Have you had an experience that dwarfs “normal” living and causes you to ponder the mystery of life ... as if you were a child, exposed to majesty beyond your capacity to understand? Those feelings describe “First Fruits”—Resurrection: the miraculous quickening of Yeshua’s body, raising Him beyond the grave to everlasting life! The reality that we can join Him in this eternal state is so awesome that superlative descriptions fall short.

In His mathematically elegant design, our Creator revealed the timing of these events through the Hebrew calendar, and draws us to meet with Him at the *Moedim* (appointed times). The order of the agricultural feasts (Lev. 23) illuminates God’s spiritual purposes through the use of natural pictures. The Scriptures remind us to look to the “natural” life in order to understand spiritual principles (1 Cor. 15:46). So it is with the “Holy Days of the Lord.” These meetings with God provide direct encounters with the Master, and also point to cosmic connections of the most profound order.

Yeshua’s resurrection “happened” to happen exactly on the Feast of First Fruits ... on the Sunday during Passover. As in the agricultural feast, “first fruits” implies a future harvest. Christ is the First Fruits; afterward, those who are Christ’s (us!) at His coming (1 Cor. 15:23). **Jesus was**

- **crucified on the Feast of Passover**
- **buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread**
- **resurrected on the Feast of First Fruits**

All in divine order. All in keeping with God’s mandates from the *Torah*. All manifesting the truth that Yeshua came to “fulfill the law” (Matt. 5:17). He kept every “jot and tittle” (Matt. 5:18). Can we Believers ever fully appreciate the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering? Are there any adequate ways to say, “*toda, gracias, merci, spasiba, epharisto, asante*—thank you, thank you, thank you”?

Yeshua’s sinless life qualified Him to rise to Heaven ... death could not hold Him. By faith in His righteous work of sacrifice, we can join Him! This is what I want to say to the One Who is the First Fruits of the cosmic harvest:

Oh, God—

Words fail. A lifetime of service isn’t enough. Your kindness, Your mercy, Your everlasting love is unbearably rich. This Easter, this Resurrection Sunday, this Feast of First Fruits, help us to see beyond the cultural norms of holidays and truly acknowledge Your finished work.

Mashiach Ben Joseph/Mashiach Ben David, Messiah born of Joseph/Messiah born of David—You alone are worthy of praise, prayer, and proclamation! We are to comfort those who need to know You with the Good News. You are alive! You are welcoming us into fellowship for all eternity with You!

As trees bud and the flowers bloom, as life springs afresh from the ground, help us to recognize the Resurrection Life paid for by Your blood and broken body. You are the First Fruits, and there is none like You. —Amen ★



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More Precious Than Gold

Let me tell you, it is harder than it looks. I had instruction from a friendly park guide (while paying \$10 for the pleasure). Just dip the pan in water, swish it around, wait until the dirt settles at the bottom, add a little more water, swish it again, gently swish yet again, wait for the dirt to rise to the top, the gold to settle at the bottom, and then just pick out the gold. When he did it, it looked so easy. When I did it, it was hard. I must have panned for a half-hour and got nothing but fool's gold and a backache. It was hard work, and I gained a whole new respect for pioneers. They really earned their living.

The panning got me to thinking about the fascination with gold. It is treasured by most cultures, it glitters, and can be shaped into anything.

My memories of panning for gold surfaced while I was reflecting on Resurrection Sunday. It seems that during our search for God, we "pan" for salvation, grasping at fool's gold before we find the real deal. We are looking for the gold in our lives, and we want it now and we want it to come easily. We don't think about the costs of

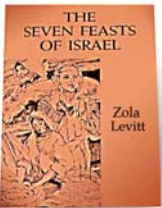


that gold. There is a price for our salvation; we should remember that and be grateful that we don't have to pay. Yeshua paid the ultimate price for us; the price of an innocent life.

Zola was asked to speak at a church one Easter Sunday. Now, Zola did not like the term "Easter" and said so. (Search "Easter" at www.levitt.com/levletter.) So, he told the pastor that he would speak if they would call it Resurrection Sunday or First Fruits. They did and he did! It was a fulfilling opportunity to educate the congregation. I really admired Zola's dedication to teaching the truth, no matter what. It is still encouraging.

What Yeshua gives us is more precious than gold: It is eternal life. Now, that's real treasure.

Blessings, Sandra



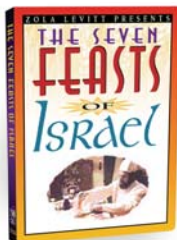
Zola's booklet, DVD, CD
The Seven Feasts of Israel

is a must-read and an appropriate gift for anyone you know. It heightens every reader's

awareness of how God shows us the Messiah in these feasts.

Yeshua was crucified on **Passover**, buried on **Unleavened Bread**, raised at **First Fruits**, and sent the Holy Spirit on **Shavuot** (Pentecost). We are waiting for the return of our Lord on **Rosh Hashanah** (Trumpets). We will not have to go through **Yom Kippur** (Atonement) because Yeshua paid for our sins, and we will dwell with the Lord for a thousand years in our own **Sukkah**.

(See pgs.18 & 19 to order)



Reasoning from the Scriptures

By Dr. Todd D. Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian



On our way back from the Western Wall, Harvey Zion and I came upon a stand where two young Israeli men were taking up donations to send care packages to IDF soldiers.

Moshe and Yacov belonged to a volunteer group called Thank Israeli Soldiers (www.thankisraelisoldiers.org). Harvey's and my donation opened an extensive and diverse discussion involving Jewish-Christian relations and the Hebraic roots of Christianity. But we didn't stop there; we also discussed key Messianic prophecies in the *Tanach* (OT) and their fulfillment by Yeshua in the *Brit Hadashah* (NT), and proof of Yeshua's deity by His resurrection from the dead. We spent a good hour talking to both men—Harvey to Yacov and I to Moshe—concerning these vital truths.

Moshe claimed that Jewish ideas about the Messiah must pass through the various rabbinic schools of thought before they can be correctly understood. I countered that the clearest, most reliable source for specifics about the Messiah is the Hebrew Bible (OT) itself and the many Messianic prophecies it contains. The *Brit Hadashah* documents the history of these Old Testament prophecies being fulfilled in the life of Yeshua of Nazareth.

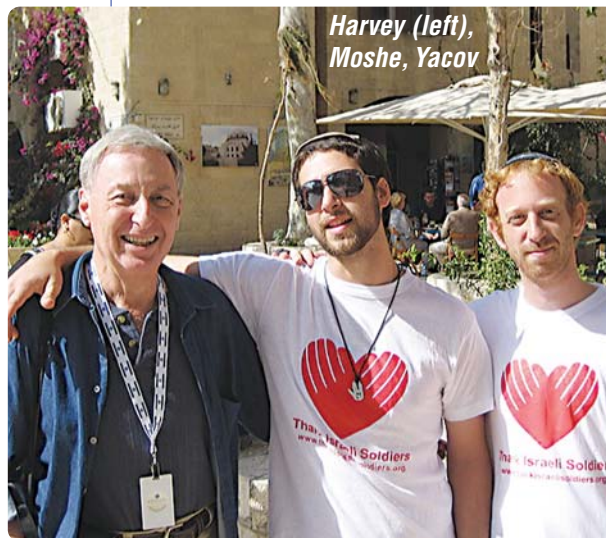
Moshe said that he would really like to study the two Testaments of the Bible for himself, but was restricted because he did not have a complete copy of the New. He was pleasantly surprised when Harvey and I pulled out two copies of the complete Bible in Hebrew—including

ing the New Testament—so they could learn about the Jewish Messiah for themselves.

For his young age, Moshe was very educated and well informed in the rabbinic intricacies of Judaism. He was familiar with rabbinic thought and teaching in first-century Israel, and he even provided insight to certain elements of Yeshua's teaching that only reinforced our message!

His next statement made me blush and praise God at the same time. He declared that I was the first person who believes in Yeshua as the Messiah who made sense to him; other "Christians" he'd talked with seemed uncertain of what they believe in and how it all originated in Israel with the Jewish people. I assured Moshe that there is a growing group of people like me, a Messianic movement in which followers of Yeshua are getting in touch with and reconnecting to the Jewish roots of New Testament Christianity.

Moshe was gratified to learn that Harvey and I represented a powerful group of Bible Believers in America who resolutely stand with Israel and recognize where they stand in the eyes of the God who revealed His glory when He became a Jewish man in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. Our ministry truly blessed these two young men. ★



Harvey (left),
Moshe, Yacov



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Ask The Chaplain

By Dr. Todd D. Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian



Q. In correspondence a few years ago, you told me a very key point in revealing how we can see in all the Gospels the three days and three nights that Jesus was in the grave. It had to do with counting days the Greek way—sunrise to sunrise—or the Hebrew way—sunset to sunset. What was used in Galilee in those times?

Yeshua bless you greatly,
Pastor M. (Italy)

A. The following (which I posted some time ago on www.levitt.com/faqs#three_days) answers your question:

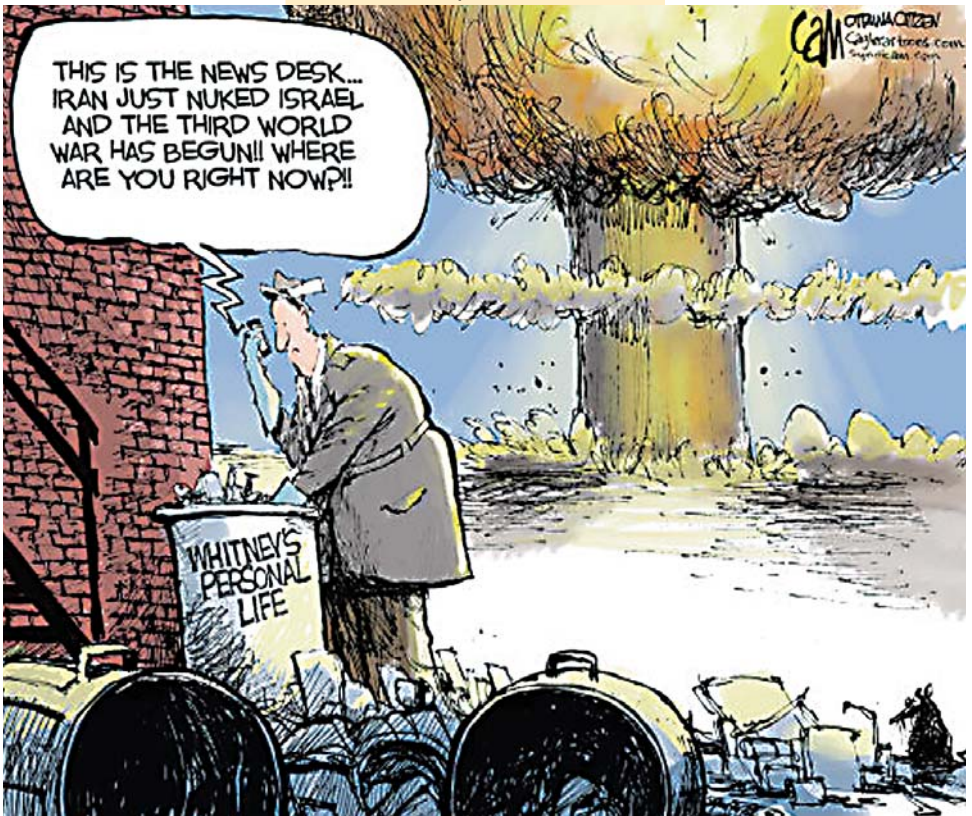
Jesus was crucified on Friday because they had to take the body

down before the Sabbath. The Sabbath always begins on Friday evening at sunset—no exceptions. John 19:31.

Jewish time measurement in the first century measured days differently than we in the West who have traditionally a strict 24-hour period. Jews reckoned half a day as a full day. This Hebraic concept was called the "*Onah*." And Jewish days were measured from sunset to sunset. Jesus died before sunset on Friday, so that was day one. Friday sunset to Saturday sunset would be the second day. Saturday sunset to Sunday morning, though half a day, would be the considered a full day—the third day.

If Jesus was crucified on Wednesday or Thursday, as some propose, that would obviously be too many days. With the idea of the *Onah*, a period of 27 hours (Friday sundown to Sunday morning) in the Jewish mind could be considered three days. Hope this helps. ★

"News" priorities



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Saluting a True Servant

By Eitan Shishkoff

A light rain fell on the cemetery overlooking the Sea of Galilee where I stood with several hundred friends and the family of Ken Crowell, who finished his 80-year earthly journey on January 25. Ken's faith and action did so much good for Israel that I came away from the memorial service awed and worshipping God for His ability to use one human being to such an extent.

A gentile Believer, Crowell and his wife, Marge, became burdened for the extreme unemployment in the town of Tiberias. With faith, courage, technical and managerial gifts, determination, and hearts filled with the love of Yeshua, they moved to Israel in 1969 to create a factory for police radio antennas. By overcoming many trials and enormous obstacles, the company was ready to catch the fresh wave of cellular phone technology in the late '80s and became the world's prime cell phone antenna producer.

Galtronics, the company Ken built and nurtured, has provided jobs for thousands of local Israelis. As Eric Morey put it, "His faithful and selfless obedience to the Lord over the last 30-plus years resulted in the establishment of Peniel Congregation, Galtronics, MegaVoice, The Galilee Experience, Galcom, Galilee of the Nations Music, and Galadon. All of these endeavors are still functioning, doing the work and producing the fruit the Lord intended."

Eitan and Connie Shishkoff



Ken's desire for people of every tribe and nation to experience the same saving grace of God through Jesus that he felt

led Ken to found MegaVoice. Its primary product is a solar-powered audio Bible with no moving parts. More than half a million of these devices have been distributed in 4,615 languages and dialects!

MegaVoice's current CEO, Charles Cibene, observed: "Throughout his life, Ken's calm, thoughtful, and soft-spoken manner brought many opportunities for him to testify to others about God's saving grace—including to those with whom he interacted professionally. As a mechanical engineer, he conducted his business with such integrity that leaders in the corporate world took notice. As a result, many invited Ken to tell them about his faith in Jesus."

Ken never seemed hurried. Looking at the list of his accomplishments and listening to the many eulogies—including one by a tearful member of the Tiberias City Council—one would think that such a productive man was a blur of activity. Not so. Crowell was systematic, prayerful, fed by God's Word, and powered by a total dedication to doing His will.

We need examples like Ken and Marge Crowell to give us the fresh motivation and faith boost that we need. That's what I felt on the way back to my car in the gentle rain. It's all worth it. Thanks, Ken, for your passion to bless Israel and your unconditional obedience to our King. ★

Overlooking the Sea of Galilee



The AntiChrist is Waiting in the Wings

By Zola Levitt

It is tiresome to continually correct media reports on Israel, but there is a faint hope that if we continually do this, some writers may change their ways. On Feb. 2, an article by Josef Federman of the Associated Press asserted that: "The leaders of violent Islamic groups are targets for assassination, Israel's defense minister said, raising the possibility of a further escalation in the three years of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed."

This may be the only war in history where eliminating the leaders of your opposition makes things worse for you, not better. In the desperate attempt to place Israel at fault, that nation is censured for resisting the leadership of its enemies. Perhaps the police in the U.S. should stop arresting drug dealers, gang members, and militia loonies in this country in order to make criminal activities die down.

Later Federman writes, "The statements by [defense minister] Mofaz and [spiritual leader of Hamas] Yassin threaten to inflame an already violent confrontation that has led to the deaths of more than 3,500 people on both sides during three years of fighting." Here, Israel is accused of causing its own problems by speaking out against murderers. Obviously, the choice is for Israelis to quietly sit back and let their buses be bombed while saying nothing.

This article also uses the term "militant" for what is patently a mass murderer: "The dead militant was Shadi Jaradat, an al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades member from Jenin who apparently sought refuge in Jericho. Israeli security officials said Jaradat, 23, was planning a bomb attack inside Israel." Notice that Israel security officials "said" that Jaradat was planning an attack. This leaves the impression that the terrorist might have been on his way to a 4-H Club meeting when the Israelis rode out of nowhere and decided to kill him.



And finally in Federman's article, we have the notorious issue of the fence. In the last paragraphs of the article we are told that the barrier "dips deep into the West Bank in some parts." A small amount, probably measurable in single-digit miles if not yards, extends into absolutely empty land not being used by anyone. Israel's idea, of course, is not to grab land (after all, Israel offered 98 percent of the West Bank on a platter to Arafat years ago), but to control murderers who come from territories outside the fenced area.

I have a certain amount of forgiveness for media idiots who write this way, because of the Lord's prophecy: "Ye shall be hated of all nations" (Matt. 24:9). Such reporters are like actors in a play who speak lines written in a script. The terrifying thing is that the antiChrist is another such actor waiting in the wings and listening for his cue. And one of these awful writers is going to give it to him one of these days. ★

By Wiley

NON SEQUITUR



Illegal Separation

By Katharine Weiss



People often ask, “When did the Jewish roots get separated from the Church?”

I was speaking recently to a Greek Orthodox priest who has a heart for the Jewish people, and he asked me that very question! My research shows that this severance took hold with the Emperor Constantine. Christianity, which began in Judaism, had spread to the then-known world, and Constantine’s philosophy became, “If you can’t beat, torture, imprison them, or feed them to lions, join them.”

His mother, Empress Helena, seems to have been a Believer and often preached to Constantine. There was substance to her faith. This was shown in her action of going to the Holy Land and ordering that the Temple to Venus be razed. She also initiated excavations at the site and re-established emphasis on the Cross in Jerusalem. The Church of The Holy Sepulchre and also other churches were built as part of her commitment to the Lord.

Her son, apparently, did not share her faith but used it for his own political aspirations. He decreed Christianity the state religion. So everyone in Rome—even the pagans—went to bed one night as followers of one belief system and woke up the next day having to call themselves Christians.

Thus began the removal of all references and ties of Christianity to Judaism, and its turn toward pagan influences such as Ishtar, the fertility goddess, and the winter solstice worship. Divorce from Passover and Hanukkah took time. According to Dr. Daniel Juster, it was at the **second** Council of Nicaea (A.D. 787), that Church authorities essentially replaced the biblical Passover with Easter, a popular holiday rooted in ancient springtime fertility celebrations.

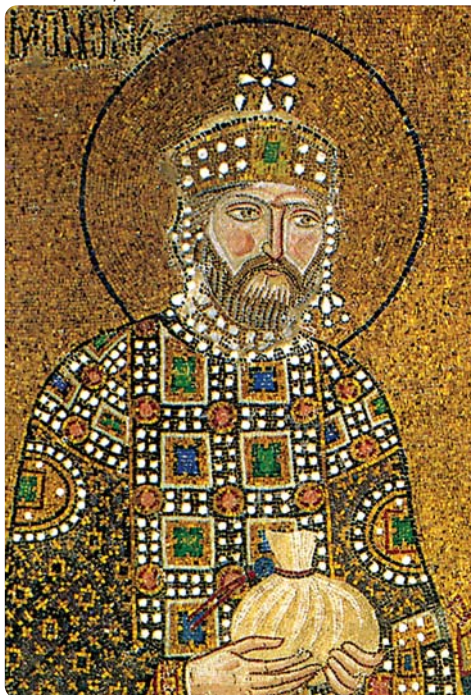
“Soon after the so-called conversion of Constantine ... the Church entered on its apostasy from the primitive simplicity and purity which marked its earlier history. Pagans in vast multitudes pressed into the Christian fold, bringing with them old practices and customs, and filling the places of Christian worship with the pageantry and ornaments that characterized the worship of the gods in heathen temples. These unconverted millions became only nominally Christian, impressing the doctrines, rites, and forms of pagan religion upon the Christian Church.” (*The Old Catholic Church* by W. D. Killen, D.D.; 1871)

When we consider the vast differences between the mainstream Christianity of today and the original Christianity of Jesus Christ (*Yeshua HaMashiach*) and the Apostles, we can trace much of that change to Constantine and the religious system he put into play.

The schism deepened, until today we are beginning to see the Hebrew roots of our faith resurrected—and that promises awakening and restoration!



Mosaic of Emperor Constantine



Jihad Targets The Bible

By Diana West
www.WND.com



In her book *Europe, Globalization, and the Coming Universal Caliphate*, Bat Ye'or revisits the relentless mission of the Islamic world "to appropriate a tiny piece of land"—Israel—as a political and religious cause despite the fact that no town, village, or hamlet of Israel is mentioned in the Koran or in early biographies of Mohammed.

Why Israel? Ye'or asks. "Given the immense territories conquered and Islamized over 13 centuries of expansion and war," she writes, "why would Muslim countries keep plotting to destroy Israel?"

The well-read citizen might mutter something about land, modern Zionism, and the post-1948 "plight of the Palestinians," but these are stock narratives overwriting the age-old reason. "What Israel possesses," Ye'or explains, "is the Bible."

To appreciate the depth and breadth of this perhaps obvious but seldom pondered explanation, it's essential to realize that Jewish and Christian Bible characters, from Abraham to Moses to Jesus, pop up in the Koran as Muslim prophets who actually preach Islam, not Judaism or Christianity. This is the time-wrinkling, religion-morphing way in which Islam repudiates what it regards as falsifications in both the first (Old) and second (New) Testaments.

Jewish and Christian religious books long predate the Koran, so it's not surprising that biblical characters transplanted into the Koran "wander," as Bat Ye'or writes, "in uncertain space with no geographical or temporal references." Still, Muslims claim that these same "Muslim" characters lived in "Palestine"—basing these claims on the Jewish and Christian Scriptures that they reject.



It follows that **Islam sees the Bible's history as Islam's history "usurped" by Jews and Christians.** Thus, "the land in which it took place—though ... never mentioned in the Koran—is (considered) a Muslim land, and Jewish and Christian holy sites are all (considered) Muslim," writes Ye'or.

The land of Israel itself—whose "every region, town, and village is mentioned in the Bible with historical and chronological precision"—is thus "sacrilegious" to Muslims, she explains. "Any confirmation of the veracity of the Bible is seen as an attack on the Islamic authenticity of the Koranic figures taken from the Bible."

So much for those slivers of real estate being the driver of war on Israel. It is, in fact, a jihad, a religious war against Judaism and the land of the Bible, root of Christianity. As Ye'or puts it, "Israel, in the land of its history, towns, and villages, resuscitates the Bible, the book the Koran must supplant."

We see through the masks and deceptions to a war on Israel that is also a jihad against Christianity. Remember that the Koranic Jesus—Isa—has Muslim, not Jewish roots. As Ye'or writes, Muslims see Christians as having gone astray by "placing themselves in the lineage of the Hebrew Bible, because their real origin is Islam." The Islamic answer is to return Christianity to its supposedly Koranic origins.

And then? Bat Ye'or believes "the destruction of Christianity's sustaining Jewish roots (would) facilitate its Islamization." And the world's.



Israeli Technology Keeps Us Safe



Israel's blessings don't stop with the gifts of individual Jews advancing high tech and medical care. Israeli inventiveness in those fields is of the greatest importance to us as a country. Israel does more than any other country in the world to keep the U.S. safe – literally.

The two most important areas of 21st-century warfare are electronics and cyberspace. Israel is the world leader in both of those areas. Because we are mutual allies, Israel shares its knowledge and equipment with us. We would not be as far ahead in military technology, security, intelligence, or counterterrorism without this crucial, strategic alliance. Our alliance with Israel is not only broad and mutual, it is essential.

Israel is the world leader in the development of unmanned aerial systems, including drones for intelligence collection and combat, and has shared technology and vital experience with the U.S. military.

Think of Iraq and Afghanistan. We use an Israeli-produced tactical radar system to enhance troop protection. Israel is a global pacesetter in active measures for armored vehicle protection, which we use to save our soldiers' lives. For a short demonstration, visit <http://wp.me/pieUD-19N> .] Israel invented the short-range rocket defense we use. Israel has shared its advanced military robotics with us. The lifesaving armor installed in thousands of MRAP armored vehicles used in Iraq and Afghanistan is known as the "Israeli bandage." Groundbreaking innovations including sensors, unmanned aerial vehicle technology, surveillance equipment, and detection devices to seek out IEDs—all from Israel.

Israel is America's most sophisticated and experienced partner in missile defense, helping us from invention to deployment to joint training exercises. The U.S. has deployed an advanced X-

By Karin McQuillan
AmericanThinker.com

band radar system in Israel with more than 100 American military personnel stationed there.

Israel provides us with a revolutionary helmet-mounted sight that is standard in nearly all front-line Air Force and Navy fighter aircraft, and a gun system for close-in defense of naval vessels against terrorist dinghies and small-boat swarms. Israel provides a port of call for the Sixth Fleet, and the targeting pods we use on hundreds of Air Force, Navy, and Marine strike aircraft.

Israel prevented Iraq from developing nuclear capability, by bombing Osirak in 1981. In 2007, Israel prevented Syria from developing nuclear capability by bombing Syria's secret nuclear facility at al-Kibar. Washington didn't know about the North Korean-built reactor until Meir Dagan, then-head of the Mossad, visited President G. W. Bush's national security adviser and told us.

Israel provides training for U.S. airport security and police departments. Israelis have worked to help us save lives during natural disasters and terror attacks. We rely on Israeli advances to defend our cyberspace from sabotage. Israeli advances protect our banking, communications, utilities, transportation, and Internet infrastructure.

Israel is not a charity case. Sixty years of close cooperation has been maintained because it is to our benefit. The U.S.-Israeli relationship makes it easier for our military to do their job. There is no actual net cost to our alliance with Israel, and immeasurable benefits.

The Israelis do more than any other country in the world to oppose the imposition of the *jihadi* vision. Europe is succumbing. Our alliance with Israel helps keep us safe. ★



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ISRAEL'S CONTRIBUTIONS IN MEDICINE

Israeli Scientists Track Molecular Markers for Type II Diabetes

By Chana Ya'ar
IsraelNationalNews.com



Dr. Assaf Hellman

Researchers at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem have isolated the early molecular indicators showing that a person is at risk for developing Type II diabetes. Some half-a-million people have been diagnosed with diabetes in Israel, which has been classified in two types—juvenile (I) and adult-onset (II).

A team at the university's Institute of Medical Research-Israel/Canada led by **Dr. Assaf Hellman** (*top right*) has developed a novel multi-step study design that involves the analysis of epigenetic variations that contribute to the disease.

Until now, direct evidence of epigenetic variations related to the condition—small molecular marks superimposed on the DNA structure—has been missing. Such marks characterize the susceptibility to Type II diabetes, as well as to other human disease conditions, researchers say.

In Hellman's study, researchers mapped the epigenetics of hundreds of patients with T2D (Type II Diabetes) and compared them with the epigenetics of healthy control subjects. Significant differences in the epigenetics were found in a large number of patients, making a clear distinction between those who were healthy and those who were not.

"This method of mapping epigenetics allows a much more efficient prediction of risks to the disease in young people who have not yet showed any other symptoms of the disease," Hellman explained.

Researchers are hoping the discovery will contribute to the development of future medications and other ways to prevent T2D as well as other conditions, such as metabolic, autoimmune, and psychiatric disorders. ★



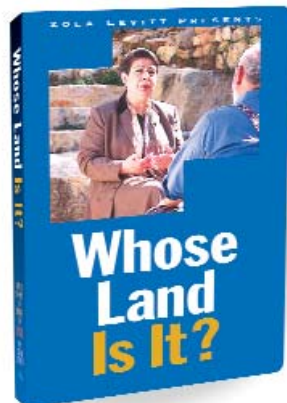
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Whose Land Is It? DVD and booklet

Three 30-minute TV programs on one DVD (Also see article on p.9)

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. In part 1, she eloquently articulates the Palestinians' best arguments for being the true owners of Israel. In part 2, 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.



Order DVD and booklet on page 18.



Muslims Ban Dogs as Pets

By Bruce Bawer, www.FrontPageMag.com

This is how it happens. Little by little. Law by law. The proponents of *sharia* get a concession for themselves. Before long, they start trying to subject the rest of us to it, bit by bit.

Hasan Küçük, a Hague councilor, says dogs should be banned as pets in the city, reports *De Telegraaf*. The Muslim party says that the animals belong in nature, not inside the house. Küçük says that keeping dogs is animal abuse and should therefore be criminalized.

Needless to say, Hasan Küçük's concerns have nothing whatsoever to do with animal abuse—and everything to do with the fact that Islam considers dogs to be impure. Like women, Jews, and gays, dogs are on the front line of the confrontation in the West between *sharia*-observant Muslims and the rest of us. When you see Muslims making trouble over dogs, you can bet that it's just the beginning of all kinds of trouble over all kinds of things that run afoul of Islamic religious law.

To be sure, Küçük's suggestion—which came in response to a proposal by animal-rights advocates that The Hague be made more dog-friendly—was immediately shot down by other members of the city council. Küçük was undoubtedly not surprised. He knows these things don't change in a day—they change over time, by a gradual process of wearing down. People like Küçük are exceedingly patient. And they trust in their own patience and

intransigence—and in our weakness, our distraction, our readiness to give in, eventually, under steady pressure, on what may seem to us like small matters that are not worth fighting over.

“they trust in ... our weakness”

Küçük's proposal is nothing new. For years now, the Western media have featured news stories about blind people with guide dogs being refused taxi rides by devout Muslim cabdrivers, being thrown off buses because of complaints by Muslim passengers, or being refused access to stores by devout Muslim shopkeepers. Daniel Pipes has been assiduous in cataloging such cases, some of them dating back to the 1990s, in places ranging from Milwaukee to Melbourne.

The Muslims in these cases invariably argue that their religion commands them not to be around dogs. Yet, it's not just about dogs but about pretty much every little detail of daily life. The same people who object fiercely to the presence of dogs in their shops or cabs also maintain that their religion commands them not to do, or touch, or say, or see, or be in the vicinity of a great variety of things that are commonplace in the Western world. And once they've gotten their way with regard to dogs, they'll move on to another thing—and then another, and another—at which they take offense, and once again spell out exactly how they expect non-Muslims to change their behavior in order to keep the peace. ★

As the percentage of Muslims in a population increases, so do their demands. Understand the strategy by viewing <http://wp.me/pieUD-10E>, the video and transcript explaining Islam's Method of Global Conquest. —Editor

We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals.

—IMMANUEL KANT



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Mosques Continue to Teach Jihad

By **Robert Spencer**

www.HumanEvents.com

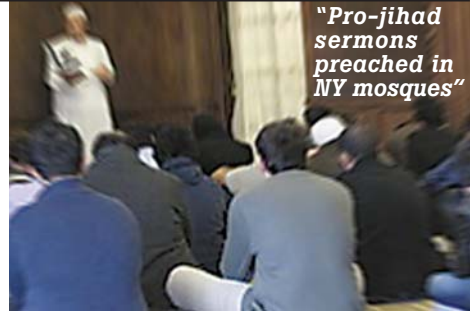


A young Muslim named Abdel Hameed Shehadeh recently tried to join the U.S. Army as part of a plan to murder American soldiers in the name of Islam and jihad. But he was caught and began talking; if even only some of the information he has given investigators is accurate, he has exposed a jihad network of impressive proportions in the U.S.

Shehadeh provided the FBI with enough information to fill a 22-page report that is so incriminating to him personally that his lawyers are now trying to suppress it. Those he named would also no doubt like to see his report suppressed. Among the jihad plotters he named were "Brooklyn teachers of the Islamic orthodoxy Salafism" and Muslims who "delivered pro-jihadist speeches at mosques or ranted in online chat rooms."

The Islamic advocacy establishment in the U.S. insists that all Muslims in this country happily accept Constitutional freedoms and pluralism, and that anyone who suggests otherwise is an "Islamophobe." If Shehadeh's claims are true, however, Salafism, a form of hardline Islam that calls for the imposition of Islamic law in its fullness, including stonings, beheadings, amputations, and warfare against unbelievers, is being preached not just in Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Iran, but also right here in Brooklyn.

And while the politically correct media demand that we accept that mosques in the U.S. are equivalent to churches and synagogues, Shehadeh claims that pro-jihad sermons are being preached in mosques in the New York area. This isn't really surprising, despite



the fact that it goes against the dogma to which mainstream media and Islamic spokesmen adhere. The Center for Religious Freedom's 2005 study and the Mapping Sharia Project's 2008 study independently showed that upwards of 80% of mosques in America were preaching hatred of Jews and Christians and the necessity ultimately to impose Islamic rule. In the summer of 2011, yet another study showed that only 19% of mosques in the U.S. do not teach jihad violence and/or Islamic supremacism.

All this suggests that jihadist sentiments are far more widespread among Muslims in the United States than most analysts have been willing to acknowledge. Even conservative anti-jihadists tell comforting fictions about Islamic texts and teachings in order to support moderate Muslims, who in reality are so few in number as to be almost wholly ineffective against the jihadists. ★

Robert Spencer faithfully exposes jihadist plans in the U.S. We are grateful to print his work in the *Levitt Letter*, but would like to see him receive wider exposure in the mainstream press. He is a resource for America, Israel, and the entire Western world. —Myles

A Religious Guide
TO THE
ARAB WORLD

BURNING
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BELIEVE IN THESE
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Muslim Justification for Attack on Israel

By Lee Moran, www.DailyMail.co.uk

A website with close ties to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has outlined why it would be acceptable to kill all Jews and annihilate Israel. Conservative site Alef has published a doctrine detailing why the destruction of the Jewish nation and the slaughter of all its people would be legally and morally justified.

The doctrine warned that the chance to remove the "corrupting material" of Israel must not be lost—and that it would only take nine minutes to wipe it out. And it said it was a "jurisprudential justification" for Iran's Islamic government to then take the helm.

The article, written by Khamenei's strategy specialist Alireza Forghani, is now being run on most state-owned conservative sites, indicating it has the regime's support.

The crux of the dossier said Iran would be justified in launching a pre-emptive strike against Israel because of the threat the Jewish State's leaders are posing against its own nuclear facilities. It said Israel would need U.S. approval and help to carry out such an attack, and that because of a current passive climate in America the time for Iran to strike was now.

Listing statistics that reveal 5.7 million of Israel's 7.8 million citizens are Jewish, the dangerous dossier breaks down the districts with the highest concentration of Jews.

It states that Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa contain more than 60 percent of the Jewish population, which could be hit by Shahab 3 ballistic missiles to easily kill everyone. Airports, air force bases, power plants, sewage treatment facilities, and energy resources would also be hit.

The publication of the doctrine comes after Khamenei announced recently that Iran would support any nation or group that attacks the "cancerous tumor" of Israel.



"Crime Against Humanity, Unparalleled Since Nazi Germany"

www.Wiesenthal.com

The Simon Wiesenthal Center has charged that recent statements by Iran's Supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, along with a detailed blueprint for the destruction of the Jewish people posted on a website run by the head of the Iranian Parliament's research center, constituted a pre-genocidal crime against humanity, unparalleled since Nazi Germany. (See article at left)

"This is the first time since the Nazis' Final Solution that such explicit plans for a genocide against the Jewish people is being promoted," charged Rabbis Marvin Hier and Abraham Cooper, dean and founder and associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a leading Jewish human rights organization.

"In January, the United Nations convened a ceremony on International Holocaust Memorial Day. But what good are moments of silence for the dead, if the world powers—including Russia and China—fail to take action to protect the living from a new genocide targeting Jews. A nuclearized Iran controlled by religious Nazis would not hesitate to mass murder Jews," Wiesenthal Center officials continued. ★

[Note Holocaust DVD series on page 17.](#)



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Understanding Arab Christians

By Dan Calic, GodsEverlastingCovenant.com

This is the third and final segment on a topic that creates confusion for Believers: Arab Christians. The intent of this writing is to encourage discernment on this important issue, absent any hint of prejudice, which has no standing among true Believers.

Last month, we discussed ways in which Arab Christians revise Israel's place in history in an attempt to reconcile the cultural/political differences that exist between Jews and Arabs. By embracing Replacement Theology, they can reject Israel's biblically prophetic role and refuse to stand with Israel as Christian Zionists do, a stance that often presents a huge challenge for Arabs, possibly even life-threatening.

What About "Palestine"?

You may hear the name "Palestine" used quite a bit. In light of this, an understanding of its name, origin, and biblical status seems appropriate. "Palestine" is the name given to Judea by the Roman Emperor Hadrian after the unsuccessful Jewish revolt in 135 A.D. He specifically chose the name "Palestine" as an affront to the Jews because the Philistines were ancient enemies of Israel. "Palestine" is a Latinized version of "Philistine," from the word "Philistia," which appears a handful of times in the Hebrew Scriptures [OT] and refers to enemies of Israel in each instance. There is no mention of "Palestine" or "Philistia" in the Apostolic writings [NT]. By contrast, the name Israel appears over 2,600 times in the entire Bible. The effort to promote the name "Palestine" is one more attempt at revisionist history designed to delegitimize Israel's rightful biblical status and replace it with an Arab narrative.

The Importance of Discernment

We recognize that the issue of Arab Christians may be somewhat confusing and possibly difficult, especially if you have a relationship with an Arab Believer. The ones who understand and embrace these biblical truths are

quite rare. Praise God for their faith and conviction! One example is [ZLM friend] Walid Shoebat. In other cases, many of them may be lovely people with sincere hearts, yet they may simply be confused on these key issues. If such is the case, you may have an opportunity to enlighten them by pointing out what Scripture says. If after seeing what the Word of God says they embrace these biblical truths, praise God! You have won your brother to the truth.

Unfortunately, this is not often the response. You may instead encounter Arab Christians who will argue strongly against these biblical truths and attempt to convince you to alter *your* view to fit *their* narrative. As we have shown, Scripture is clear on these issues, so a Believer should not obey man if it means disobeying God. Pray that God will reveal the truth to us all.

Many well-intentioned individuals and church bodies who stand with Israel have embraced Arab Believers without properly understanding how important it is to determine their views on the issues included in this writing. If you are attending a fellowship that includes Arab Believers, or is encouraging views that are incompatible with Scripture, as referenced in this series, we encourage you to *prayerfully* consider discussing this with the appropriate individuals, which may include leadership.

We hope this information provides some clarity and leads to **true** reconciliation.



Hebrew Lesson

The Aaronic Blessing

By John J. Parsons



“The LORD bless you and guard you; the LORD make His face shine to you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His face to you and give you His peace.” (Num. 6:24–26)

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|---------------------|
| וְיִשְׂמְרֶךָ | יְהוָה | יְבָרְכֶךָ |
| (5) (4) (3) (2) (1) | (1) | (5) (4) (3) (2) (1) |
| ve-yish-me-re-kha | Adonai | ye-va-re-khe-kha |
| and may He guard you | the LORD | may He bless |

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| וְיַחַדְנֶךָ | אֵלֶיךָ | פָּנָיו | יְהוָה | יֵאָרֶךְ |
| (4) (3) (2) (1) | (3) (2) (1) | (2) (1) | (1) | (2) (1) |
| vi-chu-nek-ka | e-ley-kha | pa-nav | Adonai | ya-er |
| and show you grace | to you | His face | the LORD | may He shine |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| שְׁלֹמֶךָ | לְךָ | וְיָשֵׁם | אֵלֶיךָ | פָּנָיו | יְהוָה | יֵשְׂאֶךָ |
| (2) (1) | (2) (1) | (3) (2) (1) | (3) (2) (1) | (2) (1) | (1) | (2) (1) |
| sha-lom | le-kha | ve-ya-sem | e-ley-kha | pa-nav | Adonai | yis-sa |
| peace | for you | and establish | to you | His face | the LORD | may He lift |

The Torah prescribes that only the male descendants of Aaron (i.e., the priests) are allowed to formally bless the congregation of Israel, and this practice continues in synagogue services today. During an Orthodox service, for example, the priests first remove their shoes and have their hands ritually washed by Levites (if any are present). They then assemble before the ark and each covers himself with a *tallit* (prayer shawl).

When the cantor gives the signal, they raise their hands, with palms facing downward and the thumbs of their outspread hands touching, while chanting the melody of the blessing. In addition to this formal blessing recited over the entire congregation by the priests, however, it is customary for a father to use these same words to bless his family members during Sabbaths and festivals.

The text of the blessing itself is in three parts and is therefore called “the three in one blessing.” Notice that it is phrased in the *singular* rather than plural because it is meant to have personal application, not to be a general benediction over a crowd of people. The repeated phrase, “The LORD lift up His face toward you...” pictures the beaming face of a parent as he lifts up his beloved child in joy.

It must be remembered that the One who does the blessing is the LORD Himself, and even under the older covenant, the sons of Aaron merely conveyed God’s blessing to the people. Since Yeshua is our great High Priest of the New Covenant, however, He would have recited these words over His disciples when He ascended back to Heaven—though He would have spoken them in the first person:

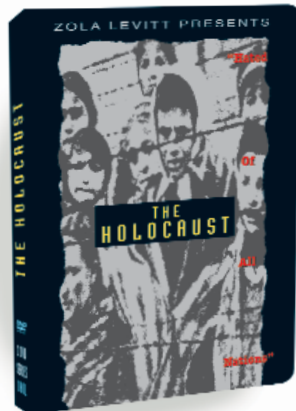
“I bless you and keep you; I shine upon you and am gracious to you; I lift up My countenance upon you, and give you My peace” ★

(LUKE 24:50–51).



The Holocaust DVD

Selected from our ongoing Signs of the End series, these six programs cover the most tragic event in history. Zola Levitt and his crew report on the awful Holocaust through hard-hitting interviews and an on-location taping at Dachau Concentration Camp in Munich, Germany. *(See related article on p. 14.)*



They Survived Includes interviews with two Holocaust survivors: Dr. Eric Kulka and Efraim Zuroff. Dr. Tom McCall also interviews the head of research at the Israeli Museum of the Holocaust and the director of the Jerusalem Simon Wiesenthal Center.

An Eyewitness at Dachau A visit to Dachau Concentration Camp, Munich. Includes interviews with Dachau survivor Bikolas Lehner and with an American eyewitness who visited the camp just after the war in 1946.

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page 18

A Spy Among Neo-Nazis An interview in Israel with Yaron Svoray, investigative reporter/spy. He gives background regarding the motivations of his mission to go undercover for eight months among neo-Nazis in Germany.

Nazis Today Zola continues his interview with Yaron Svoray. Yaron shows photos of neo-Nazis that he took during his undercover mission — evidence about which the German government has done nothing.

Two Rabbis Includes interviews with Rabbi Stan Eisenberg in Fort Worth and Rabbi David Rosen in Jerusalem. Two rabbis in different hemispheres share a common concern about anti-Semitism.

Righteous Gentiles Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. Ambassador to the UN, shares her concern for political support by all democracies for the State of Israel. Pam Rosewell Moore, who was Corrie ten Boom's companion and secretary, reveals some special insights into Corrie's survival during the Holocaust.

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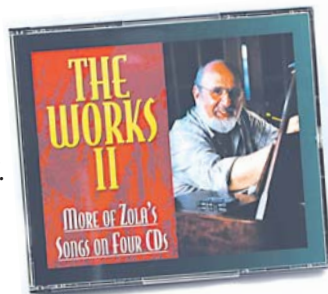
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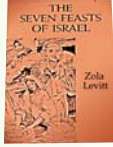
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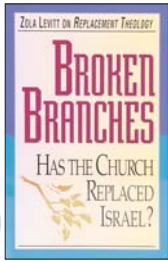
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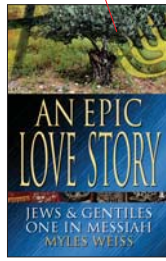
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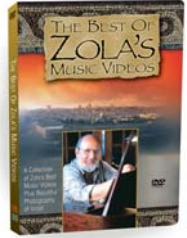
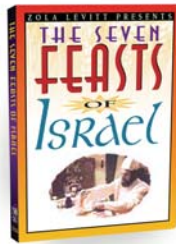


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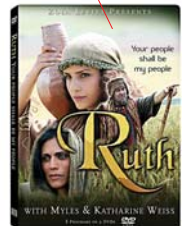
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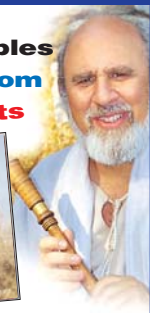
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 (See number above your name on mailing label)

My check is enclosed for \$ _____ or, Please charge \$ _____ to:

Card # _____ Exp. ____/____ Card ID# required _____

Cardholder's Signature _____

Please Tear Out and Send Entire Center Section.

ZLM Bulletin Board



Pray for
the peace of
Jerusalem

Beyond Cable and Satellite!

Here's a new way to watch *Zola Levitt Presents*. A Roku box (www.levitt.com/roku) gives access via the Internet to more than 350 channels and hundreds of movies from Netflix, Pandora, hulu, Disney, etc. Once you launch the Zola Levitt Ministries channel (on the device), you can watch episodes of ZLP on your big screen TV. It even supports closed captions. It is really cool, and the best way to watch our show, other than the scheduled broadcast.

www.levitt.com &
www.levitt.tv

Broadcasting our TV program over the Internet requires a lot of computer storage and Internet bandwidth. With easy TV viewing and podcast downloads, 92% of our website's bandwidth is used for watching *Zola Levitt Presents*. We receive roughly 4.5 million hits per month (148,801 per day). Thanks to you, many hours of Bible teaching remain available on demand, 24/7.

Replenish Our Missionary Fund

Since March 2001, this ministry's **To The Jew First (TJF) Fund** has sent 89 volunteer missionaries to Israel. During 2007, we sent 12 missionaries, 8 in 2008, 14 in 2009, 4 in 2010, and 6 in 2011. This year we will send 6. Would you kindly designate contributions for the **To The Jew First Fund** to help us budget for these trips? Thanks in advance for your assistance. See the fruits of this outreach on page 4.



Pamphlet of the Month:

This month's pamphlet, **"Questions & Answers About Estate Planning,"** discusses embracing the future by taking time to plan for it. After explaining what estate planning is and what occurs without an estate plan, the pamphlet suggests how to begin creating one. It also touches on ways to complement a will, such as trusts, joint ownership arrangements, powers of attorney, and beneficiary designations. Finally, it suggests ways to make charitable gifts within estate plans and enjoy immediate tax savings plus other benefits. To receive this free pamphlet, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

75225

Search by ZIP Code

Entering your ZIP Code (or that of a friend) into the **"Station Search"** blank at www.levitt.com/airsch provides the local broadcast days and times of networks and independent stations for *Zola Levitt Presents*. This search feature appears below the Episode Airing Schedule and above the listings of our national cable networks and independent channels. At the bottom of the page, you'll find Satellite/International Broadcasts (DISH, DirecTV, and PBN). Plus a unique surprise just a bit lower!

"Come Home!"

Zola
Tours to
Israel:



See page
36 for details



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From a Brother Behind Bars



Mark Levitt

a note
from mark

Dear ZLM:

Let this letter serve as notice that I am withdrawing my support. I have found myself in a bad place (incarcerated), and a ministry I've followed my whole life is not there to support me [with free teaching materials] in this dark time. Zola is turning over in his grave.

Mr. Weiss, you are the sort of Jew that gentiles deride. All about money... dollar signs are all you see. Even as a nonprofit, you ask too often for donations. Sir, have you ever heard of Grace? A grace ministry is what Zola stood for. Read Matt. 25:43-45. I serve a God that is good, not about money! —A.W., Fort Stockton, TX

Dear A.W.—

Please step into my office. Soon it will be a year since Jeff's departure. For what it's worth, neither he nor I received any raises since 2007, and compensation was a factor in his departure. Myles and Katharine work for moderate pay, and everyone's wages here combined pale in comparison with our airtime expenditures.

It is also possible that this ministry—regardless of the money grubbiness you imagine—gives away too much. Despite revenues declining each year since 2006, our outreach has continued unabated. We produce quality television: high-definition, on-location productions with dramatizations in Israel, fine music, and solid teaching. Believe it or not, less than 1% of our resources goes toward raising funds.

Is it a mistake for us to make available for free viewing at www.levitt.tv all the same videos that we sell on DVD? (Please, tell me what other organization has done this for twenty years.) Will we soon need to limit how long readers can receive our newsletters for free? I hope not.

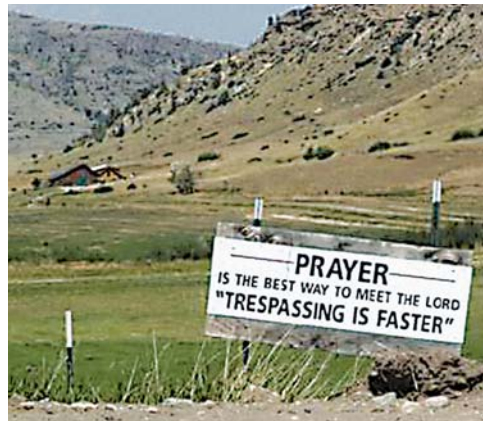
You may have noticed from a prior newsletter that we dropped our Thursday morning national television slot on ION. In its place, we added an additional time (Wednesday evening) on Daystar. Why? Because we no longer could afford to maintain the ION mission field.

The harsh reality is this: neither rebukes like yours nor pats on the back pay our bills. I've even envisioned bundling up all of our complimentary letters and sending them to TV stations in lieu of a check, but alas they have their expenses too. As financial administrator, my job is to get our TV program into as many households as possible, while using wisdom to ensure that this 'house'—ZLM—continues into the future. This includes our TV and web programs and also the *Levitt Letter*.

Moving from ION to the second timeslot on Daystar may balance our books. If it doesn't, I will have to cut more though there is no fat. One mission field that could end up on the chopping block is the *Levitt Letter* mailed every month to 2,297(!) prisoners like you. Please count your blessings while they last. —Mark

P.S. If your chaplain will write to our P.O. Box, we will send a box of teaching materials for your prison library—at no charge.

Ouch! I love that ZLM sends our newsletter FREE to those behind bars. A.W. is misinformed about our motives AND our methods! —Myles ★



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Letters to ZLM

Comments from www.levitt.com

From N.E.R. (MA): Thank you for reaching out to the people of Israel to let them know that we still care about God's covenant with them.

From Rev. M.S. (AR): I am blessed each time I watch your program. May Jehovah bless you richly this year! *Baruch HaShem Yeshua!*

From C.K. on Ruth: There is such a wonderful anointing on ZLM these days.

From J.C. (CA): The easiest way to hate the Jews: by not saying a word, which gives implicit agreement with those who engage in acts of hatred.

From C.C. (KS): Zola's music videos continue to bless. What a wonderful servant he was.

From S.P. (MN): I don't have cable right now, but my kids grew up watching Zola with me over the years. Please see *Beyond Cable & Satellite!* on p.20 and watch *Zola Levitt Presents* at www.levitt.tv. —Mark

From I.R.: January 2012's *Personal Letter* was the best yet! I really appreciate the new format, the larger print, and the pages being in order. Thank you!

From K.T. (NC): I recently read "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights" (1948) by the UN General Assembly. If this is UN law, why do the Arab members get away with *sharia* law—the anti-declaration of human rights? It is illogical, illegal, and inhumane.

From M.W. to Todd: I read your Q & A and think, "Well, duh, that is a simple question. Can't they figure out the answer themselves?" Then I think, "Whoa, Bro, you have been walking with *Hashem* for almost 40 years. Lighten up and give these folks a chance to grow out of their spiritual pampers." Your responses are right-on. I also enjoy your firsthand mission reports. You keep witnessing, and I will continue to supply the finances to the best of my ability.

To M & K: Wow, you two are a rocking combo for Yeshua! I like K's writing. Myles, keep up the humor. The cartoons are side-splitters. *Semper Fi!*



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Much to "martyrs" surprise, their virgins in Paradise were not quite what they expected.

Am I Jewish?

Dear ZLM and Myles,

My 87-year-old friend has been supporting you and passing on her *Levitt Letters* to me. Now I have chosen to support you. Please pray over my offering and all your offerings for the blessings of Abraham.

I think I have Jewish blood on my father's side, but I was told one is not Jewish unless the blood comes from the mother's side. Is that true?

My father loved going to Israel; I think I'd like to too ... with you.

—G.W. (CA)

Dear G.W.—

Katharine and I would love to host you in the Land and are forwarding your request to our travel manager. Tracie is an awesome coordinator who will do whatever she can to make your trip the pilgrimage of a lifetime!

Jewish blood: The rabbis say that Jewishness passes through the mother's side, but the Bible says the father! This controversy is ongoing in Israel. Hitler only required one Jewish grandparent to qualify people for death, so it seems at least logical that only one Jewish grandparent should qualify us for life (*L'Chaim!*) AND Israeli citizenship.

Blessings —Myles



Enlarged Print Online

Dear ZLM Staff,

As a sight-impaired person, I appreciate that you now produce your *Levitt Letter* and *Personal Letter* within an email with the HTML option. It makes it so much easier to access. Few ministries realize that sight-impaired people like me may be utilizing what they have to offer. It may be simple to you, but a heartfelt thanks is due, and my prayers for your continued efforts are ongoing—you have a very special place in my spiritual walk. —D.R.



Closed Captioning Appreciated

Shalom Myles,

Thank you very much for the television series on Ruth. I am a deaf, born-again, 70-year-old widow, and I thank you very much for closed captioning the programs. Please do lots of cc in the future. I love to watch lots of *Zola Levitt Presents* episodes about the Bible.

—In Christ, S.K.O. (PA)

Dear S.K.O.—

We'll pass on your kudos to our webmaster who deserves your appreciation for his extensive effort getting the closed captions to work. Thank you for taking the time to let us know.

—Editor



“Happened” to be in Greece Right Then?

Dear M & K,

As awesome as the *Ruth* series was, the *Zola Levitt Presents “The Kings Of The Earth Look Up”* is even more incredible. I am amazed at how *HaShem* (God) is using you right on the scene in Athens with the “Good News behind the News.” It is fresh and current even though it was filmed in October. To hear the Greek woman say that she’s waiting for “Superman” is prophetic! Your delivery, analysis, and connecting the dots comes off seamlessly and is extremely powerful. As times get darker, I see the exposure of your message expanding exponentially and continue to pray for an increase of viewers/subscribers to ZLM. *Toda Rabah* (thank you very much) —R.W. (CA)



Free Downloads—A Real Blessing

Dear ZLM,

Recently, I led a co-worker to your website. He said the greatest blessing was being able to download Zola’s and Jeff’s teachings—he has a lot of catching up to do and downloads at home and listens to the audio while he works.

I have supported Zola Levitt Ministries for several years. Through the years, I have shared Zola’s booklets and the website. I want you to know that I am thankful for your website and that the videos are available to download for free—they are a real blessing. God bless you —P.P.

Last Words on King James

Dear ZLM,

Concerning the letter in the January *Levitt Letter* preferring King James translations and the smart alecky title that defamed the writer: Your theological staff may mean well, but the falling away of once-fundamentally sound churches (foretold in Luke) is rooted in the new versions. If Zola were still here, he would join me. God knows, —J.D. (IN)



Dear J.D.—

In my experience, the flawed arguments of the King James Only crowd create a never-ending debate. Until they go to a reputable seminary to read, research, and compare the various translations, they are never going to see that one and only one translation is not definitive! This is because some readings in other standard versions may be better attested by manuscript evidence than another group of manuscripts that make up the KJV. That can mean that the better reading may be the KJV, whereas at other times the reading in, say, the NASB may be better. They tend to want to simplify something that can’t be simplified due to the complex nature of Textual Criticism—in this case sorting through the 24,000 known manuscripts of the New Testament. Getting embroiled with uninformed reductionists is, quite frankly, a big waste of time! —Todd

Shalom J.D.—

I agree with our staff theologian Todd Baker in his analysis that the insistence on King James only is an unprofitable stance. There are so many manuscripts extant that cross-referencing is the most intellectually honest approach. Some of the later translations require a “light touch” and we need to be discerning in our application. Blessings —Myles



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Offensive Header

Dear Theology Staff,

I was very disappointed in the derogatory header you used to discredit J.T. (Jan '12, p. 25) who asked for the KJV to be used in the *Levitt Letter*. It was uncalled for. You should at least put the call letters of the translations that you are using to denote where the reference is coming from. (KJV) (NIV) etc. Sincerely, —K.D.W. (WI)

Dear K.D.W.—

J.T. also wrote of his displeasure with that title. It wasn't meant to sneer (his term) at his opinion. We chose it to call attention to a letter on the same topic but with the opposite opinion. That letter didn't make it to print until the March issue (p. 23, two top letters), so the intent of the "catchy" title was lost. Our apologies to him, you, and anyone else who took offense. —Editor

How to Support Israel

Dear ZLM,

I don't make a lot and I don't have political power. So, how can I support Israel? I agree with your comment (Jan '12, p.3) that American Believers must step up and support Israel. What can I do? —L.P. (MA)

Dear L.P.—

Thanks for your concern and desire to support Israel. Do not let your current lack of funds discourage you! God will honor your heartfelt interest. You can't go wrong buying Israel Bonds. By purchasing a Bond, you become a partner in building what is truly God's Country. www.IsraelBonds.com Shalom. —Myles

Zion=Jerusalem

Dear Todd,

What do we mean when we say, "Zion"? —J.C. (AL)

Dear J.C.—

The term Zion originally referred to the small hill in southern Jerusalem where King David situated his palace and throne. It then came to mean the City of Jerusalem, as used throughout the Book of Psalms. —Todd

Zion

Israel countryside



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Who is Grafted In?

Dear Myles,

The article in the February *Levitt Letter* by Dan Calic (p. 28) confuses me. The last line reads, "The way non-Jews inherit the promises made to Israel, including the Land, is by being grafted into Israel through the Jewish Messiah."

As I understand it, non-Jews will never inherit the promises made to Israel. The Church's destiny is in Heaven. Only believers in Replacement Theology think the Church has replaced Israel.

The Church has been grafted into the olive tree, a symbolic representation of Israel. The Church does not become the olive tree but a distinct part of it.

Please un-confuse me. In His name, —D.R.

Dear D.R.—

Dan is reiterating the promise of the land TO THE JEWS at an inopportune moment. It sounds as though the non-Jews inherit the Land. The Land IS promised to the Sons of Abraham through Isaac; non-Jews who stand with us will benefit from this restoration, as will the whole world (Romans 9–11).

Shalom, —Myles (See further explanation from Dan Calic below.)

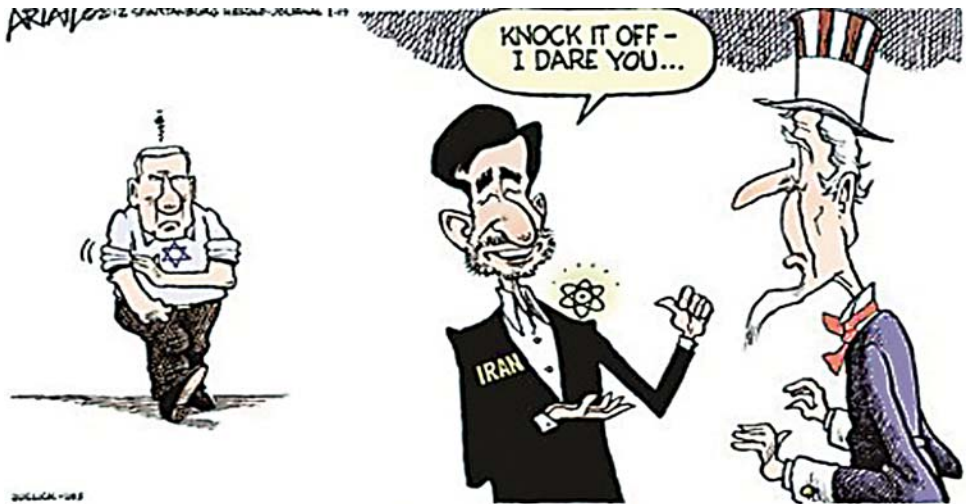
Further explanation from Dan Calic

Another way to see that Paul's term "grafted in" means that non-Jews are joining God's people is to remember Ruth saying, "Your people shall be my people and your God my God."

An additional reference that prophetically refers to the Messianic Kingdom is Ezekiel 47:22–23 "You are to divide [the land] by lot as an inheritance both to you and to the foreigners living among you who give birth to children living among you; for you they are to be no different from the native-born among the people of Israel; they are to have an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel. You are to give the foreigner an inheritance in the territory of the tribe with whom he is living," says Adonai Elohim.

At the end of the day, each of these scenarios requires non-Jews/gentiles to *choose*: to accept Israel's Jewish Messiah, to recognize Israel's prophetic role, to recognize that they are "grafted in"; to say, "your people shall be my people..."; and to live among the Tribes of Israel in the Messianic Kingdom.

[Please see the final segment of Dan's series on page 15.](#)



The Law Given by God

Dear Todd,

RE: Your January "Ask the Chaplain" column—This is the teaching that drove me from the Baptist Church, i.e., Jesus kept the Law so we don't have to. With that reasoning, I can rape, rob, and kill as long as I confess it. Have you read the Book of 1 John?

The Torah was never able to save, but our obedience to it leads us to the Messiah. To say that the Law is completed is to leave the Believer directionless! In Yeshua, —T.C.

Dear T.C.—

The position that we are free to violate the law because we are saved by grace and not by the law is called "antinomianism" (Romans 6:1). I do not hold that position, nor does Bible-based Baptist theology. Let me reiterate: We are not under the Law in terms of trying to earn salvation or righteousness with God (Galatians 2:16).

Your confusion seems to stem from failing to distinguish between the laws that guide to moral behavior in society and the Laws designed to guide to salvation. —Todd



Witnessing Jesus in Prison

Dear Myles Weiss,

Thank you for giving the dates for this year's Purim and other Feasts. As an inmate, I find it difficult to access such information.

Could you include information about Jews who come to know Christ as Lord and Savior? Also, I know an inmate who converted to Judaism from Christianity. Could you please send me literature so that I may better witness the Messiah to him?

May He continue to bless your work. —J.A.C. (TX)

Shalom J.A.C.—

It is a blessing to know that 2,300 incarcerated people receive, treasure, and pass on the *Levitt Letter*. Regarding your concern, Zola's book *Meshumed!* offers stories of Orthodox Jews who accepted their Messiah in the concentration camps of WW II. You also will like *Jesus, the Jew's Jew*, Zola's first book about his heritage and faith. It's a witness to the Chosen People and includes Zola's testimony. We are also sending you a witnessing pamphlet, which anyone can print out from www.levitt.com/announcements. If you have Internet access, you'll find many more resources on www.levitt.com. —Blessings, Myles ★



333 BC

Alexander the Great stopped the aggression of the Persian king and saved Western civilization.



2012

Who will stop the aggression of the Persian ayatollahs to save Western civilization?

Artifact Confirms Written Record of Temple Worship

www.Haaretz.com

Israeli archaeologists have uncovered the first archaeological find to confirm written testimony of the ritual practices at the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem.



The seal (photo by Vladimir Naykhin)

An Israel Antiquities Authority archaeological survey at the northwestern corner of the Temple Mount yielded a tiny tin artifact, the size of a button, inscribed with the Aramaic words: "Daka Le'Ya," which the excavation directors on behalf of the IAA, archaeologists Eli Shukron and Professor Ronny Reich of the University of Haifa, explain means "pure for God."

Researchers believe the artifact, dated to the first century, towards the end of the Second Temple period, is a seal similar to those described in the *Mishnah* (the written Oral Torah). If they are correct, this is the first time physical evidence of the Temple ritual was found to corroborate the written record.

The team believes the tiny seal was put on objects designated to be used in the Temple, and thus had to be ceremonially pure.

In this vein, and in the spirit of Hanukkah, Jerusalem District archaeologist of the Israel Antiquities Authority said: "It is written in the Talmud that the only cruse of oil that was discovered in the Temple after the victory of the Maccabees over the Greeks, 'lay with the seal of the High Priest'—that is: the seal indicated that the oil is pure and can be used in the Temple. Remember, this cruse of oil was the basis for the miracle of Hanukkah that managed to keep the menorah lit for eight days."

In addition to this artifact, the dig also yielded other Second-Temple artifacts, some older from the time of the Hasmonean Dynasty rule (c. 140–63 BC), including oil lamps, earthenware pots, and containers filled with oils and perfumes, as well as coins bearing Hasmonean kings such as Alexander Jannaeus and John Hyrcanus.



Dictionary of Middle East Terminology



How difficult it is to decipher news about the Middle East, Islam, Israel, the Arab World, and all these powerful and explosive issues of our times for those who rely on such media stalwarts as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the major television networks, cable news, etc. for their information. For example, how is a person to ascertain whether the slayer of a family is a terrorist or a militant or a gunman or an assailant or an activist or freedom fighter?

So, I have organized a glossary of terms and expressions as typically used in the above news sources. I hope, *insha'allah* (Allah willing), the reader will find it helpful to unravel the Gordian Knot of language that is today's (and yesterday's and tomorrow's) Middle East!

THIS MONTH: A – F

Aggression: Killing people who are trying to kill you.

Al-Qaeda: The terrorist group that, according to American security sources, embodies the worldwide Islamist movement, and that is either "significantly degraded" or is still "extremely dangerous," depending on which government official is doing the talking.

Apartheid: The political/social system of the one and only country in the Middle East that integrates Jews, Bedouins, Arabs, whites, blacks, Muslims,

By Dr. Yasser Dasmabebi
www.FrontPageMag.com

Ethiopians, Russians, Christians, Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Bahai, et al.

Arab Emir, King, President, or Prime Minister: Military dictator.

Arab Spring: Replacement of one dictatorship with another, with the help of Western money and media cheerleading.

Bias: An expression of support for the existence of Israel.

Caliphate: The unification of lands ruled in the name of Islam, ruled by a Caliph. (See "Arab King," "Arab President," etc., above.)

Compromise: To give something palpable, such as land, in return for a promise not to keep on trying to annihilate you.

Developing Country: A country that is not developing.

Disproportionate Response: Winning.

Emergency Laws: The law.

Father of the Palestinian People: An Egyptian man, raised by his uncle (Hitler's buddy), and one of the world's most successful kleptocrats.

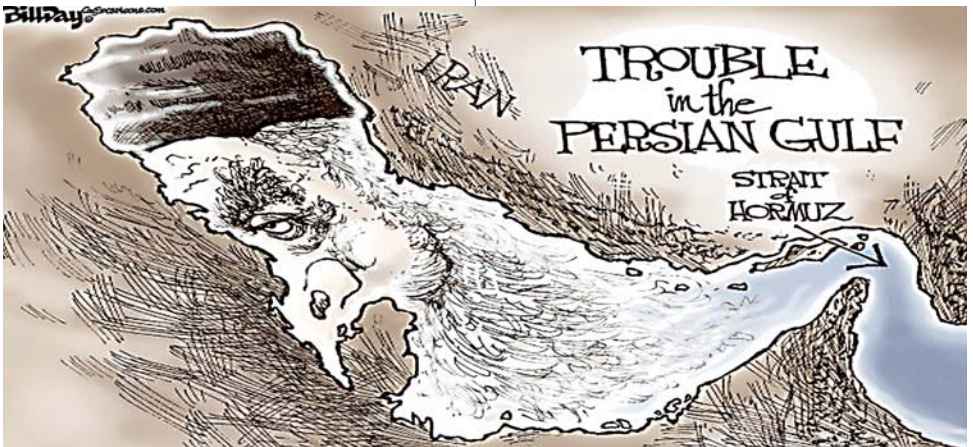
Fatwa: A pronouncement of a mullah that sanctions murder, but only of disagreeable people, like inadequately covered women, Salman Rushdie, etc.



Hilarious but oh so accurate! –Myles



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Israeli Commercial Ridiculing Veil Angers Muslims

By Yusuf Sadek, Translated from Arabic by Sonia Farid on English.AlArabiya.net

Terrorists Use U.S. Social Media

Israel Today magazine

No longer content with preaching to the choir via the Arab media, Islamic terrorist groups like Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon have adapted to the times and branched out into Internet-based social media. In particular, the two groups have made extensive use of Twitter to provide updates, incite against Israel, and promote jihad.

Twitter is an American company and U.S. law designates both Hamas and Hezbollah as foreign terrorist organizations, and therefore ineligible to receive services in the U.S. Twitter's own terms ban users who are "barred from receiving services under the laws of the United States." But that hasn't stopped the terrorists from regularly posting to Twitter, opening Facebook accounts, and uploading videos to YouTube. These networks are reluctant to take direct action lest they raise the ire of Israel's powerful and "politically correct" antagonists, who support any effort to delegitimize the Jewish State.

Supporters of Israel are fighting back. Israeli legal experts are threatening to sue Twitter and other social networks for violating American antiterrorism laws.

Note: You can amplify this ministry's impact by "liking" us on Facebook, writing about us in your blog, and tweeting about us to your followers.

Hundreds of thousands of Muslim Internet users were outraged by a commercial that makes fun of the Muslim veil.

The commercial, which was produced by Israelis, spread rapidly on the social networking website Facebook and the video-sharing website YouTube. It depicts four male Mossad agents disguised as women wearing headscarves.

The four veiled agents walk by a picture of the leader of the 1979 Islamic revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini, apparently in Iran. They walk towards another man sitting in a café across the street from a nuclear reactor.

The man, who turns out to be a Mossad agent as well, shows the veiled agents his new Tablet with apps, received for signing up with an Israeli cable TV company. When one of them presses the wrong app, the reactor is seen exploding.

The video outraged many Muslim viewers, who commented online that it insults Islam.

See the video at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1aD>



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Norway: Two Iranian Converts Attacked

From *Världen Idag* (*The World Today* Swedish newspaper) on IslamInEurope.blogspot.com

Two Iranians who converted from Islam to Christianity were stabbed by masked men in Haugesund, Norway recently. The attackers shouted “*kuffar*” (Arabic for “non-believer”).

When both Christian Iranians were out walking in town, they were suddenly attacked by three masked men armed with knives. A nurse passing by gave first aid and then an ambulance brought them to hospital. According to the police, one of the victims was stabbed twice in the back and the other was stabbed in his side. No perpetrators have been caught.

The two victims want to remain anonymous and have not spoken of the assault. They’ve lived in Norway for many years. One of them converted in Norway, the other did so in Iran and managed to flee to Norway after he was abused and imprisoned for his faith. They’re both active in a local evangelical church. Their pastor, who also wants to remain anonymous since he often travels to Muslim countries where Christians are persecuted, is certain that the attack was religiously motivated “since the attackers shouted ‘*kuffar*’ during the attack.”

The good news: Iranian converts from Islam are some of the strongest, most vibrant disciples in the world today. They are a threat to Islam because of their bold witness. They need our prayers. —Myles ★

IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILES



Dry Bones THE BUZZ



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This South African reporter nails down every reason for Israel's continued success except for the most important one—God's blessings on His people! —Editor

Israelis Turn Holy Land Into Economic Miracle

By Greg Mills, www.TimesLive.co.za

Just 20% of Israel is arable. Yet, since its independence in May 1948, the country's agricultural output has increased 16-fold, many times the rate of population growth. This is down to a lot of perspiration and, more importantly, a large dollop of innovation and cooperation.

This is nothing new. Close to the Desert Plant Research Station in Be'er Sheva is a farm cultivated by the Nabateans, the earliest desert farmers. Using sophisticated terracing, every drop of runoff water was collected and diverted to the fields and orchards.

Fast-forward 2,000 years and today Israel produces over two-thirds of its food requirements. Agriculture exports are worth more than \$2 billion, more than half of which is fresh produce.

Israel's external image is dominated by pictures of conflict and perceptions of injustice. Lost in this skewed portrayal is how cleverly Israel has developed its economy.

In agriculture, for example, it has used technology to reduce water usage and increase output, and higher-yield crops to increase both volumes and financial sales values. Drip and direct-feed computerized irrigation systems are the norm.

It's a far cry from 1948, when no one gave the newly independent Jewish State much of a chance.

Despite rapid population growth (now over 7.8 million), Israelis enjoy a per-capita income today of \$29,600, putting them in the top 30 worldwide, between Spain and Italy.

Although it depends on imports for nearly all of its raw materials, from oil to diamonds, Israel has become a global industrial hub. It is a world leader in diamond polishing and cutting, processed foods, electronic and medical equipment, and, more recently, software, semiconductors and telecommunications. After the U.S., it has more companies listed on the NASDAQ than any other country.

To translate ideas into business ventures, Israel has fostered a system that encourages and caters for entrepreneurship. It has established a "cluster" of universities in close proximity to large and small companies, creating a space for suppliers, talent, and capital. The government provides \$450 million in annual grants to 1,200 worthy projects from 2,000 applications.



Like everything else in the Holy Land, assessing why Israel has done so well in economic terms—and certainly by comparison to its neighbors—is shaped by one's view of the region's politics, ancient and contemporary.

Nevertheless, Israel's example of "performance through adversity" contains numerous lessons for developing countries that shouldn't be ignored. Contrary to the highly politicized caricatures of Israel as a U.S. protectorate milking the Holocaust for all it is worth, nearly all its achievements stem from the Jews' firm conviction that their fate is not someone else's responsibility.

Developing countries would do well to emulate, rather than bash, Israel. ★



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Family Emergency

Morris phones his son across the country. “Benny, I have something to tell you. However, I don’t want to discuss it. I’m merely telling you because you’re my oldest child, and I thought you ought to know. I’m divorcing your mother.”

Benny is shocked, and asks his father to tell him what happened. “I don’t want to get into it. My mind is made up.”

“But Dad, you can’t decide to divorce Mom just like that after 54 years together. What happened?”

“It’s too painful to talk about. I only called because you’re my son, and I thought you should know. I really don’t want to get into it more than this.”

“But where’s Mom? Can I talk to her?”

“No, I don’t want you to say anything to her about it. I haven’t told her yet. I have an appointment with my lawyer the day after tomorrow.”

“Dad, don’t do anything rash. I’m going to catch the first flight. Promise me that you won’t do anything until I get there.”

“Well, all right. Next week is Passover. I’ll hold off seeing the lawyer until after the Seder. Call your sister and break the news to her. I just can’t bear to talk about it anymore.”

A half-hour later, Morris gets a call from his daughter; she and her brother were able to get tickets and they and the children will be arriving the day after tomorrow. **“Benny told me that you don’t want to talk about it on the telephone, but promise me that you won’t do anything until we both get there.”** Morris promises.

After hanging up from his daughter, Morris turns to his wife and says, “Well, it worked this time, they’re coming for Seder night; but we are going to have to come up with a new idea to get them here for Rosh Hashanah.”



Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

ABC-Family Airing Day & Time by Zone

| Zone | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
|------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Days | 1 am Mon | 11 pm Sun or 2 am Mon | 12 am Mon | 1 am Mon |

DirectTV—Channel 311 **Dish**—Channel 180

Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

| Zone | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
|------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Days | 8 pm Wed 3 pm Fri | 9 pm Wed 4 pm Fri | 10 pm Wed 5 pm Fri | 11 pm Wed 6 pm Fri |

DirectTV—Channel 369 **Dish**—Channel 263

Inspirational Network Airing Day & Time by Zone

| Zone | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Days | 3:30 am Wed 7 pm Sun | 4:30 am Wed 8 pm Sun | 5:30 am Wed 9 pm Sun | 6:30 am Wed 10 pm Sun |

DirectTV—Channel 364 **Dish**—Channel 259

TCT pm DirectTV Channel 377—
Consult www.tct.tv
for viewing schedule

Our entire TV Airing Schedule is posted at
www.levitt.com/airsch.html.

Please see Beyond Cable & Satellite! on p. 20



Israelis Find Jesus on Facebook

By Ryan Jones, IsraelToday.co.il

Israeli Messianic ministry **One for Israel** continues to find success spreading the Gospel via online social networks and specialized Hebrew-language websites.

One for Israel points out that Israelis are far more active on the Internet than average Westerners, making the online space a perfect, though often overlooked, avenue for evangelism.

In order to reach all those Internet users, One for Israel takes out ads on Facebook, Google, and other high-traffic websites. Those who click the ads are taken to a series of evangelism-focused Hebrew-language websites (like iGod.co.il) that seek to explain to the average non-believing Israeli why Jesus' claims deserve consideration.

But the average Israeli is not well versed in the Bible, and certainly not in the prophecies that point to Jesus.

So recently, One for Israel launched a specialized new website, TheOne.co.il (www.TheOne.co.il/english), that takes a very simple and basic approach to the prophetic narrative, leading the viewer by the hand through the Bible's Messianic remedy to Israel's woes.

These efforts continue to bear fruit.

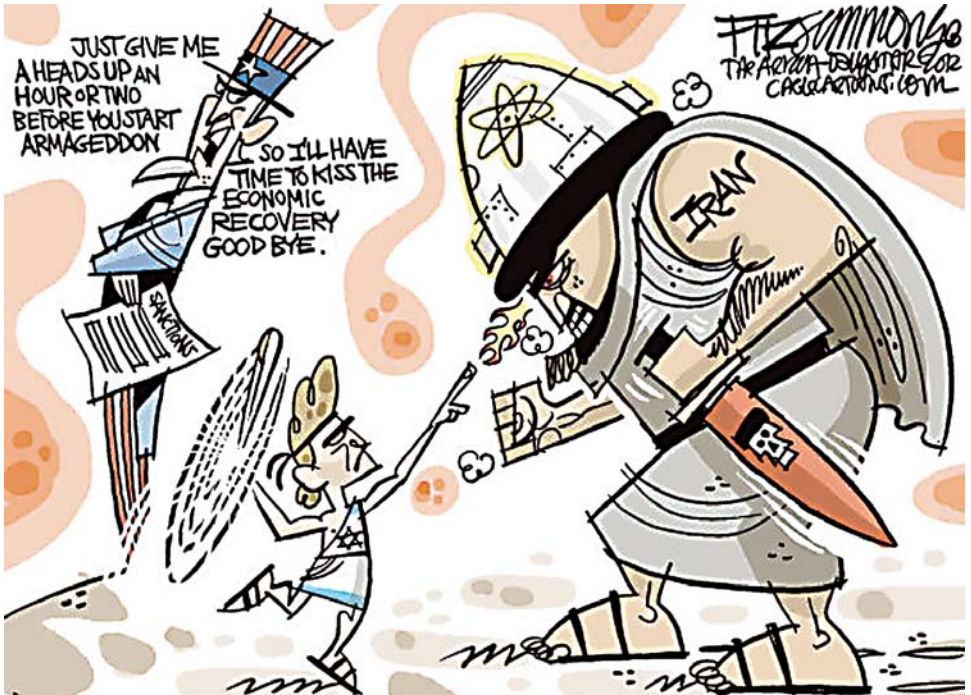
One for Israel says several individuals have personally contacted the ministry over the past year seeking greater knowledge of Jesus, including a high-ranking officer in the Israeli army. Additionally, the group's evangelism-focused websites were visited over 150,000 times, and Israelis downloaded a digital, Hebrew version of the New Testament every five hours during 2011. Physical copies of the New Testament were requested more than once a day on average.

This is a persistent trend. Statistics provided by Google showed that Israelis searched (in Hebrew) for the name of "Yeshua" (Jesus) more than 25,000 times every month. The phrase "Brit Hadashah" (New Testament) was searched over 5,000 times every month. ★



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Zechariah 12:3 "I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone..."



Here's a very Jewish take on the New Testament from Rabbi Daniel Schneider in Humble, Texas.

Last Words of Jesus: A Jewish Prayer Tradition

Jesus Christ observed a uniquely Jewish prayer tradition by praying Psalm 22 as He died on the cross. Some think David's Psalm 22 could be called The Psalm of the Cross, as much of the suffering described in it was literally fulfilled in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Jews have a prayer tradition of (1) speaking/praying aloud the first verse of a passage from the Hebrew Bible, then (2) silently praying/repeating the middle parts, and (3) finally praying/speaking aloud the last verse. So (1) aloud (2) in silence and (3) aloud again.

(1) Matthew 27:46 (and Mark 15:34): About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*" that is, "My God, My God, Why have You forsaken Me?" This is the 1st verse of Psalm 22 spoken/prayed aloud by Jesus on the cross. (2) Then, Jesus is silent for a time. This is part two—the silent part—of the Jewish prayer tradition. (3) John 19:30 So, when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. This is the last verse of Psalm 22 spoken/prayed aloud by Jesus on the cross.

Psalm 22:1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

2 O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; And in the night season, and am not silent.

3 But You *are* holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

4 Our fathers trusted in You; They trusted, and You delivered them. ...

7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, *saying,*

8 "He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!" ...

15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

17 I can count all My bones. They look *and* stare at Me.

18 They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.

19 But You, O Lord, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me!

20 Deliver Me from the sword, My precious *life* from the power of the dog. ...

30 A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the *next* generation,

31 They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, That He has done *this*. ★

Watch for our upcoming program, *The Fountain of Tears*. It documents the remarkable sculpture of Israeli citizen Rick Wienecke, which juxtaposes the Holocaust and the Cross of Yeshua. Uncanny connections. See more in the December 2011 *Personal Letter* (www.levitt.com/letters/2011-12) —Myles

THE ARGYLE SWEATER By Scott Hilburn



1 Peter 3:3,4



Two-Flag Collar Pin

This unique full-color pin, with America's and Israel's flags, proudly encourages the unity of the U.S.A. and the Holy Land. What a terrific way to create opportunities to witness about Israel's importance in the Bible, the accuracy of biblical prophecy, and God's gift of grace!

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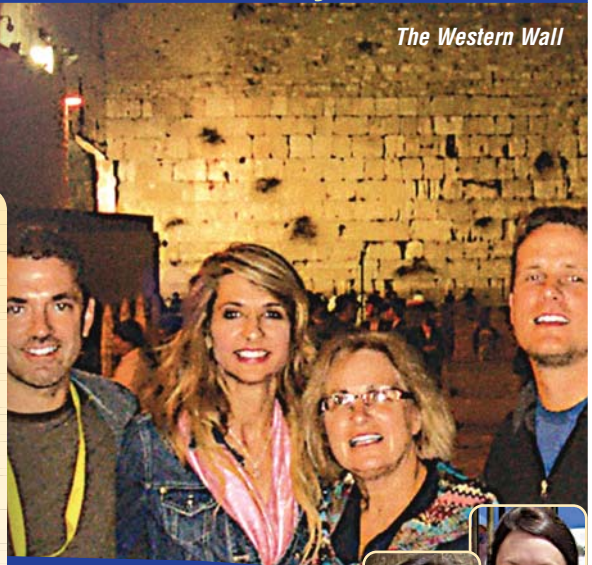
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Info and registration at

www.levitt.com/tours



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Myles & Katharine Weiss are our tour pastors!

