

Levitt Letter

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

FEATURES

Arab Spring Not Hijacked

The “Arab Spring” is easier to understand once you grasp two basics. First, the most important fact in the Arab world—as well as in Iran, Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and other neighboring non-Arab territories—is Islam.



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SHALOM FROM SANDRA

Perception is Everything

Shavuot/Pentecost/Weeks



One day when Zola walked through the lobby of a condo complex, two sweet, little old ladies passed by him. One remarked to the other, “That’s Mr. Levitt. He’s on TV. Maybe he can fix your TV.” Perception.

This year, the Jewish Feast of Shavuot and the Christian observance of Pentecost fall on the same day, Sunday, May 27th. The Feast of Weeks—*Shavuot* in Hebrew, Pentecost in Greek—is the fourth of the seven Feasts laid out in Leviticus 23.

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FEATURE STORY CONTINUED...

Arab Spring Not Hijacked

By Andrew C. McCarthy
www.FamilySecurityMatters.org

“Islam is Islam
and that’s it.”

It is not poverty, illiteracy, or the lack of modern democratic institutions. These, like anti-Semitism and anti-Americanism, are effects of Islam’s regional hegemony and supremacist tendency, not causes of it. One need not be led to that which pervades the air one breathes.

The second fact is that Islam constitutes a distinct civilization. It is not merely an exotic splash on the global mosaic with a few embarrassing cultural eccentricities; it is an entirely different way of looking at the world. Enthralled by diversity for its own sake, we have lost the capacity to comprehend a civilization whose idea of diversity is coercing diverse peoples into obedience to its evolution-resistant norms.

So we set about remaking Islam in our own progressive image: the noble, fundamentally tolerant Religion of Peace. We miniaturize the elements of the *umma* (the global Muslim community) that refuse to go along with the program: They are assigned labels that scream “fringe!”—Islamist, fundamentalist, jihadist, extremist, militant, or, of course, “conservative” Muslims adhering to “political Islam.”

We consequently pretend that Muslims who invoke Islamic scripture in the course of forcibly imposing *sharia*—the Islamic legal and political system—are engaged in “anti-Islamic activity.” When the ongoing Islamization campaign is advanced by violence, as inevitably happens, we insist that this aggression cannot have been ideologically driven, that surely some American policy or Israeli act is to blame.

The main lesson of the Arab Spring ought to be that this remaking of Islam has happened only in our own minds, for our own consumption. The Muslims of the Middle East take no note of our reimagining of Islam, being, in the main, either hostile toward or oblivious to Western overtures. Muslims do not measure themselves against Western perceptions, although the shrewdest among them take note of our eagerly accommodating attitude when determining what tactics will best advance the cause. **That cause is nothing less than Islamic dominance.**

Most Americans do not know that *hurriya*, Arabic for “freedom,” connotes “perfect slavery” or absolute submission to Allah, very nearly the opposite of the Western concept. Even if we grant for argument’s sake the dubious proposition that all people crave freedom, Islam and the West have never agreed about what freedom means. Muslims’ indictment of Middle Eastern dictators is not that they have denied individual liberty, but that they have repressed Islam. This is not to say that other grievances are irrelevant. Muslims have indeed been outraged by the manner in which their rulers looted the treasuries while the masses lived in squalor. But the agglomerations of wealth and other regime hypocrisies are framed more as sins against Allah’s law than as the inevitable corruptions of absolute power.

We should not be under any illusions about why things are this way. The Arab Spring has not been hijacked any more than Islam was hijacked by the suicide terrorists of 9/11. Islam is ascendant because that is the way Muslims of the Middle East want it and believe it should be. ★



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Perception is Everything

Christians celebrate Pentecost as the occasion when the Church received the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–4) and Jews celebrate Shavuot as an agricultural, harvest festival. The Feasts are a picture of God's perfect prophecy: Yeshua was crucified on Passover, buried on Unleavened Bread, rose from the dead on First Fruits, and sent the Holy Spirit on Shavuot. For the three remaining Feasts, if the pattern continues, we anticipate the Rapture on Rosh Hashanah/Trumpets, atonement on Yom Kippur, and to dwell with the Lord for 1,000 years in Sukkot/ Tabernacles.

In counting from the three feasts during Passover to Shavuot, Leviticus 23:15–16 says, "And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord."

Many Jews think that the Sabbath referred to here is Passover and so begin to count on the day after Passover, no matter what day of the week. By their reckoning, Jews miss the Feast of First Fruits altogether. Zola would "discuss" this with many of his Jewish friends. He would take them to the Bible and show them that the word was "Sabbath," not "festival" or "feast." More than one would cling to his misperception and say that he had to ask the rabbi.

As Zola said in his teaching on Pentecost (in the series *The Holy Days of Our Lord*), "The Lord is honoring Sunday here. ... The rabbis got rid of [the Feast of] First Fruits somewhere along the line because it was so symbolic of the Resurrection that it must have caused a lot of conversions to the faith and the Messiah, and so they omitted it. It hardly appears anymore in the Jewish calendar. And when they did that though, they got the counting wrong: they started from the second day of the Passover festival, and they count to any day of the week that is fifty days after that. But it wouldn't be correct because [Leviticus



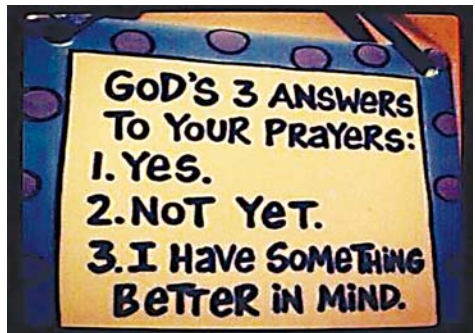
23:16 says] Pentecost has to be on the 'morrow after the Sabbath,' or on Sunday.

"In Christianity, a similar thing has happened. They didn't like the idea of the Holy Spirit coming to the Jewish Temple, so they have always taught that it came to the Upper Room. But that's crazy, because you can't put 3,000 people in the Upper Room. Acts 2:2 says that a rushing mighty wind 'filled the whole house where they were sitting.' That house—*bayit*—in Judaism parlance is the House of God, the Temple."

I love being able to celebrate the same feasts that our Lord celebrated; it makes me feel closer to Him. "The events of the New Testament, the vital future events involving the Church and the Jews—indeed, all of God's plan from chaos to eternity—are ingeniously revealed through the ... timing of these seven annual feasts." (*The Seven Feasts of Israel*, p.1). Misperceptions can be clarified and corrected by reading the Word, and by trusting our Bible teachers, like Zola, to bring us closer to God.

Hag Sameach ...
Joyous Festival!
Blessings, Sandra

[Sandra makes a special appeal on p.35](#)



“Seek Out the Book of the Lord and Read” —Isaiah 34:16

By Dr. Todd D. Baker, ZLM Staff Theologian

While ministering in Eilat, the Lord led me to speak with **Liron**, a young Jewish man who made *aliyah* (returned “home”) to Israel from Hungary. He has a five-year-old son with his wife, a Roman Catholic who has obviously shared some knowledge of Christianity with Liron.



Isaiah 43:5–7 foretells the return of Jews to the Land from the north, south, east, and west. When I pointed out to Liron that his return to Israel stemmed from none other than the sovereign hand of God, he joined my amazement that Isaiah’s prophecy for the Last Days is being fulfilled now. And, I explained, for a very specific purpose: to prepare God’s people for the return and reign of Yeshua the Messiah.

Liron’s wife is in the process of becoming an Israeli citizen. He and I prayed for the success of her legal proceedings and for his child and career. When I handed Liron the written Word of God (both Testaments), I explained that I was only bringing this Word of salvation back to those who first gave it to me.

The following day, as I was walking past a PUMA outlet store, the Holy Spirit called

me inside to speak with the manager. **Omer** (*below*) and I discussed the current threat of Iran and other hostile nations that surround Israel. He was happy to learn that a large group of Bible Believers in America—this ministry—ardently support and firmly stand with Israel. I assured Omer that because of God’s promises in Jeremiah 31:35–37, the Jewish nation will never cease to exist. Iran’s demonic president can threaten all he wants, but he does so to his own grave peril. God’s unique relationship with the Jewish people is rooted in His covenants with them.

Just as Liron and I had discussed, Omer and I also talked about how the regathering of Israel is a modern-day miracle and the fulfillment of end-time prophecy. In Isaiah 48:3–5, God explains that only He could spell out Israel’s history from ancient times to now and into the future. The same holds true with Bible prophecies about the Messiah. Only a supernatural God who knows time backward and forward could lay out such specific details. When one looks at the life of Yeshua, both in the New Testament and through physical evidence, the details point to Him as the prophesied Messiah. Omer, eager to examine the evidence, accepted a Hebrew Bible and study materials that outline how Messianic prophecy compares with the life of Yeshua. Lord willing, we will return to water this Gospel seed that our ministry has planted in Omer’s life. ★



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Ask The Chaplain

By Dr. Todd D. Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian



Q1. First, I thank our great God for your ministry. I am struggling with a question. My pastor was talking about Calvinism, election, and predestination. He is a “five point” Calvinist (Total Depravity, Unconditional Election, Limited Atonement, Irresistible Grace, and Perseverance of the Saints) and says that God elected and predestined people to Heaven or Hell before time began. People themselves have no choice. The elect are the only ones Christ died for.

I have a very hard time with this. That doesn't sound like a compassionate God. I was taught that God always knew who would accept Him and who would reject Him, that man does have a choice. My pastor kept throwing Romans 9, Acts 13:48, and other Scriptures (Ephesians) at me. This has rocked me to the core. I am losing sleep over this. Please help. God bless you all. —A.F.

A1. To deal with the breadth of Calvinism here would take too much time and space. But suffice it to say that when the Scriptures do speak of predestination and divine foreknowledge, they always speak of those who were destined to believe in Jesus Christ for eternal life—never in a double sense where some people are pre-determined for Hell regardless of their reaction to the Gospel.

If this were true, then men would not be morally culpable for their unbelief, and the blame would rest on God for arbitrarily determining their fate before they had a chance to respond to the Gospel. Furthermore, the Bible does teach unlimited atonement which goes against the Calvinist notion of limited atonement (see

1 John 2:2). Here is more elaboration on this by Christian apologist Ron Rhodes: Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/d22mkon>

Q2. In your article, “Will the antiChrist be a Jew?” (www.levitt.com/faqs.html#antichrist), the following statement is included: “But the word for God in the Hebrew is not *Elohim*, but *elohai*, meaning “gods” or idols. The passage simply says that the anti-Christ will not worship the idols his fathers worshiped, and this is likely since he makes a pretense of being the true God, the God of Israel.”

In my interlinear Bible, the Strong's reference to the first word “God” does seem to be the Hebrew word *Elohim*, with the following uses of the word god being *elohai*. Would you kindly clarify this apparent discrepancy for me? Thank you. —C.

A2. The word *Elohim* is used there and the context indicates that the word refers to the false gods of his ancestors. *Elohim* can be used either to mean the plurality of the Persons in the One Godhead or to signify the false idols/gods of the nations. Context will, of course, determine the meaning. Here in Daniel 11, the meaning for the false gods is the obvious interpretation since the antiChrist will magnify himself against the One true God (*El* in verse 36), while disregarding the polytheistic past (the gods) of his ancestors.

Coming next...



The iMplant

ASIN 02
SEP 2008



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Spring in the Galilee

By Eitan Shishkoff

After a record-breaking winter of desperately needed rainfall, the fields are bright green. Radiant red poppies and cheerful wild, yellow daisies decorate the landscape. Added to the appearance of these paintings from nature's palette is the seasonal increase of sincere Christian visitors. They come to experience the land and the people of Israel, and some discover us—Messianic Jews—as if we are a lost tribe suddenly materializing out of the recesses of history.

In fact, the reappearance of Messianic Jewish communities in *Eretz Yisrael* (the Land of Israel) is stimulating fresh waves of visitors from the nations. We recently enjoyed the privilege of introducing friends from a bouquet of countries to our old/new Land. I especially love returning to the sites surrounding the Sea of Galilee. At the Mount of Beatitudes, we hiked down through a banana grove to a point of land overlooking the lake. The view was simply stunning. What a way to experience the timeless teaching of our Lord's Sermon on the Mount!

The next stop was Capernaum, or Kfar Nahum (village of comfort) in Hebrew. Yeshua headquartered here during much of His Galilean ministry. Of course, the village is no longer inhabited. But even stepping into the remains of the fourth-century synagogue built on top of "Yeshua's synagogue" piques the imagination. What was it like when those guys lowered their paralytic friend through the roof? Or how would it feel to watch the man's withered hand made whole, provoking His opponents to plot against Him? At times, if you're quiet, you can almost sense their presence.

Eitan and Connie Shishkoff



Once, in just such a moment, I found myself praying. "Lord, we need You to demonstrate Your power and Messiahship through such wonderful healings today." I felt Him respond. "That is exactly My desire. Go back to your city and be an instrument in My name." His commission was not just for me. It is for all of us.

In addition to taking our friends to biblical sites, we are especially excited to help them participate in the miracle of the reborn, New Covenant Israelis. In Akko, at the upper end of the Haifa Bay, we prayed long and earnestly for revival among the Jews and Arabs of that town. In Haifa, on the church roof of our daughter congregation there, we beheld the city and its harbor below, with Mount Carmel behind us. We celebrated Purim there, taking turns reading the Book of Esther and interceding for God's protection over His people Israel. Ironically and prophetically, Persia (Iran) is still threatening to destroy us. But God has other plans.

I am deeply moved and profoundly impressed by the devotion of Israel's Christian friends. They are a new breed. They are not content to only view the ancient stones. They want to fellowship with and learn from the living stones, the resurrected disciples of Yeshua in His Land. This friendship is essential to the return of our King. ★

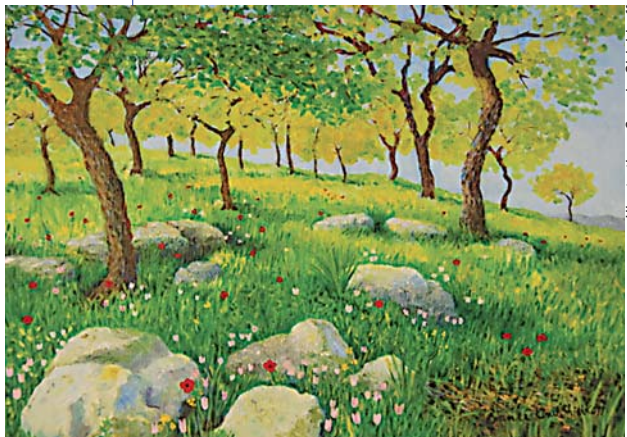


Illustration: Connie Shishkoff



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Counting the Days

By Zola Levitt

This year, Passover began on Friday evening, when the Jews sat down to the first Seder or the first festival meal. Unleavened Bread occurred on Saturday. Since First Fruits, the day of our Lord's resurrection offering, is specified to be on the Sunday during the week of Unleavened Bread, the following day—"Easter"—was First Fruits, or Resurrection Sunday.

In some years, First Fruits and Easter are separated because of anomalies in the Jewish and Western calendars, but they are very definitely the same feast. Obviously, the farmers bringing in the first fruits of their crops to thank the Lord for restoring the fertility of the land each spring is symbolic of our Lord's resurrection. In fact, our Lord gave His own First Fruits offering: "And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after His resurrection" (Matt. 27:52-53a). The farmers could predict by the time of the first fruits that they would have a bountiful harvest later that year, and the Lord's resurrection serves to remind us that we will all be raised, as Paul eloquently puts it in First Corinthians 15:22, "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

I often teach that we all have a number in this resurrection, since Scripture specifies "each man in his own order." When you go into a busy store and they give you a number, you are sure you will be served, and it is evidently likewise with the resurrection. "The dead in Christ will rise first" (1 Thess. 4:16) because they obviously have lower numbers.



This year Pentecost and Shavuot, the Jewish Festival of Harvest, will occur on the same day, Sunday. This is because Pentecost is reckoned from the Scripture (Lev. 23:16) as fifty days after First Fruits. It varies with the Jews since they omitted First Fruits a long time ago (to be rid of the Resurrection, I suspect); they now begin counting the fifty days from the second day of Passover. But since this year Passover began on Friday, the second day of Passover actually fell on Sunday/First Fruits, causing both faiths to begin and end counting at the same time.

The Seven Feasts began with Passover at sunset on Friday, April 6, 2012. The fourth feast, Feast of Weeks, also known as Pentecost (Greek) and Shavuot (Hebrew), falls on Sunday, May 27. ★



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Ladies & Gentlemen



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1. One each of all our teaching materials (more than \$2,400 worth), not just for your library, but also to give away.
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3. One-on-one telephone conference with Myles to discuss this ministry's goals and visions.

Our Ways Are NOT His Ways

By Katharine Weiss



Looking out at the calm Mediterranean Sea, it is not immediately apparent that dangerous conflicts are just below the surface ... in the ocean of ideas and philosophies of men. Just as 200,000 rockets threaten tiny Israel, flaming arrows of deceit threaten Western Christianity, striking at the heart of the Believers. In an attempt to be culturally acceptable, Christians are embracing some of the wildest ideas ever, with not-unexpected wild results of confusion and division.

One of the beautiful mandates laid upon us by the Lord is that of repairing the world. In Hebrew thought, it is called "*tikkun olam*" and implies that we are to leave the world in a better state than we found it. We should be a living manifestation of the goodness of God, and through our lives be a blessing to this world.

While we were in Israel this spring filming a series on Abraham, those verses (Genesis 12:1–3) came alive to me. In them, God revealed that the children of Abraham, both natural and spiritual, would be a blessing to all the families of the Earth.

Certainly the greatest blessing has been the coming of the Jewish Messiah,

Yeshua. Beyond that, the natural seed of Abraham has also blessed the world through science, medicine, technology, art, and music.

We are at our best when we remain connected to the roots of our faith, and the Scripture is the clearest way to stay close to God. His thoughts are on every page of this most unusual Book. When we attempt *tikkun olam* apart from the Word of God, we become vulnerable to human reasoning and what I call "sympathy spirit," which produces a kind of "hippie love" instead of Holy love!

This is peaking in our day in the form of "Chrislam"—an incredible syncretizing of Christianity and Islam. Some Christian leaders are trying to promote a Gospel that embraces Islam. While the God of Israel will willingly embrace any Muslim who comes to Him, He does not embrace Islam. And ...

The god of Islam is NOT the same as the God of the Bible.

Nowhere in His Holy Scriptures does the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob identify Himself as the moon god of the Arabian desert! [\[See also p. 24.\]](#)

The character of Allah is not the personality of one who believes in intimacy and relationship, which is the fervent desire of Jehovah, the God of the Bible. Jehovah is constantly seeking intimacy with us. ★

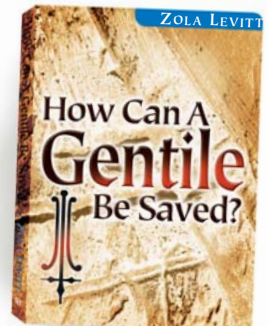


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How Can a Gentile Be Saved? Study booklet and CD

As a Jew, Zola was constantly asked, "How did you get saved?" —as though Jewish salvation is hard to find in Scripture. In this thought-provoking Bible study, Zola turned the tables by asking, "How Can A *Gentile* Be Saved?" An interesting, unique look at grafting the gentiles into God's plan.

[Please see pages 18 and 19 to order this study booklet and teaching CD.](#)



He Will Not Deny Himself

By Myles Weiss
ZLM Spokesman

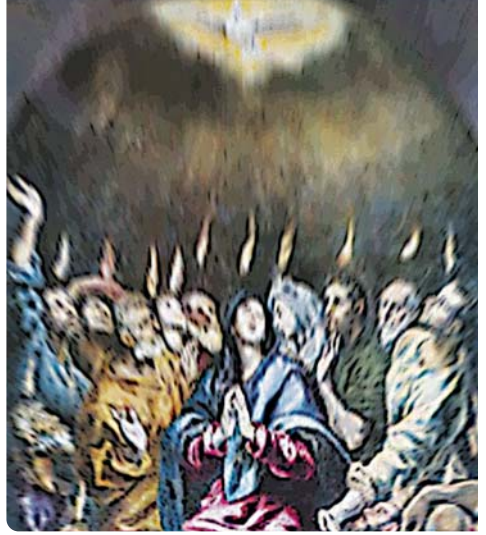


The philosopher George Santayana (1863–1952) famously quipped, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” I thought of that when Israel’s head of state Benjamin Netanyahu handed the scroll of Esther to America’s head of state Barack Obama. In Israel’s case, the implications are existential: life and death are playing out on the world stage.

We know from Scripture (Ecclesiastes 3:1) that “to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.” This is the time for our intercession for Israel (and America!), perhaps more than ever before. We need to get in “sync” with the timing of God’s purposes. His timing is brilliantly displayed through the *Moedim*, the appointed times of the Lord.

The Feast of Weeks (*Shavuot*) marks the birth of the Church (Acts 2). The Jews were all in town (Jerusalem) because Shavuot is one of the three pilgrim feasts—the other two being *Pesach* (Passover) and *Sukkot* (Tabernacles)—when Jews are commanded to travel to Jerusalem to meet with God in ritual festival and worship at the Temple. The Feast of Shavuot commemorates Moses bringing the Ten Commandments from the top of the mountain, and the birth of the Jewish nation at Sinai. That miraculous event was accompanied by thunder and lightning and the death of 3,000 sinners (Exodus 19, 31, 34).

With impeccable symmetry and cosmic mathematical precision, the Church was born *at the same feast season*. While Jews were in the Temple celebrating Shavuot, tongues of fire appeared, the law was written on the hearts of the Believers, and a rushing, mighty wind of the Holy Spirit caused



the rebirth of 3,000(!), and began the season of the Church as a nation of priests (Acts 2:2–42, 1 Peter 2:9).

We are 2,000 years into this Age of harvest from the nations, and we are watching expectantly for *Yom Teruah* (the day of “blowing”)—the Feast of Trumpets, when the trumpet will sound and the Lord will return! (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17)

The Jewish Messiah, Yeshua, is returning to a Jewish Jerusalem to rule and reign for a thousand years. It is notable that Jerusalem is mentioned over 700 times in the Bible and **not once** in the Koran! Jesuit Father Michael Naud stated in 1674, “Jews prefer being prisoners in Jerusalem to enjoying the freedom they could acquire elsewhere. ... The love of the Jews for the Holy Land which they lost ... is unbelievable.”

In spite of the wars and rumors of war, the Jewish people will prevail by the grace of God. In 1898, Mark Twain said, “The Greek and the Roman ... are gone; other peoples have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out. ... The Jew saw them all, [survived] them all. ... All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces passed, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?”

The answer, Mr. Clemens ... is the God of the Jews. ★



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Test-Tube Testes

The opening of sperm banks may have solved the problem of male infertility in some couples, but not for those men who want to see their grandmother's smile or father's eyes in their future offspring.

Environmental pollution, testicular warming, and even radiation treatments can radically alter the course of a man's fertility—to the point where not even a single viable sperm can be used in the *in vitro fertilization* (IVF) process, where egg and sperm are joined in the lab.

Now, scientists at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev have created an artificial testis that promises to be a breakthrough in male infertility. In this Petri dish experiment, the researchers cultured a live sperm from mice, using the germ cells of a man's sperm—the proto-cells that create sperm.

While the first stage of this experiment was done on animal models, the proof of concept is there, allowing the scientists to continue their research in the human realm, where a sperm count really counts.

They are currently investigating the application of their technique in men with zero sperm count at Israeli IVF clinics. They are also testing it on the germ cells of a young boy who has

By Karin Kloosterman
www.Israel21c.org



Growing sperm in a Petri dish.

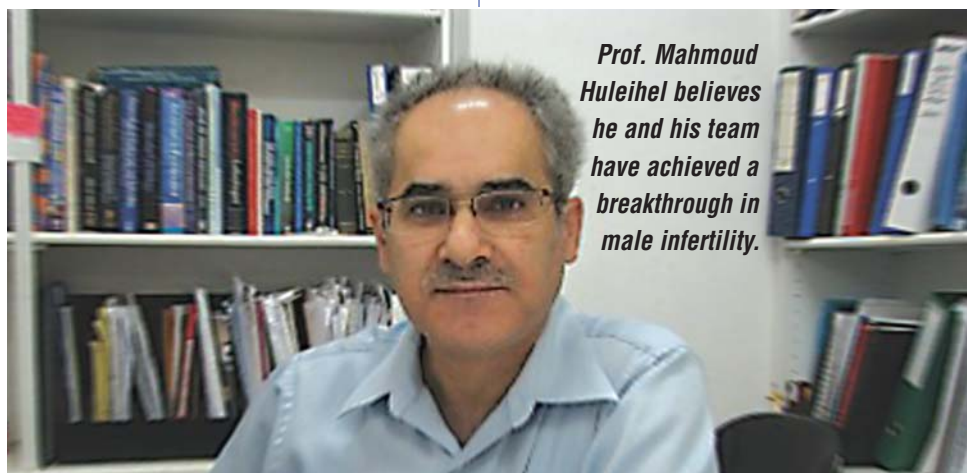
undergone radiation treatment.

It could take up to 10 years until final results are available, but lead investigator Prof. Mahmoud Huleihel (an Israeli Arab from the Shraga Segal Department of Microbiology and Immunology in the Faculty of Health Sciences) and his research group believe that they have achieved a significant advance—by producing viable sperm from germ cells for the first time.

This bold Israeli-made technique provides new therapeutic pathways for infertile men and it offers a new way for men undergoing aggressive cancer treatments to sperm-bank their future children.

Israelis are also the first in the world to be able to harvest immature oocytes (eggs) from young women who are about to undergo cancer treatment. A few years ago, a team including Prof. Dror Meirov from Tel Aviv University detailed this work to the scientific community.

While his approach is completely different, says Huleihel, he is cooperating with Meirov's Tel Aviv team on fertility issues in general. ★



Prof. Mahmoud Huleihel believes he and his team have achieved a breakthrough in male infertility.



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ISRAEL'S CONTRIBUTIONS IN SCIENCE

Tel Aviv Takes the Tech-Hub Crown



Mayor Ron Huldai

By Ben Rooney
online.WSJ.com

Who is going to be Europe's main technology hub? While London and Berlin both see themselves as claimants to the title, if you look at the numbers, neither can challenge Tel Aviv.

Ron Huldai, Tel Aviv's 13-year mayor and a former combat pilot, has helped build a tech center second only to Silicon Valley. He did it not by installing high-speed fiber or hosting conferences. His approach, as stated in a recent interview with *The Wall Street Journal*, was much simpler.

"Tel Aviv had become a city that people used, not a city they lived in," he said. "We are creating a good place for hi-tech people to live in—I am doing it for the people working in hi-tech," he said.

It is the "Field of Dreams" model: If you build it, they will come. "It is about building an environment that is supportive," he said. Young digital entrepreneurs tend to be counter-cultural—attracted to cities that are vibrant, diverse, and international.

His bottom-up model—based on the needs of people—has proved successful.

According to a report commissioned by the city, Tel Aviv and its surrounding area hosts more than 600 early-stage companies. Access to venture capital is, per capita, 20-fold greater in Israel than in the rest of Europe. "If you take the amount of VC per capita, in Europe, it is \$7. In the U.S. it is \$72. In Israel it is double that," Jan Muehlfeit, Microsoft's European chairman asserted last year.

Tel Aviv
at night



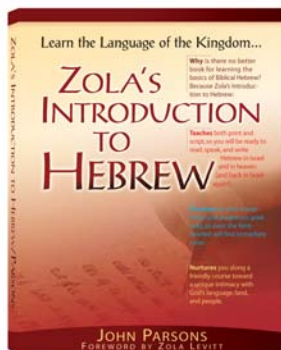
Zola's Introduction to Hebrew study book

Why is there no better book for learning the basics of biblical Hebrew? Because Zola's Ultimate Hebrew Primer:

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Unlike most academic books on biblical Hebrew, this course provides a step-by-step approach that will enable you to understand the Hebraic mindset while learning the alphabet and vowel signs. Studying at your own pace, you will master the Hebrew alphabet, sound out Hebrew words, and begin connecting your studies with your heart by reading Hebrew prayers, blessings, and even passages from Scripture!

Have you ever: Wanted to study the Scriptures in the original Hebrew, but gave up the idea because it might require too much time? **Then Zola's Introduction to Hebrew is for you!** [Please order on page 18.](#)





Islamic Rages Aimed at Enslaving the West

By Diana West, JewishWorldReview.com

Six U.S. soldiers have been murdered by Afghan security forces seized by what may be labeled *Koran-Burning Rage*.

Koran-Burning Rage follows *Pastor Jones Rage*, which, after a Florida pastor burned a Koran in 2011, seized Afghan Muslims and inspired rioting. Some rioters overran a United Nations outpost and murdered seven UN personnel.

Pastor Jones Rage followed *Fitna Rage*, which seized Muslims worldwide even before the release of Dutch parliamentarian Geert Wilders's short 2008 film *Fitna*. That film sparked rioting, arson, boycotts, death threats and, as a bonus, charges that led to the protracted trial in the Netherlands of Wilders for "insulting Muslims." (He was acquitted in 2011.)

Fitna Rage followed *Teddy Bear Rage*, which, in 2007, seized Muslims in Sudan after a British teacher, whose class named a teddy bear "Mohammed," was sentenced to 15 days for "insulting religion." Ten thousand Sudanese turned out to call for the teacher's head instead.

Teddy Bear Rage followed *Pope Rage*, which seized Muslims after a 2006 address in which Pope Benedict XVI noted a historic reference to Islam's propensity to spread by violence. Muslim rioting, arson (including church burnings), and the murder of a 65-year-old Italian nun in Somalia ensued.

All of these rages followed or coincided with the most sustained rage of all, *Danish Mohammed-Cartoon Rage*, which, since the 2005 publication of a dozen Mohammed cartoons in a Danish newspaper, has seized countless Muslims in recurring waves of rioting, boycotts, and arson. More than 100 deaths have resulted.

I could continue, but I think the pattern is clear. Critical discussion or representation of Islam—including stated facts; satirical, political, or religious commentary; or acts deemed by Islam to be "blasphemy" or "desecration"—spur Muslims to violence. This violence spurs Westerners to apology. But apology is always an act of *dhimmitude*: submitting to Islamic definitions of crime or grievance that only under Islamic law require contrition.

Today, Muslim violence is more brazen with the murders of American troops, and Western apologies are more exaggerated. The United States hasn't even quashed Afghan demands for a trial of those who earlier this year disposed of several Korans.

The fact is, this latest rage, like those that preceded it, is a power play.

Feigned victimhood becomes a trap for the "perpetrator"—in this case, the U.S. military. Falling for the trap means submitting to violent Islamic dictates—to stop the outburst, to make it all "better," even if "better" is only a lull before the next power play.

Just as such actions bring a co-dependent family member more closely into the behavioral orbit of a sick family member, they bring the United States more closely into the behavioral orbit regulated by Islamic law. They force the "perpetrator" to act Islamic. This is the pattern of *dhimmitude*, and we must break it. ★



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Converting Empty European Churches into Mosques

By Soeren Kern

www.StonegateInstitute.org

Muslims in Europe are increasingly converting empty Christian churches into mosques. The proliferation of mosques housed in former churches reflects the rise of Islam as the fastest growing religion in post-Christian Europe. There are now more practicing Muslims than practicing Christians in many parts of Europe, not only in large urban centers, but also in smaller towns and cities across the continent.

As Islam replaces Christianity as the dominant religion in Europe, more churches are set to become mosques, which increasingly serve not only as religious institutions but also function as the foundational political building blocks for the establishment of separate, parallel Muslim communities in Europe that are based on Islamic *sharia* law.

The latest churches destined to become mosques are located in Germany, where the Roman Catholic Church plans to close up to six churches due to falling attendance. All of the churches slated for closing are in northern Duisburg where Islam has already replaced Christianity as the dominant religion, and where several Catholic churches have already been abandoned in a previous round of church closings.

In Germany as a whole, more than 500 Roman Catholic and Protestant churches have been closed since 2000. By contrast, there are now more than 200 mosques (including more than 40 mega-mosques), 2,600 Muslim prayer halls, and a countless number of unofficial mosques in Germany.

In neighboring France, mosques are being built more often than Roman Catholic churches, and there now are more practicing Muslims in the country than practicing Catholics. France is home to



Europe's biggest Muslim community. The total number of mosques in France has already doubled to more than 2,000 during just the past ten years. Although 64% of the French population identify as Roman Catholic, only 4.5% of those actually are practicing Catholics. Research data provides empirical evidence that Islam is well on its way to overtaking Roman Catholicism as the dominant religion in France.

In Britain, Islam has overtaken Anglicanism as the dominant religion as more people attend mosques than the Church of England. According to one survey, 930,000 Muslims attend a place of worship at least once a week, whereas only 916,000 Anglicans do the same. Muslim leaders are now claiming that, given such a rise of Islam in Britain, Muslims should receive a share of the privileged status of the Church of England.

Overall, at least 10,000 churches have been closed in Britain since 1960. There are now in excess of 1,700 official mosques in Britain, many converted from churches, in addition to 2,000 Muslim prayer halls and thousands of unofficial mosques in garages or warehouses scattered throughout the country. The number of Muslims is forecast to double to 8% of the British population by 2030. British Prime Minister David Cameron, in a speech in Oxford on the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, said Britain is a "Christian country and we should not be afraid to say so."

But the official Citizenship Survey published in late 2011 found the number of people who call themselves Christians in England and Wales fell by nearly 10% over the past five years. ★



Iranian Cleric Calls Facebook “Un-Islamic,” Membership a “Sin”

Deutsche Presse-Agentur, Haaretz.com

An Iranian ayatollah has said that the social networking service Facebook is un-Islamic and being a member of it a sin, according to the ISNA (Iranian Students' News Agency).

In Iran, it is common for senior clerics to be asked about their stance on certain social issues and whether these issues are compatible with Islamic norms.

Their answers are regarded as a form of decree.

“Basically, going to any website which propagates immoralities and could weaken the religious belief is un-Islamic and not allowed, and membership in it is therefore *haram* (a sin),” Ayatollah Lotfollah Safi-Golpaygani, a senior cleric, said. “Only the use of websites propagating religious criteria and not leading to any kind of ethical immoralities is of no problem,” he added.

According to official figures released last October, 17 million Iranians have a Facebook account, despite heavy restrictions and filtering imposed by the government. Due to the popularity of Facebook with younger generations, observers believe that the number of real Iranian Facebook users could be much higher than 17 million.

Iran has a population of 70 million, with 60 percent under the age of 30. Over 5 million websites are reportedly blocked in Iran, but Iranians use proxy software and virtual private networks (VPN) to access them. Iranian officials have, for over three decades, been waging what they call a “battle against the invasion of Western culture.”

This has led to blockades of “immoral” Internet sites and banned Western music and movies. However, pirated versions of those are easily available on the black market.

The country recently established a cyber-police unit to better police the Internet, and even plans to introduce its own national Internet, though this has been postponed several times.



The Euranian Crisis

By Niall Ferguson, www.DailyBeast.com

Most commentators treat the European sovereign-debt issue and the concern over Iran's nuclear program as unrelated. But they are in reality two sides of the same crisis. Call it the Euranian crisis.

Ahmadinejad (Aamir Qureshi / AFP-Getty Images)



The connection surfaced in February when Iran threatened to cut off exports to six European countries in a bid to preempt the EU embargo on oil imports from Iran, which goes into effect on July 1. In typical fashion, it coincided with television coverage of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad personally inserting the first Iranian-made nuclear fuel rods into a reactor in Tehran (while chanting verses from the Koran). Like that gangster Jimmy Cagney used to play: the little guy who tries to intimidate bigger opponents by acting like a psychopath. But there's more method to Iran's seeming madness.

Note which European countries Tehran threatened with its ban: France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain. Four out of the six belong, with Ireland, to the "PIIGS" club of euro-zone countries with chronic deficits. (PIIGS is an acronym of Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece, Spain.) These are not exclusively fiscal deficits (gaps between government spending and tax revenue). PIIGS' trade deficits have been larger for longer than their fiscal deficits. According to *Financial Times*, the key imbalance at the heart of the euro crisis is the trade and services deficit between the PIIGS and the so-called core: Germany.

There's more. As Kevin Harrington pointed out recently, the PIIGS also run a massive deficit with the oil-producing countries of the world, and especially those of the Middle East. True, Iran is not a huge exporter to Europe. But more than 70 percent of what it did export to EU went to Italy and Spain, while a third of Greek oil imports came from Iran.

"Eurabia," coined some years ago by author Bat Ye'or, describes the cultural consequences of Muslim immigration to Europe. "Eurania" describes the nexus between Europe and Middle Eastern oil. (It's scant consolation that the continent's reliance on Russia and other former Soviet republics is even greater.)

All of which helps to explain what Iran was trying to achieve with its threat of an oil-export ban to select European countries. Energy dependency has geopolitical consequences. If even the rumor of an Iranian export ban could skyrocket the price of oil, what would a full-scale showdown between Iran and Israel do? Answer: it would inflict yet more economic misery on Europe, which gives Brussels a big incentive to avoid such a showdown.

And that's why Iran's top nuclear negotiator, Saeed Jalili, recently declared that he was ready to hold new nuclear talks "in a constructive way." That translates into holding new talks "in a way that drives a wedge between Europe and Israel." **Eurania isn't on any map. But it's there in the trade statistics, if you bother to look.** ★



*Iran is a threat to the whole world,
not just to Israel.*



Hebrew Lesson



Hope For The Hurting

By John J. Parsons

קרוב יהוה לְנִשְׁבְּרֵי לֵב וְאֶת־דַּכְּאֵי רוּחַ יוֹשִׁיעַ

“The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.” – Psalm 34:18

יֹשִׁיעַ	רוּחַ	דַּכְּאֵי	וְאֶת	לֵב	לְנִשְׁבְּרֵי	יְהוָה	קָרוֹב
(3) (2) (1)	(2) (1)	(2) (1)	(2) (1)	(1)	(4) (3) (2) (1)	(1)	(2) (1)
yo-shi-a	ru-ach	dak-kei	ve'et	lev	le-nish'be-rei	Adonai	ka-rov
he saves	the crushed of spirit	and	to the broken of heart	The LORD	near (is)		

Of the Savior it is written, “A bruised reed shall He not break, and the smoking flax shall He not quench” (Isa. 42:3). People conscious of their frailty and who have been crushed because of it are likened to “bruised reeds” to whom the Messiah shall attend. As it is written, “The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.” Indeed, He binds up the broken of heart and gives liberty to those in bondage (Isa. 61:1). “A smoking flax shall He not quench” likewise means that our Lord will not snuff out an unsteady flame ready to expire, but will tend to it with special oil to cause it to burn more brightly.

The Spirit of the LORD is always saying, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor. 12:9). God doesn’t need our religious acts of service, our worship, our prayers, or our approval; on the contrary, we desperately need Him. Prayer is a mirror of the heart, and we either come to God in our emptiness, our brokenness, and in real humility, or we are just playing religious games. Those who truly call upon the LORD understand their radical need for deliverance, and those who stand before Him will exclaim, “Woe is me, for I am ruined...” (Isa. 6:5). “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:14).

We are all wounded and bruised people, and therefore we should extend kindness and compassion to one another, despite our failures and defects of character. We should take the risk and reach out. The Savior seeks the “trampled and bruised,” the poor in spirit, and those crushed by the blows of this fallen world, and offers them healing. “The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10), and therefore He is found in the midst of the leper colonies of the hurting, the forgotten, and the rejected. As a “man of sorrows” he understands the language of our pain (Isa. 53:3).

There is an old story of two men sitting and enjoying a drink together. One of them then says to the other, “You know, you’re my best friend. I really love you, brother!” The other responds, “Oh yeah? If you love me, tell me where I hurt...” If someone loves us, they will know “where we hurt,” and therefore we find comfort that our Savior, who “sticks closer than a brother,” understands the bruises and heart-aches of our lives. **“The LORD heals the broken in heart and binds up their wounds” (Psalm 147:3).** ★



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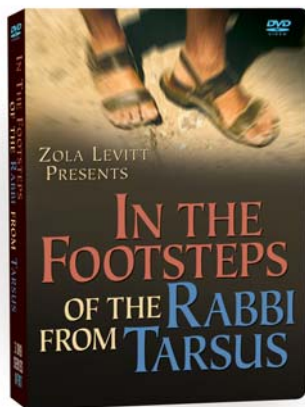
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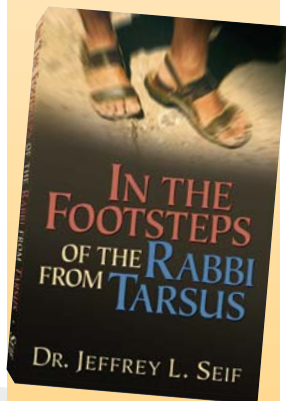


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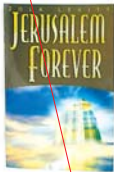
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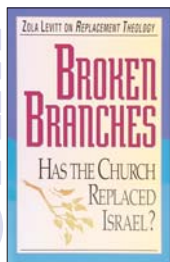
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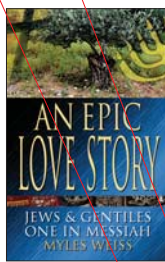
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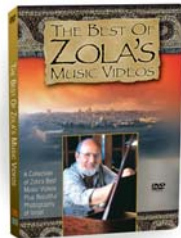
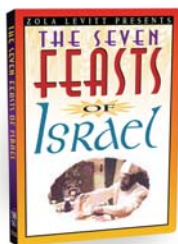


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Pray for the peace of Jerusalem

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• Golda Meir

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- 3. TV boxes:** see www.levitt.com/roku
- 4. Video podcasts** via iTunes for iPhones, iPads, etc. See www.levitt.com/podcasts
- 5. DVDs:** available on page 18 and at <http://bit.ly/wjHXM>

www.levitt.com/airsch lists when we're on several national networks (Daystar, INSP, ABC-Family), Dish, DirecTV, and dozens of independent stations. Public libraries and friends welcome you to watch ZLP as well.

"Come Home!"

Zola Tours to Israel:



See page 36 for details



Live for Today, Save for Tomorrow



Mark Levitt

Many criticize AARP (formerly the American Association of Retired Persons) for a variety of reasons. Nonetheless, their recent article, written by Carla Fried and excerpted below, has merit. In short: live long, [keep working,] and prosper. Assuming the Lord tarries, retirement planning is simpler for those who keep working, even part time, into their late 60s. <http://aarp.us/tK5M8G>

According to Business Insider website, “Work till you drop is becoming the boomers’ new motto.” That’s fine with me, frankly, and reminds me of what the Bible says about some of the best things in life: working hard, eating when hungry, and resting when tired (Ecclesiastes 2:24). —Mark

More than 60 percent of workers say they expect to retire at age 65 or later, according to the most recent survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute, up from 45 percent in 1991.

“The payoff of working longer,” says Steven A. Sass, who coauthored *Working Longer: The Solution to the Retirement Income Challenge*, “is that you can preserve your retirement savings and delay taking Social Security.” Medical researchers have long known that staying on the job pays benefits to the mind and body.

Put yourself in a position where you can afford to stop saving, or at least slow down, when you reach 60. Then: Live a little. What you’ll need depends on your current income, as well as the date when you expect to start tapping your savings and collecting Social Security. Bottom line: The longer you keep your hands off

wise as a serpent

the retirement cookie jar, the less you’ll need to have saved up by age 60. *Dramatically* less.

The Retirement Policy Center at the Urban Institute estimates that for every year you work past age 62, you increase your eventual retirement income by an average of 9 percent. At that rate, working eight years longer would double your retirement income. Here’s why:

- Working longer means your retirement savings need not stretch over so many years.
- You give your savings more time to grow.
- You can delay claiming your Social Security.
- Finally, you reduce your out-of-pocket health care costs.

Don’t stop contributing to your 401(k) if your employer provides a match. Don’t drag debt into retirement. Don’t think you can give full retirement a whirl at age 62 and then just go back to work if your new life doesn’t shake out as expected. “Retirement is a bit of a black hole,” says Sass. “It’s habit-forming.”

Take care of yourself. A healthier you increases the odds you’ll be able to keep working. It also makes it likelier you’ll enjoy your 60s—and beyond. ★





Letters to ZLM

Comments from www.levitt.com

From R.W.: Just finished watching the Passover teaching. I never tire of that good news. I miss you, **Zola**. Thank you, **Myles and Katherine** ... thank you. **Mark**, see me smiling on your legacy.

From P.P. (TX): The whole time I was incarcerated, I received the *Levitt Letter* free of charge. ZLM ministered to me and now it is my privilege to help ZLM minister to others. [Thank you for putting our teaching into practice. You are an inspiration.](#) —Editor

From F.V. (OH): I've liked all your hosts. Of course, no one can replace Zola, but I always look for the half of him that is still with us—namely, Sandra.

From J.C.N. (WI): Love the ministry and the newsletter columns. Mark, your column Cross Training at The J was *deja vu* for me. In my teens and 20s, I lived on South Miami Beach and I miss hearing Yiddish. SHALOM.

From S.C. (CA): I ache to share Jesus with two beloved Jewish friends, but I want it to be a positive experience for them. Christians have failed over many years to truly live Christ's teaching and love. Thank you for making a way to reach my friends!

From L.E.B. (SC): I just love the YouTube broadcasts. God bless you. www.YouTube.com/user/ZolaLevittPresents.

From C.McC. (IL): I absolutely love your magazine. Keep up the good work. May God continue to bless and prosper your ministry.



Back to Index



Wanted: Used Heart

Dan Young created www.levitt.com roughly 20 years ago from scratch. Then, he maintained it for years. Now, after a stroke and a couple of heart attacks, he needs a heart transplant. His blood type is O positive. If you know of a possible heart donor, please write ASAP to Mark at staff@levitt.com. Either way, please send up a prayer for Dan who, when he was younger and stronger, gave generously of himself to the Lord's service. Thank you.

Charismatics and Israel

Dear ZLM,

Does Zola Levitt Ministries truly believe that the Pentecostal religion is a sign for the birth of Israel? This saddens me deeply. Jesus Himself said that in the Last Days, false teachers, prophets, and every other Godless entity would come out of the woodwork. Well, they are crawling out fast! The gentile church is in serious trouble and we are too blind, asleep, and selfish to see it. May God wake us up before it's too late. —J.S.

Dear J.S.—

I know of no time in print or broadcast when Zola ever subscribed to the bizarre theory that Pentecostalism is some sign for the rebirth of Israel. On the contrary, Scriptures say that the rebirth of Israel is a prophetic sign for the soon return of Messiah (Deuteronomy 30:1–3; Jeremiah 12:14–15). Scripture is to be the final court of arbitration when it comes to testing and evaluating any doctrine and teaching. —Todd

The “Pentecostal” or “Charismatic” part of the Body of Christ worldwide is the fastest growing edge of Christianity, especially in Asia and Africa. While there are excesses and fallacies in that part of the Body (as there can be in any of the Body), it IS a legitimate expression. It is NOT a primary sign of the Lord's return, as Todd stated, but I find it interesting that its restoration appeared at the same time in history as the restoration of the Hebrew language and the *aliyah* (return of Jews to Israel) of the late 19th century. —Myles



Misinformation on TV? ... Shocking!

Dear brethren,

A certain television Bible teacher claims that: “The Jews got the gospel of the Kingdom while the gentiles got the gospel of grace.” Also: “At the Rapture, the Church will go to heaven while the Jews will suffer the tribulation and enter the millennium kingdom.” I disagree with this teaching, what say you? —A.R.

Dear A.R.—

I can see why you disagree with him; he is mistaken. The Gospel and the Kingdom were offered to Israel first as the Lord and His Jewish *talmidim* (disciples) proclaimed (see Matthew 10:6; Matthew 15:24). Jesus does promise the NT Church that they will be delivered from the wrath that will fall on the Earth during the Tribulation (1 Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9; Revelation 3:10). Israel will go through the refiner's fire at this time and will be prepared for the return of the Messiah, while the gentile nations will be judged by God for their mistreatment of the Jews (Ezekiel 20:33–44; Zechariah 9–13; Matthew 25:31–46). This is the plain and simple plan that God has revealed. —Todd



Isn't "Allah" Just a Word for "God"? (When in doubt, blame the Jews.)

Dear Myles,

You've stated before that the Muslim god is a moon god. Where does this come from? What is the evidence? The Muslims that I have learned from believe Allah is the God of Abraham. Did Ishmael or Esau worship a moon god that became the Muslim god?



Does not the name *Allah* simply mean "god"? The Palestinian Christians—actually all Arabic-speaking Christians—pray to Allah. How do you know that the Muslim god is not the same God that I—a born-again disciple of Jesus—pray to?

I am not saying that Islam is the way—it definitely is not; Jesus is the only way. But changing who they believe their god is seems to be a racist move on the part of Jews.

I love the Jews, I support Israel, and I pray for the peace of Jerusalem; but I need to know. —D.B. (WI)

Dear D.B.—

I'm not sure why you assume that a negative observation of Islam is "a racist move on the part of Jews;" you might want to re-examine your love for the Jews. But I move on to your main question.

Myles is absolutely right about this. In his book *The Islamic Invasion*, Dr. Robert Morey convincingly shows from history, archaeology, and linguistics that Allah was in fact the Mesopotamian moon god from Mohammed's tribe in pre-Islamic Arabia. And even if that were not the case, you can still truthfully affirm that Allah is not, in any way, the same God of the Bible since Islam's god has no divine Son; whereas, the God of the Bible affirms Jesus as His own unique Son (Matthew 3:17; Matthew 17:5; John 12:27–29). On this basis alone, Allah is not the same as The God of the Bible, who sent His one and only unique Son into the world to save it (John 3:16). —Todd



Letters of Support

From P.W. (OR): I thought Zola did a great job. Then Jeff excelled. Now, Myles and Katharine have taken it to a higher level—as it should be. The new freshness and format are awesome! You are in my prayers.

From C.V. (NY): You have an amazing ministry. The *Levitt Letter* keeps me up to date with what is happening in Israel. The series on your website are high quality, well done, and captivating. A great teaching tool! God bless everyone at ZLM.

From J.B. (GA): We love the *Levitt Letter*! As homeschoolers, we find it a reliable, current-events news source. Plus, the kids love the cartoons.

From Y.P. (TX): I just finished reading your *Personal Letter* to us who are blessed by ZLM. I don't know if I ever read such a beautiful letter before. You seemed to touch on every aspect of our current world crises as we tumble toward the inevitable pouring out of God's wrath before the second coming of Yeshua and the restoration of all things.

From L.A. (WA): Two reasons why I appreciate your ministry: Your ongoing efforts to present and teach a Jewish Messiah in the person of Yeshua to Jews and gentiles; your ministry strives to adhere to solid doctrine. I note that some Messianic assemblies tend to drift on doctrine. I have not encountered that trend at ZLM. Good work; keep it up.

Dear P., C., J., Y., and L.—I hope you don't mind my grouping my responses to you. All your letters were very flattering to Katharine and me ... and most welcome! We agree with you that ZLM should continue to increase in scope and quality as "we see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:25). We need to continue to awaken the Church and convict the world of the need for the Lord and the need to stand with His people Israel. Thank you for helping us to accomplish these goals!
—Shalom, Myles ... and Katharine



May God Smile
On You Today

Who Killed Jesus?

Dear Myles,

A news brief in your March *Levitt Letter* (p. 30) stunned me. It was the poll that asked if the Jews killed Jesus. The answer was like a bolt of lightning out of the sky: No, the Jews did NOT kill Jesus. I killed Him! He climbed onto that tree and hung there to pay for my sins!

Thank you for a wonderful publication. God is using it mightily. —B.H. (IN)

BIZARRO

By Dan Piraro



James Bond Tactics Used by Israel to Capture Adolf Eichmann

By Leon Watson www.DailyMail.co.uk



Background facts:

- Eichmann was the Nazi in charge of Hitler's plan to kill Europe's Jews
- Mossad tracked him down to Argentina and ambushed him at a bus stop
- Sedated, he was then spirited out of the country using a fake passport
- Eichmann went on trial in 1961; more than 100 Holocaust survivors testified
- He was hanged for his crimes the following year

Lifting a half-century veil of secrecy, Israel's Mossad spy agency opened its archive in February to reveal the story behind the legendary 1960 capture of Nazi mastermind Adolf Eichmann. The "Operation Finale" exhibit, curated by a Mossad officer who can't be fully identified, displays never-before-seen items, names, and documents that led to Eichmann being snatched in Argentina.

It also discloses new details, such as how forensic experts identified Eichmann by his ears.

Mossad's exploits typically become known only when something goes wrong. This exhibit tells a success story, offering the most comprehensive picture to date of the complex operation that helped shape the agency's image: bringing a top Nazi criminal to justice.

"This is the first time Mossad carried out a huge operation overseas, and it had to invent all this 'James Bond' stuff in the process," said the curator, who can be identified only as Avner.

Avner said the agency's tactics and strategies have evolved since then. Even so, the exhibit was initially intended to remain classified, but "the Eichmann story is so strong that we just couldn't keep this one to ourselves."

Among the highlights of the exhibit at the Beit Hatfutsot Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv are the original Mossad file on Eichmann, code named "Dybbuk"—Hebrew for "evil spirit"—the briefcase with a concealed camera that took the first pictures of Eichmann in Buenos Aires, the fake license plates the agents made for vehicles to track Eichmann, the gloves used to nab him, the needle used to sedate him, and the forged Israeli passport his captors used to smuggle him out of Argentina.



Eichmann fled to Argentina in 1950, assuming the name Ricardo Klement

After the war ended in Germany's defeat, Eichmann escaped American captivity and fled to Argentina in 1950, assuming the name Ricardo Klement. There he kept out of sight until 1957, when his eldest son, Nick, befriended a girl named Silvia. Her father, Lothar Hermann, was a Holocaust survivor. After becoming suspicious of the young Eichmann, he dispatched a letter, displayed in the exhibit, to Fritz Bauer, a fellow Jewish Holocaust survivor, who was the German state of Hesse's chief prosecutor. Bauer informed the Israelis, who started investigating.



In researching the operation, Avner said he made several new discoveries. For instance, there was a Plan B, and even a Plan C. Avner even found the Israeli optometrist who agreed to pre-prepare glasses for Eichmann, after his original pair were broken during his capture. The glasses were made of plastic to prevent Eichmann from using glass to slit his wrists.

"The more I discover new details, the more I realize that I don't have the full story," said Avner, before adding, "We'll probably never truly know the full story." ★



Thousands of Iranian Women Train as Ninjas

By Max Fisher, www.TheAtlantic.com

In a society that treats them like children, sports—and especially martial arts—offer a way to express strength and independence.

The laws and official practices of Iran place enormous restrictions on its women. They are considered inferior to men in almost all legal matters, especially family laws such as marriage or child custody, and their testimony is officially equal to half of a man's. Clothing restrictions and fierce segregation laws marginalize women in the public sector, making participation in society arduous and painful. Those who try anyway are often singled out for harassment and punishment.

But the Iranian regime's 33-year quest to make Iranian women weak and helpless, to force them into child-like subservience, has failed. Though we in the West often perceive them this way because the *hijab* and *chador* are all we see on the surface, women in Iran are stronger collectively and more assertive individually than the Islamic Republic would have us believe. After all, its laws and restrictions would not be necessary if Iranian women were as powerless as the religious leaders hoped. It is precisely because Iranian women do wield power in their society and homes that the country's reactionary leaders feel compelled to imbalance the playing field, to pass laws taking that dignity and influence away. And one of the places where their failure becomes clear is in the surprisingly vibrant arena of women's sports.

The first two Muslim women to summit Mount Everest, in 2005, were both Iranian. In 2004, a group of Iranian women started a rugby league that by 2006 had 1,000 members. "Some of my male colleagues were skeptical but we proved them wrong," one of the

earliest players said about the harassment and intimidation her team endured. In 2007, when Iranian women began qualifying for the Olympics, an official publicly warned, "severe punishment will be meted out to those who do not follow Islamic rules during sporting competitions." Only three made it to Beijing. International women's competitions in *wushu*, a Chinese form of exhibition martial arts, routinely see Iranian champions. Though many women play soccer, the national women's team is held back by under-funding, poor equipment, and gender restrictions that forbid male coaches or trainers.



The state has been doing its best to restrict women from sports, sometimes by simple harassment and sometimes bureaucratically, such as with a 2006 rule that merged men's and women's sports administrations, thus forcing most women lower in the organization. It's not hard to see why they would do this. Athletics can be a means of empowerment, organization, and of asserting self-worth. Women expressed these same traits in 2009, when they played a central role in that year's Green Revolution against the regime.

Mastering a Japanese martial art, especially one popularly associated with fearless lone warriors, might hold a certain appeal to Iranian women who have watched their government struggle for decades to weaken them. Learning ninjutsu is not going to undo Iran's medieval gender restrictions, but it sends a message about their futility. ★



First-Century Evidence of Christianity

www.EurAsiaReview.com

The archaeological examination by robotic camera of an intact first-century tomb in Jerusalem has revealed a set of limestone Jewish ossuaries or “bone boxes” that are engraved with a rare Greek inscription and a unique iconographic image that the scholars involved identify as distinctly Christian.



The four-line Greek inscription on one ossuary refers to God “raising up” someone and a carved image found on an adjacent ossuary shows what appears to be a large fish with a human stick figure in its mouth, interpreted by the excavation team to be an image evoking the biblical story of Jonah.

In the earliest Gospel materials, the “sign of Jonah,” as mentioned by Jesus, has been interpreted as a symbol of His resurrection. Jonah images in later “early” Christian art, such as images found in the Roman catacombs, are the most common motif found on tombs as a symbol of Christian resurrection hope. In contrast, the story of Jonah is not depicted in any first-century Jewish art, and iconographic images on ossuaries are extremely rare, given the prohibition within Judaism of making images of people or animals.



The tomb in question is dated prior to 70 AD, when ossuary use in Jerusalem ceased due to the Roman destruction of the city.

Accordingly, if the markings are Christian as the scholars involved believe, the engravings represent—by several centuries—the earliest archaeological record of Christians ever found. The engravings were most likely made by some of Jesus’ earliest followers, within decades of His death. Together, the inscription and the Jonah image testify to early Christian faith in resurrection. The tomb record thus predates the writing of the Gospels.

“If anyone had claimed to find either a statement about resurrection or a Jonah image in a Jewish tomb of this period I would have said impossible—until now,” said James D. Tabor, professor and chair of religious studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. “Our team was in a kind of ecstatic disbelief, but the evidence was clearly before our eyes, causing us to revise our prior assumptions.”

The findings and their interpretation are likely to be controversial, since most scholars are skeptical of any Christian archaeological remains from so early a period. Adding to the controversy is the tomb’s close proximity to a second tomb, discovered in 1980. This tomb, dubbed by some “The Jesus Family Tomb,” contained inscribed ossuaries that some scholars associate with Jesus and his family, including one that reads “Jesus, son of Joseph.”

“Context is everything in archaeology,” Tabor pointed out. “These two tombs, less than 200 feet apart, were part of an ancient estate, likely related to a rich family of the time. We chose to investigate this tomb because of its proximity to the so-called ‘Jesus tomb,’ not knowing if it would yield anything unusual.” ★





Last month we published a glossary of terms and expressions (A–F) as typically used in the mainstream media to help readers unravel the Gordian Knot of language that is today's (and yesterday's and tomorrow's) Middle East news!

THIS MONTH: H – P

Hamas: The [Iran-backed] democratically elected government of Gaza whose founding charter calls for genocide.

Hezbollah: The [Iran-backed] democratic group whose purpose is saving Lebanon from Israeli aggression, and whose founding charter calls for genocide.

History: Having nothing whatsoever to do with what has actually happened, but rather what has come to be called "narrative," i.e., "storytelling." Example: allusions to the "Ancient Nation of Palestine."

Holocaust: The genocide that did not happen, but that the Jews orchestrated in order to steal Arab land, and which the Jewish presence in Palestine is worse than.

Honor Killings: The cultural imperative to murder one's daughter/sister/niece/wife for humiliating male family members (see "sharia" next month).

Human Rights: The credo by which murder committed by a person from a country which used to be called "Third World" (now considered racist terminology) is good.

Human Shields: Integral part of Hamas and Hezbollah military strategy.

Islamic Republic: Military dictatorship.

Israel: Occupied territory (see "Zionist Entity").

Jerusalem: City holy to Islam in which the Jews have no history.

Jew: The source of all decadence and evil in the world; descendant of apes and pigs.

Jihad: The inner spiritual struggle for self-purification or the bloody military struggle for world domination depend-

By Dr. Yasser Dasmabehi
www.FrontPageMag.com

ing on to which journalist and in what language one is speaking.

Judeo-Christian Values: The credo of that civilization which has lost all its values, except for that racism is bad, and diversity is good.



Koran: The book that was revealed word-for-word to the Prophet Mohammed (Peace Be Upon Him) by the Angel Gabriel ... or not.

Mahdi: The Shia messiah who has been hiding for centuries at the bottom of a well.

Martyr: Someone who kills someone else while killing himself, said to be rewarded for his martyrdom by the acquisition of 72 virgins upon his arrival in Paradise, at least according to what the Prophet Mohammed (Peace Be Upon Him) said the Angel Gabriel told him (see "Koran" above).

Militant, Assailant, Gunman, Activist: Terrorist.

Moderate Palestinian Leader: Former KGB operative, Holocaust denier, and financier of Munich Olympic massacre.

Mosque: A place for the storage of armaments.

Occupation: Jewish presence in disputed territory (see "Israel" above).

Peace: War of attrition.

Peace Process: The dismantling of Israel.

Peace Talks: The avoidance of peace.

PLO: Organization created in 1964 to end the 1967 occupation.

Palestinian Authority: The world's most successful kleptocracy.

Palestinian Hero: Murderer of children.



SELECT BRIEFS



Israel is Second Most Educated Country in the World

www.Haaretz.com

Israel is the second most educated country in the world, says a report released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

According to the OECD's Education at a Glance 2011 report, 78% of the money invested in education in Israel is taken directly from public funds, while 45% of Israel's population has a university or college diploma.

According to the report, the ten most educated countries in the world are: Canada, Israel, Japan, U.S., New Zealand, South Korea, Norway, UK, Australia, and Finland.

Jewish Voice

Israel Today



Can Bonomo, 24, will represent Turkey at the annual Eurovision Song Contest which takes place this May in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan. The Turkish Jew was voted the nation's number one performer and his selection to the coveted spot has lifted the spirits of Turkey's Jewish community. Bonomo has relatives in Israel and some have suggested that the singer could help mend ties with Turkey, which have plummeted since the deadly flotilla affair in 2010.

The Debate at Cambridge—Video

"Everyone will condemn Israel [for pre-emptively striking Iran]. Then, they will go back to their homes

and say, in private, 'Thank God for Israel!'"

Author and journalist **Douglas Murray** debates for Israel and in opposition to a nuclear Iran.

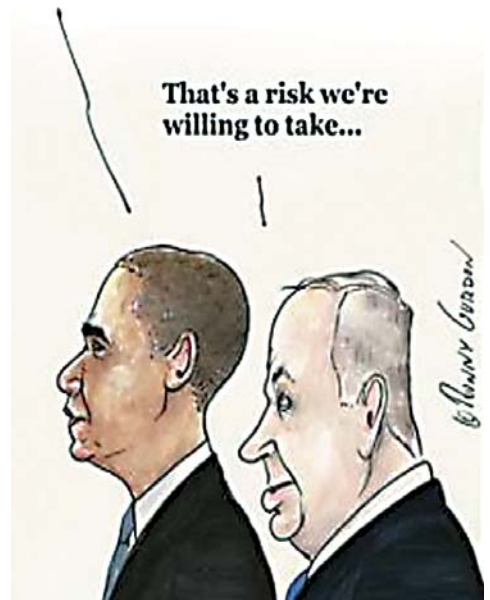
In the process, he gives lily-livered Europeans the tongue-lashing of an era: "You'll have a choice between war and dishonor. You will choose dishonor, and you will get war!"

Treat yourself, dear reader, to the 11-minute video at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1dv>.



Murray's arguments will fill quivers with arrows for those who applaud Israel's courage openly and duly fear a nuclear Iran.

You realise an Israeli attack on Iran could cost me the election..



How Come No One Wants to Help Gaza?

By Khaled Abu Toameh

www.StoneGateInstitute.org



Who is stopping the Palestinians from turning the Gaza Strip into the Middle East's Hong Kong?

When Israel left the Gaza Strip back in 2005, the Palestinians had the opportunity to turn the coastal area into the Arab world's Singapore.

Everyone, including Israel, was prepared to help the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. But the Palestinians chose instead to turn Gaza into a center for Islamist groups.

These groups have since brought nothing but death and destruction to the residents of Gaza. Backed by many Palestinians, the radicals call the shots, and there is no hope for the emergence of moderate forces in the foreseeable future.

Recently, when there was no electricity in Gaza, both Hamas (rulers in Gaza) and the Palestinian Authority (rulers in the West Bank) rushed to blame Israel.

But the Palestinian Center for Human Rights announced afterward that Palestinians—not Israel—were to blame for the crisis: Hamas had announced that the Gaza Energy Plant stopped operating because it ran out of fuel.

Palestinians—not Israel—were to blame for the crisis

Until recently, the fuel was smuggled from Egypt through underground tunnels. Before that, the fuel was bought from Israel, and the Palestinian Authority had covered the costs. But because of a dispute between Hamas and the P.A.'s arm Fatah, the Palestinian Authority stopped its contribution.

P.A. officials have accused Hamas of stealing the fuel for its own institutions and vehicles. So if anyone is to blame for hundreds of thousands of Palestinians being left without electricity, it's both Hamas and Fatah.

That is the main reason that Arabs and Muslims are not eager to transfer billions of dollars to the Gaza Strip. They know that the money will go to purchasing missiles and ammunition there instead of building new schools and hospitals. ★

The bravest young voter in the recent Iranian elections. Note the T-shirt.



New Text Attempts to Bring Christians, Jews Closer

By Aaron Howard, www.Chron.com

In the first century, Christianity and Judaism were one family. This was before the two communities went their separate—and often, hostile—ways. Now, almost two millennia later, a landmark book aims to bring the two religious communities closer through the study of biblical text.

The Jewish Annotated New Testament presents a version of Christian Scriptures with unique commentary. There are other annotated versions of the Christian Scriptures, but they're done almost exclusively by Christians. The annotations in this book are written by 27 Jewish scholars. By putting the New Testament into a Jewish context, editors **Amy-Jill Levine** and **Marc Brettler** hope to emphasize both the common history of Judaism and Christianity and an understanding of why they came to separate.

The New Revised Standard Version of the New Testament is followed by a series of essays: 16 about Jewish society and history in the late Second-Temple era; seven on Second-Temple-era scripture and literature; four essays on Jewish responses to Jesus; and one on Jewish responses to Paul.



The book's aim is to situate the history of Jesus and early Christianity in its original Jewish context for Christian Believers. At the same time, the editors want Jews to be able to read the New Testament without fear of being proselytized. The hope is for both faith communities to understand how, in the context of the first century, some chose to follow Jesus and the Early Church while others chose to follow paths that constituted late Second-Temple Judaism.

The co-editors also hope Jewish read-

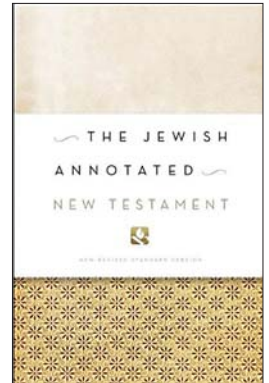
ers will gain a better understanding of their Christian neighbors and the wisdom in New Testament texts.

"Toleration was probably the most common Jewish response to early Jesus followers," one of the book's essays notes. Rabbinic references indicate Jesus-believers were seen as part of the Jewish community. At the same time, Brettler says, there is a difference between what the New Testament texts meant in their earliest context as a community of Jesus-believers was just beginning to form, and what they now mean in the large, well-developed Christian communities.

"It is natural for people to assume that the past is just like the present, but that is not typically so," said Brettler, chair of the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University. "I hope this book will help others see that perspective."



The book's publication serves as "a witness" to the changing relationship between Jews and Christians in the United States, said Levine, professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School.



"As a Jew who teaches New Testament to candidates for the Christian ministry in divinity school," Levine says, "I have to be sensitive and knowledgeable about the particular Christian traditions—Presbyterian, Methodist, etc.—and I have to be aware of both the connections and the distinctions between how Christians understand this material and how Jews understand it. I am not out to undermine Christian belief. But I do want to correct the ugly stereotypes of early Judaism that sometimes find their way into Christian preaching." ★



School Lesson

The teacher was speaking to a group of youngsters about the Israelites in the Old Testament, referring to the Jews as the "Children of Israel."

A little girl interrupted her, wanting permission to ask a question. "Certainly," the teacher responded.

"Well," the child said, "you keep talking about the children of Israel. The children of Israel crossed the Red Sea. The children of Israel built the Temple. The children of Israel did this and did that. Didn't the grown-ups ever do anything?"



Important Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule Announcement:

On page 19, you can order our free TV Program Airing Schedule. It is also located (with an online Station Search tool) at www.levitt.com/airsch. If you conclude that Zola Levitt Presents doesn't broadcast in your area, then please email the following information to 2012clayton@gmail.com with the subject line "I Can't Find Zola." This will prompt our airtime buyer to double-check the broadcasts nearest you.

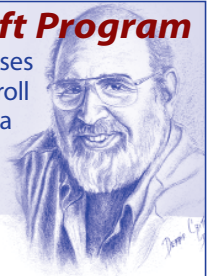
1. Your name _____
2. Your ZIP code _____
3. Your satellite or cable provider (e.g., Dish, DirecTV, Time Warner, Charter, U-verse, FiOS, etc.) ... or whether you rely solely on a TV antenna _____



For other ways to "tune in" our program, please see "How to Watch ZLP" on page 20.

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 _____
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Denying Jerusalem Temple is Denying Christianity

By Jack Chivo, www.JewishTribune.ca

Iran's President Ahmadinejad has often claimed that there was no Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, which was supposedly always "a place of prayers for Muslims, not Jews."

One can read the same nonsense in the pages of *Al Hayat Al Jadida*, the official newspaper of the Palestinian Authority, where they regularly publish articles with the same message: "There was no Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, no proof that one ever existed, and the 'alleged' temple is a 'myth' that the 'Zionist occupiers' have invented to justify their presence in Arab lands."

This all started some 10 years ago when the late PLO leader Yasser Arafat suddenly began claiming that the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem was only a fiction, and that there was a Palestinian presence there for more than 8,000 years.

As the years go by, the Palestinian propaganda machine has become bolder and their lies more frequent, especially because neither the Jews worldwide, nor the Israelis, but, most importantly, nor the Christians are raising their voices to unmask and ridicule this historical concoction in the strongest terms.

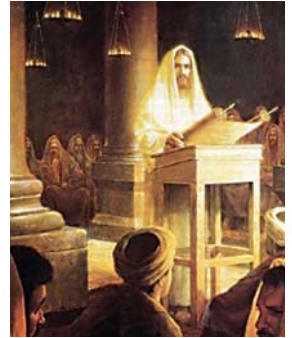
However, if you think that this propaganda trick is an annoyance only for the Israelis and the Jews around the world, think again. While it primarily targets the Israelis and the Jews, this propaganda campaign has deeper and darker motives behind it; namely, the de-Christianization of Jerusalem, because it directly undermines the core of the Christian faith.

For the Jewish faith, proving their presence by the Temple in Jerusalem

is extremely important, but not the only way. Jews have ruins of millennia-old houses of worship in and around Jerusalem, the Caves of the Patriarchs, the Dead Sea Scrolls, ossuaries with Hebrew inscriptions dated BC, troves of coins, ceramics, and other artifacts, all proving beyond any doubt that Jews had lived there for thousands of years, with the Muslims only arriving less than 14 centuries ago.

In the Gospels, most everything revolves around the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, surely the focal point of the end of Jesus' earthly life. All of the Gospels have hundreds of detailed descriptions about Him there, and many recount different versions of the same events.

Luke (2:41–52), describes how Jesus had traveled as a child every year with his parents to the Jerusalem Temple to celebrate Passover, and Matthew



(21:12–13) adds the words spoken by Jesus saying, "My House (the Temple) should be a House of prayer." In John's gospel, Jesus calls the Jewish Temple "My Father's House."

Why are not Christians raising their voices about this crude, malicious, and ongoing anti-Jewish and anti-Christian propaganda? Why are not the Church leaders, along with their parishioners all over the world, showing indignation about such scurrilous claims, which deny the most basic tenets of the Christian faith?

We should be hearing from Christian clergy delivering fiery sermons of belief in their Holy Scriptures—where the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem was an integral part of the Jesus journey 2,000 years ago—with the same vigor used by mullahs and other Islamic figures to viciously deny it. ★



A Special Plea from Sandra



I rarely ask our supporters for money, but now I am asking.

Many of you know that when Zola graduated, we had no idea what would become of ZLM. A wonderful friend of mine said that it wasn't our ministry, it was God's—and He would do as He pleased with me and the ministry. Her comment kind of stopped me in my tracks, but it also gave me the confidence to carry on, knowing that God was leading ... and lead us He has!

Now, with Katharine at his side, Myles is willing to preach, saying like Isaiah, "Here am I! Send me."^{*} In accordance with Romans 10:14–15,^{**} they need to know that they are supported. They are the real deal: Great teaching, a love for Israel, and hearts for the Lord. I know you pray for them and some of you support them with donations. Now, we really need increased help from you. We want to bring the latest news from Israel and the best Bible teaching we can, but those services really do cost money. God has been ever so faithful and good to each and every one of us, no matter our position. Let's give back.

Why do I keep giving to the ministry?

To be honest with you, there are very few organizations that I believe in any-

more. It must be my age. Even now, being "retired" from full-time ministry (do we ever *really* retire from serving God?), I still donate. For me, it is a matter of trust. I trust this ministry to do the right and honest thing with my contributions. I always have and always will.

I know that this economy has been challenging for everyone. Yet, when I go out to dinner or to the movies, I still see crowds of people. I usually think, "Aren't we in a recession?" So, that made me think: If I gave up just one movie a month, or one dinner out, or some other luxury, I could donate those savings to the ministry. I have learned so much from the teachings and the programs that I want to help this ministry keep achieving the most for God and His people.

We each have a ministry. Zola used to say, "If you set up chairs in the church, do it for the glory of God. There are no small duties. Nor are there any small donations." Even our Lord's Apostles, while they were spreading His Word, depended on the financial help of the communities they served.

Please give now. Thank you and Blessings,

^{*} Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

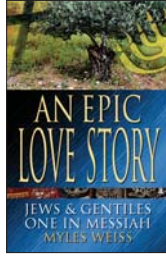
^{**} Romans 10:14-15 And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

Thanks from the ZLM staff



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By Myles Weiss



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