

Levitt

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



Letter



The Miracle of Jewish Survival

Israel Is Under Threat, Again! p.8



By Rabbi Allen S. Maller
TimesOfIsrael.com

It is important to remember that destruction need not lead to despair and surrender. Each day should be a day of hope and faith in our future. Jewish survival is in itself a miracle, as even a German chaplain knew.

The King of Prussia, Frederick the Great, in a discussion with his court chaplain once said, "Give me proof of the inspiration of the Bible."

The chaplain replied, "Your majesty, I can answer your request in a single word."

Frederick looked at the chaplain with some amazement and asked, "What magic word carries such strong proof?"

The chaplain answered, "Israel, your majesty."

[\(continued p.2\)](#)

Jews Co-Win 2012 Nobel Prizes in Physics & Chemistry

By JTA and AP



Serge Haroche, a French-Jewish physicist, has won the 2012 Nobel Prize in Physics jointly with David Wineland from the U.S.

According to the BBC, the pair developed solutions to pick, manipulate, and measure photons and ions individually, allowing an insight into a microscopic world that was once just the province of scientific theory.

Haroche, of Collège de France and Ecole Normale Supérieure,

[\(continued p.3\)](#)

Miracle of Jewish Survival continued from cover

Indeed, the continued existence of the Jewish people, in spite of centuries of persecution, is the best proof of the Bible's inspiration, and of the existence of the God who promised to preserve the Jews, return them to their homeland, and bring them to a time of great national blessing in the Last Days. This retelling of the well-known dialogue between Frederick and his court chaplain comes not from a Jewish source, but from a Christian minister: Dr. James Boice (1938–2000).

Jews also believe that the survival of the Jewish People is a real miracle. The Jews are the only nation, religion, or people in the Western world today who still celebrate the same holiday (Passover), use the same language (Hebrew), and pray to the same God as their ancestors did more than 3,000 years ago. Although their language and religion have continued to grow and change, the Jews' identity and continuity have never been broken.

“God's Chosen People”

In the whole world, only the Chinese and the Hindus can boast of a similar continuity. But the Chinese and the Hindus were never exiled from their land and then returned as the Jews were—not once but twice. Nor have the Chinese and the Hindus lived most of their history as small minorities, resisting assimilation into the majority. Jewish history and survival are truly and amazingly unique.

Of course, those who participate in a large-scale miracle have difficulty in seeing it as a miracle. People are human; they always have their faults and weaknesses. Even during the Exodus from Egypt, the greatest miracle in Jewish history, Jews were complaining to Moses about food (Exodus 16: 2–4), drink (15:24, and 17:2–3), danger (14:11–12), and his leadership (14:10–12). Yet 120 generations of Jews would look back to this event as the greatest of all miracles. ★



Back to
Cover



To
Index



Moses parts the Red Sea

Levitt CONTENTS Letter

Myles to Go [P.4/5](#)
The Impact of Jesus [P.5](#)

Tom McCall on Israel [P.6/7](#)

Why Israel Bombed Sudan
[P.8/9](#)

Our Man in Haifa [P.10](#)



Todd Baker [P.12/13](#)

Tunisia Injustice [P.14](#)
ZLM Bulletin Board [P.15](#)

Israeli Science [P.11,26/27](#)



Parsons: Hebrew Lesson [P.16](#)



Wise As A Serpent
[P.21](#)



Letters To ZLM
[P.22-25](#)



Prophecy & WW III
[P.28/29](#)



News Briefs
[P.30/31](#)



God vs. Allah
[P.32/33](#)



Classic Zola [P.34](#)



Jewish Humor, etc. [P.35](#)

Jews Co-Win 2012 Nobel Prizes... [continued from cover](#)



will share a \$1.2 million grant from the Nobel Prize Committee with Wineland, also 68, a researcher at National Institute of Standards and Technology and at the University of Colorado. Haroche gave a series of lectures on quantum physics at Technion in Israel last year.



Experts say the duo opened the door to new experiments in quantum physics by showing how to observe individual quantum particles while preserving their quantum properties. A quantum particle is one that is isolated from everything else. In this situation, an atom or electron or photon takes on strange properties. It can be in two places at once, for example. But these properties are instantly changed when it interacts with something else, such as when somebody observes it.

In an ordinary computer, information is represented in bits, each of which is either a zero or a one. But in a quantum computer, an individual particle can essentially represent a zero and a one at the same time. If scientists can make such particles work together, certain kinds of calculations could be done with blazing speed. Quantum computers could radically change people's lives in the way that classical computers did last century, but a full-scale quantum computer is still decades away, the Nobel judges said.

Robert J. Lefkowitz, 61, a Jewish physician and path-breaking biochemist from New York, has won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry jointly with Brian K. Kobilka, 57, a researcher at California's Stanford University. The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2012 went to the scientists for "groundbreaking discoveries that reveal the inner workings of an important family ... of receptors: G-protein-coupled receptors," the website of the Nobel Prize stated. Understanding how these receptors function helped further explain how cells could sense their environment. The prizes are handed out on December 10, the anniversary of prize founder Alfred Nobel's death in 1896. ★

Proclaiming the Prince of Peace

There is a thread—a scarlet cord, if you will—of Believers who make up the remnant that exists in every generation. The Bride of Yeshua, made up of Jews and gentiles, always has ample representation that bears witness to His reality to anyone who will listen. They are the “whosoever” of John 3:16.

After the 4th-century official declaration of Christianity as Rome’s religion, the mixture with paganism and cutting off from Jewish roots began the descent into the Dark Ages. However, as noted above, God *always* keeps a faithful following. While voices like Archbishop of Constantinople John Chrysostom (347–407 AD)—“The synagogue is worse than a brothel ... the den of scoundrels, and the repair of wild beasts”—and Martin Luther (1483–1546 AD)—“Verily a hopeless, wicked, venomous, and devilish thing is the existence of these Jews”—spewed vile, anti-Semitic rantings, others recognized the significance of Israel and the Israelites in God’s plan. Like relay runners in a centuries-long race, they passed the baton of vision from one to another, keeping hope alive for the Jewish people’s assurance of God’s covenant-keeping power.

A very eloquent spokesman for the Gospel and the Jews, **Charles Spurgeon** (*right*, 1834–1892)—reverently tagged “Prince of Preachers”—is estimated to have preached to approximately 10 million souls during his lifetime! Along with his straightforward presentation of the biblical claims of Messiah, Spurgeon had a very direct interpretation of the “Jewish question.” In the 1860s, he brilliantly stated,

“I think we do not attach sufficient importance to the restoration of the Jews. We do not think enough about it. But certainly, if there is anything promised in the Bible it is this. ... You cannot read the Bible without

Continued next page

Making Aliyah at Ben Gurion Airport



Myles To Go / By Myles Weiss
Zola Levitt Presents co-host



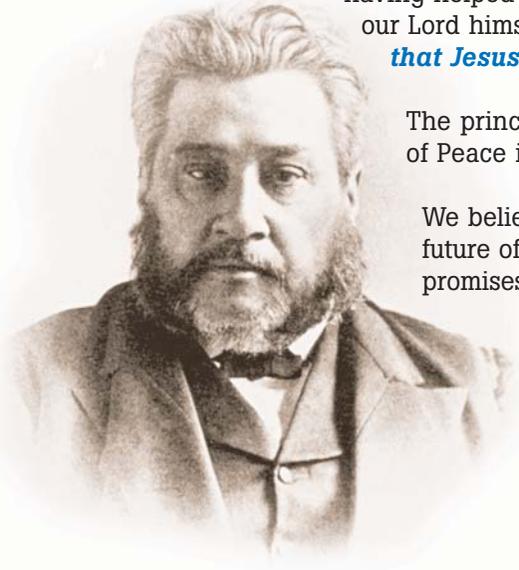
seeing clearly that there is to be an actual restoration of the Children of Israel. ... For when the Jews are restored, the fullness of the gentiles shall be gathered in; and as soon as they return, then Jesus will come upon Mount Zion.”

As powerful as that is, he followed it later in life with this:

“We cannot help looking for the restoration of the scattered Israelites to the land which God has given to them by a covenant ... we also look for the time when they shall believe in the Messiah whom they have rejected ... and shall rejoice in Jesus of Nazareth. ... Let those who believe work on! Those who believe not may give it up. They shall not have the honor of having helped to gather the ancient nation to which our Lord himself belonged; for **be it never forgotten that Jesus was a Jew.**”

The prince of preachers proclaimed the Prince of Peace in his day. We follow and do the same.

We believe and we work on ... for the glorious future of God’s own people and His covenant promises. ★



Back to
Index

The Impact of Jesus on History By Joe Carter, ChristianityToday.com

John Ortberg (right), pastor of a California megachurch, sat down with **Joe Carter**, an editor for the Gospel Coalition.



Most people—including most Christians—simply have no idea of the extent to which we live in a Jesus-impacted world. From the existence of hospitals to the notion of universal human dignity and rights to the prizing of virtues like humility and forgiveness, our lives are simply unimaginable apart from His life.

J.C.: In the Gospel of Mark, the scribes asked Jesus, “Which commandment is the most important of all?” Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 6:5—“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might” —but added the admonition to love God “with all your mind.” Why the addition?

J.O.: To love God with all our minds means we should think about Him—be interested in Him. It also came to include the thought that “all truth is God’s truth.” This mandate meant monasteries became places of learning that saved classical texts, giving rise to scholarly guilds and eventually universities, and propelled universal literacy movements.

J.C.: How did Jesus change the perception and value of children?

[\(Continued p.7\)](#)

Origin of the term "Palestine"

Where did the term Palestine originate? How did the world and the Church get into the habit of calling the Land of Israel "Palestine"? Before 135 AD, the Romans used the terms Judea and Galilee to refer to Israel.

It was not until the Romans crushed the second Jewish revolt against Rome in 135 AD under Bar Kochba that Emperor Hadrian applied the term Palestine to Israel. Hadrian, like many dictators since his time, realized the propaganda power of terms and symbols. He replaced the shrines of the Jewish Temple and the Sepulchre of Christ in Jerusalem with temples to pagan deities. He changed the name of Jerusalem to Aelia Capitolina, and Galilee and Judea to Palestine. Hadrian's selection of Palestine was not accidental. He Latinized the name of the ancient enemies of Israel—the Philistines—to Palestine in an effort to erase the name Israel from memory.

It is interesting to note that the original Philistines were not Middle Eastern at all but Europeans from the Adriatic Sea next to Greece. Hadrian employed a Hellenistic term for the Jewish land. In any case, the original "Palestinians" had nothing to do with any Arabs.

The use of the term Palestine was biblically inaccurate and wrong throughout the Church Age. However, more than just wrong, it is devastating in our time when the term Palestine is the cornerstone of the propaganda war against Israel and the Jewish people. Do we want to use terms invented by those who hate Christ, the Bible, and Israel? Do we want to use terms that are used by Israel's enemies who desire nothing less than the destruction of the Jewish people? I think not.

Dry Bones

OKAY GANG, PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS, 'CAUSE IT'S TIME FOR . . .



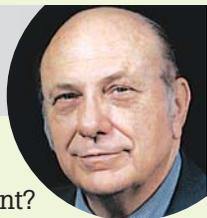
THE STATE OF "PALESTINE" QUIZ

1. WHEN WAS THE COUNTRY OF "PALESTINE" FOUNDED AND BY WHOM?
2. WHAT WERE ITS BORDERS?
3. WHAT WAS ITS CAPITAL?
4. WHAT WERE ITS MAJOR CITIES?
5. NAME AT LEAST ONE "PALESTINIAN LEADER" BEFORE ARAFAT.
6. WHAT WAS THE LANGUAGE OF THE "COUNTRY OF PALESTINE" ?
7. WHAT WAS THE PREVALENT RELIGION OF THE "ANCIENT COUNTRY OF PALESTINE" ?
8. WHAT WAS THE NAME OF ITS CURRENCY?
9. CHOOSE ANY DATE IN HISTORY AND TELL WHAT WAS THE APPROXIMATE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE "PALESTINIAN" MONETARY UNIT AGAINST THE US DOLLAR, GERMAN MARK, GB POUND, JAPANESE YEN, OR CHINESE YUAN ON THAT DATE.
10. SINCE THERE IS NO SUCH COUNTRY OF "PALESTINE" TODAY, WHAT CAUSED ITS DEMISE AND WHEN DID IT OCCUR?
11. WHY DID "THE PALESTINIANS" NEVER TRY TO BECOME INDEPENDENT UNTIL AFTER THE DEVASTATING DEFEAT OF INVADING ARAB STATES IN THE 1967 SIX DAY WAR?

NOTE: ANYONE ABLE TO ANSWER ANY OF THE ABOVE QUESTIONS WILL RECEIVE THE DRY BONES AWARD FOR CREATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE WRITING!

By Thomas S. McCall, Th.D.

Also see Classic Zola on p.34



Christians should use the terminology of the Bible wherever possible. Why not go back to the terms used in the New Testament? The Gospel writers used the term Israel to refer to the Land. Why should we use any other term when referring to the Land, especially now that the Jews are back in the Land and have re-established the State of Israel among the nations?

As we draw closer to the Second Coming of Christ, we should understand that Satan’s fury against the Church and Israel will grow exponentially. Satan hates the Gospel of the crucified and risen Messiah, and he hates the reality of the restoration of Israel as the nation that will ultimately receive Jesus as the Messiah at His return, and the nation that will be Christ’s earthly headquarters. The only term we should use for the Land is Israel, or its subdivisions of Judea, Samaria, and Galilee. We should make every effort to remove the term Palestine from our Bible maps and textbooks, and use only biblical terms with reference to the Holy Land of Israel. ★



Dr. McCall wrote this history lesson in 1997. Read it in full at www.levitt.com/essays/palestine



Back to Index

Jesus’ Impact on History continued from p.5

J.O.: In the ancient world, children were commonly left to die of exposure if they were the wrong sex (guess which one), or sold into slavery and often used sexually. O. M. Bakke, a Norwegian church historian, has written that Jesus’ blessing of children—and His using them as an example to be spiritually emulated—was unprecedented, and led to the end of practices like exposure and infanticide, as well as to such innovations as orphanages and godparents.

J.C.: How did Jesus change perceptions of human equality?

J.O.: Through Jesus, the truth prized in Israel that every human being is made in the image of the one true God became accessible to the entire world. It’s not simply Jesus’ teaching that fueled people’s moral imagination. It was His ceaselessly courageous embrace of lepers and prostitutes, of Samaritans and soldiers and sinners, of tax collectors and zealots that fueled the movement that sought to include every individual regardless of ethnicity or status. The modern embrace of human dignity, rights, and justice is built on this Judeo-Christian foundation.

J.C.: Jesus’ impact extends into diverse areas of architecture and the calendar system. What do you consider His most surprising influence?

J.O.: From a purely human perspective, the biggest surprise is that Jesus had any influence at all. Normally, if someone’s legacy will outlast their life, it’s apparent when they die. On the day when Alexander the Great or Caesar Augustus or Napoleon died, their reputations were immense. When Jesus died, His tiny, failed movement appeared at an end. No one would have pronounced Jesus “Most Likely to Posthumously Succeed” on the day of His death. ★



Why Israel Bombed Sudan

Arab governments competed to find the strongest terms with which to condemn Israel's bombing of a Sudanese weapons factory last fall. Yet, no one in the Middle East should have been surprised. So long as the Khartoum regime works hand-in-hand with Iran in supporting groups like Hamas, Israel will regard Sudan as a legitimate target.

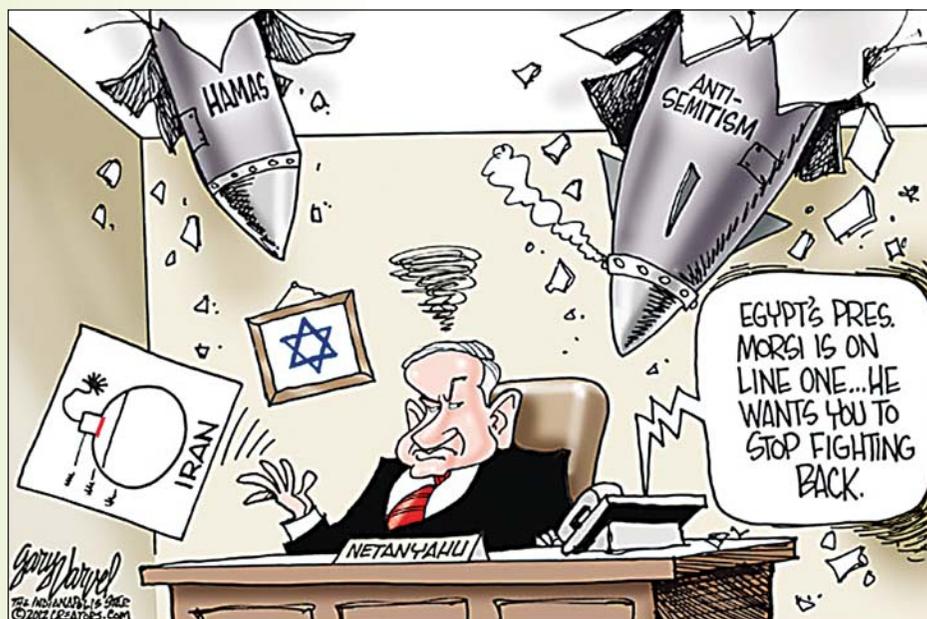
Although Israel will not admit it, this is their third attack on Sudanese soil in as many years. In 2009 they destroyed a convoy taking weapons to Hamas in the Gaza Strip, and in 2010 they killed an arms smuggler who was also supplying Hamas.

Israel's latest target, the Yarmouk Compound, was among Africa's largest arms makers. In May 2010 the Sudanese newspaper *Ray Al-Sha'b* reported that the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps was operating a secret weapons factory in Sudan to supply weapons to terrorist groups across Africa and the Middle East. It also suggested Iran was cooperating with Sudan to produce nuclear weapons. The Khartoum regime closed the paper immediately and arrested the deputy-editor.

Following the Yarmouk explosion, Sudanese opposition figures confirmed the story: the Yarmouk Compound was being used to aid Iran's geopolitical objectives in the Holy Land. For this reason Israel's vice prime minister, Moshe Ya'alon, described Sudan as a central player in Iran's efforts to get weapons to Hamas.

The Sudanese regime has a distinguished pedigree supporting international terrorism. In the 1990s it gave sanctuary to so many outlaws, the capital, Khartoum, was known as the "Holiday Inn for Terrorists." Al Qaeda, Hamas, Islamic Jihad,

Continued next page



By Rebecca Tinsley

HuffingtonPost.com



and Carlos the Jackal all called Khartoum home. It was Khartoum's five years playing gracious host to Osama bin Laden that earned it U.S. sanctions in 1997.

They say an invisible war between Iran and Israel is being fought on Sudanese soil. Sudan and Iran have a marriage made in jihadist heaven. They share an Islamist worldview, a fundamentalist ideology, and a commitment to support groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah.

For years, the UK-based "Africa Confidential" has warned of the military and diplomatic implications of this partnership. Gill Lusk of Africa Confidential says the Yarmouk attack is a wake-up call for the international community: "Other governments may now once again take the Sudanese regime more seriously as a promoter of terrorism, as they did when it was implicated on the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993."

Numerous regime worthies, including the president, have earned indictments by the International Criminal Court. Why do we welcome their representatives to our diplomatic bean feasts? Apparently the Israelis are less willing to allow Sudan to make them look like fools. ★

Read a brief description of Israel's mission at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1vh>.



Israel Bombs Yarmouk Compound in Sudan

Pre-emptive attack

1 Eight Israeli F-15s sent on mission to bomb munitions plant

2 Planes evade Egyptian radar. Electronic warfare equipment jams Sudan's air defences

ISRAEL

EGYPT

SUDAN

1,200 miles

Red Sea

Khartoum missile factory

Israeli strike force

- 2 CH-53 helicopters
- 1 Gulfstream G550 electronic warfare plane
- 1 Boeing 707 tanker

3 Eight tons of bombs dropped on Yarmouk plant while Sudan's MIG-29 squadron sleeps

The target

Shehab missile

Fajar rocket

The Yarmouk plant - the explosions shook Khartoum

Saving African Lives Through Israeli Med-Tech

OUR MAN IN HAIFA: Eitan Shishkoff (pictured with wife Connie)



What was she doing in Arusha, Tanzania? Sigalit Gantz is the CEO of King David Medicine, a company dedicated to providing superb medical care—and at the same time—an introduction to Israel for patients from outside the Land. She lives in Haifa.

I met Sigalit while I was in Tanzania speaking at a phenomenal pan-African prayer conference for Israel. Church and lay leaders came from Kenya, Malawi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Tanzania. Sigalit happened to be there at the same time, doing public relations for her service. She is a personal friend of Margaret Odoul, chairperson of the continental prayer initiative for Israel. As Margaret's guest, and as an Israeli businesswoman, Sigalit addressed our delegates, emphasizing Africa's health needs and the current outbreak of cancer that threatens many lives in some parts of that continent. She is burdened to prevent cancer.

Her own life was saved ten years ago through the early detection of cancer during a routine check-up. With 19 years' experience in oncology, Sigalit is passionate about annual check-ups. She hit home with all of us, using a humorous analogy of the high degree of attention we give to our cars—taking

them in for regular check-ups and spending money on repairs without hesitation. Her point was well taken. We generally give more preventive care to our autos than to our own bodies! She urged us all to get annual examinations as wise stewardship of our most personal possession, our physical anatomy.

I was impressed with this Haifa native. Gantz freely admitted that she had never spoken with a Messianic Jew, but her questions were open-hearted and appreciative. Conversing freely in Hebrew, we parted with the promise of getting in touch once we're back in the Haifa area. Pray for further meaningful interaction.

As an energetic, vibrant entrepreneur, Sigalit exemplifies the merging of Israeli high-tech medical expertise with a savvy awareness of international health conditions *and* the growing desire of international Believers to visit Israel's "holy sites." These Believers from the nations also want to connect with Israel's emerging Messianic community—their spiritual brothers and sisters. At the prayer conference, Sigalit saw firsthand the passion of African Believers to understand more deeply the inseparable link between Hebrew Scriptures and the New Covenant of Yeshua. She was thrilled. So

was I. May her King David company have much success. The name of her company was reflected in the theme of the entire convocation: "The Throne of David, 2 Samuel 7:12-14." **May she come to know Israel's true King, Yeshua HaMashiach—Jesus Christ.**



Tanzanian men waiting for work on their improvised cart.



Back to Index

Technion Grad: “Genius”

Israeli Sci-Tech

BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN: Israel21c.org



Columbia University Prof. Maria Chudnovsky (*right*), who earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, was named one of 23 MacArthur Fellows for 2012. The award comes with a “genius grant” of \$500,000.

The 35-year-old associate professor in the department of industrial engineering and operations research is actually the second Technion graduate to win this worldwide designation in the past three years. The other is Cornell Prof. Michal Lipson, who received all three of her degrees in physics at the Technion.

The MacArthur fellowships annually go to 20 or 30 writers, scientists, artists, social scientists, humanists, teachers, and entrepreneurs who have shown exceptional originality, creativity, insight, and potential. The award money is paid out over five years with no strings

attached—the recipients may use it however they choose.

Chudnovsky is a mathematician who investigates the fundamental principles of graph theory. In practical terms, this highly abstract research can be used to solve real-world problems, such as efficient scheduling for an airline or package delivery service. She is laying the conceptual foundations for deepening the connections between graph theory and other major branches of mathematics, such as linear programming, geometry, and complexity theory.

Chudnovsky received her first degree in 1996 and her second in 1999 at the Technion. She went on for a second master’s and a PhD at Princeton University, where she was a research fellow at the Clay Mathematics Institute prior to joining the faculty of Columbia. ★



Back to Index

Zola’s Hebrew Word of the Month:

יפה

Masculine: yafeh

Feminine: yafah

Beautiful



Ask the Chaplain

Q. **From N.S.:** Was the New Testament written in Greek or Hebrew? I have recently met Messianic Jews who tell me that the NT was written in Hebrew and not Greek. Also that the Christian Church should keep God's appointed times. I almost feel that I should not worship on Sunday.

A. **Parts of the New Testament were probably written in Hebrew or Aramaic.** But the earliest manuscripts (dating to the late first century and early second century) we have of the New Testament were written in Koine Greek. This makes sense when you keep in mind Koine Greek was the universal language of the first century, enabling the Gospel message to rapidly spread at a time when many could understand it.

Nowhere does the New Testament dictate we must worship on the Sabbath. In fact, Believers in the early Church met on the Sabbath and again on Sunday—the first day of the week—to worship the Lord on the day He rose from death. Romans 14:5, Galatians 4:9–10, and Colossians 2:16–17 make it clear that there was some freedom in the matter of special days. These verses instruct the Church not to allow anyone to act as their judge in regard to Sabbath days. They warn against going back under the Law by insisting on the legal observance of special days.

The records that remain in the New Testament show that the first day of the week soon became a day of worship. When Paul wanted to collect an offering from the church

at Corinth, he asked them to gather the money on the "first day of the week" (1 Corinthians 16:2). And when he met with the Believers at Troas, the gathering took place "on the first day of the week," when they gathered together to break bread (Acts 20:7).

Q. **From G.T. (FL):** When Scripture says "absent from the body, present with the Lord" what happens to the unsaved who die; are they still present with the Lord? (2 Corinthians 5:8) This question has nagged me for years.

A. **Jesus provides the answer to your question: Luke 16:19–31.** There the rich man (who represents the unsaved world in his temporal prime) died and went to hell after physical death. The unsaved souls of the dead will go to hell and remain there until the Great White Throne Judgment, when the second resurrection takes place after the thousand year reign of Christ (see Revelation 20:11–15). ★



JOE
KOPPEL
COM

By Dr. Todd D. Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian



“Who Do Men Say that the Son of Man is?” (Matthew 16:13) TjF Mission Report

Jesus originally asked His disciples a very important question: “Who do men say that I am?” It is the most important question that every person eventually must answer. How you answer determines your eternal fate. The Holy Scriptures answer this question, declaring Jesus to be Lord (God Almighty in the flesh) and the Messiah whom the prophets foretold long before His coming.

I mention this because this past fall, on the 25th **To The Jew First** Gospel outreach to Israel, the Lord brought it up. On my flight to Israel, **Yuval**—the 43-year-old man sitting next to me—professed to being an Orthodox Jew. We shared our respective backgrounds with each other, and Yuval was fascinated that I believe the Bible unequivocally points to Yeshua as Messiah and divine Lord. Wanting to see the historical evidence for this, Yuval followed along as I pointed to a list of Messianic prophecies given in the *Tanach* (Old Testament) and their fulfillment in the *B’rit Hadashah* (New Testament).

We read together how the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2 with Matthew 2:1–6); would come from the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10 with Hebrews 7:14); would rise from the dead (Psalm 16:10 with Acts 2:22–28); and would be the Son of God (Psalm 2:7 with Luke 22:70). I showed Yuval other Messianic prophecies that Jesus uniquely fulfilled. When Yuval resisted the idea



that Jesus is God, I reminded him that Israel’s own prophets revealed this startling truth in places like Psalm 110:1, Isaiah 9:6, and Micah 5:2.

Yuval took in all this for the first time. Hebrew writers of his own Bible said that the Messiah would be God in the flesh: it is one of the central truths about Jesus that many in rabbinic Judaism will not believe, even though it was prophesied in the Jewish Bible!

Yuval said several times that he would read more about these prophecies when I gifted him with a complete Jewish Bible with both Testaments. Ironically, Yuval also repeated several times that this would not convince him to believe that Yeshua is God and the Messiah. But his actions belied his words. Praise God!—a seed has been planted in a fertile heart and mind. Now the Holy Spirit can water it and convince Yuval to confess in the words of Doubting Thomas when he beheld the risen Jesus: “My Lord and my God” (John 20:28). ★

Police Rape Woman In Tunisia, Then Charge Her With Indecency

BY ED PAYNE, CNN.com



Outraged Tunisians took to the streets by the hundreds recently, angrily protesting the treatment of a woman who was allegedly raped by police officers ... and then charged with public indecency when she filed a complaint.

"At best, charging the victim of a rape by police officers instead of protecting her from intimidation and stigma highlights the deep flaws in Tunisia's law and criminal justice system," said Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui, deputy Middle East and North Africa program director at Amnesty International.

"At worst, it is an insidious attempt to discredit a rape victim and protect those she accused of raping her."

The case began in September when three police officers approached the woman and her fiancé while they were in their car in the capital, Tunis. Two of the officers then raped the woman inside the car, while the third took her fiancé to a nearby ATM to extort money from him, the woman claimed.

It was only after she filed a complaint against the officers—and they were charged with rape and extortion—that the officers said they found the couple

in an "immoral position" in the car.

"This case first shocked public opinion since the innocent woman was raped by policemen," said Salah Eddine El Jorshi of the Tunisian League of Human Rights. "But when the verdict was announced, we were shocked even more that they tried to take this to another level by targeting the victim herself."

Authorities have not specified what they meant by "immoral position," but the claim was later repeated by the country's interior ministry. The charge could yield up to six months in prison. Both have denied the charges. The decision to charge the woman incensed human rights groups, who called for protests outside the Tunis courthouse.

Recently, the government rejected a UN Human Rights Council's recommendation to abolish discrimination against women in areas such as inheritance and child custody. In addition, Tunisian authorities have charged journalists and human rights activists in recent months with "public immorality" and "public disorder" to restrict freedom of expression, rights groups say. ★



Crowds gathered to support the rape victim.

ZLM Bulletin Board

Provoking Israeli Soldiers

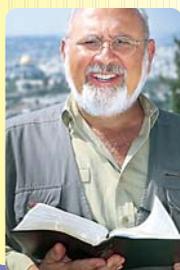
Every week, hundreds of protesters demonstrate in the West Bank village of Nabi Saleh. Most are under the age of 16. They yell in the faces of soldiers and make threatening gestures with fists in hopes of drawing responses. Photographers, including parents of the children, lurk like vultures, hoping for any sign of confrontation. Some parents even shove their children into the soldiers, who are trained to endure this systematic provocation. Hard to believe? See video at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1vT>, or search "Behind the Scenes: Palestinian Demonstrations" at YouTube.com.



Pray for
the peace of
Jerusalem

Zola's Bible Exchange

If you have an extra Bible in excellent condition to pass on to someone who needs one, such as an inmate or someone on fixed income, please send it to us to forward. Bibles to inmates must



also be softcover. On the other hand, if you need a Bible and can't afford one, please send us your address. There will be no charge. (ZLM consulting theologian Dr. Tom McCall refers to a New Testament without the Old Testament as *The Amputated Bible*.)

Pamphlet of the Month

Send for our
free pamphlet

Free Item

37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That Aren't Really So. It begins by

explaining why too few people make adequate estate plans. It also briefly refutes dozens of the most common misconceptions about wills. Its Technical Advisory Section suggests "Begin with the Basics" and touches on "Choosing the Form of the Bequest" and "Tax Considerations." To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P. O. Box.

Thank You for Your Giving Spirit

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"Come Home!"

Zola
Tours to
Israel:



See page
36 for details



Back to
Index

Hebrew Lesson



God Calls you by name ...

By John J. Parsons

אֶל-תִּירָא כִּי גִאֲלִיתִּיךָ בְּשֵׁמִי לִי-אֶתָּה

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.” – Isa. 43:1

אֶ	לִי	בְּ	קָ	גִ	כִּי	אֶ	תִּירָ	
(3)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)
li-at-tah	ve-shim-kha	ka-ra-ti	ge-al-ti-kha	ki	al-ti-ra			
you are mine	by your name	I have called you	I have redeemed you	for	fear not			

The Spirit speaks to the heart of faith: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, and you are Mine.” God has *personally* redeemed you, friend; He calls you by name, and you belong to Him. The Lord loves you with an everlasting love and draws you close (Jer. 31:3). He will never leave nor forsake you, even if you might face waters that seem to overwhelm or fires that seem to devour (Isa. 43:2). The will of your Heavenly Father will never lead you to a place where His love will not there sustain you.

Worry is a place of exile and pain. We are commanded, *al tirah*, “fear not,” because fear was behind the original sin in the garden, just as mistrust lies behind our own hiding and self-imposed exile from God... Since sin expresses a heart of fear (Rom. 14:23), the way of healing is to courageously turn back to God, despite our shameful past. We can trust God’s love for us because of the cross of Yeshua our Lord. If we haven’t received God’s love and acceptance, we are still enslaved to fear and abide in a state of exile. The love of God casts out our fear because it casts out all our sins (1 John 4:18).

It is written, “God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love, and of a “sound mind” (2 Tim. 1:7). The Greek word for “sound mind” means “safe” because of the restraining influence of the Spirit of God... If you sense fearful oppression within your heart, turn to the Lord and offer Him focused praise. Lift up your soul to Him and thank Him for your trouble. This has the double benefit of confessing your trust in God’s care, as well as vexing the enemy of your soul. Come boldly to the throne of grace to find your help (Heb. 4:16); cast all your anxiety on Him, for He cares for you (1 Pet. 5:7).

The Name of the LORD (יהוה) means “Presence” and “Love” (Exod. 3:14; 34:6-7). Yeshua said, “I go to prepare a place for you,” which means that His presence and love are waiting for you in *whatever* lies ahead (Rom. 8:35-39). To worry is to “practice the absence” of God instead of to practice His Presence... Trust the word of the Holy Spirit: “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for healing peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope (Jer. 29:11).

Take comfort that your Heavenly Father sees when the sparrow falls; He arrays the flower in its hidden valley; and He calls each star by name. More importantly, the Lord sees you and understands your struggle with fear... **Come to Him with your needy heart and trust Him to deliver you from the burdens of your soul** (Matt. 11:28).



Back to
Index

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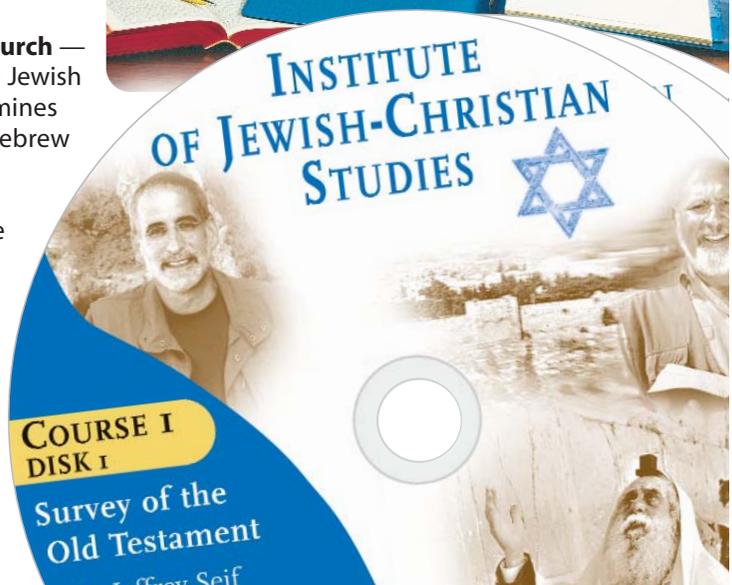
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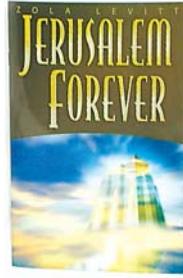
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Back to Index

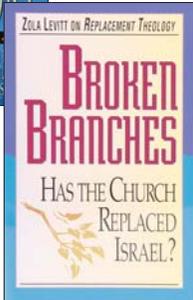
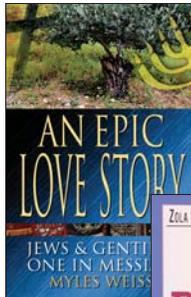
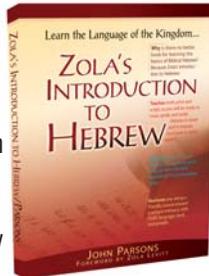
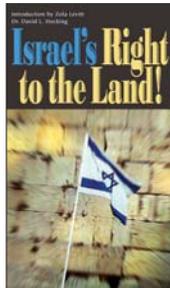
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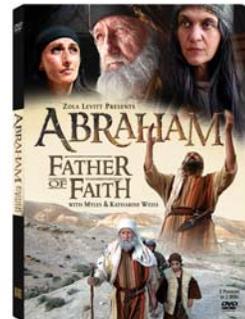
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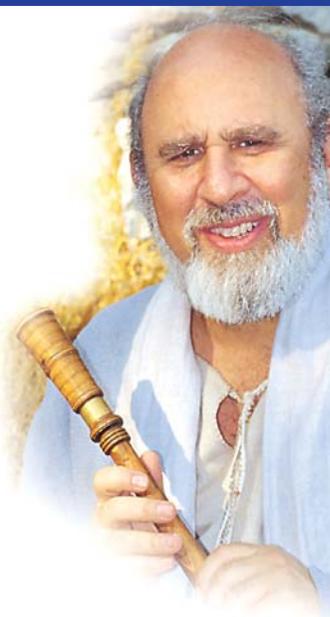
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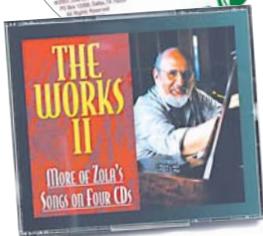


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Back to Index

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FEATURED
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Sar Shalom (Prince of Peace)

Dr. Jeffrey Seif's passage-by-passage exposition of Jesus' principal teachings is brought to life through on-location production with real-world re-enactments, all performed by Israelis. (2 DVDs)

Sermon on the Mount We consider the "Beatitudes" (Mat. 5:1–12) and Jesus' exhortation that Believers be "salt" and "light" (5:13–16).

Crimes of the Heart Matthew 5:17–20 leads us to consider how Jesus fulfills the Torah. Murder begins in the heart (5:21–26), and adultery begins with desire (5:27–30).

The Law Brought to Life Jesus speaks to divorce and the marriage bond in 5:31–32, and other human bonds in 5:33–37. 38–42 deal with how to be gracious even toward the ungracious.

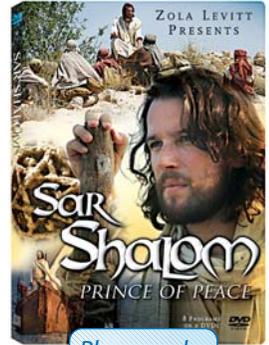
Models of Behavior Jesus teaches how to deal with enemies (5:43–48) and doing good to please God and not men (6:1–4). His teachings on prayer follow in 6:5–15.

Eternal Investments Matthew 6:16–18 notes that fasting pays dividends; laying up treasures on Earth, alone, does not (6:19–21). Generosity brings moral health (6:22–23).

God's Material Provisions Jesus challenges followers to serve either possessions or God (6:24). Blessings abound to those who serve Him (6:25–34).

God's Spiritual Provisions Matthew 7:7–12 addresses tenacity and God's benevolence in the Christian's life. The "narrow path" we must walk (7:13–14) is not the path chosen by the majority.

Yeshua—Foundation Sufficient for Salvation Deception of self and others gives way to truth at Day's End (7:21–23). Jesus advises us to build our hope for salvation on the right foundation—Him (7:24–29). Jeff offers closing reflections.



Please order
DVDs on
p.18



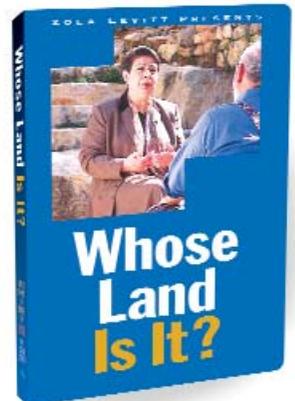
Back to
Index

Whose Land Is It? DVD and booklet

Three 30-minute TV programs on one DVD *(Also see articles on pp. 6 & 29)*

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.

“I’m a Prepper; You’re a Prepper...”

WISE AS A SERPENT: By Mark Levitt



... **he’s a prepper, too!**” You may recognize that play on an old Dr. Pepper jingle. Wikipedia defines *prepper* as someone who prepares for changes in normal circumstances. Prepping is wise; it’s a matter of stewardship. All Believers are preppers: by accepting Jesus as their Savior, they stockpile an abundance of grace (Rom. 5:17). Whenever the Rapture comes, they have their ticket to ride. And, if the Lord tarries, they’re prepared with their Pearly Gates pass.

The fellow in the cartoon below would agree with Marcus Aurelius that “The only wealth you will keep forever is the wealth you have given away.”

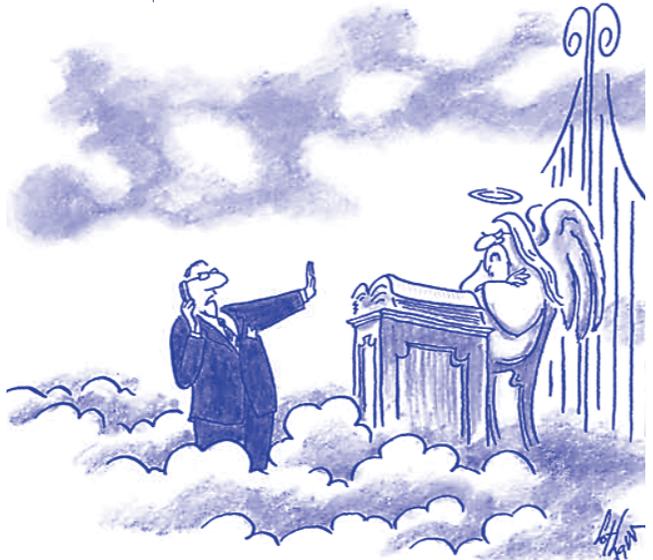
In November, the National Research Council (NRC) revealed that the U.S. power grid, spread across hundreds of miles, is vulnerable to terrorist attacks that could cause months of blackouts. Moreover, much of it is unguarded and lacking sensors to limit outages from cascading. “We could easily be without power across a multistate region for many weeks or months, because we don’t have many spare transformers,” says M. Granger Morgan, engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University and chairman of the NRC committee that wrote the report.

Our federal government was the ultimate prepper during the Cold War. Do you believe 1) the economy will soon collapse in a cascade of debt? 2) Iran is developing an electromagnetic pulse weapon that could wipe out our power, communication, and transportation grids? or 3) a grid-destroying, electromagnetic pulse from a solar flare is a concern? Whatever your answers, John Hoopes, a University of Kansas anthropologist and archaeologist, deems

it prudent to prepare for storms and power outages.

Hurricane Sandy vindicated northeastern preppers who lost power, water, and access to grocery stores. When those incredible winds knocked out my Newark, New Jersey hotel’s power on October 29, the two-AA-battery flashlight that I travel with came in super-handy. Darkness restricted most guests to their rooms, but I was able to navigate my way to the frigid lobby—where electric doors were braced open—and offer blankets to the security guard. A prepper can opt to be his brother’s keeper and share the Good News about prepping for Judgment Day.

Once your soul is ready for eternity, it makes sense to prepare your household for three days (if not three weeks) of relative independence from society. You don’t have to be “out there” to plan for a rainy day that could blossom into a week or more. Speaking of which, please consider attending the Future Congress 2 conference described on page 36. Even if you just subscribe to their online lessons and shelve the majority of what they teach, the portion that you implement could be lifesaving. ★



“Quick! I need some more charitable donations!”

(Believers are prepared with their Pearly Gates free pass.)



Letters to ZIM

Comments from www.levitt.com

From J.M. (Newfoundland): Thanks to God, I recently gained employment after being out of work for eight years. I enjoy your *Levitt Letters* very much (as does my mother), and I enjoy watching your programs online. May God continue to bless your ministry. Please use this donation as you see fit.

From Rio de Janeiro: Excellent initiative to post videos with English subtitles. Congratulations for the work.

From M.M. (New Zealand): I worry that many Christians are losing hope in their faith because they don't know what it means to be a gentile Believer. Zola Levitt Ministries is the friendliest program teaching gentiles the Church's history that I have seen.

From G.H-C. (NV): Please accept this donation for the *Levitt Letters* I get now and for those I received while I was incarcerated. May God Bless your awesome ministry. –Way to pay it forward, G.H-C.! Just as your *Levitt Letter* subscription in prison was paid for by others, so your donation will send God's message to others in prison. Thank you. –Mark



Back to Index

Allah

Dear Katharine,

Thank you for mentioning that Allah is a moon god (Bedouin) and not the Jewish or Christian God. The direct implication is that the Koran is not a continuation of the Bible but a spurious religious text. –G.P.C. (NV)

Dear G.P.C.–

Shalom and *Todah Rabah* (thank you very much). Myles and I try to draw this line as often as we can. We love the Muslim people, but we do not accept the syncretism that tries to make Islam and Judeo-Christian worldviews identical. –Blessings, Katharine (P.S. You'll enjoy Dan Calic's article on page 32.)

Sometimes you just need proportions to understand

This area is under threat by rockets fired from Gaza



This is the same size area around New York City

Oh, That Pesky Plank (Luke 6:41)

ZLM staff,

Tell Myles to be more careful and to READ HIS BIBLE. He just called Esau the son of ISHMAEL. For Pete's sake, Esau was Jacob's twin brother, which should make him a NEPHEW of Isaac. Ishmael came back to help Isaac bury their father. He was not the son of ISHMAEL. How can we believe what he says if he can't even get this straight?

—N.W.

Dear N.W.—

I chuckled at your ire (all in CAPS!) at my alleged blooper. I'm sure you apply the same standard to your own "teaching," as when you call Esau the "nephew of Isaac" in your third sentence. Didn't you mean the nephew of *Ishmael*?

Oh well, to err is human and to forgive divine ... right?

At the point you're referring to in the *Abraham* series, I was speaking in the context of spiritual sonship. I'm sorry it was confusing. After Jacob was renamed Israel, he reconciled with his brother Esau. That meeting is a picture of the reconciliation that will take place between sons of Isaac and the sons of Ishmael, with Esau standing in as the descendants of Ishmael. Esau is spiritually aligned with Ishmael (they each experienced a sense of rejection, leading to grudge bearing and murderous rage) and sadly that lineage is still causing trouble in our world.

Still, it's awesome when the "sons of Ishmael" come to faith; they are filled with love and faith which is inspirational. (See letter from D.S. on p.25.)

Maybe we should all read our Bibles more. Or take into account the context, the heart, a possible editing gaffe, but at least the overall message of the person on the TV screen. —Myles



Back to
Index



HAMAS PROPAGANDA:
This tragic Syrian conflict photo was used to blame Israel for Gaza injustice.

◀ 25-OCT-2012
THE ORIGINAL PICTURE
FROM SYRIA

▼ 14-NOV-2012
THE PICTURE HAMAS
POSTED "FROM GAZA"



Three Letters of Blessing

Hello ZLM,

I don't normally donate money, except to my home church, because it seems like everyone's first question is "How much can you give?" Yet, your *Levitt Letter* states that even if you can't give, or just choose not to, you can stay on the mailing list! Thank you for showing that it's not all about the money; it's about the Word, and the Word is Jesus. As long as my money is used in His name, use it as you wish. —God bless you all, L.J.H. (MI)

Dear Myles and Katharine,

Thank you for pointing out how the paths of Jewish and gentile Believers are entwined as children of God. You make it clearer to us than anyone else ever has.

We also enjoy the *Levitt Letter*—indeed an eye-opening paper. Please use our contribution to spread God's Word. You both speak it most eloquently. E. and V.K. (PA)

Dear Myles, ZLM, and staff,

I wish I could send more; but I pray my thoughts penned here are even more valuable than a material contribution.

I want each of you to be encouraged, as Paul encouraged those to whom he wrote. We are in many ways enduring the same trials as those first-century saints. We need to hear that others care.

I "cut my teeth" on Zola's teaching, and his untimely passing hit me hard. However, I've observed nothing but exemplary effort by Sandra, Mark, Tom, Jeff, staff, and now Myles and Katharine. Zola's vision has not suffered by the many changes that the ministry has experienced. The message is the same and the strength of conviction has not waned. As long as this ministry's message stays on God's track as Zola intended, I believe the Lord will continue to bless and provide. —Maranatha! M.J.G (TX)

Dear L.J.H., E. and V.K., and M.J.G—

All your letters blessed and encouraged Katharine and me. May the Lord continue to pour out His love on you! —Shalom, Myles



Born Muslim; Re-Born in Jesus

Dear ZLM,

I have finally had my eyes opened! I was born in Tel Aviv to Muslims. When I was five, my parents were killed in a bombing (done by Muslims!). I was brought to the United States and adopted by a Christian family who had to agree to raise me Muslim, which they did.

For 40 years I practiced Islam. Then, on October 4th I attended a Kairos retreat here in prison, and my eyes were opened. I gave my life to Christ on October 6, 2012.

I am writing to apologize for all the bad thoughts I had for you and your staff for writing what I thought was a mockery of Islam. I now see that you were just trying—Jesus was just trying—to open my eyes to the truth.

I am grateful for your *Levitt Letter* and wish I could financially help you help others. I will keep you all in my prayers forever because Jesus is doing wonderful things through you and your staff. Please keep me on your mailing list. —In Christ, D.S. (FL)

Wow! and Shalom D.S.—

Thanks for this amazing testimony. May the Lord use you to proclaim His Name and His character to all.

In our experience, former Muslims are some of the most ardent, fearless Believers in the world today. We will pray for you. God bless you! —Myles

“How Could You?”

ZLM staff,

I can't remember when I have been so disappointed as when I saw Hillary Clinton's picture on the front of my November *Levitt Letter*. So therefore instead of sending my donation to the Zola Levitt Ministries, I will send my contribution to help stave off giving away the U.S. to the Communists.

—Regretfully, J.R.C., Jr., (TX)

Dear J.R.C., Jr.—

When a highly visible U.S. Secretary of State makes a public statement that agrees with our ministry's (unpopular) position against anti-Semitism, we find it newsworthy. Even when many readers disagree with her on other matters. —Ed.

22 Musical Pitches?

Dear Katharine,

As we read your article in the Nov, *Levitt Letter* (p. 12), my husband asked, “Does a harp with 22 strings give each string a distinct pitch? If each string was assigned a Hebrew letter, could you in theory “play” the *Tanach* (Old Testament)?” I say, “How cool would that be!” —D.W.

Shalom D.W.—

That is what we learned at the Temple Institute in Jerusalem. It warrants further investigation, but I agree ... How Cool! —Blessings, Katharine ★



Back to
Index

High-Frequency Chips for Imaging

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, JPost.com

With homeland security a high priority, screening systems to search for concealed weapons are vital pieces of equipment. But these systems are often prohibitively expensive, putting them out of reach for large public spaces like shopping malls, train and bus stations, or sports stadiums.

Now Dr. Eran Socher of Tel Aviv University's (TAU) engineering faculty is adapting existing complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (CMOS) chips designed for computers and turning them into high-frequency circuits. The ultimate goal is to produce chips with radiation capabilities, able to see through packaging and clothing to produce an image of what may be hidden underneath.

Developed through a collaboration of teams at TAU and Frankfurt University, the chip could be the basis of sophisticated but affordable and portable detection technology able to meet everyday security needs.

By adding new capabilities to existing CMOS technology—already mass-produced for computers and other mobile devices—the researchers are producing new integrated circuits at an affordable price.

The chip, which measures 0.5 mm. by 0.5 mm., newly integrates antennas, giving it the ability to receive and transmit millimeter wave or terahertz radiation. When combined with either mechanical or electronic scanning technology, the resulting radiation can produce an image.

Unlike x-ray technology, which penetrates the body, the chip is designed to see only through objects such as envelopes, clothing, or luggage—but stops at the human skin.

Because the chip works with radiation levels that are lower than those of a cell-phone, there are no health concerns, the researchers say. And the chip can also produce a more accurate depiction of concealed objects, an advantage over common metal detectors which aren't very specific or sensitive, says Socher.



Gold for Cancer Radiation Therapy

By Abigail Klein Leichman, Israel21c.org

Arab-Israeli scientist **Amal Ayoub** (*below*) is going for the gold to help cure cancer. Her startup, Metallo Therapy, is premised on her earlier research showing that metal nanoparticles—especially gold—introduced into malignant tumors can enhance the effects of radiation therapy while reducing damage to neighboring healthy cells.

“Gold is a big atom containing a lot of electrons,” she explains. “Under radiation it can absorb the rays better than smaller atoms can, and its electrons can emit secondary radiation efficient in destroying the cancer cells.”



Amal Ayoub is both the CEO and CTO of Metallo Therapy.



[Back to Index](#)

Working with two Arab-Israeli employees—a male chemical engineer with a degree from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (Ayoub’s *alma mater*), and a female biologist—Ayoub, 36, is perfecting a method to produce the gold nanoparticles efficiently on an industrial scale, and has developed a molecule to coat them so that they do not cause toxic interactions with body tissues.

Isn’t gold a very expensive material to work with? “Yes, but since we are talking about very small amounts—a couple of milligrams—the price is not an issue,” she explains. “It’s the same cost as developing any other drug.”

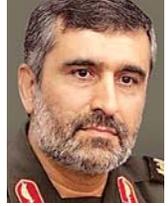
So far, she’s done all this with three years’ worth of funding provided by the Israeli Chief Scientist’s Office through the NGT Technology Incubator in Nazareth, the only applied sciences company devoted specifically to the Arab-Israeli community’s scientific, technological, and entrepreneurial potential.

While Ayoub understands she may be a role model for other Arab-Israeli women with a passion for science, her immediate concern is to put her company on the map so she can get her gold nanoparticles to the cancer patients who need them most. ★

Prophecy and WW III

Iran could launch a pre-emptive strike on Israel if it was sure the Jewish state was preparing to attack it, a senior commander of its elite Revolutionary Guards said recently.

Amir Ali Hajizadeh, a brigadier general in the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, made the comments to Iran's state-run Arabic language Al-Alam television. "Iran will not start any war, but it could launch a pre-emptive attack if it was sure that the enemies are putting the final touches to attack it," Al-Alam said, paraphrasing the military commander.



Hajizadeh said any attack on Iranian soil could trigger "World War Three."

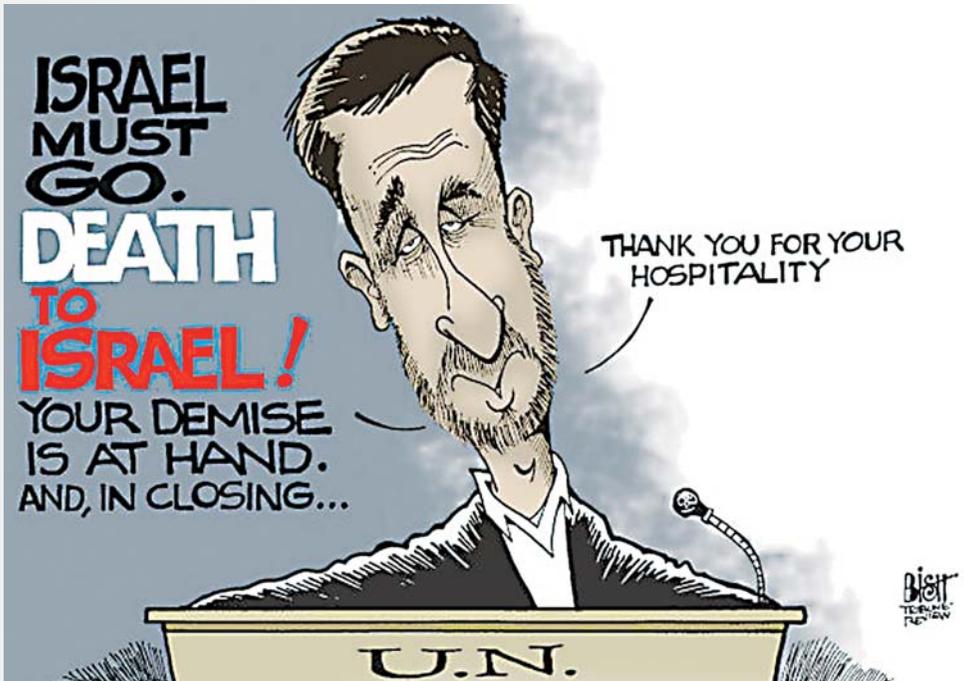
"We cannot imagine the Zionist regime starting a war without America's support. Therefore, in case of a war, we will get into a war with both of them and we will certainly get into a conflict with American bases," he said.

"In that case, unpredictable and unmanageable things would happen and it could turn into a World War Three."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has made increasing hints that Israel could strike Iran's nuclear sites and has criticized U.S. President Barack Obama's position that sanctions and diplomacy should be given more time to stop Iran getting the atomic bomb.

Tehran denied it is seeking weapons capability and says its atomic work is peaceful, aimed at generating electricity.

Continued next page



By Zahra Hosseinian & Rania El Gamal

Reuters News Service



“The Zionist entity is militarily incapable of confronting Iran ... the circumstances of the region do not enable it to wage war tomorrow or even in the near future,” Hajizadeh said.

“Our response will exceed their expectations,” he said. “Their assessment of our missile capabilities is wrong. Our response will not only be missiles.” ★

The chilling statement of this Iranian senior military official could see the fulfillment of the end-times invasion of Israel by Iran (Persia), as prophesied in Ezekiel 38–39. “Look up, lift up your heads; our redemption draws nigh” (Luke 21:28). —Todd Baker

Darth Vader Strikes Again

Hanan Ashrawi Is to Truth What Smoking Is to Health

By David Harris / HuffingtonPost.com



Hanan Ashrawi talks with Yasser Arafat



Back to Index

Hanan Ashrawi, the PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organization) Executive Committee member much sought after by Western media outlets, has just earned a gold medal for historical revisionism.

In a recent article intended for an Arabic-speaking audience, she asserted that there were no Jewish refugees from Arab countries. Instead, according to her, there were only “emigrants,” who left their ancestral homes voluntarily. Jews were not singled out for persecution, and if they were, it was, in reality, a plot by “Zionists.”

This Palestinian argument is in line with other Muslim efforts to delegitimize Jewish history.

In 2003, Zola interviewed Hanan Ashrawi, the Darth Vader of Palestinian spokespeople. She eloquently articulated the Palestinians’ best arguments for being the true owners of Israel. Subsequent review sessions with two scholarly Christians unveiled the fallacies in her assertions.

The interview and scholarly analysis are preserved on the *Whose Land Is It?* DVD: see page 20 for details.

These programs could be the ultimate crash course on credibly and diplomatically asserting Israel’s right to all its land. ★



A Rhetorical Question:

Can The Islamic Faith Tolerate Criticism?

By Ken Connor, Townhall.com

To be a person of faith in America means being prepared to have your most cherished beliefs and convictions criticized, challenged, or ridiculed. Turn on your television or your radio, log on to your favorite social media website, and odds are there will be content calculated to outrage and offend you. As Americans, we tolerate such indignities because we believe that free speech is a liberty that is fundamental to a free society.

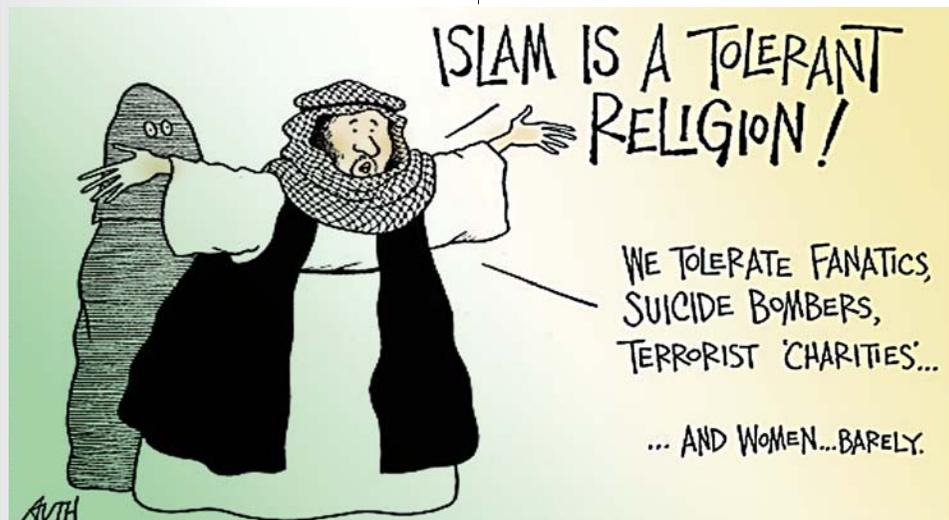
To many in the Muslim world, however, this appears to be an utterly foreign concept. Having never lived in America, they assume that the American government regulates political speech and

artistic expression like their own governments do. In their societies, there is no separation of church and state. The state is viewed as an instrument of their faith. Thus, they cannot understand why the American government would “allow” offensive material to be produced, and they demand that the American government punish the offenders.

American Muslims should recognize that such demands are ridiculous, and I’m sure that most do. Having personally enjoyed the fruits of freedom, they realize that’s not how things are done in America. In America, you have the right to express your beliefs and the right to criticize the beliefs of others. That’s true whether the objects of your criticism are Christians, Jews, Muslims, Mormons, Hindus, Sikhs, Wiccans, you name it—just ask Bill Maher.

Can Islam tolerate other religions? Can it do battle in the marketplace of ideas using words as its weapons, risking the criticism of those who disagree with its claims? Are its truth claims powerful enough to prevail without resorting to the sword?

If so, American Muslims should lead the way and set the example for the rest of the Muslim world to follow.





UNRWA: The Palestinians' Worst Enemy

By Mudar Zahran, GatestoneInstitute.org

Since its establishment, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] has received billions in international aid, including more than \$4 billion of U.S. taxpayers' money. While UNRWA's mission is to "relieve" and "support" the Palestinians, it has been doing exactly the opposite. It has been keeping Palestinians in pens as refugees and obstructing them from integrating and from normalizing their lives. UNRWA also seems to be funneling international aid money to support the terrorist organization Hamas and to promote the illegal Turkish flotilla which included members of Turkey's terrorist group the IHH (which tried to break Israel's protection of its borders from having more weapons brought in that would be turned against it). One has to wonder if UNRWA is not actually an obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

Although UNRWA was established in 1948 as a temporary institution, more than six decades on it still exists, larger than ever, with an annual budget exceeding half a billion U.S. dollars, paid by the international community. This huge budget covers a large and growing number of people on the payroll; UNRWA is now the UN's largest entity, with over 30,000 employees. It is such a boondoggle of a jobs program that it almost cannot let the Palestinian refugee problem be solved; if it did, 30,000 people would be out of work. If that problem makes UNRWA "too big to fail," this experiment is nothing but torture by other means, conducted on innocent human lives, forcing literally millions of people to live in squalor in perpetuity. UNRWA has been focused on keeping the Palestinians—and great-grandchildren of Palestinians—caught in the refugee trap. UNRWA is not there to

settle the refugees; it is there *not* to settle the refugees.

The Palestinians are made up of those people who chose to leave Israel as it was under attack, but were then surprised when, after the war, Israel declined to let them back in—unlike the Israeli Arabs, who chose not to leave during the war and who now make up a fifth of Israel's population.

By now, most of the original refugees have died out, leaving UNRWA in the position of maintaining their children, their grandchildren and their great-grandchildren—and, one can assume, at some point their great-great-great-grandchildren. The UN, in fact, currently counts as "refugees" entire generations, furious that they are being punished for a war their ancestors started but lost, and who are now asking the international community to reward them diplomatically with what they were not able to seize militarily. ★

Bravo! A branch on the UN's rotten tree, this organization has become a thuggish promoter of the worst civil-rights violators on the planet. Their ineffective policies victimize the Arab people and demonize the Jews. —Myles



Are God and Allah the Same?

Many people think we all pray to the same god. This suggests the homogenization of the identities of God and Allah.

While Judaism and Christianity share much in common, a significant difference is that Judaism views God as "one," as confirmed in the *Shema*—"Hear O Israel the Lord our God, the Lord is One." Christians see the same God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as the "Father" part of the Holy Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Some Jews think Judaism has more in common with Islam than with Christianity, seeing Judaism and Islam as monotheistic religions.

Mathematically, they may have a point; however, when one examines the theology of the three religions, there are distinctions which do not support the "same god" view. For example, Judaism and Christianity share a foundational tenet: the Ten Commandments. The First Commandment says "I am the Lord your God." Commandment number two says, "You are to have no other gods before Me."

In contrast, the *Shahadah* [Islamic statement of faith] says, "There is no god but Allah, and Mohammed is his messenger." Plus, Allah and his messenger Mohammed are virulently anti-Jewish and anti-Christian, as reflected in these quotes from the Koran:

"Jews and Christians believe in idols and false deities."
 "Jews and Christians are evil-livers."
 "Don't take Jews or Christians for friends. If you do,
 Allah will consider you to be one of them."

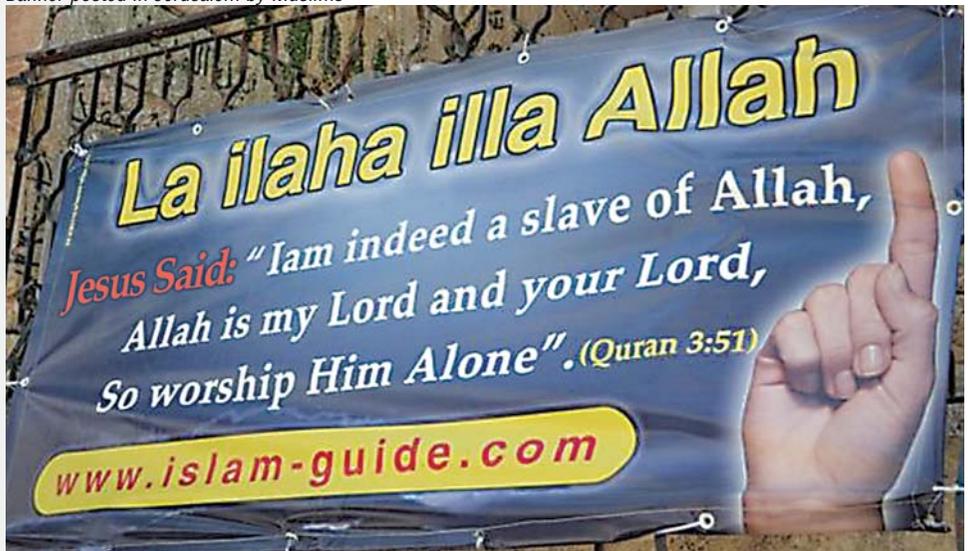


To those who say Allah is just another word for "god," does it make sense that Jews and Christians should worship a god which curses them? Yet, there is an ongoing effort by some Christians, Muslims, and Jews in support of this view.

For several years, the "Emergent Church" movement has advocated common bonds and shared values between Christians, Muslims, and Jews. In 2007, a

Banner posted in Jerusalem by Muslims

Continued next page



Christianity/Theology

By Dan Calic, God'sEverlastingCovenant.com

group of Muslim religious leaders published a document called "A Common Word" in an effort to promote better relations between Muslims and Christians. Over 300 prominent Muslims signed it. In the document's second paragraph it says: "... part of the very foundational principles of both faiths: love of the One God..."

In response, a group of leading Christian pastors and organizations drafted a document called "Loving God and Neighbor Together: A Christian Response to A Common Word." Prominent Christian signatories include Bill Hybels, Robert Schuller, Rick Warren, the president of Fuller Theological Seminary, the president of National Association of Evangelicals, and many others.

The beginning of this document says, "Before we shake your hand ... we ask forgiveness of the All-Merciful One, [Allah] and of the Muslim community around the world." What are they asking forgiveness for? Not recognizing Allah as God?

Followers of Christianity or Judaism should acknowledge another religious point of view. However, if Christian leaders feel compelled to apologize in response to a Muslim document promoting no distinction between Allah and the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—when there clearly is—I wonder who they think God is? Sadly, these days it seems Jews and Christians are more concerned about not insulting Islam than in having the courage to affirm who the God of the Bible is ... and who He is not. ★

[Our friend Dan continues his excellent commentary on the season in which we live! —Myles](#)

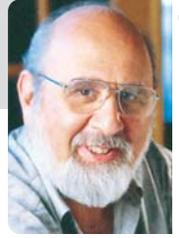


Back to Index



Notes From the Road

CLASSIC ZOLA: 1998—15 years ago *See Tom McCall's article p.6*



During past Israel Christmas tours we enjoyed sending Christmas cards postmarked in Bethlehem to some of our viewers. But since that town was given to the Palestinians, we can no longer do so. For one thing, we would have to buy Palestinian stamps, since [PLO leader Yasser] Arafat's people don't recognize the State of Israel or its stamps. Secondly, we learned that 75% of the cards would never reach their destination anyway. Our pilgrims are very discouraged at the sight of the birthplace of our Lord, which has become a typical Arab town with peddlers and garbage in the streets. I say this as an eyewitness without bias. If we continue to chop up Israel and give it to these people, we will simply replace a working democracy with the 23rd Arab-Muslim police state.

Arafat, addressing a Muslim conference in Iran recently, said the Israelis intend to tear down the Al Aqsa Mosque in

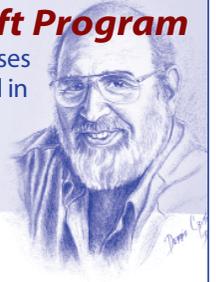
Jerusalem and replace it with Solomon's Temple. This absurdity spoken to a billion Muslims could start a world war, which would probably be to Arafat's liking. On the other hand, out of his own mouth he has recognized that the Jews had a Temple in Jerusalem under King Solomon some 3,000 years ago (16 centuries before Mohammed's birth)!

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was recently criticized for calling the West Bank (biblical Judea and Samaria) "part of Israel proper." Well, what is it, if it isn't Israel? There were no "Palestinians" in these lands in biblical times, nor through the centuries in between. If I have title to a house and I leave it, even for years, when I return I still have the title and it's still my house. And if someone else has lived there and put his name on the mailbox, that has no validity against my prior title.



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Jewish Humor, etc.

Staying with Bubbie and Zayde

David and Michael, two young brothers, were spending the night at their grandparents' house. At bedtime, the two boys recited the evening prayers before going to sleep. David, the younger brother, began praying at the top of his lungs.

"I PRAY FOR A BICYCLE ... I PRAY FOR A NEW NINTENDO ... I PRAY FOR A NEW LAPTOP ..."

Michael leaned over and nudged the younger boy and said, "Why are you shouting your prayers? God isn't deaf."

To which his little brother replied, "No, but Bubbie is!"



A cheerful heart is good medicine —
Proverbs 17:22



WHAT TERRIFIES RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS LIKE the TALIBAN ARE NOT AMERICAN TANKS or BOMBS or BULLETS...



THE BOY IN THE STRIPED JERSEY

IT'S A GIRL WITH A BOOK.

MALALA YOUSAFZAI

New Times—
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New Series from Israel Airing Soon!



Back to Index

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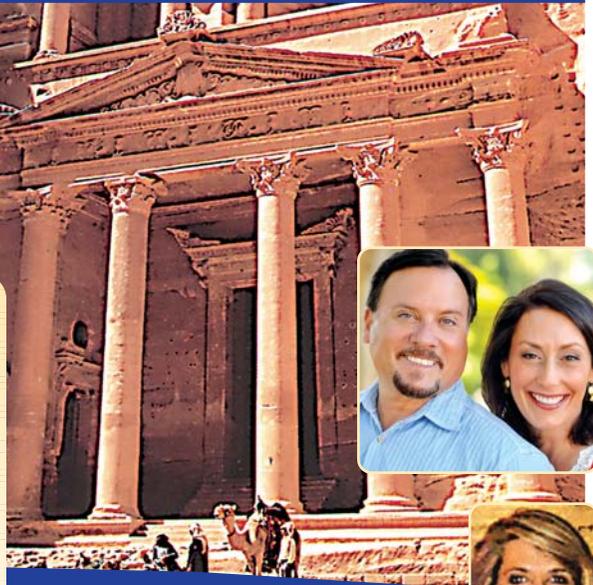
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Back to Index