

Levitt

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

Letter

**Oil Discovery in Israel—p.26**

# Israel Looking Good in 2013

**By Adam Turner**  
FrontPageMag.com

The Palestinian Bureau of Statistics recently issued a press release about how, in 2020, if the current trends persist, the number of Palestinian Arabs will outnumber the number of Israeli Jews. Of course, this is meant to encourage renewed Western pressure on Israel to make concessions to those noted “moderates” in the Palestinian Authority.

Unfortunately for the Israel haters, time is no longer on their side. Consider these facts:

**The population of Israel is booming.** And, Palestinian statistics overstate their actual numbers by 1 million. The current 66% Jewish majority in the area of the pre-1967 Israel, Judea, and Samaria could actually increase to an 80% majority in 2035, if Jewish immigration increases. This is quite possible, in response to

*(continued p.2)*

CLASSIC ZOLA: 1979, 34 YEARS AGO

## Jesus Celebrated the First Feasts of Israel

**On Mount Sinai, God gave Moses seven holy feasts for the Chosen People to celebrate annually. The Church appreciates the first feast, Passover; communion is the bread and the wine of Passover. The second feast, Unleavened Bread, demonstrates our holy walk in Christ—“the Bread of Life”—exactly our instruction from the Apostle Paul (1 Cor. 5:8).**

**We should look carefully at the original instructions in Lev. 23 for the third feast and understand their implications:**



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# Israel Looking Good in 2013 continued from cover

Israel's positive economic indicators, the intensification of European anti-Semitism (largely because of growing Muslim populations), and the growth of Jewish-Zionist education.

**Israel's economy is also booming.** Israel's 2009–2012 economic growth of 14.7% leads the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development countries, ahead of Australia—10.7%, Canada—4.8%, U.S.—3.2%, Germany—2.7%, France—0.3%, Euro Bloc—1.5% decline. Meanwhile, few of the non-oil producing Arab nations are doing well economically.

**The “Arab Spring”** has demonstrated, pretty convincingly, that Israel is not the cause of all of the problems in the Middle East.

**With the Syrian Assad regime** in its death throes and Hezbollah worried about its position in Lebanon, Israel can focus on Iranian nukes without worrying about these Iranian allies. And the Iranian regime, while still very dangerous, has its own economic and population problems that could hobble its drive to world power.



**The Kurdish people**, perhaps the most pro-Israeli Muslim group, have established their own quasi-states in Iraq and now Syria, and have become a force to reckon with wherever they live. They are a big threat to the Islamist government of Turkey, which is also facing its own economic problems.

**Israel has discovered a vast amount of natural gas—and oil—offshore**, which should make it energy independent soon, and might even make it a net exporter of energy. *(See article on page 26)*

**Continuing problems integrating their Muslim minorities** into a secular society are prompting some Europeans to re-evaluate their respective relations with the Arabs and the Israelis.

**The Palestinian leadership**—in both the PA and Hamas—while being corrupt, undemocratic, and genocidal, is also just plain dumb. A bad actor should be able, and willing, to tell a lie to advance his overall position. Yet time after time, Palestinian leaders blurt out that they don't want any sort of compromise with the Jewish state but want all the land, that the Jews have weak ties to the land, and that Palestinians (and other Arabs) must kill all of the Jews, including the women and children. They can't seem to control their emotions, even when doing so would help them achieve their purposes.

**Israel does have some big challenges facing it**—especially dealing with the threat of Iranian nukes. But, it also has a lot of positive factors coming into play that should help it weather the tide. ★

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## Jesus Celebrated First Feasts... continued from cover

“Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest. And he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it” (Lev. 23:10-11).

To paraphrase, God is saying to Moses, “I am taking My people into an exceptionally fertile land and I would like them to acknowledge that fact. Each spring, when the first harvest of the year is available, the people should bring some of their initial crops to the Temple so that the high priest can acknowledge them before Me. This must be done on the Sunday (“the morrow after the Sabbath”) during the week of Unleavened Bread.”

Thus it happens very early in the Bible, that God honors Resurrection Sunday, the Sunday after Passover, as representing particularly the things that come up out of the ground spontaneously and miraculously after the long, dead winter. We see this miracle every spring and we take it for granted, but which of us has to go out and do anything special to our trees or

our shrubbery to make them come forth with their first fruits in March and April?

**The original name of the third feast—First Fruits—contains a great truth.** If there are first fruits, then there must be a second, a third, and so on; that is the true meaning of this Sunday. We do not merely celebrate the resurrection of the Lord on First Fruits, but more so, the resurrection of the entire Church.

Jesus celebrated First Fruits in the appropriate manner by rising from the dead on that day. He also gave the Father His proper First Fruits offering; graves were opened and dead people rose and were seen after His resurrection in Jerusalem (Matt. 27:53). Our Lord, not unlike any farmer of the soil, gratefully brought before the Father a few early “crops” of what would be a magnificent harvest later on.

Thus, in His Passion Week, the Lord celebrated the first three feasts, each in the appropriate manner. He was crucified on Passover, He was buried on Unleavened Bread, and He was raised on First Fruits, as a demonstration of the future resurrection of the Church. ★



# God is Life—Choose Life

“I call Heaven and Earth to witness against you today: I place before you Life and Death, Blessing and Curse. **Choose life** so that you and your children will live. And love God, your God, listening obediently to Him, firmly embracing Him. Oh yes, **He is life** itself, a long life settled on the soil that God, your God, promised to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.” *Deuteronomy 30:19–20*

This important passage of the Bible has several promises and warnings. In it, God clearly reiterates His gift of the Land of Israel to the descendants of the Jewish patriarchs. Yet the world today continues to argue and dispute that promise. In fact, the Arab cousins and Muslim neighbors insist that the Land needs to be “*Judenrein*” (Jew-free). The textbooks that tender, young Muslim children read (if they are not in Koran-only schools) show NO Jewish state, only a “Palestinian” state. These children are not being raised on the hope of a peaceful “two-state” solution. They are systematically indoctrinated in the philosophy of the “once Muslim, always Muslim” solution. If ANY Muslims EVER lived or sojourned in an area, it belongs forever to Allah.

I dubbed the Arab Spring the “Arab springboard for the Muslim Brotherhood.” Sadly, America’s leaders seem complicit in this movement. Whether by ignorance or design, this supports the strengthening of Islam. This erroneous thinking produces a paradigm that goes like this: *surely these Koranic adherents will remember that we helped them obtain power, and they will not turn their zeal against us when they are securely leading their nations. They will not require us to follow sharia law, become dhimmis, pay jizya, or suffer the consequences of disobedience. We are different. We’re the good Westerners. Surely they will remember that...*

“The price will be high, Sons of Zion. Are you willing to pay the price?... Oh occupier, we are coming towards you. Leave our land. All of Palestine is ours. There is nothing here for you but death. There is nothing here for you but to be

*(continued next page)*



## Myles To Go / By Myles Weiss

Zola Levitt Presents co-host



killed and to leave. If your arms reach us, they will be cut off. If your eyes look at us they will be gouged out.”—Ahmed Al-Ja’abari, former leader of Hamas, killed by the IDF after many attacks he masterminded against Israel, including the kidnapping of Gilad Shalit.

“The Al-Qassam Brigades love death more than you love life,” said a video released during the last Gaza conflict.

In this Passover/Resurrection season, as always, the Jewish Messiah stands with nail-scarred hands outstretched in love. With a fire of that love burning in His eyes, He offers forgiveness to all. To terrorists and Westerners His hands and eyes plead: **“Choose Life!”**



### Where are the rational Arab voices of old?

“The Arabs, especially the educated among us, look with deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement. ...We will wish the Jews a hearty welcome home. ...We are working together for a reformed and revised Near East and our two movements complete one another. The Jewish movement is nationalist and not imperialist. And there is room in Syria for us both.” —*Emir Faisal [king of Syria (1920) and Iraq (1921–1933)], in a letter to Harvard law professor and future Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter on March 3, 1919.* ★



## “Palestinians” Refuse Palestinian Refugees

By Aviel Schneider / IsraelToday.co.il

The “Palestinian” governments in Gaza (Hamas) and the “West Bank” (Palestinian Authority) refused to take Palestinian refugees from war-ridden Syria after the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which was created to handle the issue of “Palestinian Arab refugees,” asked the two governments to allow their brothers from Syria to enter.

Palestinian Arabs in Syria had to flee their refugee camps under attack from Syrian rebels who view the Palestinians as supporters of dictator Bashar Assad.

Gaza-based Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh refused to take the refugees on the grounds that doing so would set a dangerous precedent for more Palestinian refugees to come to the Gaza Strip. He declared that these refugees should “return” to Israel and not to the Gaza Strip.

Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas similarly refused entry into the PA-controlled parts of Judea and Samaria. Both leaders argue that they don’t have the financial resources to absorb any refugees.



Sixty years ago, Israel didn’t have the financial resources to take on refugees either, but over 600,000 fleeing Jews were welcomed with open arms and given a place in the new country.

**This article exposes one of the most pernicious lies of the “Palestinian” fiasco, because the corrupt leaders of Arab and Muslim lands have NEVER been willing to help their brothers, in order to keep their rage directed at Israel. Sad, but true. —Myles**

# Award-Winning Soundtrack: Passover & Revelation

In thinking about Passover, I look back at both the Exodus journey of the Israelites and the Last Supper of our Lord, and also forward to our day and the Last Days.

The Lord delivered His people from the bondage of Egypt by the blood of an innocent lamb. Later, He became that lamb Himself, as John the Immerser/Baptist said, "...who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Everything that happened for the Hebrew people came through that supernatural substitution:

- Deliverance from the Angel of Death (Ex. 12:23)
- Whole house being saved (Ex. 12:23, also Gen. 7:1, Rom. 11:26)
- Parting the Red Sea for their escape (Ex. 14:21)
- Miraculous interventions in the wilderness, e.g., manna every day (Ex. 16:4)
- Pillar of Cloud by day and of Fire at night for guidance (Ex. 13:21)
- Water from the rock (Ex. 17:6)
- Egyptians financed the Hebrews' relocation! (Ex. 12:35–36)

The songs of Miriam and Moses accompanied the first Passover, providing the music and lyrics—a soundtrack, if you will—to celebrate God's victory at the Red Sea (Ex. 15:1–21). These hymns of praise and thanksgiving to God express the Israelites' awesome reverence for His works. His majesty, military might, and faithfulness to His people are forever set in the pages of the *Tanach* (Old Testament). The ancient Hebrews' celebration foreshadows God's ultimate Last Days' victory over Satan.

That is why one of the songs of the redeemed in Revelation (15:3–4) is called the Song of Moses!

*(continued next page)*



**By Katharine Weiss**

*Zola Levitt Presents co-host*



“They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God,  
and the song of the Lamb, saying:  
‘Great and marvelous are Thy works,  
Lord God Almighty!  
Just and true are Thy ways,  
O King of the nations.

Who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy name?  
For Thou alone are holy.  
For all nations shall come and worship before Thee,  
For Thy judgments are made manifest.”

In order for the Passover song of the redeemed to be our Revelation soundtrack, the Lamb of God had to provide the great salvation at the cross of Calvary. A song accompanied His sacrifice as well: Fully knowing that tears, suffering, and agony were before Him, Yeshua led his *talmidim* (disciples) in a song of praise at the Last Supper/Passover *seder* (Matthew 26:30, Mark 14:26). After going through the traditional Passover observance and then adding the new revelation of its relationship to Himself, Yeshua sang praises to God and went out rejoicing with His disciples!

Whatever we are facing in our lives, we need to remember to praise God in the midst of it. Just as Jesus did, we can turn to the Lord in praise and find solace and comfort in Him. ★

REJOICE!

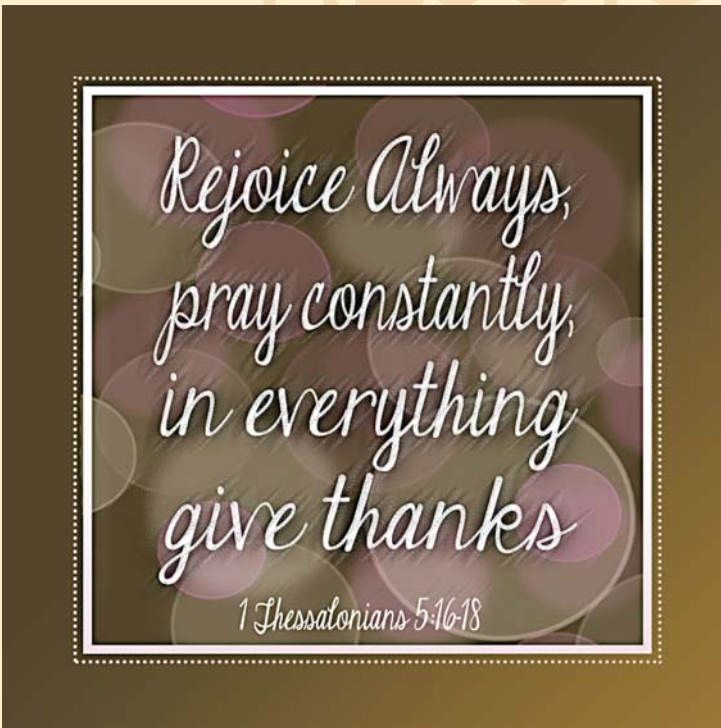


Illustration courtesy Brittni Hummel

**Yuval Shemesh** is the main guide for Zola Tours. Born in 1960, he represents the third generation of a Jerusalem family that emigrated from Persia in the early 1900s. He writes of his experience growing up in Jerusalem.

One of the most significant memories of my childhood was the Six-Day War (1967) and the unification of Jerusalem. This returned to the Jews sites that are rooted in our history: the Old City, the Western Wall, and the City of David.

During my school years, the Bible, geography, and history always fascinated me. I learned how special Israel—God’s chosen land—is.

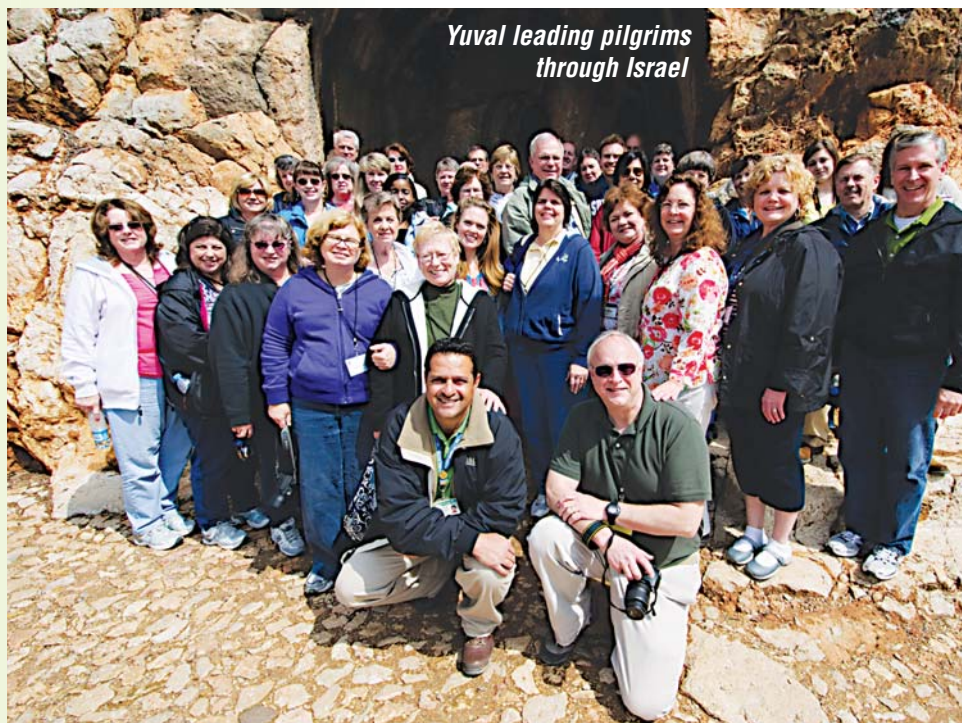
Then, when war broke out in October of 1973 and Israel faced a very difficult situation, God fought for the nation and protected His land. Through the prophets, He promised to bring His people back to their country and to protect them, and He does that today.

In 1978, I joined the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), and served in the paratrooper unit. More than once I felt God’s love and protection—during my work at the security office for ten years and especially in the war with Lebanon. During that second Lebanese war in 1982, I went with my unit under cover of darkness deep into Lebanon, behind enemy lines. Early next morning we engaged in battle with many Syrian tanks and helicopters. We managed to hit and destroy most of them.

All the time during the battle, I felt a very strong protection over us. Now I know this was the protection of God. I didn’t see fear or danger; “something” told me we were safe. My unit had no injuries or casualties at all. The battle ended with our forces controlling the road between Beirut and Damascus. It was the hand of God.

While serving in the army, I studied at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. I met my wife in Holland, and married her in 1991. We have three children. The birth

*(continued next page)*





## Zola Tours Israel

By Yuval Shemesh



of our first son in 1992 coincided with the completion of my studies as a tour guide. I have been leading Christian tours for more than 20 years. During that time, I came to know and love Jesus. Knowledge of Israel's history, the Bible, and biblical prophecies led me to accept the Lord ten years ago. He's the One who loves and protects His country and all who recognize Him.

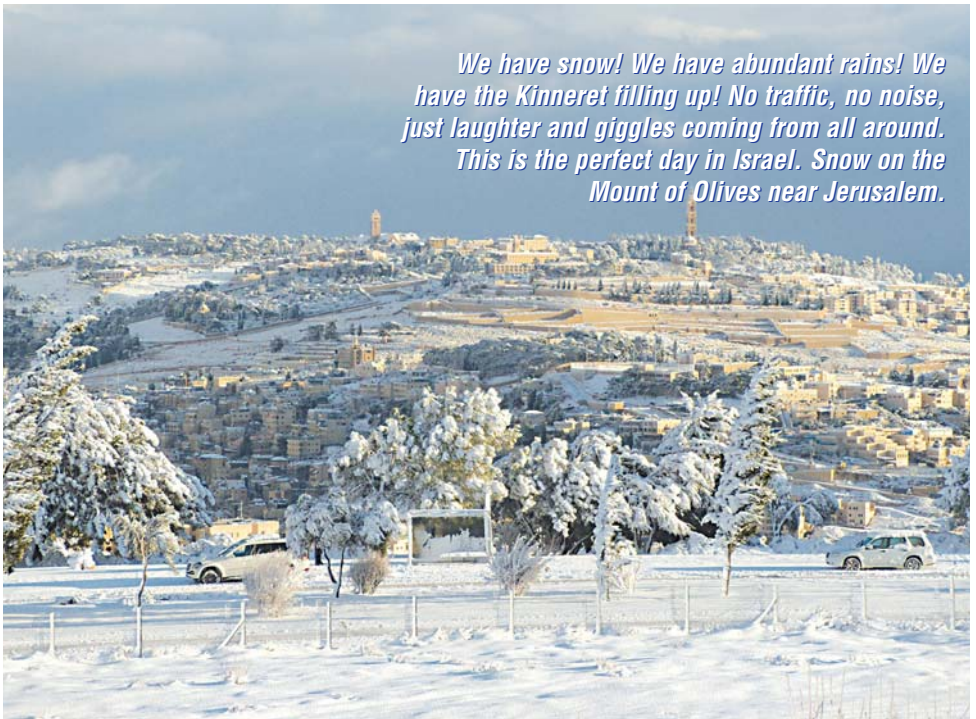
I have a special love guiding pilgrims for Zola Tours, who understand more than others that the common roots and faith of Jewish and Christian Believers band us together. I look forward to guiding future Zola Tours. For these pilgrims, it is not just another trip, but a life-changing experience that brings an even bigger love and faith in the Lord. ★

**Zola Tours is blessed to have Yuval as lead guide.** faith and knowledge of the Hebrew language and Scripture make an irresistible combination. Join us for the journey of a lifetime!

—Myles & Katharine



*We have snow! We have abundant rains! We have the Kinneret filling up! No traffic, no noise, just laughter and giggles coming from all around. This is the perfect day in Israel. Snow on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem.*



# Heavenly Rain

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF: [Our Man in Haifa, tents-of-mercy.org](http://Our Man in Haifa, tents-of-mercy.org)



Walking along the beach, I was nearly blown over by the force of the wind coming off the Mediterranean Sea. The violent surf wasn't its usual placid self. The chill in the air, the spray of the sea, and the sheer energy being unleashed upon the Israeli coast suddenly struck me in a strange way. I began chuckling. Beholding the raw power of God, expressed through nature's outburst, caused me to praise Him out loud for the glory of His might.

But for many Israelis, and last fall the victims of Hurricane Sandy in the U.S., such violent storms are no laughing matter. We pray with compassion for parts of the globe that suffer natural disasters. Israel, while this winter's floods were comparatively light on a world scale, has absorbed the kind of storm that only comes every 20 years.

Along with many major highways in Israel and portions of the national railway, our main automotive artery, the Ayalon Freeway that cuts through Tel Aviv, was closed down due to the overflowing drainage canal next to it. Helicopters were sent to rescue stranded citizens in the Arab-Israeli town of El-Garbiya and the town of Bat Hefer, near Netanya. Homes and businesses were ruinously flooded. In many places, this weather is common. Not here. Most of the country's infrastructure is just not ready for this amount of water.

Though the rain caused trials and tragedy for some, it was also a radical answer to prayer. The Sea of Galilee is our nation's largest inland body of water and its major water storage tank. Two years ago—in the January 2011 *Levitt Letter*—I reported on the nation's drought and the lake's critical water loss. Now, its water level has risen an unprecedented two feet!

In Hebrew, a nice play on words highlights the fact that rain (especially in the dry Middle East) is a blessing from above. The word for water is *mayim*; and the word for Heaven is *hashamayim*. So, we can say that *mayim* (water) is sent from *hashamayim* (Heaven). *"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud...so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please..."* (Isaiah 55:10, 11).

Hurricanes, typhoons, and thunderstorms can be frightening, destructive, and deadly. Yet this winter, even as many lost their homes, electric power, and property on the eastern seaboard of the U.S., Israel recovered a significant amount of life-giving rain. For that we give praise to the Living God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ★



*The Sea of Galilee/Kinneret has risen two feet!*

# Strategic Points in the Conflict with Gaza

BY DANIEL PIPES / NationalReview.com



## Israel made two misguided unilateral withdrawals in 2005.

**From Gaza:** Ariel Sharon won reelection as prime minister in January 2003, mocking a rival who called for the unilateral withdrawal of all Israeli residents and soldiers from Gaza. Then, inexplicably, he put this same policy into effect in August 2005.

**From the Philadelphi Corridor:** Under pressure from the U.S., especially from U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Sharon signed an agreement in September 2005, called “Agreed Arrangements,” that withdrew Israeli forces from the Philadelphi Corridor, a 9-mile by 100-yard area between Gaza and Egypt. The hapless “European Union Border Assistance Mission at the Rafah Crossing Point” took their place.



Egyptian authorities had promised in their 1979 peace treaty with Israel to prevent “acts or threats of belligerency, hostility, or violence,” but in fact **permitted massive smuggling** of armaments to Gaza via tunnels.

Sharon signed the “Agreed Arrangements,” against strong opposition from Israel’s security establishment. Of course, by removing this layer of Israeli protection, an exponential increase in the Gaza arsenal predictably followed, culminating in the Fajr-5 missiles that reached Tel Aviv last November.

To permit Israeli soldiers effectively to prevent armaments from reaching Gaza, David Eshel of *Defense Update* argued in 2009 for the IDF taking back the Philadelphi Corridor and increasing its size to “a fully sterile security line of about 1,000 yards,” even though this would mean having to relocate about 50,000 Gaza residents. Interestingly, the Palestinian Authority’s Ahmed Qurei privately endorsed similar steps in 2008.

Doron Almog, former head of Israel’s Southern Command, goes farther: Noting deep Iranian involvement in Gaza, he advocates making the Philadelphi Corridor into a no-man’s-land by widening it to about six miles. Ideally, he’d like the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to build this anti-smuggling obstacle and the

American military to have a continued role policing the border. Second best, Israelis do this alone. (The still-operational Gaza-Jericho Agreement of May 1994 establishes a “Military Installation Area” under Israel’s full control—in effect, the Philadelphi Corridor—that provides Jerusalem with the legal basis to take back this crucial border.)

But Michael Herzog, formerly a high-ranking official in Israel’s defense ministry, says it is too late for Israel to take back the Philadelphi Corridor, that international pressure on Egypt to stop the flow of arms to Gaza is the solution.

Western governments should signal Hamas that they will encourage Jerusalem to respond to the next missile attack by retaking and enlarging the Philadelphi Corridor. ★



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# Ask the Chaplain

By **Dr. Todd D. Baker**  
ZLM Staff Theologian

**Q.** **G.C. (GA) asks:**  
In John 14:15, Yeshua said, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." Plain and simple, right? The Believers of that day would have understood that to be the Law of Moses, yes? But if we do not have to keep Torah (minus the sacrificial offerings), then what commandments is He speaking of?

**A.** **The key to understanding this issue is knowing that the Old Testament law was given to the nation of Israel, not to Christians.** Some of the laws told the Israelites how to obey and please God (Ten Commandments). Some showed them how to worship God and atone for sin (the sacrificial system). Some were intended to make the Israelites distinct from other nations (the food and clothing rules). None of the Old Testament law is binding on us today. When Jesus died on the cross, He put an end to the OT law (Romans 10:4; Galatians 3:23–25; Ephesians 2:15).

Instead, we are under the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2), which is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind ... and to love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37–39). If we obey those two commandments, we fulfill all that Christ requires of us: "All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (Matthew 22:40).

Now, this does not mean the OT laws are irrelevant today: Many fall into the categories of "loving God" and "loving your neighbor." Old Testament law can be a good guidepost for knowing how to love God and knowing what goes into loving your neighbor. At the same time, it is incorrect to say that the OT law applies to Christians today. The Old Testament law is a unit (James 2:10). Either all of it applies, or none of it applies. If Christ fulfilled some

of it, such as the sacrificial system, He fulfilled all of it.

The Ten Commandments are essentially a summary of the entire OT law. Nine of the Ten are clearly repeated in the New Testament (except to observe the Sabbath day). If we love God, we do not worship false gods or bow before idols. If we love our neighbors, we do not murder them, lie to them, commit adultery against them, or covet what belongs to them.

**The purpose of the OT law is to convict us of our inability to keep the law and point us to our need for Jesus Christ as Savior** (Romans 7:7–9; Galatians 3:24). The OT law was never intended by God to be the universal law for all people for all of time. We are to love God and love our neighbors. If we obey those two faithfully, we uphold all that God requires of us. Jesus' statement in Matthew 5:18 means we have to keep the whole law of Moses.

We cannot choose which laws to keep. If a person wants to keep the Law of Moses, he or she must keep all 613 commandments (James 2:10). You can't remove just the law requiring animal sacrifice—all means all. Moreover, the Law in Matthew 5:18 means all of Scripture, not just the Books of Moses. Jesus alone will and can fulfill the perfect Law (He did when He came and will do when He comes again), not us!



(continued next page)



## From Genesis to Malachi— Messiah is There!

In northern Israel, the Lord led us to filigree and glass artist Moshe Cohen's store in Safed. Moshe showed considerable interest when Harvey Zion and I explained how the Messianic prophecies in the *Tanach* (Old Testament) all point to Yeshua of Nazareth, and the *B'rit Hadashah* (New Testament) demonstrates their fulfillment in Yeshua.



Moshe and Todd

When we gave Moshe the complete Bible in Hebrew—including the New Testament—he pointed to his arm and showed us that his hair stood on end! As we continued telling Moshe what Jesus did in His atoning death and resurrection, Moshe said, "I know this and will read this Bible to learn more about it."

He invited me to his house for dinner and more fellowship when I return to Safed, this spring. God obviously opened this glassmaker's heart to hear about the Messiah that Israel has ignored for centuries. Now in these last days, many Israelis are reconsidering His claims in light of the biblical evidence that we give them. They're verifying Yeshua to be both God and Messiah. More Israelis like Moshe are waiting to hear the Good News of Jesus the Messiah.

After three productive days of ministering in the Galilee, Harvey and I left for Jerusalem. The drive south to Jerusalem takes a little over two hours on Highway 90. Along the roadside, young Israelis hitchhike for rides. About thirty

minutes into our drive, Harvey and I picked up a young, *yeshiva* (religious school) student, Yadid. We discussed with him the idea that belief in the Messiah unifies biblical Judaism and Christianity!

In the *Tanach*—from Genesis to Malachi, 4,000 years of human history—the Lord gave Israel detailed prophecies as infallible means of identifying the Messiah when He comes. History records only one Person fulfilling these Messianic prophecies: Jesus of Nazareth. The *B'rit Hadashah* historically documents Jesus as the Messiah precisely because He fulfilled all of the prophecies that pertain to the Messiah's first coming.

In addition to the Hebrew copy of the Old and New Testaments, we gave Yadid a list\* of the Messianic prophecies for him to look up. As we parted from Yadid, we challenged him to study and read the Hebrew Scriptures, to verify for himself how they collectively point to Jesus as the Messiah and King of Israel.

Thanks to your support, ZLM will send eight To The Jew First *shelichim* to Israel this year, up from six last year!

\*The list of Messianic prophecies that To The Jew First *shelichim* use is similar to the *Propheesied Messiah* bookmark. If you'd like one, it is offered on page 19 and described toward the bottom of the "Specialties" page at the [levitt.com](http://store.levitt.com) store (<http://store.levitt.com/BKM>). ★

**shaliach**  
shah-LEE-ack'n,  
pl/shelichim  
shell-LEE-kim\  
one who is sent,  
an emissary.

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? Rom. 10:15.  
To the Jew first...Rom. 1:16

—Todd Baker



Yadid

# There is No Hamas-Fatah Divide

BY DR. ANAT BERKO / JewishPress.com

Mahmoud Abbas



Contrary to what many people think, there is no profound division between Fatah and Hamas. Palestinians often shuttle from one to the other; members of the same family belong to different groups. Jibril Rajoub, for example, is often interviewed by the Israeli media as representing Fatah (Palestinian Authority), while his brother, Naif, was a minister in the *de facto* Hamas administration.

Before 2007, when Hamas took over the Gaza Strip and suppressed the Fatah presence there, there was a considerable amount of back-and-forth between the organizations. On one occasion, a Fatah operative in jail smiled and said he found it hard to say which organization he belonged to. "There are days," he said, "when **I go to sleep Fatah and wake up Hamas.**"

Recently, masses of people marched through the streets of Fatah-held cities in Judea and Samaria holding green signs with Hamas slogans, all with Fatah's blessing, and chanting, "death to the Jews," and "death to Israel." As one veteran Fatah member said, "**In our hearts we are all Hamas.**"

Mahmoud Abbas's so-called "pragmatism" is music to Western ears, but not to the Arabs'.

Thus, when he came back from the UN with the title of "president of Palestine" in his pocket, he allowed Hamas and others to hold parades and rallies, released Hamas prisoners, and gave instructions that those planning terrorist attacks against Israel are to be left to do as they please.

Today the Palestinian Authority can barely stay afloat, and every mass march organized to palliate Hamas can slide into factional Palestinian violence and anti-Israeli terrorism.

Hamas, with the help recently and willingly given it by Mahmoud Abbas, will take over, just as it took over the Gaza Strip. Israel can never accept a radical Islamist emirate in Judea and Samaria of the sort that Hamas has created in the Gaza Strip, any more than Paris, London, or Washington could accept al-Qaeda or the Taliban in Monaco, Wales, or Virginia.

This time, no one can promise that Israeli soldiers will continue to act as bodyguards for Palestinian leaders when their lives are threatened. That movie, which we have all seen, is no longer playing. ★



**PA Arabs waving Hamas flags during a demonstration in Ramallah.**  
Photo  
Credit:  
Issam  
Rimawi/  
Flash90

# ZLM Bulletin Board

## For & Against Peace

Israeli media portray Arabs as equals to Jews, showing that Arabs are integrated in all roles, including sports, cultural events, and the government. Popular TV programs include friendships and love affairs between Jewish and Arab Israelis. TV commercials feature Jews, Muslims, and Christians celebrating holidays together in Haifa. PA TV, on the other hand, teaches that Christians and Jews are inferior, cowardly, and despised. Children's programs characterize Jews as enemies of Allah, murderers of innocent children, and brothers of monkeys and pigs who should be destroyed. See for yourself in the nine-minute video at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1Be>. **For peace to have a chance, the PA must stop such incitement.**



## Here's To Their Health

Arabs at the UN urge boycotting everything that originates from Jews. Pharmacist Meyer M. Treinkman offers the following afflictions that boycotters will have to endure for boycotting Jewish remedies: syphilis, gonorrhea, heart disease, typhus, diabetes, headaches, convulsions, mental disorders, diphtheria, ear and brain damage, infantile paralysis, and tuberculosis.

## Pamphlet of the Month

**"The State Has Made Your Will" Free Item**

pamphlet begins: "There's no law that says you have to make a will or other estate plans." It explains some assumptions that the court may be forced to make in the absence of instructions from you and possible ways it would divide your assets. The various topics are especially relevant to parents of minor children and anyone who wishes to minimize estate taxes.

To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

## Praise Report/Request

You may recall that last May's *Levitt Letter* advertised for a used heart for Dan Young, founder and longtime administrator of [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com). The October's Bulletin Board announced that he'd been blessed with a surgically implanted, battery-powered HeartMate II pump. Nonetheless, we asked, "Please pray for more for Dan." Recently Dan reported being moved up to 1A status for a heart transplant, meaning he's less than a month away from receiving a real heart! Now for some extra prayer, please, that the transplant goes super well.



## "Come Home!"

**Zola Tours to Israel:**



See page 36 for details



# HebrewLesson



*Safe in God's Love...*

By John J. Parsons

אֶל-תִּירָא כִּי עִמָּךְ-אֲנִי

*"Fear not, for I am with you..." (Isa. 41:10)*

אֶ	ל-	תִּ	יִ	רָ	א	כִּי	עִ	מָ	ךְ-	אֲ	נִי
(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
a-ni	im-me-kha	ki	al-ti-rah								
I am	with you	for	fear not								

**How do you think God regards you?** Does He see your sin *first*? If you think He disapproves of you, it's likely you will attempt to earn His approval by doing certain things (and not doing others), which puts you "under the law," that is, the never-ending cycle of self-justification. But you will never feel *safe* as long as you regard God's acceptance of you as *conditional*, since you will only be as secure as your own best efforts, a project that will exhaust you in the end. Instead you must know yourself as truly loved by God, just as the "prodigal son" came to know his father's unconditional love and acceptance despite his many misdeeds (Luke 15:11-32).

The incarnation of Jesus means that God "runs to meet and embrace you," regardless of whatever happened in your life that made you run away from home. And whatever else it may be, sin is the *separation* from God's love, but Yeshua made the decision to die for your sins *before* you were born. Your sin cannot overrule God's surpassing and personal love for your soul, since God gave up His very life for you to find life.

The Hebrew word for "life" is *chayim*, a plural noun that contains two consecutive letter yods (י) that picture two "hands held together" (the Hebrew word *yad* means "hand"), or the union of our spirit with God's Spirit. The word itself reveals that there is no life apart from union with God, who extends His hand to you and says, "Live in Me" (John 15:4). We live in Him by faith, receiving our daily bread as His flesh and our drink as His blood (John 6:53). Yeshua is the Source of all life, and we find nourishment, strength, and fullness of joy in His life. The Lord is our light and our salvation, the Mediator of divine life. As it is written, "Whoever has the Son has life; but whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life" (1 John 5:12).

The Lord is also called "the God of breath" (Gen. 2:7; Num. 16:22). The Hebrew word for breath is *ruach*, a word that means both "spirit" and "wind." God is as close as your breath and surrounds you like the unseen yet encompassing air. Since God's name YHVH (יהוה) means "Presence" (Exod. 3:13-14), "Life" (Deut. 30:20), and "Love" (Exod. 34:6-7), He is the Beloved, the "I-am-with-you-always" lover of your soul. So fear not; you are never really alone. **Yeshua breathes out to you and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit"** (John 20:22). ★



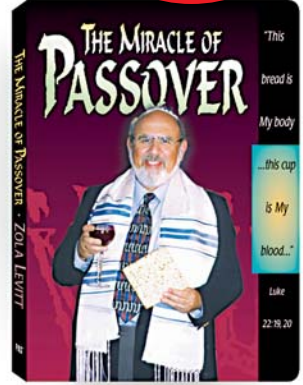


# ZLM Store

OUR MOST REQUESTED!

## *The Miracle of Passover* DVD, Study Booklet, & CD

Passover, the crown jewel of the biblical feasts, begins this year at sundown on March 25. In the booklet and recently updated DVD, Zola explains the origin and significance of Passover and demonstrates the feast in which Christ is revealed through its very elements. This is one of the most basic and important Bible studies, shedding clear light on the mysteries of the Lord's Supper and unearthing the Jewish roots of Christianity.

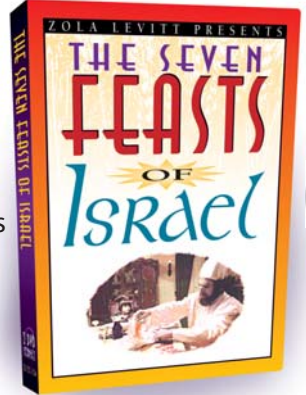


- The Miracle of Passover* DVD—60 minutes
- The Miracle of Passover* Study Booklet
- The Miracle of Passover* Teaching CD

Please order on pages 18 & 19

## *The Seven Feasts of Israel* Zola's Study Booklet, DVD, CD

*The Seven Feasts of Israel* booklet is a must-read and an appropriate gift for anyone you know. It heightens every reader's awareness of how God shows us the Messiah in these feasts.



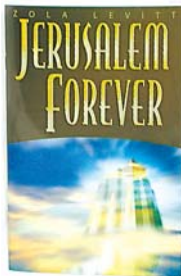
Yeshua was crucified on **Passover**, buried on **Unleavened Bread**, raised at **First Fruits**, and sent the Holy Spirit on **Shavuot** (Pentecost). We are waiting for the return of our Lord on **Rosh Hashanah** (Trumpets). We will not have to go through **Yom Kippur** (Atonement) because Yeshua paid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

- The Seven Feasts of Israel*—2 DVDs, 7 programs
- The Seven Feasts of Israel* Study Booklet
- The Seven Feasts of Israel* Teaching CD



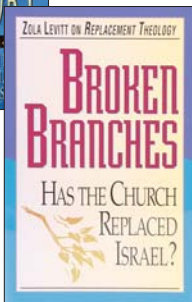
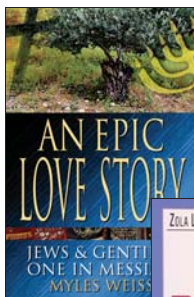
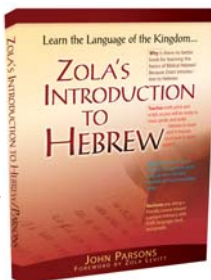
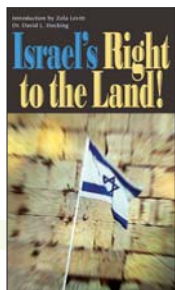
**Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library**

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>The Seven Feasts of Israel</b>	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>The Miracle of Passover</b>	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	How Can a Gentile Be Saved?	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	A Christian Love Story	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Second Coming	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seven Churches	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spirit of Pentecost	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Glory! The Believers' Future	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Promised Land	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	In My Father's House	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Israel, My Promised	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jerusalem Forever	\$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Mix or Match: 50 Above Classic Study Booklets</b>	<b>\$49</b>	_____



**Books**

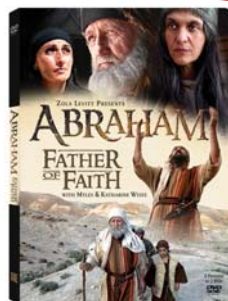
Qty.	Title	Price	Total
<input type="checkbox"/>	An Epic Love Story (Part of 50-book offer above)	\$3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Beginning of The End	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Bible Jesus Read	\$10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Broken Branches: Has the Church Replaced Israel? (Zola on Replacement Theology)	\$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coming: The End! Russia & Israel	\$10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dateline Jerusalem	\$12	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	First Christians: Transcript	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genesis One	\$5	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The House That God Built	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Iranian Menace	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Is Fanatic Islam A Global Threat?	\$14	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Israel's Right to the Land!	\$2	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Jesus, The Jew's Jew</b>	\$7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meshumed!	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mountains Of Israel	\$10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once Through The New Testament	\$9	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Our Hands Are Stained With Blood	\$16	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Passover Haggadah	\$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Prophesied Messiah	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Raptured</b>	\$10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Satan in The Sanctuary	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Signs of The End: Millennium	\$7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Whose Land Is It?	\$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zola's Introduction to Hebrew	\$39	_____



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**By phone call:**  
**1-800-966-3377**  
**Or remove this entire 2-pg. form, fill out box at right & mail to ZLM, Box 12268 Dallas, TX 75225**

**Featured DVDs**

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Acts: Then & Now (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beloved Thief—Musical (1-60 min DVD)	\$19	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>The Miracle of Passover</b> (2 programs, 1-DVD)	\$19	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms of Ascent (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation (6 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$39	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruth (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Seven Feasts of Israel</b> (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Stones Cry Out (12 programs, 3-DVDs)	\$69	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Whose Land Is It? (3 programs, 1-DVD)	\$19	_____

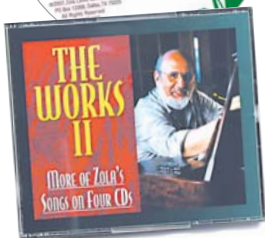


**NEW Item**



### Studies, Specialty, Etc.

Qty.	Item	Price	Total
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___	"Pray for Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker	\$2	___
___	Half-shekel Key Chain	\$8	___
▶	<b>Jerusalem Journeystone</b>	\$8	___
___	Jewish Heritage Calendar (2013)	\$6	___
___	Matzoh Postcards (pack of 12)	\$8	___
___	Messianic Prophecy Scroll	\$35	___
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem	\$12	___
___	Pilgrims' Map of The Holy Land	\$6	___
___	Flag of Israel (3' x 5')	\$10	___
▶	<b>The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark</b> 2 for	\$1	___
___	Zola's Notebook (The Bible: The Whole Story)	\$25	___
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info)	no charge	___
___	TV Program Airing Schedule	no charge	___
___	Guide To Your Christian Will (Limited Offer)	\$2	___



### Teaching CDs by Zola

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	A Christian Love Story	CD \$7	___
▶	<b>Discovering Our Jewish Roots</b> (9 CDs)	\$39	___
▶	<b>Jesus, The Jew's Jew</b>	CD \$7	___
▶	<b>The Miracle of Passover</b>	CD \$7	___
▶	<b>The Seven Feasts of Israel</b>	CD \$7	___
___	The Tribulation Temple	CD \$7	___

### Music CDs: Hear samples at [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)

___	The Works (Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___
___	The Works 2 (Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___

Please send this entire 2-page Order Form—Thanks. ▼



**Please Fill Out Area Below and Send the Entire Page.**

**Shipping & Handling Chart** Canada and Mexico, and all other countries, please **DOUBLE** shipping. Please send US funds.  
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 \$31 to \$60.99, add \$9  
 \$61 to \$100, add \$10  
 over \$100, add \$12  
 (Please allow about 2-3 wks. for delivery.)

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
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 UPS shipping (\$4 extra) \_\_\_\_\_  
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On what station/network do you primarily watch our programs? \_\_\_\_\_

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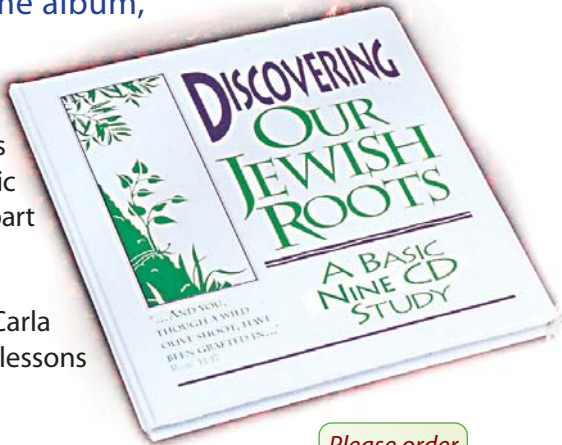
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## Discovering Our Jewish Roots

Nine-CD study set, in a handsome album, with a 21-page workbook.

This unique study—comprising nine compact discs and a workbook—begins with a survey of Old Testament Messianic prophecies and concludes with a two-part lesson on Christ in the Passover.

Lovingly designed by Anne Snell and Carla Hunter with the layman in mind, these lessons are simple, direct, and from the heart.



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CD set on  
page 19

### Topics include:

- A survey of Old Testament Messianic Prophecies
- Gentile Salvation
- God's Eternal Covenant with the Jews, Replacement Theology, and the Church's Responsibility
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- Messiah in the Passover

"A one-of-a-kind system that presents complex biblical issues in simple, everyday terms." —**Zola Levitt**



Olive grove in Israel's countryside



# Carte Blanche on Marital Bliss

**WISE AS A SERPENT:** By Mark Levitt



**Staying married is typically the best financial decision you can make, and divorcing the worst.** Seventy percent of people who divorce regret doing so. With all that marriage has to offer—including the romantic and spiritual echoes of Yeshua’s soon union with the Church—are the stewardship aspects of wedlock beside the point? No.

Please accept the following from a pragmatist who impersonates a romanticist because it pays. In the months to come, *Zola Levitt Presents* will feature highlights from the marriage seminar Myles and Katharine have perfected and taught for decades. Though I’ve been married for 24 years (now with three kids in college), I expect to learn plenty from those TV programs.

Nonetheless, as a new empty nester, I stumbled upon a news article that should inspire *beaucoup* spouses to invest themselves anew in wedlock. Personal Finance columnist Pamela Yip recently wrote, “Senior Splits: Age-related money matters pop up as divorce rises among couples 50 and older.” Here are some highlights:

- The divorce rate among adults age 50 and older doubled between 1990 and 2010. Roughly 1 in 4 divorces in 2010 occurred to people age 50 and older.
- The United States has the highest divorce rate in the world, with roughly 45 percent of marriages expected to end in divorce.
- A growing number of older adults will experience divorce because remarriages are more likely than first marriages to end through divorce.

## The article’s key pointers:

- **The biggest one:** Never, ever, put your relationship on automatic pilot.
- Take care of this relationship, and it will take care of you.
- Both people need to make it more of a celebration of what you enjoy.

- Couples must clearly articulate to each other their emotional needs and be specific about them.

**And here’s my personal favorite, from clinical psychologist Paul K. Chafetz:** “In marriage, to be content at all, each party has to continually keep a positive balance in the ‘goodwill account’ that each person has in the other person’s heart. Every time I’m good to my spouse, I’m making a deposit and my balance there goes up. Whenever ... I’m mean or neglectful or make a mistake, say harsh words, I make a withdrawal and my balance goes down.” Yip concluded that the key is to not “overdraw” that account.

God, of course, gives us *carte blanche* on grace. Consider, however, the patience and forbearance He’s had to have with Israel and the Church. As we Believers become sanctified, it is inevitable that we give our spouses the better end of the stick, just as God does us.

**Well said, Mark. We were delighted to present “From This Day Forward,” our marriage seminar at the recent Future Congress conference in Dallas. What could be more prophetic than staying together and looking forward to the “Wedding in the Sky” with Yeshua? —Myles** ★





# Letters to ZLM

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

**From R.L. (Indonesia):** I am mentoring a young ex-Muslim. We're both keen to know more about the Jewish roots of Christianity. We just began listening to first Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies CD and realize that we need course for her too. You might also find helpful our nine-CD series *Discovering Our Jewish Roots*, offered on page 19 and described on page 20, and at the [levitt.com](http://store.levitt.com/DJR*) store ([http://store.levitt.com/DJR\\*](http://store.levitt.com/DJR*)). —Mark

**From C.S. (FL):** I have just finished writing my first book and want to pledge my tithes to Zola Levitt Ministries on any profits. Thank you. We appreciate the vested interest in your success. Watch out, however, for vanity publishers who require the author to purchase 1,000+ copies from them on the faint promise that their token marketing efforts will yield big sales. Self-publishing with low-volume pressruns should protect you from getting stuck with a garage full of books. Better yet, a publisher sincerely interested in your writing won't ask you to provide anything more than your manuscript. —Mark

**From R.R.S. (APO AE 09704):** At Thule Air Force Base, Greenland, we don't get *Zola Levitt Presents* up here. Thank you for continuing this ministry. If you have Internet, you can use your computer to "tune us in" at [www.levitt.tv](http://www.levitt.tv). —Mark

**From J.A. (AL):** I love my *Levitt Letter*. It is like a drink of water in the desert. I read it cover to cover. Shalom and Blessings

**From S.H.(OH):** Zola and my blessed dad could have passed for twins! We'd love for you to share that! Please email a picture of him to [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) and put Attn: Levitt Letter in the subject line. —Mark

**From G.P.C. (NV):** I have been watching *Zola Levitt Presents* for a couple of years, and it is inspiring. Many Christians do not realize that Jesus is a Jew. I was raised Roman Catholic and that was NEVER taught. Hanan Ashrawi, the Darth Vader of anti-Zionist revisionists, declared, "Jesus Christ was a Palestinian prophet born in Bethlehem in my country." She claims to be a Christian. —Mark

## Dry Bones

(see p.26)



**From D.S. (IN):** Zola has always been an inspiration to me. I could sit for hours and listen to him teach. And now you can at [www.levitt.tv](http://www.levitt.tv)! —Mark

**From J.E. (MD):** I love Myles and Katharine; they truly show God's love in action. I thank Yeshua for their lives and ZLM. And they thank Yeshua for you. —Mark

**From E.S. (CA):** I learn a lot from the *Levitt Letters*—time to start supporting.

**From F.H. (MD):** I'm giving this gift in honor and memory of my wife, Gail, who went home on January 8, 2012. May the God of all comfort be with you in your loss and in the days ahead. I am always impressed that the "mourner's *kaddish*" (Hebrew prayer for those who have lost a loved one) emphasizes God's greatness. Thank God He has brought Gail to Himself and you will see her again! —Our best, Myles and Katharine

**From T.D. (OH):** I was first introduced to Messianic Judaism by accident in a Messianic chat room on AOL. I happened to see *Zola Levitt Presents* and saw the depth of knowledge I was missing out on. I want to know more, and from a Jewish perspective. *Zola's* book *Jesus, the Jew's Jew* could be a wonderful starting place. You can order it from page 18 and read about it toward the top of the "Books" page at the [levitt.com](http://store.levitt.com) store (<http://store.levitt.com/JJJ>). (see p.36)

**From J.B. (CA):** As a "grafted in" gentile, I am blessed by your Israel programs. I have visited my future home and it is wonderful to revisit the sight I was blessed to see. May Yahweh continue to bless you.

**From J.H. (AR):** You are doing a good thing. Thank you.

### **False Teaching**

Dear ZLM,

I recently heard this: Go to any Jewish or Messianic assembly and you will find that they have added two more festivals contrary to Yahweh's express command in Deuteronomy 12:32. They have added the manmade festivals of Hanukkah and Purim, that are violently nationalistic festivals nowhere commanded by either Yahweh in the *Torah* or by any of His prophets. Hanukkah was invented by the Pharisees and Purim by a Benjaminite Queen of Persia and then refashioned by the Pharisees who added much Babylonian leaven (sin) by putting a strong emphasis on the spirit of revenge. Is this true? R.W. (WI)

Dear R.W.—

Purim and Hanukkah are mentioned in Scripture with apparent approval and not one hint of disapproval, indicating that God allowed celebrations of these festivals. Purim is favorably mentioned in the Book of Esther, part of the Old Testament Bible and thus equal in canonical authority with the *Torah* (see Esther 9:18–32).

Hanukkah—also called the Feast of Dedication—was celebrated by no less than the Son of God Himself in John 10:22–23! Jesus attended the worship services in the Temple that were associated with this eight-day feast. Surely, He wouldn't do this if the feast were not approved by God, since Jesus always did what pleased the Father (John 8:29). Pay no attention to those who are ignorant of the Word and history. —Todd

*Wolf in sheep's  
clothing, note the  
teeth!*



## More False Teaching

Dear ZLM,

I watch a Bible teacher who says that the Jewish people are earthly people and the Church is heavenly and you can't mix them. They are under the Law, and we are under Grace. In the Rapture (of which I have doubts), we will be in Heaven, and God will then finish His work with the Jewish people. This teacher never teaches the first four books of the New Testament: he says they are meant for the Jewish people as Jesus came only for them and we are to go by what Paul teaches. He does say that other Scriptures are there for our learning. I miss the teaching about Jesus. What do you think? —P.H.

Dear P.H.—

Your false teacher is badly mistaken. The Church has been grafted into the commonwealth of Israel, as Paul teaches in Romans 11 and Ephesians 2. Though the Church and Israel are distinct, they are nevertheless united under one head—the Lord Jesus Christ. Unsaved Jews and gentiles are both condemned by the law for their unbelief (John 3:36; Romans 1–3). Likewise, when a Jew or gentile trusts in Yeshua the Messiah, both are under the power of His saving grace (John 3:16; 5:24).

The Rapture is biblical, but rather than get into it here, I suggest you get Zola's book **Raptured**, which builds a good case from Scripture for this important event and its significance for the Church.

The Gospel is meant for all people everywhere, not just for the Jews—as each of the four Gospels and the Great Commission proclaim (Matthew 28:18–20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46–48; John 3:17). So to say the first four books of the New Testament are meant for the Jews only is ridiculous. Jesus came for the whole world—first Israel and then the rest of the world. God so loved the world (not just Israel or the Jews) that He sent His only Son to save the world (John 3:16). You need to find another teacher who is soundly grounded in the Word of God. This guy is harmful to all who listen to him! —Todd



## Heavenly Investments

Dear Mark,

Can you direct us to a way to invest in Israel's market in something like a Vanguard Bond fund, not the Israel Bond fund which is like our U.S Treasury bonds. We need something where checks could be written if needed. Otherwise, we'll just stay with Vanguard which has served us well. —M. & F.H.

Dear M. & F.H.—

Vanguard says it doesn't have a diversified mutual fund that is specific to Israel. When I mentioned Believers' desire to uphold Israel as well as balance their investments, Vanguard suggested that you consider an Israel Bond fund. Consequently, you might think about gradually replacing your Treasury bonds for Israeli, not that I know how well their performance compares with American ones.

It is wise of you to consider your heavenly dividends (or even your present love of Israel) along with your mortal ones. I believe God will bless your prayerful consideration whatever you decide.

—Mark





## A ‘Levitt Letter’ Ambassador Reports

Dear Mark,

I doubt anything can or should be done, but thought you’d like to know. I just received the *Levitt Letter* overprints that you so graciously provide us. The postmaster told me that a package in my box had arrived all taped up. He was right. When I opened it, it contained only two *Levitt Letters* and a “high neck bottle” foam insulator with the name “Cabela’s Club” jammed into the package.

I hope whoever made the switch reads the *Levitt Letters* and gets saved.

Is it possible to replace the missing eighteen copies of the *Levitt Letter*? If you would rather not spend the additional postage, I completely understand; and of course you may be out of them anyway.

I think you all are awesome and do a great job for our Lord. —R.T. (WV)

Dear R.T.—

Thanks for sharing this strange event. By the time you read this, you should have received the extra *Levitt Letters* you requested. Please advise us when you’re ready for another batch to share with your friends. And thanks for amplifying the impact of our outreach. —Mark

## Touched by Jerusalem

Dear ZLM,

My **Jerusalem Journeystone** came today.

After opening it and touching it, I broke out in tears! Wow! If touching a piece of Israel had that effect on me, I will be a train wreck when I meet my King! Thank you so much for offering these. —J.H. (wild olive!) (IL) Dear J.H. —Now imagine touching with your feet the land on which Yeshua walked, prayed, and wept! We would love to witness your response to being there.

—Mark, Myles, and Katharine



## Christmas Isn’t Christian?

Dear Katharine,

I was disappointed to read your December *Levitt Letter* article connecting Hanukkah with “Christmas,” which is a tradition of men that originated out of paganism. Shame on “Christianity” for accepting falsehood and not teaching the truth of the origins of December 25th. Instead, it incorporates this pagan teaching with the teaching of the Almighty, seemingly to honor Him. —A.L.S. (MD)

Dear A.L.S.—

I agree with your viewpoint and the weakness of Christian tradition *vis a vis* the roots of our faith. However, winter is as good a time as any to celebrate the gift of Yeshua, and it may be wise to win people to Christianity through gentle persuasion rather than (seemingly) judgmental proclamation.

In spite of the Christmas traditions being a largely manmade approach to the Gospel, it is a time when people think about God and Emmanuel, and therefore it offers a good opportunity for dialogue about the “reason for the season.” I appreciate your input, recognizing that “iron sharpens iron” and that we need each other in the Body of Messiah. —Shalom, Katharine ★



# Shale Oil in Israel a Game Changer

By Sharon Udasin / JPost.com

Understanding shale oil's chemical complexities is crucial to the search by oil explorers in both Israel and North America drilling in shale rock and sands for alternatives to traditional OPEC crude.

Israel Energy Initiatives (IEI), which completed an exploratory pre-pilot drilling phase in Israel's Adullam region near Beit Shemesh, claims that the area—also called the Shfela Basin—contains approximately **250 billion barrels of shale oil**, an amount that could be competitive to the amount of crude oil in Saudi Arabia. The company intends to acquire the oil by drilling a production well and surrounding *in-situ* heating wells approximately 1,000 feet below the Earth's surface, in order to melt the hydrocarbon-filled sedimentary rock from within the ground before extraction.

While Israel's "green" groups adamantly protest the drilling process as potentially catastrophic both below and above ground, the company has repeatedly stressed that an impenetrable layer of rock separates the shale layer and the water aquifer, and that there will likewise be little permanent surface impact.

Prof. Carol Parish, from the chemistry department at the University of Richmond in Virginia, has called the oil shale finds in Israel a "game-changer," but also said that it was crucial to study the relatively new resource on a molecular level, and compare it to traditional crude oil.

In typical light sweet crude oil, about 90 percent of the molecules exist in long, straight chains and about 10% are cyclical, Parish explained.

The reverse is true for shale oil molecules in that they are predominantly cyclic. Because crude oil is made up almost entirely of straight chains, this is where the bulk of molecular research has thus far occurred in oil.

*(continued next page)*

*Drilling for shale oil  
in Israel*



## Israeli Advances in Medicine & Science

Parish recently completed a Fulbright Fellowship with Prof. Sason Shaik, director of the Lise Meitner Minerva Center for Computational Quantum Chemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and is looking at the cyclical molecules that dominate shale oil.

Often as a result of the cyclical molecules, diradicals—molecules with two dangling electrons—can form. According to Parish, diradicals are very difficult to properly characterize because many are very reactive.

Because IEI plans to heat the shale *in-situ*, meaning while it is still underground, rather than pump sludge to a refinery, Parish said she believes that the process will be a much cleaner one than methods that have thus far prevailed.

“The advantage to the Israeli method is that they are basically going to do the refining right out of the ground.” She noted that another advantage the Israeli shale deposits have over those of the United States is that “there is an impenetrable layer of material that separates oil shale deposits from the water table.” In the U.S., on the contrary, the two layers are often intermixed.

Parish hopes to lay the groundwork for further research into the characteristics of shale oil, as the world continues to demand more long-term, sustainable sources of energy.

Psalm 2 speaks about God laughing from Heaven as the nations rage. How satisfying it will be as Israel becomes an energy leader—beyond self-sufficiency to providing for others! —Myles

## Field Hospital

By Netanel Doron  
*Israel Today*

The Medi-T is an inflatable sterile operating room that can be assembled in five minutes.

It weighs just over 200 pounds and can be carried in three bags. Manufactured by SYS Technologies, an Israeli company that develops life-saving equipment, Medi-T is the invention of Israeli dentist Shalom Zilbershmidt.

Originally conceived for the battlefield, it is also ideal for use in third-world countries that lack proper surgical facilities. It is used by Doctors Without Borders and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Large enough to accommodate a complete surgical team, the portable facility is equipped with its own internal lighting, climate control, and air purification system that assures a sterile environment.

**Pictured: Medi-T STERILE ENVIRONMENT** The operating room can be assembled in five minutes. ★



# What the PA Doesn't Want You to Know

**Some of the facts that the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank does not want others to know about:**

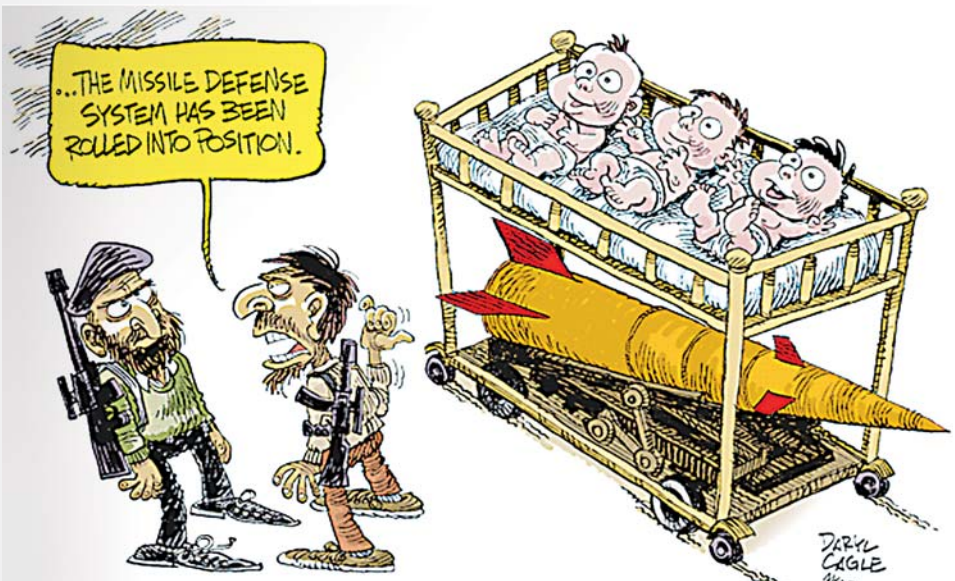
- Over 100 senior PLO and Fatah officials hold Israeli-issued VIP cards that grant them privileges denied to most Palestinians—e.g., the freedom to enter Israel and travel abroad any time they wish. This privilege has existed since the signing of the Oslo Accords between Israel and the PLO in 1993.
- Despite the calls for an economic boycott of Israel, more than 40,000 Palestinians have received permits to work in Israel. Moreover, another 15,000 Palestinians continue to work in Jewish settlements in spite of an official ban.
- Top PLO and Fatah officials continue to do their shopping in Israeli-owned businesses both in the West Bank and Israel. For example, a member of the PLO Executive Committee and his family were recently spotted shopping in Jerusalem's Malha Mall. Of course, the PLO official did not forget to bring along his private driver and maid.
- The wife of a senior PLO official recently spent \$20,000 for dental treatment in Tel Aviv at a time when there is no shortage of renowned Palestinian dentists in Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Nablus.

These are a few of the inconvenient facts that the Palestinian Authority does not want the outside world to know. Palestinian journalists often avoid reporting about such issues out of concern for their safety or for "ideological" reasons. These journalists have been taught that it is forbidden to hang out the dirty laundry.

Western journalists, funders, and decision-makers who deal with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict need to know that there are many facts being completely ignored or hidden from their eyes and ears.

The gap between the Muslim leadership and the people is one of privilege versus poverty, inflicted by the leaders and maintained in order to keep an angry populace raging against Israel. —Myles ★

*(continued next page)*



**By Khaled Abu Toameh**

GatestoneInstitute.org



## “Jewish History Doesn’t Exist Here”

*Israel Today* magazine

Israel’s “moderate” peace partners in the Palestinian Authority (PA) continue to deny any Jewish historical connection to the Land, and especially to Jerusalem’s Temple Mount. PA TV ran a report lambasting Israel for conducting excavations near the Temple Mount under what the Palestinians termed as false pretenses.

“Beneath the [Temple Mount], there is [an Israeli] race against the clock to complete the excavations in search of the Temple that exists only in the minds of radical organizations,” said the newscaster. “They [the Jews] falsify historical facts by linking them to Jewish history, the traces of which don’t exist in our land.”

*As you’ve seen on Zola Levitt Presents, “the stones cry out” in museums and multiple archaeological excavations that confirm Jewish history in the Holy Land. Why isn’t there a single museum or archaeological dig with any antiquities of the so-called Palestinians? —Mark*

## A Woman’s Role in Islam

MEMRI / Middle East Media Research Institute

*Following are excerpts from an interview with Umm Osama, the wife of Hamas MP Khalil Al-Hayya, which aired on Al-Aqsa TV in December 2012. View video here:*

[www.memritv.org/clip/en/3703.htm](http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/3703.htm)



**Umm Osama:** “Women in Palestine play a great role in raising their children and in encouraging them to wage jihad for the sake of Allah. This is absolutely the most glorious thing a woman can do. Women play their role and are not inferior to men. When a man goes to wage jihad, his wife does not say, ‘Don’t go’ or try to stop him. She encourages and supports him. She is the one who prepares his equipment, bids him farewell, and welcomes [his jihad].

“She instills in her children the love of jihad and martyrdom for the sake of Allah. If every mother were to prevent her son from waging jihad for the sake of Allah, who would wage jihad? Who would support Palestine? Palestine is dear to us, and its price is paid with our body remains and our lifeblood.

“Is not Allah’s reward precious? Allah’s reward is Paradise. Paradise requires from us our blood, our body remains, and our efforts for its sake.

“Sister, jihad is ordained for us. It is our duty to wage jihad, because either we wage jihad or...”

**Interviewer:** “We want to die as martyrs.”

**Umm Osama:** “Indeed we do. I am constantly praying: ‘Allah, make the end of our days be in martyrdom.’ I pray for this even for my husband and my children. None of us want to die in our beds. We pray that Allah will grant us Paradise.” ★



## Jesus Rode on a Donkey into Jerusalem

By Barry Bowen / [ChristianPost.com](http://ChristianPost.com)

This act fulfilled an Old Testament prophecy. Zechariah 9:9 says,

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is remembered as Palm Sunday and will be celebrated by Western Christians on March 24, 2013.

The first time Jesus came to live on Earth, he was born humbly in a manger. At His "Second Coming," Jesus will return to reign and He will ride a white horse instead of donkey. The Bible says,

*Then I saw Heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The One sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, and He has a name written that no one knows but Himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which He is called is The Word of God. And the armies of*

*Heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following Him on white horses. —Revelation 19:11–14*

## Israel One of Best Countries to be Born in

[IsraelHayom.com](http://IsraelHayom.com) / *Israel Today*

Israel ranks 20th out of 80 countries in an *Economist* magazine survey of "Best countries in which to be born."

Switzerland won first place, followed, in order, by Australia, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Singapore, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Canada, and Hong Kong. The U.S. tied with Germany in 16th place, considered an upset, especially as the U.S. won first place back in 1988.

Israel came in at No. 20, just behind South Korea, and ahead of Italy (21), France (26), Britain (27), and the Czech Republic and Spain (tied in 28th place). The only Middle Eastern nation to pass Israel was the United Arab Emirates, which came in 18th. Ranked significantly below Israel were Turkey (51), Iran (58), Egypt (60), and Syria (73). Also ranked low on the scale were the four developing economic giants Brazil (37), China (49), India (66), and Russia (72). The lowest-ranked country was Nigeria.



Israeli students

Crucial factors used in the ratings were citizen happiness and standard of living. Ratings were factored in for crime, trust in government institutions and health-care, as well as geographic location and demographics.

*(continued next page)*



## The Ultimate Snow Tires

By Abigail Klein Leichman / Israel21c.org

For any driver who's ever skidded on ice or gotten mired in mud, Israel Zahavi's new invention may be just the ticket.

**Power Wheel** is a removable disc that fits inside the tires. It has twenty metal bars (steel-tipped for off-road vehicles and rubber-tipped for cars to protect asphalt) that can telescope beyond the circumference of the tire to raise the vehicle slightly and grip the road.

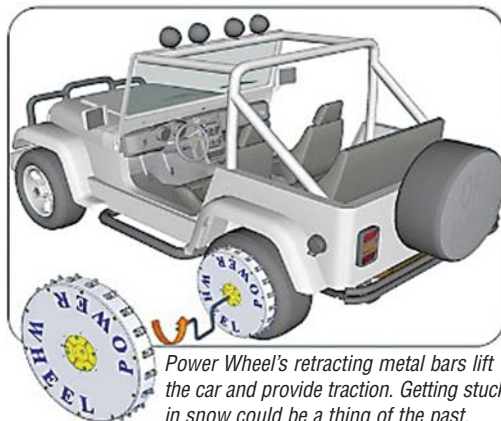
Once the wheels have cleared a trouble spot, the bars retract into the disc.

Before starting on your journey, you could attach them to the permanently installed adapter in your wheel hub. Or, you could keep the discs in your trunk and use them when you encounter slippery or other traction-challenging conditions.

Zahavi says that his idea came out of his personal experiences in the tank corps. "I saw the problems involved in getting vehicles out of sand and decided to think about enhancing the mobility of any vehicle over challenging terrain—not just Jeeps and Hummers—in conditions such as ice, snow, or mud."

Retiring after 25 years as a mechanical engineer, Zahavi put his idea into action from his home in the Galilee. His Power Wheel recently won third place in an Israeli inventions competition.

He notes that snow tires are expensive and not foolproof in extreme conditions, while tire chains are difficult to use and can damage road surfaces. "Within three years, our device could change the whole picture," Zahavi predicts. "This device has long life, with no maintenance required, and you have it in your garage ready to go. Besides military uses, it could be used on 4x4s and trucks."



*Power Wheel's retracting metal bars lift the car and provide traction. Getting stuck in snow could be a thing of the past.*

## Surgeon by Day, Fighter Pilot by Night

By Michael Schneider / Israel Today

This is something that can only be found in Israel, from the operating room to the flight deck. During operation "Pillar of Cloud" in Gaza, **Pilot L.**, 39, continued his work as a surgeon at Soroka Hospital in the southern Negev Desert city of Beersheba, while also flying missions as an F-16 reserve pilot in the Israeli Air Force.

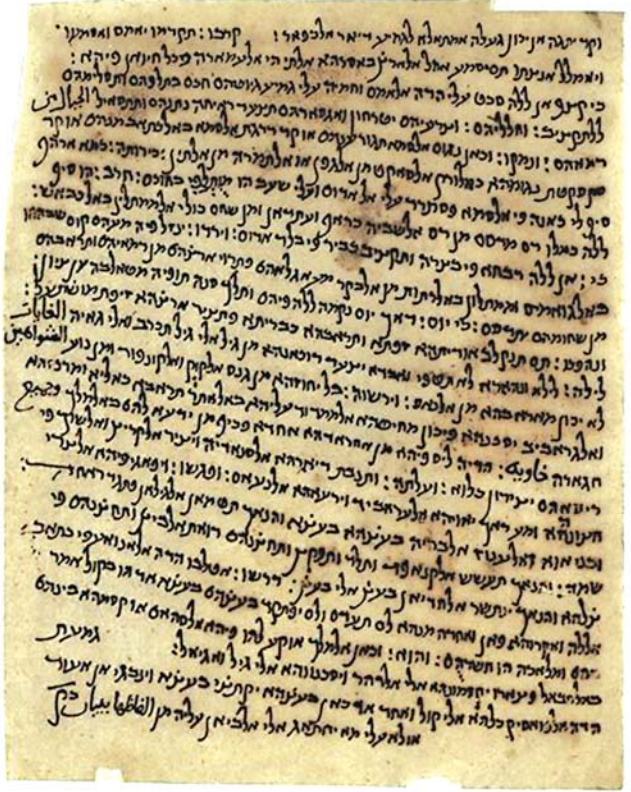
"We live in Omer which is near Beer-sheba," L. said. "During the day I treated the wounded from the Gaza conflict, and at night I bombed targets. As a pilot I'm a fighter, but my skills as a surgeon helped me to save lives." ★



# Ancient Jewish-Afghan Manuscripts

By Aron Heller / Associated Press

An ancient manuscript (*right*) discovered inside caves in a Taliban stronghold in northern Afghanistan offers the first physical evidence of a vibrant Jewish community that thrived in that region a thousand years ago. Israel's National Library unveiled the cache of recently purchased documents that run the gamut of life experiences, including biblical commentaries, personal letters, and financial records. Researchers say the "Afghan Genizah" marks the greatest such archive found since the "Cairo Genizah" was discovered in an Egyptian synagogue more than 100 years ago.



*Genizah*, a Hebrew term that loosely translates as "storage," refers to a storeroom adjacent to a synagogue or Jewish cemetery where Hebrew-language books and papers are kept. Under Jewish law, it is forbidden to throw away writings containing the formal names of God, so they are either buried or stashed away.

The Afghan collection gives an unprecedented look into the lives of Jews in ancient Persia in the 11th century. The paper manuscripts, preserved over the centuries by the dry, shady conditions of the caves, include writings in Hebrew, Aramaic, Judea-Arabic, and the unique Judeo-Persian language from that era, which was written in Hebrew letters.

"It was the Yiddish of Persian Jews," said Haggai Ben-Shammai, the library's academic director.

Ben-Shammai said the papers mention distinctly Jewish names and evidence of their commercial activities along the "Silk road" connecting Europe and the East. The obscure Judeo-Persian language, along with carbon dating technology, helped verify the authenticity of the collection, he said. He said they were already significant since no other Hebrew writings had even been found so far from the Holy Land. The library promises the finds will be digitized and uploaded to its website for all to see.

Aviad Stollman, curator of the library's Judaica collection, said much more would be gleaned after intense research on the papers, but already it tells a story of a previously little known community.

"First we can verify that they actually existed—that is the most important point,"

*(continued next page)*



## Archaeology, Etc.

### Uncovering Israeli History

he said. "And of course their interests. They were not interested only in commerce and liturgy; they were interested also in the Talmud and the Bible," he said.

"They were Jews living a thousand years ago in this place. I think that is the most exciting part." ★

## Israel's First Urban Wildlife Reserve

By June Glazer / [Israel21c.org](http://Israel21c.org)

When tractors broke ground at the Gazelle Valley in Jerusalem in January, a new and unique chapter in the city's efforts to "go green" began. After a decades-long fight to keep developers away from the site, Israel will finally get its first wildlife nature park located within a city, and Jerusalem will have preserved a precious open space in its urban heartland.

Gazelle Valley is about 64 acres of choice, undeveloped land and is the largest open space left in Jerusalem proper. Located in the city's southwest, it gets its name from the small flock of wild mountain gazelle that lives there.

"In Israel, 93 percent of our population lives in cities, so the quality of the urban environment is very important," says Naomi Tsur, Jerusalem deputy mayor for planning and environment. "Nature and open spaces are an integral part of a healthy city. They have to be available for local residents."



*A resident gazelle in its Jerusalem habitat*

The idea for the park germinated when two things became clear: The gazelle that live there were diminishing and needed protecting—they were getting hit by cars on the adjacent Begin Highway, and killed by jackals and wild dogs that prowled in the valley—and the 150,000 people who reside in the surrounding areas needed a "green lung" for recreation as their neighborhoods became more dense.

The land, once planted with kibbutz-owned orchards that supplied fruit to Jerusalemites during the War of Independence and the Arab siege, is slated to become the city's premier nature initiative. Funded in part by the Jerusalem Foundation, it will be built in stages over the next 10 years. ★

# New Marie Curie Prize Goes to Israeli

BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN: [Israel21c.org](http://Israel21c.org)

Sarit Sivan



**Therefore by their fruits you shall know them.** (Matthew 7:20)

**Sarit Sivan** wants to bring her technology for curing a common cause of back pain into the marketplace. Winning an inaugural Marie Curie Prize from the European Commission could help propel the Israeli biomedical engineering researcher's biomaterial into the spotlight.

During her 2006–2008 Marie Curie fellowship in the lab of Jill Urban, a renowned spine physiologist at the University of Oxford, Sivan and her colleagues developed, tested, and patented biocompatible, injectable gel-like materials that can replace components of degenerated spinal discs and mimic their natural biomechanics.

Previous attempts to develop such a material had to be applied surgically and tended to ooze out "like toothpaste." Her material is introduced in a minimally invasive procedure; then it solidifies and remains within the tissue.

"This technology has the potential to relieve people suffering from disc degeneration. If this [award] could help bring it to market, it will be worth-

while," says Sivan, a senior research fellow in the department of biomedical engineering at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa.

The new Marie Curie Prize was created "to highlight the excellence and talent of Europe's best young researchers." Israel signed an agreement in 2007 that includes it in the European category although Israel is technically in Asia.

Sivan and her husband live near Haifa with their three young sons. Sivan teaches biology and biotech at the Technion in addition to her research, for which the Marie Curie Prize of an iPad will undoubtedly be useful. ★



Illustration courtesy Britni Rummel

**Sarit Sivan with European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism & Youth Androulla Vassiliou, & Cyprus University President Charis Charalambous**



# JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.

**The Goldberg family** was having dinner at grandmother's (Bubbie's) house.

As soon as they were all seated around the table, little Moishe dug into the food.

"Moishe!" his mother exclaimed. "You have to wait until we make the blessing." "No I don't," the little boy replied.

"Of course you do," his mother insisted. "We always say a blessing before eating at our house."

"That's at our house," Moishe explained. "But this is Bubbie's house and she knows how to cook."



*A cheerful heart is good medicine —*  
Proverbs 17:22



## Precise Historical Dating

In Northern Israel, a tourist and his guide, Yakob, come across an ancient synagogue. The tourist is fascinated with the synagogue, and asks Yakob for details.

"This synagogue is 2,003 years old," replies Yakob.

Quite impressed, the tourist inquires how he came up with this exact figure.

"Easy," replies Yakob. "When they unearthed it, the archaeologists said the synagogue was 2,000 years old, and that was three years ago."

## Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

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DirecTV—Channel 311      Dish—Channel 180

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

DirecTV—Channel 369      Dish—Channel 263

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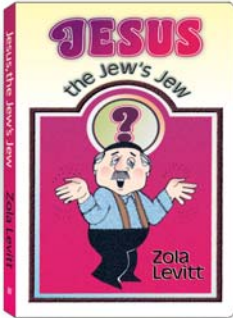
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