

Levitt

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



Letter

Persecution of Christians Up: p.31

Are Christians the New Jews?

By Rabbi Yitzchok Adlerstein / Patheos.com

When Christians think of their martyrdom, they usually turn to antiquity, to early Christianity under the thumb of Roman emperors.

That has all changed. While Jews feel threatened by the massive explosion of global anti-Semitism in the last years, and with Iranian and Islamist calls for the genocidal destruction of all Jews, very few Jews in 2013 are dying because of their faith or their roots. Christians, on the other hand, have become the new Jews.

Christians have succeeded Jews as, numerically, the most-persecuted people on Earth. From Nigeria to Iran to Pakistan, millions of Christians live in fear of losing their property or their lives simply because they are Christians. In Iraq, the campaign of church-burning, clergy-killing, and terror has all but decimated the historically oldest Christian communities. Egypt's Copts face an even more uncertain future as Egypt's constitution moves the country closer to *sharia* (Islamic law).

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

Pat Boone Gifts Exodus Lyrics to Israel

Haaretz.com
and JPost.com



In February, singer, actor, and evangelical Christian Pat Boone donated to Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum the Christmas card on which he scribbled the lyrics to *This Land Is Mine*, the popular song that he wrote to accompany the theme music from the 1960 movie *Exodus*. [\(continued p.3\)](#)



Are Christians the New Jews? continued from cover

Throughout history, even when Jews were not being killed, they were terrorized from cradle to grave. Even when they enjoyed political protection to speak or act, they knew that they might endanger Jews elsewhere, and so learned to remain mute even in the face of horrific tragedy.

Christians today have learned to keep silent while their hearts are exploding with rage. Clergy in Muslim countries turn the other cheek not for religious and moral reasons, but because speaking up would endanger their own community, or those of nearby countries. The only country in the Middle East in which Christians enjoy complete freedom of religion is Israel. Yet many Christian clergy in the Palestinian territories and in Lebanon parrot the anti-Israel invective of those who control their neighborhoods.

For most of their history, Jews had no place to call home. They were at-will residents, often having to buy from some local ruler the right simply to breathe. The emergence of the State of Israel changed that, but that change is imperiled by a growing chorus of voices calling for the dismantling of the Jewish State.



Professor of literature at Ben-Gurion University **Amos Oz** put it best. "In the 1930s our enemies said: Jews to Palestine. Now they say: Jews out of Palestine. They don't want us to be here. They don't want us to be there. They don't want us to be."

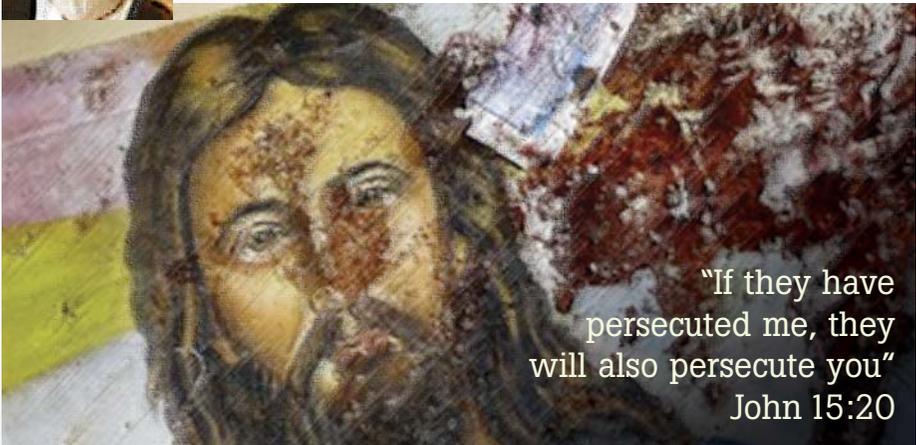
As hard as it is to believe, Christians are now facing the same. Open Doors, a Christian ministry devoted to assisting persecuted Believers, reported recently that despite the many centuries of Christian roots in Syria, Syrian Islamists are telling their Christian neighbors to "go back to their own country." In their view, Christians have become the "other," foreigners in the country in which they live.

Christians are discovering their Jewish roots. As T.S. Eliot put it, "And the end of all our exploring / Will be to arrive where we started / And know the place for the first time."



That place, for many Christians, is looking more Jewish all the time. ★

Yitzchok Adlerstein chairs Jewish Law at Loyola Law School, Los Angeles.



"If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you"
John 15:20



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Desecrated mural

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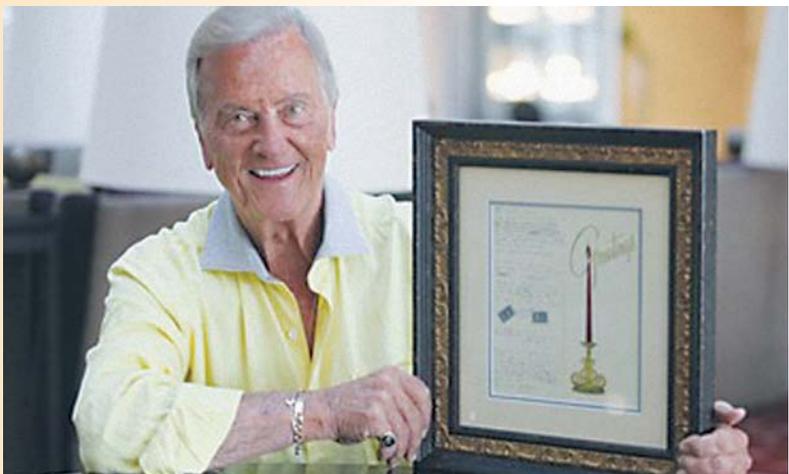
Pat Boone Gifts Exodus Lyrics to Israel continued from cover sidebar

Boone recorded *This Land Is Mine*, also known as *The Exodus Song*, in 1960. The song, which Boone, a staunch Israel supporter, calls “the second Jewish national anthem,” has since been recorded by numerous other artists, including The Lettermen in 1964. Hear their version and Boone’s original 1960 vocal: <http://wp.me/pieUD-1Cw>

Jewish people and considered himself, as a believing Christian, to be part of the Jewish nation.

He said that officials at Yad Vashem had told him that they wanted “every child” in Israel to learn the words to his song, which professes love for and ownership of the Land of Israel. ★

The 78-year-old Boone said that while he had been raised in a conservative Christian household that looked down on other religious groups, he had grown to love the



PAT BOONE holds up the framed Christmas card on which he wrote the lyrics to his song. Photo: Marc Israel Sellem/The Jerusalem Post



The Holocaust Just Got Worse

By Eric Lichtblau
NYTimes.com



Thirteen years ago, researchers at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum began the grim task of documenting all the ghettos, slave labor sites, concentration camps, and killing factories that the Nazis set up throughout Europe.

What they found has shocked even scholars steeped in the history of the Holocaust.

The researchers — expecting to find perhaps 7,000 Nazi camps and ghettos, based on postwar estimates — have cataloged some 42,500 ghettos and camps throughout Europe, spanning German-controlled areas from France to Russia and Germany itself, during Hitler's reign of brutality from 1933 to 1945.

The figure is so staggering that even fellow Holocaust scholars had to make sure they had heard it correctly when the lead researchers previewed their findings at an academic forum early this year at the German Historical Institute in Washington.

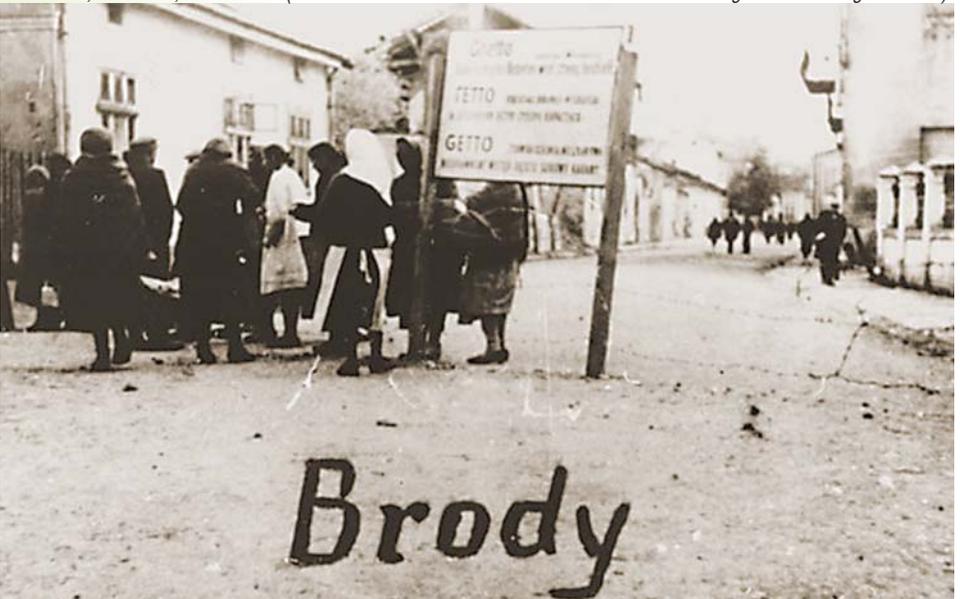
"The numbers are much higher than we originally thought," Hartmut Berghoff, director of the Institute, said in an interview.

The documented camps include not only "killing centers" but also thousands of forced-labor camps, where prisoners manufactured war supplies; prisoner-of-war camps; sites euphemistically named "care" centers, where pregnant women were forced to have abortions or their babies were killed after birth; and brothels, where women were coerced into having sex with German military personnel.

Auschwitz and a handful of other concentration camps have come to symbolize the Nazi killing machine in the public consciousness. Likewise, the Nazi system for imprisoning Jewish families in hometown ghettos has become associated with a single site — the Warsaw Ghetto, famous for the 1943 uprising. But these

(continued next page)

A GROUP OF JEWISH WOMEN at the entrance to the Brody Ghetto in Eastern Galicia, 1942. The sign is written in German, Ukrainian, and Polish. (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum / Collection of Eugenia Hochberg Lanceter)



Holocaust: Continued

Read some of the survivors' stories: <http://wp.me/pieUD-1Dh>



sites, infamous though they are, represent only a tiny fraction of the entire German network, the new research makes painfully clear.

The maps the researchers created to identify the camps and ghettos turn wide sections of wartime Europe into black clusters of death, torture, and slavery—centered in Germany and Poland, but reaching in all directions.

The lead editors on the project, Geoffrey Megargee and Martin Dean, estimate that 15 million to 20 million people died or were imprisoned in the sites that they have identified as part of a multivolume encyclopedia. (The Holocaust museum has published the first two, with five more planned by 2025.)

The existence of many individual camps and ghettos was previously known only on a fragmented, region-by-region basis. But the researchers, using data from some 400 contributors, have been documenting the entire scale for the first time, studying where they were located, how they were run, and what their purpose was.

The research could have legal implications by helping a small number of survivors document their continuing claims over unpaid insurance policies, looted property, seized land, and other financial matters. "How many claims have been rejected because the victims were in a camp that we didn't even know about?" asked Sam Dubbin, a Florida lawyer who represents a group of survivors who are seeking to bring claims against European insurance companies.

Dr. Dean, a co-researcher, said the findings left no doubt in his mind that many German citizens must have known about the existence of the Nazi camps at the time. "You could not go anywhere in Germany without running into forced labor camps, P.O.W. camps, concentration camps," he said. "They were everywhere."



HaTikvah! The Hope!

Myles To Go
By Myles Weiss
ZLP Co-host



The azure Mediterranean spread out before us as Katharine and I stood under the enormous, alabaster white, winged sculpture – a gift from Russia to Israel.



In order to view it, one walks through a narrow, dark, concrete bunker engraved with scenes of the Holocaust. The gloomy tunnel depicts tragic memories of systematic threat, persecution, imprisonment, and murder that began in 1941. The concrete tableau ends with the liberation of the death camps by Russian troops, and then opens to allow visitors to see the wings. The artworks form a journey through hellish darkness that resolves in brilliant light.

Despair yields to a bright future. I wrapped my tallit around Katharine and we prayed Psalm 91 for Israel: *He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."... He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; ...*

Wings also connect to Ruth, when she asked Boaz, her kinsman redeemer, to take her under his wing (Ruth 3:9).

God is watching over Israel.

As political players come and go on the world's stage, the Creator of the heavens and Earth keeps guard over the apple of His eye, Israel. Just as individuals can run to Yeshua for salvation and covering, so it is with national Israel. It is forever in His heart.

(continued next page)

ZOLA'S HEBREW WORD OF THE MONTH:

HOPE

תקווה

(TEEK-VAH)

www.levitt.com

f t i p YouTube

Illustration courtesy Britithi Rummel



HaTikvah! Myles continues



7

The day is coming when “all Israel shall be saved” (Romans 11:26). As we stand between the wings, the words of the Israeli national anthem come to mind. The song, *HaTikvah* (The Hope), points to the promises of God regarding the Jews’ return to the ancient homeland. God always keeps His promises.

Of course, as with every Jewish event, the song abounds with opinions. Some say it is too religious, others that it is not religious enough. As the saying goes, “two Jews, three opinions.” Still, the lyrics proclaim:

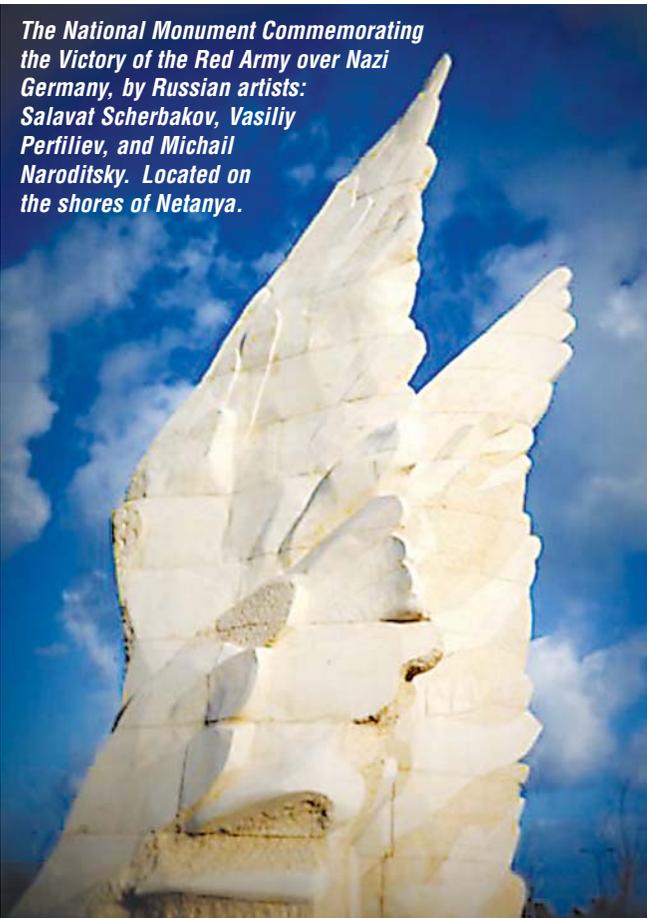
*As long as deep in the heart,
The soul of a Jew yearns,
And forward to the East
To Zion, an eye looks*

*Our hope will not be lost,
The hope of two thousand years,
To be a free nation in our land,
The land of Zion and Jerusalem.*

Our Hope

I am convinced that whenever *HaTikvah* is sung, singers and those within earshot have their eyes lifted up, to the One who alone can make these promises come to pass.

The National Monument Commemorating the Victory of the Red Army over Nazi Germany, by Russian artists: Salavat Scherbakov, Vasily Perfiliev, and Michail Naroditsky. Located on the shores of Netanya.



Once again politicians are vying for stature in the eyes of the world, hoping to be thought of as “the one” who brought peace to the Middle East. But there is only one “One” who can and will accomplish that. He is *Sar Shalom*, the Prince of Peace. His message sounds foolish to nonBelievers; but to many, He alone is “*ha’derech, ha’emet, v’ha’chaim*”... the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

He is the hope of Israel and all mankind.

Yeshua is the Messiah of the Jewish people and the Savior for any who will call upon Him.



Moving to Israel as Christian Zionists

By Maggy Vetterling
with husband Kurt /
Algemeiner.com



Learning about Israel was as much a passion of mine as was writing or cooking; it simply drew me in. My pastor husband, Kurt, was taught by his church to love Israel.



Courtesy Maggy Vetterling

The proverbial “bend in the road,” our life-changing event came the day we called our boss to say that we were quitting our jobs and moving to Israel. Despite our prior knowledge about and affinity for the Jewish State, no one on the Internet had put up a step-by-step guide on how to quit your job, sell your home, and move to the Middle East. I know, because I looked. Although, if posted, it would probably suggest having a job or a place to live once you arrived. We didn’t even have someone to pick us up at the airport. After all, we aren’t Jewish.

At the time, it seemed to many that we had foregone any sense of wisdom, but we disagreed. Besides, the worse-case scenario was that we would spend three months in one of our favorite places in the world and not have to live with “What if?” I remember sitting in the *sherut* (airport taxi) to Jerusalem and looking out the window, watching the landscape go by and desperately hoping that we had made the right decision.

Once we had settled, we began visiting various organizations. Perhaps, if we pushed on doors, the right one would open. We were determined, however, not to be another Zionist couple on a mission to the “Holy Land” with twinkles in their eyes and Bibles under their arms. In fact, we happen to firmly believe that more Christians should understand modern Judaism. Not just because “God blesses those that bless Israel,” but instead because as logical, educated individuals, my husband and I stand with Israel.

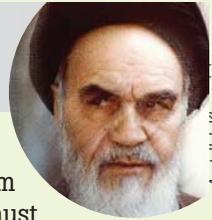
We believe in Israel and the Jewish people. We began attending a local congregation and suddenly felt as though we had known this community all our lives. Here were people who loved Israel, who too felt honored to be amongst a chosen people, and who dared to pursue a life they loved. As it turned out, in a few months my husband was offered a position at our (now local) congregation.

Convictions and faith aside, we simply believe in living life to the fullest and allowing God to direct our steps. Eleanor Roosevelt said, “Do what you feel in your heart to be right, for you’ll be criticized anyway,” so we did. We wouldn’t have it any other way.



Will the West help the Jews?

By Giulio Meotti / YNetNews.com



Iran's unique ideological atmosphere makes their nuclear program more dangerous. Iran's President Ahmadinejad denies the Holocaust to advance the next one. Ayatollah Khomeini declared that the Jews deserved "divine retribution" because they are the "embodiment of filth." Making his intentions clear, he stated: "We do not worship Iran, we worship Allah. For patriotism is another name for paganism. I say let this land (Iran) burn. I say let this land go up in smoke, provided Islam emerges triumphant in the rest of the world."

The "Mutually Assured Destruction" theory, which characterized Cold War deterrence, doesn't work with a death cult regime. Iranian hatred is pure and ritual. These Holocaust-enabler terrorists preach the god of martyrdom. Former Iranian president and Ayatollah, "the moderate" Hashemi Rafsanjani, rationalized the use of nuclear weapons against the Jews, declaring: "An atomic bomb would not leave anything in Israel but the same thing would just produce damages in the Muslim world."

When Islamic leaders vow to wipe Israel off the map, Israel must believe them. To do otherwise would be a suicidal form of deafness to the lessons of the Holocaust. Mohammad Rahimian, representative of Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, says: "The Jew"—not the Zionist, note, but the Jew—"is the most obstinate enemy of the devout. And the main war will determine the destiny of mankind..."

However, despite the evidence of Iranian madness and willingness to destroy Israel, the "experts" repeatedly argue that the Iranians are pragmatists who will never strike the Jews. But aren't they the same experts who were wrong about Iran's revolution in 1979, about Saddam Hussein, about the Islamists' rise in Turkey, and most recently about the Egyptian "spring"? What will be left of Israel in case the Iranians launch a nuclear bomb on the coastal plain, where one-third of all world Jews live? Israel's airports and industries are all there, and from 600 feet in the air you see it all, from Ashkelon to Haifa.

Just as Adolf Hitler sought to "liberate" humanity by gassing the Jews, the ayatollahs believe they can "liberate" humanity by vaporizing Israel. Iran has the motivation to destroy Israel, and if it is allowed to gain nuclear weapons it will not need an excuse to do so. In that mindset, the "Jew Devils" must all suffer a violent death, down to the last one.

Now, the question is: Will the West help the Jews?



Coming Together in Messiah

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF / Our Man in Haifa, tents-of-mercy.org



Arrayed across the coastal hills north of Haifa lies the Arab-Israeli town of **Shfaram** (see below). I've come to have breakfast with my close friend, Anis Barhoum, a dean among Arab-speaking Evangelical leaders in Israel. I'm early, because it took me only twenty minutes to get here from my house.

As I drive through Shfaram on the way to Anis's house, I notice the prosperity. Countless shops offer everything from dresses to cell phones to fresh produce. The morning traffic includes late model Hondas, Fords, Hyundais, and an occasional Mercedes-Benz. New construction reveals spacious apartments rising on the landscape.

This is clearly not Palestinian Gaza, where Islamic oppression and hatred toward Israel create an ongoing flash-point of conflict. This peaceful spring day in Shfaram stands in contrast to Gaza. In this Arab-Israeli strip across the lower Galilee, bright flowers and singing birds adorn the tree-lined road where my friend lives.

Shfaram is positioned at the entrance to the Galilee, with a great view of the Haifa Bay to the west and high mountains to the north. Its history goes back to the Roman era, and the city is even mentioned in the Talmud. It was used as a military base by Saladin against the Crusaders in the Akko battles of

1190–91, and came under the control of the Mamluk Turks 100 years later. In 2008 the town mayor stated, "Our 40,000 residents feel part of the State of Israel. We will not raise our children to hate the country. This is our country and we want to live with its Jewish residents."

Anis, with his passion to see genuine brotherhood between Messianic Jews and Evangelical Arabs in Israel, is a true spiritual leader. You won't see his story in the news. During my morning visit, he takes me to a hidden valley where he is growing olives. "We have picnics and barbecues out here after the young people have put in a good day of work in the olive grove," Anis shares proudly. "We have worked with the Israeli land conservation office to clean up the streambed here so that local people can easily cross, even in the season of heavy rain."

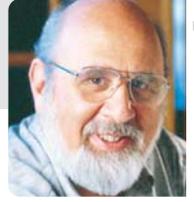
Of course, this grove is only the tip of the proverbial iceberg. Anis and his wife Nawal have been bringing Arab and Jewish youngsters together for nearly 20 years, worshipping the Messiah in Arabic and Hebrew as "King's Kids." Their unfeigned unity in Yeshua is a refreshing contrast to media reports about Arab-Jewish conflict. I am inspired by Anis's example. He refuses to be discouraged by regional tensions. ★

Valley near Shfaram



PENTECOST

CLASSIC ZOLA: 1979—34 years ago



[Continued from March 2013] In His **Passion Week**, the Lord celebrated the first three Feasts, each in the appropriate manner. **He was crucified on Passover**, answering to the Blood of the Lamb, which had gotten the Chosen People out of slavery to begin with; **He was buried on Unleavened Bread** (“This bread is my body”)—a case of a man arranging his own burial at the appropriate time. And **He was raised on First Fruits**, as a demonstration of the future resurrection of the Church.

That wasn’t the end of the Lord’s ministry on Earth, even though we assume He was inactive after that.

Regarding His promise to the disciples in John 14, **He sent the Holy Spirit**.

The fourth Feast, **Pentecost**, occurs 50 days after First Fruits (Lev. 23:15–16), and on that very day, the Holy Spirit attended the Pentecost festivities at the Temple, “like a rushing, mighty wind.”

Pentecost represents the summer harvest, a larger harvest than First Fruits, but not so large as the fall crops, and the Holy Spirit harvested 3,000 people (Acts 2:41). Back when Moses brought the Law, Israel had made a golden calf,

and by God’s direction, 3,000 were killed (Ex. 32:28). And now, on Pentecost, the same number were returned to the Chosen People. “The letter kills, the Spirit gives life.” (2 Corinthians 3:6)

That was the last of the Lord’s earthly activities, other than the personal miracles that we all experience in our holy walk with Him. We are due, therefore, for upcoming performances, each on their appropriate day, if the Lord is to continue the system He has undertaken.

If we are correct about the ongoing fulfillment of the Feasts in their proper order, we should expect the Rapture of the Church on the **Feast of Trumpets** (1 Thess. 4:16–17; 1 Cor. 15:51–52). Since the Lord is to come by surprise “like a thief in the night,” and the Church is more and more aware of the Feasts—even expecting Him on Trumpets—there is some debate about whether He will continue to fulfill the Feasts or pick some other day, surprising us all. I rather prefer the idea of the Day of Trumpets; some in the Church expect the Lord on that very day in some future year. We are not those who are asleep, after all; we are supposed to wait and watch expectantly (1 Thess. 5:1–10). ★

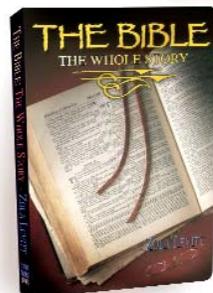
Zola’s Notebook

Seven vital doctrines are examined in a very readable and clear style. One of the most popular items offered by this ministry, *Zola’s Notebook* explains the Bible cover to cover. The *Notebook* has pockets for our newsletters, and provides space for notes to be taken by the reader. The following doctrines are covered thoroughly: the Abrahamic Covenant, the Law, Prophecy, the Messiah, Grace, the Church, and the Kingdom.

Order online at <http://store.levitt.com/ZNB>
(or see page 19)

The Bible: The Whole Story

Zola’s Notebook DVD version—7 programs
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(or see page 18)



**Explains
the Bible
cover to
cover.**



Ask The Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q. Is Islam a cult?

A. A cult is a deviation from another religion. What religion would Islam be a cult of?

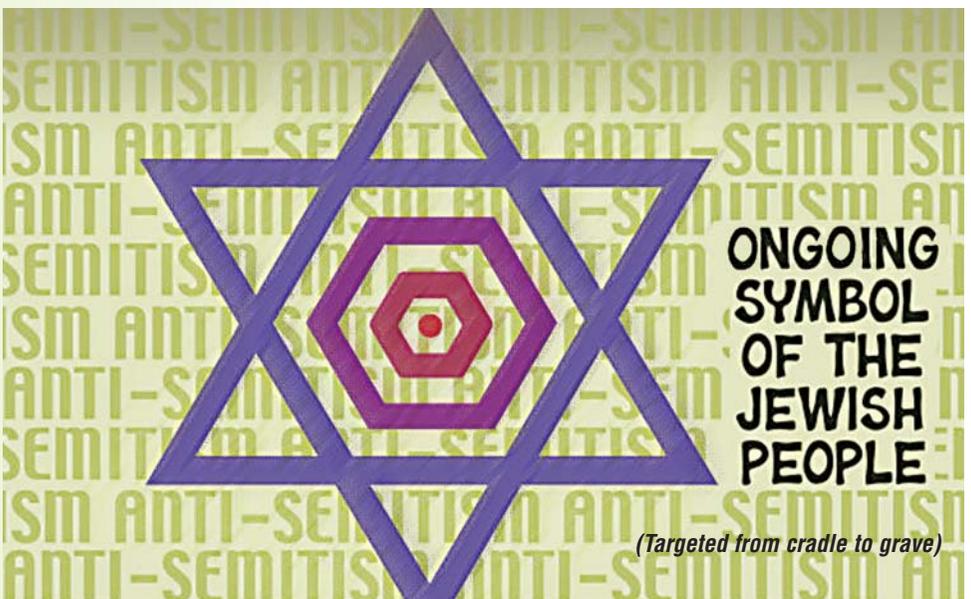
Islam is classified as a world religion. It has a view of an all-powerful god, it claims Mohammed is the chief religious and prophetic spokesman. It has its own eschatology, its own view of the afterlife, and a method for salvation. Granted it is a bad and fascist-like religion; nevertheless it is a world religion.

Debating Islam as a cult or world religion misses the larger picture. The greater problem is that Islam is born from the spirit of antiChrist since Muslims deny, among other things, the deity of Jesus and His Sonship with the Father. You might enjoy studying the writings of Dr. Walter Martin, Ravi Zacharias, and Josh McDowell—all of whom classify Islam as a world religion and who define the differences between cults and religions. The following list is a guide for assessing a religion versus a cult.



- ▶ Uses psychological coercion to recruit, indoctrinate, and retain members
- ▶ Forms an elitist society
- ▶ Founder/leader is self-appointed, dogmatic, messianic, charismatic, and unaccountable
- ▶ Believes 'end justifies the means' in raising funds and recruitment
- ▶ Its wealth does not benefit its members or society

Source: Cult Information Center



Awe-Struck in Israel

BY DAVID NEWTON / (pictured below)

An awesome presence—a mellow peace—surrounds the Old City of Jerusalem. I could sense it on the winding path to the Garden of Gethsemane where our Lord prayed before He was betrayed and arrested. It became overwhelming at the empty tomb as I gazed at the rock bed where His body was laid, and remembered that when the two women went to the tomb, He was not there. An angel asked, “Why are you looking for Him? Go tell His disciples that He has risen, as He said.” I felt the Holy Spirit’s presence there.

Each day before we *shelichim* went out, we asked God to guide our feet to Jews with whom we could share God’s love and also thank for giving us our Messiah. On several occasions, we talked with Israeli soldiers, honored to share our love and gratitude for them. We always reminded them that we and many other Christians pray for the peace and safety of Israel. Their warm reception rewarded us. As we shared about Jesus’ life and resurrection and handed out Bibles in Hebrew, the soldiers often expressed how touched they were by our love for them.

When we visited the Mount of Beatitudes, I was awestruck by the beauty of its flower-covered hillsides and singing birds. I heard tour guides ex-

plaining that the thousands of people who walked there just to see Jesus could also hear Messiah’s voice. I wondered if those people knew how privileged they were to listen as our Lord told them how to treat each other better than any law could dictate.

On a few occasions, we had to laugh and call the Devil a liar. Whenever we experienced a really strong time of ministering, the Devil seemed to try and steal our joy and peace. Like when Todd’s cell phone was stolen and then returned by a means that only God could orchestrate; or when the car door was open for hours but nothing was taken. God came through and we maintained our joy and peace.

This To-The-Jew-First trip generated in me a deeper love for Christ and the Jewish people. It is an experience I’ll never forget, and I am very grateful to have been part of the team. Now as I read God’s Word after walking in Israel, the places and times mean more to me. I look forward to going back for another Gospel outreach to the Jewish people of Israel. ★

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.

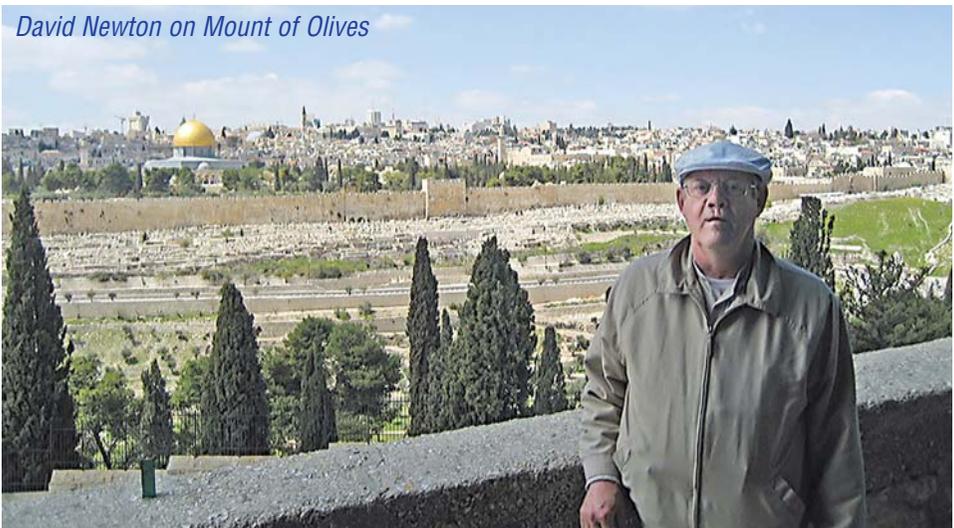
To the Jew first... Rom. 1:16

“The Promised Messiah” tract is available at:

www.levitt.com/announcements
(third item down).



David Newton on Mount of Olives



Only in Israel

BY DR. HAROLD GOLDMEIER / IsraelNationalNews.com



Every immigrant has stories that remind him of why he is here.

1. Our apartment lease has a clause that states that we have 60 days to vacate the premises “when the *Mashiach* (Messiah) comes.” **Only in Israel.**

2. My wife, an accomplished artist, is now making jewelry, like when we met over forty years ago. After a trek to the Tel Aviv bead center—yes there is a neighborhood for beads and beading—we stopped for a kosher breakfast. We had the most delicious meal. As great as the hummus, *shawarma*, and the Argentine meat restaurants are, breakfasts are our favorite.

Ethel asked the young waitress for a “bencher,” a Grace After Meals booklet of prayers recited after eating a meal with bread. Religious Israelis know this prayer by heart, but we still like to look at the printed word. The restaurant does not have any, because people so seldom request one. Then she says, “*Rega* (wait),” runs to grab her own purse, pulls one out, and hands it to Ethel. **Only in Israel.**

3. My wife lost her camera—an old story. We never learned where it was found, but a young man called on Saturday night to say he had found it. He insisted on bringing it to us, which meant he had to take two buses. He arrived near midnight, handed me the camera, and was about to leave for the two-bus ride back to his school when I offered him a reward. He absolutely refused. I offered to pay for a taxi, but he showed me a bus pass.

My wife asked how he found us. He told us he was at a loss what to do with the camera. He paid to develop the pictures (an old camera). Going through them, he saw one with a “Welcome to Israel” plaque on the door of a family named Langer. He searched the phone book, and called Langers in the book asking if anyone lost a camera. My

brother-in-law told him “No, but my sister lost one.” He got our phone number. **Only in Israel.**



4. Traffic jams in Israel are second to none. Our friends told us about a bus driver stopped for traffic. A taxi driver going in the opposite direction of the bus, shouts out if the bus driver can make change for him? The bus driver hands the money to a passenger on the bus who runs out, exchanges it for bills the taxi driver hands him, and scurries back to hand them to the bus driver. **Only in Israel.**

Israel National News editor’s note: I guess the writer wasn’t on the crowded Jerusalem bus I was on when a little boy, sidelocks flying below his velvet yarmulke, got on with his briefcase on his back and suddenly realized he did not have the fare or his bus ticket. “Never mind,” said the bare-headed driver, “put the fare in the *tzedakah* (charity) box.” **Only in Israel.** ★

As we rode the small public transport bus in Netanya last month, folks would hop aboard, grab a seat in the back, and pass their fare up to the driver through the hands of the other passengers! I’ve never seen that in the USA ... Only in Israel? — Myles



Dry Bones

MOSES AT MOUNT SINAI



ZLM Bulletin Board

A BONANZA of Judaism

Whether or not you were a fan of the '60s western TV series *Bonanza*, you may find enchanting the quaint episode involving a devout Jewish father and his eligible daughter. The pious duo visit the Cartwright family's Ponderosa ranch and eventually encounter robbers. You might learn a bit about the Sabbath's significances since much of the plot unfolds during a Friday evening. Entitled "Bonanza S04E24, The Way of Aaron," the 48-minute video is commercial-free at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fs5pGD-skS8



Free Item



store.levitt.com is Safe and Secure

This ministry's newly revamped website, store.levitt.com, is very safe for financial transactions whether ordering or making contributions. Securing the product order pages slows them, so the online store switches to secure mode on the page where you enter your personal and credit card information. The website's Contact Us link at the top (under "Home") lists all the ways to contact us for orders and donations (mail, phone, email).

Pamphlet of the Month

The gifts you make to the causes you care about say a lot about you and the life you live. You can make a difference to those causes now—and meet your own and others' needs—by taking advantage of any of five charitable giving and estate planning techniques. The pamphlet entitled "**Five Ways to Make the Most of Your Gifts**" discusses

- 1) giving through your will,
- 2) giving securities,
- 3) giving through retirement plans,
- 4) giving life insurance, and
- 5) giving while receiving income.

To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

Volunteer Proofreader

If you're somewhat of a news maven with a sharp eye for spotting typos, grammatical errors, and mistakes in general, then please consider joining our small team of newsletter proofers. We ask that you have Internet access and be moderately computer and keyboard literate.

With two monthly newsletters, our ministry seeks edits of Word and PDF files. We also welcome comments about the accuracy and integrity of what we publish in order to uphold this ministry's mission to glorify God.



Please write to staff@levitt.com

Attn: Volunteer Proofreader.

"Come Home!"

Zola Tours to Israel:



See page 36 for details



Hebrew Lesson



Beware self-deception!

By John J. Parsons

יש דֶרֶךְ יֵשֶׁר לְפָנָי אִישׁ וְאַחֲרֵיתָהּ דַּרְכֵי מוֹת

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. PROVERBS 14:12 KJV

| | | | | |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|
| אִישׁ | לְפָנָי | יֵשֶׁר | דֶרֶךְ | יֵשֶׁר |
| (1) | (2) (1) | (2) (1) | (2) (1) | (1) |
| eesh | nāy leef' | shar yah | rék' dé | yésh |
| man | before | right | a way | there is |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----|-------------------------|-----|----|-----|----|
| מֹות | דֶרֶךְ | וְ | אֵת | רֵי | חַ | אֵת | וְ |
| (2) (1) | (2) (1) | | (5) (4) (3) (2) (1) | | | | |
| vét mah | khäy dar | | tah ree kha ah v' | | | | |
| death | (the) ways of | | but the end of it (are) | | | | |

Deep down, most of us believe that we are essentially “right”—at least regarding our own thoughts, feelings, and decisions—but this warning from King Solomon soberly reminds us that things are not often what they might seem.

Is it possible for us to be deceived regarding our own inner sense of the right way of life? The Bible says it is possible. Sometimes the pleasures of the flesh seem so self-evidently “right” to our instincts; sometimes our convictions regarding correct doctrine seem so significant and compelling; sometimes our external zeal convinces us that we are on the just and honest path: but as Solomon warns us, all of these things may mark self-deception, with the final destination that results in death.

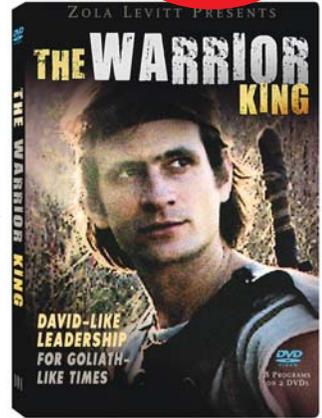
The Lord Jesus told us: **“I am the way (*derekh*) and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”** (John 14:6) We must forsake our own way—regardless of how seemingly right it may appear to us—and solely trust in Jesus as the one who graciously provides us with the righteousness that delivers us from the penalty of death. **Any other way is the way of self-destruction.** ★



The Warrior King:

David-like Leadership for Goliath-like Times
Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

The Warrior King tells the story of King David's time; but it is also the story of our own time. With challenges larger than Goliath all around us, we need Bible-based leaders now more than ever. In this eight-part series, Dr. Jeffrey Seif speaks to that need. Dramatic re-enactments—shot on location in Israel—complement the teachings in this series.



The Call We consider how David captured the heart of Israel, his selection by Samuel, and the amazing battle with Goliath that catapulted him to renown.

David and Saul Unfair trials often checker the road to success. We explore David's abuse at the hands of King Saul, and his bond with the king's son Jonathan. We evaluate Saul's death and David's gracious response.

Family The Bible tells of the good, the bad, and the ugly. In this program we look at David's marriage and family intrigue.

Wars David was a warrior—a spiritual role model for us all! Philistine, Amalekite, and Ammonite wars are discussed, along with modern-day applications.

Celebrated Warrior King Though anointed by God for kingship, David spent 13 years running from Israel's first king before ascending to the throne himself. As we hear the story of David's rise to power over all Israel, Jeff fleshes out its applications.

A Messianic Prototype The New Testament refers to Jesus as the "Son of David"—with good reason. We examine how the Old Testament predicted a coming Davidic Son.

Israel's Sweet Psalmist David's gift for creating poetry and music shows that he was "in touch" with something beyond the state of his armies. Viewers will benefit from this program's window into the softer side of the man.

Messiah Messianic parallels abound in the person of David. In this closing program, we consider their various applications and implications. You'll walk away saying "He lives!" and, we hope, believing that He lives in you.

Order DVD online at:

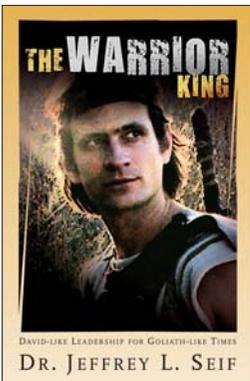
<http://store.levitt.com/DWK>

Book: <http://store.levitt.com/WK>

(or see page 18)

The Warrior King:

David-like Leadership for Goliath-like Times book



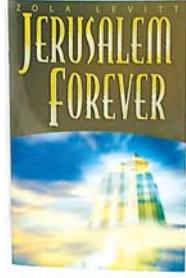
From the eight-part TV series of the same title, it can be used with the series or independently. It's an 86-page transcript of highlights that includes dozens of photos and an abundance of Hebrew with translation.

The Warrior King is a story about the Old Testament's David—Israel's greatest soldier. It's also about the Bible's "Son of David"—Jesus. The subtitle reveals that the story is both from all time and for all time. It's about trials and triumphs, and how God uses abysmal circumstances to improve those who rely on Him.



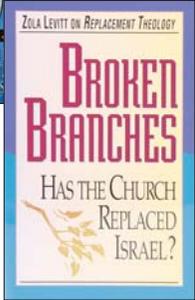
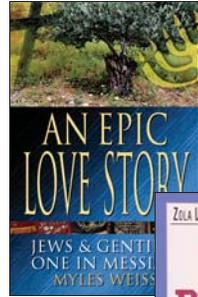
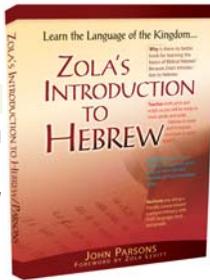
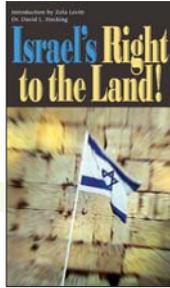
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Books

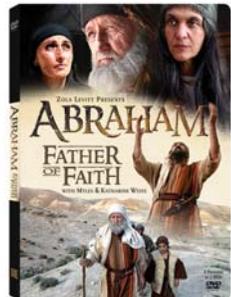
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| ___ | Whose Land Is It? | \$6 | ___ |
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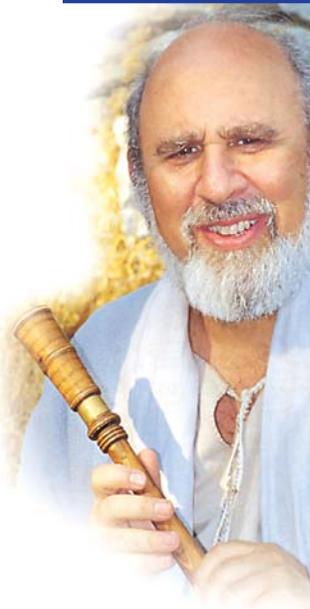
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| ___ | The Miracle of Passover (2 programs, 1-DVD) | \$19 | ___ |
| ___ | Psalms of Ascent (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | ___ |
| ___ | Revelation (6 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$39 | ___ |
| ___ | Ruth (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | ___ |
| ___ | Seven Feasts of Israel (7 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | ___ |
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| ___ | The Warrior King (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | ___ |

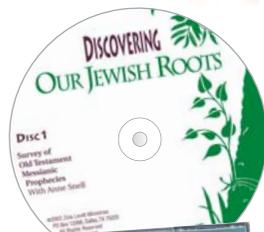


NEW Item



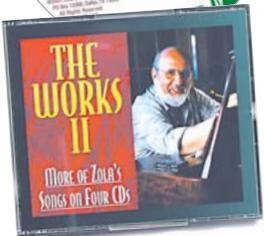
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| Qty. | Item | Price | Total |
|------|---|-----------|-------|
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| ___ | TV Program Airing Schedule | no charge | ___ |
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| ___ | The Miracle of Passover | CD \$7 | ___ |
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| | | | |
|-----|---|------|-----|
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| ___ | The Works 2 (Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs) | \$49 | ___ |
| ▶ | To The Heavens Poberejny family (Music CD) | \$19 | ___ |

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 8 1/4% Tax (Texas only) _____
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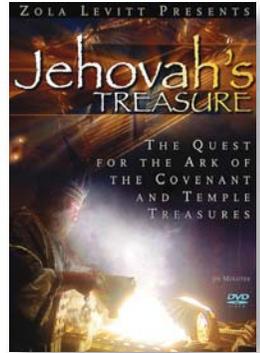


Cardholder's Signature _____

Jehovah's Treasure DVD

The Quest for the Ark of the Covenant and Temple Treasures
One 70-minute Special DVD

Five years in the making and narrated by David Dolan, a longtime friend of ZLM and former reporter in Jerusalem for CBS, *Jehovah's Treasure* uniquely documents the unearthing of two extraordinary tunnels in the Judean Desert. These tunnels were discovered after the Copper Scroll, one of the Dead Sea Scrolls, indicated that Temple treasures were buried all over Israel, some near the caves of Qumran where the Scrolls were discovered. Archaeologist Oren Gutfeld kindly permitted us to document three years of his excavations in tunnels that descend at a perfect 35° for 425 feet—tunnels dating back to the First Temple Period. Nowhere else in all of Israel has anyone found tunnels like these.



Order DVD online at:
<http://store.levitt.com/DJT>
(or see page 18)

Thus, with interviews and dramatic re-enactments, *Jehovah's Treasure* presents the biblical account of the Ark and the Temple Treasures. At the same time, it uncovers the incredible mystery of tunnels that may lead to the very same treasures.

Is history finally about to unleash its most profound desert secrets? Will the Holy Treasures be revealed at the end of the Judean tunnels? Or will they remain a secret, buried deep within Jerusalem's politically contested Temple Mount?



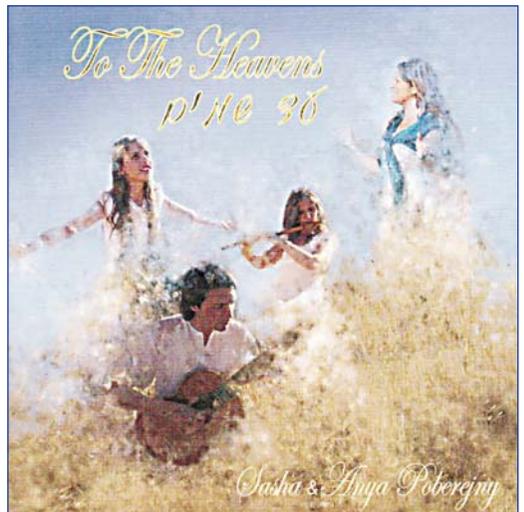
To
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To The Heavens (music CD)

Anointed singing by angels resembling, perhaps, what Zola listens to in Heaven. Prepare your ears for Ukrainian immigrants to Israel Sasha & Anya Poberejny singing Messianic praises in Hebrew. Includes music from our TV series *Ruth: Your People Shall Be My People*.

- *Angels Sing In Heaven*
- *I Will Praise You*
- *You Are Worthy*
- *The Lord is Good*
- *Those Who Wait on the Lord*
- *Gates of Heaven*
- *Holy is the Lord of Hosts*
- *All My Days are Yours*

Order Music CD online at:
<http://store.levitt.com/TTHD>
(or see page 19)





Mastering the Art(s) of...

A NOTE FROM MARK / By Mark Levitt

Half my life ago, I read the book *Mastering the Art of Male Supremacy—Training Techniques for the Home Front*. Rather than a chest-beating treatise on how to dominate Jane should you happen to be Tarzan, it spoke to the power of ineptitude around the house.

Imagine a husband who is oh-so willing to shop for groceries, but he consistently buys the wrong items, brands, and sizes. Or the man of the house who, impersonating a handyman, manages to break more than he fixes. And then there's the hubbie who becomes virtually comatose when dinner's done and it's time to do dishes.

My three children, like most, were natural-born masters at making it so hard to get them to do chores that Mom and I often capitulated and did more than our fair share. To be honest, more of the dishwashing fell back on her than should have. I told myself that I didn't want to ruin her chance to be firm and properly motivate our kiddos to pitch in. There may have also been a subconscious fear that an apron would spontaneously burst forth from my waistline should I become too domesticated.

Once all three children moved away to college, it became impossible to pass the buck, so I had to either man up or cop out. Since my wife works full time too, it became all too clear that because

she always cooks (her choice as well as mine), I "needed" to pitch in SOMEWHERE rather than making a beeline for my recliner. *Needed* to for a variety of reasons. Please refer to "Small Acts, Big Love" on page 21 of the April *Levitt Letter* and "Carte Blanche on Marital Bliss" on page 21 of the March *Levitt Letter*, both archived at www.levitt.com/newsletters.

Before going farther, let me divulge that a soap-dispensing sponge with a handle makes my kitchen patrol more bearable than you might suppose. And that dishwashing was one of Zola's first jobs as a youngster—it's the perfect place for kitchen rookies to begin. What I'm talking about here is synonymous with "sweat equity" to home improvement do-it-yourselfers. But this approach to building equity in your marriage requires no finesse, just a willingness to lend a hand with the easiest items.



In the hierarchy of honey-dos, some of the lowest hanging fruit is setting the table, taking out the trash, and washing/drying/but not necessarily folding the laundry. Your spirit of helpfulness can portray your perception of how God accommodates His bride the Church and His children, each of us. The "master" humbling himself by serving emulates the Master who sacrificed Himself.



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS





Letters to ZLM

Comments

From Dr. G.H. and C.K. (OK): We still love ZLM and the programs! Since traveling to Israel, Egypt, and Greece with Zola in 1983, life hasn't been the same! We even made one of the commercials aboard ship.

The new hosts are great; we would be happy to return to God's Land with them. Twenty-plus years of collecting ZLM's books and programs provides teachings for us to use in our jail/prison ministry (weekly for nearly nine years to local jail, several times a year to a medium security prison 150 miles away). The inmates appreciate the information, as do we, which we've not heard elsewhere. God bless you for the work that you do for our Lord!

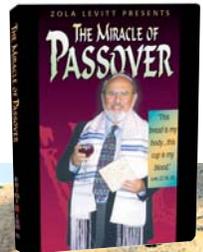
From B.P. (VA): I love you all and pray for all the wonderful work you do. In your December 2012 *Levitt Letter*, John Parsons helped greatly to pick me up out of a terrible hole I had been in for a very long time. Thank you, John Parsons, for your wonderful words on Jer. 31:3.

From D.P. (NY): My Jewish girlfriend gets a lot of peace from your broadcasts! Please pray for her (S.W.).

From R. and S.K. (CA): Thank you for your newsletters. We love receiving them! My gift today is in memory of my Aunt Della who recently passed away at age 92. She loved the Lord and the people of Israel. She would be pleased knowing that we chose, in her honor, to sow into your ministry, one that faithfully strives to closely follow in the steps of Yeshua. Please use this donation to further the kingdom of God among His chosen people.

From YouTube: Just watched *The Miracle of Passover*: very sound doctrine, excellent teaching.

Jordan River crossing



“I Feel Betrayed”

Dear Mark and Myles,

What happened to our *Zola Levitt Presents* programs? First, I want to say that I enjoy the programs. Second, I support ZLM with a bank draft each month (for years). Now I feel betrayed. You changed the airtime on INSP to 9:00 am Sunday. Most Christians are in church on Sunday morning, so we don't see the program. Please don't ask me to watch on the Internet or set my video recorder. I don't have either. Really, what am I to do?

—G.B. (NC)

Dear G.B.—

Thanks for sharing your concerns. To begin with, *Zola Levitt Presents* airs on a couple of other networks that reach even more cities than INSP. Please see page 35 to find our airtimes for ABC Family and Daystar. Second, I'll mail you a free copy of our national airing schedule, which is posted at www.levitt.com/airsch. Third, you are welcome to call our office any workday to ask for our help in determining whether we offer a more convenient airtime in your area: (214) 696-8844. Hope this helps. —Mark

Eyes A-Poppin'!

Dear ZLM,

After reading “Leaner But Not Meaner” (February *Levitt Letter*, p. 21), I decided to start sending a monthly check. I wonder if the other ministry I've been supporting could “pay all their bills for a year without a dime of my support.” My eyes popped on that one!

—S.W. (AZ)

Dear S.W.—

Years ago, I read that “organizations tend to become caricatures of themselves.” Perhaps this ministry has minimized its fundraising and administrative efforts to a fault ... all while stuffing our *Levitt Letters* with meaty biblical commentary and our TV programs with on-location Bible teaching. It is sad that too many other ministries are fluffier on content and heavier-handed on their solicitations for funds.

Now that ZLM has run in the red for several years, we must call viewers' and readers' attention to the necessity of supporting all that we offer for free, so that we can remain effective and hopefully expand. Please rest assured that your contributions to us will determine how much we can teach, rather than be piled atop mountainous reserves. —Mark



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

By Mike Peters



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Illustrated by Mike Peters Inc. 2/14

Sins of the Father?

Dear Todd Baker,

I have been told that the Edomite line is forever condemned. I also know they were incorporated into the Jewish community after their defeat by John Hyrcanus in the second century B.C. If an Edomite Jew married a House of Israel Jew, would that damnation pass on to their child? —A.B.

Dear A.B.—

The short answer to your question is no, not in light of what Scripture clearly teaches. One person cannot be condemned for the sins of another person. There was a proverb in ancient Israel that erroneously taught this predestination belief. It went like this: **“The fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children’s teeth are set on edge”** (Jeremiah 31:29). Apparently, they believed that the Jewish exiles in Babylon were suffering the consequences for their fathers’ sins.

God refuted this false idea in Ezekiel 18:2–4 when He corrected Israel by teaching them that each man will be personally accountable for his sins and will be condemned on this basis alone and not for another person’s sin. So, to answer your question: no, condemnation for sin is not transferred to another who did not commit that sin. —Todd

“Beautiful are the Feet ...” *Romans 10:15*

Dear ZLM,

I really appreciate your work. I have confidence in your faithful ministry and look forward to your monthly *Levitt Letter*.

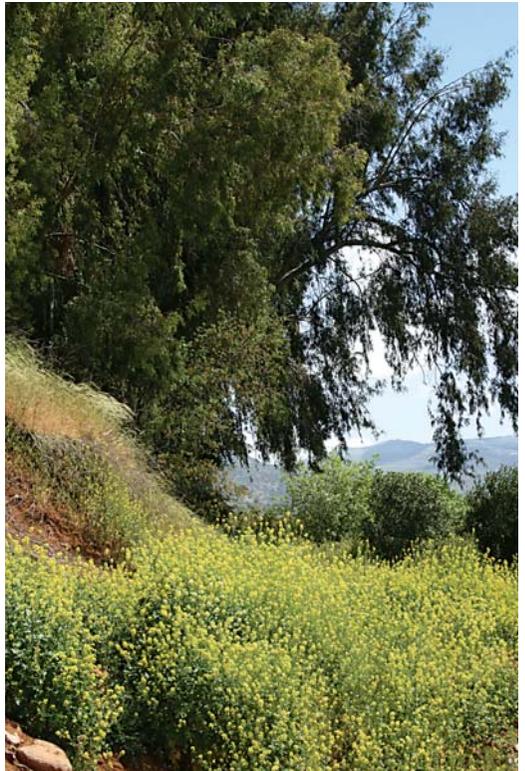
Mark, I read your articles (Dec. ’12 and Feb. ’13) about contributions. I haven’t been designating my offerings, but this time I am designating all to administration. Without the feet, the message would not go forth. You all are much appreciated. Especially as we know we are not paying for the glitz and theatrics that characterize some ministries. Israel is in our prayers every day.

—M.M. (NC)

Dear M.M.—

Thank you for “getting it” and expressing it so very eloquently. Rather than glitz and glamour, this ministry offers pure teaching, delivered as efficiently as possible to the most readers, TV viewers, and web surfers that we can reach. The quality remains high while we do our level best to make the teaching enjoyable as well as edifying. This is the essence of “Leaner But Not Meaner.” —Mark

*Israel’s countryside
in spring*



To
Index

“Religion of Peace”

Dear Dr. Baker,

Where does the Koran say that Muslim faithful should kill Jews and infidels? –M.R.

Dear M.R.—

In several places, the Koran exhorts Muslims to wage war on the infidel and kill him wherever he is found! The following are sample citations taken from the Koran so you can look them up for yourself:

Kill the infidel wherever you find him –Sura 2:191

Kill former Muslims –Sura 4:89

Kill people you do not trust –Sura 4:91

This is not a religion of peace and tolerance. Islam’s bloody and murderous history is its own stinging rebuke of this false claim. –Todd

No More Mooch Mail!

Dear Mark,

Please discontinue my *Levitt Letter*. You say it is free, but every time I get one, you are asking for money. I am widowed, totally disabled, and on Social Security. If I had the money, I would have given it to begin with. I cannot read and appreciate the information because of the mooch mail that comes with it. Please take my name off your mailing list. Thank you. –S.H. (AR)

Dear S.H.—

Please reconsider. Our news magazines that come to you are still “free”—just like your eternal salvation. “Free,” however, means “bought with a price.” Just as Jesus paid for your redemption, your fellow readers happily sponsor your *Levitt Letters*, *Zola Levitt Presents* programs, and www.levitt.com.

Our contribution requests ask those who can give to support what *other* people receive. Considering your personal situation in your letter, you can rest assured that God would deem you entitled to enjoy this outreach’s bounty right along with His.

Other letter writers in this issue get this and are giving so that you (and others like you) can continue to graze in God’s meadow, being fed on His Word and encouraged to spread His message to those around you. –Mark ★



Identify Family Names from Y Chromosome

Israeli Advances
in Science &
Medicine



SCIENCE: By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich / JPost.com

Show geneticists the chromosomes in your genome—and they are quite likely to identify your surname. This astounding feat has been accomplished by Tel Aviv University researchers, who have just published their findings in the prestigious journal *Science*.

The Israeli researchers, who work at TAU and at the Whitehead Institute of Biomedical Research in Boston, developed an algorithm that makes it possible to identify family names on the basis of genetic data in the Y chromosome, which—conveniently—is handed down through the generations from father to son (except for slight mutations along the way). This discovery has long-term implications, including for the privacy of personal information.

Since the human genetic code has been cracked, many people have been trying to learn about their genetic heritage, said Prof. Eran Halperin of TAU's school of computer sciences and the department of microbiology and biotechnology. To meet this need, Dr. Yaniv Ehrlich of Whitehead, together with Halperin and doctoral student David Golan of TAU's statistics department, built the computer algorithm that could determine the individual's family line only from his Y chromosome.

A sample of 900 American men were examined for data on their Y chromosome that was stored in the Internet databank with the genomes of 135,000 people. This comprised an accurate representative sample of surnames, especially those of European ancestry.

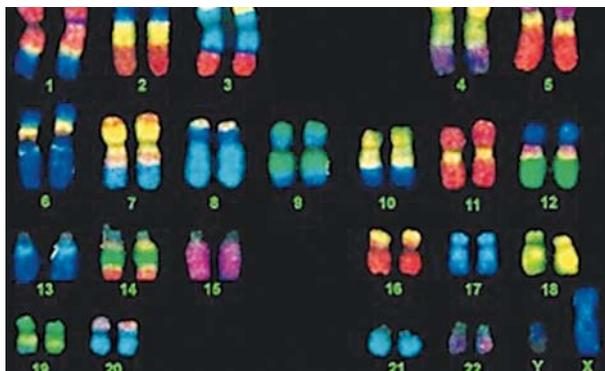
The algorithm identified the surname of one in eight tested, said Halperin.

In one case, the researchers managed to identify the name and the fact that he lived in California, all according to his Y chromosome.

They also found the Y chromosome information about famed geneticist Craig Venter, who headed the Genome Project, after narrowing down the identity to only two men in California.

The significance of the research, said Halperin, involves “more than a handful of useful applications such as locating relatives and identifying bodies in natural disasters and other calamities. But there is also something sinister, as if a person publishes his genome on the Internet, even if done anonymously, his identity could be exposed, and this was from only one chromosome and not from all 22 pairs,” he added.

Despite this shortcoming, the researchers regard the discovery as positive. People who disclose their genome must be made aware of the risk of exposure, said Ehrlich. “We believe that legislators must take special care when they plan such databanks.” ★



Blood Test for Alzheimer's

MEDICINE: By Abigail Klein Leichman / Israel21c.org



"Today one of the main weaknesses in the Alzheimer's area is that patients don't find out until it's too late," says Ilya Budik, CEO of NeuroQuest, an Israeli company developing a novel blood test for early detection of the most common cause of dementia worldwide. "There are many new therapies under development, and the most successful trials are showing the earlier a patient is treated, the better likelihood of responding to the treatment," he says.

Its first human trials in Israel showed NeuroQuest's test—which is based on 20 years of research by Prof. Michal Schwartz of the Weizmann Institute of Science—to be 87% accurate with an 85% specificity rate in detecting Alzheimer's and ALS, two common neurodegenerative diseases. With blood tests, Budik explains, anything over 70% is considered medically significant.

"That gave us proof of concept for Prof. Schwartz's discovery that certain parts of the immune system are involved in protecting the central nervous system and also in healing it from neurodegenerative diseases or neural injury," Budik said.

Budik says the first of 170 test subjects will be recruited beginning this summer. The trials will be overseen by the Harvard Clinical Research Institute, and Harvard Medical School is to be one of the four testing centers.

If the U.S. trials go as hoped, NeuroQuest could find itself in the right place at the right time. That's because in late 2012, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Amyvid, a radioactive diagnostic agent for positron emission tomography (PET) imaging of the brain to see the density of harmful plaques in adults being evaluated for Alzheimer's and other causes of cognitive decline. It wasn't possible until now to evaluate these plaques in a living patient.

However, a PET scan costs up to \$6,000—meaning that Amyvid will not be widely available. Budik says that a relatively inexpensive positive blood test using NeuroQuest's technology could provide enough cause for a health insurer to authorize the highly accurate PET imaging. So the two breakthroughs may work well together for the greater good. NeuroQuest hopes to provide early-warning capability to people in the first stages of Alzheimer's, ALS, Parkinson's, and other progressive neurodegenerative diseases. ★

A simple blood test could be on the way for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease.





A Difference Beyond Question

BY RICHARD COHEN / WashingtonPost.com

Before the Jews of Hungary were emancipated in the 19th century, they were not permitted to own land. By the end of the century, they were on their way to owning fully one-fifth of Hungary's large estates and were hugely successful in business and the arts.

The Jews of Germany had a similar history. In the early 20th century, they were many if not most of the country's lawyers, doctors, composers, playwrights, and scientists. They were so astonishingly successful in business that while they were just 1 percent of the population, they were 31 percent of the richest families. What did it? Was it nature (Jews were smarter) or nurture (Jews had a certain culture)?

If you eliminate what would certainly be condemned as a racist explanation—Jews as inherently smarter than non-Jews—then you are left with culture: There was something in the Jewish experience—1,000 or so years of persecution and being shunted into dishonorable occupations such as money lending—that prepared Europe's Jews for the onset of capitalism. Countless books have been written to explain this phenomenon, which continues to this day with Israel's intellectual domination of its region. The author of *The Future of the Jews*, Stuart E. Eizenstat, provides an example: Between 1980 and 2000, 7,652 patents were registered in the U.S. by Israelis. The figure for the entire Arab world? 367.

Arabs themselves recognize that they have a cultural problem. The Arab Human Development Report of 2002 singled out three "deficits" of Arab society that are "obstacles" to progress. One was the lack of political freedom; another was the narrow knowledge base; and the third the status of women. All of these vary across the region—Saudi Arabia's women are forbidden to drive—but nowhere in the region are women as free as they are in the West or, for that matter, Israel. In all of vast Arabia, about half of the potential workforce is poorly educated.

This hubbub about culture may seem esoteric, but it is really very important. The tendency to hold the Arabs blameless for their own culture is part of the predilection to hold them harmless for the lack of peace agreement with Israel. The Israelis are not the ones who repeatedly reject peace plans. The adamant refusal to hold

the Arabs accountable infantilizes them—a neo-colonialist mentality that is, in the end, simply insulting.



Saudi woman driver gets a warning and broken mirror.



Danish Psychologist Looks at Muslim Culture

BY NICOLAI SENNELS / FamilySecurityMatters.org

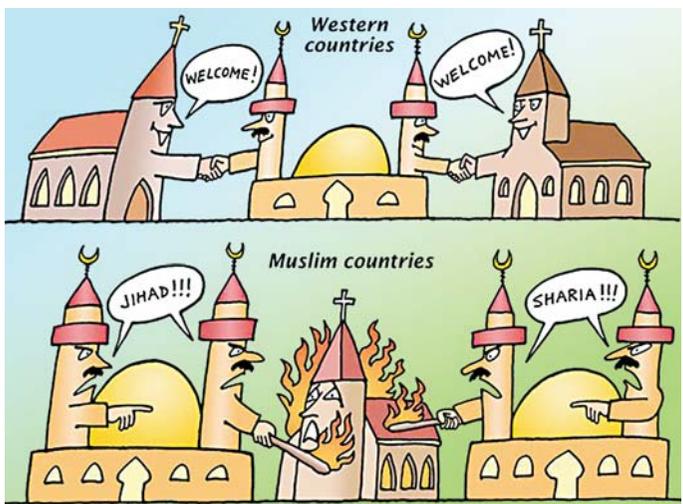


There are many differences between people brought up as Muslims and those who are not. Westerners think of anger as a sign of weakness, powerlessness, and lack of self-control. "Big dogs don't have to bark," as we say in Denmark. To Muslims, being aggressive is strength, a way of gaining respect. They see non-aggressive responses to threats and violence as vulnerability to be exploited.

"Locus of control" is a psychology term that relates to the way in which people feel that their lives are controlled. An "inner locus of control" means seeing our own emotions and actions as the main deciding factors in our lives. There may be outer circumstances that influence our situation, but in the end, our own perception of a situation and the way we handle it decides our future and our state of mind. Muslims are brought up to have an "outer locus of control." Their constant use of *inshallah* ("Allah willing") when talking about the future, and the fact that most aspects of their lives are decided by outer traditions and authorities, leaves very little space for individual freedom. This means that when things go wrong, it is always the fault of others or the situation.

The mix of Westerners being overly forgiving, their flexible attitude, and Muslim self-pity and blame is the psychological crowbar that has opened the West to Islamization—and to consequent sympathy towards *sharia* and *madrassas* (Islamic law and schools). Westerners are taught to be open and tolerant toward other cultures, races, religions, etc. This makes us less critical, impairs our ability to discriminate, and makes our societies open to the influence of other cultural trends and values that may not always be constructive. Muslims are taught that they are superior, and that all others are so bad that Allah will throw them into hell when they die.

People from cultures that are aimed mainly at physical survival, and in which religious practice and adherence to cultural traditions give more social status than having a good education and being self-supporting, usually are not very productive. If they can live in closed communities among others with the same culture and language, there is very little reason for them to get involved in outside society.



Islam does not strive for freedom, happiness, and love. Islam strives for the submission of Muslims to Allah and of non-Muslims to Muslims—a dark and humorless world where men are forced to mistreat women and everybody is a slave to a god whose only wish is the enforcement of *sharia* down to the very last comma. They do what they can to reach their final solution, and we must do what we can to prevent it from happening. The biggest victims of Islam are Muslims. ★



SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS



U.S. and Israel Bridging the Divide on Iran

By Charles Levinson & Colleen McCain Nelson / online.wsj.com

In Jerusalem, President Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu exchanged hearty back pats, smiles, and jokes as they sought to showcase a mended relationship on the first day of a visit by the American president.

The displays of newfound warmth extended to closer public agreement on the most pressing issue they discussed, Iran. After openly clashing during Mr. Obama's first term on how best to curb Iran's nuclear program, the two leaders closed ranks hours after Obama arrived for his first visit to Israel as president.

Netanyahu issued his clearest threat yet to bomb Iran, citing assurances from Obama that Israel has a right to defend itself.

The Israeli Who Can Predict The Future

By Brian Blum / Israel21c.org

Less than 24 hours after Kira Radinsky received her PhD from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in computer science, she sat down to discuss the new software she and Microsoft

Research have developed for "disaster prediction." The doctorate culminated an intense education at Israel's top tech school that Radinsky began when she was just 15. She took short breaks to serve in the army's Intelligence Corps and for an internship at Microsoft in California.

Now 26, she has been working with Eric Horvitz, head of Microsoft Research, on software that can predict disasters of many types, including disease outbreaks, violence, and natural catastrophes.



Kira
Radinsky

Example: The software correctly predicted a cholera outbreak in Angola. After success in relation to a Cuban epidemic, Johns Hopkins University took an interest and is now looking to forecast where scarce medications will be most in demand in the developing world.

The software works by culling through online sources for correlations. Angola's cholera outbreak, for example, tended to be preceded by news reports of drought. Radinsky has also looked at the connection between earthquakes and tsunamis, and hurricanes and gas prices.





Persecution: Jewish Down, Christian Up

By Evelyn Gordon
CommentaryMagazine.com



For the first time in millennia, Judaism has lost its title as the world's most persecuted religion. Today, that dubious honor goes to Christianity. "Christians are targeted more than any other body of believers," wrote Rupert Shortt in a 54-page report for the London-based Civitas Institute recently, which meticulously documented their persecution on a country-by-country basis. Even politicians have begun grasping this fact: German Chancellor Angela Merkel publicly deemed Christianity "the most persecuted religion in the world." In short, Christians have become the new Jews. (See article on page 1.)

There are two reasons why Christianity has displaced Judaism as the world's most persecuted religion. One stems largely from the rise of radical Islam: Though non-Islamic countries like China also repress Christians, only radical Islamists kill them wholesale. The other is that today, Jews face *less* persecution than ever before in history. And that is entirely due to the existence of the State of Israel.

Were hundreds of thousands of Jews still scattered throughout the Islamic world, as was true a century ago, they would assuredly face persecution no less severe than Christians do.

But they aren't, because most have relocated to Israel. In fact, for the last 65 years, any Jew anywhere who felt sufficiently threatened to want to leave his country has been able to find sanctuary in Israel, and Israel has repeatedly gone to great lengths to try to rescue those who want to leave but have trouble doing so.

Many Christians, too, might like to leave places like Egypt or Iraq. But unlike the Jews, they have nowhere to go: No country will automatically open its doors for them—with no questions asked and no numerical limitations—the way Israel does for Jews. And still less would any country do so for Jews if Israel didn't exist.

Though there are many reasons why Israel deserves support from all decent people, this is the most basic of all: If Israel didn't exist, Jews would be slaughtered throughout the Islamic world just as their Christian brethren are today.

The shared destiny of Christians and Jews continues to take many different, sometimes poignantly painful, forms. Watch these pages for articles regarding these issues. — Myles





London's Century-old Palestine Exploration Fund

Archaeology
By Matti Friedman
TimesOfIsrael.com

The 102-year-old offices of one of the key players in the modern history of Israel and its surroundings sit at the end of an innocuous alleyway in central London, next to a shoe store and a dumpster, a modest sign ("PEF") marking an entrance that is barely noticeable from the street.

The Palestine Exploration Fund is known to few outside the world of academia. But it remains active nearly 150 years after its founding, and a visit to the building where it has been housed since before WWI recalls a time when explorers like Lawrence of Arabia crisscrossed the Holy Land with Bibles, compasses, and spades, helping to create the Middle East as we know it.

The PEF consists of a small library, an archive of photographs and documents, and a basement full of fascinating relics.

Beginning with its founding on May 12, 1865, the PEF dispatched surveyors, engineers, photographers, and researchers to Ottoman Palestine and its environs, producing a body of scientific work that is still serving scholars today.

A three-dimensional relief map of the Holy Land that was made in 1883 and still hangs in the office demonstrates how little was known even at the end of the 19th century: The southern deserts of the Negev appear only in vague detail – the area had not yet been mapped – and east of Amman the land is empty and marked "Unexplored."

The Victorian desire to explore the globe's unknown quarters was part of the early members' motivation. But the organization also embodied a sentiment, prevalent at the time, that Palestine, with its biblical past, was somehow an extension of Christian Britain.

(continued next page)

In the one-story building on the left are the offices that have housed the Palestine Exploration Fund (PEF) since 1911 (Matti Friedman/Times of Israel)



Exploration Fund: Continued

Charles Warren



In late 1913, with war appearing imminent, the PEF dispatched a team to map the last part of Palestine that remained mysterious – the Negev desert. Ostensibly an archaeological survey, the project was also cover for a clandestine attempt to provide the British military with accurate maps in the event of a conflict with Ottoman Turkey.

One of the expedition's two leaders was a young archaeologist who had recently spent time digging in Syria – T.E. Lawrence, soon to find fame as Lawrence of Arabia. This was the last piece of the great mapping project. In June 1914, the PEF and the War Office in London received word that the survey was complete. The Great War began a month later.

When General Edmund Allenby commanded the British invasion of Palestine in 1917, he used PEF maps. Lawrence himself captured the Red Sea port of Aqaba with a band of Arab irregulars – his knowledge of the area dating to a visit during his survey work before the war.

Shimon Gibson, a Jerusalem archaeologist, credits the organization archive's two unpublished sketches made by **Charles Warren** (above) in the 1860s for helping Gibson better understand the history of Ein Rogel, an ancient spring outside Jerusalem's Old City. (The extravagantly whiskered and decorated Warren went on to an illustrious military career and a stint as chief of the London police during the Jack the Ripper murders.) ★

Read more of PEF's history at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1Du>.



In the basement (from left), a portrait of a Victorian benefactor, a collection of birds, and artifacts from Flinders Petrie's 1890 dig at Tell el-Hesi (Matti Friedman/Times of Israel)



How Iran Went Nuclear

BY DAVID FEITH / *The Wall Street Journal*

It has been more than three years since we learned of the existence of the secret Iranian nuclear facility at Fordo—a uranium-enrichment plant buried deep inside a mountain and surrounded by missile silos and anti-aircraft batteries. Is the world due for another surprise soon?

If anyone has standing to speculate, it is Olli Heinonen, who says he first “got a whiff” of Fordo six years earlier. In 2003, Heinonen was in his office at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna when a man appeared unannounced and claimed that Iran was replicating its existing uranium-enrichment facility in an underground site near the holy city of Qum. The IAEA and Western spy agencies later confirmed it.

He shared that Iran had at least two secret sites. He was correct about the first. What about the second—is there a plutonium facility that remains secret today?

Heinonen can’t say as we sit in his office at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, where he has been a senior fellow since retiring as IAEA deputy director-general in 2010. Yet he offers a warning: “If there is no undeclared installation today... it will be the first time in 20 years that Iran doesn’t have one.”

Heinonen is emphatic that the IAEA is in the prevention business, yet he also explains that Iran might be past the nuclear point of no return—and that years of IAEA missteps are partly to blame.

Short of military force, there is only so much that outsiders can do to stop a determined regime. But though he praises IAEA’s worldwide efforts on nuclear safety, Heinonen is mystified by its record on Iran.



Mohamed ElBaradei’s tenure as the IAEA’s director-general from 1997–2009 wasn’t distinguished by its vigilance regarding Iran. ElBaradei constantly downplayed suspicions about Iranian activity, and in 2008 blessed almost all of Iran’s claims about its nuclear program as “consistent” with IAEA findings.

The main problem, however, was an entrenched practice of credulous diplomacy that Heinonen says developed “at the time of Hans Blix”—the IAEA chief in 1993 and 1994. That is when IAEA officials conducted “transparency visits” in Iran, and declared “Everything is OK, we saw nothing.” Actually, he notes, “there were two laboratories which were undeclared and became obvious during this visit.”

To this day, Iranian negotiators manage to dampen IAEA criticism despite Tehran’s continued obstructionism. Inspectors have been blocked for years from the suspicious Parchin complex and from Arak, too. By making promising public statements—like announcing further negotiations—the Iranians “build a kind of hope, and the diplomats buy it,” Heinonen says.

Speaking of hope, Heinonen says that he still sees a chance for a U.S.–Iran grand bargain. In his view, the Iranian regime isn’t a “homogenous” revolutionary group bent on getting the bomb. Some members of the Tehran establishment “are more oriented on having business relations with the outside world.” Such figures, Heinonen says, can exert a moderating influence on Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.



Jewish Humor, etc.

The Religious Challenge

In the close-knit village, the priest, the pastor, and the rabbi were good friends. They agreed it would be a great challenge for each of them to go into the woods, find a bear, and try to convert it.

They met a week later to share the stories. The priest showed up with one arm in a sling. "I found a bear. He bit my arm, so I sprinkled him with holy water, then read to him from the Catechism, and next week, he takes his first communion."

The pastor hobbled in and told his story. "I read from the Bible to my bear, and he wrestled with me by the creek. We fell in, so I baptized him, and we spent the whole day praising the Lord."

The poor rabbi was bandaged from head to foot. His friends waited for his story. Finally, he told them, "Oy, looking back, circumcision may not have been the best way to start."



A cheerful heart is good medicine —
Proverbs 17:22



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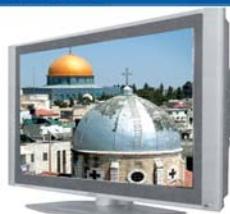
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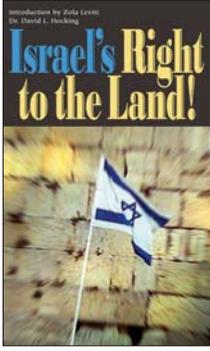
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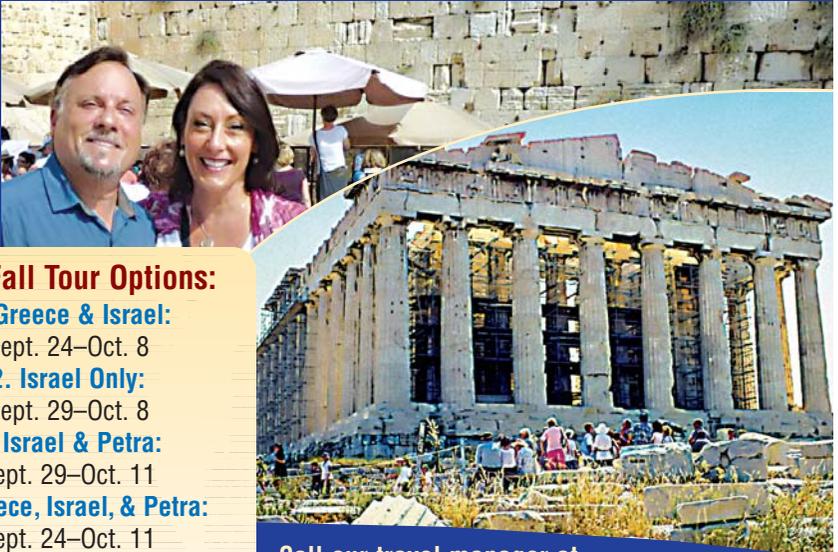
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