

Levitt

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



Letter

The New Exodus—  
see Myles... p.6

# How The Exodus Story Created America

By Michael Freund / JPost.com

*Narrative of the ancient Israelites influenced the Pilgrims—a bond that remains a “Godsend.”*

More than a century and a half after the Pilgrims’ arrival, the American colonies went to war against their British colonial masters in a struggle for independence. The revolutionaries were very much stirred by the story of the Israelites.

In his pamphlet *Common Sense*, which was published in January 1776 and had a galvanizing effect on American public opinion, Thomas Paine described King George III as the “sullen tempered Pharaoh of England.”

On July 4, 1776, just moments after formally adopting the Declaration of Independence, the Continental Congress appointed a committee consisting of three illustrious people — John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin — to create “a seal for the United States of America.”

*(continued p.2)*

## “Google Palestine”

By Edward Moyer  
news.cnet.com

Google has swapped in the word “Palestine” for “Palestinian Territories” on its search site for the area.

The word appears directly beneath the Google logo and above the search field on the “country’s” website home page, [www.google.ps](http://www.google.ps). This change follows a vote by the United Nations General Assembly last year to grant Palestine the status of “non-member observer state.”

“We’re changing the name ‘Palestinian Territories’ to ‘Palestine’ across our products,” Google

*(continued p.3)*



To  
Index

# The Exodus Story... continued from cover

On August 20 of that year, the committee members presented their recommendations to the Congress, with Franklin proposing that the seal depict “Moses standing on the shore, and extending his hand over the sea, thereby causing the same to overwhelm Pharaoh who is sitting in an open chariot.”

Franklin  
proposal



Jefferson suggested a similar theme for the seal, which would portray “The Children of Israel in the wilderness, led by a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.”

Though neither of these ideas was accepted, the very fact that they were even considered demonstrates the pervasive influence of the biblical exodus on America’s Founding Fathers as well as their strong affinity with the story of the Israelites.

Even after the war was over and America gained its independence, this linkage continued to predominate. On March 4, 1805, in his second inaugural address, President Thomas Jefferson said, “I shall need, too, the favor of that Being in whose hands we are, who led our forefathers, as Israel of old, from their native land and planted them in a country flowing with all the necessaries and comforts of life.”

Jefferson  
proposal



The fact that America’s Founding Fathers were so deeply influenced by the narrative of the ancient Israelites should serve as a source of pride to us all. It is a tangible example of how the saga of the Jewish people in Egypt influenced the course of world history thousands of years after the events themselves.

To be sure, America, perhaps more than any other Diaspora country, has been a source of great blessing to Jews, providing unprecedented freedom and opportunity.

But in light of the prominent part played by the story of the Jewish people’s forebears in shaping the beginnings of America, it seems fair to say that the bond between Israel and the United States is one that has been a Godsend for all concerned. ★

***Although America is imperfect in its foundations, there is no doubt that the Bible played a positive part in shaping this nation. We need to return to the guidance from Above that comes with biblical wisdom. — Myles***



Back to  
Cover



To  
Index

# Levitt CONTENTS Letter

**Katharine Weiss** [4/5](#)



**Myles to Go** [6/7](#)

**Separation of Church & State** [8](#)

**Israel's History & Roots** [9](#)



**Our Man in Haifa: Eitan Shishkoff** [10](#)



**Classic Zola** [11](#)

**Chaplain and TJF** [12/13](#)

**Andalusia for Egypt?** [14](#)

**ZLM Bulletin Board** [15](#)



**Parsons: Hebrew Lesson** [16](#)



**Note from Mark** [21](#)



**Letters To ZLM** [22-25](#)



**Israeli Science & Medicine** [26/27](#)

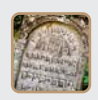


**Photos Shape News** [28/29](#)

**Select Briefs** [5,30/31](#)

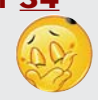


**Grave Work** [32/33](#)



**Scotland vs Israel** [34](#)

**Jewish Humor** [35](#)



## “Google Palestine” (continued from cover sidebar)

spokesman Nathan Tyler told the BBC. “In this case, we are following the lead of the UN, ICANN [the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers], ISO [International Organization for Standardization], and other international organizations.”

The move was received favorably by the Palestinian Authority. Sabri Saidam, an advisor to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, said, “Most of the traffic that happens now happens in the virtual world and this means putting Palestine on the virtual map as well as on the geographic maps.”

Saidam also said he'd like to see the change reflected in Google Maps. But Google doesn't seem to have gone that far. As of this writing, a search — using [www.google.ps](http://www.google.ps) (from a U.S.-based PC) — for “google maps palestine” or “palestine map” brings up a Google Maps detail labeled “Palestinian Territories.”

Not surprisingly, Israeli officials see the situation differently. “Google is not a diplomatic entity, which begs the question ‘Why are they getting involved in international politics and on the controversial side?’” Yigal Palmor, a representative for Israel's foreign ministry, said.

Israel was one of nine nations, including the U.S., that voted against 138 other UN countries on granting “non-member observer state” status to Palestine.

# Give *Shalom* A Chance!

Katharine Weiss  
ZLP Co-host



God wants us to be carriers of peace. Yeshua declared that it was necessary for Him to go so that He could leave His peace in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

Hebrew thought gives peace greater consideration than does Western ideology. Perhaps it is time for us to revisit the simple but profound promise of His *shalom* (John 14:26–31).

Jesus Himself is *Sar Shalom*, the Prince of Peace, so the overflow of His life through us includes this aspect of His Person. I have found, more and more in these days, that I need to draw on Him as *Sar Shalom* to release peace to calm the storms that life inevitably stirs up. During the complications of travel or the deep issues of loss with family and friends, I want to shower those around me with the love of God that is marked by His supernatural peace.

"*Shalom*" (Strong's Concordance 7965) has a broad range of meanings, all of which can add to our spiritual growth. We see immediately that there are seven basic ideas that come from the word. This is not surprising, as seven is the biblical number of wholeness, completion, and spiritual fullness!

The first meaning is just that, *completeness*. Peace from God includes the notion that all is present: everything needed by the person is there. Next we see the idea of *wholeness*. This has a full, rounded-out meaning: that His peace contains all we need. *Shalom* also implies *health*. How wonderful that physical health can be included in the *shalom* of God. Studies have shown the correlation between stress and illness.

*(continued next page)*



To  
Index

ZOLA'S HEBREW WORD OF THE MONTH

שָׁלוֹם  
(PEACE)

"LOOK AT THE BIRDS OF THE AIR;  
THEY DO NOT SOW OR REAP  
OR STORE AWAY IN BARNs,  
& YET YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER  
FEEDS THEM. ARE YOU NOT MUCH  
MORE VALUABLE THAN THEY?"  
matthew six twenty six

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Hebrew Word courtesy Brittni Hummel

# Shalom: Katharine continues



This promise is precious because health holds a key to our ability to function and do all the things that God desires for us in our destiny with Him.

Fourthly, shalom indicates *peace* itself. The simple restful, deep engaging with our God is a fruit of His shalom. The fifth aspect of shalom is *welfare*. I am reminded of that old hymn, *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*. He is aware of our welfare and wants us to fare well in this life. The next part of this complex word is *safety, soundness, and tranquility*. The shalom of God provides a type of oasis from the surrounding events so that we can be tranquil in the face of whatever comes our way.

Finally, God's shalom includes *prosperity, perfection, fullness of rest, harmony, and the absence of agitation or discord*. Wow! What a huge promise from Him.

As we walk in the peace of the Lord, note that this gift functions as an effective military weapon against the enemy of our souls. Paul left the Romans (16:20) with a reminder that the "God of peace" would soon bruise Satan under the feet of the Believers. Our adherence to His peace overcomes evil with good. ★

## Israel is the Second Most Educated Country in the World

By Rachel Avraham / [UnitedWithIsrael.org](http://UnitedWithIsrael.org)



A report published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has ranked Israel as the second most educated country in the world. The only country ranked as more educated than Israel is Canada. Other countries ranked within the top-ten list are Japan, the United States, New Zealand, South Korea, Norway, the UK, Australia, and Finland. According to the website "24/7 Wall St.", which analyzed the OECD report, "Israel only joined the OECD in 2010. That year, its GDP per capita was more than \$7,000 below the OECD's average. Despite this, the country's high school graduation rate was 92% in 2010, well above the OECD's 84% average."

In addition, 45% of Israel's population has a university or college degree, thus demonstrating how much Israeli society values higher education. As Elie Wiesel once stated, "I don't recall a Jewish home without a book on the table." Indeed, Israeli universities such as the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Technion, Ben-Gurion University, and Tel Aviv University are considered not only to be the best in the Middle East, but world-class institutions attracting international students from around the world.

Additionally, Israel spent 7.2% of its GDP on educational institutions in 2009, the sixth highest among all the nations surveyed. This is very important, for studies have demonstrated that the countries which invest the most in education have the most educated populations. ★

Is there a correlation that Canada, currently the most pro-Israel country on the planet, is also the most educated? —Myles

# The New Exodus

**Myles To Go**  
By Myles Weiss  
ZLP Co-host



Every year the Jewish people celebrate the Passover Seder, remembering our deliverance from Egypt. To that theme, believers in Yeshua add an additional cause for rejoicing: deliverance from the pain of sin. These days, Christians all over the world join the annual celebrations, learning the rich history and prophetic significance of the Feasts of the Lord.

However, there is another exodus taking place today that needs our attention as people of God and People of the Book. That is the massive refuge-seeking among Christians who live in Muslim lands. In speaking of the Middle East, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom noted, "The flight of Christians out of the region is unprecedented, and it's increasing year by year." They also speculate that countries like Afghanistan, Iraq, and Egypt eventually may have **no** Christians.

The deafness of Western media regarding the "Arab Spring" continues. Either by design or incompetence, Western governments continue to ignore that this movement is actually an "Arab Springboard" for the Muslim Brotherhood. In country after country, the power grab of these "democratic" movements results in the rise of *sharia* (Islamic) law. These predictable changes prove the adage "Better the devil you know than the devil you don't."

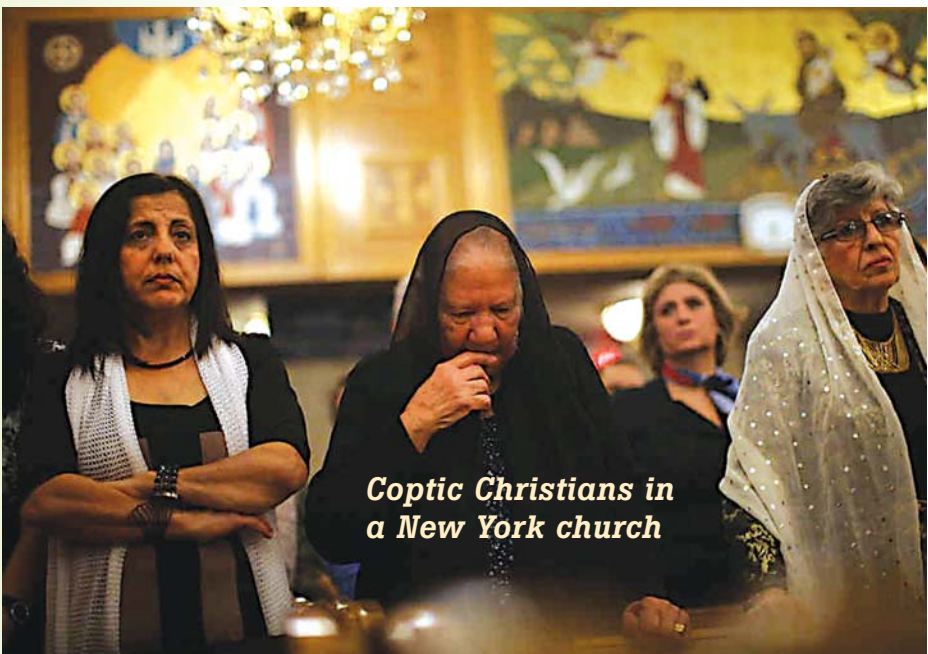
The U.S. supported many secular dictators who kept the Islamist surge in check. With their deposing, what replaces them is more troubling, and carries severe repercussions for Christians.

Iraq had a Christian population of one million in 2003. The removal of Saddam Hussein began a bloodbath that drove most Christians out of the nation. Churches were bombed and burned to the ground. Christian leaders (and disciples) were crucified, beheaded, and tortured. An attack on a Baghdad church in 2010 left almost 60 Believers dead.

*(continued next page)*



To  
Index



***Coptic Christians in  
a New York church***

# Exodus: Myles continues



If Syria follows the same pattern, and if the jihadist opposition deposes Bashar al-Assad, an anti-Christian onslaught is sure to follow. The Islamic jihadists consider it their sacred duty to “cleanse” the land of all infidels, i.e., Jews and Christians and any other non-Muslims. Therefore, in country after country in the Middle East, followers of Jesus are fleeing just to survive.

Several years ago at a conference in Argentina, I met a Coptic priest who was standing for the Lord in Egypt. I sat with him in mutual awe. He was thrilled to meet a Jewish follower of Jesus, and took it as a sign of the Lord’s soon return. I was honored to meet this man of integrity and vision who was building a phenomenal faith community in the dumps of Cairo. He was seeing the lives of his disciples—from the lowest “caste” in Cairo—being transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit. How long will Father Samaan be able to work now that the Muslim

Brotherhood is in charge of that ancient nation? We need to stand with the Believers around the world as they face the scourge of jihadist governments.

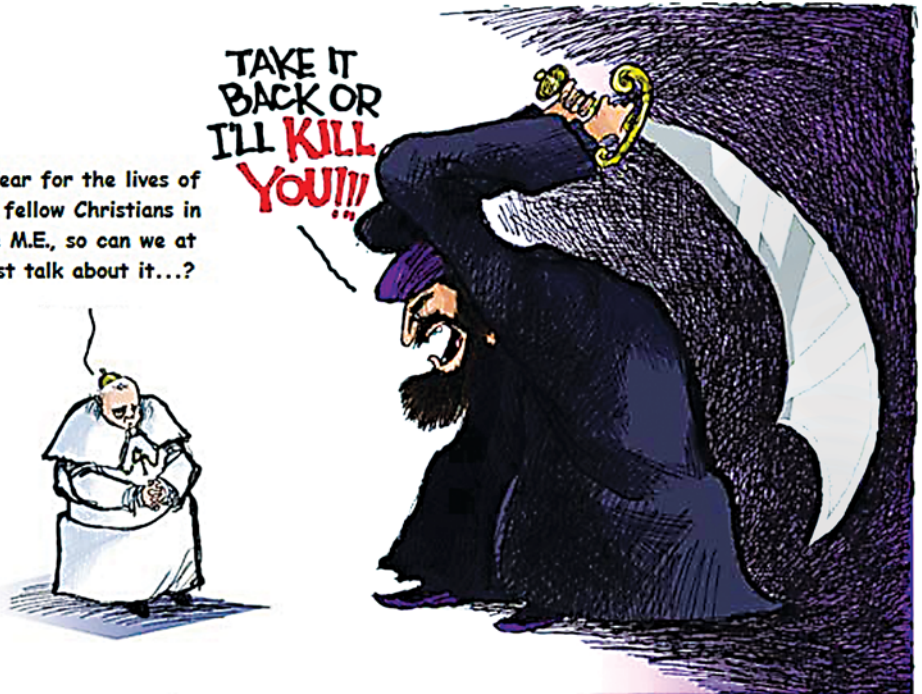
*Coptic priest Father Samaan Ibrahim puts a cross on the forehead of an Egyptian woman during a service in July 2012 at the St. Samaan's Church (also known as the Cave Church) in the Mokattam village in Cairo.*



*Photo by Gianluigi Guerizza/AFP/Getty Images*



I fear for the lives of my fellow Christians in the M.E., so can we at least talk about it...?



# Separation of Church and State

By Bill Flax  
www.Forbes.com

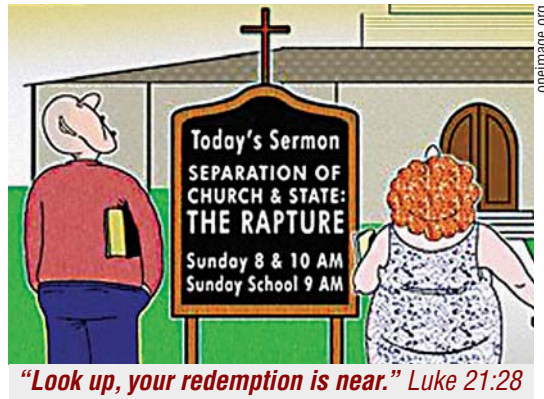


Our forefathers never sought to evict the Church from society. They recognized that the several states did not share uniform values. We lived and worshipped differently. The framers were a diverse bunch with wildly divergent opinions on many issues, but eliminating the very foundations of America's heritage would have horrified them. On few issues was there more unanimity. Even non-Christian founders thought religion essential. None would have wished to upend the very basis for education, law, or culture. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 states: "Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

Americans understood that freedom without morality quickly devolves into debauchery. Whether sincere faith or prudence instilled an honest, law-abiding, responsible, and hardworking populace, everyone esteemed biblical morality as the bedrock of self-government. George Washington believed "Religion and morality are indispensable supports," for "it is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, in the 1947 *Everson v. Board of Education*, invoked Thomas Jefferson, stating, "The First Amendment has erected 'a wall of separation between church and state.' ... that wall must be kept high and impregnable."

Thomas Jefferson thought differently. The Danbury Baptists wrote to him congratulating his election and objecting to the First Amendment. They thought it implied that government dispensed what was not government's to give. Jefferson agreed. His reply clearly applied "Separation of Church and State" to the establishment and not to the free exercise of religion. As he expressed, what communities did and how they worshipped were not federal affairs. Jefferson later said the central government was "interdicted from intermeddling with religious institutions." Such were state matters.



*"Look up, your redemption is near." Luke 21:28*

[Editor's note: At the time when the Bill of Rights passed, many states acted in ways that would now be considered unconstitutional; some of them had official state churches. All state-established churches were disestablished by 1833.]

Church and State were distinct in that the federal government could not elevate one denomination over others. State-controlled churches frequently exploited this latent power for evil. The Spanish Inquisition didn't originate in the Vatican, but in the Castilian court. It was not of the church, but of the king. The framers witnessed the incessant wars of the mother continent and understood that official churches fomented abuses.

In the newly formed states, Episcopalians in Virginia would live amicably next to Catholics in Maryland, Quakers in Pennsylvania, or the Baptists in their midst. None saw cause for contention because there was no threat that others would gain dominion over them, or any prospect that they might gain such dominion themselves. Rivalry was unnecessary because "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." ★



# Israel's History: All About Roots

By Aviva and Shmuel Bar-Am / TimesOfIsrael.com



*The oldest of our ancient trees have lived through wars, religious upheavals, conquests, and defeats; the youngest have seen the return of the Jews to their ancient homeland. What if they could talk?*

## **Carob and Mulberry at the Galilee town of Pequi'in**

Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yochai was a brilliant second-century scholar during the time of Roman rule in the Land of Israel. One day, in a desperate effort to wipe out every last remnant of Judaism, the Romans decreed that keeping the Sabbath was forbidden and prohibited circumcision. Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yochai spoke out openly against the Roman decrees.

Soldiers were sent to execute the rabbi. According to Jewish tradition, he fled with his son Elazar to Pequi'in – the only town in Israel to have maintained a continuous Jewish presence for the last 2,000 years.

Elazar and his father found refuge in a minuscule cave, living in this tiny niche for 13 years and subsisting only on the fruit of a carob tree that miraculously appeared nearby – perhaps one of the carob trees that still stand near the cave! To slake their thirst, they drank water from a spring that providentially burst through the ground.

Pequi'in grew up around that very special spring, which, for centuries, has been a pilgrimage site for religious Jews. The houses here are the oldest in town; and until modern times, this is where villagers would water their animals, do laundry, and wash their dishes. Here they held celebrations, sat spellbound listening to storytellers, and watched magicians perform sleight of hand. Older people gathered here to gossip; young people came here to find a spouse.

Towering above the spring is a mulberry tree, whose leaves are used in producing silk. A symbol of Pequi'in, it appeared until recently on the 100-shekel bill. ★



# Progress and Promise

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF / Our Man in Haifa



Israel is building in every direction. Massive earth-moving machines reshape existing highways and carve out new ones. Cement and steel reach the multi-stories of commercial and residential projects via skyscraping cranes, maximizing the nation's scarce urban lots.

In the Haifa-Galilee area alone, progress punctuates the landscape with a paradoxical combination of promise and pollution. Pesky traffic jams still occur in spite of vast new roads. The sheer number of vehicles seems to increase weekly. But Israelis are an optimistic lot. Dan Senor and Saul Singer's book *Start-up Nation* documents the Israeli cultural characteristics that have caused our country to form more start-up companies per capita than any nation in the world.

Solving problems in out-of-the-box ways seems to come naturally to the stubborn Israeli mentality. Certainly the rapid expansion of our population (we've grown some 54% in the last 20 years) demands creative solutions to the needs for housing, transportation, and jobs. Our new government coalition is battling with budget challenges right now, seeking to maintain the relatively healthy condition of Israel's national economy. For immigrants, the shift from communism — and its unmotivated private sector — to a society that values excellence in products and service is not always an easy transition. They struggle to overcome

the old Soviet tendency to treat customers as “easy prey” and to look for shortcuts that result in shoddy work or unreasonable delays.

Yet Israel pushes ahead. It seems somewhat ironic for a nation that must concern itself daily with existential threats from heavily armed “neighbors” to be so energetically pursuing business opportunities, burgeoning highways, and real estate development. But that's Israel. While the rest of the Western world is glued to the headlines and trying to read the “signs” for the timing of Iran's nuclear capability and/or Israel's pre-emptive strike, Israelis are sipping coffee at trendy coffee bars and strolling happily with their young children. My sister wrote from the States asking if my son had been called up to the reserves in light of the “current crisis,” and I wrote back asking, “What crisis?”

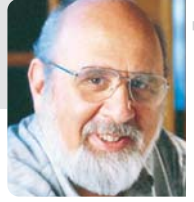
However, while Israel's economy abounds, our national spirit remains unfeared. Anticipating this amazing era of our return to the Land, the Lord declared through Ezekiel, “*I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel ... and the cities shall be inhabited and the ruins rebuilt. ... I will make you inhabited as in former times, and do better for you than at your beginnings. Then you shall know that I am the Lord*” (Ezekiel 36:10, 11). Beyond any material progress, this is His priority and our prophetic destiny. ★



*New overpass to Akko nearing completion*

## Signs of God

CLASSIC ZOLA: 1979—34 years ago



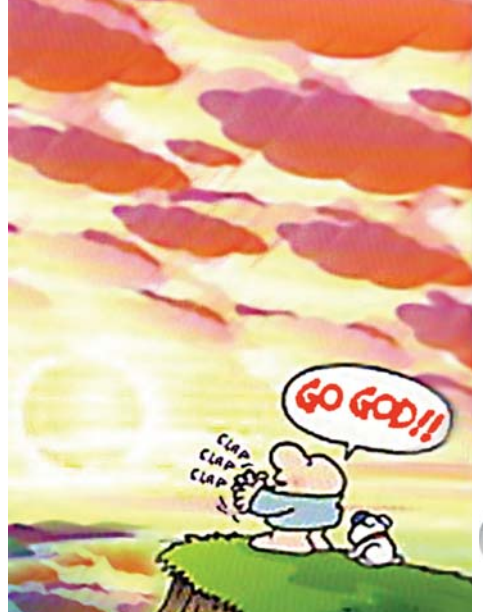
Zola told this anecdote in the January 1979 *Levitt Letter*. We repeat it from time to time because Zola's observation is timeless and because people still ask, "Why doesn't God show us He's there?"

I was once a guest on a radio talk show on the subject of UFOs and general signs of the presence of the enemy in today's world. A listener called in and said, "You seem to find so many signs of the devil around. How come there are no signs of God?"

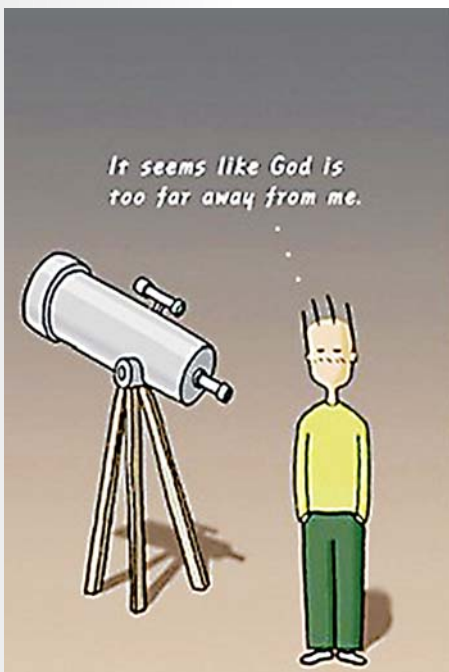
When I got my voice back, I was able to tell that caller a thing or two about appreciating the immense gifts we have, regularly and without our efforts, from our Creator. Who colored the wild flowers or the tropical fishes? Who took the trouble to make the forests and the mountains of the world in such a way that the most primitive of human beings can "live off the land" — hunting, harvesting, and eating

with confidence?

Obviously, none of us has to expend any effort whatsoever to deserve these first fruits. They're the free gift from God, as is our coming resurrection. ★



*"They should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us." Acts 17:27*



# Ask The Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian



**Q. In March, you wrote (*Levitt Letter p.12*) that Christians don't need to keep the Law of Moses; that if you keep part of it, you will be judged on all 613 laws. So, if I eat kosher, or keep the Sabbath and Holy Days, will I be breaking the other laws, or is it ok to keep these?**

The Messianic church we attend stresses being "Torah Compliant" in that we are held responsible for keeping the law, but we are saved through Yeshua. I asked once if we were trying to become Jews, and they said no. But everything is pretty much built around the Torah, and they don't study anything in the New Testament, which bothers me. When I commented about Zola Levitt's teaching, they said they don't subscribe to your ministry's beliefs, so I haven't said anything else, but I continue to value your teaching, which the Holy Spirit hasn't told me yet is off base.

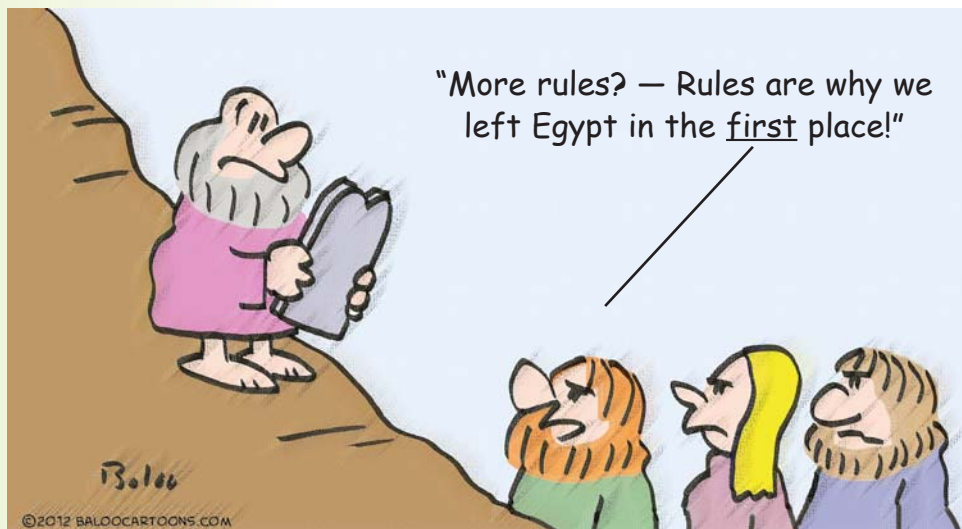
How do we judge whether a Messianic church is teaching what is right? How do we pick a congregation? There is no other one in our town, but we could occasionally drive 50 miles to an area that has two Messianic churches.

Thank you for the work you do and time you spend answering questions

like these. I have three lessons of your correspondence course, The Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies, and have been working on *Survey of the Old Testament*. It is fascinating, but very hard for me to study consistently because of sickness. I think I will just go ahead and take the test. If I pass, I pass; if not, I'll try not to yell at myself too badly. Either way the teaching is in my head and the Holy Spirit can bring it up if I need it to help others. Again, thank you so much.

**A. You can observe kosher if you want. However, don't make it a requirement for New Covenant Believers since it is faith alone in Jesus the Messiah that saves us and makes us right in the sight of God (Galatians 2:16). By not teaching the New Testament, your church is teaching incompletely.**

**Yeshua came to bring the New Covenant (Matthew 26:26-28).** How can they not teach the completion and continuation of the *Tanakh*? Please consider finding a church that teaches the Old Testament *and* its fulfillment through Jesus in the New Testament. ★



**“And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house...” Deut. 6:9**

**BY DR. TODD D. BAKER / ZLM Staff Theologian**

On TJF’s first outreach to Beersheva, I went to a shopping mall ostensibly for a computer, but also to minister to an Israeli. One opportunity led to another. At a yogurt shop, Anna—a soft-spoken, young Israeli—opened her heart and mind to hear about Yeshua. I told her, “God has led me to give you His Word about who the Messiah is, as described in the Jewish Scriptures.” She accepted the Bible that I gave her.

To my inquiry about a computer store, she pointed across the street to “The Big Box” and said that I could probably find what I was looking for there. She was right, but not about a computer. I found instead another Jewish soul open to the Gospel of Yeshua.

After Ido told me that the store did not have the computer I was looking for, he pointed to my Cross and Star of David necklace and said, “I like this.” An opening! His comment allowed me to explain how this symbol (*see below*) points to the fact that the God of Israel sent His Son—our crucified Lord—to be the Savior of the world, to bring redemption to both Jew and gentile.

Ido’s wide smile encouraged me to continue. I explained that I know that

the God of Israel exists, that the Bible is true, and that the Lord keeps His promises.

I know all this because the Lord is re-gathering the Jewish people back into the land that He gave them for an everlasting possession. Ido stepped outside the store with me so we could talk further about how Messianic prophecy identifies Jesus as the true Messiah. I told Ido that this ministry regularly comes to Israel to give back the Word of God in both the *Tanakh* and *B’rit Hadashah* (Old and New Testaments) so the Jewish people can learn why Yeshua is truly the Messiah in their inspired pages.

Ido jumped at my offer of a complete Hebrew Bible. He had just moved into a new place and wanted a copy of the Scriptures to place there; but more than that, he assured me he was going to read them. This was in line with what God commanded the Israelites to do—to meditate on His Word when they go in and out of their homes (Deuteronomy 6:4–9; 11:18–20). May the Gospel that Ido has brought into his earthly home now find entrance into his heart and spirit for the salvation of his eternal soul! ★

**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?* Rm.10:15. Please visit:

[www.levitt.com/announcements#messiah](http://www.levitt.com/announcements#messiah)  
for “The Promised Messiah” printable tract.



*Ido (left) in Beersheva, Todd's star and cross necklace bought in Israel*

# Andalusia for Egypt?

BY TIM STANLEY / Telegraph.co.uk



The Islamic Society of North America, an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood, has published an article that calls Andalusia — the hottest bit of Spain — a “paradise” that will return when “the only victor is Allah.” It reads like part travelogue and part religious tract, claiming that Andalusia was a region of tolerance “for 800 years” when occupied by Muslims, was then ruined by “the insanity following the Spanish Reconquista,” and only today has regained some of its former luster, thanks to growing interest in Islam in the region. Quote: “In 2006, Spanish prime minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero said that Spain was indebted to Islam for its great historical contributions.” Mr. Zapatero also legalized gay marriage, so it’s fair to presume that he’s not too keen for the Caliphate to come back.

The article actually makes some very good points. Islamic Andalusia was a cultural center for western Europe, did tolerate the presence of Jews and Christians, and did see a great many natives convert to Islam. But that’s only half the story. According to *The New York Times*:

**Andalusian governance was ... based on a religious tribal model. Christians and Jews ... had the status of dhimmis—alien minorities. They rose high but remained second-class citizens; one 11th-century legal text called them members of “the devil’s party.” They were subject to special taxes and, often, dress codes. Violence included a massacre of thousands of Jews in Granada in 1066 and the forced exile of many Christians in 1126.**

Of course, even this was arguably preferable to what followed the Spanish Reconquista — an era characterized by violent mass pogroms against the Jewish population.

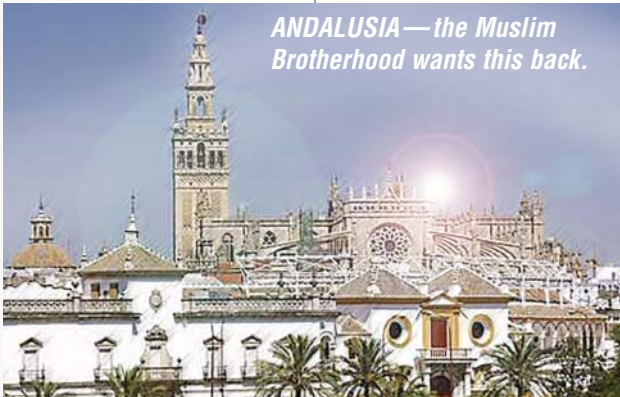
Nevertheless, there’s something both creepy and presumptuous about a Muslim writer visiting a Christian country and yearning for its “return” to the fold. Creepy because, for many Islamists, that return will be by compulsion rather than evangelical outreach and church picnics. Hassan al-Banna, the founder of Egypt’s Muslim Brotherhood, once wrote that “Andalusia, Sicily, the Balkans, South Italy, and the Roman sea islands were all Islamic lands that have to be restored

to the homeland of Islam ... it is our right to restore the Islamic Empire its glory.” Such sentiments are also presumptuous because they imply that

certain parts of the globe spiritually “belong” to people who “owned” them for a bit in the past. And if we’re really going to divide up the world by that logic, I’d like to make a counter-offer to the Muslim Brotherhood.

**May we Christians have North Africa back?** After all, it was once a center of Christian civilization — some of the earliest Christian communities were found there. You want brilliant theologians — Africa gave us St Augustine. You want beauty — Africa gave us stunning iconography. You want learning — Africa gave us the libraries and schools at Alexandria.

So Andalusia for Egypt seems a fair swap. After all, those pagan pyramids can surely be of no use to the Muslim Brotherhood. ★



# ZLM Bulletin Board

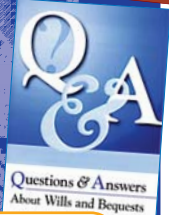
## Israel Passes 6 Million Mark!

**The Holy Land now has the largest Jewish population in the world.** The U.S. is second with 5.5 million Jews, including 2 million in New York City alone. France is third with half a million, Canada ranks fourth with 380,000. Britain has 290,000 Jews, mostly in London.

**Israel also has 1.6 million Arab citizens of whom 122,000 are Christian.** A total of 13.8 million Jews live throughout the world, according to Sergio Della Pergola, a demographics professor at Hebrew University of Jerusalem.



**Free Item**



## Duplicates? Moving?

Are you receiving two or more copies of our newsletters? Please let us know so that we can unclutter your mailbox and cut costs. (And please pass that extra copy on to a friend.) Also, please give us your new address a month or more ahead, if possible, so that you won't miss an issue.



## Pamphlet of the Month

A well-planned will is often the centerpiece of an effective and thoughtful estate plan. A will makes it possible to distribute cash, investments, real estate, and personal property to family and other loved ones. A will can help heirs with management, reduce settlement costs, and make "gifts of a lifetime" to favorite charitable interests.

The pamphlet entitled **Questions & Answers about Wills and Bequests** addresses questions such as 1) Who needs a will? and 2) What if I have a will that no longer meets my needs? To receive a free copy, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

## How to Fake an Anti-Israel News Photo

For a two-minute how-to video about Photoshopping® for propaganda, see <http://wp.me/pieUD-1Hk>.

Starting with a freelance photographer's mundane photo of an anti-Israel rally, the HonestReporting.com video demonstrates photo doctoring at its worst. You'll see how the bars of a gate can be made to mimic prison bars incarcerating children.

This misleading title in a British newspaper iced the cake: *U.K. Ready to Take On Israel over Fate of Children Clapped in Irons*. The photo lives on, recycled in other articles and opinion pieces that slam Israel.

Please see the article "How Photographers Help Shape the News" on p.28.

## "Come Home!"

**Zola Tours to Israel**



See page 36 for details



# HebrewLesson



*Keep your eye on the goal...*

By John J. Parsons

אָדָם לֵהֶבֶל דָּמָה יָמָיו כְּצֵל עוֹבֵר

“Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow.” – Psalm 144:4

אָ	דָּ	מָ	הֶ	בֶּ	לֵ	יָ	מָ	יָ	כְּ	צֵ	עוֹ	בֵּ
(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)
o-veir	ke'tzel	ya-mav	da-mah	la-he-vel	a-dam							
passing	as a shadow	his days	is like	for vanity	man							

**Sometimes we seem to forget that we are not home yet.** Socrates said that philosophy, when done correctly, was “practice for death,” since the passing shadows of this world pointed to unchanging good, the true end of our lives. Likewise, Jesus taught us to take up the cross and die daily (Luke 9:23). This is the way back home.

**It is difficult for us to die, to let go,** however, because we are attached to this world, and we often abide under the illusion that we will live forever, that tomorrow will resemble today, and that Heaven can wait. History is littered with crumbling monuments offered to the idols of this world. The Scriptures are clear, however: “The present form (τὸ σὰρξ) of this world is passing away” (1 Cor. 7:31), and the heart of faith seeks a city whose designer and builder is God Himself (Heb. 11:10) so we do not lose sight of what is real, abiding, and true. “Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.... For the things that are seen are turning to dust, but the things that are unseen endure forever” (2 Cor. 4:16,18). Because of our sin, creation was made “subject to vanity,” though God has overcome the dust of death by giving us an unshakable hope (Rom. 8:20).

The truth that *hakol oveir* (הַכֹּל עוֹבֵר), “everything passes” like a shadow, should help us keep our perspective regarding the various moments of testing we all face in this life. As Rabbi Nachman of Breslov once said, “The whole earth is a very narrow bridge, and the important thing is never to be afraid.” Jesus is the Bridge to the Father, the narrow way of passage that leads to life. He has overcome the world and its vanities. He calls out to us in the midst of the storm saying, “Take heart. It is I; be not afraid” (Matt. 14:27).

A principle of spiritual life is that we descend in order to ascend, or “the way up is the way down” (see Mark 10:44). In order to say, “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,” you must let go of your own agenda; your ego must be deposed from its petty little kingdom. Likewise, you can’t say, “Come, Lord Jesus” by putting your fear first, or by otherwise demanding that your life should center on your own personal advent. No, you must consciously choose to live in exile to this world (Gal. 6:14). How can we ever expect the LORD to live out His life through us if we do not genuinely offer our lives to Him? ★



To  
Index



# ZLM Store

FEATURED  
ITEMS

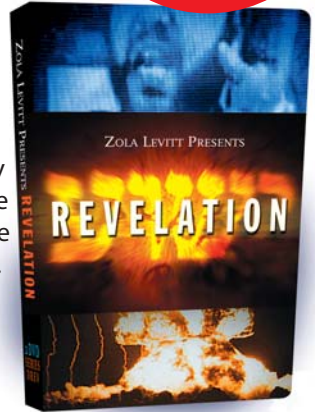
## Revelation DVDs

TV Series on two 90-minute DVDs

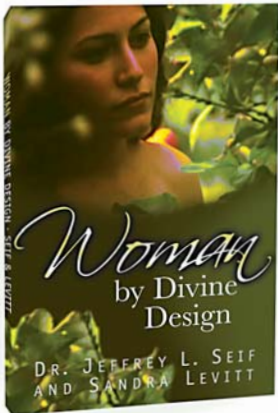
It grows more and more difficult to make programs on end-times prophecy. Events threaten to overtake the relatively slower speed of television production. This series will provide a real "revelation" to those who want to be informed about the onward march of Islam and the oncoming Tribulation Period.

The six 30-minute programs include:

- Koran vs. Bible
- On Pain of Death
- Born in Bethlehem
- A License to Kill
- 35 Life Sentences
- Cowardice at Princeton



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



## Woman By Divine Design Book

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif and Mrs. Sandra Levitt

An original and refreshing look at what Jesus and Paul said to, for, and about women. Jeff and Sandra survey the writings of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John and go through Paul's letters in assessing God's purpose for womankind. Understanding how Jesus and Paul harked back to OT mandates will cause readers to more deeply appreciate Jesus and to reassess Paul.

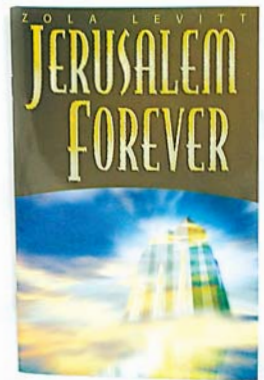
Order book online at:  
<http://store.levitt.com/WDD>  
(or see page 18)

Note: The video on this topic is called  
***She Shall Be Called Woman.***

## Jerusalem Forever Booklet

Zola wrote that no other city in the world can claim God's personal favor like Jerusalem. Over 3,000 years old, Jerusalem is much more than the seat of the Chosen People in the Promised Land. It is literally an eternal city. Every Believer will eventually make Jerusalem his home for 1,000 years plus eternity.

This booklet's look at Jerusalem's past, present, and future will inspire you to praise God for His faithfulness, and motivate you to pray for the peace of Jerusalem as never before.

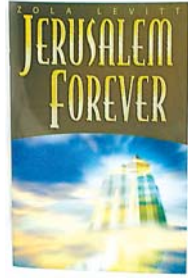


Order book online at:  
<http://store.levitt.com/JF>  
(or see page 18)



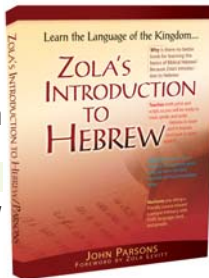
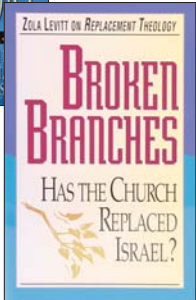
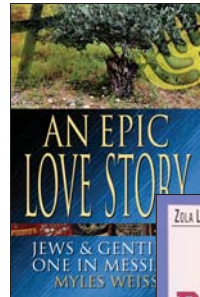
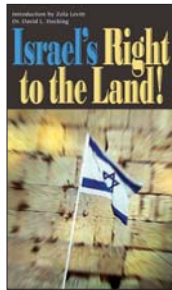
**Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library**

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel	\$3	_____
___	The Miracle of Passover	\$3	_____
___	How Can a Gentile Be Saved?	\$3	_____
___	A Christian Love Story	\$3	_____
___	The Second Coming	\$3	_____
___	Seven Churches	\$3	_____
___	Spirit of Pentecost	\$3	_____
___	Glorious! The Believers' Future	\$3	_____
___	The Promised Land	\$3	_____
___	In My Father's House	\$3	_____
___	Israel, My Promised	\$3	_____
___	<b>Jerusalem Forever</b>	\$4	_____
___	<b>Mix or Match: 50 Above Classic Study Booklets</b>	<b>\$49</b>	_____



**Books**

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

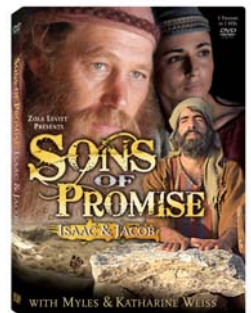


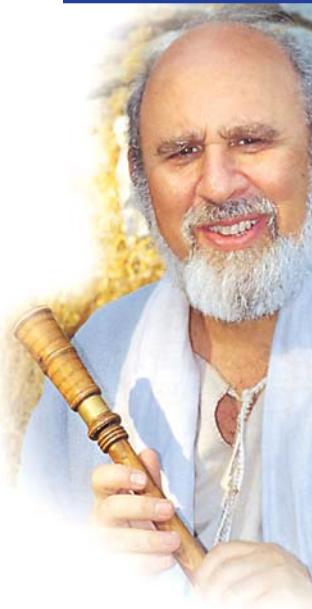
**Order online at**  
[store.levitt.com](http://store.levitt.com)  
**By phone call:**  
**1-800-966-3377**  
**Or remove this entire 2-pg. form, fill out box at right & mail to**  
**ZLM, Box 12268**  
**Dallas, TX 75225**

**Featured DVDs**

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	Abraham: Father of Faith (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	Bad Moon Rising (8-30 min prog., 2 DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	<b>The Gospel According to Isaiah</b> (8 prg., 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	The Bible: The Whole Story (7 prog., 2-DVDs)	\$39	_____
___	Israel, My Love (6-30 min prog., 2 DVDs)	\$39	_____
___	The Miracle of Passover (2 programs, 1-DVD)	\$19	_____
___	<b>Revelation</b> (6 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$39	_____
___	Ruth (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	Seven Feasts of Israel (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	<b>New! Sons of Promise</b> (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	The Warrior King (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____

**NEW Item**





**Studies, Specialty, Etc.**

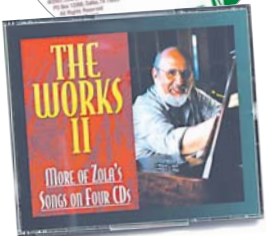
**UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEM!**

Qty.	Item	Price	Total
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>"Grafted In" Gold Decal</b> (1.2" x 3" hand-cut)	\$2	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	"Pray for Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker	\$2	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Half-shekel Key Chain	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jerusalem Journeystone	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jewish Heritage Calendar (2014)	\$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Matzoh Postcards (pack of 12)	\$8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Messianic Prophecy Scroll</b>	\$35	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem	\$12	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pilgrims' Map of The Holy Land	\$6	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flag of Israel (3' x 5')	\$10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark	2 for \$1	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zola's Notebook (The Bible: The Whole Story)	\$25	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies</b> (info only)	no charge	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	TV Program Airing Schedule	no charge	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guide To Your Christian Will	\$2	_____



**Teaching CDs by Zola**

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coming: The End! Russia & Israel	CD \$7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discovering Our Jewish Roots	(9 CDs) \$39	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jesus, The Jew's Jew	CD \$7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Miracle of Passover	CD \$7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Seven Feasts of Israel	CD \$7	_____



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

<input type="checkbox"/>	The Works (Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Works 2 (Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	To The Heavens Poberejny family (Music CD)	\$14	_____

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

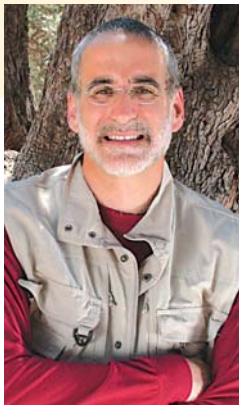


<p><b>Please Fill Out Area Below and Send the Entire Page.</b></p> <p><b>Shipping &amp; Handling Chart</b> For shipments outside the United States, please <b>DOUBLE</b> shipping. Please send U.S. funds.                  up to \$15.99, add \$5                  \$16 to \$30.99, add \$7                  \$31 to \$60.99, add \$9                  \$61 to \$100, add \$10                  over \$100, add \$12                  (Please allow about 2-3 weeks for delivery.)</p>		<p>Subtotal _____</p> <p>Shipping (See left chart) _____</p> <p>UPS shipping (\$4 extra) _____</p> <p>Rush! (\$5 extra) _____</p> <p>8 1/4% Tax (Texas only) _____</p> <p>Donation _____</p> <p>Total _____</p>
<p>Any amount that exceeds the listed price is considered a tax-deductible gift to our ministry.</p> <p>Name _____                  (please print)</p> <p>Shipping Address _____</p> <p>Billing Address (if different) _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Email Address (optional): _____</p> <p>On what station/network do you primarily watch our programs? _____</p> <p>Donor # _____ Phone No. (_____) _____                  (See number above your name on mailing label)</p> <p>My check is enclosed for \$ _____ or, Please charge \$ _____ to: _____</p> <p>Card # _____ Exp. ____ / ____ Card ID# required _____</p>		<p> </p> <p>Cardholder's Signature _____</p>

## The Gospel According to Isaiah

Eight 30-minute TV programs on Two DVDs

The Gospel of Isaiah, written 700 years before Christ, reveals the Jewish nature of our Messiah and the fulfillment of His coming as the Lamb of God. See why New Testament authors have quoted Isaiah more than any other Old Testament source and why this Old Testament narrative is often called the 5th Gospel.



**Jesus' Birth** Dr. Jeffrey Seif takes us through the drama of Jesus' miraculous birth as described by Isaiah the Prophet. Isaiah foretold that the Messiah would come as a "root out of dry ground" and that "His name shall be called Immanuel, meaning *God with us.*"

**Jesus' Rejection** "He was despised and rejected by men." Jeff explains that the theme of rejecting God's anointed is not new to Isaiah. On location at an ancient Jewish synagogue, we learn that the Messiah who was rejected shall one day be vindicated. Zola teaches Jesus' prophetic fulfillment of Isaiah 53 (from *Prophesied Messiah* series).

**Jesus' Condemnation** At the Church of the Gallicantu, Jeff explores the story of Jesus' arrest and condemnation by the Pharisees and Pilate. Believed to be the location of Caiaphas' house, the Gallicantu is where Peter denied the Lord three times before the rooster crowed.

**Jesus' Death** How can a Jewish Messiah be "numbered with the transgressors?" In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jeff reports on Jesus' suffering as foreseen by Isaiah to fulfill a final blood atonement for the entire world. We see a dramatic exploration of Jesus' sacrifice for sins, and Zola playing "For His Name's Sake."

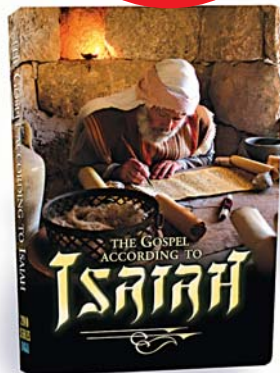
**Jesus' Resurrection** The concept of resurrection from the dead did not originate in the New Testament. Isaiah prophesied that Christ the Messiah would conquer death and the grave. Witness a celebration of Jesus' miraculous fulfillment of prophecy. In addition, Zola and Dr. Michael Wise discuss Messianic prophecy from the Dead Sea Scrolls.

**Holy Spirit** Jesus told his disciples, "You are the light of the world." At the Temple Mount's Southern Steps, Jeff teaches the prophetic nature of the Holy Spirit as fulfilled by Jesus and spread to all Believers like a fire from on high. Zola plays special music from our series *Tell It On the Mountains*.

**Rebounding from Devastation** At the ruins of a first-century estate, Jeff explores the prophecy of Jesus as the Deliverer. God sent the Messiah to set the captives free and heal the broken-hearted. Discover the Hebrew meaning behind the Lord's Prayer, and enjoy an enlightening interview with Zola and Ra'anán Gissin, a former Senior Advisor to Ariel Sharon.

**Summary** Atop the Mount of Olives, Jeff reviews the entirety of Isaiah's prophecy concerning the Jewish Messiah's birth, rejection, death, and resurrection. Nevertheless, Jesus' active role in prophecy will not be completely fulfilled until He returns to Jerusalem to rule and reign for 1,000 years.

*(Please see page 18 to order.)*



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



# Panera Bread, Zola's Buffet, and Fighting Spiritual Starvation

A NOTE FROM MARK / By Mark Levitt



*The excerpted Associated Press article below may remind you of our Bible-teaching ministry. My observations follow in blue. —Mark*

## **Panera Bread** \$5.89 Suggested Price.

In an anti-hunger effort, Panera Bread is experimenting with a “Meal of Shared Responsibility”—Turkey Chili in a Bread Bowl, available in St. Louis, Missouri stores for whatever the customer chooses to pay.

**Zola's Buffet** Why Suggest? Panera admirably offers a free turkey chili meal to those who can't pay. ZLM delivers Bible teaching from Israel to your TV (*Zola Levitt Presents*), to your mailbox (the *Levitt Letter*), and on your computer, your iPad, smartphone, etc. ([www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)). Our website's menu features a buffet of archives of news magazines and TV programs, live chat plus a discussion board, daily devotionals and music selections, and much more, all for free.

**Panera Bread** 60% Pay. Roughly 60 percent of Panera customers pay the suggested retail price. The rest are evenly split between those who pay more and those who pay less. “We hope the donations offset those who ... leave nothing,” said Ron Shaich, Panera's co-CEO.

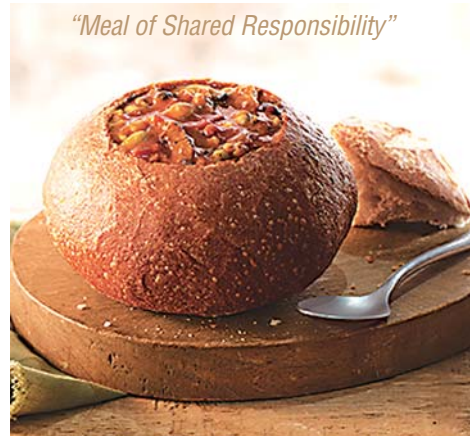
**Zola's Buffet** 3% Donate. Sales of our teaching materials account for only 10% of our gross revenue. The other 90%, from donors who embrace our vision, comes from only 3% of those who see our TV program. Such Spartan participation speaks to the efficiency of how many hungry souls we can feed with just a little help from our friends.

## **Panera Bread** \$2 Per Student.

Payment-by-donation doesn't always work. Chicago's Yogaview (with three yoga studios) tried a donation-only format; it lasted nearly two years. Co-owner Tom Quinn observed, “You'd get

a class with six people and there would be 12 bucks in donations. It got frustrating to see how some people weren't owning up to it.”

**Zola's Buffet** Better Than Yoga, Costs Less. Considering that only 1 in 33 of our “students” (viewers) contributes, our survival theoretically should require \$300 per month from each supporter. However, we get by on much less, yet impact the eternal lives of many more than all yoga empires combined.



**Panera Bread** Willing to Care. Shaich is optimistic despite seeing well-to-do frat boys leaving without paying a dime. Some people were generous. Even those clearly in need dug into their pockets. “A lot of cynics think Americans are just gaming the system,” Shaich explained. “Our experience is very different. People do the right thing and are willing to take care of each other.”

**Zola's Buffet** Even the Neediest Dig Deep. This ministry's supporters act on their profound spiritual need to *feed their neighbor*. Then God blesses them, donor and diner alike, with much more than a tummy full of turkey chili. Those unable to fill their own bowl get fed free, and with a smile. They are the hungry sheep that God commanded you and us to nourish.

Will you kindly join us feeders? ★



# Letters to ZIM

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

**From J.T. (SC):** I've already created the headstone for my grave; it has the Star of David with the cross in the center. The scripture reference to Jew and gentile, all one in Jesus Christ is my epitaph (Galatians 3:28).

**From B.C. (PA):** I love Zola's book *Broken Branches* [see p. 18] and ordered 14 to pass out to other gentile Christians so they can understand our Jewish roots in Yeshua.

**From B.G. (LA):** Love the way you weave Zola's teaching through your programs. It is a blessing. Keep up the good work.

**From B.H. (AZ):** Appreciate the Zola Internet television at [www.levitt.tv](http://www.levitt.tv). Watching your program in the HD option looks better than my regular TV service.

**From P.A.B. (AR):** I want to learn God's Word more intimately, not only to help myself, but to be able to speak intelligently when asked about my faith. I believe that we should be able to answer with a truth that will draw people toward salvation.

**From YouTube:** I have loved your program *Zola Levitt Presents* ever since I first saw it on TV several years ago. I adore the biblical music and teaching and everything. Thank you for sharing it on YouTube.

**From M.M.M.:** on *Sons of Promise: The Bridegroom and the Bride...* THANK YOU, THANK YOU for this YouTube channel! How about the *Genesis One* series? – You can see all of our TV programs, old and new, at [www.levitt.tv](http://www.levitt.tv) – free for the clicking! – Mark



**From M.S. (NY):** I am a senior citizen anxious to get my house in order. I find great love and forgiveness when studying the Scriptures. I think ZLM is among the greatest teachers.

**From A.M.:** I hope the booklets I'm ordering will not be damaged in the mail. –The shipping charge includes suitable packaging to ensure a safe arrival. And our shipping manager, Debbie, includes a little TLC (conscientious handling) with every package. –Mark

**From E.D.:** I tried to make a repeating donation, but I felt it was not an easy process to complete. –Our webmaster, Greg, appreciates suggestions for improving our website; and you can write to him directly at [webmaster@levitt.com](mailto:webmaster@levitt.com). He has devoted significant effort lately to make it almost as easy to contribute to this ministry as it is to learn from it. –Mark

## I Miss My Zola

Dear ZLM,

I walk every morning with my 84-year-old mother. I mentioned that I no longer get the *Levitt Letter*, and the next morning she showed up with two *Levitt Letters* in hand. She read me all her favorite stories as we walked. I knew at that point that I must get my own copy. –H.W.G. (FL)

Shalom, H.W.G!–

We are gladly sending you our *Levitt Letter* again. Happy to hear your mother has been a faithful supporter of the ministry. –Myles and Katharine



## Paying the Way for Others

Dear Mark,

Just received my copy of the *Levitt Letter* for May 2013. I really enjoy reading it along with *The Jerusalem Post Christian Edition*. Just trying to keep current on the world in and around the Promised Land.

Regarding the letter "No More Mooch Mail," I have just prayed for S.H. in Arkansas. We empathize with her as we are also retired and have lost big chunks of our meager retirement. But, as we continue to give our tithes and offerings, God continues to bless. I am sending a small offering to help S.H. continue to receive her *Levitt Letter*.

Blessings, –D.O'B. (FL)

Dear ZLM,

This check is for people like S.H. who believe you are moochers. I hope she continues reading your literature. Praise God for you! –D.B. (IL)

Dear D.O'B. and D.B.–

Thank you both for your donations to assist readers like S.H. Please also pray for M.J. (*next page*). –Shalom, Mark

**“Disgraceful” Treatment**

Dear Sirs,

I think it’s absolutely disgraceful and ungodly how you have treated me. Twice you discontinued sending me the monthly magazine, and twice I called explaining that I wasn’t working but still wanted the *Levitt Letter*. The third time you stop, I don’t intend to call. How many times do I have to call before you stop this practice? —M.J. (FL)

Dear M.J.—

Thanks for alerting us to your distress regarding our ministry’s free *Levitt Letters*. Prior to our discontinuing your subscription, you should have received a card to return in an envelope with prepaid postage. We firmly believe it’s a matter of good stewardship to require an affirmation at least annually from our readers to ensure they’re still reading.

Many move without telling us; others suddenly meet their maker (they don’t tell us either). In order to make the most of contributions from supporters like D.O’B. and D.B. (p.23), we must know that our printing and postage are going to good use. Fortunately, even after your mailbox runs dry, you can see all of our *Levitt Letters*, including years of archives, at [www.levitt.com/levletter](http://www.levitt.com/levletter). —Blessings, Mark

**Blessings from Prison**

Dear ZLM,

I just want to thank you for fulfilling the Lord’s mandate to “visit those in prison.” Every *Levitt Letter* I receive helps to educate and inspire my faith. I have contributed to your ministry financially and hope to do more. Please continue to teach the truths in God’s Word, as I will continue to pray from behind bars for the peace of Jerusalem. —God bless, K.A.B. (OH)

Dear K.A.B.—

We really appreciate your understanding of our mission and purpose. Regarding your gratitude about our sending the *Levitt Letter* to you in prison, duly noted. You should know that over 2,000 prisoners receive our monthly magazine. That is one of the reasons we ask for funds from those who can give. Their generosity allows us to send our info to folks who may not be able to pay their own way. Every donation makes a difference, especially with the cost of bringing programs on-air from on-location in Israel. —Blessings, Myles



*Left: Popular (but naive) bumper sticker design.*

*Below: Redesigned by an artist who sees reality.*





**Women Teachers?**

Dear Myles,

I would like about eight *Levitt Letters* to pass around. I also have a couple of questions: What's with the debate about women preachers? I feel if they're gifted to preach, let them preach. Women pick up the slack, shaming the men who won't do the job.

It'd take a miracle to unite all the warring Church bodies to do the Lord's work. Thoughts?  
—M.W.M. (TX)

*“Let them preach.”*

Shalom M.W.M.—

Thanks for the note of support, and your desire to spread our *Levitt Letters* around. Regarding your questions: First, the debate over women preachers is more culturally driven than biblically based. It mirrors patriarchal tendencies more than the scriptural place of women.

Throughout the *Tanakh* and *B'rit Hadashah* (Old and New Testaments), there are righteous women of faith who did mighty, valiant things for God. Think of Deborah, Esther, Ruth, Priscilla, and Lydia. These were world changers in their day. I personally have found that women teachers thrive when connected to a husband or pastoral covering for their own spiritual safety. In Hebrew thought, women have a place of honor in the home and in the society.

Paul even included a woman in his salutation to the Roman apostles: *Salute Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen, and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me* (Romans 16:7). Personally, I thank God for Sandra Levitt-Turner and Katharine Weiss; I learn from many gifted women.

Second, unity in the Church is one of God's greatest desires. Our 2,000-year history is fraught with division and sectarianism. Although it is now a controversial paradigm, wouldn't it be ironic if the eventual recognition of our Hebrew roots brings about the unity that has evaded us all these centuries? We may yet see a Psalm 133/John 17 awakening when the Church universal embraces our Hebrew roots! —Myles

**Missing the Important, Including the Sick**

Dear ZLM,

I was shocked that the March *Levitt Letter* had no mention of Passover. It's when we celebrate our Savior's resurrection. Also, I dislike the Islamic coverage. Who publishes in a Judeo/Christian magazine what a Muslim child molester/rapist does to his own daughter? It's sick! —C.L. (NC)

Dear C.L.—

I'm not sure how you missed March's cover story of Jesus celebrating the Feasts, or Katharine Weiss's column comparing the Passover "soundtrack" with the scenario depicted in Revelation. Even so, this ministry has written a lot about the Feasts of Israel over the years, all accessible at [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com).

As for the Islamic coverage: We try to let readers know what the mainstream media think is too inconsequential to report. Many disgusting events take place that outrage even "moderate" Muslims. We report the outrageous events that are condoned by Islamic clergy—many not considered desirable, but not punishable either. The punishments themselves are barbaric. It's not due to a cultural difference; it's the difference between Allah's Koran and God's Bible, and it's a wide gulf. —Editor ★

# Israeli Hi-Tech Helped Capture Boston Bombers

Israeli Advances  
in Science &  
Medicine



SCIENCE: By Tzvi Ben-Gedalyahu / JewishPress.com

An Israeli hi-tech company with an office in metropolitan Boston was instrumental in helping to identify and lead to the arrest of the Boston Marathon terrorists. BriefCam, Inc.'s technology enabled investigators to summarize an hour of surveillance video footage into only one minute and also zoom in on people and objects whose movements changed during the filming. The system then tracked those movements from the beginning of the video.

"The technology used by U.S. security forces has already been installed around the world in police, HLS, intelligence entities and others, saving time and manpower and also providing a solution for the vast challenge of growing amounts of recorded video produced every hour, every day," *Israel Defense* reported. The system is based on the concept of allowing the simultaneous display of several events. Once a certain movement or area is identified, the system tracks it during the entire film.

Amit Gavish, general manager for the Americas at BriefCam, based in Farmington, Connecticut, explained how it works. "If you have 10 hours to investigate on a specific camera, the software will take it to a 10-minute clip... events that occurred during those 10 hours will be presented simultaneously." Gavish,



*Israel's BriefCam sophisticated video analysis system helped ID Boston Marathon terrorists*

who is the former deputy head of security for the Office of the President of Israel, said each event is "tagged" and marked with a time stamp on screen, so the viewer is watching events that happened hours apart, at the same instant. "We are the search engine for video," he added.

BriefCam and other sophisticated video systems have caught the eye of mass transit and port systems. "Most of these large cities have already been going down the path to do exactly what everybody's wondering if they're going to do. They're not just putting in thousands of cameras, they're putting in tens of thousands of cameras," said David Gerulski, vice president of Texas-based BRS Labs, which installs artificial intelligence systems for video surveillance. He said that the old-fashioned surveillance cameras do not play a major part in helping to uncover terrorism or thwart crime, and many cities simply "shut them off."

BriefCam's product is in use in the United States, Israel, China, Taiwan, and other countries and was used after the massacre in Oslo in 2011, in which 77 people, including children, were murdered. In the case of the Boston Marathon bombings, U.S. Park Police Technology Services Commander David Mulholland explained, "There may have been 500 people who walked in that general area, but the analytics piece will ignore that and flag anything that changed in that one specific area, such as a backpack being left behind. So instead of spending 20 minutes looking at video in which nothing happens, the investigator can hit a button and in 30 seconds go to the area of interest and then begin to dissect what actually happened." ★

# American-Israeli Collaboration Awarded Grant to Study Measles

MEDICINE: AABGU.org



In April, American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (AABGU) announced that Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) and Fox Chase Cancer Center (FCCC) in Philadelphia have received a two-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grant to observe “the role of host encoded microRNAs in the maintenance of the measles virus persistent state.”

Many viruses are known to persist in their target cells and establish chronic infection long after resolution of their acute phase. A thorough understanding of this interplay between viruses and their host may offer insight into the mechanistic basis of human infectious diseases.

This research collaboration is part of an ongoing agreement between BGU and FCCC to support and facilitate scientific and clinical exchanges, as well as to encourage collaborations and joint research between scientists and physicians.

Fox Chase and Ben-Gurion formalized their relationship in 2008, but it actually began in 2003 as a partnership spearheaded by AABGU’s National Vice President Alton I. Sutnick, M.D. *(pictured)*.

Sutnick, founder of the Health Sciences and Academic Affiliations Committee of AABGU’s Mid-Atlantic Region, is a physician and former dean of the Medical College of Pennsylvania (now the Drexel University School of Medicine). Through this partnership, he sought to explore the genetic risks of cancer and incorporate these factors into clinical practice across cultural settings.

AABGU plays a vital role in sustaining David Ben-Gurion’s vision, creating a world-class institution of education and research in the Israeli desert, nurturing the Negev community, and sharing the University’s expertise locally and around the globe. With some 20,000 students on campuses in Beersheva, Sde Boker, and Eilat in Israel’s southern desert, BGU is a university with a conscience, where the highest academic standards are integrated with community involvement and are committed to sustainable development of the Negev. ★



*Ben-Gurion University of the Negev*





# How Photographers Help Shape The News

BY ANAV SILVERMAN / jpost.com *(Also see related item on p.15.)*

An Associated Press photo dated November 14, 2012 depicted a weeping Palestinian man, Jihad al-Masharawi, holding the body of his dead 11-month-old son, Omar. *(see photo below)*

Initially, the heart-wrenching photo was followed by an article claiming that the infant son of Masharawi, a BBC Arabic reporter, was killed in an Israeli air strike. The photo went viral on social media and was published in major international newspapers.

Recently, the United Nations released a report clarifying that the baby and two adult relatives were “killed by what appeared to be a Palestinian rocket that fell short of Israel.” The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which published the report, said that Palestinian terrorists had been firing rockets at Israel near Masharawi’s home and that the type of injuries suffered by the Masharawi family were typical of [Hamas] rocket shrapnel.

Such “symbolic” photos have often found their way into news media coverage of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

It is the capture of a single moment, a split-second version of the truth. But if it is an effective photograph, it moves the viewer toward a larger truth.

The question that follows is who decides what is the larger truth? Is it the photo? The photojournalist? The media? Or the general public? What if the verbal framing of the photo or the news clip is misleading or an outright lie? This phenomenon has time and again placed Israel in a terrible light.

*(continued next page)*



To  
Index



*Jihad al-Masharawi, holding the body of his dead 11-month-old son, Omar. Who killed Omar?*

# Photographers: Continued

Tuvia Grossman



An AP photo of a bloodied American yeshiva student, Tuvia Grossman (*top right*), who during the second intifada in 2000 was incorrectly portrayed as a Palestinian beaten by an Israeli policeman, illustrated the misconceived narrative.

Italian photojournalist Ruben Salvadori lived in Jerusalem for four years. He says that news photos of the Arab-Israeli conflict often lack any understanding or depth because of market demand for a specific type of photo.

In a documentary, he shows the making of a dramatic photo of a young Palestinian standing in a defiant position, with smoke and fire smoldering behind him, as "an example of the type of photo that the media market requires from us."

"This is what we have to create if we want to sell," he explains. Subsequently, "this pushes many photojournalists to seek and create this drama even when the situation lacks it."

He believes that the presence of even just one photographer can influence people to act for the camera. Media presence often turns the conflict into a show in which the photographer is an actor with a role, not just an impassive, neutral observer.

After photographing some weekly riots in east Jerusalem, Salvadori began questioning his role in the ensuing scenes. "I started asking myself questions about our role as photographers and the implications of our presence on the field," he says.

His observations, which he describes as "anthropological," led to a larger issue and a need to "spark debate over the ethics of our profession." ★

Another indictment of the mainstream media and another good reason for us to continue our work at the *Levitt Letter*. —Myles



# SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS



Csanad Szegedi

## Anti-Semite Discovers He's Jewish

By Pablo Gorondi / Associated Press

As a rising star in Hungary's far-right Jobbik Party, Csanad Szegedi was noted for his incendiary comments on Jews: He accused them of "buying up" the country, railed about the "Jewishness" of the political elite, and claimed Jews were desecrating national symbols.

Then came a revelation that knocked him off his perch as the ultra-nationalist standard-bearer: Szegedi himself is a Jew.

Following weeks of Internet rumors, Szegedi acknowledged finally that his grandparents on his mother's side were Jews — making him one too under Jewish law, even though he doesn't practice the faith. His grandmother was an Auschwitz survivor and his grandfather a veteran of forced labor camps.

## Cleric Rules Rape of Non-Sunni Women Acceptable

International Business Times  
IBTimes.co.uk

In April, a Salafist cleric called Sheikh Yasir al-Ajlawni posted a YouTube video claiming the rape of non-Sunni and non-Muslim women was acceptable by the Koran's standards. He was referring to rebel fighters in the ongoing Syrian conflict.

He claimed it a "legitimate *fatwa* for Muslims waging war against Mr. Assad and trying to put in place a *sharia* [Islamic law] government to capture and have sex with Alawites and other non-Sunni, non-Muslim women."

Salafist and Wahhabist ideologies are considered to be ultra-conservative branches among Sunni Muslims, and such kinds of bizarre decrees and *fatwas* (a ruling on a point of Islamic law) coming from clerics belonging to these sects are not uncommon.

## Army Dogs Get Serial Numbers

By Yossi Yehoshua  
YNetNews.com



The Ground Forces Computer Services Directorate of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) has implemented a unique computer project focusing on the combat canines. Every dog has been given a personnel file documenting all its information from the moment it joined the unit until its release. And, of course, there is a photo.

The personnel file includes all the details a commander needs to know about his furry charge — where it was born, when it joined the unit, what training it had completed, what operations it had participated in, level of operational preparedness, and accreditations the dog had earned. This means, for example, after a dog passes the unit test on the course at Mitkan Adam, this is listed in its file.

In addition to operational information, the file includes medical background such as current state of health, types of immunizations received, and treatments the dog has had throughout its service. With information shared with the IDF's chief veterinarian, dogs can be tracked and given appropriate healthcare.





## It Would Hurt Us to Boycott Israel

By Tim Harcourt / [TheAustralian.com.au](http://TheAustralian.com.au)

Targeting Israel by boycotting products and people connected to Israel is counterproductive to trade, international relations, and peace between Israel, the Palestinians, and Arab nations.

Much of this activity takes place on university campuses, particularly the University of New South Wales (UNSW), where we saw a small but tense protest against the opening of a Max Brenner chocolate shop.

Putting aside that Jewish shops were targeted in 1933 by the Nazis—and we wouldn't expect one to be targeted in Australia in 2013—what about the economics of the boycott on UNSW?

Many medicines are manufactured by Israel's Teva Pharmaceuticals, the largest generic drug company in the world. AZT and hypericin-based drugs that help HIV and AIDS sufferers were developed or improved following research at the Weizmann Institute of Science or the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Sufferers of diabetes would not be able to use insulin measuring and injecting devices created by Israeli scientists. Patients with multiple sclerosis would be denied Copaxone. Ditto for sufferers of Parkinson's disease, strokes, Alzheimer's, epilepsy, glaucoma, brain tumors, or those in need of a kidney transplant.

UNSW would also have to remove all Intel Pentium and Celeron computer processor chips from personal computers, as these were developed or manufactured in Israel. Anti-virus software and personal firewalls would also need to be removed. All Microsoft operating systems would have to be boycotted, as Microsoft is heavily reliant on its Israeli research and development center.

Likewise for mobile phones, as this technology was developed in Israel, where the first mobile phones were manufactured.

In agriculture, we'd have to give up products that use irrigation and agricultural technology provided by Israel, including many in Africa, Asia, and much of the emerging world. We'd have to boycott many fruits and vegetables enhanced using Israeli technology. It would also affect Israeli-developed water-saving and sewage-treatment technology used worldwide. Disaster relief has employed Israeli resources and technical assistance in Africa, Haiti, and Chile, and humanitarian disasters around the world.

Finally, if the boycott affected economists with links to Israel through teaching, visiting, honorary degrees, or joint research, we would have to stop teaching the textbooks of many Nobel prize-winning economists. Think Samuelson, Fischer, Solow, Friedman, Arrow, Klein, Liebenstein, Kahn, Sraffa, Kaldor, Lerner, Krugman, Feldstein, Kindleberger, and many more. It would wipe out most of our human capital in economics and the social sciences in general.

A boycott would hurt the poor and the sick, and undermine food security and the campaign to end world hunger, which would undermine efforts to find a peaceful resolution to the Middle East. I'm very proud that my employer, UNSW, has said that although it encourages free expression and open debate on campus, it deplores all forms of racism and anti-Semitism. We must ensure university campuses remain tolerant, safe, diverse, and respectful in the true Australian democratic tradition. ★

*Tim Harcourt is the JW Nevile fellow in economics at the University of NSW's Australian School of Business.*



To  
Index

# U.S. Government Agency Preserves Cemeteries in Europe

BY BEN ZEHAZI / TimesOfIsrael.com



There are two Hebrew words for cemetery: *beit-kvarot* (house of graves) and *beit-olam* (eternal home). The former evokes the past, conjuring images of concrete headstones, while the latter suggests there is more to the place than its infrastructure. A cemetery is a reminder of the lasting, ongoing influence of those who came before us.

Lesley Weiss [no relation to Myles] understands this. In January, President Obama appointed Weiss as Chairperson of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad, a body established by law “to identify and report on cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings in Eastern and Central Europe associated with Americans and to obtain assurances from foreign governments that these properties will be preserved.”

Many, but not all, of the commission’s projects are focused on Jewish sites in former Communist Bloc countries that have fallen into disrepair in the decades since World War II due to inadequate care, commercial interests, and the effects of time.

“My mom is a Holocaust survivor ... from the Carpathian Ukraine and there’s nothing left in her town,” Weiss says. “There’s no synagogue and there are no Jews.”

“When this generation dies, nothing will stand in their place that can speak to us about that lost heritage except the physical sites of their former lives.”

In Central and Eastern Europe, the state of Jewish cemeteries and abandoned community buildings is grim.

*(continued next page)*

*Jewish gravestone*





# Cemeteries: Continued



Thousands of sites are decaying as small Jewish communities lack the resources necessary for their care. In places like Poland and the Czech Republic, surviving communities of a few thousand are responsible for the upkeep of massive cemeteries that were administered by far larger Jewish centers before the war.

“Out of 750 Jewish burial grounds in Slovakia, we can afford to take care of only 150 – and even that is a major burden,” Slovakian Jewish community leader Martin Kornfeld said. “The cemeteries can drain tens of thousands of dollars from a budget stretched to cover the senior home, kindergarten, summer camps – the trappings of a living, breathing community.”

Last year, a special Council of Europe rapporteur for Jewish cemeteries found a number of instances of burial grounds in Eastern Europe that have been turned into “residential areas, public gardens, leisure parks, army grounds, and storage sites – some have been turned into lakes.”



*Workers restore the memorial at the Jewish cemetery in Radom, Poland. (Photo: Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland)*

The mandate of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad is not limited to Jewish-related burial sites or places.

Although the 1986 law establishing the commission was fueled largely by the concerns of American Orthodox Jews for cemeteries in Eastern and Central Europe, the (all volunteer) 21-member independent U.S. government agency works to preserve foreign sites of significance to all Americans.

For instance, the agency has identified 22 places of importance related to foreign-born heroes of the American Revolution who fought with colonists against the English.

But Weiss says the “destruction, desecration, and deterioration of [Jewish] properties under the Nazis and subsequent Communist regimes” was unique and guides the commission’s priorities.



*Gravestones from the Jewish cemetery in Serock, Poland. (Photo: US Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad)*



To Index

## The Church of Scotland's Freudian Slip

BY TSVI SADAN / *Israel Today*

The Church of Scotland's recent report on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from a Christian perspective was titled "The Inheritance of Abraham – A Report on the Promised Land." You won't be able to find this report online, as it was quickly removed from the church's website following sharp protest from Scotland's Jewish community and Israeli officials.

There was nothing new in the report, per se. The Church of Scotland's anti-Israel stance has been consistent. But the document did, in its brief time, reveal the true reason behind the church's vehement opposition to the Jewish state.

The Church of Scotland's anti-Israel position has nothing to do with human rights, but rather a theological argument. As I have said repeatedly, all the human rights accusations against Israel are nothing more than a clever mask for modern anti-Semitism, and the Church of Scotland's theological argument is proof of this.

In its conclusion, the church document made the startling claim that only the dissolution of Jewish sovereignty in the Holy Land would bring "peace and security and human rights," and eliminate "racial intolerance, especially in the forms of anti-Semitism and Islamophobia." The Bible was used to support this vile and twisted moral position.

After providing scriptural "evidence" from Palestinian theologians, the document went on to state that "the lack of detailed archaeological evidence supports the view that the range of scriptural material makes it inappropriate to try to use the Hebrew scriptures to determine an area of land meant exclusively for the Jewish people."

Another conclusion read: "Exclusivist



tradition implied Jews had a special, privileged position in relation to God. But the prophetic tradition stood against this. The narrative of the Babylonian captivity demonstrated that God was not confined to 'their' land, nor was He concerned only for 'them.'" (*Israel Today's Note: It is important to note that the Jews as a whole have never made such claims. Such libels are the domain of historical Christian anti-Semitism.*)

Another bizarre portion of the church document used the book of Jonah to somehow prove that Israel's existence necessarily breeds evil. According to the Church of Scotland, "The Book of Jonah is a key text for understanding the Hebrew Bible's promise of the land to Abraham and his descendants.... Jonah suggests a new theology of the land, because God was not confined within the Land of Israel, but also embraced the land of Assyria."

The cherry on the cake, so to speak, was the Church of Scotland's referencing of Jesus, who, according to this august body, "offered a radical critique of Jewish specialness and exclusivism ... Jesus' cleansing of the Temple means not just that the Temple needs to be reformed, but that the Temple is finished." Of course, by extension, this also means that the right to Jewish sovereignty in the Land of Israel is finished.

Jews must not stand alone against misuse of Scripture, but must be joined by all who care for truth. ★

# JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.

## God's Cake

Lital is telling her mother how *everything is going wrong*—she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her, and her best friend is moving away.

Meanwhile, her mother is baking a cake and asks Lital if she would like a snack.

"Absolutely, Ima. I love your cake."

"Here, have some cooking oil," her ima offers.

"Yuck," says Lital.

"How about a couple of raw eggs?"

"Gross, Ima!"

"Perhaps some flour then? Or maybe a little baking soda?"

"Ima, those are all yucky!"

Her mother replies: "Yes, all those things seem yucky by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a delicious cake!"

"God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such difficult times. But God knows that when He puts all these things in His order, they always work for good! We just have to trust Him and, eventually, they make something wonderful!"

"God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart." ★

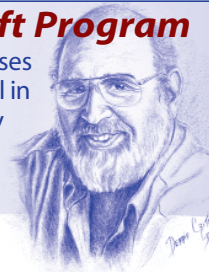


*A cheerful heart is good medicine —*  
Proverbs 17:22



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