



August 2022



## FROM SARAH, OUR *SABRA* ON THE GROUND IN ISRAEL

Dear Friend,

*Shalom* from the Holy Land. In February, I wrote of the primary threats facing the State of Israel in 2022, as detailed in a report from the Israeli Institute for National Security Studies (INSS). The most prominent threat noted by the INSS was a nuclear Iran.

In the 2015 "Iran Nuclear Deal," Iran agreed to dismantle much of its nuclear program and open its facilities to more extensive inspections in exchange for relief from the sanctions costing the country billions of dollars. Since then, however, Iran has resumed its nuclear activities.

### Iran's Nuclear Aspirations

Negotiations between Iran and other countries (including the U.S.) on returning to the 2015 deal slowed to a grinding halt during the first half of 2022. Then in early June, the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) warned that Iran is continuing to pursue its nuclear program while intentionally turning off cameras installed by the agency to monitor activity in its nuclear plants.

"It's a matter of just a few weeks," said **Rafael Grossi**, director general of the IAEA, when asked about the significant quantity of enriched uranium that Iran possesses. While Iran apparently has enough uranium to make a nuclear weapon, Grossi added that this does not mean they have created such a weapon.

Israel, however, does not want to wait until Iran develops a working weapon, something U.S. officials estimate could take up to two years. Therefore, Israel is asking for international support to act against Iran now. **Benny Gantz**, Israel's defense minister, told U.S. officials in May that "the cost of stopping Iran will be higher in one year."

*(over please)*



credit: IAEA Imagebank



*top:* Rafael Grossi  
*bottom:* The logo of the  
International Atomic  
Energy Agency



credit: Avi Ohayon, GPO



*top:* Benny Gantz  
*bottom:* The symbol of  
Israel's Ministry of Defense

## A Battle in Progress

Recently, several top-level security officials in the Israeli government and leaders of secret military development programs (who would normally not reveal themselves) went on record to describe what seems to be a battle already in progress between the two countries. This is unprecedented, yet most of what has been happening is not being reported by the news media.

Most of the world is focused on Iran's nuclear aspirations related to a weapon. But in the Middle East, another threat has prompted historic geopolitical changes and a focus on developing new technology to handle the advancing danger.



Official Iranian Army photo of their drones on display prior to a drill, in an undisclosed location

In Israel we are hearing the terms KATMAM and KATBAM — both of which refer to Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). These remotely piloted drones are a rapidly developing technology. They vary in size from one pound to many tons and may not have the shape of a traditional aircraft. While they provide surveillance and can strike targets using onboard missiles, UAVs can also engage in electronic warfare, destroy enemy air defense systems, and much more.

Imagine this scenario: Two trucks drive on a road in northeast Lebanon, far from Israel. Anyone passing these trucks would likely think they are regular delivery trucks. But each truck stops on the side of the road and opens the back, lifting a ramp. The ramp holds a launcher armed with five "suicide" UAVs (designed to explode on a target), each with a range of over 1,200 miles. Controlled by Hezbollah, the UAVs launch simultaneously toward the Haifa Bay seaport. Even if only one hit its target, the second largest port in Israel would be shut down.

Previously, Iran had no technology that enabled it to effectively attack Israel since the countries are about a thousand miles apart. Now, however, Iran has the capability of striking Israel even from a significant distance.

This threat intensifies when we consider another scenario: Imagine Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen all sending swarms of UAVs to attack Israel at the same time. Currently, we have no way to defend against such an incident.

The number of drone attacks in Israel is growing. In February 2018, an Iranian UAV armed with explosives took off from Syria toward the Samaria region. Israel detected the drone when it reached Israeli airspace and shot it down with an Apache helicopter. More recently, the Israeli Air Force revealed three Iranian-built UAVs that were intercepted after they crossed into Israeli airspace.

## Challenges for Defense

Outside of the technological challenges of dealing with UAVs, there are other problems related to the cost. Developing UAVs is fairly inexpensive, especially compared to the cost of developing larger long-range missiles. This is an easy win for Iran. But using an aircraft to destroy a UAV, if it can be done, is not only costly but also impractical because of the size differences.

How did Iran get these sophisticated capabilities? In 2011, Iran intercepted an expensive UAV built by Lockheed Martin that was flying a reconnaissance mission. Thus, they began developing their own prototypes based on the drone's advanced technology. Later, an Israeli drone went down over Lebanon. Hezbollah sent it to Iran, which used that technology to enhance its drone developments.

In December 2019, a synchronized drone swarm caused great destruction when it hit Saudi Arabian oil production sites. Israel then recognized that Iran's UAVs posed a significant and impending threat.

The attack exposed Saudi Arabia's vulnerability. It also encouraged the speedy signing of the **Abraham Accords** peace agreement between Israel and some Gulf states. These agreements permit Israeli technology and military presence much closer to Iran, thus closer to where the threats originate.

Israel is also preparing multiple levels of defense that include the Israeli Air Force, new technology like the Iron Dome, foreign and domestic intelligence, and more to defend against Iran. We now know that Israel has placed a powerful UAV-detecting radar in the Arab country of Qatar. Until recently, that would have been considered a fantasy.

The most astounding news released in the last few months concerns the interception of two large Iranian UAVs in March 2021 — in the airspace of a country between Israel and Iran (possibly Saudi Arabia). Israeli F-35 fighter jets flew east toward the suspected drones, not knowing what to expect or where they were. It was a dark night, and the UAVs flew very low and slow. The fighter pilots had to locate the drones, slow their aircraft, and then take out their targets before they reached Israel. This was the first time that an F-35 fighter jet had shot down a UAV.

In February of this year, Iran launched two more UAVs toward Israel. American fighter jets shot them down over Iraq. Less than 48 hours later, a drone counter-attack destroyed over 100 Iranian UAVs. The foreign press claimed that Israel carried out this reprisal. While the retaliation revealed attack drones on or near Iranian soil, it also showed that Iran has the capability of launching drone attacks.



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## Our Response

In Psalm 122, David encourages the people: *"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem... For the sake of the house of the Lord our God..."* (Psalm 122:6, 9). David knows that God's presence in Jerusalem — the place of His dwelling on Earth — will be continually attacked. The devil would love to destroy not only the people whom God has called His own but also their land.

Even though Israel is not fully walking according to the will of God today, God's faithfulness to His promises to Israel — and through them to all the nations of the Earth — remains steadfast. God does not change; He is constant. He will fulfill His purposes; we trust in this. I believe in the supernatural power of God to protect Israel. Yet I also know God asks us to pray specifically for this land and this nation. Will you join me in doing this?



*Im tirdefu lada-at oto —*

*"Press on to know HIM!"* (Hosea 6:3 NLT),

*Sarah Liberman* | *סarah ליברמן*  
 ENGLISH | HEBREW

**P.S.** Psalm 122:5 says that *"the thrones for judgment"* are in Jerusalem. While God is faithful, He will not deal lightly with those who reject His choice. As you pray for the peace of Jerusalem, would you also pray for the Iranians? ☆



## Zola Tours: It's a Good Land

Deuteronomy 8:7–8 describes the land of Israel as *"a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey."* That good land is very much alive and overflowing with all of the above.

The Holy Land is the only land promised to a people by the Creator Himself. But even more incredible is that you and I can go there! We can walk in that beautiful land, a land of fulfilled prophecy. Honestly, there isn't anything like it this side of Heaven.

Sandra, our travel manager, would love to help you take your study trip to Israel. She makes enrolling easy. You can contact Sandra at **214-696-9760**, **travel@levitt.com**, or **levitt.com/tours**. Then, start packing and preparing for an unforgettable Bible study adventure.

### Fall Tour 2022 options

Deluxe — Israel	Oct. 24–Nov. 3	\$5,688
Grand — Israel Plus (Petra or Eilat)	Oct. 24–Nov. 6	\$6,788

### Spring Tour 2023 options

Deluxe — Israel	March 13–23	\$5,788
Grand — Israel Plus (Petra or Eilat)	March 13–26	\$7,288

*Prices include tips, taxes, and fuel surcharge (subject to change).*



## A Note from David and Kirsten Hart

### TWO NEW SERIES ARE COMING

Our entire television production team for *Our Jewish Roots (OJR)* has been very busy this summer! We recently returned home from a week of TV taping near Fort Worth. We finished two complete series in four days (whew!). Our upcoming series on Peter is officially, as we say, “in the can.” This new study series has been a long time coming. We were set to film it before COVID hit. Soon, you’ll be able to enjoy one of the most beautiful *OJR* series we have ever developed

We also finished our series on the prophet Jeremiah. Dr. Seif filmed all the teaching segments ten years ago, but we updated the studio segments on our new set. This series on one of the Old Testament’s major prophets is as timely as ever. You’ll notice that Dr. Seif looks impressive on our new set! Since finishing his doctorate at Cambridge University, he’s been sporting a coat and tie. Look closely at his ties and let us know if you see the “emblem” he is displaying.

Both series contain eight programs, with an added extended interview and summary as the ninth program. You won’t want to miss a single episode of the teaching, dramas, interviews, and new music. Set your DVR or do whatever you need to prepare to watch *OJR* each week.

### GALILEAN BEAUTY

The places where Dr. Seif taught in our Peter series are absolutely stunning. Words cannot describe the beauty of the Galilee in springtime. After weeks of rain, the wildflowers displayed their splendor. The Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) proudly revealed its ruggedness. With the additions of the actors and sets, as you watch you will feel like you were there with Peter almost two thousand years ago. While we’ve mentioned our excitement about this new series in previous *Personal Letters*, you will soon discover that it’s worthy of a reminder.

We always love hearing your takeaways after watching our programs, and we actually read all of your emails and messages. What is my (Kirsten’s) personal takeaway from Sarah’s writings in this letter? Praying for the peace of Jerusalem isn’t just a saying; it could be the difference between life and death for many Israelis. We are standing in prayer for Israel and Iran!



*Sha’alu shalom Yerushalayim! —*

*“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!” (Psalm 122:6),*

*David & Kirsten*

David & Kirsten

**P.S.** Did you know that *Our Jewish Roots* is viewed around the world? We hear from viewers across the globe. Financial gifts to this ministry enable people we may never know to discover the love and grace of our Savior Yeshua through weekly television programs, monthly newsletters, [levitt.com](http://levitt.com), and more. When you partner with us each month, you help to ensure the future of our global outreach. For this we offer a grateful thank you! ☆

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## Our Jewish Roots TV programs in August

This month, we begin with a stand-alone program about the preparations being made for the next Jewish Temple. This is a fascinating special episode, especially if you are interested in End Times prophecy. This 30-minute program flies by; you may want to watch it again to catch every prophetic nuance.

**Temple Preparations** — Besides seeking suitable candidates for a red heifer without defect, other preparations are taking place for the next Temple in Jerusalem. These include gathering ingredients for the incense offerings, training for the priestly duties, and creating articles to be used in ceremonial worship.

We'll then present an encore of one of our best-loved series, ***Faith of Our Fathers***.

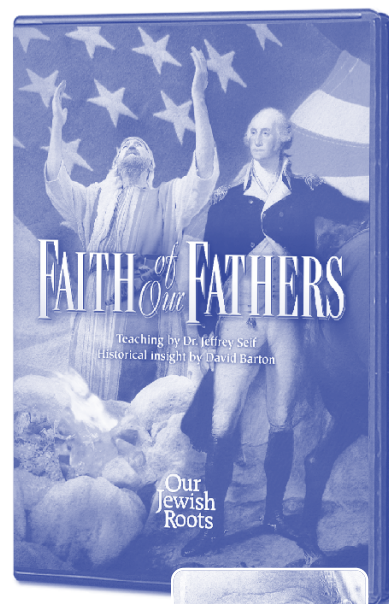
### ***Faith of Our Fathers***

**Dr. Jeffrey Seif** shares brilliant parallels between people whose faith contributed to building the ancient nation of Israel and faithful individuals of a future generation who developed a Godly nation in the New World. In addition, Christian historian David Barton presents original source documents chronicling many of the U.S. Founding Fathers' Christian beliefs and their monumental efforts to anchor this nation to the belief in the God of Israel.

**What is Faith?** — The Lord called many people in the Bible (including Abram, Noah, and David) to take risks. Trusting in God's Word was essential for the Hebrew people and for many of those who came to create a nation in the New World.

**Faith by Trial** — Neither personal ambition nor comfort are goals for a life of faith. Our examples are Noah, the ark builder, and Zerubbabel, the rebuilder of the Temple. The *Mayflower* brought Pilgrims who based their New World "promised land" on a Biblical lifestyle.

**Faith in the Unseen** — Even small faith can become something spectacular. Christopher Columbus heard the Holy Spirit encourage him on his four voyages to the New World. Historical records reveal his devotion and desire to serve the Lord.



Jeff Seif

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**Zola Levitt Ministries  
is ECFA approved!**

## Jeremiah: Hope Over the Horizon DVD set

Nine 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

Known as the weeping prophet, Jeremiah was called to warn his countrymen of the imminent judgment and deportation at the hands of the Babylonians. Nonetheless, a message of hope and deliverance is woven throughout Jeremiah's writings. This nine-part series features Bible teaching by Dr. Jeffrey Seif, dramatic reenactments by Israeli actors, commentary from Dr. Michael Brown, and applications in studio discussions with David and Kirsten Hart.

**Young Man's Visions** The Lord chose a young Jeremiah to be His prophet and to call God's people to return to God's ways and values. Israel's culture, like America's, had strayed from God and was about to reap the consequences.

**Sounding the Alarm** The God of Israel promised destruction for the people of Judah who were living in sin. Jeremiah sounded the alarm, but no one listened. Likewise, many of those living around us today refuse to admit their sin or turn to the Lord.

**Corruption and Closed Minds** Lies and greed corrupted Judah's leaders. Jeremiah wept when they believed false promises of peace and rejected God's justice, righteousness, and truth.

**Faith Abandoned and Reimagined** Jeremiah's message to repent went unheeded. Consequently, judgment came to those who had abandoned the Lord. Jeremiah took comfort in knowing that following destruction, restoration would come through the New Covenant.

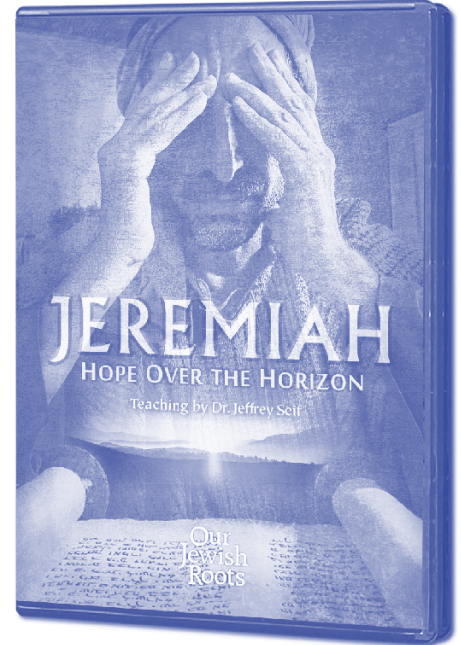
**No Escape** The Babylonians were coming to destroy Judah. The leaders relied on political alliances for their security, but the Lord had withdrawn His protection, so catastrophe was inevitable.

**Promises Made** Brighter days were coming when Judah's iniquity would be forgiven. God would save His people from captivity and return them to the Promised Land. He promised to write His Law on their hearts and remember their sins no more.

**Ruin and Renewal** Speaking the truth can bring trouble from those who don't want to hear it. Jeremiah experienced persecution, yet he grieved to see sin's devastating effects on God's people. The same God who brought ruin would also bring renewal, through Yeshua the Messiah.

**Hope and a Future** Jeremiah records God's promise to deliver His people from captivity after 70 years. Later, the Lord will cause a branch to emerge from David; He will bring justice and righteousness to the Earth. All people in Messiah are grafted into this tree.

**Jeremiah in Retrospect** This final program features an interview with author and radio host Dr. Michael Brown. Dr. Jeffrey Seif also discusses applications from the life and writings of Jeremiah.



### Jeremiah: Hope Over the Horizon DVDs

- \_\_\_\_ 1 set DVDs – \$58  
 \_\_\_\_ 2 sets DVDs – \$98

See the next page for our  
Combo Value Package

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### Where and when do you watch Our Jewish Roots?

ZLM needs to ensure that we support the stations and networks that you appreciate.

#### I WATCH YOUR PROGRAM ON:

- ☐ NRB-TV, Thurs. 7:30pm ET  
☐ GEB-TV, Thurs. 6:30pm ET  
☐ DAYSTAR, Wed. 11:00pm ET, Fri. 6:00pm ET  
☐ TCT, Sun. 7:00pm ET  
☐ Online, e.g. levitt.tv, YouTube, Roku, etc.  
☐ My local channel's call letters are: \_\_\_\_\_.

#### I DON'T WATCH YOUR PROGRAM BECAUSE:

- ☐ I am unable to receive *Our Jewish Roots*.  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have given us this information previously, it's not needed again unless your viewing station has changed.**







## Jewish Heritage calendar

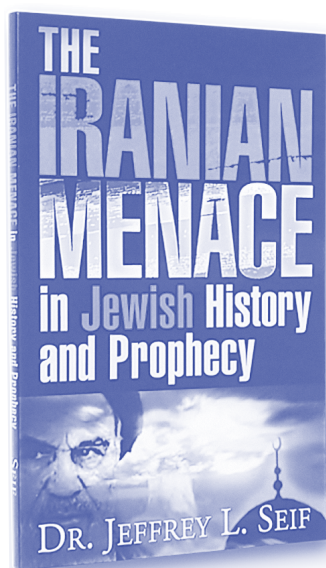
### 5783 (2022–2023)

With the Seven Feasts of Israel in mind, imagine the usefulness of our delightful and inexpensive Jewish Heritage calendar. This beautiful calendar begins in September 2022 and spans 13 months, through September 2023. It provides the dates of all the Biblical feasts and Sabbaths plus the names of the months, the Holy Days, and all the rest through English phonetics like those in our monthly Hebrew Lesson in the *Levitt Letter*.

Enjoy Biblical feast graphics, Hebraic regalia pictures, and inspiration.

#### Jewish Heritage calendar

- \_\_\_ 1 calendar – \$11
- \_\_\_ 2 calendars – \$17
- \_\_\_ 3 calendars – \$25



## The Iranian Menace

### in Jewish History and Prophecy book

by Dr. Jeffrey Seif

Iran is central in End Times prophecy. At a time when Iran has captured the world's attention with nuclear threats, Jeff harnesses Scriptural and secular evidence to support his case for the Iranian-Armageddon connection. After glimpsing Iran in ancient Roman and Jewish histories, you will learn the significance of prophecy in the Jewish Scriptures and apocalyptic literature. Jeff's analysis is based on sound Scriptural understanding and two decades of academic contemplation.

#### The Iranian Menace book

- \_\_\_ 1 book – \$14
- \_\_\_ 2 books – \$25
- \_\_\_ 3 books – \$34

#### Combo Value Package:

One of Each! ..... — \$74

- 1 set of *Jeremiah* DVDs
- 1 Jewish Heritage calendar
- 1 *The Iranian Menace* book

Prices include shipping. Please allow 2–3 weeks for order processing.

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2208

Dear Sarah,

(please check appropriate boxes)

God is faithful to His plan for Israel. He will judge each nation on its stand for or against Israel (Isaiah 66).

- ☐ Agree  
☐ Disagree

☐ Here is my gift for **August** to help Zola Levitt Ministries teach the Bible across the globe and assist ministries in Israel.

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