



January, 1991

Volume 13, Number 1

## “I will curse him that curseth thee. . .”

by Zola Levitt

An often overlooked sign of the end is anti-Semitism, the irrational hatred of the Chosen People, which has been with us seemingly since God's argument with the devil over Job. Scripture doesn't specify that Job was Jewish, but the theme of the story is that when God deals in a special way with someone, like Job, the devil deals with him specially also. In that God has chosen the Jews, His enemy seems to have chosen them, too. And so we see an ongoing despising of a people who, if the truth were really told, wouldn't get an A+ for conduct in this world, but would be far from deserving of what has been thrown out at them historically. In other words, God arbitrarily chose an average people and the world has hated them as though they were the worst possible choice.

As far as signs of the end go, we are much more familiar with “wars and rumors of wars” these days, since we've got plenty of that, and with famine, pestilence, earthquakes and the like, which are so often mentioned in prophecy teaching. But the Lord, in the same passage (Mt. 24—the Olivet Discourse), clearly stated the dire consequences of the Tribulation Period for Israel: “. . .and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake” (Mt. 24:8). Also, as we pointed out in a previous letter, there has to be some rationale for the world to side with the Antichrist in his Tribulation Period invasion of Israel (when he blasphemes in the Temple in Jerusalem—II Thes. 2:3, 4).

The anti-Israel actions of the present administration—the failure to veto the U.N. peace conference resolution or the criticism of Israeli West Bank policies, for example—seem to be part of the picture. There is an inexplicable turning

away from Israel, which will lead to spiritual death, not just for this nation but for the whole world, in the end times to come. It is as sure a sign of the end as the false Christs, false prophets, and the other signs mentioned above.

To give some examples of this turning away from Israel, we have the very idea of our government trying to talk with the PLO a year ago, or President Bush's visit to Syrian dictator Hafez Assad, Israel's most indefatigable enemy. To see an American president stoop to shaking hands with a murderer like Assad (who is unquestionably involved with the bombing of Pan Am 103 and any number of other terrorist assaults) was shocking enough, but now we continue to appease Arab tyrants by wanting to send the Secretary of State to Baghdad. Imagine—first the PLO, then Syria, and now Baghdad! How long has it been since President Bush visited his most staunch ally in the whole world, the Israeli government in Jerusalem?

We somehow have the idea that Arab butchers can be negotiated with or reasoned with. We merely

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**“I will curse him that curseth thee. . .”**

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succeed in persuading them that we are stooges and they fear us that much less as supporters and defenders of Israel.

Sometimes anti-Semitism comes from Jews. Jewish tours are canceling right and left, but ours and many other Christian tours are still going to Israel. Christians, of course, don't live in any state of fear and are, in general, better supporters of the Promised Land than the Jews themselves because they are better Bible readers. Our own tours have gone as usual, right through the Intifada and the Persian Gulf situation, with no problems whatever. We always visit the Western Wall at the Temple Mount, but the United Jewish Appeal canceled its visits to the Wall. What a shame, and I mean that word literally. (Our upcoming tour announcement can be found in A Note From Zola in this issue. Going to Israel at this time with our tour, or some other, would be a real vote of confidence in Israel and a fine witness.)

Then we have the sort of neighborhood cases of the country clubs that don't admit Jews, like the Dallas Country Club and so many others. One that made the TV news was the case of Henry Bloch, who founded the famous H & R Block Tax Service and was denied membership in a Kansas country club because he's Jewish. A rather famous member, U.S. Open champion, Tom Watson, resigned because of that. Watson must have read Matthew 25:40: And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these *my brethren*, ye have done it unto me. (Black Americans made tremendous strides this year by protesting their exclusion from country clubs, but Jewish people so fear anti-Semitism that they feel they dare not protest.)

We previously cited the case of Bob Irsay, owner of the Indianapolis Colts football team who referred to CNN sports commentator Fred Edlestein as follows: [He's] a little Jewish boy and he doesn't know what he's talking about. No one even noticed the story, but we can imagine what headlines there would be if a similar remark were made about a black man ( He's a little black boy), a gay man ( He's a little gay boy), or an Ayatollah, as examples.

The President's absurd comparisons of Saddam Hussein and Hitler are also anti-Semitic. Certainly Hussein is tyrannical, but common sense tells us

that Hitler has no peer and since his actions were particularly committed against Jews, these people are deeply wounded by the President's insensitivity

The nation of Chile has just lifted a fifteen year ban on production of the Jewish play Fiddler on the Roof. The unwillingness of Jewish people to bow to totalitarian governments has always scared dictators. The play is about the triumph of the underdog against overwhelming odds. In Chile, the underdog may triumph with an easing of central government powers.

A mindless *60 Minutes* show that was supposedly a report from the Temple Mount in Jerusalem was another in the endless examples of media bias against Israel and the Jewish people. I don't think that I have ever seen a more unbalanced news report, even on PBS, which I personally stopped supporting a year ago for lack of even-handed reporting. If I hadn't covered the Temple Mount situation myself on our own program, and talked to any number of eye-witnesses of the events, I might not be so convinced, but in this case the lies on *60 Minutes* just didn't work on me. I was there, on the ground, and I know what happened. *60 Minutes* quoted no Israeli who was involved in the conflict, and as I said on television, they simply distorted what they knew to be the truth, evidently in order to sell soap.

Their Temple Mount story was followed by a report on prostitution in Amsterdam, with lots of lascivious pictures, and I'm afraid that sort of thing has become *60 Minutes*' rightful prey. News programs willing to sell out for ratings should sell out with subjects like sex, not with anti-Semitism, especially when the untruthful reporter, Mike Wallace in that instance, is Jewish.

By the time they finished selecting a blonde Palestinian youngster with a British accent to represent that side of the conflict and interviewed a female ambulance driver who said that Israeli soldiers shot at her when she went to pick up the wounded, I couldn't take much more. I don't think even Yassir Arafat would believe that Israeli soldiers shot at an ambulance, because he knows Israeli soldiers better than that. If Arafat didn't have faith that virtually every Israeli soldier is a good and moral boy down to the bone, he wouldn't have those youngsters out there throwing stones at them.

Wallace had the temerity to appear in a skullcap while talking with a Rabbi about the Mount.

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**“I will curse him that curseth thee. . .”**

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And lastly, the most anti-Semitic attack of them all—the linking of the pillaging of Kuwait with the defensive occupation of the West Bank in Israel—goes on and on, even in the United Nations. The so-called “International Peace Conference” they have resolved to hold will make a mockery of the term and may well justify Daniel’s description of the Antichrist: “...and by peace shall [he] destroy many” (Dan. 8:25). This conference, if it ever comes off at all, will be the usual cacophony of brutal Third World nations screaming for blood and ignoring their own savage histories (as we “Americans” ignore ours) to condemn the bravest and most advanced democracy in the eastern world.

Believe me when I tell you that I am not speaking out of a personal bias. Naturally, like anyone else, I wish that everyone would love my particular people, but I’m well aware that that’s just not going to happen until the Kingdom is established (when all the world will love Israel and visit it at least one thousand times—Zech. 14:16). I guess it’s more in the nature of a plea for a witness to the Jewish people that I present these facts. I wish the Arab people and the German people and the Russian people and everyone else would be saved, since that’s a proper wish for a Christian, but most of all I join Paul in his cry (which we utilize in our ministry logo), “My heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved” (Romans 10:1).

All of the worldly criticism and pious pretenses that the Israelis are a violent people, in a world where violence is endemic, is just so much service of the enemy. The best way to combat hatred of the Jews is with love of the Jews, something which is the command of God in both testaments and is too often neglected, even by believers. If the Jews are “the apple of [My] eye” (Zech 2:8) according to God, and if God “hast not cast out his people whom he foreknew” (Rom. 11:2), and if the Gospel is to go “to the Jew first” (Rom. 1:16), and if when the Lord returns “his feet shall stand that day upon the Mount of Olives which is before Jerusalem on the east” (Zech. 14:4), and if He will set up His kingdom and celebrate His feasts in Israel for a thousand years (Zech 14:16-19), then I think it’s high time we cultivated the habit of loving those whom God loves.

After all, pure self interest would dictate that love of the Jews is a well-advised spiritual effort. Wasn’t it Almighty God who said to His friend Abraham, “And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee...”?



## HEBREW LESSON

אני יהוה אלהיכם

*Anee Yahweh Elohaichem*

I am Jehovah  
your God.



## “Lovest Thou Me?”

by Zola Levitt

Christian people have, for some reason, always behaved as though Scripture says they are to judge the world. Of course it says exactly the opposite (“Judge not, that ye be not judged” [Mt. 7:1]). We send church groups to some city we regard as sinful and we pray for those things we have decided are the sins of the local folks. We criticize the unbeliever endlessly, suggesting that he is simply a lower class human being than we are, rather than regarding that all of us in the true Church are convicted sinners, saved only by the grace of God — literally.

This sort of spiritual conceit does not match well with a man our Lord Himself cited as a true believer, the penitent crying aloud, “God be merciful to me, a sinner.” But it is somehow a tendency of our Christian community to accuse the rest of the world of causing all the troubles.

And the accusations most recently are concerning those who are bringing on the end times, as we see it. The false messiahs are bringing on the end; the New Agers are bringing on the end; the homosexuals, the liberals, the conservatives, the rock musicians, ghetto people, the Arabs, the Jews, the immoral people (as we style them) of all sorts are responsible.

The fact is, the end of the world, or as Scripture sometimes calls it, “the day of the Lord,” is being brought on by all who sin, and it is an utterly inevitable series of calamities avoidable only by salvation in Jesus Christ.

In some instances it is the churches themselves, or what we think of as the “Christian community,” that can claim an ironically great responsibility in

tipping this sad old world toward God’s oncoming day of judgement. We accuse religions near and far of being cults and yet we ourselves, biblically speaking, are cultic.

I’m beginning to think that “religions of works” comprise the biggest cult in the world. By that term I mean not just those who are trying to reach God with their behavior, but especially those who have redefined Christianity as simply a lifestyle comprised of good acts and pleasing personalities and mannerisms. The Antichrist will make good use of this decisive, unbiblical error.

I pointed out in a recent *Levitt Letter Extra* that savings and loan crook Charles Keating had given a great deal of money to anti-pornography efforts, which certainly can’t be criticized, and yet we have to reckon with the idea that this is a man who would purposely cause a loss of two billion dollars for his fellow citizens, including the life savings of many retired and helpless folks. He presently sits in jail, good works and all.

Doing good acts because they profit us, or please us, or make us proud of ourselves, has nothing to do with those works done for love of Christ. In His final recorded conversation with His disciple Simon Peter, the Lord inquired not about Peter’s accomplishments, but rather, “Lovest thou me?” The church at Ephesus was not criticized for lack of *works*; in fact, the Lord (in Revelation 2:2-4) commended that called-out group for its fine efforts, but then said, “Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love” (Rev. 2:4).

The Lord would surely likewise criticize the “liberal” churches of our day for their religions of works and their lack of love of the Lord. A clear example of church works done in opposition to the sensitivities of Christ is the World Council of Churches’ support for the Palestinians in Israel. I am for helping the needy as much as the next Christian is (our ministry supports the Ruff House, a home for retarded and disadvantaged children), but I could never support a cause which announces in its charter that its purpose is to annihilate the nation of Israel, the very brethren of Jesus Christ. Wasn’t it our Lord who said, “...inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me” (Mt. 25:40)? Can we really love Him and yet oppose His brethren?

It bears repeating that among the mainline denominations singled out in the *Jerusalem Post*’s recent study of anti-Semitism in American churches was the Presbyterian USA. In response to that I volunteered my services to speak at any anti-Semitic Presbyterian USA church in America, free of charge, to explain the situation in Israel as it looks on the ground. I have not received a single invitation to date. The offer still stands, but the caution still applies: I teach from three sources — Bible, Bible and Bible.

I recently spoke at a liberal church — that is, one that doesn’t teach the Scriptures — and I addressed a Sunday School class about the situation in the Middle East. I used a blackboard to draw a complete map and I showed the relevance of the present political situation to Ezekiel’s prophecy on the coming Russian invasion. I received good feedback insofar as the class understood that the present political situation dovetailed very well with the prophecy. But then a lady raised her hand to ask, “What does this have to do with Jesus Christ?”

For a moment I hesitated. I had always taken it for granted that one of the basic tenets of Christianity is the waiting for the Lord’s return, and that basic to that was understanding what He described as the signs of His coming. But speaking to a member of a non-biblical church, this was exceedingly difficult to explain.

Bible illiteracy, a phenomenon of the mainline denominations and some sacramental churches (as well as the synagogues) leaves people not simply without a knowledge of prophecy, but without the knowledge that this knowledge is important! I don’t expect the occupiers of the White House or Congress to open the Scriptures and to go by what they read there in making their policies (though that would be the wisest course they could take), but I would certainly hope that in a church people could at least understand the relevance of the Lord’s message to the Lord Himself.

I think there’s just no excuse whatsoever to gather Christians together in what we call a church and not teach the Scriptures. In fact, I think the idea is completely crazy. Could we really conduct a sensible democracy if we threw away the Constitution? Could we expect our courts to function if we resolved not to open our lawbooks? Could we really organize any people in any sort of group without reference to some basic written understanding of the purpose, nature, rules, etc. of that group? What has seemed to happen in the churches is that loveless good works have taken over a community that was supposed to be dedicated to an informed performance of the exact Word of our Lord, as expressed and preserved for us in writing in the Bible.

The confusion about what is going on in the world right now is the just deserts of those utterly unfamiliar with the teachings of the Lord and the prophets, and the rest of the biblical descriptions of God’s plan for the ages. Personally, I’m not a great Christian and I expect a difficult day when I meet the Lord at the judgement seat in heaven (II Cor. 5:10; I Cor. 3:11-15). I don’t think I will have enough to show Him in the way of loving Him and others, giving and interceding, and witnessing. In the end I will be totally dependent, as will all of us, on His loving forgiveness. I certainly wouldn’t expect that I would achieve heaven on my merits.

But for all of my shortcomings, my defense will not be ignorance. If ignorance of the law is no excuse on earth, than ignorance of the Scriptures should be no excuse in heaven. I will be stuck with saying, “I knew it, Lord, I just didn’t do it.”

Frankly, I prefer that to saying, “I didn’t know it, Lord, and did something else entirely.”

**Z**

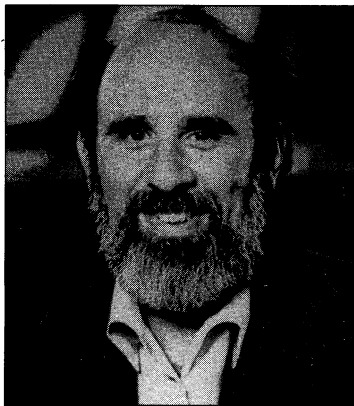
## Hebrew Lesson

***karov Adonai l’chal - korav***

קָרוֹב יְהוָה לְכָל-קֹרְאָיו

“The Lord is nigh unto all them  
that call upon him . . .”  
(Psalm 145:18a)

# A NOTE FROM ZOLA



Dear Friend,

Are we taking our tour?

Of course we're taking our tour. I've never canceled a tour since 1973, when I visited Israel just before and just after the Yom Kippur War. I have never seen an incident during any of our tours that I could relate to any problem in the Middle East, although I've had my block knocked off in American cities time and again. I've never lost so much as a button in Israel. (Well, actually, I did lose a button. A Palestinian hotel maid sewed it on for me and I gave her a dollar in a wonderful example of Jewish-Arab cooperation that would be possible any day of the week with different Arab leadership.) But in Dallas some thugs broke into my car and ripped out the radio.

Statistically, you are twenty times better off sitting in the middle of Tel Aviv and trying not to get hit by a missile than you are taking a walk in Dallas and trying not to be shot down in the street. (And your odds are about one hundred times better in Israel than in New York City.) People are nicer to me in Israel than in Dallas, and that includes Palestinian people, who are more likely to be found cooking and serving excellent meals in hotels, delivering the mail, and skillfully working in construction or other industries than they are to be throwing stones.

But I'm not going to Israel because it's nicer or safer than staying home. I'm going out of love and out of obedience to our God, who bade me to report often. He asked me to plant trees, visit the Holy City, and pray for the peace of Jerusalem. And, I'm happy to say, he assigned me to take some pilgrims with me when I go. Believe it or not, we've got plenty, as usual, paid up and packing.

We will take the advice of our contacts in Israel as to our exact routing and we may vary the dates of the tour somewhat, but I don't anticipate any significant changes from what we usually do and see. Tel Aviv and Haifa are modern cities which do not contain sites of Biblical interest. The areas where we tour have not been part of the action. And I look forward to blessing the Chosen People, as the Lord bade us to do in His first conversation with their father, Abraham ("I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee..." [Gen 12:3]).

And, most important of all, we pilgrims will be giving the Israelis a very compelling witness. By our very presence we will speak of the love, the faith, the courage and the hope of our precious Lord. "And they'll know we are Christians by our love."

People on the streets of Israel are coming to the Lord, and many who find it very hard to talk about Jesus Christ are at least coming to the realization that this is a good time to think about redemption. Jerusalem and Tel Aviv these days are examples of that old Christian proverb, "There are no atheists in fox holes." I remember that when I was in the coronary care unit, after by-pass surgery, I met a lot of formerly rough and tough Dallas lawyers and bankers who had had similar grave heart trouble. Among them I found no one who wasn't thinking about his Creator at such a time. This then, is the time to go to Israel and the time to witness.

Although we usually close our tours by now, under these unusual circumstances I'm going to leave the tour open until the last week before we depart. Since I'm writing this letter well ahead of when you will receive it, I don't know what the situation with the war will be like when we're ready to go, but rest assured we're going, whatever it is. (For more timely information on world events in light of biblical prophecy subscribe to our *Levitt Letter Extra*, which is printed and sent by first-class mail within two days of any significant event.)

If there is peace in the Middle East by the time you read this, then it's still a great time to go and explain the peace of our Lord, who said, "I will give you rest." The Israelis, particularly the unspiritual Israelis, are a very scared people right now. This is a wonderful time to take them the Gospel and to fulfill our Lord's admonition to His disciples: "But go rather to the lost sheep of the

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March, 1991

Volume 13, Number 3

## Hitler Would Approve

by Zola Levitt

We have pointed out many times previously that Israel is the real issue in the various Middle East crises. Whether it's tanks and bombers in the Persian Gulf, street riots in Jordan, civil violence in Lebanon, or poison gas factories in Libya, the problem lies with the unwillingness of the Moslem world to accept the Jewish state in their midst.

American opinions vary about Israel but are, in general, supportive. "The Jewish people deserve a homeland: they've put together a fine one in a short time, they're a sister democracy, they're a genuine ally who does what it says it's going to do," etc., etc.

But some Americans, including some professing Christian Americans, feel that Israel counts for nothing and some favor selling out that nation for the sake of what they suppose will be better relations with Arab dictatorships.

Church-going Americans who are not familiar with the Bible can usually be found among this last group. Running parallel with the plan to replace Israel with a Palestinian country are certain churches wanting to replace Israel with the Church itself. They sometimes teach a theological substructure of anti-Semitism called, variously, "Replacement Theology," "Kingdom Now," "Dominionism," etc. In brief, this view says that the Church has inherited the blessings of Israel and that the Israel we see is a mere political entity and not a fulfillment of prophecy.

This obtuse philosophy started in the early church and was embraced by St. Augustine. It seemed, apparently, that the Israel of the time, dispersed as it was throughout the Roman Empire, would be no

adequate welcomer of a returned Christ and so they did away with the return entirely. Christ had come to establish His kingdom and the Church was it. All the blessings written in Scripture to Israel were now to be given to those who would receive Christ, and thus be members of the Church, or the "spiritual kingdom." The Lord would not literally return at all.

This theology held on for a long time because Israel was dispersed for a long time, but the God who was supposed to have forgotten His covenants and promises did finally restore Israel to their Promised Land. This embarrassed quite a few theologians. We now seem to be stuck with a returned and restored nation of Israel, just as the Bible promised voluminously (Deut. 30:1-5, Ez. 37:11-14, etc. ad inf.) and an outmoded "theology" some still want to cling to.

But the stuff is dangerous. For instance, Islam is actually the result of an Arab-styled "replacement theology" for both Judaism and Christianity,

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transferring the blessings of Isaac to Ishmael, and substituting Mohammed, in effect, for Jesus. Hitler, too, made very good use of the philosophy. Hal Lindsey's book, *The Road to Armageddon*, explains the astounding fact that some Christian people thought they were doing their duty by God in exterminating the Jewish people in the Holocaust! The peerless Adolf Hitler himself wrote in *Mein Kampf*:

*Hence, today I believe that I am acting in accordance with the Almighty Creator: By defending myself against the JEW (emphasis Hitler's), I am fighting for the work of the Lord.*

In the upcoming Middle Eastern struggle over the Palestinian issue and the land of Israel the world has a chance to reverse the Holocaust mentality: The world can do a small favor for the Jewish people by allowing them a very moderately sized and virtually unblessed Promised Land; or, in the alternative, the world can subdivide the land between the handful of Israelis and a terroristic society backed by nearly 200 million hostile and wealthy supporters. If what is written in the Scriptures means anything at all then surely the believers must support an undivided state of Israel peopled by the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. If they do otherwise they simply help the Antichrist accomplish his attempted mission, the annihilation of world Jewry and the God of Israel with them.

It shouldn't really be necessary to cover the biblical arguments against Replacement Theology, but I will do so briefly. The stuff savages ten thousand verses of Scripture, as will any man-made agenda forced on the Bible.

A very significant argument against Replacement Theology is the powerful Abrahamic Covenant, God's promise to the father of the Jewish people some 4,000 years ago: "Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Gen 12:1-3). One can either believe this passage literally or spiritualize it to try to make it fit the Church. The latter group wants the covenant to be conditional upon Israel's

obedience or states that the promises of the land were historically fulfilled in the time of Joshua or Solomon. But clearly, the Abrahamic Covenant is *unconditional*. Although the descendants of Abraham may have been chastised on many occasions, they never lost the promise, the covenant with Abraham made and fulfilled by God, Who called it "everlasting" (Gen. 17:7). Scripture repeatedly reminds us of the unchanging nature of God's promise to Israel: "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands. . ." (Isa. 49:15-16); "Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord" (Jer. 31:37); ". . . God hath not cast away His people which He foreknew. . ." (Rom. 11:2).

Another treacherous aspect of Replacement teaching is the position that "Israel" and "the Church" are synonymous in Scripture. Prophecies concerning Israel's restoration are awkwardly explained away as being allegorical or by "spiritualization," and promises to the Chosen People become promises to the Church. Applying

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## HEBREW LESSON

פֶּסַח הוּא לַיהוָה

Pesach hu l'adonai

IT IS THE PASSOVER  
TO THE LORD  
(Exodus 12:11)



## Hitler Would Approve

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this rule to Scripture is as erroneous as the rabbis' substitutions for references to the Messiah in verses that obviously refer to Jesus, editing the Word to suit their own purposes and biases. Substitute the church for Israel in verses like Romans 10:1 ("Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved") or Romans 11:26 ("And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob") and one comes up with sheer nonsense.

Adherents to Replacement Theology also hold that Christ's rule as the Davidic King is in a "spiritual sense" and that He will not rule physically on earth. It hardly seems necessary to refute this nonsense. All of the prophetic verses concerning the appearance of the Messiah — His birth in Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2), His being of the tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:10), His rejection (Isa. 53:3), His crucifixion (Ps. 22:16), etc. — were all literally and specifically fulfilled. There is simply no basis for supposing that the predictions concerning His second advent or His reign in the Kingdom are to be interpreted any differently. On that point He Himself stated, ". . . I go to prepare a place for you. . . and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself. . ." (John 14:2-3). And He made it crystal clear that there was no room for doubt: ". . . if it were not so, I would have told you" (v. 2).

The Antichrist will be grateful for educated, professing "Christians" who have no biblical orientation and cannot see the land of Israel and its people as being different from any other land or people. They will be present on Earth during His reign, having missed the Rapture, and they will appear to be very religious indeed. The Antichrist can use their "theology" as Hitler was able to use the liberal theologies of the primarily German school of Higher Criticism. Israel will seem presumptuous — worshipping in their Temple and awaiting the coming of their private Messiah — to these moral but unspiritual ones. Indeed, it will seem an insult to the "kingdom" they already have on Earth for this relative handful of zealots to be anticipating a completely different kingdom.

It will seem reasonable to assault these supposed religious inferiors, just as it once seemed reasonable to some to think of them as "subhuman." The road to Holocaust is indeed

paved atop such well intentioned but thoroughly anti-biblical systems. Those who are subjected to these awful ideas today should immediately adjourn to churches where the Lord is honored and the Scriptures taught. Pastors teaching this literal "unholiness" should be questioned carefully as to how they can continue to ignore the evidence of their eyes — Israel in all its restored glory.

I strongly recommend Hal Lindsey's book, as well as our booklet, "Israel's Right to the Land," which gives the biblical argument for the all-important land covenant. Another of our booklets, "Glory — The Future of the Believers," clarifies what for some has become elusive knowledge — the idea that the future is as clearly mapped out in Scripture as the past is.

And lastly, no believer should ever forget the crucial admonitions of Scripture when it comes to the Land of Israel and the seed of Abraham: "I will bless them that bless thee and curse him that curseth thee" (Gen. 12:3); ". . . for he that toucheth you [Israel] toucheth the apple of his [God's] eye" (Zech. 2:8); "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" (Ps. 122:6).

**Z**

## Hebrew Lesson

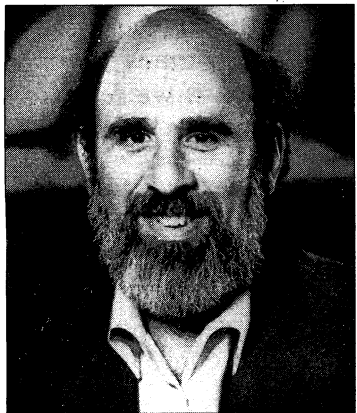
**l'chal-ha'evanim: ken anachnu  
harabim guch echad bamashiach**

לְכָל-הָאֲבָרִים : כֵּן אֲנַחְנוּ  
הָרַבִּים גּוּחַ אֶחָד בַּמָּשִׁיחַ

**"So we, being many,  
are one body in Christ..."**

**(Romans 12:5)**

# A NOTE FROM ZOLA



Dear Friends,

A very special anniversary for me happened this month: On March 14 twenty years ago, I became a believer in the Messiah. The Lord has worked it out so I could celebrate this occasion in Jerusalem with the pilgrims we're taking on our spring tour.

Yesterday, as a guest on a national Christian radio talk show, I was asked to tell about how I came to faith in the Lord and whether or not I doubted my decision now. With my twentieth anniversary approaching, I thought it appropriate to retell the story here.

In 1971 I was a graduate student working on a doctorate in music when some friends convinced me to attend a couple of Campus Crusade for Christ meetings. It was there that I was introduced to verse-by-verse study of the Bible, a new concept for me. Although I had had a thorough Jewish education — attended Hebrew School and Sunday School in synagogue, became Bar Mitzvah and was confirmed — I had never witnessed such study of the Scriptures, and I was impressed. Some three weeks later I asked the Lord, "If you're there, show me." He did then and has shown me a world of things since.

I began my service to the Lord with writing, and my first couple of books did very well. Then a local Christian radio station asked me to host a call-in program, which led to hosting a television series and leading tours to Israel, etc. The Lord

even gave me a desire of my heart by allowing me to continue with my music, sending me new songs that reflected my new life in Him.

The radio interviewer asked me yesterday if I ever doubted my faith. It is possible for me to doubt an invisible God, and I can doubt what I feel and what I think from time to time, but it's different with prophecy. I can't doubt events the prophets foretold — events I've talked about on television and written about in my own books — which are happening around me. I can't doubt wars in the Middle East and all the rest when I can plainly see them. When all else fails, prophecy marches on.

Now, twenty years and thirty-one trips to Israel later, I'm remembering my first glimpse of the Promised Land — the land of my people and of the Messiah of Israel — that I wrote about in one of my early books, *Israel, My Love*. For those of you who couldn't join us for our March tour, you have another opportunity in our summer tour. We've tentatively scheduled it for May 29-June 16, and expect to include as options a Greek cruise to Athens, Corinth, Mars Hill, Ephesus, Patmos, etc. and a three-day excursion to Egypt. But most importantly, we'll be going again to the Holy Land, the future home of all believers in the God of Israel, visiting together the sites of the Lord's own ministry. Call Kelly at (214) 690-1876 or write to our post office box for a brochure. I really hope you can break bread together with us in Jerusalem.

And friends, as you read this letter we are filming in the Holy Land to bring you the latest news from "the center of the earth." When we come home we will begin post-producing our footage. This is the time when the big bills come in and when we need your help the most. I know you will appreciate the finished programs when they air, but our major expenses have to be paid for in advance of the air dates. Can you please help us now? Thanks and God bless.

And thanks for the twenty years. If the Lord tarries long enough, I hope He will grant me twenty more years to serve Him and you.

Your messenger,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Zola". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

# A NOTE FROM MARK

Since Dad is in Israel, busy with our tour group, film crew and land agents, he's asked me to give you an update on our outreach from a business manager's point of view. My title here is General Manager, but I'm better known as Zola's son.

I often hear disproportionate praise about how remarkable my father is, and I'm happy to disclose that he is as human as the rest of us, if not more so. His success as a teacher, though, stems from deep belief in Jesus, infinite love for the Holy Land and a God-given talent for clarifying the Bible.

In 1971 and 1972, Zola wrote for Campus Crusade for Christ's Explo '72 project in their preparation for a week-long training seminar hosting evangelist trainees from around the world. When that came to a close he worked as a free-lance author of Christian books, mostly studies of prophecy. For a few years, he hosted the Dallas radio talk show *The Heart of the Matter*. In 1979 he invested our family savings in air time on Channel 39 in Dallas to teach Bible on television. And now we have a mailing list of almost 50,000 and a million television viewers across the nation.

Zola has *always* led this ministry adhering to the verse that's cited on our letterhead, Romans 10:1: "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved."

I came on board in November 1988. With a Business Management degree, a year of law school and some sales experience, I'd watched this ministry grow since its inception. Actually, it was founded in our family's back yard, in the same temporary building that stored the lawn equipment for my high school mowing business.

My first project was to minimize our spending. Our ministry had grown enough that it was time to upgrade to higher volume suppliers. We cut our newsletter printing costs by 40%, our video duplication rates by 33% and reduced our rent from \$11 per foot to \$7 in a 5100 sq. ft. office space that allowed us to purchase and store our products in economical quantities. For the better part of my first year I was extremely busy finding new corners to cut.

Eventually we began regularly offering our Bible study materials in our newsletters. Why not reduce the amount of fund raising necessary by marketing our products? I thought. I've always had a secret prayer for our ministry to become self-sufficient through sales of its materials, but the air time bills alone amount to three times our gross sales volume. The bottom line: if we're going to stay on television, we need donations.

Regarding our subscribers, I tell job applicants we're a stable ministry. When we get behind our people help us because Zola doesn't perpetually cry wolf. I've been complimented on what a good niche we've found. But it seems pie-in-the-face obvious that people are hungry for Bible teaching on location.

One reason for this ministry's success is that the benefits are tangible. You don't have to take our word for it that hungry people are being fed. We feed you, we feed your family and we feed some curious Jewish folks watching our programs behind closed doors. What a pleasure it is to simply do what we say. No limousines, no mansions, just Bible teaching — on TV and in the mail.

I'm not being self-congratulatory. If God didn't exist, this ministry wouldn't exist either. And without Zola's knowledge and Ken Berg's talent, there wouldn't be much to manage. Ken is our producer and it's thanks to him that our programs look so sharp without being prohibitively expensive. Ken has been with Zola since the beginning and there's no replacing him.

Eight of our thirteen employees process mail and ship packages! Then there's Zola, his two assistants, our bookkeeper and me. About all we do in this office is pay our bills and see that people get their teaching materials. We have good computers, plenty of inventory and an atmosphere that reflects a lot more than a day's work for a day's pay.

In the next couple of weeks one of our supporters, a CPA, is coming to audit our books as a volunteer. We've always made our financial records available and with his help we'll be able to say *officially* what most of you already know: we're doing *what* we say we do and making the most of what we have.

So where do we go from here? We've added a 1-800 number (1-800-WONDERS) and we now

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## A Note from Mark

(Continued from Page 5)

accept credit card orders. We have two weeks' worth of funds on hand and we're about to post-produce another location series. What else should ZLM management do at this point?

One on-going objective is to increase our television audience by 1.5% per month. We're always looking for affordable Christian stations that will air our programs at times convenient for our viewers. Within the next couple of months we'll have short TV spots directing folks to tune us in. We hope to upgrade some of our current time slots.

We encourage our supporters to tell their friends to watch our programs and send for our free newsletters. Incidentally, we're not just out to gather more donors. If you know of someone who would benefit from our materials, have him drop us a line. All we ask is an acknowledgement every now and then that our newsletters are being read.

Actually, with the people and resources we have there isn't much more we can do. With a national television outreach, with new programs, two free monthly newsletters (plus our *Levitt Letter Extra*) and thousands of packages to ship every month, we're doing all we can and loving every minute of it. And our candle — your candle — is burning bright (Matt. 25:2-4, Luke 11:33)!

His, therefore yours,



## HEBREW LESSON

For our lesson this month, let's try and tackle an entire verse in the Old Testament. This is the verse mentioned in connection with the holiday of Tabernacles.

אָנָּא יְהוָה הַצְּלִיחָה נָא

אָנָּא יְהוָה הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא

'ana Jehovah Hoshi'ah na  
'ana Jehovah hatz'liha na

Save now, I beseech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity (Ps.118:25).



## THE REAL NEW AGE MOVEMENT

by Zola Levitt

I don't really understand our great concern about the influence of the so-called "New Age Movement" in this world. A recent article in *The New York Times* presented some very surprising statistics. The entire movement claims only 28,000 adherents, versus the nearly 100 million sincere believers in God. In the United States there is one New Ager per 10,000 people, which means that if all of the New Agers in the whole country were assembled together, they would equal about one-half of one baseball game crowd. As I suspected, despite what people have imagined this movement to be, it really has little impact at all.

The real New Age Movement is the Kingdom, and its primary sign, the reestablishment of the Jews in Israel, is with us today. Present with that sign is a new penchant for negotiating to tear the land apart. People being used by Arab nations for their own purposes pretend that the Palestinians are in dire straits.

The Kurds, who may die by the hundreds of thousands, are of no concern to our administration, it seems, but the Palestinians in Israel, who have adequate housing, participate in a free society and live better than Arabs anywhere else, are reportedly in some kind of emergency situation.

What machinations lie behind this fiction are anybody's guess. The price of oil is the most likely culprit. It seems that the wishes of Arab despots are more important in this world than the noblest thinking of free people anywhere.

The "Palestinian problem" is part and parcel of the new anti-Semitism, which is itself a sign of the end. With all the accusations against the Israelis,

absurdly trying to make Jewish people seem to be persecutors, the following excerpt from a letter by the dean of a Jewish school in Brooklyn to the editor of *New York Magazine* presents a more realistic view.

*In the nearly 30 years that I have been involved in the educational system of the largest yeshiva school system in the state of New York, some 15,000 children have passed through these doors. In all that time, not one has ever been arrested for possession of an illicit substance, been charged with shoplifting or a felony act of violence, been arrested for burglary or robbery, been accused of rape, or participated in gang warfare.*

The ludicrous series of programs called "The Arab World," which aired on "public" television recently, was a most significant example of Arab influence and thoughtless anti-Semitism. Had it not presented such extreme views articulated by such heavy-handed spokesmen it might have been

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## The Real New Age Movement

(Continued from Page 1)

believable (though some will always believe Arab propaganda).

CNN's coverage of the war and Israel included constant "banana republic" references by 25-year-old "correspondents" looking down their noses at Israeli generals and government officials who are maintaining one of the world's freest and most orderly nations in next to impossible circumstances. Who has heard anything of Israeli casualties, or money for reconstructing Tel Aviv? We need to constantly bear in mind our Lord's feelings on anti-Semitism: "And the King shall answer and say unto them, verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Mt. 25:40).

Some church groups rather dislike something they call "historical Judaism," supposing that one can surgically divide Jesus Christ from His people. This newly de-Judaized Jesus thus becomes a suitable object for western style worship, while the Chosen People are left to go their way.

Many liberal Christian denominations, particularly the Presbyterian U.S.A. (cited in a *Jerusalem Post* article last summer for linking an "appeal for Middle East Peace" to an earlier "Palestinian prayer" proposed for use in churches at Easter

time), are no help. These churches, believing in the odious Replacement Theology, purposely court the prime anti-biblical error that the people God chose have been disenfranchised. The Vatican steadfastly refuses to recognize Israel, "my brethren," as Jesus referred to the same people.

We're entering a period of anti-Israel propaganda like we've never seen before. Since the toughest and best equipped Arab army of them all was clearly seen for what it really was, a disorganized bunch of street corner bullies who run headlong either away from the enemy or into his arms, the next war will be with words, not guns. The Arabs have always fought best with innuendo, rumor, self-righteousness, phony religion, indignation and garden variety hatred of their neighbors. They've never learned to properly use guns, nor practically any other invention of the second millennium A.D. But they have never given up the idea of encouraging terrorists and killing off the "infidels."

Although Jerusalem has been assaulted 39 times historically, we should all now prepare for the most vicious attack of all by a flag-waving, chest-thumping, righteously indignant Arabian crusader, who by lies, false promises and cold hard cash will now attempt to obliterate the Israelite from his land and from the world.

In the very words of our Lord, ". . . ye shall be hated of all nations. . ." (Mt. 24:9).

**Z**

## HEBREW LESSON



Of Whom Do  
the Prophets Speak?

המשיח של ישראל

HaMessiach Shel Yisrael

THE MESSIAH OF ISRAEL

# Understanding the Jewish Roots of our Faith

by Kelly Catanzaro

In this month's "A Note From Zola," Zola included understanding the Jewish roots of our faith among reasons for making a pilgrimage to Israel. From my own experience, I can tell you that that is the best of all reasons for going.

My family was not a religious one and I grew up with little knowledge of Christianity. When I became a believer — after much resistance and having preferred what I considered to be a "broader understanding of truth" than that found in the Bible — I immediately became conscious of the "Jewishness" of Christianity. The Bible was new to me and because it was so thoroughly Jewish I enrolled in Hebrew and Torah classes at a synagogue to learn to read it in its original language and to better understand what it was that I had come to believe.

Although my attitude may have been somewhat unorthodox, studying the Scriptures from a Jewish perspective and learning as much as possible about Israel and the prophesied Messiah has proven to be a very good foundation for my new life. As it turned out, one of the first people with whom I shared my faith was Jewish. As a brand new believer, while working for a Jewish-owned publishing company in Atlanta, I came across a Jews for Jesus advertisement in the newspaper. The company vice-president's son and I discussed the

Gospel over the Xerox machine while we both made copies of the article. He seemed shocked that I considered my new faith to be compatible with the Hebrew Scriptures and I was equally amazed that he had never considered the connection between Jesus and Judaism at all.

In the twelve years since then, God has given me many wonderful opportunities to learn from leaders of Messianic Jewish ministries, like Zola, and has sent me to Israel several times. He has also made sharing the Gospel with His Chosen Ones my greatest joy in life, which in itself is a miracle.

Becoming familiar with Jewish traditions such as Passover, the Day of Atonement, ritual cleansing and Temple sacrifices helps us to better understand what the New Testament teaches about the Last Supper, redemption, baptism and the crucifixion. A good knowledge of Hebrew worship before the time of the Messiah illuminates for us what Judaism, and ultimately Christianity, was intended to be.

If you are a believer who feels a kinship to the Children of Israel, then traveling to the Promised Land is truly like going home. If you haven't yet discovered the richness of your inheritance as a child of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and your relationship to the Jewish Messiah, having been adopted by His father, though born of a different (Gentile) mother, then a pilgrimage to Israel can make a wondrous difference in your spiritual life.

Without a real understanding of the Jewish roots of our faith, we are aware of only a portion of the glory of the "life which is in Christ Jesus."

## HEBREW LESSON

בְּחַרְוּ לָכֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת-מִי תַעֲבֹדוּן

*Bachar' u lach' em hay' om et me ta' avod' un*

"choose ye this day  
whom ye will serve..."  
(Joshua 24:15b)



# THE RUSSIANS ARE (STILL) COMING!

by Zola Levitt

Now that the smoke has cleared after the Persian Gulf War (except for the oil fires deliberately set by Iraq in Kuwait) it's time to review what it was all about in light of prophecy. In fact, every so often we update the prophecy of Gog and Magog (Ez. 38-39) which we refer to as the coming Russian invasion of Israel.

The distinguished Christian publisher, Moody Press, has asked Dr. Thomas McCall and myself to bring out a new edition of our 1974 book *The Coming Russian Invasion of Israel*, to include all of the latest developments as well as the progress of the prophecy through the 70's and 80's. The reason for all of the attention on this particular end times event is simply that in the pre-millennial scheme of things it comes first. Excluding the Rapture, every prophetic event is dependent on something happening before it as a preparation and the Lord warned us to watch for these preparations, referring to them as "signs of the end." The Rapture can come at any moment. It is a free-floating event with no signs predicting it. Dr. McCall and I place the Russian invasion at the beginning of the Tribulation Period because of Ezekiel 38:9, which specifies that the people will be burning the weapons for a seven-year period. This dovetails perfectly with the seven-year Tribulation Period.

A very reliable sign of an upcoming major invasion is a "boiling pot," or extreme unrest, in a contested area. The Middle East fits the picture perfectly these days, although it must always be said that we cannot set dates nor feel perfectly sure when

applying complex geopolitical events to twenty-five-century-old predictions.

With all of that said, let us look at the allies in this invasion and see where they now stand. Their positions have changed significantly since our last update.

Russia, the main antagonist and the head of the invading forces, presents quite a different picture in 1991 than it did in 1990. Last year at this time, you will recall that we received a letter from the pastor of a major American church asking how we should treat the prophecy of an impending Russian invasion of Israel in light of the fact that Russia then seemed to be peaceful and heading for democracy, as was (the writer assumed) Eastern Europe. I printed my thoughts in the June 1990 *Levitt Letter* and sent them to the good pastor, for what they were worth. In my view, Russia was far from peaceful and at rest, and a year's experience with that troubled society seems to bear me out. Communism dies hard. Gorbachev cavorts here and there to save it and our administration somehow wants to save *him*. The Russian people, having

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## HEBREW LESSON

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה אֲהַיְהֶיָה אֲשֶׁר אֲהַיְהֶיָה

*Va' omer Elohim el Moshe,  
"Ehyeh asher Ehyeh"*

And God said to Moses,  
I Am that I Am.



## The Russians Are (Still) Coming!

*(Continued from Page 1)*

received the right to protest, are protesting indeed with loud voices and sometimes with violence. In the minds of the old-line communists, something has to be done.

And that's where the prophecy comes in. A disunited Russia in league with a force from an equally disgruntled and disunited eastern Europe could well plan an invasion of Israel in the spirit of the United States' "invasion" of Iraq. The rationale would be the same: It is justified for a superpower and her allies to attack even a small nation to prevent it from occupying the territory of other people. Hence, since the U.S. and its coalition established the precedent of attacking Iraq for occupying Kuwait, presumably the Russians and their coalition will attack Israel for occupying the West Bank. But obviously this will be a reduced force since the communists no longer have sway over the whole population. Nevertheless, in modern times, as we have pointed out previously, a smaller terroristic invasion with devastating weapons can be equal to the old-style invasion by massive forces. The answer to why Ezekiel would pose that a huge nation like Russia would invade a small one like Israel (and lose!) is, perhaps, that all the Russians aren't coming. A reasonable scenario for our times (and again we are speculating from our own current events) would be a relatively small-sized invasion of communists in league with Middle Eastern terroristic forces, comprising a force deadly enough to handle a small country like Israel.

Of course, they'll get the shock of their lives. The God of Israel has had enough of invasions of His Promised Land and He will smash this one with His mighty fist and the Tribulation Period will be under way. The Antichrist will apparently seize the moment of the attempted invasion of Israel to persuade the Israelis to make a seven-year peace covenant with him so that they have ample protection from such adventures in the future. A shaky Israel, relived but now bereft of its major weapons, which had to be fired off in the invasion, will have to comply.

But the communists will not be able to get the job done by themselves and in time-honored Russian fashion will instigate an alliance among the enemies of the target country, just as in the wars of 1956, 1967 and 1973. The Russians will call on the

Arab antagonists of Israel and Ezekiel has specified "Persia, Ethiopia and Libya" (Ez 38:5). Of these potential invaders, the one most changed by recent events is, of course, Ezekiel's "Persia," which encompassed an area inland from Israel comprising Iran, Iraq and much of what is now Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. What changed, of course, is the alliances and relationships within modern Persia. It is almost an Arab tradition to exchange enemies for friends and friends for enemies on a never-ending basis. Evidently, the Russian invasion will happen at a moment when Persia is extremely antagonistic toward Israel and able to act, more or less, in concert, which is not always true of Arab governments.

But this is just such a moment. Right now Iraq has egg on its face in front of the whole world and Iran has recovered from its eight-year war with Iraq and is fully armed with a shiny new air force of Iraqi planes (which it held onto after the war). Syria's friendship is always for sale and, in this case, will go to her old friend Russia, the highest bidder, taking Lebanon with it. Little Jordan, with its pathetic King Hussein, will try once again to side with the big boys and see if it can steal something, the king's classical mistake throughout his entire career of devastating his own country to increase his personal fortune. "Politics makes strange bedfellows," goes the old expression and we now

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## HEBREW LESSON

אלהים שמע תפילתי

*Elohim sh'meah t'filateh*

O God, hear my prayer

## The Russians Are (Still) Coming!

*Continued from Page 2*

have a king-size bed adequate for several uncomfortable kings.

We are already observing Russia cozying up to Iraq and Iran. The Russians have to do something with these new found alliances if they are going to stay in business — the business of grabbing territory and people to shove under the communist flag. Political alliances are like muscles: “Use ’em or lose ’em.”

To complete our look at the allies in the invasion, Libya and Ethiopia are nicely in place and ready to play their parts. Col. Gadhafi can be counted on to punish Israel in whatever way he can and the Ethiopians\*, starving and in unrelenting civil war, have nothing to lose by throwing in their lot with what they will assume to be easy winners in some new Marxist Middle East.

And this sums up the contemporary positions of Russia and her allies. If there is any change between now and when our new book is issued, probably early in 1992, you can be sure that we’ll chronicle that in this letter and in the “Levitt Letter Extra”.

Without a doubt, we live in the sort of times Scripture has in mind when it says, “...look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh” (Lk. 21:28).



\*Please see the latest *Levitt Letter Extra* for an analysis of the new Ethiopian situation.

# Letters to Zola

Dear Zola,

I have a question for you personally — “Are you a Christian first or a Jew first?!”

Up to now, my perception was that you were a Jewish Believer who was concerned with the saving of souls (Jews and Gentiles) through Jesus because the path to God via the Law was humanly impossible. Your recent programs and newsletters cause me great concern. I feel recently you spend more time justifying the acts (wrong or right) and the existence of the non-Christian state of Israel, and in condemning anti-Semitism, than exclaiming the Gospel of our Lord.

Rabbi, are you a Christian first or a Jew first?

Yours in the Blood of our Lord,

R.M.  
Ft. Washington, MD

The distinction you draw does not exist in Christ: “There is neither Jew nor Greek. . .for ye are all one in Christ Jesus” (Gal. 3:28). In defending the Jewish people, to whom the Messiah referred as “My brethren,” I feel I *am* “exclaiming” the Gospel of our Lord.

Zola

Dear Zola,

I watch your program each week and I am appalled by your anti-Arab, anti-German statements. Most Americans are descendants of the Germans in one way or another. The Anglo-Saxons are of German ancestry.

Your anti-Arab ravings are also repugnant to millions of decent Arabs worldwide and it is repugnant to me. The Zionists have brought so much misery into the world. One day Palestine will be liberated and once again it will be in the hands of its rightful owners, the Palestinians.

I strongly support Saddam Hussein’s attack on Israel as a step toward liberation. The attack is an act of self-defense and in the near future history will vindicate the Palestinians and Saddam Hussein.

Thank you,  
J.A.W.  
Healdton, OK

“. . .inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me” (Mt. 25:40).

Zola

Dear Zola and Staff,

I’m one American of nearly 100% German ancestry who’s very, very much behind Zola — even when skeptical/critical of recent events in Germany! Our giving, on a modest, one-income family, is an indication of this. Please continue the Levitt Letter Extra.

J.S.  
Wales, WI

# “PEACE, PEACE; WHEN THERE IS NO PEACE” (Jer. 8:11)

by Zola Levitt

After watching for months the cavortings of Secretary of State James Baker in the Middle East, I had planned an editorial protesting his anti-Israel attitude. This untalented, small-time sharpie, who seeks to cut deals involving millions of human beings like a poker player hustling a few bucks, offends me. I had hoped his unrelenting criticism of Israel was only a pose to please our Arab masters, but I'm beginning to think he really hates Israel and means to divide the land and make it hopeless to defend.

In my case, I was beaten to the punch by a brilliant letter in the *Jerusalem Post* during our June tour. The writer is an articulate, responsible Gentile believer who is a qualified spokesman on this situation. I couldn't have written what follows as well, so here are his thoughts.

*It amazes me how much the diaspora mentality still governs the behaviour of many politicians.*

*MK Michael Eitan returned from his recent trip to the U. S., reportedly having been advised not to further offend the sensibility of Secretary of State James Baker, who took it as a personal affront that every time he came to Israel it was to be greeted by a newly established settlement.*

*Now we all would (at least almost all of us would), I think, agree that there is no need to unnecessarily exacerbate the already fragile relationship between the U. S. and Israel by unwise and superfluous actions. However, what does annoy me is how Israel, like the Jews in Europe, always manages to be placed in the position where it is to blame, and that it is its fault, and not the fault of its antisemitic "friends," that it is treated this way.*

*Speaking about Israel offending Mr. Baker, who has really been offending whom?*

*Who was it who told Israel to forswear once and for all its dream of a greater Israel; an Israel that even in its greater size would be no bigger than Vermont, and which the Secretary of State had not even visited when he made his remark?*

*Who was it who said in the Senate, for all the world to hear, "If Mr. Shamir is serious about desiring peace, here is my telephone number where he can reach me"?*

*Is that the way to talk to the prime minister, in front of all of Israel's enemies, and implying that Israel's present government is not really serious in its quest for peace? This after the government has at least, under the Shamir plan, offered free elections to the Palestinian populations of Judea and Samaria. And notwithstanding that 70 percent of these people ardently supported Saddam Hussein even while his Scud missiles were falling on Israel's population centers?*

*And then again, who was it who scolded Israel — using his visit in Damascus of all places to upbraid the Jewish State for its settlement policy? Did he have to choose the capital of Israel's most deadly enemy from which to lecture it?*

*This is the Mr. Baker whom the Israelis have had to put up with. A man who has no qualms about meeting with Syrian President Hafez Assad or Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Shara many times, but who openly loathes the idea of meeting with the brilliant former general, now Minister of Housing Ariel Sharon, and who refuses to permit even his cabinet ministers, like Jack Kemp, to meet with him in their offices.*

*Surely Mr. Baker should be asked whether compared with Assad — who had backed international terrorists responsible for the deaths, among others, of 230 U. S. Marines in Lebanon, and hundreds of passengers aboard Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie — it should not be less problematic to meet with Sharon.*

*Jan Willem van der Hoeven  
Spokesman, International  
Christian Embassy Jerusalem*

# Born Again, Again

I'm going to take some space in this newsletter to thank you most sincerely for your prayers about my health and to tell you of a life-changing experience I've had. I know that many of you are aware that I had bypass surgery in 1982, to the tune of six bypasses, to try to cope with very serious and advanced coronary artery disease. Since then, I have asked for prayer from time to time and have had moments when I thought I was about to meet the Lord face-to-face at last. One of those was when I composed the song "Father, I'm Coming Home" on the *Messiah* album. Two individuals I knew personally died within nine years after their bypass operations. Recently I learned of a third person, much younger than myself, who went on to be with the Lord in this way also. Naturally, this gave me some thoughtful moments.

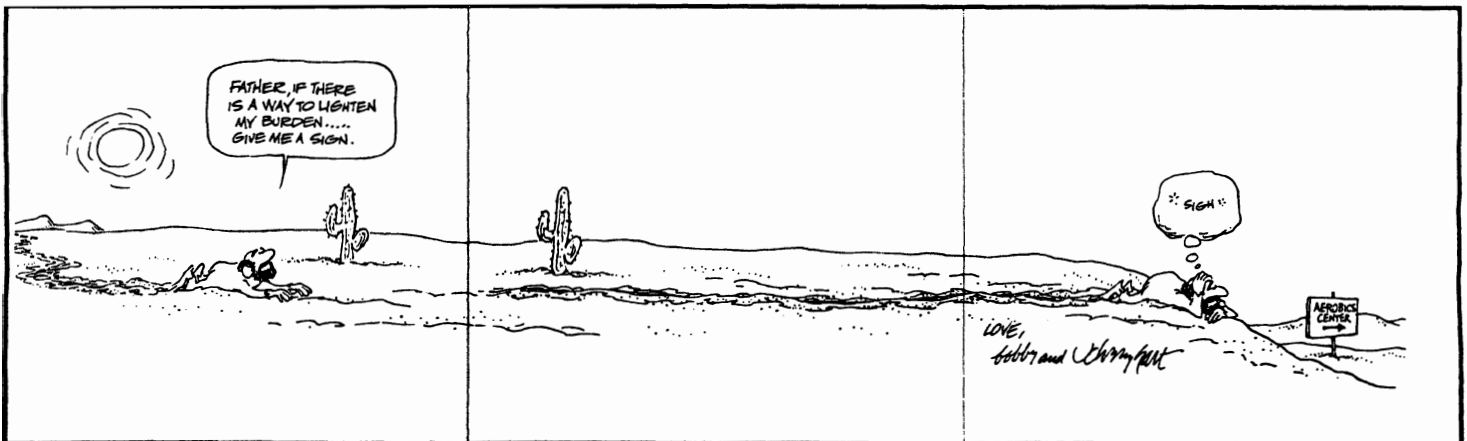
Well, I know now that many of you did pray for me and that the fervent prayers of righteous men avail much indeed, as Scripture tells us. Please know that I'm in very good condition, and that is certified medically, without a doubt. I underwent a Positive Emission Tomography (PET) Scan of my heart on May 6<sup>th</sup> and the results were nothing short of amazing. Dr. Kenneth Cooper, the famous director of the Aerobics Center here in Dallas, was as surprised as I was to see my heart with clear major arteries and clear bypasses this long after the operation. What minor arterial blockage that was seen was typical, or even less than one would expect, in any man of my age. The results gave me quite a lift, I can tell you, and virtually a new lease on life. I feel like I've been "born again, again."

It all started April 17<sup>th</sup> when I had a total physical work-up at the Cooper Clinic with the great preventive medicine physician himself attending me. My stress test came out suspiciously good for a man we all supposed was deteriorating or heading for another bypass operation. Dr. Cooper requested the PET Scan and enrolled me in his remarkable thirteen-day In-Residence Wellness Program. That took place during the first two weeks of May and involved residence at the Aerobics Center with long days of nutritious, low-calorie meals, repeated exercise sessions and lectures on nutrition, various lifestyle diseases, learning to relax, the art of buying running shoes and other exercise gear, etc. It was a most thorough re-education on how to live properly — physically, mentally and emotionally — and it was one of the most spiritual experiences I've ever had along the lines of taking care of the "temple of God." Our bodies, after all, are not our own: "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body..." (I Cor. 6:20). These bodies made by God were given to us for transporting our spirits around in this earthly realm during this temporal age and we should return them in reasonable condition. Job, after all, anticipated that "in my flesh will I see God" (Jb. 19:26) and we must assume that he took reasonable care of that flesh.

The PET Scan appointment actually occurred during my residence at the Aerobics Center and so I was two different people during that strenuous program. Before the test, I had reason to believe I could drop dead from too much exertion and so I tried to beg off the more strenuous conditioning and fitness sessions and to skip the occasional lecture for a nap. After the test, needless to say, I was the first to show up every time. I lost five

(Continued on Page 6)

Our thanks to viewer Johnny Hart, creator of *B.C.* and *Wizard of Id*, for this custom-made "Zola" comic strip.



## HEBREW LESSON

הַלְּלוּ-אֱלֹהִים בְּקִדְשׁוֹ

Hal-le-lu 'el be-kad-sho

PRAISE GOD IN HIS SANCTUARY  
(Ps.150:1)



### Born Again, Again

*Continued from Page 3*

pounds during the program and achieved virtual miracles with my blood chemistry. My cholesterol fell from 247 to 219 and the HDL/total cholesterol ratio dropped from 9.1 to 6.6. For those knowledgeable of these figures, that's an amazing amount of recovery in so short a period of time. Dedicated exercisers and nutritionists count on results like that over a period of months, not days.

Prayers about my heart are really no longer necessary, since they have apparently had the desired effect. And I really do want to emphasize how very unusual it is for a man in my stressful circumstances — traveling constantly, operating a very large international ministry on a shoestring

and having the gravest coronary artery disease — to have such a good report. The three major arteries were so clogged in 1982 that they had to be bypassed six times with grafts from a vein in my leg, a tedious, delicate and debilitating surgery from which it took months to recover, followed by a number of years to become fully active again. Well, those arteries ought to be filled up at this time, along with their bypasses, since that's the disease I have and it was not actually cured. Nevertheless, the heart is clean and blood flow is virtually normal, even exceptional for my stage of life.

So, in view of the fact that there must be many praying with a real gift of intercessory prayer, could you now switch to praying for those in real need in this world? I almost feel guilty about the fact that all those prayers and tens of thousands of dollars can be spent to repair the heart of one American while forty thousand children die per day in the Third World of easily curable diseases (malnutrition, dehydration, untreated infections, etc.). The Kurds need prayer, the South Africans need prayer, the Israelis and the Palestinians always need prayer, and every one of us knows people around us who need prayer badly. I can only thank you from the bottom of my restored heart for your efforts and refer you further to those in need of your gifts.

I certainly hope I will have the discipline to continue with Dr. Cooper's excellent program. You will be the first to know if I'm successful, since you get a good look at me every week. I received many letters from you about my putting on weight, which was what sent me to the good doctor in the first place. It suddenly seemed so much easier to gain weight and so much harder to exercise it back off that I kind of lost my grip for awhile. That was all too obvious on the program, but from here on in I intend to shrink back down before your very eyes. If you are impressed with the results, please write to me and I will give you details about the program at the Aerobics Center. As far as I'm concerned, it's the finest medical endeavor I have ever undertaken and it has changed my outlook on life a great deal.

It looks as if I'll be with you until the Rapture, when we will all have our bodies refurbished for the Kingdom and eternity. It feels good to know that I'll be here to serve you for a long time. Thank you again for your love and your prayers.

# Where Else But in the Holy Land?

by Kelly Catanzaro

There's a falafel fryer in Afula who looks just like Zola. So what's falafel and where's Afula? Falafel is a wonderful Middle Eastern concoction made of ground chickpeas and exotic spices fried into patties and stuffed into pita bread. And Afula is a lovely little Israeli town on the outskirts of the Valley of Armageddon. Zola discovered his look-alike on a past tour and keeps a picture of the two of them, posing with their almost identical bald heads together, on the wall in his office.

You've probably read articles in past *Levitt Letters* about the mountaintop experiences on our tours of the lands of the Bible — following the Lord in baptism in the waters of the Jordan River; sharing a quiet communion just outside the entrance to the Garden Tomb; climbing the ancient marble steps of Mars Hill to stand where Paul proclaimed that God does not dwell in temples made with hands (Acts 17:24); etc. — but this time we wanted to let you in on some of the unlikely traditions and surprises our pilgrims encounter.

There's the Valley of Butterflies on the Greek island of Rhodes, where a native guide creeps quietly into the midst of a still, green forest, whacks a tree with a stick, and a multi-colored cloud of butterflies lifts itself from the ground and explodes into the sky!

When the cruise ship docks at Rhodes and most of the vacationers head for the marketplace, our group turns into a narrow alley in the old city that leads to a deserted synagogue looked after by Lucia, an Auschwitz survivor. If you saw our *Living Waters* series, you may remember our interview with Lucia and the story of how, during World War II, the Nazis sent ships to this tranquil island to transport the Jews of Rhodes to concentration camps. Jewish soldiers in the British army lovingly restored the synagogue, although there weren't enough survivors even to form the ten-man quorum required to hold services. So the lovely synagogue remains a silent memorial to those who would have filled it each Sabbath.

Across the street from the Presidential Palace in Athens is a park that's home to dozens, maybe hundreds, of cats of all colors, shapes and sizes. Kittens are curled up under every bench, scamper-

ing across the sidewalks, rustling the bushes, and climbing along the branches of almost every tree. Athenian commuters faithfully leave food as they pass through the cat park on their way to work each morning.

Another Greek attraction, less well known than the Acropolis or the Olympic Coliseum, is Petros, the aged pelican who presides over the picturesque island of Mykonos. He struts up and down the boardwalk and among the island's storybook whitewashed houses with brightly colored trim, entertaining tourists from around the world. He's become quite famous.

In Israel, one of the biggest surprises to our pilgrims is the food: Breakfast always includes smoked fish, raw onions and cucumbers; by lunchtime, if you're craving American food, you can stop at McDavid's for a hamburger (but never a cheeseburger, because kosher laws forbid the mixing of meat and dairy foods); and in the evening there's St. Peter's fish on a floating restaurant on the Sea of Galilee. But don't ask for cream in your coffee or butter on your bread if meat is being served! And be patient with your waiter — with the recent influx of Russian immigrants to Israel, he's likely to be an out-of-work astronomer or

(Continued on Page 6)

## HEBREW LESSON

הַשָּׁמַיִם מְסַפְּרִים כְּבוֹד־אֵל

*Ha'shamayim  
m'saprim k'vod El*

*The heavens declare  
the glory of God.*



## Where Else But in the Holy Land?

(Continued from Page 3)

chemical engineer, and therefore not a very good waiter.

The Sabbath elevator is another minor inconvenience unique to Israel. From sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday, one elevator in each building stops on every single floor. If you're on the 20<sup>th</sup> floor, the door opens and closes 19 times on the way to the lobby! Because of the Levitical instruction that no work is to be done on the Sabbath (Lev. 23:3), and the Jewish tradition that no fire is to be kindled then, the special elevator frees Orthodox Jews from the forbidden pushing of an elevator button (which the rabbis consider the kindling of a fire).

Where else but in the Holy Land would you find "The Good Fence," a spot on the Lebanese/Israeli border where for years sick Arab children were handed over the fence to Israeli doctors, who treated them and passed them back across to their parents? Eventually the Israeli Ministry of Health established a clinic there and a gate was opened to all who would come.

And only in Israel could Zola have witnessed a modern day illustration of the Lord's parable about the bridegroom who comes unexpectedly for his bride (Mt. 25). According to Jewish tradition, upon a couple's engagement the young man goes away to prepare a place for his betrothed — a bridal chamber — and the bride waits patiently for his return, not knowing when he will come for her. As the tradition goes, the returning bridegroom is re-

quired to signal his approach before sweeping his bride away to the place where the wedding party is waiting. During one of our tours, as Zola was taking a walk in Tel Aviv, he noticed a young woman trying on a wedding dress in a shop window. As he watched, he heard a loud blast from a car's horn, then two young men in tuxedos burst into the shop and stole the startled bride.

So, there's more to a pilgrimage to Israel than you might imagine. Of course you see the holy places that were well known to the Lord and His disciples, but you also experience some things that are unexpected. I'm writing this from Israel during our summer tour and some of my own surprises this time were watching the Falashas, the newly arrived Ethiopian immigrants, delightfully discovering indoor plumbing and electricity at an absorption center in Jerusalem; joining an Israeli archeologist in a dig at an excavation from the time of Ezra; and being pulled into a whirling circle of Druse dancers on the Tiberias waterfront.

It's a great joy to be able to share the land of the Bible with you through our tours, our television programs and the *Levitt Letter*. And since we'll all be journeying with the King to Jerusalem when He returns for His 1,000-year reign, it's certainly worthwhile to become familiar with the Promised Land in this life.

So until we're together there, please remember to pray for the lost sheep of the house of Israel to whom the Messiah came (Mt. 15:24). And thank you for enabling us to bring something of the Holy Land to you.

## HEBREW LESSON

אַשְׁרֵי הַגּוֹי אֲשֶׁר-יְהוָה אֱלֹהָיו

*Ashrei hagoyee ashrei Yahweh elohav*

Blessed is the nation  
whose God is Jehovah.

Psalm 33:12





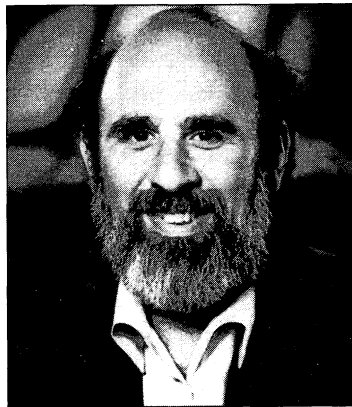
August, 1991

Volume 13, Number 8

## *SPECIAL EDITION*

### LETTERS TO ZOLA

#### **A NOTE FROM ZOLA**



Dear Friends,

At our ministry we receive a lot of interesting mail, much of which is a real blessing for us to read. There are moving accounts of people, Jewish and Gentile, who have recently come to know the Lord or whose spiritual lives have been affected in some way by Zola Levitt Ministries. Since you, our supporters, are the owners of this ministry and have a real part in our work, this special edition of the *Levitt Letter* features your letters to us — your testimonies, your compliments and your complaints.

I'm not particularly known for my tact or for treating sensitive subjects delicately, and some of you have said that I'm too soft on the New Age Movement, too pro-Israel, and too hard on doctors, lawyers and the U.S. postal system. Others of you have encouraged me to continue to be candid and forthright. I hope you enjoy this sampling of "Letters to Zola."

I want to personally thank all of you who care enough about this ministry to support our efforts and to take the time to write to us when you think we are doing something wrong — or something right!

Your messenger,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Zola'.

**"Joy shall be in  
heaven over one  
sinner that  
repenteth. . ."**

(Luke 15:7)

*(We received the following letter from a Jewish woman whose daughter had previously contacted us for literature to help her mother make a decision about the Messiah.)*

Dear Zola,

After working on the same job for six years and being a dedicated employee, I lost my job. For several months I searched for another position to no avail and in the meantime I got quite ill, went to the emergency room...and [the doctors] found a mass in my chest, near the heart. I had surgery and, thank God, it was not cancer....Then I found out that the home which I was renting was to be sold.

I am a 53-year-old Jewish woman who went from making \$22,000 a year to nothing. I called my daughter and her hus-

band and asked them if I could come to live with them, and because they are the loving kids of Christ they came to Denver to get me...I attended their church a few times, met their pastor, but because of the way I was brought up, Orthodox Jewish, I thought it wasn't what I was looking for. Although the kids had Bible study at their home, I still thought it wasn't for me. While watching the Christian series, "Distant Thunder," [on television] something happened to me. At 2:10 A.M. on February 11, 1991, I was reborn and Jesus came into my life. I was baptized the same day....I have now dedicated my life to Jesus Christ my Savior, who died for me.

Zola, I have been watching your program and am truly impressed with your teachings. Thank you for all of the cooperation and sincere help you and yours offered my daughter.

J.R.  
Elkhart, Kansas



Dear Zola Levitt Friends,

I want to say that I appreciate your ministry very much. Thank you for your letter responding to my questions about the feasts of Israel, and the book you sent.

My father was born in Berlin, Germany and emigrated to Canada at the age of 19. [He] was led to the Lord when I was two years old and my mother accepted the Savior one week later.

I have always been interested in flying, and [after accepting the Lord] I enrolled in an aviation course at Moody Bible Institute. After completing my studies in Chicago and in Elizabethton, Tennessee, I married and returned

home for two years. It was during this time that my father, in the evening around our fireplace on Christmas day, informed us that we were all related to Jesus Christ in two ways. Firstly, we were related to Christ because each of us had decided to yield our lives to Him. Secondly, we were related to Christ because, "I am Jewish," my father explained. He told us that he went through the holocaust before emigrating to Canada, and for fear of us children being hurt he had not told us. This was the first I had ever heard of my true heritage!! What a blessed Christmas that was!!

I am now in the Philippines flying for Wycliffe Bible Translators. I am thrilled with what I am learning from the book you sent [about the feasts of Israel]. Thank you for helping make this possible, and for all of your help.

Yours in Yeshua,

G.D.  
Philippines



Dear Zola,

Enclosed please find a small donation to help with your ministry. Through you, God has healed the raw edges of my existence.

Since returning from your basic Israel tour in October, my husband, the skeptic, has become a believer. Every day I think of you and I thank God for you.

May God bless you with good health, happiness and prosperity in this world. I'm not worried about you in the Kingdom.

Sincerely,

N. F.  
Columbia, TN

Dear Zola,

You have taught me a lot through the years. I was saved in August of 1970 and started listening to you on Christian radio in St. Louis, Missouri, in about 1971 or 1972. Later on we moved back to our native Texas and I went to a luncheon where you were speaking. You signed a book for me there.

Get this. Twenty years later, my husband (Bob) started watching your television broadcast that comes on at 10:00 P.M. on Sunday nights. He had not been in church for 25 years — thought he had to keep himself saved by do's and don'ts and said he *knew* he *couldn't* keep it up. All the while I was saved I told him he could be, too, and how we had the easy part, Jesus did the hard part. He just said, "It's not that easy, there's gotta be more to it." After a couple of months of NOT MISSING ZOLA he asked me one Saturday afternoon what time my church started. I told him 10:40 A.M. and he asked if I minded if he went the next day. Of course, I was more than happy for him to go, and he has not missed a Sunday since. He accepted Christ as his own Savior on January 20.

He said he's *going* to meet you someday though, so don't be surprised when a big burly Bob comes lumbering in to shake your hand or hug your neck. He dearly loves you . . . me too. Just needed to tell you.

Bless you for your zeal and perseverance.

L.H.  
Ft. Worth, TX

# Ye Shall Know Them by Their Fruits (and Vegetables)

Dear Zola,

Thank you for your *Levitt Letter*. This week you mention the New Age Movement population at only 28,000. I invite you to spend the afternoon at Whole Foods Market and you will meet at least that many right here in Dallas. You might touch base with Marlin Maddoux regarding counts, unless you are referring to card-carrying members of a New Age church. The New Age movement is larger than the civil rights movement.

Not to complain about your information, but you might be in error on this one. We do not want to lull Christians to sleep about the size of New Age.

L.P.  
Dallas, TX



Dear Zola,

I was stunned to read my favorite eschatologist downplay the danger from the New Age movement. There are *millions* of New Agers. They are (at the top levels) advocates of destroying all Christians! Theirs is an “umbrella” group, very loose, flexible, fluid, but they have people of *power* in high places — they will all come together on cue. Many are convinced that the NA’s will be a large part of the Great Whore, teaming with WCC and Eastern theology. Please research this subject more deeply and rescind your casualness!

Maranatha,

K.R.  
Glendale, AZ

## FAMOUS PROPHECY FALSE ALARMS

- > Satan in a corporate logo
- > An abundance of new vulture eggs (presumably for cleaning up the remains of the coming Russian invasion of Israel)
- > Finding the ashes of the red heifer
- > Fear that Henry Kissinger was the Antichrist
- > Calling a certain computer “the Beast” of Revelation
- > King Rockefeller, sovereign of the U.S.
- > Sending American stones for the Third Temple
- > Social Security cards using the numbers 666
- > Fear of Madalyn Murray O’Hair banishing Christianity from the airwaves
- > And so many time and energy wasting others!

Dear Readers,

*I stand with what I wrote in the May, 1991 Levitt Letter — we’re overdoing it. According to the United States Census, as quoted in The New York Times, there are 28,000 New Agers. As for their advocating destroying Christians, I’ve never heard that and don’t know that to be true. It’s nonsense, I believe, to lump other religions, cults and philosophies (such as Eastern religions, liberal denominations, secular humanists and those who prefer to shop at one particular market in Dallas) into the New Age category. I’m not prepared to participate in a revolution over a buzzword. As for the Church — composed entirely of convicted sinners — where is it written that we’re suppose to police the world for sin? Who ever made a police force out of ex-cons? My understanding of our responsibilities as Christians is that we are to love, witness, care for the sick, feed the hungry, etc. The ministry of rebuke is overcrowded.*



**“Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem”  
(Ps. 122:2)**

Dear Zola,

Many thanks for the greatest trip I’ve ever taken. I’ve heard many comments about the land of Israel before, but one truly has to take the journey himself to experience and appreciate the beauty of Israel.

May God bless you richly for not canceling this tour, despite the Middle East tensions. My feeling in Israel was, “What tension?” It’s so unfortunate that the media’s “extorted” problems in Israel caused many people to miss a blessing. My heart’s desire is to return to the Holy Land again, and with none other than the Levitt tour.

In Christ,  
R. D.  
Kalamazoo, MI

# “WHY DO PEOPLE HATE THE JEWS?”

Dear Zola,

On tonight's show you asked the question, "Why do people hate the Jews?"

I have never seen a Jew mistreat anyone. When the immigrants came to New York (1940's and 50's), I watched them establish themselves by cooperating with one another and it was not long until they had learned the language and whatever it took to become successful in business.

It is my opinion that people in general were so jealous of the industrious Jew and Jewish accomplishments that rather than compete with Jews they would simply destroy the Jews. However, the indomitable Jew continued to succeed and this fact built up a lot of resentment, which finally turned into hate.

When I attended high school in Great Neck, New York, my class was 99 percent Jewish and I had to work very hard to keep up!

You can hold your head up high, Zola; the quality (excellence) of your productions speaks for itself. Your music, delightful, and your programs from Israel are spiritual and enchanting.

I can't think of any more superlatives, so I will close with best wishes for your health, happiness, and continued success.

Sincerely,

C.D.  
Phoenix, AZ

Dear Zola,

You asked why the world hates the Jews. The following are the reasons I feel may be part of the answer.

Envy for being God's chosen people and Y'shua is a Jew!

Blamed for crucifixion.

Jealousy of their industriousness and success in what they do (Gentiles are lazy!) in spite of obstacles!

Their unity all over the world.

Last, but not least: *Shame and guilt* for what has been done to them! I pray that the memory of the Holocaust never fades from the mind of man!

Thank you for your ministry! I've learned more from your teaching than any others, especially how the Old Covenant relates to the New Covenant! Thank you again, keep well (I pray daily for you and, of course, others!). Your films of the Holy Land are so uplifting — I cry each time I see them, especially Jerusalem!

Again, my heartfelt thanks to you and all those who help make the Word live!

In His Name,

D. V. (Messianic Gentile)  
Columbus, OH

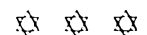
Dear Zola,

I would like to receive your newsletter.

Also, I must confess that I came to believing in Jesus and the Bible through the conspiratorial avenue, and in that one is introduced to the Aryan Nation [neo-Nazi] point of view, of which I'm sure you're acquainted. As I was reading the Old Testament, God put in my hand the booklet, "Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion." When comparing the two with an honest mind God showed me there was no way this could have been written and believed by true Israelites.

I want to apologize for being at one time anti-Semitic. There is no difference when we're in Christ Jesus. May God bless your ministry.

T.G.  
Denver, CO



Dear Zola,

You asked on your television broadcast that if anyone knows why the Jewish people are persecuted throughout the world to please let you know. You stated that the Jewish people had done nothing to deserve this treatment. The following quoted Scriptures from the prophet Jeremiah are just another PROOF to me that God does exist and that His decrees cannot be changed. But, Zola, the good news is that God hasn't forgotten His chosen ones and according to His prophet Jeremiah a New Covenant is forthcoming for the nation of Israel and they will no longer be

## “CALLING ’EM AS I SEE ’EM”

Dear Zola:

For the last couple of years my escape from the turmoil and pressure of the day has involved a relaxing night ride listening to our complete collection of your cassette tapes. Tonight as Lamb sang “Tell My Brothers I’ll Be Home,” we both felt that the feeling of brotherhood normally invoked by those words had been severely injured.

After reading your recent *Levitt Letter* we were shocked and deeply saddened in regard to your one-sided view of physicians. To stereotype physicians as demigods seems unfair. Is it any less Christian to feel this way toward doctors than for Gentiles to hate Jews, or for all evangelists to be considered false prophets?

How do you compare the few physicians with AIDS to those who take care of tens of thousands of AIDS patients? What are the rights of the physicians without AIDS? Do these doctors have a choice? Morally, ethically, and even legally they are required to attend these patients at risk to themselves and without regard to reimbursement. Unlike yourself, many of these patients cannot provide adequate insurance.

You particularly express bitterness towards physicians’ charges....As a medical oncologist, I spent ten years in training after college. I was 31 years old before I had my first full time job....The hours worked divided by the gross income produces an hourly wage of between \$4-6. Of course, this is before taxes which are from 40-50 percent.

I am not detailing this for sympathy but for a little understanding of what is, overall, an honorable profession.

Once again, we appreciate the light that you have shed on many topics, however, we know that your view of physicians, for the most part, is wrong and even unchristian. We only hope that the words expressed were out of ignorance and not malice.

Sincerely,

B. A.  
West Monroe, LA

☆ ☆ ☆

Sir:

Please do not waste my time nor your resources by sending me anything else from your office, as I will merely toss it in the trash, unopened.

You certainly have every right to disagree with the policies of our government in general, and our Secretary of State in particular, but to refer to him as an “untalented, small-time sharpie” and “a poker player hustling a few bucks” offends *me*.

To use money donated to you to advance the Christian cause to print your biased political opinion and to judge a person’s character is unwise, unchristian, and what’s more, it just ain’t right.

After reading that line from your letter, I threw it in the trash where the letter belonged. Anything else from your office will be accorded the same treatment.

Sincerely,

B. A.  
Greensboro, NC

Dear Zola,

We are subscribers to your *Levitt Letter Extra* and have been an avid supporter of your ministry for years. We were appalled by your statement at the beginning of the second paragraph of your February 7th letter indicating your view that “President Bush is really doing very well” considering that he has abrogated the religious freedom of our soldiers in Saudi Arabia.

My husband and I were shocked when President Bush would not allow the [Jewish soldiers in Saudi Arabia] to worship openly on Rosh Hoshana and later, at times, asked all other beliefs to do the same. Christmas had to be celebrated under cover....I just stood staring at the TV with my mouth open, I was so stunned!!

I know now how Daniel felt. Daniel continued to worship the God of the Bible openly and refused to bow to Nebuchadnezzar’s god.

To us President Bush has set a precedent for a one world order religion and the coming of the Antichrist.

Your TV Listeners,

Mr. & Mrs. R. S.

☆ ☆ ☆

Teacher:

You have made it necessary to reply to your tirade vs. Secretary of State Baker. I find your remarks unjustified! Are you really trying to destroy the wearisome efforts of the U.S., Arabs and Egyptians? Is it so difficult for

you to envision a peace conference between Israel and Syria? Why do you object to such an historic turning point in life for Jews, Arabs and Palestinians? Speaking out as you have in *Levitt Letter* Vol. 13, No. 7 and assuming a role as spokesman (religious) for millions, you should instead continue featuring life in the Holy Land, continue to pray for the lost sheep, shepherd your flock, hope to tear down the barriers (i.e. Berlin Wall). I believe your hope lies in Psalm 115:9: "O, Israel, trust thou in the Lord."

Try to remember too, teacher, the enrichment of all life in Israel is dependent upon the generosity of the U.S.A., your only true friend anywhere!

Pray for Him that can bring peace. Do not revile the Secretary's efforts. Support Syria, Arabs, Palestinians and consider the good work as objective to peace.

You should not be negating peace efforts by your negative observations. This does not sound like Zola Levitt Ministries. Leave this to the politicians.

Yours in God,

W. F.  
W. Melbourne, FL

*Dear Readers,*

*I am an American and this is a democracy and I would feel remiss to not criticize our leadership when I think it has gone wrong. This is not a country in which we appoint some human being to be a god because we've lost track of our God. We err spiritually to lose any opportunity to correct our course as democrats who have voted into*

*office one of our own number. Should you or I ever forget that the President and his appointees work for us we will turn this place into the Soviet Union of old, where an unquestioned dictator directs our lives according to his whim. On the whole I think President Bush has done a good job. He conducted nine-tenths of the Iraq war with skill and courage, only quitting a day early and leaving the world an impossible dictator to continue to cope with. So far as your complaints go, if they accuse me of criticizing the leadership of a great democracy, I hope there's enough evidence to convict me.*

*And in the world I experience, doctors make lots more than \$4-\$6 per hour, and Arab tyrants want the destruction of Israel, not peace. Forgive me for calling 'em as I see 'em.*

**Z**

## Jews Of Color

Dear Zola,

I appreciate your ministry very much, but I have a question or two or three.

First, out of curiosity, how is it that there are black Jews? Do they claim their Jewishness from the legend of Solomon and Sheba? If so, how credible is this?

Second, you failed to mention that Israel is barring Ethiopian Jews who have become Christians from entering. Why did you not mention this? Sometimes I think that you are so concerned about portraying Israel in a favorable light that you don't share all that should be shared. I look forward to your response.

No Name

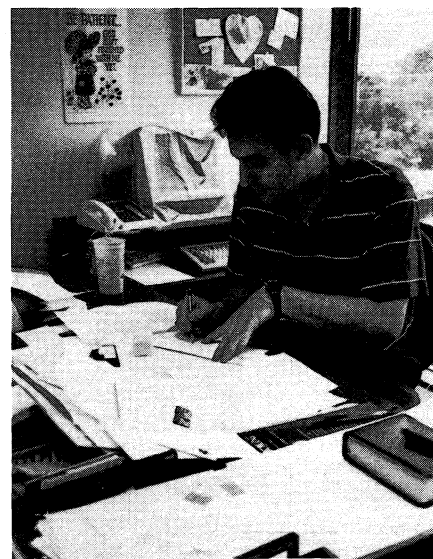
*Dear Readers,*

*Yes, Ethiopian Jews believe that they are descended from Solomon and the queen of Sheba (although there is no Scriptural evidence that such a union took place). More to the point, Falashas are very sincere about their Judaism and are among the most faithful of worshippers and law-keepers.*

*Concerning Israel's banning of Christian Jews from Ethiopia, that is something that is yet to be tested. No Ethiopian has filed a legal complaint because of this type of discrimination, so no real law has been enacted addressing this issue.*

*And though I don't always portray Israel favorably, I usually do because I believe Israel's positions are usually right. Problems such as the one with the Christian Ethiopians are the normal growing pains of a democracy. Don't we have our own problems to work out in our dealings with Black Americans? I think we all realize that Israel won't be a perfect Kingdom until its King arrives.*

**Z**



*"And ye shall know the truth. . ."*  
(John 8:32).

# “God loveth a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7)

Dear Zola,

Please forgive me for drinking in the Word and not supporting your ministry. I know my pledge is small but you can depend on it. I only pray there will be more like me who have grown spiritually under your teaching and will now start supporting your program.

I pray for the peace of Jerusalem and the coming of Christ and His saints to rescue His people.

Dear Zola, thank you for your tremendous effort to tell the world the old, old story and bring souls to the feet of Jesus and I want to be part of that.

Your sister in Christ,

J.D.  
Pittsburgh, PA

Dear Zola,

You don't make it very easy to (or encourage) regular giving through some sort of regular donations such as signing some sort of commitment (certainly it is a gimmick) that would make the donor part of “praying for Jerusalem and *paying* for Jerusalem.” I appreciate your low-profile approach. You said last night that it distresses you when people say that they love you because you are Jewish instead of loving you because you are Christian....I personally can't be a valued big-time contributor because of my fixed income but I plan to contribute a *little* regularly.

I have watched on and off for fifteen years...and I attended [a conference in] Indianapolis last

summer with the hope of seeing and hearing you in person. You might have remembered the frantic woman who approached you in the lobby because I couldn't even get in the room.

J.S.  
St. Clair Shore, MI

P.S.  
I may interrupt you talking to Peter in the Kingdom because I'm standing on a chair trying to see over the heads of the Saints! Save me a seat!



***“Give, and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over...” (Luke 6:38)***

## HEBREW LESSON

The Sh'ma is recited by Jewish people all over the world. This famous expression is extracted from Deuteronomy 6:4,

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד

Sh'ma yeesra'eyl adonai elohaynoo  
Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God,

adonai ekhad.  
the Lord is one.

Did you notice how the letters ך & ם are larger than the other letters? The reason why it's written this way in the Hebrew Bible is that together these letters form the Hebrew word meaning “witness” and so we are reminded that we are to be a witness of God's sovereignty.

persecuted but will be blessed again.

JEREMIAH 29:18:

And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and an hissing and a reproach, among all the nations whither I have driven them.

JEREMIAH 31:33-34:

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Zola, I pray that God will bless Israel soon and remember their sin no more. The nation of Israel has suffered too much in my opinion, but God is our judge, isn't he? All mankind in one way or another pays a penalty in this life.

God surely works in mysterious ways and we see only darkly part of the total plan. But, we hold on to Romans 8:28 and we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Thanks for your programs.

Sincerely yours,

A Reader  
Florida

Dear Readers,

*As I was sorting through your correspondence to us for this special edition of our newsletter, I received the following letter from Zola. He was visiting southern Louisiana (where former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke was elected as a representative) and he wanted to contribute these thoughts about anti-Semitism.*

*Kelly Catanzaro*

Dear Kelly,

I would like to submit a letter concerning anti-Semitism for our "Letters Issue" of the *Levitt Letter*.

In all of its forms, this sort of hatred must grieve the Holy Spirit. It's beginning to appear in especially subtle forms. Yesterday's New York Times had a story about the Temple Mount disturbance of last October and I was struck by the fact that this "news" appeared on the front page. I was sad that seventeen people died in that incident, but comparing violence for violence I could not help but be struck by that important newspaper's placement of the news: The Yugoslavian violence was on page 2; Cyprus, on which thousands have been killed, made page 3; the very delicate and potentially destructive situation in Moscow was on page 4; I had to turn back to page 5 to find the story of German unrest; and the news of Iraqi nuclear plants, with their potential for igniting Armageddon itself, made page 6.

The constant bombardment of tiny Israel, which seems to establish it as a brutal and intractable power, seems to be working. Some Americans who have not seen the place suppose this de-

mocracy is somehow worse than the dictatorships which surround it. Of all forms of anti-Semitism in the world today, the universal condemnation of the homeland of the Jewish people is by far the worst. I can imagine right now the thinking of the One who said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Mt. 25:40).

Another form of anti-Semitism is Replacement Theology (the teaching that the Church has become biblical Israel. It's true that God will deal harshly with Israel and then restore them and remember their sins no more. He has a covenant with the Jews — not with the Presbyterian U.S.A. denomination or any of the others that would claim for themselves the blessings designated for Israel. I would remind these churches, who so want to be Israel, of God's warning to that nation: "And I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hands of them that seek their lives. . . and I shall make this city desolate, and an hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all the plagues thereof" (Jer. 19:7-8). Ultimately, God will forgive Israel their sins. Why can't mankind, particularly Christians who realize their own sins before God, do the same?

Sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim,







October, 1991

Volume 13, Number 10

## “Hath God Cast Away His People?”

by Zola Levitt

*Israel is being assailed from all directions. The U. N. regards Zionism as racism, despite the fact that Israel's borders are open, especially to minorities like the Ethiopians. An amazing Arab disinformation campaign of many years has somehow succeeded in making tiny Israel, with a population of four million, seem like the brutal oppressor of the Arab nations with their combined population of 200 million. The American government has stooped to threatening to withhold from Israel loan guarantees necessary for housing Russian refugees, in order to force that small nation to participate in what promises to be a disastrous "peace conference." We are surrounded today by signs of the oncoming Tribulation Period and one of those signs is found in the unfortunate verse which identifies Israel as "hated of all nations" (Mt. 24:9). I am depressed and actually ashamed that our own nation is beginning to take part in that inevitable end times cursing of Israel. I am at a loss for what to write in protest.*

*A mindless set of "biblical" ideas called Replacement Theology would disenfranchise the Chosen People from their status with God altogether and replace them with the Christian Church. This amazing reconstruction of Scripture, which does violence to 10,000 verses, seems meant only in a spirit of anti-Semitism.*

*Recently, an excellent church in Tyler, Texas requested that I teach Paul's brilliant dissertation on the Jewish condition in Romans 9 - 11, which the Scofield Bible heads "The Gospel Does Not Set Aside the Covenants with Israel." Romans 10:1, the centerpiece of Paul's very personal writing, is part of the logo of this ministry: "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved." My heart's desire and prayer is the same as Paul's and at a time like this I was glad to comply with the assign-*

*ment at hand. I will share below, in abbreviated form, the lucid arguments and very persuasive theology of the great Apostle to the Gentiles on the plight of his first love, Israel.*

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The entire three chapters (Rom. 9 - 11) discusses the seeming lack of Jewish involvement in salvation by Christ. Jewish salvation was declining at that time (60 A.D.) despite Israel's "chosen" status. Had God abandoned them? Was He choosing someone else now instead? Was the Church to replace Israel? Was Christ strictly for the Gentiles and were the Jews saved under the Law?

The entire discussion begins with a statement of Paul's very deep concern for his people. He actually would have given up his own salvation in Christ if it would somehow help the Jewish people, he writes. He then enters a discussion in chapter 9 verse 6 on the cultural and spiritual posterity of Abraham. The statement, "For they are not all Israel which are of Israel" has given rise to a number

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## “Hath God Cast Away His People?”

(Continued from Page 1)

of cults that disenfranchise the Chosen People — the Moonies, the Mormons, the various lost tribe cults, etc. The statement simply distinguishes between spiritual people and unspiritual people. Both groups are found among the Jews (and among the Gentiles) liberally everywhere. God chooses whom He will (vs. 9-13), Paul goes on, and he gives examples of the choice of Isaac over Ishmael and Jacob over Esau, but He even “raised up” Pharaoh for His divine purposes (vs. 17, 18). We are not any more able to question the sovereignty of God than a lump of clay is able to question the choices of the potter (vs. 19-21). God deals with wrath and with mercy, as with the raising up of Pharaoh and the salvation of Jews and Gentiles (vs. 22-24). And though God will call out a massive Church of Gentiles, with the Jews there is always a believing remnant. Paul quotes Isaiah and other prophets concerning the idea of the remnant, which was apparent in his day and is obviously seen in today’s world, as well (vs. 27). The upcoming Tribulation Period will have the 144,000 as its remnant and the Kingdom will enjoy the participation of “all Israel”

when the Lord returns (Rom. 11:26). Paul ends his discussion in Romans 9 with the observation that the Gentiles have obtained righteousness by faith, but the unsaved Jews pursued it by works of the Law, which caused them to stumble “at that stumbling stone,” the Messiah, when He appeared (vs. 28-33).

Paul begins Romans 10 with the verse about his heart’s desire, quoted above, and admits that the Jewish zealotry for God is not according to knowledge. Having not understood the nature of God’s righteousness, they chose the Law and not Christ, when given the choice (vs. 2-4). At that time they should have understood the concept of true faith from Moses, at least that it was “nigh unto them” (vs. 8). The concept of achieving righteousness through pure faith is a thoroughly familiar idea in the Old Covenant, but one that escapes an external performer like a sacramental lawkeeper.

Paul then presents the “Gospel truth” for Jew and Gentile (vs. 9-13), quoting Joel 2:32, “. . . whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” There could be no mistaking the salvation covenant in Paul’s clear writing:

(Continued on Page 6)

## HEBREW LESSON

הַלְלוּ לַיהוָה שִׁיר חָדָשׁ

**Hallelujah! Sheeru la’Adonai  
sheer chadash**

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song.  
Psalm 149:1

## “Hath God Cast Away His People?”

*Continued from Page 2*

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Rom. 10:9-13).*

The apostle then discusses the universal problems of witnessing and missions, quoting the verse we often use on television when we ask for your support, “How shall they preach, except they be sent?” (vs. 15). He observes that Israel heard the Gospel adequately and was apprised in prophecy of God’s someday turning to the Gentiles. Moses and Isaiah both spoke of this (vs. 19, 20). And finally, at the end of Romans 10, Paul laments that God has stretched out His hand to Israel with little good results and he implies the question, “Hath God cast away His people?” which he answers in the first verse of chapter 11.

Paul’s answer to the above question is, “God forbid!” and he gives his own Jewish lineage as evidence that Jews are saved by faith in Christ, just as Gentiles are. Replacement Theology, the idea that the Church has replaced Israel, is certainly at odds with Scripture. Paul says plainly, “God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew” (11:1-2). He gives evidence of the sound doctrine of the remnant of Jewish believers of his day (vs. 2-6) and the fact that they understood that their salvation was by faith and not by works. And he then speaks of the Jews’ blindness in part and their rejection of the Gospel as providing the Gentiles the opportunity for salvation (vs. 11-25), hence the analogy of the wild olive branch — the Gentiles — being grafted into the good olive tree. Paul warns the Gentiles not to boast of their position, since in reality the Jewish branches are more natural to the original tree, and he cites a time when “the fullness of the Gentiles” will be accomplished (vs. 25) and the conversion of Israel will be undertaken again at the Second Coming.

In Romans 11:26 and 27, Paul states that “all Israel shall be saved.” These verses are misinterpreted to

mean that the Jews get a second chance just because they are Jews, but, in reality, they have the advantage of simply seeing the Lord with their own eyes as He accomplishes the Second Coming in Jerusalem. There are some things one just cannot disbelieve, such as seeing Him ride out of Heaven in a white robe identified as “King of Kings and Lord of Lords” and accompanied by a heavenly army. Wherever the Lord would come back, those people looking at Him would believe and Israel simply has the advantage of being at that location. The uncleanness of Israel, Paul states, was “in part” and the Lord’s coming solves it. As Zechariah pictures the Second Coming:

*And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem. . . In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness (Zech. 12:10 - 13:1).*

Concluding, Paul reiterates that Israel was treated corporately “like enemies” for the Gentiles’ sake, but God never recalled His “election” of them by the “everlasting” Abrahamic Covenant. Israel will yet receive all of God’s glorious promises, since they are irrevocable, or, as Paul puts it, “the gifts and calling of God are without repentance” (vs. 29).

The rest of the chapter reiterates the permanency of the covenants with Israel and the praise of the Lord for His elegant plan. Scofield concludes in regard to Romans 11, “That Israel has not been forever set aside is the theme of this chapter.”

We have received many requests asking that “Zola deal with this awful Replacement Theology.” In my view, God has already dealt with this elementary error thoroughly and I hope this study helps.

# “Ye Shall Be Hated. . .”

by Zola Levitt

There has been an amazing resurgence of the nonsense called, variously, “Replacement Theology,” “Kingdom Now,” “Dominion Theology” and so forth, in tandem with the insistence on a Middle East peace conference. Theological anti-Semites rejoice as Israel gets a political black eye. In order to make Israel look like the bad guys, Bush and Baker constantly style that nation as intransigent and difficult and, unbelievably, they characterize the murderous dictatorships surrounding Israel as reasonable. To quote the President word for word on the hostage situation, “Iran has taken the lead in negotiating the terms . . .” Depending on the criminals to solve the crime, he also called Iran “constructive.” Secretary of State Baker said — and I quote word for word — that “Libya is welcome to send an observer to the peace conference.” I quote the very words of these men because, in my view, these statements would otherwise be simply unbelievable. It is a shame to see the mightiest power in the whole history of mankind get on its knees and toady up to primitive regimes to curry favor.

The whole world awaits the pleasure of a few Arab thugs and I’m beginning to wonder if this is what we got for Israel — the release of a few unfortunates. If we have traded away the Promised Land to the Arabs for our hostages, we have made the spiritual mistake of the millennium. We look ridiculous thanking terrorist regimes for their good manners in returning those they kidnapped, and even crazier blaming Israel for any of this. Israel does not take hostages. It is being pressured to release bona fide criminals to pay for those innocents incarcerated in Lebanon at rates like one hundred to one. And we celebrate Syria each time a hostage is simply driven there to be dispatched to his own country, as if that primeval “government” had anything to do with the good will. We should well keep in mind that the Arabs are the only people in the world who ever take hostages. No other people, however opposed to us, however brutal, has ever taken innocent civilians hostage. When we gave Iraq our fist we got the job done a lot faster.

Prior to the Russian problem, which changed all the headlines, the administration was reaping huge

benefits in good publicity for the odd release of a hostage here and there. Again, we had the Kennebunkport effect: Bush fishes as the results of paying off Arab kidnappers roll in. But watch carefully for whatever we paid in this most recent round of negotiations with the hostage takers (with whom we are pledged never to negotiate). Just watch what the Israelis are forced to give up this time as they pay our bill.

One commentator stated, “The problem seems to be Israel’s insistence on holding its prisoners.” I personally thought the problem was kidnapping by the Arabs. In 1985 Israel gave up 1,100 *prisoners* (not innocent hostages) for three captured Israeli soldiers. No one seems to notice that that democracy has begged for years to merely hear news of their seven missing soldiers. Israel, which values human life, will likely agree to release 400 prisoners for more news of their seven MIA’s. It’s hardly in question that we have paid the kidnappers — that’s what kidnappers work for: ransom money (though Arab cultures give glory for hostage taking, too). While the United Nations is working on the fate of these six or seven people still incarcerated in Lebanon, 40,000 children per day continue dying in the Third World.

We live in prophetic times during which the world is setting up the Tribulation Period. Animosity toward Israel is only to be expected. Our Lord, a full-blooded Israeli, told his Israeli disciples, “Ye shall be hated of all nations. . .” (Mt. 24:9). In order for such a minuscule nation of relatively unimportant people to become despised globally, a lot of hatred has to be generated beforehand, and that is evidently what we’re seeing happen. I’m only sorry, as an American, that our administration is being used in this regard.

Apparently the Antichrist will justify his invasion of Israel (see II Thess. 2:3-4) by a world attitude we help put in place. Our liberal churches, the “Son of Perdition’s” natural constituency, are eagerly subscribing to the new anti-Israel attitudes, even to the point of sending aid to Israel’s enemies. Our Lord will remember their awful works in His name when He pronounces His judgment upon them: “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me” (Mt. 25:40).

Z

# Coups: Not What They Used To Be

by Zola Levitt

*(This article is comprised of excerpts from our latest edition of the Levitt Letter Extra dated August 23, 1991.)*

As we go to press, Mikhail Gorbachev, the first elected President in 1,003 years of Russian history, is making his way through a very rough week. He supposedly resigned his post as of Sunday evening (August 18) — Monday morning in Moscow — and was variously said to be sick, under house arrest, etc. Armored personnel carriers and tanks hit the streets of Moscow immediately to reassure the citizenry that all was well. An unremarkable group of Communist bureaucrats murmured about protecting the Soviet Union from “chaos” and told everyone to hand in their weapons. But in forty-eight hours it was all over as the people of Russia took to the streets, protected their elected leader, Yeltsin, and debated the tank drivers themselves.

Most frightening, President Bush was in Kennebunkport on vacation. It seems that Bush’s vacations cause cataclysmic global events, or perhaps it’s the other way around. Secretary Cheney flew in from Wyoming and the Russian embassy in Washington closed its doors. On Monday, a first-class coup d’etat was under way, opposed by Yeltsin, who spoke standing on a tank to huge crowds of angry and sardonic Soviet citizens who didn’t believe for a minute that Gorbachev had stepped down for “reasons of health.” A genuine “Beijing backlash” was getting under way.

The prophecy application of all this: Whichever way it finally ends, the first prophecy of the oncoming Tribulation Period looms closer. The coming Russian invasion of Israel is based on a situation of unrest and “reactionaryism” in the Soviet Union and a coup, even a failed coup, promotes that kind of atmosphere. The Russian economy was designed in the beginning for military adventures; indeed, the Russian gross national product was based on the seizing of other people’s countries and their produce. During 1990, when the U.S. and all other nations eased back on military budgets, the Soviets increased theirs by 10 percent. The salvation of Communism — if anyone anywhere wishes such a thing — would have to be based on further expansionistic military exploits. The invasion of the Middle East might fill the bill. Bush and Baker can be counted on to foment constant unrest in that area, thus promoting the fulfillment of the prophecy.

Where prophecy is concerned, the apparatchiks, those hard-line loyal Communists, have even more egg on their faces than before. They really do need a great foreign adventure to galvanize what’s left of their following. There’s real trouble in Magog, not to mention Gomer and Togarmah (Eastern Europe and the southern Russian territories) at the moment. But many army units did obey their Communist masters after all, and if they had been fighting somewhere on foreign soil and not against their own families and neighbors they might have followed through with some Communist scheme to set things back to yesterday.

Gorbachev-is-the-Antichrist fans will be heartened by the idea that he has recovered from a major wound. He apparently will survive to fight another day and may go on to greater sovereignty than ever before. But many commentators predict just the opposite: the wound will ultimately be fatal after all. Gorbachev is now a hero to his people, however long that will last. Was the whole thing a brilliant scheme to simply galvanize the public behind a teetering Gorbachev and renew their support? Or possibly to try for more funding from the West? Everyone agrees that the Russians make the best chess players and Grand Master Kasparov, the world champion, was asked his opinion of the crisis in such company as Jeane Kirkpatrick on *The Larry King Show*.

One commentator described Gorbachev, who has always tried to satisfy both the Communists and the evolving Democrats, as the circus rider who fell between two horses when they set off in opposite directions.

If “travail”, as the Lord used the term in prophecy, refers to labor pains, then this coup, however unsuccessful, was one sharp contraction when it hit!

The coup leaders headed for open spaces very quickly. It’s obvious that the Russian people are no longer passive and the party machinery could not suppress that truth. Give credit to television, fax machines and the like, or, as Daniel put it so succinctly, in the end times “. . . knowledge will increase.” The Russians looked great out in the streets. As the coup wound down, Gorbachev himself was quoted to have referred to those in power as “these adventurers.” In the end, it was nothing but a sad day for the kingpins, the power brokers and, of course, for those peace-loving heads of state in Iraq, Libya and the Palestinian encampments.

# Coups: Not What They Used To Be

Continued from Page 2

Coups just aren't what they used to be and Russia is not China. It was extremely difficult for the Soviets to shut down communications with the rest of the world. *CNN* broadcasted live pictures of the exuberant throngs of protesting citizens and the harried officers who were hearing orders and appeals from all directions. "Don't turn on your mothers," old ladies chided the soldiers and, "Lads, please leave!" The press literally laughed in the faces of the new dictators as they tried to explain Gorbachev's supposed illness. Television stations were closed in Latvia and the other Baltic nations, but those countries may be beneficiaries. They all will bolt, for sure, at this point.

Once it became clear that the coup would fail, provocative theories came forth about why it all happened. Someone thought that it was all a PR trick for Gorbachev to smoke out the hard liners in his government, and it certainly did smoke them out. But once the world got a look into those guilty and terribly insincere faces, skepticism sprang up everywhere. Bernard Shaw on *CNN* questioned "the shelf life of this coup" and Bush, seeming sorry he had interrupted his vacation, headed straight back to Maine after swearing in the unlucky Robert Strauss, our new ambassador to the Soviet Union. The news began to return to normal as Bush said crazy things like, "The whole world wants to see a Middle East peace conference," and it was announced that Dan Marino, the quarterback for the Miami Dolphins, will receive twenty-five million dollars to play the next five football seasons. Twenty-five million dollars was also proposed to fill in the hole in the roof of Texas Stadium.

It's always a problem to try to put a spiritual ending on what comes out to be very negative messages from the news. I ask your indulgence in realizing that I only comment on what's happening; I don't make it happen. Our tourists to Greece often say they're tired of hearing about false gods and touring temples built to idols and I have to tell them that I don't make the world; I just show it to them. To know what the enemy is up to is wisdom in any army, especially in the Christian army where the enemy is so powerful and where "we wrestle against principalities and powers" (Eph. 6:12). When all is said and done, prophecy marches on, and this has been a heart-stopping moment for those watching for the coming Russian invasion of Israel. Obviously argument and unease — a boiling pot — is the right setting for such an arcane adventure as that one when Ezekiel's man, Gog, has that "evil thought" to invade Israel "to take a spoil." It will likely be in just such circumstances as those we are seeing today in that huge and massively armed conglomeration of Soviet nationalities that doesn't know whether to hold itself together or to pull itself apart. "Watch therefore. . ." the Scripture says, and let us continue to take that advice.



## THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL HATIKVA 'The Hope'

כָּל עוֹד בְּלִבְבּ פְּנִימָה So long as within his heart	KOL-OD BA-LE-VAV P'NI-MA,
נֶפֶשׁ יִהוּדִי הוֹמִיָּה, The soul of the Jew longs,	NE-FESH YE-HUDI HO-MI-YA,
וְלִפְאַתֵי מִזְרַח קְדִימָה, And he turns eastward,	U-L'FA-TEY MIZ-RAH KA-DI-MA,
עֵינָיו לְצִיּוֹן צוֹפֶיָה; His eye looking toward Zion,	A-YIN L'TZION TZO-FI-A;
עוֹד לֹא אֲבָדָה תְּקוּמָתֵנוּ, Our hope is not yet lost.	OD LO AV-DA TIK-VA-TEY-NU,
הַתְּקוּוֹה שְׁנֹת אֲלָפִים, The hope of two thousand years —	HA-TIK-VA SH'NOT AL-PA-YIM,
לְהִיּוֹת עַם חֶפְשִׁי בְּאַרְצֵנוּ, To be a free people in our land,	LI-YOT AM HAF-SHI B'AR-TZEY-NU,
אֶרֶץ צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלָיִם. The land of Zion and Jerusalem.	ERETZ TZION VI-YERU-SHA-LAYIM.

# WHERE HE WALKED

by Kelly Catanzaro

As the fortunate person who gets to travel to Israel with our tours to show pilgrims the Holy Land, I am often asked about the “highlights” of such a trip by people who are considering going with us. Perhaps I can give you some idea of what it’s like to walk where He walked.

My first trip to Israel, Greece and Egypt was in June and I have just returned from my second pilgrimage, our Feast of Tabernacles tour. Memories of the initial tour were a blur of sights and emotions, and, sitting in my living room surrounded by stacks of photographs of rocks and ruins and walls and gates, I had trouble remembering just what I had seen where. Now, after the second tour, it’s thrilling to find that the sites of the Holy Land have become familiar.

Despite the ongoing problems in the Middle East, I can tell you that the Jews and the Arabs do have one thing in common: a childlike delight in horn blowing. The Egyptians sound their horns instead of stopping at red lights, or allowing walkers to cross the street, and before crossing the median to use the lanes meant for cars going in the other direction. Not only do they never stop; they never slow down. But they do, at least, lean on their horns.

Zola swears that horns in Israel have a Yenta-like quality, wailing at pedestrians to get out of the way, or whining at taxis, “Sure, go ahead, pull out in front of me. I can wait. Where do I have to go?”

In Jerusalem, at certain spots, there are signs warning of \$250 fines for horn blowing. Of course, no one pays any attention to the signs, except on the Sabbath when the streets are quieter. It’s quieter then because Orthodox Jews won’t drive their cars on the Sabbath, and they are the most persistent horn blowers of all. The Orthodox, in their long coats and black hats, always seem to be in a hurry. As Zola says, they scurry around as if they have a pressing appointment with God.

Israel is really suffering because of the present decline in tourism. Ours was one of only a handful of tour groups there at what normally would have been a peak tourist season. The hotels were virtually empty, except for the Israelis who vacationed with us on the beach of Eilat. Our two Israeli guides are preparing for a long, hard winter; both have almost no work until we return in March. But the land of the Messiah was lovely and serene. Despite the daily threats to Israel by its Arab neighbors, I have never felt safer, or more protected, or better looked after anywhere else.

One thing that you notice immediately in Israel is the peaceful and compassionate nature of the Israelis. Far from brawlers, as our press often portrays them, their sense of fairness and obligation to their Arab citizens is very apparent. As we drove through Jerusalem, our guide pointed out rows of apartment buildings that were under construction. He explained that they had been the homes of Arabs who left them upon the re-establishment of the nation of Israel. Not only were the Arabs encouraged to return to their homes, but the Israelis decreed that the buildings would remain unoccupied and undisturbed for forty years, so that the former occupants could reclaim them at any time. They never did, and only now are the apartments being reconstructed.

As for the highlights of a trip to the Holy Land, it is impossible to describe what it’s like to literally stand at the foot of the hill of Calvary and be assured of forgiveness of our sins, or to share communion just outside the empty tomb with a group of believers with whom we will spend eternity. Maybe the highlight is sitting on the Mount of Beatitudes and hearing “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth,” or standing at the garden of Gethsemane under an ancient olive tree with new shoots grafted in among the old and realizing your own inheritance in the Land of Israel. A highlight for me was praying with the Jews at the Western Wall of the destroyed Temple and knowing that I belonged there as an adopted child of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

To walk where the Lord walked, to see physical evidence of the things we’ve believed by faith, and to acquaint ourselves with what will be our home for 1,000 years—a trip to Israel is just another miracle in the life of a believer.



# THE FALL FEASTS

## The Feast Of Trumpets

God seems to have enjoyed the trumpet. Ever since Isaac was spared by virtue of the ram being caught in the thicket by its horn, God has seemed to enjoy hearing trumpets, or rams' horns, blown. He used them when Joshua conquered Jericho, in His instructions for the Year of Jubilee (Lev. 25:8-10) and in establishing the Feast of Trumpets, when Moses was told on Mt. Sinai: "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, in the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation" (Lev. 23:24). During the Temple periods in Jerusalem, the trumpet was the signal for the field workers to come into the Temple.

The Rapture is clearly associated with the trumpet: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (I Thess. 4:16-17). When that great trumpet sounds, the living believers will rise from the earth, graves will give up their dead, and all believers will be mysteriously changed and outfitted for immortality.

## The Day Of Atonement

The fearsome Day of Atonement is a day of confession. During the time of the Temples, the High Priest of Israel entered the Holy of Holies to make a sacrifice for all the sins of all the Israelites. For the slightest violation in terms of working that day (lifting something too heavy, walking too far, etc.), one could be cut off from his people, and thus no longer be chosen, and redemption would then be hopeless. God instructed the children of Israel to confess — for a solid twenty-four hour period — the sins of an entire year. This, of course, is no longer necessary for Jewish believers, as their sins were paid for by the Messiah. The Day of Atonement will be fulfilled in a wonderful way when the Lord returns at His second coming; read Zechariah 12 and 13 for a marvelous picture of the reaction of Israel to the sight of the return of the King of the Jews.

## The Feast Of Tabernacles

Each year on Tabernacles, the fifteenth day of the seventh month, devout Jews build little shelters outside their houses and worship in them to celebrate the fact that God provided shelter for the Israelites in the wilderness. "Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I

am the Lord your God" (Lev. 23: 42-43). Tabernacles represents the Lord's shelter in the world to come. His great Tabernacle will exist in Jerusalem during the Kingdom Age and all the world will come every year to appear before the King and worship Him (Zech. 14:16-19).

## Hanukkah

Hanukkah, also called the Feast of Dedication, is eight days long and commemorates the rededication and sanctification of the Temple in Jerusalem after it had been destroyed by the armies of Syria and the Roman Empire. Judah Maccabee led a band of citizen-soldiers in a miraculously successful revolt and the Israelites began at once the holy task of preparing the defiled and desecrated Temple for worship. They replaced the menorah (the seven-branched Temple candlestick — see Ex. 25:31-37) in its honored position and began a search for some of the consecrated Temple oil necessary for lighting the eternal light. Seven days were required to prepare this special oil. When the Israelites finally found the large and ornate flask in which the oil was stored they were dismayed to discover that it was all but empty, with only one day's oil for one lamp. A week's delay in re-establishing worship would be too long for those faithful ones who longed for a right relationship with their Lord, so they lit the eternal light and rededicated the Temple immediately, pronouncing the appropriate blessing and rejoicing that the Temple was again sanctified. The Maccabees didn't worry that the light would go out; they had seen the hand of the Lord in their victory over their enemies and they knew He would be faithful in this as well. Indeed, that small amount of oil burned on and on, not for two or three days, but for eight days — giving them the prescribed time to prepare the new oil.

The Jewish people still celebrate this miracle by lighting a nine-branched menorah. One candle stays lit continuously and is used to light an additional candle each night, until, on the eighth night, the whole menorah shines forth. It is customary that this menorah be placed in the window of the home. In a land that emerged from heartbreak and persecution, Hanukkah is a joyous season when children delight in lighting a new candle each night and young and old join together in singing traditional holiday songs. During Hanukkah, known also as the Festival of Lights, the land of Israel virtually twinkles as the candle flames from thousands of menorahs are seen in the windows of houses, apartment buildings, offices, and even hotels, all over the Promised Land. Each year these lights shine to tell the world that He lives and to proclaim again the miracle of courage and faithfulness that is Hanukkah. (See this month's "A Note from Zola" about our proposed Festival of Lights tour to Israel in December.)



# A NOTE FROM MARK

In April's *A Note from Mark*, we offered a brief history of our ministry. Actually, this is *your* ministry; we are just middlemen called to this particular task by God.

My father Zola was in Israel then, and I reminisced about the days when this ministry's office was a 10' x 25' portable tin building that was too noisy for conversation when it rained. Our family's lawn equipment was stored in the structure's addition, behind a make-shift door where the previous owner had kept a pottery kiln.

After joining the ministry several years ago, I concentrated on upgrading supplies, equipment and personnel. Currently, our dozen employees work in a third-floor, 5,000-square-foot space with about sixteen rooms.

Last April, in response to the question, "What else should ZLM management do at this point?" I suggested we reach 1.5 percent more people each month with our weekly television program. That was our rate of progress in the 80's. Our mission here involves devoting ourselves to what God is doing as well as asking His help with our own assignments. With the benefit of Zola's navigating, I've learned to depend on the Lord for inspiration, as well as specific assignments.

Having a management background, I've equated this ministry to a spiritual "battleship." Increasing efficiency here is like patching leaks so that we can be more effective in our spiritual war. Our television programs and newsletters are like long-range weaponry, spreading God's word and counteracting propaganda about Israel. Maybe you know someone who needs our newsletters. Why not have us send him a "care package?"

At the recent Christian Management Association's (CMA) Stewardship Conference, I sought the wisdom of life-long ministry veterans. CMA's theme verse this year was Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness."

They taught that 53.7 percent of charitable gifts go to religious causes and that charitable institutions,

on average, lose one-third to one-half of their donors every year. Given that roughly a million organizations of one kind or another solicit donations, we were forewarned that fund raising techniques are to become increasingly sophisticated.

Partitioning mailing lists, for most organizations, was said to be imperative. (This involves simultaneous mailings customized for the various ways the segmented recipients have responded.) I raised my hand and explained that our newsletters, effective teaching tools themselves, were an integral part of our outreach. Fortunately we qualify as an exception to the rule of partitioned mailing lists. You'll have your newsletters every month, whether or not you donate.

On the issue of "Hollywood" fund raising techniques, which were discouraged at the conference, I've known from day one that Zola would never

*(continued on page 6)*

## A Note From Mark

(continued from page 5)

use them. If survival meant thermometers with dollar signs on our stationery and "holy" pieces of paper for you to wrap around your offerings, we'd close our doors. We won't offend the Lord in our efforts to sustain His outreach.

U.S. corporations and foundations account for a modest 10 percent of charitable giving, while individual citizens give 83 percent! Planned giving, wills, trusts, etc. account for the remaining 7 percent. In that regard, our friend Wes Putnam is an expert who will voluntarily share how you may benefit financially by putting us and other ministries in your will (don't render unto Caesar what is God's!). You may write to Wes at 14275 Midway #220, Dallas, Texas 75244 or call him at (214) 960-1205.

The Messiah Himself observed that only one in ten lepers who were healed expressed thanks. At the conference, we were told that the six most important words in fund raising are "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" In the interest of stewardship, our ministry has sent its thank-you cards bulk rate and offered receipts upon request. And if you visited our office you would see how hard we work to maximize God's harvest. Your gifts are to God and from God, and we appreciate that daily; thank you! (Thank you! Thank you!)

A plenary speaker said that tithing is a 10 percent confession that everything you have belongs to God. One fund-raising professional spoke against accepting gifts that folks hadn't had time to prayerfully consider.

Some participants mentioned flying representatives here and there to retrieve gifts of \$250,000 or more. A gift of that size to our ministry would produce six months of top quality television programming taped in Israel, or allow us to reach an additional one million weekly television viewers for two months — that's one million people, each watching more than four hours of Bible teaching from Israel, at only 25¢ per person!

National television is to witnessing what the hydrogen bomb is to warfare: It's powerful, expensive and you need quite a few sorties to cover a country this size. When it comes to TV air time, we have to pay retail. But I was amazed that a fellow ministry

produced a locally filmed 15-minute promotional video and spent *six times* what we do for 30-minute programs brought all the way home from Israel! God has enabled us to be specialists for Him, putting His Word and Israel, the apple of His eye, in living rooms across America.

You should already have our 1992 catalog and if you still have our 1991 catalog, compare the two and see how many wonderful new programs we've added this year. Thanks to Him, and to you, millions are learning and loving the importance of praying for the peace of Jerusalem.

In Him,





December 1991

Volume 13, Number 12

## “Not Because I Desire a Gift”

by Zola Levitt

What a year for this world and for this ministry! It's hard to imagine that there will be many more years like 1991 and in view of prophetic developments there may not be!

During the past year you sent us more donations and purchased more of our Bible study materials than in any previous year. As a result, we were able to send you considerably more new programs, put out more publications and create still more new study materials. All of this, in the end, makes for a greater witness for our Lord and His kingdom at a time when it is sorely needed.

It was in May of 1991 that I had my PET Scan and realized the results of some nine years of prayer by all the folks who support our ministry. My six heart by-passes done in 1982 were in very good condition, with the major vessels and the by-passes virtually clear. It appeared that I had taken excellent care of myself, though my doctor knew better. It seemed to him to be a miracle. Thanks again for all those prayers. Please know that at this point, seven months after my Aerobics Center program, my weight is exactly the same as when I left the program. The system works and I still recommend it. Drop me a line if you would like to be put in touch with my friend Dr. Kenneth Cooper about his marvelous weight loss and general rejuvenation program.

And thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generous support. I am always conscious of the fact that this ministry belongs to its donors and that it is our privilege at the television sound stage, the music recording studio, the business office and with our Israel tours to work for the King and for

you. I am sincerely grateful for all you have done for us.

During the last year we taped several new series of programs. In past years we were glad to produce one location series per year, but during 1991 we taped *The Holy Land Today*, *The Believers* and *Unto the Gentiles* (which will air beginning in January). We were also able to complete a number of strong individual programs in our studios in Dallas to cover fast-breaking events like the Persian Gulf War and the incredible and sudden release of the extremely significant Dead Sea Scrolls on November 8. If you missed that program, I strongly suggest that you order the videotape. In my opinion, it is the most important program we have made in our thirteen years of television ministry and the most deeply significant message we have ever brought to you in any medium. If you've never purchased a videotape from us before, this is the one to get.

(Continued on Page 2)

## “Not Because I Desire a Gift”

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Your giving testifies to the fact that you're very supportive of this version of alternative television — believers bringing you the truth. You can count on us to bring you the straight story, as we see it, and not be influenced by sponsors or networks with an ax to grind. We are not anti anything, except the devil (although that brings us into conflict with many a secular report as we do our work). We have no soap to sell and we observe the dictum of our Lord, “Everyone that is of the truth heareth my voice” (John 18:37).

On the crucial subject of Israel, you know that with us you are getting the most accurate and fair coverage of that complex nation by people who know the place and travel there often. We are utilizing, with your help, the best evangelistic medium since that day a “rushing, mighty wind” blew through the Temple site and the Holy Spirit came upon the believers. Considering the age in which we live, which may well be the Biblical “end of the age,” television is the prime way to get the Gospel out quickly and to a great number of people. It be-

comes apparent as prophecy develops that thinking people don't need emotional invitations to come to the Lord anymore. “Don't be a fool,” I often say in churches after I finish a prophecy lesson. There really is no point anymore to supposing that man's knowledge, or compassion, or humanism, or anything like that will somehow pull the world out of the jam we're in. Too much going on around us suggests the coming of the tribulation period and the transition to the thousand year kingdom.

With all of the above said, I must now come to the part of my ministry I like the least, and that is asking you for your continued support. I have always thought of myself as more of a soldier than a beggar and I merely ask you, as those who are willing to field an army in this battle of “principalities and powers,” to send along the needed supplies. Romans 10:14 and 15, to which we refer often on television, asks, “How shall they hear without a preacher?” and “How shall they preach except they be sent?” It is our mission to do most of our preaching on location, some 10,000 miles away, and that involves airfares, hotel rooms, expensive equipment, insurance and sometimes extraordinary security precautions. We have to pay the same rates

*(Continued on Page 9)*

## HEBREW LESSON

בִּי-יֵלֶד יֶלֶד-לָנוּ בֶּן-נִתָּן-לָנוּ

*Kee yeléd y' lád lónoo bane neetán lónoo*

“For unto us a Child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given...”  
(Isaiah 9:6a)

## “Not Because I Desire a Gift”

(Continued from Page 2)

as other ministries for television time, but we have this extra burden in our production department. (Actually, we probably pay higher rates than the big ministries who can afford to buy time in bulk, and we have to pay those high rates for less than the best air times, as you well know. We still hold our own against the big ministries, especially in terms of production values and Bible verses taught.)

Occasionally we get strapped; once or twice this year we've had to appeal to you to be especially understanding of certain losses we took. The fact is, we do what we're suppose to do. We have very low reserves and no profit whatsoever. When the IRS man came riding up to search for our profits I told him, "I thought non-profit organizations were not supposed to have profits." That was a new one on him! When we get behind, which is occasionally inevitable since we have to suddenly make unpredicted programs and we have no evangelistic organization or church to back us, we are a bit embarrassed. Especially when we owe money to unbelievers, I feel very bad about asking for more time. Fortunately, that situation hasn't come up for some time and you usually solve the problem with your donations before the bill is overdue. In this

ministry we don't ask for your support for ourselves; our salaries are not based on incoming donations. The support you give us determines only how many programs we can make and, therefore, how much ministry we can accomplish for you. It escapes some believers that the accomplishments of a ministry they support are reckoned to their account, not to the ministry's. Paul made this clear in II Corinthians 6 when he commended the Macedonian church for their support. I stood in Philippi in Greece a few weeks ago looking into the jail cell where Paul evidently commended the Philippians for their support and told them he coveted it because he desired more ministry for *them*:

*Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift; but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.*

(Phil. 4:15 - 17)

Obviously, the end of the year is coming and you will receive the biggest advantage for your tax deduction at this time. Many of our major supporters give their most substantial gifts right at the end of the year and thus they earn the most interest on their funds throughout the year and have the full use of them, but still get the tax deduction for the whole year. 1992 promises to be a year of still more prophecy developments, clashes of "nation against nation and kingdom against kingdom," and, unfortunately, more "wars and rumors of wars." I would deeply appreciate it if you could provide us the budget to be ready for these critically important events which deeply affect the spiritual position of virtually everyone in America.

Thanks for all you've done. God knows your good works. Never forget that there will be a night when He will come for us and "Look up, for your redemption draweth nigh!"

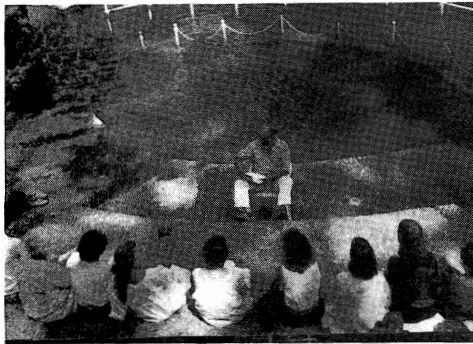


# The Promised Land



**View of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives**

*Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. - Ps. 122:2*

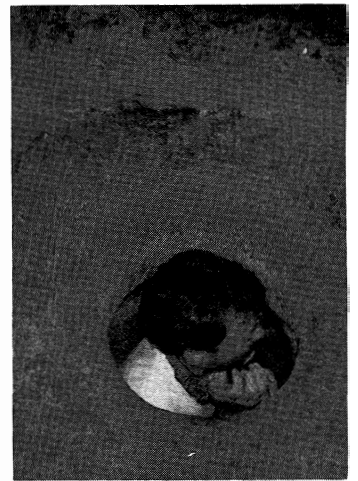


**The Jordan River**

*Repent, and be baptized. . . - Acts 2:38*

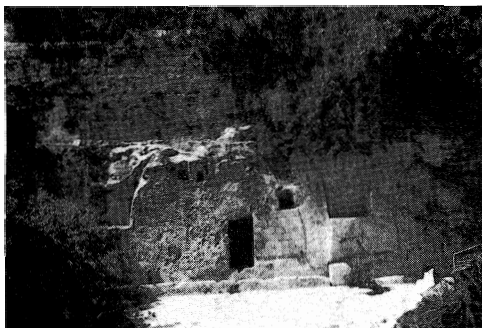
## Touring Excavations of Ancient Biblical Sites

*. . . strait is the gate, and narrow is the way - Mt. 7:14*



## Newly Arrived Immigrants

*And I will gather you from all nations. . . saith the Lord. . . - Jer. 29:14*



**The Garden Tomb**

*He is risen; he is not here - Mk. 16:6*



**Calvary**

*And they brought him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, the place of a skull. - Mark 15:22*

# “Why Have the Rabbis Hidden This From Us?”

by Cynthia A. Gray

Shalom, brothers and sisters in Yeshua. My name is Cynthia and I am the voice on the other end of the phone when you call the ministry's direct number (214-690-1874). For almost two years I've directed the incoming calls and assisted with customer service. Each day consists of new and exciting adventures in our Lord.

We have received a wonderful response from our friends and partners regarding our program on the Dead Sea Scrolls. A few days ago I received a phone call from California. A very kind Jewish lady told me she had been flipping through the television channels and saw the last fifteen minutes of the program about the scrolls. She heard Zola say, “Isaiah 53 speaks of the suffering Messiah.” Being very curious, she looked up the Scripture in the Tenach (the Jewish Bible) to verify this startling statement, and afterwards she called our ministry to find out just what this meant. She said she almost hung up the phone when she heard “Zola Levitt Ministries,” yet she cautiously inquired about Zola and the puzzling statement she had heard.

I shared many prophecies with her that foretold the Messiah and as she boldly read from the “Christian Book” a neighbor had given her and found that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies, she gasped “I've been lied to! Why has no one ever told me? Why have the rabbis hidden this from us?” Angrily she declared, “They have read this and have known it all along. Why didn't they tell us? Why didn't the Christians tell me?” And then, breathlessly, “Oh no! *We* were responsible for His death.” (But we know that Yeshua Himself said, “I lay down my life for the sheep . . . no one takes it from me, but I lay it down of myself.” [John 10:15,18].)

My heart was overwhelmed as I shared the Gospel and how His sacrifice had to be made for our atonement. Her last words to me were, “I have much to think about. I am confused and I feel like crying but I am excited and happy all at the same time. It cannot be denied: Yeshua must be the Messiah. It is written in our *Jewish books*.”

After an hour and a half with my new friend, we ended our conversation and I hastily gathered

books and tapes to send via overnight mail so she could begin to learn more about her Messiah.

We thought that you, our brothers and sisters, would be pleased to know that your prayers and support have made it possible to reach so many for Yeshua. We may never know the full impact of what is accomplished through our ministry until we stand with our brethren before the Throne.



*To follow up on Cindi's article, I called the good and honest Jewish woman to answer any other questions she had. She was grateful to have talked to someone as biblically informed as Cindi, she said, and she was amazed when I told her that Cindi was our receptionist and not a degreed theologian. Jewish people, in general, many rabbis included, are not at all familiar with Scripture and they suppose that people who can cite chapter and verse must be scholars or professional religionists. One of my own big surprises when I came to the Lord was my discovery that most born again believers are reasonably knowledgeable of the Bible. That's one more reason to “study to show thyself approved unto God” (2 Tim. 2:15).*

Zola

## Hebrew Lesson

כִּי הַיּוֹם יָלַד לָכֶם בְּעִיר דָּוִד  
מוֹשִׁיעַ אֲשֶׁר הוּא הַמָּשִׁיחַ הָאֲדוֹן

**Key ha'yom yuled lachem b'eer  
daveed moshea asher hu  
ha'masheach ha'adon**

**“For unto you is born this day  
in the city of David a Savior,  
which is Christ the Lord.”**

**(Luke 1:11)**





*At this time of the year, when many stop for a moment to consider the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem, we thank you for making it possible for us to proclaim the Good News year round. May God bless you for your faithfulness in caring for the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*

**Kelly**

*(Assistant to Zola/ Travel Manager)*

**Happy Hanukkah & Merry Christmas !!!**

*All of our friends, new and old, please know that we are eternally grateful for your prayers and support. We could not do what we do without you. We consider each one of you a member of the ministry. You make it possible to reach out to others in the name of Yeshua. My prayer is that each of you will have a safe, healthy and prosperous holiday season. I thank you from my heart.*

**Cynthia**  
*(Receptionist)*

*Should we celebrate Hanukkah to commemorate the red-education of the Temple, or Christmas to remember the birth of Christ? As Christians, we're entitled to both --- and we're anticipating the Rapture! Happy holidays!*

**Mark**

*(General Manger)*

*Thank you so much for all you have made possible in this wonderful ministry. God bless you at Christmas, when all people, no matter where they live, what religion they embrace, or who they believe to be the chosen people, are faced with the fact that the Child was born in the land of Israel to Jewish parents, as the prophets foretold.*

**Zola**



*(Left to right, back row)*

*Zola, Faith, Linda, Cindi, Fr. Ted Nelson (board of directors), Bonnie, Kelly, Dr. Henry Mobley (board of directors), Mark*

*(Front row)*

*Elaine, Cheryl, Jane, Pat*

*Not pictured:*

*Robert, Steve, and Tony*



# Merry “Messiah-mas”

by Kelly Catanzaro

Now that we're at the end of what has been a very exciting year of laboring together for the Lord, our hearts are full of gratitude to all of you who support Zola Levitt Ministries. As Zola's assistant and tour director of our travel department, I have experienced so many blessings personally that I hardly know where to begin in sharing them with you.

Although 1991 was a year when tourism to Israel virtually came to a halt due to the Persian Gulf War, we never cancelled any of our tours. While Saddam Hussein's Scud missiles fell, faithful pilgrims signed up to go to the Holy Land. As it turned out, the war ended two weeks before our March tour group was scheduled to depart and we had a lovely time in Israel. We witnessed first hand the destruction the bombs caused to the tiny country that cost so much in money and in lives to build in the beginning. But we were encouraged when we visited absorption centers where immigrants from the Soviet Union and Ethiopia learn Hebrew songs and become accustomed to being Israeli citizens, and we wondered how many of them realized that their lives are a fulfillment of biblical prophecy. We were reminded of Jeremiah's words: "I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord. . ." (Jer. 29:14). And because of your support, we were able to let you see that history-making period in our "The Holy Land Today" series.

In June, you sent us back to interview Israeli believers and we showed you an inside view of the lives of some of the courageous Messianic Jews who proclaim the truth of the Messiah in a land in which honoring Him can have serious consequences. We were all moved by that very special series called "The Believers."

In October, we traveled for the first time to the cities of Thessalonica and Philippi, following the footsteps of Paul to bring back to you our newest series, "Unto the Gentiles," which will begin airing in January. You'll see the stark, stone prison where Paul was confined in Philippi, and I'm sure you'll realize more fully, as we did, what this steadfast servant suffered for the faith. Standing at the places where the early Christians paid such a price for serving God inspired me to be more faithful in our

world, where the cost is so much less. I think you'll feel the same way when you see this series.

One of the most exciting happenings of this year is the still-unfolding revelation of the Dead Sea Scrolls. When we heard about the ancient references to Scripture and to a suffering and dying Messiah, we realized that this text, hidden from the world for forty years, was a monumental discovery. The day the news hit the papers our television crew scrambled to put together a program that was conceived, taped and edited that very afternoon and aired nationally the next day!

Even we didn't realize the impact that program was to have. On page 8 of this newsletter, our receptionist, Cindi, tells the story of a Jewish woman who watched that program and was so persuaded by the evidence in the scrolls that she called to proclaim, "The rabbis have lied to us about the Messiah!" She later told Zola that she had listened to him on television because he wasn't a "flashy television preacher" and because he was simply another Jew talking about the Bible.

And she was just one of many people who were impressed with the message of that program. The service that answers our 1-800-WONDERS order line complained that we hadn't prepared them for the onslaught of calls about the *Levitt Letter Extra*, our subscription publication in which Zola comments on prophetically significant world events. (We mentioned on the program that the *LLX* is delivered by first class mail within two days after Zola writes it, and we were deluged with orders for it.) One of our mail processors reported that she received three times the average number of responses to a television program, and a great number of those responses were by viewers who were not previously on our mailing list. So, if you ever wonder if the Lord uses your gifts to this relatively small ministry to accomplish great things, now you know that He does.

One of the scholars who was involved in exposing the concealed text of the scrolls watched our program and called to give us more information about what is recorded in them. We're hoping to interview this man on a future program so you can hear some of the facts about the scrolls that were not cited in *The New York Times* or on the network news. We've been told that there is so much new information in the scrolls that it will take five years of reconstruction and study to learn everything that they contain.

(Continued on Page 10)

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## Merry "Messiah-mas"

(Continued from Page 3)

And on the days when there are no new wars, no astounding archeological finds and no wondrous signs of the end, we sit at our desks and learn of other miracles. Throughout the year I hear from many people who have been influenced by our ministry: new believers (both Jewish and Gentile), Orthodox Jews who are questioning the words of the prophets and non-religious Jews who have been provoked to jealousy by the faith of Gentile Christians in the God of Israel. On your behalf, I've corresponded with Jewish prisoners who have accepted the Lord and are trying to witness to fellow Jews who mock and ostracize them, grieving widows and mothers who have written to tell us of their departed loved ones who watched our program faithfully, and even a couple of Chosen Ones who grew up not knowing they were Jewish and who are trying to understand God's will for their lives. Each of these phone calls and letters are a gift from God, an opportunity and a duty that He has given us.

Our program is seen by approximately one million people weekly and our newsletters reach almost 45,000 people each month. You might be surprised to know that everything we do is accomplished by a staff of eleven full time and three part time employees: Zola, his son Mark (our general manager),

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one administrative assistant, five people who read your letters and process your orders, two men in our shipping department, our accountant, our receptionist, a theological assistant and me. And our television crew consists of three people (our producer, a sound man and a part-time cameraman), plus Zola and me. I can tell you sincerely that each one of these people is grateful to you for making our work possible and each one takes his or her responsibility to you very seriously.

Although Zola's primary focus is on teaching the Scriptures to Christians, unbelievers *are* watching the programs you enable us to produce and their lives are being changed. I wish each of you could have the opportunity that I have to see how God gives the increase after you've planted the seed and we've watered it. As Paul described in I Corinthians 3:6: "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."

So, from all of us at Zola Levitt Ministries, thank you for the prayers, the gifts and the love that you have given to us this year. May God bless you for blessing Israel (Gen. 12:3). Merry "Messiah-mas"!





## Greetings from Zola's Staff



*Everything that we do is because of what He has done. He suffered, bled and died for the sins of us all. May we forever give our praise to the only One who is worthy. In Him,*

**Tony**  
(Shipping Manager)

*May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ richly bless you and your family this holiday season and throughout the year. Looking forward to meeting you all one glorious day!*

**Linda**  
(Mail Processor)

*Blessings be upon you during the holiday season! Thank you for loving Zola as much as we do.*

**Faith**  
(Order Processor)

*May the Lord bless you with His love and wisdom and may you share it with those around you.*

**Phil**  
(Television Soundman)

*Oh little town of Bethlehem ---- I've walked your narrow streets and seen your golden fields at harvest. You're a special little town that I'll always remember. Merry Christmas.*

**Ken Berg**  
(Television Producer)

*God held nothing back, but gave us His Son. May you call on Him and find all your needs graciously met in Christ. Have a great Christmas and New Year.*

**Robert**  
(Shipping Clerk)

*May the Lord's blessing be upon you and your loved ones this Holiday Season. Thanks for your prayers, support and faithfulness!*

**Steve**  
(Theological Assistant)

*We are just thrilled that Zola has asked us to write a few lines to our friends and donors. Truly this is a year of great expectation for us as we anticipate His soon return ---- what a Christmas season this could be! We have enjoyed serving you and thank you so much for making this possible!*

**Elaine**  
(Mail Processor)

*This time of year gets so hectic that we often forget its true meaning. I hope that each of you will find some time each day during this special season, and throughout the coming year, to savor Jesus' love for you. And I pray that each day you will find the opportunity to share His love.*

**Cheryl**  
(Administrative Assistant)

*May we always remember the reason for this season and all seasons. Happy holidays to all.*

**Jane**  
(Mail Processing Supervisor)

*Happy Holidays! May we all remember to give thanks and worship the Lord.*

**Bonnie**  
(Mail Processor)

*"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, proclaims peace, brings glad tidings of good things. . ." (Isaiah 52:7). In this season of peace and glad tidings I'm thankful for you, our faithful friends, who share this ministry of proclaiming salvation and saying to Zion, "Our God reigns!"*

**Pat**  
(Accounting/Development)

# The Ravaging of Israel

by Zola Levitt

In light of the many recent media assaults against the nation of Israel, I feel compelled, once again, to speak out against this Scripturally forbidden cursing of the “apple of God’s eye” (see Zech. 2:8). Forgive me if, like Paul, I have Israel constantly in my heart (see Romans 10:1).

The insidious double standard the world applies to the Arab/Israeli situation is very disheartening, particularly with regard to the PLO, a bloody group of terrorists with no credibility whatsoever. Why we should even listen to what these people have to say, let alone negotiate on their behalf, is beyond my comprehension.

A recent article in *The Jerusalem Post* speaks of the “big lie” behind anti-Semitism.

*Modern totalitarian regimes — notably Hitler’s and Stalin’s — refined the big lie and its brazen repetition into an art form. The PLO and the Arab regimes have proven worthy students of the technique. The West, steeped in a tradition of faith in rehabilitation, forgiveness and redemption, is all too vulnerable to the seduction of the big lie, particularly when it seems to offer hope of peace and reconciliation.*

Another sign of our willingness to believe lies is our conciliatory attitude toward the PLO. Below is a compilation of just a few of this organization’s fabrications. As ludicrous as they sound, these lies are not only reported as if they had substance, but are believed and used as a basis for attempts to rob the Chosen People of the land God gave to them (see Gen.12:1-3).

1. In 1972, a PLO official claimed that the Israeli athletes massacred at the Munich Olympics were killed by “the Germans and Israelis, to make the Arabs look bad.”
2. After the Achille Lauro hijacking, the PLO’s foreign minister stated that Leon Klinghoffer had been murdered by his wife “for the insurance.”
3. After last year’s aborted raid on a Tel Aviv beach, terrorist Abul Abbas said that his soldiers had killed 500 bathing army officers. (Actually, there were no casualties whatever and the terrorists were rounded up summarily. There is certainly no precedent for the PLO to attack army personnel. They have always specialized in unarmed civilians. The attack immediately followed the PLO’s promise to the U.S. government that it would renounce terrorism.)
4. During an interview, Yasser Arafat held up an ancient Judean coin, which is imprinted on the Israeli 10 agora piece, and claimed that it was Israel’s expansion map.
5. Recently, the PLO falsely asserted that General Norman Schwarzkopf was interviewed on Israel’s army radio. In this imaginary interview, the general supposedly confessed that the United States fought the Gulf War at Israel’s behest, belittled the Saudi’s military prowess, and applauded the Syrians.

I believe that the distorted perception of the Arab nations and of Israel is a supernatural phenomenon — a prelude to the lies and perversions of the era of the Antichrist, when Israel will be “hated of all nations” (Mt. 24:9).

The world seems to somehow expect Israel to adhere to a completely different standard of behavior than that required of its Arab neighbors. In a recent edition of *The New York Times*, columnist A.M. Rosenthal had this to say:

*The double standard in the Middle East has become built into American diplomacy and journalism. It is so taken for granted that hardly anybody notices. . . In some important part, the double standard comes out of the nature of Israeli society and is a great asset to the country. If a higher standard of ethics and conduct is demanded of Israelis, it is because even its antagonists know it judges itself on democratic and political standards unknown elsewhere in the Middle East. . . But throughout its existence, and increasingly, the double standard has not been just a debate about ethics. It became a whole arsenal of deadly weapons against Israel that the world chooses to ignore — vicious racial and religious insult, terrorism, boycott and embargo, refusal to abide by elementary diplomatic rules of conduct and, now, sabotage of the peace talks.*

*For almost a half-century Israel has been bombarded with filth — from the ceaseless and still-continuing anti-Israel and anti-Jewish campaign in almost every Muslim country, worldwide. Filth from mouth, the press and the airwaves is meant to dehumanize a nation and make its extinction desirable. The world says nothing, does nothing. . . Israel is asked to pay heavily, in land, for the normal trade and diplomatic relations that every other country gets as an automatic mark of nationhood. Pay to end the embargo, pay to get credits, pay to receive ambassadors.*

Personally, my job has grown much more difficult in this time of the ravaging of Israel. I’m duty bound by Scripture and by inclination to defend the Promised Land, the home of the Kingdom to come, and yet I’m severely criticized by certain elements in our audience who stoop even to anti-Semitism and personal ridicule and who demand to be taken off our mailing list. Actually, I hate to take these people off our mailing list because they, above all people, need to hear the truth about Israel and what’s going on in this world. The truth will set you free, the Lord said, and I promise you from the bottom of my heart that the truth is what I try to write in each and every letter.

I will curse those who curse Israel, whether they be the foul mouthed neo-Nazis and Ku Klux Klan people who write to me or the President and the Secretary of State. When people cut across God’s will, their rank and position among men becomes meaningless. Forgive me if I offend, but as you and I know, “All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28). **7**

# COMING SOON: THE KING!

by Zola Levitt

I am going to hazard some prophecies myself now instead of just analyzing the fulfillments that happened last year. Please understand that I'm going a little bit out on a limb and I don't claim any supernatural powers, as do the palm readers and horoscope folks. I'm willing, however, to try to extrapolate from what the biblical prophets have said and what I understand from current events. The world is becoming very complex, but at the same time it is becoming simple in regard to what we know must happen scripturally.

First of all, I foresee still more agony for Israel and still more animosity from her neighbors. I don't think anything whatever will be done to promote peace in the Middle East except the sort of talk we've always had, containing no action. I don't think the *intifada* will really slow down, but it will change in character. What was at the beginning a zealous revolution has deteriorated into a backbiting war of attrition between two peoples with so very little in common. I don't think the Israelis will back up one inch, the Palestinians will lay down their stones or the PLO will promote peace at all; and I have never been convinced they've renounced terrorism.

On the European front, I think we'll see much confusion in Eastern Europe and some reactionary elements emerging to try to reinstitute the old order. I don't think the trip from Communism to democracy is as simple as it appears at first blush. What we are seeing now will begin to cloy in the face of very deep economic problems, national rivalries, competition with the West and a simple waning of enthusiasm in the face of all the problems of real life. Let's face it, our lives are not really made out of what kind of government we have but more out of what sort of spiritual people we are. The populations who have been trapped under Communism are largely godless, and their happiness cannot be guaranteed by political freedoms alone. Nevertheless, a huge mission field

will open up in that case, and the church might do well to begin to cultivate it.

I see a heightening of tensions toward the coming Russian invasion of Israel, or conceivably the invasion itself at some point in the 1990's. I certainly wouldn't set a date for this invasion, but conditions are almost perfect for it at this writing. We'll have to wait and see, but we are secure in the knowledge that God's plan doesn't change and always marches on.

In our own country I think we will see more problems economically and with the AIDS epidemic in particular. Our leadership is willing but weak, and our systems have grown so complex and our problems of such magnitude that we really don't seem able to dig our way out. I think the Japanese will continue to prosper because they simply work harder than we do and are very talented. I think they have the spirit that we had in this country forty years ago, and it will provide them many good times ahead. I think the Chinese Communists will remain as intractable as ever as they unwittingly prepare for their role in the battle of Armageddon—a ferocious yellow peril falling down upon the Western world in the form of the King of the East and his two-hundred-million-man army. I think all of the third world countries will continue unfortunately in the poverty-stricken way they are going. They simply haven't got the means to compete and are at the mercy of Western lenders and exploiters. Somehow with the way I read the news and the way I read the Bible, I can't see much good coming of our meager charitable efforts toward the poor nations.

And am I going to predict the Rapture? Do I know when the King will come? No, I'm not, and I don't. Correct doctrine calls for me to believe in "things not seen" as the Scripture tells us (Hebrews 11). Would I be surprised if the Lord came in 1990? No; we who are the children of light should never be surprised by the arrival of the Lord, whom we are taught to expect and to wait for daily (I Thessalonians 5:1-10).

Do I have any advice that would bode well for all peoples? Yes, and it's the same as always:

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6). **Z**