



One More Pilgrimage

by Kelly Catanzaro

One of my greatest joys is serving as assistant tour leader on our pilgrimages to Israel, showing the Promised Land to fellow believers and sharing in their delight at discovering the holy places that will eventually be their inheritance. You may have read in our last letter that I will be leaving my post with Zola Levitt Ministries on January 18 to marry a wonderful Christian man. Since Zola is very occupied in Israel now, leading our winter tour and taping interviews for upcoming television programs, this is my opportunity to "lead" one final tour of Israel before I leave, this time for all of you who are unable to go with us in person. Perhaps I can share with you something of the thrill of walking where the Lord walked, pausing to pray in the places He loved, and seeing evidence of the Gospel stories in the ruins and remains of the Israel of Jesus' time. Our tour would be something like this. . . .

We'd arrive in Israel, bleary-eyed but excited after a ten-hour flight, and drive straight to Jerusalem. You must enter the holy city by foot, as the time-honored tradition goes, and so we'd step off the bus and walk through the Jaffa gate, stopping to offer a prayer for the peace of Jerusalem.

The next morning we'd awaken early and head for the dining room, where the most adventurous pilgrims would dig into an authentic Israeli breakfast of smoked fish, onions, tomatoes and bagels. Josef, our faithful *sabra* (native Israeli) guide, would likely stroll among the tables ad-

vising us not to eat the *salty* fish. (He probably wouldn't reveal the reason for the advice: The salty fish means we drink more water, which means constant pleas on the bus for bathroom stops!)

With a full day before us to explore Jerusalem, we'd journey first to the Mount of Olives. The view of the Holy City from the top is overwhelming, as is the spiritual experience of walking down the narrow, paved path to the Garden of Gethsemane, past row upon row of graves of those Jews who are waiting, even in death, for the appearance of the Messiah on that mountain. As we'd descend, our hearts would be full with the memory of the Lord's donkey ride down that path amid the crowd who waved palm branches and cried "Hosanna, blessed is the King of Israel. . ." (John 12:13). Inside the garden, aged olive trees, with their new shoots growing among old boughs, beautifully illustrate Paul's parable of the wild olive tree in Romans chapter 11. We would look to-

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gether at the symbol of the family of God and know that whether we are of the natural Jewish branches or have been grafted in as Gentile believers, we are joint-heirs with Christ (Rom. 11:17-26).

At dusk, we'd visit Calvary and the garden tomb, and would be reminded of the awful price that was paid to ensure our inheritance. We'd take communion together outside the empty sepulcher and Zola would teach us about the Jewish Passover ceremony, the real "last supper" of which Jesus and the disciples partook.

The next day we'd ascend Mount Moriah, once the site of the magnificent Jewish Temple, the dwelling place of God, but now dominated by the glittering golden crown of the Moslem Dome of the Rock. After emerging from the ornate but darkly oppressive interior of the mosque, we would delight in a sunny drive to the little town of Bethlehem, the birthplace of the Messiah. Still a tiny village, still with only

one inn, Bethlehem is amazingly as it must have been when Mary and Joseph arrived there.

In the Jerusalem area, Israeli archeologists would teach us about the history of Israel and the time of Jesus in particular. These expert scholars would guide us through the Temple ruins: We'd join in with the Orthodox Jews praying at the Western Wall; gather on the marble steps that the Lord Himself used to enter the southern gate of the Temple; and examine ancient graffiti concerning the Messiah inscribed on the wall by a prankster of old. Then we'd view the original Dead Sea Scrolls at the Shrine of the Book and some of us might even choose to spend a day participating in an actual excavation, making our own archeological discoveries and holding in our hands lamps, bowls and jewelry used by the Jews of Bible times!

In the colorful old section of the city, we'd wind through the narrow alleyways, turn between two stone buildings and climb a stairway leading to an upper room, a most likely location for the Last Supper. After a Bible lesson from Zola, we would sing hymns together

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LLX - THE FIRST YEAR

A startling review of one of the most dramatic sixteen months of prophecy fulfillment since Jesus walked the earth! An eye-opening compilation of twenty-four rivetting commentaries with titles including *Coups: Not What They Used To Be; Roses, Not Gas Masks; What's Cooking? Armageddon!; Facing Mecca, and The Price of Hostages.* Don't miss Zola's biblical insight on the why's behind our world's crazy happenings! Please use page 7 to order.



THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY

By Mark Levitt

This ministry's status is important because our mission is vital. When Zola had his heart trouble nine years ago, I wondered who else might teach about biblical events right where they happened, discuss prophecy on locations where it will be fulfilled and map current events in the secular world to their biblical significance.

A computer consultant once complimented us on our "clever niche." Allow me to reveal our secrets of success. On our stationery, we cite Romans 10:1, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." At the end of each television program, Zola requests that we pray for the peace of Jerusalem. In a nutshell, we focus on the Bible. As a result of that, we're forced to concentrate on Israel.

We still receive letters of complaint about Zola's bias for Israel and his emphasis of political developments, the ones that are fulfilling prophecy. At one point, I suggested that we review the milk of the Word in a television series called *The Witnessing Series* to teach folks how to witness to Jews, cultists, atheists, etc. Zola pointed out that many ministries already teach the basics.

Our specialty, in addition to sharing the meat of the Word with Christians, is provoking the unbeliever's interest in Jesus by appealing to him on an intellectual level. When an unbeliever, Jew or Gentile, watches our programs, he can easily see that the Bible is both accurate and significant.

How exciting are our programs about the Dead Sea Scrolls! The Bible now has carbon dated, secular corroboration. To date, we are the only ministry to have televised interviews with Dr.

James Tabor, the authority on the scrolls. We've shown pictures of the actual writings and hope larger ministries will follow our example and share the significance of this exciting revelation.

Unfortunately only 11 percent of our society reads newspapers and 3 percent books. For that reason, Zola's high level of teaching generally appeals to a minority — the readers and students. That's an important segment, of course, and many others enjoy our programs for their Israel footage, inspirational music and interesting personalities.

Another factor that limits this ministry's growth is Zola's refusal to harangue for funds. If our purpose was to build an empire, we would simplify our television programs and hire professional fund raisers. Since that's not our calling, the challenge remains: teach an important minority about the Bible, prophecy fulfillment and Israel in a way that will appeal to studious Christians and curious unbelievers alike.

I'm sorry to say that last month we sent out our first Minute Man (and Minute Woman) alert. You may remember that in our October *Levitt Letter* we enlisted readers who would remain willing to donate \$25 any time twice per year upon short notice. Between the production of television programs and catalogs, we were awaiting year-end donations and got caught short. The mid-month TV air time invoice was hefty as a result of our efforts to televise in new cities.

If you would like to join our legion of Minute Men (and Minute Women), please drop me a line. This shot-in-the-arm approach to meeting our bills won't ever replace good stewardship and planning, but it's a good buffer to have when we don't pressure our supporters for long-term commitments.

Our recent efforts to air *Zola Levitt Presents* in new areas haven't been very successful. Typically we need to persist for about a year before we break even on a new station, but perhaps

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☆ ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD ☆

LEGAL COUNSEL

A while ago we advertised for a CPA to audit our financial statements and the reader who volunteered did a thorough job, saving our donors a substantial fee. If you know of a lawyer in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex who might be interested in assisting us in the same manner, please have him write to Mark's attention.

SPRING IN THE HOLY LAND

Make plans now to join us on our spring tour to Israel and Egypt. Israel is beautiful in the spring as the land is renewed and the fields are filled with wildflowers. You'll witness the celebration of the Feast of Purim in the homeland of the Chosen Ones. The Basic Israel Tour (March 15-24) includes the biblical sites of Jerusalem, as well as the Mount of the Beatitudes, the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho and much more. The Deluxe Tour (March 15-27) includes a journey through the Negev Desert to Eilat on the Red Sea. The Grand Tour (March 15-31) continues on to Egypt for a look at the Pyramids, the ancient temples of the Pharaohs and the magnificent Cairo Museum. Write or call us at (214) 690-1876 for details and a brochure.

A NEW BEGINNING

In honoring your New Year's resolution to read the Bible from cover to cover, some of you are struggling with the genealogies in Genesis — who begat whom? Wouldn't it be great to have a bird's eye view of all twelve Hebrew tribes? Please see page seven to order our Adam & Eve Family Tree Chart. It goes all the way from Adam to Jesus!

I Stand Corrected!

Some of you have written to complain that I spoke out of turn when I wrote in our November newsletter, "I will curse those who curse Israel." Actually, I was using the language of Genesis 12:3 (perhaps carelessly) and I certainly didn't mean to imply that I have the authority to literally curse anyone. I do, however, stand firmly behind the message of that Scripture, and those of you who know this ministry know that I will continue to speak out loud and clear against those who curse the apple of God's eye, Israel.

AIRING UPDATE

We are sorry to say that, due to insufficient support, we have discontinued airing *Zola Levitt Presents* on the following stations:

Opelika, AL	WSWS-66	Chico, CA	VPN-5
Atlanta, GA	VPN-11	Tinley Park, IL	WJYS-62
Lawrence, MA	WMFP-62	New Bloomfield, MO	KNLI-25
Trenton, NJ	CTN	Swedesboro, NJ	WTGI-61

WHAT STATION?

A few months ago we sent you station response cards. Unfortunately, only half of our donors and product purchasers have told us on which television stations they watch *Zola Levitt Presents*. Sometimes our computer printouts indicate we can no longer afford to air our program in certain cities. If you contribute to this ministry, please help us stretch your donations by giving us the call letters of the TV station or network on which you see our program.

STAMPS ON ENVELOPES

Some of you are kind enough to put your own 29¢ stamps on our business reply envelopes to save us the 31¢ the post office charges us. Surprisingly, they charge us anyway. Then, when we later return the envelopes for credit, they charge us for counting them! The bottom line: You may as well enjoy the convenience of our envelope, or stamp and address one of yours from scratch. Thanks for the kind gesture all the same.

A NOTE FROM KELLY

This morning Zola called from New York, on his way back from our winter tour of the Holy Land. I told him that our end-of-the-year fund raising program was finished and that Ken Berg, the producer of *Zola Levitt Presents*, and I had seen the final product and approved of it.

Each December we produce a program we refer to as our "fund raiser," but while watching that program Ken and I had to chuckle about Zola's style of asking for your support. At the end of each one of our weekly programs Zola is *supposed* to remember to ask you to help us stay on the air in your area by supporting us financially. He usually doesn't remember, so I write the word "Funds" on a sign and hold it in front of the camera as he's speaking. Still, he doesn't always take the time to remind you that without your support we simply cannot produce programs. Usually Ken and I are relieved if Zola manages to squeeze in a few words like, "Remember, we need your help," or "Please support these programs."

In our year-end fund raising program, we like to show you highlights of some of the previous year's footage and ask you to help us continue to bring you new and exciting programs from the Holy Land. This year we used a scene from our "The World Today" series, taped in the home of Jewish believers in Jerusalem during a Scud missile attack. We followed this family into their sealed room as they put on their gas masks (as did our crew), tucked their infant into a plastic covered crib and waited for the "all clear" siren or the poison gas attack. We also used excerpts of our fascinating programs about the startling new discoveries in the newly revealed text of the Dead Sea Scrolls. By the time you receive this newsletter the year-end program will have aired and you'll have been reminded of what you enabled us to produce in 1991.

At the end of that program, Zola spent two or three minutes telling you that we *do* depend upon your gifts to make these series. There were no ringing telephones, lights or whistles, just a short plea from Zola for your help, but I can tell you even that was not comfortable for him. When you hear Zola say that asking for funds is a part of his ministry that he finds particularly unpleasant, he's telling you the truth.

This is your ministry, your television outreach, and, as Zola pointed out on the program, your gifts are "fruit that abounds to your account" (Phil. 4:17). As always, we thank you for your prayers, your support and your encouragement. I pray that God will bless you for what we know is sacrificial giving for many of you, offered from hearts touched by His love.

Yours in His service,

Kelly Catanzano



IN MY FATHER'S

Most people plan more carefully for a two-week vacation than for the seven years we will spend as guests in our Messiah's Father's house. What will we do during the time we spend among the "many mansions," and how do we prepare for it? Please see page 7 to order.

"IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE"

BY
ZOLA LEVITT



"I go to prepare a place for you...where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2,3

Zola Levitt

One More Pilgrimage

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about the One who sat with His disciples, perhaps in that very place, breaking bread and telling of the miraculous events to come.

Before leaving Jerusalem, we'd pay homage to those Chosen Ones who died at the hands of the Nazis, beginning with the Children's Memorial, a long dark hallway lit only by the mirrored reflections of six candle flames. Feeling our way through the darkness we would be enveloped with a sense of helplessness. A solemn voice from an unseen loudspeaker would fill emptiness with the names and ages of those young innocent ones who died. In the nearby Holocaust Museum we'd see photographs and personal items from that horrible time, more proof that "the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked" (Jer. 17:9).

Upon leaving Jerusalem, some would probably feel that the best, the most exciting, the most spiritually edifying sights were surely being left behind — but then they'd soon find themselves in Galilee to the north, sailing across the Sea of Galilee to the Mount of the Sermon, the very spot where Jesus spoke the beautiful words of the Beatitudes. Our guide would read them to us in Hebrew, just as Yeshua spoke them, and Zola would translate for us: ". . .Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted; blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth; blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy; blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. . ." (Mt. 5:4-8). We'd listen, perched on the same rocks on which those who first heard those words must have sat, looking down upon the gleaming Sea of Galilee. We'd leave that peaceful hillside knowing that each one of us had been forever changed.

During our tour we'd also see Nazareth, Jesus' boyhood home; Caesarea, where Cornelius became one of the first Gentiles to put his trust in the Messiah of Israel; the many-layered ruins of Megiddo, the ancient city overlooking the Valley of Armageddon; and remote Masada, the historic mountaintop fortress with its intricate survival system, complete with a ritual bath

and a synagogue, designed by those courageous Children of Israel who resisted the Roman Empire to the end!

Perhaps we'd take some time to float atop the Dead Sea or to swim in the clear blue Mediterranean. And we'd certainly sit together on the bank of the Jordan River, remembering the baptism of the One of whom the Father said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mt. 3:17).

One of the wonderful things about visiting Israel is that, like reading the Scriptures, one never runs out of new discoveries. Each site adds to our understanding of the faith and no matter how many pilgrimages we make, there is no end to the spiritual enlightenment we receive from the experience.

So, until we *are* together in *Eretz Yisrael*, the land of Israel, for a thousand years in the Kingdom, may God bless all of you who love His land, His Chosen People, and His Son, the Jewish Messiah and the Savior of the world.



The State of the Ministry

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this end-times economy has made it harder for us to get a foothold. As a result, we're currently planning to be conservative on air time purchases while continuing with new television programs for the cities where we're established.

Sooner than appealing to those of you who are unable to donate as you have in the past, I ask those of you who have never given to help us through the February lull we traditionally experience after year-end giving.

And whether or not you've prayed for us before, please do so now. We have such a responsibility in this ministry, sharing a vital message with so many precious souls (Ec. 11:1, Mt. 4:19). God be with you. ■

BOOKS

Qty.	Title	Price Total
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_____	THE PROMISED LAND	\$2.50
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_____	THE SEVEN FEASTS OF ISRAEL	\$2.50
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STUDIES, ETC.

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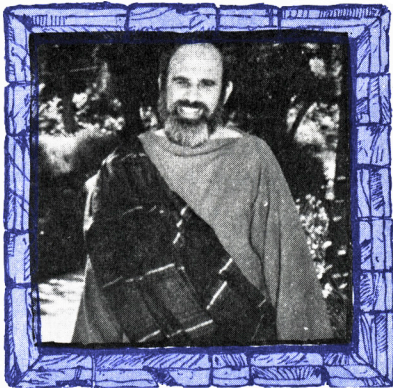
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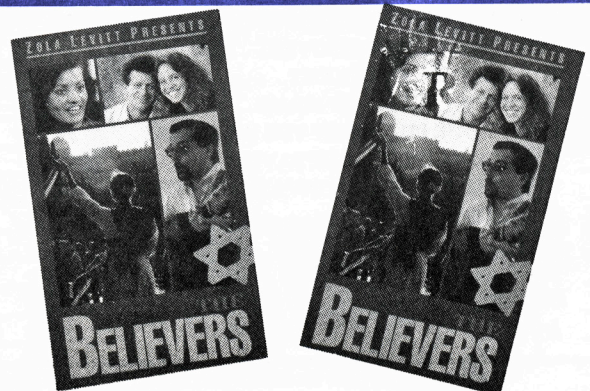
Hebrew Lesson

אֲשֶׁר־יִרְחַמְנוּם כִּי־הֵם
יִרְחַמוּ

**“Blessed are the merciful:
for they shall obtain mercy.”**

Matthew 5:7

THE BELIEVERS



An 8-program series with dramatic testimonies of Jews in Israel who know Jesus as Lord. You'll love the lively Israeli music they share in worship of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Zola interviews Israeli-born believers and U.S. Messianic Jews who've returned to the land of their fathers. Please order from page 7.