

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

This writer presents the clearest view and most truthful reporting of the situation in Israel that I have seen in a long time. Please forward a copy of this editorial to your hometown newspaper. Thanks. — Zola



The New Religious War

By Patrick Cox

Thanksgiving Day [2002] was marked by the terrorist attempt, using two shoulder-fired missiles, to shoot down an Israeli airliner taking off from Kenya. The attack announced a new stage in terrorism that bypasses all the security upgrades that have taken place inside airports.

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"Our goal is clear – to

wipe Israel off the map."

Television and print journalists asked representatives of Israel, once again, why they do not simply give back Gaza and the West Bank to end the conflict. Palestinians, once again, blamed Israel and excused the killing of civilians.

In fact, efforts to link the "occupied territories" to terrorism are no more credible than similar claims by Islamists who blamed the innocuous comments of a Nigerian journalist about the Miss World contest for the murder of hundreds of Christians at the hands

of rampaging, church-burning Muslims.

Think about it. If control of Gaza and the West Bank is the root cause of terrorist attacks on Israel, the occupation must have somehow transcended the laws of time and physics to affect history retroactively.

When the Arab League, in conjunction with Arabs now called Palestinians, declared war on Israel and announced their intention to destroy Israel in 1948, Azzam Pasha, secretary-general of the Arab League, proclaimed, "This will be a war of extermination and a momentous massacre, which will be spoken of like the Mongolian massacres and the Crusades."

Beginning in the 1967 Six-Day War, Islamic Arab armies invaded Israel, openly announcing their commitment to Jewish genocide. Unanimous endorsement of surrounding Arab

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

IN 2 I DE I I E M 2
■ Editorialsp. 5
■ Zola's Bulletin Boardp. 6
■ America Speaksp. 7
■ A Loss Of Innocencep. 8
■ Terrorist Twinsp. 9
■ Letters To Zolap. 10
■ Covering The Sun With A Shroudp. 11
■ Editorialsp. 12
■ A War Worth Fightingp. 13
■ Hebrew Lessonp. 14
■ Editorialsp. 15
■ Christians Curse Israelp. 16
■ A Note From Zolap. 18
■ The Survival Of Israelp. 21
■ The Israeli Invitationalp. 22
■ How Do You Say Freedom Of Speech
In Arabic?p. 28
■ Walking With The Animalsp. 29
■ Why The Arah World Hates

The Butcher of Baghdad

America.....p. 30

By David Dolan, WorldNetDaily

Israelis...are still in the midst of a deadly

war not of their choosing. [Recent] twin Palestinian suicide blasts in Tel Aviv left over 20 families, and their close relatives and friends, grieving for their slaughtered loved ones. But it wasn't only Israelis who were directly affected this time — five of the dead were foreign workers, including a Chinese woman, a man from West Africa and three from Central Europe.

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Space Shuttle Columbia Tragedy

See Zola's article on page 18 about this catastrophe that affects both the United States and Israel.

Friends of the Rabbi Television Series

Friends of the Rabbi is an eight-program series focusing on those who were closest to Jesus while He ministered on Earth. We examine the characteristic elements of His friends, and we study the context in which each person's relationship to the Rabbi developed. The programs consist of teaching segments and interviews with relevance to the topic of each show. We are still called to become "friends" with the Rabbi of Galilee, who is now our King! Please order from page 31.

The Rabbi: Jesus the Ultimate

This series begins with Zola's Messianic congregation, Shalom Shalom. Zola explains how the role of the ancient Rabbi differs from that of a modern Rabbi. Then from the Mount of Olives, Zola contrasts the "whitewashed tombs" referred to in Matthew 23 with the unlearned, humble men who were Jesus' followers. Finally, Zola discusses the role and title of Rabbi with David Tel Tsur, a leader of a Messianic congregation in Israel.

The Fisherman Brothers: A Call to the Common Man

By the shore of the Mediterranean, Zola explores the Lord's calling of each of the four fishermen: Andrew, Peter, John and James. These faithful friends forsook all for the call of true discipleship and they became "fishers of men." Our Israeli producer, Bill Dackman, talks to journalist and author David Dolan about his calling to live and work alongside the Jewish people.

Matthew: Right Job, Wrong Man

At the site of ancient Roman baths, Zola highlights the Apostle Matthew, who was in collaboration with Rome's occupation of Israel as a tax collector, and yet went on to proclaim the true Kingship of the Messiah. We talk to two Americans who have come to work, live and bless Israel: Kenneth Crowell and Paul Abbott.

The Little-Known Disciples: Small Stones in a Big Sea

By the old city walls of Jerusalem, Zola teaches on the six apostles about whom we know little, yet whose ministries were far from inconsequential. We interview an American couple that met, married and is raising a family in Israel. Plus, we talk to a Texas oil man hoping to find oil for Israel.



Judas Iscariot: A Friend to the Enemy

Zola explains how Judas, the betrayer, was loved by the Messiah throughout their unique relationship. Schneider Children's Medical Center serves not only the children living in Israel, but also from countries that are less than friendly with the Jewish state.

The Friends at Bethany: For Whom He Weeps

From ancient tombs in Jerusalem, Zola teaches about the Messiah's interaction with Mary, Martha and the resurrected Lazarus. Then Zola interviews Tsvi Sadan, the founding editor of a Hebrew-language Messianic magazine.

The Least of These: Let the Children Come

Zola explains how modern Israel takes care of children and how believers need to become like little children. The Messiah's love motivates the Jemima House to care for many unwanted sick and disabled children near Bethlehem.

The Music

Considered by many to be Zola's most mature music, these wonderful songs were originally heard in the *Return to Galilee* series. Now, the excellent soloists and full symphony orchestras have been combined with updated visuals and scenes from Israel.

states was typified by President Abdur Rahman Aref of Iraq, who declared, "The existence of Israel is an error which must be rectified. This is our opportunity to wipe out the ignominy which has been with us since 1948. Our goal is clear — to wipe Israel off the map."

Remember, this was before they had the "occupation" alibi.

Approximately 7,000 Jews were killed, in fact, by Islamic military forces before Israel finally took over the strategic Gaza and West Bank, establishing defensible borders for the tiny, embattled state. Rather than provoking violence against Israel, the confiscation of these territories has actually led to a significant reduction in violence against Jews.

The publicly stated policy of destroying Israel has never been rescinded by the Arab League or its member nations. In fact, the level of commitment has actually grown. Children's textbooks, issued by the Palestinian National Authority, pledge the annihilation of Israel to this day and the Arab League invites terrorist organizations who target Jewish children for murder to its official summits.

Why, therefore, do so many people willfully ignore this cold and lucid reality? Why do so many journalists, U.N. officials and European politicians choose to treat widespread and deadly-serious expressions of desire to massacre non-Muslims as exaggerations by a fringe element of Muslims or a quaint symptom of backward Arab bluster?

This bizarre inability to accept the clearly-announced and amply-proven existence of an ongoing, centuries-old Jihad against all non-Muslims is one of the great failures of the modern West — which chooses to falsely attribute liberal democratic values to people who are hostile to those very concepts. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is, in actuality, a continuation of policies begun by the Ottoman Empire before it fell at the end

of World War I.

At that time, Western powers led by Britain sought an equitable solution to the terrible political puzzle created by the fractured Ottoman Empire. Britain's 1917 Balfour convention addressed the goal of the Jewish homeland in *Palestine* — using the Roman word for the Jewish land.



No other group has controlled or wanted the arid landscape there since the Roman Gen. Pompeii forcefully removed as many Jews as he could in 63 B.C. Also, Jews who fled that and subsequent persecutions and pogroms throughout the Middle East and Europe desperately wanted their ancient homeland restored — believing it would provide a sanctuary against widespread and frequently lethal anti-Semitism.

By the time the plan was implemented, however, the Nazi Holocaust had eliminated most of Europe's Jews and their interests had been subjugated to British geopolitical considerations — in particular the desire to appease the Hashemite Arabs who lost their struggle with the Ibn Saud family for control of what is now Saudi Arabia. Instead of getting half the area now called Israel and Jordan, as Jews were promised, they were given only three, tiny disconnected slivers of land. Christians, who once controlled most of the Middle East, found themselves relegated to equally slim quarters in Lebanon.

The transplanted Hashemites began the occupation of the land now called Jordan and, since then, the indigenous population has tried on numerous occasions to rid themselves of their foreign rulers. These efforts at achieving self-rule have been brutally put down by the Hashemites, resulting in more than 100,000 Arab deaths — far more than have ever died at the hands of Israelis.

Britain and other foreign powers called, as part of the establishment of Jordan and Israel, for Jews and Arabs to separate themselves. Arabs were to leave Israel and Jews were to leave Jordan and the other Arab countries.

Unfair as this relocation was for those who had to leave homes, properties and businesses, usually without reparations, most Jews complied and left the surrounding lands to move to Israel. Arab leaders, while using the opportunity to force their own Jews out, encouraged Arabs who lived in what is now Israel to stay and fight the plan. Most of the Arab population in Israel, by the way, had immigrated there in search of employment.

Yet today, the United Nations and many Western journalists focus only on the inequities suffered by Palestinian Arabs and ignore the far greater injustices suffered by Jews at the hands of Islamists seeking the reestablishment of an Ottoman-style Caliphate. Likewise, they ignore the open endorsement of the Ottoman practice of ethnic cleansing by modern Islamists.

The successful genocide of 1.5 million Armenian Christians between 1915 and 1923 by Muslims continues to be celebrated by Islamists today, even as they have killed at least one million Christians in East Timor, Sudan, Pakistan, Egypt, Nigeria and Lebanon — while Muslim propagandists divert the attention of the easily-distracted and guilt-addicted West to the occupied territories in Israel.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Meanwhile American and British leaders are busy assessing the possibilities of horrendous terrorist assaults in their own lands once any military campaign [against Iraq] gets underway. Nerves have been frayed in London ... over the discovery of traces of the lethal ricin poison in an apartment housing Algerian Muslims. This comes amid reports that al-Qaida-linked terrorists in northern Iraq have been busy producing the toxic substance, which is extracted from the humble castor bean.

But far greater terrorist threats are keeping Western and Israeli leaders and security experts awake at night. The list is well known: anthrax, smallpox, sarin and other nerve agents, and of course, nuclear-laden dirty bombs. The worst nightmare of all is the Real Thing — full-fledged nuclear warheads, such as the paranoid communist rulers of North Korea are now openly producing.

While warily gazing across the Pacific horizon for any incoming rogue missiles, U.S. officials are keeping very much in mind the possibility that one or more KGB-built nuclear suitcase bombs might have been smuggled into America. If the small Russian devices are somewhere inside the country, it is probable that the Butcher of Baghdad had a hand in spiriting them in. After all, he has been vowing out loud since the end of the original Gulf War that he would get his revenge on America, and in a very nasty manner.

Is President Bush stupid to worry about that prospect? Yes, according to various political commentators. Take leading *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman, whose opinion piece on the topic was published the very same day that suicide terrorists brought new carnage to the cafes and shops of Tel Aviv. He found the commander in chief's recent warning that an Iraqi attack upon America "could cripple our economy" to be "embarrassing hype." Friedman further opines that the president is apparently "groping for an excuse to go to war" by mentioning the possibility of an internal Iraqi attack, which the columnist deems "highly unlikely."

I first met Friedman when he was serving in Jerusalem in the mid-1980s as the *Times* bureau chief. Before that, like myself, he was stationed in Lebanon. In fact, he was there, as I was, when America-hating Lebanese Muslim terrorists, backed by Syria and Iran, slaughtered 241 U.S. Marines in a huge suicide terrorist blast. Given that fact, it is quite amazing to me that Friedman is so quick to underrate the monster that is Saddam Hussein, and especially the dictator's willingness and capability to wreak havoc on America.

Is George Bush just huffing and puffing when he warns of the serious potential of a devastating terror attack inside America that could shatter her shaky economy? Was he merely bluffing when he suggested last January that a devious and destructive alliance exists between Iraq, Iran and North Korea — the main supplier of advanced missiles to several Muslim states in the tense Middle East?

If Friedman and other skeptical pundits and politicians are any indication, many Americans have yet to acknowledge the ugly fact that full-scale war has been declared upon the world's reigning superpower.

Underrating America's enemies will not make them disappear. There is every reason to suspect that Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden and their allies in Asia and elsewhere have carefully plotted follow-up blows designed to outshine the ones already inflicted upon the "Great Satan." If anything is embarrassing, it is the pompous and naive view that only one nation in this conflict is truly capable of waging all-out war.

The New Religious War continued from page 3

Osama bin Laden, Saddam Hussein, the Saudi royal family and others are fighting to create and control a new Caliphate — using various means. Muslims seeking this end will forgive any atrocity performed by Muslims against Muslims, such as the Iraq-Iran war that killed more than one million people, but rage against Israeli efforts to protect their very existence.

Recent documents, confiscated from the Palestinian Secret Service, prove that Yasser Arafat and his colleagues are a conscious, well-funded part of a much greater effort to purge the infidel from the Middle East. Of course, there are moderate Muslims who oppose Islamist practices, and we should support them in every way we can, but they are forced to fear for their safety even in the United States. Those who speak out in the Middle East are routinely jailed or killed.

Perhaps because religious tolerance is such a central part of modern Western philosophy, we seem afraid to admit the existence of the deadly religion-based threat that comes nearly unaltered out of the Dark Ages. We are, however, engaged in a religious war whether we admit it or not — largely because we value freedom of and even from religion.

Containment will not stop those who operate outside political borders any more than the liberation of Afghanistan has eliminated al Qaida. Make no mistake, the religious war we are now fighting, that the Israelis have been fighting, will end only when the West converts to Islam or Islam embraces Western tolerance even within its own borders. Until that far day, none of us will fly again without wondering if a Stinger missile is not about to be launched at us by some fanatical follower of the mad Mullahs.

Now in Hebrew

Jerusalem Post

Scientific American, which has been published since 1845 and whose writers have included Albert Einstein and Neils Bohr, has decided to issue a Hebrew language edition.... Israel joins 15 other countries in having its own native-language edition.

The [Hebrew] edition will reflect Israeli advances in medicine, psychology, science and technology, and include profiles of Israeli scientists in addition to covering discoveries and innovations around the world. ■

"We have to obey God"

Israel Today

Since the Palestinian terror war erupted over two years ago, the Jewish population of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip has risen by 12 percent, to 220,000.

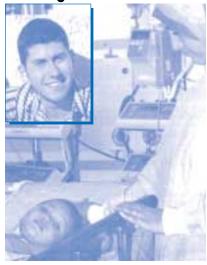
Not only has the spirit of the "settlers" not been broken, they've gained new strength to go on with their lives in spite of dangers on the roads and in their towns, scattered among the Arab villages and cities. "We live in the Land that God has promised us," Ilan Bardugo told *Israel Today*. "Even if this doesn't suit our enemies, we have to obey God — not our enemies."

Don't forget about one very special group of obedient Jews—in Anatot, our adopted Jewish community in Israel. Your faithful support of the Anatot fund helps Stu and Joni and the many other residents of this "settlement" maintain their security and expand this community that rests on the land that once belonged to the prophet Jeremiah (32:8-16). — Zola

(See story on page 29)

NewsBriefs

Demonstrating Peace Through Sacrifice



Seven-year-old Palestinian Yasmin Abu-Ramila, with her mother Dina, is recovering after transplant surgery at an Israeli hospital near Tel Aviv. Abu-Ramila received the kidney of Jonathan (Yoni) Jesner, a 19-year-old Jewish student from Glasgow, Scotland, who was killed in a suicide bombing.

Man's Best Friend — Rest in Peace

Israel Today

Thanks to the generosity of an American animal lover, a new cemetery for the dogs of the IDF [Israeli Defense Force] will provide a final resting place for the four-legged "soldiers" of the Israeli army.

IDF Plans to Flood Terrorist Tunnels

For years the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have been trying to deal with the countless tunnels exploited by the Palestinians to smuggle weapons from Egypt into the Gaza Strip. Now the IDF has come up with a unique

solution to the problem: Divert concentrated salt water from the Negev desalination plant into the area around Rafiah where most of the weapons smuggling is located. Thus the wastewater will become a tool in Israel's war against terrorists.

Source: Ellis Shuman, Israel Insider

Christianity On the Rise Worldwide

The popular press, as well as the Islamic world, likes to claim that Islam is the world's fastest-growing religion and that Christianity is on the decline. Now it appears this "conventional wisdom" is false. Of course, there are some areas of the world where Islam has a strong foothold (and often is growing due to forced "conversions" to the Muslim faith); but this isn't the case in many areas of the world. Not surprisingly these strongholds of Islam include most of the Arab world as well as Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey and Indonesia.

The greatest growth of Christianity is found in the Third World. Recent surveys reveal that Christianity is actually on the rise in South America, Asia and Africa. In Africa alone, some 350 million people — half of its population — claim to be Christian.

Despite the media's new love affair with Islam, the percentage of professing Christians is actually growing, and recent studies estimate that by 2025, the Good News of the Gospel will have freed even greater numbers of people. Thus, Christianity will outpace its rivals by a wide margin.

Source: Adam Housely, Fox News.

Another Air Time on INSP

In addition to our Friday broadcasts at 10:00 PM Eastern Time, the INSP network will be airing *Zola Levitt Presents* on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 Eastern Time. Please write us for our complete national airing schedule or see it at www.levitt.com.

ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD



From May 29 through June 8, Zola will be leading his 76th tour of Israel, our Pentecost Tour. Our pilgrims can extend their stay through June 11 to visit the rose red city of Petra, a world-famous archaeological site. For your full-color tour folder, please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 during office hours. Or you may also call 1-800-WONDERS (1-800-966-3377) any time. Once you've set foot in the Holy Land, your Bible never reads the same!

Eureka Springs in June

Join Zola for a Father's Day weekend tour (June 14-15) of the Passion Play and Israel sites at Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 during office hours for more information. Or you may also call 1-800-WONDERS (1-800-966-3377) any time.

Midwest Church/College Tour

This summer Zola will again be visiting churches in the Midwest to teach about Israel and Bible prophecy. If your church is interested, please contact us for scheduling information.

In answer to growing anti-Semitism on our college campuses, Zola is making himself available free of charge for lectures to student and faculty groups at schools in the Midwest.

Also, Zola is available for speaking in churches locally in the Dallas area during the Spring Passover season and in the Fall.

For information on any of these engagements, please contact Claudia at (817) 417-0059.



Saturday, April 12, is our next Israel Solidarity Day in Dallas, where we'll tour Israel and Bible sites beautifully replicated at the Biblical Arts Center, as well as have times of worship and teaching. Included in this one-day \$49 tour is a visit to the "Miracle at Pentecost," a dramatic 124-foot oil painting, presented in a stunning light and sound show. Register early and receive a complimentary reservation at our Passover Seder on Friday night, April 11, with our own congregation, Shalom Shalom. We do this annually the week before Passover so that folks can learn it and then invite their Jewish and Gentile friends to their homes the

following week. Seating is limited. Reservations are required. Please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 for tour and Seder information. The eminent Arab-Christian Ergun Caner will speak to the subject of Israel and the Palestinians during the Solidarity Day.

Zola's Birthday in the Lord

On March 14, Zola will turn 32. It was on this date in 1971 that he came to know Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior. He gets around fairly well for a 32-year-old, wouldn't you say?

AmericaSpeaks

Cannon Fodder

By B. Dagan, The Jerusalem Report

Dear Editor: The Palestinians' naiveté about Saddam Hussein is both amazing and appalling. How don't they see that they are dying for Saddam's wealth and power? He is awash in U.N. petrodollar money and he uses it to make the Palestinians put on a sideshow to delay his judgment day.

The Palestinians don't seem to grasp that they have sold their souls to the devil, that their dream of a state is being pushed farther and farther away and that all the killing and the dying is not about a state, but about retaining the big tyrants of the Arab world as their rulers.

Cannon fodder. I would have felt sorry for their blindness had it not cost so much Jewish blood.

The unfortunate reality is that the Palestinians long ago sold their souls to the father of modern terrorism, Yasser Arafat. — Zola

Love Affair with Islam

By Suzanne Hitto, The Dallas Morning News

Dear Editor: Why is it that [you] seek to continually discredit the religion of Islam and its over 1 billion adherents? I understand that, in any religion, there will be those uncomfortable few, like the Caner brothers, who continually search for their "truth." However, it appears that The Dallas Morning News is working overtime in its efforts to defame the fastest-growing religion.

I chose Islam as a way of life over 18 years ago, and I continue to be amazed at how the tenets of Islam preserve the dignity of believers, create a true brotherhood of all humankind, bring harmony and equality to people of all ethnicities and social classes, and maintain solid solutions to the social ills faced by society throughout history. I understand that in order to prove superiority, the human being will be quick to downplay such a dynamic ideology, but come on, Dallas Morning News, you're truly losing your objectivity.

Ms. Hitto wrote to the *Morning News* in response to a human-interest story on Dr. Ergun Caner and his brother, Emir Caner. Ergun has appeared on our television program and is scheduled to speak at our Israel Solidarity Tour in Dallas in April.

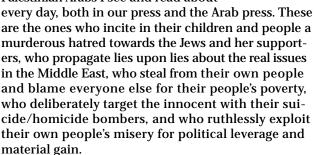
The truth is that the Dallas Morning News lost its objectivity long ago, but not because it defamed Islam. Its anti-Israel, pro-Muslim stance is too obvious, and that's why I stopped taking the News. Actually, Muslim pressure forced the top management at the Dallas paper to agree to favor positive stories on Islam and those written by Muslims.

The ludicrous claims about Islam by this misguided soul are both sad and offensive. The "dignity of believers" is not preserved when the tenets of Islam encourage those believers to murder Jews, Christians and all other "infidels." Islam is able to "create a true brotherhood" only after it eliminates those who refuse to convert. Islam did not "bring harmony" to the families of the more than 3,000 victims of Islamic terror on 9-11. It does not seek "equality" with the Jewish people. Islam is impotent to end class warfare, as in the case of the oil-rich Saudi royal family and their impoverished 12th-century subjects. And the only Islamic "solution" to society's ills is conversion by the sword. That in a nutshell is the history of Islam. — Zola

The Other Arabs

By M. Kalata, The International Jerusalem Post

Dear Editor: On one side there are the Palestinian Arabs I see and read about



These are the men and women who are the real problem of the Middle East, and who'd rather see the entire region erupt in flames.

The "other" Palestinian Arabs are the silent ones, the ones who want peace, the ones who love their children, the ones who want truth, love, and righteousness to reign in the region.... They are bullied into silence by the corrupt and murderous despots who rule over them. These people have no voice, and if they should dare to raise one, they are quickly threatened or murdered back into their suffering silence.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

A Loss of Innocence

by Jonathan Rosenblum, The International Jerusalem Post

Few ideas are so instinctively repugnant to Jews as that of expelling the entire Palestinian population of the West Bank and Gaza.

As a people, we still mourn the massive exiles following the destruction of the First and Second Temples, even though the latter took place nearly two millennia ago and the former 600 years earlier. No people has been booted out so frequently or so unceremoniously from various places of refuge as the Jews.

So we have no difficulty empathizing with the Palestinians who lost their homes in the course of the 1948 War of Independence, even if the vast majority of those refugees left at the urging of their leaders and with visions of returning to plunder the homes of Jews in their mind's eye. On the scale of all the refugees created by wars since 1948 — over 12 million in all, including 600,000 Jews from Arab lands — the number of Palestinian refugees might not loom that large. Yet Palestinian feelings of loss cannot be denied.

Still there are limits to our empathy for the Palestinian refugees. We, the Jewish people, live now in our historical homeland, which we have been forced to defend in continuous warfare necessitated by the refusal of the Palestinians to share the land. We have no intention of committing suicide or of picking up once again to search for a new place of refuge. Nor on the evidence from Europe would there seem to be any greater demand for Jews today than there was during the Holocaust.

Let's say that I drove carelessly and forced another driver to swerve into a ditch. I could fully understand his fury. But if he came out of the car with a gun cocked and aimed at my head, I would shoot him first.

Basically that's the situation in which the Jews of Israel find themselves today. The Palestinians have decided that the land will not be shared. The homicide attacks that enjoy the overwhelming support of the Palestinian population are not designed to win additional concessions or obtain a more favorable settlement. They began in response to the most generous offer the Palestinians could ever hope to receive.

Rather they are designed to make life unlivable for the Jews in Israel. Their only purpose is to sow such widespread demoralization that we will simply fold our tents and disappear (to wherever).

So the logic of the conflict boils down to us or them. It's

shootout at O.K. Corral, and only one side will be left standing. That's what the Palestinians have chosen.

Faced with that choice, Israel must choose its own survival. The Palestinians cannot be free to pursue an allor-nothing strategy while we wait for them to come to their senses. Meanwhile eight Jews are killed one day, nine the next, a mother and father shot dead before their infant children the following night. We are hemorrhaging.



Slowly it has dawned on us that the Marquis of Queensbury rules no longer apply. When the British faced Arab rioting in the late '30s, they made sure to place Palestinians in front of British troops every time they suspected they might be entering a minefield or facing a boobytrap. Confronting Southern guerilla bands on his march to the sea, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman placed captured Southern prisoners between his troops and suspected explosives. Nor was he above imposing collective punishment on civilian populations suspected of supporting the rebel troops. Such tactics are not pretty, but were unquestionably effective in preserving the lives of British and Union troops. Israel confronts an enemy no less ruthless than the British did, and in our case the threat is to our very existence.

Many Israelis no doubt dream of waking up one morning with all the Palestinians gone. But no more than a tiny minority, until recently, have ever advocated making that fantasy a reality. Transfer is not our preferred solution, or even our tenth best. And yet a majority of Israelis are willing to contemplate transfer today — at least when ventilating to pollsters. That is the terrible logic of the situation in which the Palestinians have placed us.

Terrorist Twins

By Joseph Farah, WorldNetDaily

Well, if we're to believe what we heard, Yasser Arafat is angry at Osama bin Laden. Arafat says he doesn't want the al-Qaida terrorist hiding behind "the Palestinian



cause." He denounced the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the United States, and explained how his struggle against Israel is different than the one being waged by bin Laden against the West. It was all very persuasive — if you didn't know a thing about Arafat's history.

For years, Arafat has attended meetings with terrorists from all over the world — including bin Laden. He has used his Palestinian Authority, subsidized by taxpayer dollars from the United States, to whip up hatred among his people for not only Israelis, but for all Jews and for all Americans. (Just recall the celebrations in the streets of Ramallah and Gaza as the World Trade Center collapsed.) Arafat is a professional liar and con man (aside from being a bloody murderer). Arafat has forged unholy alliances with many Islamist terror groups and individuals throughout his career while proclaiming to be at war with those forces.

...Arafat is playing a shrewd game — shrewd enough to have fooled top diplomats in the United States and leaders in Israel for the last 10 years or more. Whenever he's on the ropes, whenever he is about to lose power because he's gone too far on his bloody terrorist campaigns, whenever he is about to be relegated to the ash heap of history, he resurrects himself and reinvents himself as a peacemaker and moderate in the Arab world. That is what he is attempting to do, once again, by distancing himself from bin Laden. He sees the handwriting on the wall.

"As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene."

- Albert Einstein



One of his best friends in the Arab world, Saddam Hussein — also one of bin Laden's steadiest supporters — is about to become pita toast. He doesn't want to join Hussein in exile, in hiding or in hell. He knows the U.S. is amassing a military force in the Middle East that is capable of overrunning the entire region — if that was a desire of U.S. policy. He

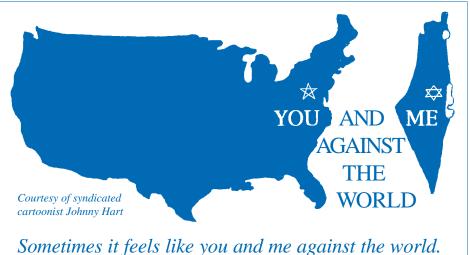
knows the map of the region is about to be redrawn. Iraq could be as pacified and as liberated as Afghanistan within 90 days.

Where will that leave Arafat? If Arafat is as supportive of Hussein and Iraq as he was in the first Persian Gulf War, it would leave him irrelevant. He made that mistake once. He won't make it a second time.

Let's remember that it was Arafat who came before bin Laden. There would be no bin Laden without Arafat. Arafat is the godfather of Arab terrorism. He invented it. It was under his orders that the first commercial airliners were hijacked. It was under his orders that U.S. diplomats and other civilians were murdered. It was under his orders that Olympic athletes were killed. It was under his orders that hundreds of innocent Americans and thousands of innocent Israelis have perished.

There is no difference between bin Laden and Arafat. Let me repeat that for emphasis: There is no difference between bin Laden and Arafat.

Arafat led the way, set the example and benefited from his 40-year campaign of terrorism. Bin Laden just took it a step further. He executed it with more precision, more daring and higher death tolls. But he still learned from Arafat — and they both serve the same master.



Shalom Mr. Levitt and staff:

I've just received my double edition December *Levitt Letter* and just had to write to let you know how great it is! I can honestly say it's the best one so far, in my hum-

ble opinion anyway. The article by Larry Miller was especially good. Please keep up the great work you and your staff are doing.
— SS



Some letters have been edited for space.

duced by the billions and dropped out of blimps onto every city in America.

Thanks so much for this *Levitt Letter.* If I can find the

article at your site or on the Net I will send it to as many people as I can think of...and more.

I'm glad to hear Mr. Levitt is feeling well. May the Lord God keep him in good health. — JH

Shalom:

I want to address the usage of the name Jesus. When I listen to different televangelists they all consistently use the name "Jesus" as the name of the messiah. This cannot be his correct name because the letter J was not even around until about 600 years ago. How would you feel if someone changed your name from Zola to something that was much easier for people to understand? I just want to point out that the name is obviously important, and as a messianic servant, no one should be calling him Jesus, as Jesus has stolen our messiah's identity! Everything else I see on your program is wonderful, but I cannot stomach my risen savior being equated with someone whose name was not even given by the Father. I would appreciate a response, thank you for your time. — PJD

Dear PJD:

The simple fact is that most people mispronounce most names in the Bible, but translators have done their best to transliterate each name in a way that makes phonetic sense to us. Jesus' name is a transliteration of the Greek rendering in the New Testament. Apart from the pronunciation of His name, I'm not quite sure what you mean when you say "Jesus has stolen our messiah's identity." And by the way, out of respect, we normally use capital letters to set apart the words "Savior" and "Messiah," and the pronouns associated with them. — Zola

Dear Zola: "The Poison is at Work"

I receive the *Levitt Letter* every month and am always amazed at the very cogent articles written by Zola and all the others. I savor them. But in December's issue was the best I've ever seen...on any site or in any newsletter. Its title is "The Poison is at Work" by Mortimer B. Zuckerman, and I believe it "says it all" concerning the slick and tricky argumentation of those who despise Israel and the Jews. This article should be mass pro-

Dear JH:

We attempt to bring you the best of the best each month, but some articles, like Zuckerman's, really do stand out. You may find the article on our website at www.levitt.com or in the archives at www.usnews.com. Thanks for your faithfulness, and for your prayers for my health. — Zola

Dear Zola:

Enough of this business of anti-Semitism. The most anti-Semitic (anti-God, anti-Christian) people are among the Jews themselves. — AJA

Dear AJA:

By its very definition, anti-Semitism is hatred directed toward one ethnic group — the Jews. To suppress the reality of this hatred against the Chosen People reminds me of Europe in the years leading up to World War II, where so-called Christians (and Christian leaders) allowed those who hated the Jews to nearly annihilate them. — Zola

Dear Staff:

The reason that I am writing is to let you know that I have spoken to the past Evangelical Minister at Moody! Would you believe that Roy Schwartz is the leader of the Messianic Synagogue here in Evanston, IL, just north of Chicago!

I am writing you this to let you know that I have been attending the most powerful Bible Studies that Roy has been leading. I had to ask him if what Zola has been saying about Moody is correct and accurate. I was skeptical regarding Zola's comments because of the teachings I have been receiving from Roy. Anyway, Roy said that Zola has been mistaken and I felt that it was most important that I pass this information on to him.

I am such a solid Zola Levitt supporter. He has taught me so much and I am eternally grateful to him. Please pass this information on to him. He may really appreciate hearing that the Bible is most definitely being taught at Moody. — TW

Dear TW:

Our information concerning the errors in doctrine and lack of solid Bible teaching at Moody Bible Institute have come from insiders at that school. I don't know Rev. Schwartz and his teaching, but perhaps he's been out of Moody so long that he's unaware of the unfortunate changes that have taken place at that once great institution. Or perhaps he's simply a loyal alumnus. Dr. McCall and I stand by our criticisms, as we detailed in past Levitt Letters and in our book Battles With Seminaries. - Zola

Shalom:

My wife and I just returned this evening from The Holy Land Experience with Zola and his lovely wife Sandra. What a fabulous time of learning, sharing, and fellowship. We would like to thank everyone at Levitt Ministries, and Zola and Sandra personally for the enriching weekend. A small taste of Israel and a large taste of God's family. — RDJ

For another enriching weekend and small taste of Israel, join Zola on April 11 and 12 in Dallas at the Biblical Arts Center in Dallas, for our annual Passover Seder demonstration and then for a full day of worship, teaching and touring at our Israel Solidarity Tour. See details on page 6.



Covering the Sun with a Shroud LETS BANKROLLET

Saudi Arabia has been spending record amounts trying to brighten up its image which has become tarnished with the revelation that



been breaking records with its advertising in the U.S., spending \$14.6 million for one six-month blitz.

The public relations ads were handled by Qorvis Communications. The money itself had a rather circuitous route, going through a Saudi "front group" known as the Alliance for Peace and Justice, which in turn obtained the money in large part as a "bridge loan" from the Saudi Embassy, while the group's permanent funding comes from the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry's Committee for the Development of International Trade in Riyadh. Thus the Saudi government can claim it didn't buy the advertising.

In addition to producing a series of ads claiming that the Saudis were helping America in its war on terrorism, Qorvis Communications also arranged interviews between Saudi spokesman Al-Jubeir and media heavyweights at network news and national newspaper outlets (a rather interesting trick given the media's claim to be independent of such influences, and anti-Semitic groups' claims that Jewish interests control the media).

But the strategy has backfired on the Saudis. The more Americans saw the ads, the less apt they were to believe what the Saudis were claiming. As Ali Al-Ahmed, the executive director of the Saudi Institute, put it, the pro-Saudi ads were "getting nothing. It's burning money. We have a saying in Saudi Arabia: You can't cover the sun with a shroud."

The publicity campaign also backfired for Qorvis Communications with three of its founders recently leaving the firm. While publicly they maintained the Saudi ads had nothing to do with their departure, friends and associates presented a different story, saying the three had grown increasingly disturbed by the work the firm had done.

Source: WorldNetDaily.com

Foggy Days in London

By Cal Thomas, The Washington Times

It doesn't take much time in Britain to realize that one of the major reasons less than 2 percent of the population bothers to attend church is that people can't be bothered with the dreadful sermons preached in too many "whitewashed tombs." If you don't know what that means, you're probably among the nonattendees.

When Diana, Princess of Wales, died five years ago, the clergy I saw on television spoke of her looks, her commitment to charities and all sorts of other things, but nothing an average pagan could not have thought up. There was nothing about fleeting beauty, the brevity of this life, or the life to come and how to live both.

Now, the soon-to-be-installed Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Wales, who happened to be inside Trinity Church in New York City during the September 11 attacks, has offered some thoughts on those terrible events.

...One would think that having experienced evil up close and surviving it, Archbishop Williams might have some insights that would benefit us all. He has some insights, but you be the judge as to how beneficial they are.

...Archbishop Williams said he did not view the September 11 attacks as "an act of war," and that the West might even have somehow prompted the savage assaults.

"The only thing I could feel grateful for on that day...was of having some very slight sense of what it must be like to live under bombardment, under threat of death."

This is classic theological and political liberalism. A murderer is not to be judged, but his victim should be condemned. If the murderer hadn't been provoked, he would not have killed. The murderer bears no true moral guilt for his action. The victim bears that burden in that he (or in this case the United States) goaded those poor souls to kill innocent passengers on the airplanes and thousands of others on the ground in New York City and at the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C.

...I have reflected on Archbishop Williams' remarks, and I have sought to understand those who hate us. My conclusion is that the September 11 attackers, these takers of innocent life, these deprivers of families of their loved ones, should be brought to justice, and the nations, warped religion and political fanaticism that spawned such evil acts should be fought with all the strength, righteous

indignation and military might the United States and freedom-loving people everywhere can muster. ■

Prostitution in Washington

The Washington Times

The Washington PR giant Patton Boggs, on behalf of the Saudi Arabian Embassy, has just finished distributing a document to Capitol Hill that tries to enter the so-called "hot button" issues, from "Saudi support for Osama bin Laden" to "alleged Saudi funding for terrorism."

Patton Boggs received \$170,000 from the Saudis to prepare and distribute the statement, which explains "the Kingdom's role in the war on terror, its position on human rights and the treatment of women, energy policies and educational reform..."

The document insists the Saudis are "horrified" by bin Laden's actions, and labels the September 11 terrorist mastermind and his followers "deviants and criminals."

"They do not represent the people of Saudi Arabia or Islam anymore than Jim Jones or Branch Davidians represent America or Christianity."

...It's too bad Patton Boggs didn't address other "hot button" issues, like "why Saudi-controlled television holds telethons for the families of homicide bombers in the West Bank and Gaza?" And "why Saudi Arabia continues to deny the U.S. access to its airfields or airspace in case of a conflict with Iraq?"

As for the Saudis comparing bin Laden to the U.S. cult leader Jim Jones, "if Osama had followed the Jim Jones model, he would have killed his own followers and saved us the trouble."



A War Worth Fighting

By Salman Rushdie, The International Herald Tribune

Just in case it had slipped your memory — and as the antiwar protests grow in size and volume, it easily might have — there is a strong, even unanswerable case for a "regime change" in Iraq. What's more, it's a case that ought to appeal not just to militaristic Bushie-Blairite hawks and also to lily-livered bleeding heart liberals; a case, moreover, that ought to unite Western public opinion and all those who care about the brutal oppression of an entire Muslim nation.

In this strange, unattractive historical moment, the extremely strong anti-Saddam Hussein argument isn't getting a fraction of the attention it deserves.

This is, of course, the argument based on his three and a half-decade-long assault on the Iraqi people. He has impoverished them, murdered them, gassed and tortured them, sent them off to die by the tens of thousands in futile wars, repressed them, gagged them, bludgeoned them and then murdered them some more.

Saddam Hussein and his ruthless gang of cronies from his home village of Tikrit are homicidal criminals, and their Iraq is a living hell. This obvious truth is no less true because we have been turning a blind eye to it and "we" includes, until recently, the government of the United States, an early and committed supporter of the "secular" Saddam and against the "fanatical" Islamic religionists of the region.

Nor is it less true because it suits the politics of the Muslim world to inveigh against the global bully it believes the United States to be, while it tolerates the all-too-real monsters in its own ranks. Nor is it less true because it's getting buried beneath the loudly made but poorly argued U.S. position, which is that Saddam is a big threat, not so much to his own people but to Americans.

Iraqi opposition groups in exile have been trying to get the West's attention for years. Until recently, however, the Bush people weren't giving them the time of day, and even made rude remarks about Ahmed Chalabi, the most likely first leader of a democratized Iraq. Now, there's a change in Washington's tune. Good. One may suspect the commitment of the Wolfowitz-Cheney-Rumsfeld axis to the creation and support of a free, democratic Iraq, but it remains the most desirable of goals.

This is the hard part for antiwar liberals to ignore. All the Iraqi democratic voices that still exist, all the leaders and potential leaders who still survive, are asking, even pleading for the proposed regime change. Will

the American and European left make the mistake of being so eager to oppose Bush that they end up seeming to back Saddam, just as many of them seem to prefer the continuation of the Taliban rule in Afghanistan to the American intervention there?

The complicating factors, sadly, are this U.S. administration's preemptive, unilateralist instincts, which have alienated so many of America's natural allies. Unilateralist action by the world's only hyper-power looks like bullying because, well, it is bullying. And the United States' new preemptive-strike policy would, if applied, make America itself a much less safe place, because if the United States reserves the right to attack any country it doesn't like the look of, then those who don't like the look of the United States might feel obliged to return the compliment. It's not always as smart as it sounds to get your retaliation in first.

Also deeply suspect is the U.S. government's insistence that its anti-Saddam obsession is part of the global war on terror. As Al Qaeda regroups, attacking innocent vacationers in Bali and issuing new threats, those of us who support the war on Al Qaeda can't help feeling that the Iraq initiative is a way of changing the subject, of focusing on an enemy who can be found and defeated instead of the far more elusive enemies who are really at war with America.

The connection between Saddam and Al Qaeda remains comprehensively unproven, whereas the presence of the Qaeda leadership in Pakistan, and of Qaeda sympathizers in that country's intelligence services, is well known. Yet nobody is talking about attacking Pakistan.



...It should, however, be said and said loudly that the primary justification for regime change in Iraq is the prolonged suffering of the Iraqi people, and that the remote possibility of the future attack on America by Iraqi weapons is of secondary importance. A war of liberation might just be one worth fighting. The war that America is currently trying to justify is not.

This writer, like all of us, lives under a Fatwa — a Moslem death threat. — Zola

BiblicalInsights

Just Passing By

Israel Today

Through the prophet Ezekiel (36:33-34), God said: "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places will be rebuilt. And the desolate land will be cultivated instead of being a desolation in the sight of everyone who passed by."

The fact that Israel's desert is blooming again cannot be missed. The countryside that lay fallow for almost two millennia is so fertile that its fruits are exported around the world. No less remarkable is the construction boom all over Israel. Biblical areas that for centuries were of interest only to pilgrims and archaeologists are now being rebuilt as Jewish communities, much to the dismay of Israel's enemies. And Jerusalem, which Jordan's late King Hussein called "a sewer" when he controlled it

in 1965, is now one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

In Ezekiel's prophecy, the words "passed by" shed light on today's political situation. History confirms that none of the peoples who occupied the Land of Israel and Jerusalem would stay there permanently. They were not the heirs God chose to possess the Land. They were only passing by.

From both the Biblical and historical points of view, the Palestinian claim to Israel and Jerusalem is untenable.

[Editor's note: The article continues with an extensive chart documenting the history of Israel's inhabitants beginning in 1004 B.C. with David's establishment of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, to the year 2000 and the beginning of the current Intifada against Israel.]

HebrewLesson



By John J. Parsons

שויתי יהוה לנגדי תמיד כי מימיני בל־אַמוֹט

I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved (Psalm 16:8 KJV).



HEBRAIC INSIGHT

We "see" things by an act of will, and we "know" things through the faculty of making decisions.... When our will is intently determined to believe in the truth of the Lord's loving Presence – to resolutely believe He is at our right hand – then we can rest in the knowledge that "all things work together for good" (Romans 8:28), and we can cease from the anxieties that beset daily consciousness. However, should we overlook the Lord, should we set Him aside and rely on our own resources to meet our needs, we shall eventually find ourselves moved, shaken, and even overthrown in our supposed self-sufficiency. Yes, we will find ourselves "moved" – left alone, afraid, and anxious – because we have chosen to remove ourselves from the truth of what is real. When we consciously decide to put the Lord "before" us, when we willingly defer to Him as the true Source of our strength by regarding Him as our "right hand," we will find that we shall *not* be moved – despite the changes of external circumstances that befall us in this temporal world. By setting the Lord always before us, we shall live, move, and have our being securely grounded in the truth of God's unfailing love.

Do Not Bend!

By Robin Berger, The Jerusalem Post

Dear Editor: I implore the Israeli government to resist American pressure not to retaliate if Israel is attacked by Iraq.

I am ashamed that the American government presumes it has the right to tell another country, especially an ally such as Israel, not to defend itself. Israel should show no restraint when faced with such a threat.

"That Special Status"

By Yehuda Sherman, The International Jerusalem Post

Dear Editor: Their true motivation is no mystery if one spends the time and effort to study them. I spent several weeks in Israel living and talking with two groups of ECZ [Evangelical Christian Zionists] on their "solidarity missions," and I carefully read their literature.

The ECZ look upon the creation of the modern state of Israel as God's fulfillment of his promises made in the Hebrew Prophets. Modern Zionism is seen by the ECZ as a manifestation of God's actions, in our lifetime, and proof that God still lives and acts. And they want to be part of God's work. They refer to us Jews as "God's people," and if we were to convert to Christianity we Jews would lose that special status.

The ECZ are well aware of the Jewish roots of Christianity, and the fact that Jesus and all his associates lived and died as Orthodox Jews.

I don't think a few weeks in Israel encountering two small groups qualifies Mr. Sherman as an expert on evangelicals, although he got part of it right. However, Biblebelieving evangelicals do not believe that the Jews will "lose that special status" (of being God's people) just because they convert to Christianity. Many will actually say that a Christian or Messianic Jew is a "completed" Jew, like the associates or disciples of Jesus. — Zola

Defacing Our Faith By Patricia Purcell, The Jerusalem Post

Dear Editor: I returned from a pilgrimage to Israel with a group of Zionist Christians. We were blessed to be in the land and our desire was to support the Jewish people. We were met with warmth and enthusiasm.



On our last day we went to the Garden Tomb in East Jerusalem, near the Damascus Gate. There was a distressing thing happening to the hill of Golgotha. The Arab bus station, in the process of expanding, is defacing this site, so important to the Evangelical Christian community worldwide. The mouth of the skull is now gone, and the nose will be removed [soon]. Someone has to do something.

We also forward donations to this ministry. Contact us about the Garden Tomb Fund. — Zola

Bitting the Hand...

Egypt receives \$2 billion annually in U.S. foreign aid, much of which secures advanced weaponry like F-16 combat planes, Patriot missiles, M-1A1 battle tanks and Harpoon anti-ship missiles. Yet this doesn't keep its government-sponsored media from referring to our U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell as a "bird brain" or to remark that our President is "responsible for the feeble image of the U.S., whose name smacks of lack of credibility and lack of transparency, and has become a synonym for oppression and for abnegation of justice and international legitimacy."

Likewise the government-sponsored daily *Al-Akhbar* regularly gives readers a perverted version of American history, recently claiming that "The U.S. treats the [Arabs] as it treated the slaves inside the American continent.... The Statue of Liberty, in New York Harbor, must be destroyed because of following the idiotic American policy that goes from disgrace to disgrace in the swamp of bias and blind fanaticism."

The Egyptian government also permits the broadcast of anti-Semitic television programming including the recent "Protocols." And in the United Nations, Egypt votes against the United States 79 percent of the time. ■

Source: HonestReporting Communiqué

Southern Baptists Aid Palestinians

By Erich Bridges, The Commission

There's a little girl in Bethlehem who's afraid to go to sleep at night. "I don't want to dream," she tells her father, a Palestinian evangelical leader. The dreams are too frightening; reality is bad enough. She also has trouble controlling her bladder whenever she hears a loud noise.

During three terrifying days last spring, her family crouched on the floor as Palestinian fighters and Israeli forces shot it out in Jesus' birthplace, now a Palestinian town on the West Bank. They moved only to crawl to the bathroom or kitchen, carefully avoiding windows.

The family somehow escaped the house — and the city — until the two sides reached a truce. When they returned, they found bullet holes all over the daughter's bedroom. "Daddy, if we had been here, I would be in heaven with Jesus now," she whispered, clinging to him.

At least she has the hope of seeing Jesus. Most children among the overwhelmingly Muslim Palestinians don't. And even the Christian ones struggle to keep their fear from turning to hatred when so much hate seethes around them.

Dina Lada, a Palestinian Christian teacher in Ramallah, went months without work or pay when Israeli tanks parked in front of her school. "My daughter asked me for trousers," Dina says. "She needs them. But I told her we must wait."

Harder than going without is the fear of what her daughter Aseel, age 8, has experienced under military occupation. Caught playing outside after curfew, she has been terrorized by tanks — and felt the barrel of a machine gun jabbed into her back.

Aseel has a child's brutal honesty: "Jesus tells me to love [the Israeli soldiers]," she says. "But I hate them."

...Such is life for many Palestinian families — Christian and Muslim — more than two years into the "Second Intifada," the violent clashes between Palestinians and Israelis that erupted yet again in the fall of 2000.

The blame game continues over who destroyed hopes for peace. Both sides charge the other side never wanted peace in the first place. The Israelis continue to tighten their grip and expand illegal settlements in Palestinian areas, say the Palestinians. The Israelis respond that

Christians Curse Israel

Some Christian people simply cannot tolerate the Promised Land or the Israeli people who are, of course, the family of our Lord. In the two articles below officials of different denominations trumpet Palestinian propaganda and curse Israel with all they have. They write with almost eloquent hatred of the Chosen People, defaming them with the sort of lies typical of Yasser Arafat's managed press.

Please know that not a statement of these "reports from Israel" is truthful. And conveniently, neither writer mentioned Palestinian suicide bombings, which are the real reason for the violence in the Middle Fast.

As we've been detailing for years, many Protestants have joined hands with the Catholics in waging a campaign of lies against Israel. And the media are eager to publish anything that makes the tiny democracy of Israel the aggressor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Palestinian suicide bombings against Israeli citizens have not only terrorized the Israeli public but made harsh reprisals and renewed occupation unavoidable. Militant groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad continue to vow they will eradicate the Jewish state altogether.

And the innocent continue to suffer, especially among the 2.5 million Palestinians jammed into Gaza and the West Bank. Malnutrition continues to rise — especially among women and children. Hope continues to plunge.

Into this cauldron came several waves of Southern Baptist volunteers during the summer and fall. They brought food, toys, school uniforms — and hope....

"Our primary goal is to share God's love with these people, to tell them we love them and God loves them, to bring hope and encouragement," said Southern Baptist worker and project coordinator Paul Lawrence, who has worked among Palestinians for 17 years. "We also want to change Palestinians' attitudes toward evangelical Christians — and American evangelical attitudes toward Palestinians."

The above article would be heartwarming if it were not so filled with anti-Semitism. While I commend the missionaries for their desire to see these Arabs saved, I am saddened that the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention would publish age-old lies about the situation in Israel. Let me point out a few of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

Christians Curse Israel continued

That's why I dropped the *New York Times*, *USA Today* and the *Dallas Morning News*. More and more do I see that Israel is "hated of all nations," as Jesus foretold.

These articles are examples of what happens when Bible colleges and seminaries stop teaching God's plan for the Chosen People and the Promised Land. Anti-Israel attitudes bleed from wayward professors onto impressionable ministers-to-be who later find themselves unable to defend the truths of God in the face of ministerial peer pressure or pitiful social concerns.

For those of you who tell us "enough is enough" of our talking about Moody, Dallas, Biola and other schools that have lost their love for Israel, are you happy now to see the continued cursing of the Chosen People as detailed below?

For the rest of you who still care about Israel, we ask your help in confronting these personalities. Contact information is given below. In addition, please confront this kind of misguided Christian in your hometown. — Zola

Hated of all nations.

Lutheran Pastor Slams Chosen People

By Rev. Bruce Burnside, The Capital Times

Israeli security officials scrutinized our entry at Ben Gurion Airport: "Why are you coming? Aren't you afraid?" We heard that question frequently during the two weeks that followed. Fear is epidemic.

We went to the West Bank during the November olive harvest to support Palestinian villagers, who are often attacked by Israeli settlers. Often the settlers steal and destroy Palestinian crops. Today thousands of Palestinians suffer tortuous and untold economic, physical and emotional despair from Israel's systematic and insidious policies that destroy their olive groves, decimate villages, kill countless innocents and foment despair, all under the sham of security.

This was the fifth trip for my wife and me. Increasingly we have witnessed vanishing hope and mounting fear.

We felt it on a rooftop with villagers in Kufr Laqif, watching military planes explode flares all around the houses throughout the night, and we experienced it with a brave, gentle man forced to beg settlers day after day for permission to harvest his own olives, which are now enclosed by settlement fences.

We met it in the eyes of a dispirited family of 10, made to live in a metal shipping container after Israeli bulldozers demolished their house three times.

We walked through it at the Jenin refugee camp after children and adults were mercilessly buried alive by bulldozers crushing homes into a landscape that now looks like moon craters.

We were told about it by a man at church in Bethlehem who sat between his mother and brother, "feeling the warmth leave their hands" after Israeli assassins shot them in their home.

We saw it at Jayus, where Israeli soldiers launched tear gas and bullets into a peaceful protest against the building of an apartheid wall to encircle the West Bank. It will make the Berlin Wall look like a snow fence in comparison.

We heard it from children, learning too much hatred and too little justice.

We endured it at endless roadblocks designed for humiliation, not security, which prevent Palestinian travel from village to village, students from going to school, workers getting to jobs, sick reaching hospitals, families seeing family, markets being reached. ... We viewed it in land-scapes strangled by hundreds of illegal Israeli settlements that devour not just Palestinian land and economy but hope itself.

Strangely, there is another heartbreak. Christian Zionists — many from the United States — express a religious fervor no less fanatical than Muslim extremists possessed by a spirit that motivates them to destroy others in the name of God. Christian Zionists raise millions of dollars for Israel. They do it to hasten the return of Christ, which according to their own peculiar interpretation of biblical prophecy cannot occur until all Jews have returned to Israel to rebuild the Temple. The dark humor in this odd alliance is that those

Temple. The dark humor in this odd alliance is that those same Christians fully expect Christ's return to inaugurate the end of Judaism. It is a mutual exploitation. Israel, not duped by such motives, is happy to receive its money but loses no sleep over such eschatological nightmares.

As a Christian I also read biblical prophecy but not to unlock hidden calculations about end times, which Jesus warns is a pointless endeavor. The biblical prophets voice God's demand for justice among all nations. Micah warned: "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?" And Jeremiah: "Do not trust in these deceptive words: This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord.' For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly execute justice one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the fatherless or the widow, or shed innocent blood... then I will let you dwell in this place."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

Dear Friends:

hat a delight to be Jewish!
Not only am I honored to be numbered among God's
Chosen People, but also I discover as I travel around the country that I am invited to speak to many sincere congregations of various denominations and affiliations. As much as I may harangue about mainline Protestant churches having gone to seed theologically (and it is true), there remains, it seems, a small remnant in each denomination that is eager to learn and obey the Bible.

During this year's circuit ministry in the Southeast, I've been privileged to address the topic of Israel and End Times prophecy at numerous churches and Messianic congregations as well as lead three memorable tours to the ever-popular Holy Land Experience in Orlando, Florida. The course of events in the Middle East, even apart from our possible war with Iraq, has accelerated interest in what, in fact, is at the center of God's prophetic attention: Israel.

Sometimes I meet up with loyal viewers of our television program who are celebrities in their own right. Acclaimed cartoonist Johnny Hart, creator of *B.C.* and *The Wizard of Id,* is an ardent supporter of Israel and of our ministry. Recently he sent me some ideas he'd been composing about the relationship America has with Israel (see page 9).

Also an honor was my acquaintance with Colonel Rick Husband, Commander of the space shuttle Columbia, who invited Sandra and me to watch his January 16 shuttle mission blast off. We all mourn the loss of Rick and the six others who perished minutes before landing in Florida. Rick was behind our work and I was, of course, thrilled with the opportunity not only to watch the launch, but also to participate in a church service the day before with personalities such as singer Steve Green, Dan Dillard of Campus Crusade for Christ, and others.

A Note From Zola

Rick, a native of Amarillo, Texas, was married and had two children. A committed believer, he distinguished himself as an ambassador for Christ in the Air Force and at NASA. Though his loss is felt deeply by his family and friends, we are confident that he is now resting beyond the limits of space in heaven itself, communing face to face with the Lord. And one day, you will all meet this brave American and extraordinary Christian.

Providentially, I was asked to speak at Calvary Chapel on Merritt Island to pray a benediction over the launch of Columbia before lift off. How do you bless a space voyage? The only Biblical event resembling this is the Exodus, a journey through the unknown and on into the Promised Land. And so I presented Numbers 6:22-25, which states, "And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 'Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, "This is the way you shall bless the children

of Israel. Say to them: 'The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you....'"

Only the Lord knew that Rick would indeed be going "home" to the Promised Land to be with his Lord.

The other significant aspect of Columbia's mission was the participation of Colonel Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli in space. Col. Ramon, a national hero in Israel, had a distinguished career as an Air Force



pilot during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, as well as having been one of eight pilots who raided and bombed Iraq's nuclear weapons facilities in 1981, a mission for which the entire world is grateful. All Jewry mourns the loss of Col. Ramon.

Despite a perfect launch and successful round of science experiments conducted by Ramon and the others, the disaster of Columbia is tragic for the United States and for mankind. Many are asking why this had to happen. Already, theories into the crash abound, some of them sensible, some abhorrent. Iraqis are saying that it was judgment from God against the United States because of our anticipated war against Saddam Hussein. Palestinians are claiming that Allah

is demonstrating his power over the United States. Was it terrorism? The coincidence of having a distinguished Israeli soldier on board

is uncanny. But more than likely, the experts agree that this was probably an accident due to structural concerns on board the spacecraft.

Whatever they discover to be the ultimate cause, we know that this tragedy did not elude the grasp of God.

This tragedy did not elude the grasp of God.

Even President Bush, in his first public statement on the crash, turned the world's attention to the Creator.

Commander Rick Husband (above) and Israeli Astronaut Ilan Ramon

quoting Isaiah 40:26: "Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry hosts one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of His great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing." Our Father knows. And Rick, along with any of the other believing astro-

nauts, is with the Father in His lov-

ing care.

It's hard for us to understand the reasons for such catastrophic events, especially concerning something as non-threatening as scientific advancement. Let's face it, the accomplishments of mankind have soared beyond our wildest imagination. Technology continues to accelerate at an unprecedented pace. Some say that all of these feats of man point to a soon coming end of the world. But as believers, we know from Scripture that God has ordained even the limitations of humankind. It is His grace that sought us and granted us favor through the Messiah. From the earliest days of the Old Testament, the prophetic Scriptures have informed, warned and encouraged the saints in every generation. And that's why the study of Bible prophecy is so important today, and why churches and schools that deviate from Scripture in this

area are dangerous to believers today, especially as we draw near to the coming of our Lord.

> Over the holidays I spotted an advertisement for a church in a local newpaper in Florida. To my surprise, it was the only church that did not have an announcement for some kind of super attraction at Christmas. It

simply asked for believing people who love the Word to attend. I told our conference scheduler to contact the minister and later we had lunch together. I suppose he wanted to check me out (some people haven't heard of our ministry). He was a retired minister now starting up a new church. And his first question to me: What is your stance on End Times prophecy? How refreshing! I reiterated our ministry statement and briefly outlined our pre-millennial, pretribulational, dispensational doctrinal position. Visibly relieved, he told me that not everybody believes this way. Then I discovered

that this pastor was a graduate of Moody Bible Institute many, many years ago when the Bible was still taught without devia-

tion. Though a small church, I was delighted to schedule a talk with them.

So how would today's Moody graduate answer the question: What is your stance on End Times prophecy? Since they no longer teach prophecy as they once did, but today are comfortable with this so-called Progressive Dispensationalism, how would today's graduate even know to mention Israel, the Rapture, etc.?

After studying the school's new teachings, I imagine many MBI graduates would simply shrug their shoulders and wonder why anyone would make a big deal out of something they believed to be so insignificant in the big picture. But Israel is the big picture, Scripture tells us. And I don't mean politics in Israel today. From Genesis to Revelation, Israel is key to God's work here on this earth. The Chosen People have not disappeared nor have they been replaced by Gentile Christians (the Church). And despite what Moody or Dallas Seminary or Biola or any other wayward school tells you, God is at work in Israel today.

If our seminaries and Bible colleges will not teach our young people to respect God's work in Israel today, then we can take these important truths to those schools that want to hear. As we've mentioned recently, I am contacting colleges and universities — Christians, Jewish, secular in the Midwest to arrange talks with faculty and students alike. Given free of charge, these lectures will seek to inform and persuade impressionable students with the truth of God's work in Israel today. I am compelled to do this, and I desire your prayers on our behalf. In fact, if you know of a school in the Midwest that may be

open to our project, please give Claudia a call at (817) 417-0059.

Between now and then our schedule is filled with

so many opportunities for you to join me in ministry. Please prayerfully consider each of these:

"Israel IS the

big picture."

April 11 — Passover Seder demonstration at the Biblical Arts Center in Dallas, TX. I will be going through this important feast so that those attending can repeat it in their homes during Passover the following week.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

A young Israeli student at Hebrew University named David said to me on our last day in Jerusalem: "All this madness will end, and justice will win. History has proven that nations built on militarism and oppression cannot survive. I only pray that our madness will end before Israel has lost its soul."

David is right, justice will prevail. But it is not only Israel that is in peril of losing its soul. That danger looms before any who side with hateful rhetoric, evil oppression and inhumane codes that must be fortified by bulldozers, razor wire, monumental walls, assassins, torture, curfews, bombs and tear gas. Israel has chosen that policy. It is time for us to cease supporting it.

Zola's wife Sandra responded to the editor of this newspaper.

Dear Sirs:

I have just received a copy of an article by a Rev. Bruce Burnside regarding Israel's policies on Palestinians dated December 14th in one of your papers.

Is this article for real or is it some cruel joke? I would like more information on this Rev. Burnside and a way to contact him. His article is full of lies and just plain propaganda. Do you practice good journalism and check out the facts before you publish an article? I would like equal time in your newspaper to respond to this mockery of a so-called article.

Thanks, Sandra Levitt

Dear Ms. Levitt:

The article you refer to was written by Rev. Bruce Burnside, the pastor of one of the area's most active churches, St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Monona, Wis., a suburb of Madison. I have no idea where you live, but presumably in the United States, where people are free to have their own opinions and are able to express them on the editorial pages of newspapers. Apparently, you disagree. You might be interested to know — and I suggest that before firing off ill-informed missives to wrong addresses in the future, that you do some research — that there have been several responses — pro and con — to the pastor's original column. It's called the robust exchange of opinion — what distinguishes democracy from totalitarians.

Dave Zweifel Editor, *The Capital Times*, Madison, WI

Dear Mr. Zweifel:

Thank you for your prompt response to my email. A friend of mine had faxed it to me. I had no way of knowing where to send it, and so I used your web site to con-

tact anyone that would hear my side. Pastor Burnside has been to Israel 5 times. I have been 20 times and continue to go about twice a year.

I am afraid your Mr. Burnside has been a pawn in the Palestinian PR machine. The funnier, or should I say sadder, part is that you bought it also. There will always be people who would see Israel destroyed. Please know that better journalists than you have been misled.

The olive groves are on Israeli land and the Palestinians "squat" on this land. It is not their land. Attacked by Israelis? I doubt it. We were in Israel when this "story" was going around. We did investigate it and found that the Israelis were the ones being attacked in their own homes on legal land that belongs to them. Illegal houses are destroyed in Israel just as they are here. We are not allowed to build on land that is not ours.

Roadblocks are there to keep the Arabs (or anyone else) from blowing up the Israelis. Would the U.S. be so kind with roadblocks? I doubt it. I don't recall that Israelis are strapping bombs on themselves in the hopes of blowing up innocent people. I am always grateful for the roadblocks.

Jenin has been proven to have been done correctly by the Israelis. Or did you miss that news? Israel could have flattened Jenin if it wanted to. Instead, it sent the military in one house at a time. This is the most dangerous way to be in a city.

"We heard" is not the same as seeing and being there. I can always hear anything I want. Have you been to Israel?

The good pastor Burnside is a Christian and surely he must read his Bible. It is very clear that we are to bless Israel. Look up Genesis 12:2-3.

I don't mind a robust exchange of opinion, and yes I am an American. Better than that, I am a Christian. Indeed, I am grateful to live in a country where I can express my opinion. I am also grateful that I live in a country where I can get the truth. I know for sure that many Palestinians cannot and will not talk for fear of losing their lives. Do you report that?

I guess Israel is one of those subjects that journalists love to write about because it sells papers. There are few people that do not have an opinion about Israel.

Lastly, I am so surprised at your attitude. I merely wanted to voice my opinion. I hope this helps.

Thanks, Sandra Levitt

You may express your own opinions about this Lutheran minister's article by contacting the editor, Mr. Dave Zweifel, at: Voice of the People, The Capital Times, P.O. Box 8060, Madison, WI 53708-8060 or use his email at dzweifel@madison.com.thanks.

The Survival of Israel

By Ruth Matar, Women in Green Radio Program

The State of Israel is going through dark and turbulent times. And the situation has gotten worse ever since those cursed Oslo Accords were signed on the White House lawn. ... We have become resigned to hearing, on an almost daily basis, that fellow Israelis have been murdered, during Passover Seder with family and friends, during Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations, while traveling on buses, in cars going to work, while having a cup of coffee with friends, students eating lunch in their school cafeteria, on vacations abroad, and families in their homes with their little children shot point-blank as they were hiding in their beds.

What is the solution? I am afraid that unless Israel's electoral system is changed, there may be no solution in accordance with the desires of the majority of the Israeli people. Unfortunately, Israel's electoral system is not in line with what one would expect from a democratic country.

...I came across an article in my records by an American philosopher, Eric Hoffer. He was born in 1902 and died in 1983, after writing nine books and winning the Presidential medal. This article was published in the *Los Angeles Times* in May of 1968 and is entitled "Israel's Peculiar Position."

"The Jews are a peculiar people: things permitted to other nations are forbidden to the Jews.

"Other nations drive out thousands, even millions of people and there is no refugee problem. Russia did it, Poland and Czechoslovakia did it. Turkey threw out a million Greeks, and Algeria a million Frenchmen. Indonesia threw out heaven knows how many Chinese — and no one says a word about refugees. But in the case of Israel, the displaced Arabs have become eternal refugees.

"Everyone insists that Israel must take back every single Arab. Arnold Toynbee calls the displacement of the Arabs an atrocity greater than any committed by the Nazis.

"Other nations, when victorious on the battlefield, dictate peace terms. But when Israel is victorious, it must sue for peace. Everyone expects the Jews to be the only real Christians in this world.

"Other nations when they are defeated, survive and recover; but should Israel be defeated, it would be destroyed. "No commitment to the Jews by any government, including our own, is worth the paper it is written on. There is a cry of outrage all over the world when people die in Vietnam, or when two Negroes are executed in Rhodesia. But when Hitler slaughtered Jews, no one remonstrated with him.

"The Swedes, who are ready to break off diplomatic relations with America because of what we do in Vietnam, did not let out a peep when Hitler was slaughtering Jews. They sent Hitler choice iron ore, and ball bearings, and serviced his troop trains to Norway.

"The Jews are alone in the world. If Israel survives, it will be solely because of Jewish efforts, and Jewish resources. Yet, at this moment Israel is our only reliable and uncon-ditional ally. We can rely more on Israel than Israel can rely on us. And one has only to imagine what would have happened last summer had the Arabs and their Russian backers won the war to realize how vital the survival of Israel is to America and the West in general.

"I have a premonition that will not leave me; as it goes with Israel so will it go with all of us. Should Israel perish, the holocaust will be upon us."

Southern Baptists Aid Palestinians continued from page 16

The Land in question is not Palestinian, but Israeli (these missionaries ought to know their Bible better, see Gen. 12:1-3). "Military occupation" of the Land? No. The Israelis are policing murderers in their own backyard, similar to what we would do with gangs in the heart of Los Angeles. The "Second Intifada" is not some mutually agreed upon conflict, as the writer suggests. Rather, it was Yasser Arafat's strategy to kill the peace process after rejecting the generous settlement offered by Ehud Barak in 2000. Using terminology like "tighten their grip," "illegal settlements," "harsh reprisals" and "renewed occupation" is inflammatory and designed to slant American Christian opinion against the real victims of aggression, the innocent Israelis blown up by Palestinian homicide bombers. Hamas and Islamic Jihad are not "militant groups," they are terrorist groups. — Zola

Write to the International Mission Board and let them know that those who really suffer are the six million Jews surrounded by 22 angry Arab nations that want nothing more than to push the Chosen People into the sea: International Mission Board, SBC, 3806 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230 (call 1-800-999-3113). Thanks.

The Israeli Invitational: Israel's Amazing Power to Invite the Messiah Back

By Thomas S. McCall, Th.D.

A few days before the Lord Jesus Christ died, and just before He began what is known as the Olivet Discourse, He issued this stern warning to His beloved capital city of Jerusalem, the city of the Great King:

"For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Matthew 23:39)

It was a terrible prophecy, indicating that Jesus was about to leave Jerusalem and would be gone for a tragic period of time. His beloved city and Chosen People would not behold the face of their Messiah all during the time of His absence and it would be a woeful epoch of existence for them throughout the age of awful separation. What caused this dreadful alienation? The Lord Himself describes the cause in the previous sentence:

"Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matthew 23:36-37)

While the remnant of Israel had received Him by the thousands, and many Jewish people acknowledged Him as Savior and Messiah, the leadership and the nation as a whole were either ignoring Him or actively trying to get rid of Him. They did not receive Him and considered Him to be a madman at best, and a deceiver and blasphemer at worst. Christ said that He wanted to gather the people as a hen gatheres her chickens under her wings, but they steadfastly refused to avail themselves of His offer!

The offer of the Messianic Kingdom had come to the nation of Israel and the nation of Israel effectively rejected the King and His Kingdom. This is what caused the tragic departure of the King, which we now know has lasted almost 2,000 years! This was no surprise to the Lord, as He had predicted it through His prophets in the Old Testament:

"Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not." (Isaiah 53:1,3)

"For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim." (Hosea 3:4)

These and many other Scriptures indicate that Israel nationally would not receive the Messiah, and there would be devastating consequences as a result. Again, this does not refer to the remnant of Jewish people who would receive Christ throughout history and are doing so today. There is a distinct difference between the faithful remnant and the nation as a whole. At any rate, the Messiah has been sadly separated from Israel for all these centuries of the Diaspora, persecution and the Holocaust.

All of this is the negative way of understanding the Lord's prophecy before He departed. However, there is a positive way of looking at it as well. Jesus said Jerusalem would not see Him until they say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." That means that when Israel does welcome Him as King and Savior, they will see Him again.

Thus to Israel has been committed the awesome privilege and responsibility of inviting Christ to return. "To Israel has been committed the awesome privilege and responsibility of inviting Christ to return."

No one else can do this. The Church, composed of believing Jews and Gentiles, is eagerly awaiting the Rapture, which is the Church's Blessed Hope, but the Church has no power to bring the Lord back. He will come, "as a thief in the night," at His own time to take the Church to Heaven, ushering in the Tribulation. The nations of the world also have no power to bring Christ back, either.

It is only the nation Israel that has the authority to invite Jesus back to the earth to establish His Messianic Kingdom. How can one nation have such power? This should not surprise us believers in the Church age. After all, the Gospel of John says that we have been given the power to become the sons of God:

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." (John 1:12)

If the Lord gives us individuals who believe in the Lord Jesus the power to become the sons of God, surely He could give His Chosen People the authority to invite King Messiah back to reign from Jerusalem. However, is the leadership and the nation ready to do this? Sadly, no. While there are many individual Jews in Israel and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

No Equality for Jews from the UN

The U.N. charter supposedly assures equality for all peoples. But when it comes to Jews or Israel, that proclamation becomes a worthless scrap of paper.

In 2002, twenty U.N. resolutions were passed against Israel, compared to only six that passed against the rest of the world combined. Tiny Israel, a democracy where rule of law is the norm, surrounded by enemies and struggling for survival, is singled out by the U.N. as a villain worse than North Korea, Iraq, Iran or any number of other rogue nations. In fact, there were no resolutions passed against some of the worst violators of human rights, including Syria, Saudi Arabia and China.

Obviously these resolutions have little to do with correcting wrongs and much to do with trying to hurt Israel. Case in point: a recent U.N. resolution protecting the rights of Palestinian children, the only one ever created for a single nationality (the only two other resolutions regarding children have been for general rights of all children and for the rights of the "girl child.")

Ironically, this resolution was adopted on November 15, 2000 — the same week that a Palestinian gunman broke into an Israeli home and shot to death two children, ages four and five, while their mother tried to hide them under her body.

Only Israel, the U.S., the Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Palau voted against the resolution, while all other members of the U.N. either abstained or voted in favor of the resolution.

Had the resolution been about protecting Palestinian children, one might have expected it to address the Palestinian Authority's practice of encouraging children to participate in the armed conflict. But no such language was in the resolution.

Or it might have addressed the Palestinian media's appeal to children to glorify and emulate suicide bombers. That wasn't in the resolution, either. Nor was there any reference to how Palestinian school textbooks are filled with hateful, anti-Semitic teachings. No, the U.N.'s worry was that Israel might be harming Palestinian children.

Another slap on the cheek against Israel was the U.N.'s deletion of "anti-Semitism" from the General Assembly's resolution on racism. That phrase had been in the previous version of the resolution for the last four years. But in 2002, according to the U.N., anti-Semitism is no longer a racist act. Only the United States, Israel and Palau voted against the resolution, which passed thanks to the support of the EU and Arab states.

Even when the U.N. passes a resolution condemning terrorism, it may actually be saying by way of omission that it opposes Israel. For example, on Dec. 13, 2002, the Security Council passed a resolution on the Nov. 28 terrorist attacks in Kenya directed at Israelis. But unlike previous resolutions against terrorism, this one had some key phrases missing. All references to "Israel" and "Israeli" victims were in the original draft but were removed from the final version. Likewise the usual call for the nation in which the terrorism occurred to help the nation whose citizens were killed and injured was also missing from the final version. It also deleted the original call for cooperation with "Israeli authorities" by the Kenyans.

"United" Nations? Equality of all peoples? Oh, excuse me, we're talking about Israel.

Source: Anne Bayefsky, The Globe and Mail.

YMCA "Forgets" Israel

The YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) recently produced commemorative T-shirts that list all the YMCA organizations around the world, including those in countries like Madagascar, Malta and Zimbabwe. Oddly enough, Palestine was among the T-shirts issued, even though no such country exists. Equally odd, there was no Israel T-shirt.

The YMCA in Israel, founded in the 1920s, is located just across the street from the King David Hotel in western Jerusalem. A YMCA spokesperson recently expressed regret over the embarrassing omission.

Source: HonestReporting Communiqué



Our Friends, The Saudi Arabians

The U.S. is one of the principal supporters of Saudi Arabia and pours about \$10 billion into that nation through oil sales alone each year. But if you watch Saudi TV or read government-sponsored news outlets, or see how they vote in the U.N., you would never guess America is one of their best customers as well as a key supporter, particularly in terms of offering military protection through the last few decades.

For example, in September 2002, the *Arab News* ran a cartoon of President Bush as an inflatable doll, with Donald Rumsfeld manning a pump that transformed the President into a likeness of Hitler.

Saudi Arabian newspapers continue to dismiss any suggestion that the they might be liable for what happened on 9-11 when fifteen of their citizens attacked the United States.

A 2002 editorial in the *Al-Riyadh* proclaimed, "If America wants to open up the issue of compensation for those who died in the two towers, it must agree to the establishment of an international court that will examine [its own] war crimes, plundering, coups, what American intelligence did with the drug barons, the policy of abductions and murder, the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, the claims still pending regarding the black slave trade and the deliberate annihilation of the Indians — and apply all this to all countries, without statute of limitations, so that we feel we live on one planet that functions according to the same moral principles."

More recently it has come to light that the wife of a Saudi prince funneled funds to al-Qaeda terrorists. The Council on Foreign Relations recently noted, "For years, individuals and charities based in Saudi Arabia have been the most important source of funds for al-Qaeda; and for years, Saudi officials have turned a blind eye to this problem."

If this weren't bad enough, the conditions inside Saudi Arabia are often dismal. The U.S. State Department reports that freedom of religion is nonexistent in Saudi Arabia; only Muslims can become citizens. The government prohibits the public practice of non-Muslim religions. Non-Muslim worshipers risk arrest, imprisonment, lashing, deportation and sometimes torture for engaging in overt religious activity that attracts official attention. In the U.N. Saudi Arabia votes against the United States 73 percent of the time.

Source: HonestReporting Communiqué



Israel In Iraq's Crosshairs

An attack by America on Iraq is expected to trigger a counterattack by Iraq against Tel Aviv (which is within the range of Iraqi's missiles, unlike the continental U.S.). According to U.S. authorities, these missiles are likely to carry deadly chemical, biological or even nuclear warheads. Iraq hopes to push Israel into the war, which the Muslim nations in the region will see as a religious war of "Islam against the infidels."

The strategy might work since, unlike the first Persian Gulf War where the U.S. asked Israel to sit back and take the blows delivered by Scud missiles, the U.S. is now anticipating an Israeli response to any attack that causes large numbers of civilian casualties.

In an effort to blunt Iraq's expected attack, Israel has set up what may be the most advanced missile defense system in the world. But no system can be expected to be 100 percent effective; in an urban area, even one enemy missile getting through such a shield could have devastating results, especially if that warhead contains a nuclear payload. As one U.S. expert recently noted about Saddam Hussein, "He will launch his doomsday weapon. He wants to go down in history as the man who destroyed Israel."

Source: Joseph Farah, WorldNetDaily.com.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR Grossly Overestimates Aid to Israel

The *Christian Science Monitor* recently ran a misleading article entitled "Economist Tallies Swelling Cost of Israel to U.S." By the title one might assume that the reader would get a realistic look at what sort of economic aid America gives to Israel. But that was not the case.

The article not only grossly overstated the size of American foreign aid to Israel, it did so with an obvious slant. For example, the claim was made that the U.S. backed Israel "in its drawn-out, violent dispute with the Palestinians." So much for the idea that Israel is fighting for its life. Or that the violence originates from the Palestinians.

In order to make the picture as bad as possible, the economic tally included charitable donations to Israel as part of U.S. spending, since (by the reasoning of the article's author) the donations created a "net drain" on America's economy. (Apparently, the author never read about the Lord's promise to help those who help His people.)

Other interesting "gifts to Israel" which were counted as a drain on the U.S. economy included \$117 billion sent to Egypt and \$22 billion to Jordan — money the author reasoned actually went to Israel because "those outlays are part of the total package of support for Israel." So the money might be ending up in an Arab nation, but with tortured reasoning, the economist figured it really went to Israel.

Another surprise: Israel is to blame for rising oil prices (which "cost" the U.S. \$450 billion, according to the article); even more nebulous was the idea that, due to oil prices, Israel caused the U.S. economic recession (which was chalked up as another \$420 billion in expenses). The article also claimed that because of Israel the U.S. lost \$40 billion dollars because it couldn't sell arms such as F-15 fighter jets to some Arab nations.

The truth isn't quite as spectacular. The U.S. government spends \$13.3 billion in direct foreign aid annually to a number of nations. And the vast majority of the nations receiving it, unlike Israel, are often anti-democratic if not anti-American. Unlike these nations, Israel has always been a friend of the U.S. and is a shining light for democracy and freedom in a region otherwise filled with dictatorships, religious bigots and tyrants. And unlike these other nations in the region, Israel generally supports the U.S. in the United Nations, voting with the U.S. 94 percent of the time.

Source: HonestReporting Communiqué

Iran, along with Saudi Arabia, truly represent our worst enemies.

Iranian Capital Punishment

Recently a 15-minute "horror tape" was smuggled out of Iran to the West. The video shows the punishment of two Iranian men who were found guilty of breaking Islamic laws. The 1991 tape is amateurish but chilling, displaying the "refined" method of stoning that the Iranians have developed (and which is still the preferred method of execution in Iran).

The victim is first tied up in winding sheets that cover his entire body, then lowered into a waist deep pit that is filled in with sand and tapped down so he can't escape. His head and upper torso are then plummeted with stones, carefully selected to make death slow in coming. The stones thrown by the Muslim faithful rain down on the victim, the sheet becomes red with blood, and eventually the criminal becomes unconscious — if he's lucky — and finally he dies from trauma wounds and blood loss.

Such stonings, along with various sorts of mutilation, lashings and other punishments, have become the norm in Iran since 1979 when Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini brought his murderous mullah theocracy into power. Khomeini proclaimed in 1984 that, "Killing is a form of mercy because it rectifies the person. Sometimes a person cannot be reformed unless he is cut up and burned. You must kill, burn and lock up those in opposition."

Imagine the uproar if Billy Graham told Christians that they should "cut up and burn" those who disagree with them. Or if a rabbi announced that believers should "kill, burn and lock up" those who disagree with them. Yet this is exactly what the religious founder of the current theocracy in Iran did. And such bloodthirsty statements have been all but ignored by the Western press.

Source: Arnold Beichman, Washington Times





Holland Backs Off Kosher Food Threat

On Dec. 3, 2002, Holland's Agriculture Department announced a ban on the kosher slaughter of animals, causing a small uproar that triggered talks between rabbis and government officials. This led Laurens Jan Brinkhorst, the Dutch Minister of Agriculture, to issue a new ruling that permits the Jewish way of slaughtering animals in Holland.

Unfortunately, this good news for kosher meat producers in Holland has not been repeated in the rest of Europe, where some nations already have placed bans or restrictions on the production of kosher meat. Furthermore, nations without such bans are now considering outlawing this age-old practice, dictated by Jewish religious laws.

Source: WorldNetDaily.com

Uprooting Christianity in the Holy Land

Muslims claim they are tolerant of other religions; their actions argue otherwise. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Holy Land. This is especially unfortunate as archaeology in the region unearths ruins that, as historian Paul Johnson puts it, have "given us renewed confidence in the actual existence of places and events described in the early Old Testament books."

The Palestinian Authority's police have taken over the Temple Mount and are busy carting away tons of ancient earth and relics to build a new, huge mosque. In the process they are both defiling land the Jews hold as sacred and destroying valuable archaeological artifacts.

Such desecration is not unique to the Temple Mount. In 1997 Arafat himself seized the Greek Orthodox Abraham's Oak Russian Holy Trinity Monastery near the Church of the Nativity to serve as his occasional residence. Less than a year ago, Palestinian gunmen took over Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, booby-trapped its entrance, terrorized 150 worshipers for 39 days, and (it was later learned) stole gold crucifixes and used sacred Scriptures for toilet paper.

Jerusalem Palestinian Authority officers have also endangered the walls of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher through ham-handed attempts to construct a latrine nearby. During the present Intifada, Arafat regularly stations his artillery and sharpshooters in Christian towns near churches to shield his gunmen as well as to bring Israeli fire down on Christian places of worship.

Since the Palestinian Authority incorporated 30,000 Palestinians into the municipality of Bethlehem (thereby creating a Muslim majority), Christians in the area have been beaten, raped and murdered. Those Christians who escape these attacks often do so by paying for Palestinian protection.

Not surprisingly, the numbers of Christians willing to stay in Bethlehem and even in Jerusalem have been dropping as those living in the area try to flee Muslim "tolerance" of other religions.

Source: Bob Tyrrell, Jewish World Review

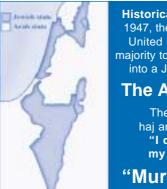
Ronald McMuslim?



McDonalds has made some rather odd concessions to Muslims in the Middle East as the corporation works to establish itself in the region. Among these twists of morality have been the hiring of Egyptian Shabaan Abdel Rahim to sing an advertising jingle to help sell the company's new "McFalafel." You may recall that Shabaan Abdel Rahim's great claim to fame has been his charttopping song, "I Hate Israel."

McDonalds' online job application from its Pakistan division web site has another telling feature. In its online application form, McDonalds included a menu that asks the applicant's religion (a question that would be illegal in the U.S.). Among the options an applicant could choose from were "Islam" (the default choice), "Christian," "Hindu," and "Sikh." "Jewish" was missing from the list. Apparently the message from Pakistan's McDonalds is that Jews need not apply.

Source: HonestReporting Communiqué



Historical Fact: On November 29, 1947, the General Assembly of the United Nations voted with a 2/3 majority to partition western Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state.

The Arabs rejected it.

The Mufti of Jerusalem, haj amin al Husseini stated: "I declare a holy war, my Moslem brothers"

"Murder the Jews!"

The Israeli Invitational: continued

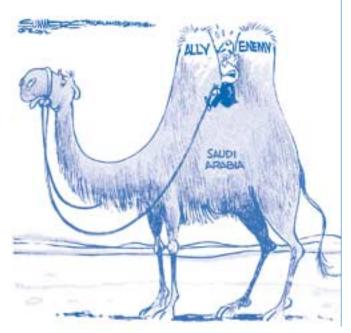
around the world who believe in Christ today, the vast majority do not. They range in belief everywhere from strong Orthodox or Hassidic convictions to agnostic or even atheistic attitudes, but the majority agree at this point that Jesus is not the Messiah promised by Moses and the prophets.

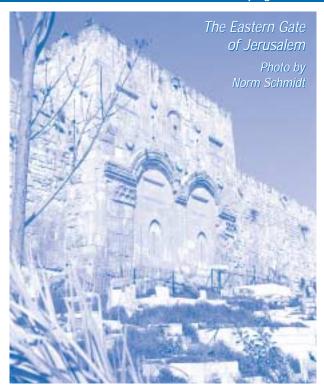
What would it take for Israel to come to believe in Christ as a nation? Regrettably, it will take the awesome time of the Tribulation, with all of its judgments falling from Heaven, and its persecution of the Jewish people by the Antichrist. Through the testimony of the 144,000 Jewish evangelists and the Two Witnesses, by the end of the Tribulation Israel will be able, willing and eager to receive their long-lost Yeshua as Messiah:

"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 him 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 firstborn." (Zechariah 12:10)

"And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east." (Zechariah 14:4)

When Israel repents and believes in the One whom they have pierced, the Lord Jesus Christ will return to the very place, the Mount of Olives, where He bade Jerusalem farewell so many centuries ago. What an awesome power the Lord has given His Chosen People.





This is a free event, but space is limited. Reservations are required. Call Tony at (214) 696-9760 for information and reservations.

April 12 — Israel Solidarity Tour, Biblical Arts Center in Dallas, Texas. This one-day tour of fascinating Israel sites replicated here in Dallas is topped off with a time of teaching and worship. Only \$49, including lunch. Those who sign up for the tour will automatically be given reservations for the Passover Seder the night before. Call Tony for details.

May 29-June 8 — Pentecost Tour, Israel, including excursions to Petra. Call for your free full-color brochure, (214) 696-9760 during office hours or 1-800-WONDERS anytime.

June 14-15 — Father's Day Tour, Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Tours, teaching, worship. Includes the famed *Passion Play*. Contact Tony for information.

As you remember Commander Rick Husband's family and the families of all the astronauts who were lost aboard Columbia, remember, too, that soon — very soon, I believe — every believer will be "blasting off" in a moment, "in the twinkling of an eye," to join our Lord in His Father's house. I pray that you will be in that company of saints who know without doubt that our hope lies beyond this earth, beyond even space; it lies in heaven, in the Kingdom to come, in the eternal Jerusalem and in eternity with God Himself.

Amen! Your messenger,

How do you say "freedom of speech" in Arabic?

By Doug Marlette, Jewish World Review

Last month, I drew a cartoon showing a man in Middle Eastern garb driving a Ryder truck hauling a nuke with the caption, "What Would Mohammed Drive?" The drawing was a take-off on the recent controversy among Christian evangelicals over the morality of driving gasguzzling SUV's. "What Would Jesus Drive?"

To a cartoonist working in the current geo-political atmosphere it is a natural step to ask what would Mohammed Drive? And I'm sorry to report that the image in post-9/11 America that leaps to mind is the Ryder truck given to us by the terrorist Timothy McVeigh, carrying a nuclear warhead and driven, alas, not by an Irish-Catholic or a Chasidic Jew or a Southern Baptist, but, yes, by an Islamic militant.

Unfortunately, for many Americans these days, such a leap of the imagination is not a great stretch. Hence, the Homeland Security office. Over the last year we have watched Islamic militants commit suicide by flying planes into our buildings, killing thousands of innocent civilians, including many Arab-Americans. In Afghanistan, we watched the Taliban murder noncompliant women and destroy great works of art. We watched an American reporter decapitated by Muslim "true believers." We watched young Palestinian suicide bombers murder innocents in cafes and markets and on buses, in the name of the Prophet Muhammed.

Such nihilists are considered by many Muslims to be martyrs worthy of admiration and emulation. Meanwhile, an Arab country led by a genocidal maniac intent upon developing weapons of mass destruction is bringing us into war.

My cartoon has prompted a firestorm of reaction orchestrated by a lobbying group called CAIR (Council on American-Islamic Relations). This is not the first time my cartoons have prompted such organized attacks. Years ago when I went after the corrupt excesses of Tammy Faye and Jim Bakker's *Praise The Lord Club*, for example, I similarly outraged fundamentalist Christians with cartoons that, like this one, depicted the obvious correlations of real events to instinctive imagery.

That, by the way, defines the art of political cartooning. The objective is not to soothe and tend sensitive psyches, but to jab and poke in an attempt to get at deeper truths, popular or otherwise. The truth, like it or not, is that Muslim fundamentalists have committed dev-

astating acts of terrorism against our country in the name of their prophet. CAIR reprinted my cartoon in their newsletter, and encouraged their subscribers to email and call me, my newspaper and my syndicate to complain. During the past few days we have received more than 4,500 emails, and counting, all saying more or less the same thing about me and my drawing: Blasphemy. Ignorant. Bigoted, Disrespectful to our Prophet Mohammed. Hateful. "Donkey"? They all demanded an apology. Quite a few threatened mutilation and death.

What Would Mohammed Drive?



My only regret is that the thousands who emailed me complaining felt that my drawing was an assault upon their religion or its founder. It was not. It was an assault on the distortion of their religion by murderous fanatics and zealots. In fact, I have received death threats and hate mail throughout the years for standing up for the rights of minorities in my drawings, including Muslims and Arab-Americans.

Just as Christianity and Judaism and probably Zoroastrianism are distorted by murderous fanatics and zealots, so too is the religion of Islam. May I rest assured that the constituents of CAIR who emailed their outrage to me and my newspaper were just as vigorous in condemning those who dishonored their religion with the attack on the World Trade Center? Have they been equally diligent at protesting the widespread support—among intellectuals, "charities," and government officials—that the terrorists enjoy in the Muslim states of the Middle East? Were they part of the anti-Taliban movement in this country that long predated 9/11? Did they pummel Al Queda with similar protests and bombard the Taliban with demands that they apologize for spreading a false image of Islam with their hatred and destruction?

In my 30-year career I have regularly drawn cartoons that offend religious fundamentalists and true believers of every stripe, a fact that I tend to list in the "Accomplishments" column of my resume.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

I have outraged fundamentalist Christians by skewering Jerry Falwell, Roman Catholics by needling the Pope, and Jews by criticizing Israel. I have vast experience upsetting people with my art.

What I have learned from this experience is that those who rise up against the expression of ideas are strikingly similar. No one is less tolerant than those demanding tolerance. A certain humorlessness, self-righteousness and literal-mindedness binds them all together. Despite differences of culture and creed, they all seem to share the egocentric notion that there is only one way of looking at things, their way, and that others have no right to see things differently. What I have learned from years of experience with this is one of the great lessons of all the world's religions: We are all One in our humanness.

Here is my answer to them: In this country we do not apologize for our opinions. Free speech is the linchpin of our republic. All other freedoms flow from it. I realize this may be a repugnant concept for many of those who wrote, but let me be clear. I do not apologize for my drawing. Granted, there is nothing "fair" about cartoons. You cannot say "On The Other Hand" in them. They are harder to defend with logic. But this is why we have a First Amendment. So that we don't feel the necessity to apologize for our ideas.

After all, we don't need constitutional protection to run boring, inoffensive cartoons. We don't need constitutional protection to make money from advertising. We don't need constitutional protection to tell readers exactly what they want to hear. We need constitutional protection for our right to express unpopular views. The point of opinion pages is to focus attention, to stimulate debate and to provoke argument. By that standard, my cartoon did what it was supposed to do. If we can't discuss the great issues of the day on those pages of our newspapers, fearlessly and without apology, where can we discuss them? In the streets with guns? In cafes with detonator vests and strapped-on bombs?

I welcome the thoughts of all those who made the effort to email me. But what I would urge them to consider is that minorities should be especially vigilant about free speech and circumspect about urging apologies for opinions. Because history shows that when free speech goes, it is always the minorities who are the most vulnerable and who suffer the most from its absence. Just ask the Arabs currently being held in detention without being charged with a crime. That's how it works in totalitarian regimes. This is not a totalitarian country, which, I presume, is one of the reasons those who wrote to me live here.

Your donations at work.

Walking With the Animals

By Stuart Arden

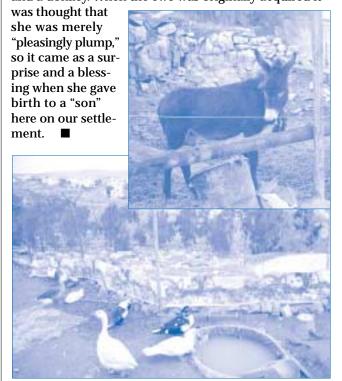
(Anatot, Israel) – A "Children's Zoo" has been established on our settlement. Efrat Tzur began the zoo as an animal refuge but soon saw its possibilities for involving children.



The zoo is located in the ruins of an old Turkish waterpumping station that had been used to bring water up from the bottom of the gorge, where a spring is located. Additionally, the site is next to the (formerly cobblestoned) Roman road, which during Jesus' time had been used to bring water up in earthenware vessels, by horsedrawn wagons.

The zoo teaches children to have respect for living things, teaches them responsibility because of the rotating feeding schedule that they participate in, and brings them a little joy in these times of bloodshed on the part of our supposed peace partners.

The habitat contains pigeons, chickens, ducks, geese, rabbits, guinea pigs, a ewe with her newly-born lamb, and a donkey. When the ewe was originally acquired it



Why the Arab World Hates America — Time to Myth-bust By Dennis Prager, Jewish World Review

Why is America hated in the Arab world?

According to leftists and to Arab and Islamic spokesmen, the reasons are: American support for non-democratic regimes in the Arab world — such as in Egypt and Saudi Arabia — and because America supports Israel.

Before positing what I believe to be the reasons, let's answer these two arguments.

The argument that America is hated by Arabs because it supports non-democratic regimes in the Arab world would be regarded as hilarious were it not believed by so many gullible people in the West.

The argument presupposes that what the Arabs (and Muslims elsewhere) who hate America want are open and free societies. But there is not a shred of evidence to support this. Is there any movement for pluralism, openness and democracy among those who hate America? Of course not. The Arab governments most opposed to America and which America therefore least influences — Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Libya — have less freedom than the corrupt Arab regimes that America does support. As corrupt and repressive as the Egyptian government is, Egypt is free compared to the aforementioned countries.

And if the United States ceased to pour billions of dollars a year into Egypt and the Mubarak dictatorship then fell, what would supplant it? Democracy? Openness? Pluralism? Freedom of speech?

We all know the answer. In every Arab country, a corrupt regime supported by America would be supplanted by a Taliban-type Islamic/fascist regime.

So let's call this argument what it is — a lie. Overwhelmingly, the Arabs who hate us don't want a free and open society; they want an Islamic totalitarian one. American influence in the Arab world prevents our haters there from imposing their vicious expression of Islam, not from establishing Jeffersonian democracy.

As for the second argument, yes, our support for Israel's security further inflames the hatred of those Arabs (and Muslims elsewhere) who hate us. But why do they hate Israel? Why are they so obsessed with a tiny state in a part of the Arab and Islamic world that they utterly ignored until Jews made a civilization there?

Because America's and Israel's haters are ethnic and religious haters on a magnitude not seen since the Nazis. They loathe everything Israel (and its American supporter) represents — freedom, democracy, openness, individual autonomy, freedom of religion, pluralism, women's equality and sexual freedom. They want Israel dead. Gone. Exterminated. They say so publicly, and they say so in polls. Yet, the educated fools and the Israel- and Americahaters of the West ignore all this and blame Israel for trying to exist and America for enabling it to do so.

If America abandoned Israel, our Arab and Muslim haters would rejoice, but they would surely not stop hating us. Not one of them. They would only conclude that their terror worked, and that America will give in when the threats are great enough. One proof? Most Muslims living in Europe, which has abandoned Israel, continue to loathe Europe. Europe's abandonment of Israel has only convinced them — for good reason — that Europe has lost its moral fiber and is ripe for an Islamic takeover.

Arab and other Muslims who hate America do so:

Because America alone (and the little America in the Middle East, Israel) prevents the expansion of Islamic rule.

Because expansionist totalitarian movements, whether Soviet communism or radical Islam, always hate free societies, and America is the strongest free society.

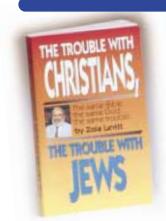
Because America is not only strong, it is religious (as opposed to Europe, which is weak and irreligious).

Because America is not only Christian; it is Judeo-Christian, the two religions the Islamists need to overcome to expand globally.

The greatest problem confronting America is not that people who loathe freedom loathe us. Indeed, it is to America's enduring credit that it is hated by Islamists. Our great problem is that so many in our country do not understand that those who loathe liberty loathe America. For this reason, the battle for America's future is at home more than it is in Iraq or Afghanistan or in al Qaeda's caves.

We talk a great deal about winning Arabs' and Muslims' minds and hearts. Yet, we have yet to win all Americans' minds and hearts. For confirmation, just visit your local university.

Tell It On the Mountains (9 programs)



Bible, Bible, Bible

Requested to write a book entitled Zola's Love Letter to Christians and Jews, Zola responded that he already has! Its title is The Trouble with Christians, The Trouble with Jews. You can order this book on page 31, and Zola says this is the best book he has ever written. With many of our churches and our synagogues lacking basic information on salvation, the Messiah, prophecy and Israel, Zola equips the reader to help with the solution: Bible teaching!



SACRIFICE TO MOLECH: A Palestinian mother raises her son to be a suicide bomber for the 'jihad' (holy war)

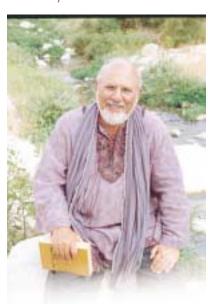
Arafat and His Weapons of Mass Destruction

Israel Today

A whopping 73 percent of Palestinian children want to be "martyrs"a euphemism for suicide terrorists—according to a study by Israel's Civil Administration in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. The study, done with the assistance of Palestinian Authority officials... found that 90 percent of Palestinian children want to participate in the intifada and fight the Jews. Forty-five percent have already participated... and half of them were injured.

Yasser Arafat is old and will eventually disappear from the world scene. But in the eight short years since he assumed power in the territories, he has poisoned this generation of the Palestinians people — and the next.

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