

LEVITT LETTER

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

Note: The war in the Middle East may have broken out by the time you read this, but in any case, this commentary is relevant. Dr. Ron Rhodes was formerly “The Bible Answer Man” on syndicated Christian radio programs. He’s written extensively on Islam and is the author of REASONING FROM THE SCRIPTURES WITH MUSLIMS. – Zola



ZOLA LEVITT

INSIDE ITEMS

- News Briefs.....p. 4
- Cursing Israel.....p. 5
- Zola’s Bulletin Board.....p. 6
- A Note From Zola.....p. 7
- Letters To Zola.....p. 8
- I Live On The Stuff.....p. 9
- Funny, You Don’t Look... ..p. 10
- Hebrew Lesson.....p. 10
- War On Terror.....p. 11

Turn the Other Cheek?

By Dr. Ron Rhodes



At the time of this writing, the US is poised for a war with Iraq. This has caused Christians to ponder two issues: Does the Bible support the idea of a just war? What could Saddam Hussein be thinking in his defiance of an overwhelmingly powerful military opponent!

Christians are divided over whether war can ever be just. Some believe war is always wrong because God commands us not to murder (Exodus 20:13). This view is known as pacifism. Others believe Christians should participate in all wars in obedience to their God-ordained human government because disobeying the government amounts to disobeying God (Romans 13:1-7). This view is known as activism.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Dead Wrong!

By Zola Levitt



President Bush was my choice in the last election and I stand by most of his policies. But on the issue of a Palestinian state, he is simply wrong. Not a little bit wrong. Dead wrong.

The Promised Land is called that because it was promised by God to the Jews. They have lived in the land continuously for thousands of years. Yet in his Feb. 26, 2003 speech to the nation, the President continued to refer to Israelis living on their land as “settlers” and he refers to parts of Israel as “occupied territories.” This is simply parroting old lines from Arab propaganda. The Israelis are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

How Long Will It Take?



By Capt. Will King

So just how long will a US-led attack on Iraq take? It depends on where you define the starting point of an attack. In actuality, the attack on Iraq has already begun in the form of diplomatic pressure, economic sanctions, and information operations (getting our message to the Iraqi people, military, and leadership). However, the majority of Americans are concerned with the military aspect of the conflict and how long American (and our allies’) soldiers will be engaged. The answer to this is uncertain because it depends on a myriad of factors.

Who will fight, and who will not?

This question encompasses not only Iraq’s military but also the different tribal and religious factions (Shia, Sunni, and Kurds), and is directly tied to our information operations message. The Regular Army is made up primarily of Shia conscripts under the command of Sunni leaders. The Shia in Iraq are routinely suppressed, often violently,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

“View from Palestine”

– Two 30-minute TV programs

What a blessing that such controversial programs weren't censored by our more sensitive TV stations! Zola visited Ramallah and interviewed Hanan Ashrawi, considered by some to be the Darth Vader of Palestinian spokespeople. She eloquently articulated the “Palestinians” best arguments for being the true owners of Israel. Subsequent review sessions with two scholarly Arab Christians, journalist Joseph Farah and Professor Ergun Caner, unveil the fallacies in her assertions. This one-hour tape could be the ultimate crash course on credibly and diplomatically asserting Israel's right to her land. Please order from page 15.



Whose Land Is It?

– One 30-minute TV program



Some of you liked the interview format of the two Hanan Ashrawi programs, The View from “Palestine.” For those, however, who would simply like the facts spelled out 1-2-3, short and sweet, no sugar coating, then this is the real deal. This is where you will see the crux of what Zola has offered to say for free at American colleges and seminaries. Please order from page 15.

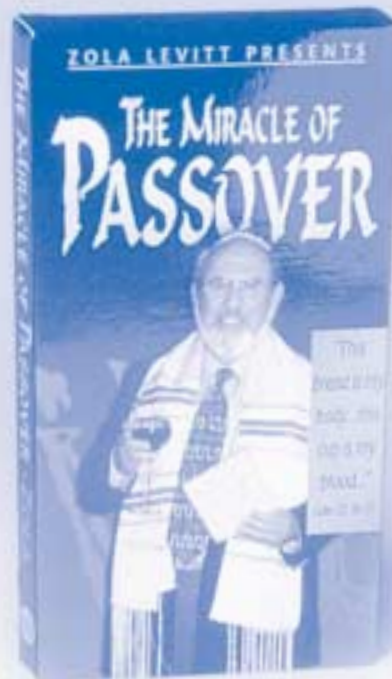
Miracle of Passover

Passover, the crown jewel of the Biblical feasts, begins this year on the eve of April 17. In the videotape, booklet and audiocassette, Zola explains the origin and significance of Passover and demonstrates the feast, where Christ is revealed through its very elements. This is one of the most basic and important Bible studies, shedding clear light on the mysteries of the Lord's Supper.

Please see page 15 for the video series, booklet and audiocassette.

PASSOVER HAGGADAH – A Messianic Celebration

Published by Jews for Jesus with Jew and Gentile in mind, this book is a worship service manual, history book, folk art showcase, music folio, photo essay, and prayer book — all rolled into one. Passover Haggadahs help the Jew people perform each year's Passover ceremony. Please order from page 15.



Still others argue that not all wars a government might engage in are just (consider the war instigated by the Nazi German government). These Christians believe that only under certain circumstances is war justified for self-defense purposes and/or to stand against a greater evil. This view is known as selectivism, and is the view I believe best reflects Biblical teaching.¹

Christian pacifists believe it is always wrong to injure other humans, no matter what the circumstances. This view is usually based on the exemplary life and teachings of Jesus. According to Christian pacifist John Yoder, Jesus set a Biblical mandate to “turn the other cheek” when encountering evil and violence (Matthew 5:38-42). Jesus exposed the futility of the violence engrafted in the present world system by resisting its inclinations even to the point of death.

Hence, Christians are to refuse the world’s violent methods and follow their Savior to the cross (Matthew 26:47-52).² Pacifists point out that the Old Testament instructs us to love our enemies (Leviticus 19:18), which Jesus also taught (Matthew 5:44). Jesus emphasized that the kingdom was not to be advanced by physical force (John 18:36), and stopped Peter when he bandied a sword at His arrest (Matthew 26:52-54). We are also told to not be overcome by evil but overcome evil by good (Romans 12:19-21). Further, the apostle Paul taught, “*If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men*” (Romans 12:18).

Selectivists respond that that Paul said to be at peace with all men if possible (Romans 12:18) and that such peace is not always possible, especially when an evil bully (or evil nation, like Nazi Germany) attacks others. It is also true that Paul said we are not to be overcome by evil but overcome evil by good (Romans 12:19-21); sometimes this necessitates good people using force against evil terrorists. While we are to love

our enemies as persons (and seek that they become saved), that does not mean loving the evil they do, or failing to respond-with force if necessary-to the evil they inflict.

Christians who espouse selectivism challenge the claim that pacifism is the essential point of Christ’s teaching in Matthew 5:38-42 and don’t believe Christ was teaching to “turn the other cheek” in all circumstances. Christ did not literally turn the other cheek when smitten by a member of the Sanhedrin (John 18:22-23). For a full understanding of Matthew 5:38-42, it is important to know that Jews considered it an insult to be slapped, much in the same way we today would interpret someone spitting in our face. The Sermon on the Mount, then, would seem to teach that Christians should not retaliate when insulted or slandered (cf. Romans 12:17-21). Such insults do not threaten a Christian’s personal safety. This is a far cry from defending oneself or one’s loved ones against a mugger, or a nation defending itself against a terrorist dictator.

In terms of following Christ’s example, one must remember that His personal nonresistance at the cross was intertwined with His unique calling. He did not evade His arrest because it was God’s will for Him to fulfill His prophetic role as the redemptive Lamb of God (Matthew 26:52-56). During His ministry, however, He refused to be arrested because God’s timing for His death had not yet come (John 8:59). Thus, Christ’s unique nonresistance during the final days leading up to His death does not mandate against self-protection.

The Bible records many accounts of fighting and warfare. The providence of God in war is exemplified by His name YHWH Sabaoth (“The LORD of hosts—Exodus 12:41). God is portrayed as the omnipotent Warrior-Leader of the Israelites. God, the LORD of hosts, also raised up warriors called the *shophetim* (savior-

deliverers). Samson, Deborah, Gideon, and others were anointed by the Spirit of God to conduct war against unjust and pagan nations.

The New Testament commends Old Testament warriors for their military acts of faith (Hebrews 11:30-40). Moreover, it is significant that although given the opportunity to do so, none of the New Testament saints—nor even Jesus—are ever seen informing a military convert that he needed to resign from his line of work (Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 3:14; Acts 10).

Prior to His crucifixion, Jesus revealed to His disciples the future hostility they would face and encouraged them to sell their outer garments in order to purchase a sword (Luke 22:36-38; cf. 2 Corinthians 11:26-27). Here the “sword” (Greek: *maxairan*) is a dagger or short sword Jewish travelers used as protection against robbers and wild animals. It is perfectly clear from this passage that Jesus approved self-defense.



Self-defense may actually result in one of the greatest examples of human love. Christ said, “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:14). When protecting one’s family or neighbor, a Christian is unselfishly risking his or her life for the sake of others. The late Francis Schaeffer put it this way: “The Bible is clear here: I am to love my neighbor as myself.... What if you come upon a big, burly man beating a tiny tot to death and plead with him to stop. Suppose he refuses? What does love mean now? Love means that I stop him in any way I can.”³

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

“The Sick and Mentally Feeble Dance”

While some Arab media expressed sorrow over loss of the seven-member space shuttle Columbia crew, many publications viewed the death of Israeli astronaut Col. Ilan Ramon as cause for celebration. “Ramon Can Go to hell” was the title of a column by Hamed Salamin in the United Arab Emirates daily *Al-Bayan*, who said the Israeli’s death “is enough to arouse joy in every heart that beats Arabism and Islam.”



Nur Al-Din Sati’, columnist for the Lebanese pro-Syrian daily *Al-Safir*, wrote, “Although the disaster will not change imperialist American behavior across the world, the loss caused by the crash of the Columbia is not restricted to America, which will continue to be a center of attraction for the minds and geniuses of the entire world, six of whom were lost two days ago; as for the seventh, his expertise was in destroying homes and pinpoint strikes at civilian targets, so he should not be classified [as a genius].”

A variety of joyous responses were seen on Islamic web sites, with posting on www.alfajr.com reading, “The whole world heard about the shuttle crash. Undoubtedly, the heart of every believer leaped with joy at the disaster of his greatest enemy.”

Al-Dustour, columnist Arib Al-Rantawi responded to these Islamic displays, “Only the sick and mentally feeble dance with joy at the Columbia space shuttle disaster. This is not an occasion for gloating. After all, the American space program is part of the scientific heritage of humanity.... Once again, the Arab mind was revealed as an unfathomable storehouse of ‘illogic,’ as if we were a nation that does not learn from its defeats and catastrophes and hastens to bring up myths at every juncture. This is what happened in 1967; it recurred, tragically, in the Gulf War ...and here we are, repeating the same tales now.” ■

Source: *WorldNetDaily.com*



More Peace-Loving Palestinians

The body of Massoud Mahlouf Allon, 72, of Moshav Menahemya, was found in a burned-out car in the northern Jordan Valley. He had been mutilated, bludgeoned, and beaten to death. Fatah’s Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade claimed responsibility for the murder. Massoud Mahlouf Allon’s crime? He was an observant Jewish immigrant from Morocco who tried to distribute blankets he collected from Israelis to poor Palestinians. ■

Source: Rabbi Yerachmiel Milstein, *Jewish World*

French-Brokered Peace Accord

If the French were in charge of the peace process, Israel could expect these same results. —Zola

Christians in Ivory Coast fear an Islamic insurrection could succeed in creating a Muslim state in the African nation after the signing of a French-brokered peace accord that gives important positions of power to rebels. The majority Christian population in the south views the deal as capitulation to political and military leaders in the Muslim north who last September abandoned the democratic process and resorted to violence to gain power, according to the British charity Barnabas Fund. The French peace plan calls for a government in which rebels would hold the key interior and defense posts.

Ivory Coast is one of several countries in northern Africa where Muslims are seeking to expand their power and impose Islamic law among Christians, including Sudan and Nigeria. Many Christians in southern Ivory Coast believe neighboring Muslim-majority Burkina Faso is supporting the rebels.

Though Ivory Coast has had a reputation for stability, tensions between Muslims and Christians have increased in recent years with the influx of Muslim immigrants in the north, mainly from Burkina Faso. The newcomers now comprise about one-third of the north’s population. In December 2000, Muslim supporters of the Rally of the Republicans (RDR) party violently protested in the streets of Abidjan after the party’s leader was prevented from running for parliament because he was not born in Ivory Coast. Dozens of Christians were killed by machete-wielding RDR supporters chanting “Allahu Akhbar” (Allah is great). ■

Source: *WorldNetDaily.com*

Cursing Israel

The NEW YORK TIMES vs. Israel, An Open Letter to the Pulitzer Prize Board:

Some months ago you awarded seven Pulitzer prizes in journalism to *The New York Times*. In many respects the *Times* is indeed a newspaper of distinction. However, in its coverage of the Middle East, and specifically in reporting the Arab-Israeli conflict, the *Times* has been guilty of journalistic misrepresentation and deliberately biased reporting. Correspondents and editors have intentionally chosen stories to elicit sympathy for the Palestinians while making little effort to report on the Israeli victims of Palestinian suicide bombings. They have also given disproportional greater space to Palestinian perspectives and spokespersons while often describing Israel's views and policies in a few sentences or in the "back pages." Moreover, the *Times* continually displays a reluctance to properly expose the corruption, authoritarianism and complicity of the Palestine Authority in its terrorist campaign against both innocent Israeli and Arab civilians....

A few examples:

1) The large photo on the front page after the Israeli Solidarity March in May, displaying an "End Israeli Occupation of Palestine" sign, distorted what really happened and occasioned an editor's note the following day because of the outcries and massive subscription cancellations.

2) An article by correspondent Joel Greenberg describing the death of two girls, 17-year-old Rachel Levy and 18-year-old Ayat al-Akhras, as two high school seniors whose lives intersected, divided by war but joined in carnage, was totally obscene and morally repugnant. To somehow put a homicide bomber on the same level as an innocent girl shopping for the Sabbath is odious....



3) The *Times* reported the 39-day standoff in The Church of the Nativity almost entirely from a Palestinian perspective. It was continually referred to as an Israeli "siege" and not an occupation by Palestinian terrorists. Even though Palestinians shot their way into one of Christendom's holiest sites and held the church and its religious leaders hostage, *Times* journalists frequently turned the terrorists into victims by reporting that they had taken "refuge" in the church.

4) The *Times* uses the words "terror" and "terrorist" selectively. In articles about the horrific attacks against the World Trade Center and the USS *Cole*, the *Times* freely used the term "terrorist" to describe the men who had carried out the attacks. However, in describing members of Palestinian terrorist groups, such as Hamas or the al-Aqsa Brigade, that have committed similar acts in Israel, the *Times* frequently refers to them as "militants" or "activists."...

5) In a CAMERA report dated May 1 (www.camera.org), the *Times* coverage of the Mideast war was demonstrated to be particularly biased and skewed against Israel during the two-week period from March 28 to April 11. This was when Palestinian terrorists committed ten homicide bombings against Israelis and when Israel's military incursion—"Operation Defensive Shield"—took place. When asked to comment on this report, the *Times* has repeatedly refused....

Israel is waging a just struggle for its very existence against terror and the brutal murder of civilians. The least we can expect of the nation's premier newspaper

is to present the news of that war in a fair, balanced and unbiased way.

We would hope that, in granting Pulitzer prizes for journalistic excellence in the coming years, you will be mindful of this shameful state of affairs at *The New York Times*. ■

— The Ad Hoc Committee to Protest *The New York Times* Mideast News Coverage

ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD

May/June Pentecost Israel/Petra Tour



There is no substitute for experiencing the reality of Israel, an historical, vibrant, fascinating country (not to mention the holiest place on Earth)! 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.



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.



Our Full-Time Missionary in Israel

Many of you remember Kevin Parker, one of this ministry's "To the Jew First" missionaries. Thanks to our outreach, he came to the Lord 15 years ago and subsequently graduated our correspondence course, The Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies. He has taken several Israel mission trips with our consulting theologian, Todd Baker, to witness to native Israelis for several weeks at a time. Now that he is working full-time with Christian Friends of Israel, we are covering half of his monthly expenses. Before he tuned in *Zola Levitt Presents*, he says, he didn't even know what a Jew was!

Israel Solidarity Day

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 Dr. Ergun Caner will speak on the subject of Israel and the Palestinians during the Solidarity Day.

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



Dear Friends:

Those French! They have managed to look bad for several centuries now, from the time of "Let them eat cake" through the French Revolution, during which the common man demonstrated how quickly a godless society can descend into barbarism, and on to WWII when many Frenchmen gladly turned their Jewish neighbors over to the German SS.

world from the possible horror of not only chemical and biological attacks on civilian populations, but nuclear attacks as well. It is likely that the French government's current behavior might make possible a slaughter that rivals that of the French revolution and the Holocaust combined

A Note From Zola



I have traveled the world, including Arab nations, and I have never seen a society as anti-Semitic as the French.

Of course I would never maintain that all French citizens are like this. But nations often have a personality and their governments take actions that reflect this character. That personality can be good or evil. Indeed, when we study the Bible we see that the Lord judges not only individuals but nations as well, according to their behavior.

This said, France as a nation has not had a good record through the years and there's no sign that things are changing for the better. At press time, France seems to be doing its best to protect Saddam from an American attack. In effect, the French are preventing actions that would save the

should Saddam be allowed to deploy missiles with deadly chemical, biological, and nuclear warheads and supply such weapons to terrorists.

The situation would be humorous if so much weren't at stake. After Colin Powell presented evidence that Iraq had violated UN sanctions and was busy developing weapons of mass destruction, all French diplomats could do was shake their heads and claim that the UN needed more proof of Iraqi wrong-doing before any action could be taken. (This prompted comedian David Letterman to quip that "The last time France wanted more proof, it rolled right through Paris with a German flag on it.")

"The last time France wanted more proof, it rolled right through Paris with a German flag on it."

Unfortunately it seems that France will demand proof right up until the time Iraqi missiles are raining down on Israel as well as US forces in the Middle East.

Of course the current "need" to prove that Saddam has weapons of mass destruction is a fiction in itself. After all, Saddam employed chemical weapons against pro-Iranian resistance in Iraq's borders and killed many thousand of Kurds in the process. Nor have his other actions inspired the idea that he's anything but a monster. His protracted war with Iran and his invasion of Kuwait suggest that Saddam is simply out of his mind. Throw in the regular and brutal murders of his opposition in his own nation and, according to some estimates, he has been responsible for the killing of a million or more people. These crimes are sufficient to justify his ouster;

there's really no need for weapons inspectors or the discovery of another smoking gun. The smoking guns are already well known.

One can easily argue that the best thing that could happen to Iraq would be for the US to invade it and get rid of the man who has so justly earned the title "The Butcher of Baghdad." Unless, of course, you are French. In which case you will argue that there's no reason to remove him.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

To: staff@levitt.com

OK. Let's get this straight. We have a Texas politician as President who is a notoriously feckless panderer to the Jews in his complicity with Israel in their genocidal oppression of the Palestinians. So, we send up a space shuttle with an Israeli Jew aboard in an obvious media show to demonstrate American cooperation with the Israeli terror state.

Result: Space shuttle debris and body parts end up scattered across the town of Palestine, Texas. The government denies the possibility of a terrorist attack. Uh... Can you spell "Divine Retribution"? —DC

Dear DC:

Can you spell anti-Semite? —Zola

Zola,

I have watched you do many interviews over the past 15+ years, but I couldn't get over how you let Ms. Hanan Ashrawi lie about Israel, Judaism, America, and Christianity without correcting her. She made you look like a wimp! —DJ

Dear DJ:

There's no point in arguing with an adversary in an interview format. Rather, a good interviewer becomes a purveyor of rope, in this case enough rope for my opponent to hang herself. It serves the audience better to get the complete views of an opponent, rather than having a debate or a shouting match. Our commentators handled Ms. Ashrawi's propaganda very competently. —Zola



Dear Zola,

I've watched your program for some years now and these last two (Parts 1 and 2 of "The View from Palestine") had me wanting to jump out of my seat as I listened to the "Palestinian" lady's twisted views! I don't know how you did it! How you were able to sit there so calmly as she told one lie after another as her viewpoint. You really have a lot of self-control, I'll say that. She had me steaming, but I get that way anytime anyone attacks Israel and the Jews' covenant rights. It's funny how at no time did the cove-

Letters to Zola



nant part of the land's deed really come up.

I have to take issue with a date that one of the Arab Christian guests used as to when the term Palestine was first mentioned in history. He said 70

AD, however nowhere in original history can it be found at that time. It was in 135 AD when the term was first constructed by Emperor Hadrian, and then Israel was renamed with it, but Jews were still the main ones living there, so the Jews are the real "Palestinians" not the Arabs.

No one ever seems to bring this up. The Arabs never wanted anything to do with the title "Palestine" until 1948. It was at that time when Arabs began grabbing onto the title for themselves. "Palestine" cannot be found anywhere in original history (and the maps that show "Palestine" are fabrications that even Christian ministers have in their Bibles they produce—and I've called each one of them on it, too.

Jesus' time never heard of a "Palestine" much less Israel being called that back then. The term came from *Philistines* in the Latin form, coined by Hadrian, and it's a political term. However, there is no connection (I know you know this) whatsoever between the Philistines and the Palestinians. None. Nada. Zip. The Philistines were Greek, not Arab. This is something the Arab leaders don't want anyone to know, and those who do know about it, hide this fact.

Besides, the Philistines are totally extinct. They left no offspring. None. These facts need to be really put out there boldly and often. Most people do not know about these facts.

I have to commend you, Zola, you were so reserved during that Arab lady's comments.... The Arabs live in a dream world of Arafat's making. Let the people also be very aware of the fact that when God made the everlasting covenant with Abraham, it was right there on the "West Bank" in the Rahmala area.... Even Mohammed warned Muslims to never touch the holy lands. He stated in Surah 5:20-21 that all that land was to be possessed only by the Jews of Israel. He gave a warning to those who disobeyed.

Arafat has re-written this, too, and put in his own "revelation" about it, and most Muslims don't even know this verse exists. They are not allowed to question or think for themselves, remember, and in fact I don't think they are allowed to even read the Qur'an for themselves. So there is no way for the Muslim people to know how they are being used for political purposes and lied to. They

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

are ordered to obey their “religious” leaders, and never question what they are told! So they are victims too, they just don’t know it. But Arafat needs them to hate the Jews and Israel for his agenda to work. So he keeps the hate level high and his people only hear what he wants them to. —CT

Dear CT:

Couldn’t have said it better myself. —Zola

“I Live On the Stuff!”

I recently watched an episode of *West Wing* which had a story line about a Christian congressman wishing to fund a study on the effectiveness of intercessory prayer in helping people recover from illness. This plot was milked for laughs, mostly at the expense of those who might suggest that prayer is effective. In the end the whole idea was more or less dismissed as religious nonsense.

How ironic, since such studies have been already been done, with one of the more notable of these conducted by one of my consulting physicians, Dr. Randall Byrd at San Francisco General Hospital 20 years ago. Byrd proved that there is a statistically significant correlation between being prayed for and faster-than-normal recovery. He found that prayer does help people recover, even if they are unaware that they’re being prayed for and those praying have never laid eyes on them.

Unfortunately double-blind studies fail to sway TV writers and Hollywood actors.

I’m here to tell you that twenty years of intercessory prayers are what have kept me going, well beyond the capabilities of the average heart bypass patient. I still conduct tours of the Holy Land, still appear on my TV program, and speak widely throughout the country. Prayer works, despite what the creators of *West Wing* would have you believe. —Zola

A NOTE FROM ZOLA continued from pg. 7

More recently, France, along with Germany and Belgium, blocked US plans to bolster Turkish defenses against a possible Iraqi missile attack. This basically turns NATO on its head, since the primary purpose of the organization is to protect its member states from attacks like those that may be mounted by Iraq against Turkey.

Why are the French so perverse about the situation in Iraq?

The reason is quite simple, actually, and reminds us of Paul’s contention that “The love of money is the root of all evil” (I Timothy 6:10). Current estimates are that somewhere around \$10 billion in illegal trade is going on between Iraq and other nations (in violation of yet another UN agreement that supposedly placed sanctions on Iraqi oil sales). Much of this trade involves the smuggling of oil from Iraq to—you guessed it—France (and most likely Japan, China, and Germany, which also are dragging their heels in the UN when it comes to condemning Iraq).

How ironic then to hear the French (as well as other European nations illegally importing Iraqi oil) whine about how the US is only interested in Iraq because of its oil. Talk about the pot calling the kettle black (about black gold)!

Speaking of gold, the reason that France, Russia, and Germany in particular are supporting Saddam is quite simple. They want his money.

These nations have been selling him arms and weapons technology, helping him build a nuclear reactor, and so forth in exchange for money and oil. And they’ve really been gouging Iraq, charging at least five times the going price for AK47s, nuclear reactors, and other hardware while Saddam thinks nothing of shoveling money out of Iraq while his people starve. Obviously these Europeans don’t want to lose their willing sucker.

A prominent Iraqi opposition leader, Ahmad Chalabi (as reported by *Vanguard*), recently said, “France’s policy is driven by French commercial and oil interests; they are allied to Saddam Hussein and they are trying to save him in the hope they can preserve their illicit contracts with him.... France is not popular among the Iraqi people. They [the French] are supporting a dictator. The Iraqi people are incensed at this massive French diplomatic support for Saddam.”

American citizens are also incensed at the actions of the French, with a recent Gallup poll finding France more unpopular among Americans now than at any time in the past decade; according to Scott Rasmussen Public Opinion Research, nearly half of the US citizens polled had a negative view of the French. As this is written, the US Congress is seriously discussing a boycott of the upcoming Paris Air Show and placing new trade restrictions on French products.

US Representative Jim Saxton, who chairs the House Joint Economic Committee and who is also a senior member of the Armed Services Committee, recently said (according to *WorldNetDaily*), “When they [the French] were in need [in two World Wars], we were there to help. A lot of American blood was lost on French soil defending that country.... We and other countries should expect help from allies whom we have helped in the past.”

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

Funny, you don't look...

By Mona Charen, *Jewish World Review*



Discovering one's Jewish ancestry is suddenly all the rage in the Democratic Party. You will recall that when she assayed the possibilities of winning a Senate seat from New York, Hillary Clinton disclosed that some distant relation had been Jewish. But that was nothing compared with former NATO commander Gen. Wesley Clark. Clark, who has so far merely showed a little ankle in the presidential sweepstakes, and who was raised as a Baptist, has proclaimed that he descends from "generations of rabbis in Minsk." Ah, yes, the Minsker Clarks.

Generations of rabbis may be hard to outbid, but John Kerry—that is, John Forbes Kerry—has managed it. He claims no mere distant relations but instead an actual paternal grandfather. It seems Frederick A. Kerry was born Fritz Kohn in Czechoslovakia. In 1902, he changed his name to Kerry and, in 1905, immigrated to the United States. Kerry, of course, was raised Catholic and only recently discovered his Jewish heritage. On his mother's side (which is the only side that really counts from an Orthodox Jewish perspective), he is pure WASP.

Sen. Joe Lieberman has first claim on Jewishness, of course. And his press secretary clinched it by assuring *The Washington Post* that only Lieberman had a genuine "lox box."

Howard Dean, the governor of Vermont and a declared presidential aspirant, proudly points to his Jewish wife. It seems President Clinton's secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, actually started a trend when she revealed her Jewish roots, though one sensed in her case that she would much prefer to have kept the matter under wraps.

What goes on here? For generations, Jews have sought to reinvent themselves as Protestants in America... being Jewish was considered a social demerit. Is it now a bonus? Is this reverse snobbery? Or could it be something else that is motivating these Democrats?

....There is real worry among Democrats that President Bush's bold and steadfast defense of Israel will sway Jewish voters in 2004. It has already begun to show in the donations flowing to Republican coffers. If you cannot match the president in support for the Jewish state or willingness to confront terror all over the globe, you can always tell voters about your great uncle Moishe.

If you shrink from war with Iraq... tell them about great granddad Solomon. ■

HebrewLesson

By John J. Parsons



Hebraic Insight

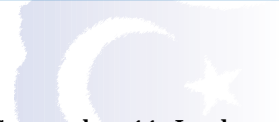
These are uncertain times, even perilous days (2 Tim. 3:1). Yet despite the danger of the world churning around us, this verse from the Word of God reminds us that we are to fear *Adonai*, to serve *Him*, and to cleave unto *Him*. Note that the Hebrew verb rendered as "cleave" in the KJV is *dabaq*, the same word used to describe how a man cleaves to his wife so that the two become *basar echad* – one flesh (see Gen. 2:24). *Dabaq* is also related to the word for bodily joint (*debeq*), implying that we are to stick as closely to the LORD as our bones might stick to our skin (Job 19:20). The Lord Jesus asked the Father that we might be one (*echad*) with Him, cleaving to Him as His body (*basar*) and profoundly united to Him in love (see John 17:21-23; 1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 5:23).

Yes, despite the difficulty of living during these last days, we are comforted by the gracious love of the Lord our God and the promise of ultimate union with Him. May the Lord God help us all to fear Him, serve Him, and cleave to Him in the truth. Amen.

אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ תִירָא אֹתוֹ תַעֲבֹד וּבוֹ תִדְבַק

Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God; him shalt thou serve, and to him shalt thou cleave (Deut. 10:20 KJV).

בַּק	דָּ	וּ	בֹ	וּ	בֹד	תְ	עַ	בֹד	אֹ	תוֹ	תִ	רָא	לְ	הִי	יְ	יְהוָה	אֶת	
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baq	tid	vo	u	vod	'a	ta	to	'o	ra	ti	kha	hei	lo	'e	Adonai	'et		
you shall	and in	you shall	Him	you shall	Him	you shall	your God	The LORD										
cleave		serve		serve														



Memo to Airport Security: Go Ahead, Profile Me



by Joseph Farah, *The Washington Times*

Airport security in the United States is a joke. Every time I go through security checks, I am shocked and dismayed to see elderly women pulled from lines for extra security checks. I see little kids getting scanned for metal on their persons. In short, I see the least likely “terrorists” getting the most scrutiny from security personnel....

I never seem to get checked. Why am I complaining?

Because I fit the profile of the very people who are most likely to hijack an airplane or blow it up in a suicide attack.

I am an Arab-American. I have an Arabic surname. I look Arabic....

Need I remind my fellow Americans that we are at war? I personally would much prefer to see our country use its precious security resources more wisely. Not everyone is a security risk. Common sense needs to be employed if we are to make this country safer....

Meanwhile, we have Colin Powell suggesting what America needs is more Muslims. We have President Bush and others in government attacking anyone who dares warn about the dangers of Islamism. We have federal officials sucking up to Saudi Arabia, which finances terrorism around the globe and is the nation we have to thank for most of the 19 September 11 hijackers.

This is not the way to fight the war on terrorism. This is not the way to make our country safer. This is not the way we will beat our enemies.

There is a way to make our airliners safe. We should follow the El Al model. I have flown El Al often. On El Al, I am treated with suspicion. All Arabs are. And that is why El Al had not witnessed a hijacking in 20 years until two weeks ago, when an Arab secreted a knife on board a flight with a plan to commandeer the plane into an Israeli skyscraper. Sky marshals wrestled him to the ground and averted a disaster....

Are my rights violated when I fly El Al? Absolutely not. El Al follows sensible security precautions because it is the national airline of a country under siege by terrorists—a nation that understood the threat of Arab air-

line hijackings 25 years before September 11. In short, El Al procedures make perfect sense—if the objective is making the skies safer and preventing terrorism....

That’s why I am begging America to get a clue: Profile me, please. It’s not because I am a threat, but because I am not. I have nothing to fear from an extra baggage check, a few extra questions or one extra scan of my person. But people who look like me—Middle Eastern men—pose a much higher security risk. Not to acknowledge that fact after the carnage of September 11 would be nothing short of insanity. ■

Dead Wrong! continued from page 1



native to the land of Israel and are not “settlers” or “occupiers” in any sense of these words.

George W. Bush certainly knows that and I can’t understand why he makes such statements. He acts as if he is blind to the terrorism in Israel. The creation of a Palestinian state will lead to war in Israel, just as surely as giving up the West

Bank territories led to terrorism. How could anyone in their right mind think the Palestinians ought to have a country?

If our government or even our President is under the influence of any other nation, whether by oil contracts, back-room political deals, or just cash under the table, then that government and that President just can’t be trusted.

Scripture teaches that the will of God prevails over the will of worldly leadership. God’s will is crystal clear in this case: “And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee” (Genesis 12:3).

History is also very clear on what has happened to nations that have cursed the Jews. Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome all tried to divide the Promised Land. Their punishment was extinction. Once they were world powers; now these empires are gone. America is following a very dangerous course if it persists in creating a Palestinian state built on land given to the Jews.

In a tense time, I counted on this President with all my heart to do the right thing. Now my heart is broken. ■

Christian apologists J. P. Moreland and Norman Geisler observe that to permit a murder, rape, or cruelty to a child when one could prevent it is morally wrong, an evil of omission which can be just as evil as an evil of commission. Any man who refuses to protect his wife and children against a violent intruder fails them morally.⁴ This supports selectivism regarding just wars.

In further support of selectivism, Abraham's battle against the kings of Genesis 14 illustrates that unjust national aggressors should be resisted (cf. also 1 Samuel 23:1ff). And in the life of the apostle Paul, Acts demonstrates that when Paul's life was in great danger of being unjustly taken, he did not "turn the other cheek." Rather he appealed for the Roman army's protection (Acts 22:25-29). Nothing indicates that Paul thought there was anything wrong with such a defense.⁵ Likewise, Christians who espouse selectivism—though desiring and praying for peace—believe it is sometimes necessary to "selectively" use military power in self-defense and against evil nations.

Today many believe Iraq, under the leadership of megalomaniac Saddam Hussein, is an "evil nation." Iraq is producing biological and chemical agents, has a nuclear weapons program, is tied to terrorist groups, tortures people, has killed many thousands with chemical weapons, has developed military jets capable of spraying biological and chemical weapons, has more than 30,000 munitions capable of delivering chemical agents, has continually defied the UN, and much more. In Iraq itself, Saddam is often portrayed as a valiant knight who will lead the Arabs to victory over Israel and other infidels (the US). The threat is real.

Certainly there is much more to it than this simple analysis, but the above is enough to demonstrate why many today are greatly concerned that Saddam Hussein has weapons of mass destruction. I earnestly hope and pray that this situation will be resolved peacefully, but it may be that peace will only come on the other side of a just war. ■

Footnotes:

¹ Norman Geisler, *Ethics* (Zondervan, 1971), p. 158.

² John Yoder, *The Politics of Jesus* (Eerdmans, 1972), chs. 2, 5, 8.

³ Francis Schaeffer, *The Complete Works of Francis Schaeffer*, vol. 4 (Crossway, 1982), p. 391.

⁴ J. P. Moreland and Norman Geisler, *The Life and Death Debate* (Praeger, 1990), p. 135.

⁵ Geisler, p. 172.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE? *continued*

by the Republican Guard and minority Sunni leadership. Saddam doesn't trust the Regular Army, and keeps them far away from Baghdad. The majority of the Iraqi mili-

tary that surrendered during the first Gulf War were from the Regular Army, and we want them to do so again at the outset of any hostilities.

Next is the Republican Guard, the professional soldiers of Iraq's army. Several coup attempts have come from the Republican Guard in the last decade, so while the Republican Guard is more trusted than the Regular Army, Saddam still keeps them outside of Baghdad and away from him. While the Republican Guard may or may not like Saddam and the regime, they are professional soldiers and will most likely fight for Iraq. Also, the Republican Guard is all Sunni, and any regime change in Iraq means a loss of privilege and power that the minority Sunni currently enjoy in Iraq. America has made public our phone and e-mail contacts with Republican Guard commanders, telling them that Saddam is bad for Iraq and the military, and appealing to them to surrender instead of fighting for him.

Any Iraqi military beyond the Republican Guard, including the Special Republican Guard, the Baath Party Militia, Fedayeen, and the Special Security Organization, will most likely stay and fight because they are too deeply invested in the Baath Party and the regime. Our message is also aimed at the Shia and Kurdish populations in Iraq, telling them that we are targeting Saddam and the regime, not the people of Iraq.

Unfortunately, these populations have heard this message before and risen up against Saddam, only to see lack of American support, and then to be killed by the thousands by Saddam and his military. Our goal is to get these populations to rise up, or at the very least to be neutral to American military action. It is important for these people to understand that America is after Saddam and his weapons, not the Iraqi people and their homes.

Urban Fighting. A lot of talk in the media has been of urban fighting in Iraq, and it is a great concern to any military. Urban fighting is troop and time intensive, and greatly slows the pace of any operation. It can also be very messy, and greatly favors the defender. This type of fighting is low tech, and eliminates one of America's greatest military advantages: standoff range.

In an urban environment, standoff is eliminated and many engagements occur at only 500 to 1,000 meters, meaning that the first on the trigger wins. Also, the possibility for collateral damage and civilian deaths is increased exponentially, especially if Saddam positions military equipment around schools, mosques, hospitals, or other protected sites. Saddam also benefits greatly from any media coverage of civilian deaths or destruction to homes or protected sites.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

But apparently to the French, Iraqi oil is thicker than the shed American blood, or the American and Israeli blood that may be shed if a war breaks out in the Middle East.

Years ago, a letter to *Time* magazine noted that “If countries were people, France would be a whore.” Ironically, since Saddam, during his less lucid moments, thinks he is the reincarnation of Nebuchadnezzar and that Iraq will become the New Babylonian Empire, one might argue that this would make France the proverbial “Whore of Babylon” (Revelation 17:5-6). Of course that’s not a Biblical analysis of the scripture, but it is a rather terrifying thought that should give any Frenchman pause. Or else cause him to adopt the new French battle cry, “*Vive les wimps!*”

The French aren’t the only ones with the problem of being shortsighted. During our recent circuit ministry in the Southeast, I was struck both by how our modern theological schools have abandoned the power of God’s Word as well as rejecting the authority of the Bible through the lack of emphasis on its prophecies. Everywhere we went, we saw the hunger and thirst of people to learn both of the promises of the Lord to Israel as well as about the powerful prophecies of the End Times.

Prophecy fulfilled demonstrates the truth of the Bible; future prophecies that are not yet fulfilled give Christians hope for the future. In our scientific age, many people are accustomed to seeing the truth proved. By taking away both the promises and prophecies of the Lord, liberal seminaries have discarded the proof of the Bible. With prophecies that were given thousands of years ago—and which came to pass, proving that the prophets of God knew what they were talking and writing about—one can see firsthand that the Bible is the only such book that can make such a boast. Furthermore, as archaeological evidence confirms the age and writings in the prophetic books of the Bible, skeptics are unable to claim that the books were written after the fact, nor can they take other positions that years ago were employed to dismiss the accuracy of the Bible.

I also found that church members are starving for information about Israel. Unfortunately many churches, Bible colleges, and seminaries (including Moody, Dallas Seminary, and Talbot) are falling into something like an amillennial theology

which does away with the Lord’s promises to the Jews. Christians have *de facto* become a new “Chosen People,” as in Replacement Theology. The teaching called Progressive Dispensationalism has caused some churches to throw their support behind Palestinian groups, adopt anti-Semitic policies, and engage in other bizarre behaviors. And thus the Lord’s promises and prophecies, which should be powerful tools, that prove the validity of the Bible and the power of our Lord—especially in today’s world—have been dismissed by these seminaries and churches.

The truth of the matter is that the Lord doesn’t go back on His promises. He gave the land to Israel and when we read the Bible we see that there’s been no rollback on that pledge. When the Jewish Messiah returns, the land will continue to be maintained for the Jewish Son of David. God’s covenant with Abraham was, in His own words, “An everlasting covenant” (Genesis 17:1-9).

For a more detailed study of why and when the Promised Land of Israel was given to the Jews, order our videotape “Whose Land Is It?” This recent program goes into greater depth on this subject, and shows why many modern Christians are off the mark in supporting Palestinian claims. (Order from page 15 using the order blank.)

This summer I’ll be speaking at colleges across America’s Midwest (including Christian, Jewish, and secular institutions). These lectures will be given free of charge. School officials in the Midwest whose institutions may be open to hearing me speak should give Claudia a call at (817) 417-0059.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)



This is a great opportunity. It also promises to create some heated debates and has the potential of opening many hearts to the truth about the Jewish Messiah who has come not only to bring eternal life to people around the world, but also to eventually restore the throne of David and make Jerusalem the capital of a new, believing world.

You can expect the sparks are going to fly at some of these talks. However, I am hoping that my readers and viewers will be praying that we do more than just generate controversy, additionally touching the hearts and minds of those who hear us and bringing them to the Truth of our Risen Savior who has come to seek and save the Lost Sheep of Israel as well as to bring salvation to the Gentiles.

Finally, I hope all our readers will prayerfully consider each of our upcoming meetings (and come out to visit with us if any of our meetings are in your area):

April 11—Passover Seder demonstration at the Biblical Arts Center in Dallas, Texas. I will be going through this important feast so that those attending can repeat it in their homes during Passover the following week. 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 (first come, first served). Call Tony for details.

May 29-June 8—Pentecost Tour of Israel, including an excursion 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.

We covet your prayers for our ministry activities and, with the growing threat of war in the Middle East, ask that you pray fervently for the peace of Jerusalem!

Your messenger,
Zola

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE? continued

Scorched Earth. Saddam practiced this in the first Gulf War with the destruction of the Kuwaiti oil fields, but what if he adopts this strategy on a greater scale? The destruction of oil fields and refineries would create an environmental disaster. The destruction of bridges, dams, and other infrastructure, combined with the forced displacement of civilians, would create a humanitarian catastrophe that American troops and NGOs (Non Governmental Organizations) would have to devote a significant amount of time and resources to solving. Scorched earth is a last ditch desperate strategy designed to buy time for the regime to further prepare their defenses of Baghdad, but is of significant concern to Americans and our allied planners.

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). If the fighting goes badly, and Saddam becomes desperate enough, he may employ WMD (either chemical, biological, or nuclear). The goal of such an attack would be to slow any advance on Baghdad, again buying time for the regime, and creating so many US casualties that the American public would lose stomach for any further conflict.

In the past, Saddam has had no reservation in using chemical weapons (against Iranian soldiers and against the

Kurds) and his appetite for other WMD, including biological and nuclear, is well known and documented. Saddam did not use WMD in the first Gulf War, presumably because he knew our goal was to evict him from Kuwait and not completely from power. However, this time Saddam knows we are coming for him, and the only wildcard is whether or not his military commanders will obey any orders to use WMD against American forces.

Thus the answer to "How Long Will It Take?" is not an easy one. The war could be over, as some commentators have suggested, in days. Or, if WMD, house-to-house fighting, and a scorched earth policy are adopted, the timeline could stretch on for months or even a year or more. Most likely the duration will be somewhere between these two extremes. One thing is certain: Americans will soon learn the answer to this question if diplomacy and UN inspections fail, and the military solution to the problem goes into action. ■

Captain Will King of the US Army serves as our ministry's military consultant.

"Going to war without France is like going deer hunting without your accordion." – Donald Rumsfeld

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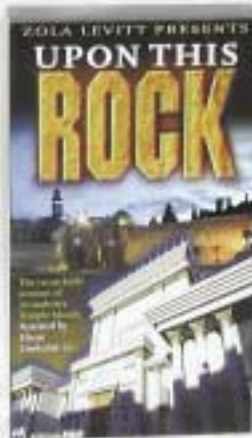
Shown here is the replanting of a 300 to 500-year-old olive tree, headed for the prophet Jeremiah's land. As most readers know, the ancient olive tree represents Israel, and the new shoots it will be sending out represent the Gentiles grafted into it (see Romans 11: 17-27).

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