

LEVITT LETTER

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

Anti-Bush bash...

Meeting of the STARS



ZOLA LEVITT

By Zola Levitt

There was a Democratic “meeting of the stars” in New York City in February where various Hollywood personalities explained how awful it is that we would make war on Iraq, on terrorism, or on anything else. It was basically an “anti-Bush bash.” In fact, it was called that on one of the networks.

The truth is, the stars don’t really have that much of a worry with the “War on Terror” because, as we’ve

ians, to Syria. And that’s patently a good idea. Even better would be eliminating the Palestinian terrorists, thereby splitting this south-to-north axis.

But, with all that said, it’s very doubtful that we can establish real democracy in Iraq. That part I am very skeptical about. And we are spending money and lives like they’re going out of style, to accomplish something that’s never been accomplished before in history, which is a democratic Arab nation.

The Arabs specialize only in fake democracies, as in Egypt and Jordan. People are killed at polling booths during elections. Basically, a strong man rules over everything, and a rubber stamp parliament agrees with all his policies. Examples are Hosni Mubarak in Egypt or the boy king of Jordan, Abdullah II, with his gorgeous Western-style wife and motorcycle. (As A. M. Rosenthal



said before, it’s barely underway. I agree that the war on Iraq was a good idea; we’ve freed people from a dictator. And even the “occupation” of Iraq makes sense, because we are standing between Iran, the major supplier of Islamic terrorism, and the axis of that terrorism that stretches on a south-to-north line, from Saudi Arabia, to the Palestin-

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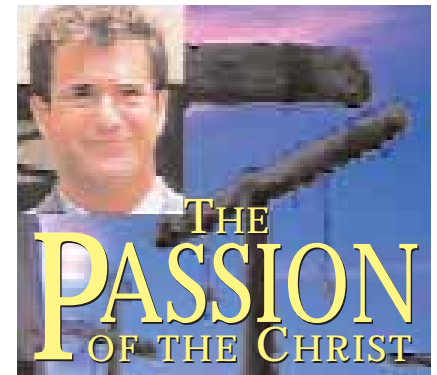
We sent our sharp-eyed contributing editor to the movie *The Passion of the Christ*. His report is fascinating. — Zola

Inflaming Passions

By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor

Though no public institution existed in the Jewish homeland during the time of Christ without the occupying Roman government’s approval, there have always been those who hold Jews collectively responsible for the death of Jesus. It is ridiculous, however, to maintain that the puppet Sanhedrin that oversaw the

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famously said of Abdullah's survivor father, King Hussein, "The King of Jordan, never for sale, but always for lease.")

The idea for an Arab dictator is to stay in office and die in bed, something Saddam failed to achieve. But all the same, we are not pursuing the War on Terror. That war would involve attacks, or at least behind the scenes negotiations, leading to regime change, with Saudi Arabia, our major enemy; Iran, the supplier; Syria, the home office of any number of terrorist groups; and finally, the PLO, which has been steadily active in terrorism since Sept. 11th without the vaguest whisper from us, other than to encourage them to get their nation and, therefore, a larger staging area for their terrorists.

This war on terror, in effect, is leading up to Armageddon, in the sense of the final battle between the West and the East. In the end, all the soldiers of a NATO-like alliance under the Antichrist will meet the Muslims, with the Chinese weighing in with a 200-million-man army. But, at the moment, we have not even started to fight on our end.

As we noted in the Sept. 1998 *Levitt Letter*, the next world war will be between democracy and Islam. But the president is actually de-emphasizing his own concept of a War on Terror. He's trying to sell the war with Iraq as a necessary interim battle. I just tremble over the fact that, as we deliberate about bringing democracy to a place that has never seen a glimpse of it, real Muslim terrorists are planning another World Trade Center-style attack — or worse.

We must undertake this war on terror immediately. We must stop talking about it, and actually do it.

David Frum and Richard Perle, authors of a new book entitled *An End To Evil: How To Win The War On Terror*; put things into perspective this way:

There is nothing new about terrorism. What is new since 9/11 is the chilling

realization that the terrorist threat we thought we'd contained within tolerable boundaries was not contained at all, menacing our well-being as a people, even our survival as a nation. This realization stems, first, from the scale of 9/11, and beyond that, from the apocalyptic vision of the terrorists themselves.... The terrorists kill, and will accept death for a cause with which no accommodation is possible....

That cause is militant Islam. Yet, for many reasons, our leaders, and the leaders of other nations, have found it difficult to say so.... a radical strain within Islam has declared war on us. This strain seeks to overthrow our civilization and remake the nations of the West into Islamic societies, imposing on the whole world its religion and its law. To achieve these cosmic ambitions, Islamic terrorists wish — and are preparing — to commit murder on a horrific scale.

As these authors note, we are not even naming the correct enemy, let alone going after them. And we fail to realize that this fight is for "all the marbles." We either live or die as a civilization by what we do. Terrorists are not some small segment of otherwise big, peaceful, Islamic societies. If there are 350 million Arabs in the Middle East, there are probably at least 100 million terrorists, and 200 million more who support them. (The proof of this comes with surveys of Palestinians, of whom 70 percent feel they should still kill Israelis even if they get their own country!)

Many of these terrorists are doing what they do for money. They receive rich rewards from wealthy Arab and Arab-American supporters. Islamic charities in the US notoriously support terrorism. We need to cut off the funding from the Saudis, and then probably 80 percent of the terrorists would lose heart. The Saudis have an almost endless amount of money from their oil sales, and they are happily financing, day after day, the terrorism.

Second, if we get Iran, we can cut

off the weaponry. Most weapons are purchased from North Korea, Russia, or wherever, and then distributed by Iran.

There is an axis of terrorism from Saudi Arabia, up through the Palestinian Authority, to Syria. If we would at least eliminate the Palestinian terrorists (or let the Israelis do it), it would split the axis by dividing it down the middle, making it easier to handle.

The PLO and Syria are smaller, but just as vicious. It was announced on Fox News on Feb. 18th that the Israelis fired on three figures moving near the border of Egypt in an area clearly marked as restricted. The Israeli soldiers found the intruders were only seven years old. The children told them that they had been sent out by the adult members of their families to draw fire, so that they could see where the Israeli positions were.

Stories like this demonstrate that we are not warring with normal human beings. We are fighting thugs who use their children as targets, and who have nothing better to do with their own lives than to kill us.

To sum it up, we are being attacked, mortally and seriously, by a vicious enemy, which is radical Islam. Most of the Muslim people, unfortunately, support the actions of the radicals (there has been no real apology for the attack on the World Trade Center). We must actually prosecute this war. In some places, it may just take diplomacy, as in Libya, which has seemingly elected to dismantle its weapons of mass destruction. In other places, it may take a regime change, as in Iraq. But everywhere those terrorist nests must be cleaned out.

Until we're willing to go after each and every terrorist unit around the world, we are not really fighting a "War on Terror."



crucifixion was somehow democratically representative of the Jewish people — as hundreds of thousands of Jews viewed as a threat to Caesar’s rule were ruthlessly eliminated.

Even within the Sanhedrin, however, voices opposed the execution. More centrally, of course, those who would hold “the Jews” responsible for the death of Christ seem unaware that those who did support the crucifixion died almost twenty centuries ago.

You may have guessed that this was leading up to Mel Gibson’s movie, *The Passion of the Christ*, and the

diametrically contradictory, but equally dire claims. One is that the film will encourage anti-Semitism. The other is that speaking out against it will do the same.

I fear there is truth in both views.

To his credit, Gibson has removed or downplayed some scenes that might be viewed as a blanket indictment of Jewry, and he has openly stated that salvation came to Christians through the Jewish people, including Jesus and His disciples. Anti-Semitism, however, has never depended on stated truth. I walked away from

support for the state of Israel, truly ugly efforts have been made to paint that support as coming solely from a desire to see Israel destroyed as a necessary prophetic precursor to the Millennium. Some of the criticism aimed at the movie is at least influenced by a desire to encourage Jews to view politically conservative Christians, including Gibson, negatively. Curiously, many of these complaints come from infamously pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel voices, including the liberal *New York Times*.

At the same time, the Medved/Lapin thesis, that accusations of anti-Semi-



passions of a different sort it has engendered.

A number of prominent Jewish activists have expressed fear that the movie will encourage anti-Semitism. Some have contended that Gibson himself is anti-Semitic — including spokesmen for the Anti-Defamation League. Though ADL National Director Abraham Foxman has backed-pedaled from such comments, he maintains the movie “has the potential to fuel anti-Semitism, to reinforce it.”

Other Jewish commentators, including film critic Michael Medved and Rabbi Daniel Lapin, warned that these condemnations of Gibson’s film could engender a backlash that would jeopardize relations between American Christians and Jews. Lapin wrote, “I believe that many of them will remember Abraham Foxman’s hysterical rantings and think of them as attacks on Christianity.”

In other words, Jews are hearing

the film with the distinct impression that its real heroes were Pontius Pilate and his wife — due in part to scenes added to the story without Scriptural backing. Similar embellishments highlighted the Sanhedrin’s brutality.

The controversy is further complicated by its underlying partisan nature. Most, though not all, of the film’s critics tend to the liberal end of the political spectrum. The ADL, for instance, has portrayed support for citizen gun ownership as anti-Semitic, infuriating conservative pro-gun groups like Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership.

At one time, Jewish voters were overwhelmingly aligned with the Democratic Party. Increasing Jewish support for the current Republican president, the highest since Ronald Reagan’s presidency, has alarmed those who oppose this shift.

Though the “Christian Right” has been the most steadfast source of

tism against Gibson and the film could undermine the relationship between Jews and Christians, seems to be well-founded.

Because I have written about Jewish and Israeli issues elsewhere, I’ve been getting e-mail and phone calls for months, as buzz on the film grew, from conservative Catholics indignant that Gibson’s reflection of their faith has been criticized by Jews. Sadly, many included a litany of past conflicts between Jews and Catholics — reflecting anger at all Jews, not simply those with a political ax to grind.

Distressingly, I’ve heard a reprise of many of the vilest anti-Jewish slanders, from the myth of an international banking cabal to the lie that “Communism was a Jewish creation” and that Jews are, therefore, also responsible for the deaths of millions. Perhaps I’ll be able to de-



Patrick Cox

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Pay Attention to History

By Cal Thomas,
NewsAndOpinion.com



Do Sharon and Bush grasp that they are helping to create a terrorist breeding ground? What is so difficult to understand about the Middle East that Western diplomats and politicians continue to play with scenarios that have no hope of succeeding? The so-called Roadmap created out of wishful thinking by the United States, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations, states that there must be two prerequisites before Israel relinquishes more land. One is that the Palestinian side must forswear violence, and the other is that the infrastructure that produces the violence must be dismantled. Neither has even begun to happen.

Quite the opposite.

This does not deter the wishful thinkers, however, including Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Sharon has announced a unilateral withdrawal of forces protecting Jewish “settlers” in Gaza. Some believe a withdrawal might “pressure” Yasser Arafat and his band of serial killers to respond by eschewing terror.

Those who believe such things haven’t been paying attention to history. Arafat doesn’t give. He takes. That’s because his objective differs mightily from everyone else’s. The West thinks a formula can be constructed that will, in the words of Secretary of State Colin Powell, help the Palestinians realize the “legitimate aspirations” of a state of their own. What Powell and so many others will not recognize is that Palestinian aspirations are for a state that replaces Israel, not one that co-exists with it.

Reaction to the wall Israel is building to protect itself from encroachment by homicide bombers and others interested in its destruction is only

the latest evidence that Arafat and company remain a threat and have no intention of modifying their objectives. If their plans have changed from regular incursions into Israeli territory for the purpose of killing civilians, why would they oppose a wall?

A Palestinian state without proof that Palestinian intentions have changed would assure an unprecedented base for terrorism that currently does not exist. It would be a threat not only to the entire Middle East and US objectives to democratize the region, but to the United States itself. Such a nation-state would serve as a breeding ground and launching pad for terrorism worldwide.

As a sovereign nation, a Palestinian state would be difficult for the United States and the toothless United Nations to control as it exports terror throughout the world. The Palestinian Authority (PA) already is the largest anti-American terrorist entity and enjoys diplomatic protection from much of the world. Imagine what it would be like as a full-fledged state, absent a change in purpose and direction. These people are playing for keeps because they claim a mandate from their “god.” “Infidel” diplomats are not likely to deter such fanatics from their divinely ordained rounds.

President Bush is right in his assertion that the United States is fighting a war with worldwide terrorism. The Palestinian Authority is part of that war. The PA’s allies have included Osama bin Laden, Saddam Hussein (whom Yasser Arafat praised for sending Scud missiles into Israel during the Persian Gulf War), the late Ayatollah Khomeini, and other rogue nations in the region and beyond. Ideological mentors of the PA allied themselves with the Nazis and their goal of exterminating Jews (a goal that remains unchanged if one considers sermons, Palestinian TV, and textbooks that are training a new generation of haters and terrorists). Arafat was trained by the Soviet Union’s KGB.

Any progress toward peace and stability in the Middle East begins with abandoning the fantasy that what America and Israel do or don’t do affects the actions and goals of Arafat and company. Anti-democratic forces understand only two things — power and resolve.

Such resolve — and not unilateral measures by Israel and the West, or “confidence-building acts” — is more likely to protect American and Israeli interests and create conditions under which Palestinians and Israelis can have better lives — together. ★



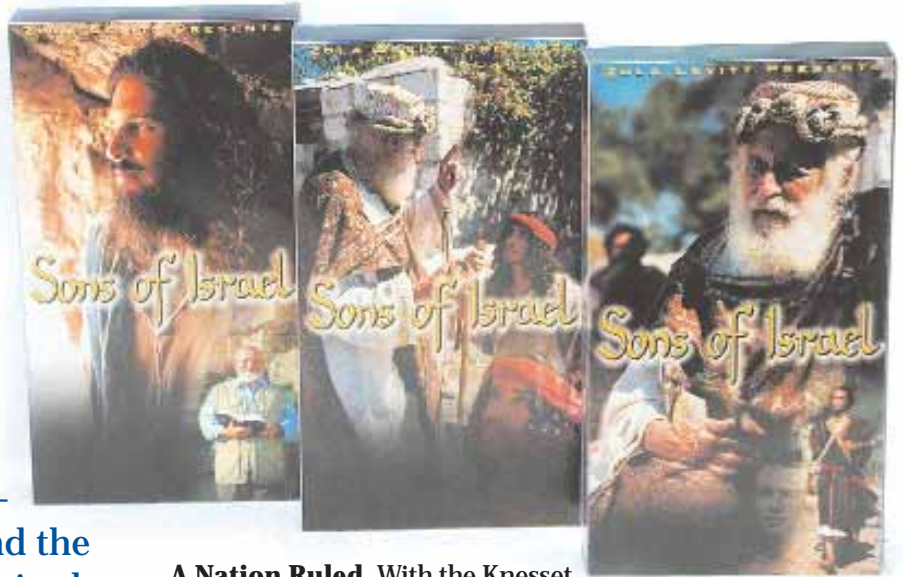
Passover Family Pack.

A complete kit and all the materials you need to celebrate the Passover. The website is at www.messianicjewish.net

Phone number is 800-410-7367. See complete story in “A Note from Zola” on page 11.

SONS OF ISRAEL

Nine 30-minute TV programs on three VHS tapes



Zola teaches on the fascinating lives of some of God's key men — from Abraham to the Messiah and the Apostles. An informative and stunningly beautiful history of the people God chose and the special men among them that He used for His purposes. Nine half-hour programs, plus a bonus program.

The Father of a Nation. From Mount Scopus in Jerusalem, Zola begins this series with the father of the nation, Abraham. This humble man from Ur relocated to a land he had never seen and received a promise to be a blessing to all nations on earth. We find a school that teaches recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union about their Jewish history and culture.

The Blessing. From The Holy Land Experience theme park in Orlando, Zola presents Abraham's child of the promise, Isaac, and his son Jacob. We look at the lineage of these famous patriarchs and the impact of their choices. Zola interviews Yitzhak Navon, former president of Israel and former personal secretary for David Ben Gurion.

Sons and Tribes. The twelve sons of Jacob formed a nation set apart from the world. Zola goes to the Upper Room where the Lord met with His twelve disciples who would change the nations of the world with His message. Anthropologist Nili Wazana discusses tribal cultures and their historical context in ancient Israel.

Out of Exile. From The Holy Land Experience in Orlando, Zola teaches on Moses, the reluctant leader who set aside his place in Egypt's royal court to lead the Hebrews to the promised land. We interview former Israeli President Yitzhak Navon about his experiences and memories of David Ben Gurion.

A Nation Ruled. With the Knesset in the background, Zola chronicles the time of the Judges and how Israel needed a political system to keep order. Two experts discuss Theodore Herzl, the founders of the modern state of Israel, and how Biblical mandates influenced its development.

A Desire to be Like Others. In view of David's Tower in Jerusalem, Zola teaches on Israel's desire for a human king which resulted in Saul, David, and ultimately, Jesus. We interview Messianic Pastor Avi Mizrahi on the day he invited an Arab Christian congregation to a joint worship service. These two groups are separated by politics, yet united in Christ.

A Promise of What is to Come. From The Holy Land Experience in Orlando, Zola reviews how the prophets guided the people of Israel to become what God had called them to be. Archaeologist Steve Pfann explains how the law went from oral to written form at Qumran, the site of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Free at Last! Zola teaches on the Messiah, what Israel was looking for, and why the majority of the Jewish people did not recognize Him when He came the first time. We also talk with Neil Cohen, the Vicar of Christ Church, about how far the church has come from its Jewish roots.

Unto All Nations. From the ruins of Emmaus, Zola chronicles how the gospel spread through Paul, Peter and the other disciples. From Abraham to Christ, the legacy of a nation and its people continues. Modern-day Jewish evangelist Yacov Damkani is hard at work spreading the good news to modern Israel.

*3 Videocassettes
Please see page 31 to order.*

ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD

Tour Israel!

For those who "dig" Israel, or at least want to, come join our June Kibbutz tour, scheduled so teachers and students can join our other pilgrims. You'll stay on an authentic Israeli Kibbutz, and tour all the key Biblical sites, plus dig for long-lost treasures which further authenticate Israel's right to her land. We depart from New York's Kennedy Airport on Sunday, June 6, and return on Wednesday, June 16. For your free color tour -folder, please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 during office hours or 1-800-WONDERS (966-3377) anytime. Leave your shovel at home, but please be sure to bring your Bible and camera.



B-A-S-I-C Ways to Support Israel

Buy Israeli products and be informed on what is happening there.
Accentuate the positive relationships between Israel and America.
Speak and send letters about solidarity with Israel.
Invest your time and money in Israel. Invite pro-Israel speakers to your church.
Challenge media coverage of Israel and come to Israel.

Homeless Problem

According to the Trinity Foundation, instead of a homeless problem, America has a church problem. They explain that if each church would adopt one homeless person, everyone would have a place to stay. Workers at Trinity take a vow of poverty and are paid only \$50 per week in addition to provision of their room and board. You can contribute to their work, through us, by designating your tax-deductible gifts for the "Trinity Fund," by writing directly to them at 5634 Columbia Ave, Dallas, TX 75214, by calling them at (214)827-2625, or by visiting their web site at www.trinityfi.org/mission



TiVo Saved Us!

Rick Reilly, writing in *Sports Illustrated*, stated (tongue-in-cheek) that TiVo is the "greatest invention ever." In the *Dallas Morning News*, the Ash family agreed, explaining that they were "not subjected to an unwelcome half-time show during Super Bowl XXXVIII. ... TiVo let us skip the grotesqueries... and we filtered the commercials at fast forward. No smut or potty humor invaded our evening." To learn more about this digital television recorder, visit www.tivo.com or call (408) 519-9100. If our program reaches you, then TiVo will let you "subscribe" to *Zola Levitt Presents* and never miss an episode.

Could It Happen Here?

Demographers estimate that 20% to 30% of the French population under the age of 25 is now Muslim. The ethnic French are having fewer babies compared to their large Muslim immigrant population. In 25 years, France could be essentially a Muslim nation. Not wanting to alienate their growing Muslim minority at least partly motivates France's opposition to US policy in the Middle East. Imagine what French politicians will do when France has a majority Muslim population!



News Briefs

Bomber in Parliament

British parliamentarian Jenny Tonge caused a furor by saying she would consider becoming a suicide bomber if she were a Palestinian living in the occupied territories, making the comments during a speech in front of a pro-Palestinian group.

“This particular brand of terrorism, the suicide bomber, is truly born out of desperation,” she said. “Many, many people criticize; many, many people say it is just another form of terrorism, but I can understand and I am a fairly emotional person and I am a mother and a grandmother,” she said. “I think if I had to live in that situation, and I say this advisedly, I might just consider becoming one myself. And that is a terrible thing to say.”

— Mike Wendling, CNSNews.com

Just at press time, we received a report from Jerusalem of the further adventures of this disgusting British parliamentarian. — Zola

Change of Heart?

The BBC brought the infamous Dr. Jenny Tonge (see story above) to the Hadassah Hospital after she said that if she were a Palestinian, she would consider being a suicide bomber. After I told her about the lifesaving work of our hospital, she met Aluma Mikeyton, 19, coming out of speech therapy, still recovering from the brain injury she sustained from a bus bombing in 2002. MP Tonge also met Aviva Raziell, a senior neonatal nurse whose daughter was murdered in the Sbarro Pizza explosion.

Finally, she met Dr. David Zangen, who runs the pediatric emergency care at Mount Scopus Hospital after the terror attacks. Dr. Zangen reminded her that his own grandparents were gassed in Auschwitz, but never had he received a message from his parents to blow up Berlin. Instead, he and countless others devoted their lives to building and healing. Did we change her mind about us Israelis? We shall see. — Barbara Sofer, *The Jerusalem Netletter*

Blessing Israel

Calling themselves Christian Zionists, a large and growing group of conservative American Christians has entered Israel's political scene with startling vigor, even as the Holy Land's indigenous Arab Christian communities wither because of violence and a dying economy. The evangelicals are increasingly viewed as a political lifeline by influential Israelis who are eager for allies to fight what they see as a rising global tide of enmity aimed at Israel. They provide not only moral support, but also substantial funds to Israel's suffering economy.

High-profile events in recent months underscore the

blossoming ties between Israel

and some of the estimated 70 million evangelicals in America, and 600 million worldwide. “We love you!” Prime Minister Sharon told one meeting. — Craig Nelson, *The Austin American Statesman*

Israeli Nukes

Germany has reportedly suspended the sale of Dolphin submarines to Israel because of concerns that the subs will be equipped with nuclear weapons. In an Armageddon scenario, Israeli military analysts say that a nuclear strike from a submarine could be Israel's last line of defense, in the event that land-based forces are wiped out in a non-conventional strike. — *Israel Today*

Fruits of US Muslim Evangelism

A National Guardsman was arrested and accused of trying to provide information to the al-Qaeda terrorist network. US Defense officials said that Specialist Ryan Anderson, 26, tried to get in touch with al-Qaeda operatives, offering the organization information on US military capabilities and weaponry. Anderson became a Muslim during the last five years, officials said.

— Associated Press

“Cats of the Desert”

Though a study by the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) Medical Corps shows that height and physical constraints make women less suitable for combat units, the number of women in infantry units is increasing. Today, women serve in Israel's elite units, including the *Golani* and *Givati* Brigades, the Paratroopers, and the Armored Corps.

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Jewish Place — In the Future

I am a student at a seminary in Ashland, Ohio, and in a previous letter regarding the seminary's academic dean, I did not quite get his position concerning Israel correctly. While we do not agree on some points, I did not intend to represent him as holding to replacement theology. He uses the Scriptures to explain his views, and I should have been more careful to understand his position before I wrote the last letter. He loves God and His word, and sincerely seeks to know, teach, and abide by what he believes God has said, as I do. I should learn more from his example in this way.

I do not mean that everyone at the seminary is ready to embrace every aspect of the Jewish people as a nation in fulfillment of prophecy, but I did not intend to misrepresent the academic dean's views. He believes that the Jewish people have a definite place in the future, especially in Jesus Christ, when all who believe in Jesus are one as the spiritual Israel — the people of God.

I continue to learn that there are many people, with whom I do not agree on everything, that sincerely love God, His Son, and the Scriptures. I still love Israel and the Jewish people, but the academic dean here, and many others, are far ahead of me in knowing how to love God and others as we ought. — PM

You're beginning to sound a little like your teachers and your apology is worse than your original letter to us. It would be eye-opening for our readers to understand that this subterfuge about "the Jewish people have a definite place in the future" is another way of saying "let's stay away from those awful Jews now." Seminaries talk that way all the time.

No one who has a Bible on his desk can doubt that the future contains blessings for Israel. The real point in contention is whether Israel is a fulfillment of prophecy *now*, and dispensational teachers certainly hold that to be true. The dry bones vision (Ezekiel 37), Deuteronomy 30, and a hundred other passages, teach the restoration of the Jews to the land in unbelief, which we can see with our own eyes. (See our article on page 29).

If we want to close our eyes, we will not see it, and I think that's what your seminary's academic dean has done. Please pass this letter on to him.

Letters to



Zola

No, I don't think that they are. They shouldn't be officials at any Christian college. The fact is, *you* are far ahead of *them*, so quit falling for their errors.
— Zola

Putting Words in My Mouth

The Jews are responsible for Jesus being crucified, just as the Whites are responsible for having slaves, just as the Africans are for selling them to the Whites. We are also responsible for taking this United States away from the Indians. The Germans are responsible for the Holocaust.

I agree with everything I have heard you say *except* that "Jews did not cause Jesus to be crucified." Yes, they did. Bathe your eyes, Zola. Be a Christian first, and a Jew next. — LM

I concur with most of your philosophy, except for its harsh tone. But you're putting words in my mouth. I never said, "Jews did not cause Jesus to be crucified," because I do not believe that. I think they are culpable. But the fact is, I caused Christ to be crucified, and so did you, and so did anyone who ever sinned, including all of those you catalogued. He said, after all, "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world" (John 18:37) and "It is finished" (John 19:30).

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



As to being a Christian first and a Jew next, “There is neither Jew nor Greek... for ye are all one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28). As a Believer in the Jewish Messiah, I support the Chosen People and the Promised Land with all my heart. — Zola

Take Me Off!

Every once in a while, your newsletter berates one or more Protestant denominations and/or seminaries over some vaguely worded offense of which I have never heard. Usually, near the end of these tirades, there is a slam against the Catholics as being even worse. It would really be nice to know what we’re being accused of, because I really don’t have a clue. So, to sum it all up, I will no longer support your ministry. I am tired of being unjustly accused. Please *take me off* your mailing list *now!* Everything you send me will be sent back. — JJ

Whoa! I certainly hope my criticisms of some Protestant and Catholic churches and seminaries aren’t “vaguely worded.” Let me word my criticisms so they are clear. These groups are unBiblical, they know nothing of prophecy, they typically criticize Israel and the Chosen People, and they have no Salvation doctrine. I hope that’s clear enough and not “vague” to you. That is what you are being accused of, but it is not me accusing you, it is God, Who issued Scriptures that you can read as well as I can.

I do not differentiate between laymen and clergy of lost churches, because they are equally lost. Some priests may wear grand robes, and make great shows of bowing in public ceremonies, but an unbeliever in a fancy robe is still an unbeliever. We’ll send you this *Levitt Letter* to see if you have a further response, and then you may let me know if you still want to get off our mailing list. — Zola

Put Me On!

Please put me on your mailing list. I’ve enjoyed your program. I find it to be measured and rational, and, as such, educational. — RP

A Latter Rain

What a glorious day when peace will finally come to not only God’s people Israel, but to all mankind. My wife’s health is poor, therefore we are unable to attend worship service weekly as we would like, but listening to your TV broadcast gives us a great blessing, plus insight into the real problems the Israeli people face daily. My wife and I support both prayerfully and financially other Jewish missions and we are persuaded that we would like to have a part with you also. — CCR

First, I noted you are from Johnstown, PA. As you know, a terrible calamity occurred there on May 31, 1889, when an earthen dam broke. Johnstown was totally inundated with floodwaters, and many perished within a few minutes. Preachers used the tragedy for decades to illustrate Scriptures such as “sudden destruction cometh upon them” (1Thessalonians 5:3).

That said, please know that I mention your little city in almost every church where I speak. It has to do with a humorous story of a preacher who dies and goes to Heaven, and asks Peter if he can give a sermon there, stating that he gives an excellent lesson on the Johnstown flood.

Peter’s reply is classic: “We would love to hear you preach. I should mention that Noah will be in the audience.”

As to your wife’s health, remember that your first responsibility is to her, before you support any ministry. We appreciate your gifts, obviously, but a Christian man needs first to take care of his home. — Zola

The Whole Truth

I wish you would quote the whole verse in Matthew 24:9. It says clearly that the disciples will be hated by all nations for My (Christ’s) name’s sake. Not only will Jews be hated, but all Christians will be hated by all nations. It’s very plainly written. — SAG

I have no motivation to omit the last phrase since it supports exactly what I’m teaching. Obviously, the reason Jews are hated first and foremost, is the accusation that they killed Christ. Thus, it is precisely for His name’s sake that they have been despised by Bible illiterates from the first century to Europe today, as well as by denominations in our own country.

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Dear Friends,

American Airlines is not one of my favorite companies. I flew so often out of Dallas on this airline that I finally became a platinum frequent flier passenger, meaning that I had excellent privileges with that company. On the other hand, I was charged three dollars per page to receive a fax at their Admiral's Club at the DFW airport! (When I arrived in Jerusalem at the end of that flight, I received a 32-page fax of a *Levitt Letter* from our office. At the hotel desk, I inquired what the charge would be. "No charge at all. You are our guest, sir.")

We cited American Airlines in our January *Levitt Letter* for becoming one of the chief corporate sponsors of the American gay-rights movement. Furthermore, we have pursued them for designating Jerusalem as being located in "Held Territories" last summer. They lied, and lied again, but changed their website when we gave their 800 number and asked viewers to call and explain that Jerusalem was, in fact, the capital of Israel (our folks dialed 1-800-433-7300).

The cartoon on this page indicates that someone who believes Scripture is a "religious Zealot" and cannot

A Note From Zola

possibly operate an airplane. "God, help us," the passengers are crying out in fear, since the pilot has uttered a Christian witness. A journalist being interviewed on Fox News agreed that he wouldn't want to be flown by a fundamentalist of any kind. Presumably, being serious about one's faith must affect one's piloting skills.

Truthfully, I was of two minds when I first heard this story. I don't think I personally would be very comfortable with a captain of an airplane requesting me to witness to my faith, then and there, regardless of what I was doing, or where I was going. But, in my heart of hearts, I admired the pilot for speaking out so clearly about his faith in Christ.

One of the Beatitudes warns us that we would be persecuted for speaking out for Christ: "Blessed are ye,



when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake" (Matthew 5:11). This captain is seeing such persecution. A missionary to the Sinai Desert who appeared on my radio program in the 1970s told me, "Persecution is the proper exercise of the Church. The American church is weak and flabby because it doesn't get enough exercise."

I still remain of two minds. We should always speak of Christ, but it is questionable to use a microphone when no one else has one, to address a crowd who did not arrive for religious purposes.

When I was in college, before I was a Believer, I often traveled to New York City to see a Jewish friend (whom I still visit). In those days, I took a bus, and when I passed through the crowded Port Authority terminal, in midtown Manhattan, I often observed a tall, thin man with flowing hair screaming at the top of his voice a message like, "The end is near!" He sometimes wore a sandwich board display and people in the crowd would avoid him, but others would hand him pieces of food from time to time.

During some of my trips I noticed that he slept in the terminal against a wall in a cardboard box. The police stepped around him. He was just part of the color of New York City.



CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

I felt sorry for him and was embarrassed for him. But after I was saved, I began to appreciate that his message was blunt, but truthful and clear. Indeed, the end seemed near, and any warning sounded was to the good. As I continued to travel to New York, his hair grew whiter and whiter and finally, on one trip, he no longer was there.

I still think of that man when I do my own ministry, and I tear up when I imagine that I could be so unfortunate as to be behind him at the Judgment Seat of Christ in Heaven. If that would happen, I would stand there for a very long time, because his rewards would be so many. Imagine in all those years of many millions of hustling passersby, that if only one in ten thousand took what he said the least bit seriously, in that he stood there for some 30 years that I know of, that would be a very impressive number of salvations. That would make a truly eternal difference!

And so, back to the pilot. Who knows if there was just one soul in that airplane who was moved by the idea that a full-fledged captain on a major airline would expose himself to such ridicule, and such persecution, just to speak up for his Lord?

It also reminded me of the picture we ran of the individual in the Alabama courthouse being dragged off for defending the Ten Commandments. And of the disappearing General Boykin, who testified loud and clear about his God being more powerful than the Muslim god. (He has become invisible, disintegrated, or perhaps sent to Mars. We hear no more news about him and are, I guess, to take it that a top general who speaks up for Christ is not worth reporting on from that point on.)

But such demonstrations for God cannot help but pay dividends in the Kingdom to come. "If any man serve me, him will my Father honor" (John 12:26).

I wouldn't mind meeting that particular pilot in Heaven, as I think I might. In the end, I'll commend him, as will the Lord, who will surely say to him, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21).

Our need for a pilot has been taken care of! We were delighted with the response, as we heard from a number of willing and believing pilots.

I hope it is now not too much if we ask if there is a twin-engine plane that someone can let us use. It would have to be reasonably near Dallas. Please call Mark at 214-696-8844, and help us to be the best possible stewards with this ministry. (See our notice on page 32.)

I was sitting in a Christian bookstore recently, and saw a Passover Family Pack. I guess our ministry can take some credit for Passover celebrations being held in Christian homes. That said, here's a place where you can get a complete kit and all the materials you need to celebrate the Passover. Don't lose any time; Passover begins the night of April 5th. The website is at www.messianicjewish.net and their phone number is 800-410-7367. Tell them Zola sent you.

If you want to give a little ministry of your own, come to Israel with us and tell your friends about your plans. You'll be persecuted as they tell you how dangerous the trip will be and how foolish you are to go. We have upcoming tours to help you with this particular Beatitude!

We'll have our usual Kibbutz tour June 6-16. It's our lower-priced alternative, scheduled for teachers and pupils — as well as our usual pilgrims who would like to take a less expensive tour. It will cover the same sites in Israel as our spring and fall Deluxe Tour, with the added plus of an exciting archaeological dig.

For more information, or the confirmation of tour dates, check with Tony at (214) 696-9760 during business

hours. You can also call 1-800-WONDERS (1-800-966-3377) anytime for a brochure about any of our tours.

I'm available for Passover or other spring speaking engagements in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. And then this summer, Sandra and I will start our speaking tour at Eureka Springs, AR, the weekend after July 4th. From there, we intend to serve Branson, MO, and then drive across Kansas, stopping at churches as we travel. (Of course, if we have the use of an airplane by then, we can serve virtually any church in spring or summer.)

Then, we will visit Colorado, including the Denver area. Time permitting, we'll move on toward California in August, and then head home over roughly the same route. If your church lies between Branson, MO, and San Francisco, this is the time to contact Claudia at (817) 417-0059 to arrange for a speaking date (July and August are now available).

With our step of faith in going onto the PAX network, I'm hoping you will prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you give to help our ministry. And, of course, tune in to watch on **PAX** Thursday mornings on cable at 9:30 am on both coasts and at 8:30 Central and Mountain Time. Dish Channel 181 and DirecTV's Channel 255 will carry our programming at 9:30 ET, 8:30 CT, 7:30 MT and 6:30 PT on Thursday mornings. Local broadcast viewers should check these times with their local PAX affiliates (see page 19 or check online at www.levitt.com).

As always, please continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.



Secondly, what is it that makes Jews *Jews*, in the eyes of the world, but the fact that most of them refuse to believe in Jesus Christ? Again, then, it is for His name's sake that they are despised because they simply will not see that He is their Messiah. (Some do, of course, as in my own case, but not enough in view of the fact that He came "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" — Matthew 15:24.)

And, frankly, all Christians are not hated by all nations today; that just isn't true. But Israel is hated by all nations, and is the only country in that unfortunate position. If the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24 were written to the Church (believing Jews and Gentiles), then what would verse 13, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved," mean? The Church is certainly saved *now*. It is the unsaved Jews who have to endure until the Second Coming: "they shall look upon me whom they have pierced" (Zechariah 12:10, and see also Romans 11:26).

Or, why would the Lord say in Matthew 24:16 "Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains"? What about the advice for those in Los Angeles, Johannesburg, Tokyo, Oslo, and Belfast? Is He concerned only for one people? Or is, in fact, the whole chapter written to Israel? — Zola

Be Careful Where You Give

I have enjoyed your program and especially your guest from "Women in Green." She spoke up and let everyone know that the Lord is in control over everything. I truly wish the leaders of Israel would speak out and let the world know that the Lord is in control and give Him more credit publicly. Could you direct my donation to the Women in Green group?

Also, on a recent program, you had a woman named Joan Peters and she asked you "why" several times to different questions, and you replied you didn't know. But you do know! Speak up to these people and tell them these are the Last Days. — MP

You can find the Women in Green's website at womeningreen.org or email them at yaela@womeningreen.org. Or send your donation through us; our ministry always gives 100 percent of any donation for a designated charity (we even bear the small expense of sending it).

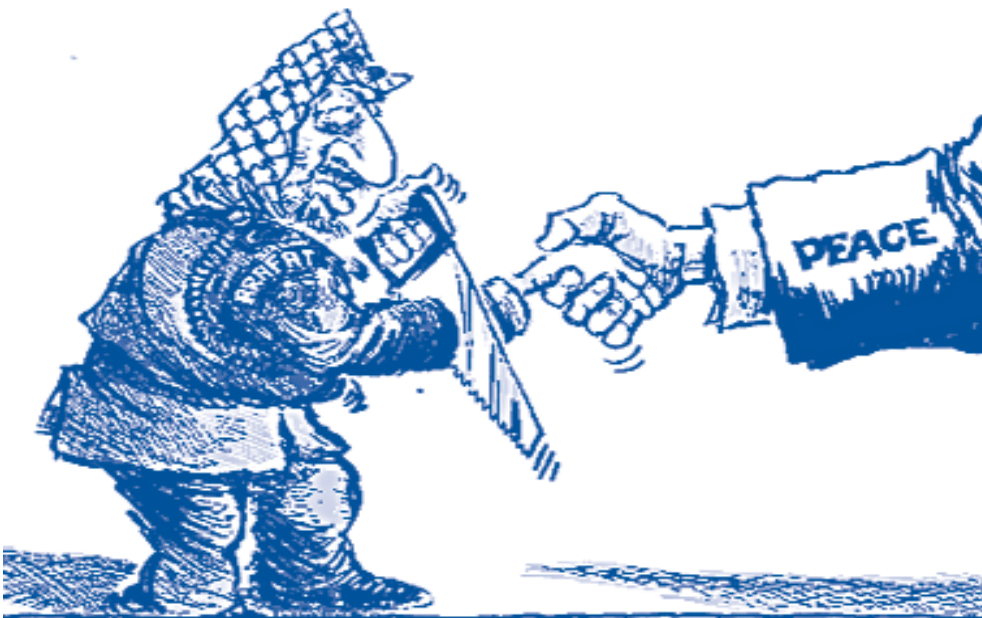
There are other "ministries" who are simply taking a large share of the charity they collect and sending a small amount, if anything at all, to the charities they advertise. We think the solution would be to ask each ministry to do as we do (i.e., provide the address of the recipient of your charity). If you have at least an email address, you can verify that the amount of money you sent in has reached the person or organization you designated for help. Also, be sure to ask to see any charity's audited financial statement; if you do not immediately receive an audited financial statement from a ministry, do not give to that ministry. That goes without saying.

From here on, we are either going to publish the address of recipients or at least provide the address to the donor. I think you'll find that ministries that are less than forthcoming on this, probably aren't worth supporting.

In answer to your other question, I skipped over answers to Joan Peters due to the time constraints of television. Believe me, when I find an Israeli who will stand still and listen, I try to answer every "why." — Zola

Kudos to All

My wife and I enjoy your *Levitt Letter* and look forward to receiving it. It usually takes us a few days to read all the info from page 1 to the last page. The articles are so well chosen from the many sources you include. I especially enjoy the cartoons and drawings (as I am also an artist of sorts). My kudos to all. God bless you all abundantly and maybe soon I can take another tour with you (we went in 2000). Whenever we hear of someone mentioning a trip to Israel, we never fail to recommend you, dear friend. — V and JP ★



Our Man in Jerusalem thinks little of Israel's latest moves regarding Gaza. — Zola

Terror Pays

By Will King

In the aftermath of the bus bombing in Jerusalem on Jan. 29th, the 109th homicide bombing in the last three years, there is an interesting mix of social reaction and new political dynamic. After the immediate emotions of horror, sadness, and rage had subsided, the general feeling of most in Jerusalem was one of disbelief.

The disbelief came from the fact that only a few hours later, the Israeli government would be completing a prisoner exchange deal with the terrorist group Hezbollah: over 400 convicted Arab terrorists and the remains of 60 others, in exchange for the remains of three murdered Israeli soldiers and Elhanan Tannenbaum, a questionable Israeli businessman currently under police investigation. The government still hasn't learned the most basic of lessons: that to negotiate with or to reward terrorists only breeds more terrorism.

The prisoner exchange has created an interesting political dynamic in the region, and as with all politics, there were winners and losers.

The Israeli government is a loser because they have shown that despite all of their bold statements and declarations, they will deal with terrorists. In continuing to negotiate with the likes of the PA, Hezbollah, and Syria, the government is playing into Arab plans for the destruction of the Jewish state.

Perhaps the most tragic losers in all of this are the Israeli people, the favorite target of the terrorists. Now that the Israeli government has shown itself willing to negotiate for hostages, Israeli citizens, as well as soldiers serving in or near the territories, have become fair game to be

kidnapped for prisoner exchange, and Hamas has already said they will make an all-out effort to kidnap Israeli soldiers in Gaza.

Only three weeks after the bus 19 bombing in Jerusalem came another attack, the number 14 bus in Jerusalem, killing another 8 civilians and wounding over 60. This bombing came on the day before the International Court of Justice met to decide the legality of the security fence Israel is constructing to stop terrorists from entering Israel.

Since bombings, shootings, and other terror acts have not dissuaded the Israeli government from dealing with terrorists, we can expect the attacks to continue as well. For a population that has suffered and endured so much in recent years (since the government rewarded the terrorists with the Oslo Accords), the potential for more terror is hanging heavy.

The third loser in this is the PA. Whereas they have secured the release of some small-time criminals whose terms were almost up, Hezbollah has succeeded in getting hard-core terrorists released. More than 400 Palestinians were sent home from Israeli jails compliments of the Hezbollah, not the PA. For the PA, which has already lost significant control to armed gangs in Judea and Samaria, and to the Hamas in Gaza, this is another blow to their weakened power structure. (Look for these groups, especially Hamas in Gaza, to continue to openly and more boldly challenge PA leadership and control in the territories.)

Who are the winners in this deal? The terrorists, and especially Sheikh Nasrallah, who has demonstrated that being on the US State Department's list of terror organizations means absolutely nothing (sorry, Colin Powell). Nasrallah executed a deal with Israel and gained a lot, while only paying a little, securing prestige within the Arab world. The Hezbollah is now seen as a truly regional

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



Johnny Hart is a dear friend of our ministry. He used Zola's name in a recent cartoon. Though it ran coast-to-coast, many people didn't spot the lettering on the eye chart.

Defeating Death

By Zola Levitt

I simply did not get a chance to see *The Passion of the Christ* because Sandra and I were on the road. And frankly, I'm not so sure I want to. Violent movies put off my wife and me, and I do not believe that is the thrust of the Gospel. I have consulted any number of people who have seen it, and for now, here is my impression.

Mel Gibson created a very authentic movie of the period. It shows lots of Jewish people and lots of Romans, but there is no Arab personality from beginning to end.



There are no "Palestinians" — because Arafat didn't steal that label until 1964 AD.

As far as the Jews who are calling this movie anti-Semitic, on the one hand, the Jews are characterized as cold and almost sadistic, whereas in the Gospel they are presented as expedient government officials, ignorant of what they were doing. On the other hand, the Jews were culpable in this particular execution. They should have done much better by Jesus. But the complaint of anti-Semitism just doesn't really work. People who are bigoted against Jews will come up with reasons without this movie, anyhow.

The good points to *The Passion* are that it is the straight Gospel, with small additions that are not objectionable; it is a great witness; and it is a Christian work come out of Hollywood, which is a wonderful thing, almost a miracle. On the downside, is the brutality of the movie. A friend was terribly put off by the violence of it, and everyone is to be warned that you'll have to watch a solid hour of horrible torture, unjustified in the Gospel.

Also on the downside, there is a subtlety of doctrinal error here. Catholics do not normally have a salvation doctrine. Their religion doesn't work the way the Scriptures say: "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7). That crucial verse is not included because Nicodemus is not in the movie.

The Catholics have a way of hyping something and giving it meaning which it didn't have in the first place. An example of this is the bread and wine of Passover becoming Christ's actual body and blood in the doctrine of Transubstantiation. Lacking a knowledge of Passover, and unwilling to learn it from Jewish people, the Catholics instead put this hype on it. Likewise, not really understanding what the crucifixion accomplished, which is to say salvation for everyone who would believe, they instead hype the brutality of the thing.

But the Gospel does not present the kind of bloodletting that they have in the movie. It is clear that these Roman soldiers crucified people all too often, and they didn't really know Jesus from anyone else. And while it is recorded that they humiliated Him, the kind of mocking and beating of this movie is not justified from a true reading of the Gospel.

As a matter of fact, this sort of brutality runs against the idea of crucifixion, which was to have a person hang helplessly, struggling with injuries for days, until he suffocated or died from shock from various causes. Jesus died in six hours because he needed to be buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread. He simply had an appointment (Leviticus 23:4-5). The idea was not to beat him nearly to death so he would die almost immediately. That just would not do what crucifixion was supposed to do. One could only have wished for a Bible-reading filmmaker who had a real comprehension of the Lord's statement, "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world" (John 18:37) and "For even the Son of man came... to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45), would do a movie like this.

And finally, the Resurrection is all but missing from this movie. The whole point of Christianity, is after all, that Christ defeated even "the last enemy," Death. ★

Mel on Hell

Gibson, interviewed by *The Herald Sun* in Australia, was asked if Protestants are denied eternal salvation. "There is no salvation for those outside the (Catholic) church," Gibson replied. "I believe it.... My wife is a saint. She's a much better person than I am. Honestly. She's, like, Episcopalian, Church of England. She prays, she believes in God, she knows Jesus, she believes in that stuff. And it's just not fair if she doesn't make it; she's better than I am. But that is a pronouncement from the chair. I go with it." — MSNBC



HebrewLesson



God's Lovingkindness Draws Us

By John J. Parsons

וְאַהֲבַת עוֹלָם אֶהְבֵּתִיךָ עַל-כֵּן מִשְׁכַּחֲתִיךָ חֶסֶד

Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee. (Jeremiah 31:3b)

Read right to left:

← (2) ← (1)

חֶסֶד	מִשְׁכַּחֲתִיךָ	עַל-כֵּן	אֶהְבֵּתִיךָ	עוֹלָם	וְאַהֲבַת
(2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(2) (1)	(4) (3) (2) (1)
sed chu	teekh shakh me	ken al	teekh hav a	lam o	vat hu a ve
in kindness	I have drawn you	therefore	I have loved you	with everlasting love	

Hebraic Insight

“Why go on living?” I pondered. “Why get up in the morning? Why go through the daily ritual of fecklessly seeking an answer to the hunger I always feel inside? Why keep thirsting for the draught that never seems to satisfy?”

Before I accepted Jesus as my Savior, I was spiritually dead. I wanted life, but I wanted to be in control — to be the “Lord of the Ring” and find satisfaction my own way. So I sought “life” through romance, through drugs and food, through desire for power and recognition.

Above all, I wanted to feel alive and significant — to escape the nagging thought that my life was nothing but a “useless passion.” In the end, my self-styled search for life ended in utter despair and vanity.

The Lord created us with a built-in need to be loved unconditionally, but we seem hell-bent on “playing god.” We try to get our heart needs met through all sorts of false loves, false promises, and idols. We “hew broken cisterns that can hold no water” and forsake the Fountain of Living Waters (see Jeremiah 2:13).

The Lord can meet the need for unconditional love within our hearts. By the power of His Holy Spirit, He can draw us to Himself and be the answer to our heart’s cry for significance, meaning, and complete acceptance. The love of Jesus can set us free from the fear of a love-starved existence.

But it takes faith to be healed. We must personally decide to trust God to meet our need for love, regardless of the current circumstances of our lives. We must soften our hearts and confess our need for His healing and *chesed* (lovingkindness).

This passage of Scripture is clear: God everlastingly loves *you* (the Hebrew verb *ahavteekh* uses the *singular* “you” ending rather than the plural) and wants *you* (singular “you” again) to love Him in return. In His *chesed*, God is drawing you close to Him. Listen to the wooing whisper of the Holy Spirit, and, if you hear it, ask the Lord Jesus to meet your heart’s need for love today. Amen.

“Hold the Antichrist’s Anchovies”

By Marci Elliott, *Naples Daily News*

The world’s two largest religions have vast differences between their theologies. But they also share some common ground among their beliefs.

“Yes, there is room for dialogue, and there is a point where we can truly meet,” said Cardinal Christoph Schonborn, archbishop of Vienna, Austria, and a close adviser to Pope John Paul II. “We both believe we have responsibilities, and we can share responsibilities in many fields.”

His address was hosted by Ave Maria University of Naples (FL) as part of its lecture series. Schonborn’s address, “Christianity and Islam — a Comparison of Theologies,” focused on the challenges and obstacles between the two religions, and on the ways the two can work together without abandoning their respective missions and identities.

“Muslims understand what Jesus Christ meant to us because they have a deep love for Muhammad,” Schonborn said. “The great tradition in Islam is to know every single detail about Muhammad, whom Muslims recognize as a prophet, not God. They recognize Christ as a prophet, too.”

Islam refuses the Christian concept of Christ’s redemption and death on a cross because, Schonborn said, according to its teachings, a prophet cannot die on a cross, overcome by enemies.

“Islam does not know the notion of salvation or the notion of original sin, as we know them,” he said. “There is no place for the mystery of the cross. But (the Christian belief that) Christ gave his life for everyone is our universal truth. If this is so, what can we do with the dialogue?”

The common ground can be found in the Bible and the Koran, the Islamic holy book, he said.

Both books teach their followers to spread the word of their respective teachings to the whole world, and both teach that their followers have responsibilities, such as defending life and sharing concern for the poor — and both teach about peace, Schonborn said.

“It is on these topics we can have true dialogue,” he said. “Our faith divides us, but our responsibilities bring us together.”

Tom Monaghan, the major backer of Ave Maria University and founder of Domino’s Pizza, said Schonborn’s

invitation to deliver his address was the result of the prelate’s longtime relationships with him, university President Nicholas J. Healy, Jr., and the Rev. Joseph Fessio, Ave Maria’s chancellor.

Actually, the Koran teaches just the opposite of what Cardinal Schonborn claims. There’s no room for dialog with Muslims. If Christians ever discuss their “common beliefs” with Muslims, it would be over a pizza — obviously provided gratis by Domino’s — in the Tribulation Period.

Seriously, we should realize that in the upcoming Tribulation, three forces, already spread throughout the world, will be available to the Antichrist. Number one, “Christianity,” including largely the Catholic Church and most of the liberal Protestants; number two, the Muslims; and number three, the unsaved Jewish people.

All three groups now operate in virtually every nation of the world, and will be of crucial help to the world religious system of the Antichrist. These early glimmers of misguided ecumenism, such as the above remarks of Cardinal Schonborn, point in that direction. — Zola ★

Terror Pays *continued* from page 13

organization, with influence and power that extend beyond the borders of Lebanon. They are now one step closer to the political legitimization that they desire. Hamas really has a golden opportunity to capitalize on if the Israeli government goes ahead with its Gaza evacuation plan. Much like in southern Lebanon, the terrorists will move to fill the empty void, and a Hamas pseudo-state and terror safe-haven will be formed. The PA is too weak to maintain control in Gaza, and without them as a willing peace partner, Israel will be forced to negotiate with Hamas.

The politics of the region are shifting in favor of the terror groups. Just as a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon strengthened Hezbollah and created a dangerous threat on the northern border, a withdrawal from Gaza could create an equally intolerable situation. It would also signal to the world that Israel is willing to leave its settlements, willing to leave its Biblical homeland, and willing to give in to the likes of the PA and Hamas. And to a radicalized Arab and Muslim world, that sends the signal that terror does indeed pay. ★



Secret Believers

By Aviel Schneider, *Israel Today*

When we speak about the Body of Messiah in Israel, we often take into account only those who are members of a congregation, but not other Jews who believe in Jesus, but do not belong to a Messianic congregation. The Messianic congregations in Israel would be a lot fuller on Shabbat (the Sabbath) if all Jewish believers felt at home being there.

Though it may seem exaggerated, some Messianic Jews, including two pastors, believe there are as many Jewish believers who do not attend a congregation as those who do. It's a fact that there are many secret believers, including Messianic Jews who live in the ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods of Mea Shearim in Jerusalem and Bnei Brak near Tel Aviv.

"I know many Israelis who keep their faith in Jesus secret because they are afraid that family and friends will link them with the Christian movement of Messianic Jews," said a believer from the center of the country who did not want to be identified.

Messianic leaders are aware of this phenomenon and are concerned about it. As one pastor put it, "It's an irresponsible decision, especially for their families, to seek to grow in the faith without the spiritual care or supervision of a congregation." ★

CNN and the other networks invariably portray Israel as little villages with dusty streets and shooting. It is, in fact, very close or equal to the US in its progressive lifestyle and technological capabilities. —Zola

The Importance of Israel

By Roy Sasson, "Daily Blog," www.hasidicgentile.org

I am currently a senior at the University of Florida, majoring in Digital Arts and Sciences. I was born in Israel, and moved to the States at the young age of six. I've gone back to visit several times, and my most recent trip allowed me to look at Israel from a completely different perspective.

Prior to the trip, my perception was that Israel was practically a Third World country, way behind its time, only a source of violence and turmoil. But I saw firsthand that Israel is, in fact, one of the major reasons as to why our modern world has become what it is today.

I found that 80 percent of biotechnology in the entire world comes from Israel. One such account was a biotechnology company which will in three months'

time be approved by the US FDA to perform operations to remove tumors without even penetrating the skin! Every laptop that you will buy, from now on, will be powered by the new mobile Centrino processor, a technology developed in Israel. A 3D face recognition technology was recently developed here (to combat terrorism) that is so sophisticated, it can tell apart identical twins. Teva Pharmaceuticals developed the most effective drug to counter Parkinson's disease. Israel is home to a pill-sized camera that, when swallowed, captures images inside of the body.

File formats such as gif and zip files that you use everyday, were developed in Israel, as were smart cards and the chips in your digital cameras. It is in large part due to Israel that the Internet is where it is today. Many of the solutions to problems that we were facing on the Internet in regards to communication, bandwidth, and security, had already been implemented in the Israeli Army. The first instant messaging software, the first firewall... the list is endless.

Huge companies such as Microsoft, HP, Intel, and IBM have established major research and development centers in Israel, looking to capitalize on the breakthroughs, genius, and talent. Over 100 Israeli companies are listed on the NASDAQ, third only to Canada. Israel is a world leader in environmental research, high-tech, and the arts. Over 50 percent of Israel's economy is driven by technology.

Israel is a country built around art and education. One professor in Israel told of a child who asked his father, serving in the Israeli Army, "Why do you fight?" His father answered, "I fight today so that your generation will have the opportunity to learn and be educated, so that you may be engineers, so that the generation that follows yours may live to be poets and artists." ★



Many women serve in the Cats of the Desert, a unit responsible for patrolling the border between Israel and Jordan. Other female soldiers serve in ABC units, dealing with atomic, biological, and chemical weapons. In the coming months, the commander of Israel's ground forces, Major General Iftah Ronthad, will appoint a female to head one of the biggest units. Plans are also underway for another company of Cats of the Desert, in which male and female recruits serve together. Troops for this unit have already begun basic training. — *Israel Today*

There Are Fences and *Fences*

Everybody, including UN chief Kofi Annan, the European Union, and virtually every leading newspaper in the US, has repeatedly condemned Israel for building a security fence to keep out homicide bombers. The American people know better. A recent poll by the Alliance for Research on National Security Issues showed that a whopping 68 percent of Americans say Israel has a right to build the fence for self-defense.

By the way, Saudi Arabia, which has vehemently criticized Israel on this issue, is building its own fence on the border with Yemen. Why? You guessed it — to keep out terrorists! — Gary L. Bauer, *End of the Day Newsletter*

Best Defense Is a Strong Fence

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Jonathan Peled said that terrorists are shifting their operations away from areas where the fence has been constructed and are trying to go around to the open areas. "We've managed to prevent and thwart in recent weeks over 25 attacks," Peled said, adding that a recent attack probably would never have happened if Israel's controversial security fence had already been in place.

"We have no partner on the Palestinian side who is willing and able to fight terrorism and to return to the negotiating table with Israel," he said. "Therefore, this is clear evidence of why we need a security fence and why we will continue to build a security fence as a temporary, but a very effective measure to save the lives of our citizens." — Julie Stahl, CNSNews.com

Fences work. No bomber has ever crossed the fence in Gaza. — Zola

Can You Hear Me Now?

Short of cash to pay government salaries, the Palestinian Authority has sold its stake in the local cellular phone company, turning over its 35 percent share in the Jawal phone service to Paltel in exchange for \$43 million.

Palestinian business people welcomed the deal. "The presence of the Palestinian Authority as a shareholder acts as an obstacle," said Abdel Malik Jaber, chairman of the executive board of Paltel. "Selling their shares would eliminate any accusations of government corruption."

Corruption charges have dogged the Palestinian Authority since its inception in 1994 and donor fatigue is linked to persistent reports about slush funds and secret accounts in Arafat's name. French prosecutors are investigating the alleged transfer of \$11.4 million to Arafat's wife, Suha. However, French judicial officials said there is no evidence of illegal activity. — Lara Sukhtian, Associated Press

If I were Arafat, having stolen three billion dollars from my own people, I would certainly prefer the "French authorities" to try to prosecute me. The *Levitt Letter* has published the truth about the Palestinian Authority from its beginnings in the 1960s (as the PLO). It's a matter of Mafia-like gangsters running a country and a people who were poor in the first place. Now that out-and-out murder is the chief export of this state, one has to wonder if even the widespread Jew-hating in this world will be enough to fund this so-called Palestinian nation. — Zola

Beat the Press

Journalists briefly occupied the Palestinian legislative building in Gaza recently to protest a series of mysterious attacks on reporters.

The some 200 Palestinian protesters marched into the empty legislative building and occupied the vacant seats of the chairman and other assembly members. The journalists also refused to report on the Palestinian security services, and interior and justice ministries, until the government responded to their concerns. Anti-government protests are rare in the Palestinian areas, especially by journalists.

Most local media are either owned or funded by the Palestinian Authority. The group launched the protest after a string of attacks on journalists. The violence may be linked to growing lawlessness in the Palestinian areas or to internal rivalries between Palestinian leaders. — Ibrahim Barzak, Associated Press

Problems incurred by dictatorships usually involve turf warfare between lesser generalissimos and a disregard for the rules made by tyrants. — Zola ★

Ohio PAX TV Station

A PAX super station in Ohio airs *Zola Levitt Presents* on Sundays at 2:00 pm. It shows up as the Guardian Television Network on Sky Angel. Viewers are encouraged to alert us when our programs don't air as planned. If calling your local affiliate doesn't reap results, then maybe you should discontinue the cable subscription and order Dish or DirecTV instead.

(See page 23 for more details.)

PAX Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	9:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	9:30 am Thurs

ABC-FAM Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	1:00 am Mon	11 pm Sun or 2 am Mon	12:00 am Mon	1:00 am Mon

TBN Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	5:00 am Mon	6:00 am Mon	7:00 am Mon	8:00 am Mon



Does your cable company carry INSP, the New Inspirational Network?

See Zola on Wed. mornings, 6:30 am Eastern, 5:30 am Central, 4:30 am Mountain, 3:30 am Pacific Time.

See Zola on Wed. evenings, 8:30 pm Eastern, 7:30 pm Central, 6:30 pm Mountain, 5:30 pm Pacific.

Dish/DirecTV Airing Day & Time by Zone

Dish—Channel 181 DirecTV—Channels 255 and 371*

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	6:30 am Thurs	7:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	9:30 am Thurs

*Mon. 7:30 AM, Wed. 9:30 AM, Thurs. noon, Sat. 8:30 PM (all Pacific times).

Christians Gain New Standing

By David Parsons, ICEJ News Service

Leaders of Christian Zionist ministries were recently invited to the inaugural meeting of the new Knesset Christian Allies' Caucus to launch what co-chairman Dr. Yuri Shtern termed a "political upgrade" of relations between Israel and its Christian supporters across the globe.

The historic moment marked the first time the Knesset, as an institution, has officially acknowledged and engaged with the growing Christian, pro-Israel movement worldwide.

Gadi Golan of the Foreign Ministry's religious affairs department delivered an impassioned plea that the Israeli government, across the board, should stop overlooking their Christian friends.

The Knesset Christian Allies' Caucus is the outgrowth of an idea that had been brewing over recent years among Israeli lawmakers, particularly after broad segments of Christianity aligned to stop the construction of a provocative mosque next to the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth. Clarence Wagner, International Director of Bridges for Peace, noted that scores of Christians abroad had contacted his offices welcoming the formation of the Knesset caucus earlier this month. "There was an amazing response," he said. "The phones were ringing off the hook."

"We, too, were surprised by the enthusiastic response to the announcement of this Knesset caucus," concurred Malcolm Hedding, Executive Director of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem. "I can assure you that the eyes of the Christian Zionist world are upon what you are launching here today, and therefore it must not fail. This forum must be a proactive mechanism for developing better ties between Christians and the Jewish state and community worldwide."

In a statement, the caucus members said they would seek to (1) recognize and further mobilize those Christians around the world who are contributing to the security of the State of Israel and the welfare of the Jewish people; (2) bring to the attention of the Israeli public the unqualified support Christians are giving to Jewish aspirations in the Land of Israel; and (3) provide Christian and Israeli leaders with a Knesset forum for face-to-face encounters and enhanced cooperation.

The caucus members said they would now begin to develop joint welfare projects with the participating Christian Allies that could be given high-profile launches from the Knesset itself, while also enlisting Christian support for new informational efforts to improve Israel's standing internationally, with an urgent need to focus on Europe. ★

Inflaming Passions continued from pg. 3

bunk those libels at a later date, but let me point out now that Communist theorist Karl Marx did have Jewish ancestry but was raised in the Lutheran Church. Its founder, Martin Luther, helped shape the foundations of Nazism by urging his followers, concerning the Jews, "First... to set fire to their synagogues or schools and to bury and cover with dirt whatever will not burn, so that no man will ever again see a stone or cinder of them.... Second, I advise that their houses also be razed and destroyed."



It is too easy, I think, for Gentiles to under-

estimate how stressful discussions about *The Passion of the Christ* are to the Jewish community. The sad fact is that anti-Semitism has long been associated with some Christian communities, and there are still living survivors of the Holocaust who are watching a re-dedication of international efforts to destroy both the Jews and Israel, led by the Arab League, but tolerated by the European Community and others.

The most alarming resurgence of American anti-Semitism since the 1930s is taking place in forums ranging from American universities to churches. In the Middle East and in Muslim communities throughout the world, the Syrian mini-series *Al-Shatat*, or "The Diaspora," is circulating — pretending to document the Jewish sacrifice of Christian children to obtain blood needed for baking ritual pastries.

I don't think Gibson is an anti-Semite, but I question his decision, therefore, to spend two hours on the death of Jesus and less than a minute on the resurrection. Mostly, his movie reminded me of the 3D portraits of the bleeding Jesus on the cross, portraits I've seen in immigrant Catholic homes. Gibson certainly has the right to explore this lurid vision, but it has always seemed to me that the Scriptures provide exactly the appropriate detail about Jesus' sufferings. Dramatic license and special effects will, I fear, detract from the larger, more complex story, and will leave in the minds of many the image of Jewish oppression.

Some Christians may feel put upon by those expressing their fears in regards to Gibson's movie, but I would urge an understanding of its context before viewing Jews as aggressors. For Jewry, anti-Semitism is not simply about hurt feelings and peer approval. It is about the ongoing and far too real specter of genocide — something that Western Christians, including Gibson, have thankfully been spared. ★

Sign of the Times

Source: TheIowaChannel.com

A billboard unveiled on Ash Wednesday, the same day that *The Passion of the Christ* premiered, is sparking criticism from people of all faiths. The large-size outdoor marquee, which sits on the property of the Lovingway United Pentecostal Church in Denver, said, "Jews Killed The Lord Jesus" and the word "Settled!"

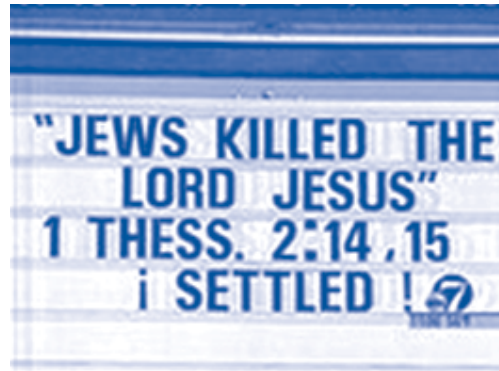
"It's settled," said Maurice Gorden, Loveway pastor. "The word of God is the final word."

The message ignited mostly anger, among Jews and Christians alike. One Jewish human rights leader is calling on Christian clergy to rebuke the church that posted the sign. One passerby was so upset, she bought a ladder and took down the first word, "Jews." Church members later took down the rest of the words.

Christopher Hitchens on MSNBC called this place "a pigsty of a church." Hitchens is neither Jewish nor Christian, but simply deeply ashamed of his fellow Americans. One could hardly say that the Lovingway United Pentecostals were heeding the New Testament admonition to "make the Jews jealous." Jewish people won't be made jealous by bigotry or anti-Semitism.

It puts me in mind of a story about this denomination. When I was on the radio in the 1970s, they "took away my salvation" because, they said, I was baptized "only" in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Never mind that the baptism was in the Jordan River by Rev. Tom McCall, a Baptist minister. He didn't pronounce the words "in Jesus' name," and so, not only my baptism, but my entire salvation was nullified.

I "lost" my salvation three other times as well. Once for having a homosexual pastor on the program (we were obliged since his name had been used by another broadcaster on the station and he asked for equal time). He was a minister and very humble, saying, "This is how I am made. I hate it." And I said, "Frankly, if you're practicing that particular sin, it's like practicing any sin — you shouldn't. You should try to turn away." And so forth. The audience started calling in and they each outdid



the other in condemning this poor sinner. If it were a mob, they would have just killed him. I wasn't proud of them and before one commercial break, I said, "I'll be back with the Reverend Jerry Sloan's stoning, right after this."

Three days later, a lady called in to the show to ask if I was a homosexual.

I replied, "you did not hit one of my many sins with your guess. The point is that I am a sinner and I can't afford to condemn other sinners. The Lord never condemned any sinner, as a matter of fact." And people were amazed at that.

Then a lady called in and announced, "We're not all sinners — I have no sins."

I told her, "First John 1:9 says, 'If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.' So, at a minimum, you are a liar."

I also "lost" my salvation for disagreeing with Dr. Vernon McGee when he was a guest. Dr. McGee said modern Israel was not a fulfillment of prophecy, with which I sharply disagreed. (I didn't realize you could lose your salvation by disagreeing with Dr. McGee.)

And finally, the Church of Christ took it away because I played the organ in a Messianic mission house at that time.

With God, salvation is permanent. But with mere men, it is very difficult to keep. — Zola ★



ACLU Goes to School!

By Wes Vernon, NewsMax.com

Abdurahman Alamoudi, an alleged senior terrorist operative, is behind bars on an 18-count indictment. But he can take satisfaction in the fact that a court in California has just given the green light to schools following the ACLU's religion-in-the-classroom guidelines, which he helped to formulate.

A federal judge upheld the constitutionality of an intensive three-week course in California public schools that requires children to choose a Muslim name, wear Islamic garb, memorize verses from the Koran, pray to Allah, play "jihad games, and simulate worship activities related to the Five Pillars of Islam."

Alamoudi, founder and former executive director of the American Muslim Council, was jailed last fall on charges that include taking money believed to come from a charity Libya has used to support terror and taking \$340,000 in cash with the intent to bring it to Syria from London. It is also believed some of the money was to be taken to Saudi Arabia (or Saudi accounts), and from there, to organizations of influence within the United States. The charges include money-laundering, misuse of a passport, and failure to report bank accounts.

The ACLU has confirmed that Alamoudi represented the American Muslim Council among the organizations that helped craft the ACLU document "Religion in the Public Schools: A Joint Statement of Current Law."

Many public schools have given great weight to the document as a warning. Anyone who follows the news knows that the ACLU aggressively looks for opportunities to run to court and sue anyone or any institution that shows the slightest trace of promoting Christianity in the public square.



As a result, many of them have bent over so far backward to show "tolerance" and avoid costly nuisance lawsuits that they have prompted outrage from parents who believe school authorities have crossed the line from tolerance to indoctrination in Islam. ★

Smoke and Mirrors

WorldNetDaily.com

The National Association of Chiefs of Police claimed national border security is a "sham." Jim Kouri, vice president of the organization, slammed the feds for using "smoke and mirrors in our border security strategy." He also indicted states issuing driver's licenses to illegal aliens. "Even the president of the United States is prepared to reward lawbreakers," he added, referring to Bush's proposal to legalize millions of illegal aliens in the US.

Kouri, an Arab-American, said the lack of security on US borders causes the murder of law-enforcement officers as well as civilians. "Border security is the weakest link in our anti-terrorism effort — it's our Achilles' heel," said Kouri, who also claimed billions of taxpayer dollars are being wasted on an immigration bureaucracy that does "practically nothing to stop the illegal-alien traffic."

Kouri claimed political leaders have a "cynical approach to American sovereignty," winking at the immigration problem to garner votes and adhering to a "suicidal, politically correct orthodoxy. And anyone wishing to debate the problem is labeled a racist or xenophobe." ★

"We'd Carpet Bomb"

By Etgar Lefkovits, *Jerusalem Post*

Visiting US congressman Jerrold Nadler recently said that had any other country in the world faced the onslaught of Palestinian suicide bombings that have rocked Israel over the last three years, "they would be carpet bombing the Palestinian territories.... If this was America that was attacked, we would be using B-52 bombers."

Nadler, who visited the scene of a recent bus bombing, blasted those who condemned Israel's security fence: "The various hypocrites arguing in The Hague against the building of the security fence are similar to those who condemned the Czechs 65 years ago for getting in Hitler's way. Israel is being put in the dock for taking mild defensive measures against terrorism. Arguments are being made that the fence inconveniences Palestinians — and I'm sure it does — but they ought to blame their own leaders. As long as this wave of terror continues, Palestinians do not have any standing about where the fence goes." ★

The State of the Ministry

By Mark Levitt, General Manager

Thank you for coming through for us. Since going on PAX, we have experienced both increased numbers of gifts and larger gifts. Our decades-long track record of not perpetually crying wolf in order to amass huge reserves allows us now to say, with total credibility, that we need ongoing help.

Even more important, of course, are the budding results of this massive seed sowing. PAX viewers are joining our mailing list by the hundreds every week! Our staff is so busy that we have added another employee just to help receive telephone calls and book Zola's speaking engagements in churches.

We may be at a pivotal point in this ministry's success and potential. As many of you recall, several months ago we undertook a 67% increase in our airtime expenditures by putting *Zola Levitt Presents* on the PAX television network. In the December *Levitt Letter*, I noted that our adding a third significant nationwide network would jump our airtime from consuming 44% of our budget to 77%. If not for your help, that increase would have caused us overwhelming deficits.

The results of this bold step are encouraging, but it remains premature to declare a total victory. New recipients of our free newsletters don't necessarily read them. More than half of our faithful readers infrequently purchase our products or send us donations. And some, after a year of mailings, don't reply to our follow-up letter offering to continue their free subscriptions. When 100 people raise their hand in church to indicate that they love Zola's TV program, only three hands stay up when asked if they've received our newsletters. That means they watch the program but expect others to pay for it. We are delighted to enlighten more than thirty times the people who write in, but continuing this impact requires the best of stewardship and prayer, which go hand in hand.

You can help by talking up our TV program's time slots. Remember to say that PAX reaches people via cable, satellite, Internet and, in 57 cities, traditional, full-power broadcast stations. Please see our National TV Airing Schedule at www.levitt.com, or let us mail you one. It is now six pages long! Below are our key network, cable, and satellite days and times (with a total of roughly one hundred independent broadcast stations).

PAX – Thursday mornings at 9:30 on both coasts, 8:30 Central and Mountain Time.

ABC-Family – Monday mornings at 1:00 on both coasts, midnight Central, and either 11:00 PM Sunday or 2:00 AM Monday, Mountain Time.

TBN – Monday mornings at 8:00 AM Eastern Time, 7:00 AM Central, 6:00 AM Mountain and 5:00 AM Pacific.

Dish Channel 181 and DirectTV Channel 255 – Thursday mornings at 9:30 AM Eastern, 8:30 AM Central, 7:30 AM Mountain, 6:30 AM Pacific.

The Church Channel on DirectTV Channel 371, Pacific Time on Mondays at 7:30 AM, Wednesdays at 9:30 AM, Thursdays at noon and Saturdays at 8:30 PM.

This time of year, after your year-end giving, our cash reserves are usually at a peak that enables us to weather the spring and summer giving slumps. This year, however, we've merely held our own, so to speak, in terms of covering the massive PAX invoices on top of the others. We are also battling certain PAX affiliates substituting infomercials for *Zola Levitt Presents*, despite their contractual obligations to stay with network broadcasts!

We hope to renew our contract with ABC-FAM this fall. If, however, Comcast succeeds with its hostile takeover of Disney, which owns ABC-FAM, then we could be bumped off of that network. Deciding last year to begin airing on PAX could prove to be just what we needed to manage a high-stakes transition from ABC-FAM to a worthy, believer-owned network. We intend to stay there if they'll let us, and we'll certainly keep you posted on that.

If you can continue to sustain us during these continuing months when our new PAX subscribers will have a chance to see the validity of our teaching, then we should be firmly established by this fall. Hopefully, you can tell how much we treasure the work you enable us to do.

Thanks. ★



Pax Roamin'

By Jerry Hodges, ZLM Syndicator with Berg Productions

As most of you are aware, the addition of the PAX network to our broadcast family of stations has put *Zola Levitt Presents* into more homes than ever. PAX owns and operates the largest network of television stations in the US, with over 57 PAX-owned stations across the country.

A number of independent stations pick up some of the PAX programming and rebroadcast it (although not all of these independent stations carry Zola. Check www.paxson.com for the PAX-owned station nearest you). These PAX-owned stations alone put our program into over 30 million homes.

In addition to getting us onto many stations in the nation's top markets that we were not in before, PAX programming is also rebroadcast on both DISH (channel 181) and DirecTV (channel 255) satellite systems. These two satellite providers have over 15 million subscribers, and rebroadcast the PAX programming without interruption as fed to the East coast viewers, so your viewing time will be affected by the time zone you are in.

Most cable companies rebroadcast the East coast feed to their subscribers as well as the programming off of the local PAX affiliate, if one is nearby. Cable companies add an additional 13 million subscribers to our viewership, putting *Zola Levitt Presents* into over 60 million homes across America. Since we went on the air in November, PAX has already added 1.1 million additional homes. Unfortunately, a few cable providers choose to interrupt our broadcast so they can run infomercials or other programs to increase revenues. You, the subscriber, have the most influence in convincing the cable companies that they should carry our program instead of infomercials. Call them and let them know your preference.

The cable companies are provided with the same programs from the satellite that feeds the PAX stations, and we monitor those feeds in Dallas. There are a number of explanations as to why a cable provider might not be showing Zola at the appropriate day and time, but that problem lies with the cable provider — not PAX. As we report each instance to PAX, they attempt to work with the cable providers to correct the problem, but if the cable company does not wish to fix the problem, then the recourse you have is to switch over to one of the satellite providers.

In most areas, satellite providers are offering special deals to entice cable subscribers to switch from cable,

so the cost of doing so should be competitive. In fact, there is one provider that carries only family-friendly programming, called Sky Angel. They rebroadcast all of the major networks Zola appears on, including PAX (Guardian Television), INSP, Cornerstone, TBN, and Liberty. Times and dates vary, but Zola can be seen six times per week on Sky Angel and the monthly subscription fee is probably less than your basic telephone bill.

We sincerely appreciate your support for getting Zola's message more widely distributed. And please continue to let us know of any difficulties you have in receiving *Zola Levitt Presents*. ★

Help Us Swim!

Broadcast television is a sink-or-swim proposition, especially when one goes on a new network. Year-end giving balanced our books with PAX, but as we head into the spring and summer seasons, we're only treading water or even beginning to sink.

We really urge our donors to consider that we broadcast every week, all year long. If you are enjoying the Thursday morning airtime on PAX, please help us to avoid losing this convenient new outreach. Please ask the Lord what He would have you do.

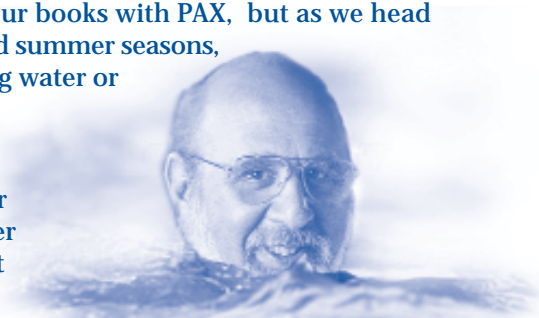
Thanks.

"US Plot"

By Glenn McKenzie, The Associated Press

Kano, an Islamic state in Nigeria that is at the heart of a spreading African polio outbreak, recently declared it would not relent on its boycott of a mass vaccination program. On the eve of a 10-nation emergency immunization campaign, Islamic leaders called the immunization drive against the crippling disease a US plot to spread AIDS and infertility among Muslims.

The boycott by Kano, where 84 cases last year made it the epicenter of the outbreak, "puts more children at risk from being crippled by polio, not only in Nigeria but also the region," said Gerrit Beger, spokesman for the United Nations Children's Fund in Abuja. ★



Truly, Israel practices American-style democracy, which is otherwise completely unknown in the Middle East. — Zola

Democracy in Action

From *Israel Today*

Israel's Supreme Court has rejected the decision of the Israeli censorship board to ban the controversial movie *Jenin, Jenin*, by Israeli Arab filmmaker Mohammed Bakri. Israeli reservists who took part in Operation Defensive Shield in the Jenin refugee camp in the spring of 2002 were outraged by the film, saying it manipulates and distorts the events that really took place.

With scenes of destitute Palestinians on the ruins of their houses, the film portrays Israeli soldiers as brutal fascists who committed a massacre, a lie that even the UN and human rights groups were forced to admit didn't take place. Bakri's film gives credence to these unsubstantiated claims spread by the Palestinians to demonize Israel.

"The court decision proves again that Israel is a democratic state," said Bakri, who had criticized Israel for banning the movie in Israeli cinemas. The court ruled that banning the film denied the right of freedom of expression.

Ironically, Israel paid a heavy price to avoid the very civilian casualties the movie accuses it of perpetrating. Instead of leveling the Jenin camp, the self-proclaimed capital of suicide bombers, Israeli troops went in on foot to weed out the terrorists in house-to-house combat. That is obviously much more dangerous than brute force, and 23 Israeli soldiers paid with their lives. ★



An Israeli Love Story book

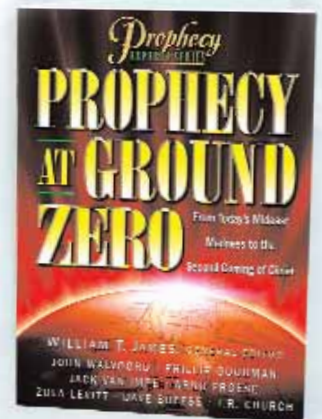
Zola's only novel. A tender love story told against a backdrop of PLO terrorism. Can love blossom in the midst of terrorism and death in modern-day Israel? Ask Isaac, a Jewish immigrant from America, and Rebecca, the daughter of a rabbi. And ask the Messianic Jewish Believer!

Please order from page 31.

Prophecy at Ground Zero

Planet Earth sits in the crosshairs of prophetic destiny, and the Mideast is Ground Zero. Just as the Bible prophesied, most indicators point to a coming era of one-world government, religion, and economics. In this book, 16 leading Bible prophecy experts, including Zola, examine current happenings in relation to Scripture, and highlight prophetic events to watch for. To understand what the experts know, read this book. 314 pages.

Please order from page 31.



A photo from "Our Man in Jerusalem"

Israel has been experiencing unexpected snowstorms at the very end of winter, reminding us of the Salvation which the Messiah brings: "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18).

Photo: Will King

A friend of mine sent his daughter to visit France, and the first day she was there, a pickpocket stole her credit cards and traveler's checks. I had a similar experience when I rode the subway there for two stops: I got off and had no wallet. I went to the nearest police station, arriving at 7:00 PM, and just as I was entering the door, a policeman pushed it closed in my face, saying, "Fermé, monsieur" (closed, sir). The French prefer to close their police stations and go home when it gets dark, because the streets become very dangerous. — Zola

Welcome to France

By Eva Cahen, CNSNews.com

Anti-Semitism in France reached a new level recently when a singer performing at a charity concert was heckled with cries of "Dirty Jew" and "Death to Jews" as the country's first lady and the patroness of the event, Bernadette Chirac, stood watching backstage.

Shirel, a 25-year-old singer who holds American, French, and Israeli citizenship, was performing in the eastern French town of Macon, at a concert that was being taped for television.

The singer told a local newspaper, *Le Dauphine Libéré*, that after the performance, Mrs. Chirac said to her that the incident was "deplorable." But Shirel also said she was shocked that none of the organizers went on stage to "publicly condemn the anti-Semitic aggression."

Manek Weintraub, a member of the executive council of the Representative Council of the Jewish Institutions of France (CRIF) and chairman of the French section of the World Jewish Congress, said that Mrs. Chirac "missed an opportunity to do something correct. She should have said something."

The French government announced this week that it was allocating more than \$15 million towards increased security for Jewish synagogues, schools, and institutions. But Weintraub said there is an increased level of worry among French Jews about anti-Semitic acts, and more talk of emigration to Canada or the United States.

France has seen a rise in anti-Semitic incidents in recent months, including attacks in public places on citizens identified as Jews, and even a skit on state-owned television by a comedian who gave the Nazi salute as he shouted "Israel Heil" and invited Arab youths to join the "American-Zionist axis."

Weintraub said 90 percent of France's anti-Semitic incidents could be traced to disaffected Arab youths sympathizing with the Palestinian cause. Having the largest Jewish population in Western Europe, France is

also home to 5 to 6 million Arabs, mostly immigrants and children of immigrants from former North African colonies.

"There is a long history of blaming Jews in Europe, and now anti-Semitism and anti-Americanism have been coupled to go hand in hand, based on resentment, suspicion and envy," Weintraub said. "The public thinks stopping a show with anti-Semitic insults is going too far. Attacks on Jewish schools don't receive as much publicity." ★

Good-bye and Good Riddance

By Zola Levitt

Many Palestinian terrorists are simply murderers who have few illusions about winning over the Israelis, but rather simply enjoy killing people. It gives them an identity, something to do, some sort of importance in their villages, etc. Jobless young men have to do something, and these, in effect, gang members simply perform this way for the strokes they get. Sometimes they are even made into heroes.

The same is true of American gang members who willy-nilly fight among themselves when they are not killing civilians around them. An Associated Press article by Josef Federman recently indicated that now that Israel is building the fence, those Palestinians that enjoy killing are simply starting to murder each other.

In the Gaza Strip, members of rival security services exchanged fire at a police headquarters, and 11 police officers were wounded. One, a 22-year-old, died, hospital officials said.

Police Chief Ghazi Jabali, who was not hurt, called it an attempt to assassinate him, but a rival security service dismissed it as a "misunderstanding."

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Young Arab boys get a vision for the future.

Good-bye and Good Riddance continued

Turf battles among more than a dozen security agencies have flared into violence repeatedly in the past. Israel and the United States have demanded that the squabbling agencies be united under a single Cabinet minister to facilitate a campaign against violent groups like Hamas, but no such steps have been taken.

Also in the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian was killed in an explosion in his home in the Bureij refugee camp, residents and hospital officials said.

Nasser Abu Shoka, 33, was a well-known member of Hamas, and the Islamic group accused Israel of killing him. But the army said it had no forces in the area, and residents said he may have been building a bomb that went off by accident.

Even in the major war of al-Qaeda versus the rest of the world, we see this sort of thing happening. Men of no importance, and with little to do, turn into stalkers and hunters of other men in order to gain some sense of accomplishment. Many young Muslims don't hate or even understand the Western world — they are doing this for their own inner reasons.

I'm told that in law-enforcement circles here in the US, there's a theory that many shootings involving gang members have what is called a "good-riddance factor," which argues that, for society, a gang shooting of a rival gang member will often get rid of a real troublemaker who might otherwise have harmed honest citizens, had he lived.

Once the Israelis complete the security fence, the Palestinians won't stop killing. They'll simply stop killing Israelis.

To these young Palestinians, killing is like a dangerous sport that they do to give themselves a little importance. What does a Palestinian kid have? He probably has no girlfriend, he can't read or write. He walks around the village with nothing to do and inner urgings prompt him to start some hopeless and worthless cause.

Once they make up a story like "the Jews are occupying our land," then these guys are motivated to run around, shooting guns at people. That keeps them busy while Arafat and his thugs can peaceably steal the national treasury.

That's all we've been watching all these years, and sending American diplomats to sit and reason with such people is one of the world's great wastes of time. They're not interested in success, as was demonstrated at Camp David when Arafat turned down 98 percent of what he was asking for. They're simply interested in grand larceny.

And in keeping the dangerous young fellows under their sway doing something. Killing people, for example.



Watering Down the Truth

By Ludwig Schneider, *Israel Today*

When the ecumenical movement began on August 1, 1914, the aim was to promote unity among Christians. It started with the creation of the World Union in Konstanz, Germany.

The Greek word ecumenism means "the inhabited world." Theologically, it refers to the "unity of the Christian churches." But today it has come to mean "synchronization of all religions."

The basic concept that Christians relate to one another as brothers is Biblical. And because Christianity is rooted in Judaism, the Jewish people are older brothers. After all, where true faith abides, there are no denominational barriers.

The modern spirit of ecumenism raises tolerance to the level of blurring the identity of God. In the name of globalization, which must be understood not only economically, but also socially and religiously, Bible-believing Christians and Jews are increasingly shunned. But in the name of "unity," this is conveniently ignored.

A typical example was a declaration by Cardinal Lehman, chairman of the German Catholic Bishops Conference, in his message for the Islamic "holy" month of Ramadan. Ignoring the Ramadan sermons by Islamic preachers who called for destroying Israel and killing the Jews, Cardinal Lehman described the Moslems as brothers and sisters. "Christians and Moslems have a common faith in God, the single forgiving Creator," the cardinal wrote.

Today's tolerance no longer allows for an absolute truth. Everything blurs to a faceless unity for the sake of peace — the exceptions being Israel and Bible-believing Christians for whom these "tolerant" people express a total lack of tolerance! The idea is that whoever doesn't yield to the dictates of multi-religious ecumenism is an "enemy of peace."

So ecumenism, which began with good intentions, is preparing the way for the unification of all religions, which along with the United Nations, will govern an opinionless mankind led by the Antichrist and the False Prophet. A "peace" movement that declares Moslem terrorists to be its brothers — from fear of becoming a victim itself — characterizes our time. And these people — whose numbers are growing — are openly and vehemently anti-Israel and opposed to the true Body of Christ. Yet in spite of all the unmistakable and blatant signs pointing to the End of Days, many, like the foolish virgins in Matthew 25, think that the Messiah will not return for a long time. We would do well to heed the Gospel warning: "See to it that no one misleads you" (Mark 13:5). ★

This captured letter is an excellent bit of intelligence. But it proves my contention that we're really not fighting the war on terror in Iraq, which is not the "central front in the war on terror," as the Bush administration contends. Such claims from government officials are what Joan Peters, the former White House consultant on the Middle East, has noted are "turnspeak," a term first used by journalists to describe German propaganda after Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia in March of 1939, blaming the Czechs for precipitating the all-out German invasion of the region.

Turnspeak is used by governments when they ask you to believe the opposite of the evidence, such as "the Palestinians need a country," or that "we're having a war on terrorism in Iraq." Or this, that the letter proves "Iraq is a central front." It's absurd. The letter says exactly the opposite. Al-Qaeda is having trouble recruiting terrorists because there are so few terrorists there. We have gone to turnspeak.

Much of the problem in Iraq is (mentally) "little boys" who want some self importance and are playing soldier in fighting American troops. They are like many Palestinian terrorists who don't really aim at gaining a Palestinian state. — Zola

Recruiting Problems for al-Qaeda

By Jim Krane, Associated Press

A letter seized from an al-Qaeda courier shows Osama bin Laden has made little headway in recruiting Iraqis for a holy war against America, raising questions about the Bush administration's contention that Iraq is the central front in the war on terror.

The 17-page letter, cited as a key piece of intelligence that offered a rare window into foreign terrorist operations in Iraq, appealed to al-Qaeda leaders to help spark a civil war between Iraq's two main Muslim sects in an effort to "tear the country apart," US officials said.

One senior US officer, Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, warned that the plea could mean more "spectacular" attacks because the rebels were despairing that their devastating car bombs and the steady killing of US troops were failing to shove the Americans from Iraq or spark massive discord.

The letter was believed written by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, a Jordanian suspected of al-Qaeda links. Al-Zarqawi is the chief suspect in several recent bombings, and the Bush administration cited his presence in Iraq as evi-

dence of Iraq's terrorist connections even before the war. Having found no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, the administration has been shifting the reason for going to war to the fight against global terrorism and to oust Saddam Hussein.

Military and coalition officials who rarely speak about intelligence information were quick to describe the letter as proof of a terrorist role in the Iraqi resistance. White House spokesman Scott McClellan said that the letter, first reported by *The New York Times*, shows that "Iraq is the central front in the war on terrorism."

"There are foreign terrorists who realize the stakes are high and they seek to do everything they can to undermine the aspirations of the Iraqi people," McClellan said. "But democracy and freedom are taking root in Iraq and there's no turning back."

There is little to bind Iraqi rebels to foreign terrorists other than a common wish "to bloody the United States," said David L. Phillips, a former State Department expert on Iraq, now with the Council on Foreign Relations.

"There are far more Iraqis who are resisting American occupation than there are al-Qaeda operatives inside Iraq," Phillips said. "Most violence against the US in Iraq is being committed by so-called dead-enders and Iraqis who resent the US occupation."

The al-Qaeda presence has consistently been exaggerated, Phillips said. ★



Terror and the terrorist.

According to Scripture...

Who Owns the Land?

PART I



A Book Review by Thomas S. McCall, ThD

Does modern Israel have a right to claim its ancient Biblical land in the face of Palestinian claims today? And should Bible-believing Christians support Israel in its claims? These are the issues dealt with in this newly re-published book *Who Owns the Land* written by Dr. Stanley Ellisen in 1991, and recently revised by the academic leader at Moody Bible Institute, Dr. Charles Dyer, in 2003.

Dr. Dyer is a Classical Dispensationalist (as are we here at ZLM), who has the unenviable responsibility of attempting to defend the Progressive Dispensationalists whose influence in the classrooms continues to grow at Moody and at Dallas and Talbot Seminaries, and other previously strong Dispensational schools. Progressive Dispensationalism blurs the distinctions between the dispensations, especially the Church Age and the Millennium, and, in time, develops a viewpoint that downplays Biblical prophecy, in general, and interest in modern Israel, in particular.

To the credit of both Ellisen and Dyer, they very clearly trace the history of the Jewish people in and out of the Land, and God's promise to Israel of *ultimate* possession and enjoyment of the Promised Land in the time of Messianic fulfillment, the Millennium. They make a very strong case for the inevitability of the blessed future for Israel. If you want to know about the Biblically prophetic future for Israel in the Millennium, this is a good book. Also, the book traces the Palestinian history and issues during the last fifty to one hundred years, and the Palestinian involvement in various negotiations with Israel and in the devastating terrorist attacks against Israel. If you want a compendium on these issues, this book is also a good reference.

The primary issue, though, is the legitimacy of the *current* claims of Israel to the Land, and whether or not Christians should support the *current* nation. We are not living in the Millennium now, and we cannot require Israel to meet Millennial standards today, before the Lord has returned to earth! Ellisen appeared to be doing that when he originally concluded that we should have an "evenhanded" approach to Israel and the Palestinians. Dyer improves on this by giving some reasons why believers in Christ should support modern Israel, but he seems to be half-hearted and grudging in his argument.

Dyer begins his section on this subject on page 136 by demonstrating that Israel does not deserve to possess the Land primarily because the Jewish nation has not received Jesus as the Messiah:

What happens when we put the divine plumb line to the house of Israel claiming the land today? Has it met the Biblical conditions for restoration? By most human standards, the Jewish people stand high in regard to moral character. They appear to enjoy a surplus of intelligence, industry, self-sacrifice, high morals, and religious sincerity. Furthermore, they endured the Holocaust. From that crucible, they have emerged to command international attention, doing so under constant threat of extinction. They have dramatically demonstrated the truth of the maxim, "Growth comes through struggle."

Measured by the divine standard, however, another picture emerges. Though modern Israel has a human and international right to the land, its people fall far short of covenant obligations. To put it bluntly, the current generation has no Biblical right to possess the covenant land. The nation has never recognized the Messiah God sent, let alone mourned over his wounding. Though many in Israel admit to Jesus' greatness as a Jewish teacher, most adamantly reject him as Messiah. They see him as but one of several prominent pseudo-messiahs.

Thus, Dyer assumes that the only way Israel can have a right to claim the Land is if they first receive Christ. Yet receiving the Lord Jesus Christ is the *end* of prophetic developments concerning Israel, not the *beginning*. The Tribulation has a number of purposes, but one of them is the preparation of Israel for the Second Coming of the Messiah. It is called "The Time of Jacob's Trouble." At the beginning of the Tribulation, Israel will be far from acknowledging Jesus as Messiah, but after the witness of the 144,000 believing Jewish preachers, the Two Witnesses, and other means, the remaining nation of Israel will be ready, willing, and eager to receive Christ at the end of the Tribulation.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Dyer further emphasizes (on page 137) that not only does Israel fail to believe in Christ now, but that the Jewish nation studiously and officially rejects the notion that a Jew can remain a Jew if he is a Christian:

The State of Israel will allow nearly every deviation from Jewish orthodoxy in its policy of toleration and pluralism. Even Jewish atheists are welcomed as citizens—but not believers in Jesus. Though the Law of Return of 1950 granted citizenship to anyone born Jewish, the Israeli High Court of Justice ruled in 1962 in a case of a man who had been born Jewish, but who had converted to Christianity. They decided that “the fundamental conception that ‘Jew’ and ‘Christian’ are a contradiction in terms is something which is unreservedly accepted by all.” On December 25, 1989, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that Messianic Jews “cannot claim the right to come to this country as immigrants by virtue of the Law of Return” because those Jews “who believe in Jesus are members of a different faith.”

It is true that Israel refuses to recognize as Jews those Jewish foreigners who have become Christians and migrated to Israel. This has, in part, to do with the Law of the Return, by which any Jew has a right to a lot of economic and other benefits when they “make *aliyah*” and return to the Land. The Israeli Supreme Court has decided that a Jew who becomes a Christian forfeits his right to those benefits.

Nevertheless, a sizable group of Jews living in Israel are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. Some of them are native-born Israelis, known as *Sabras*.

Dyer ignores this remnant in Israel who are Jewish believers in Christ, which has been estimated to be about 5,000 in number. Out of over five million Israeli Jews, 5,000 is not a majority by any means, but it is significant, and many of them are outspoken and vocal. They are an enigma to the Israeli government, and play an important role in the spiritual life of the nation.

Dyer concludes this section by asserting that Israel is a failure and does not meet the qualifications required by the covenant God has with Israel:

Judged on Biblical grounds, the nation today does not pass divine muster as a nation living in covenant obedience to God. The promise to possess the land is directly tied to the nation’s response to Messiah. Though its international right to the land can be well defended, Israel’s divine right by covenant to possess it today has *only sentiment* in its favor [emphasis ours].

“Only sentiment” remains as an argument in favor of Israel’s Biblical claim to the Land, according to Dyer. In other words, the only way Israel can Biblically claim the Land is by receiving Christ. Otherwise, they have no claim whatsoever. This is the gloomy conclusion Dyer comes to concerning Israel’s current claims to the Land. Following this logic, Israel will have no claim to the Land all during the Tribulation, while they are rebuilding the Temple, being persecuted by the Antichrist, and being tried and prepared to receive Jesus as the Messiah.

In part II of this review (appearing in the next *Levitt Letter*), we’ll look at how Dr. Ellisen addresses the issue of modern Israel and its right to claim ancient Biblical land. ★

Part II appears in our next Levitt Letter issue.

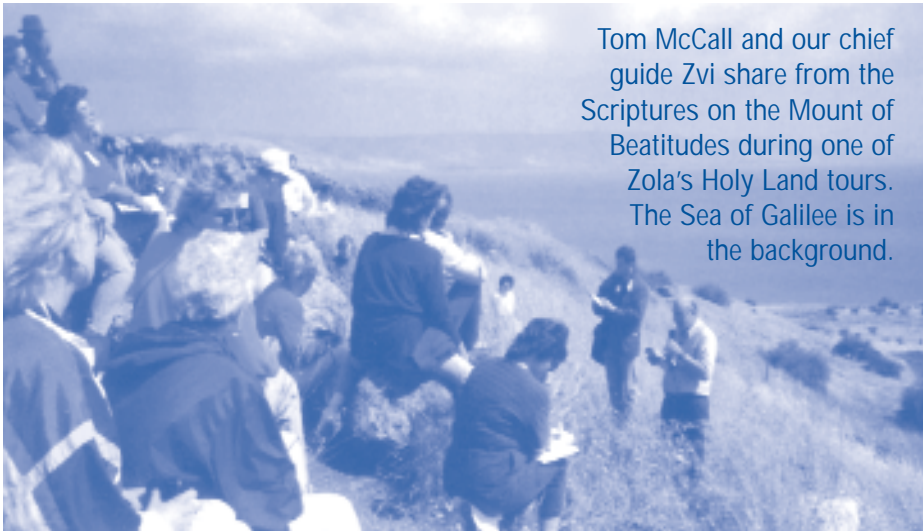
Upside Down

By Gary L. Bauer, *End of the Day Newsletter*

Have you thought about the “trial” going on in the World Court at the Hague? Israel is the “defendant” because it insists on building a security fence to prevent homicide bombings and a good bit of the world believes the fence is illegal under international law. I disagree. In fact, I believe Israel has an obligation as a sovereign nation to protect its citizens.

But even worse is who isn’t on trial. Why aren’t the Palestinian Authority, Hamas, Hezbollah, and Islamic Jihad being put in the dock at the Hague? Their campaign of terror that targets civilians violates every conceivable international law.

Yes, the world is upside down. The murdered must defend themselves in court against the murderers! The elected leaders of Israel are called war criminals, while real criminals, like Arafat, enjoy the protection of diplomats. The next time the judges of the World Court decide to hear a case like this one, they should do it in a bus riding through Jerusalem. Maybe that would focus their thinking. ★



Tom McCall and our chief guide Zvi share from the Scriptures on the Mount of Beatitudes during one of Zola’s Holy Land tours. The Sea of Galilee is in the background.

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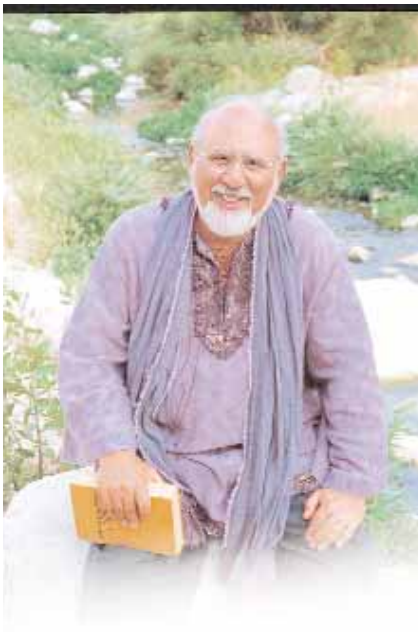


Photo courtesy Israel Today

Attack of the Killer Dolls From Israel Today

Israeli police confiscated thousands of dolls of Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden destined for sale in the Palestinian territories. The Israeli Arab merchant who ordered the dolls was detained after customs agents discovered the contraband during a routine search in the northern port of Haifa. Saddam and bin Laden are heroes on the Palestinian street.

[Most dolls aren't this well-armed.](#) — Zola



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