

# LEVITT LETTER

**“BRETHREN, MY HEART’S DESIRE AND PRAYER TO GOD FOR ISRAEL IS THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED.” – ROMANS 10:1**

As we go to press, the results of our presidential election are in. This ministry is relieved that the country re-elected President Bush. Now would have been entirely the wrong time to change leadership. The combined propaganda of most American news networks, the Hollywood elites and of our many enemies in Europe taken together was not enough to fool the American voter. — Zola



ZOLA LEVITT

Consider the dishonesty of these Episcopalians, who sent their delegation on a “fact finding” mission to Israel, but spoke only to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat and M.K. Azmi Bishara (shown below). The latter personality is indeed an Israeli, but an Arab member of the Knesset and a diehard supporter of Arafat and the Palestinians. In other words, they purposely chose two spokesmen who are on the same side of a question. We must take care to describe Israeli Arabs as Arabs. It reminds me of the day that a donor called who wanted to give a gift to a ministry that could transmit it to the Jews of Israel. He had called Benny Hinn, who he thought was Jewish. I was a little bit surprised, as Hinn is an Israeli Arab, but he had only heard pastor Hinn say he was an Israeli, which is true. He is an Israeli Arab from Jaffa. — Zola

## And the Beat(ing) Goes On

By Sarah Honig, *The Jerusalem Post*



**R**EPRESENTATIVES OF THE ANGLICAN PEACE AND JUSTICE NETWORK announced in Jerusalem their intention to recommend that their church — with an estimated worldwide membership of 75 million Anglicans and Episcopalians — follow in the American Presbyterian church’s footsteps and consider divesting itself from Israel.

The APJN delegation deplored, at the conclusion of a 10-day visit, Israel’s “worse than draconian” measures against the Palestinians. The delegates met with Yasser Arafat, but stressed that they balanced this visit by conferring with an “Israeli” as well — Azmi Bishara [an Israeli Arab].

They must have heard identical diatribes from both. But the delegation did not come here seeking truth. All conclusions were well established prior to the “fact-finding” tour.

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## 15 Things I Don’t Understand



Rabbi Shore

by Rabbi Ephraim Shore  
www.aish.com

- 1) If Palestinians want to live side-by-side with Israel, then why do all government logos and websites show Palestine encompassing all of Israel, with Israel nonexistent?
- 2) If a primary point of the “Road Map” is “confronting all those engaged in terror and dismantlement of terrorist capabilities and infrastructure,” then why do the Palestinians demand that Israel release thousands of terrorists from prison, an item not even included in the Road Map? Instead, shouldn’t the Palestinians be arresting terrorists themselves? And shouldn’t we be outraged that the two suicide bombers who murdered 15 Israelis on Sept. 9, 2003 (Hillel Cafe and Tzrifin bus stop), were among a group of

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Neither the Anglican delegation, nor the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA last summer, apparently found anything disquieting in today's world aside from Israel. Islamic terrorism — including decapitations, suicide bombings, hostage-taking, and school sieges do not trouble these ecclesiastical entities. Neither do Palestinian bloodlust, Syrian tyranny, Iranian nuclear threats, Sudanese genocide, Saudi export and financing of terror, and much more.

Instead, while Western civilization is increasingly menaced, Israel — the sole democracy in the region — is singled out for rebuke and sanctions because it dares defend itself against those who would destroy it. In what moral universe are Israelis, who must defend every bus, cafe and kindergarten against terrorists, more worthy of censure than the terrorists themselves?

Perhaps this stance would be somewhat understandable, if no less unjustifiable, before America itself had so dramatically joined the victims of an Islamist jihad. We wonder if the members of the churches taking such an anti-Israel stance realize that their leadership has effectively joined the wrong side of the war against terrorism.

There is no other way to describe an action that, in the context of the war we are still facing, is not pro-Palestinian, but anti-Israel.

These churches, for example, could have resolved their support for a Palestinian state, or for a two-state solution, or even taken the side of the Palestinians by bravely speaking out against corruption, terrorism and one-man rule.

The irony is that by visiting Yasser Arafat, and not with Israeli officials or anyone who could remotely present our case, the Anglican delegation seemed to indicate that its animosity for Israel exceeded its concern for

Palestinians. If the desire is to support Palestinian freedom and self-determination, why identify with a leader who, even by European and Palestinian accounts, is the chief obstacle to achieving those goals?

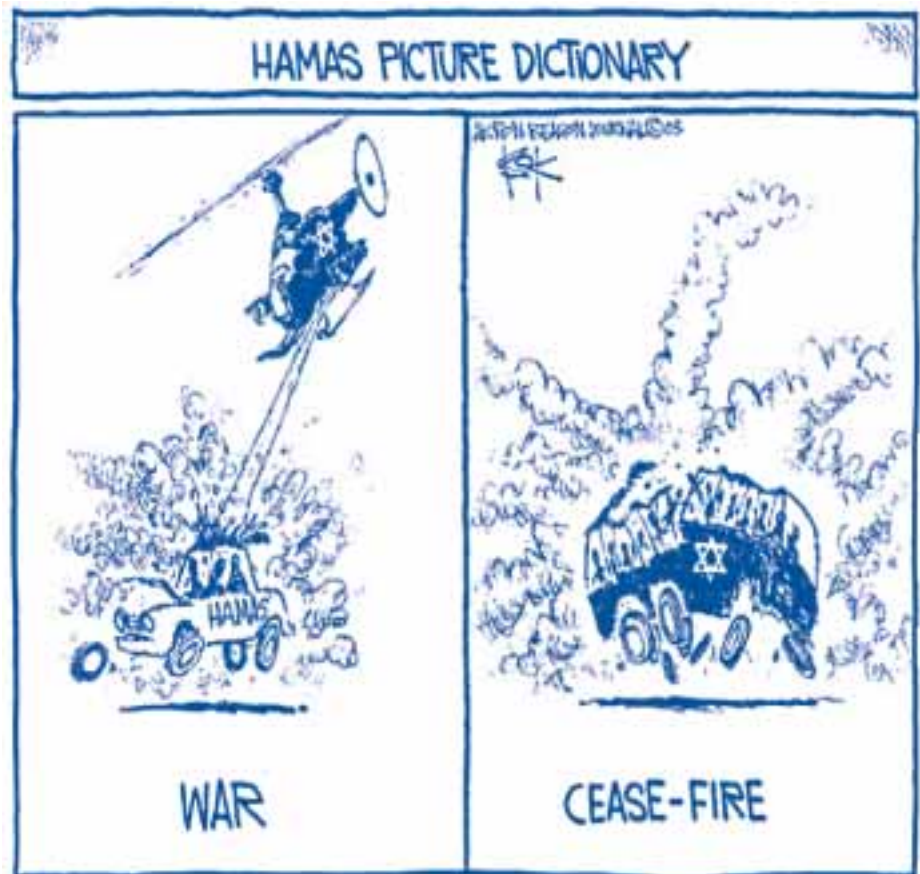
Even the United Nations and the European Union are on record in support of the Road Map, which is a blueprint for ending terrorism and the negotiated creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. If this is not enough for the Presbyterians and Anglicans, one wonders what would be — Israel's destruction, perhaps?

We recognize that these resolutions are coming from Christian denominations that are shrinking in membership, in no small part because of the radical political stances that they take. But even if such stances do not represent the views of most American Christians, they present an opportunity for churches representing the majority of Americans to speak out.

We know that millions of American Christians support Israel's struggle against terrorism and for freedom and democracy. Since September 11, they see that we are part of the same struggle, but this silent majority is not always heard. We also know that many believing Christians have continued to visit Israel through thick and thin, and their quiet support is much appreciated.

Pro-Israel Christians can also play a much more productive role in bringing about peace and stability in this region than their anti-Israel counterparts. The more support Israel receives and the more the Palestinian embrace of terror is rejected, the sooner that approach will be abandoned and the more lives will be saved.

Israel wants peace more than iterant "peace" activists can imagine. By giving moral encouragement to terror, they are doing a disservice to Israelis, Palestinians and Americans. ✪



Palestinian prisoners released by Israel as a peace gesture?

3) If Israel is supposedly allowed to “take all necessary steps to defend its citizens,” then why is Israel condemned for building bypass roads so drivers can avoid ambushes, condemned for building a fence to keep suicide bombers out, condemned for targeted killings of terrorist leaders, condemned for operating road blocks to screen for suicide bombers, condemned for clearing areas used for launching rockets, and condemned for keeping terrorists in jail? How exactly is Israel expected to defend itself?

4) When the PLO first demanded a state in 1964, it wanted every part of Israel *except* the West Bank and Gaza (which were then in the hands of Jordan and Egypt). Is it reasonable to assume that they now want *only* the West Bank and Gaza, or is that more likely a Trojan Horse — as Palestinian leader Faisal al-Husseini described it in 2001 as a first step to destroy Israel?

5) Why is the targeted killing of terrorists and their supporters lauded when done by the United States in Iraq, but not when done by Israel, whose civilians face a daily threat of terror attacks?

6) Why has the United Nations passed far more condemnations against Israel than any other country — including Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Chechnya, Saudi Arabia, Liberia, North Korea, and China *combined* — while millions were massacred in these other places? And then how does the UN expect Israel to accept it as an impartial mediator?

7) Why — if the Palestinian Authority allows little freedom of speech, press or religion, is oppressive to Christians and other minorities, is corrupt at all levels of government, and is rife with vigilantism — is the creation of a Palestinian state a favorite “liberal” cause?

8) Why — after Yasser Arafat has proven for 40 years to be one of history’s most incorrigible terrorists, while loyally backing dictators like Saddam Hussein — does the European Union still strongly support Arafat’s leadership?

9) Why do the media call it “terror” when al-Qaeda strikes at Western targets, but not when Hamas strikes at Israelis (or even American citizens in Israel)?

10) If the Palestinians truly want peace, why do their school textbooks vilify Israel and glorify suicide bombers? Why does the government-controlled TV station broadcast virulent anti-Semitic messages? Why do mosques regularly incite followers to jihad? Why are (UN supported) children’s paramilitary training camps — masquerading as summer camps — named in honor of the most “successful” Palestinian terrorists (an indoctrination process that has resulted in 60-80% support for suicide bombings)?

11) Why does the world call the West Bank “occupied” if it never belonged to the Palestinians? [Jordan controlled the West Bank for 19 years after conquering it in a war of aggression. It previously belonged to the Mamelukes, the Crusaders, the Ottoman Turks, and then Britain.]

12) What other country would give control of its holiest spot (the Temple Mount) to another religion (which arrived 1,500 years later),

and then permit them to systematically destroy ancient remains (to eliminate evidence of a 3,000-year-old Jewish presence) and allow that religious body to prohibit access to non-Muslims for three years?

13) Why does anyone doubt Israel’s sincerity for peace, after offering 97 percent of the West Bank and Gaza in the Taba Talks of 2001, and having given back the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt — a territory three times the size of Israel, constituting 91 percent of the territory Israel took control of in the 1967 war?

14) Why does the world demand the uprooting of Jewish settlements — effectively making those areas “Judenrein” (empty of Jews)? Would anyone tolerate a similar form of ethnic cleansing whereby Israel does not allow Arabs to live in areas under Israeli control?

15) If, during Oslo, Israel gave tens of thousands of machine guns and 40% of the West Bank and Gaza to the Palestinians (giving them control over 97% of their population), in return for the promise that “all future disputes would be handled without violence,” and instead Israel got 18,000 terrorist attacks that killed 845 and wounded 4,898 people, a collapsed economy, intolerable daily life for its citizens, and its holy sites desecrated, why is Israel again being asked to negotiate with that same Palestinian leadership, trust their future promises, and place its security in their hands? ✪



## ***Our Hands Are Stained with Blood***

"And they'll know we are Christians by our love." Contrary to the sweet sentiment of that ever-popular Bible hymn, this book documents with unrelenting intensity the prolific anti-Semitism at the hands of the "Church." Please refer to the articles "And the Beat(ing) Goes On" on pages 1-2 and "Birds of a Feather?" on page 12. From the first "Christian" persecutions of the Jews in the fourth century to the unspeakable horrors of the Holocaust, from Israel-bashing in today's press to anti-Semitism in today's pulpits, this shocking and painful book is a sure cure for anyone who doubts that Israel in the end will be "hated of all nations." Authored by Dr. Michael Brown, Dean of the Messiah Biblical Institute and the Graduate School of Theology in Maryland, this is a story every Christian must hear. Please see page 31 to order.



## ***Discovering Our Jewish Roots***

A one-of-a-kind study with eight audiocassettes and a workbook that begins with a survey of Old Testament Messianic prophecies. Lovingly designed with the layman in mind, these lessons are simple, direct and from the heart.

Two church ladies from Kentucky hold forth on topics that range from Gentile Salvation to the Davidic Covenant to Replacement Theology and Islam. You'll learn about the Seven Feasts, Christ in the Tabernacle, Church History, Anti-Semitism, and the Holocaust. Packaged in a handsome silk-screened album.

Please order from page 31.



## ***Beloved Thief Musical***

The ancient Israeli wedding customs, as they parallel the great moment of the coming of the heavenly Bridegroom, are portrayed in exciting Israeli music and drama. A fully-staged musical show with fine actors and singers in period costumes of first-century Israel. A really enchanting and inspiring hour, worthy of many repeated viewings. (Romantic secret: the leading actor and actress met on the set and married in real life!) The videocassette, CD and audiocassette are offered on page 31.



## ***Coming: The End – Russia and Israel in Prophecy***

book and audiocassette

This study of one of the first upcoming End Times prophecies is vital reading for all who believe the Scriptures. There is even a chapter on "A Strategy for Unbelievers," to tell those who do not believe how to cope with the Tribulation Period! This basic book of prophecy analyzes the world situation in most enlightening and sometimes surprising terms. Called by Hal Lindsey "a must for everyone who wants to know where we are on God's timetable." Complemented by the audiocassette "The Tribulation Temple." Both available on page 31.



## Selling Like Hotcakes!

A DVD showing the recent beheading of an American hostage in Iraq is “selling like hotcakes” at Palestinian video shops in the Gaza Strip, *The Jerusalem Post* has reported. The DVD, downloaded from the Internet and then sold for 15 shekels (about \$3.30), shows masked men reading charges against the American civilian, accusing him of aiding the “allied occupation forces” and starting to cut off the man’s head. The severed head is then displayed, said the report, which did not identify the beheaded American.

American civil engineers Eugene Armstrong and Jack Hensley were abducted and beheaded recently in a grisly attack believed to have been carried out by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. The two were kidnapped in mid-September with British civil engineer Kenneth Bigley, who was beheaded late in October.

As the Islamization continues... — Zola

## It Couldn't Happen to Nicer Guys

www.newsmax.com

If the European Union were a member of the U.S., it would be one of the poorest states in America, according to a think tank called Timbro in socialist Sweden.

*Forbes* reports that the study’s figures equate European prosperity to “that of economically backward states like Arkansas.”

Luxembourg is the only country whose per capita GDP ranks higher than that of the U.S.

“That France and Germany have less per capita GDP than all but five of the states of the U.S.A. is probably something that Messrs. Chirac and Schroeder don’t wish to know,” said the study’s authors, Fredrik Bergstrom and Robert Gidehag.

Their rankings might be even lower without the decades-long presence of U.S. troops and the billions sent by U.S. taxpayers.

## The Objective of Military Power

Arnold Beichman, *The Washington Times*

Since the French Revolution in 1789, the European continent has been soaked in blood, and built on the bones of millions of soldier and civilian dead, thanks to the Balkan wars, the revolutionary wars, the mindless monarchs Wilhelm and Nicholas, the Hitler and Stalin genocides, and two utterly unnecessary world wars. Since the early 19th century, America became

the destination of millions of European immigrants. Few

Americans ever emigrated to Europe or Asia. Only a small number of American draft-dodgers migrated to Canada during the Vietnam War.

Even more significantly, American military power was responsible for overthrowing these tyrannies: Nazism, Fascism, Communism, Eastern Europe, Saddam Hussein, Nicaraguan Sandinistas, El Salvador communists, Grenada, and Japanese militarism. American military power prevented the takeover of South Korea by Kim Il-sung and the takeover of Taiwan by mainland China. The Truman Doctrine saved Greece and Turkey from Soviet aggression.

Without American military and economic power, we would have a different world today. And we did this in the spirit of 13 precious words of Alfred T. Mahan, the great U.S. naval strategist: “The objective of military power is to allow moral ideals to take root.”

That’s why we’re in Iraq.

## Not Like Methodists

By Wesley Pruden, *The Washington Times*

Nothing would rally the nation like teaching the Islamists (and the many sympathizers among mainstream Muslims) who shoot children and behead innocents with hands tied behind their backs a lesson they wouldn’t forget, like unleashing the Marines to clean out Fallujah.

The Muslims are not like Methodists, only different, and every time the president says they are, his friends gag and console themselves that he doesn’t really believe it any more than the rest of America does.

George W. seems determined to rebuild Iraq as an example to the Arabs of how to live in the 21st century, which is too bad. But John Kerry doesn’t want to do it at all, which could doom civilization to endless retreat from reality. Not a winning prospect.

*Painted like a giant eagle, this chopper looks like it flew right out of the book of Revelation.*



# ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD



## Tour Israel in the Spring –

Join Zola on our 81st Holy Land tour. Both our Deluxe and Grand Petra Tours will depart on March 13. The Israel-only Deluxe Tour will return on March 23, and the Grand Petra Tour, visiting both Israel and Petra, will return on March 27. Please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 during office hours or our answering service at 1-800-WONDERS (800-966-3377) anytime for your color tour folder.



## Zola in Philly!

The Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) has acquired a television station in Philadelphia. Now you can watch us at 8:00 AM Mondays on WGTW-48. TBN shows "Zola Levitt Presents" across the nation: 8:00 AM Eastern Time, 7:00 CT, 6:00 MT, and 5:00 PT. To see Zola's other network air times, please see page 18. To learn about our 100 full-power independent stations' broadcasts, please either click on "TV Schedule" at [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com) or write in for our free, six-page TV Airing Schedule.

## Zola on World Harvest Network

DirecTV subscribers and C-Band Satellite viewers can watch "Zola Levitt Presents" on Saturday evenings at 10:00 Eastern Time, 9:00 Central, 8:00 Mountain and 7:00 Pacific. Beginning on Saturday, November 20, 20+ million new homes will be able to tune in our weekly broadcast! DirecTV's basic package includes the World Harvest Network (WHT) as Channel 321. BONUS: WHT will show our one-hour special "Upon This Rock" on Tuesday, November 23 at 11:00 PM Eastern Time. Please mark your calendars and tell your friends.

## TV Watchmen on the Wall

Do you regularly watch Zola on one of the broadcasts below?

ABC-Family	Mon. 1:00 AM Eastern/Pacific Time
INSP	Wed. 6:30 AM Eastern Time
	Wed. 8:30 PM Eastern Time
PAX	Thur. 9:30 AM Eastern/Pacific
TLN	Chicago - Wed., 8:30 PM
Church Channel	Mon. 10:30AM ET, Wed. 8:30AM ET, Thur. 3:00PM ET, or Sat. 11:30PM ET

If you can monitor our TV program every week on one of these stations or any other station, please write to Margie at Berg Productions, 6221 Riverside Dr, Ste. 109, Irving, TX 75039-3529. We'll occasionally send you free samples of our Bible-teaching materials as tokens of appreciation. Thanks.

## Download Zola's Catalog

If you go to <http://store.levitt.com>, then you can click on "Download a soft copy of the catalog" to have a full-color pdf file right on your computer screen. At [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com) visit Zola's Chat Room and Zola's Bulletin Board, which has more than 2,300 members. You can even sign up for e-mail alerts when we post new newsletters online! "Be ye fishers of men." You catch them; He'll clean them. God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.



Dear Friends:

I was recently reminded of a wonderful quotation from Harry Truman, who, during his presidency, faced uncertain and dangerous times, similar to ours. During a campaign speech he was cheered on by a supporter to "Give 'em hell." Truman's response was, "I don't give 'em hell. I just tell the truth and they think it's hell." At the risk of seeming to give out a lot of "hell," which is not my intention, I will tell the truth as I see it on what is happening in the world today.

First of all, through my looking glass of Endtimes prophecy: The world is going to hell in a handbasket and that's to be expected. We are, as our Lord certified, in times like the "...days of Noah..." (Matthew 24:37). We are in an era, in which, "...when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them." (I Thessalonians 5:3).

With that prism in view, let me comment on some major issues. This is one man's opinion, for what it's worth. First, the liberal Presbyterian Church USA's General Assembly has voted to divest from Israel, and the Anglican (or Episcopalian) Church, is threatening to do the same (see our article, "Presbyterian Jihad" on page 25 of the August 2004 *Levitt Letter*). There was a long discussion in *The Dallas Morning News*, on Sunday, October 10, about whether these churches are anti-Semitic. The fact is that they are, and in the worst way. The worst way is to simply not be conscious of the fact that your church barely is aware of the truth, that in this world there is one Chosen People and one Chosen Land — and when nobody in the church has a thing to say on that subject, that's worse than anti-Semitic, that's simply ungodly.

The evangelical churches are doing a much finer work in becoming

## A Note From Zola

"Christian Zionists." Zionism is favoring the return of the Jewish people to Israel to reestablish the Promised Land. To take Him at His Word, God Himself is a Zionist.

The real problem with liberal Protestantism, in general (*The Dallas Morning News* enumerates those churches as Presbyterian USA, Evangelical Lutheran, Episcopalian, and United Methodist), is a lack of salvation doctrine. If nobody in the church is saved according to Biblical standards, the church makes no sense. There's no reason for it to meet. It is blown about in the wind as are these Presbyterians and Episcopalians where Israel is concerned.

The root of that problem in turn is lack of Bible study. It is the Scripture and the Scripture alone which establishes the principle of salvation — a personal and individual belief in the Messiah as Savior — and when the Bible is discarded, out goes the salvation doctrine with it. It would be like trying to run the American government without the Constitution (which, of course, most liberal judges are attempting to do).

The Bible is, after all, the Owner's manual for life in our particular creation. This is a good place for me to recommend my book *The Trouble with Christians, The Trouble with Jews* and point out that the trouble with both is a lack of Bible comprehension (see page 31 of this publication). It's no better or worse than that, but it has the most crucial effect on people's salvation and



their view of the Chosen People and the Promised Land.

Please do not become upset and send me an angry letter if I have mentioned your denomination. Of course, I understand that there are good, believing Christian members in every church and denomination. I am referring to the liberal policy makers at the national level who continue to ignore the Bible and castigate Israel.

The virulent and irrational hatred of Israel, not just in these liberal denominations, but in distant countries and religions, is the simple proof of the validity of the Bible and End-times prophecy.

I was recently reading on the Babylonian captivity and the woes of the Jewish people some 2,600 years ago. Even back then, distant countries and alien religions hated (or envied) the Chosen People and the Promised Land, and did their best to annihilate them. Great armies were sent hundreds of miles on foot to destroy Solomon's temple, a wonder of the ancient world, and to take the Israeli people into captivity. Daniel and Ezekiel were among the prisoners carried off to Babylon — modern day Iraq — and there some of the Jews remained, believe it or not, until Saddam Hussein made life too uncomfortable for them in the latter part of the twentieth century. The Jews emigrated back to Israel over a

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We have always been proud of the Christian attitudes of our workers. I know that the Lord will commend them and give them a chance to be bosses in the Kingdom. Our ministry grows bigger all the time, and I must report with amusement that when I call in, I am occasionally put on hold and hung up on, just like with the big companies. — Zola

(From a new Zola Levitt Ministries employee in Dallas who recently became Employee of the Month)

I just wanted to say how very honored I am to receive this recognition so early in my employment with ZLM! I feel so unworthy, but I truly appreciate each and every one of you for the help that you have given me and for making me feel so welcome here. This definitely is not like any place I have ever worked, and I feel very blessed in being here with all of you! It is so nice to see that this truly is a place of teamwork, where we all care about each other and the ZLM partners, and it is obvious that we all want to glorify the Lord with our work.

Thanks to each one of you from the bottom of my heart! — S.L.

### It was wonderful.

Dear Zola:

I was at your meeting August 25th at the Church on the Move in Tulsa. It was wonderful.

I'm a shut-in and hadn't been able to go to church in over five years. You are my favorite TV program each

# Letters to Zola



Some letters have been edited for space.

week. I pass your newsletter and materials on to my neighbors. You have several new viewers since I started doing that.

I live five miles from town, and people are more neighborly out here. Having lived on this farm for 59 years, I know about everyone in this area. They got together and made it possible to get me down to Tulsa to see you. I have muscular dystrophy and lots of pain, but it was worth every minute and every pain to be there. The question and answer part was great.

God bless you and God bless Israel. — L.G.

The Lord admonishes us to visit the sick, but I am grateful to those Believers who helped this sick lady to visit me. I later called her on the telephone to pay my respects. — Zola

To Zola's Staff:

I would like for you to give to Zola my deepest regards for the laughter he caused in my life while reading the September/October *Levitt Letter*. Laughter really is a good medicine.

I have received the *Levitt Letter* for months now — even though I cannot always give to the ministry like I would like to, for I live on a very limited income (SS). I was reading the letters to Zola — and his answers to some of the most ignorant letters I have ever read. I laughed until my stomach hurt because his wit and charm are marvelous. Zola, continue answering those stupid letters with the immovable truth you always possess. I especially liked your answer to L.R and the fact that those who don't like Jews, if they get to heaven, which I am not sure they will, will bow before the "King of the Jews" — what a wonderful day! Shalom! If you print this letter in the *Levitt Letter* you can use my name.

Annette Carter

Dear Staff:

I can't wait for my next *Levitt Letter* to see what Zola has to say about Israel going into Syria and bombing the Hamas terrorists. Why can't the US take their example on terrorism and to hell with what the rest of the world thinks?

Love in Christ, — M.D.

Courtesy Israel Today



VIVE L'ISRAEL! Israeli PM Sharon welcomes French immigrants.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Dear Zola:

I was disappointed today to receive your September 2004 letter in an envelope proclaiming “Presbyterians denounce Israel.” The truth is that the leadership of the Presbyterian Church USA denounces Israel.

I am a member of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a denomination that does NOT denounce Israel. Thank you for at least naming the PCUSA and not the PCA in your letter. I have several friends and acquaintances in both denominations who believe the nation of Israel is God’s Chosen People and who oppose many of the activities of PCUSA. Some have left PCUSA, because of its unBiblical leadership and their refusal to implement the Biblical leadership that PCUSA members desire.

Please point your criticisms at the leadership of the PCUSA — not at the “Presbyterian Church USA denomination.” The problem with PCUSA is at the top level, not within local congregations that remain faithful to God’s Word. I pray that the God of the Bible will continue to bless your ministry.

In His Care,  
P.N.P.

Dear P.N.P.:

Well, is it really enough to say, “Some of my best friends don’t hate Israel?” That awful General Assembly was chosen by some of your “several friends and acquaintances” and millions of Presbyterians across America. I’m not clear on why we have big denominations and elect questionable leadership. There’s no such example in Scripture. I blame the people who chose those leaders.

As for God, He chose Israel. — Zola

Dear Zola:

Today I got your letter. On the envelope in big letters it says “Presbyterians denounce Israel.” Yipes! That’s like saying “Jews are Democrats.”

The Presbyterian Church USA is well known as being among the most liberal, airheaded churches in America. But there are a number of traditional, evangelical Presbyterian denominations that have not denounced Israel. The PCA and EPC are two that I am familiar with. They are both fast growing and aware of the role of the “Chosen People” throughout history. They know that we gentiles are grafted into Abraham’s family tree.



Please, in the future, say something like “Formerly large, important, now shrinking, Presbyterian sect continues to kiss up to Palestinians.” Thanks, God Bless You, and Shalom. — B

Dear B:

Airheaded churches are one thing, but cursing Israel is quite another. Why don’t you true Christians in the Presbyterian Church throw those unbelievers out of office immediately? Their embarrassment to you, the churches and the Messiah is overwhelming. — Zola

Dear Brother Zola:

I know there are many problems in certain denominations, but shouldn’t we judge a church by the Gospel they are preaching? If they are preaching a Gospel of grace, not works, and believe that salvation is through the blood of Christ, then how are these denominations not part of the church of God? I love you and support you, but I believe these denominations you have named in your past letters of not being part of the church of God, do preach a salvation of grace, don’t they? I pray for the peace of Israel and thank God for your faithfulness to his people.

Thank You. — K.F.T.

Dear K.F.T.:

If they preach salvation, how is it that so few in those denominations seem to be saved? I once pointed out that in thirty years of speaking in churches throughout America and Europe and Israel, until this past summer, I had never had the pulpit in any of those denominations. I can only think that they are not interested in what I come to say, which is Bible teaching and the resulting true salvation. I don’t think it’s any big secret that liberal Christians fail on salvation more than on any other point of Scripture — even more than on Israel! — Zola

period of all twenty-six centuries, but especially during the reign of Saddam.

But my point is larger than that. It seems that since Scripture chooses one small people and one insignificant land, and they are on today's front pages, it is a very valid book of prophecy. Had God chosen England, Japan or New Zealand, I wonder if the world, out of a jealous rage, would have come down on those people. We don't know. What we do know is that today's world is irrationally condemning of Israel, a modern, progressive democracy that does so much good in the world by way of science, medicine and the constant demonstration of democracy in the Middle East.

The United Nations is in existence almost solely to condemn and pummel this one small nation of 5.5 million Jewish people, a population less than some American cities, and a land mass smaller than that of New Jersey.

The very irrationality of this behavior proves the truth of Scripture. Add to it the Lord's prophecies of the Endtimes, "You shall be hated of all nations" (Matthew 24:9), and many others, and even an unbeliever should be convinced that the Bible looks ahead with perfect accuracy.

Therefore, whether from liberal churches in America, rabid Muslims all over the world or the State Department in Washington D.C., the unbeliever continues to voice his opposition to the best-made plans of God.

The irony of it all is that Israel is slated to become "The Head of the Nations" (Jeremiah 31:7) and the sovereign global ruler of the 1,000-year Kingdom to come!

In view of all that, we have decided to take the film crew to Israel on our November tour. We pray for your support of that, and hope that you can accelerate your year-end giving so we can meet the location bills on December 1. We've had this problem before. November is a fine time to tour the Holy Land and to take our crew, but that makes the big invoices due by December 1. Our year-end donations arrive a month later than that, and so we find ourselves in a familiar bind. I really prefer, as a matter of a good testimony to Israel, to pay our bills in full in a timely manner. We have a long reputation of doing that, and it is in itself a kind of witness for our Lord.

Celebrate New Year's Eve in Orlando with Sandra and me along with other readers and viewers like you. Florida is on the mend and should be completely recovered and its usual warm and sunny self by that time. Plan early to sign up for this December 31-January 2 tour of the Holy Land Experience. In the unlikely event of our being forced to cancel or postpone any of our tours (in thirty years and 80 tours of Israel we have never had to cancel or postpone a single one!), of course, your

deposit will be fully refunded.

Sandra and I will be in Florida throughout the months of January and February. If your church would like to reserve a date for a speaking engagement, please call Claudia at 817-417-0059 to make arrangements.



Please make plans early for our upcoming spring tours: The **Deluxe Tour** of Israel from March 13-23 or the **Grand Petra Tour** of Israel and Petra from March 13-27. A special feature of our March tour will be a Volunteer Day of visiting and helping out with a Christian ministry or possibly the Israeli Army (far away from the front lines!). Plans are underway.

Please remember, we will tour Israel in June and again next November, so make your plans early.

For more information on these tours, please call Tony at 214-696-9760 or 1-800-WONDERS (1-800-966-3377) for a brochure on all upcoming tours.

And as always, please pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

— Zola

## *The Complete Idiot's Guide to The Middle East Conflict* book

Second Edition (Copyright 2003)

Even non-idiots will appreciate the value of this completely user-friendly guide with seven relevant sections and twenty-nine extensively subcategorized chapters. Casual readers will gravitate to text boxes entitled "Hieroglyphics," "Sage Sayings," "Mysteries of the Desert," "Caution — Tut Tut!" and "Ask the Sphinx." Speed-readers will adore the chapter summaries entitled "The Least You Need to Know," not to mention the index and "Timeline of Middle East History." This page-turner may not transform you into a scholar on the Middle East, but you probably will seem like one.



Available on page 31.

# HebrewLesson

## The Lord's Prayer -Part 3

By John J. Parsons



תִּתֵּן לָנוּ הַיּוֹם לֶחֶם חֲדָיִם:

Give us this day our daily bread (Matthew 6:11 KJV).

תֵּן	-	לָנוּ	הַיּוֹם	לֶחֶם	חֲדָיִם
(1)		(2) (1)	(2) (1)	(2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)
ten		la-nu	hai-yom	le-chem	chuk-kei-nu
		give to us	this day	our daily bread	

### Hebraic Insight

“Ten lanu...,” Give to us!

It might seem odd that Jesus taught us to use the imperative of the verb “give!” when addressing the Father, but it is undeniably part of the text, and might best be understood as the appeal of a child who is utterly dependent upon his father to provide for his needs. God Himself has created in us all the hunger and thirst for life, and a child without such desire would be a sickly child indeed.

“Haiyom...,” this day

The appeal, however, is qualified by the need for “this day.” The Father’s manna is given to us one day at a time. “Each one is to gather as much as he needs... No one is to keep any of it until morning” (Exodus 16:16,19). We are to live as the birds of the air or the lilies of the field, taking no thought for the morrow, trusting in God’s provision for the needs of our lives.

“Lechem chukeinu,” our daily bread.

This phrase likewise occurs in Proverbs 30:8, where it is written, “Give me neither poverty nor riches, but provide me with *my daily bread* (lechem chuki).” The Hebrew here suggests food that is given by ordinance (*chok*), but the verb might also derive from a related Hebrew verb (*chakok*) meaning “to engrave.” Since God has created us with an “engraved” hunger and thirst, we must ultimately look to Him for our sustenance and life. “Kingdom bread” is really the Bread of Life, which Jesus said truly satisfies our inner hunger. As we seek first His Kingdom (“Thy Kingdom come”) and His Righteousness (“Thy will be done”), we are assured that the needs for this day of Kingdom life will indeed be met (Matthew 6:33-34).

# Terrorist Gangs

End of Day Report by Gary Bauer



The Washington Times published a disturbing story recently on potential al-Qaeda ties to gangs here in the United States. One gang in particular, known as MS-13, is notorious for its extreme violence. It operates in the Washington, D.C. area. Members of MS-13 are wanted for seven killings in Virginia and a machete attack on a 16-year-old that “severely mutilated his hands.” This gang is also known for operating an elaborate smuggling operation along the Mexican border, south of Brownsville, Texas.

What do they smuggle into the U.S.? Drugs and guns, of course. But what has counter-terrorism officials worried is that this gang has “specialized” in smuggling illegal aliens into the United States, especially “OTMs” — illegal aliens designated as “other than Mexican.”

When we apprehend illegal immigrants from Mexico, the government does make some effort to send them back across the border. But what do we do with these “OTMs?” Apparently, there is a gross lack of detention space for holding illegal immigrants in this country,

so, according to *The Washington Times*, Department of Homeland Security officials have been forced to release the “OTMs” back onto our streets. And how many are we talking about? Last year alone, nearly 60,000 non-Mexican illegal immigrants were detained along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The obvious concern is that al-Qaeda may try to use the MS-13 smuggling ring to sneak in terrorist operatives. I recently reported that Mexican officials were reportedly tracking a key al-Qaeda operative, Adnan Shukrijumah, who is believed to be planning a future attack against the U.S. Last month, Shukrijumah was spotted in a region of northwest Mexico, south of the Arizona border. *The Times* report stated that Shukrijumah has also been through Panama, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Before it’s too late, I hope we will begin to seriously debate the immigration issue and recognize it as primarily a matter of national security, rather than economics. ✦

It bears noting that Egypt failed to close its borders during the long Muslim incursion (see “Resisting Egyptian Dhimmitude” on page 28). — Zola

Hezbollah, one of the most vicious of the Islamic terrorist organizations, responsible for the deaths of thousands, has found some Americans who like their company. — Zola

## Birds of a Feather?

Anti-Defamation League Press Release

Reacting to a visit by a delegation from the U.S. Presbyterian Church in Beirut with members of the terrorist group Hezbollah, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) said it is “deeply disturbing that leaders of the Presbyterian Church would seek out a meeting with members of a terrorist organization responsible for attacks that have killed both Americans and Israelis.” Hezbollah is on the U.S. State Department’s watch-list of global terrorist organizations.

The meeting between Sheikh Nabil Qauq, the leader of Hezbollah in south Lebanon, and a delegation of 24 leaders of the U.S. Presbyterian Church on a fact-finding tour in the Middle East was broadcast October 17 on Al Manar, Hezbollah’s satellite television network. During the broadcast, at least one member of the delegation was shown praising Hezbollah. Church elder Ronald Stone, who identified himself as representing the East Liberty Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pa. said: “As an elder of our church, I’d like to say that according to my recent experience, relations and conversations with Islamic leaders are a lot easier than dealings and dialogue with Jewish leaders.” Elder Stone went on to praise Hezbollah: “We treasure the precious words of Hezbollah and your expression of goodwill towards the American people.”

Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, and Rabbi Gary Bretton-Granatour, ADL Director of Interfaith Affairs, issued the following statement: “It is deeply disturbing that leaders of the Presbyterian Church would meet with the leader of a terrorist organization that is directly responsible for attacks against Americans and Israelis, and that has repeatedly denounced America and Israel as enemies of Islam. It is especially troubling and offensive that at least one member of the delegation praised Hezbollah, telling them it was easier to dialogue with terrorists than with Jews when it comes to Middle East issues.”

Coming in an atmosphere where interfaith relations between Presbyterians and Jews have been sorely tested by the church’s proposal to disinvest from Israel, it is disturbing that the Presbyterian leaders made the irresponsible decision to meet with Hezbollah, an organization whose self-stated goal is the total destruction of the Jewish State and the establishment of Islamic rule over Jerusalem.

(Hezbollah was responsible for the 1983 Beirut suicide bomb attack on the U.S. Marine barracks which killed 241 American servicemen). ✦



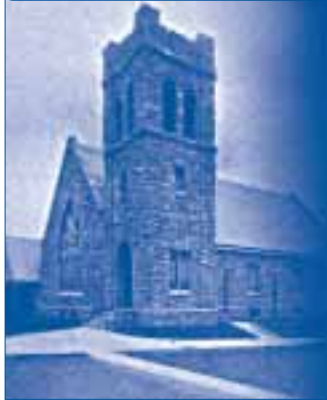
## Nine Judges / Ten Commandments

End of Day Report by Gary Bauer

The recent announcement that the Supreme Court will hear arguments in their current session on the display of the Ten Commandments was a timely reminder of the fact that the country is at a crossroads. You know the dispute. For years, stone replicas of the Ten Commandments have been displayed on public property — in courthouses, schools and parks, without any noticeable damage to the Constitution. But in recent years, the Commandments have become a target of the militant secularists who want to sanitize the public square of all things religious. These are the same extremists who want “In God We Trust” off our coins and “under God” out of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lawsuits have been filed all over the country against the public display of the Commandments, and the lower federal courts have split about 50-50 on the matter. “The Supremes” have agreed to review cases out of Texas and Kentucky in which the Ten Commandments were displayed along with other historic documents, including the Declaration of Independence and the Magna Carta.

What’s the outlook? Not good. There are at least four justices hostile to our worldview and Sandra Day O’Connor often joins them for a five-to-four majority. What about the American people? The latest polls show 75% support displaying the Commandments in public places. But who cares what the people think, since we are quickly becoming a nation “of the judges, by the judges and for the judges.”



# When Churches Head Left

By John Leo,  
*US News and World Report*

America's mainline Protestant churches are in trouble. One sign is shrinking membership. Another is turning their political policymaking over to fringe leftists whose deepest instinct is to blame America and pummel Israel whenever possible. The latest disgrace is the Presbyterian Church's plan for selective divestment in Israel — ending the church's investment in multinational companies that the church believes bear particular responsibility for the sufferings of the Palestinian people. For example, the Presbyterians say they may divest themselves of Caterpillar stock, because bulldozers made by that company are used to level Palestinian homes in Israel's antiterrorism campaign. Of course, these bulldozers can also be used to move debris after Palestinian suicide bombers have finished blowing up another round of women, children and other civilian bystanders in Israel.

How do the Presbyterians go about adopting stances like this? Apparently they cast a stern moral glance around the world, look for possible abuses in China, North Korea and Iran, and seeing nothing disturbing there, decide to focus once again on Israel. The conservative Institute on Religion and Democracy (IRD) released a measured and devastating report on the human-rights efforts of mainline churches and groups—the United Methodist Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Episcopal Church, and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), plus the reliably leftist National Council of Churches and World Council of Churches. The report, covering the years 2000 to 2003, found that of 197 human-rights criticisms by mainline churches and groups, 37 percent were aimed at Israel and 32 percent at the United States. Only 19 percent of these criticisms were directed at nations listed as “unfree” in Freedom House's respected annual listing of free, partly free and unfree nations. So Israel was twice as likely to be hammered by the mainliners as all the unfree authoritarian nations put together. The fixation on Israel left little time and inclination for these churches to notice the most dangerous violations of human rights around the world. Not one nation bordering Israel was criticized by a single mainline church or group, the IRD report says. No criticisms at all were leveled at China, Libya, Syria, or North Korea.

Human-rights groups are normally accorded great respect for the work they do. But the rights work of the mainline churches is basically a one-sided expression of ideology—America is essentially viewed as a malignant force in the world, while Israel is seen as nothing more than a dangerous colonial implant of the West. The IRD report says the mainliners' “pervasive anti-Americanism is demonstrated time and again in their public-policy advocacy, and one need not investigate far to find it.” Later, the report says, “When U.S. policy cannot be blamed, the mainline denominations seem less interested in speaking up for the victims.”

Knee-jerk anti-Americanism is an old story in the mainline church bureaucracies. During the 1970s and 1980s, these churches generally ignored human-rights abuses in the Soviet Union and focused instead on the United States as the primary source of abuse. One result was to scorn dissident movements, such as Solidarity in Poland, which were pressing Moscow for more freedom.

The persistent folly of the World Council of Churches on this issue made news in July when its former president, Konrad Raiser, apologized for not supporting freedom movements during the Cold War. At this rate, a future president of the World Council might decide he's finally ready to apologize for ignoring severe abuses in today's vicious dictatorships, oh, sometime maybe around 2030.

The Presbyterian divestment plan seems to be an obvious effort to get an anti-Israel bandwagon rolling among the churches. The Episcopalians quickly obliged, letting it be known that divestment in companies doing business with Israel is now up for discussion. A high-level group from the church recently toured the Middle East, meeting with Yasser Arafat, but not with any Israeli officials. Par for the course. The divestment movement is a pretty big issue on some college campuses, supported by Muslim students and aging professors committed to blaming the West for all the world's evils. As part of this effort, Israel is routinely equated with the apartheid regime in South Africa and, by implication, with the Nazi regime in Germany. Despite all the inflammatory and one-sided rhetoric, no university has ever come close to supporting divestment.

Many Jews see the divestment movement as an instrument of anti-Semitism. Maybe it is, but the efforts of the woeful mainline churches are better seen as classic knee-jerk leftism, an expression of hard-core loathing for the United States and the West, with Israel as a stand-in for America. The mainline churches believe they still stand for high moral purpose in politics. They don't. They can no longer be taken seriously on politics or human rights.

# Iwo Jima, if Covered by the News Media Today

By Zell Miller (Democratic U.S. senator from Georgia)  
*The Washington Times*

What if today's reporters had covered the Marines landing on Iwo Jima, a small island in the far away Pacific Ocean, in the same way they're covering the war in Iraq? Here's how it might have looked:

## DAY 1

With the aid of satellite technology, Cutie Cudley interviews Marine Pfc. John Doe, who earlier came ashore with 30,000 other Marines.

Cutie: "John, we have been told by the administration that this island has great strategic importance because if you're successful, it could become a fueling stop for our bombers on the way to Japan. But, as you know, we can't be sure this is the truth. What do you think?"

Pfc. Doe: "Well, I've been pinned down by enemy fire almost ever since I got here and have had a couple of buddies killed right beside me. I'm a Marine and I go where they send me. One thing's for sure, they are putting up a fight not to give up this island."

Cutie: "Our military analysts tell us that the Japanese are holed up in caves and miles of connecting tunnels they've built over the years. How will you ever get them out?"

Pfc. Doe: "With flame throwers, ma'am."

Cutie (incredulously): "Flame throwers? You'll burn them alive?"

Pfc. Doe: "Yes ma'am, we'll fry their asses. Excuse me, I shouldn't have said that on TV."

Cutie (audible gasp): "How horrible!"

Pfc. Doe (obviously wanting to move on): "We're at war, ma'am."

(A Marine sergeant watching nearby yells, "Ask her what does she want us to do — sing to them, 'Come out, come out, wherever you are. Pretty please.'")

Cutie: "Pfc. Doe, what's that mountain in the background? Is that the one they say is impregnable?"

Pfc. Doe: "I don't know what that word means, ma'am, but that's Mt. Suribachi, and we're going to put a flag right up on top of it just as soon as we can. I gotta go."

Cutie to camera: "No one has yet really confirmed why this particular battle in this particular place is even being waged. Already, on the first day, at least 500 Marines have been killed and a thousand wounded. For this? (Camera pans to a map with a speck of an island in the Pacific. Then a close up of nothing but black volcanic ash.) For this? For this?" (Cutie's sweet voice becomes more strident as it fades out.)

## DAY 2

At 7 a.m., Cutie's morning show opens with a shot of hundreds of dead bodies bobbing in the water's edge. Others are piled on top of each other on shore. After a few seconds, one can see Marines digging graves to bury the dead.

Cutie: "There is no way the Marines could have expected this. Someone got it all wrong. No one predicted this. This has been a horrible 24 hours for our country. This is a slaughterhouse. After all this fighting, Marines control only about a mile and a half of beach and the casualties are now over 3,500 and rising rapidly. We'd like to know what you think. Call the number on the bottom of the screen. Give us your opinions on these three questions:

1. Were the Marines properly trained?
2. Is this nothing of an island worth all these lives?
3. Has the president once again misled the American people?

"After the break, we'll ask our own Democratic and Republican analysts, both shouting at the same time, of course, what they have to yell about all this. It should make for a very shrill, provocative morning.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



“But before we leave this horrible — some will say needless — scene, let us give you one more look at this Godforsaken place where these young Americans are dying. Volcanic ash, cold, wet miserable Marines just thankful to be alive. And still no flag that we had been promised on that mountain. Things have gone from bad to worse in this obviously misguided military operation. One thing is certain, there should be and there will be a high-partisan — make that bipartisan — congressional inquiry into this.”

### DAY 3

Cutie: “Marines continue to be locked in a life-or-death struggle over this worthless piece of real estate in the middle of the Pacific. The word ‘quagmire’ is being used in the U.S. Senate, a body very familiar with quagmires. Senator Blowhard has called it ‘a colossal military blunder.’ And Senator Bombast maintains it was a fraudulent scheme hatched while the president was on his sixth vacation at the Little White House in Georgia.

“The recently organized Senate Squeakers Group may ask for the president to resign. They maintain that politics should not stop at the water’s edge in times of war, calling that tradition an old-fashioned idea that has no place in the new century of dysfunctional government. Over forty special interest groups concurred and all issued identical news releases.

“We now turn to our political analyst, James Crankville.”

James: “Cutie, the overnight poll numbers have hit this president right between the eyes. Nationwide, an overwhelming 98 percent said that if possible, they would like to see this country fight a war without a single American casualty. That is nearly the same percentage we saw three days ago when the American public said they would be in favor of going to war if we could win without firing a shot. So, you can see there is a trend developing here that spells trouble for this administration.

“That this president is going ahead with this war is just unbelievable. The witty *New York Times* columnist Myscream Loud wrote in her inimitable fashion that ‘The president’s policy is as crippled as his legs’ (giggle). Last week she said he had reached the point where no one will ‘Fala’ him. F-A-L-A, his dog, get it (more giggles)? Has that woman got a way with words! Go, girl.”

### DAY 4

Cutie (holds up front page of *The New York Times*): “This morning, *The New York Times* had this photo on the front page. As you can see, the Marines have finally raised a flag on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima. The fighting is still going on, but it looks like this battle is over. We tried to find Pfc. Doe, the young Marine I interviewed that terrible first day, but he was unavailable. Here is

Corporal Smith, though. (With girlish enthusiasm). “Well, we see that flag flying. It’s pretty much over, isn’t it?”

Cpl. Smith: “Oh, no ma’am, it’s not over by any means. We’ve got weeks of fighting and dying to go yet. This place is a long ways from being secured. But we did get that flag up there and it sure makes us all proud.”

Cutie: “I can’t tell much from the photo. Their faces are not even visible, making it impossible for us to descend upon any of their families. Corporal Smith, do you know any of the flag raisers? And do you know who ordered it put up there? Did the order come directly from the president for political reasons?”

Cpl. Smith: “All I know is that I heard some colonel put the word out that he wanted ‘a flag put up there where every SOB on this island could see it.’ Excuse me, ma’am.”

Cutie: “We know you’ve been in the heat of battle so...”

Cpl. Smith: “Still am, ma’am.”

Cutie: “Yes, of course, but it’s all over. (Nervous giggle). Except here on Capitol Hill, of course. Corporal Smith, I wonder if you know the gender, race and ethnicity of the group that put the flag up. In other words, did that group look like America?”

Corporal Smith: “Look like America? They are Americans, ma’am. United States Marines.”

Cutie: “Any females?”

Cpl. Smith: “No, ma’am.”

Cutie: “Any African Americans?”

Cpl. Smith: “I don’t know, ma’am. But there is an Indian in Easy Company. I’ve got to go now, got a lot to do.”

Cutie: “And we’ve got a lot to do here too. Spring training has started and the sun is shining brightly in Florida. But first, this word from our sponsors.”

Historical note: In one of the bloodiest battles of World War II, when it was said “uncommon courage was a common virtue,” 6,000 Marines were killed and 18,000 wounded. Some 21,000 Japanese were killed. The island itself is still barren and only a handful of people live on it. But after it was secured by the Marines, B-29s made over 2,200 emergency landings on it, saving the lives of more than 24,000 crewmen. AP photographer Joe Rosenthal won a Pulitzer Prize for the flag-raising photo. Of the six men in the photo, three were buried in that black volcanic ash, one came out on a stretcher. Only two walked off the island. 🌟

As an oboe player myself, I was encouraged by the following story from Jerusalem. Not every Palestinian is a terrorist, especially not the Christians among them, and, as in Iraq, there is hope for this society. But also as in Iraq (and Saudi Arabia, Iran and Syria), it badly needs regime change. — Zola

## Musical Ambassador

Although a relative newcomer to Israel, Demetrios Karamintzas, the new principal oboe player for the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, is already making an impact on the lives of several Jerusalem-area children through his music and teaching. Through the Barenboim-Said Foundation, established by Director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Israeli citizen Daniel Barenboim and writer and former Palestine National Council member Edward Said, Demetrios and other professional musicians in Israel offer their time and talent to teach music to several children in the Arab areas in and around Jerusalem. The goal of the Barenboim-Said Foundation is to bring Western classical music training to the Palestinians, and eventually the establishment of an all-Palestinian youth orchestra.

Demetrios currently teaches two students in Jerusalem and one in Ramallah. They are Arab children of elementary to high school age, and at various levels of musical experience. Despite the potential dangers and time-consuming process of traveling to and from the Arab controlled areas, Demetrios says: “With children as interested, enthusiastic, and gracious as these, whatever the political or religious situation, who am I to refuse them my time and efforts?”

In addition to these children, Demetrios also teaches a teacher. George Diek is an Arab-Christian who teaches music to Christian and Muslim children grades K-11 at the Dar al-Kalima School in Bethlehem. At age 36, this “adult beginner” is significantly older than the average player in the youth orchestra, but with his music comes a youthful ambition. I recently had the chance to talk with George in Bethlehem during one of his four-hour lessons with Demetrios.

George has been a longtime recorder player, but a few years ago, after having listened to several works from the Baroque period, particularly Bach, he fell in love with the sound of the oboe and set his mind to learning to play. He went to a store in Jerusalem to purchase an oboe. The store owners not only didn't have one in stock, they had to look in a book to find out what an oboe is. Since special order items like this can be very expensive, George decided instead to purchase a used oboe for \$550, still a small fortune for most Palestinians. He showed me this first oboe and commented that it

was an “antique” and should be “in a museum,” but seemed as proud of it today as surely he was when he purchased it.

George began teaching himself how to play one of the most difficult instruments of all. This went on for four years until last April when, through the Barenboim-Said Foundation, George started formal training. A couple of months later, Demetrios took over, and has been working with George ever since.

Now George himself has two young oboe students, including a former drummer and piano player, and Demetrios' goal is “to get him independent as soon as possible, not just for his own sake, but for the children he is teaching.”

George laments that there are problems that he faces in his teaching. Over the course of the last several years, during this latest *intifada*, a number of terrorists have originated from Bethlehem, as well as those who would shoot at the Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo from neighboring Beit Jalla. Because of this, Israeli Army and security forces have conducted multiple raids into Bethlehem and the surrounding area, imposing curfews and checkpoints on the local population. While these curfews and checkpoints are necessary to fight terror and save innocent lives, they can also inconvenience the Arabs not involved in terror, including George's students trying to get to school. This makes for a very unpredictable school schedule, and at times prevents George from teaching for days or weeks in a row. However, George states that the greatest problem he sees is the lack of culture in the Arab areas. He says that most children just don't express interest in music or other cultural works, and parents rarely encourage them to do so.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

George (left) during one of his lessons with Demetrios.





The following story demonstrates that hatred of Israel can become almost a mental illness. Judging by the heavy-handed reportage, I assume that Islamic sympathizers are behind these medical reports. — Zola



www.honestreporting.com

Two reputable medical journals recently allowed crude anti-Israel propaganda to masquerade on their pages as legitimate academic discourse:

1) *The British Medical Journal* — hailed by *The Financial Times* as “one of the world’s top four general medical journals” — included in its October 16 issue an article entitled “Palestine: The assault on health and other war crimes.” The author, Dr. Derrick Summerfield, compares the IDF’s acts to those of the 9/11 terrorist hijackers:

“The Israeli army, with utter impunity, has killed more unarmed Palestinian civilians since September 2000 than the number of people who died on September 11, 2001.”

The only actual similarity between the two is the death count — approximately 3,000. Summerfield labels all Palestinian casualties “unarmed civilians” — denying the fact that (1) the clear majority of Palestinians who have died since September 2000 were terrorists and armed combatants (according to the Institute for Counter-Terrorism), and (2) no Palestinian civilian has been deliberately killed “with impunity” — in stark contrast to 9/11.

Summerfield goes on claim that since some Palestinian minors have died from wounds to the upper body and head:

“Clearly, soldiers are routinely authorized to shoot to kill children in situations of minimal or no threat.”

Beyond falsely branding Israel as guilty of “war crimes,” deliberate child-killing, illegal colonization, and apartheid, the article makes absolutely no mention of how Palestinian terror and political corruption have contributed to the unfortunate state of the Palestinian health system.

2) The June 2004 edition of *Diabetes Voice* — a quarterly publication of the International Diabetes Federation — included a report on that disease in the Gaza Strip. Here’s the abstract, which appeared in bold print at the top of the article:

“The year 2003 marked the 55th anniversary of the Nakba (cataclysm) of the Palestinian people. In 1948, according to the United Nations Conciliation Commission,

760,000 Palestinians were evicted from their cities and villages, hundreds of which were razed to the ground.

What remains of the Palestinian people’s land is now split between the West Bank of the river Jordan and Qita Ghazzah (Gaza Strip), and remains occupied by Israeli military forces and settlers. In 2003, the second uprising, or Al-Aqsa Intifada, against this occupation, entered its third year.

Panagiotis Tsapogas, Medical Coordinator of the Greek section of *Medecins Sans Frontieres* (Doctors Without Borders) in Gaza, 2002-2003, reports on the difficulties faced by Palestinian people with diabetes in Gaza, and makes a call for the provision of improved diabetes care in the region.”

*NGO-Monitor*, which promotes accountability of non-governmental organizations active in the Mideast conflict, responded:

“This short abstract consists of a blatantly political attack that has little or nothing to do with diabetes. The one-sided and highly distorted version of history that is presented is based on the Palestinian version of events and vocabulary, and immorally ignores the brutality of Palestinian terrorism. It is also entirely inconsistent with the goals proclaimed by *Diabetes Voice*, the International Diabetes Federation and *Medecins Sans Frontieres*.”

The International Diabetes Federation (known, ironically, as the IDF) published an official apology for the abstract quoted above, and the editor-in chief of the journal resigned over the matter. The abstract was rewritten for the publication’s archived, website version of the article.

Not only medical journals have contributed to this disturbing trend of inserting anti-Israel rhetoric into ostensibly neutral academic literature.

*Academe*, the journal of the American Association of University Professors, included an update on Palestinian universities in its September-October 2004 issue. While lamenting the “infamous segregation wall” and roadblocks that limit access to Palestinian schools, author Mary Gray cites BirZeit University as an example.

Gray gives no explanation whatsoever why Israel implemented these strictures — to deny terrorists free access to Israel. Moreover, Gray ignores the fact that BirZeit is one of the very centers of Palestinian incitement to terror — Hamas won a recent student body election there by featuring exploding models of Israeli buses and claims of prowess based on its success in killing more Israelis than the other parties. ■

We received several letters criticizing our term “Muslim Murderers,” but please understand that we took pains to separate the terrorists from other Muslims in the news reports from which we took the false terms. This writer explains further. — Zola

# They’re Terrorists, Not Activists

By Daniel Pipes, *New York Sun*

“I know it when I see it” was the famous response by a U.S. Supreme Court justice to the vexed problem of defining pornography. Terrorism may be no less difficult to define, but the wanton killing of schoolchildren, of mourners at a funeral, or workers at their desks in skyscrapers, surely fits the know-it-when-I-see-it definition.

The press, however, generally shies away from the word *terrorist*, preferring euphemisms. Take the assault that led to the deaths of some 400 people, many of them children, in Beslan, Russia, on September 3. Journalists have delved deep into their thesauruses, finding at least twenty euphemisms for terrorists:

- Assaultants – National Public Radio.
- Attackers – *The Economist*.
- Bombers – *The Guardian*.
- Captors – the Associated Press.
- Commandos – Agence France-Presse refers to the terrorists both as “membres du commando” and “commando.”
- Criminals – *The Times* (London).
- Extremists – United Press International.
- Fighters – *The Washington Post*.
- Group – *The Australian*.
- Guerrillas: in a *New York Post* editorial.
- Gunmen – Reuters.
- Hostage-takers – *The Los Angeles Times*.
- Insurgents – in a *New York Times* headline.
- Kidnappers – *The Observer* (London).
- Militants – *The Chicago Tribune*.

- Perpetrators – *The New York Times*.
- Radicals – the BBC.
- Rebels – in a *Sydney Morning Herald* headline.
- Separatists – *The Christian Science Monitor*.
- Activists – *The Pakistan Times*.

The origin of this unwillingness to name terrorists seems to lie in the Arab-Israeli conflict, prompted by an odd combination of sympathy in the press for the Palestinian Arabs and intimidation by them. The sympathy is well known; the intimidation less so. Reuters’ Nidal al-Mughrabi made the latter explicit in advice for fellow reporters in Gaza to avoid trouble on the website [www.newssafety.com](http://www.newssafety.com), where one tip reads: “Never use the word terrorist or terrorism in describing Palestinian gunmen and militants; people consider them heroes of the conflict.”

ZOLA LEVITT PRESENTS TV AIRING SCHEDULE

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



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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).

# Dead Ahead

By William F. Buckley Jr.,  
www.nationalreview.com



Events in Iraq bring home, with near-daily frequency, the mess we are in. To acknowledge this isn't to say that we were wrong in going to war. But the daily news reports do instruct us in the need for hard strategic thought of a kind that we are unlikely to get from the president or from John Kerry, whose perspectives are circumscribed by immediate concerns.

The challenge we face is brilliantly addressed by Mark Helprin of the Claremont Institute in the current issue of the *Claremont Review of Books*. What he tells us is something we osmotically know simply by looking hard at the scene in the Middle East and staring down into the Axis of Evil pool, where the long shadow of China can, however faintly, be discerned.

What Mr. Helprin reminds us is that, in fact, we are at war against terrorism and that the appropriate mobilization to fight such a war is a whole dreamland away. Since launching the war in Iraq, we have conquered Baghdad and deposed Saddam. In the 18 months since the war began, we have every day faced what seems an infinite elongation of the task at hand.

There are more terrorists today than there were a year ago. The mobilization of terrorist enclaves continues. The looming presence in the Middle East isn't the U.S. military; it is an Iran that seems to be engaged in a contest with North Korea as to which nation can more quickly attain nuclear weaponry.

Mr. Helprin begins with a postulate, which is that the United States has the resources to fight back. But to do this requires a huge investment in military and paramilitary enterprises. The good news is that we have the wherewithal; the discomfiting news, that sacrifices will be needed, and, above all, the will.

Helprin gives us an economic perspective. The United States produces about \$11 trillion worth of goods and services annually. We allocate \$400 billion to military spending. That amounts to 3.6 percent of the gross domestic product.

By contrast, during the peacetime years between 1940 and 2000, we spent 5.7 percent of the GDP on defense. In the war years, we spent 13.3 percent on defense. By the last years of World War II, we were spending on the military as much as 38.5 percent of the GDP. To put the

same level of effort into the war on terrorism that we put into World War II, we would need, for military spending, \$4.2 trillion. That's 10 times the existing budget.

How to deploy such a force? Mr. Helprin accosts the question of Iran. "The sure way to strip Iran of its nuclear potential would be clear: issuance of an ultimatum stating that we will not allow a terrorist state, the legislature of which chants like a robot for our demise, to possess nuclear weapons."

We would clear the Persian Gulf of Iranian naval and coastal defense forces. Cut corridors across Iran that would be free of effective anti-aircraft capability. Bring carriers to the Gulf and expeditionary air forces to Saudi Arabia, and prepare long-range heavy bombers here and in Guam.

"If then our conditions were unmet, we could destroy every nuclear, ballistic missile, military research, and military technical facility in Iran, with the promise that were the prohibited activities to resume and/or relocate, we would destroy completely the economic infrastructure of the country."

Mr. Helprin, the author of "A Soldier of the Great War" and "Winter's Tale," is a graduate of Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies and has served in the Israeli infantry and air force. He was an adviser on defense and foreign relations to Bob Dole during the 1996 presidential campaign.

His vision is informed by the catastrophic consequences of modern weaponry. We can't be indifferent to movements in any country that are designed to accumulate the kind of power which could kill Americans by the millions. We did nothing, for two decades, to declare ourselves at war with the poison of armed anti-Americanism.

The terrorists, "who, contrary to the common wisdom, always have an address, could strike, and strike, and strike again — our embassies, Navy and largest city — and not suffer a single punitive expedition." September 11 changed that, but we haven't learned that an effort hugely greater in scale and more refined in conception is required to signal our determination to take on the disease wherever it is nurtured.

What is it worth to be properly prepared for a smallpox epidemic that might kill scores of millions of Americans, or perhaps 100 million? And to preserve as a principle and in actuality both American security and independence? Merely as a matter of honor, with all calculations aside, it is worth any material expense to remove terrorist hands from the control of American destiny.



Despite the problems that he faces, George remains focused on learning the oboe, and determined in his teaching. Demetrios, also encouraged and impressed by George's accomplishments, says: "I think the fact that George is able to remain so focused on his music is very inspiring, considering the living conditions in Bethlehem. He is the picture of patience and goodwill."

Demetrios, George and their students work hard to together bring their common love of music to an increasingly chaotic and troubled area, despite their dissimilarities of religion, politics and socio-economic standing.

Demetrios' final words, however, are reserved for his biggest kid. "I think we all can learn a little something from George."



Pat Buchanan outdoes any Muslim terrorist or any Palestinian propagandist in his hatred of Israel. In his magazine *The American Conservative*, he wrote an editorial that defamed the Chosen People and the Promised Land from start to finish, without a single breath about any Palestinian provocations. I have not been able to look at his face on television since, and I cannot understand his popularity in our democracy. — Zola

## A True Jew Hater

*The Global Outlook*



Virulently anti-Zionist has-been Pat Buchanan is appearing on his cronies' TV talk shows to hype his book, *Where the Right Went Wrong*, allowing him to spew his decades-old venom against the neo-cons (code word for ex-liberal Jews), in their attempt to undermine "America's balanced strategy."

In the book, he opens up the conspiracy theory, blaming Israeli Prime Minister Sharon for undermining the Bush Administration and bending it to his will. He gleefully uses the yet-unsubstantiated charges made against mid-level operatives in the State department of passing information on Iran's nuclear ambitions to AIPAC, the registered pro-Israel Washington lobby. In effect, he blames the problems of the Middle East on Israel's "intransigence."

Hell knows no fury like a failed politician and talk show host attempting to maintain his place in the political sun. ❄

Congress just passed the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004. As to Buchanan, his fifteen minutes are up. — Zola

## Don't Worry, the UN is Watching Them...

By Louis Charbonneau, [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com)

Iran has begun processing uranium to prepare it for enrichment — a process that can be used to make nuclear weapons — in defiance of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog, a diplomat stated recently.

But Iran's president said Tehran would not give in to foreign pressure aimed at stopping what he said was a peaceful nuclear energy program, but which Washington says is a covert scheme aimed at building bombs. A spokeswoman for the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said the uranium processing was being closely monitored by the IAEA.

"The uranium conversion is being conducted under the supervision of the IAEA," agency spokeswoman Melissa Fleming said. The IAEA has installed monitoring cameras at the Isfahan uranium conversion facility in Iran to oversee the production of uranium hexafluoride, the feed material for centrifuges used in enrichment. The purpose of the monitoring is to ensure that nothing is secretly diverted for weapons activities. "They (the IAEA) were aware that the production had begun," a diplomat close to the IAEA told Reuters.

It was unclear how much uranium hexafluoride Tehran has produced so far. The Isfahan plant intends to process a total of 37 tons of raw "yellowcake" uranium, which experts say could be enriched into enough material for up to five atomic weapons.

The IAEA board of governors has passed a resolution demanding that Iran freeze all activities connected with uranium enrichment, including making feed material for centrifuges. If Tehran fails to heed the demands, the board said it would consider possible "further steps." Diplomats on the board said this included possibly referring Iran to the U.N. Security Council, which can impose sanctions.

But Iran repeated that it had no intention of halting any nuclear activities. "We will continue our cooperation with the IAEA, but at the same time we will not subdue ourselves or our nuclear program because of foreign pressure," Iranian President Mohammad Khatami told reporters in Khartoum during an official visit to Sudan. "It is our duty and right to use this nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and I'd like to assure the international community that we will not go to the extent of producing nuclear weapons."



# “...and so are the Israelis!”

By Zev Chafets, [www.jewishworldreview.com](http://www.jewishworldreview.com)

In an interview in an Israeli newspaper, Giora Eiland, Israel's national security adviser, made a startling statement: November will be the “point of no return” for taking out the Iranian nuclear program.

“Point of no return” is a phrase with a history. In 1981, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin demanded to know when Saddam Hussein's nuclear plant at Osirak, Iraq, would reach it. Military intelligence then, as always, was muddy. Some of Begin's advisers counseled patience. Others warned that delay could be fatal. The most influential advocate of the go-for-it approach was Begin's minister of defense — Ariel Sharon.

Iran is now on the verge of acquiring nuclear weapons. President Bush has said categorically that he will not let that happen. But how will he stop it? Persuasion? The Iranians are spitting in the face of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Invasion? The U.S. military is already busy in Iraq and Afghanistan. Covert action? A botched operation would bring the wrath and scorn of the world down on the U.S.

Bush has a domestic problem, too. The weapons of mass destruction fiasco in Iraq has hurt his credibility on the subject of Iranian nukes. It would not be easy to justify a preemptive strike on the basis of CIA information.

Still, the ayatollahs are about to go atomic — and somebody has to stop them. That will be a dangerous and thankless job. Increasingly, it looks as if it will be outsourced to Israel.

The Bush administration already has supplied the tool kit, including the F-16I, the first Israeli war plane capable of striking Iran without in-flight refueling. The U.S. also has supplied ordnance capable of piercing massive fortifications.

“It is rather significant that the United States is now selling Israel over \$300 million worth of bunker-busting bombs. They don't need those for the Palestinians,” Richard Holbrooke told Bill O'Reilly on Sept. 23. O'Reilly was visibly surprised by the clear implication of this observation. Holbrooke is, after all, the leading Democratic spokesman on foreign affairs, John Kerry's presumptive secretary of state.

O'Reilly: “But wouldn't that be a disaster, to have the Israelis do it?”

Holbrooke: “I'm not advocating this.”

O'Reilly: “Right.”

Holbrooke: “[But] let's realize where we are. In 1981, the Israelis attacked the Iraqi nuclear plant at Osirak. President [Ronald] Reagan personally criticized Israel. Today, we all recognize that Israel was 100% right to do it.”

This may be America's last remaining point of 100% bipartisan foreign policy agreement: Israel was right to smash the Iraqi reactor 23 years ago, and it should be equipped for a similar job in Iran.

In 1981, Begin was forced to act without American approval. Prime Minister Sharon cannot afford to do that. It is a one-superpower world now, and U.S. support is absolutely critical to Israel. But Sharon will not be just a blind enforcer. He is, after all, the only guy around with experience in Islamic bomb-busting.

He also has the most to lose. If he takes out the Iranian nukes, it will further enrage the Muslim world. If he tries and fails, Israel's deterrent will be badly damaged. Either way, Iran very likely will attack Israel (and Jews around the world) with everything in its terrorist and conventional arsenal. Under the circumstances, it is not unreasonable to suppose that Sharon will demand — and get — a role in determining the what and the how of a future operation. And the when.

That's why it was so startling and instructive to hear Sharon's national security adviser say, in public, that the point of no return is now upon us.



# U.S. Churches vs U.S., Israel

Jim Brown, *Agape Press*

A new report on the human-rights advocacy of mainline Protestant denominations raises concerns about the anti-Semitic attitudes embedded in those churches. The report indicates leaders in those denominations have an extremely biased approach to human rights.

The report is called *Human Rights Advocacy in the Mainline Protestant Churches (2000-2003)* and was published by the Washington, DC-based Institute on Religion & Democracy (IRD).

The 40-page report documents an IRD analysis of human-rights criticisms leveled by four Protestant denominations — the United Methodist Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Episcopal Church USA, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) — as well as by the National Council of Churches and World Council of Churches.

IRD concluded from its analysis that the leadership of those denominations is focusing on the United States and Israel as the “primary perpetrators” of human-rights violations in the world. The following statements appear on page two of the IRD report:

“It is evident from the tone and language used by mainline church leaders in their statements and legislation that, as a group, they believe that the United States is often a malignant influence in the world. This pervasive anti-Americanism is demonstrated time and again in their public policy advocacy, and one need not investigate far to find it.

“Given the dramatic unwillingness of the mainline churches to criticize states around Israel for their human rights abuses — not only the connections to worldwide terrorism, but also the oppression and brutality toward their own people — it is not unreasonable to ask whether anti-Jewish animus may play some role in the churches’ skewed human rights advocacy.”

IRD found that more than a third (37 percent) of the denominations’ resolutions

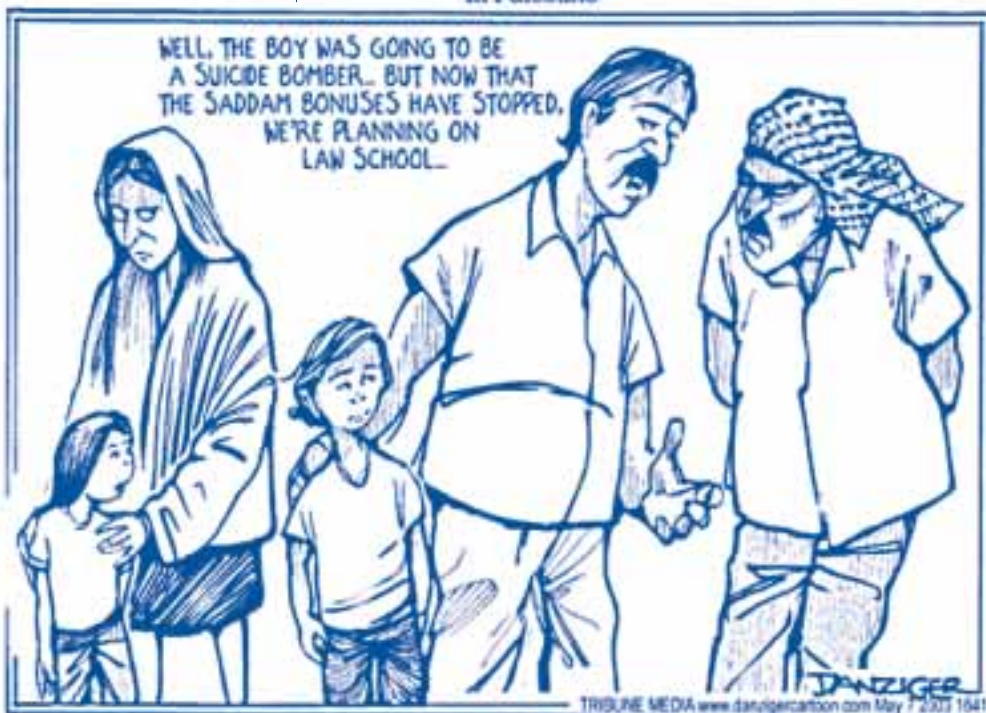
and statements from 2000 to 2003 were aimed at Israel; 32 percent were aimed at the U.S. Twenty nations shared the remaining 31 percent, which means most nations were not criticized more than once during that time, whereas Israel was criticized 72 times.

The research of report co-author Erik Nelson uncovered a glaring double-standard. “In all of the criticisms that we found, there was not a single criticism of the Palestinian Authority,” Nelson says. “In most cases in those churches, there has never actually been a criticism of the Palestinian Authority that we know of.” According to Nelson, officials with those churches have been quick to deny that any anti-Semitism is involved in their criticisms. Yet he contends it is “something that they need to look at.”

“[W]e also think the issue is ideological; that it has to do with their assumptions about what causes human-rights abuses around the world,” he adds. “Most mainline churches tend to think that the United States is responsible for those kinds of abuses.”

Nelson, a research associate for the IRD’s Episcopal Action program, says mainline churches should not be expending most of their energy criticizing one nation when their fellow Christians are suffering in oppressive nations like China, North Korea and Cuba. But lingering commitments to liberation theology and anti-Americanism, he says, have led those denominations to refrain from criticizing those countries.

In Palestine



# Silencing Free Speech

By Kathleen Rhodes, [www.cnsnews.com](http://www.cnsnews.com)

Cornell University's Student Assembly Finance Committee recently voted to freeze funds for the school's admittedly conservative newspaper, sparking charges of ideological discrimination and censorship.

Defenders of the decision maintain that freezing *The Cornell American's* funds was based on charges that the publication failed to meet certain ethical criteria and had nothing to do with politics.

*The Cornell American* has raised eyebrows in the past, even inciting protest, with its stories on affirmative action and same-sex marriage. It has published five widely read issues and has been cited by Fox News, the Leadership Institute, *FrontPage Magazine*, and *The Cornell Daily Sun*.

Prompting the freeze in funds, two charges were made against *The Cornell American*. The first was that the Cornell Literary Society, the group that requested funds for the paper, had falsely claimed their current advisor to be a staff member at the university. The second was that the Cornell Literary Society had proposed funding for a nonpartisan literary publication as opposed to a politically biased newspaper.

These charges were submitted for review by the Student Assembly Appropriation Committee as well as by the university ombudsman, but no decision has been reached as to their validity. Meanwhile, the newspaper is without school funding.

Eric Shive, editor-in-chief of *The American*, denied the validity of the charges and attributed them to a political agenda.

Ross Blankenship, president of Cornell's chapter of Students for Academic Freedom, questions why *The American*, out of 369 campus organizations, was "singled out."

"This goes back to the root of intellectual discourse and academic freedom. This is a conservative group that wants to have something different from the status quo," Blankenship said on October 7. "The university is fundamentally violating the right of freedom of speech."

While investigations continue into the charges, director of the Campus Leadership Program Daniel Flynn told [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) that funding for *The Cornell American* will be provided by the Leadership Institute to make up for the lack of funds from the school.

"[The school] can't just deny students access to money

because they subscribe to a certain set of political beliefs," Flynn said.

A spokesperson for Cornell University could not be reached for comment. ❖

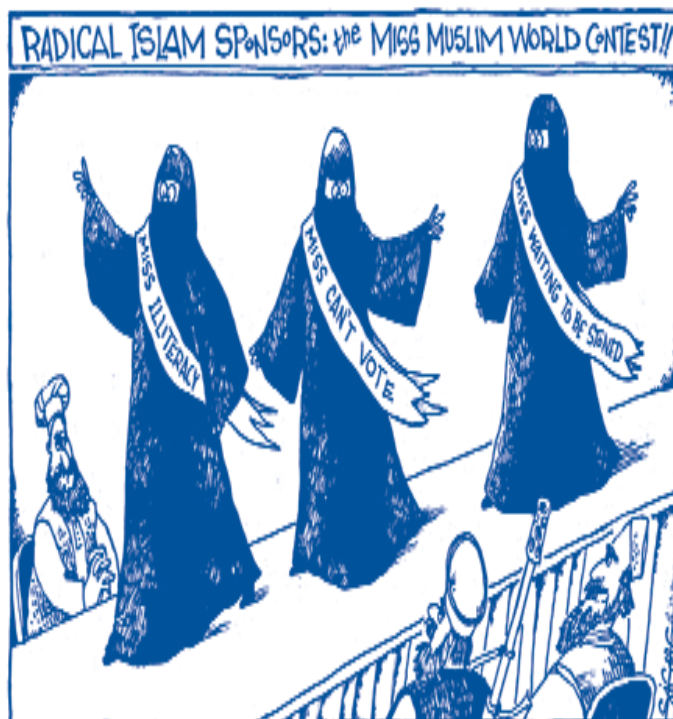
## The Saudi Men's Club

Associated Press

Women may neither vote nor run in Saudi Arabia's first nationwide elections, dashing hopes of progress that the kingdom is moving towards reforms. Some women considered the move yet another indignity in a country where they need their husbands' written permission for education, travel or work.

The religious establishment had been lobbying against women's participation in the elections. One official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said there are not enough women to run women's-only registration centers and polling stations, and that only a fraction of the country's women have the photo identity cards that would have been needed to vote.

Many women in Saudi Arabia, the birthplace of Islam, have balked at getting the ID cards — introduced 3 years ago — because the photographs would show their faces unveiled. Saudi Arabia's only electoral experiences were municipal polls held in the 1960s. They did not cover the whole country and their electoral rules and registration procedures did not conform to international standards. (Women did not vote.) ❖



# Partying with Your Taxes

Associated Press

The government agency in charge of airport security spent nearly a half-million dollars on an awards ceremony at a lavish hotel, including \$81,000 for plaques and \$500 for cheese displays, according to an internal report obtained by the Associated Press.

Awards were presented to 543 Transportation Security Administration employees and 30 organizations, including a "lifetime achievement award" for one worker with the 2-year-old agency. Almost \$200,000 was spent on travel and lodging for attendees.

The investigation by the Homeland Security Department's inspector general, Clark Kent Ervin, also found the TSA gave its senior executives bonuses averaging \$16,000, higher than at any other federal government agency, and failed to provide adequate justification in more than a third of the 88 cases examined.

The report said lower-level employees were shortchanged, with a far lower percentage receiving bonuses.

"A substantial inequity exists in TSA's performance recognition program between executive and non-executive employees," the report said.

TSA spokeswoman Amy von Walter said that the agency believes that the bonuses and party were justified "given the hours and productivity of the work force during this critical period."

In the future, said von Walter, the TSA will conduct awards ceremonies at individual airports, as well as a much smaller and less expensive event at its headquarters.

Congressional skeptics have criticized the TSA's hiring and spending practices during its short existence. Republicans say the agency has grown far larger than they envisioned when it was created following the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Ervin also is investigating why the agency's private recruiters worked out of lush resort hotels with golf courses, pools and spas.

"There's something terribly wrong with that agency," Senator Byron Dorgan said. "Of all the agencies,

that's the one that's supposed to be working full-time against terrorist attacks."

The awards banquet, which cost \$461,745, was held at the Grand Hyatt, which bills itself as "one of the most magnificent" hotels in the nation's capital. It also is one of the few places that could accommodate about 600 honorees and as many guests.

While the inspector general noted that the agency sought competitive bids for the party planner and chose the company with the lowest estimate, it found the "costs of the ceremony and reception were higher than necessary."

The event planning company, MarCom Group Inc. of Fairfax, Va., was paid \$85,552 for its work and given an additional \$81,767 for plaques, \$5,196 for official photographs, \$1,486 for three balloon arches, and \$1,509 for signs.

The reception included finger food, coffee and cake that averaged \$33 per person. Seven cakes cost a total of \$1,850; three cheese displays, \$1,500.

In a written response, the TSA said the costs "were neither extraordinary nor incurred without careful consideration of the amount, the reasonableness of the cost, and value the activities would have to the employees."

In a response to the inspector general's questioning of TSA's excessive employee bonus program, TSA said that executives who got a bonus didn't get a pay increase and weren't eligible for a presidential awards program that can amount to as much as 35 percent of their base pay. ■

MARGULIES  
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# A Learned Theological Discussion

Tony Blankley, *The Washington Times*

There was quite an interesting debate reported in the media recently. No, not that one. I am referring to the debate in the Muslim world on whether it is permissible under Islamic theological teachings to seize and behead hostages. The best reporting on the beheading debate can be found in an article by the Iranian, Paris-based commentator Amir Taheri on *The Wall St. Journal's* website, [www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com). (The following quotes and items come from Mr. Taheri's report.)

This debate was triggered by the killings of the schoolchildren in Beslan, Russia. According to Mr. Taheri's reporting, most Muslim scholars opposed killings (called exhibition killings in Muslim theology) not because they violated religious guidelines, but for the political reason that because Russia had supported the Palestinian cause, they did not deserve to have their children killed.

"Sheik Yussuf al-Qaradawi, a Sunni Muslim scholar based in Qatar, was among the first to condemn the Beslan massacre. At the same time, however, he insists that a similar attack on Israeli schools would be justified because Israeli schoolchildren, if not killed, could grow up to become soldiers." (Sheik Qaradawi also justifies the killing of unborn Israelis because, if born, they could become soldiers.)

Similarly, when two French journalists were taken hostage in Iraq, the Arab League Secretary-General, Amr Moussa, called for their release: "France is a friend of the Arabs; we cannot treat friends this way." This position was confirmed by the spiritual leader of Hezbollah, Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, who has not condemned any of the other 140 hostage takings and other beheadings. (So much for applying Geneva Convention standards to POWs in wars with Muslims. Such application will be a tad one-sided.)

The French government well understands this perverted policy of many Muslim clerics and politicians of beheading Americans, Israelis and other enemies, but not Frenchmen. As Mr. Taheri reports:

"The French authorities have reinforced that sentiment. (French) Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin speaks of the Iraqi insurgency as "la resistance." And (French) Foreign Minister Michel Barnier has announced that France would reject the

international conference on Iraq, proposed by the Bush administration, unless "elements opposed to the occupation," meaning the terrorists, are invited. All of which brings me back to the debate between George Bush and John Kerry on foreign policy. The essence of Mr. Kerry's claim for the presidency is that: Whether or not he supported the war, whether or not he thinks it was a mistake, whether or not he thinks we are better off with Saddam out of power and in our prison, he, John Kerry, being much smarter than George Bush, and having his policies grounded in reality rather than fantasy, is better able to win the Iraqi war and protect Americans from terrorism.

The first, and most advertised, part of Mr. Kerry's four-part plan to win the war in Iraq is to hold a summit amongst Arab and European leaders, which would lead to a true internationalization of our effort. I think it is fair to assume that Mr. Kerry would not exclude the French or the Arab League from that summit.

And at that summit, according to the French Prime Minister and Foreign Minister (as quoted, above), formal representation would be granted to the terrorists currently beheading Americans and murdering even Iraqi children by the dozens at a time: What the French Prime Minister heroically calls "la resistance." Let it be recalled that the French "resistance" (to which the French Prime Minister makes unambiguous equivalence of our enemies in Iraq) opposed Nazi occupation of France during WW II.

So, French policy is to morally equate America's presence in Iraq to Hitler's Nazi occupation of France. This is the foundation of Mr. Kerry's plan to win the war in Iraq. A notional President Kerry would find himself seated at the summit table negotiating peace terms with the literal cutthroats of our fellow citizens. This, Mr. Kerry calls realism, while he characterizes President Bush's determination to defeat the cutthroats of the world... "fantasy."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



Syria is a major supplier of the terrorists who are now killing our troops and the Iraqi people, to say nothing of murdering Israeli civilians for years. — Zola

## Don't Be Fooled

Associated Press



Syrian President Bashar Assad is offering to make peace with Israel and says he is ready to cooperate with the United States in stabilizing Iraq, a former senior State Department official said recently. "Something is going on in Syria and it is time for us to pay attention," said Martin Indyk, assistant secretary of state for the Near East and U.S. ambassador to Israel during the Clinton administration.

In a three-hour meeting with the Syrian president in Damascus, Indyk said he detected a "clear change" in Assad's views on a number of fronts.

On peacemaking, Assad offered to hold talks with Israel without preconditions, Indyk said, and had made several overtures to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon that the latter rebuffed.

In the past, Indyk said, Syria had insisted that any peace talks should resume where they left off during the Clinton administration — with Israel offering to give up all of the Golan Heights, a strategic area Israel won in the 1967 Mideast war.

And, Indyk said, Assad had dropped a demand that Israel reach an agreement with the Palestinians before Israel could resume negotiations with Syria.

President George W. Bush's administration has accused Syria of pursuing biological and chemical weapons programs as well as nuclear weapons. ❖

## Double Standards

By Alan M. Dershowitz, *The Jerusalem Post*

When is the last time you heard about a demonstration on a university campus calling for the end of the Syrian occupation of Lebanon? How about never? Syria has been occupying Lebanon by force of arms for more than 20 years. Its 20,000 foreign soldiers and hundreds of "intelligence officers" rule that Muslim-Christian nation with an iron fist.

No longer a democratic state — as it was for decades under joint Christian-Muslim leadership — Lebanon has become a terrorist state in which Hezbollah and other terrorist groups have a free hand to operate against Israeli and American civilians.

Syria and its surrogate terrorist groups sternly enforce the occupation with executions, assassinations, kidnappings, threats, and military actions, while at the same time publicly denying that there is an occupation.

"An occupation suggests images of daily violence and hatred of the occupiers, which does not occur in Lebanon," claims an official Syrian statement. That self-serving fabrication could have been issued by the Soviet Union when it denied it was occupying Czechoslovakia. Some occupations are enforced so ruthlessly that no public dissent or displays of hatred are tolerated.

The Syrians claim they were "invited" into Lebanon and have never been asked to leave, despite public opinion polls (which are anonymous) showing widespread opposition to their presence and improper influence on what remains of Lebanese politics.

Yet those who shed crocodile tears for the Palestinians — whose leaders turned down statehood, 100% of Gaza and some 97% of the West Bank in 2000-2001 — remain silent over the Syrian occupation of Lebanon. Some, including the Palestinian leadership, even support it.

This should not be surprising because many of those same hypocrites also support the continuing occupation of Kurdistan by Turkey, Iraq and Syria, as well as the continuing occupation of Tibet by China.

Nor did they complain when the West Bank was occupied for nearly two decades by Jordan and the Gaza Strip by Egypt. It is not occupation they oppose; it is Israel they oppose.

They apply a double standard, singling out for condemnation only the Jewish state that offered to end its occupation in exchange for a peace that the Palestinian leadership refuses to accept so long as the Jewish state remains in existence. Now the Syrians may have overplayed their hand. (You can always tell when an Arab state overplays its hand by whether even the French are prepared to criticize it.) The Syrian occupiers fixed the presidential election in Lebanon by forcing parliament to amend the Lebanese constitution to give the Syrian hand-picked incumbent three more years in office. The hasty vote was arranged after Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri, who had opposed the amendment, received a late-night visit from Syrian intelligence officers who "persuaded" him to change his mind. It was an offer he couldn't refuse.

The amendment then passed by a 96-29 vote, despite the fact that 74% of Lebanese citizens wanted a new president and 84% believed that "foreign and outside parties" — namely Syria — "dictated the results of presidential elections."

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Now even the United Nations has become a bit nervous over Syria's high-handedness. Syria quickly complained, arguing that any UN action — or even discussion — would constitute external interference with Lebanon's internal affairs.

This is the way Syria's deputy chief of mission put it: "The Security Council's discussion of the presidential elections of Lebanon, a sovereign, independent member state of the United Nations, constitutes an illegal intervention into the internal affairs of a state."

Talk about chutzpah. Syria, which has done nothing but interfere with Lebanon's internal affairs for 20 years, is now complaining about efforts by the UN to end Syria's occupation and restore Lebanese sovereignty.

Let those who oppose occupations work against all occupations. Selective opposition to only one occupation should have no credibility. Israel is in the process of vacating Gaza, and has offered to turn over nearly all of the West Bank in exchange for peace.

China has not offered to end its occupation of Tibet. Nor have the countries occupying Kurdistan offered to end their occupation. And Syria has certainly not loosened its grip on Lebanon. Yet only Israel is condemned on university campuses. Why? The answer is not one that most selective protesters would like to hear. ❀

## Wal-Mart Repents

*Jerusalem on the Line*

Bowing to a barrage of complaints from Jewish groups, retail leader Wal-Mart Inc. has stopped selling "The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion," an infamous anti-Semitic tract long exposed as fake.

The book, which purports to tell of an international Jewish conspiracy to take over the world, was being sold on its website with a description that suggested it might be genuine instead of a forgery concocted by the Czarist secret police in the early 20th Century.

Both Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com sell the book online, but with strong disclaimers. ❀

But it would be unrealistic to think that such a summit, with the terrorist enemy formally seated as a negotiating partner, would call for the military defeat of the terrorists — certainly not with their friends the French and the Arab League nations vociferously supporting the enemy. Whenever one is told to be realistic, it inevitably means one is not going to get what one wants. George Bush wants defeat of the terrorists and their fellow insurgents and a peaceful pluralistic Iraq.

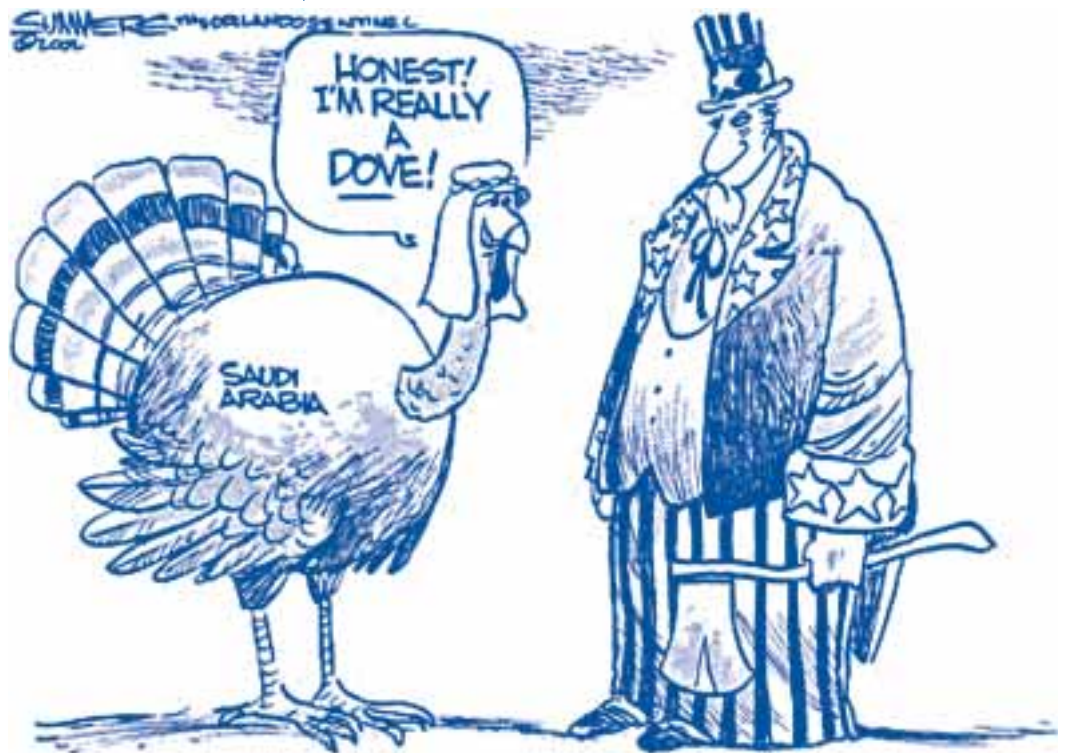
In France in 1940, the men and women who dreamed of liberation and eventually formed "la resistance" were not being realistic. The realist was the austere, aristocrat Marshall Petain, who negotiated a collaborator's peace with Hitler and called it Vichy. Five years later, his followers were shot in the village squares by patriotic Frenchmen. There is a lot of Petain in John Kerry.

John Kerry may have won the debate, but he would lose the war. ❀

## Another Learned Theological Discussion

*The Jerusalem Post*

Orthodox and Franciscan priests got into a fist fight at Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Christianity's holiest shrine, on September 27, after arguing over whether a door in the basilica should be closed during a procession. ❀



## How A Cancer Grows

Egypt has a critically important relationship with the United States in that it was taken over by Muslims by the same method as our country is being taken over. Like the U.S., Egypt was a very powerful civilization, dominating the known world. Later on, when it was highly Christian, it was still a very important economic force until the Muslims infiltrated. In the same manner as in the U.S., they built their mosques, paid their taxes and were good citizens at first. But, in the long run, they reduced the Egyptians to a kind of slavery in their own country, known as “Dhimmitude.”

Muslim takeovers vary with the civilization that is targeted. While the world dithers and the U.N. wrings its hands, we watch today as the Muslims rapidly take over the Sudanese Christians by simple genocide. In Egypt, it was a matter of centuries before the complete takeover was accomplished. In the United States, a much larger and more democratic nation than either Sudan or Egypt, the matter is proportionally more complicated, but the Muslims have centuries of experience in taking other people's lands. They are accomplishing the takeover of America at a really impressive rate. Our media, and certainly the entire liberal branch of U.S. thinking, are blindly unaware of their insidious encroachment. As we watch the demise of our own country, and the advancing Muslim civilization among us, we would do well to regard the lessons of history. A word to the wise should be sufficient.

Our well-informed commentator, Patrick Cox, an editorial writer of great experience, tells the whole story here. — Zola

## Resisting Egyptian Dhimmitude

Patrick Cox,  
Contributing Editor



This September, a truly historic meeting took place in Zurich, Switzerland, aptly named the “First International Symposium on Egyptian Copts: A Minority under Siege.” To understand how momentous were this gathering and its plea for the international community to help protect Egyptian Christians, some background information is necessary.

The image of Egypt that most of us share today is that of a relatively poor Islamic desert country, barely able to feed itself. There was a time, however, prior to its conquest in the year 641, when the Christian nation was the breadbasket to Rome and Constantinople. The port city of Alexandria was, at once, home to the greatest scientific library of antiquity and the capital of the Christian world.

Native Egyptians, descendants of the same people who built the pyramids, embraced the teachings of the apostle Mark in the first century and prospered as the civilized and wealthy people known as “Copts.” Their affluence and artistry were an irresistible lure to Arab and Persian marauders, and Coptic control of the region was ended by the same wave of conquest that put Syria and Palestine, using the Roman word for the Jewish homeland, under Islamic rule.

For a period, Egypt's new Arab rulers reaped a bonanza of tax revenues from the prosperous Copts, but it was only a matter of time before the top-down control of society, for the benefit of the ruling elite, reduced the region to the borderline poverty that still afflicts Egypt and most of the Muslim world outside a tiny oil-rich minority.

The Copts were reduced to second-class status in their own ancestral lands, at times providing enough value to the Islamic rulers to buy their safety, but always suffering when the attitudes and policies turned against them. Throughout the centuries, the Copts of Egypt have been, in the words of Daniel Pipes, “among the more meek of dhimmis” — using the Arabic word for an officially inferior class of people living within an Islamic nation.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Coptic acceptance of this subservient status should not, however, be attributed to a lack of courage. Copts represent only 10 percent of the Egyptian population and, traditionally, those who have complained about their treatment have suffered serious retribution, including imprisonment and assassination. When criticism has come from outside the country, Egyptian authorities have at times retaliated against Copts within their borders.

The symposium in Zurich, therefore, demonstrates dramatically the international Coptic community's realization that the plight of the 6 million Copts in Egypt is worsening and that something must be done, despite the risks, to protect them. Tellingly, there are fewer Copts now than there were when Egypt was conquered in the seventh century. Several million have fled the officially sanctioned discrimination and periodic pogroms, and an estimated 700,000 live in America alone.

Many historians, in fact, trace the roots of modern Islamist terrorism to Egypt in the 1920s, just as the other major totalitarian philosophies of the twentieth century, Communism and Fascism, were evolving in Europe. It is interesting, historically, to note that Egyptian Islamists had a cooperative relationship with Germany's Nazis.

The virulently anti-Christian and anti-Jewish Muslim Brotherhood was founded there in 1928, and by the 1930s, all the hallmarks of modern Islamist persecution had taken shape. Egyptian schools began teaching that Christians and Jews are inferiors whose only worth is serving Muslim needs. Non-Muslims were systematically excluded from important government and university posts. Bans or long delays in permission for church construction, or even repairs, were enforced.

Squads of Islamist thugs, who engaged in attacks on Christians and their businesses, were constituted — often with the knowledge and protection of local police. Subsequently, hundreds of Christians died at their hands.

Alarming, the frequency and seriousness of assaults on Copts and their property has been increasing. According to human rights activists, including Pope Shenouda the Third, the kidnapping and forced conversion of attractive Christian girls has become commonplace, dozens disappearing annually never to be seen by their Christian families again. Whole Christian villages have been burned and looted, though law enforcement authorities have routinely failed even to seriously investigate incidents of anti-Christian violence,

Those who follow affairs in the Middle East will have, by now, recognized the pattern. This degradation and mistreatment of non-Muslims is widespread and

common in Islamist territories — best evidenced by the continuing outflow of Christians from the region.

Of the millions of Christians living in Turkey at the beginning of the 20th century, only a few thousand remain. Most Syrian Christians have fled their homeland, as have their Lebanese brethren. Poignantly, so many have fled persecution in lands controlled by the Palestinian Authority that Bethlehem and Nazareth, once predominantly Christian towns, are now almost entirely Muslim, and unsafe even for Christian tourists.

The only country in the Middle East, in fact, that is experiencing a steady growth in its Christian population is Israel proper, having seen an increase from 34,000 in 1949 to more than 120,000 today.

There are important lessons to be learned from the ongoing persecution of Christians at the hands of Islamic theocracies. One is that we cannot count on the Western media to provide as much coverage of the massacre of hundreds of thousands of modern Christians in Sudan, Pakistan and Timor as it does the accidental deaths of Palestinian civilians when Israel retaliates against terrorists in Gaza and the West Bank.

I wonder, in fact, if this blackout on news of Islamic persecution of Christians does not stem, at least in part, from fear that it will disprove the lie that Israel has provoked, somehow, the hatred of its Arab neighbors. In fact, we must come to grips with the fact that a fierce, at times genocidal, racism is endemic in much of the Islamic world. The assault on the Jews of Israel must, therefore, be seen as simply one part of a much larger and older effort to force all non-Muslims into the humiliating capitulation of dhimmitude.



It is significant that Jewish Israel is the only country in the Middle East that gives a comfortable home to Christians. This doesn't have to be told to Christian Zionists, but all who worship the Lord in any sincerity understand that Muslims are most certainly the enemy. Presbyterians, Episcopalians, United Methodists and other liberal thinking churches are falling into the same trap as the Egyptians, and will have no better an ending than they did if the Lord tarries. — Zola



*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.*

## A New Big Lie

Fox News announced recently that the “Democratic Republic of Iran” petitioned U.N. Secretary Kofi Annan for permission to send representatives to the U.S. to “guarantee” the November 2 elections, since Iran is “the most democratic society in the world,” according to the petitioners.

This brutal Islamic regime is actually serious. This is no doubt the groundbreaking of one more Muslim lie. In 1964, the PLO sat down and said, “What if we just start saying that WE are the “Palestinians” rather than the Israelis? We can continue claiming Israel as our land, and, little by little, insert that the Jews are occupying our land instead of the other way around.” At heart, they must have thought that no one would ever buy into such a ludicrous story, but years of the media, the Arab propaganda mill, and anti-Semitism in general, instilled it in the world mindset, and nowadays average people actually believe that the Israelis are occupying Arab land. The fact of the matter is that after WWII, the U.N. granted the Jews their ancient homeland to begin to rebuild a society, which they did in 1948.

The next Big Lie could well spring from this “monitoring” of the U.S. election. The Iranians want to take credit for installing the winner and claim that Americans are violating the U.N.’s rules by conducting corrupt elections. Soon there will be Muslim monitors in all of our elections, then it will be found out that we are occupying “land” in defiance of U.N. regulations. By then, they will be referring to the U.S. as U.N. land, or the world’s land. Next it will be discovered that the U.S. is actually ancient Muslim land, complete with a 5,000 year history. Sound crazy?

About as crazy as Israelis “occupying” Arab land. — Zola

## Have a Good Day

On October 11, 2004, according to police reports, nobody was murdered in the city of Chicago. This was the first day in over six years in which not a single murder was reported in the windy city.

Chicagoans are welcome to take a break on one of our tours to Jerusalem, a much safer city, in which there are very few crimes against persons. — Zola

## Not So Fast

We learned on October 20, 2004 that foreigners who come to the U.S. to take flying lessons in American flight schools must now be fingerprinted and undergo

a background check — just in case they have plans to fly the airplanes into buildings. (After the next bombing, we can easily identify the perpetrators as long as we can locate their fingers.) It took three years, one month and nine days (since September 11) to put these rules in place. At this rate... — Zola



Walid Jumblatt

## “Islam is the Monster”

Al-Arabiya TV

“Who invented Osama bin Laden? The Americans. The CIA invented him so they could fight the Soviets in Afghanistan... The U.S. always needs an enemy... Today it is Islam. According to this plan or ideology of the born-again Christians who formed an alliance with Zionism — Islam is the monster.” — Lebanese Druse leader Walid Jumblatt on Al-Arabiya TV, claiming that the U.S. was really behind the 9/11 attacks.

## “Paris of the Middle East”

*The Global Outlook*

Last year, well over one million tourists flooded Lebanon for the first time since the end of the 1975-1990 Christian/Muslim civil war. With occupier Syria providing security, a multitude of sheiks and potentates have also invested in hotels, shopping centers and apartment towers, returning Lebanon to the status of “Paris of the Mideast,” which it enjoyed before the war.

Lebanon has also returned to the role of main launderers of the Mideast. Its banks are bulging with the influx of billions of dollars. Ironically, Lebanon is also the host of heavily-armed Hezbollah terrorists who have 9,000 Katushah rockets in place, pointed at northern Israel. ♣



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___	Glory! The Future of Believers	\$3	___
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___	An Israeli Love Story	\$6	___
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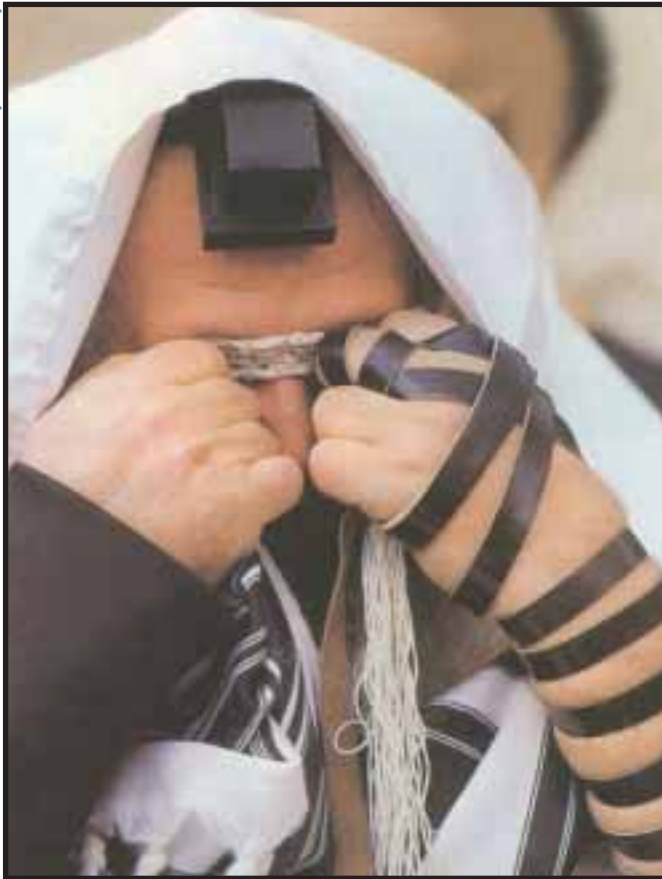
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*Not for our righteousness do we present our request before You, but for Your great mercy because the multitude of our works is vain.*

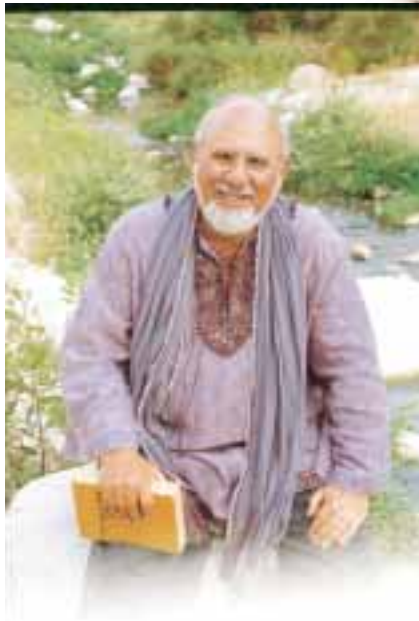
*Our Father in heaven, show us mercy for Your great name's sake because we trust in Your mercy. Do it for Your names's sake...and thereby save the ones who love You.*

*Our Father, our King, be merciful... We know that we have sinned. We know that we do not deserve it, but show us love for Your name's sake.*

*Like a father has mercy on his children, so have mercy on us, O Lord, and help us for Your name's sake.*

**We mustn't forget that they, too, are looking for God's mercy, which they can find in the Messiah. — Zola**

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