

Levitt Letter

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



Patrick Cox, one of Zola's favorite commentators, has a knack for saying much with few words. —Jeffrey Seif

Albert Einstein and the Anglican Archbishop



Patrick Cox

By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor

When Albert Einstein couldn't solve a problem about the structure of the universe, he played an interesting mental game. He asked himself how God would have done it. The insights he gained unlocked the atom.

I find the same mental device useful when pondering political problems such as Islamic imperialism. There is nothing new about this conflict. America's first foreign war was waged against the Barbary Pirates who believed it was their Islamic right to loot American ships and enslave their infidel captives. The U.S. Navy was formed, in fact, to fight jihad.

Later, in the 19th century, the Ottoman Emperor sent emissaries to Muslims in India to promote a pan-Islamic jihad against the British, whose democratizing influence was viewed as a threat to the Ottoman Caliphate. While the 20th century defeat of the Ottoman Empire by the Allies helped pro-democracy, pro-Western Mustafa Kemal Ataturk win control of Turkey, supporters of the caliphate in India succeeded in dividing Muslim Pakistan from predominately Hindu India.

The two nuclear countries have fought a series of wars since then. India has become increasingly Western while Pakistan created the Taliban government (that hosted al-Qaeda) and spread nuclear weapons technologies through the Muslim world. Pakistan now teeters on the verge of a complete Islamist takeover following the assassination of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

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"The Target is YOU!"

By Hillel Fendel,
www.IsraelNationalNews.com

Brigadier General (US Army, retired) Nick Halley, a veteran of Vietnam, Grenada and Desert Storm (Iraq) says the war against radical Islam is a no-choice prospect, in which the West must do everything it can to win.



Nick Halley

In his book *Terrorism: The Target is You!*, Gen. Halley calmly but emphatically calls upon the American public to internalize that the war imposed upon them by extremist Muslims is for real. Each and every citizen has a role to play in this war, Halley says, mainly in understanding that a concerted war effort is crucial. His list of "Do's" and "Don'ts" includes the following: Don't judge progress based on casualty reports; Don't have unrealistic expectations; Don't overreact to bad news or future terrorist attacks; Do be alert; and Do put aside political differences in order to present a unified front against radical Islam.

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The other major front in the war between supporters of democratic and Islamic sharia legal systems has been Israel, recreated along with once Christian Lebanon when the Ottoman Empire fell. Through direct warfare against Christians and massive Muslim immigration, Islam is clearly in charge of Lebanon.

The military effort to reclaim for Islam the land now controlled by Israel began on the day Israel was recognized by the UN. Following several failed attempts, Muslims shifted to insurgent and political tactics waged largely by Palestinians — and funded by non-Palestinian Muslims.

The great failure of the West regarding Israel's conflict has been its refusal to recognize the root cause of the problem — the continuing effort to expand the Islamic empire. Rather than accept the war against Israel as part of the same war waged by Barbary Pirates, the Ottoman Emperor, Filipino Moros, and al-Qaeda, much of the West has compartmentalized Israel's struggle. Worse, some blame all modern Islamic aggression on Israel as if it were some fresh and temporary phenomenon. Some even blame America's conflicts with Muslims on our rather undependable and half-hearted support of Israel.

Frankly, there are only a few plausible explanations for this astonishing blindness. One is the simple anti-Semitism that has produced pogroms in Alexandria under Roman rule in 38 AD; the 11th century Moorish massacres of Jews in Cordoba and Granada; mass murders of Jews in 12th Century London and York; and, of course, the 20th century Holocaust all across Europe.

The only other explanation is fear of Muslim retaliation. Regardless, it exists. So I've been playing Einstein's game. I wish I could convince the world with words to condemn endemic Muslim apartheid, racism, sexism, and violence. Obviously, I can't. So I ask myself what would God do, and this is what I've come up with.

The simplest and most elegant solution would be to populate all these lands — lands that blame the only real democracy in the Middle East for its conflict with Muslims — with Muslims of their own. This, in fact, has happened.

What we have seen is night after night of looting and arson in once peaceful Denmark following the arrest of three Muslims who plotted to kill an artist who had drawn a picture of Mohammed. France, which has long looked down its nose at Jews and blamed Israel for its problems with the Palestinians, is lit regularly by the fires of the French Intifada. Domestic Islamic terrorist bombers have attacked Spain, Russia, Britain and elsewhere. Muslim communities across Europe and in Canada are demanding the same sharia laws the Palestinians demand.



Archbishop Williams at left

Now, the head of the Anglican Church has announced his support for sharia law in England. His is the third largest Christian communion in the world, after only the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches. He is the same archbishop **Rowan Williams** who split his church by supporting homosexual ordination and marriage, but now wants Anglicans to calmly accept in their midst a system of sharia law that calls for homosexuals to be stoned to death.

This is the logical consequence of the West's failure to recognize Israel's moral and legal superiority to its attackers. The English, the French, the Danes, the Spanish, and others are, for the first time, waking up to their own anti-Semitic fecklessness, and it is exactly the solution to the problem that I come up with when I ask the question, "How would God do it?" ★

Halley writes that the terrorists were emboldened to begin their war by an incident that occurred in 1993 in Somalia: "We [the U.S.] went to that country with the purest of intentions — to restore order, end the civil war, and prevent the starvation of tens of thousands of Muslim people. The Muslim warlords were preventing international aid from being properly distributed to the starving people.

"In an Army Ranger operation against one of those warlords, Mohammed Farah Aideed, a Blackhawk helicopter was shot down and 18 Americans were killed in the operation... Our response was to leave Somalia.

"This was the final event that persuaded the international terrorist leaders and their organizations — especially Osama Bin Laden and al-Qaeda — that the US would not strongly respond militarily to terrorist attacks...

The terrorists became "convinced that the most powerful country in the world had a very weak will. They were persuaded that we could be defeated in any conflict by turning American public opinion against a particular conflict simply by killing enough Americans over a period of time. In effect, the real target of the terrorist attack is the American people. They want to break the will of the American people. This so-called 'Somalia Strategy' is the basis of their current strategy [emphasis in the original]."

Gen. Halley, who commanded thousands of soldiers in Vietnam, Grenada and Iraq (Desert Storm), writes that this war is the most dangerous and difficult war in US history, for several reasons: The enemies are hard to identify and isolate; they want to kill not only soldiers, but regular citizens and their children; the vast expanses of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans that protected the US in previous wars are not effective against a terrorist war; and the war can be expected to last two decades or more. ★



WON BY ONE!

Will you please help us build our army of Jewish-loving, Christian Zionists? If everyone on our mailing list would speak to one or more like-minded friends, and encourage them to call us at 1-800-WONDERS to request our *Levitt Letter*, we could double our outreach overnight. Please help. Notify a friend today. Have them contact us today and help us build "an army of one."

Thanks. — Jeffrey Seif

Messianic Speakers Available!

Want a Messianic Jewish message delivered in your church? Arrange it! **Drs. Jeffrey Seif, Tom McCall, and Todd Baker, and Sandra Levitt** can do pulpit supply, and address a wide range of subjects such as: The Gospel from a Jewish perspective, Why the Jews matter to Jesus and Christians, How the Old and New Testaments connect, Jews and today's news in prophecy, and more. You already know Jeff and Sandra. Tom McCall grounded Zola's theology, co-authoring eight books with him. Todd Baker founded ZLM's Missions to Israel. Please contact our office at speakers@levitt.com to invite Zola Levitt Ministries to your church.



Sandra



Tom



Todd



Jeff

“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Genesis 12:3

Shalom From Sandra



Synonyms for encouragement are: praise, support, boost, lift, and endorsement. That is how I feel each time I speak to groups of Believers. During more than two weeks of recent church engagements in Florida, I saw firsthand how much the Body of Christ loves Zola Levitt Ministries. I am so blessed to have people come up to me and give the boost or lift that comes with doing the Lord's work.

This year, I did not have to change my clothes at a Taco Bell and I did not get lost or have any car problems. I am sure such serendipity is due to your prayers, and for that I thank you. I got to talk about Israel, God's love for us, our Jewish roots, and politics. At one church, a sweet lady asked if I had thought about running for president. After I stopped laughing, I thanked her and said I really was happy serving the Lord.

I also got to reconnect with Lennie and Varda in Cocoa, Florida. Zola had witnessed to them many years ago on a Greek cruise ship. Lenny, a Jewish man from England and Varda an Israeli, were living the good life on the cruise ship. We have taken tours to Greece for almost 25 years. Zola witnessed to them until 3:00 am. This, for someone who had to get up at 7:00 am for the tour the next day, was quite a feat. Zola was discouraged because he did not think they had heard anything he had said, but he gave it his best. Years later, Zola was asked to speak at Whole Loaf Church in Cocoa, Florida. The pastor mentioned that Lenny and Varda would be the worship leaders. It was such a joyous reunion. It seems that after they had talked with Zola, they had gone on their way, but something that Zola had said stayed with them. After they came to know the Messiah, they started writing Messianic music

and leading praise and worship in churches. They are working on their seventh album and hope to have it finished soon. How blessed they have been by God.

I think we get into the “notch” mentality that we must save everyone we talk to about Messiah. Then we feel that if we do not see them get saved right away, we have failed. That is a lie of the devil. Sometimes it is just the seed that we need to plant and leave for someone else to water and then someone else to harvest. The Great Commission is not about notches; it is about eternal life. If we never say anything, then no one will receive a seed that may germinate. Say something. Remember Lenny and Varda. You never know who you will encourage today who, as a result, will walk in the Lord tomorrow.

Israel certainly has been the highlight of my life, and I would like it to be yours also. Join Jeff and me for the trip of a lifetime. Our summer **Deluxe** Tour will depart June 9 and return on June 19. Our **Fall** Tour, with four options, has departure dates of October 14 and 19 and return dates of October 29 and November 2. For your tour brochure, call Abel at (214) 696-9760 during office hours or 1-800-WONDERS (1-800-966-3377) anytime. Arriving in Israel feels like coming home. And as always, please pray for the peace of Jerusalem,

Blessings,
Sandra



CLASSIC ZOLA

By Zola Levitt (Levitt Letter, July 1997)

Dear Friends,

I want to share an amusing incident that happened during the taping for our series, *Champions of Faith*. We opted to film in the Wadi Kelt, an area of the Judean desert just outside of Jerusalem on the east. This land, mentioned in connection with Jeremiah and traversed by Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is most assuredly Jewish land. But when we made a program at nearby Bethel in a previous series, I felt obliged to carry a pistol for the first time in my life in order to visit an area in which God said to Jacob, “And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land” (Genesis 35:12)

This time we hired an English-speaking security guard with an appropriate weapon to keep an eye on the open desert, but I felt relieved when I saw the location. It was flat all around, and I was certain that no one could approach us without being seen from a long distance away. As we settled down to make the program, however, I was amazed to see a married couple seemingly pop up from out of the sand and slowly walk by our location. Then a peddler, his arms filled with merchandise, also appeared out of nowhere. I had underestimated the Bedouin and their cleverness at moving through empty sand without being seen. So I made a purchase from the peddler in honor of his skill.

We’ve had quite a bit of response to our April 1997 article about the Episcopalian resolutions against Israel. We wrote that we had forwarded the article to a local Episcopalian bishop and that we would print the bishop’s reply, should he send one.

We thought that since the April newsletter was prepared during Easter’s holy week, he may have been too busy to formulate a response before we had to go to press. But this is the third issue

since then, and he has yet to even acknowledge our article.

I recently came across an interesting quote from singer Sinead O’Connor. She is an Israeli sympathizer (as opposed to Vanessa Redgrave, who is a Palestinian sympathizer). She sang recently, “God’s Children [the Jews of Israel] should be able to sleep safe.” Now why doesn’t the rest of the world recognize that Israelis should have that right?

Sixty-thousand people have been murdered by Islamic fundamentalists in Algeria since 1992 (until 1997 when this was written. –Ed.). The world’s oil markets are untroubled, so we haven’t heard of these murders; but Israel, with its handful of casualties, somehow merits worldwide attention every day.

Our Congress has again upheld the most-favored nation status of China, in spite of the overwhelming evidence of China’s human rights abuses. This action is characteristic of a government that seeks to appease dictatorships in order to ultimately obtain cash profits. Doing business with China, supporting friends of the Saudi Arabians (such as the Palestinians), or manipulating governments in Central America or Africa, all show the same error: promoting evil for treasure on earth.

How wonderful it is that we, as Christians, have been given a very different mission: promoting God’s truth on earth to obtain treasure in Heaven. This is what we seek to do for viewers in our new series, *Champions of Faith*, in which we explore the lives of the heroes of faith listed in Hebrews 11.

I always tell you when it is an appropriate time to give. The extraordinary expenses that are hitting us during the summer make this an excellent time to ask for your prayers and your financial support. ★

Your messenger,

Zola

Please see page 32 for our Holy Land ‘08 tour details.

We Must Defeat Islamofascism

By Mike Huckabee

This article makes some valid points, but it should not be interpreted as a political endorsement. — Ed.



I have had the pleasure of visiting Israel, our staunch ally, our great friend and the most exemplary democracy in the Middle East, a total of nine times. On one of those trips, I took my then 11-year-old daughter, Sarah, to *Yad Vashem* (Official Holocaust Memorial). As we faced the grimly surreal pictures from Dachau and Auschwitz, she confronted the horrors of the thousands of bodies stacked on top of one another like so much lumber — six million dead. At the end of our visit, Sarah went to the guest book and wrote simple words that I will never forget: “Why didn’t somebody do something?”

That is all she wrote, but with those words, I knew that, in her own way, she “got it.”

Those who don’t understand that the war in Iraq is a critical part of the war on terror, don’t get it. Those who pledge to withdraw our troops according to some politically-motivated rationale before this war is won, don’t get it. Iraq must be stable and secure within its borders. It is not just Iraq’s security that is at stake, but the security of the entire region and of the United States.

America must be effective in the Middle East, and we must, of course, listen—and learn, and safeguard. But most of all, we

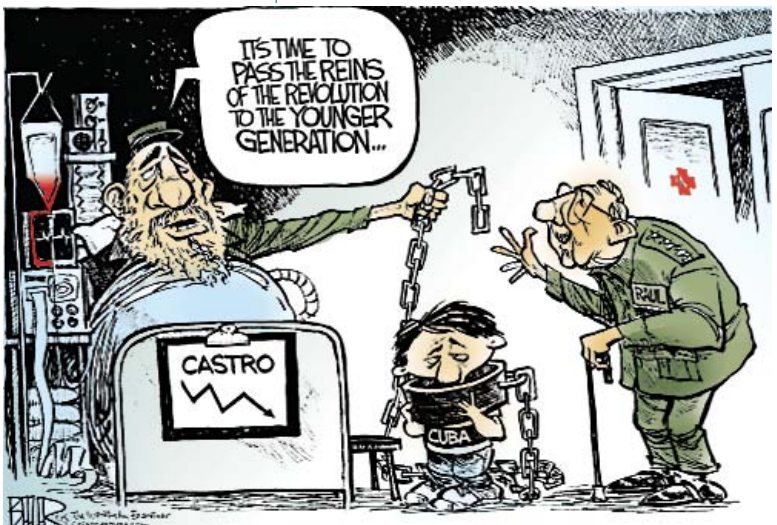
need to be resolute in our strength, military and moral. Specifically, we must not pay any sort of tribute to terrorist states — including the honor of “listening” in some formal setting, where every splenetic utterance will be aired worldwide. For example, what would the president do in the face of some outrageously anti-American or anti-Semitic statement: Just sit there? Get up and walk out?

I want everyone in the Middle East to know that America is committed to its strategic interests in the region, including a safe and secure Israel.

If the annihilation of six million Jews taught us anything, it is that appeasement doesn’t work; it just results in the deaths of innocents and makes the job of eradicating evil all the more difficult. I share Israel’s concern about an aggressive unchecked Iran. And I share Israel’s determination that Iran will not become a nuclear power.

Before there can be true peace, there must be the basic recognition of Israel’s right to exist and an end to anti-Semitic and anti-Israel lies and propaganda.

Together, we must prevent nuclear proliferation and defeat Islamofascism. Together, we must be the people who confront and overcome evil. We must be the people who take action now, so that future generations of Sarahs don’t look back and ask “Why didn’t somebody do something?” ★



Serving as the New Travel Manager

By Abel Martinez

As we mentioned in last month's *Levitt Letter*, Abel Martinez has become our ministry's new Travel Manager. He oversees our tour arrangements for groups going to Israel, Greece, etc. — Mark

My paternal grandfather used to say, "Always remember, you're of Jewish blood" and "Never forget, we are Jewish." These and other such admonitions didn't make sense to me at the time.



Abel Martinez

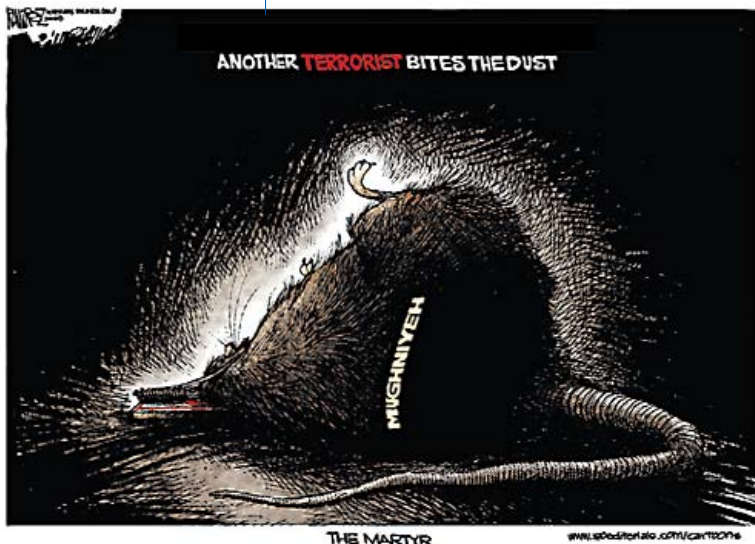
I was born to Ernest and Pearl Martinez in Denver, CO. My mother's father pastored an Assembly of God church for about 50 years. He started several missions around Colorado and Utah and was heavily persecuted by the Mormons and unbelievers. Consequently, what I knew of religion was what I saw through my mother's side of the family.

As I began to make decisions for myself, I left the Church for many years and didn't live for the Lord. When my father's dad passed away, I was 27 years old and still looking for my identity in the Messiah. Not long after the funeral, my dad went and cleaned out my grandfather's place and brought back some of my grandfather's personal belongings. Among them was a *kippah* (skullcap) and some other Jewish items. That moment is when I realized that we were really Jewish, and I began to ask many questions of family members.

I learned that my father's side is Ashkenazi and that one of his family members had moved his family to Spain from Italy and changed their last name to Martinez. From there, they moved to northern New Mexico, where there is a heavy presence of Sephardic Jews, known as *Anusim*. *Anusim* are Jews that were expelled from Spain and came to the Americas. During the Spanish Inquisition, most of them were persecuted until they either converted or were murdered. I learned that my mother's side of the family also comes from this line of *Anusim*. It is well known that a lot of the Hispanic community has Jewish roots but don't know this because their identity has been lost through the generations. My great-grandparents from both sides had converted to Christianity. My dad's side of the family, however, never quit identifying with their Jewish roots.

I now live in Dallas, and I'm a member of Baruch HaShem Messianic Synagogue. I am a Messianic Jew with a fervent desire to see my Jewish brethren come to know Yeshua as Lord, Master and Savior. Equally, my passion is to help the Christian community realize and recognize their roots are in Judaism and help bring the two, Jew and Gentile, together as the one new man.

It is an honor to work for Zola Levitt Ministries because it embraces and teaches the same beliefs that I am passionate about. And it's all about Yeshua haMashiach, Jesus the Messiah! ★



“DeSeifering:” journalistic play on the term “decipher.” It comes from “cipher,” a word borrowed from the Arabic (*sifr*) and developed in the English language to denote “succeeding in understanding, interpreting and identifying.” The “catchy” title, speaks to my interest in offering commentary on the news. Unlike many contemporary commentators, I am interested in exploring how the news is colored by prophecy-related biblical views, and how it is accentuated by long-neglected Jewish hues. Your interest in our ministry, in like manner, probably evolves out of your interest in Jews, Israel, Bible prophecy, authentic biblical Christianity and more.

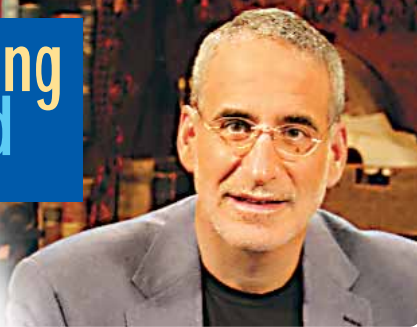
Believing there to be merit in prophecy-related stories, I am thrilled to complement this year’s Messianic Jewish TV series entitled—*In the Footsteps of the Rabbi From Tarsus*—with an upcoming series entitled—*Ezekiel and the Middle East ‘Piece’ Process*.

Our founder, Zola Levitt, was particularly interested in Ezekiel. The USSR’s support for Arab nation-states hell-bent on little Israel’s demise was well-known in his heyday. Little-known, by contrast, was how the Old Testament prophet Ezekiel explicitly predicted Israel’s coming back to life as a nation in the “last days,” and his noting that a northern superpower would align with an empire from the Euphrates region and draw regional powers into a conflict with the newly reconstituted Jewish homeland. It’s all clearly predicted in the Bible.

It seems that Russia, directly to the north of Israel, is exerting and extending its power again, much as Iranian and Chinese forces, to the east of Israel, are making their presence and intentions known. Add their interests to the incendiary admixture of petty and pernicious Islamic kingdoms surrounding Israel gearing up for her demise, and an explosion seems

DeSeifering Our World

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif



imminent. Instead of waiting until “after the fact” to talk about it, Let’s pull out the Bible and underscore the prescient predictions in advance—in the interest of making disciples and not just making points.

Israel’s sixtieth birthday is right around the corner. Many will not be singing “Happy Birthday To You” to the Jews, for many, as you know, prefer our “dearth”—that is Jewish scarcity, want, deficiency, inadequacy, and death. We, by contrast, prefer Jewish “hearth”—that is a home land. Happily, God prefers Israel’s continuance, as do you—individuals with a love for Jews and for what Zola Levitt Ministries represents.

Mindful of our comparable values, I hope you won’t mind me asking if you’ll please help us present what you and I represent. I am currently in Israel with Sandra and the TV crew, expending monies for the aforementioned program in advance of the support’s arrival. It might seem a bit imprudent, but the “clock is ticking.” We feel an urgency to be here and about the Father’s business of telling this story.

If the Lord doesn’t impress it upon you, feel free to disregard the request. If, with me, however, you believe that this story needs telling, please “lay up treasures in Heaven” by laying down an earthly offering. In any case, the program will come to you, much as our magazine comes to the world simply for the asking. ★

Shalom,

Jeff

“ASK THE PROFESSOR”

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif

Ancient peoples believed in an afterlife. Correct? What do people think Jesus did after His life ended—between the time He was crucified and the time He rose on Easter Sunday?

GREAT QUESTIONS.

Beyond the pale of direct biblical influence, ancient Mediterranean peoples developed a concept of the afterlife. What was known as *Sheol* to the Hebrews went by *Hades* to Greeks and *Inferi* to Romans. All construed there to be a cavity under the earth, where the deceased descended.

In Virgil's *Aeneid*, the dead were led by Hermes to the underworld. There they were understood to have been met by a boatman named Charon who took them across the river Styx to face judgment. Faithless sorts were construed as taken to the left, to dark “Tartarus” for punishment; the pious, by contrast, went to the right, and to bright fields, and were depicted as enjoying delightful bliss and felicity.

Though an assessment of primitive mythologies may be interesting, important for our purposes is the fact that the Hebrew and Greek Bibles speak specifically of judgment, resurrection and afterlife.

In Daniel 12:2, readers are told that those who “sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and [some] to shame and everlasting contempt.” Prior to Jesus' teaching on the resurrection, Martha went on record noting of her deceased brother Lazarus (John 11:1,14), saying: “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day” (v. 24). Both texts attest to a belief in an afterlife and resurrection.

In 2 Peter 2:4, Peter went on record speaking of God not “sparing angels” and of their being “cast down to hell”.... In the process, we're told that they were “delivered into chains, to be reserved for judgment.” Interestingly, what is rendered in the NKJV as “cast down to hell,” is really rendered “cast down to Tartarus” in the Greek. This is not designed to lend credence to the aforementioned Greek mythology: It simply evidences that Peter used the vocabulary of the day to

impress his point upon the mind's eyes of his readers, that there was a judgment and life eternal on the other side of the grave.

As for where Jesus went after His execution, in 1 Peter 3:19 the Apostle spoke of the Messiah's having “preached to the spirits in prison” who were consigned to the abyss “in the days of Noah” (v. 20). While some believe that He preached a salvation message to imprisoned humans, in Hell, it seems more prudent to combine 1 Peter 3:19 and 2 Peter 2:4 and, by so doing, consider that he was proclaiming His triumph over fallen angels (as per Colossians 2:15) and was not witnessing to departed humans in the classical sense.



Based on a correct understanding of a variety of New Testament texts, the old Roman form of the “Apostles' Creed” noted that Jesus was “crucified under Pontius Pilate and that He was buried,” subsequent to which, on “the third day He rose from the dead.” In the later received form, after noting that Jesus was “buried,” in 570AD, Venantius Fortunatus inserted: “He descended into Hell [*Hades*],” which has been affixed to the “Creed” ever since. That He did so is amply attested in the previous passages noted.

In sum, from the Bible, we gather the following: There is an afterlife, and Jesus Himself made proclamations in the underworld between His execution and resurrection.

What Jesus did seems rather consistent; what we do, however, is a bit more variable. The million dollar question— one I'll pose in turn — is as follows: What will we do mindful of the resurrection of Yeshua/Jesus from the dead? A resurrected Messiah is said to have appeared to His followers in Mark 16:15 and said “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.” By way of response, Mark then concluded with the following observation: “and they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the Word through the accompanying signs. Amen” (v. 20). Let's make sure that we do that! ★

What's Up With The UK?

By Will King,
www.imagesofisrael.com



The recent conduct of some British government, church, and academic leaders ranges from anti-Semitic, to anti-Israel, to just plain dumb. Let's examine a few examples.

First, the academic community in the UK has repeatedly put forward measures to boycott Israeli professors so long as Israel continues to perpetrate the "occupation" and "war crimes" against the Palestinians. Many of these measures have failed, and the ones that did pass have been short-lived. However, for a group of people that are supposed to be well educated, these continued boycott resolutions by professors, teachers' unions, and academic institutions seem to indicate that they just don't get it.

"Glorious and honorable" acts

Just recently, the Imperial College in London was to sponsor an event entitled simply "Israel-Palestine." However, the Israeli participant in the discussions, Prof. David Newman from Ben Gurion University, withdrew after making a disturbing discovery. Also to be included on the same debate panel was Azzam Tamimi, who in a 2004 interview with the BBC, called suicide bombings, "glorious and honorable" acts. Free speech has a place in all civilized cultures, and especially within academic circles, but when it supports violence and incitement to hatred, such speech has certainly crossed the line.

Secondly, we have the British government condemning Israel for reducing power to the Gaza Strip. Almost all the Western nations say that they recognize not only Israel's right to exist, but also its right to protect its citizens. Almost all the Western nations condemn Palestinian suicide bombings

and rocket attacks against Israel. So why then do these same Western nations rush to condemn Israel for deciding to cut back by only a small percentage the electricity that it provides to the Gaza Strip? No country has the obligation to provide aid and comfort to a combatant enemy engaged in constant attacks against its civilian population, clearly in violation of international law.

Finally, we have the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, who advocated that certain parts of Islamic law, called sharia law, be integrated within the British legal system. To clarify, the head of the Church of England, spiritual leader of millions of Anglicans worldwide, is proposing that Islamic law supersede English law in certain circumstances. Unbelievable! Williams said that such a move is "unavoidable" in the future, so the UK should essentially just go ahead and capitulate now.

Franco Frattini, the European Commissioner for Justice, Freedom and Security, quoted numbers in February from various EU reports stating that half of all anti-Semitic incidents in Europe are connected to radical Islam. The minister also said that Europe is trying to respond to anti-Semitism through more education.

To this end, schools across the UK will now send up to 4,000 high school students each year to the Auschwitz camp in Poland, followed by a series of seminars, in order to boost Holocaust understanding, education, and awareness. The program is sponsored by the Holocaust Educational Trust, and will cost some three million dollars per year. The question that the British need to ask themselves: Is three million dollars per year enough to turn the tide against the growing anti-Semitic attacks and attitudes in the UK? ★

Timeshares: Just Say “No!”

By Mark Levitt



Christian stewardship, a major topic throughout the Bible, inspired this bimonthly “Wise As a Serpent” series of articles (Matthew 10:16), which began in the February 2007 *Levitt Letter*. (Our ministry’s archive of *Levitt Letters* at www.levitt.com dates back to June 1995.)

The objective of this installment is to persuade you to steer clear of sales pitches to buy timeshares. The “free” prizes used as bait can be disappointing, and the sales presentations often become high pressure. Too many timeshare owners discover too late that they overpaid for a share of ownership that is all but impossible to resell — if not virtually worthless.

A timeshare allows an individual to own a portion of vacation property—typically a one-week stay per year in a condominium. For example, a condominium that normally sells for \$100,000 to a single buyer is divided into 52 one-week slices or “shares.” If the owner of each week pays \$10,000, that condo generates \$520,000 of revenue—more than five times its conventional value! In addition, if each of the 52 owners pays \$500 per year for maintenance, that unit generates \$26,000 in annual maintenance fees—a whole lot of expense just for a 900-square-foot condo.

It is a secret of the timeshare industry that vacationers who “pay-as-they-go” can rent timeshare weeks *a la carte* without getting mired in the complexities of ownership, the obligations of maintenance fees and the chaos of banking or exchanging weeks. To put it another way, if you have money in the bank (or a credit card in hand), you can be more flexible in your vacation planning than if you’ve tied funds up in a timeshare contract.

This ministry has accepted contributions of timeshares. The units have

come in handy for speaking engagements, but they’re more labor intensive and less versatile than paying-as-we-go. Ministry donors who’ve tried to sell their timeshares tell us that they paid \$500 in up-front fees to listing services to no avail. A consumer who attempts to resell his unit can’t compete very effectively against finely tuned marketing machines that churn out mass mailings and offer “free” prizes.

Once this ministry has more timeshares than we can use, we will market them on eBay. Donors will be welcome to 30% of the net proceeds, plus a receipt for the other 70%, (which will count as a donation). Unfortunately, the units that sell new for \$10,000 to \$15,000 may yield only \$2,000-\$3,000 on eBay.

Those who want to rent a timeshare condo *a la carte* might visit www.rci.com or www.intervalworld.com. But hear ye this: Never sit still for a sales pitch (or what they call a “survey” or “questionnaire,” during which the timeshare salesman (read: “wolves”) supposedly just want your opinion about a resort. Just say no to offers of a \$50 bill, dinner certificates or other prizes. Say no to the bait, avoid the stress and save your time. Besides, hotel and motel rooms are typically quite sufficient. ★

January 26, 1983

Dry Bones



“Three Little Pigs” —or Puppies

www.WorldNetDaily.com

Laughter is the only rational response to this story. — Ed.

Fearing Muslims would be offended, a story based on *The Three Little Pigs* was rejected by a government-funded British agency from consideration for an annual award.

Judges for the national school honor said the digital book retelling the classic tale is unacceptable because “the use of pigs raises cultural issues,” the BBC reported.

The book, titled *The Three Little Cowboy Builders*, also was deemed offensive to builders.

Anne Curtis, creative director for the book, told the BBC the idea that including pigs in the story would be considered bigoted is “like a slap in the face.”

Islamic teaching regards pigs as unclean and forbids eating pork. But a school in England last year attempting to be politically correct toward Muslims ended up offending them even more when it changed the name of its play based on a rendition of *The Three Little Pigs*.

The school decided to call it *The Three Little Puppies* instead. But Islamic leaders condemned the move as misguided and said such decisions were turning Muslims into “misfits” in society.

The Three Little Cowboy Builders already won Britain’s Education Resource award. But judges for the Bett award said they had “concerns about the Asian community, and the use of pigs raises cultural issues,” the BBC said. They also feared the story might “alienate” builders.

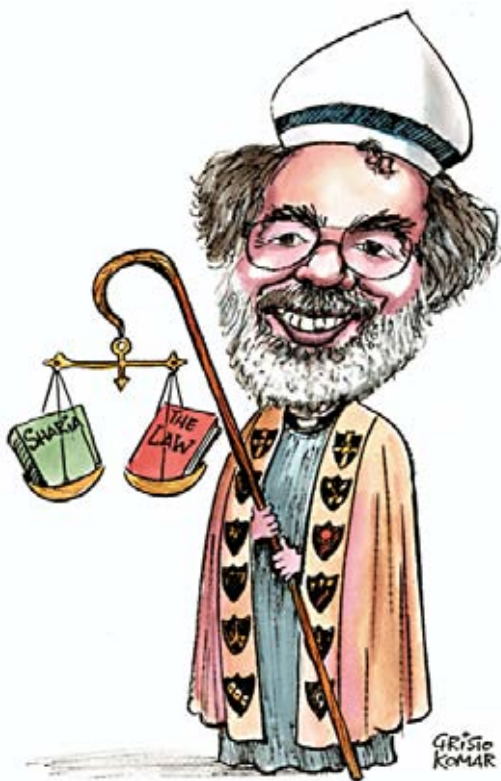
A member of a committee that decided last year to modify a play based on *The Three Little Pigs* explained the decision this way: “We have to be sensitive if we want to be multicultural. It was felt it would be more responsible not to use *The Three Little Pigs*. We feared that some Muslim children wouldn’t sing along to the words about pigs.”

But there was no complaint prompting the decision, and Sheik Ibrahim Mogra of the Muslim Council of Britain called it “bizarre.”

“The vast majority of Muslims have no problem whatsoever with *The Three Little Pigs*, he told the *London Daily Mail* at the time. “It’s always been the traditional way of telling the story, and I don’t see why that should be changed.”

Mogra acknowledged Muslims are forbidden to eat pork, “but there is no prohibition about reading stories about pigs.”

“Every time we get these stories, Muslims are seen more and more as misfits. We have to accept there’s a predominant culture here.” ★



Mainline Churches Turn On Israel

By Nathan Guttman, www.forward.com

Tensions are re-emerging between Jewish organizations and some mainline Protestant churches in the wake of a renewed drive for churches to divest from companies doing business with Israel.

The United Methodist Church opened discussions recently on a resolution calling for divestment from Israel. The divestment resolution comes only months after the publication of a church-sponsored report referring to the creation of the State of Israel as the “original sin.”

Relations with the Presbyterian Church (USA) are also strained, following remarks by church officials criticizing Israel because of the Gaza closure. A recent study by an affiliate of the Presbyterian Church called on American Jews to “get a life” instead of focusing on defending Israeli policies.

“This reflects a very disturbing trend in these churches,” said Ethan Felson, assistant executive director of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. “These developments are a result of work of several very wicked forces at play in the church.”

“The United Methodist Church holds

\$141 million of pension funds in companies that sustain the occupation,” said Susan Hoder, a member of the church’s Interfaith Peace Initiative. “This has to stop. We have to cut our ties to the occupation.” With 11 million members, The United Methodist Church is the largest mainline Protestant denomination in the U.S. The upcoming general conference, the church’s main forum for making policy decisions, will first discuss the divestment resolution in a subcommittee. Afterward, the panel’s recommendations will be put to a general vote to make them official policy.

MOTION 666

Associated Press

Some in the House of Commons in London, England took note of the significance: A motion calling to disestablish the Church of England was listed with the well-known number of the antiChrist: the number 666.

The motion would do away with the link between Church and State, which is formally represented in that Queen Elizabeth II is both the head of state as well as the head of the Church of England.

Bob Russell, a Liberal Democrat MP, remarked on the incredible nature of this happening by chance. Although some see it as uncanny, this motion by backbenchers has little chance of being debated in Parliament. ★



Our Hands Are Stained with Blood book

“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.” 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 someone who imagines that persecution of God’s Chosen is a hoax. 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 know. Available on page 31.

Saving Gazan Hearts

www.IsraelInsider.com

Despite the closure of Gaza and the violence raging on its borders, a small hospital in Israel — just beyond rocket range — offers a ray of hope for a handful of seriously ill Gazans, courtesy of Israeli physicians. “This child would have died without surgery,” said Dr. Alona Raucher-Sternfeld, as she simultaneously looked at the small Palestinian baby, Jamal, and the heart monitor.

Six-month-old Jamal came with his grandmother, Haifa, from the Dir al-Balah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip to get a checkup at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, south of Tel Aviv. Jamal suffered from two heart defects, and had to be operated on at the age of two months. His tiny size further complicated the surgery, but it was ultimately successful, the doctor said. “When he came here, he was blue. It was an emergency,” Raucher-Sternfeld said.

The surgery, hospital stay and logistics in bringing him out of Gaza were

coordinated and partially funded by Save a Child’s Heart, an Israeli humanitarian organization, with strong American Jewish backing and some European Union donations. In 2007, 128 Palestinian children from the West Bank and Gaza, all suffering from heart conditions, were treated by the program and the hospital.

Getting the child out of Gaza these days is difficult. Jamal’s 24-year-old mother is too young to be allowed out, according to Israeli security regulations, so the grandmother was sent as an escort instead. Col. Nir Press, head of the Israeli coordination and liaison administration in Gaza recently said Israel requires rigid security rules, as Palestinian terrorists have, in the past, taken advantage of permits issued for medical reasons to carry out bombings. In 2004, for example, four Israeli soldiers at the Erez crossing were killed when a Palestinian patient blew herself up inside the terminal.

Volunteers from Save a Child’s Heart stressed the apolitical nature of their program. “If there’s an Israeli child and a Palestinian child, whoever is in a more dire condition will get treatment first,” said a hospital nurse. ★



Intelligence Director: "I Probably Would Change A Few Things"

By Eli Lake, www.nysun.com

Just as many people suspected, the 2007 NIE report was nothing more than a sham to undermine the War on Terror. The lesson: Remember that these bureaucrats are guided as much by politics as by national security concerns.

— Ed.

The director of national intelligence is backing away from his agency's assessment late last year that Iran had halted its nuclear program, saying he wishes he had written the unclassified version of the document in a different manner.

At a recent hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the intelligence director, Michael McConnell, said, "If I had until now to think about it, I probably would change a few things." He later added, "I would change the way we describe the Iranian nuclear program. I would have included that there are the component parts, that the portion of it, maybe the least significant, had halted."

Mr. McConnell was referring to the specific Iranian program to design potential nuclear warheads, which the December estimate said had halted in 2003. But in his opening testimony, Mr. McConnell noted that two other components of the nuclear program were moving ahead — the enrichment of uranium, which he said was the most difficult part of making a bomb, and the development of long-range missiles capable of hitting North Africa and Europe.

The National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on Iran's nuclear program released on December 3 distinguished Iran's enrichment of uranium at Natanz and Arak from its formal nuclear weapons program, which it said had halted in

2003 after the American invasion of Iraq.

Mr. McConnell has now struck a different tone. "Declared uranium enrichment efforts, which will enable the production of fissile material, continue. This is the most difficult challenge in nuclear production. Iran's efforts to perfect ballistic missiles that can reach North Africa and Europe also continue."

He went on, "We remain concerned about Iran's intentions and assess with moderate-to-high confidence that Tehran at a minimum is keeping open the option to develop nuclear weapons."

The release of the December 2007 estimate at best delayed American diplomatic efforts to pass a third U.N. Security Council resolution sanctioning Iran's uranium enrichment, an activity the mullahs have continued for two years despite warnings from all five permanent members of the security council. The estimate also drew rare rebukes from American allies, including Israel, France, and the United Kingdom who said their intelligence agencies did not concur with the American assessment that Iran had frozen its plan to produce an A-bomb. ★



Islamic Bullying On Parade

By Elizabeth Eldridge
www.washingtontimes.com

No religious books, no Allah for non-Muslims in Malaysia. — Ed.

Malaysian authorities recently confiscated Christian children's books, claiming the illustrations of prophets such as Moses and Abraham violate Islamic sharia law. The Internal Security Ministry confiscated the literature from bookstores in two cities and one small town in mid-December.

The Rev. Hermen Shastri, general secretary of the Malaysian Council of Churches, confirmed the action and accused the government of persecuting Christians.

"The officials have offended the sensitivities of Christians because their publications and depictions of their Biblical personalities have now become targets of unscrupulous Muslim officials bent on curtailing religious freedom in the country," Mr. Shastri said.

Christians, Hindus and other religious groups in Malaysia say they are increasingly being targeted as the nation gradually cedes jurisdiction to sharia courts.

Download to Death

By David Blair, www.telegraph.co.uk

LONDON—An Afghan journalist has been sentenced to death for distributing an article downloaded from a website that was deemed to have "insulted Islam." The ruling by judges in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif betrayed the mounting level of Taliban-style intimidation of the press. Sayed Parwez Kaambakhsh's crime was to have passed around a piece questioning why Muslim women cannot have multiple husbands in the same way as their menfolk can legally take four wives.

Mr. Kaambakhsh, a student journalist on the *New World* newspaper, was prosecuted for downloading this article, apparently gleaned from an Iranian website, and distributing it to his friends.

On January 22, a court found him guilty of "insulting Islam" and sentenced him to death.

No lawyer represented Mr. Kaambakhsh, 23, during the hearing, which appears to have taken place in secret in Mazar-i-Sharif. The journalist will appeal against the verdict and both Afghan and international campaigners denounced his treatment.

Oral Treatment for Diabetics

[United Press International](#)

A substance derived from yeast is being tested in Israel as a potential oral treatment for diabetes and its complications.

The substance—glucose tolerance factor,

U.S. Torture Tactics

Proof of abuse by U.S. troops—what the media missed...

Iraqi boy hung by armed U.S. soldier while father looks on.



or GTF—offers promise of inhibiting oxidation processes that can result in strokes and heart attacks. GTF given at an early stage of diabetes may prevent or delay renal complications as well as cataracts and retinal damage.

“The research is now at the stage where the substance has been successfully tested on diabetic rats and was found to reduce sugar and lipids in the blood of the treated animals,” research leader Nitsa Mirsky of the University of Haifa said in a statement. “The next stage of the research is to evaluate GTF efficacy in humans.”

Mirsky’s research is being conducted on diabetic rats and on the molecular-cell level. The results indicate that GTF acts similarly to insulin in the rats. It lowers the level of low-density lipoprotein, the “bad” cholesterol—and raises the level of high-density lipoproteins, or the “good” cholesterol.

GTF seems to improve the effectiveness of injected insulin. Mirsky said further research is needed in order to find a combined regimen of insulin and GTF as a potential treatment for diabetes.

No More Invasive Than A Needle Prick

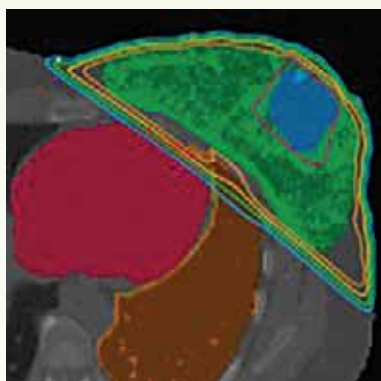
www.Israel21c.com

A new development that will one day enable the removal of breast lumps and tumors with a device that is no more invasive than a needle prick is very cool. Literally.

Israel’s Arbel Medical hopes that its **IceSense** technology will pave the way for simple cryotherapy, a method of surgery that uses extreme cold to kill diseased tissue. There are 15 million women in the United States suffering from benign breast lumps. Every year one million women are sliced open on the operating table in expensive surgery to remove breast lumps.

“Half the medical world is dealing with removing these [lumps],” says Didier Toubia, CEO of the Yokneam-based company. “At present there are no non-invasive treatments for benign breast lumps.”

According to Dr. Rafi Klein, a senior surgeon specializing in breast surgery at the Ramban Medical Center in Haifa and an advisor for Arbel, the threat of cancer prompts doctors to recommend removing all breast lumps even from young women.



IceSense technology freezing a tumor



IceSense provides hope of efficient treatment in local clinics without the need for hospitalization, recuperation, or scarring. The **IceSense** mechanism enables the local application of super-cold temperatures and a fine control of the temperature itself. Liquid nitrogen is pumped to the end of a thin needle probe, cooling the tip to the extreme cold required for cryotherapy. Utilizing ultrasound, surgeons can then guide the needle to the exact location of the lump and then freeze the unwanted tissue inside the body.

A description of this procedure and its future application to cancer is available at www.levitt.com/news

L-O-V-E Those Israel Tours!

www.newsday.com

More Americans visited Israel last year than ever before.

In 2007, 529,000 Americans made the trip, according to Arie Sommer, Israel’s tourism commissioner for North and South America.

The previous record year was 1999, when 515,000 Americans visited the country.

About 25 percent of all tourists to Israel come from the United States, with the top six states of origin being New York, California, New Jersey, Florida, Pennsylvania, and Illinois.

While some Americans go to connect with their Jewish heritage, Sommer estimates as many as a third of visitors from the United States are Christian. Itineraries that include sites connected to the New Testament and the life of Jesus are popular, along with visits to the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee and the olive grove where the Sermon on the Mount was delivered.

Israel’s tourism infrastructure has grown increasingly sophisticated in

the past few years, offering European-style bed-and-breakfast inns, wineries and spas in addition to historic and archaeological sites and the contrast between the ancient city of Jerusalem and the modern city of Tel Aviv.

In March 2008, Delta Air Lines started flying from JFK to Tel Aviv, adding a second daily flight from the United States to Israel. Continental Airlines operates two daily flights from Newark’s Liberty Airport to Tel Aviv, El Al Israel Airlines offers as many as six daily flights to Israel, and Israeli carrier Israir offers up to five weekly flights from JFK to Tel Aviv. ★



God comments on global warming.

Photos by Will King



Justice The Saudi Way

By Abdullah Shihri, Associated Press

Families of several imprisoned pro-reform activists in Saudi Arabia have drafted a letter to King Abdullah asking him to either release their loved ones, jailed for over a year without charges, or bring them to trial.

The draft, made available to the Associated Press, reminded Abdullah of his pledge on becoming king in 2005 to set free all "prisoners of conscience" and also of the kingdom's international commitment to abide by universal human rights. The letter lists 11 activists—including legal experts, human rights advocates, lawyers and university professors—and was signed by 16 petitioners, mostly relatives or friends of the detained.

The families' move is a bold one in a country which leading watchdog groups say has a tainted human rights record, including documented cases of flogging and torture in custody, oppression of government criticism and discrimination of women and minority groups.

A researcher on Saudi Arabia at the New York-based Human Rights Watch, Christoph Wilcke, said the "letter reflects the frustration of people who don't know why their loved ones are held. But it also shows lack of due process that authorities in Saudi Arabia get away with and for which no one holds them accountable," Wilcke told the Associated Press.

The letter said the detainees were rounded-up "for promoting reform" and "defending other prisoners of conscience." It also criticized the stifling of freedom of expression in the kingdom, its crackdown on Internet bloggers and censorship of the press.

"The forcible arrests and violations (of human rights) have targeted a trend of peaceful resistance that only represents the true conscience of this nation," it read, describing the pro-reform activists as a "safety valve which protects this country from violence and aggression."



Automatic First Aid! Zola's Monthly Gift Program

You can increase the effectiveness of your contributions by reducing our expenses in processing them, plus save your time and postage. Once you enroll in our **Monthly Gift Program**, our ministry will electronically receive a monthly offering from either your checking account or credit card.

If you wish to use your **checking account** for donations, please follow directions numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 below:

1. Transfer date: (please circle one) 5th 20th
2. Withdrawal amount: (please circle one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other _____
3. Enclose your check payable to Zola Levitt Ministries (ZLM) for this month's gift. The monthly transfers will begin in about 4 weeks, and you can cancel at any time.
4. Signature _____ (required for processing)
5. Printed Name _____ Date Signed _____

If you wish to use your **credit/debit card** for donations, please follow directions 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 below. Your charge date will be between the 15th and 20th of each month. You may cancel at any time.

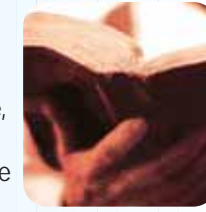
6. Withdrawal amount: (please circle one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other _____
7. Credit card: MasterCard Visa Discover AMEX Card ID# required _____
8. Credit card #: _____ Exp. date ____/____
9. Signature _____ (required for processing)
10. Printed Name _____ Date Signed _____



ZLM Bulletin Board

Zola's Bible Exchange...

...now includes Muslims! If you have an extra Bible to pass on to someone less fortunate, such as an inmate or someone on fixed income, please send it to us to forward. On the other hand, if you need a Bible and can't afford one, please send us your address and mention any preferences you might have. There will be no charge. (Theologian Dr. Tom McCall refers to a New Testament bound by itself as *The Amputated Bible*.)



Duplicates? Moving?

Are you receiving two or more copies of our newsletters? Please let us know so that we can unclutter your mailbox or cut costs. And maybe pass that extra copy on to a friend. Also, please let us know 4-6 weeks before moving so that you won't miss any letters. Thanks.

Free Levitt Letter Overages

Would you like 12, 24 or 36 recent *Levitt Letters* to give away at your church? We have been printing a few extras for people who want to serve as **Newsletter Ambassadors**.

Imagine delivering this ministry's various teachings to those that don't know it even exists — free. Please help us to reach more people by periodically letting us know how many newsletters you can put to good use.



Donating Stock

Your accountant may advise that it's smarter to donate shares of stock rather than the proceeds from liquidating them. Our ministry's E*Trade account number is **6525-9638** and you can reach their customer service department at 800-387-2331. They ask that securities be mailed to:

E*Trade Clearing, PO Box 1542, Merifield VA 22116 or 671 N. Glebe Rd, 10th FL, Arlington VA 22203 (for certified or overnight delivery).

Provide E*Trade or your broker with the following information:
Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc.
Tax ID Number 75-1680391
E*Trade Account # 6525-9638
DTC # 0385
E*Trade's Routing # 056073573

We also accept other gifts in kind, which we typically sell on eBay.

"Come Home!"

Zola's Tours to Israel:



See page 32 for details





Right Sacrifices By John J. Parsons

זָבַחוּ זְבִיחוֹת צְדָקָה וּבְטַחוּ אֶל־יְהוָה:

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put your trust in the LORD. (Psalms 4:5)

אֶל־	יְהוָה	וּ	בְּטַ	חוּ	זְבִ	חַי־	צְדָ	קָה	זְבִ	חוּ
(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)
el-Adonai		u-vit-chu			ziv-chei-tze-dek				ziv-chu	
in the LORD		and trust			sacrifices of righteousness				Sacrifice	

Right Sacrifices

The Hebrew word for a sacrificial offering is *korban*, a word that comes from *korav* meaning to “draw near,” specifically, to draw near to God. Under the Levitical system of worship in the Tabernacle/Temple, offerings (*korbanot*) were provided as a means to bring someone who was away from God near to Him again.

There are several types of *korbanot* listed in the Torah. *Zevachim* were various animal sacrifices slaughtered upon the *mizbeach* (altar), a word that comes from the same root (*Zayin-Vet-Chet*). Metaphorically, sacrifices can be called righteous (*zivchei tzedek*) or wicked (*zivchei resha*).

Right sacrifices imply something more than the scrupulous performance of religious rituals, however. King David understood that they were the expression of — not the means to — genuine trust in the Lord (*bittachon*). Only when ritual is grounded in trust are we able to experience the blessing of drawing near to God in the truth.

Such “drawing near” does not happen in a vacuum of self-centered piety, however. Reconciliation with God is invariably connected with how we treat others. We cannot offer “our gift upon the altar” if we understand that someone is hurting because of our lovelessness (Matt. 5:23-24).

Many of us are more comfortable with the idea of offering a sacrifice than extending genuine love and mercy to others, especially to those who have offended us or whom we regard as our enemies. It is much easier to participate in a sacrificial “system” than it is to engage in the arduous task of authentic self-examination and confession. Indeed, if we are not careful, such an approach can be used as a pretext for enabling callous indifference or even systematic malice toward others.

When the Pharisees objected to his practice of extending grace to sinners (i.e., the ritually unclean), Jesus twice quoted from Hosea 6:6: “For I desire love (*chesed*) and not sacrifice (*zevach*), and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings” (Matt. 9:13, 12:7). To obey God is better than sacrifice (1 Sam. 15:22), and without the proper heart attitude of love, religious expression — even if technically “correct” — is nothing but a sham. **Living a merciful life trumps your preferred theological ideologies.**

The work of love (*chesed*) reveals itself by demonstrating *tzedek* (justice, righteousness) in your life. The Scriptures command: *Tzedek, tzedek tirdof*: “justice, justice you shall pursue” (Deut. 16:20). Jesus’ sacrifice for our sin is the sacrifice of the just for the unjust, the ultimate expression of love for mankind. Loving others means promoting their welfare and good, even if they are unjust themselves. When we truly trust in the Lord we become *korban chai*, a living sacrifice, offered to God (Rom. 12:1). ★



The American Election and Islam

By Phyllis Chesler
PajamasMedia.com/xpress/PhyllisChesler

This coming American election is not just about universal health care — it is also about the survival of the free world as we have come to know it. And therefore, it is also about Islam.

Do our candidates understand that we are really at war and that we cannot talk our way out of it? That charm, even of the spellbinding variety, is not enough, nor can we “take a meeting,” Hollywood-style, or Tammany-Hall style, to set things right. Nor is simple, old-fashioned heroics the answer to the kind of Orwellian propaganda and guerilla-terrorism that America and our allies will continue to confront in the 21st century.

Does our next president understand that we have to fight with everything we have and risk losing it all in order to hold onto any of it?

Certain burning issues require immediate, not gradual solutions. Our dependence on Arab oil (a tragic addiction) must end. Alternate sources of energy must be found in a very short period of time. (Watch the Israeli electric car project.)

Just recently, I wrote about Muslim taxi drivers whose private religious beliefs about wine, pork, and dogs led to behaviors towards passengers which

were considered, at trial, to be crimes in North America. I also described a network of Muslim taxi drivers in the UK which, according to a government report, tracks and returns Muslim girls and women who are in flight from abuse and from being honor murdered. I did not indict all Muslim taxi drivers. Indeed, I was careful to write that many Muslim taxi drivers are also polite and courteous and many non-Muslim drivers are not.

It wasn't enough. The politically correct police turned out, not in droves, but with great passion. They accused me of saying things that I had not said. They were afraid that “people” would use my words to restrict Muslim immigration, profile or imprison Muslims, bar Muslims from working as taxi drivers, etc.

But I did not write any of this nor do I think it.

Here's what you must remember when you fear that your most practical ideas in our culture and terror war might be branded “racist”: Muslims and people of color are also being victimized by Islamist suicide killers and tyrants. It is Muslims who suffer most from Islamic gender apartheid.

Thus, by telling the truth about various elements of Islam, we are not only defending our own civilization, but we are empowering the Muslim reformers who want to help modernize and democratize Islam — and we are therefore coming to the aid of the millions of Muslims in the Islamic world who are victims of Islamic radicalism. ★



Tax Dollars for Terrorists

By Dr. Rachel Ehrenfeld and Alyssa A. Lappen
www.FrontPageMagazine.com

Present day politicians continue the insane practice of funding both sides of a war. –Ed.

The Bush Administration's search for partners to promote "peace" and "democracy" within the Palestinian Authority (PA) resembles Lord Charles Bowen's "blind man in a dark room looking for a black hat — which isn't there."

For the first time, the Bush Administration plans to give \$150 million in cash directly to the Palestinian Authority (PA) Treasury, as part of a \$496.5 million "aid" package, including \$410 million for development programs. This added to the \$86.5 million for CIA "security training," which Congress authorized in April 2007.

The CIA has apparently assumed the Palestinian terrorist-training role previously held by the former Soviet Union. CIA Palestinian training success is best described by a member of the PA Chairman's own security unit, Force 17 officer Abu Yusef: "The operations of the Palestinian resistance would [not] have been so successful and "would not have killed more than 1,000 Israelis since 2000, and defeated the Israelis in Gaza without [American military] trainings," he boasted in August 2007.

Since the Oslo Accords, the PA received some \$14 billion to \$20 billion in international aid, according to a 2007 Funding for Peace Coalition (FPC) report to the British Parliament. Each Palestinian received \$4,000 to \$8,000 per year. In comparison, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), provided \$1 billion in humanitarian aid for 2.5 million Darfur refugees from 2003 to 2006 — only

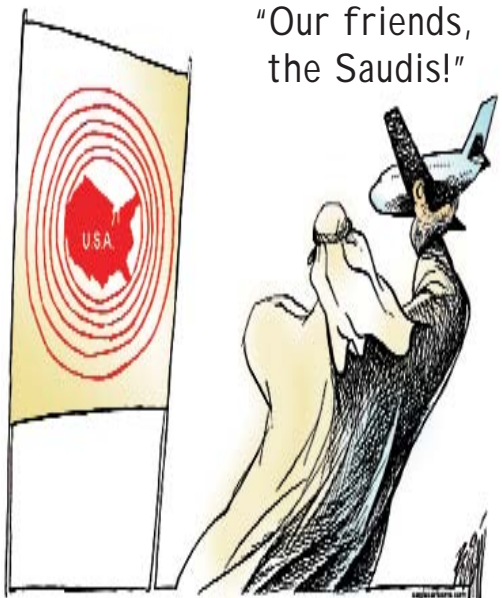
\$100 per person annually.

The PA received "the highest per capita aid transfer in the history of foreign aid anywhere," according to former World Bank country director for Gaza and the West Bank, Nigel Roberts. Not surprisingly, hundreds of thousands of Gazans spent more than \$300 million in less than a two week shopping spree, after Hamas blew up the border with Egypt. Yet, the Palestinian economy is in ruins.

Yet President George W. Bush in his January 28, 2008 State of the Union Address, reassured the Palestinians that "America will do, and I will do, everything we can to help them achieve... a Palestinian state by the end of this year."

U.S.-favored PA President Mahmoud Abbas, who in 1957 with Yasser Arafat co-founded the al Fatah terrorist group, assumed the role of his predecessor. Abbas remains committed to the organization's *raison d'être*—destroying Israel and expelling the Jewish people from the region.

It is time for President Bush to remove his blinders and stop donating U.S.-taxpayer funds to this murderous partnership. It is also time for Congress to demand a proper monitoring program to oversee the legitimate use of U.S. aid to the Palestinians. ★





Letters to ZIM

Russia & Prophecy

Dear Jeffrey:

I am interested in your updated enhancement of Zola's classic on Russia and prophecy. Is it true that Mr. Putin is scheming to gain control of the Arab world and that he is quietly buying up utility companies all across Europe? How will this impact Israel? Thank you for keeping me on your mailing list.

Your Friend in Yeshua,

B.W.

Dear BW:

First, thank you for remaining on the mailing list. In a world where so many "experts" are given to extolling how informed they are, I want you to know that, in truth, I am not yet sure how to answer you. I plan for the TV series to underscore what the Scriptures say. I don't have all the answers to contemporary applications. However, I am hoping that viewers will experience the series and then contact us saying: "Yeah, this is how this fits here; that is how this fits there." Like you, I am very, very concerned by Putin's and Russia's ambitions and by their involvement in supplying nuclear materials to the Islamic world.

— Yours, Jeff

The Garden of Gethsemane



Judging & Touching

Dear Staff:

I believe we play right into the plans of the enemy, to his delight I know, when we judge other ministries that preach prosperity in Christ Jesus... It is our Lord's desire that we as a body be in unity in His love. It is His desire that we do not judge... [and] that we "touch not God's anointed." I thank the Lord for Zola Levitt Ministries....

—B.A.G.

Dear B. A. G.:

As for "judging," it is the US government that is raising questions about the propriety of ministers with multi-multi-million dollar salaries and lavish lifestyles. The government grants non-profit, tax-exempt status to religious groups, and, from their perspective, it indeed seems that some "prosperity preachers" are profiting handsomely from the non-profit arrangement. I don't fear that I am supporting the devil's bidding by taking issue with this, nor do I think that one can't dare raise reasonable questions on the basis of daring to "touch God's anointed." In any case, on the basis of the doctrine that all people are "innocent until proven guilty," let's see what becomes of the process.

—Jeff

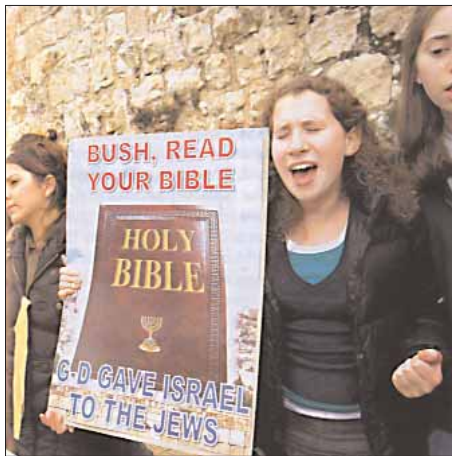


About the Apostasy

Dear Jeff:

You know we love you... and support the Jews through several organizations. I even wrote President Bush and Secretary Rice twice about how wrong they are in pressing Israel to give up more land. They didn't take my advice.

Perhaps it's because my spirit grieves me about the apostasy in the United Methodist Church, and the falling away of many, that I was disturbed by your negative attitude toward the church....



Actually, the General Conference of the Methodist Church voted "No!" to some practices that the bishops soon adopted.

Our son, a graduate of Asbury Theological Seminary and now a pastor, is true to God's Word, as are many. But many are not...

In Christ's Love, —M.W.

Greetings M.W.:

Congratulations on your son's noble calling. I am sure you are proud of him; Asbury is a fine institution. I took my master's and doctorate from a Methodist seminary (SMU), but like you, I believe that there is "apostasy" within the Church. I also believe there are Bible-believing elements within the Church. With you, my heart and prayers are that the Bible Believers will prevail.

—Jeff

Jets for ZLM?

Jeffrey and Sandra:

In the recent article entitled, *Jets for Jesus*, Senator Grassley is quoted as saying: “Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, not a Rolls Royce” ... My reply to the Senator is this: In Jesus’ day a donkey was the Rolls Royce mode of travel. And I might add, Jesus specified one that had never been ridden before. He wanted one brand new, right off the showroom floor... God wants us to live in abundance! I actively support two of the six televangelists under investigation (in addition to ZLM). I’m glad they both have jets to do the work of God. I’m glad they travel in style, comfort and speed. I firmly believe God approves as well. Besides that, I think ZLM should have a ministry jet as well.

P.

Dear P.

Having reflected on your letter, let me adjust my position with the following announcement: “Attention all airplane owners. Please donate your plane to Zola Levitt Ministries. We’ll take small corporate jets, larger commercial airliners and even retired 747s. (Why not!?) If any government ministers are reading, know that we’ll take your fighter planes, Apache helicopters, anything and everything. Along with sending in the clear titles, please include a picture and description along with the maintenance report. I’ll need them when I turn around and put an ad in the newspaper to sell them, so I can pay for our TV production costs, staggering airtime expenses and the like. As for fighter planes, instead of selling them, I’ll send them to Israel.”

—Jeff

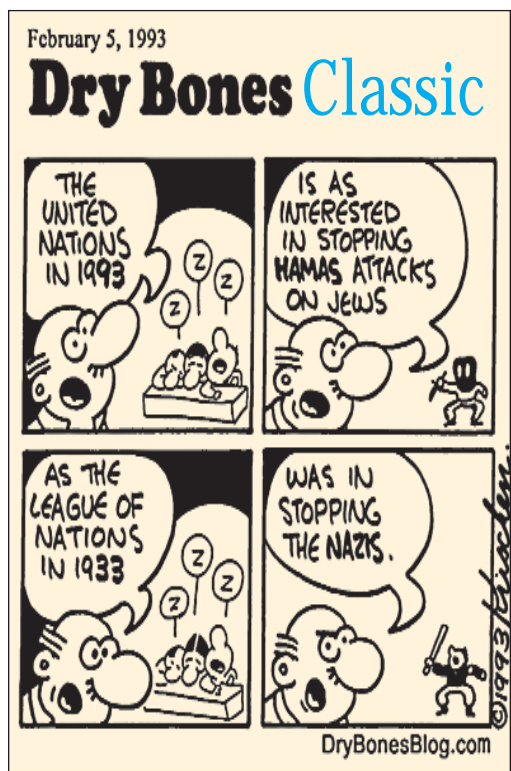
Please Stay Committed

Dear ZLM:

I love the fact that your ministry seeks to enlighten the Jewish people to the identity of the Messiah Jesus (Yeshua). I also like the fact that the teaching is done in such a way that anyone (Jew or Gentile) can see their need for His forgiveness. It appears that we are truly living in what the Bible calls the “last days” and are nearing the return of Jesus. Please stay committed and zealous for Him, and also pray that I do so as well. As the Apostle Paul said, “I pray that you faint not.” Thank you for all your hard work, and may our Lord bless you.

Shalom!

J. A.



Dear Jeff:

Just want to tell how much I enjoy your writing and your research in crafting an article like *DeSeifering our World*. Sandra, you add a wonderful flair to the magazine. Your article Shalom from Sandra is great. May our Lord Jesus continue to give both of you and the staff an added Joy this year and continue to give you His Wisdom in writing and may you gain favor with all the TV networks and multiply your ministry around the world.

A.B.

Dear ZLM:

I appreciate *Levitt Letter* received for the first time. Have longed for this Input. Please send two *Levitt Letters* each time, if possible, so I can promote your work. Also send *28 Ways to Help Israel*. God be with you.

D. and L. in N. Australia.

Time for Zola!

“Ohh! It’s time for Zola!!!”

Every Friday at 5 p.m., I am right here in front of the TV. It’s kind of part of my job here at Daystar, but BOY I sure do love this show!!



Dr. Seif has been a great addition, and it has been great to get to know him through the *Levitt Letter*. Mrs. Sandra is a wonderful teacher and beautiful woman, her heart for her blinded brethren is apparent and touching. They do a great job teaching and illuminating the Texts from a Jewish perspective, which is so critical for those of us grafted in.

What spurred me to write is the *Rabbi from Tarsus* series you’re in right now. The production value is incredible, and I am learning so much. I am currently reading Acts before bedtime, and it’s layering in my heart and mind. Great, great stuff!!! Your production team should be congratulated and it’s obvious to me that the Lord is all over what you’re doing there.

May the Lord richly bless your ministry,
S.

Future Holy Land Tour

Dear Sandra and Jeff:

I just wanted to thank you for your ministry. I’m a new viewer, having just discovered your show, and I have to say that words cannot express what a blessing it’s been to me. Thank you very much; never let your light go out.

One day I look forward to touring the Holy Land with you. It will be my wife’s and my anniversary present to ourselves, when we can afford it, God willing. God bless you both and all the staff,
B.



Dear ZLM:

I want to express how much I have enjoyed Zola Levitt for many years. I do receive the Levitt Letter which I read from front to back. A number of years ago, Zola made a program from Israel showing a warehouse containing items prepared for the Third Temple. It was very interesting and informative. Many people do not know these items exist. Would it be possible to retrieve that program from the "archives" and show it again? We miss Zola very much, but Dr. Jeff and Sandra are doing a great job. Thank you. — M. D.

Dear M.D.:

We broadcast our television programs only once or twice. After that, you can either purchase them or see the newer ones online 24/7 at www.levitt.com. We lose some sales by offering free, on-demand viewing our TV programs, but we also stow treasures in the Kingdom. The program to which you referred is entitled, "The Temple Builders," and it's from our *End of the Age II* TV series. Now that we have increased our website's storage capacity (and thanks to your request), we will begin archiving more of our older programs at www.levitt.tv. — Mark

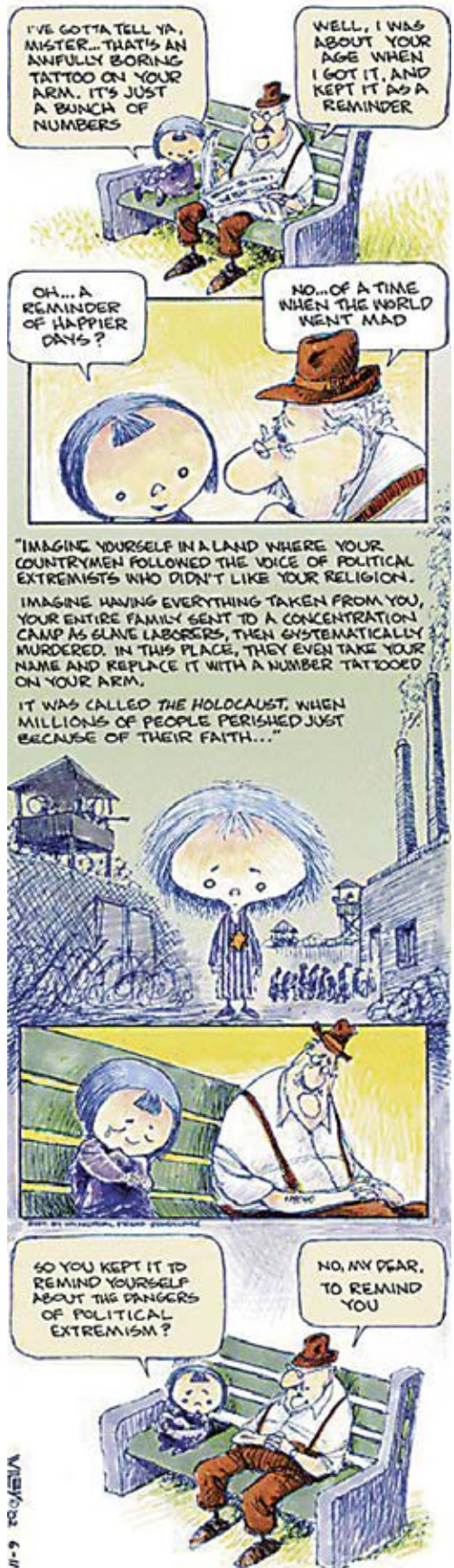
Double Anointing Continues

Dear Sandra:

I just wanted to thank you again for coming to Sebring, FL to encourage us in the Word. My husband and I were blessed by your ministry. Loved your *Christian Love Story* lesson. You explained it so clearly. Also loved the question and answer session.

We would also like to thank you and Jeff for continuing with the ministry. We didn't know how it could get better, but the show gets better and better. It is a wonderful mix of Bible, current thoughts on the current scene, and Zola's music. We continue to pray for you that the double anointing will continue. The Lord bless you and strengthen you for each new day. Love in Christ, — C. and K. ★

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY



Stone Cold Feminists

By David Horowitz, Robert Spencer and Janet Levy, www.frontpagemagazine.com

Two sisters—identified only as Zohreh and Azar—have been convicted of adultery in Iran.

They have now been sentenced to be stoned to death.

Adultery is a crime punishable by death in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with the canons of Islamic sharia law. The Iranian Supreme Court has upheld the stoning sentence.

Zohreh and Azar have already received 99 lashes for “illegal relations.” Yet they were tried again for the same crime, and convicted of adultery on the evidence of videotape that showed them in the presence of other men while their husbands were absent. The video does not show either of them engaging in any sexual activity.

Their crime is nonexistent, their trials a miscarriage of justice, and their sentencing a barbarity.

All those who believe in human rights and human dignity should protest against this sentence.

We call upon feminists to join us in protesting this outrage. We continue to be stunned but not surprised by the silence of these feminists who have questioned the authenticity of our concern for Muslim women oppressed by the laws of Islam.

The feminists who recently complained that the media have falsely represented them as indifferent to the plight of Muslim women have so far been conspicuously indifferent to the plight of Zohreh and Azar. So far American feminists have failed to support their Muslim sisters. We call on them to join us in doing so now.



Startled At Starbucks

By Sonia Verma, www.timesonline.co.uk

A 37-year-old American businesswoman and married mother of three is seeking justice after she was thrown in jail by Saudi Arabia's religious police for sitting with a male colleague at a Starbucks coffee shop in Riyadh.

Her ordeal began with a routine visit to the new Riyadh offices of her finance company, where she is a managing partner. The electricity temporarily cut out, so Yara and her colleagues—who are all men—went to a nearby Starbucks to use its wireless internet.

“Some men came up to us with very long beards and white dresses. They asked ‘Why are you here together?’ I explained about the power being out in our office. They got very angry and told me what I was doing was a great sin,” recalled Yara.

The men were from Saudi Arabia's Commission for Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, a police force of several thousand men charged with enforcing dress codes, sex segregation and the observance of prayers.



Yara once believed that life in Saudi Arabia was becoming more liberal. But she was interrogated, strip-searched and forced to sign and fingerprint a series of confessions pleading guilty to her “crime.”

“They made me take off my clothes and squat and they threw my clothes in this slush and made me put them back on,” she said. Eventually she was taken before a judge. He said, ‘You are sinful and you are going to burn in hell.’

Yara's husband, Hatim, a prominent businessman, used his political contacts in Jeddah to track her whereabouts. He was able to secure her release.



Solving A Thorny Math Problem

By Hillel Fendel

www.IsraelNationalNews.com

Prof. Avraham Trahtman of Bar Ilan University has solved an internationally famous math problem known as the Road Coloring Conjecture.

From Night Guard to Top Professor

Prof. Trahtman, 63, immigrated to Israel from the former Soviet Union some 15 years ago. He worked at first as a security guard and in house cleaning, and later took his rightful place as a staff member on the Mathematics Faculty at Bar Ilan University in Ramat Gan.

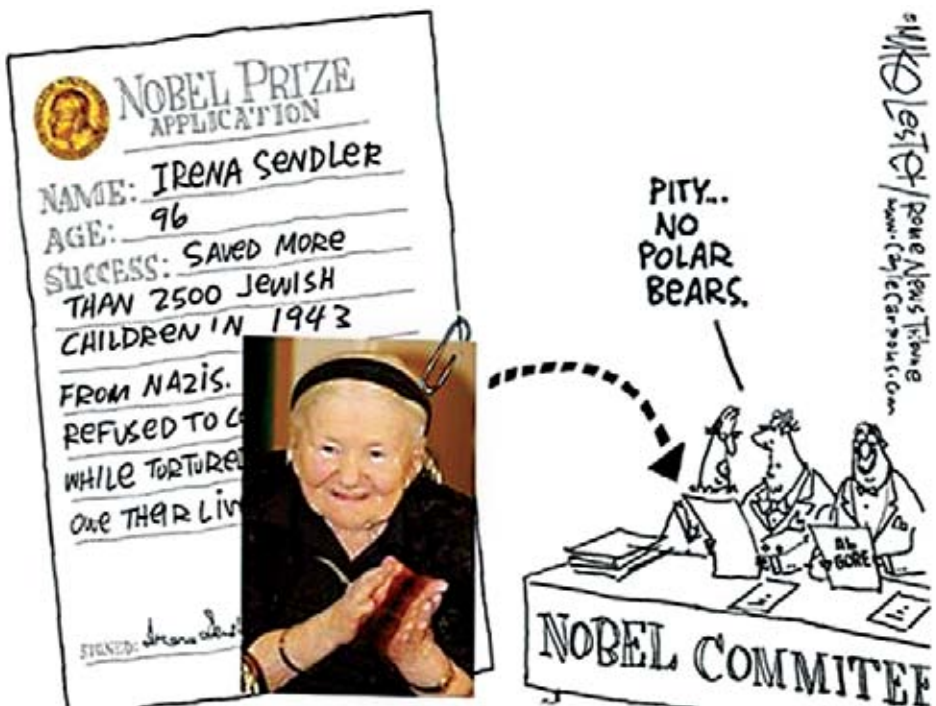
The math problem solved by Prof. Trahtman, a resident of southern Jerusalem, is known as the Road Coloring Conjecture. Its basic format is essentially unintelligible to non-mathematicians, but can be roughly translated into real life by asking: "Is there a map of one-way streets, all colored in one of two colors, for which

a set of directions to a certain point can be given that would be correct no matter where one started?"

The problem was originally presented in 1970 by Israeli mathematician Binyamin Weiss and two colleagues. It evoked noticeable interest among specialists in graph theory, deterministic automata and symbolic dynamics, though remained unsolved—until Prof. Trahtman proposed his solution this past September. Its publication in *The Israeli Journal of Mathematics* caused a stir in the mathematical world, and "has brought great pride to our university and the State of Israel," said Bar Ilan President Prof. Moshe Kaveh.

Love of Israel and Modesty

A Bar Ilan colleague of Trahtman, Prof. Stuart Margolis, said, "Not only did he bring about a world breakthrough, but he also chose to publicize it in an Israeli journal, even though he could have publicized it in any other international journal. This shows more than anything else his modesty and great love for Israel." ★



Let These People Stay

by Maria Hjort, *The Jerusalem Post*

"The Holy Land is a lighthouse — the people here create light through their faith to guide the rest of the world. If Christians are no longer living here, the light will die down and ships will get lost in the dark," says Ronny Levy of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land (FFHL).

It may seem odd that an Orthodox Jew has dedicated himself to finding ways of keeping Christians in Israel, but for Levy it's as natural as breathing.

"Jews must support Christians in the Holy Land. Their presence here strengthens the Jewish people in Israel," explains Levy, who has worked with the FFHL since 2001. "The Christians intermediate between the Jews and the Muslims. If there are no Christians left, the churches will be hollow, meaningless buildings and the pilgrims and tourists will no longer come."

The current prognosis is worrisome. In 1900, Christians constituted 13.2 percent of the national population. Today that number has dropped below 2%, and if nothing is done, pessimistic voices warn, in 60 years there may be no Christians left in Israel.

The FFHL established a task force to learn why Christians leave and what might convince them to stay. And after interviewing young Arab Christians in Israel and the PA-controlled territories, they discovered, unsurprisingly, that many leave because of political and economic pressures.

But the Franciscan task force believes there is a three-fold solution to convince young Christian Arabs to stay.

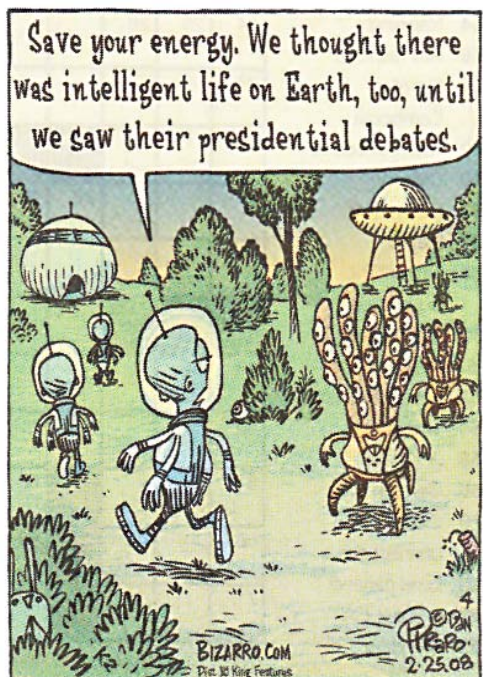
The first is to offer them a college education so they can get work as professionals, which is the second

strand of the argument. Last, is providing affordable accommodation.

The college education is typically offered at either Hebrew University or at Bethlehem University - and on rare occasions at The University of Amman or Cairo. It costs between \$5,000 and \$6,000 per student per year for books and tuition. Accommodation so far offered includes 45 houses in Bethlehem, 65 on the Mount of Olives, 22 in Beit Hanina and several apartments under construction in Nazareth.

Once scholarship recipients earn their degree, they are invited to move into these complexes to live close to other Christians.

"After learning about the problems in the Holy Land, Christians in America have proven to be very generous," says Peter, who travels to the US twice a year to fundraise for the cause. To recognize such generosity, the Franciscans have created a Memorial Hall at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Any benefactor who donates \$400 or more eternalizes his own name or that of a family member on a plaque. So far, the hall, which has room for 130,000 plaques, features 500 such plaques.



"...It Was The Right Thing To Do."

Israel Today

Hassan Askari, a twenty-year-old Muslim student from Bangladesh came to the aid of a group of Jews attacked on New York City's subway. The incident occurred when someone yelled "Merry Christmas" and Walter Adler responded with "Happy Hanukkah." A group of ten men jumped Adler and shouted anti-Jewish curses. Fighting ensued. Hassan Askari jumped in, in defense of Adler, and came away with two black eyes himself. Askari was honored by New York City lawmaker Joseph Crowley and State Senator John Sabini for his brave act. "I did what I did because it was the right thing to do," Askari said. "I will help anyone in need, no matter what his religion. At the end of the day, we are all human being and that is what matters."

I love it. We need millions and millions of more people just like that. — Jeff



Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

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

DirecTV—Channel 255 **Dish**—Channel 181

ABC-FAM Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	10:00 pm Sun or 1:00 am Mon	11 pm Sun or 2 am Mon	12:00 am Mon	1:00 am Mon

DirecTV—Channel 311 **Dish**—Channel 180

INSP Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3:30 am Wed 5:30 pm	4:30 am Wed 6:30 pm	5:30 am Wed 7:30 pm	6:30 am Wed 8:30 pm

Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3:00 pm Fri	4:00 pm Fri	5:00 pm Fri	6:00 pm Fri

DirecTV—Channel 369 **Dish**—Channel 263

TCT on DirecTV

TCT is Channel 377 on DirecTV:
Visit www.tct.tv for your area's schedule.

NOTE: If you are unable to view *Zola Levitt Presents*, please contact your local cable company or refer to your satellite directory.

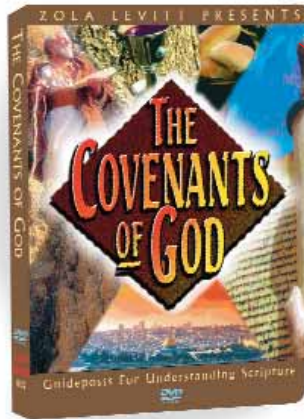
Our entire TV Airing Schedule is posted at
www.levitt.com.



The Covenants of God

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EDENIC COVENANT

Zola explains the meaning and significance of covenants. He then deals specifically with the Edenic Covenant made with Adam (mankind) in innocence before the fall. Zola interviews physicist Gerald Schroeder in Jerusalem regarding his theory that the biblical six days of creation do not conflict with the scientific view of a 15 billion-year-old universe.

ADAMIC AND NOAHIC COVENANTS

The Adamic Covenant is God's covenant made with Adam after the fall that conditions the life of fallen men and gives the promise of a Redeemer. The Noahic Covenant is God's covenant with Noah establishing the principle of human government. Zola interviews Dan Hendrickson, an Orthodox Jew, about the specific rules in the covenant and how they apply to the Gentiles.

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

The Abrahamic Covenant founded the nation of Israel and confirmed, with specific additions, the Adamic promise of redemption. Zola interviews Gary Cooperberg, an Orthodox Jew, and Chuck Cohen, a Messianic Believer, about the relevance of the Abrahamic Covenant today.

Please see Order Form at right.

MOSAIC COVENANT

This program explores the Mosaic Covenant of commandments, judgments, and ordinances given to Israel: "For all have sinned." Zola interviews Dan Hendrickson, Gary Cooperberg, and David Tel Tsur, a Messianic Believer, about the significance of the Mosaic Covenant.

LAND COVENANT

Zola teaches about the Land Covenant, which secures the final restoration and conversion of Israel. He interviews former Prime Minister Shimon Peres about the peace process. He talks with David Bar-Illan, media advisor to then Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu.

DAVIDIC COVENANT

The Davidic Covenant established the perpetuity of the Davidic Kingdom and furthered God's plan of redemption through the future Messiah. Zola interviews Uzi Landau, Israel's Head of Foreign Affairs, about the threat Muslim fundamentalists pose to the security of Israel.

NEW COVENANT

The New Covenant rests upon the sacrifice of Christ and secures eternal blessedness for Believers. It is absolutely unconditional. Zola interviews Rabbi Henri Noach, Gary Cooperberg, and Rev. Benjamin Berger, a Messianic Believer, regarding the relationship of Jews and Christians.

REVIEW Zola reviews the eight major covenants and explains the outworking of God's purposes with man. A deeper understanding of God's covenants with man enriches our faith and expands our knowledge of the great Creator we have the privilege of calling "Father." To Him be the glory forever.

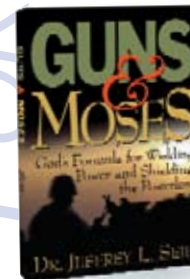
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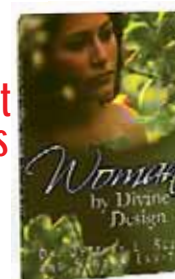
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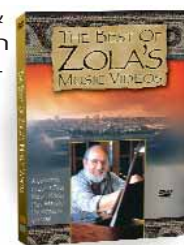


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The Bible: The Whole Story



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We're delighted to introduce our new Travel Manager, Abel Martinez. Abel is a Sephardic Jew, and he attends the Baruch HaShem congregation in North Dallas (see pg. 7.) Tony, our previous Travel Manager, now works with our Israel land agent and still helps us. — Sandra

