

Levitt

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



Letter



Israel is stable and secure, even in our unstable and insecure world. This is made clear in the article below. —Jeff

The Real Israel

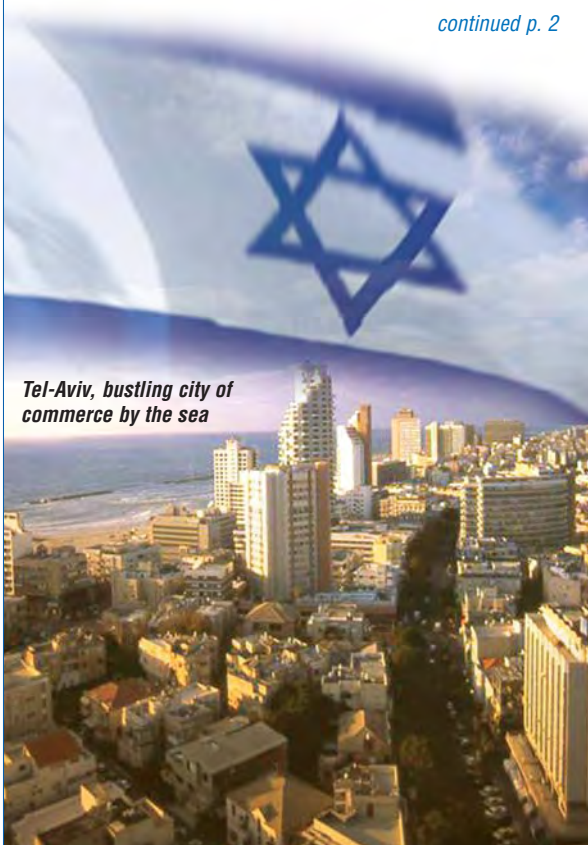
By Yoram Ettinger, www.YNetNews.com



This reputedly "war-torn" land is in fact an economic, scientific, and cultural powerhouse.

1. The bankruptcy rate in Israel is one of the lowest in the world.
2. The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange has rebounded to its September 10, 2008 (pre-meltdown) level.
3. Major international companies continue to bring their investments to Israel, indicating their confidence in Israel's future.

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Tel-Aviv, bustling city of commerce by the sea

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Jordan Is Really Palestine

By Sarah Honig
www.JPost.com



If anyone can lay claim to consummate mastery of the thriving art of history-forging, it's the Jordanians. Their entire state, nationhood, and very identity are counterfeit. Were the international community not sympathetically predisposed to lap up the lie, Jordan obviously couldn't pull it off. Its wholesale fabrication hinges on a world that contentedly collaborates in hoodwinking itself.

So deceit blithely marches on.

Its latest installment is the artificially-concocted kingdom's decision to strip

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4. Intel, with 6 plants and 6,500 employees in Israel, has developed breakthroughs in Israel that have changed the face of computerization. The company develops and manufactures network and communications products as well as microprocessors. Among the technologies developed in Israel are MMX, which constitutes the basis of the Pentium processor, platforms for Intel Centrino mobile computers, and the Intel Core 2 Duo processor. All of the major tech players—Google, Microsoft, IBM—have large research centers in Israel. They go where the talent is. Israel is the third-hottest spot (after Silicon Valley and Boston) for high-tech venture capital in the world. The cell phone? Optimized in Israel. Ditto for most of the Windows NT operating system and for voice mail technology. AOL Instant Messenger? Developed in Israel. Firewall security software originated in Israel. In addition, the first fast Ethernet and first wireless LAN (Local Area Network) were developed in Israel.



5. The Mediterranean's best-kept secret: "Perhaps nowhere else on the globe does there exist a greater discrepancy between perception and reality than Israel. The press portrays the country as a savage land racked by war and terrorism. The reality is a country of 7.4 million people whose stock market and economy are humming along quite nicely (at least in contrast to the rest of the globe) and whose citizens revel in their chic Mediterranean lifestyle.



"Israel today has become a vibrant, functioning jewel of a nation tucked into the eastern flank of the Mediterranean. Tel Aviv looks more like San Diego or Barcelona than Baghdad or Kabul.

"Israel has a world class cultural scene. The opera plays to audiences at 97 percent capacity. Israel attracts the best talents from around the globe.

"Israel enjoys top universities, upscale restaurants, beautiful residences, modern architecture. In the fourth quarter of last year, when the global economy went to pieces, Israel's annual, quarter-over-quarter rate of GDP was off only 0.5 percent, the best figure in the industrialized world. (The U. S. was off 6.3 percent and



Japan 12.1 percent.) Last year, 483 Israeli high-tech companies raised a whopping \$2.08 billion (only U.S. companies raised more). Israel produces more science papers per capita than any other country. Israel lags behind only the United States in number of companies listed on NASDAQ. Twenty-four percent of Israel's workforce has a university degree; only the United States and Holland have a higher number. Israel leads the world in scientists and technicians per capita. A recent breakthrough is the 'PillCam,' a video camera that can be swallowed, aiding physicians in diagnosing intestinal cancer.

"It seems the real Israel is not a land of terrorists, but of milk and honey." (Excerpted from Willy Stern's July 27, 2009 article in *The Weekly Standard*.)

The statistics behind Yoram Ettinger's claims are posted at www.levitt.com.



Constant Struggle

Giving the Palestinians West Bank land to quiet their murderous instincts would be like giving Timothy McVeigh (the Oklahoma City bomber) 25 states so that he and his friends in the militias would behave themselves. Israel is in a constant struggle, and indeed, its very name means “he who wrestles with God.”

The Palestinians claim that the very Jewish West Bank was really originally their land because they go back to the Canaanites! This whopper of a lie is like saying that we white Americans go back to the Indians, but they say it to you, confront them with Lev. 20:24 in which God Almighty, well aware of who owns what, gives “their land” to Israel for an inheritance! So even if Palestinians claim this incredible lineage back to people of no relationship to them whatever, God still knowingly gave the Land to His Chosen People, Israel.

In this country, 474 different hate groups have been traced who target Jews, blacks, etc. Synagogue shootings, three in six weeks at the time of this writing, testify strongly to an end-times phenomenon, the hatred of the Chosen People. “Ye shall be hated of all nations,” Jesus told His disciples (Matt. 24:9), and that is certainly a very true and clear sign of The End. The real violence has always, frankly, been in this country rather than in Israel, even at times when Israel dominates CNN day after day. One only has to compare casualty rates in an Israeli bombing, usually less than five, with those rates in an American bombing, 168 in Oklahoma City, for example. But the media have to make a profit on something, and Israel-bashing sells.

Recently in California, I toured the Hearst Castle, a mansion of ludicrous

proportions and a testimonial to how far people without God will go to seek pleasure in this life.

Today there are multi-billionaires of Hearst proportions here and there in the world. Bill Gates, Warren Buffett, and Paul Allen are said to control \$156 billion between them. If I have my numbers right, that would be enough to cure four entire famines in Africa and feed all of the millions who would otherwise die. It is far larger than the gross national product of many nations.

It makes you almost want to get on to the next stage in God’s plan, and we may well do that before long. I have a slight hunch that you won’t even read this letter on Earth, because it will arrive after the Feast of Trumpets. But if you are reading it in your earthly life, then know that I still feel very strongly that the Lord is coming soon. Obviously, I lay particular stress on the Feast of Trumpets, but He can come on any day that He chooses. He even went to the trouble of telling us, “At such a time as ye think not.” So, “look up, your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28). ★



Dry Bones MEETING "THE JEWS"



Jordan...continued

untold numbers of Palestinians of Jordanian citizenship. Those who were Jordanian for decades suddenly aren't. It's like the infamous Soviet encyclopedia's loose-leaf pages, which were removed and replaced with the latest authoritative versions of what once was.

The past is ever-malleable in the service of current agendas.

According to Jordanian Interior Minister Nayef al-Kadi, the aim is to preempt the possibility of anyone resurrecting reminders that Jordan is part and parcel of what's called Palestine. It is indeed the largest chunk thereof. That being the case, Palestinians—whether born east or west of the Jordan River—are Jordan's natural citizens (regardless of whatever name it or they adopt). Kadi, under his monarch's orders, is now out to underscore the falsehood that "Jordan is not Palestine just as Palestine is not Jordan."

Thereby no future peace deal could rubber-stamp Jordanian domicile for so-called Palestinians. Instead they'd be driven to overrun Israel and turn it into the third Arab state in the original jurisdiction of the post-World War I British Mandate over Palestine.

Otherwise, Jordan would forfeit all proceeds from the gargantuan deception it labored so hard to market to a world eager to be deceived—i.e., the synthetic Jordanian and Palestinian ethnicities, along with the notion that these recent-vintage nationalities are dissimilar from each other and deserve self-determination in separate homelands: Jordan and Palestine.

This fabricated contention begat the image of the stateless Palestinians—aggrieved indigenous inhabitants striving desperately to throw off the yoke of foreign (Jewish) occupation.

Until 1948, Palestine was synonymous with the Hebrew *Eretz Yisrael* (literally, "Land of Israel"). The label "Palestinian" was largely reserved for Jews and used by them. Local Arabs preferred allegiance to Greater Syria or Iraq.

Golda Meir used to quip:

"I am a Palestinian, but don't like the name.

Palestine is a name the Romans gave to Israel with the express purpose of infuriating defeated Jews... Why should we use a spiteful name meant to humiliate us?...

Christendom inherited the name from Rome and the British chose to call the land they mandated Palestine. Local Arabs picked it up as their nation's supposed ancient name, though they couldn't even pronounce it correctly, and turned it into Filastin, a fictional entity."

Palestine/Filastin never had an independent existence, cultural uniqueness, linguistic distinctiveness, or religious idiosyncrasy to differentiate it from the surrounding Arab milieu. Moreover, the British Mandate in Palestine extended over both banks of the Jordan. In 1921, 78 percent of what the League of Nations designated as "the national home of the Jewish people" was ripped off and presented as a gift to **Abdullah**, son of Sharif Hussein ibn Ali, Mecca's Hashemite emir (also self-proclaimed caliph of all Muslims). Hussein later (in 1924) lost control of Islam's holiest city and surrounding Hejaz to a rival clan, the Saudis.

Had he won, we'd be speaking today of Hashemite Arabia. As is, we're saddled with Hashemite Jordan.

Out to recompense their Hashemite lackeys, the Brits enthroned Abdullah's younger brother Faisal as king of Greater Syria. After the French expelled Faisal, London manufactured for him a



make-believe realm called Iraq. His grandson Faisal II was deposed, executed, and his corpse dragged through Baghdad's streets in 1958, but England's unnatural Iraqi fusion remains and continues to disturb the world.

Abdullah sought the title of Emir of Palestine. Britain made him settle for Transjordan. No Transjordanian nation appears in human chronicles. It was conceived on Palestinian soil by Perfidious Albion (faithless Britain). That was the first division of Palestine.

In 1950, Transjordan annexed the "West Bank" (what they called Judea and Samaria after the Arab invasion of



new-born Israel in 1948) and became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Its leaders, including the late King Hussein, stressed over and over in numerous pronouncements that "Jordan and Palestine are one and the same." So did Palestinian leaders, including Yasser Arafat. The Palestinian Covenant, in fact, covets all of Jordan—precisely because it's Palestine.

Yet eventually it became expedient, public relations-wise, to claim that Palestine exists exclusively west of the Jordan River, justifying the campaign for a second Palestinian Arab state.

Fearing that his Palestinian subjects would topple their imported Hashemite rulers, Hussein kicked out the PLO in Black September 1970. Too bad. Had he failed, Arafat would have taken over Amman and nobody today could deny that Palestine is divided among Jews and Arabs, with the Arabs owning nearly four-fifths thereof. Now Hussein's son Abdullah II seeks to rewrite history once more in the well-trodden Jordanian tradition. His father dropped the claim to what he branded the West Bank but didn't revive

the term Transjordan. After 17 years of annexation (1950-67), the Jordan trademark gained global acceptance. It rang authentic. Why return to the obvious fake?

Jordan's population, though, is overwhelmingly Palestinian. The only exceptions are the Bedouin who accompanied Abdullah I from Hejaz. Like the Hashemites, they're foreigners. Now these outsiders design to delegitimize the natives. Expectedly, governments and human rights NGOs (non-governmental organizations) worldwide are silent. **Jordan was born of fraud**, which it is fated to prop up via retroactive repairs to the past—even the distant past. Not too many years back, Jordan TV (JTV) aired a documentary on Jerusalem portraying ancient Jebusites as Arabs.

Though mentioned briefly in the Bible, the Jebusites were a Canaanite tribe from whom King David wrested a wee hamlet (Jebus) that he later turned into his capital, Jerusalem. The books of Judges and Ezra indicate they intermarried and assimilated among the Israelites. Posthumously Arabizing these Jebusites presumably establishes an Arab claim to Zion. JTV magnified the Jebusites' contribution to mankind to proportions that would have doubtlessly astounded them. JTV outrightly expunged Jews from Jerusalem's annals, save for one abrupt but indispensable appearance in the otherwise *Judenrein* (bereft of Jews) city. Villainous Jews arrived suddenly out of nowhere and stayed just long enough to crucify Jesus, described as "a Palestinian Arab prophet." See p.14

JTV even treated us to recipes from the Jebusite kitchen. These would have altogether floored the long-lost Jebusites, as it appears that their favorite ingredients were tomatoes and chili peppers, which, alas, only reached the Old World 2,500 years later, when Spaniards brought them back from America. Perhaps, however, the enterprising Jebusites beat Columbus there, thus establishing an Arab claim to the Western Hemisphere. **Clearly, Jordan is Palestine. To claim otherwise is ridiculous.** ★

Palestinians Can Flourish... If They Choose To

By **Michael B. Oren**

(Israel's ambassador to the U.S.)
www.online.WSJ.com



Imagine an annual economic growth rate of 7%, declining unemployment, a thriving tourism industry, and a 24% hike in the average daily wage. Where in today's gloomy global market could one find such gleaming forecasts? Singapore? Brazil? Guess again. The West Bank.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the West Bank economy is flourishing. Devastated by the violence and corruption fomented by its former leadership, the West Bank has rebounded and today represents a most promising success story. Among the improvements of the last year cited by the IMF and other financial observers are an 18% increase in the local stock exchange, a 94% growth of tourism to Bethlehem—generating 6,000 new jobs—and an 82% rise in trade with Israel.

Since 2008, more than 2,000 new companies have been registered with the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. Where heavy fighting once raged, there are now state-of-the-art shopping malls.

Much of this revival is due to Palestinian initiative and to the responsible fiscal policies of West Bank leaders, many of whom are American-educated. The West Bank's population is building sovereignty from the bottom-up, forging the law-enforcement, civil, and financial institutions that form the underpinnings of any modern polity. The seeds of what Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has

called “economic peace” are, in fact, already blossoming in the commercial skyline of Ramallah.

The vitality of the West Bank also accentuates the backwardness and despair prevailing in Gaza. In place of economic initiatives that might relieve the nearly 40% unemployment in the Gaza Strip, the radical Hamas government has imposed draconian controls subject to sharia law. Instead of investing in new shopping centers and restaurants, Hamas has spent millions of dollars restocking its supply of rockets and mortar shells. Rather than forge a framework for peace, Hamas has wrought war and brought economic hardship to civilians on both sides of the borders.

The people of Gaza will have to take notice of their West Bank counterparts and wonder why they, too, cannot enjoy the same economic benefits and opportunities. At the same time, Arab states that have pledged to assist the Palestinian economy in the past, but which have yet to fulfill those promises, may be persuaded of the prudence of investing in the West Bank. Israel, for its part, will continue to remove obstacles to Palestinian development. If the West Bank can serve as a model of prosperity, it may also become a prototype of peace. ★

ARGYLE SWEATER By Scott Hilburn



Orthodox Protests Return to Jerusalem



The decades-long battle between secular and observant Jewish residents of Jerusalem over conflicting rights and activities here in the Holy City has flared up once again. This time, the issue is the Sabbath opening of a three story municipal parking garage located just outside of the Old City's Jaffa Gate.

Non-religious Mayor **Nir Barkat**, who narrowly defeated the Orthodox



candidate last November, decided in June to open the parking garage in an effort to accommodate the many Israelis and foreign tourists who visit the ancient walled Old City and surrounding areas each weekend. In a move to placate religious Jews who argued that doing so would be a major Sabbath violation—encouraging driving on the Jewish holy day and the opening of additional shops and restaurants in the area—the new Mayor announced he would staff the parking garage each Saturday with non-Jews and make parking free to the public so that no money would change hands.

However, these concessions were seen as minor by most Orthodox rabbis. They called for a mass prayer rally at the Western Wall to protest Barkat's decision



and to ask the Almighty to intervene to protect the sanctity of the Sabbath. Police estimated some 30,000 turned out for the rally at the end of June.

Hundreds of young male *Haredim* (a popular name for ultra-Orthodox Jews, meaning “those who tremble” in fear of Israel's God) later burned tires and

garbage bins to protest the mayor's action. Many also gathered for weekly Sabbath demonstrations at the parking garage site, which lies just below a row of new upscale shops and restaurants, and near several five-star hotels. Some religious protestors threw stones and bottles in an attempt to keep drivers out of the parking facility, which only served to inflame secular tempers. Fist-fights followed, and Jerusalem police intervened in an attempt to keep the peace. Arrests were made on both sides, but mainly of Orthodox demonstrators.

Jerusalem's rabbis actually make a very good point, even if some of their followers use violent methods to support it. When I first set foot in the sacred city during the weeklong Hanukkah celebration in December 1980, Jerusalem was mostly traffic-free, with only a handful of restaurants open and virtually no shops or places of entertainment. Now Israel's bustling capital city, with its slight but dwindling secular Jewish majority, crackles with traffic and noise seven days a week as people go out to shop, take in a movie, or visit the many bars and restaurants now open on

Friday evenings and Saturday. It hardly feels like the Sabbath at all.

And yet, Saturday is also the only day each week when most secular Israelis are not working or in

school, and so free, as on the evening before, to go out and enjoy themselves. Thus the battle goes on, as it undoubtedly will until Israel's Messiah takes up residence in the City of the Great King!



You hold in your hands a unique and somewhat-confusing news magazine. Many ask who we are and what this ministry does, and are curious how we teach Bible on TV and in print. I want to take a moment to discuss the *Levitt Letter*.

DeSeifering Our World

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif



Is the *Levitt Letter* a Jewish publication? Yes. However, many Jews consider us traitors and therefore don't think of me, us, or this magazine as Jewish. Is it a Christian periodical then? I think so. But similarly, many Christians find us too Jewish for their tastes and would not call this "Christian." Is the *Levitt Letter* a religious magazine? Yes...and no. Though it addresses religious concerns, the *Levitt Letter* is forceful, direct, and confrontational in its content and intent. This prompts some to say that it is irreligious, because it offends the religious sensibilities of some.

I say we're *guilty as charged!* Now I'll tell you how we create our not-quite-Jewish, not-quite-Christian, and not-quite-religious newsmagazine.

When I came aboard three years ago, our CEO, Mark Levitt, asked me to diligently monitor the news. I was to be "in the know," select newsworthy pieces for publication, and offer biblical analysis of the days' events. Many of this ministry's friends forward news pieces for us to consider. We look at those, as well, and factor them into the magazine.

Mark screens such contributions and then passes his favorites to me. Those that survive his cut and mine are then relayed to Margot, our senior editor. Margot secures permission to run articles from their respective authors, verifies the information, and whittles lengthy sentences. Our top researcher, Alan, helps check the facts and also commends articles that add flavor and flair to the news we present. The

electronic stack of articles goes back and forth a couple more times as we condense the final selection to about 13,000 words.

Finally, the edited material goes to Don, our graphic artist, who lays out the pages, includes the artwork and cartoons, and shapes the magazine into its final form. We all give it a final once-over, and send it to the press, to the post office, and then to you—"for free."

Aside from our in-house pieces, the magazine consists primarily of a collection of stories, cartoons, letters, and more. Our ministry brings you expert articles from many authors, who come from many backgrounds, from around the world—America, Israel, Germany, Arabia, or wherever. In addition to the intellectual fare, our edgy cartoons engage readers. We want to be provocative, make you laugh, cry, and wonder why.

Why does the world hate Jews? Why is anti-Semitism getting worse? What is happening in Iran? How will Israel respond to the mounting nuclear threat? Why won't America respond? What is happening in the United States—to Christianity, to the Church? What is going on in the worldwide Church? Is there a connection between the day's events and Bible prophecy? If so, how so? If not, what then? What would Jesus do?

Not everybody cares about these questions. *If you care, it may be because you are called...* called to stand with Jewish people, called to stand with Israel, and called to stand with us!

If you're happy to stand with Israel, perhaps you'd like to go there. Call 1-800-WONDERS and ask about a trip—we can take you. Our tours depart October 13 and 18 and March 14. Choose "Israel only" or add Athens with a Mediterranean cruise and/or Petra. If you can't travel just now, we'll transport you there through *Zola Levitt Presents* on television—filmed on location in the Holy Land—through Zola's music, and this *Levitt Letter* newsmagazine.

Mark routinely emphasizes that we shouldn't overdo the fundraising, as so many in religious broadcasting seem to do. Our television programs contain less than a minute of asking, and you'll notice nominal space allocated for such requests in this magazine. You seem to like it that way, and I don't blame you. That was Zola's way in his day, and the tradition isn't changing—though the world is.

With no denominational or corporate sponsors, ZLM runs primarily on your financial gifts. They cover those engaged in the aforementioned process, and buy the paper stock, printing, mailing service, and postage. That you stand with us prayerfully and financially encourages our team greatly, and it enables us to continue with the Lord's work in these increasingly challenging times.

If you find teaching materials that interest you on pages 18 and 19, then please make a purchase, since distributing our DVDs, books, and teaching CDs helps finance future teachings. Remember our Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies, too, when you make your year-end shopping lists. They are truly gifts that keep on giving.

Your messenger,




Ask the Professor

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif

In your Aug '09 Levitt Letter (p. 24) Letters To ZLM, you stated that John Hagee's "Christians United for Israel" impedes efforts to witness to Jewish people. I am totally confused by that statement. Being a close follower of Hagee Ministries as well as your own publications and telecasts, I cannot understand how you could make such an allegation. Please help me sort this out.

—J. H. K (MI)



Greetings J. H. K.—

I am glad to explain. Thanks for asking. My son Jacob just returned from Washington, D.C. where he participated in Pastor Hagee's big "Night to Honor Israel." PTL that one of my sons went; I applaud John Hagee's Jewish support on the whole.

The term "impede" was initially employed by Christians United for Israel's own director, David Brog. In his book *Standing With Israel* (pp. 188-9), he says: "While there is no evidence that the Christian-Jewish alliance in support of Israel facilitates the conversion of Jews, *there is evidence that the alliance actually works to impede efforts to convert Jews.*"

I referred to two organizations. It is worth noting that both organizations—Rabbi Eckstein's IFCJ (International Fellowship of Christians and Jews) and Hagee's CUFI (Christians United for Israel)—are directed by Jewish non-believers. Eckstein, a mainstream rabbi, runs the IFCJ, and Jewish attorney David Brog superintends CUFI for Hagee. Mindful of this, I am neither surprised nor offended that they're not enthusiastic about the Gospel's advancement.

Rabbi Eckstein's own book, *What Christians Should Know About Jews and Judaism*, acknowledges this position when he says: "the rejection of Jesus as Messiah is the key to Jewish survival." Of course, I do not agree. Ironically, the survival of both of these organizations is due to the kindness of those who have accepted Jesus' Messiahship and who, as a result, want to support their benevolence projects.

In sum, I believe both organizations harvest the affections of Jewish-loving Christians, most of whom do not know that their sentiments run counter to Eckstein's and Brog's. I am nevertheless glad that Pastor Hagee is building bridges to Jewish people, just as Rabbi Eckstein is helping impoverished Soviet Jews. But I am first and foremost a minister of the "Great Commission" Gospel, and I can't condone impeding its progress. ★

Fairytales, Finances, Faith, & Future

L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is an American classic that teaches us that though we're often like the Tin Man or the Cowardly Lion, searching everywhere for what we imagine is missing, it's been inside of us all along. Written at the turn of the 20th century, it was also an allegory of the financial crisis and spirited monetary debates of that era.

Jewish songwriters Harold Arlen and "Yip" Harburg added music to Baum's book—like "Over the Rainbow," "Follow the Yellow Brick Road," "If I Only Had a Brain," and "Ding-Dong! The Witch is Dead." Arlen's father was a music minister in a synagogue—a "cantor." Harburg's real name was Isidore Hochberg, Arlen's was Chaim Arlook, too Jewish-sounding for the new world, apparently. Jewish producers Mervyn LeRoy and Arthur Freed made their contributions to the screen version, as did the Jewish studio head, Louis B. Mayer.

Scene from The Wizard of Oz (1939)



Baum, a Methodist, used the fairytale as a vehicle to communicate the contemporary message of Populism politics, when the Common Man (Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodsman, and the Cowardly Lion) were battling Wall St. Financiers and Tycoons (the Wicked Witches of the East and West) over the monetary standard—the Gold Standard/Brick Road that takes you to the illusory power of the Wizard/President versus the Silver

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif



Standard/slippers that possess the magic to get you home to safety. (Hollywood changed the color of Dorothy's slippers from silver to ruby to showcase the new Technicolor capabilities and thus ruined the allegory.) Oz is simply the abbreviation of "ounce"—16 ounces of silver equaled one ounce of gold.

By means of the above, Baum and his Jewish silver screen colleagues took pains to remind struggling Americans that the little guy eventually wins!

I find the social, political, and economic connections interesting. However, I have more education and expertise in interpreting Bible classics than American literature and silver screen classics. From that perspective, I see America's journeys through depressions in the late 1800s and 1930s, through revolutionary and civil wars, World Wars I and II, and other trying times as repeated demonstrations of God helping us come through it all.

I have faith in our future because of a God who says, "I'll never fail you nor forsake you!" Because of Him, I believe we will rebound from our current troubles. To my way of thinking, the malignant financial forces at work will not necessarily destroy us. Instead, for me as with Dorothy, the troubling times provide a challenge to lock arms with friends and confront the powers in the Emerald City. I believe that we lions, scarecrows, and tin woodsmen would do well to come to terms with the times, find a Dorothy-like protagonist to help us recover our personal and spiritual equilibrium and, with faith in God, begin the journey home to soundness and security.



Speaking Freely Against Free Speech

By David J. Rusin
www.PajamasMedia.com

Jafar “Jeff” Siddiqui of Lynnwood, Washington—a real estate agent, former chairman of the Islamic School of Seattle, and founding member of the American Muslims of Puget Sound activist group—is on a mission “to counteract the image of Muslims as fanatical terrorists and extremists that is propagated,” he believes, “in the media, popular culture, and even the government.”

Yet Siddiqui has a long record of airing his own extreme views in local papers and *The American Muslim* magazine. As detailed below, Siddiqui is a textbook “lawful” Islamist who dreams of imposing at least one element of sharia law on the West: curbing speech that is critical of Islam. He portrays America as oppressive, denies the religious rationale of Muslim terrorists, and insists that Muslims are victims even when they take part in violent aggression.

Siddiqui put himself on the map in 2002 when he sought to derail a talk by Middle East scholar Daniel Pipes at the University of Washington. Slandering him as a “rabid Muslim/Arab hater,” Siddiqui led a campaign urging organizers to “withdraw your sponsorship or, at the very least, publish a letter expressing regret over this sponsorship. You can also invite a member of the Muslim community to speak for about ten minutes after Pipes has had his day bashing us.” Professor Edward Alexander refused, explaining that under the First Amendment “there is no requirement that a lecture touching on radical Islam must be ‘answered’ by an Islamic radical.”

Siddiqui’s discomfort with free speech resurfaced in 2006 as he chastised Denmark for not prosecuting the publishers of the Mohammed cartoons.

Nor was he pleased about the documentary film *Obsession: Radical Islam’s War Against the West* being distributed in 2008. Despite purporting to back free speech “without preconditions,” Siddiqui argued that it “stops at the production of the DVDs” and that “dissemination and promotion of the same is no longer an exercise of freedom of expression”—a disturbingly narrow view of First Amendment rights.

Siddiqui employs another tactic popular among Islamists: obfuscating the nature of jihad, which he characterizes as a beneficial institution that “does not mean ‘holy war.’” “Jihad means ‘struggle,’” he told an audience several months before 9/11, citing “jihad against sickness, jihad against hunger, jihad to rid the world of evil.” On the other hand, he stated, “If someone takes that word and says, ‘We’re going to commit jihad against any non-believers,’ that’s not Islam’s problem.”

Following naturally is his assertion that Muslims have no responsibility to denounce terrorism carried out in the name of their faith. After the November 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai, Siddiqui deplored the carnage, but his words kept calling Muslims the victims.

Terrorism against Jews in the Middle East, however, provokes little soul-searching. Siddiqui views Hezbollah and Hamas as “resistance organizations” whose “social welfare work... cannot be questioned by anyone.” ★



UN Can Stop Israeli Cows, But Not Lebanese Infiltrators

Israel Today

They may do little to stop either Lebanese civilians or terrorists from infiltrating northern Israel, but the UN troops that make up the UNIFIL peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon are going out of their way to make sure Israeli cows stop entering Lebanon.

A Lebanese website reported that UNIFIL has offered to build a fence around a pond that sits just over the border and which Israeli cows often visit to get a drink while grazing in nearby Israeli fields.

Israelis were somewhat surprised by the story, considering that the same UNIFIL troops did absolutely nothing to stop 15 Lebanese civilians from crossing into northern Israel, where they recently planted Lebanese and Hezbollah flags.

UNIFIL has also come under heavy criticism in Israel for failing to prevent the 2006 Second Lebanon War, which began when a Hezbollah force entered northern Israel and ambushed an Israeli army patrol, all within view of UNIFIL lookouts.

Fence OK For Saudis, Not For Israelis

By Doron Peskin, www.YNetNews.com

The European Aeronautic Defense and Space Company (EADS) security technology company, together with the Saudi company al-Rashid, has been awarded one of the biggest security projects in the Middle East: The border security program spanning the full borders of the Saudi Kingdom. The

project has been estimated at approximately \$3.5 billion and includes an extensive use of advanced technologies, including the installment of sophisticated radars along nearly 5,000 miles of the kingdom's borders.

The idea to set up a security fence on Saudi Arabia's border was first raised by Saudi authorities during the first Gulf War, after then-Iraqi-leader Saddam Hussein ordered a strike on a Saudi border town. Though not implemented in the 1990s, the idea gained momentum after the American invasion of Iraq in March 2003 and the inter-religious violence which broke out in the region. [See *Levitt Letter* May 2007, p. 22.]

The Saudis feared that the al-Qaeda and Shiite terror raging in Iraq would leak into the kingdom's borders, and this led to the decision to build a security fence in the northern part of the kingdom. Since then, the project has been expanded and the fence is now planned to encircle all of Saudi Arabia's land and sea borders. So far, Saudi Arabia has invested nearly \$2 billion in stepping up security measures on its border with Iraq.

Saudi Arabia is soon expected to issue a separate bid for the construction of a security fence on its border with Oman, and is expected to issue additional tenders for stepping up sea and aerial security measures. ★

Dry Bones SQUEEZE PLAY



Muslims Persecute Christians

By Robert Spencer, FrontPageMagazine.com

Recently, a frenzied mob of 3,000 Muslims stormed the tiny Pakistani Christian village of Gojra. Enflamed by rumors that a Christian had burned pages of the Koran, the mob burned down 50 homes, burned eight Christians alive, and wounded 20 others. Thousands of Christians fled the area. A few days later, enraged by the same report of blasphemy, another Muslim mob torched 75 Christian homes, along with two churches in a village near Gojra.

Muslims are not persecuting Christians only in Pakistan. Last summer, Muslims in Alexandria, Egypt kidnapped a sixteen-year-old Christian girl, Amira, while she was on her way to work. Shortly thereafter her mother received a phone call: “He introduced himself as Sheik Mohammed, and said that my daughter is fine and will convert to Islam. When I cried and begged him to let me have my daughter back, he said he would let me see her again after her conversion to Islam, and ended the call.”

Amira’s mother went to a local mosque, where matters got even worse. A Muslim sheik told her: “Do not report the abduction to the police or the price will be your [nine-year-old] son being slaughtered in front of your eyes.”

This is nothing new. The leader of Egypt’s Coptic Church said in 2004 he had received many letters about what’s happening to Christian girls who go to shop. At the store they’re told that they have won a prize and have to go upstairs

to receive it. “After that, we don’t know what happens to these girls, where they take them.” They most likely are taken to places where they can be pressured to convert to Islam.

Explained Wilfred Wong of the Jubilee Campaign, a Christian human rights group: “The attempts to force Christians to convert to Islam in Egypt are on the increase and the efforts are being conducted by well-funded groups. It is common for money to be offered to convert to Islam, but it is also common for intimidation and force, including kidnapping and rape, to be used to make Christians convert to Islam. Egyptian authorities do nothing to protect Christians; the police even order the families of kidnapped Christians to forget about their daughters and not to try to get them back.”

From where does the Islamic animus toward Christians come? Certainly Islamic jihadists despise Christians based on Koranic verses that say those who “call Christ the son of Allah” are under “Allah’s curse” (9:30), and that command Muslims to “fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day... (even if they are) of the People of the Book”—that is, primarily Jews and Christians (9:29). Islamic apologists assure non-Muslims that Muslims do not take such passages literally today, yet the daily news contradicts them. Muslims in far too many areas of the world are growing increasingly less tolerant toward their non-Muslim neighbors.



Jesus Was A Palestinian Prophet

By Aviel Schneider, *Israel Today*

“Jesus was not a Jew, but a Palestinian prophet of Islam,” declared the Palestinian Authority (PA) chief Islamic judge Sheik **Tayseer Tamimi**.

The remarks were made in a debate on PA television with Greek Orthodox Archbishop **Atallah Hanna**, (below) also a Palestinian.

But there was little debate. Instead of defending the Jewish Jesus, Hanna agreed with his Islamic interlocutor: “We Christians are a



KORANIC VERSES: *Sheik Tayseer Tamimi denies biblical accounts of Jewish history.*



local brand that is 100 percent Palestinian and Arab.” If Hanna regards himself as 100 percent Palestinian, then Jesus must be also.

Sheik Tamimi went on to deny any Jewish claim to Jerusalem. “I know of Muslim and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem, but of none that is Jewish,” he said.

The Western Wall, for instance, has nothing to do with the Jews: “When the Prophet [Mohammed] entered Jerusalem, after landing with his horse [Buraq] in the Night Journey from Mecca to Jerusalem, he tied it to the Western Wall, which is known today [by Muslims] as the al-Buraq Wall, and which the Jews usurped by falsification and deception.”

Then Tamimi rejected both the Old and New Testaments which bear witness to the Temples in Jerusalem.

“Since 1967, Israel has been trying to excavate the remains of the Jewish

Temple and other traces of their false history, but they have found nothing.” he said. “The only reason Israel is conducting archaeological excavations is to cause the collapse of the Al-Aksa Mosque. Israel wants to destroy the foundations of the holy mosque and then build the Jewish Temple.”

These remarks did not seem to bother Archbishop Hanna, one of many Arab “Christians” who identify more with the Palestinian cause, and its Muslim roots, than with the Jewish, biblical roots of the Christian faith.

“Jesus was born in Palestine, not in Paris, not in Washington or anywhere else. Jesus was Palestinian,” Hanna once said. By contrast, the New Testament says that “Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea” (Matthew 2:1).

While many Arab Christians in the Land truly identify with the Palestinian cause, others say they are forced to compromise because they live in an Islamic society.

“We betray our Christian faith to be able to survive in our villages and cities,” a Bible-believing Christian from Ramallah told *Israel Today*. “Some are convinced that their beliefs are correct, while others are simply acting out of fear.” ★

Former Witches Want To Reclaim Halloween

By Rebekah Montgomery, CrossWalk.com

Halloween traditions and symbols often can provide too handy a gateway to the occult. And some children are simply spiritually unprotected because no one ever prays for them.

Writes one former witch on the Exwitch Ministries website: “Many kids get their first exposure to the occult at horror movies at Halloween parties. After the initial exposure to the occult, some children are attracted to the occult because of the power it offers them. Others see it as the ultimate means of rebelling against their parents.”

Exwitch Ministries was founded to reach occultists, wiccans, witches, pagans, and others through consistent witness, the demonstration of Christ-like character, apologetics, and genuine love and concern.

Halloween doesn't have to be a trapdoor to hell. And many former witches don't want to see the holiday left in Satan's hands to be used for his own purposes. They want to see the day redeemed. And if not redeemed, then they would like to see the trapdoor a lot less child-friendly.

Mark Bishop, a self-described former “eclectic witch,” said in a recent interview that when he first came to faith in Christ, he really hated Halloween because of the occult symbolism associated with it. “As the costumes got more grotesque and celebrated the darkness, it bothered me. I knew what was on the other side and I knew it was real.”

Strangely enough, his son's kindergarten teacher helped him understand that God made Halloween just like He made every other day of the year. “Satan doesn't own the day,” said Bishop.

“God made this day just like He made all the others and we don't have to give it to Satan.”

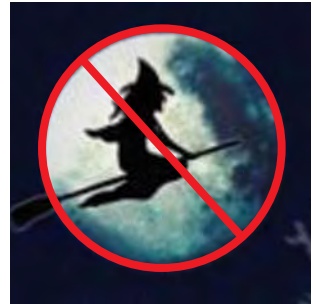
Bishop, in fact, recommends that Christian Believers teach their children to reclaim the day. “I do leave the porch light on and give out candy,” said Bishop. “And if at all possible, I give out Gospel tracts and pray for every child who comes to our door. After all, how often does the mission field come to the door?”

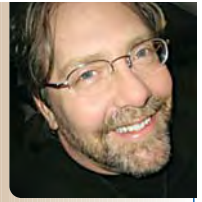
“The Scripture says we are in a battle against principalities and powers of the air, wickedness in high places. If Halloween isn't a reminder of that, what is?” one former witch asked. “What better time to stand against the night?”

Over the centuries, there have been numerous attempts to redeem the holiday. Somewhere in the sev-

enth century—although by some accounts attempts were made as early as the fourth century—commemoration of the Celtic new year celebration of Samhain was replaced by Pope Boniface IV, with November 1 becoming All Saints' Day. The celebration was also called All-hallows, and the night before it—the night of Samhain—began to be called All-hallows Eve and, eventually, Halloween.

Reminds one former witch, “This is one night when the world beats a path to your door. Be prepared to bless each and every precious child by praying God's protection over their souls. It may be the only time all year anyone prays for that child.”





Turning Back to God...

By John J. Parsons

חַנּוּנֵי אֱלֹהִים כַּחֲסֵדְךָ כְּרַב רַחֲמֶיךָ מַחַה פְּשָׁעַי

Be gracious unto me, O God, according to Thy mercy; according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgressions. (Psalm 51:1)

חַ	נּוּ	נֵי	אֱ	לֹ	הִים	כַּ	חֲ	סֵ	דְ	כְ	רַב	רַ	חֲ	מֵי	ךָ	מַ	חַ	הַ	פְּ	שָׁ	עַי	
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fe-sha-ai	me-cheh	ra-cha-me-kha	ke-rov	ke-chas-de-kha	E-lo-him	cho-nei-ni																
my rebellions	wipe out	according to your vast compassion		according to your faithful love	O God	show me favor																

The theme of the Jewish High Holidays is *teshuvah*, a word often translated as “repentance,” though it’s more accurately understood as turning back (*shuv*) to God. In Modern Hebrew, *teshuvah* means an “answer” to a *shelah*, or a question. God’s love for us is the question, and our *teshuvah*—our turning of the heart toward Him—is the answer. *Teshuvah* is one of the great gifts God gives each of us—the ability to turn back to Him and seek healing for our brokenness.

Psalm 51 is sometimes called “*Perek Teshuvah*”—the great Chapter of Repentance of the Scriptures. After King David was confronted with the truth of his crimes and the prospect of judgment, he returned to God for cleansing and forgiveness. David’s *teshuvah* reveals that we also can return to God on the basis of His abundant compassion—His *rachamim*. Without God’s love, we have no hope for the future.

After the Jews had committed the grievous sin with the golden calf, Moses despaired of ever being able to find favor in God’s eyes again. God, however, called Moses to return to the mountain to learn the meaning of the Name YHVH. While he waited in the cleft of the rock, Moses heard the Divine Voice saying, “The LORD, the LORD, God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness” (Exod. 34:6). This was David’s experience of return, too. Given his great transgressions of the Torah, he was sure that he had lost God’s favor. David needed to rediscover God’s love despite his brokenness and sin.

The greatest demonstration of the compassion of God was given at Mount Moriah, the place of the sacrifice of Yeshua. Just as Moses and David had to confront their own brokenness to hear the Divine Voice, so we need to turn to the cross to hear the cries of YHVH suffering for our own. At the cross we find compassion and healing for our brokenness and sin.

During this season of *teshuvah* may we once again respond to the Voice of God’s love.

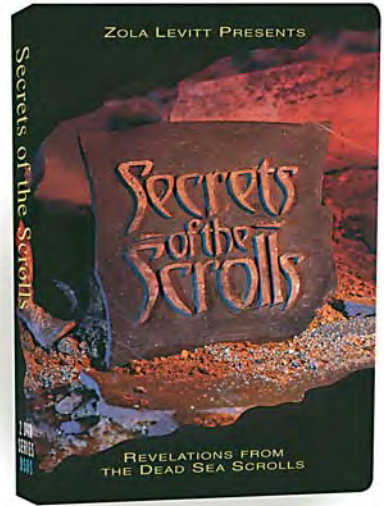


SECRETS OF THE SCROLLS

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In 1947, a Bedouin boy in search of a lost goat threw a stone through the narrow opening of a cave. Hearing the sound of breaking pottery, he entered the cave and happened upon a 2,000-year-old treasure. He had discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls. *Secrets of the Scrolls* gives an historical account of these treasured manuscripts and presents some remarkable revelations. The authors of the Scrolls were intensely Messianic and appear to have documented the actual fulfillment of prophecy in the person of the Messiah. Such terms as "Son of God," "branch of David," "stripes or piercings," "being put to death," and "raising the dead" all strike a familiar chord. Quite possibly these incredible Scrolls represent the first extra-biblical revelation of Jesus Christ in history.



THE SCROLLS: A NEW REVELATION We quickly produced this program after the initial Associated Press news release. Zola quotes from it extensively and emphasizes its significance.

THE SCROLLS: PART 2 Within days of our first program's broadcast, Dr. James Tabor phoned Zola to initiate a series of interviews that would unveil one of the century's most dramatic revelations. This program is the first of these interviews. Dr. Tabor is a Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and he delivers an incredible lesson.

THE SCROLLS: PART 3 During this interview, Dr. Tabor refers to several books about the Dead Sea Scrolls, including *The Dead Sea Scrolls in English* by Vermes (Penguin Press), *The Dead Sea Scriptures* by Gaster (Doubleday Press), and *The Dead Sea Scrolls* published by the Biblical Archaeology Society.

THE SCROLLS SPECIAL This program consolidates the first three programs and delivers a powerful message in only thirty minutes. Later discoveries in Scrolls research inspired the three following programs.

THE WILDERNESS GROUP Michael Baigent, an English author, lectures in Qumran about the Scrolls. Dr. Tabor describes various approaches to excavation and how they pertain to the Scrolls. Dr. Robert Eisenman, a professor of Middle Eastern religions at California State University at Long Beach, discusses the fascinating history of the Scrolls.

IN SEARCH OF ANSWERS Dr. Eisenman discusses his quest to gain access to the Scrolls. Dr. Tabor describes his archaeological team and how they map the caves in Qumran.

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The DVDs and transcripts are available on page 18.

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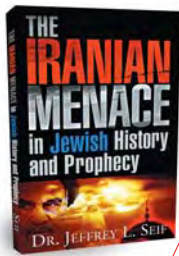
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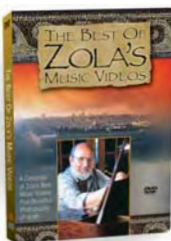


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Every Holocaust Remembrance Day at 10 am sharp, they stop whatever they're doing and stand at attention. Sirens blast a tribute to the six million victims. In 1945, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe, told his men to get it all on record now—get the films—get the witnesses—because somewhere down the road of history, some S.O.B. will get up and say that this never happened.

To see this video of modern day Israel and graphic photos from the Holocaust (not for the faint of heart), visit:



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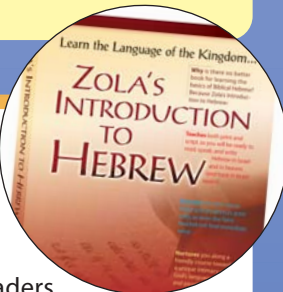
Pamphlet of the Month

Why Review Your Will?

Having any kind of a will usually is better than no will at all. Life-changing events often necessitate updating estate plans. For example, if your estate changes, family situations evolve, you move to another state, or tax laws change, you probably will want to re-evaluate your will. The passage of time can impact your preferences and charitable interests. To request a free copy of *A Guide To Your Christian Will* with any purchase or contribution, please checkmark the box located in the middle of the left-hand column of our order page 19. If you would like to know of a believing attorney near you, please write to Mark's attention in our office.

"Bargain" on Used Books?

Most *Levitt Letter* readers are very fond of the monthly Hebrew Lesson (see this month's on page 16). Its creator has authored our bestselling book *Zola's Introduction to Hebrew*, offered on page 18. Searching "all departments" at www.amazon.com for that same title yields many used copies with more than a dozen of the prices surpassing what we charge for a brand new book (under \$30). Their prices soar as high as \$65, \$98, and \$100—for **used** books. And, for a new book: \$206.85 + shipping! We underpriced this book on purpose to make it accessible to virtually everyone. What a tremendous good idea!



"Come Home!"

Zola's
Tours to
Israel:



See page
36 for details





Planning a Will is Crucial

(even if you don't have a lot)

By Mark Levitt

Below is an excerpt of a *USA Today* article offered in its entirety at levitt.com/news. It relates to the 12th installment of my semi-monthly *Serpent* series from page 7 of the December 2008 *Levitt Letter*. You can see the complete series at www.levitt.com/essays/#mark. Please see the Bulletin Board on page 20 for a description of our booklet, *A Guide To Your Christian Will*, which is free with any purchase or contribution. —Mark

“The reason why people don’t do wills is probably just some sense of immortality,” says Sally Hurme, an attorney and senior project manager for AARP. In general, everyone needs a will.

If you don’t control what happens to your property, children, favorite piece of jewelry, and so forth, the State will. And that can lead to imperfect and sometimes costly decisions in probate court, which is where the distribution of a person’s estate occurs.

Parents of young children should have a will to establish a guardian. A trustee also should be named to manage money or any property left for young children. If you have personal items and mementos—such as jewelry, china, or art—that you want to bequeath to a close friend, certain relatives, or charity, it will happen only if specified in a will or trust.

If your estate is large or complicated, you may also want to set up a living trust. A living trust will help your heirs avoid probate, the complex and sometimes costly process by which a state court distributes your assets. Not everyone needs a trust.

A will reduces the chance that disputes over your estate end up in a bitter

court battle. It must be properly signed and witnessed. One suggestion is to keep it at home in a fireproof box with other important papers. If you change it, you should destroy any old editions. All beneficiaries’ names should be listed so it is clear, for example, whether adopted or stepchildren should be included.

Relatives and friends are not necessarily the best trustees or executors. The right executor is someone who can be trusted, who can work well with others, who is intelligent, and who is not afraid to ask for—or hire—help.

An attorney specializing in estate planning can be helpful, but is not always necessary. Several companies offer software and online programs for do-it-yourself wills. Among the programs are Nolo’s *Quicken WillMaker Plus 2009* and Kiplinger’s *WILLPower*. If you do decide to pay for a lawyer to write your will, you should educate yourself in advance so you can converse efficiently.

Would you like to receive contact information for Christian attorneys in your area? If so, write to Mark at our P.O. Box. May God guide you as you plan your final good deed before meeting Him. ★

GENERAL WILL CHECKLIST

- Decide what property to include.
- Decide who will inherit your property.
- Choose an executor.
- Choose a guardian for your children.
- Choose someone to manage children’s property.
- Sign your will in front of witnesses.
- Store your will safely.

ESTATE PLAN CHECKLIST

- Make a will.
- Consider a trust.
- Make health care directives.
- Make a financial power of attorney.
- Protect your children’s property.
- File beneficiary forms.
- Consider life insurance.
- Understand taxes.
- Cover funeral expenses.
- Protect your business.
- Store documents.





Letters to ZIM

Comments from www.levitt.com

From S.C.T. (AZ): I can't remember how we started getting the *Letter*, but it gets read completely by both of us each month. Besides the in-depth articles, we enjoy the patience and wit with which Jeff Seif responds to the letters that have obnoxious and nasty comments. We find quite interesting the Hebrew lessons and discussion of the passages by John J. Parsons, and the cartoons would be amusing if they weren't sadly true.

From P.M. (UK): Thank you so much for my *Levitt Letter*. I feel blessed by Zola's and Jeff's teachings. We hear very little truth here in Britain so I depend on my *Levitt Letters*.

Please Pray For A Believer

Dear Dr. Seif,

Two years ago, D. and I went with you to Israel. It was wonderful getting to know you, your son, Sandra Levitt, and our Israeli guide Zvi. Little did we know at the time that D. had Lou Gehrig's Disease. Please join us in praying for a miracle. Through this, God has opened doors for us, our faith, and testimony in several TV and newspaper interviews.

For His Glory, D. and V.

Hi D. and V.—

Years ago I contracted Guillain-Barré Syndrome, causing paralysis from the neck down. The newspaper article you sent, "Living with ALS," indicates that you first fell while with us in Israel, that you couldn't tie a tie shortly afterward, and that you can't lift your arms or eat at present. I had similar experiences. I remember you, D.—from the trip and from the picture in your newspaper clipping. More importantly, I will remember you in prayer and hereby ask other *Levitt Letter* readers to pray for you as well. Shalom —Jeff



(Left to Right) V. and D. with their two children.



Why no one robs a 7-11 in Israel...

The Jews Are To Blame!

Sir/Madam,

Cancel my monthly donation to Zola Levitt Ministries. Due to the present economic conditions, I have decided to support only those I think worthy. Saint Jude's Children's Hospital beat out Zola Levitt Ministries. I understand that most Jews voted for Obama—thereby creating the economic hardship I am in. Do not send me any more magazines. I do not enjoy them. Again—no debate—just do it and now. —J.L.H.

Dear J.L.H.—

What can I say? If I have to lose, it's an honor to lose to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Instead of blaming Jews for the current financial crisis, please consider that Jews make up 1.7% of the U.S. population, while Obama got 52.9% of the popular vote. —Jeff

Mainline Heresy

Dear ZLM,

The *Metro Lutheran* newspaper recently published an Islamic poem which said: "...Ancient [Jewish] scribes told of Allah's delivered faith, [which was] revealed and written long before the lying Hebrew priests." It troubled me that my church would print this. Please don't print my name, nor even my state, because I do not want to be ostracized from my church. Yours, Confidential

Dear Confidential—

Muslim propaganda states that the Old Testament's leading figures were really Muslims, but that "lying Hebrew priests" and scribes re-wrote the Bible, perverted the message, and obscured the Islamic. Along with you, I find it troubling that a mainline, Christian denomination would publish an Islamic perspective that denies the credibility of the biblical witness. —Jeff

Enemies Within

Zola Levitt Ministries,

I am enclosing an article out of the current *World Vision* magazine and three letters to and from World Vision. I was shocked to see the propaganda from a supposedly Christian organization. D.D. (GA)

Dear D.D.—

In my opinion, the three Israel-related articles published on their website and the article "Gaza: Heartbreak of War" in their Summer 2009 issue all reflect the organization's anti-Israel bias. Similarly, seeing senior editor Jane Sutton-Redner claim that Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank experience the "worst poverty in the Middle East," makes it obvious that she hasn't visited the entire Middle East and surveyed the condition of Arab-Muslims throughout. (See the article on p. 6.) It's encouraging to see people render aid to the unfortunate, but I agree that the anti-Israel prejudice contradicts Christian faith. —Jeff



Helping To Spread The Message

Dear Sirs,

Could you please send me at least a dozen of your last few issues of the *Levitt Letter*? I would love to share them with various local congregations. Thank you for making your newsletter so interesting. My teenage children race for it before their mom gets a chance to read it. —N.G.

Dear N.G.—

“Ask and ye shall receive.” They are on their way.
—Mark

Touring The Holy Land

Dear Friends,

Last November I went to Israel. The tour leader was disappointing as was the Israeli tour guide, who made it clear that he was not and never will be a Christian. I was sorry that we did not travel with your ministry. Although there were disappointments, I loved Israel and have a longing to return if God allows.
—Bless you all. Shalom, M.D.

Dear M.D.—

Our ministry goes to Israel three times a year, during which time we tour the Land, visit premier sites, study Scripture, and pray together. Our Israeli guide is a Messianic Jewish Believer. If you want to go with us, we would be thrilled to take you. All that aside, congratulations on making your pilgrimage. —Jeff



“THIS IS MY LATEST EDICT CONDEMNING GODLESS WESTERN TECHNOLOGY... TWITTER IT TO THE NETWORKS AND POST IT ON OUR WEBSITE...”

Widow's Prisoner's Mite

Dear ZLM—

I could spend this \$20 in the prison store on Dr. Peppers and Snickers bars. However, I think you could put it to far better use than my stomach could. I am sorry it's not \$20 million. Thank you for the years of free newsletters. Please accept this small donation and do great things with it. Thank you —J.P. (Nev.)

Dear J.P.—

That may be a “small donation” in your opinion, but not in mine. Unless someone is selling drugs in prison, money doesn't exactly flow easily to inmates. Thanks for the sizable sacrifice. Regardless of what you're in there for, I believe you are a saintly guy. Blessings —Jeff



We Can All Be Missionaries

Dear ZLM,

Thank you for sending me the *Levitt Letter* each month. This letter not only stays with me, but it travels all around this prison in Illinois. There are eight to ten people who read it on my floor alone. I thank God we can share the Word of God with each other.

Sincerely, B.L.A.

Dear B.L.A.—

Thanks for recycling your *Levitt Letters*. Imagine the heavenly rewards you'll garner by saving souls as well as trees!

—Mark



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garyvarvel.com

The Israel Test

By Mona Charen

www.JewishWorldReview.com

Jewish accomplishment is an undeniable fact of history. Many people have speculated about the disproportionate number of Jewish intellectuals, musicians, millionaires, scientists, and others. George Gilder (a gentile) is interested less in the why of Jewish excellence than in its consequences. His thesis is this: Today's hatred of Israel is feeding off the same poison that has nourished anti-Semitism throughout history—envy, resentment, and misunderstanding of economics.

Gilder boldly declares in his book *The Israel Test* that Jewish genius laid the foundation for winning the Second World War and for the post-war prosperity that followed. Jewish refugees from Hitler's Europe provided much of the brainpower for the Manhattan Project. And Jewish geniuses including Albert Einstein, Niels Bohr, Heinrich Hertz, John von Neumann, Richard Feynman, and entrepreneurs like Andy Grove made indispensable contributions to the information technology that forms the scaffolding of modern prosperity.

Israel has only recently become a technological and economic powerhouse. It got there after a protracted dalliance with socialism that gave Israel high unemployment, anemic growth, and inflation rates that reached 1,000 percent in early 1985. Three catalysts changed everything: 1) the influx of 1 million vehemently anti-socialist immigrants from the former Soviet Union; 2) the addition of a far smaller but still consequential cohort of American Jewish immigrants who had business experience and expertise; and 3) economic reforms urged by Natan Sharansky and Bibi Netanyahu. The results, Gilder writes, were "incandescent." He cites a 2008

Deloitte & Touche survey showing that in six key areas—telecom, microchips, software, biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, and clean energy—"Israel ranked second only to the United States in technological innovation." Israel's high-tech research and development puts it at the center of the information revolution. Intel's microchips, Gilder notes, might as well be tagged "Israel Inside."

But what has this to do with the Palestinians? In addition to his guided tour through Israel's equivalent of Silicon Valley, Gilder also provides a taut and clarifying economic and political history of the modern Middle East. The economic piece is key, because Israelis have created prosperity wherever they have touched ground in that otherwise listless part of the globe. And Arabs have responded by flooding into areas they previously disdained, after Israelis made them habitable, even desirable. It was so in the *Yishuv* (the Jewish settlements in the Holy Land starting in the 1880s). And after Israel reluctantly took control of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, the economy in the territories became one of the most dynamic on Earth, posting 30 percent annual growth. The Arab population, along with per capita income, tripled.

Arabs are and have always been in a position to share in the wealth created by Israel—and to create their own. But they have flunked the "Israel Test" by choosing envy and hatred. ★

election day in Kabul



The Importance Of Jerusalem To Islam

By Richard L. Cravatts
FrontPageMagazine.com

There is a pattern in which Arabs endow Jerusalem with intense significance to serve purposes of political expediency. When Jordan illegally annexed the West Bank and purged Jerusalem of its Jews from 1949 to 1967, for example, Jerusalem's stature in the Muslim mind declined. But Israel's recapture of the territory in 1967 changed the political landscape, including an Arab desire for Jerusalem, suggesting to Daniel Pipes, scholar of Islam and Middle East Forum director, that "the Muslim interest lies not so much in controlling Jerusalem as it does in denying control over the city to anyone else."

Ever since the Camp David meetings in 2000 when Ehud Barak opened the door to a divided Jerusalem in his negotiations with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinians have been relentless in creating a false impression of how important Jerusalem is to them, while, at the same time, they have de-Judaized Jerusalem and tried to obscure the Jewish relationship with and continuing presence in the Holy City, something Middle East scholar Martin Kramer has called their desire to effect "a reversal of history."

Along with their unwavering and various demands, including a "right of return" of all refugees and sovereignty over the Temple Mount, the Palestinians now insist that Jerusalem must be divided to give them a capital in East Jerusalem—a patchwork community where some 200,000 Jews and 270,000 Arabs currently live.

In their desire to accede to Arab requests for a presence and religious sovereignty in Jerusalem, the U.S. State Department, EU, UN member states,

and Islamic apologists in the Middle East and worldwide may actually ignite jihadist impulses they seek to dampen with their well-intentioned, but defective, diplomacy. Why? Dore Gold, Israel's former ambassador to the United Nations, explains, "In the world of apocalyptic speculation, Jerusalem has many other associations—it is the place where the messianic Mahdi [the redeemer of Islam] is to establish his capital. For that reason, some argue that it also should become the seat of the new caliphate that most Islamic groups—from the Muslim Brotherhood to al-Qaeda—seek to establish."

So, far from creating a political situation in which both parties—Israelis and the Palestinians—feel they have sought and received equal benefits, such negotiations and final agreements would have precisely the opposite effect: destabilizing the region and creating, not the oft hoped-for Israel and Palestine "living side by side in peace," but an incendiary cauldron about to explode into a jihadist rage. If the State Department and other Western diplomats are intent on mollifying the Arab street by pressuring Israel to divide Jerusalem and give up its holy sites as a peace offering to the Palestinians, it may well be setting into motion the exact opposite result.



Cure For Radiation Sickness



Medication that can protect humans against nuclear radiation has been developed by Jewish-American scientists in cooperation with a researcher and investors from Israel.

By Ronen Bergman
www.YNetNews.com

The ground-breaking medication, developed by Professor Andrei Gudkov—Chief Scientific Officer at Cleveland BioLabs—may have far-reaching implications on the balance of power in the world, as states capable of providing their citizens with protection against radiation will enjoy a significant strategic advantage vis-à-vis their rivals.

Professor Andrei Gudkov



For Israel, the discovery marks a particularly dramatic development that could deeply affect the main issue on the defense establishment's agenda: Protection against a nuclear attack by Iran or against "dirty bomb" attacks by terror groups.

Gudkov's discovery may also have immense implications for cancer patients by enabling doctors to better protect patients against radiation. Should the new medication enable cancer patients to be treated with

more powerful radiation, our ability to fight the disease could greatly improve.

The process that led up to the medical innovation dates back to 2003, when Professor Gudkov came up with the idea of using protein produced in bacteria found in the intestine to protect cells from radiation.

Prof. Gudkov published the findings of his protein experiment in *Science*, the world's leading scientific journal; however, the discovery of the medication was kept secret until now, while Gudkov and his associated waited for the results of two series of critical tests examining the medication's effectiveness and safety.

Prof. Gudkov heads a group of Jewish-American scientists and has cooperated with an Israeli researcher and Israeli investors. A large part of the revolutionary medication's development process was funded by the U.S. Defense and Health departments, which thus far earmarked \$40 million to the project. Recently, the U.S. Defense Department announced that in light of the successful tests, it will continue to fund the project. ★



Electronically Sniffing Out Disease

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich
www.JPost.com



A chemical engineer at the Technion, who was named one of the world's 35 top young scientists by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) after developing a device that can detect cancers by “sniffing out” biomarkers, has now discovered that it can also be used to discover the presence of kidney disease.

It “requires a long and tiring path” to reach the target of diagnosis of kidney disease early enough to delay kidney failure and dialysis, says Dr. Hossam Haick, whose electronic “nose” can diagnose cancer in just two or three minutes by analyzing a patient's breath.

Raised in Nazareth, Haick, 34, received his bachelor's of science from Ben-Gurion University and doctorate from the Technion; he spent two years at the Weizmann Institute of Science and later pursued post-doctoral research at the equally prestigious California Institute of Technology (CalTech), where he did much of the work leading to the device.

When a malignant tumor develops in the body, its cells produce chemicals, called biomarkers, that circulate in the blood or urine. They cross from the blood into the lungs, where they are exhaled in minute amounts.

Haick's artificial olfactory device detects cancer by “sniffing out” these molecules. The device comprises nano-sized chemical sensors that can detect cancer in a person's breath, which could greatly improve survival rates via critical early diagnoses.

So far, Haick can identify lung, breast, and colon cancer and started testing the electronic nose at the oncology division of Haifa's Rambam Medical Center.

The person to be screened exhales into the electronic nose comprising nano-metric sensors, and the device detects if there is a malignancy and, sometimes, what type.

The developer hopes that the finished device will be the size of a cellular phone and cheap. It would not only allow doctors to detect tumors early, but may even be able to pinpoint the location of the cancer in the body, just as a pointer dog identifies animals that hunters are looking for. ★

Giving Out The Bread Of Life

By Dr. Todd Baker, To The Jew First Fund

God is mightily moving in Israel through the “To The Jew First” fund that allows the Gospel of Yeshua the Messiah to be taken back to the Chosen People of Israel. Zola Levitt and I started a mission fund, sustained by supporters of Zola Levitt Ministries, to take the Gospel back to the Jewish people of Israel. I have personally carried out this task for almost ten years. Now you can read about last spring's Gospel outreach to Israel. We watched God's hand move as He used my lost cell phone and our encounters in cafes to the advantage of His people. You can find the complete details of our adventures at www.levitt.com/news.



We hope this article will inspire you to continue supporting this vital end-time Gospel outreach effort to reach the Jewish people, following the divine order of Evangelism given in Romans 1:16—to make the Gospel known “to the Jew first.” ★



Russia-Iran Naval Maneuvers In Caspian Sea

By Hana Levi Julian

www.IsraelNationalNews.com

Russia joined with Iran for joint naval exercises for the first time ever, according to the Iranian Mehr News Agency. The Russian-Iranian naval maneuvers took place in the Caspian Sea.

The report quoted a senior Iranian ports authority official who said the drill was aimed at preventing pollution and improving search and rescue operations coordination between the two nations. However, the maneuver, involving some 30 vessels, is seen by some analysts as a way to join forces against the U.S., which the *Asia Times* referred to as “the intrusive Western superpower.”

Entitled “Regional Collaboration for a Secure and Clean Caspian,” the two-day drill quietly combined military objectives with environmental goals. A 1921 Iran-Russia friendship agreement was the legal foundation for the present naval cooperation between the two countries, according to political analyst Kaveh L. Afrasiabi.

Russia has been instrumental in protecting Iran from further sanctions by the United Nations Security Council due to its defiance of a U.N. mandate to end its nuclear development program. Iran has continued to add uranium enrichment centrifuges and improve its ability to produce nuclear weapons-grade uranium, to the dismay of those hoping to persuade the Islamic Republic through diplomacy to abandon the effort.

Russia has been behind the construction of Iran’s Bushehr nuclear power plant, although Russian banks several months ago balked at funding any more of the project. Nevertheless, Russia has sent at least two shipments of nuclear fuel supplies to the facility, which is expected to come on line by the end of the year.

Israel has warned repeatedly that it will not tolerate a nuclear Iran, whose President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has often threatened to annihilate the Jewish State.

To Hijab... Or Not

By Daniel Pipes, www.DanielPipes.org

In a blog, “Hijabs on Western Political Women,” I displayed a brood of queens, princesses, first ladies, members of congress, foreign ministers, journalists, and even movie stars looking anywhere from faintly ridiculous to outlandishly bad as they wear some variant of a *hijab*.

It then occurred to me, what about Muslim political women—are they all in *hijabs*, *chadors*, *jilbab*, *niqabs*, and *burqas*? A little research found that at least some of them not only avoid any Islamic apparel but fit a Western standard of beauty and glamour, making a sharp contrast to those Europeans and Americans in their tatty *hijabs*.

Beyond making this contrast, their pictures [seen at www.levitt.com/news] suggest that, at least in the highest political circles, the Islamists will meet strenuous opposition from women.

So, bring on the sequined gowns, jeans, jewelry, curling irons, and make-up.



Princess Amira Al-Taweel of Saudi Arabia

The **Feast of Tabernacles** (Feast of *Sukkot* or Feast of Booths) begins at sundown on **Friday, October 2**. *Sukkot* is an eight-day festival that pictures the establishment of the 1,000-year Messianic Kingdom to be set up at the coming of the Messiah [followers of Jesus believe it will be His *second* coming]. It is one of the three pilgrimage festivals that God gave the Children of Israel in the Bible (Leviticus 23). During these festivals, the Israelites would bring their offerings and firstlings to the Temple in Jerusalem, live in booths, and enjoy a feast!

“The *Sukkah* on Park Avenue”

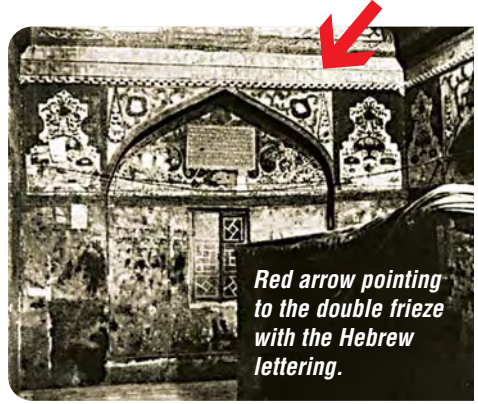
Some of his non-Jewish neighbors brought him to court. They claimed that the *sukkah* (booth) on his balcony was an eyesore and was having a negative impact on the value of their homes in their posh neighborhood.

In court, the man was very worried about the outcome. It was the eve of the eight-day holiday, leaving him no time to make alternative arrangements in case the judge ordered him to take down the *sukkah*. He prayed for help. And God listened.



The judge, himself Jewish, had a reputation of being a very wise man. After hearing both sides, he turned around to the observant Jew and scolded him:

“Don’t you realize that you live on Park Avenue? A certain decorum is expected on Park Avenue. You have no right to put up a hut on this lovely street without a building permit. I hereby order you to remove the hut, or I will fine you one thousand dollars. **You have exactly eight days to comply. Next case!**”



Red arrow pointing to the double frieze with the Hebrew lettering.

Ezekiel’s Tomb in Iraq

Israel Today

The tomb of the Hebrew prophet Ezekiel, who lived in the 6th century BC, lies south of Baghdad. It is an Islamic shrine, but now the Iraqi government has plans to refurbish it and restore its Jewish character. The compound, which is built like a synagogue, contains old wooden cabinets once used for Torah scrolls, and the stone walls bear ancient Hebrew inscriptions (see red arrow).

The western-backed Iraqi government is interested in preserving Iraq’s cultural heritage, whether Muslim, Jewish, or Christian. Iraq plays an important role in Jewish history. After the destruction of the First Temple in 586 BC, the Israelites were taken captive to Babylon (today’s Iraq) and there has been a Jewish presence there ever since.

Many prophets were among the exiles, including Ezekiel who had the famous vision of the Dry Bones, predicting the return of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel (chapter 37). The prophets Daniel, Ezra, Nahum, and Jonah are also buried in Iraq.

Most of Iraq’s Jews emigrated to Israel in the wake of a violent wave of anti-Semitism following the creation of the Jewish State in 1948. Some 120,000 Jews fled to Israel around 1950, leaving all of their possessions behind. Today, only a handful of Jews remain in the country.

Jews Not Welcome On The Temple Mount

By Aviel Schneider, *Israel Today*

Though it is the holiest place in Judaism and the site of the biblical Temples, Jews are not welcome on the Temple Mount. This became clear when Internal Security Minister Yitzhak Aharonovitz visited the compound.

“This is a dangerous provocation,” said Jerusalem Mufti (Muslim spiritual leader) Mohammed Hussein. “This site is for Islam only, not for any other religion!”

The deputy head of the Islamic Movement in Israel, Kamal Khatib, compared it to Ariel Sharon’s visit to the Temple Mount in September 2000. “The next day the Second *Intifada* [uprising] began,” Khatib told *Israel Today*. “If Israel is not careful, the third one will begin. Jews don’t have any right to Al-Aksa.”



The *Waqf*, or Islamic Trust, controls the Temple Mount because it is home to the Mosque of Al-Aksa, the third holiest place in Islam.

“Even if you think this place belongs to you, you are wrong,” said Khaled, an Arab construction worker at the site. “This is the place where our history and religion started, and we will fight for it to the death.”

An Orthodox Jew at the nearby Western Wall had a different take. “The struggle for Jerusalem is above all human power and only the Holy One, blessed is He, will bring justice to this city,” he said. “Our God will surprise the Muslims.”



Star of David

By Rabbi Shraga Simmons, www.Aish.com

From the Holocaust to the Israeli flag, what is this six-pointed Jewish symbol?

In modern times, the Star of David has become a premier Jewish symbol. This six-pointed star (hexagram), made of two interlocking triangles, can be found on mezuzahs, menorahs, *tallis* (prayer shawl) bags, and *kipot* (skull-caps). Ambulances in Israel bear the “Red Star of David,” and the flag of Israel has a blue Star of David planted squarely in the center.

What is the origin of this six-pointed symbol?

Through the Jewish people’s long and often difficult history, we have come to realize that our only hope is to place our trust in God. The six points of the Star of David symbolize God’s rule over the universe in all six directions: north, south, east, west, up, and down.

Originally, the Hebrew name *Magen David*—literally “Shield of David”—poetically referred to God. It acknowledges that our military hero, King David, did not win by his own might, but by the support of the Almighty. This is also alluded to in the third blessing on *Shabbat* (Sabbath): “Blessed are you God, Shield of David.”

So whether it is a blue star waving proudly on a flag, or a gold star adorning a synagogue’s entrance, the Star of David stands as a reminder that for the Jewish people... in God we trust.



At the Russian Military Academy, a general lectured on “Potential Problems and Military Strategy.” At the end of the lecture, he asked if there were any questions.

An officer stood up and asked, “Will there be a third world war? Will Russia take part in it?”

**How
To Win
WW III**

The general answered both questions in the affirmative.

The officer asked, “Who will be the enemy?”

The general replied, “All indications point to China.”



The audience gasped in shock. The officer continued, “General, we are only 140 million. There are 1.4 billion Chinese! Can we win?”

The general answered, “In modern warfare, it is not the *quantity* that matters, but the *quality*. For example, the Middle East has had a few wars recently in which 5 million Jews fought against 150 million Arabs, and Israel was always victorious.”

After a short pause, the officer asked, “Do we have enough Jews?” ★

Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

ION (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

DirectTV East-Channel 305 DirectTV West-Channel 347 Dish East-Ch.216 Dish West-Ch.217

ABC-FAM Airing Day & Time by Zone

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

DirectTV-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 New	3 pm Fri 2 pm Wed	4 pm Fri 3 pm Wed	5 pm Fri 4 pm Wed	6 pm Fri 5 pm Wed

DirectTV-Channel 369 Dish-Channel 263

TCT pm DirecTV Channel 377 – Saturdays
3:30pm ET www.tct.tv

CTN on DirecTV Channel 376 – Tuesdays
8pm ET www.ctnonline.com

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



First-Century Cave Discovered In Israel

www.ScienceDaily.com

An artificial underground cave, the largest in Israel, has been exposed in the Jordan Valley by the University of Haifa's Department of Archaeology. Prof. Adam Zertal, who headed the excavating team, reckons that this cave was originally a large quarry during the Roman and Byzantine era and was one of a kind. Various engravings were uncovered in the cave, including cross markings, and it is assumed that this could have been an early monastery.

The enormous and striking cave covers an area of approximately 1 acre: it is 300 feet long, 100 feet wide, with 9-foot high ceilings. Located two miles north of Jericho, it is the largest manmade cave to be discovered in Israel. It was exposed in the course of an archaeological survey that the University of Haifa has been carrying out since 1978. (See related story in July '09 *Levitt Letter*, p. 10.)

As with other discoveries, this exposure is shrouded in mystery. "When we arrived at the opening of the cave, two Bedouins approached and told us not to go in as the cave is bewitched and inhabited by wolves and hyenas," Prof. Zertal said. Upon entering, he and his colleagues were surprised to find an impressive architectonic underground structure supported by 22 giant pillars. They discovered 31 cross markings on the pillars, an engraving resembling the zodiac symbol, Roman letters, and an etching that looks like the Roman Legion's pennant. The team also discovered recesses in the pillars, which would have been used for oil lamps, and holes to which animals that were hauling quarried stones out of the cave could have been tied.



Ceramics that were found and the engravings on the pillars date the cave to around 1 to 600 AD. "The cave's primary use had been as a quarry, which functioned for about 400-500 years. But other findings definitely indicate that the place was also used for other purposes, such as a monastery and possibly as a hiding place," Prof. Zertal explained.

The main question that arose upon discovering the cave was why a quarry was dug underground in the first place. "All of the quarries that we know are above ground. Digging down under the surface requires extreme effort in hauling the heavy rocks up to the surface, and in this case the quarrying was immense. The question is, why?"

For a possible answer, Prof. Zertal points to the famous Madaba Map—a Byzantine mosaic map that is the most ancient map of Israel. It accurately depicts Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, and also a site called Galgala next to a Greek inscription that translates as "Twelve Stones." Twelve Stones was thought to be the twelve stones that the Children of Israel placed in Gilgal. However, it could be a description of the quarry that was dug where the Byzantines identified the Gilgal.

"During the Roman era, temples were often constructed of stones brought from holy places, which made the stones more sacred. If our assumption is correct, then the Byzantine identification of the place as the biblical Gilgal afforded the site its necessary reverence and that is also why they would have dug an underground quarry there," Prof. Zertal concludes. "But" he adds, "much more research is needed." ★

For a related television series on DVD, please see *Secrets of the Scrolls* on page 17.

Homeless Woman Leaves Fortune

By Alex Sorin, www.JPost.com

A homeless, anonymous Holocaust survivor from New York who passed away recently at the age of 92 left \$100,000 to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, even though she had no known connection to the institution.

She left another \$100,000 to her last employer.

According to a Hebrew University spokesman, the Jewish woman, who had been living out of a shopping cart in Manhattan, apparently had no surviving relatives. Almost nothing is known about the woman except the unusual story of her employment during the last months of her life.

A man, apparently unaware of her background and her advanced age, offered her a business proposition: She would help him avoid getting parking tickets in Manhattan, and he would give her food and a bed.

"She moved his car in Manhattan from one place to another, and he gave her a room to sleep in and a hot meal once a day," said Carmi Gilon, vice president of external relations at the university. The man, who was Jewish, and his wife knew little about the elderly woman, who was surprisingly capable at her advanced age of maneuvering the car around the packed

streets of Manhattan and out of the way of ticket-writing policemen.

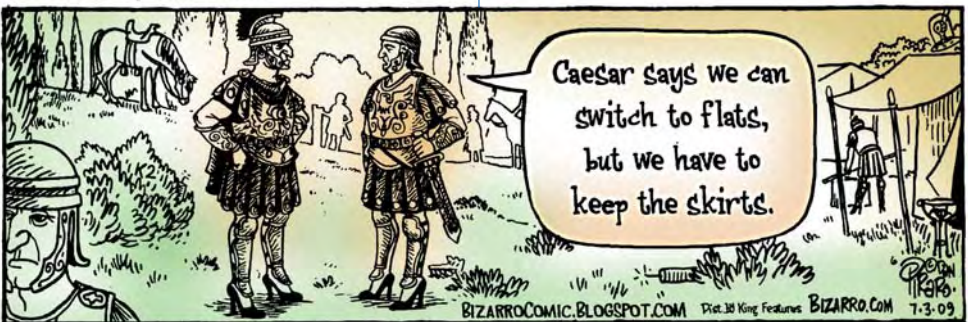


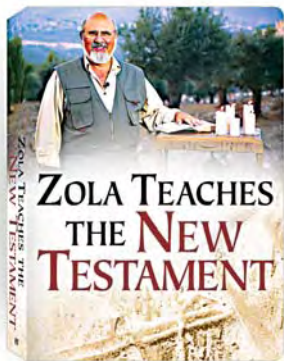
Gilon said the couple had been amused when the woman informed them that because of their generosity she would leave them property when she passed away. They figured she had no money. But after the woman died, the couple received a phone call from a lawyer who informed them they were the beneficiaries of \$100,000. The deceased woman's will also stipulated that another \$100,000 be given to the university.

Gilon said that the university had no known connection with the woman, and had been surprised by the donation. "Two days ago the woman's representative came to my office in Jerusalem and gave me a check for the money," said Gilon. "She had never visited Israel and had never been in any contact with Hebrew University or with our office in New York. We cannot understand why someone who has \$200,000 chooses to live homeless."

The woman did not stipulate in her will how the donated money should be spent, but Gilon said the university would probably use it to establish a scholarship for low-income students. "Every year, at least three or four students can enjoy this money, and I believe that such a lady would love to know this. We won't use the money for the regular budget," Gilon said. ★

BIZARRO By Dan Piraro





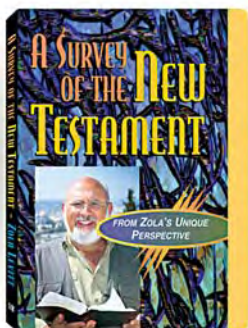
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