

Levitt

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



Letter



In this age of the secular commercial Christmas, what's a Christian to do?—Jeff

## It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif

Christmas rolls around every single year. Predictably, a variety of curious restoring-the-Jewish-roots-of-the-faith friends check in with our television program, our website ([www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)), and our *Levitt Letter* news magazine to see what we say about the Christian faith's non-Jewish, Christmas packaging.



Recently, someone wrote in and reminded us that the words

"Santa" and "Satan" contain

the same letters, an interesting connection

the writer felt. Construing Satan to be behind Christmas,

this well intended writer thought we should distance ourselves from the *unholy* day and its alleged demonic influence.

The argument doesn't convince me. I'm of German-Jewish extract, and my last name Seif comes from a German word meaning "soap." In Arabic, however, *seif* means "sword." Using the Santa/Satan logic and mindful that in Islam "paradise is under the shadow of [jihadist] swords," one could imagine that Jeffrey Seif is really an Islamic plant, a demon-inspired secret agent plotting to defile the Church and conquer the West by the sword.

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Classic Zola: 26 years ago

## CHANUKAH— The Feast of Dedication



Chanukah means "dedication," as one would dedicate a building. Indeed it can be a "setting aside" of that building or place for a special use. The feast of Chanukah is eight days long, and commemorates the rededication and sanctification of the Temple in Jerusalem.

(continued p. 3)



### Imaginations run wild.

I have served 21 years as a Bible college and seminary professor and nearly five years as an internationally televised preacher. My life's work has been to help pastors and parishioners discover the historical, Jewish Jesus. I have always avoided extremist fanaticism.

**Consider this:** The word “live” is the word “evil” spelled backward (and “lived” is the reverse of “devil”). While ridding the world of the Santa/Satan-infected Christmas holiday, should we rid ourselves of the lives we live because the word “live” can be twisted into “evil?”

Of course not.

Brought up in a Jewish home, I have no family Christmas memories or other stake in perpetuating the Christmas holiday. I don't own a toy store, so my defense of the season and its merriment isn't from financial interests.

Though Jesus' arrival is often obscured behind commercial interests, celebrating the holiday and remembering the Messiah's coming brings many families together, centers people personally, and often helps many alienated people recover their equilibrium. **But, it's the Church's job—not the culture's—to represent Jesus' will to the world.**

Believers have better things to do with our energies than take on Madison Avenue for not getting Christmas quite right: I don't expect them to. That's not their job; it's ours.

Christian purists who contest the holiday's not-so-spiritual trappings should remember that even the super-purist Apostle Paul made friends with non-religious culture when it served the Gospel's purposes.

Though Torah-observant Jews like Paul did not believe in cremation, when speaking to the Corinthians, he referenced his own dying saying, “though I

give my body to be burned but have not love” (1 Cor. 13:3b). Harking to cremation is an example of accommodation. Though he was no big fan of the Greeks' penchant for idols, when in Athens just prior to his first visit at Corinth, Paul referenced the prevailing tendency in a semi-complimentary fashion, to get a hearing from those around (Acts 17:22-34). He even quoted a pagan philosopher whom they admired (v. 28). He didn't endorse their worldview; he did work with it, however.

### Pharisee Paul knew how to be flexible.

The word “Pharisee” is derived from the Hebrew *parush*, meaning to be separate. Seems that the separatist Pharisees, themselves, were reasonably culture-friendly. That approximately 6,000 Greek loan words worked their way into the Talmud (the Pharisees' authoritative religious guidebook) attests to this, as do other ancient accommodations.

So I don't oppose the Christmas holiday, though I don't celebrate it myself. Those who want to honor the Messiah's birthday on that day can do so by giving Him a present during the season. This could mean a special gift to your local congregation, a donation to a worthy charity, a financial gift to foreign missions, or a foreign and domestic missions gift to those of us trying to bring God's Word to the world through television, every single week—not just during one week at the end of December.

I don't discriminate on whether someone celebrates Christmas, or prefers Chanukah as I do. I would say, though, that if you're going to celebrate His birthday, remember to give a gift to the “birthday Boy.” Remember the Gospel's purposes and honor Jesus on His “special day” by giving *Him* a gift.



Antiochus IV, leading the armies of Syria and the Roman Empire, had occupied Israel and had begun to systematically destroy the worship of the Lord. The Jewish people could abide the desecration of the Temple no longer, and Judah Maccabee led a band of citizen-soldiers in a campaign that would have striking parallels to our own American Revolution.

**Battling impossible odds, they put the Syrians to flight and began the holy task of preparing again the Temple for worship.**

They replaced the *menorah* (seven-branched Temple candelabrum—see Ex. 25:31-37) in its honored position, and then began to search for some consecrated oil which might have still been in the Temple. One could not light the eternal light with ordinary lamp oil and the formula for this special oil took seven days to prepare. Finally they found the large and ornate flask which stored the oil for the menorah, but their joy fell to dismay as they discovered it was all but empty. After hours of effort, the flask gave up one day's oil for one lamp.



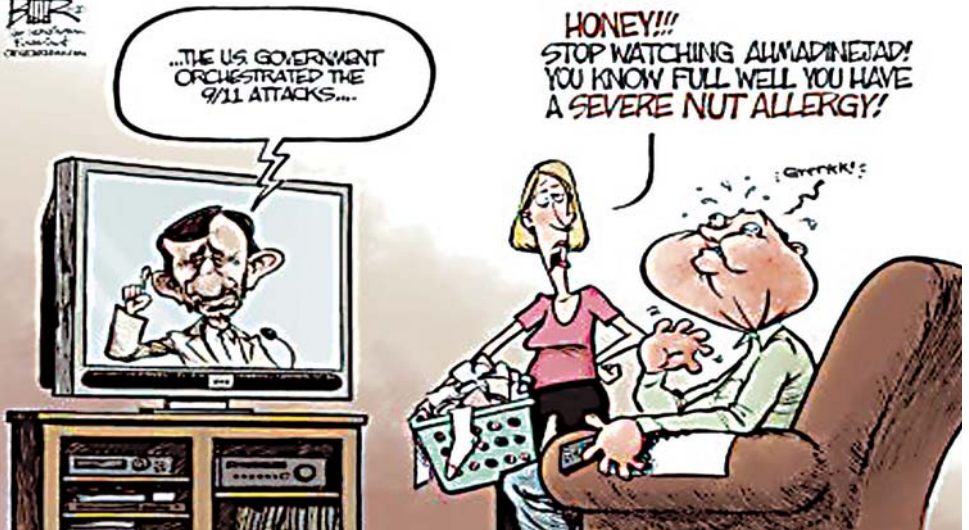
On the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, 165 B.C., the oil was placed in the lamp, the wick trimmed, the blessing pronounced, and all hearts leapt for joy as the news was passed through the streets that the Temple was again sanctified. Of course, preparations began immediately for new oil, but there was no shortcut to the formula. Judah Maccabee and his men didn't worry that the light would go out. They had seen the hand of the Lord give their victory and they knew He would be faithful in this as well. Indeed, that small amount of oil burned on and on, not for two or three days, but eight—giving them time to prepare new oil. The faith and courage of a few religious men and the faithfulness of our Lord gave us the miracle of Chanukah.

The Jewish people still celebrate this miracle by lighting a nine-branched candelabrum called a *Hanukiah*. One candle stays lit continuously and is used to light an additional candle each night, until on the eighth day the whole menorah shines forth. It is customary that this menorah be placed in the window of the home so that the light of the world can once again shine forth to tell all that He lives and to proclaim again the miracle of courage and faithfulness that is Chanukah. ★

*With enemies on many fronts, Jews find comfort in commemorating God's keeping power. —Jeff*

The men resolved to wait no longer for the new oil to be prepared. They would light the eternal light and rededicate the Temple immediately, as even a week's delay in re-establishing worship would be too long for Israel, who had longed for a right relationship with their Lord.

FOR  
the cartoon  
found  
the cartoon



## Best Strategy To Defend The West: Defend Israel

By Lee Smith  
www.TabletMag.com

**Former Spanish Prime Minister José María Aznar takes sides—and chooses Israel.**



Three days before Spain's 2004 general election, a massive bomb attack on the Madrid subway killed 191 people. When then-Prime Minister José María Aznar and his government initially pointed the finger at Basque terrorists, the public believed his government was covering up the fact that Islamist militants had exacted revenge for Spain's decision to send troops to fight alongside the United States in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Spanish voted against Aznar's party—in the apparent hope of appeasing Islamic terror.

Given his firsthand experience with how terrorism can shape political reality, Aznar more than any other European official is capable of deep sympathy with Israel. This partly explains why he is now using his name and reputation to found the *Friends of Israel Initiative*, which includes other world leaders, like Alejandro Toledo, the former president of Peru, and Czech playwright and one-time President Vaclav Havel, as founding members. "My conviction," Aznar said, "is that **the best strategy to defend the West is to defend Israel.**"

Israel, Aznar said, is not a Middle Eastern country but a Western country in the Middle East—the West's first line of defense in the battle with Islamist radicals who seek to destroy Western freedom and terrorize whoever tries to stand in their way. "The harm done to Israel is damage done to the West," Aznar said. "And delegitimizing Israel is a delegitimization of the West."

While Aznar's pro-U.S. sentiment was obvious to Spanish voters, his support of Israel was more muted. "There wasn't that much opportunity to express this conviction in government," Aznar said. "But now, I'm involved in a battle of ideas." To express unequivocal support for the Jewish state is not the soundest political move in a country that historically has not been particularly friendly to Jews, from the Spanish Inquisition to the present day, when it has played host to massive public rallies in support of Hamas and Hezbollah.

**Aznar admitted that "the majority of Spanish are extremely critical of Israel."** Radical Muslims, he explained, "help shape public opinion of Israel in Spain. And Europe is a kingdom of relativism. Our work is in convincing both the people of Europe as well as some of its leaders—and this is true even in the U.S. We are aware that there's a long way to go, we're at the beginning, but it's a conviction we share with different people across the world."

The point of his organization, Aznar explained, is that it rallies the support and solicits the membership of non-Jews. **His members are those who care deeply for both the living Israel and the biblical nation on which Western civilization was built.** Unless one understands the history of the Jews and Judeo-Christian values, he said, "it's impossible to understand the history of the Western world and Europe and where we come from."

If many European (and American) elites believe that the world has moved beyond nationalism and toward a post-modern, multicultural utopia in which Jewish nationalism is a dangerous anachronism, Aznar will have nothing of it. For him, **the evil that befalls Israel will eventually happen to the rest of us.** Failure to defend Israel will only make all Western democracies more vulnerable. ★

**Israel came into its own in the modern world on the heels of UN authorizations; Israel came upon its modern borders while repelling aggressive belligerents hellbent on Israel's demise.**

## DeSeifering Our World

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif



The Jewish State's right to exist meets the standards of both international law and the conventions of modern warfare. It should be appreciated by all, no matter their familiarity with biblical prophecies of Israel's rise in these particular days. I'm not nearly as surprised that secular individuals have trouble coming to terms with Israel as I am by how many Christians abandon Jews outright, carving up Israel like a Thanksgiving turkey, breaching its defenses, and giving Jews over to those who want Jews gone. (See p. 35)

The Apostle Paul once lamented that a veil lies over the mind of some Jewish people, hindering their ability to perceive Jesus in the Hebrew Bible (2 Cor 3:14-15). With him, I find that frustrating. Way too many Christian people have a curtain over their minds, preventing them from seeing what's obvious; this is equally troubling.

**God's giving Israel to the Jewish people is so well attested from Genesis to Revelation that I think a satanic blindness prevents seemingly Bible-literate people from acknowledging the obvious.**

At the time of this writing, I am interested in challenging the prevailing darkness—head-on. I'm on my way to Israel, where our producers—U.S.-based Ken Berg and Israel-based Elia Sides—are firming up our new television series on ancient and current events in the Land of Israel. Elia Sides has worked for National Geographic, the BBC, and other global media. But ZLM holds a special place in his heart, and he assists us every chance he gets in appreciation for what we're doing on behalf of his beloved country. Former CBS correspondent and ZLM's "Our Man in Jerusalem" David Dolan will join us.

**We intend to film Bible-based television and broadcast our work to millions.** I am anxious to take viewers to exotic places in Israel, where we open our Bibles and explore what Scripture says about the Land, about the people, and about the future of the people in the Land. Millions of TV viewers will see how the Scriptures are being fulfilled before our very eyes. Reaching millions costs millions over the course of a year. Though the financial pressures can stagger me every now and again, I take heart in how God inspires Believers and unsaved Jews to assist this ministry, and this faith eases the burdens on my heart. If that helper is you this round, thank you in advance.

The material giving, of course, is less about people assisting us than participating with Christ in expanding spiritual knowledge in a darkened world. Biblical perspective is in high demand and urgently needed, but in very short supply. If you can help us get it out there, bless you for that.

**To expand your own borders of knowledge, please take a trip to Israel with me. Call Tracie at 1-214-696-9760. Experiencing Israel will exceed your wildest dreams. Or give someone else the trip of a lifetime. See details on page 36.**

Please remember me in your prayers as I teach multitudes how the Bible relates to the modern world. If you'd like me or another ministry speaker to visit your group, call Tracie (214-696-8844). *Zola Levitt Presents* provides a window into Jesus' world and gives you a piece of Christmas every week of the year—not just in December.

## New Immigrants in an Ancient Land

By Eitan Shishkoff

The fall of the Soviet Union in December 1991 opened the gates for an historic exodus of Russian-speaking Jews. While praying for these exiles to come back to Israel and to Yeshua, I received a riveting message from the Lord. He showed me a palm-surrounded oasis, as if those coming out of bondage and poverty would need the physical relief, recovery, refreshing, and resupply of a desert refuge. In my spirit, I heard the phrase “tents of mercy.” The compassion of God seemed to sweep over me in waves as I attempted to comprehend the intensity of His love for those who had suffered for centuries.

Our family’s first several years in Israel challenged us to the core. Learning the reborn Hebrew language, adapting to Israeli culture and bureaucracy, and uncertainty about our future vocation forced us to depend more upon the Lord. We had to surrender pride of previous position/ education/competency. My wife, Connie, is the true hero of our *aliyah* (return to Israel). Shortly after we arrived, she gave birth at age 45, to Sigal, and lovingly anchored our family in the old/ new land. Our older children served in the IDF, later marrying fellow Israeli Believers.

In those early years, equipped with barely more Hebrew than our four-year-old, I began a home Bible study for immigrants. My college Russian studies came in handy, and in time two more home meetings began. Clearly, there was a need in the Haifa Bay area for a Messianic Jewish congregation in Hebrew that could reach

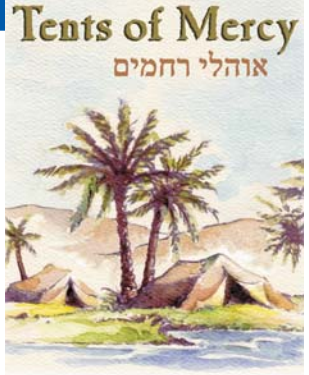


out to the many new Israelis and provide basic humanitarian aid. So, in December 1995, Tents of Mercy (*Ohalei Rachamim*)

was born in a warehouse. This was the oasis God had shown me.

**Two years later, the facility was firebombed in the middle of the night.**

No one was hurt, but it was a defining moment. Was this pioneer effort worth the price of persecution? Our answer came from the Apostles’ example of “rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name” (Acts 5:41). The attack actually thrust us forward, providing resources to begin purchasing a new facility being built nearby.



The Book-of-Acts-pattern of sending teams to plant new congregations became our model. Since late 2001, we have had the joy of seeing four additional new congregations started (in Haifa, Upper Nazareth, Akko, and Poriya) with numerous humanitarian initiatives including soup kitchens, ministry to Holocaust survivors, outreach to the unborn, and to women in prostitution.

Eighteen years later, it’s still awkward to be an immigrant. But watching our eight grandchildren growing up in our biblical homeland, we know that it is ALL worth it. ★

# The Christmas Tree

By Jonathan Rosenblum, [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com)

Rabbi Berel Wein was once invited to a meeting with the editor of the *Detroit Free Press*. After introductions had been made, the editor told him the following story.

His mother, Mary, had immigrated to America from Ireland as an uneducated, 18-year-old peasant girl. She was hired as a domestic maid by an observant family. The head of the house was the president of the neighboring Orthodox *shul* (synagogue).

Mary knew nothing about Judaism and probably had never met a Jew before arriving in America. The family went on vacation Mary's first December in America, leaving Mary alone in the house. They were scheduled to return on the night of December 24, and Mary realized that there would be no Christmas tree to greet them when they did. This bothered her greatly, and using the money the family had left her, she went out and purchased not only a Christmas tree but all kinds of festive decorations to hang on the front of the house.

When the family returned from vacation, they saw the Christmas tree through the living room window and the rest of the house festooned with holiday lights. They assumed that they had somehow pulled into the wrong driveway and drove around the block. But alas, it was their address.

The head of the family entered the house contemplating how to explain the Christmas tree and lights to the members of the *shul*, most of whom walked right past his house on their way to *shul*. Meanwhile, Mary was eagerly anticipating the family's excitement when they realized that they would not be without a Christmas tree.

After entering the house, the head of the family called Mary into his study. He told her, "In my whole life no one has ever done such a beautiful thing for me as you did." Then he took out a \$100 bill—a very large sum in the middle of the Depression—and gave it to her. Only after that did he explain that Jews do not have Christmas trees.

When he had finished telling the story, the editor told Rabbi Wein, "And that is why there has never been an editorial critical of Israel in the *Detroit Free Press* since I became editor, and never will be as long as I am the editor."

The *shul* president's reaction to Mary's mistake—sympathy instead of anger—was not because he dreamed that one day her son would be the editor of a major metropolitan paper, and thus in a position to aid Israel. (Israel was not yet reborn.) He acted as he did because it was the right thing to do.

That's what it means to be a *Kiddush Hashem*, to sanctify God's Name. It is a goal to which we can all strive. ★



**BIZARRO** By Dan Piraro



*As someone who works with the media, and struggles to overcome the way they often misrepresent Jews, let me assure you that Jews don't control the media. —Jeff*

## Anti-Semitism Alive And Well

By Abraham H. Foxman, [www.TheJewishWeek.com](http://www.TheJewishWeek.com)



**Abraham H. Foxman** is the national director of the Anti-Defamation League.



CNN host **Rick Sanchez** has added his name to the long list of public figures, here and abroad, who accuse the Jews of control, in this case, of the media. Others gear the accusation to the entertainment world or government or the international economy.

His remarks turned the popular, pugnacious host of CNN's *Rick's List* into the ranks of the unemployed. Here's a quick recap: In a Sept. 30 interview with the comedian Pete Dominick on satellite radio, Sanchez suggested that as a Cuban-American, he had experienced subtle forms of discrimination in his career as a television reporter and anchor. He then called Jon Stewart of *The Daily Show* "a bigot."

One of the show's hosts pointed out that Stewart was Jewish and, like Sanchez, a member of a minority group. Sanchez responded that, "Everybody that runs CNN is a lot like Stewart. And a lot of people who run all the other networks are a lot like Stewart. And to imply that somehow they—the people in this country who are Jewish—are an oppressed minority...Yeah." CNN fired Sanchez the next day.

### **Sanchez is not an extremist, not a religious fanatic, and not an ideologue.**

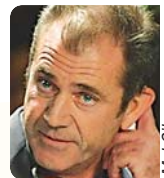
Jewish conspiracy theories coming from extreme anti-Semites are par for the course and a recurring theme in history. In the Middle Ages, it took the form of blood libel charges or accusations that Jews were responsible for the Black Plague. In modern times, the phony document "The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion"—allegedly the secret plan of Jewish leaders to take over the world—still resonates with millions.



Jon Stewart

**It is true that there are many Jewish executives and owners of news outlets and entertainment vehicles.** There is nothing wrong with saying that—indeed, Jewish accomplishments in these areas are something to be proud of. But to say that Jews control these areas is a whole other thing. It doesn't focus on individual Jews who may have a talent for these fields (like non-Jews who have talents in their fields), but suggests Jews work in conspiracy to serve their narrow interests. Anti-Semites never see Jews as individuals but rather as a coordinated group to serve Jewish interests against the interests of others. The fact that individuals who are not usually associated with extremism feel comfortable making similar charges shows how deeply embedded such ideas are in Western civilization—even in America, where anti-Semitism is not as powerful as in other parts of the world.

**Recent examples of this bigotry include** Mel Gibson's 2006 comment that "Jews are responsible for all the wars in the world," and Ralph Nader's 2004 statement that the "Israeli puppeteer travels to Washington, meets with the puppet in the White House, and goes down Pennsylvania Ave. and meets with the puppets in Congress." There is a tendency to want to shrug these off as not typical of what America is about. And surely, we should keep such statements in perspective. But, anti-Semitism shares with other forms of hatred a number of well-documented elements such as stereotyping, discrimination, and fear of difference. Is the Sanchez episode important? Yes—because this dangerous notion has shown a resiliency in very surprising places. ★



Mel Gibson



## Israeli (?) Computer Worm Cripples Iran's Computers

By Richard Spencer and Damien McElroy  
www.Telegraph.co.uk

An elite Israeli military unit responsible for cyber warfare has been accused of creating a virus that crippled Iran's computer systems and stopped work at its newest nuclear power station.

Computer experts discovered a biblical reference embedded in the code of the computer worm and have pointed to Israel as the origin of the cyber attack. The code contains the word *myrtus*, which is the Latin biological term for the myrtle tree. The Hebrew word for myrtle, *Hadassah*, was the birth name of Esther, the Jewish queen of Persia. In the Bible, The Book of Esther tells how the queen pre-empted an attack on the country's Jewish population and then persuaded her husband to launch an attack before being attacked themselves.

Israel has threatened to launch a pre-emptive attack on Iran's facilities to ensure that the Islamic state does not gain the ability to threaten Israel's existence.

Ralf Langner, a German researcher, claims that Unit 8200, the signals intelligence arm of the Israel Defense Forces, perpetrated the computer virus attack by infiltrating the software into the Bushehr nuclear power station.

Langner said: "If you read the Bible, you can make a guess."

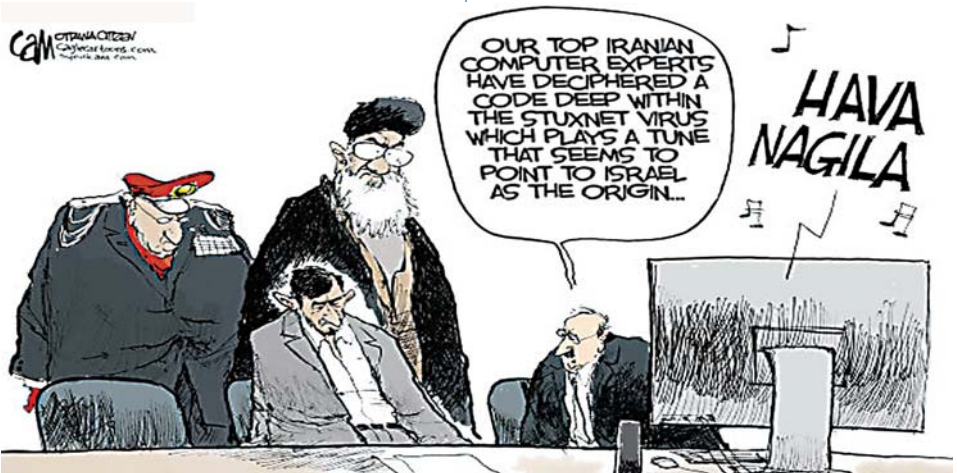
Computer experts have spent months tracing the origin of the Stuxnet worm, a sophisticated piece of malicious software, or malware, that has infected industrial operating systems made by the German firm Siemens across the globe.

**Programmers following Stuxnet believe it was most likely introduced to Iran on a memory stick, possibly by one of the Russian firms helping to build Bushehr. The same firm has projects in Asia, including India and Indonesia, which were also attacked. Iran is thought to have suffered 60 percent of the attacks.**

Langner said: "It would be an absolute no-brainer to leave an infected USB stick near one of these guys and there would be more than a 50 per cent chance of him picking it up and infecting his computer."

Cyber security experts said that Israel was the most likely perpetrator of the attack and had been targeting Iran, but that it had not acknowledged a role to its allies. "Nobody is willing to accept responsibility for this particular piece of malicious software which is a curious, complex, and powerful weapon," said one Whitehall expert.

The Iranian authorities acknowledged that the worm had struck Bushehr, and a statement conceded that the plant would come into operation in January, two months later than planned. ★



# Multitasking Science



**“My research is in three areas: Drug delivery, particularly for cancer tumor therapy; gene therapy, developing technologies that can help deliver genetic material encoded for therapeutic purposes to particular organs; and tissue engineering, building organs—right now, my focus is on heart and blood vessels, in the laboratory,” says Prof. Marcelle Machluf (right).**



“All of these areas are of interest to me, and I wanted to see how they’d develop in the lab. I had excellent students at the Technion. We excelled in each of these fields and had such good progress that I couldn’t focus on only one. Many things are common to all of these areas, so you can pursue all of them without getting too dispersed.”

Multitasking comes naturally to Machluf. She arrived in Israel as a baby, brought by her mother and grandmother from Morocco in 1964. “It was difficult for my mother and grandmother to support a family in a new country, but they always said education is a must,” she recounts.

Paying her own way with savings from military service, Machluf received her bachelor’s degree in biology from the Hebrew University, and then her master’s and Ph.D. in chemical and biotechnology engineering from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in 1996.

By the time she left for postdoctoral research as a fellow at Harvard Medical School, she was married with a daughter and son. Another son, now a sixth-grader, was born during the family’s five-year sojourn in Boston.

She stresses that her husband, Yigal, shares the credit for her accomplishments. In order to accompany his wife to Harvard, he left his job and became a driving instructor so that he could help with the housekeeping and child-

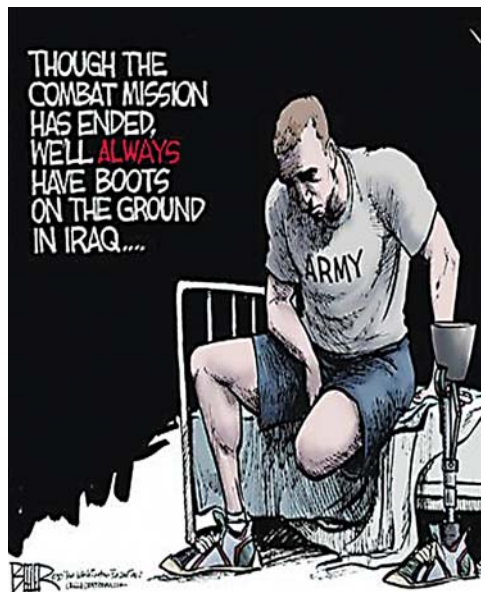
By Abigail Klein Leichman  
www.israel21c.org

care. “Behind every successful woman is a supportive husband,” she says.

When Marcelle was still in middle school, “I had to accompany my mother to many hospitals,” she recalls. “I became familiar with a lot of physicians and decided I wanted to be a doctor. But I was not accepted into medical school.”

Determined to keep trying, she stayed with biology and eventually became the first Ph.D. student of prizewinning biomedical researcher Smadar Cohen. [see Aug 2010 *Levitt Letter* p.10] In the process, she “found a wonderful world of science I was not familiar with,” the interface between engineering and life sciences. Cohen and Machluf built a research lab together and Cohen encouraged her protégé to reach for the stars. This field is among the hottest areas in applied science today.

Living in Haifa, she says that although her family loved Boston, “we knew we were coming back. We are very Zionist and we wanted to raise our kids here. Nothing can replace Israel.” ★



## Future Saudi King Is Anti-Israel and U.S.

By Irfan al-Alawi and Stephen Schwartz  
WeeklyStandard.com

Prince Nayef



The Associated Press and other media outlets reported that the Obama administration asked Congress for approval to sell Saudi Arabia up to \$60 billion worth of high-tech fighter aircraft and helicopters, with an option of \$30 billion in naval armaments to follow. Because of the Iranian threat, the deal is expected to be approved, since it will give the Saudis military striking capacity across the Gulf region.

If consummated, the sale comes at a moment when Saudi society is in flux, facing heightened contradictions. Saudi King Abdullah, who has made various attempts at social and political reform, remains isolated and opposed by many of his retrogressive family members and the official Wahhabi clerics. Many of the young are turning away visibly from the authority of the monarchy and the clerics. The majority of Saudi citizens are fearful that the 86-year-old king will die soon. Abdullah could be replaced by his designated successor and half-brother Crown Prince Sultan, who is also in his 80s and ill, and then by Prince Nayef, the most rigid and anti-Western of the heirs to Ibn Saud, founder of the modern Saudi state.

Nayef, who is in his late 70s, is the protector of the Wahhabi clerics and was the first Saudi leader to declare that 9/11 was a Zionist conspiracy. In such hands, American-provided arms could, by the law of unintended consequences, end up turned in a more dangerous direction. ★

## Ask The Professor

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif



**Q** Jeff, I am very disappointed in a statement you made in the newsletter I just received [October Personal Letter]. On page 7, you just finished mentioning that the Wilbers [sic] “recently headlined with (Sarah) Palin at a right-to-life gathering.” How could anything be more central to Christian belief than the sanctity of life of which Sarah Palin is a strong advocate? [Then] in the very next paragraph you say, “Though I don’t necessarily agree with Palin’s politics...” What? Did I read that right? One can conclude from that statement, if you don’t agree with her politics, then you must agree with the opposition.

—R.C. (TX)



Sarah Palin

**A** Dear R.C.— In our recent Esther series called *Esther: For Such a Time as This*, we spent a small fortune telling the story of a woman who came out of nowhere to become something of a national savior. In a follow-up publication, we showed a picture of the series’ musical guest and co-host, Sharon Wilbur, standing alongside Sarah Palin whom she was opening for at an event. Because the Esther-based rags-to-riches story of a female heroine could be construed as a tacit political endorsement of Sarah Palin, and because Sarah Palin’s appearing with our guest artist subsequent to it could similarly force that conclusion, I felt that prudence dictated some reserve here—lest we appear to endorse a political candidate.

In any case, know that the comment was not meant to be a critique of the “Right to Life” movement or of Sarah Palin’s personal or professional positions, as much as it was simply an attempt to not offer a political endorsement. With you, we believe in the right to life.

—Jeffrey Seif ★

# Methodist Preacher To Sue His Own Church Over Claim Of Anti-Israel Bias

By Robert Mendick  
[www.Telegraph.co.uk](http://www.Telegraph.co.uk)



A Methodist preacher is preparing to sue his own church over claims it is using charitable donations to pursue a campaign of discrimination against Israeli Jews. The legal dispute has been prompted by a controversial resolution passed at the Methodist Conference which called for a boycott of some Israeli goods. If the legal action is successful, it would likely bring to an end all similar campaigns that boycott Israeli goods and services.

**David Hallam**, (top) who preaches in Methodist churches around Birmingham [England], has accused his own church of wasting funds to pursue a vendetta against Israel. There are no Methodist churches in either Israel or the “Occupied Territories.” Hallam, 62, a former Labor MEP [Member of the European Parliament], said: “What I object to is money which I am putting

on the collection plate on a Sunday being used to fund a political campaign against the Jewish state. This is both discriminatory and a misuse of a charity’s funds. The Methodist Church seems to think it has a God given right to tell Jews how to run their affairs. It is very disturbing we are getting involved in a territory where we don’t have any members or churches.”

Hallam has recruited Paul Diamond, a barrister with expertise in human rights law and religious law, to bring the case. Diamond will argue that the Methodist resolution passed in the summer is in breach of European human rights law and a wide-ranging European Union directive on racism. By singling out Israel, rather than other countries with often worse human rights records, Diamond will claim the church is being deliberately prejudiced against the Jewish state.

A Methodist spokesman said: “The report was debated and received by the annual Methodist Conference, which is the governing body of the Church and is democratic and representative of the whole Church, and which voted for each resolution.”

**Liō** By Mark Tatulli

*Liō brings “Tickle Me Elmo” to baby Jesus.*





## a note from mark

# Zola's Son and Grandson Terrorists or Terrorized?

***Auschwitz of the Sky is what Zola used to call Tower Airlines. Now American Airlines has earned the nickname *Lost Liberty of the Sky*.***

What's becoming of this country and civil rights? The End seems nearer when airlines finger their best customers for post-flight interrogations in the name of national security. I never suspected that sleeping and not eating during a three-hour flight justified treating a passenger like a drug runner or terrorist.

But that's what happened to my 20-year-old son. Because I sat beside him, "Lost Liberty Airlines" treated me like his "partner in crime." A key problem for our police-state stewardess: we had no drugs or bombs.

On the day before our flight, David and I went deep-sea fishing in Florida. For eight hours, I caught mostly sharks while David was seasick. Then we had a late night, an early morning, and McDonald's fast food just prior to our flight.

**Before you read farther, please take the test on profiling terrorists on page 14.**

Halfway through the flight, at the pilot's request, a doctor examined David's eyes with a flashlight and questioned him about recent activities, food intake, etc. David passed muster with the doctor whose report to the pilot was "a hangover, at worst." Hello! Hangover? David is only 20 and I'm a good dad!

Of course, David's demeanor was typical for a weary traveler who had vomited four times the day before. Complying with the indignity of the doctor's interview in front of fellow passengers should have restored our reputations with the flight crew. Mysteriously, it didn't.

Instead, Homeland Security sky marshals/storm troopers ambushed us as we disem-

barked! "We're concerned about your health," they claimed.

David's response: "I'm the healthiest one here. Would you like me to do some push-ups for you?" They declined, but separated David and me for questioning. I regret that I was intimidated enough to cough up all the personal info needed to fill out a credit app and steal my identity. (In next month's *Levitt Letter*, I will share strategies for protecting your identity from theft—even by badge-flashing federal agents.)

**So now I wonder: was this a case of anti-Semitism and will it lead to identity theft?**

Since enrolling as a Frequent Flier with Lost Liberty Airlines in 1989, I have flown beaucoup miles with them. In 2007, they awarded me their Lifetime Platinum Status. Their flight attendants need to quit violating the rights of Americans who fly American. They might even benefit by reading *Profiling Airline Passengers Israeli-style!* on page 11 of our November 2006 *Levitt Letter*:

([www.levitt.com/newsletters/2006-11.pdf](http://www.levitt.com/newsletters/2006-11.pdf)).

**Note:** Fighting terrorism works better *before* take-off than *after* landing. Apparently, while the authorities detained David and me, they took the liberty of rummaging through his duffel bag. ★



*An elderly nun is frisked by a (TSA) Transportation Security Administration screener wearing the Islamic veil (hijab) at Detroit's Metro Airport.*

# Multiple Choice History Test

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

### EVENTS 1–12 ACTUALLY OCCURRED!

**1. In 1972 at the Munich Olympics, athletes were kidnapped and massacred by:**

- a. Olga Korbut
- b. Sitting Bull
- c. Arnold Schwarzenegger
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**2. In 1979, the U.S. embassy in Iran was taken over by:**

- a. Lost Norwegians
- b. Elvis
- c. A tour bus full of 80-year-old women
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**3. During the 1980s, a number of Americans were kidnapped in Lebanon by:**

- a. John Dillinger
- b. The King of Sweden
- c. Boy Scouts
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**4. In 1983, the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut was blown up by:**

- a. A pizza delivery boy
- b. Pee Wee Herman
- c. Geraldo Rivera
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**5. In 1985, the cruise ship *Achille Lauro* was hijacked and a 70-year-old American passenger was murdered and thrown overboard in his wheelchair by:**

- a. The Smurfs
- b. Davy Jones
- c. The Little Mermaid
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**6. In 1985, TWA flight 847 was hijacked at Athens, and a U.S. Navy diver was murdered by:**

- a. Captain Kidd
- b. Charles Lindbergh
- c. Mother Teresa
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**7. In 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 was bombed by:**

- a. Scooby Doo
- b. The Tooth Fairy

- c. Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid
- d. a Muslim male extremist between the ages of 17 and 40

**8. In 1993, the World Trade Center was bombed the first time by:**

- a. Richard Simmons
- b. Grandma Moses
- c. Michael Jordan
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**9. In 1998, the Kenya and Tanzania U.S. embassies were bombed by:**

- a. Mr. Rogers
- b. Hillary Clinton
- c. The World Wrestling Federation
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**10. On 9/11/01, four airliners were hijacked; two were used as missiles to take out the World Trade Center and of the remaining two, one crashed into the U.S. Pentagon and the other was diverted and crashed by the passengers. Thousands of people were killed by:**

- a. Bugs Bunny, Wile E. Coyote, Daffy Duck, and Elmer Fudd
- b. The Supreme Court of Florida
- c. Mr. Bean
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

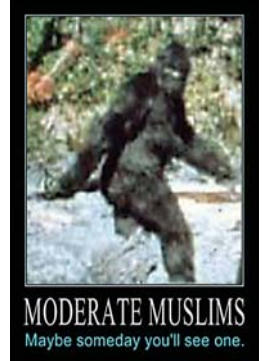
**11. Since 2001, the United States has fought a war in Afghanistan against:**

- a. Enron
- b. The Lutheran Church
- c. The NFL
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**12. In 2002, reporter Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and beheaded by:**

- a. Bonnie and Clyde
- b. Captain Kangaroo
- c. Billy Graham
- d. Muslim male extremists mostly between the ages of 17 and 40

**Today airport security screeners randomly search 80-year-old women, little kids, and airline pilots but virtually ignore Muslim males between the ages 17 and 40. “Stupid is as stupid does.” (Forrest Gump)**



## The Palestinian Problem: A Real Solution

By Dr. Martin Sherman, [FrontPageMag.com](http://FrontPageMag.com)

**From Israel's point of view, the "two-state/land for peace" solution to the Palestinian conflict has proven to be a long, drawn out failure that should have been abandoned long ago.**

Any dispassionate evaluation of the events of the past two decades invariably leads one to accept the following conclusion: that the Palestinians seem far more committed to the deconstruction of the Jewish State than to construction of a Palestinian one. Though the Palestinians have failed to create their own national destiny, a stark reality remains: there are hundreds of thousands of essentially disenfranchised Palestinian families residing both in Israeli territory and in the wider Arab world.

**Throughout the Arab world, the Palestinians are subject to blatant discrimination** with regard to employment opportunities, property ownership, freedom of movement, and acquisition of citizenship. For example, Saudi Arabia in 2004 announced it was introducing measures to ease the attainment of Saudi citizenship for all foreigners who were residing in the country except Palestinians, half a million of whom live in the kingdom.

Similar policies of discrimination are prevalent in other Arab states. A 2004 *Los Angeles Times* report painted a grim picture of the life Palestinians are forced to endure among the Arab "brethren."

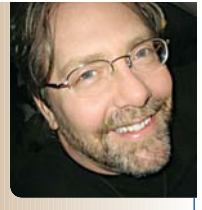
According to the report, when Egypt announced in 2003 that it would grant nationality to children of Egyptian mothers married to foreigners, Palestinians were excluded. In Lebanon, nearly 400,000 Palestinians live in 12 "refugee camps," where crime is rife and clashes between rival Palestinian factions are common.

Palestinians cannot own property or get state health care. Lebanon bans refugees from 72 areas of employment, including medicine and engineering. Syria, with a population of 18 million, is a strong verbal supporter of the Palestinian cause, but refuses citizenship to its 410,000 Palestinian refugees. Even in Jordan, where Palestinians make up nearly 70% of the population, Palestinians complain that they are discriminated against in terms of employment.

When approached on this issue of discrimination against the Palestinian residents in Arab countries, a spokesman for the 22-nation Arab League openly acknowledged that Palestinians live "in very bad conditions." He claimed the policy is meant "to preserve their Palestinian identity." He explained with perhaps unintended candor: "If every Palestinian who sought refuge in a certain country was integrated and accommodated into that country, there won't be any reason for them to return to Palestine." [\[Blame for keeping Palestinians in a deplorable existence should not be placed at Jewish feet. —Jeff\]](#)

The time has come to remove the issue of Palestinian statehood from the international agenda, and address the enduring Palestinian humanitarian predicament—after all, there is a majority Palestinian state, which is Jordan. Instead [\[—ignored by their "brethren" as they are—\]](#) we should **treat them not as a collective entity, but as individuals** deserving a better fate than the one thrust on them by cynical leaders and neighboring states. The time has come for imaginative new initiatives to defuse one of the global community's most volatile problems. ★





## The Promise Of Life

By John J. Parsons

זֹאת נְחַמְתִּי בְעַנְיִי כִּי אָמַרְתָּ חַיְתִּנִּי

*This is my comfort in my affliction, that Your word gives me life. – Psalm 119:50*

חַיְתִּנִּי	אָמַרְתָּ	כִּי	בְעַנְיִי	נְחַמְתִּי	זֹאת
(3) (2) (1)	(4) (3) (2) (1)	(1)	(3) (2) (1)	(4) (3) (2) (1)	(1)
chi-yat-ni	im-ra-te-kha	ki	ve-on-yi	ne-cha-ma-ti	zot
gives me life	Your word	that	in my affliction	my comfort	This (is)

**One of the ultimate tests of our faith is to refuse to succumb to despair in the face of personal suffering.** For those who struggle with chronic pain or some sort of overwhelming disease, the test of faith calls for the heart to look beyond the realm of appearance, where the “outward man” perishes, to the realm of ultimate healing, where the “inward man” is finally liberated from the ravages of sin and death.

Our present condition is one of a “divided house” that cannot stand. The old nature is earthbound, a creature of the dust of the Earth, whereas our new nature comes from the breath of life imparted through faith in Jesus. In His infinite wisdom, God has imparted the treasure of hope in “jars of clay” so we can understand that our sufficiency comes from Him alone (Psalm 119:25, 2 Cor. 4:7).

Our natural tendency is to seek comfort and to flee from pain. We fret over the insecurities of our world and instinctively seek shelter from threats we perceive. Yet the world itself is subject to vanity (Rom. 8:20); it is pain-riddled and constrained to ongoing bereavement: “All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field” (Isa. 40:6). As Job said, “Life is but a breath” (Job 7:7).

God often uses suffering to do a “deep” work of change within us. Indeed, the tribulations of life are described using the image of the “squeezing of grapes,” which yield something far more precious than any kind of this-worldly happiness. “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, prepares us for a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (2 Cor. 4:17).

Of course, there are dark moments when pain can almost blind us to all hope. For those who know it, there are long hours when there seems no respite or consolation from affliction. But genuine faith affirms with Job that, “though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him” (Job 13:15). This is comfort we have in affliction: God’s promise revives our hearts to say, **“I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth” (Job 19:25). Even in the “shadow of the valley of death” (i.e., this moribund and broken world), the LORD is with us and comforts us with His Presence (Psalm 23:4).**



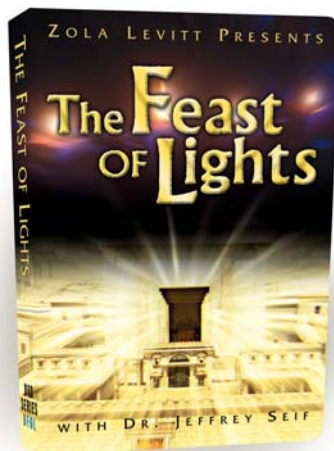


## *The Feast of Lights—*

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Since the dawn of time, forces of darkness have amassed and threatened the Jews with extinction. However, in every generation, God provided a leader who would shine the Light of God's faithfulness.

Hanukkah—the Jewish Feast of Lights—harks back to a time before Christ when a cruel, anti-Semitic dictator threatened to wipe out the Hebrews. But the Lord's Deliverer arose, lit the lamp of hope, and saved Israel. From generation to generation, Jews have lit lamps in their homes to commemorate the victory and retell the story of the Feast of Lights.



#### **1. The Story of Hanukkah**

Dr. Jeffrey Seif sets up the story of Hanukkah wherein the abominable Syrian dictator Antiochus Epiphanes overthrew Jerusalem and desecrated the Holy Temple. Although many throughout history have sought to destroy God's Chosen People, Jeff reassures us that "He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep." Also, we learn about harvesting the olive oil and its importance to the golden Menorah, which resided in the Holy Place.

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Jesus told His disciples, "You are the light of the world." Speaking from the Messianic synagogue Baruch HaShem, Jeff explains the significance of light to the celebration of Hanukkah as well as its prophetic image of Jesus Christ. Jeff interviews Rabbi Martin J. Waldman about the increase of Messianic Jews in the world today, and we see a timely interview with Zola and Messianic Believer Simcha Davidov.

#### **3. The Feast of Dedication**

Jeff explores the prophecy of Daniel as fulfilled first by Antiochus Epiphanes' desecration, as well as the future abomination of desolation to be committed by the antiChrist. Discover the Feast of Dedication as observed by Jesus in the Bible, and don't miss a heartfelt interview in which Zola and Jean Rosenberg look at the celebration of Hanukkah in the home today. *Please order from page 18.*

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*Please see page 19 to order.*



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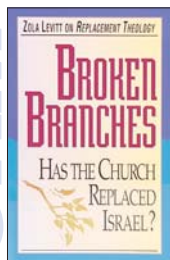
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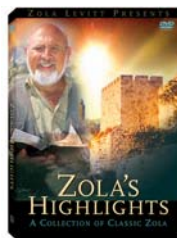
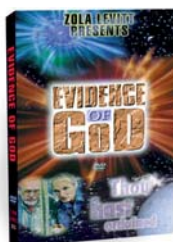


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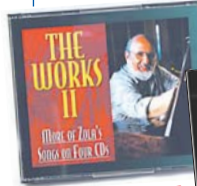
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# ZLM Bulletin Board

## Interactive Terror History Map

Imagine placing purple, red, and yellow thumbtacks across a U.S.A. map to demarcate radical activities, terrorism-related court cases, or radical mosques and Islamic centers. How many would there be? To find out for yourself, visit [www.investigativeproject.org/maps/terrorism-map.php](http://www.investigativeproject.org/maps/terrorism-map.php).

Radical activities involve multiplayer criminal cases of terrorist plots or financing. The court cases include terrorist plots and support for terrorists. The mosques and Islamic centers were home to radical clerics or conspirators in a terrorism-related investigation.



## INSP TV Time Change

INSP (Inspirational Network) has moved *Zola Levitt Presents* to Wednesdays at 10:30 pm Eastern (9:30 Central, 8:30 Mountain, 7:30 Pacific). Now our program is on during primetime in all four time zones, following Joyce Meyer. Our Wednesday morning airtime on INSP remains 6:30 am Eastern (5:30 Central, 4:30 Mountain, 3:30 Pacific). Please set your TiVos, DVRs, and VCRs accordingly.

## Religious Restrictions

**Nearly a third of the world's countries restrict religion, because of either government policies or hostile groups.**

This impedes the religious practices of 70% of the people on Earth. The Pew Research Center found that of the world's 25 most populous countries, citizens in Iran, Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan, and India live with the most religious restrictions.

The U.S., Britain, Brazil, Japan, Italy, and South Africa have the most religious liberty and the least government infringement and religion-based violence or harassment.



Source: [OneNewsNow.com](http://OneNewsNow.com)

## 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 on our p.19 order form.

If you would like to know of a believing attorney near you, please write to Cynthia's attention in our office.

**"Come Home!"**

**Zola's  
Tours to  
Israel:**



See page  
36 for details



## Ignoring International Law

By Eli E. Hertz, [www.MythsAndFacts.org](http://www.MythsAndFacts.org)

Continuous pressure to surrender parts of the Land of Israel is contrary to international law as stated in the “Mandate for Palestine” document that firmly calls to “encourage...close settlement by Jews on the land, including State lands and waste lands not required for public purposes.” It also requires “seeing that no Palestine territory shall be ceded or leased to, or in any way placed under the control of the government of any foreign power.”

Any attempt to negate the Jewish people’s right to Palestine—Eretz Israel—and to deny them access and control in the area designated for the Jewish people by the League of Nations is a serious infringement of international law. (See [Mandate maps p. 35](#))

**The “Mandate for Palestine,”** an historical League of Nations document, laid down the Jewish legal right under international law to settle anywhere in western Palestine, the area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, an entitlement unaltered in international law. Fifty-one member countries—the entire League of Nations—unanimously declared on July 24, 1922 in the preamble to the Mandate:

“Whereas recognition has been given to the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and to the grounds for reconstituting their national home in that country;...”

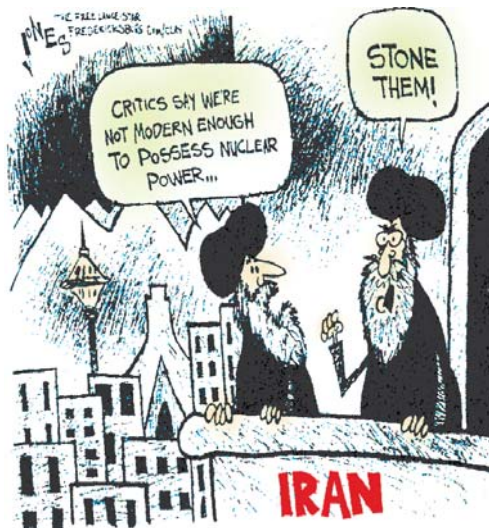
**Arab Unlawful Acts of Aggression in 1948** Six months before the War of Independence in 1948, Palestinian Arabs launched a series of riots, pillaging, and bloodletting. Then came the invasion of seven Arab armies from neighboring states attempting to prevent the establishment of a Jewish state in accordance with the UN’s 1947 recommendation to partition Palestine, a plan the Arabs rejected.

The Jewish state not only survived, it came into possession of the land from which its adversaries had launched their first attempt to destroy the newly created State of Israel. Israel’s War of Independence in 1948 was considered lawful and in self-defense, as may be reflected in UN resolutions naming Israel a “peace-loving State” when it applied for membership at the United Nations in 1949.

In June 1967, the combined armies of Egypt, Syria, and Jordan attacked Israel with the clear purpose expressed by Egypt’s President: “Destruction of Israel.” At the end of what is now known as the Six-Day War, Israel was victorious and in possession of the territories of Judea and Samaria [the West Bank], Sinai, and the Golan Heights.

Legalities aside, before 1967 there were no Jewish settlements in the West Bank, and for the first ten years of so-called occupation there were almost no Jewish settlers in the West Bank. And still there was no peace with the Palestinians. The notion that Jewish communities pose an obstacle to peace is designed to blame Israel for lack of progress in the “Peace Process” and enable Palestinian leaders to continue to reject any form of compromise and reconciliation with Israel as a Jewish state. ★

See the full article and citations of international law at [levitt.com/news](http://levitt.com/news).





# Letters to ZLM

## Comment from [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)

From L.C. (TX): We can't pick up your program on the digital TV signal, so we are thankful for your programming being available at [www.levitt.tv](http://www.levitt.tv). My kids and I love your *Levitt Letter* as well. We share the articles with our extended family members and pass the newsletters on to others when we are finished reading them.

## Messiah's Name And Other Doctrinal Issues

Dear ZLM,

We have recently found ourselves in the middle of a HEATED debate/argument among family members. I believe you can help us find the answers.

One argument concerns Jesus' name. Some people call Him "Yeshua;" but is it wrong to also call Him Jesus? We are accused of calling Jesus by an incorrect name.

The second, but huge, argument we are faced with is the validity of Paul's apostleship. Luke writes in Acts about Paul's conversion, and Peter even calls Paul "brother" in 2 Peter. But we are being told that all of Paul's books are to be thrown out and not followed because Paul has an antiChrist spirit. This argument shocks me, and I have never heard this thinking before.

Any information or direction you can offer will help us.

Be Blessed, J. and S.R.

Dear J. and S.R.—

Insisting that one must say "Yeshua" and not "Jesus" sounds childish. Arguing to throw out Paul is heretical. —Jeff



*"...and don't let the kids forget either."*

Frescos! photostream

## Your Attention, Please!

Dear ZLM,

I will send you checks if I don't get any more envelopes with comments on the outside, like "Mosque at Ground Zero." Can't take it! —J.B. (VA)

Dear J.B.—

Sorry that you don't like the "teaser text" that we use to motivate newsletter recipients to open our letters. I'm sure that many of our letters go straight from mailboxes to trash cans. Others get set aside for reading later, but "later" never comes—especially when so many other mailers use every possible tactic to get people to read their letters before ours.

This ministry must compete for readers' attention as effectively as we do for television viewers, partly by appealing to their curiosity and by intriguing them with quality teaching. Please bear with us through our struggle, as a matter of stewardship, to optimize the percentage of our letters that get read. Can you suggest another means of piquing curiosity? —Mark

## Tasteless?

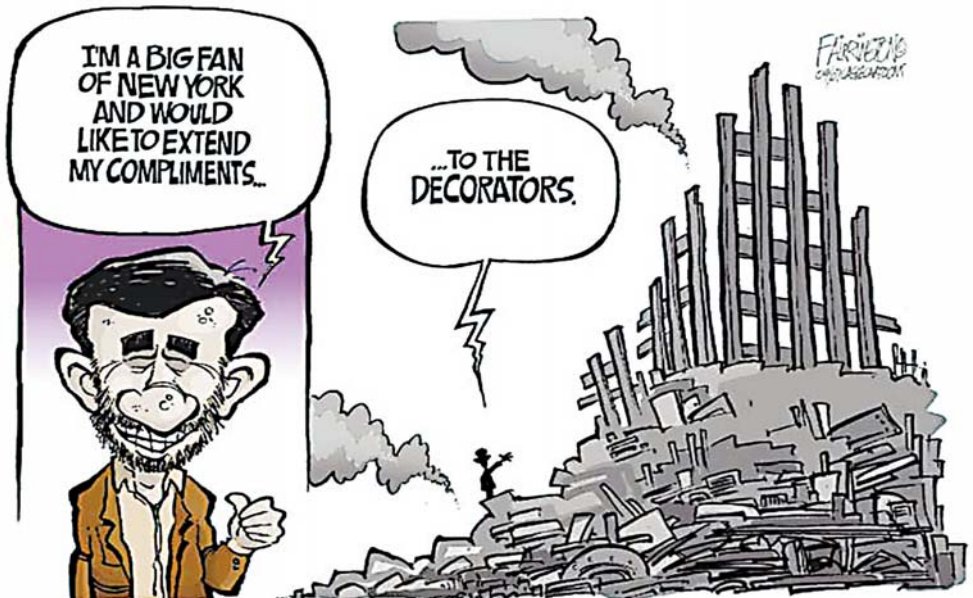
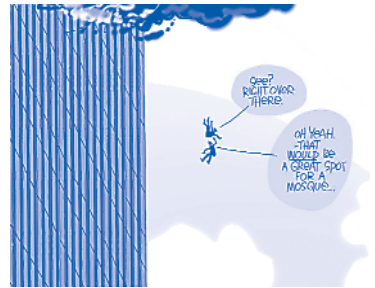
Dear Jeff,

This cartoon is absolutely insensitive and in extremely poor taste. Shame on you. —Anonymous

Dear Anonymous—

Couldn't agree with you more. You are referring to the cartoon, on page 2 of the September *Personal Letter*, that depicts two 9/11 victims who have hurled themselves out windows of the World Trade Center after its attack by Muslim terrorists. As they fall to their deaths, they remark to each other: "See? Right over there." "Oh yeah...that would be a great spot for a mosque."

Can you imagine anything more tasteless than a mosque proposed at Ground Zero as a tribute to American appeasement? Did you read Jeff's explanation of the Spain's Cordoba Mosque? It stands as a symbol of Muslim conquest where a Christian church once stood. Now *that* was tasteless! —Mark



## Religious Repression

Dear Staff,

I wanted to thank Jeff for once again taking a couple of gratuitous swipes at the Catholic Church. It gives me a warm feeling of Christian unity to know that he still thinks of us. I do wish, however, he would make some attempt to use facts.

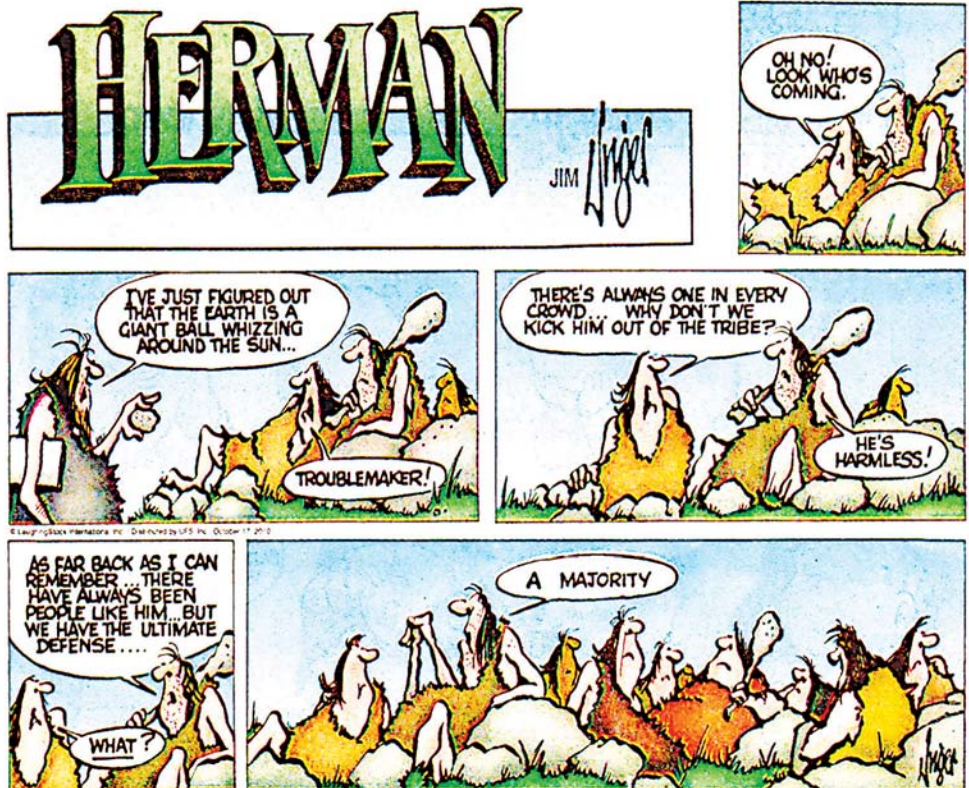
You recently wrote: "Modern, upperlevel, western education may be modeled on Catholic institutions of learning in Europe, but the Catholic Church actually held back knowledge for years. This gave Muslim schools advantages and prompted many 'enlightened' thinkers to refer to the season when the church controlled knowledge in 'Christian Europe' as the 'Dark Ages.'"

"Held back knowledge?" What exactly are you talking about? I would like some examples. —J.C.

Dear J.C.—

I'll offer two examples: one from anatomy and physiology and another from astronomy. Galen, active in the second century, compiled much of the anatomical knowledge obtained by previous writers. His collection of drawings, based mostly on dog anatomy, became the anatomy textbook for 1500 years! His work was only known to the Renaissance doctors through the careful custody of Arab medicine, since the Roman Catholic Church destroyed the work as heresy. Hampered by the same religious restrictions as anatomists for centuries after him, Galen assumed that anatomical structures in dogs were the same as for humans. How's that for repressing knowledge? Similarly, Nicolaus Copernicus and subsequently Galileo Galilei ran afoul of the Catholic Church because the Roman Church taught that it was against the Holy Scriptures to suggest that the Earth revolved around the Sun. Zola also wrote on this subject:

[www.levitt.com/newsletters/1999-05.html#ZOLA](http://www.levitt.com/newsletters/1999-05.html#ZOLA) —Jeff





## Unholy Bible

ZLM,

I'm so tired of people trying to sell me on the Bible as being holy when Israel will not swallow the truth that Palestinians are their own flesh and blood. Jews are the most un-peaceful people on Earth. You are fuel for HITLER. ISRAEL DOES NOT WANT PEACE!



Let me get this straight. According to you, the Bible is hogwash, the Jews are hogs, and we Jews are just begging for the likes of Hitler to return to exterminate us. I'm glad you wrote. If you'll permit one suggestion: Instead of letting anyone sell you on the Bible, why not take the time to read it yourself and see if it sells itself. Do that and write again, please. —Jeff

## The Truth About Islam?

Jeff,

Refrain from spreading false information about Islam and Muslims, and stop spreading words of hate against Muslims. —E.G. (CT)

Dear E.G.—

With over twenty totalitarian Islamic regimes violently pressing against Israel and the West, and with the world watching Islamic intrigue play out in the press, if I never said a single negative word about the “religion of peace,” reasonable people would still get the idea that it's not all that peaceful. I promote peace and bridge-building in my recent book *Making Peace With The Warriors Of The Sand* (available at amazon.com). I've met wonderful Muslims. However, when the religion goes political and turns the engines of government, the results are threatening. We try to be truthful in this ministry's depiction of Muslims, and we endeavor to showcase moderate Muslims when we find them. I sympathize with you having to confront a truth that shatters your conceptions. —Jeff



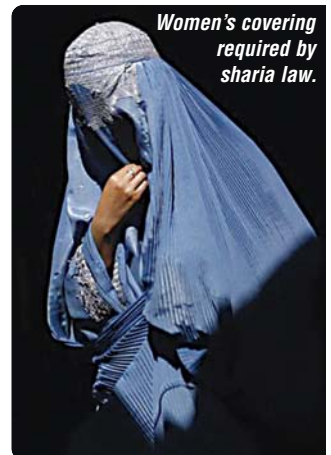
## No Free Speech In Islam

Dear Mr. Seif

I have had the pleasure of reading your newsletter over the last few months. Your writing only confirms what I know to be true: Jews are the worst people on Earth! You are nothing but a scam artist of the worst kind. I have met two good Jews in my life, and the rest are mean-spirited devils. Thank you for allowing me to share my view. —M.A. (TX)

Dear M.A.—

You're welcome. However, if you spoke harshly against an Islamic prophet and regime in an Islamic land, you'd be in jail now, possibly facing execution. Judeo-Christian culture allows you to think, to speak, and to verbally take on those you disagree with—to share your view, as you put it. From your letter, I assume that one good Jew you have not met is Jesus. —Jeff



## In An Election Year...

Dear Jeff,

In reading the recent *Personal Letter*, I was surprised at your revealing that you disagreed with Sarah Palin's politics—it did nothing to ingratiate you with her supporters. It also struck me as a bit odd that you used Sarah Palin's last name consistently, while referring to Sharon Wilbur by her first name. It came off rather cold and calculating. I know you may think that I am picky in this, but I felt it should be addressed.

—I.E.W.

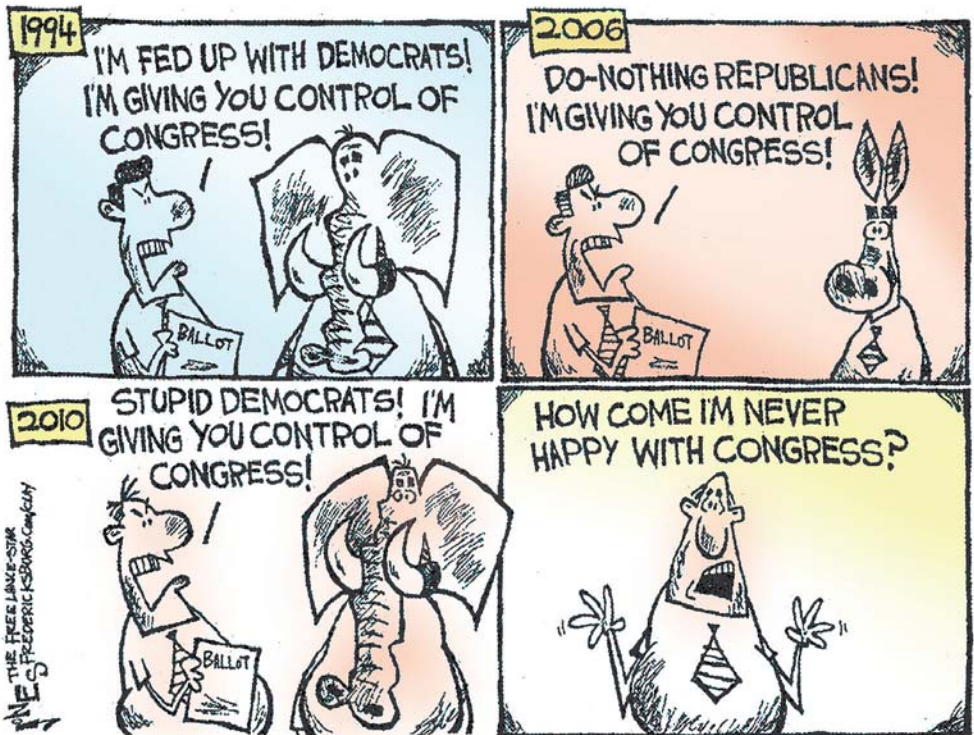
Dear I.E.W.—

We interjected “don't necessarily agree” in an effort to keep the commentary from being misread as a political endorsement. Moreover, though our ministry's workers all adore life, particularly eternal life, you won't find us campaigning or lobbying for pro-life politicians (or *any* politicians) in our newsletters or on television.

It is undeniable that this ministry upholds traditional Christian values. Any doubting Thomases are invited to review our archive of prior newsletters at [www.levitt.com/levletter.html](http://www.levitt.com/levletter.html). Jeff's statement was not meant to be a criticism of Sarah Palin's personal or professional positions.

As for referring to the two women: Typically, in journalistic writing, the first reference to a person is first/last name (Sarah Palin), and then subsequent references are last name only (Palin). Jeff has said that Sharon Wilbur seems like a daughter to him, so calling her “Wilbur” would be awkward, which explains the disparity.

—Mark



## Israeli Business Ventures That Inspire Peace In The Middle East

By Karin Kloosterman  
www.Israel21c.org



Making peace in the Middle East will never be an easy task, but what many people don't realize is that even in the midst of conflict, there are thousands upon thousands of Israeli people—Jews and Arabs—working dedicatedly for coexistence and the promise of a better life. Some of the most effective of these peace projects are those based on business.

*The Levitt Letter will introduce the top ten business ventures that inspire peace in the Middle East. Here are numbers five and six in our series.*

### The Israel-Palestinian Chamber of Commerce

Members of the new Israel-Palestinian Chamber of Commerce certainly hope to make peace through business. It might seem like a head scratcher, but even in times of extreme conflict, Israel and the Palestinian Authority maintain an active trade relationship. The chamber plans to grow new business ventures even further. Consider some facts: Of \$4 billion in sales of products and services in 2008, about \$3.5 billion was to the West Bank, while an estimated \$.5 billion dollars went to the Gaza Strip.

### G.ho.st

Don't be afraid: Peace has more than a ghost of chance, with new business projects like G.ho.st, or Global Hosted Operating System (pronounced "ghost"). G.ho.st is run by Israelis and Palestinians who provide organizations and other users with a virtual operating system.

The company has received a lot of international press coverage, both due to its technology and the fact that it's the only true Israeli-Palestinian startup. It was also the first company in the Palestinian Territories to offer its employees stock options. ★

## Bank Of Israel Governor Named World's Best For 2010

By Vadim Sviderski  
www.Haaretz.com



Bank of Israel Governor **Stanley Fischer** was named the world's best bank governor for 2010 by *Euromoney* magazine.

The magazine gave the award to Fischer in recognition of his leadership of Israel's economy in the wake of the global economic crisis. The magazine praised Fischer's success in finding the optimal balance of a recession with inflation, and his support of Israel's economic recovery.

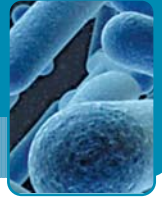
"Israel's stamina in a time of financial crisis and its aftermath prove that Fischer is worthy of the respect he gets from the financial community," the magazine said.

The magazine praised Fischer's decision in September 2009 to make Israel the first country to raise interest rates following the financial crisis. The magazine highlighted Fischer's involvement in the foreign currency trade.

*Euromoney* magazine also noted that Fischer's policies contributed to Israel's acceptance into the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development this past May. ★



# Anti-Bacterial Textiles To Save Lives



By Abigail Klein Leichman  
[www.Israel21c.org](http://www.Israel21c.org)

**What makes sweaty socks smell? It's not the moisture; it's the bacteria that grow in the damp fabric. If you could alter or banish those microbes, you could wear sweaty socks for a week without offending anyone.**

Israeli Professor **Aharon Gedanken's** success with antibacterial socks, a product intended for Israeli soldiers that never made it to market, may hold the key to addressing what is actually a global healthcare concern.



The fact is, fabric-bred bacteria aren't just a smelly problem. They are also responsible for hospital-acquired infections affecting nearly nine percent of patients in both developed and resource-poor countries, according to the World Health Organization.

That translates to some 1.7 million hospital-associated infections in the United States—causing or contributing to 99,000 deaths each year—and 25,000 infection-related deaths in European hospitals. Most often, the bacteria gain a foothold through wounds or foreign bodies such as catheters.

A multinational consortium headed by Gedanken recently won a 12 million-euro grant from the European Union (EU) for manufacturing machines in Europe that will more quickly roll out fabric impregnated with zinc oxide nanoparticles to make antibacterial hospital sheets, curtains, gowns, towels—anything that is made of textiles for hospital use.

“This is a novelty, and we are negotiating with some big companies,” says Gedanken, director of the Kanbar Laboratory for Nanomaterials at the Bar-Ilan University Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials

(BINA). Gedanken created an innovative chemical process that reduces zinc oxide, a gentle but effective natural substance often used to combat diaper rash, into microscopic nanoparticles.

“Many others have tried to coat textiles with antibacterial materials, but after washing, everything is removed,” Gedanken explains. “Our technique deposits the nanoparticles in such a way that you can wash the textiles in a hospital washing machine in keeping with regulations about temperature and number of cycles, and they still retain the particles.”



“We started with a patent for the coating process,” says Gedanken, who has a Ph.D. in chemistry and did post-doctoral work at the University of Southern California. “Ultrasonic microjets swirl nanoparticles onto fabric at such a high speed that they are embedded strongly and cannot be removed by washing. I guarantee that nanoparticles will not get into the waste water.”

Tests performed using a small prototype machine made by Gedanken show that the nanoparticles remain embedded after 70 cycles of washing in a hospital washer. ★

## Does Israel Need America?

By Elliot Resnick, [www.JewishPress.com](http://www.JewishPress.com)

Ask the average Jew on the street and he'll tell you: Israel needs America in order to survive. Indeed, this view is so entrenched in the Jewish community that few dare question it.

**But is this view true?** What would happen if America terminated its special relationship with Israel and cut off all monetary aid?

To be sure, this scenario is highly unlikely as America would be loath to end its friendship with the only democracy and the most powerful country in the Middle East. In addition to being America's sole dependable ally in the region, Israel also provides the U.S. with vital and reliable intelligence information as well as the expertise of its advanced technology sector, among other benefits.

Supposing, however, America disregarded these concerns and "dropped" Israel—what would happen then?

**Let's review the facts:** America provides approximately \$3 billion to Israel annually while Israeli government revenues amount to roughly \$60 billion. In other words, American aid to Israel represents five percent of Israel's revenue. Why most Jews assume Israel would collapse with a five percent loss in revenue is beyond me.

**Next fact:** Believe it or not, Israel actually survived its first 25 years of independence and won its two greatest wars—the War of Independence and Six-Day War—*without* America's help. Israel only started receiving significant American funding after the Yom Kippur War (1973). If a fledgling Israel survived from 1948–1973 without American aid, it can surely do so now with a military that ranks among the world's best.

**Next fact:** Contrary to what some people assume, countries can and do survive

without American aid, or even friendship. Iran carries on. So does North Korea. It's hard to imagine that the Jewish State—home to a people that have won 25 percent of all Nobel Prizes ever awarded—could not survive without America's assistance.

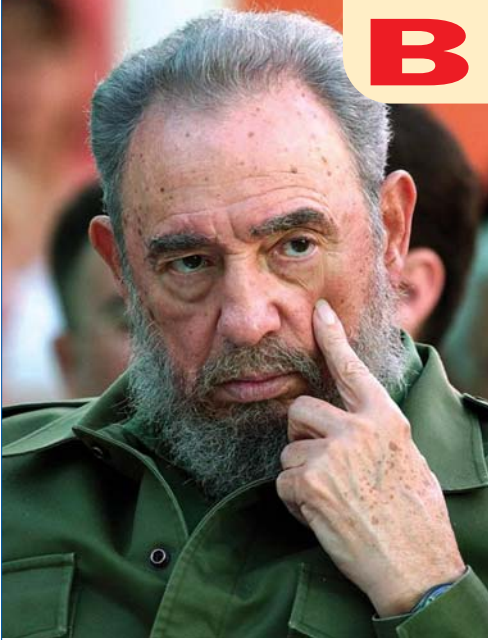
**Last fact:** Anyone who takes the Bible seriously knows that the fates of peoples and countries do not ultimately rest on political realities alone. Rather, they rest on God Himself, Who rewards countries that do His will and punishes those that don't. Countries may place much stock in alliances, but God has a master plan of His own, and it behooves people—especially the nation of Israel—to keep this basic religious concept in mind.

If America demands that Israel relinquish biblical territory, refrain from responding to the murder of its citizens, or cease building in the West Bank, Israel's reply should be "No." And if aid is thereby cut off, so be it. Protecting its people and borders is Israel's moral obligation. Maintaining close relations with America is not.

**Israel will not collapse without America as an ally.** It can survive on its own or form alliances with other countries. But at the end of the day, people must realize that Israel's best ally is not America, nor China, India, or Russia. It is the God of Israel, the God who directs the affairs of men—and it would do Israel well to satisfy Him first. ★



"Now let me get this straight, the Arabs get the oil, and we have to cut off the ends of our what?"



“In my judgment here’s what happened to them: Reverse selection. What’s reverse selection? Over 2,000 years they were subjected to terrible persecution and then to the pogroms. One might have assumed that they would have disappeared; I think their culture and religion kept them together as a nation.”

“The Jews have lived an existence that is much harder than ours. There is nothing that compares to the Holocaust,” he said.

Is Castro fearing his imminent meeting with Jesus? —Editor

### Fidel Castro Repenting?

Agence France-Presse

Fidel Castro, the longtime president and leftist icon who stepped aside during a health crisis but still leads the Cuban Communist Party, has told a reporter that Israel definitely has the right to exist. “Yes it does, without a doubt,” Castro, 84, told visiting U.S. journalist Jeffrey Goldberg of *the Atlantic* magazine.

In the same interview Castro criticized Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for denying the Holocaust and said in an interview Tehran should acknowledge Israel’s fears for its own survival. The former Cuban president who handed over power to his brother Raul in 2006 said Iran should understand the consequences of theological anti-Semitism.

“This went on for maybe two thousand years,” Castro was quoted as saying. “I don’t think anyone has been slandered more than the Jews. I would say much more than the Muslims. They have been slandered much more than the Muslims because they are blamed and slandered for everything. No one blames the Muslims for anything.”

### Microchip Implant For Islamic Terrorists

The implant is specifically designed to be injected in the forehead. When properly installed, it will allow the terrorist to be closer to Allah.

It comes in various sizes: Generally from .223 to .50 cal.

The exact size of the implant will be selected by a well-trained and highly skilled technician, who will also make the injection. No anesthetic is required.

The implant may or may not be painless. Side effects, like headaches, nausea, aches, and pains are extremely temporary.

Some bleeding or swelling may occur at the injection site. In most cases, you won’t even notice it.

Please enjoy the security we provide for you.

Best regards,  
US Marines



## Islamic Bicycle For Women

features.Kodoom.com

According to the Iranian Women's News Agency (IWNA), Mehdi Esmaeeli, the deputy to the governor of Isfahan in Security and Political affairs, discussed plans for design and mass production of a special Islamic bicycle for women. He said: "Riding bicycle for women, if it is done to attract attentions, is against Islamic norms... But there are health benefits and we cannot only prohibit women from doing things... So we are designing biking provisions for women, such as specially designed bicycles."



Esmaeeli did not elaborate on how the new design would mask or block attention to the woman riding the bicycle, but he pointed to other provisions: "Naturally covered and hidden paths around the Zayan-dehrood river in Isfahan and closed paths are considered for this purpose."



All because Muslim men can't—or don't think they should have to—control themselves. —Editor ★

## Trading Cape For Burka

By Andrea Peyser, www.NYPPost.com

Coming soon to a TV in your child's bedroom is a posse of righteous, *sharia*-compliant Muslim superheroes—including one who fights crime hidden head-to-toe by a *burka*. These Islamic butt-kickers are ready to bring truth, justice, and indoctrination to impressionable Western minds.

Scheduled for release in January on the new network The Hub—formerly Discovery Kids—is a cartoon beloved in the Arab world and received timidly in Britain last year, *The 99*. The program chronicles the adventures of 99 superheroes, each of whom embodies an attribute of Allah.

Jabbar is a Muslim Incredible Hulk. Mumita is wicked fast. But Wonder Woman-style cleavage has been banned from the women. And, in this faith-based cartoon, hair-hiding head scarves (*hijab*) are mandatory for five characters, not including *burka* babe Batina the Hidden.

## Dry Bones

### BOOK BURNING



In another break from standard world-saving fare, male and female characters are never alone together. (Imagine the stoning super-strong characters would dish out.) *The 99* has the seal of approval of a *sharia* board—which polices *sharia* (Islamic law)—affiliated with an Islamic bank financing the show.

Cancel *The 99* before it starts.

Even if it means canceling your subscription to the network carrying it. —Editor

# Textbook Fray In Texas

By Terrence Stutz, [www.DallasNews.com](http://www.DallasNews.com)

The Texas State Board of Education recently instructed textbook publishers to make sure their new world history texts are more favorable to Christianity and less positive toward Islam if they want to sell their books in Texas.

Social conservatives on the board joined in a 7-6 vote for a resolution citing two textbooks—no longer used in Texas—that it said had a pro-Islamic, anti-Christian bias in how historic events were treated and in how much coverage was given to each faith. That won't be tolerated, the board said, when new social studies books are approved in two years.

"This resolution will ensure upfront that potential biases are taken care of before these books reach the board," said Chairwoman Gail Lowe, who supported the resolution. She noted that the resolution is not legally binding on publishers, but does state the will of board members to have **more-balanced social studies books**.

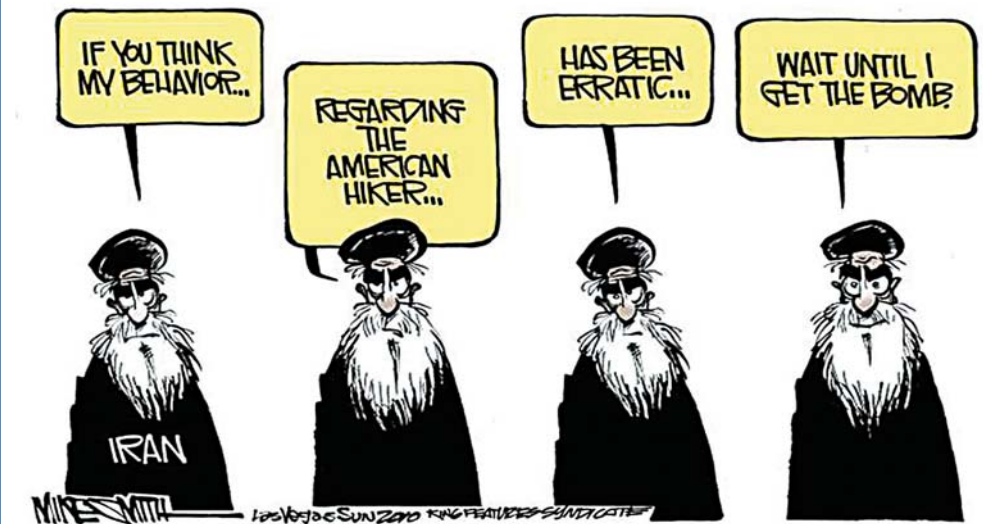
The resolution said the move was spurred in part by increasing investments in the textbook publishing industry by "Middle Easterners" who could dictate biased treatment. An

attachment to the resolution cited past investments by the Dubai royal family in a major U.S. publisher. The resolution states that "diverse reviewers have repeatedly documented gross pro-Islamic, anti-Christian distortions in social studies texts" across the U.S. and that past social studies textbooks in Texas also have been "tainted" with pro-Islamic, anti-Christian views.

It also says that some world history books—no longer used in Texas schools—devoted far more lines of text to Islamic beliefs and practices than to Christian beliefs and practices. Among those urging the board to take action was Mary Lou Bruner, who said some Texas students are ashamed of their Christian heritage because of what they see in textbooks.

"If Islam is presented in a positive light and Christianity is taught in a negative light, it will encourage our children to question their Christian faith," she said. "Students must be told the truth about Islam, about some of the terrible atrocities that have been committed in the name of Islam."

**Comment from the website:** If we assume that our Christian neighbor is more American than our Jewish neighbor or our Muslim neighbor, we have left behind an important part of our national heritage and history. ★





## The Amazing Saul Gold

Max leaves his house to hail a taxi and almost immediately finds one. As he gets in, the cabbie says, "Perfect timing, just like Saul."

**"Who's Saul?"** asks Max.

"Saul Gold, of course," says the cabbie. "Now there was someone who got what he wanted—like a taxi just when he needed it. Not like me; I always have to wait ages when I need something."

**"No one's perfect,"** says Max.

"Except Saul," says the cabbie. "Saul was a great athlete and could have played football for the 49ers. Not like me—I'm just a couch potato."

**"So am I,"** says Max.

"And," says the cabbie, "Saul danced like Astaire. Not like me. I've got two left feet."

**"Sounds like Saul was really someone special,"** says Max.

"You can say that again," says the cabbie. "He even remembered everyone's birthday. Not like me. I always forget important birthdays and anniversaries. And Saul could fix anything in the house. Not like me. If I change a fuse, the whole neighborhood has a power failure."

**"Wow,"** says Max, **"there aren't many men around like Saul."**

The cabbie continues. "And Saul knew how to treat a woman. He could always make her feel good and never answered her back even if she was in the wrong. He always complimented her on *Shabbat* dinner. Not like me. I'm always getting into arguments with my wife."

**"What an amazing person,"** says Max. **"How did you meet him?"**

"Well, I never actually met Saul," replies the cabbie.

**"Then how do you know so much about him?"** asks Max.

"I married his widow," replies the cabbie.



"Saul knew how to treat a woman."

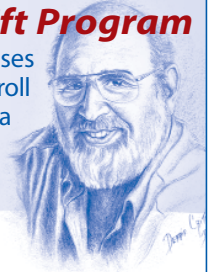
God's  
Little  
Notes

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass.  
It's about learning to dance in the rain.



## Automatic First Aid! Zola's Monthly Gift Program

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.



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# When Islamic Totalitarianism Meets Christian Freedom

By Elizabeth Kendal  
ContinentalNews.net



In 1980, Egypt amended its constitution to elevate *sharia* (Islamic law) as “the principal source of legislation.” This provision—now common in Muslim constitutions, including the new constitutions of Afghanistan and Iraq—renders constitutional guarantees of religious liberty and equality before the law illusory. For *sharia*’s principal aim concerning religious liberty is to eradicate apostasy (rejection of Islam) through the elimination of *fitna* (anything that could tempt a Muslim to reject Islam) and the establishment of *dhimmitude* (the humiliation and subjugation of Jews and Christians as second class citizens). **There is no religious liberty in Islam, for Islam survives as religious totalitarianism that refuses rejection.**

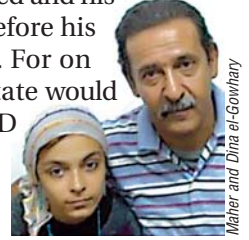
In Egypt, as in virtually all Muslim states, a person’s official religion is displayed on his identity card. According to *sharia*, every child born to a Muslim father is deemed Muslim from birth. According to *sharia*, a Muslim woman is permitted to marry only a Muslim man. This is the main reason why Christian men convert to Islam, and why a female convert to Christianity will risk life and liberty to secure a falsified ID; without a Christian ID, she cannot marry a Christian.

If a Christian father converts to Islam (for reasons such as a desire for a Muslim wife or a better job), his Christian children are automatically deemed Muslim. They have no say in this and may not apostatize (return to Christianity). If a Muslim parent converts to Christianity s/he automatically loses custody of the children.

## Egypt’s Great Apostasy Debate

In August 2008, Maher el-Gowhary stepped up in defense of Christian

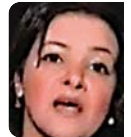
freedom for the sake of his own daughter, Dina. El-Gowhary, who had quietly converted to Christianity 35 years earlier, wanted his true religious identity acknowledged and his ID card corrected before his daughter turned 16. For on that birthday, the state would issue her a Muslim ID card that would dictate her life and rob her of her freedom.



Maher and Dina el-Gowhary

Religious leaders issued a *fatwa* on el-Gowhary. In September 2008, he narrowly escaped assassination. In June 2009, the court ruled against el-Gowhary on the grounds that *sharia* prohibits apostasy, and conversions would pose a threat to the “public order.” When el-Gowhary and his daughter tried to leave Egypt, their passports were confiscated.

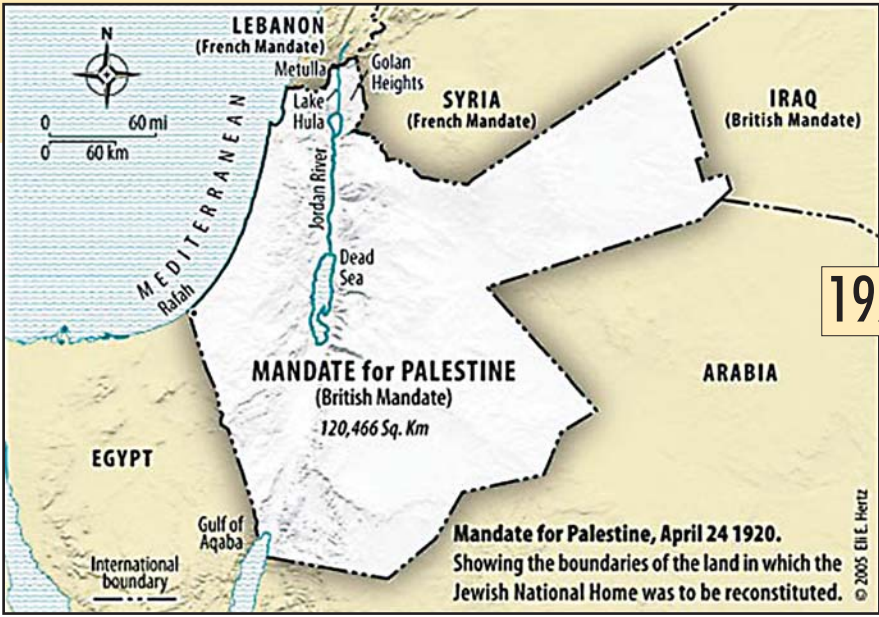
Late last year, **Nagla Al-Imam**—an Egyptian attorney and prominent human rights activist—publicly announced that she had converted from Islam to Christianity. Her husband, family, and friends abandoned her. She lost her attorney’s license and source of income, and the Egyptian State Security Administration put her under house arrest.



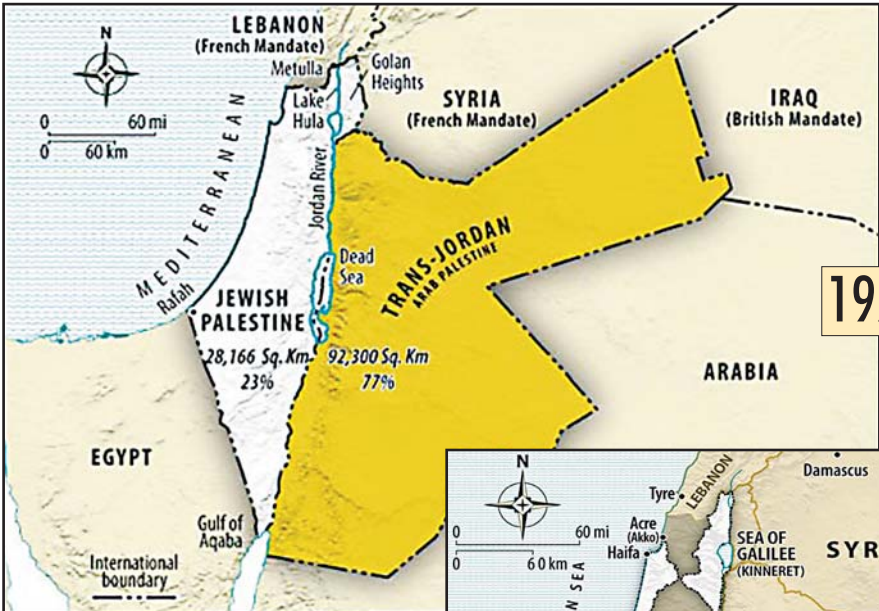
In early July 2010, Egyptian security officials detained, bashed, and threatened her. She responded by posting an online video of herself (bruised and battered) and her two young children, singing a Christian lament wherein Christ’s comforting and strengthening presence is requested through the high waves of persecution. See: <http://www.levitt.com/news/2010/07/18/nagla-al-imam-convert-to-christianity-sings-about-religious-persecution-2/>

According to reports, Nagla and her children totally “disappeared” soon after, and the TV station Nagla broadcast from was vandalized by Egyptian security forces. This is what happens when Islamic totalitarianism meets Christian freedom. Islam—religion of peace, love and human rights? I don’t think so. ★

MANDATES FOR DIVIDING JEWISH PALESTINE



1920



1922

(above map)

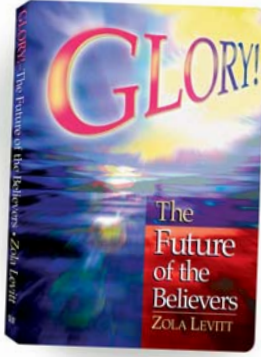
**July 24, 1922 Mandate for Palestine**  
 Showing the area of Trans-Jordan, in which the reconstitution of the Jewish National Home was to be postponed or withheld. The territory of Jewish Palestine has been reduced by 77% of the original Mandate.

**1947:** Arabs rejected the Partitioning Plan (right) after World War II.



1947

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