

Levitt

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



Letter

Hezbollah Military
Are 'Terrorists' p. 28

Bedouin Soldiers in Israel Model Jewish-Arab Solution

By **Jonah Mandel** / Agence France-Press

Lieutenant Colonel Magdi Mazarib is a Bedouin, a Muslim Arab who grew up in northern Israel, intimate with its green, hilly landscape from an early age.

He is also the Israeli army's highest-ranking tracker and commands a small unit of Bedouin soldiers who serve as the Jewish state's gatekeepers. As part of a minority within the Arab-Israeli community, itself a minority among the Jews of Israel, Mazarib is at ease protecting his country's borders from fellow Muslims.

"This is our country," he states in perfect Hebrew with a light Arabic accent. And its Jewish symbols, such as the Star of David or the theme of the national anthem, do not perturb Mazarib. "The flag of England also has a cross on it, and the Jews there are fine with it," he says at the Bedouin Heritage Centre, which houses a memorial to the 182 Bedouin killed fighting for Israel.

(continued p.2)

Muslim Colonists In Western Europe

By **Hugh Fitzgerald**
NewEnglishReview.org

What are the defining characteristics of colonialism? It is the movement of one people into the land of another in order to economically exploit that land through either its natural resources or the wealth of the indigenous inhabitants.



Isn't that what has happened in Western Europe? Muslims, with no historic claim on the lands of Western Europe, have managed to move in by the millions. Then they aggressively and often fraudulently exploit every possible benefit offered by the non-Muslim indigenes: free education, free healthcare at the Western (not Muslim) level, subsidized housing. These and other benefits are offered to those coming from wretched (made wretched by

(continued p.3)



To
Index

Bedouin Soldiers... *continued from cover*

The amiable officer believes that Bedouin across the Middle East are envious of the way those in Israel live. "The state of Bedouin in Israel is better, as far as the respect we get, our progress, education," he says.

Bedouin are not the only native Arabic speakers in Israel's military, but they dominate the elite tracker units guarding the northern and southern borders.

Drugs smuggled from Lebanon pose a threat. "The axis of drugs, crime, and espionage is the same axis," he says. "There is almost no drug smuggling that is not related to Hezbollah."

Cooperation between the Jewish people and Bedouin tribes began before Israel became a state in 1948, when the northern tribes sided with the Jews, whom they believed would win the war against the Arabs.

In the south, some Bedouin fought against the Jews in 1948; some fought with them. Still others fled the Negev to the Hebron Hills. Israel kept the Negev Bedouin under military rule until 1966 when the Bedouin there accepted Israeli sovereignty and agreed to enlist in its military.

In Israel, the military enjoys status, and a man's army service can be a central component in evaluating his worth. Trackers get plenty of respect, says Amar Khilf, a 19-year-old Bedouin who serves in Mazarib's unit. "A patrol can't go out without a tracker, you can't clear the border without trackers," Khilf says. "Nothing can happen without trackers. You get more respect than regular combat soldiers."

Although Mazarib is following in the footsteps of his father, his uncle, and his brother who also served as military trackers, he doesn't see the same future for his eldest son, who is currently in school. Mazarib envisions his son—the only Bedouin in his class—serving in one of the army's top elite units before taking up a senior role in Israeli society.

To him, the Bedouin integration into Israel's army and society are evidence of the possibility of Jewish-Muslim coexistence, which "could serve as an example of how to solve the entire Jewish-Arab conflict," he says. ★



Back to Cover



To Index



Photo: Hagai Aharon

IDF Chief Sergeant First Class Marzuk Suaed (a Muslim-Bedouin): "I really am very proud in what I am doing."

Levitt CONTENTS Letter

Katharine Weiss [4/5](#)



Myles to Go [6/7](#)

Muslim “Donald Duck”
Tweets Hate [8](#)



Israel’s History
& Roots [9](#)



Our Man in
Haifa Eitan Shishkoff [10](#)



Classic Zola [11](#)

Chaplain and TJF [12/13](#)

Forgotten Refugees [14](#)



ZLM Bulletin Board [15](#)

Parsons: Hebrew
Lesson [16](#)



Wise As A Serpent
[21](#)



Letters to ZLM
[22–25](#)



Israeli Medicine &
Science [26,27](#)



Hezbollah=Terrorists [28](#)
Islamic Cows/Women [29](#)
Select Briefs [5,30/31](#)

Archaeology [32](#)
Holy Jerusalem [33](#)



Promoting Israel
[34](#)



Jewish Humor [35](#)

Muslim Colonists... *(cont. from cover sidebar)*

Islam) societies—a fantastic cornucopia of expensive benefits.

The Muslim colonists do not accept, but rather begrudgingly put up with, the local laws and customs, but only insofar as these do not directly contradict their own laws and customs. Muslims are suffused with an ideology that teaches them that they are superior to all who are not like them, that is, who are not Muslim. Nothing—no objective observations about the political, economic, social, intellectual, and moral failures of Muslims—gets through and forces them to rethink.

They live battenning on those they despise, but whom they must continue (for now) to endure and also prevent from looking too deeply into the texts and tenets of Islam. Muslims find ways to explain away the attitudes of Islam, so obviously dangerous for non-Muslims. That is today’s colonialism, the colonizing of non-Muslim lands by Muslims. Over the past 1,400 years it has been the largest and most successful colonialism in modern history. And it doesn’t stop.

It should be properly identified. The Muslims who enter Europe are not coming to integrate into European society, to embrace the Enlightenment and the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man. Nor are they coming to contribute (with a very few exceptions) to the economic or any other well-being of the lands within *Dar al-Harb* (the area of the world not under Islam and in which Muslims are to wage *jihād*, holy war for Islam). Muslims come to Europe to get what they have heard—what they know—is generously available for their taking. They take it as by right, as the *jizya* they deserve but at present cannot exact since Muslims do not yet rule. (*Jizya* is a tax paid by non-Muslims to Muslims as proof that non-Muslims accept subjection to the Islamic state and its *sharia* laws.) ★



Back to
Cover

The Lord Is Our Refuge

Katharine
Weiss
ZLP Co-host



The word refuge appears 111 times in the Bible. It refers to a place of restoration and safety. Its use in Psalm 14:6 is directly tied to the Person of the Lord.

“The Lord is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” is the way the sons of Korah expressed it in Psalm 46:1. (See Myles’s column on page 6 to learn this significance.)

Now more than ever, we need to make God our refuge. The instability of these times has taken some by surprise. Many feel themselves adrift, and it seems that our country is beginning to face the challenges that other nations have lived with since time immemorial. Thankfully, the Word is our guide, and ancient Israel’s trials and triumphs were recorded as an example for us.

Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 1 Corinthians 10:11

When the Israelites came across the Jordan River, in Numbers 35 they were instructed:

9 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 10 “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘When you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan, 11 then you shall appoint cities to be cities of refuge for you, that the manslayer who kills any person accidentally may flee there. ... 15 These six cities shall be for refuge for the children of Israel, for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them.’”

(continued next page)



Designated
“Cities of
Refuge” from
the Bible.
Josh. 20:7,8



...Our Refuge: Katharine continues



God knew that His people would need this provision in order to avoid wrongful judgment due to accidents. He wanted to allow His mercy a season to operate.

There are two main points that stand out here. One is that God is committed to His righteous view steeped in His mercy. He made sure that those who committed manslaughter would not be considered murderers. The other point leaps from these pages: His inclusion of the “stranger and sojourner” in the refuge plan.

We are to be human “cities of refuge” for those around us. We can provide spiritual safety and a non-judgmental attitude as they learn of the Lord’s mercy. In contrast to critical religiosity, characterized by backbiting and slander, we can be those who offer an oasis for those in need. Perhaps they are caught in sin, or have been violated, or have given up hope.

As God’s representatives, we can offer a pathway for the stranger and the sojourner similar to the one that God instituted in Bible times. People can use us as a provision to await the true and righteous Judge, who will remember mercy as He finds those who shelter in our midst. ★

Egypt’s Christian Children Pray

InspireMagazine.org.uk

In a country rocked by change and division, some 1,400 eight- to fourteen-year-old Egyptian children gathered last summer to worship and ask God to let them be the salt and light for Jesus in their communities.

Most of the gathering was broadcast live on SAT-7, whose Egypt Director, Farid Samir, said: “We saw kids worshipping and praying from their pure hearts, hearing God’s voice, and sharing it. Some kids told their testimonies of special encounters with the Lord.”

Farid said his own children, ages 9 and 10, attended and “were spiritually stretched, they memorized Bible verses, learned new songs, and learned how to intercede for their country.”

He concluded: “We believe God is going to change things in Egypt because of the faithful intercession of kids.” ★

By Farid Samir
 Egypt Director
 SAT-7



Why Visit the Land of Covenant?

Myles To Go
By Myles Weiss
ZLP Co-host



Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, whose heart is set on pilgrimage. Psalm 84:5

With this Psalm, my ancestors remind us of the possibilities inherent in our connection with the Land of Israel. An easily overlooked subtlety: The very authors of the Psalm are the sons of Korah. This testifies significantly about God's mercy to us. While Korah rebelled against Moses' leadership at great cost (Numbers 16), certain of his sons remained faithful to the Lord. In His mercy, God allowed them to flourish for many generations. They became the authors of 11 of our treasured Psalms. That is restoration!

While God warns about the danger of inter-generational curses based on disobedience, His promise of blessing far outweighs the curse. In fact, the curses going to the third and fourth generations, while grave, can be countermanded by the blood of Messiah being applied to the heart of anyone, in any moment of time. His promises, on the other hand, are much more durable.

Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a *thousand generations* with those who love Him and keep His commandments; Deuteronomy 7:9

This is good news for all of us, for our own lives and the lives of our descendants. We have such great possibilities in Yeshua, and our children can go much farther than us.

(continued next page)

Pilgrims' Progress: Scene from *Abraham: Father of Faith* TV series



Why Visit?: Myles continues



Katharine's and my two sons are experiencing a new, more mature relationship to their Hebrew roots. Both college-age young men visited Israel this past summer. They returned to the U.S. with very strong commitments to Israel and to their own responsibility in relation to that beleaguered nation.

I have seen this many times. A pastor asked me, voice cracking and eyes filled with tears, "Why wasn't this taught 35 years ago in seminary?" His crushing grief resulted from having ministered for an entire lifetime without understanding the connection between Israel and the Church.

More often what we hear is gratitude, in fact, overwhelming gratitude for the trip of a lifetime that transforms a life of faith. Pilgrims read their favorite passages of the Bible AT THE VERY SITE where they occurred, and the light of revelation brightens. The Lord is louder on His home turf. As the saying goes, "It's a local call to God from Jerusalem."

Come with us as soon as you can. We love to see the spiritual increase that takes place in our pilgrims' lives. Our tours fill up so quickly that I recommend you sign up ASAP for one of the spring 2014 options. Also, watch for *The Journey of Restoration*, our upcoming TV series that follows a tour and explains many of the biblical sites.



You can't get too much of the Land of the Covenant. As they say, "Israel's only 85 miles wide, but 40 centuries deep!" ★



A striking contrast to how women are valued in Islamic nations. (See cartoon on p. 23)

Egyptian “Donald Duck” Tweets Hate

By Ari Soffer
IsraelNationalNews.com



In most of the world, children’s entertainment is about happy, innocent fun, child-friendly education, and positive vibes.

Not so in much of the Arab world, where children’s TV programs—from cartoons to poetry recitals [see comment below]—are all too often used as a tool to incite violence and hatred.

Who can forget Hamas’s answer to Mickey Mouse, Farfur, who together with his co-host Saraa, preached anti-Semitism and encouraged children to take part in terrorism? [See this history at www.levitt.com/newsletters/2007-09.pdf#page=6 and www.levitt.com/newsletters/2007-07.pdf#page=10.]

At the time, after seeing how the Islamist terror group had appropriated her father’s work to encourage genocidal hatred, Diana Disney Miller—daughter of Walt Disney—voiced her disgust to the *New York Daily News*:

“Indoctrinating children like this, teaches them to be evil. The world loves children and this is just going against the grain of humanity. ... What we’re dealing with here is pure evil.”



Now the Egyptian voice of Donald Duck has illustrated how such hatred goes far deeper than a pre-written script, adding his voice to the chorus of hate by tweeting a distinctly non-child-friendly message.

Wael Mansour, who on his profile claims to be an “Egyptian Singer, TV & Radio Host ... Official voice of Donald Duck in Disney Middle East,” tweeted recently that “I truly wish #Israel is demolished, I hate Zionism, I have so much hate inside me with every child they murder or land they seize!”

Media watch organizations such as the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) and Palestinian Media Watch (PMW) regularly report on the widespread incitement and anti-Semitic indoctrination which is often broadcast throughout the Arab and Muslim world, though most Western media outlets rarely pick up on it. ★

The “poetry” recital is posted at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1LL>. The occupation of young Muslim minds is the most dangerous occupation in the Middle East.
—Myles



Israel's History: All About Roots

By Aviva and Shmuel Bar-Am / TimesOfIsrael.com



9
Twisted Olive Tree

The oldest of Israel's trees have lived through wars, religious upheavals, conquests, and defeats; the youngest have seen the return of the Jews to their ancient homeland. What if they could talk?

Cedar of Lebanon at Kibbutz Ma'aleh HaHamisha (Ascent of the Five)

Named for the five members of a pioneer group who were murdered while preparing the ground for their settlement, Ma'aleh HaHamisha was established in 1938. The following year, four cedar trees were planted next to the communal dining room: two Atlas Cedars and two Cedars of Lebanon. When Theodor Herzl was reinterred on the mountain that bears his name, one of the latter cedars was replanted near his grave.

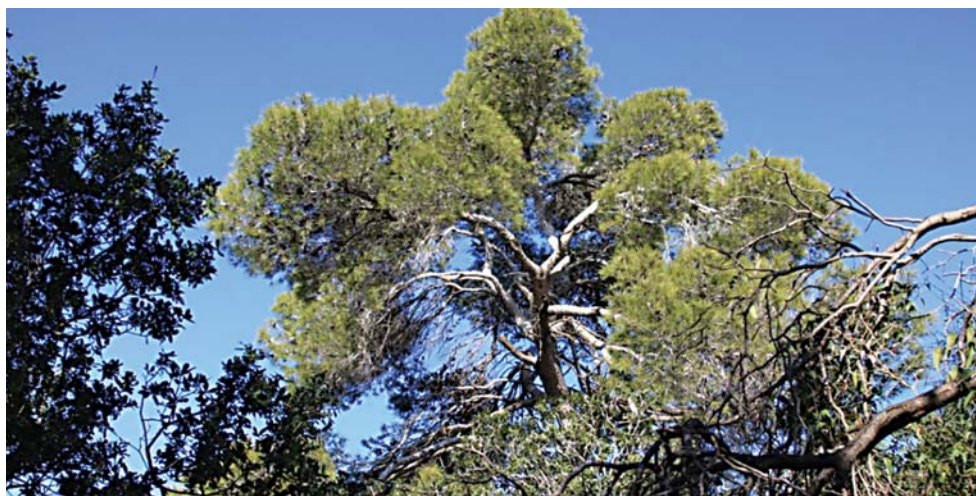


Jerusalem Pine at the Masrek Nature Reserve

As tired, unshaven Palmach* forces neared the hostile Arab village of Beit Machsiain in 1948 during the War of Independence, one of them observed that a row of tall pine trees resembled the teeth of the comb (*masrek*) he wished he could run through his unruly hair! In time, HaMasrek became the official name of a nature reserve, today part of the Jewish National Fund's Rabin Park.

* Palmach – the elite fighting force of the Haganah, the underground army of the Jewish community during the period of the British Mandate for Palestine.

Not only do *The Stones Cry Out* (see our TV series on page 17), but the trees and the very Land speak about the truth of the Bible, the identity of God, and the calling on “whosoever” will come to Him in faith. –Myles



To
Index

Saluting the Soldiers of the IDF

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF Our Man In Haifa



The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) is known to be a citizens' army. If you google "IDF, a citizens' army" you will find articles claiming that a professional army is more efficient than the universal military service required in Israel. I disagree. All four of my children have served in the IDF, and one son remains available for reserve duty. The experience has not only taught each of them the value of our country, but also has built character qualities that are essential for adult life, especially in Israel.

A few weeks ago, our youngest and many other soldiers whose families are part of our congregation completed their mandatory service. This entails two years for the women and three years for the men. Finishing their grueling period of training, followed

by being under command, is a big deal. These kids are no longer kids. They have become young men and women who've seen too much and have given some of their best years for the sake of defending Israel.

As anyone who stops to look can readily see, our country is surrounded on all sides (with the helpful exception of Jordan) by enemies who passionately desire our destruction. This reality demands a well-trained, seriously armed, constantly alert army. Every family in Israel is touched by this requirement, including all of those in Messianic congregations. That makes the IDF a meeting ground for nearly all Israelis, of every background and national origin.

In fact, one of our biggest national debates concerns the question of mandatory military service for the ultra-Orthodox Jews. Until now they have been granted exemption from the price paid by every other family—sending our children into the IDF to provide security for the entire nation, including those who refuse to serve.

This exemption is now being challenged, however. A popular proposal will require



The IDF graduating class of Eitan's daughter

ultra-Orthodox men to serve a reduced term in the Israeli military. If passed, the measure will help unify the secular and religious sectors in our sometimes divided society.

With sincere appreciation and a father's pride, I want to salute those who are entering, those actively serving, and those who've completed their years of service in the IDF. Your hours without sleep, dark and dusty border patrols, submitting to extensive orders you don't like, questioning suspected terrorists, endless paperwork—and more—all ensure that we Israeli citizens can go about our business with little worry for our safety. *Today Rabah*—Thanks so much!



Hated of All Nations

CLASSIC ZOLA: 1996—17 years ago



Thursday, October 24, [1996] was one of those prophecy-fulfillment days. And unfortunately, I refer to Matthew 24:9: "And ye shall be hated of all nations ..." Israel was "hated of" three important countries on the same *New York Times* front page.

First, France. President Jacques Chirac spoke to the Palestinian parliament and sounded for all the world like Arafat himself in his sickening display of cozying up to the Arabs. As a memorable letter-writer to *TIME* Magazine once put it, "If countries were people, France would be a whore." If President Chirac had his way, Jerusalem would be divided, the Palestinians would have a country, the Golan Heights would be given to Syria, and the Jews would shortly be at the bottom of the Mediterranean.

Second, the Swiss bankers continue being caught with the stolen savings accounts of Holocaust victims. In the

eyes of God, this may be a crime next only to the concentration camp murders themselves.

Third, and unsurprisingly, another Nazi cache of art and expensive religious artifacts has been discovered in a German salt mine. One cannot regard the Germans of World War II as merely killers; they were also robbers. The latter crime requires little ideology.

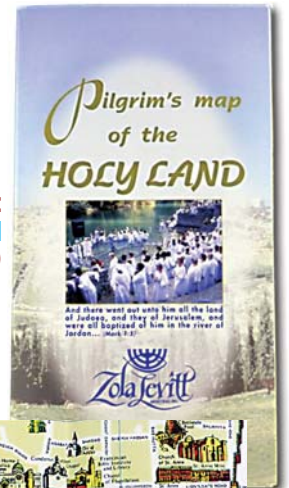
Add to the above anti-Semitism the reliable British aversion to Israel and the time-honored Roman Catholic antipathy toward the Jews, and much of the free world is already in agreement with the sad prophecy of Matthew 24.

In the upcoming administration, where will America stand on this issue? And Christian brother or sister, in your heart of hearts, where do you stand concerning Israel? ★

Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land

A very special map of modern Israel, which also provides sites of biblical importance. Scriptures are given right on the map so that the reader can locate the cities and towns of biblical significance. Hours of spiritual pleasure.

Order Map online at:
<http://store.levitt.com/MOJ>
 (or see page 19)

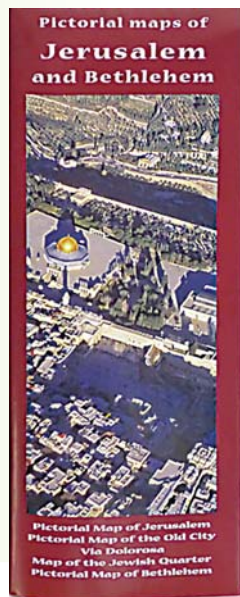


Pictorial Map of Jerusalem

The most important city map in the world! A marvelous and complete display with over 1,000 names of streets, neighborhoods, etc., with color pictures, churches, biblical sites, and all the rest, beautifully presented.

Order J'lem Map online at:
<http://store.levitt.com/MOJ>
 (or see page 19)

See related article on p. 33



Ask The Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q. In light of what is happening in Egypt, I was wondering what you thought about Ezekiel's prophecy in 29:6–12?

God predicted 40 years of desolation for Egypt. I recently read that when Nebuchadnezzar conquered Egypt, he would have taken captives. Those captives were allowed to return home when the Persians defeated Babylon, and this period could easily be referred to as approximately 40 years; therefore, there is no need to expect a future fulfillment.

That explanation doesn't sit right with me, but thinking that there will be a 40-year period of desolation for Egypt in the future raises many more questions in light of the Rapture and whether or not there is a delay between that event and the start of the seven-year Tribulation.

A. The historical context of Ezekiel 29 takes place during

the reign of Hophra who was Pharaoh of Egypt from 589–570 B.C.

Ezekiel places the vision as occurring during the tenth year and tenth month, which would be around 579 B.C. (Ezekiel 29:1). This prophecy is about Pharaoh Hophra and all of Egypt; verses 6–12 extend out then to about 568 B.C. In a nutshell, Ezekiel prophesies that Egyptians would experience a 40-year scattering from their land. When did this happen?

A recovered ancient Babylonian chronicle suggests that Egypt was conquered around 568 B.C. Forty years after this date, the Persians instituted a policy of resettlement for many of the peoples who had been dispersed to Babylon, and so the Egyptians were regathered at this time.

There is nothing within the context to suggest that the forty years are eschatological (related to the End Times). ★



To
Index



Please see related story on page 5

My Heart's Desire...Rom 10:1

By Eric Oler (shown below right)

My heart's desire for this trip to Israel was to serve my Lord Jesus (*Yeshua HaMashiach*) by carrying His love and Gospel back to the Jewish people from whom it originated. For the sixteen days that Todd and I labored in love, it became clearer to me *how much God truly loves His Chosen People* and how blessed I was to be a part of the TJF team.



Todd and Ofri

God set our path in Tiberias. Heading to breakfast in our hotel, we met Ofri, who noticed Todd's Star of David and Cross necklace. When Todd explained its meaning, she left her work post and ran to get her manager. Recognizing a witnessing opportunity, Todd bolted back up to our room to get Hebrew Bibles and tracts to share. Can you imagine being so hungry for the Gospel that you immediately run and tell others the Good News? We had several other pleasant meetings with Ofri during our stay in Tiberias.

In Nazareth we met Tali. Tali was immediately open to learning about Yeshua and what God has planned for her life and for the Jewish people. We knew she understood when she said that it made perfect sense to her that since this came from the Jewish people, naturally it should return. Then she said something I will never forget: **"You are doing a very good and important thing."**



Tali

I heard the phrase repeatedly in Israel.

shaliach \shah-LEE-ack\n, pl **shelichim** \shell-LEE-kim\
one who is sent, an emissary.

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? Rm.10:15. Please visit:

www.levitt.com/announcements#messiah for "The Promised Messiah" printable tract.



A young, Russian immigrant—Valeria—was also incredibly open to the Gospel. We met Valeria mere minutes after meeting Tali. These were clearly "divine appointments" that Todd and I had been praying for, along with those of you who also pray for and support the To The Jew First outreach. After these initial encounters, I wondered, "Could the Jewish people really be this open to knowing who the true Messiah is?" Yes, the overwhelming majority were!



Eric and Valeria

Taking the message of Salvation to anyone is not only our calling as Believers, it is a biblical commandment! But taking it to God's people when we are clearly in the End Times of Bible prophecy is truly an honor and a privilege. I wish you could see the Israelis we saw and watch the love of God wash over them. **When they hear that Adonai has not forsaken them and that the restoration of Israel as a nation is part of God's plan, they are filled with hope** and grateful for the message we share with them. These are seeds planted in tilled hearts, watered by prayers, and supported on each TJF outreach trip because God's children like you had the kindness and generosity to send us out. God bless you. ★

The Forgotten Refugees of 1948

BY NOAH BECK / IsraelToday.co.il



A Google search for **1948 refugees** produces 6 million results. All but a few (at least by page six) deal with Palestinian Arab refugees, as if they were the only refugees of 1948. But it is estimated that from the beginning of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War through the early 1970s, up to a million Jews fled or were expelled from ancestral homes in Muslim countries, most to Israel.

In 1948, Middle East and North African countries had considerable Jewish populations. In most cases, the Jewish population had lived there for millennia. Today, the indigenous Jews are virtually extinct. Few know this history because the Jewish refugees of 1948 were granted citizenship by the countries to which they fled, primarily Israel. By contrast, many Muslim countries refused to integrate the Palestinian refugees.

Palestinians monopolize the refugee issue due to institutionalized favoritism at the UN. All non-Palestinian refugees around the world (nearly 55 million) are cared for by the UN Refugee Agency, which is mandated to help refugees rapidly rebuild their lives, usually outside the countries that they fled. But Palestinian refugees (who originally numbered 652,000) have a UN agency dedicated exclusively to them (UNRWA).

UNRWA's unique definition of "refugee" includes anyone "whose normal place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948, who lost both their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict." So, in addition to families who lived in the area for generations, UNRWA's definition includes any migrants who arrived as recently as 1946 but were then displaced. And because the definition includes "descendants of fathers fulfilling the definition," UNRWA's refugee population has grown from 652,000 to 5,300,000 today (making resolution of the "Palestinian" refugee issue even harder).

Jewish refugees from Muslim lands rebuilt their lives in Israel and elsewhere. But the fact that they quietly adapted, and that Israel granted them full citizenship, doesn't lessen the wrongs committed by their countries of origin. These refugees suffered legal and often violent persecution that resulted in emotional and physical loss. They lost billions in property and endured huge socioeconomic disadvantages when forced to rebuild their lives from scratch. Israel was unfairly burdened with the colossal social and economic cost of suddenly absorbing so many refugees.



Mideast peace is possible only when Muslim states recognize their role in two historic wrongs: 1) displacing one million indigenous people only because they were Jews, and 2) perpetuating the plight of Palestinian refugees by denying them citizenship. The first wrong requires financial compensation. The second should be remedied by granting full citizenship to Palestinian refugees (and their descendants) who have resettled in Muslim lands. Both wrongs have festered for too many decades. ★

See a video of the Middle East's changing map: www.levitt.com/misc/israel_history



ZLM Bulletin Board

When People Think about Israel...

... most contemplate war, religion, or falafel. But what about the triumph of the human spirit? Not a travelogue, *Israel Inside* highlights in ten minutes the Holy Land's constant technological innovation. The Apple of God's Eye is also the epicenter of technological startup companies. How is it that Israel, with merely eight million people, has the third largest number of companies (after the U.S. and China) traded on the NASDAQ stock exchange? It eclipses all the nations of Europe with the creativity of its entrepreneurs. From electric cars, to medical marvels, to water conservation, visiting <http://wp.me/pieUD-1Mt> will give you a taste of Israel's cutting edge.



2012 Fundraising Expenses

To comply with the tax code, we calculated the small percentage of newsletter space and television time that this ministry devotes to fundraising. Taken together, they account for seven-tenths of one percent (0.7%) of our expenses. An acceptable threshold for many organizations is 20%, which is twenty-eight times what has sufficed for us. Our hat is off to you, the supporter, and your responsiveness to our minimal requests for support. You are small in number, amounting to about 3% of our viewership, but your generosity has enabled us to expand this outreach to new frontiers across the globe... Thanks!

NOTE: We now accept PayPal

Free Item

Pamphlet of the Month

American taxpayers have long been allowed to make charitable gifts of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other securities that are worth more than they cost, take an income tax deduction based on their full current value, and bypass capital gains tax that otherwise would be due on sale. The free pamphlet **Giving Securities** explains the basics of harnessing long-standing tax benefits. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

Effective Immediately

Now you can watch *Zola Levitt Presents* on GLC "God's Learning Channel." This highly pro-Israel TV station has television stations in West Texas and New Mexico, airs on satellite Galaxy 19, and streams live on their website at www.glc.us.com. Or catch them on our Roku channel. *Zola Levitt Presents* airs four times a week:

Currently, we have four airtimes on GLC:
Mondays @ 1:30 pm
Tuesdays @ 7:30 pm
Friday, 9:30am and 4:30pm

You can see our ministry's complete air schedule online at www.levitt.com/airsch or ask us to mail you a free hard copy.

"Come Home!"

Zola Tours to Israel



See page 36 for details



Hebrew Lesson



The Eyes of the Heart

By John J. Parsons

מִכָּל-מִשְׁמַר נֹצֵר לְבָבְךָ כִּי-מִמֶּנּוּ תוֹצְאוֹת חַיִּים

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.” – Proverbs 4:23

מִ	כָּל-	מִשְׁ	מַר	נֹ	צֵר	לְ	בָ	בְ	כִי	מִ	מֶ	נּוּ	תוֹ	צְ	אוֹת	חַ	יִ	יִ
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cha-yim	to-tze-ot	mi-me-nu	ki	lib-be-kha	ne-tzor	mish-mar	mi-kol											
life	issues (of)	from it	for	your heart	guard	from all that you guard												

Repentance means learning to see from a radically new perspective. As we change our focus, we see that “everything is new” (2 Cor. 5:17). Perception is a matter of *heart*, and therefore we *choose* to see and hear what we want to see and hear (Isa. 6:10; John 12:40). If we do not see God, it’s because we have decided to turn away from His presence (Rom. 1:18-22). Our desires determine what we see and how we focus; we choose to interpret reality by an *act of will*, not by merely seeing with the physical eyes. We believe in order to see, not the other way around, and what we see is therefore disclosed by faith (Matt. 9:29). Often we do not see things as they are, but how we want to see them. We see as we are in our hearts: “As a man thinks in his heart, so is he” (Prov. 23:7).

How you choose to see defines the world you will inhabit. The eyes follow the heart, and therefore seeing is a matter of inner attitude (Matt. 6:22-23). Yeshua said that our problem comes from *within*: “Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts,” and these thoughts show up in our actions (Matt. 15:19; Prov. 11:27). The Spirit of God indeed creates a new heart and spirit within us (Ezek. 36:26), but the “eyes of the heart” must be enlightened by constantly turning to God (Eph. 1:18). We must set the LORD *always* before us (Psalm 16:8). We need the “good eye” of the Spirit to impart purity of heart, thereby enabling us to see the Presence of God all around us (Matt. 5:8; Isa 6:3).

We are told: “Seek and you will find” (Luke 11:9), which implies that you will find whatever it is that you are seeking. Look for the good and the good will be disclosed; look for evil, and you will discover it, too. The optimist believes this is the best of all possible worlds; the pessimist is afraid the optimist is right. Both look at the same world, but both have two radically different visions. We can either put all our energy into not falling, or we can focus on the walk before us. Changing your vision means no longer looking at the hell of your past, but looking to the promise of a glorious future. Focus on God and His great love for you; do not return to the house of bondage, the prison house of fear. Keep the “eyes of your heart” on Yeshua who is the Light, the Compassion, and the Healing touch of the LORD our God. May you hear Him say, **“Blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear”** (Matt. 13:16).



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The Stones Cry Out

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Recent archaeological discoveries validate the biblical record. To film "dig" sites and interview the experts, Zola journeyed to Israel and Jordan. Just as our Lord said about this remarkable Land, *The Stones Cry Out*.

The Tunnel Zola walks the tunnel under the western edge of the Temple. We get a journalist's perspective of the Palestinian uproar when the tunnel was opened to the public in 1996.

A Tale of Two Temples An unearthed marketplace shows the Roman destruction of the Temple. Mount Gerizim to the north hosts the excavation of a Samaritan temple patterned after the Jerusalem Temple.

Rulers in Stone Caesarea, on Israel's Mediterranean coast, has yielded first-century finds such as the first extra-biblical reference to Pontius Pilate, and a full-size Temple replica. At Tel Dan, "House of David" has been confirmed archaeologically.

The Jerusalem That Was Bible Lands Museum houses a model of Jerusalem ca. 586 B.C. In the City of David, we examine a four-room house, typical architecture for ancient Israelites.

Past and Future Destruction Ongoing excavations at Hazor have unearthed Canaanite idols and confirmation of the city burning as recorded in Joshua 11. The Valley of Armageddon holds prophetic archaeological significance.

Archaeology and the Scriptures In Jerusalem, Zola explains the history of the Citadel, also called "David's Tower." We talk with the Israel Antiquities Authority.

Cities of the Past Zippori was a thriving cultural center in Galilee that probably influenced Jesus as a boy in Nazareth. Ekron was one of five prominent Old Testament cities of the Philistines.

Shadows from the Past A chamber of tombs, near the Garden Tomb dated to the time of the First Temple, helps us understand the burial customs. We visit the Qumran cave where first Dead Sea Scroll found.

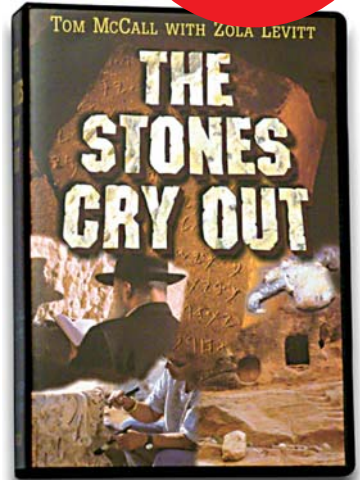
A Tale of Three Cities In biblical times, a business relationship existed between three Jordan Valley cities: Beit Shean, Rehovot (west of the Jordan River), and Pella (east of the Jordan River). We visit excavations in each city.

The Rose Red City The ancient Nabataeans were famous for their skill in rock carving. Petra, their capital southeast of the Dead Sea, is the "rose red" city known for its magnificent buildings carved into the native rock.

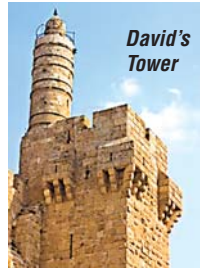
A Man Crucified On display at the Rockefeller Museum in Jerusalem, a man's heel bone that was pierced by a nail is the first archaeological proof of Roman crucifixions in Israel.

Truth from the Stones Zola discusses how the artifacts shown throughout this series illuminate Scripture, and how Believers can be encouraged when *The Stones Cry Out*.

If Israel's trees could cry out: (see p. 9).

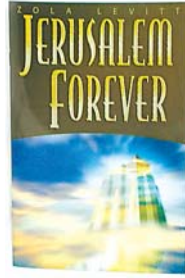


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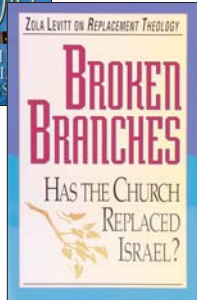
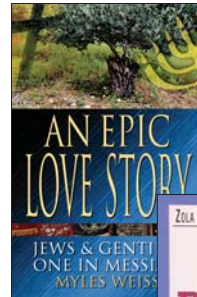
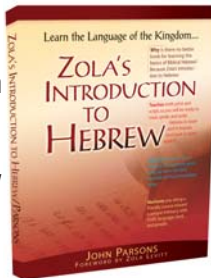
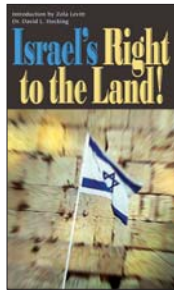
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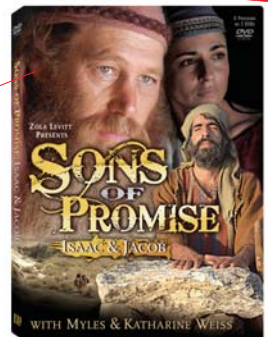


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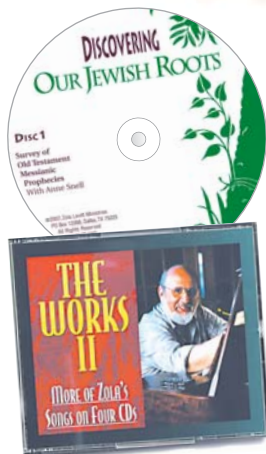
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In this twelve-part TV series, Dr. Jeffrey Seif sheds light on the Apostle Paul, his movements, and his message. After examining Paul's travels throughout the Roman Empire, Jeff analyzes Paul's divinely inspired letters to early Church congregations, preserved in the New Testament.

First Steps Toward Christ Paul's conversion and subsequent ministry in Damascus/Arabia.

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Roman Imprisonment, Release, Travels, and Death Shows Paul imprisoned in Rome, his release and further ministry, and his eventual execution in Rome.

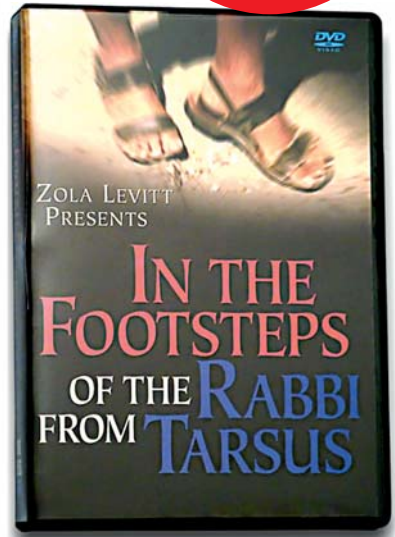
The next six programs consider Paul's divinely inspired Parchments in the order they were written—not from longest to shortest, which is how they appear in the New Testament.

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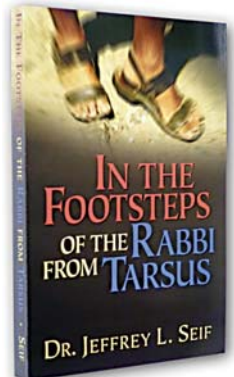
Companion book to the TV series

Thirteen of the New Testament's 27 books bear Paul's seal and signature. Consequently, he is the New Testament's principal interpreter of what it means to be "Christian." Jeff looks closely at Paul and the fact that the major "Christian" interpreter lived, acted, and thought as a "Jewish rabbi." St. Paul, a rabbi?

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The Truth About Wealth

WISE AS A SERPENT / By Mark Levitt

Materialistic wealth is transitory. Unlike spiritual riches, which accrue in Heaven as well as on Earth, gold and silver must be left behind. The excerpted *Wall Street Journal* article below delves into stewardship strategies to guard against spendthrift tendencies and failure to diversify investments.

Though written for the rich, the article's principles can apply to the middle class when budgeting retirement assets or windfalls such as an inheritance. You can see the whole piece at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1My>. Please read it in the context of stewardship and Matthew 6:19–21. —Mark

Despite heated rhetoric, the top 1% is hardly a fixed group. To the contrary, the wealthiest are the most crash-prone. Private-banking chief Maria Elena Lagomasino has studied why so many rich people she knew were blowing up. Entrepreneurs, tech tycoons, real-estate titans, and even CEOs, who were known for their money savvy, would make millions one year and lose it the next. Her report, called “Beating the Odds: Improving the 15% Probability of Staying Wealthy” grouped the factors into five main categories:

Overconcentration. Rapid riches often involve betting big on a tech start-up, real estate, or gold. When those assets boom, the gains are huge. When values decline, they can take an entire fortune with them.

Leverage. Debt amplifies gains and magnifies losses. Unexpected changes in the rich's businesses or incomes can turn manageable debt levels into wealth destroyers.

Spending. Some rich folks' spending exceeds their cash flows and returns, leaving them one crisis away from a financial collapse.

The “toxic cocktail.” The first three reasons are often linked, with the newly wealthy betting big and borrowing big on a business, then using their paper wealth to fund a large

lifestyle. These three factors can unwind at the same time, instantly destroying huge fortunes.

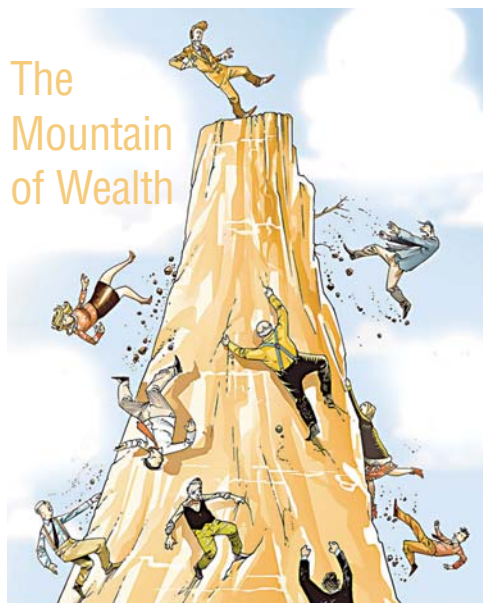
Family issues. These include divorce, inheritance battles, and family-business disputes.

Investors and entrepreneurs may stay wealthy by using new financial tools. They should avoid having more than 20% to 30% of their net worth in a single asset. Limiting debt is also critical to avoiding crashes. Experts say a family's debt shouldn't exceed 25% of its assets.

Entrepreneurs who launch companies and bet everything on their success are loath to cash out too soon. Smarter would be to regularly sell off small chunks of their stock as soon as their companies go public. They may be losing some upside, but they are building a critical safety net in case of a fall.

Aside from being the most crash-prone, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!” (Mark 10:23). The *WSJ* article suggests worldly wisdom for beating the mere 15% likelihood of preserving worldly riches. The Bible gives heavenly insight for 100% success at inheriting The Kingdom. For the *Road to Heaven*, please visit: www.levitt.com/road. ★

The Mountain of Wealth





Letters to ZIM

Comments from www.levitt.com

From P.M. (WA): I watch *Zola Levitt Presents* when I can catch it on TV. I was going to order the program *Eretz Israel*, but I see it is available on YouTube. So I will just watch it on YouTube and donate the purchase price plus some extra to the ministry for however you need to use it. Thank you for keeping Zola's ministry alive. —You are one of the few sheep who reciprocate for being fed for free. Now you're honoring the Lord's commandment—to feed God's sheep (and not just yourself) John 21:17. Thanks —Mark

From M.N. (Australia): I love listening to your program.

From M.S. (YouTube): In *Acts: Then and Now* (#6: The Price He Paid for Us), Daniel sang the most spiritual song I think I have heard in years. It was really moving. Thank you.

From S.H. (TX): I am enjoying your programs on the Zola Levitt channel on Roku. It's in my top five favorites. I love the archive section and plan to share my Zola channel with family and friends in other states: I want everyone to come to love Zola, Israel, and the Jewish people as I have this past six months. I am sending this donation to support this vital ministry!

From H.C. (Mexico): Could you mail me the *Levitt Letter* to Mexico? Yes, we will. And you can also see them online at www.levitt.com/levletter. —Mark



Keeping Feasts

Dear ZLM,

I am in the Messianic movement and in a quandary: A dear relative is getting married on Saturday, September 14, which also happens to be Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year! (I'm sure she is unaware of what day it is.) I could probably attend a service on Friday night, the 13th, and then fast during the reception. But I don't want to dishonor *HaShem* in any way!

I feel that grace would prevail over legalism, and that He knows my heart. What are your thoughts/advice on this dilemma? I have confidence that your theology is solid. —D.C. (TX)

Dear D.C.—

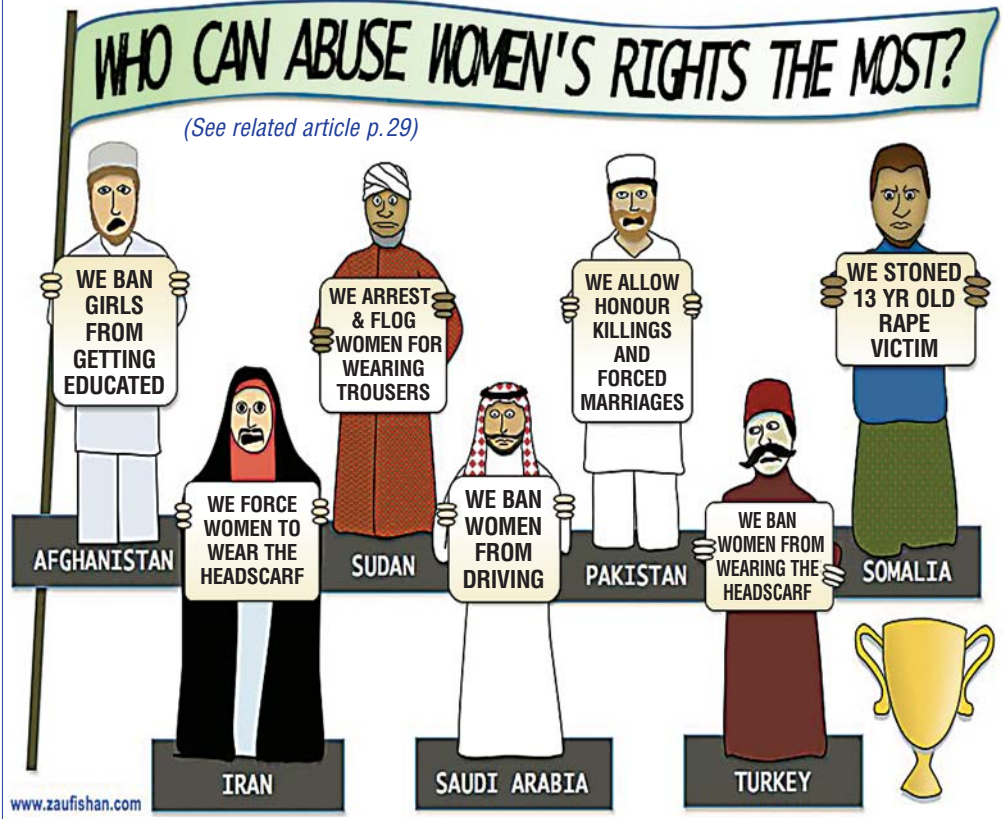
I think it would be perfectly fine for you to attend the wedding. Yeshua fulfilled this Feast — the Day of Atonement — and New Covenant Believers are not under obligation to observe it as Israel alone was required to under the Old Covenant (see Colossians 2:14–16). Hebrews 9–10 teaches that Messiah Jesus is our final Day of Atonement. Enjoy the reception. —Todd

Letters vs. Emails

At the end of a lovely, handwritten letter extolling aspects of the *Levitt Letter* and ministry, J.C. (LA) asked: Do you even care about getting letters anymore since email is so popular?

Dear J.C.—

Yes! Especially like yours, containing feedback. It's good to know we're feeding you biblical insights not otherwise circulating in the media. —Editor



Four Minds, One Goal

Dear Myles and Katharine,

Thank you so much for sending the *Levitt Letter*. I am 93 and home-bound. Reading it sure helps me keep in touch with what's going on. I am amazed at how fast Bible prophecy is coming to pass. What a wonderful book the Bible is! —R.A.K. (CA)

Dear ZLM,

Thank you for your holy boldness. Your articles are inspiring, humorous, and well expressed. Reading the *Levitt Letter* from cover to cover has increased our family's understanding of Middle East politics and anti-Semitism in the Church and the world.

Please accept this donation for *Levitt Letter* expenses. We haven't contributed in the past but will be more careful to do that in the future.

—I. and M.G. (MD)

Shalom, ZLM,

I just finished paying off my car loan, so now I will give that to the ministry the Lord has used to build me up and encourage me. You do that. Mother and I went with Sandra to Israel and were greatly affected by the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. —R.K. (CA)

Shalom, Myles and Katharine,

I am in prison and have survived multiple heart attacks, cardiac operations, and a valve replacement. I also lost part of my stomach in Vietnam. I tell you this to show the power of Messiah Jesus in saving me as "proof" of Him!

Like Katharine, I was raised Roman Catholic. Still searching, I converted to Judaism. I finally found my true faith (and home) in Messianic Judaism.

I always read both of your articles in the *Levitt Letter* first. I seem to get a lot of insight from them. When my father's estate clears probate, I will contribute to your work, which is really important—you help a lot! —T.P.M. (TX)

Dear R.A.K., I. and M.G., R.K., and T.P.M.—

We are grouping your letters together because it struck us as incredibly poignant that people from varied walks of life can come together around the issues that also burn in our hearts at ZLM. Veterans, prisoners, senior citizens (at 93!), pilgrims, and just plain folks, we are joined together by a growing understanding of the power of this message: Christianity Through Jewish Eyes. Each of you has determined to give out of your substance to help us "get the Word out."

Thank you for your kind words about us personally, and even more importantly, thank you for shouldering the burden financially as we reach for even greater impact in the coming days. Yeshua is coming, and we need to prepare the way of the Lord together. God bless you each with His shalom —Myles and Katharine

Dr. Oz at Yad Vashem. (See related story on p.30)



Predestination or Free Will?

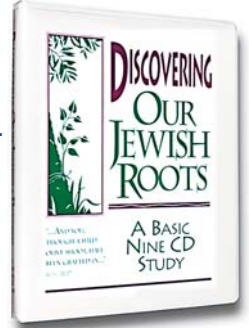
Dear ZLM Theologians,

What are your views on Calvin's Election by God without free will? During a recent hospital stay, I started really longing to know the real Jewish roots of Christianity. I don't understand why Jews write G-d instead of God. It's not a sin. Jesus is God too, so why abbreviate only God's name? —M. (TX)

Dear M.—

The Bible does teach both human free will and divine sovereignty—a divine mystery indeed! We choose Jesus and believe in Him because He first chose us and gave us the power to believe (John 15:16).

Let me suggest *Discovering Our Jewish Roots* at http://store.levitt.com/DJR* or the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies, both available on p.19. Either one or both would help you learn the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. Jesus and the Apostles who wrote the New Testament said "God" and did not abbreviate His name as rabbinic tradition does as a Jewish way of showing respect to *HaShem* (The Name). —Todd



Jews Did NOT Deserve the Holocaust

Dear ZLM,

Israel's disobedience in the Old Testament resulted in captivity several times where the Jews suffered until they asked God for forgiveness. God allowed many nations to take them over because of their disobedience, and many were killed because they refused to follow Him as God. The Jews are still looking for the Savior of the world. Was that the underlying reason for the Holocaust, them being the Chosen People and still not accepting Jesus Christ? —D.B.



Dear D.B.—

To say that all the Jews perished in the Holocaust because they did not receive Jesus is too simplistic. Many perished without ever even hearing the Gospel, and therefore never had the chance to believe. (see Rom. 10:14)

Let's face it, the Church (and its historical anti-Semitism) has not helped Jews believe in a God and Savior whose so-called followers hate and persecute Jews. All the more reason that ministries like ours repeatedly carry the Gospel of Yeshua the Messiah to Israel so they won't perish spiritually.

Moreover, the great "travail" of the Holocaust was prophesied in Isaiah 66:7-9 as being the very catalyst for the rebirth of the nation of Israel "in one day"—which it was on May 14, 1948! The Holocaust was engineered by Satan to try and destroy the Chosen People. It was just another satanic attempt to discredit God's Word since He already promised in Jeremiah 31:35-37 that Israel and the Jewish people would never cease being a nation before Him! —Todd

Ouch! As a Jewish Believer, I am hurt deeply by this flagrant example of gentile "boasting against the root" (Romans 11:18). The Jews deserved the Holocaust? Very dangerous territory, D. B. I recommend to you Zechariah 1:14-15 for one of God's definitive statements on the world's treatment of His Chosen People. Also, Zola's book on Replacement Theology *Broken Branches* on p. 18. Blessings —Myles ★

Detecting Babies in Hot Cars

Israeli Advances
in Science &
Medicine



SCIENCE: By Niv Elis (r) / JPost.com

Well before the current spate of tragedies involving infants being left in broiling cars, a smattering of Israeli companies were busy working on solutions to prevent such occurrences. According to **Kidetect**, which uses sensors to detect when a child has been left in a car, 160 such incidents were reported in Israel from 2008 to 2012. The Kidetect system (\$225) opens all the windows and sets off the car alarm.



There are “all sorts of situations” in which parents might forget their kids in the car, says Arie Israeli, who developed a similar system called Kiddy Guard. When Kiddy Guard’s motion detectors and weight sensors determine a child has been left in a parked vehicle, it alerts the driver by text message and a car key beep, while automatically opening the window.

“Despite the fact that everyone says: ‘It will never happen to me’ because we’re connected to the child, we don’t take our eyes off him, we check on him several times a night—despite it all, it happens,” Israeli says.

Intervox, a system designed for school buses and other special vehicles, uses voice sensors to detect distress before setting off the alarm, sending a message, and even sending images to a central computer for monitoring.

Parents can find a pricey car seat that connects to a smartphone, which not only lets the parent know if he has left his kid in the car, but also reminds him to buckle in his kid, monitors temperature, lets him know if his child has gotten out of the seat, and even sends an alert to an emergency contact’s email address.

At a mid-range price, parents can get a clip that sets off a little reminder every time the parent moves more than 15 feet from the baby’s car seat. For those parents who want a little reminder but don’t want to deck out their cars with new technology, a handful of mobile applications are available.

For Android users, the Don’t Forget Your Baby app will subtly tell you out loud, in English, not to forget your baby the moment your phone disconnects from any pre-selected Bluetooth device in the car.

Baby Reminder, a free iPhone application, lets users enter their regular child pick-up and drop-off times. iPhone users who don’t want an app can simply schedule a location-based reminder to alert them when they’ve reached their destination.

Low-tech solutions exist as well. Life Belt is a keychain that clips into a strip tied around the steering wheel. When you park and unclip your keys, the bright orange strip catches your eye with the phrase “I’m waiting for you in the back.” ★



Apple iPhone 5



Chronic Stress Leads to Disease

MEDICINE: By **Abigail Klein Leichman** / Israel21c.org

Constant low levels of cortisol destroy normal regulation of the immune system, putting stressed-out people at risk of autoimmune disorders.



An intricate dance goes on between our immune and neurological systems, and by analyzing the microscopic choreography, Israel's **Prof. Alon Monsonego** has made a unique discovery. As he explained in the *European Journal of Immunology*, chronic stress leaves us more vulnerable to developing an autoimmune disorder. Every neurological syndrome involves the immune system, says Monsonego.

When we experience an episode of acute stress—a traffic accident, for example—our adrenal glands release the hormone cortisol, the stress hormone. Cortisol temporarily suppresses the immune system and adds glucose (sugar) to the bloodstream in seconds, giving our bodies optimum power to get through the dangerous or frightening episode. But when we experience chronic stress—say, caring for a relative with Alzheimer's or working under pressure—we've got low levels of cortisol coursing through our blood all the time.

After a while, the constantly present stress hormone permanently damages immune-system cells, and the cells that survive become aggressively resistant to the hormone. In other words, chronic stress causes a breakdown in the normal regulation of the immune system. And that can lead to autoimmune diseases, in which we produce antibodies that destroy our own tissues. These diseases include multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, and Type 1 diabetes.

"Which one you develop depends on genetics and environment," Monsonego says, adding that chronic inflammation from conditions such as arthritis also triggers the release of cortisol.



**Prof. Alon
Monsonego.**
Photo: Dani
Machlis/BGU

A test to measure effects of cortisol

Chronically stressing lab mice who were exposed to a disease similar to multiple sclerosis, Monsonego and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev colleagues Dr. Idan Harpaz and Prof. Hagit Cohen showed that the mice were more prone to develop the disease than they were under normal conditions. The effect was more significant in female mice than in male mice. Not surprising, since more women than men develop autoimmune disease. The Israeli team's revelation of the mechanisms that cause damage to immune-system regulation is unprecedented. The potential practical applications of this discovery are immense.

Because not everyone reacts to stress in the same way, a blood test to measure the effect of cortisol on immune-system functioning would provide a valuable tool for preventing an autoimmune disease from developing, Monsonego says. "A certain lifestyle may not be stressful to one person but very stressful to someone else. For people who are in danger of any type of chronic stress, early detection can help them pay attention to it and reduce stress before they get sick."

For those who already suffer an autoimmune disease, the same blood test would help physicians determine appropriate doses of the synthetic cortisol (steroids) generally prescribed as treatment for these diseases. Monsonego is now completing a study with his collaborators on the physical effects of chronic stress on early-stage Alzheimer's patients and their spouses. ★



To
Index

EU: Hezbollah Military Are Terrorists

By Patrick J. McDonnell & Alexandra Sandels / LATimes.com



The European Union's 28 members recently declared the military wing of Hezbollah a terrorist organization, dealing a political blow to the powerful Lebanese group. "It is good that the EU has decided to call Hezbollah what it is: a terrorist organization," said Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans.

There was no immediate official reaction from Hezbollah, a dominant military and political force in Lebanon where it heads a leading bloc in national politics and participates in the parliament. The Hezbollah-linked al-Manar news agency labeled the decision a capitulation to pressure from Washington, which has long listed Hezbollah as a terrorist organization.

The EU blacklisting implies that members associated with the group's military wing could be denied visas, and assets associated with Hezbollah could be frozen. The move could complicate fundraising efforts for the Lebanese group, which is closely allied with Iran.

The fact that the EU singled out the group's military wing and did not blacklist its political side was significant, analysts said, since it indicated the EU's desire to maintain some kind of relations with Hezbollah's political side. However, untangling who is tied to the group's military operations and who is strictly political could prove difficult.

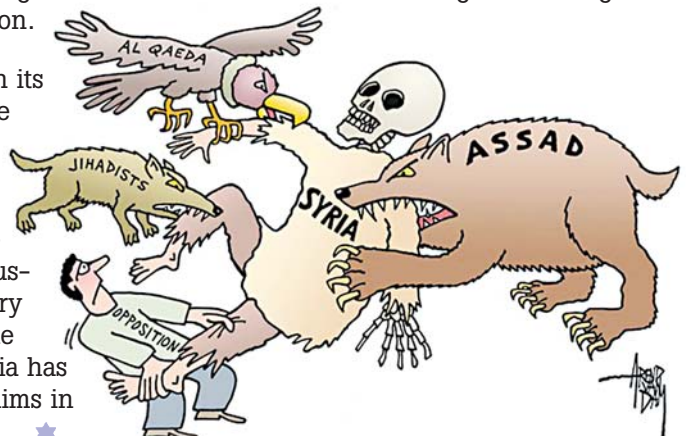
Hezbollah's general secretary, Hassan Nasrallah, is widely seen as the political and military leader of the group, which arose out of the 1982 Israeli conflict with Lebanon. Hezbollah also fought a 34-day war with Israel in 2006.

"We should not forget that Hezbollah is a significant political force in Lebanon, and we must be able to have contacts with the movement regardless of what we think of its activity," Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt told journalists before the EU meeting.

One complicating issue is the fact that hundreds of European troops participate in a UN peacekeeping force along the "blue line" separating Israeli and Lebanese territory. The UN troops are deployed in a sprawling zone of southern Lebanon that is meant to be a buffer with Israel, but is considered Hezbollah's heartland.

The European decision comes months after Bulgarian authorities accused Hezbollah of complicity in a suicide bombing on a bus in 2012 that killed five Israeli tourists and one Bulgarian in the Black Sea resort of Burgas, drawing international condemnation.

Hezbollah has also thrown its military weight behind the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad in its more than two-year conflict with an insurgency led by mostly Sunni Muslim rebels. The formal entry of Shiite Hezbollah into the conflict in neighboring Syria has enraged many Sunni Muslims in Lebanon and elsewhere. ★



Islam on Cows, Horses, Camels, & Women



BY RAYMOND IBRAHIM / FrontPageMag.com

One of the few positive developments following the rise of the Islamists during the “Arab Spring” is that today many average and/or nominal Muslims are seeing the true face of Islam and its teachings. And many—as evinced by Egypt’s ousting of the Muslim Brotherhood—don’t want to deal with it.

For example, during a recent episode of *With Dr. Islam Buhira* on Al Qahira Wa Al Nass TV, Buhira explained how he had attended “a conference in Morocco on the status of women in society, post Arab Spring,” and how at the conference, the following interpretation of the Koran by renowned Islamic exegete, al-Qurtubi (d.1273), was read: “Women are like cows, horses, and camels, for all are ridden.”

After quoting al-Qurtubi’s words, Dr. Buhira continued in a disappointed tone: “This is how al-Qurtubi speaks about women, who include his mother, his daughters, basically all Muslim women. He says they are ‘all ridden.’ This is what makes them similar to animals.” The idea that “Women are like cows, horses, and camels, for all are ridden,” is recorded in *Tafsir al-Qurtubi* (see vol. 17, p. 172), one of the Islamic world’s most authoritative exegeses (religious commentaries) on the teachings of the Koran. In fact, comparing women to beasts is not uncommon in Islam, tracing back to Prophet Mohammed himself, who is recorded saying, “Women, dogs, and donkeys annul a man’s prayer” (*Musnad Ibn Hanbal*, vol. 2, p. 2992).

I have previously translated and discussed Mohammed and the Koran likening women to animals in the context of how female concubines in Islam are not deemed human, as the Arabic relative pronoun used in the Koran to indicate captive sex-slaves is “it”—as in an animal—not “she” (e.g., Koran 4:3).



Even so, many Muslims, including women, are only now learning about these texts and teachings. The fact is, many Muslims really don’t know much about Islam beyond the Five Pillars. But they have been conditioned to believe that whatever *sharia* says must be laudable and judicious — *sharia* being the law of their god as delivered by their beloved prophet. Moreover, in the last couple of decades, the slogan “Islam is the solution” became popular as a panacea to all of society’s ills.

That is, until it went from being theory to reality.

NEVER GIVE IN! NEVER FORGET!



**STOP SHARIA!
STOP ISLAMIZATION
OF AMERICA!**

Now that the Arab Spring has brought Islamists to power—in Tunisia, in Egypt, in Libya, and currently trying (at the tip of the jihadi sword) in Syria—nominal and nonobservant “cultural” Muslims, who for decades were ruled by Westernized autocrats and media, are finally seeing the true face of Islam and its teachings up close and personal. This new acquaintance with the truth is setting some of them free—even as it further enslaves others. ★

Again we ask, where are the Western feminists?
—Myles

Note: See Katharine’s “Selective Sisterhood” www.levitt.com/newsletters/2012-01.pdf#page=11 to explore the irony of feminists who loudly object to the West’s unequal treatment of women while remaining silent about the cultures that virulently oppress their female members.

SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS



Boko Haram militants

Nigerian Cleric Describes “Open Season on Christians”

Zionica.com

The president of the Christian Association of Nigeria says his nation’s 80 million Christians are being terrorized by Boko Haram, an Islamist sect whose name means “Western education is sacrilege.” Boko Haram and its offshoots have killed more than 1,600 civilians since 2010, according to an Associated Press count.

At a recent press conference in Washington, the Rev. Ayo Oritsejafor said he gets reports every week of churches being bombed and pastors being murdered. The previous month, he reported, at least 48 students and seven teachers were killed, with some burned alive in a school dormitory.

Halal: A Taste of Terror

By Enza Ferreri / FrontPageMag.com

“Ritual slaughter”: slaughter of animals for food following religious prescriptions. The Muslim method to produce *halal* (“lawful” or “permissible”) meat consists of cutting conscious animals’ throats while the name of Allah is uttered and letting them bleed to death. This makes it objectionable to most non-Muslims on animal welfare grounds. Christians and others also consider the utterance of Allah’s name at the moment of slaughter as idolatry.

A major concern is that halal meat is no longer just for Muslim consumption, but is sold to “infidels” in ever greater quantity the world over. According to Islamic law, organizations providing halal certification must pay *zakat* (tax).

Therefore, whenever you buy one of the many halal-certified products, even without your knowledge, you are indirectly contributing to Islamic terrorists. Buy halal and you fund jihad against Israel. (Many Islamic “charities” have known links to terrorism.)

Although halal is on its surface an animal-cruelty concern, it is also a crucial area of conflict between the West and those who want to force Islam, literally, down our throats. [See the full article and video at <http://wp.me/pieUD-1MQ>.]



Dr. Oz at Yad Vashem: “We can never forget”

By Yori Yalon and Danny Brenner
IsraelHayom.com

Dr. Mehmet Oz (l) and **Rabbi Shmuley Boteach** met while working for Oprah Winfrey. Boteach invited Oz—a Muslim of Turkish origin—and his wife and children to visit Israel with him.

The two men and their families visited Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum’s Hall of Names and the Children’s Memorial. Following his visit, Oz said that the museum helped him understand the dimensions of the Holocaust, and the horrific system the Nazis employed to carry out their plans. Oz said he was stunned at how the Nazis were able to come up with arguments to back their actions leading the Jews to their deaths. Oz said the lessons of the Holocaust must be remembered, so that history does not repeat itself.



When Helen Keller Confronted the Nazis

By Dr. Rafael Medoff / JNS.org

One of Adolf Hitler's top priorities when he became chancellor of Germany in 1933 was to prevent schools from using books that the Nazis regarded as "degenerate." Eighty years ago, Germany was transformed into one huge funeral pyre for any books that differed from the Nazis' perspective on political, social, or cultural matters, as well as all books by Jewish authors.

The Hitler regime chose May 10, 1933 as the date for a nationwide "Action Against the Un-German Spirit," a series of public burnings of the banned books. The gatherings were organized by pro-Nazi student groups under the supervision of the Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels.

The largest of the 34 book-burning rallies, held in Berlin, was attended by an estimated 40,000 people. Books by German Jews such as Albert Einstein and Sigmund Freud were burned, as well as books by the British science fiction writer H.G. Wells and many American writers, including Ernest Hemingway, Jack London, and even Helen Keller.

"No to decadence and moral corruption!" Goebbels declared in his remarks at the rally. "Yes to decency and morality and state!... The soul of the German people can again express itself. These flames not only illuminate the final end of an old era; they also light up the new."

A *New York Times* editorial sarcastically suggested that the Nazis might next begin "burning microphones" to stamp out free speech. *TIME* called the Nazis' action "a bibliocaust," and *Newsweek* described it as "a holocaust



of books." This was one of the first instances in which the term "holocaust" (an ancient Greek word meaning a burnt offering to a deity) was used in connection with the Nazis.

The outcry around the world included this moving letter from Keller, addressed to "the Student Body of Germany."

"History has taught you nothing if you think you can kill ideas," Keller wrote. "Tyrants have tried to do that often before, and the ideas have risen up in their might and destroyed them. You can burn my books and the books of the best minds in Europe, but the ideas in them have seeped through a million channels, and will continue to quicken other minds. I gave all the royalties of my books to the soldiers blinded in the World War with no thought in my heart but love and compassion for the German people."

"Do not imagine your barbarities to the Jews are unknown here," she added. "God sleepeth not, and He will visit His Judgment upon you. Better were it for you to have a mill-stone hung round your neck and sink into the sea than to be hated and despised of all men."

With all her physical challenges, Helen Keller saw, heard, and felt more clearly than many of her generation ... and ours. Rise up, you who belong to the God of Israel! —Myles ★



Digging The Tabernacle in the Wilderness

ARCHAEOLOGY: By **Sharona Schwartz** / theblaze.com

In the Bible, during the Hebrews' 40-year trek in the wilderness, the Tabernacle was described as a movable tent that housed the Ark of the Covenant and accompanied the Israelites as they made their way to the Promised Land.

Now, archaeologists in Israel think they've discovered one place where the Tabernacle — also known as the Tent of Meeting — was parked, a discovery that has political significance today.



Archaeologists digging at Tel Shiloh. Yisrael Medad

The Bible describes the Tabernacle as constructed of wood and fabric, not materials designed for thousands of years of survival. Even so, archaeologists have been searching for the past few years for evidence of the Tabernacle. That search has focused on a site believed to be the ancient city of Shiloh and has yielded some intriguing findings. Archaeologists found holes carved into the ground into which beams of a temporary structure could have fit.

Hananya Hizmi, staff officer for archaeology in the Civil Administration of Judea and Samaria, says, "This is not something that was common in private residences and therefore we do not believe these structures served as family dwellings." This being the Middle East, the discovery inevitably has a political dimension. It's also located in Samaria, part of what Palestinians and most countries refer to as the West Bank.

With the Palestinians demanding that Israel give up Judea and Samaria, and the international community continuing to refer to the region as "Occupied Territory," this evidence of millennial-old Jewish connection to the land is significant. According to blogger Yisrael Medad who resides in the modern Israeli community of Shiloh:

The Arabs seek to negate and ignore any element of national ethos or Jewish historical connection to this land — which is important since, as we know, the 1920 San Remo Conference and League of Nations decisions of international law specifically noted the "historical connection" between the Jews and this country. ... The digs at Shiloh, deep in the heartland of the Land of Israel — which is not the Land of Ishmael — are important in countering Arab claims. ★



The Tabernacle in the Wilderness reconstructed



To
Index

Jerusalem Holy to Jews, Not to Muslims pt.2

By Morton A. Klein (r), Zionist Organization of America / ZOA.org



Jerusalem Day annually celebrates the reunification of Jerusalem under Jewish sovereignty during the 1967 Six-Day War. It is not every day that an ancient people come into repossession of its holiest city and age-old capital in a victorious war over enemies who, literally only a week before, had been waxing enthusiastic at the prospect of obliterating them.

Yet various governments withhold recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and call for its re-division — this time with the eastern half of the city, illegally seized and annexed by Jordan in 1948, going to a proposed "Palestinian" state.

To understand why this is neither likely nor advisable, it is worth revisiting four key issues: history, demography, law, and security. *Last month's Levitt Letter looked at history and demography. See www.levitt.com/newsletters/2013-09.pdf#page=33*

Law: As with Judea and Samaria (mistakenly called the West Bank), the eastern half of Jerusalem was unallocated territory (under international law) that had been illegally occupied by Jordan until Israel conquered it in 1967. It is additionally part of the territory earmarked for a Jewish homeland at the San Remo Conference in 1920 that also drafted the League of Nations Charter. This decision, enshrined in the British Mandate for Palestine that shortly followed, has never been superseded by an internationally binding agreement. As the former president of the International Court of Justice Stephen Schwebel pointed out, Israel — having captured eastern Jerusalem in a war of self-defense against an illegal occupier — has a better claim to it than any other party.

Security: Any division of Jerusalem not only carves out part of the heart of the Jewish people but would also endanger Israel by introducing terrorists within rocket and rifle range of the western half of the city. Just as Sderot near Gaza has been subjected to years of incessant rocket and mortar fire from territory handed over to Palestinian control, resulting in almost half its citizenry leaving for safety, the rest of Jerusalem could share the same fate if the eastern half of the city were given to PA control.

One day, Arab-Jewish peace may come about. But there are no good reasons why Jerusalem's re-division — an act that would stunt the city, uproot Jewish habitations, overrule its resident majority, negate Israel's legal title, and endanger its inhabitants — should be part of any settlement.



For a spiritual uplifting, explore the area via our pictorial maps of Jerusalem and the Holy Land (info on p.11). ★





Israel advocates have long alleged that their country is portrayed in an unfair and one-dimensional way by the international media, largely as an oppressor of the Palestinians.

Now i24news—the first international channel dedicated to reporting the news from an Israeli point of view—means to tell the rest of the Israel story in English, Arabic, and French.

The new station's founders insist they are not an Israeli version of the Qatar-funded Al-Jazeera pan-Arab channel. They receive no government funding, hold no political affiliation, and pledge to cover the news dispassionately and objectively.

The initiative highlights a deep-seated sense that Israel is losing the battle over international public opinion and that its voice has been missing from a smorgasbord of news outlets.

"When you talk about Israel in the international media, it is only through the perspective of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We have to show that there are a lot of things about Israel that people don't know about," said Frank Melloul, the channel's chief executive. "What I want to do with this channel is to connect Israel to the world and connect the world to the Israeli reality."

To do so, i24news broadcasts around the clock, devoting 30 percent of its content to local coverage, including culture, technology, and sports.

Its spacious studios in Jaffa, an ancient port city merged with Tel Aviv, include three glass-encased sets for simultaneous broadcasts in three languages, along with an integrated news desk for its 150 journalists.

The station went on the air in late July, and though it is not yet clear how many people are watching, i24news

says it can potentially reach 350 million households via cable and satellite operators in Europe, Asia, and Africa. An expansion to the North American market is expected in early 2014.

Melloul, a former French diplomat, helped launch France24, a satellite channel aimed at improving France's image. Other governments engage in similar outreach efforts: Russia Today, China's CCTV, and Qatar's Al-Jazeera.

The Israeli effort is funded by private money. Much of it comes from Patrick Drahi, a French-Israeli telecom tycoon who owns an Israeli cable network of TV channels and telephone service providers. Melloul said private ownership frees the station from government intervention.



i24news's Arabic broadcast looks to show a different face of Israel by highlighting its diversity. The channel's main English-language anchor, for instance, is an Arab woman. The content also tries to spotlight the tough choices the country faces.

A report about an Israeli Cabinet vote to release Palestinian prisoners ahead of renewed peace talks was followed by an in-studio debate between two parents over whether the killers of their children should be freed in return for the prospect of peace.

"It is part of the diversity of the Israeli society, and part of showing the world that nothing is easy," Melloul said. "You can discover a face of Israel you don't see anywhere else in the world." ★



To Index

Jewish Humor, etc.



Reading of the Will

Abe passed away and his family gathered at the lawyer's for the reading of the will. The lawyer droned on with the list of bequests: for Abe's wife, his children, and a few tokens for some friends. The lawyer read on: "Finally, to my brother-in-law Hymie, who never did an honest day's work in his life, who once said I would never remember him in my will. Hello, Hymie."

God Forbid!

On a Saturday afternoon, Benny sits on a park bench, just enjoying the day. He sees an old friend walk by. "Marvin! I've not seen you in years. Are you well? Is it true, you don't go to synagogue because you don't believe in God anymore? Is it true!?"

A cheerful heart is good medicine —

Proverbs 17:22



Marvin doesn't answer him. He just asks Benny to meet him in the park the next day.

The next day Benny goes to the park and sees Marvin. He hurries over to him. "Marvin, is it true, you don't believe in God anymore?"

Marvin says, "No, I don't."

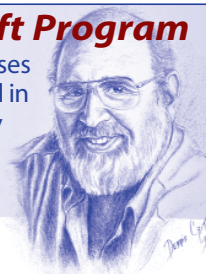
"Why didn't you just tell me that yesterday?" Benny is puzzled.

Marvin looks at his friend with disgust. "What, are you crazy? On Shabbat? God forbid I would do such a thing!" ★



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