

Levitt

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



Letter

Meriam Ibrahim
Release? p.5

Stop
the
UN
Double
Standards

Israel!
We
Stand
With
You!

Israel's New Christian Friends

By Melanie Phillips / JPost.com

Two stories about global Christianity have the capacity to shake the world order.

First, the persecution of Christians in the developing world at the hands of Islam. According to Open Doors, a nondenominational Christian group, about 100 million Christians are being persecuted in more than 65 countries, with radical Muslims the main perpetrators in 36 of them.

Egypt: Coptic Christians attacked, murdered, and driven out

Zanzibar: Jihadists bomb churches as “dens of non-believers”

Somalia: Al-Shabaab publicly beheaded two Christians

(continued p.2)

Gmail Safe Again

By David Shamah
TimesOfIsrael.com

Oren Hafif, an Israeli “white hat” hacker, discovered a serious security flaw in Gmail that could have compromised all 500 million accounts and Web services that use Google’s authentication system. Hafif discovered the vulnerability, documented it, successfully tried it out, and told Google about it. Google gave him a \$500 reward, part of its Bug Bounty program.

Hafif, a member of the elite security team at the Israeli office of a Chicago-based security company, consults with businesses to detect security holes in their systems—getting to the bugs before hackers can discover and exploit them.

(continued p.3)

Israel's New Christian Friends *continued from cover*

Nigeria: Boko Haram kidnapped more than 250 Christian schoolgirls; 150 Christians butchered in Kaduna; hundreds died in bomb attacks

Sudan: Christians hacked or burned to death for refusing to convert to Islam; Meriam Yehya Ibrahim sentenced to death for "converting" to Christianity (*see related story, p. 5*).

Eritrea: 3,000 Christians imprisoned

Iran: Christians jailed, thousands flee

Western mainstream churches largely ignore this carnage. Instead, they appease Islam and vilify Israel, the one Middle Eastern country where Christians are safe.



But here's the extraordinary second story. Across the developing world, including countries where Christians are persecuted, churches are experiencing phenomenal growth. If trends persist, Europe's Christians will be overtaken by those in Africa, Latin America, and Asia, with most of the growth occurring in Pentecostal, Charismatic, and other evangelical churches.

In Nigeria, Christian rallies draw between one and three million people. In Ethiopia, the Church has some 25 million members. Churches are expanding in Niger, Burkina Faso, Togo, Benin, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Mali, Chad.

In Latin America, Christian numbers will reach 640 million by 2025. The Jotabeché Methodist Pentecostal cathedral in Santiago, Chile, seats 18,000.

In Iran, Evangelicals have grown from a few hundred in 1979 to more than five million today.

In China, Mao expelled Christian missionaries. Yet from 900,000 then, Chinese Christians have grown to 80 million.

One reason for such growth is that people who suffer under repressive regimes are turning to a religion that (thanks to its Jewish roots) underpins freedom and human rights. The more barbaric Islamic regimes become, the more people turn to Christianity.

Because these new Christians are Evangelicals and thus take seriously what is written in the Bible, they devoutly support Israel.

Westerners may feel uncomfortable about these new churches since they emphasize visions and ecstatic utterances. But they are among Israel's best friends. And their growth has global implications.

In the West, Christianity is in decline, the culture war being lost to galloping secularism. With the Islamic world exploiting this civilizational vacuum, Europe is being Islamized even while the developing world is becoming Christianized.

Israel has come to view these new allies as a strategic asset, but needs to invest in them by helping improve their economies and living standards. Doing so can cement this friendship and transform Israel's leverage at the UN. ★



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Gmail Safe Again *(continued from cover sidebar)*

Fortunately for Google, Hafif uncovered what he termed the “One Token to Rule Them All.” Gmail is not just an abbreviation for “Google Mail;” it also stands for Global Main Authentication and Identification Library, and is used everywhere from Facebook to online banking sites. “Owning your Gmail account is a hacker’s dream because it means all other accounts are in reach,” Hafif said.



Although the bug would not have exposed Gmail passwords to hackers, it would have exposed to them authentic addresses—half the battle in getting passwords. The hack involves using a security token—a string of text and numbers—issued by Google. By changing one character in the token, Hafif said he was able to mine 37,000 Gmail addresses. Had he wanted to, “I could have extracted all of the email addresses hosted on Google” in a matter of weeks, or even days.

Many businesses do not use @gmail.com as their domain address. They use their own domain names and host them on Google servers. These, too, said Hafif, would have been vulnerable to the hack. Hafif is a white hat hacker, using his “powers” for good by hacking to eliminate security threats. (“Black hat” hackers do the opposite.) As such, he reported the bug to Google, which took immediate action to fix it.

Numerous commenters expressed shock at what they considered the small reward Hafif was given for mitigating what could have been a major security breach, damaging to Google’s reputation. Others called the reward “hilarious” and “shameful.”

“Thanks for the compliments,” Hafif responded, adding that while he would have liked more money, he could understand why Google was keeping a low profile because explaining over and over again might be overwhelming. ★

EMET!

Myles To Go
By Myles Weiss
ZLP Host



While in college, our older son, Jonathan, founded a nonprofit organization, EMET, using an acronym that spells the Hebrew word for truth (*emet* = truth). Exploring Middle East Truth was born following Jon's visit to Israel between his junior and senior years.

He returned from Israel with a fire in him to push back against the media's anti-Zionist lies, especially on campus. He quickly found that there are very few allies on the pro-Israel trail, but that those few tend to be deeply committed and loyal. Our readers and viewers at ZLM fall into this exclusive category.

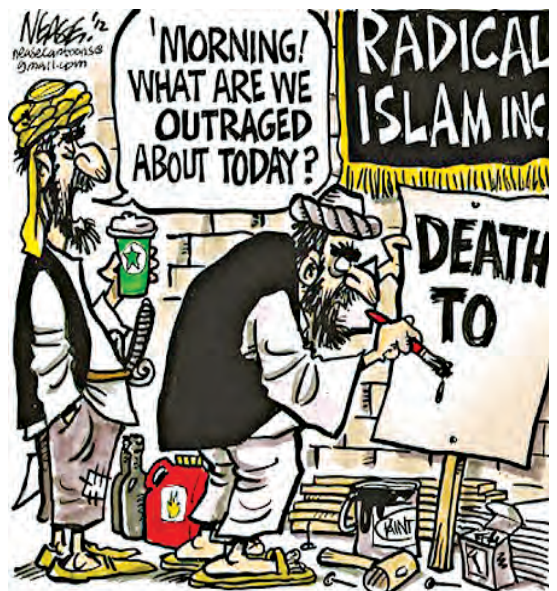
Truth rings out from the pages of **Caroline Glick's** most recent book, *The Israeli Solution: A One-State Plan for Peace in the Middle East*. One of my favorite writers, Glick presents a well-reasoned and balanced but fervently Zionist view. She has happily shocked me by repeatedly challenging and dismantling ideas I had accepted as fact. She laid bare the following myths:



- Everyone **knows** that Muslim Palestinians are multiplying at such an alarming rate that the demographics of Israel will soon overwhelm the Zionist dream, right? *Not so*, recounts Glick. Apparently, the inflated Palestinian Liberation Organization/Palestinian Authority (PLO/PA) census of 1997 has led to this presumption. **Fact:** the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) inflated (read: lied about) the numbers of Arabs living in the area *and* under-reported the numbers leaving/fleeing for parts unknown! (Glick, pp. 122–135).
- Palestinians vote for repressive Muslim regimes and choose dictatorial leaders over more moderate ones. **Fact:** While that statement is historically true, Glick cites an ever-increasing desire for democracy (up from 30% in 1992). In 1995, after three years under the Palestinian Authority, 79.6% said they would prefer democracy. In 1996, 42.9% reported a positive view of human rights under the PA, but 78% believed the status of human rights was positive in Israel. (Glick, p. 154)
- **Little-known Fact:** Milad and Muhammad Atrash, two *Muslim* brothers from Galilee, serve in the prestigious IDF Golani Infantry Brigade! (Glick, p. 155)

These insights make sense of what our Bedouin driver told me on a TV shoot several years ago. A devout Muslim, he would unfurl his prayer mat during the day to bow to Mecca. In a relaxed moment, he said in his strained English, "Where the Jewish rule, there is order; where my people rule...chaos!"

Taken together, the above anecdotes and documented facts reinforce my desire to bring pilgrims to the Covenant Land so they experience new views of Israel and a personal connection with its people. ★



Was Meriam Ibrahim a Political Pawn?

By Wendy McElroy / TheHill.com



Meriam Ibrahim

We pray that Ibrahim's release, re-arrest, and re-release is resolved by the time you read this. Still, her story illustrates the caprice of Islamic leaders and the danger sharia poses to the West.

A U.S. congressional resolution “condemning the death sentence against Meriam Ibrahim, a Sudanese Christian woman accused of apostasy” (leaving Islam), was an ill-considered bill that could have caused damage. The Sudanese appeal process was far from exhausted, and politicizing Ibrahim’s brutal sentence could have easily backfired against her. It could have also strengthened Sudan’s notoriously corrupt President **Omar al-Bashir** (*below left*).

A Sudanese court sentenced the 27-year-old to death on May 15 for allegedly converting from Islam to Christianity and for adultery because her marriage to an American citizen and Christian, Daniel Wani, is a criminal act in Sudan. Ibrahim was imprisoned with her infant son and newborn daughter, whom she could nurse for two years before her sentence was carried out.

An international outcry erupted and Ibrahim’s two chances for freedom seemed to be a successful appeal or clemency extended by al-Bashir. Focusing on legal grounds was seen as looking in the wrong direction. As Mohamed Ghilan, an expert in Islamic jurisprudence, stated on Al Jazeera, her “punishment has little to do with religion and serves as a political distraction.”



Al-Bashir is infamous for shady tactics, including misdirection. Sudanese journalist Dalia Abdelmoniem suggested Ibrahim was “fodder” in “an elaborate game of political chess.” Abdelmoniem pointed to a specific incident that occurred shortly before Ibrahim was thrust into a spotlight. With a corruption scandal (forged documents, land worth billions) likely to splatter mud in al-Bashir’s direction, he intends to clamp down on his opponents.

Religious conservatives see al-Bashir as “a defender of Islam” withstanding the West; liberals tend to be more secular and hostile to al-Bashir. Denunciations from the West often add to al-Bashir’s popularity.

Al-Bashir has weathered sanctions and civil war while ignoring the West’s opinion of him. In 2009, he became the first sitting president indicted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for directing mass killing, rape, and pillage in Darfur. Again, the indictment may have raised his reputation in political circles that matter to him.

Religious leaders worldwide called on al-Bashir to show Ibrahim compassion, and voices within Islam itself denounced her death sentence. A strategy in future situations would be to pursue voices like these that discredit al-Bashir rather than add to his repute; they are the ones most likely to result in clemency. Watching al-Bashir “graciously” bestow compassion would be a bitter pill but, if a Christian’s freedom is the goal, it should be swallowed. ★

According to *The Guardian*, a man on the street in Khartoum said: “How can they know about someone’s faith? Faith is in our hearts. This government is not Muslim — they are thieves and killers. Why didn’t they ask about the reasons that led her to the Church?” —Editor [Back to Cover](#)



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A Leap of Faith

By Katharine Weiss
ZLP Co-Host



Children provide our greatest joy. However, having children can also bring tremendous pain. Childbirth can parallel spiritual life. Think of it:

Conception, Gestation, Stretching, Birth pains, Discomfort, The BIG push.

In his letter to the Galatians (4:19), Paul says, "I travail again until Christ is fully formed in you."

As in childbirth, a discrepancy—a time lag—often occurs between the Lord's promise and the fulfillment. God told Abraham in Genesis 17:4, "... My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations." Yet, Abraham and Sarah lived many more years without having children.

As a boy, Jonathan, our first-born son, loved the Lord with all his heart. Then, in high school he chose to walk away from God. Just as giving birth to Jonathan was physically painful, his decision to walk away from the Lord 16 years later likewise pained my heart.

During Jonathan's wandering, I realized that I needed to believe the Lord's scriptural promises about him. I leaned on verses such as Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" to strengthen my faith that Jonathan would return to the Lord.

We give birth to our kids a "second time"—into the family of God. If your children have left the house of faith, like the Prodigal Son, please don't accept blame from the adversary (in Hebrew, *Ha-Satan*); just accept the responsibility to pray!

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."
(Jeremiah 1:5)

[\(continued next page\)](#)



Katharine and Jon



Leap... *continued*



7

Myles and I tried to make our boys aware of a bigger, larger purpose than their own lives. We sought to instill in them a desire for the Nations to know Yeshua. We ministered in India and Russia, and our sons lived with us in Africa during our time there.

For five years, we prayed for Jon after he got off course. I missed him, and his choice hurt me. Although we did not agree with his lifestyle, we continued to assure him of our love.

Even when your child is not going the way you envisioned, God has a plan. One day, in prayer for Jon, my heart knew that though he was not walking with God, God was walking with him. As God's sovereignty became clear to me, Jonathan asked, "Have you changed the way you are praying for me?"

We were, in fact, trusting the Lord's promise:

“For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future’” (Jeremiah 29:11).

Today, Jonathan has fully surrendered to God, and carries the message of Yeshua to the Nations. Do not be discouraged. Our God is mighty, and He loves your family with an everlasting love. ★



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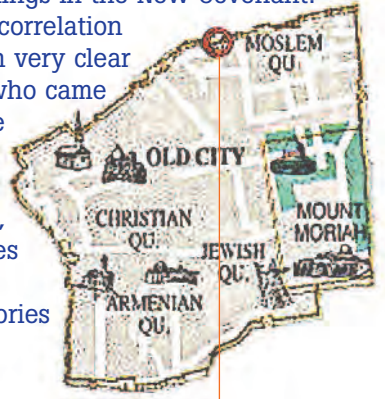
The Gates of Jerusalem

PICTORIAL SERIES / Herod's Gate



The gates of Jerusalem were more than passageways. They served as places for personal business and civic affairs. Some gates took their names from the distant cities they faced, like Jaffa and Damascus. Other names reflected purpose, like Fountain and Dung.

Old Covenant issues often have spiritual meanings in the New Covenant. In Nehemiah chapter 3, we find examples of this correlation regarding the gates of Jerusalem, which are given very clear spiritual meaning. Nehemiah, a Babylonian Jew who came to Jerusalem in the 5th century B.C. to rebuild the desolate city, described 12 gates. Today, seven gates open into the Old City. The eighth, the Golden Gate at the entrance to the Temple Mount, has been sealed for centuries. Revelation describes 12 in the New Jerusalem.



We will examine these ancient passages' histories and spiritual meanings.

Herod's Gate:
Sha'ar HaPerachim
Flower Gate,
Sheep Gate
(Neh. 3:1, 32)



Photo: Ken Berg

Herod's Gate is located at the northeast corner of Jerusalem's Old City between Damascus Gate and Lion's Gate, adjoining the Muslim Quarter. It is also called the Flower Gate because of intricate stone designs above the gate, and the Sheep Gate because it led out to the sheep markets where lambs were sold for sacrifice in the Temple. This gate also led to Golgotha, the path Jesus took to the crucifixion.

The Sheep Gate is the first gate mentioned by Nehemiah. This spiritual gate represents the experience of salvation made available by the Cross and is the first to be built in our lives; it was the first restored truth in the Reformation.

(continued next page)



Gates... continued



The Sheep Gate speaks of our very first experience in Christian life—that is, a realization that Jesus was the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. This gate, then, speaks to us of the cross and the sacrifice that was made for our sins. It is the starting point of everything. But if you read the entire chapter, you find that the Sheep Gate is also mentioned at the very end, once we have come full circle around Jerusalem. That is because everything starts and ends with Jesus' death on the cross.

Herod's Gate is named after Herod the Great who rebuilt the Temple around 26 B.C., or after a Mamluk house near the gate that 16th or 17th-century pilgrims mistook to be the palace of Herod's son, Herod Antipas.

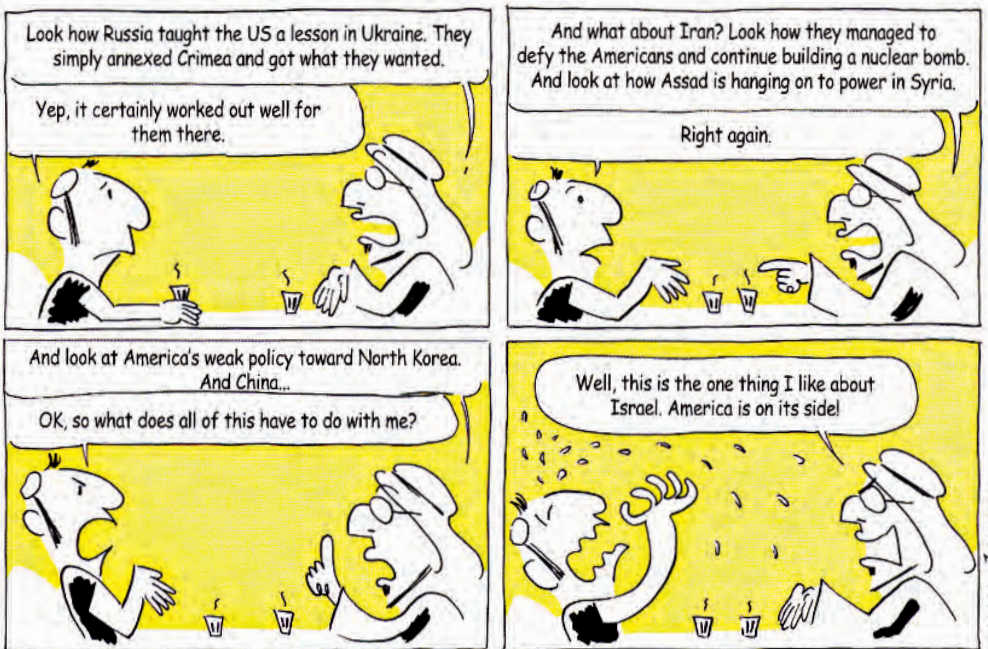
Crusaders penetrated these walls to capture the city in 1099. The Israel Defense Forces captured the Old City in June 1967 and opened Herod's Gate for pedestrians. ★



This monthly feature nicely introduces our TV series *Jerusalem: Ancient Gate/Future Glory* (coming this fall), which visually supports the information given above and affirms the historical and supernatural reality of the God of Abraham. — Myles



When Yossi and Ahmed Meet



Kibbutzim: Summer Vacation Destination

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF / Our Man in Haifa



The original concept of an Israeli *kibbutz* (collective farm) was hardly to provide a vacation destination for city dwellers. More than a century has passed, however, and nearly every kibbutz boasts a facility designed to draw families, especially in the summer months.

Back in the '90s, our family began taking a few days each summer to experience the country atmosphere of a kibbutz, escaping the heat and hurry of the city. My wife's Uncle Phil got us started when he created a summer tradition of gathering his five grown children, their spouses, and their kids (who by then had become a grand collection) for a week of fun and frolic together. Our family grew here in Israel as the older children got married and started their own families. We continued the custom, *a la* Uncle Phil, and now everyone looks forward to our annual family kibbutz vacation. Our multi-generational tribe now includes quite a few families, so we reserve several "cabins" on a kibbutz.

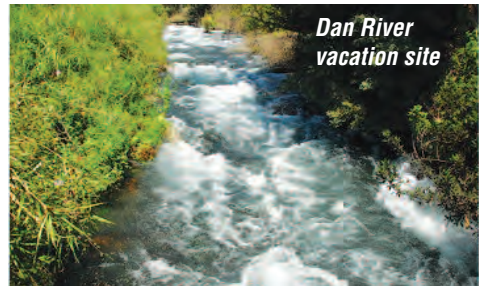
Over the years, we've been to some of the Galilee's hidden treasures: Malkiah, Manara, and Sasa near the northern border, Gonen at the edge of the Hula Valley; and Merom HaGolan, nestled against Har Bental mountain, overlooking abundant orchards. The higher altitude of these venues affords us respite from the coastal humidity—the settings remind us of the beauty of our land.

I never fail to be refreshed by Israel's evergreen forests, snow-fed streams, and clear evening sky. Of course, bobbing lazily with

grandchildren in the kibbutz swimming pool and devouring barbequed delicacies at the end of the day are no small attractions. Many Israeli *kibbutzim* offer reasonable rates for summer bed and breakfast. Their "wares" are easily checked out online, via extensive English language websites.

Since our country is compact, these kibbutz vacation spots are geographically accessible to all Israelis, and a favorite of young families. The sight of moms and dads eating buffet breakfast, or at poolside with progeny in tow, makes me nostalgic. Considering the stress most people deal with in the Promised Land, to see us step out of the pressure cooker warms my heart. I sigh. Then, I smile.

August will find us on another tribal summer kibbutz vacation. With nine grands and a new son-in-law, it promises to be another delightful time of recreation and reconnection. I heartily recommend it. ★



Dan River
vacation site



Shishkoff tribe

Ten Minutes

CLASSIC NOTE FROM ZOLA / 1985: 29 years ago



Zola wrote this 1985 Note about President Ronald Reagan, but feel free to insert the name of any elected official—national, local, foreign—who becomes impressed with his own prestige. —Editor

I've refrained so far from commenting on the President's visit to the military cemetery in Bitburg, Germany [containing the graves of 49 members of the Waffen-SS] but would feel remiss in saying nothing. I think those unfortunate 10 minutes will be remembered as long as Ronald Reagan's name is mentioned. I think he made a mistake.

The mistake was not so much in offending the Jewish people or the World War II veterans; certainly, the President did all that and more. The mistake was in presuming that he is some sort of king rather than the president of a democratic society. It is not fitting that this elected official should judge the feelings of those who were the victims of the Holocaust or the horrible battles of that hideous war. His moral platitudes and insipid lectures were badly out of place. In confronting [protests from] both houses

of Congress, distinguished veterans of World War II, and leaders of the Jewish community, he was simply beyond his depth. His singular stubbornness in the face of monumental opposition was reminiscent of Richard Nixon.

“Jews lost 37% of our population”

Thirty-seven percent of all the Jewish people alive during World War II perished in the Holocaust. If we Americans had lost 37% of our population 40 years ago [we lost 0.3%], we would not be willing to “reconcile” this disaster in a 10-minute ceremony.

In this democracy, the elected officials contract to carry out the will of the people. I'm not aware of any American who wanted the President to visit Bitburg. Ronald Reagan has fallen into a trap made for leaders everywhere; he has so many yes-men around him, and such a vote of confidence wherever he appears, that he begins to think that all his ideas are right. Earthly presidents and kings come and go. Their mistakes only make us long for the One who will occupy the Throne forever. ★

DUSTINSTOCKTON.COM



If your religion promotes killing non-believers, beating women, punishing rape victims, or selling your daughters as wives at 12...

You're not praying to the God above, you're praying to the one below.

Ask the Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Insidious Replacement Theologies

Q. Can you please give me your take on the teachings of Jim Staley? Some of what he says agrees with what you teach, but a lot is not included in what I have heard from your ministry.

A. Frankly, it is a mistake to characterize gentiles of the Church as part of the ten (lost) tribes of Israel; in other words, to replace Israel with the Church.

Such doctrine is known as Two House Replacement Theology and is false both biblically and historically. Messianic Believer and author Raymond Robert Fischer addresses this erroneous theology from both perspectives in his book *Full Circle* (pp. 239–296).

Furthermore, Staley confuses the two different dispensations of the Old Covenant and the New Covenant by teaching that the Church is still under the Mosaic Covenant. This position totally contradicts the Books of Romans, Galatians, and Hebrews.

Please avoid such teaching and pursue sound teachers of the Word. Staley plays a large part in the false Hebrew Roots Movement. One can biblically delve into the Jewish roots of Christianity without subscribing to Staley's

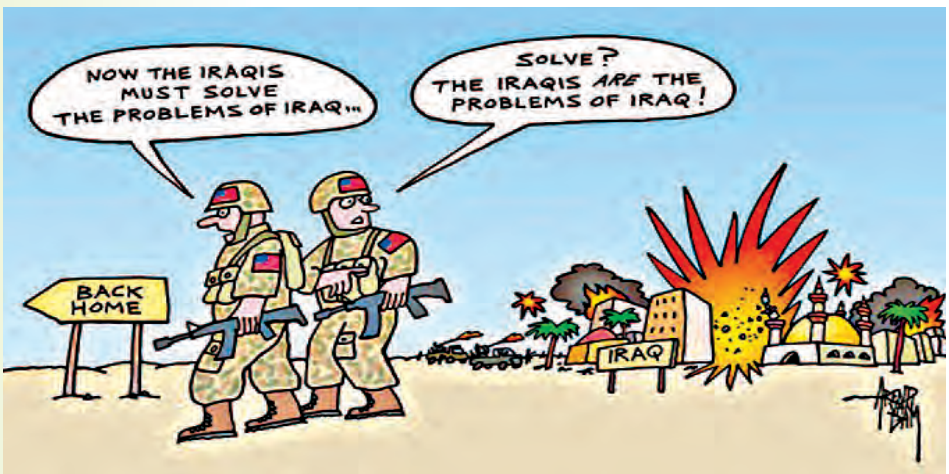
arcane doctrines that grate against the distinction God makes between Israel and the Church (1 Corinthians 10:32).

Q. What we call the Old Testament mostly describes the beginning of the Jewish People and the promises God made to them, the covenants He made with them. As for the Christians, the Scriptures say we are grafted into the heritage and promises of Israel. **Do we have the same promises as Israel, or does God have plans that are special and different for the Nation of Israel?**

A. We have been grafted into the same salvific benefits that "Believing Israel" has under the New Covenant (Jer. 31:31–34; Hebrews 8:8–12). But the Church's destiny is different. We Believers are the Bride of Christ whose inheritance is a heavenly one (Ephesians 1–2). The nation of Israel is the wife of God the Father, spiritually speaking (Hosea 2:16). Israel's inheritance is earthly in that God promised them a land forever (Genesis 17:7–8). The Scriptures clearly make a distinction between Israel and the Church (1 Corinthians 10:32). If we conflate them, confusion ensues and quickly leads to the error of Replacement Theology with belief that Israel is the Church, and vice versa. ★



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What An Amazing Ride!

BY TODD BAKER

A witnessing encounter on our phenomenal Gospel outreach this spring involved Sagi, one of the six IDF (Israel Defense Forces) soldiers that our **To The Jew First** team met on Mount Hermon. Sagi engaged us in a detailed discussion about the Latter Day restoration prophecy of Ezekiel (36:22–26). This prophecy is being fulfilled in our day by the regathering of Jews to their ancient homeland and the rebirth of the nation of Israel. In his interest to hear more, Sagi asked us to talk with him on his way to Kiryat Shmona to catch a bus home for the Sabbath. We were eager to answer his intelligent questions, so we drove him there.

During the brief journey, we discussed how the *B'rit Hadashah* (New Testament) is promised to Israel in the *Tanakh* (Old Testament) by Jeremiah the prophet in 31:31–34.

When Sagi asked if we had Jeremiah's verses in Hebrew, TJF team member Eric Oler opened the Hebrew app on his iPhone so Sagi could read it in the original language. Sagi was ecstatic. "Now I can read the *B'rit Hadashah* and the *Tanakh* together!"

Our discussion focused on the fact that

Yeshua the Messiah ratified the New Covenant by shedding His atoning blood on the cross. Messiah's First Coming was for this very purpose (see Matthew 26:28). His Second Coming will involve the full regathering of the Chosen People back to the land He gave them forever (Gen. 17:7–8). He will return to defend, rescue, and redeem them for Himself. The current regathering of the Jewish people back to Israel is a sign/guarantee from Scripture for Messiah's return.

God authenticates the real Messiah by fulfilling the Messianic prophecies given in the *Tanakh*. Sagi wanted to read some of these pertinent OT prophecies and their NT fulfillment. In fact, he was so eager and hungry that he studiously took notes and wrote down all of the Scripture verses we rattled off. When we reached Sagi's destination, he thanked us for the enlightening conversation on what he termed "an amazing ride."

Truly, it amazed the team to watch the Lord work in this young Israeli soldier as he learned for the first time about Jesus as Messiah. Each **To The Jew First** team member later spoke of the deep satisfaction that results from participating in this Spirit-led and anointed ministry. ★



Sagi & another IDF soldier

A variety of items are available to help you witness to Jewish friends and family. (see pp. 18 & 19)



Download The Promised Messiah tract at levitic.com/announcements

Shown above is our popular *The Promised Messiah* downloadable tract. At left is *The Prophecies of Messiah* 2-sided bookmark.



Is Islam the Work of the Devil?

BY PAUL WILKINSON / ChersonAndMolschky.com



The “Prophet” Mohammed preached largely unsuccessfully in Mecca for around 13 years and spoke the Devil’s words, known as the “Satanic Verses,” (an event well documented in Islamic sources) before he was finally chased out of town along with 150 followers.

Islam’s foundational texts reveal that global domination is Islam’s goal, not peaceful coexistence. Unfamiliar with the Koran, most people are unaware that Mohammed’s behaviors when he left Mecca for Medina included debauchery, theft, rape, violence, etc., which nurture many Muslim supremacist and expansionist worldviews. The Koran mixes together the books of Mecca and Medina, and apologists point to the more peaceful Mecca verses (and ignore the Medina verses) to portray Islam as benign.

There are certainly parallels to be drawn between Mohammed’s Islam and Satanism. (Theistic Satanism—devil worship—believes Satan is a supernatural force to worship, and Atheistic Satanism considers Satan merely a symbol for what their faith encourages.)

For example, the Church of Satan, founded by **Anton Szandor LaVey** (pictured here), opposes Christianity (just like Islam) and also believes in The



Nine Satanic Statements. Before his death in 1997, LaVey admitted that the image he presented publicly was deceptive. This compares to the Islamic doctrine of *takiyya*, under which Muslims may lie to advance Islam.

The Koran repeatedly states that Allah is the “best deceiver” (e.g. 3:54, 8:30), and Mohammed’s actions had much in common with LaVey’s Atheistic

Satanism. For example, The Nine Satanic Statements include “vengeance instead of turning the other cheek”; “indulgence instead of abstinence”; “kindness to those who deserve it [fellow religionists only] instead of love wasted on ingrates!” and “all of the so-called sins, as they all lead to physical, mental, or emotional gratification.”

Other aspects of Mohammed’s hedonistic behavior also parallel Satanism. For example, Mohammed indulged in sex with a 9-year-old girl (“done by the inspiration of Allah”) and beat her (Hadith 2127), kept war booty, ordered dissenters and prisoners of war to be killed, had 11 wives, kept sex slaves, etc.



Mohammed instructed his warriors to indulge in depraved behavior, e.g. raping captive women as a reward for their work in subjugating people to Islam, which in turn brought him more power, wealth, and influence.

Mohammed indulged in every sin imaginable, but told his rank and file Muslim followers that he alone had Allah’s permission and was the “perfection” of man. Ordinary Muslims had to abstain from these indulgences, but hoped their reward for being submissive would be an eternal orgy in paradise. Allah is a god of fear and terrorism that commands destruction upon those who refuse to convert to Islam. Islam is the ultimate program of mind control via submission and life-long enslavement until death. ★

ZLM Bulletin Board

2013 Fundraising Expenses

To comply with the tax code, we calculate the small percentage of newsletter space and television time that this ministry devotes to fundraising. Taken together, they account for two-thirds of one percent (0.67%) of our expenses. An acceptable threshold for many organizations is 20%, which is nearly thirty times what has sufficed for us. **Our hat is off to you, the supporter,** and your responsiveness to our minimal requests for contributions. 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 everywhere ... Thanks!



I'D LIKE TO GIVE, BUT...

Tour Department Birthday

Our travel department, **Zola Tours**, debuted on August 20, 1983. In the three decades since Zola began leading what are now over 100 tours, we've never canceled one. Even when America's news media sounded the alarm about Scud missile attacks in the Mideast, Israel still was statistically safer than many of America's largest cities. It's been a wonderful 31 years, and our hospitable Israeli friends know that our tour groups are among their truest and most reliable allies.

A Postcard from Yarkon Park

To see an Israel that American mass media ignore, please pay a virtual visit to a Holy Land oasis: Israel21c.org/culture/postcard-from-israel-yarkon-park. Tel Aviv's urban oasis offers a surprisingly green and tranquil experience in the middle of a big city. See how Israelis from all walks of life enjoy activities such as paddle-boating, kite-flying, barbecuing, and recreational fishing along the tranquil banks of the Yarkon River. Just as relaxing as New York City's Central Park—and a lot safer, too!



Free Item

Pamphlet of the Month

I'd Like to Give, But... describes common concerns about making charitable gifts. It also presents alternative ways to give besides writing a check. Among the ideas, you may find the solution to meeting your own obligations while also making the contribution you'd like to. This free pamphlet touches on considerations such as cash on hand, retirement planning, and providing for heirs. To receive it at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.



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“Come Home!”

Zola
Tours to
Israel



See [page 36](#)
for details



Hebrew Lesson



Comfort in Tribulation

By John J. Parsons

זֹאת נְחֻמָּתִי בְּעַנְיִי כִּי אִמְרַתְךָ חֵיִתֵּנִי

“This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise revives me.”
(Psalm 119:50)

נִי	יֵתְ	חֵ	תְ	רָ	תְ	אִמְ	רָ	כִּי	יִ	בְּ	עַנְ	יִ	נְ	חֵ	מָ	תִי	זֹאת
(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
chi-yat-ni	im-ra-te-kha	ki	ve-on-i	ne-cha-ma-ti	zot												
revives me	Your promise	that	in my affliction	my comfort	this (is)												

“And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying... ‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted’” (Matt. 5:4). Mourning is the expression of *care*, the voice of pain, the sorrow of a broken heart. Those who mourn, *care deeply*; they feel the weight of loss; they grieve over sin. Such sorrow expresses the longing to be released from inner sickness of evil, as Yeshua said: “from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts...” (Mark 7:21). Our own evil desires convict us of the truth. Here, there is no place left to hide, no rationalization, no vain hope for self-reformation—just the raw realization of our fatal condition and the appeal for God’s mercy in Yeshua. Mourning over our sins draws us to God, to the Comforter who “comes alongside” to bind up the broken heart. The danger remains, however, for those who deny their sin and refuse to mourn, since they are made blind to their need for forgiveness and comfort (John 9:41). How shall God be able in Heaven to dry up your tears when you have not yet wept?

One of the great tests of faith is learning to “endure yourself” as your inner character is transformed. To do so, you must *receive* the miracle of Jesus. You must 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. This is the comfort we have in our affliction: God’s promise revives our hearts to say, “I know that my Redeemer lives, and He will stand at the last day 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). We are given this great promise: “Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the Man of Heaven” (1 Cor. 15:49).

It’s not always easy to wait for God, especially when we are in pain or anxiety. But we must *never*, ever, give up; we must never forget the promise and reality of our ultimate healing in Jesus. Faith expresses hope in the Reality, Substance, and Being of the Invisible and is made captive to undying hope (Heb. 11:1). Therefore the Spirit cries out: come alive and trust in the promise of God! **“Blessed are You, LORD our God, King of the universe, Who makes us captives of hope.”**



***Journey of Restoration* DVDs**

A ten-part pilgrim's perspective during a study tour in Israel. (10 Programs on 2 DVDs)

Join pilgrims touring Israel, pastored by Myles and Katharine Weiss. Our Messianic guide reads from the Bible in Hebrew and English. Meet "living stones" of the Body of Messiah in Israel.

The Journey Begins In Caesarea, guide Yuval Shemesh talks about Apostle Paul's time in prison here. Myles speaks of the One New Man. In Carmel, we hear the testimony of a Jewish Believer.

Yeshua's Galilee Ministry We visit the "Jesus Boat," then embark on the Sea of Galilee where Myles teaches about the Lord's authority. On the Mount of Beatitudes, we hear Matthew 5 in Hebrew and English. After a visit to Capernaum, many pilgrims are baptized in the Jordan River.

Reforestation and Revelation Planting trees fulfills prophecy. At Tel Dan, we see the "House of David" stone. At Caesarea Philippi, Matthew 16 reveals the Lord's authority over the forces of darkness.

Up to Jerusalem From Beit She'an, we go to Qumran, site of the Dead Sea Scrolls cave. In Jerusalem, Myles welcomes us with a Hebrew blessing.

Resistance and Rest At Masada, we hear the fortress's extraordinary history. We learn about *Shabbat* during a *Shabbat* dinner in Jerusalem.

Holy Places, Holy Moments We walk from the Mount of Olives to the Garden of Gethsemane to meditate. In the Upper Room, we worship the Lord.

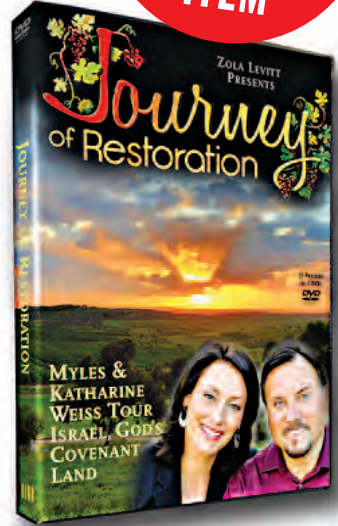
In the Footsteps of History At the Temple Mount's Western Wall and Southern Steps, we learn each site's significance. In the Garden Tomb's serene setting, we discuss the connection between Passover and Communion. Pilgrims' testimonies relate blessings from the tour.

The Tabernacle in the Wilderness In the desert, a life-size replica of the Tabernacle contains representations of Yeshua throughout.

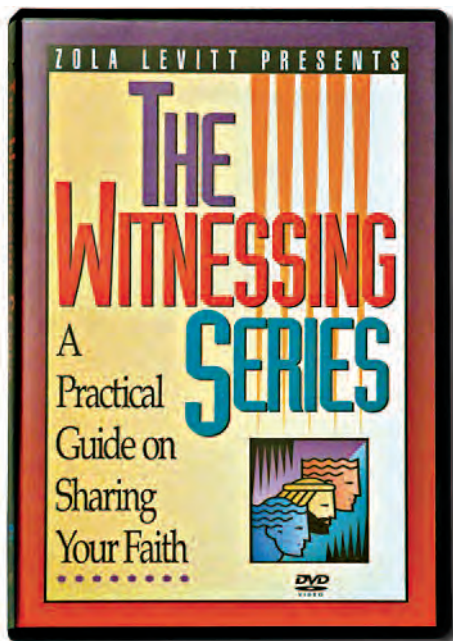
Prophecy and the Patriarchs We visit Petra, then Be'er Sheva, where Yuval tells the importance of water next to an ancient well. A clip from our *Abraham* series leads into a teaching of hope for Esau and Jacob.

The Destiny of the Heartland The tour over, Myles interviews Pastor Tommy Waller who brings Christians to harvest grapes alongside Orthodox Jews. Jewish Israeli Aaron Lipkin reflects on Tommy's work and the prophetic times in which we live.

Myles interviewing Tommy



SHARE MESSIAH WITH YOUR WORLD!



The key to witnessing is sharing the Bible. But how you go about presenting it depends on your listener. These four half-hour TV programs on DVD are our response to viewers who've asked, "How do I witness to...?"

Witnessing to Arabs Dr. Louis Hamada, an Arab born in Syria, conveys the importance of sharing the news of our Lord and Savior with the Muslims.

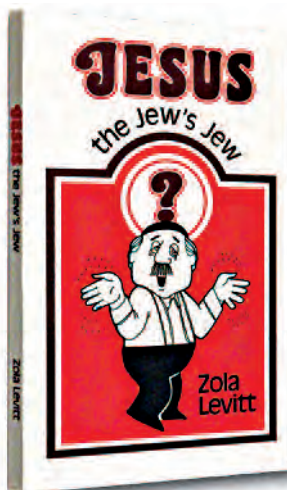
Witnessing to Jews, Part I Zola interviews David Gold, a Jewish radio host, who gives his testimony of accepting Jesus as Messiah.

Witnessing to Jews, Part II Messianic Jews from several walks of life share how they came to faith in Yeshua.

Witnessing to Gentiles Zola uses Peter's confrontation with Cornelius in Acts 10 as a reminder that "God is no respecter of persons."

JESUS, THE JEW'S JEW book

Zola's own testimony about his heritage and coming to Jesus—especially helpful witnessing to Jewish friends.

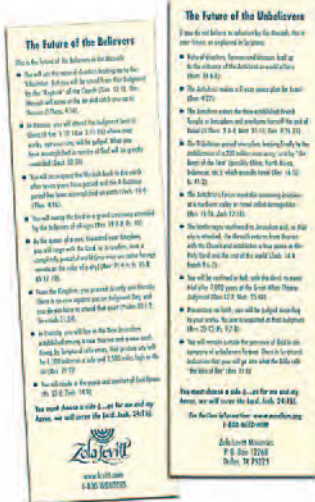


SOME POINTERS ON WITNESSING TO JEWS

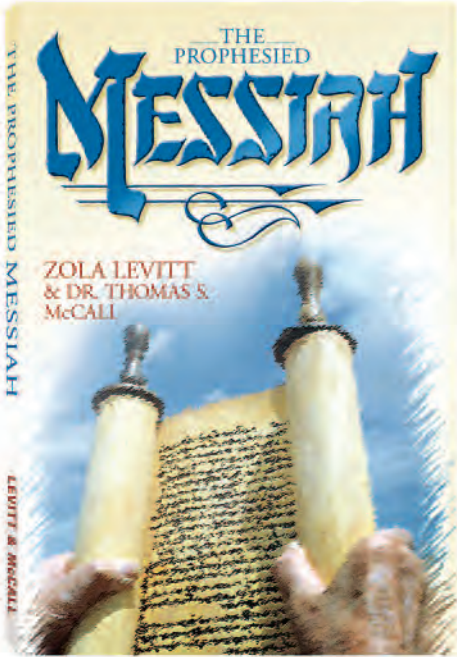
(Free with any purchase or send SASE.)

"THINGS TO COME" Witnessing Bookmark

This simplistic bookmark uses dozens of scriptural references to reduce man's fate to two options: "The Future of the Unbelievers" and, on the other side, "The Future of the Believers." A very handy witnessing tool! Upon request, receive one bookmark free with any purchase or donation (or you can send us a self-addressed stamped envelope, SASE).



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



A special book containing the major prophecies of the Messiah, along with color photos and Holy Land maps from our television series of the same name. It is extremely important that we are able to prove the coming of Messiah from Old Testament Scripture, thus showing objective evidence that our Lord is indeed "The Promesied Messiah."

One of our all-time most popular books.

THE PROMISED MESSIAH Printable Pamphlet (right)

Print our four-panel tract showing Messianic prophecies from the Bible in Hebrew and English. Download this document and print it double-sided, then fold to create a handout. This works on both 8½" x 11" or legal-size 8½" x 14" sheets, but reads better at full size on a legal-size sheet.



Unique witnessing collar pins.



THE PROMISED MESSIAH Bookmark

Another excellent witnessing tool, this handsomely designed 2¼" x 7" heavy bookmark gives Old Testament Scriptures declaring details of Who the Messiah of Israel was, and what He would experience and accomplish. Upon request, receive one bookmark free with any purchase or donation (or you can send us a self-addressed stamped envelope).



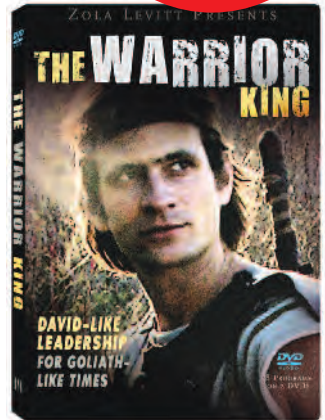
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The Warrior King:

David-like Leadership for Goliath-like Times
Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

The Warrior King tells the story of King David's time; but it is also the story of our own time. With challenges larger than Goliath all around us, we need Bible-based leaders now more than ever. In this eight-part series, Dr. Jeffrey Seif speaks to that need. Dramatic re-enactments—shot on location in Israel—complement the teachings in this series.



The Call We consider how David captured the heart of Israel, his selection by Samuel, and the amazing battle with Goliath that catapulted him to renown.

David and Saul Unfair trials often checker the road to success. We explore David's abuse at the hands of King Saul, and his bond with the king's son Jonathan. We evaluate Saul's death and David's gracious response.

Family The Bible tells of the good, the bad, and the ugly. In this program we look at David's marriage and family intrigue.

Wars David was a warrior—a spiritual role model for us all! Philistine, Amalekite, and Ammonite wars are discussed, along with modern-day applications.

Celebrated Warrior King Though anointed by God for kingship, David spent 13 years running from Israel's first king before ascending to the throne himself. As we hear the story of David's rise to power over all Israel, Jeff fleshes out its applications.

A Messianic Prototype The New Testament refers to Jesus as the "Son of David"—with good reason. We examine how the Old Testament predicted a coming Davidic Son.

Israel's Sweet Psalmist David's gift for creating poetry and music shows that he was "in touch" with something beyond the state of his armies. Viewers will benefit from this program's window into the softer side of the man.

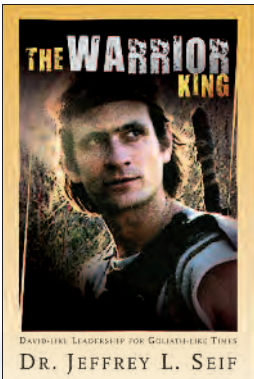
Messiah Messianic parallels abound in the person of David. In this closing program, we consider their various applications and implications. You'll walk away saying "He lives!" and, we hope, believing that He lives in you.



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The Warrior King:

David-like Leadership for Goliath-like Times book



From the eight-part TV series of the same title, this book can be used with the series or independently. It's an 86-page transcript of highlights that includes dozens of photos and an abundance of Hebrew with translation.

The Warrior King is a story about the Old Testament's David—Israel's greatest soldier. It's also about the Bible's "Son of David"—Jesus. The subtitle reveals that the story is both from all time and for all time. It's about trials and triumphs, and how God uses abysmal circumstances to improve those who rely on Him.



Googling Dad

Now that “Big Z” (as our Israeli tour guides and drivers affectionately called Zola, despite his short stature) has been fishing with Moses (*see cartoon*) for more than eight years, let’s reflect on his Godly mission, impact, and legacy.

Moishe Rosen (1932–2010), Founder of Jews for Jesus, pronounced Zola to be the second most famous Messianic Jew who ever lived. Googling Zola’s name might inspire you to agree. Humbled in his shadow (let alone in His shadow), I discovered that an Internet search today for “zola levitt” yields 114,000 results!

At some point, you and I get 15 minutes of fame (according to Andy Warhol’s conjecture). Thanks to your collective efforts and mine, Zola apparently got 15 hours...35 years really. Because he so coherently expressed the intricacies of modern biblical prophecy fulfillment, we ZLMers appointed him to blaze the trail for nearly all the Messianic teaching on television these days.

Using modern media—street corner, radio, TV, social networks—Zola enticed many to “follow” Jesus. Our ministry often rejoices in the vast efficiency of feeding hungry souls via television broadcasting, bulk mail, and the Internet. Obviously, nothing boosts name recognition like being quoted in the bestseller of all time, *The Holy Bible*.

The three top-ranked results of searching “Zola Levitt” are: www.levitt.com, www.levitt.tv, and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zola_Levitt. Coming in at third place, the people’s free, collaborative encyclopedia describes this ministry’s namesake as “a Jewish convert to evangelical Christianity who founded a church, Zola Levitt Ministries.”

To the contrary!

- Believing in Jesus, The #1 Jew of all time (before Whom anti-Semites will squirm on Judgment Day), makes you



MORE Jewish rather than a convert (or a traitor). Popular consensus is too often misinformed.

- Our 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, Zola Levitt Ministries, is in fact a religious organization, not a church.
- Third, it is anything but encyclopedic to sum up Zola’s ministry, life, and theology without mentioning the mainstay of his teaching:
 - that the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus fulfills OT prophecy
 - that one reward for belief in this Messiah/Savior is eternal life—salvation from damnation
 - that Israel and the Chosen People are just as important to Christians today as roots are to any plant

The fifth item when I Googled “zola levitt” was the YouTube page for *Zola Levitt Presents*. There you can watch brief videos about ZLM, “quick topics” such as how Passover connects the Testaments, and a sampling of recent series. Still, levitt.tv offers a much broader selection of our 30-minute TV programs—a vast library of free, on-demand viewing for anyone who has Internet access.

Please continue to uphold this ministry’s labors as we carry the torch Zola raised for the most Jewish Jew there ever was or will be. Thanks once again. ★



Moses and Zola—retired fishers of men



Letters to ZLM

Ministry products and TV programs are available on our web store: store.levitt.com.

Comments from www.levitt.com

From L.S. (PA): Dear Mark, Like you, I share a birthday with Israel ([May 2014 Levitt Letter, p. 6](#)) and, like you, I feel special in God's love. My birth being 93 years ago leads me to believe that after following Zola for 30 years, I'll soon see him in Heaven. —We have a very strong and loyal base of "seasoned citizens" who learned from Zola, Jeff, and now from us. We treasure these saints of God. Some of our seniors give sacrificially to keep us on the air and in America's mailboxes. Mark and we wish you *Mazel Tov* and *B'rachot*—many happy days and blessings, L.S. Your longevity reminds us of the truth of Genesis 12:3. As you and C.H. and J.R. below have chosen to bless the sons of Abraham, God has blessed you as well. We pray for you all long and healthy lives. Keep us in your prayers, that we too will finish the race strong! With our love — Myles and Katharine

From C.H. (CA): I look forward to your weekly *Zola Levitt Presents* TV program and read your *Levitt Letter* from cover to cover in one sitting. Zola would be amazed at how this ministry has grown. I know that the enclosed donation is well spent with your ministry.

From J.R. (OR): I absolutely devour your *Levitt Letters*. After I've gleaned all that I can from the many articles, I pass the *Letters* on to friends who do the same.

Ministering in Prisons

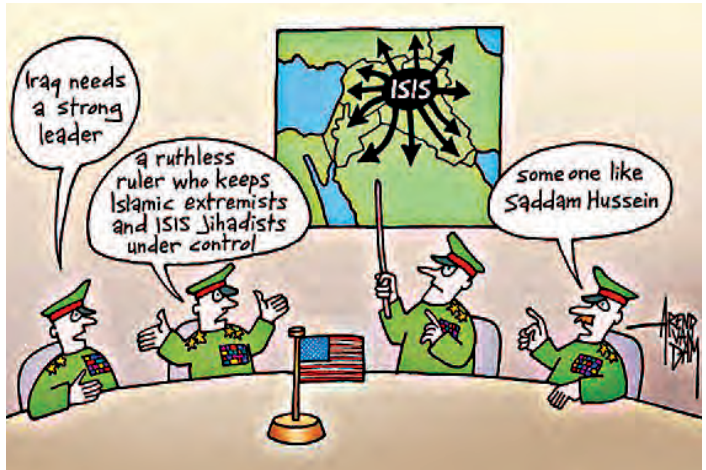
Dear ZLM,

My heart is full and my eyes are satisfied (for a time) after reading this month's *Levitt Letter*. Please double my automatic monthly electronic funds transfer. I want to subsidize some of the convicts who write to you. — R.W. (WI)

Todah Rabah (Thank you very much), R.W.—

Your gift helps over 700 prisoners receive the *Levitt Letter*. If Christians understood that America's prisons are breeding and recruiting grounds for radical Islam, I believe they would help us! We

are in a unique position to counter the rise of Islam on the front lines. We receive letters from many inmates with their tales of using our news-magazine to educate and challenge Muslims in their prisons. — Shalom, Myles



Ministered to in Prison

Dear Myles,

I am writing to thank you for your magazine. I share it with interested brothers. Hearing news from the Holy Land is a blessing. You are touching our lives and hearts.

I am an incarcerated Marine Corps vet. Hearing you say “thank you” was golden! ([July 2014 Levitt Letter p. 23](#)) I try to pass on that hope. I’m in a time of trial now, and the *Levitt Letter* helps very much. So, thank you for your grace. Continue in all you do. It’s awesome!

Semper Fi! —T.H. (AZ)

Dear T.H.—

You are in our prayers. Many in times of trial find comfort in Psalm 23. If you need a Bible, please let us know and we will send one to you.

—Myles and Katharine

Better Now Than Never

Dear Myles and Katharine,

What a blessing you both are, and all the staff at ZLM.

I want to thank you for producing *Journey of Restoration*. My health prevents me from travel, but your teaching is wonderful. My husband and I often turn to each other and say, “Why haven’t we seen this before?” or “Why did no one teach the rich history of our Jewish roots?”

God bless your endeavors. It warms the heart and tears the eyes to see the Lord uniting Jewish Messianics and gentile Believers. May God bless your work richly. —A. and L.B. (OH)

Greetings in Yeshua, A. and L.B.—

Thanks for seeing the quality of the teaching and Messianic insight we are reaching for on *Zola Levitt Presents*. Your letter brought to mind a pastor we hosted in Israel many years ago. As the tour came to a close, he said with deep emotion, “Myles, why wasn’t this taught 35 years ago in seminary? Why did I have to wait my whole ministry life to see the roots of my faith and experience the Bible in the land of its origin?”

Thank the Lord you are “getting it” now. I hope you will have opportunities to share your spiritual journey with others. Blessings —Myles



South Carolinians show their firm support. (Also see p. 30 article)

Learning Wisdom

Dear ZLM,

After reading Zola's booklets *A Christian Love Story*, *In My Father's House*, and *The Miracle of Passover*, I saw how God chose the customs of a Jewish wedding to show the story of His salvation. However, He also applied the lesson to me personally.

In my twenties, I succumbed to the philosophy that marriage in God's eyes had nothing to do with "a piece of paper"—a contract. Living that way didn't feel right, but I had no defense because I couldn't find any "Thou shalt marry under contract" verse in the Bible to support my argument. I finally found the strength to leave that increasingly abusive relationship.

I met another woman in a similar situation just when I was reading Zola's booklets. I passed on to her my realization that a contract was important enough to God that He orchestrated the idea of marriage with His plan of salvation. A young man taking a "contract" to the young woman of interest, God freeing Israel from slavery to give them a "contract" at Mount Sinai, and Yeshua at Passover offering a new "contract" made a big difference in my understanding. Though not stated specifically as the answer I searched for, the application was obvious. I bought her the books and pray she sees what God showed me.

What a lot of time I wasted in that sinful relationship because I couldn't see the Jewish perspective! In all my searching, no one could articulate an answer to help me see correctly. I don't blame anyone, but I mourn for the time I lost. How much better it could have been for me and others if the Church hadn't kicked out the Jews but welcomed them and their historical context. Just a thought, S.J. (TX)

Shalom and B'rachot (peace and blessings), S.J.—

Christ-centered relationship is a subject near and dear to Katharine and me. In a counseling ministry for twenty-five years, I hold advanced degrees and a license as a Marriage and Family Therapist. The Church's "divorce" from a Hebraic understanding of family and Jewish life and culture has been costly indeed. Believers fervently hope for awakening and restoration in our day.

Your journey, while undeniably painful, provides lessons that are a resource and blessing to others. May God continue to use you to point others to the Bridegroom of Heaven. With love and gratitude —Myles



Three Comments on ZLPs New Set

Dear ZLM,

#1 – I think you may have made a mistake by going to the new studio set. The old set gave me the feeling that I was coming into your (or Zola's) living room, that I was being welcomed into your home. The new set is a news reporter's set. I keep expecting to see a weatherman and sports reporter. —B.B.

#2 – The new set is cold and lacks the character of the former set. I just don't like it at all. The old set had many items that remind one of Israel—menorah, scrolls, etc. —T.L.

#3 – This is from a grandma who does not like change. Has anyone else mentioned that seeing your new set feels like watching a newscast? Can't you make it look just a little bit homier? —G.C. (ID)

Dear B.B., T.L., and G.C.—

Not to worry. Just as God isn't finished growing each of us Believers, our television producer is still working on the new *Zola Levitt Presents* set. It will improve in stages. The next go-round includes a large panorama (*as shown*)



of Jerusalem behind Myles and Katharine. Please remember, no one evaluated Creation right after the first day. —Mark

Amen and amen, Mark. The warmth of the program came from Zola's personal on-air presentation. We hope that the love we share for God and each other will also come through as we develop the new *ZLP* set. —Myles and Katharine



Your Israel TV Shows

Greetings, ZLM,

Over the weekend, my husband and I watched about four of your *Zola Levitt Presents* television shows taped in Israel. They were probably the best we've ever seen! We have been to Israel twice on tours, so when we watched Myles greeting the pilgrims at the airport by welcoming them "home," we wept. We know exactly how that arrival feels. It amazes us how that tiny strip of land and the people who live there seem like home and family to us. Thank you so-o-o much for airing those Holy Land TV programs. We want to help your ministry. May God bless it and you for all you do in His service. E. and L.S.

Todah Rabah (thanks very much), E. and L. for your contribution and also for the reminder of the power of visiting Israel. We wanted to bring an Israel tour to our viewers who may not be able to make the trip. The very positive feedback on our *Journey of Restoration* series indicates that we succeeded. While the tour group we filmed for the series was very small, over 100 people already signed up to accompany us in October. *L'shana ha'zeh b'Yerushalayim* ... THIS year in Jerusalem! —Myles and Katharine ★

Starbucks Installs Israeli Tech



SCIENCE: BY DAVID SHAMAH (r) TimesOfIsrael.com

Tables in Starbucks coffee shops are being outfitted with Israeli-developed **Powermat** charging-pad technology, on which customers can place their compatible devices and charge them wirelessly.

The Powermats are marketed by battery manufacturer Duracell, one of many partnerships Powermat has entered into with U.S. companies. In 2011, General Motors agreed to include Powermat technology in Chevy Volts. In 2012, Powermats began appearing at airports in Chicago, Aspen, Omaha, and Toronto, where users can recharge their devices in locations that are usually sparsely outfitted with electrical outlets.

In addition to Starbucks, rival coffee chain The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf is deploying Powermats in a pilot project in several Los Angeles locations. McDonald's, the biggest chain of all, is experimenting with Powermats at several Manhattan outlets.

Powermat advertises its pads as providing "wireless power" to charge devices. The pad is plugged into a normal power source and charges devices that are laid on the pad's surface. The pads employ electromagnetic induction, which uses magnetic fields to produce electricity that can then be transferred to a device without wires. The pads are low-power (5 to 50 watts), so users can lay down not only their devices, but their coffee cups as well with no negative consequences. Up to six devices, Powermat says, can be charged on a pad that is connected to a single electricity source.

The special conductor required to take advantage of electromagnetic induction is already built into many modern devices, but even older smartphones can use the technology when they are outfitted with a case that contains the conductor. The standards for the technology were authored by the Power Matters Alliance (PMA), which certifies devices and equipment that work with the standards.



"Starbucks is transforming the way consumers get power to their phones, in much the same way it made Wi-Fi a standard amenity in public places. This endeavor is a critical step in Duracell's vision to make dead battery anxiety a thing of the past," said Stassi Anastassov, president of Duracell. "When Starbucks introduced Wi-Fi in their stores in 2001, 95 percent of devices didn't have Wi-Fi, and multiple standards hampered the industry. The rest is history. Starbucks's plan to offer Powermat nationally is likely to settle any lingering standards question and usher wireless power into the mainstream."

"Powermat Spots in Starbucks are the result of almost a decade of scientific research said Ran Poliakine, CEO of Powermat Technologies. "The two-pronged power-plug dates back to the era of the horse-drawn carriage, so that today's announcement marks the first meaningful upgrade to the way we access power in well over a century." ★

Blood Test for Breast Cancer



MEDICINE: BY RUTHIE BLUM (r) Israel21c.org

After eight years of painstaking research, Israeli life-sciences company Eventus Diagnostics (EventusDx) has produced a blood test for the early detection of breast cancer.

The Octava Pink test is now available in Israel and Italy, and is undergoing clinical trials for U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval. This is the first blood test ever that can reveal cancer, not merely markers that might indicate cancer or something else. Its innovation also lies in its examination of antibodies in the blood to pinpoint this specific cancer.

Molecular biologist **Galit Yahalom**—who heads the research team at the lab near Jerusalem—explains the breakthrough. Says Yahalom, “We know that the immune system recognizes cancer as an external enemy that must be destroyed. It is possible that each of us has had instances of cancer we were unaware of because our immune systems killed it when it was still very small. For whatever reason, the immune system of people with cancer is not functioning properly.”

It was from this angle that Yahalom’s team of 15 biologists (and a computer expert) tackled the problem. After collecting data from hundreds of women, both healthy and diagnosed with breast cancer, Yahalom’s team looked for proteins of the immune system. They also examined immune-system activity in women with ovarian cancer, and men and women with intestinal cancer, to see the distinction from those with breast cancer.

The process takes no more than three hours, allowing a woman’s doctor to rule out or confirm breast cancer very quickly.

According to Yahalom, with conventional screening, “50% of young women with breast cancer, and 30% of older women with breast cancer, are diagnosed as healthy.” The Octava Pink test has had astounding results, correctly diagnosing 95% of healthy women and 75% of those with breast cancer.

The product’s name was chosen as a metaphor of the immune system: “A song sung in a low octave or a high octave is still the same song,” says Yahalom. “But if one or more of the notes is off key, it is a different song. The same goes for the immune system. One person’s may work slowly and another person’s may work quickly; what we detect are the off notes.”

Her team is now exploring other cancers to target in the future. ★

I never cease to marvel at the amazing contributions of my Jewish brothers and sisters. Only 0.2% of the global population, yet Jews have garnered over 22% of the **real** Nobel Prizes (some “peace” awards are laughable!). Jewish honors include breakthroughs in technology, science, medicine, computers, physics, chemistry, biology, and the arts. —Myles



Tisha B'Av: Day of Sorrows



By Messianic Rabbi Michael Stepakoff (r) Messianic Jewish Alliance of America

August 4/5 is Tisha B'Av this year, one of the most difficult days on the Jewish calendar. This day holds importance to the Jewish people ... and also to our own personal lives!

September 11 has become a date that recalls one of the worst tragedies in American history. Similarly in Jewish tradition, Tisha B'Av has long served as a date on which the people of Israel remember tragic events of the past.

Tisha B'Av is literally the ninth (*tisha*) day of the month of Av on the Hebrew calendar. Characterized by fasting, mourning, and solemn repentance, it is considered to be the saddest date in Jewish history. Incredibly, many of the worst tragedies occurred on the 9th of Av, e.g. the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem.

Solomon's Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C. Herod's Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D. Both events happened on the 9th of Av. In each incident, the destruction of the Temple resulted in the exile of the Jewish people from the land, and Jerusalem falling under the power of a foreign, idolatrous nation.

"To everything there is a season... a time to weep... and a time to mourn"
Ecclesiastes 3:1–4.

Traditional customs of Tisha B'Av are similar to those of Yom Kippur: fasting and refraining from wearing gold, jewelry, or leather. It is also customary to read the Book of Lamentations.

(continued next page)

Prayers at the Western Wall in Jerusalem



(Photo Jack Hazut: www.israelimage.net)



Tisha B'Av... continued



Other important events occurring on the 9th of Av include the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492, the outbreak of World War I on August 1, 1914; and the beginning of the 1942 mass deportations from the Warsaw Ghetto that resulted in millions of Jews being murdered in death camps during WWII.

The first Sabbath after Tisha B'Av is called *Shabbat Nachamu* (comfort) because after the day of mourning, we read from Isaiah 40:1–3, beginning with the word Nachamu:

"(Nachamu) Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, ... for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Although the Temple has twice been destroyed and the Jewish people twice exiled, the Scriptures and the Gospel of Messiah were spread to the whole world. God also promised in the end of the Age to restore the Jewish people to the land of Israel and to rebuild the ruins.

It is truly amazing that in our very own time, the nation of Israel is being revived and Jewish people around the world increasingly give their lives to Yeshua. Let us remember that soon the whole world will see the Son of God returning with the armies of Heaven to place His throne in Jerusalem forever! ★



The Second Temple Destruction— A Pilgrim with Zola Tours, Spring 2014



Photo courtesy: Barbara Ann Corner

SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS



Church (U.S.A) insisted the vote did not mean the church was joining the economic boycotts, disinvestment, and sanctions (BDS) campaign. However, BDS leader Omar Barghouti praised the church for delivering a “sweet victory.”

South Carolina: Pro-Israel Vanity License Plates

By Lori Lowenthal Marcus / JewishPress.com

Residents of South Carolina can now express their support for Israel through their license plates.

On June 2, Governor Nikki Haley signed a bill into law that allows car owners in the Palmetto State to sport pro-Israel vanity plates. The state’s Department of Motor Vehicles can now issue “South Carolina Stands with Israel” license plates for private cars, as long as they match the regular ones in size and general design.

We had a “chance” encounter with State Representative Alan Clemmons, the author of this bill, in the vineyards of Samaria! We took photos together and prayed for his political work in awakening the people of South Carolina to be a voice for Israel! Go God!
—Myles and Katharine

Presbyterian Shame— Boycotting Israel

New York Daily News editorial

After voting to sell its investments in three major American companies— Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions— on the grounds that Israel uses goods or services purchased from the firms in enacting security measures, the Presbyterian

The assembly’s insistence that the church remains a good friend of Israel rang equally hollow. The American Jewish Committee had good reason to say the vote was “driven by hatred of Israel.”



The Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church published *Zionism Unsettled* that depicts the movement for a Jewish state as a font of evil that promoted ethnic cleansing, and draws parallels between Israel’s treatment of Palestinians and Nazism.

Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** vividly captured the Presbyterian obtuseness by calling on members to “come and see Israel for the embattled democracy that it is, and then take a bus tour; go to Libya, go to Syria, go to Iraq, and see the difference.



“I would give them two pieces of advice— one is make sure it’s an armor-plated bus, and second, don’t say that you’re Christian.”

The Presbyterian divestment vote was 310 to 303, a margin indicating the presence of a substantial body of leaders who can tell right from wrong. They must fight to restore their church’s good name.



Jews Flee France for Israel

By Chad Groening / OneNewsNow.com

France has the world's third-largest Jewish population after Israel and the United States—about 500,000, according to rough estimates in a country that after the Holocaust outlawed any official documentation of a person's religion.

Now increasing numbers of French Jews are leaving for Israel, citing dim economic prospects and a sense of being caught between an increasingly influential French political right and radical Islam. More than 5,000 are on track to leave this year, the most since after the Six-Day War in 1967.



David Rubin (above) a former mayor of Shiloh [and good friend of ZLM], points out: “The Islamic population has been growing rapidly in Europe as a whole, but France is about the largest Muslim population in all of Europe. Where Muslims go, anti-Semitism increases.”

According to Rubin, some areas of France are so dangerous that even law enforcement officers dare not enter. Unless the French get a handle on the problem, he says, the number of French Jews leaving for Israel will only increase.

~~Palestinians Condemn~~ Applaud Kidnapping

By Mudar Zahran / GatestoneInstitute.org

Although Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas initially defended the search for the Israeli teens kidnapped in June by terrorists—comments for which many Palestinians attacked him—the official PA daily wrote that “Israel itself is behind the ‘kidnapping’” and alleged that the three boys were soldiers when in fact they were students, two in high school. The kidnappings were celebrated by people glorifying the kidnappers and passing out sweets.

The Fatah Facebook page published a cartoon (*see below*) showing the three kidnapped teenagers as rats bearing the Star of David with the caption “The Master Stroke.”

The PA exerts extreme monitoring and control over social media in the West Bank. A Palestinian man was jailed for six months for “liking” an anti-PA post on Facebook. The PA, therefore, is fully responsible for encouraging the celebrations of the kidnapping and harrowing murder over Palestinian social media. ★



Crusade-Era Monastic Seal



ARCHAEOLOGY: BY GAVRIEL FISKE TimesOfIsrael.com

A rare monastic lead seal dating from the Crusader era has been positively identified over a year after it was discovered at an archaeological site in Jerusalem.

The double-sided seal (of a type that was used to ensure the privacy of church correspondence) is confirmed to have originated at the Monastery of St. Sabas, an ancient Greek Orthodox monastery overlooking the Kidron Valley, between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. *(Seal shown larger than actual size)*

The seal (*bulla* in Latin) is some 800 years old and in "excellent condition," according to the Israel Antiquities Authority. The seal "shows a bearded bust of a saint wearing a himation [a kind of ancient Greek robe] and holding a cross in his right hand and what is likely a Gospel in his left hand. Surrounding it is a Greek inscription naming the saint: 'Saint Sabas.' On the back of the bulla appears another longer Greek inscription: "This is the seal of the Laura of the Holy Sabas.'"

"Laura" or "Lavra" is a term for a Greek Orthodox monastic complex comprising a group of caves or cells for monks, a church, dining room, and other buildings. The St. Sabas monastery—still in use and considered the oldest continually inhabited monastery in the world—was founded in the 5th century A.D. by its namesake, a leading Christian figure of the Byzantine period who established several monastic communities.

[\(continued next page\)](#)

Aerial view of the excavation area: Skyview Company / Israel Antiquities Authority



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Monastic Seal... Continued



The seal “consisted of two blank lead disks and had a string that passed through a channel between them. In sealing the letter, these were pressed together with a pincer-shaped object with dies, creating the double-faced seal,” according to the IAA.

The site where the seal was discovered—the residential neighborhood of Bayit Vegan—was a small farming community during the Crusader and Mamluk periods. It had previously been settled during the earlier Byzantine era. Most objects discovered at the site reflect the daily life of an agricultural center.

According to the directors of the excavation, **Benyamin Storchan** (*shown*) and Benjamin Dolinka, “this is an extraordinarily rare find because no such seal has been discovered to date. ... The excavated farmstead may well refer to a farming settlement sold to the monastery in 1163–1164. The document, part of the archives of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre during the Crusader period, mentioned a farming settlement by the name of Thora, whose whereabouts are unknown. It is quite possible that the document refers to this site.”

Robert Kool of the IAA noted that during the Crusader period, the Saint Sabas monastery had an important role in the affairs of the Kingdom of Jerusalem, and had “a close relationship with the ruling royal family. The monastery had numerous properties, and this farm may have been part of the monastery’s assets during the Crusader period.”



Anti-Israel Boycotts are Failing IsraelToday.co.il

Global efforts to boycott Israel are failing, and nothing proves it more than the vast sums of investment dollars that are poured into the Israeli hi-tech industry.

Fully 11 percent of all global hi-tech investments every year go to Israel. That’s a huge figure considering Israel’s minuscule size.

And then there are the regular multi-billion dollar acquisitions of Israeli start-ups and the fact that the world’s leading technology corporations all maintain significant research and development centers in the Jewish state. ★

Verbally Photoshopping Israel

BY EVELYN GORDON (r) CommentaryMagazine.com



As a longtime fan of *The Wall Street Journal*, I am mystified why a staunchly pro-Israel paper consistently allows its news pages to be used for anti-Israel smear campaigns — smear campaigns, not “critical reporting.” A classic example earlier this year asserted that Israel had agreed “to release political prisoners” as part of the U.S.-brokered deal that restarted Israeli-Palestinian talks in 2013. *The Journal* was sufficiently embarrassed by this description of convicted mass murderers that it issued a correction in print, yet left the online version unchanged.

A more subtle example: a report titled “On Middle East Visit, Pope Will Find a Diminished Christian Population.” While Israel is the glaring exception to this Mideast trend, reporter Nicholas Casey implies the opposite in a single sentence that’s dishonest on at least three different levels: “Syria has seen an exodus of nearly half a million Christians, and in Jerusalem, a population of 27,000 Christians in 1948 has dwindled to 5,000.”

First, while Casey never says explicitly that Jerusalem’s shrinking Christian population reflects the situation in Israel as a whole, it’s the obvious conclusion for the average reader — especially given the juxtaposition with Syria, which implies that both countries are treating their Christians similarly and thereby causing them to flee. This impression is reinforced by the only other statistic he gives about Israel: that Christians have declined as a percentage of the total population.

In truth, Israel’s Christian population has grown dramatically — from a mere 34,000 in 1949 to 158,000 in 2012, according to Israel’s Central Bureau of Statistics. That’s an increase of almost fivefold. And while Christians have fallen as a share of the total population, that’s mainly because they have significantly lower birthrates than Israel’s Jews or Muslims.

Second, even his statistics on Jerusalem are dubious. Israel’s internationally respected statistics bureau put the city’s Christian population at 14,700 as of the end of 2011. It is highly unlikely that after remaining stable for 44 years — decades punctuated by repeated wars, vicious terrorism, and deep recessions — the Christian population would suddenly plunge by two thirds at a time of strong economic growth and very little terror.

Third, while Jerusalem’s Christian population has undeniably plummeted since 1948, Casey neglects to mention one very salient point: That entire decline took place during the 19 years when East Jerusalem — where most of the city’s Christians live — was controlled by Jordan. By 1967, when Israel reunited the city, Jerusalem’s Christian population had fallen to 12,646. Since then, it has actually edged upward, to 14,700.

Throw in the innuendos that the Palestinian Authority’s declining Christian population is mainly Israel’s fault, and Casey’s verbal Photoshop job is complete: Israel, the only country in the Middle East whose Christian population is growing and thriving, is successfully repackaged as a vicious persecutor that is driving its Christians out. ★



JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.

Eye Witness

Morris is testifying in court as a witness to a burglary. Because Morris is an elderly man, the defense lawyer challenges his testimony.

"You say you saw my client commit this burglary?" the defense lawyer asks Morris.

"Yes," replies Morris, "I saw him take the goods as clear as can be."

"But Morris," says the lawyer, "this burglary took place at night. Are you really sure you saw my client commit this crime?"

"Yes," says Morris, "I definitely saw him do it."

"Listen, Morris," continues the lawyer. "You're 80 years old and your eyes are probably not as good as they once were. Just how far can you see at night?"

"I can see the moon; how far is that?" replies Morris. ★



A cheerful heart is good medicine —

Proverbs 17:22



Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

ABC Family Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Days	5:30 am Sun	6:30 am or 3:30 am Sun	4:30 am Sun	5:30 am Sun

DirecTV—Channel 311

Dish—Channel 180

Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Days	8 pm Wed 3 pm Fri	9 pm Wed 4 pm Fri	10 pm Wed 5 pm Fri	11 pm Wed 6 pm Fri

DirecTV—Channel 369

Dish—Channel 263

TCT DirecTV Channel 377—

Consult www.tct.tv for a viewing schedule.

Our complete TV Airing Schedule includes dozens and dozens of independent channels and is posted at www.levitt.com/airsch.

New Series from Israel Airing Soon!



Cable & Satellite viewers: please check your listings.



New Year! Jewish Heritage Calendar

5775 (2014–2015)

Beautiful and useful, this lovely Jewish calendar begins in September 2014 and provides the dates of all the biblical feasts and Sabbaths. Learn the names of the months, the Holy Days, and all the rest through the English phonetics like those in our monthly Hebrew Lesson in the *Levitt Letter*.

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