

# Levitt Letter

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



**Hamas Tunnels Exposed p.28**



## Gaza in Prophecy

By Joel Richardson / wnd.com

As the world focuses on Gaza, Believers should consider what the ancient Hebrew prophets foresaw about the future of this little piece of land. According to the Scriptures, the Return of Jesus and the subsequent Judgment will largely revolve around what the prophet Isaiah referred to as “the legal cause” or “the controversy of Zion” (Isaiah 34:8) that undoubtedly rages now throughout the Nations as the State of Israel seeks to crush Gaza-governing Hamas (whose stated goal is exterminating the Jewish people).

According to several prophets, the controversy will only intensify as we draw closer to the Second Coming, when a coalition of nations will invade Israel, seeking the final genocide against the Jewish people. The prophet Joel tells us that the Lord will execute judgment in Jehoshaphat against all involved in this invasion, specifically any dividing His land. (Joel 3:2)

*(continued p.2)*

## Reuven Rivlin, Israel's New President

By Rachel Neiman  
Israel21c.org



Israel's new president, Reuven Rivlin, “Rubi” as he's known familiarly, attributes his homey-ness to growing up in 1950s Jerusalem, back when it had a small-town feel.

Rivlin is a 7th-generation Jerusalemite whose ancestor, Rabbi Hillel Rivlin, in 1809 purchased land in Jerusalem for Jewish settlement.

Rubi attended Jerusalem's first modern Jewish high school, became a fervent Beitar Jerusalem FC (football club) fan in 1946 at age seven and, like all “good Jerusalem boys,” joined the Israel Scouts movement.

*(continued p.3)*



## Gaza in Prophecy *continued from cover*

Jehoshaphat is the valley that runs north to south between the Temple Mount and the Mount of Olives. As Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives looking down at the Valley of Jehoshaphat, He declared that when He returns, He will judge the Nations based on how they treated His “brethren” (Matthew 25). Jesus was clearly harking back to Joel 3, inserting Himself into the passage as YHWH, the Divine Judge.

As the prophecy continues, it specifies the Lord executing vengeance against those from the regions of *Tyre, Sidon* (Lebanon) *and all the regions of Philistia* (Gaza) who have engaged in violence against the people of Israel. (Joel 3:4)

For *Tyre, Sidon* read Hezbollah. For *the regions of Philistia* read Hamas. Today’s news headlines.

The prophecy does not speak of every inhabitant; rather, it specifies those who seek “violence” to “shed innocent blood” in the land of Judah. (Joel 3:19–21)

Ezekiel prophesies similarly. (Ezekiel 35:5–7)

Jesus passionately loves all people (2 Peter 3:9) and grieves over the loss of innocent life on both sides of the present conflict. Yet Scripture is painfully clear that when Jesus comes back, because of its aforementioned violence and hatred the region of Gaza will be devastated. The prophet Zephaniah, speaking specifically of the Day of the Lord, warns the inhabitants of Gaza to repent: *Seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the LORD’S anger* (Zep. 2:3).

Then comes a stark description of what lies ahead for Gaza when Jesus returns: *For Gaza will be abandoned. ... Woe to the inhabitants of the seacoast, ... land of the Philistines; I will destroy you so that there will be no inhabitant* (Zep. 2:4–7).

It may be hard to accept that much of Gaza will become devastated and deserted; however, this is exactly what the prophecy declares. Through this passage the Lord warns not just those from Gaza, but everyone — Jew and Palestinian, you and me — to righteousness and repentance. If we hear this warning and genuinely take it to heart, then as the prophet says, “Perhaps [we] will be hidden in the day of the LORD’S anger.” ★



Notice the Palestinian flag of “victory”



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## Reuven Rivlin... *(continued from cover sidebar)*



"We Scouts celebrated the first Independence Day," he said.

In 1957 he joined the IDF and served in combat intelligence. During the 1967 Six-Day War, he participated in the reunification of Jerusalem, then studied law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In the early 1980s, Rivlin and his brother Eliezer were appointed manager of Beitar Jerusalem FC and are credited with the team's reaching the qualifiers for the National League (now the Premier League).

Rivlin officially entered politics in the late 1970s on Jerusalem's municipal council. In 1988, his first year in the Knesset, he also became Likud party chairman. As a Member of Knesset, he served as Minister of Communications and held the post of Knesset Speaker twice between 2003 and 2013.

In personal anecdotes about the Jerusalem of his youth, Rivlin tells about a competition among the neighborhood kids to collect autographs outside the offices of then-Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion. "It was hard to get his autograph. I could trade 6 Menachem Begin for one Ben-Gurion."

An Israeli everyman, Rivlin lives in a middle-class Jerusalem neighborhood with his wife and four children. A photo of their old-fashioned tin mailbox was posted on Facebook thanking well-wishers after his election.

His wry sense of humor surfaced as a guest on a satirical TV show. Playing a character in a group who — like their real-life counterparts — meet to dissect the week's events, Rivlin tried to convince the disbelieving gang that he was indeed Knesset Speaker. Imagine what they'll think of him now.

Please pray for Israel's new president. If you are "grafted in" as Romans 11:17 proclaims, then consider Mr. Rivlin a highly placed family member who needs your prayer and goodwill. *Todah Rabah!* (Thank you very much!) —Myles and Katharine ★



# Don't Confuse Me with the Facts!

Myles To Go  
By Myles Weiss  
ZLP Host



Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! (Isaiah 5:20)

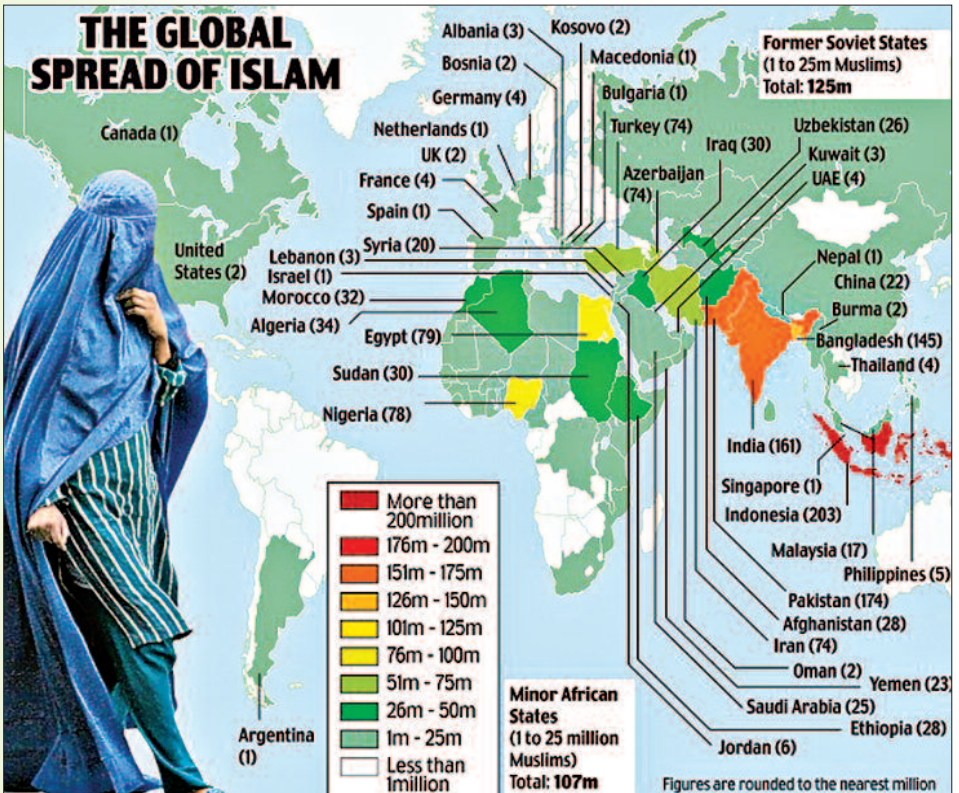
The autumn season holds mixed memories for me. Growing up in the "old country" (NYC) circa 1951–1964, fall was a beautiful time of year, with jewel-colored leaves and crisp air. As the days shortened, soon the High Holidays would appear.

We were also back in school and, being Jewish youth, in Hebrew School three days per week. All the Jewish kids in the neighborhood spent a lot of time learning and even more time reading. I think of those years as a time when truth was at the edge of our fingertips. Just out of reach.

How could we have known then what we now see clearly with hindsight, that it was a relatively calm and innocent era? No one imagined that the world would look as it does now. Had I known the Lord's plans for me, I would have accepted Dad's offer of a trip to Israel for my Bar Mitzvah! I chose the local NYC party with my friends. (I urge you to accept your Heavenly Father's offer and **come with us to Israel as soon as you can**. Page 36 has details.)

- So we made school fieldtrips to the UN, perched along the East River in Manhattan, confident that the august body was just about to conquer all war for all time and usher in a Golden Age of "peace on earth, goodwill to men" as Hallmark cards promised at Hanukkah...uh, Christmas, I mean Hanukkah.
- We had barely heard of Moslems. They might have been an exotic brand of East Indian dhoti-clad types, like Gunga Din (Kipling's good guy, played in Hollywood by an obviously Jewish Sam Jaffe).

*(continued next page)*





- WWII was a clarion call of good guy Americans, Brits, and French against bad guy Nazis.
- We KNEW the movie and novel versions of *Exodus* in which a small, plucky band of brave Jews and their one British and one Arab friend defied the Empire to repopulate a reborn Jewish state amidst genocidal opposition. Hey, how could we lose? We had Paul Newman, Eva Marie Saint, and Sal Mineo.

**Eschatology?** Sounded like an issue for Dr. Hirschfield, the local celebrity dermatologist.

**Prophets?** When they are up... that's good! When they are down, think about trimming personnel costs.

**Messiah?** A punch line, as in, "When the Messiah comes...!" Very akin to "When Yuma freezes over..."

Fast forward to 2014, and I mean fast! As life flashes by in strobe-like rapidity, the world stage is unrecognizable.

- The UN has degenerated into a thug's paradise, the world's premier forum for anti-Semitism.
- 1.6 billion Moslems, (now, Muslims) are slaughtering each other over which brand of the religion of peace is more peaceful.
- The teams of good guys and bad guys are all mixed up, with the "city on a hill" (America) too often backing the bad guys.
- Tiny Israel, the clear David who stood against Moslem and international Goliath-like hatred, is now perceived like Rambo, a viciously militant oppressor. Just ignore their receipt of 22% of all Nobel Prizes for real contributions to humanity, while making up 0.2% of the world's population. Do not investigate their uniquely humane warfare techniques, used only for defense, unknown in the history of human war.

Times change. Surely the world will soon understand what's what ... "when Messiah comes!"



# Clothed in White Robes (Rev. 7:9)

By Katharine Weiss  
ZLP Co-Host



Before The Fall, the presence of God and His Glory covered Man. After The Fall, mankind needed a covering, and the Lord covered Adam and Eve with the skin of an animal (Gen. 3:21), foreshadowing that Jesus would one day provide the covering for us Believers.

Isaiah 61:10 describes how God covers us with the garments of salvation and robe of righteousness, clothing that reminds us of our status. It is not an earthly prestige as bestowed by wearing Prada or Louis Vuitton. The clothing God gives us came at a greater cost and is worth far more than manmade clothes. Earthly things will fall apart, but not the clothing from God. Your gifts of funds produce our TV programs and these *Levitt Letters*—of vital assistance in equipping the Bride for these End Times. The garment of salvation that Isaiah mentions comes from a Hebrew word that means *deliverance, help, salvation, freedom, welfare, and prosperity*. We are to walk in His liberty.

Scripture often refers to wearing robes. Hannah gave her son Samuel a coat every year (1 Samuel 2:19). Jacob made Joseph a coat of many colors (Gen. 37:3). The prodigal son received a robe and a ring when he returned (Luke 15:22), and the priests of old wore holy garments to minister to the Lord (Ex. 28:4). In Old Testament times, the virgin daughters of the kings wore robes of many colors (2 Samuel 13:18). OT kings dressed in royal robes as they ruled (1 Kings 22:10).

In the Book of Zechariah, Joshua, the high priest, stood before the Lord in filthy garments. But God “spoke to those who stood before Him, commanding, ‘Take away the filthy garments from him.’ And to him He said, ‘See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes’” (Zechariah 3:4).

God wants us to wear His robe of righteousness with ease. He custom-made it to cover us from head to toe. He paid the price with His blood. No matter how hard we work to please Him, we cannot forget that His righteousness is a gift to us. We may not feel comfortable wearing such a royal robe. Nevertheless, God wants to wrap us in His royal apparel, for us to assume our privileged position in His kingdom. It is as if God is insisting, “Keep your eyes on Me as you walk in My garment of salvation.” And when your behavior is unfitting for a member of the Kingdom, don’t throw off the royal robe; instead, throw off the unrighteous behavior.

Believe in your glorious garment from God, as He sees us covered in His righteousness. We Believers do not stand out by wearing earthly name-brands, but rather because we wear fashion that is from before the foundation of the world. We are to be seated in heavenly places with Christ and clothed in His righteousness. From there, we walk in His authority.

Just as Esther put on her royal robes, we as the Bride of Christ must don our royal robes (Esther 5:1).



“Robe of Righteousness”  
by Lars Justinen  
goodsalt.com



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# Update on Israel



Sean Carmeli

While the nations rage (Ps. 2) and tip against Jerusalem (Zec. 12), this report of Christian support and Jewish resilience arrived in our mailbox during this summer's "Operation Protective Edge." Thanks, Jonah!

Here's what's happening here in Israel right now—not rockets and fighting, but how this society has banded together.

I visited wounded soldiers in Be'er Sheva and noticed the many ways ordinary people do their part. Universities, youth movements, *shuls* (synagogues), businesses, volunteer groups, and individual citizens are initiating and taking part in supporting the war effort: sending food and supplies to the soldiers on the Gaza front as well as to the reservists in various parts of Israel, visiting wounded soldiers, sending food to bomb shelters in the hardest hit areas, going to those same bomb shelters to entertain and play with the kids, setting up fairs where Southern businesses can sell their wares, and more.

Tehilla and Mom are both collecting items to occupy the wounded during their stay in the hospital. Tehilla walked around Rehovot yesterday picking up items from different stores. Most gave her a discount after hearing what they were for. Several gave her merchandise for free. One reserve infantry battalion received an anonymous donation of various packages worth 10,000 shekels (\$2,900). On each package was taped a child's drawing. The Hebrew University store lowered prices on items collected for soldiers: wipes, socks, underwear, soap, deodorant, etc.

And then there are the "Lone Soldiers." [See their story on p. 14.] Some feared that since **Sean Carmeli** was a "lone" soldier, no one would attend his funeral. A social-media call went out and 20,000 people, my father included, made the late-night trip to Haifa for Sean's 11:00 p.m. service. The next day, 6,000 braved heavy rocket fire—and disregarded the warnings of the mayor and police—to attend the Ashkelon funeral of another Lone Soldier, **Jordan Ben-Simon** of France. Today, 30,000 attended the funeral of L.A. native **Max Steinberg** in Yerushalayim [Jerusalem].



*A Lone Soldier no longer lone*

Even wounded Lone Soldiers receive special attention. The word got around that one veteran had no one to visit him in the hospital. Sure enough, a few hours after people got the message, an Israeli news site described how packed with visitors his hospital room became.

Everywhere you look here, people are looking for ways to volunteer their time, money, homes, and anything else to give our soldiers the most that we can. It's just what this place is made of. —Jonah ★

Several of our California congregants were in Israel during the war with Hamas. They served in ways like paying for hotel rooms in Jerusalem so families with small children could escape towns and bomb shelters near the Gaza border. Thank the Lord, Israel's situation has quieted down. During our Fall Tour, residents will again be focusing on good parking spots and the best hummus. *Am Yisrael Chai!* The people of Israel live! —Myles



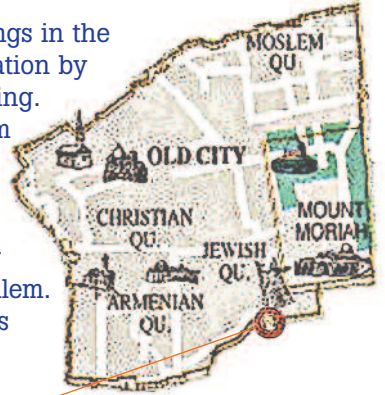
# The Gates of Jerusalem

PICTORIAL SERIES / Dung 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. Nehemiah 3 exemplifies this correlation by giving the gates of Jerusalem 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 examine these ancient passages' histories and spiritual meanings.



**Dung Gate:**  
*Sha'ar Ha'ashpot*  
Note the small arch of the Ottoman gate on top of the larger opening.



Photo: Ken Berg

**Other names:** Gate of Silwan – Mughrabi Gate – Potsherd Gate – Siloam Gate – Refuse Gate – **Nehemiah 3:14** *"Malchiah the son of Rechab, leader of the district of Beth-haccerem, repaired the Refuse Gate; he built it and hung its doors with its bolts and bars."*

Close to the Temple Mount and facing the ancient City of David and the Siloam Pool, the original gate sits at the lowest point of the walls. The current structure was built at the time of Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent around 1540 A.D. but the Hebrew name for Dung Gate, *Sha'ar Ha'ashpot*, can be traced back to biblical times. During the Temple periods, Jewish priests performed thousands of animal sacrifices, producing an enormous amount of waste that was taken out of the City through the Dung Gate. The Nehemiah 3:14 verse above relates the rebuilding process of the Second Temple.

*(continued next page)*



## Gates... continued



Located on the southeastern side, the Dung Gate is the only gate that opens into the Jewish Quarter, allowing pedestrians and vehicles to get to the Western Wall, the most sacred place in Judaism.

The Ottoman gate was small and narrow; the upper arch is still visible above today's gate. In 1952, during Jordan's occupation, the gate was widened to permit the passage of vehicles. The opening was reinforced with cement posts. In 1967, after the Six-Day War when Israel reunified Jerusalem, Israel renovated the gate to match the Ottoman stone. For the first time since 1948, Jews were able to pray at the Western Wall. Currently, the Dung Gate is the only entrance for the Jews to the Temple Mount.

The Dung Gate is also referred to as the Gate of Silwan due to its proximity to the Arab village of Silwan. The Targum (Aramaic translation of the Bible) identifies the Dung Gate as the "Potsherd Gate" of Jeremiah 19:2. Another name, Mughrabi, came from Moorish immigrants during the 16th century. The Moors have not lived in the city for centuries, but the name remains.

### Spiritual Meaning

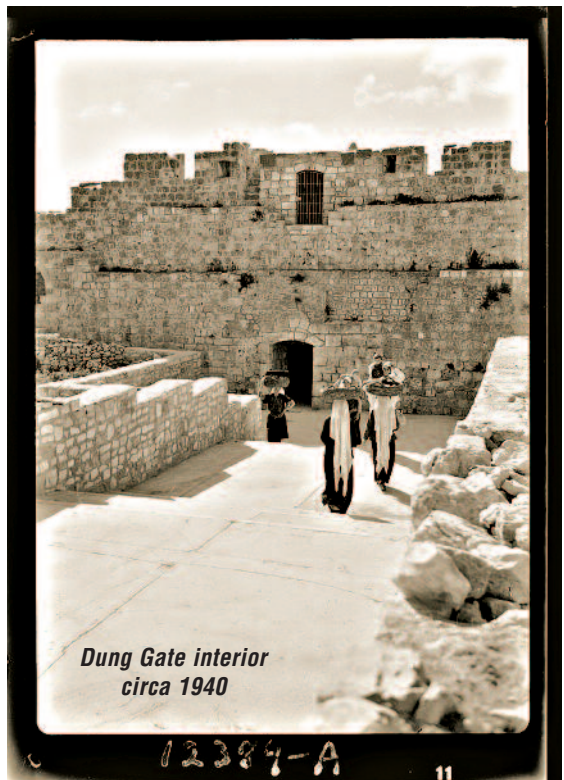
Through the Dung Gate, refuse was taken out of Jerusalem, to the valley of Hinnom (known in the OT as Gai Ben-Hinnom, shortened to Gehenna [hell]) where it was burned. In the same way that trash would not be left to stink up the city, so must sin be taken out of the heart of the Believer and destroyed.

Under the Old Covenant, the burnt offerings of animals represent the subjection of the flesh in the New Covenant. Sacrificial animals were cut in pieces and then burned. The animals' inward parts and feet were washed with pure water. This teaches us that dying to self is a process; we subdue the flesh "piece by piece," just as the offering was burned in pieces. The pure-water wash represents the renewing of our minds and difference in our actions.

### Spiritual "dung" represents two things:

- The shame of the old life (Rom. 7:24; 6:1-4, 6; Rev. 21:27; 22:14-15).
- The glory of the old life (Phil. 3:7-10).

As God's new creation, we count both the shame and the glory of the old life as "dung" compared to knowing and experiencing the glory of Christ. We dump all this refuse out the Dung Gate. ★



# Shai—A Priceless Sacrifice

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF / Our Man in Haifa

Shai Kushnir



One of the IDF soldiers who gave his life to defend us in the summer conflict with Hamas was a Jewish believer in Yeshua. **Shai Kushnir** grew up in our Haifa congregation from the time he was 4 years old. I knew him well. As a teen, his constant smile and fun-loving, easy-going nature concealed his intense desire to serve in an Israel Defense Forces (IDF) combat unit.

An only son is not required to do combat duty in the Israeli army. He can choose office work and fulfill his military requirement with honor. Shai insisted on combat and would not relent. Finally, his father signed the waiver. Shai trained diligently and became a medic. During the fighting, he carried a fellow soldier on his back, removing him from the battlefield in Gaza. From the pudgy boy who rarely seemed serious, he had become a heroic, selfless young man, more concerned with others' safety than his own.

**Thousands attended the memorial service held for Shai in a military cemetery near Haifa.** Many of them had not known him or his family. Such was the outpouring of gratitude and grief that occurred again and again for the soldiers who gave their lives

to give us ours. Officers eulogized our young brother in moving terms.

They highlighted his dedication, his popularity among the troops, and the focus with which he applied himself to military service. We wept, and are still weeping.

How can we possibly measure the value of Shai's life? For me, standing near his grave, surrounded by sober, resolute, tender yet sinewy infantrymen, that value is framed by the divine mandate to make our home here, in *Eretz Yisrael*. From the cemetery I can see Mount Carmel, one of our country's biblical and geophysical landmarks. I'm reminded of God's declaration to Abraham: "I will establish My covenant between Me and you ... for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also, I give to you and your descendants after you the land ... all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God" (Genesis 17:7, 8).

Shai wrote praise songs and played guitar in our youth group. Now, in the Lord's presence, he is able to lift his voice as never before. I dare imagine Yeshua, His arm around Shai, saying "Well done, son. I laid down My life to save Israel too." ★



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Mourners  
at Shai's  
funeral

# Intro to Israel: Israel 101

CLASSIC NOTE FROM ZOLA / 1985: 29 years ago



**Spending two months in Israel taught me a great deal about the country. I collected some stories to give you the flavor of this land and its people:**

I visited an absorption center where new immigrants from almost everywhere in the world learn Hebrew and orient to life in modern Israel. There, I saw Ethiopian people who have been rescued from starvation. I saw a Syrian Jewish girl desperately trying to learn Hebrew in a fast-moving, five-hour day class. She couldn't read and write her own language and so she had to practice using a pen before she could learn how to make the letters. I met a German girl, neither Jewish nor Christian, who said she had developed an intense feeling for this land and felt compelled to immigrate here or die.

Russians, Romanians, Argentines, Koreans, and everyone else imaginable were among the new immigrants. When the teacher called recess, our only common language was Hebrew and about all we could say was what we were learning in the lesson book: "Where are you from?," "Where is your family?," "How will you get money?"

Many older immigrants prefer Yiddish—the Jewish language of Europe—to Hebrew. I met a man who has been in Israel for 60 years and still speaks Yiddish 90% of the time.

Israelis don't make appointments. The principal of the Hebrew school at the absorption center wanted to see everyone personally for a 20-minute interview. She told us all to stand outside her door after class—25 of us! The entire day was then consumed waiting in a tiny, airless hallway. I suppose the principal considered this good training for a well-disciplined life in the Promised Land.

I met several "undercover" Christians, some Americans, with varied schemes for tactfully testifying even as they learned

the language. I saw a Bible concealed by the paper cover of a Hebrew prayer book. In an incredible turnabout, a person seen carrying a Bible can't possibly be a Jew. The Bible is so objectionable to Moslems that it's more comfortable to carry one inside a briefcase... in the land where it was written!

In Israel, the person who interrupts has precedence over the person already talking. Therefore, the door would open to our Hebrew class and the teacher would stop the lesson immediately and begin a complicated discussion with the visitor in advanced Hebrew, which would leave us baffled, pens in hand. Similar disruptions occurred at hotel desks, stores, etc.

The climate of Jerusalem, still a mountaintop in a desert, is exhilarating with its dependably cool mornings and evenings. The cloudless skies; clean, dry air; and spectacular sunsets combine making each day a very special experience. ★

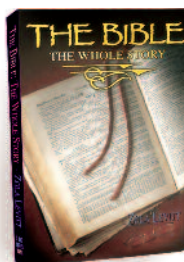
## Zola's Notebook

Seven vital doctrines are examined in a very readable and clear style. One of the most popular items offered by this ministry, *Zola's Notebook* explains the Bible cover to cover.



The *Notebook* has pockets for our newsletters, and provides space for notes to be taken by the reader. Doctrines covered thoroughly are: the Abrahamic Covenant, the Law, Prophecy, the Messiah, Grace, the Church, and the Kingdom.

## The Bible: The Whole Story DVD



*Zola's Notebook* (above) DVD version—7 programs

Order **Notebook** online  
or on page 19  
Order **DVD** online  
or on page 18

# Ask the Chaplain Discerning the Real Deal

Dr. Todd D. Baker  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian



Dear ZLM,

I was sad to read the Chaplain's answer to the question about tongues ([July 2014 Levitt Letter, p. 12](#)). The tongues I have spoken and prayed are NOT "babblings." I have been blessed to commune with the Lord in the languages He gives me during our prayer times. I cannot believe you call this gift a "trick of Satan."

It was at my suggestion that the Foursquare Church where my son-in-law was youth pastor invited Zola to speak in the 1970s. I am thankful every day for this gift. B.McC. (CO)

Re: Todd Baker

Incoherent babblings from the Charismatic Movement? Shame on you! This Charismatic has supported your ministry for years. You don't know what you're talking about and obviously don't care who you offend. Okay, let's divide the Christian community some more, why don't we? What does the Bible say about tongues? C.V. (MI)

Dear Dr. Baker,

There are 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit, each with differing uses and manifestations. You correctly pointed out that the tongues spoken by Jesus' disciples in Acts 2 were languages unknown to the speakers but understood by the hearers. The most common expression is Prayer Tongues where a person privately prays in a heavenly language given to him/her by the Holy Spirit.

In Prophetic Tongues, a person in a group setting speaks a prophecy from the Lord in an unknown language. A Prophetic Tongue must be discerned, interpreted, and confirmed. There was an intensity of these gifts at the beginning of the Church, as there is today in its final days. They equip Believers to more effectively spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul advised Believers to earnestly seek the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:31). R.W.L. (FL)

Shalom shalom, B.McC., C.V., & R.W.L.—

No surprise, Chaplain Todd's seemingly pejorative answer on "tongues" brought a strong outcry from our readers and supporters. I apologize for not scrutinizing his answer before we went to press. That was my error. I'm blessed by the "spirited fellowship" it stirred among ZLMers, causing us to reconfirm which issues are vital to our mission. I believe they are as follows:

- **the primacy of the Cross and Yeshua's Messianic sacrifice for all (Romans 1:16)**
- **the centrality of Israel in prophetic scripture (Matthew 23:39)**
- **awakening the world to the shared destiny of Jews and Christians in the face of barbaric jihad (Galatians 1:8, 9)**

Thank you for inviting Zola to your church those many years ago! It would have been disingenuous for Zola to accept an offering at a Foursquare Church if he believed that Charisma was a vital stumbling block to our mission. He would not do that. The most well-known Foursquare pastor is Jack Hayford, one of the strongest allies Israel and the Messianic movement have ever had! The current champion of national Israel is John Hagee, also a Charismatic pastor. I disagree with his intentional distance from Jewish Messianics, but I thank God for his ability to rally the Church at large.

I agree with you all that MANY of Israel's strongest supporters (worldwide, not just in the U.S.) are part of Charismatic traditions, as are many of our born-again Jewish and Arab friends in Israel. Let's not argue about styles of Christian practice when the enemy is at the door! **We now need "all hands (upraised or not!) on deck."** Your brother, and Todd's —Myles

**All spiritual gifts are in use today. I have no biblical issue with tongues used in private prayer; it was the public misuse I was rebutting.** —Todd ★



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# 64-0: The Miracle of the Perfect Reception!

BY TODD BAKER



The 30th To The Jew First Gospel outreach in Israel, now in the books, was perhaps the greatest one yet for the simple fact that not one person out of the 64 Jews and Moslems that we approached rejected our verbal witness for Yeshua the Messiah, or our offer of Bibles and Messianic Gospel tracts.

This perfect 100% acceptance rate from day one straight through to the last day has never happened before and may never happen again. It's like pitching the perfect game, bowling 300, or having a season like the 1972 Miami Dolphins'. Experiencing that reception from that number of people in Israel over two weeks stunned us. We consider this result a truly remarkable miracle. Hence, I have called this outreach: "The Miracle of the Perfect Reception."

I prayed for God to do something phenomenal and He did—through two imperfect Believers, Kevin Mead and me! Hall of Fame running back Larry Csonka reputedly said about the 1972 Miami Dolphins: "One time, one place in the universe, one space was occupied by perfection." The same can be said for our 30th Gospel outreach to Israel, and Kevin and I were blessed to be a part of it.

One morning in Haifa, Kevin and I met

**Brit.** Her Hebrew name, which means "Covenant,"



provided the opening into a Gospel witness about the covenants God has made with the Jewish people. Our conversation with Brit focused on how God promised in the *Tanakh* (Old Testament) to make a *B'rit Hadashah* (New Covenant) with Israel (Jeremiah 31:31-34). Through this covenant—the greatest of all that God has made with Israel—every Jewish person can know Yeshua the Messiah with God's forgiveness of sins. After His Son died and atoned for the world's sin and rose from death to give all who believe in Him eternal life, God sent this message to the Nations through the Jewish nation of Israel. We gave it back to Brit in the form of our witness and a Bible with both Testaments in Hebrew.

As Brit accepted the Complete Bible, she joyfully pointed to the words *B'rit Hadashah* embossed on the binding and exclaimed, "There is my name!" Yes, Yeshua knows her name and wants to bring the blessings of the New Covenant to her. Lord Jesus, let Brit encounter You, the Great God and Savior, in the Hebrew Bible that this ministry gave her. ★



## CURRENT EVENTS QUIZ

MATCH the BRUTAL, MURDEROUS TERRORIST GROUP WITH ITS CORRESPONDING RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

AMERICAN  
CROSSBOW  
CROSSBOW

		
<input type="checkbox"/> ISIS	<input type="checkbox"/> HAMAS	<input type="checkbox"/> BOKO HARAM
		
<input type="checkbox"/> TALIBAN	<input type="checkbox"/> AL-QAIDA	<input type="checkbox"/> HEZBOLLAH

**A** THE RELIGION OF PEACE

# 'Lone Soldiers' Serve Israel

BY JULIE WATSON / Associated Press



The two Americans killed in recent fighting in the Gaza Strip followed in the footsteps of thousands of Jews from around the world who have volunteered to fight for Israel.

Israel calls them the Lone Soldiers: They are men and women in the prime of their lives who have left their parents and often comfortable lives behind in places like Sydney, London, Los Angeles, and elsewhere to join the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) marching in the desert and taking up arms to defend the Jewish state. About 2,000 Lone Soldiers currently serve in the military.



For Jews who left Israel before age 15 or who never lived there, military service is voluntary. For many, it is a calling, a way to get back to their roots and unite the world's Jewish population. Some have dual citizenship. Others speak little to no Hebrew and have only recently come to Israel.

**Max Steinberg**, 24, who grew up in Southern California, joined six months after he visited Israel for the first time on a Birthright Israel trip with his younger brother and sister in 2012, said Jake Steinberg just hours after learning that his brother, a sharpshooter in the Golani Brigade, had died during the first major ground battle with Hamas.

"He got there and felt a connection to Israel, saw that as a place he could live and be successful, and he went for it," Jake Steinberg said.

**Nissim Sean Carmeli**, 21, the second American killed, was from South Padre Island, Texas. He felt that same strong connection to the country he had moved to only four years ago.

For **Mike Fishbein**, a 25-year-old commercial production assistant who grew up in Los Angeles, serving two years in the IDF was the culmination of milestones in his life. In ninth grade, he accompanied his father with a crew filming the unearthing of Jewish artifacts in a once-Jewish town in Poland that was destroyed in the Holocaust.

"That was a surreal experience for a ninth-grade kid to go through, but it set me up to go to Israel and serve," he said. "Every Lone Soldier has had some similar experience."

**Josh Reznick**, 24, who works for a real estate investment firm in Baltimore, served in the same unit as the two Americans killed during the first week-end of Operation Protective Edge. He was inspired by Michael Levin, a Lone Soldier from Pennsylvania killed fighting for Israel in 2006.

"I'm sure people right before WWII felt the same way about living in Germany," he said. "If only there had been a place to run to for the Jews. That's why it's important to keep Israel, a Jewish nation, alive."

**Isaac Cohen**, 18, of Silver Spring, Maryland, isn't deterred by the recent violence.

"They teach you how to survive in Israel," said Cohen, who lived there for six years. "You kind of have to survive there. I feel a lot stronger when I'm there." ★

Our DVD series *Sons of Promise: Isaac and Jacob* includes some profoundly touching interviews with Lone Soldiers. —Myles



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# ZLM Bulletin Board

## Operation Gaza Dome



Here is one solution to Gazans' complaint that they have no missile defense like Israel's Iron Dome: Place a dome over Gaza. A massive, strong, translucent barrier would deflect all missiles, incoming and outgoing alike. For a simulated demonstration of missiles being deflected mid-flight, go to [levitt.com/news/2014/09/02/the-gaza-dome](http://levitt.com/news/2014/09/02/the-gaza-dome). Some Zionists favor an automatic retaliation system that would launch missiles from Israel, without human involvement, targeting the points of origin of missiles from Gaza.



## Zola Tours' IRS Audit

Roughly 12 years ago, this ministry passed an 8-prong audit by the IRS, their 2nd visit since the mid-'80s. [However, our volunteer CPA has camped in our office for a week every year since 1989.](#) Our independently audited financial statements remain free for the asking. This year, as in 2002, the IRS conducted a 2-day, on-site audit. Zola Tours received a "no change" ruling, which is equivalent to a perfect score. All to God's glory.



Free Item

## Pamphlet of the Month

An effective estate plan addresses four common financial challenges: 1) dying too soon, 2) outliving one's resources, 3) emergencies, and 4) mental/physical disability. The booklet **Better Estate Planning** overviews a number of planning tools. Topics include: A cornerstone will, Property in trust, Power of attorney, Joint ownership, Living will, Income and asset management, Tax savings, and Income for life. The Technical Advisory Section discusses federal gift and estate tax considerations. To receive this booklet at no charge, email [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

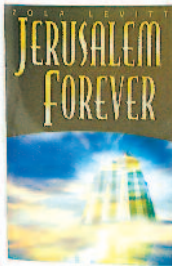


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## "Come Home!"

**Zola Tours to Israel**

**See page 36 for details**

# HebrewLesson



## Endurance for Difficult Days

By John J. Parsons

רְפְּאֵנִי יְהוָה וְאֲרַפָּא הוֹשִׁיעֵנִי וְאֹשַׁעָה כִּי תְהַלֵּתִי אָתָּה

“Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for you are my praise.” – Jer. 17:14

רְ	פְּ	אֵ	נִי	יְהוָה	וְ	אֲ	רַ	פָּ	א	הוֹ	שִׁ	עֵ	נִי	וְ	אֹ	שַׁ	עָ	ה	כִּי	תְ	הַ	לֵ	תִי	אָ	תָּ	ה			
(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
a-tah	te-hil-la-ti	ki	ve-iv-va-shei-ah	ho-shi-ei-ni	ve-ei-ra-fei	Adonai	re-fa-ei-ni																						
are you	my praise	for	and I shall be saved	save me	and I shall be healed	LORD	Heal me																						

In times of severe testing, people often do not need further teaching, but rather “endurance,” or what the Scriptures call *hypomone* (ὑπομονή) —a word that means patiently “remaining [μένω] under [ὑπο]” the Divine Presence while being tested. Suffering people do not need moral platitudes or advice from others, but only the will to believe, the resolution to stay constant, and the ability to breathe out simple prayers for help to the LORD: “God have mercy...” “Help me, O God...” “I need Thee, O Lord...” When we receive grace to faithfully suffer, we hear the Spirit whispering back to us: “Be not afraid...” “Live in Me...” “Walk in the light...” “I am with you always...” “You are loved...”

If you are afflicted, troubled, or in any kind of pain, you have an opportunity to glorify your Father in Heaven by affirming your trust in Him. Only the wise and loving LORD knows how bitter waters may be made sweet; only the great Refiner of our souls knows how to bring eternal beauty from ashes. So heal me, O LORD (even if that means suffering and pain for my life), and I shall be healed; save me, O LORD (do whatever it takes to bring me to the end of myself), and I shall be saved—for You are my Praise. Praising God is the appropriate response to all of reality; the affirmation of God’s glory transforms everything. “Is anyone among you feeling bad? Let him pray. Is anyone feeling good? Let him sing praise” (James 5:13). Remember that regardless of how you presently feel, “all things work together for good” (Rom. 8:28). As George Mueller once affirmed, “Be assured—if you walk with Him and look to Him, and expect help from Him, He will never fail you.”

Yeshua taught us to abstain from using “vain repetitions” in our prayers, since our Father knows what we need *before* we ask Him (Matt. 6:7-8). **Don’t focus on the verbiage of your prayers,** then, but attend to the inner groan of your heart (Rom. 8:26). “When you pray, rather let thy heart be without words than thy words be without heart” (John Bunyan). Ultimately prayer is a kind of *teshuvah*, a word often translated as “repentance,” though it’s more accurately understood as turning (*shuv*) to God in response to His call. Sometimes you just come and present yourself in God’s presence, without words, without requests. The point, of course, is that you come to the Lord to do real business with Him, not to play games or to offer Him “lip service.” **Are we really “showing up” when we pray?** ★





## ***The Evidence of God*** TV series 8 half-hour TV programs on two DVDs

Countering claims that the Bible's Creation "fantasy" is incompatible with dinosaur bones, fossils, and carbon dating, nuclear physicist Dr. Gerald Schroeder explains time dilation—how time has shrunk since the Big Bang—and bridges the perceived differences between science and Scripture. Science confirms the biblical sequence of events that occurred during our planet's first week.

**The Universe Had A Beginning**—Physicist Gerald Schroeder explains how science can look backward in time and count fifteen billion years since the Big Bang; yet, from God's perspective this vast time period happened within six 24-hour days.

**Relatively Speaking**—Gerald presents scientific evidence that time is not a constant. Similar to how astronauts weigh less on the moon than on Earth, experiments show that atomic clocks run slower on high-speed aircraft. Because the universe is expanding, time is perceived differently in different locations.

**Tuned For Life**—Science observes that the universe has expanded a million million times. Dividing 15 billion (the number of years in the scientific record) by a million million equals .015 years, or approximately six days.

**Day One Of Creation**—Using the Hebrew Bible, Gerald and Zola analyze the first day of the Creation account. Out of chaos, the Spirit of God created order.

**Days Two And Three Of Creation**—Gerald demonstrates how both Genesis and science show that a firmament was created and water was formed before life began on Earth.

**Day Four Of Creation**—How could the Sun, Moon, and stars not appear until day four? The words "evening" and "morning" correspond to their Hebrew roots—"chaos" and "order"—revealing the overall trend of creation.

**Days Five And Six Of Creation**—Science proposes an explosion of life that agrees in sequence and time with the Bible's account of day five and Gerald's computations.

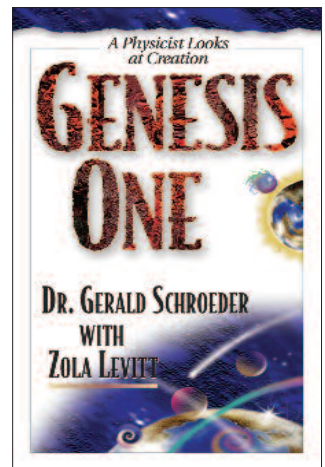
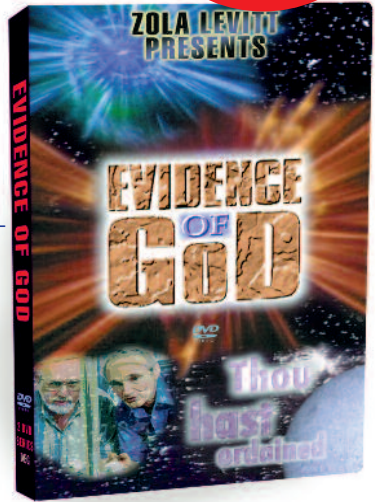
**Creation Reviewed**—Zola reviews how science agrees with the Creation account in Genesis 1. Technologically, we are only now achieving the ability to prove how true and accurate the Bible really is.

(Also see p.31)

Order DVDs online  
or on page 18.

## ***Genesis One*** study booklet

Our study booklet, *Genesis One*, is a transcription of the first two programs from the *Evidence of God* TV series. Both DVDs and booklet are offered on page 18.



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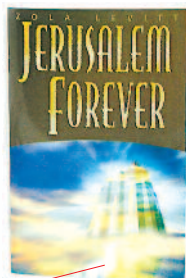
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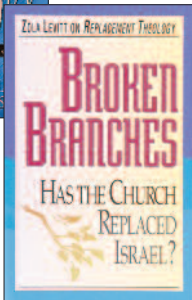
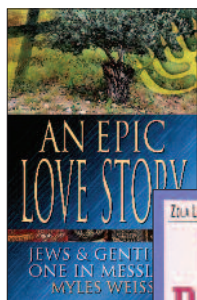
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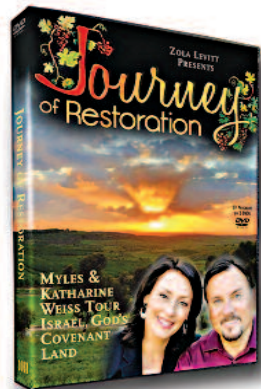
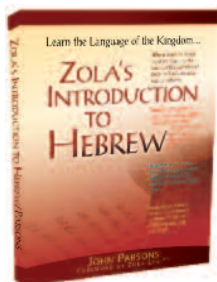
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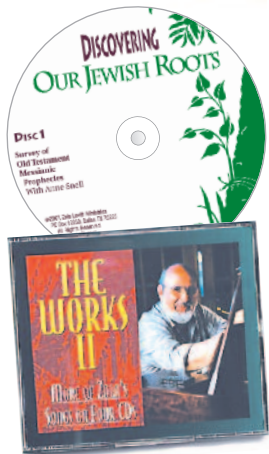




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Olive grove in Israel's countryside



## A NOTE FROM MARK / By Mark Levitt In Defense of Zionism



Diplomat and historian Michael B. Oren recently assessed Israel's astonishing success. Below are excerpts from his [Wall Street Journal](#) article that concludes Israel is flourishing.

Israelis risk their lives for Zionism—the belief that Jews deserve a sovereign state in Israel. Though the Zionist Movement was founded less than 150 years ago, it sprang from a 4,000-year-long bond between the Jewish people and their historic homeland.

Yet Zionism is demonized. Critics in the West liken it to racism or Nazism. In the Middle East, Moslems consider Zionism a product of the Holocaust, which many deny ever happened—even while maintaining that the Zionists deserved it.

What is it about Zionism that elicits such loathing? After all, the longing of a dispersed people for a state of their own isn't repugnant. Clearly anti-Semitism plays a role. The libels historically leveled at Jews are regularly hurled at Zionists.

How can an idea so universally reviled retain its legitimacy, much less lay claim to success? Answer: Zionism worked.

The chances were infinitesimal that a scattered national group could assemble from some 70 countries into a sliver-sized territory shorn of resources and rich in adversaries and somehow survive. The odds that those immigrants would forge a national identity capable of producing a vibrant literature, pace-setting arts, and six of the world's leading universities approximated zero.

The population is annually rated among the happiest, healthiest, and most educated in the world. Life expectancy in Israel significantly exceeds America's and that of most European countries. Unemployment is low, the economy robust.

Israel is one of the few states—along with Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, and the U.S.—that always has been democratic. In a region reeling with ethnic strife and religious bloodshed, Zionism has engendered a multi-ethnic, multiracial, religiously diverse society. Nonetheless, Zionism stands accused of thwarting “Palestinian” aspirations. Never mind that the Jews were natives of the land millennia before there were “Palestinians.” Never mind that in 1937, 1947, 2000, and 2008, the Palestinians received offers to divide the land and rejected them, usually with violence. And never mind that living in peace with Palestinian neighbors remains the Zionist dream.

The most searing of Zionism's unfulfilled visions is that of a state in which Jews can be free from the fear of annihilation. Few of Zionism's early thinkers envisaged a state that would face multiple existential threats on a daily basis just for being Jewish. Surveys show that Israelis remain stubbornly optimistic about their country's future. Jews keep on arriving to be, as the Israeli national anthem pledges, “a free people in our land, the Land of Zion and Jerusalem.” Deriving its energy from a people that refuses to disappear, the Zionist project will thrive. ★



The CARTOON KRONICLES



# Letters to ZLM

Ministry products and TV programs mentioned are available on our web store: [store.levitt.com](http://store.levitt.com).

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

**From H.B.:** You cannot imagine how I look forward to my *Levitt Letters*! I devour every page of each one. Thank you so much for the effort that you put into the *Letter*. May our Lord Yeshua bless you and your ministry.

## Katharine's Gifts

Dear ZLM,

I'm glad Katharine is teaching more on [Zola Levitt Presents](#). Myles is wonderful at teaching the Bible, but I hear Jesus in Katharine's voice.

— B.H. (CA)

Dear Myles,

I think the [August Levitt Letter](#) is the best I've ever read. The picture of Katharine and Jon [\[p. 6\]](#) perfectly captures the joyous love and devotion of a mother for her child. Just beautiful! — M.K.R. (VA)

Dear B.H. and M.K.R.—

Your letters were VERY uplifting! I am *kvelling* (Yiddish for overflowing with joy) at your recognition of Katharine's vital contribution to the spiritual health of ZLM and our family. We showed a video clip of Jonathan and Katharine's skydive when she spoke at a church on Mother's Day. All the mothers could relate to the parallel between motherhood and free fall!

I have heard before that a tone in Katharine's voice carries a healing touch. This idea may sound mystical to some, but it is true. She is my [Proverbs 31](#) gift from God. I rejoice that you benefit from her ministry as well as mine.

Shalom — Myles

A 10 year old little girl was asked by another classmate, "what is it like to be a Christian?". The girl replied, "it's like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Then he cuts open the top and scoops out all of the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc., and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."



To  
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Saudi Arabian burka-clad car for women drivers. Note mesh for front window & right-side mirror.

## Body Weak, Faith Strong

Dear Myles and Katharine,

Every time I receive the *Levitt Letter* and other literature you so faithfully send to me, I thank God for you. At 88, I am living on a fixed income with pressing medical bills. There is always too much month left over at the end of the money. I know sending me the newsletters costs money, so the Ruach HaKodesh has strongly laid on my heart the desire to send you my Widow's Mite as a token of my great appreciation.

I have no family, but I consider you at Zola Levitt Ministries as my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. Being re-born with the blood of Yeshua, I dare anyone to say I am not a Jew—the greatest honor I could ever have.

One thing I *can* do for your outreach and The Great Commission is pray, and I pray each day for you, the ZLM staff, and the peace of Jerusalem. With love and appreciation, — M.T. (WI)

Shalom M.T.—

I am rarely moved to tears by a letter. Your testimony of faithfulness to Yeshua and Israel is both convicting and encouraging. Thanks above all for your prayers for us here at ZLM.

I agree, that even though your body is weak, your spirit is strong and there is no insurmountable distance in prayer. A million thanks for standing with us. We are praying for God to strengthen you and lengthen your days. We *will* meet again! With love — Myles

Thanks

## A Need for Christian Movies

Dear Myles,

As I was reading your [August 2014 Personal Letter](#) that spoke of the movie *Lone Survivor*, I realized I will probably watch it now. But I was wondering why you don't make your own version of the movie. There are so many Christian movies out now that there must be a market for them. Since *Lone Survivor* grossed so much money, you might even have some profit left over for your ministry. Other movies do not show people praying and giving credit to the God of Israel and His Son for answers to those prayers. I miss that.

Like you, I have embarrassed myself by recommending a very entertaining movie that I saw on television before realizing that many movies are sanitized for TV. Now I try to add that detail to my recommendations. — S.N.

Shalom S.N.—

As my grandmother would say, "From your mouth to God's ears!" I would love to write and produce feature films. Several years ago, I was honored to write the "treatment" (first view) of a powerful Holocaust-era biography. We still await the production of that work.

ZLM's fantastic TV crew at Berg Productions (Zola's producer for 35 years!) creates very similar work but on a smaller scale. We use the broadcast medium to tell the Bible's Jewish historical narrative and educate the masses about Israel's significance in the future Last Days. Being involved in such important work is a phenomenal privilege. No one here is overpaid, but gifts of funds from people like you who appreciate our efforts to practice what we preach facilitate continued production of quality Bible teaching for television. Thank you for your thoughts. Many blessings — Myles



## My Prayer

A response to the LLX post [“You can help! — Israeli Soldiers Ask For Repeat Of Christian Blessing” \(July 18, 2014\)](#)

We pour our tears to the ground today as we cry for the complete protection of all the Jewish soldiers in the forefront. Love and protect the Land of Israel. Protect its borders. Arise, O God, and let your enemies scatter! Israel is the apple of Your eye, O Lord; their name is written on the palm of Your hand. Fight their battle.

Hear, O Israel, the Lord your God is YAHWEH! He will never leave you nor forsake you. God bless the Land of the Jews. God bless Eretz Israel. I bless Israel because I love Israel.

In Jesus’ Name, G.N.

Shalom G.N.—

Thanks for standing with Israel, now more than ever. We need prayer and participation as well. Check [levitt.com](#) for the benevolence organizations that we support. Also, our video series, [Sons of Promise: Isaac and Jacob](#), has some profoundly touching interviews with Israel’s [Lone Soldiers](#), young Jewish men and women from all nations who go to Israel *specifically* to serve in the Israel Defense Forces. [\(See their story on p. 14.\)](#) Heroes, all. Blessings —Myles

Hello again, G.N.—

Please pray that God will continue to bolster the courage of Israel’s soldiers. Maybe include a prayer for His blessing on the courage of pilgrims on whom Israel’s economy relies.

— Mark



***IDF soldier wearing tefillin while on maneuvers.***





### A New Life of Learning

Dear ZLM,

Thank you for your wonderful television program. I am always blessed when it comes on. I have sent a gift to you before and intend to do so again since payday is tomorrow. I also bought [Zola's Introduction to Hebrew](#). I am 63 and a new widow. Although I have always had a heart for the Nation of Israel, I now have time to focus on what is going on there. The first Hebrew phrase I learned was from Myles: *Sha'alu Shalom Yerushalayim*.

Teaching myself from Zola's book, I'm up to Chapter 8 regarding E vowels. I can write the block and cursive Hebrew Aleph-Bet by memory, including the *sofit* letters. Your explanations are easy to understand and follow. I also frequent the website [Hebrew4Christians.com](#), especially for help with pronunciation. Now I can use the *a* and *e* vowels but still have to learn the names of the marks.

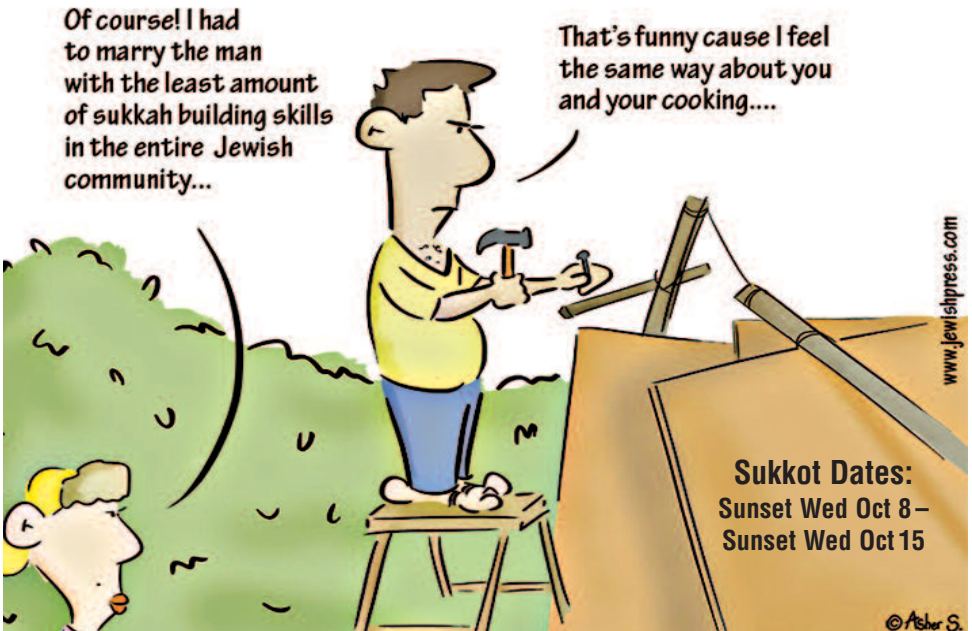
I hope to attend a *Shabbat* service soon. Though I won't understand a lot, I can worship with them. I even bought a *Tanakh* in Hebrew and English. I wear a Star of David with a cross in the middle. That piece of jewelry has really opened a lot of discussions and opportunities to witness!

Your TV program has really been instrumental in helping me with my study of the Israelite people—past and present. May Yeshua continue to bless you. *Shalom. Shalom.* —R.M.

Greetings R.M.—

Wow! You are a shining example of a Christian who is seeking to understand the roots of the faith. Although I grew up reading Hebrew (and still do), there is always more to learn, especially when trying to keep up with daily conversational life in Israel. Thankfully, the service in the synagogue where you visit will be conducted through sacred texts and English, which should help you sharpen your skills.

Please remember, the most Jewish thing any of us can do is follow the Jewish Messiah...and keep Yeshua at the CENTER of our heart, just like on your pendant. *B'rachot gadol* Great blessings to you. —Myles and Katharine ★



# Hebrew U Researcher Targets Dangerous Food 'Slime'

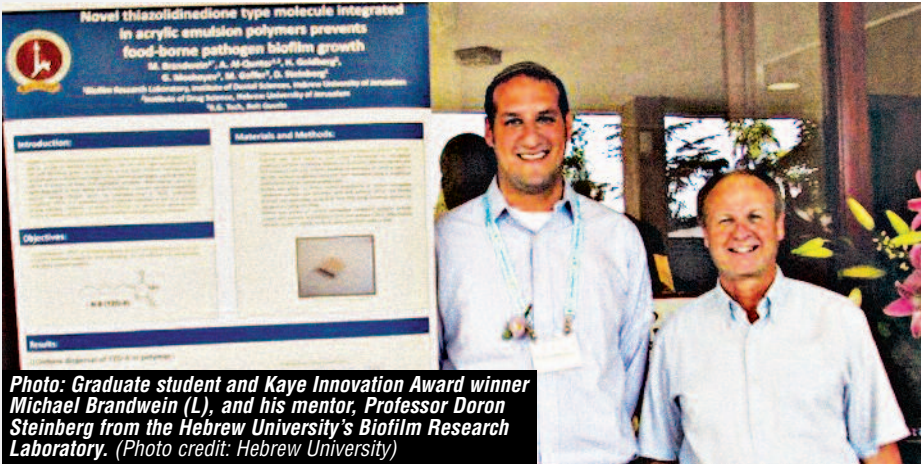


SCIENCE: BY DAVID SHAMAH / TimesOfIsrael.com

Hard to see but dangerous, it lurks on those fresh, "healthy" vegetables. It's a layer of bacteria called "biofilm," and an Israeli researcher has found a way to stop it from contaminating your food.

Biofilm: aka "slime." The name sounds gruesome and accurately reflects its threat. Slime makes millions of people sick every year.

Michael Brandwein, American immigrant to Israel and graduate student at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, developed a way to disrupt the bacteria and prevent the formation of biofilm. Using a molecule synthesized at Hebrew University, Brandwein was able to interfere with the genetic processes that lead to biofilm formation. Besides preventing bacterial biofilm on fruits and vegetables, said Brandwein, the technology could ensure that shipped frozen and fresh foods of all kinds will be safer when they get to the consumer.



*Photo: Graduate student and Kaye Innovation Award winner Michael Brandwein (L), and his mentor, Professor Doron Steinberg from the Hebrew University's Biofilm Research Laboratory. (Photo credit: Hebrew University)*

The thin, barely visible coat of slime that grows on many household surfaces—such as countertops, sinks, fruits, and vegetables—consists of germs that researchers believe are at the root of many persistent and chronic bacterial infections.

As people around the world seek healthier diets and demand fresh fruits and vegetables, food wholesalers are shipping more produce from farther distances. Shipping containers provide a fertile host for the formation of the bacteria that form biofilms. The bacteria thrive in the moist, closed environment of the packages, and they eventually begin to emit a slimy, glue-like substance that sticks to available surfaces. That goo makes bacteria far more dangerous than "dry" germs, scientists say. The slime is more difficult to remove, and it includes a higher-than-usual concentration of bacteria.

In the case of produce shipments, the surface of the fruits and vegetables gets covered in biofilm. Unless cleaned thoroughly, that produce could become the very opposite of healthy. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food-borne diseases cause about 48 million illnesses each year in the U.S., 45% of which are attributable to bacteria.

Brandwein, set to receive his master's degree in biomedical sciences at the Hebrew University this year, developed the solution for corrugated cardboard boxes, the worldwide medium for transporting most fresh agricultural produce. ★



# On The Way To An Ebola Cure



MEDICINE: BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN / Israel21c.org

As the most severe Ebola epidemic on record spreads through central Africa infecting and killing thousands of citizens and foreign aid workers, and raising the specter of outbreaks all over the world, an Israeli research team is working with survivors to develop antibodies against the lethal virus.

Dr. Leslie Lobel and fellow investigator Dr. Victoria Yavelsky have spent many years studying native immunity to Ebola and another equally lethal Equatorial African virus, Marburg, at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev's Center for Emerging Diseases, Tropical Diseases, and AIDS.

Ebola, which causes hemorrhagic fever, is one of the deadliest viruses in the world. It kills about 90% of its victims, while Marburg, a similar virus, around 88%. Ebola can be spread through sweat and saliva; there is no vaccine or cure.

"Currently we've tracked all Ebola and Marburg virus survivors in Uganda, studied their immune responses to these viruses, and identified survivors with a strong immune response," Lobel says. "We take blood samples from them and isolate monoclonal antibodies that neutralize the virus in our lab at Ben-Gurion."

Yavelsky and Lobel's therapeutic approach was proven as a successful potential treatment by their colleagues in the U.S. military and at several other laboratories. This approach is regarded as the most promising way to prevent Ebola and Marburg, and it could be available within five years. With funding from the U.S. National Institutes of Health and other resources, Lobel's lab is now getting ready to test its human monoclonal antibodies in mice and non-human primates. These tests will be performed abroad because no live virus research is permitted in Israel.

The Israeli company [Vecoy Nanomedicines](#) is developing a biomedical technology platform that tricks a virus into "committing suicide," a tactic that could neutralize viral threats like Ebola, hepatitis, and HIV. However, Vecoy lacks sufficient funding to go forward. Several other experimental vaccines and therapeutic approaches to Ebola and Marburg—mostly in the United States and Canada—are in various stages of development.

The current outbreak began last February in Guinea, a country that is normally outside the usual ecosystem for Ebola, according to Lobel. By the end of March, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control had sent a team to assist the Guinea Ministry of Health and World Health Organization (WHO) in formulating an international response to the outbreak that is now affecting other African countries including Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Nigeria.



Poor compliance with health authorities and many customary practices are thought responsible for the rapid spread of the virus. Because of international travel, however, the Ebola specter hangs over much of the world. ★

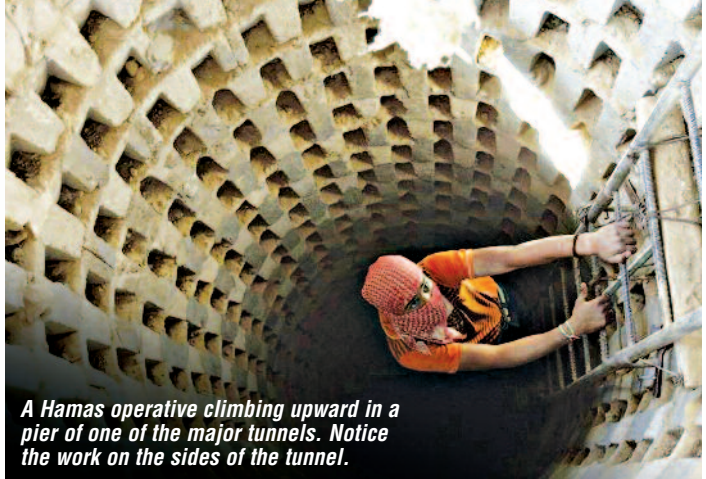
# Hamas Tunnels Targeted Israel's Kindergartens



BY MORDECHAI BEN-MENACHEM (above) DailyCaller.com

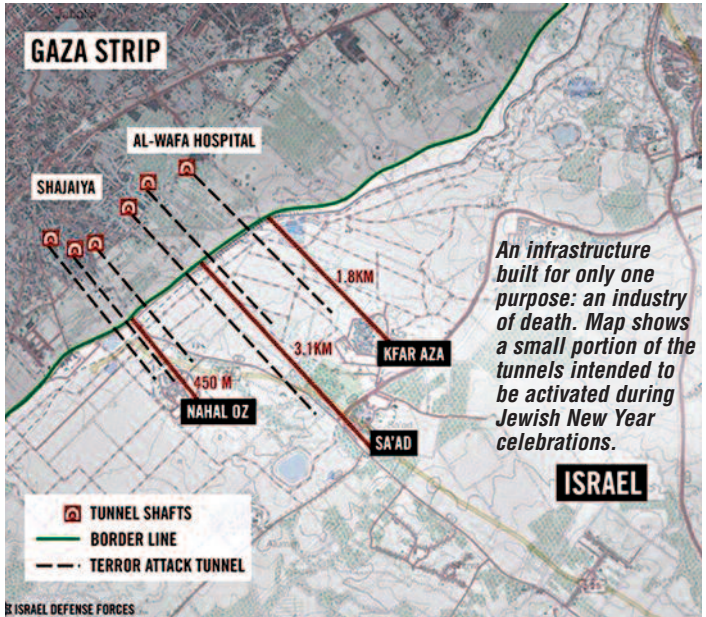
Hamas's offensive tunnel network — over forty attack tunnels underneath Israel's border with the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip — was set to be activated during the Jewish High Holidays as a mass terror attack to generate as many as ten thousand casualties — particularly children — and hundreds of captives. Explosives were purposely placed under kindergartens.

The IDF-published map (below) shows that tunnels were created in pairs, to empty out on both sides of communities. Each tunnel cost over \$1 million, clearly showing that Hamas planned a coordinated mega-attack.



*A Hamas operative climbing upward in a pier of one of the major tunnels. Notice the work on the sides of the tunnel.*

Interrogations of captured Gazans uncovered a plot of heavily armed Hamas fighters spilling out into Israel in the dead of night and within 10 minutes being positioned to infiltrate Israeli communities surrounding the Gaza Strip. Waiting in hiding until schools and kindergartens were occupied, the terrorists would attempt to kill the children first and then kill and kidnap as many Israelis as possible. The plot was set to take place during Jewish New Year, on September 24.



*An infrastructure built for only one purpose: an industry of death. Map shows a small portion of the tunnels intended to be activated during Jewish New Year celebrations.*

"It's like a subway system," an Israeli military spokesman said. "These tunnels are all connected." Israeli Economy Minister Naftali Bennett observed, "Without the [IDF] ground operation, we would have woken up one day to an Israeli 9/11." Except, the actual objective was to be five times 9/11.

Israeli military reported finding the tunnels stocked with tranquilizers, handcuffs, syringes, ropes, and other materials used for subduing abductees. The tunnels

*(continued next page)*



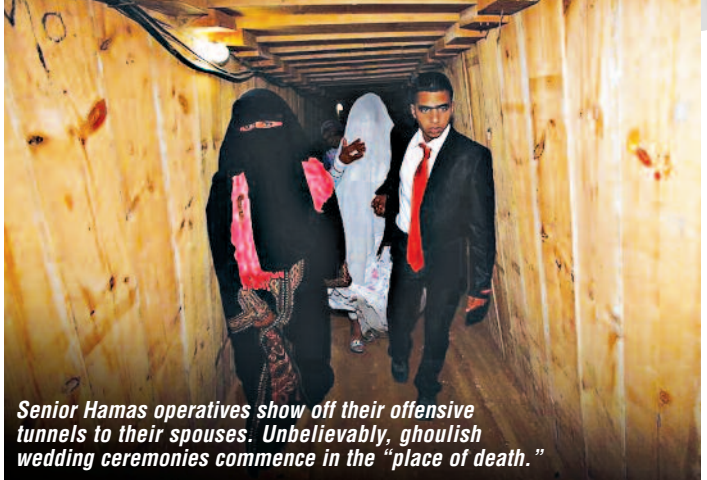
# Hamas Tunnels... *continued*



also stored incredible quantities of explosives and military materiel for a mega-attack. Many explosives had already been placed under Israeli kindergartens. Some tunnels ran 100 feet underground.

The tunnels were not a secret Hamas project. Over the past five years, everyone in Gaza knew that beneath Gaza a network of tunnels was being dug, with an investment of tens of millions of dollars. Yet no one in Israel was prepared for the scope of the tunnels, until Operation Protective Edge.

In order to create this maze, Hamas needed significant professional help, which had to have come from a large organization or state. Previous tunnels under the border with Egypt were significantly simpler, and did not require extraordinary investment.



*Senior Hamas operatives show off their offensive tunnels to their spouses. Unbelievably, ghoulis wedding ceremonies commence in the "place of death."*

Who supplied these quantities of material? How did Hamas acquire thousands of ampoules of tranquilizer, syringes, and drugs beyond the quantities and variety of any civilian medical service? How was it all brought into Gaza? The logistics of the planned attack were the work of a well-organized military, not of a militia or club. This was no amateur plan.

This sophistication and know-how is being copied by Moslem terror group Hezbollah along the southern U.S. border where tunnels are significantly more difficult to detect than in the sandy terrain of the Gaza Strip.

*Mordechai Ben-Menachem is a former researcher/lecturer at Ben-Gurion University and an author of 30 books ranging from engineering to poetry. He is also an ordained clergyman and a former soldier.*

America, did you get that? The tunnels on our nation's southern border resemble those from Gaza into Israel. Hezbollah has been in Latin America for years. Americans need to wake up to the biblical times in which we live. Let's pray and "understand the times" (1 Chron. 12:32).—Myles



*Monumental quantities of explosives were stored in every tunnel, meant to be used in a mega-attack on civilian communities and infrastructure.*



# SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

Freelance Spanish  
journalist Fernando  
Gutiérrez

Photo: Twitter



## Spanish Voice in the Wilderness

By Joshua Levitt / [Algemeiner.com](http://Algemeiner.com)

Freelance Spanish journalist Fernando Gutiérrez declared on Twitter that Hamas was launching rockets from the press hotel in Gaza.

In Spanish, Gutiérrez, who is writing for *Melilla Hoy*, tweeted, "On Saturday, 9 August, Hamas launched a battery of rockets from the press hotel. What was their intent? To provoke Israel to kill us? #SaveGazaFromHamas."

The journalist said he recorded audio of the rockets being launched.

On Twitter, Gutiérrez told followers that he went to Gaza to see the facts for himself.

In another popular tweet in Spanish, Gutiérrez noted, "I would be lying if I told you I saw signs of apartheid in Israel. But I'm not going to lie," posting a photo of an Arab IDF soldier (*r*) kissing his hijab-clad mother on the cheek.

In Spain, amid reports of ISIS militants coming into the country and using

Facebook to help recruit Spanish youth, the country is split over Israel. Many Spaniards follow actors Javier Bardem and Penelope Cruz, whose widely published Op-Ed condemned Israel for the Gazan death toll, ignoring Hamas's missile attacks that drew Israel into war.

In Spain, ETA, the long-running terror movement from the northern Basque region, has now been decimated by Spanish

police and political will. The group's violent acts to withdraw from Spain split families and led to the killing of many political leaders and bystanders from waves of bombings and assassinations, all of which the government routinely condemns.

But rather than draw that corollary to their public opinions about Israel, many in Spain, estimated to have between 13,000 and 40,000 Jews in a population of 47 million people, insist on siding with Hamas in Gaza.



Arab IDF soldier  
kisses hijab-clad  
mother.

## Bible, Laws of Science: No Christian Contradiction

By Jess Lederman / Frontiersman.com

Christians should never be intimidated by atheists who mock Believers. Nor intimidated by other Christians who claim that theories such as the Big Bang are against the Word of God, and that accepting scientific theories will undermine one's faith.

All Christians can agree that the "laws of nature" were created by God (who can suspend them when He works miracles). To students of math and science, these laws reflect His glory as does sunlight illuminating a snow-capped mountain. Newton's law of universal gravitation shows us the elegant way God chose to order the motions of celestial bodies, and  $E=MC^2$  reveals the breathtaking simplicity with which God designed the relationship between energy and matter.

But think about how Einstein's famous equation has been used to benefit mankind and create horrific weapons, and you see how dangerous it is for Christians to cede science to atheists! I suggest that the parable of the talents extends to the gift of reason that God bestows on us. You might ask: Don't scientific theories such as the Big Bang directly contradict the Bible? Consider how a wise parent deals with a young child who asks where babies come from. All answers are variations on one of three possible responses:

1. Lie: "The stork brings them."
2. Launch into a detailed explanation of biology.
3. Answer so the child can understand: "When two people love each other,

like your mommy and daddy, they get married and God gives them the gift of a baby." (When appropriate, add details like "babies grow in their mommy's tummy.") The point is, the answer is truthful, but lovingly simplified.

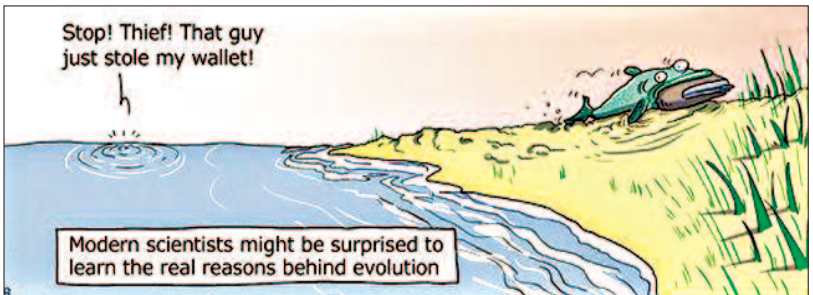
So let's consider what the wisest Father of all decided when He gave Moses the Book of Genesis. Had He dictated all the details of Creation, Moses would have needed a million sheets of papyrus for all the mathematics, chemistry, and physics necessary for the ancient Hebrews to comprehend the majestic brilliance of God's design of the universe.

I propose that God left out the minutia of Creation for two reasons: 1) because no one living at that time could possibly have comprehended the answer; and 2) because it would have deprived man of the opportunity to learn for himself.

Wise parents do not always make things easy for their children. Setting challenges for children to overcome can be the best. God often requires us to take the longer, harder road; so too with the advancement of human knowledge.

When Galileo invited priests to look through his telescope and gaze upon the newly discovered wonders of astronomy, they persecuted him. A tragic waste! I urge Christians to look through the telescope of science. You will be gazing on the greater glory of God. ★

**Note:** our eight-program TV series [Evidence of God](#) and study booklet [Genesis One—A Physicist Looks at Creation](#) offer a hypothesis of Creation in scientific terms. (see page 17)



# Caesarea's Ancient Harbor and Palace



ARCHAEOLOGY: BY WAYNE STILES / JPost.com

The straight line of Israel's seacoast has never lent itself to significant harbors. For centuries, only Joppa in the south and Acre in the north provided modest havens for ships.

But in 22 B.C., work began on a new port—a vast harbor befitting the grand ideals of its visionary, King Herod the Great.

Built on a grand scale, the ancient harbor extended out into the sea through an ingenious use of concrete that hardened underwater. In its heyday, the enclosed harbor covered over forty acres and could accommodate three hundred vessels. It's no wonder the site became one of the most significant seaports of the eastern Mediterranean. Herod's harbor dwarfed the docks of today.

Herod named the city "Caesarea" in honor of Caesar Augustus. To further ingratiate the Roman ruler, Herod raised a temple for Augustus on the hill above the harbor. The ruins of the temple can still be seen today. The site of the ancient harbor is today largely silted and covered with St. Augustine grass.

Herod chose to build his lavish palace in Caesarea on a natural promontory that juts out into the Mediterranean. The king had a fresh water swimming pool carved out of the natural bedrock, almost Olympic in size. Jewish historian Josephus called Herod's palace "the most magnificent." He built an aqueduct that stretched ten miles north to the springs below Mount Carmel and provided Caesarea with fresh water. Its grandeur speaks to the importance of water in the Land.



After the death of Herod the Great in 4 B.C., Caesarea became the Roman seat of power in Israel for 500 years. Roman governors, called procurators, resided in Herod's opulent palace. In fact, the Apostle Paul was imprisoned on the grounds of the palace (at the time called a "praetorium," governor's official residence) for two full years. A sign today marks the likely spot.

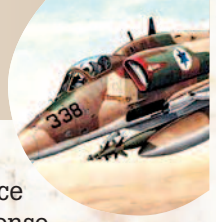
When a team of Italian archaeologists excavated Caesarea in 1961, they discovered an inscription with the translated words "Pontius Pilate, Prefect of Judea." This archaeological find—the Pilate Stone—is the only written extra-biblical source that mentions the name "Pontius Pilate," the procurator who lived in Caesarea and who condemned Jesus of Nazareth to death. ★





# Keeping Old Planes Up Keeps Costs Down

BY DAVID SHAMAH / TimesOfIsrael.com



Israel is a small country with limited resources. The Israeli Air Force has to make every shekel count, especially as warplane and defense system costs skyrocket. The IAF's aptly named Extension of Life Division helps keep costs down by keeping old planes up.

Colonel E commands Air Force Base 108, home to the Division whose mission is to ensure that Israel's planes and avionics systems keep competitive with the latest technology. That means getting creative with old stuff—refurbishing and upgrading planes of all types and ages, retooling them to match the capabilities of the top aircraft from U.S., Russian, French, and other aerospace producers. "We save tens of millions," says E. "When a single F-35 costs between \$120 and \$140 million, fixing them makes a great deal of sense."

E's base deals with aviation electronics, getting deep into the guts of components, transistors, fuses, and other esoteric components, many of which are long out of production. It's not easy. In many manufacturing centers, the original specs of individual components are filed away deep in sub-basements, collecting dust. The components are built by robots on assembly lines, engineered to work together with other components to make up a system. When the system malfunctions, the manufacturer generally just ships another component. But what if that component—or even the whole system—is no longer in production?

That's when the dozens of engineers and techs in his division go into action, said E. "We often have tedious repairs on the insides of power supplies, soldering wires and reconnecting fuses. In many cases, even the manufacturer no longer has the specs—even if the part is still being made, which it often is not," he said.

"In the civilian world, it isn't worth fixing things on such a micro-level because mass production makes things cheaper. In the world of military equipment, it's just the opposite," said E. Among the planes E's division works on are French Dassaults, American F-15s/16s, Israeli Kfirs, drones, and training planes. "We still have a good number of Douglas A-4 Skyhawks, a model first built in the 1950s that has long been retired," said E.

The number of people working at Base 108 is classified (E said he could tell us that it's more than 100), but the division gets about 500 applications a year from prospective recruits, admitting between 20 and 30. "We have a very rigorous selection process," he said. "We want only recruits with the top skills."

*Techs turn old, broken-down planes into first-class fighters. (Faces are intentionally blurred.)*



The unit's biggest problem is money. E said he can't pay the people he would like to hire more than the IDF allows. "Our staff are engineers or advanced tech workers who went through special training," he said. Those skills are very valuable in an advanced high-tech economy, and E can't afford to compete with the private sector. "So I offer them something else—the opportunity to be at the front lines of defending their country." ★

# The Images Missing from the Gaza War

BY URIEL HEILMAN (r) JTA.ORG



There's no shortage of images from the Gaza conflict. We've seen rubble, dead Palestinian children, Israelis cowering during rocket attacks, Israeli military maneuvers, and IDF footage of Hamas militants emerging from tunnels to attack Israeli soldiers.

We *don't* see mainstream media photos of Hamas fighters in Gaza. *The New York Times* offers this excuse: "We don't have any. It is very difficult to identify Hamas because they don't wear uniforms or visible insignias; our photographer has not even seen anyone carrying a gun. We are limited by what our photographers have access to."

Now, I'm no war reporter. I'm not willing to take the risk but commend those who do. So I'm hesitant to question the work of reporters in Gaza. But documenting Hamas attacks against Israel is crucial to understanding what's underpinning this conflict.

With the hundreds of journalists in Gaza, including photojournalists with experience covering bloody conflicts in Syria, Ukraine, Iraq, and Afghanistan, how is it that they aren't able to get images of Palestinians fighting Israelis? We know these images exist — unless you believe the Israel Defense Forces fabricates footage of Palestinian fighters using ambulances to transport rockets, firing from hospitals and mosques, and launching rockets at Israel.

Israeli officials report that Western journalists in Gaza have been harassed and threatened by Hamas for photographing the terrorist group's involvement of civilians in warfare against Israel. If journalists are being intimidated when they try to document Hamas activity in Gaza, their news outlets should be out front saying so. They're not.

A French journalist reported being involved in an incident of intimidation by Hamas, but the account was subsequently removed from the Internet.

It's important to show the human and structural devastation in Gaza. But with more than 4,500 rockets fired at Israel thus far from Gaza, and plenty of other fighting there, media outlets should be able to document some of it. But they haven't. (Israeli news outlets are barred from Gaza, so they get a pass.)

For many viewers, the narrative of this war must appear quite straightforward: Powerful Israel is bombarding defenseless Palestinians. That's understandable when there are hardly any photographs of Palestinian aggressors.

This reporting disparity is no small point. Public opinion will play a crucial role in determining when the fighting ends, what a ceasefire looks like, and who bears primary responsibility for the deaths of innocents.

If media outlets suppress images of Hamas fighters using civilians as shields, and using schools and hospitals as bases of operation, then concerned citizens watching around the world will have trouble viewing the Israelis as anything but aggressors and the Palestinians as anything but victims. ★



# JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.

## Building Booths

Morris asks his rabbi how to build a kosher *sukkah* (booth). The rabbi directs him to the commentary of Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki, generally known as Rashi, a top medieval commentator on the Bible and the Talmud. The rabbi even tells Morris what page has the instructions. Morris follows the directions precisely, but just as he puts the last piece on top, the whole structure collapses.

Thinking he made a mistake, Morris rebuilds it with the same result. Very frustrated, he goes back to the rabbi and asks what went wrong. The rabbi reviews the Talmudic page and declares, "Funny, Rashi asks the same question."

Oy vey!! ★



*A cheerful heart is good medicine —*  
Proverbs 17:22



**SUKKOT:**  
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## 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—  
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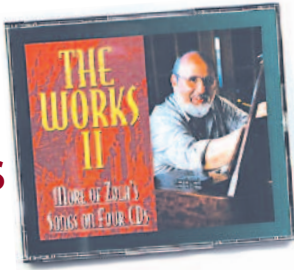
Our complete TV Airing Schedule includes dozens and dozens of independent channels and is posted at [www.levitt.com/airsch](http://www.levitt.com/airsch).

*(New Series from Israel Airing Soon!)*



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# Israel

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