

Levitt Letter



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



"I Never Agreed To '67 Borders" P.8



ZOLA TOURS SPECIAL REPORT

The Rose-Red City: Petra

By Sandra Luttrell
Zola Tours Manager

For the last phase of our Ultra Grand tour, we headed to our hotel in the beautiful resort city of Eilat on the northern tip of the Red Sea, visiting a life-size replica of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness along the way. The next day we crossed the border into Jordan to see the rose-red city of Petra. On the bus, our Jordanian guide explained that his government decided long ago to invest in building Jordan's economy rather than warring with its neighbors. The investment seems to be working: We noted a calmness in the area, and many smiles from local adults and children greeted us along the way.

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33rd Gospel Outreach to Israel

By Kathryn Sue Hopper

Often when the **To The Jew First** team flies from JFK to Tel Aviv, a divine appointment with a seatmate develops. On this El Al jet, I sat next to a friendly Israeli woman. **Dalit** and I quickly became involved in conversation concerning our families, careers, and travel plans.



Dalit and Sue

Dalit was born in Jerusalem but now resides in a suburb of Tel Aviv, where she works in the medical field with burn patients. Her work also involves research and testing new medicines to help repair scarred and damaged skin. She loves what she does.

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The Rose-Red City: Petra *continued from cover*

Accessing the 2,000-year-old city's ruins requires a mile-long trek through a narrow gorge with steep, red-hued sandstone walls towering on both sides. The sheer size of the monuments makes even engineers wonder how the ancient Nabataeans carved the massive structures of the Treasury, Monastery, and Amphitheater into the sandstone slope, which many believe may be the biblical Mount Hor. The gorge path descended into the archaeological area, but for the return trip *uphill*, some of us chose to ride—carriage, donkey, horse, or camel. After a physical day of exploring monuments and tombs, we were all more than ready for another delicious meal and peaceful night when we returned to our Eilat hotel that evening.

On our drive next morning to Tel Aviv, we stopped to see the Ramon Crater (a geological landform unique to the Negev Desert) and Tel Be'er Sheva, the ruins of biblical Beersheba known for its many wells, dug by Abraham and Isaac, and the elaborate underground water system carved in the rock beneath the town.

Dinner and a quick wash at a beautiful hotel in Tel Aviv saw us off to the airport for our flight home.

Throughout our tour, we ate and slept well and saw inspiring sights. Because of recent hostilities with Gaza, everyone's friends and families had expressed concern for our tour group's safety. However, each of us felt well cared for and safer than we do in the States. Many people have told me—and I now concur—that from the moment you step foot in Israel, you feel as though you are finally home!

If you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to experience Israel firsthand, I implore you to heed that call and join us this fall or in spring 2016 ... you will never be the same! Dates and options for both tours are on the back cover of this *Levitt Letter*. Please feel free to contact me at 214-696-9760 or travel@levitt.com with any questions. And please plan to join us "this year in Jerusalem" for a life-changing experience! ★

Parts 1 and 2 of Sandra's report appear in our [February](#) and [March](#) issues.

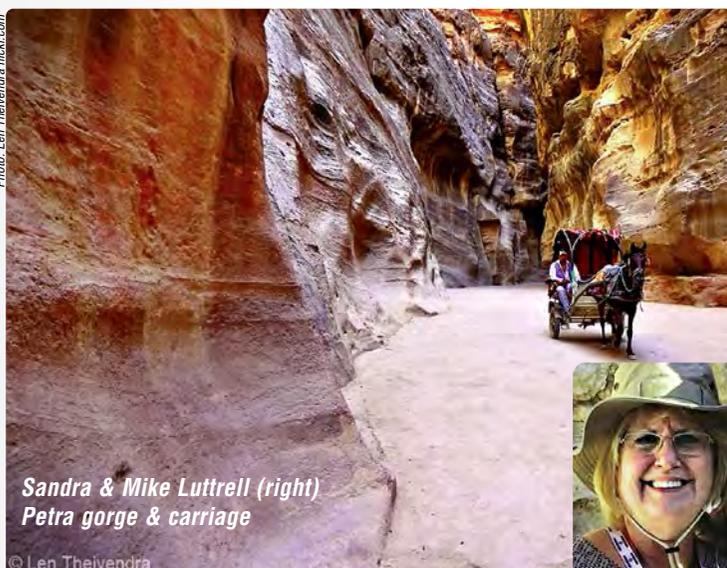


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Photo: Len Theivendra flickr.com



"A trip to Israel
is worth more
than 10 years of
Sunday School."
—ZOLA

Sandra & Mike Luttrell (right)
Petra gorge & carriage

© Len Theivendra



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Rivlin Urges Unity Against Islamist Threat

By Ari Soffer / IsraelNationalNews.com

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin recently urged foreign diplomats to stand firm with the State of Israel, opining that their countries share a common cause with the Jewish state. Speaking at a special Independence Day event, Rivlin expressed his pride in what his country has achieved in the 67 years since its founding, and his hopes that Israel's neighbors will one day succeed in achieving the same.



"I know that liberty, that democracy, are not to be taken for granted," Rivlin told the gathered diplomats, including foreign ambassadors. "Israel's independence is the fulfillment of a two thousand-year-old dream."

"I look around me with such pride at all that we have achieved, from literature to film, technology to medicine, agriculture to academia. Israel is a beacon of democracy in a pained region."

"We are one family, a family of nations"

But the president warned that those rights — even in already-free countries — are under threat from the rise of radical Islam, and urged a united international front to combat the threat, which included the prospect of a nuclear-armed Iran.

"We are one family, a family of nations," he said. "The rise of fundamentalist groups, bringing death and destruction, spreading hatred, and spilling innocent blood is a threat to Israel, to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, France, Denmark, to all of us." ★

The Season of Redemption

Myles To Go
By Myles Weiss
ZLP Host



The season of Passover (*Pesach*) that leads to Pentecost (*Shavuot*) (celebrated May 25, 2015) provides a time for remembrance, rejoicing, and restructuring. The restructuring includes the birth of the Church and the subsequent 2,000-year period of people coming to faith. In this spring of Earth's annual seasons, we anticipate the sound of the great trumpet announcing the return of Messiah!

At this time each year, we look back at God's historical deliverance of the Hebrew people from Egypt. During the 50 days between the Feasts of First Fruits and Shavuot, we enjoy the counting of the "omer"—*lit.* the sheaves of the harvest. The counting causes us to anticipate the "Shavuot moment:" first, when the Word was given to Moses at Sinai; and 1,300 years later, when the Church was born in the Book of Acts.

Pesach represents our salvation by the sacrifice of the Lamb of God, Yeshua the *Mashiach* (Messiah). We are *justified* by trusting in the sacrificial blood of the Lamb of God (Rev. 7:14; 2 Cor. 5:21). It is followed by *Chag HaMatzot* (the seven days of unleavened bread), which represent our sanctification. We rid ourselves of the old leaven (*chametz/sin*) of "Egypt" and die to the carnal nature, a process that is represented by the burial of Messiah and our identification with His mortification.

First Fruits, the Sunday after the Crucifixion, represents the resurrection of Yeshua our *Mashiach* and our future *glorified* state as part of the coming harvest of God at the end of the Age. The term "first fruits" also applies to the first crops to ripen each agricultural season, beginning with a sheaf of the barley harvest (an *omer*).

The Resurrection occurred on Nisan 17, three days after the lamb/Lamb was

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



*Then the earth shall yield her increase;
and God, our own God, shall bless us.
Psalm 67:6*



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inspected and approved and then slain. Amazingly, throughout history, remarkable events happened on this same day.

Noah's flood ended—Gen. 8:4. So, our new creation in Messiah began on the anniversary of the rebirth of the world. Note: Nisan, the seventh month in the years covered by Genesis, was designated as the first month at the time of the Exodus (Ex. 12:2).

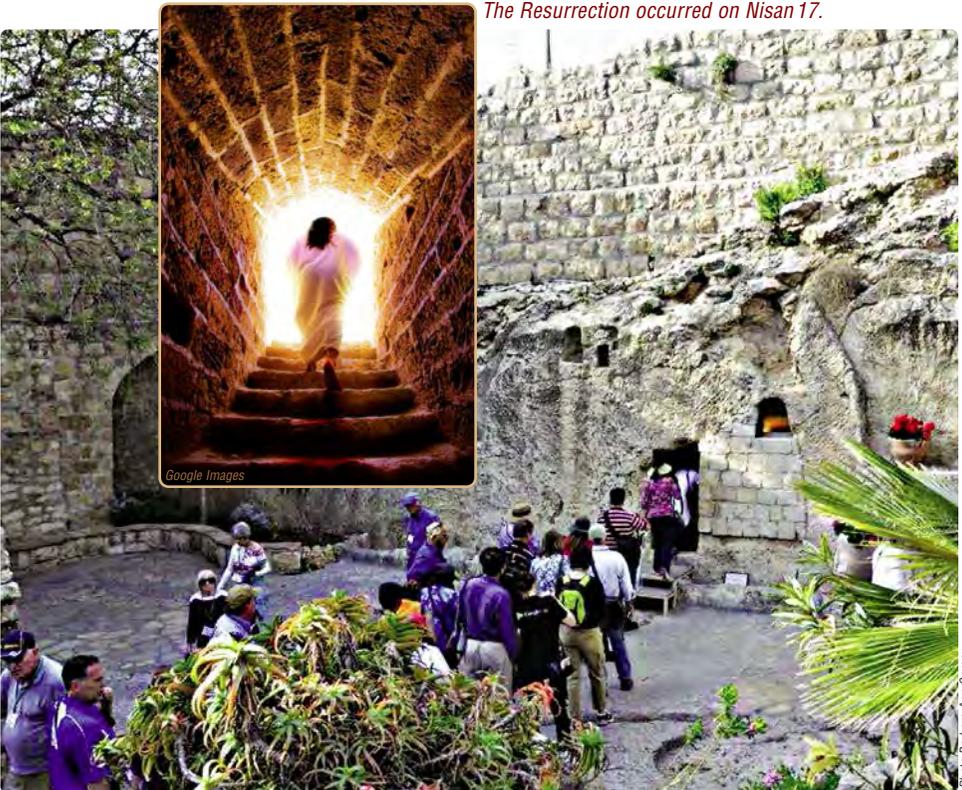
Israel crossed the Red Sea—Hebrew sages believe that Israel crossed "Yam Suf" on this date. They reason that from the crossing of the sea to the arrival at Sinai was 47 days. Three days later would mark the 50th day as the original event that Shavuot commemorates: the giving of the Torah (Exodus 19).

Haman hanged—According to various Jewish authorities, the villain Haman was hanged on Nisan 17 on the gallows he had specifically prepared for Mordechai the Jew [Esther 7:10].

The most important event was Yeshua's resurrection on Nisan 17. In 1 Cor. 15:20–23, Paul clearly links the "firstfruit" offering with the resurrection of Yeshua Mashiach. Yeshua's resurrection is the ultimate "wave offering" presented before the Father as the "firstfruits" of the harvest to come. Yeshua is the first begotten of the Father (Heb. 1:6) and opened the door for the phenomenal worldwide congregation that has transformed the world for 2,000 years. From the 120 in the upper room (Acts 1:15) to the 3,000 "born again" at the Temple (Acts 2:41) and down through the centuries, resurrection life continues to triumph over the grave. ☆



The Resurrection occurred on Nisan 17.



Zola Tours visits the Garden Tomb: "He is not here, He has risen."

A Mother's Hope for Her Sons

Katharine Weiss
ZLP co-host



The heart of a mom for her sons... and her sons' hearts for Israel

Love from a mother is a love like no other. My sons Jonathan and Stephen are dear treasures to my heart and soul. Not a day goes by that I do not pray for them and seek the Lord on their behalf.

My boys grew to manhood immersed in the Scriptures, saturated by the Holy Spirit. Myles and I were on staff at a church that had us traveling around the world to Russia, India, and Africa, leading mission trips and seasons of ministry. The boys sojourned with us in Kinshasa, Congo, where I believe they each received a heart for the Nations. They love to travel, to experience new cultures, to study and learn about the different peoples of the world, and ultimately feel compelled to take the Gospel into the Nations. Their eagerness to go out in service to the Lord requires a strong walk of faith for Myles and me because it is tempting to prefer that they stay local, find steady jobs, and live the suburban life. As a mom, I want them safe and comfortable.

However, their gifting, callings, and Scripture often lead them on other paths. Both are dedicated to the Lord, and He will make their paths straight as they live lives fully surrendered to Him. **As a mother, I derive inspiration from the story of Hannah as she takes Samuel to Eli in 1 Samuel.**

1 Samuel 1:26–28

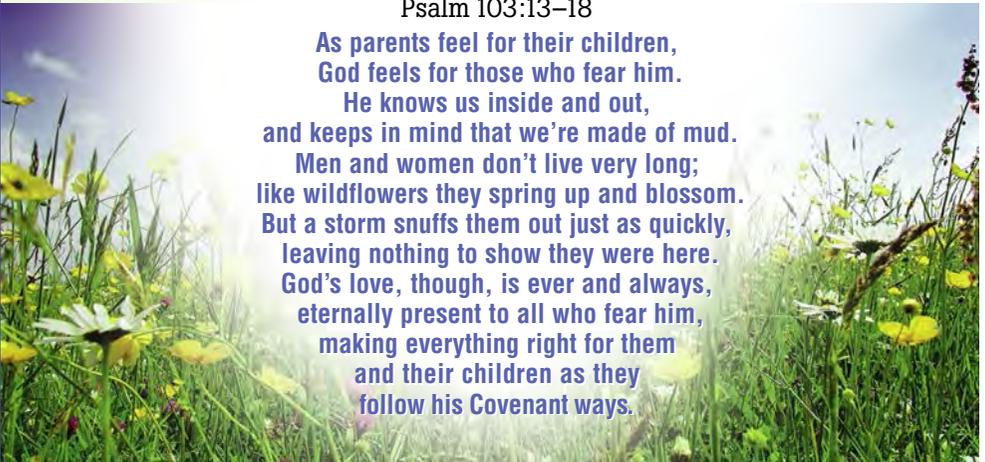
26 And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. 27 For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. 28 Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD."

I find strength and faith in prayer, scripture, and solid relationships. The Lord is always quick to remind me that the best place for my sons is in His will. Although His will may lead them into dangerous situations, I know that we are primarily spiritual beings having a transitional bodily experience. Our resurrected bodies will be revealed a little farther down the road.

Reading Psalm 103 helps me reflect on the wonders of being children in God's Kingdom. His love provides the everlasting care to carry us through the good and difficult times. We need His love to release our children into their destinies. ✨

Psalm 103:13–18

**As parents feel for their children,
God feels for those who fear him.
He knows us inside and out,
and keeps in mind that we're made of mud.
Men and women don't live very long;
like wildflowers they spring up and blossom.
But a storm snuffs them out just as quickly,
leaving nothing to show they were here.
God's love, though, is ever and always,
eternally present to all who fear him,
making everything right for them
and their children as they
follow his Covenant ways.**



The Balagan of Shiputzim

OUR MAN IN HAIFA By Eitan Shishkoff (r) with wife Connie



Our neighbors are remodeling. Ha! That scarcely describes the radical transformation in their apartment. I know, because our patios are separated by a mere cinder block wall. We can easily see each other's front doors. It's fortunate we are good friends.

The other day, I was chatting with a couple of buddies seated around our patio table. Suddenly, the conversation was rendered inaudible by the persistent squawking of a power tool. Why was I surprised? The neighbors have been tearing out walls, replacing the floor, and rewiring the entire house.

Every Israeli knows the word that describes this extensive upheaval. It's called *shiputzim*, pronounced she-poo-TZEEM. It means renovations, but the English cannot convey the *balagan* (confused mess) every homeowner endures while transforming his aged apartment into something more in keeping with the times. To grasp just how common it is in Israel to *shiputz* one's apartment, it helps to understand that almost all Israelis live in apartments, not separate dwellings.



In addition, a huge percentage of these apartment buildings were constructed before the housing boom of the past 25 years, which was caused by the phenomenal *aliyah* from the former Soviet Union. This, coupled with our nation's relatively healthy economy, has resulted in many families electing to remodel (*shiputz*) their homes rather than take out a higher mortgage on a new place.

Adding to the nerve-racking ordeal, not all *shiputzniks* (contractors) are filled with integrity. Our congregational secretary just told us a harrowing tale of a *shiputznik* who walked off the job, leaving her and her husband with portions of walls removed and no end in sight. On the other hand, our experience endeared us to the Arab Israeli contractor who took a personal interest in upgrading our home with his high-quality workmanship. My advice? Get solid references!

A spiritual benefit is that our next-door neighbors' experience is bringing us closer. While their home is disassembled, there's a sweet vulnerability that opens the way for us to be supportive. As it happens, they're a Modern Orthodox couple who have been interested in our faith in Yeshua. We even attended their daughter's wedding.

I'm not expecting you to be super-interested in the vicissitudes of Israeli remodeling. But I am hoping to convey the atmosphere of a typical Israeli neighborhood. **Living close together in a small country, we tend to "get in each other's business."** **A positive side effect: It's nearly impossible for people not to see who you are.** We've forged a friendship with the folks next door, and they actually like us (!). Our prayer is that they, and many more of our neighbors, will discover the Messiah Who brought us to the God of Israel and then to the Land of Israel. ★

Netanyahu: "I never agreed to '67 borders"



BY DUDI CASPI, SHLOMO CESANA & GADI GOLAN / IsraelHayom.com

A document, which purports to have been presented in August 2013 and appears to detail the framework for peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, surfaced recently. The "concessions document" suggests a willingness by Netanyahu to make dramatic concessions.



Photo: Dudi Vaikinin

Dennis Ross, the American diplomat who mediated talks between Israeli negotiator Isaac Molho and Palestinian negotiator Hussein Agha, challenged the document's authenticity: "Over the years of our discussions, we came up with many drafts both before and after August 2013, but there was not an August 2013 draft."

"It is a pile of nonsense," Netanyahu said about the document. "I never agreed to divide Jerusalem. I never agreed to withdraw to 1967 borders. I never agreed to recognize the Palestinian right of return. And I never agreed to give up our presence in the Jordan Valley. Never."

Further disproving the document's claims, Palestinian minister Ashraf al-Ajarmi agreed that "Netanyahu did in fact set conditions for continued peace talks in the last round—no return to 1967 borders, no negotiations on east Jerusalem or on Jerusalem at all, no Israeli withdrawal from the Jordan Valley, no evacuation of most of the settlements, including the settlement blocs that everyone used to talk about. In essence, under these conditions, no Palestinian refugee could return either. These conditions prevented any progress, and that is why I do not believe that what the [document] reported ever really happened."

Our video archives at levitt.tv include "Election 2015: Israel's Choice." The program features Zola's interviews with Netanyahu from years past. Netanyahu maintains a consistent call for peace with security for Israel. Ceding the hills of Judea and Samaria is not a good idea according to the electorate, which retained Netanyahu despite pervasive media slander and massive efforts to unseat him.

—Myles ★



When Yossi and Ahmed Meet



Latin America Rolls Out Red Carpet for Israeli Trade

BY DAVID SHAMAH / TimesOfIsrael.com



The Israeli government is working hard to open new markets in places where Israeli exporters have traditionally not had a large presence. Recently, a dozen members of an official Ministry of Economy delegation visited Panama City regarding the formation of a free trade agreement (FTA) between Israel and Panama. Twelve working groups discussed access to markets, customs, services and investments, intellectual property, protection of flora and fauna, trade obstacles, institutional issues, and conflict resolution. Two more rounds of talks are expected before the negotiations are completed.

Panama's well-developed services sector revolves around one of the country's biggest economic assets—the Panama Canal, still one of the most important links between the Orient and Atlantic Ocean ports. Administration of the canal—which Panama assumed in 1977—has



led to the development of a large software and technology industry, with big data used to make the passage from East to West cheaper and more efficient than alternate methods, such as overland trucking. Insurance, medical and health, banking and financial technology, and tourism are all outgrowths of the canal business as well.

Because Israel has a strongly developed software sector that provides solutions in just those areas, said Ohad Cohen, director of the Foreign Trade Administration in the Economy Ministry, an FTA with Panama "will forge new opportunities for Israeli companies and give them a competitive edge against foreign companies."

Panama is a candidate to join the Pacific Alliance, which currently includes Mexico, Colombia, Peru, and Chile. If the GDP were a single nation, the Alliance countries would form the world's sixth-largest economy, according to the World Bank.

Israeli officials who have been working on deals with Latin American countries believe that there is a great demand for Israeli technology and expertise in a wide variety of fields. Israel recently signed a cooperation agreement with Mexico for industrial R&D. Under the deal, Israeli and Mexican companies will receive assistance in funding joint projects in several areas of research and development, including water management, desert agriculture, pharmaceuticals and medical devices, electronics, and communications. Israel also has an FTA with Mexico.

To enhance relations with the Alliance even further, Israel is also negotiating an FTA with Peru. A Declaration of Interest has already been signed, Peruvian officials noted. Israel's ambassador to Peru, Ehud Eitam, said: "As a largely agricultural country, Israel could be very helpful to the country's economy, especially in its efforts to maximize water use." ★

“Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem” Psalm 122:6

CLASSIC ZOLA from 1980: 35 years ago

Israel designated Jerusalem as its capital, and that’s all there is to that. All the protestations of all the governments of the surrounding nations will not change God’s plans.

The Israeli armies, with God, are prepared to enforce the establishment of the one, eternal, indivisible Holy City, just as they were the last time this happened. Bible readers should realize at once that history is repeating itself. Three thousand years ago, the Israeli government made Jerusalem its capital. King David was in command and any nation that wished to contend the point was as welcome to meet with him as was Goliath. Jerusalem must be the capital of Israel when the King returns to that city. The governmental decree establishing the capital falls perfectly in line with end-times prophecy, and we are already seeing Jerusalem become a “burdensome stone” to all the world (Zech. 12:3).

The nations near and far are very interested at this point and the antiChrist will be equally interested in his time (2 Ts. 2:3–4). The Temple will have to

be constructed on the site where the Dome of the Rock now stands, and establishing

THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAS A NATURAL, HISTORICAL AND LEGAL RIGHT TO ITS HOMELAND AND TO ITS ETERNAL CAPITAL, JERUSALEM.



HOW DID THE SIMPLE TRUTH COME TO SOUND LIKE A RADICAL STATEMENT?

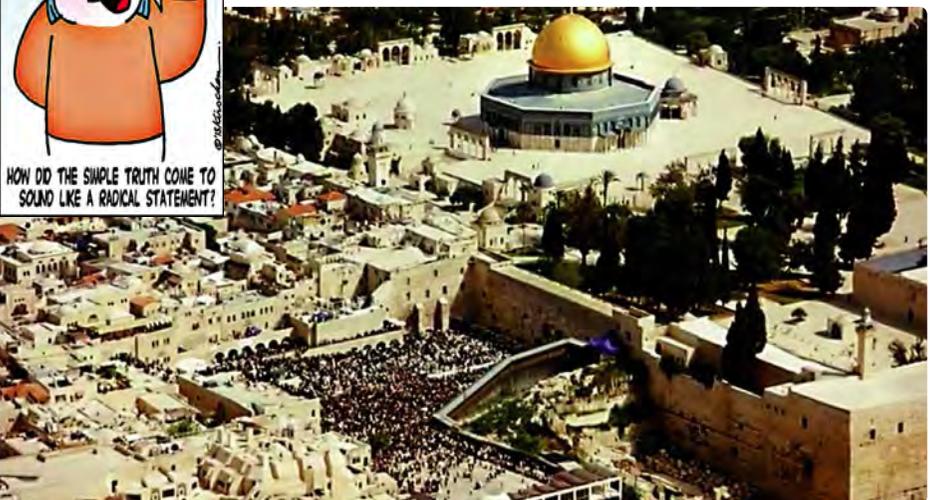
Jerusalem as the national capital will help provide for that future event.

As Americans, we must be careful not to act in the manner of the ancient Romans concerning Jerusalem. That great city was the capital of Israel in the time of our Lord, but the Romans barely acknowledged that fact. They stood aloof from the Jewish government, operating their own interests in that far-flung province of their empire. We Americans also stand rather aloof, operating our own interests in that far-flung base of our military objectives. We stood by recently as our representation in the United Nations abstained from approving Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. Our government keeps the American embassy in Tel Aviv, rather than in Jerusalem, so as not to step on anybody’s toes (especially the toes of those who cater to our thirst for oil).

[The U.S. Congress sought to reverse this travesty by passing the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 with an overwhelming bipartisan majority in both the House and Senate. The Act states that “Jerusalem should be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel and the United States Embassy in Israel should be established in Jerusalem no later than May 31, 1999.”

Since then, all our presidents have

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promised to uphold this pledge. But as the Act allows the president to implement a waiver at six-month intervals, that has happened every six months since 1995.]

God loves Jerusalem, and this fact is apparent throughout His scriptures. He directed Abraham to that holy temple mount for the intended sacrifice of Isaac (Gen. 22). He called for Israel's kings to reign in Jerusalem and for the House of God to be built there. He sacrificed His only Son in that city and established the Church there. Missions went out from Jerusalem to share the faith until Christianity overwhelmed the Roman Empire.

In the future, God will honor Jerusalem: It will be the seat of the Millennial Kingdom, requiring the whole world to make a pilgrimage to that city each and every year of the thousand years (Zech. 14:16). Finally, even in eternity God will not give up Jerusalem but will instead create a New Heaven, a New Earth, a New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:1–3). There is clearly a love relationship between Almighty God and Jerusalem.

But for the moment, Israel is having a tough time of it with their burdensome stone. President Sadat of Egypt is offended, even as he sues for peace, by

Israel's action of declaring Jerusalem "indivisible." The more-hostile surrounding nations can hardly be taken seriously anymore—they object to each and every Israeli policy, even the archaeological diggings that recover for the whole world the region's history and heritage. But the vicious condemnation on this particular point has increased terrorist action, and Israel is dragged into border skirmishes quite typical of the first thousand years of Jerusalem.

The Church must love its homeland just as every individual loves his homeland. We sometimes forget that the Church is not American or European or at home anywhere else in this world. The Church belongs to a kingdom "not of this world" but to a Kingdom that will be established in Israel with Jerusalem as its capital. The Scriptures teach us that we are to be good citizens of whatever nation in which we find ourselves, but more emphatically that we are to love the Land and Brethren of our Lord (Matt. 25:40) (Rom. 10:1).

I have been signing off in Hebrew, *Sha'alu Shalom Yerushalayim*—Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Won't you join me in that prayer at this critical time? ☆



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Pray For Peace bumper sticker

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem"

Printed on removable vinyl, this attractive bumper sticker measures 3" by 11" and has a striking 3-D effect. Bold white letters of Psalm 122:6 jump out from the blue and black background.

Pass some on to your friends!



Ask the Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q I was recently watching *Messiah: Prophecy Fulfilled*, a movie on Christian TV prepared by Messianics. In it, an early Jewish-Christian rabbi made the following statement: “The Passover at the time of Jesus’ death on the cross was the last Passover celebration allowed in the Temple in Jerusalem.”

Is this statement true? I have never heard anything like it before. I support your ministry and couldn’t think of a better place to go for an answer.

A In a word, no, this isn’t true. The Levitical priests were making animal sacrifices in the Second Temple right up until the Roman invasion of Judea and Jerusalem in 70 A.D. Moreover, when the Book of Hebrews was written around 68 A.D., the inspired author tells us that sacrifices were occurring in the Temple at that time (Hebrews 10:11).

Q In Leviticus, women were not allowed to eat of the holy things. Do you realize that only TWO places in the whole Bible declare that a woman is holy: 1 Cor. 7, where Paul says the unmarried woman might be holy in body and spirit; and 1 Peter 3:5, speaking about the women of old who trusted in Yahweh and how they adorned themselves and were in subjection to their husbands.

This begs the question: is a woman only considered holy in connection with her husband if she is married and if she is in subjection to him? Or is she only considered holy on her own if she is unmarried and faithful to Yahweh as was Hannah after her husband died?

A A woman is holy regardless of marital status because she, like man, is made in the image of

God, co-equal with man (Genesis 1:26–27). She is also a holy “type” of the Church, the bride of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:24–33).

Q How was Jesus able to teach in the Temple when He was twelve years old? Did Israeli parents of that time teach their children to read and write? I was told that there probably wasn’t a written Torah in every home or even anything to write on. Can you provide an answer or maybe a source where I could find some historical information on that question? Was Israel the first “home school” as children learned to read the Torah from their parents at home?

A There was teaching in the Jewish homes, in the local synagogues, and at yeshivas (religious schools) throughout Judea. The main university of that day for teaching the *Tanakh* and the Oral Law of Judaism was the Temple. For more information on this subject, you’ll enjoy the excellent book *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah* by Messianic Jewish scholar Alfred Edersheim, available in hardcover and eBook format. ★



33rd Gospel Outreach to Israel *continued from cover*

By Kathryn Sue Hopper



Dalit's husband works in New York City and would like to move the family there. But Dalit loves Israel and does not want to move their two sons, who are in their late teens and early 20s. So, she travels to New York regularly to see her husband.

When Dalit realized that her book was in her carry-on in the overhead compartment, I offered to let her get out to retrieve it, but she didn't want to go to the trouble. I offered one of my books that I thought she might enjoy. It's just as well she wasn't interested because I realized that the book was also in the overhead compartment. But I did have a prophecy pamphlet to let her read. I unfolded *The Promised Messiah** to show Dalit that it lists 17 prophecies from the Old Testament (*Tanakh*) with their fulfillment by Yeshua in the New Testament (*B'rit Hadashah*). This interested Dalit, especially because the pamphlet was printed in both Hebrew and English. She gladly took the Gospel tract to read.

While the TJF team waited for our luggage, Dalit found us to say goodbye. I introduced her to my fellow *shelichim* (emissaries): my husband Robin, Eric Oler, and Todd Baker, who took our picture. I hope I meet Dalit again to see how the Holy Spirit has watered the seed that I planted. Meanwhile, we will pray for Dalit and her family that she, and by extension they, recognize the identity of their Messiah Yeshua/Jesus.

The four of us then traveled to Netanya, Tiberias, Mount Hermon, and Jerusalem spreading the Good News of Yeshua and

giving out Complete Bibles (Old and New Testaments together) and study materials in Hebrew.

While in Jerusalem, my husband received word that his elderly mother had fallen and was not responsive. Todd and Eric continued on, but Mark Levitt and our travel agent helped Robin and me fly home early. Our time in the Land was productive nevertheless, and though Robin's mother passed into the arms of our Lord before we arrived home, kind friends held vigil in her last hours. ☆



Robin and his mother

Coordinating the Zola Tours study groups with TJF outreaches offers a precious opportunity for pilgrims to pray for Todd and his team and hear updates. We were able to pray for Robin and his mother, confident in her destination. Your prayers and gifts of funds make possible this multifaceted ministry. —Myles and Katharine

**The Promised Messiah is a free, downloadable tract that you can print and fold into an attractive handout. It is printed in both English and Hebrew.*



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WISE AS A SERPENT / By Mark Levitt

Easing Retirement Apprehensions



This *Wise As A Serpent* installment and April's "[Retiring Your Nursing Home Concerns](#)" may prompt interested readers to spend less and save more. Rather than offering advice, my bimonthly *Serpent* articles provide information from well-informed financial columnists to help readers better weigh what they hear from advisors and salespeople.

Cambridge graduate and personal-finance columnist Jonathan Clements recently wrote "Why You Will Need Less Money Than You Think For Retirement" in *The Wall Street Journal*. The article's main takeaway was set in large type: "The rule of thumb [for a comfortable lifestyle in retirement] is 80% of your salary, but that figure may well be too high."

Clements subtitled three significant possibilities regarding his assertion that those preparing for retirement will be able to live comfortably off of less than 80% of what they currently make:

- **Your children are off the family payroll.**
- **You were saving more than 10%.**
- **Your mortgage is paid off.**

The reality for most retirees: "We save what we can and then make do." A 2014 survey of 1,507 retirees, "who had a median net worth of \$473,000, were living on an average of 66% of their pre-retirement income." 85% of them agreed that they are satisfied with spending less than before.

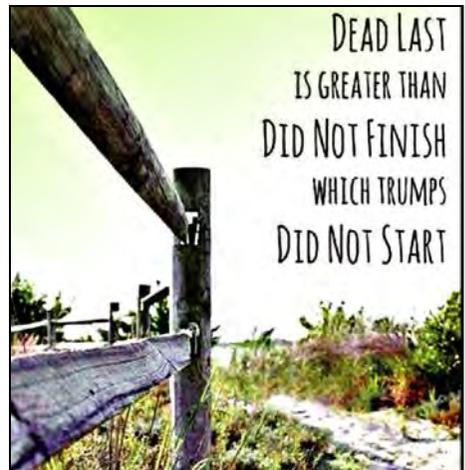
Many retirees not only stop saving for retirement but also no longer have to pay the employee's 7.65% for Social Security and Medicare. Reaching age 65 qualifies taxpayers for more-generous standard deductions. Itemizers often can deduct unreimbursed medical and dental expenses in excess of 7.5% of income, versus 10% for those age 64 and younger. Most Social

Security benefits are at least partially tax-free.

Of course there's the wild card of medical expenses. Not to mention the inclination to travel more and eat at fancier restaurants. It is a helpful financial irony that "The more you save, the less you need for retirement." For example, those who save 25% of their income can sustain their current lifestyle with as little as 65% of their pre-retirement earnings because they were already living on 75%.

Having your mortgage paid off can reduce the income you need by 10% or 15%, according to Denver financial adviser Charles Farrell, author of *Your Money Ratios*. He believes many retirees "might be comfortable at 50% or 60%."

Believers who live too "hand to mouth" to even think about saving for a rainy day often quote the wisdom of Matthew 6:28: "Consider the lilies of the field . . ." Rather than finding any biblical imperative to retire, I've seen both Testaments uphold the merits of working (e.g. Psalm 90:17, 1 Tim. 5:8). Moreover, Philippians 4:6-7 advises, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." ✨



ZLM Bulletin Board

If Moses Had Facebook

For an entertaining, insightful, two-minute video that demonstrates how social media would have impacted Moses' travails, please visit <http://wp.me/pieUD-2fm>. Here are some of its tidbits:

News Flash: Pharaoh Enslaves Jews; World leaders condemn Israel.

God Skypes, "Go down, Moses. Way down to Egypt's Land."

Moses Googles "Pharaoh's Palace" to get directions and emails pharaoh@egypt.gov to "Let my people go!"

When Pharaoh replies, "No way," Moses shops at Amazon.com for Plagues in Bulk (Egypt's First-Born Club membership subsequently plummets.)

Moses Tweets, "@Israelites No time for baking. Grab matzo. We're outta here! #Exodus"



Islam: Fastest-Growing Religion

Christianity is the largest religion today. By 2050, Christians will increase by 35% to 2.92 billion and Moslems by 73% to 2.76 billion, each accounting for one-third of the world population. The Pew Research Center also projected that Moslems will grow to 10% of Europe's population and outnumber Jews there, and that Christians will no longer be a majority in the UK. The worldwide Jewish population is expected to grow by 16% to 16.1 million, if the Lord tarries. CQL! (Come quickly, Lord Jesus!)

Growth of Islam Outpacing Christianity?

Let these projections provide impetus for us to pray "that none should perish" (2 Peter 3:9)—Myles

TV Watchmen on the Wall

Do you regularly watch one of the **Zola Levitt Presents** broadcasts below?

- Daystar Network** – Thur. 9:00 a.m. Central
- ABC Family Network** – Sun. 4:30 a.m. Central
- TLN** (Total Living Network / Chicago)
 - Wed. 8:30 a.m. Central
- KTLN** (Total Living Network / San Francisco)
 - Sun. 11:30 a.m. Pacific
- WPCB** (Cornerstone Network)
 - Sun. 3:30 p.m. Eastern
- WCLF** (Christian Television Network)
 - Mon. 7:00 p.m. Eastern

If you will monitor our TV program every week on one of these stations, please contact Brenda@bergproductions.com or 6221 Riverside Drive, Suite #109, Irving, TX 75039. You will be furnishing a valuable service to our outreach by helping the stewardship of our broadcasting budget.

Free Item

Pamphlet of the Month

Gift annuities can help those who wish to give charitably, but who want to make certain that they have first provided for their financial needs and for their loved ones. A gift annuity offers you a way to further the causes that you believe in while benefiting from one or more of the following: 1) Lifetime payments taxed at lower rates than other income, 2) Income, gift, and estate tax savings, and 3) Favorable treatment of capital gains. To receive the free pamphlet **Questions and Answers About Gift Annuities**, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.



"Come Home!"

Zola
Tours to
Israel



See [page 36](#)
for details



HebrewLesson



Awakening to Wonder

By John J. Parsons

קְדוּשִׁים תִּהְיוּ כִּי קְדוֹשׁ אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם

“You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.” – Lev. 19:2

כֶּם	הֵי	לְ	אֱ	יְהוָה	אֲנִי	קְדוֹשׁ	כִּי	תִּהְיוּ	שִׁים	קְדוּשִׁים	
(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)
e-lo-he-khem	Adonai	a-ni	ka-dosh	ki	ti-he-yu	ke-do-shim					
your God	the LORD	I	holy	for	you shall be	holy					

In Hebrew, the word “holiness” is *kedushah*, from a root (קדש) that means sanctity or “set-apartness.” The “holy” connotes the sphere of the sacred, mysterious, and utterly wonderful—separate from all that is profane. As such, it is lofty and elevated (Isa.57:15), beyond all comparison and utterly unique (Isa. 40:25), gloriously awesome (Psalm 99:3), full of light and power (Isa. 10:7), and is chosen and favored as God’s very own (Ezek. 22:26). Indeed, holiness is a synonym for the LORD Himself, who is called *HaKadosh barukh hu*, “The Holy One, blessed be He.”

In the Torah we are invited to awaken to the realm of the wonderful and beautiful, to the awe-inspiring and sacred, which is to say, to open our eyes to the Divine Presence (Isa. 6:3). The LORD calls out: “Be holy as I am holy” (Lev. 19:2). Walking in holiness doesn’t mean wrapping yourself up in some protective cloak of religious rituals, however, as much as it means accepting your own atonement: reconciling who you are with your past, finding healing and love, and walking in genuine hope. Turn your thinking around on this: holiness isn’t as much “separation” from the profane as it is “consecration” to the sacred, and in that sense it is a kind of *teshuvah*, a *turning* of the heart back to reality. Negatively put, “being holy” is turning away from fear, despair, and anger; positively put, it is embracing the worth and value of life, respecting the Divine Presence, and walking in the radiance of God’s love. *Hashivenu Adonai*.

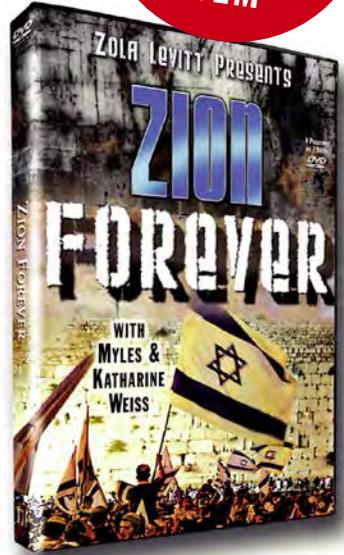
There is a wonderful verse in the Torah which states that the LORD “dwells with us in the midst of our contamination” (Lev. 16:16). Even though we are unclean (i.e., made impure by sin), the Divine Presence is not removed and the means for reconciliation is provided for us. Aren’t you glad that the love of God doesn’t “stop there” (i.e., with a verdict about our sinful condition) but goes beyond the offense to provide remedy and hope in Yeshua our Savior? Love takes what is unclean, common, and profane and elevates it to a place of being sacred and beloved.

May we consciously remember spiritual truth; may we awaken to reality and take “every thought captive to the truth of Messiah.” And may God help each of us heed the call to walk in holiness by the power of His unfailing love and grace. **Amen.**



Zion Forever DVD Set NEW!

This long-awaited, nine-part series looks back at Israel's history and forward into prophecy while remembering the present status of the Temple Mount, the most contested real estate on Earth. Throughout the series, we hear from "Our Man in Haifa" Eitan Shishkoff, archaeologists Eli Shukron, Dan Bahat, and Shimon Gibson, tour guide Hannah Ben Haim, and Israel expert Shahar Shilo. Zola Levitt's music complements the narrative and scenes of Israel.



The Place The Holy of Holies stood on a foundation stone called in Hebrew *HaMakom* (The Place). In exploring the ancient City of David we hear from knowledgeable archaeologists and tour guides.

Western Wall The Western Wall, once called "Wailing Wall," now called *HaKotel* (The Wall), is the closest Jewish people can get to the site of the Holy of Holies. After Myles shows us a Bar Mitzvah celebration at the Wall, we hear how King David purchased the threshing floor atop Mount Zion.

Southern Steps Myles and Katharine walk along the southern edge of the Temple Mount where Messiah and other worshipers would have entered. Eitan Shishkoff looks to a future time when knowledge of the Lord covers the Earth.

Kidron Valley From the Kidron Valley, which lies between the Temple Mount and the Mount of Olives, Myles and Katharine give us the history of Jerusalem. Messiah will enter through the Golden Gate when He comes again.

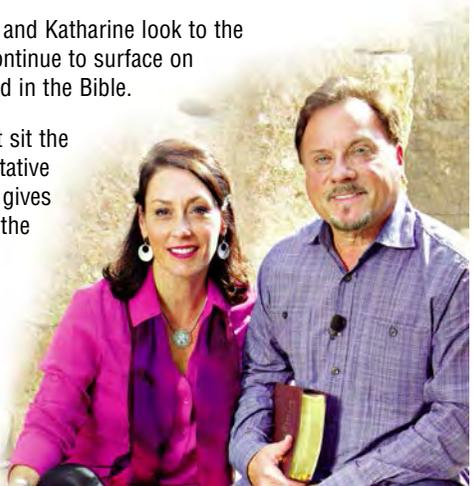
Valley of Elah Young shepherd boy David slew the giant Philistine Goliath in the Valley of Elah. Here, Myles and Katharine recap the event. We discuss the walls of ancient Jebus (Jerusalem), the Gihon Spring where David's forces invaded the city, and the tunnels at the southern end that may have provided the final resting place for Judean kings.

Ein Gedi Myles and Katharine recount how David hid from King Saul in a cave near the spring at Ein Gedi oasis. We hear about the discovery of the Pool of Siloam and that the current King of Israel is Yeshua Himself.

Temple Mount The Temple Mount is the earthly center of spiritual warfare. We see thousands of artifacts from Bible times that have been discovered in the debris discarded over a decade ago from unauthorized excavations. Guest archaeologist Zachy Dvira was first to note the debris's importance.

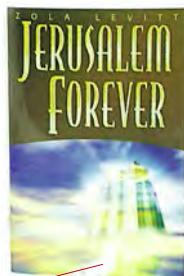
Mount of Olives From the Mount of Olives, Myles and Katharine look to the future of the Temple Mount. Archaeological finds continue to surface on Mount Zion, confirming Jewish heritage as recorded in the Bible.

In the Meantime Currently atop the Temple Mount sit the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque. A representative of Jerusalem Islamic Waqf, which governs the area, gives the Moslem perspective. Guests: David Parsons of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, Itamar Marcus of Palestinian Media Watch, and a Jewish woman who is raising her family in the City of David.



Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

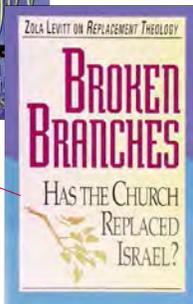
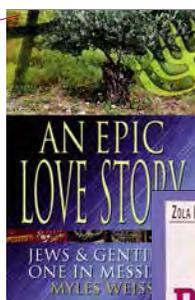
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Books

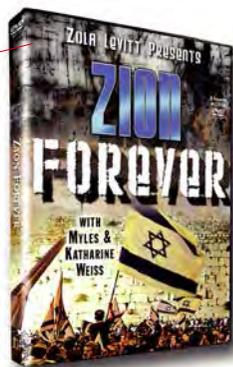
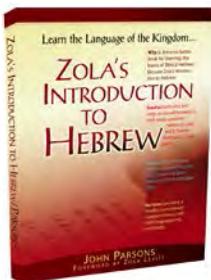
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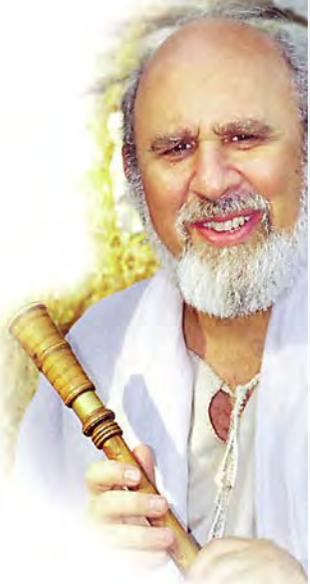


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___	The Witnessing Series (4 programs, 1-DVD)	\$29	___





Studies, Specialty, Etc.

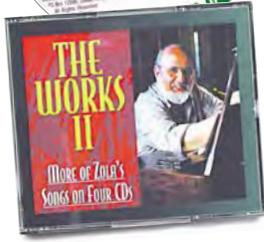
Qty.	Item	Price	Total
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___	Jerusalem Journeystone	\$8	___
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___	Messianic Prophecy Scroll	\$35	___
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem	\$12	___
___	Pilgrim’s Map of The Holy Land	\$6	___
___	Flag of Israel (3’ x 5’)	\$10	___
___	The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark	2 for \$1	___
___	Zola’s Notebook (The Bible: The Whole Story)	\$25	___
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only)	no charge	___
___	Guide To Your Christian Will	\$2	___

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Music CDs: Hear samples at www.levitt.com

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The Dark Prince: When the Devil Has His Day

Ten 30-minute TV programs on three DVDs

In this made-for-TV miniseries, Dr. Jeffrey Seif takes viewers through Bible texts that speak about the devil. *The Dark Prince* gives a behind-the-scenes look at Evil's workings and its ultimate uprooting when Christ returns.

Satan's Rise and Demise in Genesis Genesis focuses on how Creation strayed and who is responsible. We discuss Satan's emergence and God's plan to crush him when Satan rises to rule the world at the dusk of human history.

Satan in Biblical History Biblical history's bookends—the paradise lost story in Genesis and the paradise restored story in Revelation—illustrate Satan's rise and demise. These lessons should encourage people to position themselves on the right side of the battle line.

The Ruler of This World Isaiah describes the "ruler of this world"—Satan—through an actual ruler of the ancient world; Matthew relates how Satan once offered Jesus the kingdoms of this world. The temptations that the Lord avoided are ones that we should avoid as well.

To Steal, Kill, and Destroy Daniel and Revelation describe unimaginable beasts that would wreak havoc upon a decaying world. We examine their application to end-time Bible prophecy.

Deceit, Betrayal, and Coming Miseries The devil's tools—deceit and betrayal—were first noted in the Garden of Eden. We look at Jesus' agony and betrayal—also in a garden—and the flurry of miseries that will be unleashed on this planet before the garden paradise is restored.

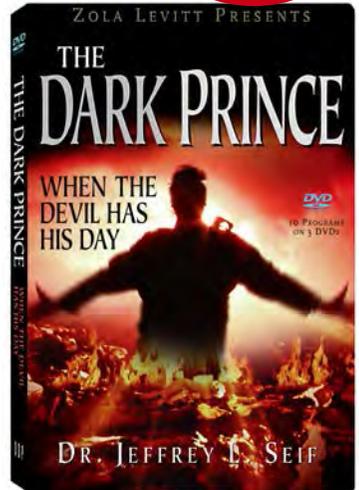
Armageddon and the Final Conflict We look at Job as evidence that Satan attacks individuals. In Revelation, Satan's assaults culminate in the Battle of Armageddon.

The Collapse of an Intoxicated World Revelation vividly relates how the world will lament the evil prince of this world, whose demise is brought about by the Lord's return.

The Second Coming! We look at the return of Jesus and the consequent restoration of paradise.

The Experts Speak, Part 1 Jeff interviews Paul Wilkinson, Wayne House, Tom McCall, and Chuck Missler about the End Times—specifically, the rise of the antiChrist and the European Union.

The Experts Speak, Part 2 Jeff interviews Thomas Ice, Wilfred Hahn, William Koenig, Todd Strandberg, Joel Rosenberg, and Tim LaHaye about the End Times—specifically, the rise of the antiChrist and a global government.



To
Index

Russian Missiles to Iran



BY LYNN BERRY (r) Associated Press

Russia confirmed that a barter deal to supply Russian goods in exchange for Iranian oil was being implemented, but that it would be at least six months before it could deliver the S-300 air defense missile system (*below*) to Iran.

Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed his move in a phone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, telling him that Israel shouldn't be worried about the "purely defensive" weapon.

The United States and Israel continue to criticize Putin's decision.

Israel's survival has hinged on its ability to shoot down Islamist missiles. Russia's "purely defensive weapon" would, of course, enhance Iran's ability to attack Israel. —Mark

Iran Guard Rejects Inspection of Military Sites

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI / Associated Press

A senior commander in Iran's Revolutionary Guard said recently that inspectors would be barred from military sites under any nuclear agreement with world powers.



Gen. Hossein Salami (*above*) the Guard's deputy leader, said on state TV that allowing the foreign inspection of military sites is tantamount to "selling out."

"We will respond with hot lead (bullets) to those who speak of it," Salami said. "Iran will not become a paradise for spies. We will not roll out the red carpet for the enemy."

Iran and six world powers—the U.S., the U.K., France, Germany, China, and Russia—have reached a framework agreement to curb Tehran's nuclear program in return for lifting sanctions, and hope to strike a final deal by June 30. ✨



Russian S-300 anti-aircraft missile system. The Kremlin says Russia has lifted its ban on the delivery of these missiles to Iran.



Letters to ZLM

For ministry products and TV programs, visit the [web store](#) and [video archives](#).

Comment from www.levitt.com

From D.H.: I shop regularly on Amazon.com, so I signed up for smile.Amazon.com (mentioned on your [April Levitt Letter's bulletin board](#)) and chose your ministry to receive free donations from my purchases. Thank you, as I had not previously been aware that this opportunity even existed. Thank you for shopping through Amazon Smile and for spreading the word. —Ed.

ZLMers Around the World

Greetings. I would like to suggest that your ministry set up a P.O. Box with a Canadian address along with a Canadian bank account. Please consider this as a way for Canadian citizens to participate in this blessing. Thank you, K.I.G.



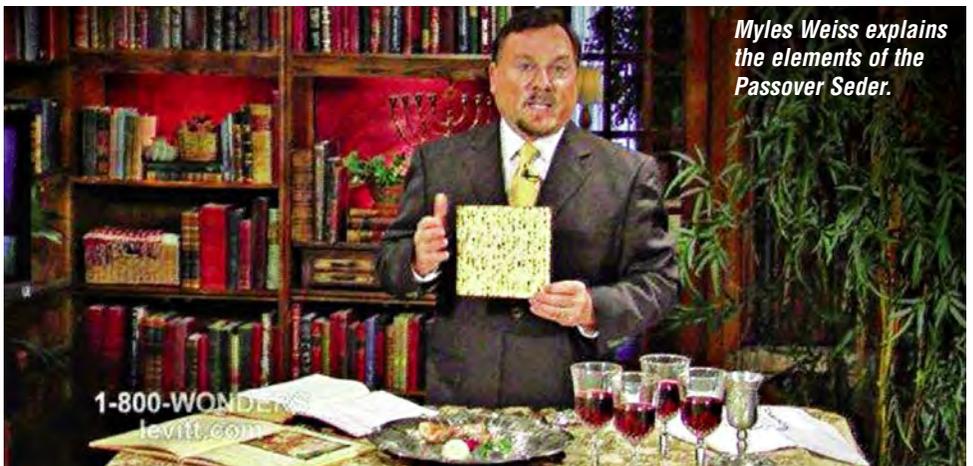
PM Stephen Harper stands with Netanyahu and Israel.

Dear K.I.G.—

You are kind to share your idea about our small ministry expanding to Canada. Fortunately, we already are able to receive foreign contributions without costing anyone postage. In fact, using your credit card or PayPal to make donations at levitt.com saves you time and keeps us from having to maintain a foreign bank account. Thanks for your considerate suggestion. —Mark

Full Participation

How impatiently I wait for my *Levitt Letter* news magazines! I love reading about the Israeli achievements in science and medicine. I found it interesting to read how the whole nation of [Israel is involved in Passover preparations](#). I believe that every Christian should hold or participate in a **Seder** (*below*) prepared by Jewish believers in Yeshua. It is a blessing to experience this momentous ritual with the Lord and brothers and sisters in Christ Yeshua. In Yeshua's love, H.B.



Myles Weiss explains the elements of the Passover Seder.

1-800-WONDER
levitt.com



Teaching All God's Creatures

Every time I tune in *Zola Levitt Presents*, my cat Tinks sits up and follows your tours of Israel! In this picture, it looks like you are talking directly to her.

—Shalom, S.



Zola's Legacy

Dear Sandra and ZLM,

Watching a VHS tape from back in the 1980s, I believe Zola was an anointed man of God. I can still feel the Lord's presence when Zola teaches.

When I first started leading groups to Israel years ago, his ministry was a blessing and help to me. God bless you as Zola's influence lives on! —C.R.



Greetings, C.R.—

We agree! Katharine and I consistently meet people in the U.S. and Israel who tell us that Zola's teaching changed their lives. For some, his work impacted the direction of their ministry.

We are blessed to "stand on the shoulders of giants" and are grateful to carry the baton to the next generation. Sadly, the under-30 crowd is growing up without a clear understanding of Israel and the Middle East. This hole in the education of our children makes the continuation of Zola's work so very important. This ministry is a voice crying in the wilderness of propaganda and ignorance. Thank you for your kind words. —Myles and Katharine



Guest Suggestion

Hello, Zola Levitt Ministries!

You have some incredible guests on your television program, and I would very much like to suggest a guest. **Carl Teichrib** was at the Pre-Trib conference and the Pikes Peak conference in 2014. He is from Canada and has information that is unique but important. Keep up the wonderful work of Zola Levitt Ministries! —K.J.



Shalom, K.J.—

I have good news for you. Carl Teichrib will be featured in our upcoming television series, *Times of the Signs*, now in post-production. I had the privilege of interviewing him for the series last winter, along with Tim LaHaye, Bill Salus, Bill Koenig, and other key leaders. *Times of the Signs* is going to be a blockbuster series with teaching on prophetic issues like Palestinian replacement theology, the "one world" economy, and the rise of global jihad. Your prayers and gifts of funds keep us going! Blessings —Myles

It's all His \$\$

ZLM Staff,

At the moment, my wife and I are sacrificially giving to your ministerial outreach. The Lord has blessed us, and we're devoted monthly to ministries directly beneficial to the Hebrews in Israel and around the world. We're not boasting, it's all His \$\$\$. We'll pray about it, but we may drop a ministry that seems to be straying from doctrine; His Word is just as relevant as it was when Jesus was born, maybe more so today!

We'll pray about increasing our gifts. Whoever is reading this, please whisper a prayer so that He will give us guidance. We do understand that today's ministries are feeling the crunch, but He's bigger than that!

God love ya, in Christ —B.

Back at ya, B., in Yeshua's Name—

We bless you for your generosity and hope that God continues to increase you. Katharine and I continually assess the ministries we support. We adjust our giving as different ministries' needs change and *certainly* if someone's doctrine diverges from the straight and narrow.

I greatly appreciate our announcer Wayne Fournier. He is a genuine supporter of ZLM, and when he reminds our viewers about giving, he does so with a gentle and sincere manner. As far as I know, Zola is the only media minister who ever advised viewers to hold or reroute their giving when our ministry was doing well. What a *mensch* (honorable person)! Shalom —Myles



Sweet Testimony

Dear Myles,

I just finished reading the March issue of the [Personal Letter](#) and appreciated your article on Unity. I've been a very small part of your ministry for many years and have benefited all that time, but have not expressed an opinion.

I am excited to find *Zola Levitt Presents* back on [DayStar on Thursday mornings](#), a time I can watch. In my thinking, your organization is the best at getting out truthful, unbiased information and teaching of any of today's ministries. And you are very generous to keep people like me with little to give on your mailing list, even when the money doesn't come in. Thank you, and may our God of Gods and King of Kings bless you mightily as the days draw down.

It's very evident what is happening in our present day. Not much time left to "get the Word out" of salvation only through Messiah Jesus. The fields are white for harvest (Jn. 4:35). Pray for the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. May He be glorified! Thanks again for your amazing ministry —M.E. ★



Our ministry is blessed to announce that, thanks to your consistent support, we added a third weekly broadcast on **Daystar**, America's premier Bible-teaching TV network! Daystar viewers can now watch and record *Zola Levitt Presents*:

Wednesdays, 10:00 PM Central Time

Thursdays, 9:00 AM Central Time (New time, PTL!)

Fridays, 5:00 PM Central Time



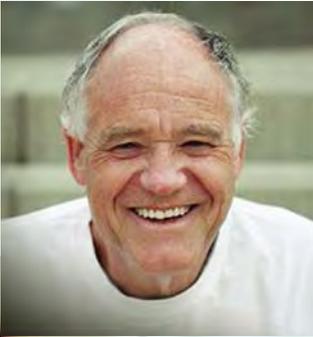
Israeli Smartphone App Keeps Drivers' Eyes On The Road



BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN (r) Israel21c.org

A patented smartphone technology, originally created for the blind, has now been built into a steering wheel-mounted controller and app to help sighted drivers use smartphone apps on the road without looking at their handsets.

The team behind RayGo, Project RAY, previously developed the world's first smartphone for people with visual disabilities. "The same technology that helps thousands of blind people use smartphones is now used to battle the distracted-driving phenomenon," says founder Michael Vakulenko. "Smartphone usage on the road has become a serious problem and a real safety hazard.



Boaz Zilberman, Project RAY

"While working on the RAY smartphone for the blind, it suddenly hit us that the solution to this problem has been in our hands all along. Eyes-free technology can help more than just the blind."



RayGo comprises a five-key Bluetooth controller that mounts on the steering wheel, and the RayGo Android app that converts the user's favorite apps to a simplified version that uses voice only. In addition, RayGo monitors and adapts to steering wheel movements, speed, and location in real time. The technology holds back notifications, pauses message playbacks, and even speaks more slowly when necessary, all to keep the driver from getting too distracted. Pending Apple's approval, the Tel Aviv-based Project RAY hopes that RayGo will also be able to support iOS phones in the future. ★

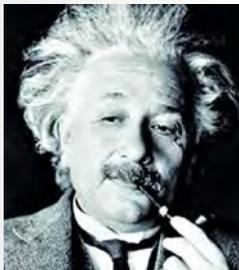
Once again, Israeli know-how lights the path and shows the way!
—Myles

100th Birthday Gift to Einstein



SCIENCE: BY DAVID SHAMAH (r) TimesOfIsrael.com

Exactly 100 years ago, **Albert Einstein** formulated his theory of relativity, affecting the way scientists see the universe. Now, researchers at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Open University of Israel, Sapienza University of Rome, and University of Montpellier in France have presented the “grand old man of physics” a birthday present—a confirmation that his theory is correct.



The scientists said the results of the team’s experiment could help resolve one of the 20th century’s greatest dilemmas: the apparent contradictions between Einstein’s relativity theory and the other great pillar of modern physics, quantum mechanics.

In the experiment, researchers followed the journey of photons that were generated by a distant gamma-ray burst, some seven billion light-years away from Earth. Those photons, whose data were captured by NASA’s Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope, are only now arriving in our neighborhood—and they all arrived at the same time, within fractions of a second. That is exactly what Einstein would have expected; light particles, the relativity theory states, travel at the same absolute rate—186,282 miles per second—thus explaining the split-second coincidence of the particles’ arrivals.

Beyond confirming the general theory of relativity, the observation rules out one idea concerning the unification of general relativity and quantum theory. While these two theories are the pillars of physics today, they are contradictory, to an extent: According to Einstein, a vacuum is just that, with nothing present, and light traveling through it will not be slowed down by “energy,” such as quantum particles. However, according to quantum theory, such particles can appear for short periods of time even in a vacuum, with the potential to affect the speed of photons.

The idea of “space-time foam” attempts to reconcile the two theories. According to this concept, on a microscopic scale, space is not continuous but rather has a foam-like structure, even in a seeming vacuum. These foam elements are so tiny that it is at present impossible to measure them. However, the theory goes, light particles traveling within this foam will be affected by the foamy structure and, as a result, they will travel at slightly differing speeds.

If this foam existed, our photons would have arrived at different times: Seven billion light years is a great distance, and it’s reasonable to expect that some cosmic phenomenon would have altered their speed, “foaming up” their route and causing them to arrive independently.

The photons’ simultaneous arrival indicates that even if the foam exists, it is much smaller than previously expected.

With these findings, physicists have more data on what does and doesn’t work in resolving the two theories.

“When we began our analysis, we didn’t expect to obtain such a precise measurement,” said Prof. **Tsvi Piran**, the Schwartzmann University Chair at the Hebrew University’s Racah Institute of Physics and a leader of the research. “This new limit is at the level expected from quantum gravity theories and can direct us how to combine Quantum Theory and Relativity.” ☆



An App Replaces Ritalin

MEDICINE: BY VIVA SARAH PRESS (r) Israel21c.org



Forget Ritalin. New Israeli company **Myndlif** has an app that can improve attention disorders without negative side effects.

Aziz Kaddan, one of the co-founders of Myndlif, didn't flinch when asked in front of an audience of global entrepreneurs and scientists at the recent BrainTech conference in Tel Aviv how he plans to go up against better-funded American companies with his alternative non-drug treatment for attention deficit disorder (ADD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

Myndlif uses neurofeedback, also known as electroencephalographic (EEG) biofeedback, to train the brain to focus. It's a computer-based technique developed and tested by NASA to improve attention, focus, and learning.

Kaddan, the 22-year-old phenomenon taking Israel's brain-tech world by storm, knows that the path to changing hyperactivity treatment is a tough one, but he's positive his app-based, wearable neurofeedback solution—coupled with specially tailored mobile games that only work through concentration—can increase attention levels with just 10 minutes of playing a day.

"I have a product that a lot of people will find valuable," he told interviewers, from his co-working space for high-tech entrepreneurship and innovation at Tel Aviv's public library.

Myndlif's idea is to get sufferers of ADD and ADHD off medications like Ritalin, which suppresses appetite and has other negative side effects, and help them focus their minds using a mobile app, neurofeedback, and brain-sensing wearable technology.

"Myndlif brings personalized neurofeedback training to mobile, making it easier for people with hyperactivity, professionals in demanding careers, students, athletes, and anyone concerned about brain fitness to improve concentration abilities effectively without prescription drugs, the inconvenience of visiting specialized clinics, and huge bills, thus saving thousands of dollars and tens of commuting hours.

"Using wearable and mobile technology, brainwave therapy becomes affordable, accessible, and safe," according to the company's elevator pitch.

Kaddan (l) and co-founder Anas Abu Mukh believe their medical technology will not only disrupt current treatment for attention deficit disorders but also impact the wider healthcare market worldwide.



The Myndlif team – from left: CEO Aziz Kaddan, customer relations specialist Amr Khalaily, lead developer Hilal Diab, and CTO Anas Abu Mukh.

How to Fight Anti-Semitism



BY DAVID BROOKS (r) NYTimes.com

Anti-Semitism is rising around the world. What can we do to fight it?

Do education campaigns work, or marches, or conferences?

There are three major strains of anti-Semitism circulating, different in kind and virulence, and requiring different responses.

In the Middle East, anti-Semitism has the feel of a deranged theoretical system for making sense of a world gone astray. Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, doesn't just oppose Israel. He has called it the "sinister, unclean rabid dog of the region."



London graffiti

Egypt's top military staff attended a lecture on the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. The region is rife with conspiracy theories—that the Jews were behind 9/11, drink the blood of non-Jews, and spray pesticides across Egyptian lands.

This sort of anti-Semitism thrives where there aren't many Jews. The Jew is not a person but an idea, a dark force responsible for the failures of others. This form of anti-Semitism cannot be reasoned away because it is not reasonable. It can only be confronted with deterrence and force. The challenge for Israel is to respond to extremism without being extreme. Israeli leaders try to walk this line without becoming a mirror of the foe.

In Europe, anti-Semitism looks like a response to alienation. It's particularly high where unemployment is rampant. Roughly half of all Spaniards and Greeks express unfavorable opinions about Jews. The plague of violence is fueled by young Islamic men with no respect and no place to go.

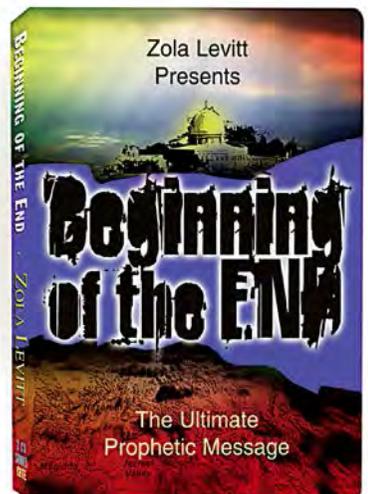
Jeffrey Goldberg's essay, "Is It Time for the Jews to Leave Europe?," reports on a blizzard of incidents: a Jewish school principal who watched a Frenchman of Algerian descent pin down and execute the principal's 8-year-old daughter in the schoolyard; French kids terrified in school by "Dirty Jew!" chants in the hall;

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

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Anti-Semitism... continued



the Danish imam who urged Berlin Moslems to kill Jews, "Count them and kill them to the very last one."

Thousands of Jews simply flee Europe each year. But the best response is quarantine and confrontation. European governments can demonstrate solidarity with their Jewish citizens by providing security, cracking down—"broken-windows" style—on even the smallest assaults.

Brave and decent people can take a page from Gandhi and stage campaigns of confrontational nonviolence: marches, sit-ins, and protests in the very neighborhoods where anti-Semitism breeds. Expose the evil of the perpetrators. Disturb the consciences of the good people in these communities who tolerate them. **Confrontational nonviolence is the historically proven method to isolate and delegitimize social evil.**

Though the number of anti-Semitic incidents in the United States is also rising, the U.S. remains a relatively non-anti-Semitic place. America's problem is people who can't fathom what anti-Semitism is or who think Jews are being paranoid, playing the victim.

On college campuses, young people who have no experience with people who hold virulent evil beliefs often assume that if Israel is hated, then it must be because of Israel's policies in the West Bank.

In the government, people know that the Iranians are anti-Semitic, but they don't know what to do with that fact. They negotiate with the Iranian leaders, as if anti-Semitism was some odd quirk, instead of what it is: a core element of their mental architecture.

Others see anti-Semitism as a form of bigotry. But anti-Semitism and bigotry are different evils. Bigotry is an assertion of inferiority whose remedy is oppression. Anti-Semitism is an assertion of impurity whose remedy is extermination. Anti-Semitism's logical endpoint is violence.

Educational campaigns and consciousness-raising may not do anything to reduce active anti-Semitism. But they can help non-anti-Semites understand the different forms of the cancer in our midst. That's a start. ✨



Dry Bones



Indian crested porcupine


logical sites, the porcupine builds its home between remains hiding underground. It removes the dirt expertly onto the surface, along with all sorts of archaeological artifacts it comes across.”

Porcupine Unearths 1,400-year-old Lamp

By Lazar Berman / TimesOfIsrael.com

Israeli archaeologists are praising a local rodent for its contributions to their field after it uncovered an ancient lamp.

A team of officials from the Israel Antiquities Authority’s anti-theft department were on a routine patrol at Horbat Siv when they happened upon a pile of dirt next to the opening of a porcupine den.

Lying in the dust was a 1,400-year-old intact ceramic lamp with signs of use. An IAA statement said that the lamp—which was dug up by the porcupine—helped archaeologists date the ruins.



Horbat Siv is a large archaeological site from the Roman and Byzantine period. “The porcupine is an excellent archaeologist, an incomparable digger,” said IAA anti-theft official Ira Horovitz.

The Indian crested porcupine is common across Israel. It lives in mating pairs and digs deep burrows up to 45 feet deep.

“Since the country is full of archaeo-

Israel’s Economic Shift to Asia

By Norman A. Bailey / ATimes.com

Israel is in the midst of an historical shift of international economic relations emphasis from Europe and the U.S. to south and east Asia, including China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, Singapore, and India. All indices of Israeli international trade and investment are pointing in the same direction. The question now is how does Israel transform its economic success in Asia into political, diplomatic, and perhaps eventually military support.

Another equally significant development: the formation of an informal alliance of Sunni states that includes Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states (except Qatar) in countering Iran and extremist Islamic terrorist organizations.



Shimon Peres meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping

Israel is actively collaborating with those countries in security, defense, and intelligence activities, as well as economic projects such as gas supply to Jordan and the Red to Dead Sea water project.

Stay tuned for major economic/scientific/technological collaboration with Egypt in the works.



Boycott Our Enemies, Not Israel Act

By JTA / TimesOfIsrael.com

Under the **Boycott Our Enemies, Not Israel Act** introduced this spring by Reps. Doug Lamborn of Colorado and Ron DeSantis of Florida, prospective contractors with the U.S. government would be required to certify that they are not participating in any boycotts against Israel. The bill also includes penalties for false certification, including permanently banning a company from doing business with the government.

“Our government business practices should not play any role in harming our greatest ally in the Middle East,” Lamborn said in a statement, adding that the bill was introduced to “thwart efforts by Palestinian organizations to pressure different corporations, companies, and educational institutions to boycott, divest, and sanction Israel.

“The BDS movement represents a disgraceful attempt to single out Israel for punitive treatment,” he explained.

Tennessee First State to Condemn BDS

By Sean Savage / JNS.org



The Tennessee General Assembly in April became the first state legislature to formally condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel.

The resolution declares that the BDS movement is “one of the main vehicles for spreading anti-Semitism and advocating the elimination of the Jewish state,” adding that BDS activities in Tennessee “undermine the Jewish people’s right to self-determination, which they are fulfilling in the State of Israel.”

Furthermore, the resolution states that the BDS movement and its agenda are “inherently antithetical and deeply damaging to the causes of peace, justice, equality, democracy, and human rights for all the peoples in the Middle East.”

The bill was initiated by the Christian Zionist group Proclaiming Justice to the Nations (PJTN). Joanne Bregman, a local Jewish activist and attorney who advocated for the resolution’s passage, said that the Tennessee General Assembly’s action could serve as a template for other U.S. states to recognize the growing threats of the BDS movement and anti-Semitism. She added that the Christian-initiated bill should be a “wake-up call” for the Jewish community to be the ones “who need to fill the public information void” on BDS and anti-Semitism.



3,000-year-old Artifacts Overlooked by Robbers

ARCHAEOLOGY BY SARAH GRIFFITHS / DailyMail.co.uk

Egyptian seal



Precious jewelry and ceramic artifacts crafted by the ancient Egyptians have escaped the clutches of robbers.

A collection of 3,000-year-old items was recently recovered by archaeologists from an underground cave in Israel, despite indications of looting. And the artifacts, which include seals, pots, lamps, and amulets dating back to the 14th century B.C., could help experts shed light on the purpose of the site.



Experts at the Israel Antiquities Authority's (IAA) Unit for the Prevention of Antiquities Robbery found pickaxes at the cave near **Kibbutz Lahav** in Israel, indicating the site had been disturbed.

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



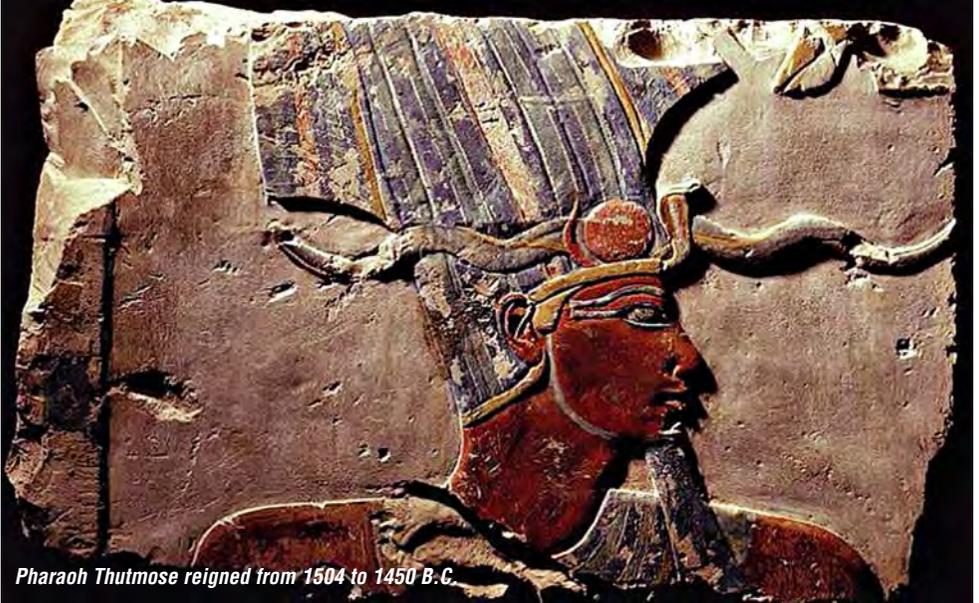
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Artifacts Overlooked... *continued*



But looters had failed to spot a hoard of ancient artifacts including bronze, shell, and faience (tin-glazed) jewelry; ceramic pots, amulets, oil lamps, jars, and scarab seals. Items such as the seals were used to date the site.

“During this period, Canaan was ruled by Egypt,” said Daphna Ben-Tor, curator of Egyptian archaeology at the Israel Museum. “The names of kings appeared on some of the seals.



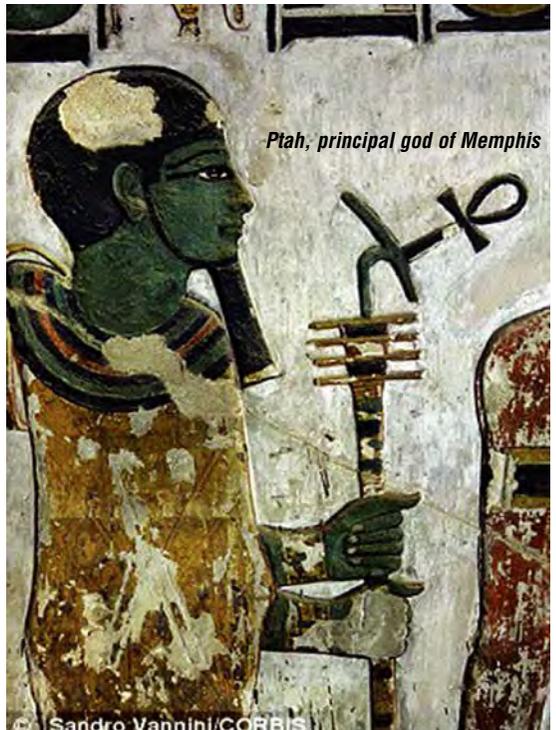
Pharaoh Thutmose reigned from 1504 to 1450 B.C.



“Among other things, we can identify a sphinx lying opposite the name of the pharaoh Thutmose, who reigned from about 1504 to 1450 B.C. Another scarab seal bears the name of Amenhotep, who reigned from about 1386 to 1349 B.C.

“Still another scarab depicts Ptah, the principal god of the city of Memphis.”

Eitan Klein, an archaeologist with the IAA, suggested that the find could help historians “learn about the great influence of the Egyptian administration and culture on the inhabitants of the Land of Israel during the Late Bronze and Iron Age periods.” ☆



Jewish History Behind the Girl Scouts

BY TAL TRACHTMAN ALROY / TabletMag.org



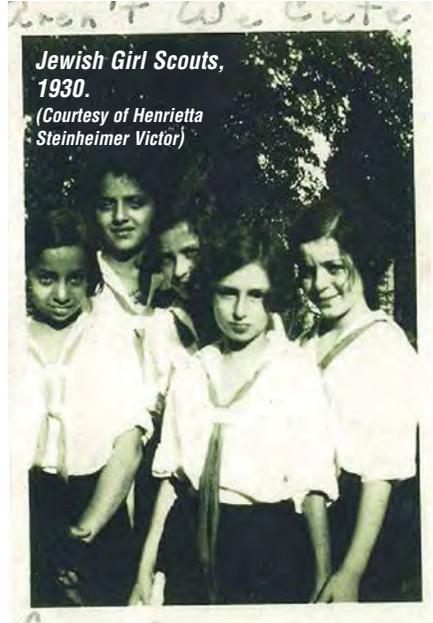
Girl Scout uniform patches

When founder Juliette Gordon Low assembled the first group of Girl Scouts in Savannah, Georgia, in 1912, she asked four of her closest friends to help out as troop leaders. Three of them were members of Reform Temple Congregation Mickve Israel, the third-oldest synagogue in America.

"The Jewish community has been an essential part of the Girl Scout movement since its beginning," said Girl Scouts spokesperson Kelly Parisi.

Over the last century, Girl Scouts of the USA has grown into an international organization with 2.8 million members. But the organization's Jewish roots, dating back to that first troop in Savannah, are still in evidence today—from the existence of Jewish Girl Scout troops, to the Jewish-specific patches that can be earned by the scouts, to the certificate that certifies all Girl Scout cookies kosher.

Low founded the Girl Scouts to serve girls of all backgrounds and beliefs. "While we are a secular organization," said Parisi, "Girl Scouts has, since the movement began, encouraged girls to take spiritual journeys via their faith's religious recognitions and by earning the 'My Promise, My Faith' pin, which helps deepen the connection between the Girl Scout Law and a girl's faith." Various religious organizations allow scouts to show skill and study in their own particular religious affiliation and obtain religious patches accordingly; the National Jewish Committee on Girl Scouting offers four Jewish awards.



The Jewish Educators Assembly (JEA) organized a Jewish Girl Scout troop as early as the 1920s, at a time when Jews might not have been accepted in other business, charitable, and social organizations. Jami Brantley, programs and collections manager at Girl Scouts First Headquarters, said it was tough to say when the first Jewish troop was formed. She believes the lack of definitive dates indicates how integral the Jewish community was to Girl Scouting from the earliest days.

Even Girl Scout cookies have Jewish history baked right in. The Girl Scouts have been selling cookies since 1917. Teresa Victor, a member of Mickve Israel's museum committee, said that when the troops were first formed, they sold cookies only locally. When they started doing national sales in the mid-1930s, however, it was a kosher bakery that was chosen: Gottlieb's Bakery in Savannah. One former Scout surmised that Gottlieb's was chosen because it was one of the city's more popular bakeries, rather than for reasons of diet. "Maybe they gave them the best deal," she joked. Mickve Israel's museum has the original handwritten receipt of the sale. It shows that in 1936, Gottlieb's provided the Savannah scouts with their first commercially baked oatmeal cookies. ☆



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JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.

Traffic Cop

Morris was in the big city. He patiently waited and watched the traffic cop on a busy street crossing. The cop stopped the flow of traffic and shouted, "Okay, pedestrians. Walk!" After the people crossed the street, he'd allow the traffic to flow again.

He stopped traffic, yelled "Pedestrians!" several times, and Morris still stood on the sidewalk.

After the cop shouted, "Pedestrians!" for the tenth time, Morris went over to him and asked, "Isn't it about time you let the Jews across?"



A cheerful heart is good medicine —
Proverbs 17:22

Long Distance?

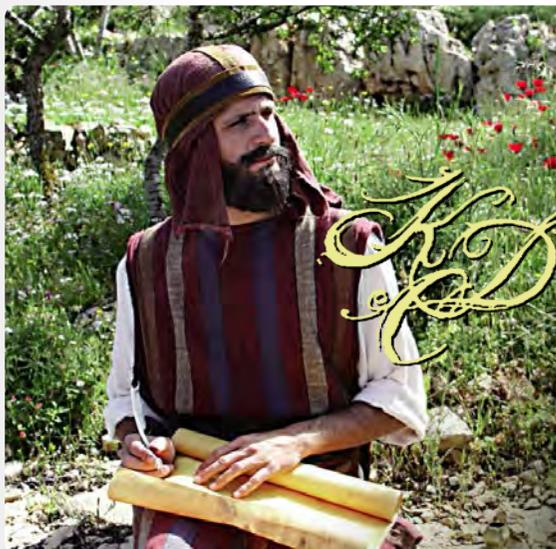
Gilad opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend, Eban.

"Did you see the paper?" asked Gilad. "They say I died!"

"Yes, I saw it!" replied Eban. "Where are you calling from?" ☆



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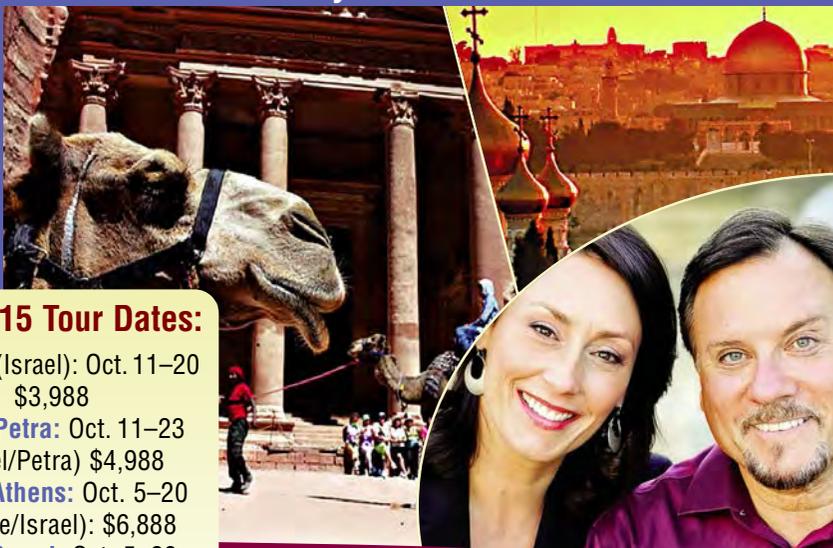
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