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Dear Reader, July 2019

Last month's somber subject matter—Replacement Theology and ISIS stratagems—led me to select more uplifting topics for July. This month, you'll enjoy reading about defending our faith through science (a worthy cover story) and archaeological evidence that confirms the Bible's accuracy, especially its prophecies (p. 32).

Zola points out how current events remind Believers that our generation is close to the End Times (p. 4), and Sarah explains how life's detours frequently position us for God's miracles (7). Our TJF team's report from Tiberias is a case in point (13). Kirsten acknowledges that many parishioners understandably "see" Jesus as a kindred spirit just like them, at a cost of missing His Jewishness. Part one of a two-part series clues our readers to recognize how Renaissance and medieval art has removed Jesus from His Jewish context (8). Next month we'll examine just how that "cleansing" sets the stage for anti-Semitism.

Still following an optimistic trail, ZLMers discover how a halfhearted Nazi helped save Denmark's Jews (10), and that "doing time" can lead a prisoner to a productive Christian calling (21). That uplifting message should encourage our hundreds of incarcerated readers (many *Levitt Letters* get passed along cellblocks). Israel's scientific and medical discoveries always inspire. In fact, it's difficult to miss the humor of an oxymoronic BDS supporter protesting Israeli products atop his mobility scooter made in ... wait for it ... Israel! (p. 30)

I hope that you enjoy the numerous little gems tucked throughout this issue to induce smiles and satisfaction. And please remember to *sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim* — Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps. 122:6)



Margot, Editor Zola Levitt Ministries

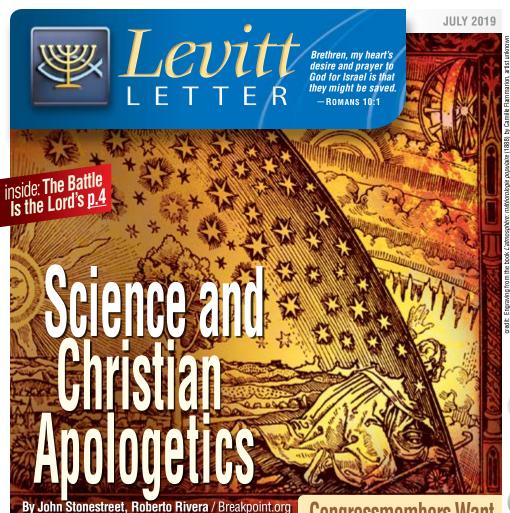
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Fifty years ago, as a student at Cambridge, John Lennox was seated next to a Nobel Prize winner at a formal dinner. Lennox made the most of the opportunity and asked the Nobel Laureate if and how his scientific work had shaped his worldview, including his opinion on the existence of God.

The conversation didn't go well. The Laureate made it clear that he wasn't comfortable with Lennox's questions and asked Lennox if he really wanted a career in science. Lennox replied, "Yes."

"Well then," the Nobel Laureate advised, "you must give up this childish faith in God. If you do not, it will cripple you intellectually, and you will suffer with your peers. You simply will not make it."

In typical British understatement, Lennox called the exchange, "a remarkable situation."

We are happy to report that, to his credit

(continued p.2)

Congressmembers Want Palestinian Textbooks Monitored

By Shiri Moshe Algemeiner.com

A bipartisan bill committing the U.S. State Department to annually review the Palestinian

curriculum for content encouraging violence, anti-Semitism, and intolerance was brought forward recently. The legislation—introduced by Reps. Brad Sherman (D-CA) and Lee Zeldin (R-NY)—was referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, of which both lawmakers are members.

Other co-sponsors include Reps. Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), David Trone (D-MD), Brian Mast (R-FL) and Randy Weber (R-TX).

(continued p.27)

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REMEMBER: Independence Day (U.S.) is July 4

Science and Christian Apologetics continued from cover

and our benefit, Lennox didn't follow the advice. Instead, Lennox, now an Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at Oxford, wrote dozens of books and engaged in countless debates arguing for the compatibility of faith and science, the debt modern sciences owe to Christianity, and the reasonableness of theism and Christianity in particular. He has debated a veritable "Who's Who?" of new atheism, including Richard Dawkins, Michael Shermer, Lawrence Krauss, and the late Christopher Hitchens.

In his latest book *Can Science Explain Everything?*, Lennox makes a compelling case against what is known as "scientism" — the ideology that science is or should be the sole criterion by which society should know what is true and good.

Lennox calls out scientism's conceit that science is objective and unbiased, whereas religion and art aren't; that the answer to everything worth knowing is like answering the question, "Does water

expand at 39° F?" A simple experiment with a glass of water, a marker, and a refrigerator confirms that the answer is "yes."

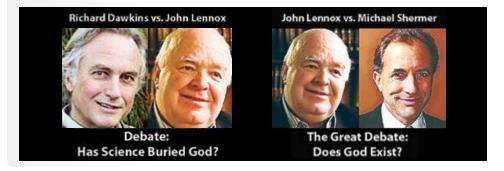
But as Lennox explains to readers, few of life's questions can be answered so simply and definitively. More to the point, the kind of scientists who argue otherwise do so from a position of what we, not Lennox, call "arrogant ignorance."

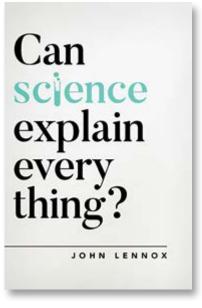
Lennox quotes Nobel Laureate physicist Richard Feynman: "Outside his or her field, the scientist is just as dumb as the next guy." Cosmologist and astrophysicist Baron Rees said much the same about his friend Stephen Hawking's pronouncements on philosophy and religion. Rees told *The Guardian*: "I know Stephen Hawking well enough to know that he has read little philosophy and less theology, so I don't think his views [on those subjects] should be taken with any special weight."

These are only two examples of Lennox's ability to help ordinary Believers. He makes a strong case for why faith and science are more than compatible.

In a way, we're grateful for that Nobel Laureate's attempt to bully young John Lennox. Without it, we may all have been deprived of his invaluable contribution to Christian apologetics.

Science and the Bible have to agree; after all, who knows better how every intricate detail of this world works than its Creator? Please see related DVDs on <u>p. 20</u>. —Kirsten *







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Combating Texting While Driving

BY VICTORIA BELL / DailyMail.co.uk

Though most states ban texting behind the wheel. The **National Safety** Council reports. "Nearly 390,000 injuries occur each vear from accidents caused by texting while driving." Soon the Textalyzer, using Israeli technology, will enable investigators to determine whether drivers' cell

BIZARROCOM



phones were being used for texting just prior to wrecks. According to Ohio State University law school professor Ric Simmons, such testing is "minimally intrusive" and does not violate the Fourth Amendment. Cellebrite, the manufacturer, assures that the device neither accesses nor stores personal content.

The Battle Is the Lord's



BY ZOLA LEVITT, from 1983: 36 years ago



Southern aerial view of the Temple Mount

In 1983, after The Washington Post reported that Jerusalem police "broke up what they described as a well-organized attempt by Orthodox and militantly nationalistic Jews to take over and establish a settlement on the Temple Mount," Zola wrote the following Levitt Letter column.

A recent news event echoes a major prophecy fulfillment. An incident in Jerusalem can teach us how close we are to the End Times.

The Biblical Perspective

Let's see what happened from a Biblical perspective, because we have 4,000 years of experience with the importance of Mount Moriah to the Jewish people. The Temple Mount, as the article attests, is traditionally the site where Abraham offered his only son, and of course, it was the site of the two past Temples of God. Since ca. A.D. 691, however, the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque have stood on the Mount, and the Jewish people have been powerless to reclaim their most hallowed ground.

That situation is changing.

In Satan in the Sanctuary (1973), we reported on similar attempts by Orthodox Jews to retake the holy site. Someone actually applied for a building permit to construct the Temple of God! (The permit was denied since the site was occupied).

One of the principal features of the future Tribulation Period is that a proper Jewish House of God will again stand on the Temple Mount (Daniel 9:27, Matthew 24:15, 2 Thessalonians 2:3–4, Revelation 11:1–3). The Temple will have to be there for the antiChrist to enter and proclaim himself God. It will have to be there so that the Old Covenant system of sacrificial worship can be re-instituted, and some Israelis are already preparing for that. The Dome of the Rock has been standing in the place of the Temple of God for nearly thirteen centuries, but it will have to go. When we made our program at the Dome last year, I appealed to viewers to take a good look at it because it wouldn't be there forever. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't want to own "a piece of the rock" right now.

The Media Bias

We shouldn't be too impressed by all the dramatics in the news report because that is what the American press does to Israeli affairs no matter how localized

(continued next page)







or benign they are. The Washington Post seems to have thought more of the incident than the Arabs themselves, and of course, Israeli "disasters" sell very well in our media. But we must never underestimate the importance of the prophecyfulfillment aspect of such events. The soldiers and settlers may not realize the implication of what they are moved to do, but they are following God's plan nevertheless. The Temple will be re-established by the Jews, not once but twice: for the Tribulation Period and then for the Millennial Kingdom, which will center on the ruling House of God on Mount Moriah for 1,000 years.

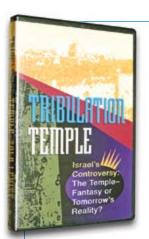
The Local View

We should also note that Israeli and Arab mentalities toward such happenings are not so very antagonistic after all. If the Orthodox Jews don't protest the presence of the Arab shrines, they feel they're being faithless. If the police don't get involved, they're not being good police. And if the mayor doesn't come out, he'll really get it from his opposition. I interviewed Mayor Kollek on my radio program and it was obvious that he's a very busy and very kind-hearted man. Such incidents are all in a day's work in Jerusalem, and they've been going on since King David and the Jebusites. Mayor Kollek, in my estimation, is the best mayor of Jerusalem since Nehemiah.

Also of interest in the incident is the Jewish police arresting Jewish protesters to protect an Arab site. It is against Jewish law — and here I'm talking about serious Biblical Covenant Law — for anyone to disturb anyone else's holy ground. It may have been a long night in the cooler for the "invaders," but I like the general attitude of the Municipality of Jerusalem.

Zola addressed the future of the Temple Mount in the studies described below.





Tribulation Temple CD By Zola with Dr. Thomas S. McCall

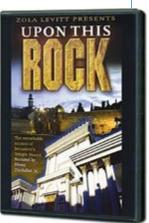
Zola's audio version of his bestselling *Satan in the Sanctuary* (now an eBook) concerning the history of Israel, the Temples, and how the antiChrist will become "Satan in the Sanctuary" when he blasphemes during the Tribulation Period. This key Bible study on a single CD offers the entire history and future of the vital Temple of God in Jerusalem.

(Please see p. 4 Classic Zola article.)

Upon This Rock DVD Narrated by Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.

Upon This Rock gives the profound Biblical perspective of the Temple Mount, the present-day contention for this site, and why it is the most valuable real estate on the planet.

(Please see p. 4 Classic Zola article.)



How Do We See Jesus?

Kirsten Hart
Studio co-host of
Zola Levitt Presents



I'm an American. I grew up in America. I've attended American churches since I was born. And I've been taught about an American Jesus.

Don't get me wrong, I fully understand that Jesus (Yeshua in Hebrew) is Jewish. I just honestly feel that we Americans have grown so accustomed to our interpretation of Jesus that we have developed a shallow, one-dimensional view of our Savior. (Please see "Ethnic Cleansing of Judaism in Art" on p. 8.)

We tend to perceive Him as fitting into the church we grew up in or currently attend. The beauty of traveling the world is receiving the gift of "viewing" Jesus through the eyes of other cultures... and the variety is wonderful!

Seeing the World See Jesus

Every Zola Tour to Israel includes a memorable service at the Garden Tomb, and each time we are there, we have the privilege of sharing this spot with



Neither scholars nor artists can agree on Jesus' appearance. Last year, *Popular Mechanics* offered forensic speculation about "The Real Face of Jesus" (see <u>May 2018 Levitt Letter</u>).



other international groups. We get to experience the "Jesus" of Africans, Asians, Hispanics, and people from every continent on the planet.

On our most recent tour, we heard languages from around the world worshipping in the garden. We also experienced various decibels of praise. A group of about 50 Nigerians shared communion and sang praises in one of the sectioned-off "reflection" areas. I could see other groups of Americans annoyed at the *volume* of the Nigerian voices. But I thought it was beautiful; the strength of their praise was exhilarating!

On another occasion, we ran into a large group from Brazil. They couldn't contain their praise, and their joy was contagious! Even so, our group heard others complaining that the Garden Tomb was a place for reverence and *quiet*, that the garden should be a place of solemnity and silence. But should it?

How Do You See Jesus?

Do you remember the song by James Taylor, "Some Children See Him"? It refers to how children in different cultures "see" Jesus in different ways. Some see Him as lily-white, some as bronzed and brown, others as "almond eyed." How do adults around the world see Jesus? To the oppressed, He's freedom. To the sorrowful, He's comfort. To those walking in dark places, He's the light. To all who question, He's the answer. He's the still small voice and He's the roaring lion.

In 1 Corinthians 9:22, Paul acknowledged that he "became all things to all people so that by all possible means" he might save some. Yeshua is about saving all. He is Redeemer and life to all peoples, countries, languages, and traditions; but you might have to venture out of your American comfort zone to experience that truth. That "venturing" is something I highly recommend.

The Blessing of the Detour

On the Ground in Israel
Sarah Liberman
SarahLiberman.com
ZLP Contributor



Our family celebrates the Passover Seder at home, as a family.

We observe God's command to "Tell your sons" by actually reading the Exodus story from the Bible. We go around the table, adults and children, reading portions from the Scriptures. As I read the narrative this year, two verses struck me: Exodus 13:17–18. After the people of Israel are free to leave Egypt, God doesn't lead them to the Red Sea by the shortest route. Instead, He takes them on a longer, roundabout way through the desert. Interesting, I thought; God chose to take a detour.

In my own life, I like to get things done. With the goal in sight, I love when the plan comes together and moves forward. Recently, however, I found myself on a very long detour. It lasted so long that I couldn't see the end, and I definitely couldn't understand its purpose. Reading those Exodus verses, I realized that the most direct route would have led the Israelites through Philistine territory. God knew that these recently liberated slaves were in no shape to fight. He also knew that Pharaoh would change his mind and send his army after them. Therefore, taking the short path would have caught the people of Israel between two armies: the Philistines blocking the way forward and the Egyptians closing in from behind.

So, God takes the Israelites on a detour that brings them to the Red Sea with only one army behind them, which He defeats with His mighty hand. God purposely brings them to a place where they can see a supernatural miracle occurring on their behalf. Could it be that we complain about the detours in our lives when God is setting us up for miracles?

Not long after this, the people of Israel face another detour: 40 years of walking in the desert. <mark>Joshua — w</mark>ho was eager to go and take the Promised Land — finds himself walking year <mark>after year in c</mark>ircles. I imagine Joshua could have become frustrated. But God was preparing him, molding and working into him what Joshua needed to become the great leader and con-



"Oy! Another forty years I've got to put up with 'Are we there yet? Are we there yet?'"

queror that Israel required. We read that Joshua would linger in the tent of meeting, learning to hear God's voice. He watched Moses and learned from him. God was developing Joshua for greater things during the long detour.

I wonder how many of us, when we find ourselves in a time-consuming detour, get exasperated with the process. But the above examples show that we can trust that what looks like "the wrong direction" is actually God working to bring about something marvelous.

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

Ethnic Cleansing of Judaism in Art



PART 1: BY BERNARD STARR (r) HuffPost.com

When The New York Times reviewed a Frick Collection exhibit of the paintings of 15th century artist Piero della Francesca, the Times praised the beauty and charm of della Francesca's artworks. What it didn't mention — and is never mentioned in art criticism—is that della Francesca's paintings, typical of other medieval and Renaissance artworks, are distortions and misrepresentations of Biblical history. They fail to convey accurately who Jesus, His family, and community were: dedicated, orthodox, practicing Jews.

Della Francesca's altarpiece Virgin and Child Enthroned with Four Angels, like the bulk of medieval and Renaissance paintings, transforms working-class Galile-an-village Jews into fair-skinned, blond, Northern European latter-day Christians. They are depicted in



Piero della Francesca's *Virgin and Child Enthroned* with Four Angels (circa 1460–1470)



palatial settings with Christian saints and anachronistic artifacts, with no trace or hint of their Jewish identities.

These pervasive distortions established a powerful platform for anti-Semitism by feeding the illusion that Jesus was a Christian in contrast to the Jews—the "others" who "persecuted" Him. The fact is, Jews were the sole body of Jesus'

followers, and they were all from the same Semitic tribe.

When I viewed Mary Magdalene Encountering the Risen Jesus by famed Italian Renaissance artist Fra Angelico (1394–1455), the fair-skinned blonds, Jesus and Mary Magdalene, with halos in shimmering light seemed almost comical as representations of first-century Jewish Semites. What I discovered walking through the Renaissance galleries of the Metropolitan Museum of Art was consistent and shocking.

In every gallery, I was surrounded by paintings that featured a cast of



Fra Angelico's *Mary Magdalene Encountering* the Risen Jesus (circa 1440)

characters and lavish settings that bore no resemblance to the world that Jesus and His followers inhabited. Every wall greeted me with blond, fair-skinned European figures; portraits of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus, all with classical Roman features, some carrying crosses and often embedded in anachronistic settings with latter-day Christian saints.

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Madonna and Child with Saints Francis and Clare, by Cima da Conegliano (1459–1517), not only features the anachronism of saints, but also depicts the uncircumcised infant Jesus holding a crucifix. Jews and Christians in the first century hated the cross as a reminder of the crucifixion of untold numbers of Jews. In fact, the cross didn't become a Christian symbol until the fourth century,



Cima da Conegliano's *Madonna and Child with* Saints Francis and Clare (circa 1510)

when it was introduced by Roman Emperor Constantine for his military banners. That's why it is puzzling that in Bartolomé Esteban Murillo's 17th-century painting, *The Baptism of Christ*, John the Baptist is holding a large crucifix staff as he baptizes Jesus. The Gospels tell us clearly that John only baptized Jews to purify

them and prepare for the coming of the Jewish Messiah (Matt. 3). With exposure to such fictitious imagery over the centuries, is it any wonder that so many people — Christians and Jews—still cling to false beliefs that Jesus was either born Christian or converted to Christianity—and that He launched a new religion?

Jesus was dedicated to Judaism throughout His life. The word "Jew" appears 202 times in the New Testament, 82 of those in the Gospels; "Christian" never appears in the Gospels, which span the life and ministry of Jesus. There was no such thing as Christianity during the life of Jesus. But that's not what medieval and Renaissance artworks portray.

Next month we explore how art cleansed of Jewishness paved the way for anti-Semitism.



Bartolomé Esteban Murillo's *The Baptism of Christ* (circa 1655)



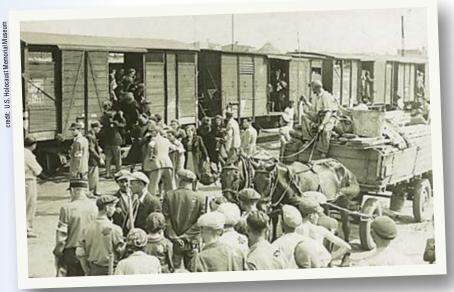
Da Vinci's real Last Supper



How the Danes and a German Bureaucrat Pulled Off a WWII Miracle



BY RICHARD HUROWITZ / LATimes.com



Jews from Lodz ghetto board deportation trains (1942 – 1944)

Seventy-five years ago, a legendary act of heroism unfolded across the Oresund, the narrow body of water separating Denmark and Sweden. Over a fortnight in October 1943, the Danes defied their Nazi occupiers and smuggled to safety more than 7,200 of their Jewish neighbors, making trip after trip across the waterway.

Almost unknown, however, is the story of Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, a German bureaucrat in Copenhagen who risked his life to warn the Danish Jews of the impending roundup and made crucial arrangements to ensure their escape. Were it not for Duckwitz, who would later become West Germany's ambassador to Denmark, the miracle on the Oresund would not have been possible.

An economist and lawyer from an affluent Bremen family, Duckwitz first came to Denmark as a 25-year-old coffee trader and fell in love with his "chosen fatherland," as he called it. The Nazis tapped his knowledge of Scandinavian shipping, and he was in Copenhagen, working for them, when German troops crossed the border in April 1940.



Georg Duckwitz

To the Nazis, Danes were Aryans, and their nation's location was of such strategic import that Berlin decided to rule them with a light touch. The Danish government and King Christian X remained in place, and even the military and

(continued next page)



police were left more or less intact. As a condition of their cooperation, the Danes demanded the Germans leave their small Jewish community, which dated back to 1622, unharmed. The well-known story of King Christian wearing a yellow Star of David in solidarity with his subjects is apocryphal, because Christian did not permit such persecution to begin with.



credi Soeren Bidstrup Associate Pres

Despite Denmark's outward calm, resentment of the Germans simmered. The Danes conducted themselves with cold politeness. This worked for two years, until Christian responded to a long birthday greeting from Adolf Hitler with a terse five words—"My utmost thanks, Christian Rex." The Fuhrer was enraged. In retaliation, he appointed SS Gen. Werner Best, known from his time in France as the Bloodhound of Paris, to take charge in Copenhagen.

Georg Duckwitz put his career and life on the line, an object lesson in how one person can save thousands

The arrival of Best was positive for Duckwitz's standing. He was a halfhearted Nazi, but Best needed his knowledge and contacts among the Danes, especially once the local situation deteriorated.

After Germany's defeat at Stalingrad in February 1943, the Danish resistance grew bolder, engaging in daring acts of sabotage and encouraging mass strikes. In March, in a nearly unanimous vote, an anti-fascist coalition won the Danish parliamentary election. In August, after the bombing of a German barracks, martial law was declared.

Best now moved against the Jews. On September 8, he cabled Berlin that the state of emergency provided an opportunity to apply the Final Solution to Denmark. Duckwitz tried to resign, but Best wouldn't have it.

So Duckwitz began a frenzied campaign. He flew to Berlin in a fruitless attempt to intercept

Best's cable to Hitler. He was back in Copenhagen on September 17 when Hitler approved Best's plan. German police began arriving.

Next month: Duckwitz's diary entry—"Now I know what I have to do." **





Ask the Chaplain

Deity of Christ and the Trinity

| **Dr. Todd Baker** | Zola Levitt Ministries | Staff Theologian



Re: What is Heresy? (Feb. 2019 Levitt Letter, p. 12)

Please help me. I don't see where Yeshua tells anyone He is God.

Rather, He says "the Father has sent Me" and He prays to the Father, "Not My will but Yours." Yeshua is the Messiah, but He isn't God. He is the Son of God, not God. If I'm wrong, please show me.

Jesus claimed to be God, even saying that He was the eternal I AM (as *Yahweh* identified Himself to Moses from the burning bush—see Exodus 3:14 with John 8:58). Yeshua's Jewish audience knew that Jesus was claiming to be God, so they picked up stones to throw at Him for blasphemy (John 8:59).

In John chapter 10, when Jesus claimed to be equal with God, the Jews sought to stone Him for that (see John 10:31–38). Notice that Jesus did not dispute their accusation for Him claiming to be God—because He was (and still is)! Jesus claimed to forgive sins, which only God can do (Mark 2:1–12). Jesus is not the Son of God in the biological sense. God did not have sexual relations with Mary to conceive a son, as Mormons falsely teach. Jesus is God's unique Son in the sense that Jesus bears the exact nature of God and thus is the invisible God made visible (Hebrews 1:3).

God the Son is distinct from God the Father—they make up one God but are three distinct Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is the Biblical doctrine of the Trinity.

Theologian L. Russ Bush (1944–2008) showed how Scripture expresses this divine reality:

Ultimately, the problem people have with the Trinity is not God's oneness or God's complexity, but the incarnation — God in the flesh. Jews accuse Christians of being polytheistic when Christians argue that Jesus, the man from Nazareth, is part of the Trinity. Jesus is the stumbling block. Yet Jesus did claim to be God in John 10:30–33, and the Jews recognized this claim and tried to stone Him. The Jews expected the Messiah and expected Him to be God. They did not expect Him to also be a man. Jeremiah 23:5–6 foretells the coming of the Messiah and that Messiah has the name of Yahweh. Isaiah 9:6–7 names the Savior as Mighty God and Everlasting Father.

But what the Jews could not accept, and do not accept, is that our Messiah was also a mere man. Not a man who died and stayed dead, but an everlasting ruler. Jude 4–5, Titus 2:13–14, and 2 Peter 1:1 all reveal Jesus as the Savior who is God. Romans 9:5 says that Jesus is God over all and forever praised. Luke 1:76 quotes the prophesy of Malachi 3:1 to show that John the Baptist would prepare the way for God, yet John recognized Jesus as the One for whom he was preparing the way in John 1:26–34. The New Testament clearly teaches that Jesus is God and that the Holy Spirit is God.

The persons of the Trinity are not three gods. They all have the same nature, purpose, and goals. They are all divine, eternal, and infinite, not divided in any essential way. However, they are in a subject-object relationship with each other, as when Jesus prayed to the Father, "not My will, but Yours." I hope this clarifies any difficulties you or others have with the deity of Christ and the nature of the Trinity found so clearly in God's Word.



God Provides Openings

Our To The Jew First Gospel outreach recently focused on the coastal city of Tiberias, on the edge of the Sea of Galilee. Tiberias is one of the bastion cities of Orthodox Judaism and, sadly, is resistant and hardened to hearing the very Jewish Gospel of Jesus. We certainly felt this oppression walking into the BIG Mall. Incredibly frustrated at one point, August Rosado and I prayed in the Spirit asking God to break their hardness of heart and indifference toward God's Word, the Gospel in particular, and Yeshua the Messiah.



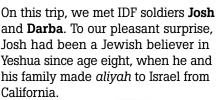
Praise God! Not five minutes later our prayers were answered when we walked into a children's shoe shop owned by **Naam**. This young Israeli woman was ecstatic when she learned that I traveled from Dallas, because her brother lives in Dallas and she has visited him three times. I asked, "What are the chances?" and she agreed that this divine appointment was not a coincidence.

I told her my belief that Adonai had arranged our meeting so that she could hear the Good News of Yeshua the Messiah, which August and I shared with her in detail. She was open and happy to accept a Hebrew study Bible from us. As I wrote a note inside the front cover, Naam announced that the Jewish people

Dr. Todd BakerZLM Staff Theologian
TJF Team Leader

need to investigate the claims of Jesus more seriously, with open minds and without listening to the rabbis' biased unbelief toward Him. Then she pledged that she would do just that with the Messianic literature we left with her. Back in the mall, we met other open-minded Israelis. All praise goes to the God of Israel for lifting the oppression that greeted us earlier!

The next day, August and I drove to Mount Hermon in northern Israel and the likely site of the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17). It was snowing, and the place assumed an ethereal and beautiful quality. Every time the TJF team is in Israel, we make a point of traveling to Mount Hermon to give the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers stationed there water and snacks, reinforced with a Gospel witness supplement. We also bear gifts of Hebrew Bibles, Messianic Gospel tracts, and Psalm 91 scarves.



Darba listened to our testimony, and we left both of them Bibles and Messianic Gospel literature in Hebrew. It was 26° F on the mountain but climbed

into the 50s as we

descended—a mere two miles away.
Israel is a land of microclimates! Pray
for these courageous men fighting for
Israel's freedom.





"Et tu, Brute?"

A Note from Mark by **Mark Levitt** ZLM Director





The Death of Julius Caesar by Vincenzo Camuccini, 1806 (Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea)

In William Shakespeare's play *Julius Caesar* (1599), Caesar recognizes his friend Brutus among the assassins stabbing him to death. Then he utters Latin for, "Also you, Brutus?"

Leaving Freeform

The June Levitt Letter (p. 3) announced:

ZLP Leaving Freeform (ABC Family)

May 19: Freeform television network's last day to broadcast *Zola Levitt Presents*. Without prior notice, they recently began listing their ministerial TV programs, including ours, as "Paid Programming" rather than specifying the programs' names. That radical change undermines our viewers' ability to watch and record our program on Freeform—unless, that is, they happen to know our day, time, and channel.

Local Dallas station KXTX-39 was ZLM's first TV station in 1978. It became a station of The Christian Broadcasting Network, then ABC-Family, and finally Freeform. It has been a wonderful 40 years!

To be fair, Freeform is in good company among Christian television networks airing *Zola Levitt Presents* that have transitioned to mostly secular programming. In 1998, Bud Paxson (1935 – 2015) founded the PAX network that grew to 57 full-power stations and featured solid Biblical programming.

Megatrends took their inevitable toll, however. Soon that network changed its name to ION and became too secular for ZLM. The Inspiration Network (INSP), which also used to carry *Zola Levitt Presents*, moved on to predominantly family entertainment programming, so we bade them good-bye as well.

Rather than any sort of betrayal, Freeform's falling by the wayside among religious broadcasters-gonesecular feels more like an ally succumbing to affliction—the cumulative tolls of a long-term, ever-grinding war of attrition. Headlines abound these days regarding declining church numbers, cable subscriptions, TV viewing, and Bible reading. Social media, smart phone apps, online gaming, and the internet in general are pulling viewers' attention from their television screens to computers and handheld devices. Fortunately, this ministry is adapting by accommodating viewers and readers wherever their hunger for Bible teaching takes them. You can find ZLM on Facebook, Twitter, Roku, Spotify, and on DVD. Where do you need to watch us?

Too Many Donors?

Was my September 2018 Levitt Letter column "Too Many Donors?" somewhat prophetic? Retracing Gideon whittling his volunteers from 32,000 to 300 in Judges 7, I asked, "Could this ministry continue achieving its mission with just 300 donors?" That speculation about just how much we could downsize came to mind recently when we cleaned our mailing list.

Smart charitable organizations stop mailing to subscribers whose long silence signals a loss of interest. It is truly remarkable—if not a bit daunting—how few Christian warriors are currently maintaining ZLM's national and international Bible-teaching endeavors. Thank you, Supporters, for your amazing loyalty to our ongoing Biblical outreach. You are only a few thousand, and we ministry workers remain very grateful for your steadfastness.



ZLM Bulletin Board

Israel Population > 9,000,000

The new total of 9.02 million Israelis represents a 2% increase (177,000) since last year. According to Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), 45% of the 14.5 million global

9,000,00

Jewish population now lives in the Holy Land. The report stated that "6,697,000 Israelis are Jewish (74.2%) and 1,890,000 are Arab (20.9%)." The remainder comprises predominately non-Arab Christians and other ethnicities. The CBS believes Israel's population will grow to 15.2 million by its 100th birthday in 2048 [if the Lord tarries].

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem



TO REMEMBER

Regifting Gift Cards

Along with being able to donate by text message, other options after clicking on "Donations" at www.levitt.com include "Vehicle," "Assets," and "Gift Card." Donors who click on "Gift Card" then specify the company, card number, and PIN. Our ministry receives the same 97.5% net proceeds as it does from contributions via credit card. (Gifts can also be made by debit card or PayPal.) Farther down, clicking on "Make your gift a tribute" lets donors choose

GIFT CARD between "In Honor" or "In Memory" and then enter the appropriate particulars.

FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

Making an estate plan often requires legal assistance and a few hours of careful planning. Our free brochure entitled *Eleven Things to Remember... As You Plan for Your Future* describes eleven steps that include:

1) Make a Will and Other Plans, 3) Consult an Attorney,
5) Name Final Beneficiaries, and 7) Keep Plans in Balance. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at

staff@levitt.com

or write to us at: Zola Levitt Ministries P O Box 12268 Dallas TX 75225-0268

Hate Crimes Against Jews

The New York Police
Department (NYPD) has
seen a shocking increase in
hate crimes this year, especially
against the city's Jewish population.
The NYPD received 176 complaints of hate
crimes from January to mid-May, an 83%
increase in all hate crimes compared to
the same period in 2018.

The New York City Council created the Office of Hate Crime Prevention in January to handle the growing problem when it realized that a majority of the city's hate crimes are committed against Jews. Almost half of reported physical assaults against American Jews occur in the state of NY.

"Come Homel"





HebrewLesson

Seeing the Good

by **John Parsons** Hebrew for Christians Hebrew4Christians.com



וְאַתָּה קָרוֹשׁ יוֹשֵׁב תְּהִלּוֹת יִשְּׂרָאֵל

"You are holy, the One enthroned within the praises of Israel." (Psalm 22:3)



We are instructed to see small miracles, everyday "signs and wonders." The sages say that a verse from the Torah suggests that we are obliged to recite at least 100 blessings a day: "... a hundred sockets for a hundred talents of silver, one talent per socket" (Exod. 38:27). The Gerer Rebbe commented, "Just as one hundred sockets served as the foundation for the sanctuary, so the daily blessings represent the soul's *foundation* in holiness." In Jewish thinking, we "bless" God by offering our thanks, and thereby consciousness of life is sanctified. The Hebrew term for gratitude is *hakarat tovah*, a phrase that means "recognizing the good."

The heart looks through the eye, and therefore how we choose to see is a spiritual decision: "If your eye is 'single' (i.e., $\dot{\alpha}\pi\lambda o\dot{\nu}\varsigma$, sincere, focused)," Yeshua said in Matt. 6:22, "your whole body will be filled with *hallel* (light)." When we see rightly, we will behold the radiance of God pervading our way, even in the midst of our mundane affairs (Isa. 6:3). A grateful heart is awake to God's Presence in the little things of life, those small miracles and glories that constantly surround us. And just as the manna would taste according to the gratitude of the person eating, so it is with the inner vision of truth: The good eye of faith sees hundreds of reasons to bless God for the precious gift of life. The LORD is "enthroned within the praises of His people" (Psalm 22:3).

The thank offering mentioned in the Torah (i.e., zevach ha-todah) reappears in the New Testament. In the Book of Hebrews, we are instructed to "continually offer up a sacrifice of thanks to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His Name" (Heb. 13:15). It is interesting to note that the Greek verb used here to "offer up" (i.e., $\dot{\alpha}\nu\alpha\dot{\phi}\dot{\epsilon}\rho\omega$) is used in Leviticus for the Hebrew verb "to draw near" (karov). In other words, the "offering up of thanks" for the sacrifice of Yeshua functions as "korban" and draws us near to God. (Korban sacrifices — from the root karov, meaning "to come near" — were ritual acts used by the worshipper to draw near to God.) Thanking God for personal deliverance constitutes "right sacrifices" as we draw near to God in the hope of His love (Psalm 4:5; Heb. 7:19).

The message here is simple: If you want to see blessing you must open your eyes. The "commandment" here is more of a mitzvah, that is, an opportunity to connect with God's heart—to become alive and awake! The idea is that you "get to" see the miracle, not that "you must" see it. It is always a choice to believe (Col. 3:15).





Courtesy: The Jerusalem Connection

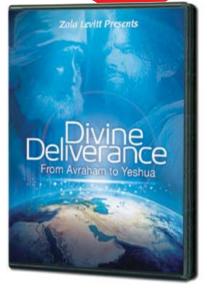
LM Store



Divine Deliverance: from Avraham to Yeshua DVD set Twelve 30-Minute TV Programs on 3 DVDs

This series examines how the Lord offered a message of deliverance through 12 significant Bible characters. beginning with faithful Abraham and culminating with Messiah Himself. Dr. Jeffrey Seif teaches on location in Israel and discusses the lesson's application with David and Kirsten Hart in the studio. We enjoy enlightening dramatic re-enactments from past series. along with Zola's music, completely re-orchestrated and sung by David and Kirsten.

Abraham A journey into an unforeseen future began with a step of faith toward a promised land. The God of Israel still leads those who follow Him, oftentimes through barren places. He shows His power in weakness.



Isaac The promise of a child to an elderly couple came in an angelic message. Father Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, involved an act of obedience by each of them. Their successful test of faith pictures the redemption to come.

Jacob Family dysfunction followed the birth of twin boys. The younger held tightly as he wrestled with the angel, wanting a blessing. Yet the best news of all time, the good news of salvation, came through this man who became "Israel."

Joseph Israel's sons experienced tension and betrayal before receiving redemption and deliverance from famine and drought. It is important that all people discover their Deliverer.

Moses At age 80, Moses heard the call of God to deliver His people out of Egypt. At that time, these former slaves gained access to the God of Heaven through His Holy Sanctuary. Today, Believers also have access to atonement and mercy. Deliverance is only a prayer away.

Ruth The loyalty of a young Moabite widow to her mother-in-law results in their deliverance from deprivation and in hope for the future as Ruth joins Messiah's lineage.

David The young shepherd boy had great confidence in his God. Anointed by the prophet Samuel, David became king of Israel and the ancestor of the King of kings.

Isaiah "He was despised... by His stripes we are healed ... all we like sheep have gone astray" (Isaiah 53:3, 5, 6). The most guoted prophet of the Old Testament, Isaiah's writings point many to the deliverance found only in Yeshua/Jesus.

Ezekiel This exiled prophet saw dramatic visions of transformation: dry bones into living people, and water flowing from the dry mountaintop. God's grace and mercy fills people with a new Spirit and new life.

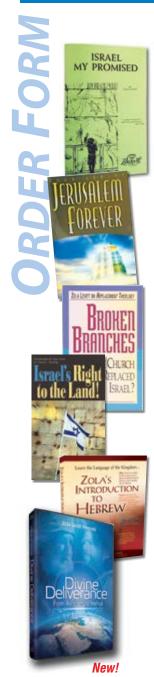
Daniel Even in the exile, Daniel kept his focus on the Lord, praying habitually. He saw events of the Last Days still to come. In these difficult times, we too should employ the powerful weapon of prayer.

Esther Winning a beauty contest positioned her to avert a pogrom to wipe out the Jewish people. God raises up people like Esther in each generation to deliver His people, culminating in the greatest redemption: through Yeshua.

Jesus On His last night, Messiah said that He wanted to be remembered by a Passover meal. He is the door, the light of the world, and the ultimate Provider of deliverance. We pray that you have experienced deliverance and follow Him.



ZLM product ORDER FORM



Order online at https://store.levitt.com
By phone call 24/7: 800-966-3377, or ZLM Dallas office: 214-696-8844, or print/tear out this 2-pg. form, fill out box at right, mail to ZLM, Box 12268 Dallas TX 75225

Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library		
Qty. Title	Price	Total
A Christian Love Story	\$3	
Glory! The Future of the Believers	\$3	
How Can a Gentile Be Saved?	\$3	
In My Father's House	\$3	
Israel, My Promised (pictured)	\$3	
The Miracle of Passover	\$3	
The Promised Land (p.36)	\$3	
The Second Coming	\$3	
Seven Churches	\$3	
The Seven Feasts of Israel	\$3	
Spirit of Pentecost	\$3	
Jerusalem Forever (pictured)	\$4	
Mix or Match:50 Classic Study Booklets (above)	\$49	

Books

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	An Epic Love Story(Part of 50-book offer above)	\$3	
	The Beginning of The End	\$8	
	The Bible Jesus Read	\$10	
	Broken Branches: Has the Church Replaced Israel?		
	(Zola on Replacement Theology) (pictured)	\$6	
	Coming: The End! Russia/Israel in Prophecy (pictured)	\$10	
	The First Christians	\$8	
	Genesis One (p.20)	\$5	
	Heaven and Earth (p.33)	\$18	
	In the Footsteps of the Rabbi	\$14	
	The Iranian Menace	\$8	
	Israel's Right to the Land (pictured)	\$2	
	Once Through the New Testament	\$9	
	The Passover Haggadah (Messianic)	\$6	
	Raptured	\$10	
	Signs of the End: Millennium	\$7	
	What About Us?	\$8	
	Whose Land Is It?	\$6	
	Zola's Introduction to Hebrew (pictured)	\$39	

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	The Covenants of God (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Daniel and the Last Day's Battle (8 prog., 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Divine Deliverance (p.17, pictured) (12 prog., 3-DVDs)	\$69	
	Esther (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Ezekiel & MidEast "Piece" (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Evidence of God (p.20) (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Gospel According to Isaiah (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Psalms of Ascent (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Return to Eden(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$59	
	Sar Shalom, Prince of Peace (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	The Seven Feasts of Israel (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Upon This Rock (p.5)(1 hr. TV special on DVD)		



ORDER FORM continued

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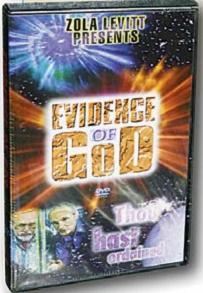
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M Store





Evidence of God **DVD** set

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 Schroeder 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, Schroeder and Zola analyze the first day of the Creation account. Out of chaos, God created order.

Days Two And Three Of Creation Schroeder 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 God's overall trend of creating.

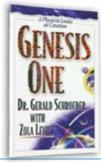
Days Five And Six Of Creation Science proposes an explosion of life that agrees in sequence and time with the Bible's account of day five and Schroeder's computations.

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.

Please see our cover story "Science and Christian Apologetics."

Genesis One study booklet

The *Genesis One* study booklet is a transcription of the first two programs from the *Evidence of God* TV series. described above.







A Calling Found in Prison

128

BY CASEY DIAZ / ChristianPost.com

My solitary confinement cell inside a state prison had a single bed, a toilet, plus a dim light that couldn't be turned off, so I had trouble distinguishing whether it was day or night. With no TV, radio, computer, or books (I was denied this privilege), I had nothing to do for 23 hours a day. Talk about sensory deprivation! No wonder guys went nuts. The prisoner next door was convinced that he had a bunch of ducks in his cell—both comical and extremely sad.

In this environment, I experienced Jesus Christ in an amazing way. Shortly after I gave my life to Him, I was transferred into the general prison population where I participated in Bible studies and chapel. But heavy persecution often landed me in the infirmary. I don't know how I survived.

By God's grace, I was paroled. On the day I was released, as I breathed in the air of freedom, a man in a dark business suit stepped toward me. An INS agent.

"Please turn around and put your hands behind your back." My stomach dropped. Immigration and Naturalization Service: the federal agency regarding foreign-born persons in the U.S. I was born in El Salvador, but I was legally inside the United States.

At the federal detention center, I met a guy from Mexico. Miguel and I swapped stories, knowing we were being deported to our home countries.

"I'm not worried about what's going to happen to me," I said.

Miguel looked baffled. "How come?" "Because God did something to me in prison. I became a Christian. Wherever He takes me, I'll have peace because I'm secure in Him."

I recalled the Bible studies that taught me to share my faith. I explained how all have sinned and come short of God's glory (Romans 3:23) and how the wages of sin is death but God wants to give us the gift of eternal life with Him if we will only believe in the sacrifice of His son, Jesus Christ (Romans 6:23).

I was on a roll. "By the grace of God, I'm able to talk to you today. I could have lost my life in prison, but God spared me. Tomorrow isn't promised to anybody. You could lose your life back in Mexico."

I saw Miguel thinking. Maybe he was involved in the drug cartels, where life was cheap. Maybe he witnessed

shootings and knew he could be next.

"Listen, hell is real. And eternity is a really long time. Would you like to give your life to Christ and know that when you die, you will be with Jesus in Heaven?"

Miguel didn't hesitate: "I want to give my life to Christ."

Right there in the holding tank, I asked him to bow his head and repeat the Sinner's Prayer after me. When we were done, I gave him a hug. Suddenly, the agent approached. "Diaz, step forward. It looks like we made a mistake. You're being released."

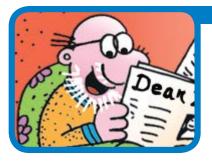
Puzzled, I followed him down a long corridor. As we walked, he turned to me, "What happened in that holding cell?"

"I led that guy to Christ."

He stopped. "I've worked as a federal agent for more than 20 years. I've met a lot of phonies. But I've never seen anyone lead someone to Christ. That was amazing what you did in the tank."

I was humbled and couldn't reply. But I knew I had found my calling to share the love of Jesus with everyone I could.





Letters to ZLM

For ministry products and TV programs, visit the **web store** and **video archives**.

Comments from www.levitt.com

From H. and R.W.: Please help us understand the implication of the picture of President Trump on the front-page article of your April Levitt Letter. It seems that ZLM was putting the POTUS in a bad light. Please clarify Zola Levitt Ministry's attitude toward President Trump. — The picture in question accompanied the original article, and our LL team strives to preserve the authenticity of other sources' content, no matter how much





left: The original official White House photo (closeup) which has been described as "aggressive—arguably menacing." right: April cover photo

we must whittle for length. We use original artwork when possible.

This ministry has no agenda regarding Trump. We try to be non-political, focusing only on policies that affect Israel (spelled out at levitt.com/about). We are thankful for the current administration's relationship with Israel, the relocation of America's embassy to Jerusalem, and the recent recognition of the Golan Heights as part of Israel—all positive developments. Let's pray together that all of our nation's future presidents will support the Holy Land as much as or more than Trump. I hope this reply allays your concerns. —ZLM Webmaster



613 laws?

Dear ZLM,

I enjoyed your cover article of the <u>May 2019 Levitt Letter</u>, "Who Needs Leviticus?" However, Kirsten commented, "God gave us 613 laws." How so? I thought those were "made up" by the Jewish leaders of the past. Please explain. —S.P.

(continued next page)



Dear S.P.

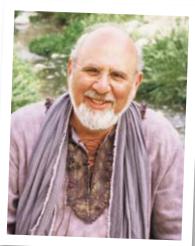
I literally just read through the Scriptures looking at all 613 of the Old Testament laws. If you believe that God wrote the Bible (as we do), I assure you that not one was made up by rabbis. The laws are found in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy and refer to various aspects of Jewish life, including diet, agriculture, business, relationships, Torah, sacrifices, etc. There are 365 negative (don'ts) laws, and 248 positive (dos!) laws, or in Hebrew, mitzvot (commandments). — Kirsten

April 19th

Dear ZLM,

I used to watch **Zola** on TV and went with him to Israel in 2001. It was an amazing experience I will never forget.

In early 2006, as he neared death, he got my attention again. I was watching him on TV and noticed how his condition made his breathing difficult. He looked straight into the camera and said, "If you are attending a church that doesn't support Israel, you need to get out of there!" I had been feeling that for some time, but it was as if he was



in the room with me and talking just to me. I had learned over time that the church I was attending had no real interest in Israel. So, I left and found another place to fellowship.

While writing this, I just looked up to see when Zola went home to be with the Lord. It was this very day in 2006!! April 19, 2006. The day before Zola passed, I had lost my best friend of over 20 years. He was a young man with cerebral palsy for whom I was a caregiver. It was a pivotal point in my life. My friend died, Zola told me to get out of the church I was in, and God led me to a Hebrew roots congregation. My eyes were opened to the truths in the Torah,

and I realized that these were to be kept "forever throughout your generations" (e.g. Exodus 12:14; Leviticus 23:41).

I have been learning and growing in my knowledge of God's Word like I never knew was possible. The Feasts are the DOORWAY to the rest of the Torah. That is something I realized and experienced personally.

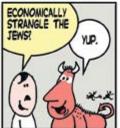
I write all this to say, thank You, Adonai God of Israel, for all You taught me through Zola years ago, but also for having him tell us to get out of the churches we were in. I did, and You led me back to Your Torah and Your commandments. —G. (on YouTube)

(continued next page)

Dry Bones HITLER N HELL









To

Wise as serpents (Matt. 10:16)

Dear ZLM,

I recently sold some property after my husband passed away, and I want to share with you. I hope the enclosed check will help with all your ministry does.

My husband and I always fought over the *Levitt Letter* and read Mark's <u>excellent investment insights</u>, which now puts me as a widow in a position to share. Glory to God... and thank you, Mark! — J.M.B. (AR)

Dear J.M.B.,

What a gift to hear how Mark's sound suggestions have helped you navigate your finances after your husband's passing. We are sorry for your loss but blessed to know how you both enjoyed reading our news magazine. Your generous gift will be put to productive use. Thank you. —David

Requests

Dear ZLM,

Shalom ZLM.

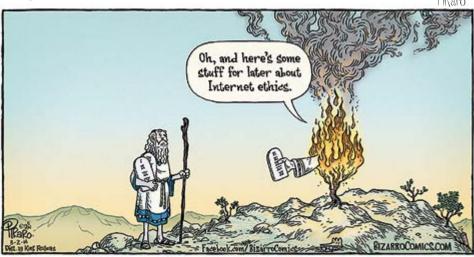
Your <u>April Levitt Letter</u> was the Best ever! Requests: 1) Can you please print an article on the history of the word "Palestine" since I recall that ZLM has described it as a misnomer? 2) Please play more of Sarah Liberman's songs and Joshua Aaron's music on *Zola Levitt Presents*! Thanks, R.P. (CA)

Dear R.P.,

Thanks for your encouragement and suggestions. Regarding **request**1: Please visit www.levitt.com/faqs and click on "Is the correct name of the Holy Land Palestine or Israel?" Then you'll see Dr. Tom McCall's thorough analysis.

Request 2: We agree that Sarah's and Joshua's music is dynamic, and we'd love to feature more songs and stories from these two powerful Messianic worship artists. —Kirsten ▶

BIZARRO.COM





Nazi Blueprint for North American Holocaust



BY LEYLAND CECCO (r) TheGuardian.com

A book once owned by Adolf Hitler, which scholars suspect was a blue-print for a Holocaust in North America, was recently acquired by Canada's national archive. Acquisition of the rare book, of which only a handful of copies remains, will preserve a critical piece of history and comes at a time of growing anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial in Canada, curators say.

Published in 1944 by German researcher and linguist Heinz Kloss, Statistics, Media, and Organizations of Jewry in the United States and Canada is a disturbingly thorough catalogue of Jewish residents in the two countries and reflects Nazi plans in the event they gained control over the North American continent.

"[The book] demonstrates that the Holocaust wasn't a European event—it was an event that didn't have the opportunity to spread out of Europe," says Michael Kent, a curator at Library and Archives Canada.

Experts believe that the book was once part of Hitler's extensive library at his alpine hideaway and was probably removed by Allied soldiers or dignitaries who visited the complex following the Nazis' defeat.

Kloss, who frequently worked for the Third Reich, used 1930s data, drawn from his extensive contact network of Nazi sympathizers, to sort Jewish residents in Canada by language and ethnic origins.

"The amount of intellectual effort

that went into the perpetrators' work is part of the horrors of World War II and the Holocaust," said Kent.

The book highlights Nazi plans for an eventual presence in North America. They made larger strides than is often realized: In 1943, the year before Kloss's book was published, the Germans established an automated weather station in what is now the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador. There are also numerous wartime stories in eastern Canada of German U-boats making headway up the Saint Lawrence River.

Kent likens the Library's recent acquisition to the Plack Rock of list of

Kent likens the Library's recent acquisition to the Black Book, a list of prominent British residents identified as potential targets in the event of a successful Nazi invasion of the UK. While many Holocaust memorials in the U.S. refuse to acquire Nazi memorabilia—including the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C.—the Library's mandate is to preserve and document historical items that are important to Canadian history, said Kent.

The acquisition by the national archive comes at a time when scholars have warned of rising ignorance among Canadians about the Holocaust.

Bernie Farber, chair of the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, hopes that better education — including the archive's acquisition of the book — can combat the "absolutely horrendous" trend of ignorance among young Canadians. "I see schoolchildren who have not been taught the lessons of the past. I don't want Nazi memorabilia falling into the hands of neo-Nazis. I do want Nazi memorabilia falling into the hands of Holocaust centers, museums, and

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und Kanada

archives," he said. "That's where they belong, that's where they can be studied and where lessons will be learned."



World's Longest Salt Cave



SCIENCE: BY MAAYAN JAFFE-HOFFMAN (r) JPost.com



Mapping the salt cave

Researchers discovered the world's longest salt cave: Malham Cave in the Dead Sea's Mount Sodom area, measuring 6.2 miles long.

An international expedition led by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Cave Research Center (CRC), Israel Cave Explorers Club, and Bulgaria's Sofia Speleo Club—along with 80 cavers from nine countries—recently completed mapping the cave.

"Thirty years ago, when we surveyed Malham, we used tape measures and compasses," explained Prof. Amos Frumkin, director of the CRC at Hebrew University's Institute of Earth Sciences. "Now, we have laser technology that beams measurements right to our iPhones."

This technology helped the team to determine the cave's record-breaking length.

Malham was initially discovered by the CRC back in the 1980s. Further CRC expeditions surveyed Mount Sodom and found more than 100 different salt caves inside, the longest of which measured 3.5 miles. Subsequent carbon-14 tests dated the cave at 7,000 years old, and verified that successive rainstorms had created new passages to explore.

The new record was only discovered when international expeditions returned to Malham in 2018. Previously, the longest cave ran only 4 miles—Iran's Cave of the Three Nudes on Qeshm Island. Currently, the team is processing final data from the surveys to create an electronic map of the cave and to publish its findings.

Geologically speaking, salt caves are living things, according to an explanatory release by Hebrew University. They form mostly in desert regions with salt outcrops. What helps them form is water—even arid climates see the occasional rainstorm. When it does rain, water rushes down cracks in the surface, dissolving salt and creating semi-horizontal channels along the way. After the rainwater drains out, these dried out "river beds" remain and salt caves are formed.

"The Malham Salt Cave is a river cave," noted Frumkin. "Water from a surface stream flowed underground and dissolved the salt, creating caves—a process that is still going on when there is heavy rain over Mount Sodom about once a year."



Mount Sodom is named after a location mentioned in the Book of Genesis, describing how Lot's wife became a pillar of salt after she looked back at Sodom.

"Mapping Malham Cave took hard work," said Efraim Cohen, a member of Hebrew University's research team. "We cavers worked 10-hour days underground, crawling through icy salt channels, narrowly avoiding salt stalactites and jaw-dropping salt crystals. Down there, it felt like another planet."

We stop to see Mount Sodom and Lot's wife ("She" is incredible!) on our Zola
Tours Petra extension. (See *Levitt Letter* March 2019, p. 6) — Kirsten



The measure was supported by the Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (IMPACT-se), a Jerusalem-based watchdog that backs reforms for the Palestinian curriculum. Last year, the group supported nearly-identical legislation that did not advance past the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Titled "The Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act," the most recent bill would require the State Department to submit annual reports reviewing the educational material used by the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which runs 715 schools for some 532,000 Palestinians in Judea and Samaria, the Gaza Strip, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria.

The reports would, in part, determine if content "encouraging violence or intolerance toward other nations or ethnic groups has been removed," and whether U.S. aid money was used to fund the dissemination of such materials, "directly or indirectly."

Educational materials used by both the PA and UNRWA have faced accusations of inciting hatred and violence in past years. A 2018 report by IMPACT-se found that grades 1–12 textbooks routinely describe Israel as the "Zionist Occupation," refer to UN-recognized Israeli territory as Palestinian, and in some cases praise acts of Palestinian violence against civilians.

A report issued on the matter by the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) in April 2018 (and declassified in February) found that UNRWA itself identified issues with 229 pages in Palestinian textbooks used in the 2017–2018 school year. A majority of these related to neutrality or bias—for example, describing Israeli cities as Palestinian, referring to Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine, and failing to recognize non-Islamic religions observed in the region.

The GAO also found that State Department reports given to Congress about reforms undertaken by UNRWA over the curriculum issue included inaccurate information and omissions, among them incorrect claims that UNRWA distributed complementary materials to address problematic textbook content.

Commenting on the latest congressional legislation on the issue, IMPACT-se head Marcus Sheff said the GAO report "clearly shows that funds targeted for UNRWA had been misused. The U.S. Congress was misled for several years into believing that UNRWA was circulating supplementary materials."

Several European governments, including Switzerland, Germany, and the United Kingdom, have committed to reviewing Palestinian textbooks following IMPACT-se's reports. Last year, European Union lawmakers approved amendments to prevent aid to the PA from financing educational materials considered discriminatory or intolerant.



Lasers Give Hope for Pediatric Burn Scars



MEDICINE: BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN (r) Israel21c.org



Dr. Josef Haik, center, and a surgical team at the National Burn Center at Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer



Mira from Jerusalem was severely burned in a bus fire when she was seven. But despite the loss of an eye, an arm, both ears, and most of one foot, six years later Mira is not only alive but smiling. Recently, she became the first patient to be treated in the I-PEARLS (Israel Pediatric Aesthetic and Reconstructive Laser Surgery) Center of Excellence at Sheba Medical Center under the direction of world-renowned burn specialists Josef Haik and Arie Orenstein.

One of few of its kind anywhere and the first in the Middle East, the pediatric center uses Israeli-developed lasers, including carbon dioxide (CO₂) ablative lasers, to safely and effectively reduce the devastating impact of scars in burned children like Mira, regardless of their ability to pay. While the scars cannot be removed completely, laser treatments can improve their appearance dramatically by diminishing their size, stiffness, and discoloration.

Haik, director of Sheba's National Burn Center, and Orenstein, chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, have long experience treating burn scars with CO2 lasers in Sheba's operating rooms. As part of the National Burn Center, I-PEARLS reflects new capabilities in treating pediatric burn scars.

The fact that burn specialists can now help kids like Mira is directly due to laser technologies developed at Israel-based companies, supported by clinical research at the National Burn Center. "Israel is an empire of lasers," Haik says. "We are at the cutting edge with these technologies." Over the past couple of years, he says, the types of lasers and the technologies have advanced significantly.

"For example, we weren't touching scars when they were fresh; we'd wait a year or two. Today, with a combination of

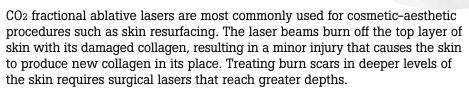


CO₂ laser system

From left, burn patient Mira with Samuel Davis of the Burn Advocates Network and Prof. Josef Haik, Chief of the National Burn Center at Sheba Medical Center

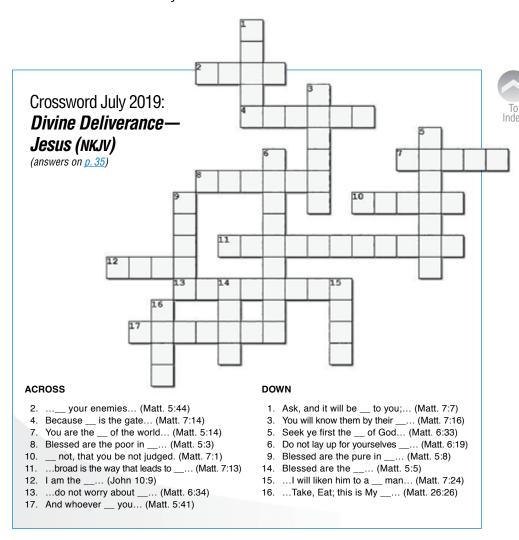
different lasers, we can treat scars almost upon healing, taking out redness and itchiness. In long-term scars that we couldn't help before, we believe now we can change their appearance and elasticity."

When kids have the hope of looking and feeling better before they go through adolescence, a lot of the posttraumatic depression is avoided, setting them up for a better future.



The newest CO₂ ablative lasers are powerful yet so precise that they don't damage the surrounding tissue, getting better results with fewer treatments.

Using CO₂ lasers on children's burn scars is relatively new territory. In the past, laser treatment for scars required sedation, whereas now a local anesthetic cream is all that's necessary.





Robert-Willem van Norren promoting a boycott of Israel atop an Israel-made mobility scooter

Dutch Activist Promotes Israel Boycott on Scooter Made in Israel

By Cnaan Liphshiz / JTA.org

Regardless of where one stands on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, there's no denying the devotion of some of the activists involved in the cause.

Take Robert-Willem van Norren: He's a middle-aged, Dutch supporter of the boycott against Israel movement, and he regularly braves all kinds of weather, as well as his own disability, to promote his cause. He sits for hours on end in his mobility scooter on Amsterdam's Dam Square, waving Palestinian flags and anti-Israel posters three times a week.

There's just one problem: His scooter was made in Israel.

More precisely, it is the Breeze S3 model of the Kalnoit brand, designed



BDS activist Simon Vrouwe piling on Israeli pickles at the Israeli falafel tent

and assembled in Kibbutz Afikim in Israel's Jordan Valley.

Van Norren, one of the Netherlands' best-known anti-Israel activists, enjoys displaying a poster of the Israeli flag with a cockroach or a swastika over the Star of David. He has decorated his Israeli-made scooter with Palestinian flags and a sticker reading "free Palestine, boycott Israel."



Van Norren's fellow anti-Israel activist, Simon Vrouwe, was recently photographed taking a break from his own Israel protesting to grab a bite at the Maoz falafel shop near the Dam, which is part of a chain started by the Israel-born Dutch businessman Dov Melo.

Wearing a vest reading "boycott Israel," Vrouwe piled on the Israel-made pickles that Maoz is known for.

Note: Please see "Israeli Doctor Saved Abbas's Life" [thanks to a discreet disregard for BDS when he was dying of pneumonia] April 2019 Levitt Letter p. 15.

(continued next page)



Bakery Swamped by Harvey Loses Kosher License

By Tracy Maness APNews.org

A Houston (TX) bakery lost its decades-long Kosher certification while struggling to recover financially after being swamped by Hurricane Harvey. The Three Brothers Bakery was ready to celebrate

its 70th anniversary recently when the owners were informed that the certification was being revoked. Janice and Bobby Jucker had to take out federal disaster loans after the August 2017 storm forced the store to shut down for 17 days. As a Kosher bakery, the store was also mandated to close during the eight days of Passover.

This year the payments were due. In April, the Juckers decided to stay open during Passover in order to pay off their loans. About nine days after the holiday ended, they received the news from the Houston Kashruth Association that they had lost their Kosher certification.

The bakery was created by three brothers who arrived in America after surviving the Holocaust. Bobby, a fifth-generation baker, and his family have been Kosher bakers for nearly 200 years, since they started in Poland.

Janice said that she is disappointed, but it was a matter of survival. "You can be a permanently closed Kosher bakery or you can be a bakery that makes Jewish-style baked goods that's open. Those were the two options," she said.



Three Brothers Bakery (Houston, Texas) owners Bobby and Janice Jucker

New Groups Will Replace ISIS Because the Koran is Permanent

Middle East Media Research Institute MEMRI.org

Norway-based jihadi scholar Mullah Fateh Krekar in a December 2018 interview said that it would not be out of the ordinary for a group like al-Oaeda or ISIS to lose its foothold in a territory, but that even if these organizations disappeared, other groups with the same ideology would emerge to replace them. He explained that this is because the Koran, the Sunnah, and the hadiths about jihad are permanent. Future generations will grow up learning from these sources. He predicted that another group with the same ideas as ISIS will emerge in Iraq.



Norway-based jihadi scholar Mullah Fateh Krekar



First Temple Seals in City of David

ARCHAEOLOGY: ISRAEL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS / MFA.gov.il

A collection of seals, some of which bear ancient Hebrew inscriptions and dating to the days of the Judean kingdom prior to the Babylonian destruction, was unearthed during excavations in the City of David National Park by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) in the area of the walls of Jerusalem.

The sealings, or bullae (from which derives "bul" — the Hebrew word for stamp), are small pieces of clay that served as seals for letters in ancient times. A letter with its seal broken was a sign that the letter had been opened. Although letters did not survive the horrible fire that consumed Jerusalem during its destruction, the seals, which were made of a clay



First Temple Period seals discovered in City of David excavations



credit: Eliyahu Yanai, City of David

material similar to pottery, were actually well preserved thanks to the fire, and attest to the existence of the letters and their senders.

According to Ortal Chalaf and Dr. Joe Uziel, directors of the excavation for the IAA, "In the numerous excavations at the City of David, dozens of seals were unearthed, bearing witness to the developed administration of the city in the First Temple Period. The earliest seals bear mostly a series of pictures. It appears that instead of writing the names of the clerks, symbols were used to show who the signatory was, or what he was sealing. In later stages of the period — from the time of King Hezekiah (around 700 B.C.) and up to the de-



Complete seal bearing the name "Achiav ben Menachem"

struction of Jerusalem in 586 B.C.—the seals bear the names of clerks in early Hebrew script. Through these findings, we learn not only about the developed administrative systems in the city, but also about the residents and those who served in the civil service."

Some of the seals bear Biblical names, several of which are still used today, such as Pinchas. One particularly interesting seal mentions a man by the name of "Achiav ben Menachem."

These two names are known in the context of the Kingdom of Israel: Menachem was a king of Israel;

(continued next page)

while the spelling Achiav does not appear in the Bible, it resembles Achav (Ahab), the infamous king of Israel from the writings of the prophet Elijah. Though the spellings differ, they appear to be the same name. The Achav spelling appears in the Book of Jeremiah and also in Flavius Josephus' Antiquities of the Jews.



Chalaf and Uziel add that the appearance of the name Achiav is interesting for two main reasons. First, it serves as a testimony to names that are familiar from the Kingdom of Israel in the Bible and that appear in Judah during the period following the kingdom's destruction. These names show that, after the exile of the Tribes of Israel, refugees from the northern kingdom arrived in Jerusalem and found their way into senior positions in Jerusalem's administration.

Second, both names — Achiav and Menachem — were names of kings of Israel. Though Achav (Ahab) is portrayed as a negative figure in the Bible, the name continued to be in use (though spelled differently) both in Judea in the latter days of the First Temple, as reflected in Jeremiah and on the seal, and also after the destruction, in the Babylonian exile and up until the Second Temple Period, as seen in the writings of Flavius Josephus.

The archaeological evidence for Jerusalem's destruction around 586 B.C. not only confirms the Bible's historical accuracy but also proves that the prophecies made by Prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah about the Babylonian invasion and destruction of Jerusalem are literally accurate and fulfilled to the letter. — Todd Baker

Zola Tours buses always stop at the City of David's trove of archaeological treasures. — David ★



Heaven and Earth book

Ken Berg's favorite Holy Land photographs and stories

For four decades, the producer of *Zola Levitt Presents* has traversed the Bible Lands with his camera at the ready.

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BDS Resolution Fails at U of Maryland

BY JACKSON RICHMAN / JNS.org



Anti-Israel BDS resolution fails at University of Maryland

The University of Maryland's (UMD) student government recently rejected a resolution calling on the school to "divest from companies engaged in human-rights violations in Palestine." The final tally was nine votes in favor, 25 against, and two abstentions.

The vote coincided with Passover, leading to criticism from the Jewish community at UMD, which makes up 16% of the 40,521 student population.

Terps for Israel (TFI), a student pro-Israel group on campus, celebrated the outcome, and posted on Facebook: "TFI is pleased to announce that the divisive BDS [boycott, divestment and sanctions movement] bill did NOT pass! Thank you to all the students who came to voice their concerns against this bill. Also, thank you to all the SGA [Student Government Association] legislators who took the time to hear from their concerned constituents, as well as take time to continue to educate themselves on these issues. We look forward to keeping these nuanced conversations going with the greater UMD community."

"We are very proud of the students at UMD who stood against this campaign of hatred and propaganda," said Rena Nasar, managing director of Campus Affairs at StandWithUs. "BDS has no place on campus and has only served to divide students and damage efforts to bring Israelis and Palestinians together."

Yacov Greenspan, an alum, observed, "I'm thrilled that the resolution didn't pass. But the vote was closer this year than last year. We need to discuss the BDS movement with our friends outside the Jewish community so they can understand our stance beyond what they hear from the other side and the media."

Increasing throngs of visitors to the Holy Land every year buy tons of Israeli products! I'm one of them ... and thankful that Israel is thriving despite BDS.—Kirsten



Jewish humor, etc.

Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark:

- 1. Don't miss the boat.
- 2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- Stay fit. When you're very old, God may ask you to do something really big.
- 5. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- 8. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.



A cheerful heart is good medicine— Proverbs 17:22



Answer Key for July 2019 Crossword (p.29)

Across: Down: 2. Love 11. Destruction 1. Given 3. Fruits 4. Narrow 12. Door 14. Meek 7. Light 13. Tomorrow 5. Kingdom 15. Wise 17. Compels 8. Spirit 6. Treasures 16. Body 10. Judae





Freeform television network's last day to zon broadcast *Zola Levitt Presents* was May 19. tem

Days Weare available 24/7 at Levitt.tv. 5:30 AM Sun

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Days	8 PM Wed	9 PM Wed	10 PM Wed	11 PM Wed
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(New series from Israel airing soon!)



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(*Greece & Israel & Petra*, \$9,188) (prices include tips, taxes, and fuel surcharge)

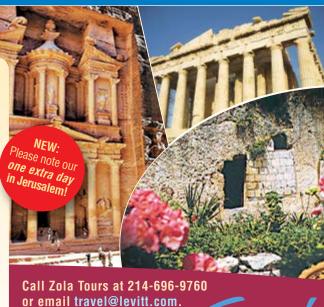
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