



Levitt LETTER

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

NOVEMBER 2019

inside: Synagogue
Security p.10



What Triggers Anti-Semitism?

By Julie Hirschfeld Davis / NYTimes.com

The accusation that Jews have a “dual loyalty” — that they are not to be trusted because their true allegiance is to their religion, rather than to the country in which they live — dates back thousands of years. It animated the Nazis in 1930s Germany, when they accused Jewish people of being traitors and used charges of disloyalty to justify their arrests, persecutions, and mass killings.

Jews were also viewed as a threat to the Church because of their religious beliefs. These notions have fueled anti-Semitism for generations and have given rise to some of the most brutal violence inflicted upon Jews in their history.

After the founding of Israel, Jews were accused of being more loyal to Israel, the Jewish state, than to their own countries. The smear persists in various forms to this day: It is a common refrain of white supremacists

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Jews: Literally “The People of Thanksgiving”

By Aviya Kushner
Forward.com

Jews are linguistically rooted in gratitude: *Yehudi* (“Jew” in Hebrew) directly ties to the word for thankfulness, *hodaya*. (Please see “Thanksgiving’s Dark Side” on p.21.)



Here is the case for Jews as the people of gratitude, not just the People of the Book. *Yehudi* comes from the Bible, specifically from the matriarch Leah’s name for her son — Yehuda. The Jewish people are literally “Yehudim,” the Judahs. Because Bible translations transliterate names instead of translating them, it’s one of the great losses of the Bible’s move from Hebrew into English.

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REMEMBER:

Daylight Saving Time ends Nov. 3, Election Day (U.S.) is Tuesday, Nov. 5, and Thanksgiving is Nov. 28

credit: Kurt Hoffman

Nazi soldiers listen to Hitler during a Nazi Party convention in Berlin, September 1936. Around six million Jews were killed by the Nazis during the Holocaust. (credit: Associated Press)



Why Isn't Al Jazeera Registered as a Foreign Agent?

BY CHUCK ROSS (r) DailyCaller.com



A group of U.S. Congress members has asked the Justice Department whether Al Jazeera Media Network should be required to register as a foreign agent of Qatar. The group wrote in a recent letter to Attorney General William Barr that **Al Jazeera appears to promote the goals of the Qatari government by “influenc[ing] public opinion in the United States.”**

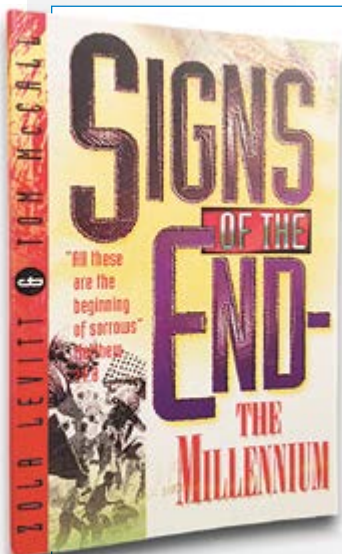
Their assessment matches what a former U.S. ambassador to Qatar wrote about Al Jazeera in a 2009 diplomatic cable: Al Jazeera “is heavily subsidized by the Qatari government and has proved itself a useful tool for the station’s political masters,” wrote Joseph LeBaron, who served as ambassador to Qatar in the Bush and Obama administrations.

“The station’s coverage of events in the Middle East is relatively free and open, though it refrains from criticizing Qatar and its government. Al Jazeera’s ability to influence public opinion throughout the region is a substantial source of leverage for Qatar, one which it is unlikely to relinquish,” added LeBaron.

The lawmakers noted that the Justice Department recently required other foreign-controlled news outlets — Russian-owned RTTV America and Chinese-owned Xinhua News Agency and China Global Television Network—to register as foreign agents under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA). One cosigner, Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, noted that since 1966, the Justice Department brought only 15 cases under FARA, with seven of those arising from the Special Counsel’s probe.

Al Jazeera has long faced accusations of being a mouthpiece for Qatar. The nation, rich in oil and natural gas, has also ramped up its lobbying efforts in the U.S., hiring several consultants with links to the current administration.

Doha-based Al Jazeera operates bureaus across the globe, including in the U.S. The company shuttered Al Jazeera America in April 2016, but continues operating AJ+, an online news outlet with offices in San Francisco and Washington, D.C. ★



Signs of the End — **The Millennium** study booklet

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(Please see the Classic Zola article “A Terrible Decision” on p.7.)

(This and most titles also available as eBooks.)



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Israel Haters Fall for Phony "Dead Sea Apartheid" Petition

BY DAVID LANGE, IsraellyCool.com

A petition to "stop Israeli apartheid" at the Dead Sea circulated a while back. And while many rightly smelt something fishy about it, others floundered as they fell for the hoax—hook, line, and sinker. The petition *"Stop Israeli apartheid against Dead Sea fishermen—make Israel give them a fair deal"* claimed that since Israel took control of the West Bank in 1967, *"it has not issued a single fishing permit to Palestinian fishermen for fishing in the Dead Sea,"* and that *"irrigation projects have reduced the supply of fresh water entering the Dead Sea."* It clarified that *"Due to salinification, experts estimate that in 20 years' time there will be NO fish left in the Dead Sea. We need to act NOW."*

The petition, of course, was a gag. The Dead Sea, which is situated between Israel, the disputed territories of Judea and Samaria, and Jordan, gets its name

because its salt content is so high that it cannot sustain life.

The petition mocked how anti-Israel zealots will find any excuse to blame Israel (read: the Jews) for the Palestinian leadership's failure to create a peaceful solution between Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs.

The Mossad: Elite Parody Division recently responded with this tweet:



What Triggers Anti-Semitism? *continued from cover*



who claim that Jews are orchestrating a secret plot to replace white people through mass migration and racial integration.

"The Jews have been a persistent minority for thousands of years, living in exile, living in diasporas, and the Jews have been made convenient scapegoats for various purposes," said Jonathan Greenblatt, the chief executive of the Anti-Defamation League. "That's why anti-Semitism is often called the oldest hatred."

How the Charge Was Born

As far back as the Middle Ages, Jews were tagged in their communities as inherently untrustworthy and suspect, incapable of being loyal to their ruler because of their ties to other Jews around the world.

Church leaders who promoted the idea that Jews crucified Jesus Christ fostered several myths about Jewish people, including the so-called blood libel, a myth that Jews used the blood of Christian children in rituals. Those slanders fueled riots against Jews, sometimes referred to as pogroms.



Alfred Dreyfus (1859–1935)

A Stereotype Festers and Flourishes

Later, as Jews settled throughout Europe, their loyalty was often in question. When Napoleon emancipated the Jews in France after the revolution, he offered to grant them full equality if they would reaffirm that they were subject to French law and would no longer consider themselves "a nation within a nation." Jews agreed.

But the suspicions festered. In 1894, Alfred Dreyfus, a French military captain who was Jewish, was falsely accused of passing military secrets to the Germans and was convicted in a French military court.

"People were willing to believe it, even though the evidence from the very outset was shaky, because it

made sense to them," said Deborah E. Lipstadt, a professor of modern Jewish history and Holocaust studies at Emory University. "They had been so exposed to this stereotype, it had become so much the pivot point and the central element of anti-Semitism that Jews have other loyalties, that it seemed like it must be true, and they were ready to believe the worst."

Professor Lipstadt said that was why when the Nazis began denigrating Jews, falsely accusing them of having betrayed their country and undermined its security, people were willing to believe it. "The dual loyalty canard that has plagued Jews is the fertile soil in which centuries of these stereotypes have taken root and grown," she said.

Stalin played on the same notion in 1946 during a speech in Moscow attacking Jewish writers as "rootless cosmopolitans" who were not fully loyal to the Soviet Union.

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Nation vs. Religion

One reason that Jews have struggled to shake accusations of having dual loyalty is rooted in their own history. For centuries, Jews were regarded as a nation with their own distinct culture and laws, rather than merely a religious group.

"The tension within Judaism is this: Are we a people, a nation, a tribe, a religion?" said Steven R. Weisman, the author of *The Chosen Wars: How Judaism Became an American Religion* and a former *New York Times* reporter. "Jews have been uncomfortable seeing themselves as a people — even the 'chosen people' — and through various episodes throughout history, worked to show that they were just as patriotic and loyal as anyone else."

During the Civil War, for instance, Weisman said, Jews joined the military in disproportionate numbers on both sides, in part to demonstrate their devotion to their country in the face of stereotypes that their allegiances were suspect.

As recently as 2000, when former Senator Joseph I. Lieberman became the first Jewish person to run for vice president, he faced questions about how his religion might affect his policy positions and leadership.

This long and ugly history of the dual loyalty canard explains why Jewish leaders and anti-hate groups react strongly to comments that connect those sentiments. Aaron David Miller, a veteran Middle East peace negotiator who served in administrations of both political parties, clarifies: "The words 'disloyalty' or 'dual loyalty' cannot appear within the same sentence as the words 'Jews' or 'American Jews' without legitimately raising the question of whether or not what is intended is to level that pernicious charge."

Our own Zola Levitt was named for Emile Zola, who defended Alfred Dreyfus with an open letter "J'accuse" ("I accuse"), published on the front page of the newspaper. — Editor ★



credit: Bettmann

Children in N.J. waving Israeli flags after the State of Israel's official proclamation in 1948

Name Changer

Kirsten Hart
Studio co-host of
Zola Levitt Presents



David and I are in our 30th year of marriage. In case you're wondering, we're still in love, and married life keeps getting better and better! It's been three decades since I did something that changed my identity. I changed from my maiden name to Hart. I have to admit, I quite enjoyed my new title as Mrs. Hart.

Who I was, obviously, didn't change. I was still the same person. Still looked the same. Still talked the same. But my name was changed to reflect a new season I was about to enter—the season of being David's wife.

Starting with Abraham

God originated the whole “name change” idea. Before Israel was a nation and there were people called Hebrews, God changed the name of a man (the very *first* Hebrew) from Avram (Abram) to Avraham (Abraham). What do his names mean? “Exalted father” becomes “father of multitudes” or “father of a multitude.”

Abraham's grandson's name was changed from “Jacob” to “Israel.” “Jacob” means “deceiver.” “Israel” means “struggle with God;” physical wrestling, yes, but also “relationship of dialogue.”

Continuing in the New Testament

The name changing didn't end with the Old Testament. One of the most prolific writers of the New Testament, Paul, underwent a change of name, so to speak. After Saul (his Hebrew name) met the Lord on the road to Damascus and was told to take the Gospel to the gentiles, he *then* went by his Roman name, Paul.

Paul still retained his history, his identity, and his lineage. But he was given a new commission. No longer was his calling the same. Paul had new territory to cover. Jesus commissioned him to take the Gospel to the gentiles; using the Roman version of his name would open more doors than his Hebrew name, Saul.

New Seasons

My life as a Hart has been incredible. While it took some time to remember to write Kirsten *Hart* on my checks instead of Kirsten *Goida*, after a few months it became beautifully natural. I smile when I think of God choosing new names for the three mighty Biblical men I mentioned above. He was extremely purposeful with each new name choice. New names equal new seasons. I rather like that idea. ★



The Apostle Paul (1514),
by Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528)

The Lord Directs Abraham to Count the Stars (detail),
by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872)

A Terrible Decision

Classic Zola
from 1989
30 years ago



Faulty decisions that contributed to Zola feeling betrayed are still with us.

The Lord's description of the Tribulation Period in His Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24) described the future dark seven-year-period in clear and objective terms. We have said all of this before, but it certainly bears repeating when we look back at a difficult year like 1988. The Lord saw "wars and rumors of wars," and we certainly have those. The Lord saw famine, and today's world is rife with it. The Lord spoke of pestilences in the Tribulation, and we certainly have those. And in the same breath, He spoke of "earthquakes in diverse places."

He said, "False prophets will abound" and "deceive... the very elect." This past year we saw huge portions of the Church get excited about prophecy of a Rapture that never came. We still see horoscopes and the like, not just in convenience stores, but in the White House as well.

Perhaps the most pointed of all is a fulfillment only weeks old. I have taught the message, "The Signs of the End," for all of my Christian life, but I had always paused on the prophecy revealing that Israel would be "hated of all nations." I always pointed out that our own government was wise enough to side with this sister democracy and obey the Lord's admonishments in Gen. 12:3: "I will bless them that bless thee and curse them that curse thee."

But now, as of December 1988, our government has undertaken to talk with the PLO (Palestine

Liberation Organization) about peace in the Middle East! **This is like discussing public safety with Los Angeles gang members.** The terrorists of the PLO want the total annihilation of Israel, as their charter states, and we can only be very embarrassed that officials in Washington would even dream of talking with them about anything. Terrorism has increased, not abated, because of this terrible decision.

The approaching Tribulation Period will be, above all things, a time of dangerous craziness. The inexplicable events we are watching are a better forecast of the Lord's coming than anything we might hear from purported prophets of the times.

In any case, part of the Lord's Discourse that day should be occupying the prayers and actions of everyone in the Church:

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

—Matthew 24:14 ★

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The Art of Israeli *Shabbat*

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



credit: Aviv Hod, Wikimedia Creative Commons

Six-strand braided Challah on traditional platter

In the past few months, my ministry has taken me to Scandinavia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and even to South Korea. I love traveling and experiencing different places, cultures, and people. Besides the beautiful landscapes in these recent venues, I most noticed the relative peacefulness of the people as they went about their daily living.

In contrast, life in Israel runs at a fairly hectic pace. Most people work six days a week, offering them little time to rest. The pressure of high taxes and a culture that promotes financial success mean that in nearly every family, both parents work fulltime jobs just to get by. This sense of pressure only increases with the ever-present security concerns.

Yet a special beauty of Jewish tradition is found in the Sabbath (*Shabbat*). Originating in the Ten Commandments, celebrating a day of rest results in a beautiful peace that comes over the land each week on Friday afternoon as businesses close and people make their way home for the end of the week.

The Family of Rest

The family — always central to Jewish culture — is a foundation laid from the beginning of our people, because God is a God of family; He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Thus, each Friday night is traditionally a family night. Even a popular TV sitcom celebrates the multi-generational gathering around the table for a special, festive meal. The funny situations on the show revolve around family dynamics, pressures, and differing priorities within this weekly gathering.

In our home, we often gather with extended family and friends, making Friday night a special time. Traditionally the mother of the family bakes the *Challah* bread (egg bread), and the father blesses the children one by one with a traditional blessing. Husbands also bless their wives, and songs are sung at the dinner table to celebrate *Shabbat*.

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The Practice of Rest

Saturday is the one day of true rest in Israel. Most shops are closed, and families spend the day together — parents are home from work and children are home from school. Many Israelis use the day to visit nature reserves or the beach and spend time outdoors. You can sense their joy as they relax and spend time away from the pressures of everyday life.

Our family also considers Saturday a family day. We guard it so we have one full day when we rest, spend time with each other, have some fun, and study the Bible together. We completely disconnect from work and regular concerns. This day refreshes our strength for the week ahead.

Many congregations in Israel have moved to meeting on Friday afternoon so the congregants can have one day in the week of true and full rest.

The Call of Rest

God speaks of the Sabbath in the Bible many times and exhorts us to keep it for our own mental, emotional, and physical health. If you are not already doing so, I hope you will try it. Take one day in your week to truly spend time away from everything else to focus both on resting and on the Lord. ★

“The People of Thanksgiving”

continued from cover sidebar

Therefore, “Yehuda” is rendered as “Judah” rather than “Thankful” in English, so the gratitude that is the meaning of his name is lost to an English reader. But what does come across in translation — loud and clear — is Leah’s gratitude for what she has. She may be the less loved sister, but she is the more fertile one. And so Leah famously says, *Ha’paam odeh et Adonai v’al ken karah shmo Yehuda* (Genesis 29:35). Roughly translated: “This time I will thank (*odeh*) God and therefore will call him [my son] Judah (*Yehuda*, Thankful).”

Odeh means “I will thank,” so the specific reason for her new son’s name is Leah’s gratitude.

“To thank” often becomes “praise” in English translation, and interestingly, Leah’s emphasis on gratitude is repeated in other texts — like the Psalms and the prayers. Generally, what people are thankful for is God, and from that, gratitude for everything else flows. The attitude of gratitude is repeatedly praised.

Our familiarity with the phrase “Praise the Lord” might make us forget its Hebrew roots: Praise is actually gratitude and gratitude is Leah’s gift to us, memorialized forever in the name Yehuda and in the terms *Yehudi* (Jewish) and *Yehudim* (Jews). Jews carry that gratitude in the name of our people.

Consider Psalm 92, often set to music:

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
And to sing praises to Your name,
O Most High;
To declare Your lovingkindness in
the morning,
And Your faithfulness every night,*

The idea that gratitude is good is where Jewish values and American values meet on Thanksgiving. Both Thanksgiving and the Psalms float the concept that it is not just about being grateful, but that the act of being grateful is good for you; that gratitude is something to celebrate. And so, if a holiday offers a chance to eat well and be thankful, Jews — the people of gratitude, “the people of Thanksgiving” — are all over it. ★



U.S. Synagogue Security

BY OMRI NAHMIAS (r) JPost.com



"Sometimes, the best chance of survival is defense."
— Mark Jardina

Mark Jardina has a full schedule. On a recent morning, he visited a synagogue to advise how to improve its security, and the next day he was set to meet a large group of Jews in Maryland for active shooter training. He started his job as the regional security director for the Greater Washington region at the Secure Community Network (SCN) a few months ago.

Since then, he estimates that he has trained at least 850 people from more than 80 Jewish institutions on how to enhance their security. But training is only one aspect of his job. Part of his position is to provide threat and vulnerability assessments of organizations that will help them obtain grants and build a security culture, already advising dozens of institutions on how to do so.

Before joining SCN, Jardina served eight years as a U.S. Marine — from counterintelligence to active threats, law enforcement, and counter-terrorism.

The Secure Community Network training includes both active shooter training, and practicing first aid, including CPR. "We combat fear and emotion through training and education," Jardina said.

Training

"Training is one aspect of my work," he explained. "It's preparation, it's prevention, and it's response preparedness. It's terrible that this is the security environment that we live in, but it is. I feel the absolute need to prepare my community as well as possible."

The Secure Community Network was established in 2004 as the first national nonprofit organization exclusively dedicated to homeland security initiatives on behalf of the American Jewish community, and was recognized in 2009 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as a national model.

The idea behind SCN is to teach people in synagogues to have a script of what to do if a shooter comes. It starts with remote buttons that could put the synagogue in lockdown before the shooter makes his way into the *shul*, in the event that someone notices the offender outside and his attempt to enter the building.

A central part of the training is to know where the nearest exit is at any given moment and how to control the situation under stress. That's the reason SCN

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recommends that each attendee in a synagogue have his or her own “script” of what to do if a shooter makes it inside the synagogue. One thing that Jardina does not recommend is to play dead. (“This is a lack of action,” he says.)

Best Advice

In general, his best advice for an active-shooter event is to run away, using different exits so people could potentially leave faster. If leaving is not an option, the training calls for hiding or avoiding the attacker. The last option would be to fight back.

If you expected some Krav Maga training, this is not the idea here; fighting or shooting the terrorist should be a last resort. “Fighting,” Jardina said, “has to be practiced and practiced and practiced to become efficient at it.” In some cases, fighting might be the only option, but that shouldn’t be the focus of training for thousands of people.

“Sometimes, the best chance of survival is defense,” he said. “If that means avoiding the attacker or denying the attacker access to you, that’s going to be a survival tactic.”

For the same reason, the SCN training does not include tactical training on weapons. “Police, SWAT, and military train for days and days to be effective. I don’t recommend that people spend a few hours to get concealed weapons permits. It’s not an effective tactic.”

“In fact,” he added, “it could cost lives. If there are people between you and the front door and you’ve never trained tactically, it makes you a liability rather than an effective defender, because there are too many people between you and the shooter, who’s probably not trained to shoot through a crowd either. **It’s not about having a gun in the room; it’s about having the right gun in the room.**”

Says Michael Masters, national director and CEO of SCN, “I got 1,400 requests for service since Pittsburgh, which is a significant increase.”

In Any Event

SCN repeats the same word over and over: standardization. “It doesn’t help if my kids at the JCC have one security protocol, the synagogue has another, and the day camp has a third,” said Masters. “We’ve got to train so that people can use this information during any event.”

SCN comprises former military law enforcement, homeland security, and national security experts who work as a nonprofit on behalf of the community. “We’re not private consultants looking to make a profit, and we’re not volunteers, as well-intentioned as many are, doing this in our spare time,” Masters said. SCN serves as the official safety and security organization on behalf of the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), as well as the 146 federations and the 50 partners of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

“We also work on behalf of 300 independent communities. That’s well over 90% of the organized Jewish community in the United States.” ★



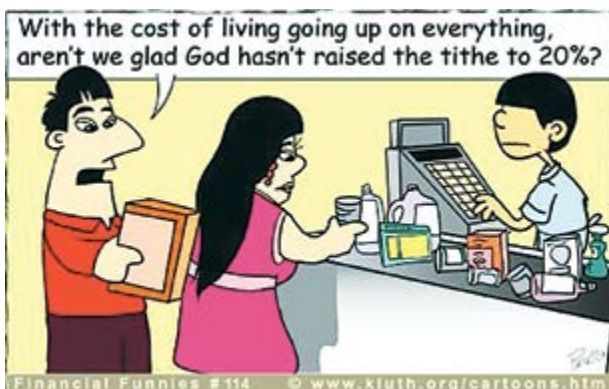
Tithing?

Dr. Todd Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q. Are Christians, who live under the New Covenant, required to tithe 10% to the Lord as Israel was required under the Old Covenant?

A. The New Testament does not explicitly say that Christians are under the law of the tithe. **The believer in Christ is to give as God leads him to give**, whether its 10%, 20%, or 25%. 2 Corinthians 8–9 lays out the principles of giving under the New Covenant, and those chapters provide the model for the Church today. I would call it *proportional giving* — giving in proportion with what you have at the time. *“For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have” (2 Corinthians 8:12).* Tithing was part of the Old Covenant and has been done away in Christ (*“For Christ is the goal of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.” Romans 10:4*). So now, one gives as he or she is led, which can be more than 10% or less.

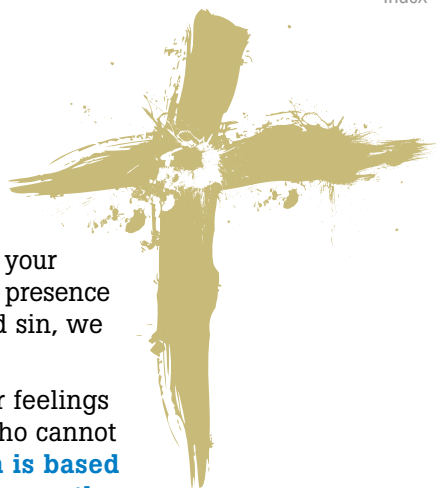


Secure Salvation

Q. I've been a Christian for many years, but sometimes I feel like I'm not saved. Can you explain this?

A. Beware of making your salvation dependent on your feelings. Yes, sometimes we will feel and know the presence of God is on us, while at other times if we fall and sin, we feel unsaved at that moment.

But faith in Jesus for salvation is greater than our feelings and sinful failures because it is based on a God who cannot lie, and who keeps His promises. **Your salvation is based on the finished work of Christ's cross and on no other** (Hebrews 9–10). God speaks to us through His Word — the Scriptures. So, as we read, He is always speaking to us. Any voice or feeling that goes against the Word of God is not from Him. Once individuals have truly put their trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, they cannot perish, because they have eternal life — and “eternal” by definition means “never ending” (John 10:28–30). We are not saved by our feelings (that's mysticism) but by faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone (that's Biblical salvation — John 3:16; Romans 10:9–10; Ephesians 2:8–9). One day, you might not feel married, but you can look at the license and see that you are. It does not depend on a feeling. ★



Netanyahu's Carrot-and-Stick Policy on Gaza

BY RUTHIE BLUM (r) JNS.org

Both left and right are uneasy about growing violence from the border with Gaza, but Netanyahu has a plan. Of all the criticism lobbed at Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the claim that he has been exercising restraint toward the terrorists in Gaza is the most ridiculous. The one thing that should worry Netanyahu's opponents is a war.

This is particularly true today, when Israeli residents of the Gaza-border communities—the “envelope” around the Hamas-ruled enclave—are suffering from an understandable mixture of fatigue and fury. Trauma from living under daily threat of death and destruction with only minimal respite between rockets, riots, and incendiary balloons will do that. Especially considering that while Palestinian children in Gaza attend camps where they learn how to kill Jews, Israeli kids on the other side of the fence spend their vacations listening for Red Alert sirens telling them to take cover in the nearest bomb shelter.

Though only a handful of the politicians to the right of Netanyahu believes in reoccupying Gaza—and the rest don't have a plan other than applying even more Israeli firepower in the ongoing battle of attrition—all of those on the right claim that Netanyahu needs a fierce hawkish push.

But those to the left of Netanyahu also accuse him of being weak in the face of Palestinian violence. This is hypocritical. The far-left blew a gasket over former Prime Minister Ehud Barak's “talking points,” which were more militaristic than diplomatic. The key difference between right and left is that the left blames Israel for a lack of peace, and still (mysteriously) has faith in the kind of diplomacy that leads to the establishment of a Palestinian state through suicidal Israeli compromises.

Another point that the right and left share concerns the money that Netanyahu has allowed Qatar to deliver to Gaza for “humanitarian” purposes. It's logical for the right to bemoan any perceived reward or capitulation to Hamas. But the left has been just as



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (left) and Israel Defense Forces Chief of Staff Aviv Kochavi

vociferous against this aspect of diplomacy that it normally cheers.

A third right-left assertion is that Netanyahu “has no policy” where Gaza is concerned. This couldn't be further from the truth. His two-pronged approach was recently revealed when Netanyahu reiterated a warning to Hamas: if it didn't stop its violence, Israel would launch a full-scale attack, hinting at a ground invasion. Netanyahu told reporters that if it is required, Israel will deal a blow to Hamas that hasn't been seen before. This is the “stick” side of the equation.

The “carrot” counterpart emerged when a senior government official told the press that for the past year, Netanyahu's National Security Council has been encouraging Palestinians who wish to do so to leave Gaza and relocate to other countries in the Middle East and Europe. The official said that more than 35,000 Gaza residents moved elsewhere during 2018, without Israel's help. But Israel announced its willingness to provide and pay for flights out of the Netavim Airport for any Gazan seeking a better life away from the terrorist-ruled Strip.

So far, no country has agreed to absorb the people for whom so many hearts purportedly bleed around the world. Whether Israel succeeds in persuading any states to welcome the many families living in Hamas hell who yearn to start fresh abroad remains to be seen. What's clear, though, is that anyone accusing Netanyahu of “having no policy” is either in denial or just dead wrong.

(Also see article “Palestinian Leadership Admits...” on p. 34, and *Israel's Right to the Land!* on p. 20.) ★



credit: Hadas Parush/Flash90



Emails with Sandra

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



Most ZLMers remember Sandra, who was married to my father Zola from 1998–2006. For several years after Zola went Home, she co-hosted *Zola Levitt Presents* with Jeff Seif, helped lead our Holy Land study tours, and wrote a *Levitt Letter* column, “Shalom from Sandra.” **Now you can see her most recent updates on [page 28](#).**

While living in Israel, Sandra’s son Will King wrote the *Levitt Letter*’s “Our Man in Jerusalem” column. He concurrently served as a public relations writer for Bridges for Peace, a sister ministry that ZLM has supported for decades. Sarah Liberman writes today’s rendition of that column, now called “On the Ground in Israel” ([p. 8](#)).

A couple of months ago, Sandra emailed me:

*I ordered **In Loving Memory** [described on [p. 20](#)] yesterday after I got my *Levitt Letter*. I also watched “[Introducing Sandra](#),” which brought back some good memories.*

Are you a grandfather yet? All is good out here [in California]. I am going to be a BSF [Bible Study Fellowship] group leader in the fall. Just felt that I was being called. Love BSF—great Bible, no politics, and no denomination. It’s what church should be like.

Happy to hear from her, I replied:

All is going fairly well with the family, ministry, and me. While I have yet to become a grandfather, it probably is just a matter of time until nature takes its course.

It’s hard to overrate BSF—particularly considering how closely their program resembles cell churches with their intimacy and low overhead. How are Will and his family doing these days?

Sandra responded that Will bought a home near Huntsville, Alabama and that his children are in the first and seventh grades. She also commented, “*Thank you for keeping ZLM going.*”

There are things that need to be said and done.”

Sandra recently reached out to Ken at Berg Productions as well:

A boker tov (good morning) to you and everyone at Berg. I have an idea for a TV series. “What does the Bible say about ... health, wealth, persecution, trials, addiction, depression, bullying, whom to vote for, praying, etc. How do Believers deal with these concerns?” I think people are looking for Biblical wisdom regarding today’s headlines.



Sandra when she used to host *Zola Levitt Presents*

Ken appreciated Sandra’s insights and responded:

Shalom Sandra,

Great hearing from you. I think your idea has merit for possible inclusion sometime in the future. We’re headed to Israel next month to shoot a series, Kings and Kingdoms. Jeff will be teaching about the kings of Israel. We believe it will be timely for next year’s airing, an election year. We’re excited about our future and would like your input as we proceed.

In a follow-up email to Ken, Sandra wrote, “*I will always be a part of this ministry. I promised Zola.*” ★



ZLM Bulletin Board



What Happens When ...

A Muslim Arab woman enters a city of Jewish settlers?! As you may know, **Israeli Jews are forbidden to enter Palestinian towns for fear they'll be abducted or murdered**. In fact, large, red signs throughout Judea and Samaria warn, "This road leads into a Palestinian village. Entering is dangerous for Israeli citizens." Recently, Sara Zoabi, a Muslim Arab woman made her way to Ariel, a large "West Bank" Jewish settlement. The [three-minute video](#) shows Sarah requesting directions, seeking service in various business establishments, inquiring about Jewish customs, and asking to borrow a cell phone.



USA No Longer Safe?

Our nation's latest mass shootings have led several countries to warn their citizens about the risks of traveling here. Following the deaths of 31 home-grown-terrorism victims in Dayton, Ohio and El Paso, Texas, the governments of Venezuela, Uruguay, and Japan issued travel advisories about the dangers of coming to America. **Israel, so far as they're concerned, is safer**. Perhaps they're right!



FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

Your Guide to Effective Giving begins with a reminder that "charitable gifts remain deductible for those who itemize deductions for federal tax purposes." Learn about giving the right gift at the right time in the right way. After touching on cash, securities, and other property, this guide delves into retirement funds, life insurance, and ways to donate while retaining income. The pamphlet concludes with a helpful summary of federal tax considerations for charitable giving. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

Request POM# 1.



10,000+ YouTube Subscribers

This ministry's YouTube channel has reached a remarkable milestone. For many years, you've been able to watch *Zola Levitt Presents* in HD on demand, 24/7 at youtube.com/ZolaLevittPresents. Now, you can also find concise, Bible-related videos that are not available elsewhere, such as Hebrew lessons, Zola's music selections, and the Bearded Bible Brothers series of brief Messianic teachings. Please click the red **SUBSCRIBE** button to get notices regarding our newest free online teaching materials. Please tell others about our important, helpful outreach.

"Come Home!"

**Zola
Tours to
Israel**



**See [page 36](#)
for details**



Suffering Perfection

by John Parsons
Hebrew for Christians
Hebrew4Christians.com



“Those who cling to lying vanities
abandon their own mercy.” (Jonah 2:8)

בִּי	אֶ	עָ	וּ	חַסְדָּם	לִי־שָׁוָא	הִבֵּי	רִים	מִן־שָׁמֶרֶם
(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)
ya-a-zoh-voo				khas-dahm		hav-ley – shav		me-sha-me-reem
they forsake				their mercy		lying vanities		those who cling to

For many of us, it is easier to see what’s wrong than what’s right. Why? We are often scandalized when we discover imperfections in light of our expectations. In this world of constant flux, change, and dissolution, is it realistic to expect perfection? Are not our expectations often romanticized notions of how things ought to be rather than what they really are? Don’t expectations often collide with the messy and unpredictable matters of life?

The desire for “perfection” leads to disillusionment and sorrow. Instead of gratefully accepting what we have, we ask “what if” or wonder about other possibilities that might bring us closer to our ideal. The underlying assumption is that everything should cohere with our desires and wishes. However, the doctrine that life should follow our own script not only leads to disappointment, it actually constitutes a form of idolatry. We must do *teshuvah* (repentance) by revising our unrealistic expectations. Instead of seeking the “good life” in this dying world, we must face reality by acknowledging the pervasive brokenness of the world. If we refuse to let go of our demand for personal happiness, we will eventually be shattered and blame God for our troubles. We may suspect that our suffering is a sign of God’s disapproval or rejection; we may begin to question whether God will ever heal us or give us His blessing.

We must remember God did not intend His promises to comfort those who seek contentment in this world, or folks who simply want a “happy ending” to a life of carnal ease. No, the message of hope is delivered to those who have “ears to hear and eyes to see” — that is, to those who know they are dying, that life is beyond their control, and who understand their need for divine intervention (see Matthew 13:9–17). Far from being a sign of God’s abandonment, our suffering indicates God’s near presence and His call to find eternal life in Yeshua our Savior.

“There appear to be many people who chose to go crazy (or become alcoholics, addicts, criminals, suicidal) rather than have to bear the pain and ambiguity of a life situation that they have decided they cannot stand” (psychotherapist Sheldon B. Kopp). Like Jonah, we first must be “swallowed up” in the consciousness that we are undone and without remedy apart from God’s direct intervention and deliverance (Jer. 17:9). We start there — in the “belly of the fish” (Jonah 2:1) — and later are resurrected to go forth by God’s mercy and grace. Likewise, we must first see ourselves as dying and go to the Cross, finding pardon and receiving the power of the *Ruach HaKodesh* (Holy Spirit) to live unto God according to the truth (Gal. 5:25). ★



Courtesy: The Jerusalem Connection

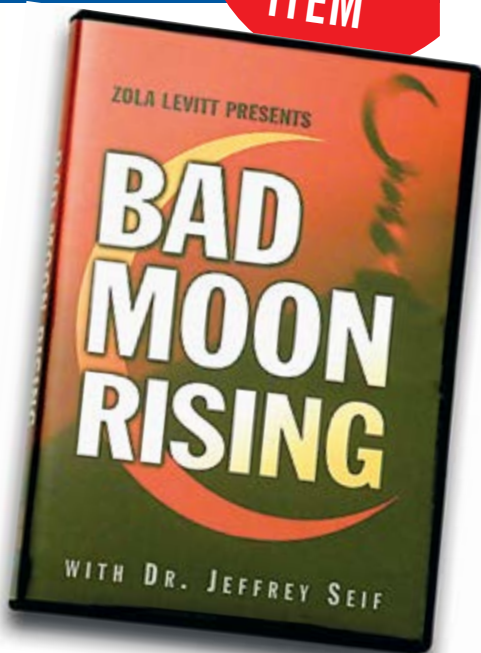


Bad Moon Rising

DVD Set

Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

Dr. Jeffrey Seif remembers yesterday's Holocaust and considers anti-Semitism's rise in modern-day Europe. Though dressed this time in Islamic garb and not in Nazi uniforms, anti-Semitism is making fresh headway in the world, its current surge fueled by the radical Islamic fringe as it turns out the lights of once-Christian Europe. Jeff speaks out against this trend with a prophetic voice and calls individuals, particularly Europeans and onlooking North Americans, to resist the encroaching darkness and walk in the light of God's grace and love.



When Darkness Once Prevailed Jeff speaks from a Jewish synagogue/memorial in Dachau, where he draws troubling parallels between the rise of the Nazis and the rise of radical Islam.

Out of the Darkness Against the backdrop of Dachau's front gate, emblazoned with the lie "Work Will Make You Free," Jeff teaches about real freedom. A Holocaust survivor shares her remarkable story.

Dark Night of the Soul Jeff talks from inside the barracks of Dachau. Sandra Levitt and Will King interview survivors who worked on the bunker where Hitler planned to manufacture his Messerschmitt aircraft.

Bright Lights in a Darkened World "March of Life" participants express support for the Jewish people and the need to "lift the veil of silence." Jeff speaks from the Dachau crematorium about the Jews who were shoved into ovens.

The Darkness that Nearly Engulfed Us Jeff lectures from the German site where Hitler nearly succeeded in developing an atomic bomb. Zola interviews Dr. Ergun Caner, a former Moslem who shares his insights on Islam.

Letting the Sun Shine Jeff teaches from the site of Hitler's atomic reactor, admonishing the viewer to draw a line in the sand. We are warned that the greatest tragedy would be to think that such things can't happen again.

A Star that Breaks Through the Darkness Sandra and Jeff interview Brigitte Gabriel, formerly of Lebanon, who has appeared on many network TV shows sounding an alarm about the evils of radical Islam.

Heavenly Light from Hellish Darkness Walid Shoebat shares insights regarding Islam from his book *Why We Want To Kill You*. Zola interviews Caecelie Rexin, who concludes—referring to the Holocaust—"Never again."

Also please see: *Shalom from Sandra* on [p. 28](#) in this *Levitt Letter* and *A Note from Mark* on [p. 14](#).



Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

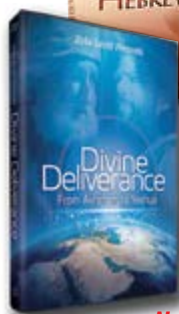
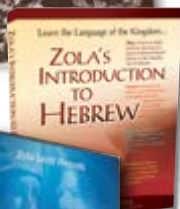
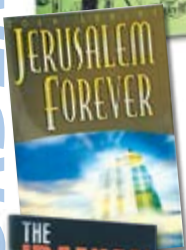
Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	A Christian Love Story	\$3	___
___	Glory! The Future of the Believers	\$3	___
___	How Can a Gentile Be Saved?	\$3	___
___	In My Father's House	\$3	___
___	Israel, My Promised (pictured)	\$2	___
___	The Miracle of Passover	\$3	___
___	The Promised Land	\$3	___
___	The Second 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

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	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)	\$6	___
___	Coming: The End! Russia/Israel in Prophecy	\$10	___
___	Heaven and Earth (pictured)	\$18	___
___	In the Footsteps of the Rabbi	\$14	___
___	The Iranian Menace (pictured)	\$8	___
___	Israel's Right to the Land (p.20)	\$2	___
___	Once Through the New Testament	\$9	___
___	Our Hands are Stained with Blood	\$16	___
___	Raptured	\$10	___
___	Signs of the End: Millennium (p.2)	\$7	___
___	The Warrior King	\$12	___
___	What About Us?	\$8	___
___	Whose Land Is It?	\$6	___
___	Zola's Introduction to Hebrew (pictured)	\$39	___

Featured DVDs

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	Bad Moon Rising (p. 17)..... (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Best of Zola's Music Videos	(2-DVDs) \$49	___
___	The Dark Prince	(10 programs, 3-DVDs) \$59	___
___	NEW! Divine Deliverance (pictured) ..	(12 prog., 3-DVDs) \$69	___
___	Ezekiel & MidEast "Piece"	(8 programs, 2-DVDs) \$49	___
___	The Feast of Lights	(3 programs, 1-DVD) \$19	___
___	In Loving Memory (p.20)	(2 programs, 1-DVD) \$19	___
___	Joseph: Dreamer/Redeemer	(9 programs, 2-DVDs) \$59	___
___	Return to Eden	(10 programs, 2-DVDs) \$59	___
___	Sar Shalom: Prince of Peace ...	(8 programs, 2-DVDs) \$49	___
___	Thy Kingdom Come	(12 programs, 3-DVDs) \$69	___
___	Times of the Signs	(8 programs, 2-DVDs) \$49	___
___	Watch Therefore	(8 programs, 2-DVDs) \$49	___
___	Whose Land Is It?	(3 programs, 1-DVD) \$19	___
___	Zion Forever	(9 programs, 2-DVDs) \$59	___



New!

To order:

Online:
store.levitt.comPhone 24/7:
800-966-3377,
ZLM Dallas office:
214-696-8844Print/tear out this 2-pg. form,
fill out box at right, and mail to:**ZLM, Box 12268**
Dallas TX 75225

ORDER FORM continued

UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEMS!

Studies, Specialty, Etc.

Qty.	Item	Price	Total
___	2-flag Collar Pin (pictured).....	\$2	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Body Lotion 17 oz.	\$37 ⁵⁰	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Foot Cream 3.4 oz.	\$22	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Hand Cream 3.4 oz.	\$23	___
___	Flag of Israel (3' x 5') (p.24).....	\$10	___
___	Genealogy Chart.....	\$10	___
___	Grafted-In Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut)	\$2	___
___	Grafted-In Lapel Pin.....	\$10	___
___	Half-shekel Key Chain.....	\$10	___
___	NEW! Jewish Heritage Calendar (5780 / 2020) (pictured).....	\$6	___
___	Messianic Grafted-In Sterling Silver Necklace	\$39	___
___	Notecards—Hebrew Names of God (12 cards).....	\$24	___
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem (p.36).....	\$12	___
___	Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land (p.36).....	\$6	___
___	Pro-Israel Collar Pin (A) (pictured).....(4 of 1 design)	\$6	___
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only)	no charge	___

Teaching CDs

___	The Beginning of The End.....(2 CDs)	\$12	___
___	Survey of the New Testament.....(CD)	\$7	___
___	Zola Teaches the New Testament (pictured).....(6 CDs)	\$29	___

Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

___	Israel, My Love.....(Music CD)	\$12	___
___	Thy Kingdom Come.....(Music CD)	\$12	___
___	The Works.....(Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___
___	The Works II.....(Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___
___	NEW! Zion Song (Harts) (p.24) (pictured).....(Music CD)	\$12	___

PLEASE SEND THIS ENTIRE 2-PAGE ORDER FORM—THANKS. 

Please fill out area below and send the entire page.

Shipping & Handling Chart

up to \$15.99, add \$5

\$16 to \$30.99, add \$7

\$31 to \$60.99, add \$9

\$61 to \$97.99, add \$10

\$98 and over, FREE SHIPPING

For shipments outside the United States, please **DOUBLE** shipping. Please send U.S. funds.

(Please allow about 2–3 weeks for delivery.)

Any amount that exceeds the listed price is considered a tax-deductible gift to our ministry.

Name _____

(please print)

Shipping Address _____

Billing Address (if different) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (optional) _____

On what station/network do you primarily watch our programs? _____

Donor # _____ Phone No. (_____) _____

(see number above your name on mailing label)

My check is enclosed for \$ _____ or, Please charge \$ _____ to:

Card # _____ Exp. ____/____ Card ID# required _____



Cardholder Signature: _____

Subtotal _____

Shipping (See left chart) _____

UPS shipping (\$4 extra) _____

Rush! (\$5 extra) _____

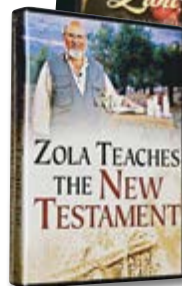
8.25% Tax (Texas only) _____

Donation? _____

Total _____



New!



In Loving Memory

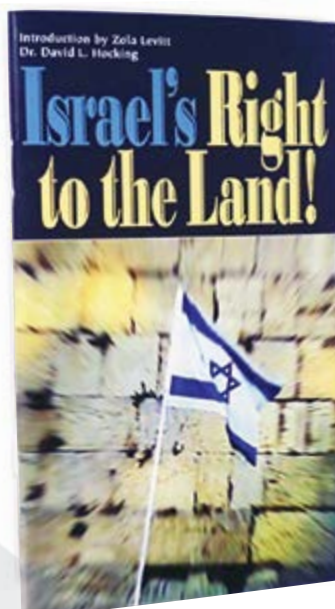
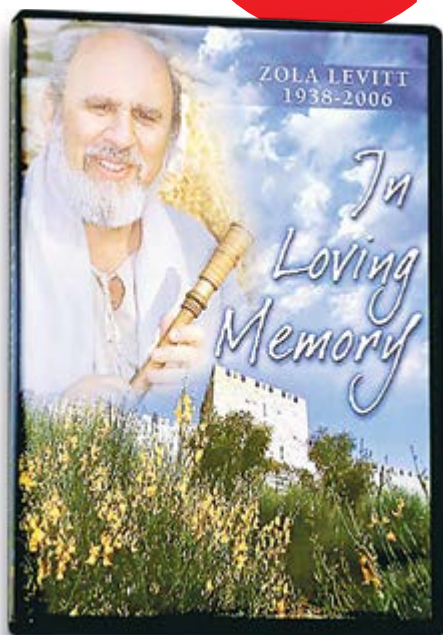
DVD

Two TV Programs on one DVD

These two television productions — *Remembering Zola* and *In Loving Memory*—are dedicated to the viewers and readers who loved Zola like a family member. Join us as we celebrate his work, music, joy in the Lord, and sense of humor. Remember a man who lived to open others' eyes to the beauty of God and His Word.

Remembering Zola is a one-hour television special recorded at Zola's memorial service in Dallas on May 7, 2006. This retrospective of Zola and his ministry includes highlights of past telecasts as well as tributes to a never-to-be-forgotten warrior of the faith.

In Loving Memory is a half-hour tribute to Zola by those who knew him best. His widow, Sandra, talks with Zola's family, friends, and co-workers in this special reminiscence of a man who planted seeds of faith in millions of lives.



Israel's Right to the Land! study booklet by David L. Hocking

Just as its title implies, this booklet answers head-on the question: "What right does Israel have to its land?" Featuring an introduction by Zola, *Israel's Right to the Land!* pulls abundant evidence from the Scriptures, and directly addresses the 12 key issues that resolve this topic once and for all.

Let's spread the Word on who owns the Land ("from the river of Egypt to the River Euphrates"—Genesis 15:18) by divine right!

Also please see: The article *Netanyahu's Carrot-and-Stick Policy on Gaza* on [p.13](#) of this *Levitt Letter*.



Thanksgiving's Dark Side

BY ADAM ELIAHU BERKOWITZ / BreakingIsraelNews.com



The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth, 1914, by Jennie Augusta Brownscombe (1850–1936)

Looking at the origins of Thanksgiving, which many consider a secular American feast without religious significance, reveals that the holiday's roots may have been part of a replacement theology endorsed by the Pilgrims.

Despite a Torah prohibition against participating in non-Jewish traditions (Leviticus 18:3), Jewish law allows observant Jews to join in Thanksgiving celebrations because rabbinic authorities consider Thanksgiving a secular national holiday rather than a religious one. However, historians agree that the Pilgrims who first celebrated Thanksgiving did, indeed, have religious intent. Some scholars even identify it with the Feast of *Sukkot*.

"The origin of the harvest festival in England by the time the Pilgrims decided to leave was rooted in the Biblical practice of the Feast of Tabernacles (*Sukkot*)," wrote Dr. Paul Jehle, Executive Director of the Plymouth Rock Foundation. "Note that we do not know the original date of this event, though most suppose it to be in late October, which would correspond to the time of the Feast of Tabernacles."

In fact, the Pilgrims are known to have modeled themselves after the Jews, considering their journey to America to be a reenactment of the Biblical Exodus. Historical documents show that the Pilgrims compared England, which oppressed them, to Egypt, and referred to British King James I as "Pharaoh." They compared their voyage across the Atlantic to the Israelites crossing the Red Sea, after which they arrived at the Promised Land.

"No Christian community in history identified

more with the People of the Book than did the early settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, who believed their own lives to be a literal reenactment of the biblical drama of the Hebrew nation," wrote noted scholar and chairman of the Jewish Bible Association Gabriel Sivan in his book *The Bible and Civilization*.

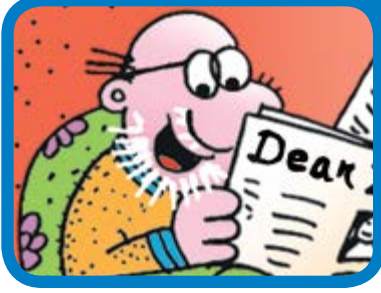
The Pilgrims were part of a Hebraist movement within Protestantism, learning the Bible in its original Hebrew. As such, they envisioned themselves as arriving in the New World to create a new society based on the ancient Hebrew Republic.

This fascination with the Jews was not admiration. The Pilgrims were Calvinists, following the 16th-century Protestant Reformation teachings of John Calvin. Calvin clearly stated that the Jews were a rejected people who needed to embrace Jesus to re-enter the Covenant, a basic belief of Replacement Theology. As Calvinists, the Pilgrims believed in the ultimate conversion of the Jews.

"Back then, if you loved the Bible then you necessarily had to hate the Jewish People," Rabbi Tuly Weisz explained. "For some reason, on Thanksgiving, Pilgrims get a pass on this and are portrayed as peace-loving, tolerant people. The healthy Christian Zionism we have today rejects Replacement Theology."

Rabbi Weisz works at strengthening relations between Israel and Christians, something he feels is timely. "Today, we are in a marvelous golden-era of Jewish-Christian relations. Now, non-Jews can appreciate the Jewish Bible and the Jewish People." ★





Letters to ZLM

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

Honey and syrup defined

Dear ZLM,

Re: "Why Dip Apples in Honey on Rosh Hashanah?" ([September 2019 LL, cover](#))

It is date syrup, not date honey; it is maple syrup, not maple honey. Bee-keeping dates back to 3,000 B.C. in Israel. The Bible mentions bees and honey numerous times.

Honey is made by bees. Dictionaries define honey as "a thick, sweet, syrupy substance that bees make from the nectar of plants and store in honeycombs." The FDA has concluded that this definition accurately reflects the common usage of the term "honey." — M.P. (FL Beekeeper)

Dear M.P.,

Sounds like you know your honey! Thanks for the clarification. Please be aware, however, that in Israel, date syrup is also referred to as "date honey." Perhaps something was lost in translation. Either way, it's delicious, and one of the seven species God promised would be prevalent in the Holy Land (*"a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey"* — Deuteronomy 8:8)! — David



Zola's timeless teachings

Dear ZLM,

It pleased me to read in the Harts' Note in [August's Personal Letter](#) that you are bringing back Zola Levitt's teachings. I really am interested in donating money only if I can hear his teaching and music.

Zola's messages are as important now as they were 20 years ago. He does not need someone else to analyze what he's saying. Since he told it like it is, who wants to listen to someone else?

(continued next page)

On another note, you've hired too many people, considering all the credits given on *Zola Levitt Presents*. Looking forward to next month, I wish you continued prosperity. Longtime follower — B.J.W. (PA)

Dear B.J.W.,

Since you can watch all of Zola's best Bible teaching anytime for free at levitt.tv, it is arguable that Zola's teaching never left. Much has transpired since his heavenward graduation, however, and we must reach a changing audience with suitable updates. As for shortening the TV credits, you would be astounded to know the monumental effort that Berg Productions puts into producing our programs. ZLM, on the other hand, operates with a bare-minimum staff. — David

TV or not TV?

Dear Zola Levitt Ministries,

The [August Levitt Letter \(p. 14\)](#) ends with "our ongoing transition from television to internet broadcasting at levitt.tv." Does this mean that you plan to stop TV broadcasting and be only on the internet?

I have watched your program for a long time and have supported it for years. At 75 years of age, I do not have internet (a lot of us old people don't have internet). I watch you only on TV. — M.G. (CA)

Dear M.G.,

This ministry plans to continue broadcasting on television—perhaps until the Rapture. We do have additional videos on our YouTube channel that will not be broadcast. Meanwhile, many analysts believe the internet will make traditional TV broadcasting obsolete someday. As certain megatrends persist, our organization will be ready to roll with the punches and continue teaching everywhere that makes sense. — Mark

Conversation starters

Dear ZLM,

The title on [September 2019 Levitt Letter's cover](#), "Jesus Used to Be Jewish?" is a terrific conversation starter! I would welcome other such thought provokers. People need to know that Joan of Arc wasn't Noah's wife, and that the Bible does not teach that "God helps those who help themselves;" Benjamin Franklin borrowed that quote from one of Aesop's Fables. I appreciate what you do. — W.J.H. (OK)

Dear W.J.H.,

I, too, love an interesting conversation-about-the-Bible starter. Biblical truths will do that. A trip to Israel will give you plenty to talk about! — Kirsten

(continued next page)



Studying the Psalms

Dear Tony,

We are studying the songs of worship at our church. Your study of Psalm 84 in the [August 2019 Personal Letter](#) is a good beginning. —O.E.F. (CA)

Dear O.E.F.,

Please feel free to share the link store.levitt.com/DPOA with your workshop leader. Dr. Seif taught an eight-part series covering the *Psalms of Ascent* (worship Psalms 120–134). Purchasing this series for your church would provide a tremendous visual for Bible studies! Plus, you can watch it for free at levitt.tv/media/watch/1111-18. —David

Zion Song

Dear ZLM,

From the enclosed check, please send us the *Zion Song* CD, Zola's songs sung by David and Kirsten Hart, and keep the rest for your work. —In the Lord, P. & L.N. (IL)

Dear P. & L.N.,

Kirsten and I hope you enjoy listening to Zola's music as much as we enjoyed singing to the fresh orchestrations by Zola's favorite arranger, Sammy Davenport. Thanks for writing and for your support. —David (*Please see ad for Zion Song, below.*)

Zion Song music CD

During his lifetime, Zola Levitt composed over 200 Spirit-filled songs. This rich legacy was revived when musicians David and Kirsten Hart became the studio hosts for *Zola Levitt Presents* in 2017. You have likely heard them sing on the program. To fully appreciate their gifts, tour Israel with them and hear them sing on the Mount of Olives or crossing the Sea of Galilee.



On *Zion Song*, David and Kirsten sing 11 songs written by Zola and arranged and orchestrated by Sammy Davenport, hopefully the first of many beautiful tributes to Zola's musical legacy. Television viewers won't see *Zion Song* ads until we offer it when the series *Joshua: More than a Conqueror* debuts in January 2020. **However, you can get your copy now!**



**JUST
RELEASED!**
(sample here)

↑
To
Index

To The Jew First outreach

Dear ZLM,

Please apply the enclosed check to your To The Jew First (TJF) Fund. We really like your ministry of sending people to Israel to share Jesus the Messiah with the Jewish people. God bless all that you do. —J. & L.H. (ND)

Dear J. & L.H.,

TJF leader Dr. Todd Baker and his team hit the streets all across Israel,

(continued next page)

sharing the Good News face to face with everyone who will pause to listen.
Your financial blessing couldn't help a better outreach! Thank you. —Kirsten

Prison Readership

Dear ZLM,

I am incarcerated in Texas and a grateful recipient of your *Levitt Letter*, which you send to me and many other inmates for free each month. We all enjoy your studies of ancient Jewish customs and teachings and how they apply to us today, and also your coverage of current events in the Holy Land.

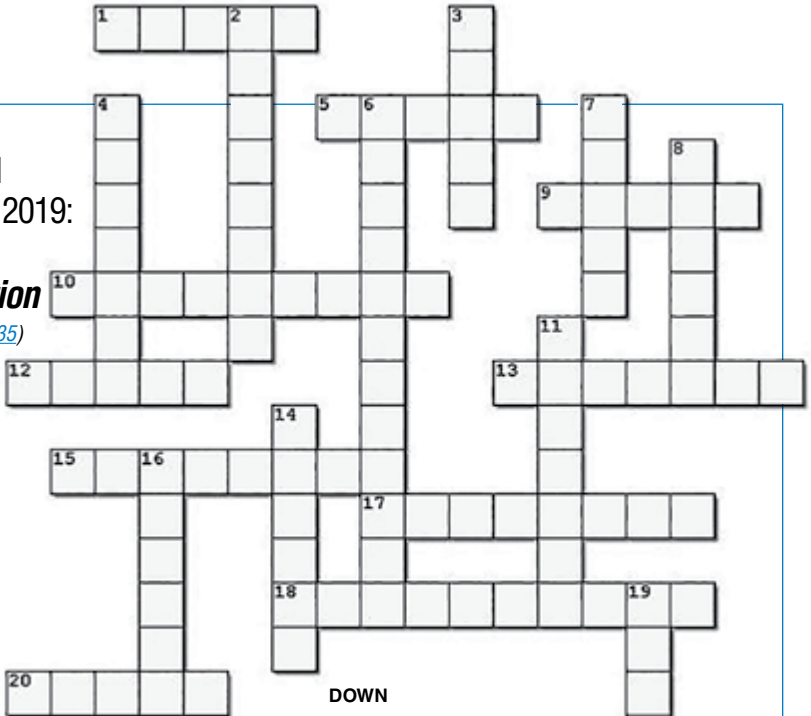
We're sending a question for Todd Baker's "Ask the Chaplain" column and hope to see his reply in a future issue. Please continue your much-needed ministry. We all thank you! —B.V. (TX)

Dear B.V.,

We're forwarding your excellent question to Dr. Baker. I'm glad you enjoy reading the *LL*. (Your letter is sufficient communication to keep you on our mailing list for another year — no donation required.) Thanks for writing! —Editor ★

Crossword November 2019: **Prayer & Supplication**

(answers on [p. 35](#))



ACROSS

1. ...there I am in the ___ of them. (Matt. 18:20)
5. ...ask and it shall be ___ you;... (Luke 11:9)
9. Give us this day our daily ___. (Matt. 6:11)
10. And let them make Me a ___... (Exodus 25:8)
12. ...if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me ___. (Mark 1:40)
13. The ___ of the Lord standeth forever... (Psalm 33:11)
15. ...I must be about my Father's ___? (Luke 2:49)
17. Because He hath ___ His ear unto me... (Psalm 116:2)
18. And this is the ___ that we have in Him. (1 John 5:14)
20. ...have ___ in God. (Mark 11:22)

DOWN

2. Seek the Lord and His ___. (1 Chronicles 16:11)
3. I am the Alpha and ___. (Revelation 1:8)
4. ...be of good ___. (Isaiah 41:6)
6. ...but the Spirit itself maketh ___. (Romans 8:26)
7. ...if two of you shall ___ on earth... (Matt. 18:19)
8. Confess your ___ one to another... (James 5:16)
11. And when ye stand praying, ___. (Mark 11:25)
14. ...when ye shall ___ for Me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:13)
16. ...pray to thy Father which is in ___;... (Matt. 6:6)
19. ...and take up his ___, and follow Me. (Mark 8:34)

Safer Hospitals, Greener Fashion

SCIENCE: BY GALI WEINREB (r) / En.Globes.co.il



top: Sonovia's technology from Bar-Ilan University to make hospitals safer and the fashion industry greener **right:** Prof. Aharon Gedanken



Hospital infections are one of the world's leading causes of death. This was the point of departure for Israeli company **Sonovia Textile** when it began developing anti-bacterial fabrics for hospital beds. The company then discovered that its process was relevant to a wide range of areas in the textile sector, including environmentally friendly fashion.

The technology was developed at Bar Ilan University by a team of researchers headed by Prof. Aharon Gedanken. The team led a consortium of 16 European companies financed by a €12 million grant from the European Union (EU) for developing technology for hospital sheets.

"Currently, fabric is made anti-bacterial by a finishing process. The fabric is put in a solution that contains silver or zinc, both of which have anti-bacterial qualities, and the solution is absorbed into the fabric. After 15 washings, however, nothing remains of the anti-bacterial property," says Roy Hirsch, Sonovia's vice-president of business development.

An older and more resistant technology called "extrusion," in which silver or copper threads are inserted into the fabric itself, is expensive and suitable only for fabrics made of polymer.

The method developed at Bar Ilan uses ultrasound to open small holes in the fabric and put chemicals into the holes. The fabric is treated in the final stage of manufacturing, which makes it inexpensive and appropriate for all types of fabric.

Tests found that the material remained bacteria resistant after 65 launderings.

Environmentally friendly fashion

Sonovia's technology can be applied to other material, reducing chemical waste and improving durability in laundering. "We're developing fire-resistant, water-resistant, and softer fabrics that are magnetically and electrically conductive, while also reducing costs. We can make a shirt that prevents body odor and lasts longer than similar shirts on the market," Hirsch explains. Future projects for products outside healthcare will address coloring and softening — processes that all fabric undergoes.

"The fashion industry is one of the biggest polluters in the world, while Sonovia's method wastes less coloring material. The company's softening method is designed to produce fabric that will always feel as soft as when it left the store," Hirsch promises. ★



Dogs Diagnosing Cancer

THE TIMES
OF ISRAEL

MEDICINE: BY JOHANNA CHISHOLM / TimesOfIsrael.com

Cancer experts say that even if dogs have the proven ability to detect cancer by discerning the distinct odor that the cells emit, using them to screen for cancer patients cannot be a substitute for regular cancer-screening procedures.

Israeli startup Prognose 220 Mil founder and guide dog trainer Uri Bakeman says he is using the unique olfactory abilities of canines to screen for cancer. The firm is soliciting the public to send in samples of their saliva to get tested in its Negev laboratory for NIS 400 (approximately \$100).

Bakeman trains his dogs using techniques he learned studying to be a guide dog trainer in the U.S., after his service in the Israeli army. "It's the same as training a drug or bomb detection dog," he said.

This is not the first time that man's best friend has been used to assist in diagnosing cancer.

In 1989, the medical journal *The Lancet* published a study dedicated to the findings of one dog's persistent sniffing of a mole on its owner's thigh, where a malignant tumor was later confirmed.

A 2006 study that relied on a double-blind methodology (in which

neither the dogs nor their handlers knew which samples were cancerous) found more compelling results that dogs were capable of detecting cancer, but did not necessarily recommend streamlining pups for cancer diagnosis.

In a 2017 *Scientific American* article, Dr. Klaus Hackner, the first physician to publish a double-blind study with cancer-sniffing dogs, explained how the settings for most of these dog studies did not reflect cancer screening in the real world. For instance, in most of the studies, dogs are given a handful of samples with one always containing a cancerous specimen. In the real world, a dog would likely encounter thousands of samples and find only a handful of cancerous specimens. If both the dog and handler are unaware of which specimens contain cancer, there would be no immediate positive reinforcement for the dog who has accurately identified a cancerous sample.

"The inability to provide immediate positive feedback (because neither knew if the dog was right) was stressful for both the dogs and the handlers," Hackner said. His recent work was published in the *Journal of Breath Research* in 2016, and he conceded that while his was the first to simulate these real-world conditions for cancer-sniffing dogs, it was the lack of positive reinforcement that ultimately led to the study "failing."

"The absence of a validated standardized procedure for canine cancer detection and the fact that Prognose 220 Mil charges people makes me suspicious," Hackner said. ★



Dog trainer Uri Bakeman

(You Tube)



Shalom from Sandra



Sandra back when
she co-hosted
Zola Levitt Presents

*"In their hearts humans plan their course,
but the Lord establishes their steps."*

—Proverbs 16:9

I haven't written anything for the *Levitt Letter* for ten years now. Where have I been and what have I been doing?

It has been almost 14 years since Zola died and my world crashed. Not only had I lost the man I loved, but also my partner in Zola Levitt Ministries. God had allowed us to travel to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the world (Acts 1:8) preaching and teaching the Word. God had blessed me and my family in many, many ways. Even elevating my son, Will King, as the ministry's "Our Man in Jerusalem." The period 1998–2009 was our ZLM season.

Six days after Zola died, I was in the studio making a program about Zola's passing — *In Loving Memory* (described on [p. 20](#).) Those were the hardest days of my life. But Ken Berg, our TV producer, was kind enough to tell me that we had plenty of time in the studio and plenty of film in the camera. In those days, the programs were produced, literally, on film. I promised Zola that I would always be part of ZLM, and I am. He was an amazing teacher. I still hear myself repeating the Bible lessons he taught. I even remember some of his corny jokes. God saw us survivors through those hard times, and together we were off to a new normal.

In 2006, to provide theologically-sound Biblical teaching, Dr. Jeffrey Seif joined me on *Zola Levitt Presents*. Off we went for about three years. I know that I am being biased when I say that we made some really good TV programs. But please watch a couple at levitt.tv by searching "[Sandra](#)." I am thankful to see that Jeff is back teaching with the ministry.

(continued next page)





I have been to Israel a total of 44 times. After Zola died, I continued taking groups to the Holy Land, speaking in churches and women's groups all over the U.S., filming ZLM's programs, and studying the Bible through Bible Study Fellowship (BSF). (All right, this is going to be a plug for one of the best Bible studies any man or woman could ever want. No politics, no denominational affiliation, and just valuable, daily Bible study. BSF groups meet all over the world. Check them out at MyBSF.org and consider joining a local group.)

Years ago, I was in Miami working/visiting a friend, when "tall, dark and handsome" walked through the door. Awhile later, and following lots of praying together, I had a feeling that God was calling us to be married. However, that meant that I would retire and take a less active role in the ministry. I cannot believe how blessed I am with my sweet Daniel. Another new normal.

I now live in California. I play bridge once a week, attend book club once a month, have BSF daily/weekly, and do the everyday things of living.



Sandra with Will and family

This past April, I was blessed to join Will and his family in Israel. I have an awesome daughter-in-law, an eleven-year-old granddaughter and a six-year-old grandson who is the spitting image of Will. Talk about an answer to prayer! It had been almost eight years since my previous trip to Israel, but Israel is still my heart's home. I saw the regular sites, but also some new ones. I even climbed Masada... no small feat at my age! I would go back tomorrow if I could. I pray and hope to return with my family in a couple of years.

One new change is my involvement with BSF. I had prayed and prayed for God to show me my "next chapter" in serving Him. I am a group leader this year, and I absolutely love it! I get to share about Israel, a little Hebrew language study, and information that I learned from Zola. God answered my prayers. We are studying Acts and the letters from the Apostles. It is an eye-opening study of how Jews and gentiles take the Gospel and spread it worldwide. I urge you to study God's Word. It never comes back void. Or as Zola would say, "The Bible is the book with the answers in the back."

I want to thank you all for your prayers and support of Zola Levitt Ministries.

Blessings, Sandra

(See [p. 17](#) for a series featuring Sandra, *Bad Moon Rising*.) ★



Sandra visiting Israel in April





source: MEMRI video screen capture

IEC Houston
Boy Scouts

Islamic Boy Scouts

UnitedWithIsrael.org

The Islamic Education Center (IEC) of Houston has launched a chartered Cub Scout troop that is officially under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, reports the Clarion Project, a Washington-based non-profit organization that monitors radical Islamic activity.

The IEC, a Shiite mosque with a history of extremism, got its “Al Qasim” Cub Scouts program off the ground in July 2019.

A disturbing Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) video features boys at the IEC celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution and singing praises for Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

In the video, a 10th grader addresses a group in support of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and against U.S. policy in support of Israel. Members of the audience shout: “Away with the humiliation!” and “Allah is Great! Khamenei is our leader!”

The children also celebrate the warriors of the 7th-century Battle of Khaybar, in which Moslems attacked and destroyed the Jewish community in northern Arabia.

It is concerning that the IEC, which is clearly indoctrinating youth with anti-American and anti-Semitic values, apparently will now have an opportunity to enhance its agenda under the auspices of the respected Boy Scouts of America.

As a volunteer leader for the Boy Scouts of America for 10 years (1996–2006), I believe Cub Scout packs and Boy Scout troops still pledge allegiance to America’s flag and recite the Scout Oath: “On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country...” Regardless of their substantial headaches and declining enrollment, let’s pray that the BSA soon confront and correct whichever units may believe that patriotism has become passé. —Mark

Muslim Prayer to Kill Infidels

[Middle East Media Research Institute \(MEMRI.org\)](http://MiddleEastMediaResearchInstitute(MEMRI.org))

In an address at the Al-Aqsa Mosque [in Jerusalem], Palestinian cleric Ali Abu Ahmad said that nothing will protect Al-Aqsa, Palestine, or the Muslim countries from the conspiracies of their enemies except for a “rightly guided Caliph” who will rule according to sharia law and the sunnah of the Prophet Mohammed. Abu Ahmad prayed for the caliphate to be established soon, for the plots of the infidels to backfire on them, for Allah to kill all the infidels and enable Muslims to kill

(continued next page)



Ali Abu Ahmad at Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem





the infidels, and for Al-Aqsa to be “cleansed from the filth of the Jews.”

“In the MEMRI-posted video, the crowd responds [with Arabic for] ‘Amen’ to Ahmad’s call to kill all infidels. Oddly enough, **no one spoke up and said ‘Now wait a minute, imam. Islam is a religion of peace!’**” — Robert Spencer of JihadWatch.org.

Arafat’s Terrorist Taxi Service

Israel Today

Avi Dichter, a Likud politician and former head of Shin Bet (the Israel Security Agency), recently made a startling revelation that speaks to a lack of commitment to genuine peace by the Palestinian leadership since the very beginning of the “Oslo” peace process.



Former head of Shin Bet tells incredible story about arch terrorist Yasser Arafat

During an interview as part of a conference hosted by the Zionist organizations *Im Tirtzu* and Canadians for Israel’s Legal Rights, Dichter recalled how a mere two months after the signing of the “Oslo Accords” and the establishment of the Palestinian Authority, its president, **Yasser Arafat, was caught smuggling four highly-wanted terrorists into the Gaza Strip.**

As a high-ranking officer in the Shin Bet at the time, Dichter said that he received a frantic phone call from his agent monitoring the Gaza-Egypt border informing him that Arafat, who was returning from meetings in

Dry Bones

Syria and Iran



Egypt, looked somehow taller.

Arafat was riding in a convoy of Mercedes vehicles, and was sitting much higher than everyone else in the car. But, under the terms of the recently signed Oslo Accords, Israel could not stop the convoy and inspect the vehicles without clear evidence of wrongdoing.

Israel ended up quickly getting that evidence and stopped the convoy after it was already in Gaza. Indeed, as Dichter tells, Arafat was smuggling four arch terrorists into the Gaza Strip. Three of the criminals were hiding in the trunks of the vehicles, while the fourth was lying flat on the back seat and Arafat was sitting on top of him!

Then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin gave Arafat an ultimatum: Send the four terrorists back to Egypt within 48 hours or Israel would freeze the nascent land-for-peace process.

What really bothered Dichter was how casually Arafat dismissed the entire affair: “He said, ‘So, we made a mistake,’ as if this was an inconsequential thing that the president of the PA smuggled arch terrorists in his own car.”

In conclusion, Dichter, a man more familiar with the intricacies of the peace process than most, was adamant that “whoever argues about who’s to blame for the failure of the Oslo Accords needs to understand that the PA is 100% to blame, without a shadow of a doubt.” ★



Ark of the Covenant Beneath the Temple Mount?

ARCHAEOLOGY: BY CHRIS MITCHELL (r) CBN.com



Cairns on the Temple Mount

For centuries, the search for the Ark of the Covenant has captured the imagination of movie makers, archaeologists, and even a queen of England. Legends have placed the Ark in such faraway places as Ethiopia and Ireland.



Researcher Harry Moskoff

Researcher Harry Moskoff has concentrated on an area accessed through the Western Wall tunnels, up to the ramparts of the Temple Mount, and into the chambers surrounding Judaism's holiest site. He has spent two decades on a quest to find the legendary icon.

One theory says that it was taken out of the Temple and carried to Jericho eighteen miles away. "The Book of Jeremiah says that some of the vessels of the Temple were secreted out through this area at the destruction of the First Temple," he explained.

However, Moskoff believes that its location lies behind a 570-ton rock. High-tech search tools give credence to his theory. A couple of years ago, the University of Nebraska conducted sonar tests using electromagnetic waves and found a storage chamber on the other side.

"So, there was a purpose for putting this giant stone, this massive slab, here. In my opinion, it was done to protect whatever it is on the other side — according to my theory, where the Ark was buried by King Josiah in, I think, 568 B.C. behind these boulders," he said.

Dozens of underground tunnels and chambers lie beneath the Temple Mount.

In the late 1860s, British army officer and archaeologist Charles Warren entered and surveyed the area, picking out and documenting the tunnels at the request of Queen Victoria, who had commissioned the Palestine Exploration Fund. He was

(continued next page)



just one of many throughout history looking for the Ark.

“When the Crusaders and the Knights Templar came over the centuries to look for the Ark, they were looking for a golden box with the staves. What they should have looked for is a room. They could have been right up against the wall with the Ark on the other side of the wall,” said Moskoff. He added that political tensions prevent anyone from excavating under the Temple Mount today.

Moskoff believes that another chamber lay directly beneath the original Holy of Holies. “The blueprint of the First Temple specified that a chamber should be built exactly the same as the Holy of Holies, exactly the same level of holiness as the one just above it. It was set up right from the beginning to house the Ark, with the golden floor and everything,” he said.

Moskoff explained that Solomon built the Holy of Holies so that the Ark could go below it. He believes the Ark will be revealed one day.

“Timing is incredibly important and significant. It will be a groundbreaking, game-changing, Biblical type of discovery. I don’t believe it will be a clandestine event, sneaking through these tunnels and bringing it out under the cover of darkness. It will be a great occasion and will help bring the Messiah. It will be something all nations will really rejoice in. But, there are some things the filmmakers got right about the power of the Ark... and its destructive forces shouldn’t get into the wrong hands.”

Moskoff wants the world to know that the Ark is more than just a piece of history. “It’s real. As it did 2,700 years ago, it exists today. **It contains the broken tablets that Moses crashed down at Mount Sinai and the second set of tablets.** We’re going to see it — hopefully in our lifetime. It is a catalyst for the Messiah to come.”

Until it is revealed, the Ark of the Covenant built by Moses in the wilderness will continue to fascinate the world. ★



Solomon and the Plan for the First Temple, illustration from a Bible card published by the Providence Lithograph Co., 1896

PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP ADMITS: We Will Force Our People to Remain Refugees

BY DAVID LAZARUS / IsraelToday.co.il

"The Arab states will not integrate the Palestine refugees because integration would be a slow process of liquidating the Palestine problem," Ahmad Shukeiri, then-chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) declared openly in an interview with *The NY Times* in 1966. (See newspaper clipping "Arabs Adamant Against Absorption of Refugees," right.)

That has been the clear and unapologetic policy of the PLO until this day, even under its guise as the Palestinian Authority. As many have suspected for a very long time, the only reason that the "Palestinian refugee crisis" exists at all has been to promote the bald-faced deception that makes Israel look responsible for the suffering of displaced persons.

Let it be known to all who have eyes to see that more than 50 years of Palestinian suffering, the ongoing wars and terrorism, and the billions of dollars spent to solve the Palestinian refugee problem have all come as a result of the PLO's plot to defame Israel in the eyes of the world. How cruel!

"Consequently, the refugees don't want to be integrated," the PLO



chairman continued. The then-PLO leader declared in simple English that **because** the Palestinians want to remain a thorn in the flesh of the Jewish nation, **therefore** there will never be a resolution to the refugee problem. The claim that given a chance the Palestinians would not accept citizenship in Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt or anywhere else is a lie. Most Palestinians have always been eager to live a good life in any country in which they are welcomed. Does anyone believe that they preferred to live in the squalor of refugee camps for more than 50 years?

At the end of the article, Hamdi Hizrallah, then a representative of the PLO, said: "I will tell you something. And I wish you would quote me. If they try to leave, we will stop them, by force if need be."

Here is proof beyond any doubt that the PLO created and continues to perpetuate the myth of the Palestinian people suffering because of Israeli policies. The truth is that the Palestinian leadership is driven more by hatred for the Jewish Nation than by care for the lives of their own people, whom they've been purposely keeping in poverty and desperation for over half a century.

(See article "Netanyahu's Carrot-and-Stick Policy on Gaza" on p. 13) ★

Dry Bones Hamas



Jewish humor, etc.



What's in a Name?

Moshe wanted to own a boat more than anything. His wife Rebecca kept saying “no,” but he bought one anyway.

“I’ll tell you what,” Moshe told her. “In the spirit of compromise, why don’t you name the boat?”

“I appreciate compromise,” Rebecca replied, accepting his offer.

When Moshe went to the dock for his maiden voyage, he saw the boat’s new name painted on its side. It read: “For Sale”

Knowledge

Jonathan says to his friend Joshua. “I hear that you’ve just bought your first computer. How are you getting on with it? Have you tried Google yet?”

“I don’t need Google,” replies Joshua.

“Really?” asks Jonathan. “Why is that? You can ask it any question.”

“But my wife Rachel already knows everything,” replies Joshua. ★

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

THE ARGYLE SWEATER BY SCOTT HILBURN



Answer Key for November 2019 Crossword (p.25)

Across:

- 1. Midst
- 5. Given
- 9. Bread
- 10. Sanctuary
- 12. Clean

Down:

- 13. Counsel
- 15. Business
- 17. Inclined
- 18. Confidence
- 20. Faith

Down:

- 2. Strength
- 3. Omega
- 4. Courage
- 6. Intercession
- 7. Agree

- 8. Faults
- 11. Forgive
- 14. Search
- 16. Secret
- 19. Cross



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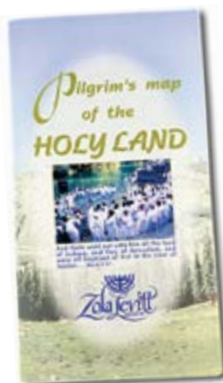
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(Israel & Petra, price TBD)

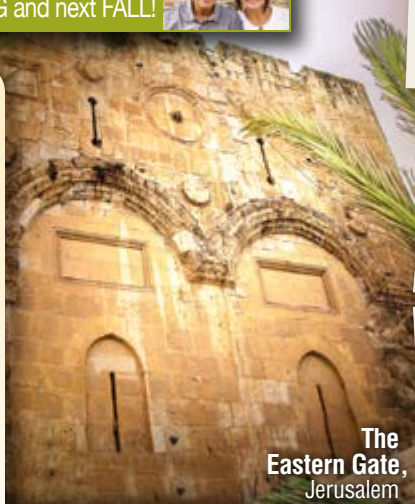
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