



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

inside: Zola on  
"Doomsday" p.7



Audrey Hepburn in Switzerland with Elfride and Otto Frank in 1957. credit: Eva Schloss; photographer: Anne Frank House

## How Audrey Hepburn Helped Save Dutch Jews

By Rich Tenorio / TimesOfIsrael.com

Audrey Hepburn starred in a constellation of memorable roles, from *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1961) to the 1953 classic *Roman Holiday*, which earned her an Academy Award for Best Actress.

Yet her most important role is her least known: Dutch aristocrat, raised by parents with controversial political allegiances, who aided her country's resistance to the Nazis while enduring tragedy and starvation — and, despite it all, becoming a prima ballerina en route to Hollywood stardom. It's her real-life story, told in *Dutch Girl: Audrey Hepburn and World War II* by author Robert Matzen, who researched Dutch archives and interviewed people with wartime memories of Hepburn. Hepburn's son Luca Dotti wrote the foreword and shared previously unseen photographs, documents, and mementos.

### The person behind the star

Hepburn was born Audrey Kathleen van Heemstra Ruston on May 4, 1929. Her family had

*(continued p.2)*

### New Danish Bible Omits "Israel"

By Cnaan Liphshiz  
JTA.org

The Danish Bible Society has omitted dozens of references to Israel from translations of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament.

Defending the deletions, the society said they prevent confusion with the modern-day country.

The omissions occurred in a translation titled "Bible 2020" that was published earlier this year under the society's supervision. It's the first translation into Danish in more than 20 years.

Jan Frost, a Bible enthusiast and supporter of Israel from Denmark, counted 59 omissions out of 60 references to Israel in the Greek

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# How Audrey Hepburn Helped Save Dutch Jews *continued from cover*

aristocratic connections on both sides. Her Dutch grandfather, Baron van Heemstra, had been a colonial governor of Suriname in South America and a mayor of Arnhem. Her English father claimed a royal pedigree through his 16<sup>th</sup>-century ancestor, James Hepburn, the third husband of Mary, Queen of Scots.

Young Audrey grew up shuttling between Belgium, England, and the Netherlands. Her parents visited Germany with prominent British fascists and met Hitler at his Munich headquarters

in 1935. While Matzen's low opinion of Hepburn's English father remained constant — Joseph Ruston's Nazi sympathies kept him jailed throughout the war, and he did not stay in contact with his daughter after he and Audrey's mother Ella divorced — his views on Ella changed, softened by input from Dotti.

Ella initially supported the Nazis after they occupied the Netherlands, developing a romance with a German official. Ironically, Hepburn's ballet teacher, Winja Marova, was Jewish and hid her identity from the occupiers.

Ella's son Alex became a member of the resistance and went into hiding. And the Nazis arrested her brother-in-law, Hepburn's uncle Otto, a court prosecutor, for disobeying their policies. On August 15, 1942, he was executed in a mass killing with another relative, Baron Schimmelpenninck van der Oye.

## A new chapter begins

Otto's execution was "a turning point... when the war became real," Matzen said. "He did not believe until the last morning of his life that anything bad was going to happen to him. When it did, it shook the family to the core." Ella and Audrey relocated to Velp, where they lived with Audrey's grandfather, Baron van Heemstra, and joined the resistance.

That ended Hepburn's dance career, which had made her Arnhem's most famous ballerina by 1944. **Hepburn also assisted a remarkable**

**doctor, Hendrik Visser 't Hooft, who helped shelter hundreds of Jews in Velp throughout the war.** She displayed heroism on behalf of individuals in danger. Volunteering for the resistance, she aided Jews in hiding, raising funds through dancing to keep them safe. "Nobody's told how enmeshed in the Jewish story she was," says Matzen.

After the liberation and being cleared of collaborating by Dutch authorities, mother and daughter left for England, where Hepburn found success not through ballet, but film.

When asked to play Anne in the film version of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Hepburn found the subject too close to home and turned it down. Hepburn and Frank were born just weeks apart in 1929 and both spent the war in the Netherlands. But Frank was apprehended in 1944 and died at Bergen-Belsen in 1945.

Decades later, Hepburn declined a role in the cinematic retelling of the battles, *A Bridge Too Far*. Matzen connects her suffering in the Dutch "Hunger Winter" of 1944–1945 with later health issues (she died an early death at age 63).



Audrey Hepburn, right, shown with Fred Zinnemann and Rosalind Russell at the 1967 Academy Awards

Hepburn ultimately came to terms with her past. Years after becoming a household name, she took part in public readings of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and served as a UNICEF ambassador, including in war-torn Somalia shortly before her death.

"She had always been affected by children suffering in wars started by adults," Matzen explained. "She was a woman who, as a girl, experienced horrible things and channeled them into beauty and positivity, spreading messages of peace and survival."

[Hepburn's channeling pain into beauty traces to Isaiah 61:3 as explained in our \*Beauty for Ashes\* television series, described on page 17.](#) —Kirsten ★

credit: Dotti Collection



Audrey Hepburn (fourth from left) waves the Union Jack.

credit: AP Photo





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## The Prophesied Messiah and Things to Come— Witnessing Bookmarks

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**The Prophesied Messiah** bookmark gives Old Testament Scriptures declaring details of Who the Messiah of Israel was and what He would experience and accomplish.

**Things to Come—Witnessing bookmark** simply uses dozens of Scriptural references to reduce man’s fate to two options: “*The Future of the Unbelievers*” and, on the other side, “*The Future of the Believers.*”

See the related articles, “*DOOMSDAY!*” (p. 7) and *Where does Scripture prove that Jesus is the Messiah?* (p. 12)

Upon request, receive one bookmark free with any purchase or donation (or you can send us a self-addressed stamped envelope).





# Selling the Western Wall

BY STEVEN E. ZIPPERSTEIN (r) TimesOfIsrael.com



source: National Library of Israel



The Western Wall, 1920

letter began by deploring the violence, with the prince expressing hope the Arabs and Jews could settle their differences peacefully. The prince then offered a stunning suggestion:

*My proposal for a solution is that, instead of fighting or dealing unjustly by one party or the other, it would be infinitely better to come to an understanding. The Mohametans may be willing to accept a sum of money which would help them to do good for the community and as the Jews are rich, if this thing [the Western Wall] is so much desired by them, there seems no reason why they should not pay for it. If this could be done, it would avoid coercion and possibly injustice to one or other of the parties.*

*Certainly I am sure the Mohametans and Arabs will not accept a small sum such as £10,000 or even £20,000 for*

*(continued next page)*

On August 29, 1929, Prince Mohamed Ali Pasha, the uncle and future regent to King Farouk of Egypt, walked into the British Embassy in Istanbul and hand delivered a letter to British Ambassador Sir George Clerk. The letter was addressed to the British High Commissioner for Palestine, Sir John Chancellor. The prince asked Ambassador Clerk to forward the letter to Chancellor in Jerusalem.

The prince had written and signed the letter less than one week after the shocking August 24, 1929 massacre in Hebron, following months of rising tensions at the Western Wall. The



Prince Mohamed Ali Pasha





*a matter in which their honour is so far involved. In Zurich the Zionists have collected £240,000 for Palestine. Let them give £100,000 and I feel sure this would settle the difference.*

The Temple Mount and the Western Wall today represent the defining religious symbols of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The same was true during the 1920s, following the 1917 British conquest of Palestine, when the British found themselves caught between conflicting Jewish and Muslim assertions of rights and claims to the Western Wall and the pavement facing the Wall.

The Jews claimed rights of prayer at the Wall, the only surviving remnant of the ancient Temples. Jews had been praying at or near the Wall nearly continuously for centuries, even since the Roman conquest.

The Muslims also regarded the Wall (a.k.a. the “Buraq Wall,” named for Mohammed’s steed) as an Islamic Holy site, asserting absolute ownership of both the Wall and the narrow strip of pavement facing the Wall. Prior to 1967, the pavement was sandwiched between the Wall on one side and an area of small dwellings (the “Moghrabi Quarter”) on the other side.

On Tisha B’Av (August 15) 1929, a group of Jewish youths raised the blue and white flag, listened to a brief speech from one of their leaders, and sang “Hatikvah.” Muslims held a counterdemonstration the following day, which quickly turned violent, resulting in the murders of several Jews outside the Old City. The violence continued throughout the following week, culminating in the Hebron Massacre of August 24, 1929 when 67 Jews were butchered.



Jews flee the Old City of Jerusalem, August 1929

While the history of the violent clashes at the Wall during the 1920s has been told many times, less known were various attempts by the Jews and British to strike a deal with the Muslims to buy the area in front of the Wall and the Wall itself. But all these efforts went nowhere.

### Three unique initiatives

Suddenly, however, in the days immediately following the Hebron Massacre, three new initiatives appeared. While none of these succeeded, their close proximity to each other and the dramatic nature of their presentation make them unique in the history of Mandate Palestine.

**THE FIRST** initiative came from a prominent Egyptian Jew, the Baron Felix de Menasce, president of the Israelite Community in Alexandria. On August 26, 1929, two days after the Hebron Massacre, Menasce met at the British Embassy in Paris with Adrian Holman, the Second Secretary, suggesting that “the present moment might be an opportune one for the British Government to reconsider the possibility of arranging for the Jewish community to buy the [Moghrabi] buildings for demolition or other purposes.” The British Foreign Office’s Eastern Division poured cold water on the idea.

*(continued next page)*

**THE SECOND** initiative came from Pinchas Rutenberg, the Managing Director of the Palestine Electric Corporation. On August 29, 1929, Rutenberg sent a letter to Lord Reading (a Jew and Chairman of the Palestine Electric Corporation), urging the British government to expropriate the entire area in front of the Wall to create “a suitable and dignified Jewish praying place.” This was not the first time expropriation had been floated, but never at such a high level. Still, nothing came of Rutenberg’s expropriation proposal.

**THE THIRD** initiative involved Prince Mohamed Ali Pasha’s letter.



British Ambassador Sir George Clerk, oil painting by Albert Smith (1934)

Although the letter does not specifically mention a “sale” of the Wall, Ali Pasha made clear in his meeting with Ambassador Clerk that selling the Wall was precisely his intention. According to Clerk, Ali Pasha submitted a solution to the question of the Wall in Jerusalem; specifically, “the idea of the Jews buying the Wall.”

But Ambassador Clerk never forwarded Ali Pasha’s letter to High Commissioner Chancellor. Instead, Clerk sent the letter to the Foreign Office in London, along with a cover note adding his own observation that “the idea of the Jews buying the Wall has long been considered and rejected.” W. L. Knight of the Foreign Office made a sarcastic handwritten file entry several days later: “It would appear from the last para. of the prince’s letter that while the Jerusalem Arabs would scorn to sell their honour cheap, they would probably be prepared to do so for £100,000!”

The Foreign Office sent the original of Ali Pasha’s letter and the calling card Ali Pasha had given to Ambassador Clerk to the Colonial Office, where both items were tucked inside an envelope and filed away for the next 90 years.

Surely Ali Pasha never spoke a word of his proposal to anyone in the Muslim world, as he lived peacefully for nearly three more decades. Nor is there any evidence that he had any authority from the Muslim authorities in Jerusalem to make the offer.

But his letter seriously undermines Muslim claims regarding the holiness of the Wall. Clearly, Ali Pasha did not regard the Buraq/Western Wall as even a minor Muslim religious site. Indeed, **no evidence exists of any Muslim prayer or veneration at the Buraq since the 7<sup>th</sup>-century Muslim conquest of Jerusalem.**

Moreover, during a 1930 trial before three League of Nations-approved judges, pitting Muslims against Jews regarding their respective rights and claims to the Wall, the Jews offered evidence that the Muslims had repeatedly defiled the Wall and the pavement “by actually smearing human excreta on its stones.”

In any event, no record was found of any further action by Ali Pasha or the British government regarding Ali Pasha’s proposal, nor is there any evidence in Chancellor’s files or diary even hinting that he ever learned of the letter’s existence. ★



# “DOOMSDAY!”

## PART 1:

What the Scriptures refer to as the “End Times” or the “Last Days,” laymen call “Doomsday.” This subject matter is so crucial that this Levitt Letter and the next two will present the Scriptural view of the end of the world. **After reading this study, you cannot claim to never have heard the Gospel.**

### The Times in Which We Live

Our generation must confront the possibility of global destruction. We need to come to grips with the possibility of the utter decimation of our world and everything on it. In my opinion, our time surpasses any before it in the area of sheer insecurity — the day-by-day lack of confidence in the future.

I believe that it is particularly appropriate for men of God to address the present political situation, which is shot through with Biblical overtones. The Biblical prophets, and particularly our Lord Himself, spoke meaningfully to the kinds of problems we live with daily.

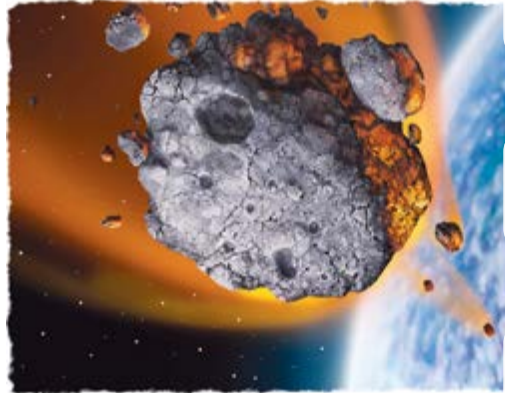
The theme of the Bible is hope. Can you imagine what life would be like without the slightest conception of God — without the vaguest hope for any kind of hereafter? The least religious among us invariably says “Dear God” or “God help me” when the chips are really down — you’ve heard them. When we are sick, hurt, or totally discouraged, we call upon the God that we obviously all know. We may not have been to church for years or are cynical about our Creator, yet we still call on Almighty God when we need His help. We all hold within us that inevitable hope that there is a providential God who hears our petitions. Everyone believes in God, at least when we desperately need to.

And today, all of us in the world desperately need to believe in God. We need to comprehend the Bible’s message about the times we live in and find solace in knowing that the Biblical prophets foresaw our troubles and spoke to a solution for them.

Classic Zola  
from 1983  
37 years ago



The fact that our situation has been foreseen gives us tangible hope — and we simply cannot live without hope. We really can’t live sensibly with the threat of global genocide and the constant predictions of the end of the world. People used to joke about preachers who warned of the end of the world. Now, we’re surrounded by people predicting our own demise. Intellectuals from the Biblically faithful to the total opposite are talking about the same issues. **Scientists, environmentalists, philosophers, political leaders, military experts, and all the rest have finally joined the Bible-reading community in warning this generation that our days may be numbered.**



Some predict global destruction by nuclear weapons. Others predict the same result by environmental pollution. Still others see the end coming through a variety of natural catastrophes. And then there are the advocates of famine, of disease, of overwhelming financial turmoil, etc. Some see the human race ending entirely and others at least suppose that we’ll survive another Dark Age. But frankly, there are very few optimists. At the same time, those old-fashioned and profoundly undervalued books of the Bible take on more and more significance.

*In the next two issues: We see how Scripture describes the End Times and what we can do to remove our fear of it.*

See also [Signs of the End on p. 24](#) for more information on the End Times. ★



# Blooming Prophecy

**Kirsten Hart**  
Studio co-host of  
*Our Jewish Roots*



I'm very thankful for social media. I really am. Not only does it connect us with friends across the world but, just recently, we could see prophecy come to fruition when a friend posted prophetically significant photos from Israel... and Zola Levitt Ministries is all about prophecy being fulfilled.

## Prophecies Come to Life

Since 1948, many prophecies have come to life right before our eyes. Which one did our friend post about? The desert is blooming! Not just blooming as in agricultural production, but barren, dry, parched parcels of land that have been stagnantly brown for decades are being revived. Once forgotten flora is finally sprouting again. The desert is not only alive, it is thriving!

It's a phenomenon. Our Israeli friends are posting weekly videos and photos showing how the land itself is transforming. The Sea of Galilee (Lake Kinneret) has risen by an unprecedented nine feet within the past few months!\*

Sites that David and I traditionally visit with our Zola Tours pilgrims look completely different now. The shoreline is reclaiming its natural boundaries. Drought-line water levels are being replaced with long-forgotten lake borders. If you haven't been to the Holy Land in awhile, you will want to come and witness this transformation firsthand.

Our tour bus travels the ancient Highway 11 multiple times during our tours. It's the road that connects Jerusalem to Jericho, the Dead Sea, and the Jordan Valley. It's barren. It's wilderness. It's a very desolate region. The road traveling east descends from an elevation of 2,474 feet to -1,410 feet — that's 1,410 feet *below* sea level! Saint George Monastery (dating back to A.D. 420) is a semi-hidden gem in the Wadi Qelt (a *wadi* is a dry riverbed) that parallels Highway 11. It's hard to believe, but this ancient site currently looks like a tropical oasis.

*(continued next page)*

\* See p. 15 for more information.



Saint George Monastery in Wadi Qelt following the rains

credit: Estera Weisz / Jerusalem resident







## Isaiah and the Barren Land

Isaiah 35:1–2 speaks of life coming to the barren land, *“The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.”* Friends, this is exciting! Prophecy is being fulfilled before our very eyes. What an incredible hour to be alive.

I could go on, but I believe you should see this prophetic land for yourself!



Saint George Monastery in Wadi Qelt before the rains

We’ll save a seat on the bus for you. (See p. 36 for more details.)

During this virus shutdown, donations have fallen off, but Yeshua’s message is needed more than ever. Please send us your prayers and, if you are able, a special monetary gift above and beyond your regular giving. Thank you and God bless you. ★



## New Danish Bible Omits “Israel” *continued from cover sidebar*

origin for New Testament texts. References to “the People of Israel” were replaced with “Jews,” while “Land of Israel” became “the land of Jews.”

In other places, references to Israel were translated as referencing all readers or all of humanity. The Song of Ascents, a popular Shabbat hymn for Jews, originally states that “He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep” (Psalm 121:4). In the new translation, Israel is replaced by the word “us.”

A Bible Society representative said that the decision was made to avoid confusing the Land of Israel with the State of Israel. However, the names of other countries from that time that still exist (e.g., Egypt) have not been changed.

“The theological expression for this is ‘replacement theology,’” said Frost. ★



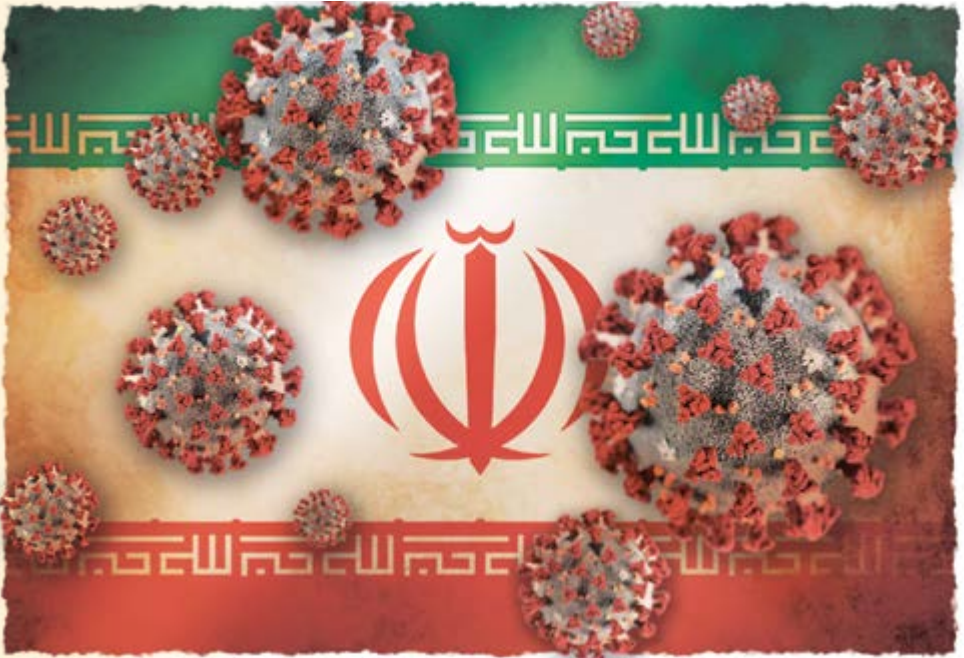
New Bible published by the Danish Bible Society

# Extreme Measures

On the Ground in Israel  
**Sarah Liberman**  
SarahLiberman.com  
OJR Contributor



## PART 2:



Coronavirus shown over the flag of Iran

[Last month \(p.6\)](#), we learned how Israel reacted to the initial threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. This month, our Sabra (native Israeli) columnist describes the actions taken in the nations surrounding Israel.

The spread of COVID-19 has now become a world pandemic, shaking the lives of many across the globe. Israel's unusual response to the virus — engaging in early strategies of economic and travel shutdowns — has, so far, proven effective. Now let's look at the Muslim/Arab nations surrounding Israel and possible ramifications for the entire region's future.

When considering the longer-term effects of the pandemic in the Middle East, it is important to remember that many of these nations were already engaged in some sort of conflict, internally or externally. Add to this the significant economic pressures that result and it becomes clear that a health crisis could destabilize an already delicate geopolitical equation. As I write this, the nations around Israel have not seen a massively devastating wave of infection and death... except for Iran.

### The Effect in Iran

The situation in Iran continues to be serious, and the decrease in Iranian funding for militants on the ground in Syria and Lebanon causes a reprieve for Israel regarding terrorist activity. The pandemic has dramatically shrunk the demand for oil, creating a significant drop in Iran's already reduced income (due to U.S.-imposed sanctions).



Iranian Deputy Health Minister Iraj Harirchi in Tehran on Feb. 24. On Feb. 25, he tested positive for coronavirus.

### The Effect in the Palestinian Territories

**The biggest problem Israel faces now: spread of the coronavirus within the Palestinian territories.** Israel fears that if the outbreak is not stemmed, many

*(continued next page)*





Palestinians will turn to Israel for help and hospitalization ... and blame Israel for the pandemic itself. (Palestinian religious leaders are already spreading such lies.) Therefore, Israel decided to proactively help the Palestinian authorities by providing medical equipment, test kits, and other supplies.

credit: Ameen



Amman Street in the Palestinian city of Nablus on March 25, 2020

### The Region's Political Outlook

Experts in national and strategic security think tanks are monitoring whether the region is experiencing a calm before the storm, as countries brace themselves for a wave of this virus to hit them, possibly leading to massive civil unrest and protests. Such events could produce either increased terrorist activity or serious economic downturns that would reduce terrorist activity due to a lack of funding.

The outcome of this pandemic—globally and regionally—remains to be seen. But certainly, whatever happens, the world will not return to the way it was prior to this global outbreak.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank you for supporting my column in the *Levitt Letter*. To continue receiving these "boots on the ground" updates from Israel, please watch your mailbox and [levitt.com](http://levitt.com) for my expanded reports to you via ZLM's *Personal Letter*. Starting in July, I look forward to engaging with you via the monthly *Personal Letter* and to you writing in with your comments and encouragement. Many blessings to you from Israel! ★



## The Mysterious Epidemic that Terrified Henry VIII

By Erin Blakemore / History.com

In 1528, Henry VIII slept in a different bed every night—and not in the way you might think. It was fear of disease that drove him to move almost daily that summer. The king was terrified of sweating sickness, a deadly epidemic that is nearly forgotten today.

Scientists are still fascinated by the mysterious disease, which swept through Europe multiple times during the Tudor period. Beginning in 1485, five epidemics plagued England, Germany, and other European countries. But the epidemic's origins and even the identity of the disease remain murky. It came on without any warning and did not seem preventable. People would feel a sudden sense of dread, then be overtaken with headache, neck pains, weakness, and a cold sweat that covered the entire body. Fever,



Detail of Portrait of Henry VIII, c. 1542

heart palpitations, and dehydration followed. **Within three to eighteen hours, 30–50% of people afflicted with the illness were dead.**

Henry VIII remained scared of it throughout his entire reign. Members of his court were stricken. And then just as mysteriously as it arose, sweating sickness quickly vanished. The last epidemic was in 1551. No matter what its cause, the disease left its mark. When William Shakespeare wrote *Henry IV, Part 2* (ca. 1600), a half-century after the last English outbreak, he had one of his most famous characters, Falstaff, die of "a sweat." ★



**Q. Where does Scripture prove that Jesus is the Messiah?**

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



**A. Scripture proves that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah of Israel given that He alone fulfilled all the First Coming prophecies about the Messiah in the Old Testament.** (We say “First Coming” prophecies because the Bible predicts that there will be Two Comings of the Messiah.)

Some Old Testament scholars estimate that 456 – 574 verses in the Old Testament describe, allude to, or point to the comings of Messiah. Many of these scholars estimate that Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled 300 – 350 prophecies during the First Coming by way of types, shadows, and direct prophecies. God inspired these Messianic prophecies so that when the events actually occurred, no one would mistake that the Person who fulfilled them was Israel’s true Messiah. Matthew used this apologetic proof when he wrote his Gospel to the Jewish people — so that they could clearly see from the Hebrew Scriptures that Jesus of Nazareth was, in fact, the Messiah.

To underscore this proof, Matthew repeatedly used the phrase “*that it might be fulfilled*” no fewer than a dozen times to document for his Jewish audience that Jesus was the prophesied Messiah. The Jesus whose life separates B.C. from A.D. (and, by the way, BCE from CE) fulfilled prophecies that were made hundreds of years before His birth in Bethlehem (which is one of the prophecies).

Oftentimes I distribute in Israel [The Promised Messiah](#) pamphlet to show the Chosen People that Jesus is Messiah by virtue of His fulfilling Messianic prophecies. The pamphlet lists 17 major prophecies about the First Coming of the Messiah and shows how Jesus fulfilled them in His birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension. The pamphlet is written in both Hebrew and English and is available for free to download and print from our website at [levitt.com/announcements](http://levitt.com/announcements).

Jesus often quoted Messianic prophecies (Luke 24:27, 44–45) to authenticate His Messiahship. Here is a partial list of OT prophecies and their NT counterparts:

PROPHECY	OT	NT
Messiah would be a descendant of David	2 Samuel 7:12–13	Romans 1:3
The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:1–2	Matthew 2:8–11
He would be born of a virgin mother	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:20–23
He would die by the piercing wounds of crucifixion	Psalms 22:16	John 20:25
He would rise from the dead	Psalms 16:10	Acts 2:31
His first coming to Israel would be before the Temple’s destruction (in A.D. 70)	Daniel 9:26	Matthew 23:37–39 24:1–2

These events are recorded in the Bible, in extra-Biblical writings by contemporary historians like Flavius Josephus, and in archaeological findings. (The probability that one person could fulfill just 48 of these prophecies by chance is 1 in 10 with 157 zeros after it!) Since Jesus fulfilled all the First Coming prophecies, it stands to reason that He will also fulfill all the Second Coming prophecies when He returns.

Our web store also offers [Propheesied Messiah](#) and [Witnessing](#) bookmarks with corresponding Scripture. The first one is free on request, but additional bookmarks may be purchased for 50¢. (Please see [p.3](#) for more info. Order on [p.19](#).) ★



New Series coming soon\*

# Revelation Production Perseveres

BY CLAYTON HERRING, producer at Berg Productions

For *Our Jewish Roots*, our TV production team constantly seeks to present God’s Word in ways that are meaningful and relevant. In this spirit and during this presidential election year, we’ve produced a series that compares the success or failure of ancient kings of Israel and Judah, **uncovering lessons in Godly leadership and principles that still apply to the leaders we choose today.** This eight-part series, *Kings and Kingdoms*, debuted the first week in May and continues through June. (You can watch missed episodes on [levitt.tv](http://levitt.tv) — for free.)

At the beginning of the year, we had no idea that the biggest story of 2020 would be a global pandemic causing the death of thousands and resulting in millions of people around the world sheltering in place. When the shelter order came in our area, the ministry office closed to the public and workers began working from home.

The production office also sent home those who could work remotely. Those who could not developed safety protocols and rotations to prevent infection. (So far, so good, thank the Lord!) Fortunately, we continued operating under the media exemption. Otherwise, all our weekly programs, news updates, YouTube, and other social media postings — everything — would have come to a complete stop in less than fourteen days.

The week before the shelter-in-place order was issued, we had recorded Dr. Seif’s teaching segments for a new prophecy series **Revelation: Unveiling the Visions.** But we hadn’t yet filmed the segments featuring David, Kirsten, and Jeff together in the studio. How can this be accomplished if the studio is not reopened in time? Or if the ten-person gathering

Dr. Jeff Seif  
filming *Kings  
and Kingdoms*  
on location  
in Israel



limit is still in effect? We know that *Revelation’s* July debut could be in jeopardy if we are unable to get everything filmed by Memorial Day.

Clearly, it is time to think “outside the box” and consider alternatives. Perhaps your local TV station also practices social distancing — with only one person in the studio while others participate from home. We have seen this technique followed in several TV specials: One person occupies the screen at a time, each from a different location, and most of them from their own homes.

Following this pattern, our “studio” segments could be recorded remotely. We are making preparations to do just that so we can continue providing relevant, timely programming. As our slogan says: “Bible teaching with an emphasis on Israel, prophecy, and the Jewish Roots of the Christian faith.”



Time will tell what long-term effects linger after COVID-19; some changes have already occurred. We know that God is in complete control and definitely on the move. So, please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we seek to continue to serve Him in these uncertain times. ★

\* pun intended



# Bracing for Coronavirus Part II

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



Will today's pandemic fade in the summer only to return this fall or next year? Preparing for such possibilities, this ministry is adjusting our policies and procedures to ensure continued operation in the face of such hurdles. Two recent, meaty articles offer history, data, and theory that should enable society to coexist with treacherous contagions. Meanwhile, ZLMers and ministry staffers must roll with the punches while the medical community unravels this Twilight Zone quagmire. **After reading the excerpts below, please see the complete articles online.**

## These Coronavirus Exposures Might Be the Most Dangerous

By Dr. Rabinowitz, prof. of chemistry and genomics, and Dr. Bartman, genomic researcher  
*The New York Times*, April 1, 2020

Viruses are usually more dangerous in larger amounts. Small initial exposures tend to lead to mild or asymptomatic infections, while larger doses can be lethal. We need to focus more on preventing high-dose infection. Both small and large amounts of virus can replicate within our cells and cause severe disease in vulnerable individuals such as the immunocompromised. Healthy people's immune systems respond as soon as they sense a virus growing inside. Recovery depends on which wins the race: viral spread or immune activation.

Low-dose infections can even engender immunity, protecting against high-dose exposures in the future. Before vaccines, deliberately administered, low-dose infections of smallpox were generally survivable and prevented worse incidents of disease with exposure to smallpox in uncontrolled amounts. People should avoid high-dose exposures, which are most likely to occur in close, in-person interactions—such as paying a cashier. (Aim for “within six feet, only six seconds.”)

When society reopens, risk-reduction measures like maintaining personal space and proper hand washing will be essential to reducing high-dose infections.

## In Italy, Going Back to Work May Depend on Having the Right Antibodies

By Jason Horowitz, Rome bureau chief  
(covering Italy, the Vatican, and Greece)  
*The New York Times*, updated April 10, 2020

Having the right antibodies to the COVID-19 virus in one's blood—a potential marker of immunity—may soon determine who gets to work and who does not, who is locked down and who is free. That debate is in some ways ahead of the science. Researchers are uncertain, if hopeful, that antibodies in fact indicate immunity.

The conservative president of the northeastern Veneto region has proposed a special “license” for Italians who possess antibodies that show they have had, and beaten, the virus. Former Prime Minister Matteo Renzi has spoken about a “COVID Pass” for the uninfected.

Today's takeaway, Dear Reader, is to gird your immune system to protect God's temple (1 Cor. 6:19). **Please make your personal health a priority**, anticipating the battle of a lifetime in which your body may have to punch above its weight (Psalm 18:39).

To see the full articles use these [nytimes.com](#) links:

- [These Coronavirus Exposures Might Be the Most Dangerous](#)
- [In Italy, Going Back to Work May Depend on Having the Right Antibodies](#) ★





# ZLM Bulletin Board



## God Replenishes Sea of Galilee

For the first time in 28 years, authorities may open the dam of Israel's largest freshwater lake to stave off the danger of overflowing! An abundant winter and plentiful rain this year, combined with Passover's hiatus on pumping\* (in case the lake contains residuals of leavened wheat products, or *hametz*), lead to a 50% likelihood of opening the dam. In 2018, Israel's Water Authority warned that the beloved sea was approaching the "black line," jeopardizing its water quality.



credit: NASA Expedition 20 crew/ NASA Earth Observatory

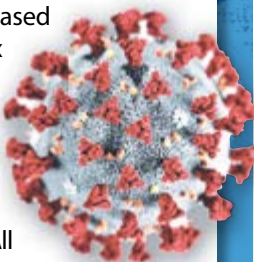
Sea of Galilee in 2009

\***Note:** Even the Sea of Galilee benefits from a brief sabbatical.

**FREE ITEM**

## Israeli COVID-19 Treatment

Treated with placenta-based cell-therapy product, six critically ill, high-risk coronavirus patients in Israel have not only survived but also shown improvement in respiratory patterns. All suffered acute respiratory failure and inflammatory complications associated with COVID-19; four also had other organ system failures, including cardiovascular and kidney. Meanwhile, the richest BDS proponents will be lining up for such life-saving Jewish medicine.



(**Note:** please see [p.34](#) "BDS Hypocrite.")

## Donate with a Smile!

When you shop at Amazon, log in through [Smile.Amazon.com](#) instead of the regular website, and Amazon will donate to ZLM 0.5% of your net purchase total.

You can use the same log-in that you use for [Amazon.com](#), and you'll see the same merchandise at the same prices. Please be sure to designate Zola Levitt Ministries as the nonprofit to receive the charitable gift that your purchases generate. Thanks.



## Pamphlet of the Month

An effective estate plan addresses four common financial challenges: **1)** dying too soon, **2)** outliving one's resources, **3)** emergencies, and **4)** mental/ physical disability. The **Better Estate Planning** pamphlet overviews a number of planning tools. Topics include: The will as cornerstone, Placing property in trust, Power of attorney, Joint ownership, Living will, Income and asset management, Welcome tax savings, and Income for life. The Technical Advisory Section discusses federal gift and estate tax considerations. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box. **Request POM# 13.**

**BETTER  
ESTATE  
PLANNING**



## "Come Home!"

**Zola  
Tours to  
Israel**



**See page 36  
for details**



## Trusting God's Heart

by John Parsons  
 Hebrew for Christians  
[Hebrew4Christians.com](http://Hebrew4Christians.com)



יְהִי־חַסְדְּךָ יְהוָה עָלֵינוּ כַּאֲשֶׁר יִחַלְנוּ לָךְ

*"Let Your love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You."* (Psalm 33:22)

לָךְ	יְחַלְנוּ	יְהוָה	עָלֵינוּ	כַּאֲשֶׁר	יְהִי־חַסְדְּךָ
(1)	(3) (2) (1)	(1)	(3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1) (2) (1)
lakh	yee-chal'-noo	ka-a-sheer	a-ley'-noo	Adonai	chas-de-kha ye-hee
in You	we hope	even as	be upon us	O LORD	let Your love

**There is no fear in love**, and therefore over and over the Spirit of God says, *al tira* (אל־תִּירָא), "don't be afraid..." When we are afraid, we are believing the lie that something is beyond God's control, therefore God is "not enough." In times of testing, you must remind yourself of what is real. God formed you in your mother's womb, breathed into you *nishmat chayim*, "the breath of life," and numbers all your days.

Every breath you take, every heartbeat in your chest is ordained from Heaven. Indeed, there is not a moment of your life apart from God's sovereign and sustaining grace. So what, then, are you afraid of? Dying? Judgment in the world to come? Being left unloved, bereft of home, abandoned, consigned to outer darkness? King David said, *"If I make my bed in Hell, behold, You are there"* (Psalm 139:8). The LORD God is not only present in your "happy moments," when you feel "put together" and respectable, **He is present in your desperate moments, in your hunger, your thirst, and in your secrets**. May we never lose sight of God's love, especially in times of distress and trouble, since He is always working all things together for our ultimate good (Romans 8:28).

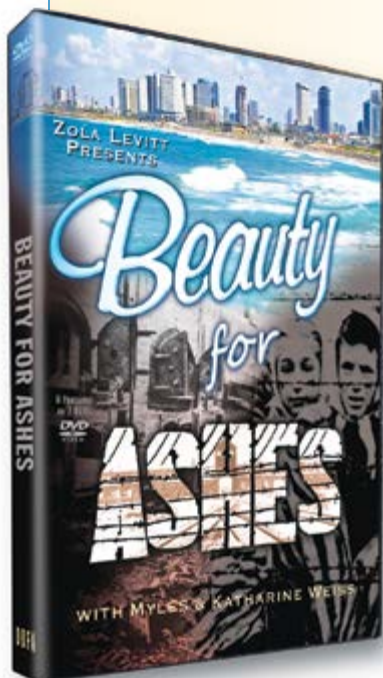
The Name of the LORD (יהוה) means "Presence" and "Love" (Exod. 3:14; 34:6-7). Yeshua promised, *"I go to prepare a place for you"* (John 14:2), which means that His presence and love are waiting for you in whatever lies ahead (Rom. 8:35-39). To worry is to "practice the absence" of God instead of practicing His Presence. Trust the Word of the Holy Spirit: *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for healing peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope"* (Jer. 29:11). The Word always speaks hope.

Take comfort that your Heavenly Father sees when the sparrow falls; He arrays each flower in its hidden valley and calls each star by name. More importantly, the Lord sees you and knows your struggle with fear. Come to Him with your needy heart and trust Him to deliver you from the burdens of your soul (Matt. 11:28). Shalom means being free from fear.

This is counsel for exiles of every age: "Be not afraid" — not of man, war, tribulation, not even of death itself (Rom. 8:35-39). If God be for us, who can prevail against us? Indeed, Yeshua's death destroyed the power of death and released *"all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery"* (Heb. 2:14-15). The resurrection of the Messiah — not the "dust of death" — is the focal point of history. **Death does not have the final word. Indeed, because Yeshua is alive, we also shall live** (John 14:19). *"May your love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope for You."* (Psalm 33:22). Amen. ★



Courtesy: The Jerusalem Connection



## [Beauty for Ashes](#)

### DVD Set

Nine 30-minute TV programs on 2 DVDs

In this nine-program series, Myles and Katharine Weiss contrast the horror that was the Holocaust with the miracle that is the modern State of Israel. Throughout the series, we hear firsthand accounts from Holocaust survivors Noah Klieger, Meir Stern, and Eva Mozes Kor.

**The Hope** To Jewish refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe, the “Work Makes You Free” sign over the entrance to Auschwitz offered false hope. In 1948, Jewish hopes materialized when the modern State of Israel was born in a day (Isaiah 66:8).

**The Ground** Holocaust survivors recount riding in cattle cars bound for Auschwitz. The blood-soaked ground beneath the Death Wall contrasts significantly with the life-giving produce that grows in Israel today.

**The Survivors** In Auschwitz, we hear about the Jewish people’s extremely slim chances for survival. In Israel, a “start-up nation” today, we hear from executives of high-tech companies.

**The Chosen** A survivor recounts her experience of Auschwitz, where many were sent to their deaths. From Caesarea, we hear about Israel’s restoration and desire to “repair the world” (*Tikkun Olam*).

**The Heart** The crematoria at Auschwitz grimly remind Believers of the battle between good and evil. Myles and Katharine speak of Jewish contributions in the arts.

**The Process** After hearing how Holocaust survivors survived Dr. Josef Mengele’s inhumane medical experiments, we visit Be’er Sheva’s impressive technology center where science in Israel advances mankind’s welfare.

**The Future** Believers standing with the Jewish people and with Israel are an important component of the nation’s Divine deliverance and resilience.

**The Peace** After viewing the stunning fields in Northern Galilee from a hot air balloon, we hear from Israelis who endured hardship to become established in Israel. Myles sings a benediction over the pond at Auschwitz.

### **Extended Interview with Holocaust Survivors** ([bonus program](#))

Holocaust survivors speak further about being sent to death camps, survival techniques, liberation, and overcoming the traumatic experiences of their youth to live meaningful lives.

(See related [cover story](#) *How Audrey Hepburn Helped Save Dutch Jews*)



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___	Genesis One—A Physicist Looks at Creation .....	\$5	___
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## [Secrets of the Scrolls](#)

[DVD Set and](#)

[Transcript \(eBook only\)](#)

7 half-hour TV programs on two DVDs

In 1947, a Bedouin boy in search of a lost goat threw a stone through the narrow opening of a cave. Hearing the sound of breaking pottery, he entered the cave and happened upon a 2,000-year-old treasure. He had discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls. *Secrets of the Scrolls* gives a historical account of these treasured manuscripts and presents some remarkable revelations. The authors of the Scrolls were intensely Messianic and appear to have documented the fulfillment of prophecy in the person of the Messiah. Such terms as “son of God,” “branch of David,” “stripes or piercings,” “being put to death,” and “raising the dead” all strike a familiar chord. Quite possibly, these incredible Scrolls represent the first extra-Biblical revelation of Jesus Christ in history.



**The Scrolls—A New Revelation** We quickly produced this half-hour program when the DSS first became widely accessible for study. Zola quotes from the Associated Press news release and emphasizes the significance of access.

**The Scrolls: Part 2** Within days of our first program’s broadcast, Dr. James Tabor phoned Zola to initiate a series of interviews that would unveil one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century’s most dramatic revelations. This program is the first of these interviews. A professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Dr. Tabor delivers an incredible lesson.

**The Scrolls: Part 3** During this interview, Dr. Tabor refers to several books about the Dead Sea Scrolls, including *The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls* in English by Vermes (Penguin Press), *The Dead Sea Scriptures* by Gaster (Anchor Doubleday), and *A Facsimile Edition of the Dead Sea Scrolls* (2 Volumes) by Robert Eisenman and James Robinson.

**The Scrolls Special** This program consolidates the first three programs and delivers their powerful message in only thirty minutes. Later discoveries in Scrolls research inspired the three following programs.

**The Wilderness Group** Michael Baigent, an English author, lectures in Qumran about the Scrolls. Dr. Tabor describes various approaches to excavation and how they pertain to the Scrolls. Dr. Robert Eisenman, a professor of Middle East religions at California State University at Long Beach, discusses the fascinating history of the Scrolls.

**In Search of Answers** Dr. Eisenman discusses his quest to gain access to the Scrolls. Dr. Tabor describes his archaeological team and how they map the caves in Qumran.

**Prof. Michael Wise** An in-depth interview with a professor of Aramaic, the language of Yeshua. University of Chicago professor Wise helped translate the fragments when they were first released and enthusiastically discusses The New Jerusalem text, telling how the future will be.

[\(See related Archaeology articles on pp. 31–33.\)](#)



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# Dealing with Passwords

BY GREG HARTWIG, ZLM webmaster



Computer passwords have always been a headache. If you work with computers, even slightly, you have to deal with them. How you deal with them is changing as techniques, such as Magic Links, become prominent. In the meantime, there are steps we should be taking to protect ourselves.

First, no matter how clever your password is, studies show that length is the most important feature. You should be using at least 8 characters for passwords to make them hard to break; longer is better.

Several popular websites (Adobe, Ancestry, Comcast, LinkedIn, Yahoo) have been hacked and passwords and user names stolen. Hackers then try those user names and passwords on other popular websites because they know that people reuse passwords. So, even if you have strong passwords, you should not use the same password on different websites. You can check the website [HaveIBeenPwned.com](http://HaveIBeenPwned.com) (hacker lingo) to see if your password has been exposed and should be changed.

A solution to this problem is using a "password manager." I like **LastPass** because it's well-respected and free for ordinary use, but there are dozens of these, such as [1Password](#). Select one you like. They will store your passwords (and any other important information you want) safely encrypted in their cloud, synced with all your devices.

These are apps for your phones and add-ons for your desktop web browsers. On your desktop, a password manager will notice when you enter or change passwords and ask you if you want to store them. And it can fill in your username and password for you on log-in screens. You won't have to remember passwords anymore, except for the one for your password manager (write this one down so

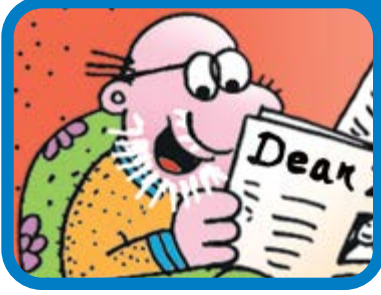
you don't lose it). Most web browsers have a similar function, but dedicated password managers do the job better.

Nevertheless, passwords can still be stolen. To address this theft issue, many websites offer "two-step authentication": During sign in, it sends you a code that you need to enter before you can complete the sign-on process. By connecting to you in two ways, it verifies that you are you. Turn on two-step authentication whenever possible.

Rather than send you a code by email, text message, or phone call, some sites use a code from an Authenticator app on your phone, which changes its codes every minute. Google makes an Authenticator app, but [authy.com](http://authy.com) and [LastPass.com](http://LastPass.com) have their own (that are compatible with Google's) and also save your information in their cloud for all your devices (computer, phone, tablet). This technique is a bit more involved to set up, but it is easy to use once established and highly recommended.

*Don't try to remember all your passwords! Use a password manager and you won't be stuck with a forgotten password again. ★*



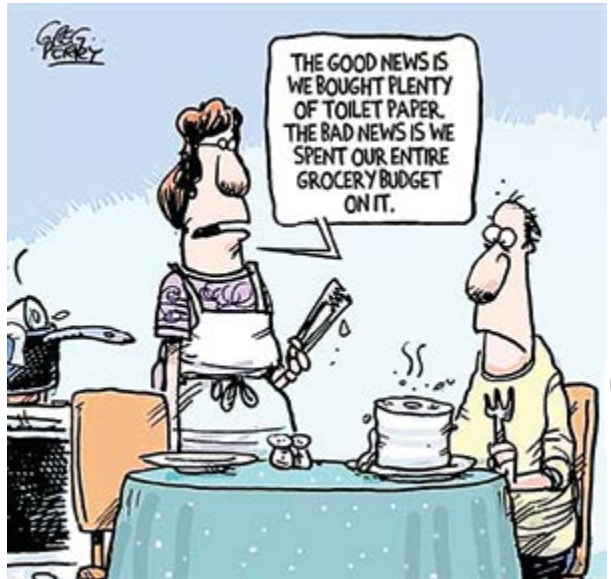


# Letters to ZLM

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

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

**From B.R. (CA):** Re [In the Footsteps of the Rabbi From Tarsus](#): I'm loving these studies into Paul's bold life. As a supportive fan since the mid-'80s, I'm distressed over the letters to the *Levitt Letter* that voice criticism because our hosts are not thoroughly Jewish. I love the incorporation of my fellow gentiles. If God has grafted us in, can this program not reflect that? The main thing is still the MAIN thing: Truth and a call to Christ. These are desperately needed. If Zola looks down on his ministry, he must be beaming. I know I am!



## Misunderstood

Dear Mark,

I recently shared my feelings concerning your program's name change, noting that Zola's ways have sadly disappeared from your programming. (I'm very sad that you still don't see it.) I was saddened by your harsh response to my comments ([April 2020 Levitt Letter, p. 23](#)). I am not the woman who accused your TV crew of shooting in Arizona 30 years ago. I would never accuse you of being fakes. —L.P. (AR)

Dear L.P.,

Please forgive my facetious comment about this ministry shooting mock Holy Land footage. (One does wonder whether further quarantine requirements will make that necessary, but, of course, we'd be honest about the location.) My tongue-in-cheek response didn't translate well in print. Though Zola himself has disappeared from most of our TV programs — unless you count the *hundreds* of his teaching episodes archived at [levitt.tv](http://levitt.tv) — his tradition of Jew and gentile working together continues.



Perhaps this ministry's optics will appear more sufficiently Jewish when our monthly *Personal Letter* begins featuring an expanded version of Sarah Liberman's "On the Ground in Israel" reports in July. For anyone unaware, I am a Messianic Levite — just like my father Zola — baptized, circumcised, anointed, and appointed. —Mark

*(continued next page)*

## More on What Trump's Peace Deal is Missing

Dear ZLM,

God's Word says that there will be no peace in Israel until Christ returns for His millennial reign as King in Jerusalem. I believe that God is using the situation in the Middle East to compel the Jews to return (make *aliyah*) to Israel. And "Palestinians" who were raised to hate Israel and the Jews but have converted to Christ? This is all by God's supernatural plan. —H.L.

Dear H.L.,

Some of our beautiful, Christian-Arab "Palestinian" friends live in Israel. God is moving through all the people groups living there. Scripture tells us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6). I believe that includes all people living in Jerusalem, regardless of nationality or religion. So, whether a peace treaty will work or not, our job is simple: pray, pray, pray. —Kirsten

## Job well done

Dear Mark and ministry staff,

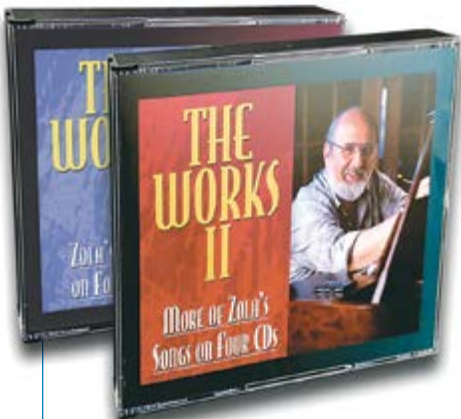
I haven't seen you make any mistakes so far, so congratulations on carrying on so well for Zola — changing hosts and the TV program's name.

My husband and I loved Zola dearly (and even named one of our kittens after him). However, when new people were brought in to continue the ministry, we were pretty much delighted every time. We are always sad when one of your teachers moves on, but we eagerly anticipate the new hosts. I just wanted to let you know that you are appreciated. Remember we support you and pray for you. —E. and P.R. (CA)

Dear E. and P.R.,

Thank you for sending such benevolent encouragement. Hopefully you're aware that as more of our teachers, Israeli and American alike, move on, their teaching continues to build the storehouse of knowledge archived at

*(continued next page)*



### 22-ALBUM SPECIAL

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[www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com). Whoever you miss the most has left his legacy of solid Bible teaching to be searched and studied indefinitely. — Mark

**Search Tip:** If you want to read a *Levitt Letter* page that has given you a “no longer available” message, just add **&open** to the end of the URL line. **E.g.:** <https://www.levitt.com/no-longer-available?fn=newsletters/2017-12.pdf&open>

## What’s with “Easter”?

Dear ZLM,

Thank you for a beautiful *Pesach* TV program on *Our Jewish Roots* about the Seder meal. May I ask why you used the term “Easter”? Bunnies and chocolate eggs have NOTHING to do with Jesus, the Lamb of God. PLEASE help gentiles straighten out their traditional, bunny-eggy-thinking. I was amazed to hear terms like “Easter,” “bunnies,” and “chocolate eggs” on the program. These have nothing to do with the pain and victory of the Lord’s Passover or the Blood Covenant! — F.W.

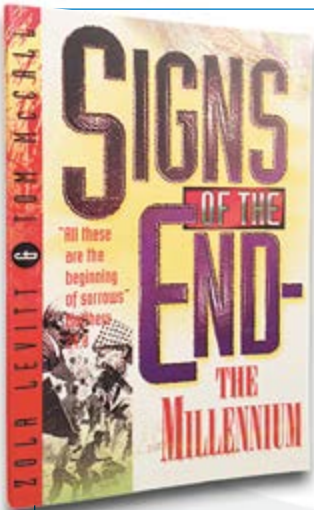
Dear F.W.,

Are you claiming that “Easter” did *not* originate in the Bible? And that egg hunts (hinting at conception) have *nothing* to do with Scripture? If so, then Thank You for echoing Zola’s good-natured observations from our *Miracle of Passover* television series and study booklet.

“Easter” didn’t originate from the spring goddess Ishtar, either. The 8<sup>th</sup>-century monk Bede and the 19<sup>th</sup>-century cleric Alexander Hislop both got it wrong.

If you read the Easter “history” in our [March 2016 \(p. 8\) \*Levitt Letter\*](#), you

*(continued next page)*



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See the related articles, [“DOOMSDAY!” \(p.7\)](#) and [Where does Scripture prove that Jesus is the Messiah? \(p.12\)](#)

*(This and many titles also available as eBooks.)*

learned that “Easter” derives from the Saxon “East” (and the German root for dawn or east) and the German cognate “Ostern,” from the old Teutonic form of *auferstehn*, *auferstehung*, [resurrected, resurrection], according to modern etymologists (who study word origins). — Editor

## Christians and politics

Dear ZLM,

I saw the comment from a reader about how we Believers should stay out of politics. There’s NO one to blame but Christians for allowing our country to be taken down this path without a fight! We just turn the other cheek and pray about it. Christians need to repent and pray for Revival ASAP. — J.S.

Dear J.S.,

I believe that the comment you saw was actually about keeping politics out of the *Levitt Letter*. Christians belong in high government offices, and there are many ways to walk your faith.

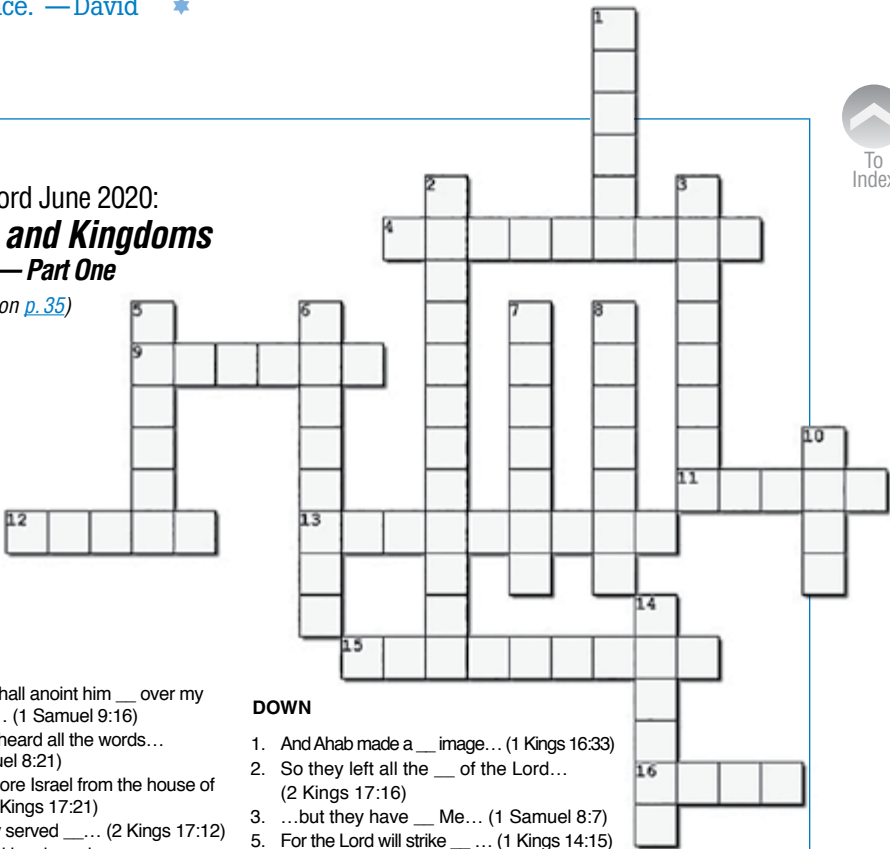
But don’t underestimate the power of a Believer’s prayer. And if government won’t listen to our requests, Yeshua is our advocate to the throne of God — a higher power than any government office.

YOU be the one to start a revival! It takes faith just the size of a mustard plant seed to make things happen. We will join you in prayers of repentance. —David ★

Crossword June 2020:

### ***Kings and Kingdoms*** (NKJV) — Part One

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



#### ACROSS

- ...You shall anoint him \_\_\_ over my people... (1 Samuel 9:16)
- And \_\_\_ heard all the words... (1 Samuel 8:21)
- For He tore Israel from the house of \_\_\_\_ (2 Kings 17:21)
- For they served \_\_\_\_ (2 Kings 17:12)
- So Israel has been in \_\_\_\_ (1 Kings 12:19)
- Yet the Lord \_\_\_ against Israel... (2 Kings 17:13)
- But you have done more \_\_\_\_ (1 Kings 14:9)

#### DOWN

- And Ahab made a \_\_\_ image... (1 Kings 16:33)
- So they left all the \_\_\_ of the Lord... (2 Kings 17:16)
- ...but they have \_\_\_ Me... (1 Samuel 8:7)
- For the Lord will strike \_\_\_ (1 Kings 14:15)
- He \_\_\_ the territory of Israel... (2 Kings 14:25)
- Then the king answered the people \_\_\_\_ (1 Kings 12:13)
- So the Lord became angry with \_\_\_\_ (1 Kings 11:9)
- ...now make us a \_\_\_ to judge us... (1 Samuel 8:5)
- So these nations \_\_\_ the Lord... (2 Kings 17:41)



# Virus-Killing Sticker for Coronavirus Masks



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

Israel's Galilee Medical Center is piloting a virus-neutralizing sticker that attaches to surgical masks to better protect medical staff during the corona crisis. The 3D-printed "Maya" sticker was developed at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology by a mechanical engineering team. The sticker contains nanofibers that capture nanoparticles, and disinfectants believed capable of killing any viruses in those nanoparticles.

The Technion team worked in coordination with the medical center's Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department and Oral Medicine & Dentistry Institute, and in collaboration with the Directorate of Defense Research and Development of Israel's Ministry of Defense.

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3. Putting the mask on
4. Adjusting the mask
5. Wearing the mask
6. Removing the mask

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Prof Eyal Zussman (meeyal@technion.ac.il)  
Prof Samer Srouji (SamerS@gmc.gov.il)

מרכז רפואי לגליל, מפי"ת, סניין

The medical center's director said that if the Maya sticker—a fast and available solution, using advanced technologies—meets expectations in protecting healthcare professionals against infection, the medical center will recommend it to other hospitals in Israel and abroad.

The hospital also devised a special transparent PVC box that better protects anesthesiologists when they intubate COVID-19 patients. The boxes are a low-tech application that can help physicians. ★

From January 1918 through December 1920, an estimated 50 million people worldwide died from the Spanish flu. Masks were the uninfected's main line of defense.





# Two Jewish Researchers Changed the World



**PART 1: MEDICINE: BY DR. YVETTE ALT MILLER** (r) Aish.com

Panic gripped the country as the virus spread. Schools closed and cities were quarantined. It wasn't anxiety over COVID-19, but another scourge that haunted people during the first half of the 1900s: polio.

Before the mid-1950s, polio cases surged in the United States and around the world each summer. The disease (officially, paralytic poliomyelitis) caused an infection in the central nervous system, leading to muscle weakness and paralysis. Children were particularly at risk: thousands died, thousands were left with severe impairment each year, and the disease killed 2–10% of people who contracted it.

In 1937, a Milwaukee public health authority advised parents to keep young children “in their own backyards,” alone, and advised them not to attend parties, picnics, or beaches. As families across the globe clamored for research into this deadly disease, two young Jewish doctors made a series of startling breakthroughs, eventually finding cures. Dr. Jonas Salk and Dr. Albert Sabin saved many thousands of lives and protected unknown numbers of children from paralysis and other health complications. The polio vaccines they developed changed society, lifting the dread of polio that our parents and grandparents lived under.

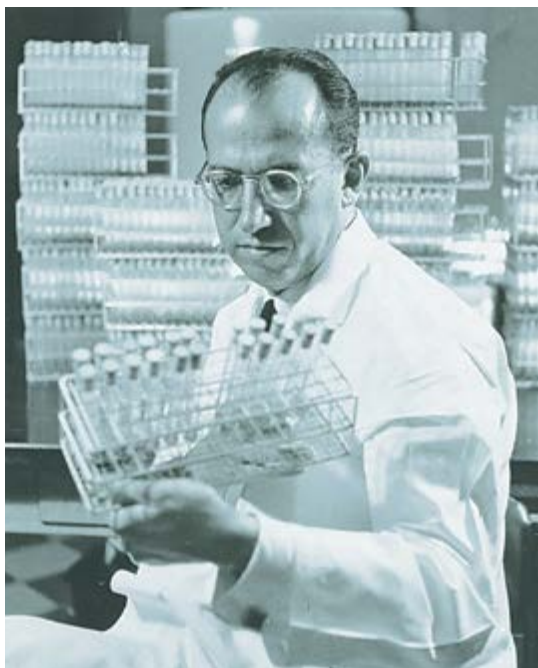


## Dr. Jonas Salk

Jonas Salk was born in 1914 in New York City. The Salks were a poor Jewish family with four children. Jonas's father, Daniel Salk, worked in the garment industry; his mother Dora always encouraged Jonas to do “something extraordinary” with his life.

From an early age, Jonas realized that he wanted to change the world through medical research. He attended New York University's medical school. **No matter how brilliant his mind, Jonas's Jewishness was a barrier to his success in the medical field in the 1930s.** His mentor, Dr. Thomas Francis, ended Salk's recommendation for a fellowship by addressing the anti-Semitism that was rampant at the time: “Dr. Salk is a member of the Jewish race but has, I believe, a very great capacity to get on with people.”

The groundbreaking work of Francis and Salk eventually led to a flu vaccine,



Dr. Jonas Salk, developer of the polio vaccine, holds a rack of test tubes in his lab in Pittsburgh, 1954.

credit: The Associated Press



*(continued next page)*



Jonas Salk with David Ben Gurion in Jerusalem, 1959

a vital addition to the war effort during World War II. At the University of Pittsburgh, Jonas headed virus research. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, he — like researchers around the world — turned his attention to polio.

As part of a prestigious team surveying all polio cases in America, Salk soon realized that an effective vaccine would have to contain strains from three distinct polio variations. Though he was one of the youngest researchers laboring on the polio vaccine, Salk was confident that his research team was on the right track. Salk cultivated polio virus cells in monkey kidney cells and then killed these cells with the goal to develop a vaccine using these dead polio cells.

In 1954, Salk's "dead" cell vaccine had been tested in animals, but officials were reluctant to test it in humans. Salk and his wife and children were the first humans to be vaccinated with Salk's invention. When no ill effects occurred, the world clamored for his vaccine.

Polio charity March of Dimes arranged a large-scale trial for children ages six to nine. Over a million took part, and at the end of the trial, Dr. Salk's vaccine was declared successful: he'd found a way to prevent polio. Church bells rang. People embraced and burst into tears. Drug companies started production on hundreds of millions of doses of Salk's vaccine.

## Albert Sabin

Albert Sabin was born in 1906 in Bialystok, Poland. Like many Jews, the Sabins faced intense anti-Semitism; the threat of violence was never far away. In 1921, when Albert was fifteen, his parents, Tillie and Jacob, moved their family near relatives in Paterson, New Jersey. Albert knew no English, so his cousins tutored him. A brilliant student, Albert learned enough in six weeks to enroll in high school, where he excelled.

One of Albert's uncles, a dentist, promised to pay for Albert's college if he became a dentist too. Albert enrolled in New York University, one of the few colleges that didn't have Jewish quotas at the time. He loved medicine and science but realized that dentistry was not for him. Instead, he got extra jobs and scholarships to



Dr. Albert Sabin prior to the test of his polio vaccine in 1956

*(continued next page)*

finance medical school on his own, embracing research and virology.

He graduated in 1931, the year a major polio outbreak panicked the city. Sabin turned to research on polio, studying pathology in London and New York before moving to the University of Cincinnati's Children's Hospital Research Foundation in 1939.

During World War II, Sabin, now a Lieutenant Colonel in the Medical Corps, studied viruses affecting American troops: "sandfly fever" in North Africa, dengue fever, toxoplasmosis, and encephalitis, all of which were bedeviling American troops. **A vaccine he helped develop against encephalitis was given to 70,000 American troops preparing for a possible invasion of Japan.**



Albert Sabin in the U.S. Army, 1940s

### Race to a Polio Vaccine

While Dr. Salk's vaccine was widely hailed, Dr. Sabin continued to research his "live" vaccine. He conducted major trials outside of the United States, so that people who'd received Salk's vaccine wouldn't be included and cloud the results. Many of Sabin's trials took place in Eastern Europe and in other Communist countries, where it was found that his vaccine was also effective in preventing polio.

Sabin's vaccine had several advantages over Salk's, which had to be injected and also required booster shots. Sabin's vaccine was given orally and never needed follow-up doses. In addition, Sabin's live vaccine seemed to be "catching," much as a regular virus might, and provided protection even for people who never received a vaccination. By the mid-1960s, Sabin's vaccine became the preferred vaccine in the United States.

Next month, we'll follow these two talented doctors in their post-vaccine years.

**God continues to bless His chosen people with capabilities that revolutionize healthcare. — Kirsten ★**



Polio vaccine dropped onto sugar lump for child patient







Israeli police arresting a Haredi Jew during protest against government's measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus

## SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

### Haredi Community Hit by Virus

By Ariel Schalit and Ilan Ben Zion  
APNews.com

Just before Passover, the streets of Bnei Brak were bustling with shoppers as *Haredi* Orthodox residents, obeying their religious leaders, ignored pleas to stay home in the face of the coronavirus threat.

By the end of the week, the central Israeli city had become the country's worst hot spot, resembling a ghost town. **One expert estimated that nearly 40% of the city's population had been infected.**

The city has become a lightning rod for anger and frustration by some secular Israelis who allege insular Haredi communities — with disproportionately high numbers of confirmed cases — are undermining national efforts to contain the virus.

The pandemic also has threatened to upend deep-seated customs in the religious world, including blind obedience to religious leaders and the belief that religious studies and traditions take precedence over the rules of a modern state.

Since Israel's founding, tensions between secular and Haredi Israelis have erupted repeatedly over hot button issues such as the military draft. Haredi leaders have used their considerable political leverage to help maintain the community's insular lifestyle with government

grants, feeding secular complaints that the *Haredim* are a burden to the collective.

When Health Minister Yaakov Litzman, a powerful Haredi politician meant to lead the battle against the virus, was confirmed to be infected, his exposure to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the ministry's director general, and reportedly the head of the Mossad spy agency forced them all into quarantine. Netanyahu, who tested negative, had gone through an identical experience after previous exposure to an infected Haredi aide.



A Haredi youth in Jerusalem

Ministry officials were furious with Litzman, who had resisted calls to impose restrictions on gatherings at religious institutions, quietly breaking the rules and attending prayer sessions at synagogues.

**We pray that Yeshua's miraculous love may heal the very heart of this community. —David ★**



# Museum's Fake Dead Sea Scrolls

ARCHAEOLOGY: BY SCOTT NEUMAN (r) NPR.org



An authentic 2,000-year-old scroll fragment found at Qumran near the Dead Sea.

A months-long analysis of alleged pieces of the ancient Dead Sea Scrolls that were on display at the privately funded Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., reveals them to be clever forgeries, according to a team of researchers examining the fragments.

Using 3-D and scanning electron microscopes and microchemical testing, a group of independent researchers concluded that all 16 of the museum's fragments purported to be part of the collection of ancient Hebrew manuscripts were inscribed on leather rather than the ancient parchment used in the authentic scrolls, which date within a few centuries of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The fragments exhibit "characteristics that suggest they are deliberate forgeries created in the twentieth century with the intent to mimic authentic Dead Sea Scroll fragments," researchers reported.

Funded by Steve Green, billionaire president of Hobby Lobby, the Museum of the Bible opened in 2017 with the scroll fragments as its centerpiece.



The Museum of The Bible, Washington D.C.

In the report, the investigators concluded that **the ink used on the manuscripts did not match ink used on authentic scrolls.**

Harry Hargrave, the Museum of the Bible's CEO, said, "We're victims of misrepresentation, we're victims of fraud."

(See related Archaeology article [Studying Ancient Ink Sheds Light on the Dead Sea Scrolls on p. 32.](#)) ★





# Studying Ancient Ink Sheds Light on the Dead Sea Scrolls



ARCHAEOLOGY: BY ROSSELLA TERCATIN (r) JPost.com



credit: Baz Rabin/Hautiers

Sections of the authentic Dead Sea Scrolls on display at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem

Could studying the ink used by scribes 2,000 years ago to pen the Dead Sea Scrolls help scholars shed light on the many mysteries still surrounding them?

According to Ira Rabin, senior scientist at the Federal Institute of Material Research and Testing (BAM) in Berlin and the Center for the Studies of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) in Hamburg, the answer is a resounding “yes.”

## The Importance of Ink

The ancient Jewish sages were very well aware of the importance of ink in Jewish practice.

“As it was taught, Rabbi Meir said: When I was with Rabbi Yishmael, I used to put iron sulfate into the ink [with which I wrote Torah scrolls], and he did not say anything to me. When I came with Rabbi Akiva, he prohibited me so,” reads a passage of *Talmud in the Tractate of Eruvim* (Sefaria.org).

Several passages in the Bible mention the action or the need of writing something down. From those passages, the question of the sages became what constitutes writing. Beginning at the time of the Mishna (2<sup>nd</sup> century after Christ), the rabbis discussed what constituted writing as well as the ingredients that could be

*(continued next page)*



Professor Dr. Ira Rabin





employed to produce inks. A millennium later, the Rambam (Maimonides) systematically covered these issues in his *Mishneh Torah*.



Today, the study of manuscripts offers scholars a treasure trove of knowledge hidden in plain sight, complementing information presented by the texts themselves, Rabin said in a workshop devoted to identifying and investigating historical ink types held at the National Library of Israel.

While the study of inks has been important in conservation for quite a while, especially because of the corrosive nature of certain types of ink, **the development of ink studies is a recent archaeological discipline, basically in the past 10 years.**

### The Variety of Inks

In her studies, Rabin has focused on the parchment the manuscripts were written on. The Scrolls consist of dozens of manuscripts dating back to a period between the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. and the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D. that were uncovered in 11 caves near the Dead Sea. The Scrolls include the earliest known copies of parts of the Hebrew Bible, as well as other religious writings. They are currently kept at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and other museums.

"I hope that the Israel Antiquities Authority will allow proper study of the Scrolls' ink soon," Rabin said.

One of the manuscripts analyzed in the 1990s, *Genesis Apocryphon*, was almost completely destroyed by the corrosiveness of the ink used; very unusual because corrosive types of inks appeared only much later in the Middle Ages.

"Most of the DSS were written in carbon ink — created through a dispersion of carbon particles in a binder and not corrosive — the most ancient ink on earth, in continual use since at least 2,000 B.C.," Rabin said.

One of the questions intriguing scholars in the field is why, after using a certain type of ink for centuries if not millennia, scribes started to use other materials for ink. This happened around the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C.

"I connect this change with Alexander the Great, who assembled a great empire and created a need for more ink," Rabin said. "Since carbon ink was expensive, people started to adulterate it with other substances, making similar ink but not as expensive."

See also the *Secrets of the Scrolls* DVD set on [p. 20](#) for more information on the Dead Sea Scrolls. ★



NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

GOCOMICS.COM/NONSEQUITUR



# Hypocritical BDS Founder: “It’s OK to Take an Israeli Vaccine”



BY LAHAV HARKOV (r) JPost.com



credit: AP Photo/Masser Nasser/File

Omar Barghouti, founder of the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel and a co-founder of BDS

If Israel finds a vaccine for coronavirus, boycotters can still take it, the founder of the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, Omar Barghouti, said in early April.

At the same time, he said “if you use medical equipment from Israel — it’s not a problem. Cooperating with Israel against the virus — to begin with, we didn’t consider it normalization. The BDS announced normalization criteria long ago. If Israel finds a cure for cancer, for example, or any other virus, then there is no problem in cooperating with Israel to save millions of lives.”

However, Barghouti added, “up until now, we have not been in a situation where we need Israel urgently and no one else can save us but Israel. If that will happen, saving lives is more important than anything else.”

The BDS Movement also anticipated a “humanitarian disaster” in Gaza or among Palestinians in Israeli prisons due to the spread of the coronavirus, accused Israel of “continuing to exploit Palestinian workers... without the simplest protection against the virus,” and of “looting of land, arrests, oppression and killing” during the pandemic, while condemning continued normalization in “the Arab official system.”

The UN, however, has repeatedly commended Israel and the Palestinian Authority for working together in combating coronavirus; for example, regular meetings between the sides, Israeli training programs for Palestinian medical teams, and donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) to Palestinians. ★





## God Will Save Me!

When the river bursts its banks and floods the town, the mayor orders a citywide evacuation. Everyone panics and starts to leave except for Rachel, who says that God will save her.

Soon, the water fills her first floor, and Rachel climbs the stairs to a second-story window. People in a passing boat offer to take Rachel to safety, but she says no—God will save her.

The water rises further, and Rachel clammers onto her roof. A helicopter hovers overhead and rescuers shout offers to take Rachel away. But she waves them off, calling out that God will save her.

Finally, the waters rise higher, and Rachel drowns. She goes to Heaven, where she comes face to face with God and demands, “Why didn’t You save me?”

Exasperated, God responds: “What do you mean ... I sent you an advance evacuation order, a boat, and a rescue helicopter!” ★



### Answer Key for June 2020 Crossword (p.25)

<i>Across:</i>		<i>Down:</i>	
4. Commander	13. Rebellion	1. Wooden	7. Roughly
9. Samuel	15. Testified	2. Commandments	8. Solomon
11. David	16. Evil	3. Rejected	10. King
12. Idols		5. Israel	14. Feared
		6. Restored	



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