

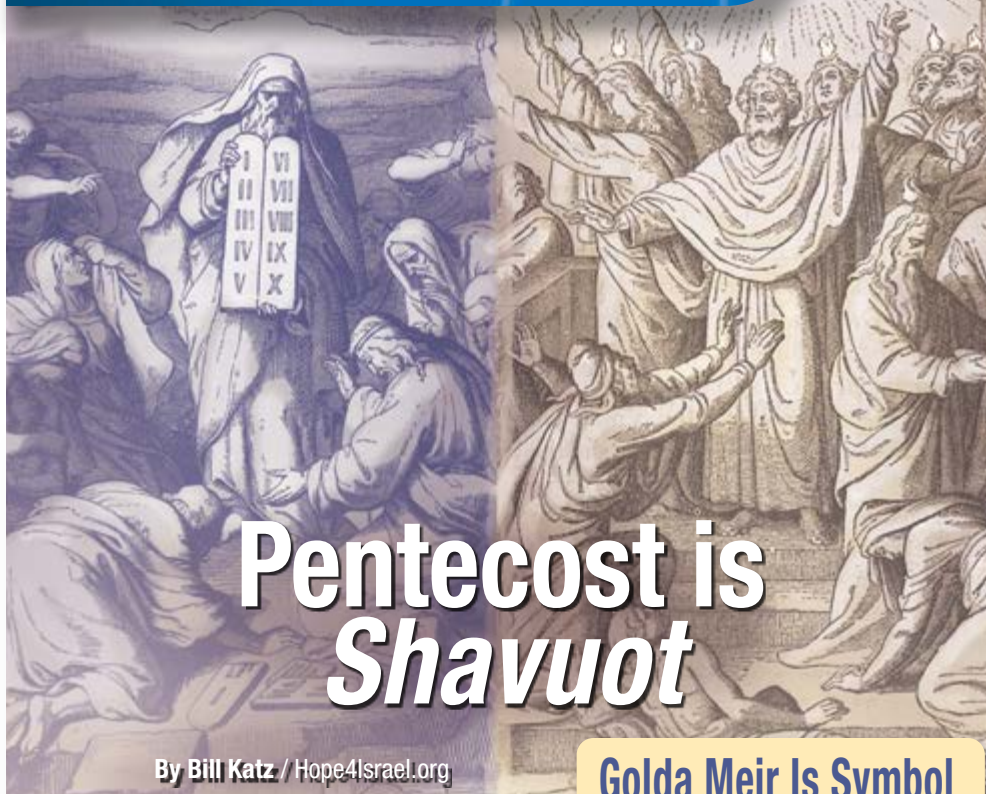


Levitt LETTER

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

JUNE 2022

inside: The Peace
of Jerusalem p.4



left: Moses with the Two New Tablets of Stone, illustration for the 1897 Bible Pictures and What They Teach Us by Charles Foster;
right: The Descent of the Holy Spirit, engraving for The Story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, 1873

Pentecost is Shavuot

By Bill Katz / Hope4Israel.org

I'm always surprised when people tell me they don't know that the birth of the Church was a Jewish event! It's sad to see many Believers* ignore the Jewish context of the New Testament because this impairs their understanding of the event that we read about in the New Covenant. Recently I heard something that describes this situation:

"Trying to understand the New Testament without understanding its Jewish context is as trying to understand how a submarine works without understanding water."

Pentecost is no exception to this rule because what most Christians know as Pentecost is the Jewish holiday of *Shavuot* (Feast of Weeks). Both Pentecost and *Shavuot* refer to the number "50" and essentially mean the same thing. The "50" of *Shavuot* refers to the fifty days that take place between the celebration of Passover and this holiday.

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REMEMBER:

***Shavuot: Sunset on Sat., June 4 to sunset on Mon., June 6
Pentecost: Sunday, June 5***

Golda Meir Is Symbol of Hope for Ukrainians

By Philissa Cramer
TimesOfIsrael.com

The most prominent Jewish figure in Ukraine right now is the country's president, Volodymyr Zelensky.

The runner-up may well be another country's famous Jewish leader.

Golda Meir, the fourth prime minister of Israel, was a native of Kyiv whose family fled amid anti-Semitic violence. Her influence has loomed large since Russia launched its war on Ukraine in February. Meir's words appeared in pro-Ukrainian memes, have been quoted by Ukrainian diplomats, and were even pulled from the backpack of a battle-ready Ukrainian soldier.

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A Ukrainian officer shows off a biography of Golda Meir that he carries into battle with him (source: Screen capture: Twitter)



* "Believers" is short for "believers in Yeshua/Jesus as Messiah."

Pentecost is *Shavuot* continued from cover

Here's what Scripture says about Pentecost in Acts 2:1–13:

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God." And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others were mocking and saying, "They are full of sweet wine."

The disciples were all together because our Messiah had told them to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4). Like other Jewish people, the disciples were supposed to be in Jerusalem for this holiday.

However, the literal wording of Acts 2:1 reveals something very interesting as the Greek word *sympleroo* ("had come") can be translated "to complete entirely; be fulfilled." If, as previously stated, Pentecost is the same as *Shavuot*, then the logical conclusion is that the Feast of *Shavuot*



Shavuot, by Moritz Daniel Oppenheim, 1880

was being fulfilled. When we start comparing the two events—the original *Shavuot* in Exodus 20 and its fulfillment in Acts 2—we find some amazing similarities.

First, the original *Shavuot* took place 50 days after the first Passover, when the lamb had been sacrificed so that its blood spread on the doorpost and lintel would protect the ancient Israelites from physical death. The events in Acts 2 also take place after the Passover, when the Lamb of God (Messiah Yeshua) had given His life; His blood protects us from spiritual death so that we can have eternal life.

Second, Acts 2 speaks about tongues of fire that appeared to the disciples. Exodus 19 and 20 speak clearly of the presence of fire on Mount Sinai as Moses was about to receive the Torah from God. Exodus 19:18 states:

Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently.

Finally, the most evident fact that points to Acts 2 as the fulfillment of Exodus 20 is the arrival of the Holy Spirit. In Exodus 20, we see God making a covenant with the Jewish people. As part of that covenant, God gave the Jewish people the Torah to

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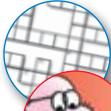
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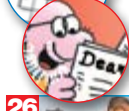
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guide them in how they were to live. However, the Jewish people did not keep this covenant.

The Lord could have forsaken His people, but His love and mercy are so great that He decided to make a New Covenant with the Jewish people. This New Covenant was announced by the prophet Jeremiah:

"Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law

[Torah] within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:31–34).

God promised the Jewish people a New Covenant. Just as He had given the Torah to the Jewish people as part of the Old Covenant to guide us, He sent the Holy Spirit to guide us again, but this time in a more intimate way as He puts His Torah in our hearts so that we may follow His commandments.

Praise Him for His mercies and His everlasting love!

See *The Spirit of Pentecost* on [p.25](#). ★

The Peace of Jerusalem

BY SAM NADLER / WordOfMessiah.org



credit: Wayne McLean (gnitz)

Jerusalem as seen from the Mount of Olives

In Psalm 122:6, David writes, *"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem; May they prosper who love you."* Count it up and you have twelve words in the English translation. In the more compact language of Hebrew, it's only five: *Sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim yishlayu ohavaich*. But each of these words gives an important truth.

For many people, God is a last resort, not their first resource. Most people pray because they're in a catastrophe, rather than out of conviction. So, **why should we pray for the peace of Jerusalem?**

We are commanded by God's precept

The word "pray" (*sha'alu*) in Psalm 122:6 is in the imperative — it is a command. God's commands demonstrate His values for His people, who are to share in those values. The commands of the Holy One (*haKadosh*) are the convictions of His saints (or holy ones, *kedoshim*). We are a people of conviction and character because we have God's priorities and values as the basis for our lives. We are people of integrity as we live out the truth of His Word and *"observe all that He commanded"* (Matthew 28:20). Our prayer life evidences our shared values and priorities with God, so as we obey the command, we identify with His priorities. To not pray for the peace of Jerusalem is disobedience and a lack of identification with the Lord's priorities. **No prayer, no priorities.**

We are concerned about God's people

We should share God's concern for the *"lost sheep of the house of Israel"* (Matthew 10:6). His concern is seen in two of the words used in Psalm 122:6. The Hebrew word *sha'alu* is not normally translated as "pray" but means "to ask for, to inquire of, to seek after." We inquire about those things that concern us. When your child is sick, you often ask the doctor about his condition. Likewise, God wants you to share in His concern for His spiritually sick child — Jerusalem. Notice the parallel thoughts in that verse: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" parallels "May they prosper who love you" (*ohavayich*). We pray because we share God's loving concern for the lost. **No prayer, no passion.**

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We are committed to God's program

Notice that God doesn't command prayer for Rome, Athens, Nineveh, or Babylon. Why? Not because He lacks concern for other cities. Rather, God's redemptive strategy is anchored in Jerusalem (John 4:22, "for salvation is of the Jews"). God's New Covenant redemption was to have its "beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47) and its closure upon Messiah's return to Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:4). Our Messiah states that His return is dependent upon the repentance of Israel: "For I tell you, you will not see Me again until you say, Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord" (Matthew 23:39). Therefore, we pray because we share God's perspective on the future. **No prayer, no perspective.**

We are completed in God's peace

The Hebrew word for "peace" is *shalom*, which means not only "peace" but also "completeness, safety, contentment, and friendship with God." Peace is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Prayer is the overflow of God's life in us (Philippians 4:7-8). But man does not have this peace. **The thousands of peace treaties man has made throughout history lasted an average of only two years!**

God's eternal peace is accomplished through the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). Faith in Yeshua brings peace with God (forgiveness), others (fellowship), and self (fulfillment). Where the Lord reigns, there is rest. This is the peace and rest God accomplished in Messiah's sacrifice. True peace comes by faith in Yeshua. **No prayer, no peace.**

We are confident in God's promises

In Psalm 122:6, God states, "May they prosper who love you." In Hebrew, the word translated "may they prosper" is *yishlayu*, from the verb *sha'lah*, which means "to be quiet, at ease." In Job's despair, he complains that "the tents of the destroyers prosper" (*yishlayu*, Job 12:6). But God says otherwise. The idea is not financial prosperity, but the true fulfillment that comes from confidence in God's promises. We possess spiritual prosperity and contentment when we love as He loves. Our prayer life reflects God's life living through us. Therefore, as we pray according to His Will, we will know the real prosperity our hearts desire. **No prayer, no prosperity.**

Out of obedience to the Lord's commands, concern for His people, a strategic commitment to His program, completion in His peace, and confidence in His promises, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Are you aligned with God in your praying?

We end every OJR program with the words *Sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim* not only out of obedience, but also out of our love for the Eternal City. —David ★



"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem"
collar buttons

A set of four buttons in this design.
Get a couple of sets now!



Water Walking

Kirsten Hart
Studio co-host of
Our Jewish Roots



In March, the *OJR* production team was in Tiberias, Israel, filming a new series on the life of the Apostle Peter. It was thrilling to be on Lake Kinneret (also called the Sea of Galilee). We have traveled on larger boats before; such vessels carry our tour pilgrims on an hour-long voyage over the lake's stunning waters. But in March, David and I were able to venture out on a smaller watercraft that is a replica of one that Jesus and His disciples used.

Our Messianic captain, also named David, took us aboard his boat so that we could sing Zola's songs in the middle of the lake. It was work, but what a blessed opportunity! While we were getting to the right spot for filming, Captain David asked, "Do you know how many times Peter walked on the water?" Before we could respond, he smiled and answered: "twice."

Getting back into the boat

The captain then explained that Peter *walked to* Jesus, but after Jesus reached out to Peter, together they *walked back* to the boat and climbed in. Matthew chapter 14 describes this miracle. We recall the incredible feat of Jesus walking on water, Peter's faith in walking on the water, and then his lack of faith as he looked at the waves and began to sink. But few of us consider how Jesus and Peter both got *back* to the boat after that experience.

Matthew 14:32 states, "And when they climbed into the boat...." We don't read that Jesus and Peter swam back to the boat together, or that Jesus pulled a sinking Peter alongside Him as He walked to the vessel. Peter

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top: *Jesus Walking on Water* (1890) by Ivan Aivazovsky

right: David and Kirsten on small boat on the Sea of Galilee





grabbed the Master's hand and the Apostle's fear of sinking dissolved.

Does Scripture say that Peter walked on water a second time? No. Did our boat captain assume what happened after Peter took Messiah's hand? Yes. But isn't this a rational assumption?

Hold on to His hand

When you're facing circumstances beyond your control and fear overtakes you, there is a hand reaching out to you. Simple trust in the Savior can change your vision and give you faith to walk on the turbulent waters of life. But holding His hand can give you peace and security amid chaotic waters.

Our Savior is willing to rescue you in times of trouble — not once, not twice, but every time you call out to Him. That may be hard to imagine, but it's wonderful to experience.

If you are willing and able, would you consider helping us to offset our costs of bringing to life the story of Peter, the water-walking Apostle? We are eternally grateful to those who value what we do, by giving financially to make it possible. *Shalom* and *todah* (thank you)! ★

Golda Meir Is Symbol of Hope ... *continued from cover sidebar*

Almost as soon as the war began, memes riffing on a quote often attributed to Meir, adapted to the current conflict, began circulating online.

"If Russia lays down its weapons, there is no war. If Ukraine lays down its weapons, there is no Ukraine," read one widely shared tweet, which its author attributed to "a Ukrainian Christian."

The author later clarified that the comment came from a Facebook post by an American missionary who had been living in Kyiv, evacuated to Hungary, and then returned to the U.S.

Actually, it's an adaptation of a quote widely attributed to Meir — "If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more

Israel." Meir led Israel during and after the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Israel won that war at great cost weeks after Egypt and Syria, which had amassed troops on Israel's borders for months, invaded from multiple directions. ★



Golda Meir in March 1973



Why History Still Matters: The 1967 Six-Day War



BY DAVID HARRIS (r)TimesOfIsrael.com

On June 5, fifty-five years ago, the Six-Day War broke out. This war is as relevant now as it was in 1967. Many people still grapple with that war's consequences. But without context, some things won't make sense.

FIRST, in 1967, there was no state of Palestine. Its creation, proposed by the UN in 1947, was rejected by Arabs because it also meant the establishment of a Jewish state alongside.

SECOND, the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem were in Jordanian hands. Violating solemn agreements, Jordan denied Jews access to their holiest places in eastern Jerusalem. In addition, they desecrated and destroyed many of those sites.

Meanwhile, the Gaza Strip was under Egyptian control, and the Golan Heights belonged to Syria.

THIRD, the Arabs could have created a Palestinian state in the West Bank, eastern Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip at any time. They didn't. And Arab leaders, who today profess such attachment to eastern Jerusalem, rarely, if ever, visited. It was considered an Arab backwater.

FOURTH, the 1967 boundary — known as the "Green Line" — was only an armistice line dating to 1949. In 1948, five Arab armies attacked Israel, hoping to destroy the embryonic Jewish state. They failed. While armistice lines were drawn, they weren't formal borders. The Arab world, even in defeat, refused to recognize Israel's right to exist.

FIFTH, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which supported the war effort, was established in 1964, three years before the conflict erupted. The PLO was created with the goal of obliterating Israel. But in 1964, the only "settlements" were Israel itself.

SIXTH, in the weeks before the Six-Day War, Egyptian and Syrian leaders declared that war was coming; their objective was to wipe Israel off the map. **Twenty-two years after the Holocaust, another enemy sought the Jews' extermination.**

Just days before the war, Israel sent word to Jordan, via the UN and U.S., urging Amman to avoid any pending conflict. But Jordan's King Hussein instead aligned with Egypt and Syria. His forces were defeated by Israel, and he lost control of the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem. He later acknowledged his grave error in entering the war.

SEVENTH, Egypt's president demanded the removal of UN peacekeepers in the area, which had been there for the previous decade to prevent conflict. Without consulting Israel, the UN complied. That left no buffer between Arab armies being mobilized and deployed and Israeli forces in a country just two percent the size of Egypt.



Israeli troops guard captured Egyptian troops and Palestinians at the start of the Six-Day War, on June 5, 1967 in Rafah, Gaza Strip

credit: David Rubinger/via Getty Images



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credit:
Department
of History,
U.S. Military
Academy

EIGHTH, Egypt blocked Israeli shipping lanes in the Red Sea, Israel's only maritime access to trading routes with Asia and Africa. Israel regarded this as an act of war.

NINTH, France, which had been Israel's principal arms supplier, banned the sale of weapons on the eve of the war. That left Israel in potentially grave danger if a war continued and required the resupply of arms. Not until the next year did the U.S. step in and sell vital weapons systems to Israel.

AND FINALLY, after winning the war of self-defense, Israel hoped that its newly-acquired territories — seized from Egypt, Jordan, and Syria — would be the basis for a land-for-peace accord. Feelers were sent out. The formal response came on September 1, 1967, when the Arab Summit Conference declared: *"No peace, no recognition, no negotiations"* with Israel.

More "noes" followed. In 2003, the Saudi ambassador to the U.S. stated: "It broke my heart that [PLO Chair] Arafat did not take the offer (of a two-state deal presented by Israel, with American support, in 2001). Since 1948, every time we've had something on the table, we say no. Then we say yes. When we say yes, it's not on the table anymore. Then we have to deal with something less. Isn't it about time to say yes?"

Dismissing the Past Today

Today, there are those who want the world to believe there was once a Palestinian state. There wasn't.

They want the world to believe there were fixed borders between that state and Israel. There was only an armistice line between Israel and the Jordanian-controlled West Bank and eastern Jerusalem.

They want the world to believe that the 1967 war was a bellicose act by Israel. But it was an act

of self-defense in the face of the threats to vanquish the Jewish state, the maritime blockade of the Straits of Tiran, the abrupt withdrawal of UN peacekeeping forces, and the redeployment of Egyptian and Syrian troops. All wars have consequences, including this one. But the aggressors never took responsibility for their actions.

They want the world to believe that post-1967 Israeli settlement-building is the key obstacle to peacemaking. The Six-Day War demonstrates that the core issue is, and always has been, whether the Palestinians accept the Jewish people's right to a state of their own. If so, the other contentious and difficult issues have possible solutions. But if not, all bets are off.

Thus, when it comes to this conflict, **dismissing the past as if it were a minor irritant at best, or irrelevant at worst, won't work.**

Can history move forward? Absolutely. Israel's peace treaties with Egypt in 1979 and Jordan in 1994 prove the point, along with the normalization deals signed with Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan, and the United Arab Emirates in 2020.

Still, the lessons of the Six-Day War illustrate just how difficult the path can be. They serve as sobering reminders that, yes, history does matter. ★

credit: The Israel Defense Forces Spokesperson's Unit



IDF Paratroopers surrounding Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren at Jerusalem's Western Wall





[Last month](#), we looked at Believers' marriage and Jesus' return to Earth.

Now back to Zola.
— Editor

The Kingdom

This Great Millennium is the true reward of the Church. It will be quite a different age than we are experiencing now. Things will be socially “upside-down.” It will be “sophisticated” to be a Christian and foolish to be an unbeliever. The King Himself shall reign in Jerusalem with us, His Queen.

Jesus took all His teaching from the Old Testament; there was no New Testament at the time He taught His disciples “the things

pertaining to the Kingdom.” The great passages of Isaiah and the other prophets make clear this magnificent age of God’s triumph. The New Testament therefore assumes its readers understand the Kingdom, and so, it virtually begins with the Sermon on the Mount, teaching both admission to and acceptance of the laws of the Kingdom, and then its joys (the Beatitudes, in Matt. 5, etc.). See Isaiah 11:4–9.

Isaiah 12 contains the most beautiful and concise description of the Kingdom in the whole Bible. The themes of the Kingdom are the constant company of the Messiah, total triumph of the saints, and justice and mercy throughout the Earth.

Eternity

After the Kingdom and the Great White Throne of Judgment, the Believers live on in eternity. **God will change Heaven, Earth, and Jerusalem** (Rev. 21:1–3) — no more seas or water, and therefore no more life as we now know it.

The very end of the Scriptures, as John describes in his Revelation, become symbolic and almost incomprehensible. We can sample John’s description of eternity in Revelation 21:1–7. One notable feature is that there will be no Temple (Rev. 21:22). There is no need for further sacrifice or, in effect, for further worship. Everyone will be at one with God, and will approach Him directly, as did Adam before the fall.

Another interesting feature of eternity is new light. Light was the first thing God created, but now there will be no need of the sun or moon, because God

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Detail of *The Sermon on the Mount*, painting (1877) by Carl Bloch (1834–1890), The Museum of National History, Denmark





and the Lamb provide the light (Rev. 21:23).

But perhaps the most striking feature of all is that there will be no evil—anywhere. While there was a certain amount of rebellion even in the Kingdom, eternity will be utterly free of it (Rev. 21:26–27).

And remember, this is only the beginning!

John, after seeing all these things, wrote that the thing to do was to pray now for the soon coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. John the Apostle, New Testament Saint (1 Cor. 1:2; Phil. 4:21), and member of the Church awaited the Rapture fervently—and so should we. The conclusion of the Bible is a more-than-fitting conclusion for this discussion. John's final prayer must be our ultimate prayer. In view of all he had seen in this stunning Revelation of Jesus Christ, John uttered simply:

He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

— Rev. 22:20–21

Please see *The Gospel According to Isaiah* on [p. 17](#). ★



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Q. What is the wrath of God?

Dr. Todd Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian
staff@levitt.com



A. Wrath is often understood as a strong, vengeful anger, an impulsive uncontrollable rage, or explosive temper. This is typical of human wrath, which is usually sinful: *"For the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God"* (James 1:20).

The wrath of God is very different. **It is a strong anger that is rightly offended at a wrong; it calls for His retributive justice and punishment on the wrongdoer.** God's wrath *"is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men"* (Romans 1:18). Though God is slow to anger (Exodus 34:6; Numbers 14:18; Psalm 103:8; 145:8), His wrath is justifiably executed against those who disobey Him since He has warned humanity about the consequence of disobedience.

Through Adam, *"sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned"* (Romans 5:12). This original sin brought condemnation to every human (Romans 5:16–17). And God's wrath remains on every person who refuses to repent and believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (John 3:18, 36).



Fleeing Sodom and Gomorrah by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872) for *Bible Pictures and What They Teach Us* by Charles Foster, published in 1897, Philadelphia, PA

Scripture notes seven types of God's wrath:

- 1. Eternal wrath** in Hell and the lake of fire is reserved for all unbelievers (Luke 16:19–31; Revelation 20:11–15).
- 2. Eschatological (End Times) wrath** comes during the seven-year Tribulation period as foretold by the Prophets and in Revelation 6–19.
- 3. Cataclysmic wrath** is seen in the flood of Noah's time, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, and even natural disasters like earthquakes and plagues.
- 4. Consequential wrath** is revealed by the sowing and reaping principle (Galatians 6:7–8), when people reject God's Word.
- 5. The wrath of abandonment** is God's removal of restraint, allowing humans to suffer the destructive results of sin.
- 6. Vindictory wrath** comes when God judges an individual or nation for harming His servants—such as with Pharaoh (Exodus 7–14), the mocking youth (2 Kings 2:23–24), and Elymas the sorcerer (Acts 13:8–11).
- 7. Hardening wrath** occurs when God hardens unbelievers because they reject Him and His Word (Matthew 13:14–15).

The only deliverance from God's punitive wrath comes through the substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ. His sacrifice on the Cross saves and delivers the repentant Believer from all of God's wrath. Once you trust Jesus for salvation, you will never come under God's condemnatory wrath again.

"Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him!"

—Romans 5:9 ★

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After August Rosado and I arrived at Ben-Gurion Airport in March 2022 for our 50th Gospel outreach to Israel, **Leod** drove us to the car rental office. The Holy Spirit impressed upon August and me to talk with Leod about the Messianic prophecies of the *Tanach* (Old Testament) and how they point to and were exclusively fulfilled by Yeshua of Nazareth, as noted in the *Brit Hadashah* (New Testament). We were encouraged when Leod told us that he does not believe the lies that were being slanderously spread about Yeshua in Israel — a reference to the unbelieving rabbis in the Land.



Todd and Leod

August and I explained how Yeshua's vicarious death on the Cross provides full atonement for our sins. We also emphasized how the Messiah's resurrection from the dead is a historical fact that brings eternal life and victory over death to all who believe in Him (John 11:25–26). Leod appreciated us sharing Yeshua with him and said that he believed our message about the Messiah.

We gave Leod a Hebrew Study Bible and explained that he can read for himself to discover what the Word of God says about Yeshua the Messiah from both Testaments of the Hebrew Scriptures (Luke 24:25–27).

The next day, August and I visited a shopping mall in Netanya, Israel. The Lord guided us to a skin care product shop where we met a young Israeli lady named **Batel**, which in Hebrew means “daughter of God.” We told her how much we love Israel and how grateful we were to be back in the Land during the Jewish holiday of Purim. Since it was Purim, we told Batel we had a *matanah* (gift) for her.

The gift we gave her was a Hebrew Study Bible that included the New Testament. We showed her from the Hebrew text some of the major Messianic prophecies about Yeshua of Nazareth that were fulfilled from the Jewish Scriptures. Batel was attentive as we explained how Yeshua was proven to be the Messiah through His fulfillment of Messianic prophecy. Batel graciously accepted the Bible from us. Then she said to us in Hebrew, “*Kol Achavod*,” which means, “great job.” She was thanking us for sharing the Gospel with her.



Todd and Batel

August and I also prayed with Batel. We ended our prayer with her “in the name of Yeshua” and she said, “Amen.” Batel is a prime example of how the Jewish people are becoming more and more open to the truth that Jesus is indeed the prophesied Messiah of the Jewish Scriptures. ★



A Nazi Massacre in Ukraine

Mark Levitt
ZLM Director
since 1988



Sergei Loznitsa's new documentary, *Babi Yar. Context*, describes the Nazi-led massacre in Ukraine. Comprised of footage that the Germans and Soviets recorded of their campaigns, it sheds light on Ukraine's complicity in the Holocaust. The complete movie review, from which this article is derived, is from [The New York Times](#). — Mark

and relentless: farms and villages set on fire by German soldiers; Jews being rounded up, humiliated, and beaten; snowy fields strewn with frozen corpses; bombs exploding in downtown Kyiv; the public hanging of 12 Germans convicted of atrocities after the war.

Loznitsa's film allows the human reality to speak for itself. A few prominent officials are identified. Nikita S. Khrushchev, for example, became the leader of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic soon after the Germans were driven out. The visual history is a catalog of faces: city-dwellers and peasants; victims, perpetrators, and bystanders; Germans, Jews, Russians, and Ukrainians. Mostly, these people don't speak.

Toward the end, scenes of courtroom testimony have a harrowing intensity beyond what pictures might convey. So does the Soviet Jewish writer Vasily Grossman's 1943 essay, "Ukraine Without Jews," quoted onscreen to emphasize the enormity of what can't be shown.

There is a political, moral dimension to the work of interpretation that Loznitsa compels. Other cities fall to the Germans; the streets fill with Ukrainians celebrating their victory as liberation from Soviet oppression. Girls in traditional costumes present bouquets of flowers to Nazi officers; banners are hoisted proclaiming the glory of Adolf Hitler and the Ukrainian nationalist Stepan Bandera. When Jews are rounded up, harassed, and brutalized, local civilians are on hand to participate.

Russian president Vladimir Putin recently claimed that one of his goals is the "denazification" of Ukraine, whose current president, Volodymyr Zelensky, is Jewish. The past that Loznitsa excavates casts its shadow on the present. ★



Soviet POWs covering a mass grave after the Babi Yar massacre, October 1, 1941

Over two days in September 1941, German soldiers, along with Ukrainian collaborators, murdered 33,771 Jews at the Babi Yar ravine outside Kyiv [known as Kiev in the Russian language]. The massacre was one of the earliest and deadliest episodes in the "holocaust by bullets," a phase of the Nazi genocide that occurred outside the mechanized slaughter of the death camps. **These mobile killing squads, called *Einsatzgruppen*, are estimated to have taken at least 1.5 million lives.**

When the Germans invaded the Soviet Union in 1941, they brought movie cameras as well as rifles. The Soviet Army did the same when it took back Kyiv in 1943. Some of those cameras were instruments of government propaganda; others were wielded by amateurs.

The killing itself took place off camera. Nearly everything that happened before and after the massacre was documented, in both black-and-white and color. The detail is unsparing

ZLM Bulletin Board



Two New National TV Networks

NRB-TV has 13 broadcast affiliates and nine cable systems. It's available on DirecTV and via satellite and Roku. As of May 26, they are airing *Our Jewish Roots* on Thursdays at 6:30pm CT.

Reaching 27 million American households, **GEB-TV** broadcasts in Tulsa OK, Phoenix AZ, Palm Springs CA, Louisville KY, Atlantic City NJ, Greenville SC, and Trinidad and Tobago. It is also available on DirecTV, Roku, LifeStream, Apple TV, Amazon TV, and Europe's Eutelsat. Soon GEB-TV will be airing *Our Jewish Roots* on Thursdays at 5:30pm CT.



Do Jewish Lives Matter?

Apparently not to the third-grade teacher who required students to reenact the Holocaust "because Jews ruined Christmas." The children simulated digging mass graves and dying in gas chambers. A Jewish student, cast as Hitler, pretended to commit suicide at the end of the exercise. Watkins Elementary School in Washington, D.C. was the scene of this travesty. A school district spokesperson apologized and explained, "This was not an approved lesson plan."



Zola's Free Buffet

In 1995, our vendor offered to copyright protect the VHS cassettes on which we marketed our television series. We declined after imagining post-Apocalyptic evangelists being foiled when trying to distribute copies of Zola's timeless Bible teaching to underground churches. Now we've gone a step further in disseminating Messianic teaching: Our news magazine ads for DVDs ([pp. 11, 17, 20](#)) serve as menus for a free online buffet that's always open (at levitt.tv) for those craving solid, two-Testament, Bible teaching from Israel.



FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

Questions & Answers About Estate Planning discusses embracing the future by taking time to prepare for it. After explaining what occurs without an estate plan, the pamphlet suggests how to begin creating one. It also touches on ways to complement a will, including trusts, joint ownership arrangements, and beneficiary designations. Finally, it suggests ways to make charitable gifts within estate plans while enjoying immediate tax savings. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

Request POM #5.



"Come Home!"

**Zola
Tours
to Israel**



*See page 36
for details*





Courtesy:
The Jerusalem
Connection



| | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|--------|
| תָּבוּא | אֵלֶיךָ | וְשׁוּעָתִי | תִּפְלְטִי | שְׁמָעָה | יְהוָה |
| tah-voh' | ei-lei'-kha | ve-shav-ah-tee' | te-feel-lah-tee' | sheem-ah' | Adonai |
| come | to You | and let my cry | my prayer | hear | O LORD |

**“O LORD, hear my prayer;
and let my cry come before You.”**

- Psalm 102:1

Life is often a messy business for us. We are weak. We are tempted. We are filled with ambivalence; we contradict ourselves. We struggle; we falter; we sin. At times we may feel lost and inconsolably alone.

But faith is a gift from Heaven — the gift of God’s presence. As such, the miracle attests that “God is with us.” This is true in times of darkness or in moments of sadness, heartache, confusion, anger, and fear. Where is God in our sorrows, our losses, or our nightmares? He is with us. Despite the blindness of our hearts, the Spirit whispers: “I am with you.” God never leaves us; He never forsakes us. He cares. His heart spans *“the breadth and length and height and depth”* (Eph. 3:18) of all that we are, expressed in His groans for our deliverance, in drops of blood sweat out in His passion, in the forsakenness and utmost anguish of the Cross. Faith believes and then sees.

God is with us, yet in the busyness of daily life, we often lose sight of Him. We forget. We go dark. We go into exile. And then, in “the mercy of our misery,” we sense

the call of His heart once again:

“Come unto me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matt. 11:28). We

slow down and again seek His hidden Presence, remembering His greatness and turning our thoughts back to what is ultimately real.

Then the dramas of this world that we thought were so big suddenly seem small and insignificant. We remember the Lord our God; we revisit what matters most of all.

And as we do so, the Spirit of God begins to flow within us as we reconnect with our true identity as God’s beloved child. We come back to the open arms of our Savior. He is alive; Jesus is real; we belong to Him and He will lead us into the depths of His love forever and ever. Amen.

Friend, if you struggle inwardly with sin and despair over yourself, remember: Faith is itself the struggle to believe, and therefore the struggle reveals the presence of earnestness within you. **God sees you and hears the cry of your heart. His name is Faithful.** ★



[The Gospel According to Isaiah](#)

DVD Set

Eight 30-minute TV programs on Two DVDs

The Gospel of Isaiah, written 700 years before Christ, reveals the Jewish nature of our Messiah and the fulfillment of His coming as the Lamb of God. See why New Testament authors have quoted Isaiah more than any other Old Testament source and why this Old Testament narrative is often called the 5th Gospel.

Jesus' Birth Dr. Jeffrey Seif takes us through the drama of Jesus' miraculous birth as described by Isaiah the Prophet. Isaiah foretold that the Messiah would come as a "root out of dry ground" and that "His name shall be called Immanuel, meaning God with us."

Jesus' Rejection "He was despised and rejected by men." Jeff explains that the theme of rejecting God's anointed is not new to Isaiah. On location at an ancient Jewish synagogue, we learn that the Messiah who was rejected shall one day be vindicated. Zola teaches Jesus' prophetic fulfillment of Isaiah 53 (from *The Prophesied Messiah* series, now available only in the archive).

Jesus' Condemnation At the Church of the Gallicantu, Jeff explores the story of Jesus' arrest and condemnation by the unbelieving Pharisees and Pilate. Thought to be the location of Caiaphas' house, the Gallicantu is where Peter denied the Lord three times before the rooster crowed.

Jesus' Death How can a Jewish Messiah be "numbered with the transgressors?" In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jeff reports on Jesus' suffering as foreseen by Isaiah to fulfill a final blood atonement for the entire world. We see a dramatic exploration of Jesus' sacrifice for sins, and Zola playing "For His Name's Sake."

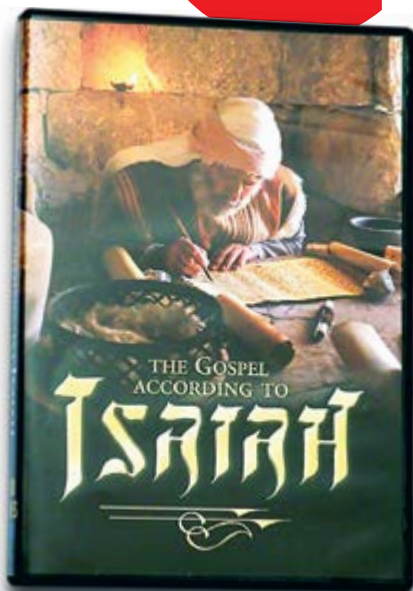
Jesus' Resurrection The concept of resurrection from the dead did not originate in the New Testament. Isaiah prophesied that Jesus the Messiah would conquer death and the grave. Witness a celebration of Jesus' miraculous fulfillment of prophecy. In addition, Zola and Dr. Michael Wise discuss Messianic prophecy from the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Holy Spirit Jesus told His disciples, "You are the light of the world." At the Temple Mount's Southern Steps, Jeff teaches the prophetic nature of the Holy Spirit as fulfilled by Jesus and spread to all Believers like a fire from on high. Zola plays special music from our series *Tell It On the Mountains*, now available only in the archive.

Rebounding from Devastation At the ruins of a first-century estate, Jeff explores the prophecy of Jesus as the Deliverer. God sent the Messiah to set the captives free and heal the broken-hearted. Discover the Hebrew meaning behind the Lord's Prayer, and enjoy an enlightening interview with Zola and Ra'anana Gissin, a former senior advisor to then-prime minister Ariel Sharon.

Summary Atop the Mount of Olives, Jeff reviews the entirety of Isaiah's prophecy concerning the Jewish Messiah's birth, rejection, death, and resurrection. Nevertheless, Jesus' active role in prophecy will not be completely fulfilled until He returns to Jerusalem to rule and reign for 1,000 years.

Please see the Classic Zola article "End Times for Believers — Part 4" on [p.10](#).





Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

| Qty. | Title | Price | Total |
|-------|--|-------|-------|
| _____ | A Christian Love Story | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | Glory! The Future of the Believers | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | How Can a Gentile Be Saved? | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | In My Father's House | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | Israel, My Promised | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | The Miracle of Passover | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | The Promised Land | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | The Second Coming (pictured) | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | Seven Churches—Does Yours Fit In? | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | The Seven Feasts of Israel | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | The Spirit of Pentecost (p.25) | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | Mix or Match: 50 Classic Study Booklets (above) | \$49 | _____ |

Books

| | | | |
|-------|--|------|-------|
| _____ | America's Godly Heritage (David Barton) (pictured) | \$7 | _____ |
| _____ | An Epic Love Story (Myles Weiss).... (Part of 50-book offer above) | \$4 | _____ |
| _____ | The Beginning of The End | \$9 | _____ |
| _____ | The Bible Jesus Read | \$11 | _____ |
| _____ | Broken Branches — Zola on Replacement Theology (pictured) | \$7 | _____ |
| _____ | The Bulletproof George Washington (David Barton) | \$9 | _____ |
| _____ | Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy (p.23) | \$12 | _____ |
| _____ | The Green Horse—The Bible & Islam (Norma Archbold) | \$12 | _____ |
| _____ | Heaven and Earth (Ken Berg) (pictured) | \$18 | _____ |
| _____ | The Iranian Menace (Jeff Seif) | \$9 | _____ |
| _____ | Israel's Right to the Land | \$3 | _____ |
| _____ | The Mountains of Israel (Norma Archbold) (pictured) | \$10 | _____ |
| _____ | Once Through the New Testament | \$10 | _____ |
| _____ | Our Hands are Stained with Blood (updated) | \$16 | _____ |
| _____ | Signs of the End: The Millennium | \$8 | _____ |
| _____ | What About Us? (Eitan Shishkoff) | \$10 | _____ |
| _____ | Whose Land Is It? | \$7 | _____ |
| _____ | Zola's Introduction to Hebrew (John Parsons) (pictured) | \$39 | _____ |

Featured DVDs

| | | | | |
|-------|--|-----------------------|------|-------|
| _____ | Acts: Then and Now | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Bad Moon Rising | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | The Bible, The Whole Story (p.11) | (7 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$39 | _____ |
| _____ | Called Together | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Ezekiel & MidEast "Piece" | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | NEW! Faith for the Future (pictured) | (10 progs., 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Faith of Our Fathers | (8 progs., 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | The Gospel According to Isaiah (p.17) | (8 progs., 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Jerusalem: Ancient Gates/Future Glory | (8 progs., 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Joshua: More Than a Conqueror | (8 progs., 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Kings and Kingdoms | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Psalms of Ascent | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Revelation | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Ruth: Your People Shall Be | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | Sons of Promise | (8 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$49 | _____ |
| _____ | The Temple | (6 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$39 | _____ |
| _____ | 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 | _____ |
| _____ | The Witnessing Series (p.20) | (4 programs, 1-DVD) | \$29 | _____ |
| _____ | Zion Forever | (9 programs, 2-DVDs) | \$59 | _____ |

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|------|--|-----------|-------|
| ___ | 2-flag Collar Pin (pictured) | \$2 | ___ |
| ___ | AHAVA Mineral Trio (Body, Foot & Hand) | \$98 | ___ |
| ___ | AHAVA Mineral Body Lotion 17 oz. | \$58 | ___ |
| ___ | AHAVA Mineral Foot Cream 3.4 oz. | \$23 | ___ |
| ___ | AHAVA Mineral Hand Cream 3.4 oz. | \$24 | ___ |
| ___ | Bookmark "The Prophesied Messiah" (p.20) | 2 for \$1 | ___ |
| ___ | Bookmark "Things to Come" (p.20) | 2 for \$1 | ___ |
| ___ | Drink Koozies (pictured) | 2 for \$6 | ___ |
| ___ | Flag of Israel (3' x 5') | \$10 | ___ |
| ___ | Grafted-In Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut) | \$2 | ___ |
| ___ | Grafted-In Sterling Silver Necklace (with 18" chain) | \$39 | ___ |
| ___ | Jewish Heritage Calendar (5782 / 2022) (pictured) | \$6 | ___ |
| ___ | Pictorial Map of Jerusalem | \$12 | ___ |
| ___ | Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land | \$7 | ___ |
| ___ | "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker | \$3 | ___ |
| ___ | "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Button (p.5) .. (4 of 1 design) | \$8 | ___ |
| ___ | Zola's Notebook (p.11) | \$25 | ___ |
| ___ | Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only) | no charge | ___ |

Teaching CDs

| | | | | |
|-----|---|---------|------|-----|
| ___ | The Beginning of the End (includes music) | (2 CDs) | \$14 | ___ |
| ___ | Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy (p.23) (CD) | | \$8 | ___ |
| ___ | The Spirit of Pentecost (p.25) | (CD) | \$8 | ___ |
| ___ | Zola Teaches the New Testament (pictured) | (6 CDs) | \$29 | ___ |

Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

| | | | | |
|-----|---|----------------------------------|------|-----|
| ___ | A Pilgrim's Journey (pictured) | (Music CD) | \$12 | ___ |
| ___ | The Works I | (Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs) | \$49 | ___ |
| ___ | The Works II | (Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs) | \$49 | ___ |
| ___ | Zion Song (The Harts) (p.36) | (Music CD) | \$12 | ___ |

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We Accept
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The Witnessing Series DVD

Four 30-minute TV programs on 1 DVD

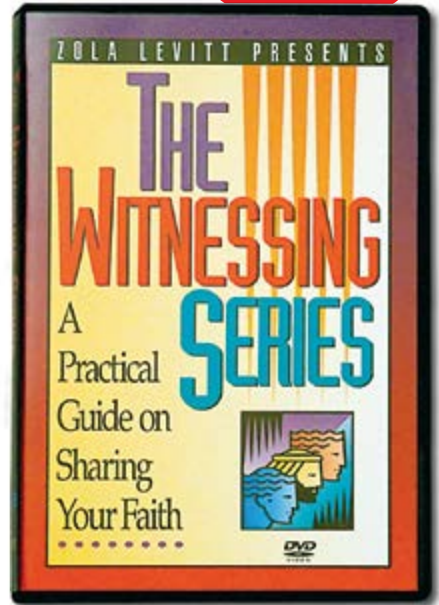
The key to witnessing is sharing the Bible. But how you go about presenting Yeshua's message depends on your listener. These four half-hour TV programs on DVD are our response to viewers who've asked, "How do I witness to...?"

Witnessing to Arabs/Muslims Dr. Louis Hamada, an Arab born in Syria, conveys the importance of sharing the news of our Lord and Savior with the Muslims.

Witnessing to Jews, Part I Zola interviews David Gold, a Jewish radio host, who gives his testimony of accepting Jesus as Messiah.

Witnessing to Jews, Part II Messianic Jews from several walks of life share how they came to faith in Yeshua.

Witnessing to Gentiles Zola uses Peter's confrontation with Cornelius in Acts 10 as a reminder that "God is no respecter of persons."



The Prophesied Messiah and Things to Come— Witnessing Bookmarks

Both of these handsomely designed 2¼" x 7" sturdy bookmarks are excellent witnessing tools.

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 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."

Please see "Letters" response to "Dear R.A. and J.P." pp. 24-25.

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



Dry Bones

Shavuot

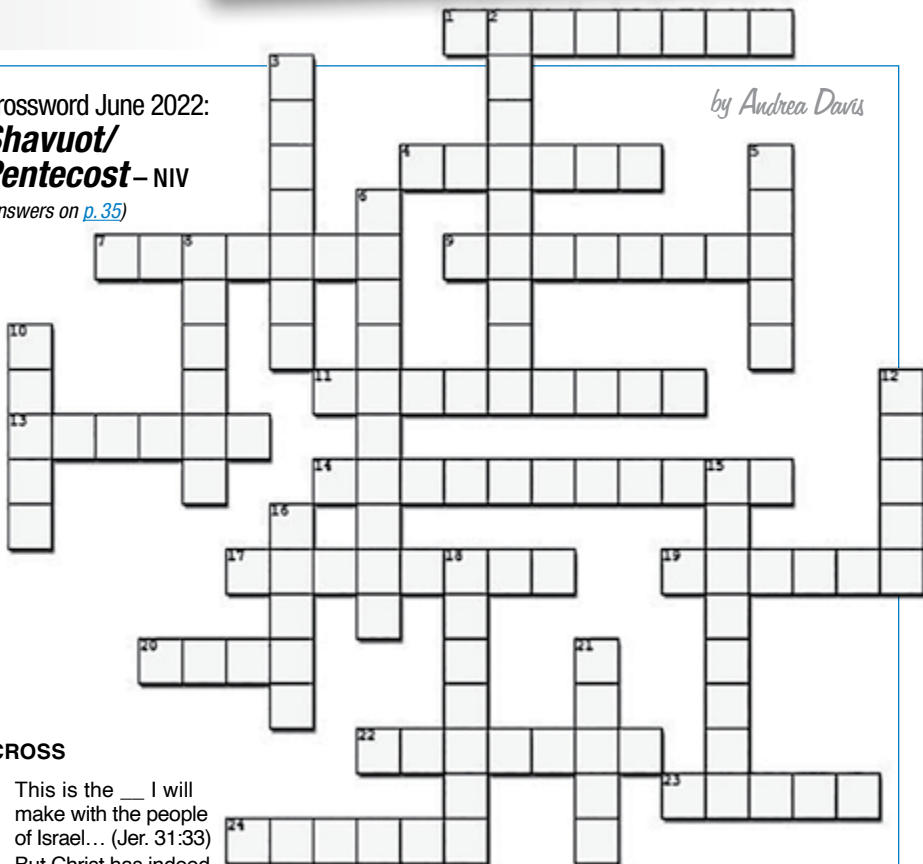


Crossword June 2022:

Shavuot/ Pentecost – NIV

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

by *Andrea Davis*



ACROSS

1. This is the ___ I will make with the people of Israel... (Jer. 31:33)
4. But Christ has indeed been ___ from the dead... (1 Cor. 15:20)
7. ...The harvest is plentiful, but the ___ are few... (Luke 10:2)
9. ...each one heard their own ___ being spoken. (Acts 2:6)
11. When the day of ___ came, they were all together... (Acts 2:1)
13. These are a ___ of the things that were to come... (Col. 2:17)
14. take some of the ___ of all that you produce... (Deut. 26:2)
17. Let both grow ___ until the harvest... (Matt. 13:30)
19. ...I will be their God, and they will be My ___. (Heb. 8:10)
20. ...they are ___ for harvest. (John 4:35)
22. ...we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He ___. (James 1:18)
23. ...about three thousand were ___ to their number... (Acts 2:41)

24. All of them were filled with the Holy _____. (Acts 2:4)

DOWN

2. ...this is to be a lasting ___ for the generations to come... (Lev. 23:14)
3. ...He gave him the two ___ of the covenant law... (Ex. 31:18)
5. He will love you and ___ you... (Deut. 7:13)
6. Speak to the ___ and say to them... (Lev. 23:10)
8. ...and to give His life as a ___ for many. (Matt. 20:28)
10. The Lord said to ___ (Lev. 23:9)
12. Mount Sinai was covered with _____. (Ex. 19:18)
15. ...Everyone in the camp ___. (Ex. 19:16)
16. ...a land flowing with milk and _____. (Deut. 26:9)
18. Celebrate the Festival of _____. (Ex. 23:16)
21. Celebrate the Festival of _____. (Ex. 34:22)





Letters to ZLM

Some letters have been edited for space.
For ministry products and TV programs,
visit our [web store](http://www.levitt.com) and [video archives](#).

Letters, emails, and comments from www.levitt.com and [YouTube](#)

Catholic influence?

From M.T.: Does anyone object to the Catholic innuendo creeping into ZLM? I was shocked a couple of years ago when a picture of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, famous in the Catholic Church, appeared in the *Levitt Letter* with the Virgin Mary depicted in the center of the Apostles and disciples. I see where this is going. I am sad, for I know my letter will get ignored and thrown away, but we will pray for you all and enjoy the good things still going on, as Zola would appreciate.

Dear M.T.: Our graphic artist occasionally uses some traditional Christian art in the *Levitt Letter* and the *Personal Letter*, but there has been no change in our theological focus. There is no Catholic influence or direction at ZLM. We should all be cautious about allowing man-made traditions into our Christian life as if they are from God. It has never been our intent to send subliminal messages, and we will pay greater attention to how our art choices could be interpreted. — Editor

Dear M.T.: We have many wonderful Catholic Believers who support this ministry and go with us on Zola Tours. We are family. Let's not allow division to invade the beautiful kaleidoscope of those who love the Lord. — Kirsten

Thanks for the *Levitt Letter*

From E.M.: Thank you for staying true to the Lord's command and blessing Israel. The *Levitt Letter* is packed with history, current events, medical news, and human-interest stories. I look forward to reading every issue. And after I read it, I pass on the magazine to a friend.

Dear E.M.: We're glad you see the *Levitt Letter* as we do. We work hard to produce a free publication that is filled with incredible insights and solid Biblical teaching. All this is possible through financial donations of friends like you. Thank you! — Kirsten

ZLM hates Christians?

From D.N.: I read the Classic Zola article ["The New 'Christian' Anti-Semitism," [February 2022 Levitt Letter, p. 10](#)]. After reading this article, I believe

(continued on next page)



Dry Bones

In the End



Zola Levitt to be guilty of hatred of Christians. He has bunched all Christians into one basket and then points out one bad Christian (or several) spoiling all Believers, making them all anti-Semites. That allegation simply is not true! As such, I no longer wish to be contacted by your anti-Christian organization, nor do I want to receive your propagandistic news magazine. I simply cannot support any organization that hates Christians and America, which is revealed in other *Levitt Letters*. My hope is that you all pack up and return to Israel; take David and Kirsten with you — they love Israel very much. You can get a jump on the pending “return to Israel,” of which the Bible speaks.

Dear D.N.: ZLM is not an anti-Christian organization. Zola certainly didn't hate Christians, nor does ZLM hate America. In fact, we recently produced a series about America's Christian founding, [*Faith of Our Fathers!*](#)

Zola founded ZLM in part to teach the Jewish people about Yeshua. Now it seems that God primarily uses it to teach Christians about the Jewish roots of their faith. You might be surprised to know that most of those who work for ZLM are not Jewish Believers but are, in fact, gentile Christians! — Greg H., Webmaster

Thanks from a grafted-in gentile

From B.J.: I just wanted to say thank you for all you do for Yeshua and all of us ZLMers! I started watching Zola when I first got saved in 1988. Your ministry was and is foundational in my knowing that Jesus/Yeshua is Jewish, that I as

(continued on next page)



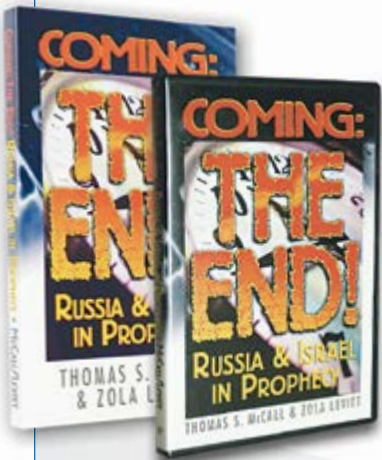
Coming: The End! **Russia & Israel in Prophecy** book & CD

(A reprinting of the classic book)

by Zola Levitt and Dr. Thomas S. McCall

This study of a primary End Times prophecy is vital for all who believe the Scriptures. One chapter, “A Strategy for Unbelievers,” even tells unbelievers how to cope with the Tribulation Period! This basic book of prophecy analyzes the world situation in surprising terms. Hal Lindsey called it “a must-read for everyone who wants to know where we are on God's timetable.”

This and most other titles also available as eBooks.



a gentile am grafted into the beautiful love story between God and Israel, and that the Church has not replaced Israel! I enjoy the on-site teachings, Dr. Seif, the *Levitt Letter*, the Bearded Bible Brothers, and the *Our Jewish Roots* television program.

Neglecting evangelism?

From R.A.: I have followed your organization for many years, and I have benefited greatly from Zola's books, TV programs, and the history lessons. I have donated when I was able and generally felt that your ministry was valuable and was serving God's purposes. However, I started to recognize a subtle, yet major change in the ministry. Compared to when Zola was teaching, I have seen a huge decrease in any kind of evangelical outreach.

Everything seems to be history (which I enjoy) with little to no emphasis on how to be saved. Of course, the common thread is always requesting financial support. There used to be a significant call for people to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and an emphasis on its necessity. As it has become lately, I see your ministry largely existing to exist and not to bring people into the Church of Jesus Christ. I question the continued value of ZLM under these circumstances.

From J.P.: I enjoy your program, but am wondering why Dr. Seif never actually tells the viewers how to receive salvation? I see the Information tab on levitt.com has the Road to Heaven tab, which includes the sinner's prayer, but I have never heard it expressed on *Our Jewish Roots*. Are you concerned about offending Jewish viewers? I believe you owe it to your audience to give the pure Gospel message of Jesus Christ, fully man and fully God.

The CARTOON KRONICLES



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IS THERE ANY CHANCE YOU COULD TURN
JUST A LITTLE BIT OF THAT WINE
BACK INTO WATER?

lain (p. 12) as well as the TJF Report (p. 13) in this issue. We also offer materials to help Believers share the Gospel, including [The Witnessing Series DVDs](#), our [free Witnessing Bookmark](#), the free [Four Spiritual Laws pamphlet](#), and [Some Pointers on Witnessing to Your Jewish Friends pamphlet](#). A fourth freebie, the [Prophesied Messiah Bookmark](#), offers more than a dozen OT prophecies and NT fulfillments regarding Yeshua.

(continued on next page)



Much of this ministry's teaching has been and continues to be devoted to the meat of the Word. Thus most of Zola's books, television programs, and history lessons remain available in levitt.com's vast archives, along with our more recent Biblical teaching, newsletters, and materials. — Mark

Dear R.A. and J.P.: *OJR* exists to bring the Word of God to life for all of our viewers through dramatic reenactments, insightful Bible teaching by a Messianic theological scholar, and Bible-based music. The message of salvation is beautifully woven throughout every segment of our television program. Many times I have presented a "gospel message" of salvation on the *OJR* program. Perhaps you missed our programs when I did so. — Kirsten

Please see *The Witnessing Series* DVD and *Witnessing Bookmarks: The Prophesied Messiah* and *Things to Come* on [p. 20](#).

Understanding the feasts

From J.F.: [Regarding *The Seven Feasts of Israel: Passover and Unleavened Bread* on YouTube] This is exactly why I subscribed to your channel—to get a better understanding of how the feasts were celebrated! I had no idea how Passover replicated the Lord's Supper. Looking forward to all the rest of the feasts! Blessings and *maranatha*!

Dear J.F.: It's impossible to understand the depth and symbolism of the Lord's Supper without first grasping the foundational purpose of the Feast of Pesach. We're thrilled that you have connected the dots. — David ★



The Spirit of Pentecost

study booklet & teaching CD

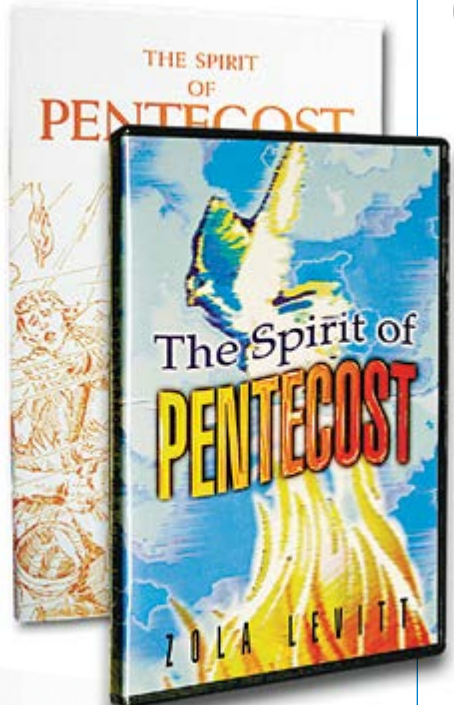
by Zola Levitt

An insightful look at Peter's stunning sermon based on Scripture from the Psalms and the Book of Joel.

Pentecost marks the inception of the universal Church and, so far, the last of the fulfilled prophetic feasts. The "birthday of the Church" is explained as it happened on that dramatic day when the Holy Spirit came.

Please see the article "Pentecost is *Shavuot*" on [p. 1](#).

(Most titles also available as eBooks.)



Israeli See-Through-Walls Tech



BY ADAM SHINDER (r) NoCamels.com

The newest through-the-wall camera, developed by Israeli company Camero, can detect any object, wire, or even shallow breathing of a human, from over 164 feet away. The technology is changing how security forces, police, and militaries respond to terror attacks, conduct drug raids and search and rescue operations, and assist in hostage situations.

"You can detect people in disaster scenarios, in the rubble or in a fire," said Amir Beeri, CEO and founder of Camero.

Camero's tech was used during the 2017 Puebla earthquake in Mexico. "When the disaster happened, [the Mexican government] gave [our tech] to rescue teams. They used it very successfully. They located life — people under rubble — and saved their lives... We're very happy with such uses," explained Beeri.

Portability is what makes the Xaver Long Range 40 (XLR40) device different from other products. It can be in a moving vehicle, hidden in walls or camouflage nets, or placed in apartments, offices, or rooftops.

The tech can be used when soldiers enter an unknown building, giving a better picture of a situation before engagement. Beeri noted that "the bad guys [won't] feel protected behind the wall... [because] we can see how many there are and their direction of movement."

It's also valuable in hostage situations. "Generally, hostages are not in motion and the kidnappers are more nervous and moving. So, you can get very valuable information, for

example, during negotiation, and in parallel to negotiation," Beeri added.

Camero's superpower "sight" comes via ultra-wideband range technology that pulsates multiple waves in nanoseconds at a wide range of frequencies. These frequencies are sent out from the XLR transmitter and the receiver measures how the waves are received compared to how they were sent out. The array of sensors on the device receives the signal and then reconstructs the image. It records and displays the data in real-time.

According to Beeri, this precision allows the system to "penetrate the external wall and at least one more internal wall so we can see deep into a house. It's based on a new patent that we have analyzing these return signals variously in a specific way."

Since 2004, Camero has been known for its through-wall imaging systems. Through the years, the Camero team has continually worked to improve the systems, giving an advantage to the users. But most importantly, the technology has helped save many lives. ★



credit: courtesy camero-tech.com

The XAVER™ XLR40



Folic Acid May Cut Risk of Dementia and Early Death

TELEGRAPH.CO.UK

A new study suggests that folic acid supplements could cut the risk of dementia.

Academics from the U.S. and Israel found that older people with low levels of vitamin B9 have a higher risk of dementia. Having low levels of the vitamin, also known as folate, has also been linked to premature death. Folate is important in helping the body make healthy red blood cells.

Pregnant women are already advised to take a supplement of the synthetic form of folate — folic acid — to help their developing baby's brain, skull, and spinal cord develop properly and avoid problems.

Researchers from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City and the University of Haifa in Israel said that folate levels should be monitored among older adults and deficiencies corrected.

The study, published in the journal *Evidence-Based Mental Health*, examined data on more than 27,000 people aged 60 to 75 from Israel. The group, none of whom had a dementia diagnosis before the start of the study, were first tested to determine whether they had a folate deficiency.

Between January 2013 and October 2017, participants were monitored for a dementia diagnosis or death. Some 3,418 participants were folate deficient.

The researchers found that folate deficiency was associated with a substantially heightened risk of



In the U.S. and many other countries, wheat flour is fortified with folic acid.

both dementia and death from any cause.

People with folate deficiency had a 1.68-fold increased risk of dementia and a 2.98-fold increased risk of dying during the follow-up period.

The authors wrote: "Serum concentrations of folate may function as a biomarker used to modify the risks of dementia and mortality in old age. The implications for public health policy appear to be to reliably monitor serum concentrations of folate in older adults and treat deficiency for preventative measures and/or as part of implemented therapeutic strategies while regularly reviewing patients' clinical outcomes."

Most adults and children can take folic acid, but it is not suitable for everyone. People with certain conditions including cancer, vitamin B12 deficiency, those on kidney dialysis, and people with a heart stent are advised to check with their doctor before taking the supplement. ★

credit: Dream79 (Deposit Photos)



A Biblical Farm in the Negev Desert

BY JUDITH SUDILOVSKY (r) Israel21c.org



credit: Judith Sudilovsky

Simcha Marom at Eshkolot Farm near Mitzpeh Ramon

Not far from Yeruham, at Ruhot Junction in southern Israel, is Eshkolot Farm. Based on Biblical agriculture, this farm was founded in 2009 by Simcha and Roni Marom.

The dream began as Roni's, who spent part of his childhood working in agriculture with his father in the Western Negev. But Roni was elected mayor of Mitzpeh Ramon in 2013. So Simcha, a former physical education teacher, determined to continue the project. She now runs the farm in keeping with Jewish laws of agriculture particular to the Land of Israel.

"I am not afraid of hard work" Simcha asserted. "I said, 'How hard can it be?' And you don't know how hard it was."

This challenge connected the Maroms to their roots — both were born in Israel's southernmost city of Eilat — and to the vision of Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion.

Ben-Gurion made his own home in this southern desert and famously said, "It is in the Negev that the creativity and pioneer vigor of Israel shall be tested."

Simcha has discovered the truth in Ben-Gurion's statement. "There is little rain and there are a lot of difficulties with theft, and difficult weather conditions in summer and winter," she admits. "But as you see,

I am here. I feel like I am a link in the chain of our history."

In her orchards, vineyard, and fields, she grows the seven Biblical species — wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates. Her 2,200-tree olive orchard includes three different varieties — Syrian, Picual, and Barnea. Twelve fig trees symbolizing the 12 tribes of Israel are planted in a circle. Two tall date palms are named Boaz and Jachin after the pillars of the First Temple.

As it is a *shmita* (sabbatical) year, and the ground is to be left fallow, the fields are currently full of weeds.

"Not everything from nature is from you. Some things are a miracle of nature," Simcha stated.

Eshkolot Farm produces and sells limited amounts of unique desert olive oil, bottles its own Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon wines, and grows orchards of apples, pears, and apricots with modern irrigation methods including an underground irrigation system using recycled water.

"There was nothing here when we came," Simcha noted. "We renewed this place after 2,000 years. You only live once, and this is our life. If this is your dream, the time to live it is now." ★



U.S. Ambassador to Israel Backs a Divided Jerusalem



BY ISRAEL KASNETT (r) JNS.org

Thomas Nides, U.S. ambassador to Israel, joined Americans for Peace Now in a webinar in March to discuss his vision for the region. "I'm center-left," he said. "I'm left generally, but I put in the 'center' just to make myself feel better."

Nides made waves soon after arriving in Israel when **he announced that he would not visit the "settlements" out of fear of offending anyone.** He also noted that "the idea of settlement growth ... infuriates me."

"We can't do stupid things that impede us for a two-state solution. We can't have the Israelis doing settlement growth in east[ern] Jerusalem or the West Bank," he said, adding that he "cares deeply about the country and the people" and just wants "to do the right thing."

Nides revealed that his "north star" is focusing on strengthening the democratic Jewish state. "However, to do that, we must have a two-state solution," he noted. "If we talk about anything but a two-state solution, it is not good for the Palestinians, it's certainly not good for Israel, it's not good for the Jews; it's not good for anyone."

The ambassador stated that he seeks to "create the atmosphere of opportunities for new leaders to emerge both in Israel and obviously in the West Bank."

He also doesn't agree with the Trump administration's approach of using an economic incentive to encourage the Palestinians to move forward. "I know it's going to sound really crass. You cannot buy off the Palestinians. I'm not saying money isn't important, but that's not exactly all the Palestinians want. They want to control their own destiny ... their own future. If we think we just lead with our check-book, it doesn't work."

In the webinar, Nides never mentioned Palestinian terrorism and the pattern of rejectionism that has gripped the Palestinian Authority for so many years. Likewise, he did not acknowledge that the Palestinians' inability to control their own destiny is directly linked to their incitement and terrorism.

Asked about the political horizon, Nides seemed to suggest Israel should share its capital, Jerusalem, with the Palestinians. "I've been clear about this, and [Biden's] been clear about this: He is fully and completely supportive of a two-state solution with a divided ... capital," he asserted. "My job is to knock down things that make that possibility impossible."



Thomas R. Nides

Nides also discussed the hot-button topic of reopening the U.S. mission for Palestinians in central Jerusalem, which Israel is firmly against. "We want to open it. Both the Israelis and Palestinians have made way too big a deal of this." ★

credit: United States Department of State





Jenya Bernstein in her youth

SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

Ukrainian Holocaust Survivor Rescued, Brought to Israel

WorldIsraelNews.com

More than 10 million Ukrainians have been displaced since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, with thousands of them immigrating to Israel.



Jenya Bernstein today

Among the refugees is Holocaust survivor **Jenya Bernstein**. Only a week before her arrival, her son and his family made *aliyah*, and he regretted not being able to convince his mother to join him.

Determined to rescue her from the intensifying situation, he managed to do so with some help. Now mother and son are reunited safely in Israel. Bernstein turns 98 in June, making her the oldest of the new arrivals from Ukraine.

"This war reminds me of World War II, and I didn't believe that I'd be in a similar situation again in my life," Bernstein said. "In the beginning, we didn't really hear the bombing until they got close to the area I live in. Then I realized that my life would be in danger once again and I may not make it out alive."

After her mother was murdered by Nazi occupiers in eastern Ukraine, Bernstein and her sisters fled to Russia, where they joined the Red Army in fighting the Nazis.

Many Palestinians Prefer Working in Israel

By Nan Jacques Zilberdik / PalWatch.org

Hoping to improve their income and living standards, many Palestinians leave the Palestinian Authority (PA) to work in Israel, mostly in the construction sector. They do this because of the higher salaries, benefits, and more orderly conditions they find in Israel.

Musa Suleiman, 49, worked in the construction sector in the PA. Three years ago, he decided to leave to work in the Israeli market. Suleiman said, "I learned the trade from my father who was a builder, and slowly I mastered construction and became skilled.... But the low salary here among us and the high [salary] in Israel caused me to leave to work there, with the hope that I will be able to improve my income.... The salary here is low, and collecting it [could] last months or years after the work has been completed, following foot-dragging and splitting into payments."

(continued on next page)



credit: Yaakov Naumi/Flash90 (source: israelnationalnews.com)

Arab workers entering Israel





According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the average salary of Palestinian construction workers in Israel is more than double what they receive in the PA. PCBS statistics also indicate that for 2021, the number of workers in the construction sector in Israel and the “settlements” was 145,500 — about 67% of the Palestinian workforce inside Israel.

Actor Jon Voight Visits Israel

By Jerusalem Post Staff, Tal Heinrich / JPost.com

Actor **Jon Voight**, 83, was in Israel in February, gathering material for a Biblical film series. Voight, an Academy Award winning actor and the father of Angelina Jolie, is known for his outspoken support for the State of Israel.

Voight’s series will focus on Israel and stories of the Bible. It is aimed at Evangelical Christians. The first episode is dedicated to the journeys of Abraham in the Holy Land. The actor is both the narrator and host.

While in Hebron, Voight noted, “We are calling [the series] ‘The Land of Israel: God’s Story,’ because it is God’s story. What we want to do is trace the beginnings of [the story] and come here and show people the places where these events happened and [give them] insight into the personalities of the Patriarchs and all of the Chosen People that have brought us to this time.”

The actor also visited Har Bracha (Mount of Blessing) in the “West Bank.” “I do not understand why Judea and Samaria are called the ‘West Bank,’” Voight remarked. “If

you look at a map, it is clear the area is the heart of Israel.”

In Har Bracha, the actor met with Yossi Dagan, Samaria Regional Council head. At Mitzpe Yosef on Har Bracha, which looks out over Joseph’s tomb, Dagan gave the movie star a bottle of wine from Har Bracha Winery.

Dagan referenced the prophecy of *Jeremiah 31:5*, “*You will plant vineyards in the mountains of Samaria.*” He said to Voight, “What I hold in my hand is not just a bottle of wine ... the prophet Jeremiah promised that one day the people of Israel would return to their land, return to Samaria and plant vineyards.”



credit: Yotam Fleisher

Jon Voight (center) in Hebron

“Over the course of a thousand years of Muslim conquest, other peoples managed to grow vines in the north and south but not on the lands of Samaria. And when the Jewish people returned to Samaria 25 years ago ... they began planting vineyards ... that today yield wine — winning international awards and considered one of the best in the world.”

“When I give you wine from the Har Bracha settlement at the top of Mount Gerizim, it’s not just a bottle of wine; you are actually holding a prophecy of Jeremiah that is being fulfilled right here,” Dagan added. ★





Archaeology

Ancient Winery Found in Israel

BY JACLYN PEISER (r) WashingtonPost.com



credit: Yaniv Berman, Israel Antiquities Authority

Excavation directors, from right to left: Dr. Jon Seligman, Liat Nadav-Ziv and Dr. Elie Hadad

First there was the treading floor — the place where bare feet stomped down on grapes, forcing the juices to gush from their skins. Then there was the compartment where the sweet liquid's sugar transformed into alcohol. Once ready, the wine spilled into cavernous octagon-shaped pits carved into the earth.

The wine was then bottled and shipped out. The factory produced over a half-million gallons per year.

Archaeologists recently discovered a 75,000-square-foot winery in the city of Yavne in central Israel. They have determined that it is 1,500 years old.



credit: Assaf Peretz, Israel Antiquities Authority

The largest known wine industry area in the world dated to the Byzantine period

A Sophisticated Operation

"We were surprised to discover a sophisticated factory here, which was used to produce wine in commercial quantities," said the directors of the excavation, which was led by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA). "We should remember that the whole process was conducted manually."

An unassuming city about 15 miles south of Tel Aviv and about four miles

(continued on next page)



east of the Mediterranean Sea, Yavne is known for being a haven to Jewish leaders about 2,000 years ago when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem. They formed a new place to study — in a vineyard, according to the archaeologists. Centuries later, the city gained notoriety for its prolific wine production.

Experts explained that the site in Yavne is the largest known wine production complex from the Byzantine period. Archaeologists found five wine presses and uncovered warehouses where the alcohol was stored and prepped for sale. The wine presses were about 2,400 square feet and almost 10 feet deep. Between each press were four warehouses with large kilns, storage containers known as Gaza jars, and thousands of pottery fragments.

Archaeologists also found oil lamps and children's toys resembling small figurines.

The winery was known to produce "Gaza and Ashkelon Wine," named for the two port cities south of Yavne. It was considered a "prestige ... light white wine," according to Jon Seligman, one of the excavation leaders.

"It was taken to many, many countries around the Mediterranean" Seligman noted. He explained that in ancient times, wine was commonly used as a substitute for water, which was often contaminated. "This was a major source of nutrition."

The IAA's excavation in Yavne, which is in partnership with the Israel Land Authority's initiative to develop the city, began two years ago. Eli Eskozido, the director of the IAA, called the project a "mega-excavation" that has employed hundreds of workers and dozens of permanent

staff and experts. He added, "Our archaeologists are doing sacred work by exposing unknown chapters of the history of the country, while working hard in the heat and cold."

Yavne Mayor Zvi Gur-Ari said he is looking forward to the site being preserved and presented as an educational tourist destination. "The impressive findings strengthen the recognition of the importance of the city of Yavne and its glorious past throughout the periods," Gur-Ari noted. ★



credit:
Assaf Peretz,
Israel Antiquities Authority



top: Five huge wine presses bottom: Excavation site

Nelson Mandela's Grandson: Israel to Blame for Russian Attack on Ukraine



BY BEN COHEN (r) [Algemeiner.com](#)

A South African member of parliament who is also the grandson of Nelson Mandela, the country's iconic leader in the struggle against apartheid during the late 20th century, made headlines for a bombastic speech in which he branded Ukraine's leaders as "neo-Nazis" who are allied with "apartheid Israel's dogs of war."

Nkosi Zwelivelile "Mandla" Mandela, a convert to Islam who is one of South Africa's most outspoken anti-Zionist activists, **spoke at a session of the Pan African Palestinian Solidarity Network** in the Senegalese capital Dakar in March, where he began by greeting "the global BDS family" — a reference to the cluster of pro-Palestinian organizations pushing for a comprehensive boycott of Israel.

Omitting the fact that Russia invaded Ukraine in February, Mandela blamed the war on Israel and the western alliance. "The global military industrial complex that beat the drums of war in Ukraine feeds an agenda of which they are the sole beneficiaries. Behind them [lie] the ruins of Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq. They are joined in this disgraceful endeavor by neo-Nazis in Ukraine, the apartheid Israel dogs of war, and those in NATO intent on advancing cold war politics," Mandela asserted.

The false accusation that Ukraine is led by neo-Nazis originated with Russian President Vladimir Putin and members of his inner circle. Despite being roundly condemned by Holocaust survivors, Jewish groups, and western governments, the accusation has been endorsed by some pro-Russian commentators in the west on both the far left and the extreme right.



Nkosi Zwelivelile "Mandla" Mandela, grandson of the late South African President Nelson Mandela

Mandela also painted a conspiratorial picture of a vast "Zionist" effort to dominate the African continent, drawing on anti-Semitic tropes about Jewish wealth and political influence. "Apartheid Israel has done all in its power to deny the Palestinian people their very existence," he claimed. "It has mobilized formidable lobbies in the West and pursued a policy of checkbook diplomacy in Africa."

He complained about the Jewish state's admission to the African Union (AU) as an observer member in July 2021. "We must, as our first line of duty, step up our mobilization ... and remove apartheid Israel from its AU observer status," Mandela declared.

While the younger Mandela holds extreme anti-Zionist positions supporting the destruction of Israel as a Jewish state, his late grandfather rejected these, insisting that only a two-state solution would deliver justice to both Israel and the Palestinians. A billboard campaign staged by South African Friends of Israel last year in Johannesburg highlighted Nelson Mandela's documented commitment to the continued existence of a Jewish state. ★





Jewish HUMOR etc.

A cheerful heart is
good medicine—
Proverbs 17:22

An Incredible Dog

When a man walked into a synagogue with a dog, the shammass (sexton) said to him, "This is a house of worship. You can't bring your dog in here."

"What do you mean," the man replied, "this is a Jewish dog. Look."

The shammass looked carefully and saw that the dog had a tallis bag around its neck.

"Rover," commanded the man, "kippah!"

"Woof!" replied the dog, who opened the tallis bag, removed a kippah (yarmulke or skullcap), and put it on his head.

"Rover," instructed the man, "daven!"

"Woof!" answered the dog, who opened the tallis bag, removed a siddur (prayer book), and began to daven (pray).

"That's incredible," exclaimed the shammass. "You should take him to Hollywood; get him on television; get him in the movies. He could make millions of dollars!!"

"You speak to him," sighed the man, "he wants to be a doctor." ★

Dry Bones

Golda Meir



Answer Key for June 2022 Crossword (p.21)

Across:

1. Covenant
4. Raised
7. Workers
9. Language
11. Pentecost
13. Shadow
14. Firstfruits

Down:

2. Ordinance
3. Tablets
5. Bless
6. Israelites
8. Ransom
10. Moses
12. Smoke
15. Trembled
16. Honey
18. Harvest
21. Weeks



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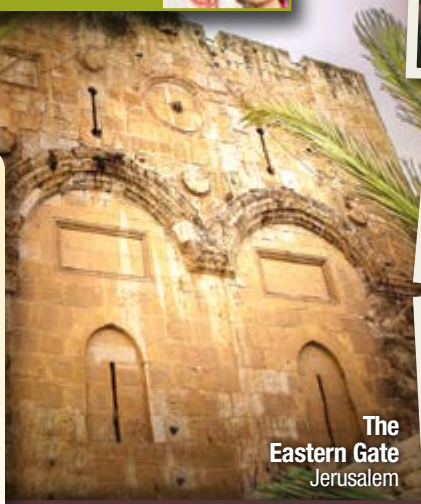
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Deluxe: Mar. 13–23
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Grand Petra: Mar. 13–26
(Israel & Petra)

Dates and prices are pending
for the Spring tour.

For more info and registration see:
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