



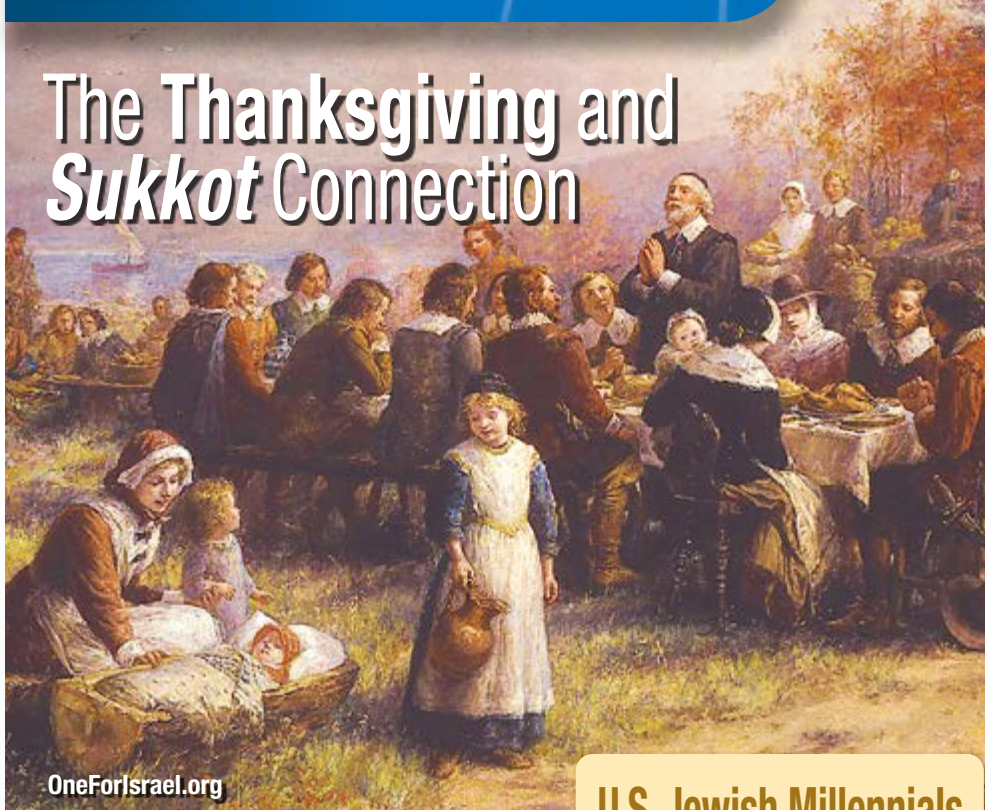
Levitt LETTER

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

NOVEMBER 2022

inside: An Attitude
of Gratitude p.4

The Thanksgiving and Sukkot Connection



Thanksgiving at Plymouth (1925) by Jennie Augusta Brownscombe, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

OneForIsrael.org

On the fourth Thursday of November, Americans celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving. The roots of the feast are quite interesting, and relate to *Sukkot*, the Feast of Tabernacles.

Shortly before his assassination in 1963, President John F. Kennedy declared:

Over three centuries ago, our forefathers in Virginia and in Massachusetts, far from home in a lonely wilderness, set aside a time of thanksgiving. On the appointed day, they gave reverent thanks for their safety, for the health of their children, for the fertility of their fields, for the love which bound them together, and for the faith which united them with their God.

The Sukkot Connection

Before coming to America, some Christians fled persecution in England, because of their Puritan beliefs, and settled for a while in Hol-

(continued p.8)

U.S. Jewish Millennials Care about Israel

By Ron Kampeas / JTA.org

American Jewish millennials have positive feelings about Israel, even when they answer questions that are infused with anxiety about its status.



Dana Steiner

A poll by the American Jewish Committee (AJC) found that a majority of Jews aged 25–40 think Israel is necessary for the survival of the Jewish people (69.6%). Over 72% think that it's important for American Jews to maintain close ties with Israel. Almost two-thirds (64.7%) indicated that they took pride in Israel's accomplishments.

Asked whether the "actions of the State of Israel have made my life as

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REMEMBER:
Thanksgiving: Thursday, November 24



U.S. Jewish Millennials ... *continued from cover sidebar*

an American Jew more difficult,” 58% said that did not describe their experience.

A majority (62.2%) disagreed when asked if they’ve been forced to hide their Jewish identity because of “the anti-Israel climate, on campus or elsewhere.” Some (10.9%) even said that they didn’t think there is an anti-Israel climate.

But a third of respondents stated that Israeli actions have in fact made their lives more difficult, and one-fifth said anti-Israel sentiment had corroded their friendships or caused them to hide their Jewishness.

Dana Steiner, director of AJC ACCESS Global, is a millennial. She has heard concerns from others her age who said, “I’m worried that my generation is not going to care anymore or that they won’t support Israel in a way



credit: Reuters

Supporters of Israel dance during a rally in New York in 2020

that could potentially risk its existential standing.”

Steiner wanted to discover if the concerns were true. “Is there really an existential crisis at play? ... I think what our data suggests is: No, there isn’t,” she added. “Seeing this was very affirming and very helpful for us.”

YouGov conducted the survey of 800 American Jews, ages 25-40, in early 2022. It had a margin of error of 4.69 percentage points. ★



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The Dead Sea minerals and soothing Aloe Vera protect the skin and elevate the natural hydration processes for a smooth, refined skin texture.





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Happy Thanksgiving!

To our ZLM family, we wish you peace and joy as we set aside a day of Thanks-giving. While this is a U.S. holiday commemorating an event hundreds of years ago, we are taking this opportunity to thank YOU, our dedicated ministry partners. Your prayers and financial gifts keep this ministry afloat; you have been faithful to both. As we approach the end of 2022, would you consider an above-and-beyond donation to help us finish strong? Contact our office for some creative ways you can help fund our Gospel ministry. ☆



Happy Thanksgiving from
the production crew in Israel,
David & Kirsten

An Attitude of Gratitude



BY PASTOR CHUCK SWINDOLL (r) Insight.org

King David knew the sting of unjust treatment as keenly as anyone in history. To keep mistreatment from undermining his relationship with God, he put some resolutions into a song. Having determined to remain open before the Lord and remember His love, David committed to letting God be the judge of others' sins.

Resolved: I will refuse the temptation to get even.

I do not sit with deceitful men, nor will I go with pretenders.

I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

— Psalm 26:4–5

Getting involved with the wrong crowd is a by-product of doubting and drifting. Being mistreated makes us especially vulnerable to this trap. You will always find a group of people who will take your side, encouraging compromise and rebellion — they say, “Why put up with that? You deserve justice, so get even. Fight back!”



Consider David's plight. Perhaps he was tempted when Saul hunted for him out of jealousy. David did not deserve such unfair treatment. On more than one occasion, he deliberately resisted getting even, though a few of his friends urged him to do so. David felt that if the Lord could protect him, God could handle his enemies as well. (This would be a good time to stop and read 1 Samuel 24:1–20; 26:6–12.)

Then again, David may have written this song during the days of torment when his favored son Absalom conspired against him and unfairly took the throne of Israel away from him (2 Samuel 15:1–6). David had to run for his life. Though he was mistreated, David wisely never attempted to “get back” at his son or yield to the vengeful rhetoric of men around him.

Perhaps you have fallen prey to the unwise counsel of misguided associates. In the words of Psalm 26, when this happens, you “sit with deceitful

(continued on next page)



Detail of *David Shows Saul How He Spared His Life* (1 Sam. 24), engraving (1866) by Gustave Doré (1832–1883) from *Doré's English Bible*



(worthless) men” and “go with pretenders (hypocrites).” Stop and ponder the Apostle Paul’s wisdom: *“Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company corrupts good morals’”* (1 Corinthians 15:33). How very true! You cannot associate with corrupt people and walk away unaffected. The point is clear: Do not let mistreatment cause you to turn to the godless crowd or adopt their way of handling things. It may seem logical, but getting even often backfires, and it never glorifies God!

Resolved: Maintain a positive attitude.

I shall wash my hands in innocence, and I will go about Your altar, O LORD, that I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving and declare all Your wonders. — Psalm 26:6–7



David was concerned that his heart remained right. Therefore, in his song, he refers to washing his hands and staying near God’s altar. These word pictures were familiar to the Jews. Exodus 30:17–21 mentions the laver (basin) of bronze in the tabernacle. It was used to wash the priests’ hands and feet before they approached the altar to minister. If they failed to wash, they risked death!

David picks up that very important principle in his song on mistreatment and applies it to his situation.

He stayed very near his Lord at this time, making sure that his sins were confessed and his heart attitude was clean. By doing so, he remained pure and positive. This did not guarantee, however, that the mistreatment suddenly ended. Consider the psalmist’s words in which he admits the internal danger caused by mistreatment:

Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and washed my hands in innocence; for I have been stricken all day long and chastened every morning. — Psalm 73:13–14

Don’t think that a clean life is immediately blessed with pleasant circumstances. But rest assured that maintaining the proper relationship with the Lord is still the very best way to endure mistreatment. Ultimately, it is rewarded.

Also note that Psalm 26:7 refers to an attitude of thanksgiving. David actually suggested words of thanksgiving to God for being mistreated. Isn’t that remarkable? Talk about a positive attitude! The crucial test of giving thanks in everything (1 Thessalonians 5:18) occurs when we suffer mistreatment. That is the supreme test of our attitude of gratitude. There is every temptation to forget to give God thanks for the privilege of being His example to others when we have been “done wrong.” Learn to respond first with a genuine “Thanks, Lord,” when some undeserved attack comes your way. If you do this, you will be unique. Furthermore, **a positive attitude clears our minds of needless debris** — mental garbage that cannot counteract all Scriptural counsel. ☆



Where Exactly?

Kirsten Hart
Studio co-host of
Our Jewish Roots



David and I just toured Israel for our 13th time. Each time I visit the Holy Land, I glean new insights from our incredibly wise Israeli guides. Sometimes when we visit a Biblical event's location, I hear other tour guides also teaching about what happened there. Occasionally, the details vary from one guide to the next, so I wonder who is right.

Believers* visiting Israel are fascinated with the locations of Biblical events. Some destinations—the Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, and Mediterranean Sea—remain exactly where they were when Jesus walked the land. While some landmarks have changed—the Jordan River's width and depth vary annually based on rainfall and irrigation—the Jordan still has the same originating headwaters, flow pattern, and final destination at the Dead Sea. It hasn't moved.



*Painting of the Holy Land (1455) from a translation of the *Descriptio Terrae Sanctae* by Burchard du Mont-Sion (1283)*



Nativity (1350) miniature painting by Master of Vyšší Brod, National Gallery Prague

Location, Location, Location

It's not always easy, however, to know the exact locations of other places the Bible mentions. For instance, various locations are proposed for the First Temple, Jesus' birthplace, and His crucifixion. Why? Simply put, humans have lost track. In our monthly *Personal Letter*, Sarah Liberman wrote a series about the location of the Garden of Eden that was both insightful and thought provoking. (You can read these issues at levitt.com/essays/eden.) Sarah's research and opinions seem credible, but are they *truth*? This is a question for our discernment.

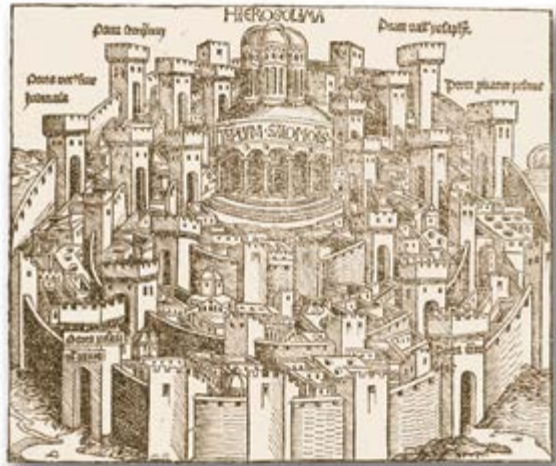
The Great Search

In A.D. 324, the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great appointed his mother, Helena,

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

to search out relics of the Christian faith in the Holy Land. Helena sought to find the locations of Jesus' birth, Golgotha, and the Crucifixion. The writings of her pilgrimage often include the phrase "traditional site." Throughout the ages, oral (and written) tradition has asserted where certain Biblical events occurred. But often there's more than one tradition. So *whose* tradition should you believe? What if traditions differ between groups or individuals? Who is right and who is wrong?



The oldest printed map of Jerusalem (1493) by Hartmann Schedel, Nürnberg (from the *Liber Cronicarum*)



The Finding of the Cross by Saint Helena (1422-1424) by Jan van Eyck from the *Turin-Milan Book of Hours*

Helena believed that both Golgotha and Jesus' tomb were at the site of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Yet many others believe that the well-known Garden Tomb is the authentic location. Still others think that the Crucifixion occurred on the Mount of Olives. With all the possibilities, what should you believe?

I encourage you to research, pray, and study to discern the truth. It can be wise to question what you've assumed as you seek your own conclusions. But it takes a humble spirit to show grace to others who believe differently and remain open to discerning truth from what may initially seem like hand-me-down traditions. ✨



Pictorial Map of Jerusalem

The most important city map in the world! A marvelous and complete display with over 1,000 names of streets, neighborhoods, etc., with color pictures, churches, Biblical sites, and all the rest, beautifully presented.

Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land

A very special map of modern Israel that also provides sites of Biblical importance. Scriptures are given right on the map so that the reader can locate the cities and towns of Biblical significance. Delivers hours of spiritual pleasure.



The Thanksgiving and Sukkot Connection *continued from cover*

land in 1607. There, they lived among another persecuted group: Sephardic Jews who had been exiled from Spain.

In 1492, as many Americans know, Columbus sailed the ocean blue. But as many Jewish people know, **1492 was also the year of the Expulsion from Spain**. As Jewish people were being severely persecuted in Europe, God was opening a door in the New World of the Americas. Under the Spanish Inquisition, Jews had to choose between conversion, death, or exile. Many fled, including some who ended up in the more tolerant country of the Netherlands. That Sephardic Jewish community later became neighbors with British Pilgrims who arrived at the beginning of the 17th century. These Pilgrims later traveled to the New World — which would become a haven for persecuted Jewish people in years to come. But these are the events that brought the paths of the British Pilgrims and Sephardic Jews to cross.

So on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruits of the land, you are to keep the Feast of Adonai for seven days.

—Leviticus 23:39

Could it be that the first Thanksgiving feast was based on what they had seen of the Jewish Sukkot celebrations, the Feast of Ingathering? There is certainly plenty in common.

Similarities Between Sukkot and Thanksgiving

- Both involve pilgrims. Just as the Jewish people used to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem three times a year for the high holidays, so the early Christian settlers of America were later known as pilgrims.
- Both started with groups of people who had been persecuted and had escaped.
- Both involve the harvest and joyful in-gathering.
- Both happen in the Fall.
- Both are based on the Biblical command to give thanks. Linda Burghardt, author of *Jewish Holiday Traditions*, noted, “Sukkot is considered a model for Thanksgiving. Both holidays revolve around showing gratitude for a bountiful harvest.”
- Both focus on family and communal gathering.
- Both involve a lot of food and feasting!



Detail of *The Expulsion of the Jews from Spain (in 1492)* (1889) by Emilio Sala Francés, Museo del Prado, Madrid

After the Pilgrims had survived multiple challenges and reaped their first harvest, they began the tradition of giving thanks for the harvest and for the bounty of the year. They threw a three-day celebration, with 90 Wampanoag Native Americans joining the 53 Pilgrims in the feast. The Wampanoag had befriended the Pilgrims, teaching them to plant corn, fish, and gather berries and nuts. Over the years, this event has taken on a bitter taste for many Native

(continued on next page)



Americans considering what later unfolded. Initially, however, the spirit of the feast was one of joy, celebration, and togetherness in thanksgiving.

"The pilgrims based their customs on the Bible," said Gloria Kaufer Greene, author of *The New Jewish Holiday Cookbook*. "They knew that *Sukkot* was an autumn harvest festival, and there is evidence that they fashioned the first Thanksgiving after the Jewish custom of celebrating the success of the year's crops."

Gratitude is Important

Today, Thanksgiving has become almost as important as Christmas in the American calendar; it's a special time for families to get together and be thankful.

But it is only now, with the benefit of neuroscience, that we are learning how critical an attitude of gratitude is to our well-being. God knew what He was doing when He told us to give thanks no matter what:

*Give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for you.*
— 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Brain experts like Dr. Daniel Amen and Dr. Caroline Leaf are now unpacking, with scientific findings in one hand and the Bible in the other, why God insists that we should be thankful. Both of them have truly revelatory treasures to share on the matter, which you can find on the internet. But for now, here are thoughts from preacher and writer Dominic Muir:

- You can't be thankful and proud at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and entitled at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and unforgiving at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and jealous at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and self-pitying at the same time.



Detail of *The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth* (1914) by Jennie A. Brownscombe, Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth, MA

- You can't be thankful and worried at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and covetous at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and bitter at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and offended at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and dishonoring at the same time.
- You can't be thankful and selfish at the same time.
- You can't be truly thankful and prayer-less at the same time.

Staying thankful is an excellent idea! For a thanksgiving praise time, why not write your own psalm of thanks about what God has done for you in your life, based on the pattern in Psalm 136? Recall His kindness and provision, His blessings and direction, and let all the people say, "*Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever*" (Psalm 136:1).

How remarkable are the parallels between *Sukkot* and Thanksgiving! — David ☆



Classic **Zola**

The Night of Broken Glass

by **Zola Levitt**
from 1988
34 years ago



Synagogue in Hanover, Germany, set ablaze during the *Kristallnacht* pogrom of November 9-10, 1938

November 9 marks the anniversary of one of the most horrible assaults on God's people of the 20th century. On what is called in the German language "*Kristallnacht*," the Nazis formally began their assault on Jewish culture in Europe. It would finally result in the awful Holocaust. I believe that time will be remembered forever as one of Satan's real victories.

On that night, the Germans smashed stained glass windows in the ornate synagogues and Jewish shops. They also beat and arrested thousands of Jewish people. Few Germans spoke out against this blatant anti-Semitism, and I'm afraid that now we're getting much the same around the world, including in our nation!

Ongoing Attitudes and Actions

A peace march group was awarded a million-dollar judgment against the Ku Klux Klan because of much the same behavior. The Klan's lawyers intend to appeal the verdict. What will they say in their appeal? Was the Klan right? Is there a "superior race" that should attack and burn the institutions and persecute the members of some "inferior race" in this world? We have neo-Nazi groups throughout America, usually in pockets of ignorance where Christian truth, as well as secular common sense, has not penetrated. This ministry itself has received threats from such groups and is occasionally the recipient of one of those disgusting tabloid newspapers that advocate the superiority of the white race or the downright overthrow of our democracy.



Ku Klux Klan members in 1920

(continued on next page)



source: Wikimedia Commons



Attacking God's Variety

God made many kinds of people, as He made many kinds of fish and flowers. He apparently likes variety. He did not appoint any group superior to any other; nor was any inferior. As a matter of fact, when He finished His creation, He said that all of it was "very good." Scripture warns, *"Be not deceived, God is not mocked"* (Galatians 6:7). An attack on any creature of God's making is an attack on God, and an attack on the Jewish people in particular is an attack on those whom God loves.

The Guilt of Turning Away

Many nations were guilty of turning their eyes away when the Nazis made their initial assault. On July 8, 1938, the *New York Herald Tribune* reported: "Through their representatives at the Evian conference on refugees, the principal countries capable of receiving immigrants banged and bolted their doors today against the 650,000 Jews of Germany whose eyes are turned on this international gathering as a last hope of escape from Nazi persecution." **In a way, the world presented the Nazis a license to do what they wished with an abandoned people.**

In October 1988, the following was printed in a purchased space on the editorial page of *The New York Times*: "Not to act is just as profound as acting. Forgetting is as decisive as remembering. How can we learn — and how can we teach — if we turn our backs not only on the countless victims but on their memory as well?"



German citizens on Nov. 10 1938,
the day after *Kristallnacht*

A Christian Response

Obviously, we can't go back and correct the wrongs that happened before most of us were born. Still, we can stand up and be counted when purveyors of the same murderous philosophies make themselves known among us. It is a Christian thing to protect the needy, to help the underdog, and to care about each human soul. If we are not visiting those in prison, helping the sick, clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, at the very least we can prevent the purposeful deaths of the helpless. As someone once said, "Evil can only win when good men do nothing."

Be sure to mark **November 9** as an excellent day of prayer for all people facing oppression. The millions of innocents, Jews and otherwise, who died helplessly in Europe would want it that way.

Lord, let us learn from the past that we might remember the promise
"Never again." —Kirsten ☆

Win An Income-Tax Trifecta

Mark Levitt
ZLM Director
since 1988



A recent *Wall Street Journal* article excerpted below, by tax expert Laura Saunders, explains the wisdom of making donations and bequests by using assets from individual retirement accounts (IRAs). The same holds true for 401(k) accounts: donating before-tax dollars avoids income tax, capital gains tax, and estate tax—all while abiding Yeshua's admonition to "*Render... to Caesar the things that are Caesar's*" (Matt. 22:21). —Mark



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Laura Saunders has written about taxes for *Forbes* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

"If leaving money to charity is part of your estate planning, there are no better funds to leave than traditional IRA assets," states Tim Steffen, di-

rector of tax planning at Robert W. Baird & Co. With the demise of pensions, traditional IRAs and 401(k)s are now the largest financial accounts many people have, especially baby boomers. Consequently, it's worth knowing about tax strategies for using them.

There are two big benefits to making gifts at death using traditional IRA assets. **The first advantage is tax efficiency. Donors of traditional IRA assets at death can win an income-tax trifecta—no tax on contributions going in, no tax on annual growth, and no tax on assets at death.** This tax outcome contrasts favorably with the treatment of donations of cash or an investment asset such as stock held in a taxable account, especially if there are heirs. Here's a simplified example:

Say that Jane, a widow with children, wants to leave a total of \$20,000 at

her death to several charities such as her church and college. She expects to have more than \$20,000 in each of three accounts: One account holds cash, the second is a traditional IRA holding stock and funds, and the third is a taxable investment account holding stock she bought decades ago. Jane wants to minimize taxes and maximize benefits for her heirs and chosen charities.

A \$20,000 charitable bequest of assets from any of the three accounts will bring a federal estate-tax deduction. But Jane's estate, like that of most Americans, will be smaller than the current estate-tax exemption of about \$12 million. So, there will be no federal estate taxes to reduce.

This means Jane should focus on minimizing her heirs' income taxes on the assets she's leaving them, and donating traditional IRA assets typically does this best. If Jane leaves the IRA assets to her heirs, they will have taxable withdrawals—and the IRA will probably have to be emptied within 10 years, ending its tax-free growth.

Giving IRA assets funnels pretax dollars to the charities, which won't owe tax on them. A cash donation would be of after-tax dollars.

Donating the IRA assets to charity is also typically better than giving stock held in a taxable account. Under

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a provision known as the step-up, there is no capital-gains tax on such investment assets held at death.

Therefore, if Jane purchased her \$20,000 of stock for \$5,000, the step-up could save her heirs capital-gains tax on \$15,000 when they sell the shares later. This valuable benefit would be lost if she made her donations with stock.

The second advantage of leaving traditional IRA assets to charities is flexibility. Wills are often drawn up years before someone dies, and circumstances change. As a result, the donor may want to name different charities or donation amounts.

Making these changes is often easier with traditional IRAs than with a will. For example, an IRA owner could set up a dedicated IRA naming one or more charities as beneficiaries and then move assets from other IRAs into it via direct tax-free transfers. The beneficiaries and the percentage they will receive can easily be changed. The owner also can raise or lower the total donation by transferring assets between IRAs.

What if the IRA owner is age 72 or older and must take annual required distributions? There's flexibility here as well, because the owner doesn't need to take a withdrawal from each IRA. If a saver has three IRAs and a total required payout of \$40,000, he could withdraw \$30,000 from one account, \$10,000 from another, and none from the third.

A useful twist on this strategy is gaining popularity: Leave IRA donations at death to a donor-advised fund (DAF) like Fidelity Charitable, Vanguard Charitable, Schwab Charitable, or at many community foundations. Before death, the IRA owner officially designates family members (or someone else) to recommend grants of the DAF funds to qualified charities in the future.

The DAF donations don't have to be made immediately, and the

assets can grow tax-free until they are made, notes Brandon O'Neill, a planning consultant at Fidelity Charitable.

"Often these givers want to deepen the family commitment to philanthropy, and using IRA assets is a great way to do it," O'Neill concludes.

Many donors save considerable capital gains taxes by donating shares of stock rather than the proceeds from liquidating them. For donations to our ministry, ZLM's Vanguard info and account number are listed below. —Mark

Vanguard asks that securities be mailed to:

Vanguard
P.O. Box 982901
El Paso, TX 79998

For certified or overnight delivery:

Vanguard
5951 Lockett Court, Suite A1
El Paso, TX 79932

Please provide Vanguard or your broker with the following information:

Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc.
Tax ID Number 75-1680391
Vanguard Account # 6150223
DTC # 0062
Vanguard's routing # 021000021
Vanguard's toll-free number:
1-800-337-8476



Q. What is Justification? (Part 1)

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



A. The Greek word for “justified” (δικαιόω) occurs 40 times in the New Testament. It is the basis for the word “justification,” which *The Baker Compact Dictionary of Theological Terms* defines as “a mighty act of God by which He declares sinful people not guilty but righteous instead. He does so by imputing, or crediting the perfect righteousness of Christ to them.” This means that the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ is credited to the accounts of people who believe in Him—to those who trust that His sacrificial death on the Cross paid the penalty for their sins and gives them eternal life. On this basis, God sees and declares the believing sinner to be righteous with the righteousness of Jesus Christ.



Detail of *Ecce Homo (Behold the Man!)* painting by Antonio Ciseri (1821–1891), Museo Cantonale d'Arte, Lugano, Switzerland

Bible scholar William Hendriksen noted that “justification is the act of God the Father whereby He counts our sins to be Christ’s and Christ’s righteousness to be ours. It is the opposite of condemnation.” The act whereby God performs this is called imputation based on faith in God’s promises, which is a vital truth of salvation taught in both Testaments of the Bible. The Books of Romans and Galatians specifically address the doctrine of justification by faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Romans 4 emphasizes that God declared righteous those who believe in Him—including Abraham before circumcision and the Law of Moses (Romans 4:1–4, 9–22), and David after the Law was given (Romans 4:6–8). Paul concludes this chapter by stating that Abraham, being justified by faith in God, is an example for all Believers in Christ whom God declares righteous in His sight based only on faith in Jesus Christ. *“Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification”* (Romans 4:23–25). From this wonderful truth, Paul explains in Romans 5:1, *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*“A man is not justified by the works of the law
but by faith in Jesus Christ....”*

—Galatians 2:16

Next month, we will continue looking at the basis for our justification and how it occurs. ✨



ZLM Bulletin Board



Jewish Lives Don't Matter ... to

Nidal Nijm Games, creator of *Fursan Al-Aqsa: The Knights of the Al-Aqsa Mosque*, which brags about making Zionists cry. **Fursan Al-Aqsa players control a Palestinian militant (read: terrorist) who slaughters Israelis and blows up various structures with high-powered weaponry and other munitions.** The game may violate U.S. anti-terrorism legislation by glorifying violence and inciting hatred and terror. In April 2022, it reemerged with even more gruesome and violent content. Players are urged to "join the resistance now" as they participate in murdering Israelis, including execution-style gunshots to the face.



Word Search Video Archives

Our *Jewish Roots* viewers can review and share teaching segments by searching our ministry's website for topics of interest. For example, to search for mentions of "prince":

1. Go to levitt.tv
2. Search for "prince" in the **Video Search** box (right side)
3. From the results, click on, say, the 1529-17 episode
4. Search for "prince" in the **Caption Search** box
5. Double click on any timestamp in the results, and the video will play at that spot

Opening the "Transcript" heading (down the page) shows the transcript text and enables researchers to click on timestamps and jump to any point in the video.

Middle East Conflict in a Nutshell (video)

The Middle East conflict is presented as a complex problem. Actually, it's very simple. **Israelis want to live in peace and are willing to accept a neighboring Palestinian state. Most Palestinians don't want Israel to exist.** As Dennis Prager notes, this is really all you need to know. His **five-minute video** explains how Israel was founded in 1948, and how its neighbors have since tried to destroy it repeatedly.

FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

All women need to take control of their long-range financial and estate plans. The free pamphlet **Questions & Answers About Estate Planning for Women** answers eight core questions. Some tips include: 1) Even a married woman needs a separate plan, of which joint ownership can play a part. 2) Spouses should have separate plans that complement each other. 3) Review the will, life insurance beneficiaries, and retirement plans when marital status changes. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box. **Request POM #7.**



"COME HOME!"

Zola
Tours
to Israel



See [page 36](#)
for details





Courtesy:
The Jerusalem
Connection



מִי־לִי בַשָּׁמַיִם וְעִמָּךְ לֹא־חָפְצָתִי בָאָרֶץ

va-ah'-retz

loh- chah-fah'tz'-tee

ve-ee'-me-kha'

va-sha-mah'-yeem

mee'-lee

on the
Earth

I do not
desire [anything]

and with
You

in the Heavens
[but You]?

who is
for me

**“Whom have I in Heaven but You?
and with You there is nothing I desire on Earth.”**

- Psalm 73:25

Our hearts speak the language of “poetry” using poetic expressions of truth, since declarative words are never enough to convey the heart of the matter. When God created the Heavens and the Earth, He “sang” them into being: The words He used composed a cosmic song, and its melody resounds with the emotional weight of His grace and glory. Therefore, we can speak of the “poetry of creation”—its meaning, form, sound, and rhythm—expressing the artistry of God as the Creator (Psalm 19:1–4). Various psalms in the Bible are also musical and lyric (i.e., to be accompanied with a lyre), because prayer, meditation, and worship are expressed in the hue and color of emotional feelings—the language of the heart. These include expressions of praise, cries of lament, sighs for deliverance, and such. Actually, poetic language is found throughout the Scriptures—various metaphors, similes, hyperbole, symbols, allusions, equivocations, parables, allegories, prophetic signs and visions, and more are all formed from words of the heart.

The Hebrew prophets often used poetic expression in their messages: *“But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream”* (Amos 5:24). Moreover, dirges (*kinnot*) and lamentations are also expressed poetically in the Scriptures. For example, the Book

of Lamentations is an acrostic poem chanted using a rhythmic formula of a long line followed by a shorter line to evoke feelings of sorrow and woe.

We sometimes talk about God “theologically,” using language of fact or objectivity, though it’s important to remember that God is a Being—a Subject—and thus the Bible often uses anthropomorphic language to help us connect with Him. The sages noted, “Torah is written in the language of men.” God’s words are often emotional and passionate, vibrating with meaning and feeling—words of the divine pathos for us. The message of the Gospel, the story of God’s astounding love for us, is a message from His heart to ours. It is the greatest story ever told, full of mystery, suspense, romance, heroism, sacrificial love, the very depths of sorrow, the ecstasies of joy, and much more.

May your heart pulse and yearn for the beauty of the Lord. May you cry out for His presence in your life. May you find your utmost good and blessing in Him. May you cry out with all of your heart to the Lord, your beloved Redeemer: **“Whom have I in Heaven but You? And with You, there is nothing I desire on Earth”** (Psalm 73:25). ☆



Revelation: **Unveiling the Visions**

DVD Set

Eight 30-minute programs on two DVDs

The last book of the Bible is filled with visions that look to the end of human history. Dr. Jeffrey Seif walks viewers through each of Revelation's 22 chapters, including their glorious visions and angelic visitations, and encourages you to release your fear of the future and focus on God's plan of ultimate restoration. These eight programs include insights from David and Kirsten Hart and music by Zola Levitt.

Message to the Churches The Book of Revelation brings its readers a promise of blessing. In the first two chapters, Jesus appears to John as the great Judge and addresses the churches in Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, and Thyatira.

Vision of Heaven Chapters 3, 4, and 5 reveal a rare bright spot in Revelation. The message to the seven churches also includes Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea. A peek behind the veil gives a glimpse of God's throne.

The Six Seals Chapters 6 and 7 turn dark as the first waves of judgment begin. The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse bring pestilence, war, famine, and death. God's servants from Israel and every nation receive His seal.

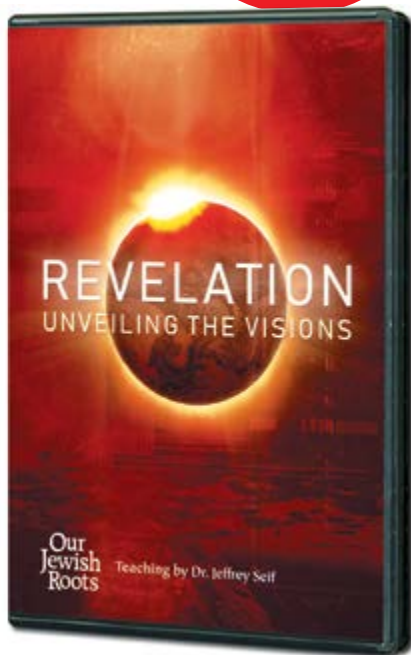
Impending Judgments Chapters 8–10 show that the Word of God is both bitter and sweet. The Seven Trumpets herald judgment for those who refuse to turn from wickedness. Believers can call on Messiah to help them persevere through difficulties.

Two Witnesses In chapters 11–13, two witnesses arrive with the sound of the seventh trumpet, bringing the Gospel during times of misery as Satan and the antiChrist exert their evil rule.

144,000 Jewish Believers Chapters 14–16 begin with a song sung by the thousands who stand up and proclaim their love for the Lamb. John gets a glimpse of the heavenly Temple before the final seven bowls of God's wrath are poured out upon the Earth.

The Greater They Fall Apostate Babylon sees its religious and commercial power destroyed in chapters 17–19. Messiah leads the armies of Heaven to victory in the Battle of Armageddon.

Ultimate Triumph The last three chapters of Revelation prophesy the Messiah reigning for 1,000 years before the Great White Throne Judgment. A new Heaven, new Earth, and New Jerusalem appear, wiping away every tear forever.





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Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

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Kings and Kingdoms

DVD Set

Eight 30-minute programs on two DVDs

From the Books of 1st and 2nd Kings and on location in Israel, Dr. Jeffrey Seif examines the rulers of ancient Israel and Judah, whose stories reveal lessons in Godly leadership. David and Kirsten Hart discuss their applications for us. In this eight-part series, we hear Israeli perspectives on the kings, and Sarah Liberman teaches us Hebrew.

Israel's First Kings Dr. Seif discusses the reason for Israel's first two kings — Saul and David — and the expectations placed on them. Those in leadership — in fact, all Believers — face a constant temptation to drift away from Biblical values.

Kingdom Divided Even wise Solomon made foolish mistakes by allowing his heart to drift away from the Lord. His son Rehoboam drifted much farther and caused Jeroboam to lead 10 of the 12 tribes in rebellion, creating the northern Kingdom of Israel. The two tribes that remained — Judah and Benjamin — formed the southern Kingdom of Judah.

Israel's Omri and Ahab Omri seized Israel's throne by mutiny. Deterioration continued when his heir Ahab (the worst king ever) not only turned away from God but actively opposed Him.

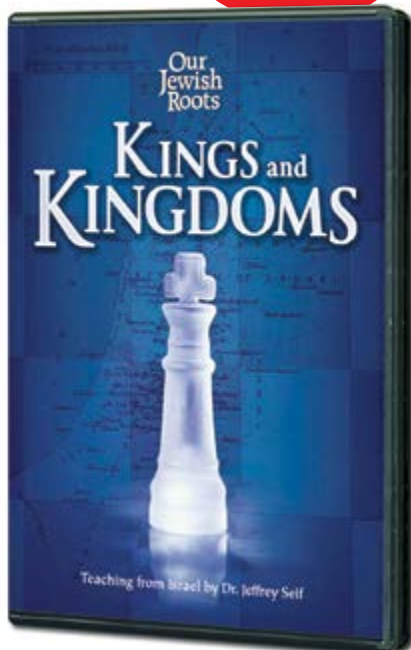
Israel's Jeroboam II and Hoshea Evil King Jeroboam II was still praised for securing Israel's border. Leaders should be trustworthy, not bloodthirsty. King Hoshea reaped what he sowed and, unfortunately, so did Israel.

Judah's Joash and Uzziah Young leaders need wisdom and guidance from advisers who are tethered to God's Word. King Joash's zeal for the Lord faded as his pride grew. King Uzziah became so obsessed with power, the Lord smote him with leprosy.

Judah's Hezekiah and Manasseh Good King Hezekiah did not depart from following God and His commandments. Faithfulness pays dividends! Unfortunately, Hezekiah's son Manasseh brought Judah horror and bloodshed for the five decades of his rule.

Judah's Josiah and Zedekiah King Josiah rediscovered God's Word and took it seriously. Oh, that our leaders would do the same! Poor leadership leads to bad consequences. Josiah's son Zedekiah rebelled against the Lord, paving Judah's road to ruin.

Israel's Future King The prophet Isaiah looked to a reunited Israel's ultimate King — the Lord Yeshua, who will return to rule from David's throne.



Auburn Basketball Players Visit Israel

BY JULIE STAHL / CBN.com



Members of the Auburn University men's basketball team visited Israel for 10 days in August. They not only played three exhibition games but also toured the country. The Tigers are only the fourth college basketball team to play in Israel in a pre-season tour.

"We blazed a trail now. I think there will be other college teams who want to come over and have this competition and this kind of historic, educational, religious, spiritual experience. It was nothing short of amazing," said Auburn Coach Bruce Pearl.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Pearl, who is Jewish, anticipated the pilgrimage would have an enduring influence on the team members. "My players are going to see their Judeo-Christian roots," Pearl stated. "They'll walk in the Garden where Jesus walked, and they'll pray at the Western Wall. And they'll experience firsthand God's presence in the Holy Land. Just come and see it, you'll be changed forever," he insisted.

Auburn center Dylan Cardwell blogged about the trip: "First, we went to see the Mount of Olives, which had the most amazing view. From there, we walked down the mountain and visited the beautiful Garden of Gethsemane, which has been preserved since the days Jesus walked the Earth."

"We even walked along the Via Dolorosa, which is the historic path Jesus walked before His crucifixion," Cardwell added.

"My personal favorite was visiting the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where Jesus was buried. It was an amazing sight to see," Cardwell

explained. "Walking through the Old City of Jerusalem was a huge blessing. The next day, we traveled to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. It was another significant scene. Just to be able to stand where Jesus once stood was a crazy experience."

Nothing compares to walking the ancient streets of Jerusalem for yourself! — David and Kirsten ☆



top: Auburn player being baptized in the Jordan River
bottom: Visiting Jerusalem



credit: @AuburnMBB Twitter feed



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](#)

Ask the Chaplain

From J.W.: I liked Dr. Todd Baker's "Ask the Chaplain" article in the [September 2022 Levitt Letter \(p.12\)](#). His answer to the question, "What was Jesus' 'Hour'?" included this highlighted text: "Jesus' glorification through His crucifixion and resurrection is the greatest hour in the history of the world." Keep up the good work, Dr. Baker, and continue blessing us.



ZLM's Staff Theologian,
Todd Baker

"Israel, the Church, and the Future — The Rapture" on YouTube

From Y.L.W.: This Bible teaching was wonderful. It was my first time to hear Zola. He's the kind of teacher I've been longing for. I'm sad to hear that he has gone to be with Yeshua, but I'm glad for him! Thank you for these free videos. I will come back often to your free YouTube videos.

Dear Y.L.W.,

Welcome to the ZLM family! You'll find a plethora of valuable teaching by Zola and others that is available (free 24/7!) at levitt.com. In addition, you can find books, DVDs, and much more in the "Store" tab on levitt.com. You've only scratched the surface of priceless wisdom and insight on the marvelous Jewish roots of Christianity. — David

(continued on next page)

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Meshumed! book

By Zola Levitt

Remarkable stories of Orthodox Jews who accepted their Messiah even in the concentration camps of World War II Europe! Some of the most dramatic testimonies in print.

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An Israeli Love Story book

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A tender love story told against a backdrop of PLO terrorism. Can love blossom in the midst of terrorism and death in modern-day Israel? Ask Isaac, a Jewish immigrant from America, and Rebecca, the daughter of a rabbi. And ask the Messianic Jewish Believer!

(This and most titles also available as eBooks.)

Sharing Gospel tracts in Russia

From B.J.L.: For our 40th anniversary in 2010, we went on a Zola Tour to Israel. Recently, we went on a cruise to St. Petersburg, Russia. Throughout the trip, we passed out Bible tracts in Russian, Polish, and Lithuanian. We loaded up the piano bench and music in a hotel, placed tracts under each tablecloth, and inserted them in the backs of chairs. We also gave tracts to the soldiers and customs officials in Russia. All were graciously received. We also placed some rubles and tracts in the basket of a beggar lady in the city. She moved her skirt over the basket and the money remained there, but all the Bible tracts vanished. What a special smile she gave us.

Dear B.J.L.,

Thank you for telling us about your Gospel adventures during your trip to Russia. It's wonderful to hear how well-received your efforts were. I relayed the extra tracts you kindly sent to Todd Baker, the leader of our outreach to Israel. He also uses those tracts. —Greg H., levitt.com webmaster

(continued on next page)



Tribulation Temple CD

By Zola Levitt with Dr. Thomas S. McCall

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

Sharing the Levitt Letter

From A.W.: Thank you very much for the *Levitt Letter*. The articles are so informative. Each month I read it and then place it in a common area where a lot of other people also read it. God bless you all!

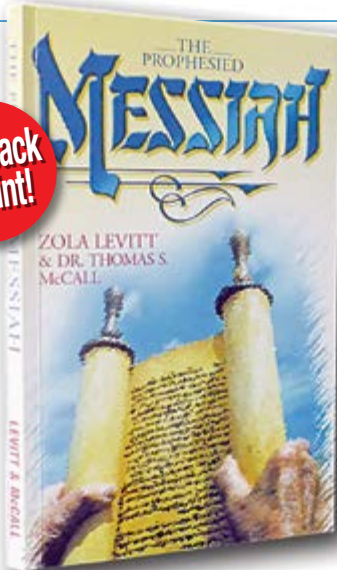
Dear A.W.,

It's rewarding to hear that you place the *LL* in a location where others can discover it and gather Biblical insights and valuable information about Israel. We encourage all of our readers to pass along the *LL* after they finish reading it. And if anyone misses an issue, the **archived *LLs* are always available at levitt.com/levletter.** Please tell your friends about them! —Kirsten

(continued on next page)



Now back
in print!



The Prophesied Messiah book

The Prophesied Messiah book contains the major prophecies of the Messiah, along with color photos and Holy Land maps from our television series of the same name. ***It's extremely important that Believers are able to prove Yeshua as Messiah from Old Testament Scripture***, thus showing objective evidence that our Lord is indeed “The Prophesied Messiah.”

One of our all-time most popular books. See Zola's original TV teaching for free in our video archives: levitt.tv/media/series/VMST

The Prophesied Messiah and **Things to Come**—witnessing bookmarks

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



Seeing Zola

From K.T.: Zola's work ("The House of David" — #9 "House Problems" on YouTube) is as wonderful today as it was in 1994. He is one of the first saints I can hardly wait to see in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Dear K.T.,

I expect it would humble Zola to know that he's on the list of your "first sees" in Heaven! —David ☆



Zola Levitt

Crossword November 2022:
Peter — Part 2 (NKJV)
 (answers on [p.35](#))

by Andrea Davis

To Index

ACROSS

2. A second time the ___ crowed ... (Mark 14:72)
3. "... Simon, son of Jonah, do you ___ Me? ..." (John 21:16)
6. ... He said to him, "Feed My ___." (John 21:15)
8. Now when they heard this, they were cut to the ___ ... (Acts 2:37)
10. ... and we know that his ___ is true. (John 21:24)
11. ... He came to the disciples and found them ___ ... (Matt. 26:40)
14. ... 'but you shall be baptized with the Holy ___.' (Acts 11:16)
16. "... you will deny Me ___ times." (Matt. 26:34)
17. "... I will never be made to ___." (Matt. 26:33)
18. ... that day about three thousand ___ were added ... (Acts 2:41)

DOWN

1. "... whoever ___ in Him will receive remission of sins." (Acts 10:43)
2. Then Peter said to them, "___ ..." (Acts 2:38)
4. ... 'What God has cleansed you must not call ___.' (Acts 11:9)
5. ... "In truth I perceive that God shows no ___." (Acts 10:34)
7. ... "If I have to die with You, I will not ___ You!" (Mark 14:31)
9. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going ___." (John 21:3)
12. "... God has also granted to the ___ repentance to life." (Acts 11:18)
13. And they were all ___ with the Holy Spirit ... (Acts 2:4)
15. ... And when he thought about it, he ___ (Mark 14:72)

Locating Lithium Without Digging



BY ZACHY HENNESSEY (r) JPost.com

Using technology originally intended to find deposits of subterranean water on Mars, Israeli start-up ASTERRA's software can now detect lithium deposits under the Earth's surface from space.

Lithium, a highly sought-after mineral, is used in electric vehicles, semiconductors, and cell phones. Anywhere there's a battery, lithium is likely in use.

ASTERRA has recently registered a patent for its technology in finding underground lithium reservoirs. **The company plans to continue developing its water-finding capabilities,** which monitor underground soil moisture conditions across vast geographic areas **up to 10 feet below the surface.** It pierces asphalt, concrete, treetops, and all light and weather conditions.

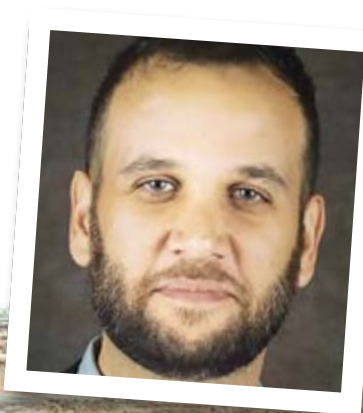
Having been used in over 70 countries since 2015, ASTERRA's technology uses advanced algorithms and artificial intelligence to decode satellites' synthetic radar data using a unique ground-penetrating frequency.

Under founder Lauren Guy's direction, ASTERRA plans to expand its

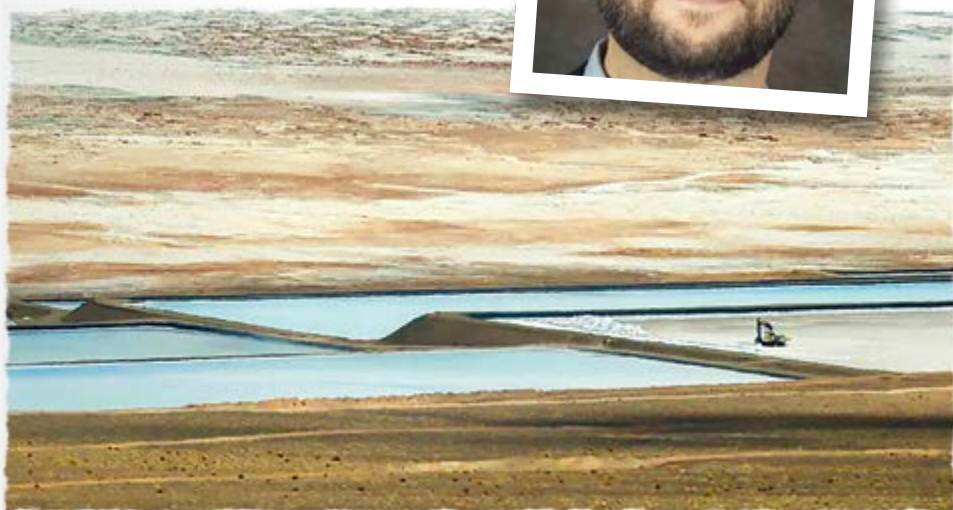
technology to find other natural resources underground. The company is focusing on lithium initially because of its increasing demand and currently insufficient supply.

The U.S. and many other countries around the world are promoting the sale of electric vehicles (EVs) as alternatives to their internal combustion counterparts. More available lithium could have a positive impact on the price of EVs offered on the market, as lithium plays such a critical role in current battery composition. Even so, critics have noted that lithium-ion batteries carry a host of potential environment-harming attributes.

"The global demand for lithium is insatiable, the supply crisis is present and significant, and the estimates are that it will increase much more in the next 10–20 years," Guy noted. ✨



credit: ASTERRA



credit: Reuters/Agustin Marcarian

top: ASTERRA founder and CTO Lauren Guy **bottom:** Brine pools used to extract lithium at Argentina's Salar del Rincon salt flat in 2021

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Relieves PTSD Symptoms

JNS.ORG

Israeli researchers have relieved post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms of 35 IDF combat veterans using hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT).

The scientists and doctors from Tel Aviv University and Shamir Medical Center said all of the vets who were treated showed significant improvement in all classes of symptoms following a controlled clinical trial.

Nearly 4% of people worldwide and 30% of all combat soldiers develop PTSD, according to the World Health Organization.

A release by Tel Aviv University explained that **"hyperbaric medicine involves treatments in a pressurized chamber where atmospheric pressure is higher than sea-level pressure and the air is rich with oxygen."**

For medical indications, HBOT must be given in a certified chamber and overseen by a qualified physician.

The soldiers in the study had all previously been resistant to psychiatric medications and psychotherapy, according to Dr. Keren Doenyas-Barak.

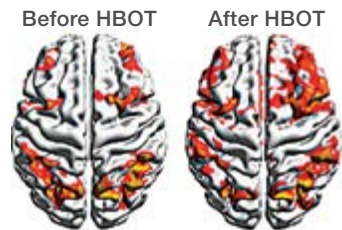
There were two groups of participants: One group received 60 HBOT treatments; the other served as a control.

"Both functional and structural improvement was observed in the non-healing brain wounds that characterize PTSD," said Doenyas-Barak. "We believe that in most patients, improvements will be preserved for years after the completion of the treatment."

Professor Shai Efrati noted that a biological wound in brain tissues



Hyperbaric oxygen therapy multichamber



Reduced brain activity is improved after HBOT

causes PTSD. "With the new HBOT protocols, we can activate mechanisms that repair the wounded brain tissue," he explained. "The treatment induces reactivation and the proliferation of stem cells, as well as generation of new blood vessels and increased brain activity, ultimately restoring the functionality of the wounded tissues. Our study paves the way to a better understanding of the connection between mind and body."

This also gives hope to people suffering from PTSD. "For the first time in years, the study's participants, most of whom had suffered from severe PTSD, were able to leave the horrors behind and look forward to a better future," said Doenyas-Barak.

For previous [Levitt Letter](#) articles about the benefits of oxygen therapy, see ["Reversing the Aging Process" in March 2021 \(p. 26\)](#) and ["Oxygen While Sleeping Eases Depression" in February 2022 \(p. 27\)](#). — Editor ☆

credit: UpoanR

To
Index

Much Like Peter

Andrea Davis
Managing Assistant
Berg Productions



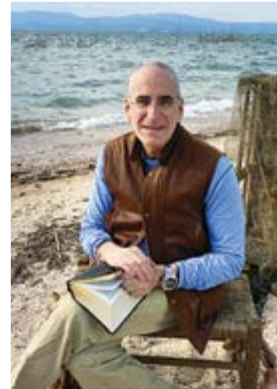
above: A scene from *Much Like Peter* of Yeshua eating breakfast with His disciples left: A scene from *Much Like Peter* of Peter weeping after his denial

We hope you're enjoying the new *Our Jewish Roots* series, ***Much Like Peter***, as much as we love bringing it to you. Dr. Jeffrey Seif delivers insightful teachings that provide a better understanding of the trials and triumphs of the Apostle Peter. Throughout the series, Hebrew-speaking actors bring the Biblical characters to life. David and Kirsten Hart not only perform Zola's songs on the beautiful Sea of Galilee but also discuss modern life applications.

In the first four programs, we witness:

- Yeshua/Jesus calling the first disciples to follow Him
- Peter's initial faith (and his later failure) in walking on the Sea of Galilee toward Jesus
- Yeshua's revelation as Messiah at Caesarea Philippi
- The transfiguration of Yeshua when He appeared on the mountain with Moses and Elijah. Peter is overcome with emotion while telling his brother, Andrew, of his encounter with Yeshua, Moses, and Elijah at the transfiguration.

In the following weeks, we learn of Judas' betrayal of Messiah. During Yeshua's arrest, Peter initially responds with violence, cutting off the ear of the servant Malchus (John 18:10). Yet when later questioned, Peter denies even knowing Yeshua. After hearing a rooster crow, Peter weeps as he realizes the reality of his rejection.



Dr. Seif teaching at the Sea of Galilee

Dr. Seif teaches: *"Then Jesus said to them, 'All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'"... 'Peter said to Him, 'Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be'" (Mark 14:27, 29). Peter distinguishes himself from the rest of the group. In his estimation, he has more resolution than the rest, but not so. **In the end, we see Peter did not just disappoint Jesus, he disappointed himself.** When we see Peter here in a bad way, we can remember the Grace of God was sufficient even for that moment. When we turn to the Lord, He has a way of restoring that which is broken."*

(continued on next page)





After His resurrection, Yeshua appears to the disciples on the shore of the Sea of Galilee while they are in a boat fishing. Having worked all night, the disciples' efforts were unproductive. Jesus tells them to "*cast the net on the right side of the boat*" (John 21:6). After a miraculous catch, Simon Peter realizes it is Yeshua and jumps into the water to swim toward Him. The catch is exactly 153 fish, possibly symbolic of the nations of the world emphasized in the Great Commission.

Dr. Seif: "*Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?*" (John 21:15) There's a statement in this question. He's pressing something. Peter was emphatic he would never stumble nor deny the Lord. God made peace with the fact long ago that people are people — whether it's people like Peter or people like me and you. The grace of God is so vast, and it extends to sinners like me and you. *In a sense, we're all much like Peter* because we all have self-imposed limitations. We live in our own world with our biases and prejudices."



A scene from *Much Like Peter*

In our next program, we examine *Shavuot*/Pentecost from Acts 2.

Dr. Seif: "Most Christians think of Pentecost as a Christian holiday because of the Christian event that happened on that day. But before it was ever a Christian holiday, it was a Jewish one. Pentecost is the Greek word for '50 days.' It is a holy day that Jews know as *Shavuot* — the Feast of Weeks. It is a Hebrew holiday that commemorates in Judaism the day when Moses was on Mount Sinai and given the tablets/commandments — the Old Testament.

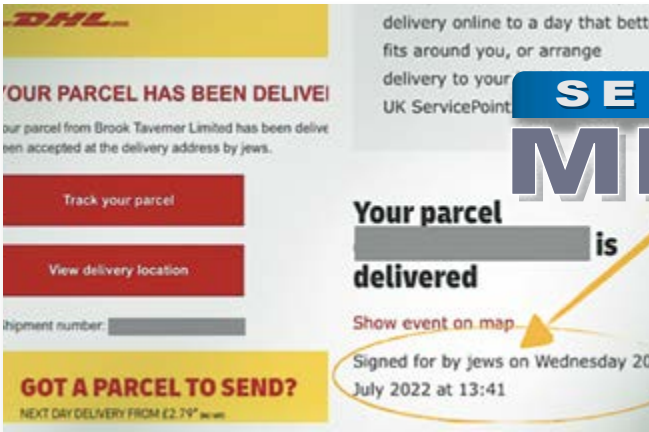
But on this day, it's the beginning of the New Testament's economy — the outpouring of the *Ruach HaKodesh* (Holy Spirit). Now we see the transformative effect the Holy Spirit has on a person's life. This is evidenced in not only what Peter says, but in the fact that he is saying it at all.

"The once sheepish, fearful, denying Peter is now emboldened to speak. He stands up and raises his voice publicly: '*Repent, and be baptized...*' (Acts 2:38). People who heard Peter's message were '*cut to the heart*' (Acts 2:37)."

Later, it took a divine vision for Peter to consider the possibility of sharing the Gospel outside the Jewish community.

Dr. Seif: "Jesus told the disciples to go into ALL the world, but they didn't go. They stayed in the world that they deemed acceptable. It takes this divine vision (Acts 11) to get Peter to go. It wasn't a change of diet God wanted Peter to make, but a change in perspective. God didn't just want to come to the Jew; He wanted to come through the Jew to the world. Everyone who puts trust in Him will receive forgiveness through Him."

Thank you so much for supporting our efforts to bring the Gospel to viewers everywhere. Through your contributions, *Our Jewish Roots* will continue to bring the Good News of Yeshua to the multitudes. ☆



DHL driver's note

UK Delivery Driver Fired for Anti-Semitic Language

JNS.org

The United Kingdom branch of the delivery company DHL terminated an employee after the delivery person wrote that a package was "signed for by jews" [sic].

According to the Campaign Against Antisemitism (CAA) in the United Kingdom, a resident of a heavily Jewish neighborhood in London saw a DHL driver throw the package onto the driveway without asking for a signature.

The package was damaged upon arrival. But of greater concern was

the confirmation of delivery that the resident received with the driver's remarks. The resident reported the event to the CAA, who contacted the company.

A CAA spokesperson said that officials from DHL met with them and the resident in August, where they learned that the employee had been terminated. DHL also offered the resident an apology and compensation.

"This is not the first time that deliverymen, from any company, have made racial comments about Jewish people," stated the spokesperson. "For someone simply waiting to receive a package and relying on a basic service to have to endure

(continued on next page)





anti-Semitic abuse is intolerable.

We are grateful that the victim came forward, and we applaud DHL for doing the right thing."

Foreign Students No Longer Welcome at Israeli Medical Schools

TheYeshivaWorld.com

Foreign students can no longer study in Israeli medical schools. The decision came in August following a 2018 recommendation from Israel's Council for Higher Education (CHE), which noted that many Israelis must attend European medical schools after not being accepted into Israeli schools. Only about 900 Israelis are admitted to medical school per year, but the Health Ministry plans to increase the number to 1,200.

Prof. Daniel Chamovitz, president of Ben-Gurion University (BGU), explained, "There was no choice. We need more Israelis to study medicine here."

Prof. Chamovitz

Former BGU

president Prof. Rivka Carmi noted: "There is a shortage of physicians and a lack of hospitals and professors available for clinical teaching. ... The lack of hospitals for clinical teaching is the bottleneck."



Prof. Carmi



Natural Sciences Building, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel

source: edxop.com/global-health/scholarships-ben-gurion-university-negev-israel-2017

"I was very enthusiastic about these programs for foreign students when I was BGU's medical dean and president. But in recent years, I saw the problems of training enough Israeli physicians," Carmi added. "It was the right decision not to accept foreign medical students in the future. I think there is no choice but to support the decision, but I say it with a heavy heart."

Foreign medical students in Israel didn't get a financial break. They paid about the same tuition — about \$40,000–\$50,000 — as students in medical schools in the U.S. and Canada.

Israeli students pay a heavily subsidized tuition of about \$4,000 a year. ✡





Archaeology

Weapons Uncovered from the Second Temple's Destruction



BY IAN M. GIATTI (r) ChristianPost.com



credit: Yoni Schwartz/Israel Antiquities Authority

Kfir Arbiv cleans a ballista stone

Antiquity experts in Israel say they have found archaeological evidence of the destruction of the Second Temple.

The Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA), which is responsible for excavation and conservation in the Holy Land, announced the discovery of stones believed to have been used as projectiles to bring down the walls of Jerusalem during the siege in A.D. 70.

Based on findings from a 2,000-year-old battleground uncovered in the Russian Compound, one of the city's oldest districts, IAA archaeologist Kfir Arbiv used computerized ballistic calculations to recreate the ancient battle.

"With the help of the computer, I recorded the location spot of all the ballista and taking into account the local topography and the location of the Second Temple-period city fortification walls, I made ballistic calculations. [These included] the launching angle, and the throwing distance of the stones," Arbiv said in a post on Facebook, where IAA shared images of the dig that included an arrowhead and a ballista ball.

Uncovered Projectiles

So far, the dig has uncovered hundreds of ballista stones of various sizes that were launched from what Arbiv described as "sophisticated bolt-throwing machines" from distances as far as more than 400 yards.

(continued on next page)



Huge catapult arrowheads that were launched from ballista firing machines

credit: Kfir Arbiv/Israel Antiquities Authority



Smaller stones used by infantry and catapult machines were also among the Roman arsenal exposed to date, according to Arbiv. The excavations also retrieved spears, swords, and arrowheads — some heavy enough to pierce armor.

Archaeologists believe that the stones were used in the violent four-month siege that led to the Temple's destruction and the eventual fall of Jerusalem.

The Destruction of the Second Temple

The Second Temple period spanned from 516 B.C. to A.D. 70. The Roman army, led by General Titus, captured the Holy City and destroyed the Temple following a four-month effort to suppress a revolt by the Jewish people that had begun four years earlier.

Jesus foretold the destruction of the Second Temple in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The Scriptures record a conversation as Jesus was leaving the Temple, when His disciples *"came up to Him to call His attention to its buildings"* (Matthew 24:1).

Jesus responded: *"Do you see all these things? ... Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down"* (Matthew 24:2).

Eli Eskosido, director of the IAA, said that the stones and other physical evidence that were used by the Roman army "reflect the extremely harsh battles that eventually led to the destruction of the Second Temple."

"Notwithstanding the internal factions and the impossible odds, a small group of Jewish defenders withheld the Romans for a few months until the tragic destruction of the city," added Eskosido.

The findings were released to coincide with the fast of the 9th of Av (*Tisha B'Av*), which commemorates the day of the destruction of the Second Temple.

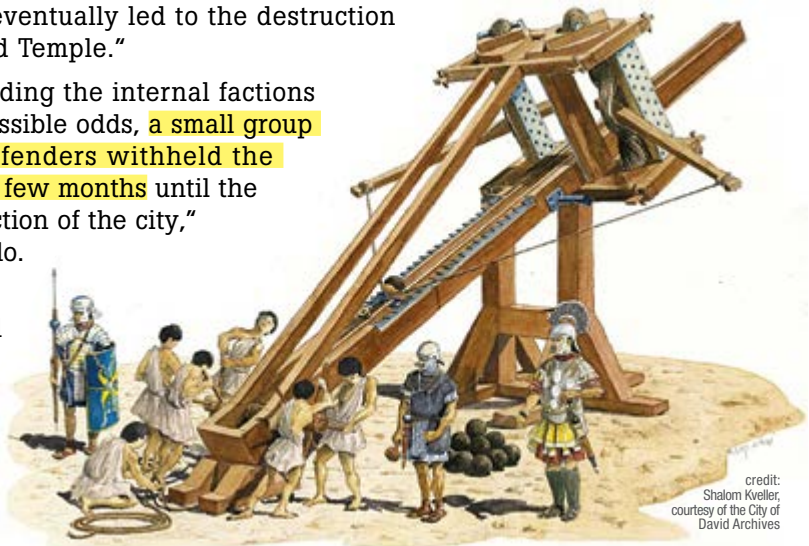


Illustration of the ballista catapult machine

In addition to earlier findings of arrowheads and stone ballista balls on the main street that led to the Temple, other artifacts from the Second Temple period have also been recovered in recent years. These include a 2,000-year-old Jewish ritual bath, along with a road running from the city's gates and the Pool of Siloam to the Temple, where Jesus is believed to have walked. ✡

Anti-Semitism in Sports, Entertainment, and Music

BY ALDEN TABAC (r) JPost.com

Anti-Semitism is a serious problem in the sports and entertainment world, according to a report from U.S.-based Creative Community for Peace (CCFP). The organization focuses on combating Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) efforts toward Israel from performing artists and combating anti-Semitism in the entertainment industry.

The report, "Fomenting Hate: How the Entertainment and Sports Industries Can Address the Growing Threat of Anti-Semitism," lists some anti-Semitic incidents involving professional athletes, musicians, television shows, and more. It also includes recommendations on how to stem the tide.

"These incidents have reached millions of people and have normalized and desensitized the public to anti-Semitic tropes," the report stated.

In sports, former NFL player DeSean Jackson posted a quote on Instagram falsely attributed to Adolf Hitler, alleging that the Jews' "plan for world domination won't work if the Negroes knew who they were." NBA stars, including Kevin Durant, later defended Jackson for his actions.

Popular Netflix show *The Umbrella Academy* included a scene where a family of superheroes fought a "lizard person" as well as a Yiddish-speaking villain. BBC sportscaster David Icke has previously claimed that several prominent Jews are "lizard people" striving for world domination.

In the music world, hip-hop artist Trick Trick ranted on Instagram about how Jews control the music industry: "Who owns the labels, who runs the budgets... the Jewish. Jewish!"

TikTok, a social media app that's extremely popular among young people, has been blatant in spreading anti-Semitic content. "Though TikTok's



DeSean Jackson, former Las Vegas Raiders wide receiver

algorithms are generally successful in flagging and removing problematic material, TikTok often ends up unknowingly promoting anti-Semitic memes, including a concentration camp meme that received over 6.5 million views before it was removed," the report noted.

Movies, television shows, and music perpetuate anti-Semitic stereotypes. Celebrities then share these stereotypes with millions of people on their social media accounts and the cycle repeats when the public adopts these views.

"This report shows how much work needs to be done within our industry," remarked CCFP director Ari Ingel. "In a society that's increasingly become more sensitive to fair and accurate representation, the impact on Jews often doesn't count."

CCFP provided recommendations for entertainment companies to minimize anti-Semitism in the future. These included: 1) adding anti-Semitism experts to existing Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) teams, 2) hosting staff training seminars on anti-Semitism, and 3) adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism. ★





Jewish Humor, etc.

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

A Dog with a Problem

Morty visits Dr. Saul, the veterinarian, and says, "My dog has a problem."

Dr. Saul replies, "So tell me about the dog and the problem."

"It's a Jewish dog. His name is Irving and he can talk," answers Morty.

"He can talk?" the doubting doctor asks.

"Watch this!" Morty points to the dog and commands: "Irving, fetch!"



Irving, the dog, walks toward the door, then turns around and says, "Why are you talking to me like that? You always order me around like I'm nothing. And you only call me when you want something. You make me sleep on the floor, with my arthritis. And do you ever take me for a decent walk? No, it's out of the house and right back home. Maybe if I could stretch out a little, the sciatica wouldn't hurt me so much! I should really roll over and play dead, for all you care!"

Dr. Saul is amazed, "This is remarkable! What's the problem?"

Morty says, "He has a hearing problem! I said 'fetch,' not 'kvetch.'" ☆

Answer Key for November 2022 Crossword (p.25)

Across:

- 2. Rooster
- 3. Love
- 6. Lambs
- 8. Heart
- 10. Testimony

- 11. Sleeping
- 14. Spirit
- 16. Three
- 17. Stumble
- 18. Souls

Down:

- 1. Believes
- 2. Repent
- 4. Common
- 5. Partiality
- 7. Deny
- 9. Fishing
- 12. Gentiles
- 13. Filled
- 15. Wept



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