**FEBRUARY 2023** 





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

inside: What Is Replace ment Theology? <u>p.12</u>

# Who are the True Jews? (part 1)

**OneForIsrael.org** 

As if there wasn't enough confusion from Christians who think the Church has replaced Israel, we now have a whole new brand of error arising with the "Hebrew Israelites" who claim they are the true Jews.

Although the (deeply anti-Semitic) cult has gained traction following Kanye West's recent ravings, the movement has been growing for some years. They claim that the Jews Hitler sought to extinguish are the "synagogue of Satan" and not really Jewish. (Hitler sought to kill anyone with a Jewish grandparent.) But they also claim that the real descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are the so-called "Hebrew Israelites," mostly of African heritage.

### No, Jewish people aren't imposters

It's astonishing how quickly some people believe that Jewish people are not really Jewish by descent—related to the twelve tribes of Israel. Shamefully, even Chris-

(continued p.4)

### Sharing the "Original Testament" with the World By Chris Mitchell

CBN.com

Ninety percent of the world's languages do not have a translation of the Old Testament. But last year during Pentecost, people gathered at the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem to work on expanding the use of the "Original Testament" worldwide.

"'The Original Testament Gap' refers to the fact that the Original Testament is under-translated, under-used, and frequently misunderstood," says Ram Gidoomal, former chairman of the Lausanne Movement. "We, therefore, commit to do all we can to accelerate the

# Sharing the "Original Testament"... <u>continued from cover sidebar</u>

Original Testament into every living language in order to help complete the Great Commission."

Some may wonder why the group uses the term "Original" instead of Old Testament. "When something is old, you just want to toss it out and replace it with something else. Original speaks of [a] foundation that has legacy and value in a multi-generational way. The Original Testament was the Bible that Jesus and the Apostles used, and we want everyone to have access," said David Hamilton from Youth With a Mission.

"The Original Testament is the foundation for us to understand the Gospel of the Kingdom that Jesus came preaching," noted David Swarr, president and CEO of the 4.2.20 Foundation.

"Can you imagine reading the New Testament and you come across a mention of David or Abraham or Moses or Rahab or Gideon or any of the other heroes of our faith?" Hamilton asked. "Or places like Jericho or Jerusalem and events like crossing the Red Sea or manna in the desert and you have no idea what these stories were about. What happened? Who were these people?"

To illustrate their point, they published the Gap Testament, a version of the New Testament without any references to the Original Testament.

In the Gap Testament, "different parts are missing because when we read it without an understanding of the original... we do not get the full picture of God's purposes. So, we want the fullness of God's good Word to be available to all people. The goal? The whole Word for the whole world," explained Hamilton.

Samuel Chiang, executive director of the WEA Global Evangelism Network, hopes that Believers who understand this need will want to be involved in this movement.

"If you have this burden to eliminate that gap, we encourage you to start praying for it," Chiang challenged. "Pray for all the languages in the world. Ninety percent of the languages do not have the Original Testament. Start praying for those languages."

Yes, of course! Why have we been taught "Old" and "New" as if one is shinier and better than the other? They go hand in hand. You cannot understand one without the other. — Kirsten ♀





## <u>Grafted-In</u> <u>Messianic Roots</u> Lapel Pin/Tie Tac

An ancient Messianic symbol — believed to have been used as a seal by the first Christians, who were Jewish — combines the menorah, Star of David, and the Christian fish. This unique design with a tie tac back is gold plated and approximately 1.1" long.

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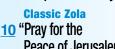




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## **New Ministry Workers!**

Laura and Lynda have been with us for about a year, processing incoming mail and assisting with store orders. Both are pictured wearing our "<u>Grafted-in" Messianic necklace</u> (which you can order online).

Laura, a Dallas native, is married with one daughter and a poodle. She came to us from the construction industry and has worked in children's ministry at a church. She collects Lucille Ball memorabilia.

Lynda, who's lived in Dallas for 20 years, is married with two grown children and a Maltese Pomeranian dog. She has worked helping people pay off bankruptcy debt. Lynda enjoys camping and RVing.



Laura (left) and Lynda (right)

Welcome to the ZLM family, Laura and Lynda. Kirsten and I are delighted to have you on board! — David ☆

### Who are the True Jews? (part 1) continued from cov

tians fall for such ideas. Such lies have been thoroughly debunked in many places. It was not the "Hebrew Israelites" that Hitler targeted, but the Jews. Satan knows who the true Jews are, and so does God.

### No, Jewish people don't control the world

Along with such delusions usually come vile accusations against Jewish people: they are



Nazi propaganda poster entitled Das jüdische Komplott ("The Jewish Plot") from the collections of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM)

fundamentally evil and abandoned by God, an illegitimate elite who own all the banks, control the media, and plot world domination. If you were to go to Israel and meet the millions of Jewish people here though, you'd laugh at the idea that Jews are running or are planning to take over the world.

"Sometimes I wish it was true!" joked one friend, bewailing the poorly-planned public transportation and long-delayed building projects. If Jewish people really had infinite wealth and power, the State of Israel might run a lot more smoothly!

Perhaps there are wealthy, powerful elites who seek to wield power over the masses (like the World Economic Forum, which was founded by German Klaus Schwab), but such collectives are not characteristically "Jewish" even if a few among their number have Jewish backgrounds. We would be rightly appalled if someone drew negative conclusions about all Black people just because some in a bad group were Black. Our ethnicity has no bearing on our righteousness or lack of it. These twisted lies come from the father of lies (John 8:44), who hates anything that God loves. And God loves the people of Israel — the apple of His eye. Righteousness is loving what God loves and hating what He hates. God loves Israel and hates racism.

### No, Jewish people haven't been abandoned by God

Some Egyptian sisters who believed that God had rejected Israel came to



The Apostle Paul (c. 1657) oil on canvas by Rembrandt van Rijn, National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.

a profound revelation of God's heart and plan for Israel by simply meditating on Romans 11. They have since joined in God's great love for His people, though they suffered rejection from others. Romans 11:2 clearly states that "God has not rejected His people." Paul also emphasizes that grace does not depend upon our works, otherwise it wouldn't be grace. Sure, Israel's sins have been evident throughout the millennia. But who can point it out from a place of innocence? We are all deeply sinful, and it's by God's radical grace that we are saved and forgiven. This applies to (continued on next page)

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every child of God, and it is by this same grace that God will be faithful to His promises with Israel.

There's a righteous remnant within the people of Israel who love Jesus. Recent research indicates that there may be as many as a million Messianic Jews! That's more than at any point in history. And God promises that He will also rescue the rest. It's part of His plan that Israel would be hardened for a season, but ultimately, that time will end.

Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written,

"The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will banish ungodliness from Jacob; and this will be My covenant with them when I take away their sins."

As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. — Romans 11:25–29

Did you read that last word? *Irrevocable*. If God gives a gift, He won't take it back. If He makes a promise, He won't break it. Israel may be deeply rebellious, but they are the illustration for the world of God's extraordinary grace. After "the fullness of the Gentiles has come in," the Deliverer — Jesus — will come again from Zion and take away the sins of Israel according to His covenant with them.

### Be a healer, not a hater

A new wave of anti-Semitism seems to be rising alarmingly fast. It's leaving many Jewish people feeling extremely frightened, wondering if it's time to move to Israel.

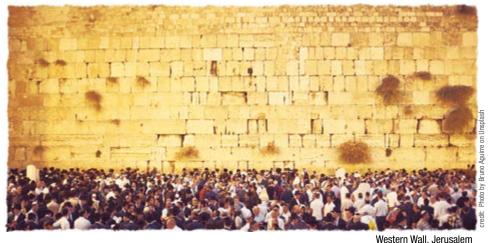
An Israeli realtor noted that people from overseas are buying homes in Israel saying they need a place to run to, and many have an "always be ready to run" mentality. Some rabbis recommend it from the synagogues, urging people to keep their passport up-to-date because "you never know when you may need it."

Some Jews, however, choose to stick it out in places where insults, vandalism, and attacks are commonplace.

Instead of turning a blind eye to their ill-treatment (or worse, joining in the vitriol), those who love Jesus would better represent Him by standing with the Jewish people. Don't ignore anti-Semitism when you hear it. Call it out! Let the Jewish people around you know that you see the cancer of anti-Semitism, that you care, and want to support them. It means a lot.

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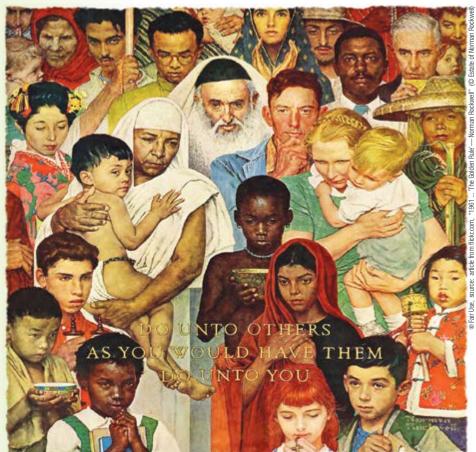
Next month, we will look at the conclusion of this article.



# **Should We Coexist?**

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





Golden Rule (1961) painting by Norman Rockwell (1894–1978) for The Saturday Evening Post, April 1, 1961 (Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA)

"Coexist" bumper stickers have been around for years. Even so, many Believers" have shunned this logo since the Islamic crescent, Star of David, and Christian Cross are surprisingly located beside each other. Yet in



The Coexist image created by Piotr Młodożeniec

many of our communities, we might be surprised that we are located near people with different backgrounds.

America has long been defined as a melting pot. Humans from around the globe, of diverse religious backgrounds, have typically been welcomed. Thus, your neighbors may be Muslim, Hindu, Jewish, Christian, or of another religion. That means that coexistence should be more than just a slogan for us. Actually, it's a Biblical commandment.

### **Beyond Your Borders**

The second "greatest commandment" that Messiah emphasized is to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31). Jesus never defined a neighbor as (continued on next page) To

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Believers" is short for "believers in Yeshua/Jesus as Messiah."

someone only of similar ethnicity or faith. If Jews were only to love Jews, Jesus would not have traveled through Samaria to encounter the woman at the well. If people of only certain religions were acceptable, the Messiah would not have had an outsider (Ruth) in His lineage. Ruth was a Moabite. While the Moabites descended from Lot (Gen. 19:36–37), they were idolatrous people (Num. 22:7; 25:1-3) who later were considered enemies of the Hebrews.

Ruth loved her mother-in-law Naomi so deeply that she left the land and religion of her people and converted to Judaism. But if Naomi and her son, Mahlon (Ruth's first husband), had never coexisted with the Moabites, we might not have had the Davidic family line. Perhaps this is a reminder that we aren't meant to associate only with those like us who share our religious background. We shouldn't adopt their ways or beliefs, but we should love them.

### Focus on Love

February is traditionally focused on love. Beyond romantic love, we Believers should give greater attention to God's love — the self-giving, others-focused love that God showed us "sinners" who were His "enemies" (Rom. 5:8, 10). What better time to begin venturing out of your comfort zone to add more variety to your circle of friends? When we tour Israel, every day we are surrounded by beautiful people of Arab, Jewish, and Christian backgrounds. These are but a few



Piotr Młodożeniec

of the variety of those whom God loves with all His heart. With God working in us and through us, we get along wonderfully during our tour. And we can also do the same when we return to our homeland.

The artwork for the original **Coexist** visual was created by a Polish designer, Piotr Mlodozeniec, and was displayed as a large outdoor banner in Jerusalem. What an appropriate location to highlight getting along with others! Maybe we could take it a step further. Coexist, love extravagantly, and always be ready to share God's Word.

Happy Valentine's Day from the Harts! 众

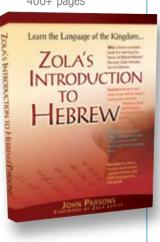


400+ pages

## **Zola's Introduction** to <u>Hebrew</u> study book

There is no better book for learning the basics of Biblical Hebrew.

Unlike most academic books on Biblical Hebrew, this course provides a step-by-step approach for you to understand the Hebraic mindset while learning the alphabet and vowel signs. Studying at your own pace, you will master the Hebrew alphabet, sound out Hebrew words, and connect your studies to your heart by reading Hebrew prayers, blessings, and passages from Scripture!



# **CNN Warns of "Rapture Anxiety"**

BY IAN M. GIATTI (r) ChristianPost.com







CNN.com

ource:

above: Scenes from books and films can influence people's imaginings — and fears — about the Rapture. In the 2000 film *Left Behind*, the mass disappearance of people causes widespread chaos. *left:* AJ Willingham

CNN published an article in September with the headline, "For some Christians, 'Rapture anxiety' can take a lifetime to heal." It depicts the doctrine of the return of Jesus Christ for His Church as a "chronic problem" and "a type of religious trauma."

The article, written by AJ Willingham, profiles

two women who have battled so-called "Rapture anxiety." One woman, April Ajoy, recalled waking up to a quiet home as a 13-year-old and fearing she had missed the event.

Willingham wrote: "Ajoy's mind began churning, trying to remember, trying to make plans. When was the last time she had sinned? Should she refuse the mark of the beast? At least, she thought, if she was put to the guillotine during the time of tribulation, it would be a quick death."

Describing the event as when "righteous Christians ascend into Heaven, while the rest are left behind to suffer," Willingham added, "However it happens, it is something to be both feared and welcomed, to be prayed about and prepared for every moment of a Believer's life."

Another woman, Chelsea Wilson, grew up in the Evangelical "community" and believed the End Times teaching was akin to a "scary campfire story."

Willingham pointed out social media posts from "exvangelicals" — former Evangelical Christians who have since turned to unbelief — who were subjected to "violent Rapture-themed films" or spent their childhood years "crying themselves to sleep thinking about people and pets that would be left behind when the end finally came."

The article also appeared to take aim at Evangelical churches by describing the Rapture as a fringe teaching of "dispensational premillennialism." Such teaching, it added, "is not prevalent in Catholic or mainline Protestant denominations like Episcopalianism or Presbyterianism, and is most commonly adhered to in Evangelical and fundamental churches."





For analysis of the doctrine and its impact, Willingham contacted Darren Slade. He is president and CEO of the Global Center for Religious Research, a "non-religiously affiliated academic society and publishing house."

Slade declared that "Rapture anxiety" is a "real thing" and a "chronic problem." He added, "This is a new area of study, but in general, our research has revealed that religious trauma leads to an increase of anxiety, depression, paranoia, and even some OCD-like behaviors."

But Slade's website acknowledges that "the academic study of religious trauma remains in its infancy when compared to other studies in mental health."

"Sadly, this means that there is no actual empirical data to support what we have seen and experienced in the tens of thousands: that religious trauma exists and is a chronic problem within many religions," the website asserts.

While a topic of rigorous debate among theologians and other Christian thinkers, can the Rapture — which essentially teaches that Jesus will remove Christians from the world prior to what will be the most disastrous period in human history — actually be a source of trauma?

"I think if it's taken out of context or taught to young kids without the full context of what Jesus promised, what our hope is as Believers... it can be a little scary," said Christian author Todd Hampson, who's also the co-host of the Prophecy and Pros Podcast.

"I don't know if I'd call it trauma. That's probably a pretty extreme word," Hampson added.

The article states that the Rapture teaching "only dates back to the 1800s." But Hampson noted that is false, pointing to early Church documents showing that all Christians were awaiting what they believed was the Lord's imminent return.

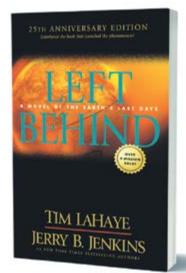
Rapture teaching, according to the article, "draws heavily upon a letter from the Apostle Paul to the Thessalonians... that says Believers in Jesus would be snatched or seized into the air." Hampson, however, also pointed to Jesus' promise to receive His disciples to Himself when He returns (John 14:2–3).

While works of fiction like the *Left Behind* series have brought the Rapture into the cultural mainstream, Hampson said even fictional accounts of Bible prophecy have "done way more good than harm." They have "turned a lot of Believers back to the Bible to study what Scripture actually says about those events," he added.

But what about the CNN article suggesting that interpretations about the Rapture "vary widely" and may be merely a "poetic metaphor"?

Hampson suggested that when it comes to Bible prophecy, you can either allegorize it or receive it at face value.

"God says what He means and means what He says," he added. "If we come to Scripture with a belief that it is inspired by God and He put it together, then every word is intentional."



The first book of the *Left Behind* series was published in 1995.

Honestly, Larry Norman's song, *I Wish We'd All Been Ready*, kept me awake a few nights during my youth. I don't think Yeshua intended for us to be "freaked out" about His return. — Kirsten  $\Rightarrow$ 

(Please see the related cartoon on p.35.)



# "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem"

by **Zola Levitt** from 1980 43 years ago



The Temple Mount as seen from the Mount of Olives

Jerusalem has been made the capital of Israel, and that's all there is to that. All the protestations of all the governments of the surrounding nations will not change God's plans.

### **Politics and Prophecy**

The Israeli army, with God, is prepared to enforce the establishment of the one, eternal, indivisible Holy City, just as it was the last time this happened. Bible readers should realize at once that history is repeating itself. Three thousand years ago, Israel's government made Jerusalem its capital. King David was in command and any nation that wished to contend the point was as welcome to meet with him as was Goliath. Jerusalem must be the capital of Israel in time for the return of the King to that city.

The recent governmental decree establishing the capital falls perfectly in line with End Times prophecy. We are already seeing Jerusalem become a "burdensome stone" to all the world (Zech. 12:3). The nations near and far are very interested at this point, and the antiChrist will be equally interested in his time (2 Thess. 2:3–4). The Temple will have to be constructed on the site where the Dome of the Rock now stands, and the establishment of Jerusalem as the national capital will help provide for that future event.

As Americans, we must be careful not to act in the manner of the ancient Romans concerning Jerusalem. That great city was the capital of Israel in the time of our Lord, but the Romans barely acknowledged that fact. They stood aloof from the Jewish government, operating their own interests in that far-flung province of their empire. We as Americans also stand rather aloof, operating our own interests regarding our military objectives.

### **Past and Future Blessing**

God loves Jerusalem, which is apparent throughout the Scriptures. He directed Abraham to that holy place for the intended sacrifice of Isaac (Gen. 22). (continued on next page)



He called for the reign of the kings in Jerusalem and the building of His house there. He sacrificed His only Son in that city, and He established the first Christian Church there. Missions went out from Jerusalem to share the faith until Christianity overwhelmed the Roman Empire.

God will so greatly honor Jerusalem in the future, making it the home of the reign of the King and requiring the whole world to make a pilgrimage to that city each and every year of the thousand years (Zech. 14:16). Finally, even in eternity, God will not give up Jerusalem but will instead create "a new Heaven, a new Earth and a new Jerusalem" (Rev. 21:1–2). There is clearly a love relationship between Almighty God and the city of Jerusalem.

### **Enemies and Allies**

**Pray for** 

bumper sticker

Peáce

For the moment, however, Israel is having a tough time of it with their burdensome stone. The more hostile surrounding nations can hardly be taken seriously anymore — they object to each and every Israeli policy, even the archaeological diggings that recover its history and heritage for the whole world. But they are viciously condemning on this particular point. Terrorist action is on the increase and Israel is having to fight border skirmishes quite typical of the first thousand years of Jerusalem.

The Church must love its homeland just as every individual loves his homeland. We sometimes forget that the Church is not American nor European nor at home anywhere else in this world. The Church belongs to a Kingdom "not of this world" (John 18:36) but a Kingdom to ultimately be established in Israel with Jerusalem as its capital city. The Scriptures teach that we Believers are to be good citizens of whatever nation in which we find ourselves (Jer. 29:7; 1 Tim. 2:1–2), but more emphatically that we are to love the land and the brethren of our Lord (Gen. 12:2–3; see also Rom. 11:17–18; 15:27).

Sha'a'lu Shalom Yerushalayim — "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Ps. 122:6).

Won't you join me in this prayer at this critical time?

Zola would surely have appreciated our country's 2017 formal recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. — David  $\Rightarrow$ 

Printed on removable vinyl, this attractive bumper sticker measures 3" by 11" and has a striking 3-D effect. Bold white letters of Psalm 122:6 jump out from the blue and black background. Pass some on to your friends!





PRAY FOR THE PEAC OF JERUSALEM.

## Ask the Chaplain



Replacement theology is the insidious idea that the Jews are no longer considered God's Chosen People and have no part in His plans.

Zola Levitt, writing in *Broken Branches: Zola on Replacement Theology*, noted that those promoting this anti-Semitic doctrine generally claim that "since Israel was broken off" because of its rejection of the Messiah, Israel has been replaced by the Church. "All of God's promises to Israel from the Old Testament, including God's covenant with Abraham, would then apply to the Church rather than to Abraham's descendants."

Has the Church replaced Israel?

Replacement theology, also known as supersessionism, claims that the New Testament Church has superseded and supplanted the nation of Israel forever. Theologian Michael Vlach, in his excellent book, *Has the Church Replaced Israel?*, states that supersessionism is based on two false assumptions:

**1** Israel forfeited — The nation of Israel has somehow completed or forfeited its status as the people of God and will never again possess a unique role or function apart from the Church.

2. The Church superseded — The Church is now the true Israel that has permanently superseded national Israel as the people of God. The result of this teaching, Vlach notes, is that the Church has become the sole inheritor of God's covenant blessings originally promised to Israel. This rules out any future restoration of the nation of Israel with a unique identity, role, and purpose.

The Bible, however, makes a clear distinction between Israel and the Church — they are not one and the same, nor are they used interchangeably. (See Romans 11:16–36; 1 Corinthians 10:32.)

As the Church became predominately gentile and forgot its Jewish roots, replacement theology advanced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and beyond. This teaching has permeated Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and many Protestant Churches from their beginnings.

In the early 5<sup>th</sup> century, Augustine standardized the teaching in his book, *The City of God*. He claimed that God was finished with Israel and so the Church replaced them as God's new people in His Kingdom. Others following Augustine continued to advocate this teaching, which endures in many parts of the Church today. For them, God's promises to Israel of blessing and restoration to the Promised Land are now spiritualized and allegorized as God's blessings to the Church.

Is God finished with the nation of Israel forever? Does Israel have a future in God's plan of the ages? Have the Jewish people been permanently replaced by the Church?

Anticipating that such a nefarious teaching would develop, God gives the emphatic answer: "**No!**" In Romans 11:1–2, Paul addressed the Church at Rome about this replacement notion.

Next month, we will continue looking at God's answer to replacement theology and His plan for the Jewish people.

Please see the book, *Broken Branches*, on <u>p. 20</u>.  $\Leftrightarrow$ 



MICHAEL J. VLACH



Back to



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





## **Shaliach**Report Ministry in Haifa

On the sixth day of our June 2022 outreach, August Rosado and I went to the beautiful coastal city of Haifa, in northwestern Israel. The Lord led us to **Amit** — a young Jewish man who has lived in Haifa all his life. We told Amit that we travel frequently to Israel to bring back the Good News of Yeshua the Jewish Messiah to *Am Segulah* (the Chosen People) of Israel — His own ethnic people.



Todd and Amit

When Amit replied that he was not religious, August and I explained that religiosity wasn't a prerequisite for reading and studying the Word of God. This Word informs us that God's love for us sinners is so infinitely great that He promised and sent His Son as the Savior and Messiah of Israel, to redeem both Jew and gentile from the condemnation of sin (John 3:16–17). This free gift of eternal life is offered to those who believe and trust that Yeshua is the Messiah. Amit was encouraged to hear the Good News.

August and I reminded Amit not to merely take our word for it but to see for himself (Acts 17:11) that we were speaking the truth. We offered him a Complete Hebrew Study Bible so that he could read the truth that Yeshua is the Messiah of Israel who came to offer him new life and a personal relationship with God. Amit was visibly moved and willingly received the Bible from us. Dr. Todd Baker ZLM Staff Theologian TJF Team Leader

The next day, August and I met a shop owner named **Roni**, who said that he had been a police officer (as seen in the photo he's holding). We explained that we are Bible teachers by divine calling and we regularly visit Israel to bring the Good News of Yeshua the Messiah back to His people.

Another reason for our visits, we explained, is that as followers of Yeshua the Messiah, we are spiritually indebted to the Jewish people (Romans 15:27) for giving us the Scriptures and the Messiah who is proclaimed in Scripture. To repay this debt, we are compelled by the love of Messiah to return the Word of God to the Jewish people.

We encouraged Roni to search the whole Word of God—the *Tanakh* (Old Testament) and the *Brit Hadashah* (New Testament)—to discover the prophecies of Messiah that have been fulfilled in Yeshua of Nazareth and no other (John 5:39–40).

Roni couldn't believe we would give him such an expensive Hebrew Study Bible, and he happily accepted it. Roni was excited about receiving God's Word and the Messianic Gospel literature that we included. He said that he would go home after work and begin reading it! \$\$\$



To

Roni

## Wise As a Serpent

# Retire After 65 to Live Longer

American novelist

Mark Levitt ZLM Director since 1988



"Every cloud has a silver lining." —Sarah Payson Willis (1811–1872),

The recent combination of outsized inflation, a staggering stock market, and growing unfunded entitlements will force many Americans to work years longer than planned. **Are extra** years in the workforce a blessing in disguise — a possible illustration of Romans 8:28, "... all things work together for good to those who love God ..."? Quite possibly so.

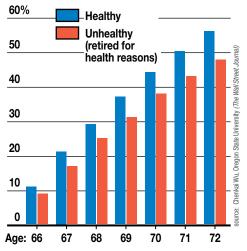
A 65-year-old can expect to live an additional 19–21.5 years, on average, according to the Social Security Administration. What's more, a third of 65-year-olds will hit age 90, and 1 in 7 will live beyond age 95.\* Consequently, it behooves more people than ever to work past age 65, particularly those who have only nominal nest eggs and/or considerable debt.

Working longer helps people live longer, according to a study published in the *Journal of Epidemiology* & *Community Health*. The risk of dying from any cause over the study period was 11% lower among those who delayed retirement for one year—until age 66—and fell further for those who retired between the ages of 66 and 72.\*\*

Researchers at Oregon State University analyzed data from 2,956 people who were employed at the start of a larger study in 1992 and fully retired at its conclusion in 2010. Retirement age ranged from 55 to 77 years old. Of the subjects, 33% retired at age 66 or older, 12% at age 65, and 55% before 65. Just over a third cited health reasons for retiring.

Compared with those retiring at 65, even workers who retired for health reasons a year later had a lower risk of dying. The benefits of remaining in

## Age at retirement and reduced risk of dying compared with age 65:



the workforce occurred regardless of gender, lifestyle, education, income, or occupation. Postponing retirement apparently delays natural, age-related declines in physical, cognitive, and mental functions, also reducing the risk of chronic illness. Mandatory retirement in the U.S. was abolished in 1986 except in certain professions, such as for airline pilots and some judges.

StateFarm.com details benefits beyond financial stability for working after "retirement." Those who do "often remain more active and socially connected, which can mean better overall health and fewer medical issues. Working part-time can give you a sense of being part of something without being tied to a career and long hours."

The AARP lists several reasons to keep working after retirement, including:

- A cushion for your savings
- Exercise for your brain
- A sense of community and purpose

Meanwhile, the Bible doesn't suggest that we should stop working nor does it indicate we must work until the day we die. Retirement is a cultural rather than a Biblical concept.\*\*\* \$

# **ZLM Bulletin Board**

erusalem

### Jewish Lives Don't Matter ...

to Gazi Kodzo, who leads Black Hammer, a Black supremacist, communist cult. In 2021, the group tweeted, "Y'all [whites] keep asking us how we're going to keep ourselves warm up in the mountains." The tweet included a picture of Anne Frank's diary and a campfire. "Don't y'all already know it just takes a good book to burn and some nice wood. And best believe we have plenty of copies to keep us warm all season long." Referring to Israel as "isntreal," Black Hammer claims Frank's story was propaganda for suppressing ethnic minorities, promoting Zionism, and subsidizing genocide of Palestinians.

GIVING THROUGH RETIREMENT PLANS

## **ECFA Approved (still)**

For the eleventh year in a row, the **Evangelical Council for Financial** Accountability (ECFA) has monitored various aspects of this ministry's financials, newsletters, website, government documents, television broadcasts, and more. Once again, we

appreciate the ECFA continuing to accept ZLM as an official member.



### Many ZLM Books & **Music in digital format**

Instead of paying hardcopy prices, save at www.store.levitt.com by selecting any of 22 book/booklet titles and 22 music albums (or individual tracks) in your preferred format from iTunes,



FREE ITEM

### **Pamphlet of** the Month

The 16-page Giving Through Retirement Plans conveys the importance of planning for financial well-being during retirement. Its main section, "Tax-favored Savings Plans," includes these topics:

1) Making gifts today, 2) Give from mandatory withdrawals, 3) Special taxfree gift option, and 4) Making future gifts. The "Technical Advisory Section" discusses testamentary gifts from retirement accounts and special considerations. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box. Request POM #18.



PC, etc.

To Index



### **Hebrew**Lesson

Looking for Home



בַּעֲצָתְדָ תַנְחֵנִי וְאַחֵר כָּבוֹד תִקָּחֵנִי

"You will guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me into glory." (Psalm 73:24)

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Our faith in Yeshua brings us into collision with the world and its vanities. We are to be crucified to the world (Gal. 6:14) and seek matters above (Col. 3:1), out of sight of other men. "We do not look at things that are seen, but things that are unseen" (2 Cor. 4:18). We are estranged from the world because we look away from its attractions, heeding the promises of the Eternal Lord, longing for that place that transcends the temporal pleasures and fleeting dramas of this age. God has subjected this world to vanity, yet He has set "eternity within our hearts" (Ecc. 3:11) so that we abide in hope.

Meanwhile, we are to regard all things as they relate to the truth of spirituality as taught by our Lord. We recognize God's moral law and the voice of conscience that overrules the vagaries of man's self-serving laws, understanding that all that we say, do, and think will be judged upon our death before the truth of God. Therefore, we look askance at worldly politics and the machinations of the godless, understanding that we groan in this life and are burdened, earnestly desiring death to be "*swallowed up by life*" (2 Cor. 5:4) so that we will be clothed in the immortality of eternal life.

Just as you trust and accept that Yeshua was crucified for you - identifying with you, taking your place in judgment, exchanging His life for your own — so you trust and accept that you have been crucified with Him, and that your old life was removed and replaced with a new, indestructible nature of His resurrection life. In other words, a union is created where His "for me" is answered by my "with him." "I already have been crucified in Messiah" (Χριστώ συνεσταύρωμαι, Gal. 2:20). Indeed, the two go together: to trust in the finished work of Messiah for you is to trust in His finished work within you. When He died on the Cross for you, what sins did He not bear on your behalf? Which remedy did He leave unfulfilled? xx



# ZLM Store

## Much Like Peter **DVD** Set

Nine 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

On the shore of the Sea of Galilee, Yeshua/Jesus called disciples to follow Him. One of these was Peter, who often acted before thinking. Yet the Messiah saw that this simple fisherman would become a powerful voice for the Gospel. This series includes teaching by Dr. Jeffrey Seif, dramatic reenactments by Israeli actors, interviews with Israeli Believers, and modern life applications with David and Kirsten Hart.

Foundation of Faith Jesus called the disciples to follow Him. Peter, one of the Twelve, received a new mission and a new name.

Faith Requires Boldness During a storm, Peter was the only disciple to step out of the boat and walk on the water to Jesus. Faith often prompts people to overachieve.

Who Are You, Yeshua? Caesarea Philippi, a center of paganism, was a remarkable place for Jesus to reveal His Messiahship. Though darkness may surround us, the Gospel continues to advance, and even the forces of Hell will not overcome it.

**Divine Apparently** Standing with Jesus at the Transfiguration were Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets. Peter, wanting to contribute, responded impulsively. Like us, Peter needed to listen to the Lord.

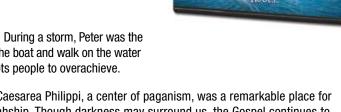
**I Don't Know Him** After Judas betrayed the Messiah, Peter initially responded with violence, but later with denial. Like Peter, today's Believers often experience a break between our words and actions. Even in difficult circumstances, God's grace is sufficient.

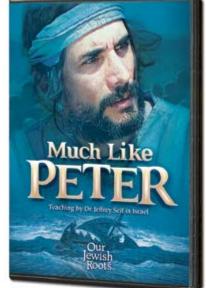
Do You Love Me? After the resurrected Savior met Peter and the other disciples at the Sea of Galilee, they experienced revival. As Jesus did with Peter, He offers grace and forgiveness to all who follow Him.

Tongues of Fire Surprisingly, the fisherman who denied knowing Jesus later preached the Gospel and 3,000 people were saved. Before being known as the Christian day of Pentecost, it was Shavuot, the Jewish holy day.

Beyond Israel's Borders Limited understanding prevented the Apostles from sharing the Gospel globally, as the Lord intended. Yet Peter received a divine vision that prompted him to share the Gospel with gentiles.

Bonus Interviews This program features extended interviews with Israelis who, like Peter, are followers of Yeshua: Chaim Malespin, director of the Alivah Return Center: Daniel Carmel. captain of the "Jesus" boat; Carolyn Hyde, who with her husband moved to Israel; and Yuval Shlomovitch, the Israeli actor who portrayed Peter.





FEATURED

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**Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library** 



### To order:

**Online:** store.levitt.com

Phone 24/7: 800-966-3377 ZLM Dallas office: 214-696-8844

Print/Tear out this 2-page form, fill out box at right, and mail to: ZLM, PO Box 12268 Dallas TX 75225

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
	A Christian Love Story (p.24)	\$4	
		\$4	
	How Can a Gentile Be Saved? (pictured)		
	Israel, My Promised		
	The Miracle of Passover		
	The Promised Land		
	Seven Churches—Does Yours Fit In?		
	The Seven Feasts of Israel		
	Spirit of Pentecost		
	Mix or Match: 50 Classic Study Booklets (above)	\$49	
	oks	<b>6</b> 4	
	An Epic Love Story (Myles Weiss) (Part of 50-book offer above)		
	The Bible Jesus Read (pictured)		
	Broken Branches — Zola on Replacement Theology (p.20)		
	Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy (p.20)		
	The Green Horse — The Bible & Islam (Norma Archbold) (p.23)		
	Heaven and Earth (Ken Berg)	\$18	
	The House That God Built	\$8	
	The Iranian Menace (Jeff Seif) (pictured)		
	An Israeli Love Story — Zola's only novel		
	Jesus, the Jew's Jew		
	Jews and Jesus (pictured)		
	Meshumed! (Traitor!)		
	The Mountains of Israel (Norma Archbold) (p.23)		
	Once Through the New Testament		
	Our Hands are Stained with Blood (Michael Brown)		
	The Prophesied Messiah (pictured)		
	Raptured		
	Satan in the Sanctuary (pictured)		
	The Trouble with Christians/Jews	<b>\$10</b>	
	Zola's Introduction to Hebrew (John Parsons) (p.7)	\$39	
	atured DVDs		
	Acts: Then and Now		
	Beauty for Ashes (9 programs, 2-DVDs)	<b>\$</b> 59	
	The Bible: The Whole Story (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$39	
	Called Together (pictured)	\$49	
	The Covenants of God	\$49	
	Divine Deliverance	\$69	
	Faith for the Future		
	Faith of Our Fathers		
	The Holocaust		
	Israel, the Church, & the Future		
	Jeremiah: Hope Over the Horizon (9 programs, 2-DVDs)		
	Joshua: More Than a Conqueror(8 programs, 2-DVDs)		
	· · · · · ·		
	Kings and Kingdoms	\$49	
	The Miracle of Passover (p.25) (2 programs, 1-DVD)	\$19	
	New! Much Like Peter (p.17) (9 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Return to Eden(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$59	
	Revelation: Unveiling the Visions(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	Secrets of the Scrolls (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	
	The Witnessing Series	\$29	



### **ORDER FORM (continued)**

## Studies, Specialty, Etc. – UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEMS!

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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"	or \$1_	
	Flag of Israel (3' x 5')	\$10_	
	Genealogy Chart (16" x 20")	\$12	
	Grafted-In Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut)	\$3_	
	Grafted-In Lapel Pin (p.2)	\$10_	
	Grafted-In Sterling Silver Necklace (with 18" chain)	\$39_	
	Half-shekel Keychain (p.36)	\$16	
	Hebrew Names of God Notecards (12 unique cards)	\$24	
	New! Magnet-"Pray for the Peace" (pictured) (3 of 1 design)	\$12	
	New! Jewish Heritage Calendar (5783 / 2023) (pictured)	\$6_	
	Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land	\$7_	
	"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker (p.11).	\$3_	
	Button—"Pray for the Peace" (pictured) (4 of 1 design)	\$8_	
	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only)	no ch	narge
	The Classic Zola Collection	\$999	

### **Teaching CDs**

A Christian Love Story (CD)	\$8_
Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy (p.20) (CD)	\$8_
Zola Teaches the New Testament (pictured) (6 CDs)	\$29_

### Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

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) (pictured) (Music CD)	\$12_

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Please fill out area below	and send the entire page.	Subtotal
Shipping & Handling Chart up to \$15.99, add \$5 \$16 to \$30.99, add \$7 \$31 to \$60.99, add \$9 \$61 to \$97.99, add \$10 \$98 and over, FREE SHIPPING	For shipments outside the United States, please DOUBLE shipping. Please ONLY send U.S. funds. Please allow about 2–3 weeks	Shipping (see left chart)
Any amount that exceeds the listed price is c	onsidered a tax-deductible gift to our ministry	Donation?
Name		_ Total
Billing Address (if different)		
		Zip
Email Address (optional)		
On what station/network do you primaril	y watch Our Jewish Roots?	
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ZOLA TEACHE

TESTAMENT



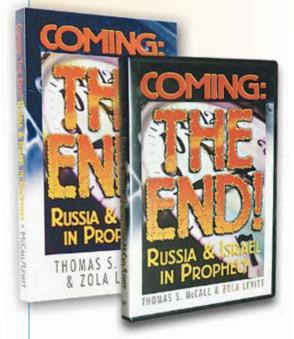
Pray for the peace of

Jerusalem

Price Total

# **ZLM** Store





## <u>Coming: The End!</u> <u>Russia & Israel</u> <u>in Prophecy</u>

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."

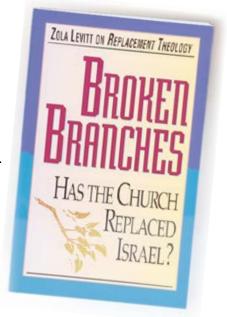


## Broken Branches – Has the Church Replaced Israel?

Zola Levitt on Replacement Theology

What can replace Israel and the Jews in God's plan? Certainly not America and not the Church. Nonetheless, some denominations seem to be wearing blinders to their Jewish heritage, the very roots of their Christianity. Let us restore the foundation to our Christianity and quit using grace as an excuse to cast away the Jews and the Promised Land. A must-read book for Believers, seminaries, churches, and anyone else willing to celebrate the Promised Land and the Chosen People.

Please see "What is Replacement Theology?" on p. 12



(These and most titles are also available as eBooks.)

# Anti-Semitism in Hiring is the New Norm



BY DAVID ISRAEL (r) JewishPress.com

Recently, ResumeBuilder.com reported "an alarming amount of anti-Semitism within companies, a great deal of which is considered acceptable."

The online service surveyed 1,131 hiring managers and recruiters about their views of Jewish individuals and their perception of the presence of workplace anti-Semitism.

### Here are the key findings:

- 26% of hiring managers say they are less likely to move forward with Jewish applicants
- 26% make assumptions about whether a candidate is Jewish based on their appearance
- 23% say they want fewer Jews in their industry
- 17% say leadership has told them to not hire Jews
- **33%** say anti-Semitism is common in their workplace
- 29% say anti-Semitism is acceptable in their company



When asked why they are less likely to move forward with Jewish applicants, the top excuses were (in order of popularity):

- "Jews have too much power and control"
- "Jews claim to be the Chosen People"
- "Jews have too much wealth"
- "Jews are greedy"
- "Jews killed Jesus"
- "Jews are an inferior race"
- "Jews are oppressors"
- "Jews are less capable"

Hiring managers who said that company leadership directed them to not hire Jewish applicants were in the fields of education (30%), entertainment (28%), and business (26%) — three industries that anti-Semites have claimed are controlled by Jews.  $\Rightarrow$ 









Letters, emails, and comments from www.levitt.com and YouTube

### **Much Like Peter**

**From T.R.:** I just watched the first two episodes of *Much Like Peter*. What an excellent job you have done! Thanks for creating this series for us!

Also, thank you, Sarah, for making other Believers aware of the difficulties facing our brothers and sisters in Iran (*Personal Letter*, November 2022). Yes, they need our prayers. OpenDoorsUS.org publishes the World Watch List every year that lists the top 50 countries in the order of where Christians are most persecuted. North Korea was #1 for a number of years, but Afghanistan is at the top of the list this year. Iran places at #9.



### Dear T.R.,

It takes a team to create a series as edifying and delightful as *Much Like Peter*. We are beyond happy to bring it to all of you viewers. And Sarah consistently delivers "boots on the ground" insights and Biblical truths to our mailboxes and computer screens. For that we are incredibly thankful. —David

**From S.D.:** This looks like it will be a really good series but a lot of us do not speak Hebrew, so how are we supposed to understand what the actors are saying? I can't read the captions fast enough!

### Dear S.D.,

Whether to speak Hebrew or English is debatable when portraying Biblical characters. The Hebrew language is so alluring that for our *Much Like Peter* series, our producer Ken Berg opted for native, Hebrew-speaking actors speaking Hebrew. We think the authenticity is worth your occasionally pressing the pause button to read the captions. In addition, you can slow down the playback using the video player controls. Our web page for this video (<u>levitt.tv/media/series/DMLP</u>) also contains a transcript of the captions. Please give it a try! —David

### **Our Jewish Roots**

**From S.D.:** I wanted you to know how much I love your work! The teaching, Holy Land sights, and the beautiful singing bless us on many levels. When I've saved enough money, my son and I will join you on a Zola Tour. May Jesus' love continue to shine through you!

### Dear S.D.,

We look forward to you and your son joining a Zola Tour soon. Our Bible study tour would enhance your spiritual walk in every way you can imagine. *OJR* beautifully presents the Holy Land and Biblical sites on every program, but in person, it's spectacular! – Kirsten

(continued on next page)

To

### **Closed Captions?**

**From A.W.:** I am a deaf, spirit-filled, born-again, gentile Bible Believer with a Jewish-hearing heart for God/Christ. I receive your *Levitt Letter* and love it! It's the most inspirational magazine



I've ever read! I also watch your programs on *Our Jewish Roots* and wish you had closed captions (CC) for the deaf/hearing-impaired community. Can you do something for the deaf/hearing-impaired community to be able to hear as well as watch your videos with closed captions (CC)? Thank you.

### Dear A.W.,

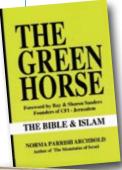
We are so glad to have you as a viewer. Closed captioning (CC) was unknown until 1980 when an episode of "The Wonderful World of Disney" became the first program to broadcast with CC. It was another 13 years, however, before new TV sets were required to have CC capability built in (which avoided the need for a separate set top box). Soon afterward, we began adding captions to our programs on *Zola Levitt Presents* (now *Our Jewish Roots*) because we were sensitive to the hearing-impaired community. After another thirteen years, the FCC required CC for all new programs. That year we started transitioning from Standard Definition (SD) to High Definition (HD), which required new captioning equipment.

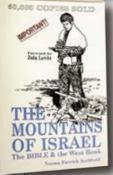
Since the mid-90s, all of our weekly TV programs have been captioned. If you are having difficulty getting CC from your local station, I recommend the web! In 2012, the FCC required video programming on the internet to include CC. That same year we launched our YouTube channel, and all of our programs on YouTube have a little CC box that activates closed captioning. — **Clayton Herring**, TV Syndicator for Berg Productions



**Clayton Herring** 

To Index





# The Green Horse book

A 21<sup>st</sup>-century exposé of misinformation, *The Green Horse* explains Islam's history, modern status, and ongoing agenda in a Biblical context. Plainly written with remarkable detail, it contains user-friendly subtitles, illustrations, tables, charts, underlined text, and maps. It includes a 5-page bibliography and Bible references and a "Gallery of Peace Promises and Terror Victims." Named for the Angel of Death's horse in Revelation 6:8—translated as "pale" but in reality "chloros" ("green"), the traditional color of Islam—this 238-page trove of scholarly treasures is fun to skim, worthwhile to read, and handy as a reference book.

(continued on next page)

### The Mountains of Israel book by Norma Archbold

Once Zola's guest on TV, Archbold presents a refreshing perspective on the Arab-Israeli conflict, especially for those who have studied Israel from a Scriptural view. Enlightening maps, illustrations, charts, and references provide a geographical orientation to the war game of all eternity.

Readers will find eye-opening quotes from witnesses who were in the Holy Land during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Their descriptions characterize Israel as a treeless, barren wasteland before the Jewish people's return. Equally helpful to gentiles and Jews, *Mountains* remains valuable reading since it is presented from a Biblical point of view—God's Word and His plan, of course, remain unchanged.

### What happened to humor?

**From M.O.:** I am so sad you've practically dropped all humor from the monthly newsletter. What on Earth happened? It is (was) my favorite part of the *Levitt Letter*!

### Dear M.O.,

Hopefully you noticed that the apparent "humor shortage" has been rectified with the January *LL*. I love to make people laugh, so I believe that humor should be a part of each *LL* (because it's "*like medicine*," Prov. 17:22). By the way, if you have pro-Israel, Bible-related jokes and comics or appropriate Jewish humor, please send them to <u>staff@levitt.com</u> or the ministry's P.O. box and we will consider them for a future issue. — Editor



"My belly is a vital part of my 401(k) plan. I may have to live off this fat when I retire!"

(Please see the related article on <u>p. 14</u>)

JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX



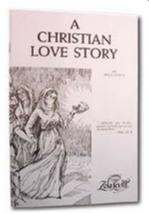
Having left his fortune behind, Bob set about rebuilding it by seeking the silver lining hiding deep within the clouds.



To Index

### **A Christian Love Story**

From D.V.: Your study booklet, <u>A Christian Love Story</u>, has opened my eyes



to so many lessons in the Bible that I had missed. We have decided to study this in our ladies Sunday School class. This lovely booklet was my Christmas gift to each lady.

#### Dear D.V.,

Your gift idea makes me so happy. As a speaker for women's ministry events, I spread the word that Zola's inexpensive study booklets are so practical for both small groups and Sunday School classes. Our dozens of video series also work well in such groups, and you could easily lead a brief discussion after each 30-minute episode. — Kirsten

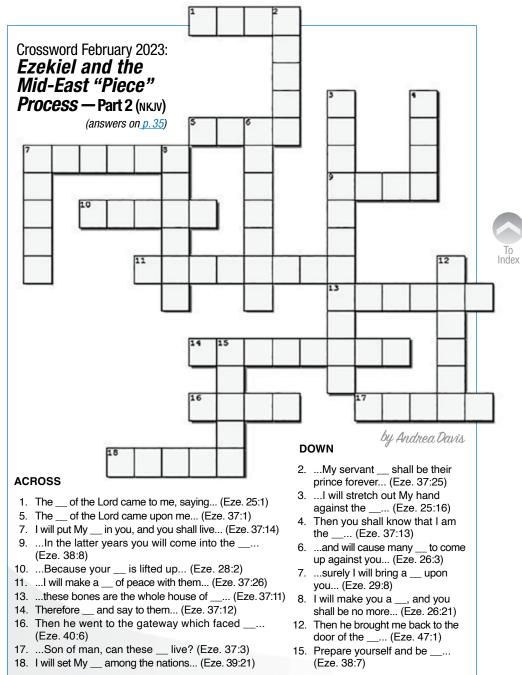
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### The Miracle of Passover (1999), Part 2 on YouTube

**From L.E.:** It's wonderful how Zola paints the picture of the bread with grilled stripes like the stripes of Jesus and the holes on the bread like Jesus' pierced hands and side. I never saw matzah in this light. Zola was an amazing teacher.

#### Dear L.E.,



Science in Israel

# Harvesting Hydrogen from Trash



BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN (r) Israel21c.org

Jan Grimbrandt says that producing affordable carbon-negative hydrogen locally from household, medical, and agricultural waste makes great financial and environmental sense. Thus, his Israeli-Swedish-Polish company, Boson Energy, plans to accelerate the slow but steady transition from fossil fuels.

"Today, waste is seen as a negative value in terms of the climate and the economy. But biomass and waste streams are

largely unexplored chemical carriers of hydrogen," Grimbrandt said.

"One ton of waste destined for landfill can instead replace five and a half barrels of crude oil. It's easy to understand."

But not as easy to accomplish.

Boson's solution is hardware that could be set up in urban areas where power is needed most. The technology developed in Israel, where Boson Energy continues to advance it uses gasification to harvest hydrogen continuously from nonrecyclable waste and biomass. Plasma torches melt the remaining ash into a usable glass material.

The process also captures one ton of carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  from each ton of waste treated, allowing for a carbon-negative footprint compared to landfilling or incinerating the waste.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, hydrogen used in a fuel cell to produce electricity is an attractive energy carrier that can be produced from diverse, readily available resources including renewable energy. The only emissions from a hydrogen fuel cell are water vapor and warm air.

Hydrogen's decarbonization potential, however, has been stymied by a lack



above: A typical landfill site right: Cross-section of the Boson chamber

of production technologies and distribution infrastructure. That's where

garbage comes in.

"When we find a way for waste to be a resource instead of a problem, it changes the way you look at it," said Liran Dor, who helped devise the technology and works at Boson's R&D center in Israel.

"Waste is something that is always generated and always has to be treated. We wanted to find a way to utilize that resource because we are living in a resource-poverty economy," he added.

Boson Energy would reap profits by charging for treating the waste diverted from landfills and selling both the hydrogen and the  $CO_2$  as local commodities. The hydrogen could be used in various ways, such as fast charging of electric vehicles (EVs). The  $CO_2$  could be stored or replace fossil fuel  $CO_2$  in greenhouses and the food and beverage industry.

As more consumers buy EVs, concerns grow that the electricity grid cannot handle the increased demand. Boson aims to take the pressure off the grid. The target customers would be municipalities around the world. To

Medicine in Israel

# World's Largest ER Opens in Israel



BY NATHAN JEFFAY (r) TimesOflsrael.com

With automated check-in and robots to lead the way, the world's largest emergency room opened in Israel last July. The 86,000-square-foot facility, at Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center (Ichilov), was designed for both regular emergency needs and a sudden influx of casualties from war and terror. There are 100 inpatient emergency beds, more than any other Israeli hospital, which can be doubled in an emergency situation.

The facility's high-tech nature is immediately

obvious. Patients who are able will check themselves in and then move to "self-triage," where automated systems will check their temperature, blood pressure, pulse, and blood oxygen saturation. Results go into the hospital computer system, and staff is alerted immediately if patients are at high risk.

ourtesy: Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center



A robot guides an ER patient

Mobile robots help patients find the department they need, and an app explains what is happening with their tests, results, and treatment.

The hospital includes various departments that aren't normally found in Israeli ERs — there are professional



Self check-in at the new ER

advisers in the fields of cardiology, neurology, dermatology, and sexual health. They make special provision for psychiatric patients needing emergency care. There's also a dedicated room for people who arrive after being subjected to sexual assault, where their needs can be met with extra sensitivity.

Prof. Ronni Gamzu, the medical center's CEO, called the ER a "medical and technological revolution." He added: "Our emergency room treats complicated cases on a large scale, therefore the challenge of providing outstanding service is significant. We are determined to meet this challenge and to prove that it is possible to demand and to receive quick, outstanding treatment even during busy periods."

The ER is named in honor of Sylvan Adams, a Canadian-Israeli who donated \$28 million to the hospital. Speaking at the dedication ceremony, Adams noted: "Israel is already a leader on the world stage in medicine, with Israeli scientists and doctors bringing us some of the most important research, innovations, and care solutions. So, it's befitting that Israel should be a trailblazer when it comes to the provision of emergency care."



## Jews in History

# Hidden Heroes: How Young Jewish **Women Fought the Nazis**

### BY MAYA MARGIT (r) JPost.com

They were young, intelligent, and, thanks to their "Aryan" features, able to slip in and out of ghettos and Gestapo offices, while carrying out some of the most dangerous missions of the anti-Nazi Jewish resistance.

Bela Hazan Yaari, Tema Sznajderman, and Lonka Korzybrodska smuggled people, documents, weapons, ammunition, and money between ghettos in Nazi-occupied Europe during WWII.

The trio risked their lives to save others. But their stories, like those of many other women in the Jewish resistance during the Holocaust, have long remained in the shadows.



A mugshot of Bela Hazan in Auschwitz

Yoel Yaari, the son of Bela Hazan Yaari, is hoping to change that with a book he is writing. The story begins in 2017, when Yaari, a professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum in Poland.

> He was surprised to find a photo of his mother displayed in an exhibit dedicated to Polish prisoners who had died in the camp. But the name beneath her photo was wrong.

After investigating, Yaari discovered things about his mother he'd never known. "My

mother unfortunately didn't talk much, and we didn't ask her, like many secondgeneration people who are reluctant to ask questions," he recounted.

### **Smuggling Babies and Finding Safe Houses**

Born in 1922 in Rozhyshche, Poland (now Ukraine), Bela Hazan escaped to Vilna in Lithuania when WWII began. After the Nazis occupied Vilna in 1941 and began murdering the Jews, Hazan-

who had Aryan-like features — assumed a Polish identity.

For the rest of the war she was known as Bronislawa Limanowska. Her friends also took Polish names — Tema became Wanda Majewska and Lonka became Kristina Kosowska.

The women played a critical role as couriers with the underground. When they learned about Nazis massacring Jews in Vilna, they also helped to rescue some 50 Jews there.

"These three women organized an escape from the ghetto in Vilna to the ghetto in Bialystok," Yaari noted. "My mother was in charge of smuggling babies."

To further conceal her Jewish identity, the 18-year-old Hazan acquired a (continued on next page)



top: Bela Hazan, top right, in a 1936 photo with her family bottom: Bela Hazan, sitting second from left, at a 1939 summer camp of the HeHalutz Zionist youth movement

To

## The women played a critical role as couriers with the underground.



Tema Sznajderman, Bela Hazan, and Lonka Korzybrodska

crucifix and Christian prayer book and visited church on a regular basis. She was charged with finding a safe house in Grodno for couriers traveling from Vilna to Warsaw. The couriers, who were mostly women, passed information and smuggled people, arms, ammunition, and documents.

Thanks to her proficiency in several languages, in 1941, Hazan started working as an interpreter for the Gestapo in Grodno. This afforded her the opportunity to steal official documents that she then relayed to her comrades. The resistance used these to create forged documents, travel papers, and IDs for their members.

One of the Gestapo members where Hazan worked became infatuated with her and invited her to the Gestapo headquarters' Christmas party. Her friends tagged along. While at that party, the Gestapo took the trio's picture. The black-and-white photo is now displayed at Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, in a section dedicated to female couriers.

"Of these three women, only my mother survived," Yaari said.

### **Torture and Prison**

In June 1942, Hazan went to Warsaw looking for her friend Lonka, who had disappeared during a mission. During this trip, she was asked to smuggle weapons and information. But at the border crossing, the Gestapo discovered and arrested her. She was then tortured, interrogated, and sent to a nearby prison, where she found Lonka.

Soon they were sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Hazan, who had some experience in medical settings, became a nurse in the women's camp hospital. From there, she smuggled medicines to treat Jewish inmates. "The hospital in Birkenau, as well as in the main camp Auschwitz, was also the center of the resistance groups," Yaari related.

Both Hazan and Korzybrodska became ill with typhus and were hospitalized in the same bunk. While Hazan recovered, "Lonka died in my mother's arms," Yaari said. "Her last words to my mother were, 'You will survive, and you will tell our story."

In the spring of 1945, Hazan and 1,000 other women traveled from Birkenau to the women's forced labor camp near Leipzig, which was part of Buchenwald. As Allied forces approached, the SS evacuated the camp and took all able inmates on a death march.

Hazan remained behind with Dr. Alexander Herman, a Jewish doctor, to tend to 140 sick inmates.

A Nazi killing squad soon headed toward the remaining inmates to prevent them from reaching the Allied forces. Because Hazan, Herman, and other prisoners acted quickly, everyone escaped into nearby American-held territory.

Months after liberation, Hazan wrote about her experiences in one of the earliest testimonies of Jewish resistance against the Nazis. Decades later, *They Called Me Bronislawa* was published in Hebrew.

Hazan died in 2004 in Jerusalem, having never received recognition for her bravery. But in 2019, she was posthumously awarded B'nai B'rith International's Jewish Rescuer's Citation, which honors Jews who rescued other Jews during the Holocaust.



NYC Mayor Eric Adams Delivers Remarks at Orthodox Union Convening on Combating Anti-Semitism, December 12, 2022

### NYC Mayor: No Plea Bargains for Hate Crimes

By Andrew Bernard / Algemeiner.com

New York City Mayor Eric Adams called for the end of plea bargains for the perpetrators of hate crimes, saying that such assaults should not be "downgraded" to a charge of harassment.

"There should be a no-plea-bargaining rule if you are arrested for hate crimes," Adams said at a December event on anti-Semitism organized by the Orthodox Union (OU) at the Lincoln Square Synagogue in New York City. "You assault someone because they're Jewish, because they're African-American, because they wear a hijab, because of who they are, because they wear a turban — then you should not have that assault downgraded to harassment."

Adams added that he did not believe a single person who has been arrested for a hate crime in New York City has ended up serving time in jail, a statistic he described as "unacceptable." Adams also said that the relationship between the Black and Jewish communities needed particular attention.

The OU event follows high-profile threats to the Jewish community in the New York area and nationwide attention on anti-Semitism following Kanye West's anti-Semitic media tirades. In November, two armed men were arrested at Penn Station after one suggested he might "shoot up a synagogue." George Selim, the Anti-Defamation League's Senior VP for National Affairs, recently noted that social media, celebrity culture, and politics had created a "perfect storm" for the normalization of anti-Semitic conspiracy theories and tropes.

"Social media has changed the dynamic," Adams stated. "We have to have a full-frontal assault on social media and the platforms that are spewing this hate."

### Antiquities Looters Caught Red-Handed

By David Israel / JewishPress.com

The Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) caught antiquities robbers "on the job." The three were excavating and destroying historical layers in a well next to the cemetery of the Bedouin city of Rahat in the Negev. The robbers are suspected of searching for a hidden treasure, which, according to a Bedouin myth, was buried in the well, inside a cave.



The capture of the three antiquities looters in November





The archaeological site of Horvat Maaravim features ancient remains from the Roman, Byzantine, Early Islamic, and Ottoman Periods. IAA personnel who were monitoring the site saw suspicious figures enter the cave in the early evening. They hurried to the location and caught the robbers in the act of digging up the archaeological site.

The suspects, in their twenties, were arrested. One of the looters had been arrested and charged for a similar offense in 2020; he received probation and was fined \$8,735.

"After the summer heat, we witness an increase in antiquities robbing activities," said Eli Eskosido, director of the IAA. "The looters are motivated by greed, and they rip the finds from their archaeological context, damaging the country's heritage."

Amir Ganor, director of the Antiquities Theft Prevention Unit, emphasized: "Rumors of hidden treasures have no archaeological or historical basis. No treasure has been discovered to date, but irreparable damage has been done to the archaeological sites, undermining attempts to reconstruct the history of all the peoples of this country."

Damaging an archaeological site is a criminal offense, punishable by up to five years in prison.

### Sister of Iran's Leader Asks Guards to Lay Down Arms JNS.org

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's sister has criticized his crackdown on the protests raging across Iran and called on the Revolutionary Guards to put down their weapons, according to a letter her son published in France.

Badri Hosseini Khamenei slammed the religious establishment that has ruled the country since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, according to the letter dated December 2022.

"I think it is appropriate now to declare that I oppose my brother's actions and I express my sympathy with all mothers mourning the crimes



Badri Hosseini Khamenei

of the Islamic Republic, from the time of Khomeini to the current era of the despotic caliphate of Ali Khamenei," she wrote in the missive, which was shared on the Twitter account of her son, Mahmoud Moradkhani.



"Ali Khamenei's Revolutionary Guards and mercenaries should lay down their weapons as soon as possible and join the people before it is too late," the letter said.

The Guards Corps had previously issued a statement urging judges to "not show mercy to rioters, thugs, and terrorists," indicating that the authorities have no intention of stepping back from their harsh assault on dissent.

This came after Farideh Moradkhani, a niece of Ali Khamenei and a wellknown rights crusader, called on foreign countries to terminate all connections with Tehran over its deadly crackdown on unrest sparked by the murder of Mahsa Amini when she was in police custody.

# retz/Israel Antiquities Authority

## Archaeology Double Feature Ritual Bath from Second Temple Era Discovered

JPOST.COM

A salvage excavation near the Temple Mount unearthed a unique *mikveh* (ritual bath) dating to the Second Temple Period. The *mikveh* is located atop a cliff in the "Upper City" — the area that housed Jerusalem's elites in what is now the Jewish Quarter.

Discovered within a private villa, the bath was built into the bedrock and



Steps of the ritual bath

features a vaulted ceiling with fine masonry typical of the Herodian Period. A plastered water cistern, uncovered near the same villa, had been in use until the destruction of the Second Temple by Rome in A.D. 70. It held the



The Mikveh complex and the remains of Herodian construction

remains of nearly 40 cooking pots, some still intact.

Hebrew University's Dr. Oren Gutfeld, one of the project's overseers, noted: "The excavation revealed remains dating from the Second Temple, Roman-Byzantine, and Ottoman Periods. The number of water channels, cisterns, and pools discovered in the area reflects the central role played by Jerusalem's water supply throughout the ages."

The excavations also unearthed additional artifacts that span those periods, including a network of plastered pools and channels.

Among the finds was a section of the Ottoman Period-phase of the Lower Aqueduct that transported water from Solomon's Pools near Bethlehem to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem during the Second Temple Period.

Archaeologists also found an industrial pool built by soldiers of Rome's Tenth Legion. They were stationed in Jerusalem after the establishment of the Roman colony of Aelia Capitolina in A.D. 130. The pool lies on top of the remains of an earlier Roman oven, also installed by soldiers of the legion.

In the bottom layer of tile bricks was one stamped with the letters (continued on next page)



Intact cooking vessels collected from the bottom of the water cistern



"LXF," alluding to *Legio X Fretensis*, the full name of the Tenth Legion.

"These rare finds ... are truly exciting," noted Ze'ev Elkin, Construction and Housing Minister and Jerusalem Affairs Minister. "They provide proof of a continuous Jewish presence in Jerusalem for millennia."

The excavations began in February 2021 to provide disabled access between Jerusalem's Old City and the Western Wall.



A fragment of a Byzantine oil lamp with remains of a Greek inscription "The light of Christ shines for all."

# 2,200-Year-Old Sling Bullet Found in Yavne

JNS.ORG

Israeli researchers recently discovered a lead projectile dating from the Hellenistic Period in the ancient palace at Yavne, an archaeological site in central Israel.

The 1.7-inch-long projectile was designed to be launched from a sling. It is estimated to be 2,200 years old, placing it at the time of the battles between the Hasmoneans and the Seleucid Empire.

"It seems that we will not be able to know for sure if the projectile belonged to a Greek soldier," said Pablo Bezer and Daniel Varga, managers of the Yavne archaeological site for the Israel Antiquities Authority.

"But it is not impossible that it is related to the conflict between the Greeks and the Hasmoneans. In the second century B.C., Yavne was pagan — an ally of the Seleucids [the Greeks who ruled Israel], and was subject to attacks by the Hasmonean armies," they explained.

The projectile bears a Greek inscription: "Victory for Heracles and Hauron."

Yulia Ustinova of Ben-Gurion University, who decoded the inscription, explained, "The pair of gods Hauron and Heracles were considered divine patrons of Yavne during the Hellenistic Period. The inscription on a projectile is the first archaeological evidence of the two protectors of Yavne that was discovered inside Yavne itself. Until today, the pair was only known from one inscription on the Greek island of Delos."

The inscription was not a call to the deities, but rather "a threat addressed to the adversaries. The inscriptions conveyed a message to unite the warriors, scare the enemy, or a call to goad, in a magical way, the bullet itself. These were parts of psychological warfare," she added.

The find is rare, she noted. "Lead bullets are known in the ancient world starting from the  $5^{\text{th}}$  century B.C., but in Israel few individual bullets have been found with inscriptions on them."

## Anti-Semitism

# Farrakhan to Jews: "Repent of Your Evil to Us"

### **MEMRI.ORG**

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, in a speech livestreamed on YouTube in November, spoke about accusations of anti-Semitism against NBA star Kyrie Irving and rapper Kanye West. The Nation of Islam also shared the video on its website, Facebook page, and other online video platforms.

Below are some of Farrakhan's statements.

"I'm saying to the ADL [Anti-Defamation League]: Sir, we know you. And we know that we know you. And you know that we know you. Don't talk to Kyrie by himself [saying] 'He can go and look at the horror of the Holocaust.' Why don't you come and look at the horror of what your parents have done to Black people in America and throughout the world? Why don't you come and study and repent of your evil to us?

"If you want our brothers to come and sit with your rabbis and visit the Holocaust museum, why not let one of our scholars come and sit with them? Because we know the Torah, by God's grace. We know the Talmud. And we know you and your history. Leave our people alone.

"We have never done to you and your people what you and your people have done to us. We don't need to go see the Holocaust. We feel your pain. Because we are really human beings. You don't feel ours, because to you, a thousand Blacks ain't worth the fingernail of a Jewish man. I've read these things.

"Tell me something. How many of you would sit down and apologize to us for the transatlantic slave trade? You come now. Bring your wife and your children and tell us you're sorry for killing us, raping us, castrating us, enslaving us, and making us chattel.





*top:* Louis Farrakhan *bottom:* The Nation of Islam Twitter post

### Will you come and apologize?

"Reparation is what we deserve for the pain and anguish that you have caused us to suffer.

"No, no, no. But you won't do that. You won't do justice by us. That's why judgment is on you now. That's why you can't live a day without another calamity. And it's not going to stop. It's going to get harder and harder, because the God of Justice has claimed us... we belong to God. Not you." To Index

MEMRI



# Jewish Humor, etc.

A cheerful heart is good medicine— Proverbs 17:22

### The Barbers of Incivility

Max and Yakov, longtime rivals, opened barber shops across the street from one another.

They each put up a big, bold sign. Max's read:

WE GIVE FOUR-DOLLAR HAIRCUTS

Not to be outdone, Yakov put up his own sign that stated:

### WE FIX FOUR-DOLLAR HAIRCUTS

### **One Cool Customer**

Estelle Rosenstein, a regular at a restaurant in Miami frequented by many seniors, was once again bothering the waiter. First, she asked him to turn up the air conditioning because she was too hot. Then she asked him to turn it down because she was too cold. So it went for about an hour.

Surprisingly, the waiter was very patient; he walked back and forth and never once got angry. Finally, another customer asked him why he didn't ask Mrs. Rosenstein to leave.

"Oh, it's not a problem," replied the waiter with a smile. "We don't even have an air conditioner."

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Answer Kev for February 2023 Crossword (p. 25)

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. Lord	15
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Terror Temple

Ready

(See the related

article on p.8)



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ZONE	PACIFIC	MOUNTAIN	CENTRAL	EASTERN		
DAYSTAR Airing Day & Time by zone DirecTV - Channel 369 Dish - Channel 263						
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	TCT DirecTV	Airing Day & Time - Channel 377 <b>Dish</b>	e by zone - Channel 267			
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	GEB-T	Airing Day & Tir DirecTV - Channel 3	me by zone			
Day	3:30 PM Thur	4:30 PM Thur	5:30 PM Thur	6:30 PM Thur		
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## Half-Shekel Keychain

These teardrop keychains each contain an authentic half-shekel coin from Israel and cite the very important verses from Exodus 30:13–16 and Ephesians 2:8–9. Reminiscent of the days when each citizen of Israel, rich or poor, gave a half-shekel coin to make atonement. Put your keychain in your pocket; salvation is now free!

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To

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