



# Levitt LETTER

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

JUNE 2023

inside: "Ye Shall  
Be Hated..." p.10

source: depositphotos.com

## Why Are Jews Targets of Hate Crimes?

By Dr. Michael L. Brown / ChristianPost.com

In the words of Eric Dinowitz, a Jewish politician in New York City, "Hate is on the rise — and the high-profile cases on the news are often the endpoint of hate." Speaking particularly about hatred and violence against Jewish people, he added, "We see the assaults in Hell's Kitchen and Times Square. We see mass murders at synagogues and supermarkets. And what this report card shows us are those seeds of hate are the precursors to physical violence."

Dinowitz was referring to the 2023 Digital Terrorism and Hate Report Card from the Simon Wiesenthal Center. (See sidebar article.)

What motivates such attitudes and actions? **Why do Jews, among all racial and religious groups, remain the greatest hate crime target? And why are Jews targeted by both White Supremacists and Black Supremacists?**

### False Claims

One group noted in the report was the Black Hebrew Israelites. They claim to be  
(continued p.4)

## Increasing Social Media Anti-Semitism, Holocaust Denial

By Mike Wagenheim / JNS.org

The Simon Wiesenthal Center recently released its 25<sup>th</sup> annual "Digital Terrorism and Hate Report Card."

The report warns especially of increased anti-Semitic and racist messaging that calls for violence against Black, immigrant, and Jewish residents.

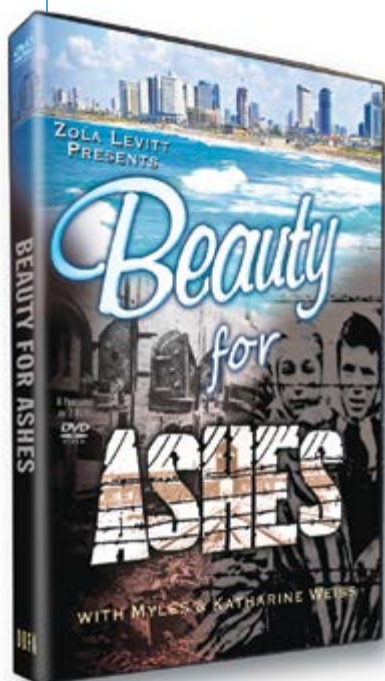
Part of the report grades social-media companies on their failure to curb online hate. Google and YouTube received a "B-"; Facebook and Instagram received a "C"; TikTok got a "D"; Twitter a "D-"; and Telegram an "F." Amazon earned a "C" on the report card.

**Rick Eaton**, director of research at  
(continued p.3)



Rick Eaton (source: www.tanajewishtimes.com)





## **Beauty for Ashes**

### DVD Set

Nine 30-minute TV programs on 2 DVDs

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Extended Interviews with Holocaust Survivors (bonus program)** Holocaust survivors speak further about being sent to death camps, survival techniques, liberation, and overcoming the traumatic experiences of their youth to live meaningful lives.

Please see the [cover article](#) “Why Are Jews Targets of Hate Crimes?”

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\* “Believers” is short for “believers in Yeshua/Jesus as Messiah.”



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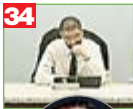
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**Increasing Social Media Anti-Semitism ...**

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the Simon Wiesenthal Center, stressed that TikTok is of prime concern, though not for the politics behind its Chinese ownership. “It’s solely the fact that they have something like 1 billion users. A good percentage of those are young people ... in the neighborhood of 30% to 40%.” Eaton cited TikTok postings by Holocaust deniers and minimizers, and a hateful meme of Anne Frank, next to material lauding school shooters, racists, and other bigots.

Eaton added, however, that the largest amount of hateful content is found on Telegram. Meanwhile, the report criticizes Twitter, which had largely cleaned up ISIS and white supremacist-heavy content, for allowing Nazis and Holocaust deniers back on the site under its current management.

The report also calls out Amazon for



digitalterrorism-hate report card 2023			simon wiesenthal center
PLATFORM	GRADE	ESTIMATED USERS	
Facebook/Instagram	C	Facebook: 2.9B (2022) monthly active users	
Google+/YouTube	B+	Instagram: 2 billion monthly active users	
Telegram	F	2.1B active users	
TikTok	D	1B active users	
Twitter	B-	1.1B active users	
WhatsApp	B-	1.1B active users	

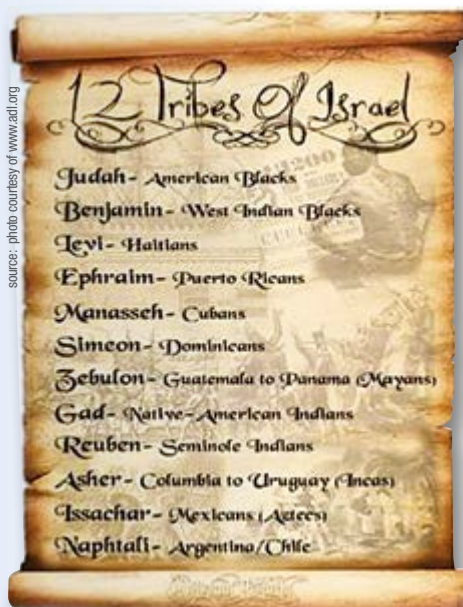
The Digital Report Card

The Digital Report Card

its “monetization of hate.” The e-commerce site includes items for sale including swastika jewelry and a skull mask associated with neo-Nazi groups, which are linked together through Amazon’s “other people bought this” algorithm.

Eaton explained that online hate hasn’t just evolved or shifted to different sites. It’s getting worse—and rapidly so. “It’s gone more mainstream,” he emphasized, adding that there are “people [who] are posting and seeing this stuff [who] would have never done it even two or three years ago.” ☆

# Why Are Jews Targets of Hate Crimes? *continued from cover*



source: photo courtesy of www.adl.org

Black Hebrew Israelites claim that they are members of the Twelve Tribes of Israel

the true Israelites, even supplying a chart that purports to connect the 12 Tribes of Israel to various people groups in North and South America. But they also deny that the Jewish people (including me) are true Jews.

In their eyes, we are the “synagogue of Satan” (based on a misinterpretation of Revelation 2:9 and 3:9) and “white Edomite devils.” (According to this cult, Jacob’s son Esau, also called Edom, was white, and White Jews today are his devilish descendants.)

Regularly, we receive comments like this on our YouTube channel: “Hitler is an Idumean [= Edomite] devil like yourself Dr. Brown. The holocaust never happened. So stop lying to the world.” This was posted by someone named “The Tribe of Levi”!

If that’s not enough, according to the Black Hebrew Israelite chart used by the Sicarii — the most militant sect among them — the people of Haiti today are the tribe of Levi!

I recently debated the leader of the Sicarii regarding “Who Are the Legitimate Children of Israel? Ashkenazi Jews or the 12 Tribe Chart?”

During the debate, I challenged him on his rhetoric, including his words from February 2022:

“That’s the future of this world. Black and Latino people ruling the world. [Jesus Christ] is a big angry black man, a black man who the whites of his eyes are red and He’s ready to come and kill. He wants to stomp people’s brains out of their cranium. He wants to step on you people’s heads until your brains come out.”

I assure you that “you people” includes those of us who are not people of color, especially White Jews.

My quotation of these words at the end of the debate only brought a smile to his face, along with lots of affirmation from his followers in the large chat. (There were as many as 4,500 people watching at once on the host’s channel.)

## A Serious Issue

But this is no joking matter. In March 2022, data released by the New York Police Department revealed that anti-Semitic hate crimes the previous month were up 400%. One news article noted, “Many of these incidents targeted Orthodox people dressed in

*(continued on next page)*



source: photo courtesy of Creative Commons

Members of the Black Hebrew Israelites in Harlem, 2012





credit: Wirestock (depositphotos.com)

Hasidic Jews from Brooklyn, New York, gather for the tashlich New Year's ceremony at the shore of the East River

distinctive clothing, like the Jewish man who was punched in Bed-Stuy on Feb. 7 while walking on Shabbat.” And what is a typical Black Hebrew Israelite response to this? “This Edomite [meaning me, when I referenced such crimes during the debate] showed himself to be a devil. He said ‘fake’ Jews are being attacked by African Americans.”

### Words Have Consequences

Attitudes of hatred will lead to acts of hatred. But the question remains: Why? Why the Jews?

When I debunk the nonsense of the “12 Tribes Chart,” I feel no animosity toward any of the peoples on the chart, including Mexicans (who are supposedly the lost tribe of Issachar!) or the Seminole Indians (supposedly the lost tribe of Reuben!) or African Americans (supposedly the tribe of Judah!). And, based on the comments I see when I address these things, no one who agrees with me feels animosity because of these people being fake Israelites. (To be clear, there are Black and Hispanic Jews. But, the information on the chart should be rejected as utterly false.)

Yet when the Black Hebrew Israelites call Ashkenazi Jews (and other Jews) “fake Jews,” it triggers visceral hatred and anger towards us. Why?

### Reasons and Responses

First, these Black Americans, who have suffered greatly at the hands of White Americans in the past, have fastened their resentment and anger on White Americans today, in particular White Jews.

Second, anti-Semitism is demonic and needs no rational explanation. As Sigmund Freud commented in 1927, “With regard to anti-Semitism, I don’t really want to search for explanations; I feel a strong inclination to surrender my affects in this matter and find myself confirmed in my wholly nonscientific belief that mankind on the average and taken by and large are a wretched lot.”

What we can say with assurance is that **we must confront these hateful attitudes and ideologies wherever we find them, since they will not go away on their own.** And we must determine to overcome hatred with love and lies with truth. It’s a long battle, but it’s a winning strategy.

**In a world where most people are screaming for equality on every level, such hatred saddens and confounds me! — Kirsten**

**Please see the DVD Set “Beauty for Ashes” on [p. 2](#). ☆**



# I Believe in Miracles

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



credit: photo by Miquel Migg on Unsplash



Barcelona, Spain

When you hear someone else tell of a personal miracle, it makes miracles real. Here is another story from Cale-Deane, a long-time ZLM supporter, that parallels our current television series, *The God of Miracles*. May we all experience more of God's life-changing miracles! — Kirsten

## Stolen!

When my purse was stolen in December 2007, while I sat at a Barcelona hotel lobby computer, I couldn't figure out *why* the Lord had allowed it to happen.

As I was working on the computer, I spotted two guys standing by a parked car outside, and a blond guy at the other computer station about 10 feet away. Then, I saw the blond man get up and leave. Later I realized that he was the one who took my purse even though I *felt* nothing. I still don't know how he got it.

I got up to leave about 20 minutes later. As I grabbed my coat, I realized that my purse that had been underneath the coat was gone! The hotel manager looked my direction when I loudly stated, "*My purse is gone!*" **The thief had taken my passport, driver's license, phone, and money.**

When my family members returned to the hotel, my daughter-in-law and granddaughter saw my agitated estate. My oldest son immediately used the same computer I'd been on to search for a number to cancel my phone.

*(continued on next page)*



## Barcelona Police

My youngest son, daughter-in-law, and I took the Metro to the police station at night in a rough part of town to report the incident. I completed their form, got a copy, and then went back to the hotel. I could not sleep well for several days as I continued to relive the incident and ask *why* the Lord allowed this to happen to me.

About a week after returning home, I received my cell phone bill and saw seven calls that were made by the thief. An Internet search on those numbers came up empty. I thought that it was odd, however, that he used my phone without using a country code. Then, I noticed a calling pattern.



credit: photo by Shalom de León on Unsplash

## The Reason

I decided to report those numbers to the Barcelona police. I found the police department's website, where I posted the numbers. I also reported the information to the U.S. Consulate.

Approximately ten days after emailing that information, I watched Good Morning America and heard, "Breaking news out of Barcelona: **A terrorist ring has been caught.**" I heard an audible voice saying, "That is the reason I allowed your purse to be stolen." The hairs on my neck and arms stood up! And each time I retell the story, those hairs stand up again. ☆



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New life for your skin — hands, feet, & body — AHAVA from the Dead Sea (Order all three and get **FREE** shipping!)

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# God Loves a Cheerful Giver

Mark Levitt  
ZLM Director  
since 1988



Recently our ministry received the email below, to which I reply here (rather than in the “Letters” section that begins on p. 22).

Dear ZLM Editor:

I enjoyed the March 2023 “Note from Mark,” ([levitt.com/newsletters/2023-03.pdf](http://levitt.com/newsletters/2023-03.pdf), p. 14), which included excerpts from Peter Coy. In paragraph 3, Mr. Coy states:

One problem is that wealthy people set the priorities for philanthropy. Fundraisers increasingly focus their attention on rich people because they give the most. Other donors’ preferences are relatively neglected.

And displayed with the article was a painting depicting The Widow’s Mite, which Yeshua had some strong words about.

So, then, toward the end of the *Levitt Letter*, is a request for readers to join the “King David Club,” which will allow for those with the ability to [who] make at least a \$10,000 donation to have a “one-on-one telephone conference with Mark Levitt to discuss this ministry’s goals and visions.” I would sincerely hope that someone supporting your ministry does so because they truly believe in the ministry.

Your benefits to high donors certainly don’t align with Matthew 6:3 — “*But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing.*” Instead of giving the donor \$3,700 worth of your teachings, which I think they may already have, and can certainly afford, and instead of a \$500 discount off [up to four] tours of Israel, the funds could build a scholarship fund for those who cannot afford these items. And, of course, the donations would best be given in the name of “Anonymous.”

Sincerely, and in love and shalom,

—D.H.

Dear D.H.,

I like your thinking but can’t agree with everything you suggested. You seem to advise that this ministry could be more generous than it has been to the less fortunate, not only giving away more but also accomplishing more with less. That’s easier said than done.

Few folks realize what ZLM freely gives away. Our *Jewish Roots* airs weekly for free viewing. We mail our free, monthly *Personal Letter* and *Levitt Letter* news magazines to all who ask, including 740 inmates. ZLMers who cannot afford (or choose not to buy) our DVDs can find our massive collection online by clicking on “Video Archives” under the Zola TV tab at [levitt.com](http://levitt.com) — also free of charge. In addition, the “Classic Zola Archives” makes some of our best teaching available for those new to the Christian faith’s Jewish roots — also free. We also give away free Bibles, Biblical bookmarks and pamphlets, and more. Someone else, of course, pays for all this “free” stuff.

[The June 2022 Levitt Letter Bulletin Board](#) included this announcement:

(continued on next page)

## Zola’s Free Buffet

In 1995, our vendor offered to copyright protect the VHS cassettes on which we marketed our television series. We declined after imagining post-Apocalyptic evangelists being foiled when trying to distribute copies of Zola’s timeless Bible teaching to underground churches. Now we’ve gone a step further in disseminating Messianic teaching: Our news magazine ads for DVDs (pp. 2, 17, 20) serve as menus for a free online buffet that’s always open (at [levitt.tv](http://levitt.tv)) for those craving solid, two-Testament, Bible teaching from Israel.



[Note: We readily waive our copyright for non-commercial purposes.]





Detail of *Christ and the Rich Young Ruler* (1889) painting by Heinrich Hofmann (1824–1911), Riverside Church, New York

A majority of our King David donors don't request their "free" products, Israel tour discounts, or conferences with me. They're giving to give, and they likely share most of the teaching materials we send, including the news magazines.

If you knew this ministry better, you might agree that a personal consultation with me about our Bible teaching endeavors would be mostly redundant. Everyone can see what we produce for television and bulk mail. Plus, we consistently announce what we're doing in our letters and news magazines.

Nonetheless, you've suggested that I offer a sweeter deal from an organization that runs in the red more often than not. And I embrace the sentiment of Matthew 7:7 — *"Ask, and it will be given to you."* Thus, I will offer you and other readers some of the King David perks at a special, low price: FREE... with the purchase of our Classic Zola Collection, described on page 25.

There's just one condition: You agree to share up to 80% of the materials that you receive — perhaps giving them to people who cannot afford them, to a church or prison library, or to another deserving ministry. After

that, you'll be welcome to the aforementioned Israel study tour discounts. Then, write to me at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or our P.O. Box with your constructive criticism and positive suggestions about what ZLM could be doing better, and I promise to reply. We appreciate worthy ideas from all sources.

**I took the liberty of correcting your email. I replaced your words "with the ability to" with *who*.** This ministry rarely hears from its ultra-wealthy viewers or readers, though it certainly makes an impact when we do. Instead, most of our outreach is supported with smaller donations from "fortunate" individuals rather than those who are rolling in dough.

Certainly, Yeshua commends the widow's mite (Mark 12:41–44). He also noted how a camel could pass through the eye of the needle easier than a rich man could enter God's kingdom (Matt. 19:23–26). Please pray with us that this ministry continues to thrive on the contributions, both large and small, that are given in accordance with 2 Corinthians 9:7 — *"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."* ☆





# "Ye Shall Be Hated..."

by Zola Levitt  
from 1991  
32 years ago



credit: David Valdez (source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration)

President George H. W. Bush addresses the Middle East Peace Conference at the Royal Palace in Madrid, Spain (October 1991)

There has been an amazing resurgence of the nonsense called, variously, "Replacement Theology," "Dominion Theology," and so forth, in tandem with the insistence on a Middle East peace conference. Theological anti-Semites rejoice as Israel gets a political black eye. In order to make Israel look like the bad guys, [President George H.W.] Bush and [Secretary of State James] Baker constantly

style that nation as intransigent and difficult. Unbelievably, they also characterize the murderous dictatorships surrounding Israel as reasonable. To quote the president word for word on the hostage situation: "Iran has taken the lead in negotiating the terms...." Depending on the criminals to solve the crime, he also called Iran "constructive." Secretary of State Baker said that "Libya is welcome to send an observer to the peace conference." I quote these

men because, in my view, these statements would otherwise be simply unbelievable. It is a shame to see the mightiest power in the whole history of mankind get on its knees and toady up to primitive regimes to curry favor.

## Trading With the Arabs

The whole world awaits the pleasure of a few Arab thugs. I'm beginning to wonder if this is what we got for Israel—the release of a few unfortunates. If we have traded away the Promised Land to the Arabs for our hostages, we have made the spiritual mistake of the millennium. **We look ridiculous thanking terrorist regimes for their good manners in returning those they kidnapped, and even crazier blaming Israel for any of this.**

(continued on next page)

credit: George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum



Secretary of State James Baker with President George H.W. Bush in the Oval Office of the White House (January 1991)



Israel does not take hostages. It is being pressured to release bona fide criminals to pay for those innocents incarcerated in Lebanon at rates like one hundred to one. And we celebrate Syria each time a hostage is simply driven there to be dispatched to his own country, as if that primeval “government” had anything to do with the goodwill.

Prior to the Russian problem, which changed all the headlines, the administration was reaping huge benefits in good publicity for the odd release of a hostage here and there. Again, we had the Kennebunkport effect: Bush was fishing as the results of paying off Arab kidnappers rolled in. But watch carefully for whatever we paid in this most recent round of negotiations with the hostage takers (with whom we are pledged never to negotiate). Just watch what the Israelis are forced to give up this time as they pay our bill.

## The Problem

One commentator stated, “The problem seems to be Israel’s insistence on holding its prisoners.” I personally thought the problem was kidnapping by the Arabs. In 1985 Israel gave up 1,100 *prisoners* (not innocent hostages) for three captured Israeli soldiers. No one seems to notice that that democracy has begged for years to merely hear news of their seven missing soldiers. Israel, which values human life, will likely agree to release 400 prisoners for more news of their seven MIAs. It’s hardly in question that we have paid the kidnappers — that’s what kidnappers work for: ransom money (though Arab cultures give glory for hostage taking, too). While the United Nations is working on the fate of these six or seven people still incarcerated in Lebanon, 40,000 children per day continue dying in the Third World.

## What’s Coming

We live in prophetic times during which the world is setting up the Tribulation Period. Animosity toward Israel is only to be expected. Our Lord, a full-blooded Israeli, told His Israeli

disciples, “*Ye shall be hated of all nations...*” (Matt. 24:9). In order for such a minuscule nation of relatively unimportant people to become despised globally, a lot of hatred has to be generated beforehand. Evidently, that is what we’re seeing happen. I’m only sorry, as an American, that our administration is being used in this regard.

Apparently, the antiChrist will justify his invasion of Israel (see 2 Thess. 2:3–4) by a world attitude that we help put in place. Our liberal churches — the natural constituency of the “son of perdition” — are eagerly subscribing to the new anti-Israel attitudes, even to the point of sending aid to Israel’s enemies. Our Lord will remember their awful works in His name when He pronounces His judgment upon them: “*Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me*” (Matt. 25:40). ☆



## Q. What is Glorification?

Dr. Todd Baker  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian  
[staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com)



**A.** **Glorification is the future aspect of salvation.** It is the completion of the *ordo salutis* (Latin for “order of salvation”), as the Apostle Paul noted in Romans 8:29–30.

### The Order of Salvation:

- **Salvation begins with election** — God’s act of determining or choosing based upon a person’s calling to hear the Gospel (John 6:44; Rom. 8:30; Eph. 1:4–5).
- **This is followed by justification** — becoming right with God by repentance (turning from sin) and faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 3:21–26).
- **Next comes sanctification** — the process of a Believer growing in holiness to become more like the Lord Jesus (2 Pet. 3:18).
- **The final process in a Believer’s salvation is glorification** — At the return of Jesus Christ, all saints (those who have been saved) will be transformed — our lowly bodies will become like His glorious body (Phil. 3:21). *“It has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is”* (1 John 3:2).



Detail of *The Ascension of Jesus*, by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872) for *Die Bibel in Bildern* (1860)

When Jesus returns, all dead Christians will be physically resurrected from their graves. All living Believers will be caught up with them to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:14–17). This blessed hope is noted in Titus 2:13. We will all be transformed with glorious new bodies — the mortal changed to immortal and the corruptible changed to incorruptible (1 Cor. 15:52–54).

This blessed hope should spur us on to holiness, just as the Lord Jesus desires for us and enables us: *“Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure”* (1 John 3:3). According to Romans 8:30, the future glorification of Believers is an accomplished fact in God’s mind, though it’s yet to occur.

Floyd H. Barackman, writing in *Practical Christian Theology*, noted: “Glorification speaks of the completeness of Gospel Believers (Romans 8:23; 13:11) ... when Jesus returns for His Church ... and later for [future] redeemed people when He returns to Earth to establish His millennial kingdom (Rev. 20:4–6; Matt. 8:11).”

At glorification, redeemed humanity will be restored to a perfect state, like Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden before the Fall. Unlike in the beginning, however, the redeemed will exist forever in this sinless, perfect state! Creation will also one day experience this glorified state. After Christ’s millennial reign on Earth will come a new Heaven and a new Earth (Rev. 21:1), without imperfection. At that time, God’s glory will permeate everything, and God will *“be all in all”* (1 Cor. 15:28).

*“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.”*

—Romans 8:29–30 ☆



During our October 2022 Gospel outreach to Israel, we spent time in Jerusalem. After praying at the Western Wall, August Rosado and I walked to the Jewish section of the Old City. God led us to a small art gallery where we met **Michal**, who was friendly and open to us.

We explained to her that there are prophecies proclaiming that the Messiah would be the Son of God and divine (Psalm 2:7; 110:1). **Michal was willing to accept Yeshua as God's Son, but like many Jews, could not accept that He was divine.** Therefore, we noted the Messianic prophecy of Micah 5:2, which foretold that the King Messiah, who would be born in Bethlehem, would also be the eternal God.

Michal responded that the majority of Jews don't reject Jesus as being a great rabbi. Rather, they reject the Christian faith because of how His followers carried out violence in His name against the Jewish people. August and I agreed with her in principle but added that such mistreatment was largely done by counterfeit Christians. In contrast, true Believers in Yeshua love His ethnic people for the sake of Messiah, God, and His Word (Romans 9:4–5).

We encouraged Michal to read both Testaments of the Bible to discover that God has given Messianic prophecy to identify the one and only true Messiah. We added that Yeshua is the only Person in Jewish history to fulfill all of the prophecies related to Messiah's First Coming. And, Yeshua the Messiah will fulfill the remaining prophecies of the Second Coming at His return to Israel.

Michal gladly accepted a copy of the complete Hebrew Bible from us and said that she would read it. She also welcomed our offer to visit her again when we return to Israel in 2023. At that time, we hope to talk about what she is learning from the Bible and Messianic Gospel tracts that we gave her, which prove that Jesus is the Son of God — the Divine Messiah who came and is coming again. ✡



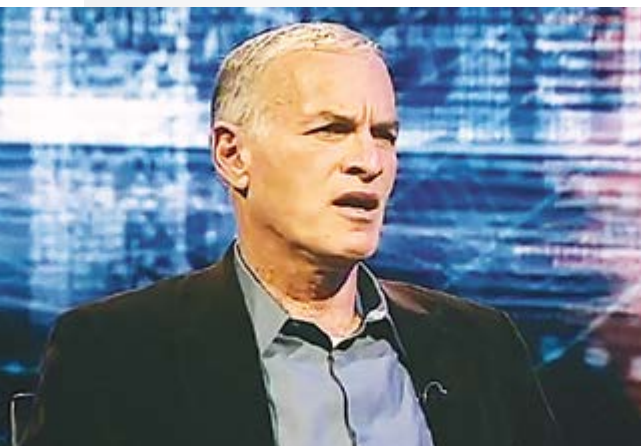
**top:** Todd and Michal  
**bottom:** August and Michal

# Bashing Israel Pays Really Well, Admits Anti-Israel Activist

BY BETH STERN / UnitedWithIsrael.org



Norman Finkelstein is a former professor who is known for his defense of the Palestinian cause and fierce criticism of Israel. Recently, he admitted that there is good money to be had due to the age-old conflict, which helps perpetuate the clash rather than bring peace to the region.



source: screenshot from BBC News

Anti-Israel activist Norman Finkelstein, son of Holocaust survivors

"Whenever a cause has gone on so long as this one has, people develop an investment in its perpetuation," Finkelstein asserted in an undated video clip. Canary Mission, which documents anti-Semitism and anti-Israel activism by students and staff at North American universities, recently publicized the clip from one of Finkelstein's speeches.

"There are 10,000 NGOs [non-governmental organizations] in Ramallah now," explained the former academic whose expertise is in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Finkelstein openly sides with the Palestinians in his many books on the subject. "That means 10,000 organizations [that] are paid for by foreign countries, mostly European, to 'facilitate' the peace process. And if you're in an NGO, compared to the salaries of ordinary Palestinians, it's quite good."

"Ramallah [has] a pretty impressive lifestyle now," he continued with a

half-smile. "And so, you develop a stake in perpetuating the situation... you don't even want to think about realistic solutions, because part of you doesn't even want it to end."

He readily acknowledged that he was one of those who was so invested. "I have to admit myself — let's say it ended tomorrow, what am I going to do tomorrow? I have to fight that."

In the past, Finkelstein made tens of thousands of dollars a year speaking to Palestinian solidarity groups in the U.S. and Canada. A decade ago, however, he came out against the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement. Finkelstein says that BDS's anti-Israel agenda is backed by international law but "hypocritically" ignores the fact that international law

established Israel as a Jewish state, and thus it has a right to exist.

Since then, his once-solid popularity plummeted among the Palestinian faithful, even though the son of Holocaust survivors never stopped bashing Israel. He has famously claimed that Israel exploits the Holocaust to justify its "crimes" against the Palestinians, compared Israeli treatment of Palestinians to that of the Nazis, called the country a "satanic" state, and declared his solidarity with the Hezbollah and Hamas terrorist organizations.

Finkelstein has also said that while the "pragmatic" solution to the Middle East conflict is that of two states, the preferable one is that of one binational state. Nonetheless, he acknowledged that this would be tantamount to Israel giving up "its existence, its rationale, and the security of all its Jewish citizens." ★



# ZLM Bulletin Board

Pray for  
the peace of  
Jerusalem

## Do Jewish Lives Matter ...


to the third of Austrians who believe that Jews are trying to exploit the Holocaust? ... to the 47% who suppose that Jews have too much power? In April, Austrian National Council President Wolfgang Sobotka presented these findings that were noted in the third anti-Semitism report, compiled by Austria's Institute for Empirical Social Research. The report also revealed that more than **a third of Austrians think that Jews dominate the international business world**. Sobotka stated, "It's not a phenomenon of the political fringe groups; it comes from the middle of society."



Demonstrators against Israel  
in Austria, May 2021

courtesy of Austrian Union of Jewish Students via JTA

## This Fall in Jerusalem



It's time to take your Bible and camera on the ultimate Bible study tour. Our Deluxe Tour (Israel only) will go October 16–26. The Grand Petra (Israel & Petra) is from October 16–29. You, David, and Kirsten will be among a close-knit group of Believers who love God, the Bible, and the Holy Land. It's never too soon to call Sandra at (214) 696-9760 during office hours or our answering service **1-800-WONDERS** (800-966-3377) anytime.

## Please Don't Throw Me Away

This *Levitt Letter* wants you to read it, save it, and read it again. Later, you could share it by strategically placing it with reading materials at your church, doctor's office, or hair salon. You could clip or black out your mailing address — or even write your phone number/email if you are open to subsequent readers contacting you.



## FREE ITEM

### Pamphlet of the Month

The gifts you make to causes you care about say a lot about you and your life. You can make a difference to those charities now — and meet your own and others' needs — by taking advantage of charitable giving and estate planning techniques. ***Five Ways to Make the Most of Your Gifts*** discusses giving through 1) your will, 2) securities, 3) retirement plans, 4) life insurance, and 5) while receiving income. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box. **Request POM #19.**



To  
Index

## "COME HOME!"

Zola  
Tours  
to Israel



See [page 36](#)  
for details





Courtesy:  
The Jerusalem  
Connection

## Healing from Hidden Faults

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



שְׂגִיאוֹת מִיַּיבִין מִנְסִתְרוֹת נִקְנִי

“Who can discern their errors?  
Cleanse me from hidden faults.” (Psalm 19:12)

נִקְנִי	שְׂגִיאוֹת	מִיַּיבִין	מִנְסִתְרוֹת
(3) (2) (1)	(4) (3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)
na-kei'-nee	mee-nees-tah-roht'	mee - yah-veen'	she-gee-oht'
cleanse me	from secret faults	who can discern	their errors

Read Hebrew right to left! ➡

**All of us have unhealed parts** — “hidden faults” (נִסְתָּרוֹת) of which we are not fully aware. Thus, King David prayed, “*Who can discern their errors? Cleanse me from secret faults*” (Ps. 19:12). We are cleansed by confession, that is, by looking within our hearts to uncover deeper motivations. If we are honest with ourselves, we may discover, for example, that we are angry or fearful people, despite how we otherwise would like to regard ourselves.

If you find yourself unable to release something, such as pain or failure from the past, remind yourself that you must do so if you want to move ahead with your life. When we focus on how things could have been different, we become enslaved to the past. The goal of *teshuvah* (repentance) is to turn back to God for life. To do this, however, we must be willing to let go of what makes us sick.

The Hebrew word translated “errors” (שְׂגִיאוֹת) comes from a root word (שָׁגָה) that means “to wander, stray, or transgress.” David’s question is rhetorical: “*Who can discern their errors?*” The answer is that no one can ... apart from the Lord’s help.

David sought to be cleansed from his

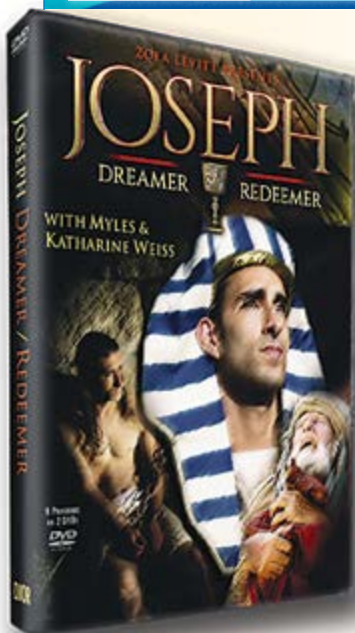
“secret faults.” These are not actions that he did in secret; rather, they were unknown or unconscious to him. These are “mindless” sins — unthinking offenses, hidden dispositions, and character defects and actions — that a person unwittingly commits, perhaps because of the influence of unseen spiritual forces of evil. These are the “secret sins” set in the light of God’s face (Psalm 90:8). They stem from the sluggish darkness of the human heart, and can lead to death and ruin: “*The heart is deceitful above all things, and incurably sick; who can understand it?*” (Jer. 17:9). How many of us, after all, are always fully aware of what we are doing when we are doing something? How many of us are completely transparent both to ourselves and before God, with no unclear motives?

We must always be vigilant regarding our habits, subconscious desires, or conflicts of the inner life. These seek to work against us, along with the trauma of our past and the present devices from the enemy of our souls. **May the Lord give us the desire to be healed and the willingness to seek healing from Him, even if parts of ourselves seem to resist that healing. Amen.**

*“We know that if God should put to the test our faithfulness to Him, we know well that at the moment of testing, He Himself must hold on to us, that is, we know that at bottom we are unfaithful, and that every instant it is He who at bottom holds us.”*

— Søren Kierkegaard ☆





## Joseph: Dreamer/Redeemer

### DVD Set

9 half-hour programs on 2 DVDs

More than any Biblical patriarch, Joseph presents a preview of the Redeemer, Yeshua. **From humble beginnings to becoming a leader of the known world, Joseph depicts our Redeemer.** Born to simple parents, Yeshua's ultimate sacrifice as the Lamb of God preceded His future return as the Lion of Judah. This nine-part series unearths the "Egyptian" (foreign) identity and centuries-long gentile view of Jesus and reveals Him as the world's Jewish Messiah. Ron Cantor and Eitan Shishkoff relate the teaching to today's Church.

**Jealousy and Rejection** First, we see Joseph tending sheep and wearing his colorful coat. Rejection from his brothers has already begun but worsens after he shares his dreams. Myles and Katharine compare Joseph's treatment to Yeshua's rejection by many despite being sent to be the Savior.

**Betrayal and Deception** Joseph is thrown into a pit and sold as a slave. Father Jacob mourns the loss of his favorite son. Our Messiah was betrayed for money to those who wanted to kill Him. Messianic Believers' numbers are increasing in Israel.

**Innocence and Accusation** Joseph becomes a slave of the captain of Pharaoh's guard. After a time of prosperity, false accusations condemn innocent Joseph. Yeshua lived a life without sin but suffered for the sins of the world. Joseph's life portrays a prophetic promise.

**Faithfulness from Prison** While in prison for two years, Joseph faithfully ministers to others. During the Last Supper, Yeshua points His followers beyond short-term difficulties and toward God's glorious plans. Exile is not Israel's or our final destination.

**Prisoner to Prime Minister** After Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams, he is promoted to the #2 position in Egypt. Yeshua's sacrifice ushered in global salvation and the Holy Spirit. Rabbi Jeremy Gimpel reports on Voice of Israel radio.

**Famine and Recognition** Famine leads Joseph's brothers to Egypt for grain. Unrecognized, Joseph tests their hearts. Israel's current situation will change when they recognize Yeshua.

**Brother for Brother** Joseph's brothers leave Simeon in Egypt as hostage until Benjamin comes. Joseph's identity remains hidden to his brothers. Messiah is currently hidden to most of His Jewish brothers.

**Longing and Revelation** At home, Jacob misses his sons; in Egypt, Joseph will reveal himself to his brothers. Yeshua reveals Himself through the Scriptures, as He did after His resurrection.

**Substitution and Redemption** Because of the "stolen" chalice, Judah offers himself in Benjamin's place. Joseph reveals his identity and reunites the family. Yeshua suffered death in our place, accomplishing God's plan for redemption. Our Messiah will return, but this time as the reigning King.





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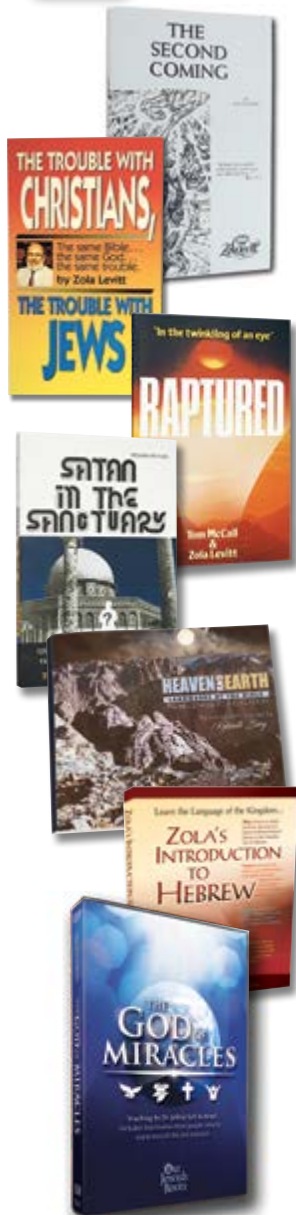
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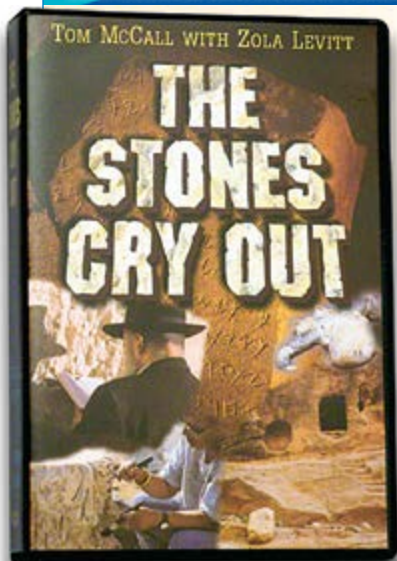
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## ***The Stones Cry Out*** DVD Set Twelve 30-minute TV programs (3 DVDs)

Archaeological discoveries continue to validate the Biblical record. To film “dig” sites and interview experts, Zola journeyed to Israel and Jordan. Just as our Lord said about this remarkable Land, *The Stones Cry Out*.

**The Tunnel** Zola walks the tunnel under the western edge of the Temple Mount. We get a journalist’s perspective of the Palestinian uproar that erupted when the tunnel was opened to the public in 1996.

**A Tale of Two Temples** An unearthed marketplace shows the Roman destruction of the Temple. Mount Gerizim to the north hosts the excavation of a Samaritan temple patterned after the Jerusalem Temple.

**Rulers in Stone** Caesarea, on Israel’s Mediterranean coast, has yielded first-century finds such as the first extra-Biblical reference to Pontius Pilate, and a full-size Temple replica. At Tel Dan, the “House of David” has been confirmed archaeologically.

**The Jerusalem That Was** Bible Lands Museum houses a model of Jerusalem as it would have looked in 586 B.C. In the City of David, we examine a four-room house, typical architecture for ancient Israelites.

**Past and Future Destruction** Ongoing excavations at Hazor have unearthed Canaanite idols and confirmation of the city burning as recorded in Joshua 11. The Valley of Armageddon holds prophetic archaeological significance.

**Archaeology and the Scriptures** In Jerusalem, Zola explains the history of the Citadel, also called “David’s Tower.” We talk with the Israel Antiquities Authority.

**Cities of the Past** Zippori was a thriving cultural center in Galilee that probably influenced Jesus as a boy in Nazareth. Ekron was one of five prominent Old Testament cities of the Philistines.

**Shadows from the Past** A chamber of tombs, near the Garden Tomb but dated to the time of the First Temple, helps us understand burial customs of that day. We visit the Qumran cave where the first Dead Sea Scroll was found.

**A Tale of Three Cities** In Biblical times, a business relationship existed between three Jordan Valley cities: Beit Shean, Rehovot (west of the Jordan River), and Pella (east of the Jordan River). We visit excavations in each city.

**The Rose Red City** The ancient Nabataeans were famous for their skill in rock carving. Petra, their capital southeast of the Dead Sea, is the “rose-red city” known for its magnificent buildings carved into the native rock.

**A Man Crucified** On display at the Rockefeller Museum in Jerusalem, a man’s heel bone that was pierced by a nail is the first archaeological proof of Roman crucifixions in Israel.

**Truth from the Stones** Zola discusses how the artifacts shown throughout this series illuminate Scripture, and how Believers can be encouraged when *The Stones Cry Out*.

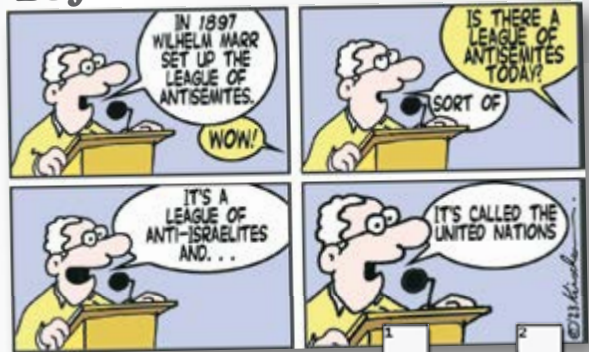
Please see “Ancient Pottery Found in Cave Near Popular Beach” on [p.32](#).





## Dry Bones

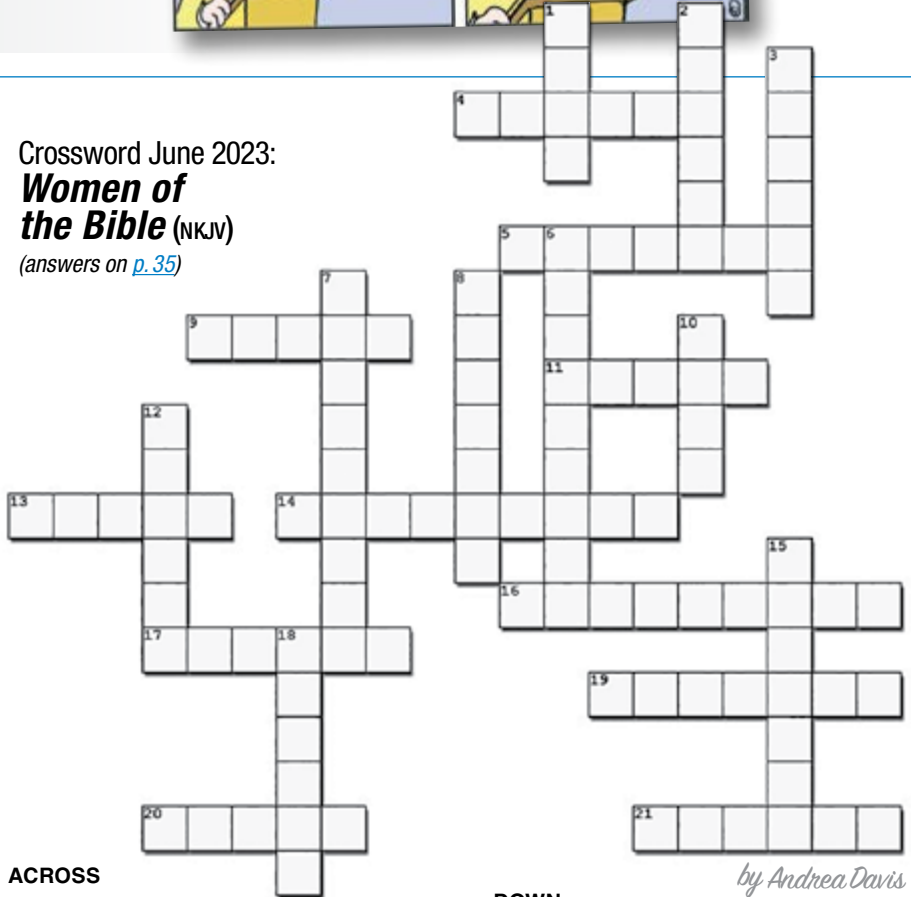
THE LEAGUE OF ANTI-SEMITES



Crossword June 2023:

### Women of the Bible (NKJV)

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



#### ACROSS

4. So \_\_\_ was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace ... (Esth. 2:16)
5. Then David said to \_\_\_: "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel ... (1 Sam. 25:32)
9. ... Only \_\_\_ the harlot shall live ... (Josh. 6:17)
11. ... and Abram named his son, whom \_\_\_ bore, Ishmael. (Gen. 16:15)
13. ... she began to wash His feet with her \_\_\_ ... (Luke 7:38)
14. ... \_\_\_ will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. (Luke 1:13)
16. ... Your sons and your \_\_\_ shall prophesy ... (Acts 2:17)
17. ... because she was the \_\_\_ of all living. (Gen. 3:20)
19. Then they said to the woman, "Now we \_\_\_ ... (John 4:42)
20. ... And shall \_\_\_, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" (Gen. 17:17)
21. Then Jacob kissed \_\_\_, and lifted up his voice and wept. (Gen. 29:11)

#### DOWN

1. But \_\_\_ said: "Entreat me not to leave you ... (Ruth 1:16)
2. Now Jesus loved \_\_\_ and her sister and Lazarus. (John 11:5)
3. ... woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of \_\_\_ ... (Acts 16:14)
6. ... "Is this not \_\_\_, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah ... (2 Sam. 11:3)
7. Now the first day of the week Mary \_\_\_ went to the tomb ... (John 20:1)
8. Now \_\_\_, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, was judging Israel ... (Judg. 4:4)
10. ... "Do not be afraid, \_\_\_, for you have found favor with God. (Luke 1:30)
12. The children of Amram were Aaron, Moses, and \_\_\_ ... (1 Chron. 6:3)
15. Isaac was forty years old when he took \_\_\_ as wife ... (Gen. 25:20)
18. Now \_\_\_ spoke in her heart; only her lips moved ... (1 Sam. 1:13)

*by Andrea Davis*





# Letters to ZLM

Some letters have been edited for space.  
For ministry products and TV programs,  
visit our [web store](#) and [free video archives](#).

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

## Messianic Teaching and Fellowship

**From T.N.:** Sarah, I have just finished reading your article in the [March Personal Letter](#). As usual, it is skillfully written, candid, educational, and rich in knowledge and experience. I so enjoy your teachings. As a Believer in the U.S., I can only dream of visiting Israel. As you write from the knowledge and perspective of a native-born Israeli and a Messianic Believer, you provide an

invaluable connection to the Land that I can only imagine.

I am of Jewish descent but was raised as a Christian with a smattering of Jewish influence. My mother cooked many Israeli dishes and kept a strict Sabbath, although we observed it on Sunday. We still kept a day of rest as much as possible: We didn't cook, didn't work, we walked to church, and we didn't go anywhere other than church. It was a day unto the Lord. It wasn't until adulthood, after I surrendered my life

to Yeshua and started my journey of faith, that I started to learn how to live Torah observant and recognized the traditions I was taught as a child.

I live in the Adirondack mountains of upstate New York, with no access to Messianic fellowship or teaching. I have, however, always fellowshipped at spirit-filled churches that embrace Yeshua as Lord of lords. I am always the "token Jew" who longs for fellowship with other Messianic Believers. I am in my 70s now and have just celebrated 50 years since the day I surrendered my life to my Lord. It's my Jubilee year!

Teachings like yours and music from Israeli artists are my lifeline. They are appreciated more than you can know! Thank you SO much!

Dear T.N.,

While you may not have a Messianic congregation in your area, we consider you part of our family and fellowship. You might want to look at [levitt.com/congregation](#), which mentions our chaplain Dr. Todd Baker's Shalom, Shalom Messianic congregation in North Dallas and his weekly Facebook Live presentation (that we invite you to join). Thank you for encouraging Sarah — she is such a treasure! — David

*(continued on next page)*



Todd Baker





The Parthenon on the Acropolis of Athens

## Questions About Greece

**From B.C.:** Thank you for my continued subscription to the *Levitt Letter*. I always learn a lot from it, even though I've been studying the Bible for over 30 years. Keep up the excellent work!

Can you tell me if Greece is primarily a Christian nation, or is it still polytheistic, as my friend claims? Also, do you know if there are many Jewish people in Greece now?

Dear B.C.,

Pew Research shows that as of 2017, 90% of Greece was Orthodox Christian with 3% other Christian, 2% Muslim, and 4% unaffiliated (atheist, not religious, etc.). There are some Greeks who believe in the ancient polytheism, but this number was only about 2,000 in 2005.

Before WWII, about 77,000 Jews lived in Greece, but 60,000 perished in the Holocaust. As of 2020, the Jewish population was between 4,000 and 6,000. — Greg H., [levitt.com](http://levitt.com) webmaster

## Watch Therefore and Be Ready—

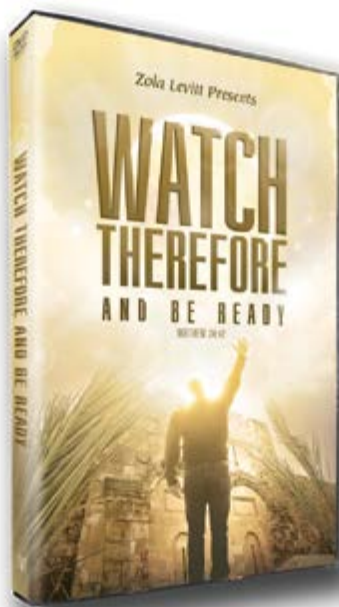
### The Jewish Wedding (#6) on YouTube

**From G.W.:** I've been trying to prepare to be the bride of Christ, but I feel like I don't have enough oil in my lamp. I long to be with Jesus. I've been watching your television program since 2020, but I haven't cultivated much of a relationship because I've been so sick. If I were left behind, I would be heartbroken and not want to live anymore. I believe Jesus is about to come. I should have spent more time getting to know Him. I don't love the things of this world anymore, but I'm a little afraid that I won't be ready; however, I desire to be ready each day. Please pray for me.

Dear G.W.,

There's no need to be afraid. It's simple to be ready: just ask the Lord for His grace, which He freely gives to those who seek Him. You can start new with God this very minute. Then, continue cultivating your relationship with the Lord each day — talk to Him like you would with someone sitting with you in the room. He will respond — He especially speaks to us through the Bible — His living Word. We will pray for you. — Kirsten

*(continued on next page)*



## Joshua and Caleb

### Explain — The Curse of the Nachash (Serpent) on YouTube

**From G.R.:** You two are some of the best teachers out there. I learn so much and enjoy the way you present things — with Bible truth and some (desperately) needed laughter! I hope you guys are in my zip code in Heaven. I'm looking forward to meeting you. Thanks!

**From BP&E:** Thank you, guys, and thanks to your team. I so appreciate all your teachings. Blessings to you.

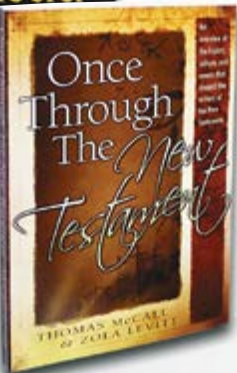
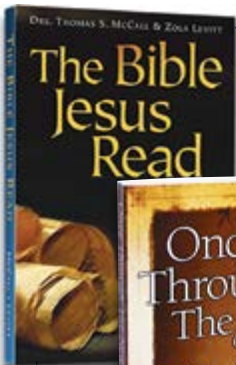
### Bring us up-to-date information on the current crisis in Israel on YouTube

**From D.G.:** Thank you, my brothers in Christ Jesus, Yeshua. Praise be to our Lord for all that He has placed in your hearts to proclaim in His name. I am so thankful for how the Lord has used your ministry. I miss Zola, but he would be very proud of you both for sharing the Good News to this hurting world. Keep doing what you are doing; it is changing lives for all eternity.

**From E.M.:** You guys are the coolest and most Biblically knowledgeable teachers of the Word that I've found recently. I used to watch Brother Zola and loved his knowledge of God's Word. I'm also learning a little Hebrew language from him here and there while watching. Keep up the great work, guys. God bless you both.

**From K.H.:** I'm so fortunate to have found your channel. You both have such good humor and are able to set the record straight. Thank you!

*(continued on next page)*



### **The Bible Jesus Read** book by Thomas McCall and Zola Levitt

A popular explanation of the Old Testament, featuring Scripture's "hidden plot." Relevant to all who want to understand the beginning of God's plan and the roots of the Church on Earth.

### **Once Through the New Testament** book by Thomas McCall and Zola Levitt

A most readable and clear survey of the New Testament. The theology is understandable and treated with thoroughness in this compact, but complete, study.

*These and many other titles also available as eBooks.*

## Our Jewish Roots

**From I.M.:** Thank you all for *Our Jewish Roots*! I can hardly wait for the next show. I've been watching for many years, and it just keeps getting better and better. I've been a Seventh-day Adventist since 1981. Your program is such a spiritual blessing. I feel so blessed by David's singing (what a beautiful voice) and Kirsten's intriguing questions to Dr. Seif, for which he always has such enlightening and intellectual Biblical answers. God blesses my heart and mind during each show, even the repeats.

I think if I could have chosen my heritage, it would have been Jewish. Thanks, Dr. Seif, for all your teachings. Please accept this small offering — it is indeed small in comparison to what I receive from you three. May God bless you all with His awesome love.

Dear I.M.,

We greatly appreciate your gratitude and contribution. It takes time and teamwork to produce every program. Knowing that you and many others are watching and learning from every episode spurs us on to continue doing a good work for God's kingdom. — David ☆

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Please click on The Classic Zola Collection at [store.levitt.com/PZC](http://store.levitt.com/PZC) for more details. And see Mark's Note, beginning on [page 8](#) (particularly the first column on [p. 9](#)).



# Heating & Cooling Your House with Humidity



BY BRIAN BLUM (r) Israel21C.org

What if you could heat or cool your home just by pulling the desired comfort level from the air? Israeli startup ThermoTerra is turning that vision into reality by harvesting energy from fluctuations in humidity.

“Water vapor in the air that’s absorbed onto or into an absorptive material transfers a significant amount of energy,” explained Dror Zchori, the company’s founder and CEO.

We know this intuitively. When water evaporates, it causes a cooling effect. We see this in the human body — when we’re hot, we produce sweat. As sweat evaporates, it keeps us from overheating. But when water vapor is absorbed or condenses on a material, the opposite occurs — it generates heat.

On a hot day, ThermoTerra’s technology brings ambient warm and dry air into a home or office.

Using special materials that can absorb a large amount of water — hempcrete, silica gel, or

wood wool insulation are especially effective — the system uses humidity variations to “charge” the insulation in the building’s walls. This becomes drier in winter or damper in summer, and then air is forced through the material to release hot or cold air as necessary. By constantly passing such ambient air through its system, ThermoTerra smooths out the peaks and valleys so that both temperature and humidity cycles are shallower, resulting in greater comfort.

The system is controlled by sensors embedded in the walls. Smart algorithms monitor when to bring in hot or cold air



credit: Ruffo M on Unsplash

and when to release it, learning owner preferences and automatically adjusting the temperature accordingly. It can also utilize weather forecasts. “If it’s hot now but the system knows that in a week it will be cold, it can store water in advance,” Zchori noted.

ThermoTerra requires integrating a structure of ducts and conduits into a new wall. In existing buildings, a new façade with built-in insulation and ducts can be added to the walls. Though the technology takes up a few inches, Zchori explained that it can reduce heating and cooling costs by at least half.

A smart fan inserted into the wall, controlled by the algorithms, moves the hot or cold air around as required. This is the only part of the system that requires electricity.

The need for technologies like ThermoTerra is indisputable: Some 40% of the world’s building energy is spent on heating and cooling, and buildings represent 30% of the world’s energy usage.

Zchori estimates it will cost around \$3,400 to install the system in a home of about 1,000 square feet. ★



# Using Avocado Seeds to Treat Skin Conditions



BY ARIEL GROSSMAN (r) NoCamels.com

A compound developed from discarded avocado seeds can repair damage to human skin caused by UV radiation, pollution, aging, and other stressors. Israeli startup AvoMed manufactures PFA (polyhydroxylated fatty alcohols) from avocado seeds. **These fats enhance personal care products and treat skin conditions such as psoriasis.**

Avocado seeds, which can make up almost a fifth of the fruit's mass, are a byproduct of the food industry left in factories that produce guacamole, frozen avocados, avocado oil, and other products. The PFA extraction is a clean and zero-waste process. Any residue from the process yields high nutritional values as animal feed.

AvoMed also develops a line of PFA-based cosmetics aimed at those interested in the care, relief, and protection of the skin using natural materials. Its products have been studied by many academic institutions in Israel, including the Technion and Weizmann Institute, as well as by the Skin Axis laboratories in New Jersey.

The U.S. alone consumes over 2.7 billion pounds of avocados each year. Discarding the seeds, which comprise 13–18% of the fruit, is an expensive process that requires controlled treatment. In the process of a seed's natural decomposition, an active substance is released that pollutes the soil. AvoMed, however, utilizes avocado seeds and makes it possible to turn the waste treatment costs into profit for companies. This also benefits the environment by preventing further waste.

The company has four registered and approved patents in Israel and the U.S. In addition, four patent registration applications were submitted in the European Union, the U.S., and China, which are in various stages of approval. Founded in 2016, AvoMed is based in Rosh Pina, Israel.

**I'm obsessed with Israeli skin care products (please see Ahava on p. 7). I always stock up when on Zola Tours. How clever to use the typically discarded part of an avocado. Bravo, AvoMed! —Kirsten ☆**



credit: photo by Gal Ndjuwou on Unsplash



# The Bearded Bible Brothers

Caleb & Joshua Colson  
hosts of “The Bearded  
Bible Brothers” show



Caleb (left) and Josh (right)—“The Bearded Bible Brothers”

Beards, the Bible, and two brothers — not necessarily in that order. Those became the prerequisites for a social media series, #Bearded-BibleBrothers, that was designed for an online audience. It began in spring 2018 when Kenneth Berg, producer and director of *Our Jewish Roots (OJR)*, had an idea to put us in front of the camera rather than behind it. It’s rare for Ken to say out loud, “I believe God spoke to me,” so we prayerfully considered his proposal. After a heart-to-heart with our Creator, we received confirmation, which led to a new Bible teaching series.

## Our Past

Growing up Jewish, we were also privy to the truth that Yeshua is the Messiah. Thus, we grate-

fully dodged the angst and family melodrama that often accompanies many religious Jews who accept Yeshua as Messiah. Our Believing parents taught us God’s Word, and our godparents exemplified Messiah as missionaries of the Gospel throughout the world. We grew up seeing the amazing signs, wonders, and supernatural power of the Holy Spirit as a practical element in our daily Christian walk. That hunger and desire for more of God carried into our adulthood.

God led both of us to the same degree program in college: radio, television, and film. We also had the same mission — to use visual and audio media to tell more people about Yeshua’s sacrifice. We worked for numerous ministries before joining Berg Productions over 17 years ago. Now, we not only have the pleasure of helping to produce, shoot, and edit *OJR*, but also “go rogue” with timely, quicker-to-distribute messages as the Bearded Bible Brothers.

## Our Passion

Today, the percentage of Christians who claim to read or study the Bible is minuscule. Our greatest tool and our greatest weapon — Messiah’s Word — appears to have little importance to His army, the Church. But how can Believers live without daily bread? With what authority can Believers command the devil to flee if they don’t know the power that their Commanding

(continued on next page)



“Growing up Jewish, we were also privy to the truth that Yeshua is the Messiah.”

Officer delegated to His followers almost 2,000 years ago? Most importantly, how can Believers watch others live in fear, depression, sickness, despair, hate, and lack without sharing the solution to those problems?

We take seriously our mission to declare the truth of Yeshua. In addition, we have fun as we teach. Thus, we joke and laugh, blending the innate sense of humor our Heavenly Father undoubtedly possesses into our teachings. We believe that entertainment can provide a subtle method of delivering sometimes hard-to-swallow Bible lessons.

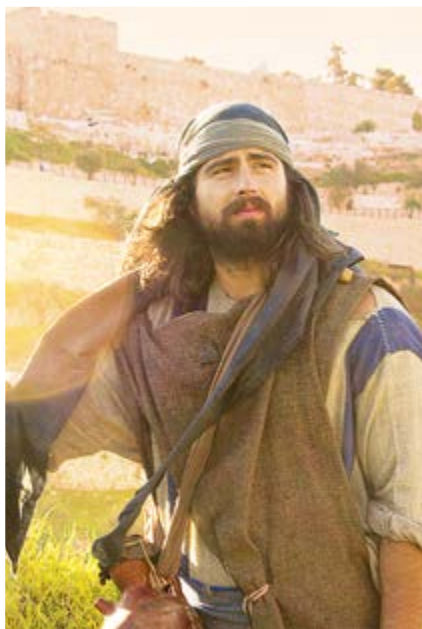
Even so, our messages can be challenging. We confront the status quo and sometimes offend the politically correct culture. (Apostle Paul warned that the Cross is an offense to humanity — Gal. 5:11; also see 1 Cor. 1:23.) Using God's Word, we take on the hard subjects that have been abandoned by many modern churches. Still, as Believers we seek to speak the truth with grace and love.



*top:* Caleb filming  
*bottom:* Josh on horse behind camera

**If you haven't already, please check out #BeardedBibleBrothers across the @OurJewishRoots social media sites. Most importantly, we exhort you to dig into the Living Word of God!**

We love you both. Caleb, we have watched you "behind camera #2" for seven years of *Zola Levitt Presents* and *Our Jewish Roots* TV tapings. To watch you in front of the camera is an absolute treat! — Kirsten ☆



Josh portraying the Hebrew leader Joshua



Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Gilad Erdan addresses the General Assembly plenary meeting

## SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

### Groups Urge UN to Reject Anti-Semitism Definition

JNS.org

Sixty groups that often oppose Israel recently urged the United Nations (UN) to reject the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of anti-Semitism. The definition — adopted by 39 countries, including the U.S. — “has often been used to wrongly label criticism of Israel as anti-Semitic,” the groups stated in their letter addressed to UN Secretary-General António Guterres and Under-Secretary-General Miguel Ángel Moratinos.

Signatories include the Presbyterian Church (USA), with some 1.19 million members, and the global

ministry arm of the United Methodist Church, which has a membership of more than 12 million, as well as the American Civil Liberties Union, Human Rights Watch, and the Palestinian Center for Human Rights.

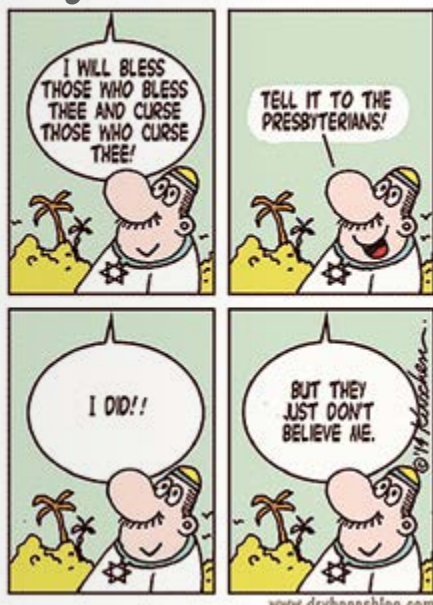
**Three Israeli-designated terror organizations also signed the letter.**

“If the UN endorses the IHRA definition in any shape or form, UN officials working on issues related to Israel and Palestine may find themselves unjustly accused of anti-Semitism based on the IHRA definition,” added the groups.

Earlier this year, Gilad Erdan, Israeli Ambassador to the UN, stated: “The U.N. was founded upon the ashes of the Holocaust. It was established to ensure such darkness would never be felt by humanity again. Yet, when it comes to fighting anti-Semitism, sadly, the U.N. ignores its purpose. When it comes to anything related to Israel, this organization is very quick to respond and condemn. When it comes to Jew-hatred, the silence is deafening. The double standard is disgraceful.”

### Dry Bones

BELIEVE HIM



### Israel is a Leader in Volunteering

By Efrat Forsher / IsraelHayom.com

Almost half of the population (42.5%) of Israel volunteered their time in 2022.

The annual survey on volunteerism in Israel revealed that Israel is one of the leading countries in volunteering, along with Canada (79%), Britain (63%), Australia (57%), and New Zealand (51%). Those

(continued on next page)





countries ranked ahead of Switzerland (39.9%), the Netherlands (39%), and the U.S. (25%).

Most Israeli respondents noted that they preferred to volunteer in areas of welfare and assisting disadvantaged populations, followed by education, health, environment, religion, and social change.



credit: Eilat C.R.I.B.

Israeli volunteers pack baby supplies for mothers

The study indicated a balance between males (42.6%) and females (42.2%). Among age groups, 34% aged 18–34 said they volunteered on a regular basis. This compares to 47.9% of people aged 35–54 and 42% of those who are 55 and older.

Israelis with post-secondary education and those with higher-than-average incomes reported higher rates of volunteering. Sector-wise, the highest rate of volunteering was reported among the ultra-Orthodox (60%).

Commenting on the survey, President Isaac Herzog said, “Today, perhaps more than ever, it is up to us to boost social involvement and choose to see what unites us and brings us closer, not what divides and separates us.”

## Palestinian Arab Saves Jewish Couple from Ambush

[IsraelNationalNews.com](http://IsraelNationalNews.com)

A young Jewish couple had a narrow escape recently after Palestinian Arabs attempted to ambush them on a road near Karmeit Tzur, north of Hebron.

Amichai and Nitsan Baron were driving home on a highway through the Judean Hills around 3:00 a.m. when they encountered a “heap of rocks” on the road. “I tailed a Palestinian car whose driver had also seen the rocks and swerved, but I didn’t make it and ended up hitting the rocks,” noted Amichai.

A number of Palestinian Arab youths appeared suddenly and started throwing rocks at the Barons’ car. At that time, “M,” a local Arab whose home overlooks the site of the incident, heard what was happening and went outside to call to the Barons to seek refuge in his home.

“At first, we were scared to go into his house, but then we realized that he genuinely wanted to help us,” Amichai added. “I don’t want to think about what might have happened otherwise, if he hadn’t been there for us.”

The Barons alerted security forces and a number of soldiers soon arrived to escort them in a military vehicle from M’s home to their home. They left their vehicle behind, but when they returned for it the following morning, they found that it had been smashed with rocks and set on fire.

Palestinian Arab youths stoned M’s home as a “reward” for his caring actions toward the Jewish couple. ☆



source: haaretz.com

The Baron's car after they abandoned it in the Palestinian village





## Archaeology

# Ancient Pottery Found in Cave Near Popular Beach

JPost.com



credit: EMIL ALADJEWIAA

An IAA team member inspects the ancient burial cave

A team of Israeli archaeologists felt like they had entered a set of an Indiana Jones film, or perhaps DreamWork's *Prince of Egypt*, after discovering a burial cave containing dozens of intact objects from the time of Pharaoh Ramses II—thought to possibly be the pharaoh of the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt. The cave was uncovered just south of Tel Aviv in the Palmachim National Park, near one of Israel's most popular beaches.

The ancient burial cave was discovered by chance during work by the Nature and Parks Authority for the development of the park and after a tractor hit a rock, unexpectedly revealing the cave's ceiling.

### Frozen in time

Dror Citron, an official with the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA), was the first to identify the space. He also descended into the cave that seemed frozen in time. It contained dozens of whole pottery and bronze vessels just as they were placed during the burial ceremony, about 3,300 years ago.

The vessels were burial offerings, buried with the dead in the belief that they would be used by them in the next world. The cave was carved in the shape of a square, and in the center of its ceiling was a pillar.



credit: EMIL ALADJEWIAA

The 3,300-year-old vessels

(continued on next page)



"This is a once-in-a-lifetime find," explained Dr. Eli Yanai, an IAA expert on the Bronze Age. "It's not every day that you see an Indiana Jones set — a cave with vessels on the floor that haven't been touched in 3,300 years. We are talking about the Late Bronze Age. These are precisely the days of the famous king, Ramses II — the one some identify with the story of the Exodus."

### What the findings reveal

Since the cave was intact, Yanai said that it can provide a complete picture of burial customs in the Late Bronze Age. "In the cave, mainly dozens of pottery vessels of various sizes and shapes were left. Among them, there are deep and shallow bowls, some of which are painted red, cooking pots, jugs, and clay candles that contained oil for light," he explained.

Israeli archaeologists think that the jugs and other vessels were made on the coasts of Lebanon and Syria, the area of Tyre and Sidon, with pottery that might have come from Cyprus.

The findings in the cave date to the 13<sup>th</sup> century B.C., a period during the 19<sup>th</sup> Egyptian dynasty and the rule of Ramses II who placed an Egyptian administration over the land. There was free trade during that period across the region, and the findings prove that, Yanai added. They reveal that the ancient residents of Yavne along the Palmachim coast were integrated into the trade that was conducted along the Mediterranean shores.

### Spreading like wildfire

The IAA said that since the discovery of the cave — and despite attempts to keep a media blackout on it — word got out and some people gained access and stole some of the objects.

"Rumors about the discovery of the cave spread through the scientific world like wildfire, and we received many requests from researchers to join the archaeological dig," explained Eli Eskosido, IAA director general. "Unfortunately, during the time before the cave was sealed, and despite guarding it, a number of archaeological items were stolen from the cave, and the matter is under investigation."

Eskosido added that the IAA would soon "formulate the method of carrying out the required research and conservation at the unique site, which is a celebration of the archaeological world and the ancient history of the Land of Israel."



An IAA team member inspects the cave

Please see the DVD Set "The Stones Cry Out" on p. 20. ☆

# Michigan City's Elected Leadership Riddled with Anti-Semites

BY BENJAMIN BAIRD (r) JNS.org

America's first all-Muslim city council in Hamtramck, Michigan passed a proclamation in February "opposing military aid to all repressive governments." While making ambiguous statements about "the right of every occupied nation to gain freedom, sovereignty and independence," the declaration specifically mentions the plight of "the Palestinian people."

The resolution was a poorly-concealed attempt to demonize the State of Israel. Moreover, it came from a city government steeped in anti-Semitism and hatred of the Jewish state.

Surrounded by inner-city Detroit, Hamtramck is a century-old enclave with a growing Muslim majority. In 2021, the city elected an all-Muslim city council and mayor. The new leadership quickly implemented controversial reforms, including passing an at-home animal sacrifice ordinance.

Both current and former city leaders are deeply immersed in anti-Israel activism. Their social media accounts are flooded with everything from offensive conspiracy theories to hateful tropes about Jews and Israel.

Last July, an investigation of Mayor Amer Ghalib revealed startling anti-Black and anti-Semitic Facebook posts. Besides mocking George Floyd protesters as alcoholics and thieves, the mayor accused Arab leaders and their followers of being secret Jews and "liked" a Facebook comment referring to Jews as "monkeys" who tax "the air we breathe." When residents confronted the mayor about the offensive posts, Ghalib denied any wrongdoing and called his critics "parasites." He subsequently deleted his Facebook history.

City council member Khalil Al-Refai's Facebook page documents his attendance at multiple "Free Palestine" protests. In at least two posts regarding Israel, Al-Refai offered a



**top:** City proclamation, February 2023

**bottom:** Hamtramck city council meeting, January 2023

prayer to "plant firmly our feet and give us victory over the disbelieving people." One post includes an image of a masked Palestinian armed with a stone and a slogan that mocks Israel for failing "to win" against a poorly armed and underfunded enemy.

The social media account of Nayeem Choudhury, another city council member, includes video of a burning Israeli flag and violent clashes between Israelis and Palestinians. In 2016, Choudhury shared a post claiming, "Jews are much safer under Muslims then (sic) Zionism." More recently, he deplored "massacres, genocide, and innocent children being killed by Israel every day."

A deeply offensive image shared in 2021 by council member Mohammed Hassan depicts a monkey with Jewish sidecurls and wearing a cap with the Star of David and text that reads: "Israel the real terrorist!!!"

From repeating tropes about Jewish power to making bombastic and blatantly false accusations of genocide and apartheid to depicting Jews as monkeys and infidels, Hamtramck's elected leaders have embraced the worst forms of anti-Jewish bigotry. ✨



# Jewish Humor, etc.

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

## More Humor from Classic Jewish Comedians

*"America is the only country in  
the world where you can burn the  
flag but can't tear the tag off the  
mattress."*

— Jackie Mason

*"Banks have a new image. Now you  
have a friend, your friendly banker.  
If the banks are so friendly, how  
come they chain down the pens?"*

— Alan King

*"The malls in Florida don't  
have video games, they have  
blood-pressure machines."*

— Mal Z. Lawrence

*"I took a cholesterol test. My  
number came back 911."*

— Freddie Roman



### Answer Key for June 2023 Crossword (p.21)

#### Across:

- 4. Esther
- 5. Abigail
- 9. Rahab
- 11. Hagar
- 13. Tears
- 14. Elizabeth
- 16. Daughters
- 17. Mother
- 19. Believe
- 20. Sarah
- 21. Rachel

#### Down:

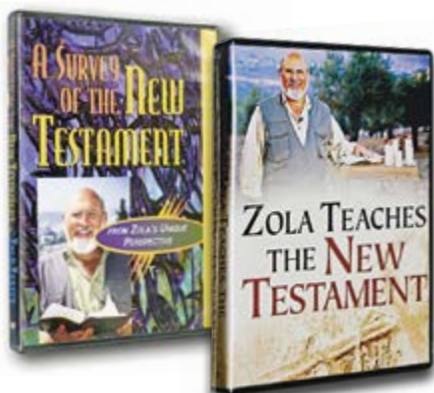
- 1. Ruth
- 2. Martha
- 3. Purple
- 6. Bathsheba
- 7. Magdalene
- 8. Deborah
- 10. Mary
- 12. Miriam
- 15. Rebekah
- 18. Hannah



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