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Dear Reader,

Fall is upon us, which means once again we're inundated with everything "pumpkin spice." While it's not my preference, I'm surprised to see it in body wash, doggie doughnuts, and trash bags! Enjoy the flavor if you like, but I'll pass on it apart from what's in a slice of pumpkin pie at a Thanksgiving meal.

Along with innovations that might be shocking, Fall brings traditions that can be stimulating, especially to our faith. One such is *Sukkot*, the Festival of Booths, which continues into October. As the cover article in this *Levitt Letter* notes, celebrating *Sukkot* can remind us Believers of God's ongoing protection, provision, and guidance.

Also in this issue, you will read about "The People God Uses" (p. 10) and our calling to shine God's light to others (8), miracles (12, 21), a diplomat who saved Jews during the Holocaust (32), how Palestinians use summer camps to indoctrinate their children against Israel (34), Israeli innovation (26, 31), and much more.

Perhaps more than ever before, please continue to *sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim*— "*pray for the peace of Jerusalem"* (Ps. 122:6) and also for the State of Israel during this contentious time.



Greg Miller, Editor Zola Levitt Ministries

P.S. As Mark notes (p. 14), ZLM continues "holding our own" thanks to the generosity of certain individuals who gave through their estates. We are very thankful for these supporters. Would you also help us share the Good News of Yeshua through your prayers and financial gifts to our ministry? Our ministry can't continue without your support!

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We'd appreciate any address corrections. Gifts to ZLM are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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Many Believers* today are transforming their walk with God by seeking the Jewish roots of their Christian faith. They celebrate *Sukkot* and the other Feasts of the Lord, finding great blessings during God's appointed times.

The observances of the Fall Feasts carry significant meaning. When Believers dig into their meaning, they receive revelation about God's character and their identity in Christ.

Sukkot is a joyous feast, observed by our spiritual forefathers to commemorate God's deliverance and protection for the Jews after escaping Egypt. Sukkot is the plural of sukkah, which means tabernacle or booth. The Jewish holiday Sukkot is the Feast of Booths (or Tabernacles). Occurring at the end of the harvest during the seventh month, Tishri, it's a celebration of freedom and gratitude to the Lord:

(continued p.4)

REMEMBER:

Sukkot: Begins at sunset Sept. 29; ends at sunset Oct. 6

As he addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress in July, Israeli President Isaac Herzog must

have been more aware of the historic nature of his speech than anyone else in the room.

President Herzog's grandfather, Rabbi Yitzhak HaLevi Herzog, was the chief rabbi of the British Mandate of Palestine and then Israel. President Herzog's father, Chaim Herzog, was an Israeli general and Israel's sixth president. In 1987, President Chaim Herzog became the first Israeli president to speak to Congress.

As President Isaac Herzog spoke, he must have realized that he was also speaking to Israelis back

(continued p.2)

OCTOBER 2023

Israeli President Isaac Herzog addressing Congress in July 2023 (credit: Michael Giladi/Flash90)

^{* &}quot;Believers" is short for "believers in Yeshua/Jesus as Messiah."

Bringing God Back to Zionism continued from cover sidebar

home. His words were meant as much for Israelis as for Americans.

Herzog mentioned many contentious topics, including Iran's nuclear ambitions, Palestinian terrorism, and Israel's judicial reform debates. He courageously addressed anti-Israel members of Congress and drew the line where anti-Zionism crosses into anti-Semitism.

But something else stood out to me. While I'm not familiar with Herzog's personal life, he's not known as a religiously observant man. Throughout his speech, however, he referenced God's role in the destiny of the Jewish people, the State of Israel, and even the U.S.

His references to God would have been natural the previous day when he visited the *haredi* Yeshiva Gevoah in New Jersey. In Congress, however, they were surprising, particularly to those interested in the balance between religion and state in Israel and America.

Herzog first mentioned God when he quoted his grandfather telling U.S. President Harry Truman that it was "Divine providence that destined President Truman to help bring about the rebirth of Israel, after 2,000 years of exile."

He also spoke of Israel's founding. Beyond focusing solely on the efforts of Israel's founders, he noted, "When the State of Israel was established in 1948—the land which the Almighty promised to Abraham, to which Moses led the Israelites—the land of the Bible, of milk and honey, evolved into an exquisite land of democracy."

In discussing peace, Herzog emphasized praying to God: "We pray for the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, 'Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

Herzog also put the U.S.-Israel relationship in the context of both nations' commitment to God: "We are so very proud of the true friendship we have forged. It is rooted deep in our respective declarations of independence. In the American Declaration of Independence, the founders appealed to the 'Supreme Judge of the World.' In the Israeli Declaration of Independence, influenced by America's, our founders placed their trust in the 'Rock of Israel.'"



Israeli President Isaac Herzog addresses a joint meeting of Congress on July 19, 2023

The president ended by praying, "God bless the State of Israel! God bless the United States of America!"

Herzog's remarks came amidst a growing backlash against religion among secular Israelis. They have a growing suspicion that religiously observant Israelis plan to impose Jewish law on Israeli society. This suspicion has prompted some secular Israelis to attempt to erase the contributions that religious Zionists have made to the State of Israel.

Secular Israeli efforts to delete the contributions of religious Zionists aren't as nefarious as attempts to remove God from Israeli history and society. Giving all the credit for Israel's founding, survival, and success to humans while omitting Divine providence ignores the obvious—it's impossible for the Jewish people to have regained their land and sovereignty, and succeed against all their opponents, without Divine providence.

Herzog—a man steeped in Jewish culture, history, and tradition—might not be observant like his grandfather, but his view of Israel cannot be separated from God's providence. His understanding of the Jewish connection to the Land of Israel is based on God's promise of the land to the Jewish people. Israel's destiny is tied to the vision of the prophets, especially the prophet Isaiah's vision of peace.

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Israel's continued success is based on the Rock of Israel's blessing.

Recognizing God's providential contribution to Israel's success does not require religious observance or a change in Israeli law. For secular Jews, a non-religious lifestyle should not contradict the idea that Israel's success has come through Divine providence. Israeli society is enriched by including God in its national and social life. It was for this reason that Israel's mostly secular founders mentioned God in Israel's Declaration of Independence.

In citing God throughout his speech, Herzog exemplified how Israelis should relate to their country's success. From its presidents and prime ministers to its children, Israelis must put God back into Zionism and the national discourse. Mentioning God requires humility and distances the nation from the hubris that all too often brings down empires.

When the Jewish people realize that they can only succeed with the help of Divine providence, they will be more open-minded about different ways of life and not as obstinate about constructive criticism. It's time Israelis brought God back into the national dialogue.



Israeli President Isaac Herzog at the Western Wall in Jerusalem

How Believers Can Celebrate Sukkot continued from cover

You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths, that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

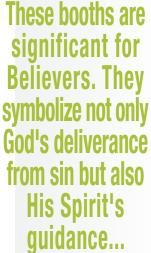
—Leviticus 23:42–43

Honoring God in a Sukkah

spiritual elements:

Traditionally, Jewish people observed Sukkot by building and dwelling in a sukkah to honor God during the Feast. Made with organic materials found in the wilderness, it had three walls that were at least three feet tall, and the walls were rigid enough not to sway in the wind. This signifies God's protective hand against physical and

> God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. — Psalm 46:1



ultimate salvation.

also made of organic material, such as leaves or grass, and partly open to the sky. These booths are significant for Believers. They symbol-

ize not only

God's deliv-

The roof (the

S'chach) was

erance from sin but also His Spirit's guidance through difficulties to our

It was a difficult journey for the Israel-



The Water Came on Pharaoh and His Soldiers, engraving for Bible Pictures and What They Teach Us (1897) by Charles Foster

ites as they traveled through the harsh desert, but God never left them.

> So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea.... - Exodus 13:18

And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

—Exodus 13:21

For Believers, we can hold tight to these same promises that God's Spirit always guides us. Are you looking for it?

Rejoice in God's Deliverance and Renew Your Covenant with Jesus

Just as God delivered the Jews from the bondage of slavery in Egypt, He has also delivered Believers from the bondage of sin:

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. — Galatians 5:1

As Believers, we can rejoice in the deliverance found in the blood of Jesus and the continued protection of our Sovereign God. We, too, can celebrate Sukkot!



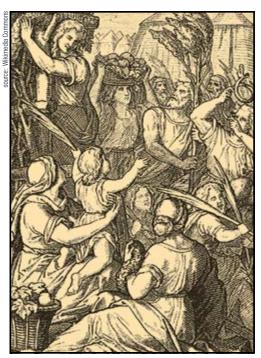
Israel's deliverance was one of humble beginnings. They weren't given castles but instead received the land and life and potential to build them.

When we humbly come before the Lord and ask Him to construct our dwelling places according to His will, we witness His work of redemption and restoration. We experience His mighty power as He rebuilds our lives!

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

—Ephesians 2:8–10

Deliverance from the bondage of sin is God's greatest gift to us. He created us in His image, and He desires to take us back to the roots of our faith, to have constant covenant revelation.



Detail of *The Feast of Tabernacles*, illustration for *The Story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation* by Charles Foster (1873)



Detail of *Building Booths at Feast of Tabernacles*, illustration from *With the Children on Sundays, Through Eye-Gate, and Ear-Gate Into the City of Child-Soul* (1911) by Sylvanus Stall

Celebrate Sukkot as Jesus Did

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." — John 7:37–38

The Gospel of John chronicles the time Jesus traveled to Judea during *Sukkot*, where the authorities were looking to detain Him. But with divine protection, they could not stop Him from spreading God's truth.

Is anything holding you back during this season? Renew your mind and your covenant relationship as you celebrate *Sukkot*. Allow the Lord to guide you by the fire of the Holy Spirit through the wilderness, bringing you into your forgotten heritage.



While You Can Still Handle Steps Studio co-host of Our Jewish Roots



David and I met some new friends recently at a senior adult event. After chatting with them for a few minutes, they asked what we do for a living. We explained our roles with Our Jewish Roots (OJR) and added that we host two tours a vear to Israel.

The wife stated, "I don't know if we can do all those steps!" We affirmed that while there is a good amount of walking, and ves, some stairs, we've had people in their early 90s who toured with us and kept up with everyone else. She perked up a bit when I noted the age range of those who join our tours.





Kirsten in Israel

While You Have Your Health

While we don't descend

the Palm Sunday Road on the Mount of Olives every day (it is somewhat steep!), being in generally good health enhances your endurance level. So instead of waiting until you aren't sure if you can physically make it, we suggest that you consider going now!

In March 2024, David and I, along with Joshua and Caleb Colson, will host another phenomenal group of Holy Land pilgrims to walk through the earthly Promised Land. Each pilgrimage features a solid Messianic focus and



Sarah Liberman

includes special guests whom you have seen on OJR. Sarah Liberman (who writes our monthly Personal Letter) often joins us on our first day of touring in Israel. Her insights and teaching are even better in person than what we read from her each month. She is a shining light, and a beautiful Israeli-born Messianic Believer.

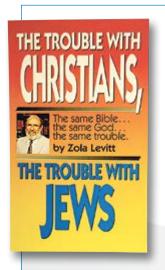
The Best Time Is Now

I've often said that the best time to go to Israel is now. We make it incredibly easy, because ZLM has its own tour company! Having guided Holy Land pilgrims for over 40 years, Zola Tours knows the ins-and-outs of Bible study tours better than anyone. We take care of you at every step - from the time you board your



Get your passport ready, then prepare for your journey to the Holy Land and the Eternal City — Jerusalem. It will change your life forever!

Contact Sandra at 214-696-9760 or email travel@levitt.com.



The Trouble with Christians, The Trouble with Jews book

By Zola Levitt

The trouble with Christians and the trouble with Jews is exactly the same: both subscribe to the God of Israel, the Creator God—the God of Scripture—but both have been remiss in actually reading Scripture. The different denominations of Christianity and of Judaism utilize Scripture differently, but it is patently obvious that the vast majority in both camps don't have a significant grasp of the Bible.

(This and most titles also available as eBooks.)



A Light to the Gentiles

Caleb & Joshua Colson The Bearded Bible Brothers







Jewish man reading Torah

Most everyone has seen the image of an unkempt Christian man, standing on a busy street corner, holding a sign that reads, "The End is Near." But have you ever seen a religious Jew — adorned with kippah, tallit, bushy beard, and payot sideburns — doing the same? If he were holding a "The End is Near" sign, it would certainly wake the masses — because that's an Earth-shattering visual. Yet, it wasn't meant to be a foreign concept.

Isaiah 49:6 states: "Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the Earth."

While Yeshua was this prophesied manifest light, the Father always intended the Israelites to be His spokesmen. Salvation came through the Jewish Messiah, but since the time of the Apostles, we have rarely seen Jewish people step out on mission with such authority.

Until now!

This Generation

While not now specifically, this fig tree generation (Matt. 24:32–35) has more Jewish people coming to Messiah than ever before! Indeed, Jews for Jesus and Zola Levitt were pioneers in this mission. And though all Believers have received the same commission (Matt. 28:18–20), as messengers for Zola Levitt Ministries, we feel that we must renew the focus on the Gospel of Yeshua because of the impending deadline facing humanity.

Dateline Jerusalem

In October on *Our Jewish Roots (OJR)*, Dr. Jeffrey Seif continues teaching his final

ing his final on-location series: Dateline Jerusalem: The Coming Temple. Beyond just focusing on prophecy, this series is a vital witnessing tool that explains why



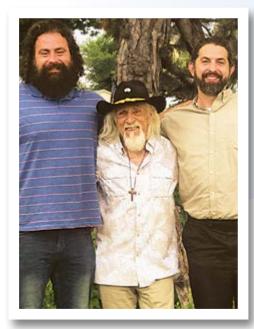
Dr. Jeffrev Seif

(continued on next page)

we give such focus to God's future calendar. If our Messiah's return is not impending, then prophecy makes little difference. But if time is short, then prophecy is highly relevant. This is why we love to delve into prophetic details. The conclusion is always wonderful: **Yeshua's Second Coming!**

Our good friend Israel Hanna, with **Wisdom That Heals Ministries**, is a true evangelist. He has appeared on *The God of Miracles* series and on our social media sites. Israel can't go anywhere without stopping everyone he meets and inquiring about their relationship with Yeshua. This has led to some interesting, yet divine, encounters that always result in a prayer for salvation or God's supernatural provision.

Why isn't this the lifestyle of every Believer? Let's be the light of the world — the city on the hill that cannot be hidden (Matt. 5:14–16). Return to your first love — Yeshua — and live with the same contagious

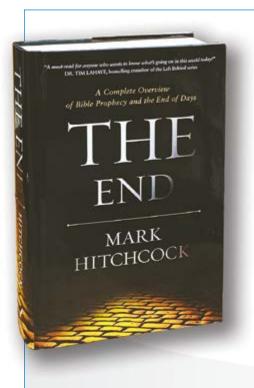


Joshua (left) and Caleb (right) with Israel Hanna (center)

passion as when you first surrendered your heart to Him.

We must reclaim our moniker as a "light to the gentiles" (Isa. 49:6). Likewise, we can't forget to go "to the Jew first..." (Rom. 1:16).





The End: Overview of Bible Prophecy and the End of Days book By Mark Hitchcock

The End Times have seen a great amount of interest in the last two decades. However, there hasn't been a comprehensive overview of Biblical prophecy and eschatology for more than five decades. Mark Hitchcock's book is the comprehensive resource for the 21st century. *The End* accomplishes for eschatology what Randy Alcorn's *Heaven* did for readers' understanding of Heaven. *The End* provides a solid Biblical foundation for exploring the essential truths of this timely topic — the end of the world.

(This and most titles also available as eBooks.)

Classic **Zola**

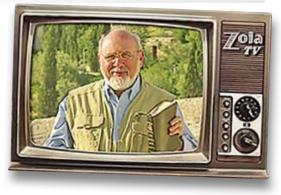
The People God Uses

by **Zola Levitt** from 2003 20 years ago

We get letters from viewers asking if I'm really as kindly, humble, and/or holy as I appear to be on our program.

The answer? Of course not!

It first should be appreciated that TV rather magnifies a personality. When you see me, I am wearing a certain amount of makeup and have a very skilled production team running the lighting and



cameras. If anything, I look better than my very best in real life. The picture presented can be impressive. I've even had a woman write to propose marriage to me (but my wife answered that letter very kindly).

Likewise, my personality is nothing like what you see on TV, though this is for a much different reason. What you see on TV is properly referred to as an "anointing" (not the true "anointing" of a Bible personality, but simply an ordinary man working for God). In real life, I'm the real me—impatient,



Detail of *David and Goliath*, color lithograph (1888) by Osmar Schindler

irascible, argumentative, and very much a "Type A" personality.

If you look at many of Scripture's characters, you will see that God delights in choosing what we would see as the wrong man for the job (such as Moses, who claimed a speech impediment, or Gideon, who was nearly afraid of his own shadow). He chose a whimsical teenager (David) and had him anointed king of a nation. Jeremiah was depressed. Today, Ezekiel would be classified as insane. Samson was dating a prostitute. And Solomon kept 300 concubines as a diversion from his 700 wives!

I am not saying that such shortcomings are good things. But these don't hinder a person from being anointed by God or disqualify him from being a soldier in the Lord's army.

When I first went on TV, I deter-

mined to go on with plain talk, no tie, no holy pronouncement, or the like—just Bible teaching. And that has remained our ministry.

In this ministry, I argue with every sort of person — Believer and unbeliever alike. The seminaries utterly detest me. Campus Crusade would not help me get speaking engagements on college campuses (even though I was saved at one of their meetings and volunteered with that organization, giving up a fine secular job). "Finer Christians" won't have me speak at their churches, nor will they witness to Jews.

Of course, some of the attitude embraced by these groups is good old

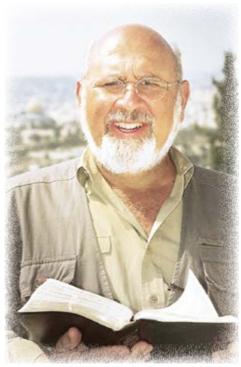


garden-variety anti-Semitism. But a lot of it is because of my own failings and lack of character. (Peter and Paul evidently had similar problems.)

What we should understand is that God is not looking for "good people," spiritual people, or even holy people, but simply for believing people who will get His job done.

It is interesting to see viewers' reactions when they are presented with my real self as opposed to my TV personality. I conduct tours to the Holy Land and

am often with those who have watched my program for many years. When I



Zola teaching in Israel

God delights in choosing what we would see as the wrong man for the job

say something funny, at first there is almost no laughter. Some people on the tour are disconcerted because they are not sure what their response should be. They have categorized me as a "holy man," and typically such religious persons do not tell jokes. (The Lord, however, presented such ironies in some of His parables, such as the man who tries to remove a splinter from his brother's eye while he has a wooden plank in his own — Matthew 7:3. Likewise, He sometimes spoke with a deadly ricochet, such as when He asked His critics, "Many good works have I shewed you from My Father; for which of those works do ye stone Me?" - John 10:32.

A type of letter that comes in occasionally takes me to task for appearing on some TV network and thus supporting its "doctrine" (which, of course, is invariably at odds with that of the writer).

As to why I would appear on any given network, I can only say that I'm a "renter" on the networks that will have me. If we rent an apartment or a store, we are not held responsible for the behavior of the other tenants or the landlord. When a network on which my program is not carried reaches out to me with an invitation to appear, I accept it almost without fail because I can reach more people that way.

I would like to note that you don't have to have a big ministry or appear on a weekly TV program to be important in the Lord's sight. If you feel like a very plain Christian, you may be very surprised when you get to Heaven. You may even find yourself the ruler of a city, or in another position of authority, because God knows your real heart and what you are capable of. He does not judge the way men appear, "...for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7).



Ask the Chaplain

What is a Miracle? (part 2)

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



A miracle is a supernatural intervention that transcends and suspends the laws of nature. God performed the first miracle (Creation, Gen. 1) and will perform the last miracle (the new Heaven and new Earth, Rev. 21:1). The Bible also reveals that God allowed some humans, angels/spirits, and even animals to perform limited miracles.

Jesus was the greatest miracle worker, and His miracles confirmed Him as the Messiah (Matt. 11:2–5). He performed 37 miracles as recorded in the four Gospels but did many others that were not chronicled (John 20:30; 21:25).

Jesus' miracles included healing physical ailments, taming hostile forces of nature, deliverance from demons, and raising people from death to life. Addressing the consequences of sin, His miracles emphasize that deliverance, freedom, and salvation come only by God's grace and through His interaction.

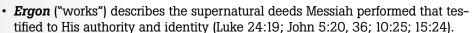
The New Testament primarily uses four Greek words to describe the Lord's miracles:

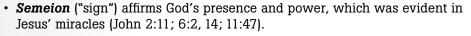
- Dunamis ("power") denotes that the source of Christ's miracles is God's unique power working in our world (Mark 9:1).
- Teras ("wonders") was the term often used by those who witnessed and experienced Christ's miracles (John 4:48; Acts 2:22). It also refers to the miraculous actions of His followers after Pentecost

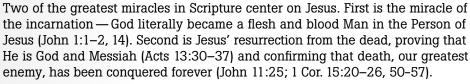




(Acts 2:43; 5:12; 6:8; 14:3; Rom. 15:18-19; 2 Cor. 12:12).







Miracles didn't just happen in ancient times. Jesus still performs miracles today. Among other things, He saves sinners, heals those who are afflicted, and transforms lives with His regenerating power. Ultimately, God alone determines when, where, and how He performs a miracle for His glory. Miracles — both then and now — especially underscore Jesus as the Lord and Messiah and prove that the God of the Bible is the one true God. Miracles are an attention getter for all to see that God is still present and very much active in His world.

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know."

— Acts 2:22





Dr. Todd Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian
TJF Team Leader

During our June 2023 outreach, as August Rosado and I left our hotel, the Lord opened a door with an employee named **Doron**. He had taken a box of Bibles to our room when we arrived at the hotel. He laughingly said that it was very heavy. As we checked out of the hotel, he offered to carry the Bibles to our car. He also said that he would like to have one for himself and asked what it is about.

We explained the Gospel to him the essence of Scripture — noting that the Bible especially reveals God's plan of redemption for sinful humanity. We emphasized that this salvation comes through the Messiah—the unique Son of God whom Scripture confirms is Yeshua (Jesus) of Nazareth. August and I highlighted some Messianic prophecies to show Doron this truth. He willingly listened and gladly accepted a Hebrew Bible and Messianic Gospel tracts from us. Thank you, Lord, for stirring Doron's spiritual appetite and for giving him a hunger for Your saving Word about Your Son!

On the outskirts of Netanya, we met **Noa**, a young Israeli working at the Nitsba Mall. She, too, was hungry to learn how the prophets and events of

the *Tanakh* (Old Testament) symbolize and point to the Jewish Messiah. When Noa asked if we were familiar with Hebrew, August and I responded that we had taken several years of Biblical Hebrew in our seminary classes.

I explained that the final exam for one Hebrew course required me to translate any Hebrew text from the Book of Jonah. From this, we noted how Jonah's three days and nights in the belly of the fish prophetically foreshadowed the burial of Yeshua the Messiah in the tomb and His resurrection from the dead three days later (Matt. 12:40). Noa was fascinated and curious to know more. She accepted a Hebrew Bible from us in anticipation of seeing more glimpses of Messiah in the Old Testament and His full revelation as Yeshua in the New Testament!

Please pray for Doron, Noa, and others in Israel with whom we shared the truth of Yeshua. This Gospel outreach continues only through your prayers and financial support. Thank you for your gifts to this ministry that help cover our expenses as we take the Good News to God's People.





To

Doron and Todd

Noa and August

A **Note** from **Mark**

The State of the Ministry

Mark Levitt ZLM Director since 1988



Much has changed with ZLM since my State-of-the-Ministry article from September 2022. To begin with, two major bequests are helping us to underwrite overdue television production changes. Increasing red ink signified our need for an overhaul.



Caleb (left) and Joshua (right)

As you may know, we recently added two new teachers—Joshua (42) from Generation X and his younger brother Caleb (40) from Generation Y. These humble, strong warriors for the Lord bring David-like leadership for Goliath-like times. They not only appeal to more younger viewers than we have had in decades, but also speak clearly and effectively to our older viewers. Along with their much-needed medicine from Scripture, they often add a spoonful of sugar (humor).

Charity : Navigator

ZLM's improving financial status has re-earned Charity Navigator's top rating of four stars. Meanwhile, the ECFA has steadily examined and approved this ministry's outreach and financial practices every year since 2012. Thankfully, our newest tax returns reflect that we finally have the resources to catch our breath and update our various outreaches.

According to a recent report from

PricewaterhouseCoopers, fewer than 50 million homes in the U.S. will pay for cable or satellite service by 2027, down from 64 million today and 100 million seven years ago. That's a 50% reduction in 11 years!

Moreover, fewer Americans regularly attend church. Last month's "A Note from Mark" (p. 14) detailed that thousands of U.S. churches are closing each year as congregations dwindle and younger generations don't feel accepted. In 1972, 92% of Americans said they were Christian, Pew reported, but by 2070 that number will drop to below 50%. Today's moral majority appears destined to become a minority in less than half a century.

As each year passes, society becomes increasingly secular while income and wealth concentrate among a shrinking minority. Now our outreach relies on progressively fewer donors while our expenses increase. More than ever before, bequests—financial donations given through a will—bridge the gap between our regular income and our expenses. Would you kindly consider including a bequest to ZLM in your own will?

As before, we are holding our own; we have yet to give up key television airtimes. Eventually, as more viewers turn to the internet, ZLM is likely to spend less on TV

to spend less on TV broadcasting. For now, thank you so very much for continuing to help us persevere. It really is a good, though sometimes scary, fight (1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 4:7).

Mark, thank you for this ministry update. As viewers learn more from the Colson brothers, they should catch the exciting vision of both the present and future impact of this ministry. —David \$\phi\$



ZLM Bulletin Board

Two Watershed OJR Episodes

Have you watched our television programs that ran during the last two weeks of July? "Introducing the Bearded Bible Brothers" was the first show. The second program was "Mission and Messengers." To share how this ministry is adapting to changing times, please ask your friends to watch these brothers at Levitt.tv/media/watch/2322 and Levitt.tv/media/watch/2322 and Levitt.tv/media/watch/2323. At those links, you'll see our ministry's next generation of Bible teachers, who offer solid and captivating Bible teaching for an increasingly secular era. (See 2 Tim. 3:1–9.)

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem

TO GIVE,

Word Search Video Archives

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

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

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

More at Levitt.com

LLX — Levitt Letter Extra News

Read important news that didn't make the Levitt Letter. Only available on the web! Visit levitt.com/news to read current articles or to subscribe so you will know when we post the latest article.

Essays — Featured Past Articles

Check out our collection of essays. At levitt.com/essays you can read articles by Zola Levitt, Tom McCall, Todd Baker, Mark Levitt, and others. Originally published in the Levitt Letter, we have made these available in essay form for easy reading or printing.

FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

I'd Like to Give, But ...

describes a common concern about making charitable gifts. It also presents ways to give other than by writing a check. Among the ideas, you may find the solution to meeting your own obligations while also making the contribution you'd like to give. This free pamphlet addresses considerations such as cash on hand, retirement planning, and providing for heirs. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

Request POM #2.





HebrewLesson

The Breath of His Life

by John Parsons **Hebrew for Christians** Hebrew4Christians.com



הָרוּחַ הוּא הַנֹּתֵן חַיִּים וְהַבָּשֶׂר אֵין־בּוֹ מוֹעִיל

"It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing." (John 6:63)

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Read Hebrew right to left!



The Holy Spirit is called Ruach Ha-Kodesh, the "breath of the Holy One." The Spirit is likened to our breath to indicate how intimate and essential God is to our lives. By ourselves we are as nothing (בַּלוּם), without substance or breath. The Lord is our Maker, the One who imparts nishmat chayim (נשמת חיים) — the "breath of life" (Gen. 2:7). If this is true of the natural, how much more is it so of the spiritual? We are as powerless to give pulse to our natural hearts as we are to give life to our spiritual existence. How does the natural heart receive its secret pulse? What is the origin of this spark of life within the body? As is the lower, so is the higher.

We must be reborn to be made alive in the realm of the Spirit. Such rebirth originates "not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:13). The Spirit of God (רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים), the Breath of the Holy One, quickens us. Yeshua said that this life was as mysterious as the motions of the wind: "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is

born of the Spirit" (John 3:8). Like the origin of the pulse of our physical life is a mystery to us, so is the origin of life from above. Just as we received nishmat chayim to partake of the atmosphere of this realm, so we receive a new breath of life to partake of the atmosphere of the heavenly realm of the Spirit.

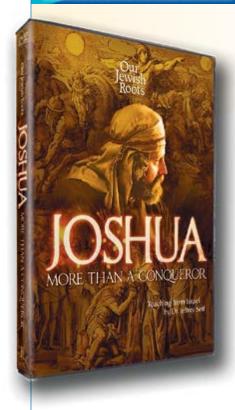
The Spirit of God imparts the "fruit of the Holy Spirit," that is, qualities of heart that evidence newness of life. This fruit is spiritual in nature, derived from the heart of God: love, joy, peace, patience, good will, and so on (see Gal. 5:22-23). Yeshua explained that a transformed life is a miracle of God: "It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing" (John 6:63).

If you feel breathless and filled with anxiety, ask the Father for the blessing of the Holy Spirit. "If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" (Luke 11:13). By faith, may you "receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:22). Χ



ZLM Store





<u>Joshua: More</u> <u>Than a Conqueror</u>

DVD Set

Eight 30-minute TV programs on 2 DVDs

This eight-part series (with Bearded Bible Brother Joshua in the title role) explores Joshua's rise from dependable apprentice to faithful leader of Israel. Dr. Jeffrey Seif offers valuable leadership lessons from corresponding Holy Land locations. Following dramatic re-enactments from Joshua's life, David and Kirsten Hart discuss each lesson's meaning and application with theologian Dr. Seif.

At Sinai We meet Joshua with other recently freed Hebrew slaves at the foot of Mount Sinai, waiting for Moses to descend with God's laws. Joshua's years of leadership training begin as he apprentices with Moses.

The Spy Twelve men are sent to investigate Canaan. Only Joshua and Caleb return with hopeful accounts while the other ten report pessimistically.



At the Jordan Joshua succeeds Moses as leader of the Israelites as they prepare to cross the Jordan River to battle for the Promised Land. God demonstrates that He will be with Joshua just as He was with Moses.

At Jericho The first battle for the land of Canaan occurs at a fortified city. Joshua proves his faith by following God's instructions for attacking Jericho. The Lord miraculously brings down the walls, and all the Israelites join the battle.

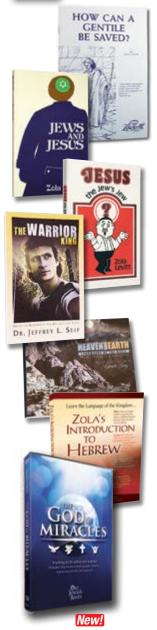
At Ai Disobedience after the victory at Jericho leads to Israel losing the second battle in conquering Canaan. In spite of failure and disappointment, Joshua shows leadership by following God's instructions to learn from the past and focus on the future that God has planned for Israel.

The Gibeonites Because of deception, Joshua's integrity is severely tested when he faces the decision either to break his vow or keep it under false pretenses with negative, long-term consequences. We, too, face deceivers determined to trick us, and we need to pray to the Lord for discernment.

At Shiloh The conquest of the land of Canaan is nearing its end. The Israelites have subdued the south and turn north to put down the last vestiges of resistance. The Tabernacle of the Wilderness comes to rest in Shiloh, where it will stand for over three centuries.

At the End Joshua leaves the legacy of a good soldier and leader of Israel, full of faith in God. Divine strategies exist that help today's Believers become victors and not victims as we seek to follow the Lord's will and direction for our lives.

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Phone 24/7:

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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**

Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

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	In My Father's House	\$4	
	Israel, My Promised	\$4	
	The Miracle of Passover	\$4	
	The Promised Land	\$4	
	The Second Coming	\$4	
	Seven Churches—Does Yours Fit In?	\$4	
	The Seven Feasts of Israel	\$4	
	The Spirit of Pentecost	\$4	
	Mix or Match: 50 Classic Study Booklets (above)	\$49	

Books

_ The Beginning of The End	\$9
_ The Bible Jesus Read	\$11
Broken Branches (booklet) Zola on Replacement Theology	\$7
Encounters with UFOs (p.23)	\$9
	\$26
_ Heaven and Earth (Ken Berg) (pictured)	\$18
_ The House That God Built	\$8
_ An Israeli Love Story — Zola's only novel	\$8
Israel's Right to the Land	\$3
Jesus, the Jew's Jew (pictured)	\$8
_ Jews and Jesus (pictured)	\$10
_ The Mountains of Israel (Norma Archbold)	\$10
Once Through the New Testament	\$10
Our Hands are Stained with Blood (Michael Brown)	\$16
_ The Prophesied Messiah	\$10
Raptured (p.24)	\$10
The Trouble with Christians/Jews (p.7)	\$10
The Warrior King (Jeff Seif) (pictured)	\$12
What About Us? (Eitan Shishkoff)	\$10
Zola's Introduction to Hebrew (John Parsons) (pictured)	\$39

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Close Encounters with Yeshua(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$59
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Joshua: More Than a Conqueror (p.17) (8 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49
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ZLM Store



The Covenants of God DVD Set

Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

The covenants that God made with men throughout the Bible act as guideposts for understanding Scripture. In this series, Zola reviews the eight major covenants by analyzing verses and interviewing experts. We now live under the New Covenant, which will be completed when our Lord returns.

Edenic Covenant Made with Adam (mankind) before man's fall. Physicist Gerald Schroeder explains how a 15 billion-year-old universe does not contradict a six-day creation.

Adamic and Noahic Covenants God's covenant with Adam after the fall promised a Redeemer. His covenant with Noah established human government.

Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed the Adamic promise of redemption and founded the nation of Israel.

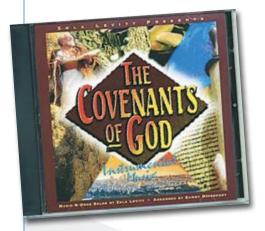
Mosaic Covenant Gave Israel commandments, judgments, and ordinances because "Man's heart is evil" (Genesis 8:21).

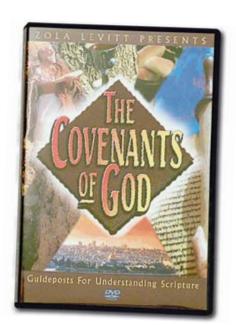
land Covenant Secured the final restoration of Israel.

Davidic Covenant Established David's kingdom forever and God's plan of redemption through the future Messiah.

New Covenant Rests on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and secures unconditional eternal life with Him for Believers. Zola's interviews focus on the relationship of Jews and Christians.

Review Understanding God's covenants enriches our faith and expands our knowledge of the great Creator we are privileged to call "Father." To Him be the glory forever!







The Covenants of God Music CD

Composed by Zola and played by him on his 1941 Lorée oboe, this album's music reflects the beauty Zola saw, the sadness he felt, and the pure inspiration God gave him. Heavenly!

All of Zola's music is available online in CD or digital format.

Yom Kippur War Miracles

5

BY PENINA TAYLOR / UnitedWithIsrael.org



Abandoned Syrian T-62 tanks on the Golan Heights

Fifty years ago, the 1973 Arab-Israeli War—also known as the Yom Kippur War since it began on Yom Kippur—started on October 6, 1973. It lasted 19 days.

An Arab coalition led by Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack against Israel. Despite the buildup of forces along Israel's borders prior to that day, much misinformation and Russia's apparent lack of support for the Arab states had convinced Israel that war was not imminent. False alarms earlier that year also meant that Israeli intelligence considered the movement of troops and armaments as another insignificant exercise.

Thus, Israel was unprepared.

As with all our wars, stories of miracles abound. Many consider it a miracle that Jordan didn't participate. Jordan's decision resulted from a combination of pressure from the U.S. to avoid the conflict and a secret understanding between Jerusalem and Amman that if Jordan stayed out, Israel would not attack her. Having had most of their air force destroyed by Israel in the 1967 war, the Jordanians declined to become involved. Thus, facing combat on two fronts instead of three gave Israel a fighting chance.

The Miracle of Gathering Troops

One might think that the Yom Kippur observance would have made it harder for Israel to assemble reserve forces. In many ways, however, it was easier. As it was Yom Kippur, most people were

at home or in synagogue, fasting. As such, locating reservists was easier.

Although most people were not listening to the radio and very few had home phones, some well-placed calls and the gathering of buses in public areas facilitated the call up. The quiet day allowed reservists to hear the rumbling of the buses, thus many went to see what was happening.

A Minefield Miracle

One event, repeated countless times, involved Commander David Yinni. In the process of removing his troops from a confrontation with the Syrians, Yinni realized that they were trapped in a minefield. Knowing it would take a miracle for them to make it out alive, the troops began crawling on their bellies while using their bayonets to locate the mines without triggering them.

At some point, one soldier uttered a heartfelt prayer. As the story goes, suddenly a windstorm blew in. The soldiers hunkered down until the storm subsided. As it passed, it blew away enough dirt that the mines were exposed. Therefore, the entire platoon escaped unharmed.

In the end, because of a number of similar occurrences, Israel emerged victorious in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. Even when facing overwhelming challenges, miracles occur for the People of Israel, who will continue to exist despite the goals of the enemies we face.







Letters to ZLM

Some letters have been edited for space. For ministry products and TV programs, visit our <u>web store</u> and <u>free video archives</u>.

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

Changes at OJR

From J.P.: I am sad to hear that Dr. Seif is leaving to further his knowledge and wisdom in God's Holy Word. I wish him all the best in his new endeavors in whatever direction God leads him.

With that being said, I also wish the Bearded Bible Brothers all the luck and Godly wisdom they are going to need to fill these shoes at Zola Levitt Ministries. I really like the way they go about teaching the Word and sharing the Gospel. I hope many good days lie ahead with Josh and Caleb's new responsibilities on *Our Jewish Roots*. May God bless them and steadily increase their wisdom in His Word.

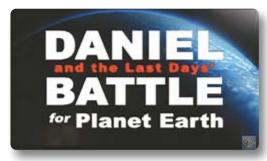
Dear J.P.,

We completely agree with you. Many years of Jeff's Bible teaching are archived for free, 24/7 viewing at <u>levitt.tv</u>. Joshua and Caleb are excited to bring their style of Bible teaching to all *OJR* viewers, which gives you the best of both worlds. —David and Kirsten

Daniel and the Last Days' Battle for Planet Earth (2007)

The Culture Battle on YouTube

From R.M.: I remember this great series from 2007, and I will NEVER forget my trip to Israel with Zola Tours in October



2008! It was the single greatest and life-changing experience of my life! I turned 50 in Jerusalem and had an encounter with the Lord that evening in my hotel room out of nowhere that completely changed me and my life forever!

I was the least likely and deserving of such a glorified honor! Thank you, Father for blessing a worthless servant like me with your presence! God bless Zola Levitt Ministries. May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob ALWAYS bless and protect Israel against ALL their enemies within and without, in Jesus' Mighty Name. Amen!!!

Dear R.M.,

Thank you for sharing the miraculous encounter you had in Jerusalem! Our Lord, of course, is still the God of miracles! Please see the articles on pages $\underline{12}$ and $\underline{21}$. —David

(continued on next page)





George Washington University Professor Lara Sheehi

GWU Professor Lara Sheehi

From P.P.: I am a graduate of the LLM program at George Washington University (GWU) National Law Center. Recently a representative came to see me as part of an alumni [fund raising] outreach. I told the person that I thought the school had gone too woke for my taste, and I wasn't even aware of their anti-Semitic professor saga!

Dear Readers,

The May 2023 Levitt Letter (p. 34) included an article entitled, "University Professor: It's Not Your Fault You Were Born in Israel." Here are some excerpts:

- The professor consistently harassed her Jewish students and then retaliated against them when they raised concerns with GWU administration.
- During the required course, Sheehi subjected Jewish students to anti-Semitic coursework and lectures.
- · Sheehi, who is Lebanese, also spreads her bigotry on social media,

tweeting vulgar anti-Semitic statements.

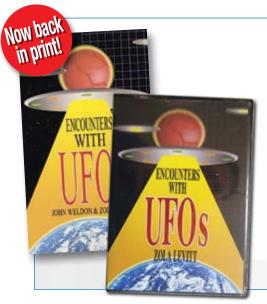
This disturbing staffing faux pas is a reminder that anti-Semitism is pervasive in the U.S. Professor Sheehi's ideology highlights the urgency of the August *LL*'s cover article: "The War for the Heart of a Generation." — Mark

(continued on next page)









Encounters with UFOs

Teaching CD and book

By John Weldon & Zola Levitt (CD recording time: approximately 64 minutes)

What on Earth is happening? Thousands of people from all walks of life are sighting UFOs. This exposé examines actual cases of encounters with extra-terrestrial beings, and reveals an amazing connection between rising interest in the occult and the strange phenomena associated with "unidentified flying objects."

The Bearded Bible Brothers, Joshua & Caleb

Present — Return of the Shekinah

(7/7) on YouTube

From Deacon: The Rapture is unscriptural nonsense from John Darby in the 1800s. There is not ONE verse that supports Rapture.



Please look at 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18;

1 Corinthians 15:51–53; John 14:3; and Revelation 3:10. The Rapture was taught long before Darby. —The Bearded Bible Brothers



From C.D.: I truly love listening to Joshua and Caleb and watching their videos. As a fellow Believer, I find their videos are always interesting and informative. God bless them and *Our Jewish Roots*.

From M.N.: I love learning in depth and though the BBB are hilarious, they cover an array of so much debated Biblical content while staying within the context and foreshadowing of the verses! Also, my two kids (ages 5 and 10) just looooooove them.

From B.S.: Like many, I discovered this "dynamic duo" during the Covid lockdown and have watched them since. I appreciate their zeal and sincere concern for the unsaved and their very creative approach to bringing the Gospel to every viewer.

Dear C.D., M.N., and B.S.,

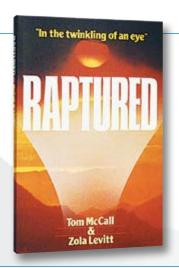
We wholeheartedly agree. Wait until you see what Joshua and Caleb are bringing to the set of *OJR* in our coming programs! The content is fresh and so inspirational. —David

Mission and Messengers on YouTube

From W.R.L.: What!!!!!!!! Nooo! [Regarding Dr. Jeffrey Seif's departure from *OJR*] Dear W.R.L..

That's exactly how we felt when we heard the news. Dr. Seif's brilliant intellect and amazing contribution to the ministry will be greatly missed. But don't get too bummed out. Jeff will still be a part of Zola Levitt Ministries and *OJR*. His

(continued on next page)



Raptured book By Tom McCall and Zola Levitt

The Rapture of the Church—discussed in full with relevant Scriptures. The various views of when it might happen are evenhandedly debated as to which seems most correct. A doctrine not always understood by the Church, but one that will affect everyone on Earth—Believer and unbeliever alike.

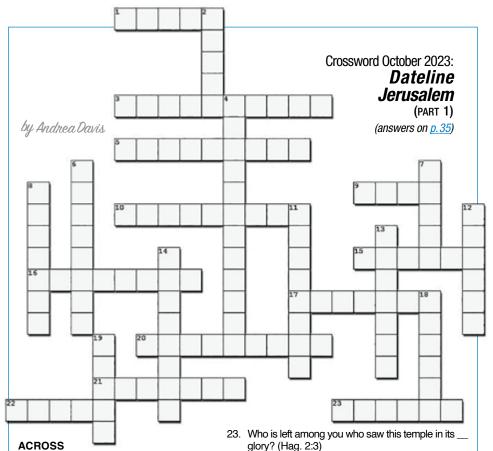
(This and most titles also available as eBooks.)





final teaching series is a masterpiece: Dateline Jerusalem: The Coming Temple.

Along with his continued studies at Cambridge, God has promoted Jeff in new areas of ministry that we hope to announce soon. He'll be popping in occasionally as the devoted mentor that he is, helping direct us in our new position of leadership. — Blessings in Messiah, The Bearded Bible Brothers



- 1. ... Let us __ with you, for we seek your God ... (Ezra 4:2)
- 3. ... from the day that the __ of the Lord's temple was laid ... (Hag. 2:18)
- 5. ... the Chaldean, who __ this temple ... (Ezra 5:12)
- 9. ... and I will __ this temple with glory, says the Lord ... (Hag. 2:7)
- 10. ... Who has __ you to build this temple ... (Ezra 5:3)
- 15. ... My house shall be called a house of ___ ... (Matt. 21:13)
- 16. ... And the __ of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest. (Mic. 3:12)
- 17. ... Ah, Lord God! Will You destroy all the __ of Israel ... (Ezek. 9:8)
- 20. ... began to build the house of God which is in __ ... (Ezra 5:2)
- 21. ... Does your __ not pay the temple tax? (Matt. 17:24)
- 22. ... that he began to build the __ of the Lord. (1 Kings 6:1)

DOWN

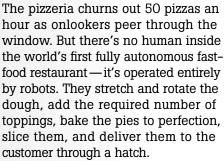
- I have filled the position of my father __ ... (1 Kings 8:20)
- 4. ... Go in, and see the wicked __ which they are doing ... (Ezek. 8:9)
- 6. ... build the temple, that I may take __ in it ... (Hag. 1:8)
- and behold, the __ of the Lord filled the temple. (Ezek. 43:5)
- 8. Now Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to __ ... (1 Kings 5:1)
- Then the glory of the Lord __ from the threshold of the temple ... (Ezek. 10:18)
- 12. He __ the house of the Lord and the king's house ... (Jer. 52:13)
- The glory of this latter temple shall be __ than the former ... (Hag. 2:9)
- 14. ... For they have filled the land with __ ... (Ezek. 8:17)
- 18. Son of man, describe the __ to the house of Israel ... (Ezek. 43:10)
- and there was ___, flowing from under the threshold ... (Ezek. 47:1)



Science in Israel

Pizza Made By Robots

BY ARIEL GROSSMAN (r) NoCamels.com



The customer orders and pays by app or using the kiosk at the front of the store. But few can resist the temptation to watch the robots make pizza. "For the first time, people are seeing a robotic store—a fully autonomous store with no workers—and they are amazed," said Udi Shamai, CEO of Hyper Food Robotics, the Israeli company that developed the robo-restaurant. One of Shamai's Pizza Hut restaurants is the first to use the robot technology at its branch in Mazor, central Israel, but it's adaptable to any pizza brand. The robo-restaurant has sensors and

cameras to ensure that robots prepare the dough and add the toppings properly. It automatically calls for help if there's a problem requiring human



intervention. The robots also clean themselves every 40 minutes using chemical-free ozone-treated water, which breaks down odors, bacteria, and viruses, including E. coli and salmonella.

It's not the only company trying to automate fast-food, but Shamai says his is the only full-concept autonomous store. Rivals are retrofitting existing stores with robots.

The Tel Aviv-based company, founded in 2019, plans to open a second roborestaurant in the U.S. It also hopes to use robots to prepare burgers and Asian-style bowl foods—like rice with vegetables, tofu, meat, and sauces.

"In a few years, there are probably not going to be any human workers in the fast-food delivery business," Shamai explained. "Not a lot of people want to work there."

Beyond addressing the high employee turnover rate, the machines are also very accurate at dispensing food. This prevents food waste and avoids unhappy customers who may return or throw away incorrect orders.





The automated process takes only nine minutes per pizza

Medicine in Israel

Wearing *Tefillin* May Prevent Damage from Heart Attacks

JNS.org

Wearing tefillin may have life-saving cardiovascular benefits for both men and women. Tefillin, or phylacteries, are small leather boxes containing Scripture passages on parchment scrolls. There are two — one for the head and one for the arm - which are secured via leather straps.

"Tefillin are used for morning prayers for Jewish men over the age of 13 on an almost daily basis. One tefillah is placed on the nondominant arm around the bicep and the forearm in a fairly tight manner," said Jack Rubinstein, MD, of the Division of Cardiovascular Health at the University of Cincinnati's College of Medicine.

It is never worn so tight that it occludes blood flow. Tefillin are "traditionally worn for about 30 minutes continuously during prayers that involve sitting and standing, resulting in occasional retightening of the strap around your arm," Rubinstein added.

This binding of the arm, and the accompanying discomfort users often report, may serve as a form of preconditioning. This offers substantial protection against the damage that can be caused by a sudden loss of blood flow or after the blood supply is restored to a tissue or organ after an ischemic event. Such injuries occur during heart attacks, when parts of the heart are deprived of oxygen and then damaged further when blood flow is reestablished.

For their study, University of Cincinnati researchers measured baseline information on 30 participants for 10 minutes in the morning. They collected additional data during and after 30 minutes of wearing the tefillin. The participants — all healthy individuals between the ages of 18 to 40 - had their heart rate measured before, during, and



Israel Defense Forces soldier prays with tefillin (2006)

after the wearing of tefillin.

For both males and females, Rubinstein noted that wearing tefillin "caused changes to the heart rate associated with lowering of the metabolism as measured via heart rate variability." Heart rate variability is the time between heartbeats.

"We can measure all kinds of different things from heart rate variability, including probably the most important, which is parasympathetic tone. Does it relax you and does it cause your metabolism [to] come down?" he said.

The findings, he continued, were a potential "game changer" regarding how cardiovascular disease prevention is approached.

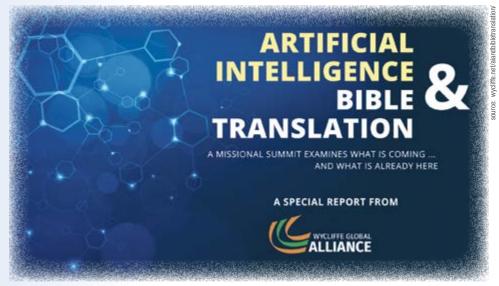
"We are showing a path through which anyone can precondition themselves to decrease the amount of damage that they suffer from a heart attack by wearing a very simple device," he noted. "Decreasing the amount of heart attack damage by even just two-fold is something that will change outcomes for millions of people."



A.I. Bible Translation: Harmful or Helpful?



BY ARLENE BRIDGES SAMUELS (r) CBNIsrael.org



Advertisement for AI Summit

News about Artificial Intelligence (AI) is saturating the airwaves, print publications, and digital media. Throughout the world, countries, technology giants, other businesses, and nonprofits are holding high-level discussions about the

AI phenomenon. Bible translation organizations are also busy exploring the pluses and perils inherent in AI's world-changing possibilities.

When OpenAI publicly released the ChatGPT tool last November, it opened unimaginable doors beyond simply asking Alexa, Google, or Siri to "find" things. ChatGPT literally creates new content, which is setting off a potential big tech arms race. Professor Andrew Lang of Oral Roberts University compared

Al to a "Sputnik moment," noting the paradigm shift that occurred in 1957, when Russia launched the world's first artificial satellite.



Professor Andrew Lang

Christian experts observed that Al could reduce Bible translation time by more than half.

Lang warned that Christians cannot ignore the AI transition, since the Christian worldview will not be at the top of secular agendas. His analysis and the Wycliffe Global Mission AI Summit are timely. Founded in 1942, Wycliffe Bible Translators has more than 100 Bible translation organizations under its umbrella, with the goal of ensuring that all people worldwide "have access to God's Word in their preferred

languages and formats." With experts spanning the globe, Wycliffe USA hosted its global alliance this past April.

Many are asking how humans will use AI — for help or for harm? Likewise, many wonder how governments, leaders, and Christians can curate wise controls for this technology.

The Wycliffe AI Summit delved into the help-or-harm questions. Unlimited possibilities of AI can serve as a digital disciple of God's love and redemption

(continued on next page)

for the world through the Bible. Christian experts observed that AI could reduce Bible translation time by more than half. Importantly, Biblical ethics and

principles would direct AI translations.



Dan Whitenack, data scientist

Dan Whitenack, a data scientist working with SIL International, used the term "copilot" to describe AI, assuring that Christian translators sit in the pilot seat. Many Bible GPTs (Generative Pre-trained Transformers) are under development. For example, with hundreds of Christian translating organizations creating innovations, SIL is developing a chat plat-

form called M2. It will enable digital Bible translations to work together simultaneously in many languages on websites and social media pages.

Digital theology consultant Adam Graber, who also spoke at the summit, emphasized the correct Biblical foundation: "God speaks first. Not the internet, and not us."

Summit participants frequently expressed serious concerns that AI robotic production be avoided at all costs. Presenters also underscored that Christian AI tools will streamline the labor of the human translation teams—not replace them.

As the Bible's new disciple on the forefront of developing translations for those without Bibles in their languages, AI is already a force for good. Not surprisingly, the U.S. and Israel are on the leading edge of AI developments, usage, and discussions in the U.S. Congress and Israeli Knesset. By necessity, Israel is a world leader in autonomous war-

As the Bible's new disciple on the forefront of developing translations for those without Bibles in their languages, Al is already a force for good.



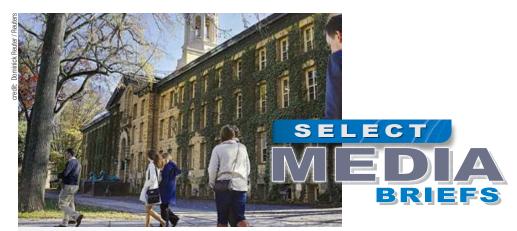
fare—for example, using robot surveillance jeeps to patrol the dangerous Gaza Strip border. In the U.S., a *Forbes* article noted examples—such as Al's use in New York's internationally acclaimed Mount Sinai Hospital, with improved breast cancer screening and the ability to predict diseases like liver, rectal, and prostate cancer 94% of the time.

Although AI is thousands of years removed from God's spoken Word, the Sovereign of Creation fashioned the Jewish culture into vessels for His Holy Scriptures. He transmitted an eternal paradigm shift through Jewish scribes in the Old Testament's 39 books. A second paradigm shift manifested through our Lord Jesus Christ, born into the Jewish people in Israel. Finally, a third paradigm shift occurred when scribes penned God's Word in the 27 books of the New Testament.

A fourth glorious paradigm awaits Believers. At present, Messiah Jesus is our loving attorney who intercedes for us, then completes His rescue mission for us into eternity. Neither AI, ChatGPT, nor any robot can repeat such an unconditional, redemptive act for those seeking a personal, vibrant relationship with God.

Until then, let us remain vigilant in the darkness, focused on the Light of the World and continually reading our Bibles—given to us from God's heart!

First Chronicles 29:11 tells the truth! "Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the Heavens and in the Earth is Yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head above all."



Students at Princeton University

Princeton Course: "IDF Harvests Palestinian Organs"

JPost.com

A course at Princeton University includes a book in its "Sample Reading List" that claims that the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) harvests Palestinian organs.

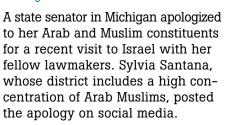
"The Healing Humanities: Decolonizing Trauma Studies from the Global South," is a fall semester class taught by Satyel Larson, assistant professor of Near Eastern studies. Included on the class reading list is Jasbir Puar's book, The Right to Maim: Debility, Capacity, Disability. This book's summary states that Israel is allegedly "supplementing its right to kill with the right to maim."

Puar—a professor and graduate director of women's and gender studies at Rutgers University—has consistently accused Israel of ethnically cleansing Palestinians. She also claimed that the supposed organ mining mentioned was used by the IDF for "scientific research," according to YnetNews.

The book was approved by Princeton's Near Eastern Studies Department faculty. Ynet noted, however, that some academics were displeased with the course content and that it provided "zero educational value."

Non-partisan organization StopAntisemitism gave Princeton a "B-" in its grading of U.S. universities last year based on the school's anti-Semitic climate. The organization stated that at Princeton, "Students do not always trust the administration to prioritize their safety" and that "though the majority of respondents feel they can be open about their Jewish identity, they do not feel comfortable expressing their support for Israel."

Michigan State Senator Apologizes for Visiting Israel JNS.org



"I recognize my presence on this trip has sparked anger and disappointment by many in the Arab/Muslim community," she wrote. "For this, I truly apologize, seek your forgiveness, and hope that you will understand that I had no malicious intent. There is no perfect combination of words that I can offer that truly reflects the feelings in my heart. My only goal was to learn about this region of our world and to improve my understanding of matters related to Michigan."

Osama Siblani, publisher and editorin-chief of the Dearborn-based Arab American News, commented: "The news about Santana's visit to Israel shocked and angered the Arab American community, to say the least. Santana's visit constitutes a

(continued on next page)







Michigan State Sen. Sylvia Santana (right) with a constituent

slap in the face to the Arab American community who has been supportive and respectful to the senator."

Rabbi Asher Lopatin, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council for the metropolitan Detroit area, told CBS News Detroit that it was important for lawmakers to visit the Jewish state: "Everyone should go. It's the Holy Land. Whether you like who's the state now... maybe you preferred it when it was under the Ottomans or the Crusaders or the Romans, but whoever it is, everyone should visit."

Pulling Water from Air in Ukraine After Dam Collapse JNS.org

The Israeli company Watergen deployed several of its water-from-air generators to the Ukrainian city of Kherson following the June dam collapse in Nova Kakhovka. The disaster occurred in a region controlled by Russia in southern Ukraine. It caused extensive flooding — inundating 30 towns and villages along the river and submerging nearly 2,000 homes in Kherson — the region's Ukrainian-controlled capital.

Watergen cooperated with the local Jewish community led by Ukraine Chief Rabbi Moshe Reuven Azman, to place the units, each of which can provide almost 238 gallons of drinkable water per day. Azman encountered Russian battle fire while transporting the generators and other humanitarian aid to Kherson.

American Jewish organizations donated the generators. Azman expressed appreciation for the units but appealed to potential supporters to contribute additional generators.

"We have been deploying [the machines] across multiple cities in Ukraine, including the disaster-stricken Kherson, which faces an acute shortage of drinking water due to the dam's destruction. This technology is life-saving, and we are committed to distributing it as extensively as possible," Azman noted.

The Ukrainian Agricultural Ministry reported that the collapse left 94% of irrigation systems in Kherson, 74% in Zaporizhzhya, and 30% in the Dnipro regions without a water source.

U.N. Under-Secretary-General Martin Griffiths warned of an impending lack of clean drinking water for approximately 700,000 people.

Established in 2009, Watergen pioneered a patented technology for cost-effective, low-energy production of drinking water from air.

For more on Watergen, see "Ford to Install Israeli Water-From-Air Tech in Vehicles" in the February 2022 Levitt Letter (p. 26). — Editor \$\phi\$



Watergen Generators in Ukraine



The Diplomat Who Saved Thousands of Jews During the Holocaust



BY ERIN BLAKEMORE (r) History.com

It was a seemingly simple document—a brief 1944 letter with text in German and Hungarian that declared that a Jewish woman from Budapest was under the protection of the Swiss Legation. But for Maria Magdalena Grausz, it meant freedom.

Grausz and over 60,000 other Hungarian Jews were saved from deportation to concentration camps by similar letters, all issued by a diplomat named Carl Lutz. Credited with saving half of Budapest's Jewish population from the Holocaust, Lutz used paper, not weapons, to fight the Nazis.

Born in Switzerland, Lutz immigrated to the U.S. as a young man. Later, he became a diplomat, eventually serving at the Swiss Consulate in Mandatory Palestine. Lutz, a Methodist, was then transferred to Budapest.



Swiss diplomat Carl Lutz, 1944

To

Axis Alliance

At the time, Hungary was one of the Axis powers aligned with Nazi Germany. Hungarian Regent Miklós Horthy had passed laws restricting the activities and movements of Hungarian Jews. During the early parts of the war, the Hungarian

Army committed anti-Jewish pogroms. Over 100,000 Hungarian Jews were forced to work on the battlefront in hellish conditions. Horthy refused, however, to let Hungarian Jews be deported to extermination camps by the Nazis.

Lutz represented countries that had ended diplomatic relations with Hungary because of its German alliance. Troubled by Jews' precarious situation in Hungary, Lutz began to work with the Jewish Agency for Palestine, a group that helped European Jews get entry to British Palestine. Thousands of Jews, including 10,000 children, left Hungary with Swiss documents issued by Lutz.

Credited with saving half of Budapest's Jewish population from the Holocaust, Lutz used paper, not weapons, to fight the Nazis.

Things Get Worse

Then, in 1944, things got even worse. When Hitler learned that Horthy had been trying to find a way out of his Axis alliance, he toppled Horthy and installed the Arrow Cross Party—a political party consisting of Hungarian Nazis. They began a reign of terror throughout Hungary, forcing Jews into ghettos, deporting them to death camps, and murdering them outright.

Lutz was horrified and tried to negotiate a way to stop the deportations. Against all odds, he got permission to issue protective documents for 8,000 Jews—a tiny fraction of Hungary's 800,000 Jews—to flee to Palestine under Swiss protection.

He'd only received permission to issue 8,000 letters, but in an attempt to save as many Jews as possible, Lutz interpreted that mandate as applying to families, not individual people. He issued more and more protective letters, all numbered one to 8,000. Members of the Zionist youth underground forged thousands more.

As the Arrow Cross rampaged throughout Budapest, people with Lutz-issued documents crowded into safe houses he helped organize. To prevent them from being raided, Lutz extended Swiss protection to 76 buildings. One of them, the Glass House department store, served as a refuge for up to 3,000 Jews and a headquarters for the Zionist underground.

Chaos swirled throughout Hungary as 440,000 Jews were deported to Auschwitz in a two-month period. Others were shot point-blank and thrown into the Danube by the Arrow Cross. At one point, Lutz even jumped into the river to save a bleeding woman by invoking his Swiss diplomatic powers. But miraculously, Jews with Lutz-issued papers weren't targeted.

"The Germans are very correct people," said Eric Saul, founder and executive director of Visas for Life: The Righteous and Honorable Diplomats Project. "They admire discipline and order. So when Nazi commandants saw these letters, they accepted them." Despite pushback from Nazi and Hungarian officials, Lutz kept working to save even more Jews.

In November 1944, the Arrow Cross assembled 70,000 Jews and forced them on a death march to various concentration camps in Austria and Germany. Lutz and his wife followed along. As the grueling marches continued, they'd pull people out of line whenever an opportunity presented itself, issuing protective documents and taking them under their wing.

"For these people, it was the last glimmer of hope. For us, this ... was the worst

form of spiritual torture." Lutz later recalled. "We saw the people being lashed with dogwhips and lying in the slime and mud with bloody faces.... Whenever possible, I would drive alongside these people on their way to the concentration camps to try and show them that there was still hope."



Jewish people waiting in line at the Glass House in Budapest, 1944

By the End

By the end of World War II, 565,000 Hungarian Jews had been murdered. But through the efforts of Lutz and his co-conspirators, which included diplomats from other countries and Zionist underground members, 62,000 Jews—half of the Jewish population of Budapest—were saved.

Today, Lutz's heroism is clear. But after World War II ended, his actions weren't celebrated. Switzerland criticized him for overstepping his diplomatic authority, investigated his wartime activities, and blocked his career advancement.

Eventually, his reputation was rehabilitated. But while Lutz has been compared to Oskar Schindler and other gentiles who used their connections to save Jews, he's still relatively unknown. Lutz didn't do it for fame, however. As his stepdaughter Agnes Hirschi explained, "The laws of life are stronger than man-made laws.... My father always considered his time in Budapest and the rescue of innocent Jews as the most important part of his life."

Muslim Focus

PA Summer Camps Teach a World Without Israel



BY ITAMAR MARCUS (r) PalWatch.org

Every summer, Palestinian Authority (PA) summer camps actively indoctrinate children with the PA's hate and terror messages. One of the fundamental motivations for Palestinian hate and terror has always been Palestinian denial of Israel's right to exist. The PA continues to refer to all of Israel as "occupied Palestine," Israeli cities as "Palestinian cities," and presents a

map of the world in which "Palestine" replaces Israel as an achievable goal.

This year, refusing to recognize Israel's existence and anticipating a world without Israel was a major theme of PA summer camps, as the following photos reveal. The photos were posted on the Facebook page of the PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization] Supreme Council for Youth and Sports.



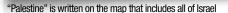




Israel and replaces it with a state of "Palestine" - symbolized by the colors of the PA flag covering all of Israel



A large key representing Palestinian refugees' "right of return" with the word "Returning" written on it





Paper "flowers" display PA flags and names of Israeli cities and regions misrepresented as "Palestinian" cities

source: PLO Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Facebook page, July 13, 2023

source: PLO Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Facebook page, July 16, 2023



Jewish Humor, etc.

A cheerful heart is good medicine-Proverbs 17:22

Sukkot Humor

A Texan was driving through Israel during Sukkot and began to feel thirsty. Because of the holiday, he couldn't find anything open. Noticing a sukkah (festival dwelling) by the side of the road, he stopped and asked the owner, "Can you give me a drink of water?"

"Of course," said the Israeli, and invited the Texan into his sukkah.

His thirst quenched, the Texan asked, "What do you do?"

"I raise vegetables and have a few chickens."

"Really? I'm a farmer too. How much land do you have?"

"Well," said the Israeli, "out front it's a good fifty meters, as you can see, and in the back, we have close to a hundred meters of fine land. And you?"

"Well," says the Texan, "on my ranch, I can have breakfast, get in my car, drive all day, and I don't reach the end of my property until dinnertime."

The Israeli replied: "I know what you mean. I once had a car like that too." 🌣

SUKKOT





Answer Key for October 2023 Crossword (n. 25)

23. Former

ilowci ncy for october 2023 orosaworu (p.23)						
cross:		Down:				
1. Build	16. Mountain	2. David	12. Burned			
Foundation	17. Remnant	Abominations	13. Greater			
5. Destroyed	20. Jerusalem	Pleasure	14. Violence			
9. Fill	21. Teacher	7. Glory	18. Temple			
0. Commanded	22. House	8. Solomon	19. Water			

11. Departed





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