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Enhancing Trust

April 2025

Dear Reader,

I've been reading a book about the first five centuries of the Church. While this isn't a "must read" for many Believers, I wanted to recall (after my seminary classes 40 years ago) how certain doctrines and practices in the Church developed through the ages.

One indisputable constant that I've discovered is that the Church had to address controversy regularly, often over erroneous teaching. Yet, controversy was nothing new — it occurred during apostolic times (for example, Gal. 2:11-21 and 1 John 4:1-3) and before. Likewise, it continues now, as Believers occasionally disagree over issues that aren't always "cut and dried" when we look at the whole of Scripture. It seems that controversy is inevitable in our fallen human existence.

In this *Levitt Letter*, you will read about some controversies in our day, including the "Passover-Easter Dispute" (cover). Another current controversy concerns the rightful ownership of the Land of Israel, which Todd Baker addresses in "What is the Land Covenant?" (p.14). In addition, don't miss the controversy about the role of the Red Cross (28). Beyond controversial topics, this issue also articles about archaeology in Israel (32), Israeli innovations in science (26) and medicine (27), and much more.

Because there's always controversy in our government, remember to pray for our elected officials and others in authority (1 Tim. 2:1-2). Also, please continue to *shā'alu shalom Yerushalayim* — "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Ps. 122:6),




Greg Miller, Editor  
Zola Levitt Ministries

**P.S.** Zola Levitt Ministries continues to make changes to more effectively present the Gospel to viewers and readers everywhere. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial contributions, which enable others to know God's truth and to experience the abundant life that comes through faith in Yeshua/Jesus.

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# The Passover-Easter Dispute

By Rabbi Dr. Mark Kinzer / UMJC.org

The story told and celebrated on Passover and Easter is essentially one and the same, viewed from two different angles. It's the story of God's redeeming power, bringing freedom to Israel, the nations, and all creation. This is the beating heart that sustains both Israel and the Church, and its telling brings nothing but joy to Jewish disciples of Yeshua.

But there's another story here that we remember — one that's distressing rather than joyful. It's the story of how these two holidays were forcibly separated from one another and became hostile competitors through the warring communities that observed them. **I will tell this second story, but we must never lose sight of the first.** After all, God's love in the Messiah makes possible the repair of what has been broken through the troubled history of our two communities.

(continued p.4)

**REMEMBER:**

**Passover week:** Sunset Sat., April 12 to sunset Sun., April 20  
**Resurrection Day/Easter:** Sunday, April 20

## PA Mockery: Israeli Hostages Were in “Vacation Resorts”

By Nan Jacques Zilberdik  
PalWatch.org



In a grotesque editorial in its official paper, the Palestinian Authority (PA) wrote that Hamas is releasing the Israeli hostages “in good health” and “without dust on their clothes, as if they had been in vacation resorts!”

(continued p.2)



# PA Mockery: Israeli Hostages Were in “Vacation Resorts”

*continued from cover*

credit: Canva, GPO, Hostages and Missing Families Forum, Hatem Khaleel / Reuters



Before (top) and after (bottom) photos of (l to r) hostages Or Levy, Eli (Eliyahu) Sharabi, and Ohad Ben Ami, who were released after 491 days in Hamas captivity.

However, the photos of the three male hostages who were released on February 8, 2025 — Or Levy, Eli Sharabi, and Ohad Ben Ami — prove how odious the PA's distorted claim is.

The Israeli hostages were starved, tortured, and held in the dark for almost the entirety of their captivity. The appearances of Levy, Sharabi, and Ben Ami resemble those of Holocaust survivors emerging from the Nazi death camps in 1945.

Israeli medical sources who treated the three men stated that “their condition is no different than people who spent a year in a concentration camp.” **Other released hostages have revealed the severe physical, psychological, and sexual abuse they suffered from the Hamas terrorists and Gazan civilians who held them captive.**

The following is an excerpt of a February editorial from *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, the official PA daily:

The Israeli hostages in the hands of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, when they were handed over [to the Red Cross] while they were most neatly dressed, became through populist demonstra-

tions a kind of message from Hamas to Israel. The message is that [the Hamas members] have reached a state of logical thinking, obedience, and good behavior, as they handed over the hostages with gifts and in good health! ...

More than 50,000 female and male Martyrs and more than 100,000 wounded — and the result is an agreement of performances for [internal] consumption and messages that confirm to Israel: We are completely committed to the agreement, with the release of hostages without dust on their clothes, as if they had been in vacation resorts!

They [Hamas] did not protect only their lives but also their welfare, but they forgot and neglected protecting the lives of the Gaza Strip residents, whose lives and homes have been crushed by Israeli fighter jets for 15 months! They, who cover themselves with a religious guise, forgot and ignored the fact that one of the goals of Islamic law is to protect life, mind, and property. ☆







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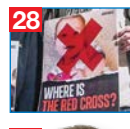
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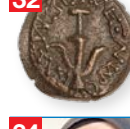
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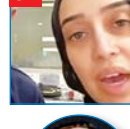
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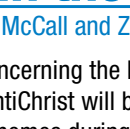
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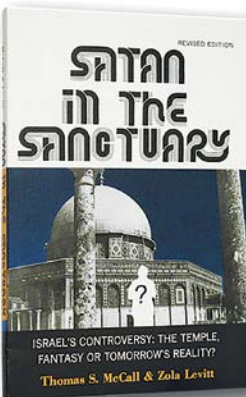
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## ***Satan in the Sanctuary***

book by Tom McCall and Zola Levitt

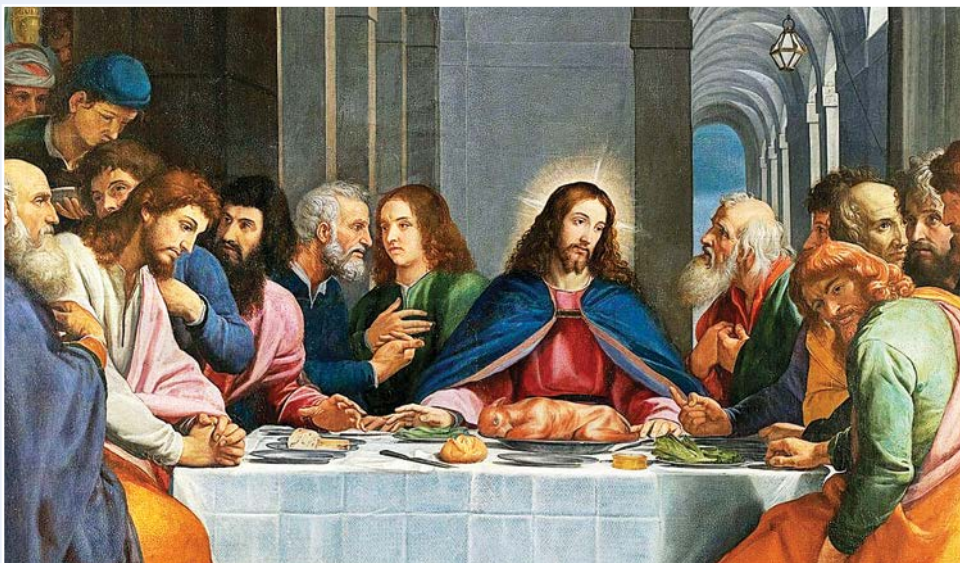
A bestseller concerning the history of Israel, the Temples and how the antiChrist will become “Satan in the Sanctuary” when he blasphemes during the Tribulation Period. A truly readable and relevant study. Originally published by Moody Press and re-released as a popular paperback by Bantam Books.

An audio version of this book is available as *Tribulation Temple*. Hear the entire history and future of the vital Temple of God in Jerusalem. A key Biblical study.

Please see Zola’s article “When was the Crucifixion?” on **p. 10**.

# The Passover-Easter Dispute

*continued from cover*



credit: Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid, Spain / Wikimedia Commons

*The Last Supper (La Última Cena), painting (1605) by Bartolomé Carducho*

Yeshua's first disciples, all Jews, lived according to the traditional Jewish calendar. The holiday of Passover had special significance for them, since Yeshua was crucified and raised from the dead during the Passover season. Paul speaks of Yeshua as the Passover lamb, asking the Corinthians to observe the feast with the matzah of "*sincerity and truth*" (1 Cor. 5:6–8). For them, this was one holiday, telling one story of God's redeeming love.

Many of Yeshua's early disciples also seem to have added something new to the Jewish calendar, at least in its weekly rhythm. They saw special significance in the "*first day of the week [mia sabbatou]*" (1 Cor 16:2) and apparently gathered regularly in the evening after Shabbat ended to "*break bread*" (Acts 20:7). Most likely this was a way to remember the Messiah's resurrection, which occurred on the first day of the week.

**As to how Yeshua's early disciples celebrated Passover, we can only speculate.** We don't know much about how first-century Jews celebrated Passover, especially when they were outside Jerusalem and unable to eat of the Passover sacrifice. But we know a set of customs from the early second century.

Some followers of Jesus fasted on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nissan, studied Exodus chapter 12, and prayed for the Jewish people. They broke their fast sometime after midnight, not by eating a large Passover meal, but by celebrating the Eucharist. Thus, they focused their observance especially on the redemptive death of Jesus, whose blood, like that of the Passover lamb, brought true liberation.

Other second-century Christians found this practice troubling because it made the Jesus community dependent on the Jewish community for the ordering of their calendar. After all, the Jewish community determined the official beginning of each lunar month and also decided when to add leap months to bring the religious calendar in line with the solar year.

Moreover, celebrating the redemption accomplished by Jesus on the same day as Passover made the Jesus community's practice similar to that of the Jewish world. This added to the dissatisfaction of those who wanted to draw a clear line between the groups.

By the end of the second century, most of the Church seems to have modified the earlier practice by moving the fast

*(continued on next page)*



to the Friday after Passover, and by making Sunday the day of Christian celebration. In addition to distinguishing their practice from that of the Jewish community, this had the added advantage of connecting the annual commemoration of Jesus' death with the weekly celebration of His resurrection. Now one could focus on the death of Jesus on the Friday after Passover, and His resurrection on Sunday.

Some held firm to the earlier custom, which more closely resembled Jewish practice. But increasingly they were treated as outliers — even heretics or schismatics.

The majority, however, still weren't satisfied. Despite moving the celebration to a Sunday, the Jesus community remained dependent on the Jewish community for the reckoning of the holiday, since it was always set to occur on the Sunday of Passover week. As Christians developed an identity separate from that of the Jewish people, and viewed the Jews as rivals, this sort of dependence became intolerable. In the fourth century, they decided that Easter's date would be fixed not according to the Jewish calendar but in relation to the vernal equinox. While some resisted, eventually this became universal.

Up to this point our tale of two holidays is sad, but not yet tragic. **The transition from division to devastation happened in the Middle Ages.** By that time, Holy Week, and Good Friday in particular, had become an occasion to focus not only on the suffering of Jesus but also on the treachery of the Jews. Passion plays and Holy Week sermons emphasized that the Jews were guilty of murdering God. **Malicious rumors circulated that Jews used the blood of Christian children in the making of Passover matzah. As a result, attacks on Jewish communities were not uncommon** during this time of year. Holy Week was a fearful time to be a Jew.

Likewise, anti-Christian elements also became part of the Jewish celebration of Passover. These elements were less overt in order to avoid further provocation to violence. But if you know where to look, you can certainly find them!

Thankfully, the anti-Semitic aspects of Holy Week and Easter have been rejected by most Christians since the Holocaust.

Purified of the dross, the religious genius of the Christian liturgies of East and West shines like the sun in a cloudless sky. Living in an ecumenical community for 20 years, I encountered the spiritual richness of Holy Week and Easter firsthand, and did so in a context in which Passover was likewise honored. We live in a time of new possibilities.

But we Jews are a people of memory — we cannot and should not forget this sad tale of two holidays. And as Jewish disciples of Jesus, we are continually summoned to the work of *tikkun* — repairing the torn fabric of relationships between Jews and Christians, between Jews and Jesus. That task involves acknowledging past wounds — remembering them not to accentuate the pain, but to clear the way for true healing.

As we reflect on how to best approach this season, let us not forget the sad tale of two holidays. But let us regard it in the far greater light of the story that's at the heart of them both — the glorious victory of the God of Israel in Messiah Yeshua, for Israel, the Church, and all creation. ☆

Please see *The Messianic Passover Haggadah* book on [p. 33](#) and *The Miracle of Passover* book, DVD, and CD on [p. 36](#).







The Harts at Mount Arbel

Recently, David sang the timeless classic *I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked*, as beautiful footage from our tours in the Holy Land scrolled on a screen behind him. I was surprised by my emotions as I saw us walking beside the Sea of Galilee and strolling through the breathtaking wildflowers of Mount Arbel in the spring. I deeply miss the land, the people, and its history.

If you have ever explored the Land of the Bible, you likely understand how I feel. Israel becomes deeply ingrained in your soul and isn't easily forgotten. No other place Earth was promised to a group of people by their Creator. Oh, how I yearn to once again explore this miraculous region of covenants.

## Changing

Seeing what has happened in Israel since October 2023 has been heart-wrenching. While conflict is not uncommon in this region, David and I are more connected than ever to the anguish and sorrow of the families of the hostages and fallen IDF soldiers. Yet even amidst such intense sadness, we still desire to experience the

strength and intangible qualities of the Promised Land.

For 18 months, we have witnessed the war's cumulative effects on Israel. Hotels house citizens who were displaced from their homes in the north, while IDF reservists and their families occupy hotel rooms in the south. It seems like ages since Bible study pilgrims have been able to board busses and visit the holy sites.

## Yearning

We yearn to walk the nature path at Tel Dan on the Lebanese border and to hear miraculous war stories in the Valley of Tears as we overlook Damascus, Syria. The joy of driving along the Golan Heights and the excitement of swimming in the Red Sea in Eilat are currently on hold. Oh, Israel, we yearn for you to return to your former state. How long, Lord?

While we wait, watch, and pray, we also plan and anticipate a soon-restored era when we can once again explore the Land of the Bible with you. May it happen sooner rather than later, and may the miraculous occur before our eyes. Perhaps *this* year in Jerusalem. Shalom. ✨



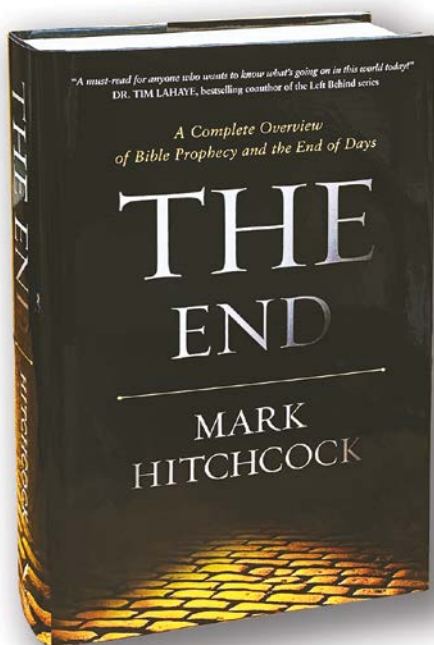
# NEW

## BBB Automatic LED Nightlight

Our remarkable nightlight consumes roughly 20¢ worth of electricity per year. Its long-lasting LED bulb turns on & off automatically and dims appropriately in partially lit rooms. Measuring just 2½" high x 2½" wide, they're compact enough to share an electrical outlet.

The QR code on the front connects to the Bearded Bible Brothers' YouTube channel. You can order a pair on page 19 or request one free with each purchase or donation of at least \$20. Wonderful to share with friends who need to see the light for safety's sake and the Light of the World for eternal life!

Please see Mark's article "Not Falling for Jesus" on [p. 12](#).



## The End: A Complete 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. *OJR* guest Mark Hitchcock's book is the comprehensive resource for the 21<sup>st</sup> 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.)*



# The Red Heifer and Passover Redemption



Caleb and the red heifer calves

Happy *Pesach* 2025! For Jews this is a time of family, loads of paid time off, and a couple of very long meal ceremonies centered around bland food. As the patriarch of the family reads from the *Haggadah*, our people remember when God delivered us from bondage in Egypt. The Passover is an intentional type and shadow of redemption that was fulfilled completely by Messiah Yeshua during His death, burial, and resurrection during the Passover season. But for our brethren who don't believe in the truth, redemption is still a highly sought-after goal, especially with the nearly 2,000-year absence of the Temple and priestly sacrifices.

Anticipation is building again, however, with the rumored completion of the Red Heifer Ceremony. To recap, in December 2021, we witnessed the selection process

## THE RED HEIFER



פרה אדומה

credit: TempleInstitute.org

of the red heifer calves in Rockwall, Texas. Aside from Caleb taking an obligatory selfie with the sacred cows, we watched as rabbis from the Temple Institute pronounced those bovines kosher after almost 2,000 years of searching!

Currently, five heifers reside at a welcome center in Shiloh, Israel. Over the past few years, two heifers became disqualified from the holy barbeque. The intensity of the war last year prohibited the Temple Institute from fulfilling their ceremony plans during the feast of *Pesach*. But the clock is ticking. We know from our sources that a "testing" phase is already completed to successfully burn a cow to its ashes. Thus, all eyes turn to Israel this Passover. Depending on the status of an unstable ceasefire and peace with Hamas, a well-done, scarlet burger could draw nigh!

(continued on next page)





According to the Jewish sage Maimonides, nine red heifers have been sacrificed throughout history. He foretold that the tenth red heifer would be processed by *Mashiach* (the Messiah) Himself. Of course, this isn't a sacrifice; rather, it's a complete incineration of the red heifer down to its ashes, which are then mixed with Gihon Spring water and hyssop. This Water of Cleansing is finally sprinkled on the Levitical Priesthood to purify them and also on the Temple articles to begin service. So, **here's the basic Jewish math:** Red cow + barbeque = Messiah + Third Temple! That's a lot riding on a few red milk cartons!

This concept of Redemption is an important one, however, because many of today's pastors preach what's known as Dual Covenant Theology. This dangerous doctrine declares that God's Covenant with the Jews — the Mosaic Covenant — is still valid. Therefore, the Jews don't need the New Covenant through Messiah Yeshua for redemption — that's a goy (gentile) thing.

But that is blasphemy! Acts 4:12 asserts: *"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name [except Yeshua] under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."*

It's dangerous to mislead our Jewish brethren to believe that they can achieve redemption through the Red Heifer Water of Cleansing. That's because it never brought redemption under the Old Covenant!

**Hebrews 9:11-15 emphasizes that the blood of animal sacrifices and the ashes of a red heifer only made people outwardly clean.** In contrast, trusting in Yeshua's perfect sacrifice can set people free from sins and achieve complete redemption.

On Passover, Yeshua, our Great High Priest gave up His life as a ransom for many. He became the sacrificial Passover Lamb. Previously, nobody could make it

to Heaven through the Law. Only those who were justified by faith made it to Abraham's bosom. But during the three days of His death, Yeshua went to Hell and Abraham's bosom and preached the Gospel to those who were bound. Then, all who were held captive in Abraham's bosom could believe on the Son of God. At His Resurrection, Yeshua led captivity captive and brought those Saints to the throne room in Heaven to meet His Heavenly Father (Eph. 4:8).

If this Red Heifer barbeque goes forward, it will neither save nor redeem the Jews. It won't begin the creation or immediate rebuilding of the Third Temple (the Tribulation Temple). Nor will it cause the Messiah to appear (though a false Messiah's arrival is more than likely). It's time for Christians to show love to our Jewish brethren by telling them the truth in love — **the truth that Yeshua is their final Passover offering.** ☆

*Caleb & Joshua*

**P.S.** To learn more about the Red Heifer, watch our Bearded Bible Brothers episode concerning the topic. Scan the QR code below for the link, or visit this YouTube page:

[youtu.be/myAI0pUZvi8?si=LGclvzmULb481QKi](https://youtu.be/myAI0pUZvi8?si=LGclvzmULb481QKi)





Classic **Zola**

## When was the Crucifixion?

We get many Bible questions in our mail. Our most popular question concerns the day on which the Lord was crucified. Many Believers\* have difficulty lining up the idea of a Friday crucifixion and a Sunday resurrection with the Lord's statement that He would be "three days and three nights" in the earth (Matt. 12:40). On the surface, the two don't work together.

I can't be dogmatic on this issue because I think it has no correct answer, Scripturally speaking. The evidence for Friday relates to the Jewish way of counting days and nights. Since the Jews regard the beginning of a day as sundown on the night before (like our New Year's Eve), two different days can be thought of collectively as one day. Friday night

is the Sabbath and Saturday is also the Sabbath, in the manner that a gathering to celebrate the new year begins on one day and ends on the next. If I went into all of the complexities it would merely cloud the issue. Still, it would not





confuse an Orthodox Jew if you said that Friday to Sunday was equal to three days and three nights.

On the other hand, some feel that the Crucifixion was on Thursday because the Passover celebration, they suppose, was on Wednesday evening. One point in favor of this reasoning is the Lord's entry into Jerusalem on the previous Sunday when the people waved the palm branches. The law about the lamb to be sacrificed on the Passover provided that it be selected four days before the event (Ex. 12:3, 6). And so, it would have been most fitting for the Lord to sit down to Passover on Wednesday, four days after He had first presented Himself in Jerusalem. Naturally, this solves the three days and three nights problem.

Persuasive also is the fact that people remembered Friday as the Crucifixion (Good Friday). And for good measure, you will find an arithmetic proof of Daniel's prophecy of the coming Messiah in

my book, *Satan in the Sanctuary*, which places Passover that year on a Thursday.

There are other less strong pieces of evidence, but we are finally left with a dilemma if we want to remember a certain day of the week. All I can suppose is that God did not want to specify a given day, and I can well imagine why not. We worship a risen Lord rather than a day of the week, which is as it should be.

Three questions — the Crucifixion, the Sabbath, and the tithe — are unfortunately the most often asked. I say "unfortunately" because I'm sure that Christians know in their hearts that there are much more important questions. In the Middle Ages, churchmen discussed how many angels could dance on the head of a pin — the implication being that they had nothing better to discuss.

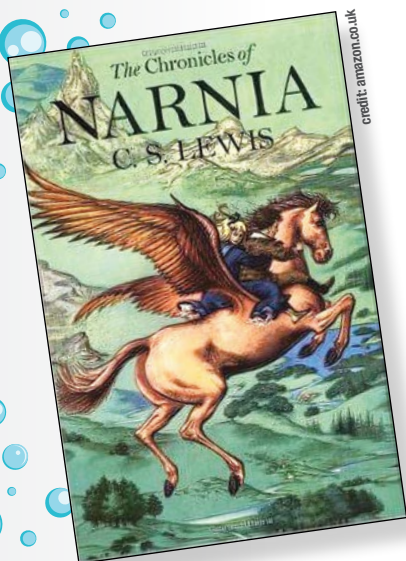
It would be so much better if we gave our thoughts to evangelism and the teaching of the Word. It's as if our house is on fire and we're trying to decide which TV program to watch.

Best of all, it would be wonderful if we simply would trust in God rather than trying to pin down some odd fact or participate in some minor league controversy. ✨

Please see the book *Satan in the Sanctuary* on [p. 3](#).

## Not Falling for Jesus

**Mark Levitt**  
ZLM Director  
since 1988



*The Chronicles of Narnia*  
Box Set: Full-Color Collector's Edition

*The Chronicles of Narnia*, a series of books (*Narnia*) by C.S. Lewis (1898–1963), is a cornerstone of children's literature. The seven books are filled with magical creatures, talking animals, and timeless themes of good versus evil. Available in 47 languages, the series has sold over 120 million copies, thanks in part to its Christian allegory. Lewis's books *Mere Christianity* and *The Screwtape Letters* also have sold many millions.

Lewis was a scholar, professor, and Christian apologist. He also was a close friend of J.R.R. Tolkien, the author of *The Lord of the Rings*. This trilogy of books (*LOTR*) has been translated into 70 languages and has sold over 150 million copies. Due to *LOTR*'s pagan elements, moral ambiguity, length, and complexity, Christians typically gravitate more toward *Narnia*.

Now what about my *The Dolphin Chronicles (Dolphin)*? Actually, most ZLMers unwittingly read the first chapter on page 14 of the February 2025 *Levitt Letter*. You may recall the title of that edition's Note from Mark: "Mission Impossible: Project Dolphin."

*Dolphin*'s Christian allegory is subtle: The code name refers to missions of a

second-generation, fourth-rate Messianic spy for Israel (yours truly), driven by a Mossad computer chip surreptitiously implanted in his brain.

(Comparable microchips would account for the military achievements of the "killer Zionist dolphins" that Hamas accused of spying on its operatives and naval forces in its Gazan enclave.) Like *Saturday Night Live*'s legendary land sharks who miraculously achieved landfall and knocked on unsuspecting victims' doors, these dolphins conceivably deserve credit for enabling the IDF to prepare Gaza to become America's newest state — right after Canada and perhaps Greenland. Now for good fiction, see page 24 for a description of my father Zola's novel, *An Israeli Love Story*.

My *Dolphin* series focuses on strengthening the Body of Christ via good stewardship of our finances and our temples (our bodies, per 1 Cor. 6:19). In that spirit, my latest *Dolphin* mission is preventing falls in the home, particularly those of Jews and Christians. I want you to know that for older adults, falls:

- are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries.
- are a major cause of fractures, particularly hip fractures, which often lead to disability, loss of independence, and death.
- cause traumatic brain injuries, which often have severe, long-term effects.

The Bible speaks of falling:

- *For all have sinned and **fall** short of the glory of God* (Rom. 3:23, emphasis added).
- *Watch and pray so that you will **not fall** into temptation* (Matt. 26:41a, emphasis added).
- *The grass withers and flowers **fall**, but the word of our God endures forever* (Isa. 40:8, emphasis added).

*(continued on next page)*

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One of the quickest, easiest, and cheapest ways to minimize risks of falling is to improve lighting throughout the home — especially in hallways, stairways, and bathrooms. **Therefore, please use nightlights in bedrooms, bathrooms, and hallways.**

The Bible speaks of light:

- *But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the **light** is not in him* (John 11:10, emphasis added).
- *I have come into the world as **light**, so that whoever believes in Me may not remain in darkness* (John 12:46, emphasis added).
- *And God said, “Let there be **light**,” and there was **light**. And God saw that the **light** was good. And God separated the **light** from the darkness* (Gen 1:3–4, emphasis added).

I readily concede that the verses above relate to more than one kind of falling and light, but I’m making a point here.

Please consider eight other ways to prevent falls in the home:

- 1) remove clutter, 2) secure rugs, 3) install grab bars near the toilet and tub, 4) embrace strength training and balance exercises, 5) wear supportive shoes, 6) take your time, 7) stay hydrated to avoid dizziness, and 8) maintain a healthy diet.

Some of these same eight tips can be adapted to avoid falling spiritually: 1) remove self-indulgent gizmos that waste your time, 2) rid your home/life of whatever entices you to stumble into temptation, 3) cultivate friendships that enhance your Christian walk, 4) invest in quality Bible teaching resources, 5) treat your soul to the Living

Water (John 4:14, see [levitt.tv/media/series/VLW](http://levitt.tv/media/series/VLW)) and the Bread of Life (John 6:35).

**Now back to nightlights for reducing the risks of falling.** You may know folks who conserve energy by turning off more lights than they should. Modern nightlights’ sensors, however, automatically dim them in low light and turn them off in normal light. LED nightlights consume roughly 20¢ worth of electricity per year — that’s less than half a penny per week!

For several months, I’ve given away such nightlights at my Jewish Community Center. Now I will send you one free with each purchase or donation of at least \$20, but you must ask. (Ask and you shall receive!) Or you can order

a pair to use in your house or give away — please see page 19 to do so, or order online at [store.levitt.com/specialties](http://store.levitt.com/specialties).

Amazon sells many nightlights, some with manual dimmer switches (I prefer the automatic kind like ZLM’s) or a motion detector, which costs more. However, lights that stay on in the dark help people keep their bearings even at a distance. Plus, ZLM’s include a QR code (linked to [levitt.com](http://levitt.com)) and, on the back, #BeardedBible-

Brothers. **Please see the related ad on page 7** and remember to order extras for anyone you’d like to help avoid a visit to the ER and learn more about the Light of the world, Yeshua (John 8:12). ☆

**Please see the book *An Israeli Love Story* on p. 24.**



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# What is the Land Covenant?

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



While the Land Covenant is often erroneously called the Palestinian Covenant by some Bible scholars, the word "Palestine" is not found in the Bible. The Roman Emperor Hadrian (A.D. 76–138) gave that name to the Land of Israel after he violently removed the Jews who remained there following the Second Jewish Revolt (A.D. 132–135).

**The Land Covenant reaffirms the Abrahamic Covenant.** This was God's promise to Abraham and his descendants through Isaac — the Jews (Gen. 17:7–8) — concerning the land that they would receive as an everlasting possession under the unconditional terms of that everlasting covenant.

While the Land Covenant is similar to the Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 19–24; which God made with Israel at Mount Sinai/Horeb), it is different and distinct from that covenant. Deuteronomy 29:1 notes, *"These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant which He made with them in Horeb."*

Before Moses died in Moab and Israel crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land, God made the Land Covenant with His People. Deuteronomy 29:1–30:10 explains that while Israel's residency in the land was conditioned on their obedience to God's Law, their God-given ownership of the land was unconditional. Thus, even when God removed and scattered the Jewish people from the Land of Promise because of their disobedience, He would ultimately and permanently regather them to their Land (Amos 9:14–15).

God displaced Israel from the land twice in their history. The first was actually in two parts during the Divided Kingdom, when the Assyrians dispersed the Northern Kingdom (721 B.C.) and subsequently the Babylonians exiled the Southern Kingdom (586 B.C.). Centuries later, the Romans dispersed many Israelites after they destroyed Jerusalem in A.D. 70. In both instances, God restored Israel to their Land; most recently in the rebirth of the nation of Israel in 1948. As Leviticus 26:40–45 affirms, the permanence of God's Land Covenant with Israel ultimately depends on God's faithfulness to His promises.

**The Land Covenant spans the entire history of the Jewish people** — from their entrance into the Land under Joshua through their redeemed and permanently restored state in the Land that will happen in the future millennial reign of Jesus Christ (Eze. 48). Indeed, the prophetic promise of Deuteronomy 30:1–6 anticipates this reality when the Jewish people are completely regathered to their ancient homeland at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

At that time, their hearts will be spiritually circumcised when they accept Jesus as the Messiah for salvation. Currently, Israel's prophesied, partial regathering into the Land in unbelief is a fulfillment of Ezekiel chapter 37. This is only a precursor of the ultimate fulfillment when Christ returns to redeem national Israel.

God's Land Covenant with Israel assures the Jewish people that the Land belongs to them by divine right! ✨

*"I will bring back the captives of My people Israel ... I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them," says the LORD your God.*

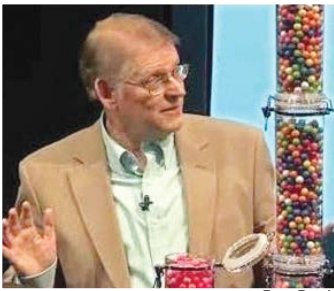
AMOS 9:14–15



# ZLM Bulletin Board



credit: screenshot



Roy Beck

## Immigration, World Poverty, Gumballs

Can mass immigration to America reduce world poverty? The world's desperately poor currently number 3 billion people earning less than \$2 per day, with 5.6 billion earning less than \$10 per day. The 6-minute, **6,000-gumball video** features author/journalist **Roy Beck**, who concludes that

immigration can never significantly impact world poverty; it is better to enable the poor to help themselves where they are. Though aimed at the U.S., this captivating presentation applies equally to Europe's tidal wave of refugees — and upholds Israel's wisdom in defending its own sovereignty. See Beck's video at: [YouTube.com/watch?v=l6tSqGCfoCI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6tSqGCfoCI)

**FREE ITEM**

GIVING  
THROUGH  
YOUR WILL

## Do Israeli Lives Matter?

Staff Sgt. **Yonadav Raz Levenstein**, 23, was a soldier in the Givati Brigade's reconnaissance unit. Two months after his wedding, he was killed while fighting Hamas on November 3, 2023. The youngest of six children of Canadian immigrants, Yonadav met his wife Hadar in Jerusalem while they worked at the City of David archaeological digs. His friends called him "The Viking" because of his height and red beard. He played the piano and loved hiking and travel. At his funeral, his mother, Leora, described him as smart, opinionated, strong, and hardworking with the sweetest smile and biggest heart.



credit: Levenstein family

## Pamphlet of the Month

The 14-page booklet ***Giving Through Your Will*** outlines several ways to include a charitable gift in your will, living trust, or other estate plan. It also includes forms to help you prepare to meet with your advisors. One section addresses "Ways to Make Gifts," such as giving a specific amount, property, percentage, or residual. 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 #22**

↑  
To  
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↓  
To  
p.36

## Ex-Muslim of the Month

**"Kurosh Azadmehr"** (name changed for security reasons), once a commander in Iran's army, now pastors a church in Europe. He told members of the Knesset, "I was trained by the regime; I was completely brainwashed ... but one day, I prayed to the God of Israel, 'Show me the truth.' ... Now I'm here, standing with Israel with a big heart, crying and standing with you until the end." He now teaches his congregation to bless Israel and appreciate the Jewish appointed feasts noted in the Bible.

**"COME HOME!"**

**Zola  
Tours  
to Israel**



**See page 36  
for details**





Courtesy:  
The Jerusalem  
Connection

## His Welcoming Presence

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



כִּי־טוֹב חַסְדְּךָ מִחַיִּים שְׂפָתַי יִשְׁבְּחוּנֶךָ:

"Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,  
my lips will praise You." – Psalm 63:3

Read Hebrew right to left! 

כִּי־טוֹב חַסְדְּךָ מִחַיִּים שְׂפָתַי יִשְׁבְּחוּנֶךָ  
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ye-sha-be - **choon'**-kha se-fah-**tai'** me-chai-**yeem'** chas-de-**kha'** kee-**tohv'**  
shall praise You my lips than life Your love for better is

"Not being welcome is your greatest fear. It connects with your birth fear, your fear of not being welcome in this life, and your death fear, your fear of not being welcome in the life after this. It is the deep-seated fear that it would have been better if you had not lived." (Henri Nouwen, writer and theologian, 1932-1996)

The message of the Gospel is — above all else — an invitation, a cry of welcome, which sings out to you in your loneliness and shame. The core of the battle is whether you will decide to trust in God's love or shrink back into the places of darkness, isolation, and pain. Yeshua says, "Come to Me, I love you; I accept you; I receive you. Please, be welcome with Me; I will take your hand, I will be with you."

Many of us have wrestled with this sort of painful fear for as long as we can remember — a sense of not being welcomed, not belonging, of being "outside" looking in. For me, Heaven is a sense of home, of acceptance — a place where we are "inside out" and yet completely loved. In short, Heaven is nothing less

than being loved and accepted by the Lord, and hearing Him say, "I love you; you belong to Me; I call you My friend."

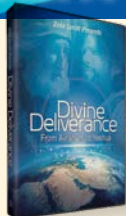
Lord, I need You. I need You more than my next breath or heartbeat, for Your lovingkindness is better than life itself (Ps. 63:3). This is my request as I come before You: that I might know Your love, and that You might know my heartache for You. *You said, "Seek My face, and my heart said to You, 'Your face, Lord, do I seek' (Ps. 27:8). Do not leave me bereft of comfort, O God; do not hide Your face from me (Ps. 27:9). For "Whom have I in Heaven but You? And there is nothing on Earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever" (Ps. 73:25-26).*

There is much talk about "receiving Jesus" into our hearts, but it is even more important to understand that He receives us into His heart.

Shalom to you, dear friends. May God fill us all with a sense of His welcome, acceptance, and delight in us. Amen.







## *Divine Deliverance: From Abraham to Yeshua* DVD Set

Twelve 30-Minute TV Programs on 3 DVDs

This series examines how the Lord offered a message of deliverance through 12 significant Bible characters, beginning with faithful Abraham and culminating with Messiah Himself. Dr. Jeffrey Seif teaches on location in Israel and discusses the lesson's application with David and Kirsten Hart in the studio. Enjoy enlightening dramatic re-enactments from past series, along with Zola's music, completely re-orchestrated and sung by David and Kirsten.

**Abraham** A journey into an unforeseen future began with a step of faith toward a promised land. God still leads those who follow Him, oftentimes through barren places.

**Isaac** The promise of a child to an elderly couple came in an angelic message. Father Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, involved an act of obedience by each of them. Their successful test of faith pictures the redemption to come.

**Jacob** Family dysfunction followed the birth of twin boys. The younger held tightly as he wrestled with the angel, wanting a blessing. Yet the best news of all time, the good news of salvation, came through this man who became "Israel."

**Joseph** Israel's sons experienced tension and betrayal before receiving redemption and deliverance from famine and drought. It is important that all people discover their Deliverer.

**Moses** At age 80, Moses heard the call of God to deliver His people out of Egypt. At that time, these former slaves gained access to the God of Heaven through His Holy Sanctuary. Today, Believers also have access to atonement and mercy. Deliverance is only a prayer away.

**Ruth** The loyalty of a young Moabite widow to her mother-in-law results in their deliverance from deprivation and in hope for the future as Ruth joins Messiah's lineage.

**David** The young shepherd boy had great confidence in his God. Anointed by the prophet Samuel, David became king of Israel and the ancestor of the King of kings.

**Isaiah** *"He was despised... by His stripes we are healed ... all we like sheep have gone astray"* (Isaiah 53:3, 5, 6). The most quoted prophet of the Old Testament, Isaiah points to the deliverance found only in Yeshua/Jesus.

**Ezekiel** This exiled prophet saw dramatic visions of transformation: dry bones into living people, and water flowing from the dry mountaintop. God's grace and mercy fills people with a new Spirit and new life.

**Daniel** Even in the exile, Daniel kept his focus on the Lord, praying habitually. He saw events of the Last Days still to come. In difficult times, we too should employ the powerful weapon of prayer.

**Esther** Winning a beauty contest positioned her to avert a pogrom to wipe out the Jewish people. God raises up people like Esther in each generation to deliver His people, culminating in the greatest redemption: through Yeshua.

**Jesus** On His last night, Messiah said that He wanted to be remembered by a Passover meal. He is the door, the light of the world, and the ultimate Provider of deliverance.





# ORDER FORM

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___	How Can a Gentile Be Saved? .....	\$4	___
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___	Israel My Promised .....	\$4	___
___	<b>The Miracle of Passover</b> (p.36) .....	\$4	___
___	The Promised Land! .....	\$4	___
___	<b>The Second Coming</b> (pictured) .....	\$4	___
___	Seven Churches— Does Yours Fit In? .....	\$4	___
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel .....	\$4	___
___	The Spirit of Pentecost .....	\$4	___
___	<b>Mix or Match:</b> ..... 50 Classic Study Booklets (above) .....	\$49	___

## Books

___	Antisemitic Beliefs (booklet) .....	2 for \$3	___
___	The Beginning of the End .....	\$9	___
___	The Bible Jesus Read .....	\$11	___
___	Broken Branches (booklet) Zola on Replacement Theology .....	\$7	___
___	Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy .....	\$12	___
___	Don't Die in Your Sins (Messianic Rabbi Greg Hershberg) .....	\$9	___
___	<b>The End</b> (Mark Hitchcock) (p.7) .....	\$26	___
___	Genesis One A Physicist Looks at Creation (booklet) .....	\$6	___
___	<b>An Israeli Love Story</b> (p.24) .....	\$8	___
___	Israel's Right to the Land! (booklet) .....	\$3	___
___	Israel Shines and Israel Pocket Facts (one of each) .....	\$2	___
___	JESUS the Jew's Jew .....	\$8	___
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___	<b>The Messianic Passover Haggadah</b> (p.33) .....	\$6	___
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___	Signs of the End: The Millennium .....	\$8	___
___	What About Us? .....	\$10	___
___	The Warrior King (book) .....	\$12	___
___	What Should We Think About Israel? (Randall Price) .....	\$12	___
___	Whose Land Is It? (booklet - free with <i>Whose Land</i> DVD) .....	\$4	___
___	<b>Zola's Introduction to Hebrew</b> (John Parsons) (pictured) .....	\$39	___

## Featured DVDs

___	<b>Beauty for Ashes</b> (p.20) .....	(9 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$59	___
___	The Bible: The Whole Story .....	(7 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$39	___
___	Covenants of God .....	(8 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	<b>Divine Deliverance</b> (p.17) .....	(12 progs., 3-DVDs)	\$69	___
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___	The God of Miracles .....	(9 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
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___	Secrets of the Scrolls .....	(7 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	<b>Times of the Signs</b> (pictured) .....	(8 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	<b>Whose Land Is It?</b> (pictured) .....	(3 progs., 1-DVD)	\$19	___
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# Studies, Specialty, Etc. — UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEMS!

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___	<b>BBB Automatic LED Nightlight</b> (p.7) .....	2 for \$4	___
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___	Grafted-In Sterling Silver Necklace (with 18" chain) .....	\$39	___
___	<b>Half-shekel Keychain</b> (pictured) .....	\$16	___
___	<b>Jerusalem Magnets</b> (pictured) (set of 3 different designs) .....	\$12	___
___	Jewish Heritage Calendar (5785 / 2025) .....	\$6	___
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem .....	\$12	___
___	Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land .....	\$7	___
___	"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker .....	\$3	___
___	Pro-Israel Button "Pray for the Peace" (4 of 1 design) .....	\$8	___
___	Zola's Notebook .....	\$25	___
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies .....	Free Info	___



## Teaching CDs

___	The Beginning of the End (includes music) .....	(2 CDs)	\$14	___
___	<b>The Miracle of Passover</b> (p.36) .....	(1 CD)	\$8	___
___	<b>Tribulation Temple</b> (p.3) .....	(1 CD)	\$8	___

## Music CDs: Hear samples at [levitt.com/music](http://levitt.com/music)

___	The Works I .....	(Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___
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___	<b>Zion Song</b> (pictured) .....		\$12	___

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## *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*).

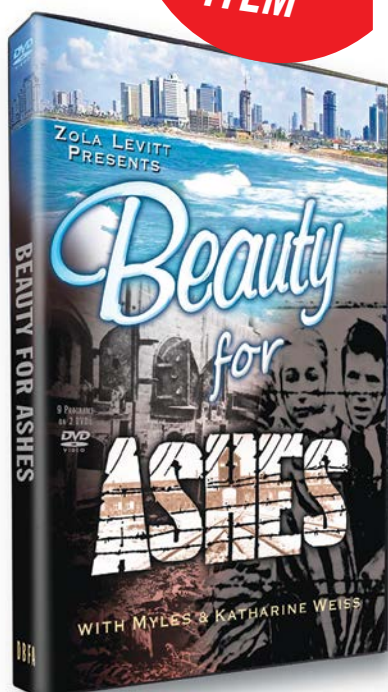
**The Heart** The crematoria at Auschwitz grimly remind Believers of the battle between good and evil. Myles and Katharine speak of Jewish contributions in the arts.

**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.

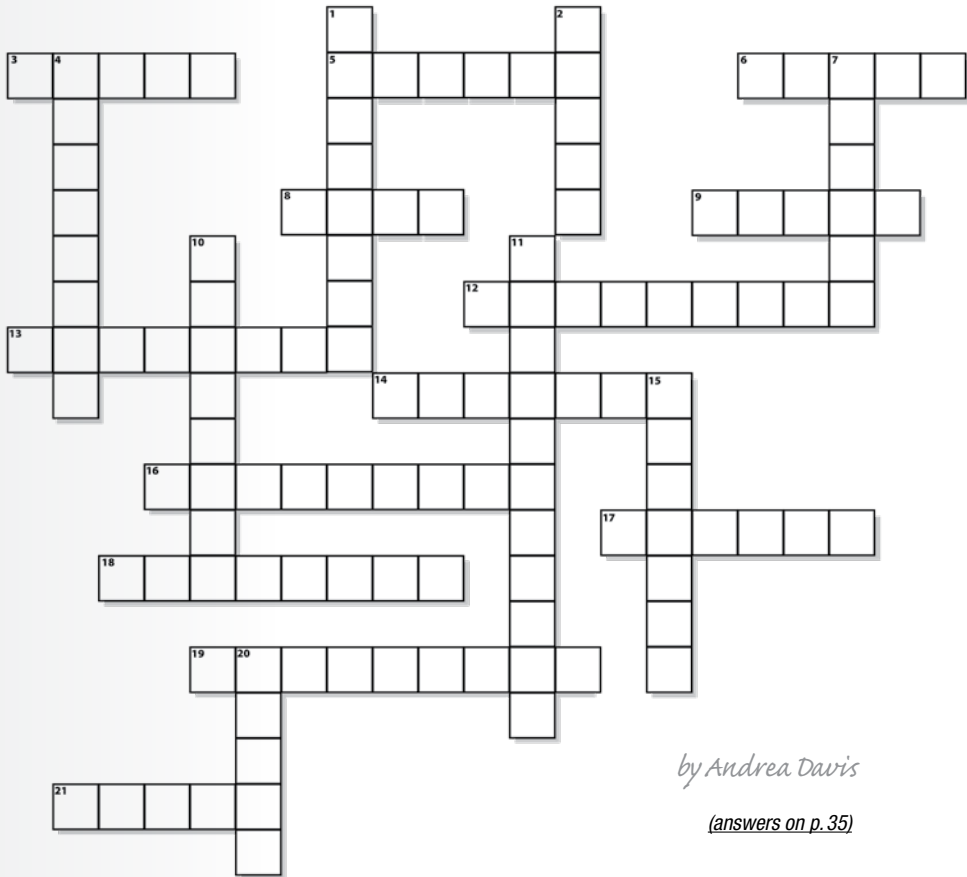
**Extended Interviews with Holocaust Survivors** (bonus program) Holocaust survivors speak further about being sent to death camps, survival techniques, liberation, and overcoming the traumatic experiences of their youth to live meaningful lives.





Crossword April 2025:

# Names of Jesus (KJV)



*by Andrea Davis*

(answers on p. 35)

## ACROSS

3. ... I am the \_\_\_ of the world ... (John 8:12)
5. looking unto Jesus, the \_\_\_ and finisher of our faith ... (Heb. 12:2)
6. And when the \_\_\_ Shepherd appears ... (1 Pet. 5:4)
8. For the \_\_\_ Himself will descend from Heaven ... (1 Thess. 4:16)
9. ... I am the \_\_\_ of life .... (John 6:35)
12. ... And His name will be called \_\_\_, Counselor ... (Isa. 9:6)
13. The \_\_\_ will come to Zion ... (Isa. 59:20)
14. and from Jesus Christ, the faithful \_\_\_ ... (Rev. 1:5)
16. ... The \_\_\_ will come out of Zion ... (Rom. 11:26)
17. ... His right hand to be \_\_\_ and Savior ... (Acts 5:31)
18. ... there is one God and one \_\_\_ between God and men ... (1 Tim. 2:5)
19. ... With which the \_\_\_ from on high has visited us. (Luke 1:78)
21. ... Behold, the Lion of the tribe of \_\_\_ (Rev. 5:5)

## DOWN

1. ... For indeed Christ, our \_\_\_, was sacrificed for us. (1 Cor. 5:7)
2. ... I am the way, the \_\_\_, and the life ... (John 14:6)
4. ... and they shall call His name \_\_\_ ... (Matt. 1:23)
7. ... waiting for the Consolation of \_\_\_ ... (Luke 2:25)
10. ... the good \_\_\_ gives His life for the sheep. (John 10:11)
11. ... Has become the chief \_\_\_. (Ps. 118:22)
15. ... a Man of \_\_\_ and acquainted with grief ... (Isa. 53:3)
20. I am the \_\_\_ and the Omega ... (Rev. 1:8)





# Letters to ZLM

Some letters have been edited for space. For ministry products and TV programs, visit [levitt.com](http://levitt.com) and access the web store and free video archives by clicking on the headings "Store" and "Watch."

## Crossword enhances date night

**From J.B.:** Dear ZLM team, thank you for your ministry and the *Levitt Letter*. My wife and I work the crossword for a "date" night and Bible study. We find the *LL* an important addition to our relationship and a stimulant for our worship. May God bless you all richly in the year ahead.

Dear J.B.,

Andrea Davis, this ministry's Office Manager, creates our monthly crossword puzzles. She will be tickled pink to learn that they are part of your date nights! —Kirsten



## Divine election

**From S.P.:** Thank you to Dr. Todd Baker for his "Ask the Chaplain" articles on election in the December 2024 and January 2025 *Levitt Letter*. Unfortunately, I was not exposed to this teaching during my earlier church-going life. It was only after attending a Bible church (with expository teaching) for the last 20 years that I became aware of this doctrine. While not a dealbreaker, once you come to understand this subject, you will see and appreciate it throughout the Bible. Dr. Baker did an excellent job in condensing this important topic into a two-part article! It is definitely worth further research by those who might not be acquainted with divine election.

Dear S.P.,

We have relayed your compliments to Dr. Baker, who appreciates your affirmation. —David

*... He chose us in Him before  
the foundation of the world ...*

EPHESIANS 1:4



*(continued on next page)*





## Sarah Liberman's teaching

**From A.P.:** Please let Sarah know how much the Lord has blessed me with her teachings in each month's *Personal Letter*. Her writing is clear, concise, and encouraging. I know she is among the many Israeli citizens who are living in difficult times.

Sarah's teaching on Zechariah is especially helpful to me. Being 25% Jewish and a born-again Christian, I look forward to the amazing future that awaits me because my Messiah lives. I favor these lyrics by Bill and Gloria Gaither: "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. **Because He lives all fear is gone.** Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives." What a precious promise to hold onto!

Dear A.P.,

Bill Gaither is a long-time family friend. He will appreciate knowing that you quoted from one of his best-loved songs, which conveys a powerful truth. Additionally, we agree that Sarah Liberman is a gift to our ministry. —David



## **The danger of replacement theology.** #shorts on YouTube

**From M.S.:** This is so wrong. So wrong. All the promises God made to Israel in the OT were fulfilled. Jesus Christ is the New Covenant. Covenants have conditions, like faithfulness. **Israel in the OT was not faithful. God divorced them.**

Dear M.S.,

God made many covenants with Israel that were unconditional, such as the Abrahamic Covenant. While the Mosaic Covenant was conditional, God's promise to redeem the whole House of Israel was not. Even Paul reminds of this distinction in Romans 11:25-26. **The doctrine you endorse is called Replacement Theology.** It is not God's heart for the Jewish people. —Joshua and Caleb

## **The Bearded Bible Brothers ... discuss Enchantment, Sorcery & Divination-Anti-Creation** on YouTube



**From L.H.:** What a great teaching! My adult daughter asked me for some **Scriptures to share with her friend who has been going to a fortune teller.** You two have provided lots of info; now, I must figure out how to present it in digestible portions for her. My goal is to

share this teaching with many young parents. For now, however, I would be happy to bring awareness about the danger that is attached to these seemingly harmless practices. Any suggestions of a few Scriptures to start with would be helpful. Thank you, Bearded Bible Brothers!

*(continued on next page)*



Shalom, L.H.,

Our petite Jewish mother labored for years in deliverance ministry, helping individuals who were bound by evil spirits or involved in the occult, New Age, and secret societies to get rid of the demons that possessed or oppressed them. Satan's counterfeit powers are real, but our authority in Yeshua is more powerful!

Scripture directs us not to be involved in occult practices. Several passages (Deut. 18:9–14; 32:16–17, Lev. 19:31; 20:6, and 1 Cor. 10:20–21) explain that the idolatry that the nations practiced — including using magic, talismans, diviners, and fortune tellers — is actually consulting and worshiping demons. In 2 Corinthians 11:3–14, Paul warns of people who had infiltrated the Church pretending to be apostles and prophets. These false prophets, like fortune tellers, foretold the future, but they were counterfeit.

Paul warns that Satan masquerades as an angel of light; as such, occult practices may look good at first, but they are evil. Although it's obvious to us that individuals in the occult are dangerous, Yeshua warns that those infiltrating the Church will be known by their fruits (Matt. 7:15–20).

In Mark 16:15–18, Yeshua gives us the Great Commission, reminding us that we have power over evil spirits to cast them out and command them to leave. Matthew 12:43–45 warns what will happen if we don't fill our lives with God's Word and His presence after those demons are forced to leave. In Mark 9:29, Yeshua states that some demons must be driven out through prayer and fasting. And in Ephesians 6:10–18, Paul explains that we're battling spiritual forces — demons in the unseen world — and he also teaches us how to fight with the full armor of God and the sword of the Spirit.

God has given man an inner desire to function in His supernatural power. When the Church does not operate in the spiritual gifts and power of God, man goes out to seek the counterfeit. In 1 Corinthians 12–14, Paul explains some of the spiritual gifts at our disposal, to those who believe on Yeshua and walk in His anointing.

—Blessings in Messiah, Joshua and Caleb ☆

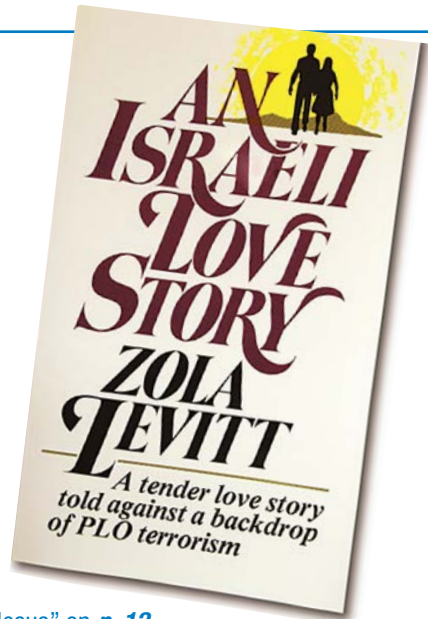
## **An Israeli Love Story** book

Zola Levitt's only novel

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

*(This and most titles also available as eBooks.)*

Please see Mark's article, "Not Falling for Jesus" on [p. 12](#).



# Florida Teen Shows Effects of Anti-Semitism

By Sarah Pachter / Aish.com



Adam Mendelsohn, 17, a senior at Edgewater High School in Orlando, Florida, was shocked by the anti-Semitic messages on social media following the October 7, 2023 terror attacks. Phrases like, "Hitler was right" and "Jews are evil" hit home for Adam. He explained, "If you take the propaganda, convert it to black and white, and translate it into German, it's scary how much it resembles pre-Holocaust propaganda."

Adam wanted to help others understand the impact of unbridled hatred. So, he raised \$30,000 and partnered with Hate Ends Now to bring a unique exhibit to his school. The display replicates a cattle car in which the Nazis forcibly transported Jews to the concentration camps where they performed slave labor and became the victims of mass extermination.

Inside the cattle car, participants watch videos projected onto the walls in which two Holocaust survivors tell their stories. The exhibit also includes artifacts like the uniform that Jews were forced to wear and Nazi propaganda posters.

Many Edgewater students commented that **they learned more in the 45-minute Holocaust presentation than during their entire time in high school.** Others in the community were brought to tears by the exhibit.

Adam heard about the documentary *Paper Clips*, which highlighted the 1998 efforts of Tennessee students to collect six million paper clips representing the six million Jews killed by the Nazis. [They eventually collected more than 30 million paper clips.] Inspired by that film, Adam



Adam Mendelsohn

determined to create a similar display for the cattle car exhibit before it opened only a few days later. After receiving a donation of one million paper clips, Adam and some

friends worked overnight, opening 10,000 boxes with 100 paper clips each to create the exhibit.

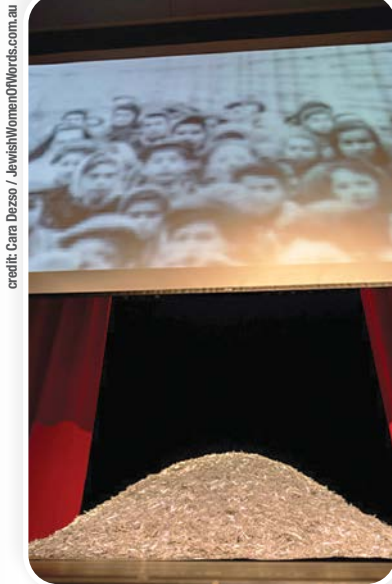
From a distance, the paper clips look like a pile of ashes, reflecting the remains of those who perished in the Holocaust. A permanent display is in the works at Edgewater High School.

**Commenting on today's anti-Semitic climate, Adam noted: "People literally think that Jews want people dead. They think we are evil. If they think we are evil, then they don't know the first thing about the Jewish**

community. In Nazi Germany, kids were being taught from the age of two from books that describe Jews as evil. The same thing is happening now. Any kind of hate is dangerous."

Adam is now on the board of Hate Ends Now and hopes to get the exhibit into every school in Florida. He's also trying to secure another five million paper clips to add to the exhibit.

**Adam, from two Orlandoans, we're proud to have you in our city! —David and Kirsten ☆**



One million paper clips resembling ashes, beneath an image of Jews in the Holocaust





## Robotic Weeder Could Transform Agriculture

By Yulia Karra  
Israel21c.org



Agriculture has always dealt with the problem of managing unwanted weeds, which grow aggressively and compete with crops for nutrients, water, and sunlight. Weeds can completely prevent fields from producing a crop. Unfortunately, many weeding solutions can negatively impact not only crops but also the soil, which is essential to growing food. Now, however, Israel-based AgriPass has developed a robotic, AI-enhanced weeding solution for vegetable and row crops. The technology performs rapid weeding with no chemicals and minimal soil disruption. It also reduces environmental impact and organic matter loss, while promoting soil health and fertility.

Guy Raz, the founder of AgriPass, has a PhD in physics from Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science. He explained that agriculture is in a transitional period. "A few short decades of modern, intensive agriculture practices have led to accumulated impact on the soil."

**Synthetic herbicides are one of the most popular weed-control solutions.** But aside from their chemicals' environmental risks, weeds can develop a resistance to herbicides. Raz noted that over 500 types of weeds have become resistant to herbicides.

Cultivation is an alternative that kills weeds by uprooting them, burying germinated weeds, breaking them apart,

or drying them out. While widely used in organic farming operations, cultivation "has a very big impact on the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the soil and its ability to grow food," Raz added. Cultivation also triggers the release of organic soil matter into the atmosphere, contributing to greenhouse gas buildup.

The most sustainable

weeding solution is human labor. But this is extremely slow, and there's a global labor shortage "because nobody wants to work in agriculture," Raz explained.

He noted that the **AgriPass technology mimics the action of human labor**, "but at the rate of hundreds of weeds per second. **It's like having hundreds of human laborers working at once.**"

The AgriPass machine is pulled by a tractor, with sensors and cameras scanning the field in real time, distinguishing weed from crop and determining the optimal weeding strategy. It can characterize each weed by stage, size, location, and type, because different weeds require different actions.

A prototype is expected by the end of 2025, followed by production ramp-up in 2027. ✨



credit: AgriPass



credit: AgriPass

**Top:** A professional inspects the AgriPass weeding machine

**Bottom:** The AgriPass technology being applied to the soil



# Lowering Blood Sugar Can Slow Brain Aging

By Yulia Karra  
Israel21c.org



credit: Sophtnik / iStock

underwent brain MRI scans over a period of 18 months to record the rate of the aging of their brains.

The researchers found that participants who lowered their HbA1c levels experienced a more pronounced slowdown of brain aging,

A recent study found that dietary changes, primarily those that help lower blood-sugar levels, can slow the brain's aging and improve its overall health.

including positive changes in specific parts of the brain that are commonly affected by age-related atrophy.

The MRI results also showed that lower HbA1c levels correspond to positive processes in areas of the brain that are crucial for cognitive function, motor skills, and sensory processing.

The study's lead researcher, BGU's Prof. Iris Shai, explained: "Maintaining low blood-sugar levels, even within the normal range, shows promise for preserving a younger brain, especially when combined with a healthy diet and regular physical activity."

Shai is an adjunct professor at Harvard University, and an honorary professor at Leipzig University in Germany.

The study is part of the DIRECT PLUS Brain-MRI trials that examine how dietary changes, particularly those associated with the Green-MED diet, impact brain aging.

DIRECT PLUS is one of the longest and largest brain MRI studies, involving around 300 participants divided into three dietary groups: healthy dietary guidelines, MED, and Green-MED diet. ✨



Prof. Iris Shai

credit: Dani Machlis / BGU  
The study was led by Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU). It follows previous research showing that Mediterranean (MED) and Green Mediterranean (Green-

MED) diets reduced age-related brain atrophy by 50% within 18 months. Both diets include a better-controlled sugar intake.

The new study, published in the *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, sought to understand the exact mechanism that slows brain atrophy, and whether glycemic control and specific dietary aspects play a major role in the process. As part of the research, participants on MED and Green-MED diets



# Disgraceful Red Cross Serves Murderers of Jews



credit: Avshalom Sassoni / Flash90

Israelis, including family members of those being held hostage by Hamas terrorists in the Gaza Strip protest in Tel Aviv outside a meeting of the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross on Dec. 14, 2023.

It was a joyous moment to see three female Israeli hostages finally released in January from 15 months of harrowing captivity. However, that happiness was tempered by the disgusting spectacle orchestrated by Hamas and enabled by the Red Cross. **This humiliating episode highlighted the Red Cross's total failure to assist Jewish victims**, evoking bitter memories of its inaction during the Holocaust.

I wrote in November 2023 about the attitude of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) from the beginning of the war. On October 7, 2023, the ICRC released a statement expressing concern over "armed violence in Israel and the occupied territories." This mealy-mouthed response ignored the slaughter of civilians by Hamas terrorists, instead framing the events as mutual violence and subtly implicating Israel.

Days later, the ICRC issued another statement acknowledging "premeditated killings of civilians" but avoided identifying either the perpetrators or victims. In the same breath, it criticized Israeli "bombings in residential neighborhoods," drawing a false equivalence between terror massacres and defensive military actions.

It took more than a month before the American Red Cross said that the ICRC was pursuing "every possible avenue to secure the release of all remaining hostages." It would remain silent, however, because its experience — ignoring the Holocaust — was that it was most effective if it kept a low profile. Well, it succeeded in making its profile invisible while not gaining the release of a single hostage or providing them with assistance.

*(continued on next page)*





For the transfer, they showed up as if they were heroes when they were essentially Uber drivers taking the former hostages a few miles to an awaiting military helicopter.

First, though, they played a part in the grotesque Hamas spectacle in which heavily armed masked terrorists in freshly laundered uniforms delivered and surrounded the hostages. Hundreds of jeering civilians lined the streets celebrating the dehumanization of the women right to the end of their ordeal. Civilians, including children—frequently portrayed as innocent victims of “genocide” — actively participated in the degradation of survivors of the Hamas massacre.

The Israelis were given “goodie bags” as if they were leaving a bat mitzvah, but instead of shouts of “Mazel tov!” they heard

with their *Al Jazeera* collaborators to show pictures designed to give the world the impression of widespread support and military resilience. For their supporters, Hamas wanted to pretend that thousands of fighters survived the war to pursue their goal of committing repeated massacres. Aerial photos later revealed the crowd was no more than a few hundred people crammed into a narrow street that was part of a calculated media strategy to portray Hamas as victorious despite its decimation.

At this point, the least the Red Cross can do is to ensure that it does not participate in another terrorist photo op to promote the Hamas narrative. The organization — backed by the U.S., Qatar, and Egypt — must ensure that future transfers occur in neutral, secure locations with no armed personnel or ci-



credit: YouTube screenshot / Reuters

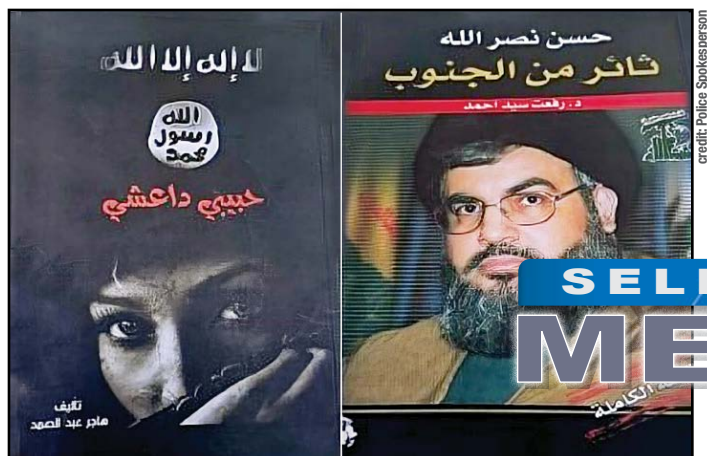


only blood-curdling chants of *Allahu Akbar*. The Red Cross literally endorsed this farce by co-signing Hamas-drafted “certificates of release” that the hostages were forced to sign before posing for photos holding the documents with their captors.

You must give Hamas credit; their skill in media manipulation has not diminished with their loss of power. The terrorists carefully stage-managed the handover

vilian onlookers. Hamas has managed to keep the location of the hostages secret for this long; let them maintain that secrecy for the point of exchange.

The Red Cross should not allow its reputation to be dragged further through the mud by being a party to the disgraceful abuse of innocent Israelis who miraculously survived months of torture and abuse without its medical or any other assistance. ☆



**ABOVE:** Terror-supporting books confiscated from an eastern Jerusalem bookstore. From left, *My Beloved ISIS* and *Hassan Nasrallah, a Rebel From the South*

## SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

### Police Raid Jerusalem Bookstore Selling Terrorist Books

By Pesach Benson / JewishPress.com

In February, Israeli police arrested an eastern Jerusalem bookstore owner who sold books inciting terror. Police learned about the shop after a woman who was being checked was discovered to have inciting books in her bag. When questioned by investigators, she admitted that she had purchased them earlier from a bookstore in the Old City.

At the store, police found numerous books by and about terrorists. **These included autobiographies of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar**, who masterminded the October 7 attacks, and Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah. Authorities also found books by Hamas terrorist Abdullah Barghouti describing the violent “liberation of Palestine” and his love of shooting Jews until he ran out of bullets.

Barghouti is serving 67 life sentences for numerous bombings that killed 66 people and injured more than 500 during the Second Intifada. The shop also sold stories of Adolf Hitler and books by ISIS.

The store’s owner was arrested and held for questioning. Police also issued a 30-day closure on the store.



Soldiers of the IDF’s Hasmonean Brigade, January 2025

### Ultra-Orthodox Israelis Join the Hasmonean Brigade

JNS.org

Some 50 ultra-Orthodox recruits were recently drafted into the new Hasmonean Brigade of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). The soldiers will form the brigade’s first company. In addition, 100 older haredi men began further training before they will be drafted into the brigade’s first-ever reserve company.

The IDF upgraded a training base in the Jordan Valley, complete with synagogues, to suit the lifestyle of the haredi troops.

**Brigade recruits must follow a strict halachic lifestyle** — in keeping with Jewish law. Enlistees also must sign a document accepting the brigade’s rules. One clause states that recruits will at all times maintain a religious way of life, be careful to use “clean” speech, keep beards and sidelocks throughout their service if they entered the army with them, and wear Sabbath clothes during Sabbath prayers and meals “as is





customary in ultra-Orthodox society (and even a suit and a hat)."

**All the courses and training for brigade soldiers will be conducted internally to avoid mixing with non-Orthodox units.**

Likewise, observant Jews serve as brigade commanders.

The Hasmonean Brigade was named after the dynasty that began after the Jews threw off the yoke of Hellenistic rule in the Maccabean Revolt (167–141 B.C.) against the Seleucid Empire.

Please see the article "Ancient Hasmonean Coins Found in Jordan Valley" on [p. 32](#).

## Israeli Plant-Based Meat Comes to U.S. Retailers

By Abigail Klein Leichman / Israel21c.org

Plant-based whole-cut "meat" — in the style of slabs, steaks and pulled beef — is being introduced to the American retail market by Israel's Chunk Foods, starting with independent grocers in Los Angeles and New York City before possible expansion to other regions later in 2025.

Rich in iron, protein, and vitamin B12, Chunk's "beef" products boast a "clean ingredient list comprised entirely of recognizable, pronounceable, healthy, and natural ingredients (8 of them, to be exact), with no gums, stabilizers, or preservatives."

The cultured, non-GMO soy protein-based products are created with minimal processing, using unique fermentation technology. Just like the real beef they closely resemble, Chunk Foods can be pan-seared, baked, grilled, smoked, stewed, braised, grilled, or baked. **They are certified kosher and pareve** (prepared without meat,

milk, or their derivatives and therefore can be eaten with both meat and dairy dishes in accordance with Jewish dietary laws).

Founded in Tel Aviv in 2020, Chunk Foods introduced its products in the U.S. through eateries in cities such as New York, Philadelphia, Orlando, and Miami Beach. It won the Plant Based Meat Product of the Year award at the 2023 AgTech Breakthrough Awards.

## Childcare Center Torched in Sydney Anti-Semitic Attack JNS.org

In January, a childcare center in Sydney, Australia was set ablaze, and anti-Semitic graffiti was sprayed on the wall. While no injuries occurred from the overnight attack, the building was badly damaged.

"The kind of people who would ... attack a fellow Australian whom they don't know because of their race or religion, it is completely disgusting," noted New South Wales Premier Chris Minns.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese described the incident as "a vicious crime." Still, the Australian leader has been widely criticized as "weak" by both the opposition Conservatives and the Jewish community for not doing enough to prevent hate crimes against Jews, and for his criticism of Israel during its war against Hamas in Gaza.

**The childcare center attack followed a string of recent anti-Semitic incidents in Australia.** Earlier in January, a Sydney home that was previously owned by a senior Jewish community leader was vandalized, and two cars were set on fire. Likewise, vandals defaced two Sydney synagogues with Nazi symbols within 24 hours. In December 2024, arsonists also torched a Melbourne synagogue.

Australia is home to about 117,000 Jews, who make up less than half a percent of the country's 27 million residents.

Please see the article "Australian Nurses Brag About Killing Israeli Patients" on [p. 34](#). ☆



credit: Chunk Foods

A "beef" wrap made with Chunk Foods' plant-based meat







## Archaeology

# Ancient Hasmonean Coins Found in Jordan Valley

credit: Dr. Shay Bar / University of Haifa



Site where the coin hoard was discovered near Jericho

credit: University of Haifa



Close-up of one of the coins that features an Aramaic dedication to Hasmonean King Alexander Jannaeus



Some of the 160 coins discovered in the excavation

Researchers in Israel recently unearthed 160 coins belonging to the second king of the Hasmonean dynasty. King Alexander Jannaeus — a descendant of Jewish royalty whose Hebrew name was Jonathan — ruled over the Kingdom of Judea from 103 to 76 B.C. He was the great-nephew of Judah Maccabee and the great-grandson of Mattathias, who led the 167 B.C. revolt against the armies of Antiochus IV Epiphanes.

Not many coins belonging to Jannaeus have been discovered, making this extremely rare and one of the largest coin finds in Israel.

“All of our students and volunteers were very excited to find these Hasmonean relics, especially during Hanukkah,” noted Dr. Shay Bar from the University of Haifa’s Zinman Institute of Archaeology, one of the excavation’s leaders.

*(continued on next page)*

credit: Dr. Shay Bar / University of Haifa







"We believe that the coins were discovered at a way station [place to obtain supplies and/or rest], which we didn't know about until this excavation," Bar added. "The site included a purification *mikveh* [ritual bath], a pool, and other buildings. It was located along the Tirza River Valley on the main road that leads to the Sartaba fortress, which was built by King Jannaeus."

**Dr. Yoav Farhi**, curator of the Early Coins Pavilion at the Eretz Israel Museum in Tel Aviv, explained that

credit: Tal Rogovski / ArmstrongInstitute.org



Dr. Yoav Farhi

each coin has an eight-pointed star and an Aramaic inscription on the front that reads, "King Alexander, Year 25." On the reverse is an anchor and a Greek inscription reading, "[Coin of] King Alexander."

The Hasmonean kingdom — named after Hasmon, a distant ancestor of the Maccabees — lost its independence to the Romans in 63 B.C. Later, Roman governors ruled directly over Judea. In 37 B.C., the Hasmoneans fell to Herod the Great, a Roman of Edomite descent, and the Herodian dynasty began. ✨

## The Messianic Passover Haggadah a Messianic book of celebration

You don't have to be Jewish to relive the Feast of Redemption — just redeemed! This 2-color, 36-page book guides you step by step through the traditional Passover Seder, the dinner Jews celebrate annually to remember the Israelites' rescue from Egyptian bondage.

This unique Haggadah focuses on Yeshua's teaching in the Upper Room, which institutes the Lord's Supper. The theme of redemption recurs throughout the evening. You'll find words and sheet music for the songs traditionally sung on Passover. Singing them will enrich your celebration.

Scripture quotations come from the popular *Complete Jewish Bible*.

[Please see the article, "The Passover-Easter Dispute" on the cover.](#)



# Australian Nurses Brag About Killing Israeli Patients

by Jim Hoft  
TheGatewayPundit.com



Two nurses in Sydney, Australia, were suspended after a video showed them making abhorrent anti-Semitic remarks and bragging about killing and refusing to treat Israeli patients.



credit: Max Veifer / Instagram

Ahmad Rashad Nadir and Sarah Abu Lebdeh

The clip was shared by Max Veifer, who spoke with Ahmad Rashad Nadir and Sarah Abu Lebdeh. According to ABC News Australia, both were health workers at Bankstown Hospital in Sydney.

During the exchange, tensions escalated when Veifer revealed that he was from Israel. Nadir, who claimed to be a doctor (but is not) reacted with hostility, stating, "I'm so upset that you're Israeli. Eventually you're going to get killed and go to *Jahannam* (hell), *In sha' Allah*."

When Veifer asked why he was being threatened, Abu Lebdeh declared, "It's Palestine's country, not your country, you piece of ...." She then added a chilling remark: "When your time comes, I want you to remember my face so you can understand you will die the most disgusting death."

When asked if they would treat Israeli patients, Lebdeh responded, "I won't treat them. I'll kill them ... I hope to God." Nadir then made a throat-slitting gesture and added, "You have no idea how many Israeli dogs came to this hospital, and I sent them to *Jahannam*."

Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese labeled the footage as "sickening and shameful," asserting that such hate-driven, anti-Semitic comments have no place in Australia's health system or society at large.

New South Wales (NSW) Health Minister Ryan Park expressed his revulsion: "The whole video ... is a concern to me ... the

fact that they chose to do this in uniform ... while they should have been caring for patients.

"There is no place for this sort of perspective in our society, but hospitals are different in the fact that every single Australian and every single resident of this state should be able to go to their local hospital when they need care and attention and get high quality care that is safe and effective," Park added.

The Nursing and Midwifery Council of NSW subsequently deregistered both Nadir and Lebdeh, effectively banning them from practicing nursing in Australia.

According to a later report from *7NEWS Australia*, police allegedly found a vial of morphine in Nadir's locker at the hospital after he was fired. Nadir reportedly asked a former colleague to empty out his locker, but that person was uncomfortable with the request and instead called police. Police also said that they had confiscated several items during a raid at Nadir's house. On Feb. 25, Lebdeh was charged with threatening violence to a group and making death threats. At that time, Nadir had not been charged, but police were still investigating him.  
—Editor ☆

Here's a link for the video:  
[youtube.com/watch?v=iqQFXpwNQ0E](https://youtube.com/watch?v=iqQFXpwNQ0E)

Please see the Brief "Childcare Center Torched in Sydney Anti-Semitic Attack" on [p. 31](#).







# Jewish Humor, etc.

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

## Quick Thinking

A British Jew was waiting to be knighted by the Queen. He was told to kneel in front of her and recite a sentence in Latin after she tapped him on the shoulders with her sword. However, when his turn came, he panicked in the excitement and forgot the Latin phrase. Thinking quickly, he recited the only other sentence that he knew in a foreign language (Hebrew), which he remembered from the Passover Seder:

*"Ma nishtanah, ha-laylah ha-zeh, mi-kol ha-leylot?"*

Puzzled, the Queen turned to her advisor and whispered, "Why is this knight different from all other knights?"



## Answer Key for APRIL 2025 Crossword (p.21)

### ACROSS:

3. Light
5. Author
6. Chief
8. Lord
9. Bread
12. Wonderful
13. Redeemer
14. Witness
16. Deliverer
17. Prince
18. Mediator
19. Dayspring
21. Judah

### DOWN:

1. Passover
2. Truth
4. Immanuel
7. Israel
10. Shepherd
11. Cornerstone
15. Sorrows
20. Alpha

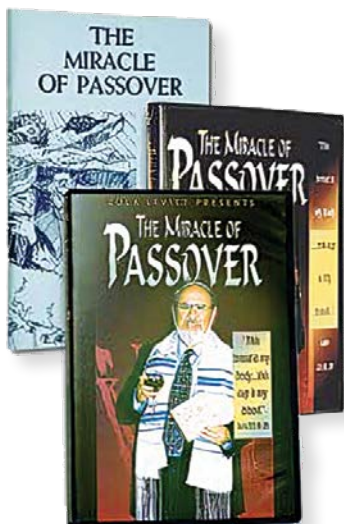


## Social Media Outlets

ZLM's social media outreach now includes:

- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/OurJewishRoots>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OurJewishRoots>  
X/Twitter: <https://X.com/OurJewishRoots>  
Rumble: <https://www.rumble.com/OurJewishRoots>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/OurJewishRoots>





## The Miracle of Passover

study book, [CD](#) & [DVD](#)

Passover demonstrates how dramatically this traditional celebration, 35 centuries old, typifies Christ — even in Jewish homes that don't realize that the Messiah for whom they wait has already come.

Please see the article, “The Passover-Easter Dispute” on [the cover](#).

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Joshua & Caleb Colson in  
FALL 2025!



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**Grand Petra:** Oct. 20 – Nov. 2  
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For more info and registration see:  
[www.levitt.com/tours](http://www.levitt.com/tours)

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Call Zola Tours at 214-696-9760  
or email [travel@levitt.com](mailto:travel@levitt.com).

A refundable deposit by credit card will hold your reservation.

See you in  
Jerusalem!

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