



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

MARCH 2026



The Most Dangerous Enemy America Faces

By Mark Creech
ChristianPost.com

America has no shortage of enemies. China seeks to eclipse us geopolitically. Radical Islamists dream of our downfall. Cultural Marxists work tirelessly to dismantle our institutions. Secularists wage war on faith, history, and tradition. Our streets are fraught with crime, our politics with venom, and our families with fracture.

But of all the adversaries that threaten the very soul of this nation, none is more profound, more insidious, or more spiritually corrosive than the rise of Progressive Christianity.

Why do I say this? Because **Progressive Christianity** wears an attractive attire of faith while quietly **emptying it of its substance**. It keeps the Bible's vocabulary but drains it of meaning. It blesses

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REMEMBER:

Purim: Sunset March 2 to sunset March 3

Purim: A Happy Ending To A Haunted Story

JTA.org

Unlike Passover or Rosh Hashanah, Purim is relaxed (except for parents making children's costumes). It doesn't come "early this year," or "late," but is as on-time as a birthday. With its exuberance and innocence, it is a holy day without sermons or scolding, without suits or ties. It is so associated with masquerade, carnivals, candy, and drinking that it's easy to forget how foreboding

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Purim: A Happy Ending To A Haunted Story

continued from cover

credit: Marc Israel Sellem / The Jerusalem Post



Jews read the *Megillah* on Purim night.

the *Megillah* (story) is — how haunted, how current.

The *Megillah* is a reminder that hating Jews is older than even the word “anti-Semitism,” a word that sounds sanitized compared to the threat Haman posed: A mass murder of Jews throughout the 127 lands from Persia to Ethiopia. The Jews faced a state-sponsored annihilation (like Iran regularly threatens Israel), more ominous than any one man — Haman — could pose alone. As with all anti-Semitism, the Jews had few, if any, options.

For all of our concern about the rising anti-Semitism here at home — from the far right and the far left — it’s important to maintain a sense of historical context. Jews once feared the Church; now no one loves Israel more than Evangelicals. A generation ago, Russian Jews teaching the Alef-Bet were sent to prison camps in Siberia; today, Russian President Vladimir Putin, for all his dangers, allows yeshivas and Jewish institutions throughout his nation.

Not long ago, American Jews were banned from universities, hotels, social clubs, and neighborhoods. Today, anti-Semitism often is more subtle. And yet, anti-Semitic crimes continue to top

the FBI hate crime chart every year of the 21st-century, under every president. And in Europe, anti-Semitism is on the rise and becoming increasingly dangerous.

The *Megillah* can be interpreted as espousing the use of deep diplomacy to ward off destruction. Mordecai and Esther don’t take up the sword; they use their wits to defeat Haman. But the Jews did take up arms to defend themselves and kill those who rose up against them. And certainly, Mordecai and Esther risked their lives to stand up for their people.

The “Esthers” among us today must take professional and political risks, “*and if I perish, I perish*” (Est. 4:16). After all, as Mordecai warned Esther, “*Do not imagine that you will escape in the palace...*” (Est. 4:13).

The *Megillah*, promising a happy ending to a difficult story, offers a remedy: Unity, spirituality, and grace — to the poor, to each other, and to the promise that God and goodness are still among us, even if sometimes unseen. It’s a lesson well-taken this year and every year. ✡

Happy Purim.

Please see the DVD set *Esther: For Such a Time as This* on p. 20.





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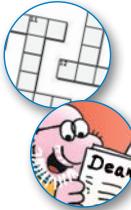


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Matzoh Postcards (12-pack)

Imagine receiving greetings on this unique postcard made of matzoh (Jewish unleavened bread). Unfortunately, matzoh is difficult to write on and doesn't mail very well, so we've created a 6" x 6" postcard.

One side is functional — with areas for postage, an address, and a message. The other side quotes Isaiah 53:5 — *"He was pierced for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed."*

The Most Dangerous Enemy America Faces

continued from cover



what God condemns and condemns what God blesses. In doing so, it leaves our nation defenseless, not just politically or culturally, but morally and spiritually.

One need only glance at the trajectory of progressive theology to see its insidious shape. Scripture's authority is the first casualty. Once the Bible is dismissed as myth and folklore — stripped of its divine inspiration, authority, and inerrancy — what follows is not mere drift but apostasy. Every doctrine, every moral boundary, every spiritual truth falls like dominoes.

Sin is no longer rebellion against a holy God but merely a failure to "live authentically." Sexual ethics are re-imagined, with everything from LGBT behavior to adultery and fornication celebrated as legitimate expressions of love. Abortion becomes a "sacrament of autonomy." Gender becomes fluid. Idolatry becomes spiritual pluralism. Judgment becomes symbolic. Hell — once the solemn warning of the Lord Jesus Himself — is reduced to a psychological metaphor, then dismissed altogether. This is not enlightened theological evolution.

This is a **damnable doctrinal demolition.**

Here lies one of the great ironies of our time: Progressive Christians have long contended that conservative Evangelicals should stay out of politics. They assert that faith should have no role in public policy, that pastors should not speak to cultural issues, that the Church must remain within its

"private spiritual lane." Yet in recent years, their own doctrinal reinterpretations have shaped the direction of this country far more profoundly, and far more negatively, than any sermon, rally, or voter guide ever produced by Christian conservatives.

When Progressive Christianity dismantles Biblical authority, denies moral absolutes, blesses sexual anarchy, redefines family, sanctifies abortion, and erases the fear of God, these ideas do not remain within the walls of the church. They spill outward into legislation, education, entertainment, and cultural norms. Their theology has influenced our courts, our classrooms, and our culture, always drifting toward moral permissiveness and spiritual decay.

To ensure that conservative Believers* remain silent, progressive clergy smear Christian conservatives with labels like "Christian nationalist," a term so elastic it can be stretched to vilify anyone who believes Scripture should inform the national conscience. It is a weapon, not a description. It's meant to intimidate and delegitimize anyone who refuses to surrender Biblical truth.



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* "Believers" is short for "believers in Yeshua/Jesus as Messiah." *continued on next page*

By demanding that conservatives retreat, progressives have cleared the public square for their worldview to dominate. The results have been spiritually devastating for America.

History illustrates just how dangerous this is. Germany — the land of Martin Luther, the cradle of the Reformation — did not collapse spiritually overnight. Its decline started in the seminaries, where liberal theologians divested Scripture of its supernatural core. Miracles were dismissed. The Resurrection was “demythologized.” Judgment was declared incompatible with an “enlightened society.” Moral commands were viewed as culturally conditioned.

By the time Hitler rose to power, the German Church was spiritually hollow. Its pulpits had already stopped preaching sin, judgment, and the fear of God. So, when real evil appeared,

really unnecessary because everyone is already acceptable to God just as they are.

Our nation cannot long endure such a spiritual vacuum. No external enemy can destroy a country faster than a Church emptied of the truth. When the pulpits surrender, the people lose their compass. When the people lose their compass, every institution eventually collapses — the family, government, education, law, culture. Without the fear of God, the moral imagination of a nation darkens.

Progressive Christianity, then, is a dismantling of the Christian faith from the inside. It is a spiritual Trojan Horse. It is a wolf in sheep's clothing. It offers America all the trappings of Christianity but none of its power. It lulls the nation into a false peace while severing it from a Holy God Who judges those who transgress His law,

and a gracious God Who mercifully saves sinners.

America may face adversaries abroad and agitators at home.

Still, none is more dangerous than a fake Christianity that preaches grace without a Cross, a Kingdom without righteousness, and a God without holiness. If America falls, it will not be because our enemies outside the gate were stronger. It will be because the enemies inside our sanctuaries and standing in the pulpits were subtler than we realized, preaching a Gospel without a rugged Cross and a Christ without a crown.

A faith stripped of truth cannot save a soul, much less save a civilization. ☀

“A faith stripped of truth cannot save a soul, much less save a civilization.”

the Church lacked the moral clarity to stand against it.

Germany did not fall because Christianity failed the nation. Germany fell because a counterfeit had supplanted Christianity.

The parallels to America today are chilling. Progressive Christianity is training a generation to believe that God does not judge, that sin is whatever society says it is, that Jesus came not to redeem but to affirm, that the Bible must bow before cultural sensibilities, and that salvation is



The Mystery of the Persian God

Joshua & Caleb Colson
The Bearded Bible
Brothers®



The significance of what continues to unfold in Iran cannot be overstated, either geopolitically or Biblically. Since 1979's Islamic Revolution, Iran has been the chief state sponsor of terrorism against Israel. Iran's influence extends across the Middle East and beyond, including into South America with its ties to Venezuela. Joined by its proxies in Yemen, Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq, Iran pursued a multi-front strategy intended to annihilate the Jewish State. Yet God's supernatural intervention through Israel and her allies halted Iran's scheme.

For decades, Bible prophecy teachers have accurately connected Iran with Russia, China, and North Korea as allies in the future wars of Ezekiel 38 & 39 and Armageddon. **Beyond Iran's future aggression, however, lies a lesser-known reality — Persia's historic friendship with Israel.**

During the reigns of Judah's last kings, God allowed Babylon to destroy Jerusalem and take the people into exile as judgment for their persistent disobedience. Yet Babylon also rebelled against the Most High and went too far in punishing God's Chosen People (Jer. 51). In response, God raised up the Medes and Persians — led by the prophetically

named *mashiach*, Cyrus — to overthrow Babylon and free the Israelite captives (Isa. 45:1-13).

Ezra 1:2 records a declaration that would permanently shape Persian history: *"This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: The LORD, the God of Heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the Earth and He has appointed me to build a Temple for Him at Jerusalem in Judah."* Cyrus' recognition of Yahweh as "the God of Heaven" is striking; this title recurs throughout Daniel's lifetime in Babylon and Persia. Because of Daniel's humility, obedience, and refusal to compromise, the Lord positioned him to confront the greatest antiChrists of his era and to topple empires.

In Daniel 2, when interpreting the king's dream, Daniel reveals that the God of Heaven alone holds dominion — establishing and deposing kings. Unfortunately, Nebuchadnezzar required repeated correction to grasp this truth. Eventually, God struck Nebuchadnezzar with insanity for seven years and made him live like a wild beast until he acknowledged the Lord's supremacy. Finally, Nebuchadnezzar looked up and declared, *"Now I ... praise and exalt and glorify the King of Heaven..."* (Dan. 4:37).



Each subsequent ruler had to learn this lesson, including Darius the Mede. Though historians often claim that Persian kings retained polytheism, the Biblical record suggests otherwise. In Ezra 6:10, Darius the Great (Darius I) completes Cyrus' decree by ensuring the rebuilding of the Temple, where the Jews could *"offer sacrifices pleasing to the God of Heaven and pray for the well-being of the king and his sons."*

Ancient inscriptions of Darius I reveal his devotion to *Ahura Mazda*, the sole deity of Persia's Zoroastrian religion. These engravings are the first historical references to *Ahura Mazda*, often called "the God of Heaven." Most scholars place the prophet Zarathustra (Zoroaster), founder of Zoroastrianism, in the sixth century B.C. Thus, he was a contemporary of Daniel. Most also believe that Zoroaster was one of the ancient Magi.

Recall that Daniel was appointed chief of the Magi after interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's dream and saving their lives (Dan. 2).

These Magi revered Daniel, who instructed them in the wisdom and prophecies of the Hebrew Scriptures.

This explains how, centuries later, Persian Magi recognized the star that led them to Yeshua, the King of the Jews (Matt. 2:1-12).

Some agenda-driven historians date Zoroaster centuries earlier, claiming that Judaism and Christianity borrowed from his instruction. The evidence, however, shows the opposite. Zoroastrian teachings were transmitted orally for centuries and only recorded sometime between A.D. 224 and 651. The oldest surviving Zoroastrian manuscripts date to A.D. 1323, because earlier texts were destroyed by the Muslims. Despite repeated attempts to eradicate it, Zoroastrianism endured, and its followers still live in Iran today.

Some people theorize that Zoroaster was deeply influenced by Daniel, who worshiped the God of Heaven. Others suggest that Daniel and Zoroaster may have been the same man using different names. Daniel the Jew was known as Belteshazzar in Babylon (Dan.

1:7). Linguistic shifts over time could have changed his name again after the creation of the Avestan alphabet. While such theories are inconclusive, Daniel's influence on Persian theology remains undeniable.

Why does this matter? Because God appears to be bringing history full circle. Daniel, chief of the Magi, long ago pointed Persian leaders to the God of Heaven. Today, Daniel's influence is again directing the Persian people to the one true God.

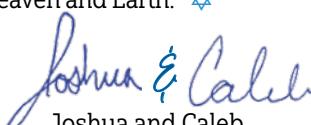
A spiritual awakening is now occurring in Iran. Though Zoroastrianism became corrupted over time, Christianity is now the fastest-growing religion in Iran. Of course, Christianity is the fulfillment of Judaism through the revelation of Messiah Yeshua. We believe that Persia must be set free one last time before its prophetic showdown with Israel.

Jeremiah delivers God's striking declaration about Elam, an ancient territory in the Persian Empire: "...I will

put My throne in Elam and destroy from it king and princes. ... Yet it will be in the end of days, that I will restore Elam from exile...." (Jer. 49:38-39).

How could God establish His throne in a pagan land? Isn't Jerusalem the place of Yeshua's throne and the seat of the Most High? What grand plan does God have for Iran?

As Persia blessed and protected the Jewish people for centuries, we believe that the Persians will again bow before the God of Heaven. So, Iran shouldn't be dismissed. A time of reprieve has come for the Persian people. One day, they will experience complete freedom and victory when they submit to the Creator of Heaven and Earth. 



Joshua and Caleb



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Finally, the Truth is Revealed

“The Palestinian Authority tells us that for the first time since 2000, more Palestinians were killed over the course of a year by fellow Palestinians than by Israelis.”

The above statement from *National Review* is interesting, but inaccurate. It implies that Israelis have let up on their killing of Palestinians. But the fact is that the **Palestinians kill more of their own every year than Israelis do**. Despite the worldwide propaganda, Israelis kill very few Palestinians and persecute none of them.

Israelis are doing police work, taking out murderers, just as American cops do. This difficult process sometimes results in collateral casualties, as with the U.S. Army in Iraq, for example. But, as also with our army, that leads to trouble. An Israeli soldier who carries out the wanton killing of a civilian would face a court martial. The other way around, of course, is the Palestinian’s “daily bread.” But we should appreciate that Palestinians have always killed their own in the spirit of the insurrectionists in Iraq, blowing up Muslims in their own markets and mosques.

Palestinians have always killed anyone around them, as have many other Muslims, because this gives a feeling of importance to the devalued individual Muslim personality. Also, the Israelis receive quite a bit of cooperation from within Palestinian villages; they often locate key terrorists by paying Palestinian informers. Yet when Palestinians discover these informers, they are killed in the most public ways, such as their bodies being strung up on a cable in a city square or hung against a public wall.

Palestinians regularly use the “collaborator” excuse simply to kill enemies in family feuds and so forth. “Honor killings,” in which women and even young girls are victimized, also infect their society. As someone knowledgeable about the area for almost 35 years, I can assure you that Palestinians kill more Palestinians than Israelis ever have in any year. But, in view of the article in *National Review*, they have, for some reason, finally said so.

I should note that if Israel really wanted to kill the Palestinians — as the whole world believes they do — the job would be finished quickly. That answers why the upcoming invasion of Gog and Magog is a quick — virtually 24-hour — event. The Israelis are very strong, very fair, and very reluctant to fight. They have bent over backwards seeking peace. When provoked, however — especially by a superior force as in 1967 or 1973 — Israelis will defend themselves with valor and effectiveness. And that will happen in Ezekiel’s prophesied invasion, to say the least.

In one paragraph, I could summarize that matters will rapidly worsen in Israel as the Palestinians continue their terrorism, to the point that they will attempt a frontal assault on Israel. **Israel will put a stop to that attack, along with virtually all of the Palestinians within reach, which will provoke the much larger Muslim invasion called Gog and Magog** (Ezek. 38 & 39). In that invasion, Israel will defend



itself, perhaps with nuclear weapons (*"I will rain upon him ... great hailstones, fire, and brimstone,"* Ezek. 38:22). That invasion, in turn, will lead to the antiChrist and Armageddon.

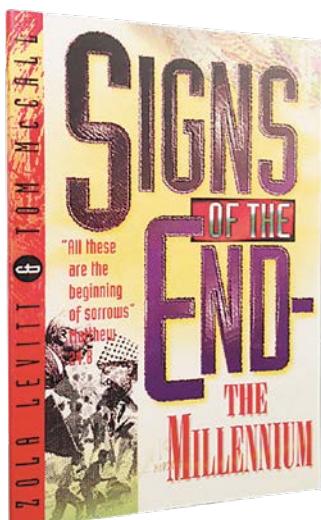
But for the moment, readers can reassure themselves that the idea of Muslims in Israel killing more Muslims than Israelis do has been going on since Islam was created. 

#BeardedBible-Brothers T-Shirt

Show your support for the Bearded Bible Brothers' teaching on our television program. This T-shirt is a conversation starter that will even lead folks to excellent Bible teaching without you saying a word. Unisex Gildan SoftStyle short-sleeve tee in charcoal heather with orange and white graphics, similar to what the BBB wear on television.



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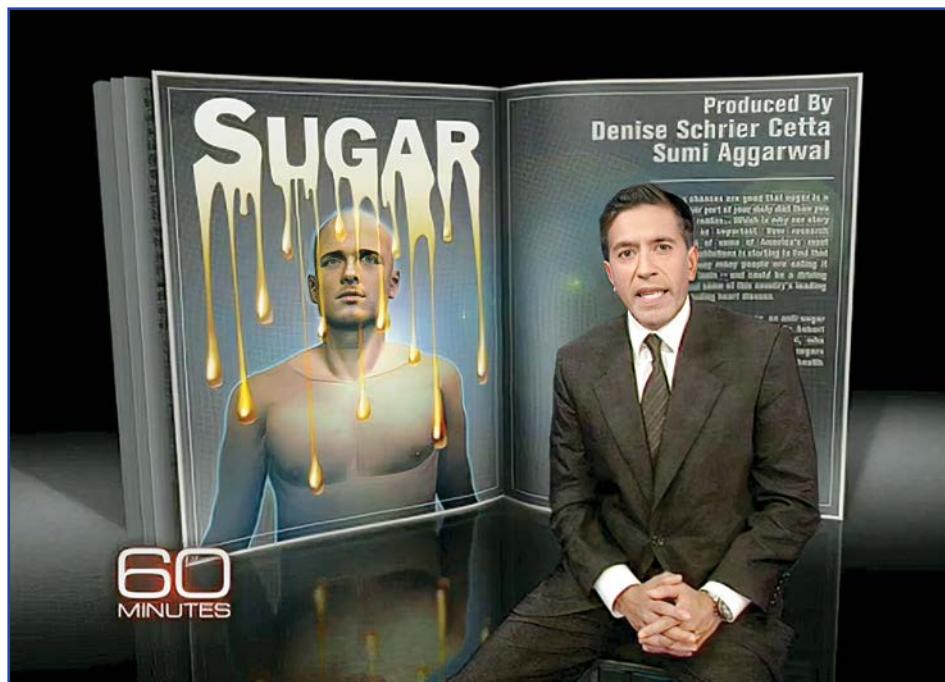
Signs of the End — The Millennium study booklet

by Tom McCall and Zola Levitt

Three Books in One!

First, the Messiah's own Words warn about the conditions that will prevail in the world at the end of God's plan. Are we now approaching the Great Tribulation and the return of our King? Second, Zola and Dr. Thomas S. McCall offer a Biblical perspective on world events. Third, their update, *The Millennium*, makes this a prophecy book of the past, present, and future.

Alcohol, Caffeine, and Sugar



credit: Screenshot, 60 Minutes / CBS News

Would you label enjoying alcohol, caffeine, and sugar as impulses, habits, or addictions?

"Just say no" is my rule for nicotine, vaping, gambling, soft drinks, and anything illegal. In these, I follow the wisdom of the bluegrass song titled *Never Give the Devil a Ride*.

Monitoring and fine-tuning sleep, exercise, and diet yields incredible results for our lives. (See my Note "Gauging Your Temple?" on p. 14 of the April 2024 Levitt Letter.)

The camper's rule, "Less is more," applies well here: the less gear you carry, the more you enjoy nature. Since alcohol consumption too often amounts to a loan against tomorrow's happiness (Prov. 23:30-35), borrowing as little as possible is wise.

I am reminded of this old proverb that may have originated from Japan or Ireland:

First the man takes a drink.

Then the drink takes a drink.

Then the drink takes the man.

Opening of the *60 Minutes* episode "Sugar."

Alcoholism unfolds in three stages. First comes a conscious choice — seeking pleasure or relaxation. Next, loss of control occurs as craving grows and the first drink triggers the next. Finally, dependency takes hold, with addiction in control. Many drinkers fluctuate between stages.

An old Spanish proverb proclaims, "Habits are first cobwebs, then cables." Likewise, Samuel Johnson echoed Proverbs 5:22 when he wrote: "The chains of habit are too weak to be felt until they are too strong to be broken."

Harm reduction and college safety advocates promote the 1-2-4 Rule: no more than 1 drink per hour, 2 per day, and 4 per week. (But zero, certainly, if you are driving or pregnant.) Given that alcohol offers no proven health benefits, wouldn't one drink monthly or even four yearly be a smarter maximum?

Years ago, my strongest craving for beer came after long bicycle rides in the Texas heat. But drinking alcohol when significantly dehydrated is foolish. So, I



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created a stellar recovery drink: equal parts of cold OWYN coffee protein drink mixed with chilled coffee, served on ice. After that, I drink a cold can of Waterloo (sugarless, caffeine-free sparkling water), followed by either hot tea or ice water. This rehydration routine keeps the old beer temptation away. Substitution really works!

Moderating my caffeine consumption is easier since I bought a Maestri House mini coffee scale (around \$32) to ensure consistent coffee strength. Now, I grind my beans daily and don't brew more than one pot unless I'm sharing it.

I limit my coffee in two ways: 1) rarely indulging away from home unless

it's early in the day, and 2) consuming only good quality. I measure and moderate consistently — less is more. These baby steps of steadily, gradually, cumulatively reducing unhealthy habits and vices to virtually nothing — while replacing them with healthy habits — lead to the action

Paul urges in 1 Corinthians 13:11.

Which brings me to sugar — both refined sugar and high fructose corn syrup ("the devil's candy"). Sarah Liberman, writing in her helpful October 2020 *Personal Letter*, acknowledged that sugar was a genuine addiction for her. As a result, Sarah eliminated all processed sugar from her diet and

adopted a plant-based, whole-foods diet to reset her body's chemistry.

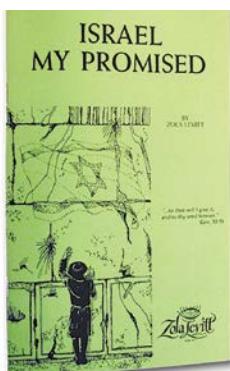
"Sugar" was a *60 Minutes* segment in April 2012. The investigative piece became famous for exposing the addictive nature of sugar and how the food industry hides it in processed foods under various names. The investigation also revealed how sugar stimulates the same reward centers in the brain as addictive drugs, creating a vicious cycle where consumption fuels cravings.

First the man takes a drink.
Then the drink takes a drink.
Then the drink takes the man.

If you need help monitoring your glucose level and sugar intake, consider the Stelo Glucose Biosensor arm

patches and app. Though pricey, this system helps you to track glucose levels and reduce sugar intake. While my wife and I aren't diabetics, we plan to use the patches for a while to develop healthier dessert and snack habits.

If a habit becomes a "cable," you can't simply cut it and leave the ends hanging. You must introduce a new cable in its place. Thinking in terms of substitution rather than deprivation motivates us toward healthier lifestyles (3 John 2) and better stewardship of our temples (1 Cor. 6:19-20). ★



Israel My Promised study booklet

See Israel through the eyes of Zola Levitt, a faithful son who made the land of his Father his life's work. A love letter from a sincere writer to his homeland. An intensely personal and heartfelt look at God's country, one of the most misunderstood lands in all history.

What Is the Procession of the Holy Spirit?

The doctrine of the Procession of the Holy Spirit explains an essential relationship among the triune God and asserts the Spirit's full deity and equality with the Father and the Son.

Theologian A.A. Hodge, writing in *Outlines of Theology*, defined the procession as "an eternal and necessary (i.e., not voluntary) act" by which the Father and the Son communicate their whole, divine essence to the Holy Spirit, "without alienation, division, or change."

Often called the *eternal procession* of the Holy Spirit, this doctrine affirms that the Spirit has *always proceeded* from the Father and the Son. Thus, it upholds that the Spirit was not created, nor is He inferior to the other two Persons of the Trinity.

This teaching was briefly introduced in the Nicene Creed (A.D. 325; revised in 381). In this doctrinal statement, Church leaders affirmed the Holy Spirit as fully divine, personal, and coequal within the Godhead. The Council of Constantinople (A.D. 381) declared this an essential belief, stating that the Holy Spirit is "the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified."

Over time, this teaching became divisive. The Western Church affirmed a *double procession* — wherein the Holy Spirit proceeds from both the Father and the Son. The Eastern Church, however, taught a *single procession* — that the Spirit proceeds from the Father alone.

Dr. Todd Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian
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This dispute centered on the Latin term *filioque* (meaning "and from the Son"), which Western Church leaders added to the Nicene Creed in A.D. 589 to clarify that the Spirit proceeded from the Son and the Father.

Eastern Church leaders objected to the addition, claiming that it diminished the Father's deity and role. Western theologians responded that double procession affirms the full deity and unity of all Persons of the Trinity. The dispute was a primary factor in the split between the Western (Roman Catholic) Church and Eastern Orthodox Church in A.D. 1054.

The *filioque* debate is a secondary matter, not a salvation issue. Still, it should be decided based on Scripture alone. The New Testament supports the double procession of the Holy Spirit. In John 14:16–17, Jesus promises that the Father will send the Holy Spirit to indwell Believers. Afterward, Jesus confirms that both He and the Father send the Holy Spirit to Believers: *"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father..."* (John 15:26). Later, Jesus states that He sends the Spirit: *"...if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you"* (John 16:7).

On Pentecost, the promised Holy Spirit powerfully came on Christ's followers (Acts 2). Since then, the Spirit indwells Believers at the moment of salvation, and He lives in them forever (1 Cor. 6:19). ☩



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*"But when the Helper comes,
whom I shall send to you from the
Father, the Spirit of truth who
proceeds from the Father..."*

JOHN 15:26





"It All Goes Together"

Dr. Todd Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian
To the Jew First (TJF)
Team Leader

During our Gospel outreach to Israel in December 2025, August Rosado and I visited bucolic Galilee. The night before, we secured an interview with renowned Israeli archaeologist **Eli Shukron**. In 2004, he discovered the famed Pool of Siloam, where the man born blind went to wash after Jesus miraculously healed him (John 9). After talking with Eli, we gave him several Messianic Gospel tracts and a complete Hebrew Bible with a teaching pamphlet that defends the Messiahship of Jesus. Eli was very receptive and accepted our gifts with gratitude.

Later in Tiberias, we went to the Big Mall. August and I talked with **Noa** about the benefits of knowing who the Jewish Messiah is and the glorious benefits of salvation that He offers. We explained that God has given His Word through Israel so that Jew and gentile can know that Yeshua is the Messiah. August and I added that Yeshua came to



August and Todd with Eli Shukron

At another store, we met **Avital**. She also welcomed our Gospel witness for Yeshua the Messiah. When we offered



August, Avital, and Todd



Noa and August

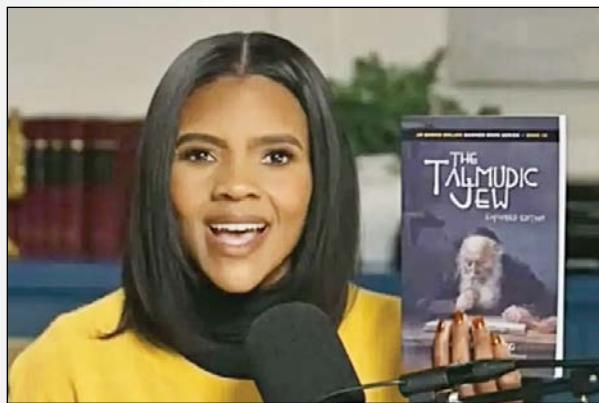
save humans from the penalty of their sin, and that everyone who believes in Him receives salvation and eternal life. Noa responded jubilantly to the Good News. She was eager to learn more after we gave her a complete Hebrew Bible and Messianic Gospel literature.

Avital a complete Jewish Bible, she noticed that it included the New Testament and commented, "It all goes together." August and I agreed and clarified that the Bible is linked through the Messiah, and that both Testaments point to Yeshua as the Messiah who came to save both Jews and gentiles. Avital was also excited to receive the Scriptures and to be able to read the united testimony that they bear about the God-Man from Nazareth.

Thank you for praying for Eli, Noa, and Avital. Please pray that they will know Yeshua as the promised Messiah and will grow in their faith. Also, thank you for your financial gifts that enable our Gospel outreaches to God's people in His land. Star of David

Candace Owens: The New Farrakhan

By Daniel Rosen
JNS.org



credit: Screenshot / Candace Owens Show

In December, Candace Owens urged her audience to read a 19th century anti-Semitic book accusing Jews of controlling the slave trade.

Political commentator Candace Owens said, in response to the U.S. capture of Venezuelan dictator Nicolás Maduro in January, that "the CIA has staged another hostile takeover of a country at the behest of a globalist psychopaths [sic]." She added, "That's what is happening everywhere. Zionists cheer every regime change."

Recently, Owens attacked conservative media personality Ben Shapiro. **Holding a notorious anti-Semitic book, she accused Jewish people of controlling the slave trade.** She also claimed that Jews view non-Jews — particularly Black Americans — as subhuman. She urged her audience to "learn what's in the Talmud," recycling age-old slanders that have incited violence across continents and generations.

Owens, 36, has become the new Louis Farrakhan — the 92-year-old leader of the Nation of Islam. For decades, Farrakhan has been a main agitator of anti-Semitism — comparing Jews to animals, vermin, and more. And yet, he's welcome in many Black circles.

For much of the 20th century, the alliance between Black and Jewish Americans was symbolic of American progress as they allied to end prejudice and pursue equality. That alliance has been badly tarnished in the 21st century, particularly after the 2020 Black Lives Matter march-

es in cities across the U.S., especially in New York City.

Anti-Semitic incidents there are at record highs. Orthodox and Hasidic Jews in Brooklyn have been assaulted on sidewalks, in subways, and outside their homes. Though national conversations typically fixate on white supremacists, Black people commit many of

the physical attacks on visibly Jewish New Yorkers. Stating this truth isn't racism. It is recognizing a reality, and ignoring it is negligence.

When influential voices tell struggling young people that their pain is caused by "the Jews," they incite people to violence. That's how hatred migrates from podcasts to pavement. Somewhere along the line, educators whitewashed the honorable deeds that Jewish people pursued. Instead, the influencers promoted lies about the slave trade and the exploitation of Black people.

Something has gone terribly wrong — especially among those who allow historical lies to replace education. This manipulation leads people to believe that Jews are their enemy. It doesn't help them deal with whatever their challenges may be.

This needs to stop.

Non-Jewish Americans must step up by calling out anti-Semitism when it appears near them. Reject conspiracy theories masquerading as activism. Demand that leaders, educators, and media figures stop disguising hatred as social commentary. Protect your Jewish neighbors — not after the next attack, but now.

The Black-Jewish alliance once helped reshape America. Letting it collapse under the weight of lies and cowardice would be a historic failure. ✡



ZLM Bulletin Board



Anti-Semite of the Year

The American watchdog organization StopAntisemitism, founded in 2018, exposes individuals and groups who incite hatred toward Jews. In December, they named podcaster Tucker Carlson as 2025's "Anti-Semite of the Year." They highlighted his false statements about Israel and platforming people who are infamous for normalizing prejudice against Jews. The organization also noted Carlson's interview with Nick Fuentes — a far-right political commentator known for spreading anti-Semitic rhetoric and lauding Hitler and Stalin. During that interview, Carlson declared that he disliked Christian Zionists more than anyone.



credit: YouTube screenshot
Tucker Carlson on *1819 News: The Podcast*, on Nov. 19, 2025



Do Israeli Lives Matter?

Born in Berkeley, California, Hersh Goldberg-Polin made *aliyah* (immigrated to Israel) in 2008, when he was seven years old. He grew up in Jerusalem, attending the religious Himmelfarb High School. After graduation, Hersh enlisted in the IDF, serving as a medic in the 7th Armored Brigade. For nine weeks during the summer of 2023, he trekked through Europe, attending a series of music festivals along the way. On October 7 of that year, Hamas terrorists kidnapped Hersh from the Supernova music festival. After being held hostage for almost a year, Hersh was murdered in captivity. He is survived by his parents, Rachel and Jon, and his younger sisters Leebie and Orly.



credit: Rachel Goldberg

Hersh Goldberg-Polin

FREE ITEM



Pamphlet of the Month

People who are at least 70½ and have IRAs can make tax-free gifts to qualified charities in amounts up to \$100,000. Did you know that traditional IRA assets are not only subject to income tax when withdrawn during one's lifetime or by survivors, but also may be subject to state and/or federal estate tax if left to loved ones other than a spouse? To receive the free pamphlet ***The Charitable IRA***, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

Request POM #23

Ancient Palestine?

A course at The Open University in the United Kingdom, "Discovering the Arts and Humanities," recently taught that the Virgin Mary was born in "ancient Palestine." Following a legal complaint from UK Lawyers for Israel, the university will stop using that historically inaccurate expression, which contributes to erasing Jewish identity. The course also had referred to Aramaic as a widely spoken language in "ancient Palestine" and included a map with the same name.

"COME HOME!"

Zola Tours to Israel

*See page 36
for details*



The Theology of Purim

Courtesy:
The Jerusalem
Connectionby John Parsons
Hebrew for Christians
Hebrew4Christians.com**לְבָדָם יְחַשֵּׁב דָּרְכָו וַיְהִי יְכִין צְעָדוֹ****"The heart of a man devises its way, but the LORD sets his steps."**

(Proverbs 16:9)

לְבָדָם יְחַשֵּׁב דָּרְכָו וַיְהִי יְכִין צְעָדוֹ
 (2) (1) (1) (2) (2) (1) (2) (1) (2) (1) (3) (2) (1) (2) (1) (1)

taz-a-doh' ya-kheen' va-Adonai dar-koh' ye-cha-shev' a-dam' lev
 his steps sets but the LORD devises its way the heart of a man

Read Hebrew right to left!

The Book of Esther is the only book of the Bible that does not explicitly mention the Name of God. Even so, God's sovereignty and divine providence are clearly implied throughout the entire story. Indeed, the sages teach that the message of Purim concerns the kingship of God, with the term "the king" (**הַמֶּלֶךְ**) appearing over 100 times and the word "kingdom" (**מָלְכָות**) appearing 10 times in the scroll.

The Hebrew phrase *hester panim* (**פְּנִים**), which means "hiding of the face," is often used when discussing the Book of Esther. While God may be hidden by worldly circumstance, He is still very much present, and His providential will is nevertheless at work at all times. God's "hidden hand" is hinted in the name of the scroll itself: *Megillat Esther* (**מְגִילַת אֲסֹתָר**), which can be rearranged to say *megillat ha'seter* (**מְגִילַת הַסְּתָר**), or "the concealed scroll."

In light of the *nes nistar* or "hidden miracle" of the Jew's deliverance, Esther and Mordecai ordained that Purim should be observed as a "day of feasting and merrymaking" and of sending gifts to the poor (Esth. 9:22,28). By the way, the word "Purim" (**פָּסְטָר**) was chosen

because Haman had cast lots (*purim*) to determine the day on which to destroy the Jews.

The holiday of Purim reminds us that the Lord is in control of everything, even when it may seem otherwise (Rom. 8:28). In addition, His supervision reaches to the smallest of details of creation — from subatomic particles to the great motions of the cosmos. God not only calls each star by its own name (Ps. 147:4) but also knows every particular lily and sparrow (Matt. 6:28–30; 10:29). His intimate knowledge applies to people, too. As Yeshua said, even the hairs on your head are all numbered (Matt. 10:30).

Purim also reminds us that God's plans for Israel will never fail and that those who disregard Israel in their theology do so at their peril. The events in the Book of Esther further provide a prophecy for the tyrants of this world who oppress God's people: Like Haman, you are likewise doomed to failure; the Lord will one day vindicate all who trust in Him for deliverance.

Please see the DVD set *Esther: For Such a Time as This* on p. 20.

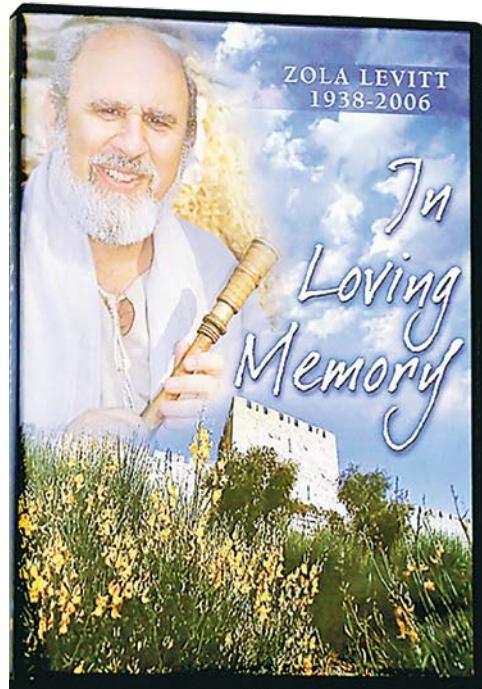


In Loving Memory DVD Two TV Programs on one DVD

These two television productions — *Remembering Zola* and *In Loving Memory* — are dedicated to the viewers and readers who loved Zola like a family member. Join us as we celebrate his work, music, joy in the Lord, and sense of humor. Remember a man who lived to open others' eyes to the beauty of God and His Word.

Remembering Zola is a one-hour television special recorded at Zola's memorial service in Dallas on May 7, 2006. This retrospective of Zola and his ministry includes highlights of past telecasts as well as tributes to a never-to-be-forgotten warrior of the faith.

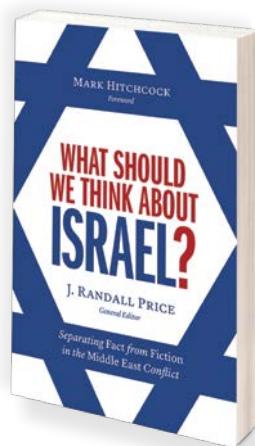
In Loving Memory is a half-hour tribute to Zola by those who knew him best. His widow, Sandra, talks with Zola's family, friends, and co-workers in this special reminiscence of a man who planted seeds of faith in millions of lives.



What Should We Think About Israel?

book

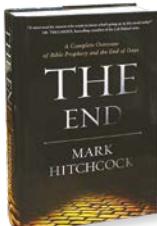
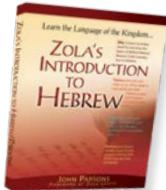
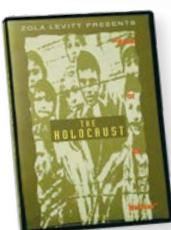
We hear about Israel in the news regularly. But beyond the many opinions and preconceptions, what should we make of the conflicts and controversies in the Middle East? *What Should We Think About Israel?* exposes the current primary issues and provides well-researched, objective facts to help you discover the truth about Israel's past, present, and future. Learn from respected scholars how to look beyond the heated debates and discern for yourself what is important to know about Israel and how that affects you today.





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Esther: For Such a Time as This

DVD set

Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

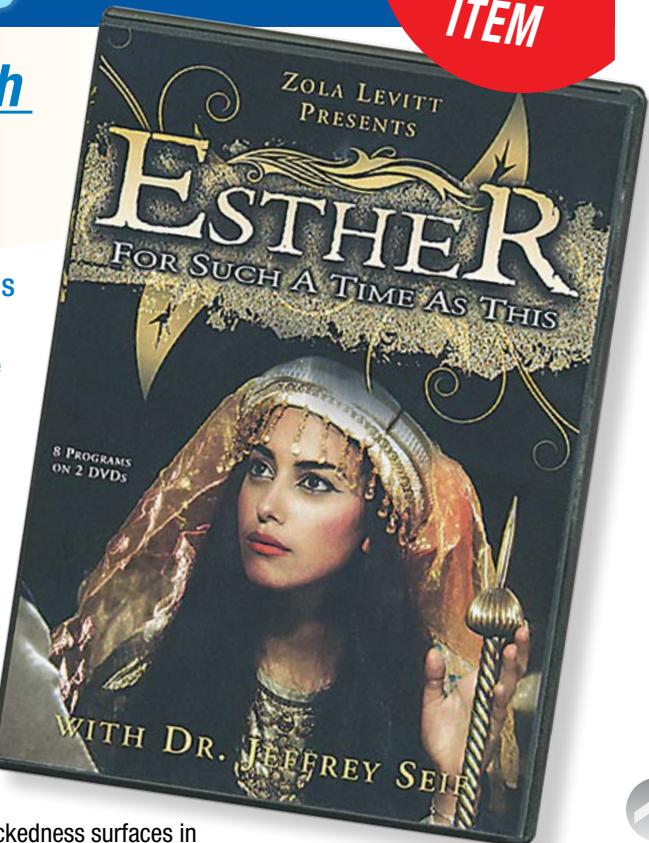
The Book of Esther is one of the Jewish people's favorites. In this series, Dr. Jeffrey Seif explains the story's details and points out that, like Esther, we Believers may be alive for such a time as this.

Beautiful Inside and Out Does God use women? Yes! We consider Esther's rise and Queen Vashti's fall, and how God elevates individuals to places of influence — then as now.

Chosen for a Purpose Though wickedness surfaces in every generation, God positions His people to thwart the devil's plans and fulfill His own. We examine Mordecai and Esther's placement — and our own, for we are also called to God's work.

Called to be Courageous Faced with a plot to destroy the Jews, Esther wavers but decides her sacrifice is worthy: "If I perish, I perish!" If only we all had such resolve!

Undone by a Woman Our story's heroine hatches a plan to thwart the scheming Haman. The once-sheepish Esther arises as a shepherdess, boldly taking on the wolf, guiding the saga to its conclusion.



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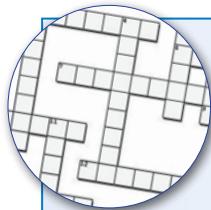
God Rewards the Righteous God uses irony to give the wicked and the righteous their "just deserts."

Justice at Last! Our story's villain meets his inglorious end as he becomes the object of his own wicked scheme. Seeing the triumphal outcome of righteousness and faith encourages us in our own lives.

Fight We Must! Even with Haman gone, the Jews had to defend their homes and families. Spirited self-defense is Biblical.

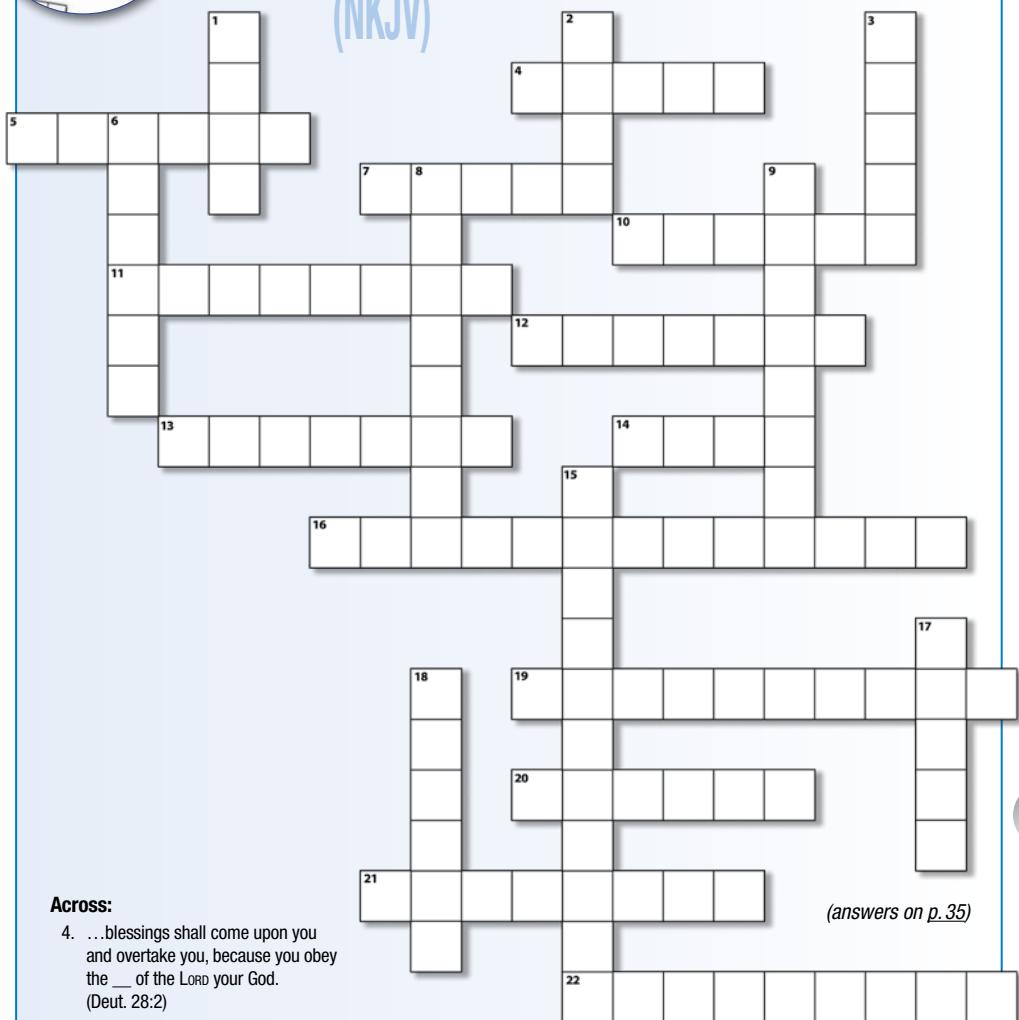
The Triumph of God in Human History God turns our mourning into joy. The Jews are instructed to commemorate God's saving power and goodness in an annual celebration, Purim. We should all celebrate God's goodness, thereby banishing the clouds of despair.

Please see "Purim: A Happy Ending..." [on the cover](#) and "The Theology of Purim" on [p. 16](#).



Crossword March 2026: "Counting Our Blessings" (NKJV)

by Andrea Davis



Across:

4. ...blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the ___ of the **Lord** your God. (Deut. 28:2)
5. Blessed be the God and ___ of our Lord Jesus Christ... (Eph. 1:3)
7. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from _____. (James 1:17)
10. And my God shall supply all your need according to His ___ in glory... (Phil. 4:19)
11. Blessed are You, O **Lord**! Teach me Your ___. (Ps. 119:12)
12. Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the _____. (Ps. 1:1)
13. Blessed are the meek, for they shall ___ the earth. (Matt. 5:5)
14. God shall bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall ___ Him. (Ps. 67:7)
16. Blessed are those who are persecuted for ___ sake... (Matt. 5:10)
19. Blessed is the man who endures ___; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life... (James 1:12)
20. I will make you a great ___; I will bless you and make your name great... (Gen. 12:2)
21. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have _____. (John 20:29)
22. ___ belongs to the **Lord**. Your blessing is upon Your people. Selah (Ps. 3:8)

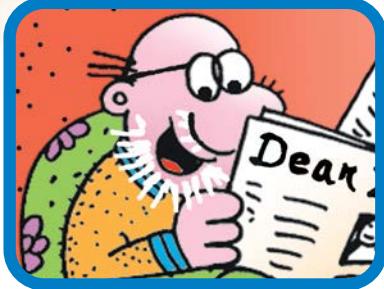
(answers on p. 35)

Down:

1. The **Lord** bless you and ___ you; (Num. 6:24)
2. Blessed is the man who trusts in the **Lord**, and whose ___ is the **Lord**. (Jer. 17:7)
3. ...I will multiply your descendants as the ___ of the heaven... (Gen. 22:17)
6. ...Blessed is the man who ___ in Him! (Ps. 34:8)
8. The ___ of the **Lord** makes one rich... (Prov. 10:22)
9. So they shall put My name on the ___ of Israel, and I will bless them. (Num. 6:27)
15. Blessed are the ___, for they shall be called sons of God. (Matt. 5:9)
17. Blessed are those who ___, for they shall be comforted. (Matt. 5:4)
18. The memory of the righteous is blessed, but the name of the ___ will rot. (Prov. 10:7)



To Index



Letters to ZLM

Some letters have been edited for space. For ministry products and TV programs, visit levitt.com. Access the web store and free video archives by clicking on the headings "Store" and "Watch."

Rediscovering ZLM

From D.L.: I just "rediscovered" y'all, that is, Zola Levitt's ministry. For many years, I was glued to *Zola Levitt Presents*. Zola was the only Bible teacher I knew back then who was a Messianic Jew, loved Yisrael, and spoke profound truth about Yasser Arafat — back when Arafat was the prevailing thorn in Yisrael's side. It seemed like there were so few of us Messianic Believers.

I moved to Yisrael and had lots of unusual things come down my path — some taking me off my path! But I never forgot Zola. I finally looked him up and discovered that he died in 2006. I was sorry to hear this. I see that his sons have taken up his mantle, and I'm so happy to learn this. I've subscribed to the [Bearded Bible Brothers' YouTube channel](#) and plan on watching it a lot!

While looking through levitt.com, I saw that Sarah Liberman is also connected to your ministry. I'm so excited. I listen to her all the time on Spotify; her voice is heavenly. When I feel rattled, I listen to Sarah and I feel the *shalom* of Yeshua calming me. She's such a blessing! *Shalom Aleichem.*

Shalom, D.L.,

Thanks for sharing your encouraging story of making *aliyah*. Although losing a general in the faith like Zola was heartbreaking, other Messianic Jews rose up to teach in his place. Zola's son Mark leads the ministry. We (the Bearded Bible Brothers) are not Zola's sons, but we now teach on television, with material often filmed in Israel. Our God truly works in multiplication as more Jewish people have come to faith at this time than at any other time in history! —Love, Joshua and Caleb



Learning from the BBB

From D.I.: Blessings, dear brothers. I would not know any of Israel's history if I wasn't learning from you. I read books of the Old Testament, but in most of it, I just didn't understand the names, tribes, lives, and so on.

I am sad that gentiles like me don't pray and thank God for Israel and God's Chosen People. The Jewish people have brought so much good to the world. They've also gone through so much to survive and just want to live in peace. I have seen so much of Israel through your videos. I truly am grateful to you and all others in your videos. I love Israel, and I love the Jewish people.

Dear D.I.,

Your love and heart for Israel is God's heart. We will continue to speak and stand for truth as the world and many churches, unfortunately, have turned against the Jewish people. —Love, Joshua and Caleb

(continued on next page)

What Are You?

From E.G.: Are you guys Jews or Christians?

Dear E.G.,

We are Jews by blood who believe in Jesus. So, we have no problem being called Christians, but typically we're referred to as Messianic Jews.

—Blessings, Joshua and Caleb

Go Boys, Go!

From I.M.: I have been a long-time contributor to your ministry. I was always partial to the shows where Zola interviewed guests about the End Times. I am now in my mid-70s and have to say that I love the Bearded Bible Brothers' TV program. I appreciate their humor and teaching. I didn't know Zola personally, but I can imagine him in Heaven saying, "Go boys, go!" Keep up the good work. May God bless you abundantly with favor and the finances you need to continue doing His work.

Dear I.M.,

Thank you for your support of this ministry and for your encouraging words. —
Blessings, Joshua and Caleb



Bring Back Dr. Jeffrey

From C.C.: I've spent a long time praying and thinking about this, but the truth is the truth. I do not demean our wonderful God's Word, but try as I might, I can't stomach the Bearded Bible Brothers. After the once wonderful *Our Jewish Roots* became the BBB show, I was done. Please bring back Dr. Jeffrey. I will continue to support the ministry with my giving, but less in 2026.

Dear C.C.,

"Dr. Jeffrey" hasn't gone anywhere — at least in the sense that you still can see all of the fine Bible teaching TV series that he created over many years. Please visit levitt.tv to see for yourself: You're still able to watch Dr. Seif as much as you want, anytime you want, for free. Moreover, the BBB's programs continue to improve because Joshua and Caleb are paying attention to viewers' constructive criticism, which, by the way, is far surpassed by the many accolades of their program. —Mark



Thanks for the BBB

From R.C.: Thank you for continuing the Bearded Bible Brothers on your television program. I've contributed through the website because of all your TV programs.

May God protect and bless the brothers, their loved ones, and everyone associated with the ministry. Also, thank you for sending me the free *Levitt Letter*.

Dear R.C.,

Thank you for helping us continue to spread the Gospel of Yeshua. This is your ministry and outreach. May the Lord bless you for your service.

—Blessings, Joshua and Caleb

(continued on next page)

The New Covenant

From D.D.: I read Jeremiah 31:31–34, in which the prophet communicates God's view of the original Covenant given to the Jewish forefathers who traveled from Egypt. God was their constant companion with a tower of smoke and a pillar of fire. Jeremiah states:

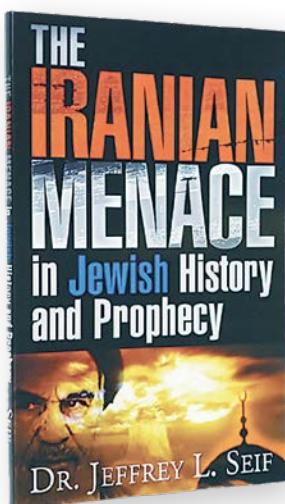
"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new Covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the Covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt because they broke my Covenant, though I was a husband to them ... This is the Covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put the law in their minds and write it in their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor or man his brother, saying 'Know the LORD.' For they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest." declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and remember their sins no more."

Clearly, guys, God is explaining that a complete and all-inclusive revival of the entire Jewish people is required to realize this New Covenant. You're trying to reclaim land that God gave to you "If you remained faithful and adhered to His laws." This is not the current reality in Israel. The people are lost and wandering. Only a remnant is being faithful. God wants the Jewish people to bow down and worship Him like they did from time to time in the desert. Only Moses held them accountable. This is your mission.

Dear D.D.,

The New Covenant that Jeremiah prophesied is available not only for Jews but also for gentiles. For the Jews to receive Yeshua as their Savior, however, God uses the gentiles to provoke them to jealousy. It's important to remember that the Covenant that the Hebrews broke (referenced in Jer. 31:32) was the Mosaic Covenant. Yet the eternal and unconditional Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 12:1–3; 13:15; 15:18–21; 17:7–8) allots the Jewish people the right to the land of Israel — NO STRINGS ATTACHED!

They do not have to perform or obey, just be. Breaking the Mosaic Covenant meant only a temporary expulsion from the land. Now that the Jews have returned, and Israel was reborn on May 14, 1948, God promises in Amos 9:15, "*I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them,' says the LORD your God.*" — Blessings, Joshua and Caleb ☩



The Iranian Menace in Jewish History and Prophecy

book By Dr. Jeffrey Seif

Iran is central in End Times prophecy. At a time when Iran has captured the world's attention with nuclear threats, Jeff harnesses Scriptural and secular evidence to support his case for the Iranian-Armageddon connection. After glimpsing Iran in ancient Roman and Jewish histories, you will learn the significance of prophecy in the Jewish Scriptures and apocalyptic literature. Jeff's analysis is based on sound Scriptural understanding and two decades of academic contemplation.

Please see the article "The Mystery of the Persian God" on p. 6.

UN Spends \$100 Million Yearly Targeting Israel

By Amichai Stein
JPost.com



The United Nations spends roughly \$100 million per year on reports, debates, special mechanisms, and communication activities dedicated almost exclusively to singling out Israel and the Israel Defense Forces. "These are orchestrated campaigns, well-funded and well-established within the UN budget," noted Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon.

"Sometimes they do it directly, such as through committees that address Palestinian issues. Many times, it is disguised under different names and organizations, but the actual activities are pure propaganda against the State of Israel."

The recent analysis identifies UN bodies such as the Division for Palestinian Rights and multiple General Assembly committees whose sole purpose is to promote the Palestinian cause.

Dozens of debates and at least 100 reports are produced annually on Israel and the Palestinians, many of them repetitive, politically driven, and one-sided. This amounts to millions of dollars annually, not including travel and staffing.

While Israel seeks to shed light on UN funding, "most countries tend to ignore it," Danon noted. "And even though we exposed this, the UN will continue to fund these activities."

The UN's Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva and its commission of



credit: ananline / iStock / dollar sign added

inquiry on Israel — established in 2021 with an open-ended mandate — costs an estimated \$4 million annually. The HRC has increasingly adopted the language of delegitimization, genocide accusations, and economic warfare. This group has also compiled a "blacklist" of companies operating in Israeli-controlled areas, along with special rapporteurs who receive UN resources while advancing overtly political agendas.

Israel's mission to the UN claims that many of these bodies engage in advocacy and reporting that fuels international legal action against Israel and strengthens global BDS campaigns.

In exposing the UN's allocation of budgetary funds, Israeli officials hope to put an end to a system that has normalized discrimination, rewarded bias, and wasted vast sums of the public's money. "We are grateful to the U.S. mission, which is taking a moral stand against the funding of these bodies," Danon added. "Despite the huge amount of money directed against Israel, we will continue to stand strong and proud against the bias of UN organizations." ★



Turning Windows into Power Sources

By Pesach Benson, TPS
UnitedWithIsrael.org



credit: EES Solar

Israeli scientists have developed a new 3D-printed solar panel that is both semi-transparent and color-tunable. The breakthrough could allow buildings to generate electricity without sacrificing natural light or aesthetic appeal.

The research was led by Prof. Shlomo Magdassi and Prof. Liow Etgar of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The team created a solar cell design that produces electricity while allowing control over light transmission and the color of the panels.

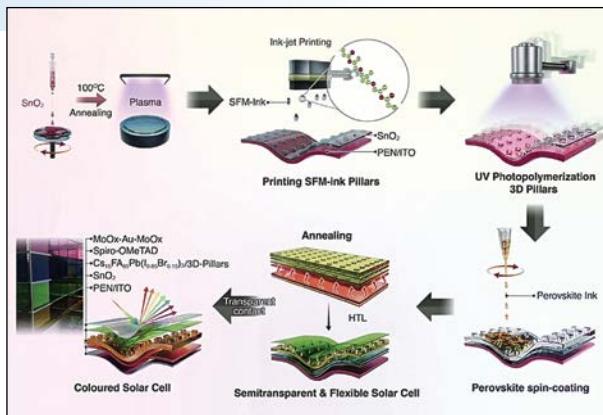
"At the heart of the design is a pattern of microscopic polymer pillars created using 3D printing," Magdassi explained. The tiny pillars act like carefully shaped openings that regulate light transmission without altering the solar material itself.

"What's especially exciting is that we can customize both how the device looks and how flexible it is, without sacrificing performance," Etgar explained. "That makes this technology particularly relevant for solar windows and for adding solar functionality to existing buildings."

By adjusting the thickness of a transparent electrode layer, the panels can reflect selected wavelengths of light, producing different colors while also generating electricity.

Laboratory tests showed power conversion efficiencies of up to 9.2%, with roughly 35% visible transparency. The cells maintained their performance even after repeated bending and extended operation, demonstrating stability that is essential for real-world architectural use.

Looking ahead, the researchers plan to enhance long-term durability through



Schematic of the main steps involved in the fabrication of a colorful, semi-transparent, flexible perovskite solar cell

protective encapsulation and barrier layers.

The new solar panels can be integrated into windows, glass walls, and façades. This would allow offices, homes, and commercial spaces to generate electricity without blocking natural light or compromising design.

Their flexibility makes them suitable for curved or unconventional surfaces that traditional rigid panels cannot cover, opening the door to more creative architectural designs.

Beyond new construction, the technology could retrofit existing buildings, adding solar functionality without major renovations.

Color customization lets designers seamlessly match panels to a building's aesthetic, while lightweight and flexible construction could extend applications even to temporary structures or portable devices.

Combined with environmentally friendly manufacturing that avoids high heat and toxic solvents, these solar cells offer a practical, scalable solution for sustainable energy in urban and architectural environments.

The study was published in the peer-reviewed *EES Solar* journal.



To Index

Functional Human Kidney Grown in Lab

By Diana Bletter
TimesOfIsrael.com



In a world first, Israeli researchers have successfully grown human kidney organoids — a synthetic 3D organ culture — using kidney tissue stem cells. The organoids matured and stayed stable for 34 weeks, which is the longest-lasting and purest set of kidney organoids ever developed.

"We have succeeded for the first time in growing a human kidney in the form of an organoid from the specific stem cells of the kidney," noted Prof. Benjamin Dekel, who directed the research. "This is in parallel with the maturation process in the uterus that occurs until the 34th week of pregnancy."

Dekel is director of the Pediatric Nephrology Unit and the Stem Cell Research Institute at the Safra Children's Hospital at Sheba Medical Center and director of the Sagol Center for Regenerative Medicine at Tel Aviv University.

According to Dekel, the study may shed light on processes that lead to kidney diseases.

Previous kidney models were grown using pluripotent stem cells — special cells that can develop into brain, heart, or kidney cells. Dekel explained the process: "Life begins with pluripotent stem cells, which can differentiate into any cell in the body. But after about a month, the kidney in culture died, and the process had to be started again."

About a decade ago, his research group was able to isolate the human kidney tissue stem cells that are responsible for the growth of the organ. "Growing

a fetal kidney can shed new light on biological processes in general, and in particular on processes that lead to kidney diseases," Dekel stated.

He added that the researchers were able to selectively block different signaling pathways in the organoid to see how it could lead to a birth defect.

"We are actually seeing 'live' how a developmental problem leads to kidney



Prof. Dekel wears many hats as a physician-scientist.

credit: Sheba Medical Center



diseases that are seen in the clinic," he noted, adding that this will "enable the development of innovative treatments."

The ability to grow kidney tissue stem cells outside the body over time "opens the door to regenerative medicine, that is, transplanting kidney tissue grown in the laboratory inside the body," he explained.

"We now have an essentially inexhaustible source of different kidney cells," Dekel added, "and a better understanding of their different roles in kidney development and function."

The findings were published in the prestigious publication *The EMBO Journal*. 

Another Pro-Israel Christian Joins Trump Administration



credit: Frank van Beek / UN Photo / courtesy of ICJ

Joshua Simmons speaks at an ICJ public hearing on the request for an advisory opinion on Israel's obligations to provide aid to Palestinians, April 30, 2025.

Another pro-Israel Christian has assumed a senior and influential position in the Trump administration. Joshua Simmons made a name for himself in Israel defending the Jewish state against slanderous charges at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague. Recently, Simmons was appointed general counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), placing him at the legal core of U.S. intelligence and national-security decision-making.

Simmons has never publicly assumed the label of "pro-Israel Christian," let alone Christian Zionist. Nor does he openly emphasize his faith in his professional field, though he did describe himself as Christian in a 2013 interview. Still, his background speaks for itself — suggesting a man driven by faith and dedicated to defending Israel and the Jewish people.

In his new role, Simmons will serve as the top legal authority inside the CIA, responsible for overseeing the agency's most sensitive legal questions during a time of global realignment and intensifying geopolitical challenges.

His elevation reflects a broader shift inside the Trump administration toward unapologetic defense of allies, particular-

ly Israel, against lawfare and diplomatic coercion.

From The Hague to Langley

Prior to his CIA appointment, Simmons served as principal deputy legal adviser at the U.S. State Department, and earlier as a partner at Wiley Rein LLP, where he co-led the firm's international disputes practice.

His name became widely known in Israel and pro-Israel legal circles in 2025, when he represented the U.S. at the ICJ. There, Simmons forcefully pushed back against efforts to impose new, politically motivated "legal obligations" on Israel during its war against Hamas.

At the ICJ, Simmons articulated a clear position: International law cannot be twisted into a weapon to protect terrorist organizations or punish democracies for defending their citizens. His arguments emphasized Israel's right — and obligation — to defend itself against Hamas, while highlighting how international institutions are increasingly exploited for ideological warfare rather than justice.

He also rebutted charges brought by South Africa accusing Israel of genocide in Gaza. Simmons dismissed the claim as exploiting the Genocide Convention





for political aims, asserting that South Africa was "appropriating the language of human rights in service of a campaign against the existence of a member state of the United Nations."

His presentation was widely praised in pro-Israel circles, with many noting the legal clarity and moral conviction he brought to the defense of the Jewish state.

Holocaust Justice and Moral Framework

Simmons' professional record also includes a quieter but morally significant achievement: He helped negotiate a U.S.-France agreement on Holocaust deportation claims, which enabled compensation for Holocaust survivors and their families. That work placed him at the intersection of law, history, and moral accountability — an area where legal precision alone is insufficient without a guiding ethical framework.

It's in this context that Simmons' Christian background becomes relevant — not as a political slogan, but as part of a coherent personal profile.

A Christian Worldview

Beyond government service, Simmons is also a published novelist, writing under the pen name J.B. Simmons. His books — primarily in the thriller and speculative-fiction genres — are openly marketed as Christian fiction and are categorized as such by major retailers, including Amazon.

The novels explore themes of moral choice, good versus evil, human agency, accountability, and truth under pressure — all hallmarks of Christian storytelling. The faith dimension is not incidental; it is central to the genre in which he writes and the audience to which the books are directed.

While Simmons does not publicly sermonize about his beliefs, his books offer a coherent picture of a faith-informed

worldview that translates into public service.

Why This Appointment Matters

The CIA general counsel is not a symbolic role. It shapes how intelligence operations are reviewed, authorized, constrained — or defended — under U.S. and international law. Simmons' appointment signals that the Trump administration is placing experienced legal hands at the center of intelligence policy, at a time when Israel, Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas, and international legal bodies increasingly intersect.

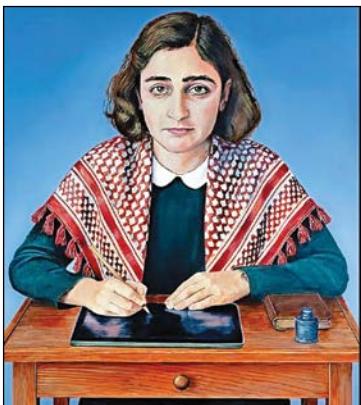
For Israel, the significance is clear: an American official who has already demonstrated willingness to confront legal hostility head-on is now positioned inside one of Washington's most powerful institutions.

For critics who insist that faith-based support for Israel is emotional or unsophisticated, Simmons represents the opposite. He is a lawyer's lawyer — fluent in international statutes, treaty law, and institutional process — who nevertheless operates from a moral framework that refuses to treat Israel as a uniquely illegitimate state.

Simmons' rise fits into a broader pattern within the Trump administration: Christian officials who support Israel not as a talking point, but as a strategic and moral imperative. This doesn't mean that policy is driven by theology. It means that individuals shaped by a Judeo-Christian moral tradition are increasingly unwilling to accept the inversion of values that dominates international forums — where terrorists are treated as victims and democracies as aggressors. 

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painting credit:
Fluxus+ Museum
photo credit:
Wikimedia Commons

SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

Ciervo's painting beside the 1940 photo of Anne Frank at her school desk

Outrage Over Painting of Anne Frank in Keffiyeh

By Ze'ev Avrahami / YNetNews.com

A painting showing Anne Frank wearing Palestinian attire has drawn criticism from Israeli officials and Jewish groups. They say that the piece equates Israel with Nazi Germany and desecrates Holocaust memory.

The painting, by Italian artist Constantino Ciervo, is part of an exhibition at the Fluxus+ Museum in Potsdam, Germany. It reimagines the iconic photo of Frank at her desk but shows her wearing a Palestinian keffiyeh — typically a political symbol.

The Israeli Embassy in Germany denounced the piece as "a prime example of a growing artistic trend: **Behind the mask of artistic freedom lies a normalization of historical distortion, anti-Semitism, and, ultimately, terrorism.**" Officials accused

Ciervo of portraying Jews as "modern Nazis."

Though the embassy and some Jewish organizations called for the painting's removal, Ciervo and museum director Tamás Blaneschy refused. They insisted that the piece is a legitimate form of political criticism targeting Israeli policy. "This work is about Israeli actions, not Judaism," Ciervo claimed in a video that

denied anti-Semitic intent. Blaneschy also defended the piece, noting that "there never will be a place for anti-Semitism in our institution."

Volker Beck, Israeli-German Friendship Association chairman, filed a formal police complaint against the exhibition's curators. He argued that the painting trivializes Holocaust suffering and violates Germany's obligation to preserve Holocaust memory. **"It suggests Israel is doing to Palestinians what the Nazis did to Anne Frank,"** Beck stated. "Even if the artist is protected by freedom of expression, curators have a duty to prevent attacks on the dignity and memory of Jewish victims."

Amb. Huckabee's Grandchildren Discover Ancient Coins in Samaria

By Talia Wise / CBN.com



Gov. Sanders (in green) and her family participated in an archaeological tour in Samaria that led to an exciting discovery.

Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders' children found five rare coins near ancient Shiloh in Samaria. The governor and her family joined her father, U.S. Am-



credit: Yesha Council / TPS-IL

bassador Mike Huckabee, on a visit to the Holy Land during the Christmas holiday.

Professional archaeologists guided the family on a cave tour near Na'ela in the Binyamin region of Samaria. The children carried metal detectors through the cave.

"In the first cave, which is known to area residents, we found a fragment of a jar from the second century [A.D.]," explained Dr. Dvir Raviv, a senior lecturer in the Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University. "This is proof that the cave served refugees during the Bar Kokhba Revolt."

As the group explored a second cave, the children found five coins. Brimming with excitement, they screamed, "Grandpa, look what we found!"

Raviv stated that the coins were possibly from the Bar Kokhba Revolt period, the Great Revolt, or the late Roman period.

"Watching my kids uncover and hold coins buried for more than 2,000 years was unforgettable," Sanders related. She added that the trip was "another reminder that the Holy Land isn't just a place we see on the news — it's foundational to the Christian and Jewish faiths alike."

Ambassador Huckabee was delighted with his grandchildren's discovery. He stated: "There's a warm corner in my heart for ancient Shiloh. It's amazing to arrive at this place, which proves that miracles can happen — 3,000 years ago and also today."

Jewish Woman Touted by the Nazis as "Ideal Aryan Baby" Dies at 91

YNetNews.com

Hessy Levinson Taft, who as an infant was labeled the "ideal Aryan baby" despite being Jewish, died in January in San Francisco. She was 91.

Her picture appeared on the cover of a German magazine in January 1935, after winning a contest organized by the Nazi propaganda apparatus to find the most beautiful Aryan baby.

Hans Ballin, a well-known photographer in Berlin, submitted 10 photographs. One of them was of Hessy, whose Jewish parents had taken her to his studio when she was a baby. Ballin later admitted that he knew she was Jewish, but he submitted the photo as an act of quiet defiance. *"I wanted to mock [the Nazis], to make fools of them,"* he explained.

After their daughter's image was widely circulated, Taft's parents were afraid of being identified. Initially, they avoided taking her outside. Then in 1938, the family fled to Paris. They moved to Cuba in 1941, where they lived for several years before finally settling in the U.S.

Taft studied chemistry at Columbia University and later became a professor



A 2014 photo of Taft holding the magazine with her photo



credit: Ohad Zwigenberg

at Princeton University. She and her husband, Earl Taft, a mathematics professor, had two children.

In 2014, Taft was asked how she felt about being labeled the "most beautiful Aryan baby." She replied, "I feel revenge. I wish I could have said that earlier, when more Nazis were still alive." 

Long-time *Levitt Letter* readers may recall Hessy Taft's story from ["Nazis' 'Perfect Aryan Baby' Was Actually Jewish," on the cover of the September 2014 *Levitt Letter*.](#) —Editor

Mikveh from Second Temple Era Discovered Beneath



credit: Emil Aladjem / IAA

Above: The excavation area beneath the Western Wall Plaza
 Left: A coin recently uncovered in the excavation



credit: Emil Aladjem / IAA



To Index

A rock-hewn *mikveh* dating to the final days of the Second Temple period was uncovered recently during excavations conducted by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) and the Western Wall Heritage Foundation. The ancient ritual bath was sealed beneath a layer of ash and pottery from the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

According to Jewish law, a *mikveh* was the primary means of achieving ritual purity. The practice stems from Biblical requirements for purification, particularly before entering the Temple or handling holy objects. The *mikveh* must contain approximately 200 gallons of water from a natural source — rainwater, spring water, or melted snow.

Immersion in the *mikveh* removed ritual impurity contracted through various

means, including contact with the dead, certain bodily emissions, and other sources specified in the Bible. For the Jews of Jerusalem during the Second Temple period, maintaining ritual purity was not an optional spiritual practice. Instead, it was a daily necessity for anyone wishing to participate in Temple worship or even navigate the sacred city.

The newly-discovered *mikveh* measures approximately 10 feet long, 4.4 feet wide, and 6 feet high. Hewn into bedrock, its walls are plastered. Four steps lead into the bath from the southern side. The excavation also revealed numerous pottery vessels within the destruction layer, along with stone vessels from the Jewish population that lived in the city before A.D. 70.

"Jerusalem should be remembered as a Temple city," explained Ari Levy, excavation director on behalf of the IAA. "As such, many aspects of daily life were adapted to this reality. This is reflected especially in the meticulous observance of the laws of ritual impurity and purity by the city's residents and leaders. Indeed,

Western Wall Plaza

By Adam Eliyahu Berkowitz
Israel365News.com



the saying 'purity spread in Israel' was coined in this context.

Among the most prominent archaeological finds representing this phenomenon are ritual baths and stone vessels, many of which have been uncovered in excavations throughout the city and its surroundings. The reasons for using stone vessels are *halakhic* [governed by Jewish law] — and rooted in the recognition that stone, unlike pottery and metal vessels, does not contract ritual impurity. As a result, stone vessels could be used over long periods and repeatedly."

The location itself tells a story. The excavations beneath the Western Wall Plaza are located near the site of the ancient Temple and the main entrances to it, which were in use some 2,000 years ago — the Great Bridge to the north and

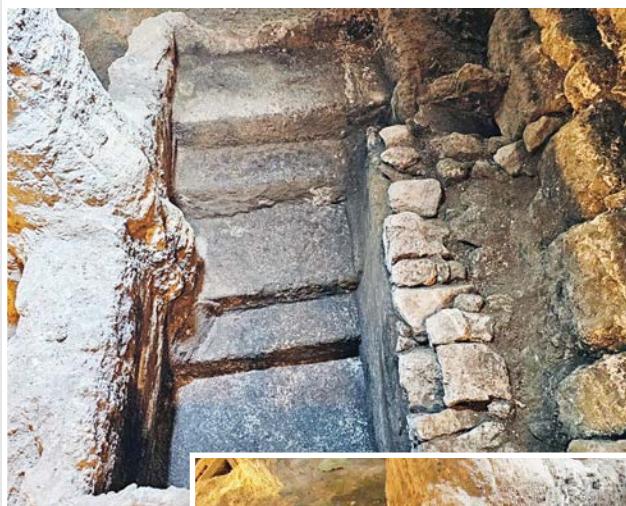
Robinson's Arch to the south. Additional discoveries in the area attest to ritual purity-related activity, including other *mikvot*, stone vessels, and artifacts. Researchers believe that the *mikveh* served the Jews who lived in the area as well as the many pilgrims who frequented the site and the Temple.

These archaeological discoveries do more than confirm historical accounts — they make Jerusalem's Jewish past visible and undeniable. Every *mikveh*, every stone vessel, every layer of ash speaks to Jewish presence, Jewish practice, and Jewish continuity in this city. The bedrock into which this *mikveh* was carved is the same bedrock that supports Jerusalem today.

The Jews who descended these four steps to purify themselves before entering the Temple were the spiritual

ancestors of every Jew who stands at the Western Wall today. The ash that sealed this *mikveh* came from fires that consumed the Second Temple, but the Jewish connection to Jerusalem survived that destruction, just as it has survived every attempt to sever it since. ★

credit: Ari Levy / IAA



Above: Four steps lead to the *mikveh*.

Right: Workers clear debris from the excavation of the *mikveh*.



credit: Emil Aladjem / IAA



To Index

Arson Suspect Called Jewish Congregation a “Synagogue of Satan”

By Grace Gilson
JTA.org



credit: Beth Israel Congregation



The Beth Israel Congregation synagogue sustained extensive damage from the arson attack.



The man arrested for allegedly setting fire to a Jackson, Mississippi synagogue in January confessed to the FBI that he had targeted the congregation due to its “Jewish ties.”

Stephen Spencer Pittman, 19, of Madison, Mississippi, was charged with maliciously damaging or destroying a building by means of fire or an explosive. When informed of his rights at the hearing, Pittman responded, “Jesus Christ is Lord.”

The blaze at the Beth Israel Congregation, Jackson’s only synagogue, destroyed two of the congregation’s Torahs as well as its library and offices.

During an interview with the FBI and local law enforcement, Pittman confessed that he started the early-morning fire at the synagogue, which he referred to as a “synagogue of Satan.”

Pittman explained that he had stopped at a gas station to purchase the gas used in the fire, removed his license plates, broke a synagogue window with an ax to gain entry, and then used a torch lighter to start the fire.

Prior to the blaze, Pittman texted his father photos of the building and messages including, “There’s a furnace in



Text messages from Stephen Spencer Pittman to his father

the back,” “Btw my plate is off,” “Hoodie is on,” and “they have the best cameras.”

Despite his father’s pleas to return home, Pittman replied that he was due for “a home run” and “I did my research.” Later, the teen allegedly laughed as he told his father about the incident and bragged that “he finally got them.”

As a student, Pittman was a high achiever. He made honor roll in high school at Madison’s St. Joseph Catholic School more than once. Pittman’s X account featured a link to a website promoting “Scripture-backed fitness” as well as a Bible quote that read, *“In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus”* (1 Thess. 5:18). ★

While Pittman was burned during the attack, no others were injured. The Beth Israel Congregation was founded before the U.S. Civil War. In 1967, the Ku Klux Klan bombed both the synagogue’s office and the rabbi’s home. No one was killed during those incidents. —Editor



To Index



Jewish Humor, etc.

A cheerful heart is good medicine —
Proverbs 17:22

Israel is a Healthy Place

Abe was visiting Israel for the first time. After his plane landed, he caught a taxi to his hotel. The taxi driver was very friendly and gave Abe all kinds of useful information.

Abe asked the driver, "Is Israel a healthy place?"

"Oh, yes, it really is," the driver answered. "When I first came here, I couldn't say a single word. I had hardly any hair on my head, and I didn't have the energy to walk across a small room. I even had to be helped out of bed every day."

"That's remarkable, truly amazing," Abe said. "So how long have you been here in Israel?"

"I was born here," the driver replied.



Answer Key for March 2026 Crossword (p.21)

Across:

4. Voice	1. Keep
5. Father	2. Hope
7. Above	3. Stars
10. Riches	6. Trusts
11. Statutes	8. Blessing
12. Ungodly	9. Children
13. Inherit	15. Peacemakers
14. Fear	17. Mourn
16. Righteousness	18. Wicked
19. Temptation	
20. Nation	
21. Believed	
22. Salvation	

Down:



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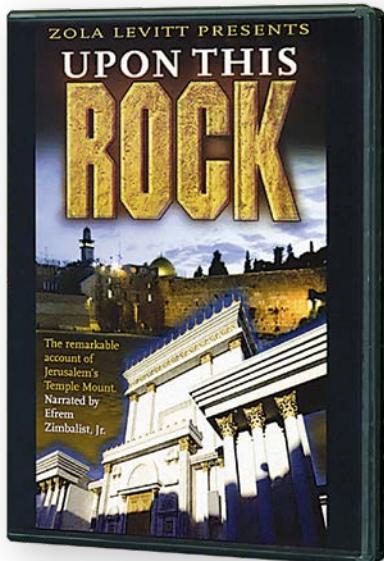


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The
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