



# Levitt LETTER

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

inside - page 8

About Passover and Resurrection Sunday



Detail of *The Last Supper*, painting by Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519), Santa Maria delle Grazie, Milan, Italy

## Significant Connections Between Passover and Easter

By Arielle Randle / JewsForJesus.org

The first time I celebrated Easter was in high school with the family of my gentile Christian boyfriend. But watching normally modest adults hunt for plastic eggs and gleefully unwrap chocolate bunnies and marshmallow chicks struck me as something straight out of *Alice in Wonderland*.

Later that week, my boyfriend experienced his own bewilderment as my family dipped our fingers into glasses of sweet wine only to spill out 10 droplets each, all while shouting Hebrew words in unison. He found it all very intriguing and mystical, but we lost him when the gefilte fish came out.

Passover and Easter couldn't be more different from each other in their foods, rituals, and traditions. But surprisingly, they are intimately linked. Here are

*(continued p.4)*

### REMEMBER:

**Passover week:** Sunset Wed., April 1 to sunset Thur., April 9  
**First Fruits/Resurrection Day:** Sunday, April 5

## Sen. Ted Cruz: The Jews Didn't Kill Jesus

WorldIsraelNews.com

Republican Senator Ted Cruz lambasted claims by fellow Christians that Jews were responsible for the death of Jesus. Cruz called the accusation historically inaccurate, theologically false, and fundamentally bigoted.



credit: arplus / iStock

*(continued p.2)*



# Sen. Ted Cruz: The Jews Didn't Kill Jesus

*continued from cover*

credit: Screenshot / Verdict with Ted Cruz



In January, the senator hosted conservative pundit Ben Ferguson and former Auburn Tigers basketball coach Bruce Pearl on his podcast, *Verdict with Ted Cruz*. During the discussion, Pearl, who is Jewish, challenged anti-Semitism based on the claim that Jews killed Jesus, while appearing to affirm that Jews were indeed responsible. “You could either look at the Jews and say, ‘Well, you all killed Christ ... killed our God.’ Okay, well, was it not God’s plan to send His Son to die so that you would be brought into covenant with Him? Wasn’t that His plan?” Pearl asked.

“Does it really matter who killed Him?” Pearl continued. “Jesus was Jewish.”

“... Jews didn’t kill Jesus —  
I did. You did. He died for our sins....”

Cruz responded that the claim of Jews killing Jesus is factually incorrect. He added that it also contradicts Christian dogma regarding the death of Jesus.

Then, Cruz repeated the statement that he tweeted prior to Christmas: “Two thoughts that drive the anti-Semites crazy in this Christmas season. Number one, our Savior Jesus was Jewish, in the line of David. And number two, Jews didn’t kill Jesus — I did. You did. He died for our sins. That’s what the New

Testament says. [Jesus] willingly took the Cross to die for our sins.”

Speaking to anti-Semites who say that Jews killed Jesus, Cruz continued, “Actually, it was Romans who drove the nails in. Is anyone mad at the Italians?”

The senator closed by saying that blaming the Jews is “just stupid. It’s bad theology; it’s bigotry. I will admit I was kind of happy with that tweet because it really did drive the anti-Semites crazy.” ✨





**6** **Bearded Bible Brothers®**  
**6 Pesach — Crown Jewel or Sacred Cow?**



**8** **Classic Zola**  
**8 About Passover and Resurrection Sunday**



**10** **A Note from Mark**  
**10 Coping with Your Cup**



**12** **Ask the Chaplain**  
**12 What Is the Anointing of the Holy Spirit?**



**13** **Christian Zionism over Christian Arabism**



**16** **Parsons: Hebrew Lesson**  
**16 The Intimacy of Passover**

**18 ZLM Order Form**



**21 Crossword Puzzle**



**22 Letters to ZLM**



**25** **There's Something About Israel That Makes People Uncomfortable**



**26** **Science**  
**Israeli AI Turns Rifles into Drone Killers**



**27** **Medicine**  
**27 Implant Offers Hope for Millions with Diabetes**



**28** **When Christian Worship is a Crime: The Deadliest Era in Modern History**



**30** **Muslim Focus**  
**30 If America Doesn't Stop Islamic Migration, It Will Share Europe's Fate**

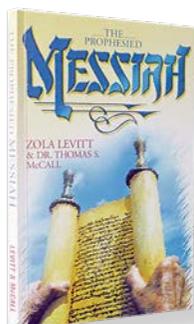


**32** **Archaeology**  
**32 Pilgrims' Flask Mold Reveals Ancient Souvenir Industry**



**34 Select Media Briefs**

**35 Jewish Humor**



## **The Prophesied Messiah** book and bookmark

**The Prophesied Messiah** book contains the major prophecies of the Messiah, along with color photos and Holy Land maps from our television series of the same name. It's extremely important that Believers are able to prove Yeshua as Messiah from Old Testament Scripture, thus showing objective evidence that our Lord is indeed "The Prophesied Messiah." Comes with a free **Prophesied Messiah** bookmark.



Please see the letter "Stop Converting Jews" on [p. 23](#).

# Significant Connections Between Passover and Easter

*continued from cover*

seven connections between Passover and Easter that may change the way you look at these holidays.

## 1. The events that Easter celebrates occurred in Israel during Passover.

The written accounts of Jesus' life on Earth — the Gospels — record that the last week of His life occurred in connection with Passover. Jesus came to Jerusalem that week in obedience to the Torah's command to appear at the Temple for the feast, and there He celebrated Passover with His closest friends.

The following day, Jesus died. On the third day of Passover week, Jesus rose from the dead. Thus, for centuries, Christians have celebrated His miraculous resurrection, which many refer to as Easter.

## 2. Passover is mentioned 28 times in the New Testament

All of the early Believers\* celebrated Passover. Paul, one of the first rabbinic scholars to become a follower of Jesus, taught extensively on the significance of Passover. He referred to Jesus as "our Passover lamb" and emphasized the connection between Jesus' death and the sacrifice of the perfect, spotless Passover lambs each year.

Long before Easter became a holiday, followers of Jesus celebrated His resurrection each Sunday, because He rose on the first day of the week. This tradition continues in the Church today.

## 3. There's a surprising "lamb connection" between Passover and Easter.

In Sephardic Jewish tradition, the *afikomen*—a fragment of the middle matzah — is understood as representing the Passover lamb. Before eating the *afikomen*, all participants

must say, "In remembrance of the lamb." This declaration recalls what Jesus commanded the night before His death when He took a piece of unleavened matzah and stated, "*This is My body given for you, do this in remembrance of Me*" (Luke 22:19).

As the Jewish writers of the New Testament later explained, Jesus identified Himself with the sacrificial Passover lamb. This connection explains why lamb became a traditional menu item at many Easter meals. Likewise, it explains why followers of Jesus everywhere use bread to remember Him during the communion service. Many church liturgies even reference Passover directly whenever communion is observed.

## 4. The wine of Christian communion has roots in the wine of the Passover seder.

Rabbis teach that Passover wine should be red as a reminder of the blood of the sacrificial Passover lamb. That brings insight into some of Jesus' words at the last Passover seder He celebrated with His disciples. Just before drinking the third of four cups of wine (the Cup of Redemption), Jesus said, "*This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood*" (Luke 22:20).

Those words sound shocking to some, as if Jesus were advocating drinking human blood. However, when we understand that Jesus identified Himself with the sacrificial Passover lamb, it's clear that He was using well-known Jewish tradition and applying it to Himself.

Christians continue to recite Jesus' words during communion. And in both the Jewish and Christian ceremonies, red wine represents the blood that redeems humanity.



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

## 5. A season of cleansing sets the stage for both Passover and Easter celebrations.

Preparation is essential for the Passover celebration. We prepare by cleaning our homes of bread, by shopping, cooking, and planning. And we prepare through personal reflection.

These actions bear a striking resemblance to the Christian practice of Lent, a season of spiritual and physical preparation for the celebration of Easter. Some Christians fast and even mark themselves with ashes — a symbol of death — as a reminder of the need to reflect and repent before commemorating Jesus' resurrection.

hope of freedom and renewal in this lifetime (1 Cor. 15:20).

## 7. Both Passover and Easter teach us that redemption must be personal.

Every Passover, the Haggadah instructs each of us from every generation to view ourselves as though we personally were rescued from Egypt: *"You are to tell your son on that day saying, 'It is because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt'"* (Ex. 13:8). The real power of Passover is not in a history lesson. Rather, it's in a heartfelt recognition that because of God's provision, each one of us lives not as a slave, but free.



... Easter and Passover ... share not only themes and history, but also the same purpose in giving those who observe them a small taste of the sweetness of redemption.



## 6. Both Passover and Easter celebrate freedom from slavery.

For Jewish people, liberation from slavery in Egypt is one of the central narratives of Scripture. At every Seder, the Passover symbols help to retell the story of God's incredible victory over the Egyptian gods, achieving our freedom by His mighty hand and outstretched arm.

The New Testament explores a different type of slavery — to the curse of sin and death that every human suffers (Rom. 6:1-23). Jesus' death and resurrection provided a victory over this curse, the promise of a future resurrection for His followers, and the

In the same way, an authentic Christian is someone who has embraced Jesus as their personal Messiah (translated *Christos* in Greek) — their Redeemer from spiritual slavery. The Christian's personal belief in the resurrection of Jesus leads to a personal experience with the power of the Resurrection.

Certainly, Easter and Passover are two very different celebrations. Nonetheless, they share not only themes and history, but also the same purpose in giving those who observe them a small taste of the sweetness of redemption. ✨

Please see *The Miracle of Passover DVD*, study booklet, and CD on [p. 36](#).



# Pesach — Crown Jewel or Sacred Cow?



credit: pameia d mcadams / iStock

*Pesach* [Hebrew for “Passover”] has come! Zola Levitt once declared that Passover is the “Crown Jewel” of the Feasts of the Lord. Most Jewish people, whether religious or not, observe the yearly Passover *Seder* because it’s tradition. And you’re not Jewish if you don’t follow tradition! Tradition is the “sacred cow” of Judaism that cannot be touched. Yet many Jewish traditions aren’t Biblically based, and some are even downright pagan.

If we declared that the modern Passover *Seder* had been infiltrated by pagan symbolism, you’d probably hear a pin drop. The fear in our gentile audience’s eyes would be palpable, but the rage in our Jewish brethren’s eyes would be arresting. And we’re not even referring to the “progressive” additions to the *Seder* plate that include an orange for LGBTQ+ equality, a banana for refugees, and Fair-Trade chocolate. (Sadly, all of these are true!)

Not surprisingly, Zola also highlighted the Babylonian influence on the *Seder*

plate with the inclusion of the egg. Other than the *maror* (bitter herbs), the other items on the plate are inventions of Judaism, which was influenced by the Babylonian *Talmud* and the ancient Babylonian mystic cult. Most of the symbolic Passover foods point to spring, rebirth (of the pagan deity Tammuz), and fertility — all originating from the Babylonian New Year Akitu Festival. Actually, Satan has meticulously woven pagan Babylonian religious influences throughout Catholicism, Islam, and yes, even Christian holidays such as Ishtar’s feast — Easter.

The mystic influence on Judaism goes beyond the *Seder* plate. Rituals like dipping a finger in wine and sprinkling it to represent the ten plagues is an ancient practice intended to ward

off evil spirits with a drunken bribe. It shouldn’t be surprising that the Jewish people are incredibly superstitious — their fascination with the occult (Kabbalah) reveals this. And yet, the Torah forbids such practices that were observed

Zola Levitt once declared that Passover is the “Crown Jewel” of the Feasts of the LORD.





by pagan nations. Deuteronomy 18:10-11 warns, *“Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.”*

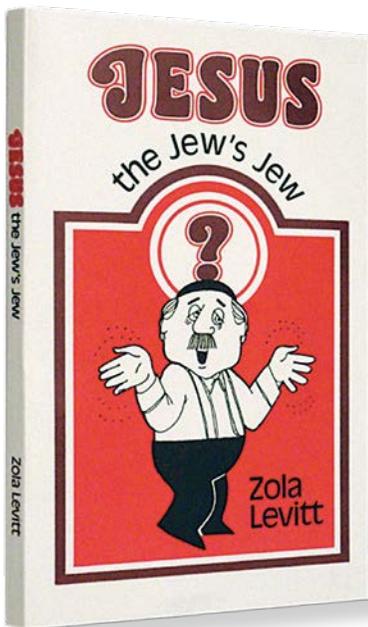
Now to the good! Messianic Jews have struggled with adding spiritual connections to modern Passover practices. The hidden *afikomen* (matzah) bread can clearly represent Yeshua the Passover Lamb. Likewise, the third cup — the Cup of Redemption — of the Lamb’s blood is another powerful tool pointing to Messiah. **We’re not dissuading Christians and Jews from participating in any of these Feasts. Instead, we want to point everything to our Savior.**

Thankfully, we Messianic Believers have a better way to celebrate Passover, since we can’t sacrifice a lamb at the Temple. Yeshua “re-branded” Passover with the

communion elements. Knowing that His people would botch the celebration in the future, He simplified it. Matthew 26:26-28 emphasizes the two essentials of Yeshua’s sacrifice: The bread is His body; the wine is His blood. The Gospel really is simple! Even a child can understand and enter the Kingdom of God.

Passover is the “Crown Jewel” — the ultimate sign and example. Foreshadowing Yeshua’s death, burial, and resurrection, it points our people to the final sacrifice: the Lamb of God. This Passover, we choose to strip back the pageantry, spectacle, and tradition to focus on relationship — the love of our Messiah for us! ✨

Love, Joshua and Caleb



## Jesus, the Jew's Jew book and teaching CD

Zola’s first book addresses his heritage and his faith — an especially fresh and unvarnished look at the world unique to Jewish Christianity, a witness to the Chosen People, and Zola’s personal testimony.

*“Let’s face it. Jesus is Jewish. He always was and He always will be. He never ‘converted’ to anything. But it almost seems as though this fact is something to be spoken of in whispers. **How could God’s Son be one of them?** How could the very founder of Christianity, that great ‘non-Jewish’ religion, get away with being Jewish?” (Excerpt)*

This makes an excellent gift for a Jewish friend.

Please see the letter “Stop Converting Jews” on [p. 23](#).





# About Passover and Resurrection Sunday

Passover and Resurrection Sunday are coming up. Passover, the most basic Bible study of them all and the occasion when the Lord instituted the Last Supper, is almost like secret information to be circulated by Messianic Jews to the Christian community. I remember when Dallas Baptist University — in days when they cared more about accurate Bible teaching — asked me to do a Passover demonstration.

around the world know their seven feasts, along with their tabernacle types, and are capable of demonstrating a full Passover in all its glory. What witnesses they must be compared to the politically correct and woefully unknowledgeable graduates of today!

You may notice that I do not use the term “Easter” in reference to Resurrection Sunday. That term is just incorrect and doesn’t accurately appear in Scripture at all. **Easter**

**recalls the name of Ishtar, the Babylonian goddess of fertility.**

The Babylonians held a fertility festival every spring, putting on new outfits as the trees were budding and worshipping the things

First Fruits is the Biblical name of Resurrection Sunday, and we should use it.

The president at that time was so fascinated that he immediately appointed me to teach a course called “Christ in the Old Testament,” which I taught for two years. Many of my former DBU students

in nature that represented fertility: the rabbit, the egg, etc. They played with eggs and painted them, I presume. When we think about it, what we call an egg hunt is actually an attempt at pregnancy!



by Zola Levitt  
from 2000:  
26 years ago

credit: Wikipedia



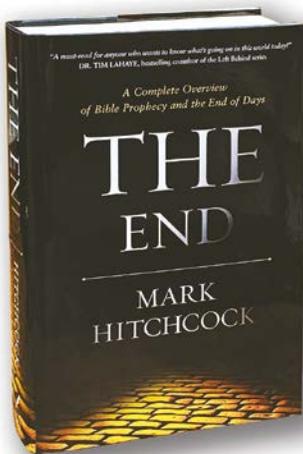
The Garden Tomb outside ancient Jerusalem

How all this pagan foolishness got mixed up with our Lord's Resurrection is one of the amazing calamities of incorrect doctrine. Fertility and resurrection are entirely different, of course. Every plant and every cockroach is fertile, but one obtains resurrection only from belief in Jesus Christ.

First Fruits is the Biblical name of Resurrection Sunday, and we should use it. It reminds us that if there is a first, then there must be a succession of numbers in the resurrection. Indeed, as Paul states, "...every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming" (1 Cor. 15:23). Evidently, we all have a number in the upcoming resurrection at the time of the Rapture. Scripture asserts: "The dead in Christ shall rise first" (1 Thess. 4:16). Obviously, deceased Believers have earlier numbers.

The above lesson is part of the Passover and Seven Feasts studies, which are obtainable through this ministry, but usually not at Christian seminaries. The knowledge is valuable. Its basis is in Israel, of course, where it has been commonly understood for thousands of years. There's something about that place that really increases one's comprehension of spiritual things. ☆

Please see [The Seven Feasts of Israel](#) (DVD set, booklet, and CD) on [p. 17](#).



## [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.

To  
Index

Back to  
p. 17

# Coping with Your Cup

Live Like You Were Dying album cover (2004)



Tim McGraw's 2004 song "Live Like You Were Dying" speaks of a man who gets bad news from his doctor and then makes choices about living his time left on Earth. The song's message centers on experiencing life to its fullest, while also becoming a better person. It's had over 44 million hits on YouTube.<sup>1</sup>

Financial columnist Scott Burns wrote an article titled, "Giving: Now, Later, or After?" (Read highlights on pp. 12–13 of the March 2022 *Levitt Letter*.) Burns noted that "Someday Philanthropists" are usually over 70 with no pressing need to provide for immediate family. He suggests that the financially blessed become "Now-ists" — giving away some of their nest egg now while they can observe the results.<sup>2</sup>

"*My cup runneth over*," from Psalm 23:5, symbolizes an abundance of blessings and divine provision exceeding one's needs. It reflects the psalmist's over-

flowing thankfulness and total reliance on God. The psalm emphasizes God's provision for us Believers beyond our basic needs. Modern translations express it, "my cup overflows."

And yet, a recent Gallup poll indicates that many Americans' cups are not overflowing. Their hope for the future has fallen to a new low.

Only 59% gave high ratings when projecting how good their lives will be in five

years — the lowest measure since Gallup began asking this question 20 years ago. Throughout 2024 and 2025, nearly 90% of consumers reported that rising costs had adversely impacted their spending habits.<sup>3</sup>

On average, Baby Boomers (born 1946–1964) are more affluent than Generations X, Y/Millennials, Z, and the Silent Generation combined. Now aged 62 to 80, Boomers benefit from early home ownership, long-term market

"Silent millionaires" may embrace a "stealth wealth" lifestyle: avoiding debt, focusing on privacy, and living simply.

appreciation, compounded interest, and inheritances. Many of them are becoming "silent millionaires" who live modestly, prioritizing financial freedom over status symbols.





“Silent millionaires” may embrace a “stealth wealth” lifestyle: avoiding debt, focusing on privacy, and living simply. They may be generous with friends, family, and favorite charities. My prayer is that at least some of those reading this article will become ready, willing, and able to take their donations to our ministry to the next level. May I offer some reasons as to why I pray this for them?

“Sudden Wealth Syndrome” — wealth anxiety — is often considered a “good problem to have.” For those experiencing it, however, it can lead to paralyzing indecision, lack of purpose, and a peculiar misery — perhaps from the stark realization that wealth cannot buy happiness. Consider Yeshua’s admonition about this: *“Verily I say unto you ... It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.”* (Matt. 19:23–24).

Fortunately, Believers realize that we are merely stewards of what belongs to God (Ps. 24:1; 1 Chron. 29:14; 1 Cor. 6:19–20). The Lord entrusts us to manage rather than own the possessions, property, and assets that we have. After all, we can’t take them with us. Recognizing that our cups overflow leads us to give not only from our abundance but also sacrificially, forsaking luxuries that mean nothing to eternity (Matt. 6:19–21; 1 Cor. 13:11).

With stocks routinely reaching all-time highs, many devoted Believers are accumulating mountains of unrealized capital gains. Liquidating stocks and real estate would result in burdensome capital gains taxes. Dying with such assets intact could result in them being mismanaged or squandered. Burns’ “Now-ists” seize opportunities to donate directly from those funds to their favorite charities, legally avoiding certain taxes — and avoiding rendering too much unto Caesar.

You can contribute securities to this ministry via Vanguard as follows:

### Vanguard

P.O. Box 982901  
El Paso, TX 79998

For certified or overnight delivery:  
Vanguard

5951 Lockett Court, Suite A1  
El Paso, TX 79932

Please provide Vanguard or your broker with the following information:

Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc.

Tax ID Number 751680391

Vanguard Account # 6150223

DTC # 0062 Vanguard’s routing  
# 021000021

Vanguard’s toll-free number is  
1-800-337-8476

*“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required”* (Luke 12:48). May we all live like we were dying — especially to self and sin — and thus bear spiritual fruit (Phil. 1:21). Imagine the impact that our ministry’s teaching could have on the outlook of those whose doctors will advise they’re going to die soon. By supporting our Bible teaching efforts, you can play a meaningful role in enabling lost souls, physically healthy and not, to look forward to meeting their Maker. ✨

<sup>1</sup> [https://youtu.be/\\_9TShIMkQnc?si=jkeSMD\\_qmFDKPgmF](https://youtu.be/_9TShIMkQnc?si=jkeSMD_qmFDKPgmF)

<sup>2</sup> [ScottBurns.com/giving-now-later-or-after](https://scottburns.com/giving-now-later-or-after)

<sup>3</sup> <https://bit.ly/3MnwNQY>

# What Is the Anointing of the Holy Spirit?

Dr. Todd Baker  
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Staff Theologian  
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To understand the Spirit's anointing, we begin with the Hebrew word *mashiach*, which means "to pour, rub, or anoint with oil." In the Old Testament, prophets, priests, and kings were anointed with oil as a visible sign that God had chosen and empowered them for a special purpose. This act symbolized the presence and power of the Holy Spirit enabling the individual to fulfill God's will.

The title *Messiah* (Greek *Christos*, the basis for our English word Christ) comes from *mashiach*. Therefore, when we confess Jesus as the Messiah, we affirm that God the Father uniquely chose and empowered Him for a special purpose: to deliver sinful humanity from sin, Satan, and death.

In the synagogue at Nazareth (Luke 4:16–21), Jesus declared that the Spirit had anointed Him to proclaim the Gospel, heal the sick, and set captives free. This was in fulfillment of Isaiah 61:1–2. After Jesus' ascension, Peter confirmed that "*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power,*" and that He "*went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil*" (Acts 10:38).

As our Prophet, Priest, and King, Jesus was perfectly anointed to proclaim God's Word, offer Himself as the final sacrifice for sin, and reign forever as Lord of all.

Everyone who is born again through faith in Jesus Christ is indwelt or anointed by God's Holy Spirit. Through

the centuries, there has been much false teaching about the Holy Spirit's anointing. Yet Scripture never presents aberrant actions or bizarre behavior — such as people falling out, crawling on the ground, barking like dogs, roaring like lions, or laughing uncontrollably — as evidence of being anointed by God's Spirit.

Instead, every Believer is anointed for Godly living and faithful service. John teaches that this anointing comes only from God, abides in Believers, and instructs them in truth (1 John 2:20, 27). The Spirit's anointing also enables Christians to discern truth from error and to remain in Christ.

In the New Testament, anointing with oil is also associated with prayer and healing. Jesus' disciples healed the sick and anointed them with oil (Mark 6:13). And James 5:14 instructs church leaders to anoint the sick and pray for them to be healed. Thus, the anointing oil symbolizes the Spirit's healing and empowering presence.

Without the Holy Spirit's anointing, Believers could neither serve effectively nor please God as we live on this Earth. Yet because God has anointed us with the full measure of His Spirit, we have everything we need for life and Godliness through our knowledge of Jesus Christ. He has called us by His grace and anointed us with His Holy Spirit for His own glory and goodness (2 Pet. 1:3). ✨



*His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence.*

2 PETER 1:3



# Christian Zionism over Christian Arabism

By Shadi  
Khalloul  
JNS.org



I have read the recent statement by The Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem warning against so-called “damaging ideologies” like Christian Zionism. As a native Aramaic Christian living in Israel, I feel I must respond — not to create division, but to share the truth about what life is really like for Christians living in the Holy Land.

**Christian Zionism is not a political ploy.**

It is rooted in the Bible. God spoke of the daughter of Zion and loved His fellow Jewish people. Christian Zionism honors that Biblical heritage while affirming the rights and

those numbers have collapsed to roughly 32% in Lebanon, about 5% in Egypt, and less than 2% in both Iraq and Syria.

The leaders who signed this statement live in the very systems where Christian communities have nearly disappeared. Christians fell from 11.6% of the population in 1910 to less than 0.5% in Gaza and under 0.2% in Judea and Samaria (the “West Bank”) today.



credit: Jana Shimonov



credit: Canaan Lidor / Times of Israel

**Above:** Shadi Khalloul shows a document attesting to the pro-Zionist attitudes of Maronites in 1947

**Left:** Shadi Khalloul with a 17<sup>th</sup>-century Aramaic Bible, saved from the Maronite church in Kafr Bir'im when the village was evacuated in 1948

freedom of Christians and Jews in the land where Jesus lived. It is an expression of faith, not a tool to “sow confusion” or “harm the unity of our flock.”

**Christian Arabism is what is damaging.**

This ideology, historically, has erased entire Christian communities, stripped away our Aramaic language, converted churches into mosques, and forcibly Islamized Believers. Christians in the Middle East have lived as second-class citizens, with constant discrimination and the looming threat of violence in the best-case scenario. In the worst, they’ve had to flee their homelands or be slaughtered.

In 1910, Christians made up 77.5% of Lebanon’s population, 18.7% in Egypt, 15.6% in Syria, and 6.3% in Iraq. Today,

Yet instead of confronting why their flocks collapsed under Arab and Islamist rule, they condemn Christian Zionists who strengthen the Christian communities in Israel.

This is the historical reality of what happened when Arabs invaded and conquered our lands.

**By contrast, Christians are full citizens in Israel.** We vote, serve in the army, hold elected office and freely worship without fear of persecution.

Yet Christian Zionism is framed as a “damaging ideology” by the Patriarchs. I feel sorry for them because they live in constant fear of the terror and brutal force of Muslim invaders in our original Christian lands. I understand their caution and their



To  
Index



credit: Screenshot @AFFpost / X

The Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem

inclination to appease those who rule over them.

Their role is spiritual, not political. This is why I act, and why I urge my brothers and sisters in Israel and the Levant to act as a national Aramaic people, building civil leadership to defend our rights and heritage. We must be able to speak freely and feel safe.

**I proudly call myself a Christian Zionist** — not because I reject the Church, but because I am a free Christian living under a government that protects my rights, my faith, and my people. Zionism has

brought education, prosperity, and freedom to all citizens, including Christians. Native Christians are prospering in Israel.

Christian Zionists love Christianity and the land of Christ. Christian Arabists are acting against the Christian brotherhood by defending and appeasing Islamic invaders.

I say this with conviction: We cannot ignore history, Scripture, or reality, even if they are becoming unpopular or sound harsh. I will continue to advocate for my people — as a Christian, as an Aramaic, and as a citizen of Israel. ✨



## #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.



# ZLM Bulletin Board



credit: Screenshot @OilLondonTV / X

A Times Square billboard on Dec. 24, 2025

## Jesus — A Palestinian?

During the height of the Christmas season, a billboard in Times Square lit up with a single message: “Jesus is Palestinian.” Funded by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, the digital ads drew immediate backlash from tourists who deemed the message to be an inflammatory political statement disguised as a religious dialogue. The billboards were a calculated attempt to rewrite history and erase Jewish identity from the land where that identity was forged.



To Index



To p.36

credit: Troufanov family



Vitaly Troufanov

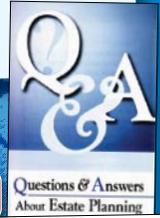
## Do Israeli Lives Matter?

**Vitaly Troufanov**, 50, was murdered on October 7, 2023, by Hamas terrorists in Kibbutz Nir Oz, where he lived.

Hamas kidnapped his wife, Yelena, their son, Sasha, his mother-in-law Tati, and Sasha’s fiancée, Sapir Cohen, and took them to Gaza. (They were later released.) Vitaly’s body was located and he was buried several weeks after the Hamas massacre. He had immigrated to Israel from Russia 25 years earlier and worked in agriculture on the kibbutz.

## Austin Honors CAIR

On January 22, 2026, the far-left City Council of Austin, Texas proclaimed “CAIR-Austin Day.” This brazen act defied Governor Greg Abbott’s designation of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) as a foreign terrorist organization. Moreover, such action adds to the city’s new permanent Muslim Heritage Month resolution to institutionalize Islamic influence, launder grievance narratives, and prioritize ideology activism over Texas public safety. Why celebrate a group with documented ties to Hamas support networks?



FREE ITEM

## Pamphlet of the Month

**Questions & Answers About Estate Planning** discusses embracing the future by taking time to prepare for it. After explaining what occurs without a plan, the pamphlet suggests how to begin creating one. It also touches on ways to complement a will, including trusts, joint ownership arrangements, and beneficiary designations. Finally, it suggests ways to make charitable gifts within estate plans while enjoying immediate tax savings. To receive a free copy, email [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

Request POM #5.





Courtesy: The Jerusalem Connection

## The Intimacy of Passover

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



יְהִי־חַסְדְּךָ יְהוָה עָלֵינוּ כַּאֲשֶׁר יִחְלְנוּ לָךְ:

“May Your love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope for You.”  
(Psalm 33:22)

לָךְ	נִי	יְחַלְנוּ	יְהוָה	עָלֵינוּ	כַּאֲשֶׁר	נִי	יְחַלְנוּ	לָךְ
(1)	(3)	(2)   (1)	(1)	(3)	(2)   (1)	(3)	(2)   (1)	(1)
lakh	yee- <b>chal</b> '-	noo	ka-a- <b>sher</b> '	a- <b>ley</b> '-	noo	Adonai	ye- <b>hee</b> – <b>chas-de-kha</b> '	
for You	we hope	even as	be upon us	O LORD	may Your love			

Read Hebrew right to left!

Unlike some rituals and practices of organized religion, the Passover *Seder* takes place at home, not in a sanctuary. In addition, it may be conducted by anyone, rather than only by professional clergy or a rabbi.

The heart of the *Seder* is a shared meal (*shelamim*) that celebrates our connection with family, friends, and all the “called out” people of God who take refuge in His promises. Such intimacy is altogether fitting, since the Passover was foreshadowed first by the sacrifice of the lamb when the Lord covered the transgression of Adam and Eve in the Garden. Afterward, God promised the coming Savior who would ransom humanity from the curse of death (Gen. 3:14–19).

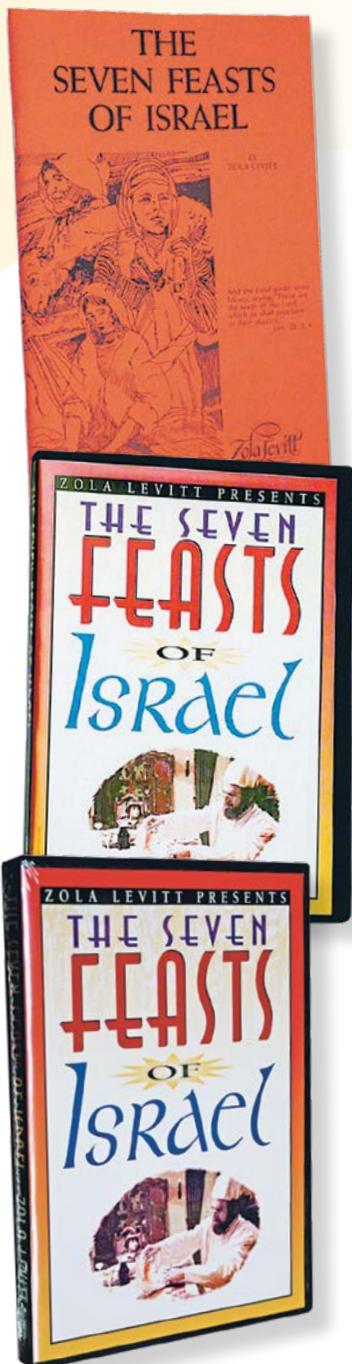
Adam’s faithful son Abel later reaffirmed God’s promise by offering the fat of the lamb (Gen. 4:4). The promised blessing was subsequently reenacted by faithful Abraham’s sacrifice of the ram in place of his son Isaac (Gen. 22). Later, of course, the faithful of Israel

affirmed the promise when they sheltered under the blood of the Passover lamb at the time of the Exodus (Exod. 12:3–13).

In each case the blood of the lamb is central. It covered the shame of Adam and Eve’s transgression. The lamb’s blood expressed faith in the coming Savior who would deliver us from the curse of the *nachash* (serpent). It exemplified the heart of God’s compassion by substituting the lamb for Isaac. And it redeemed the families of Israel during the initial Passover in Egypt.

**Most of all, however, the Passover Seder foretells and recalls Yeshua’s sacrifice on our behalf — He is the great “Lamb of God” who delivers us from our slavery to sin.** Therefore, we heed the Torah’s general rule about the holidays: “*You shall rejoice in your festival*” (Deut. 16:14). We do this by delighting in the salvation of God and by embracing our family and friends in the sure hope of eternal life. Amen. ✨





## *The Seven Feasts of Israel*

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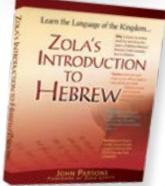
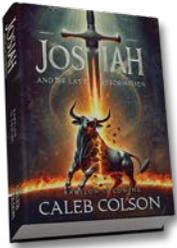
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Please see the Classic Zola article “About Passover and Resurrection Sunday” on [p. 8](#).



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## Featured DVDs

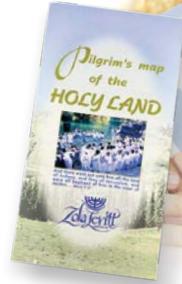
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___	Jeremiah: Hope Over the Horizon .....	(9 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$29	___
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___	<b>The Seven Feasts of Israel</b> (p.17) .....	(7 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$29	___
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___	<b>Zola's Highlights</b> (p.20) .....	(4 progs., 1-DVD)	\$19	___



To  
Index

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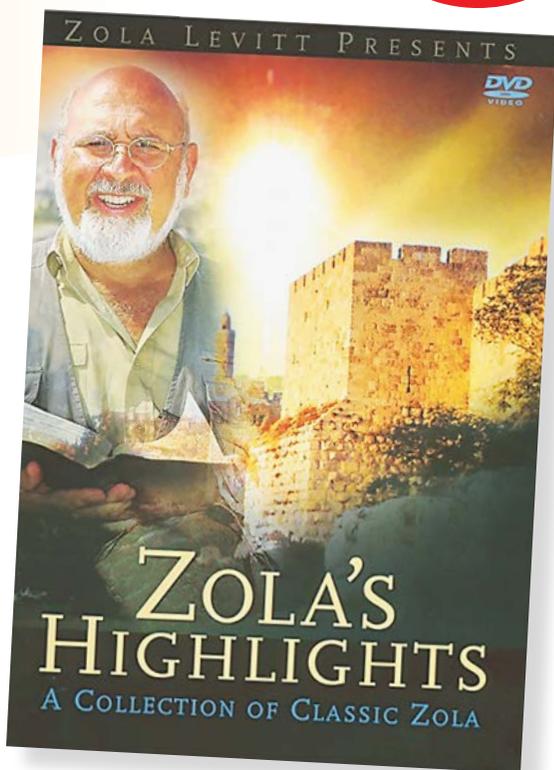


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## Zola's Highlights: A Collection of Classic Zola DVD

4 programs on 1 DVD

This video collection celebrates the timeless teachings of the late Zola Levitt (1938–2006), one of the most beloved Bible teachers in America. Highlights from 28 years of TV broadcasting are condensed into four half-hour programs that examine Zola's early, mid-career, and later teaching. Stunning on-location footage from Israel gives viewers insights into the Biblical world and Word.

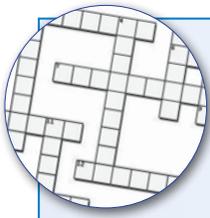


**1. *Israel, My Promised*** Zola taught the Scriptures from a decidedly Jewish perspective. In one of his first series, *Messiah*, Zola taught about Jesus' Jewish beginnings. In *Armageddon*, he talked about The End. This program contains these topics and others.

**2. *Israel By Divine Right*** Drawing on Zola's mid-career teachings, we see him investigate and extol the Gospel's expansion beyond Jews ... to non-Jews. Though many knew Jesus as the Savior, Zola wanted the world to know Him as the *Jewish* Savior. With this emphasis, this program also delves into the Dead Sea Scrolls, introduces Islam, and considers prophecy.

**3. *Jerusalem Forever*** Zola's contagious love for Israel — which mimics Scripture's — is apparent in his music, books, and TV productions. This program visits Zola in mid-career when he taught about the Bible's Jewish roots, emphasizing his trademark topic: prophecy.

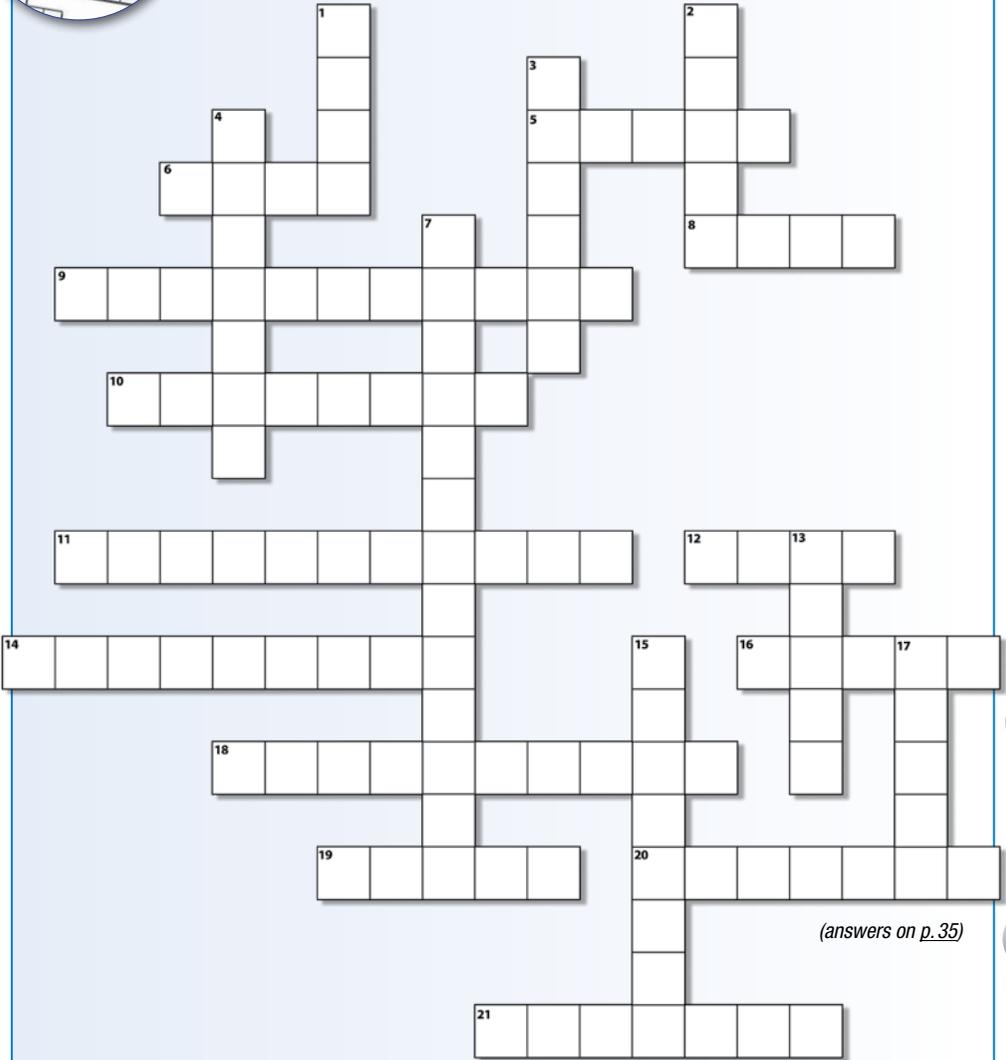
**4. *Friends of the Rabbi*** Viewer interest in how the Old Testament feast days connect to New Testament events made *The Holy Days of Our Lord* one of Zola's more popular series. Zola examined that connection by focusing on those who claimed to follow Jesus: early Believers, Crusaders, and others.



Crossword April 2026:

by Andrea Davis

# Wise Man, Foolish Man (NKJV)



(answers on p. 35)

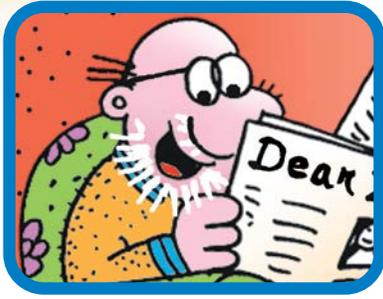
**Across:**

- 5. He who trusts his own \_\_\_ is a fool... (Prov. 28:26)
- 6. The \_\_\_ has said in his heart, "There is no God." (Ps. 14:1)
- 8. ...will be like a foolish man who built his house on the \_\_\_. (Matt. 7:26)
- 9. For the foolish person will speak \_\_\_\_\_. (Isa. 32:6)
- 10. But avoid foolish and ignorant \_\_\_, knowing that they generate strife. (2 Tim. 2:23)
- 11. A fool's mouth is his \_\_\_\_\_. (Prov. 18:7)
- 12. ...let him become a fool that he may become \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Cor. 3:18)
- 14. ...But the \_\_\_ of fools will be destroyed. (Prov. 13:20)
- 16. Those who were foolish took their \_\_\_ and took no oil with them, (Matt. 25:3)
- 18. A fool also \_\_\_ words... (Ecc. 10:14)
- 19. ...For \_\_\_ rests in the bosom of fools. (Ecc. 7:9)
- 20. Whoever hides hatred has lying lips, And whoever spreads \_\_\_ is a fool. (Prov. 10:18)
- 21. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to \_\_\_ the ignorance of foolish men. (1 Pet. 2:15)

**Down:**

- 1. To do \_\_\_ is like sport to a fool... (Prov. 10:23)
- 2. But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without \_\_\_ is dead? (James 2:20)
- 3. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in \_\_\_! (1 Cor. 4:10)
- 4. But God has chosen the \_\_\_ things of the world to put to shame the wise... (1 Cor. 1:27)
- 7. A fool has no delight in \_\_\_\_\_. (Prov. 18:2)
- 13. ...But \_\_\_ shall be the legacy of fools. (Prov. 3:35)
- 15. ...for He has no \_\_\_ in fools... (Ecc. 5:4)
- 17. Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his \_\_\_\_\_. (Prov. 17:28)





# Letters to ZLM

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

## Keeping the Faith in Prison

**From S.K.:** Greetings in Yeshua. I want to take this time to thank all of you at ZLM for your ministry. I was recently released from prison in October, and for years your publication helped me keep my faith. I really wanted all of you to know that you have made a world of difference to me and my faith.

Dear S.K.,

This ministry (your ministry) sends our monthly *Levitt Letter* to nearly 1,400 inmates. Thanks for affirming the value of our prison outreach. Now I'm delighted to announce that we're welcoming requests from prison chaplains for free Bibles that we offer through Zola's Bible Exchange. "Ask and you shall receive!" —Mark

## The Third Temple of Doom #1: Tribulation Temple of Destiny on YouTube



**From G.E.:** I've studied the Essenes and have never seen where they were into the occult. John the Baptist was an Essene. Joseph and Mary fled with Jesus to Egypt and stayed with the Essenes. Their calendar was phenomenal. Did you ever study or read anything by Dr. Ken Johnson?

I'm really interested in knowing where you got your information, and I appreciate your television program.

Dear G.E.,

Too many people have romanticized the Essenes. John the Baptist was not an Essene. They held some heretical views. Don't read what people have written about the Essenes; instead, read the Essenes' scrolls in their own words. They wrote dozens of scrolls articulating their beliefs and the protocols for their community. Take care not to blindly trust what people tell you, whether your pastor, Ken Johnson, or even us. See 2 Timothy 2:15 and 1 John 4:1-3. —Blessings, Joshua and Caleb

## Hard to Watch

**From L.K.:** In the past, my wife and I enjoyed watching *Zola Levitt Presents* and the *Bearded Bible Brothers*. Now that has changed due to Joshua and his antics. Your programs mimicking *Raiders of the Lost Ark* movies are hard to endure. Joshua acting like a comedian and thinking he is funny has ruined the show for my wife and

*(continued on next page)*



me. There have been several programs where his silly nonsense has been hard to watch. Please stop Joshua from trying to make everyone laugh; it is not working. We are currently supporters of ZLM.

Dear L.K.,

Thanks for frankly sharing your honest opinion, which I'm confident that Joshua will consider alongside other comments from viewers who love every minute. You probably understand that Joshua is a gentle giant whose physical presence can be intimidating. Though he's not always ha-ha funny, I appreciate his lighter side that makes him more relatable. **Many viewers who are afflicted with short attention spans need breaks between teaching sessions to get them to look up from their smart phones.** A bit of goofiness can lead viewers to ask, "Okay, what's coming next?"  
—Mark



## **Is Trump's Board of Peace the "Covenant with Many"?** **on YouTube**

**From L.S.:** What Scriptures say that the antiChrist will be Jewish? I'm hoping for a pre-trib Rapture, and if that happens, I

think the belief is that the antiChrist won't even hit the scene until after the Rapture takes place. He will be an unknown. Please give me clarification!

Dear L.S.,

**Actually, we were declaring the False Prophet to be Jewish.** In Revelation 13, we see the Beast that comes out of the Sea, who most everyone refers to as the anti-Christ. He has 7 heads and 10 horns. In Revelation 17, we see the Great Whore sitting on this same Beast with 7 heads and 10 horns and that the Beast continues to sit or come from the waters.

Revelation 17:15 finally reveals that the waters represent the nations — *goyim* (gentiles). Returning to Revelation 13, we see the Beast that comes out of the Earth, aka the False Prophet. The Earth, *adamah*, always represents the Jewish people in Scripture. That's where we get our interpretation. FYI, we also believe in a Pre-trib Rapture, and that the Beast will not be revealed until we are taken away.

—Blessings, Joshua and Caleb

## **Stop Converting Jews**

**From S.Z.:** Stop trying to convert Jews to Christianity. We have our own prophecy. You will come to us.

Dear S.Z.,

**We are Jews who finally found our Messiah Yeshua.** Your prophecies are our prophecies. —Blessings, Joshua and Caleb

Please see the book and CD *Jesus, the Jew's Jew* on p. 7 and *The Prophesied Messiah* book and bookmark on p. 3.

*(continued on next page)*



## Understanding the BBB

**From H.F.G.:** The last BBB program I viewed about John and Charles Wesley and George Whitfield was far superior to the ones previously aired. I could not understand the dialogue on *The Lobstermen* or the programs filmed in Israel. I was ready to stop watching your television program, though I have been a supporter since Zola began his TV program years ago. Perhaps other people feel the same way and that's a reason why donations are down.

Dear H.F.G.,

What a wonderful affirmation that Joshua and Caleb took to heart earlier requests to slow down a bit for us Baby Boomers and Silent Generation viewers who don't listen as fast as we once did. **One of my very sharp friends always leaves on the captions to enhance his retention of the teaching and corroborate what he's hearing.** —Mark

## Crossword Compilation?

**From J.B.:** Thank you for your ministry. For years, my wife and I have enjoyed reading the *Levitt Letter* and working the Crossword Puzzle together. Would you consider publishing a collection of the Crosswords for sale? I would buy the collection for myself as well as to give for gifts.

Dear J.B.,

Perhaps after our office manager, Andrea, has created at least 100 crossword puzzles, we'll release a compilation in a workbook. In the meantime, if you click on the "Read" tab at the top of [levitt.com](http://levitt.com) and then pull down to "Newsletters," you can view decades' worth of the archived *Levitt Letter*. From each issue, you can print a hard copy of the crossword puzzle page — in addition to some articles of perennial significance. A word to the wise: Searching through our various editions may take you longer than you anticipate because you'll stumble upon so many golden nuggets! —Mark

## New Covenant

**From S.I.I.:** There's a new covenant. If Jews were still the Chosen People, they wouldn't go to hell when they die.

Dear S.I.I.,

Perhaps you've never heard of the eternal and unbreakable Abrahamic Covenant, which makes the Jews the Chosen People and gives them the Land of Israel as their inheritance. We recommend that you read Genesis 13-17. Also, equating being "chosen" with salvation is a Calvinist teaching, which we do not adhere to. Being chosen, however, isn't a free pass to Heaven; each individual must accept the calling of the Holy Spirit and surrender his or her life to Yeshua. —Love, Joshua and Caleb ☆



## **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!



# There's Something About Israel That Makes People Uncomfortable

By Alister Heath  
JewishBubba.blogspot.com



There's something about Israel that makes people uncomfortable, but it's not what they say it is. Many people point to politics, settlements, borders, and wars. But beneath the outrage, you'll find something deeper. **This discomfort is not with what Israel does, but with what Israel is.**

A nation this small shouldn't be this strong. Period. Israel has no oil, no special natural resources. Its population of just over 10 million is approximately the same as that of the state of Michigan. They are surrounded by enemies, hated in the UN, targeted by terror, condemned by celebrities, boycotted, slandered, and attacked.

And still, they thrive ... in military, medicine, security, technology, agriculture, intelligence, morality, and in sheer, unbreakable will.

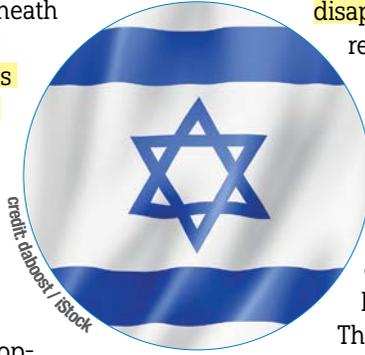
They turn desert into farmland, make water from air, intercept rockets in mid-air, and rescue hostages from the world's worst regimes. They survive — and win — wars that should have destroyed them.

The world can't make sense of this. So they do what people do when they witness strength they can't understand.

They assume that it must be:

- Theft
- American aid
- Foreign lobbying
- Oppression
- Blackmail
- Magic that gave the Jews this kind of power.

They assume, because — Heaven forbid — it's something else. Heaven forbid it's real. Heaven forbid it's earned. Or worse, Heaven forbid it's destined.



The Jewish people were supposed to disappear long ago. That's how the story of exiled, enslaved, hated minorities is supposed to end. **But the Jews didn't disappear.** They came home, rebuilt their land, and revived their language.

That's not normal. But it is Biblical.

There's no cheat code that explains how a group of people can return to their homeland after 2,000 years.

There is no rational path from gas chambers to global influence.

And there is no historical precedent for surviving the Babylonians, the Romans, the Crusaders, the Inquisition, the pogroms, and the Holocaust, and still show up to work on Monday in Jerusalem.

**Israel doesn't make sense**, unless you believe in something beyond the math. And that drives the world crazy. Because if Israel is real — if this improbable, ancient, hated nation is somehow still chosen, protected, and thriving — then maybe God isn't a myth after all.

Maybe He's still in the story. Maybe history isn't random. Maybe evil doesn't get the last word. Maybe the Jews aren't just a people, but a testimony.

That's what the Jew-haters can't stand.

Because once you admit that Israel's survival isn't just impressive, but divine, everything changes. **Your moral compass has to reset.** Your assumptions about history, power, and justice collapse. You realize that you're not watching the end of an empire. Instead, you're witnessing the beginning of something eternal.

So, they deny it, smear it, and rage against it. That's because it's easier to call a miracle "cheating" than to face the possibility that God keeps His promises.

And He's keeping them still. ☆



## Israeli AI Turns Rifles into Drone Killers

By Pesach Benson and  
Omer Novoselsky, TPS  
WorldIsraelNews.com

Small drones are reshaping modern battlefields, posing a serious challenge for infantry units lacking affordable ways to intercept them. Now, however, an Israeli

company has developed a system that allows soldiers with standard AR-15 and M4 rifles to neutralize drones with unprecedented precision.

Arbel, from Israel Weapons Industries (IWI), is designed to counter the proliferation of small, inexpensive drones used for reconnaissance, targeting, smuggling, and explosive attacks. Such drones are often difficult to intercept using conventional air defense systems, which are optimized for larger threats and can be very expensive to deploy.

The threat escalated significantly on October 7, 2023, when Hamas used drones to disable Israeli surveillance cameras, communications equipment, and remote-controlled weapons systems along the Gaza border. The terrorists also used small drones to clear paths for the ground assaults on southern Israeli communities.

**Arbel's solution embeds electronics, sensors, and artificial intelligence directly into an ordinary rifle.** When the shooter pulls the trigger, the first round is discharged mechanically, as in any conventional firearm. As long as the trigger remains pulled, the system continuously analyzes the shooter's micro-movements and the weapon's motion, autonomously releasing follow-up rounds only when



credit: IWI

Arbel system

the probability of a hit is at its peak. This approach removes one of the most difficult aspects of marksmanship in dynamic engagements: precise trigger control. As such, Arbel allows the shooter to focus entirely on tracking the aerial target while **the system manages the timing of each shot.**

IWI claims that Arbel can intercept drones at ranges of up to 1,476 feet during daylight and approximately 820 feet at night. This gives infantry units meaningful standoff capability using their existing weapons.

**"With Arbel, you can take down a drone with just a few bullets instead of a missile,"** explained Adam Fraser, Chief Product Manager at IWI. "That reduces the cost of interception from tens of thousands of dollars to roughly one dollar per round."

Arbel is combat-proven. Fraser stressed that the system reflects lessons learned from recent conflicts, including the widespread use of tactical drones in Ukraine, which has become a laboratory for drone warfare.

A dozen European countries are in various stages of implementing the system. IWI expects adoption to expand substantially by the end of 2026. ☆



To  
Index

# Implant Offers Hope for Millions with Diabetes

By Pesach Benson, TPS  
Israel.com



Israeli and U.S. scientists have developed a biological implant that could one day eliminate the need for insulin injections. The new approach to treating diabetes and other chronic diseases allows therapeutic cells to function long-term inside the body without immune rejection.

Developed by an international team led by the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, **the technology is based on a living implant that continuously produces insulin from within the body.**

The implant is most relevant for people with Type 1

diabetes, whose bodies cannot produce insulin. Affecting almost 9.2 million people worldwide, they rely on frequent subcutaneous injections or insulin pumps,

which require constant monitoring and can significantly affect daily life, particularly for children and adolescents.

On the contrary, Type 2 diabetes develops when the body doesn't use insulin properly or doesn't make enough of it. Because these people still produce some insulin, their condition can often be managed with medication, lifestyle changes, or partial insulin therapy.

Previous efforts to replace insulin injections with implants have failed because the immune system attacks implanted cells, destroying them or rendering them ineffective. Other approaches rely on external sensors, pumps, or immune-suppressing drugs, limiting their long-term use.

The new implant functions as an autonomous artificial pancreas made of engineered living cells. These cells directly sense glucose levels and release insulin as needed, without external devices or ongoing intervention. **"The implant knows when insulin is needed and releases the exact amount at the right time,"** stated Dr. Shadi Farah of the Technion's Wolfson Faculty of Chemical Engineering.

Researchers encased the insulin-producing cells in specially engineered crystalline structures that shield them from immune attack. Unlike

polymer-based capsules used in earlier implants, these structures allow glucose, oxygen, nutrients, and insulin to pass through while blocking immune cells.

credit: libre de droit / iStock



Image of the pancreas in a human body

Scientists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard Medical School, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Massachusetts collaborated with Israeli researchers to develop the implant. Because the implant has proven effective in several animal models, the results support moving toward clinical trials on humans. The research was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Science Translational Medicine*.

**Beyond diabetes, researchers say the implant could be adapted for use with other chronic conditions.** The technology represents a new class of living medicines, where engineered implants act as autonomous drug factories capable of producing therapeutic proteins on demand. ✨



# When Christian Worship is a Crime: The Deadliest Era in

The latest World Watch List from Open Doors US was released in January. It reports that more than **388 million Christians — one in seven Believers worldwide — face high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith.** This marks an increase of over 8 million from the previous year, driven by weak governments, extremist militias, and radical ideology.

As I read the new report, my heart broke again for our persecuted family around the world, especially those in Nigeria and Syria, where the violence is relentless. I could not stay silent.

It used to be that persecution was seen as something “over there” in oppressive regimes with names that most Americans couldn’t pronounce. But the new reality is this: **Worship has become a crime in some parts of the world, and the blood of Believers is spilling at rates not seen in decades.**

The trends are both harrowing and unmistakable:

- Open Doors data reveal that 4,849 Believers were murdered for their faith in the reporting period (Oct. 2024 to Sept. 2025) — a record high.

- In **Nigeria** alone, 3,490 Christians were killed, making up 72% of the global total, with churches and communities under constant threat from militias and terrorist groups.
- **Syria**, once home to a thriving Christian community, has seen violence spike dramatically since the fall of its former government, jumping to number 6 on the list, the largest single year rise in over a decade as extremists exploit dangerous power vacuums.

In **Egypt**, Coptic Christians, the largest Christian population in the Middle East continue to live under threat, despite representing 5-10% of the country’s population. While Egypt’s government publicly claims to support religious tolerance, Copts face systemic discrimination, mob violence, and judicial indifference. Churches are routinely denied permits or forcibly closed under security pretexts, while attackers of Christian communities are rarely prosecuted.

In rural areas, false accusations of blasphemy often spark violent riots, forcing Christian families to flee their homes. Converts from Islam face even greater persecution, often from both the





## Modern History

By Wendy Yurgo  
ChristianPost.com



Trump's threats of military action made headlines in Nigerian newspapers on Nov. 2, 2025.

state and their own families. Egypt may not top the World Watch List rankings, but it remains a place where following Christ can

And make no mistake, worship has become a punishable offense in certain regions. Recent reports, including from the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, highlight chilling examples where even attending church carries life-threatening consequences.

Yet the response from Western governments and global institutions has been lukewarm at best. In too many capitals, religious persecution is treated as a distant human rights issue instead of the crisis affecting millions of sisters and brothers in Christ — men, women, and children killed simply for following Jesus.

This problem cannot be ignored. Religious freedom is not a relic of ancient history; it's a bedrock human right, enshrined in international law and fundamental to the flourishing of any free society. **When worship is a crime, freedom itself is at stake.**

America and its allies must confront this persecution with urgency:

- Public awareness: The atrocity of Believers being murdered for worship must be reported with the gravity it deserves.
- Diplomatic pressure: Governments should elevate religious freedom in foreign policy and condition assistance on protecting minority Believers.
- Support for the persecuted: Emergency aid, resettlement programs, and direct support for families of martyrs cannot be afterthoughts.

Christian persecution is not a statistic. It's a wakeup call — a stark reminder that freedom must be defended not just at home but wherever the Cross is treated as a threat. Let the global Church lift her voice in prayer and action until every Believer can worship without fear. ✨

cost a person their safety, dignity, or freedom.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, Christians are being slaughtered by Islamic State-linked ADF rebels. In July 2025, militants massacred at least 49 people including children during a night vigil at Saint Anuarite Catholic Church in Komanda. Earlier last year, another church was attacked in Kasanga, where worshipers were abducted or executed. In September, a funeral wake in Ntoyo turned into a bloodbath as militants killed over 60 people, many of them Christian villagers. These atrocities are part of a broader campaign by jihadist militias to terrorize Christian communities, burn churches, and displace thousands. For many Believers in the DRC, **simply attending a prayer vigil has become a matter of life and death.**

These aren't isolated incidents. They are part of a pattern of escalating violence, where extremists and hostile governments view Christianity not as a harmless faith but as a threat to their power and ideology. In some nations, loyal citizens are effectively forbidden from belonging to Christian communities without risking their lives.



# If America Doesn't Stop Islamic Migration, It Will Share Europe's Fate



Caleb and Joshua Colson with Dr. Mordechai Kedar

“The Atlantic Ocean is not wide enough to keep America safe.”

That is how Dr. Mordechai Kedar — Israeli scholar and 25-year veteran of Israeli military intelligence — opens his fearless warning to America: What Europe is today, the U.S. will be in 15 years, unless it changes course.

Kedar holds a PhD in Arabic linguistics and is one of Israel’s most seasoned voices on Arabic media. He lays out — calmly and clinically — how Europe engineered its own unraveling and why the U.S. is tracking the same path: open-door migration, demographic collapse, and a political correctness that criminalizes truth.

**Kedar traces Europe’s decline to three converging forces:**

**1. Demographic freefall:** “Any society that doesn’t bring babies in a rate of 2.1 per woman actually walks ... into the museum.” [The current U.S. fertility rate is 1.6%.]

**2. Post-colonial guilt + rights absolutism:** Europe’s rights-absolutist asylum regimes mean that once a migrant steps on EU soil, deportation becomes almost

impossible — a structural ratchet that turns mass migration into permanence. Legal regimes make expulsion impossible and dissent taboo.

**3. Political betrayal:** This refers to parties who compete to buy migrant blocs with benefits, “even when those migrants reject the host culture.” He describes parties outbidding each other with benefits for migrant blocs, trading votes for concessions, and punishing dissent as “racism.”

The result, Kedar argues, is a continent where assimilation is denounced, criticism is punished, and attacks on churches have become routine. These are symptoms, he asserts, of a society too fearful to defend its own faith or heritage.

“Europe’s elites shut the public’s mouth in the name of ‘tolerance’ and surrendered their civilization.”

### Using Democracy to End Democracy

Conquest, Kedar stresses, isn’t only kinetic: “The Muslim Brotherhood, funded by Qatar, learned to work through institutions — universities, media,



charities, politics. They enter legally. They use democracy to end democracy.”

He points to the Muslim Brotherhood’s “Explanatory Memorandum” — a document seized in the 1990s — detailing a long-term plan to Islamize America through institutions rather than force.

He describes the red-green alliance — Marxists and Islamists — marching in sync across Western capitals. They have different creeds, but the same objective. “The enemy of my enemy is my friend. Both seek to dismantle ‘the system’ — and the free world with it.”

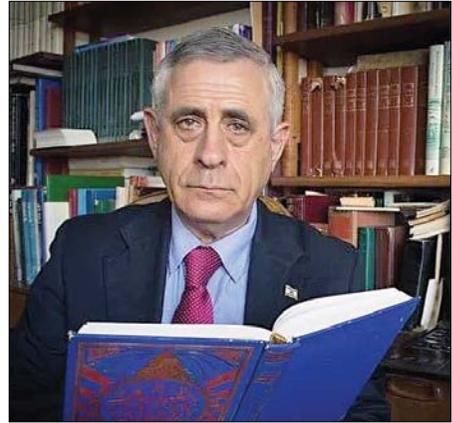
Qatar, he asserts, is the financial engine behind U.S. Jew-hatred campaigns.

They channel support to CAIR (Council on American-Islamic Relations), MSA (Muslim Students Association), SJP (Students for Justice in Palestine) — and even JVP (Jewish Voice for Peace) — to bleed political and cultural support for Israel inside the West.

Asked about the election of the Muslim, openly communist New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani, Kedar called it “one milestone on a longer road.” He added, “If they can take New York — even with its massive Jewish community — it will only embolden a campaign to take city after city.”

He warns that parts of the younger, liberal Jewish electorate are “following the Pied Piper” — seduced by economic promises while ignoring the existential threat.

Kedar rejects the claim that Hamas “hijacked” Islam: “Hamas did not act outside Islam. What they did on October 7 is permitted in Islamic sources. The goal is to strike fear in the hearts of the infidels — that is *jihad*.” He cites the Koranic command to “prepare ... to strike terror in the hearts of [the enemy]” as the operational doctrine behind October 7 — not a hijacking of Islam.



Israeli scholar Dr. Mordechai Kedar

While acknowledging that many Muslims have adopted Western norms, he describes them as a disarmed minority confronting violent hardliners who hold the upper hand.

### The Prescription: Three Urgent Steps

Despite the gravity, Kedar’s message is not despair. Instead, it’s directives:

- Stop the migration. “Keep it out; once in, you cannot contain it.”
- Rebuild the birthrate. “A nation that won’t have children chooses extinction.”
- End the gag order. “Tell the truth about who is driving crime, agitation, and institutional capture — or lose your freedom.”

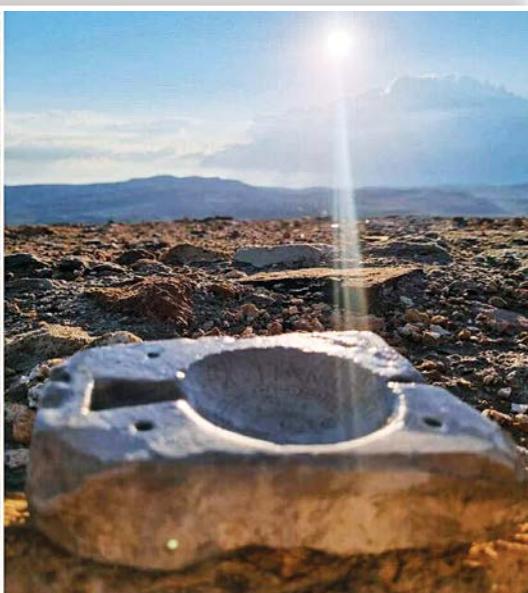
### The Line That Matters

“If you do not stand for your civilization, it will not stand for you,” Kedar warns. “Israel is fighting for its life — and make no mistake, your survival is the world’s survival.”

His words are both a warning and a call to courage. The fate of Europe is no longer across the ocean — it is on America’s doorstep. Whether the West endures, he says, depends on whether free nations are still willing to defend the civilization that made them free. ☆



## Pilgrims' Flask Mold Reveals Ancient Souvenir Industry



credit: Michal Haber / Institute of Archaeology of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

A 1,400-year-old limestone mold to craft flasks

Archaeologists recently discovered a rare 1,400-year-old limestone mold in the Judean Desert that was used to manufacture small flasks for Christian pilgrims visiting the Holy Land. The remarkable find features an elaborate cross and Greek inscription reading "Lord's blessing from the holy places." **It offers evidence of a thriving pilgrimage tourism industry in Israel that flourished during the sixth and seventh centuries A.D.**

The mold was uncovered during the third season of excavations at Hyrcania. This desert fortress monastery, about 10 miles southeast of Jerusalem, has yielded numerous treasures revealing the site's wealthy Byzantine monastic past.

### The Byzantine Pilgrimage Flask Industry

The limestone mold discovered at Hyrcania was designed to produce vessels known as "ampullae." Pilgrims purchased these small devotional flasks and then filled them with holy oil or water from Biblical sites associated with Jesus Christ and early Believers.

The flask's inscription was deciphered by Dr. Avner Ecker. Similar ampullae from this period have been found throughout the Christian world, with the most famous collection housed at Monza Cathedral in Northern Italy. The Italian examples demonstrate how far pilgrims traveled to visit the Holy Land in ancient



credit: Michal Haber / Institute of Archaeology of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The cover of a stone reliquary discovered at Hyrcania



times and how precious these souvenirs remained.

Michal Haber and Dr. Oren Gutfeld, co-directors of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem excavations, noted that the monastery likely manufactured the ampullae. The site's strategic location between Jerusalem and Jericho, near other pilgrimage destinations like the Mount of the Scapegoat and Mount of Temptation, would have made it an ideal stop for Christian pilgrims seeking rest and renewal.

### From Fortress to Monastery

Hyrkania's history stretches back over two millennia. Originally constructed by Hasmonean rulers between the late second and early first centuries B.C., the



A Byzantine gold coin found at the site

fortress was part of a defensive network protecting the kingdom's eastern border. After Roman destruction, Herod the Great rebuilt the site, but it was abandoned shortly after his death at the end of the first century B.C.

The site's Christian chapter began in A.D. 492. Holy Sabas, a pioneering figure in Judean Desert monasticism, ascended what he described as a "terrifying mountain" to establish a monastery. Though the community continued operating even after the Islamic conquest in A.D. 636, the site fell into disuse in the late eighth or early ninth century.

### Treasures of a Wealthy Monastery

The excavations have revealed that Hyrkania wasn't an ordinary monastic outpost. **Alongside the flask mold, archaeologists discovered two coins featuring Byzantine Emperor Heraclius, minted in Constantinople between A.D. 613 and 641.** These pure gold coins represent substantial wealth. Archaeologists also found a **gold ring** inlaid with a yellow stone, possibly citrine. "The size of the ring would not fit a male monk," Haber noted, suggesting it may have belonged to a female pilgrim or possibly one of the rare female monastics known to have lived in the region.

Other finds include **the lid of a stone reliquary** that likely contained bones

or remains of a Believer, fragments of Byzantine Greek inscriptions, and a rare, red-painted Greek inscription paraphrasing Psalm 86. Colorful mosaics and well-preserved architectural remains further attest to the monastery's prosperity and importance.

The excavations, a joint effort by The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Israel's Civil Administration's Archaeology

Unit, combine salvage archaeology with academic research. "For nearly a century, the site has suffered from heavy looting and vandalism," Haber explained. She added that the project aims to stay ahead of antiquities thieves while unlocking the site's research potential.

As excavations continue, archaeologists hope to uncover more artifacts that will illuminate both the monastery's spiritual life and its role in the pilgrimage economy that connected the Holy Land with Christian communities across Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. ✨

credit: Tal Rogowski / The Hebrew University of Jerusalem





Asfura and Netanyahu in Jerusalem on Jan. 18, 2026

## Honduras President Hopes for New Era in Ties With Israel

By Etgar Lefkovits / JNS.org

Nasry Asfura, the new president of Honduras, visited Jerusalem in January where he expressed hope for a “new era” in bilateral relations between his country and Israel.

The declaration and trip to Israel came less than 10 days before Asfura was sworn into office. His visit signaled a return to close ties, building on decades of friendship following a period of strained relations under **his predecessor**, who had **recalled her ambassador to Israel due to the Gaza War**.

“We are reshaping relations between Israel and Honduras in line with the traditional bonds of friendship, but we also want to embrace the future,” Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Asfura. “I welcome you to Jerusalem — it is an ancient city, but it is also a city that looks to innovation and to cooperation with you and with the people of Honduras.”

Asfura responded, “I am convinced that in everything you mentioned, we will be able to implement and also lead for the sake of peace, brotherhood, and the future of our countries.”

## A New Social Media App for Anti-Semites and Haters

By Chaim Lax / HonestReporting.com

UpScrolled is a new pro-Palestinian social media app that claims to allow users to speak freely on a litany of topics. It has become a cesspool of anti-Semitism, anti-Zionism, racism, and conspiracy theories.

Issam Hijazi, a Palestinian-Jordanian-Australian, developed UpScrolled after noticing that certain pro-Palestinian posts were being restricted or censored on social media platforms. One of his partners is Tech For Palestine, which is associated with the mass editing of Israel-related entries on Wikipedia, spreading misinformation, and presenting it as fact.

Though UpScrolled was developed in June 2025, during the last week of January 2026 it became one of the top downloaded apps in the U.S., the UK, and Australia.



**Many pro-Palestinian activists are using UpScrolled.** Recent posts celebrated Hamas and its atrocities against Israel on October 7, 2023, despite the app’s regulation forbidding support for violence and terrorist groups. Other entries include **vile caricatures of Jewish people**, posts celebrating Hitler and denying the Holocaust, and posts blaming Jews and African-Americans for the ills of society.

Regardless of their location, **users can only identify Israel as “Occupied territories of Palestine.”** ☆



# Jewish Humor, etc.

A cheerful heart is good medicine —  
Proverbs 17:22

## Not Taking Chances

Abe was visiting Israel with his wife, children, and mother-in-law. Sadly, while they were in Jerusalem, Abe's mother-in-law died.

Abe went to the American Embassy with her death certificate to make arrangements to send her body back to the U.S. for burial. The embassy official explained that it's very expensive to send a body back to the U.S. "It could cost as much as \$3,000," he noted. "In many cases like this, the family decides to bury the body here in Israel because this only costs \$300."

Abe replied, "I don't care how much it costs. I want to send her body back to the U.S."

"OK," noted the official. "You must have loved your mother-in-law a lot, considering the price difference."

"That's not the reason," stated Abe. "It's just that I heard about someone who was buried here in Jerusalem many, many years ago and on the third day He rose from the dead. I just don't want to take that chance."



### Answer Key for April 2026 Crossword (p.21)

#### Across:

5. Heart
6. Fool
8. Sand
9. Foolishness
10. Disputes
11. Destruction
12. Wise
14. Companion
16. Lamps
18. Multiplies
19. Anger
20. Slander
21. Silence

#### Down:

1. Evil
2. Works
3. Christ
4. Foolish
7. Understanding
13. Shame
15. Pleasure
17. Peace

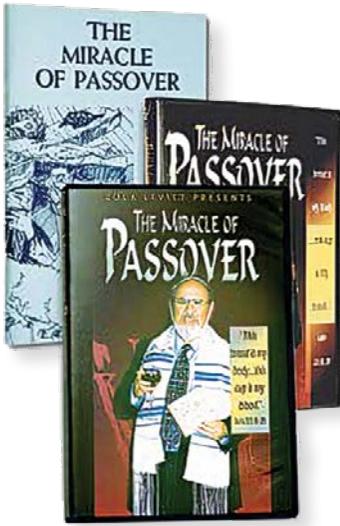


## Social Media Outlets

ZLM's social media outreach now includes:

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- TikTok: [tiktok.com/@BeardedBibleBros](https://tiktok.com/@BeardedBibleBros)
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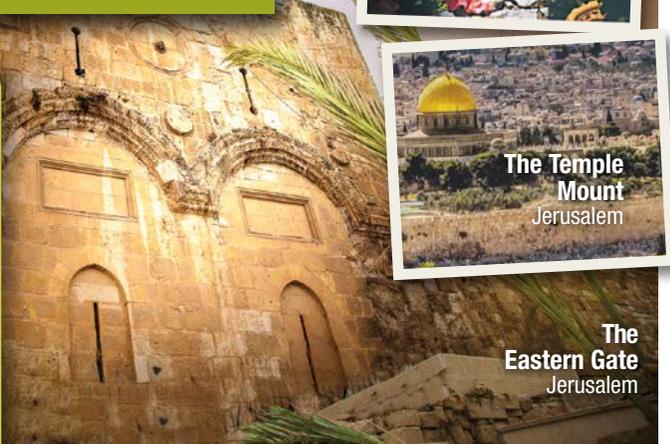
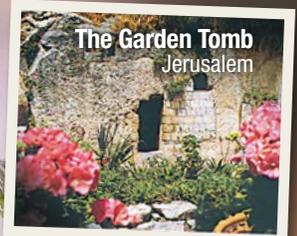
To Index



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### FALL TOUR 2026

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Oct. 13–20

**Deluxe Israel Land-Only Tour**  
(Israel only): Oct. 20–29

**Grand Mediterranean  
Land-Only Tour**  
(Greece, Ephesus, & Israel):  
Oct. 13–29

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A refundable deposit by credit card will hold your reservation.

*See you in  
Jerusalem!*



Back to p. 5



Back to p. 15