When non-Jewish friends ask me at this time of year whether I, an Orthodox Jewish rabbi, celebrate Thanksgiving, the question reminds me that Jews and Christians still have much to learn about one another. The answer is obvious once you understand what Thanksgiving is all about.

Every American kindergartner knows the story of how the Pilgrims on the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620, and how they gave thanks to God for their survival — and successes. What most people don’t know is that the Pilgrims looked deeply to the Bible for inspiration.

Unlike any group before them, the Pilgrims fled from religious oppression in Europe. They looked to the Bible for inspiration and guidance and even studied Biblical Hebrew in order to read the Bible in its original language.
The Pilgrims saw themselves as the “chosen people” fleeing from the “brutal king” James the First, whom they referred to as “Pharaoh,” thereby casting off their “yoke of bondage” and oppression. They referred to their Mayflower voyage as “passing through the ‘Red Sea’ into the wilderness.” When they arrived in their “promised land,” they offered thanksgiving prayers to God, like those in the Biblical Feast of Tabernacles. The Bible, of course, is full of verses about thanksgiving that highlight the important theme of gratitude to God.

**Identification with Ancient Israel**

No other group in history ever felt that they were re-enacting and fulfilling the experience of the ancient Israelites as did America’s first settlers, who even thought that the Native Americans might be from the 10 Lost Tribes of Israel. For centuries, European explorers had set sail for new lands without making reference to the Bible, seeing themselves as God’s chosen people, or searching for the promised land.

The Jewish people have always claimed to have a divine mission to promote the universal values of peace, freedom, and hope, but unfortunately, for the last 2,000 years, no one was listening. From its inception, however, America was different. Despite pockets of anti-Semitism, there always has been a distinct appreciation for the Jewish people in the United States. The “American Dream” was built upon a Biblical foundation, and we refer regularly to America’s “Judeo-Christian values,” which is one of the principal reasons for America’s strong support for the Jewish state.

Even in Israel, my family celebrates Thanksgiving because it is the day that honors the proud fact that lessons from the Hebrew Bible have been ingrained into the American soul from its very inception.

As a Jew, I am thankful that when America was discovered, America discovered the Bible. ★
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Israel—Earth’s Lightning Rod (conclusion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Everyday Savior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>U.S. Vets: Shovels, not Swords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Risking Torture and Death to Save Jews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ask the Chaplain: Who is the Restrainer?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>TJF Report: Tiberias and Mount Hermon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>A Note from Mark: Rabbits Out of a Hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>ZLM Bulletin Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Parsons: Hebrew Lesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Surrender to Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Feeding the World with Buckwheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Medicine: Targeting Drugs Safely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>J.K. Rowling Defends British Jews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Select Briefs: Archaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Temple Mount Damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Crossword Puzzle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Palestinian Issue: Still Blocking Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Jewish Humor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ’Toons for Millennials

**POSSIBLE CURE FOR IGNORANCE REGARDING THE HOLOCAUST**

Two-thirds of U.S. Millennials would have to guess at the test below. Philosopher George Santayana observed, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Meanwhile, a sign at Dachau Concentration Camp beseeches, “Never Again.”

![Cartoon Image](image1.png)
We have reached the final excerpt from a chapter that Zola wrote for *Foreshocks of Antichrist*, a 1997 book on prophecy, which remains relevant to current events in Israel and the world. Since June, we have examined the series of events that make up the Tribulation. This month, we finish looking at the conditions that will contribute to its onset.

**False Claims**

The Bible basically tells the story of one people, the Jewish people. All of the Bible’s writers — cover-to-cover, Old Testament and New — were Jews. The Messiah is a full-blooded Israeli Jew whose genealogy (both maternal and paternal) is presented in Scripture. To show the extremes to which Islam seeks to replace Judaism and Christianity, consider Yasser Arafat’s claim that Jesus was “the first Palestinian revolutionary.” He made this extraordinary statement in Bethlehem in December 1995 as the birthplace of Jesus Christ was calmly handed over to Moslems while the worldwide Church remained asleep.

Or consider the amazing claim by Arafat cabinet member Hanan Ashrawi on *The MacNeil/Leh- rer Report* that “Jesus Christ was a Palestinian prophet born in Bethlehem in my country.” When Ms. Ashrawi, who claimed to be descended from the first Christians, was told that the original Christians were all Jews and that Jews never turn into Arabs, she was a bit confused; but this false claim did not prevent her from being celebrated by the Episcopal Church as a “good Anglican” in their publication. Such muddling of theological doctrine and historical fact will play into the hands of the antiChrist, who will ultimately make the most fantastic of all claims: that he is the God of Israel (2 Thess. 2:3–4). The world today is receiving a great deal of practice at believing total spiritual nonsense.

**False Blame**

The problem with writing about prophecy when not a Biblical prophet is that one can only speculate about world events. However, Israel indeed is a lightning rod for more than prophetic developments; it seems that the whole world is focused on that very tiny nation. North Koreans mutter that something must be done about Israel, although it is doubtful that many of them could find it on a map. There are virtually no Jews in Japan, yet the Japanese blame the Jews for problems (continued next page)
with their economy. And on it goes. Israel is the center of the nations and, in the Kingdom, it will take its prophetic place as the head of the nations (Zech. 8:20–23).

**False Peace**

To recap what I have said about Israel in prophecy, I believe that the present climate of a false peace process will lead us down one of several possible roads to a Tribulation Period situation. As to when this could happen, it is difficult to say; but in view of the very complete fulfillment of all of the Lord’s prophecies in Matthew 24, the Olivet Discourse, we could hardly expect so tense a situation to continue for, say, another 50 years. World attention tends to shift from place to place, and since it is currently on Israel, I cannot help feeling that now would be an elegant moment to conclude this Church Age. Everything seems to be in the right place except for the entrance of the antiChrist with his peace covenant of seven years. It is hard to think of any other piece of the prophecy puzzle that is not either in position for the End Times, or on the verge so that it could rapidly fall into place.

Thus, I think that the antiChrist is alive today and calculating his entrance. And I don’t doubt that the present climate of concern over the peace process can lead us very directly to that day of an offered contract that will start the Tribulation.

---

**Whose Land Is It?**

**DVD, transcript booklet**

Three 30-minute TV programs on one DVD

**Program 1:** Zola irrefutably reasons why only the Jews are the Holy Land’s rightful owners; then defeats arguments that attempt to undermine the Abrahamic Covenant.

**Program 2:** In Ramallah, Zola interviewed Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi, who articulated the Palestinians’ best arguments for claiming Israel.

**Program 3:** Two scholarly Christians — Arab-American journalist Joseph Farah and Professor Ergun Caner (a former Muslim) — unveil the fallacies in Ashrawi’s assertions.

Please see: Zola’s article, *Earth’s Lightening Rod* (p. 4)
Have you ever been around someone who spoke on such a deep intellectual level that you left the discussion feeling mediocre — as if you lacked sufficient vocabulary or insight to communicate knowledgably? If you’ve ever played the game *Trivial Pursuit* with a science or history major, you understand what I mean, especially if you answered a question wrong! The good news is that you and I have a Savior who never talked down to people or made anyone feel that they couldn’t grasp Kingdom wisdom. I learned this truth walking in the Holy Land.

I attended Sunday School every week growing up. I even attended a Bible college. But it wasn’t until I walked the rocky and dusty roads of the Galilee in Israel that I fully comprehended that God, Himself infinitely beyond human understanding, has the compassion to communicate on every human’s level.

**A Down-to-Earth Creator**

Leading a Zola Tours group on the Mount of Beatitudes, I noticed gorgeous yellow flowers carpeting the mountainsides. I asked what those flowers were and was told, “Wild mustard. They grow rampant in this region.” I could envision wild mustard flourishing within sight of the crowds who gathered when our Savior taught them about the Kingdom of God. Although the Sermon on the Mount comes before Yeshua’s parable about the mustard seed (Matthew 13:31–32), the teachings occurred in the same area. If you’ve visited that location, you’ve seen that Yeshua delivered the Beatitudes and parables of Matthew 13 just yards apart.

In each instance, His audience included farmers and people who worked in the fields daily. The closest most Americans get to mustard happens as we speed along highways where the plants grow on shouldering fields, or perhaps in a jar of prepared mustard. But Galileans knew agriculture and the plant that is native to North Africa, the Middle East, and Mediterranean Europe.
While Americans might consider a parable comparing a mustard seed to faith “deep” and insightful, the Galileans’ familiarity with their surroundings let them easily understand what Jesus was teaching. As their children sat on the ground while the parents listened to this Teacher from Nazareth, I envision the little ones rolling mustard seeds between their fingers, and perhaps counting the individual seeds in a bloom. The Creator of the Universe humbly used the natural beauty and elements that He Himself spoke into being to ensure that everyone could understand the lofty concepts of His Kingdom.

An Understanding Savior

How often do we Believers think about how tiny our faith needs be in order to move whatever mountains we may be facing? Your Savior knows your thoughts. His teachings on a tiny, common seed let us know that nothing is impossible with the God of Israel. Just as Yeshua wanted the Jewish people two thousand years ago to attain Kingdom knowledge, I believe He yearns for all of us to learn those same truths in 2018.

In these photos that I took in Israel last spring, notice the sprawling acres of yellow-flowered mustard and, in my open hand (on p. 6), the size of the tiny seeds that become vast fields. Let your faith grow today.

An Epic Love Story

The God of love is a matchmaker who desires a Bride for His Son, the Bridegroom of Heaven. This Bride, the Church, will consist of both Jews and gentiles. Yeshua’s sacrifice enables gentiles to be grafted into the life of Israel and share in the promises of God. Understanding the role of Israel—God’s timepiece—is crucial to preparing for the Lord’s return.

This readable booklet tackles topics including:
1. Is Jesus Coming Soon?
2. Why Did Judaism and Christianity Part Ways?
3. God’s 9-11
4. Turning Points in the Modern Era
5. The Olive Tree as a Modern Parable

(An Epic Love Story study booklet by Myles Weiss)

An Epic Love Story study booklet by Myles Weiss

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(Part of the 50-booklets deal on p.18)
Seven United States military veterans recently completed an unusual tour of duty — at Israel’s Beth She’arim archaeological excavation. The group participated in one of a growing number of international programs that send former servicemen back into the field — with shovels, not swords.

By digging into the dirt, the veterans — most of whom suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) — hope to find peace of mind, connect to the roots of their trauma, and be part of a cohesive team reminiscent of their former military units.

**Coming to Israel**

For the group of U.S. vets in Beth She’arim, coming to Israel offered an added therapeutic element: returning to the Middle East, the source of their trauma, and working alongside a diverse team of Israeli Arabs and Jews, mostly military vets themselves.

During their two-week stint of physically digging into the past, the U.S. veterans’ stereotypes about Israel and the Middle East also crumbled, according to founder of the American Veterans Archaeological Recovery (AVAR) Stephen Humphreys.

“The team was excavating alongside Israelis from all walks of life — e.g., Jews who had served in the military and Muslims. They saw how multicultural the people are, but also how kind,” said Humphreys.

Israelis are known for candid speech peppered with no-holds-barred opinions. That, said Humphreys, was very comforting to the vets, who were accustomed to a similarly straightforward culture from the military.

Being in Israel, he said, was “a little eye-opening” for the seven former servicemen. “As American vets, we tend to segregate ourselves and think no one else understands. But then we come to a society where everyone does understand, and being a vet is not that big of a deal.”

In coming to Israel, the U.S. vets were met with a proliferation of soldiers on the streets and a culture that embraces its military as family. With the mandatory conscription of most Israeli men and women,
servicemen are not the “other,” but the “us.”

This widespread service, said Humphreys, could help veterans conceptualize their own post-military transition. “For the Israelis, this [IDF service] is something I did, and now I’m doing something different,” he said.

From aircraft to archaeology

Humphreys left the military in September 2010 after 6½ years as a U.S. Air Force aircraft maintenance officer. He was stationed in Georgia, Texas, and Japan, and deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After he demobilized, the former history major decided to attend a Christian seminary with the intention of re-enlisting as a chaplain and taking care of his men in a different role. Early into his studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Texas, he and his wife signed up for a summer archaeological excavation at Tel Gezer.

“As soon as I touched the dirt, I fell in love,” said Humphreys. He switched degrees to archaeology and is now only a few months shy of finishing his PhD at England’s Durham University. The idea of former military personnel as excavators was introduced to Humphreys when he moved to the UK. There, a program called Operation Nightingale began in 2011 for veterans who had returned from Afghanistan and who were grappling with PTSD and other isolating issues.

For the first two years, Humphreys and his partners coordinated small U.S.-based programs. A grant from the National Geographic Society springboarded the group. In total, some 75 veterans have taken part, 55 of them during this year alone.

Humphreys connected with Haifa University’s Dr. Adi Erlich and Beit She’arim. He was impressed by the Beit She’arim team’s cohesive and supportive excavation program and knew immediately that this was the team he wanted to pair with “to take care of my troops.”

The dig is based in the Beit She’arim National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the Galilee in northern Israel, with important remnants of a major Jewish town from the Roman and Byzantine eras.

It is a community excavation, open to all — from children to the elderly. The only prerequisite is a desire to work, Erlich said. The veterans work alongside the Israelis — washing dishes, pushing wheelbarrows — and some had therapy on the grass in the afternoon.

To Index
Risking Torture and Death to Save Jews During the Holocaust

BY JONATHAN BLAUSTEIN (r) NYTimes.com

In 1986, Rabbi Harold Schulweis recruited Malka Drucker, a children’s book author, and Gay Block, a fine art portrait photographer, to embark on a project documenting “Rescuers,” non-Jewish Europeans who risked torture and death to save Jews during the Holocaust. There were ceremonies for these brave souls at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, where they were honored and trees were planted.

But their accomplishments were little known.

“I met Malka in 1985,” Ms. Block said in a recent interview, “and in 1986 she said to me: ‘My rabbi, Harold Schulweis, from Encino, is a great, great man. He has been wanting someone to write a book about the rescuers for 25 years.’ Nobody had wanted to pay attention to their stories because Holocaust survivors said that it whitewashed the Holocaust, and he had never gotten anyone to do it.”

Beginning with interviews of rescuers who had relocated to Southern California, the writer and photographer eventually traveled to Canada and Europe for 100 interviews. They worked on the project from 1986 to 1988, and in 1992 Ms. Block had a solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. A separate traveling show was produced by Curatorial Assistance and traveled to 50 venues over 11 years.

Ms. Drucker wrote the original text, Ms. Block made the portraits and edited the interviews, and Cynthia Ozick contributed an introduction to the resulting book, Rescuers: Portraits of Moral Courage in the Holocaust.

Now it’s the 30th anniversary of the “Rescuers” project, and in a time replete with misinformation and unsettling incidents of racial and religious violence, Ms. Block hopes to bring the exhibit back for the 21st century. She says these stories can inspire others to stand strong in difficult times.

“Each rescuer was so different; was their own person,” she said. “There wasn’t any kind of formula. But by the time we met them so many years later, they didn’t always have such an easy life. It was the biggest privilege of my life to be able to meet these people.”

Rescuer 1 (in a limited series)

Maria, Countess von Maltzan, was a veterinarian living in East Berlin at the time of her interview. She told of being raised on an 18,000-acre estate in the Silesia region of Germany, with fabulous wealth, a doting father, and a cruel and unforgiving mother.

Familial rebelliousness first drove her to become a member of the underground in Berlin during

(continued next page)
times of darkness and evil only to emerge into a warm light.

My generation certainly recalls when people would joke: “The last one to leave, please turn off the lights.” We remember when the late, former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin referred to emigration as “the falling off of the weaklings.” Large communities in New York and Los Angeles were established by Israelis who had lost faith in the country’s ability to provide for their needs and ensure their futures. In those days, the dream was to return from a trip to Cyprus with a steam iron. Nowadays, locals in Iceland, Barcelona, Rome, and other leading tourist hotspots around the globe speak of four tourism superpowers: the United States, Germany, Japan, and Israel.

Second-class Israel is gone. Most of the development towns, as they were referred to for years, have become prosperous, well-kept cities. The north and south are linked by endless networks of roads and bridges, and investments in infrastructure cannot keep pace with the rate of new cars hitting the roads every year. Moshavs and kibbutzim are expanding; and despite security issues, wonderful families are moving to live in the area around Gaza.

Compared to Western countries, unemployment in Israel is very low. Israel’s credit rating is strong and impeccable, while the Israeli entrepreneurial spirit cultivates a depth of talent that is unfathomable for such a tiny country. Some of the inventions and developments shaping the way in which the world operates today were created and implemented here first. At the same time, the country helps disadvantaged families, so they, too, can take part in the economic miracle we experience every day.

It’s astonishing that these accomplishments exist amid a complex security situation that requires immense investments in defense. Imagine for a moment what will transpire once peace reigns in the Middle East, and all those military resources can be invested in improving the quality of life for all people of the region. I have no doubt that such a day will come—even if it takes awhile longer to get here—and we will fulfill the words of the Prophet Isaiah (60:18): “No longer will violence be heard in your land, nor ruin or destruction within your borders, but you will call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise.”

Israel’s infrastructure is impressive; it’s the first thing that Zola Tours pilgrims notice when they arrive in Israel. I can understand why Israelis don’t want to leave. Love the Isaiah 60 reference. So be it! —David

The countess hid Jews in a secret compartment in her sofa (among other places) and once dared an SS officer to shoot at it while her future husband, Hans, was still inside. (He failed to call her bluff, thankfully.)

“I was a queen on the black market all during the war,” she recalled, “but I had to be good at it because I had so many extra people to feed. I always said, no matter what came along, ‘I prefer to be in a tough situation than to go to bed with a bad conscience.’”

Every Zola Tour visits Yad Vashem. Seeing the furniture with hidden compartments (like the countess’s sofa) poignantly reminds our pilgrims of the brave souls who risked their lives to help the Jews. —Kirsten
Q. Who is the Restrainer of 2 Thessalonians 2:7?

A. As you can see in 2 Thessalonians 2:6–7, the Restrainer is, in fact, the Holy Spirit working through the Church during the present age (the Church Age) to hold back the power of evil from making a full expression of evil. Jesus said that His followers (the Church) are the light of the world and salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13–14), which are used to dispel darkness and preserve the Earth from moral corruption, respectively.

When the Restrainer and the Church’s light and salt are removed by the Rapture of the Church, the Tribulation will begin, resulting in the full disclosure and revealing of the antiChrist (verse 8).

Christians are not meant to experience the Tribulation’s time of wrath but will escape out of it, not through it (see 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9; Revelation 3:10). Furthermore, the Lord likens His coming for the Church at the Rapture to “a thief in the night,” indicating that the event will be sudden and unannounced. In contrast, Christ’s second appearance on Earth is scheduled to occur after the seven years of Daniel’s 70th week are complete.

Christ’s Second Coming is not the same event as His coming to greet the Church in the air at the Rapture, which must occur prior to the Tribulation (Luke 21:36; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9; Revelation 3:10). Failure to distinguish these two events from each other can lead to mistakenly concluding that the Rapture of the Church and the Second Coming are the same event. They are not. For a clear and complete explanation, I suggest that you read Zola and Tom McCall’s book Raptured (see description on p. 20).
Sue and Robin Hopper
TJF team members

At a strip mall in Tiberias, Sue met Maggie, an Orthodox-Jewish woman who had moved to California when she was young (hence the American nickname). When she returned to her native Israel, she married and now has grown children. Maggie happily accepted Sue’s offer of an Isaiah 53 Explained book.

At the BIG mall, we met fellow To The Jew First team member Robert for pizza. As Sue left to get some drinks, she knocked over a walking cane. She picked it up and apologized to its owner, an elderly gentleman sitting at a table near ours. This encounter ended up being a divine appointment. On returning, Sue retrieved a complete Hebrew Bible (with both Testaments) from her backpack and gave it to the man, apologizing again. He thanked her, and a few minutes later came over to introduce himself. Shlomo told us his story as a Holocaust survivor of Auschwitz, where he lost his entire family. He now feels blessed to be alive, with a loving wife and now a complete Hebrew Bible as well. Please pray for salvation in Yeshua Messiah for this precious soul and his wife.

Back at the hotel, we found Hazmy refreshing our room. Hazmy spoke little English, but his infectious smile and attitude encouraged us to learn that he did read Hebrew, and he accepted our gift of a complete Bible in Hebrew.

The next morning, we headed to Har Hermon (Mount Hermon), the tallest mountain in Israel and an Israel Defense Forces (IDF) outpost. On duty at the guard shack,

Gaetti and Dov asked our business. Robin responded that we wanted to thank them for everything they do for Israel, and that we had a gift for them. Robert handed them bandanas inscribed with Psalm 91 in Hebrew. We told them that we pray Psalm 91 over the IDF and Israel every day, and that we wanted them to have these gifts so they would know that people care and pray for them, even if they are unaware of it.

In all, we encountered seven soldiers who accepted bandanas, Bibles, and study materials. One also accepted They Thought for Themselves, written in Hebrew, about Jews who accepted Yeshua as Savior during the Holocaust.

Heading to the car, we met Nor and Gil. We asked if they had a minute to talk, and they said yes. The Lord had opened another door. Both men were grateful to speak with us. We have noticed when visiting Har Hermon that people rarely engage the IDF. These young men and women are the only buffer between them and Islamic terrorism, yet few stop to let them know that their service is appreciated. We did share our appreciation and gifts. Both Gil and Nor accepted Bibles and Psalm 91 bandanas. We told them that we pray Psalm 91 over Israel and the IDF every day. These encounters were well worth the time and the drive, as we distributed the Good News and cheered seven amazing members of the IDF. 

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Rm. 1:16

Shaliach Report
To The Jew First

Sue and Robin Hopper
TJF team members

Hazel & Robin

Robin, Gaetti & Dov

Gaetti and Dov

Shlomo

Shlomo

Hazmy

Hazmy

Nor and Gil

Gil, Sue & Nor
"Hey Rocky, watch me pull a rabbit out of my hat!" Cartoon fans never knew whether Bullwinkle, an aspiring illusionist, would pull a lion, rhinoceros, or skunk from his top hat; but they soon learned not to expect rabbits. This ministry also seems to be pulling the unexpected (at least for now), managing to keep both of our airtimes on the far-reaching Daystar Christian television network! (See a praise report from South Africa on p. 24.)

Here are highlights from several recent Notes from Mark:

**JULY: Pray About Your Two Pence.** Addressing donors who may give too generously, July’s Note concludes: “While this organization’s financial needs continue ceaselessly with our weekly television broadcasts and monthly newsletter mailings, we would rather downsize again than ask donors to do without necessities.” Is ZLM alone in encouraging responsible giving and connecting readers with sage financial advice from experts?

**AUGUST: Making it to the Other Side.** This Note’s appeal was “a battle cry to donors who really can do some heavy lifting with ongoing contributions that will help us bridge the abyss … to when viewers will become accustomed to tuning in [Zola Levitt Presents] via Internet broadcast.”

**SEPTEMBER: Too Many Donors?** I mused whether ZLM needs fewer donors, reminiscent of God’s commanding Gideon to pare His volunteers to a mere 300 before charging the Midianites. “Whether you’re a knee drinker or a lapper (those willing to fight), please help this ministry to prosper and … we’ll fight a bigger battle.”

**OCTOBER: Weighing and Praying—Which Daystar time should we keep?** Choosing between Daystar’s Wednesday evening and Friday afternoon broadcasts led me to weigh choosing between daytime workers and retirees. “Please bear in mind that your generosity in the short term will impact our decisions about the quantity and quality of our new TV programs and how far and wide to disseminate them.”

Ken Berg, this ministry’s figurative wingman, has produced ZLP since 1978. Clayton Herring, Berg Productions’ longtime syndicator, buys airtime and distributes ZLP programming. Clayton is intimately aware that Berg’s livelihood depends on ZLM’s airtime purchases. Nonetheless, he openly advised me that, to spare red ink, ZLM should axe one of our Daystar airtimes.

Guess what. Clayton was like a quarterback calling football plays on Sunday night. Speaking as a Monday morning quarterback, however, I have new information: You donors are rising to the occasion and, for the time being, the ball is still in play! (Matt. 6:34)

As you read in October’s Note, this ministry is “enduring a long-term, grinding battle of attrition during which we’re seeking to preserve as much teaching territory as possible.” Please stay with us at the battlefront as generously as you reasonably can.

Our faithful givers have spoken! Let’s keep this momentum going for a financially stable 2019 ministry year. —David and Kirsten
Prayer Request for John Parsons

For nearly two decades, ZLM volunteer John Parsons has created the Levitt Letter’s monthly “Hebrew Lesson.” Its focus on uplifting Bible teaching blesses even readers who don’t study Hebrew. For anyone who wants a simplified, fulfilling approach to learning the only language guaranteed never to die, John conceived, designed, and wrote Zola’s Introduction to Hebrew book. Look it over at store.levitt.com/HP or order it on page 18. Please consider purchasing it, perhaps for a friend, especially now when John needs support while coping with chest pains, serious breathing issues, and mediocre health insurance. Please pray for John, his wife Olga, and their three young sons.

A Year After Hurricane Harvey

IsraAID and the Israel Trauma Coalition (ITC) are still helping Atlantic region residents heal from the previous and prepare for the next storm. The ITC organized a series of resilience training sessions for Houston clinicians, educators, and administrators. They’ve also launched long-term projects to improve disaster response and community sustainability. Meanwhile, they remain busy at home dealing with mental-health issues, particularly among traumatized residents of Gaza border communities.

3 DVR Choices

These let you record free over-the-air (OTA) TV signals. The Dallas Morning News tech reviewer believes these are the best OTA recorders:

**TiVo Roamio OTA Vox** $400 with lifetime guide data … no ongoing cost.

**Tablo Dual Lite OTA DVR** (tablotv.com) costs $100, plus data (available at $5/month, $50/year, or $150/lifetime).

**Plex + HDHomeRun** requires 1) an $89 HDHomerun TV tuner box from SiliconDust to connect your antenna to the Plex server and 2) the Plex Pass, which unlocks guide data and allows DVR recording. The Plex Pass sells for $5/mo., $40/year, or $140/lifetime.

Pamphlet of the Month

All women need to take control of their long-range financial and estate plans. The free pamphlet Questions & Answers About Estate Planning for Women answers eight core questions. Some tips include: 1) Even a married woman needs a separate plan, of which joint ownership can play a part. 2) Spouses should have separate plans that complement each other. 3) Review the will, life insurance beneficiaries, and retirement plans when marital status changes. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.

“Come Home!”

Zola Tours to Israel

See page 36 for details
“Be still and know that I am God.” This is something you must do; you must quiet your heart to know the Divine Presence. Therefore, “set the Lord always before you” (Psalm 16:8), and refuse anxious thoughts that weigh upon you, creating pressure and “dis-ease.” Quieting your heart enables you to hear the holy whisper: “It is I; do not be afraid.” Once the storm of fear dissipates, you can know the truth of God. As the Spirit says, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength” (Isa. 30:15).

Worry is a place of exile and pain. Since God’s Name Yahweh (YHWH or יהוה) means “Presence” and “Love,” being anxious is to practice the absence of God’s presence instead of His companionship. A divided house cannot stand. Where it is written, “cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you” (1 Pet. 5:7), the word translated “anxiety” comes from a verb that means to divide into pieces. Bring your brokenness to God — including those distractions that make you ambivalent and afraid — to receive God’s healing for your divided heart.

Note that the verb translated “be still” (i.e., harpoo, from the root rapha) means to “let go,” to stop striving, and to surrender everything to God’s care, because God arranges good for those who put their trust in Him (Rom. 8:28). “Being still,” then, means letting go of your “need” to control your world. Relax your hold and rely on God’s care for your life instead, without “taking thought” for tomorrow (Matt. 6:34). The past is gone, after all, and the future is God’s business: all you have is the present moment to call upon our Lord. Be faithful in the present hour, then, asking God for the grace and strength you need to endure, to engage the task at hand. In this way, you will experience the peace of God “which surpasses all understanding” (Phil. 4:7).

Walking with God isn’t just a matter of “head education” but also of “heart education.” These two must always go together as “spirit and truth” (John 4:23). Head education seeks knowledge primarily as a means of defining what you believe; heart education, on the other hand, centers on fear, or rather, on overcoming your fear by trusting in God’s love and healing grace. When you accept that you are accepted despite yourself, you are delivered from the need to defend yourself. You can let go, quit denying who you are, and accept God’s unconditional care for your life — regardless of the state of the world. When your heart learns to “be still,” you can know that the God of Israel reigns over all things!

(See prayer request for John, p. 15.)
In this eight-program TV series, Myles and Katharine Weiss encourage Believers to look beyond the troubling prophetic signs of our day and live in growing expectation of our Messiah’s return. Series guests include: Jimmy DeYoung, Jim Fletcher, Jeremy Gimpel, Rabbi Yehuda Glick, Wilfred Hahn, Bill Koenig, Tim LaHaye, Avi Lipkin, Randall Price, David Rubin, Bill Salus, Carl Teichrib, and Andy Woods.

ON THE PROPHETIC HORIZON Reviews the major prophetic signs that point to the return of Yeshua (Jesus) and the quickening pace of prophecy.

GOVERNMENT ON WHOSE SHOULDERS? Satan continues his push to exclude God and install a man-based government over Earth. Mankind’s only hope: accepting Yeshua’s sacrifice on the cross.

GREEN TO THE EXTREME As the environmental movement glorifies nature as “Mother Earth,” Believers worship the Creator, not creation.

BETHLEHEM REWRITTEN In Bethlehem, Arab Christians are caught between God’s covenants with the Jewish people and replacement theologies powered by Islam. Too many “peace” proposals exclude the Prince of Peace.

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE History of the Temple Mount from King David’s threshing floor to efforts to build a Third Temple.

THE HEAVENS DECLARE The Lord uses heavenly signs to show us what He is doing, where He is going, and what He asks of us. Believers follow our Messiah, not signs.

THE SWORD OF ALLAH The spiritual battle with radical Islam is wearying, but we mustn’t give up; the Lord wants none to perish (2 Peter 3:9) and will return for His own.

NEW HEAVEN, NEW EARTH Signs like increased knowledge and the Jewish return to Israel point to the return of Yeshua for His bride, and we want no one to miss out.
### Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

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<tr>
<th>Qty.</th>
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<td><strong>A Christian Love Story</strong> <em>(pictured)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Glory! The Future of the Believers</strong></td>
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<td><strong>How Can a Gentle Be Saved?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>In My Father's House</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Israel, My Promised</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Miracle of Passover</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mix or Match: 50 Classic Study Booklets</strong></td>
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### Books

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<td><strong>The Beginning of The End</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Bible Jesus Read</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Broken Branches: Has the Church Replaced Israel?</strong> <em>(Zola on Replacement Theology)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Coming: The End! Russia/Israel in Prophecy</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Once Through the New Testament</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Our Hands are Stained with Blood</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Zola's Introduction to Hebrew</strong> <em>(pictured)</em></td>
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### Featured DVDs

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<td><strong>Best of Zola's Music Videos</strong> <em>(2-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Esther</strong> <em>(8 programs, 2-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Joseph: Dreamer/Redeemer</strong> <em>(9 programs, 2-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Journey of Restoration</strong> <em>(10 programs, 2-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Secrets of the Scrolls</strong> <em>(7 programs, 2-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Thy Kingdom Come</strong> <em>(pictured)</em> <em>(12 programs, 3-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Times of the Signs</strong> <em>(p. 17)</em> <em>(8 programs, 2-DVDs)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Zion Forever</strong> <em>(9 programs, 2-DVDs)</em></td>
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ORDER FORM continued

STUDIES, SPECIALTY, ETC.

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<td>AHAVA Mineral Body Lotion 17 oz.</td>
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<td>AHAVA Mineral Foot Cream 3.4 oz.</td>
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<td>AHAVA Mineral Hand Cream 3.4 oz.</td>
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<td>Flag of Israel (3’ x 5’)</td>
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<td>Genealogy Chart</td>
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<td>Grafted-In Gold Decal (1.2&quot; x 3&quot; hand-cut)</td>
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<td>Grafted-In Lapel Pin (pictured)</td>
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<td>Half-shekel Key Chain (p.36)</td>
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<td>NEW! Jewish Heritage Calendar (5779 / 2019) (pictured)</td>
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<td>Map of the Holy Land</td>
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<td>Matzoh Postcards (pack of 12)</td>
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<td>Messianic Grafted-In Sterling Necklace</td>
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<td>Pictorial Map of Jerusalem</td>
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<td>“Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem” Bumper Sticker</td>
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<td>The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark</td>
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<td>___</td>
<td>Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only)</td>
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Teaching CDs

| ___  | A Christian Love Story | CD $7 | ___ |
| ___  | Coming: The End! | CD $7 | ___ |
| ___  | Discovering Our Jewish Roots (pictured) | (9 CDs) $39 | ___ |

Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

| ___  | Beloved Thief (Zola’s Musical CD) | $12 | ___ |
| ___  | Return to Galilee (pictured) (Music CD) | $12 | ___ |
| ___  | The Works (p.25) (Zola’s first 8 albums on 4 CDs) | $49 | ___ |
| ___  | The Works II (p.25) (Zola’s next 8 albums on 4 CDs) | $49 | ___ |
| ___  | The Works I & II + 6 CDs Free = 22 albums (p.25) | $98 | ___ |

PLEASE SEND THIS ENTIRE 2-PAGE ORDER FORM—THANKS.

Shipping & Handling Chart

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<th>up to $15.99, add $5</th>
<th>$16 to $30.99, add $7</th>
<th>$31 to $60.99, add $9</th>
<th>$61 to $97.99, add $10</th>
<th>$98 and over, FREE SHIPPING</th>
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For shipments outside the United States, please DOUBLE shipping. Please send U.S. funds. (Please allow about 2–3 weeks for delivery.)

Any amount that exceeds the listed price is considered a tax-deductible gift to our ministry.

Name
(please print)

Shipping Address

Billing Address (if different)

City State Zip

Email Address (optional)

On what station/network do you primarily watch our programs?

Donor # Phone No. (_______)

(see number above your name on mailing label)

My check is enclosed for $_______ or, Please charge $_______ to:

Card # Exp. / Card ID# required

Cardholder Signature:
**Raptured** book  
*by Tom McCall and Zola Levitt*

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

(Please see related “Ask the Chaplain” on p. 12.)

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**Signs of the End — The Millennium** study booklet

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 of world events.


(This and many other titles also available as eBooks.)
To honor Israel’s 70th anniversary of independence, aerial photographer Israel Bardugo captured stunning photos of Israel from the air, including these pictures of Haifa, Tel Aviv, and the country’s eternal capital of Jerusalem. Watch for additional aerial photographs next month.
Comments from www.levitt.com

From S.R. (AR): I have many of Zola’s study booklets that I enjoy rereading. A favorite book is Raptured by Zola and Tom McCall. Their writing is easy to understand and tells a wonderful story. I am enclosing a “mite” to thank you for staying faithful to God and the ministry He gave to Zola. — I too was happily surprised to discover such joy in reading deep theology! Rather than a textbook-style, Zola’s writing made deep, Scriptural doctrines understandable for every reader. We gladly accept your “mite,” and promise to continue ZLM as long as God sees fit. — Kirsten
P.S. — See p. 20 for a description of Raptured.

From J.B. (AR): I’m impressed with David and Kirsten Hart and wish they would sing more. Thanks also for mostly using the KJV as that poetic translation speaks to me. — We appreciate your words of encouragement regarding our singing. We are heading into the recording studio, so keep watching Zola Levitt Presents, and you’ll start hearing newly revived Zola songs! — Kirsten

From M.C. (AZ): God assigned myriad ministries to spread His Word of salvation “to all the world,” which is now very full. He led me to ZLM and the love that shone through Zola, who used his gifts like a master chef feeding the Lord’s sheep. Zola’s fellow ministry workers serve with that same spirit.

I love how He chose a certain people and planted them in a certain land, blessing us all through them and, ultimately, in the Root and Descendant of David: the Lord Jesus, Yeshua the Messiah, upon whom the Lord caused our iniquity to fall.

I am humbled to be adopted by so great a God and Savior and to be able to play a small part in His eternal plan by supporting ZLM in these Last Days. — Love your comparing Zola to “a master chef feeding the Lord’s sheep!” We agree and are doing our best to keep this “sheep feeding” ministry alive and effective. — David

From D.C.: Re: Thy Kingdom Come — Thank you, Lord, for Zola! He’s still teaching the generations though he is in Heaven!

(continued next page)
Dear ZLM,

In "The Kingdom Begins" episode of the series Thy Kingdom Come, Zola brings up Dan. 12:11 and that 45-day period and then 30 adding to 75, and we know there are only 1,260 days till Armageddon so this is what it means:

The sacrifice is taken away before the head wound is revealed and the 1,260 days start and the 45 days are after they set up the image of the beast. And that’s 45 days of the mark of the beast (Mat. 24:15).

Dan. 12:11 says they stop the sacrifice. Then 1,290 days later, they set up the abomination of desolation, and 45 days later you’re blessed with Daniel verse 13: the resurrection. Zola was close, but I feel I needed to share that. Jesus loves you. — J.P., your brother in Tribulation

Dear J.P. —

I think you’re mistaking the 1,290 days as being during the Tribulation Period and not as the second half plus 30 days into the Millennial Kingdom. If you watch the episode again, beginning at the 9:15-minute mark, you’ll see that Zola offers a chart (below) explaining those counts of 30 and 75 days after the Tribulation ends with Christ’s Second Coming.

The Abomination of Desolation occurs halfway (1,260 days) through the 7-year Tribulation. Daniel 12:1 speaks about an event that occurs after an additional 1,290 (1,260 + 30) days and of blessings that await someone who waits 1,335 (1,260 + 75) days. These numbers, according to Zola’s chart, refer to this:

- 1,260 days after the Abomination of Desolation (which occurs at the midpoint of the Tribulation), the Second Coming of Yeshua takes place on the Day of Atonement (always on the 10th day of the 7th month, Tishrei). This event begins the Millennial Kingdom.
- An additional 30 days (30 + 1,260 = 1,290 days after the midpoint) = 10th day of the 8th month, possibly the date He will judge the sheep and goats.
- Adding 45 days (1,260 + 30 + 45 = 1,335 days after the midpoint) puts the date at 25 Kislev, always Hanukkah, the Feast of Dedication that Jesus kept (John 10:22), which would be a perfect day to dedicate the Millennial (and likely the Third) Temple.

Let me repeat Zola’s words: He doesn’t insist on this “playing with numbers” as doctrine. It’s just interesting to study Daniel’s schedule. —Editor

Dear J.P. —

I hope that we’re not around to be brothers in Tribulation, if that’s what your sign-off suggests. We stand by Zola’s teaching of the End Times pre-Tribulation timetable. We will all find out (one day soon) who was “right” and who guessed “wrong.” But one thing I know for sure: I don’t want to be around during the Tribulation Period on Earth. —David

(continued next page)
Cutting the Cable

Dear Mark,

I am writing in response to your *Levitt Letter* article in September's issue, page 14. I'm concerned about the ministry's financial situation and am sorry to hear that you have to cut some stations. I lost Daystar when I dropped cable — it got too expensive. Fortunately, I've got Roku, where I can see *Zola Levitt Presents* anytime I want to.

I'm increasing my monthly pledge by $10 and hope this will help in some small way. Blessings, D.B. (TX)

Dear D.B. —

Thank you for pledging monthly — it really helps with our budgeting. If every reader and viewer gave $10 monthly, we could cease asking for donations, so thank you for picking up the slack for those who don’t or can’t send funds.

I was pleased to learn that you bought a Roku device and can now use the Internet to watch *Zola Levitt Presents* on your TV set. As roku.com shows, Roku players are now available for as little as $30! (The Roku Ultra is $100.) “From budget-friendly players to 4K Ultra HD powerhouses...Roku users get endless entertainment with built-in features to stream, watch live TV, and more.”

Of course, cord cutters like you can always use their computers, tablets, and smart phones to read *Levitt Letters* and watch for free our latest weekly program and any from the video archive at levitt.tv. The joy of Roku, however, is putting our Internet “broadcasts” on your television screen — a wonderful experience for those who have invested in big-screen TVs and quality sound systems. Roku devices cost less than most cable subscribers spend in a month or two. — Mark

A Note from South Africa

Good day.


I want to thank you for sending to me for free Zola’s monthly news magazines. I’ve been following *Zola Levitt Presents* (ZLP) on Daystar television. My husband and I find the program very enlightening, especially about Jewish history and Israel.

I’m currently pursuing my honors degree in theology and your newsletters have helped me a lot. We love the Jewish history you teach and your support of Israel. I’m a South African living near Cape Town.

Thanking you sincerely, Lucky L. (ZA)

Dear Lucky L. —

Thanks for your accolades from South Africa. I appreciate your affirmation that you’re able to watch ZLP each week on the Daystar Network. Please tell your friends and neighbors who cannot see our program on television to visit levitt.com and levitt.tv, where our free Bible teaching is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. — Mark

P.S. — You may find interesting our *Levitt Letter* articles regarding Cape Town’s water crisis that partially stems from its embracing Iraq’s water management technologies rather than Israel’s.

Why We Support ZLM

Dear ZLM,

The Lord has blessed us financially, and we would like to share our increase with you. Please accept this donation and our heartfelt thanks for your diligence

(continued next page)
in proclaiming the truth of the Gospel and Israel. We watch, record, and share your weekly program with others. We attend a local Bible church but never hear about prophecy or current-day Israel. We depend on ministries like ZLM to educate us so that we, in turn, can educate others, especially about the truth regarding Israel. Your teaching has blessed our hearts. Thank you for being in our lives as our teachers. — G. & L.L. (TX)

Dear G. & L.L. —

Thank you for “getting” the importance of Zola Levitt Presents. Zola’s was one of the first voices on television teaching the need to study Christianity’s Jewish roots, a focus whose relevance has increased in these Last Days. Your donation is timely, and we thank you for blessing our work financially. — David

Zola’s Effective Teaching Style

Dear ZLM,

I was channel hopping and there was Zola Levitt Presents — with the Harts and Dr. Jeff, who seem comfortable together. The program is very “alive” with Zola teaching. I am arranging my schedule so I can tune in at 5:30 p.m. — J.M.

Dear J.M. —

It’s good to hear that you appreciate how David, Kirsten, and Jeff Seif have been handling our program’s hosting and teaching. Thanks also for your comment about preferring our livelier format, which includes more of Zola’s classic Bible teaching. The new Return to Eden may be one of our most exciting television series in a long time. You can be sure that the folks involved in its production are giving it their very best efforts.

But why rearrange your schedule to watch our broadcast? If you don’t have the option to record it on your VCR or DVR, you could watch it “on demand” (whenever the mood strikes) at levitt.tv. You might even invest $30 or so for a device from Roku.com that allows your television to display our program from the Internet. (Please see my reply to D.B. on page 24.) — Mark

22-ALBUM SPECIAL

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Order on p. 19
Israeli startup NRGene, a company that uses algorithms to map out the genetic makeups of plants, humans, and animals, has helped researchers from Japan crack the genome of buckwheat, a gluten-free plant that is high in protein, in an effort to help farmers improve the quality of their crops.

**Buckwheat is neither a grain nor a grass.** Rather, it is related to rhubarb and is considered a pseudo-cereal. The “grains” can be eaten as groats (also known as kasha) or farina breakfast porridge. When ground, the flour can be used in noodles or a variety of other foods. Because it is gluten-free and relatively high in protein, its popularity with consumers has been on the rise recently.

The plant can also be used as a basis for tea and alcoholic beverages, including gluten-free beer and shochu, a Japanese spirit. Buckwheat is also used as a filling for bed and meditation pillows.

World production of buckwheat in 2016 was 2.4 million tons, led by Russia (50%) and China (17%).

“Buckwheat has a very high protein content, which makes it an important crop in the quest to maximize nutrition for the world’s ever-increasing population,” said Dr. Gil Ronen, CEO of NRGene.

Founded by Ronen and Guy Kol in 2010, NRGene enlisted code crackers from the Israel Defense Forces’ elite 8200 unit to write algorithms and software to break down the genetic makeup of humans, plants, and animals, with the aim of mapping complex genomes quickly and accurately to help breeding and research programs. In April, the startup helped unveil the genetic makeup of soybeans.

I’m not surprised that Israel is supplying groundbreaking information about global food production. The apple of God’s eye is helping to feed humanity! —Kirsten
Researchers at the Technion Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Engineering have developed a new, highly targeted technology for drug delivery that uses light to affect only the diseased tissue the drug is targeting.

The noninvasive method helps avoid random dispersion of drugs throughout the body, which often lowers their effectiveness and can damage healthy tissue. Chemotherapy drugs, for example, work to block cell division but cause hair loss and bowel issues in cancer patients. As a result, there has been a global effort to develop a better-targeted system of drug delivery that can bypass healthy tissue and reach only specific parts of the body affected by cancer.

The new method, published in *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, was developed by doctoral candidate Alona Shagan and Assistant Prof. Boaz Mizrahi. It uses a unique polymer coating that contains nanoscale gold particles in addition to the drug itself. The drug only releases when a light shines on the gold particles, causing the polymer coating to melt.

“Photo-triggered materials fulfill a vital role in a range of biomedical applications,” said Shagan. “But despite this enormous potential, these materials are rarely used because of toxins in the polymer coating itself, and damage caused by high-energy [shortwave] light.”

The researchers designed the groundbreaking delivery method to release under long-wave light (Near-Infrared, NIR), which has the advantage of being able to penetrate bodily tissues without harming them.

“We’ve developed a material with varying melting points, allowing us to control it using low intensities,” explained Mizrahi. “Our system is composed of FDA-approved materials, and we are close to clinical application.”

The researchers believe this new technology can be used for a variety of other applications, such as the sealing of internal and external injuries, temporarily holding tissue during surgery, or as biodegradable scaffolds for growing transplant organs.

The polymer may also be able to be used as part of the self-healing process, opening it up to a wide range of both medical and non-medical applications.

Diagram of how drugs injected into the bloodstream can be activated at the targeted location using external light
British novelist J. K. Rowling won plaudits from Jewish Twitter users after her August online battle with a supporter of Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the British Labour Party, after Corbyn accused “Zionists” of having no appreciation of “English irony” despite being lifetime residents.

Rowling, creator of the *Harry Potter* series, is a critic of Corbyn, whose three years at the helm of the Labour Party have mired it in a crisis with the UK Jewish community.

In a Twitter exchange with pro-Corbyn Twitter user Simon Maginn, Rowling quoted from the 1946 essay by French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre, “Anti-Semite and Jew.”

“They [anti-Semites] delight in acting in bad faith, since they seek not to persuade by sound argument but to intimidate and disconcert,” read one quote from Sartre selected by Rowling.

The argument started by Maginn aggressively challenged a post about Corbyn from “SCynic1” — a Jewish user. “Explain your patently synthetic outrage,” Maginn demanded.

Apparently reading the exchange, Rowling leapt in, telling Maginn, “How dare you tell a Jew that their outrage is ‘patently synthetic’? … What other minority would you speak to this way?”

Here, the Twitter exchange is laid out for you:

@simonmaginn to @SCynic1 —
Explain it to me, then. Explain your deep and wounding sense of injury. Explain the wrong that’s been done to you. Explain your
patently synthetic outrage. Explain yourself. Publicly.

@jk_rowling to Simon Maginn —
How dare you tell a Jew that their outrage is “patently synthetic”? How dare you demand that they lay bare their pain and fear on demand, for your personal evaluation? What other minority would you speak to this way?

SM to JK Rowling —
Hi Ms Rowling. Can you explain it, then? Mr Corbyn’s given his explanation: it’s a rather complicated joke about the Palestinian Ambassador’s fluency in English. What is it that you think is anti-Semitic about it?

And rather than bully from the grandeur of your immense twitter following, why not try to engage intellectually with someone? Anyone can sling mud and run. Let’s talk about it rationally. How about it?

JKR to SM — “If you press them too closely, they will abruptly fall silent, loftily indicating by some phrase that the time for argument is past. It is not that they are afraid of being convinced.” (Jean-Paul Sartre, “Anti-Semite and Jew”)

How about you explain — publicly, to Twitter, to the world — why you’ve taken it upon yourself to attack a Jew, demanding that they explain themselves, when there are literally hundreds of accounts currently online explaining how British Jews currently feel?

You don’t want to understand in the slightest, because if you did, you’d be reading those accounts right now. What you want is to accuse a Jew of lying. You’re projecting your own bad faith onto @SCynic1 and you’re projecting your own bullying onto me.

SM to JKR —
What is it I don’t want to understand? I’ve asked you repeatedly for an explanation, you’ve given me GCSE Philosophy sound-bites and a temper tantrum. Bored.

JKR to SM —
And thus did the anti-Semite loftily indicate that he was no longer interested in debate.

JK Rowling 1, Simon Maginn 0 — David
Israel Welcomes U.S. Defunding UNRWA*
By Tovah Lazaroff, Michael Wilner
JPost.com

Israel welcomed the recent U.S. decision to cut its funding to UNRWA as a positive step forward in the peace process, while the Palestinians and the Jordanians warned it would inflame the Middle East.

Israel’s former ambassador to the U.S. Michael Oren said: “The U.S. government’s decision to end its aid to Palestinian refugee agency UNRWA is crucial for any future peace agreement. UNRWA eternalizes the Israeli–Arab conflict by artificially inflating the number of refugees, teaching young Palestinians to deny Israel’s right to exist and demand the right of return, while providing shelter to terrorists and concealing their weapons. UNRWA is not essential to peace but rather a roadblock on the path to peace.”

Many in Israel and the U.S. have long argued the organization created in 1948 to service Palestinian refugees has become a stumbling block to the peace process because of its decision to confer refugee status on the descendants of the more than 750,000 Palestinians who fled their homes during Israel’s War of Independence.

Until last year, the United States was the largest donor to UNRWA, contributing some $360 million of the one billion dollar budget to service over five million refugees in the West Bank, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

Clashes In Gaza Reignite
By Associated Press / LATimes.com

In late September, thousands of Palestinians gathered at five locations along Gaza’s frontier with Israel in response to calls by Hamas, the militant group that has controlled Gaza (continued next page)

* Created in 1949, UNRWA stands for “United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.”
since seizing it from the Palestinian Authority in 2007.

Six Palestinians, two of them children ages 12 and 14, were killed. At least 90 other Palestinians were wounded by live fire.

Hamas has led what they term “protests” weekly since March, but accelerated them in September to near daily events, pressing in large part for an end to a crippling Israeli-Egyptian blockade imposed after Hamas’s violent takeover of Gaza in 2007. Hamas ousted forces loyal to Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in an armed coup.

At the border fence, “protesters” burned dozens of tires, using the thick black smoke as a screen to throw rocks and explosives toward Israeli troops stationed on the opposite side of the fence. The soldiers responded with tear gas and gunfire.

As the Israeli military responded to grenades and explosive devices hurled at troops, Israeli aircraft carried out two airstrikes on Hamas militant positions in the Gaza Strip. There were no Israeli casualties reported in the most recent clashes. At least 143 Palestinians have died in these attempts to breach the border since they began in late March, and a Palestinian sniper killed an Israeli soldier in August.

**New Sports Record for Israel**  
*By JPost Sports Staff / JPost.com*

Israeli rhythmic gymnast Linoy Ashram captured her second and third medals at August’s Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup Championship in Minsk, Belarus.

Her final-round score of 20.650 in the clubs event was good enough for first place, while earlier in the day she took the bronze medal in the ball discipline and finished sixth in the hoops competition.

The 19-year-old Israeli set a new world record with her score of 20.650, the best recorded result since the rules were changed two years ago. Ashram also won the gold medal in the all-round phase of the competition, in which gymnasts perform routines using a hoop, clubs, ball, and ribbon. The Israeli team finished in fifth place overall.

I’m proud of this tiny but mighty land. Go Israel! — David
In June, during the final week of Ramadan, the Muslim Waqf made use of the limited police presence and closure of the Temple Mount to all non-Muslims to move parts of the remaining mounds of soil that were originally excavated in 1999 and the early 2000s, along with the material we have been sifting. With the help of dozens of volunteers, they illegally moved soil, stones, and artifacts from the large dirt mounds on the eastern side of the Temple Mount. Stones were collected and used to build terraces and little walls to outline new walkways.

This material contains a huge number of artifacts from all periods of the Temple Mount’s history, including the First and Second Temple Periods. This material should be sifted by the Temple Mount Sifting Project, and legally, we are the ones with the rights to move, sift/excavate, study, and publish this material. Yet again, illegally, the Waqf carried out excavation work and earth and stone clearance on the Temple Mount.

A ruling by the Supreme Court prevents these mounds from being removed without archaeological supervision. Muslim authorities object to any archaeological work on the Temple Mount, so since 2004 no debris has been removed from the Temple Mount, and all material from renovations and other work has

(continued next page)
been gathered in these mounds on the eastern side of the Temple Mount, which were just damaged.

When we found out about these events, we immediately alerted the Jerusalem police chief, the Israel Antiquities Authority director, and the prime minister’s office. The police stopped the work and installed a new police post on top of the Golden Gate to be able to keep an eye on these soil mounds.

Several days later, in a special meeting between the king of Jordan and Israel’s Prime Minister Netanyahu, the king requested that Israel remove the new post above the Golden Gate. It was published by the media that the prime minister complied with the request, but the police post still exists as of this writing.

God is still in control, but destroying the proof of Jewish history on the Temple Mount sickens me. — Kirsten

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (right) met Jordan’s King Abdullah II during a visit to Amman

Crossword November 2018: Return to Eden
(answers on p. 35)

ACROSS
1. … and the tree of ___ of good and evil. (Gen. 2:9)
4. And a ___ went out of Eden… (Gen. 2:10)
5. … and put him into the garden of ____... (Gen. 2:15)
9. And God called the dry land ___ (Gen. 1:10)
11. And God ___ them... (Gen. 1:28)
12. Pomegranate (Hebrew)
13. …she shall be called ____... (Gen. 2:23)
14. Olives (Hebrew)
16. …and man became a living ___. (Gen. 2:7)

DOWN
2. And Adam gave ___ to all... (Gen. 2:20)
3. And the Lord God planted a ______... (Gen. 2:8)
6. And on the ___ day God ended his work... (Gen. 2:2)
7. And God made two great _____. (Gen. 1:16)
8. …Let us make man in Our ___... (Gen. 1:26)
10. Thus the ___ and the earth were finished... (Gen. 2:1)
Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said recently that he sees a path to peace with Palestinians through the “normalization” of relations with Arab states which, like Israel, are also facing an emboldened Iran.

“Many Arab countries now see Israel not as their enemy but as their indispensable ally in pushing back Iranian aggression,” Netanyahu said.

Both Israel and Saudi Arabia have opposed the Iran nuclear deal and pushed for tougher action against Iran’s spreading influence in the Middle East. Israel has peace treaties with just two Arab countries, Egypt and Jordan, while others insist on an agreement with the Palestinians as a prerequisite that would pave the way to formal relations.

Earlier this year, Saudi Arabian King Salman reaffirmed “steadfast” support for the Palestinian cause after Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman recognized Israel’s right to exist and extolled the prospect of future diplomatic relations between his kingdom and the Jewish state. In an interview with The Atlantic, Prince Mohammed laid out his vision for the future of the Middle East, including the possibility of cooperation with Israel.

“I believe that each people, anywhere, has a right to live in their peaceful nation. I believe the Palestinians and the Israelis have the right to have their own land,” he said, but added that an agreement with the Palestinians was a prerequisite to formal relations.

Israel and Saudi Arabia have no official relations, and the kingdom does not recognize the Jewish state. Israel has hinted at clandestine ties with Saudi Arabia in recent years, stressing the two countries’ interest in countering Iran. Rumors of covert relations have been denied by Saudi officials. Still, a Saudi general visited Jerusalem in 2016 and met with Israeli lawmakers, and Saudi officials have met with Israeli officials on several occasions in public; Saudi Arabia also recently allowed Air India to fly to and from Tel Aviv via its airspace.

(See also the UNRWA article on p. 30.)

Peace? No peace? Not recognizing the Jewish state? Today’s Believers are perfectly positioned to watch the End Times signs fall into place. But we must not be complacent. Those fulfilled prophecies also increase the time pressure to earnestly carry out Yeshua’s Great Commission (Matt. 28:19–20). — David
Remembering the Good Times

Moishe walks into a bar and orders three mugs of Goldstar beer. He sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender approaches and tells Moishe, “You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it. It would taste better if you bought one at a time.” Moishe replies, “Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is in Haifa, the other is in Sderot.

When we all left home, we promised that we’d drink this way to remember the days when we drank together. So I’m drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself.”

The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there.

Moishe becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way. He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, he comes in and only orders two mugs. All the regulars notice and fall silent. When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, “I don’t want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss.”

Moishe looks puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns and he laughs. “Oh, no, everybody’s just fine,” he explains. “It’s just that my wife and I became Orthodox and I had to quit drinking. “Hasn’t affected my brothers though.”

A cheerful heart is good medicine — Proverbs 17:22

Answer Key for November 2018 Crossword (p. 33)

Across:
1. Knowledge
4. River
5. Eden
9. Earth
11. Blessed
12. Rimmon
13. Woman
14. Zayit
15. Covenant
16. Soul

Down:
2. Names
3. Garden
6. Seventh
7. Lights
8. Image
10. Heavens

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