

LEVITT LETTER

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved.” – Romans 10:1

The State of the Ministry

By MARK LEVITT

As Zola’s son and this ministry’s business manager, I occasionally see myself playing a role similar to Scottie’s, on the *Star Trek’s* Enterprise, who periodically says, in his earnest Scottish accent, “I’m givin’ ya all she has, sir.”



Zola, our star fleet commander, following orders from “Headquarters,” is at our outreach’s helm at the forefront of our heroic missions, prayerfully monitoring where we are relative to God’s will, and envisioning what stellar challenges lie ahead (“as we boldly go . . .”). Behind the scenes, in the engine room, in effect, I encourage our suppliers and employees to help us meet our production deadlines, pay our bills on time and furnish the public with honest-to-God Bible teaching that appeals to Jew, Gentile, believer and unbeliever alike.

Since joining Zola Levitt Ministries eleven years ago, I’ve witnessed some exciting changes. We have graduated from one-color, eight-

page, folded-over newsletters to two-color 12-pagers that are stapled and mailed flat, brimming with Hebrew lessons, guest articles and prophecy updates. We continue making new TV programs fast enough to keep our reruns to a minimum, and our TV audience, along with our expenses, grows and grows.

There are fewer and fewer ministries on television these days because, thanks in part to infomercials, air time costs are higher than ever. TBN, for example, is hitting us with both inflationary and expansionary increases. FAM, which used to be CBN, has been sold to

secular interests. Despite both networks’ double-digit rate increases each year, we are thanking God that we, unlike some fellow ministries, are entitled to re-new our airing contracts at all.

...our TV audience, along with our expenses, grows and grows.

Just this year we began broadcasting our weekly TV program on the Internet at www.levitt.com, on demand (anytime you want). You can see our Israel slide show there, listen to Zola’s music and use the dozens of archived newsletters for research

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with our powerful online search engine. There is also a Road-to-Heaven page and a page with frequently asked questions. Like our TV program and our two monthly newsletters, our web site’s information is free to the public.



TV, PRINT & WEB

These three foremost arteries of our outreach, however, cost us dearly and leave us relying on your consistent, generous contributions. We have no corporate grants or sponsoring denominations. Our net income from selling Bible-teaching materials is nominal—and for good reason. Imagine a marketing genius trying to understand why we under-mine our video sales by broadcasting at our web site Zola’s primetime prophecy special, our other newest TV productions and our all-time best-selling videos *The Dead Sea Scrolls Special* and the musical *Beloved Thief*. We are not trying to directly profit by our products; poor people can enjoy them for minimal charges so long as capable donors help us.

WE HAVE OPPOSITION OUT THERE! Ministries like Jews for Jesus and ours are constantly criticized by an organization called Jews for Judaism that believes that Jesus is not the Son of God and that the Messiah has yet to come. They agree with us “that there is no substitute for a good Jewish education.” We agree with them that “Many of the people involved in the Hebrew-Christian movement are of the best and brightest from the Jewish community.” (Then again, shouldn’t a good Jewish education enable any Bible student to both see that Jesus fulfills every Old Testament prophecy of our Savior and want to join the Hebrew-Christian movement?) They claim to need donations because we are so effective.

Well, we need donations, too, because they are still unsaved. If you are not personally able to wit-

ness to the Jew, then help us, and we’ll get the job done.

ON NEW YEAR’S EVE AT MIDNIGHT ON BOTH COASTS, 11:00 PM CT AND 1:00 AM MT, The Family Channel (FAM) will broadcast Zola’s one-hour primetime prophecy special *Is this the End . . . or Just the Beginning?* coast to coast. This likely will be the single most incredible hour of Bible teaching in our ministry’s twenty-year history. This individual hour of airtime will cost the same as we normally spend for an entire month of TV broadcasts.

We need not only to cover the sizeable outlay for our New Year’s special, but also to prepare for a year of gutsy, inspirational and even revolutionary new TV productions. Following our 12-program *Prophecy 2000* TV series, we will undertake *This is Israel!*, ten half-hour programs dedicated to

showing the unbeliever, and our fellow believers, that Israel is a magnificent country, glorious both past and present, despite any misconceptions that the secular media may promote.

Our audited financial statements are available to you free for the asking. For last year and this, they have some significant red ink, but we wear that as a badge of honor like a war hero wears his blood-stained uniform. We are not proud to be falling behind, but we realize the importance of our battle, one of eternal significance, one that outweighs the seemingly precious here and now. We need your financial assistance at this time and throughout the upcoming year. Please help now. Thanks.



And remember to “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.”

MARK LEVITT, BUSINESS MANAGER

Lyn Bond is a Jews for Jesus street evangelist. She is not the only one who is finding seminaries lacking.

Clouds Without Rain

BY LYN BOND

I was handing out gospel tracts near Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. The sultry, still weather of the first weeks of school were behind us. It was a brisk fall day and the leaves were flying past me, their warm hues reminding me that the days of warm weather had also flown by.



I offered a student one of our gospel tracts as he walked by. He stopped and replied, “No, thank you, I don’t need that. I’m a seminary student.” I was puzzled that a future minister would decline to receive a gospel tract, but I thought maybe we could “talk shop” a little. He told me his name was Adam and I told him,

“We’ve found that a good conversation opener for street ministry is the question, ‘Who do you think Jesus is?’” Adam’s reply shocked me: “I don’t know who Jesus is and I don’t see that it matters much.” I asked Adam why he was in seminary and he replied that he wanted to become a minister. “And what will your message be?” I asked, to which he responded, “I haven’t determined that yet.” The street light changed to green and Adam continued on his way. There weren’t many clouds in the sky on that windy fall day, but as I pondered this encounter I felt my own demeanor begin to cloud.

I find it confusing and upsetting to think about someone giving his life for the Church when he doesn’t know her head, the Messiah Jesus. Certainly no church service is more exciting than the One we come to worship, and if we pay no attention to Him, what is the point?

Apparently, Adam was the kind of person referred to in Jude 1:12, people

who are “religious” for their own purposes and desires, people who are like clouds without rain. Yes, on a beautiful, windy, fall day there were no clouds in the sky, yet I had seen a cloud without rain. He was walking down the street, preparing to enter the pulpit. What a desert the church that calls him will be.

As sobering as it is to meet future ministers who are not Christians, it is a reminder to those of us who do know Christ. We, too, can become like clouds without rain if we are not careful. Certainly we know who Jesus is, we know what we believe. But what are we, if we stop telling people about Jesus, both in word and deed? A Christian who does not communicate the love of Christ is an empty cloud, a promising appearance that holds no true refreshment for those who are spiritually thirsty. May God help us never to become like clouds without rain!



Tom McCall needs no introduction to our readers, but now and again we should state his qualifications. He holds a Th.M. in Old Testament studies and a Th.D. in Semitic languages and Old Testament. He has served as Zola's co-author, mentor, pastor, and friend for nearly 30 years. He is eminently qualified to undertake the following important study.

WHAT IS ARMAGEDDON?

Armageddon—a powerful word that strikes terror in the hearts of some of the most hardened military professionals and journalists. It is first mentioned in the Bible in the Book of Revelation, and it is mentioned in that final prophetic book only one time:

14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. . . .
16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.
 (Revelation 16:14 & 16)

The Biblical significance of Armageddon is that of a final cataclysmic war, in which all the nations of the earth are consumed in horrible destruction that all but wipes out the human race. It is that last great conflict before the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth to establish His kingdom from His capital in Jerusalem.

The term Armageddon has also sort of taken on a life of its own, with meanings not indicated in the Bible. A recent Hollywood movie depicts Armageddon as the smashing of a huge meteor into the earth, with the effect of destroying all life on the planet. The word has even entered into the vocabulary of modern newspapers, and most often contemplates the destruction of the world by means of various nations hurling thermonuclear missiles at each other, bringing about their universal annihilation. All that a writer has to do to conjure up a concept of utter destruction is to mention the term Armageddon.

HOW DOES THE BIBLE DESCRIBE ARMAGEDDON?

However, to understand Armageddon correctly, we need to go back to the source, to the Bible itself, to find out what Armageddon is all about. When one gets into the subject, one discovers that the event (though not the name) Armageddon is not just mentioned in Revelation, but is described in numerous places, both Old and New Testaments. While there are various wars prophesied in the end times, with “nation rising up against nation,” that is

not the primary purpose of the final war, Armageddon. The real goal of the War of Armageddon is for man, under Satanic leadership, to attempt nothing less than to fight against the Lord God Almighty and to endeavor to defeat Him in supernatural battle. The focus of the battle is against Israel in general and Jerusalem in particular. Israel is God’s covenant nation, and the Satanic dream is to destroy Israel. In Satan’s reasoning, if he can destroy Israel, he can destroy all the plans of God for the Second Coming of Christ, the restoration and salvation of Israel, the redemption of the earth, and the Millennial reign of Christ on the earth, along with His bride the Church and the born-again saints of other ages.

Armageddon

Part 1, Introduction

By Thomas S. McCall, Th.D.



We might wonder how Satan thinks he can get away with this scheme. One thing becomes very clear as we study Satan in the Scriptures. He is a perpetual optimist. He actually thinks he can ultimately defeat God. Even though Satan has been beaten by God in numerous ways already, by being cast from his high heavenly position as “the cherubim that covers” the throne of God, in the case of Job, and when Christ dealt him the mortal blow at the cross, Satan still is like a roaring lion, “seeking whom he may devour.”

He apparently thinks he can win out over God up until the last moment before he has been cast into the Lake of Fire after the Millennium:

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:10)

So in his delusion, Satan will amass the armies of the world, under his chosen Antichrist, to destroy Israel and Jerusalem, and thereby destroy the forces of the Almighty. In reality, though, it is God who is allowing this to happen, in order to bring about a tremendous defeat of Satan. Such is the background of the supernatural events leading up to the great war, Armageddon.

DISTINCTION FROM GOG AND MAGOG

There is considerable confusion, it must be admitted, even among sincere Biblical scholars, as to what is involved in Armageddon, and what is not involved in Armageddon. Among the most difficult questions is how the war described in Ezekiel 38-39, known as Gog and Magog, fits into the end times scenario.

ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD

Calling More Watchmen on the Wall

Do you watch our TV program *Zola Levitt Presents* on one of the broadcasts below?



INSP Network Nationwide Fri. 9:00 PM CT
Ashland, KY WTSF-61 Sat. 1:30 PM, Sun. 6:00 PM
Cape Girardeau, MO KACT-45 Wed. 8:00 PM
Denver, CO KRMT-41 Thu. 9:00 PM
Houston, TX KLTJ-44 Wed. 10:00 PM
Lubbock, TX KGLR-40 Sun. 8:00 AM, 4:00 PM
Milwaukee, WI WVCY-30 Thu. 10:00 PM
Orange, TX KITU-34 Sat. 5:30 PM
Orlando, FL WTGL-52 Tue. 8:00 PM
Perrysburg, OH WLMB-40 Wed. 9:30 PM
San Antonio, TX KHCE-23 Sat. 5:30 PM

If you can monitor our TV program every week on one of the stations above, please write to Margie at Berg Productions, 6311 N. O'Connor Blvd. #215, Irving, TX, 75039. In addition, please indicate whether you would be able to tape the broadcasts you monitor. We'll occasionally send you free samples of our Bible teaching materials as tokens of appreciation. Thanks.



Just When You Thought It Was Safe to Go to Seminary

In addition to our *This is Israel* TV series, we will undertake in the upcoming year another examination of seminaries whose doctrine fails to meet the minimum standards of Biblical scholarship. You will recall our battle with Criswell College, Dallas Baptist University, etc., over the Gundry textbook. You will be surprised at the importance of the issues we take up next and the "reputable" institutions which are involved.

'99 Tax Deductions

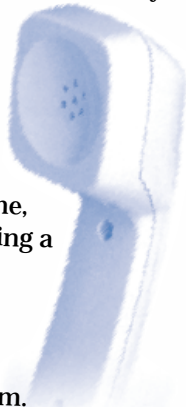
If your contributions to this ministry and other tax exempt organizations are postmarked by December 31, then you will be able to reduce the amount of your taxable income by the amount of your gift(s).

The same goes for credit card and check-by-phone contributions telephoned to us before January 1 at (214) 696-8844 during business hours CT or 1-800-WONDERS (966-3377) anytime.

Christian Legal Society

We began offering names, addresses and telephone numbers of Christian attorneys for those drafting wills and creating trusts. Now we have received a directory with Christian attorneys for most major U.S. cities.

Whether or not you have a will or ever plan to support this ministry, you are welcome to call our office at (214) 696-8844, Monday - Friday, 9:00 to 5:00 Central Time, for information about contacting a Christian attorney near you. We can make this free service available if you call our (214) number during office hours or email us at levitt@metronet.com.



Cyber Fellowship

If you have a tough theological question, a problem to share with a Christian brother or sister, or a prayer request,

Zola's Chat Room at
www.levitt.com

is a terrific place to meet new friends in the Lord, especially in the evenings and on the weekends. It is worth popping by to witness new friendships blossom as well as to share in some fascinating Biblical discussions. Many have prayed to receive Christ right online!



A Note From Zola

Dear Friends,

I've made it a point to avoid commenting on American politics throughout my ministry career because the slightest word said in favor or against any candidate raises far more response, ire, etc., than any Biblical issue. If you think liberal Christians get angry with this newsletter, you haven't seen the average American voter (or non-voter) when I give an opinion on which he bases his true passions.

Nevertheless, I can't resist commenting on Hillary Clinton's recent visit to Israel. This is not about Hillary's pandering for Jewish votes by visiting the Jewish homeland, but rather the hospitality given by the wife of the Palestinian dictator, Yasser Arafat, when she visited Ramallah on the West Bank. Suha Arafat took the opportunity of introducing Mrs. Clinton by citing a litany of imagined Israeli affronts to Palestinians.

People unfamiliar with Palestinian rhetoric would find Mrs. Arafat's remarks unbelievable. The bare naked hatred of the Palestinian "administration" for the Jewish state makes its lies so childishy exaggerated that no sane person could sympathize. And that, my friends, is why there is no peace, but only a process.

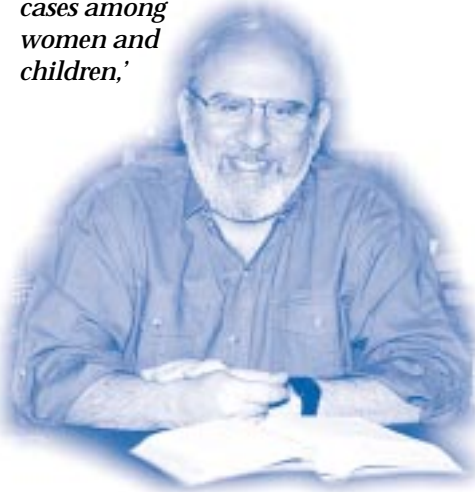
To quote from an editorial by Wesley Pruden,

... You can't blame Mrs. Clinton if she thinks she was sandbagged—car-bombed may be more like it—by her Palestinian friends.

Her hostess at the moment, Suha Arafat, wife of the famous statesman Yasser Arafat, accused Israel of running an Auschwitz-like operation to kill Palestinian women and children.

Mrs. Arafat knows better, of course, but she probably thought Hillary wouldn't mind because Hillary is so accustomed to her own husband telling fanciful lies.

'Our people have been submitted to the daily and intensive use of poisonous gas by the Israeli forces which have led to an increase in cancer cases among women and children.'



Mrs. Arafat said, at the dedication of a health program funded by the United States.

Israel, she said, her expression giving no hint of embarrassment for telling such a whopper, contaminates 80 percent of the water used by Palestinians. They do this, she said, with "chemical materials."

Mrs. Clinton did not nod in affirmation, nor smile sympathetically, and she probably had trouble keeping her jaw from dropping into her lap. But neither did she tell Mrs. Arafat what a lie and insult it was. Reuters, the British news agency, noted mildly: "The reference to gas offended sensitivities in Israel, home to

the largest community of Nazi Holocaust survivors in the world.'

Prime Minister Barak's office in Israel commented, "It would be preferable if the Palestinian side would bring its positions to the negotiating table... Poisoning the public atmosphere does not help bringing about success in these negotiations."

I think that's an overly gentle response. I think I would have said, "To Hell with these people, we're not going to talk to them about anything." I am honestly confused as to why the Israelis continue to try to deal with the gangster regime who happen to be the "elected representatives" of the Palestinian people. Why does Washington deal with these people? If we're uncomfortable dealing with Fidel Castro and have ignored him and his police state for 30 years, why do we find Arafat's company so acceptable?

Editor Pruden philosophizes about Arafat's failure to correct the record:

... You can't blame an Arafat for taunting Jews any more than you can blame an alligator for eating small children, and although the Palestinian leader did not rush out to say, 'Yassir, that's my baby,' neither did he run out with an apology.

...their naked hatred...
makes its lies so
childishly exaggerated...

It took Hillary an overnight to respond to Mrs. Arafat's comments, and then she only mouthed platitudes about such statements harming the peace process. The editorial writer was much more clear:

... Mrs. Arafat's insult to the memory of the 6 million was so brazen that it can't be explained away as the chance remark of an ignorant wife trying to make points for her husband.

Do I still think making peace with the Palestinians is impossible?

Not really. We were able to make peace with the Germans after World War II and peace with Russia more recently. But in both cases, that was after the dictatorship came apart and the enemy became democratic.

One cannot make peace with a dictator; one can only have a cold war with a dictator. All the rhetoric of all the politicians in the world trying to

One cannot make peace with a dictator; one can only have a cold war with a dictator.

appease the Saudi Arabians and get good oil prices is not going to produce anything close to real peace in Israel. What will produce peace over there is an Arab acceptance of the oldest culture in the Middle East—the Jewish culture—as a neighbor and contributor to the welfare of the entire region, and that won't happen until Arab nations become democracies and accept Israel as a neighbor. Short of that, the peace process is hopeless. As a matter of fact, as I'm sure those knowledgeable of prophecy can see, it is a war process.

And where prophecy is concerned, don't forget about New Year's Eve and our one-hour special to be aired at midnight on both coasts, 11:00 PM CT and 1:00 AM MT on the Family Channel (FAM). And on that subject, I must ask you if you

would do something really special this year. I know that year-end gifts in general will help to amortize the special and our upcoming series *This Is Israel!* but the problem is we have bills due now, and it is difficult for us to wait until then. Each year, I tend to say this in December,

mainly because we have typically just finished producing an expensive fall series of programs. A gift now—before the end of the year—would be most appreciated. And if you could possibly accelerate your giving at year's end, that would be helpful, too.

As my son, Mark, a talented business manager, pointed out in his editorial, we are running a deficit, and that is not really healthy for any financial operation. Boats don't sink when they take on water, but they do need pumps to bail it back out, and helpful people. As Mark points out, our deficits simply mean we're doing just what we're supposed to do as a nonprofit organization. But they also can mean curtailing new productions ahead or keeping them in Dallas rather than in Jerusalem in the coming year. I would appreciate it if you would take

that into consideration when you ask Him what He would have you do for this ministry. Thanks.

Come see Israel for yourself (Hillary is gone now). **Our Spring Deluxe Tour** of Israel is scheduled for April 24 through May 2. We will visit all the major Biblical sites such as the Garden of Gethsemane, the Mount of Olives, the Garden Tomb, the Upper Room, Calvary, the site of the Sermon on the Mount, the Sea of Galilee where we will take a boating trip, the Dead Sea, Masada, and you can be baptized in the Jordan River. We will also tour Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial, and the Israel Museum where we will see the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Our Spring Grand Tour, April 19 through May 2, sees all the sites of our Deluxe Tour plus an extension to a beautiful resort in Eilat on the Red Sea. We will tour the Negev Desert through which Moses led the Israelites, and visit Petra, the rose-red city carved directly out of the mountains! Call 214-696-9760 or 1-800-WONDERS for your full-color brochure. Israel is gearing up for a record turnout in 2000. Don't miss the opportunity to visit God's Chosen Land during this historic year.

And please remember to pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

Your messenger,

The Monthly Gift Program

You can increase the effectiveness of your contributions by reducing our expenses in processing them, plus save your time and postage. Once you enroll in our Monthly Gift Program, our ministry will automatically receive a monthly offering from your checking account. Please sign and date this form and enclose your check payable to *Zola Levitt Ministries (ZLM)* for this month's gift. The monthly transfers will begin in about six weeks, and you can cancel at any time.

This process will continue until I notify ZLM that I wish to end it.

My bank statement will serve as my receipt.

Monthly Pledge (please check one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other _____

Monthly Transfer Date the 5th the 20th

Signature _____ Date _____

If you wish to increase your present income and save taxes when you make charitable gifts, then we would like to send you three pamphlets: **The Charitable Remainder Unitrust, The Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust and The Gift Annuity Agreement.** The tax savings of such programs are really surprising, and you can establish an income for life while helping with the Lord's work. Please write to Mark's attention for your free Planned Gift Pamphlets.

Thanks.

Planned Gift Pamphlets

Sharon Visits the Pope

ISRAEL TODAY



“Tourists who want to visit Israel do not need travel guides; they only need to open the Bible.” That’s what Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon told Pope John Paul II during an audience at the Vatican. The Pope nodded, saying there is a deep historical connection between modern Israel and the Bible. “It is quite natural that the Jewish people have renewed their independence in their own land,” the Pope said.

The meeting went on much longer than the scheduled thirty minutes, as the two men discussed the serious tensions between Muslims and Christians in Nazareth. The dispute is over a piece of land outside the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, claimed by both religions. Christians want to build a plaza on the site to accommodate the flood of pilgrims expected in the year 2000, but Muslims are demanding that a mosque be built there. The Pope expressed concern about the situation, and asked the Israeli government to protect Christian holy places in Israel. Sharon explained that many Arab Christians feel threatened by the Muslims, not only in Nazareth, but also in Jerusalem’s Old City and in the Palestinian Autonomy.

Sharon brought a gift to the Pontiff, an antique map of the Holy Land made in 1725. The Pope thanked his Israeli guest and told him in Latin: “This is the map of the Promised Land. You are returning to Israel and *I will visit Israel soon.*”

Hello Zola,

I used to think Hal Lindsey was the foremost Bible teacher in the country. I now put Zola on top, due to what I perceive as a more stable ministry and his teachings of the seven feasts and the Jehovah/Israel and Y’shua/Church relationship.

I hope Zola will continue to shed light on the Word, as he has done. —S.R.

Dear S.R.,

Hal really is better, but see us together on our prophecy special on New Year’s Eve. —Zola



Caucasian Roots

From Christian Research

If you are a “Caucasian,” you are also an Israelite, according to Noah Webster and the Holy Bible.

The *Webster’s Encyclopedia of Dictionaries* (Copyright 1958, Literary Press, p. 64) says “Caucasian” pertains to the white race originating from the Caucasus Mountains near the Black Sea.

The Holy Bible states that the House of Israel would be scattered north of the river Euphrates (1 Kings 14:15). This promise was fulfilled when, from 745-721 B.C., all ten tribes were taken captive and driven by the Assyrians into the Caucasus region between the Black and Caspian Seas (2 Kings 17:6; 18:9-11). Hosea 2:6 says, “. . . I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall that she shall not find her paths.” In this way God was making it clear that the Israelites were not to return to Palestine*. As Israel left the Caucasus mountains and migrated into Europe, and to North America, they became known as *Caucasians*.

*Though the world will fight you on it, the Land was called Palestine only from 135 to 1948 A.D.

HEBREW LESSON

לֹא תִגְנוֹב:

Thou shalt not steal. (Ex 20:15)

נב	תג	לא
(2)	(1)	(1)
nohv	teeg'	lo
you shall steal	Not	

Lo teeg'•nohv

Hebraic Insight

The eighth of the ten mitzvot (commandments) is, “Thou shalt not steal” (KJV). Stealing, in the sense of the Hebrew word ganav, refers to both the act of carrying off by stealth that which is not one’s own (i.e., theft), but also to the deceptive inner disposition that accompanies the action. And, ultimately, that deceptive inner disposition is a form of self-deception.

Population reaches 6.145 million

THE JERUSALEM POST

At the end of the Jewish year 5759, Israel population stands at some 6,145,000, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. Of them, some 4,847,000 (79 percent) are Jews; 922,000 (15%) are Moslems; and 376,000 (6%) are Druze, Christians, or are listed as “no religion” in the Population Registry.

Over the last year, the population grew by some 147,000 (2.4%). Of this, some 88,000 (61%) is due to natural increase—the number of births minus the number of deaths.

There were 63,500 new immigrants, 86% of them from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

8 Compelling Reasons Why Christ Is Coming Very Soon!

How to be prepared for history's greatest event

The evidence for the soon return of Jesus Christ is overwhelming. It could be any moment. One scholar lists 167 converging clues just in the last few years of this millennium. The following are eight:

1. Israel's rebirth — As Jesus prophesied, the Jews were scattered during the Jewish-Roman war of AD 70 (Luke 21:24). Also prophesied to occur before Christ's return, the nation of Israel was miraculously reborn on May 14, 1948. Israel is called "God's time clock."

2. Plummeting morality — Studies show a shocking breakdown just since mid-century (2 Timothy 3:1-4).

3. Famines, violence and wars — Like birth pangs that intensify, Jesus said that the days just before His coming would see increased famines, violence and ethnic wars, a clear picture of our planet (Matthew 24:6-8). One of six people on earth suffer from hunger. Violence is epidemic, and a study of wars since 500 BC shows a recent, dramatic increase. Of more than 82 world conflicts since just 1990, all but three have been civil or ethnic.

4. Increase in earthquakes — A recent study shows a dramatic increase in worldwide earthquakes, just since the decade of Israel's rebirth. Like increasing birth pangs, in the 1940s there were 51 above Richter 6.0; the 1950s, 475; the 1980s, 1,085; and in the 1990s at the current rate, a projected 1,540 (Matthew 24:7).

5. Explosion of travel and education — Two key conditions described about 2,500 years ago for the Second Coming are that "travel and education shall be vastly increased" (Daniel 12:4, Living Bible). In all of history, the vast increase in travel has come just since mid-century with the explosion of both ground and air transportation; in education, with the advance of science and computers.

6. Explosion of cults and the occult — Counterfeit spirituality is everywhere with cults and false Christs (Matthew 24:24), psychic phenomena, spiritism, Satan worship, witchcraft, nature worship and the New Age movement (1 Timothy 4:1).

7. The New World Order — Increased centralization of world financial and political power is a prelude to the soon-coming world power system in the hands of "Antichrist," who will be the incarnation of Satan and who will deceive most of the world (Daniel 7-12, Matthew 24:15, Revelation 13).

8. Increase in both apostasy and faith — The Bible predicts in the last days, "A form of godliness, although they have denied its power" (2 Timothy 3:5). Today many churches deny the eternal truths of Scripture and power of the Holy Spirit, replacing with ungodly, temporal and "politically correct" values. But also, a prophesied outpouring of God's Spirit is causing hundreds of millions worldwide to come to true faith in Christ in record numbers, virtually unnoticed by the media.

The Escape Plan

Christ's death and resurrection have opened the way to heaven and life with the Father forever for all who put their trust in Him and His great sacrifice on our behalf. Christ will soon come and rescue His people from the approaching "Great Tribulation" (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). He will later rule and bring peace on earth—after He judges the world and every person (Matthew 25:31-46).

God's judgment is, indeed, coming on a world in rebellion. He cannot deny His nature. His attributes of perfect holiness and justice demand judgment for sin, of which we are all guilty. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

The result of sin is death, or separation from God. "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Wages are something we earn, or deserve.

But “God is love” (1 John 4:8). Is “love” in conflict with “judgment?” Answer: God’s wisdom reconciled the dilemma—The Son of God would take all our judgment upon Himself! “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

To escape God’s judgment, we each must receive His free gift of forgiveness and love, “But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23). A gift is something we do not earn, or deserve.

How to receive Him

In any gift exchange, there has to be giver and receiver. God has already given us the gift, His Son; now we must receive Him. “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12).

We receive Him by faith. “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast” (Ephesians 2:8,9).

We receive Him by personal invitation. (Christ speaking) “Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him” (Revelation 3:20). Do you hear His voice?

The following is a suggested prayer: “Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God and that You died on the cross for my sins to save me from eternal death. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. I give You my life. Help me to be what You want me to be. Amen.”



Armageddon Part 1 Continued

Many writers about Bible prophecy understand this enormous conflict is fulfilled in the Armageddon War at the end of the Tribulation. It is our conviction, however, along with a growing number of students of Bible prophecy, that the Gog and Magog war must be considered as a separate and distinct conflict from Armageddon. Furthermore, it probably will occur before, or very near the beginning of the Tribulation.

We develop this interpretation in considerable depth in our book, *Coming: the End! Russia and Israel in Bible Prophecy*. Suffice it to say here that the Gog and Magog war indicates specific countries (Russia—the extreme north country, Persia, Ethiopia and Libya, with a few others) that will come against Israel and will be thoroughly defeated. Seven years are needed to clean up the debris

and use it for fuel, fitting well with the time and conditions of the Tribulation. Armageddon, on the other hand, is the final war led by the Antichrist and includes *all* the nations of the earth coming against Israel, Jerusalem and the Lord God Almighty. It is terminated by the direct intervention of the Lord Himself, who destroys the Antichrist and his armies, imprisons Satan in the Abyss, and establishes His kingdom on the earth.

The similarities between the Ezekiel 38-39 war and Armageddon are that they both involve nations attempting to destroy Israel and the Lord, and are destroyed, but they are sufficiently different that they must be separated. The one occurs before the Tribulation, while the other comes about at the end of the Tribulation.

THE MANY THEATERS OF ARMAGEDDON

Many interpreters think that the War of Armageddon is limited to the Valley of Jezreel, spreading north, east and west from the tel of Megiddo. This is certainly one of the main areas in which the war takes place, but not the only one. There are numerous passages of Scripture describing the final war before the Lord’s return to the earth, and they are in several locations around the Middle East: Megiddo, Edom, Jerusalem, and perhaps also Syria and the African continent. Not only that, but there are numerous key personalities participating in Armageddon. In the next few issues of the newsletter, we will be studying the multiple locations and participants in the ultimate war.



Part 2 continues in next issue

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THE PROPHECY 2000 SERIES

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From a River Jordan pontoon bridge, Zola teaches about the coming invasion of Israel called "Gog and Magog."

ZL-489 The Golan

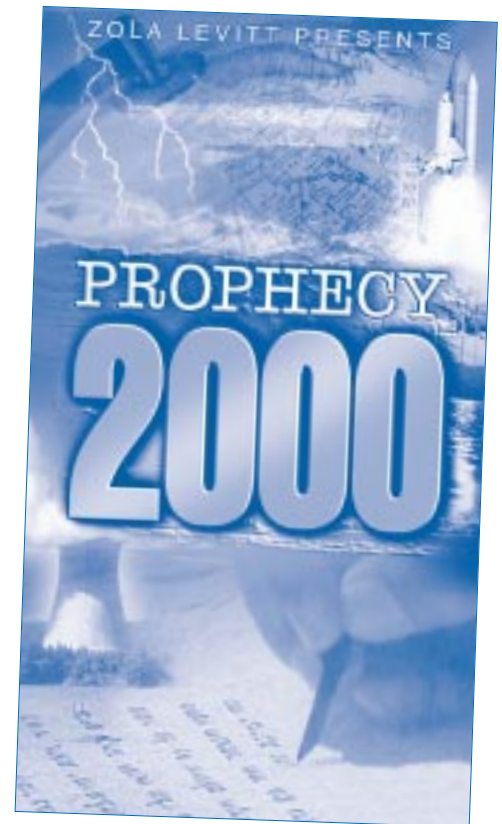
Overlooking the Golan Heights, Zola speaks about the past wars of Israel and the likely future conflict with the followers of Islam.

ZL-490 The Apocalypse

Zola teaches about Armageddon from a site on Mount Carmel overlooking the fated valley.

ZL-491 The End

Hal Lindsey gives his perspective on where we are now and what lies ahead.



Zola's Primetime Prophecy Special:

On New Year's Eve, *Is this the End . . . or Just the Beginning?* will air at **midnight on both coasts** and at 11:00 PM CT and 1:00 AM MT. This one-hour special will give many believers and unbelievers just what they seek as they channel-hop and bid farewell to the twentieth century.

Please tell your friends to tune in this special program, and please help us pay for this very expensive airtime. Thanks.



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Beginning Friday, December 31st, FAM (CBN), also known as The Family Channel, will air *Zola Levitt Presents* on **Friday mornings** instead of Sunday mornings. We'll be on at **6:30 AM on both coasts**, 5:30 Central Time and 7:30 Mountain Time. Please feel free to use your VCR to record our programs for more convenient viewing. Just think, on New Year's eve, you'll be able to see Zola twice on FAM — first thing in the morning and at the very end of the century (midnight both coasts, 11:00 PM Central Time and 1:00 AM Mountain Time)!



Next Year in Jerusalem



What better way to start a century, or for that matter, a millennium? Imagine

opening your own Bible in the land where time began, the land where it was actually written. **Zola's Grand Tour** departs April 19 and returns on May 2. **His Deluxe Tour** leaves on April 24 and flies home on May 2. Whether you plan to go to Israel with Zola or someone else, you will find very edifying our free Israel Tour Comparison Shopper's Questions that help you determine which tours will meet your expectations, available at www.levitt.com or by mail, free for the asking. For your free tour folder, please call Diana at (214) 696-9760 between 9:00 and 5:00 Central Time or 1-800-WONDERS (966-3377) anytime.

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