

Levitt

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



Letter



Though he ignores the spiritual component, Prager correctly observes that humanity is losing its moral compass.—Jeff

Let's Hope The World Is Right About "Evil" Israel



By Dennis Prager (right)
www.JewishWorldReview.com

With the exception of the United States, nearly all the world's nations, media, the United Nations, and major academics and organizations have condemned Israel over the Gaza Flotilla incident. The characterizations of the Jewish state range from a society so evil that it should not be allowed to exist to a villainous nation that is responsible for a) the suffering of millions of innocent Palestinian men, women, and children; b) the lack of Mideast peace; therefore c) the Muslim world's anger at the West; and therefore d) Islamic terrorism itself.

Let's hope the world is right. (continued p.2)



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Flotilla Clash Similar to Gog and Magog Prophecy

By Gil Ronen,
IsraelNationalNews.com



The Rabbinical Council of Judea and Samaria issued a statement in which it said that the results of the incident in which Israel intercepted a flotilla trying to break the naval blockade of Gaza seem like the biblical description of "the beginning of the Gog and Magog process where the world is against us, but which ends with the third and final redemption."

The statement explained that while secular Zionism always wants Israel to be beloved by other nations, "the legitimacy of our people is not derived from the nations of the world and their poisonous traditions, rather

continued p.3

Hezbollah marked slingshot

Though Israel is the size of New Jersey and smaller than El Salvador, it is the most censured country in United Nations history.

Israel is a thriving liberal democracy for all its citizens, including the one out of five that is Arab (83 percent of whom are Muslim). It has an independent judiciary and press, signed an agreement establishing an independent Palestinian state, and returned to Egypt every inch of the Sinai Peninsula—a land mass larger than Israel itself with major oil reserves. Yet, the world deems Israel a villain.

Hamas runs a theocratic police state based on torture and terror, with no freedom of speech, no freedom for any religious expression outside of radical Islam, seeks to annihilate the Jewish state, and its state-controlled media depict Israelis and Jews as worthy of death. Yet, the world sees Israel, not Hamas, as the villain.

Let's hope the world is right.

Here is a random sampling of world reactions:

South Africa recalled its ambassador to Israel "to show our strongest condemnation of the attack."

Swedish Port Workers Union says workers will refuse to handle Israeli goods and ships.

China's Foreign Ministry: "We were shocked by the Israeli attack which led to severe casualties and condemn it."

Amnesty International: "It begs credibility that the level of lethal force used by Israeli troops could have been justified. It appears to have been out of all proportion to any threat posed."

To restate AI's position: Israeli soldiers should have allowed themselves to be beaten to death rather than throw



away their paintball guns and use real ones.

A New York Times editorial: "There can be no excuse for the way that Israel completely mishandled the incident... It has damaged Israel's ties with Turkey."

"No excuse?" Being beaten to death by "peace activists" while carrying paintball guns is "no excuse"? And weren't Turkey's relations with Israel damaged by Turkey's sponsorship of an Islamist organization labeled by the American government as a terrorist group? Isn't it Turkey's cooperation with Iran's Holocaust-denying, Holocaust-planning Ahmadinejad that has damaged Turkish-Israeli relations?



Let's hope the world is right.

The reason we must hope the world is right about Israel is quite simple: If Israel is the decent party in its war with the Palestinian Authority and Hamas—meaning that nearly all the world's countries, media, and the UN are morally wrong—what hope is there for humanity? If the world's moral compass is that broken, are we not sailing into a dark age? ★

from the Torah of Israel which teaches us that [Israel] 'is a people that shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations'" (Numbers 23:9). It emphasized that there is no reason to be alarmed by the world's condemnation, as it is a predicted result of fear of Israel's success.

The Council, composed of religious Zionist rabbis who are the spiritual leaders of communities in Judea and Samaria, blessed the soldiers of the IDF and called for the formation of an emergency unity government that will lead the nation from a position of strength.

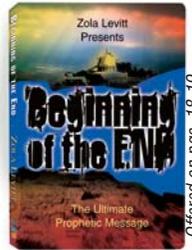
"Gog and Magog" is a reference to chapters 38 and 39 in the Book of Ezekiel, a part of which is read on the intermediate Sabbath of *Sukkot* (Tabernacles, which begins September 23 this year). These chapters describe a vision of a war where the world is united against Israel, that will precede the final redemption of Israel and the world. The prophecy's symbolism involves a prince called Gog of Magog, leader of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, who leads a coalition that includes Persia (Iran), Cush, Phut, Gomer, and Beit Togarmah against Israel. There are various opinions regarding the modern identity of these nations.

As a sampling of passages from Ezekiel 39 shows, the prophecy predicts that the coalition will be defeated by Israel, at a time following Israel's gathering from its exile:

And thou, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say: Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; and I will turn thee about and lead thee on, and will cause thee to come up from the uttermost parts of the north; and I will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel; and I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the peoples that are with thee; I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort and to the beasts of the field, to be devoured.

Therefore thus saith the Lord God: Now will I bring back the captivity of Jacob, and have compassion upon the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for My holy name. And they shall bear their shame, and all their breach of faith which they have committed against Me, when they shall dwell safely in their land, and none shall make them afraid; when I have brought them back from the peoples, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations.

And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, in that I caused them to go into captivity among the nations, and have gathered them unto their own land; and I will leave none of them any more there; neither will I hide My face any more from them; for I have poured out My spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God.

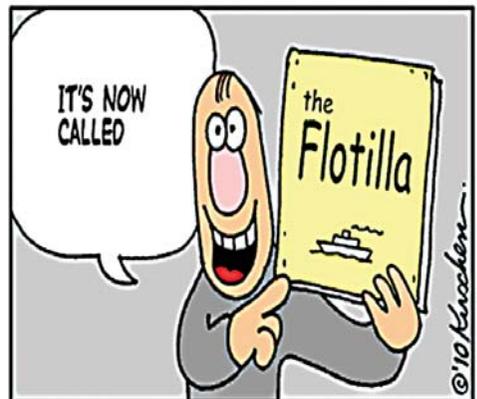
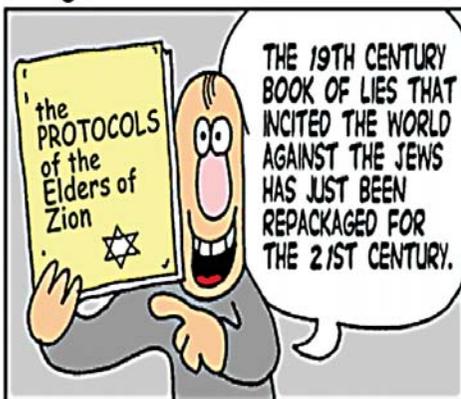


Offered on pgs. 18-19

The dramatic flotilla incident and the international reactions to it have sparked intense emotion, and unusual unity, among the Jewish public in Israel.

Dry Bones

BEST SELLER



www.drybonesblog.com

Greetings from Jerusalem!

The average Israeli I run into on my visits here isn't living with a sense that his world is about to come to an end.

That doesn't mean he isn't concerned about Palestinian mischief, the world's misrepresentation of Israel, or the looming Iranian nuclear threat.

Three days ago, I conversed with a proud father whose son is an officer candidate in a "crack" Israeli military unit. The father has always carried a concern for the welfare of his beloved Israel. Now, he has added to it with the knowledge that his beloved "commando" son could find himself in harm's way. Still, for him, this is a way of life in Israel. Through his anxiety, he faces the future with optimism. A warrior-type and a father myself, my heart goes out to him.

Even with rumors of wars, Holy Land tour business is actually picking up—thanks in part to people like you and me. The Israel I'm seeing on this trip reveals an upbeat spirit. The economic stabilization is bringing people in the United States out from hiding to invest energy and money in pursuit of their life's ambitions. They want to live in faith more than fear. Those wanting to go to Israel are taking the plunge and doing it. The net result: the travel industry is being renewed over here, as are the hearts of those who visit.

Today as yesterday, Christian pilgrims visit the Holy Land and leave with a piece of God's heart. The show of support from sincere Christian friends—like many of you—touches even Israelis who are not yet attuned to Jesus, testifying that Israelis are not alone in this world.

A Jewish bus driver told me how encouraged he feels when he meets the sincere and loving Christian pilgrims on his bus. He says it counterbalances what he feels

DeSeifering Our World

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif



when American news sources beat up Israel and the Jews.

You make a difference when you come.

If you'd like to be a pilgrim, call 214-696-9760 and learn how you can travel with us. There's still some room on our four-option fall tour, and we're already booking 2011 tours. Please see page 36 for dates.

I hope you're watching our new Esther-based series *Esther: For Such a Time as This* on TV and at www.levitt.com.

If you agree it is worthwhile, please take a moment to write out a check to help us air it. Your investments in the Kingdom support not only the Esther series, but also our new television production on the Messianic Jewish revival—a behind-the-scenes look at an amazing coming-to-Jesus of Jews.

I hope that reading the articles in this *Levitt Letter* prompts your prayers for Israel and the Gospel. This ministry tries to keep you informed by printing a collection of stories and cartoons that others don't. Please write a letter and let me know if it is working. I enjoy hearing from you.

Your messenger,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Seif".

Jeff



Available on DVD soon

Ask the Professor

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif

Q Why are there different Bible translations. When a group of scholars produces a translation, don't they use the same copies/manuscripts as other groups in the past? Do they use different dictionaries? Do different copies of ancient Bible passages say different things about the same verse? Why would one Bible commentary say someone else's rendering of a Greek word is incorrect?

A Though it doesn't make sense (at one level), it definitely makes cents. Bible-making is a big business, so there's an incentive to fabricate the need for a new one. Frankly, while I find updates useful every now and again, the competition for the best English language Bible seems driven by economics, not necessity.

Q I have heard many preachers and teachers talking about the Rapture and the Tribulation taking place at the same time, but I have a question that may initially sound a bit confusing.

In Matthew 24:20, Jesus is talking to the Jews (who are left behind) and says, "but pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day." We know that their flight will happen three-and-a-half years into (halfway through) the Tribulation. My question is: If the seven-year Tribulation starts on the same day as the Rapture, and if the Rapture comes on a day that would cause the middle of the Tribulation to be on a Sabbath, what good would it do for them to pray that it would not be on the Sabbath, because the start day has already been set?

A Because observant Jews are not allowed to travel distances on a Sabbath, except to preserve life (like in times of war), their moving about would invoke suspicion, draw

attention, and hinder their ability to do so in a stealthy manner. The key, as I understand it, is a warning to flee impending trouble and doom. If on a Sabbath, they will not be able to do so successfully for the aforementioned reason.



Israeli Subs With Nukes In Persian Gulf

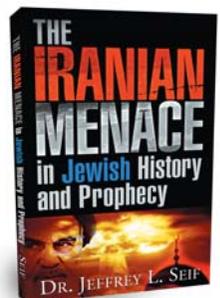
www.JPost.com

Israel is planning to permanently station a submarine carrying nuclear cruise missiles in the Persian Gulf. Israeli submarines have visited the Gulf before, but the decision has now been taken to ensure a permanent presence of at least one of the vessels.

The government has decided to station at least one of three submarines armed with nuclear missiles permanently within striking distance of Iran in the Persian Gulf. The submarines are moving to the Persian Gulf in response to the growing missile threat to Israel from Syria, Iran, and Hezbollah.

Israeli submarines are known to periodically visit the area but this is the first report that they may be permanently stationed there. The diesel-powered submarines are Dolphin class and were built in Germany to Israeli specifications. ★

This subject covered in Jeff's book offered on page 18.



A Tale of Two Rabbis

Israel Today

In the first century AD, two rabbis, both friends of Rabbi Gamaliel (Acts 22:3), changed the course of history in a way that shaped the beliefs of Christianity and Judaism for the next 2,000 years. One was Saul of Tarsus (5-67 AD) and the other was Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakkai (30-90 AD).

The division between these two men, who studied at the same schools at the same time and under the same teachers in Jerusalem, continues to define the division between Jews and Christians today.

Saul, who most of us know as the Apostle Paul, and the early Messianic community believed that the Temple sacrifices were no longer necessary following the death of Yeshua (Jesus) on the cross. His death was the ultimate sacrifice, predicted by the binding of Isaac, the Passover lamb, the prophecy of Isaiah 53, and the previous Temple sacrifices. Faced with the destruction of the Temple, Rabbi Ben Zakkai came to the same conclusion: Since there was no Temple, God could no longer require sacrifices.

Paul and the early Christians believed permanent atonement for Jew and gentile was provided by God through the death of Yeshua. Paul noted that the evidence that the High Priest's sacrifice was accepted on Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) was his reappearance from the Holy of Holies and his blessing of the people. If the High Priest failed to appear (i.e., if he were struck dead while ministering in the Holy of Holies), it would be assumed that the sacrifice was not accepted.

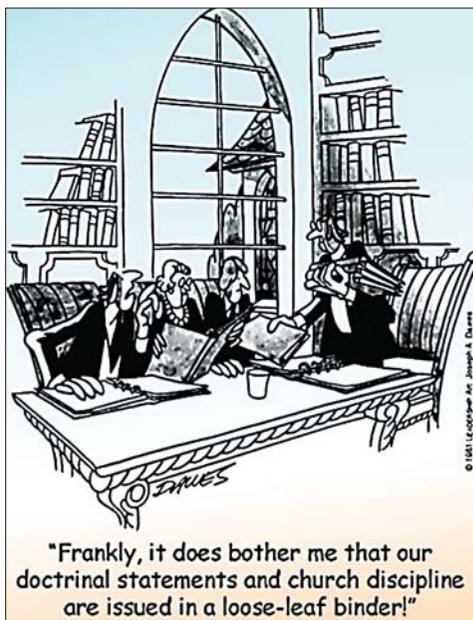
Likewise, Paul argued that the resurrection of Jesus was evidence that God accepted His sacrifice. The Resurrection is not just a pious belief but proof that God provided permanent atone-

ment, making it the most important fact of history.

As irreconcilable as the differences between these two rabbis may seem to be, there is also much convergence in their ideas: Both agreed that in the absence of the Temple, sacrifices were no longer necessary; and both could argue that they were being faithful to the journey of Israel and the revelation of Scripture.

Real Christianity and Judaism are united in the belief that we can offer a sacrifice to God to atone for our sins, but that God provided blood of His choosing to take away our sins. Christians believe this is the blood of Jesus who fulfilled the prophecies of Isaiah 53 and John the Baptist by taking on Himself the guilt and shame of all. The followers of Ben Zakkai say that no sacrifice is necessary anymore except a contrite heart and broken spirit (Psalm 51:17).

Whichever attitude the reader has to these arguments, one thing is evident: Neither Judaism nor Christianity is a new religion. Each is an adaptation of the faith of Israel to the new situation created by the events of the first century—the death of Yeshua and the destruction of the Temple. ★



"Frankly, it does bother me that our doctrinal statements and church discipline are issued in a loose-leaf binder!"

Israel in Prophecy

One has only to spend some time in Israel watching the Israelis and the Palestinians living their daily lives to conclude who really owns the land, who loves the land, who works the land, and who ought to have the land.

An unsaved Jewish friend pointed out to me that 25 years ago I told him there would be some unholy alliance against Israel headed up by Russia (the invasion of Gog and Magog in Ezekiel 38 and 39). He reminded me that Arafat meeting Russian president Putin may lead to such excessive anti-Semitism as an actual invasion of the Holy Land.

God's will is clear on that. He gave Israel to Abraham and his seed after him, through Isaac and Jacob, down to the modern Jewish people. His promise of restoring the Jews to Israel does not depend on their behavior or even their faith. It is simply an immutable, everlasting promise He made to His friend, Abraham, and of course, it is still in force. In fact, we are living in the generation that saw the fulfillment of this breathtaking prophecy of some 3,500 years ago. Deuteronomy 30, among many other passages, cites God's intention of restoring His Chosen People to the Promised Land, and that was given during the Exodus! A 3,500-year-old promise is not to be taken lightly.

And who would have guessed that our modern Church would be so far out of step as to fail to see this amazing fulfillment, even as it happens before our very eyes. I mean, after all, what are the odds that the Jewish people without God ever would have survived even this long, let alone be restored to their ancient Land? How likely is it that God is really working through the American Church, or your denomination or mine, or some body of churchmen, however sincere,

when He has always worked through Israel and promised to do that until eternity?

And I guess it doesn't stop there, because eternity will create a new Heaven, a new Earth, and you know what city... a New Jerusalem! When our tourists arrive in the Holy City, I tell them in my first talk that they're looking at a city that will never perish, not ever, not for eternity!

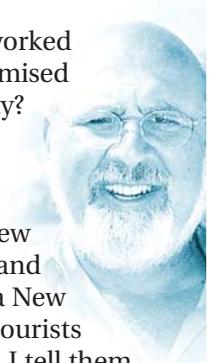
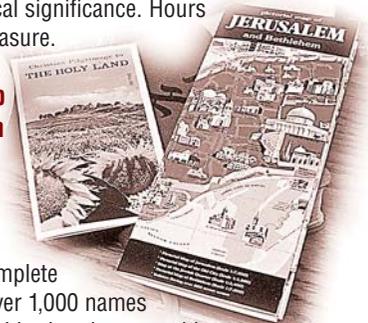
It is increasingly clear that the Arabs don't want land for peace, they just want the land—all of it. I don't mean to sound disheartened about all this since, truly, it is what is to be expected in end-times prophecy. Those chapters of Ezekiel discussing the "dry bones" vision and the Russian invasion read as one continuous story, implying that once the Jews are back in the land, the trouble starts—and indeed it has. We are rapidly approaching the moment when Jerusalem will become the "burdensome stone" and the "cup of trembling" that Zechariah holds it to be at the end. It does seem like the whole world is burdening itself with the problem of Jerusalem (as if there really were a problem), and nobody can seem to solve the dilemma (whatever the dilemma is). ★

Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land (*Imported*)

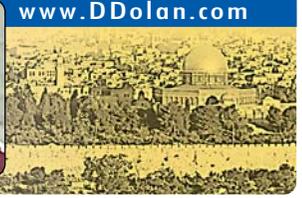
A very special map of modern Israel showing sites of biblical importance. Scriptures are given on the map so the reader can locate cities and towns of biblical significance. Hours of spiritual pleasure.

Pictorial Map of Jerusalem

The most important city map in the world! A marvelous and complete display with over 1,000 names of streets, neighborhoods, etc., with color pictures, churches, biblical sites and all the rest, beautifully presented. *Order on p. 19.*



World Condemns IDF Intercepting Flotilla



The Israeli military's interception of a six-boat flotilla heading for the Gaza Strip the last day of May became instant news around the world. The operation brought widespread condemnation of the frequently censured Jewish State, even from some of Israel's usual friends, like Italy and France.

The controversial action further strained diplomatic relations with Turkey, which strongly backed the flotilla's declared goal of delivering humanitarian aid to Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip. Some predicted the crisis could spark off a new Middle East war, with Iran seemingly looking for any excuse to divert Israeli forces from launching a possible attack upon its burgeoning nuclear program. Hamas fiercely denounced the IDF interception and called for a new Palestinian attrition war against "the Zionist enemy."

In Israel, a political firestorm followed the military operation, with some calling for Defense Minister **Ehud**



Barak to resign. Many were especially critical of the fact that he ordered his men onto the vessels brandishing paintball guns, wrongly believing that the international activists would not violently resist the boarding IDF forces.

Barak was especially blasted for giving the order for his soldiers to enter the vessels even though reconnaissance cameras on aircraft flying overhead clearly showed that the supposed "peace activists" were armed with knives, heavy wooden bats, sharpened metal pipes, and other potentially lethal weapons.

Chanting anti-Israel slogans in Arabic, some of the activists managed to steal a pistol from the boarding troops. In the ensuing melee, several soldiers

were wounded, two severely. The IDF forces then opened fire, killing nine of the mostly Muslim activists. One soldier was actually thrown overboard by what army spokesman Avi Benayahu called a "lynch mob." Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon, whose wife is a well-known Messianic Believer, said some of the activists were "hellbent on committing violence" against the IDF soldiers.

The fact that dozens of activists viciously attacked the outnumbered Israelis—who were simply planning to inspect the cargo on board to make sure no banned weapons were being smuggled into the Gaza Strip—was clearly shown in video footage taken by cameramen stationed on a nearby Israeli Navy boat. Yet the footage was not released for public viewing until nearly 20 hours after the clash at sea took place.

The Jerusalem Post newspaper was among many Israeli media outlets that strongly criticized the government for its handling of the situation. An editorial stated that the damning video should have been released soon after news of the interception went global. By the time it was broadcast, world opinion was already solidly against the IDF operation. *The Post* added, "The 'humanitarian aid' flotilla was clearly a perniciously well-conceived initiative, for which Israel was inadequately prepared."

Despite the criticisms, most Israeli legal experts agreed that the Mediterranean Sea operation did not violate international law. Hebrew University Professor Robbie Sabel noted that in time of conflict, a country is allowed to impose naval blockades against a territory like the Gaza Strip that is used to attack its citizens. ★

“I Am The Lord. There Is No God Besides Me” (Isaiah 45:5)

By Todd Baker

As we began the spring 2010 Gospel Outreach to Israel, our team had an unforgettable witnessing encounter in Nazareth. Ralph and Debbie Conn and I struck up a conversation with an amiable security guard, Isaac (right), an Israeli open and receptive to the Gospel. He wanted to know how faith in the Messiah’s atoning death saves the sinner. We gave him copies of the Old and New Testaments in Hebrew, along with Messianic Gospel tracts. He gladly took them, but asked: “What is the message of this.” We quoted John 3:16 and suggested that he read the Gospel of Matthew. There he will learn about the Jewishness of Jesus and read the proof for Jesus being the Messiah—fulfilled prophecies in His life, ministry, death, and resurrection. We agreed to meet again when our team returns to Israel. We want to discuss with Isaac what he has read in the Scriptures we left with him.

When we arrived at our hotel in Tiberias, I met the head of hotel security, Shlomi. (picture). He told me he was an atheist, so I shared a little of my former life in the misery and hopelessness of atheism. I also told him that twenty-five years ago, *Yeshua* (Jesus) literally and visibly revealed His divine glory to me in my dark room of despair. My account of the event that forever changed my life with God’s love and forgiveness caused Shlomi to hold out his large forearm and say, “Look, my hairs are standing on end.” They were! I believe the Spirit of God was using my testimony to break down the wall of unbelief in Shlomi’s life. We looked at the Hebrew Bible and its accurate foretelling of the Jewish People’s history right up to the modern day. That in itself proves the existence of the all-knowing God



Ralph, Todd, & Isaac (security guard)

of Israel. I showed him that the same Bible gives specific prophecies about the Jewish Messiah, and that they were historically fulfilled in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

Next month I will explain how I showed Shlomi that atheism is supremely irrational! ★



Todd & hotel security head Shlomi

DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham



“COULDN’T YOU JUST GIVE ME SOME CHICKEN SOUP INSTEAD?”

Award-Winning Tissue-Science Innovator

As a kid, Smadar Cohen went to the library in Petah Tikva every day to borrow a book to read overnight. That was the rule: One book per customer. When her father noticed how she absorbed the knowledge in each book, he quietly supplied her with a second card. Two cards, two books. That was the kind of home she grew up in.

Today Professor Cohen is the head of Ben Gurion University's (BGU) Department of Biotechnology Engineering. She says that her parents used their modest means to encourage their four children to attain knowledge and culture.

Cohen has focused on two main, cutting-edge uses of polymers: Tissue regeneration and controlled delivery of therapeutic proteins (vaccines). And after several years of work with her students and her colleague, she also invented an algae-based material that prevents cardiac tissue damage following a heart attack.

Another of her groundbreaking polymer inventions now on the market is an animal-free "bio-scaffold," likely to revolutionize the way disease states and drug responses are predicted in such fields as toxicology, drug development, cancer and stem cell research, and tissue and organ engineering.

Upon completing high school, army service, and a graduate biophysics degree at Tel Aviv University, Cohen opted for a post-doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cohen had heard about the work of MIT Prof. Robert Langer, who was researching the use of polymers in drug delivery. This was exactly what she wanted to do. But lacking an engineering background, which is normally required at MIT, Cohen knew she'd have to fight hard for a spot in Langer's lab. She wrote him letter after letter until he contacted her TAU

By Abigail Klein Leichman
www.Israel21c.org



advisor and said he was coming to Israel and wanted to interview the persistent student.

Given a free hand in Langer's lab, Cohen perfected a polymer delivery system for vaccines, eventually establishing a program with the World Health Organization to introduce stabilized vaccines to Africa. Needing no refrigeration, they slowly release a full dosage, eliminating follow-up shots.

In 1992, she returned to Israel to develop BGU's biotech engineering department. Among Israeli universities, this department is unique in that its students are engineers working in biology. Most universities in Israel that offer biotech engineering tend to stress biology over engineering. Twice the university bestowed upon Cohen its Presidents Award for Excellence in Science.



Despite invitations from U.S. and UK universities, Cohen would rather live and work in Israel. Photo courtesy of Dani Machlis.

"I fulfilled a dream when I became a researcher in academia. I feel that every year I learn new things from my students and become younger and younger," says Cohen, who sits on the scientific advisory boards of several biotechnology and nanotechnology companies.

Despite a total of almost a decade at MIT, Cohen says there was never any question that she would return to Israel. "When I started to dream in English, I knew it was time to go home," she says. "I really love Israel and I love living here." ★

Anti-Semitic Christians

By Dan Calic, www.YNetNews.com

The World Council of Churches recently launched a week-long event focusing attention on “peace” and “justice” in the conflict between Israel and the Arab Palestinians. Sadly this group does not adopt a narrative reflecting God’s covenant with the People, Land, and Scriptures of Israel. Instead it takes a decidedly anti-Israel stance.

Indeed, on the website promoting this event, people are encouraged to “pray for churches living under occupation,” and become educated about “settlements in occupied territory.”

Such views reflect adherence to Replacement Theology which essentially says the “Church” has replaced the Jewish people as the inheritor of God’s covenantal promises, and rejects the Jews’ right to claim Jerusalem as their holy city and Israel as their holy land. They also misrepresent the security barrier constructed by Israel, suggesting its existence aims to imprison the Arabs, rather than to prevent suicide bombers from murdering innocent Israeli civilians.

Clear evidence of the WCC’s views has been published in several key documents in recent years. Further, these documents promote agreement with the general Arab narrative, which sees Israel as “occupier” of Arab land, perpetrator of injustice against the Palestinian people, and the enemy of peace. They ignore the fact that Arab Christians have been persecuted and killed by Arab Muslims, causing a huge decline of their population in cities like Bethlehem.

The majority of Palestinian Christians believe Jesus himself was one of their own, and if alive today would be a revolutionary in support of their cause and oppose Israel. It seems they—and many others—have forgotten Jesus was born, reared, and lived his entire life as a Jew, never abandoning his Jewishness.

Due to the sheer size of the WCC one must view its actions quite seriously. It has 349 member churches representing over 550 million Christians worldwide. Invoking words such as “peace” and “justice” when describing what the Palestinians seek, these anti-Semitic Christians assault the very meaning of such noble words when using them to describe people who are theologically committed to kill the Jewish people and wipe Israel off the map.

Next to Jesus, Christianity views no one else more significant to the faith than Paul. Indeed, his epistles are the basis for virtually all doctrinal interpretations. It was Paul himself who said in the book of Romans, “did God reject His people? By no means!” Later he stated that gentiles are “grafted in” to the family of Israel.

Scripture gives us a clear warning against mistreatment of the Jews, saying the day will come when God will “enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided my land” (Joel 3:2).

God gave each of us the gift of free will, which means we can choose how we define “peace” and “justice.” It seems God’s choice is pretty clear. That’s good enough for me. The time has come for the rest of God’s followers to do likewise.



Those Troublesome Jews

By Charles Krauthammer
www.WashingtonPost.com



The world is outraged at Israel's blockade of Gaza. Turkey denounces its illegality, inhumanity, barbarity, etc. The usual Third World and European countries join in.

But as Leslie Gelb, former president of the Council on Foreign Relations, writes, the blockade is not just perfectly rational, it is perfectly legal. Gaza under Hamas is a self-declared enemy of Israel—a declaration backed up by more than 4,000 rockets fired at Israeli civilian territory. Yet, having pledged itself to unceasing belligerency, Hamas claims victimhood when Israel imposes a blockade to prevent Hamas from arming itself with still more rockets.

In World War II, with full international legality, the United States blockaded Germany and Japan. And during the October 1962 missile crisis, we blockaded (“quarantined”) Cuba. Arms-bearing Russian ships headed to Cuba turned back because the Soviets knew that the U.S. Navy would either board them or sink them. Yet Israel is accused of international criminality for doing precisely what John Kennedy did:

impose a naval blockade to prevent a hostile state from acquiring lethal weaponry.

Oh, but weren't the Gaza-bound ships on a mission of humanitarian relief? No. Otherwise they would have accepted Israel's offer to bring their supplies to an Israeli port, be inspected for military materiel, and have the rest trucked by Israel into Gaza—as every week 10,000 tons of food, medicine, and other humanitarian supplies are sent by Israel to Gaza.

Why was the offer refused? Because, as organizer Greta Berlin admitted, the flotilla was not about humanitarian relief but about breaking the blockade—ending Israel's inspection regime would mean unlimited shipping into Gaza and thus the unlimited arming of Hamas. (Israel has already twice intercepted ships laden with Iranian arms destined for Hezbollah and Gaza.) Blockade is Israel's fallback as the world systematically de-legitimizes its traditional ways of defending itself—forward and active defense.

Read this article in full at www.levitt.com/news to learn how Israel's methods of self-defense have been slowly eroded by international pressure and what this means for Israel's future. ★



How Muslims Would View A Mosque at Ground Zero

By Dr. Steven Carol, StateBrief.com (AZ)

Arab-Muslim conquerors have a penchant for destroying other people's religious shrines and many times building their own on the ruins. It was, and remains, Islam's way of saying, "We have defeated you, we rule you, and our god—Allah—is greater than your god." This has been a long-established historic practice.

Islam's holiest shrine—the *Kaaba*, a cube-like building in Mecca—is an older pre-Islamic pagan Arab shrine. According to Islamic tradition, the first building was constructed by Adam and rebuilt by Abraham. The Masjid al-Haram mosque was built around the Kaaba.

The Ibrahimi Mosque was constructed in Hebron, in 637 A.D., over the second-most venerated Jewish holy site, the Cave of Machpelah—the Tomb of the Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The Dome of the Rock was built on the ruins of Judaism's holiest site, the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, by the Umayyad Caliph Abd al-Malik, 687-691 A.D. Al-Walid, son of al-Malik, erected the Al-Aqsa Mosque at the southern end of the Temple Mount and also over the Basilica of St. Mary of Justinian, in 712 A.D.

By no means is this practice limited to venerated Jewish holy sites. The Grand Mosque of Damascus was put up over the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in 715 A.D.

On October 18, 1009, the Muslim Fatimid caliph Abu 'Ali Mansur Tariqu'l-Hakim destroyed, down to the bedrock, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, a Christian church venerated by most Christians as Golgotha, the Hill of Calvary, where tradition says that Jesus was crucified. Gravestones were also destroyed. Muslim forces tried to dig up all the graves and wipe out all traces of their existence. The site is now within the walled, Old City of Jerusalem.

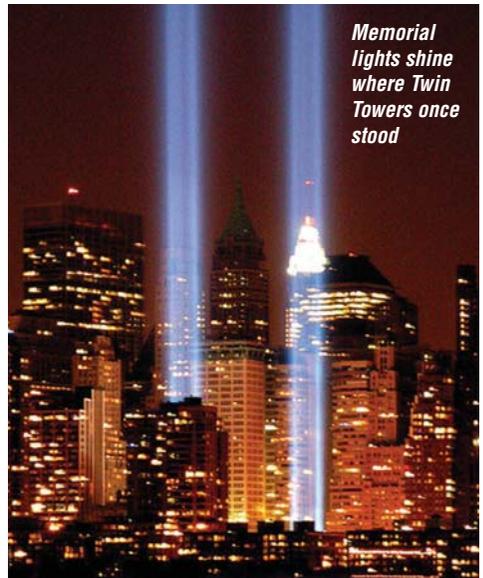
This practice continued through the centuries and was applied not only to Jewish, Christian, and Hindu sites but other faiths as well. Late in the 20th century, in Libya, on November 26, 1970, the Catholic Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Tripoli was converted into the Gamal Abdel Nasser Mosque.

Two 1,400 year-old statues of Buddha in the Bamiyan Valley of Afghanistan were blown up in March 2001. This came after a *fatwa* (a religious edict), ordered by the Taliban directed all Afghan "idols" be destroyed as being anti-Muslim. In the Central Asian Republics, no Buddhist temples remain.

While not a religious site, the World Trade Center stood as a symbol of Western commerce, industry, and civilization. Then came the horrors of the destruction of those twin towers on September 11, 2001. No doubt many prayers were said there, both during and after the calamitous collapse.

In May 2010, it was announced that near the ruins of buildings reduced to rubble in the name of Islam, an Islamic mosque would rise. This fits the historic pattern of Muslim construction near or atop the ruins of their enemies' symbolic buildings as a mark of Islamic supremacy. ★

Historian Dr. Steven Carol is Associate Producer and official historian of The Middle East Radio Forum, in Phoenix.



Israel Opens 40-mile Jesus Trail

By Simon McGregor-Wood
www.ABCnews.com



The Jesus Trail is 40 miles long. It starts in Jesus' hometown of Nazareth and finishes in Capernaum on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Recently completed, its route winds through the towns and villages of the Galilee region in northern Israel. This is the place where Jesus and His disciples established His ministry. It is a landscape steeped in the history of the New Testament and the Gospels.

The free trail is the brainchild of a local Israeli tour operator who runs a guest-house in Nazareth in partnership with an American who specializes in adventure tourism. They hope it will attract Christian pilgrims from around the world and help boost the local economy.

It took several years to plan in coordination with Israeli tourist authorities and is not just about ticking off the famous Bible locations. "We believe by hiking and walking the trail, you will be able to meet and interact with the multicultural nature of the people that

are living in the Galilee today," its designer said.

He is encouraging local businesses along the route to provide services to the tourists walking the trail. They range from operators of local guest-houses to the man we met just outside Nazareth offering us delicious herbal tea in his olive grove.

When the final stretch of the trail hits the shoreline of the Sea of Galilee, you start coming across some of the most famous places in Jesus' ministry. On a hill above the sea, the Mount of Beatitudes marks the spot where Jesus delivered the famous Sermon on the Mount.

Researcher Anna Dintaman, who is busy writing a guide for the trail, knows the trail better than anyone. "Even when you come on a tour bus, you still feel it's the biblical Disneyland or something; but when you're walking and see there's real people living, there's real agriculture, real business, I think that puts you in touch with the reality of the history," she said.

It is difficult not to be affected by the beauty of the landscape. ★

Overlooking the Sea of Galilee



Book Your Newborn's U.S. Citizenship Now!

www.BreakingTravelNews.com

A New York hotel is staking its claim to have invented a new hospitality niche—birth tourism. The **Marmara Manhattan** offers “an exclusive package for new mothers that wish to give birth in the USA,” with the additional bonus of the newborn child gaining U.S. citizenship.

The hotel, part of the Turkish hospitality chain, exploits the 14th amendment to the U.S. constitution, which states that all children born on American soil “are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside.”

The Marmara Manhattan, located in New York's Upper East Side, said: “What we offer is simply a one-bedroom suite accommodation for \$5,100, plus taxes, for a month, with airport transfer, baby cradle and a gift set for the mother.” There are also medical fees of about \$30,000.

However the price is a cheap and easy one to pay for U.S. citizenship. Many will eventually use the newborn—known as an “anchor baby”—as a stepping stone for the immigration of extended family.



The hotel has so far sold 15 packages. According to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the practice is entirely legal as long as the women can pay their medical bills.

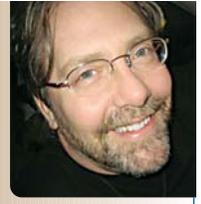
“Many people say they are doing it because they want their kids to get a cheaper education and not deal with visa issues when they grow up,” said Levant Bas, of the Istanbul-based operator Gurib Tourism. “We have a package that covers everything from the flight and city tours to accommodation for several months and hospital expenses.” ★

LEVITT THE TIMES-PICAYUNE



HERE WHERE IT SAYS THE GULF SHRIMP ARE BLACKENED, MAY WE ASSUME THAT MEANS BY THE CHEF?





Vanity and Hope

By John J. Parsons

וְעַתָּה מֵה־קִנְיֵי תִי אֲדַנִּי תוֹחַלְתִּי לָךְ הִיא

And now, my Lord, to what do I look? My hope is in you. (Psalm 39:7)

הִיא	לְךָ	תוֹחַלְתִּי	אֲדַנִּי	קִנְיֵי תִי	מֵה־	וְעַתָּה
(1)	(2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(4) (3) (2) (1)	(1)	(3) (2) (1)
hi	le-kha	to-chal-ti	A-do-nai	mah kiv-vi-ti		ve-at-tah
is	to you	my hope	my Lord	do I look	to what	and now

Do any of us know the measure of our days? Can we truly appreciate the limited amount of time we are given in this life? When we are young we believe we will live forever. David prayed, “make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!” (Psalm 39:4).

Life in this world is called *chayei sha'ah* (“fleeting life”) in Jewish thought. *Chayei sha'ah* is the life of “vanity of vanities,” a vapor that soon dissipates in the winds of time. In light of eternity, King David reminds us that our days are as a few “handbreadths.” We walk as “shadows” through the byways of this world.

Many of us make the mistake of looking to the “what” of life instead of looking to the “who.” We look superficially at things, at our present circumstances, and tend to forget that God is in control of all our days. Often we are looking for *something* rather than for *Someone*.

God sometimes brings affliction and distress into our lives to help us regain a godly perspective. This is meant to shock us out of our lethargy. King David was at the point of death itself. He felt frail and alone. Like Solomon, he questioned the meaning of life. What good are riches or the esteem of others when everything is fading like a flower of the field? (Ps 103:15) David realized that life itself is a kind of suffering. The whole of creation groans.

The turning point came when David realized he was asking the wrong kind of question. Since the things of life are fleeting and empty, a mere change of circumstance is never enough. It is not a question of seeking a “what,” but rather a “Who.” Instead of focusing on external circumstances, David inwardly accepted the Presence of God in everything: “my hope is *to You*.”

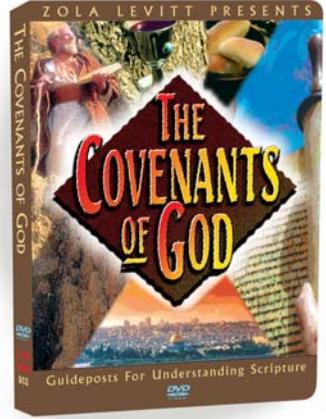
The whole of creation was made subject to vanity, but it was done so in *hope* (Rom. 8:20)... Hope is the substance of *chayei olam*, or eternal life (Rom. 8:24). Because God ordered creation this way, we must turn our attention away from the flux of life to discover the Rock of Israel. **God alone is the Substance of our hope. He “hears the groaning of the prisoner and sets free those who are subject to death”** (Psalm 102:20).



The Covenants of God

Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

The covenants made by God with men and nations throughout the Bible are guideposts for understanding Scripture. This series illustrates, through testimony of expert teachers and analysis of the actual verses, the great covenants of God. We now live under the last of them—the New Covenant—which will be totally fulfilled at the time our Lord returns. *Available on page 18.*



EDENIC COVENANT Zola explains the meaning and significance of covenants. He then deals specifically with the Edenic Covenant made with Adam (mankind) in innocence before the fall. Zola interviews physicist Gerald Schroeder in Jerusalem regarding his theory that the biblical six days of creation do not conflict with the scientific view of a 15 billion-year-old universe.

ADAMIC AND NOAHIC COVENANTS The Adamic Covenant is God's covenant made with Adam after the fall that conditions the life of fallen men and gives the promise of a Redeemer. The Noahic Covenant is God's covenant with Noah establishing the principle of human government. Zola interviews Dan Hendrickson, an Orthodox Jew, about the specific rules in the covenant and how they apply to the gentiles.

*Please see
page 18
to order.*

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT The Abrahamic Covenant founded the nation of Israel and confirmed, with specific additions, the Adamic promise of redemption. Zola interviews Gary Cooperberg, an Orthodox Jew, and Chuck Cohen, a Messianic Believer, about the relevance of the Abrahamic Covenant today.

MOSAIC COVENANT This program explores the Mosaic Covenant of commandments, judgments, and ordinances given to Israel: "For all have sinned." Zola interviews Dan Hendrickson, Gary Cooperberg, and David Tel Tsur, a Messianic Believer, about the significance of the Mosaic Covenant.

LAND COVENANT Zola teaches about the Land Covenant, which secures the final restoration and conversion of Israel. He interviews former Prime Minister Shimon Peres about the peace process. He talks with David Bar-Illan, media advisor to then-Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

DAVIDIC COVENANT The Davidic Covenant established the perpetuity of the Davidic Kingdom and furthered God's plan of redemption through the future Messiah. Zola interviews Uzi Landau, Israel's head of foreign affairs, about the threat Muslim fundamentalists pose to the security of Israel.

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REVIEW Zola reviews the eight major covenants and explains the outworking of God's purposes with man. A deeper understanding of God's covenants with man enriches our faith and expands our knowledge of the great Creator we have the privilege of calling "Father." To Him be the glory forever.

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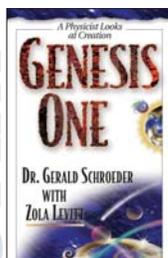
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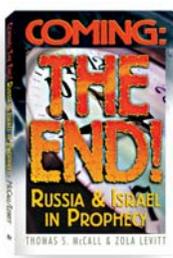
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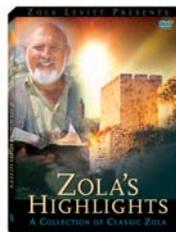
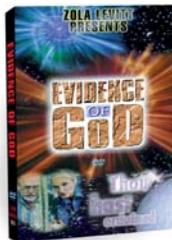


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ZLM Bulletin Board

Timeshare Harassment

You may recall reading "Timeshares: Just Say No" in the April 2008 *Levitt Letter*. Our ministry was unable to sell the timeshare units we had accepted as contributions, so we gave them away last year. Nonetheless, one of the timeshare operations is relentlessly contacting our office in an effort to collect dues for this year—even after we have repeatedly explained that we are no longer the owner. If you would like to help them understand that we shouldn't have to maintain something we don't own, please call them toll-free at (866) 757-5292 and also their collection agency toll-free at (888) 552-4817.



The Auschwitz Album

This online album memorializes the arrival of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz in May of 1944. It is the only one of its kind, and it is solely due to this album that we have a visual history of what occurred in the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp.

The album was discovered after the war by an Auschwitz survivor, Lily Jacob, who donated it to Yad Vashem in 1980. You can see it by searching "Auschwitz Album" at

www.yadvashem.org or going directly to <http://cuthut.com/nP3>

Pamphlet of the Month

American taxpayers have long been allowed to make charitable gifts of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other securities that are worth more than they cost, take an income tax deduction based on their full current value, and bypass capital gains tax that otherwise would be due on sale. The free pamphlet "**Giving Securities**" explains the basics of harnessing long-standing tax benefits. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P. O. Box.



Israel Sets Tourism Record for Sixth Straight Month

Following a record number of tourists for the month of May, Israel has now set records for individual months for six straight months. According to a Tourism Ministry press release, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported that 309,000 tourists visited Israel in May 2010. That set an all-time record for the month, besting last year by 33% and is an improvement of 4% on May 2008. Currently 2008 holds the record for most tourists in a year, but that record could be topped in 2010. The first five months of this year have seen 1.4 million tourists visit Israel, 11% more than the same period in 2008.

"Come Home!"

Zola's
Tours to
Israel:



See page
36 for details





Free...or Bought and Paid For?

a note
from mark

Dear ZLM: RE: Guilt Mailing

I wish to continue receiving the *Levitt Letter*, but I have mixed feelings after getting a letter that says you have not heard from me in a year. If you mean that you have not heard from me financially in a year, you are correct. My last gift to you was on 10/30/2008, not quite two years ago.

Your TV programs offer the FREE *Levitt Letter*, which of course is not possible without someone giving gifts to your ministry. Your response card asks, “No More Letters from Zola?” and then suggests that “if I am able to assist with this ministry.”

This has unsettled me. I remember that during tough times, Zola would step up, state his case, and outright ask for help; but you employ this threatening guilt crap. I will decide whether to support your ministry when you respond to my letter.

I wish you PEACE, —K.K.

Dear K.K.—

Decades ago, I found justifications to go a little light on restaurant tips. Perfect service is impossible, right? Growing in the Lord led me to conclude that such rationalization was petty and unChristlike. Now to your letter.

Asking me to stop my other work and write you a one-on-one fund appeal seems a fine example of how those in the Ministry of

Distraction work. Or, as Zola might suggest, perhaps you have joined what he good-naturedly referred to as the overcrowded Ministry of Rebuke. Please forgive these observations. Especially since the plank in my eye obscures what I see of the speck in yours. (Matt 7:3)

Your email reminded me of a sign outside a Marine Corps barracks: “This grass isn’t green —because we’re *Marines*, not gardeners.” We at ZLM also shine at what we do best, and I thank you for your tacit affirmation of our newsletters and TV programs. Will you agree, though, K.K., that this ministry features teaching, not fundraising?

I’m not very good at asking for financial support (or at gardening, for that matter), but now I’m asking you: Please help sustain and grow this vital ministry. The need is legitimate and urgent, but not desperate. Your fellow readers will carry your share of the burden if you are either unable or unwilling.

How is it that almost two years went by while you had the finances to support this outreach, and now you’re offended at receiving a postage-paid reply envelope with an offer of more free newsletters?

Back to tipping (without, of course, rewarding genuinely poor service). The more I age and add to my love handles, the more it makes sense to order less food and tip more generously. After all, “the laborer is worthy of his hire” (Luke 10:7), and “how shall they preach, unless they be sent?” (Romans 10:15)



By Dan Piraro

BIZARRO





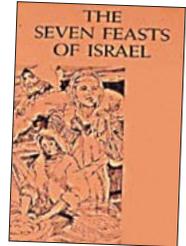
Letters to ZLM

Comments from www.levitt.com

From M.G. (OH): I watch your programming as often as possible. It is quite a learning experience. I hope to take advantage of the literature you offer for more understanding. I know there is a cost to your *Levitt Letter*, and I have included a small donation to help cover some of that cost. I hope to donate small amounts in the future as well.

From K.P. (CT): A Messianic rabbi came to teach at our church. His message was enriched by his knowledge of the history and culture of Judaism. The Lord confirmed through the rabbi that your Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies correspondence courses will enrich my personal, spiritual, and ministry life in ways unimaginable. Your ministry never fails to bless me. (Note: To request free info on this twelve-course program, please see "Studies, Etc." on page 19.)

From B.B. (NC): Love the show. *The Seven Feasts of Israel* study booklet is a good witnessing tool.



From J.I. (SD): Thank you for the interesting information detailed in your newsletter. . . especially, I appreciate the reports of medical advances being made in Israel.

From M.L. (TN): Thank you for putting your TV shows online. Some of us don't have cable, and it's great to be able to join your program via the Internet! Jehovah God has blessed my mind and heart with Zola Levitt Ministries more than I could have imagined when I first ran across it online. I pray for all men and women to find the Truth only Jesus gives. Your ministry encourages me not to be timid about speaking my faith and love for Jews as well as gentiles to anyone. Thank you for all you and your staff do, even on such a tight budget.

From J.B. (MN): I recently discovered your website and have been touched by watching many of your programs. I especially enjoyed the interviews with those who were once Muslims, then turned Christian. Fascinating!! I found my first *Levitt Letter* enjoyable and inspiring.

From P.S. (IA): My mother and I appreciate how Jeff discusses his personal trials and tribulations with the audience. It means much to know we are all of the same tribe, the tribe of Jesus Christ. We pray for you all daily (as God reminds us) and for the Peace of Jerusalem.

From D.T. (AR): I watch your show on the Internet as I have no cable. I thank you for having your shows on the Net and for free.

From L.D. (TN): We homeschool our children and are always looking for new/exciting curricula. We have been searching for a good Bible study and are excited about your Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies.

For Those of Us Who Care About These Issues

Dear Jeff,

I appreciate the wonderful job you and everyone at Zola Levitt Ministries are doing. I enjoy the TV show very much, but I can't wait to get my *Levitt Letter* each month! I pretty much devour its contents as soon as I receive it in the mail. I like that you all search the various print media sources and bring us the most pertinent information on Christian issues, the Jewish people, Israel, and the clash of civilizations with radical Islam. Sometimes what I read grieves my soul, but I find comfort by remembering that this world is in the Last Days and, as our Lord said, these things must come to pass. Please keep doing shows on Bible prophecy as most churches and Christian leaders today never even speak of Christ's return—to their shame! It's one of the major reasons why I love your ministry so much.

Re: "The Joys of Sharia Law" articles (June 2010 *Levitt Letter*, pp. 11, 29), our Western mainstream media is criminally negligent in not reporting these types of stories. Most average Americans know more about *Dancing with the Stars* than about what goes on in predominantly Muslim countries and their horrific abuse of women, Christians, Muslim converts, etc. Thank you for being a resource for those of us who care about these issues and who value our precious Judeo-Christian heritage.

My husband and I bless all of our brothers and sisters in Israel and all Jewish people everywhere! Shalom! L.C.



Lives Changed

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for your part in making the Messianic Jewish movement visible. You have opened doors to the Old & New Testaments that in the past have been closed to my wife and me, and now we can't get enough of the Bible. Our lives have been changed and our faith strengthened.

Blessings
R. & A.W.

Thanks, R. & A.W., I pray you'll be blessed by the forthcoming series on the Messianic Jewish Movement. Funds permitting, we plan to give the clearest presentation of the Messianic Movement ever documented, put on film, and broadcast around the world. —Jeff



Love You Guys

I know that I have not told you lately that I love you guys—but I do! And your program—I never miss it! Just knowing that you are adding to my knowledge of Jesus Christ and seeing the Holy Land—it's like I am right there. I get a big smile on my face when I listen to you on TV or on the web. Ahhhh, to be Jewish—what a blessing. Thanks for making it possible for me to know Jesus Christ. —H.

The World Is In Labor

Dear Dr. Seif and all,

The *Levitt Letter* gets better each month. I appreciate your using a variety of news sources because it shows the credibility of the newsletter. I can go to the original sources and know I'll find your facts to be true.

I am a labor and delivery nurse. I watch world events unfolding and see why the Bible compares the End Times to a woman in labor. Under normal conditions, labor and delivery occur in a sequence, one phase after another, but nobody can predict EXACTLY when the baby will be born. So many times, I've explained to a young family I can't give them an exact delivery time, just that it might be "pretty soon" or "I think it'll take awhile." That analysis is based on my nursing judgment, and also on my gut feeling. They don't always appreciate why I can't be more precise. But one thing I know...the harder the contractions, and the closer together they occur, the sooner the baby will deliver. :) Comparing the Scripture prophecies to world events, the facts and my gut tell me we're close to being delivered!

With prayers and kindest regards,
—B. H. (KS)



“Jehovah’s Treasure”

Dear Levitt Staff:

For several years we have lovingly followed and supported Zola, Sandra, and Jeff as they bring us the Good News with the Jewish perspective. We’ve been informed about many subjects that we would not have heard about otherwise.

I just finished watching your series on *Jehovah’s Treasure* and am profoundly moved. We’ve been to Israel twice and have visited many of the wondrous places you show! Oh, how we long for other Believers to know the truth about Israel and God’s plan for the Jewish people. And oh, how we long for Yeshua to set His feet on the Mount of Olives and claim His title deed to planet Earth!!

What a blessing you are to so many who “pray for the peace of Jerusalem!” —C.B. (OK)

Mysterious Ways

Dear ZLM,

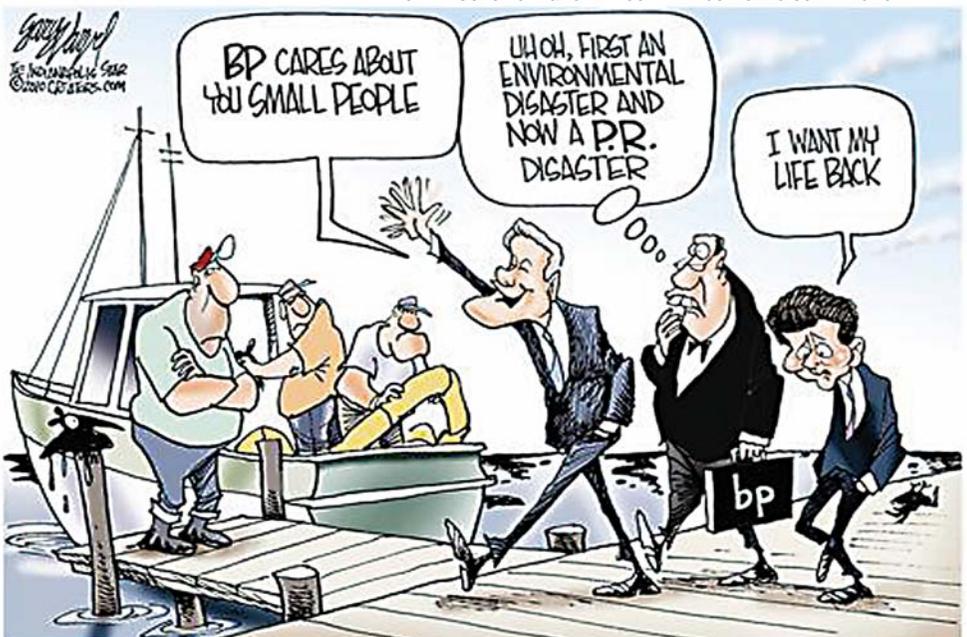
This is my first time giving to your ministry. Thank you for faithfully sending me your newsletter. I truly enjoy the comics and learning about the real Israel and Jewish people. I am Chinese, and all I knew about Israel and Jewish people derived from the mainstream media. I came upon www.levitt.com while ordering *Zola’s Introduction to Hebrew* by John Parsons to learn Hebrew, which I had a desire to learn and never knew why except I was very intrigued by the written Hebrew language. Our Lord works in mysterious ways.

I am sorry to say I never heard good things about Israel or the Jewish people until I read your newsletter. You have opened up my eyes and heart to the real Israel and Jewish people and I thank you for that. I look forward to receiving your newsletter every month and learning more new things.

Thank you,
G.S. (TX)



“For whoever exalts himself will be humbled...” Luke 14:11



Virgin Mary Gets Dragged Into The Burka Fray

By David J. Rusin, www.Islamist-Watch.org

With efforts to outlaw face-covering attire now gathering speed across the West, some Muslims have begun grasping at straws. Their desperation is reflected in the cynical attempt to turn Mary, the mother of Jesus, into a poster girl for the pro-*burka* crowd. (*Burka*: full-body covering, wearer peers out through a screen covering her face.) When Amel Marmouri was fined for refusing to reveal her face to policemen in the northern Italian town of Novara, Izzedin Elzir, president of the Union of Islamic Communities in Italy, mused that Muslim women covered to the max are not only following the lead of the Virgin Mary, but also fortifying Western culture: “If we go and see the beautiful artistic representations of the Madonna, we see her with the veil. We don’t see her semi-naked, I think.”

However, Elzir is not alone in comparing face-concealing Muslims to the most revered woman in Christianity. Interviewed by the BBC earlier this year, French *burka*-wearer Chrystelle Khedrouche struck a similar chord while discussing proposed bans: **When God ordered that women be veiled, we know that they were already veiled. Look at the mother of Jesus, Mary. She wore a veil, and I have never**

seen an image of her where she is not veiled. So we know that women were veiled at that time and if God ordered that women be veiled, it was to add something more to what there was already.

Likewise, a recent news article on Belgian lawmakers approving a prohibition on face veils features one forlorn Muslim arguing that “the Virgin Mary also wore a veil. No one says anything about this.”

Behold yet another Islamist smoke-screen to muddle the issue and confuse the ignorant. Nobody can state with certainty what Mary did or did not wear two millennia ago. But give or take a few controversial works of art, she is universally depicted with a veil over her hair, not her face. This is how we know that Mary is the one portrayed, right? A completely covered figure might be Simon Peter in disguise, for all we could tell.

And that is the whole point of the laws now being introduced and implemented. Face veils dehumanize and inhibit identification; headscarves do not—which is why *burkas* and *nikabs* (like *burkas*, but with slits for eyeholes), as opposed to hair coverings (*hijabs*) reminiscent of Mary, are getting the heave-ho.

This debate is all about the face. Mary sets a good example by showing hers.



A woman (we assume) poses for an ID photo in a country that could really use a few security pointers.

Muslim Inventions Exaggerated

By Frank J. Tipler, professor of Mathematical Physics at Tulane University
www.PajamasMedia.com

In his speech to the Muslim world in Cairo, President Barack Obama claimed: “As a student of history, I also know civilization’s debt to Islam. It was Islam—at places like Al-Azhar University—that carried the light of learning through so many centuries, paving the way for Europe’s Renaissance and Enlightenment. It was innovation in Muslim communities that developed the order of algebra; our magnetic compass, and tools of navigation; our mastery of pens and printing.”

Obama is not much of a “student of history” if he believes this. Almost every advance he attributes to the Muslims was due to someone else.

The non-Muslim **Chinese invented the magnetic compass and printing** (Gutenberg invented not printing, but movable type). The non-Muslim **Hindu Indians invented algebra and the decimal numbering system**. The non-Muslim **European Christians invented the university**.

I can’t address advances in medicine, but I have studied the history of astronomy and physics. The Muslims contributed nothing.

All modern physics descends from Galileo (1564–1642); all modern astronomy from Copernicus (1473–1543). If you study Galileo’s works carefully, you see that he started with the achievements of the Greek mathematical physicist Archimedes of Syracuse (c. 287 BC – c. 212 BC). If you study Copernicus’ works carefully, you will see that Copernicus’ great book *On the Revolutions* is essentially a heliocentric re-working of the

geocentric astronomy textbook by the Greek Ptolemy (c. 90 AD – 168 AD). Copernicus mostly used Ptolemy’s data for the positions of the planets.



President Obama on Cairo TV

If one reads history of science textbooks prior to about 1980, one will find very little mention of Muslim “contributions” to physics and astronomy. This is reasonable, because there weren’t any. In the past generation, however, political correctness has dictated that Muslims be given credit for discoveries they did not make.

The reason Muslims never developed fundamental physics is because the leading Muslim theologians declared the idea of fixed physical laws to be heretical. The Koran (verse 6:64) states: “The Jews have said, ‘God’s hand is fettered.’ Fettered are their hands, and they are cursed for what they have said. Nay, but His hands are outspread; He expends how He will.” The standard Muslim interpretation of this passage has been that there cannot be unchanging physical laws because Allah may change the laws at any moment. The implication is clear: next week, Allah may change his mind about water being a compound of hydrogen and oxygen. With this sort of worldview, how could one possibly be a scientist? ★

Wisdom Of The Jewish Oracle

www.aish.com

*Breathe in. Breathe out. Breathe in.
 Breathe out. Forget this and attaining
 Enlightenment will be the least of
 your problems.*

Israel and Exotic Crops



By Edmund Sanders
www.LATimes.com

If Willy Wonka had a farm, it would fit right in here in Israel.

Want a lemon-scented tomato or a chocolate-colored persimmon? How about some miniaturized garlic cloves for the home chef who doesn't have time to chop, or a purple potato that tastes buttery when cooked?

There are no chocolate rivers or edible teacup flowers on Israeli farms, but you will find carrots shaped like potatoes, strawberries shaped like carrots, star-shaped zucchini, and "watermelon" tomatoes—dark green on the outside with a juicy red flesh. There are also specially bred red peppers with three times the usual amount of vitamins, and black chickpeas with extra antioxidants. Not to mention worm-shaped berries and blue bananas.

Though some mock such colorful crops as "frankenfruit," an Israeli tomato breeder, Hazera Genetics, has created a boutique crop worth more than its weight in gold. The former kibbutz developed a yellow cherry tomato that its own researchers feared might turn off consumers. Instead, the hybrid became a hit in Europe, where the seeds sell for about \$160,000 a pound.

Efraim Lewinsohn, who has helped lead the project to develop the lemon tomato at Israel's Volcani Agricultural Research Institute, said the goal was to inject a little spice into tomatoes that had become bland from years of

mass production. "People complain that tomatoes don't taste like they used to," Lewinsohn said. "That's the driving force behind this project: attempting to restore the flavor of the past."

But because of consumer concerns about genetically modified crops, many in Israel are sticking with old-fashioned cross-pollination in which, for example, two tomato varieties—one known for its fast growth and the other for its long shelf life—are pollinated by hand to create tomatoes that grow quickly and last longer.

Israel isn't the only country pushing agricultural boundaries. Japan is producing square watermelons (easier to pack) and kumquat-sized grapes (good for giant raisins). The Netherlands and the United States are also leaders in innovative crops, such as yellow tomatoes and miniature watermelons.

But thanks to its warm climate and advanced research facilities, Israel is becoming a player in the emerging market for agricultural oddities. "Israelis are a naturally curious people," said Avi Almogi, head of Israel's Exotic Fruit Association, standing beside a display of fuzzless peaches at his trade group's recent exhibition at Kibbutz Givat Brenner in central Israel. "We take fruits, even things that may not be from here, and we play with them to make them better." ★



Hybrid yellow cherry tomatoes at a greenhouse in central Israel. (David Silverman/Getty Images)

Comic Fears Joke About Islam Would Mean Death

By Adam Sherwin, www.Independent.co.uk

The political satirist Rory Bremner has claimed that the “chilling” effect of fundamentalism means that every time he writes a sketch about Islam he fears that he is signing his own death warrant.

Speaking to Sir David Frost in a BBC documentary about the future of satire, Bremner argued that self-censorship was the biggest problem for practitioners of topical comedy today.

Bremner’s views are echoed by other comedians including Ben Elton, who has accused the BBC of being “scared” to allow jokes about Islam. But Bremner went further by speaking about fears for his own personal safety.

“The greatest danger now is that one of the toughest issues of our time is religion,” Bremner told Sir David in the BBC4 program *Frost on Satire*.

“When [I’m] writing a sketch about Islam, I’m writing a line and I think, ‘If this goes down badly, I’m writing my own death warrant there.’ Because there are people who will say, ‘Not only do I not think that’s funny but I’m going to kill you’—and that’s chilling.”

He added: “If you’re a Danish cartoonist and you work in a Western tradition, people don’t take that too seriously. Suddenly you’re confronted by a group of people who are fundamentalist and extreme and they say, ‘We’re going to kill you because of what you said or have drawn.’ Where does satire go from there, because we like to be brave but not foolish.”

Sir David said he was “surprised” that Bremner felt that his life could be placed in danger by telling a joke.

Comment from the website:
[Perhaps Sir David missed the news] about Salman Rushdie (writer), Theo van Gogh (filmmaker), Kurt Westergaard (cartoonist), and Stephen Timms (MP). ★





YouTube Internet video capture

Lone Jewish High School Student Faces Down Arab Mob in L.A.

www.IsraelNationalNews.com

A loud and angry mob of pro-Arab demonstrators outside the Israeli consulate in Los Angeles the day following the Gaza Flotilla incident became even more enraged when one, lone Jewish high school student with a yarmulke and a large Israeli flag marched fearlessly alongside them.

The young man, **Daniel Pereg**, seemed to be unmoved by the angry curses hurled at him by the American-Arab crowd. Though protected by a line of policemen, it appeared he could be attacked at any moment.

Reporters asked him afterwards about his unusual presence, and he explained, "I came out because I want to defend Israel... They [the soldiers attempting to divert the flotilla ships - ed.] were attacked, and they had the right to defend [themselves]. These people [on the flotilla boats] were not humanitarians; their ship was armed with knives, batons, and all kinds of things to attack the Israelis with. There is a naval blockade on Gaza, and they [the soldiers] were just doing their job of enforcing it... Hamas is a terrorist organization trying to kill Israelis."

Asked if he is affiliated with any group, he said, "Just Judaism and Israel, that's it."

Saudi Man Convicted For Kissing Woman

Associated Press



A Saudi court has convicted a man and sentenced him to four months in prison and 90 lashes for kissing a woman in a mall.

The government-owned daily *Al-Yom* reported that Saudi religious police arrested the man and two women after they were seen on mall cameras "engaging in immoral movements in front of other shoppers."

The report says the man, who is in his 20s, was seen with a woman "sitting on one of the chairs, exchanging kisses and hugs." It's unclear what the other woman was doing.

The kingdom enforces a strict interpretation of Islam, which bans unrelated men and women from mingling.

The paper says the man is to receive three batches of lashes and is banned from malls for two years. The women will be tried in another court.



Israeli Company Captures “God’s Dew”

Israel Today

Modern Israeli technology is taking an idea from the ancient Israelites and using dew for irrigation. In biblical times, stones were used to collect dew from the air. Now, the Israeli startup company Tal-Ya Water Technologies has an invention that uses dew to irrigate crops in places where water resources are scarce.

This new invention has a number of ecological benefits that go beyond water conservation. For about \$1 per plant, a square serrated tray is placed directly on the ground. These trays, which measure 27 x 27 inches, contain a hole through which the plant grows. Made of recyclable plastic, they contain UV filters and a limestone additive to assure that they do not degrade in the sun or following the application of pesticides or fertilizers.



An aluminum additive protects the trays from day to night temperature shifts. When a change of 54°F occurs, dew forms on both surfaces of the tray and is funneled directly to the plant and its roots.

“Using our system has a number of benefits,” says inventor Avraham Tamir who heads the company. “Farmers don’t need to worry about weeds because the trays block the sun, so weeds can’t take root. Farmers need to use much less water, and in turn, much less fertilizer on the crops. Less fertilizers and pesticides mean less groundwater contamination.

Field tests carried out in Israel in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture reveal a significant water savings of up to 50 percent with the Tal-Ya system, which also boosts the effects of rain. One millimeter of rain funneled through this system has the effect of 27 millimeters.

The company is appropriately named *Tal-Ya*, which means “God’s dew.”



Tal-Ya Dew Collectors (below) at work



Israel Set To Become Gas Exporter

By Gal Luft, www.Haaretz.com

A gigantic deposit of natural gas called Leviathan, 6.5 times the size of Tel Aviv, was found recently, roughly 100 nautical miles from where the flotilla fiasco took place and well within Israel's extended territorial waters. This discovery may provide Israel with security in terms of its supply of electricity, turn it into an important natural gas exporter and provide a shot in the arm of some \$300 billion over the life of the field—one-and-a-half times the national GDP—to the Israeli economy, already one of the most resilient in the world.

More importantly, this discovery is nothing short of a geopolitical game changer. To understand its magnitude,



consider this: The world's biggest gas discovery in 2009, 238 billion cubic meters, was made by a U.S.-Israel consortium at a site called Tamar, 60 miles off the coast of Haifa. The nearby Leviathan field is estimated to be twice that size. Altogether the basin in the eastern Mediterranean to which those fields belong could contain an amount of gas equivalent to one-fifth of U.S. natural gas reserves. For a small country like Israel, such a bonanza could not have come at a better time. ★

Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

ION (Formerly PAX) Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	9:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	9:30 am Thurs

DirectTV East-Channel 305 DirectTV West-Channel 347 Dish East-Ch.216 Dish West-Ch.217

ABC-FAM Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	10 pm Sun or 1 am Mon	11 pm Sun or 2 am Mon	12 am Mon	1 am Mon

DirectTV-Channel 311 Dish-Channel 180

INSP Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3:30 am Wed 5:30 pm	4:30 am Wed 6:30 pm	5:30 am Wed 7:30 pm	6:30 am Wed 8:30 pm

Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3 pm Fri 2 pm Wed	4 pm Fri 3 pm Wed	5 pm Fri 4 pm Wed	6 pm Fri 5 pm Wed

DirectTV-Channel 369 Dish-Channel 263

**TCT pm DirectTV Channel 377 –
Sunday – 7:30am ET
(additional days/times are available at
www.tct.tv)**

**Our entire TV Airing Schedule is posted at
www.levitt.com.**



Muslim Genie

An Israeli is wading on the beach at Tel Aviv when he sees below the water's surface a metallic object almost completely buried in the sand. He pulls it out and discovers it is an ancient Arabian oil lamp. Immediately, he starts wiping the sand off, and behold, a genie appears, who says,

"I am here to grant you three wishes. However, being that you are Jewish and I am partial to my Islamic heritage, whatever you wish for, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad will receive double."

"Very well," replies the Israeli. "I wish for 10 million dollars." —POOF!!!!

"Your wish is granted. Ten million dollars converted to shekels has been placed in your bank account."

—POOF! POOF!

"And 20 million dollars has been added to Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's account. Now, what is your second wish?"

"I know it may seem vain, but I have always dreamed of owning a new red Ferrari."

"A new red Ferrari it is." —POOF!

"It is parked outside your home with the keys behind the back license plate. But..!" —POOF! POOF!

"Mahmoud Ahmadinejad now has two red Ferraris. Twenty million dollars and two red Ferraris to your sworn enemy. Can you live with that?"

"I can," says the Israeli.

"Very well then," continues the genie, "What is your third and final wish?"

The Israeli thinks for a moment, then looks at the genie and says, "I wish you would beat me half to death."



Dry Bones



Join the King David Club

Help us bring in the Kingdom!! If you donate \$10,000 you will receive the following with our grateful thanks:

- One each of all our teaching materials (worth more than \$2,400)—not just for your library, but also to give away.
- One \$500 discount on each of up to four (4) of our tours to Israel.
- A one-on-one telephone conference with Jeff to discuss this ministry's goals, plans, and visions.



Perceptions of Jews

By Renowned Gentiles



Jews taught the world not to accept the world as it is, but to transform it, yet only a few nations wanted to listen. Moreover, the Jews introduced the world to one God, yet only a minority wanted to draw the moral consequences. So the nations of the world realize that they would have been lost without the Jews. And while their subconscious tries to remind them of how much of Western civilization is framed in terms of concepts first articulated by the Jews, they do anything to suppress it.

So the nations of the world decided to go out of their way in order to find a stick to hit the Jews. The goal: to prove that Jews are as immoral and guilty of massacre and genocide as some of they themselves are.

All this in order to hide and justify their own failure to even protest when six million Jews were brought to the slaughterhouses of Auschwitz and Dachau; so as to wipe out the moral conscience of which the Jews remind them, and they found a stick.

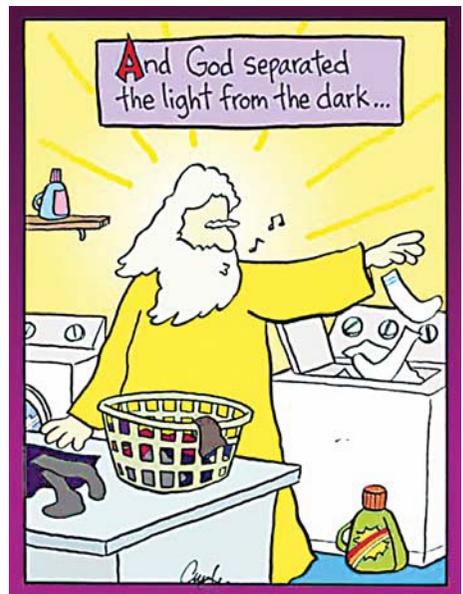
Nothing could be more gratifying for them than to find the Jews in a struggle with another people (who are completely terrorized by their own leaders) against whom the Jews, against their best wishes, have to defend themselves in order to survive. With great satisfaction, the world allows and initiates the rewriting of history so as to fuel the rage of yet another people against the Jews. This in spite of the fact that the nations understand very well that peace between the parties could have come a long time ago, if only the Jews had had a fair chance. Instead, they happily jumped on the wagon of hate so as to justify their jealousy of the Jews and their incompetence to deal with their own moral issues.

When Jews look at the bizarre play taking place in The Hague, they can only smile as this artificial game once more proves how the world paradoxically admits the Jews' uniqueness. It is in their need to undermine the Jews that they actually raise them.

The study of history of Europe during the past centuries teaches us one uniform lesson: That the nations which received and in any way dealt fairly and mercifully with the Jews have prospered; and that the nations that have tortured and oppressed them have written out their own curse."

—**OLIVE SCHREINER, SOUTH AFRICAN NOVELIST AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST (1855 – 1920)** ★

The above is not an exact rendition of what Schreiner actually wrote. It's been embellished and updated several times since her death. She could not have known about Auschwitz or Dachau and the slaughter of millions of Jews there during World War II. Nonetheless, like Mark Twain, she viewed the Jews' accomplishments as incredible. Her insights as to why the Jews have been and are still so resented remain unrivaled by anyone. —Michael Grossman in *The Reluctant Jew*



Hadassah Generosity

By Barbara Sofer, www.Hadassah.org

Israelis are among the first to cross the world to help others as an expression of their values, the need to help the oppressed, and not to stand idle while others are in trouble. Let's look behind the scenes at Hadassah and this proud Israeli mission. This month, a story about the origins of Hadassah.

According to Jewish tradition, the liberation of our ancestors from Egypt was accomplished by the merit of righteous Jewish women. Pharaoh, we know, ordered all the Jewish boys killed, and decided to save the girls for his own licentious reasons. But who started the rebellion? Two midwives named Shifra and Puah. Just look at how they talked back to the mighty Pharaoh! (Exodus 1:15-21) Who were they? One tradition is that they were Moses' mother (Yocheved) and his sister (the prophetess Miriam) using their Egyptian names. The same duo carried out the sending of Moses down the Nile, and when Pharaoh's daughter rescued him, Miriam stepped forward and conducted a brilliant negotiation to bring him back to his mother.

According to tradition (*Midrash Tanhuma*), when the Israelite men lost heart because of the dire condi-

tions in Egypt, the women used their mirrors to flirt with their husbands and bring forth the next generation. They were always optimists, even when times were tough. Why else would they pack their tambourines when they were hurrying from Egypt? They knew there would be cause to celebrate! (Exodus 15:20)



Henrietta Szold and first nursing class in Israel in 1921

Hadassah began with the rebellion of two nurses who wouldn't accept the dire health conditions in Jerusalem in 1913. They, too, became involved in delivering and saving babies. And when voices in the Zionist movement objected to their "practical Zionism," they kept their optimism and built a health system that would change the world. Let's remember that we are the latest generation to keep the optimism and Zionist fervor of our foremothers.



Another story next month.





Jewish Heritage Calendar—*New!*

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