

Levitt

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



Letter

Five Minutes in  
Eternity [p.21](#)

Abbas says  
Jesus was  
a Muslim  
prophet.

# The Ultimate Replacement Theology

By Jonathan Feldstein / JPost.com

The world was treated recently to another declaration by Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas that Jesus was a Palestinian.

Abbas called Jesus “a Palestinian messenger who would become a guiding light for millions around the world,” and suggested Israel was to blame for the exodus of Christians from the Middle East.

Israel’s foreign ministry spokesman noted, “He should have read the Gospels before uttering such offensive nonsense,” adding that Abbas’s remarks are an “outrageous rewriting of Christian history.”

As an Orthodox Jew, I’m no expert on Christianity. However, I know a dangerous and offensive ambush on Judaism and Christianity when I see it, and when those called “Palestinians” today

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## ZLP TV Gets Facelift!

By Kenneth Berg  
Producer/Director of  
*Zola Levitt Presents*



The spring flowers are blooming, and we too have “sprouted” a new look! Myles and Katharine Weiss now host our weekly *Zola Levitt Presents* television program from a set with a more modern appearance. The bookcases-and-bricks setting used since 1991 may still be seen from time to time, but we felt it was time to update our image. Myles relates the ministry’s stewardship care on page 23.

We anticipate enhancing the new set’s backdrop with a panoramic view of the Temple Mount and the Western Wall, and perhaps even adding a jib (a crane with a camera at the end of a long beam).

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## Ultimate Replacement Theology... *continued from cover*

erase and rewrite whole sections of Scripture that are the foundation of Judaism and Christianity, it must be called what it is: a dangerous lie, a hybrid between Palestinian propaganda and the ultimate Replacement Theology.

One egregious example: when Palestinians say (often) that there was never a Temple on the Temple Mount—the focal point of biblical Jerusalem. In fact, this architectural landmark was destroyed, rebuilt, destroyed again in the year 70 AD—and replaced by two mosques 600 years later. One doesn't have to look very hard to find more examples, and one doesn't have to dig very deep in Jerusalem to find archaeological remains of Temples and Jews.

Abbas also mentioned Palestinians “trapped under siege” in Gaza, “prevented from worshiping in Bethlehem,” conveniently overlooking that it's his fellow “Palestinians” (from Hamas) who control Gaza and who make life for Christians there a living hell—like Christians in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iran, etc.

I care because Israel is the birthplace of both Judaism and Christianity. Jews and Christians have a common, biblical bond that has never been more important. Though the Church in the past 2,000 years has been less enlightened toward the Jews, the awakening in the past century of Christians who understand the biblical injunction to bless Israel, and who know that Israel's rebirth is fulfillment of prophecy, needs to be met with open arms by Jews, and reciprocated. When a Palestinian leader refers to Jesus as a Palestinian, it's an affront to the foundation of Christianity, making one imagine Jesus dying not on a Roman cross, but wearing a suicide belt packed with explosives at a 2,000-year-old Jerusalem café.

While there were indigenous Arabs in Israel pre-1948, Arab migration to Israel exploded as the land flourished with Jews returning from exile and the corresponding economic opportunities. **But while Jews returned en masse, fulfilling prophecy, there was always an unbreakable Jewish presence in the land.** It is the indigenous Jews who have the rightful claim to Israel, going back to those who lived in Israel in Jesus' time, with its center in Jerusalem established by the Jewish King David 3,000 years ago, in the Land God promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob long before that, and documented in the Bible.

But those who read and understand Scripture knew that already. ★

***Ouch! The Foreign Ministry of Israel stands for truth in the face of revisionism and cowardice from Europe. Another note on the shared destiny of Jews and Christians. —Myles***



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## ZLP TV Gets Facelift! *(continued from cover sidebar)*

This should provide some camera movement on the set and increase the program's visual appeal to new viewers who might not otherwise linger to hear our message. Of course, equipment and props like these aren't free. The panoramic views cost about \$950 each, and the jib rental runs \$1,800 per day. That being said, high production quality has always been a distinguishing characteristic of *Zola Levitt Presents* and we are excited about the possibilities of our new set.

On our return trip to Israel this fall, we plan to shoot a new series of programs on the life of Joseph. From being sold into slavery by his own brothers to his rise to the second-highest position in the land of Egypt, Joseph's story is a dynamic one. Dramatic reenactments by Israeli actors help bring Joseph's story to life.

While we are updating different visual aspects, please realize that these changes are only window dressing. This ministry is unwavering in our commitment to bring you Bible teaching from Israel with a watchful eye on both prophecy and the Jewish roots of Christianity. We appreciate you—our ministry partners and friends—for your faithful prayers and financial support that enable us to produce not only the television program but also the *Levitt Letter*; our website, [levitt.com](http://levitt.com); and our social media outlets—Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. Thank you very much, or as they say it in Hebrew, "toda raba." (See ZLP set on p.22).



Kenneth Berg



# The Thoughts of Man or the Mind of the Messiah?

**Myles To Go**  
By Myles Weiss  
ZLP Host



We “news junkies” often exhibit an insatiable appetite for current events. While there is merit in knowing what is going on in the world, I am grateful for “filters” like the *Levitt Letter*. This trusty magazine employs researchers and editors to sift through the overwhelming glut of information available. I value this filter, and I think you do too.

After all, the premier reason to “keep up” is to “pray with the Spirit and with the understanding” (1 Corinthians 14:15). That is the apostolic enjoiner from Paul, our Rabbi Shaul of the first century. Otherwise, we become saturated with the base thoughts of man and the outrageous acts of hostility in our world.

If you are given to overindulgence in newspapers, talk radio, and news websites, it is helpful to have a friend, neighbor, family member, or spouse who reminds you, as in Colossians 3:1–2, “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.”

At the ministry and especially on our TV program, *Zola Levitt Presents*, I often say, “the headlines are catching up to the Bible.” That is very true! The best way to understand our world is to view the news through the lens of Holy Scripture—applying the eternal Word of God to the temporal events of man.

What a safety line we have from the Lord in His powerful Word! It is the only plumb line that offers safety and accurate interpretation for our lives. Little wonder, then, that services modeled on early Church congregations and Jewish synagogues precede the Torah reading with this awesome prayer:

[\(continued next page\)](#)





**Leader:** *Bar'chu et Adonai ham'vorach.*

**All:** *Baruch Adonai ham'vorach l'olam va-ed.*

**Leader:** *Baruch Adonai ham'vorach l'olam va-ed.*

**All:** *Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher bachar banu mikol haamim, v'natan lanu et Torato. Baruch atah, Adonai, notein haTorah.*

**Leader:** Bless Adonai who is blessed.

**All:** Blessed is Adonai who is blessed now and forever.

**Leader:** Blessed is Adonai who is blessed now and forever.

**All:** Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has chosen us from among the peoples, and given us the Torah. Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.

When a congregant is given the honor of coming up to the *bima* (dais) and blessing the Torah reading, it is called *aliyah*—the same word in modern Hebrew to describe coming home to Israel. *Aliyah* ("going up") describes a Jewish person's return to our Land. Going up, then, is a proper way to describe our value for God's Word and our desire to see life through its mandates.

Join us in Israel this fall for one of four tour options to Greece, Israel, and Petra that travel between October 13 and 31 (see page 36). Please contact Sandra at [travel@levitt.com](mailto:travel@levitt.com) or 214-696-9760, or visit [levitt.com/tours](http://levitt.com/tours) for details. "Come up" and meet with the Lord in Israel. You'll hear His Word loud and clear there.



*Myles fellowships with our study tour pilgrims near the Garden Tomb.*



# Israel's 'Magna Carta'

## The San Remo Mandate

By Mark Levitt  
CEO, Zola Levitt  
Ministries



What better present could God give than to put the birth of Israel on my birthday? He did so forty years before my debut, but sprang the surprise on me only recently! —Mark

It happened on April 25, 1920. Representatives of the powers that triumphed in World War I met in the Italian town of San Remo to divide the Middle Eastern lands they'd conquered. Ninety years later to the day, Christians and Jews gathered on the same spot to commemorate the event.

The men who met in San Remo ninety-four years ago are long gone. But their decisions made history and transformed the Middle East. They called for the establishment of a homeland for the Jewish people—after a Diaspora of nearly 2,000 years—in an area of the Ottoman Empire called Palestine.

Before its defeat in World War I, the 400-year-old Ottoman Empire spread across the Middle East. In San Remo, representatives of Britain, France, Italy, and Japan, with the United States as an observer, divided the Empire into three mandates: Iraq, Syria, and Palestine. France would oversee Syria; Iraq and Palestine fell under Great Britain. The San Remo Resolution included the Balfour Declaration, a call in 1917 by England's Lord Balfour for "the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people." The Resolution has been called Israel's "Magna Carta."

Tomas Sandell of the European Coalition for Israel helped organize the 90th anniversary of the San Remo signing and repeated Chaim Weizmann's 1920 observation that the Israeli state was born on the 25th of April 1920 in San Remo. The Resolution was *that* significant.

Howard Grief, author of *The Legal Foundation and Borders of Israel under International Law*, explained that the Resolution set several precedents. It was adopted by the League of Nations and signed by 51 countries. Exclusive legal and political rights in Palestine went to the Jews, while those same rights in the rest of the Middle East went to the Arabs.

*(continued next page)*



*San Remo 1920:  
Representatives of Britain,  
France, Italy, and Japan*



# 'Magna Carta'... continued



Grief emphasized that the Resolution was the preeminent document for Jewish rights to the land of Israel. The Arabs got the lion's share: Syria—subsequently divided into Syria and Lebanon, all of Mesopotamia, and all of Arabia. Balfour himself asked the Arabs, "Why are you complaining? You are getting all these lands, and we're granting a niche," he called it a niche, "to the Jewish people who are going to get Palestine."

Grief also pointed out that the 1920 San Remo Resolution supersedes later UN resolutions: "There is a doctrine in international law. Once you recognize a certain situation, the matter is executed. You can't change it. And [more recently] the UN General Assembly exceeded its authority, exceeded its jurisdiction. It did not have the power to divide the country."

But what about those contested Israeli "settlements" in Judea and Samaria ["the West Bank"] that many people, including the current Secretary-General of the UN, claim are illegal?

Eli Hertz, the president of Myths and Facts, Inc. ([MythsAndFacts.org](http://MythsAndFacts.org)), observed: "Settlements are covered in Article 6 of the Mandate for Palestine, again the legal international document of the Mandate for Palestine. It clearly says that not only do the Jews have the right to settlement, but the world has the obligation to help them to settle."

This legal right of the Jews to build in the West Bank and in East Jerusalem is little understood in the world today, a situation that Tomas Sandell hopes to remedy. Sandell said that we have a duty simply to put the facts on the table. This is about historical facts that should be included in discussions. ★



The incredible revelation above is taken from Chris Mitchell's [CBN News report](#) following the 90th anniversary of The San Remo Mandate. It's available for free viewing on YouTube, replete with wonderful photos and video clips.



# Yeshua Elevates Women

By Katharine Weiss  
ZLP Co-Host



Yeshua’s miraculous intervention on behalf of humanity also elevated women’s stature. I have been a direct beneficiary of His love and support. When we receive Him and His spiritual life and new paradigm for us, our high adventure with Him results in *restoration*.

I love the way Myles includes me and honors me on *Shabbat*. Whether at home with the family or sharing *Shabbat* with 250 people at *Beit Abba*, Myles points out that as the “queen” of the home, I represent not only the promise to humankind, but also a warning to the adversary: “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.” (Genesis 3:15)

The Gospel improves the lot of women wherever it thrives in the world. When God revealed His miraculous resurrection to His disciples, He first appeared to two women—Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (Matthew 28:1)—when they arrived at the sepulcher after *Shabbat* to ceremonially wash and prepare Jesus’ body for burial.

God used angelic visitations and personal touches to make the women aware of their value in spreading the word of His resurrection. The angel said to the women, “Go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.” (Matthew 28:7)

After ministering in “the graveyard of preachers” in northern India, Myles and I traveled with our Gospel companions over the mountains in an ancient rickety bus—an eleven-hour drive to Calcutta. The Lord brought great joy to us through the night and assured me that the “the angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear His name” (Psalm 34:7). We laughed and sang to the consternation of the bus driver and his rifle-wielding companions. Instead of meeting the expected road bandits, we celebrated God’s goodness in fellowship with Him and each other.

So it was with the companions of Yeshua: They went out quickly from the tomb with fear and *great joy*, and ran to bring His disciples word. “And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, ‘Rejoice!’” (Matthew 28:9).

I love this picture of Jesus telling the women to be joyful! What a contrast to Islam—Jesus elevates women, whereas Islam hides them under a *burka* or *hijab* and holds them in bondage and fear.

Let us be joyful and share the Good News. He is Risen ... He is Risen indeed! ☆



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# Israel's Christian Population Grows

JNS.org



According to 2013 figures released by Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics, there are roughly 161,000 Christians living in Israel, equaling about 2% of the population, up from 158,000 in 2012.

Nearly 80% of these Christians are Arab, while the majority of the remaining 20% are largely from the former Soviet Union.

The cities with the largest Christian populations are Nazareth with 22,400 Christians, Haifa with 14,600, and Jerusalem with 11,900.

Israeli Christian women had fewer children than Jews or Muslims, with only 2.2 children per Christian woman compared to 3.5 for Muslim women and 3.0 for Jewish women.

Israel has one of the few Christian communities left in the Middle East that is still growing. According to the Pew Research Center, just 0.6% of the world's 2.3 billion Christians now live in the Middle East and North Africa. Christians make up only 4% of the region's total inhabitants, drastically down from 20% a century ago, making Middle East Christians the smallest regional Christian minority in the world. ★

Ironic, isn't it, that after the tragic interaction between the Church and the Jewish people throughout the centuries, the small Jewish State is the safest place in the Middle East for Christians? Thanks to Israel for its democratic, freedom-loving ethic that allows Christians to worship in safety. —Myles



## Israel's Unique Bay

BY EITAN SHISHKOFF / Our Man in Haifa



Haifa Bay intrigues me. Standing at the back edge of Rambam Medical Center—Haifa's sprawling, ever-growing city of treatment—we view the rolling Mediterranean waters and smell their salt.

Looking to the north, the mountain ridge separating Israel and Lebanon captures the eye. Cities with names like Kiryat Yam (town of the sea) and Akko/Acre line the bay's shore. The bay and its principal city, Haifa, have changed radically from the sleepy fishing village David Roberts chronicled in iconic mid-19th-century paintings.

Made famous by the 4,000-plus rockets that were launched against Israel by Hezbollah in the 2006 war, Haifa and its bay have seen foreign invasions dating all the way back to the Egyptian empire. The Romans used these waters to stage their landings while extending their empire to the Middle East and Northern Africa. More recently, the British pinned their hopes for oil and territorial domination on the attractive potential of Haifa as a world-class port. They dredged the bay in the 1930s, at the same time attempting an oil pipeline that was slated to reach Iraq. It was here, at the Haifa Port, that the British Mandate over Israel ended in 1948 after a bitter struggle for independence by the ragtag Jewish forces.

Today, massive freighters sit in the bay waiting to unload their cargo. Other

ships are being loaded by rows of cranes, looking like so many giant metal grasshoppers, taking Israeli products and produce into the global marketplace. Modern structures sculpted of concrete, steel, and glass create a zigzag skyline. But what was Haifa like before all of this? And how did it become the muscular port city of today?

For centuries, in fact, Haifa was overshadowed by the strategic position of Akko/Acre at the northern end of the Haifa Bay. From 1100 until 1918, the small settlement was fought over by the Crusaders, the Mamluk and Ottoman Turks, Egypt, and even Napoleon. In 1765, there were 250 inhabitants. Now there are 600,000 in the greater Haifa area. Haifa's favorable vantage point at the south end of the broad, sandy bay drew the British Government of Palestine to make it a central port and energy center. Maneuverable for large ships and sheltered from severe weather, Haifa's bay—Israel's only natural harbor—gave the newly born Jewish state an advantageous entry point for refugees fleeing Europe and arriving from the Islamic-run nations of the Middle East where Jews became unwelcome following Israeli independence.

Near the site of Elijah's spiritual battle on Mt. Carmel, the Haifa Bay area could well hold a key to end-times revival. Next month, I will take up this aspect of the strategic northern coastal region. ☆

*Haifa Bay looking north*



## Zola—Anti-Semitic?

CLASSIC ZOLA: 1999—15 years ago



**Dear Zola—**

**Your recent show was an outright attack on Judaism.** It was offensive, inflammatory, and anti-Semitic. An effective way to tell a lie is to sprinkle it with a little truth, which is what you did. Citing an example of one Jew you know who does not follow Judaism, and condemning Judaism for it, is a tactic I would expect from the Ku Klux Klan or a Nazi, but certainly not from any ministry that has a true understanding of God. By the way, there is a difference between a fable and rabbinic law. —S.Z.

**Dear S.Z.—**

**I don't know any difference between a fable and rabbinic law.** In fact, the term "Jewish fables" was coined by a rabbi, Apostle Paul. (Titus 1:14) If you believe that you may wear a certain coat on Saturday but you may not carry it on your arm, or if you believe that chickens killed by one sect of Orthodox Jews cannot be eaten by a different sect, if you think those things are scriptural, then you are being led astray by the rabbis. I believe that the takeover of Judaism by the rabbis simply reflects what happens to a society whose lawyers get control of it.

"Rabbi" means teacher in the sense of someone who elucidates the Scriptures. But the rabbis are not teachers; they don't know the Scriptures. I've never met a rabbi with Bible knowledge equal to a church member who had gone to Sunday School for six months. The typical rabbi could not name

the Seven Feasts of Israel or say an intelligent word on prophecy.

Now, admittedly, the rabbis are not doing this on purpose; but like Catholic priests or some Protestant ministers, they simply lead according to some extraneous legal system, not according to Scripture, and therefore, they continually lead their congregations astray. My argument with all these sects (and I'm glad you pointed out that I criticize the Jews as much as I do anyone else) is that **people who don't read God's Word don't know God**, and that's all there is to that. However well-intentioned any clergymen may be—and some of them are exemplary community leaders, morally decent, and deeply committed to their ministries—they simply cannot get it right or even close to right without consulting the Bible.

And after spending a lifetime combating anti-Semitism, I'm really disheartened to have someone call me anti-Semitic. I'm not using tactics of the Ku Klux Klan or the Nazis; I'm simply begging my people—the Jews—to read the Word of God that they themselves wrote down and gave to the world. —Zola ★

*Moses and Zola go fishing in Heaven.*





# Ask the Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian



**Q** What is the origin of the Star of David emblem used on Israel's flag and general symbol of Jewry?



**A** The Star of David (*Magen David*, lit. Shield of David) is a national symbol for the Jewish State of Israel. Its shape, a hexagram formed by two interlocking equilateral triangles, adorns the State's flag. It's been around as a design element for over two thousand years, confirmed by archaeological discoveries in Israel.

Its name likely derived from the Psalms, e.g. 3 and 18, in which David wrote: "But You, O Lord, are a shield for me" and "You have also given me the shield of Your salvation." It gradually joined the menorah as an exclusive symbol that represents unity among Jews, a connection to Israel, that is, Jacob. But it doesn't appear to have been exclusively Jewish until the Middle Ages.

Many scholars have attributed deep theological significance to the symbol and others have tried to attach

occult connotations to it, but its origins as a Jewish symbol were nationalistic and not occult.

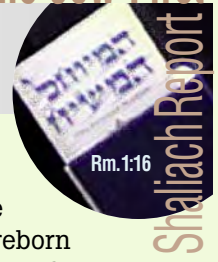
**Q** I want to find a Greek/Hebrew study Bible that doesn't require a degree in theology to understand. I have spent hours in Christian bookstores trying to decide but without success. My pastor uses a new translation like the NIV, but I want to know more about what was originally translated.

**A** If you mean you would like an English text that is a literal translation from the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament, then biblical scholars generally consider the [New American Standard \(NASB\)](#) to be the most literal translation. I suggest you also purchase a [Hebrew/English interlinear Old Testament](#) with the Hebrew text alongside the English text. Interlinear formats are also available in [Greek/English for the New Testament](#). You should find them all at [ChristianBook.com](#). ★



## Maggidim (Preachers) of Messiah

BY DR. TODD D. BAKER



As our **To The Jew First** team left the Jewish quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem, we met a sailor in Israel's navy. We stopped to encourage this brave, young man in his fight for freedom and democracy in the Middle East.

The sailor, **Nadiv**, was very receptive to our Gospel ministry. He seemed to soak in all that we told him about God's plan for Israel in the Messiah: It is laid out in the Bible and unfolding right before our eyes.



Our love and gratitude toward the Jewish people is best expressed by giving them the Good News from the Jewish Bible, namely showing them that Yeshua is the Messiah. Nadiv joyously accepted a study Bible in Hebrew that allows him to read about the Messiah in both the *Tanakh* and *B'rit Hadashah* (Old and New Testaments). Nadiv hugged us, thanking us over and over for our support for Israel and for telling him about the Messiah.

The next day while the other *maggidim* were inside to sign up and pay for the planting of trees in Israel, I lingered outside the National Jewish Fund building to speak with a young Israeli man, **Dolev** (*right*).

After we shared customary greetings, I told him that every time I come to

Israel and see again the regathering of the Jewish people in the reborn State, it reminds me that God keeps His promises to His people. The modern-day regathering is a fulfillment of many ancient prophecies in the Jewish Bible. (Isaiah 11:11–12; Ezekiel 37) Such a miraculous occurrence, I said, strengthens my firm belief in the God of Israel.

Dolev gladly concurred and was amazed that I come to Israel three times a year in a joyful obligation to return the greatest gift that God gave to me through the Jewish people: Yeshua the Messiah. The same Word that reveals Yeshua as the Messiah also tells me I am in debt to Israel for these spiritual riches. (Romans 15:27) I explained to Dolev that the best way for me to repay my spiritual debt is to give him the complete (both Old and New Testaments) Jewish Bible in Hebrew for him to read for himself.

Dolev seemed to appreciate our conversation. As he took the Scriptures from me, I prayed for the Holy Spirit to open his mind and heart to understand the central theme of the Jewish Scriptures—that the Father above sent Yeshua to bring the New Covenant of salvation to the People of Israel. ☆





## Top Israeli Inventions (31–37)

BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN (r) / Israel21c.org



The enormous number of inventions and innovations that have taken root on Israel's soil over 66 years despite challenges of geography, size, and diplomacy has brought us drip irrigation, the cherry tomato, the Disk-on-Key, and much more.

Bloomfield Science Museum in Jerusalem curator Varda Gur Ben-Sheetrit said that hundreds of ingenious inventions were considered for the museum's Inventions, Inc. We continue our series of the top inventions highlighted at the exhibition, in no particular order.

31. **PrimeSense** allows digital devices to "see" in three dimensions and transfer control from remote controls and joysticks to hands and body. Provider of low-cost, high-performance 3D machine vision technologies for the consumer market.



32. **TaKaDu** provides monitoring software to leading water utilities worldwide. The product offers real-time detection and control over leaks, bursts, and inefficiencies. *(See related story on page 26.)*

33. Hewlett Packard (HP)'s **Indigo digital printing presses**—for general commercial printing like photos, publications, labels, flexible packaging, and folding cartons—print without films and plates, allowing for personalized short runs and changing text and images without stopping the press.

34. Cubital's **solid rapid prototyping machines** craft 3D models of engineering parts directly from designs on a computer screen. Think: automotive,

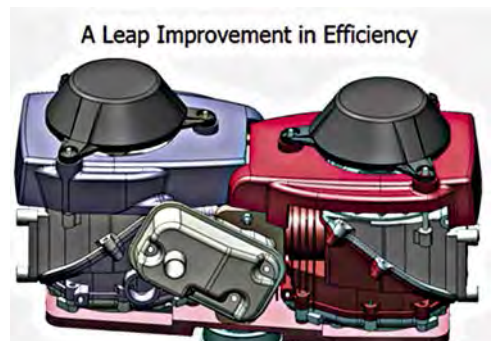
aerospace, medical industries, and academic and research institutions.

35. The **Zomet Institute** in Jerusalem is a non-profit, public research institute where rabbis, researchers, and engineers devise practical solutions for modern life without violating Sabbath restrictions on the use of electricity, e.g. metal detectors, security jeeps, elevators, electric wheelchairs, and coffee machines that can be used on *Shabbat*.



36. **EarlySense**: continuous monitoring allows hospital nurses to watch and record patients' vital statistics remotely through a contact-free sensor under the mattress. *(shown above)*

37. **TourEngine** significantly reduces fuel consumption and harmful emissions by common engines. Easily integrated with future hybrid engines to further improve their efficiency and environmental friendliness. *(shown below)* ★





# ZLM Bulletin Board

## Muslims Demand Right of Return...

...TO SPAIN!! Moors (Muslims from North Africa) invaded Iberia in 711AD and subsequently conquered most of what is now Spain. Christian Spain reconquered the peninsula as of 1492, the same year they expelled the Jews who had been in Iberia. Spain has now belatedly invited the descendants of the Jews who were expelled 522 years ago to return. Muslim supporters say they are entitled to the same rights of return, forgetting that the Muslims kicked out were hostile invaders while Jews who were expelled had lived there peacefully for more than a millennium. May this controversy inspire rethinking the Muslim claim of a "right of return" to Israel.



## "More beautiful than women, horses, and all other animals!"

Imagine an Arab beauty competition featuring million-dollar CAMELS with false eyelashes and lip filler. Welcome to the biggest beauty contest this side of Dubai, with exclusively male attendees. Visitors to this sprawling event, held annually in Liwa Oasis, United Arab Emirates, boast that their camels are more beautiful than any woman. The animals are pitted against one another in races, while their owners compete in milking contests. For pictures, videos, and the rest of the story, [click here](#).

## Donating Stock

Your accountant may advise avoiding taxes by donating shares of stock rather than the proceeds from liquidating them. Our ministry's E\*Trade account number is 6525-9638 and you can reach E\*Trade's customer service department at 800-387-2331. They ask that securities be mailed to:

E\*Trade Clearing, PO Box 1542,  
Merrifield, VA 22116

**For certified or overnight delivery, please use:**

671 N. Glebe Rd, 10th FL  
Arlington VA 22203

**Please provide E\*Trade or your broker with the following information:**

Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc.  
Tax ID Number 75-1680391  
E\*Trade Account # 6525-9638  
DTC #0385

E\*Trade's Routing # 056073573  
E\*Trade's telephone number is 1-800-387-2331.

Free Item

## Pamphlet of the Month

All women need to take control of their long-range financial and estate plans.

The free pamphlet

**Questions & Answers About Estate Planning for Women** answers eight core questions.

Here are some of its tips.

Even a married woman needs a separate plan, of which joint ownership can play a part.

Spouses should have separate plans that complement each other.

When marital status changes, it's wise to review the will, life insurance beneficiaries, and retirement plans.

To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

## "Come Home!"

Zola  
Tours to  
Israel



See [page 36](#)  
for details



# Hebrew Lesson

## Theology of Flowers

By John J. Parsons



אֲדֹנָי מְעוֹן אֲתָהּ הָיִיתָ לָנוּ בְּדֹר וָדֹר

“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.” (Psalm 90:1)

אֲדֹנָי מְעוֹן אֲתָהּ הָיִיתָ לָנוּ בְּדֹר וָדֹר  
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va-dor be-dor la-nu ha-yi-ta at-tah ma'on A-do-nai  
 in all generations for us have been You a dwelling O Lord

**“Why are you so anxious? Take a lesson from the wildflowers...** They neither toil nor spin, yet even Solomon in all his royal glory was not arrayed like one of these ... And if your Heavenly Father gives such attention to the appearance of flowers, many of which grow in unseen places, surely He will attend to you, too” (Matt. 6:28–30). So take a deep breath. Don’t let worry blind you to God’s ongoing care; don’t live as those without faith. You have a place in your Father’s heart; you have a share in His house above. See the Lord as your Dwelling Place “in all generations”; behold His unchanging glory despite the fleeting shadows of this world.

We must first look to the Eternal to rightly see the finite; we must look upward before we look downward. As we contemplate God’s Eternality and power, we realize the wonder and sanctity of our short time here. The Eternal is our refuge, our “dwelling place,” in all generations, and that means in the *present* generation as well, on the other side of fleeting appearances of this world. When we pray to God as *Avinu She-bashamayim*, “Our Father in Heaven,” we are calling to the One who (ש) is in the midst of the waters (ים) of life.

The psalmist says (Psalm 118:17): “I shall not die, but live.” In order to live, you must give yourself to death, but when you have done so, you discover that you are not to die, but to live. “Giving yourself to death” here means *surrendering* to God’s will, *accepting* the yoke of Heaven, and *trusting* in His governing “flow” over all of Creation. This is the deeper meaning of “baptism” as we are immersed into God’s care for our lives. Yeshua gives us abundant life.

The bloom of every flower is by Eternal purpose, and not one common sparrow is forgotten by your Heavenly Father (Luke 12:6). God’s irresistible providence comprehends and orders all things, from the realm of the subatomic to the cosmic motions of the heavenly bodies. The Lord is the Center of reality: “All things were created by Him, and for Him, and in Him all things *hold together*” (Col. 1:16–17). In light of this, Blaise Pascal asked, “What is left for us but to unite our will to that of God Himself, to will in Him, with Him, and for Him the thing that He has eternally willed in us and for us.” In other words, what else can we do but learn to trust, accept, and to say “yes” to life—even if at times we may feel like strangers in exile. All our days are ordained; recorded in God’s scroll. Therefore, may God “teach us to number our days to get a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12). **So don’t lose heart, friend; He who cares for you is a Good Shepherd, and you shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.** ★



## *Ruth: Your People Shall Be My People* Eight TV programs on 2 DVDs

We follow the famous love story verse by verse and watch as Israeli actors re-enact it in Hebrew. Myles and Katharine Weiss explain the biblical characters' journey from darkness to destiny, and Messianic Israeli Arie Bar David clarifies Israelite culture at the time of Ruth. Sasha and Anya Poberejny provide the uplifting music.

**THE COVERING** Naomi and Ruth's journey from Moab to Israel. God is bringing Jews and Christians together as in the first century.

**ROAD TO BETHLEHEM** After ten years of famine, Naomi returns to Israel. Her faithful daughter-in-law declares, "Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God" (Ruth 1:16).

**FINDING THE REDEEMER** Naomi and Ruth arrive in Bethlehem at harvest time. The romance between Boaz and Ruth begins.

**BREAKING OF BREAD** Boaz asks Ruth to break bread with him. Our heavenly Father invites us into a relationship through His Son, Jesus (the Bread of Life). The story of Ruth and Boaz bears a similarity to the relationship of Myles and Katharine—Jew and gentile in the harvest field of the Lord.

**VIRTUOUS WOMAN** Naomi sends Ruth to Boaz's threshing floor where he promises to take care of her.

**KINSMAN REDEEMER** Boaz desires to be Ruth's husband. However, a closer relative must be consulted first.

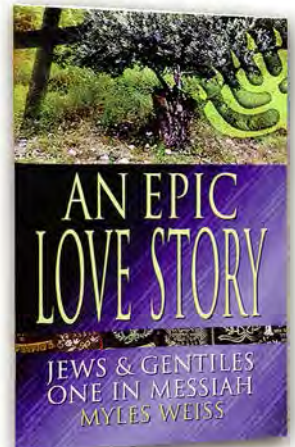
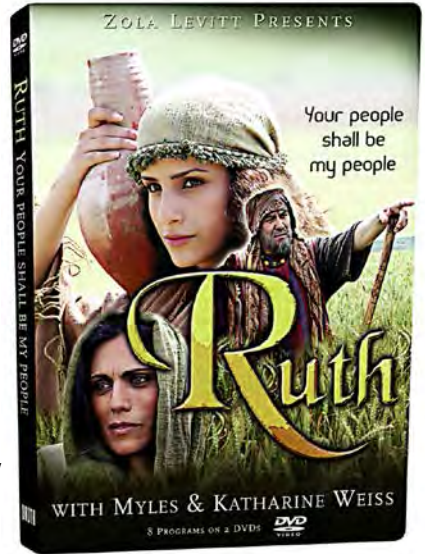
**REDEMPTION** God included gentile Ruth into the family of Israel and lineage of the Messiah. Ruth's story pictures the full restoration for us due to the blood of Yeshua.

**FUTURE OF HOPE** Ruth and Boaz get married and raise a family. Naomi's life changed from tragedy to restoration and hope. Yeshua wants to do the same for us.

### ***An Epic Love Story***—study booklet by Myles Weiss

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

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





# Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies

## By Dr. Zola Levitt & Dr. Jeffrey Seif



We've prepared a 12-course study that is a unique blend of Jewish and Christian perspectives. There now is a way you can master important subjects without having to pack up and go off to seminary. Each course comes in a three-ring binder with CDs, easy-to-follow outline, and a mail-in test. We'll evaluate your tests and encourage your progress as you enrich your walk with the Lord. Complete the 12 courses and receive a handsome diploma with your name in calligraphy.

**Zola Levitt**, a Jewish believer, was best known as the host of the weekly national television program *Zola Levitt Presents*. He was also a widely published author, with some fifty books in several languages, and conducted regular tours to the Holy Land.

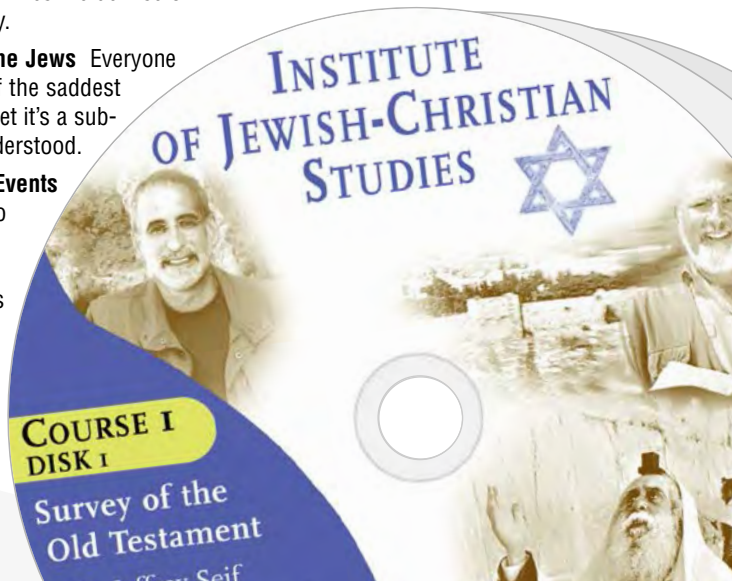
**Dr. Jeffrey Seif**, Messianic believer and co-host of *Zola Levitt Presents* for five years, is an ordained minister and an expert on subjects related to Israel, Jewish people, and prophecy. **The 12 courses include:**

- 1. Old Testament Survey** After mastering this study, you will have an understanding of the background and chronology of the entire Old Testament.
- 2. New Testament Survey** Your understanding of the New Testament will blossom through the teaching of Dr. Levitt and Dr. Seif.
- 3. Jewish History** Those who love history and the Jewish people will no doubt consider this one of the series' most fascinating courses.
- 4. History of Modern Israel** This course teaches about one of the great miracles of modern times—how Israel became a nation in the worst of global conditions.
- 5. Comparing and Contrasting Jewish and Christian Theology** In this course, Dr. Seif and Dr. Levitt examine key Scriptures and doctrines showing both the Jewish and Christian perspectives.
- 6. Messiah in the Law of Moses** Where and how did Moses speak concerning Jesus? That is the question, and this course will give the answers!
- 7. Messianic Prophecy** After this course, the student will be able to use Old Testament prophecy to evaluate Jesus' claim to be the Promised One.
- 8. Between the Testaments/Origins & Demise of the Pharisees** This course examines what happened during the 400-year gap between Old and New Testaments.
- 9. Judaism Today** This interesting and thought-provoking study will help you to better understand your Jewish friends, neighbors, etc.
- 10. The First-Century Church** The New Testament is very much a Jewish story, and the first church was Jewish. This course examines the demise of early Hebrew Christianity.
- 11. Church History & the Jews** Everyone will consider this one of the saddest courses ever studied—yet it's a subject that needs to be understood.
- 12. Israel & End Time Events** In a fitting conclusion to the series, Dr. Levitt and Dr. Seif put the focus on the chronology of events related to the Rapture and beyond.

**All To The Jew First workers complete this course. It will strengthen your own witnessing.**



**Sign Me Up!** ▶



## The First Christians Music CD & More!

This lovely instrumental music, taken from the video series of the same name, will take you back in time to the Israel Jesus knew. (The songs on this album are included in [The Works II](#) collection.) To hear segments of the songs on The First Christians, or to purchase them individually or as an album in MP3 format, click [here](#). To purchase the CD, click [here](#). Although the video series is out of production for purchase, it is still available for viewing—for free and whenever the mood strikes you—on our website. Click [here](#) to begin your journey to first-century Israel.



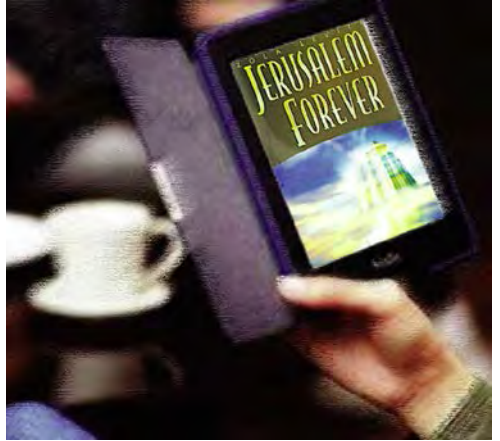
1. The First Christians Theme
2. Fields Ripe To Harvest
3. Rain On Jerusalem
4. Communion On The Mount
5. Dawn Over Galilee
6. The Cup Of Praise
7. Old Ways To New
8. The Marketplace
9. Oasis In The Desert
10. Wilderness Wanderings
11. Springs Of Living Water
12. We Are His Possession

*Zola considered this album to be one of his best!*

## Zola's eBooklets

People who want to carry Zola's booklets with them on their phone, iPad, or Kindle can choose from 20 eBooks currently available online.

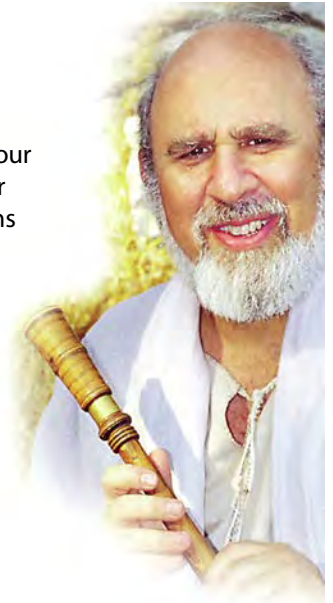
Users of **Apple** products will find the iBookstore a convenient means to purchase and install books. First, get the free iBookstore app from your device's App store, then search iBookstore for "zola levitt" to find our books.



[Amazon Kindle versions](#) are readable on almost all platforms using the free Kindle readers. And it will bookmark your page across your devices.

## Zola's MP3 Music

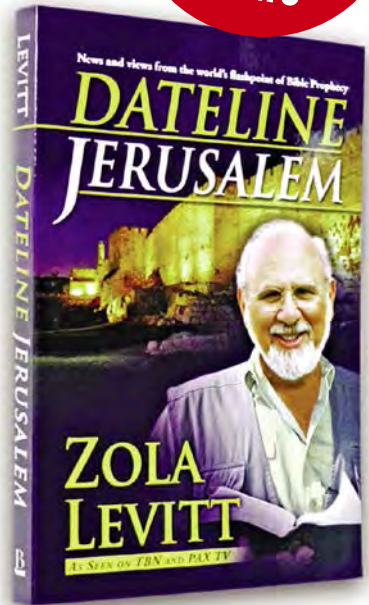
Zola's inspired music—the same melodies that you hear on our TV programs—is coming to Amazon. Purchase MP3 album or individual song after sampling your selection. Several albums are already available, and all 21 albums will soon be listed. CDs are available in our [web store](#).





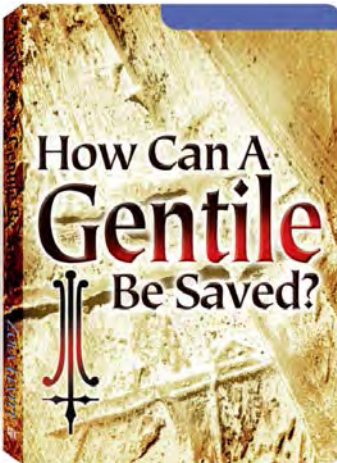
## Zola's Final Book: *Dateline Jerusalem*

"News and views from the world's flashpoint of Bible Prophecy." From insights into media bias, to Israel's proper role in world affairs, *Dateline Jerusalem* is packed with hard-hitting analysis plus new and startling information. What is the Palestinian agenda? Will Israel survive in today's hostile climate? Can America win the war on terror? What end-times events are around the corner? After giving his own testimony, Zola devotes chapters to the Jews, Muslims, Palestinians, government, media, education, churches, End Times, and questions and answers. If you like the *Levitt Letter*, you will adore this book. Unconditionally guaranteed—until the Rapture, that is.



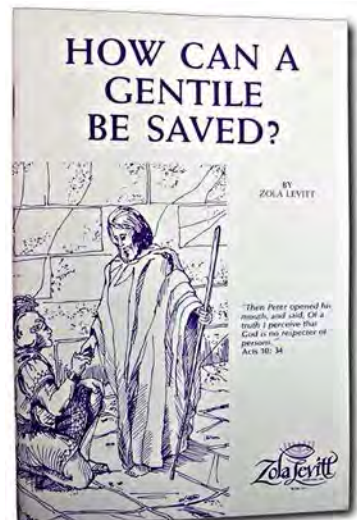
*Zola in his usual hard-hitting style! A "must-read."*

## *How Can a Gentile Be Saved?* Study booklet and/or audio CD



As a Jew, Zola was constantly asked, "How did you get saved?"—as though Jewish salvation is hard to find in Scripture. In this thought-provoking Bible study, Zola turned the tables by asking, "How Can A Gentile Be Saved?" An interesting, unique look at grafting non-Jews into God's plan. The study booklet (r) is one of twelve booklets from Zola's Classic Study Library.

*This study booklet (r) is one of twelve booklets from our popular, easy-reading Zola's Classic Study Library.*





# Five Minutes Inside Eternity

Back to page 1

BY MICHAEL BROWN, Ph.D. (r) ChristianPost.com



**Leonard Ravenhill** (20th-century evangelist) once wrote, “Five minutes inside eternity and we will wish that we had sacrificed more, wept more, grieved more, loved and prayed more, and given more.”

Yes, the moment we step into eternity and see the unveiled glory of God, the fullness of the beauty of Jesus, the immensity of the grace that was poured out on us, the massive debt that was paid on our behalf, the endless splendor of the world to come, and the horrors of judgment that we have escaped—yes, “five minutes inside eternity” we will wish that we had been more devoted to the Lord.

## Who will not wish that we had told more people about the Savior?

- That we had loved others more?
- That we had really explored the possibilities of faith?
- That we had walked in greater intimacy, greater obedience, and greater devotion?
- That we had taken full advantage of the opportunities set before us?

Who among us will not think, “If only I had truly grasped the infinite resources of my heavenly Father, I would have trusted Him more and taken advantage of the power of prayer!”

But we will not wish that we had spent more time watching TV, playing video games, and surfing the Internet.

- We will not wish that we had given our hearts more to sports and other entertainment.
- Or stored up earthly treasures rather than invested them in God’s work.
- Or put even greater emphasis on outward appearance while neglecting our inner self.

- Or cared more about what people thought than what God thought.

If only we could have the perspective of eternity written on our hearts even now! Of course, we will not make any spiritual progress by beating ourselves up. But there is nothing stopping us from seeking the Lord with holy desperation, asking Him to help us live lives worthy of His name.



## There is nothing stopping us from refusing to waste our time when we could be spending it fruitfully with our Father or with others.

There is nothing stopping us from asking the Lord to break our hearts with the things that break His heart.

There is nothing stopping us from praying that He would ignite within us a fresh love for Jesus. In fact, why not stop now—even for five minutes—and cry out to God to help you live your life in a way that makes sense in the light of eternity.

And then do it again the next day and the next and the next.

Five minutes inside of eternity, you will be eternally grateful that you did. ✨

*God is using Dr. Michael Brown, a respected scholar among the Messianic Believers, to make the Jewish case for Yeshua on the world stage. Leonard Ravenhill’s writing dispenses a treasure of Godly wisdom. —Myles*





# Letters to ZLM

Ministry products and TV programs are available on our web store: [store.levitt.com](http://store.levitt.com).

## Comments from [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)

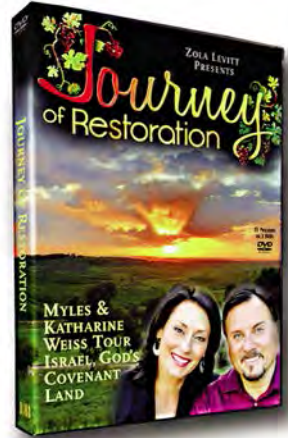
**From R. and J.G. (TX):** Thank you for your great teachings and the love that we feel flowing through the TV from you to us.

**From M. and R.B. (CA):** We love that you “bring us with you” to tour the places in Israel where we cannot go until our Savior returns.

**From S.A. (CA):** I enjoyed the *Journey of Restoration* series and wished it would never end.

**From Rev. P.vB.:** May the Lord bless you for your ministry and the beautiful view of Israel you’re sending out in *Journey of Restoration*.

**Shalom to: R. and J.G., M. and R.B., S.A., Rev. P.vB.,** and all of our viewers and readers who have joined in the chorus of kind words regarding our ministry. What a blessing to hear how meaningful it has been to “come on a study tour” with us from your home. Thanks to our *Journey of Restoration* series, many members of the ZLM community who cannot come with us physically have been able to enjoy a pilgrimage through video. Many letters have mentioned this opportunity to travel vicariously. We ask that as you remember the series (or enjoy it again at [levitt.tv](http://levitt.tv)), please pray for us, the ministry, the Holy Land, and above all, *Sha’alu Shalom Yerushalayim*—Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem. Many blessings to you all—Myles and Katharine



Myles & Katharine  
on new Zola Levitt  
Presents set.



## Good Stewardship

Dear Friends at ZLM,

I want to thank you for your quality programs. I really enjoy the tour of Israel shows—[Journey of Restoration](#).

Enclosed is a donation to help with your programming expenses.  
—D.F. (AZ)

Shalom, D.F.—

First, thank you for your generous donation. As you know, we do not have a large funding organization behind us, so we continue our ministry based on gifts of funds from people like you—members of the Body of Messiah all over the world. Zola began this work on that basis, and we continue trusting the Lord to provide.

We deliver a significant, clear message to the Church and to the world: We stand with Israel (Genesis 12:3) and with the Body of Messiah in Israel (Galatians 6:10). Furthermore, we preach the Word in the protocols of Scripture (Romans 1:16) “to the Jew first” and to the world. We also contribute to alleviating social ills through our benevolence funds, including helping with *aliyah* (Jews moving home to Israel), and providing for the poor, the refugees, and the orphans.

*Zola Levitt Presents’* new studio (pictured left) is sharp looking and provides a friendlier environment for the crew with more space for their equipment. It took a long time to find one very close to the cost that we were paying previously, so this move represents a wise and judicious use of donations.

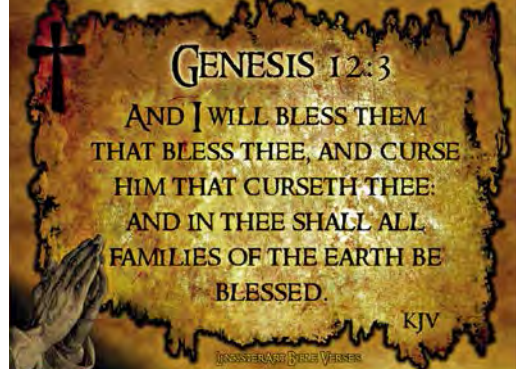
We can thank CEO Mark Levitt for appropriate management of funds, and Producer Ken Berg for his diligence in searching for the right site. (Please see cover story sidebar.) I mention these activities to assure you that your contribution will be used judiciously.

We still need other donations like yours in order to produce the cutting-edge programs that are currently on the “drawing (story) board.”

Blessings on your house.

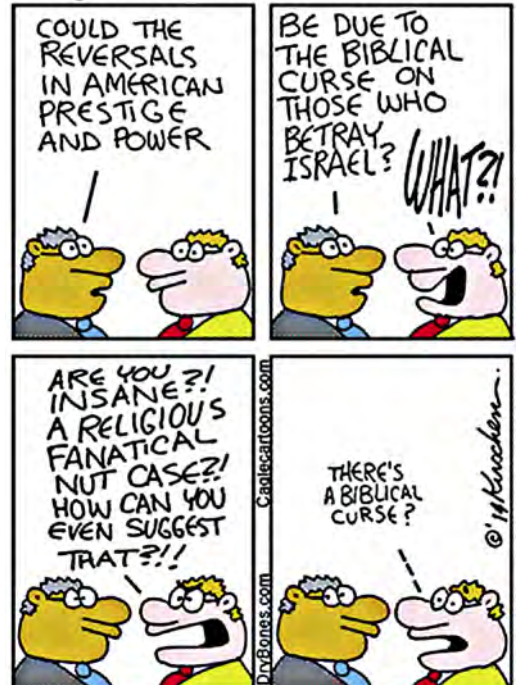
—Myles and Katharine

“We stand  
with Israel.”



## Dry Bones

Genesis 12:3





## Reaching Out In Love

Dear ZLM,

With Christian love and sadness I request my name be removed from your mailing list. Your response to L.M.P. ([Dec 2013 p.25](#)) seemed to mock this Believer's serious questions over your discernment concerning the Roman Catholic Church. I wonder how a RCC priest, if he truly understands the Gospel, can stay in the RCC and by his very presence in it give credence to the many blasphemous and corrupt teachings such as transubstantiation and purgatory. I understand what the RCC teaches very well, and I have loved ones held captive in it to this day.

I would never donate to a ministry that held to Replacement Theology, and I would never give to a ministry that would in any way condone the RCC. Yes, praise God, people who are in the RCC can be saved. But, they should be encouraged to come out of it and join with other Believers in a Bible-preaching church.

I encourage you, as your sister in Christ, to be very careful in these "last days" that in a desire to be loving and inclusive, that important boundaries remain clear. —P.S.DeV.

Dear P.S.DeV.—

I am saddened to remove

you from our mailing list. Since I consider our *Levitt Letter* a gold mine of sound thinking and important articles, canceling your subscription is a great loss for you.

I am also disheartened that you completely misunderstood my response to L.M.P.'s inquiry about my view of the Roman Catholic Church. I didn't mock L.M.P.'s concerns. I take the issues of unity (Psalm 133/John 17) very seriously, always reaching for those within any organization who choose to align themselves with the Gospel of Yeshua in a substantive way.

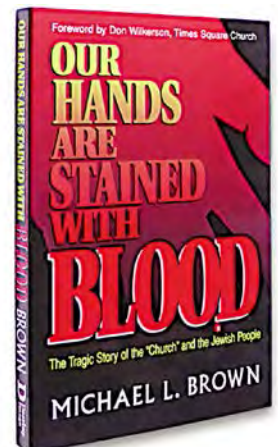
If anyone has a right to bear grudges and not forgive Catholics, certainly I do as a descendant of Abraham whose people were subjected to the centuries-long effect of Catholic persecution, expulsion, and genocide (e.g. the Spanish Inquisition) against the Jews. I choose not to, hoping that, like the Apostle Paul, by being "a servant to all men, I might win some" (1 Corinthians 9:19–23).

Recognizing the serious and potentially negative role that the RCC may play in the End Times, it is even more important to make this reach in love. Have you heard of Toward Jerusalem Council II? This brave group of Jewish and gentile ministry leaders has worked behind the scenes for years seeking reconciliation for the tragic history of the Church vis-à-vis the Jews.

Have you read *Our Hands are Stained with Blood* by Dr. Michael Brown? It documents the horrific side of Church history (Catholic and Protestant) toward the Jewish people. In spite of all the bloody history, at some point we need to forgive and seek proactive solutions and points of unity to prevent further catastrophe. I hope you can hear me. My eyes are open, but I want to walk in love to the best of my ability in the Lord.

*Shalom* —Myles

Sorry for your loss



## A Muslim Reader

Shalom/salaam Myles,

You and I are both sons of Abraham (A.S.\*), and the hostilities seriously need to stop. I am seriously offended by your Islamophobic propaganda in the *Levitt Letter*. Hamas, [long list of Muslim terrorist groups], Hezbollah, Taliban, or Al-Qaeda DO NOT speak for the whole worldwide *jamaat* [Muslim community]. The Koran doesn't teach us to hate Jews or Christians (*ahlul kitab*\*). Yahweh is Allah and the other way around... *La ilaha ill Allah*—No god except Allah (Yahweh). I am deeply offended by the actions of my Muslim brothers.

Yahweh *al-Ilah*\* sent Yeshua *Alayhi Salam* to be His Messiah and Kinsman Redeemer of Israel. God sent His last Kinsman Redeemer Mohammed Ben Abdullah (S.A.W.S.) to be His last messenger.

We need to emulate our father Abraham (*Alayhi Salam*). Ishmael and Isaac got along because they were sons of Abraham (A.S.), one of these examples is that they both buried their father (A.S.). We should use their example. Shalom —D.R. (TX)

\*Muslim abbreviations are scattered throughout their written and spoken word:

A.S. also S.A.W.S. is short for *Alayhi Salam* (May the blessings of Allah and peace be upon him.)

*ahlul kitab* = people of the Book

*al-Ilah* = the deity

Shalom/salaam D.R.—

Your letter is disconcerting because it is subtly imbued with mixture. I am VERY grateful to hear a Muslim friend espouse the “moderate” attitude that you express, even stating that the Koran does not teach *jihād*. Unfortunately, yours is a minority voice in the world today. Others may believe as you do but are afraid to state it. Thus, we are left with the effects of more-radical (some would say orthodox) Islam, whose five pillars include *jihād*.

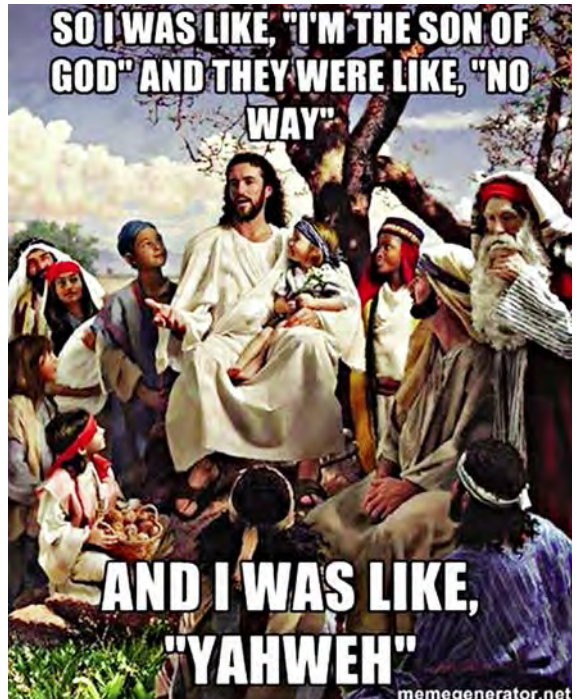
You say that God sent another prophet, Mohammed Ben Abdullah, after Yeshua (Jesus, Issah) as a final prophetic voice to humanity.

On that we completely disagree. Yeshua is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” All sons of Abraham—both Isaac’s and Ishmael’s seed—will know Abba through Yeshua. Period.

I pray that Yeshua will reveal Himself to you as the one and only Mediator between man and God. Real peace between us does not consist of symbolically burying Abraham together. Ephesians 2:14 and subsequent verses clearly state that it is Yeshua’s sacrificial provision that makes us “one.”

To a brighter future

—Myles ★



# Israel Shows CA How to Cope with Drought



SCIENCE: BY ALISA ODENHEIMER & JAMES NASH / Bloomberg.com

Six decades of providing water in a country that's 60 percent desert have made Israel a technological leader in the field. Desalination of seawater, reuse of treated sewage for agriculture, software warning of leaks, computerized drip irrigation, and careful accounting of every drop have become the norm in Israel, the world's 40th largest economy. Officials in drought-stricken California, which would be the 10th if it were a nation, are paying attention.

North of San Diego, Israel's IDE Technologies Ltd. is helping to build the largest seawater desalination plant in the Western Hemisphere. The facility in Carlsbad, when finished in 2016, will be able to provide 50 million gallons of potable water a day. Three smaller plants already operate in California, and 15 more have been proposed. About two-



Ashkelon's seawater reverse osmosis plant

thirds of California, home to 38 million people, is gripped by "extreme" or "exceptional" drought. Israel has been dealing with such conditions throughout its history. The climate has forced the country to go to unusual lengths to lower consumption and raise supply, methods it now uses as a matter of routine.

Desalination, which provides about one-quarter of Israel's water supply, wasn't the first step that Israel took on its way to increasing supply. Likewise, because of the expense and environmental concerns, desalination should be considered in California only after other measures are exhausted, said Katalyn Voss, a water policy fellow at the University of California at Irvine's Center for Hydrologic Modeling. These include recycling and careful accounting of both ground and surface water.

In Israel, 75 percent of the country's sewage is recycled, the highest percentage in the world. More than 50 percent of water used in agriculture comes from treated sewage. California's agriculture keeps it the top state in cash farm receipts with 11 percent of the U.S. total. Israel has also been able to lower leakage to less than 10 percent by using technology that monitors and warns of leaks and pipe bursts. About 25 to 30 percent of the world's water production is wasted because of faults in distribution, according to TaKaDu, an Israeli company that developed technology to minimize leakage. *(Please see story on page 14)*

The Carlsbad plant is a "game changer" in desalination in the U.S. and will pave the way to future plants in California, and the U.S. in general, said Mark Lambert, chief executive officer of IDE Americas. In the meantime, Californians should learn to conserve water, said Avraham Tenne from Israel's Water Authority. Raising prices, education to reduce waste, and cutting back on grassy areas are some of the methods that Israel has used to cut back on consumption, which is currently about 90 cubic meters per year per person compared with 170 in California.

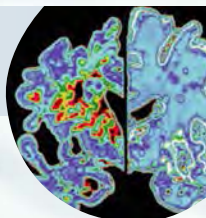
"We do a lot of things, not just desalination," Tenne said. "These are all things that California can do." ★





# Alzheimer's Cure: Stronger Immune System

MEDICINE: BY RUTHIE BLUM / Israel21c.org



Imagine being able to inhibit or reverse a universal affliction—brain degeneration—and specific diseases or physical injuries that cause its sudden onset. This is precisely what Prof. **Michal Schwartz** (*below*) has spent the last two decades studying, with revolutionary results.

Schwartz's research has turned pre-existing dogma about the central nervous system on its head. She holds the Maurice and Ilse Katz Chair in Neuroimmunology at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot. Her fierce drive kept her going in the face of opposition from peers who dismissed the hypotheses that sparked the last 20 years of her work. And her office wall displays professional recognition that her intuition about conventional neuroscience misinterpreting the communication between the brain and immune system was correct.

Schwartz explains that the central nervous system (made up of the spinal cord, brain, and optic nerve) controls the entire body, including the immune system. But because the brain is isolated from the immune system, neuroscientists believed that immune cells are harmful to the brain, and therefore should be kept away from it.

As a result, whenever a person suffered a spinal cord injury or a degenerative disease such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, or ALS—and his immune system immediately responded locally—doctors would prescribe anti-inflammatory drugs to prevent the immune cells from getting into and damaging the brain.

Prof. Michal Schwartz



Schwartz felt the prevailing wisdom was inherently illogical. "It was hard for me to believe that an organ that cannot be replaced would so severely lack a system to help it heal." Testing her hypothesis on mice, Schwartz and her team found that the dialogue between the brain and the immune system is unique.

"Think of a gate through which only those with a passport can enter," she says. "This 'passport' checks which cells may enter, and adjusts their activity so that they do what the brain needs them to do." From this understanding, Schwartz hypothesized that the immune system may perform day-to-day healing of the brain. "After all, the brain is always going out of balance, either due to positive activities or due to mini-traumas and stress, yet most of us regain equilibrium quite quickly. Something must be working to restore the balance in our brains. And that something is the immune system," she says.

As a result of Schwartz's understanding, the door has been opened to new research avenues in fighting age-related dementia and neurodegenerative diseases.

With the premise that the aging of the brain is a direct result of the aging of the immune system, Schwartz believes that maintaining a healthy immune system, rather than tackling the pathology of brain-related injury and illness, is the key to a reversal of conditions once deemed incurable. ☆

# Obeying When God Beckons—Rm. 8:28

BY GOLDY ROSENBERG / Chabad.org



The young girl stood near her father on the quay of a Polish harbor, a steamer trunk at her feet. Of her nine siblings, twelve-year-old Rose, the youngest, was the lucky child chosen to go to the “golden land,” America. Life in Poland was hard, hunger a constant visitor.

Her father hoisted the trunk and walked silently. Rose could see his effort to keep his emotions in check.

Her father dropped the trunk on the ship’s deck and bent his gray head over his daughter’s innocent face.

“Rose, my child, God is watching over you. Remember His laws and keep them well—more than the Jews have kept the Sabbath, the Sabbath has kept the Jews. Don’t forget who you are. Keep the Sabbath—no matter what sacrifice you must make.”

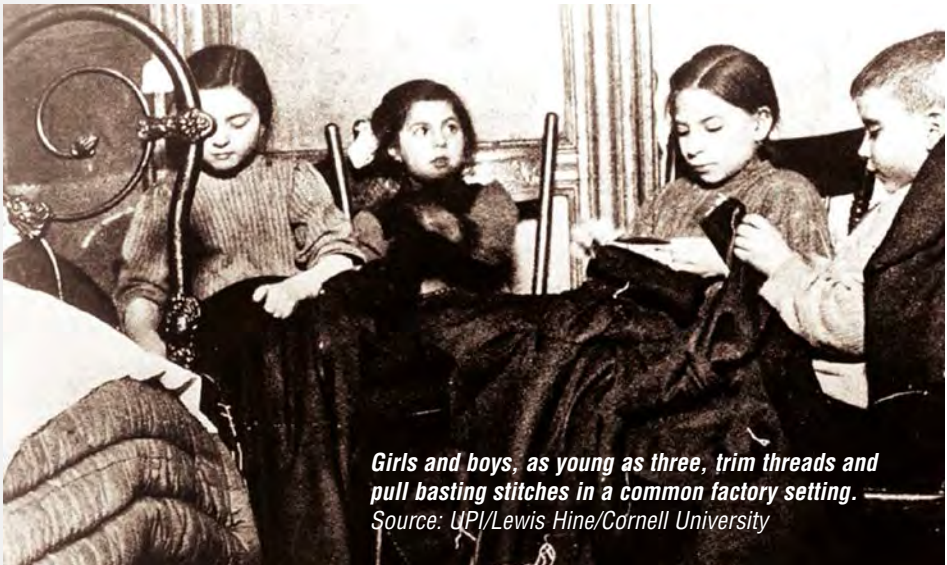
He bent down and hugged Rose again, squeezing the breath out of her in a hug meant to last a lifetime. Then he turned and walked down the gangplank. As the ship steamed away from the shtetl life of Poland, a fresh wind blew on the passengers preparing to start life anew.

In New York, Rose’s relatives soon ensconced her in their home. With her mature demeanor, it was not long before Rose found a job as a sewing machine operator.

Life in America was new. Polish mannerisms, clothing, and accent were quickly shed along with keeping kosher and Torah. Rose’s relatives insisted religion was an unnecessary accessory in America. Rose put on the new clothes and cut her hair to suit the fashion but never gave up the Sabbath.

Every week, Rose devised a new excuse to miss work on Saturday: a toothache, a sick stomach. After three weeks, the foreman called her over. “Rose, either you come in this Saturday, or you can look for a new job.”

*(continued next page)*



*Girls and boys, as young as three, trim threads and pull basting stitches in a common factory setting.*

*Source: UPI/Lewis Hine/Cornell University*

## Obeying... continued



Rose's relatives were adamant: work on Sabbath, she must. Rose felt like a leaf caught between gusts of wind, pushed and pulled with no weight of its own.

*I want to fit into this new land, she reasoned. But, how can I forget Sabbath?*

On Friday, Rose sat at her machine. *Would it be so awful to do this tomorrow?* As the sun slipped away, Rose knew: She was Jewish, and she would keep the Sabbath.

But Rose lacked the courage to face her relatives. Instead, she left the house next morning as if headed for work. In Tompkins Square Park, she sat among the pigeons, singing traditional Sabbath songs, tears in her eyes. When three stars finally peeked out from the black sky announcing the end of Sabbath, Rose had triumphed, but her victory would cost her dearly. Rose trudged home dreading the nasty scene when her relatives learned what she'd done.

As she neared home, a shout broke from her cousin Joe. "Rose! You're here? Where were you? There was a fire in the factory and no way out of the building. People even jumped to their deaths!"

Of 190 workers, Rose Goldstein was among the few who survived. The infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire on Saturday, March 25, 1911, claimed the lives of 146 immigrant workers. But, it was the Sabbath; Rose Goldstein was not there. As her father had said, more than the Jews keep the Sabbath, the Sabbath keeps the Jews. ★

***Fire fighters battle the flames at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire on March 25, 1911 in New York, New York.***  
 Source: UPI/Brown Brothers/Cornell University







*The Big Bang  
Theory*

## New Big Bang Evidence Supports Creationism

*Israel Today*

The recent announcement that scientists have confirmed the existence of gravitational waves rippling through the universe, thereby bolstering the Big Bang Theory, would presumably be a blow to those who believe in the Bible.

Not so, said Professor Nathan Aviezer of Israel's Bar Ilan University. "... the mechanics of the creation process in the Big Bang match the Genesis story perfectly. The universe had a definite starting point—a creation—as described in the Book of Genesis. To deny this now is to deny scientific fact."

Professor Aviezri S. Fraenkel of the Weizmann Institute noted that science is actually moving closer to, rather than farther from, the biblical account. Whereas ancient philosophers thought that the universe had existed forever, modern science now knows that "there is a definite beginning."

Fraenkel continued: "In fact, the modern theories, which don't yet explain all the observed cosmological facts, bestow new meaning to Psalm 92:6 'How great are your deeds, O Lord! Your thoughts are very "deep."'"

## Syrian Christians Ordered to Pay Jizya

By Richard Spencer / [Telegraph.co.uk](http://Telegraph.co.uk)

A militant Islamist group has demanded Christians living in Raqqa province in the northeast of Syria pay it a tax in return for protection as it seeks to build a traditional "Caliphate" in areas it controls. The Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) published the terms under which minorities could live under its rule in a statement on the Internet.



"Christians are obligated to pay jizya tax on every adult male to the value of four golden dinars for the wealthy, half of that for middle-income citizens, and half of that for the poor," the decree said. "They must not hide their status, and can pay in two installments per year." Four dinars weigh just over half an ounce of gold, worth about \$720.

In return, Christians will not be harmed and will be allowed to worship privately, maintain their own clergy without interference, and keep their own cemeteries, it added. They are implicitly allowed to continue drinking alcohol and eating pork, but may not do so publicly or trade them with Muslims. Nor may they build or renovate churches, or display the cross.

The demand carries weight because ISIS, which grew out of al-Qaeda in Iraq, has become the most feared militia in Syria. It has now been disavowed by Osama bin Laden's replacement as al-Qaeda leader, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and is effectively at war with the rest of the rebel movement. Raqqa—overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim—had a small Christian community, but much if not all of it has already fled.





## Los Angeles Gang Members Fight Alongside Hezbollah

MEMRI.org (The Middle East Media Research Institute)

Videos and images that surfaced recently show members of Los Angeles gangs fighting in Syria alongside pro-Hezbollah and pro-Assad forces. Two gang members, "Creeper," from the God Up-13 gang and "Wino," from the Westside Armenian Power gang, filmed themselves firing AK-47s and boasting of being on the "front lines." Wino, aka "Wino Ayee Peeyakan," whose real name is Nerses Kilajyan, uploaded the images and videos to his Facebook profile.

The images on Wino's Facebook page include multiple photos of him brandishing weapons; in one he is seen standing beside a Hezbollah operative, and in another he himself is wearing Hezbollah garb. Creeper is also photographed and filmed alongside Wino in multiple photos and videos posted on the page.

Judging by the photos, Wino seems to have been fighting in Syria since December 2012. Comments by Wino's Facebook friends suggest that the two were deported from the U.S. due to their involvement in criminal activity.

## Lockheed, EMC Join to Fund Israeli Technology

UPI.com

Lockheed Martin and EMC Corp. have joined to fund, research, and develop technology in Israel with local companies and organizations.

The cooperative effort for projects in cloud computing, data analytics, and cyber-technology, will be based in the Advanced Technologies Park in Be'er Sheva.

"Under the arrangement, Lockheed Martin and EMC will identify a series of development opportunities that can be contracted to Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and others," Lockheed said.

EMC, which is headquartered in Massachusetts, has more than 1,000 employees and maintains sales and research and development centers there. Lockheed Martin is headquartered in Bethesda, Md.

"Israel's entrepreneurial and academic communities offer a unique combination of talent, innovation, and pioneering spirit," said Orna Berry, vice president and general manager of EMC's Israel Center of Excellence. ★



# Man's Best Friend—and Fighter



BY NETA BAR-YOSEF / IsraelHayom.com

“Let us not underestimate the courage they showed at death, and let us not forget the heroic and courageous deeds they did in life. Despite obstacles, dangers, and pressure, they persevered, demonstrating the essence of friendship and sacrifice.”

Such soldiers’ eulogies are often carved on plaques or tombstones in military cemeteries. This one appeared in a military cemetery—for dogs, members of the Israel Defense Forces’ Oketz Canine Unit.

Established four decades ago, the Oketz’s highly trained dogs can attack, assist in manhunts, and locate explosives. Teams of a soldier and a dog take part in every operational activity of the military. Their training is long and complex; they must adapt to combat under all conditions, in all kinds of terrain—and, of course, soldiers must learn how to work closely with their canine partners.

Army officials recognize Oketz’s importance and invest in it. Its base is well-kept and the dogs enjoy hotel-like conditions: exercise room, spacious kennels, a high-tech veterinary clinic where they are examined regularly to stay in excellent health. The cemetery has a monument at the entrance depicting a soldier hugging his dog.

Together, teams go through the complicated training that enables the soldier to work with the dog and the dog to become a fighting machine. The dog’s training is Pavlovian in nature—only positive reinforcement and a great deal of love bring him to a high level.



The relationship between soldier and dog is amazing. Most even vacation together, for short weekends or a week-long furlough. The strength of the relationship can be seen in the way soldier and dog look at each other. Each knows that his life depends on the other. Oketz’s dogs prove themselves time and again. In most cases, the public never learns about their heroism. But there are many instances in which an Oketz dog saved an entire force from a booby-trapped area.

If a mission goes wrong and a dog is hit, the army’s supreme value—never leave wounded soldiers behind—applies to the dog as much as to the soldier. The dog’s partner and fellow soldiers will do everything in their power to save him. Soldiers also receive training in canine first aid.

Unfortunately, not every rescue attempt is successful. When the worst happens and a dog is killed in action, it is buried with ceremony in the base’s cemetery.

Wearing their berets, their eyes filled with tears and their words warm, the soldiers bury their fallen comrade. It is exactly like the lyrics of the well-known Hebrew song, “One Human Tapestry”: “If one of us goes away, something dies within us—and something stays with him.” ☆



# Petra and Celestial Events

ARCHAEOLOGY: PastHorizonsPR.com

During the winter solstice, the sun filters into the Monastery at Petra, Jordan, illuminating the podium (motab) of a deity. Just at this moment, the silhouette of the mountain opposite draws the head of a lion, a sacred animal. These examples from a study by researchers from Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias and CSIC (Spain) showed how celestial events influenced the orientation of the great constructions of the Nabataeans.

The results, published by the *Nexus Network Journal*, indicate that their palaces, temples, and tombs were erected bearing in mind the equinoxes, solstices, and other astronomical events that determined the Nabataean religion. The Nabataeans prospered in the first century BC and the first century AD in what is now Jordan and neighboring countries.

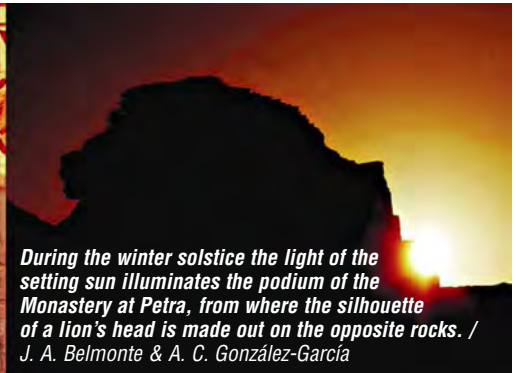
A clear example is seen in Ad Deir, the Monastery at Petra. During the winter solstice, the light of the setting sun entering through the gate of the monument illuminates the sacred motab where stone blocks representing divinities such as the god Dushara are placed.

*"The effect is spectacular, and would have only been observable during the few days closest to this solstice,"* commented Juan Antonio Belmonte, researcher of IAC and coordinator of the study.

Choose to visit Petra as an extension of Zola Tours fall study tour to Israel. [\(See page 36\).](#) ★



**The Monastery at Petra**  
Image: David Connolly



*During the winter solstice the light of the setting sun illuminates the podium of the Monastery at Petra, from where the silhouette of a lion's head is made out on the opposite rocks. / J. A. Belmonte & A. C. González-García*

# Top Israeli Apps for Kids

BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN / Israel21c.org



**Using mobile devices to keep children entertained and learning new skills is easier than ever, thanks to kid-friendly Israeli app developers. Find more by poking around app marketplaces.**

1. **TinyTap** — Parents, teachers, and children can design their own educational games or choose one from the TinyTap Social Market.

2. **My PlayHome** — Kids open the closets, turn on the TV and shower, fry an egg, pour drinks, blow bubbles, etc. in this virtual dollhouse that goes anywhere with no pieces to lose or break.



tots fascinated by trucks, diggers, tractors, trains, boats, ambulances, and

3. **sCoolWork** — Israeli startup Skills & Knowledge app to help students write essays better and faster. Format an assignment, check grammar and spelling, etc. Teachers give it a thumbs-up.

4. **Touchoo** — interactive children's-book apps on all kinds of devices. Buy one ready-made or use **Touchoo Creator** to create and publish your own, complete with animation and sound interaction.



5. **Ellie's Wings** — Coloring app lets children ages 2–7 draw symmetrical designs on the wings of an animated butterfly, bee, dragon, peacock, or unicorn. The creatures laugh, get excited, or faint in reaction to the choice of colors or decoration. And hand the child a towel if the virtual paint spills from the color palette, which doubles as a musical xylophone. Save drawings with camera icon.

6. **Ellie's Fun House** — highly interactive game for preschoolers. Activities and tasks to perform in six rooms, as well as in the garden, include: taking a bath, tidying the bedroom, making pancakes, picking flowers, brushing teeth, and more, all accompanied by sounds and graphics. The “day” ends by going to sleep with a satisfying snore.

7. **Trucks and Things That Go** — from Kids 1st Shape Puzzles, a virtual jigsaw puzzle for

planes—70 vehicles in all. Place the pieces correctly, get rewarded by hearing the vehicle's sound and its name pronounced in Hebrew or English.

8. **My Body** — teaches children the words for body parts in English, Spanish, and Hebrew.

9. **HowDo** — aims to answer the many questions curious kids have with the aid of 150 detailed photos and sound effects covering 54 topics. How

do butterflies form? How do rainbows appear? How is ice cream made? How does a letter dropped in the mailbox reach its destination? (Free and paid versions)

10. **Santa Rescue Saga: Doctor X Christmas Adventure** — (most popular free Christmas app in 2013) Lets kids heal Santa's cold, rescue him from a chimney or other sticky situations so he can get to children's homes Christmas Eve. From Israeli startup TabTale. ★





# Jewish Humor, etc.

## The Parking Space

Moishe is driving in New York City. He's late for a meeting, he's looking for a parking place, and can't find one. In desperation, he turns toward Heaven and says: "Lord, if You find me a parking place, I promise that I'll follow all of Your commandments and live my life as an exemplary Jew."

Suddenly, a place opens up just in front of him.

He quickly turns his face up to Heaven and says, "Never mind, I just found one!"

## Airplane Food

It is mealtime during a flight on El Al. "Would you like dinner?" the flight attendant asks Saul, seated in front.

"What are my choices?" Saul asks.

"Yes or no," she replies. ☆



*A cheerful heart is good medicine —*  
Proverbs 17:22



"I looked, and the Ten Commandments don't say anything about running with scissors!"







## “Matzoh” Postcards (12-pk)

Imagine receiving greetings on this unique postcard that’s made all of matzoh (Jewish unleavened bread). Unfortunately, matzoh is difficult to write on and doesn’t mail very well, so we’ve created a 6”x 6” postcard. One side is functional—with areas for postage, an address, and a message. The other quotes Isaiah 53:5: “He was pierced for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.”

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