

Levitt

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

Letter

**IDF Gets Divine Protection p. 14**

# Israel: A Light Unto The Nations

By David Rubin [IsraelNationalNews.com](http://IsraelNationalNews.com)

I've been writing a lot about the war in Gaza—the bombings, the tunnels, the rockets, and the human shields, not to mention the political intrigue—but one important topic seems to be getting lost in the shuffle: the remarkable nature of Israel's people.

After 2,000 years of exile, during which time only a remnant had the privilege to live in the Land of Israel, albeit under adverse physical conditions, the Jewish people have come home from the four corners of the Earth. Two thousand years of dwelling in other peoples' lands led to an enormous ethnic, religious, and cultural diversity in today's Israel, often leading to serious internal conflict on issues such as the military draft, defining acceptable social norms, and developing a constitution that could possibly be made acceptable to all.

*(continued p.2)*

## Gaza Must Get Rid of Hamas

By Bassem Eid  
[YNetNews.com](http://YNetNews.com)



**As a Palestinian, I must admit that I am responsible for part of the recent death and destruction in Gaza. Palestinians can no longer deny our responsibility for the death of our own people.**

**Most Gazans were against last summer's rocket fire on Israel, realizing that the rockets would not give us anything. The people called on Hamas to stop firing and paving the way for the death of its own people.**

**We knew that Hamas was digging tunnels that would lead to our own destruction. And Hamas knew that an attack on Israel**

*(continued p.3)*



# Israel: A Light Unto The Nations *continued from cover*

David Rubin former mayor  
of Shiloh



Despite all this, when the people of Israel are under attack, everyone bands together like a family in crisis. All other issues are put to the side and the success and welfare of our soldiers in their valiant struggle for Israel's survival becomes paramount. Teenagers spend much of their summertime performing volunteer projects, total strangers visit and comfort families that have lost children to the war and terrorism, and neighbors inquire about the boys and girls who have been wounded in the battle. The sense of caring beyond the call of duty is palpable among pedestrians in the street, in the bus stations, and on the train.

As much of the world is still unaware, Israel is a tiny nation of eight million people in a land barely the size of New Jersey, so the sense of family is still strong and the desire to help and to do good in times of crisis is unmistakable. From where does that sense of idealism derive? Perhaps it's a protective reaction or a rebellious streak responding to a world that has been trying in vain to destroy us Jews for thousands of years. Perhaps it's the optimism of our Torah, which says that we should always be trying to improve ourselves and to improve the world under HaShem's leadership.

In any event, the behavior of the average Israeli in wartime provides a positive example for the entire world. The evil Israeli concocted by the Islamic propaganda machine and perpetuated by gullible media around the world perversely caricatures the real Israeli, whose kindness shines through in difficult times.

These average Israelis are represented by the soldiers at the front, fighting the good fight for freedom against the Islamic tsunami, a tyranny that threatens not just Israel but all of Western civilization. Israel just happens to be the front line. If we are successful, this too will be a light unto the Nations.



May we merit and Elohim grant us a complete victory! ★





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## Gaza Must Get Rid of Hamas *(continued from cover)*



would lead to mass death, but its leaders are more interested in their own victories than in the lives of their victims.

Indeed, Hamas depends on death, which gives it power and allows it to raise funds and purchase weapons. Hamas has never been interested in liberating Palestinians. And Israel will never be able to destroy the infrastructure it has built. Only we, the Palestinian people, can do that.

It was the Gazan residents' responsibility to rebel against Hamas rule. We knew what they were doing to us, but we allowed it to happen. Will all this death teach us a lesson? I hope so. The lesson is that we must get rid of Hamas and completely demilitarize Gaza. And then open the crossings.

I say this as a loyal Palestinian. I make this plea because I am concerned about my people's future. ★



"HAMAS IS ISIS AND ISIS IS HAMAS. THEY ACT IN THE SAME WAY. THEY ARE BRANCHES OF THE SAME POISONOUS TREE. THEY ARE TWO EXTREMIST ISLAMIC TERRORIST MOVEMENTS THAT ABDUCT AND MURDER INNOCENTS, THAT EXECUTE THEIR OWN PEOPLE, THAT SHRINK AT NOTHING INCLUDING THE WILLFUL MURDER OF CHILDREN."  
—Benjamin Netanyahu

# “TRUE Islam”—A Recent Dialogue

Myles To Go  
By Myles Weiss  
ZLP Host



Dear ZLM,

Please REMOVE me from your mailing list immediately! I am deeply offended by the article in your August *Levitt Letter* (p.14) that degraded TRUE Islam and compared it with SATANISM! You apparently do not know what true Islam is about. True Muslims are loving, peaceful people who consider any type of lying a grave sin.

However, Shi'ite Muslims believe in terrorism and deceiving to advance Islam, but not TRUE Islam! Mohammed, peace be upon him (PBUH), like Jesus, was SINLESS! It hurts me deeply that you have such a negative view of TRUE Islam [Sunni].

I, as a Muslim, respect Jews and Christians as “People of the Book” that Allah (God) has delivered to His Prophets and Messengers. The Koran is the Final Message from Allah. Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), is just as much a Prophet as Abraham, Moses, and Noah (PBUT). Jesus was a Prophet, NOT GOD!

I tried to look past your hatred for Islam, because you are ignorant of the facts, but you have taken your ignorance TOO FAR! I implore you, learn the truth about TRUE Islam. Read the Noble Koran and pray to Allah (God) for understanding!

I support Israel in hopes that some of you will embrace Islam, which is the ONLY religion Allah (God) accepts. Although I refuse to read any more issues of *Levitt Letter*, I would like to receive a response from Myles or Katharine.

—Peace out, T.J. (PA)

Shalom /salaam T.J.—

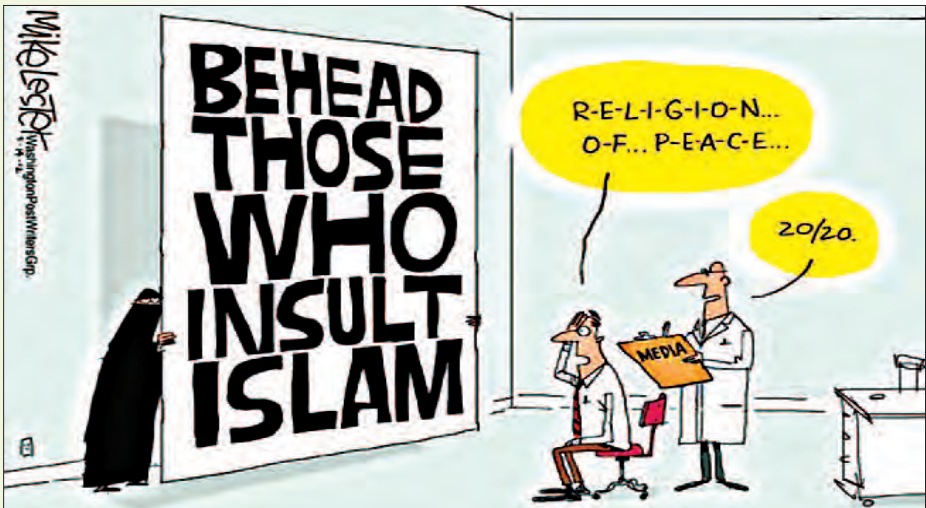
Wow! Where do I begin? We will remove you from our mailing list (which is your loss, I believe). You would be wiser to read and consider our point of view, just as I read and weigh the writings of Islam. I do want to answer some of your unusual views regarding faith in Yeshua, our ministry at ZLM, and even your own understanding of Islam.

We believe that Yeshua IS the God of Israel. The *B’rit Hadashah* (NT) declares that fact extensively.

**John 1:1** *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*

**John 1:14** *“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

*(continued next page)*





**John 5:18** "For this cause therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God."

**John 8:24** "I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins."

**John 8:58** "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I AM.'"

**John 20:28** "Thomas answered and said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!'"

**Col. 2:9** "For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form."

**(See also Philippians 2:5–11 and Hebrews 1:8).**

*"My Lord  
and my God!"*

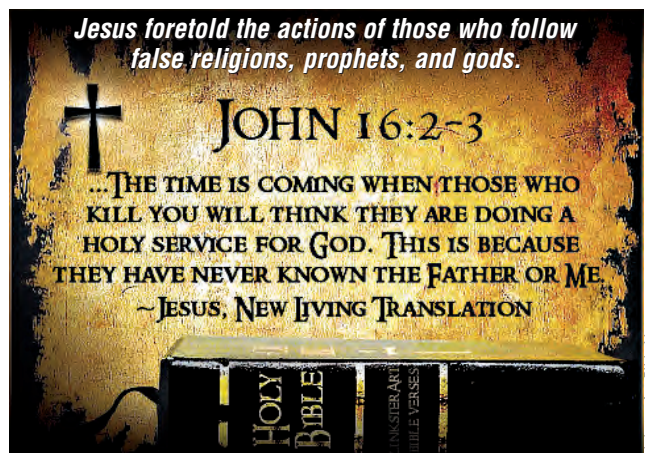
Abraham, Noah, and Moses were men, albeit patriarchs and prophets as you say, and I believe Mohammed was also just a man. Can I hold that view and remain in civil discourse with you?

I also believe that the Bible, not the Koran, is the final written revelation to man. Will Islam allow me that belief? Some Moslems (like you) will, hoping I will see the light of the Koran someday. I appreciate your tolerating my beliefs.

However, many Moslems believe that I am a *kafir* (infidel) whose fate is to be a *dhimmi* (second-class citizen) or to be driven from Moslem lands like today's Christians and Jews, or executed for failure to convert to Islam.

You claim a strong distinction between Sunni and Shia practice, stating that "true Islam" is Sunni, which considers "any type of lying a grave sin." That doesn't square with what I am seeing right now in suras (chapters) from the Koran (suras 16:106, 3.28, 9.3, 40.28, 2.225, 66.2, 3.54, 8.30, 10.21) and the Hadith (Bukhari 50:639, 52:269, 49:857, 84:64–65 and Muslim 32:6303) which allow *takiyya* (direct lying) and *kitman* (lying by omission) in the service of Allah.

Finally, if, as you claim, Sunni is true Islam and Shi'ite is false, would you please ask the Sunni 90%-of-the-world's-Moslems to SAY SOMETHING against the 10% Shi'ite who you believe are the only terrorists in our midst? It seems to me that a billion peace-loving Moslems could be a great help to the rest of humanity if they would only SPEAK UP against terrorism. Your silence is deafening... and deadly. Good-bye for now... and peace.



NOTE: At the time of this writing, the U.S. and a few other nations are debating how to stop ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq and Syria) from its continual slaughter, beheadings, and ethnic/religious genocide. This would be a helpful time for "peace-loving Moslems" to declare their solidarity with Jews, Christians, and other religious groups who oppose terror. Matthew 15:8 —Myles ★



# Stand on the Rock!

By Katharine Weiss  
ZLP Co-Host



You and I are witnessing the blatant undermining of our Judeo-Christian values. An example: California State University (with 23 campuses) recently moved to no longer recognize Christian clubs. Apparently, the clubs have the hubris to require that their leaders be Christians. I remember Jude's words:

***But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ... But you, beloved, ... keep yourselves in the love of God*** (Jude 1:17–21).

Jude, through the Holy Spirit, reminds Believers to build ourselves up in our most holy faith. Jude exhorts us to pray in the Holy Spirit and to "keep" ourselves in the love of God and looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we see institutions fall away into unbelief, Believers need to press into God for more intimacy with Him.

The verb "to keep" comes from the Greek verb *tereo*, "to guard from loss or injury by keeping the eye upon" the guarded object. God wants Believers to be responsible for building ourselves up with His character. Scripture illuminates ways that Believers can build ourselves in our most holy faith. Two examples are found in Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3.

***And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God*** (Ephesians 5:18–21).

Music and the Word play a big part in helping us grow into the likeness and image of Yahweh. Our Lord says in His word that He inhabits the praises of His people. When we praise Him, we are more aware of His presence around us. Studying the Bible and worshiping together win the victory over whatever the enemy of our souls uses to thwart our progress.

***But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts ... And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him*** (Colossians 3:14–17).

One of the first steps in this upward climb is an attitude of gratitude. Gratitude opens your heart to focus on what God is doing and helps Believers see His provision rather than what may be lacking. The Psalmist wisely penned, "We enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise" (Psalm 100:4).



We Believers need faith to stand in today's battles and tomorrow's as Messiah's return draws near. We require worship to keep our spirits awakened, and we must keep looking up, because our Salvation draweth nigh (Luke 21:28). ★

# Aging Treasures

**OUR MAN IN HAIFA** By Eitan Shishkoff (r) with wife Connie



I see them at the beach, bathing in the gentle waves of the bay, or sitting on benches that overlook the sea. I see them riding bicycles, unhurried, or navigating sidewalks with walkers. They are the senior citizens of Israel. Some survived the Holocaust, others fought for independence at the end of the 1940s. They helped carve this unlikely nation out of history. I honor them. Without them there would be no Israel.



Haifa and three of our bay cities scored among the top nine cities in Israel for having the highest percentage of senior citizens. Our milder climate and slower pace than Tel Aviv or Jerusalem welcome the aged. Of Israel's more than 8.18 million people, 842,540 are over 65. Only sixteen percent of our 65+ population were born in Israel. The others came in the early years of the re-born nation and in subsequent waves of *aliyah* (coming home). Among them, 210,000 Holocaust survivors account for one of every four elderly Israelis. Israeli life expectancy averages 82 years, on a par with such developed nations as France, Canada, and Switzerland. According to the Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute, our aged population is expected to double in the next twenty years.

**The Scriptures abound with commands to care for the elderly.** What is our biblical responsibility? It begins with the command to "Honor your father and mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you" (Exodus 20:12). Whereas most advertising glamorizes youth, God emphasizes the value of age: "Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained by a righteous life" (Proverbs 16:31).

The word "widow" (and its variations) occurs more than 80 times in the Bible. In Deuteronomy alone, the Lord repeats the command to care for widows in ten verses! Yeshua often demonstrated compassion toward widows; and James says, "Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world" (Jas. 1:27).

Our congregation has an increasing number of widows and widowers. Accordingly, we have initiated a fellowship group geared for our "golden age" members. These weekly gatherings include Bible study, prayer, worship, fellowship, festive meals, and occasional field trips. Our daughter congregation in Haifa, *Shavei Tzion*, holds holiday celebrations for Holocaust survivors throughout the year. These are modest efforts, but the fruit of wrinkled smiles and grateful hugs points to the joy of God's heart in seeing His older children who've returned to the land of their fathers. ★





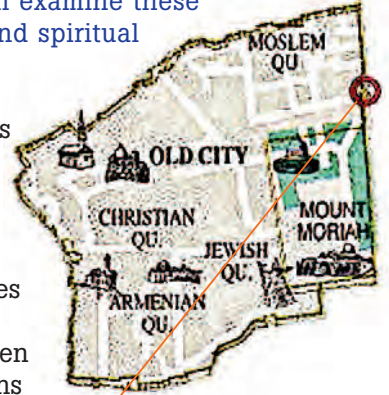
# The Gates of Jerusalem

PICTORIAL SERIES / Lions Gate



The gates of Jerusalem were more than passageways. They served as places for personal business and civic affairs. Some gates took their names from the distant cities they faced, like Jaffa and Damascus, and Shechem. Other names reflected purpose, like Fountain and Dung. We will examine these ancient passages for their historical attributes and spiritual meanings.

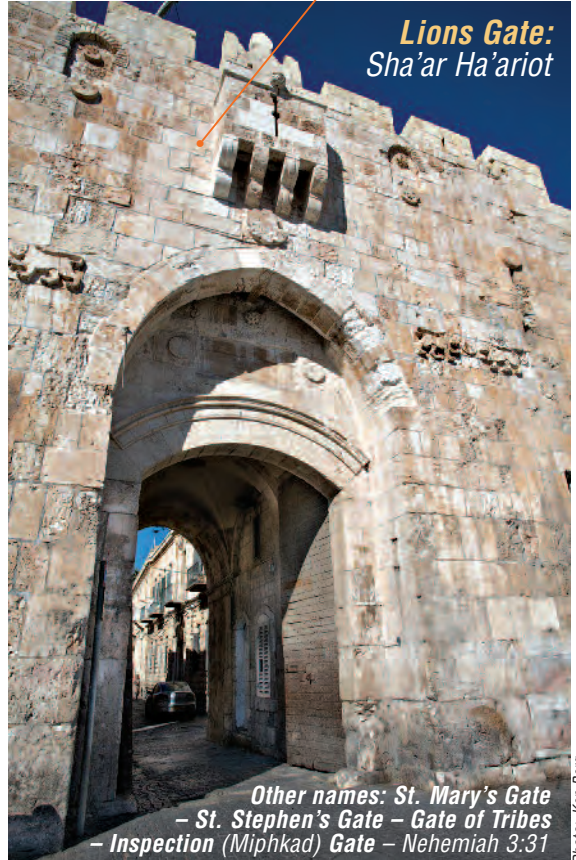
During Nehemiah's time (5th century B.C.), the gates into the city numbered 12. Seven of eight gates open into the Old City today. And Revelation describes 12 in the New Jerusalem.



The Old City of Jerusalem is surrounded by 2.5 miles of walls built by the Ottoman Sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent, in 1540. The Lions Gate is the only open gate facing east toward the Mount of Olives. It opens to the Moslem Quarter of the Old City.

The two "lions" carved on each side of the gate are actually panthers, the symbol of the Mamluk sultan Baybars (1223–1277). The panthers are believed to have been part of a Mamluk structure, placed at the gate by Suleiman to commemorate the Ottoman victory over the Mamluks in 1517.

**Lions Gate — *Sha'ar Ha'ariot*** was the point of entry for the Israel Defense Forces when Israel reunified Jerusalem in the Six-Day War (June 1967), a very important event for Jews because for the first time in centuries they were in possession of the Temple Mount and its Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism. Over the last few years, the walls of the Old City have been repaired, restored, and cleaned by the Israeli government in a \$5 million project.



**Lions Gate:**  
*Sha'ar Ha'ariot*

*Other names: St. Mary's Gate  
– St. Stephen's Gate – Gate of Tribes  
– Inspection (Miphkad) Gate – Nehemiah 3:31*

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Photo: Ken Berg

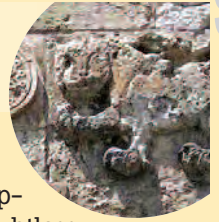
**St. Stephen's Gate:** Crusaders identified this gate with Stephen's name in honor of his martyrdom outside the city (Acts 7:58–60). However, Byzantines placed his death outside a northern gate.

Called the **Gate of the Tribes** by the Arabs, and the **Gate of My Lady Mary** by Christians, this structure on the east side of the city serves as one end of the Via

*(continued next page)*



## Gates... continued



Dolorosa, which passes down through gloomy archways to the bed of the Central Valley and ends at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Christian Quarter. The title Gate of My Lady Mary doubtless refers to the church and tomb of the Virgin Mary in the valley of Jehoshaphat nearby at the base of the Mount of Olives. A road from the gate leads down the very steep slope to the bottom of the Kidron, to Bethany and then to Jericho.

Lions Gate has a magnificent view of the Mount of Olives and the road to the ancient city of Jericho. Our Savior doubtless passed in and out of the Lions Gate as He journeyed to and from Bethany on His missions of love and mercy.

Many believe the Lions Gate is also the **Inspection Gate (Miphkad Gate)** mentioned by Nehemiah in 3:31.

As the Inspection Gate, it speaks to us of the *bema* seat (judgment seat) of Christ where our lives are inspected and rewarded appropriately. In our Christian experience, we should live with eternity in view, caring more for the eternal things of Heaven than for the earthly things that we see around us. Prophetically, this gate also speaks of the judgment of the Nations that will take place when Jesus returns. This is recorded in the sheep and the goats judgment in Matthew 25:31-46. ★

*1967: Entering Jerusalem through the Lions Gate. From the right, IDF Chief of Staff Yitzhak Rabin, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, and Jerusalem Commander Uzi Narkis. Gen. Rehavam Ze'evi's head is turned. (Ilan Bruner/GPO)*



*1967 War: IDF troops enter the Old City of Jerusalem through the Lions Gate*

# The Way, The Truth, The Life

CLASSIC NOTE FROM ZOLA / 1984: 30 years ago



**Accepting that salvation comes by knowing the Messiah, we all must ask ourselves how well we know Him.** Christians everywhere worship someone they call Jesus Christ, of course. But do we know the Jesus Christ that da Vinci painted in his “Last Supper” or the overwhelming Jesus Christ who confronted John on the Isle of Patmos (Rev. 1:10–18)? These two figures are remarkably different. Likewise, the Lord differs from denomination to denomination and even from church to church. And not just His appearance differs but His character as well. Occasionally we have remade Him to serve our own purposes and philosophies.

In my [Notebook](#), I characterize Jesus as we have remanufactured Him and as He is characterized in the Gospels, the true Messiah. The term “remanufactured” comes from auto parts. We have all seen, over time, that steel becomes aluminum and aluminum becomes plastic. The remanufactured parts are generally cheaper and are more appropriate for our needs. But when we remanufacture the Lord, we are playing with eternity.

I borrowed from J. B. Phillips’s [Your God Is Too Small](#) a number of remanu-

factured Christs who have been worshipped over the centuries in various churches. I also characterized some Christs I personally observed. Phillips first complains about Christ the “resident policeman” who guilts us into pretend humility and modesty. The policeman is ever ready to condemn us, and the object of life is to behave so modestly that he looks the other way.

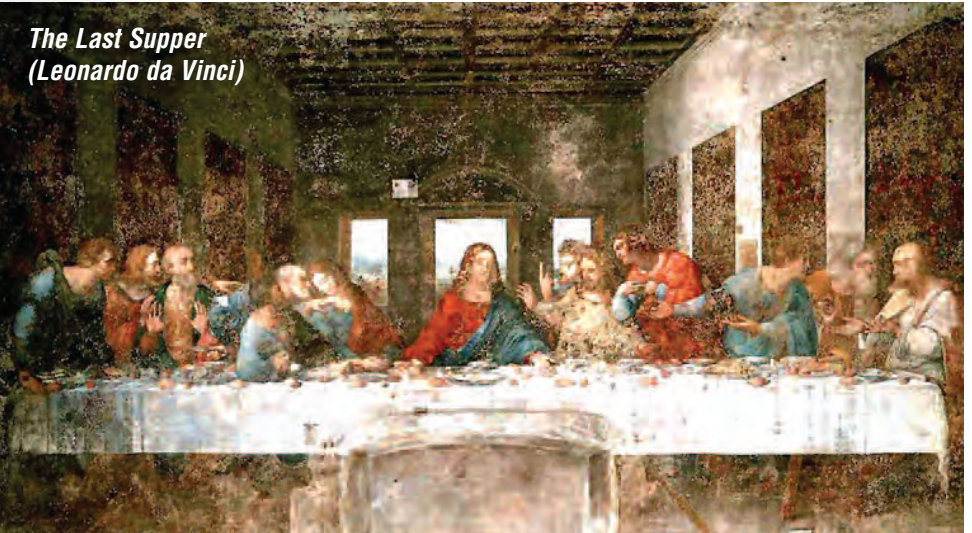
This philosophy demeans the true Messiah who forgave the adulteress, the thief, and even the soldiers who crucified Him. It makes the Giver of grace a mere enforcer of law.

Phillips also objected to the Christ who is “gentle, meek, and mild.” This well-intentioned description is not scriptural but seems designed to make Christians inoffensive. We are to be trusted because we follow so reticent and retiring a savior. But this certainly does not describe the Messiah who threw over the moneychangers’ tables in the Temple and was capable of unfathomable depths of sorrow and pity!

In modern America, the Messiah has been remanufactured as a Western man, capitalistic in his dealings and teachings. He has lost His purebred Israeli characteristics somewhere along the way. Our

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

*The Last Supper*  
(Leonardo da Vinci)





"Jesus was rather neutral"



Lord, to judge by the appearance of today's Israelis who are very purely bred, was a non-Caucasian, undoubtedly not tall, fair, or what we Westerners think of as handsome (Isa. 53:2). Jesus was rather neutral, considering the races of the world, and is equally accessible to men of every color and nationality.

And of course, we have remanufactured His name—Yeshua, which means "savior" and bears a message in itself. In English, it is "Joshua," the one of Jericho fame (Josh. 6:5; I Thess. 4:16, 17). "Jesus"—the transliteration of a Greek name—came into use a few hundred years ago, as the English language developed. Entire church doctrines have been founded on this remanufactured name, like "pray in Jesus' name" or "baptize in Jesus' name." Behind these constricting doctrines we see that resident policeman, snaring people on technicalities and denying them that free gift of salvation.

And as we select our elders and deacons, and particularly our pastors, we may try to find a Jesus-like churchman. But, Jesus was not a churchman and did not favor religious people. Those who wanted to discuss theology with the Lord were stopped by the brevity and force of His salvation message (John 4:23; 3:3). Jesus did not use His overwhelming brainpower as an intellectual but as a teacher, which is quite different. He did not toil over religious matters but articulated the simple truth. He did not seek to found an elite class of people, though some churches act as if He did.

An increasingly popular remanufactured Christ is the "mystical visitor" who brings us magic. He tells certain gifted people secrets and grants them visions to guide their lives. Now, He is our Lord; and when He is sovereign in our lives, we obey His leading. It is scripturally correct to say, "The Lord led me..." but

it is presumptuous to say, "Jesus told me...." The difference has to do with maturity. Our Lord was not a mystic to be consulted on some transcendental level about spiritual secrets. He is our Intercessor with God. He hears and answers prayer, the mature petitions of Believers having to do with the defined will of God.

The remanufactured Christs go on infinitely. People have made them to suit every human weakness. He has been remade to satisfy tyrannical church doctrines and secular politics. We can understand the true Christ only by consulting one source, our sole Godly source of information about the Messiah—the Bible. ★

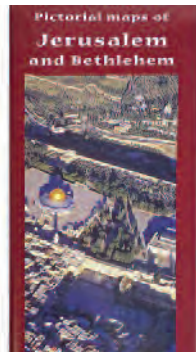
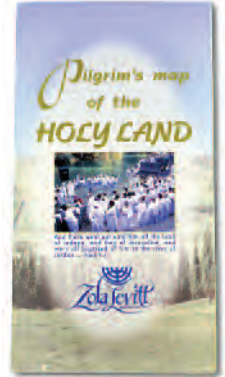
**Next month:** *Understanding the True Messiah*

*Zola hits the bull's eye again! Please pray for our coming television series on the life of Joseph—that God will use it to clearly illuminate for all to see the biblical, Jewish identity of Messiah. —Myles*



### Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land

A very special map of modern Israel that also provides sites of biblical importance. Scriptures are given right on the map so that the reader can locate the 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.

# Ask the Chaplain

Dr. Todd D. Baker  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian



**Q.** My son has been doing a study of the Book of Exodus. He is also a professional land surveyor and is trying to determine the boundaries of the original land that God promised to the Jewish people. Do you have that information? I would appreciate any help you can offer.

**A.** The boundaries for the Jewish land grant and also Israel in the Messianic Kingdom stretch from the River Nile to the Euphrates. A good detailed account and prophecy for the boundaries is found in Numbers 34:1–12. In His original Covenant with Abraham, Yahweh describes the Promised Land’s vastness in Genesis 12:5–9 and Genesis 13:12, 14–15.

**Q.** I hope you can spare a moment to help me understand Genesis 6:4. Many people believe that the word “Nephilim” means “fallen angels” instead of “fallen ones” and use it as a basis for a theory that hybrid beings ruled the Earth for 1,000 years prior to the flood. These same people also say that the phrase “sons of God” refers only to angels.

I completely disagree with this whole sensational theory, primarily because

it is not in line with the character of Yahweh.

I cannot find an English translation of the Ben Chayyim Masoretic Text, which I believe to be the most accurate. Can you help?

**A.** I agree with you. I believe that angels are spirit beings and do not have the power to procreate, as Jesus stated in Matthew 22:30: *For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.*

The fallen ones were “sons of God” by creation—as we all are since God is our Creator. The Masoretic text says they were the sons of Elohim—the God of Israel.

The word “Nephilim” in Genesis 6 comes from the Hebrew root word “to fall,” indicating Nephilim were strong men, “giants,” who fell on others in the sense of overpowering them. This word is used again in Numbers 13:33. Nephilim were already on the Earth when the “mighty men” and “men of renown” were born. In my opinion, the fallen ones are not the offspring from the union of Genesis 6:1–2. ★



**CURRENT ISRAEL IN YELLOW**



**ISRAEL GOD GAVE ABRAHAM**



# Our Immaculate Reception

BY KEVIN MEAD



On the 30th **To The Jew First** outreach to the Jewish people in Israel, neither Todd Baker nor I expected such an unusual and unprecedented reception.

Upon arriving in **Tel Aviv** and checking into our hotel, we went looking for opportunities to speak about Yeshua to Jewish people. At a local mall, Todd struck up a conversation with a store clerk. After he informed the clerk that we were in Israel as ambassadors of Yeshua, bringing the Gospel back to the Jewish people who had first given the Gospel to the world, the clerk accepted a Bible containing both the New and Old Testaments in Hebrew.

In **Nazareth** the next day and again at a shopping mall, we encountered receptive Jews whom Todd had met on previous visits. I was very surprised at how open these prospective Believers were to accepting a copy of the *B'rit Hadashah* (NT) and hearing about Yeshua. In **Tiberias**, we visited another mall and handed out several more Bibles. Each thirsty soul we talked with readily accepted a Bible. Some were openly touched and grateful for both the gift of the Scriptures and our concern for the Jewish people.

During the four days we spent witnessing in Tiberias, *nobody* rejected our testimony or *The Promised Messiah* pamphlet. Todd had prepared me for rejection, as it is not unusual for many to refuse the offer of a Hebrew Bible

with the New Testament. Praise God, the openness and unprecedented acceptance became the theme for this 30th outreach.

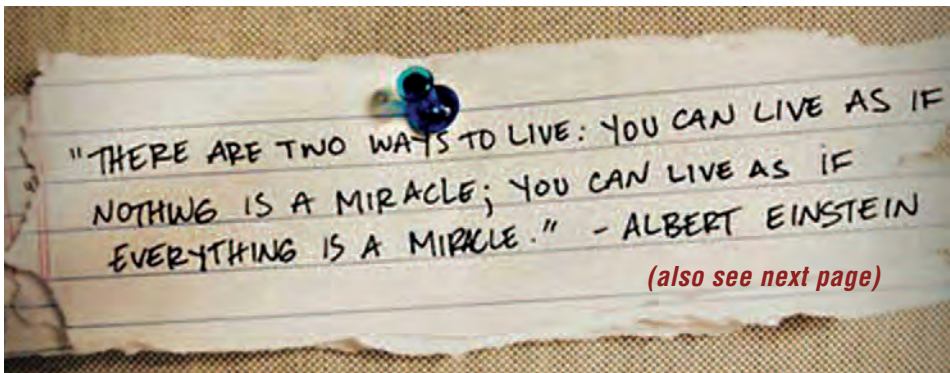
Likewise in **Jerusalem**: We witnessed for four days and handed out several Bibles. Again, no one rejected our offer of the Scriptures. **Not one person.** Everyone we witnessed to was open and accepting. Todd marveled at this work of the Holy Spirit, saying it was unprecedented to go so many days without a rejection or rebuff of some kind.

On to **Haifa**. The cool breezes in this coastal city presented a welcome change in climate. We geared up for rejection. But again, though we spent three days in Haifa, amazingly, **we were NEVER rebuffed.**

Back in **Tel Aviv**, our surprise at the openness of Jewish people to the Gospel of Yeshua continued. As in the other cities, our offer of Scriptures and Messianic literature was **never refused.**

By the end, the TJF team had put 64 Complete Bibles (both Testaments) in Hebrew into the hands of Israeli Jews receptive to the message of Yeshua. The smooth operation of this outreach encouraged me as much as the lack of a single rejection awed Todd.

He stated that this will probably never happen again. I hope that this pattern becomes the norm. ★



# Divine Protection During Gaza Fight

BY SHARONA SCHWARTZ / TheBlaze.com



Col. Ofer Winter, an Israel Defense Forces brigade commander and a religious Jew, attributed the way his soldiers were protected in Gaza to a divine miracle.

## **The Times of Israel reported:**

**A predawn raid that was intended to make use of the dark as concealment was delayed, forcing the soldiers to move toward their objective as the sun was about to rise. The soldiers were in danger of being revealed in the light, but, Winter recalled, a heavy fog descended to cover their movements until the objective was achieved.**

**Only when the soldiers were in a secure position did the fog dissipate. “It really was a fulfillment of the verse ‘For the Lord your God is the one who goes with you to give you victory,’” Winter said, quoting Deut. 20:4.**

**The experience was also reminiscent of the pillar of cloud that protected the Israelites as they escaped from Egypt (Exodus 13:21).**

Another miracle was reported by a group of religious Jews who in early July, right before the fighting broke out, traveled to southern Israel to harvest wheat in advance of the biblical sabbatical year. According to the Bible’s mandate,

Jews are to allow the land of Israel to rest a full year at the end of each seven-year agricultural cycle. That means no planting or harvesting for the year 5775 (Sept. 24, 2014–Sept. 13, 2015).

Aharon Samet told an Israeli radio show that a great miracle occurred when they harvested extra wheat to comply with the biblical mandate.

“This year we needed to harvest for two years,” Samet said. “On Kibbutz Sufa on

the Gaza border, we found an entire field that was sown in mid-January, which is very unusual.” They harvested the wheat and didn’t give it another thought.

Only weeks later when the fighting between Israel and Hamas was at its peak did Samet and his friends realize the significance of their actions.

In mid-July, 13 Hamas militants infiltrated from Gaza via a tunnel into Israel at the exact spot where the men had harvested. The terrorists were shocked to discover that their natural camouflage—the giant wheat field (*below*) that they were counting on—had disappeared.

The now empty field allowed IDF surveillance to spot them as they emerged from their holes and to repel their attack by dropping a bomb on them from above.



“Many lives were saved by Heaven’s grace,” the Israeli radio station commented.

Of the events he experienced, brigade commander Winter concluded, “When a person is in a life-threatening situation, he connects with his deepest internal truths; and when that happens, even the biggest atheist meets God.”

**Soldiers experience so many miracles that “it is hard not to believe [in God],” Winter said. ★**



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# ZLM Bulletin Board

## Two Uplifting Music Videos!!



Imagine teen Orthodox Jews singing, dancing acrobatically, blowing a shofar, and even jammin' on an electric guitar to celebrate Rosh Hashanah. The Jewish New Year, they proclaim, is a time to set goals and get clarity. AISH's uplifting, snappy tune at <http://goo.gl/gMFoSK> will challenge somber stereotypes of the Israeli Orthodox. Next, please tune in to hear a country boy singin' 'bout Israel not bein' alone at <http://goo.gl/UyRtHc> (better git yer hanky handy).



## Free *Levitt Letter* Overages

Would you like 12, 24, or 36 recent *Levitt Letters* to give away at your church, health club, or doctor's office? We have been printing a few extra for people who want to serve as Newsletter Ambassadors. Imagine delivering this ministry's teaching to those who don't know it even exists—FREE.

Please help us reach more people by periodically letting us know how many newsletters you can put to good use.

Free Item

## Pamphlet of the Month

### *The State Has Made Your Will*

This pamphlet begins, "There's no law that says you have to make a will or other estate plans." It explains some assumptions a probate court may be forced to make and possible ways it would divide assets.

The various topics are especially relevant to parents of minor children and anyone who wishes to minimize estate taxes.

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

## Israel's Prime Minister spoke on 9-11-14



at a counter-terrorism conference. His remarks are posted online in video and transcript formats. Find them at <http://wp.me/pieUD-29o>

## U.S. Public Sides with Israel

According to a Pew Research Center poll this July, 51% of Americans said they sympathize more with Israel than the Gazans in the current dispute. Only 14% sympathized more with the Gazans.

This is the second-highest level of pro-Israel sentiment since the first poll in 1978. The 37% gap between the two figures is much improved since 1990, when it stood at 20%.

## "Come Home!"

Zola Tours to Israel



See [page 36](#) for details



# Hebrew Lesson



## The Lord My Yeshua

By John J. Parsons

יְהוָה אֹרֵי וְיִשְׁעֵי מִמִּי אֵירָא יְהוָה מְעוֹזֵי חַיִּי מִמִּי אֶפְחָד

“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” – Psalm 27:1

יְהוָה	אֹרֵי	וְיִשְׁעֵי	מִמִּי	אֵירָא	יְהוָה	מְעוֹזֵי	חַיִּי	מִמִּי	אֶפְחָד
(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)
Adonai	ohr-i	ve-yish-i	mi-mi	ir-a	Adonai	ma-oz	-chai-yai	mi-mi	ef-chad
The LORD	(is) my light	and my salvation	of whom	I fear	The LORD	(is) the refuge of my life		of whom	I dread

**Surely our great need is to have heart, to find strength, resolution, and steadfast determination to walk boldly during these heartless and depraved days** (2 Tim. 3:1-5). We are not without God’s help, of course. Yeshua told us that the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) would be “called alongside” (παρηκλήτος) to comfort us on the journey. The English verb “comfort” literally means “to give strength” (from com—“with” and fortis “strong”), an idea similarly expressed by the verb “encourage,” that is, to “put heart (core) within the soul.” In Hebrew, the word *courage* is expressed by the phrase *ometz lev*, meaning being “strong of heart,” denoting an inner quality of the will rather than of the intellect. Our faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1 John 4:4, 5:4).

By faith we draw close to God and cleave to His heart, finding freedom from the pain and bondage of our fears. The LORD becomes our Light and our Salvation, illuminating our steps despite the darkness and evil of *olam ha’zeh*, this present age (Psalm 119:105). As King David said, *Adonai ohri v’yishi*: “The LORD is my light and my salvation”—literally, *my Jesus*, my Yeshua—“whom shall I fear? The LORD is the refuge of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?” Yeshua is the very Light of Life (אור החיים), the Healer of the fearful heart, the “I-AM-WITH-YOU-ALWAYS One” (John 8:12). His love overcomes all our fears. As the Apostle Paul asked, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Rom. 8:31).”

And as we hear the “footsteps of the Messiah” approaching nearer, let us heed the words of our Savior: “When you see these things taking place, you know that the time is near, right at the door” (Mark 13:29), and let us then encourage one another to wake up and come alive: “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Messiah will shine on you!” (Eph. 5:14). The message of *teshuvah* (repentance, turning back to God) is always, “Wake up—you are living a nightmare!” There is only one eternally abiding remedy, and that is discovered by opening your heart to the love and presence of God.

**Fear is the primary tool of the devil and the underlying motive behind sin itself.**

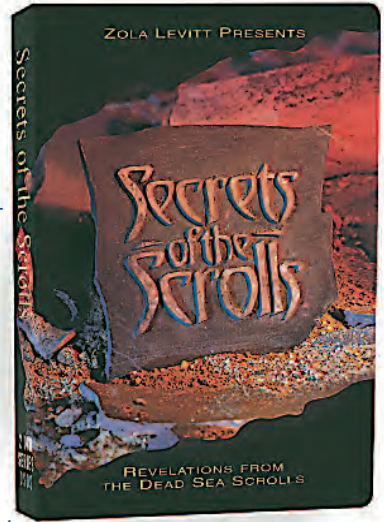
Beloved, “do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:21). God is always with us, even in hours of apparent darkness. “Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of His Servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the Name of the LORD and rely on his God” (Isa. 50:10). **Draw close to God in faith and the miracle of His light and life will be disclosed to you.** ★



## Secrets of the Scrolls DVDs

7 half-hour TV programs on two DVDs

In 1947, a Bedouin boy in search of a lost goat threw a stone through the narrow opening of a cave. Hearing the sound of breaking pottery, he entered the cave and happened upon a 2,000-year-old treasure. He had discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls. *Secrets of the Scrolls* gives an historical account of these treasured manuscripts and presents some remarkable new revelations. The authors of the Scrolls were intensely Messianic and appear to have documented the actual fulfillment of prophecy in the person of the Messiah. Such terms as "son of God," "branch of David," "stripes or piercings," "being put to death," and "raising the dead" all strike a familiar chord. Quite possibly, these incredible Scrolls represent the first extra-biblical revelation of Jesus Christ in history. (Also see [Archaeology](#) on page 34.)



**The Scrolls — A New Revelation** We quickly produced this program after the initial Associated Press news release. Zola quotes from it extensively and emphasizes its significance.

**The Scrolls: Part 2** Within days of our first program's broadcast, Dr. James Tabor phoned Zola to initiate a series of interviews that would unveil one of the 20th century's most dramatic revelations. This program is the first of these interviews. A professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Dr. Tabor delivers an incredible lesson.

**The Scrolls: Part 3** During this interview, Dr. Tabor refers to several books about the Dead Sea Scrolls, including *The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English* by Vermes (Penguin Press), *The Dead Sea Scriptures* by Gaster (Anchor Doubleday), and *A Facsimile Edition of the Dead Sea Scrolls* (2 Volumes) by Robert Eisenman and James Robinson.

**The Scrolls Special** This program consolidates the first three programs and delivers their powerful message in only thirty minutes. Later discoveries in Scrolls research inspired the three following programs.

**The Wilderness Group** Michael Baigent, an English author, lectures in Qumran about the Scrolls. Dr. Tabor describes various approaches to excavation and how they pertain to the Scrolls. Dr. Robert Eisenman, a professor of Middle East religions at California State University at Long Beach, discusses the fascinating history of the Scrolls.

**In Search of Answers** Dr. Eisenman discusses his quest to gain access to the Scrolls. Dr. Tabor describes his archaeological team and how they map the caves in Qumran.

**Prof. Michael Wise** An in-depth interview with a professor of Aramaic, the language of Jesus. Prof. Wise, from the University of Chicago, helped translate the fragments when they were first released. The New Jerusalem text, telling how the future will be, is discussed enthusiastically.



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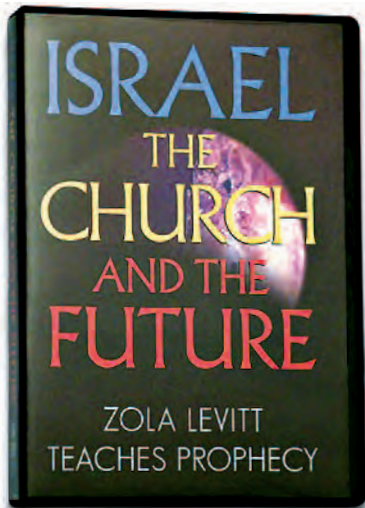
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# Prophecy & the End Times

## *Israel, the Church, and the Future* (4 DVDs) \$69

Zola teaches prophecy in a church setting. This 6½ hour series contains nothing but “meat.” Designed for serious home study rather than broadcast, it contains no product spots or announcements. Includes an interesting Q and A segment. An excellent price for an extensive amount of Zola’s prophecy teaching on video.



**The Rapture** The coming of the Lord for His Church, and why we can’t predict the date. Clear biblical teaching of the most important prophecy!

**The Judgment Seat of Christ** Our first encounter in Heaven is face-to-face with the King! A vital subject, seldom taught and often misunderstood.

**The Marriage Supper** The grand reception commemorating our spiritual union with the Son of God. A literal “heavenly reception.”

**The Kingdom, Part I** The sheep and goats judgment, and the great day when “the meek shall inherit the earth.” The Lord’s Second Coming explained.

**The Kingdom, Part II** The grand and glorious 1,000 years, when God’s will shall be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Our ultimate reward on Earth.

**Eternity** That mysterious time of the New Heaven, the New Earth and the New Jerusalem. The last chapters of the Bible—Revelation 21 and 22—clearly explained.

**Questions and Answers** Bible students query Zola in a typical church setting. Join the group as a fine teacher chats informally.

## *The Dark Prince: When The Devil Has His Day* (3 DVDs) \$59

In this made-for-TV miniseries, Dr. Jeffrey Seif takes readers through Bible texts that speak about the devil. Introductory in nature, *The Dark Prince* gives individuals a behind-the-scenes look at Evil’s workings at the ragged edge of human history, and its ultimate uprooting when Christ returns.

### DISC 1

**Satan’s Rise and Demise in Genesis**  
**Satan in Biblical History**  
**The Ruler of This World**  
**To Steal, Kill, and Destroy**

### DISC 2

**Deceit, Betrayal, and Coming Miseries**  
**Armageddon and the Final Conflict**  
**The Collapse of an Intoxicated World**  
**The Second Coming!**

### DISC 3

**The Experts Speak about the antiChrist,**  
**the European Union, and a global**  
**government**



## ***Thy Kingdom Come: The Future of Believers* (3 DVDs) \$69**

This twelve-program series searches Bible prophecy to reveal the glorious future events awaiting all believers in Messiah.



### **DISC 1**

#### **Overview**

From a scenic park near Jerusalem, Zola gives us an overview of this series that will reveal our future according to Bible prophecy.

#### **The Rapture**

**The Judgment Seat of the Righteous**  
**The Wedding**

### **DISC 2**

**The Second Coming**  
**The Throne of Judgment**  
**The Kingdom Begins**  
**The Kingdom in Progress**



***Thy Kingdom Come: The Future of Believers* (music CD) \$12** **MP3s:**  
[iTunes](#) [Amazon](#) [Google](#)

### **DISC 3**

**The Gog & Magog Invasion**  
**The Great White Throne of Judgment • Eternity • The Music**

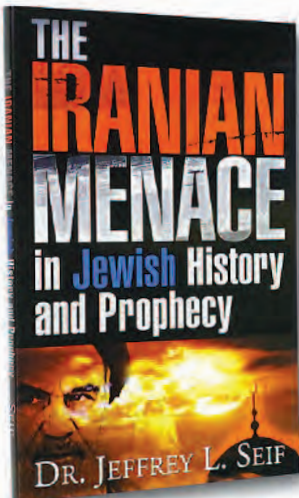
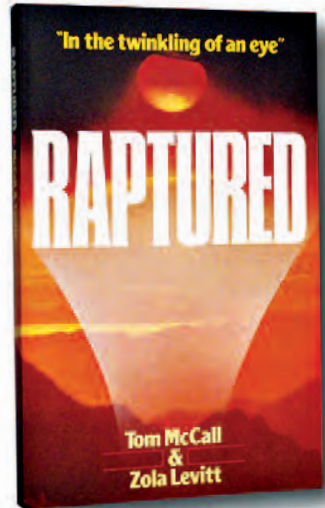
## ***Raptured* (book) \$10**

By Tom McCall and Zola Levitt

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

eBook versions:

- [Amazon Kindle](#)
- [iBook](#)



## ***The Iranian Menace in Jewish History and Prophecy* (book) \$8** By Jeffrey L. Seif

Iran is central in end-times prophecy. At a time when Iran has captured the world's attention with nuclear threats, Jeff harnesses scriptural and secular evidence to support his case for the Iranian-Armageddon connection. After a glimpse of Iran in ancient Roman and Jewish histories, you will learn the significance of prophecy in the Jewish Scriptures and apocalyptic literature. Jeff's analysis is based on sound scriptural understanding as well as his conclusions from two decades of academic contemplation. This easy read will provide fodder for its advocates and critics alike.

## *Ezekiel and the MidEast 'Piece' Process (DVD)*

Eight 30-minute TV programs on two DVDs

In this eight-part television series, Dr. Jeffrey Seif and Mrs. Sandra Levitt take viewers into one of the Bible's most mysterious and fascinating books. Ezekiel forcefully predicts Israel's re-emergence as a nation-state at "day's end," and prophesies that neighboring nation-states will marshal military resources to annihilate the fledgling state. Let's consider pieces to Ezekiel's end-time puzzle. (See Q & A about Israel's land, p.12.)

**Ezekiel: The Man, His Time, His Message—Then and Now** His name means "God strengthens." Reared as a priest in Jerusalem, Ezekiel finds himself among the exiles who are taken to Babylon. His encounter with God in a heavenly vision launches his prophetic message to a wayward people.

**Overview—Destructive and Constructive Prophecy** A survey of the entire book of Ezekiel—judgment on Judah and the nations around it, Israel's re-emergence, a climactic war, and a restored Temple—with emphasis on prophecy fulfillment today.

**Judah's Demise** This segment examines particular pieces of prophecy, noting Judah's painful downfall and God's everlasting mercy even so through His promise to gather and rebuild Israel—something that is happening today.

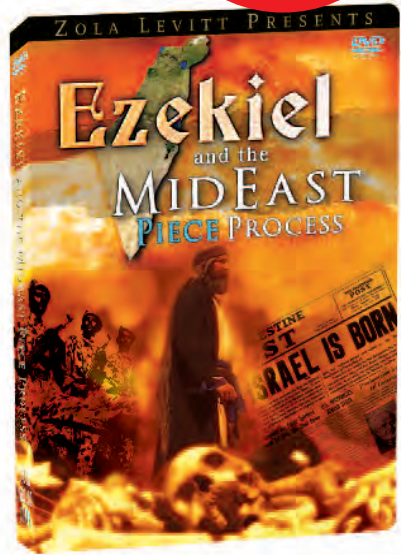
**Prophecies of Israel's Last-Days Rise** A major piece in God's prophetic, end-times puzzle consists of subsequent predictions of Israel's last-days rise. A once-desolate land has become like Eden.

**Israel's Neighbor States** Israel will rally against its hostile neighbors; this program highlights Ezekiel's predictions that larger regional forces will mobilize against Israel in a climactic war that the aggressors will lose.

**The Valley of the Dry Bones** Israel's re-emergence as a nation is dramatized through a startling vision of skeletons rising from their graves, forming a mighty nation. Independence Hall in Tel Aviv serves as the backdrop to a remarkable prophecy fulfilled in our generation.

**The Battle of Gog and Magog** The nations surrounding Israel are bent on its destruction. Thousands of years ago, Ezekiel foretold an end-times war, but also predicted a miraculous Israelite triumph.

**The Restored Temple** Ezekiel prophesied a restored Earth and a new Jerusalem Temple from which miraculous healing waters will spring forth. Ultimately, God's ways are known on planet Earth.





# WISE AS A SERPENT / By Mark Levitt Don't Be A Pocket Buyer



Politicians in the pockets of billionaires exchange favors for campaign contributions—a guaranteed return. **By contrast**, a pocket buyer (read: trusting investor) rarely receives much if anything—and certainly no guarantee—in return for the blind faith he puts in a stockbroker or other investment salesperson. In fact, his stock purchases, when combined with those of other dupes, can unduly exaggerate the value of junk.

After receiving eternal life for simply believing in Jesus, some Christians forget the enduring relevance of 1 Tim. 6:10: “For the love of money is the root of all evil.” Gullible heirs of lump sums or retirees with nest eggs fall easy prey when they assume that relying on almost any “advisor” is better than dealing directly with a self-service firm like The Vanguard Group.

In *The Wolf of Wall Street* film (2013), Leonardo DiCaprio played Jordan Belfort, a real-life silver-tongued stockbroker who grew wealthy foisting vastly overpriced stocks on naïve clients. The profanity-laced movie dramatizes how a stock brokerage systematically gathers pocket investors to drive up (“pump”) the value of shares it owns only to abruptly “dump” them, amassing obscene profits for themselves while impoverishing investors. I believe this is what happened to Zola, my family, and this ministry when we dealt with A.G. Edwards, a major corporation, whose underhanded behavior seem to profit from too little government regulation and protection for small investors.

Recent headlines uphold the wisdom of business columnist Scott Burns. A graduate of MIT, Burns advocates investing in broadly diversified index funds with low-cost firms like Vanguard or Fidelity. You can find links for the following partial list in this *Levitt Letter* online:

1. “Financial Advice Usually Not a Good Investment,” Scott Burns, June 22. Burns’s analysis demonstrates that paying fees usually results in worse net results.
2. “The Decline and Fall of Fund Managers,” *Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 23. Active fund management is outmoded, and a lot of stock pickers are going to have to do something else for a living.
3. “How to Fire Your Adviser,” *Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 30. It’s okay; you don’t owe him anything.

Dozens of my bimonthly Serpent installments—archived on [levitt.com](http://levitt.com) (click on “essays” under the “information” tab)—fall into 8 broad categories such as “Homes,” “Cars,” “Stockbrokers,” and “Investing.”

- The “Stockbrokers” group contains articles like “A Fox Guarding the Henhouse,” “The Fiduciary Myth,” and “Of Muppets, Serpents, and Sharks.”
- The subheading “Investing” includes “A Book Review: *The Only Investment Guide You’ll Ever Need*,” “Saving, Spending, and Investing,” and “SEC Woes...Lazy Portfolios.”

**Bottom line:** Most investors are wise to speak with a non-commissioned Vanguard consultant who doesn’t pretend to be able to cherry pick individual stocks and bonds or specify when it’s best to enter/exit the market. ★



## NON SEQUITUR

By Wiley





# Letters to ZIM

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

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

**From D.E.P.:** Thank you for explaining the difference between the Real Creator and that pagan god of the Koran. Ever since I dropped that demonic book, some kind of spirit has plagued my life. I am a born again Christian, but seeking prayer about this unknown spirit. Thank you D.E.P. —You are welcome. Your concern has been added to our ministry prayer list. Reliable information indicates that the historical origins for the god glorified in the Koran, "Allah," stem from the pre-Islamic and polytheistic moon god of Arabia. You might find interesting *The Islamic Invasion* by Dr. Robert Morey (available on Amazon.com and at bookstores).

Several websites deal with this topic and may help you understand the demon that stalks you. Here are a couple:

[BibleBelievers.org.au/moongod.htm](http://BibleBelievers.org.au/moongod.htm)

[BibleBelievers.org.au/islam.htm](http://BibleBelievers.org.au/islam.htm)

[BillionBibles.org/sharia/allah-moon-god.html](http://BillionBibles.org/sharia/allah-moon-god.html) —Todd

**From W.D.:** I often watch hateful reports on TV that refer to Israel's army as "occupation forces" and "terrorists" while praising Hamas, despite its mortars and dirty war practices. Such propaganda negatively impacts my students' opinion of Israel. As a teacher, I have difficulty overcoming their misconceptions, especially in a hostile environment like Egypt. We Bible Believers must engage the next generation so that they will bless the Apple of God's eye.

**From P.L.:** God bless you for the good work you do enriching the Body of Christ with knowledge and insights about the soon-coming King of the Jewish people.



\* This image is OK because ISIS had it beheaded.



## Israel Bonds

Dear ZLM,

We have been fans of ZLM for some time now and always look forward to reading the *Levitt Letter*. A favorite feature is “Wise as a Serpent” by Mark Levitt, dealing with personal finances. Along that vein, we recently invested in a bond that benefits the State of Israel.

Garry Kahalnik, who helped us in the Dallas office, was very glad to talk to us as Christians who love Israel. He said that he has noticed a desire in the Christian community to support and help Israel. He offered to speak at our church or to any small group who would like to hear him speak about Israel Bonds.

*Chavivut and shalom* (affection and peace), — S. & S.H. (TX)

Dear S. & S.H.—

Thank you for your kind words about my bimonthly *Serpent* series. Nearly 40 of the articles are archived toward the bottom at [www.levitt.com/essays](http://www.levitt.com/essays).

Most anyone can be an ambassador for Israel Bonds by spreading the word about where to find them. Here is contact information to email to friends and family or suggest including in your church bulletin.

[www.IsraelBonds.com](http://www.IsraelBonds.com) lists more than two dozen U.S. offices, including:

**New York** (888-244-4808)  
641 Lexington Avenue Suite 900  
New York, NY 10022

**Los Angeles** (800-922-6637)  
1950 Sawtelle Blvd. Suite 370  
Los Angeles, CA 90025



—Mark



*Mount of Precipice, Nazareth  
Zola Tours, Spring 2014*





**“Whose Land Is It?”**

Dear ZLM,

I don't know how to answer people who think the Jews are illegally occupying the Holy Land. A sticking point is the plight of the Arab wanderers from the time of Israel's becoming a nation. Did Israel's Jews exile them? Is there an article that gives this history?

Thanks so much, P.M.

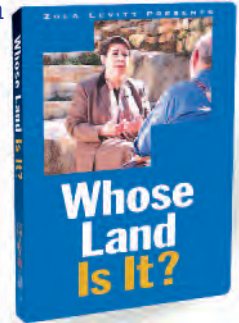
Hello P.M.—

**Whose Land Is It?** That's a question many have asked. We have the answer. An almost equal number of Jews were pushed out of their homes in Arab/Moslem lands as there were Arabs who, upon the advice of their Moslem leaders, left Israel when the surrounding nations attacked Israel in 1948. 711,000 moslems and between 800,000 and one million Jews were uprooted.

**A primary difference:** The Jews fled Moslem Arab nations with the clothes on their backs, never allowed to return or reclaim their property. Many Moslem Arabs returned to Israel after the Jews failed to be “driven into the sea” as promised by Moslem leaders, reclaimed their property, and became prosperous citizens of the reborn State of Israel.

Read *Myths and Facts: A Guide to the Arab Israeli Conflict* by Mitchell G. Bard or *From Time Immemorial: The Origins of the Arab-Jewish Conflict over Palestine* by Joan Peters, who set out to prove the Palestinian claims but discovered instead the true history of the area.

There are many incisive books and resources about the unbroken Jewish presence in the Land of Israel. Check our website for relevant articles and consider Zola's DVD and booklet *Whose Land is It?*. Shalom —Myles

**Conflation**

Hi ZLM,

You all do understand the difference between Christianity and Judaism, right? Since there is a big difference between the two religions, why attempt to combine them and condemn another religion? I know you won't respond... Just thought I would defend Christianity.

Shalom, shalom —T.L.

Before you get upset, T.L.—

Please, let's listen to the prophet Isaiah “and reason together” (1:18). This ministry does not condemn any religion. We look for the connections unfolding in our day between the Hebrew view of Yahweh in the Bible and the Christian view. We do not align with Rabbinical Judaism (that does not acknowledge Yeshua/Jesus), nor are we aligned with historical, institutional Christianity (which persecuted my Jewish people through the Inquisition, Crusades, pogroms, and Holocaust). *I know the Nazis were not true believers in the Jewish Messiah, but they were part of the non-Jewish European world that we associate with Christianity.*



This ministry is fascinated by the shared destiny of Jews and gentiles who believe in Jesus. In that destiny, the Church can learn MUCH from a Hebraic understanding of God, and Jewish followers of Messiah can learn an equal amount from spiritually mature Christians. You will not find Christianity under attack in ZLM's thinking or actions. By the way, your sly hook—“I know you won't respond”—worked just fine. —Myles

## What's The Plan?

Dear ZLM,

The Jewish lawyer in the link below was joking when he mused on the role of probate courts in administering the estates of the Raptured. Still, it occurs to me that it might be a good idea to arrange a way for Believers' assets to go to Jews left behind who might have to begin running for their lives, hiding out, etc. Under normal circumstances, one would have wills with beneficiaries. However, one also would hope the designated heirs are also saved and raptured, so won't need bequests. To further complicate the issue, people who merely "disappear" are not considered legally dead.

Have you heard of anyone arranging for a "Rapture will" or other means to get assets smoothly into the hands of certain (presently skeptical) groups who likely will have post-Rapture (read: Tribulation) needs? Otherwise looters, opportunists, or terrorists could get our estates.

Just thinking out loud. —P.P.

Dear P.P.—

I have shared your same questions as I contemplated the fate of airplane passengers whose pilot is raptured, or patients whose surgeon leaves mid-operation to meet Jesus in the air.

Just think of the logistics required to ensure that every plane in flight has a skeptical co-pilot, and every auto entering an intersection at the moment of Rapture contains an unsaved driver. I smile when I picture our Creator probably enjoying the prep work, because no One else could pull off a plan of such complexity! The surgical procedure co-covered by a practicing Jewish doctor may actually be one of Yahweh's instruments to complete His 144,000 members of the Remnant. Jews who have heard of—but doubt—the Rapture, would likely become instant Believers when their surgical team disappears from the O.R.—an Aha! moment to be sure.

Zola often advised us to make sure our bookshelves were crammed with books and literature about the history, prophecy, and message of Yeshua. That way, unbelievers who discover our disappearance will be able to "hear" our witness even after we're gone.

Take comfort with me. We will undoubtedly be too preoccupied to notice the immediate reactions of those left behind, but perhaps HaShem will let us watch the replays. —Editor ★

**Note:** Zola's book *Raptured* weighs the merits of a pre-, mid-, and post-Tribulation Rapture. (Please see p.19.) For those interested in the musings of the [Jewish probate lawyer](#):



# Little-Known Details About Iron Dome



SCIENCE: BY VIVA SARAH PRESS / Israel21c.org

The Iron Dome missile defense system is the champion of Israel's recent conflict with Hamas in Gaza. Without it, the thousands of rockets fired from Gaza into Israel would have likely caused many deaths and severe damage.

## Interesting details:

- Iron Dome is the world's only dual-mission system, providing defense against rockets, artillery, and mortars as well as aircraft, helicopters, UAVs, and PGMs. It can detect and intercept rockets and artillery shells headed for population centers within a 43.4-mile range.
- A toy car inspired Iron Dome developers. An engineer told the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology's magazine that, due to schedule and budget constraints, some of the missile components were taken from a toy car he had bought for his son at a local Toys "R" Us store.
- The Iron Dome system was designed to be operated easily by an average female soldier, 5'3" and 105 lbs.
- Iron Dome handles multiple threats simultaneously. A unique interceptor with a special warhead detonates any target in the air within seconds.
- An intercepting missile costs around \$95,000 to launch, so Iron Dome is not used against rockets heading for open ground. The rockets fired at Israel by terror groups cost under \$1,000.
- It took less than four years to develop the Iron Dome system from an idea in 2007 to combat readiness. In April 2011, the missile interception system successfully shot down its first Hamas-fired Grad rocket.
- Many critics predicted Iron Dome would never work. However, the first operational deployment destroyed eight out of eight rockets aimed at Ashkelon and Beersheba. Today, system operators report a 90% success rate.
- Iron Dome operates in all weather conditions: low clouds, rain, dust storms, fog.
- Aesthetics were important to the designers and developers because "it was obvious that within an hour of its use, Iron Dome would be featured on CNN and Al-Jazeera."
- Iron Dome is effective against aircraft up to an altitude of 32,800 feet.
- Iron Dome is jointly funded by Israel and the U.S.
- **Iron Dome is the first of a three-part defense system: Iron Dome, Magic Wand, Arrow.** Magic Wand will intercept projectiles with ranges of 45–180 miles, like Hezbollah rockets in Lebanon. The Arrow system will handle longer-range threats from Iran. The three components will complete Israel's "multilayer missile defense."
- The developers of Iron Dome won the prestigious 2012 Israel Defense Prize for their technological breakthroughs.
- Two young Israeli innovators run Facebook and Twitter accounts that follow the Iron Dome's success. ★



A missile from the Iron Dome is fired in response to rocket attacks from Gaza. Photo by Flash90.



An Iron Dome defense system missile intercepts a rocket fired at Jerusalem from Gaza. Photo by Flash90.

The King James Version speaks of wisdom in Proverbs 8:12 as finding out "knowledge of witty inventions." Thank HaShem for the Iron Dome, truly a gift from above! —Myles



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# Nano-Sized Propellers

MEDICINE: BY DAVID SHAMAH (r) TimesOfIsrael.com



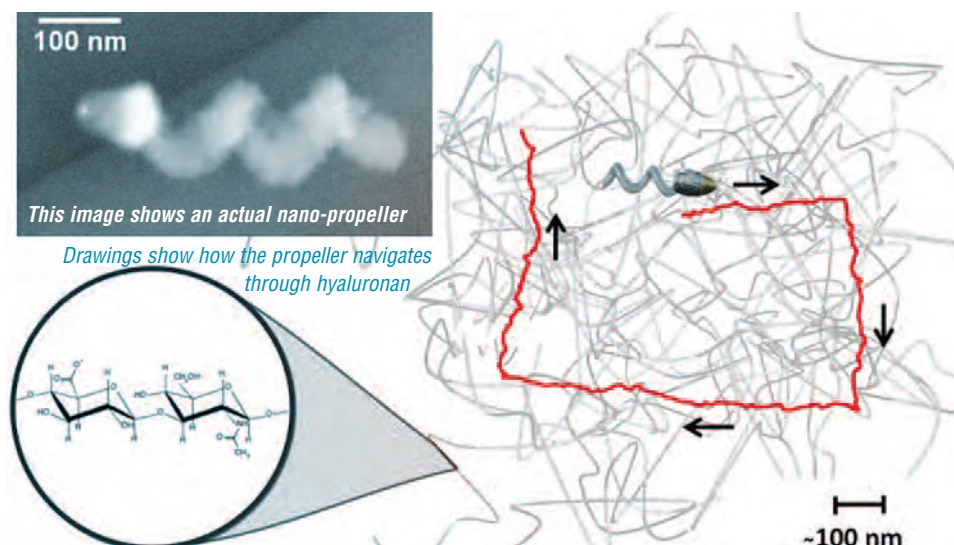
Nano-sized devices and robots that could be deployed inside the body to deliver medicine or clear out cholesterol would make medical treatment faster and more effective. The challenge is to deliver the devices to the right spot in the body. That would require a nano-sized propulsion system—and now that's in the realm of possibility.

Researchers from Israel's Technion and two German institutions have come up with a nano-sized propeller that could, when attached to a device, make its way through the viscous materials that make up the human body, like blood and fat.

The propeller is made of a silica and nickel filament that is only 70 nanometers in diameter and 400 nanometers long—smaller not only than any previously made propeller, but smaller than any swimming organism currently known to science. The propeller, developed by Technion researchers along with scientists from the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems and the Institute for Physical Chemistry at the University of Stuttgart, Germany, worked well in water. After the team members enhanced the device to work in thicker environments, like hyaluronan, they published a paper about their efforts in *ACS Nano*, a publication dedicated to nano-tech developments.

Hyaluronan occurs throughout the human body—in the synovial fluids in joints and the vitreous humor in eyeballs. Hyaluronan gel contains a mesh of long proteins (called polymers) with openings small enough to accommodate only nano-sized objects. By controlling the motion of the propellers using a relatively weak rotating magnetic field to direct movement, the team maneuvered the device into areas where no propeller had gone before—even permeating the interiors of cells.

**“The diameter of the nano-propeller is 100 times smaller than a human blood cell,”** said Peer Fischer, a member of the research team. “One can now think about targeted applications, for instance in the eye, where they may be moved to a precise location on the retina. Scientists could also use the propellers to deliver tiny doses of radiation. The applications seem wide, varied, and exciting.” ★



# Israel's Supporters Must Stop Using These Phrases



BY LEE S. BENDER & JEROME R. VERLIN / Algemeiner.com

Talk about Israel is laced with expressions that were intentionally crafted to delegitimize the Jewish state following Israel's rebirth. By expunging these terms from our language, we subvert the phony history they portray. Here are several phrases we must stop repeating.

**"West Bank"** The UN's 1947 partition resolution referred to "the hill country of Samaria and Judea." The Hebrew-origin terms "Judea" and "Samaria" were used through 1950. Then, invading Transjordan renamed them the "West Bank" in order to disassociate these areas of the Jewish homeland from Jews.

**"Palestinian Refugees"** Invading Arab nations bent on destroying Israel encouraged and caused the bulk of Arabs to flee Israel. The media ignore the indigenous Jews who were expelled from vast Arab and Moslem lands at the same time and whose numbers exceed the Arabs that fled tiny Israel. Israel absorbed most of these refugee Jews, while Arab "hosts" isolate the Arab refugees' descendants. Had the Palestinian Arabs accepted the UN Partition Plan, they also would have just celebrated their 66th anniversary.

**Israel's "1967 Borders"** The 1949 Israel-Jordan Armistice Agreement drew a line between the two sides' ceasefire positions and expressly declared this "green line" as a military ceasefire line only, without prejudice to either side's political border claims. The post-'67 war UN Resolution 242 pointedly did not demand Israel retreat from these lines.

**"Israeli-Occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem"** Israeli presence in Jerusalem or in Judea and Samaria is not "Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories." "Occupation" is an international legal term for foreign presence in the sovereign territory of another state. The land's last sovereign native state before modern Israel was Jewish Judaea. Therefore, Jews are not ...

...**"Settlers living in Settlements"** Like their Moslem neighbors, Jews are "residents" of "neighborhoods" and "villages."

*(continued next page)*



## Damaging Phrases... *continued*



**“The UN sought to create Jewish and Palestinian States”** In its 1947 partition resolution, the UN referred to “the Jewish State” and “the Arab [not “Palestinian”] State.”

**“East” Jerusalem** did not exist until 1947. Eastern Jerusalem is a neighborhood of the city reunified in 1967 by Israel when it ended invader Jordan’s 19-year rule.

**“The Palestinians”** The United Nations’ 1947 partition resolution called Palestine’s Arabs and Jews “the two Palestinian peoples.” *Nothing* is more counter-productive to achieving peace than that Jews should call Palestinian Arabs “The Palestinians.” Palestinian Arabs (who preferred to be called “Arabs”) have no distinguishing language, religion, or culture from neighboring Arabs, and have never been sovereign in Palestine, whereas Palestinian Jews, with a presence stretching back three millennia, have had three states there—Judah, Judaea, and modern Israel—all Jerusalem-based. Most Palestinian Arabs cannot trace their own lineage to the land back more than 4 generations. ★

As anti-Israel propoganda ramps up worldwide, Jew and Christian alike should be circumspect in our language and narrative, while remembering that the “battle belongs to the Lord” (2 Chronicles 20:15). —Myles

## *Muslim or Moslem?*

By Yii-Ann Christine Chen / HistoryNewsNetwork.org

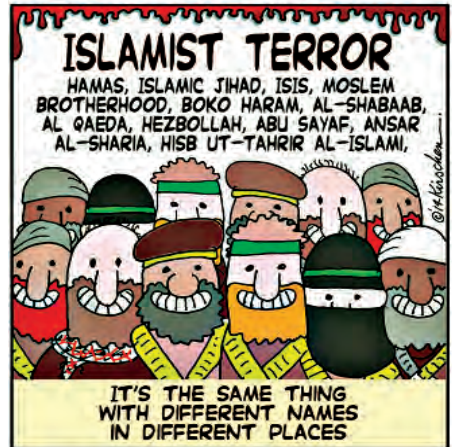
When Baby Boomers were children, it was *Moslem*. *The American Heritage Dictionary* (1992) noted, “*Moslem* is the form predominantly preferred in journalism and popular usage. *Muslim* is preferred by scholars and by English-speaking adherents of Islam.” No more. Now, almost everybody uses *Muslim*.

According to the Center for Nonproliferation Studies, “*Moslem* and *Muslim* are basically two different spellings for the same word.” But the seemingly arbitrary choice of spellings is a sensitive subject for many followers of Islam. Whereas for most English speakers the two words are synonymous in meaning, the Arabic roots of the two words are very different. A *Muslim* in Arabic means “one who gives himself to Allah” and is by definition someone who adheres to Islam. By contrast, a *Moslem* in Arabic means “one who is evil and unjust” when the word is pronounced, as it is in English, *Mozlem* with a z.

For others, this spelling difference is merely a linguistic matter, with the two spellings a result of variation in transliteration methods. Both *Moslem* and *Muslim* are used as nouns. But some writers use *Moslem* when the word is employed as an adjective.

Journalists switched to *Muslim* from *Moslem* in recent years under pressure from Islamic groups. But the use of the word *Moslem* has not entirely ceased. Established institutions that used the older form of the name have been reluctant to change. The American Moslem Foundation is still the American Moslem Foundation (much as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is still the NAACP). ★

Zola Levitt Ministries has decided to call a follower of Islam by the same name that Zola used: *Moslem*. —Editor





**Students from Tel Aviv University and the Technion beat out 72 other teams from around the world.**



## SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

that the Saudi Committee for the Support of the Intifada al-Quds used Arab Bank's offices in Jordan and New York to convert donations into U.S. currency before they were distributed to Hamas sympathizers.

The civil case is the first time a bank has faced a trial under the Anti-Terrorism Act, which allows victims of U.S.-designated foreign terrorist organizations to seek compensation. The U.S. State Department designated Hamas a terrorist group in 1997.

Most of the case is expected to hinge on evidence of certain bank transfers.

Recently, the plaintiffs displayed a record of an electronic transfer naming Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin and a list from a bank file of people designated for \$5,300 payments based on deaths from "martyr operations."

**UPDATE:** (Reuters) — A U.S. jury on Sept. 22 found Arab Bank Plc liable for providing material support to Hamas and said it must compensate Hamas's victims.

### Israel Takes Math Prize

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich / JPost.com

For the first time ever, an Israeli mathematics team won first prize in the International Mathematics Competition, held this year in Bulgaria. The team of six math bachelor's degree students from TAU and the Technion received 355 points — 38 more than the 2nd-place group, Eötvös Loránd of Budapest.

In the high-level competition held annually for the last 20 years, Israel competed against 72 groups from universities around the world. Team trainer Lev Radzivilovsky led Amotz Oppenheim, Omri Solan, Tom Calvary and Yoav Krauz from Tel Aviv University and Nitzan Tur and Guy Raveh of Haifa's Technion-Israel Institute of Technology to victory.

### Arab Bank Lawsuit

By Spencer Ho / TimesOfIsrael.com

A Federal District Court in Brooklyn is trying a case by terror victims in Israel against the Jordan-based Arab Bank.

American victims in two dozen attacks in Israel sued Arab Bank, accusing it of knowingly helping Hamas finance a "death and dismemberment benefit plan" for martyrs. Their lawyers allege



*Hamas founder  
Sheik Ahmed  
Yassin*



## Dark Humor Helps Israelis Deal with Danger

By Viva Sarah Press / Israel21c.org

There is nothing funny about the situation in Israel during rocket attacks. But dark humor and cynical barbs help Israelis deal with the tension and anxiety surrounding conflicts like this summer's Operation Protective Edge.

Moments after the first rockets were fired from Gaza toward Tel Aviv, someone posted a cartoon meant to skewer the fact that the city is one of the world's most expensive to live in. The sign reads: "The Municipality of Tel Aviv has opened all its bomb shelters for the comfort of its residents. First hour — NIS 20; every 15 minutes extra — NIS 7." Obviously, you don't need to pay for safety, but this status update shared by many had an authentic ring.

A Facebook user, responding to the *Big Brother* reality television show's decision to broadcast its program free of charge as a goodwill gesture to those stuck in shelters, posted this status: "... When you're stuck in your home and can't go out, the thing that will encourage you most is to watch people stuck in a home who can't get out."

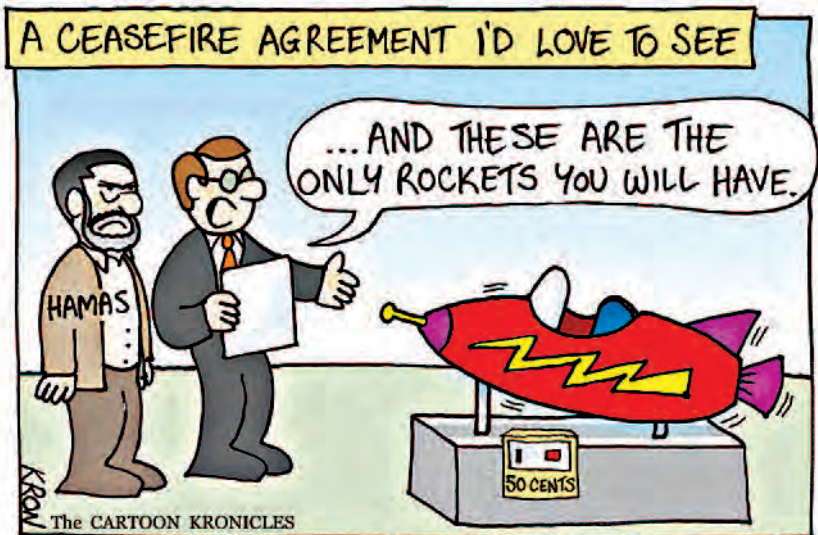
Another Facebook user wrote: "Hi Hamas, My friends and I were greatly impressed by your success at launching a rocket over 110 kilometers' distance. Well done."

There's even a good chance that you'd get accepted to the engineering school at Tel Aviv University without taking the entrance exams. Really, we were impressed. So, can you stop now?"

There's even a Facebook group called [Bomb Shelter Selfies](#).

Bloggers are also offering up their comic takes on what's going on. Tel Aviv-based comedy writer Omri Marcus posted an article called [17 things to do in 30 seconds](#) on [HuffingtonPost.com](#), in which he suggests what can be accomplished in the amount of time most Israelis have, upon hearing the air raid siren, to run to a shelter. His suggestions include: Learning all the names of the moderate non-violent ministers in the Hamas government by heart, half-cooking minute rice, and taking a pregnancy test.

While social-media users will continue to try outdoing one another with humorous and biting status updates that relate to each new situation, those living under fire understand that the jokes offer a few seconds of respite but by no means diminish the real fear.



# Israeli Trade Gateway To Arab World

BY ARI RABINOVITCH AND TOVA COHEN / in.Reuters.com

The hydraulic ramp of a Turkish freighter taps down on Israel's port of Haifa and, under a full moon, 37 trucks roll off onto an otherwise empty pier. Then, the convoy of trucks travels east across northern Israel, bringing goods from Europe to customers in Jordan and beyond.



Until three years ago, the cargo these trucks carry—fruits, cheese, raw material for the textile industry, spare parts, and second-hand trucks—would have come through Syria. But civil war has made that journey too perilous. Ismail Hamad, a 58-year-old Romanian driver, has driven through Syria for three decades; now, only Israel.

**Three years after Syria plunged into violence, Israel is reaping an unlikely economic benefit.** The number of trucks crossing between Israel and Jordan has jumped some 300% since 2011. In particular, exports from Turkey—food, steel, machinery, and medicine—have begun to flow through Israel and across the Sheik Hussein Bridge to Jordan and a few Arab neighbors. Turkey's transport ministry reported that transit containers shipped to Israel for passage on to other countries increased 432% from 2010 to 2013.

The trade, though still small, is growing enough to encourage long-held Israeli hopes of returning the Jewish state to its historical role as a transit country, a bridge between continents. Israel plans to invest at least \$1.7 billion in infrastructure over the next six years to improve the trade route and boost economic and political relations.



**The logic is simple:** Goods from Europe and elsewhere destined for the wider Middle East are usually unloaded in Egypt before they make the several-hour drive to a Red Sea port, where they are loaded onto new vessels and shipped to their final destination. The routes from Haifa in Israel to Jordan, Iraq, and even Saudi Arabia—historically used by the Ottoman and British empires—are potentially much quicker and cheaper, shaving days and more off a trip between, say, Turkey and Baghdad. Costs could be cut in half. An Israeli shipping agency says business sprang to life in 2011 when organizers of the Jordan Rally found they couldn't bring race cars in from Italy through Syria. Thanks to a Turkish sea route to Haifa, shipments began crossing through Israel.

Israel's gain is surprising because countries such as Saudi Arabia and Iraq spurn official relations with Israel. After the trucked freight reaches the Sheik Hussein Bridge, it passes into Jordan. According to numerous international businessmen who spoke on condition of anonymity, goods continue from the Jordanian border into Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Documentation often shows the origin of goods but not their transit route, so the receiving authorities either don't know about or ignore Israel's role.

However, return cargo from the Arab world into Israel is inspected with great scrutiny. This is perhaps the weakest link in the trade route. Merchants say they could easily sell more from the Arab world through Israel were it not for Israel's security procedures.

*(continued next page)*



## Gateway... continued



Business leaders from Switzerland, Jordan, and Israel are working to ease that strain by expanding a free-trade zone—the Jordan Gateway, four miles south of the Sheik Hussein Bridge and straddling the Israel-Jordan border—into a customs-free zone where cargo can be dropped off or picked up from either side 24 hours a day, companies can build factories, and everything, including security, is managed privately. Already the Jordan Gateway is one of five such zones in the country from which goods manufactured in collaboration with Israel can be sold to the United States without tariff or quota restrictions.

Seven factories are up and running on the Jordanian side of the zone, an increase from just four factories at the start of this year. The planned industrial park will bring a boost to Jordanians nearby who depend on farming and are much poorer than the Israelis across the river. Israel has given approval and budgeted \$17 million to build a bridge directly into the trade zone. The Gateway group hopes Jordan will approve the plan within months.

Israel's Zoko Enterprises moved its plant to the Jordanian side of the zone three years ago to save on labor costs and gain access to Arab markets. The general manager says companies from countries like Saudi Arabia and Qatar, which don't have diplomatic relationships with Israel, are willing to buy from a company in Jordan. "Customers from all over the world—from Iraq and other Middle East countries at exhibitions—come to our booths to talk business. They don't care about politics," he says.

**A railway from Haifa to Beit Shean**, not far from the Jordan border, will be completed this year, with a final leg planned so that by 2017 a steady flow of containers could travel by train all the way to the border.



*Trucks drive past a railway bridge under construction, planned to connect the northern Israeli city of Haifa to Beit Shean.*

The most ambitious plan is a \$400 million, 400-megawatt power station run on Israeli natural gas to generate electricity for Israel and Jordan. Jordan today suffers from blackouts and has a big shortage of electricity. The developers hope for approval from Amman this year. The project would take up to five years to build. Some analysts remain skeptical that Jordan will agree to use Israeli gas. But in February, the partners in Israel's huge Tamar field signed a 15-year deal with two Amman-based companies to supply \$500 million worth of gas.

Israel also plans to build two \$1 billion ports to be run by foreign operators—one in Haifa, the other 50 miles south in Ashdod. The new Haifa port will have a capacity for 1.5 million containers a year, roughly doubling current levels. Israel has "not even begun to scratch at the potential," Yael Ravia-Zadok of the Foreign Ministry told a recent economic conference. ★



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# Experts Miss the Obvious

ARCHAEOLOGY: BY SARAH GRIFFITHS / DailyMail.com



It has lain unstudied in a university library since 1901. But now a 1,500-year-old papyrus has been identified as one of the world's earliest surviving Christian talismans.

The document was uncovered in the University of Manchester's John Rylands Library. It is the earliest surviving document to use the Christian Eucharist liturgy — which describes The Last Supper — as a protection. [See comment at end.] The words are written on a recycled piece of papyrus and combine biblical passages including Psalm 78:23–24 and Matthew 26:28–30.

*Our God prepared a sacred table in the desert for the people and gave manna of the new covenant to eat, the Lord's immortal body and the blood of Christ poured for us in remission of sins.*

Dr. Roberta Mazza, a Research Fellow of the John Rylands Research Institute, came across the Greek text while trawling through thousands of unpublished fragments. She believes that the text shows how Christians adopted the ancient Egyptian practice of wearing amulets to protect the wearer against dangers, replacing the prayers to Egyptian and Greco-Roman gods with extracts from the Bible.

Mazza used spectral imaging techniques to reveal that the words were written on recycled papyrus. Faint lettering on the reverse side appears to be a receipt for the payment of a grain tax that was certified by a tax collector from the village of Tertembuthis, outside the ancient city of Hermopolis, in modern el-Ashmunein.

Mazza explained: "The amulet maker would have cut a piece off the receipt and written the charm on the other side. Then he would have folded the papyrus to be kept in a locket or pendant."

Mazza concluded: "We can say this is an incredibly rare example of Christianity and the Bible becoming meaningful to ordinary people — not just to priests and the elite. It's doubly fascinating because the amulet maker clearly knew the Bible, but made lots of mistakes: some words are misspelled and others are in the wrong order. This suggests that he was writing by heart rather than copying it. ... Thanks to this discovery, we now think that the knowledge of the Bible was more embedded in sixth century Egypt than we previously realized."



1,500-year-old papyrus sheds light on early Christian practices

**Accurate comment on the website:** Putting a religious document inside a box is NOT an Egyptian custom; it is a Jewish custom. Jews place scripture from the Jewish Bible (*Torah*) that they hang on their doorpost (in a *mezuzah*) or on their body (in phylacteries, or in Hebrew *tefillin*) as a reminder of the Exodus (not as a protective "charm"). Jews have been doing this since the Exodus (Exodus 13:9). Christians living 1,500 years ago had a much closer relationship to Jewish than to Egyptian practices. ★

(Also see *Secrets of the Scrolls* on page 17.)



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# JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.

## In the Afterlife

Rabbi Goldberg walks into a Tel Aviv synagogue and asks the first man he meets, "Do you want to go to Heaven?"

The man responds, "Yes, I do, Rabbi."

Rabbi Goldberg instructs, "Then stand over there against the wall."

Then the rabbi asks a second man, "Do you want to go to Heaven?"

"Certainly, Rabbi," the man replies.

"Then stand over there against the wall," the rabbi tells him.

Then Rabbi Goldberg walks up to Morris and asks, "Do you want to go to Heaven?"

Morris answers, "No, Rabbi, I don't."

Rabbi Goldberg is shocked. "I don't believe this. Do you mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to Heaven?"

Morris answers, "Oh, when I die, yes. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now." ★



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



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# Israel

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