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Enhancing Trust

Dear Reader,

October 2016

The Fall Feasts are upon us. Three occur this October; our ministry covers them all.

Rosh Hashanah / Feast of Trumpets / Jewish New Year occurs on a specific date every year. Read about the Jewish calendar's evolution on page 8, and consider getting a Jewish Heritage Calendar (p. 9) to savor numerous historical notes and stunning artifact photos.

Zola writes about spending **Yom Kippur** / Day of Atonement in Israel 29 years ago (p. 10). Relief at being excused from joining in Jewish prayers for forgiveness is shared by Jews for Jesus, who offer "10 Ways to Pray When Your Sins are Already Forgiven" by Jesus' work on the cross (p. 11). John Parsons's Hebrew Lesson reiterates the salvation that many agonize seems too easy. Learn how Polish Jews—many of them rabbis—spent 1939's Yom Kippur in a most un-rabbinical fashion (p. 1).

Do you know what powerful **Sukkot** symbols Jesus used to point to Himself as the fulfillment of Scripture? You will after you read our cover story, "Finding Jesus...."

Myles addresses the West's need for an awakening to the Holy Spirit, and Katharine illuminates our need for Godly wisdom—ours for the asking. On page 13, our To The Jew First team kept a promise and discovered God's embellishment. His humorous lesson (p. 35) will tickle you.

An Arab Moslem looks at historical mistakes Moslems made in dealing with the Jewish people, and Mark Levitt enumerates their continued mistakes in "Ten Deadly Lies about Israel." Too many denominations buy into these myths (look for this topic in your October *Personal Letter*); avoid associating with these wolves in sheep's clothing (p. 22).

No matter what name they go by—ISIS, Hezbollah, Hamas—all Islamic terrorists share a common goal: a worldwide caliphate (p. 21). UK prisons plan to separate from potential recruits those inmates who preach this ideology (p. 31). Lots of information. Thank you for supporting our anointed efforts on behalf of the Kingdom. Enjoy!



Margot, editor

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Finding Jesus in The Feast of Tabernacles

Rosh Hashanah Oct 2-4 p.8
Yom Kippur Oct 11-12 p.10
Sukkot Oct 16-23 cover

By David Brickner Executive Director, Jews for Jesus

God gave the Biblical festivals to teach the Jewish people about His character and to help us understand His plan of salvation. But all Christians who have been "grafted in" to the olive tree (Romans 11:17) share our rich heritage and roots. **Sukkot** is the last of the High Holy Days on the Jewish calendar. I hope you will find it meaningful.

The Gospels record that Jesus not only celebrated the Feast but also took traditional elements of the celebration and applied them to His own life and mission. In John 7 and 8, Jesus uses two traditional symbols from the Sukkot celebration, water and light, to explain who He is and what He offers.

During Temple times, a priest led the people in a water-drawing ceremony on the seventh day of Sukkot. Parading to the Pool of Siloam to draw water into a golden pitcher and then back into the Temple, worshipers watched the priest approach the altar where two silver basins awaited.

[\(continued p.2\)](#)

Yom Kippur 1939 in the Polish Trenches

By Dr. Yvette Alt Miller
Aish.com



A most unusual **Yom Kippur** service didn't take place in a synagogue. In 1939, World War II had just been declared, and Hitler's forces were battling in Poland, struggling for control of that country. Warsaw, the Polish capital, was under direct attack.

Augmenting the Polish army's efforts to repel the Nazi invaders, the Jews of Warsaw rallied to dig protective trenches around their city. Yom Kippur 1939 dawned on a city under siege. Homes and synagogues had been destroyed in German raids; Warsaw, battered

[\(continued p.3\)](#)



WWII Warsaw photo

Finding Jesus in the Feast of Tabernacles *continued from cover*

The priest poured wine from a golden pitcher into one of the basins as a drink offering to the Lord, and water from the pool into the other.

The ceremony thanked God for His bounty and asked Him to provide rain for the crops in the coming year. In the ancient Middle East, water was often scarce. The people realized that they depended on God for the rain that was vital for the preservation of life. Jesus used a powerful symbol when He stood in the Temple on this great day of the Feast and cried out: ***“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water”*** (John 7:37-38).

Yeshua’s promise of living water prompted debate on the last day of Sukkot. The leaders grew angry because Temple guards refused to arrest Jesus. Even when one of their own, Nicodemus, came to Yeshua’s defense, they still dismissed His claims saying, “A prophet does not come out of Galilee” (7:52). Apparently, those leaders had forgotten about Isaiah:

“There will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past He humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future He will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; of those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” — Isaiah 9:1–2

Light was the second Sukkot symbol that Jesus used to point to Himself as the fulfillment of Scripture. Through Isaiah, God had promised that a great light would shine out of Galilee.

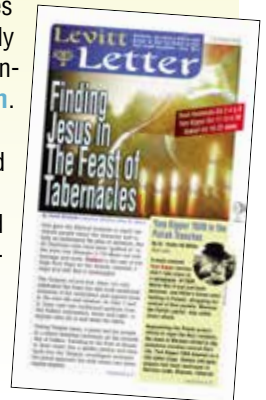
As the first day of the Feast ended, the Temple was gloriously illuminated. Four gigantic candelabra 75 ft. tall stood in the court of the women. Each had four branches with oil that would be ignited. Picture sixteen blazes leaping toward the sky from these golden lamps. The Temple sat on a hill above the city, so the glorious glow bathed the entire city, reminding the people of how God’s *Shekinah* glory had once filled His Temple. Jesus used the lighting celebration to announce that in Him, God’s glory was once again present. While He was teaching in the court of women, He declared: ***“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life”*** (John 8:12).

Yeshua’s light still shines brightly today. As Jewish people celebrate Sukkot, please pray that they will come to know the One of whom *all* the Feasts speak. Pray that the living water of our Messiah Jesus will quench their thirst and fill them with the very Spirit of the God of Israel.



Seeking Experienced Art Director/Graphic Designer

Know a seasoned Graphic Designer qualified to produce our monthly *Levitt Letter* news-mag, Personal Letter, and Israel study/tour materials? Our print designer for over 25 years is retiring. This part-time, freelance opportunity (about 40+ hours per month) requires no relocation. Serious candidates please send resume, cover letter, publication samples (in pdf format), and hourly rate to Mark Levitt’s attention at staff@levitt.com. The ideal person will be a committed Believer and graphics professional, pro-Israel, and dedicated to furthering God’s Kingdom by enlightening both Jew and gentile. We prefer an individual over an agency, please.



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Yom Kippur 1939 in the Polish Trenches *cont. from p. 1*



daily by the *Luftwaffe*, was bracing for a ground assault.

Poland's army excused the Jewish residents of Warsaw from helping prepare defensive reinforcements on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, recognizing that it was the most solemn holiday on the Hebrew calendar. Yet, many of Warsaw's Jews had no place to go—their homes and synagogues lay in rubble. Instead, they gathered on the barricades for the observance of Yom Kippur. Because fighting-age men were in the army, those who remained were old men and children. Together, they worked feverishly to dig defensive trenches, all the while reciting the Yom Kippur service.

The Jews—many of them elderly rabbis—chanted Psalms and the Vidui, the confessional prayer recited at Yom Kippur services and before death, while they dug the defenses. Under constant air attack, elderly men and children together met each exploding bomb with a loud shout of "Shema Yisrael!" (Hear, O Israel!).



Warsaw burning as the *Luftwaffe* attacks, 1943





Our friend, multi-talented Avner Boskey, integrates in a delightful and pithy way colorful song lyrics and media references into his Messianic missives from the Negev. I thought of him as I remembered a song from my youth. One of the many psychedelic soul songs that Norman Whitfield wrote and produced in the late '60s and early '70s, this one recorded by the Temptations in 1970 attacked the Vietnam War, Nixon's administration, and drug addiction, making it one of the few protest records from Motown.

Ball of Confusion

People movin' out, people movin' in
Why, because of the color of their skin
Run, run, run but you sure can't hide
An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth
Vote for me and I'll set you free
Rap on, brother, rap on

Well, the only person talkin' 'bout love thy brother
is the preacher
And it seems nobody's interested in learnin'
but the teacher
Segregation, determination, demonstration, integration
Aggravation, humiliation, obligation to our nation

Ball of confusion
Oh yeah, that's what the world is today

The sale of pills are at an all time high
Young folks walking round with their heads in the sky
The cities ablaze in the summer time
And oh, the beat goes on

Air pollution, revolution, gun control, sound of soul
Shootin' rockets to the moon, kids growin' up too soon
Politicians say more taxes will solve everything

And the band played on
So, 'round and around and around we go
Where the world's headed, nobody knows
Oh, great googa-mooga, can't ya hear me talkin' to ya?
Just a ball of confusion
Oh yeah, that's what the world is today

Fear in the air, tension everywhere
Unemployment rising fast,
The Beatles' new record's a gas
And the only safe place to live is
On an Indian reservation
And the band played on

Eve of destruction, tax deduction,
city inspectors, bill collectors
Mod clothes in demand, population out of hand
Suicide, too many bills, hippies moving to the hills
People all over the world are shouting "End the war!"
And the band played on



“Rap on, brother”



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Half a century ago this ditty blasted over radios across the country. Today it rings equally true. As the Hebrew Scriptures tell us:

“What has been is what will be, and what has been done will be done again. There is nothing new under the sun.” — Ecclesiastes 1:9

The battle between light and darkness proceeds as the Bible predicted. Europe, once a Christian environment (however flawed), is gasping for spiritual air as politically correct policies are creating a Moslem-dominated continent. Note: Please see the description of our ministry’s television series *Bad Moon Rising*.

The *hejira* is ongoing and America could deal with the same issues that Europe is facing—a growing segment of the population that values its political/religious ideology (*sharia*) over the existing laws of the land.


What is *hejira*? TheFreeDictionary.com defines it thusly:

- 1. An Arabic word meaning emigration or flight, used to refer to any flight from danger but especially the flight of Mohammed from Mecca to Medina in 622.**
- 2. A journey by a large group to escape a hostile environment.**

Sadly, many of the Moslems flooding into the West are importing their 7th-century paradigm with them.

The West desperately needs a spiritual awakening. In a coincidence that caught my eye, Norman Whitfield composed the protest song above. Another Whitfield—George—once spurred us into a renewed season of Messiah-centered living. In the 18th century, George Whitefield (often misspelled Whitfield) came to the American colonies from Great Britain; in both places he preached a series of revivals that came to be known as the “Great Awakening.” He reputedly preached at least 18,000 times to perhaps 10 million people.

Politicians come and go, but the Word abides forever (1 Peter 1:25). The West is ready for another great awakening, when crowds gain a personal sense of their need for salvation by Yeshua HaMashiach/ Jesus Christ. Your prayers and financial contributions keep this ministry’s voice shouting—“from the housetops” (Matt. 10:27), on television, in print, on the web—that Yeshua is the hope of the entire world. When people hear the Gospel, the Spirit goes to work changing hearts. ★



The Christian world is in a deep sleep; nothing but a loud shout can awaken them out of it!

~ George Whitefield
1714 – 1770

AZ QUOTES

Wisdom From Above

Katharine Weiss
ZLP co-host



We live in times characterized by a lack of wisdom. As God foretold, knowledge is increasing (Daniel 12:4). Technological know-how and innovation abound, but the wisdom that is “from above” is rare.

We Believers need to be like Solomon, who asked God for wisdom:

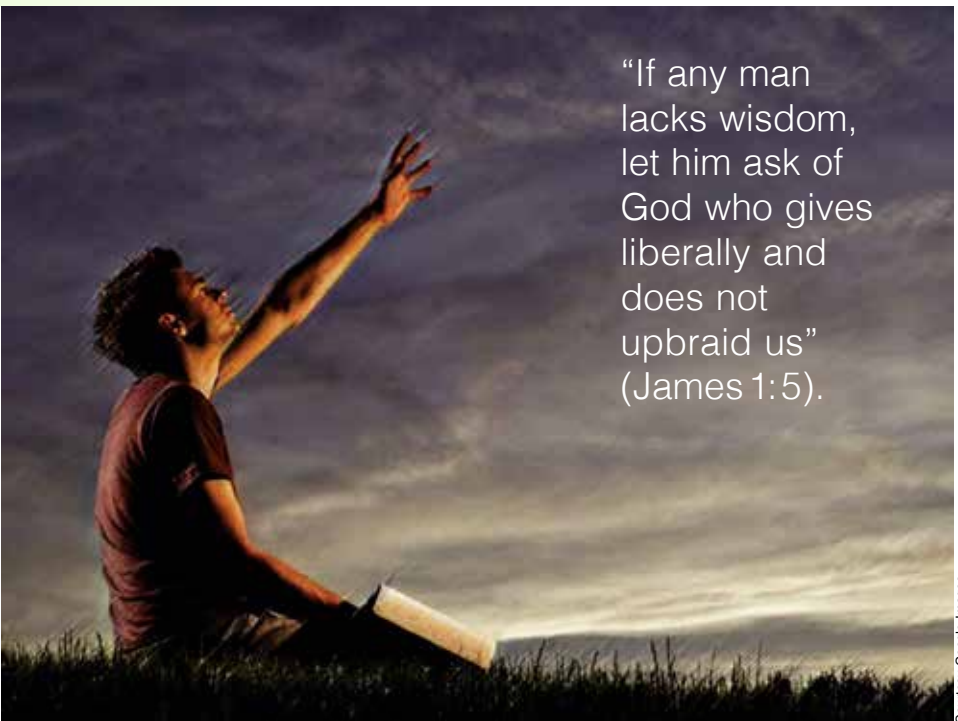
“Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad, for who is able to judge this so great a people.” —1 Kings 3:9

The Hebrew word for wisdom (*chokmah*) literally means to be wise, to act wisely, to be intelligent, to be prudent. The verb is used 26 times in the *Tanakh*, the Hebrew Scriptures. It speaks of an intelligent attitude toward the experience of life. According to *Strong’s Concordance*, this experience includes “matters of general interest and basic morality, prudence in secular affairs, skills in the arts, moral sensitivity, and spiritual experience.”

Hebrew wisdom differed from other ancient worldviews. Israel believed in the existence of a personal God who is holy and just, and who expects us to live our lives in accordance with His principles. They did not speculate like the Greeks, who emphasized the human will of the heart, not merely the intellect. Hebrew wisdom, therefore, was very practical—based on what God revealed about right and wrong. These perspectives applied to daily life. This ministry emphasizes messages of God’s wisdom because everyone—even non-believers—needs more of God’s way in our lives.

Myles likes to joke about different paradigms in this way:

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“If any man lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives liberally and does not upbraid us” (James 1:5).



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Katharine *continued*

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"The pagan asks, 'What God?' The Greek questions, 'Which God?' But the Hebrew queries, 'God, what do you want from me?'"

Myles adds: "The sons of Abraham know God as He reveals Himself through the Bible, and they recognize that He wants them to live by His wisdom."

***"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy."* —James 3:17**

I love how God tells us: "If any man lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives liberally and does not upbraid us" (James 1:5). Our Lord does not punish us for not knowing; He simply wants us to ask. As Believers, we all need to grow in our wisdom and understanding. Yeshua is our example: In Luke 2:52, we read that even Jesus "grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men."

Why is it that humans do not take the time to ask the all-knowing God for the wisdom that we lack? He will help us find our way. Especially in these tumultuous times, with battles raging in spiritual realms, we have permission to call, "Abba, Father" and trust Him to guide us in the path of life.

For a lasting memory, read the verses above as you walk the land of our Lord. I strongly encourage you to join us on one of our biannual pilgrimages to Israel. Or bless your children or grandchildren with this life-changing experience as the Word comes alive and God's wisdom floods the pilgrim's spirit! [See the back cover for details.](#) ★



Walk the Land with [Zola Tours](#). Our Biblical study-tours are life-changing! Jordan River horizon looking north



Rosh Hashanah and the Jewish Months

BY GEORGE JOCHNOWITZ (r) Algemeiner.com



Rosh Hashanah 2016 begins in the evening of Sunday, Oct. 2 and ends in the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 4

"In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you are to have a holy convocation; do not do any kind of ordinary work; it is a day of blowing the shofar for you" (Numbers 29:1). Those words in the Torah concern the observance of *Rosh Hashanah* ("head of the year"), the Jewish New Year. Does a year start on the first day of the seventh month? Apparently it does.

Passover begins in the month of Nissan, but according to Deuteronomy 16:1, it begins in the month of Aviv. Aviv (Hebrew for "spring" occurs in the name Tel Aviv (hill of spring)). Nissan is the seventh month after Rosh Hashanah. But if Rosh Hashanah takes place in the seventh month (Tishrei), then Aviv — now called Nissan — is the first month.

Signs of the Zodiac decorate synagogues all over the world. I once asked about them and was told that they represent the 12 Tribes of Israel, an easy way to reconcile the 12 symbols with Jewish tradition. The Zodiac was part of the Babylonian calendar; so Jewish traditions involving these symbols may have been borrowed during the Babylonian exile. However, the Babylonian year began with the month of Nissan.

The language spoken on the island of Sardinia is considered a separate language and not a dialect of Italian. The name of the month of September in Sardinian is *caputanni*—*caput* means "head" and *anni* means "of the year." Thus, *caputanni* is a perfect translation of Rosh Hashanah. The name may also reflect a pre-Roman calendar that began the year with September. It is also possible, and probably more likely, that the name goes back to the year 19 A.D., when the Jews were expelled from Rome, and 4,000 young Jews were condemned to forced labor on Sardinia.

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Blowing the shofar at the Western Wall in Jerusalem



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Rosh Hashanah... *continued*

Torah Scroll



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Twelve years later, the order was rescinded, and the Jews had the choice of returning to Rome or remaining where they were. A Jewish population remained in Sardinia until 1492, when the island belonged to Spain and the Jews were expelled. There is a second word in Sardinian that appears to be of Jewish origin, *cenabura* ("c" pronounced like "k"), meaning "Friday," coming from *cena* (feast) and *pura* (pure), suggesting the Sabbath meal. These words remained in Sardinian after the expulsion of the Jews.

And then there's September, from Latin *septem* meaning "seven," with what is probably an adjectival suffix *-ber*. September, October, November, and December mean 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th. Yet they are the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th months of the year. In the days before the Roman Republic existed, there were 51 winter days that were not part of any month. Around the year 713 B.C., King Numa Pompilius introduced two months into the winter season—Januarius and Februarius—and designated them as the first two months of the year. Julius Caesar renamed the fifth month after himself, calling it Julius (July in English). Augustus Caesar named the eighth month after himself, calling it Augustus (August).

And so the Jewish calendar begins with a month originally called the seventh, which occurs in September, a name meaning "seventh."

Shanah tovah! Happy New Year! ★

Jewish Heritage Calendar **New Year!** 5777 (2016–2017)

With the Seven Feasts of Israel in mind, imagine the usefulness of our delightful and inexpensive Jewish Heritage Calendar. This beautiful calendar begins in September and spans 13 months, through September 2017. It provides the dates of all the Biblical feasts and Sabbaths plus the names of the months, the Holy Days, and all the rest through the English phonetics like those in our monthly Hebrew Lesson in the *Levitt Letter*. Enjoy Biblical feast graphics, Hebraic regalia pictures, and inspiration.



ETROG BOX "Featured in 2016 calendar: Etrog Box—holds the Palm branch, Willow, Myrtle, and Etrog (Citron) on **Sukkot**, symbolizing Jewish unity."



The Longest Day—Yom Kippur

CLASSIC ZOLA from 1987: 29 years ago



Yom Kippur

October 2, 1987 (10 Tishrei 5748)

Yerushalayim / Jerusalem

Today is Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement). It began, according to the Oct. 2 [1987] *Jerusalem Post*, at 4:47 p.m. in Jerusalem and at 5:06 p.m. in Tel Aviv (slightly west and a little downrange of the sunset). It will end tomorrow evening at 5:59 p.m. in Jerusalem and later in Tel Aviv. Candles must be lit at these exact moments to start the festival. The *JPost* article lists numbers for emergency ambulance and police service and appeals to the public “not to interfere with the movement of ambulances and other vehicles called to answer emergency calls.” Ultra-religious factions in Israel have stoned the vehicles of those compelled to drive on the High Holy Days, or even on weekly Sabbaths, for that matter. Israeli society truly shuts down for a day of rest every week, and it ceases virtually all secular operations on the sacred Day of Atonement. No one eats anything or drinks anything for 25 hours, solid.

The Day of Atonement is given in Leviticus 23:27 as a day of confession when all Israelites are called to afflict their souls before God. It is considered an annual “catching up” with God, a way of keeping one’s redemption up to date and in good order against the appearance of the Messiah, who will look back at all accounts (Rom. 3:25).



I can only say that I’m glad my atonement has already been made and that in my accepting the Messiah, my sins of a lifetime are forgiven. Which of us

could accurately remember his sins of a week, let alone a year; but in the New Covenant, God says, “I will remember their sins no more” (Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:12).

The precision of events like candle-lighting ceremonies in Israel reflects a people wary of Almighty God. It also speaks of a religiosity as nitpicking as it is triumphant. If one has no intercessor with God, one’s candle-lighting had better be correct to the minute and computed on the advice of the most accurate rabbi. Such is life in the Old Covenant, as it always was.

The Day of Atonement always speaks to me of the liberty we Believers have in Christ. When I think of the fasting and prayer I performed uncomprehendingly as a child, I can weep for the freedom I have now. Indeed, all Israel will weep on that future Great Day of Atonement when the Lord returns:

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they shall look upon Me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall grieve for Him, as one grieveth for a firstborn” (Zech. 12:10).

It is significant that all this confessing and afflicting ends at exactly 5:59 p.m. with a trumpet blast!

The believing *Zola Levitt Presents* crew here in Jerusalem is having a day of rest rather than a day of atonement. We have done our weekly work and are resting in the work that Yeshua did on the cross.

Meanwhile, pray for the people who are atoning on this day, that they will come to Him in whom all sins are forgiven. And, please, pray for the peace of Jerusalem. ★

Our new series *Close Encounters with Yeshua* will explore the joyful mystery of coming to Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah. Brief dramas depict journeys of faith for historical Bible figures, and contemporary Believers share their journeys with Katharine and me. —Myles



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10 Ways to Pray When Your Sins Are Already Forgiven

JewsForJesus.org

Yom Kippur 2016
begins at sunset
Tues., October 11
and ends sunset
Wed., October 12

You might be surprised to learn that many Jewish believers in Jesus consciously choose to fast each **Yom Kippur** even though we believe that our sins are already covered—and not just covered for the year, but for eternity. Our prayers are along the lines of 2 Chronicles 6:21 where Solomon, at the Temple's dedication, pleads, *“Listen to the supplications of Your servant and of Your people Israel when they pray toward this place; hear from Your dwelling place, from heaven; hear and forgive.”*

Jewish believers in Jesus in the free world are thankful to have the freedom to celebrate our Jewish heritage and tradition in the light of fulfilled prophecy and forgiveness in Messiah. Even if you don't yet share our perspective, **you might be curious to know how and what we pray on Yom Kippur, a day of introspection when Jews atone for the past year's sins.**

We address our Heavenly Father, God of Israel...

You are powerful and holy. Thank You for bringing us to this season and upholding us. We thank You for being our Father and our King.

We praise You for Your goodness toward us in providing a way of forgiveness and a way to know You in a personal way.

Thank You for being our Creator and choosing us to be among Your chosen people.

Thank You for giving us Scripture.

We confess the wrong actions and thoughts that we've committed and had against You and against others. Thank You for sending Yeshua Messiah in our place so we can have assurance of forgiveness.

Thank You for creating an eternal, complete system in place of the Temple that You provided in Solomon's time.

Please work in the hearts of friends and family who don't yet know or accept You, that they would understand the plan of salvation that You've made for us all.

Please guide our local and national and international governing bodies in the coming year. Thank You for being the Authority above all authorities.

We believe that You are working all things together for Your glory. Help us to better trust You this year in all areas of our lives. ★



Ask the Chaplain

By Dr. Todd Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q. I appreciate the insights that Myles and Katharine bring to our nation's predominantly gentile body. Getting the Hebraic perspective has become valuable to me, allowing me a stronger and better understanding of the Jewish Roots of our faith and thus a connection to our Jewish brothers and sisters. Please pass my thanks to Myles and Katharine.

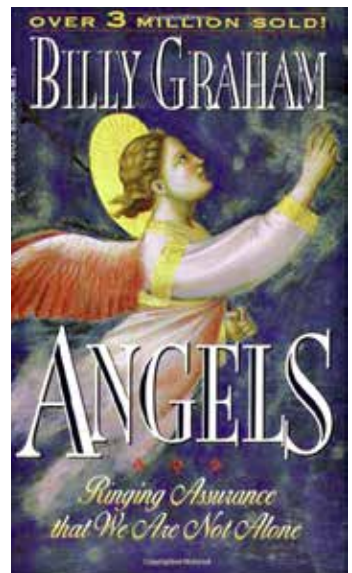
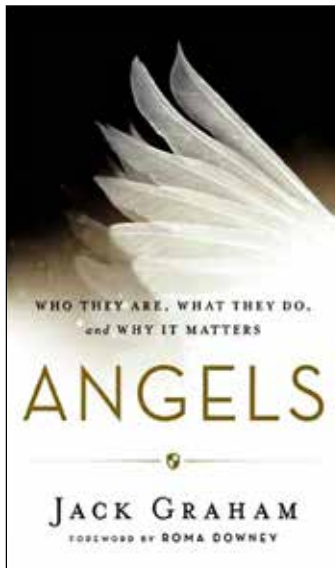
I have been studying the "fullness of the gentiles" and wonder how this prophecy plays into the End Times. **Do you all feel we students of the Bible are seeing the fullness of the gentiles being completed at this time?**

Bless your ministry, and thank you in advance for your response.

A. **The fullness of the gentiles that Paul mentions in Romans 11:25 directly relates to the nation of Israel's salvation.** The term within the Biblical context of Romans 11 refers to the completion of God's plan in the present Church Age, which entails calling out gentile Believers in Yeshua from the nations of the world to form the Church, a people for Christ's name. The "fullness of the gentiles" will be complete when the last gentile convert of the Church Age completes the Church of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23; Acts 15:14; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13). When this is done, the Church will be raptured and God will turn to save Israel, and the Lord Jesus will return.

Q. **I would like to know if Chaplain Todd could expound on the angel discussion from his [August column](#).** I've been a Christian for 25 years. During the past five years, I've been discovering my Hebraic foundation and enjoying it very much. Are there any studies in the Torah that give specifics regarding angels? So much misinformation about angels is circulating nowadays. I often wonder where people get these ideas when I have not seen any of it in Scripture. Can you provide any further direction? The resources available from Zola Levitt Ministries are excellent. Thank you.

A. **I know of no study that confines itself to the Torah on the subject of angels.** But I am familiar with at least 2 good books on angels written by Billy Graham and Dr. Jack Graham that examine what the whole Bible teaches about angels. Billy Graham: [Angels](#) (1995); Jack Graham: [Angels: Who They Are, What They Do, and Why It Matters](#) (2016) ★



A Promise Kept

By Robin (Aviel) Hopper
TJF Outreach Team
Ambassador



Jennifer owns the gift shop in the Dan Panorama Hotel in Israel's Red Sea resort city of Eilat. When I met her in 2014, I discovered that she had made *aliyah* (immigrated to Israel) from Scotland some years back. During my ministry to her, I had offered her a complete (with both Testaments) Hebrew Bible. She was interested, but as she still had difficulty reading Hebrew, she asked if I had a Bible in English. I didn't, and the only other Messianic book I had with me was *Isaiah 53 Explained*, also in Hebrew. She slowly read its cover and suggested that she'd have her young son read it with her to translate words she had difficulty understanding. I promised to have an English Bible the next time I saw her. We didn't manage to meet again for another year.

During Hanukkah 2015, Dr. Todd Baker stayed at the Dan Panorama in Eilat. Unaware of my encounter with Jennifer, Todd also offered her a Bible in Hebrew. She mentioned my promise, and Todd on his return Stateside mentioned it to me. I could have kicked myself for not sending an English Bible with Todd. As the **To The Jew First** team prepared for the 2016 Outreach, I made sure I had a Bible for Jennifer.

We arrived in Eilat on Friday with Shabbat almost upon us, so I did not expect the gift shop to be open. However, Jennifer was behind the counter. She recognized me and greeted me cordially. I told her that I had brought something for her and would be right back.



Robin and Jennifer at the gift shop
in the Dan Panorama Hotel, Eilat

When I returned with the English Bible, Jennifer could

barely contain her joy at receiving such a lovely gift. As she caught me up on her studies, she confessed that her plan to have her young son read the Hebrew book I'd left had not worked out as she'd hoped. This disappointed me, but little did I know that God had another plan for Jennifer.

The next day being Shabbat, the team ministered on the beach and in other areas where non-observant Jews gather. Sunday's ministry proved fruitful as well. That evening as I was packing up my suitcase, I came across a copy of [*Isaiah 53 Explained*](#) ... in English. I do not remember packing it.

I handed it to a delighted Jennifer the next morning as we checked out. Now she has her own translation and can pass on the information she learns from it to her son in her own words, in a mother's fashion.

Amazing things happen when you keep a promise. My ministry with Jennifer counted as one of the most rewarding of that outreach to Israel. On our next visit to Eilat, I look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit waters the Gospel seed that I planted. ★

Ten Deadly Lies...



... about Israel. The falsehoods below persuade the secular media to ignore Holy Land history. American-born political consultant Ron Dermer is Netanyahu's confidant and Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. Writing for *Politico Magazine*, he concisely refutes these pernicious myths.

1. Israel is trying to change the status quo on the Temple Mount.

False. The ones trying to change the status quo are Palestinians, who are violently trying to prevent Jews and Christians from even visiting a site holy to all three faiths.

2. Israel seeks to destroy al-Aqsa mosque.

False: In the Middle East, where militant Islamists desecrate and destroy churches, synagogues, World Heritage Sites, as well as each other's mosques, Israel is the only guarantor of Jerusalem's holy places.

3. A recent surge in settlement construction has caused the current wave of violence.

False. Annual construction in the settlements has substantially *decreased* over the past 15 years, from 5,000 new units in 2000 to averages of 1,881 (2001-2005), 1,774 (2005-2008), and 1,554 (2009-15).

4. President Abbas says that Israel "executed" the innocent Palestinian Ahmed Manasra.

False: Manasra is neither innocent nor dead. He stabbed a 13-year-old Jewish boy who was riding his bicycle. (Convicted and awaiting sentencing).

5. Israel uses excessive force in dealing with terrorist attacks.

False: Using force to stop an attack by a gun-, knife-, cleaver-, or ax-wielding terrorist is legitimate self-defense.

6. The current violence is the result of stagnation in the peace process.

False: The reason for Palestinian violence is the desire of the terrorists to destroy Israel.

7. President Abbas is a voice of moderation.

False: Abbas, who explicitly welcomes "every drop of blood spilled in Jerusalem," and his Fatah movement continue to incite the Palestinians to violence.

8. International action is required to enforce the status quo on the Temple Mount.

False. Israel enforces the status quo. The international community can help by holding Abbas accountable for mendacious rhetoric.

9. The reason conflict and violence persist is that the Palestinians don't have a state.

False: The Palestinians rejected peace both before and after the creation of Israel. The core of the conflict remains the Palestinians' persistent refusal to recognize the nation-state of the Jewish people in any borders.

10. Palestinian terrorism is the consequence of Palestinian frustration.

False: Palestinian terrorism is the product of incitement, which inculcates a culture of hatred and violence in successive generations. The terrorists' biggest frustration is that they have failed to destroy Israel. They will continue to be frustrated. ★

Note: The whittled article above complements "Pointers for a Bias-Free Media," from the cover of our January Levitt Letter. —Mark

Dry Bones

(See also p.21)



ZLM Bulletin Board

ZLMs 2015 Fundraising Expenses

To comply with the tax code, this ministry calculates the small percentage of newsletter space and television time that we devote to fundraising. **Added up, it accounts for two-thirds of one percent (0.67%) of our expenses.** An acceptable threshold for many organizations is 20%, which is nearly thirty times what has sufficed for us. Our hat is off to you, the supporter, and your responsiveness to our minimal requests for contributions. You are small in number, amounting to about **3%** of our viewership, but your generosity has enabled us to spread Yeshua's Gospel to new frontiers across the globe... Thanks!

3%

Big Thanks



Planting Trees in Israel

In 1901, the World Zionist Congress established the **Jewish National Fund (JNF)** to purchase land in Israel for Jewish settlement. Since then the JNF has become most popular for planting millions of trees throughout the Holy Land. Now a portion of your contributions to this ministry can be designated for replacing trees lost to fire and helping Israelis make the desert bloom. The trees cost only \$10 each. We can even send you a personalized certificate if you request.



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Free Item

Pamphlet of the Month

"An Estate Planning Quiz"—

Your answers to this informal 25-question quiz may clue you to areas of your estate and financial plans that merit consideration. The true-false questions serve as a checklist of sorts. Then, a grading scale at the end suggests where you stand between "unusually prudent" and "your loved ones will probably experience significant difficulties." To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.



AN ESTATE PLANNING QUIZ



Burning Weapons of War

Ezekiel 39:9 prophesies that in the End Times, Israelis will burn Gog's weapons of war, using them as fuel for seven years. **Today's weaponry doesn't burn**, however, since it's made of metal. Metal is more durable than wood, so steel is used to frame skyscrapers as well as to manufacture artillery. Nonetheless, a new development corroborates the inevitability of what Ezekiel foresaw. In April, *TIME* magazine reported that wood is making a comeback as engineered timber in "plyscrapers" around the world. It's eco-friendly and lighter than metal. Wooden weapons may be on today's horizon!



Google Image

"Come Home!"

Zola Tours to Israel



See [page 36](#) for details



HebrewLesson



Heeding The Call Of Hope

John J. Parsons

כִּי־אָתָּה תֹאִיר נְרִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יְגִיָּה חָשְׁכִי

“For it is you who light my lamp; the LORD my God outshines my darkness.”
– Psalm 18:28

כִּי	חָשְׁכִי	יְגִיָּה	אֱלֹהֵי	יְהוָה	נְרִי	תֹאִיר	אָתָּה	כִּי־אָתָּה
(2)	(1)	(3)(2)(1)	(3)(2)(1)	(1)	(2)(1)	(2)(1)	(3)(2)(1)	(1)
chosh-ki	ya-gi-ah	E-lo-hai	Adonai	ne-ri	ta-ir	ki-a-tah		
my darkness	outshines	my God	the LORD	my lamp	will light	for You		

The only way out of the painful ambiguity of life is to hear a message from the higher world, the Heavenly Voice, that brings hope to our aching and troubled hearts: “Faith comes by hearing the word of Messiah” (Rom. 10:17). And yet what is the meaning of this message if it is not that all shall be made well by Heaven’s hand? There is hope, there is hope, and all your fears will one day be cast into outer darkness, swallowed up by God’s unending comfort. “Go into all the world and make students (*talmidim*) of all nations” (Matt 28:19), and that means sharing the hope that what makes us sick—our depravity and despair—has been healed by Yeshua, and that we escape the gravity of our own fallenness if we accept His invitation to receive life in Him. “For it is You who light my lamp; the LORD my God outshines my darkness.”

Exercising faith means actively listening to the Eternal Voice, the Word of the LORD that calls out in love in search of your heart’s trust. To have faith means justifying God’s faith in you, that is, understanding that you truly matter to God, and that the Voice calls out your name, too. Living in faith means consciously accepting that you are accepted by God’s love and grace. Trusting God means that you bear ambiguity, heartache, and darkness, yet you still allow hope to enlighten your way.

Therefore “we walk by faith, not by sight”—as if the *invisible* is indeed *visible*. We must stay strong and keep hope, for through hope we are saved (Rom. 8:24). Faith is the *conviction* of things unseen (Heb. 11:1). Do not be seduced by mere appearances; do not allow yourself to be bewitched into thinking that this world should ever be your home. No, we are strangers and pilgrims here; we are on the journey to reach “the City of the Living God, to Heavenly Jerusalem, to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven” (Heb. 12:22-23). Therefore do not lose heart. Keep to the narrow path. Set your affections on things above since your real life is “hidden with God” (Col. 3:1-4). Do not yield to the temptation of despair. Look beyond the “giants of the land” and reckon them as already fallen. Keep pressing on. *Chazak, chazak, ve-nit chazek*—“Be strong, be strong, and let us be strengthened!” Fight the good fight of the faith.

May the LORD our God help you take hold of the eternal life to which you were called.

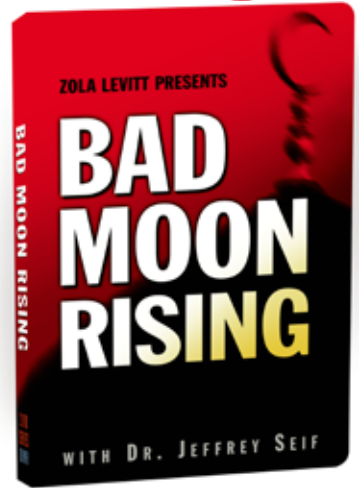
(1 Tim. 6:12) ★



Bad Moon Rising DVDs

Eight 30-minute TV programs on Two DVDs

Dr. Jeffrey Seif remembers yesterday's Holocaust and considers anti-Semitism's rise in modern-day Europe. Though dressed this time in Islamic garb and not in Nazi uniforms, anti-Semitism is making fresh headway in the world, its current surge fueled by the radical Islamic fringe as it turns out the lights of once-Christian Europe. Jeff speaks out against this trend with a prophetic voice and calls individuals, particularly Europeans and onlooking North Americans, to resist the encroaching darkness and walk in the light of God's grace and love.



When Darkness Once Prevailed Jeff speaks from a Jewish synagogue/memorial in Dachau, where he draws troubling parallels between the rise of the Nazis and the rise of radical Islam.

Out of the Darkness Against the backdrop of Dachau's front gate, emblazoned with the lie "Work Will Make You Free," Jeff teaches about real freedom. A Holocaust survivor shares her remarkable story.

Dark Night of the Soul Jeff talks from inside the barracks of Dachau. Sandra Levitt and Will King interview survivors who worked on the bunker where Hitler planned to manufacture his Messerschmitt aircraft.

Bright Lights in a Darkened World "March of Life" participants express support for the Jewish people and the need to "lift the veil of silence." Jeff speaks from the Dachau crematorium about the Jews who were shoved into ovens.

The Darkness that Nearly Engulfed Us Jeff lectures from the German site where Hitler nearly succeeded in developing an atomic bomb. Zola interviews Dr. Ergun Caner, a former Moslem who shares his insights on Islam.

Letting the Sun Shine Jeff teaches from the site of Hitler's atomic reactor, admonishing the viewer to draw a line in the sand. We are warned that the greatest tragedy would be to think that such things can't happen again.

A Star that Breaks Through the Darkness Sandra and Jeff interview Brigitte Gabriel, formerly of Lebanon, who has appeared on many network TV shows sounding an alarm about the evils of radical Islam.

Heavenly Light from Hellish Darkness Walid Shoebat shares insights regarding Islam from his book *Why We Want To Kill You*. Zola interviews Caecelie Rexin, who concludes—referring to the Holocaust—"Never again."

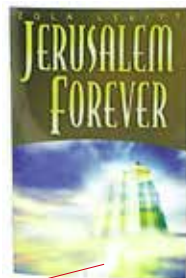
Also please see:

Myles's article "[Awake!](#)" on p. 4 and Ziva Dahl's [Terrorism](#) article on p. 21.



Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

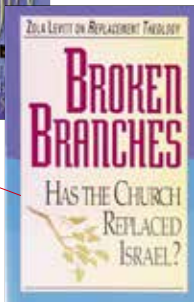
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Books

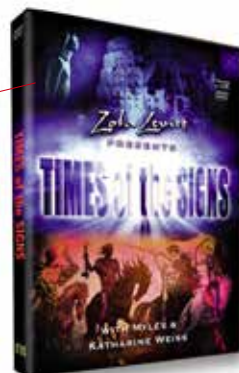
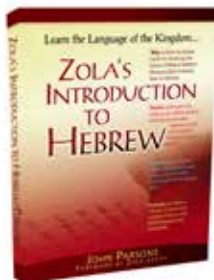
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Signs of The End: Millennium	\$7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Whose Land Is It?	\$6	_____
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Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

▶	I Call You Friend by Marty Goetz (Music CD)	\$14	_____
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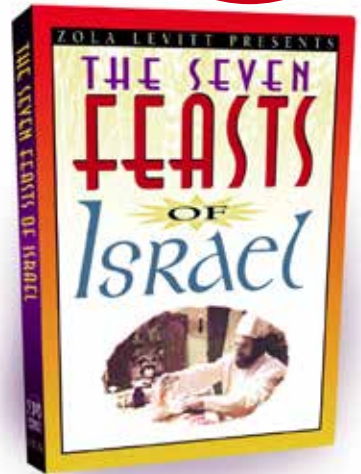
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The Seven Feasts of Israel Zola's study booklet, DVD, CD

The Seven Feasts of Israel booklet is a must-read and an appropriate gift for anyone you know. It heightens every reader's awareness of how God shows us the Messiah in these feasts.

Yeshua was crucified on **Passover**, buried on **Unleavened Bread**, raised at **First Fruits**, and sent the Holy Spirit on **Shavuot** (Pentecost). We are waiting for the return of our Lord on **Rosh Hashanah** (Trumpets). We will not have to go through **Yom Kippur** (Atonement) because Yeshua paid for our sins, and we will dwell with the Lord for a thousand years in our own **Sukkah**.



Messianic Prophecy Scroll

Beautiful, useful, and revealing. A lovely and very spiritual art object for mantelpiece or coffee table display, this wood and parchment scroll is hand-copied and handmade. The Messianic prophecies are written in Hebrew and English. A marvelous witnessing tool and gift idea.



Zola Tours, Patmos Bay



Palestinian Terrorism No Different from ISIS, al-Qaeda



BY ZIVA DAHL (left) Spectator.org

Accepted dogma contends that the Palestinian conflict against Israel is about secular nationalism, the desire of the Palestinians to have a state of their own. [Please see [“Ten Deadly Lies”](#) on p. 14.] But just as international terrorist groups like al-Qaeda and ISIS base their actions and mission on an interpretation of Islam, Palestinians use the very same Islamic interpretation to indoctrinate and incite their people to terror against Israel.

According to Palestinian Media Watch, Palestinian political and religious messages describe the conflict with Israel as a *“ribat,”* an Islamic holy war, fought by Muslims against Jews to liberate Muslim land, including Israel. Children are taught that their conflict with Israel is “one of the greatest of the ribat” and “worthy of a great reward from Allah.” “Ribat” is not uniquely Palestinian—it’s an Islamic military concept based on the Koran and invoked by ISIS in Syria, Iraq, and Libya.

Palestinians are told on TV, in political speeches and sermons, in newspapers and textbooks, “Our war with the descendants of the apes and pigs (i.e., Jews) is a war of religion and faith.” **Palestinian Authority political and religious leaders claim that Allah, through Islam’s prophet Mohammed, instructed humanity that the extermination of Jews is a necessary step to bring redemption**—that the destruction of Israel is a holy act to cleanse the Jews from the Middle East. This mentality is enshrined in the Hamas Charter.

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh describes the recent Palestinian knife and vehicle attacks on Israeli civilians as a *jihād*, a “holy war” undertaken not out of despair, but to “drive the occupier out of Palestine.” PA President Mahmoud Abbas publicly declares that the conflict with Israel is a “war for Allah” and encourages stabbing attacks on civilians: “We welcome every drop of blood spilled in Jerusalem ... blood on its way to Allah.”



In keeping with their religious motivations, Palestinians, ISIS, al-Qaeda and other Islamists invoke *“Allahu Akbar”* (“Allah is greater”) during acts of terror and use the honorific term *shahid* to describe dead comrades as martyrs.

A survey conducted by the PEW Research Center found that **59% of Palestinians support attacking / killing civilians in “defense of Islam,”** significantly greater support than in any other Muslim population. The Arab Barometer polling indicates that three in five Palestinians believe “U.S. involvement in the region justifies armed operations against the U.S. everywhere.”

Palestinians, just like ISIS, al-Qaeda, and other brands of Islamist terror, use Islam to justify targeting Jews, Israel, and the West. Drawing a parallel between the terrorism in Orlando and Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu observed, “Radical Islamist terror makes no distinction between shades of infidel.”

The turmoil in the Middle East will never be effectively addressed until America and the West acknowledge that Israel and the West face a common enemy. ★

All Moslem terrorists share the same goal: a worldwide caliphate. Wake up, West! —Myles



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Letters to ZLM

For ministry products and TV programs, visit the [web store](#) and [video archives](#).

Standing Against Replacement Theology

Dear ZLM,

The [July Personal Letter](#) stated that Mrs. Weiss serves on the Board of Directors for **FIRM** [Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries]. I understand that Christ at the Checkpoint has convinced some misinformed Arab Christians that Israel does not have a right to the land any longer. This is replacement theology.

Please assure me that Founder/President Wayne Hilsden and the Board stand against this heresy to keep it from slipping under the radar. —M.B.

Greetings M.B.—

We Jewish Believers in Yeshua rejoice at FIRM's formation and expansion. For many years, a growing number of Bible-believing Christians has been supporting the nation of Israel through prayer, financial support, and social work of all types. ZLM has been a leader in educating the Church regarding these issues. God often releases concurrent blessings on the Jewish people and the international community of faith in Jesus, and FIRM's coalition and communication between supporters of Israel significantly blesses both Israel and the Church (Gen. 12:1–3).

FIRM brings to the Body of Christ a new dimension by directly acknowledging and supporting Yeshua-centered works in Israel (Galatians 6:10). The Fellowship promotes the premise that faith in Jesus as Messiah is not antithetical to Jewish life but rather a valid expression of that life. Believers in Israel serve in the army with distinction and participate in all aspects of daily life, with love for their country and hope for peace.

That said, be assured that a leader of Pastor Hilsden's experience is very aware of the complexity of Jewish-Arab relationships, especially regarding God's land covenant with the sons of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel). Christ at the Checkpoint is a misguided gathering that, sadly, can be a tool for anti-Israel sentiment. Thank God, Jewish and Arab disciples of Jesus are working together to "settle" the "settlement" conflicts by searching the Scriptures. Ultimately, the King of Kings, the Lion of Judah will clarify all! Blessings

—Myles and Katharine

SHARIA Halloween Costumes		
1	2	3
4	5	6
1) Sexy Nurse	4) Naughty Schoolgirl	
2) Cleopatra	5) Leggy French Maid	
3) Wonder Woman	6) Mermaid	



Effortless Ways to Bless Israel

Dear Myles and Katharine,

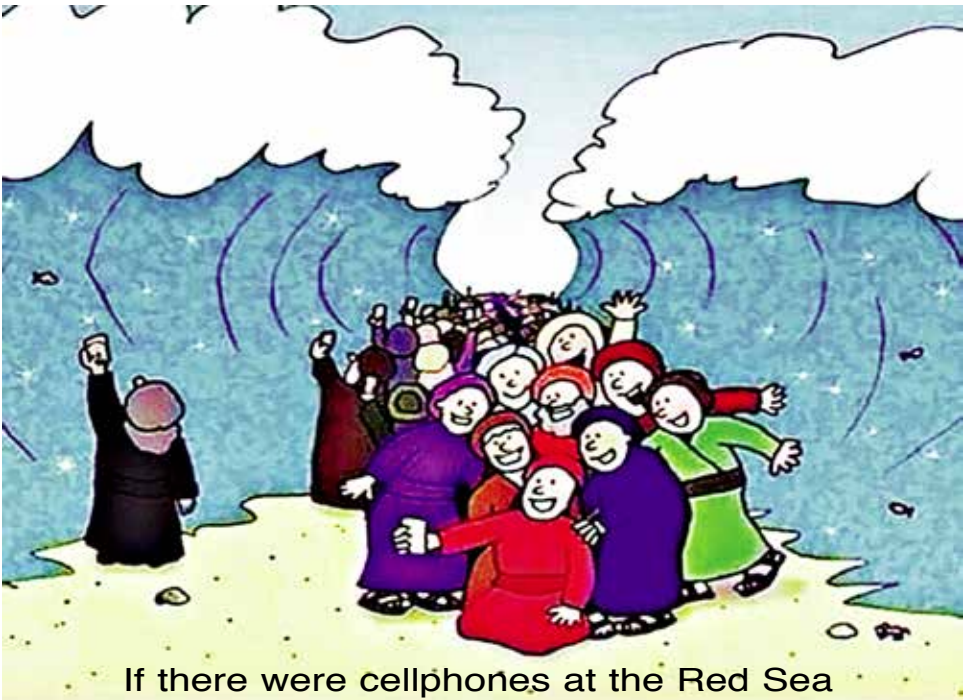
Blessings to you and the ZLM staff for your love of God and the Jewish people. The enjoyment, knowledge, and love that you portray in your TV programs, *Levitt Letter*, and levitt.com have blessed me for many years. I always pass my *Levitt Letter* on after I read it, and request that recipients do the same. Several of these subsequent readers have started their own subscriptions so they don't have to wait for my copy. Amazingly, these *Levitt Letters* are all free. Not only free, they don't come with appeal after appeal for donations. Many other ministries make you feel guilty if you are not a monthly supporter.

For all these reasons, I make donations when able, but I feel that it's barely enough to pay for my subscription and maybe one other.

Your Bulletin Board has suggested (most recently [in June](#)) generating contributions through **AmazonSmile** orders, an option that adds no cost to the purchase. After an easy sign-up, a percentage [0.5%] of each purchase benefits the charity of your choice. (I designated Zola Levitt Ministries.) Users just need to remember to sign on to Smile.Amazon.com instead of just Amazon—and the website even reminds you if you forget! Being disabled and housebound, I do most of my shopping on Amazon. I don't imagine that what I contribute amounts to much, but if everyone enrolls, the contributions add up.

Another wonderful opportunity for witnessing is ZLM's special offer to buy 50 of Zola's Classic Study Booklets for just \$49 [plus shipping & handling]. Because I don't get out in public except to doctors and drive-through businesses, I'm left with few options to witness. When I can, I buy your study booklets and pass them out wherever I go. I get the best compliments ... and requests for more. Thank you so much for this opportunity that blesses both me and the readers who receive the booklets. They all tell me how awed and excited they are—just as I was—at how much better they understand Scripture after reading one. Knowledge of Jewish history and culture adds depth to the Bible lessons that I have heard all my life.

(continued next page)



If there were cellphones at the Red Sea

Thank you for your dedication in carrying on Zola's ministry and doing it so efficiently. I know Zola is pleased at how well God is using you to expand the ministry and reach the Jewish people with salvation that comes through Yeshua only. — T.H.

Shalom, T.H.—

Wow! Thanks for that unsolicited endorsement, offered with the clarity of a professional ad agency. The most beautiful part of your letter reveals that you have taken up the mission of sowing seeds (by re-sowing our Bible teaching materials) into the lives of those around you who need Yeshua. You are a brilliant example to those of us who may not be "disabled" (in the same way as you), yet need to learn from you about the power of a creative witness.

Revelation 12:11 gives Believers three different methods of effective spiritual strategies by which to overcome Satan's never-ending attacks on our minds and bodies: the blood of the Lamb (the Word of God), personal testimony, and confidence in the Messiah over death. You are right on track!

***"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb,
and by the word of their testimony,
and they did not love their lives even in the face of death."
(Rev. 12:11)***

T.H., thanks for your boldness and commitment to our Messiah. People like you extend the reach of this ministry and make eternal differences in the world. *B'rachot gadol!* (Great blessings!) —Myles and Katharine

P.S. I discovered that even if you begin filling your Amazon shopping cart, you can switch to [AmazonSmile](#) without losing the items in your cart. By the way, the "little bit" we each contribute just by shopping through [AmazonSmile](#) has already added up to over \$900! —Editor ★



Raoul Wallenberg Executed in Soviet Prison

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY / JTA.org



A passport photograph of Raoul Wallenberg, June 1944.
(Laski Diffusion/Getty Images)

Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazi gas chambers, was executed in a Soviet prison, according to a KGB head's diaries.

The diaries of Ivan A. Serov, who ran the former Russian secret police and intelligence agency from 1954 to 1958, were discovered inside the walls of his second home in northwestern Moscow, which his granddaughter is renovating. Discovered four years ago, the diaries were published this summer and released for sale in Russia under the title *Notes From a Suitcase: Secret Diaries of the First KGB Chairman, Found Over 25 Years After His Death*.

"I have no doubts that Wallenberg was liquidated in 1947," Serov wrote.

The diaries contain references to several previously unknown documents referring to Wallenberg, including one that records the cremation of his body.

Wallenberg was posted to Nazi-occupied Hungary during World War II, where he issued protective passports to Jews in the final months of the Holocaust. **He disappeared in 1945 after being seen surrounded by Soviet officers in Budapest.** The Soviets later claimed Wallenberg had died of heart failure in prison.

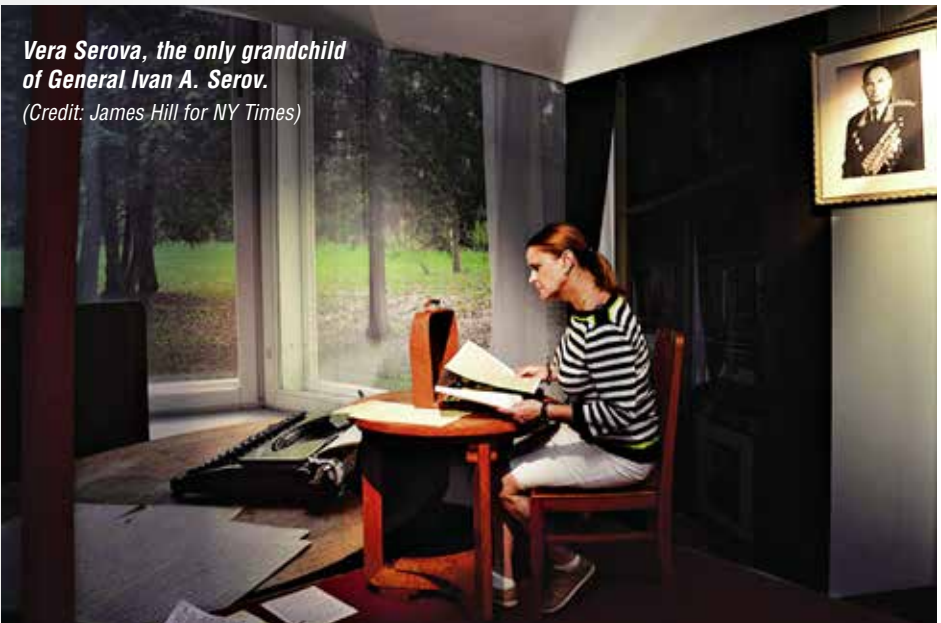
Serov died of a heart attack in 1990 at age 84. He is thought to have hidden the diaries around 1971. A 1991–2000 joint Russian-Swedish effort to discover what happened to Wallenberg included archival research and interviews with retired state security employees but yielded no definitive conclusion. The investigation found that documents had been destroyed or altered to eliminate all traces of him.

The diplomat's parents both reportedly committed suicide in 1979 in despair over his disappearance. In November 2015, Wallenberg family members asked Swedish authorities to declare him dead. ★



Vera Serova, the only grandchild of General Ivan A. Serov.

(Credit: James Hill for NY Times)



Israeli Brings Urban Gardening To Harlem



SCIENCE: BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN (above) Israel21c.org

Plenty of rain falls in Harlem, the northern Manhattan neighborhood synonymous with New York City's African-American culture. Yet agriculturally, Harlem's a desert.

A young woman with roots in Israel—a real desert with thriving agriculture—started an urban hydroponic farm in Harlem, supplying organic, locally grown produce alongside a helping of youth empowerment. **Leigh Ofer's Seed Street has Harlem kids planting hydroponic vegetable gardens inside repurposed shipping containers.** Hydroponically grown vegetables require about 90% less water, take about one-fifth the space, and have higher vitamin content than those planted in soil.

An environmental justice class she took at Brown University after finishing military service in Israel opened Ofer's eyes. "I saw how the U.S. has so much abundance, but people are starved of a connection to the land and to their souls," she observes.



Seed Street founders: From left, Hannah Bronfman, Anisha Atluri, and Leigh Ofer

Ofer and her business partner, Manhattan-bred Hannah Bronfman, bootstrapped Seed Street in July

2015. They were joined by another 26-year-old, Anisha Atluri, in setting up a pilot farm in Harlem. "We decided to use it to test how to help communities in crisis," Ofer recalls. Together they devised Grow, Move and Create, a three-afternoon-a-week STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) program that introduced a group of 8- to 10-year-old girls to hydroponic farming, yoga and meditation, and creative expression.

"You have to work with what people have," Ofer says of the economically and socially challenged target population. "When people are fighting for survival, you can't push ideals that are not their own. We created a solution that they can integrate into their daily lives, makes sense to them, and offers a connection to their existing environment."

Seed Street produce could be sold by the young farmers in local farmers markets, restaurants, shops, distributors, and CSA (community-supported agriculture) boxes. The lessons learned from the pilot project, which finished in May, will be

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



Urban Gardening... *continued*

*Seed Street veggies.
Photo by Nick Smith*



applied toward scaling up, notes Atluri.

“Once these children age out into middle school and beyond, they become the most at-risk. So our next phase is to expand to a small network of farms in the neighborhood and offer marketing and commercialization. We’ll teach them the skills they need to work in a cutting-edge hydroponic environment and take ownership of that space.”

“Out of necessity, Israel was forced to innovate agriculturally and generate its own food sources, and became a leader in agriculture innovation,” Ofer comments. “As a result, it has a much more natural cohesive ecosystem and way of being. People are already eating directly from the farm. That’s really beautiful.” ★



Director of Operations Randy Cameron with Seed Street participants

Jerusalem's Paramedics

MEDICINE: BY LUKE TRESS (r) TimesOfIsrael.com



Two years ago, Jerusalem-based paramedic Hagai Bar Tov was called to the scene of a terror attack. A Palestinian driving an excavator attacked a bus, flipping it over (r) and killing one pedestrian. Bar Tov, an 18-year veteran of Magen David Adom (MDA) medical service, traces the current terror wave to that incident.



MDA medics deal with a range of medical needs as emergency re-

sponders, caretakers and providers of the national blood supply, and as Israel's representatives to the International Red Cross. The group's most visible role is as an emergency medical service, Israel's largest nonprofit organization, with 1,074 ambulances and access to two helicopters. Their white ambulances carry basic life-support equipment for non-urgent situations, while the yellow Mobile Intensive Care Units are "emergency rooms on wheels" and staffed by highly trained paramedics.

An MDA Mobile Intensive Care Unit



MDA also uses volunteers with motorcycles or with medical kits in their personal vehicles who can be sent to a scene. **Of the organization's 15,000 staff members, 1,850 are paid professionals; the rest are volunteers.** The Life Guardians program recruits civilian volunteers with basic first-aid skills who can be notified of an

(continued next page)

Paramedics... *continued*



emergency in their immediate area, and has received 12,000 applicants since its launch in January.

Patients' health plans cover about 72% of the budget. Health providers need to collect this fee by law in Israel. Around 20% of the budget comes from donors, mainly in the U.S., the UK, and Australia.

Most calls are mundane. The most common dramatic events are work and traffic accidents and, in the summer, drownings.

The recent terror wave stressed the system, but the mechanism for treatment was already in place; only the volume increased, according to medics, who added that they can see from the injuries of stabbing victims that many terrorists know where to stab people to inflict the most damage. After the April bus bombing in Jerusalem, medics said they knew who the bomber was by the nature of his injuries.

MDA responds to emergency events abroad, like the earthquakes in Haiti (2010) and Nepal (2015), especially if Israelis are trapped or injured. In Nepal, one crew was sent to treat Israelis and one to care for Nepalese. A team went to treat Israelis injured in the Istanbul bombing in March when three Israelis were killed and 11 injured.

Offsetting the traumatic events, Bar Tov once delivered twins in the back of an ambulance, and he met his wife at an MDA station where both worked. They now have four children and work as paramedics in Jerusalem.

Of run-of-the-mill calls, he confided: "When you go to an old man, even if he only needs help to get from the floor to the bed, it's a good feeling when someone smiles and says 'thank you.'" ★



Provided by
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(image: airesalah, ps/af)

**Weapons
training
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SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

Katie Ledecky's Holocaust Connection

By Gabe Friedman / JTA.org

At the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, **Katie Ledecky**

AK-47 Defense Against “Israel Collaborators”

MEMRI.org

The Palestinian Safa news agency has reported that wives of senior Hamas officials have completed a course of self-defense training, including weapons training with handguns and Kalashnikov rifles. The course graduation ceremony took place July 24, 2016, in the Khan Yunis area.

The Safa report said that according to the head of the security and defense apparatus in the Gaza Strip, General Bahjat Abu Sultan, the course participants included “daughters [and wives] of officials, ministers, deputy ministers, and security forces commanders [in the Gaza Strip], who were given theoretical and practical instruction, and underwent [field] training as well.”

The theoretical instruction, he said, dealt with inculcating security awareness regarding the infiltration of possible collaborators with Israel in the ranks of Hamas and regarding the political and social situation in the Gaza Strip, and awareness of the need to protect officials and their homes against damage by the enemy.

Gen. Abu Sultan added, according to the report: “The field training, which was aimed at preparing them to defend themselves [and to cope with] the genuine danger that these officials and their homes will be targeted by the enemies, lasted for 40 hours, over eight days.”

proved herself the best female swimmer on the planet. The 19-year-old from Bethesda, Maryland, just added 4 gold medals and a silver to the gold medal that she won at age 15 in the 2012 London Olympics.



A *Sports Illustrated* profile in June revealed that part of Ledecky's inspiration comes from the story of

her Jewish paternal grandmother, Berta, 83. Berta, who is Czech, and her non-Jewish husband, Jaromir (Jerry), met in the United States in 1956, about eight years after Jerry had immigrated from Prague. At one point, Berta had worked for a year as a translator for Albert Einstein at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

When Katie was 10, Berta took her to a Jewish cemetery in Prague and showed her graves of family members who died during the Holocaust. The article doesn't mention the exact number that Berta's family lost during World War II, or provide details of Berta's experiences during the Holocaust, but the memory clearly stuck with Katie. Although Ledecky is Catholic and famously recites the Hail Mary before her races, she indicates that some of her drive stems from that cemetery visit with her grandmother.





Photo: Paul Faith/Press Association

Britain to Isolate Islamist Inmates

By Kimiko De Freytas-Tamura / NYTimes.com

Convicts in British prisons who preach terrorism and extreme ideology to fellow inmates will be held in high-security "specialist units," the government announced in August, amid efforts to crack down on Islamic radicalization in jails.

The announcement reflects an emerging trend in Europe to separate terrorism convicts and influential extremists from the rest of the prison population. Prisons are often regarded as potential breeding grounds for would-be terrorists, particularly young offenders serving sentences for crimes unrelated to terrorism but who nonetheless fall under the spell of older, charismatic inmates.

In August, Anjem Choudary, one of Britain's best-known Islamist activists, was found guilty of inviting support for the Islamic State. He could face a lengthy prison term.

"There are a small number of individuals, very subversive individuals, who do need to be held in separate units," **Elizabeth Truss**, who took office in July as justice secretary and who made the announcement, told the BBC. Under the plan, prison wardens, or governors, will also be instructed to remove extremist literature and tighten the vetting of prison chaplains.



Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP

The announcement was in response to a government review of Islamist extremism in prisons. The review, led by a former prison governor, Ian Acheson, recommended placing in specialist units a "small subset of extremists who present a particular and enduring risk to national security through subversive behavior, beliefs and activities." ★



French media stop publishing photos and names of Islamic terrorists

(No guts, no glory. Why publicize/glorify cowardice?)

New Discovery at Petra



ARCHAEOLOGY: By **Kristin Romey** (r) News.NationalGeographic.com

An enormous monument has been hiding in plain sight at the World Heritage Site of Petra, according to a study recently published in the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*.

Archaeologists Sarah Parcak, a National Geographic fellow, and Christopher Tuttle, executive director of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, used high-resolution satellite imagery followed by aerial drone photography and ground surveys to locate and document the structure.

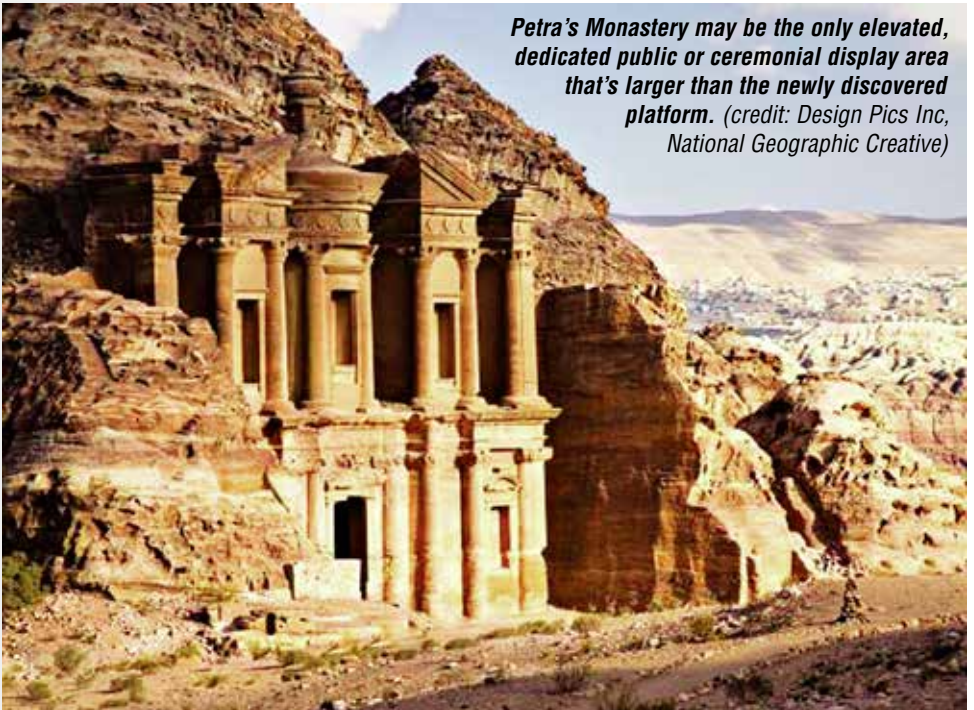
They report that the monument is roughly as long as an Olympic-size swimming pool and twice as wide. It sits only about half a mile south of the center of the ancient city.

The caravan city of Petra, in what today is southern Jordan, served as the capital of the Arab tribe known as the Nabataeans from its likely founding in the mid-second century B.C. The site was essentially abandoned at the end of the Byzantine period in the seventh century A.D. Each year, hundreds of thousands of tourists [including Zola Tours pilgrims] visit its iconic buildings, hewn out of the local red sandstone.

The entire Petra Archaeological Park covers about 102 square miles, but the city's center encompasses an area of only 2.3 square miles.

As evidenced by the latest discovery, while the hinterlands north and south of Petra's ancient city center have been well surveyed since explorer Johann Burckhardt arrived in 1812, new discoveries continue to be made around its urban core.

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Petra's Monastery may be the only elevated, dedicated public or ceremonial display area that's larger than the newly discovered platform. (credit: Design Pics Inc, National Geographic Creative)

Archaeology... continued

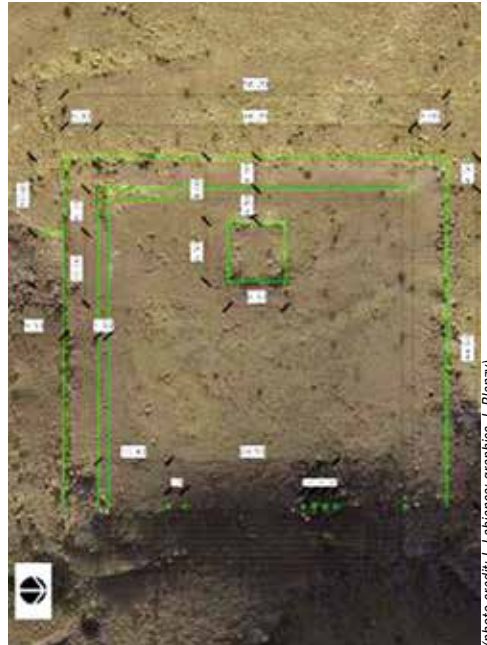


The newly revealed structure consists of a 184' x 161' platform that encloses a slightly smaller platform originally paved with flagstones. The east side of the interior platform had been lined with a row of columns that once crowned a monumental staircase. A small 28' x 28' building was centered atop the interior platform and opened to the east, facing the staircase.

This enormous open platform, topped with a relatively small building and approached by a monumental facade, has no known parallels to any other structure in Petra. It most likely had a public, ceremonial function, which may make it the second largest elevated, dedicated display area yet known in Petra after the Monastery. While the monument has not been excavated, the presence of surface pottery dating from the mid-second century B.C. suggests that **construction of the structure began during the Nabataeans' initial public building program.**



An overhead image of the monument photographed from a drone (credit: I. Labianca)



Detail overlay of surface features in which the image is rotated 90 degrees clockwise



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(photo credit: I. Labianca; graphics: J. Blancy)

Most of the monuments that can be seen in Petra today, such as its iconic Treasury and the Monastery, were built during its second heyday, from the end of the first century B.C. to the second century A.D. The city had already been around for a century or more by that time, notes Tuttle, which may make the new discovery a unique public monument from the city's early years.

In describing the find, Tuttle hails the use of satellite and drone imagery for providing archaeologists with the broad aerial perspectives that enable them to identify the faint footprints of ancient buildings, and then understand how historical monuments and sites relate to each other across the landscape.

"I'm sure that over the course of two centuries of research [in Petra], someone had to know [this site] was there, but it's never been systematically studied or written up," says Tuttle. "I've worked in Petra for 20 years, and I knew that *something* was there, but it's certainly legitimate to call this a discovery." ★

Arabs' Historic Mistakes in Interactions with Israel



PART 2: BY FRED MAROUN (*r*) GatestoneInstitute.org

In the current state of the relationship between the Arab world and Israel, we see a patchwork of hostility, tense peace, limited cooperation, calm, and violence. We Arabs managed our relationship with Israel atrociously. But the worst of all is the ongoing situation of the Palestinians.

The Original Mistake—Jews Not Equals

Without this mistake, we might have benefited in 1) Jews remaining in the Muslim Middle East and advancing our civilization rather than the West's, and 2) feeling secure among Muslims, Jews may not have felt the need to create a separate state, which would have saved us Arabs from our subsequent mistakes. (This mistake was covered in the [September Levitt Letter, p. 34.](#))

The Worst Mistake

Our second and worst mistake was not accepting the UN's partition plan of 1947 (Res.181), which provided for a Jewish state and an Arab state sharing what used to be British-controlled Mandatory Palestine.

Although the land allocated to the Jewish state was slightly larger than the land allocated to the Arab state, much of the Jewish part was total desert—the Negev and Arava—with the fertile land allocated to the Arabs. Arabs also had an advantage because the population distribution would have given the Arabs near equal influence with Jews in running the Jewish state, but the Arab state was almost purely Arab, providing no political advantage to the few Jews within it.

Because each proposed state consisted of three more-or-less disconnected pieces, resulting in strong geographic interdependence between the two states, they would likely have worked in many ways as a single federation. In that federation, Arabs would have had a strong majority.

Instead of accepting that plan, we Arabs decided that we could not accept a Jewish state, period. In May 1948, **Azzam Pasha** (*r*), the General Secretary of the Arab League, announced (regarding the proposed new Jewish part of the partition): "This will be a war of extermination, a momentous massacre, which will be spoken of like the Mongolian massacres and the Crusades." We initiated a war intended to eradicate the new state in its infancy. But we lost, and the result of our mistake was a stronger and more determined Jewish state:

- The Jewish population of the Jewish state grew dramatically due to this exchange: many Arabs fled the war in Israel and many Jews fled a hostile Arab world to join the new Jewish state.
- The Jews acquired additional land during the war we Arabs launched, resulting in armistice lines today called the "green lines" or "pre-1967 lines," which gave Israel a portion of the land previously allocated to the Arab state.



Perhaps one should not launch wars if one is not prepared for the results of possibly losing them. ★



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Jewish Humor, etc.

The Lesson

The rabbi was an avid golfer and played at every opportunity. One Yom Kippur, the rabbi thought to himself, "What's it going to hurt if I go out during the break and play a few rounds? Nobody will be the wiser, and I'll be back in time for services."

Sure enough, at the conclusion of the morning service, the rabbi snuck out of the synagogue and headed straight for the golf course.

Looking down on the scene, Moses complained to God, "Look. How terrible—a Jew on Yom Kippur... and a rabbi at that!"

God wryly replied, "Watch. I'm going to teach him a lesson."

Out on the course, the rabbi stepped up to the first tee. When he hit the ball, it careened off a tree, struck a rock, skipped across a pond, and landed in the hole for a hole in one! Seeing this, Moses protested: "God, this is how you're teaching him a lesson? He got a hole in one!"

"Sure," agreed God. "But who's he going to tell?" ★



A cheerful heart is good medicine—
Proverbs 17:22



Can we just admit
we may have taken this
'anyone can grow up to
be President' thing just
a bit too far?

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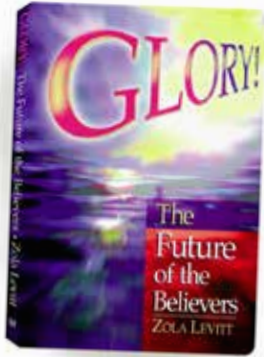
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