



Levitt LETTER

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

— ROMANS 10:1



Pilgrims share Thanksgiving with Native Americans in Plymouth Colony in 1621. (Library of Congress)

Thanksgiving is a Jewish Holiday

By Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin / ReligionNews.com

inside: In The
Tribulation? p.4



In my local Starbucks, I overhear two Orthodox Jewish men arguing over whether it is permissible for Orthodox Jews to celebrate Thanksgiving.

One of them says: "Thanksgiving is a gentile holiday. It is forbidden to us." I think: "Oh, please. Thanksgiving is Jewish."

Let us go back to August 1776, a month after the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. One of the Declaration's architects, Benjamin Franklin, thought about what any startup has to deal with: what will our logo be?

Franklin wanted the Great Seal of the United States to feature a scene of Moses standing at the shores of the Red Sea; Thomas Jefferson wanted the Seal to depict the Israelites in the wilderness, following their flight from Egypt. They lost.

(continued p. 2)

REMEMBER:

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 23rd

Beauty Queen Visits Israel and Loses Title

TimesOfIsrael.com

A Swedish-Lebanese beauty queen was stripped of her crown after pageant organizers discovered she visited Israel last year. Amanda Hanna won Miss Lebanon Emigrant 2017 in August, but a **2016 school trip to Israel on her Swedish passport cost her the title.**



"After communicating our decision with Lebanon's Minister of Tourism, he decided that Hanna should be stripped of her title because her visit to Israel violates our country's laws," said a statement from The Festival of Lebanese Emigrants in Dhour Al Choueir. In Lebanon, any

(continued p. 9)

Miss Lebanon Emigrant 2017 Amanda Hanna (Facebook)

Thanksgiving ... *continued from cover*

The Puritans had such a rough time in England that they imagined that they were Jews.

John Winthrop wrote: *"despised, pointed at, hated of the world, made a byword, reviled, slandered, rebuked, made a gazing stock, called Puritans, nice fools, hypocrites, hare-brained fellows, rash, indiscreet, [and] vain-glorious."*

So, they made their exodus. The Atlantic Ocean became their Red Sea. They saw the Plymouth Colony as their promised land — which is why so many places in New England bear Biblical names: Salem, Bethel, Canaan, New Canaan, and Sharon. Throughout history, many Americans have read the Bible and see the Jewish story as the blueprint for their own.



"Return of the Israelite Spies" woodcut for *Die Bibel in Bildern* (1860) by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld

For what is the Jewish Bible? It is the story of migration and exile. It is Abraham leaving Ur; Jacob leaving the land of Israel, and then returning, and then leaving, and then returning once again. It is Moses leading his people out of Egypt; the Israelites entering the land — and then leaving, and going to Babylon, and then coming back. Can there be any doubt why the story of the Exodus has been so important to the way that we Americans understand ourselves?

This is how Thanksgiving became a Jewish holiday.

Many people already know that the Pilgrims celebrated their freedom and new land by combining the ideas of harvest and freedom. Thanksgiving is not just *Sukkot*; it is a *seder* of freedom; the American Sukkot and American Pesach, combined.

But, how did the Pilgrims even know that they should give thanks? Was it simply the human instinct to express gratitude? Actually, not.

Pilgrim leader, and later the governor of Plymouth Colony, William Bradford, had a copy of the Bible with notes handwritten by Puritan scholar Henry Ainsworth listing events that require a prayer of thanksgiving to God: *"The sick, when he is healed; the prisoner when he is released out of bonds; they that go down to sea, when they are come up (to land); and wayfaring men, when they are come to the inhabited land."*

Ainsworth quoted "Maimony" as his authority. Actually, he'd copied over an English version of Maimonides' comprehensive legal code, the Mishneh Torah — specifically, the laws of giving thanks.

Therefore, the holiday of Thanksgiving is not only quintessentially American, it is quintessentially Jewish.

As the Puritans took the Exodus as a map for understanding the oppression and progress of their own lives and souls, let us take their story and remember and live it. In the words of Puritan clergyman, Robert Cushman: *"We are all, in all places, strangers and pilgrims, travelers and sojourners; most properly, having no dwelling but this earthen tabernacle. Our dwelling is but a wandering; and our abiding, but as a hastening away; and, in a word, our home is nowhere but in the heavens; in that house not made with hands, whose maker and builder is God."*

Let's preserve that truth for ourselves, as well. ★



- Teaching**
4 Are We in the Tribulation?
Studio Co-host
6 Jerusalem's Cats
Our Man In Haifa
8 One Family at the Kotel
Classic Zola
10 Hebrew: Language of the USA?
11 Wardrobes of Ancient Kings
Ask the Chaplain
12 Dispensationalism
TJF Report
13 Amazed by the Spirit
Wise as a Serpent
14 Marching to Bloodbaths
15 **ZLM Bulletin Board**
Parsons: Hebrew Lesson
16 Transformed by Love



21 Curious George Saved from Nazis



22 Letters to ZLM



Science
25 Silkworms & Drug Design



Medicine
27 A Village of Doctors

28 When British Captured the Holy Land — part 1



30 Select Briefs

Archaeology
32 Post-Temple Priests in the Galilee?



34 Lebanon is Just Western Iran



35 Jewish Humor



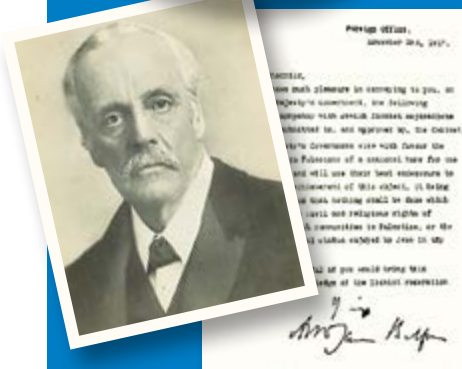
50th Year of Reunification

JERUSALEM 1967-2017
*Come Celebrate in the Land!
 From King David's purchase,
 make that 3,050 years!*

(Please see p.36 for info on our Zola Tours.)

Besides celebrating 50 years of Jerusalem's reunification in June, in November we celebrate two anniversaries that tie in one way or another to restoring Israel to the Jewish people in preparation for the coming of the LORD. These include:

- The 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration supporting the resurrection of the Jewish national home in Israel. British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour's letter was sent to Lord Rothschild on November 2, 1917.
- The 70th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly Partition Resolution (November 29, 1947) that paved the way for the creation of the State of Israel. ★



Lord Arthur James Balfour and the text of the Balfour Declaration

Are We in the Tribulation?

Tony Derrick, M.Div.
Zola Tours Leader
ZLM Consulting Theologian



Detail of *The Triumph of Death* (1562) by Pieter Brueghel the Elder, oil on panel, Museo del Prado

In the past couple of months we have looked at **Prophecy**, the **Rapture**, and the **Tribulation**, all leading up to the Second Coming of Yeshua.

The above title occupies the thoughts of Believers around the world, even if we do not verbalize it. In the past couple of months, we have witnessed devastating hurricanes in the United States and the southward islands off Florida's coast. Mexico suffered major earthquakes, and Japan experienced quakes off its south-east coast. The seismic activities around the world are too numerous to note.

These disasters seem to fit perfectly into last month's discussion about Israel in the Tribulation when we focused our attention in Matthew 24, especially verse 7b: *"And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places."*

Staying true to Zola's view, to which he tethered his teachings, we could certainly deduce being in the Last Days, but not in the Tribulation. Zola was firmly anchored to a PreMillennial, PreTribulation Rapture! Believers in Yeshua living today will not go through the Tribulation. Paul wrote to young Timothy to remind him: *"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come"* (2 Timothy 3:1).

The Great Tribulation

Returning to our LORD's message to the disciples on the Mount of Olives, let's listen in on the Master Teacher as He announces the time of the *"abomination of desolation"* (Matthew 24:15). Keep in mind that in Yeshua's narration, the antiChrist is already on the scene, Israel has signed a peace agreement with him, and the seven-year Tribulation is halfway over. The final 3½ years of the Tribulation constitute a period known as **The Great Tribulation**. You may find that paragraph title in your Bible at verse 15.

That Great Tribulation is discussed in Matthew 24:15–16, *"Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place' (whoever reads, let him understand), 'then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains."* I'll come back to this in a moment.

Yeshua calls this period *"the beginning of sorrows"* (Matthew 24:8). A corollary passage in Daniel 11:31 states: *"And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily*

(continued next page)



Back to
Cover



To
Index



Back to
p. 12



sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.”

A Two-fold Message

I find at least a two-fold message in these verses.

1 Jesus makes reference to the future destruction of the Temple (that occurred in 70 A.D.). As we return to Matthew 24:16 for a moment, you will note that the Bible clearly speaks of fleeing to the mountains during this Roman siege under Titus. The mountain ranges that surround Jerusalem would certainly be in view as Yeshua taught His disciples. Bible references, along with modern-day pilgrims, always speak of “going up to Jerusalem.”

What about our future? After all, isn't that what *we're* considering? There can be little doubt that Jesus/Yeshua was speaking of another future event — the Tribulation.

2 It appears that another desecration will occur in what Zola termed the “Tribulation Temple.” Where will it be? On the same holy ground where God built the First Temple? How will it be built? Don't count out the deceiver who will have mesmerized Israel into a peace agreement. Perhaps his greatest achievement will be to broker a deal for the building of this Temple. I'm no prophet, but it seems likely that this building project could be what endears him to the world.

Paul calls him the “man of sin,” *“Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition”* (2 Thessalonians 2:3).

John calls him the “beast of the sea,” *“Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast arising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns, ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name”* (Revelation 13:1).

Halfway into the Tribulation, the antiChrist will break his covenant with Israel and desecrate the Temple, and Israel will suffer greater persecution and judgments. At this point, Jesus warns Judea to *“flee to the mountains”* (Matthew 24:16). We come back to this point because a number of Bible scholars believe that this will be the moment when the Jews flee to Petra. The warning in Matthew is very clear: Don't stop for anything — flee!

The Bible identifies Petra (Greek) as Bozrah in Hebrew. Daniel 11:41 identifies the area of Petra as a place of safety from the antiChrist. *“He [antiChrist] shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.”*

Yeshua continues in Matthew 24:21–22, *“For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.”*

Next month, we'll look at that battle to end all battles: Armageddon! With each *Levitt Letter*, we are getting closer and closer to the undeniable return of our Messiah.

To learn more about the Tribulation, check out the teaching CD *Tribulation Temple*, or the book *Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy*. Both are by Zola Levitt and Dr. Thomas S. McCall and described on [p. 12](#).

For a light-hearted perspective on teaching about the Tribulation, see the cartoon on [p. 24](#). ★

SIDE NOTE:

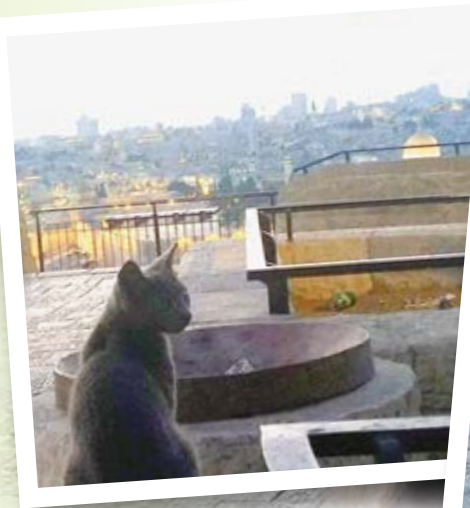
If you would like to experience Petra, consider joining the [Zola Tour](#) in spring 2018. Petra is a fascinating site to visit, and you will understand the safety it offers for Jews in the Tribulation.

Please see the [Zola Tours invitation](#) on [p. 36](#).



Jerusalem's Cats

Kirsten Hart
Studio Co-host of
Zola Levitt Presents



Photos by Kirsten Hart

Shalom, Kitty!

Yes, it is the Holy Land. Yes, we walk in the footsteps of Yeshua. Yes, the Bible comes alive when we travel through Israel. But honestly, one of the novelties I love about being in Jerusalem is the cats! **The holiest city on Earth is also inhabited by over two million cats.** If you're not an animal lover, please be patient with my tying cats into a spiritual point. But cat lovers will appreciate this discussion.

On David's and my first visit to Jerusalem, no one told us about the cat population. As we walked through the Old City, we noticed many adorable felines perched on ancient walls without a care in the world. Short hair, long hair, calico, seal point, and gray-and-white-striped tabbies all strut through the rugged stone and brick pathways. History tells us that when the British began their rule over Jerusalem, they brought in cats to ward off rats. Since then, the cats have become the dominant street residents.

The last time we were at the Western Wall (*HaKotel*), I noticed an orange-and-white tabby sauntering to a sunny spot. There, it casually reclined and started grooming itself. In the midst of thousands of humans who make their once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage to this very holy spot, the tabby just casually groomed its fur. After saying "hi," I wondered how I should greet a Jerusalem cat. Would it respond to "Here kitty, kitty" or "Shalom"? Did this striped feline understand the significance of its surroundings?

Mini Lions of Judah

The fact that *felines* fill Judah's capital hasn't escaped me. Jerusalem was the capital of Judah, the ancient Southern Kingdom. Its

(continued next page)





Photo by Kirsten Hart

symbol... the *Lion* of Judah! Here we are, thousands of years later, with mini lions of Judah (if you will) reminding us that the original and rightful heirs of this city are the people who belong to the Lion of Judah, our Lord Himself (Rev. 5:5). When Jacob (who was renamed *Israel* after his wrestling match with God) referred to his son Judah as “young lion,” I wonder if he had *any* idea that miniature relatives of the lion family would inhabit that same land in the 21st century A.D.

“You’re a lion’s cub, Judah, home fresh from the kill, my son. Look at him, crouched like a lion, king of beasts; who dares rouse him?”
Genesis 49:9 NIV

These Jerusalem cats have no clue that they live in the ultimate destination for believers in Yeshua, but can they smell the Biblical history of the streets they roam? Can they sense Yeshua, who healed anyone who came to Him right where they live everyday life, who also *rose from the dead* and appeared to His followers in these same streets?

Felines and Faith

Though the cats of Jerusalem can’t grasp the significance of where they live, many of us humans don’t get the significance of who we are. The Lion of Judah abides within us. We are filled with that same power. Yet we go through our lives, as do the cats in Jerusalem, unaware of the power available to us through our faith.

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:20–21

We have the Holy Spirit’s power available 24/7 in our lives. The power of Yeshua’s resurrection 2,000 years ago in Yerushalayim is available to us right now. Unfortunately, we often end up resembling the orange tabby at the Western Wall. We exist clueless of the potential sanctification within our reach, and settle for life’s daily routines.

Consider the Cat

Next time you’re in Jerusalem, take notice of the **street kitties. Consider them subtle reminders of the Lion of Judah** who will soon be reigning from that unbelievable city for 1,000 years. The Lion of Judah will once again roar with power, and reign with strength.

“And one of the elders said to me, “Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals.”” Revelation 5:5

Those who question God’s fondness for animals should remember how many more Noah accommodated on his ark than people. Readers might enjoy our [January 2017 Levitt Letter article \(p.31\)](#) about Israel’s kindness to dogs. —Mark ★



Israel: One Family at the Ancient Wall

Our Man in Haifa
Eitan Shishkoff
and wife Connie



Again we are listening to the nostalgic song “Jerusalem of Gold,” especially touching during this 50th anniversary of Jerusalem’s return to Jewish hands. Again we are singing together “*HaTikvah/ The Hope*” — Israel’s national anthem that speaks of not losing the hope that endured for 2,000 years.



The Western Wall of the Temple Mount

And again, strong young men are receiving a weapon and a Bible as they take the oath to defend this nation, even at the cost of their lives.

Tonight we are at the *Kotel* (the Western Wall of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem) — the enduring physical symbol of ancient Israel. In its day, it was “only” a retaining wall. But its grandeur and magnetic appeal say much more than that.

We are standing in the middle of the “plaza,” a huge open area that abuts the Wall. It’s a little after 8:00 p.m., and the swearing-in ceremony for new soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) has begun. **Our oldest grandchild**, the first of our nine Israeli grandchildren to serve in Israel’s Defense Forces, is taking the oath of service. **He belongs to a combat unit and takes his training seriously.** We — his extended family of grandparents, parents, brothers, aunts, uncles, cousins, and nephews — are proud and excited beyond words.

People mill about — thousands of them. Families of the 500-plus fresh-faced young soldiers have come from all over Israel. (Our own group numbers 16.) Their sons are only eighteen years old but already show signs of maturity after their first month of combat training. (Some combat brigades include women; the units sworn in this evening do not.)

Why do we find the ceremony so moving? What emotions stir within us? Yes, our little grandson has become a muscular young man and is now expected

(continued next page)



IDF swearing-in at the Kotel



to defend the rest of us. But it's more: This crowd represents all of Israel — the super religious, the super secular, and all levels in between. The sons of immigrants from every continent wear the same uniform; so do young recruits whose families have lived here for generations.

And ... it's Jerusalem! History pervades the atmosphere of this city. Somehow, almost beyond explanation, Connie and I were carried here from the far western shores of North America. On this glowing evening, fully twenty-five years later, it feels as if we are suddenly waking up. **Our son has married a sabra (native Israeli), and their firstborn is now a private in the army of Israel.**

He grins — both manly yet still boyish in his impressive uniform — as he jokes in genuine camaraderie with his fellow soldiers and their families. The ceremony is over. Now comes the hard work of protecting God's miracle nation.

Eitan, as the parents of a son in the U.S. Army, Kirsten and I will pray for your grandson. How proud you must be of him! — David ★

Beauty Queen ... *continued from cover sidebar*

contact with Israelis is considered illegal, and violators risk jail time.

This wasn't the first time a Lebanese pageant contestant found herself in trouble due to Israeli connections.

In January 2015, Miss Lebanon nearly lost her crown after she was photographed with Miss Israel. Saly Greige

was investigated for appearing in a photo with Israel's entrant in the Miss Universe beauty pageant, Doron Matalon, who uploaded the image to Instagram. Greige later defended herself, accusing Matalon of forcing her way



Miss Lebanon Emigrant 2017 Amanda Hanna

into the photo without Greige's consent.

Matalon insisted the joint photo was genuine and expressed sadness that Greige was under fire at home.

Be assured that many, if not all, Lebanese citizens become BDS (boycott Israel) hypocrites when needing vital medicine and technological innovations created by Jews. — Mark ★



Saly Greige, Miss Lebanon 2014



Hebrew: National Language of the USA?

Classic Zola
from 1982
35 years ago



Zola reprinted this article by Irving Wallace, David Wallechinsky, and Amy Wallace that appeared in Parade magazine in May 1982.

During the American Revolution, a movement was launched to replace English with Hebrew as the official language of the new nation.

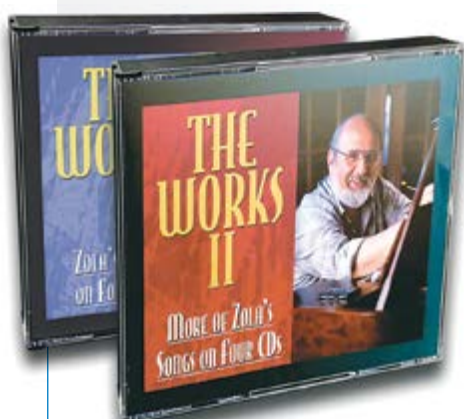
In 1776, anything associated with the British monarchy tasted sour to American patriots. On the other hand, the former colonials held Hebrew in high regard and viewed it as the mother of all languages, the key to the Scriptures, and the cornerstone of a liberal education.

The colonists had named their towns after those cited in the Bible, such as Salem and Bethlehem, and their children after Biblical figures. Until 1817, annual commencement addresses at Harvard included an oration in Hebrew; at Yale, the language was required for freshmen. Many lower schools also stressed Hebrew.



Detail of *Congress Voting Independence* by Robert Edge Pine (1730–1788), Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Several members of the new Congress reportedly urged that English be banned altogether and replaced by Hebrew. Though the idea never caught on, Hebrew remained a required course at many major American universities well into the 19th century. ★



22-ALBUM SPECIAL

The Works I & II music CDs

BUY 8 CDS (16 ALBUMS) GET 6 CDS FREE!

To get all of Zola's music on CD, order his two collections: His first 8 albums are on 4 CDs in *The Works*, and his next 8 albums are on 4 CDs in *The Works II*. **That's 16 albums on 8 CDs!**

Order both sets, **The 22-Album Special**, and we'll throw in the six individual music CDs he created afterward:

- *Thy Kingdom Come* • *Love Stories of the Bible*
- *Champions of Faith* • *A Pilgrim's Journey*
- *Living Waters* • *Covenants of God*

The Wardrobes of Israel's Ancient Kings

BY ADAM ABRAMS / JNS.org

A new study—headed by Tel Aviv University's Dr. Erez Ben-Yosef and Dr. Naama Sukenik of the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA), in collaboration with Bar-Ilan University—uncovered textiles colored with ancient plant dyes in Israel's southern Timna Valley. The textiles were used during the time of Kings David and Solomon.

"If we want to know what these kings wore, the only hints are in these textiles," said Ben-Yosef.

The Timna Valley findings are the earliest evidence of advanced plant-based dyeing technology used in Israel and indicate that a complex Biblical society, with an advanced ruling elite, dwelled in the valley some 3,000 years ago—contradicting previous understandings of a simple society there.

The excavations began in 2013 and recovered dozens of pieces of 3,000-year-old textiles, which were well-preserved due to the extremely arid climate in Israel's southern desert region.

Timna is very unique. Other sites in the Negev are not dry enough for this kind of preservation. Researchers in Timna find organic remains, including textiles, leather, animal skins, and thousands of seeds for all seven plant species of the Holy Land.

Materials used to weave the textiles included wool, linen, and goat hair, and range from coarse and rough tent cloth to very simple clothing. Some of the textiles, which date back to the early Iron Age (12th–10th centuries B.C.), are adorned with a red-and-blue band pattern. Two types of Mediterranean plants were used to create this coloration using a very sophisticated and complex dyeing technology.

"These plants—cultivated especially for this industry—were cooked in water," Ben-Yosef said. "After adding some chemicals to this mixture, they boiled fleece in the water, sometimes for several days, until



photo: Dr. Naama Sukenik / IAA

Textile dyed with a red-and-blue pattern, used during the time of Kings David and Solomon

a chemical bond formed between the dye of the plants and the wool." The strength of the bond held the bright colors of the 3,000-year-old samples.

The findings answer part of a question about King Solomon's mines—which were operated in the 10th century B.C., during the time of the united Israelite monarchy—and whether Jerusalem controlled the copper mines in the southern part of the country. This new evidence shows a connection between Jerusalem and the south.

Researchers deduced that the elites who operated the furnaces in the mines had advanced knowledge about how to turn stone into copper, and were part of a complex society with a ruling class that wore very fine clothing during the times of Solomon and David.

"The Bible states that Timna and the rest of southern Israel were part of the Kingdom of Edom, but it was controlled by Jerusalem," said Ben-Yosef. "Now we can see physical evidence, through the trading of textiles for copper, connecting this region of Edom (far in the south) to the area around Jerusalem." ★



Ask the Chaplain

Dr. Todd Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q. Where are Dispensationalism and the word “dispensation” found in the Bible?

A. The Greek word *oikonamia* (“dispensation”) is found in the Interlinear Greek–KJV Bible six times: 1 Corinthians 9:17; Ephesians 1:10; 3:2, 9; Colossians 1:25; and 1 Timothy 1:4. It can mean a commission or a specific period of time that God has allotted during which mankind is tested by a revelatory standard or covenant He has made with men.

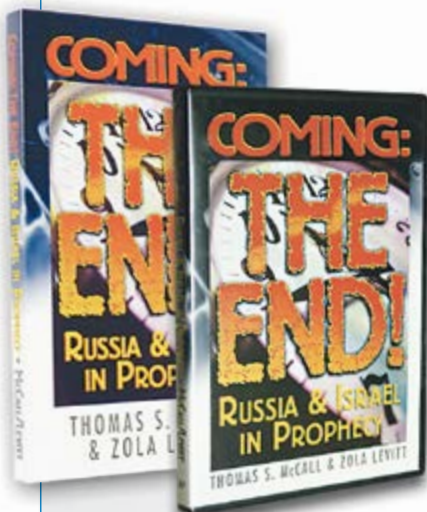
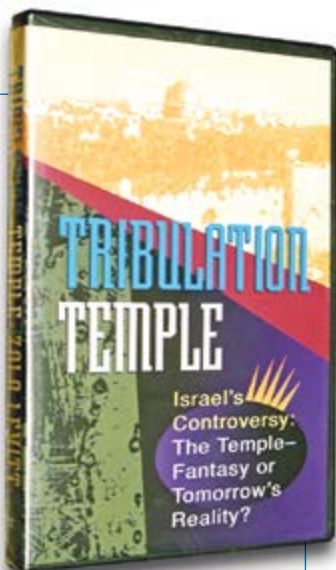
The first basic tenet of Dispensationalism is its critical distinction between Israel and the Church, between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. If a person argues against Dispensationalism yet agrees with the covenantal distinctions between Israel/Old Covenant and the Church/New Covenant, then that person is, ironically, a binary Dispensationalist — but probably doesn’t even know it! A good Biblical study on Dispensationalism is found in the book *Dispensationalism* by the late Dr. Charles Ryrie. ★

Tribulation Temple CD

By Zola with Dr. Thomas S. McCall

Zola’s audio version of his bestselling *Satan in the Sanctuary* (now an e-book) concerning the history of Israel, the Temples, and how the antiChrist will become “Satan in the Sanctuary” when he blasphemes during the Tribulation Period. This key Bible study on a single CD offers the entire history and future of the vital Temple of God in Jerusalem.

(Please see [p.4](#) article on the Tribulation.)



Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy

Book & teaching CD by Zola Levitt and Dr. Thomas S. McCall

This study of a primary end-times prophecy is vital for all who believe the Scriptures. One chapter, *A Strategy for Unbelievers*, even tells unbelievers how to cope with the Tribulation Period! This basic book of prophecy analyzes the world situation in surprising terms. Hal Lindsey called it “a must-read for everyone who wants to know where we are on God’s timetable.”

(Please see [p.4](#) article on the Tribulation.)

Amazed by the Spirit

In Netanya with the **To The Jew First** outreach team, August Rosado and I

met **Jeremy** and informed him that his Hebrew name connects to Jeremiah the prophet. We called this to his attention after Jeremy told us that he would accept only

an Old Testament (*Tanakh*) Bible in Hebrew. We pointed out that **the New Testament is named in the Old Testament, in Jeremiah 31:31**. When Jeremy heard this, August and I could see the Holy Spirit working on him right then. His mind now receptive, he decided, "Well, if it is in the Bible, then it has to be true." Jeremy gladly accepted a complete (including the New Testament) Bible in Hebrew. August and I are always amazed when we can see God's Spirit in action. Jewish Jeremy was more open to the Word of God than many in the Church.



Jeremy



Maor

When we got to Tiberias, August and I revisited Maor. The last time we met **Maor**, he rejected our offer of the Scriptures. But this trip, he was willing to engage in conversation. During our talk, August remarked that Maor lives in the Galilee, where Jesus ministered 2,000 years ago and should be accepted among His people. Because so few Jews recognize Yeshua as one of them, Israel needs the Scriptures. With the Spirit amazing us again, Maor had a change of heart and accepted the Scriptures.

Dr. Todd Baker
ZLM Staff Theologian
TJF Team Leader



The next day, when we went to the Tiberias BIG Mall, we gave out five Hebrew Bibles and lots of Messianic Gospel tracts. Two young Israeli women that we met there — **Shir**

and Hila — listened casually while we showed them *Tanakh* Scriptures that draw the prophetic portrait of the Messiah. Their excitement grew as we correlated New

Testament Scriptures showing that the face of Yeshua of Nazareth fills that portrait. Needless to say, both Shir and Hila accepted complete Hebrew Bibles and Messianic prophecy pamphlets to further their study. What a revelation for these Jewish women to recognize the need for an atonement for sin and to realize that God has given His Son Jesus to be the final *kipporah** for our sins. ★



Shir & Hila



***HEBREW DEFINITION:**

The Hebrew term "*kipporah*" means "atoning sacrifice." It is the root from which Yom Kippur is taken.

— Tony

Marching to Bloodbaths

Wise as a Serpent
by **Mark Levitt**
ZLM Director



Battles are costly, often measured in casualties, always in treasure. Damage control necessitates going into combat with our defenses up and eyes open. When losing a leg is inevitable, why also concede an arm?

Did you know that there's no such word as *gullible*? Doubters, check your *Webster's* or Google. Then maybe you will advise your naïve friends that they're *misinformed* rather than gullible.

If you simply filed away that nugget of misinformation because I'm believable (sorry, but *gullible* actually *is* a word), then you likely need the following info.

Investing in cars, stocks & bonds, and life insurance typically devolves into figurative bloodletting events.

We fight to keep our financial well-being out of intensive care, but too many car salesmen, stockbrokers, and insurance agents are stealthy commandos who outgun us with oh-so-convincing misinformation, such as my "gullible" ploy.

Just as Wonder Woman dons deflection bracelets for defense, you and I must arm ourselves with information before entering battles, er, business negotiations. So let's educate ourselves before declaring, "*En garde!*" Resolve to read and learn from objective sources in advance.

CARS. Expect dismemberment by depreciation. To minimize such damage, financial guru Dave Ramsey advises against "fleases"—auto leases that, while featuring lower payments than car loans, chisel your budget. CarTalk.com suggests driving low-mileage cars that are 3–10 years old in order to avoid the steepest depreciation while dodging major repairs.



STOCKS/BONDS. We can't avoid flesh wounds from fees. Financial columnist Scott Burns emphasizes the importance of going with broadly diversified, no-load mutual funds from a low-cost investment firm such as Vanguard rather than "full service" from commission-hungry stockbrokers. Unfortunately, many fee-based brokers conceal their obligation to meet sales quotas,

which leads them to disregard whether you wind up economically limbless. Big brokerage firms are as interested in your prosperity as scandal-ridden Wells Fargo Bank. (See [cartoons on p. 26.](#))

LIFE INSURANCE.

We die to win such bets. Both Burns and Ramsey prefer term life insurance over whole/universal life for those who are

disciplined enough to invest savings from lower premiums. Moreover, if no one relies on your income for essentials, then you and your heirs may benefit more from your banking or investing whatever you'd spend on life insurance.

We Believers should become "wise as serpents" (Matt. 10:16) by studying financial stewardship an hour per week. No one else will care more about your economic well-being than you. Financial stewardship is simply husbanding God's gifts to us. ★

SIDE NOTE:

Have you noticed that most other religious organizations avoid the topic of financial self-preservation, despite its emphasis throughout Proverbs and other books of both Testaments? Not ZLM. We encourage good stewardship in your household as well as throughout our own organization. Please scroll down at levitt.com/essays for more wisdom. Don't be gullible. Don't believe everything you hear—even from the well intended.



ZLM Bulletin Board



Zola's Bible Exchange

If you have an extra Bible in new or nearly new condition to pass on to someone who needs one, such as an inmate or a retiree on fixed income, please send it to us to forward. (Bibles for inmates must be softcover.) On the other hand, if you need a Bible and can't afford one, please send us your address. There will be no charge. (Incidentally, ZLM consulting theologian Dr. Tom McCall refers to a New Testament without the Old Testament as The Amputated Bible.)



Connect Your TV to the WWW

Roku lets "cord cutters" who say goodbye to cable and satellite TV watch *Zola Levitt Presents* on their televisions. A Roku box gives wireless access via the Internet to 1,500+ channels and 200,000+ movies and TV episodes. Once you add the Zola Levitt Ministries channel (on your free Roku account), you can watch episodes of *ZLP* on your big-screen TV. Roku even supports closed captions. It is easy enough to use and the most economical way to watch our program, other than the scheduled broadcast or levitt.tv. **Please see levitt.com/roku**



FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

Your Guide to Effective Giving begins with a reminder that "charitable gifts remain deductible for those who itemize deductions for federal tax purposes." Learn about giving the right gift at the right time in the right way. After touching on cash, securities, and other property, this guide delves into retirement funds, life insurance, and ways to donate while retaining income. The pamphlet concludes with a helpful summary of federal tax considerations for charitable giving. To receive Your Guide to Effective Giving at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.



Change in Daystar Airtimes

Television viewers are increasingly "cutting the cord" with cable and satellite companies. Many watch *Zola Levitt Presents* via the Internet with "slinging" devices such as Roku (see our "Connect Your TV" announcement, above). Connecting to your television, the small Roku box lets you watch Internet "broadcasts" as though they were TV shows! Since most remaining cable and satellite viewers use a digital recording device (DVR) to record programming, ZLM will discontinue the Saturday broadcast. Starting at the end of January 2018, *ZLP* will air on Daystar only two times each week:

	Pacific Time	Eastern Time
Wednesday	8:00 p.m.	11:00 p.m.
Friday	3:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.

"Come Home!"

Zola Tours to Israel



See [page 36](#) for details





וְאַהֲבַת עוֹלָם אֶהְבֵּתִיךָ עַל־כֵּן מִשְׁכַּחֲתִיךָ חֶסֶד

“I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with love I have drawn you.” - Jer. 31:3

וְ	אֶ	הְ	בַ	תִּ	ךָ	עַל־	כֵּן	מִ	שְׁ	כַ	חַ	תִּ	ךָ	חֶ	סֶ	דַּ	
(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
cha-sed	me-shakh-teekh	ahl-ken	a-hahv-teekh	oh-lahm	ve-ah-ha-vaht												
(in) love	I have drawn you	therefore	I have loved you	everlasting	with love												

How do we change? How are we made new? Is it through self-effort? Making resolutions? Changing our diet or wardrobe? Going into counseling? Joining a “religion”? Or do we change by the miracle of God’s compassionate intervention in our lives? When Yeshua invites us to turn and come to Him, He wants us to awaken to something so valuable that we would be willing to give up everything in the world to take hold of it. True spiritual transformation is not just about leaving your sin behind you (as good as that is), but is rather about discovering the glory of true and infinite life. It’s about *being* the beloved. May the Lord help us see.

God’s love sees the hidden beauty, worth, and value of your life. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it” (Matt. 13:45-46). You may be tempted to identify with the merchant and regard this parable as a challenge to give up everything to obtain the surpassing worth of the Kingdom of Heaven, but another way to understand it is to see God as the Merchant, the central character of the story. Instead of you paying the great price for the pearl, turn the story around: God pays the price — and you are regarded as His choice pearl! You are a treasured possession, the “apple of God’s eye.”

That’s the message of Gospel, after all, which is the “power of God for salvation for everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16). The cross of Yeshua marks the end of “self improvement” projects, and that includes coming before God through religion (Rom. 10:4). We encounter God’s love and acceptance “apart from the law,” that is, despite our repeated failures, pain, and loss of the false self. We are truly changed as we disclose more and more of what we really are to God, that is, when we come “out of the shadows” to be made visible and healed before His glorious Presence (Heb. 4:16). Then we discover the “lightness” of being united to the risen Messiah as we walk according to the “law of the Spirit of life in Yeshua” (see Romans 8:2). May God work within us all such a miracle!

“I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with love I have drawn you.” Note that the word translated “I have drawn you” comes from the Hebrew word *mashakh* (משך), meaning to “seize” or “drag away.” We are *pursued* by God’s love, and He haunts us until we surrender to His will (John 6:44). As we look to Yeshua, as we lean on Him, God reveals more of Himself to us. He gives us the grace and strength we need;

He is always enough! ★



The Holy Days of Our Lord DVD Set

Eleven 30-minute TV programs (3 DVDs)

Filmed on location in Israel, this 11-program series presents the holidays that our Lord celebrated. Given to Moses on Mount Sinai, these Seven Feasts provide some of the most fascinating studies of Biblical types and shadows. Few churches or seminaries teach this important subject.

Overview From the Mount of Olives, Zola gives a summary of the festivals that the Lord established for the Chosen People in Leviticus 23. Dan Hendrickson, an Orthodox Jew of Jerusalem, explains how rabbinical Jews view each of the feasts, which include:

Passover Zola looks at the original Exodus and also explains the traditional *Seder* as it relates to Christ's fulfillment and the Lord's redemptive plan.

Unleavened Bread Zola explains that this festival serves as a yearly reminder to the Chosen People that they did not have time to let the bread rise when the Lord delivered them out of Egypt. The Messiah is represented in the unique matzo.

First Fruits In this feast, "wave offerings"—two loaves of bread, representing the Church and the Chosen—are presented to the Lord for the new harvest season.

Pentecost Zola explains that when Christ told His disciples to wait for the coming Power of the Lord, the Jews were anticipating the celebration of this feast, *Shavuot*.

Trumpets Zola teaches about Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. A time of celebration and merriment, it is also a time when the seriousness of sin weighs on the hearts of the Jewish people and *shofars* sound.

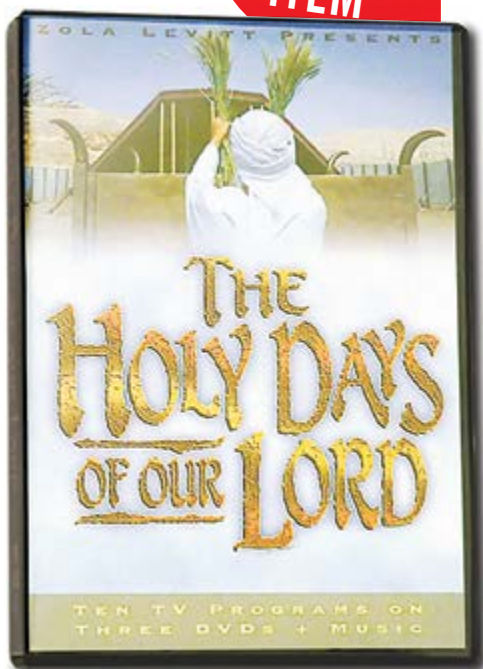
Day of Atonement From the Mount of Olives, Zola explains Yom Kippur. Once a year, the priest entered into the presence of God in the Holy of Holies and made a sacrifice for the sins of the entire nation.

Tabernacles Standing next to a *sukkah*, Zola informs us that the mood in Israel changes from a solemn occasion of judgment to one of celebration and merriment.

Purim/Hanukkah From the giant menorah by the Knesset (Israeli Parliament), Zola recalls the Book of Esther and New Testament references to the Festival of Lights—rededicating the Temple.

Sabbath Standing by a stream in the desert, Zola reads from Exodus and teaches about the day of rest. He draws a contrast between this commandment and where Christians find their "rest."

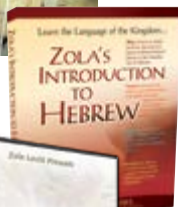
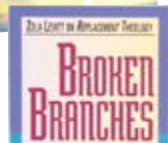
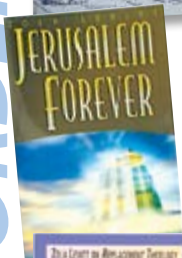
Music This conclusion to the series features all the music heard in the prior ten programs. We see dramatic recreations of each feast, Zola's musical performance on location in Israel, and view the scenic beauty of the Holy Land.



ORDER FORM

Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	A Christian Love Story	\$3	___
___	Glory! The Future of the Believers	\$3	___
___	How Can a Gentile Be Saved?	\$3	___
___	In My Father's House	\$3	___
___	Israel, My Promised	\$3	___
___	The Miracle of Passover	\$3	___
___	The Promised Land	\$3	___
___	The Second Coming	\$3	___
___	Seven Churches	\$3	___
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel	\$3	___
___	Spirit of Pentecost	\$3	___
___	Jerusalem Forever	\$4	___
___	Mix or Match: 50 Classic Study Booklets (above)	\$49	___



New!

Books

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	An Epic Love Story (Part of 50-book offer above)	\$3	___
___	The Beginning of The End	\$8	___
___	The Bible Jesus Read	\$10	___
___	Broken Branches: Has the Church Replaced Israel? (Zola on Replacement Theology)	\$6	___
___	Coming: The End! Russia/Israel in Prophecy (p.12)	\$10	___
___	Genesis One	\$5	___
___	The Iranian Menace	\$8	___
___	In the Footsteps of the Rabbi (p.20)	\$14	___
___	Israel's Right to the Land	\$2	___
___	Jesus, the Jew's Jew	\$7	___
___	Once Through the New Testament	\$9	___
___	Our Hands are Stained with Blood	\$16	___
___	Signs of the End: Millennium	\$7	___
___	The Passover Haggadah (Messianic)	\$6	___
___	The Prophesied Messiah	\$8	___
___	Raptured	\$10	___
___	The Warrior King	\$12	___
___	Whose Land Is It?	\$6	___
___	Zola's Introduction to Hebrew	\$39	___

Featured DVDs

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	Beauty for Ashes	\$59	___
___	Best of Zola's Music Videos	\$49	___
___	Called Together New!	\$49	___
___	Daniel & Last Days' Battle	\$49	___
___	The Dark Prince	\$59	___
___	Ezekiel & MidEast 'Piec'e'	\$49	___
___	Holy Days of Our Lord (p.17)	\$69	___
___	In the Footsteps of the Rabbi (p.20)(12 prog, 3-DVDs)	\$69	___
___	Joseph: Dreamer/Redeemer	\$59	___
___	Journey of Restoration	\$59	___
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel ...	\$49	___
___	Times of the Signs	\$49	___
___	Zion Forever	\$59	___

Order online at <https://store.levitt.com>
 By phone call 24/7: 800-966-3377, or ZLM Dallas office: 214-696-8844, or print/tear out this 2-pg. form, fill out box at right, mail to ZLM, Box 12268 Dallas TX 75225



ORDER FORM continued

UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEMS!

Studies, Specialty, Etc.

Qty.	Item	Price	Total
___	2-flag Collar Pin	\$2	___
___	Abraham to Jesus Genealogy Chart	\$10	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Body Lotion 17 oz.	\$37 ⁵⁰	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Foot Cream 3.4 oz.	\$22	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Hand Cream 3.4 oz.	\$23	___
___	Flag of Israel (3' x 5')	\$10	___
___	"Grafted In" Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut)	\$2	___
___	Half-shekel Key Chain	\$10	___
___	Jewish Heritage Calendar (2017)	\$6	___
___	Matzoh Postcards (pack of 12)	\$8	___
___	Messianic Roots Lapel Pin <i>New!</i>	\$10	___
___	Messianic Prophecy Scroll	\$39	___
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem	\$12	___
___	Pilgrim's Map of the Holy Land	\$6	___
___	"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker ..	\$2	___
___	The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark	2 for \$1	___
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only) ...	no charge	___



Teaching CDs by Zola

___	Coming: The End! (p.12)	CD	\$7
___	Discovering Our Jewish Roots	(9 CDs)	\$39
___	Tribulation Temple (p.12)	CD	\$7

Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

___	Beyond Words	(Zola's first instrumental)	\$12
___	The Works (p.10)	(Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49
___	The Works II (p.10)	(Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49
___	The Works I & II + 6 CDs Free = 22 albums (p.10) ...		\$98

Please send this entire 2-page Order Form — Thanks.

Please fill out area below and send the entire page.

Shipping & Handling Chart

up to \$15.99, add \$5
 \$16 to \$30.99, add \$7
 \$31 to \$60.99, add \$9
 \$61 to \$97.99, add \$10
 \$98 and over, FREE SHIPPING

For shipments outside the United States, please **DOUBLE** shipping. Please send U.S. funds.

(Please allow about 2-3 weeks for delivery.)

Any amount that exceeds the listed price is considered a tax-deductible gift to our ministry.

Name _____

(please print)

Shipping Address _____

Billing Address (if different) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (optional) _____

On what station/network do you primarily watch our programs? _____

Donor # _____ Phone No. (_____) _____

(see number above your name on mailing label)

My check is enclosed for \$ _____ or, Please charge \$ _____ to:

Card # _____ Exp. ____/____ Card ID# required _____



Cardholder Signature: _____

Subtotal _____

Shipping (See left chart) _____

UPS shipping (\$4 extra) _____

Rush! (\$5 extra) _____

8.25% Tax (Texas only) _____

Donation? _____

Total _____



In the Footsteps of the Rabbi from Tarsus DVDs

Twelve 30-minute TV programs (3 DVDs)

In this twelve-part TV series, Dr. Jeffrey Seif sheds light on the Apostle Paul, his movements, and his message. After examining Paul's travels throughout the Roman Empire, Jeff analyzes Paul's divinely inspired letters to early Church congregations, preserved in the New Testament.

First Steps Toward Christ Paul's conversion and subsequent ministry in Damascus/Arabia.

First "Official" Ministry Journey Paul's movements in Jerusalem, Tarsus, and Cilicia, and his "Famine Relief" visit to Jerusalem.

Apostolic Ordination and Subsequent Missionary Journey Paul's apostolic launch, noting his first missionary journey and follow-up trip to Jerusalem to sort out the angst that developed in the wake of his message to non-Jews.

Second and Third Missionary Journeys Continues with Paul's missionary trips and ends with his apparently ill-fated trek to Jerusalem.

Arrest and Appeal to Rome for Trial Paul's arrest, his transport to a Caesarean prison, and his appeal to Rome where he is eventually sent for trial.

Roman Imprisonment, Release, Travels, and Death Shows Paul imprisoned in Rome, his release and further ministry, and his eventual execution in Rome.

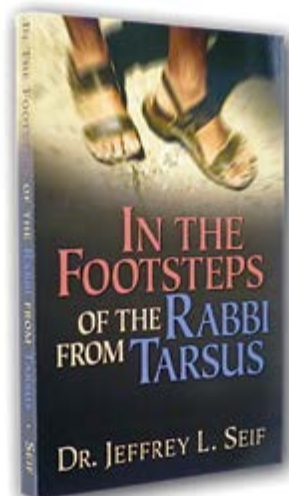
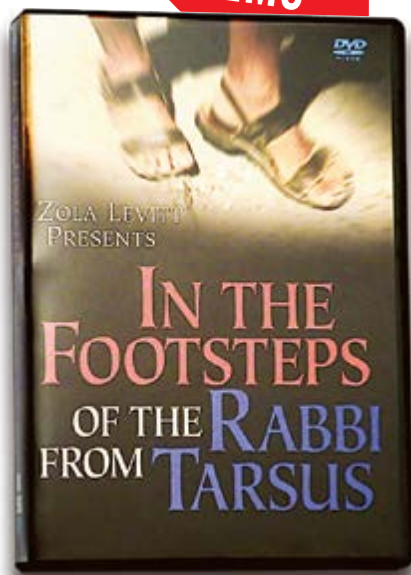
The next six programs consider Paul's divinely inspired Parchments in the order they were written—not from longest to shortest, which is how they appear in the New Testament.

- Paul's Earliest Writings: Galatians and 1 Thessalonians
- Follow-up to the Thessalonians, and 1 Corinthians
- Reconciliation with the Corinthians, and Roman Correspondence
- Letters to Philemon, the Colossians, and the Ephesians
- Philippians and 1 Timothy
- Final Steps and Farewell Letters to Titus and Timothy

In the Footsteps of the Rabbi from Tarsus Book

Companion book to the TV series

Thirteen of the New Testament's 27 books bear Paul's seal and signature. Consequently, he is the New Testament's principal interpreter of what it means to be "Christian." Jeff Seif looks closely at Paul and the fact that the major Christian interpreter lived, acted, and thought as a Jewish rabbi. St. Paul, a rabbi?



Curious George Saved from Nazis

BY GABE FRIEDMAN / JTA.org

Curious George — that curious little monkey — is beloved by millions of readers around the world. His adventures with the Man With the Yellow Hat impart important life lessons amidst silliness and mayhem.

But the children's book character was actually born during very dark times. **His two Jewish creators, Margret and H.A. Rey, fled the Nazis in 1940, carrying their unpublished manuscripts with them.**

The story of the couple's daring escape is told in the documentary *Monkey Business: The Story of Curious George's Creators* (found online and on on-demand platforms). The 2005 children's book *The Journey That Saved Curious George* was recently distributed nationwide to 8–11-year-olds through the PJ Library, a nonprofit that champions Jewish-themed children's books.

Hans Augusto Rey (born Reyersbach) and Margret Waldstein met in Hamburg in the 1920s. Margret, who had studied art at the influential Bauhaus school and whose father was a member of the German parliament, left Germany for Brazil in 1935 to escape the rising tide of anti-Semitism. Hans had been working in Rio de Janeiro as a bathtub salesman. The pair married that year and moved to Paris.

Hans worked as a cartoon illustrator for a newspaper, and Margret wrote copy. A French publisher was impressed with Hans's animal drawings and suggested a children's book. Their first work was *Raphael and the Nine Monkeys*. One of those monkeys would become George.

By June 1940, Paris looked grim as Hitler's troops began to close in. Millions of people flocked to trains heading to the south of the country, but the Reys could not get a ticket and didn't own a car. So, Hans made two bikes that night using

spare parts. That incredible act likely saved their lives... and George's.

Before their escape, Margret collected all of their unpublished manuscripts (including *Fifi: The Adventures of a Monkey*), and the couple biked out of the city 48 hours before the Germans entered Paris. They slept in barns and restaurants on their journey out of France.

As if grateful for being saved, the curious little monkey helped save the Reys. As *Monkey Business* director Ema Ryan Yamazaki documents, whenever they were stopped during their escape, the couple brandished the manuscripts and illustrations to prove that they were not dangerous.

They eventually made their way to Lisbon, then back to Brazil, then to New York. Fifi became George, and in 1941, Houghton Mifflin published the first "Curious George" book. Since then millions of books have been sold, and the series has been translated into 19 languages.

H.A. died in 1977, Margret died in 1996.

"The Reys' story has become unexpectedly more relevant in recent years," Yamazaki wrote last year. "The Reys' refugee story has a happy ending and represents the American dream at its best." ★



photo:
Ullstein bild
via Getty
Images





Letters to ZLM

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

Comments from www.levitt.com

From S.S. (NY): When change needs to be made, follow the Lord's leading. You answer to Him.

From D.M. (OH): Get older people on the show. The Harts are too young. I'm having difficulty staying with the new presentation. — [David turns 60 on his next birthday](#), and I'll be 52. We are grandparents to a 9-year-old, with another grandbaby due this March. I'm not sure how much older you want the co-hosts to be. But thanks for the "age" compliment. We try to stay in good shape so we can climb Masada during our Israel tours. — Kirsten

From D.G.: I think this new format of *Zola Levitt Presents* may be the best you have ever done! We started watching the program when Zola was still with us, and I am sure he is pleased with how the ministry has progressed.

From E.G. (IN): I loved Myles and Katharine, but I just saw the first episode of [Called Together](#), and it was terrific! David and Kirsten Hart are a wonderful addition to *Zola Levitt Presents*.

From C2: We loved the honesty in Kirsten's "Ya Snooze, Ya Lose" ([September 2017 Levitt Letter, p. 6](#)) and how she expressed our gratitude of coming from various church backgrounds into a Hebraic understanding of Scriptures.

To E.G. and C2: Thank you for the kind words. We appreciate your encouragement. — David & Kirsten

More Meaty Topics, Please

Dear ZLM,

Recently, it seems that both of your newsletters are "preaching to the choir." The in-house writers seem to be preaching a Bible study, as if ZLM supporters don't know that Israel is God's chosen land and people. I will continue to support you because I truly believe that what you do furthers the Lord's Kingdom. I just miss the former style. — L.G.

Dear L.G. —

Please remember that "the choir" constitutes only a small portion of the congregation. So, if the spirit of revival can be nurtured with the choir, perhaps

(continued next page)



the flames of revival will spread to the congregation! At least, that is my hope, and it is the only hope for a lost world before our LORD returns.

Thanks for your input. — Tony

While the newsletters' information may seem basic to you and to other seasoned Bible students, please remember that each publication might be a reader's first exposure to "Christianity through Jewish eyes" — Zola's signature perspective that most pulpits overlook.

As a "seasoned student" myself, I was often surprised when Zola addressed a familiar topic but caught my attention with a point of view I hadn't previously considered. Our letters indicate that this "light bulb effect" occurs regularly for other readers as well.

We sincerely appreciate both your continued support and your feedback. Perhaps you can forward to my attention articles that you think other readers would enjoy. — Editor



Stress Fractures

Dear ZLM,

I watched Zola from the very beginning and loved his teaching. Loved the fact that your hosts were Jewish.

You said donations were down; you wanted new blood. But you made a great mistake by bringing in gentiles to teach a show aimed at ministering to the Jews. I stopped sending support to ZLM after that move.

If something is not broken, don't try to fix it. You tried fixing something that was not broken. — P.H. (NC)

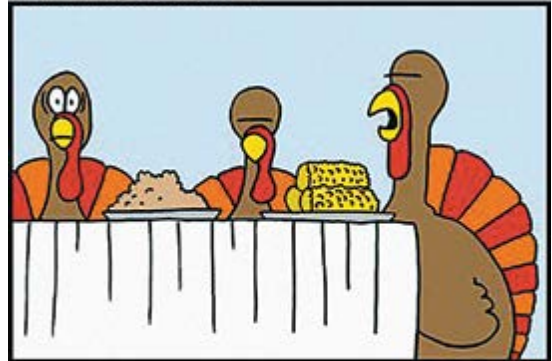
Sorry, P.H. —

We hope you will come back. Please understand that the situation was more broken than you can imagine. Other viewers and readers write in, saying either that they wish we had been more discreet or else excoriating us for hiding problems. You can't please everyone.

However, now our TV programs and news magazines deliver as much (or more!) Jewish teaching as ever, with increased variety and better quality. Our hands were restricted before, hence the improvements that we believe were God's will. — Mark

(continued next page)

REVERENDFUN.COM



WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL THE BOUNTY THAT FARMER BOB HAS BLESSED US ALL WITH THESE PAST FEW MONTHS





(See Tony's article "Are We in the Tribulation?" on [pp. 4-5](#))

Change is Inevitable

Dear ZLM,

It amazes me how quickly people decide to quit supporting you. Perhaps it's a matter of not asking questions to better understand before jumping to conclusions.

We all go through changes and have to make adjustments. Thank you for staying true to God's will in your ministry. — C.T. (WI)

Dear C.T. —

We appreciate your positive attitude and outlook on the changes that have taken place. Blessings. — David

A Mother's Memories

Dear ZLM,

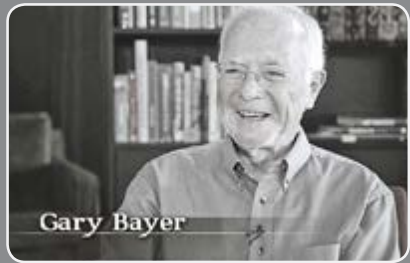
I have seen your interview with my son Gary Bayer. As difficult as it was to watch, I wouldn't have missed it for anything. How I miss him and his Dad!

I'm sending you a picture of me leaving the Celebration of Gary's Life in August. My arm cradles his Bible, which I treasure.

Thank you, Lula Bayer

Dear Mrs. Bayer,

Our condolences on the loss of your beloved son. [Gary's interview](#) capped off our *Close Encounters with Yeshua* series about Believers' personal experiences with our Lord. ([Watch it on www.levitt.tv.](#)) His testimony touched many of our viewers. — editing staff ★



1944–2017

We again want to honor Gary Bayer and the life he lived for Yeshua. He was an actor, a screenwriter, film producer and director. He was born on June 25, 1944 in Los Angeles, California. He passed away on January 6, 2017 in Jerusalem, Israel from prostate cancer.



Microscopic Silk Cocoons and Drug Design



SCIENCE: BY WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE / Wis-Wander.Weizmann.ac.il



A silkworm viewed with an infrared camera. The pale elongated cavity is the silk gland.

Scientists have managed to design microscopic silk capsules that mimic, on a very small scale, the structure of silkworm cocoons. The capsules can serve as a protective environment for the transport of sensitive “cargo” such as natural silk proteins, antibodies, or other delicate molecules. The collaborative research — which was performed by an international team of academics from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel; the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford, and Sheffield in the UK; and the ETH in Switzerland — **may lead to a host of applications in the cosmetics, food, and pharmaceutical industries, particularly in the delivery of drugs within the body.**

The use of natural proteins from which silkworms and spiders spin their elastic fibers has been limited, as these proteins have a tendency to clump together once extracted. Until now, researchers have used chemically processed silk fibers, which have different mechanical properties and are relatively inert compared to the natural ones. Dr. Ulyana Shimanovich — head of a new lab in Weizmann’s Materials and Interfaces Department — decided to find out what keeps the natural silk proteins from clumping together in the animal prior to the spinning.



Dr. Ulyana Shimanovich, head of a new lab in Weizmann’s Materials and Interfaces Department

The silk proteins are stored in liquid form in the silkworm’s glands before they are spun into the threads used to construct the cocoons. To imitate the natural process of structuring silk protein into protective capsules, the researchers used the principles of microfluidics, a field that deals with the control of fluid flow parameters on

the micron-scale level. They placed proteins extracted directly from the glands of silkworms inside microscopic channels on a chip made of a silicon-derived polymer and caused the protein molecules to self-assemble into a gel-like material, exactly as in a silkworm. The gel formed microscopic capsules; within

(continued next page)



Microscopic Silk Cocoons and Drug Design

(continued from p.25)

these capsules the rest of the protein stayed protected as a solution, as it does in the animal's gland. By controlling the viscosity of the silk protein solution and the forces acting upon it, the researchers were able to control the capsules' shape—round or elongated—and size: from 300 nanometers to more than 20 micrometers. Inside these artificial capsules, the natural silk proteins remained intact for an unlimited amount of time without losing their properties or ability to function.

Shimanovich explains: "Silk capsules are easier to produce and require less energy to manufacture than synthetic capsules. Moreover, silk is biodegradable."

The tough silk capsules may be used to protect sensitive molecules, such as antibodies and other proteins, preventing them from losing desired qualities, for example, to deliver drugs or vaccines intact to target organs. In particular, says Shimanovich, because the capsules can penetrate the blood-brain barrier, they may enable the development of new treatments for neurodegenerative diseases.

And because the capsules are biodegradable, they may be used in the food industry to incorporate healthful oil particles into bread or other products. Potential applications also include the development of skin treatments for burns or cosmetic use, and the design of strong elastic fibers for tissue engineering—for example, for fabricating improved biological implants. ★

Marching to Bloodbaths

(continued from p.14)

These cartoons complement Mark Levitt's *Wise As A Serpent* article on [p. 14](#).



In Israeli Village, Everyone's a Doctor



MEDICINE: BY VIVA SARAH PRESS (r) Israel21c.org

Arraba, a village north of Nazareth, may look like just another quiet community in the Lower Galilee. But a closer look at the 24,000 residents reveals that a lot of them preface their names with “Dr.”

The Israeli Arab community has more than six doctors per thousand inhabitants — one of the highest numbers of doctors per capita in the world. Israel as a whole has 3.4 physicians per 1,000 residents. Even more astonishing is the number of new medical graduates Arraba produces every year: 25–30.

How did a farming village turn into a medical

mecca? Credit Dr. Hatim Kanaaneh, the first Western-trained doctor in Arraba. Kanaaneh returned to his village in the late 1960s after receiving his medical degree from Harvard University and instigated a call for proper healthcare in the Galilee.

The former public health employee of the Israeli Ministry of Health then cofounded the non-governmental public health organization The Galilee Society to better serve Arab villages and towns. He advised parents to invest in their children by investing in education.

With only five medical schools and two dentistry schools in the country, Israeli students — Muslim, Christian, and Jewish — often head to European schools for training. Arab students from Arraba also study in Jordan.

Arraba eyes a state hospital

The hospitals in the north of the country, about 50 minutes' drive from Arraba, have a fairly even mix of Muslim, Christian, and Jewish doctors and nurses. According to StandWithUs, 35% of all doctors in Israel are Arab. Arabs account for 35% of all pharmacists, too.

Residents of the country's northern communities are waiting for the Ministry of Health to build a new hospital promised in the Galilee. A hospital built in the area of Arraba-Sakhnin-Deir Hanna would service tens of Arab and Jewish communities located between Tzfat (Safed) and Haifa, Tiberias and Nahariya. Arraba has the medical graduates. Instead of them traveling an hour to other hospitals, they could work at a nearby hospital. ★



The northern entrance to the village of Arraba in the Galilee in Israel, from the Yodfat ridge



photo: Almog (wikimedia)

When the British Captured the Holy Land



PART 1: BY AVIVA and SHMUEL BAR-AM / TimesOfIsrael.com

In the wee hours of December 9, 1917, two British army cooks from the 60th London Division left their Jerusalem base in search of fresh eggs. Less than six weeks had passed since Commonwealth troops had breached the Turkish lines in Israel for the first time and conquered Be'er Sheva; earlier that very morning the British had captured Jerusalem from the Turks, as well.

Now, as the cooks walked through a deserted field, they were accosted by a number of residents anxious to surrender the city. Among them were four policemen, several youths, the Jerusalem mayor, and a photographer from the American Colony.

According to one version of this historic event, two British army sergeants suddenly appeared and shouted at the entourage to halt. The Jerusalemites lifted up their arms, in which they were holding a white sheet that had been hastily torn off one of the beds at the American Colony's hospital. The sheet, attached to a broom handle, was the Jerusalemites' makeshift flag of truce.

A decorative monument marks the spot at which Jerusalem was officially handed over to the British. It stands in the center of Allenby Square, part of the Romema neighborhood that grew up around this memorable site after World War I.

A number of historic sites related to Britain's conquest of Israel are located in the Negev — where it all began — and others, including the memorial in Allenby Square, are in Jerusalem. This month, we look at the Negev's sites with the stories behind them, next month at Jerusalem's.

In the Negev

1 ANZAC: Early in 1917, the British made several attempts to conquer the Holy Land. Two frontal attacks on Gaza, the traditional port of entry into Israel, failed miserably, and over 16,000 British troops and soldiers of the Australian and



Mayor of Jerusalem Hussein Effendi el Hussein, meeting with Sergeants Sedgwick and Hurcomb of the 2/19th Battalion, London Regiment, under the white flag of surrender, Dec. 9th at 8 a.m., 1917



Field Marshal Viscount Edmund Allenby after capturing Jerusalem, 1917

(continued next page)



New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) were killed or wounded in battles for the city. This, despite the fact that in Gaza the British used new secret weapons — tanks and gas shells — for the very first time.

The tide turned when General Sir Edmund Allenby was brought in to replace the previous commander. He decided on a different tack: He would gain control by way of Be'er Sheva (since 1915, the Turks' most important military center in the country).

Allenby developed a plan to trick the Turks into thinking that the British would attempt a third Gaza attack, while in reality Gaza was only to be a diversion so that the troops could more easily enter Be'er Sheva. Called the Haversack Ruse, it involved sending a mounted intelligence officer across Turkish lines. Hopefully, the Turks would shoot at him, he would pretend to be wounded and would "accidentally" drop a haversack full of letters describing false plans for a massive attack on Gaza.

Incredibly, the first two times the pack was dropped, no one picked it up and the charade had to be repeated a third time. The Turks were only mildly fooled, explained World War I enthusiast Kelvin Crombie, during a tour of ANZAC battle sites in the Negev. Nevertheless, he added, there were fewer soldiers in Be'er Sheva on the day of the attack than there otherwise might have been.

In 1967, exactly 50 years after the conquest of Be'er Sheva, a memorial was established in Be'eri Forest, which had seen much of the action. Shaped like the letter A, the monument is dedicated to the ANZAC Light Horse Brigade, whose bold gallop through the Turkish defensive lines on October 31, 1917 helped British troops crush the enemy.



The monument dedicated to the ANZAC Light Horse Brigade



2. Commonwealth War Cemetery: Located in the center of Be'er Sheva, this cemetery was inaugurated in 1923 as a last resting place for soldiers who fell nearby during World War I. It is especially peaceful as the sun sets in the late afternoon. Over 1,200 troops from Britain, Australia, and New Zealand are buried within the beautifully landscaped and perfectly tended plots. ★



A memorial ceremony at the British military cemetery on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem

SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS



Apple says that with its new iPhone X, "Your face is now your password. Face ID is a secure new way to unlock, authenticate, and pay."

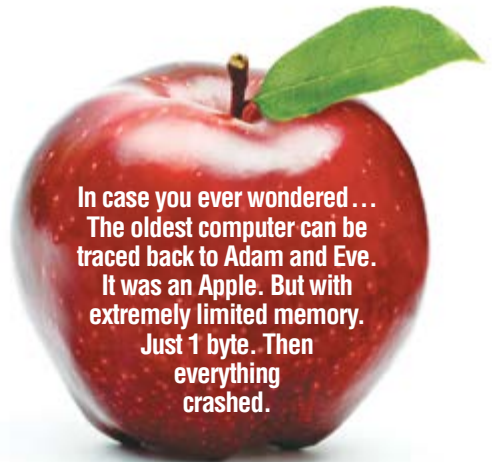
technology). Israeli engineers and developers are widely renowned for prowess in machine learning and artificial

intelligence skills.

Apple is generally secretive about its developments and acquisitions. An employee recently revealed that Apple's teams often work separately, without knowing what others are working on, sharing information on a need-to-know basis.

Some hardware for the iPhone 8 was created in Herzliya, Israel, according to a local Apple employee. **Apple's Herzliya office, according to Apple CEO Tim Cook, is the company's second-largest research and development office in the world.** Haifa is another Apple center.

Heard around the office: Will those who support the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement forgo the new iPhones? (Perhaps not in Lebanon — see cover side-story.)



In case you ever wondered ...
The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.
It was an Apple. But with extremely limited memory.
Just 1 byte. Then everything crashed.

(Found online)

(continued next page)

Israeli Technology in iPhones

By Shoshanna Solomon
TimesOfIsrael.com



Shoshanna Solomon

Israel's Channel 2 recently reported that Israeli technology contributed to the facial recognition feature of Apple's new iPhone X. Called Face ID, facial recognition will be the main way users unlock the new iPhone, which ditches Apple's familiar home button. The iPhone X is scheduled to start shipping in November, priced from \$999.

An Apple spokesman in Israel declined to comment on the Channel 2 report, which cited unnamed Apple sources, or on the use of Israeli technology in Apple's products.

But in February, the U.S. giant acquired Israel's RealFace, a cyber-technology startup whose facial recognition technology can be used to authenticate users, aiming to make passwords redundant when accessing mobile devices or PCs.

The iPhone X also features the new A11 Bionic chip, which Apple has described as "the most powerful and smartest chip ever in a smartphone." The chip enables the phone to handle machine-learning algorithms, which power advanced features of the phone, such as Face ID, augmented reality apps, and Animoji (emojis that are animated using facial tracking



Anti-Semitic Sign at Swiss Hotel

By Jamey Keaten
APNews.com

Switzerland's tourism office recently decried an "unfortunate" incident in which a small Alpine hotel posted a sign asking "Jewish guests" to shower before swimming in the hotel pool.



Jamey Keaten



Under the headline "To our Jewish Guests," the sign at the Paradies Arosa hotel read: "Please take a shower before you go swimming. If you break the rules, I am forced to closes [sic] the swimming pool for you. Thank you for understanding."

Tzipi Livni, a former Israeli foreign minister, wrote in comments that also alluded to violence around a white supremacist rally in Virginia: "We must not let there be a place in the free world for Nazi flags or Ku Klux Klan masks or ugly signs in hotels directed at Jews only. We cannot allow

acts of hate against Jews around the world to become normal."

Officials said the hotel in the eastern town of Arosa apologized for the incident and took the sign down.

Markus Berger, Swiss Tourism spokesman, cited a recent trend of Orthodox and other Jews traveling to four Alpine villages in the area. He said that numbers "definitely in the thousands" have grown in recent years. Many hotels serve kosher food, and Jewish guests "feel well-treated," he added.

"It's just this one lady at this one hotel who was not on top of the situation," Berger said. "It's an isolated incident."

Switzerland's foreign ministry said, "Switzerland condemns racism, anti-Semitism, and discrimination in any form."

"Where there's smoke, there's fire." Despite official condemnations, anti-Semitism flourishes across Europe. If not, the offending sign would not have lasted a day. —Mark ★



"We'd love to have you speak, Ezekiel, but we're a non-prophet organization."



Post-Temple Priests in the Galilee?



ARCHAEOLOGY: BY AMANDA BORSCHEL-DAN (r) TimesOfIsrael.com

A fishing village in the Galilee may have been the new home of one of the priestly families that fled Jerusalem after the fall of the Second Temple at the hands of the Romans.

A combination of recent findings at Magdala — home of Jesus' disciple Mary Magdalene and the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus — point to a developed priestly culture with echoes of ancient Jerusalem at the site.

Scholars now wonder how much of the Temple practice priests took with them when they fled.

An Early Synagogue

In 2009, the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) began site excavations ahead of a proposed visitors center and hotel construction, and found an extremely rare early synagogue. As one of perhaps eight synagogues discovered in Israel dating from the first century A.D., it provided one splendid find — the Magdala Stone, a Torah reading table sculpted in stone with reliefs depicting a seven-branched



The Magdala Stone

menorah and possibly the Jerusalem Temple. (See the [Feb. 2016 Levitt Letter, p. 32](#))

The Stone, thought to have been produced from an eyewitness account of the Temple and Holy of Holies, is considered one of the most impressive archaeological finds of the past half-century in Israel. In addition to the depiction of the menorah, the sculpted Magdala Stone also

has four horn-like protrusions that recall the horns of sacrificial altars. **According to scholars**, it is another link between the site and the contemporaneous "Temple cult" in Jerusalem. The stone was **recently displayed in Rome** as part of the "Menorah: Worship, History, and Legend" exhibit produced in cooperation between the city's Jewish Museum and the Vatican.

In seven years of intensive digs under Mexican archaeologist Marcela Zapata-Meza, the site of ancient Magdala has also yielded four ritual baths (*mikva'ot*) that "have similar archaeological context as the priestly residence uncovered at the Herodian Quarter in Jerusalem," according to Zapata-Meza.

Thus far, in addition to the ritual baths and early synagogue, Zapata-Meza's team has uncovered at Magdala a marketplace, fishing pools, mosaics, some 2,400 coins, a rich domestic area, wharf, and harbor.

Additional findings pointing to priestly Temple-like use

(continued next page)




One of four ritual baths found at Magdala; the earliest to use ground water





2,200-year-old bronze incense shovel found at Magdala



include chalk stone vessels that were used to keep purified water necessary for ritual purposes, oil lamps like those used by priests in Jerusalem, and a shovel that is an exact copy of the ones used to pick up ember incense ashes at the Temple.

As Jewish life in Jerusalem became increasingly untenable under the Roman invasion, the priestly classes left the city. This idea of priests fleeing to the Galilee has traditional and archaeological support.

“Theoretically, it is possible to connect the ritual baths or stone vessels found at various sites in the Galilee with priests who resided in those locales after 70 A.D.,” wrote Hebrew University Prof. Zeev Weiss in 2012. There are records of some priests becoming rabbis, and even today there are special roles for *kohanim* (priests) in synagogue services.

However, Weiss disputed the idea that the priestly classes would be the only ones maintaining ritual purity in their new homes outside of Jerusalem.

In light of her findings at Magdala, Zapata-Meza is exploring more deeply the social and religious relationship between Magdala and Jerusalem during the Second Temple period, in particular the potential continuation of Temple practices outside of the Temple Mount.

Where the Fisher of Men met His loyal female disciple

Called Taricheae in ancient Greek texts, 2,000 years ago Magdala was a thriving city of fishing and industry along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. For Jesus and His disciples, fishing was a touchstone for religious metaphors. During Mary Magdalene’s time, ahead of its destruction in 67 A.D., it reached a population of approximately 30,000, according to Flavius Josephus, once a governor of the area.

In his *The Jewish War*, Flavius Josephus tells of Titus “leaping on his horse” and riding through water to conquer the city as “rebels” boarded boats and fled. (Interestingly, the Talmud explains the fall of Magdala as being due to the “moral depravity” of its residents.)

In many ways, Magdala stands at the crossroads of Jewish, Roman, and Christian history of 2,000 years ago. Although some 800 ancient ritual baths have been discovered in Israel, the four uncovered at Magdala are the only ones found in “gentile cities,” said Zapata-Meza. Additionally, she wrote, most Jewish residents in cities surrounding the Sea of Galilee would more likely have used the lake for ritual purification.

The ritual baths at Magdala were uniquely filled with groundwater, not collected rain or water from natural spring systems. According to Zapata-Meza, this sophisticated plumbing “is one more proof that Magdala was at the forefront of regional commerce and culture in the first century.”

In short, fit for a priest. ★

Lebanon is Just Western Iran

BY ELDER OF ZIYON

Last summer, President Trump praised Lebanon and Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri as partners in the war on terror. Improbably, he claimed that Lebanon was also fighting against Hezbollah.

Now, Hariri had made his positions clear when he was visited by Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Jaber Ansari in Beirut.



Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri and U.S. President Donald Trump

As reported by Iran Front Page (IFPnews.com):

Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri says the Israeli regime and terrorism are the two dangers currently threatening Lebanon and the entire Middle East.

"Two dangers, namely the Zionist regime of Israel and terrorism, are threatening Lebanon and the region," Hariri said in a Tuesday meeting with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Jaber Ansari in Beirut.

He also conveyed his greetings to Iranian President Hassan Rouhani as well as First Vice-President Es'haq Jahangiri and Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and expressed the hope that the two countries would further boost mutual ties.

Jaber Ansari, for his part, echoed Hariri's remarks concerning the two dangers (Israel and terrorism), and noted, "These two threats can serve as common ground for promotion of Iran-Lebanon ties as well as regional cooperation."

Hariri's positions are identical to Iran's. **There is really no substantive difference between the two countries any more** — Lebanon is Western Iran, just with more of a nightlife.

It is actually surprising that with the Arab world turning its back on Qatar for its ties to Iran, we have not seen a similar action against Lebanon, which has been effectively an Iranian satellite for years. ★

Six countries have a ban, 40+ do not. Americans are at risk from Moslems with terrorist tendencies no matter where terrorists reside!



The MUSLIM TRAVEL BAN.



JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.



Career Path

A Catholic priest and a rabbi were chatting one day when the conversation turned to job descriptions and promotions.

“What do you have to look forward to as a possible promotion in your job?” asked the rabbi.

“Well, I’m next in line for the monsignor’s job,” replied the priest.

“And then what?” asked the rabbi.

“Well, next I’d become a bishop,” answered the priest.

“And then?” asked the rabbi.

“If I do a good job as bishop, it’s possible to become an archbishop,” said the priest.

“Then what?” asked the rabbi.

The priest, a bit exasperated, replied, “Maybe I can become a cardinal.”

“And after that?” asked the rabbi.

The priest, really annoyed, replied, “With lots of difficult work and if I’m in the right places at the right times and play my political options just right, maybe, just maybe, I can get elected pope.”

“And then what?” asked the rabbi.

“Good grief!” sputtered the priest. “Do you expect me to become God!?”

“Well,” noted the rabbi. “One of our boys made it!” ★

A cheerful heart is good medicine —

Proverbs 17:22

Dry Bones



JOIN THE King David Club

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

1. One each of **all our teaching materials** (more than \$3,700 worth), not just for your library, but also to give away.
2. One **\$500 discount** on each of up to four (4) of our tours to Israel.
3. One-on-one **telephone conference with Mark Levitt** to discuss this ministry’s goals and visions.



ECFA Approved (still)

For nearly six years now, the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) has monitored various aspects of this ministry's financials, newsletters, website, government documents, television broad-casts, etc. The ECFA knows more about our ministerial effort than some of our employees! A word to the wise: the ECFA continues to accept ZLM as an official member.

Non Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Dallas, TX
Permit #1851

Box 12268, Dallas, TX 75225

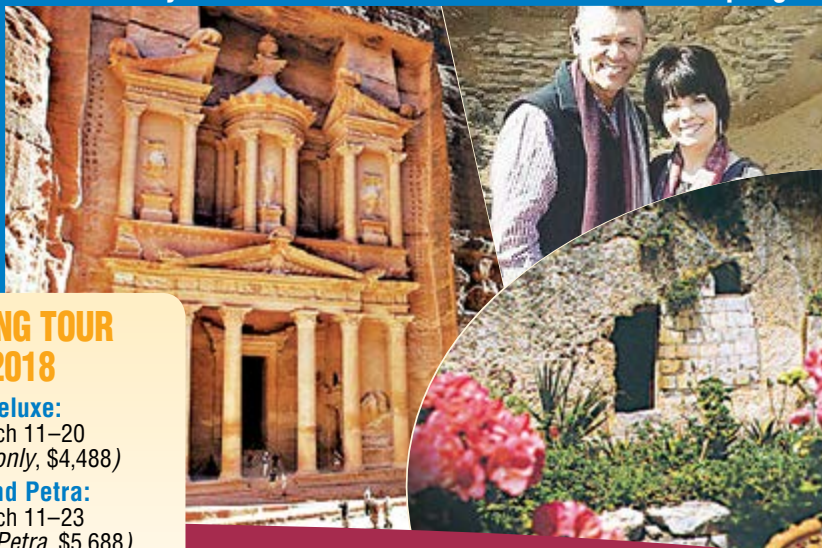


Zola Tours Israel

Visit Israel and Petra

Join Tony & Jane Derrick and David & Kirsten Hart this Spring!

Petra,
the Harts,
& Garden
Tomb



SPRING TOUR 2018

Deluxe:

March 11-20
(Israel only, \$4,488)

Grand Petra:

March 11-23
(Israel + Petra, \$5,688)

For more info and
registration see:
www.levitt.com/tours

Call Zola Tours at 214-696-9760
or email travel@levitt.com.

A refundable deposit by credit card
will hold your reservation.

Go!



Back to
p.3



To
Index



Back to
p.5



Back to
p.15