

THE LEVITT LETTER

ZOLA LEVITT MINISTRIES

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WHO IS ZOLA LEVITT?

First of all, he's Jewish. Secondly, he belongs to the tribe of Levi (Levitt = HaLevy in Hebrew, "the Levite"). But most important of all, he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Messiah.

When he invited Jesus into his life some eight years ago, Zola committed his talents and ambitions totally to God. And talented he is. With few regrets, he walked away from a promising career in music to serve the Lord only.

Zola is a trilogy in personality and abilities. He's a gifted musician (with a masters in music and Ph.D. work completed), a witty speaker-Bible teacher and a prolific and easy-to-read writer.

It's through his writings that most know about Zola. His books are published by the major publishers. . . Moody Press, Zondervan, Revell, Tyndale House,



Doubleday, Bantam Books and others. Of some forty books and booklets published, the most well known titles are: *Satan in the Sanctuary*, *The Coming Russian Invasion of Israel*, *Raptured*, *Jesus — The Jew's Jew*, *Israel My Love*, *The Miracle of Passover*, *The Miracle of Pentecost*, *The Bible Jesus Read is Exciting*. . .and many others.

For years Zola hosted his famous Christian talk show THE HEART OF THE MATTER on KPBC Radio in Dallas. Spiced with wit, humor and conviction, it became one of the most popular shows in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.

Zola's ministry has long been confirmed by the Dallas Christian community who have gained so much from his Bible teaching. And when asked how God has specifically used Zola, all would probably refer to his unique Jewishness.

Zola understands the Old Testament only as a Christian Jew can. He understands Hebrew and enhances his teaching by periodic study tours to Israel. Too, all agree he understands biblical prophecy as few scholars do today.

All of Zola's time, energy and insights will now be focused on his ZOLA LEVITT LIVE TV programs.

A must viewing for new Christian insights and challenges.

FIRST FRUITS AND THE SEVEN FEASTS OF ISRAEL

In Leviticus 23, the God of Israel gave a marvelous and profound prophetic system by choosing, seemingly arbitrarily, seven holy feasts to be held each year by the Chosen People. God imparted this important information to Moses on Mt. Sinai, and he dutifully delivered it to Israel in the wilderness. From that moment on, the Tabernacle was constructed and the feasts observed exactly according to the instructions of the Lord, by the true believers.

It is the third feast, First Fruits, with which we are concerned in this newsletter. The church continues to celebrate First Fruits in its New Testament essence, as Resurrection Sunday, or Easter, but we do not realize its full impact nor its glorious promise for the future, unless we understand its original form directly from God's instruction.

The church appreciates Passover in that the Lord Jesus cited this feast Himself as a holy convocation. We take the bread and the wine of Passover as communion, according to what happened on that Passover of crucifixion in the New Testament record. We correctly "do this in remembrance of Me," remembering our deliverance from bondage by the blood of the Lamb (as Israel was delivered from Egypt in the Exodus). The second feast, Unleavened Bread, demonstrates a holy walk — "And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the Lord: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread" (Lev. 23:6). Leaven, in the Bible, is sin, and the God of Israel asked for a week of eating "sinless" bread. As we walk in Christ, "the Bread of Life," we demonstrate a *continuous* keeping of this feast, which is exactly our instruction from the Apostle Paul: "Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (I Cor. 5:8).

But with First Fruits, we seem to have confused an ancient pagan fertility rite with the original directions. Today, we have an amalgam of a Babylonian festival with a Biblical holy convocation.

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

We should look carefully at the original instructions for the third feast and understand fully their implications:

"Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest.

And he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it" (Lev. 23:10-11).

To paraphrase, God is saying to Moses, "I am taking My people into an exceptionally fertile land and I would like them to acknowledge that fact. Each spring, when the first harvest of the year is available, the people should bring some of their initial crops to the Temple so that the high priest can acknowledge them before Me. This must be done on the Sunday ("the morrow after the sabbath") during the week of Unleavened Bread."

Thus it happens, so early in the Bible, that God honors Resurrection Sunday, the Sunday after Passover, as representing particularly the things that come up out of the ground spontaneously and miraculously after the long, dead winter. We see this miracle every spring and we take it for granted, but which of us has to go out and do anything special to our trees or our shrubbery to make them come forth with their first fruits in March and April?

I was once a guest on a radio talk show on the subject of UFO's and general signs of the presence of the enemy in today's world. A listener called in and said, "You seem to find so many signs of the devil around. How come there are no signs of God?"

When I got my voice back, I was able to tell that caller a thing or two about appreciating the immense gifts we have, regularly and without our efforts, from our Creator. Who colored the wild flowers? Who made the tropical fishes in all their variety? Who took the trouble to make the forests and the mountains of the world in such a way that the most primitive of human beings can "live off the land," hunting, harvesting and eating with confidence?

Obviously, none of us have to expend any effort whatsoever to deserve these first fruits. They are the free gift of God, as is our coming resurrection.

Where Easter is concerned, however, we have confused a pagan ritual with First Fruits. Each spring, the Babylonians saw the genuine first fruits and assumed it would be a fine time to ask their goddess, Ishtar (Easter), for new babies. They worshipped the things in nature which represented fertility, such as the rabbit and the egg. The people wore new costumes, in keeping with the new buds on the trees and shrubbery. Today, we continue the Babylonian rite with our Easter Bunny and our painted eggs and our new outfits for the Easter Parade. An egg hunt, of course, represents the attempt to conceive a baby.

The original name of the third feast, however, contains a great truth. If there are first fruits, then there must be a second, a third and so on, and that is the true meaning of this Sunday. We do not merely celebrate the resurrection of the Lord on First Fruits, but more so, the resurrection of the entire church. That the Lord rose from the dead is cause for great wonder and blessing, but are we really surprised? He could raise the dead Himself; He could walk on water; He could feed the thousands. The greater miracle is that we ordinary, mortal, earthly sinners will all rise! As Paul presented so clearly:

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming" (I Cor. 15:22-23).

Those "in Adam" die, since all descendants of our sinning original father have inherited his terrible tendency. But in Christ we are made alive again. And this will happen in some given order, as the Scripture tells us. Christ is the firstfruits; His "number" was one. Apparently, we all have a number and we will be raised from our graves in order. Obviously, "The dead in Christ shall rise first" (I Thess. 4:16-17), since they have lower numbers.

Jesus celebrated First Fruits in the appropriate manner by rising from the dead on that day. He also gave the Father His proper First Fruits offering; graves were opened and dead people rose and were seen after His resurrection in Jerusalem (Matt. 27:53). Our Lord, not unlike any farmer of the soil, gratefully brought before the Father a few early "crops" of what would be a magnificent harvest later on. We sometimes fail to note that Jesus was not the only deceased person to rise on that miraculous day of First Fruits. Those He brought forth from their graves represent a type of the church. We, too, shall be brought forth from our graves for the big fall harvest — the Rapture — at the Feast of Trumpets. It was not only, then, the Lord's resurrection that demonstrates our promise, but also the resurrection of those chosen saints of the time, which assures us of our own triumph.

THE REST OF THE STORY

Thus, clearly, in His Passion Week, the Lord celebrated the first three feasts, each in the appropriate manner. He was crucified on Passover, answering to the Blood of the Lamb, which had gotten the chosen people out of slavery to begin with; He was buried on Unleavened Bread ("This bread is my body") — a case of a dead man arranging his own burial at the appropriate time. And He was raised on First Fruits, as a demonstration of the future resurrection of the church. That wasn't the end of the Lord's ministry on earth, even though we assume He was inactive after that. As a matter of fact, He continued, regarding His promise to the disciples in John 14, to send the Holy Spirit. The fourth feast, Pentecost, occurs 50 days after First Fruits (Lev. 23:15-16), and on that very day, the Holy Spirit attended the Pentecost festivities at the Temple site "like a rushing, mighty wind." Pentecost represents the summer harvest, a larger harvest than First Fruits, but not so large as the fall crops, and the Holy Spirit harvested 3,000 people (Acts 2:41). On the occasion when the Law came, Israel had made a golden calf, and by God's direction, 3,000 were killed (Ex. 32:38). And now, on Pentecost, the same number were returned to the Chosen People, "The letter kills, the Spirit gives life."

That was the last of the Lord's activities that we have seen on earth, other than the various personal miracles we all experience in our holy walk with Him. We are due, therefore, for upcoming performances, each on their appropriate day, if the Lord is to continue the system He has undertaken. If we are correct about the ongoing fulfillment of the feasts in their proper order, we should expect the Rapture of the church, appropriately enough, on the Feast of Trumpets (I Thess. 4:16-17; I Cor. 15:51-52). We cannot be dogmatic on this point, since the Lord is to come by surprise, and the church is becoming more and more aware of the feasts — even expecting Him on Trumpets. Yet, He intends to surprise us "like a thief in the night," and so there is some debate about whether He will continue to fulfill the feasts or whether He will pick some other day, surprising us all. The writer rather prefers the idea of the Day of Trumpets, itself, and is aware that some of the church is expecting the Lord on that very day in some future year. We are not those who are asleep after all; we are supposed to be waiting and watching expectantly (I Thess. 5:1-10).

If our theory is correct, then the Lord should continue to fulfill the last two feasts — even after the Rapture of the church. And indeed it appears that He will. The Day of Atonement will be fulfilled at the Second Coming, when "they shall look upon Him whom they have pierced and mourn for Him as for an only son. . . and all Israel will be saved" (Zech. 12:10; Romans 11:26). It must be stressed that it is only **surviving** Jews who will be saved. Thus it is necessary to witness to the Jews now, if they are to go in the Rapture of the church, and not relegate them to waiting through the Tribulation Period and Armageddon for the Second Coming. Many of them will perish in such circumstances and never live to see the Lord come. Thus, they will be lost, and this will greatly grieve the Father, who loves them.

Finally, the Lord will celebrate the seventh feast, the Feast of Tabernacles, when He places His own tabernacle here on earth among us and the world will come up from year to year to worship Him (Zech. 14:16-19).

THE FUTURE

Clearly, then, Christians have a very bright future. First Fruits, in essence, means that our Saviour will return for us. Buddha and Mohammed have not promised their followers that they will return. With these worldly religions, what you see is what you get. But our King is coming!

First Fruits represents, in a way, the whole point of Christianity — what we see is **not** all we get. This life is only the beginning. Even if we are dead, we shall rise — just as those dead branches of winter bear fruits every spring.

Let us pray with John, "Amen, come quickly Lord Jesus."



PROPHECY UPDATE THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING!

First, let me say that it is remarkable that those who write about prophecy have to turn to newsletters in these times, rather than books. It had been proposed to me to prepare an "update" book to follow my book with Dr. Thomas McCall, *THE COMING RUSSIAN INVASION OF ISRAEL*, but a book simply isn't fast enough for the developments of these days. It takes something on the order of one to two years to put out a book, and no Bible student should be surprised if Russia invades Israel by that time!

First, we should turn to a review of Ezekiel's prophecy about the invasion of Israel by "Magog," as the territory of Russia was known in Biblical times. The invasion itself is spelled out in Ezekiel's 38th and 39th chapters, but we should begin with Chapter 37 in order to place it in its proper time.

THE DRY BONES

The 37th chapter of Ezekiel represents one of the most striking visions and clear fulfillments to be found in all of Bible study. Some prophecies elude us in their subtlety and some raise controversies among interpreters. Still others are yet to be fulfilled and we cannot know if we are right in taking a point of view. But the vision of the Valley of the Dry Bones is explained by God Himself within the chapter, and its fulfillment — the restoration of the Jewish nation to the land

Israel — is abundantly clear to all who live today. The chapter begins with Ezekiel's faithful reportage of his arcane vision, where he was taken to preach in a valley of dead, bleached bones.

God asks the prophet "Can these bones live?", and then bids Ezekiel to "Prophesy upon these bones and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord."

Some preachers complain about speaking to dead audiences!

Ezekiel did as he was told and the bones gathered themselves into human bodies "but there was no breath in them." At the end of the vision, God tells Ezekiel to "Prophesy unto the wind. . . and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." The wind, or the Holy Spirit, throughout the Bible provides true life to human beings dead in their sins. God breathed upon Adam to make him live; the Lord breathed the Holy Spirit on His disciples (and He used the analogy of the wind as representing the Spirit when speaking to Nicodemus in John 3); and finally the Holy Spirit Himself

indicated that great day of Pentecost "as a rushing, mighty wind."

GOD'S EXPLANATION

In Ezekiel 37:11-14, God gives the complete explanation of the confounding vision, saying "These bones are the whole house of Israel. . . and I shall place you in your own land."

That the vision was to be in the future after some great dispersion of the Jewish people out of the land, is clear from various phrases that follow in the ensuing chapters. This is no small regathering of the people in exile, such as the return from Babylon, but rather a worldwide latter-day restoration. It is spoken of by many other of the prophets and the language, "It shall be in the latter days" (Ezekiel 38:16), identifies the time most certainly.

The 37th chapter goes on to explain the sign of the two sticks, wherein Ezekiel is to realize that Israel and Judah will be made one again (v. 16-17), a fact which the exiled prophet of Judah could not have appreciated from his viewpoint in Babylon. The northern 10 tribes of Israel had been deported by Assyria better than a century before his lifetime, and they are still referred to as "lost tribes," even though they were never lost (the Book of James of the New Testament is addressed to "the Twelve Tribes").

God continues His explanation of the vision all the way

through to the coming of the Kingdom to Israel and the reign of the Messiah (v. 24-25). He even takes the opportunity of certifying that His Temple will be rebuilt in the millennium and that the whole world will know God (v. 27-28).

So it is clear from the vision that the invasion to be described in the next chapter will follow the restoration of the Jews to Israel, and that God will sanctify Israel and place His Tabernacle there when the foe has been vanquished. It is striking that we are the generation that is allowed to see this dramatic regathering of dispersed Israel. One could have lived at any point in the last 25 centuries and not seen such a prophecy fulfillment as that of 1948 A.D.! The Israelis themselves, believers or not, are convinced of this prophecy and there is very little quibbling about its meaning among Bible students anywhere. An occasional Mormon will claim that the two sticks represent the Bible and the Book of Mormon, but their meaning is most plain in God's explanation of the vision.

THE INVASION

Chapters 38 and 39 are very easy reading. A great army is to come down upon Israel from the north, along with a number of allies, in whom we are most interested. Particular among the allies are Persia and Ethiopia (v. 38:5). All of the allies have been located on ancient maps with certainty, even those with cryptic Biblical names ("Meshech, Tubal, Gomer and Togarmah" are all given in the genealogies of Genesis 10:2-3, and have been located). The allies formed nearly a circle around Israel at the time Dr. McCall and I wrote our book, with Magog to the north, Gomer (Eastern Europe) to the northwest, Libya to the southwest and Togarmah to the northeast. The Mediterranean Sea lies to the west of Israel. Missing were enemies to the south and the east; these would have completed the encirclement of Israel, and they are indeed given in the Scriptures (Ethiopia, to the south, and Persia, or modern Iran). But at the time we wrote our book, we were compelled to say that the prophecy was not yet in focus because there was no sign of animosity toward Israel from Ethiopia or Iran. Clearly, we could count on the animosity of Russia and its satellites of Eastern Europe, as well as that of Israel's perennial enemy, Libya, and the others mentioned. But truly, Ethiopia, with its monarchy of the time, and Iran, with the Shah, were not as yet part of the picture.

Unfortunately, all of that has changed.

THE FINAL PIECES

It is as if we were assembling a picture puzzle and lacked two important pieces. They have now fallen into place. Realize the impact: The prophecy is 2,500 years old; none of it could have happened until 1948 A.D., when Israel was back in the land; as of 1973, when Dr. McCall and I wrote our book, we could not attest that the picture was complete; at this writing, the picture is virtually complete!

With Ethiopia, the monarchy of Haile Selassie fell, and a Marxist military government took over. Selassie had nothing against Israel and liked to style himself as "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah," fancifully tracing himself back to the supposed romantic liaison between King Solomon and Queen of Sheba some 3,000 years ago. The eccentric old emperor liked to consider himself of Biblical blood, if not ever so slightly Israeli.

All that changed with the new government, which began immediately to denounce Israel, as so many new governments tiresomely do these days. It is clear at this time that Ethiopia is the outspoken enemy of Israel and would probably like to curry favor with Moscow by participating in the invasion.

The story is almost the same in Iran, the modern Persia. The Shah had his questionable policies, but he was never the enemy of Israel nor the friend of the Kremlin. He supplied Israel with oil and maintained a neutral position toward the Chosen People. He disliked the Communists and made no bones about that.

But now we have seen the Shah deposed and a government of Islamic priests more or less take the reins of the country. It is most uncertain whether the 78 year-old Khomeini will be able to operate a modern state with its myriad cultural and economic issues on the principles of Islamic law. There have already been public whippings, summary trials and midnight executions and the like, excesses which have followed the history of the disciples of Mohammed. The denigration of women under the Moslem system is not sitting very well with half of Iran, and educated public officials are becoming exasperated with the turmoil. It would not be a difficult prediction to say that the government will soon fall into other hands.

In the meanwhile, Khomeini has struck up a friendly relationship with Yasser Arafat, the PLO terrorist who claims with pride credit for the cowardly attacks on Israeli civilians of the past few years. Clearly, Iran has tipped anti-Israeli, at this point, but we look for it to turn pro-Russia in the near future.

The signs are already most clear; There is a large phalanx of "leftist" oil workers in the nation, who are vital to the country's economy. They are obviously Red and would like to turn their government in that direction. We are also hearing of "refugees" slipping over the border from Afghanistan, which recently went Communist. It would not come as a total surprise if it were learned that some of these refugees were actually Communist organizers; that would follow a pattern established for decades in the takeover of nations by the Kremlin.

I would hazard a prediction at this point that Iran will strike up relations with Russia in the near future — perhaps before the end of this year. Then Iran would surely participate with their newfound ally in an invasion against Israel.

THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

The invasion will certainly be unsuccessful. The combined allies, certainly enough to crush the 3 million Israelis out of existence in a normal battle, will have committed the ultimate violation of God's will. One may never invade Israel, by Divine command! Those nations who did so in the past are extinct, such as Babylon, Assyria and even the entire Roman Empire.

God's attitude is more than clear when it comes to this particular invasion:

"And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face.

For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord God: every man's sword shall be against his brother.

And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord" (Ezekiel 38:18-23).

We could go on and on about the details of the invasion, and the 39th chapter of Ezekiel makes for some horrifying reading. Obviously, we are dealing with nothing less than a direct judgment from heaven, such as that upon Sodom and Gormorrah, and the destruction will be appalling. The casualty figures are actually given in Ezekiel 39:2; one-sixth of the invaders will survive! Israel, it seems, suffers no damage, though the Israelis must bury the dead and burn the weapons left on the fields (vs. 9-10). God actually gives a final explanation as to why He allowed the whole destructive undertaking (39:21-23).

WILL WE SEE IT?

The Rapture of the Church will almost surely precede the Russian invasion of Israel, probably a Tribulation Period event. There is apparently damage to other nations (39:6), perhaps from nuclear fallout, if this is indeed a thermo-nuclear war. The Church is not to be punished for its belief, but rather to be rewarded in the Rapture (I Thess. 4:16-17; I Cor. 15:51-52; Rev. 3:10).

But some prophecy analysts, the writer among them, tend to place the Russian invasion early in the Tribulation Period and apart from Armageddon because of the burning of the weapons for seven years (39:9; seven years is the exact length of the Tribulation Period). Conceivably, such an event as the invasion of the most important nation of the world by a half-dozen others will "cover" the disappearance of the Church, though this is mere speculation. In any case, many prophecy analysts hold that the Rapture will occur directly before the Tribulation Period and thus, if the Russian invasion is an early feature of that period, then the preparations that we are seeing now indicate the soon coming of our Lord.

It is not as important for the believers of the true Church to understand the exact details of the Tribulation Period as it is for them to realize that these end times events bring the ultimate return of the Lord and the beginning of the Kingdom on earth. This Kingdom, of course, is the whole point of Christianity; we have a bright future. What we see is not all we get.

The prophecy will happen no matter what anyone does. Ezekiel has already "seen" it. The Israelis have been warned and are being warned daily by missionaries and through literature. As the pieces fall into place, many of them are placing more and more credence on this interpretation of Ezekiel. General Moshe Dayan wisely stated, some 10 years ago, "The real enemy is Russia."

Prophecy In The News...

An up-to-date analysis of current events that relate to biblical predictions about the future.

CLOSER TO UNITED EUROPE

Another step toward a United Europe? It's with these very words that **U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT** magazine began a major article on the European Common Market in its June 11, 1979, issue.

The headline and the article read almost like something straight out of the book of Daniel with its prediction of a revived Roman Empire.

Europe (and the rest of the world) is without doubt deep in international troubles. . . communist military power buildings, oil stocks dwindling, terrible inflation. . . all coupled with creeping recession and even possible depression.

The **U.S. NEWS** article report "The nine Common Market Nations take a hopeful step in pursuit of their decades-old dream of a Unified Western Europe June 7-10 when they had the first direct elections for a European parliament."

arising from the residue of the old Roman Empire (Europe). It's made up of ten powers with ten leaders (Kings), out of which comes "the beast," the antichrist.

Though Europe now hungers for a strong leader to take charge, no one as yet fits the bill. But a world crisis (which could develop soon) might just bring such a person to power.

The magazine article points out that the new elected European Parliament (representing 190 million Europeans) will lead to a truly United Europe. . . economic solidarity and mutual defense protection.

One European politician points out, "We are trying to implement a dream. . . if it collapses, we have to go back to nationalism." By that he means each country fending for itself.

But with a world growing daily with new troubles, that's unlikely. We will be ripe soon for the biblical prediction.

NOTE CAREFULLY!! Rev. 17:12-13

"And the ten horns you saw are ten kings, who have received no kingdom as yet, but receive power as kings one hour (temporarily) with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength to the beast."

This may be saying that these united powers are unable to make unity work. ("they received no kingdom as yet") until the beast comes on the scene and pulls them all together.

Some outside threat probably causes this. . . either military or economic or both.

LOOK FOR THIS TO HAPPEN SOON!!

NATO Fears About Russia

A recent European newspaper points out the present danger the West faces with the new Soviet military buildup. Russia **IS** moving offensively and preparing for some future military conquest. Europe and the Middle East may be the targets.

The newspaper article points out that NATO is falling behind with old military hardware and is incapable of stopping Russia presently.

More money by NATO must be allocated for defense. America and the Western powers are now meeting to plan strategic buildups of new arms.

The most urgent task facing the Allies, which isn't solved, is the growing destructiveness of Soviet nuclear weapons targeted at Western Europe, especially the intermediate range SSZO missiles that have so far been excluded from the SALT II process.

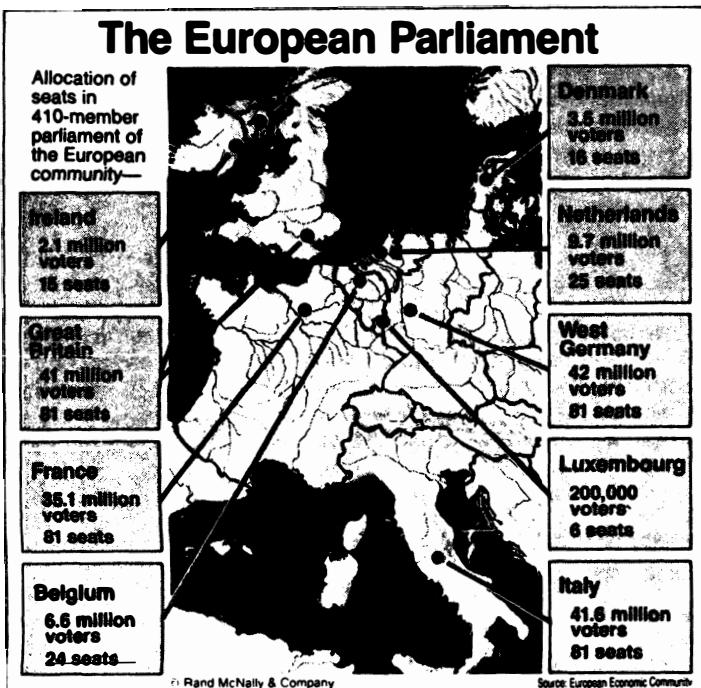
The problems now, the paper says, is to convince a sleepy public of the present and real danger.

The Bible seems to predict nuclear warfare in many chapters, but two passages seem most obvious!

Speaking of troops invading Israel:

" . . . their flesh will burn away while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will burn away in their eyesockets, and their tongue will burn away in their mouth" Zech. 14:12

"The inhabitants of the earth will be burned and few will be left." Isa. 24:6



The article sees these nations as "the Nine." Daniel predicts a " . . . terrible and exceedingly strong. . ." world power that had ten horns (powers), Dan 7:7. He repeats his vision from this biblical scenario and the various pieces Daniel speaks about, we can easily see a new great power

THE TURBULENT MIDDLE EAST

In the coming newsletters, THE LEVITT LETTER will focus on the terrible and critical dilemma of the Middle East. In the immediate up-and-coming issues, we will give the background and history of the modern nation of Israel and its rebirth in the land. We will examine the Palestinian issue which many Christians know little about.

The newsletter will monthly touch on the biblical and prophetic issues that come to the surface in the form of the oil crisis and the PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organization).

If you have friends who should also be reading these important articles, send us their name, address and zip code and we'll put them on our mailing list.

The question keeps coming up before the world, "What right does Israel as a nation have to exist?" And more especially, "What right does she have to return home to her historical land?"

Anyone reading Bible prophecy knows the answer to these questions.

The people of Israel were scattered world-wide as prophesied and are now returning just as almost all the Old Testament prophets foretold.

But the world doesn't read nor especially believe the historic and prophetic statements of Scripture. There are clearly demonic forces binding the world and preventing the nations from understanding God's Divine viewpoint.

Nevertheless, God's purposes and programs will be carried out.

Though the Jews are prophetically scattered around the globe, a small handful have always been in the land. But within a 110 year period — with but a trickle at first — Jewish immigrants began to return to Palestine, buy land from Turkish land owners and redevelop the country. In 1881 there was about 25,000 Jews in Israel, and by 1922 there was some 83,000.

But in recent years a myth has cropped up through the pressure of Arab propaganda . . . "Palestine was always an exclusively Arab country."

The fact is for many centuries Turkey controlled Palestine from across the Mediterranean Sea. And although Arabic gradually became the language of the minority of the population after the Arab invasion of the seventh century, Palestine was never an exclusive Arab country.

There was never an Arab state or Palestine Arab nation in the land. The Palestinian Arabs never ruled the country nor did they create their own self-contained unit or form any social or political identity. They were not autonomous at any time.



Too, it's a well-known fact that the Arabs living in Palestine over the past centuries actually destroyed the land. Being nomads and feeling no ties nor loyalty to the land, the area was literally dead and lifeless in every aspect.

Mark Twain visited Palestine in 1867 and wrote:

"Desolate country whose soul is rich enough but is given over wholly to weeds — a silent mournful expanse. There was hardly a tree or shrub anywhere."

In 1913 a Palestinian Royal Commission report said:

"There are no orange groves, orchards or vineyards . . . no villages with irrigation . . . The sanitary conditions are horrible . . . no schools exist."

In 1931' another British report read:

"We found the land inhabited by Arabs who lived in mud hovels . . . large areas were uncultivated . . . many Arabs were cattle thieves and harbored other criminals . . . there was little public security."

In the midst of this sad state of affairs in the land, God began moving His people, and even the nations, in bringing about the promised return to the land.

"And the Lord will gather you from all the nations . . . and will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it . . ." (Deut. 30:1-10)

Before World War I was over, in 1917 the British issued the Balfour Declaration:

"His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a

national home for the Jewish people . . .”

After the World War was over, the British tried to bring about this homeland fulfillment for the Jewish people. And the Arabs even welcomed the Jews. King Emir Faisal wrote:

“The Arabs, especially the educated among us, look with deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement . . . We will wish the Jews a hearty welcome home . . . We are working together for a reformed Near East and our two movements complete one another.”

As the Jews began returning in the 1920's all seemed to be going well. The famous British officer T. E. Lawrence visiting Palestine wrote: “The sooner the Jews farm the land the better; their colonies are bright spots in the desert.”

Without question, the Jews began to do wonders. The land was reclaimed and irrigated. Swamps were drained. Millions of trees planted. Two to five crops were harvested off the same acreage each year.

But by the 1930's war had broken out between the Arabs and the Jews. Why?

The only answer is that until Israel's Messiah returns and the people's eyes open, the Jews will be hounded even in their own land. There is satanic opposition to God's people the Jews until God consummates His program with them. In Revelations 12, John the Apostle writes a parable about the nation Israel, in which, in the end times, even he sees Israel chased into the wilderness “where she has a place prepared by God” who will protect the Jews of Israel. Yes, the Jews of the land will have no rest until after the great coming world tribulation. Then after that period, many who will survive will accept Christ as their personal Savior and national Messiah.

FIRST SESSION BEGINS FOR . . . INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH AND MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

For sometime now Zola Levitt has had a dream to educate and help laymen better understand the Middle East and our troubled times . . . in light of the Bible and the astounding prophecies given about the end times.

To bring this about, Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc. is sponsoring the first session of **THE INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH AND MIDDLE EAST STUDIES**.

The Institute will be held in Dallas and will run four days, Thursday, December 27 through Sunday, December 30. Each day will be packed with six exciting hours of study. The teaching staff will be headed by Mr. Levitt and other scholars and professors well versed in biblical and Middle East studies.

The three courses offered for study will be . . .

● INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT:

This course will cover the major themes of the Old Testament. It will concentrate on the flow of Scripture, the geography of the Old

Testament period, the various ages and events that divide the Old Testament and a survey of the books of the Old Testament.

● THE PROPHETIC FEASTS AND TYPES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

This course will examine the various Feasts and types of the Old Testament law, the prophetic foreshadowing of Israel's coming Messiah and a better understanding of the historical and prophetic timetables as layed out in the Feasts, as well as the projections of the Feast types in the New Testament.

● THE CURRENT MIDDLE EAST

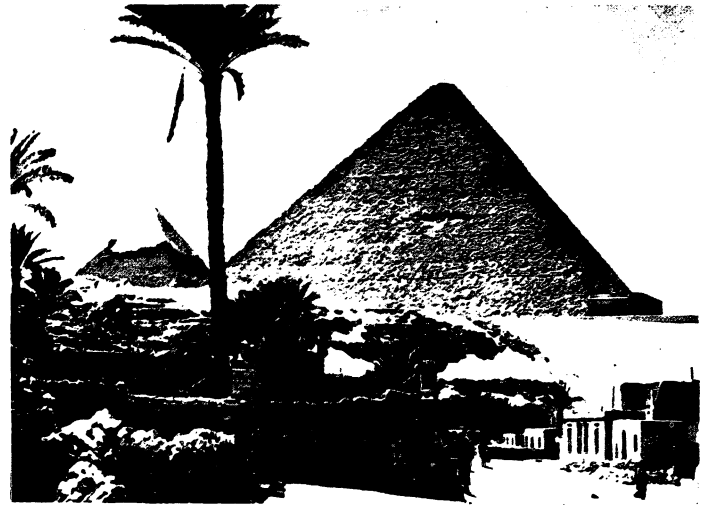
The course will deal with the current geography, a look at the Arab nations that surround Israel — — their population and vital statistics. This course will touch on the prophetic patterns that reach even into our time. It will look at the international scene and current Jewish thinking regarding Israel and her survival.

TWO SUMMER TRIPS A SUCCESS

Zola led two extremely successful Middle East trips this summer with the well-known Meier International Study League of Hurst, Texas. The tours were arranged rather quickly but about fifty people were able to travel with Zola to the Mediterranean and important biblical locations.

One trip departed the middle of July, the second left August 20th. The two fourteen luxury biblical study trips flew to Athens, Greece, boarded the liner VICTORIA and took in vast areas of the Mediterranean shoreline. After touring each day, Zola spoke most evenings on the seven churches of Asia Minor. The cruise took in Athens, Corinth, Venice, Crete, Santorini, Ephesus, Patmos, Egypt, and highlights of Israel.

Zola will be leading other Meier International tours to this part of the world for in-depth Bible study. For information on these trips, write us for a brochure.



PTL NETWORK PLANNING TO TAKE ZOLA LEVITT LIVE PROGRAM

The well known and popular PTL Christian Broadcasting Network of Charlotte, N.C. is now completing negotiations for taking this Fall's series of **ZOLA LEVITT LIVE** TV shows. When the agreement is finalized, our show will be seen in many more homes across America.

The famous PTL Club has viewing audience of twelve million. The network of other PTL programs by TV cable has an additional potential viewing audience of three million with an estimated actual audience of 1.5 million.

INDIA THREATENS TO AMASS N-BOMBS

Prime Minister Charan Singh of India recently warned that India might be forced to amass nuclear weapons if Pakistan goes ahead with efforts to assemble an atomic bomb.

"We do not want to join the race to make a bomb," he said, "but if Pakistan sticks to its plans to assemble a bomb, we will perhaps have to reconcile the whole question."

India believes Pakistan intends to build a nuclear device and that this represents a clear and present danger to Far East peace and especially to India. Some observers believe too, that such confrontation policies between the two countries adds fuel to China's attitudes about future intervention in the two nations' affairs. China would love an excuse to move west toward the heart of the world, the Middle East. India and Pakistan represent a gateway.

As well, further nuclear stockpiling by any country of the world only gives validity to prophetic nuclear passage such as Isaiah 24. "The earth will be polluted by its inhabitants on it; because they have gone beyond the (natural) laws . . . therefore the curse will devour the earth and they that dwell on it will be made desolate," Isa. 24:5,6.

Currently being shown on the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), **ZOLA LEVITT LIVE** is fast becoming one of the more popular Christian variety programs. Though many in the U.S. are still unable to get the full range of Christian programs offered, we're asking our many friends to spread the word about our broadcast. If we're not in your area now, we may be this coming year.