

# Look UP! 

## By Zola Levitt

Watching television these days is similar to reading end times prophecy in that the content is much the same. We are certainly all well aware of the Los Angeles earthquake, the ferociously cold weather in the Midwest and the East and the odd feeling that $75 \%$ of the news is about weird courtroom proceedings. The Biblical pictures of the end times (". . . famine, pestilence, earthquakes in diverse places . . . betrayals, hatred . . .") are well re-

## Are we getting what we deserve?

flected in the news. The Lord's sad observation, "ye shall be hated of all nations," in regard to Israel is more than borne out by circumstances today where governments are cooperating to dismember the Promised Land, and the general picture of things is indeed "as it was in the days of Noah . . ." If we look back through the '90s, we see Los Angeles fires, the Midwest flood, the Florida hurricane, riots, crime and a true degeneration of this society - arguably the world's most successful society. Is Genesis $12: 3$ coming true for America: "I will curse him that curseth thee"? The previous administration turned its back on Israel and the present one is supporting the disastrous peace covenant with the PLO. Are we getting what we deserve?

Though I received more criticism for my views on the Iran-Contra affair than for any other political situation I ever wrote about, the Walsh Report has come in and has justified
everything in those articles. Oliver North was handsome indeed, tall and straight, but he didn't tell the truth and he ran a private illegal business for his own gain and that of a few compadres in Washington. Presidents Reagan and Bush were handsome, well-spoken, conservative gentlemen appointed to be Christians by a majority of our heroworshippers, but they subverted the Constitution itself and broke the law. Special Prosecutor Walsh's conclusions were that Reagan was convinced he was doing best by the country, but Bush did not have even that excuse. I have heard the complaints and personal attacks concerning Walsh, but I will stick by his story, and my own.

Russia seems to be leading the way into the Tribulation Period, choosing something like a "Little Hitler" for prime minister and generally failing to come to a consensus on its future. That huge country full of resources and brains seems hopelessly fragmented. The emerging heavily Moslem southern Republics may well fulfill Ezekiel's prophecy commonly called the Russian invasion of Israel (Ezek. 38, 39), and there are even some reactionary Communists who decorated Lenin's tomb on his recent anniversary.
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## Look UP (Continued from Page 1)

Europe too seems to be descending into tribalism, with the former Yugoslavia as the pristine example of how bad things can get. Germany seems unable to cope with its neoNazi problems as detailed on our recent

There is no reason in heaven and earth for the president of a democracy to have even a single conversation with such a killer. . .
television programs, nor does it seem to care. Nationalism seems to be driving the countries apart rather than together (other than for their economic alliance, which seems to fit the tennation confederacy prophecies).

President Clinton met recently with "President" Assad of Syria, the bloody dictator who has decreed life and death over every person in that country since his 1970 military coup. There is absolutely nothing to be gained with legitimizing the reign of a tyrant like Assad who, body-for-body, has destroyed more of his own civilians than Saddam Hussein at his worst. Syria has shown no inclination toward
making peace with Israel other than the obvious ploy of trying to get back the Golan Heights from which they could then annihilate the Jewish people in the valleys below. There is no reason in heaven and earth for the president of a democracy to have even a single conversation with such a killer, and I can only say that the world has become a very strange place as the end times approach. The new round of peace talks in Washington will probably lead nowhere and that is my personal prayer. I cannot begin to get convinced that Israel's enemies want anything but her complete destruction, however they go about it. The whole idea of "peace and safety" reminds me of the scripture that warns against just such a delusion at the end of the age.

If you want to get some idea of how dreadful things can become when such dictators become legitimized in the minds of the world as national leaders, go and see the movie Shindler's List. I have never recommended a movie in this newsletter, but this one is more like a tour of history. It is so realistic, so well done and so important that I wish everyone
(Continued on Page 10)

## THE MIRACLE OF PASSOVER

Passover this year begins at sundown on Saturday, March 26. Would you like a complete explanation of Passover, the crown jewel of the Biblical feasts, and how the Messiah appears in every moment of it? In the first half-hour of our Passover videocassette, Zola explains the origin and significance of the Passover and demonstrates the feast. In the second, Zola continues his demonstration, showing how Christ is revealed in the feast, and proceeds to tell a "Christian Love Story."
This is one of the most basic and important Bible studies, shedding clear light on the mysteries of the Lord's supper. Please see pages 11-12 to order the videocassette, audio tape and study booklet.

## Letters to

Zola
Dear Zola,
Thank you for your wonderful ministry! You have been such a blessing to my family.

My husband, John, and I were both raised Catholic and had been told for years that we were the "new Israel." Through Kay Arthur's "Precept Upon Precept" study on Genesis, I learned that God's Word was just what it claimed to be - true. I also became a true believer. My husband was very discouraged when I left the [Catholic] church. When "Israel: By Divine Right!" appeared on The Family Channel last year, we began to watch and were enthralled. John looked up every Biblical reference and the Lord impressed upon him the truth of your series. He is now a believer too!! We have continued to watch and enjoy your programs.

Sad to say, we have been a part of the 97\% [of your non-donating audience]. We would like to change our status with this donation.

John left yesterday for a three-month temporary duty assignment to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force and will be commanding a unit there. Unfortunately, he wasn't able to take any of your materials with him - the Saudis aren't exactly pro-Israel - but he does have his Bible!

Thank you again for your ministry!
In God's love, K.R.

Dear Zola,
I watched your program on TV from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. and would like to make a correction. You read a couple of lines from a New York paper about the various religions being represented in Chicago and added that Cardinal Bernardin of Chicago was present. In the next breath you stated that no Christians were present. What do you think Roman Catholics are, chopped liver? You are right, we are in the end days. It tells in the Bible to beware when the lion lies down with the lamb. This is just what's happening with the Jewish leaders and the PLO. All we can do is pray and ask God to help us through the trying times that are coming.

Best of luck to you in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,
Mrs. M.A.M.

Dear Zola:
In reference to the hysterical letter addressed to you in the October 1993 issue of your magazine by Mrs. D.W.R. "Sincerely for St. Gemma Galvani" re Mrs. D.W.R.'s ROMAN CATHOLICISM, we hereby advise you that my husband, Peter, and I are also loyal Roman Catholics in good standing in our Church, and WE FULLY SUPPORT YOUR WONDERFUL ZOLA LEVITT MINISTRIES.

This lady has a much bigger problem than her loyalty to our Church.

Please feel free to use my name in publishing this letter. We are enclosing $\$ 100$ for your ministry.

Your Sister in Christ, J.A.

## * ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD *

## WAVES IN THE SKY

Behind the scenes, Terry
Irvine at Berg Productions dedicates most of his efforts to seeing that our Zola Levitt Presents TV programs have uneventful journeys to countless television sets across America. Our programs
 are beamed up to several satellites, and quite a few travel by tape on what TV syndicators call bicycles, making stops at stations whose air times we can afford. Terry helps us monitor which stations are "in the black" for us, as well as others we consider mission fields. He also looks into irregularities such as preemptions and poor broadcast quality, and scouts for new stations which value our message enough to give us a workable contract.

## ISRAEL

## THE DEAD SEA

If you had a picture of EILAT out of the Garden Tomb it? Perhaps you womb, would you frame taken of your bould put it next to the one This is a subtlism in the Jordan River. to go to Israel. York on Mre're departing from New is $\$ 2,699$ ( $\$ 100$. The ten-day Deluxe Tour returns on the 15 th than last year), and it Dead Sea and Eilh. With extensions to the $\$ 3,599$ and Eilat, the Grand Tour is and all land returns on the 20th. Airfare Send now for rangements are included. Karen at 214-690 color brochure or call (966-3377).

## THE LIBERATED WAILING WALI

The fabric of Jewish gospel music is Scripture which has been skillfully sewn together with a string of minor key melodies in the tradition of Jewish worship. This touring team of messianic musicians has chosen lyrics from the Psalms, the Prophets and the Gospels. To invite "The Liberated Wailing Wall" to your church, please call Jews for Jesus at 415-864-2600.

## A NOTE FROM ZOLA

Dear Friends,
I had a most interesting meeting at my home recently. A number of people interested in founding a new Messianic Synagogue in Dallas were my guests, and we talked over how that might be done and what its major
 thrust would be.

I have always wanted to found some kind of "Messianic Community Center" to teach Jews and Christians the Bible and the magnificent 4,000-year story of Judaism. The synagogues do not teach these two subjects adequately so most Jewish people are not fully aware of simple facts about Judaism. They do not realize they are the world's oldest people, speaking its oldest language, worshipping in its oldest faith, etc. And of course they have no realization of prophecy, which is almost completely concerned with Israel, and of the Messiah, the King of Israel.

As to Christian people, they too lack this splendid kind of knowledge since the seminaries do not typically take it up and the churches major in practical Christian living more than the larger Biblical picture. Our Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies was originally founded to impart knowledge of Jewish roots to Christian people (and Jewish people) in order to enhance their faith, and we are now thinking that this might be done on a more personal scale.

If we had a congregation in Dallas, those of you visiting this crossroads city might like to attend the classes and use the library and other facilities we hope to someday install. As to those in the metroplex area, we would be glad to serve in this more intimate ministry capacity. The problem of television is
that it reaches far but not deep. We are talking to millions but only for a few minutes a week and only about what we can squeeze into that very expensive time.

Metroplex viewers will have received an invitation by the time you read this article about actually coming together so we can see who turns up and what sort of nucleus we have for this idea. In any case, I'll keep you posted as the project develops (or doesn't develop, according to the Lord's will), and you will all eventually be invited.

As to other excitement around the ministry these days, we are planning to tape some programs on our March 6 and May 29 tours of Israel (if you want to be seen on national television, come on the tour and that may happen)! We are going to do some programs on King David since he ruled in quite a similar period for Israel, sitting through lots of peace negotiations with hostile nations on every border (and wars too). David's efforts did result in a time of peace under King Solomon, and perhaps we can draw some interesting connections with that Biblical period. At the same time we will continue to chronicle the peace talks with interviews of key Israeli and possibly Palestinian officials. We will probably run the

If we had a congregation in Dallas, those of you visiting this crossroads city might like to atfend the classes . . .
programs concurrently, as with Tell It On The Mountains and the Signs Of The End programs this fall and winter. It just seems as if there is so much to cover these days that we are constantly busy - which answers my prayer when this ministry began.

I would very much appreciate your help with the upcoming efforts. I had remarked in recent communications that we were reasonably well fixed for the moment, but the Lord has led us to undertake these two new

## TALL IT ON THIE MOUNTANINS

## A Biblical panorama as seen from strategic scriptural mountaintops!

## Mount Moriah - The Promise

 V265. Zola presents the Abrahamic covenant, God's eternal promise, from atop the steps of the Southern Wall of the Temple Mount.Mount Sinai - The Law V266. The dramatic setting of Mount Sinai and the surrounding wilderness serves as a picturesque backdrop to Zola's study of the law as given to Moses. Includes a gorgeous purple mountain sunrise.
 Holocaust survivor.

Mount Tabor - Prophecy V268. It was here that the prophetess Deborah witnessed a miraculous military victory. It will be in the adjoining Valley of Armageddon where the world will witness its final battle.

Mount of Beatitudes - The Messiah V269. This beautiful little mountain north of the Sea of Galilee serves as a special reminder of our Lord's Sermon on the Mount. Zola explores the true nature of the Messiah.

Golgotha - Grace V270. From the traditional site of Christ's crucifixion, Zola explains how the Messiah's death utterly satisfied the Law (John 1:17).

Mount Zion - The Church V271. The Biblical plan and purpose for the Jews and Gentiles who believe in Christ between Pentecost and the Rapture. The Upper Room, atop Mount Zion, serves as the backdrop to Zola's lesson.

Mount of Olives - The Kingdom V272. Jerusalem's key mountain, which witnessed the Lord's ascension, will one day welcome His return. It is from this site that Zola outlines the future one-thousand-year reign of Christ.

Music Video V273. The beautiful music of the Tell It On The Mountains cassette is featured with marvelous Holy Land scenery.

Please see pages 11-12 to order the TV series and the music cassette.

## A Look at the Book

By Steve Ger

## MY CUP RUNNETH OVER

As we head quickly toward the new century, New Year's resolutions formulated in our minds, let's take a moment to focus on our relationship with the Lord of the holidays and our lives. Our Scripture passage this month is Psalm 23. This is perhaps the most "famous" of all the psalms, and I'm certain that most, if not all, of you are quite familiar with its lyrical poetry. I know of no better Biblical passage to provide a much needed refreshing pause following the busy holidays.

When I think of Psalm 23, I immediately think of it being read from the King James Bible in the velvet tones of Alexander Scourby or Laurence Olivier or some other British actor with a richly gifted voice. I also think of funerals. I don't think I've ever attended a funeral or memorial service without hearing this moving passage. The familiarity we all share concerning this psalm is a testimony to its poetic brilliance and spiritual insight. For three thousand years this psalm has managed to communicate in a mere six verses the cry of the hearts of millions of God's people. However, this familiarity with the psalm carries with it the danger that we will take its message for granted, that we will have heard it so often that we stop listening to the words. It is my desire that this month we examine Psalm 23 intimately. As we go through the psalm, using my own verse-byverse translation of King David's original Hebrew, let us allow David's words to impact us anew.

The Lord is my shepherd; I never lack anything (v. 1). The first picture David paints is that of a shepherd in relationship with one of His sheep. In this classic metaphor, David himself is the individual sheep, and He iden-
tifies the Lord as His personal shepherd. It is interesting that David does not say, "God is my shepherd," or, "the Most High is my shepherd"; no, David specifically uses the most sacred and holy name for God, "YHWH." For the nation of ancient Israel and the Jewish people even today, this was the cherished and awesome covenant name of God, the name by which he revealed Himself to Moses. To David's readers, this name symbolized the Lord's protection and provision for His covenant people, Israel. The portrait of God as a shepherd was one of the most common illustrations of God's relationship to His people in Scripture (2 Sam. 5:2; 7:7; 1 Kings 22:17; etc.). It was also the role that Jesus described Himself as portraying. Millions of believers through the centuries have known Jesus as "the Good Shepherd."

Since the Lord is the author's shepherd, he will never lack anything. The more familiar translation, "I shall not want," although more poetic in English, does not really do jus-

There is the danger that we will take its message for granted. tice to the original Hebrew nuance. There will never be a time when this sheep will not have enough to eat or drink, shelter from the elements, time to rest, etc. Whatever his needs are, the Lord will provide for them as his personal shepherd.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside refreshing waters (v. 2). Continuing the sheep/ shepherd metaphor, David is saying here that the Lord always arranges a safe haven for him to get some rest. He is dependent upon his protector/provider to direct him to green, lush pasture land and calm waters where he can rest and nourish himself in peace and quiet. David's experience is that of many of us; needing a respite from the stress and anxiety of our late twentieth-century lives, we can turn to the Lord, the good shepherd, to find the peace that passes understanding.
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## A Look at the Book (Continued from Page 7)

He restores my vitality. He guides me in straight paths for His name's sake (v. 3). David's imagery is much earthier than the familiar King James version would lead us to believe. Since sheep do not have "souls," what the shepherd is restoring here is the sheep's vitality; in other words, "God refreshes me." Neither can a sheep be led on a morally "righteous" path. Although the poetry of "righteous paths" is moving, what David is saying is that the shepherd leads the sheep in the most direct, safest and straightest course possible to get to their destination.

The reason the shepherd does this is that His reputation is on the line! What kind of shepherd exposes his sheep to unnecessary danger, meandering off course, taking needless detours before arriving at their destination? The Lord, YHWH, has pledged to protect and provide for his people. Scripture is clear that the Lord directs the steps of His people. We all have a tendency, like sheep, to go astray, but when we follow Him, He does not lead us in an aimless course, but rather with divine purpose and direction. We believers are indeed on the fast track - our God is

Even though I walk through deepest, darkest valleys, I won't fear any danger, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me (v. 4). I have been to Israel many times and have seen with my own eyes the deep dark valleys of the Judean

## However, the sheep are not traversing this valley alone.

hills. In these potentially treacherous gullies (called "wadis" in Hebrew), danger may well lurk for unsuspecting sheep. These deep dark valleys might well be valleys of "the shadow of death" for sheep or their shepherds, as, even today, they provide cover for wild animals to prowl and pounce. Indeed, it is not "evil," as in moral corruptness, the sheep has to be afraid of there, but the danger of what could be waiting in the unknown darkness.

However, the sheep are not traversing this valley alone. God the shepherd protects His sheep by means of the shepherd's common tools of the trade - a heavy rod, to beat off
(Continued on Page 9)


ON THE EDGE: The Arab diplomatic predicament is depicted without caption in this cartoon from Jerusalem daily Al-Guds. Jerusalem Post - 12/22/93

A Look at the Book (Continued from Page 8)
attacking animals, and a staff, to keep the sheep in line and on course. Our Lord uses these tools with his "sheep," even today; He offers the same protection and guidance with us as with David, three thousand years ago.

You prepare a table before me in my enemies' presence; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows! (v. 5). David now concludes the shepherd/sheep metaphor of verses 1-4 and for the final two verses switches to one of a host and his guest. The Lord is viewed as a host who honors David, the guest, with abundant provisions and hospitality. A private table is laid out before David by his host. Anyone who has partaken of Middle Eastern hospitality, as I have, knows full well the elaborate and abundant meals that are so typical of that tradition! Course after course is laid out: appetizer upon appetizer, entree upon entree, dessert upon dessert. David's choice of language is such that a sense of ongoing provision is meant here - in other words, this is not just one trip to the all-you-can-eat buffet, rather, this is a lifestyle! This divinely prepared banquet never ends!

Best of all, continues David, God is performing all this blessing in full view of David's enemies. This "feast-ival" is happening right in front of their faces, leaving no room for doubt as to whose side the Lord is on. The divine host has spared no expense or amenity; as was customary in Biblical times, the host anointed the head of his honored guest with oil. David's cup cannot contain the blessing the Lord is pouring out. There have been many times that I have felt like that this past year. I have a beautiful new wife, a home, a car that still runs; I minister with Zola Levitt Ministries; I get to write this column - my cup overflows! Take a moment and meditate on the times you have felt this way in 1993. Have you viewed your cup as being only half-full? Half-empty? Overflowing?

Assuredly, goodness and love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever (v. 6). David, as a member of the Covenant
(Continued on Page 10)

"da-át ray-shéet A-do-nái yeer-át"
(The) fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

Proverbs 1:7a

CORRECTION: The Hebrew word order for last month's lesson was inadvertently reversed. Judging from your phone calls, I can see you're really on your toes!

Shalom, Steve

"Lee V'dodeé L'dodeé A-née"
I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine. Song of Songs 6:3a

## A NOTE FROM ZOLA (Continued from Page 5)

series, and I hope you will consider that in planning your giving.

It's not quite too late to jump on the March tour if you call Karen immediately at 214-690-1876, or you may send in for your June tour brochure (featuring our cruise through the Greek islands along with our ten-day Israel itinerary).

Thank you again for the generous yearend giving. It has allowed us to undertake plans for a really full and edifying ministry year. God bless.


## Look UP (Continued from Page 2)

would see it even more than once. And keep in mind that it came about to begin with through government leaders meeting with and drawing up peace agreements with Adolph Hitler!

Assad's own people, the Syrians - about whom the world never gets a single news story - are so terrorized that in their last "election," held a decade or so ago, Assad won with $99.9 \%$ of the "vote." I assume one small cemetery could hold the dissenters comfortably.

On our programming in 1994 we intend to keep a close eye on all of these "peace" negotiations, and also on the advancing signs of the Antichrist - the neo-Nazi movement, the expansion of Islam fundamentalism, the increasing economic woes of the democracies everywhere and the intensification of antiSemitism. If we are reading the Bible correctly, these are just the signs that need to come together to form the awful tribulation period.

## Look up,

your redemption draweth nigh!

## A Look at the Book (Continued from Page 9)

people of God, is confident that God's goodness and love will pursue Him the rest of His life. Note the irony here - instead of David's enemies (v. 5) in hot pursuit, God's love pursues Him! The word translated, "love" means God's loving loyalty to His people, His steadfast love that never ceases (Lam. 3:22). This is as true for God's New Covenant people as it was for Israel. We can run but we can't hide from the relentless pursuit of the Lord's goodness and love for us. Sooner or later it will catch up to us, and He will shower blessing after blessing on us.

It has been my purpose to provide a fresh and refreshing study of a very familiar psalm. The imagery David uses in Psalm 23, although ancient, is timeless. He portrays God as both provider and protector, shepherd and host. The psalm is particularly concerned with the personal aspect of God's protection and provision for the single, individual sheep. It is my prayer for all of you that in 1994 God's goodness will catch up with you and that you will dwell in His presence all the days of your life - and forever after.

## SIGNS OF THE BND - THE 90's

Two books in one. First, the Messiah's own words warn about the conditions that would prevail in the world at the end of God's plan. Are we now approaching the Great Tribulation and the return of our King?

Second, Zola and Thomas S. McCall take up a crucial subject, the Israel-PLO peace accord, both from a Biblical perspective and from current events. Zola's famous teachings from the prophetic word are enclosed in one volume with Tom's concise analysis of the remarkable events of what could well be the final decade of the Church
 Age. Please see page 11 to order.


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February 1994


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