JANUARY 2007



We celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas from Dec. 25 to Jan. 5. On January 6 we commemorate Epiphany, the arrival of the Wise Men to worship Jesus. In this Bible study, Jeff Seif shows us that real Peace on Earth still waits for wise men from the East to discover Jesus.



Countering "Piece of Earth and Good Kill Toward Men"

Luke's Christmas account highlights Jewish shepherds visiting baby Jesus in response to a heavenly choir's singing "peace on Earth and goodwill toward men" (Luke 2:8-20). If only similar voices were earnestly raised over that region today, over and against the incessant calls for death and destruction. Matthew begins his Christmas account with a different visitation. He relates that "wise men from the East" came from afar to pay homage to Jesus (Matthew 2:1).

That both Jews and non-Jews alike welcomed Jesus is significant, and reminds us that His ministry is for all people. "Where is He who was born King of the Jews?" inquired the non-Jewish wise men, "for we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him" (v.2). Matthew informs us that after seeing the star settle over Bethlehem in Judea, the men entered and "rejoiced" (v.10), that they "worshipped Him," and that they presented the young "King of the Jews" with gifts of "gold, frankincense and myrrh" — royal offerings, to be sure (v.11).

Having presented their treasures, they departed from the Jewish king's presence and from the Sacred Text (v.12).

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South Korea's Ban Ki-moon Named Next UN Chief

Associated Press

The United Nations General Assembly appointed South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon to succeed Kofi Annan as Secretary General.



Ban will oversee an organization with some 92,000 peacekeepers around the world and a \$5 billion annual budget whose reputation has been tarnished by corruption scandals and whose outdated practices need reform to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Israeli Ambassador Danny Gillerman said that Ban's appointment was good for Israel's standing in the organization. "He is a quiet, experienced, and professional diplomat. He is not a man of fireworks, but nevertheless is very thorough, with a deep and clear CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

JANUARY 2007

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COUNTERING "PIECE OF EARTH AND GOOD KILL TOWARD MEN" continued

Though familiar through dramatic Christmas productions, with youngsters playing lambs, kings, shepherds, wise men, the "Virgin Mary," and heavenly host, the origin and meaning of Matthew's "wise men" story is basically unknown, shrouded in mystery to this very day.



The fact that astronomer types from the "East" correctly noted a sign in heavenly bodies is interesting and mysterious, is it not? That pagans came from afar to worship a "Jew" is enigmatic, as well. Their coming from the area of modern Iraq and Iran, to pay respects to a seemingly unrelated Jewish monarch, seems doubly striking and puzzling. Why would they come? Why would they care? Are there implications for today? The "Torah" (the "Five Books of Moses") gives answers to these inquiries, questions which — as you shall see — are discernible only through the Jewish Text.

Numbers 22 tells readers how a Moabite king named Balak was distressed because of an Israelite army's victories over local Amorite forces (vv.1-3; 21:21-35). The Hebrews, journeying toward their ancestral homeland their piece on Earth—were observed racking up victories against those trying to prevent their entrance. In response, Balak sent for a "spiritual gunslinger" from the Euphrates River area named Balaam (v.5). He wanted Balaam to come and "curse this people" (v.6), and being a prophet for profit, Balaam obliged him by coming; however, he did not curse the Hebrews as expected.

Though he wasn't the hoped-for Hebrew killer, he proved to be something of a thriller, nevertheless. In Numbers 23:7-8, the Eastern wise man for hire, Balaam, "took up his oracle and said: 'Balak has brought me from Aram, from the mountains of the East, saying, 'Come curse Jacob.'" Instead, Balaam offered up the following—the Christmas promise:

"A *Star shall come* out of Jacob; a *Scepter* shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult. And Edom shall be his possession, while Israel does valiantly. *Out of Jacob One shall have dominion.*" (Numbers 24:17-19). Matthew's Christmas version of the Wise Men from the East following a star going West, connects with Moses' version of a wise man from the East journeying West with a vision of an eventual, victorious Judean Star's emergence and triumph in history. Because all four wise men came from what today are Muslim lands, with gifts and words affirming an eventual triumphant Judean King and Kingdom, might they prompt some to see God's love for Israel even in the Christian faith's opening Christmas story?

I'd personally be thrilled if today's educated Western churchmen were half as discerning as yesterday's Eastern, pagan "wise men."

The New Testament's first breath about Jesus' arrival begins with a story of non-Jews coming from Eastern lands to acknowledge Jesus as the "King of the Jews," and thus, of Judea by association. Their acknowledging the Israelite claim to His dominion (through subservience and gift giving to that King) is prescient. With "peace on earth and goodwill toward men" being the message of Christmas (Lk. 2:14), I believe we see a clue to its future actuality in the Christmas picture — ambassadors from Muslim-controlled lands acknowledging the Messiah of Israel to be the Savior of the whole world.

Today, however, the message from the East seems more a mantra of "We want a Piece of Jewish Earth and a Good Kill Toward Men." Still, I look for the day when my Arab cousins will become my brothers. I await the time when we can unite around the realization that the Messiah has come to bring "peace on Earth and goodwill toward men" and when we can, as a result, all find our places on His rejuvenated Earth, in accordance with His good will and purposes for all peoples and nation-states. We labor toward that goal as we "pray for the peace of Jerusalem," and as we seek to advance His Kingdom's purpose "on Earth as it is in Heaven."

South Korea's Ban Ki-moon Named Next UN Chief

(continued)

understanding of the conflict. I believe that he understands Israel's stance," stated Gillerman, adding that he was hesitant to hold everything to the standard 'Is it good or bad for the Jews?'



"If the secretary general is serious and fair and appoints underlings who are serious and fair, and the UN will be serious, clean, and organized, this will be good for the Jews."

Ban, 62, becomes the eighth secretary general in the UN's 60-year history on January 1 when Kofi Annan's second five-year term expires.

I lectured in South Korea where there is a renewed, enthusiastic interest in Israel and the Christian faith's Jewish roots. I hope Mr. Ban has been, or will be, impacted by the revival. — JSeif

J'ACCUSE! By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor



On September 30, 2000, a 50-second video clip was released free-of-charge to the world by the French news channel, *France2.* It showed the apparently dead body of twelve-year-old Mohammed al Dura in his anguished father's lap, behind a barrel at Netzarim Junction in the Gaza. Narration implied that the boy had been deliberately targeted for death by Israeli soldiers.

That image, called the "Muslim Pieta," has since been credited with sparking the second Palestinian intifada in which thousands of people on both sides of the Gaza/ Israel border have been killed. The scene, interspliced with the videotaped beheading of journalist Daniel Pearl in Pakistan, is used as an al-Qaeda recruitment tool. Palestinian Authority television regularly broadcasts a re-creation of the al Dura footage in which a child actor asks other children to avenge his death and follow him to heaven through martyrdom.

Even putting aside the fact that Muslim terrorists are regularly celebrated for purposely killing Israeli children, the story quickly began to unravel.

Though *France2* refused to release the rest of the footage shot at Netzarim Junction that day, witnesses who saw it say it showed another story entirely. They reported, in fact, that the rest of the video, shot by a Palestinian

cameraman with no French witnesses, consisted of Palestinians staging deaths and injuries, well away from Israeli fire. Al Dura was photographed calm and healthy, propped up on his elbow watching other actors with interest, well after the iconic death scene.

Critics demanded that *France2* release the rest of the footage taken that day—footage the network once claimed confirmed the boy's death. Though *France2* executives have since admitted that their claim was false, the network nevertheless sued three French Jewish writers who had called for the removal of those responsible for the hoax. Many welcomed the charges, however, assuming the court would force *France2* to show the entire footage, thus documenting both Palestinian propaganda techniques and the French media's complicity.

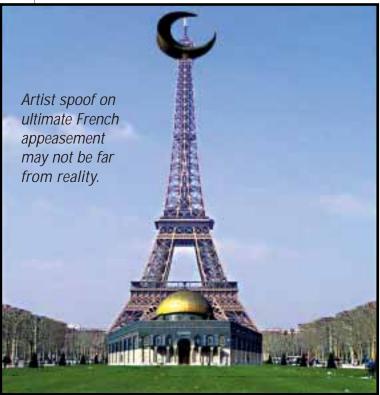
The first defamation case, against Jewish writer Philippe Karsenty, was decided this past October. *France2* lawyers simply complained of his accusations and the court did not ask for the complete video, but rather stunned observers by finding Karsenty guilty and ordered to pay a fine, protecting the reputations of both *France2* and the al Dura footage.

Inevitably, historians noted similarities between this and the "Dreyfus Affair," the 1894 imprisonment of an innocent Jewish military officer, Alfred Dreyfus, on espionage charges. Against the entire French government, however, a few heroic Frenchmen worked for the truth—most notably the novelist Emile Zola, who wrote *J'Accuse!* about the case. In retaliation, Zola was charged and convicted by the French courts of defamation, forcing him to flee to Britain to avoid imprisonment himself. His writing, however, finally helped force the French government to release Dreyfus after more than a decade in the infamous Devil's Island prison in French Guyana. Zola was allowed to return home.

Ironically, the law used against the writer Zola is the same law under which Karsenty was convicted. Given the historical and national shame of the Dreyfus Affair, many had assumed that the French legal system would not allow itself to be used, again, for anti-Semitic purposes. France, however, failed the test.

France has failed a lot of tests recently. The government denies that the daily acts of violence against Jewish people and property are "hate crimes" even when swastikas and Arabic insults and obscenities are left as calling cards. Similarly, the French government has, with a few exceptions, refused to admit that its country is in the midst

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7







Welcome Back, Jeff

Dear Dr. Jeffrey Seif,

It is good to see you back with Zola Levitt Ministries.

In 1986, I took one of Zola's unforgettable tours to Israel where a young man, Jeffrey Seif (!), baptized me in the Jordan River. I've never forgotten you and through these twenty years when you crossed my mind, I have wondered how you were doing. We all miss Zola, but take comfort in knowing that God does have a plan and that plan brought you back to ZLM. So, welcome back, Dr. Jeff. You are remembered and loved. — B.C.

Dear B.C., I appreciate your enduring concern after all these years, and covet your prayers now that the unexpected opportunity to follow Zola has presented itself. —Jeff

Another Casualty of TBN

Dear Mark,

I subscribe to the magazine that *God's News Behind the News* puts out and I just got a letter from them saying that they have been dropped by a major religious network. I wonder if that is TBN, as they listed GNBN as one of their pro-Israel programs. Can you find out for me? I have decreased my pledge to TBN and increased my monthly "investment" in Zola Levitt Ministries. I hope all other supporters of ZLM will increase their giving to help you keep up the great work.

In earnest prayer for you, Sandra, and Jeff, D.C.

Dear D.C.,

Thank you for your increased support. In light of what we discovered below, we appreciate your standing with us all the more. Here is what we found on the God's News website. "From the desk of Dr. Joe VanKoevering

Response to inquiries regarding my 9/11/06 letter:

'Thank you so much for your concern and continued prayers.

Our television broadcast, *God's News*, was not permanently pulled off the air by any Christian network. The content of one show was too 'anti-Muslim' for their guidelines, and it involved our book offer on that broadcast.

Even though my letter never mentioned which specific television network pulled the program from the air, many partners and viewers have contacted me, concerned greatly about our current status with TBN. Again, only one show was temporarily pulled, due to the book *Muhammad's Monsters.*'"

It appears they, too, were censored by TBN, though unlike us, they seem to be willing to tone down their message. — Editor

Trip to Israel is Life-Changing

Dear Mark,

When my late husband and I spent a month in Israel, we thought we'd seen it all, but to my surprise, Jeff is showing places we never saw. Something happens to

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Jeff and Zola toured Israel together nearly twenty years ago. Anne Snell, between them, helped create our audiocassette series, *Discovering Our Jewish Roots*, offered on page 31.

LETTERS TO ZLM continued

true Believers the minute they put two feet on the ground in Israel. The Israeli hospitality was wonderful and getting baptized in the Jordan River was thrilling! I've not been the same since. You and the rest are doing an excellent job; I wouldn't miss your program for anything. — A.T.

Thanks A.T.—To be honest, however, let me put the credit where it belongs: in the hands of Sandra Levitt and Tony Derrick. I pretty much just tag along, go to places they've selected, have fun, fellowship with pilgrims, and offer insights every now and again. —Jeffrey Seif

Don't Back Down

Dear Mark,

I'm sorry you lost your airtime on TBN, however you are 100% right not to back down on the content of your programming when it comes to the danger and threats posed by Islam to Israel and the world.

I pray you will continue with your straight and narrow presentation of the Gospel, Israel's right to the land God gave them, and that Jerusalem belongs to the Jewish people and not the Muslims!

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, -D.

Great Foundation Work

Bravo Jeff Seif!

With the loss of Zola, I puzzled over God's allowing that to happen. Now, I'm starting to suspect that we have simply moved to the next level—with Dr. Seif. Zola did his job, now Jeff is doing what was meant to come next. Thanks to foundation work laid by Zola, I'm ready for what Jeff is teaching.

— C.L.

Linger Awhile

Any chance you can have the program last 60 minutes instead of 30? It just isn't long enough. S.M.B. Dear S.M.B.,

Fortunately, you can watch all the programs you want by clicking on "Internet TV" at www.levitt.com or by going to www.levitt.tv. —Mark

First Christians Were...Jews!

Hello Dr. Seif and Sandra,

Using Hebrew during the lessons helps restore the Jewish roots of our faith. Surely this has an impact on Jewish non-believers who witness the show, showing them a connection between true Christianity and Judaism. Jesus was a Jew, Paul was a Jew, the Apostles were Jews, and the early Church was mostly Jewish. It's sad that more Jews cannot see this, but Christians bear some of the blame. Sincerely, —J.G.

Jincereiy, J.G.

Just Off Visiting With Jesus

Dear Sandra,

Life throws us hard balls and curve balls, but one day we will be caught by the Great Catcher and this old earth game will be over. You must feel a huge vacancy with Zola gone; I feel the loss more than I ever thought, and I am sad for you. But, then I have to keep reminding myself that he is off visiting with Jesus while you are working — isn't that just like a man? Smile. All my prayers and love to you,

C.A., (Pastor's wife)

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



LETTERS TO ZLM continued

Glad I Have Zola on Video

Dear ZLM.

I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoy Jeff's teaching, especially that he speaks the Hebrew before the English. It blesses and warms my heart.

I truly love it when you present the past Zola programs. I wouldn't mind seeing more repeated. Thank goodness, I have some of Zola's videotapes.

If I hadn't 'found' Zola all those years ago, I would not know about my Jewish roots. I thank God every day that He led me to that channel on my satellite dish. And I thank Him, too, for encouraging you to continue with Zola Levitt Ministries.

B.C.

Stay Pure to God's Word

Shalom!

Just wanted to throw my voice in with others who are enjoying Jeff Seif's articles in the Levitt Letter and teaching on the show. He is an outstanding teacher, as was Zola. His enthusiasm and confidence in the Word are very evident, and come

across strongly when he teaches. Together, Sandra and Jeff make sure the show stays pure to the message of God's Word, just as Zola did. May God bless and keep all the ministry staff as they work for the LORD.

In His Name,

C.G.

You Asked For It!

Dear ZLM Staff.

My wife and I truly enjoy your newsletter. We read it from cover to cover. I agree with your reader who mentions having an article in the newsletter called "Classic Zola." I teach a SS class using Zola's book *Raptured* so the class can see the Wisdom of our Lord in introducing the feasts in OT times and fulfilling them in NT times.

D. & J.

Dear D. & J.,

We like the idea, too. Please be sure to see page 9 for a Classic Zola column. — Jeffrey Seif

Time is So Short

Sandra & Jeff.

Please

see the

Schedule on Page 18 for

PRESENTS.

TV Air

Just saw your program on Isaiah. Great job, excellent program. Jeff, you have improved so much on the program I know God's Spirit is helping you. We pray for all people, Jew and Gentile, to hear these programs and be converted. Time is short. Perhaps God will use your

programs to lead the 144,000 to Him. We are glad to support your work. Thanks be to God! Great staff, keep up the good work.

Your sister & brother in Christ, L. & D.B.



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J'ACCUSE! continued

of what a police union leader has called a "civil war orchestrated by radical Islamists." Michel Thoomis, secretary general of the Action Police trade union, said recently that, "This is not a question of urban violence any more. It is an intifada, with stones and firebombs."

On a typical French night, hundreds of cars are torched across the nation. The French Interior Ministry acknowledges that more than 2,500 police officers were attacked and injured by these coordinated Muslim gangs during the first ten months of 2006 alone.

I am deeply concerned about the future of France, in part because my wife has Jewish family in Paris; but I am equally distressed that so much of the U.S. press has ignored what is happening in both the ongoing intifada and the al Dura blood libel. The reason, I believe, is that both stories absolve Israel of blame.

The al Dura story does so obviously, disproving the inflammatory charge that Israelis murdered a child. The larger story of the ongoing Islamist intifada disproves the charges, often levied by the French, that Muslims attack Jews only because they are provoked.

France, after all, has not only welcomed Muslims onto its shores, it has given them vast resources in the form of welfare and other payments. Nevertheless, many French Muslims openly pledge to destroy France, and some French imams are already demanding separate autonomous regions under Sha'ria law — a French Palestine.

In the Middle East, the French soldiers ostensibly sent as peacekeepers following the recent war, in fact, protect Hezbollah as it rebuilds and rearms. The French military has threatened to shoot Israeli reconnaissance aircraft.

The reason may be as straightforward as this statement issued by Iranian president Ahmadinejad: "We have advised the Europeans that the Americans are far away, but you are the neighbors of the nations in this region. We inform you that the nations are like an ocean that is welling up, and if a storm begins, the dimensions will not stay limited to Palestine, and you may get hurt. It is in your own interest to distance yourself from these criminals (Israel).... This is an ultimatum."

But it may also be that France is pressured from within and without to abandon the Jews to the wolves, as they did during the Second World War. I have not given up on the French, but I think we will soon see whether they stand for truth or embrace Vichy-style collaboration.

Philippe Karsenty has appealed his conviction. If it is overturned, as Emile Zola's was, there is hope. If it is not, history may view the Karsenty decision as a guilty verdict on the entire nation of France — and its death knell.

[Resource website: www.seconddraft.org]

Our ministry founder was named after Emile Zola and he, too, was once falsely accused of a crime in Paris. In August 1995 Zola Levitt wrote this account of his experience.

I have had personal experience with French anti-Semitism and their police-state mentality. Two years ago, a young French policeman, with whom I had a few words, accused me of spitting on him and I was detained by the Orly airport police for two hours while my Israel tour group waited. After making a lengthy statement through an interpreter to deny that ludicrous accusation, I was released, but ordered to appear in court in the small town where the airport is located. I had to retain a lawyer to represent me there! I was exonerated, of course, and the charge was dismissed. On the face of it, a minister with a grey beard accosting a six-foot-tall young policeman in such a manner was unbelievable to the judges. Amazingly, my accuser appealed the case! I was served at my front door in Dallas with papers from this small town near Paris to reappear! I thought about sending them a psychiatrist instead of a lawyer. After more legal fees, I was pronounced innocent a second time.

I literally lost thousands of dollars defending myself for being Jewish. My attorney pronounced the matter a case of genuine anti-Semitism since the tour badge I had been wearing bore Hebrew characters and it seemed to be my Jewishness that offended the policeman. We will never again visit or spend one more penny in this nation where the police have power over everyone: the courts, their own government, and even visitors doing business with their country. If you want a travel advisory, avoid this hostile country at all costs. I have traveled through Russia, a number of Muslim nations, and Germany on numerous occasions, but in my experience, France is the worst country to visit.

Paris: City of Light Muslim-style!



A series of Islamic riots in suburban Paris vex police.

Christmas Spirit at Work Around the Clock

Dear Jeff,

I apologize for not including a picture as requested, but cameras aren't allowed in prison and for the last eight years I've been a VIC chaplain for the Missouri Department of Corrections, teaching an all-day seminar entitled "The Bible and God." If you'd like, I'd be happy to put you in contact with the prison chaplain.

Though the seminar lasts twelve hours, minus two breaks, I still seldom feel as though all I want to say is said, but with faith in the Holy Ghost, I'm certain all that needs to be said is said. And by the same Spirit, I do what I can to instruct those who don't know, remind those who have forgotten, and encourage those who doubt, that the Jewish people are the Chosen, while we are of the adoption. Not always a popular stance in the truly denominational church, but I can't honestly say I've personally encountered a great deal of blatant opposition, more a preference to downplay it.

It was Zola who enlightened me, and I often wish I had written to let him know. While there is sorrow in his passing, there's joy in knowing he's at rest in the arms of our Lord. I look forward to witnessing Him giving Zola the crowns he has so faithfully earned, and to hearing Him say to Zola, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." Words I hope to hear said to me.

I've only seen you a few times, Jeff, but I look forward to your teachings, as I did Zola's. While the name and face may have changed, I can rest assured knowing the truth of the Gospel ZLM has always presented will continue, regardless of whom it might offend. Unfortunately, we **Christians seem to have become so afraid of offending others that we offend** *God*.

You asked for our 'story,' but you also asked that it be limited to less than 700 words. My own testimony would easily exceed that; after all, a witness without a testimony is just a silent observer. As a member of an emergency response team most recently living in my car for about six weeks in Slidell, La. after Katrina, I witness where I can, not being too silent.

I'll close now with prayers for you, Sandra, Mark, all the staff of ZLM, and as always, for the peace of Jerusalem... *Sha'alu Shalom Yerushalayim.* And I ask that you pray for all of us whom the Lord has called into the wilderness.

2

Michael Morrow—Chaplain The Bible God Ministries



We Stand Behind Israel, God's Timetable for Prophecy

Dear Jeff,

In the picture, we're standing in our church's coffee cafe. We have been pastoring New Life Family Fellowship for over 20 years in New Mexico and have been in the ministry for over 30 years. We have long been avid supporters of Israel, and believe they are truly God's Chosen People, the apple of His eye, and the timetable for future biblical prophecies.

We stand against any and all Islamic jihadist intimidation. It's a sad fact that their demonic-inspired religious ideals require the domination of "world religious worship" through violence, terror, and murder of innocent people whom Jesus died for; and at the same time they expect the rest of the world to respect their "religious jihad ideals." It is hypocritical, maniacal, and demonically inspired.

We have spent years teaching our congregation prophetic teaching and end-time events. We have often talked about Zola's ministry and newsletter to our people and it is one of the most-read newsletters and most-watched TV shows that our congregation enjoys. The *Levitt Letter* has consistently kept the Christian world up-to-date concerning the truth about Islamic intimidation. Zola was a voice called to bring about great understanding of the Jewish-Arab conflict that started thousands of years ago and continues today. The *LL* has a unique, God-given ability to bring out the truth about jihad and yet stay in "love." We partner with Zola Levitt Ministries for this reason and believe it is "good ground," where seeds will bring forth a great harvest for Israel.

We also believe the rise of this Islamic intimidation is a clear sign that the KING IS COMING soon. Our desire is to continue to support Israel, and look forward to Israel's final vindication through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

God's Richest Blessings, Pastor Gene & Daryl Druktenis

If you'd like to share your story (in 300-700 words), please send it and a picture of yourself from your pulpit to me at: staff@levitt.com — Jeff

Classic Zola: The Sign of the Prophet Jonah



By Zola Levitt (This *Note from Zola* appeared in the July 1990 *Levitt Letter.*)

Zola framed this Note from Zola and stood it on the counter in his den for the last sixteen years of his life. A pastor in Ocean Springs, Ms., had responded to it by writing, "AMEN!" in big letters across the article and mailing it back to Zola. Zola cherished the affirmation as he stood by his convictions to the very end.

We received some negative commentary from you in response to our program on ecology and my trip to Russia in general. It seems that I am not to "walk in the way of the ungodly," nor to be concerned about our planet and its deterioration. I have letter after letter reminding me that Carl Sagan and the others who spoke at the conference I attended in Moscow are unbelievers, and painstakingly teaching me that unsaved people think nothing of value and have nothing of value to say.

Friends, you've just got the wrong guy. If you value our program because I tell you the truth, then all I can say is that sometimes the truth hurts. I did not quote Carl Sagan on my program because of his virtues or his vices, but because he is a knowledgeable scientist. I referred to U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, President Gorbachev, and Senator Gore because what they said could help the situation.

I wish that it were born-again Believers who were aware of what we are doing to this world by way of our pollution and our selfishness and our lack of care for the poor, the humble, and the dying, but I'm ashamed to say that it's mainly unbelievers who are showing this kindness and compassion these days. When I have to go to an expert for one reason or another, I simply have to choose the best available. If I'm to teach you anything at all, I'd better have good source material.

When I needed six bypasses in my heart, I chose the best surgeon, not the best Believer. I would have preferred a Believer, but none was available. I requested Jewish doctors because I personally feel that they are more conscientious. When driving into the emergency room with a bleeding child, I never stop to ask about the biblical persuasions of the resident in charge, but rather, about how many similar wounds he has stitched. I don't think I need to belabor this point.

Many of the letters tried to educate me about the "New Age." I have written a half-dozen books on the subject. I was infiltrating cults and exposing them a long time before anyone thought of the clever term "New Age." Actually, this kind of world-improving, godless thinking is as old as the wizards of Pharaoh's court, and there's nothing "new" about it. As Billy Graham once put it, "I can't seem to tell the new morality from the old immorality."

Frankly, the term doesn't say enough. The thousandyear Kingdom of Christ on earth will be a new age, too. What I need to know is, "What kind of newness are we talking about when we describe a coming age?" When I see a Jew-hater, then I see the AntiChrist's rightful prey. When I hear a man plead for the little children who are dying, I hear my Lord saying, "Suffer the little children to come unto me," or "Feed my sheep," or "Which of you, when your child asks for bread would give him a stone?" or a hundred other hallmarks of the teaching of the One who said, "Inasmuch as you've done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Sitting back comfortably in our guaranteed salvation and demeaning the unbeliever — hating him and condemning him to hell, in effect — is not at all what the Lord bade us to do. When we come to the judgment seat of Christ, I hope there aren't many Christians whose proudest work is that they condemned their neighbors and their friends and their leaders and their teachers, and deep in their own hearts detested all of these people and felt superior to them.

It is an awful reduction of the faith to imagine that a good Christian is someone who keeps to an exclusive society. We have enough country clubs that don't admit Jews or Blacks or Hispanics, etc., without creating some kind of Christian elite that throws out the wounded innocent instead of comforting them. Almighty God cared for unbelievers when He sent Jonah to Nineveh. God pled with His conceited prophet on behalf of at least the children and innocent animals of Nineveh:



or obvious reasons, 2006 was a tough year for Sandra, Mark and Aaron and Will, and the entire Zola Levitt Ministry staff and family. With God's help, we got through our transition.

For its part, Israel had a tough year too. After Israel had given up the Gaza Strip, removed Jewish settlers, and bulldozed Israeli settlements, Palestinian terrorists in Gaza repaid Israel's generosity by firing thousands of Kassam rockets into neighboring, civilian areas. This, coupled with comparable attacks from southern Lebanon and the kidnapping of Israeli soldiers, pressed Israel to turn up its security measures and temporarily unleash the "dogs of war." In so doing, Israel experienced what America has been learning in Iraq: it's extremely difficult to win a conventional victory in an unconventional environment. Throughout the troubles, Zola Levitt Ministries reported to you on the precarious Middle East.

Shortly after being hired as Zola's successor, I went to Israel and filmed a series on Isaiah. Prior to its release, we ran a tribute to Zola's 28 years in broadcast teaching and journalism. Most TV programs run a few seasons, then go into rerun syndication if they're lucky. By contrast, this broadcast ministry is approaching 30 years and there are no signs of abating energies on our part or yours. Judging by your letters and contributions, we have every reason to think that you want us to continue. We hear you — and we thank you.

I am writing from a hotel in Jerusalem after filming an eight-part television series, *Daniel and the Last Days' Battle for Planet Earth*. To open the mysterious book of Daniel to viewers, we hired a cast of actors to assist with dramatic re-enactments of events, and developed music scores to set the mood and tempo. Most importantly, we visited Israel, taught Scripture, and filmed segments at Armageddon, the Valley of Ellah (where David fought Goliath), and a number of sites in Jerusalem proper. In conjunction with our dramas, music, and on-site teaching, Sandra, Will, and I interviewed a host of fascinating individuals.

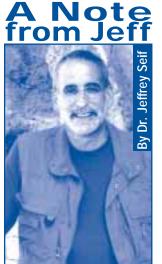
Yesterday, I interviewed General Avigdor Kehalani, modern Israel's second-most decorated war hero. You'll hear what he says about wars and rumors of wars. The day before, we filmed at the ancient site of Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Will King interviewed Pro-



fessor Magan Broshi, one of the world's foremost experts on the Scrolls, who gave insights into how the Scrolls' writers understood the "last days."

We will release this series in late January or early February. Studies show that for every individual who subscribes to the *Levitt Letter* and supports this ministry, a hundred others simply watch the program and don't contact us. Understanding that many of these are not Believers, I am hopeful that the *Daniel* series will assist these hundreds of thousands in their journeys to faith. Prayers are appreciated.

As for the *Levitt Letter*, itself, I am forever encouraged by your responses to the articles and cartoons. Because we "push" the edge, some may claim we go "over the edge" — and are simply too radical. If I have to make a mistake, given today's "politically correct" climate, I prefer to err



on the side of controversy and of being too "disturbing" for some!

I hope you feel gifted in this *Levitt Letter* by insights disturbing though some may be. This edition contains warm stories of Christian affection, along with gory stories of Christians abandoning the Jews, and of Christian culture's lethargic response to Islamic advancement. You'll learn how 68.5% of reported religious "hate crimes" in America are against Jews. You'll read of a Muslim physician stabbing his wife because their daughter converted to Christianity, how a teen girl escaped abduction by Muslims in Egypt, and how Muslim angst might influence rescheduling the 2012 Olympics in London. Those who find this periodical too intense will not like Paul Belien's piece "The Rape of Europe," or reading how a Saudi court sentenced a female rape victim to 90 lashes. In this issue you'll learn how the cross was removed from a chapel, and how an airline forced an employee to remove her cross necklace while allowing Muslim employees to wear their headgear.

I'm off now to celebrate the Sabbath in Jerusalem with dozens of Messianic Jewish soldiers in the Israeli army. Kindly-disposed Christians prepared the meal, an act that, for me, proves all is not wrong with the world. In closing, and while thinking of their support, I want to sincerely thank those of you who have supported me throughout the transition, and Sandra who has stepped up marvelously to represent Zola in his absence. This ministry is encouraged and enters 2007 with keen expectation. Together with you, we will reach across America to enter millions of homes, heads, and hearts; minister the Messianic Jewish Gospel, stand for Israel, and sound the trumpet of God's coming Kingdom.

Shalom,

Jeffrey Seif

German Anti-Semitism is One of a Kind

By Will King, www.imagesofisrael.com



The resurgence of anti-Semitism in Europe is a topic of great concern not only for the

Jews in Europe, but for the State of Israel as well. Israel is supposed to be the safe haven for world Jewry, but is under constant terrorist and political attack to give away more of its land and rights within the world community. As more Jews in Europe and elsewhere feel the heat being turned up against them, more and more they will undoubtedly take the decision to make *aliyah* (immigration) to Israel. The question is whether tiny Israel can absorb a large influx of refugees if conditions become unbearable elsewhere.

For this and other reasons, a great deal of attention is paid to any poll or survey that deals with the question of anti-Semitism in Europe. The most recent of these came out of Germany, where anti-Semitism came to a terrible and tragic climax at the hands of the Nazis. Germany is a unique case study and offers a chance to examine how a society that once perpetrated such acts of hate and murder could eventually recover and learn from its past.

The poll was commissioned by the German Friedrich Ebert Fund and conducted by two professors at the University of Leipzig. They asked a sample of 5,000

Germans to comment on different issues facing their society today, and some of the results are quite surprising. The results show that many of those polled hold a superior view of themselves versus other nations and people groups, a hatred of foreigners, and a longing to see Germany return to the top of world political power. Many of the respondents' views show a strong inclination towards the right-wing and nationalist political parties in Germany.

With regard to the Jews, 18% believe that Jews have too much influence in Germany, 14% believe that Jews are simply unfit to live in the country, and another 14% expressed concerns that Jews are unfair in business dealings. The anti-Semitic views were most widely held among the elderly and the unemployed, whereas the level of anti-Semitism decreased among the more educated and among women. However, a higher percentage of those expressing anti-Semitic views was found in the generally higher-educated West than in the areas of former East Germany.

If this poll is indeed a representative sample of German society today, then it tells us that while Germans have come a long way from their dark past under Hitler and Nazism, they still have a way to go. It also shows that education alone isn't working and more practical measures need to be undertaken by the government, religious communities, and individuals in order to prevent the conditions from arising that would see history repeat itself.

Similar polls have come out of Britain and France in recent years, both countries with rapidly expanding Muslim populations. However, Germany is a unique case, and the numbers are ever more significant given not only its past transgressions, but its extensive efforts to correct them as well. This anti-Semitic trend could also be influenced by the staunch secularism that prevails throughout Europe. Also, the limited, basic Christian education, when it does appear, neglects to remember its roots in Israel and Judaism, further contributing to anti-Semitism.



JANUARY 2007

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late nights, early mornings, and have become one mishpachah (family).

Zola would say "the same people come on the tour every time." I had to think about that awhile and then I understood what he meant. Believers in Messiah are Believers no matter where they are from. We had people with different jobs, different backgrounds, different troubles, but the one thing we all have in common is the love of the Lord. I say on every tour, my greatest joy is seeing the lights come on in our pilgrims' hearts regarding Israel. Think about this: we have gone from the cradle of culture in Athens, Greece, to the spiritual roots of our faith in Israel, to the grave of democracy in Petra, Jordan.

We all had to laugh when Jeff asked us if our families and friends thought we were crazy for going to Israel. Almost everyone I told I was going to Israel told me to be careful as if what we see on the television networks is the truth. They show dusty streets, camels, and street violence. No wonder everyone thinks Israel is dangerous. Think about your hometown where the worst part is shown every night on the news. Would anyone want to see your hometown? Absolutely not! An example would be L.A. If all I believed was Watts and the violence, I would never have experienced a lovely city.

We were in Israel as the U.S. elections were taking place. The day after we got the election results, our group headed to Jordan. Talk about a visual learning experience for democracy. Jordan is an Islamic dictatorship. Granted, one of the more benevolent dictatorships, but a dictatorship nonetheless. As we crossed the border into no man's land toward Jordan, the feeling of oppression came over all of us.

We drove for miles on the bus seeing nothing but desert and hardly any trees.

Suddenly we came upon a lush compound with big trees and green grass. Did it belong to the people? No, it belonged to the king's brother. Just one of three palaces he owns in the area of Petra. A pilgrim asked how they make a living. The king and his family live off the fat of the land. Gorgeous as Petra was, there was no joy to be found. Another of our pilgrims said it felt like we had been gone six months, when in fact, Petra is a day trip. That is a dictatorship. Everyone needs to see it once. We all wanted to kiss the ground when we got back to Israel.



Democracy is hard work. It takes guts to stand up and give an opinion. It takes guts to change. On the upside, in a democracy you can stand up and give that opinion and not worry you will be thrown in jail or murdered for doing so.

Let me remind you that the people in Egypt today are not the Egyptians of old, but predominantly Arabs. It took the Arab-Muslims 1000 years to conquer Egypt. How did they do it? By the sword, by intermarrying, by immigrating, by being elected to government offices, by owning property, and by setting up their mosques. Does any of this ring a bell with anyone else? We have our first elected Muslim in the U.S. Congress and he took his oath of office on a Koran. It will be interesting to watch politics the next few years.

Are the same people on the tour every time? You bet. May it ever be. Please join us for our next tour to Israel.

Our **Spring Tour** is already filling up, so please reserve your spot now. Jeff and I will lead the tours personally.



Choose between the 10-Day Deluxe Israel Tour (March 18-28) and the 14-Day Grand Israel/Petra Tour (March 18-April 1).

For your tour folder, please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 during office hours or our answering service 1-800-WONDERS (800-966-3377) anytime.

God bless you as we welcome a new year, and remember to count your blessings.

Thank you all for your prayers and support.

Shalom,

FAULER

Anti-Semitism's Role in the New Testament

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif

Ancient "Christianity" was originally and appropriately perceived as a renewal movement within Judaism. As the Messianic Jewish movement expanded beyond Israel's borders, the fledgling faith movement was eventually challenged by non-Jewish and anti-Jewish Gentiles, some of whom were hell-bent on eradicating Jewish memory from the official story of Israel's Messiah. This prejudiced interest, as we shall see, precipitated the Church's officially coming to terms with its own New Testament.

Of course, the first followers of Jesus did not yet have the New Testament, which was written in the last half of the first century, between 48A.D. and 90-something A.D. Their Bible was the Jewish Bible, what we call the "Old Testament." The Church's officially collecting and recognizing the New Testament was stimulated by an infamous, ancient, and quasi-Christian churchman's disdain for that Jewish Bible, and his attempt to foist his anti-Jewish prejudices upon the second-century Christian Church.

The late professor F. F. Bruce noted that the anti-Judaic heretic "Marcion" was actually "the first person known to us who published a fixed collection of what we should call the New Testament." Unlike the more loosely accepted version of his day, Marcion's New Testament contained only Paul's writings — no more. He further

reduced his version by consciously omitting any Old Testament references, which he claimed were the work of a post-Pauline (coming after Paul) editor trying to incorrectly foist the Jewish Bible on innocent Christians unawares. Marcion's severely remanufactured version of the Bible prompted Tertu llian (a second-century Christian apologist, or defender of the faith) to say that, "he used the knife to excise from the Scriptures whatever did not conform to his own anti-Judaic opinion." Being unable to impress ancient Christian luminaries like Polycarp and Papias with his innovative but destructive ideas, Marcion eventually made his way to Rome where he gave a handsome donation of money to the Church, arguably hoping to get a more positive response from the enlightened churchmen there.

Fortunately, it was not to be; Professor Bruce informs us that Marcion was shunned and forced to withdraw from the Church. As noted, it was his pressing the Church in Rome to remove any and all reference to Jewish Scripture from Christian consciousness that prompted the early Church to more forcefully ratify and present its own "official" version — in effect, our present, New Testament collection. Dr. Theodore von Zahn noted that by countering Marcion's criticism, the Church became aware of its heritage of apostolic writings, which it then formally authorized and passed on to future generations.

Anti-Jewish tendencies have been alive in the Church as in the world, have they not? The contemporary Church should earnestly "contend for the authentic faith that was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3), as it was delivered to the saints — in a Jewish fashion.

In Marcion's case, Jewish influences were understood by him to not square with his mind — and so he rejected them; in ours it may be that a new political correctness presses some to abandon biblical versions of who we ought to be, and to subtly abandon Israel and Jewishfriendly, biblical worldviews for more acceptable anti-Jewish understandings.

In response and by way of conclusion, let us stand forcefully with the Orthodox churchmen of the second century, and pass on an authentic version of Christianity to the next generation by virtue of our so doing. And, as with the churchmen of the bygone era, let's labor to give no place to anti-Semitism in the modern Church and world!



www.CoxAndForkum.com

JEWISH INSIGHTS

Teen Kidnapped in Attempted 'Conversion' to Islam

www.WorldNetDaily.com

A 15-year-old Egyptian girl escaped from a team of Muslims who kidnapped her and threatened her with rape if she did not convert to Islam, according to Voice of the Martyrs, a Christian

aid organization that has helped members of the persecuted Christian Church worldwide since its founding in 1967. It is for situations such as this one that it runs safe houses in various locations throughout the Muslim world.

Lorans Wageah Emeel, living about 60 miles north of Cairo, disappeared from a public bus when a team of Muslims drugged her and threatened her with rape if she refused to embrace Islam, described by its supporters as a "religion of peace."

Her parents were notified via text message to, "Take the rest of your daughters and leave the city, or you will lose them one by one."

The next night she was able to escape from a detention room where she was being held while the terrorists took a break from a Ramadan fast. She contacted authorities, but was told that if she did not deny the kidnapping had occurred, she would "never see her parents again."

The kidnapping was reported only by the *El Tareek*, the sole Arabic Christian newspaper in the Middle East. It said that the abductors wanted the girl, a high school student, to reject Christ and embrace Islam.

Voice of the Martyrs said the kidnapping of Christian teenage girls in Muslim nations has reached epidemic proportions. Other times, the girls themselves are lured away with promises of material wealth.

The organization, for that reason, sponsors safe houses in various Islamic nations to protect Christian girls who face such threats, or who already have escaped from abduction, officials said.

These Christian refuges are also places where young women learn job skills and receive spiritual training.

Voice of the Martyrs is a wonderful watchdog ministry founded by Rev. Richard Wurmbrandt, a Jewish Believer who came to faith in Romania, served as a Lutheran minister, and was imprisoned for 14 years by Communists for his faith. I knew the late Pastor Wurmbrandt and his wife Sabrina who were one of the finest couples I ever met. Let's remember to pray for persecuted Christians, and stand with those who bring their plight to our attention. —JSeif



Some Core Jewish Values

PIKUACH NEFESH – The saving of a life

Probably the highest value in Judaism, lifesaving is a *mitzvah* (good deed) so important that it must be pursued relentlessly, even at the expense of, for instance, breaking the Sabbath. An act devoted to saving a life is to be prized above all.

SHITUF BETSA'AR - Empathy

Placing oneself temporarily in the interior world of another person, being aware of and responsive to the feelings of others is more easily done when those others share our characteristics and culture; more difficult with strangers from alien backgrounds. *Shituf Betsa'ar* dictates that the other person's individuality is to be prized as much as we would wish him or her to prize our own individuality.

CHESED VE'EMET – *Responding with loving-kindness* The biblical concept of *Chesed Ve'emet* requires responding to fellow human beings with loving-kindness and truthfulness or integrity.

Emet is the principle of truth and integrity no matter how difficult or painful these may be. And, first of all, honesty with ourselves.

Chesed – loving-kindness – requires humane, compassionate care.

KOL YISRAEL AREVIM ZEH BAZEH – Each Jew is

responsible for every Jew

This *mitzvah* should shape relations not only with fellow Jews, but also with humanity in general, especially our children.

BIKKUR CHOLIM – Caring for the sick

One of the most important obligations in Judaism, this *mitzvah* promises continued reward. As with all *mitzvot*, visiting the sick is not a one-off 'good deed.' The true reward for performing any *mitzvah* is the opportunity to do another.

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sites beckon Jew and Gentile alike. Jeff and Sandra will lead our two tours in March. Choose between the 10-Day Deluxe Israel Tour (March 18-28) and the 14-Day Grand Israel/Petra Tour (March 18-April 1). We use only licensed, Jewish Israeli guides, drivers, restaurants and hotels, including the top-rated Rimonim Hotel in Tiberias and the Inbal Hotel in Jerusalem. Come as a disciple; be treated like a king.

For your tour folder, please call Tony at (214) 696-9760 during office hours or our answering service 1-800-WONDERS (800-966-3377) anytime.

Holy Land Experience in Florida

The next best thing to a Holy Land tour is our Holy Land Experience tour in Orlando, hosted by Harvey Zion and Sandra December 22-24, 2006. Harvey is a Messianic Jew who has been helping

with our Orlando tours, and has been to the real Israel. Our group will carefully study a model of Jerusalem from the time of Jesus among the many fascinating replicas at The Holy Land Experience. This makes a great visual as you learn about the 4000-year history of the City of God-the only eternal city! Ask Tony for details at (214) 696-9760 during the workweek or anytime at 1-800-WONDERS (800-966-3377).

Year-End Gifts

For those who want a 2006 tax deduction for their year-end contributions, please know that it is the post office's date stamp on your envelope that instructs us. We automatically send year-end receipts to those who contribute \$250 or more. In addition, we furnish receipts to anyone else who asks.

A Mighty Pen

For years, our Contributing Editor, Patrick Cox, has furnished some of this newsletter's finest articles. In this edition, he wrote "J'Accuse!" on page 3. Believing that "the pen is mightier than the sword," Patrick has dedicated his writing to defending America and Israel from radical Islam. As a consequence, Zola believed, Satan has consistently targeted Patrick. Do you know anyone who is looking for a high-caliber writer? Patrick has run national public relations efforts for several operations and is presently seeking work. Please send any leads to Mark's attention at our P.O. Box. Thank you.

From Louisiana to Ashdod with Love

What a powerful testimonial that Christian Evangelicals adore the Jewish State! Taking a Holy Land tour is one way to express support, but imagine sailing a WWII-era navy ship, loaded with 900 tons of goods, across the Atlantic! To learn more, please see the article on page 26. If you wish to designate a contribution for Friend Ships Unlimited, we will forward 100% of it for you, or you can contact them via www.friendships.org. We also forward donations for Bridges for Peace, another organization helping Holy Land pilgrims and Israelites in distress.

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Israel... the Truth

www.levitt.com/speakers.html

HebrewLesson

Faithful Afflictions By John J. Parsons





יָדַעְתִּי יְהוָה כִּי־צֶדֶק מִשְׁפָּשֶׁיךּ וָאֱמוּנָה עִנִּיתָנִי:

I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. (Psalm 119:75)

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'in-ni-ta-ni	ve-'e-mu-nah	mish-pa-tey-kha	ki-tze-dck	Adonai	ya-da'ti
you afflicted me	and (in) faithfulness	Your judgments	that righteous (are)	LORD	1 know

Hebraic Insight: Faithful Afflictions

We tend to want an easy time of it in this life, and some Christians even go so far as to think that ease in this world is a sign of God's favor. And yet it's the most frightful of punishments to live seamlessly (and unconsciously) with the world, oblivious to the radical call of Jesus to "take up the cross" and join him in his mission of suffering (Col. 1:24, Phil. 3:10). Indeed, "the prosperity of fools shall destroy them" (Prov. 1:32), since such is often gained only through bargaining with the devil—at the terrible price of neglecting the life of spirit (Matt. 16:26).

God uses affliction to prompt us to *teshuvah*—repentance — since He knows that our tendency is to become attached to this world and its deadening comforts. God's afflictions are also tokens that He cares enough to discipline us as His children (Prov. 3:12).

Many of us are slow to learn that God's judgments are indeed perfectly righteous and true. "I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right"—is the first step to understanding the deeper purposes of affliction. When we are given the grace to confess that God defines the truth for our lives, we begin to understand that afflictions and trials are sovereignly given to us so that we can abide in Him without constraint. As Soren Kierkegaard once wrote, "God's education consists in leading one to being able to do freely what at first one had to be compelled to do."

Disordered love comes from setting the heart's affections on the transitory, the ephemeral, and the unabiding; but God has set eternity within our hearts (Eccl. 3:11), and if we experience holy discontent we are considered blessed indeed (Matt. 5:3). "Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful" (Prov. 27:6). Our LORD is a lover *(oheiv)* who, though He wound us, "sticks closer than a brother" (Prov. 18:24). His afflictions are always purposive and ultimately healing.

The aim of affliction is to ground us in the truth, namely, that we are not God, and that we must surrender ourselves to God's care,



even in the wastelands and desperate moments of our lives. When we cling to this world, this life, and seek to make it of value apart from Him, we are living in a state of delusion and blindness. When we are humbled by God's loving affliction, we are set free from the futility of seeking to control the world, and are thereby made free indeed.

For those whom God has chosen, the fires of affliction are purifying fires, refining fires, intended to separate the precious from the dross. We glorify God in the fire when we can say, "Here I am, LORD, do with me as it seems good in thy sight, for I know I shall not have one stroke but thou will give me grace to bear under it."

28

CLASSIC ZOLA continued

EDITORIAL

"And should I not spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?" (Jonah 4:11). I have letters from a bunch of modern day Jonahs who demand that we "don't help the suffering unbeliever."

The faith of pagan sufferers was cited by our Lord when He spoke in the synagogue at Nazareth in Luke 4. As examples of proper reverence of God before that congregation, the Lord referred to two personages of the Old Testament: Naaman, the Syrian captain with leprosy; and the widow of Sidon, both of whom approached the prophet Elijah in true faith. After His sermon, the backbiting and jealous Believers of Nazareth tried to kill Jesus Christ for pointing out to them that God loves all of His children, even those to whom we have failed to witness. For those of you who would judge, please make a judgment on this: Forty thousand children die per day in the Third World of the simplest, curable diseases, such as chronic diarrhea and ongoing malnutrition.

I am dictating this article on a Friday. By Monday more children will have died in the Third World than all the people who were killed by the atomic bomb at Hiroshima. By the time this letter is returned by our printer, the number of innocent children dead will reach about a quarter of a million. And by the time you read this article, one million of these utterly blameless ones to whom no one has ever witnessed, nor even embraced in most cases, nor fed, nor clothed, nor visited, will have lain down on the ground and died.

Understand that none of us should go to the Lord saying, "My ministry was to correct Zola Levitt when he kept company with people I consider beneath me."

Who Hates Whom in America?

www.WorldNetDaily.com

According to the latest FBI hate-crime statistics, of the 1,314 verified offenses motivated by religious bias, 68.5 percent were anti-Jewish.

Only 11.1 percent were anti-Islamic, despite claims by the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) of rampant anti-Muslim bigotry in the U.S.

Across the board, hate crimes in the U.S. dropped by 6 percent, according to the 2005 FBI report, although violence against people based on their race accounted for more than half of the reported incidents.

The vast majority of hate crimes were motivated by race, accounting for 54.7 percent.

Seventeen percent of hate crimes targeted victims for their religious beliefs, and 14.2 percent for their sexual by 6-1 ratio, FBI orientation.

Jews outnumber Muslim victims stats show.

More than half the hate crimes consisted of assault; 48.9 percent involved intimidation. The rest were murder and rape. Of those crimes targeting property, 81.3 percent resulted in damage, destruction or vandalism.

Sixty percent of the known offenders in 2005 were white, and 20 percent were black, the report showed.

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TV AIRING SCHEDULE (below)

It's All Mom's Fault!

www.libertypost.org

A devout Muslim woman was stabbed to death, allegedly by her husband, after their 17-year-old daughter announced she was embracing Christianity.

Officials say Dr. Muhammad Hussain, 48, remained in critical condition in the hospital with knife wounds, under police guard, as authorities investigated the death from stabbing injuries of his wife, Yasmine, 41.

Neighbors of the Australian family reported "blood curdling" and "terrifying" screams, along with cries of

"Help me, help me, they're trying to kill me," one night.

Shortly after, Kaihana Hussain fled from the family's apartment, dressed in underwear because her clothes had been torn off, with blood splattered over her scratched and cut body.

Police found the mother inside the apartment, dead, and the father seriously hurt.

> Koran quote: "Kill those who leave the faith" – Sura 4:89

"From what we understand the daughter decided to tell her father of her radical plan to convert to Christianity which, in the eyes of most Muslims, is totally unacceptable and to be honest, sadly, many would react as he has done," said a Muslim source.

"It is the Islamic way that if a son or daughter does or plans to do something that is unacceptable or wrong for a Muslim, then it is the mother who is automatically at fault and will bear the brunt of the blame," the source said.

A spokeswoman for the World Evangelical Alliance Religious Liberty Commission said that the tragedy highlights "the great and urgent need for rigorous, open debate on what Western religious liberty means for Muslim immigrants, and what Islam's rejection of apostasy means for Christians in terms of convert care." Reports said Hussain finished a master's degree in a family medicine program in Australia. The family settled in Adelaide, where the daughter attended a local nondenominational Christian school where students are encouraged "to seek their own spiritual journeys," but are not required to participate in Christian services.

The Koran does instruct the faithful to kill those who leave the faith, but Muslim leaders have said that is not to be taken literally.

*



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Zola Levitt, a Jewish Believer, is best known as the host of the weekly national television program Zola Levitt Presents. He is also a widely published author of some fifty books in several languages.



Jeffrey Seif is a Hebrew Christian thoroughly educated in both the Jewish and Christian perspectives. Dr. Seif was raised in the Jewish tradition.

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CONTRACTOR AND

Ballpoint Pens—A Jewish Invention

By Jeff Elder, www.JewishWorldReview.com

Hungarian journalist Laszlo Biro invented the ballpoint in 1938. He got the idea from the press at the newspaper where he worked. He was sick of dealing with smudgy fountain pens, and wanted a pen that used quick-drying ink. He began manufacturing the pens in 1943 in Argentina, where he immigrated to escape the persecution of Jews in Europe. In many parts of the world, the ballpoint is known as the biro. A breakthrough for the pens' popularity came during World War II, as British pilots began using the pens.

Any difficulty you have figuring out how a ballpoint works might be compounded by the tiny point. Looking at it might make you cross-eyed and dizzy. So look at roll-on antiperspirant, instead. Works exactly the same

way: The ball is in a socket that allows it to roll, constantly picking up the liquid behind it.



Squeaky Wheel Gets Christmas Back Los Angeles Times

Christmas came back to Wal-Mart.

After being vilified by critics for switching its 2005 holiday message from "Merry Christmas" to "Happy Holidays" the world's largest retailer changed its mind again.

Wishing for a bigger holiday season, the chain announced that 60% more of its merchandise would be labeled "Christmas" for 2006. And customers heard Christmas carols as they shopped.

"We were hoping to be more in tune with what customers want," said a Wal-Mart spokesman.

After Christmas 2005, activists lambasted Wal-Mart, and organized boycotts of stores with "holiday" campaigns. More than 700,000 supporters signed a petition asking Wal-Mart to use the word "Christmas." Kohl's Corp. and Walgreen Co. also returned to Christmas.

Sometimes you simply have to ask (and boycott). —*Ed.*

Radioactive Hot Air from Iran

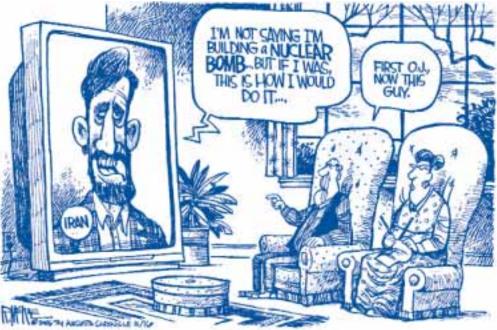
Notes&

By Wesley Pruden, The Washington Times

"The great war is ahead of us," Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told a Tehran newspaper. "It will break out perhaps tomorrow, or in another few days, or in a few months, or even a few years. ...Israel must collapse. For the first time in 60 years of its disgraceful life the Zionist regime — the West's beloved in the Middle East—tasted the taste of defeat, and the citizens of this regime trembled at the menace of Hezbollah's mischief. The nation of Muslims must prepare for this great war so as to completely wipe out the Zionist regime, and remove its cancerous growth."

Once upon a time the West could treat this kind of Islamic boilerplate as the amusing rant of a dork, president or not, who gets messages from Mohammed in paradise as broadcast to a bicuspid. But Mr. Ahmadinejad is not as dumb as he sounds and is only half as dumb as he looks. Iran, though afflicted with large pockets of grinding poverty, is a first-world country with competent chemists, physicists, and even rocket scientists, all devoted to joining soon as nations with the Islamic bomb.

Once developed by Iran, nuclear weapons will spread quickly to Bangladesh, Syria, Egypt, and throughout the Middle East. That's why the Europeans who are still up and awake, having returned from having their wives fitted for their first burkas, are counting on America or Israel dealing with the Iranian nuclear threat. Everybody knows the Jews can do it, and they have the manly orbs to get it done. Does anybody else?



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Briefs



Primitive Beyond Belief: Rape Victim Gets 90 Lashes

By Jeralyn, www.talkleft.com

A Saudi court has sentenced the victim of a gang rape to 90 lashes because she was alone in a car with a man not her spouse.

The man she was with was not one of the rapists. She and her friend were proceeding to their car when they were followed and kidnapped by the rapists and driven to a farm where the rape occurred. The court also ordered her male friend to get 90 lashes.

What happened to the rapists: The four, all married, were sentenced respectively to five years and 1,000 lashes, four years and 800 lashes, four years and 350 lashes, and one year and 80 lashes.

A fifth married man, who was stated to have filmed the rape on his mobile phone, still faces investigation. Two others alleged to have taken part in the rape evaded capture.



College Removes Cross—from <u>Chapel</u>! www.WorldNetDaily.com

The cross from the altar area of the chapel at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va., has been removed to ensure the space is seen as a nondenominational area.

"In order to make the Wren Chapel less of a faithspecific space, and to make it more welcoming to students, faculty, staff, and visitors of all faiths, the cross has been removed from the altar area," the administration announced.

The cross will be returned to the altar for those who wish to use it for events, services, or private prayer, the campus newspaper reported. The college was formerly associated with the Anglican Church. Since 1906, the college has been nondenominational and publicly supported. Though the cross will be removed, the room will still be considered a chapel, college officials said.

Christians 'Too Evangelical' for Catholic School www.WorldNetDaily.com

The Alliance Defense Fund has written a letter to a "Christian" college asking officials there to reconsider their decision to ban several national and international Christian student organizations because the groups are too Evangelical.

Georgetown University, which boasts a tradition of more than 200 years of Jesuit and Catholic teachings, recently sent letters to half a dozen Evangelical Christian organizations telling them they no longer are welcome.

"Now I've seen derecognition letters before, but this one takes the cake," the senior legal counsel for the ADF said of the Georgetown University decision. "Blessings and may God's peace be on you! ... Now get off campus!'

"The real interesting thing is that Georgetown tossed these groups, but left the Muslim Student Alliance and the Jewish Student Alliance intact. This Christian college is giving more religious freedom to Muslims and Jews than to Christians."

The university, which is private, has the right to dictate who it wants on campus, but essentially it is staging a "bait-and-switch" with students and parents by proclaiming that they will enjoy "full religious freedom" on campus, when they won't.

The brush-off letter from the university starts: "Blessings and may God's peace be upon you!" but deteriorates shortly to: "Protestant Ministry has decided to move in another direction. Your ministries will no longer be allowed to hold any activity or presence (i.e. bible (sic) studies, retreats with Georgetown students, Mid-week (sic) worship services, fellowship events, move-in assistance, SAC Fair, etc.) on campus."

BRIEFS CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



MORE BRIEFS

London 2012 Olympics Clash with Ramadan

By Claudia Joseph, Daily Mail (UK)

The 2012 London Olympics have been plunged into controversy by the discovery that the Games will clash with Ramadan, the most holy month in the Islamic calendar.



In Ramadan, Muslims are expected to fast from sunrise to sunset for the entire month.

In 2012, Ramadan will take place from July 21 to August 20, while the Olympics run from July 27 to August 12.

An anticipated 3,000 Muslim competitors are expected to be affected.

Because the Muslim calendar is based on a lunar cycle, the ninth month of Ramadan — which runs from the appearance of one new crescent moon to the next gets earlier by around 11 days each year.

Massoud Shadjareh, chairman of the London-based Islamic Human Rights Commission, said, "They would not have organised this at Christmas. It is equally stupid to organise it at Ramadan. It shows a complete lack of awareness and sensitivity." "It shows a complete lack of awareness and

And Muslim countries such as Turkey are calling for the date to be changed.

Togay Bayalti, president of

the National Olympic Committee of Turkey, said: "Muslim athletes don't have to observe Ramadan if they are doing sport and traveling, but they will have to decide whether it is important to them. It would be nice for the friendship of the Games if they had chosen a different date."

sensitivity."

Joanna Manning Cooper, spokeswoman for London 2012, said: "We did know about it when we submitted our bid and we have always believed we could find ways to accommodate it.

"We had lots of things to consider when we submitted our dates, including the fact that transport will be less crowded in the summer holiday. We also need 70,000 volunteers and this is the best time to find them.

"We are working with the Muslim Council of Great Britain to find ways to accommodate Ramadan during the London Games."

British Airways Bans Cross

By Michael Ireland, Daily Mail (UK) and www.WorldNetDaily.com

British Airways has banned a Christian woman from wearing a cross on a necklace to work. Heathrow checkin worker Nadia Eweida, a Coptic Christian whose father is Egyptian and mother English, was sent home after refusing to remove the crucifix that breached British Airways's dress code.

Eweida, who has an unblemished record during seven years at BA, is suing her employer for religious discrimination after being suspended from work without pay for two weeks.

"I will not hide my belief in the Lord Jesus. British Airways permits Muslims to wear a headscarf. Sikhs to wear a turban.



and other faiths' religious apparel. Only Christians are forbidden to express their faith. I am a loyal and conscientious employee of British Airways, but I stand up for the rights of all citizens."

She was ordered to remove her cross or hide it beneath a company cravat by a duty manager at Heathrow's Terminal 4. She then sought permission from management to wear the chain — but was turned down.

In Pennsylvania in 2003, a teacher's aide suspended for wearing a cross in school won back her job under a settlement in federal court.

Her employers had suspended her for one year for refusing to stop wearing a one-and-a-quarter-inch cross, which they said violated a Pennsylvania Public School Code prohibition against teachers wearing religious garb.

Crosses and Stars of David are examples of prohibited jewelry under the state's law on public schools.

Employees may wear a cross or other religious jewelry as long as it cannot be seen by others.

Of the regulation, the aide said, "I could not follow that code in my heart. I could not deny Christ."

The policy is "openly and overtly averse to religion because it singles out and punishes only symbolic speech by its employees having religious content or viewpoint, while permitting its employees to wear jewelry containing secular messages or no messages at all," the judge said.

Ready for An Endowment?

By Mark Levitt

Zola periodically reminded this ministry's readers and viewers that our organization has no endowment and is not funded by any church or denomination. One could



argue that we're on our own—aside from God's blessings and the reliable patronage of our loyal supporters, that is.

More than a decade ago, Moishe Rosen told Zola and me that our ministry should have an endowment fund. Moishe, by the way, is the founder and former executive director of Jews for Jesus. That outreach is five years older than ours and larger in terms of employees, revenue, and reaching people face to face. During the 18 years that I have served as this ministry's executive director, Moishe has been a trusted and valued resource for administrative advice.

The definition of an endowment is "the capital that provides income for an institution."

This ministry could use the steady income that an endowment would provide, but I have opposed creating such a nest egg if it required us to sacrifice funds destined for current outreach programs. However, a newsletter from one of this ministry's suppliers suggested that it's not an either/or proposition: present funding doesn't have to compete with securing an organization's future. "That's good news," I thought, "but, what happens to endowment assets when the Rapture comes?"

My favorite answer is giving those funds to Israel. By investing the funds in Israel Bonds and appointing an Israeli financial management organization as trustee of the endowment, we could make the nation of Israel our beneficiary. If our organization dissolves for any reason, including the Rapture, then our endowment would go to the Holy Land. What a testimonial it would be to those who process that transaction: "Here's a lump sum from Believers who've gone to be with the Lord, oh, and a postcard that says, 'Wish you were here!'"

Imagine the souls saved if this story hit *The Jerusalem Post:* "Christian Zionists Leave Final Blessing." Perhaps among our archives they'd discover that Zola once was honored by being accused of spying for the nation of Israel. It is just as well that he didn't because he was a sieve when it came to keeping secrets.

What induced me to share these thoughts with you was the newsletter's list of factors to consider in determining whether a non-profit organization should start an endowment. That this ministry can tick off all of the items below is cause for celebration—even though we don't necessarily have to take action immediately. 1. A history of outstanding performance and a proven ability to adapt to changing needs in its field over time;

2. Strong leadership and experienced management;

3. A history of at least one successful leadership transition and board succession;

4. An active and diverse board that factors largely in the governance of the organization;

5. Financial stability the past few years and income at least equaling expenses;

6. Fiscal accountability, with annual outside audits;

7. A diverse donor base.

Years ago, one of our board members told me, "You have to plan like you're going to live forever and live like you might die tomorrow." Our ministry accomplishes all it reasonably can in the short run. Now that our mission has survived Zola's passing, I have begun to think about grooming a successor for my position, Jeff's, and for that matter, our TV producer, Ken Berg. Our work here is too vital to rely exclusively on one individual.

The bottom line is that I would not be inclined to initiate an endowment for this ministry unless someone wanted to make a contribution too large for us to expend within a year on TV production and airtime. However, I would happily establish an endowment to avoid excess funds aiding a secular charity or one that avoids blessing Israel.

Viewers request that we increase our TV program to 60 minutes and buy airtime on our nation's largest television networks. An endowment might permit unprecedented expansion like that, but we already have more blessings than we can say grace over. "...as the Lord leads." And as always, "pray for the peace of Jerusalem."

Al Jazeera, Up Close and Personal

Al Jazeera, the Arab TV channel that broadcasts brutal beheadings and Osama bin Laden's every word, launched an English news channel in mid-November. While it looks to partner with a network or satellite service to gain US exposure, it is available only at **english.aljazeera.net/news** Very glam and glitzy, it offers such journalists as David Frost and Dave Marash, and reporters stationed around the world. Hoping to own global news in English as it owns the market in Arabic, it intends "to air pictures and voices from an outside viewpoint that Americans need to see." Scary, coming from a group that still blames Americans for 9/11. I guess now we all need to learn Arabic in addition to French to confirm, after it is said in English, what's being said behind our backs. — Editor

The Rape of Europe

By Paul Belien, www.brusselsjournal.com

Europe is turning Muslim. The number of emigrants leaving the Netherlands and Germany has already surpassed the number of immigrants moving in. One does not have to be prophetic to predict that Europe is becoming Islamic. Just consider the demographics. The number of Muslims in contemporary Europe is estimated to be 50 million. It is expected to double in twenty years. By 2025, one third of all European children will be born to Muslim families. Today, Mohammed is already the most popular name for newborn boys in Brussels, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and other major European cities.

The German author Henryk M. Broder recently advised young Europeans who love freedom to emigrate. Saying that at 60 he is "too old" to join them or defend Western values, he urged young people to get out and "move to Australia or New Zealand. That is the only option they have if they want to avoid the plagues that will turn the old continent uninhabitable."

Likewise, Dutch author Oscar Van den Boogaard says that coping with the Islamization of Europe overwhelms him with a "feeling of sadness. I am not a warrior. I have never learned to fight for my freedom. I was only good at enjoying it."

As Tom Bethell wrote in *The American Spectator:* "At the most basic level of demography, the secular-humanist option is not working." Secularists, it seems, are less

keen on fighting. Since they do not believe in an afterlife, this life is the only thing they have to lose. Hence they will rather accept submission than fight.

"If faith collapses, civilization goes with it," says Bethell. That is the real cause of the closing of civilization in Europe. Islamization is simply the consequence. The very word Islam means "submission" and the secularists have submitted already. Many Europeans have already become Muslims, though they do not realize it, or do not want to admit it.

Some of the people I meet in the U.S. are particularly worried about the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe. They are correct when they fear that anti-Semitism is also on the rise among non-immigrant Europeans. The latter hate people with a fighting spirit. Contemporary anti-Semitism in Europe (at least when coming from native Europeans) is related to anti-Americanism. People who are not prepared to resist and are eager to submit, hate others who do not want to submit and are prepared to fight. They hate them because they are afraid that the latter will endanger their lives as well. In their view everyone must submit.

This is why they have come to hate Israel and America so much, and the small band of European "Islamophobes" who dare to talk about what they see happening around them. West Europeans have to choose between submission (Islam) or death. I fear, like Broder, that they have chosen submission — just like in former days when they preferred to be red rather than dead.

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Muslims Behead 14-year-old Christian Boy

By Olivier Guitta, The Weekly Standard

A 14-year-old Christian boy who was working a 12hour shift maintaining an electric generator has been murdered by Muslim insurgents.

The youth, identified as Ayad Tariq who lived in Baqouba, Iraq, was at work when a group of "disguised Muslim insurgents" went into the power plant shortly after his shift began at 6 a.m.

The insurgents asked him for his identification and, according to other witnesses who hid and stayed alive to report on the attack, questioned his identification card's reference to him as a "Christian."



Are you truly a "Christian sinner," they asked.

"Yes, I am Christian, but I am not a sinner," he replied.

The insurgents then called him a "dirty Christian sinner," grabbed his limbs and held them while beheading him, the witnesses reported.

They were shouting, "Allah akbar! Allah akbar!" during the murder, witnesses said. Assyrian Christians claim to be the indigenous people of Iraq, with a population that has been in the Middle East from the time of Christ.

However, they have faced a number of purges by the region's rulers over time, including the present attacks by powerful Islamic factions across Iran, Iraq, and neighboring nations.

Only two generations back, Assyrian Christians made up 20 percent of the population of the Middle East, but during the Assyrian Genocide of 1915, an estimated three million Christians were slaughtered there, the organization AssyrianChristians.com said. Current estimates are that there are about 2.5 million Assyrian Christians in Iraq.

Kenneth Scott LaTourette wrote in *A History of Christianity* that the Assyrian Christians became the first nation to accept Christianity, and one of the largest missionary-sending peoples in Christian history.

"The Assyrian Christians are one of the last remaining Christian communities in the Middle East," said Rev. Ken Joseph Jr., of the Assyrian Christians organization. Tens of thousands of Assyrian Christians have fled their traditional homelands in recent months.

French Far-Right MEP Barred from Israel

www.eurojewcong.org

A 16-member European Parliament delegation to the Middle East, which included National Front member Marine



Le Pen, was cancelled after Israeli authorities objected to the presence of a far-right MEP, whose well-known father has often expressed anti-Semitic and Holocaust revisionist views.

This delegation was meant to travel to Israel and the PA between October 28th and November 4th, meeting with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and others. However, the Israeli Foreign Ministry announced that the involvement of someone in the delegation from a party that includes anti-Semites and Holocaust deniers would make it hard for the group to be received by Israeli leaders.

Marine Le Pen represents the "Non-Attached Members," of the European Parliament, i.e. MEPs who do not sit in one of the main political groups. She has tried to present herself as softer and more moderate than her firebrand father, although she is still one of his closest advisors, and might take over from him after the 2007 presidential elections in France.

Jean-Marie Le Pen is well known for his revisionist views on the Holocaust and France's role in the deportation of Jews during World War II. Just last summer he was ordered to stand trial for an interview he gave in 2005, where he reportedly stated, "In France, at least, the German occupation was not particularly inhuman, even if there were a few blunders, inevitable in a country of 550,000 square kilometers."

Some 76,000 Jews were deported from France during the Second World War, many to their immediate deaths at the Auschwitz extermination camp in southern Poland.

Bless and Be Blessed

By Matti Friedman, Associated Press

After 35 days at sea, a group of American Evangelicals traveling on a creaky World War II-era cargo ship landed in Israel on a solidarity mission only to run aground in red tape, with long delays in unloading their cargo of clothes, toys and medical supplies.

Still, the crew kept a positive attitude, demonstrating the growing alliance between Evangelical Christians and the Jewish state.

"The Bible says, 'Who blesses Israel will be blessed,'" said Don Tipton, the group's leader. "We believe that."

The Spirit of Grace steamed into the Israeli port of Ashdod in early October from Louisiana, flying an American flag and a huge banner reading "Jehovah" in Hebrew letters. In early November, the ship was still docked, its 900-ton load of goods bound for local charities stuck on board as the gears of Israeli bureaucracy slowly turned.

The Evangelicals treated the delay the same way they sailed their weather-beaten cargo ship through three fierce storms in the Atlantic Ocean: with a cheerful faith that their mission is God's will.

"It took a bit longer than we expected, but it gave us more time to tour the country, and we had a great time," said Sandra Tipton, Don Tipton's wife.

The Spirit of Grace—formerly the USS Pembina, a 62year-old Navy ship that saw action in World War II—is

operated by a foundation run by the Tiptons, born-again Christians originally from Beverly Hills, Calif. The group owns four other ships, as well as landing craft and a helicopter, all based at a facility dubbed Port Mercy in Lake Charles, La.

Like the Spirit of Grace, the vessels are staffed entirely by volunteers and used to deliver supplies donated by Christians to disaster-struck countries around the world.

"After this summer's war, we saw that Lebanon was getting lots of aid and friendship, and I thought, hey, they're not the ones who just got mugged," Tipton said. He then sped up preparations for the trip, which had been planned as an expression of friendship before fighting broke out.

The voyage reflects the growing support among American Evangelicals for the Jewish state, with Christians becoming more vocal politically and more generous financially on Israel's behalf.

Despite the bureaucratic foul-ups that kept their charitable cargo stuck

Lebanon– not the ones who just got mugged.

on board, the Christian sailors said they were warmly received at this busy port, where their vintage vessel, its earnest crew, and its blue-and-white "Jehovah" banner stood out among huge international cargo ships, grimy tankers, and Israeli naval craft. Workers invited them for dinner in the port's cafeteria, and the port waived some of its usual tariffs, Donald Tipton said.

"We had to be nice to these people," port spokesman Yigal Ben-Zikry said. "They're more Zionist than any Israelis I know."

Stories like this warm my heart, as I'm sure they do yours. We publish them alongside disturbing news because, while we must stay vigilant, we want to showcase God's goodness-in-action. As you run across positive stories, do send them in, please, as we want to testify to what's right in the world and direct readers' attention to other worthy ministries. For updates on this group's missions, visit their website at www.friendships.org — Jeffrey Seif.



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Could You Just Vomit?

By Bill Wilson, KIN Senior Analyst www.israel-commentary.org

While Muslims in Afghanistan and Iraq are killing U.S. soldiers, and Muslims in Israel are killing Israelis, and Muslims in Europe are killing Europeans, and Muslims in Iran are saying the United States and Israel must be destroyed, is it an ironic twist that in the ornate halls of the United States Department of State, Muslims are being honored as a peaceful religion?

Featured on the front page of the State Department's website were the remarks of Karen Hughes, Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, saying "Islam is a part of America and as a government official I am honored to represent it."

Hughes, dressed in traditional Islamic garb, attended a ceremony marking the end of Ramadan. Muslims fast during Ramadan and break the fast with what they call *Iftar* dinners. Hughes continued, "Many of our government agencies have hosted *Iftar* dinners. The President celebrated an *Iftar* at the White House and I had the honor of meeting accomplished Muslim women and men from all over the world at our own Department of State *Iftar*. American Embassies throughout the world also opened their doors to welcome Muslims and to publicly celebrate the holy month of Ramadan together."

In a statement from the White House marking the end of Ramadan, President Bush said, "Islam is a great faith that has transcended racial and ethnic divisions and brought hope and comfort to many people."

Neither the President nor the State Department mentioned that during Ramadan, more American soldiers were killed by the people of the great faith of Islam than at any previous time. The President did not bother to challenge these leaders of peace to stop the violence and terrorism. The very act of celebrating this death-cult religion only rewards its violent leaders for the evil brought onto the world since Mohammed began killing Jews and Christians after his so-called "holy vision."

The Koran says in 9:30, "The last hour will not come before the Muslims fight the Jews and the Muslims kill them, so that Jews will hide behind stones and trees and the stone and the tree will say, O Muslim, O servant of God! There is a Jew behind me; come and kill him."

And the Koran says in 5:51, "O you who believe! do not take the Jews and the Christians for friends." Jesus Christ said in Matthew 5:44, "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you." And Jesus said in Matthew 24:4, "Take heed that no man deceive you."

"A Fine Line..." There is a fine line between loving, blessing, and praying for your enemy, and approving of your enemy's intent to destroy you.



EDITORIAL

The Wealthy–Important Only as Vessels for Kindness

By Jonathan Rosenblum, www.JewishWorldReview.com

In 1971, a Jewish scholar with \$500 in extra money from his wedding decided to start a *gemach* (interestfree communal fund). By the late '80s, that *gemach* was lending over ten million dollars a year.

When a person has an overwhelming desire to give to others, the Lord provides him with the means to do so — and on a scale beyond anything that could have been contemplated initially.

Rabbi Shmuel Avraham Myski certainly possessed that overwhelming desire to give. He was accused, not without some justice, of trying to grab all the chesed (kindness opportunities) in Monsey, New York, for himself. He did not wait to be asked for loans, but sought out those in need. He noticed, for instance, that a local shoe store was not properly stocked for the peak Passover season, and deduced that the owner had exhausted all his credit. A loan was forthcoming without ever having been sought.



Yad Eliezer's unique programs all have humble beginnings. The infant formula program began when Mrs. Weisel noticed a neighborhood woman whose infant son could not hold his head up. The baby's malnourished mother could not nurse, and to save money she was diluting the infant formula with water, resulting in acute vitamin deficiency for her infant. Yad Eliezer now supplies formula to 1,800 mothers who, for whatever reason, cannot nurse.

The adopt-a-wedding and adopt-a-bar mitzvah programs began when the Weisels persuaded those planning weddings for their own children to spend the equivalent

"...the Lord provides him with the means to give."

It was similar with the founders of Yad Eliezer, Rabbi Yaakov Weisel and his wife Hadassah. Twenty-eight years ago, Mrs. Weisel sent one of her daughters door-to-door to collect food for a neighbor with a number of disabled children and her own major health problems.

Each such trip brought back news of other such families in similar need. Soon the Weisel daughters were supplemented by a whole corps of neighborhood girls. Today, Yad Eliezer has thousands of volunteers all around Israel collecting food and is an empire of kindness, providing \$15,000,000 a year in assistance to some of Israel's poorest families. "Never forget that the poor man is the important one." cost of the dessert to adopt the wedding of a poor couple in Israel. The organization has made over 10,000 weddings in this fashion.

About seven years ago, Weisel's son Dov, now the director of Yad Eliezer, visited a woman raising a son on her own. Her greatest concern was that her son had no one with whom to study religious and characterbuilding texts.

Dov found a young Torah scholar to learn with the boy and expanded the idea to other young boys with no supportive male figure in their lives. Again, a single case became the impetus for a major program.

How did private kindness by one couple develop into Yad Eliezer? As with Rabbi Myski, the only answer is *siyata d'shamaya* (help from Above). Dov Weisel tells a story that explains the concept.

A few years ago, he was sitting with a group of substantial contributors when a poor man knocked on the office door. Dov explained he was in a meeting and asked the man to wait. At that point his father told him, "Never forget that the poor man is the important one. He is the purpose of this organization. The wealthy are only important because they can help him."

Israel Developing "Bionic Hornet" Yedioth Ahronoth

Israel is using nanotechnology to try to create a robot no bigger than a hornet that would be able to chase, photograph, and kill its targets, an Israeli newspaper reported.



The flying robot, nicknamed the "bionic hornet," would be able to navigate its way down narrow alleyways to target otherwise unreachable enemies such as rocket launchers.

It is one of several weapons being developed by scientists to combat militants. Others include super gloves that would give the user the strength of a "bionic man" and miniature sensors to detect suicide bombers.

The research integrates nanotechnology into Israel's security department and will find creative solutions to problems the army has been unable to address, according to Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Prototypes for the new weapons are expected within three years, he said.

Christians, Jews Join to Honor Israel

By Diane Haag, www.shreveporttimes.com

An overflowing crowd packed Broadmoor Assembly of God last fall in a first of its kind event for Shreveport, La., "A Night to Honor Israel." The program, sponsored by Christians United for Israel, allowed Christians and Jews to honor their shared history and show solidarity with the Jews of the United States and Israel.

The national organization of churches and ministries who support Israel has sponsored lobbying efforts in Washington and similar "Nights to Honor Israel." Members of the local and national Jewish community attended to show their appreciation.

In explaining the reason for the event, the Rev. Denny Duron of Shreveport Community Church made it simple: "God demands it."

The Rev. Jesse Duplantis, pastor of Covenant Church in New Orleans, TV Evangelist, and state director for Christians United for Israel, reflected on Abraham and reminded the crowd that Jews don't need Christians to explain their faith, but Christians must understand Judaism. "Of the 66 books in the Bible, 65 were written by Jews," he said.

BRIEFS

As a way of putting their words into action, they also took up a collection for the OneFamily Fund, a charity that helps Jewish families affected by terrorism. Duplantis said he would add \$50,000 to whatever was given.

"I don't care what it costs," he said. "I will stand by Israel."

Actually, all 66 books may have been written by Jews. See Dr. Tom McCall's *Was Luke A Gentile?* at our website www.levitt .com/newsletters/1996-03.html — Editor.

American Arabs and Muslims Flex Political Muscle

By Claude R. Marx www.JTA.org (Global Jewish News)

Arab and Muslim Americans, long in the shadows of American politics, are building on the activism they began in 2004.



The election of the first Muslim

to Congress, coupled with increased campaign donations and a voter registration drive, indicate that the groups are continuing to raise their profiles after briefly becoming less politically active after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Fifty-two Arab-Americans (of which 35 are Muslim) sought office in 2006, up from 49 in 2004, according to the Arab American Institute, a Washington-based lobbying and advocacy group. Keith Ellison became the country's highest-ranking Muslim elected official when he won an open U.S. House of Representatives seat from Minneapolis.

In 2004, 84 percent of registered Muslims voted — far above the national average — compared with 41 percent in 2000. University of Akron political scientist John Green said participation levels increased because Muslims and Arab-Americans were frustrated by what they felt was the singling out of some community members for harassment after September 11.

The renewed effort to get the nation's 2.2 million Muslim registered voters to the polls included a revamped website, more voter-education programs, and more voterregistration machines in mosques. It also placed in neighborhoods with many Arab-Americans, signs in English and Arabic reading, "our vote is our power."



Venezuelan IDs

www.WorldNetDaily.com

Venezuela, whose leader Hugo Chavez has stood with Iran against the U.S., is providing support — including identity documents — that could prove useful



to radical Islamic groups," says the report of the subcommittee on investigations of the House Homeland Security Committee. "The Venezuelan government has issued thousands of *cédulas*, the equivalent of Social Security cards, to people from places such as Cuba, Colombia, and Middle Eastern nations that host foreign terrorist organizations."

The documents can be used to obtain Venezuelan passports and American visas, which in turn allow the holder to elude immigration checks and enter the United States.

Aliens from "special interest" countries known to harbor terrorists or promote terrorism are routinely encountered and apprehended according to the report. The countries include Iran, Syria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Federal law enforcement personnel say it is difficult to provide the total number of special interest aliens entering the U.S. because they pay large amounts of money, between \$15,000 and \$60,000, to employ the more effective Mexican alien smuggling organizations and are less likely to be apprehended.

Last year, FBI Director Robert Mueller Jr. revealed to members of Congress that "individuals from countries with known al-Qaeda connections have attempted to enter the United States illegally using alien smuggling rings and assuming Hispanic appearances."

He also testified that a Hezbollah cell had been "dismantled" after the discovery that the terror organization was smuggling operatives across the U.S.-Mexico border to carry out terror attacks inside the U.S.

Dear Israel...

www.JerusalemPost.com

Dear Israel, When the first Jewish soldier was kidnapped my husband, a Christian pastor, and I put up our Israeli flag underneath our American flag. One evening someone hurled a rock through our window. It had "Jew" written on it. That same time a cross was burned on our front lawn. This crime is a hate crime and my husband called the local police. They are working hard on this. The Anti-Defamation League has offered a reward. We continue to fly our Israeli flag and pray for Israel and your soldiers. My son has just returned from Iraq. He was injured and given a Purple Heart decoration.

To the mothers of Israel's soldiers, I am praying for you. Rebecca Yale, Browns Point, Washington

Dear Rebecca,

Your courageous stand and prayer for Israel have earned you two of our bumper stickers that say, "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem." —Jeffrey Seif

Neo-Nazis at German High School

www.spiegel.de

In an incident that recalls 1930s-era Nazi Germany, a high-school student in eastern Germany was



forced to wear an anti-Semitic sign in the schoolyard. "In this town I'm the biggest swine because of the Jewish friends of mine," the sign read.

A teacher at the school noticed the incident and immediately called the police. Three youths, ages 15 and 16, are being investigated for allegedly forcing the pupil to wear the sign.

The sign's message recalls Nazi-era Germany, particularly the 1935 Nuremberg racial purity laws which prohibited Germans from having sexual relations with Jews. Women who slept with Jewish men were forced to parade through town wearing signs bearing such slogans. A well-known picture of a woman wearing such a sign appears in German schoolbooks and may be the source for the incident.

"This is how the Nazis publicly humiliated people. It is appalling that adolescents in our country think that they can do such a thing today," said Saxony Anhalt's Interior Minister.

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Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas from our ministry staff.

From left to right, back row: Jeff, Scott, Tony and Mark. Middle Row: Sandra, Marty, Marta and Cynthia. Front row: Dahlia, Nina, Debbie, and Jane. Sandra Levitt was still in Israel when we took this photo. Not pictured are our two new employees, recruited to speed up our order processing: Anette and Kate.

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