

LEVITT LETTER



“BRETHREN, MY HEART’S DESIRE AND PRAYER TO GOD FOR ISRAEL IS THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED.” – ROMANS 10:1

Muslims Accept Israel’s Messiah

By Joel C. Rosenberg, www.joelrosenberg.com



Joel Rosenberg

More Muslims converted to faith in Jesus Christ over the past decade than at any other time in human history. A spiritual revolution is underway throughout North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia. As a result, a record number of ex-Muslims are celebrating Christian Holy Days this year, despite intense persecution, assassinations, and widespread church bombings.

During the writing of *Epicenter*, my wife and kids and I lived in the Middle East for three months. During that time, I had the privilege of interviewing more than three dozen Arab and Iranian pastors and evangelical leaders throughout the region. The picture they paint is one of Christi-

anity being dramatically resurrected in the region of its birth. A snapshot:

Iraq: more than 5,000 new Muslim converts to Christianity have been identified since the end of major combat operations, with 14 new churches opened in Baghdad, and dozens of new churches opened in Kurdistan, some of which have 500 to 800 members. Also, more than 1 million Bibles shipped into the country since 2003, and pastors report Iraqis are snatching them up so fast they constantly need more Bibles.

Egypt: some reports say 1 million Egyptians have trusted Christ over the past decade or so. The Egyptian

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Israeli Surgeons Repair Young Palestinians’ Hearts

Allyn Fisher-Ilan, Reuters

Her lower lip quivering with every breath, Hala Ketnani, a 10-month-old girl from Gaza, sleeps in an Israeli intensive care unit as she recovers from heart surgery.

She was unable to have the operation in Gaza, where many hospitals are suffering from worsening conditions since a Western aid embargo was imposed to pressure the Hamas-led Palestinian government to recognize Israel.

Under the private Israeli program “Save a Child’s Heart,” doctors at Wolfson Hospital in Holon repair congenital heart defects for children like Ketnani from the Palestinian territories, Iraq, Jordan, and Africa.

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Bible Society told me they used to sell about 3,000 copies of the JESUS film a year in the early 1990s. But last year they sold 600,000 copies, plus 750,000 copies of the Bible on tape (in Arabic) and about a half-million copies of the Arabic New Testament. "Egyptians are increasingly hungry for God's Word," an Egyptian Christian leader told me. I had the privilege of visiting the largest Christian congregation in the Middle East, which meets in an enormous cave on the outskirts of Cairo. Some 10,000 Believers worship there every weekend. A prayer conference the church held in May 2005 drew some 20,000 Believers.

Afghanistan: only 17 Muslim converts to Christianity before 9/11/01, but now more than 10,000. Dozens of baptisms every week.

Kazakstan: only 3 known Christians in 1990, but now more than 15,000.

Uzbekistan: no known Christians in 1990, but now more than 30,000.

You won't hear about this in the local news.

Sudan: more than 1 million Sudanese have converted to Christianity just since 2000, and some 5 million have become Christians since the early 1990s, despite a radical Islamic regime and an on-going genocide that has killed more than 200,000. Seminaries are being held in caves to train pastors to shepherd the huge numbers of people coming to Christ. Why such a dramatic spiritual awakening? "People have seen real Islam, and they want Jesus instead," one Sudanese evangelical leader told me.

Iran: in 1979, there were only 500 known Muslim converts to Christianity, but today Iranian pastors and evangelical leaders tell me there are more than 1 million Iranian Believers in Jesus Christ, most of whom meet in underground house churches.

In December 2001, Sheikh Ahmad al Qataani, a leading Saudi cleric, appeared on a live interview on Aljazeera satellite television to confirm that, sure enough, Muslims were turning to Jesus in alarming numbers. "In every hour, 667 Muslims convert to Christianity," Al Qataani warned. "Every day, 16,000 Muslims convert to Christianity. Every year, 6 million Muslims convert to Christianity."

Stunned, the interviewer interrupted the cleric. "Hold on! Let me clarify. Do we have six million converting from Islam to Christianity?"

Al Qataani repeated his assertion. "Every year," the cleric confirmed, adding, "a tragedy has happened."

One of the most dramatic developments is that many Muslims — including Shiites in Iran and Iraq — are seeing dreams and visions of Jesus and are coming into

churches explaining that they have already converted and now need a Bible and guidance on how to follow Jesus. I describe a number of these stories in the book. Having just returned from three weeks in the Middle East, I have heard many more, and will be sharing some of them soon. This is in fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. The Hebrew prophet Joel told us that "in the last days, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days....And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." (Joel 2:28-32)

Bottom line: It's not being reported by the mainstream media, but the God of the Bible is moving powerfully and dramatically throughout the Muslim world. The number of Arab and Iranian Christians is surging despite wars, rumors of wars, and terrible persecution. These fellow brothers and sisters now need our fervent prayers and our practical help as they seek to reach epicenter with the love and forgiveness of Jesus in 2007. ★

Israeli Surgeons... continued from page 1

More than 1,000 children have been helped so far by the program.

Israeli soldiers and settlers quit Gaza in 2005, but a substantial number of Palestinians still rely on either Israel or neighboring Egypt for humanitarian needs such as medicine.

Founded in 1995 by the late U.S.-born cardiologist Amram Cohen, the program has expanded to include training for Palestinians and other doctors in pediatric cardiac surgery. ★



Religion or Cult?

By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor



Patrick Cox

In the late 1970s, at an outdoor concert in a park across the river from the university where I studied, an attractive young woman approached me carrying a Bible. For about fifteen minutes, she quoted Scriptures that she insisted were proof that God's representative on earth was building a new utopia and that I should immediately go with her to meet this great man. When I declined, she went off in search of other quarry.

The incident didn't cross my mind again until, many months later, I heard again the name of the man she followed: Jim Jones. At his command, 913 people, including 276 children, had died in Jonestown, Guyana. Most had been forced at gunpoint to drink cyanide. Those who tried to escape had been shot or strangled. Significantly, the incident that led to the mass murder was the attempt by some of the Jonestown residents to leave.

Like a lot of people at the time, I pondered the difference between a religious organization deserving of Constitutional protections and a cult. In fact, Americans have long grappled with this difficult question.

Clearly, however, Jim Jones's People's Temple had become a cult. By the way, I am not defining cults based on their doctrines. We can tolerate all manner of oddball sects — as long as they do not prevent their members from leaving, or use force or fraud against non-members. What defined the People's Temple as a cult was that it left the domain of voluntary association and actively abrogated the freedom of those who wanted to leave.

My point, if you haven't already guessed, is that we need to begin thinking about Islam as other than, or at least more than, a religion. The reason is simply that much of Islam is, by our definition, not religious at all. Rather, it is political — committed to establishing coercive, non-voluntary mechanisms for protecting and promoting Islamic goals. As such, it presents us with special problems.

It is here, by the way, that I must issue the standard disclaimer that, "Not all Muslims" believe that the Koran decrees that Islam must rule the world politically and militarily. Similarly, I'm not saying that the Koran actually says this. What I am saying is that many prominent Muslims believe it does.

For some reason, however, it seems extremely difficult for many of us to accept the fact that many Muslims consider Democracy itself their enemy.

For them, the freedom to practice their religion is not the goal; rather, **they seek to constrain others from freely practicing theirs.** We know this is true because, in much of the Islamic world, Muslim governments persecute, or allow the persecution of, non-Muslims and former Muslims.

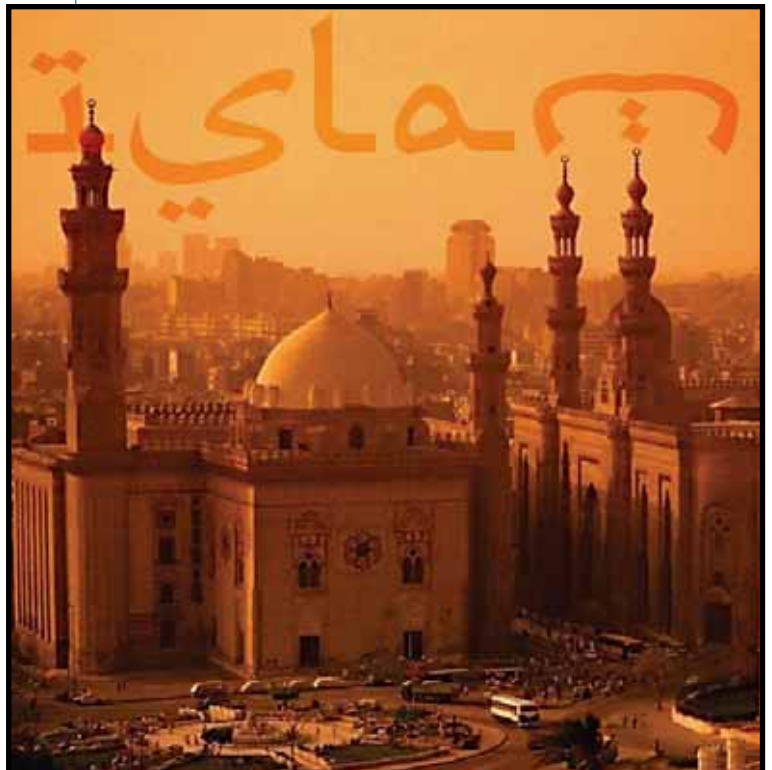
Saudi Arabia, for example, prohibits the open practice of Christianity or even the presence of Jews in that country. While officially protesting even false rumors of Koran desecrations, Saudis brazenly destroy Bibles smuggled into their country and jail the smugglers. Christian groups are routinely raided by Saudi religious police, and no churches or evangelical activities are permitted.

Why, then, do we allow the promoters of this tyrannical system to pay American mosques to support their political and often openly anti-Semitic goals?

Oddly, many in the West seem more tolerant of radical, politicized Islam than of Christians and Jews who stray into partisan politics. While there is widespread support for revoking tax-exempt status of churches that endorse political candidates, there is hardly any discussion of the fact that many **mosques openly preach that Muslims must replace democracy with a theocratic, Islamic government.**

We may not, in fact, be able to do anything about Muslims already in America who hate us and our freedoms. We could, however, move toward restricting further infiltration by subversive foreign interests hostile to the U.S. Constitution and religious liberties, in general.

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Letters to ZLM

In doing some research I found a 1922 British census that has the Arab population far greater than that of the Jews, invalidating your article's position that the Arabs came AFTER the Jews settled the land. In Jimmy Carter's book "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid," he says this census showed 670,000 Arabs to about 84,000 Jews.

Praise God I Didn't Leave ZLM

Dear Jeff Seif,

I just wanted to congratulate you on a program well done. I loved Zola very well and I worried that after he left, his ministry would go by the wayside. I was even thinking about taking my small monthly donation and finding a new ministry.

Praise God I didn't. Seeing Sandra and you on television is such a blessing. I believe God has selected you as the perfect leader to take over! I am glad I saw the program and I'm looking forward to the next. May God's rest and peace fall on all of you!

R.L.

Thanks

Dear Sandra, Jeff and team,

Shalom. I cannot find the words to thank you for continuing Zola's work. Sandra you are without a doubt the "hidden gem." Zola spoke of you; now we get to see you.

I rejoice in your refusal to accommodate TBN's politically correct stance regarding Islam. Do you realize how you are touching hearts and lives of those who love Israel and the Jewish people? We have not lost Zola; you include his music and past programs on the telecast. Thank you for doing that.

G. & A. G.

Was Zola Wrong?

Hi.

I recently read your May 2002 article "It's A Great Lie." In the article you say, "Let me state this plainly and clearly: The Jews in Israel took no one's land."

Arabs to about 84,000 Jews.

"As the Jews came, drained the swamps and made the desert bloom, something interesting began to happen. Arabs followed" This is misleading. The Arab population doubled between 1922 and 1948 according to Carter, BUT the Jewish population rose 10 times that amount, and the Arabs were already there in great numbers. The article, if these facts are accurate, is misleading. Do you dispute these facts? I wanted to ask you about this to see if you could explain this? I am interested in Peace in the Middle East and to do that we must first have accurate facts.

Thanks for your assistance in this matter.

God Bless, — T.K.

Dear T.K. —

Not long after Mohammad's death, Arabs left the Arabian Peninsula and swept over northern Africa and east into Asia, taking over many nations by force of arms. In the process of expanding, Islamic hordes overran many lands,



the Holy Land being but one example. As the years passed, there were, of course, Muslim Arabs dwelling in and around the region, what the British mistakenly called "Palestine." Worth noting is the fact that young Zionists purchased swampland from Arab sheiks at inflated prices, holding title as a result. When the desolate swampland was made productive, some cried foul, grieving over having lost possession of it. That the numbers greatly favored the Arabs initially underscores the impossibility of Jews taking it by force. May I suggest you read a book or two on the history of modern Israel? I believe this would help you sort through the complexities. *From Time Immemorial*, by Joan Peters, is an in-depth resource, begun to validate the "Palestinian" claim. Beyond this, in our "Institute" course we offer a brief study with a lecture on the particulars.

—Jeffrey Seif

In Appreciation

Hi All at ZLM,

I just received the December 2006 *Personal Letter* in the mail. I draw your attention to page 2, the second to the last paragraph where it starts "Resist it we will!"—that is what I so appreciate about this ministry.

Thank you for boldly speaking out, standing on the Word of God, and providing us with wisdom and insight on issues regarding how Israel is playing its part in Bible prophecy. I believe God has chosen this ministry for this mission because of your Jewish heritage.

Your sister in Christ,
D. S.

By All Means, Pray For Muslims

Dear Staff,

What caught my eye when visiting a Methodist church was a booklet lying on the table in the back of the sanctuary: *30 Days Muslim Prayer Focus*. This booklet calls the Church to pray for the Muslim world, especially during their holy days, like Ramadan, allowing Christians to "identify" with Muslims. (Since there are 1.3 billion Muslims, praying for them might be a good idea, especially since Christians and

Muslims don't share the same deity.)

The booklet offers glowing comments about the life of Mohammed, the five pillars of belief, and how Jesus is mentioned in the Koran. It further explains how eastern and western cultures vary, the western guilt-based culture defending its rights (such as the right to publish the Danish cartoons), while the eastern culture of shame reacts with bloodshed because the shame has to be washed away. It's just their culture. "After all, Muslims remember the glories of the past." "Humiliation is difficult for them to bear." (Rubbish!)

For me, this booklet only offers rose-colored acceptance of Muslims and questionable ministries that sponsor this booklet. Thank you for exposing and publishing truth in a clear and direct way. Wouldn't it be nice to see a booklet titled *30 Days Israel Prayer Focus* in main-line Protestant churches?

One last thought to share: On the school bus last week, a five-year-old girl surprised me by asking, "Mr. R, do you serve God?"

"Yes, I believe I do," I stammered. "Why do you ask?"

With a smile, enthusiasm, and no hesitation she responded, "Because God is very good!"

She's right—God did all our suffering and even died for us. I wouldn't trade that for all the virgins in Heaven.

J.D.R.

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How Do I Witness to Jews?

Dear Sandra, Mark, Jeff, and Staff,

I wonder if you could make a DVD on leading a Jewish person to Yeshua.

All the information that you give is great, but my weakness is in telling a Jewish person about Jesus in the *Tanakh* [Hebrew Bible].

W.G.

Dear W.G. –

Please consider ordering our four-program series on VHS called *The Witnessing Series*. Two of the four programs are devoted to witnessing to Jews.

Mark

Israel Safer Than Home

Dear ZLM,

We visited Israel in 2005 for the first time and, like Zola always said, America is a lot more dangerous.

R. & M. V.

Dear R. & M. V. –

In 2005, trucks on Texas highways killed 500 people. One state, one year, 500 people killed by trucks alone. That figure probably surpasses the number of tourists in Israel who have been hurt in violent altercations since 33 AD.

Mark

A Real Page Turner!

Dear ZLM,

Signs of the End is a great book. I could not put it down until I finished it. I gave it to my daughter and after reading it she made her husband read it. She said it woke them up. Today you have to be blind not to see that the stage is being set for the Tribulation.

I am 89 and cannot do much but pray. Two of my bosses came to faith in Messiah because of prayer.

L.M.

Dear L.M. –

Thanks to your commendation, we are featuring *Signs of the End—The Millennium* on page 32. — Mark

Free (adj) : paid for by someone else

Dear Staff at ZLM,

I am hooked on your newsletter and I need a subscription. But I am a prisoner and cannot afford to make you a donation because the state where I'm serving time does not pay inmates. I hope you can work with me on a subscription to the best religious newsletter I've read.

God bless you and yours, — C.V.

Dear C.V. –

No problem; we've put you down for a freebie. *Levitt Letters*, like salvation, have always been free. Because, of course, someone else has paid. Enjoy!

Mark

Please see the TV Air Schedule on Page 18 for Networks that carry ZOLA LEVITT PRESENTS.



BIZARRO

By Dan Piraro



Kinder, Gentler Israel

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for the *Levitt Letter*. No one else talks about the kindness and compassion that Israel shows its enemies or the suffering caused to so many Israeli families. Because I'm a prisoner, I cannot support you financially; but I do support you through prayer.

May God continue to bless you and your ministry,
H.P.

Dear H.P. –

You are a welcome participant in this ministry's prison outreach, which sends two monthly newsletters to several hundred prisoners. As you know, those newsletters are circulated and shared among fellow brethren-in-bonds.

— Mark

How Beautiful Are The Feet...

Dear Sandra, Jeff, and Staff,

Thank you for the *Levitt Letter*. I appreciate getting the “real news” about what's going on in Israel. I especially enjoyed the article about Scott distributing the Hebrew New Testaments and felt led to earmark this amount for your “To The Jew First” fund.

In Jesus' Name,
V. T.

Dear V. T. –

Scott has only just begun. This spring he will help lead a group of 17 college-age missionaries to Israel. Our ministry's To The Jew First fund will match the money these students raise on their own for their passage, room, and board. You can expect a whale of a praise report from Scott, in the form of a newsletter article, before summer — with a group photo of strong, young, Christian soldiers at a key battlefield. — Mark

How About an Update?

Dear Sandra and Jeff,

Some time ago Zola aired a program called “Secrets of the Scrolls.” Would you run it again and include an update on them?

T. R.W.

Dear T. R.W. –

You can see it free, anytime, at www.levitt.tv (or go to www.levitt.com and click on “Internet TV.”) Please email Greg at webmaster@levitt.com if you need any help to watch programs from our archive on your computer.

For the update: We recently returned from Qumran where we interviewed one of the world's most renowned Scrolls scholars. I also shot a program from the famous Cave 11. Stay tuned, T.R.W.; there's more coming on the Scrolls.

— Jeffrey Seif



Religion or Cult? continued from page 3

Muslims who believe Democracy is “the enemy of Islam” should not be allowed to pour hundreds of millions of petro-dollars into American mosques. Imams from Islamic nations openly hostile to our way of life and political system should not be allowed to run American Islamic institutions or teach their racist, supremacist political ideology to their congregations' children. Money from countries where Muslims who convert to Christianity are jailed or killed should not be used to fund our leading universities' Middle-Eastern studies programs. Donations from countries that officially reject Israel's right to exist should not be funneled to “civil rights” groups that harrass and sue those critical of Islamic radicalism.

On the other hand, I would happily allow such funds if the Muslim countries where they originate would prove they are not cultists — by allowing conversion to other religions and permitting the construction of churches and synagogues within their borders. Perhaps, however, they fear that **Islam cannot survive in an atmosphere of freedom.** ★

Dead Sea Dying

By Richard Roth, www.CBSnews.com

There is simply nowhere else on earth like the Dead Sea. It lies at the lowest point on the planet, more than 1,300 feet below sea level.

It's too salty to sustain life, but just beyond its shore, a unique micro-environment of animals and plants has flourished, and now faces a threat: The Dead Sea is disappearing.

"The Dead Sea is dying because the water that used to feed the Dead Sea, the holy River Jordan, is no longer flowing," says Gidon Bromberg, Director of Friends Of The Earth in the Middle East.

The Dead Sea is dropping at a rate of a yard a year — one-third has already dried up. And this isn't the fault of global warming.

The biblical Jordan River, which still draws pilgrims for baptism, is just a trickle of sewage now where it supplies the Dead Sea. This has happened because Israel, Jordan, and Syria all have been diverting it for water to drink and to irrigate desert crops.

That has left a widening landscape of sinkholes and mud flats where the Dead Sea has receded — and left a tourist industry struggling against the falling tide.

When it opened 20 years ago, for example, a spa just a few steps from the salt water was right on the shore of the Dead Sea. Now the shoreline is almost a mile away.

Wagons drawn by tractor now shuttle visitors from the mineral-rich mud baths to the sea it's impossible to sink in.

The Dead Sea's buoyancy is not in jeopardy because as the sea shrinks, it becomes more concentrated, more salty. The saltier the water gets, the easier it is to float on it.

Eventually, it will become so salty that evaporation will stop.

"What we'll have left is nothing more than a little puddle," says Bromberg.

One ambitious idea to save it would build canals and pipelines to move water from the Red Sea, 120 miles away, and refill the Dead Sea.

But environmentalists worry that could also destroy it — by upsetting the mineral balance put there by nature with a \$5 billion project that misses the point.

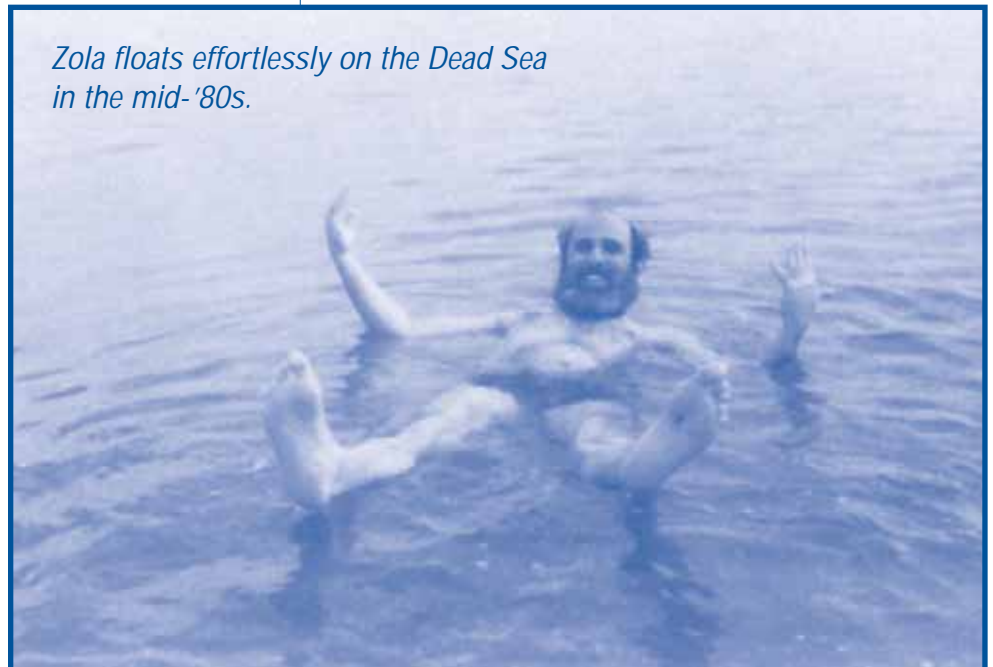
"The demise of the Dead Sea is very much connected to the conflict, the inability of the parties to sit around a table and strike that fair balance," Bromberg says. "We need peace to save the Dead Sea."

In this desert valley, that's just one more resource in short supply. ★



Vanishing Dead Sea shoreline

Zola floats effortlessly on the Dead Sea in the mid-'80s.



What We Believe

Reprinted from a 1989 ministry pamphlet



Zola Levitt

Once in a while we are asked just what this ministry does and what it believes. Sometimes the question is accompanied by the threat, "I won't support you until you tell me!"

Well, we have no secrets and we are glad to make our purposes known, to the cheerful givers and otherwise.

Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc. is difficult to define since it changes its thrust from time to time as God wills. Principally, it is a teaching and evangelistic association guided by the standard of Romans 1:16: "To the Jew first and also to the gentile."

The outreach presently spends most of its time and energy on the national television program *Zola Levitt Live*, which is carried on the three Christian networks (CBN, PTL, and TBN) and numerous large-city broadcast stations. The show features teaching, interviews, and film footage particularly directed to the studies of Israel and prophecy. The prolific writings of Zola Levitt are offered on the show — including some 44 books with major publishers — to help fund the television effort and enhance its educational value.

Zola and his associates also undertake quite a lot of speaking engagements to churches, civic groups, university conferences, and the like, giving updated Middle East reports and general Bible teaching. Zola has acted as lecturer and tour host on nine trips to Israel, Egypt, the sites of the seven churches, Mediterranean islands, and European capitals. He regularly teaches a course on "Christ in the Old Testament" at Dallas Baptist College and gives seminars at other educational institutions.

Through the vast mailing list of the ministry, Zola and his staff advise and counsel Believers and unbelievers in fifty states. Various projects to help sister ministries are undertaken on a regular basis. Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc. was able to provide 6,000 bowls of stew for a skid row kitchen in Dallas, some 800 books to various strategic locations in the Holy Land, and the planting of hundreds of trees throughout Israel through various of these peripheral efforts. Ministries such as Jews for Jesus, The American Board of Missions to the Jews, and Messianic Vision receive the help and cooperation of Zola Levitt Ministries, Inc. on a variety of joint endeavors.

Zola is a Jewish Christian thoroughly educated in the synagogues and brought to the Messiah in 1971. In his Christian walk he has addressed millions of people concerning the Gospel through his top-rated radio talk

show, "The Heart of the Matter" in Dallas, his books, speaking, and now the syndicated television program. His writings have been translated into several foreign languages, and the ministry has served Believers in Europe, Scandinavia, behind the Iron Curtain, Africa, the Orient, and Israel.

By way of a doctrinal statement, Zola Levitt Ministries holds to a strictly literal and inerrant Bible interpretation, salvation through Christ alone, a soon pre-tribulation Rapture of all the Believers, and the establishment of a thousand-year Kingdom on Earth. The evangelism of the unbelievers and the exhortation of the Believers take precedence over all other activities of this ministry.



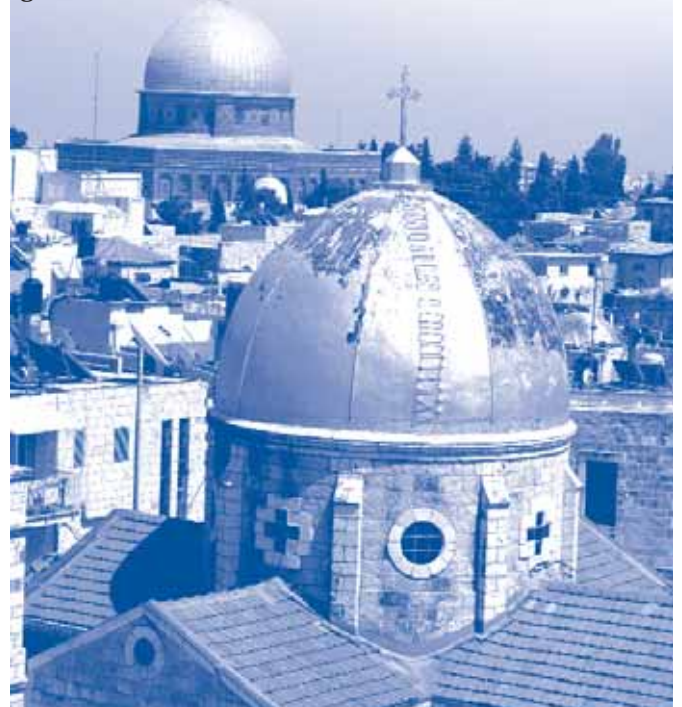
The spirit of the recent gift-giving season sparked our interest in identifying just what Christianity offers to the world, compared to the gifts of Islam. So we did a little research and each month will share a gift with you.

Christianity offers:

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And **be ye kind** one to another **tenderhearted, forgiving** one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. (EPHESIANS 4:31-32)

Islam offers:

But when the forbidden months are past, then **fight and slay** the Pagans wherever ye find them, and **seize** them, **beleaguer** them, and **lie in wait** for them in every stratagem (of war). (YUSUFALI, KORAN 9:005)

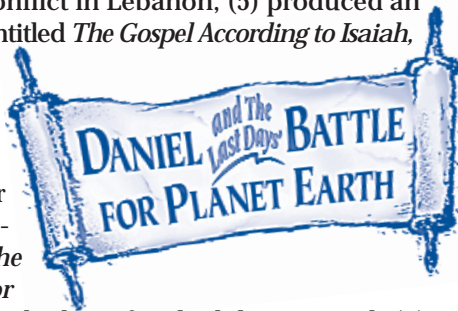


Much as Habakkuk was told to “Write the vision and make it plain” (Hab. 2:2), Zola was given to articulating his vision in the 1980s. In this 2007 issue of the *Levitt Letter*, I am pleased to reprint “What We Believe” (page 9). I think it is good to revisit foundational statements; it affords us an opportunity to consider whether Zola kept to that vision, and we can assess if we are continuing to keep to task.

“What We Believe” extols the virtues of a Jewish-related television ministry focusing on Israel and prophecy, discusses book production, notes how we undertake to speak in churches, places a premium on travel to Israel, and shows pleasure in cooperating with other ministries that advance the Messianic Kingdom amongst fellow Jews. At the close, Zola notes that “evangelism of the unbelievers and the exhortation of the Believers take precedence over all other activities of this ministry.” That still sounds like us!

Zola's original mission still sounds like us!

Building on Zola's foundation, and in the wake of his passing, we (1) shot a three-part Pentecost series connecting Old and New Testaments, (2) did a documentary on Jews for Jesus's evangelistic work in New York, (3) developed a commemorative series on Zola's fascinating life and ministry, (4) quickly manufactured a three-part treatment of the conflict in Lebanon, (5) produced an evangelistic series entitled *The Gospel According to Isaiah*, (6) introduced viewers to Hanukkah in a video series, (7) shot location footage for a coming series entitled *Daniel and the Last Days' Battle for Planet Earth*, after which we finished the year with (8) a year's-end series. (9) A new book, *The Iranian Menace in Jewish History and Prophecy*, was published, with (10) two more in the works. (11) Sandra and I have kept reasonably active speaking in churches—and are anxious for more invitations. (12) Tours to Israel continue unabated. (13) Three new trips are scheduled for 2007—beginning in March. Anticipating being on-site in Israel this spring and summer, we are cooking up (14) a new series exploring women's important roles in the biblical economy, to be followed by (15) a series called *In the Footsteps of the Rabbi from Tarsus*, chronicling Paul's travels.



In this issue you will find a viewer's letter commenting that his Methodist church seems to commend Islam to parishioners. I've included and responded to a viewer letter from a Jew inquiring about Jesus and criticizing us for being so bold as to state that a Jew can, in fact,

believe in Jesus and still be a Jew. I think you'll find the dialogue insightful and provocative.

If your European travel plans take you to, or through, France—and readers might recall Zola's refusing to return there after being molested by authorities at the Charles de Gaulle Airport—may I suggest that you note Stephen Brown's “French Airport Alarm” story? It exposes the fact that de Gaulle airport recently revoked the security clearances of 72 workers upon discovering their ties to terrorist organizations.

Speaking of revocations, in the article “British ‘Silently Boycott’ Israeli Academics” you will discover how British academics are discriminating against Israeli academics by refusing to allow them to publish scholarly papers. Professor Richard Seaford, of Britain's Exeter University, was one of many who signed the boycott, saying he signed it to protest the “brutal and illegal expansionism, and slow-motion ethnic cleansing” by the Jews. Similar anti-Semitism appears in Germany. In “German Academics: Enough of Special Treatment for Israel,” you will learn of an escalating movement amongst influential professors in Germany, the better part of whom are dissociating Germany from Israel.

Anti-Semitism's rise in Europe grows alongside Islam's

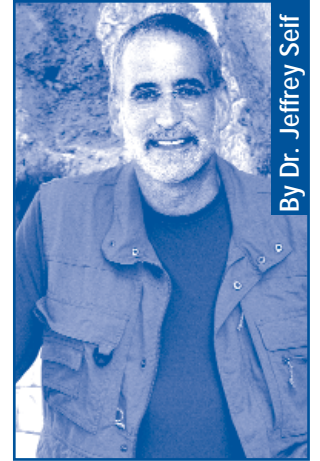
That anti-Semitism's rise in Europe grows alongside Islam's prompts me to conclude that there is a connection—one with eschatological (End Times) implications.

By constantly and vociferously teaching that Jews are apes and pigs, by incessantly blaming “those Jewish swine” for the world's problems (through unyielding vitriolic rhetoric), and by extolling the virtues of jihad as a means to solve the “Jewish problem,” Islamic protagonists fan the flames of anti-Jewish sentiment.

I welcome your letters, your questions, and your insights. Please keep the letters coming and let me know how we can better serve the Savior by better serving your needs and interests.

Shalom,

A Note from Jeff



By Dr. Jeffrey Seif

The Simple Life

By Will King, www.imagesofisrael.com



Will King

Amir Dromi doesn't ask for much, just to lead a simple life working his small plot of land. Twenty-four years ago he established his farm where he continues to live and work today with his wife, seven children, and even a few grandkids. The farm is located just west of Bet Shemesh, next to a town called Kefar Uriyya (light of God), just as the Judean Hills begin to rise above the coastal plain. The view is incredible and commands a great amount of the land, from Netanya to the Sinai. In biblical times Samson lived in the area, and Amir named his farm after the great man of strength. These days Amir and his family need all the strength of Samson just to hold on to their little piece of the Promised Land.

The Dromi family's farm is one of about 100 such independent farms throughout Israel on government land, most being located in the targeted national development areas of the Galilee and the Negev; Amir's brother also operates a farm in the Negev area. Farms like Amir's aren't part of a village or other larger communal structure; they're simply independent family-owned businesses, and the government doesn't make it easy for them. Only a few years ago Amir concluded a four-year fight in the Israeli Supreme Court just to avoid being expelled from his own farm. The cost of the legal battle nearly bankrupted him, and he was forced to sell off most of his herd of goats. State-owned land is often leased by the government to individuals or developers to build homes on for a period of 99 years; but Amir is forced to renew his lease every three years.

One reason for the short renewal periods is that some of these farms are near valuable land where developers want to expand ever-growing communities. On the hill just fifty meters from Amir's farm, a new neighborhood for Kefar Uriyya is being built. Amir recounts how he survived plans to evict him and change his farm to be a country club; he says that every other independent farm he knows of is experiencing similar difficulty with the government and the courts. And if that isn't enough, many of the farmers also have to deal with theft. Amir's own herd of goats was stolen twice, but each time he personally managed to track the goats down and see to their safe return. The farmers are now forming a representative committee in order to help each other

fight the many legal battles ahead, as well as to share farming techniques and promote their way of life to the world. While this is a step in the right direction, the farms still face serious threats to their existence.

So, what keeps Amir and the other independent farmers going despite the many hardships? Amir says that within a modern society there "...must be a place for the old ways." Because he believes that modern Israelis can learn from the old ways of farming and living, Amir hosts groups of visitors to his farm and even puts some volunteers to work as part-time help. He stresses that while he has nothing against the modernization around him, he prefers to seek the benefits of a simpler way of life. On his farm of around 200 acres, Amir grows herbs and fruit trees; he raises goats, and sells many cheeses, milk and yogurts, and also makes his own olive oil, according to ancient methods, of course. He's converted several old Byzantine-period farm homes into housing for himself and his family, and has made use of several caves in and around his property as well. But one of the projects Amir is most proud of is a first-temple-period well that he restored. It took Amir a year-and-a-half of backbreaking work, but the well now provides sweet water for his farm.

As for the future, Amir says that he just wants to transform his farm into a beautiful piece of Israeli landscape, as close as possible to its condition in ancient times. He wants to continue living the simple life, raising what he says is his farm's most important crop: children.

"Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit. Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters—that you may be increased there, and not diminished." (Jeremiah 29:5-6, NKJV) ★

*There
"...must
be a
place for
the old
ways."*



I laughingly told someone the other day, that when I left Texas for Israel in October, the weather was some of the hottest and driest weather ever, and I returned in late November to a snowstorm and Christmas displays. I laughed as I drove from the airport; it was a surreal look at the seasons. Yet, God says in Genesis 1:14-15, "let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night and to let them serve as signs to mark the seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth."

Shalom From Sandra



The days and nights and seasons came and went last year and I watched them pass from a different point in my life. I hardly knew there was a spring; yet, it came and went with no thought from me. Zola's death left a large hole and hurt in my life. God has been a light in my life this past year and, oh, what lights I have seen! His Word, work, friends, and family have comforted me.

Ecclesiastes 2:24 says, "A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see is from the hand of God." Great Scripture. I see that in God alone I have peace and pleasure.

I have been asked to do many things I never thought possible. I never thought I would be on TV, or speaking to churches, writing, or teaching on the tours. Yet, here I am. I feel that I am doing just what He wants me to do each and every day. What is God calling you to do for His glory? For your peace and pleasure?

When I envisioned writing my "Shalom from Sandra" articles, I wanted them to be filled with encouragement in the face of troubles and to bless Israel. Sort of a travel log with Scripture. Not just the travels of my life, but the travels *in* my life. In John 16:33, Yeshua says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have

overcome the world." We will all have troubles, but aren't they just of this world?

Yes, each season comes and goes and it is up to God where I go, but go I will. I look back over the signs of the past seasons, both in my life and in nature. I am comforted and feel the same as Isaiah, "Here I am, send me."

As always, I encourage you to go to Israel. I travel all over the world, and yet, Israel is my heart. It calls us home. Go home, go 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 and as you go, pray for the Peace of Jerusalem.

Thank you all for your prayers and support.

— Shalom,

"Take heart! I have overcome the world."



Wise as a Serpent: Buying a Home

By Mark Levitt



Mark Levitt

I'd like to share with you some of the pearls I have harvested while working toward becoming a "wise-as-a-serpent" administrator. This series of articles is designed to foster good stewardship with our resources, owned by God and entrusted to us, Gen. 1:26-30. Allow me to gloss over the topics of spiritual growth, time management, intellectual development, health maintenance, and relationship building by acknowledging that they are more important than bank balances. Those older and wiser than I perhaps can use the basics here to initiate a constructive conversation with someone younger and welcome him or her to pick your brain.

Our biggest purchases are typically houses, cars, and funerals. Regular Bible reading helps protect Believers against society's seduction to overspend in pursuit of happiness. The Bible's lessons about greed, pride, disputes, and envy, go a long way toward inoculating us against impulsive, regrettable decisions. Let me share with you some fruits of my reading and experience. **"Experience is the best teacher, but if you can take advice, the tuition is less."**

Beware the Seduction.

Many consumers buy homes when they shouldn't. They underestimate the inevitable expenses, including maintenance, repairs, taxes, and insurance. They also overestimate how quickly their equity (the market value minus the debt) will grow. Ideally, home buyers will: 1) Make a down payment of at least 20% of the home's value. Doing this saves them the expense of private mortgage insurance, which costs about .7% of the loan amount each year. 2) Have six months' worth of net income in the bank so that should financial circumstances change, they won't have to sell the house below its market value. 3) Plan to stay in the home at least five years.

An amortization schedule, which some lenders and realtors offer for free, shows how slowly the first years of monthly payments reduce the debt amount. Some home sellers are dismayed to have to write checks at closing in order to sell their homes because the realtor commission, title policy, and other closing costs surpass their equity. For a house to be a worthwhile investment, a buyer needs to buy it at the right price, maintain it well, and market it properly once it has had sufficient time to appreciate.

To buy a home at the right price, buyers should analyze how much comparable properties are selling for per square foot of land and structure. Mortgage companies require general inspections, but buyers can learn more about a property's flaws (and impending expenses) by also having the house inspected by a heating/ventilation/air conditioning specialist, exterminator and, if circumstances warrant, a foundation engineer, who might recommend a sewer test. Shooting a video throughout the home can help establish whether the seller has left everything he should. A videotape with the new owner's furnishings, stored off-premises, can document insurance claims.

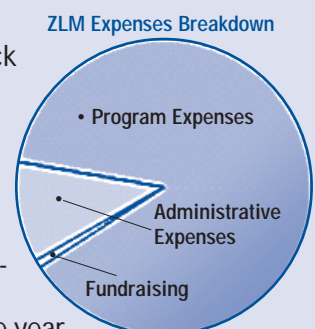
Tips: Land value does not need to be insured. • Lower deductibles often aren't worth the extra premiums. • Paying property taxes by December 31, instead of a month later, when they're typically due, allows a homeowner to take the tax write-off a year sooner. • Metal hoses on washing machines prevent floods attributable to cheap plastic ones. • Some security companies will install a free basic alarm system (several exits plus motion and smoke detectors) when homeowners prepay \$300 for a year of monitoring—and then add components as homeowners prepay for subsequent years.

Part of my motive in sharing insights on home ownership with readers who can only afford to rent an apartment is to offer an example of the illusion of materialism. Whether you own a house, car, or boat, that item also owns you to the extent that you must maintain it and, like it or not, have a stake in its well-being. Selling what we have and giving the proceeds to the poor frees us from those burdens. The "burden" of a roof over our heads is worth bearing, within limitations, but we must not let society's culture of consumerism seduce us into overbuying. ★

Charity Navigator ★★★★★ Gives ZLM Four-Star Rating for Third Straight Year – 2003-2005

For the third year in a row, ZLM has won Charity Navigator's four-star rating. Check out the latest rating by visiting: www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm/bay/search.summary/orgid/4798.htm

Only 12% of organizations win this award for two years in a row; ZLM takes pride in our use of resources that produces recognition of this sort, three years running. TBN, with a \$68.8 million surplus in a single year, scored two stars, while 60% of their rated affiliates received one.



“Six imams removed from a US Airways flight from Minneapolis to Phoenix are calling on Muslims to boycott the airline. If only we could get Muslims to boycott all airlines, we could dispense with airport security altogether.” — Ann Coulter

The Flying Imam

By Audrey Hudson, *The Washington Times*



Muslim religious leaders removed from a Minneapolis flight exhibited behavior associated with terrorists and were not merely engaged in prayers, according to witnesses, police reports, and aviation security officials.

Witnesses said three of the imams were praying loudly in the concourse and repeatedly shouted “Allah” when passengers were called for boarding US Airways Flight 300 to Phoenix last November.

“I was suspicious by the way they were praying very loud,” the gate agent told the Minneapolis Police Department.

Passengers and flight attendants told law-enforcement officials the imams switched from their assigned seats to a pattern associated with the September 11 terrorist attacks — two in the front row first-class, two in the middle of the plane on the exit aisle and two in the rear of the cabin — controlling all entry and exit routes to the plane.

A pilot from another airline said: “That behavior has been identified as a terrorist probe in the airline industry.”

But the imams who were escorted off the flight say they were merely praying before the flight.

According to witnesses, police reports, and aviation security officials, the imams displayed other suspicious behavior.

Three of the men asked for seat-belt extenders, although two flight attendants told police the men were not oversized. One flight attendant told police she “found this unsettling, as crew knew about the six [passengers] on

board and where they were sitting.” Rather than attach the extensions, the men placed the straps and buckles on the cabin floor.

The imams said they were not discussing politics and only spoke in English, but witnesses told law enforcement that the men spoke in Arabic and English, criticizing the war in Iraq and President Bush, and talking about al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden. The imams who claimed two first-class seats said their tickets were upgraded. The gate agent told police that when the imams asked to be upgraded, they were told no such seats were available. Nevertheless, the two men were seated in first class when removed.

A flight attendant said one of the men made two trips to the rear of the plane to talk to an imam during boarding, and again when the flight was delayed because of their behavior. Aviation officials, including air marshals and pilots, said these actions alone would not warrant a second look, but the combination is suspicious.

“They should have been denied boarding and been investigated,” former air marshal Robert MacLean said. “It looks like they are trying to create public sympathy or maybe setting someone up for a lawsuit.” [In fact, in December CAIR announced that the imams have retained them as legal representatives.]

Aviation security officials said thousands of Muslims fly every day and conduct prayers in airports in a quiet and private manner without creating incidents. ★



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Would you like 50 recent *Levitt Letters* to offer at your church? We have been printing a few extra for people, like you, who want to serve as Newsletter Ambassadors. Imagine delivering this ministry's teaching to those who don't know it even exists — free! Please help us to reach more people by periodically letting us know how many newsletters you can put to good use.

Zola's Son Aaron



Zola's younger son, Aaron, will turn 28 on February 19. For years he has helped this ministry by shipping packages, writing newsletter articles, appearing on our TV program and, most of all, proofreading newsletters. Now he is working with our website designer, Greg, on editing and upgrading our audio teaching cassettes for transfer to CD. Aaron works full-time at a law firm and attends night school, but he still finds time to serve the Lord.

Our Ministry's Church Speakers

Let us bring to your church the prophetic relevance of today's news, the seven feasts of Israel and all that Zola has taught us to teach others. Dr. Tom McCall co-authored eight books with Zola. Dr. Jeff Seif co-created with Zola our correspondence course, *The Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies*. Dr. Todd Baker founded our ministry's department of missions to Israel, which is sponsored by our To The Jew First Fund. In addition, Zola's widow, Sandra Levitt, after traveling at Zola's side for eight years, teaches all the same lessons he did and is a remarkable public speaker. Please contact Scott in our office at sphillips@levitt.com or (214) 696-8844 for information on having any of our speakers visit your church.

Four Stars ★★★★★ -Again!

This ministry is a tight ship. We stretch contributions and offer our independently-audited financial statements free for the asking. www.charitynavigator.org has given us their highest rating—four stars. Only 12% of the charities they rate have received two consecutive 4-star ratings, so praise the Lord that we have attained this standard for **three (3) consecutive years!** It is your continued support that has enabled us to streamline and reach so many with minimal overhead.



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The Path of Life

By John J. Parsons



תוֹדִיעַנִי אֶרְחַח יָמִים שְׂבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֶיךָ נְעֻמוֹת בְּיַמִּינְךָ נֹצַח

Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (Psalm 16:11)

תוֹ	דִּ	עַ	נִ	י	אֶ	רְ	חַ	יָ	מִ	יָ	שְׂ	בַ	עַ	שְׂ	מָ	חֹ	ת
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	
to-di-	'ei-ni			o-rach			cha-yim				so-va'			se-ma-cho			
				life			the path of				fullness of joys (are)						

אֶת	-	פְּ	נֵי	ךָ	נְ	עַ	מֹ	ת	בִּי	מִי	נְ	ךָ	נֹ	צַ	ח
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	
et-pa-	ne-kha			with thy presence			pleasures (are)				at your right hand			forever	

Hebraic Insight: *Orach Chayim*—the Path of Life

What is more important than finding the “path of life?”

Consciously or not, every day billions of people all over the world are seeking that which will satisfy their heart's deepest longings for unending life, unbounded joy, and abiding pleasure. As C.S. Lewis pointed out, this ultimate longing is a “message” from another world.

Many people are seduced from heeding the message by believing that life consists of a series of sensual pleasures—eating, drinking, having sexual relations, etc.—or by “losing themselves” in various kinds of entertainment. However, such fleeting moments of pleasure invariably cause an inward fragmentation of the soul, thereby weakening the will and inducing a state of forgetfulness regarding the deepest needs of life.

Others are deluded into attempting to find life by means of creating some sort of “legacy” for themselves. To earn respect, to experience fame, or to be heroically remembered is considered the path of life. However, as Shakespeare reminds us, *human* history is at best a “tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.”

Still others hope to find life through various placating religious rituals and practices. In Orthodox Judaism, for example, the *Orach Chayim* is a handbook that meticulously provides a set of rules and regulations (*halakhah*) regarding sleeping, waking, wearing clothes, reciting blessings, observing Sabbath and the holidays, and so on. The path of life, according to the religionist, is the performance of various ritual acts in order to win God's approval and blessing.

Now let's look at our verse. Notice that the Hebrew verb *todieini* is the Hiphil form of *yada'* (to know) and could better be translated “you will *cause* me to know,” indicating that God is active in the knowing process. Here King David, despite the anxiety he felt regarding death, voiced his trust that God's love would personally intervene to deliver him from the prospect of physical corruption in the grave (v10).

From the New Testament, we know that this verse ultimately refers not to David (who eventually died), but to the Messiah Jesus, the greater Son of David (Mark 12:35-6, Psalm 110:1), who was raised from the dead by God (Gal. 1:1). Peter cited this verse on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:25-28), as did Paul at Antioch (Acts 13:35-37). Despite the grisly prospect of the crucifixion, Jesus trusted that God, by raising Him from the dead, would not allow Him to suffer corruption (Matt. 16:21).

Interestingly, the word *netzach* (“forever”) denotes both “victory” and “eternity,” and reveals that Jesus' resurrection provides the everlasting victory over the sting of death itself. Jesus is forever enthroned at the very side of the Majesty on High as the Key Holder to life and death (Rev. 1:18).

The ultimate longing we have in our hearts is really a message from God—to come to Him to have our deepest needs met. The true *orach chayim* is only found in a personal, trusting relationship with the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ (John 14:6). When we receive the message of His gracious love, our hearts' deepest longings will be truly satisfied. We will experience fullness of joy in God's loving presence, and we will enjoy abiding pleasures in our communion with God.

Merkel Backs a More Christian EU Constitution

By Nicholas Watt, www.Guardian.co.uk



Angela Merkel

Europe's "Christian values" should be enshrined in a new version of the EU constitution, the German chancellor declared after meeting the Pope.

In remarks that reopen the debate on religion in the EU, Angela Merkel threw her weight behind Pope Benedict's campaign to recognize Europe's Christian heritage. "We spoke about freedom of religion," she said after talks at the Pope's summer residence near Rome. "We spoke about the role of Europe and I emphasized the need for a constitution and that it should refer to our Christian values."

Mrs. Merkel is heading efforts to revive the constitution now that Germany assumed the EU's rotating presidency in January. Any attempt to mention Christianity—or simply God—in the text will be met by stiff resistance from secular France, from Britain, which treads carefully in this area, and from northern Protestant countries such as Sweden and Denmark. During the tortuous negotiations on the constitution in 2004 there were concerns that any religious reference could upset Europe's Muslims and Jews.

But Mrs. Merkel, the daughter of a Protestant pastor, is determined to continue the debate when she tries to revive the constitution, a controversial move in itself because many EU leaders want a slimmed down document after no votes in 2005.

The chancellor is leader of the strongly Catholic CDU party whose most senior figure in Brussels is determined to include a reference to God in the new constitution.

Hans-Gert Pöttering, currently leader of the EPP-ED group in the European parliament, is on course to become the assembly's president in 2007.

French Airport Alarm

By Stephen Brown, www.FrontPageMagazine.com



On a continent where new Islamist terrorist cells are discovered almost weekly, it was still a surprise that, since 2005, 72 workers at Charles de Gaulle Airport near Paris have had their security clearances cancelled because of their connections with terrorist organizations. While 10 of the 72 are Tamils and one is a Sikh, most of those concerned are Muslims suspected of having ties to radical Islam. And these are just some of the 200 airport workers security agencies have investigated since last May alone.

It is not only the disturbingly large number of potential terrorists discovered working at France's biggest airport, also known as Paris-Roissy, that astounds one; it is also the jobs they held. While some worked as clerks, drivers and cleaners, others were baggage handlers who loaded aircraft and transferred luggage between airplanes without any security control.

Some of the targeted Muslim employees, who are all now suspended from their jobs, are known to have made trips to Pakistan and Afghanistan, while several are suspected of having attended terrorist training camps there.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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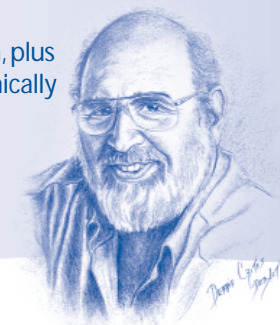
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Zola's Monthly Gift Program

Recipe: Muslims Win Back America's Trust

www.jihadwatch.com

Mild-mannered, peace-loving Muslims claim the terror is caused by radicals, on the fringes of the true Islam. And of course, "ignorance" is the problem. Efforts are made to convince Americans that any Muslim who commits violence in the name of Islam is not a genuine Muslim, and that the genuine article is peaceful, peaceful, peaceful. And tolerant. One problem with such "education" efforts is that they do nothing to prevent "genuine" Muslims from turning, without warning, into "false" ones.

Do Muslims in America really want to decrease fear and mistrust directed toward them? Easy. Just follow these four simple steps:

1. Stop blaming violent acts committed by Muslims in the name of Islam on the various sins of unbelievers.
2. Establish nationwide, compulsory programs in American mosques to teach against the jihad ideology and Islamic supremacism, by means that include an explicit and definitive rejection of the literal meaning of many passages of Koran and Hadith.
3. Stop saying violent or hateful things in private when you think no non-Muslims are around. For example, the imam Umar Abdul-Jalil, executive director of ministerial services for the New York City Department of Correction, was secretly recorded recently while speaking at an Islamic conference in Arizona. Muslims, he said, invoking Koran 48:29, must be "compassionate with each other" and "hard against the *kufr* [unbeliever]." In Britain, Hamid Ali, imam of the mosque frequented by the July 7 bombers, praised the bombers and called their terror attack "good" in a conversation secretly recorded by an undercover journalist. Publicly, he had condemned the attacks. In a mosque in the Czech Republic, a Muslim secretly filmed by a documentary filmmaker says Islamic Sha'ria law, including the stoning of adulterers, should be adopted by the Czech Republic. Cleveland imam Fawaz Damra, who has since been deported for failing to disclose his ties to terror groups, signed the Fiqh Council of North America's condemnation of terrorism, despite having declared at an Islamic conference that "terrorism, and terrorism alone, is the path to liberation."

Do such incidents mean that every Muslim who professes to have adopted Western notions of pluralism and the equality of dignity and rights of non-Muslims and Muslims is dissembling? Of course not. But they do mean that non-Muslims are perfectly justified in being suspicious even when Muslims profess moderation and opposition to terror. Consequently, deeds, not just words, are needed.

4. Actively work with Western law enforcement officials to identify and apprehend jihadists within Western Muslim communities.

To believe efforts along these lines are being made, we'd have to see a decrease in the cry of "Islamophobia" and attempts to manipulate the American legal and political systems. ★

Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

iNetwork (PAX) Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	9:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	9:30 am Thurs
DirecTV—Channel 255		Dish—Channel 181		

ABC-FAM Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	10:00 pm Sun or 1:00 am Mon	11 pm Sun or 2 am Mon	12:00 am Mon	1:00 am Mon
DirecTV—Channel 311		Dish—Channel 180		

INSP Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3:30 am Wed 5:30 pm	4:30 am Wed 6:30 pm	5:30 am Wed 7:30 pm	6:30 am Wed 8:30 pm

Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3:00 pm Fri	4:00 pm Fri	5:00 pm Fri	6:00 pm Fri
DirecTV—Channel 369		Dish—Channel 263		

TCT on DirecTV

The newest addition to our TV Airing Schedule, posted at www.levitt.com, is Channel 377 (TCT) on DirecTV:

Tuesday 8:00 PM Central
 Thursday 8:00 AM Central
 Friday 7:00 PM Central

NOTE: If you are unable to view ZLP at the day and time stated, please contact your local cable company or refer to your satellite directory.



The Age of Terror TV Series

Eight 30-Minute TV Programs on Two DVDs

When God chose Israel as His people, He not only placed them at the crossroads of history, but also at the center of the empires of their times. Time and again, this little country has endured siege and upheaval, destruction and exile, only to rise from the ashes and start anew. In this series, Zola takes you from the terrors of the ancient past to present-day conflicts and the battles yet to come.

In each of these programs, Zola is joined in the studio by Walid Shoebat, an ex-Muslim terrorist who was born in Bethlehem. Walid provides unique insights into the world of terrorism and sounds a clear trumpet of warning concerning the days ahead. His testimony of faith is poignant and his view of biblical prophecy commands your attention.

The Assault on Israel Visiting Dor on Israel's coast, Zola paints a picture of Israel's ancient enemies, the Phoenicians and Philistines. He highlights the many assaults from foreign powers against God's Chosen Nation and suggests that the coming antiChrist may be of Greco-Syrian heritage.

History of the Mount Atop the Mount of Olives, Zola presents the fascinating history of the Temple Mount, the place that saw God save Isaac from sacrifice, that saw temples raised and temples destroyed, and where restored Israel looks forward to a final temple that will herald Messiah's return.

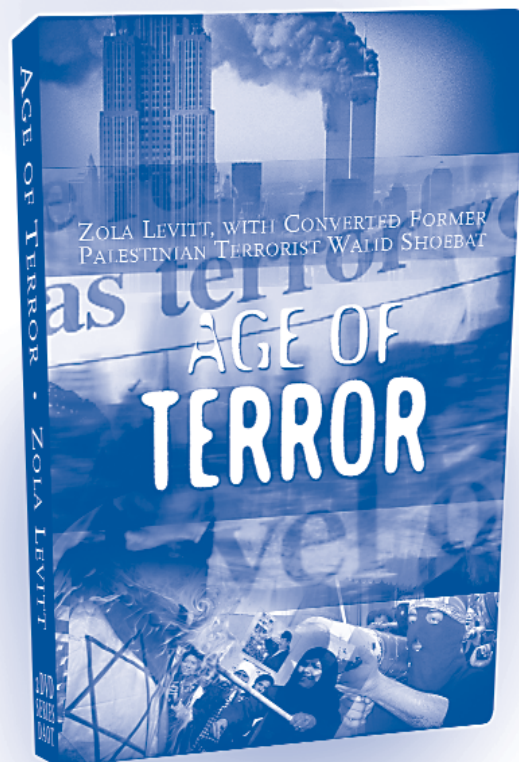
Rewriting History At the Southern Steps at the Temple Mount, Zola presents the history of the area and the current efforts by the Muslims to expand their place of worship within the Mount: excavations that have led to bulges and a weakness within the supporting Temple Mount walls.

Mark of the Beast From the Mount of Olives, Zola pictures the antiChrist entering the future temple and claiming to be God. Antiochus, a Syrian king who in 168 B.C. violated the Holy of Holies and defiled the temple with unclean sacrifice, was a forerunner of this antiChrist.

Battle of the Gods On location at the Dor Museum, Zola talks about the Phoenicians and Philistines who settled in the area thousands of years ago, bringing their false gods with them. Elijah challenged the priests of Baal, and with fire from Heaven the God of Israel proved that He, alone, is God.

A Cup of Trembling Stationed at a strategic position overlooking Jerusalem, Zola outlines the three key attacks this city has received since Israel became a state in 1948. Armageddon is next, and again the might of the world will not prevail.

Siege of the Holy Temple At the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv, Zola reviews the history of the Jewish temples, from Solomon's to Herod's. The



Roman siege of 70 AD, depicted behind Zola, symbolizes the many empires that have come against God's holy place.

When Good is Called Evil From Tel Aviv, Zola reminds the viewer that Israel is a safe, thriving country. Despite the media's efforts to portray it as a battleground, this little nation is a secure, efficient democracy in which deserts bloom and God's Chosen People await His coming.

Offered on page 31.

ZOLA'S NOTEBOOK – The Bible: The Whole Story

Seven vital doctrines are chosen and examined in a very readable and clear style. One of the most popular items offered by this ministry, *Zola's Notebook* explains the Bible cover to cover. The *Notebook* has pockets for our newsletters, and provides space for notes to be taken by the reader. The following doctrines are covered thoroughly: the Abrahamic Covenant, the Law, Prophecy, the Messiah, Grace, the Church, and the Kingdom.

Available on page 31.

Hamas Battles for Control at Border

USA Today

Hamas militants, angry that Israel prevented Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh from returning to Gaza in early December with \$35 million, burst into the Rafah border terminal.

They sparked a gunbattle with guards and took control of the crossing. Israel later allowed Haniyeh to cross the border without the money he raised abroad to help his government, which is crippled by international sanctions imposed because Hamas refuses to renounce violence or recognize Israel.

The money would fund terror attacks, a senior Israeli security official told the Associated Press anonymously because he was not authorized to speak publicly.

What They're Saying about Iran's Holocaust Denial Conference in:

The Berkshire Eagle, Pittsfield, Mass., in an editorial: "For all the clashes between Israel and its Palestinian neighbors, modern Israel is a rare spot of economic and governmental stability in an impoverished and war-torn region. ... By 'debunking' the Holocaust at his conference, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad no doubt intends to bring skeptics around the world to his side. ... He hopes to solidify his power and influence in the Middle East. ... Millions of Jews were tortured, brutalized and summarily executed under the Nazi regime; this is an undeniable fact. For Iran to assert anything else is unconscionable and, moreover, dangerous. ... Without Israel present in the Middle East to provide an example...of successful government-building and economic growth, there can be no hope for rebuilding the rest of the region."

The Miami Herald, in an editorial: "If the conference succeeded at anything, (it) was in identifying Ahmadinejad as the biggest scoundrel in the Middle East since Saddam Hussein. Since he was elected, Ahmadinejad has worked hard to overcome internal weaknesses of his leadership by projecting Iran as an enemy of Israel and the West, and particularly of the United

States. It is a tactic favored by despots with little else to offer. Only 67 conferees from 30 countries, including former Louisiana Ku Klux Klansman David Duke, showed up. The Holocaust is a shameful, historical truth that cannot be diminished or wished away by the lunatic ravings of a few extremists."

Indonesia Fined for Canceling Israel Tennis Match

USA Today

The International Tennis Federation ordered Indonesia to pay a \$31,600 fine for canceling a World Group II playoff match against Israel in Tel Aviv last July.

Indonesia is also banned from playing in any Fed Cup competitions in 2007, said Ferry Raturandang, the secretary general of the Indonesian Tennis Association, who was informed of the decision by email.

Indonesia, which has no diplomatic relations with Israel, had asked that the venue of the match be changed to another country.

But Raturandang said the decision was made over security, not political, concerns as alleged by the ITF.

He said Indonesia was told it must pay \$5,000 for pulling out of the match; \$6,600 to compensate the ITF's expense in preparing for the Israel Fed Cup, and \$20,000 to the host, Israel.





German Academics: Enough of Special Treatment for Israel

Eldad Beck, www.ynetnews.com

Twenty-five German academics published a petition in mid-November urging their government to loosen its embrace of Israel and start embracing Palestinians in an unprecedented act in the history of the relationship between Germany and Israel.

The academics in question are highly influential professors at the country's leading universities, which are mainly funded by the German government. Many of them are known for their anti-Israel stances.

The academics called on the German government to stop giving "special treatment" to Israel following the Holocaust and warned that the sympathetic attitude could lead to unrest amidst the German people.

The 25 petition signers called on a change in the character of the relationship between Israel and Germany, which would lead the two countries to have a "friendship free from past burdens," one which would leave room for expressing criticism of Israel.

According to the academics, the Holocaust binds Germany not only to stand by Israel, but also to stand by the Palestinians. They said this was important since the ramifications of the Holocaust led to much suffering for the Palestinians over the past 60 years.

Germany obligated to stand exclusively by Israel?

Those who signed the petition expressed criticism of the "special" relationship between the two countries, which they alleged led to Germany providing Israel with advanced military technologies, even when Israel had violated international law and violated human rights.

The academics questioned whether Germany was obligated to stand exclusively by Israel in the Middle East in light of the Holocaust, and wondered about whether preserving the relationship would have consequences on the German people, particularly between Jews and Muslims.

"Each new attack on Israeli citizens and each disproportional action by the IDF and Israel's government reinforces in terrifying measures the polarization in Germany between those in favor of Israel and those against it. Such an atmosphere makes an open public dialogue on the questions we raised extremely crucial," the petition said.

British 'Silently Boycott' Israeli Academics

Moran Zelikovich, www.ynetnews.com

The International Advisory Board for Academic Freedom warns against a "silent boycott" in Britain against Israeli institutes of higher education.

The council said that Israeli researchers wishing to publish articles in Britain were asked to remove the name of whichever Israeli academic institute they belonged to as a condition for publishing their articles.

The latest "unofficial boycott" was initiated by the *Bibliography of Translation Studies* journal, owned by a British publishing house headed by Mona Baker, a supporter of the academic boycott on Israel.



Mona Baker

The publishing house invited professors from all over the world to send in articles for publication. Among the many professors who accepted the invitation was Prof. Miriam Shlesinger, Department Chair of Translation and Interpreting Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

Shlesinger asked the new associate editor of the publication, Prof. Gaby Saldahana, if she would be willing to accept Israeli articles. Saldahana replied that she would accept articles from researchers in Israel, but not from an Israeli academic institute.

Shlesinger, who used to head Amnesty International in Israel, decided not to send in an article to the journal.

This "silent boycott" took place alongside other outright boycotts on Israel. An article published on Ynet in September 2006 revealed that dozens of academics worldwide called for a boycott on Israeli academic institutes until "Israel ends its occupation of the Palestinian territories."

Despite Israel's efforts to fight the phenomenon of the academic boycott, the International Advisory Board for Academic Freedom continues to receive reports on more entities that do not want to publish articles by Israeli researchers.

IAB chair Prof. Yosef Yeshurun responded to the latest case and said, "We adamantly oppose the academic boycotts. Research and study, and their expression through an exchange of open and free ideas, are the basis of civilization, and in their absence there cannot be true progress of human knowledge and understanding."



Can't Believe in Jesus and Still Be a Jew?

Dear Dr. Seif,

I recently saw an episode by you about Hanukkah and was very offended. I, myself, am Jewish and wonder why you present the story and meaning of Hanukkah as defined by "Jews for Jesus" (Messianic Jews). Why don't you give the real story? Hanukkah is not about a Messiah; it is about freedom from oppression. Also, I am offended by the term of Jewish people "Coming to faith." This just means a Jew who is tricked into converting by being told that believing in Jesus is really Jewish even though the only major difference between Jews and Christians is the belief in Jesus as the Messiah. Explain to me how a Jew can believe in Jesus and still be a Jew.
I. B. Angry

Dear I. B. Angry,

Being Jewish is not predicated upon one's going to a synagogue and submitting to rabbinic instruction. Were that the case, there would be few Jews in Israel, given that most Jews in Israel do not practice Judaism as a religion. The same is true in America: there are many Jews who do not practice Judaism after securing a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, but who are culturally Jewish, nonetheless. Because Jesus lived and died as a Jew; because the New Testament is a Jewish story about a Jew named Jesus, who ministered to Jewish people, in the Jewish homeland, spoke from the Jewish Scriptures, in the Jewish language, about a Jewish concept—the Messiah—the notion that a Jew cannot relate to Jesus seems more an example of prejudice than an example of coming to terms with the historic reality of who this person was.



Jeffrey Seif

I say: Of course a Jew can believe in Jesus and still be Jewish, much as a Jew can believe in nothing and still be Jewish.

Jeffrey Seif

Dear Dr. Seif,

"Because of all this, we don't believe Jesus is our Messiah."

We as REAL Jews still believe in Jesus; in fact, he is almost, but not quite, considered a prophet. He was a great man, there is no doubt about that, but in Judaism, distinct characteristics are required to consider a *moshiach* (Messiah). One is direct descent from King David, of which there is no definitive proof toward Jesus; there is only speculation. Second, the *moshiach* must bring peace to all with him, and all loved ones and good people will come back to life. Since this did not happen when Jesus was alive, nor when there was supposedly a second coming, then, we do not believe in him as the *moshiach*. We also have other specific requirements that the *moshiach* must meet as a leader:

He will be well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its commandments (Isaiah 11:2-5). He will be a charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example. He will be a great military leader, who will win battles for Israel. He will be a great judge, who makes righteous decisions (Jeremiah 33:15). But above all, he will be a human being, not a god, demigod or other supernatural being.

It has been said that in every generation, a person is born with the potential to be the *moshiach*. If the time is right for the Messianic age within that person's lifetime, then that person will be the *moshiach*. But if that person dies before he completes the mission of the *moshiach*, then that person is not the *moshiach*. We also have certain requirements that we must do as a people in order for the time of the Messiah to come:

- if Israel repented in a single day;
- if Israel observed a single Shabbat properly;
- if Israel observed two Shabbats in a row properly;
- in a generation that is totally innocent or totally guilty;
- in a generation that loses hope;
- in a generation where children are totally disrespectful towards their parents and elders.



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Because of all this, we don't believe Jesus is our Messiah; most of these requirements have not yet been met, so there is no possible way that our *moshiach* has come. Therefore, Jews cannot believe in Jesus and still be Jewish. Sure, they can be Jewish hereditarily and culturally, but this does not really make them a whole Jew; without our practices, traditions, education, and religion, we are not whole.

I. B. Angry



Dear I. B. Angry,

In your response you say “We as REAL Jews still believe in Jesus; in fact, he is almost, but not quite, considered a prophet. He was a great man, there is no doubt about that...”

However, it seems to me that your gracious analysis of Jesus is not the tradition. But, even treating your statement as fact, I wonder why you would slight a fellow “real” Jew, given that my only mistake appears to be overstating the identity of this “great” and “prophet[ic]” Jewish person. You could say I am, perhaps, a mistaken Jew, but a Jew, nonetheless. Instead, you seem disposed to call me an impossibility. OK, I’ll live with that.

You go on to say, “but in Judaism distinct characteristics are required to consider a *moshiach* (Messiah).” Ok, let’s consider the points you raise, the requirements.

You note that the *moshiach* must be a direct descendant of King David, “of which there is no definitive proof toward Jesus; there is only speculation.”

What exactly do you mean by proof? DNA? Were a Messianic figure to emerge today and say, “I am the Messiah,” how would Judaism go about confirming his relationship to David? In the absence of a Temple complex, where such birth records were kept, Judaism has no absolute way to confirm ancient affiliations, period. This, itself, argues for a first-century Messiah, over and against a yet-to-come personality, one said to emerge long after the Temple’s destruction.

Jesus (Yeshua) is introduced as descended from David in the New Testament’s opening verse, and is referred to as “Son of David” more than once. Both Mary (Miriam) and the stepfather, Joseph (Yosef), are connected back to David in the respective genealogical accounts in Matthew’s and Luke’s Gospels.

There’s more information here than you may realize.

You continue: “Second, the *moshiach* must bring peace to all with him, and all loved ones and good people will come back to life. Since this did not happen when Jesus was alive, nor when there was supposedly a second coming, then, we do not believe in him as the *moshiach*.”

Fair enough. Good points, all.

Let me say that the “second coming,” rightly called, is understood as still to happen; and, the New Testament argues that it is precisely at this future time when the Messiah will bring about a cessation of global hostilities, facilitate a resurrection, and much more.

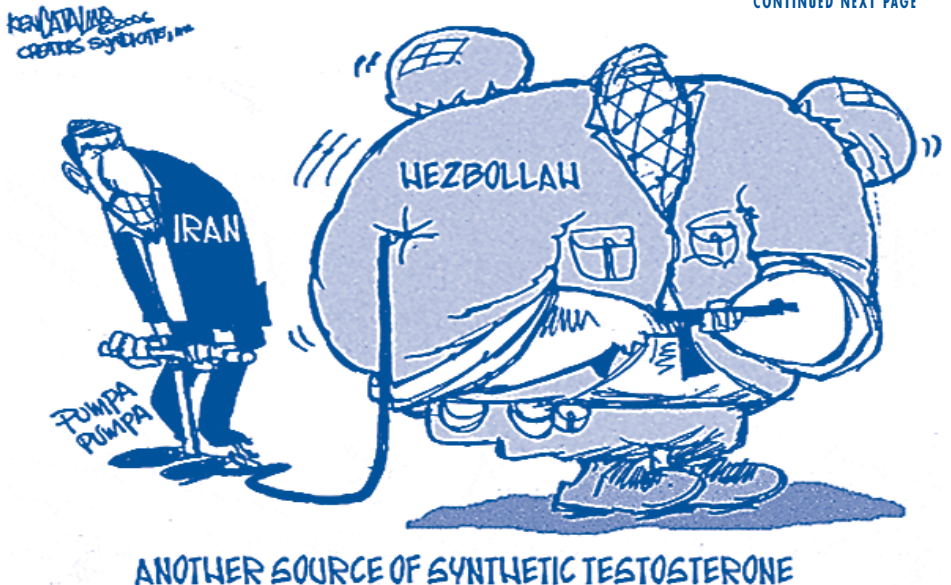
I am familiar with this ground of disregard — and think it is stronger than the Davidic issue you raised first. Still, I see salvation work as having begun at His first coming, with its culmination to come at His second coming. It’s all about timing.

“It’s all about timing.”

That you describe God’s purposes as being phased does not bother me. Who says everything has to happen all at once? Abraham was once promised a land and a destiny, and it was a promise that was fulfilled in phases, over many, many years. David was anointed as king, but spent many, many years running from Saul, fighting Philistines, dealing with rebellion, etc. Finally, after a lengthy and difficult passage of time, he came into his destiny — here again it came in phases. Why, then, slight the ultimate descendant of Abraham and David for experiences akin to those found in the Hebrew Bible? It’ll happen in its time.

Thirdly, you say, “We also have other specific requirements that the *moshiach* must meet as a leader: He will be well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its

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commandments (Isaiah 11:2-5). He will be a charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example. He will be a great military leader, who will win battles for Israel. He will be a great judge, who makes righteous decisions (Jeremiah 33:15). But above all, he will be a human being, not a god, demigod, or other supernatural being.”

Though I appreciate sage insight from various Jewish authors (even ones I do not agree with), I particularly like it when biblical verses are attached to statements of belief requirements, believing as I do that biblical authority is more important than human authority — rabbinic, human authority in this case. Thinking of your previously noting that Jesus was “almost considered a prophet,” I wonder why Jesus would not fit the better part of these requirements. Given the many multiple millions of people on earth who (1) believe in Jesus, (2) study His words (words that are interpretations and applications of the Hebrew Bible), it seems to me that He not only could, but should, fulfill the requirements of being a “charismatic leader,” as you note. As for His nature, Him being merely a “human being” and not “supernatural,” I am more inclined to look at biblical text than rabbinic statements about the nature of the Messiah. Let’s see, Abraham’s son Isaac came from a womb opened supernaturally, and Israel came forth from Egypt miraculously... Miracles are everywhere. Rabbis who deny them are denying the essence and substance of Hebrew Scripture.

“It has been said?”

You then say, “It has been said that in every generation, a person is born with the potential to be the *moshiach*. If the time is right for the Messianic age within that person’s lifetime, then that person will be the *moshiach*. But if that person dies before he completes the mission of the *moshiach*, then that person is not the *moshiach*.”

It has been said? Where? I am not aware of this Hebrew Scripture. It sounds more like rabbinic tradition not rooted in biblical texts. You approach your conclusion claiming: “We also have certain requirements that we must do as a people in order for the time of the Messiah to come: if Israel repented in a single day; observed a single Shabbat properly; if Israel observed two Shabbats in a row properly; in a generation that is totally innocent or totally guilty; in a generation that loses hope; in a generation where children are totally disrespectful towards their parents and elders.”

Here again, you say “We also have requirements...” Yes, and I would be curious to learn exactly where these “requirements” are found in the Hebrew Bible. They are not there!

Finally, you close with: “Because of all this, we don’t believe Jesus is our Messiah; most of these requirements have not yet been met, so there is no possible way that our *moshiach* has come. Therefore, Jews cannot believe

Jeff teaching from the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem



in Jesus and still be Jewish. Sure, they can be Jewish hereditarily and culturally, but this does not really make them a whole Jew; without our practices, traditions, education, and religion, we are not whole.”

In saying “we don’t believe Jesus is our Messiah,” remember that you are speaking for yourself, and not for the many thousands of Jewish people who do, in fact, believe Jesus is the Messiah — your objections notwithstanding. You can’t say, “we don’t believe,” only that you don’t and/or that many don’t. On the basis of your words, the basis for your rejection, Jesus’ marginalization is caused by His failure to comply with stipulations not even echoed in the Hebrew Bible. Jesus, thus, is guilty of not following rabbinic traditions, and nothing more. Which reminds me, I find your statement “without our practices, traditions, education, and religion, we are not whole” to be a bit problematic.

First, it is my understanding that there is no exact and singular way to interpret those “practices” and “traditions,” but rather, there is diversity of opinion — and that diversity is both tolerated and celebrated within Judaism. However, when a Jewish person takes an interest in a great and charismatic Jewish teacher from the first century, that person becomes non-Jewish and anti-Jewish, and is thrust beyond the pale of Jewish acceptability. Why? Just as Gentiles in days past were suspicious of everything and anything Jewish, so too, many Jewish people have a neurotic aversion to taking a look at the obvious: that Jesus was, in fact, the most significant Jewish personality and teacher who ever lived! It seems to me that we’d do well to have a closer look, take a peak at exploring who this Jesus was and is. All said, let me say that I find your arguments reasonable and your points compelling. I think still, however, that there is more merit to Jesus than typically granted within classical Judaism.

You strike me as a good person. Thanks for responding to both the television program and my email. It is a pleasure discussing the Jewish Messiah with you.

Yours, Jeffrey Seif



Afghan Women Prefer Death to Abuse

By Alisa Tang, Associated Press



Blood dripped down the 16-year-old girl's face after another beating by her drug addict husband. Worn down by life's pain, she ran to the kitchen, doused herself with gas from a lamp and struck a match.

Desperate to escape domestic violence, forced marriage and hardship, scores of women across Afghanistan each year are committing suicide by fire. While some gains have been made since the fall of the Taliban five years ago, life remains bleak for many Afghan women in the conservative and violence-plagued country, and suicide is a common escape.

Young Gulsum survived to tell her story. Her pretty face and delicate feet were untouched by the flames, but beneath her red turtleneck sweater, floral skirt and white shawl, her skin is puffy and scarred.

More than a month after her attempt, her gnarled hands still bleed.

"It was my decision to die. I didn't want to be like this, with my hands and body like this," she said, sitting on a hospital bed in Kabul and hiding her deformed hands beneath her shawl.

Reliable statistics on self-immolation nationwide are difficult to gauge. In Herat province, where the practice has been most reported and publicized, there were 93 cases in 2005 and more than 54 in 2006. More than 70 percent of these women die.

"It's all over the country. ... The trend is upward," said Ancil Adrian-Paul of Medica Mondiale, a nonprofit that supports women and girls in crisis zones.

The group has seen girls as young as 9 and women as old as 40 set themselves on fire. But many incidents remain hidden.

"A lot of self-immolation and suicide cases are not reported to police for religious reasons, for reasons of honor, shame, stigma. There is this collusion of silence," Adrian-Paul said on the sidelines of a conference in Kabul on self-immolation.

Five years after the fall of the repressive

Taliban regime, domestic violence affects "an overwhelming majority" of Afghan women and girls, according to a recent report from Womankind, an international women's rights group.

An estimated 60 to 80 percent of Afghan marriages are forced, the report said. More than half of Afghan women are married before they turn 16 and many young girls are married to men who are several decades older, the report said. The exchange of women and girls to resolve a crime, debt, or household dispute is also common.

Under the hardline Taliban regime, women were unable to vote, receive education, or be employed. In recent years, women have gained the right to cast ballots and female candidates have run for parliament, but women are often still regarded as second-class citizens.

Gulsum and her husband lived for six months at her parents' home, then moved in with his family in neighboring Iran, which is home to many Afghan refugees.

Away from her parents, her husband turned to heroin and alcohol and the beatings began, becoming worse when she confronted him about his addictions. The last time he hit her, she set herself on fire.

Her husband and his family did not help the burning girl. Their neighbor wrapped her in a blanket to put out the fire and took her to the hospital.

Gulsum has been transferred to a hospital in Kabul, where she must undergo several procedures and surgeries.

She is happier lately and wants to wear pretty clothes again, but has no plans for her future yet. "Let me get better first. When I'm better, then I'll decide what to do," she said. "For now, who would want to marry me?" ★



"It was my decision to die."

The Christmas Grinch Revisited

By Burt Prelutsky, www.WorldNetDaily.com



Burt Prelutsky

Nothing that I have ever written has provoked as huge a response as a piece I wrote recently called “The Jewish Grinch Who Stole Christmas.” [viewable at www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=53244] In the article I suggested that my fellow Jews were at the forefront in waging war on the values and traditions of Christian Americans.

Predictably enough, the response from non-Jews was uniformly positive. The feedback from Jews was somewhat less positive, roughly split between those who admired my courage and those who accused me of being a turncoat. What I found most telling was that those who damned me didn’t, as a rule, refute what I had written; they were merely angry that a Jew had written the piece. They accused me of lending aid and comfort to bigots.

Because I make it a rule to write back to anyone who writes me, and because I assume that those who took the time and trouble to write were representative of many more who didn’t, I’d like to share some of my responses.

The term that nearly every Jew used in condemning me was “a self-hating anti-Semite.” A few accused me of not really being a Jew. That didn’t mean they thought I was a Catholic or a Baptist flying under false colors; no, they meant that my sole claim to being Jewish was that my ancestors were Jewish. The fact is, they’re right.

As I have written on other occasions, I am not a religious man. I do not even attend High Holiday services. I’m Jewish because I say I’m Jewish. And because, quite frankly, with my face, who would believe me if I bothered to deny it? Furthermore, most Jews in America are not orthodox and cannot read Hebrew or even speak Yiddish.

Also, I say I’m Jewish because I don’t wish to offend the memory of my parents by denying their religion and the religion of their parents.

Finally, I say I’m Jewish because Hitler would have said I was Jewish, and then sent me off to Auschwitz, if I hadn’t been fortunate enough to be born in America.

That was my whole point. I was lucky to have been born to a Jewish family in a Christian nation. It was, in the

main, Christian soldiers who liberated the Nazi death camps. Even if I’m not as Jewish as some of my critics would like, I still believe it behooves us to be openly grateful to our Christian neighbors — not because we fear future pogroms, but because it’s the decent thing to do.

One of the very few points for which I was specifically taken to task was for referring to America as a Christian nation. To those people, I pointed out that I wasn’t claiming this nation is a theocracy, but Christians of one denomination or another compose nearly 90 percent of America’s population. That is 10 percent higher than the percentage of Jews in Israel, but I am willing to wager that none of my critics would deny that Israel is a Jewish state.

The sad fact is that the ACLU is made up in good part of Jews, and it is that organization and its lawyers who are leading the assault against Christmas. What makes it particularly unfortunate is that most Jews are not only opposed to the policies of the ACLU, but are embarrassed by and ashamed of the organization. However, when every ACLU lawyer who appears on TV to announce the latest attempt to remove Christian symbols and traditions from America seems to be Jewish, it’s all too easy for Christians to assume the rest of us support this vile campaign.

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BIZARRO

By Dan Piraro



Forgotten Jewish Refugees

By Steven Shamrak, www.prodoscope.com

It is estimated that almost 900,000 Jews were forced from their homes in Arab and Muslim countries in the course of the 20th century. Even the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has twice affirmed that Jews who fled the persecution of Arab countries were, indeed, refugees in every legal sense of the word.

It is estimated that Jews were robbed of more than \$100 billion in personal and communal assets by Arab and Muslim governments. The Israeli governments ignored or refused to use those facts to neutralize fictitious claims of the Arab propaganda war machine against Israel. As a result, the world only knows about so-called Arab refugees and their well-advertised fictitious claim on Jewish land.

Based on population poll information at the time (not Arab propaganda), during the War of Independence in 1948, around 460,000 Arabs left land currently controlled by Israel. They left after receiving the order from Arab political and religious leaders. The plan was to expose Jews, who were facing the might of Arab armies, to complete annihilation. It would be easier to kill every Jew, without bothering about identifying Arabs. Another genocide of Jewish people!

*Another genocide
of Jewish peoples!*

Israel won the War of Independence and the number of Arab "refugees" almost doubled overnight at the end of 1948—right after the UN announced their entitlement to refugee status and international assistance. For several years after the war, the world still bet that the tiny Jewish state would disappear. Anti-Semites were hoping that Arabs would finish what Europe had started!

Since then, the Arab Palestinians have been "milking" the international community for almost 60 years. This is the longest running UN "humanitarian" program, designed to perpetuate the Middle East conflict and keep the international anti-Semitic flame burning. It has been assisting the mob of professional refugees in their 3rd and even 4th generations.

In Europe, World War II created almost 50 million refugees. Many of them received assistance and resettled. Now they and their descendants are living productive and independent lives in their own or new countries. This approach has never been applied to Arabs who left Jewish land. They still haven't been absorbed by the surrounding Arab countries, where most of them actually came from in the first place.

The United Nations has never respected the state of Israel as an independent and equal state. Not accord-

ing to the record of the adopted resolutions, nor by attitude. The need of Jewish people to live in peace in their independent state, on the land of their ancestors, is completely ignored! Jews must recognize this international hypocrisy and become creators of their own destiny. ★

Grinch continued

As one of my respondents put it, "An anti-Semite used to be someone who hated Jews, but it's become someone whom Jews hate." The problem with that truism is that Jews, in the great majority, don't hate non-Jews. Sometimes it just seems that way. In fact, most of us are well aware that Israel has no more devoted allies in the world than America's most devout Christians.



Unfortunately, as is often the case with black Americans, those who are high profile and get most of the media attention are the radicals and the rabble-rousers.

When my critics accused me of promoting anti-Semitism, I pleaded not guilty. I asked them if they thought gentiles were so stupid that, until I wrote my piece, they didn't recognize that there is a secular jihad under way in this country to remove Christ from Christmas.

Finally, the problem is that if Christians complain that the minority group is trying to bully the majority, they stand condemned as bigots. If I, a Jew, suggest that Christians should be free to celebrate one of their holier holidays in any fashion they like, and not have to feel guilty about it, I'm accused of being a self-hating anti-Semite. In short, nobody is allowed to be critical of Jews. Well, it so happens that while we Jews may be the Chosen People, that doesn't make us the perfect people. And, believe me, I'm not just talking about my relatives.

Many of us, Jews and Christians alike, have been annoyed with American Muslims because they seem to spend an inordinate amount of time whining about racial profiling at the airports, instead of condemning the worldwide butchery of Islamic fascists or passing the hat to place a reward on Osama bin Laden's head. Well, to me, the silence of American Jews when it comes to Christian-bashing has been equally deafening.

What truly astonishes me is the patience and good grace with which Christians have dealt with this attack on so many things they hold dear.

It is, I think, a tribute to their religion. ★

Israel Pleasantly Surprised by UN Human Rights Report

By Julie Stahl, www.crosswalk.com

After absorbing months of Israel-bashing resolutions, Israel was pleasantly surprised by the “balanced” report presented by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Louise Arbour, following her visit to Israel and the Palestinian territories, Israel’s ambassador to the UN in Geneva said.

But a UN watchdog group said that while the high commissioner’s report was better than the usual UN reports regarding Israel, there were



Louise Arbour

still “core deficiencies” in her approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. “For the first time since the creation of the new council, a very balanced report [was] presented by the high commissioner,” Israeli Ambassador Itzhak Levanon told Cybercast News Service. Israel had been accustomed to criticism and a distorted picture of reality from the UN — as though there had been no suffering or bloodshed on the Israeli side.

Since the Human Rights Council replaced the discredited Human Rights Commission in mid-2006, it has held three special sessions, all focusing on Israel, and all ending with the adoption of what Israel considers one-sided and unbalanced condemnatory resolutions.

Arbour arrived in the southern Israeli city of Sderot just before two Kassam rockets slammed into the city. One killed an Israeli father of two at the chicken packing plant where he worked.

Levanon, who accompanied Arbour during her visit to the city, said she had seen in one week what the UN council had failed to see since its establishment — that there is suffering on both sides. She also, for the first time, saw for herself that the rockets were not simply “firecrackers” as the Palestinians claim they are, but were missiles capable of killing people.

He said Arbour acknowledged that as long as Palestinian terrorists were launching missiles at Israel, Israel had the full right to defend itself.

She also said that the firing of Kassam rockets was a violation of humanitarian law and international law, and asked Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas directly to make it stop. Arbour told Abbas that

he needed to hold accountable those who launch the rockets and bring them to justice.

Hillel Neuer, executive director of the Geneva-based non-governmental organization UN Watch, told Cybercast News Service that, in “relative terms,” Arbour’s report was better than the customary “demonization of Israel that occurs in each session.”

Neuer said it was rare for the Human Rights Council to hear anything about Palestinian violations or about demands made of the Palestinians. “It was almost anomalous to hear her address the other side [of the conflict].”

Nevertheless, he said he was concerned that Arbour failed to address the fact that Hamas refuses to recognize Israel, denounce violence or enter peaceful negotiations — what he called the “bedrock” of the current crisis.

She also did not recognize that Hamas terrorism itself violates human rights and humanitarian law, he added. “There is a certain moral relativism in comparing the actions of a democracy defending itself against terrorism with the actions of a terrorist group,” he said.

I am hoping the UN will become more balanced still, with the passing to new leadership. As with Arbour, our film crew was in Sderot a few weeks ago, too. We visited victims of the thousands of unprovoked missile attacks. We even got to a recently blown-up home before the insurance adjusters arrived, and did a program there with the owner’s consent. We also visited with the police in Sderot, spent time with the head of the Bomb Squad there, filmed and addressed the rocket attacks, and more. This will be coming up in our *Daniel* series. ★
— Jeffrey Seif

French Airport continued from page 17



And, as usual, the safety situation for air travelers using France’s premiere airport is probably worse than officials let on. Phillipe de Villiers, a French conservative politician contends in *The Mosques of Roissy* that Charles de Gaulle (Paris-Roissy) airport has been infiltrated by extremist Islamist groups that have access to the sensitive baggage and freight areas. From the security documents he has viewed, the French politician concludes one baggage handling company has been infiltrated by the Muslim Brotherhood, many of whose members “frequent the clandestine prayer rooms situated in the airport.” According to one security document, the Islamists are working “to place the airport under Sha’ria law...” ★

"Christians Must Let Go Some Beliefs For Sake of Peace"

By Anita Wadhvani, www.tennessean.com

To live peacefully with Muslims and Jews, Christians must put aside the notion that their faith requires the creation of a Christian Kingdom on Earth, a Lipscomb (TN) University theologian told an interfaith gathering at the university.

"We are not going to get very far in our relationship with Jews or Muslims if we do not let go of this idea," Lipscomb professor Lee Camp said.

The unusual gathering of several dozen clergy and lay people was devoted to resolving religious conflict in Nashville and around the world.

"We need to forsake the Christendom model," Camp said. "The most basic Christian commitment... is that we say we believe in the Lordship of Jesus. But, if we claim that, how can a Muslim or Jew trust us, if we say Jesus is the Lord of all Lords?"

Co-sponsored by the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University, the daylong conference was prompted by a desire to begin a dialogue about global religious conflict.

Hogwash! —Editor

Walid Shoebat Denied Entry Into Canada

www.shoebat.com

Former terrorist, now Evangelical Christian and good friend of Zola Levitt Ministries, Walid Shoebat, was refused entry into Canada by immigration authorities as he attempted to keep speaking engagements at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Ottawa and the following night in Montreal.

Shoebat often speaks of his life as a terrorist, and about his transformation from extremist to peacemaker and activist against terrorism.

"The refusal by the Canadian authorities to let Walid Shoebat into the country shows the absurd policies of immigration officials," says Keith Davies, director of the Walid Shoebat Foundation. "Mr. Shoebat is trying to educate people about the dangers of terrorism, but is refused entry because he has admitted to his involvement in terror over 20 years ago. Why should the Canadian authorities want to silence his important message?"



In September of 2006, Shoebat entered Canada without incident when he was invited to speak on Canadian National TV. He visited Canada three times in 2004 and his story has been featured by much of the media in Canada.

Sunni or Shiite—Who's Which?

By Gary Bauer, *End of Day Report*



I reported that Saudi tribal leaders were independently funding the Sunni insurgency in Iraq. *The New York Times* reported that King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia recently issued a not-so-subtle warning to Vice President Cheney against any U.S. negotiations with Iran. The king also voiced his objections to a premature withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq, fearful that the nation will become a puppet state of Iran and that the Shiite majority will repress Iraqi Sunnis. Similar concerns were relayed to Vice President Cheney by the king of Jordan. But more to the point, the Saudis made it clear that even more aggressive action is under consideration. In fact, one Saudi official, Nawaf Obaid, recently stated that an immediate consequence of the U.S. leaving Iraq would be "massive Saudi intervention to stop Iranian-backed Shiite militias from butchering Iraqi Sunnis."

This is a very tense situation for the Saudis given the deep chasms within Islam itself. For example, Saudi Arabia is a Sunni Muslim nation, while Iran is Shiite. Saddam Hussein is a Sunni Muslim who terrorized Iraq's predominately Shiite population for decades. However, al-Qaeda, which is perpetrating most of the terrorism in Iraq, is also Sunni but also vehemently opposed to the Saudi monarchy. Osama bin Laden has made clear his desire to depose the House of Saud, and al-Qaeda has repeatedly tried to strike Saudi oil facilities in order to undermine the monarchy's source of power. As a result, the Saudis have discouraged direct links between their citizens and the Sunni insurgency in Iraq, but they nevertheless view Shiite Iran as the greater enemy.

The idea that the United States would entertain negotiations with Iran and leave Iraq in a state of chaos terrifies the Saudis. So much so that Mr. Obaid also suggested that the kingdom was prepared to use oil as a weapon against Iran — boosting production so that oil prices plunge as much as 50% in an intentional effort to destroy the Iranian economy. Coincidentally or not, Prince Turki al-Faisal, the Saudi ambassador to the United States, abruptly resigned his post this week. There is rampant speculation as to the reason, but, clearly, nerves are frayed in the kingdom right now.

Dissent Crushed

By Adam Brodsky, *The New York Post*

Muslims are often accused of not speaking out sufficiently against terrorism. Nonie Darwish knows one reason why: Their fellow Muslims won't let them.

Darwish, who comes from Egypt and was born and raised a Muslim, says, "Speaking out for human rights, women's rights, equality, or even peace with Israel is a taboo that can have serious consequences" in the Arab world. In part to drive home that point, she wrote a book, *Now They Call Me Infidel: Why I Renounced Jihad for America, Israel, and the War on Terror*.

Visit www.levitt.com/news to read about her encounters as she tries to express her very important values to Muslim and Jewish audiences.



Brigitte Gabriel Targeted by Muslims—Again

When Brigitte Gabriel, the courageous and insightful author of *Because They Hate*, was scheduled to speak in early December 2006 at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, this alert went out to supporters:

"Emails have gone out to Muslim students urging 'all Muslim brothers and sisters to do what they need to do to disrupt this event.' One email said: 'Muslims, Arabs, and their friends and allies should give Gabriel a proper welcome.'

"Congressman Tom Tancredo was attacked, and his speech disrupted, last week at Michigan State University

Law School. And of course, there was the notorious disruption of Jim Gilchrist's talk, and the subsequent closing-off of Walid Shoebat's, at Columbia recently. It is all part of the larger pattern of trying to silence and discredit through personal attacks anyone who dares speak up too strongly against the jihad and in defense of Western civilization.

"Brigitte Gabriel has asked for special help tonight. If you are in the University of Michigan area, especially if you are in law enforcement, please attend Brigitte's talk and let these thugs know that they can't get away with their strong-arm tactics in America."

The following day Gabriel posted this message:

Disruption — "a proper Muslim welcome."

"I am glad to report to you that my presentation at the University of Michigan last night went without a glitch.

"Credit goes to the alertness of the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, and local and university police. Highly visible were eight police officers, a K9 team, a personal bodyguard, and a variety of well-positioned TV cameras from Fox news, a local TV station, and university TV crews.

"The event organizers worked furiously to place heightening security after we were alerted of a Muslim call going out.

"It is a crying shame when a speaker, any speaker in America today, has to have such security on hand just to ensure they can deliver a lecture at an American university.

"The event went without a glitch because of the large presence of security personnel and the TV cameras that kept those wishing to agitate from behaving badly. Knowing that they would be taken away by the police officers as the cameras recorded their foolishness on national television kept them in their seats.

"You have to take your enemy at their word and defend yourself and show them that you will not put up with any nonsense from them, that you mean business. They wanted to show Brigitte Gabriel the proper welcome; Brigitte Gabriel wanted to ensure she was prepared to reciprocate. As a Middle Easterner, I know what they respect.

"Moral clarity, courage, and unshakable determination are needed now to take back our universities. Fear, intimidation, and political correctness need to be thrown by the wayside and we should move forward in the fight of our lifetime." — Brigitte Gabriel ★



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___	A Christian Love Story	\$3	___
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___	How Can a Gentile Be Saved?	\$3	___
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___	Israel, My Promised	\$3	___
___	Jerusalem Forever	\$3	___

___	An Israeli Love Story	\$6	___
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___	The Iranian Menace...	\$8	___
___	Is Fanatic Islam A Global Threat?	\$12	___
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___	Jerusalem: The Truth, David Bar-Illan	\$8	___
___	Jesus — The Jew's Jew	\$5	___
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___	Holy Days of Our Lord (3- VHS)	\$69	___
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___	Israel, The Church & The Future (3- VHS)	\$69	___
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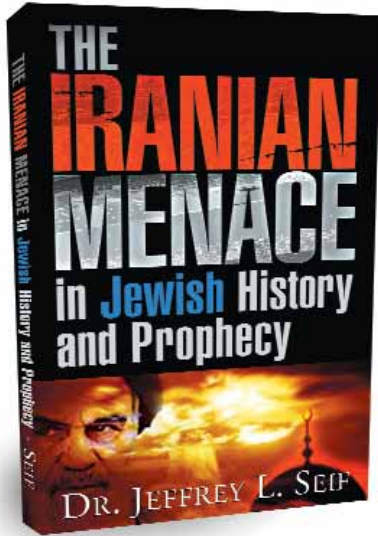
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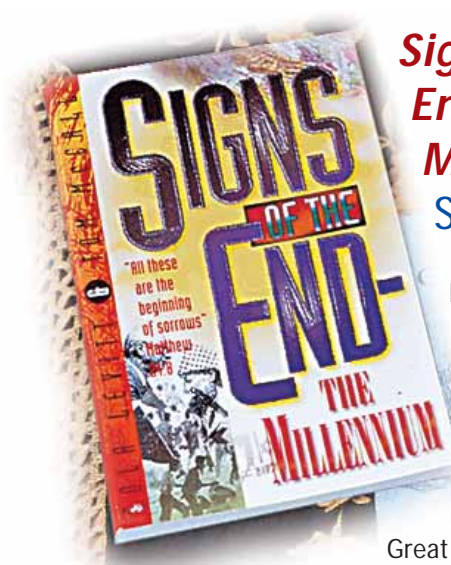
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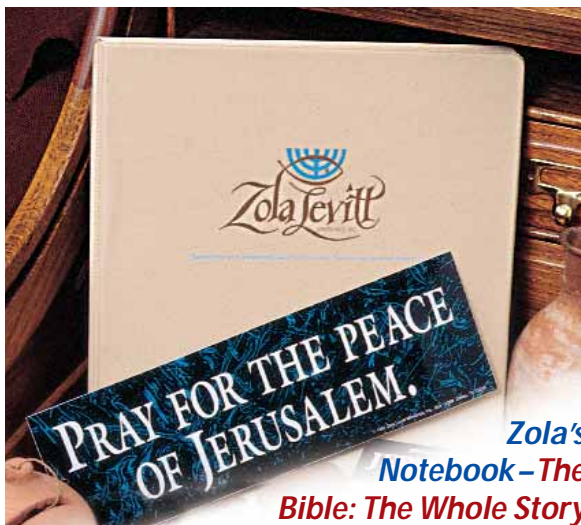
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Please see the note from L.M. on page 6. She's 89 years old.

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