

Levitt Letter

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved." —ROMANS 10:1



Tragic News! Let's pray for Arab brethren who are suffering. —Jeffrey Seif

Christian Arabs Are Vanishing



By Laina Farhat Holzman (left)
www.SantaCruzSentinel.com

Christian Arabs, including Christian Palestinians, are vanishing. Although all Palestinians believe that their enemy is Israel, they are like victims of Stockholm Syndrome, who identify with their tormentors.

In Iraq, where Christians—and formerly Jews—have lived for millennia, they are being driven out. The Jews, 750,000 of them, were expelled from the Arab world, and some lynched, in 1954. Now it is Christian Arabs—including Palestinians—who are being hunted down and either killed or driven out. Assyrian Christians in Iraq are being given four choices: change their religion, leave the country, pay the *jeziya* (tax levied on non-Muslims), or line up and be shot.

The Christian population in Muslim lands has plunged from 12 million to 2 million in the past decade alone. Lebanon, once a majority Christian country, has become two-thirds

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Arab Believers prepare teaching materials at risk of persecution or death.



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Thankful for Our "Judeo-Christian" Values

By Ronald R. Cherry,
www.AmericanThinker.com

Judeo-Christian values in America have a basis in the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness..."



Our Founding Fathers separated church from state, but they wisely did not separate God from state; they acknowledged God as the source of our rights, and, in fact, they were careful to place biblical morality directly into our founding documents and laws, and into our values and culture precisely to help prevent a future of totalitarian or tyrannical rule in America.

In Judeo-Christian America one finds the idea of equality before God and the law, but not government-forced economic equality. Modern European culture has stressed the value of economic equality rather than liberty, and its governments unjustly enforce the

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Muslim. Jerusalem, where only 12,000 Christians remain, is facing the possibility that there will be no Christians “in the homeland of Jesus Christ himself” according to the Greek Orthodox archbishop in Jerusalem. In Bethlehem, Christians were once 85 percent, down now to 20 percent. In Egypt, Christians were once 10 percent of the population; now they are 6 percent.



Arab Christians witness for Christ

The situation in Iraq is particularly painful. Before the 2003 war, there were Assyrian and Chaldean Christians, some Armenians and Palestinians who were finding work there. They made up 1.2 million of the country’s 25 million people. Now half of them have fled Iraq, and most of the rest have fled to Kurdistan or elsewhere in the country. The Roman Catholic relief organization claims that there are only 25,000 Christians left in Iraq, and over half of the 1.7 million Iraqi refugees in Jordan and Syria are Christian.

What is sad about this is that, in a way, the Christians, particularly the Palestinian Christians, have brought

this on themselves. They have made common cause with their Muslim neighbors—and persecutors—and never acknowledged their persecution until European colonization unmasked the problem. Under European colonization and mandates, for the first time since the Muslim conquest, minorities were given status under the law that was not accorded them under *sharia* law. The very country of Lebanon was carved out specifically to give persecuted Christians a place of their own in the otherwise hostile Middle East.

Despite what should be obvious to Christian Arabs, that their existence in the Muslim world has always been either tenuous or downright dangerous, they still identify with their tormentors and condemn the usual Middle East demons—Israel and the U.S. ★

THANKFUL—continued ...principle. This has led to failed European inventions such as socialism and communism. European cultures have frequently been tied to authoritarian and totalitarian systems dating back to the Roman Empire. Even European Christianity was, for a time, contaminated by its links to authoritarian rule. American Judeo-Christian culture, on the other hand, has been linked to honoring life, liberty, and creativity from the outset; deriving its wisdom from the lights of reason, common sense, and both the Hebrew Bible and New Testament Christian Bible.

This does not represent some form of tyranny of the religious majority or an injustice; it was in fact the wisdom of our Founding Fathers to stand in opposition to tyranny and injustice by acknowledging the source of our rights—those rights originating from God rather than from King George III, or for that matter from the Soviet or Chinese Politburo, or a courthouse, or a legislature. It should be evident that if our sacred human rights are derived from government, they can also be removed by government.

America is a melting pot of diverse people including Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, and atheists; and from the Judeo-Christian perspective, all made in God’s image. We have in America a multiethnic society, and that is good. What is unhealthy for America is for it to become Balkanized—divided into small, quarrelsome states—which is very likely to happen with the atrophy of Judeo-Christian American culture and values.



Worse yet would be for America to adopt the toxic values that exist in some parts of the world and which are endemic in some foreign cultures. Our Judeo-Christian values have been with us from the beginning and they have made us strong and successful. They should be kept central to the American spirit and culture even as we become more multiethnic. Honoring foreign cultures is desirable, but we should never tolerate the values of violence, coercion, totalitarianism, supremecism, bigotry, or intolerance; values which are sadly endemic in some foreign cultures. We must recognize that our culture, too, is worth preserving. ★

Most Ancient of the Ancients

By Zola Levitt, March 1996 *Levitt Letter*

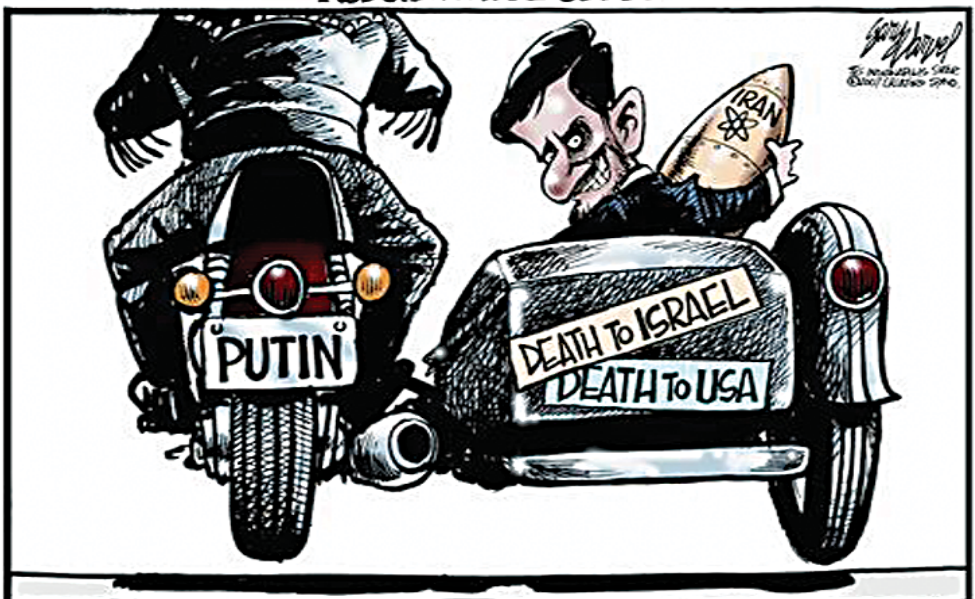
I spotted an article in *The New York Times* which called China the world's oldest civilization. Now it's true that there were people living in China a very long time ago, but China has changed its culture, its religion, its philosophy, its language, and many things basic to what we call a civilization over the centuries. What would a Confucian of 2,000 years ago have to say to a Communist of Beijing today, and would they even understand each other? Is Europe older? Not at all. The great societies of Greece and Rome date from about 500 years before Christ; but Abraham came to Israel 15 centuries before that, and the Exodus predates the great Greek civilization by 1,000 years!

How about Africa, where the most ancient skulls and bones are found? Well again, while people have walked the soil there for many thousands of years, their culture, their gods, their music, their prayers, their clothing, their habits have changed myriad times. What would a primitive warrior of 3,000 years ago have to say to an oil

worker of Nigeria or a liberated South African, and could they find a common language? Egypt is a civilization very old indeed, with some of the pyramids reaching back over 5,000 years. But where are the pyramid builders today? Where are the pharaohs of 3,000 years ago, when Egypt dictated life and death to the known world? That country completely changed over when it was conquered by the Muslims, and today it is totally changed. What would a sculptor of 3,000 years ago have to say to an Egyptian in suit and tie today?

Perhaps you suspect where I'm taking you. Yes, Israel is the world's oldest civilization by far, with no competitor in the world. The point is that the celebration of Jerusalem 3000 is evidence that no matter how many visitors and invaders and pilgrims have come and gone, the people in Israel are reading the same Scriptures that were read 3,000 years ago, singing the same songs, praying the same prayers, worshipping the same God, and speaking the same language. While it is seldom given credit for much accomplishment, Israel, with all of its ups and downs, is truly the elder statesman of the civilizations of this world. ★

Rebels with a Cause



“Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous spirit.”

Psalm 51:12

Shalom From Sandra



Recently, I had dinner with Mark and his wife, June, and the grandkids David, James, and Sarah. I have dinner with them a lot, so this was nothing new. But, new and wonderful was that I found myself laughing with a joy I have not felt in what seems like ages. This rediscovered feeling let me know I had turned a corner in the grieving process, and I immediately thanked God. It is not that I don't miss Zola, but rather a realization that life is going on. A new definition of normal for me.

This is that time of year when we are thinking about and planning for the season's holidays. Whether it is Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Hanukkah, the holiday season is upon us with repeated wishes for Joy of the Season: Happy this and Merry that. It got me wondering, just what is joy? As I was thinking about it, I read the article “Where's the Joy?” by David Brickner, executive director of Jews for Jesus. It seemed as if God was targeting me when one paragraph caught my eye: “Godly rejoicing is not characterized by frivolity and excess, but by sanctified, profound and deep joy. It is based upon the firm understanding that God is the sovereign Creator and Controller of the universe. He is Lord of the rain and the harvest—and it is His pleasure to provide all that His people need, according to His riches in glory. Trusting in such a God, worry and fear give way to joy.”

How easy it is to miss the everyday joy God provides for our lives and focus on the hard times, especially when we're grieving. I see now that even in the darkest hours, there was a joy in my life: the joy of knowing that God directs the path of my life and is the Creator and Controller of the universe. It was a knowledge that always

comforted me, but now I can recognize it as joy and I thank God for it. It is true that the simple pleasures of watching a sunrise, being with family, and praising God bring joy into our lives. God has made me aware again that He is in even the most simple of pleasures. My worry, fear, and grief really did give way to joy.

My prayers for all of you this holiday season are that you see the joy in Yeshua the Messiah and that you never take for granted anything God has for you. Be sure and tell your loved ones that you love them and what a joy and blessing they are in your life. I am making a special effort this season to count my blessings and my joy every day and to thank God for all his provisions.

As you read this, I am in Israel, posting on my web log (blog) to keep you current on our tour. I hope you enjoy reading about Israel as much as I love writing about it. It is home. Join Jeff and me for a tour in the coming year. We would love to show you the profound joy that is Israel.

And as you go, please pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
Blessings,
Sandra

Please see Holy Land Tour info on page 32.



“...Submit Or Die!”

By Hal Lindsey, www.WorldNetDaily.com

An open letter issued by a group of 138 Muslim scholars, clerics, and academics issued an “invitation” to the Vatican, the archbishop of Canterbury, and other Christian leaders to “make peace” with Islam.



Lindsey

Gushed *Newsweek*, “It argues that the most fundamental tenets of Islam and Christianity are identical: love of one (and the same) God, and love of one’s neighbor.”

Jews don’t particularly encourage converts, and Christians believe that conversion can only be accomplished by the Holy Spirit. The job of the Christian is limited to sharing the Gospel, not imposing it by force or threats. Christians are taught by no less an authority than the Lord Himself, “And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.”

The Koran, on the other hand, tells the faithful that should an infidel reject Islam, “you will fight against them until they submit.” And of course, those who continue to reject are to be slaughtered.

The mainstream media embraced the letter as vindication of their long-held

but difficult to believe faith in the existence of a vast, moderate Islamic majority that follow the kinder, gentler Islam that we keep hearing about, but for which we see little evidence. That is one way of interpreting it, if you really squint hard.

Unfortunately, there are verses in the Koran that nobody wants to talk about—probably because nobody wants to consider the awful implications of their meaning.

The ignorance of our political leaders and the media concerning Islam’s true beliefs is beyond deplorable; it is more in the range of criminal negligence in time of war.

Under Islamic law, before Islam can make war against the infidel with Allah’s blessings, the infidels must first be offered an opportunity to submit to Islam. Osama bin Laden has recently asked the leaders and people of the United States to embrace Islam. So has Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. All these letters offer the West the “opportunity” to submit to Allah as being equal to God. They also warn that, should their offer be rebuffed, “The very survival of the world is at stake.”

The irony of our leaders’ and media’s response is mind-boggling. This is not an offer of peace—it is a prelude to war. In the cold light of day it means, “Make peace with Islam and Allah, or we’ll kill you.” ★



The First Muslim Conquest of the Holy Land

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif

With the New Age mantra “All we are saying is give peace a chance” vigorously imposing itself upon the world’s collective consciousness, modern Israelis are being pressed to give up another “piece” of Israel on a chance of securing world “peace.” Let’s pause and reflect upon whether there really will be “peace on Earth” in exchange for a “piece” of Jewish earth, or whether the implied promise is a worthless delusion.

To come to terms with this modern question, I’d like to consider what happened when ancient Christians and Jews first lost Israel to the Muslims — many, many years ago...

After Mohammed’s death in 632 A.D., his commanders gathered neighboring Arab tribesmen from Hijaz, Najd, and Yemen who were commissioned for the *jihad* —the “Holy War.” In 634 A.D. followers of “the prophet” attacked Gaza in the interest of securing some profit—in the name of the prophet.

Marauding bands of Islamic brigands easily overran the countryside because, in response, Jewish and Christian town

dwellers in Jerusalem, Jaffa, Nablus, Beth Shean, and elsewhere simply closed the doors of their cities and retreated into “lockdown mode” behind their walls. All was lost, and it was only a question of time until famine claimed them before the Islamic sword most certainly would.

They didn’t have a plan and they lost their vision of God’s plan.

Prior to the Islamic invasion, the Byzantines doled out bribes and negotiated treaties with the Muslims at their borders, keeping the Islamic hordes at bay. One Christian governor, named Farwa, is said to have converted to Islam, perhaps to placate them. Attempts at appeasement notwithstanding, and seeing an opportunity to fulfill Mohammed’s (not to mention their own) interest in domination, the Muslims were eventually able to exploit the Christians’ lack of a coherent strategy for defense, which precipitated some of the most savage early clashes between Byzantines and Muslims.

In 634, Sophronius—the Christian patriarch of Jerusalem—lamented that people in the towns were “chained and nailed for fear.” The previous contract between the Muslims and the Byzantine Jews and Christians purchased nothing save some false security. Ultimately, many, many thousands of Jews and Christians were mercilessly slaughtered.

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No doubt, many of the living counted the dead to be more fortunate. Jewish and Christian survivors were sold into slavery. Captured women were passed around as pleasure-objects for the Muslim hordes who used and abused them. Women were even raped in the presence of their own husbands—to humiliate them both, and attest to the Islamic triumph!

City life declined considerably in the Holy Land as the number of cities declined from fifty-eight to seventeen. Farmland mismanagement precipitated soil erosion, which contributed to the abandonment of farming enterprises. Incessant intertribal warfare between the various Arab-Muslim “brothers” was a problem as well. The Arabs were eventually bested by their own ineptness, and social forces of their own making pressed them backward to their wandering, nomadic existence. They conquered Israel by the sword, only to relinquish much of their gain due to their inability to manage themselves or others.

A civilized world retreated into barbarism.

Referring to the Muslim destruction of holy places, historian Moshe Gil describes the desecration and destruction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (first in 614, then again in 1009) as follows: “They dismantled the Church of the Resurrection to its very foundation... they destroyed Golgotha... as well as all the sacred gravestones.

They even tried to dig up all the graves and wipe out all traces of their existence ... The authorities took all the other property belonging to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and its pious foundations. Thousands of churches... were destroyed.”

The Byzantines opted for a treaty with the Muslims that proved completely ineffectual, did it not? The border arrangements whereby Arabs would live in the outer lands, separated from the Jews and Christians, seemed to be only a convenient mechanism by which the Muslims were able to purchase time to effect their own grand scheme—the complete conquest of Israel. When we consider both the nature of the Islamic movement and the movement’s history in the Holy Land, we recognize that the notion of carving up Israel piece by piece and giving it to the Muslims to secure a peace belongs to the realm of fanciful imagination. Assuring ourselves that progress in the region will be made on the heels of worthless treaties seems to be an exercise in self-deceit—not to mention a disavowal of biblical vision and virtue.

When we give away our future for a parcel of false security in the present, we not only sell our children down the river, but we give away part of our own humanity in the process. If we give “pieces” for “peace,” we’ll only have to pick up the “pieces” again later. This is a lesson from yesterday. We need to learn it today. ★



An elderly nun is frisked by a Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) screener wearing the Islamic veil at Detroit's Metro Airport.

While I do believe that *all people* are deemed equal in God's eyes, I am not convinced that *all civilizations* are equal in His eyes. Deny it though many may, and politically incorrect though it is to say, I believe that some cultures tragically are quite barbaric and horribly oppressive—they operate on philosophies that do not revere life and, as such, hinder the dignified human quest for life, liberty, and happiness.

DeSeifering Our World

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif



Founded on biblical principles, our culture provides a way of life that is far superior to many others'. Our culture's work-product, for example, translates into myriad advances in human betterment—in the arts, in the sciences, in literature, in medicine, and more. A benevolent culture, ours has a well-attested tradition of coming to the aid of others when their need arises. What would Europe and Asia look like now, and where would the world be now, if America hadn't come to the aid of the Allies to push back forces that threatened them?

I am proud to be an American. At Thanksgiving time, I am reminded that God didn't simply "give" us America. He "gave" the world His Son. He "gave" the world His Word. Some in this world heeded His Son and were tutored by His Word—and His Spirit. By this means, the earnest developed and learned how to cultivate and equip the human spirit for great and noble triumphs. We learned about working, loving, inventing, and forgiving, and developed ways of being around the business of authentic living. God gave us revelation. We ran with it—and are the better for it. Others ran from it.

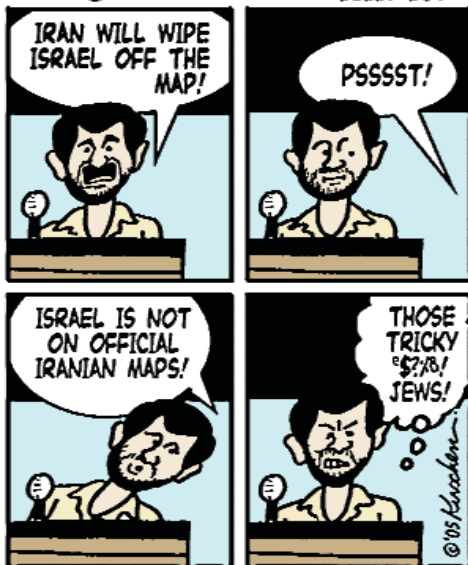
Some today want to make others feel guilty for the hard-earned blessings they accrued by means of godly living. Those with lesser constitutions for living cry "foul" and claim that those who are more successful came upon their successes deceitfully. They delude themselves with the notion that they

are victims, and that Americans and Israelis are the "great and little satans" of the world. It seems to me, though, that those beyond the pale of biblical influence are the victims of the poor choices they make in life, and are victims of the poor philosophical system they embrace and that informs their decision-making.

We who stand for Judeo-Christian principles, stand for the people who uphold them. At Zola Levitt Ministries we proclaim biblical truth to the world. We endeavor to be a beacon of light and to confront the uncivilized sectors of our sin-soaked world. Realizing that we don't do it alone, I am thankful for your giving—of both your material wealth and your prayers—and hope you realize that by your so doing, you participate with us in *giving* the message of truth and hope to the people of the world. Blessings, friends—and *thanks* for everything.

— Jeffrey Seif

Dry Bones THE BIG BAD BULLY BOY



Silence In Syria, Panic In Iran

Dr. Jack Wheeler, grayghost.townhall.com

When one of India's top-ranking generals assigned to liaise with the Iranian military returned to New Delhi after several days in Tehran—he was amazed.

“Everyone in the government and military can only talk of one thing,” he reported. “No matter whom I talked to, all they could do was ask me, ‘Do you think the Americans will attack us?’ ‘When will the Americans attack us?’ The Iranians are in a state of total panic.”

The mullahs were freaking out in fear. Why? Because of the silence in Syria.

Back in September, Israeli Air Force F-15s and F-16s conducted a devastating attack on targets deep inside Syria near the city of Dayr az-Zawr. Israel's military was silent about the identity of the targets. Speculation in the world press followed. Why would the Syrian government be so tight-lipped about an act of war perpetrated on their soil?

Syria has been spending vast sums on Russian anti-aircraft systems, considered the cutting edge in aircraft interception technology. Syria now possesses more than 200 anti-aircraft batteries of different types, some so new that they have been installed in Syria before being introduced into Russian operation service. An F15/16 attack on Dayr az-Zawr is not a tip-toe across the border, but a deep, deep

penetration of Syrian airspace. And guess what happened with the Russian super-hyper-sophisticated cutting edge anti-aircraft missile batteries when that penetration took place on September 6th. Nothing. The systems gave no indication of aircraft invading Syrian airspace. The Israelis and U.S. blinded the Russian anti-aircraft systems so completely the Syrians didn't even know they were blind-



ed. Now you see why the Syrians were scared speechless. They thought they were protected—at enormous expense—only to discover they are defenseless.

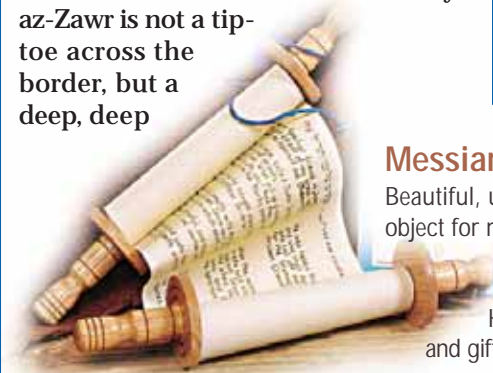
Thus the Great Iranian Freak-Out—for this means that Iran is just as defenseless as Syria. A lot of folks in the Israel Defense Forces headquarters in Tel Aviv and the Pentagon are enjoying the mullahs' predicament. Let's face it: scaring the terror masters in Tehran out of their wits is fun.

So, what was attacked near Dayr az-Zawr? It was a partially constructed nuclear reactor modeled on one used by North Korea to create its stockpile of nuclear weapons fuel. But the identity of the target is not the story—the primary point of the attack was not to destroy that target. It was to shut down Syria's Russian air defense system during the attack. Doing so made the attack an incredible success. Syria was shamed and silent. Iran is freaking out in panic. ★

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Mosque or Church?

By Will King,
www.imagesofisrael.com



Will King

Along the road from Jerusalem to Bethlehem sit the remains of a very unique Byzantine church. The Byzantines ruled the Land of Israel from 324-640 AD and as Christians, changed the status of the backwater province of Judea into one of the most important places in their empire. They built extensively and Christian pilgrims came to see the many churches and monuments connected to the life of Christ, including the Kathisma Church.

Kathisma in Greek means “seat” and the church was built in the mid-fifth century AD to honor the place where Mary was said to have sat on a rock and rested on her way to Bethlehem before giving birth to Jesus. The rock was removed later to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. What remains is the base of that rock, surrounded by the ruins of a large church. The Kathisma Church was constructed in an octagonal shape focused around the rock base, the center of the church measuring 141 x 170 feet. Four chapels with very impressive mosaic floors were built into the outer ring of the church surrounding its focal point, the rock base.

The Kathisma Church is one of the oldest churches built in dedication to Mary and is believed to have inspired the design of several other churches in the land, including the one surrounding Peter’s house in Capernaum. It’s also believed that the church inspired the design of one of Jerusalem’s most

recognizable features today, the Dome of the Rock Mosque on the Temple Mount.

Built some 200 years after the Kathisma Church, the Dome of the Rock is an octagon-shaped building focused around a portion of exposed bedrock of Mount Moriah. Jews believe that this rock is the binding place of Isaac and the place from where the entire world was created; Muslims believe it is the place where the Prophet Mohammed ascended to paradise. The Dome of the Rock is the only octagonal mosque in existence, and its location is only a few kilometers from the Kathisma Church.

After the Muslims took control of the Land in 640 AD, they immediately set out to decrease the influence and importance of Christianity and replace it with Islamic presence and rule. There is evidence that a small portion of the Kathisma Church was converted into a mosque, indicating that Muslims were aware of the church, its design, and importance. Sometime after the completion of the Dome of the Rock Mosque in 691 AD, the Kathisma Church was destroyed and the tradition of the place where Mary sat was lost. However, one of Islam’s most important mosques continues today atop the holiest place in Judaism, inspired by the design of a Byzantine Christian church. ★

Remaining base of the rock, surrounded by church ruins.



Octagonal shape focused around the rock base.



Wise as a Serpent: Comments from a Dove

By Mark Levitt



Dear Mark,
Your information on stockbrokers is way off base—and promoting one investment company like Vanguard is dangerous. You should contact organizations like Kingdom Advisors www.kingdomadvisors.org to get a better understanding instead of issuing a blanket bashing of stockbrokers.
M.F.

Dear M.F. —
My information about stock brokerage firms stems from personal experience and years of reading and studying acclaimed financial experts like Christian financial counselor Larry Burkett (1939–2003), Scott Burns (www.dallasnews.com/business/scottburns), and Daniel Solin, author of *The Smartest Investment Book You'll Ever Read: The Simple, Stress-Free Way to Reach Your Investment Goals*.

Timothy Harper's book *License to Steal: The Secret World of Wall Street and the Systematic Plundering of the American Investor* reveals that most brokerage firms are all about making money for themselves, not giving a lick about clients. An elite stockbroker revealed that he viewed his investors' nest eggs as nothing more than vehicles for making all the loot he could for himself. (A shark does not hate the fish he eats anymore than you hate a hamburger that you devour for lunch. Nor does he care how the fish comes out of the transaction.) Big business is

under the gun to maximize profits, and top executives collect major bonuses on net earnings in the *short* run. Human nature and societal pressures dictate that it pays to exploit investors.

Burns and Solin claim that even dovish brokers (from Kingdom Advisors or wherever) cannot outperform the broadly diversified, low-expense propositions at Vanguard. Dear Reader: for helpful specifics, please refer to my previous *Levitt Letter* articles in June (page 13) and August (page 5). Both are archived at www.levitt.com. — Mark

Dear Mark,
In the 1990s, our family had three brokerage accounts worth a total \$14,000,000. Our financial advisor told us we were fine for the rest of our lives. In 2001, he confessed to defrauding us and 60 other investors. He went to jail for seven years. Our accounts were worth only \$4,000. We were forced into arbitration, but got no money back. The lawyers involved in this process were nothing short of vipers. Our home is now for sale, and we receive only \$1,000 per month from Social Security. I would like to write a book about all the deception and fraud.
C.L.

Dear C.L. —
Tobacco companies make an art form of persuading children that inhaling smoke will transform them into rugged men and glamorous women. Greed often drives human nature to treachery. Therefore, it is perilous to assume that most brokerage firms have any higher regard for their clients' portfolios than Philip Morris has for your lungs.
—Mark



Never Learning The Lesson

By Cal Thomas,
www.JewishWorldReview.com



Name one concession Israel has made in recent years that has been reciprocated by its sworn enemies. This is not a trick question. There are none.

That's why each Accord, Roadmap, and Summit should be viewed as one more installment payment in the sell-out of Israel and of American interests in the Middle East. While the United States continues to struggle to shore up democracy in Iraq, it proceeds to undermine the likelihood that the region's first democracy will endure.

At every negotiating session, Israel is pressured into making concessions for “peace” and receives more war in response. Mostly this is because of the wishful thinking in the West that has replaced sound policy. Why should the Palestinians make concessions when they are drawing closer to their objective of eradicating Israel by throwing stones and bombs and stone-walling negotiations?

In an address to the Israeli Knesset, President Shimon Peres reaffirmed the flaw in Western thinking: “...even if there are some who express doubt at the ability of the Palestinians to achieve peace, the impression must not be created that Israel has doubts regarding the need and the willingness to achieve full peace.” So it's not about hard bargaining resulting in the preservation of Israel with defensible borders and the cessation of terrorist attacks, it's about “impressions”?

While details of a “joint declaration” by Israel and the Palestinians on a final status agreement remain secret, some information has leaked. One report has Prime Minister Ehud Olmert preparing to divide Jerusalem by allowing Arab East Jerusalem to come under Palestinian control. The holy sites, now

administered by Israel and open to all (which was not the case when Jordan controlled East Jerusalem prior to 1967), would be internationalized.

According to the report, “the drafters are planning to call for a withdrawal by Israel to the 1967 lines,” thus making Israel more vulnerable than ever to heavily armed Arab states and Palestinian enemies and leaving it completely exposed to infiltration from the East.

Infidel Israelis, Americans, and Europeans will not dissuade those sworn to destroy Israel. President Bush had promised former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon he could expect U.S. support to maintain defensible borders. In the plan now being discussed, Israel's borders would be indefensible.

The real intentions of Israel's enemies can be summed up in the “phased plan” for the destruction of Israel expressed in 2000 by Palestinian Minister of Supply, Abd El Aziz Shahian: “The Palestinian people accepted the Oslo agreements as a first step and not as a permanent arrangement, based on the premise that the war and struggle on the ground is more efficient than a struggle from a distant land... for the Palestinian people will continue the revolution until they achieve the goals of the '65 revolution.”

The “'65 Revolution” refers to the founding of the PLO and the publication of the Palestinian Charter, which calls for the destruction of Israel through armed struggle. ★

Abbas, Rice and Olmert in agreement?



“Pay Or Die!”

By James Palmer,
www.WashingtonTimes.com

Nabil Comanny and his family endured the dead bodies in the streets, the roaming kidnap gangs, and the continuing power failures. The Christian family stayed in their suburban Baghdad neighborhood after their Muslim neighbors fled the daily fighting between Sunnis and Shiites.

But when a hand-scrawled note appeared on their door telling them to convert to Islam, pay \$300 a month for “protection” or die, they realized they had to leave their home of 11 years. Islamic militants are increasingly targeting Christians, especially in the capital, forcing an exodus that has cut deeply into the long-standing minority community.

The last Iraqi census (1987), counted 1 million Christians. National aid groups estimate between 300,000 and 600,000 remaining Christians among an estimated 25 million people.

Mr. Comanny, a 37-year-old journalist, said he began to worry last spring when militants posted documents across the neighborhood ordering all residents to follow strict Islamic law, including all-enveloping black *burqas* for women.

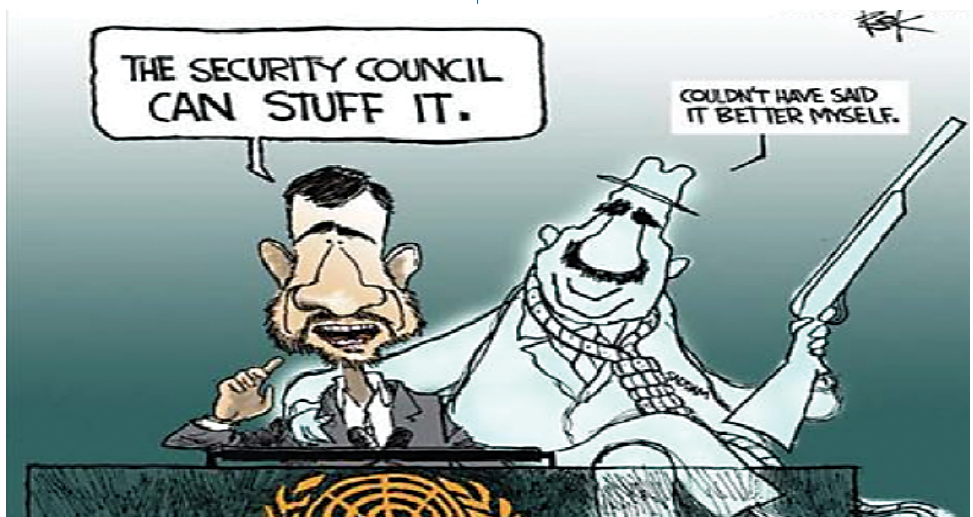
In the end, most Christian families paid

a bribe, Mr. Comanny said, “because it gave them time to prepare to leave.” Because militants frequently attack families returning home to fetch their belongings, Mr. Comanny paid an insurgent contact 1 million Iraqi dinars (\$800) for safe passage from the neighborhood. Today, the Comannys live in the New Baghdad section where hundreds of Christian families have relocated. The families move cautiously among a majority Shiite population, which relies on the Mahdi Army militia for protection.

Christians in Baghdad once mixed easily with Muslims, sharing cookies at Christmas and joining Muslims for the daily evening dinner during Ramadan. Amer Awadish, a 47-year-old taxi driver, said those relationships saved his life. After a handwritten warning was delivered to his apartment, a lifelong neighbor appeared at his door and advised him to leave immediately.

“This man used to kiss my mother on the forehead in public,” Mr. Awadish said, referring to a common gesture of respect toward elderly women. “He was too ashamed to kill me because of that.”

Many would leave the country if they felt there was somewhere to go. “If the U.S. and Europe open their doors, the Christians in Iraq will be finished. They will all leave,” said William Warda, the founder of Hamorabi, a Christian-led human rights group in Iraq. ★



Teflon Religion

By Burt Prelutsky, www.BurtPrelutsky.com

Politicians with charm and charisma who can wade through scandals and political mud without it sticking to them are referred to as being coated with “Teflon.” These days, those who seem to come equipped with Teflon are the world’s Islamics. What’s so mystifying about this is that they share none of those charming qualities. Rather, theirs is a religion which calls for the domination of all others; and yet the majority of Christians, Jews, atheists, and agnostics continue treating them with the utmost respect and sensitivity. I don’t think it’s even appreciated. Instead, I believe it’s perceived as fear and cowardice.

Although Muslims are committing acts of barbarism all over the globe, our leaders continue paying lip service to the followers of Allah. These people blow up trains, planes, and pizza parlors and yet our own leaders feel compelled to keep reminding us that Islam is a religion of peace. Funny how often they need to keep reminding us. When is the last time that anybody needed to be told that Buddhism, for instance, or Shinto is a religion of peace? Do we require constant reas-

urance that the Amish mean to do us no harm?

I fear that millions of our fellow citizens are as gullible as little kids. But instead of believing in the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus, and the Tooth Fairy, they believe that the members of Fatah and Hamas desire simply to live in freedom in their own homeland. When Yasser Arafat was offered that very thing, he left Camp David in a huff. What the Muslims want is to destroy Israel for no other reason than that it’s inhabited by Jews. Once they finish the job begun by Hitler, the different factions can then get back to doing what Islamists do best—namely, killing off one another.

Some Americans actually believe that what the rest of us recognize as Islam’s intolerance of all non-Muslims is actually a matter of economics. But, then, that’s what communists, socialists and others always think. They think that economic deprivation is the basis of all violence. They believe it’s poverty that leads Muslims to be suicide-bombers, but fail to explain how killing innocent civilians cures that particular problem. They don’t seem to find it peculiar that Osama bin Laden and Yasser Arafat were multi-millionaires, and that those behind the plot to set off explosions in London and Glasgow were all a bunch of doctors. ★

Orlando Banquet with Jeff, Sandra and Guest Ted Pearce Dec. 14-16

Join **Dr. Jeffrey Seif** and **Sandra Levitt** in Orlando, FL, at the fabulous Rosen Centre Hotel on the weekend of December 14-16. Learn how you can partner with Zola Levitt Ministries to “**Light the World with The Light of the World.**” Our casual,



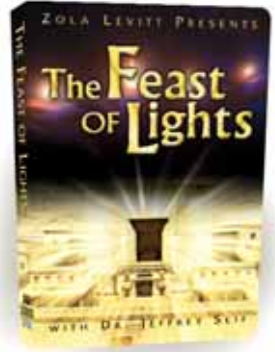
banquet-style dinner on Friday evening will include worship music with **Ted Pearce** and inspirational updates from Jeff and Sandra. Please call for our brochure at (214) 696-9760 during business hours (CST) or 800-WONDERS (966-3377) anytime. Meet photo-journalist **Will King**, ZLM’s *Our Man in Jerusalem*.



Ted Pearce



The Feast of Lights – Three 30-Minute Programs on a DVD



Since the dawn of time, forces of darkness have amassed and threatened the Jews with extinction. However, in every generation, God provided a leader who would shine the Light of God's faithfulness. Hanukkah—the Jewish Feast of Lights—harks back to a time when a cruel, anti-Semitic dictator threatened to wipe out the Hebrews. But the Lord's Deliverer arose, lit the lamp of hope, and saved Israel. From generation to generation, Jews have lit lamps in their homes to commemorate the victory and retell the story of the Feast of Lights.

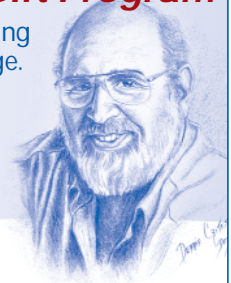
1. The Story of Hanukkah Dr. Jeffrey Seif sets up the story of Hanukkah and the abominable Antiochus Epiphanes, where the Syrian dictator overthrew Jerusalem and desecrated the Holy Temple. Although many throughout history have sought to destroy God's Chosen People, Jeff reassures us that "He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep." Also, we learn about harvesting the olive and its importance to the golden Menorah, which resided in the Holy Place.

2. The Light of the World Jesus told His disciples, "You are the light of the world." Speaking from the Messianic synagogue Baruch HaShem, Jeff explains the significance of light to the celebration of Hanukkah as well as its prophetic image of Jesus Christ. Jeff interviews Rabbi Martin J. Waldman about the increase of Messianic Jews in the world today, and we see a timely interview with Zola and Messianic Believer Simcha Davidov.

3. The Feast of Dedication Jeff explores the prophecy of Daniel as fulfilled first by Antiochus Epiphanes' desecration, as well as the future abomination of desolation to be committed by the antiChrist. Discover the Feast of Dedication as observed by Jesus in the Bible, and don't miss a heartfelt interview in which Zola and Jean Rosenberg look at the celebration of Hanukkah in the home today. [\(Order on page 16.\)](#)

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You can increase the effectiveness of your contributions by reducing our expenses in processing them, plus save your time and postage. Once you enroll in our **Monthly Gift Program**, our ministry will electronically receive a monthly offering from either your checking account or credit card.



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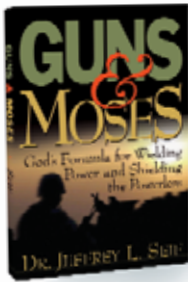
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ZLM Bulletin Board

Terrorism Awareness Project

What Really Happened in the Middle East? Here is the propaganda that Palestinian children are taught and that anti-Israeli politicians are spouting worldwide—and the reality of well-documented history for those who need a refresher course. Four brief chapters are entitled, “The Jews,” “The Arabs’ War on the Jews,” “The Middle East War is Not About Refugees,” and “The Middle East War is About the Destruction of Israel.” One sixth of 1% of the Middle East for the Jews is too much for the Arabs. A riveting presentation with “reverse,” “pause,” and “play” buttons at:

www.TerrorismAwareness.org/what-really-happened



Terrorism Awareness Part II

What Every American Needs to Know About Jihad. The goal of jihad (holy war) is world domination. Twenty-eight examples of terrorism with dramatic photos are detailed and plotted on the world map. “The wave of the Islamic revolution will soon reach the entire world,” boasts Iran’s president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. “Jihad demands war on all infidels”—The Hidayah (Muslim manual). “Jihad’s goal is ‘Death to America’”—Osama bin Laden. The armies of jihad are here in the West—Chicago, L.A., New York. For positive proof, see the presentation at:

www.TerrorismAwareness.org/know-about-jihad

Seven Ways You Can Help Israel

For this complete article, please see our August 2001 *Levitt Letter*, posted at www.levitt.com.

Here are the ways: 1) Point and Click—stay informed by visiting www.jpost.com, www.IsraelNationalNews.com and www.imra.org.il. 2) Publish your views in newspapers and chat rooms. 3) Protest media bias in ways suggested at www.HonestReporting.com and www.camera.com. 4) Provide assistance—www.BridgesForPeace.com. 5) Persuade your elected representatives with letters and email. 6) Pay a visit to www.goisrael.com and go to Israel in person. 7) Pray for help—add a request for Israel to your prayer regimen.



Replenish Our Missionary Fund

Since March 2001, this ministry’s To The Jew First fund has sent 53 volunteer missionaries to Israel, 12 during this year alone. In addition, we paid the lion’s share of expenses this year for a separate group of 18 volunteers to go. Would you kindly designate contributions for the To The Jew First fund, which has run into the red? We remain prayerfully confident that we will catch up enough on this budget to send increasingly more missionaries. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

“Come Home!”

Zola’s
Tours to
Israel:



See page
32 for details





The Lord My Help By John J. Parsons

חֲשׂוּהָ לְעִזְרָתִי אֲדֹנָי תְּשׁוּעָתִי:

Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation – Psalm 38:22(3h)

חֲ	שׁוּ	הָ	לְ	עִזְ	רָ	תִי	אֲ	דוֹ	נָי	תְּ	שׁוּ	עָ	תִי
(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)
	t'shu-'a-ti			a-do-nai		l'cz-ra-ti			chu-shah				
	my salvation			O Lord (of)		to help me			Hasten!				

Help, Lord!

Often the only prayer we have is "Help, LORD!" I use this one on a *daily* basis, that is, whenever I am confronted with my own inability.

The word translated "hasten" comes from the Hebrew word "*chush*," which means to hurry, to act quickly, or to come quickly. The Psalms often plead urgently, "hasten to help me" (*chushah l'ezrati*).

An old Jewish prayer says, "O LORD, I know that you will help us; but will you help us *before* you will help us?" Although God sometime tarries, He declares, "I am the LORD; *in its time* I will hasten it" (Isa. 60:22).

Is it time, LORD? Will you *now* restore the Kingdom to Israel? But as Jesus said, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority" (Acts 1:7). We are left waiting for God's ultimate answer: His glorious coming to fulfill our salvation.

We live in an "already-not-yet" state of hopeful expectation. In Modern Hebrew the word *teshuvah*, often translated "repentance," means "an answer." It is the mind's turning to a *sheilah*, a question, attending to it with honesty in the pursuit of truth.

Often trials in our lives function as God's questions to us, and we are asked to answer them with the *teshuvah* of settled faith.

The last words recorded of Jesus are: "Surely I come *quickly*" (Rev. 22:20). This is immediately followed by the last prayer given in the Scriptures: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

The LORD will indeed help us,
since He is faithful and true,
and His salvation is secure.
May He come speedily, and in
our day. Amen.



"...There Is A Jew Behind Me, Come And Kill Him..."

www.LittleGreenFootballs.com

When the former leader of the Islamic Center of Cleveland, Fawaz Damra, was linked to funding of terrorists and deported in a very high-profile case, you might have expected that the new imam of the Islamic Center would be more moderate.

Think again: Cleveland's *Plain Dealer* headlined, "Ohio's largest mosque hires Egyptian hate sheikh to replace deported terror cleric Fawaz Damra." Not mentioned in the report is Ahmed Alzaree's anti-Jewish rants. According to Tom Blumer, a blogger for the *Plain Dealer*, in a 15-second Google search he came across a particular sermon dated March 7, 2003 where Alzaree offers this encouragement to his followers:

"Dear brothers and sisters, the talk about the Day of Judgment is long and full of things that will confuse the human mind and put fear in the hearts of the faithful. Every day that comes is much worse than the day before as we get closer to the hour. Among the signs of the approach of Day of Judgment is what the messenger of Allah PBUH [peace be unto him] said: 'The hour of judgment shall not happen until the Muslims fight the Jews. The Muslims shall kill the Jews to the point that the Jew shall hide behind a big rock or a tree and the rock or tree shall call on the Muslim saying: O Muslim, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him, except the Gharqad tree which will not say, for it is the tree of Jews.'

"Agreed upon. This is to be very soon and close now. We ask Allah SWT [subhanahu wa ta'ala meaning: 'Allah is pure of having partners and he is exalted from having a son.')] not to test us so hard if we live till this horrible moment insha'allah [if Allah wills]."

Exposing A Colossal Hoax

www.icej.org

An appeals court judge in Paris has ruled that France 2 TV must release to the trial court the un-edited video



footage of the September 2000 shooting of 12-year-old Mohammed al-Dura, who was caught in Palestinian-Israeli crossfire that fueled the outbreak of the second Palestinian *intifada*. Al-Dura's death was turned into a symbol of Palestinian suffering under Israeli force, but the Israel Defense Forces concluded that the boy was not hit by an Israeli bullet. French media monitor Philippe Karsenty was sued for slander by France 2 after calling their edited version of the incident "a hoax."

Karsenty appealed the verdict, and the appellate judge has now ordered the release of the entire 25-minute video for the court to view. France 2's Arab cameraman Talal Abu Rahma has been given time to turn in the footage. Several French and U.S. journalists who have seen the full video believe that Palestinians staged the shooting. A final verdict is expected this coming February.

Proof of abuse by U.S. troops - what the media missed.





Ramadan Prayer: "Allah, Kill Americans!"

By Itamar Marcus and Barbara Crook, Palestinian Media Watch, www.pmw.org.il

The Palestinian Authority (Fatah) daily newspaper's political cartoon illustrated a prayer

for the killing of Americans. A Muslim is shown kneeling in prayer facing a U.S. B-2 Stealth Bomber. The words of his prayer are encased in missiles aimed at Americans:

"Allah, scatter them!" "Turn their wives into widows!"
"Turn their children into orphans!" "Give us victory over them!"

This prayer for the death of Americans is a special prayer for Al-Qadr Night (the 27th day of Ramadan, noted in the corner of the cartoon), when Muslims customarily pray in mosques throughout the night. The PA and Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah faction identify with those who fight and kill Americans. The most recently published 12th grade PA schoolbooks, for example, call those who fight American soldiers in Iraq "brave resistance."



U.S. Congress Honors Ramadan

SeeingRedAZ.wordpress.com

The advice by the controversial Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) that American Muslims "blitz" their elected representatives with phone calls and urge them to pass a resolution honoring Islam and the Muslim holy month of Ramadan has apparently paid off.

For the first time ever, the U.S. House of Representatives, on a 376-0 vote, passed a resolution giving honor to the Islamic holiday of Ramadan and commending Muslims for their faith. This action comes just six years after devoted adherents of that faith flew planes into the World Trade Towers killing nearly 3,000 innocent Americans in the name of Islam.

Brigitte Gabriel of ACT! for America writes: "Congressman Tom Tancredo (R-CO) in a press release after the vote cited the resolution as 'an example of the degree to which political correctness has captured the political and media elite' in America. He further stated: 'I am not opposed to commending any religion for their faith. The problem is that any attempt to do so for Jews or Christians is immediately condemned as breaching the non-existent line between Church and State by the same elite.'

"Congressman Scott Garrett (R-NJ) commented that in his five years in Congress he could not remember a resolution honoring Christmas or Easter. A search by the ACT! for America staff has not uncovered any resolution in the past 20 years honoring a Jewish holiday. Other Members of Congress expressed being 'troubled' by the resolution. Yet it passed without a single 'no' vote. Why?" ★



Letters to ZOLA

Three Comments from www.levitt.com

From T.W.—

My mom watches Zola every Sunday night and has for a long time. At first I wasn't interested, but after I went through a tough time I watch it with her every week. It rocks, and I cannot wait until next week to learn more. You guys rock my world... that is you rock the world of a 21-year-old male college student. Thanks guys, and God Bless.

From C.W.—

I visited your website to view *Bad Moon Rising*. It was the first time using your new format...love it!

From L.N.—

I read the *Levitt Letter* at lunch and often people stop and talk when they see the familiar blue and white magazine... LOVE IT... Love y'all.



View our TV show online at www.levitt.com

Enough Of Your Madness

Dear Staff,

Please remove my name from your mailing list immediately. Your continued lambasting of the Roman Catholic Church and our Pope is no longer tolerated nor accepted. I had written a check and placed it in the outgoing mail basket. Then I began to read the September *Levitt Letter* and came across page 24 (and Dr. Tom McCall's "Papal Primacy or Bible Primacy?").

Enough is enough. Count me out of your madness!
E.B.



Dr. Thomas McCall

Dr. McCall and the Roman Catholics

Dear Staff,

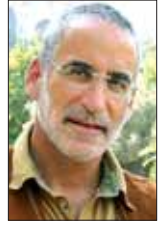
As a former Catholic, I found Dr. McCall's article on "Papal Primacy or Bible Primacy?" very informative. He put into perspective things I have believed for years. Thanks for this and all the other articles you have provided through the years. —J.D.

"Bad Moon Rising" History Repeating

Dear Jeff, Sandra, and Staff,

I have just watched the first serial of *Bad Moon Rising* via the Internet, and I want to tell you that this program showing Hitler and Ahmadinejad and the similarities between the Holocaust and today's Middle East grabbed my heart. It is shameful that the world turns its back while another Hitler rises to power. It is eerie to watch history repeat itself on an even grander scale. —E.G.

Adventists Are Now God's Chosen People!?



Jeffrey Seif

Dear Jeffrey,

God has rejected the Jews because they rejected Him. I am a Seventh Day Adventist and our prophet Ellen G. White was told by God that the Jews would never be a Nation again and that Old Jerusalem would never be rebuilt. The Adventists are now God's chosen people, "Spiritual Israel." The Jews can come to Jesus by becoming Adventists.

You seem to be afraid of the Muslims, but it's the Catholics you need to worry about. The Pope is the antiChrist and Sunday is the "Mark of the Beast"! The Muslims are nearest to the Adventist faith because they have a prophet, don't eat pork, and go to church on Friday like we do. The Adventist Church in Europe turned all of their Jewish converts over to Hitler and most died in the ovens. God said they would—read Lev. 26. I'm afraid to put my name to this for fear the Jews may try to kill me.

Dear Whatever-Your-Name-Is—

I believe that your letter is loaded with an inordinate amount of fantasy. Saying that the Jews may try to kill you is absolutely absurd, as are other statements, like "Sunday is the 'Mark of the Beast.'" I don't want to sound cold. Honestly, however, I think your thought process leaps beyond the pale of reason. I would strongly encourage you to invest your energies in real-world pursuits; as a theologian, you are out of this world. — Jeffrey Seif

Better News Coverage Than Media

Dear Friends,

I recently found one of your *Levitt Letters* in the dayroom of my cellblock. I am fascinated by the content in it and would like to receive your publication regularly, if possible. I am a Christian and have been for years. I closely follow the events taking place in the Middle East but only through the secular media, which we all know is dreadfully lacking. I learned more in your newsletter than the media would ever reveal. I do hope you will include me in your mailing list. My thanks in advance.

G.A.

Good Reception in New Zealand

Dear ZLM, I now and then come across your program and really enjoy it. Today's was about the falsehood or dangers of the Muslim religion. High time someone tells the world about it. Todah Rabah, —C.

Dear G.A.—

"Ask and ye shall receive" John 16:24. You are probably reading this reply in your first very own Levitt Letter. Welcome aboard! — Sandra ★



NON SEQUITUR By Wiley

Skewering History

www.AmericanCongressForTruth.org

Below is an excerpt from a summary that can be found on the website of the American Textbook Council. The website states: “The American Textbook Council is an independent national research organization established in 1989 to review the history and social studies textbooks used in the nation’s schools.” To read more about ATC’s reviews of textbooks and how they treat Islam go to:

www.historytextbooks.org/islam.htm. The biased and politically correct treatment of Islam in school textbooks is alarming because of the impact it has on both the knowledge base and attitudes of American children.

The American Textbook Council examined the coverage of Islam in seven widely adopted world history textbooks used in grades seven through twelve. In February 2003, it published its findings in a review, *Islam and the Textbooks*.

Since 2003, several reports have documented bias and evasions in world history textbooks. Textbooks misrepresent Islam past and present, critics agree. They contain fallacies and untruths about *jihād*, *sharia*, slavery, status of Muslim women, terrorism, and international security. (bold emphasis added)

Houghton Mifflin’s seventh-grade text, *Across the Centuries*, has come in for singular criticism, but is no worse than competing textbooks. Textbooks make no distinction between *sharia* and Western law, and they pretend that women are making great strides in the Islamic world, when all evidence indicates otherwise. Social studies textbooks ignore the global ambitions of militant Islam. They fail to explain that Muslim terrorists seek to destroy the United States and Israel. They omit geopolitical goals that include theocracy and world domination by religion.

Islamic organizations led by the Council on Islamic Education act as domestic textbook “censors.” Strictly speaking, since only governments censor books, the Islamists are merely agents of suppression, using educational publishers to do their bidding. Publishers ignore those who press them about motives, funding, legal status, and strong-arm tactics on the part of their Muslim “consultants.”

The latest evidence of Islamist influence is California’s adoption of *History Alive! The Medieval World and Beyond*. The publisher is Teachers’ Curriculum Institute, a privately held company trying to gain part of the lucrative California textbook market. Based in Palo Alto and Sacramento, TCI’s greatest advantage is being local. The student edition is an ill-written product printed on the cheap. Accompanying instructional materials are simply amateurish.

Its chief author-advisor on Islam is **Ayad Al-Qazzaz**, professor of sociology at California State University, Sacramento and a Muslim apologist promoting Islam and Arab causes. Al-Qazzaz



Al-Qazzaz

co-wrote AWAIR’s *Arab World Notebook*. AWAIR stands for Arab World and Islamic Resources, an opaque, proselytizing “non-profit organization” that conducts teacher workshops and sells supplementary materials to schools.

With *History Alive! The Medieval World and Beyond*, TCI is trying to sell a textbook to California schools that takes dictation from Islamist sources. The proximate question is whether the state’s department of education and state school board will let this happen.



An Apology For Existing?

By Joseph Farah,
www.WorldNetDaily.com



Farah

Pressured for nearly two decades to swap land for peace that never came, Israel will next be asked to apologize to its Arab and Muslim enemies for coming into existence in the first place.

That's what experts in conflict resolution have determined is the most expedient path for the Jewish state to take in turning around enemies who don't accept Israel's legitimacy as a Middle East state.

The basis of the argument for an Israeli apology is found in *Science* magazine. In an article written by two researchers from John Jay College's Center on Terrorism and a professor of "human understanding" at the University of Michigan, a new plan for conflict resolution in the Middle East is unveiled.

The researchers, who adamantly describe their work as "science," say they went to the Middle East last February to conduct interviews in Syria, the Palestinian Authority, and Israel to gauge emotional responses over suggestions for resolution of the conflict.

"We found that the use of material incentives to promote the peaceful resolution of political and cultural conflicts may backfire when adversaries treat contested issues as sacred values," they write in *Science*. "Symbolic concessions of no apparent material benefit may be key in helping to solve seemingly intractable conflicts."

As evidence, they quote Ghazi Hamad, a Hamas leader, as saying: "In principle, we have no problem with a Palestinian state encompassing all of our lands within the 1967 borders. But let Israel apologize for our tragedy in 1948, and then we can talk about negotiating over our right of return to historic Palestine."

"In rational-choice models of decision-making, something as intangible as an apology could not stand in the way of peace," writes the research team, comprising Scott Atran, presidential scholar of sociology and senior research fellow at the Center for Terrorism at John Jay College; Richard Davis, research fellow at the Center for Terrorism; and Robert Axelrod, professor for the study of human understanding at the University of Michigan.

The notion that Israel has it within its ability to change the hearts and minds of its enemies is misguided. ★

Multiple Sclerosis Breakthrough [Hillel Fendel, www.IsraelNationalNews.com](http://www.IsraelNationalNews.com)

Scientists may have found the way to personalize the Israeli anti-MS drug Copaxone according to one's genes.

Copaxone is widely considered the most effective treatment in preventing or reducing relapses in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) and was the first original Israeli drug to be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

MS is an autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks proteins in the fatty layer surrounding nerve fibers, causing impaired vision and movement disorders. These attacks prevent the conduction of electrical signals through the nerve fibers. Prof. Michael Sela used synthetic molecules designed by future President of Israel Prof. Ephraim Katzir, to curb the attacks.

Medical treatments in general rely on trial-and-error methods to determine the correct dosage, often leading to errors and complications along the way. Scientists performed tests at Weizmann Institute, using Israel's only genome-variation scanning equipment, to determine specific genetic markers and their link with the patient's response to Copaxone. In the future, it may be possible to scan the genome of MS sufferers, to predict the response levels in advance, and to optimize the dosage and treatment protocol to suit each patient personally. ★



3D animation explaining mechanism of action

“And I Will Bless Those Who Bless You”

By Elyakim Ha'etzni,
web.IsraelInsider.com



Each year Zionist Christians from all over the world (7,000 this year) march in Jerusalem to fulfill that which is written in the Book of Zechariah, whereby all nations will make pilgrimage to Jerusalem in the messianic era to celebrate Sukkot.

Their parade is the highlight of an ongoing effort to stand by our side for better or for worse, unconditionally and without receiving anything in return. On the contrary, they are grateful that we accept their outstretched hands. In the U.S., their ranks comprise tens of millions who are well organized and who have substantial political clout.

Sadly though, in some sectors of Israel evangelical Christians' Zionism is rejected with the hollow argument that it is premised on their faith that Jesus will return only after the Jewish people return to the Land of Israel.

This year, Zionist Christians encountered opposition from the Chief Rabbinate, which banned Jews from participating in the convention and

parade because they lend the Jewish holiday of Sukkot a Christian character, and among the participants there are those suspected of engaging in missionary work.

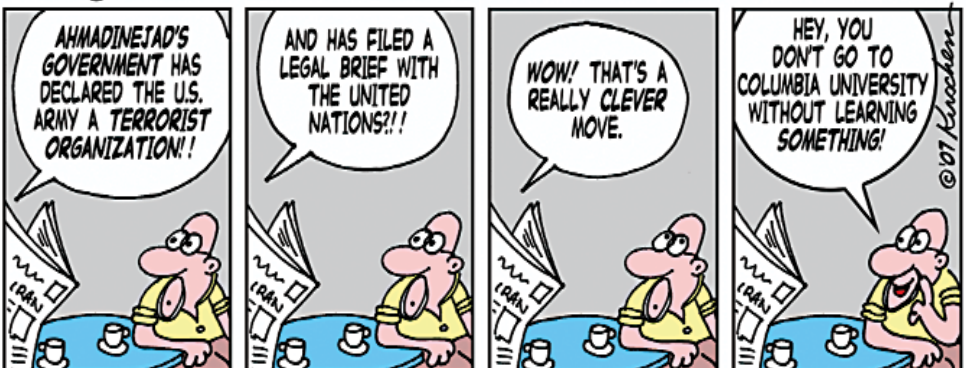
Let's think about this for a moment before we turn a supporter into an enemy: The International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem that organizes the Sukkot events was founded in response to the international diplomatic boycott of Jerusalem as a gesture of solidarity, not because of missionary work. Jews are not invited to their ceremonies, but only to the parade and the events at the Jerusalem International Convention Center where they are careful not to include any Christian ritual. What more could we ask for?

The contact with Christian Zionists is creating a reverse phenomenon: Churches in the American Midwest are waving the Israeli flag, non-Jews are wearing the Star of David. According to Reverend John C. Hagee, they support Israel because it is a fundamental value of Christianity: *“And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse.”* (Genesis 12:3)

In an alienated world, with anti-Semitism rearing its head, how can we reject those who honestly seek our company, the sons of a movement that heralded our revival?

Welcome to our Sukkot, dear friends, may there be many more like you. ★

Dry Bones WHAT'S NEXT?



The Good Ol' Days

“In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated



Theodore Roosevelt

upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American. There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag. We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language; and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people.”

—Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

Muslim Morality Police

www.IsraelToday.co.il

A number of Palestinian Arabs were arrested in Judea and Samaria (the so-called “West Bank”) for violating Islamic law concerning the holy month of Ramadan by eating and drinking during daylight hours.

The regime of Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas has established a special “morality police” to enforce public compliance with Islamic precepts. The new force is seen as a response to claims by the rival Hamas government in Gaza that Abbas's Fatah movement has no authority as a Muslim entity. It was unclear from reports how local Palestinian Christians are being affected by the crackdown.

Israel's Youngest Doctor

Israel Today

Michal Raz is a prodigy. At 2, she started playing cello. She skipped one year of elementary school and studied in a class of especially gifted students. Now, Michal has completed her studies at Tel Aviv University in history and medicine —and is a doctor at 23 years old!

Michal is used to always being the youngest and is humble about her accomplishments. As all the 300 graduates of different faculties, whose average age was 39, were called together for a group photo on the university's lawn, Michal did not show up.

“I am shy,” she said. “I didn't want to appear in the graduation robe and draw attention.”

Being special is in the genetic code of the family, said mother Dr. Orna Raz and father Professor Tzvi Raz, who immigrated to Israel from the United States when their daughter was 13. Michal plays cello in the Israel Symphony Orchestra.

When asked why she chose the unusual combination of medicine and history in her studies, she said,

“My dream is to work as a medical doctor and to teach history. In both areas one can help other people. It is a good combination.”



Dr. Michal Raz

A Promise Kept

www.WorldNetDaily.com

This article appeared on September 24, the day Ahmadinejad spoke at Columbia University. — Editor

If noted journalist and Columbia University alumna **Aliza Davidovitch** walks onto the campus of her alma mater today, it won't be to recall fond memories of her college days—it will be to rip up her diploma from Columbia to protest the appearance of Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.



Davidovitch

"I once prized my Columbia diploma and degree, and in my career as a journalist I've done much to make my alma mater proud. But today I am very, very ashamed. I have removed my diploma from the wall and if Ahmadinejad speaks, I will tear it in two," Davidovitch told WND.

Davidovitch takes Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger to task for using the First Amendment to justify the university's decision to invite Ahmadinejad to speak on campus.

She writes: "If Bollinger wants his students "to understand the world as it is and as it

might be," let him take his students on a field trip to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center where our troops are coming home without limbs and without faces because of Ahmadinejad. Let him bring them to the airports where families welcome home their loved ones in a wooden box. Let him take them to the Holocaust museum where they can view how university students their own age were turned into bars of soap and lampshades."

That afternoon, Aliza Davidovitch publicly tore in two her master's degree in journalism. As onlookers chanted "Shame on Columbia," Davidovitch tore her diploma "in honor of the victims of 9/11, the six million Jews who were murdered in the Holocaust, and the troops now fighting in Iraq. President Bollinger," she said as she waved the torn parchment, "THIS is freedom of speech."

— Editor



YouTube video capture



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www.levitt.com

“MERRY WINTER”

www.WorldNetDaily.com

Mrs. Fields has added Christmas cookie gifts to the holiday section of its website in response to heat it received for initially avoiding any mention of “Christmas” products for fear of offending people.



In early October, the American Family Association flew into action when alerted to the omission by a resident of Michigan who called Mrs. Fields’s customer service number to complain about the absence of any Christmas products or even mention of the holiday by name.

She was reportedly told by the customer service representative the company did not offer products mentioning Christmas because it did not want to offend anyone.

AFA sent out an “action alert” to hundreds of thousands of its members

nationwide accusing Mrs. Fields of becoming the first company to ban Christmas from products and promotions this year.

“Mrs. Fields wants the business of Christians who celebrate Christmas, but they don’t mind if they offend Christians,” the AFA said over the signature of Don Wildmon, founder and chairman of the organization.

By the following day, the Mrs. Fields website was offering at least three gift products mentioning “Christmas” by name. Randy Sharp, director of special products for AFA, said the group is still not entirely pleased with the capitulation. “Mrs. Fields is still being politically correct as a company,” he said. In give-and-take conversations and e-mails with the company, officials suggested substituting “winter” in place of “holiday” in its promotions.

Last year, giant retailer Wal-Mart was the target of a boycott threat by AFA for dumping the word “Christmas” from all of its store promotions. Wal-Mart later avoided the clash by relenting to use the name of the holiday. ★

Jews For Christmas By Barry Farber, archive.newsmax.com

In 1968 the *New York Times* published an op-ed piece I wrote recalling the feelings of a Jewish boy in North Carolina loving absolutely everything about the full-dress, throttle-out celebration of—not “holidays,” not the “winter festival,” not any “season” that called for “greetings,” but Christmas.

The point of the piece was how much I loved the music and the trees and the ornaments and the shepherds and the wise men and the candy canes and how that annual long-awaited Yule immersion neither “humiliated” me nor “isolated” me nor deflected me one spiritual inch from my own beautiful Jewish religion.

I have a dream—“Jews For Christmas,” a vigorous movement of American Jews rising up to make sure nobody pushes around those Christians whose ancestors decided, for the first time in history, to make a unique wonderland like America, where nobody gets pushed around because of his God-loving ways.



Never in history, not until America, did a people overwhelmingly of one religion ever conquer a continent and then turn around and invite the world to “Come on over and help us make this place great!” And while they were at it, they made sure every newcomer was free to worship God in his chosen way.

There’s a good tactical reason for those of every religion other than Christianity to get behind the Christians. The target of the assailants isn’t just Christmas. Study their intensity. Study their persistence. They’re, in too many cases, downright anti-Christian and anti-faith itself.

The absolute best friend the Jew has had anywhere on earth is the American Christian. If it weren’t for the American Christian, there’d be no state of Israel and no Jew left alive except for those able to fake another religious identity. *This article is posted in its entirety at www.levitt.com/news*

Another Misguided Judge

By Josh Gerstein, *New York Sun*



Kessler

A law passed by Congress and signed by President Bush clearly requires the State Department to record Israel as the place of birth in passports for American citizens born in Jerusalem, but that requirement cannot be enforced by the courts, a federal judge ruled recently.

For the second time, Judge **Gladys Kessler** threw out a lawsuit brought by an American couple, Ari and Naomi Zivotofsky, on behalf of their son, Menachem, who was born in Jerusalem in 2002. The State Department contends that marking Menachem's place of birth as "Jerusalem, Israel" would upset long-standing American policy that the sovereignty of Jerusalem is an issue to be determined in peace talks between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Arabs.

Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

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INSP Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
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Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
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DirecTV—Channel 369 **Dish**—Channel 263

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NOTE: If you are unable to view *Zola Levitt Presents*, please contact your local cable company or refer to your satellite directory.

Our entire TV Airing Schedule is posted at
www.levitt.com.



Soldiers of God

By Gil Ronen, www.IsraelNationalNews.com

Half of the Israel Defense Forces' young combat officers are religious Jews, according to statistics published in *Maariv*, Israel's second largest daily newspaper.

"This says something very good about the sons of the religious Zionist movement," opines Ben Caspit, the writer of the piece. "They are becoming the IDF's backbone. Their presence in the army is several times larger than it is in the general population."

The entry of the religious Zionists into the officer corps began after the Yom Kippur War when Major-Generals Yair Naveh and Elazar Stern entered service, and "continues with the pre-military academies, which send a sizable percentage of their graduates to the Officers' Course. They do everything willingly, with their entire soul," Caspit says of the religious Zionist soldiers. Alongside them one finds many youths from the socialist-agricultural *moshav* (co-op) and *kibbutz* movements, as well as soldiers from new-immigrant and lower-income families who see the military as a chance for upward social mobility.

The statistics are important for Israeli society because the IDF is seen as the nation's backbone and its pride. Since the State of Israel was founded, it has had five native-born Prime Ministers, four of whom were from the military: Yitzhak Rabin, Binyamin Netanyahu, Ehud Barak, and Ariel Sharon. Rabin and Barak both served as IDF Chiefs of Staff, Sharon was a Major-General and Netanyahu was an officer in an elite unit that was commanded by his brother, Yoni, who was himself a military hero killed in the rescue of passengers from a hijacked Air France jet in Uganda in 1976. Thus, traditionally, service as combat officers goes hand in hand with leadership potential.



"Death To The Dictator"

By Ramin Mostaghim, *The Los Angeles Times*

Dozens of students opposed to Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's human rights record confronted the leader and his supporters at the country's most prestigious university.

The students, defying a broad government crackdown on dissent, accused Ahmadinejad of corruption and discrimination, and chanted, "Death to the dictator!" The president came to Tehran University to inaugurate the academic year, just two weeks after he was confronted by protests during a visit to Columbia University in New York.

Ahmadinejad, widely criticized in the West for questioning the Holocaust and pursuing a nuclear program, cuts a divisive figure at home. His government has tolerated little dissent, arresting students, purging freethinking professors, and cracking down on young men and women wearing Western-style clothing.

"You, Mr. Ahmadinejad, claimed at Columbia University that there is freedom of speech in Iran's universities," one student said over a megaphone. "Then why are three students still in jail?"

"I am here out of curiosity," said Ali, a graduate student in sociology who asked that his last name not be published. "I hate politics. I think in Iran you cannot live up to your own potential, and there are no good prospects for jobs," he said. "I am applying for further education in Europe or the U.S., where I can go and live in a way that I think is right."





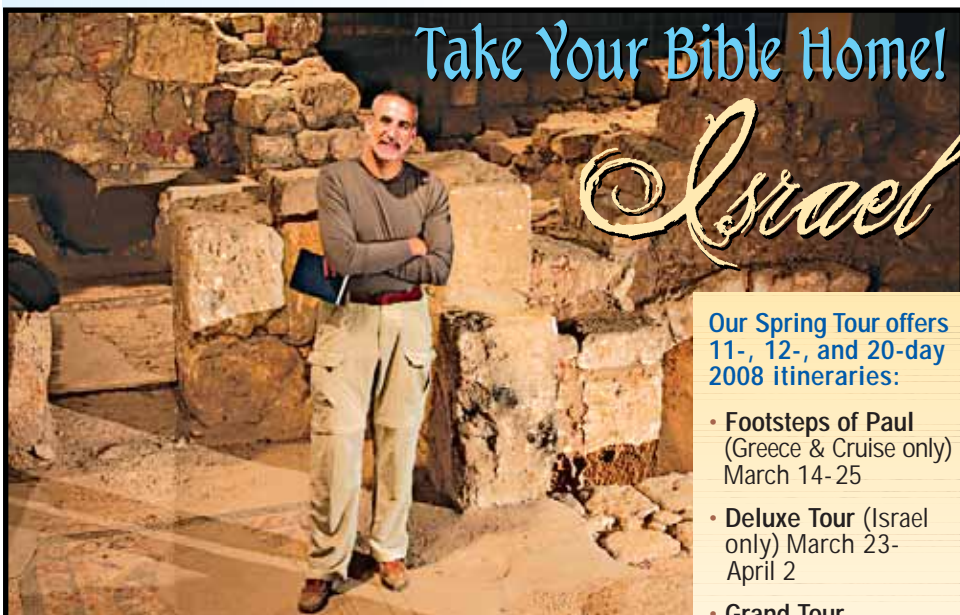
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