



# Levitt LETTER

*Brethren, my heart's  
desire and prayer to  
God for Israel is that  
they might be saved.*

— ROMANS 10:1

credit: SarahLieberman.com

inside: Temple  
Mount History p.4

# Worship Wins the War

By Sarah Liberman / [SarahLieberman.com](http://SarahLieberman.com)

Because I live in Israel, people from other countries often ask me if Messianic Jews suffer persecution in the land of our Savior. I answer that we are mostly free to worship and express our views, but we definitely experience opposition. The limitations and difficulties run behind the scenes, and they detrimentally affect daily life. Recently however, the opposition became blatantly visible. **While I was recording a new live-worship album in Jerusalem, an attack arose, the likes of which I have never seen.** We were filming the new Messianic songs concert, featuring the top voices and songwriters from Israel. The purpose of the event is to worship the King of kings — Yeshua HaMashiach. Outside the hall, violence erupted, directed at the men, women and, sadly, children who were coming to attend.

The protestors blocked all the entrances to the auditorium and blew loudly shrieking whistles (whose effect was compounded

*(continued p.2)*

## Muslim To Christians: “Wake Up”

By George Thomas  
CBN.com

One Muslim activist is warning Christians around the world about the very real threat of radical Islam.



credit: DailyMail

“If Christians don’t wake up, we Muslims who fled from extremists can’t help you anymore,” says Mohamad Tawhidi, a Muslim from Australia.

Tawhidi, an Iranian-born Muslim, says political correctness is allowing radical Muslims, with their dangerous and deadly ideology, to flourish.

“When we come to the West and try to warn the governments and intelligence agencies about what is happening, about the people we fled from, this new political correctness agenda tells us that

*(continued p.2)*



## Worship Wins the War *continued from cover*

by their echo in the hallways). They physically attacked and assaulted the concertgoers, spitting, cursing, and spraying them with pepper spray.

As a performer, I had to be escorted by police special forces through clouds of tear gas, all while being attacked, just to get to the green room. In the violent scuffle, my in-ear monitors (technical equipment needed for the concert) broke. The resistance was severe and traumatizing for the families trying to get through, as well as for the young singers and musicians on stage.



Sarah Liberman in concert on the ICEJ stage

The resistance was severe and traumatizing for the families trying to get through, as well as for the young singers and musicians on stage. **We faced a mass of angry zealots whom even the police special forces were not able to contain.**

Thousands of years ago, the Israelites faced an insurmountable challenge: three enemy armies coming against them. God said to His people: *"Do not be afraid or discouraged..."*

*For the battle is not yours, but God's"* (2 Chronicles 20:15). God gave them this strategy: worship. As they worshiped, God brought forth the victory.

In much the same way, instead of allowing intimidation to prosper in our hearts, we chose to pray and bless those outside that night. Then with great power and newfound authority, we worshiped and declared the Glory of the risen King.

I and my courageous worship companions in the Land are called to stand the ground here, in Jerusalem, and with humility face those who with great zeal oppose the Gospel of Yeshua.

Let me put it this way: You haven't truly worshiped until you've worshiped in the face of fierce opposition (screaming, yelling, threatening, and physical attack fueled by hatred). However, our war is not against flesh and blood. When we choose to bless our opposers, no fear, intimidation, or weapon can hold us back. We won't stop singing. Worship Wins the War! ★



## Muslim To Christians: "Wake Up" *continued from cover sidebar*

*we are the racists, and the extremists need to be understood."*

Tawhidi adds that even though ISIS lost its territory in Syria and Iraq, the group's followers and sympathizers are still actively planning mayhem.

**"We are fighting a real caliphate, not a 'so-called' caliphate."** This is the true Islamist militant ideology that is taking over our lands and our countries," Tawhidi warns.

[Read more from Tawhidi in the April 2019 Levitt Letter, p. 28.](#) ★



credit: AP

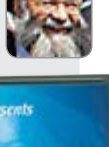
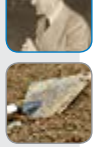
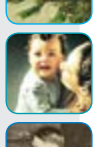
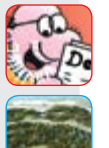
Demonstrators chant in favor of ISIS and carry the group's flags in Mosul, Iraq, in 2014



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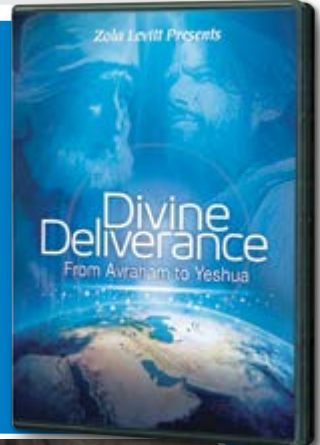
## Divine Deliverance on Levitt.tv

BY CLAYTON HERRING, Berg Productions

"Divine Deliverance: From Avraham to Yeshua" has now aired on television, and all 12 episodes are available for free viewing 24/7 at [levitt.tv](http://levitt.tv). This compelling series contains some of our best dramatic reenactments ("dramas"), brand new on-location teaching from Dr. Seif, and studio discussions with David and Kirsten Hart.

Thinning budgets have made it impossible to create more dramas ... until now. How you ask? Instead of filming with Israeli actors in the Holy Land—which lends authenticity but also huge expense—our series on Joshua that will debut this fall will use American actors and be filmed in a local, rented television studio. Instead of a beautiful Israeli backdrop, we will see Joshua from inside his tent talking to priests, soldiers, scribes, and even dividing up tribal lands. The picture on this page gives you a behind-the-scenes glimpse of what *Joshua* will look like.

We will still travel to Israel for a short visit to record Dr. Seif's on-location teachings for the *Joshua* series. As you can see, we are doing our best to bring you as much of the Land of the Covenant as we can afford. Please know how much we appreciate your donations that underwrite our quality Bible teaching. ★



Ken Berg directs *Joshua*



# Jerusalem and the Temple Mount

Classic McCall



BY DR. THOMAS S. McCALL (Zola's theologian, mentor, and friend)

In this brief overview of Jerusalem's history, Dr. McCall covers David and the Jewish Temple Periods through the Roman Era. Next month, we'll look at the oversight by Moslems, British, and Jordanians, up to the current Jewish era since 1967.



Southern Wall of Temple Mount, southwestern corner

The history of Jerusalem goes far back in time, before David made the city his capital in about 1,000 B.C. Abraham was familiar with the area as Moriah and Salem and the abode of Melchizedek, but there were apparently no structures of civilization on the Temple Mount itself at that time. When Jerusalem became a Jebusite city, it was surrounded by a wall and located entirely on a hill several hundred feet south of the Temple Mount, so there were no discoveries of Jebusite occupation in the excavations by the Temple Mount and none were expected.

## Jewish Era

**First Temple Period (1,000 – 586 B.C.)** The earliest discovery of civilized construction near the southern wall of the Temple Mount was of a massive public building, dating back to the time of the kings of Judah, perhaps even Solomon himself. Archaeologists speculate that these may be the foundation walls of the great palace that King Solomon built around the time that he built the Temple. There is evidence that this structure, even though it was very sturdily built on the bedrock, suffered a disruption and was afterwards shored up with another outer wall. The workers speculated that these foundations were jolted during a great earthquake, perhaps one at the time of King Uzziah, around 700 B.C.



Relief from the Arch of Titus (constructed in Rome circa A.D. 82) commemorating Emperor Titus's conquest of Jerusalem. This relief depicts a triumphal parade showing off the spoils of war from Jerusalem—including the menorah from the Second Temple.

## Second Temple Period (586 B.C. – A.D. 70)

During the time of Herod the Great, near the end of the Second Temple Period, Jerusalem reached the zenith of its architectural magnificence. Excavations have uncovered the massive, beautifully finished stones in the wall, the gates and the stairs that led up to the Temple Mount, the homes of the people that lived nearby, complete with *mikvahs* (ritual baths), and the aqueduct that brought huge quantities of water from near Bethlehem to be used in the Temple. All of these were sites familiar to Jesus

Christ and His disciples. Most of the city was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70.

## Roman Era

**Pagan Rome (A.D. 70 – 300)** When the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple, they expelled the Jewish people from their holy city and encamped the 10<sup>th</sup> Legion there. Remains of their coins and structures have since been

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found. Emperor Hadrian left his abominable mark by building a temple to Jupiter on the Temple Mount, and all of this led to the revolt against Rome, headed by the Jewish general Bar Kokhba, which was disastrously suppressed. Some coins and artifacts have been uncovered from this sad period.

**Christian Rome (A.D. 300 – 603)** Jerusalem was revived when Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity and his mother Helena (and later successor Justinian) built churches, such as the Resurrection Church and the New Church in the city. No one knew where the New Church built by Justinian had been located until a recent excavation that uncovered the apse. Jerusalem was visited by many pilgrims from around the Roman Empire during these centuries, as is testified to by the numerous hostels with Byzantine decorations and designs. For a brief period, Emperor Julian attempted to revive paganism in Rome. He also encouraged the Jewish people to return to Jerusalem, from which they had been banished, and rebuild the Temple; but the whole project came to naught following Julian's death (A.D. 363). ★



*Old Jerusalem, Temple Mount, View from the Mount of Olives, engraving by Philipp Wolff (1810-1894) for Jerusalem: nach eigener Anschauung und den neuesten Forschungen, p. 5*



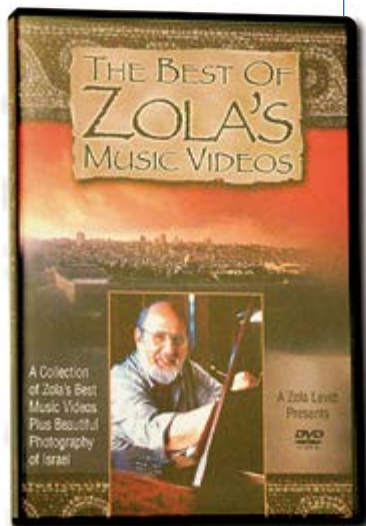
## [The Best of Zola's Music Videos](#) DVDs 10 years of Zola on two DVDs

Our production team made a special effort to pair video that was shot on location in Israel and Greece with selections of Zola's favorite, original compositions for your viewing pleasure. Breathtaking scenes of the Holy Land accompany Zola's original music on two DVDs.

**Zola's Music Video I** (53 minutes) The beautiful music of *Zola Levitt Presents* paired with magnificent video footage from the Holy Land. Album excerpts from *Next Year in Jerusalem*; *Messiah*; *Israel, My Love*; and *Beginning of the End*.

**Zola's Music Video II** (60 minutes) A second collection of music from *Zola Levitt Presents*. Breathtaking scenes of the Holy Land accompanied by Zola's original compositions from the albums *Zola's Songs by Lamb*, *Beloved Thief*, *Return to Galilee*, and *Beyond Words*. A fine marriage of music and video footage.

**Zola's Music Video III** (78 minutes) This third collection of Zola's music includes beautiful scenes of Israel and Greece accompanied by music from *Living Waters*, *The Holy Land Today*, *Unto the Gentiles*, and *Israel: By Divine Right*, as presented on our television program.



# Be Ready

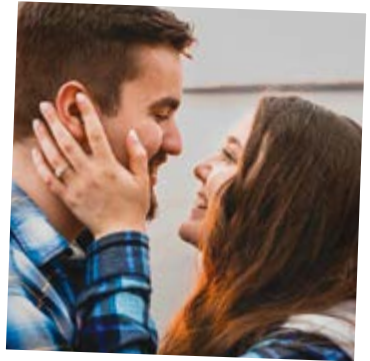
**Kirsten Hart**  
Studio co-host of  
*Zola Levitt Presents*



August is a big month for the Hart family. On the 30<sup>th</sup>, our younger son Ryan is marrying Bekah! Ryan's season of living in Israel and working for the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ) is ending. David and I speak often on *Zola Levitt Presents* about Ryan's sojourn in the Holy Land.

While working in television production for another ministry, Ryan was asked, "Would you be interested in being a Video Production Specialist in Jerusalem?" As his mother, my immediate advice was "Go!" What an incredible life-changing opportunity God opened for our boy! Six months later, David and I received producer Ken Berg's call about co-hosting *Zola Levitt Presents*.

During our interview with Mark Levitt, he mentioned that we would need to be available to host two tours a year to Israel. Wow! These amazing study tours became part of our *job* ... and also a chance to see our son twice a year in Jerusalem. What a gift!



## God Can Call You

Why the title "Be Ready"? Answer: because I feel that **God continues to call Believers to volunteer and work in Israel**. If this is something you've dreamed of doing, if you have felt God calling you to a long-term mission in the Holy Land, let me remind you of Isaiah 6:8, where the Lord was looking for a messenger. *"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I; send me.'"*

Isaiah was volunteering to bring a message to the nation of Judah. Perhaps the Lord is calling you to do the same thing. But you need to be ready.

Just as the Jewish people brought the Light of the World to all people, now Believers assume the role of bringing that Light back to the "apple of His eye." If volunteering in Israel resonates in your heart, perhaps God is drawing you to a time of ministry.

What do you do to "be ready"? Start preparing now. Bring your finances to a stage where you could afford to live on a volunteer's stipend, or to completely support yourself during a stay in Israel. Find out what ministry work fits your gifts and vision. Then get in touch with our office. After decades of working with ministries in Israel, we can recommend some appropriate organizations.

Be expectant. Ryan was advised that "you do not simply just go to Israel; God *calls* you." Are you feeling that call? Be ready, and then get ready for the greatest adventure of your life. The opportunity to physically fulfill Biblical prophecy is like no other. The journey awaits.

And *mazel tov*, my sweet Ryan. ★



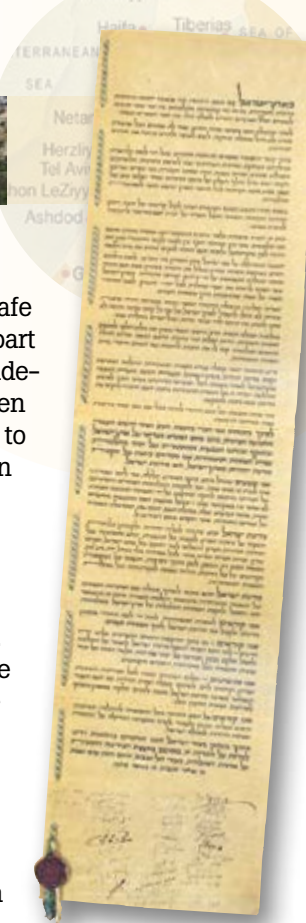
**top:** Ryan and Bekah  
**bottom:** *Isaiah's Lips Anointed with Fire*, painting by Benjamin West (1738–1820), Bob Jones University Museum and Gallery





# Israel: Right or Refuge?

BY URI PILICHOWSKI (r) JPost.com



Israel's Declaration of Independence on display in Tel Aviv



In May, Israelis and Zionists celebrated Independence Day. The nature of the new Jewish state was defined by the words that David Ben-Gurion read from the newly signed Declaration of Independence on that original *Yom Ha'atzma'ut* 71 years ago.

**There seems to be a contradiction in Israel's Declaration of Independence.**

The first section declares the Jewish people's historic right to the Land of Israel. "The Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. ... Recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their state is irrevocable. This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign state."

Later in the document, the authors seem to offer a different reason for the state's establishment. "... the massacre of millions of Jews in Europe was another clear demonstration of the urgency of solving the problem of [their] homelessness by re-establishing in *Eretz Yisrael*, the Jewish state, which would open the gates of the homeland wide to every Jew...." This latter clause seems to posit that the Holocaust and the need for a place of refuge for Jews was the reason that the State was established.

The two clauses — that Israel was created because the people have a right to the land, and that the need of a place of refuge was the reason for establishing the state — seem to contradict each other, which muddies the waters of the purpose of the State of Israel.

The two views do not complement each other, the difference being whether Israel has a right to settle parts of its ancient homeland that are not needed to provide a refuge for Jews facing homelessness and persecution. The Jewish people can be safe without the Golan Heights and Judea and Samaria.

If the purpose of the State is only to be a safe haven, as the second part of the Declaration of Independence suggests, then it's counterproductive to keep lands captured in the Six-Day War.

**The State of Israel wasn't established because the Jews needed a safe haven.**

The persecution of the Holocaust created the immediate necessity, but it did not create the cause for the State's creation. The State of Israel was created to reestablish the Jewish people's homeland. It was and continues to be their right.

The right of the Jewish people to their land doesn't expire. The right to their land doesn't terminate when others claim they replaced the Jewish people, or even when the international community orchestrates a grand compromise that strips them of half of their land. The Jewish people's right to their ancient lands recaptured in 1967 is just as strong today as it ever was. Critics of Israel's control of Judea and Samaria use the argument that Israel was established as a haven, challenging any reason to keep the lands captured in the Six-Day War. But they are wrong.

Those who conflate the Jewish people's need for refuge with their right to the land weaken Israel's legitimacy, insinuating that while every other nation deserves self-determination on its own land, the Jewish people deserve only refuge. This is a grievous error with unknown ramifications for Israel's international standing. Like any other nation, Israel has a right to all of its land. ★

# Ethnic Cleansing of Judaism in Art



**PART 2:** BY BERNARD STARR (r) HuffPost.com

Last month, we saw how artists distorted Biblical history by failing to convey the Jewishness of Jesus, portraying Him for their European patrons as surrounded by halos and saints. Read on to see how removing His Jewish context paved the road for anti-Semitism.



*Christ Entre Doctores* (1506) painting by Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528), Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum, Madrid

Art historians' explanation that "It was the Renaissance style to contemporize figures and settings" doesn't hold up. Aristotle, Homer, and Agamemnon aren't pictured holding a cross or kneeling in a church surrounded by Christian saints. But Jesus and his family appear exclusively as pure Christians. The "style" argument is also not reflected in Renaissance paintings that demonized Jews. Look at Albrecht Dürer's 16<sup>th</sup>-century painting *Christ Among the Doctors* (*Christ Entre Doctores*), above. The fair-skinned, ethereal-looking Jesus is portrayed in sharp contrast to the Jewish scholars, who are dark and menacing — one looks almost sub-human.

## Christianizing Art

Art as a highly competitive business also fueled its Christianization. *New York Times* art critic Holland Cotter: "In artist-packed cities like Florence, Italy, competition for jobs was fierce." To survive, artists had to give patrons what they wanted — and that meant Christianizing artworks. Suggestions that Jesus was a dedicated Jew would surely run you out of business, if not deliver you to the Inquisition.

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Regardless of the reason for cleansing Judaism from artworks, the distortions' cumulative effect shaped the way Christians throughout history (and even in modern times) saw Christianity, Jesus, Jews, and Judaism. Images are powerful in conditioning perceptions. Wherever Christians turned — in homes, palaces, churches, and at celebrations — they were confronted with an inauthentic Jesus. Jesus the Jew was vaporized.

### Anti-Semitism by Commission

We generally think of anti-Semitic art as explicit stereotypes of Jews (anti-Semitism by commission). "The Jew in Anti-Semitic Art" at the Wolfson Museum in Israel in 2012 exhibited more than 600 pieces of art that were assembled over a 30-year period by nonagenarian Judaica dealer Peter Ehrenthal, mostly from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries when anti-Semitic posters and pamphlets proliferated. But these works are transparent and often comical. Only the most rabid anti-Semites would take them seriously.

For example, contrast the hideous caricature of French financier, vineyard owner, art collector, horse breeder, and philanthropist Alphonse de Rothschild with an actual photograph of the elegant man. This is anti-Semitism by commission. But anti-Semitism by omission can be even more potent. **The ethnic cleansing of Judaism and the Christianization of Jesus in medieval and Renaissance art established a classic setup for anti-Semitism: separate, exaggerate differences, and then demonize**, subliminally reinforcing existing negative attitudes. The *coup de grâce* label "Christ killers" completed the persecution package. Medieval and Renaissance art provided an important link for understanding how anti-Semitism flourished throughout much of history.



**top:** caricature of Alphonse de Rothschild,  
**bottom:** photograph of Alphonse de Rothschild (1827–1905)

### Anti-Semitism by Omission

The powerful new dimensions of realism and naturalism that Renaissance artists added to painting — in contrast to earlier artificialism and primitivism — unfortunately did not extend to representing figures in their real lives and in their actual settings. So, the next time you stroll through the medieval and Renaissance galleries of a museum or view artworks from those periods in books and magazines, keep in mind the description of the real Jewish Jesus by Anglican priest Bruce Chilton: "... everything Jesus did was as a Jew, for Jews, and about Jews." It will be an entirely different experience! ★

# How the Danes and a German Bureaucrat Pulled Off a WWII Miracle



**PART 2:** BY RICHARD HUROWITZ / LATimes.com

[Last month](#), we learned how Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, a German bureaucrat in Copenhagen, risked his life to warn the Danish Jews of an impending roundup and made crucial arrangements to ensure their escape to Sweden.

Despite Duckwitz's efforts to stop a Jewish deportation by SS Gen. Werner Best, German police arrived and broke into the Jewish Community Center to seize a list of Jews.

On September 19, 1943, Duckwitz learned from Best that the operation was imminent. He wrote in his diary, "Now I know what I have to do." When he was reminded by a fellow sympathetic official that he would risk Gestapo wrath if he were caught trying to countermand Hitler, Duckwitz responded that he would do whatever it took to stop the deportation.



SS Gen. Werner Best (1903–1989)

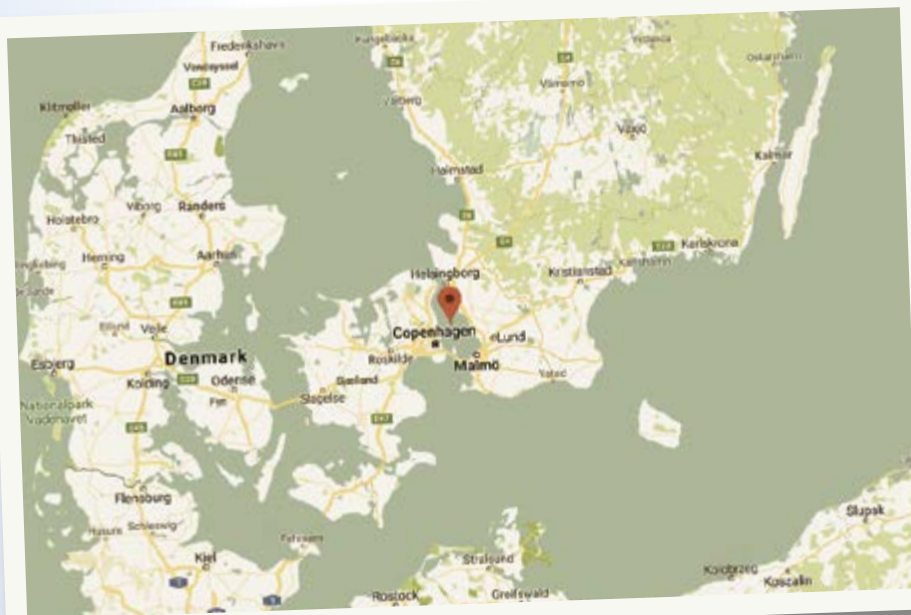
## Whatever It Took

The next day, Duckwitz contacted two Swedish diplomats and traveled to Stockholm. There he met with Prime Minister Albin Hansson, who agreed to propose to the Germans that his neutral nation would intern the Danish Jews. The Nazis didn't even bother to respond.

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Google Maps



The Oresund (red pin) separates Denmark and Sweden

Duckwitz's home in Denmark during the German occupation



credit:  
Finn Arup Nielsen /  
Wikipedia

## Over the next few days, countless Danes would shelter, protect, and smuggle their Jewish neighbors to Sweden.

hospital ambulances. Fishermen and ship captains made more than 700 trips across the Oresund, the narrow body of water separating Denmark and Sweden. Duckwitz had tipped off his Swedish contacts, who were waiting to assist the refugees. And in a final critical action, he convinced German harbormasters he knew to ensure the coast guard sent out no patrols.

In the end, only 481 Danish Jews were arrested and taken to Theresienstadt. Danish authorities relentlessly inquired after them, sending food and medicine and demanding inspections. At war's end, 99% of Danish Jews had survived. When they returned to their homes, they largely found them clean, plants watered, pets cared for, and their belongings in place.

Many people ask themselves whether it is possible to stand up to pervasive evil. The Danes showed that when a nation — from the king to the taxi drivers and fishermen — decides it will not permit atrocities in their midst, even the Nazis could be hamstrung. And Georg Duckwitz, who put his career and even his life on the line, offers an object lesson on how one person can save thousands. ★

"Now the disaster is at hand,"

Duckwitz said. Ships were waiting in the harbor to take the Jews to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. "Those of your poor Jewish countrymen who get caught by the Gestapo will (be) ... transported to an unknown fate."

The Danes moved quickly, warning the leaders of the Jewish community. On September 29, the chief rabbi of Copenhagen, Marcus Melchior, spoke in the synagogue: Go home now and hide, he advised. That night, Duckwitz wrote about Germany's tawdry enterprise: "They will not find many victims." It was his 39<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Over the next few days, countless Danes would shelter, protect, and smuggle their Jewish neighbors to Sweden. They were delivered to the harbor in free taxis and



**Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz**  
September 29, 1904 – February 16, 1973

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## Blood Moons?

Dr. Todd Baker  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian



**Q.** For the last couple of years, certain televangelists have been teaching a whole doctrine of the Blood Moons, tying it in with the return of the Lord. **Does there have to be a series of blood moons to occur before Christ comes for the Church?**

**A.** The recent Blood Moon craze was much ado about nothing: No major End Times prophecy was fulfilled with their periodic appearance. Nothing of earth-shattering significance happened.

Make no mistake: Right before Jesus returns at His Second Coming, *all the nations of the world* will march against Jerusalem. They will gather in the north of Israel at the Valley of Armageddon, where Lord Jesus will return and destroy them with His heavenly armies (Zechariah 12:3; Revelation 19). At that time, the sun and the moon will both darken and give no light (Matthew 24:29).

During the seven-year Tribulation after the Rapture of the Church, there will be disturbing signs in the sun, moon, and stars (Revelation 6:12–17). Then, the moon will turn red and become a “blood moon” right before Christ returns to Earth (Joel 2:31).

But such signs are not predicted to occur in the Church Age (before the Rapture) as a necessary precondition. Indeed, before the seven-year Tribulation begins, the Lord will descend from Heaven with a shout and the sound of the trumpet — this is the Rapture. At the Rapture, the dead in Christ from Pentecost to the present day will be raised first. Then Christians who are still alive will be translated and caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air (1 Corinthians 15:51–58; 1 Thessalonians 4:14–18). Therefore, **the Rapture is an imminent event that could happen at any moment (Matthew 25:13), without any prophetic signs having to be fulfilled — signs like blood moons.**

The Rapture will occur before the Tribulation. His Second Coming will occur after the Tribulation. (Even people who hold to a mid-Tribulation or post-Tribulation Rapture agree that the Second Coming will occur after the Rapture.)

Good old-fashioned Bible reading is more beneficial than blood moon books. It is impossible to beat the information within those 66 Books. — David ★



NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

GOCOMICS.COM/NONSEQUITUR



# Tackling 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Anti-Semitism



BY DEBORAH FINEBLUM (r) JNS.org

Not only does Yad Vashem's International School for Holocaust Studies host 7,000 teachers annually in its Jerusalem center, but its programs train thousands more in 50 countries. And it provides a full menu of online teacher resources, including survivor testimonies, photos, rare film footage, and lesson plans in 20 languages, destined for classrooms around the globe.

American teachers like Lori Fulton, with their commitment to Holocaust education, are poised to be potent forces for holding back the current wave of anti-Semitism for the next generation. Many of the tools for empowering Fulton and thousands of other teachers in striving to accomplish this Herculean task come from a hillside in Jerusalem, thousands of miles from her classroom in Mattawan, Michigan.

Fulton, a high school English teacher who discovered the Holocaust as a teen when she happened upon *The Diary of Anne Frank* in her local library, spent two weeks last summer at Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center. That's where, together with dozens of other teachers, she learned how to bring these terror-filled years alive for her students.

"I thought I knew about the Holocaust, but I realized I was missing something," she explains. "Sure, we can read Elie Wiesel's *Night* and watch *The Pianist*, but only when you have the human stories — what it was really like to live through that hell—does everything change."

The one million visitors each year who move through the powerful Moshe Safdie-designed structure—that seemingly threatens to close in on the viewer, conveying the feeling of being hunted down and even trapped—may not realize that the adjacent school is a veritable beehive of activity.

In the last two decades, 50,000 teachers from 12,000 schools have returned home, inspired and ready to share what they've learned with their peers, impacting more than five million students over the years. Fulton, for one, is organizing a Holocaust-education training symposium for 50 teachers from across Michigan, each one destined to influence hundreds or thousands of students through the course of a career.

"We help teachers convey the important truth that the Holocaust is both an historical event and the result of human factors—something that can happen anywhere and anytime," adds project director Sheryl Ochayon.

"My students have no clue what Yad Vashem is, and when they go online to research Holocaust topics, they find lots of sites saying it never happened. But after hearing survivor testimony and reading about their lives and the world they lived in, each one is going to own someone's story," says Fulton.

"There's nothing like looking at my football player with tears in his eyes watching *Schindler's List*. I told my principal that this is important enough to devote a semester to ... and you know what? He agreed."



Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum

Visit [EchoesAndReflections.org](https://EchoesAndReflections.org) to learn more about the program. To fully appreciate what Israel is today and to understand its past, each Zola Tour visits Yad Vashem. Come experience this life-changing location. — Kirsten ★



credit: Hadas Parush/Fotogio

# Reading Between the Stars

A Note from Mark  
by **Mark Levitt**  
ZLM Director



“Reading between the lines” implies finding hidden meaning in text. Such came to mind as I clutched my chest, joking that the ministry’s bookkeeper might need to call 9-1-1.

Rather than feeling chest pain, I was stunned that Charity Navigator had just awarded our ministry four (4) stars! Then, as an aspiring numbers whisperer (please see my May 2019 “Note from Mark”), I analyzed how our besieged outreach managed to get that stellar rating.

Under my father Zola’s leadership, this ministry rated four Charity Navigator stars for 2003–2006. Those were the good ol’ days — except for 2006, when our founder departed for the Pearly Gates.



While generous legacy gifts in memory of our gifted messenger helped in the short run, we had entered uncharted territory. TBN bade us farewell when we ran out of original programming with Zola. Many supporters jumped ship as Jeffrey Seif and Sandra Levitt bravely took the baton. Fewer stars **then** would have made sense.

The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) charges annual fees for scrutinizing its Christian members. Members like ZLM must adhere to ECFA’s Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship. They require us to complete a detailed questionnaire each year, and they evaluate each organization’s compli-

ance with solid, Biblical principles rather than assigning potentially capricious scores ([ecfa.org/Content/RatingMinistry](http://ecfa.org/Content/RatingMinistry)).

Charity Navigator meets another need by reviewing **secular and religious** organizations while charging nothing. However, they rarely communicate with the organizations and examine little beyond tax returns, financial statements, and websites. Some donors, leery of false impressions, conclude, “You get what you pay for.” Others read more into the ratings than they should.

In 2009, ZLM’s Charity Navigator ratings bounced from two to one to three stars! Meanwhile, during the decades before and after they gave us their worst ratings, we never missed a weekly broadcast or a monthly newsletter. We have stayed consistently true to our founding principles and stewardship: upholding both Testaments, the legitimacy of Christianity’s Jewish roots, and Israel’s never-ending significance in prophecy.

**Now let me tell you something about our latest four stars from Charity Navigator:** Their days are numbered. For one thing, they relate to our 2017 tax return, so they’re about a year behind! In the meantime, 2018 also had substantial red ink. Plus, having just said goodbye to Freeform, we’re shopping for another national TV network. Nevertheless, though more than one megatrend has whittled our readership and viewership, we’re staying true to the good fight, The Great Commission (Matt. 28:19–20).

Please don’t lose heart the next time CN dings a star or two. Instead, check whether our ECFA membership remains in good standing. And please continue your generous prayers and support as we weather our ongoing transition from television to internet broadcasting at [levitt.tv](http://levitt.tv). ★





# ZLM Bulletin Board

## Celebrating the Holocaust?

The British designer ImperivmCloth has been censured recently for selling Nazi-glorification products. Now removed from the Redbubble website, their T-shirts and cups were emblazoned with “Zyklon-B,” in a logo modeled after that of the oral hygiene brand Oral B. Zyklon B was a cyanide-based pesticide invented in the 1920s. **Nazis subsequently used it to kill millions of Jews during the Holocaust.** ImperivmCloth’s caption for their Jew-hater paraphernalia was, “You too can look minty fresh with this beautiful Zyklon-B design.”



**FREE ITEM**

## Why Is It Called “Personal Letter”?

Though often referred to as a newsletter, the *Levitt Letter* is a news magazine — not only colorful and intense, but indisputably pro-Israel. But what about our ministry’s other monthly mailing, which we call the *Personal Letter*? More than 30 years ago, Zola coined that term to distinguish what has become an incisive monthly Bible study from our Messianic combination of Bible teaching and news commentary. Would *Personal Bible Study Letter* be more accurate? Let us know what you think. We could still call it the *Personal Letter* for short. 😊



## Pamphlet of the Month

Life insurance is an especially flexible planning tool that can be used to meet a variety of personal financial needs. The pamphlet ***Giving Through Life Insurance*** includes six questions to determine whether a gift of life insurance would make sense for you. It also offers seven ways to give charitably using life insurance.

A table summarizes tax benefits, and the Technical Advisory Section addresses basic tax rules and more. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.



## “Come Home!”

**Zola Tours to Israel**



See [page 36](#) for details





## What Are You Seeking?

וּבְקַשְׁתֶּם אֹתִי וּמְצֵאתֶם כִּי תִדְרְשֵׁנִי בְּכָל-לְבַבְכֶם

“You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.” (Jer. 29:13)

וּ	בְּ	קַשְׁ	תֶּ	אֹ	תִי	וּ	מְ	צֵ	אֶ	תֶּ	כִּי	תִ	דְּ	רְ	שֵׁ	נִי	בְּ	כָל	-	לְ	בַבְ	כֶּ	ם			
(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)		
oo-vee	ka	sh	tem	oh	tee	oo	me	tzah	tem	oh	tee	oo	vee	kash	tem	kee	oo	me	tzah	tem	oh	tee	oo	vee	kash	tem
					Me				and will find Me		Me				when	you search for Me										

“Now without faith it is impossible to please Him, for the one who approaches God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who diligently seek Him” (Heb. 11:6). Exercising faith is the struggle to believe in the unseen presence of the Living God; it is an act of will that chooses to trust that ultimate reality is “for you” reality despite the temptation to succumb to fear. But faith is a matter of earnestness and heart. Philosopher Soren Kierkegaard (1813–1855) once wrote, “Truth is not something you can appropriate easily and quickly. You certainly cannot sleep or dream yourself into the truth. No, you must be tried, do battle, and suffer if you are to acquire truth for yourself” (*Works of Love*).

Indeed, “faith” that simply conforms or assents with a credal formula may actually indicate doubt if it refuses to ask searching questions and to struggle through our limitations. Simply going to church and mindlessly reciting (assenting to) a prayer can be a temptation against the true life of faith. Theology can become an evil if it no longer regards itself as a quest for truth as much as the protection of a belief system. A living faith realizes that God cannot be known by means of the rational intellect but by the agency of the heart quickened (enlivened) by the Holy Spirit. Faith pours out its heart to God like a child pleading with its father. Doesn’t God call you His child? (Deut. 14:1) When you trust God as your Father, you are free to “come boldly” and share with Him your thoughts, desires, feelings, joys, sorrows, and troubles.

The problem with many of us is *not* that we are very hungry but rather that we are not hungry enough. We settle for junk food when God spreads His banqueting table before us; we hanker after cheap thrills instead of experiencing the very love of God. There exists a “deeper hunger” for life, a more urgent desire, and I pray we are all touched by such yearning—a “blessed need” that expresses our soul’s cry for God, a “divine discontent” that leads us to a deeper sense of contentment for the heart (Matt. 5:6).

What are you seeking today? (John 1:38) The Spirit of the Living God calls out, “Seek Me and live” (Amos 5:4). If you feel empty today, ask God to feed you with His life-giving food. Ask Him for energy and power. Seek the LORD and His goodness. He is faithful and true and will answer the sincere cry of the heart: **“You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.” Amen.** ★



## *Called Together— Jew & Gentile, One in Messiah* DVDs Eight programs on 2 DVDs

*Called Together* focuses on how gentile Christians are recognizing their Messianic brothers and sisters (Jewish believers in Jesus/Yeshua) as the natural olive branch that Paul referred to in Romans 11. The Lord calls us to work together to bring the Messiah especially to the lost sheep of Israel. From the studio, David and Kirsten Hart present these eight programs of Bible teaching that feature Eitan Shishkoff joining a host of guests in Israel. Guest analyst Dr. Jeffrey Seif applies the lessons to our lives.



**FRIENDLY ALLIANCE** 1 Kings 5 relates the story of Jewish King Solomon and gentile King Hiram working together to build the Temple, a cooperation that models God's plan for saving the world. Guests: Chaim Malespin and Diana Frenkel.

**SALVATION RETURNS** Israel was the messenger of light to the gentiles, who now take the Gospel message back to where it began. Importer of humanitarian aid Jim Schutz shows how gentile Believers reflect God's love. An Israeli Jew and Polish Christian call us to support the Jewish people. Chaim's wife Deanna teaches us "Jesus" in Hebrew. Messianic Carolyn Hyde sings "Oseh Shalom."

**TWO LOAVES** Peter learned the mystery of gentile salvation at the house of Cornelius, welcoming gentiles into the family of God. The wall separating gentile and Jewish worlds remains a barrier to Israel's salvation.

**OLIVE OIL** Gentile Christians and Messianic Jews are called together into a shared priesthood.

**DESERT BLOOMS** Since 1948, the desert has bloomed in Israel. In the future, all nations will come here to worship. Eitan encourages Christians to help Messianic Believers restore Israel to the glory of God. Yaacov Berg explains how to refute the BDS movement.

**DRY BONES** Ezekiel envisioned dry bones that become physically and spiritually alive. Like the Prodigal Son's brother, some Christians resent the rise of Messianic congregations.

**BLOOD ATONEMENT** The Torah proclaimed that life is in the blood, and salvation comes only through blood sacrifice; both foreshadowed Jesus' sacrifice, which made Jew and gentile spiritually equal yet distinct. Together, we can celebrate the Biblical feasts in their Messianic fulfillment. Christians from diverse places show their love for the Jewish people.

**INTERSECTION OF COVENANTS** The intersection of God's covenants formed by Passover and Communion breaks down the wall between Jewish and gentile Believers. Our friendship leads to mutual respect and appreciation as we work as one family toward the final harvest.





ORDER FORM

Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	<b>A Christian Love Story</b> (pictured) .....	\$3	_____
___	Glory! The Future of the Believers .....	\$3	_____
___	How Can a Gentile Be Saved? .....	\$3	_____
___	In My Father's House .....	\$3	_____
___	Israel, My Promised .....	\$3	_____
___	The Miracle of Passover .....	\$3	_____
___	The Promised Land .....	\$3	_____
___	The Second Coming .....	\$3	_____
___	Seven Churches .....	\$3	_____
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel .....	\$3	_____
___	Spirit of Pentecost .....	\$3	_____
___	<b>Jerusalem Forever</b> (pictured) .....	\$4	_____
___	<b>Mix or Match:</b> .... 50 Classic Study Booklets (above)	\$49	_____

Books

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	An Epic Love Story..... (Part of 50-book offer above)	\$3	_____
___	The Beginning of The End .....	\$8	_____
___	<b>The Bible Jesus Read</b> (pictured) .....	\$10	_____
___	Broken Branches: Has the Church Replaced Israel? (Zola on Replacement Theology) .....	\$6	_____
___	Coming: The End! Russia/Israel in Prophecy .....	\$10	_____
___	The First Christians .....	\$8	_____
___	Genesis One .....	\$5	_____
___	<b>Heaven and Earth</b> (pictured) .....	\$18	_____
___	In the Footsteps of the Rabbi .....	\$14	_____
___	The Iranian Menace .....	\$8	_____
___	Israel's Right to the Land .....	\$2	_____
___	Once Through the New Testament .....	\$9	_____
___	The Passover Haggadah (Messianic) .....	\$6	_____
___	Raptured .....	\$10	_____
___	Signs of the End: Millennium .....	\$7	_____
___	What About Us? .....	\$8	_____
___	Whose Land Is It? .....	\$6	_____
___	<b>Zola's Introduction to Hebrew</b> (pictured) .....	\$39	_____

Featured DVDs

Qty.	Title	Price	Total
___	<b>Best of Zola's Music Videos</b> (p.5) .. (3+ hours, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	<b>Called Together</b> (p.17) .. (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	Daniel and the Last Day's Battle ... (8 prog., 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	<b>Divine Deliverance</b> (pictured) .. (12 prog., 3-DVDs)	\$69	_____
___	Evidence of God .. (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	Gospel According to Isaiah .. (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	<b>In Loving Memory</b> (p.23) .. (2 programs, 1-DVD)	\$19	_____
___	<b>Israel, My Love</b> (p.20) .. (6 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$39	_____
___	Psalms of Ascent .. (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	Sar Shalom, Prince of Peace (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel ... (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	_____
___	Upon This Rock .. (1-hr. TV special on DVD)	\$19	_____
___	<b>Zola's Highlights</b> (p.20) .. (4 programs, 1-DVD)	\$29	_____



New!

Order online at <https://store.levitt.com>  
 By phone call 24/7:  
**800-966-3377**, or  
**ZLM Dallas office:**  
**214-696-8844**, or  
 print/tear out this  
 2-pg. form, fill out  
 box at right, mail to  
**ZLM, Box 12268**  
**Dallas TX 75225**



**ORDER FORM continued**

**UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEMS!**

**Studies, Specialty, Etc.**

Qty.	Item	Price	Total
___	<b>2-flag Collar Pin</b> (pictured).....	\$2	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Body Lotion 17 oz.....	\$37 <sup>50</sup>	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Foot Cream 3.4 oz.....	\$22	___
___	AHAVA Mineral Hand Cream 3.4 oz.....	\$23	___
___	Drink Koozies.....	2 for \$5	___
___	Flag of Israel (3' x 5').....	\$10	___
___	Genealogy Chart.....	\$10	___
___	Grafted-In Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut).....	\$2	___
___	<b>Grafted-In Lapel Pin</b> (p.36).....	\$10	___
___	<b>Half-shekel Key Chain</b> (pictured).....	\$10	___
___	<b>NEW! Jewish Heritage Calendar</b> (5780/2020) (pictured).....	\$6	___
___	Messianic Grafted-In Sterling Necklace.....	\$39	___
___	Notecards—Hebrew Names of God (12 cards).....	\$24	___
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem.....	\$12	___
___	“Pray for the Peace” Bumper Sticker.....	\$2	___
___	The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark.....	2 for \$1	___
___	<b>Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies</b> (info only)....	no charge	___



**Teaching CDs**

___	Christian Love Story.....	(CD)	\$7	___
___	Survey of the New Testament.....	(CD)	\$7	___
___	<b>Zola Teaches the New Testament</b> (pictured).....	(6 CDs)	\$29	___

**Music CDs: Hear samples at [levitt.com/music](http://levitt.com/music)**

___	I Call You Friend (Goetz).....	(Music CD)	\$14	___
___	The Works.....	(Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___
___	The Works II.....	(Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	___
___	<b>NEW! Zion Song</b> (Harts) (p.25) (pictured)....	(Music CD)	\$12	___

**PLEASE SEND THIS ENTIRE 2-PAGE ORDER FORM—THANKS.**

**Please fill out area below and send the entire page.**

**Shipping & Handling Chart**

up to \$15.99, add \$5  
 \$16 to \$30.99, add \$7  
 \$31 to \$60.99, add \$9  
 \$61 to \$97.99, add \$10  
 \$98 and over, FREE SHIPPING

For shipments outside the United States, please **DOUBLE** shipping. Please send U.S. funds.

(Please allow about 2–3 weeks for delivery.)

Any amount that exceeds the listed price is considered a tax-deductible gift to our ministry.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

Shipping Address \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

On what station/network do you primarily watch our programs? \_\_\_\_\_

Donor # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

(see number above your name on mailing label)

My check is enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or, Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to:

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Card ID# required \_\_\_\_\_



Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping (See left chart) \_\_\_\_\_

UPS shipping (\$4 extra) \_\_\_\_\_

Rush! (\$5 extra) \_\_\_\_\_

8.25% Tax (Texas only) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation? \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_





## *Israel, My Love — 27 Years with Zola Levitt* DVDs

Six 30-Minute TV Programs on 2 DVDs

Zola accepted Jesus as his Messiah on March 14, 1971. Within several years, he authored a dozen books and hosted a live talk-radio program. In December 1978, Zola's ministry expanded to television.

From then until the end of his life, Zola produced over 700 hours of television that reached millions. This retrospective series of six programs brings you many highlights of Zola's work, music, and life.

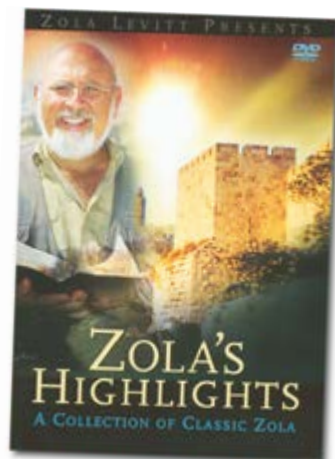
### Six 30-minute programs include:

- First Love
- Covenants Revealed
- Scripture Upheld
- Prophecy Unfolded
- Faith Proved
- Ultimate Victory

## *Zola's Highlights: A Collection of Classic Zola* DVD

Four TV Programs on 1 DVD

This video collection of classic Zola teaching celebrates the timeless teachings of the late Zola Levitt, one of the most beloved Bible teachers in America. Highlights from 30 years of TV broadcasting are condensed into four half-hour programs that examine Zola's early, mid-career, and later teaching. Stunning on-location footage from Israel gives viewers insights into the Biblical world and Word.



**1. *Israel, My Promised*** Zola taught the Scriptures from a decidedly Jewish perspective. In one of his first series, *Messiah*, Zola taught about Jesus' Jewish beginnings. In *Armageddon*, he talked about The End. This program contains these topics and others.

**2. *Israel By Divine Right*** Drawing on Zola's mid-career teachings, we see him investigate and extol the Gospel's expansion beyond Jews ... to non-Jews. Though many knew Jesus as the Savior, Zola wanted the world to know Him as the *Jewish* Savior. With this emphasis, this program also delves into the Dead Sea Scrolls, introduces Islam, and considers prophecy.

**3. *Jerusalem Forever*** Zola's contagious love for Israel—which mimics Scripture's—is apparent in his music, books, and TV productions. This program visits Zola in mid-career when he teaches about the Bible's Jewish roots, emphasizing his trademark topic: prophecy.

**4. *Friends of the Rabbi*** Viewer interest in how the Old Testament feast days connect to New Testament events made *The Holy Days of Our Lord* one of Zola's more popular series. Zola examined that connection by focusing on those who claimed to follow Jesus: early Believers, Crusaders, and others.





# Refuge for Disabled Animals

BY ELANA RINGLER / Reuters.com

Miri, a three-legged donkey; Gary, a sheep with leg braces; and Omer, a blind goat, munch on some hay at Israel's only animal rescue and educational sanctuary.

Founded by animal rights activists Adit Romano, a 52-year-old former business executive, and Meital Ben Ari, 38, who used to work in tech, Freedom Farm serves as a refuge for mostly disabled animals and as an educational center for visitors.

"If you want people to open their hearts to these animals, we have to bring them close," said Romano, stroking two pigs named Yossi and Omri.

Most of the nearly 240 animals at the facility were raised for slaughter. Some were donated by farmers who chose to save them. Others, like Miri, who was found lying in a ditch with a broken leg, were abandoned. After Miri's rescue, her leg was amputated.

Ben Ari said children with special needs particularly enjoy tours of the farm and its five acres of green pastures, stables, and a barn in Moshav Olesh, an agricultural community in central Israel.

On a visit with her 84-year-old father, Shira Breuer said: "I'm worried about the future of humanity, and this place sounds like a place of hope."

The farm's most recent addition is Nir, a five-month-old cow fitted with a prosthetic leg to replace one that was broken and then amputated. Freedom Farm raised money for the artificial limb and medical care through an internet crowd-funding campaign.

It costs about \$1 million a year to run the farm, which relies on contributions and volunteer workers from Israel and abroad, including musicians who come and play for the animals.

*The righteous care for the needs of their animals, but the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel.*  
(Proverbs 12:10) — Kirsten ★



**top:** Meital Ben Ari, a co-founder of "Freedom Farm" kisses Omri, a pig, in his sty at the farm.

**second:** Gary, a sheep with leg braces

**third:** A volunteer walks with Nir, a cow with prosthetic leg.

**bottom:** A volunteer plays guitar as another pats a goat.



To  
Index

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY



GOCOMICS.COM/NONSEQUITUR



# Letters to ZLM

For ministry products and TV programs, visit the [web store](#) and [video archives](#).

## Comments from [www.levitt.com](http://www.levitt.com)

**From C.C. (MT):** I just viewed [Divine Deliverance](#) again and it is AWESOME. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for producing these programs. They could not be better done.

## Calling all critics to pray

Dear ZLM,

I love the Harts — They are loving and kind, even when people write cruel comments. All you critics out there need to pray for the Harts to fill the big shoes that preceded them. — C.J. (CA)

Dear C.J. —

In a world where saying something nice can be rare, we appreciate your encouraging praise. Thank you for suggesting that ZLMers pray for us. We'll take all the prayers we can get! — David

## Prayers from friends

Dear ZLM,

I ever thank you for how much your ministry has taught me and opened my eyes. I ever pray for you. — A.M. (WI)

Dear A.M. —

Sweet friend. This ministry thanks you for your prayers, and also for letting us know that we are making a positive impact. Your affirmation makes all of our studying and long hours putting together TV programs even more worthwhile. — David

*(continued next page)*

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

GOCOMICS.COM/NONSEQUITUR



## Subscription renewal

Dear ZLM,

You stopped my “free” *Levitt Letters*, so I had no choice to stop sending donations. I never had this problem when Zola was alive or when Jeffrey took over. I’m 86 and live on a very small Social Security check. I cannot send you money every month, but it seems you are money hungry. I had a stroke three years ago and cannot take care of my business like before.

I’m disappointed in you that you don’t send me the “free” magazine because I’ve always sent enough money to you to pay for a subscription. Now I’m sending you a donation so I can receive the “free” *Levitt Letters* again. You are not Zola or Jeffrey. Shape up! — God bless you, M.L. (VA)

Dear M.L. —

Thanks for your contribution — and for caring enough about your *Levitt Letter* to drop us a line. **You’re absolutely right: none of us is Zola** (though Jeffrey is back on our TV program). You did not, however, need to send a gift to reinstate your subscription. Your note was enough.

My hunch is that more time than you realized had passed before we had to stop your mailings. Good stewardship requires us to stop sending letters to folks who’ve gone silent, perhaps because they’ve lost interest or moved away. As long as we hear from you every year or so — with or without a contribution — you won’t miss any *Levitt Letters*. Welcome back ... and God bless you, too! —Mark

Dear M.L. —

Our office staff has updated your *Levitt Letter* subscription. Let me thank

*(continued next page)*



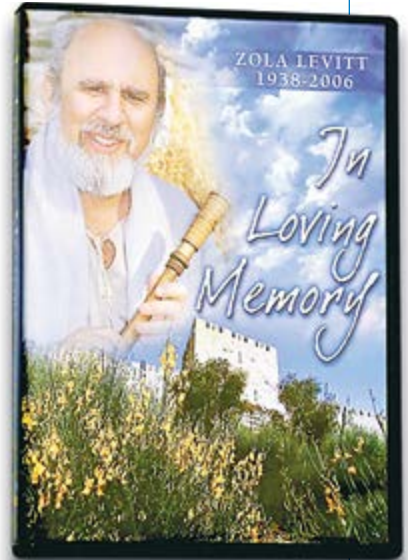
## *In Loving Memory* DVD

Two TV Programs on 1 DVD

These two television productions—*Remembering Zola* and *In Loving Memory*—are dedicated to the viewers and readers who loved Zola like a family member. Join us as we celebrate his work, music, joy in the Lord, and sense of humor. Remember a man who lived to open others’ eyes to the beauty of God and His Word.

***Remembering Zola*** is a one-hour television special recorded at Zola’s memorial service in Dallas on May 7, 2006. This retrospective of Zola and his ministry includes highlights of past telecasts as well as tributes to a never-to-be-forgotten warrior of the faith.

***In Loving Memory*** is a half-hour tribute to Zola by those who knew him best. His widow, Sandra, talks with Zola’s family, friends, and co-workers in this special reminiscence of a man who planted seeds of faith in millions of lives.





you for using quotation marks around the word *free*. You're exactly right. The *Levitt Letter* costs the ministry quite a bit of money to publish and mail every month. It, indeed, is not "free" to us. But the best news is that we still don't charge a penny to our readers. That's why we're thankful to people like you who consider this publication worthy of funding. —Kirsten

## Humor is in the eyes

Dear ZLM,

What's the meaning of the cartoon at the bottom of [page 24 \(June Levitt Letter\)](#)? —S.S. (TX)

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

GOCOMICS.COM/NONSEQUITUR



Dear S.S. —

Wiley, who drew the "Non Sequitur" cartoon (shown just above), has a vivid imagination when it comes to picturing Heaven. His humorous takes on the Pearly Gates are open to various interpretations. We dubbed this one "All Creatures." Saint Peter discovers that he has a mouse ... whose mousehole looks appropriate for one occupying the gatekeeper's desk. If you've ever wondered whether you'll see your beloved pets in the hereafter, the mouse could be the cartoonist's wink at that possibility. Then again, this could portray the dream of a poor church mouse—or of the cat who ate him! —Mark and Editor



## Still questioning ZLM's Passion Week timeline

Dear ZLM,

In Tom McCall's article on the [June 2019 Levitt Letter](#) cover, he says Yeshua was crucified on Friday. This is not correct. ... Don't take my word for it, Google it. —B.S.

Dear B.S. —

I must point out that if you Google Yeshua's Passion Week timeline, you'll find Dr. McCall's article (and many others) because — surprise! — Google's computers didn't attend an accredited school of theology. Rather, Google presents everything written about Yeshua's timeline by anyone EVER, regardless of any scholarship.

As we've mentioned too many times to count, **you may believe whatever timeline you choose just as long as you believe that Yeshua's death and resurrection provided salvation for believing mortals.** However, ignoring the events' concurrence with the Lord's Feasts — and Christ finishing His work on the 6<sup>th</sup> day as He did during the Creation — misses the elegance of Divine design. — Editor

*(continued next page)*

## “King of the Jews,” “Lion of Judah,” “God of Israel”

Dear ZLM,

Kirsten stated: “Jesus was Jewish” ([June Levitt Letter p. 22](#)). He was Jewish ONLY during His time on earth. Neither He nor the Father are Jewish. They are Father and Son to the whole human race, and that has always been a problem to the Hebrews. —D.P.



*Ecce Homo (Behold the Man!)*, painting by Antonio Ciseri (1821–1891), Museo Cantonale d’Arte

Dear D.P. —

Yeshua was indeed Jewish while He walked the Earth. Interesting that in End Times prophecies, we see Him coming to redeem the Jewish people, and that He will reign as King of the Jews in His millennial reign. Perhaps His “Jewishness” extends deeper than just His short thirty-three years as a man. —Kirsten ★



## Zion Song music CD

During his lifetime, Zola Levitt composed over 200 Spirit-filled songs. This rich legacy was revived when musicians David and Kirsten Hart became the studio hosts for *Zola Levitt Presents* in 2017. You have likely heard them sing on the program. To fully appreciate their gifts, tour Israel with them and hear them sing in the Upper Room ... or on the Mount of Olives ... or crossing the Sea of Galilee.



**JUST  
RELEASED!**  
(sample here)



Why are David and Kirsten smiling while holding a CD? Because they received the very first “*Zion Song*” album. On it they sing 11 songs written by Zola and arranged and orchestrated by Sammy Davenport, hopefully the first of many beautiful tributes to Zola’s musical legacy. The general public won’t get word of *Zion Song*’s release until we offer it when the series *Joshua: More than a Conqueror* debuts in October. **However, you can get your copy now!**

# Plastic From Seaweed

SCIENCE: [Israel21c.org](http://Israel21c.org)

Plastic is bad for the environment. That's why bioplastics — plastics made from renewable sources like plants or old waste — were invented. But the plants used in these bioplastics require fresh water, a scarce resource in many countries.



Seaweed

One such country is Israel, which does not have a surplus of fresh water. Other countries that suffer from the same problem are populous nations China and India, whose plastic consumption is disastrous for the planet.

This is the problem that researchers from Tel Aviv University (TAU) tackled by developing bioplastic polymers derived from microorganisms that feed on seaweed. These microorganisms can be bred in salty seawater without taxing freshwater resources.



Prof. Michael Gozin

The result is a biodegradable polymer that produces zero toxic waste and recycles into organic waste. The study that led to it, carried out by Alexander Golberg and Prof. Michael Gozin from TAU, was recently published in the journal *Bioresource Technology*.

"Plastics take hundreds of years to decay. Bottles, packaging, and bags create plastic 'continents' in the oceans, endangering animals and polluting the environment," said Golberg, a senior lecturer at TAU's Porter School of the Environment and Earth Sciences.

"A partial solution to the plastics epidemic is bioplastics, which don't use petroleum, and which degrade quickly. But bioplastics also have an environmental price: growing the plants or bacteria to make the plastic requires fertile soil and fresh water, which many countries, including Israel, don't have," he added. "Our new process produces 'plastic' from marine microorganisms that recycle into organic waste."

In the new process, the researchers harnessed microorganisms that feed on seaweed to produce a bioplastic polymer called polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA).

Golberg said, "These algae were eaten by single-celled microorganisms, which also grow in very salty water and produce a polymer that can be used to make bioplastic." According to Golberg, the study could revolutionize the world's efforts to clean the oceans without affecting arable land and without using fresh water.

"Plastic from fossil sources is one of the most polluting factors in the oceans," he added. "We have proved that it is possible to produce bioplastic completely based on marine resources in a process that is friendly both to the environment and to its residents." ★





# Autism and C-sections



**MEDICINE: BY JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH** (r) BreakingIsraelNews.com

Autism arouses great fears because so little is known about its causes, and, while there are numerous subtypes along the autism spectrum and children can improve, it is not yet curable.

Now, researchers at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) and Soroka University Medical Center in Beersheba have documented how **children who are exposed to general anesthesia during Caesarean section births are at higher risk of developing autism.**

Their findings were just published in the *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* under the title "Exposure to General Anesthesia May Contribute to the Association between Caesarean Delivery and Autism Spectrum Disorder."

"We have known for many years that children born via C-section are at higher risk of autism, but we weren't able to quantify exactly why," says Dr. Idan Menashe, from BGU's department of public health and the Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience.

"The current research shows that the exposure to general anesthesia commonly used to perform a Caesarean section, rather than the operation itself, is related to communication challenges later in life. This distinction is important because our findings suggest that C-sections performed with other types of anesthesia such as epidural or spinal sedation are relatively safe," explained Menashe, who also serves as the scientific director of BGU's National Autism Research Center.

Last year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control announced that one in 59 children is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Boys are four times more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls. The condition, which is characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication, can be reliably diagnosed as early as 18 months. However, in most countries, parents receive the diagnosis after age four. ★



Mothers understandably look for ways to protect their children

# Holy Land History Lesson

BY SETH J. FRANTZMAN (r) JPost.com



Recently, U.S. Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib (MI) claimed that she thought it was her Palestinian ancestors who provided a “safe haven for Jews.” According to a report, she claimed that while Palestinians had “lost their land and some lost their lives,” it was done “in the name of trying to create a safe haven for Jews, post-Holocaust, post-tragedy and the horrific persecution of Jews across the world at that time. And I love that it was my ancestors that provided that in many ways.” One problem. That’s the opposite of what happened.

## What Really Happened

As Nazi persecution of the Jews was seeking to deprive them of their rights, after the 1935 Nuremberg Laws and the Kristallnacht pogrom in 1938, the Palestinian Arab revolt in British Mandate Palestine [the area we now know as Israel and Jordan] led to restrictions on Jewish immigration. At precisely the time when Jews needed a safe haven, it was taken from them by the British authorities — due in large part to Palestinian Arab opposition to Jewish refugee immigration [that would increase the population of Palestinian Jews].



Rashida Tlaib at the Islamic Society of North America's annual convention

credit: Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State



Hitler hosts the Grand Mufti



The 1939 White Paper (a policy paper issued by the British government under Neville Chamberlain) was a response to three years of revolt in Palestine led by Grand Mufti Haj Amin al-Husseini. It began in May 1936 and was not fully defeated until August 1939. **The White Paper limited Jewish immigration to 75,000 people in five years, precisely the years of the Holocaust.**

The British couldn't have known the duration of the Holocaust at the time, but they would have known that the *MS St. Louis* had left Hamburg on May 13, 1939 with Jewish refugees seeking to flee Germany. The ship was prevented from letting its refugees off in Canada and the U.S., and 254 of the refugees were murdered by the Nazis. In fact, the boat was forced back to Europe in June, and the UK took 288 of its 900 passengers. So, the UK was keenly aware of Jewish refugees fleeing Europe. But the UK

wanted to placate the Palestinian Arab rebels as the war clouds gathered in Europe. The White Paper was the response. The problem with Tlaib's characterization of Palestine as a “safe haven” is that reality shows that Jewish immigrants and refugees were *not* welcomed or provided a safe haven in the region. Instead, they faced consistent harassment and massacre.

In April 1920, Husseini (who led the Arab Revolt in the 1930s) used the occasion of the Muslim procession of Nebi Musa in Old City Jerusalem to instigate riots

*(continued next page)*



1939 White Paper, statement of British policy in Mandatory Palestine, ratified May 1939



against Jews. The British concluded that the riots were due to “Arab disappointment at non-fulfillment of the promises of independence” and “Arab belief that the Balfour Declaration implied a denial of self-determination.” The November 1917 Balfour Declaration had been issued by the British with promises to help create a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.

In August 1929, more riots across British Mandate Palestine led to the murder of 133 Jews, including the massacre of Palestinian Jews in Hebron. These were also incited by Husseini, who had given out pamphlets claiming there was a Jewish conspiracy to take over al-Aqsa Mosque. **This was not a “safe haven,” but a butchering and persecution of ancient Jewish communities** in places like Hebron. It was not opposition to “Zionism,” but the purposeful targeting of the most vulnerable and indigenous Jewish communities.



London Conference, St. James's Palace, February 1939

credit: Wikimedia Commons (from <http://www.passa.org> with permission)

Far from being a safe haven, the British interned Jewish refugees in camps in Palestine. One of the many internment camps for Jews can still be seen at Atlit, a coastal town south of Haifa. It is thought that 122,000 Jews were able to flee into Palestine through the British blockade, but many thousands ended up in camps like Atlit. They were sprayed with DDT, harming their health. The British even sought to deport Jewish refugees who were able to make it to other countries. For instance, they tried to send 1,800 Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi Europe in 1940 to Mauritius aboard the *Patria* and another ship, *Atlantic*. This was not a “safe haven” but a brutal treatment meted out to the weakest and most vulnerable people who had risked everything trying to flee Hitler’s Europe. At a time when Jews desperately needed to leave, not only were the doors of Western countries closed to them, but also those of British Mandate Palestine and other areas in the Middle East.



The Arab revolt of 1936–39 in Palestine

Grand Mufti Husseini had fled British Palestine by this time and ended up briefly in Lebanon and then Iraq. In Iraq, he supported the extremist nationalism that led to the 1941 pro-Nazi Rashid Ali coup and the Farhud, in which hundreds of Iraqi Jews were killed. Later, Husseini was able to get to Hitler’s Europe, where he supported the Holocaust.

There *were* Palestinian Arab leaders who sought reconcil-

iation and coexistence. Fakhri Nashashibi, who was assassinated by Husseini’s agents, had good relations with Jews in British Palestine, and many prominent Jews attended his funeral. But in general, the voices that might have created a safe haven were either drowned out, ignored, or assassinated by Muslim leaders. ★





Hamas repeatedly fires rockets into Israel



## SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

### Tormented by Terror

By Rebecca J. Brimmer, International President and CEO of Bridges for Peace

Israeli mothers living on the Gaza border are crying out. For over a year, violent riots, sniper fire, arson kites, and Hamas rockets have kept Israelis running for the safety of bomb shelters. One mother from Sderot poured out her heart in a video released by Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "It's unnatural to run to a safe space with sirens blaring, in a frenzy, and then try to convince your child there's no need to be scared."

Families on the Gaza border have only 15 seconds to find shelter from Hamas rockets. They live in constant tension, wondering when the next attack will come. A shocking 40% of the children suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a condition generally found in soldiers who have faced combat. It takes specialized techniques to treat these children and teach them to handle the stress coursing through their tiny bodies during attacks.

Terror and the ensuing fear, grief, and tragedy are part of the harsh reality of daily life as Palestinian terrorists aim to turn Israel's roads, street corners, and bus stops into battlefields. Parents tuck their children into bed at night, wondering whether they will awaken to the scream of incoming rockets.

Hamas recently resumed launching long-range rockets into central Israel. The first attempts reached Tel Aviv, but the Iron Dome missile defense

system prevented casualties. Less than two weeks later, a Hamas rocket struck the Wolf family home, injuring family members and killing two beloved pets. It tore through the roof and detonated on the floor, showering shrapnel everywhere and setting the home ablaze. Everyone agreed: the family's survival was nothing short of miraculous.



Osher Twito, 9, copes with the loss of his leg after he and his big brother Rami were seriously hurt when a Qassam rocket exploded next to them in Sderot.

A few moments reduced the Wolf family's entire existence to rubble. Still, it could have been worse. Shrapnel ripped through a baby crib. The Wolf's five-month-old daughter suffered shrapnel embedded in her head but

*(continued next page)*





## Holocaust Photos Misrepresented as Arab Victims of Israel

By Itamar Marcus and Nan Jacques Zilberdik  
PalWatch.org

Official Palestinian Authority TV recently broadcast pictures of bodies of Holocaust victims in a Nazi concentration camp, misrepresenting them as pictures of Arab victims killed by Jews in the village of Deir Yassin in 1948.

Palestinian Media Watch has documented the recurring practice of official PA TV presenting Holocaust victims as Arab victims of Israel.

For more information, search ["Pallywood"](https://www.wikipedia.org) at [wikipedia.org](https://www.wikipedia.org). ★

is expected to make a full recovery. Throughout Scripture we see God's tender compassion for the hurting, grief-stricken, and mourning. He "heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Ps. 147:3) and promises to console those who grieve (Matt. 5:4). He also calls us to partner with Him in this crucial task. "Comfort, yes, comfort My people" (Isaiah 40:1-2).

[Zola Tours don't travel near the Gaza Strip. Generally, Israel is safer than most American cities.](#) — Kirsten



**top:** PA TV's text on screen April 2019: "Occupied Jerusalem – 71 years since the Deir Yassin massacre"  
**bottom:** Picture taken right after liberation by the American army on April 17, 1945: Nordhausen, a sub-camp of Buchenwald, showing hundreds of dead victims





# 1<sup>st</sup>-Century Jerusalem “Suburb”



ARCHAEOLOGY: BY JULIE STAHL (r) CBN.com

New building construction in Israel often yields ancient treasures, as is the case in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Sharafat. Israeli archaeologists uncovered a Jewish village from around the time of Jesus in this Arab neighborhood as part of a “salvage excavation” — an excavation conducted while preparing the site for a new building (in this case, an elementary school).

“The most spectacular find here is a grand burial estate,” said archaeologist Ya’akov Billig, who is leading the site’s excavation for the Israel Antiquities Authority. Today, the area is inside Jerusalem. Two thousand years ago, it would have been a suburb of Jerusalem.



Burial estate entrance

“The burial estate starts from a stepped, long corridor going under a bridge, like an overpass, into a courtyard with a bench on each side,” Billig explained. “From there upwards, there was a covered barrel entrance to the burial cave, and from there inwards is the underground burial cave.” Billig noted that the burial estate tells a lot about its owners.

“The whole plan belonged to a very important or very rich person and his family, possibly for several generations,” he said. They’ve also identified a Jewish ritual bath.

“Grape vineyards were likely grown here. We have evidence of a winepress with a very large treading floor,” said Billig. “Also, an olive press. Between the wine and the olive oil, the family probably enjoyed a high living standard.”



Dovecote — a shelter with nest holes for domestic pigeons

The best of the harvest was probably delivered to the Temple — just an hour’s walk away. In addition to the large olive press, there’s a smaller one where the virgin olive oil was made.

“Virgin’ denotes the first squeeze, the top quality. I assume that when the Temple existed not far away, that virgin oil went

*(continued next page)*





as a dedication to the Temple — “Thank you, God, for giving me the abundance of what I have now,” Billig said.

The excavated area constituted only part of the settlement, the industrial zone. There was also a dovecote for raising doves and pigeons. Billig said that discoveries like this one tell us much about the people from that time.

“They had probably a lot of interaction with the population of the city — maybe even with pilgrims going up to Jerusalem,” Billig said.

“We can’t forget that Jerusalem had to be supplied with produce, and here we have evidence of growing grapes, producing wine, growing olives, producing olive oil, growing pigeons, supplying the population with poultry, with eggs, and also sacrifices for the Temple,” he added.

As for what’s ahead, pottery fragments and other discoveries, like a rare heart-shaped capital, will be preserved offsite. Billig added that he hopes the items that can’t be moved — like the burial cave and olive press — will be preserved and protected as they are. ★



### Crossword August 2019: ***Psalms of Ascent (niv)*** (answers on [p. 35](#))

**ACROSS**

1. I am for \_\_\_\_ (Psalm 120:7)
3. I \_\_\_\_ for the Lord... (Psalm 130:6)
7. \_\_\_\_ are all who fear the Lord... (Psalm 128:1)
9. \_\_\_\_ be to the Lord... (Psalm 124:6)
10. The Lord has done \_\_\_\_ things... (Psalm 126:3)
12. But with You there is \_\_\_\_ (Psalm 130:4)
15. But the Lord is \_\_\_\_ (Psalm 129:4)
16. Those who \_\_\_\_ in the Lord... (Psalm 125:1)
17. Lift up your hands in the \_\_\_\_ (Psalm 134:2)
18. Have \_\_\_\_ on us, Lord... (Psalm 123:3)
19. \_\_\_\_ are a heritage from the Lord... (Psalm 127:3)

**DOWN**

2. For the Lord has \_\_\_\_ Zion... (Psalm 132:13)
4. He Himself will redeem \_\_\_\_ (Psalm 130:8)
5. My \_\_\_\_ is not proud, Lord... (Psalm 131:1)
6. Unless the Lord \_\_\_\_ the house... (Psalm 127:1)
8. The Lord \_\_\_\_ over you... (Psalm 121:5)
9. How good and \_\_\_\_ it is... (Psalm 133:1)
11. Pray for the peace of \_\_\_\_ (Psalm 122:6)
13. Our \_\_\_\_ are standing... (Psalm 122:2)
14. ...”Let us go to the \_\_\_\_ of the Lord.” (Psalm 122:1)



# Hirsi Ali & Omar: Tale of Two Somalis

BY ANDREA LEVIN (r) JewishPress.com

## Ilhan Omar

In commentary on Minnesota Rep. **Ilhan Omar's** denigration of Jews, a vital dimension of her outbursts has been largely overlooked. No one is asking what prompted her anti-Semitic prejudice. Whence comes the voluble contempt for the Jewish people?



## Ayaan Hirsi Ali

**Ayaan Hirsi Ali**, another Somali refugee, provides an answer in her autobiography *Infidel*, where she writes about the pervasive anti-Semitism in the Muslim world. She observes:

*[A]s a child growing up in a Muslim family, I constantly heard my mother,*

*other relatives, and neighbors wish for the death of Jews, who were considered our darkest enemy. Our religious tutors and the preachers in our mosques set aside extra time to pray for the destruction of Jews.*

She has noted:

*All over the Middle East, hatred for Jews and Zionists can be found in textbooks for children as young as 3, complete with illustrations of Jews with monster-like qualities. Mainstream educational television programs are consistently anti-Semitic. In songs, books, newspaper articles and blogs, Jews are variously compared to pigs, donkeys, rats, and cockroaches, and also to vampires and a host of other imaginary creatures.*

Hirsi Ali describes a school during her years in Kenya in which the

teacher taught: "Only if all Jews were destroyed would peace come for the Muslims." Like the other young students, she feared and dreaded this pervasive menace.

Both Somalia and Kenya were also home to Omar, whose now famous comments include: "Israel has hypnotized the world. May Allah awaken the people and help them see the evil doings of Israel."

Hirsi Ali relates that "millions of Muslims have been conditioned to regard Jews not only as the enemies of Palestine but as the enemies of all Muslims, of God, and of all humanity." Muslim leaders have raised "generations to believe that Jews are 'the scum of the human race, the rats of the world, the violators of pacts and agreements, the murderers of the prophets, and the offspring of apes and pigs.'"

**Omar would have likely been exposed to this bigotry in Somalia and Kenya**, and might not have escaped it even when she got to America. As MEMRI.org has documented, numerous mosques in the United States echo the same rabid messages.

A reading from the Koran: "Judgment day will not come until the Muslims fight the Jews. The Muslims will kill the Jews, and the Jews will hide behind the stones and the trees, and the stones and the trees will say: Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him."

Omar's utterances are stunning on many counts, but they should raise questions about the influences in her life that have instilled bigotry against Jews and Israel.

**Yet, Muslims continue to insist that Islam is a religion of peace. — Kirsten ★**



# JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.



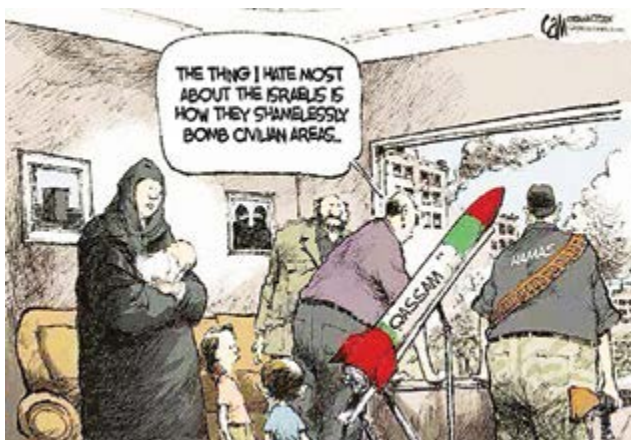
*A cheerful heart is good medicine—*  
Proverbs 17:22

## Customer Service

Joshua worked for Levine's Tailors and was a successful salesman. Always polite to his customers, he could sell a suit to almost anyone who walked into the shop. It surprised everyone when, after 10 successful years, he resigned to join the police force.

His father couldn't understand his son's job change. So, at the end of Joshua's first week, Dad telephoned Joshua to ask how he liked his new job.

"Well," Joshua replied, "The salary is OK, the hours aren't as bad as I expected, and my colleagues are a great bunch. But what I like best is that the customer is always wrong." ★



## Answer Key for August 2019 Crossword (p.33)

Across:

1. Peace
3. Wait
7. Blessed
9. Praise
10. Great
12. Forgiveness

Down:

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2. Chosen   | 11. Jerusalem |
| 4. Israel   | 13. Feet      |
| 5. Heart    | 14. House     |
| 6. Builds   |               |
| 8. Watches  |               |
| 9. Pleasant |               |



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Petra,  
Acropolis,  
& Garden  
Tomb



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