



ZOLA LEVITT MINISTRIES  
P.O. BOX 12268  
DALLAS, TX 75225-0268

OFFICE:  
214-696-8844  
staff@levitt.com

24-HOUR  
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Enhancing Trust

April 2024

Dear Reader,

"No news is good news." Though people say this to suggest that a lack of information means that everything is fine, that's not always true, is it? While all that happens to us isn't always bad, we live in a fallen world where evil continues to affect us. Even so, we Believers know that evil doesn't have the final word. We have hope because we recognize that our Heavenly Father is still working in this world (John 5:17) to deal with evil until that day when He does away with it and makes everything new (Rev. 21).

This *Levitt Letter* addresses some of the evil in our world. It's noted in Kirsten's article (4) and in the story of the Israeli peace activist who is reconsidering her assumption of the decency of Palestinians after the October 7 atrocities (20). Todd Baker discusses "The Problem of Evil" (12), and Classic Zola (10) reminds us to be discerning as we look at evil in our world and those who are addressing it. The April issue also includes articles about Israeli innovation in science (26) and medicine (27), anti-Semitism (34), and much more.

*"Be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:14-15). Please also continue to sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim — "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Ps. 122:6),*



Greg Miller, Editor  
Zola Levitt Ministries

**P.S.** The production crew of *Our Jewish Roots* is set to return to Israel this month to film new Bible-teaching programs. Your generosity to Zola Levitt Ministries enables us to produce on-location, pro-Israel updates and Gospel insights for viewers and readers around the globe. Through your continued prayers and contributions, others can experience God's salvation and peace that overcome the power of sin, death, and evil in our world. Thank you!

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# Levitt LETTER

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



## Passover and Gentiles: A Universal Exodus

By Toby Janicki  
FFOZ.org

I was at Whole Foods to buy some matzah but couldn't locate the Passover section. I eventually asked a store worker for help. As we walked, he asked, "What is Passover? Customers keep talking about it, and I have no idea what it is." Before I answered, I quickly assessed his background. Obviously, he was not Jewish, and I guessed that he wasn't a Christian either. So, I explained about the festival and its symbolism in the most universal way while still centering on the Biblical background of the Exodus from Egypt.

Passover, although a Jewish festival, has meaning for non-Jews. Many people can identify with the themes of oppression under foreign powers, exile from a homeland, and the hope of liberation.

**In the first century, many God-fearing gentiles celebrated Passover with the Jewish people.** Even rabbinic literature made room for non-Jews at a Seder. In the Second Temple Period, gentiles were

*(continued p.4)*

### REMEMBER:

**Passover week:** Sunset Mon., April 22 to sunset Tue., April 30

## Most U.S. Jews Feel "Less Safe" After Oct. 7

by Ben Cohen / [Algemeiner.com](http://Algemeiner.com)

A large majority of American Jews feel "less safe" in the United States in the wake of the Hamas atrocities of October 7 — the worst outburst of anti-Semitic violence since the Holocaust.

A recent survey by the American Jewish Committee (AJC) found that 78% of respondents felt more insecure following that pogrom. Hamas terrorists murdered more



*(continued p.2)*

# Most U.S. Jews Feel “Less Safe” After Oct. 7 *continued from cover*



credit: Jacob Lee Green / Sipa USA via Reuters Connect

A pro-Hamas demonstrator in Los Angeles, October 2023

than 1,200 people and took over 200 hostages to Gaza amid atrocities that included mass rape and mutilation of victims.

The survey also revealed that 63% of American Jews believe that their overall status in the U.S. is “less safe,” compared with 41% in 2022 and 31% in 2021. The AJC has conducted the annual survey since 2019.

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## 40%

of Jewish college students  
have felt the consequences  
of anti-Semitism

---

Some incidents happened to people who were mourning friends or relatives who lost their lives during the Hamas atrocities. “I was at an outdoor vigil mourning the murdered Israelis. Three separate times, people drove past yelling out their car window, ‘Kill them all,’ among other things,” one respondent recalled.

Fear of anti-Semitism has prompted 46% of the U.S. Jews surveyed to change their behavior. The survey also noted that about 40% of Jewish college students have felt the consequences of anti-Semitism, with one in five saying they have been excluded from a group or event because they are Jewish.

“This should alarm everyone, especially with the dramatic increase of anti-Semitic activity on college campuses that has continued into 2024,” said AJC CEO Ted Deutch.

The survey also revealed that awareness of the problem of anti-Semitism has increased significantly among non-Jews. Nearly three-fourths of U.S. adults surveyed acknowledged that hatred and hostility to Jews “is a problem” while 92% expressed agreement with the statement, “Everyone is responsible for combating anti-Semitism.”

The survey, released in February 2024, was conducted for the AJC’s “2023 State of Anti-Semitism Report.”

I would feel the same way! Anti-Semitism is a huge problem. It is time for us to rise up as the Church and as individuals to voice our protest. —David ✨





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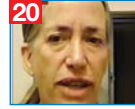
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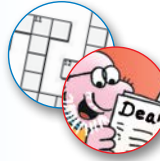
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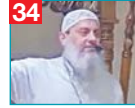
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## What Should We Think About Israel?

book

We hear about Israel in the news regularly. But beyond the many opinions and preconceptions, what should we make of the conflicts and controversies in the Middle East? *What Should We Think About Israel?* exposes the main current issues and provides well-researched, objective facts to help you discover the truth about Israel’s past, present, and future. Learn from respected scholars how to look beyond the heated debates and discern for yourself what is important to know about Israel and how that affects you today.



# Passover and Gentiles: A Universal Exodus

*continued from cover*



credit: Radlat / wikipedia.org

A Seder table setting

not permitted to eat the *Pesach* sacrifice (Ex. 12:48), but they could eat unleavened bread and bitter herbs and participate in the rest of the meal. The historian Eusebius noted that at a Passover feast in Jerusalem near the end of the Second Temple Period, "all the tribes, with the gentiles also, are come together on account of the Passover."

## Illustrating the Journey

Rabbi David Katz uses the imagery of Passover and matzah to illustrate the journey of every gentile who leaves idolatry and joins the worship of the One True God:

Matzah is *pashut*, free from the addition of other elements. It contains nothing but flour and water, and is kneaded, rolled out, and baked. Conversely, leavened bread, i.e., *chametz*, in addition to flour and water, is combined with leavening, which attaches itself to every grain of flour, causing the dough to rise. As a result, the grains are not free, but under the influence of leavening. Similarly, when one is subjugated to a

master, he has not attained freedom. And freedom is the ingredient through which redemption (*geulah*) was created.

He adds that the gentile must free himself from the yoke of idolatry and into the freedom of the worship of the God of Israel. It is like his own personal exodus.

## Learning from the Passover

If there are aspects of the Seder from which everyone can learn, how much more is this true for Believers\* in Messiah? After all, our Master Yeshua chose the wine and the matzah of a Seder to represent His body and blood. More than just learning about and celebrating freedom from oppression and exile, for Believers, the Seder celebrates Yeshua's atoning death and resurrection while remaining grounded and centered on God's deliverance of the Jewish people from Egypt.

**There is ample evidence that the Passover was celebrated by early Believers — both Jewish and gentile.** In the Book of 1 Corinthians, Paul wrote primarily to gentiles who attended both synagogue



and weekly gatherings of Believers. Additionally, the timing of the letter seems to have been sometime in early spring before the Passover season began. Many portions in his letter allude to Passover and seem to offer instructions for observing it with the right heart-attitude:

*Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth (1 Cor. 5:6–8).*

Although the instruction to “celebrate the festival” is metaphorical, it could only be understood by readers who literally celebrated Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread, complete with some abstention from leaven.

## Believers Celebrating Passover

**Rabbi David Rudolph** writes of gentile Believers celebrating Passover in the second century:



Rabbi David Rudolph

It appears that almost all of the churches in Asia (where Paul devoted much of his ministry), as well as churches in Asia Minor, Cilicia, Syria,

and Mesopotamia, observed gentile Passover in accordance with the Jewish festival calendar, on the fourteenth day of the first month, the month of Nisan.

When the Roman Church sought to limit the celebration to the first Sunday after Passover, other Christians, especially those in Asia Minor, insisted on celebrating the festival according to the Jewish practice on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nisan as they had always done. The venerable Bishop Polycarp, a disciple of the Apostle John,

insisted that the Jewish observance of Passover had been transmitted to them through the Apostles. As the Church at large began to adopt the Sunday practice, the *Quartodecimans* (“fourteeners,” those who observed Nisan 14) separated into their own sect. They existed until the fifth century.

In the *Syriac Lectionary* (fifth century A.D.), the week before Easter is called the Week of Unleavened Bread. The *Canons of Hippolytus* (from the third to fifth century) instructs:

The week during which the Jews celebrated Passover must be observed by the Christian people with the greatest earnest, they must be careful to abstain from all eagerness.

Although this text is not advocating Passover observance in the Torah sense per se, it indicates that the early Church retained traditions based upon Passover observances found in the Torah. It also reveals that, at some earlier point, the Church observed the actual Jewish festival.

This observation makes complete sense. Gentile Believers have been brought near to the commonwealth of Israel. **Although this does not make gentile Christians into Jews, they share in the spiritual heritage of the nation of Israel.** Paul tells the Galatian gentiles that they are now “*sons of Abraham*” (Gal. 3:7). Also, when addressing the mixed congregation in Corinth, Paul referred to the Israelites who came out of Egypt as “*our fathers*” (1 Cor. 10:1). This expression indicates that the Exodus has become a part of the gentile Believer’s spiritual heritage.

A member of the nations who joins himself or herself to Messiah retains a gentile identity and yet shares in Israel’s connection to and celebration of redemptive history. In fact, gentiles being drawn to the God of Israel are a significant and beautiful part of this grand plan of redemption as we long for the even greater Exodus that will come in the Messianic Era (Jer. 16:14–15). ✨



# Holocaust Time Machine

**Kirsten Hart**  
Studio co-host of  
*Our Jewish Roots*



Nikola Tesla was fascinated with the concept of time travel. After H.G. Wells popularized it in his book *The Time Machine* (1895), many people have been captivated by the idea. If it were possible to visit the past or future in a time machine, would you do so?

If we had the power to change the past, I believe that most of us who stand with Israel and love the Jewish people would take a time machine back to the 1930s, before over six million Jews were put to death during the Holocaust. Then, we would do everything within our power to stop Hitler before he came to power or prevent the Nazi's evil plans from being executed.

## Knowledge in our Hands

Unfortunately, we don't have a time machine, so we cannot change the past. We do, however, have the knowledge and power to prevent a future holocaust from happening.

**I truly believe that we are standing at the precipice of a time that could rival the horrors of the Holocaust during WWII.**

Every day, we witness atrocities led by an anti-Semitic spirit that is raging throughout our world. We witness global protests against Israel, along with terrorists who seem to be gaining momentum. But it's not just in the Middle East — this kind of evil occurs in cities and neighborhoods throughout the U.S.

## In Harm's Way

Recently, my husband David and I took our daughter-in-law and grandchildren out for dinner. This charming area in suburban Orlando has several shops and eateries. After our meal, we were returning to our car through the town square when we noticed a group of demonstrators holding signs that read "FREE PALESTINE." As I held my granddaughter's hand, initially I was relieved that I hadn't worn my Star of David necklace that night. I didn't want to get involved in anything that might put our grandchildren in harm's way. Honestly, I didn't feel like dealing with potential danger.

As I lay in bed that night, however, I pondered the earlier incident. My mind





credit: iStock/STILLFX

raced through various questions: Was there something that I could have done to change the situation? What sound reasoning could I have presented to the protesting group? Was it worth risking my family's safety to voice my opinion to a potentially volatile group of strangers?

## Present-Day Underground Railroad

During a visit to Israel three years ago, I talked with a friend of this ministry. She said that there is a growing "underground" being formed to help Jewish people escape to safety. This underground network was created specifically for American Jews. She emphasized that it was not a matter of "if," but "when" such help would be needed. Although the idea seemed unbelievable to me then, the realities of anti-Semitism have changed.

As we approach the middle of 2024, each day we witness more anti-Semitic activity

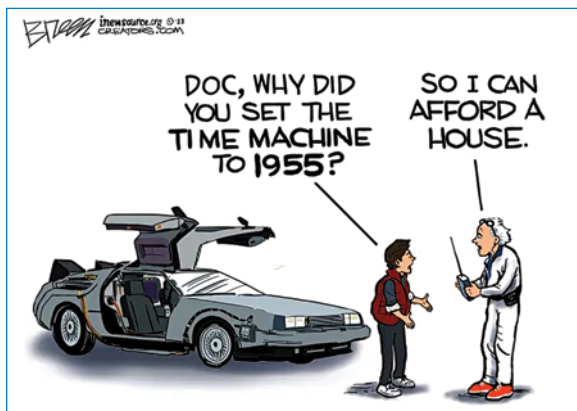
throughout our world. Throughout the media, we not only hear chants and threats against Israel and the Jewish people but also see hate crimes increasing. For many people, October 7 initiated a new Holocaust mindset. **The wheels of this new genocide are in motion. Can it be stopped?**

## Saturday People and Sunday People

Radical Muslims have stated their goal to eliminate anyone who doesn't bow to Allah and revere the Prophet Muhammad. "First the Saturday people, then the Sunday people." As emphasized in the article entitled "What Palestinians Really Want" in the March 2024 *Levitt Letter*, this is their plan: "They want to first destroy and kill the 'Saturday' people — the Jews — and then kill the 'Sunday' people — the Christians in Europe and America. The people in Europe and America need to understand that we are in this together" ([levitt.com/newsletters/2024-03.pdf#page=13](https://levitt.com/newsletters/2024-03.pdf#page=13)).

Both Jews *and* Christians are facing a perilous time. Though we don't have a time machine to go back to the 1930s, we do have the ability to oppose a future annihilation of the Jewish people today. It begins with us standing up and speaking up.

The future is in our hands. Will we sound our voice and fight this evil? Or will we allow history to repeat itself? It's a choice that each of us must make. ✡



Please see "A Tale of Momentum & Inertia" on p. 15.





# A Passover Carol

Caleb & Joshua Colson  
The Bearded Bible  
Brothers



As little Jimmy's name is called, he steps up to the microphone. Filled with both fear and focus, he has studied hard for this year's spelling bee. Historically, Jimmy struggled to remember the spelling of words, but he found that his recall improves when he memorizes the meanings of words. After 15 minutes, Jimmy seems to be on a roll. Eagerly awaiting the next word, he hears the announcer declare: "Tradition." Jimmy begins to sweat. He thinks he remembers, but still asks for the definition. The announcer states: "The transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation, or the fact of being passed on in this way."

Jimmy gulps  
and begins spelling:  
"J-E-W-S."

Jimmy gulps and begins spelling: "J-E-W-S." Jimmy did not win the spelling bee.

Traditions can be worthwhile. They help people remember pivotal points in their heritage. One example is Passover. Of course, any self-respecting Jew, whether religious or not, will happily follow the protocol of the holy days in order to achieve extra paid holidays. Who can

blame them? For centuries, our people have followed the traditions of their forefathers, with only slight variations being made over time because of circumstance.

**Tradition is so important in the Jewish psyche that it supersedes the Gospel itself — taking literal priority over**

**Torah!** Even Yeshua called out the Pharisees in Matthew 15:3 for such elevation. *Pesach* (Passover) should be a no-brainer. Here you have a feast of redemption brought about by the spotless blood of a lamb, which so effortlessly points to Yeshua's fulfillment as Messiah. But

if you twist the meaning — cumulatively change the practice and purpose over a 2,000-year period — Passover loses its potency and its meaning. It merely becomes habitual.

Falling into the monotony of tradition and just going through the motions is not exclusive to the Jews. This being an election year, one would expect to see energetic candidates trying to convince the masses to vote for them through sheer passion. Yet things are different in this political cycle. "Our democracy depends on you," an unenthusiastic Barack Obama declares in an "X" advertisement while standing next to a preoccupied Joe Biden. One can assume that many takes



were needed to produce this video, but in the end, they settled for a “jump cut.” The ad literally lasts only 28 seconds; how hard can it be?! With Obama clearly being dead inside, do the hollow words of an ideology actually make a difference?

How many Believers live each day like Obama? They proclaim, “Time is short. Jesus saves. Submit to Him,” yet little in their lives reflects a single word that they utter? Can there be any power to a statement that isn’t believed? Can something be truly believed that isn’t put into practice? Or are all the hollow words nothing more than a lifeless, mental assent? This is no different from following the traditions of your people year after year, yet not believing the reason behind the action. It’s expected — it’s duty — but it’s not from your heart.

Our nation claims to support Israel, yet our actions don’t always align with our rhetoric. Recently, our president threatened to veto a 17-billion-dollar aid bill

to our greatest alleged ally because he sought political gain from his constituents.

**What will it take for your heart to match your words?** When they finally correspond, will you be able to argue that the Gospel has no power to actually improve things? Or will you finally see the power of truly believing?

It’s time to take that step of revelation faith. Return to your first love — Yeshua — like the day you first accepted Him into your heart. Don’t let the years of practice become a rehearsed tradition. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew and maintain the fire and fervency of the Gospel in your life. Then, go out and share it with others! If Jewish Believers in Yeshua truly celebrated Passover this way — as the victory of Yeshua over death, hell, and the grave — then the rest of our brethren would ignite with that transformation power! ✨

## #BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt

Show your support for the Bearded Bible Brothers’ teaching on *Our Jewish Roots*. This T-shirt is a conversation starter that will even lead folks to excellent Bible teaching without you saying a word. Unisex Gildan SoftStyle short-sleeve tee in charcoal heather with orange and white graphics, similar to what the BBB wear on television.





# Test the Spirits

by Zola Levitt  
from 1987  
37 years ago

We have been hearing a lot about the New Age Movement as Believers everywhere are becoming very adept at identifying the oncoming society of the antiChrist. We are right to be watchful. Pointing out the activities of cults — including the oncoming worldwide cult of the antiChrist — is part of being an enlightened Christian today. One of the central pillars of witnessing for Christ since apostolic times has been the simple warning of the end. We are the children of light and must not be surprised by the approach of the end of the age, as Paul notes in 1 Thessalonians 5. The children of darkness must be warned that free salvation has a very real time limit and the signs of the end — and of the Lord's return — must be taken very seriously. If we use our knowledge as a witnessing tool, then we are using it correctly.

But I sense an almost gleeful rejoicing among some Believers about the sad state of the world now. It has almost become a popular sport among prophecy teachers to vie for the most sensational announcement of the latest discovery of what is supposed to be impending doom. Sometimes, there is a confusion of good

works with bad. Every attempt at peace-making, for example, is certainly not evil, and the various suggestions for world unity are not always inspired by Satan.

We must be most discerning on this point and truly utilize the mind of Christ. Everyone in the world can see the pain all around us, and it is human nature to come up with solutions for it. But I have heard of groups that are working on the problems of world hunger who are being indicted by some Christians for promoting the antiChrist's false solutions to our dilemmas. Groups that advocate closer relationships between the nations are accused of promoting an evil one-world government.

Believers should be the first to discern that things are not always as they seem. Just as someone whom we considered a great saint will badly disappoint us, someone who seems unspiritual through and through may surprise us with something really fine. The Scriptures constantly attest that the motives of the heart are the important things, not the surface actions.

There are cries for unity all around us in this difficult time. The kind of unity that stops the production of nuclear



weapons or feeds hungry people should be welcomed by Believers because this is basic Christianity. The Lord said on the Mount, *"Blessed are the peacemakers"* (Matt. 5:9). **On the other hand, the kind of unity that says all doctrines are right and everyone is saved is plainly of the devil.**

but we cannot conclude that all credit cards and all numbered systems are evil.

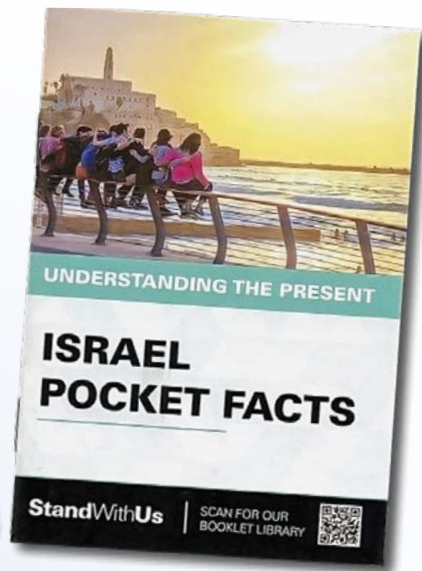
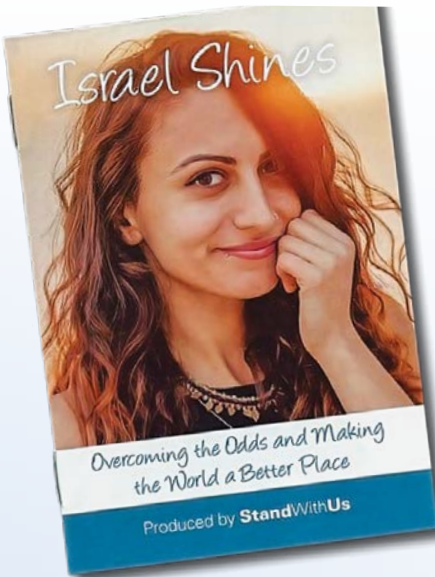
As a new age dawns, those aware of its approach have to be especially intelligent about what is around them and have to test the spirits most precisely. Don't be swept away in sensational

**Everyone in the world can see the pain all around us, and it's human nature to come up with solutions for it.**

There has been quite a disturbance about computers because it is apparent that the antiChrist will utilize these powerful machines to control his global society. I am not arguing that this is what the antiChrist will do, but only asking that we remember that computers are not good or evil; some programmers are. The antiChrist will make a peace treaty with Israel, which will turn out to be evil, but we should not generalize that all peacemaking is evil. The antiChrist will cause people to buy and sell by number,

movements that end up condemning simple good works. Religion in general has too long a history of enforcing misunderstanding on the just and the unjust alike.

I think Zola would have been amazed to see how Believers are spreading the Gospel through computer technology! Many of our Bearded Bible Brothers' viewers watch solely through their tablets, cell phones, and computers! How times have changed. —Kirsten ☆



## ***Israel Shines* and *Israel Pocket Facts* booklets**

Easily carry these two booklets of informative details about Israel. *Israel Pocket Facts* covers geography, history, Jewish presence, security measures, humanitarianism, and much more. Also included are facts about Arabs living in Israel, Palestinian refugees, and West Bank Palestinian communities. *Israel Shines* shares achievements, medical innovations, and inventions from Israel — including instant messaging, wireless computer chips, and cell phones. Each booklet measures 3" x 4 1/4" — small enough to fit into your pocket or purse.

# What is the Problem of Evil?

**Dr. Todd Baker**  
Zola Levitt Ministries  
Staff Theologian  
staff@levitt.com



## Part 1

Throughout history, every person has struggled with the apparent contradiction between an all-powerful, loving God and the presence of evil and suffering throughout this world. Philosophers and theologians refer to this as the problem of evil.

The atheist uses the problem of evil to discount God's existence, as expressed in the following syllogism:

(1) If God is all powerful, all loving, and morally perfect, He would not allow evil to exist. (2) Nonetheless, evil exists. (3) Therefore, God does not exist.

Responding to such reasoning, the Bible affirms that an all-powerful, all loving, and morally perfect God exists just as evil exists (Gen. 3). The problem of evil overlooks the Biblical truth that God, though not the Author of evil, allows it to exist — though He remains all powerful, all loving, and perfectly good. **The Bible reveals that God can use evil to bring about an ultimate good that will glorify Him in the end.** For example, the evil that Joseph's brothers did to him ultimately brought about the preservation of Egypt and Jacob's family in the midst of a great famine (Gen. 50:19–20). God used what was evil to accomplish His purpose.

Evil came about because Satan, other angels, and the first humans misused their God-given free will. Love requires the ability to freely choose; forced love is not true love. God created angels and humans with freedom: they could either love and obey their Creator or they could reject and disobey Him. Unfortunately, the humans and many angels refused

God's ways. This is the essence of evil — anything contrary to God's holy nature. Therefore, the problem of evil is not God's problem, but the problem of humans who disobeyed God and fell into sin.

A "theodicy" refers to the justification for allowing evil to exist so that God's ultimate plan and purpose can be accomplished. God allowed evil to exist so that He could demonstrate the glory of His mercy, grace, and salvation through His Son Jesus Christ. Our Lord is the solution to the problems of sin, ruin, and evil. Paradoxically, God used humans' greatest evil — the death of Jesus — to accomplish the greatest good — the redemption of humanity. The Cross and Resurrection of



Jesus Christ are God's victorious answer to the problem of evil!

God in His providence allows evil to remain. Along with it, God allows a world to exist that is no longer perfect (as He created it). **Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, however, the best of all possible worlds will be obtained at the conclusion of the present age.** At that time, God will decisively and permanently remove all evil in the Kingdom Age of moral and physical perfection. ✨



During our June 2023 Gospel outreach to Israel, we traveled to the beautiful Galilee, where the Lord Jesus spent much of His time and ministry. We ministered to several people around the city of Tiberias, giving out Bibles and Gospel tracts. At a mini-mart, August Rosado and I met **Iham** (right), an Arab, and **Oshay** (middle), a Jew.

When we entered the store, I asked Iham how he was doing. He replied, "Not very good."

I explained that we often travel to Israel to proclaim and reintroduce the Good News of Jesus the Messiah to the people and place of its origin.

Iham listened as I explained the great love of *Issa* (the Arabic name for Jesus) that compelled Him to go to the Cross to die on Iham's behalf, so that he could be forgiven for all his sins (Eph. 1:7), have eternal life (John 5:24), and immediately enter Heaven and the Heavenly Father's house when he dies or at the Rapture (John 14:1-4; 2 Cor. 5:8). All of this is God's free gift, given to anyone who repents and believes in Jesus the Messiah.

Iham was happy to hear this Good News. **He gladly accepted a Bible and an Arabic Gospel tract about the life of Jesus.**

August was waiting to buy a bottle of water when God's Spirit prompted him to pay for what the person behind him was getting. That person was Oshay, a Jewish Israeli. When August mentioned what he had done, Oshay asked why August did that.

August told him that *HaShem* led him to do so. (*HaShem* is Hebrew for "the



Todd, Oshay, and Iham

Name" — how many Jews refer to God to avoid misusing His name.) This act of kindness also opened the door for August to share the Gospel of the Jewish Messiah with Oshay, who also accepted a complete Hebrew study Bible.

It was absolutely amazing to experience this day where the Gospel was offered to both Jew and Arab alike. It is just as Scripture proclaims: *"for the same Lord over all is rich unto all who call upon Him"* (Rom. 10:12).

Please pray for Iham and Oshay — that the Lord will continue to speak to them through His Word and His Spirit. Pray also that they will accept the free gift of salvation that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. Though our next Gospel outreach to Israel has been delayed by the current war, we eagerly await the time when we can return to share the Good News with others, both Jews and Muslims.

*While we wait for a safe time to return to our beloved Holy Land, we also pray that the hostages held by Hamas will be released soon! —David ☆*



# Gauging Your Temple?

Mark Levitt  
ZLM Director  
since 1988



Your vehicle's gauges clue you to fuel level, engine temperature, and maintenance concerns. Now imagine having gauges for your body's "battery" (how much energy remains), your level of stress, whether you're sleeping and walking enough, and when your health slips out of kilter. Considering that your body is God's temple (1 Cor. 6:19), what value might there be to steadily monitoring its general condition?

Smart watches recently have become much smarter. While Apple sells far more smartwatches than Garmin, I recently chose the Garmin Vivoactive 5 (V5) since it offers an unparalleled value for the health conscious and physically active. Meanwhile, Apple's Series 9 and Ultra 2 smart watches sold after January 18, 2024 no longer include the blood oxygen meter due to a patent dispute, leaving their SE as the closest contender to the V5.

Below are excerpts from an extensive review of the V5 at DigitalTrends.com.

The Vivoactive range features Garmin's everyday watches, which bring in a little bit of everything from their other options. The V5 is quietly fashionable, extremely comfortable, and quite durable. Its 1.2" AMOLED display is clear, colorful, and gorgeous — colors pop off the screen, and blacks are deep and inky. It's all controlled through a mixture of the touchscreen and two buttons: the Action button above and the Back button below.

The V5 is the jack-of-all-trades, packed with health-tracking and safety features. It tracks your heart rate, respiration, "body battery" energy, stress, sleep, pulse oxygen, and considerably more. The sensors

work very well and seem accurate. The V5 had effectively noticed I was ill before I did. If you're not much of an athlete, built-in coaching programs let you try your hand at working out. It's a battery champion ... up to 11 days on a single charge! None of the features or stats are locked behind subscription paywalls, unlike some other fitness trackers.

For an in-depth, 18-minute review of the Garmin V5, go to <https://youtu.be/76yymsU9kBs>. To compare the V5's features to those of Garmin's more expensive counterparts, visit [garmin.com/en-US/which-watch/stay-active/compare/](https://garmin.com/en-US/which-watch/stay-active/compare/). For a comparison of Apple's smartwatches, go to [apple.com/watch/compare/](https://apple.com/watch/compare/).

Budding health enthusiasts might go to [garmin.com/en-US/which-watch/cat/](https://garmin.com/en-US/which-watch/cat/) and click on "Just lookin' to stay active" and then "I'm cool and unconventional." Available from Amazon, the \$299 Vivoactive 5 is Garmin's latest release after a long hiatus. Note that dozens of downloadable watchfaces are free. Their \$199 Venu Sq is a more affordable option with fewer features.

Those who are reluctant to invest in a smartwatch can still log whether they're sleeping enough and, with a pedometer, walking enough. Daniel 12:4 prophesies that knowledge will increase in the End Times. Garmin's V5 has given my wife and me indispensable information

that enables us to take better care of ourselves and each other. ☆



# ZLM Bulletin Board



## A Tale of Momentum & Inertia

Watch this gripping, animated, 70-second, must-see video at <https://youtu.be/Lg2dqFCU67Q>. The short film has had 2.1 million views since being posted in

2015. In the video, imagine Islamist terrorism as the massive boulder barreling down a mountain slope toward Europe. Then envision a less massive, concerned rock man (Israel) who stops the boulder. Finally, **picture the result when Europe condemns rather than supports Israel's endeavors to intervene.** "First they came for the Socialists ..."  
Please see Kirsten's article in this *Levitt Letter* (p.6), especially the final section, "Saturday People and Sunday People."

## Seeking a Promotional Goods Distributor

For roughly 15 years, this ministry has purchased our calendars, bumper stickers, half-shekel key tags, Jerusalem magnets, and more at wholesale prices thanks to our distributor, Rick Brucker, who did not charge any markup to us as his way of serving the Lord. Rick is retiring, so we're seeking a successor in the promotional goods business to help us preserve our low prices. If you know of a Believer in this line of work, please ask that person to email Mark at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com).

## Help Wanted: Volunteer Financial Auditor

For 33 years (since 1991), our ministry has offered independently audited, annual financial statements free for the asking, and we'll continue to do so. Darrell, our volunteer auditor, recently had a quadruple coronary bypass; he would appreciate your prayers. So would his faithful sidekick — his daughter and fellow CPA, Mary Grace — who in recent years has assisted him. Now we seek a pinch hitter ASAP while Darrell recovers. Please write to Mark's attention at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com).

**FREE ITEM**

## Pamphlet of the Month

An effective estate plan addresses four common financial challenges: 1) dying too soon, 2) outliving one's resources, 3) emergencies, and 4) mental/physical disability. The **Better Estate Planning** pamphlet overviews several planning tools. Topics include: The will as cornerstone; Placing property in trust; Power of attorney; Joint ownership; Living will; Income and asset management; Potential tax savings, and Income for life. The Technical Advisory Section discusses federal gift and estate tax considerations. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at [staff@levitt.com](mailto:staff@levitt.com) or write to our P.O. Box.

**Request POM #13.**

**"COME HOME!"**

**Zola  
Tours  
to Israel**



See page 36  
for details



BETTER  
ESTATE  
PLANNING







Courtesy: The Jerusalem Connection

## Seeing Beyond the Seen

by John Parsons  
Hebrew for Christians  
Hebrew4Christians.com



קַוֵּה אֶל־יְהוָה חֲזַק וַיַּאֲמֵץ לִבְךָ וְקַוֵּה אֶל־יְהוָה

“Wait for the LORD, be strong,  
and He will strengthen your heart.” (Psalm 27:14)

קַ	וֵה	אֶל־	יְהוָה	חֲ	זַ	קַ	וַיַּ	אֲ	מֵ	צַ	מְ	לְ	בְ	ךָ
(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)

lee-be'-khae      ve-ya-a-metz'      cha-zak'      el'-Adonai      ka-veh'

and He will strengthen your heart      be strong!      wait for the LORD

Read Hebrew right to left! ←

Yeshua said, *“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed”* (John 20:29). Despite the struggles of this life — our sorrows, pains, and even death itself — we believe in God’s love and promises for us. We believe even though we presently do not see the fulfillment of our hope, just as Abraham believed the promise that he would be the father of an innumerable multitude long before he saw any sign of its fulfillment.

Abraham “believed the impossible” and “hoped against hope” (παρ’ ἐλπίδα ἐπ’ ἐλπίδι). This means that the promise kindled within him, *even though there was nothing to see in the realm of the natural*. Therefore, he closed his eyes to this world and believed to see an unseen good; he trusted in the One who gives life to the dead and who *“calls into existence the things that do not exist”* (Rom. 4:17). The Scripture comments:

*He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the deadness of Sarah’s womb. He did not stumble over the promise of God through unbelief but*

*was strong in faith, and gave glory to God, fully persuaded that God was able to do what He had promised, and that is why his faith was counted to him as righteousness* (Rom. 4:19-22).

Likewise, we are called to believe in an unseen good — an unimaginably wonderful destiny for our lives — as Scripture states: *“The things no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor mind imagined, are the things God has prepared for those who love Him”* (1 Cor. 2:9). Faith does not use natural reason or the evidence of the senses to see the unseen. Rather, it “believes to see” through “eyes of the heart” to know the hope of God’s calling and to attain the blessing (Eph. 1:18). Faith in God’s love comes from a different source and has a different means of apprehension than human wisdom. Thus, no matter how things might appear in this fallen world, the Lord God may be known and trusted to work all things for our ultimate good (Rom. 8:28). Therefore, *“wait for the LORD, be strong, and He will strengthen your heart”* (Ps. 27:14). Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Amen. ☆



## *Ruth: Your People Shall Be My People*

### DVD Set

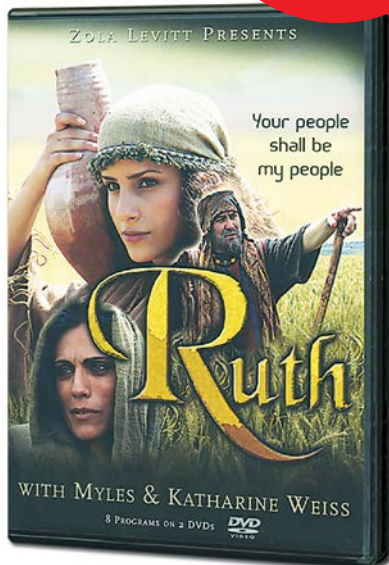
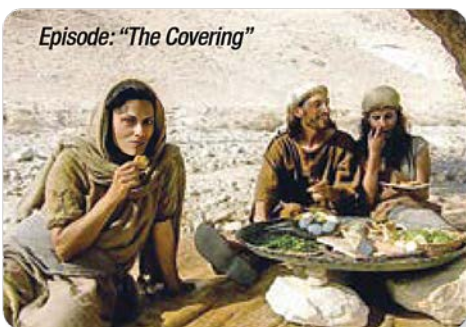
Eight programs on two DVDs

We follow the famous love story verse by verse and watch as Israeli actors re-enact it in Hebrew. Myles and Katharine Weiss explain the Biblical characters' journey from darkness to destiny, and Messianic Israeli Arie Bar David clarifies Israelite culture at the time of Ruth. Sasha and Anya Poberejny provide the uplifting music.

**The Covering** Naomi and Ruth journey from Moab to Israel.

**Road To Bethlehem** After ten years of famine, Naomi returns to Israel. Her faithful daughter-in-law declares, "Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God" (Ruth 1:16).

**Finding The Redeemer** Naomi and Ruth arrive in Bethlehem at harvest time. The romance between Boaz and Ruth begins.



**Breaking Of Bread** Boaz asks Ruth to break bread with him. Our Heavenly Father invites us into a relationship through His Son, Jesus (the Bread of Life). The story of Ruth and Boaz bears a similarity to the relationship of Myles and Katharine — Jew and gentile in the harvest field of the Lord.

**Virtuous Woman** Naomi sends Ruth to Boaz's threshing floor where he promises to take care of her.

**Kinsman Redeemer** Boaz desires to be Ruth's husband. However, a closer relative must be consulted first.

**Redemption** God included gentile Ruth into the family of Israel and lineage of the Messiah. Ruth's story pictures the full restoration for Believers due to the blood of Yeshua.

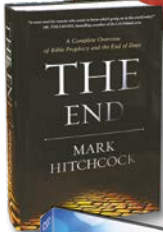
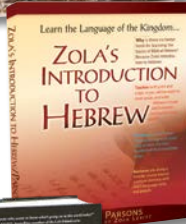
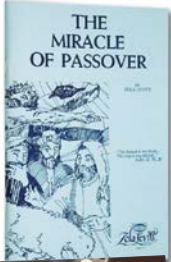
**Future Of Hope** Ruth and Boaz get married and raise a family. Naomi's life changed from tragedy to restoration and hope. **Yeshua wants to do the same for us.**





## Zola's Classic Study Booklet Library

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



## Books

___	<b>Antisemitic Beliefs</b> booklet (p.25) .....	2 for \$3	___
___	The Bible Jesus Read .....	\$11	___
___	The Bulletproof George Washington (David Barton) .....	\$9	___
___	Coming: The End! Russia & Israel in Prophecy .....	\$12	___
___	<b>The End</b> (Mark Hitchcock) (pictured) .....	\$26	___
___	<b>Heaven and Earth</b> (Ken Berg) (pictured) .....	\$18	___
___	The Iranian Menace (Jeff Seif) .....	\$9	___
___	Israel's Right to the Land! (booklet) .....	\$3	___
___	<b>Israel Shines</b> and <b>Israel Pocket Facts</b> (one of each) (p.11)...	\$2	___
___	<b>Meshumed!</b> (Traitor!) .....	\$10	___
___	The Mountains of Israel .....	\$10	___
___	Our Hands Are Stained with Blood .....	\$16	___
___	Raptured .....	\$10	___
___	Satan in the Sanctuary .....	\$10	___
___	Signs of the End: The Millennium .....	\$8	___
___	<b>What Should We Think About Israel?</b> (Price) (p.3) .....	\$12	___
___	<b>Zola's Introduction to Hebrew</b> (John Parsons) (pictured).....	\$39	___

## Featured DVDs

___	Close Encounters with Yeshua .....	(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$59	___
___	The Dark Prince .....	(10 programs, 3-DVDs)	\$59	___
___	Divine Deliverance .....	(12 programs, 3-DVDs)	\$69	___
___	Esther .....	(8 progs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Ezekiel & MidEast "Piece" .....	(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Faith for the Future .....	(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Faith of Our Fathers .....	(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	The Feast of Lights .....	(3 programs, 1-DVD)	\$19	___
___	<b>The God of Miracles</b> (pictured) .....	(9 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	The Gospel According to Isaiah .....	(8 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	The Holocaust .....	(6 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Joshua: More Than a Conqueror .....	(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Journey of Restoration .....	(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$59	___
___	Mine Eyes Have Seen (musical) .....	(1 prog. 1-DVD)	\$19	___
___	Much Like Peter .....	(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	A Pilgrim's Journey .....	(9 programs, 3-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	<b>Psalms of Ascent</b> (p.36) .....	(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Return to Eden .....	(10 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$59	___
___	Revelation: Unveiling the Visions .....	(8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	<b>Ruth: Your People</b> (p.17) .....	(8 progs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel .....	(7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Thy Kingdom Come .....	(12 programs, 3-DVDs)	\$69	___
___	<b>Zola's Highlights</b> (p.24) .....	(4 programs, 1-DVD)	\$29	___

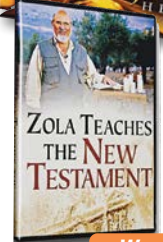
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Qty.	Item	Price	Total
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___	<b>#BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt</b> (small) (p.9) .....	\$25	_____
___	<b>#BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt</b> (medium) .....	\$25	_____
___	<b>#BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt</b> (large) .....	\$25	_____
___	<b>#BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt</b> (XL) .....	\$25	_____
___	<b>#BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt</b> (2X large) .....	\$25	_____
___	<b>#BeardedBibleBrothers T-Shirt</b> (3X large) .....	\$25	_____
___	Bookmark "The Prophesied Messiah" .....	2 for \$1	_____
___	Flag of Israel (3' x 5') .....	\$10	_____
___	Grafted-In Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut) .....	\$3	_____
___	<b>Grafted-In Lapel Pin</b> (pictured) .....	\$10	_____
___	Grafted-In Sterling Silver Necklace (with 18" chain) .....	\$39	_____
___	Hebrew Names of God Notecards (12 unique cards) .....	\$24	_____
___	Jerusalem Magnets (set of 3 different designs) .....	\$12	_____
___	<b>Jewish Heritage Calendar</b> (5784 / 2024) (pictured) .....	\$6	_____
___	Matzoh Post Cards (set of 12) .....	\$10	_____
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem .....	\$12	_____
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___	"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker .....	\$3	_____
___	<b>Pro-Israel Button "Pray for the Peace"</b> (pictured) (4 of 1 design) .....	\$8	_____
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies .....	Info Only	_____

**Teaching CDs**

___	Glory! The Future of the Believers .....	(CD)	\$8	_____
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**Music CDs: Hear samples at [levitt.com/music](http://levitt.com/music)**

___	Zion Song .....	(Music CD)	\$12	_____
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# Oct. 7 Destroyed Her Faith in Palestinians

By Andrew Tobin  
FreeBeacon.com



Irit Lahav in front of a photo of what remains of her home.

credit: John Jeffrey / Israel21c.org

one point, they heard a group of teenagers robbing their house.

Later, she learned from other Nir Oz survivors that **Gazan women and children as young as 10 years old had followed Hamas terrorists into the kibbutz — helping**

**the terrorists, looting, and apparently enjoying themselves.**

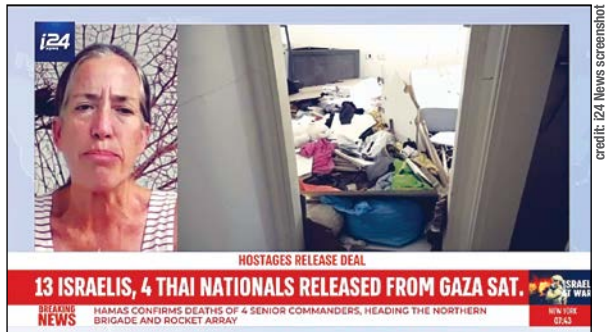
“I cannot say this was a Hamas action,” Lahav explained. “No ... **this was a Palestinian action.** A whole community had come to our kibbutz, took our things, stole stuff, killed people, and kidnapped others.”

“Am I thinking about myself being foolish until now?” Lahav asked. “Maybe. But more is that I’m disappointed in them — that they’re so cruel, have no values, [and] really lost their human values.” ☆

Irit Lahav, 57, was a peace activist who believed in the decency of the Palestinian people. Then came the Hamas terrorist attack that left more than one in four of her neighbors dead or abducted. For many members of Kibbutz Nir Oz and other Israelis, the October 7 atrocities — particularly the broad participation of the Gazan public that day — destroyed their faith in coexistence with the Palestinians.

Lahav, a manager at a travel company, long participated in peace demonstrations. She volunteered with an Israeli charity that drove Palestinian children from the border of the Gaza Strip to Israeli hospitals for lifesaving medical care. “We thought that Palestinians are good people. All they want is peace and prosperity. It’s just that Hamas is forcing them to be in this aggressive situation,” Lahav stated.

When terrorists shook the door of her safe room on October 7, Lahav expected that she and her 22-year-old daughter would be killed. But a makeshift lock she fashioned from an oar and a vacuum cleaner thwarted three break-in attempts. The women lay in the darkened room for about 10 hours listening to gunfire and grenade explosions. At



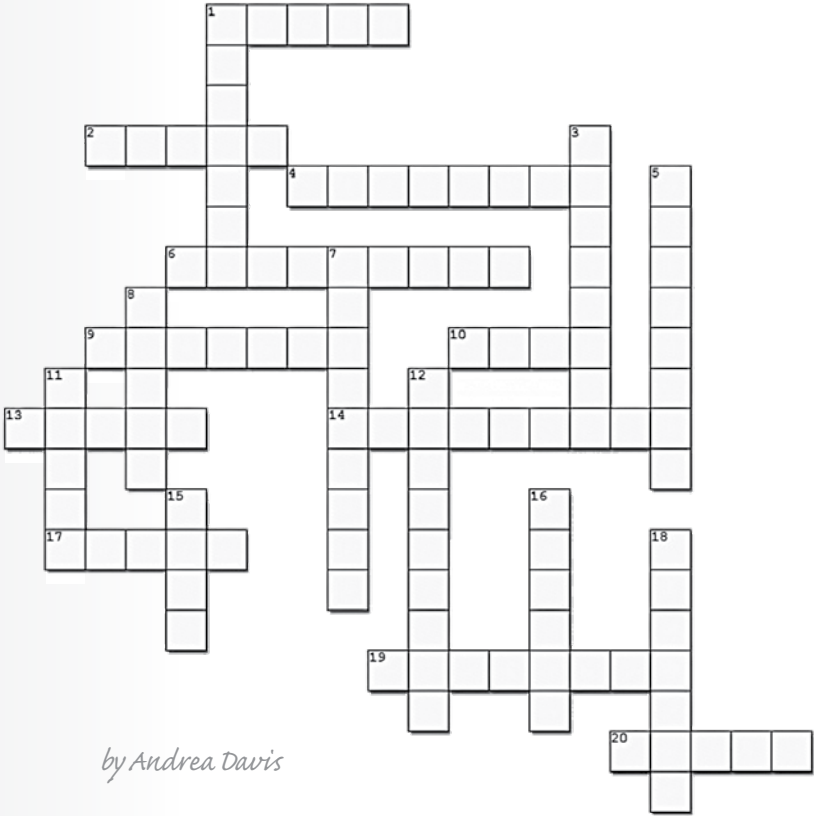
Irit Lahav telling her story on Israel's i24News.

credit: i24 News screenshot



Lahav's brother sent her a picture of how he had locked his shelter's door using two broomsticks.





*by Andrea Davis*

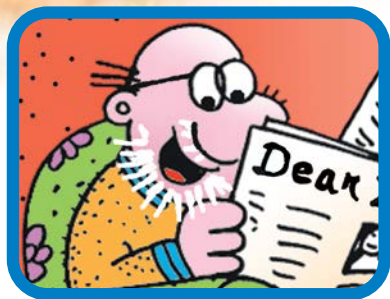


**Across:**

1. When \_\_\_ the king heard this, he was troubled... (Matt. 2:3)
2. ...Though you are little among the thousands of \_\_\_... (Micah 5:2)
4. Jesus answered them and said, My \_\_\_ is not Mine, but His who sent Me. (John 7:16)
6. ...He is just and having \_\_\_, Lowly and riding on a donkey... (Zech. 9:9)
9. ...that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the \_\_\_... (Matt. 1:22)
10. took branches of palm trees and went out to \_\_\_ Him... (John 12:13)
13. The Lord your God will \_\_\_ up for you a Prophet like me... (Deut. 18:15)
14. ...And to Him shall be the \_\_\_ of the people. (Gen. 49:10)
17. ...Joseph, son of \_\_\_, do not be afraid to take to you Mary... (Matt. 1:20)
19. ...that whoever \_\_\_ in Him should not perish... (John 3:16)
20. Now the \_\_\_ of Jesus Christ was as follows... (Matt. 1:18)

**Down:**

1. ...and cried out: \_\_\_! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! (John 12:13)
3. ...You are My Son, today I have \_\_\_ You. (Ps. 2:7)
5. ...the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name \_\_\_. (Isa. 7:14)
7. ...whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own \_\_\_. (John 7:17)
8. For it is evident that our Lord \_\_\_ from Judah... (Heb. 7:14)
11. ...but that the world through Him might be \_\_\_. (John 3:17)
12. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of \_\_\_! (Zech. 9:9)
15. Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your \_\_\_ is coming... (John 12:15)
16. Then Jesus, when He had found a young \_\_\_, sat on it; as it is written (John 12:14)
18. ...we have seen His star in the East and have come to \_\_\_ Him. (Matt. 2:2)



# Letters to ZLM

Some letters have been edited for space. For ministry products and TV programs, visit our [web store](#) and [free video archives](#).

## Books to Refute Errors

**From S.S.:** I am a former Protestant Christian who has converted to Messianic Judaism. I am constantly battling the “fake news” regurgitators in prison. Two things come up repeatedly, so I hope you can recommend literature that I could have sent to me that refutes the errors. **First** is the “Khazar Myth” — that Ashkenazi Jews descend from Turkish Khazars who converted, rather than from Biblical Israelites. **Second** is the claim in the letter from M.S. in the January *Levitt Letter* ([levitt.com/newsletters/2024-01.pdf#page=24](#)): “The Jewish people today are not the Israelites of Scripture prophecy in Jeremiah 30 and 31.” The Bearded Bible Brothers answered that the writer’s statement “is genetically, scientifically, and theologically incorrect.” Can you suggest books that prove the genetic legitimacy of the Jewish people today, so that I can correct this errant teaching? Thank you so much.

Shalom S.S.,

Thank you for writing. While it may be difficult to be in a correctional facility, we believe that God will use you where you are. Perhaps this is your “such a time as this” (Esther 4:14). Your understanding of God’s Word and His Chosen People is encouraging. You know the truth and seek to learn more about what you don’t understand. You are Yeshua’s light in that dark place. Concerning your request, we consulted with Dr. Jeffrey Seif, who recommends these books: *Pathways Through Jewish History* (Ruth Samuels) and *Heritage: Civilization and the Jews* (Abba Eban).

We pray for Messiah to bless you and keep you. He will cause His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. He is your Shalom. —Joshua and Caleb

## Suggestions for OJR

**From M.R.:** Dear Mark, I just read your *January 2024 Personal Letter*, where you asked for suggestions on what you could do differently (p. 4). I suggest you stop showing so many repeat programs on *Our Jewish Roots (OJR)*. Go back to Zola’s day. Air weekly programs of his teaching and interviews. Zola interviewed different people all the time. I’m sending a donation in memory of Zola Levitt.



Dear M.R.,

How I wish we could resurrect my father Zola for some guest appearances on *OJR*! He most certainly would approve of the Bearded Bible Brothers accepting the teaching baton, particularly with Dr. Jeffrey Seif making appearances and consulting related to *OJR*’s theology.

While reruns of *OJR* are nothing new, you can click on “Classic Zola Archives” under the “Zola TV” tab

at [levitt.com](#) and watch the vast majority of all of Zola’s classic teaching on *Zola Levitt Presents*. Today’s television networks and stations, however, insist on high definition (HD) programming rather than yesteryear’s standard definition (SD), which limits the programs that we can broadcast. Fortunately, you also can order our DVDs to share with friends.

—Mark

*(continued on next page)*



## Praying for God's Provision

**From A.F.:** My family has been watching your TV programs for years. I am 79 years old and deeply grateful for the ongoing ministry — now *Our Jewish Roots*. The transition from Jeffrey Seif's rich teaching to the Bearded Bible Brothers (also rich teaching) reflects the hand of our God leading and reaching to the current generation.

When I read Mark Levitt's *January Personal Letter*, I wept and prayed and wept again. We never know *how* God will do something, but He *is* fully able to bring increased support and expand *OJR's* ministry. That is my ongoing prayer. I am asking for and trusting God to multiply "the widow's mite" in this situation. I also pray for the Holy Spirit to move on the hearts of those who listen but haven't yet given as they are able.

May our great God open the floodgates of provision to *OJR* and, through you, bring understanding and the teaching that is so desperately needed. With grateful love in Yeshua's name and appreciation for every person in this precious ministry, I continue to support you in prayer and with as much as I can give financially.

Dear A.F.,

We also feel an urgency to continue this outreach now more than ever. Thank you for expressing that same sentiment. Thank you also for your continued prayers and financial support. And yes, may the floodgates open wide so that we can continue! —David

## Alarming Statement

**From L.M.:** Over these years, I have seldom disagreed with or questioned anything that I have read or seen from ZLM. There obviously have been a few eyebrow-raising issues, but they very seldom rise to the level of "Now wait a minute, that ain't right!"

My problem is specifically with Mrs. Hart's column in the February Levitt Letter. She wrote, "Through God's Spirit empowering us, we must make a daily effort to show unconditional love to others, regardless of their background or religion."

I really don't know where to start! I'm sure Mrs. Hart is a fine Christian lady, and I want to be sure that she is not of the philosophy that is sweeping the American Church into irrelevancy today. It's the diluting, ecumenical, seeker-friendly, "love God, love people" salvation and Christian walk that is being promoted. It carefully avoids taking a firm stand on separated Christian living, separation from worldly ways, and carefully avoids defining the exacting terms and doctrines in the Word from Genesis to Revelation.

I will still be a faithful supporter! But frankly, Mrs. Hart's statement alarms me!

Dear L.M.,

Frankly, your statement alarms me! Did our Savior not say in Matthew 19:19, "Love your neighbor as yourself"? He did not limit a "neighbor" only to those who were of the same background or religion. (See also our Lord's Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25–37.) No eyebrow-raising is necessary — but perhaps a little more compassion and a lot more unconditional love. —Kirsten

## Bearded Bible Brothers

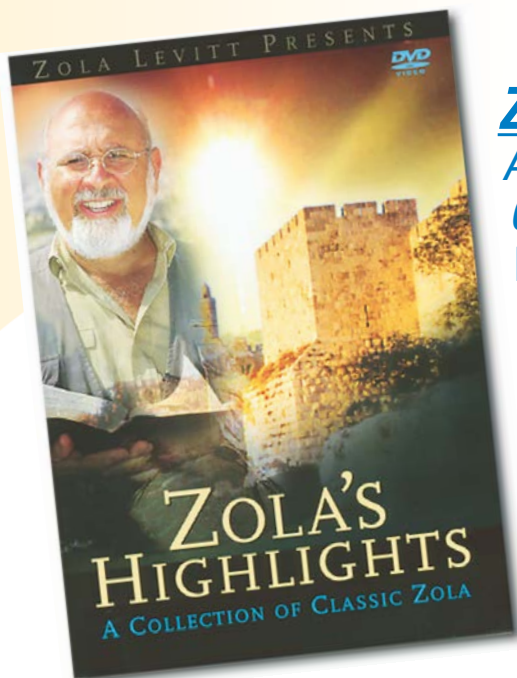
**From B.M.:** For a while I stopped watching your program. I follow the Bearded Bible Brothers on YouTube — they are very knowledgeable Jewish Believers and will be a real asset to understanding our Jewish roots. I'm 72, and they appeal to me even at my age. So, I am going to watch *OJR* again.

Shalom B.M.,

Your letter made our day! We know God is no respecter of persons, ethnicity, age, or gender. We are all His children. Nonetheless, it encourages us to hear that the timeless message of Yeshua can connect with people of all ages and walks of life. Please give us a shout out on YouTube! We enjoy connecting with people individually. Love in Messiah. —Joshua and Caleb







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

Four 30-minute 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.



## Antisemitic Beliefs booklet

This glossy, 16-page, full-color booklet is illustrated with dozens of examples of the “World’s Oldest Hatred.” Briefly discussed, the categories are noted below. This booklet can help you identify anti-Semitism so that you can speak out and act when you encounter it. **The text below includes only the headings and subheadings — each section provides stunning, descriptive explanations.**

**Jews and Religion** — Christ killers; ritual impurity; blood libel; host desecration.

### Talmudic Secret Passages

**Jewish Power Conspiracy Theories** — The “Jewish Lobby” controls U.S. policy and various world governments; Jews control media, Hollywood, and world financial institutions; they are behind communism and capitalism; they instigate the world’s wars and revolutions and promote non-white immigration; Jews or Israel staged 9/11; **they have evil magical powers, are responsible for the slave trade, and are connected to reptilian aliens that control the world.**

**Jews and Morality** — They spread immorality, control the porn industry, and spread drugs.

**Demonization, Dehumanization, Stereotypes** — Jews are inhuman, satanic, animal-like (snakes, rats, pigs, etc.); they’re vampires, white supremacists/Nazis; Jews are rich/greedy/cheap; they are lazy, oppress people of color, and are people of color/non-white imposters.

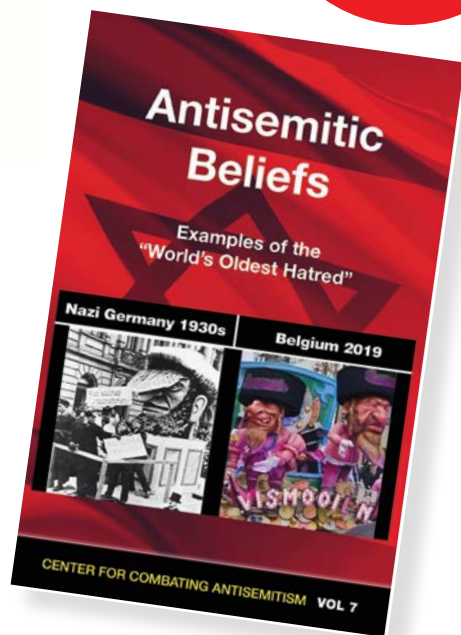
**Israel** — Israel is a racist, apartheid state; it has no right to exist; Zionism is Nazism and Israelis are Nazis/“Zionazis”; Jews are interlopers/invaders/colonizers.

**Dual Loyalty and Foreigners** — Jews are not loyal to their home country; they’re traitors.

**Holocaust** — Holocaust denial and conspiracy theories; Jews exploit the Holocaust for gain.

Anti-Semitic propagandists, when they retire, could work for the tabloids. You couldn’t make up such nonsense! Someone else did, however, and these egregious stereotypes, insults, and lies continue to prosper as they are repeated through the generations. —Mark

Please see the article “Holocaust Time Machine” on p. 6.



## Flying Robots Pick Ripe Fruit

By John Jeffay / NoCamels.com



credit: Tevel

Robotic suction arm picks fruit

unavailable, possibly 10% of all fruit grown globally may rot on the tree.

Tevel's robots are currently used in Israel, Italy, and California, where they pick nectarines and plums. Soon, they will also be harvesting avocados and mangos. Those stem fruits require cutting — a skill that the robots must learn. In the future, they

A labor crisis threatens the world's fruit farmers, but flying robots may offer a solution. The machines hover next to a tree, pluck a ripe fruit, and then carefully deposit it in a collection bin. The robots are tethered to a platform, so they never run out of power. They work around the clock, don't need food or coffee, and aren't bothered by stifling heat.

Fitted with cameras, the robots pick only perfectly ripe fruit. "We have developed an agile, cost-effective solution that picks the fruit without bruising it, when it's the right color and ripeness," said Yaniv Maor, the founder and

CEO of Israeli startup Tevel Aerobotics Technologies. The robots also provide growers with real-time updates on harvesting progress, time to completion, quantity picked, and cost.

The company has developed the world's only flying autonomous robots (FARs) that pick fruit. While other robot solutions exist for fruit harvesting, those large machines aren't as agile, efficient, or cost-effective. On the contrary, Tevel can deploy dozens of its FARs in an orchard during the narrow harvest timeframe.

"Food consumption is increasing, but labor availability is decreasing," Maor explained. Because pickers are

will assume other tasks like pruning and spraying pesticides.

The Tevel robots aren't as fast as humans — currently, they pick about half as much as a person. As the technology evolves, however, they'll speed up.

**"We are a solution for the labor shortage,"** Maor explained. "In the future, fewer



credit: Tevel

Four flying robots, tethered to their platform, busy at work

people will work in picking and more will work managing the robots, analyzing the data, and making decisions."

**NOTE:** In January, Microsoft founder Bill Gates highlighted Tevel as one of five young cutting-edge companies that he is excited about. In his blog GatesNotes, he wrote: "For farmers in some rich countries, around 40% of costs can come from labor — with workers spending entire days out in the hot sun and then stopping at night. But given the labor shortage in agriculture, farms often have to throw away fruit that's not harvested in time. That's why Tevel, founded in Tel Aviv, has created flying autonomous robots." —Editor ☆



# “Blood Bandage” Treats Non-Healing Wounds



By Sara Miller / NoCamels.com

For people with conditions like diabetes that affect blood flow, a minor cut can have serious consequences. Those wounds leave them vulnerable to serious infection that can sometimes be fatal.

Now, Israeli startup RedDress has created a “blood bandage” called ActiGraft, which can heal potentially life-threatening wounds that the body alone cannot heal. The ActiGraft system uses the patient’s own blood to make a clot outside the body. Then, it’s applied to the wound to stimulate the healing process.

When our bodies suffer a bleeding wound, clots coagulate blood to stem the bleeding. Thus, most people don’t suffer massive blood loss after a minor cut. Clots also release hormones alerting the body that an injury needs healing, so white blood cells can activate to regenerate the blood vessels. Finally, clots provide a kind of “scaffold” to support the healing process carried out by the nutrients as they regenerate damaged cells.

When blood flow is restricted by disease, however, these functions can be hindered.

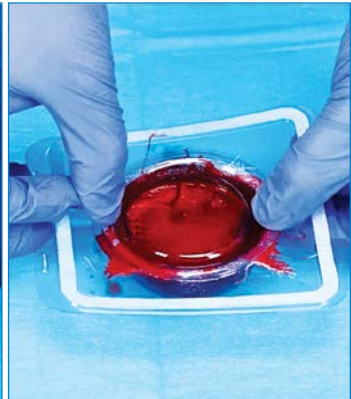
ActiGraft creates a clot inside a small case by mixing a small amount of blood and RedDress’s unique formula. After several minutes, the mixture forms into a clot that can be removed. It is then applied directly onto or into the non-healing wounds, stimulating the growth of cells that are needed for repair.

“We take the blood clot and transplant it back to the patient’s body. When we do that, we trick the body into thinking there is a bleeding wound. And the body restarts the healing process and starts to heal the wounds that it didn’t heal before,” explained RedDress CEO Alon Kushnir.

He mentioned a woman whose diabetes had caused such severe ulcers that she was wheelchair-bound for several years. The RedDress treatment healed her wounds, and she was able to walk again.

The treatment is also suitable for other non-healing wounds. The company received U.S. Food and Drug Administration clearance to treat non-healing wounds like ulcers and anal fistulas in 2020. RedDress is now used in U.S. hospitals and clinics, and in more than 30 countries around the world.

RedDress was founded in 2009 by Kushnir’s father Igal, a physician who invented the external blood clot to help burn victims. ✨



ActiGraft makes a blood clot outside of the body, which is then placed on a non-healing wound.



To  
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# The Truth About Life in Pre-War Gaza

By Roi Yanovsky / JPost.com



credit: TikTok / Youssef Alhelou



Enjoying the beach in Gaza

I was recently released from reserve duty in Gaza, after serving 100 days in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Since the world can't see firsthand what I witnessed, I wanted to share.

For years before October 7, we heard about how terrible life was for the poor, oppressed Gazans. Anti-Israel activists, human rights groups, and media outlets like *Al Jazeera* claimed that the Gaza Strip was like an open-air prison.

Having experienced Gaza personally, however, I can confidently tell you that those were lies.

## Gaza City was modern and developed

Gaza was depicted as a backward, "densely populated" area that's been under Israeli "siege" for years. There's no bigger lie than this. Pre-war Gaza was a modern, beautiful, developed city — with large, furnished houses, wide avenues, public areas, a promenade, and parks. It looked much better than any other Arab city. Gaza City reminded me more of Tel Aviv than the awful slums that some people claimed. And, of course, Gaza is far from being the "most densely populated area in the world."

If this is how a city looks after two decades of "siege," then I want to be sieged! The houses in Gaza were full of goods and food from across the Middle East — with modern furniture, appliances, and almost any current consumer products and electronics imaginable.

**There were also high-end mansions that could easily have been in Los Angeles or Beverly Hills. There was no lack of wealth in Gaza.**

I realize now that the optimistic notion that "if only Gazans had the chance for a better life, they would not be fighting Israel," is irrelevant for Gaza. Many of them had everything a normal person in the West desires, yet Hamas still executed their October 7 massacre.

## Eliminating the Jewish State

The most common thing I saw inside the houses was a map of the State of Israel with the heading "Map of Palestine." There was no mention of the internationally recognized borders of Israel or any Israeli city or kibbutz. The goal of eradicating the only Jewish State was not hidden or downplayed — it was everywhere.



Despite the prosperity we saw in Gaza City, it was hiding something you won't see in any Western city. **Every neighborhood we visited had staged and ready-to-operate Hamas combat zones** — weapons, tunneling, explosives, and rocket launch zones. All of these were inside normal family homes, some already built with openings in the walls to enable moving easily between buildings.

Gazans knew about Hamas's hidden combat infrastructure and received many warnings from the IDF to leave ahead of our arrival. Everywhere we went, we saw IDF pamphlets that had been dropped by the Israeli Air Force. Those who remained in the fighting zones were either Hamas terrorists or people who knowingly decided to stay in areas that are used by Hamas for battle.

## Lies and propaganda

We also saw that **Hamas terrorists rarely moved around armed or in uniform.** These terrorists believe the IDF is a moral army — **they know that IDF soldiers will not shoot them if they walk around as**

**"civilians."** Though they butchered Israeli civilians on October 7, we entered Gaza looking only for terrorists and they took advantage of it. They prepare weapon stockpiles — typically near building entries — and pick them up just before attacking. This is one reason why fighting in Gaza is much more complex than in other arenas. This is why, when they say that civilians died, you'll never know if they were Hamas terrorists attempting to kill others before they died.

Like any terror group, Hamas's strategic weapons are lies and propaganda. That's how they promoted their lie about a "siege" to the world's leading media outlets. That's how the Gaza Ministry of Health, controlled by Hamas, is able to publish ridiculous, unverified numbers of casualties daily, which are used by the U.S. State Department and other Western governments.

The Gaza I saw was different from the lies that Hamas has promoted. As they cling to control in Gaza, we shouldn't fall for the other lies they propagate. Like any other terror group, they must be dismantled.

**NOTE:** The images in this article came from videos made by Yousef Alhelou, whom Reuters calls "one of the well-known journalists in Gaza." He has worked there since 2007 as a news correspondent and reporter. Revealing

a glimpse of the widespread prosperity in Gaza before October 7, Alhelou posted the videos to TikTok, where he has more than 41,000 followers. As one of his followers noted: "Beautiful prison. If I ever get arrested, I hope they send me to a prison like this." — Editor ☆



A busy shopping center in Gaza



A man picking tomatoes from a farm in Gaza



credit: Rabbi Menachem Shemtov

Screenshot of the Lyft driver assaulting Rabbi Shemtov

## SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

### Lyft Driver Attacks Rabbi: "I Don't Like Your Energy"

JNS.org

A Lyft driver kicked a rabbi out of his car and attacked him in January, sending the rider to an urgent care facility. Menachem Shemtov, 29, director of Chabad Georgetown in Washington, D.C., asked the driver to lower the music in the car. After turning off the music, the driver "made a passive-aggressive comment about how I should book a quiet car next time," Shemtov explained. "Then, 20 seconds later, he demanded, 'Get out of my car.'" Pressed for a reason, the driver stated, "I don't like your energy. Your energy is kind of offending me."

A story in *The Washington Post* reported: "Videos of the incident, taken by both Shemtov and witnesses, show the driver punching and hitting the rabbi with a set of keys." Video footage also showed the driver yelling at the rabbi "for slamming the car door. He then punched Shemtov in the face."

When Shemtov tried to take pictures of the car, **the driver used his keys to hit the rabbi, who didn't fight back.** After the incident, the driver/attacker fled the scene. The rabbi received cuts on his face.

A spokesperson for the rideshare app stated: "Lyft unequivocally condemns this behavior. Upon learning of this incident, we deactivated the driver and we've been in touch with the rider. We encourage riders and drivers to report harassment, discrimination, or safety concerns in the Lyft app." ✨

### Argentina's President: Oct. 7 was "21st-Century Nazism"

By Linda Dayan / Haaretz.com

Argentinian President Javier Milei reiterated his support for the State of Israel in its war against Hamas in February. He denounced the "21<sup>st</sup>-century Nazism" of terrorism and anti-Semitism while visiting a Gaza border community that was devastated by the October 7 massacre.

Milei and Israel's President Isaac Herzog toured Kibbutz Nir Oz, where about a fourth of the residents were killed or kidnapped by Hamas on October 7. The leaders also met with Ofelia Roitman, a 77-year-old Argentinian-Israeli who was released in November from Hamas captivity.

Milei stated:

Let me once again say what I've been saying all along, we strongly condemned the terrorist acts of the terrorist group Hamas, and we continue to reaffirm our solidarity towards the people and the State of Israel and our support for Israel's right to legitimate self-defense.

It was the indifference of the free world that made the Nazi Holocaust possible. And as President Herzog said, the free world can't remain indifferent in this case, as we see clear examples of terrorism and anti-Semitism and what I would describe as 21st century Nazism. And when we hear about the methods that were used this time, it reminds us of the atrocities of the Holocaust.





credit: Maayan Toaf / GPO

President Milei (left) and President Herzog touring Kibbutz Nir Oz

He made a similar comparison during his visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial. “Looking at the dark images of the Holocaust, I wonder where the free world was back then,” Milei commented. “And today I ask myself the exact same question again: Where is the voice of the free world demanding the release of the hostages?” ☆

Thank you, President Milei. May other world leaders follow your example. —David

language spokesperson, in a February post on X (formerly Twitter).

“It is clear from the documents that Muhammad Wishah is a prominent commander in the anti-tank missile system in the Hamas military wing,” Adraee added.

At the end of 2022, Wishah moved to work in the field of research and development in the Hamas Air Force. Evidence on the laptop revealed that his work for *Al Jazeera* was little more than a cover. ☆



## Al Jazeera Reporter is a Hamas Commander

By Hana Levi Julian  
JewishPress.com

Sometimes, he’s a “journalist” for the Qatari *Al Jazeera* news network. Other times, however, he’s a prominent commander in the Hamas terrorist organization. Meet Muhammad Samir Muhammad Wishah, a 37-year-old Gazan who wears two *kefiyyahs* (Arabic headdresses).

“During an activity by our forces several weeks ago inside one of the Hamas camps in the northern Gaza Strip, a mobile computer belonging to a person named Muhammad Samir Muhammad Wishah was seized,” explained Avichay Adraee, IDF Arabic-



Credit: IDF Spokesperson Avichay Adraee / X



Credit: IDF Spokesperson Avichay Adraee / X





# Archaeology

## Galilee Hiker Finds Ancient Assyrian Scarab Seal

By Gavriel Fiske / TimesOfIsrael.com



credit: Anastasia Shapiro / IAA

The back features a griffin — a mythical winged horse



credit: Anastasia Shapiro / IAA

The front of the beetle shaped scarab seal

A hiker in the Nahal Tabor Nature Reserve in the Lower Galilee recently found a rare scarab amulet from the First Temple period. **The scarab**, made from reddish-brown carnelian stone, is estimated to be 2,800 years old and of Assyrian or Babylonian origin. The front is carved in the shape of a beetle, and

the back has engravings that depict a griffin (winged horse), a common motif of the Ancient Near East.

Erez Avrahamov, 45, was on a two-day leave from IDF reserve duty, taking advantage of a sunny day to hike after recent rains. "I saw something shimmering on the ground. At first, I thought

*(continued on next page)*



it was a bead or an orange stone. After I picked it up, I realized it had engravings resembling a beetle," Avrahamov explained. After finding the artifact, he turned it over to the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA).

Avrahamov found the scarab near the bottom of Tel Rekhes, associated with the city of Anaharath as mentioned in the Book of Joshua.



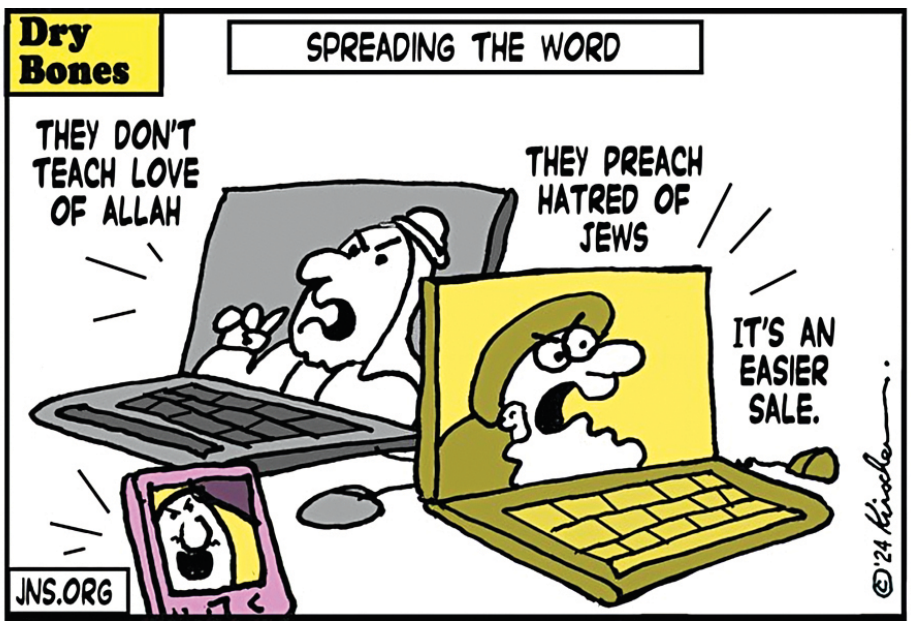
Erez Avrahamov with the ancient Assyrian amulet

During the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C., "a large citadel stood at the top of the mount, where bathing facilities, halls, and ritual chambers were found from the period of Assyrian rule," explained IAA archaeologist Dr. Yitzhak Paz. The Assyrians destroyed the Kingdom of Israel during the First Temple period.

The scarab is likely from this period of Assyrian control and "may indicate the presence of Assyrian (or perhaps Babylonian) officials at Tel Rekhes during this period," Paz noted. If the scarab can be

conclusively dated and this connection proven, it will be a discovery of "great significance," he added.

Similar scarab seals, fashioned into a dung-beetle shape from a wide variety of stones, originated from Pharaonic Egyptian culture but were widely used throughout the ancient world. The orange color and material of the scarab that Avrahamov found are fairly rare, as most were made from a softer bluish stone and then covered in glaze, which in most cases has worn away with time. ☆



## Miami Imam: I Am Here To Convert Americans

MEMRI.org

In a January sermon, Dr. Fadi Kablawi said that Zionism is a problem for the world. Kablawi, a dentist, is imam at the mosque Masjid As Sunna An Nabawiyyah (also called the North Miami Islamic Center). Kablawi, who emigrated to the U.S. from Jordan, stated that he is in the U.S. so he can convert Americans to Islam.

Referring to the Jewish people, Kablawi asserted: "Those enemies of human beings, if they do it to the Palestinians in Gaza, they will do it to you if they need to.

"This is who they are, sociopaths. They will do that to any other person if they just reach a point that they are convinced that it is for their interests. They will do it to the Christians, they will do it to the Chinese, they will do it to the Americans ... By Allah, they will do it to anybody. With Muslims, they have extra reasons to do it.

"So that sign on the Golden Glades [warning that] Hamas is your problem too. [They claim that] Hamas is going to finish Israel, and they are going to start going to Europe and America. [But] it is going to take a long time, digging a tunnel under the Atlantic Ocean, dude."

"The idea is scare tactics ... You know who is your problem too? **Zionism is the problem of the world.** Take it from me. Go back and read their history; **learn their history.** Who did assassinations all over the world? Who blew up buildings all over the world? Who blew up American ships? Who did? Hamas or the Mossad? Who blew up [the World Trade Center] on 9/11?

In 2020, Kablawi claimed that Christianity is the main problem in America and the West today. He asserted that since Christians believe that Jesus died for their sins, they suppose that they can commit



Dr. Fadi Kablawi

crimes such as looting and repent for them later.

"If we can, we will take [over the U.S.], but with means that the law allows us," Kablawi declared. "Here, we are going to make *da'wa* [an invitation] to the people. Like the guy who emailed me, Brad Jennings. [He wrote:] 'Do you want *shari'a* laws in America?' I said if America becomes a majority Muslim [country], then *inshallah* [Allah willing], we will choose to implement *shari'a*."

"Then [Jennings] says: 'Go to Gaza, they need dental work.' I said that there are enough dentists in Gaza. I am here so I can convert Americans." ☆

screenshot credit: MEMRI.org

To Index



# Jewish Humor, etc.

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

## Misunderstood Matzah

A Jewish man took his Passover lunch to eat outside in the park. He sat down on a bench and began eating. Since Jews do not eat leavened bread during the eight-day holiday, he was eating matzah — flat, crunchy, unleavened bread that has dozens of perforations. Soon, a blind man came by and sat down next to him. Feeling neighborly, the Jewish man passed a sheet of matzah to the blind man. The blind man handled the matzah for a few minutes, looked puzzled, and finally exclaimed, “Who wrote this nonsense?”

## Thankful

A rabbi asked a precocious, six-year-old boy, “So, your mother says your prayers for you each night? That’s wonderful. What does she say?”

The little boy replied, “Thank God he’s in bed!”



### Answer Key for April 2024 Crossword (p.21)

- |                |               |              |               |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>ACROSS:</b> | 10. Meet      | <b>DOWN</b>  | 11. Saved     |
| 1. Herod       | 13. Raise     | 1. Hosanna   | 12. Jerusalem |
| 2. Judah       | 14. Obedience | 3. Begotten  | 15. King      |
| 4. Doctrine    | 17. David     | 5. Immanuel  | 16. Donkey    |
| 6. Salvation   | 19. Believes  | 7. Authority | 18. Worship   |
| 9. Prophet     | 20. Birth     | 8. Arose     |               |

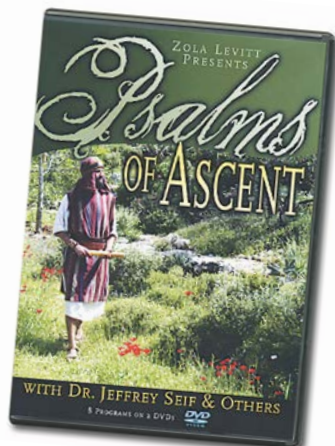


## Social Media Outlets

ZLM has expanded our social media outreach, which now includes:

- YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/OurJewishRoots>
- Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/OurJewishRoots>
- X/Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/OurJewishRoots>
- Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/OurJewishRoots>
- Rumble:** <https://www.rumble.com/OurJewishRoots>





## Psalms of Ascent

### Eight programs on two DVDs

Dr. Jeffrey Seif and others examine Psalms 120 to 134, which are known as the “Psalms of Ascent.” While these psalms may have been sung by ancient Jews going up to the Temple in Jerusalem, they are surprisingly appropriate and timely for Believers today.

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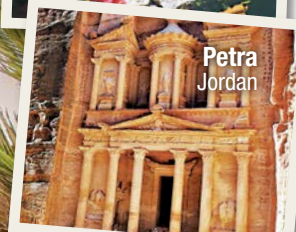
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