



Levitt LETTER

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

— ROMANS 10:1

inside: Today's Israel
in Prophecy p.4

Thou Shalt Innovate: 15 Earthshaking Israeli Technologies

By Shoshanna Solomon / TimesOfIsrael.com

A new book, *Thou Shalt Innovate: How Israeli Ingenuity Repairs the World* by Avi Jorisch, lists 15 Israeli innovations that are impacting the world.

An excerpt provides brief summaries of the 15 technologies, in chronological order:

1955 The solar water collector (*dud shemesh*). Dr. Harry Zvi Tabor develops the black stripping that gathers solar energy and connects it to a contraption to collect heated water, yielding more hot water and producing more electricity than a turbine.

1963 The chemical structure of marijuana. Raphael Mechoulam discovers the chemical structure of the active compounds in marijuana, including cannabidiol (CBD) and tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

1965 Modern drip irrigation. Simcha Blass and Kibbutz Hatzerim start Netafim and
(continued p.25)

Gaza's Suffering is Self-Inflicted

By Ryan Jones
Israel Today

For the first time since the start of the "Oslo peace process," the international community's primary peace broker, the United States, has publicly (the distinction is important) agreed with Israel that the suffering of the Palestinians is of their own making. It's probably safe to assume that American administrations have privately concurred with Israel on this matter, but have never been able (or willing) to say so openly for fear of the Arab backlash.

But the Arab world today is facing numerous crises that mean they need America more than America
(continued p.9)



photo: Mussa Qawaime / Reuters



REMEMBER:

Father's Day is Sunday, June 17, 2018



Dutch Christian Saved Holocaust Children

MessianicBible.com

In 1943 Amsterdam, the Nazis had occupied the Netherlands for three years and rounded up Jews since summer of 1942. Men and women were taken to the local theater. Their babies and children under 13 were placed in a nursery across the street. Thirty-two-year-old Johan Van Hulst directed the Christian seminary next door to the nursery. Dutch Christians ended up in concentration camps for speaking out against the Nazis. But Van Hulst recalled Esther, a Jewish girl who became queen and saved a whole generation of Jews from death. "Maybe I was put in this place to do something," Van Hulst said at age 101. (He went to be with the Lord in March 2018, at age 107.)

As the school's director, Van Hulst allowed the facility to become a critical link to freedom for as many as 1,000 children.

"The children were not registered at that time," he said. "If the Germans brought 32 children [to the nursery], we listed only 25."

Lies Caransa was 4 years old: "I was not allowed to say goodbye or hug my mother and grandmother because that might cause a scene. I just waved — alone and lonely."

A hedge connected the garden of the nursery to the garden of Van Hulst's school. Lies recalls, "I was lifted over a hedge and put into a jute bag, which I thought was awful; but I realized that I should not cry. I still cannot bear the smell of jute."

Resistance members and university students smuggled the children out of the school. At times, they would wait for a streetcar to block the sight of the Nazi guards across the street, and cycle away with a child in a laundry bag or basket. Or they might get on the car itself with a child. Resistance groups placed the children with Protestant and Catholic families.

1925 photo of the Christian Kweek-school, which Johan Van Hulst directed, and the nursery (in red circle) to the right of the school



photo: Joods Cultureel Kwartier

The resistance team required a parent's consent. One mother refused to let her children go, saying, "They need a strong mother." Sighing, Van Hulst said, "They were all killed."

The first children were lifted over the garden's hedge in May 1943. "First, [nursery] director Henriëtte Pimentel asked if the children could sleep in the garden. Soon we put beds in a room. The Nazis never noticed anything. What we did was probably too bold to be true."

A Dutch Education Ministry inspector heard babies crying and asked if they were Jewish. Van Hulst replied, "You don't expect me to answer that, do you?" The official replied, "In God's name, be careful," and walked away without reporting it, recalled Van Hulst. Hulst saw his actions as a duty, not heroic: "I saw what was going on, what help was needed, and I tried to help."

Van Hulst is still distressed that he did not save at least one more child. He recalled "the most difficult day of my life," in 1943, when the nursery was to be cleared out. "Of 70 or 100 children, you have to decide which to take with you. You know for a fact that the children you leave behind are going to die. I took 12 with me. Later, I asked myself: 'Why not 13?'"

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu later comforted Van Hulst with these words: "We say, he who saves one life saves a universe. You saved hundreds of universes. I thank you in the name of the Jewish people, but also in the name of humanity." ★





- [2 Dutch Christian Saved Holocaust Children](#)
Teaching
- [4 Today's Israel in Prophecy](#)
Studio Co-host
- [6 Relax And Let Go](#)
- [8 Yeshua's Baptism Site](#)
- [10 Book with Hitler as a "Great Leader"](#)
- [11 New Anti-Semites in Germany](#)
Ask the Chaplain
- [12 Missing Ark & Resurrected Bodies](#)
TJF Report
- [13 Supporting Our TJF Team](#)
A Note from Mark
- [14 Have Faith: Death Not the End](#)
- [15 ZLM Bulletin Board](#)
Parsons: Hebrew Lesson
- [16 Matters of Life and Death](#)



[21 Why Does the U.S. Remain on UNHRC?](#)



[22 Letters to ZLM](#)



[25 Thou Shalt Innovate](#)
Science (cont'd from cover)

[26 Eyelid Movement Can Help Diagnose Disease](#)
Medicine



[28 Arab Leaders Abandon the Palestinians](#)



[30 Select Briefs](#)

[32 Ancient Mosaic: Jesus As "God"](#)
Archaeology



[34 Europe: Making Islam Great Again](#)



[35 Jewish Humor](#)

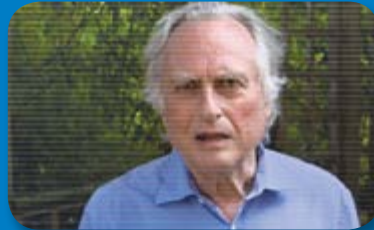


Atheist Richard Dawkins on Decline of Christianity

BY LEAH MARIEANN KLETT / ChristianPost.com

Famous atheist Richard Dawkins recently tweeted a warning to his 2.8 million followers against celebrating the demise of Christianity, calling it a "relatively benign" faith compared to others, amid reports that the religion is "dying" in Europe. While Christians remain the world's largest religious group, they are declining in Europe, as Christians are "dying faster than they are being born." In contrast, Muslims and the unaffiliated in Europe both experienced natural increases in their populations.

Dawkins, who was famously canned from a Berkeley appearance last year after organizers learned about his criticisms of Islam, admitted he has some concern about the decline of Christianity, "in so far as **Christianity might be a bulwark against something worse**. There are no



Screenshot: YouTube/Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science

Atheist Richard Dawkins

Christians, as far as I know, blowing up buildings. I am not aware of any Christian suicide bombers. I am not aware of any major Christian denomination that believes the penalty for apostasy is death."

"If you look at the actual impact that different religions have on the world, it's quite apparent that at present the most evil religion in the world has to be Islam," he added, contending that moderate Muslims suffer more at the hands of Islam and its teachings than anyone else. ★

Today's Israel in Prophecy



BY ZOLA LEVITT / Levitt.com/essays

The following excerpt from a chapter that Zola wrote — “Israel, Earth’s Lightning Rod” — for a book on prophecy, *Foreshocks of Antichrist*, is still relevant to current events in Israel and the world.



photo: Georges Janssens (Julien) 2008

The Preaching of the Antichrist (1499–1504) by Luca Signorelli and his school

Israel is the most important country in the world today. From a secular viewpoint, it is situated on the land bridge between the Asian and African continents, and it represents an island of democracy in an ocean of dictatorships. It is America’s key ally in the Eastern Hemisphere. Economically, it is quite a power for its size, having an economy ten times the size of that of Egypt, Jordan, and Syria put together! Politically, it is front-page news almost every day. The unbelieving world is indeed interested in Israel.

But for Believers, its significance is beyond measure. The preMillennial view of Scripture reveals that all Believers will spend a thousand years in Israel with their King, and this could happen seven years from today! In the Second Coming, our Lord will not return to just any country, but as a matter of fact, *“His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east”* (Zech. 14:4). He will reign on the throne of David from Jerusalem, ruling a world of believing nations. We who have trusted Him for our salvation will rule with Him. The Bride of Christ will become the Queen of the Kingdom to come.

But before all of those happy events, there is the day of God’s wrath to contend with — *“the time of Jacob’s trouble”* (Jer. 30:7). Little Israel is involved in close to 100% of End Times prophecy.

An Unholy Peace Covenant

The Tribulation Period, the 70th week of Daniel, will transpire when the anti-Christ makes a peace covenant with the nation of Israel. That simple statement has been uttered for quite a few years, but we happen now to live in a time when people are riding up on a constant basis with peace treaties for Israel to sign. This mere fact by itself is grounds to suppose that the time is very short

(continued next page)



Back to
Cover



To
Index



before the entrance of the one who will ultimately betray Israel and the world. The improvement in the antiChrist's treaty, compared to today's peace agreements, is probably the guarantee he can give of Israel's security, presumably by his ten-nation confederacy in Western Europe. He will be able to provide close-in land, sea, and air defenses. Another attractive feature may be the seven-year span of the treaty, and possibly permission for Israel to rebuild its Temple at last.

Whatever the terms of the treaty, the antiChrist would be clearly recognizable to Bible readers by his lavish promises of peace on earth. This will be a false peace, of course, but are we not living in an age of false peace agreements? As we look at our world of unrest, we hear of peace agreements being signed and abrogated all the time. It is actually rather remarkable to compare our times with the Biblical descriptions of the Tribulation Period. (This says nothing of the famines, pestilences, earthquakes, wars and rumors of wars, offenses, betrayals, etc., the Lord mentions in His Olivet Discourse [Matthew 24:4–16], which is also addressed to Israel.)

An Uneasy Peace

Where Israel is concerned, an uneasy peace will prevail for three and a half years, at which time the antiChrist will sense the Jewish people's suspicions of him, and will attempt to assert his authority. He will do no less than call himself the God of Israel, or in Paul's words:

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed ... so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

— 2 Thes. 2:3–4

Our Lord Himself, along with the prophet Daniel, foretold the cataclysmic effects of this spiritual excess:

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains.

— Matt. 24:15–16

In all probability, the Jewish people will bolt, having mistrusted the antiChrist right along. (Some teach that the Israeli leaders will accept him as a messiah when he first comes. I do not believe they are that credulous. Having had bitter experience with false messiahs in the past, they are far more careful than that. And after all, when the real Messiah presented Himself, they largely did not accept Him either.)

[We will continue our schedule of Tribulation events next month.](#)

[Zola's voice is still relevant, and I'm thankful for all the Bible teaching he left us.](#) — Kirsten ★



Relax And Let Go

Kirsten Hart
Studio co-host of
Zola Levitt Presents



Floating on the Dead Sea

This will be our first summer to live in a small cabin on a lake and enjoy hours of swimming, kayaking, and paddle boarding. David and I have two grandchildren now, so we need to do our best to stay healthy and in shape.

A Dead Sea “Swim”

Holy Land tourists claim to swim in the Dead Sea, but it’s an entirely different “swim” than in a traditional lake or sea. If you haven’t soaked in the Dead Sea, maybe add that to your bucket list. It’s truly a wonder. To get the most out of your Dead Sea experience, however, you must relax.

I detected two types of pilgrims in the water around me: standers and floaters. The standers intrigued me. After traveling perhaps halfway around the world to experience Israel and this body of water, they remain on their feet in the shallows.

Yes, many of them apply the world-famous mud to their skin, but they don’t trust the lake’s ability to keep them afloat, and they miss a unique experience.

The floaters “get it.” Some of them swam/floatated along with me out to the boundary rope — not that you can dip beneath the surface to determine the depth there! The floaters bring reading material to enjoy during their anti-gravity adventure.



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Beach pebbles (on Dead Sea's western coast) made of halite, which is naturally occurring sodium chloride salt



photo:
Wilson44691

I encouraged our pilgrims: "You literally lean back and trust that the water will hold you. When you completely relax, the water puts your body into a perfect 'float position.'" Those who trusted experienced a real treat. Those who struggled to relax and trust ended up face down in the mineral-rich water.

Maybe the standers enjoyed standing. But you can stand in any body of water. Floating in the Dead Sea gives a glimpse of Peter walking on the water toward Yeshua on the Sea of Galilee. Peter had to completely trust Yeshua. Walking on water violated the laws of physics. Like floating in the Dead Sea seems to. Many protested: "But I'm not a swimmer!" Still, I insisted: "There's no swimming involved! You won't believe how calming it is!"

Trust Issues

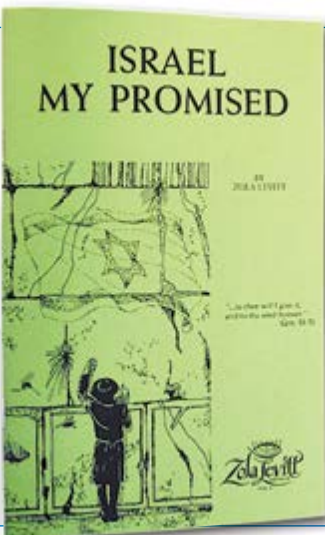
If Peter had answered Jesus, "But I can't walk on water!" he would have missed one of his greatest experiences. He had to trust Yeshua to take care of him. Peter had to look beyond his own concerns and trust in the supernatural. Yeshua gave Peter the walk of his life ... until he lost sight of his Lord and worried about the water beneath his feet.

In a world full of trust issues, Yeshua is the only One who will always be there for us. The more we trust in Him, the more our struggles will calm.

*When I am afraid, I put
my trust in You.*
— Psalm 56:3

*Trust in the LORD with all your
heart and lean not on your
own understanding.*
— Proverbs 3:5

Relax and let go, and experience how the Lord keeps you afloat. ★



Israel, My Promised study booklet

See Israel through the eyes of Zola Levitt, a faithful son who made the land of his Father his life's work. A love letter from a sincere writer to his homeland. An intensely personal and heartfelt look at God's country, one of the most misunderstood lands in all history.

Yeshua's Baptism Site Being Cleared of Mines

BY TIA GOLDENBERG (r) APnews.com



Qasr al-Yahud is being cleared of mines by the HALO Trust

Pilgrims seeking serenity during a visit to Jesus' traditional baptism site may be rattled to discover they are surrounded by thousands of land mines left over from dormant Mideast conflicts. But a project now underway plans to rid the West Bank site of the explosive devices, clearing away the relics of war that have blemished the sacred place for nearly five decades.

Land mines still speckle many parts of Israel's war-won territory. But the effort at the baptism site carries particular weight because of its importance to the world's Christians and the delicate international diplomacy that was required to take the project off the ground. The project's organizers had to navigate a virtual minefield of often quarreling church denominations, as well as Israeli and Palestinian officials.

"To see a site that is visited by over half a million pilgrims and tourists each year and for them to come in their buses and be so close to land mines is very unusual," said James Cowan, head of The HALO Trust, an international mine-clearing charity carrying out the project in partnership with Israel's Defense Ministry.

Christians believe that John the Baptist baptized Jesus at this lush stretch of the Jordan River flanked by desert. It is Christianity's third holiest site (after Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre, site of the Crucifixion, and the Nativity Church in Bethlehem, built where He was born). Many modern-day visitors don white robes and immerse themselves in a show of faith.

Churches were built in the area as early as the 4th century. By the 1930s, Greek, Coptic, Syrian, and Catholic churches had erected golden-domed shrines and other structures.

Israel captured the West Bank in the 1967 Six-Day War. Shortly after that, Israel planted land mines to fend off enemies. Israeli officials say that the 3,000 explosive devices also include booby traps laid by Palestinian mili-

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tants, explosives put down by Jordanians, and unexploded ordnance.

“Israel sees this as a very important project,” said Marcel Aviv, director of the Israeli de-mining authority, INMAA. “We will do all that’s necessary to make the area clean and safe so that civilians can wander around here.”

A small path was cleared for Pope John Paul II’s visit in 2000, and pilgrims for years had to coordinate their visits with the Israeli military, because of security and land mine concerns.

In 2011, the site was officially opened to the public after Israel cleared a narrow road leading to the Jordan River. Today, buses ferry hundreds of thousands of visitors along that road each year, with the surrounding area remaining off limits.

The \$1.15 million de-mining project, half funded by the Israeli Defense Ministry and half by private donors, aims to open access for pilgrims, clergy, and tourists in about a year. ★



Gaza’s Suffering is Self-Inflicted ... *continued from cover sidebar*

needs them. Trump’s going to leverage that fact to finally make the will of the American people official foreign policy.

Following a visit to the Gaza border, Trump’s special envoy Jason Greenblatt spelled out unequivocally who’s responsible for the suffering in the isolated coastal enclave: “ Hamas should be improving the lives of those it purports to govern, but instead chooses to increase violence and cause misery for the people of Gaza. **Imagine what the people of Gaza could do with the \$100 million Iran gives Hamas annually that Hamas uses for weapons and tunnels to attack Israel!**”

Israel left behind an incredible amount of equipment and fertile farmland when it evacuated Jewish settlers from Gaza in 2005. Rather than make use of that gift, Hamas and its allies destroyed it, making painfully clear that Hamas has no interest in effective governance and bettering the lives of the civilians under its authority. Despite this, it must be remembered that the Palestinian Arabs handed Hamas the keys to power in the last legislative election (2006), during which the avowed terror group won

an absolute majority in parliament.

As long as Washington was playing to the PA’s tune, the truth of the situation was being sacrificed on the altar of “peace.”



Family in Gaza eats by candlelight because electricity supplied by Israel does not reach them

When I think of our Savior on the Mount of Olives, crying over Jerusalem (Luke 19), I know that His vision included present-day Gaza. Areas of His Promised Land are still in disarray. As we pray for the peace of Jerusalem, let’s also pray for the people in this tumultuous area of the Holy Land. —Kirsten ★



Removed: Book with Hitler as a “Great Leader”



BY KAI SCHULTZ (r) NYTimes.com

An Indian publisher removed from its online store a children’s book that included Adolf Hitler on a list of world leaders who “devoted their lives for the betterment of their country and people.”

The book *Leaders* (previously listed on the website as *Great Leaders*) spotlights 11 world figures “who will inspire you.” Its cover features Hitler alongside leaders such as Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela, and Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Published by the Pegasus imprint of B. Jain Publishing Group of India, the book came under fire after the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a global human rights organization researching the Holocaust and hate in historical and contemporary contexts, called the decision to include Hitler an “abomination.”

Associate Director Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the center hailed the removal of the 48-page book from the publisher’s online store, where it was sold for about \$1.70. Cooper

suggested that children should be reading *The Diary of Anne Frank*, “not a picture book that lists Hitler as a ‘great’ leader.”

In parts of Asia, atrocities committed in Nazi Germany are poorly understood, and Hitler is sometimes glorified as a strong, effective leader.

Rohee Dasgupta, an associate professor at the Jindal School of International Affairs who studies Jewish culture and identity, said that India’s history curriculum failed to educate students about the Holocaust.

In 2004, high school textbooks used in the state of Gujarat spoke highly of Hitler, saying he had “made untiring efforts to make Germany self-reliant” and “instilled the spirit of adventure in the common people.” The book mentions only briefly the extermination of millions of Jews and others during World War II.

“From the Indian perspective, it’s an ignorance of history,” Ms. Dasgupta said. ★



Adolf Hitler (circled in red above) alongside leaders such as Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu Kyi, Mohandas K. Gandhi, and Narendra Modi





photo by Armin Linartz, originally posted to www.cdcsu.de

New Generation of Anti-Semites in Germany

By Bojan Pancevski / *The Wall Street Journal*

Solomon Michalski loved going to his new school on a leafy Berlin street because it was vibrant and diverse, with most students from migrant families. But when the teenage grandson of Holocaust survivors let it slip that he was Jewish, former friends started hissing insults at him in class, he says. Last year, some of them brandishing what looked like a gun took him aside and warned that they would execute him.

It was no isolated occurrence. The police registered 1,453 anti-Semitic incidents in Germany last year, more than in five of the previous seven years, and organizations including the American Jewish Committee say fewer than a third of such incidents get reported. Their stubborn persistence in the country where the Holocaust was plotted and executed is raising concern that decades of work to eradicate anti-Semitism are slowly being undone as prejudice against Jews spreads beyond its traditional home on the far right.

"I fear that a new generation of anti-Semites is coming of age in Germany," said Josef Schuster, head of the country's chief Jewish organization.



Satan will always stir up hate for God's chosen people. Lord, we who love You pray protection for the Jewish people in Germany. — David ★



Anti-Semites in Germany burn Israeli flag



Missing Ark and Resurrected Bodies

Dr. Todd Baker
Zola Levitt Ministries
Staff Theologian



Q. If the Ark of the Covenant was missing since the destruction of the 1st Temple, and if during Yom Kippur the blood of a goat must be sprinkled on the four corners of the Ark, **how could Yom Kippur be celebrated during the Second Temple Period without the Ark behind the veil?** All the precautions were taken so the high priest would not be struck dead and need to be dragged out by a rope tied around his ankle. What was behind the veil ... a replica?

A. **The Talmud indicates that a large stone was put in place of the absent Ark during the Second Temple Period.** So the priests sprinkled the blood on the stone.

Q. In Zola's study booklet *The Second Coming*, (see below) he seems to state that when a Believer dies, the soul remains in the casket with the body. In the Rapture, which occurs before the Second Coming, when Jesus takes the saints who have previously died, point #4 (p. 34) says: "He will bring their *souls* with Him." (see 1 Thess. 4:14) **Because Paul is talking about those who are asleep when Jesus comes back, isn't the only thing that remains in the ground the body?** Possibly I'm misreading this point.

A. You are misreading. **Zola understood that when a Believer dies, the soul immediately leaves the body and goes to Heaven to be in the presence of the Lord,** as taught in Luke 16:19–31 and 2 Corinthians 5:5–8. Point #4 means, then, that the *souls* of the deceased Believers in Heaven will come down with Jesus and their heavenly bodies will be joined with their earthly bodies raised from the ground. ★

↑
To
Index



The Second Coming study booklet

Examines in detail various theories of the Lord's return and the Kingdom of God.

Anticipate with new insight the return of the Lord and the establishment of His Kingdom on Earth. Review exact Scriptural information contrasting the Second Coming with the Rapture of the Church.

Supporting Our To The Jew First Team

August Rosado
TJF Outreach
Team Ambassador



Many in the West believe that sharing the Gospel in Israel is illegal. It is not. Israel is a democracy—the *only* democracy in the Middle East—surrounded by 22 Moslem dictatorships. Israelis enjoy the same freedom of religion as we Americans. This ministry's **To The Jew First** (TJF) outreach team finds many Israeli Jews, and even some Arabs, surprisingly open to the Gospel.

Like this ministry's newsletter staff and TV production crew, our TJF ambassadors have a burden for the Jewish people. We long to see them come to Yeshua, and so we travel to meet them, just as Yeshua/Jesus went to the *"lost sheep of the house of Israel"* (Matt. 10:6; 15:24). The readers and viewers who donate to ZLM make it possible for us to share the Good News of the Messiah with those lost sheep.

On a recent TJF outreach trip to Israel, I encountered Dr. Gary Frazier, a Bible prophecy teacher and friend. He got very excited when he learned about this ministry's mission trips to

Israel. But he revealed that **90% of Christians who visit Israel never share their faith with the Jewish people.**

Dr. Frazier introduced me to a Jerusalem congregation's Messianic rabbi who was just as thrilled

to hear about our TJF team. He offered to supply us complete (with both Testaments) Hebrew Bibles, free of charge. He, too, offered a disappointing fact: even some Messianic

Jews in Israel do not share their faith in Messiah Yeshua. This rabbi admires our To The Jew First work because he is trying to motivate his congregation members to communicate the Gospel of Messiah.

Jesus commanded us Believers to fulfill the Great Commission that He gave in Mathew 28:19: Go and teach all nations. Mark reiterated Yeshua's words:

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

— Mark 16:15

That would be to Jews and to non-Jews (gentiles). I cannot stress enough that faithful supporters of ZLM make it possible for us to continue putting two-Testament Bibles into the hands of Israeli Jews and Moslems.

Time is short, and Jesus is coming soon! The next main event on God's calendar will be the Rapture of the Church! The only way Jews—or anyone—can be saved is by first hearing the Gospel. Let's please continue to share it via television, our news magazines, the Internet, and our To The Jew First outreach. *Maranatha!* (Depending on where this compound Aramaic word is broken, *Maranatha* means "Come, Lord" [marana tha] or "Our Lord has come" [maran atha]. Both meanings are appropriate here.)

[Kirsten and I love watching the TJF team members in the work to which Yeshua has called them. August is truly a boots-on-the-ground warrior for the Kingdom. — David](#) ★



Have Faith: Death is Not the End

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



Has suggesting “Have faith” become cliché? That expression certainly suffices as a pinch hitter who can step in for genuine compassion and a willingness to help.

Nonetheless, when sincerely given, that advice remains Scriptural. With appropriate emphasis, such timeless wisdom rivals a prizefighter who punches above his weight.

A Diversified Ministry

Are broadcast Bible-teaching organizations a vanishing breed? Fortunately, this ministry has never put its eggs all in one basket, even when trusting a wayward stockbroker many years ago. Whatever on-location television programs we create now will exist at www.levitt.com for posterity, even post-Rapture.



(Incidentally, did you realize that every email, text message, posted online comment, voicemail, and everything you’ve saved or sent anywhere beyond your hard drive is preserved indefinitely somewhere?)

Meanwhile, for decades this ministry has developed and accumulated perhaps the best collection of Messianic Jewish teaching known to man. ALL programs of *Zola Levitt Presents* have been free to view online since our website’s creation. NOT ONE has been held back, available only for purchase.

The same with our monthly *Levitt Letters*. Always free — to retirees on

fixed income, prison inmates, or anyone, including whatever onlookers monitor whether we go overboard with our Zionism.

Anyone with Internet access can see this ministry’s best — on iPhones, Androids, PCs, MacBooks, iPads, library or prison computers, and, after decades of prayer, on television sets.

Ministry Life After Death

Despite some hip-shooting evaluators of nonprofit organizations having deemed Zola Levitt Ministries to be nearly on life-support financially, the ministry is likely to experience life after death.

Let me explain something clearly and emphatically for whoever imagines that he can judge just from our financial statements this ministry’s ability to serve. When ZLM stopped overspending for airtimes that seemed redundant and diversified our spokespeople by recruiting a worthy, very energetic team of Jewish experts while paying less overall, those actions furthered our inevitable transition to reaching viewers and readers primarily via the Internet.

Imagine marrying Faith, as in “to have and to hold.” You live with Faith, sleep and eat with Faith. Faith is your significant other — your better half. You and your spouse are one, but collectively you two regard Faith as such an integral part of your marriage that your marriage to Faith lasts beyond “death do you part.” So that when one of you likely passes before the other, Faith remains on the spot to remind you of Romans 8:28 —

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Thank you for *your* Faithfulness to this worthy ministerial outreach. We could not reach and teach so many others without your help. ★



ZLM Bulletin Board



Out of the Mouths of Babes

For a fine tribute to Father's Day (June 17) and Matt. 21:16, watch two small, adopted children rejoice in their earthly and heavenly fathers. The 2½-minute video "[Fatherless to Fatherfull](#)" features Levi from Ethiopia and Lia from China, who became brother and sister when adopted as infants. Already embracing The Great Commission, they explain how God adopts you and me into His family — and becomes our Really Dad. "Being His child makes Father's Day extra special!"

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem



Clarification

One of the *Levitt Letter's* missions is to chronicle the flagrant moral decay of modern society in the world's hastening march toward Armageddon. Cases in point: 1) an article about a state licensing entity recognizing Pastafarians and the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster as a credible religion ([January 2016, p. 31](#)) or 2) the [January 2018 BB](#) item about state-issued multi-sex birth certificates. While each story is uniquely unfortunate, notifying our readers about their existence does **NOT** constitute an endorsement by ZLM. Readers should accept these notices in the context of praying CQLJ! (Come Quickly, Lord Jesus! — Rev. 22:20). Additionally, reports of these travesties serve as wakeup calls to Believers complacent enough to doubt that the end is near.

Please: Don't Throw Me Away

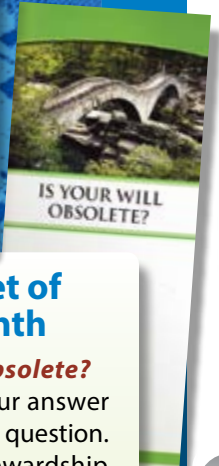
This *Levitt Letter* wants you to read it, save it, and read it again. You could park it on your coffee table, in your guest bathroom, or in your car for an occasion when you eat alone or wait in a doctor's office. Later, you might share it by strategically placing it with reading materials at your church, health club, or hair salon. Whether you snip or black out your mailing address—or write your phone number/email for subsequent readers to contact you—is up to you.

FREE ITEM

Pamphlet of the Month

Is Your Will Obsolete?

Contemplate your answer to this important question. This featured stewardship pamphlet begins with 4 examples of how wills can become just as obsolete as yesteryear's technology: with changes involving property, marital status, children/grandchildren, laws, and the needs of loved ones. Our pamphlet also discusses four ways to leave a legacy: by percentages, fixed amounts, specific property, or residual bequests. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P.O. Box.



To Index

"Come Home!"

Zola
Tours to
Israel



See [page 36](#)
for details





וּבַחַרְתָּ בַחַיִּים לְמַעַן תֵּחִיָּה

“So choose life that you may live...” (Deut. 30:19)

וּבַחַרְתָּ	בַחַיִּים	לְמַעַן	תֵּחִיָּה
(4) (3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(3) (2) (1)	(2) (1)
u'va-char-ta	ba-cha-yeem	le-ma-an	teech-yeh
so you choose!	the life	so that	you may live

Some people wonder whether there is life after death, often ignoring the more pressing question: is there life *before* death. Yeshua said, “*I am come so that people may have life, and have it more abundantly*” (John 10:10). So, are you really alive? In its truest sense, *teshuvah* (repentance) isn’t so much about turning away from sin as it is turning to the light, embracing reality, and being entirely honest with ourselves. The New Testament Greek word “*metanoia*” conveys a similar idea: going “beyond” (*meta*) your everyday mindset (*nous*) to apprehend the realm of the sacred, the superlative wonder of existence, and the blessing of life. *Metanoia* means getting outside your head, losing dead habits, and forsaking assumptions. To experience “all things new.”

Wisdom is grounded in humility, which is rooted in the awareness of our own biases and ignorance. When we become conscious of just how fleeting and sacred our lives are, our personal relationships will be transformed and we will begin to sense the sacredness of our time together. As spiritual teacher Anthony de Mello said, “Any time you are with anyone, ... you must say to yourself, ‘I am dying and this person, too, is dying,’ attempting all the while to experience the truth of the words you are saying. If everyone agrees to practice this habit, bitterness will die out, harmony will arise.” Amen. The sages teach, “Repent one day before you die.” But who knows the day of one’s death in advance? Perhaps your name will be called today. Are you ready to appear before your Creator to account for your life (Rev. 22:12)?

Find God or die (Deut. 30:19). We cannot choose not to choose; we cannot “opt out” of our sacred responsibility before God. Every human being faces the holy dilemma, and there is no way to avoid the “either/or” decision since denying the power of our choice (e.g., by rationalizing, blaming others, playing the victim) means forsaking our identity as a soul made in the image of God.

The Spirit of God cries out, *bacharta ba'chayim!* — “Choose the life — that you may live!” This commandment (to choose life) is not too hard or beyond your reach: it is *very near you* — as close as your breath and as near as your heart (Deut. 30:11-14). Therefore, turn to God and embrace the message of salvation given in Yeshua (1 John 5:12). There is no other way, and time is running out. *Dear friend, may you choose to live this very hour.*

1 John 5:12 — He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ★



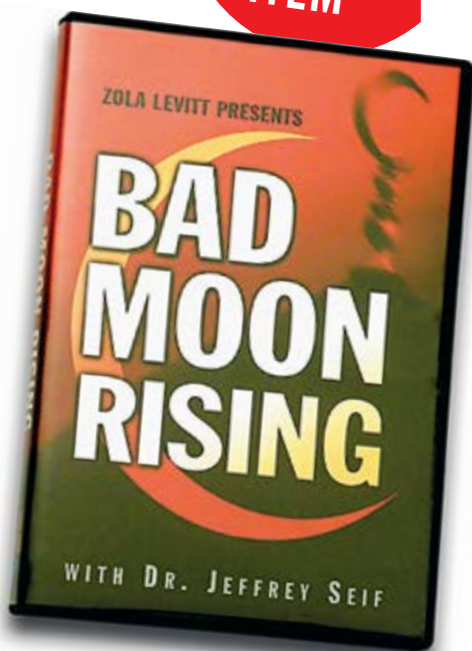
Courtesy, The Jerusalem Connection



Bad Moon Rising DVD Set

Eight 30-minute TV programs
on Two DVDs

Dr. Jeffrey Seif remembers yesterday's Holocaust and considers anti-Semitism's rise in modern-day Europe. Though dressed this time in Islamic garb and not in Nazi uniforms, anti-Semitism is making fresh headway in the world, its current surge fueled by the radical Islamic fringe as it turns out the lights of once-Christian Europe. Jeff speaks out against this trend with a prophetic voice and calls individuals, particularly Europeans and onlooking North Americans, to resist the encroaching darkness and walk in the light of God's grace and love.



When Darkness Once Prevailed Jeff speaks from a Jewish synagogue/memorial in Dachau, where he draws troubling parallels between the rise of the Nazis and the rise of radical Islam.

Out of the Darkness Against the backdrop of Dachau's front gate, emblazoned with the lie "Work Will Make You Free," Jeff teaches about real freedom. A Holocaust survivor shares her remarkable story.

Dark Night of the Soul Jeff talks from inside the barracks of Dachau. Sandra Levitt and Will King interview survivors who worked on the bunker where Hitler planned to manufacture his Messerschmitt aircraft.

Bright Lights in a Darkened World "March of Life" participants express support for the Jewish people and the need to "lift the veil of silence." Jeff speaks from the Dachau crematorium about the Jews who were shoved into ovens.

The Darkness that Nearly Engulfed Us Jeff lectures from the German site where Hitler nearly succeeded in developing an atomic bomb. Zola interviews Dr. Ergun Caner, a former Moslem who shares his insights on Islam.

Letting the Sun Shine Jeff teaches from the site of Hitler's atomic reactor, admonishing the viewer to draw a line in the sand. We are warned that the greatest tragedy would be to think that such things can't happen again.

A Star that Breaks Through the Darkness Sandra and Jeff interview Brigitte Gabriel, formerly of Lebanon, who has appeared on many network TV shows sounding an alarm about the evils of radical Islam.

Heavenly Light from Hellish Darkness Walid Shoebat shares insights regarding Islam from his book *Why We Want To Kill You*. Zola interviews Caecelie Rexin, who concludes—referring to the Holocaust—"Never again."

Also please see: [New Generation of Anti-Semites in Germany \(p. 11\)](#); [Survived Holocaust, Murdered in France \(p. 31\)](#); and [Europe: Making Islam Great Again \(p. 34\)](#)



ORDER FORM

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___	In My Father's House	\$3	___
___	Israel, My Promised (p.7)	\$3	___
___	The Miracle of Passover	\$3	___
___	The Promised Land	\$3	___
___	The Second Coming (p.12)	\$3	___
___	Seven Churches	\$3	___
___	The Seven Feasts of Israel (pictured)	\$3	___
___	Spirit of Pentecost	\$3	___
___	Jerusalem Forever (pictured)	\$4	___
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Books

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___	An Epic Love Story (Part of 50-book offer above)	\$3	___
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___	Coming: The End! Russia/Israel in Prophecy	\$10	___
___	Genesis One	\$5	___
___	The Iranian Menace (p.20)	\$8	___
___	In the Footsteps of the Rabbi	\$14	___
___	Israel's Right to the Land (pictured)	\$2	___
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___	Bad Moon Rising (p.17) (8 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
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___	The Seven Feasts of Israel ... (7 programs, 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Times of the Signs	\$49	___
___	Watch Therefore New! (pictured) (8 progs., 2-DVDs)	\$49	___
___	Zion Forever	\$59	___



New!

Order online at <https://store.levitt.com>
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214-696-8844, or
 print/tear out this
 2-pg. form, fill out
 box at right, mail to
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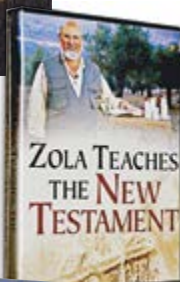


ORDER FORM continued

UNIQUE WITNESSING ITEMS!

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___	2-flag Collar Pin (pictured).....	\$2	_____
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___	AHAVA Mineral Body Lotion 17 oz.....	\$37 ⁵⁰	_____
___	AHAVA Mineral Foot Cream 3.4 oz.....	\$22	_____
___	AHAVA Mineral Hand Cream 3.4 oz.....	\$23	_____
___	Flag of Israel (3' x 5').....	\$10	_____
___	Genealogy Chart.....	\$10	_____
___	"Grafted-In" Gold Decal (1.2" x 3" hand-cut) (p.36)....	\$2	_____
___	Half-shekel Key Chain.....	\$10	_____
___	Jewish Heritage Calendar (5778 / 2018).....	\$6	_____
___	Matzoh Postcards (pack of 12).....	\$8	_____
___	Messianic Roots Lapel Pin (pictured).....	\$10	_____
___	Messianic Grafted-In Sterling Necklace.....	\$39	_____
___	Pictorial Map of Jerusalem.....	\$12	_____
___	"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" Bumper Sticker..	\$2	_____
___	The Prophesied Messiah Bookmark.....	2 for \$1	_____
___	Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies (info only)....	no charge	_____



Teaching CDs

___	Beginning of the End.....	(2 CDs)	\$12	_____
___	Encounters with UFOs.....	CD	\$7	_____
___	Zola Teaches the New Testament (pictured)....	(6 CDs)	\$29	_____

Music CDs: Hear samples at levitt.com/music

___	I Call you Friend (by Marty Goetz).....	\$14	_____
___	Next Year in Jerusalem! (pictured).....	\$12	_____
___	The Works..... (Zola's first 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	_____
___	The Works II..... (Zola's next 8 albums on 4 CDs)	\$49	_____

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



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up to \$15.99, add \$5
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 \$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.

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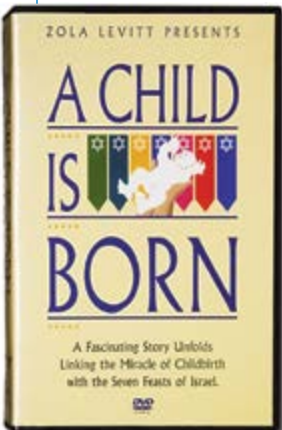
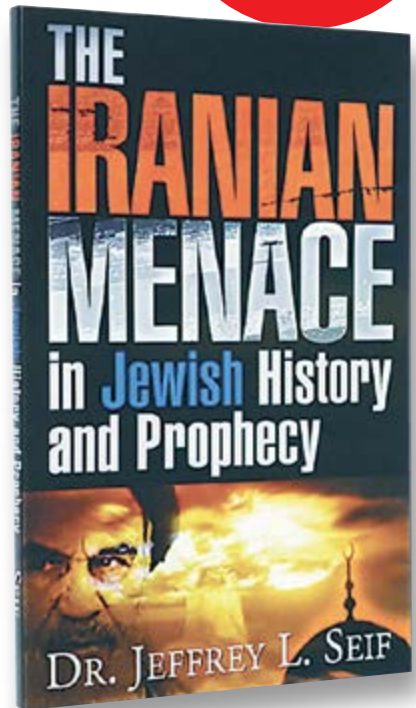
Donation? _____

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The Iranian Menace in Jewish History and Prophecy book

by Dr. Jeffrey Seif

Iran is central in End Times prophecy. At a time when Iran has captured the world's attention with nuclear threats, Jeff harnesses Scriptural and secular evidence to support his case for the Iranian-Armageddon connection. After a glimpse of Iran in ancient Roman and Jewish histories, you will learn the significance of prophecy in the Jewish Scriptures and apocalyptic literature. Jeff's analysis is based on sound Scriptural understanding as well as his conclusions from two decades of academic contemplation. This easy read will provide fodder for its advocates and critics alike.



A Child Is Born DVD

Links the Miracle of Childbirth with Seven Feasts of Israel!

Zola discovered, quite by accident, an amazing series of Biblical "coincidences." It seems that every one

of us, as we develop in the womb, follows the schedule of the Seven Feasts of Israel that God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai. This half-hour program illustrates the surprising similarities of these two chains of events, each established by God according to His purpose.

Dry Bones THE GAZA WAR:

THE GOOD NEWS:
EVERY UN SCHOOL IN GAZA HAD
A BOMB SHELTER

UNRWA
SCHOOL

THE BAD NEWS:
IT'S WHERE THEY SHELTERED
THE BOMBS.



Why Does the U.S. Remain on UNHRC?

The Wall Street Journal editorial

Syria bombs civilians with chlorine gas, China tortures dissidents, Venezuela restricts access to food, and Burma engages in ethnic cleansing of a Muslim minority. So naturally, the **United Nations Human Rights Council** trains the bulk of its outrage on ... Israel.

In March, the UNHRC approved five resolutions condemning Israel, as it has done every year since its creation in 2006. The 47-member council includes such paragons of political freedom as China and Cuba. The resolutions characterize Israel as an “occupying power” in Palestinian-claimed territories, including East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, and denounce the only Middle Eastern democracy as an abuser of human rights.

U.S. Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley and her team, at the urging of the British and the Dutch, spent months trying to convince other European countries not to single out Israel. But when the votes were tallied, **only**



the U.S. and Australia voted against all of the anti-Israel resolutions. The council passed only one resolution apiece condemning abuses by North Korea, Iran, and Syria.

The council is a corrupt body that the U.S. would be better off leaving.

The lesson: The council is a corrupt body that the U.S. would be better off leaving. Ms. Haley intimated in a statement that the U.S. might withdraw, noting that the anti-Israel resolutions “make clear that the organization lacks the credibility needed to be a true advocate for human rights.” She’s right. ★



photo: Courtesy of the Israeli Mission to the UN



Ron Prosor addressing UN Security Council in 2014

UNRWA – A Ticking Time-Bomb

Israel Today

“One of the main obstacles on the path to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)**,” Israel’s former

ambassador to the UN, Ron Prosor, wrote at the beginning of the year. “The UN agency [was] founded with the purpose of assisting only Palestinian refugees, and that perpetuates the fantasy of their return [to land they abandoned or never owned in the first place].” ★



Letters to ZLM

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

Showing Unity

Dear ZLM,

I was grieved to learn that folks pulled away from the ministry because you had the audacity to hire gentiles to host the TV programs on *Zola Levitt Presents*. Since ZLM's mission is to bring Jews and gentiles together to worship God, what a wonderful way to show unity of the two groups: by hiring David and Kirsten. Their presence strengthens the work. Welcome, David and Kirsten!

I love reading the reports by To The Jew First team members [[p.13—ed.](#)]. I rejoice to read about His people reaching others. Here's a small donation to help pay for all that I learn from you. I am praying that the Lord will increase what I am able to send regularly. Thank you for sharing the Gospel. — S.P. (NV)

Dear S.P.—

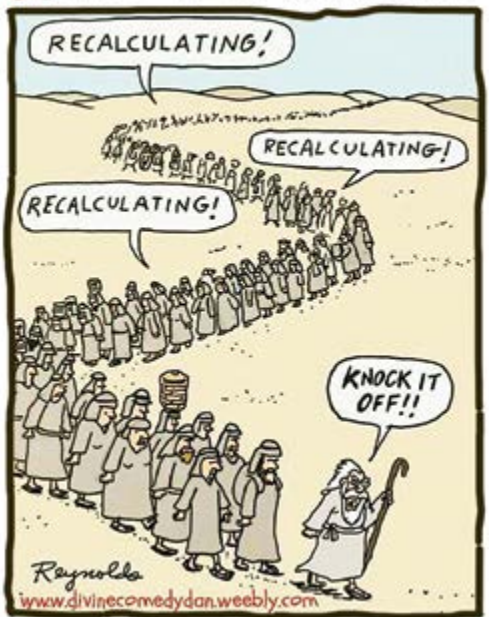
Kirsten and I take our positions within ZLM seriously and know that God orchestrated all of it. Thank you for recognizing the beauty of Romans 15 on ZLP. —David

Dear S.P.—

Thank you for your donation; rest assured that we will make the most of it. I hope others follow your lead and pray about increasing their contributions to sponsor our Bible teaching that feeds the hungry.

A classic story describes a bountiful banquet in Hell, where diners' forks are tied to their arms in such a way that they cannot bend their elbows. Diners in Hell starve, unable to feed themselves. The same scene exists in Heaven; but there, souls dine heartily because they feed their neighbors across the table! — Mark

MOSES LOST IN THE DESERT...YEAR 40



Effective Guest Teachers

Dear ZLM,

Here is my contribution to your ministry. I enjoy learning from Dov Schwarz and hope he will return for more programs. — L.M. (FL)

(continued next page)

Dear L.M. —

Kirsten and I loved working with Dov and hanging with him and his family in Tiberias. He is just as genuine and down-to-earth as he appears on TV. You can see Dov's Bible teaching on ZLP programs anytime at www.levitt.tv — David

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY



Learning Hebrew

Dear ZLM,

I write to you because I feel that my Christian life has been very much up and down. But since receiving your free *Levitt Letter*, I feel like I'm coming home. I am not born Jewish, and I come from Sweden. Since becoming a Christian in 1979, I have felt that something was missing. Now I have found it, and that is to follow the Jewish way of being a Christian.

I am learning to speak Hebrew from the *Levitt Letter*. Thanks for what you are doing. God bless you. — M.F.

Dear M.F. —

I, too, am learning Hebrew. It's a slow, but rewarding process. You might augment the speed and depth of your learning with [Zola's Introduction to Hebrew](#) by John Parsons and/or visiting Hebrew4Christians.com. Furthermore, Israel is a wonderful place to practice your Hebrew! — Kirsten

A Modern-Day Anna

Dear ZLM,

I am an 81-year-old widow who has given my life to the Lord to live my last days as Anna awaiting His return. The first Anna awaited His birth; I'm on the other end of His promise. I believe that Billy Graham's reporting to Heaven is a sign of Yeshua's imminent coming.

Almost every day, He tells me to watch and pray. I do not have cable television, but receive ZLP via Internet. So when the Lord blesses me, I support

(continued next page)



"Glenn and I have been together for ten years, but we've never actually met."

your ministry to the Jews instead of paying for a lot of TV garbage. I pray for your ministry and send donations when I can. — God Bless You, E.B.

Dear E.B. —

We, too, are watching and praying daily. And we thank you for your faithful prayers and contributions. You are helping us spread the Good News worldwide! Blessings to you. — Kirsten

Accusations That Are Really Flattery

Dear ZLM,

I appreciated the superb response of the editor to A.R.'s hypercritical letter under "Fake News" ([p. 25 of the April 2018 issue](#)). Loved her question asked near the end of the response: "Should I apologize for [omitting ZLM's favorable attitude toward moving America's embassy to Jerusalem]?" Perfect! — F.S. (FL)

Dear F.S. —

It's actually flattering when naysayers condemn our monthly news magazine as "biased and extreme" toward Israel. Word to the wise: This Jew-loving, pro-Israel, died-in-the-wool Zionist, two-Testament, Messianic rag promises to never, *ever* be evenhanded when it concerns Israel.

To clarify our Bible-loving mindset another way, we wondered how anyone could read this news magazine's pro-Israel praise with even a notion that we're neutral, as opposed to head-over-heels smitten with the Apple of God's eye. Reminiscing here, one gravely concerned reader ~20 years ago accused Zola of being an agent for Israel. That was an accusation to which he gleefully and repeatedly pled guilty — even though the Israeli government remains clueless about the decades that he served as their secret 007. — Mark ★



SCIENCE:

Thou Shalt Innovate *continued from cover*



mass-produce the world's first modern drip irrigator, which helps farmers, cooperatives, and governments conserve more water.

1979 A drug for Multiple Sclerosis. Michel Revel develops Rebif, one of the leading drugs to treat multiple sclerosis (MS), by experimenting on foreskin.

1985 Grain bags. Dr. Shlomo Navarro develops the Grain Cocoon, a large, hermetically sealed bag for rice, grain, spices, and legumes that doesn't require pesticides.

1987 Preventing bird and aircraft collisions. Using radar, motorized gliders, drones, and a network of bird watchers, Yossi Leshem creates a precise map of the one billion birds that fly over Israel each year, reducing the collision rate between birds and planes by 76%, saving almost \$1 billion.

1990 A better bandage. Bernard Bar-Natan develops the Emergency Bandage, a unique life-saving product that instantly controls massive bleeding and prevents infections in trauma situations.

1993 The Internet firewall. Gil Shwed, Shlomo Kramer, and Marius Nacht create the first firewall to protect corporate and personal data online.

1993 A GPS for brain surgeries. Alpha Omega, the largest Arab high-tech company in Israel, created the industry standard for devices that act as a GPS inside the brain for deep brain stimulation procedures used to treat essential tremor, Parkinson's, and other neurological disorders.

1998 [The PillCam](#). Dr. Gavriel Iddan creates an ingestible camera and radio transmitter that can travel through the gastrointestinal tract to take photos of your insides, providing doctors with a tool for less invasive screening, diagnosis, and treatment of gastrointestinal-related diseases.



2001 [Robotic back surgery](#). Mazor Robotics' guidance system transforms spinal procedures, letting doctors take a CT image before surgery and create a 3-D blueprint of the spine. Medical personnel can now plan the operation with a high degree of precision.

2004 The Exoskeleton walking device. Dr. Amit Goffer creates [ReWalk](#), an exoskeleton that allows paraplegics to walk again.

2005 Reviving extinct plants. Using ancient seeds found in Masada in the early 1960s, Drs. Sarah Sallon and Elaine Solowey resurrect the Judean date palm, one of the ancient Mediterranean's most important plants, that vanished roughly two thousand years ago.

2006 First responder geo-locator and ambucycle. Volunteer EMTs of United Hatzalah all have a smartphone app that immediately notifies the five closest people to a victim. These EMTs often travel by ambucycles —motorcycles refitted as mini-ambulances that are nimble enough to weave through traffic.

2011 The Iron Dome Missile System. Using advanced radar and software, this device predicts a rocket's trajectory and shoots it out of the sky.

Should you decide to order the book on Amazon, please remember to use [Smile.Amazon.com](#) and designate ZLM as the nonprofit to receive the charitable gift that your purchases generate. Thanks. — Editor.

P.S. Fans of BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) might want to add these worthy innovations to their list of avoidances. ★

Eyelid Movement Can Help Diagnose Disease



MEDICINE: BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN (r) Israel21c.org

Following our [March](#) (p. 28) and [May](#) (p. 26) *Levitt Letters*, here is more good news from Israel's medical study of eyes.



Dr. Oz Levinkron, seated, of the Technion Faculty of Medicine, wears the device that can diagnose diseases based on eyelid motion. At right, lead researcher Adi Hanuka of the Technion



Dr. Daniel Briscoe

What do your eyes say? An eyelid motion monitor (EMM) under advanced development at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa can diagnose certain diseases.

Not yet commercialized, the device — which attaches to standard refraction glasses used in eye exams — already has won several international awards and was ranked in the top 20 in the Texas Instruments Innovation Challenge — Europe Design Contest.

Over the past two years, a prototype of the device has been used in clinical trials at Emek Medical Center in Afula under the direction of Dr. Daniel Briscoe, ophthalmology department head.

The EMM was first developed by Technion Prof. Levi Schachter and doctoral student Adi Hanuka in the Technion's Viterbi Faculty of Electrical Engineering. Hanuka began working on it as an undergraduate and continued development during her graduate studies with the help of a team of students.

"Eyelid motion provides us with meaningful information about the health of a patient," explained Hanuka. "This motion can indicate not only eye diseases, but also neurological diseases such as Parkinson's, and

(continued next page)



Researcher Adi Hanuka, PhD

photo: TECHNION



autoimmune diseases such as Grave’s.” A full report about the project was published recently in *Graefe’s Archive for Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology*.

The hardware-and-software system monitors and interprets eyelid movements based on the measurements of approximately 100 healthy subjects collected in order to define normal eyelid motion patterns (blinking speed and frequency). Eyelid motions were analyzed using a signal-processing algorithm written by students. The team first examined blepharospasm dystonia, a disease characterized by involuntary contraction of the muscles responsible for closing the eyes. The researchers found a statistically significant quantitative relationship between a person’s eyelid pattern and the disease, which means that the device could be used to diagnose it.

The system was also used to examine the effect of Botox injections, the conventional treatment for the disease; it found that within 15 minutes, contractions decrease, and the blinking pattern begins to match that of healthy people.

The researchers are also gathering information about other groups, including patients with dementia and Parkinson’s disease.

According to the researchers, **the device has the potential to diagnose every disease that is expressed neurologically**, such as ptosis, thyroid eye disease, Parkinson’s disease, myasthenia gravis, and third and seventh cranial nerve palsy. ★

Crossword June 2018:
Psalms of Ascent
(Psalms 120–125)

ACROSS

3 Psalm 125:2; As the _____ surround Jerusalem

5 Psalm 124:8; Our _____ is in the name of the Lord

7 My dwelling place (Hebrew)

9 Psalm 122:1; ...let us go into the _____ of the Lord

10 Psalm 122:6; Pray for the peace of _____

12 God will see (Hebrew)

13 My Salvation (Hebrew; 2 wds)

14 Salvation (Hebrew)

DOWN

1 God will provide (Hebrew; 2 wds)

2 Psalm 120:7; I am for _____ (NIV)

4 Psalm 124:6(NIV); _____ be to the Lord

6 Living God (Hebrew; 2 wds)

8 Psalm 121:4; ...He Who watches over _____

11 Psalm 123:3; Have _____ on us, O Lord

(answers on p. 33)

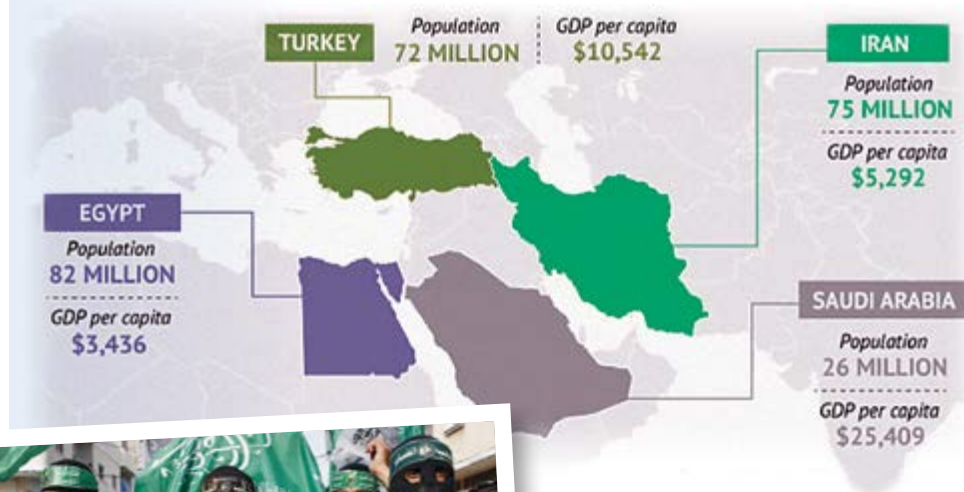


Arab Leaders Abandon the Palestinians



Facing threats from Iran and Turkey, Arab leaders want peace — and to strangle Hamas.

BY WALTER RUSSELL MEAD (r) WSJ.com



graphic © 2015 Stratfor (worldview.stratfor.com)



Peace-loving Palestinians

Business as Usual?

On the surface, it was business as usual in the Gaza Strip. Hamas recently bussed thousands of residents to the border with Israel to begin a six-week protest campaign ahead of the 70th anniversary of Israel's independence. This protest would mark "the beginning of the Palestinians'

return to all of Palestine," according to Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh.

It didn't. Stones were thrown, tires were set aflame, and shots were fired. When the smoke cleared, the borders were still in place and 15 Palestinians lay dead, with three more succumbing later from injuries. While families endured their private tragedies, familiar controversies swirled. The usual people denounced Israel in the usual ways, countered by the usual defenders making the usual arguments.

Not the Normal

But what is happening in Gaza today is not business as usual. Tectonic plates are shifting in the Middle East as the Sunni Arab world counts the cost of the failed Arab Spring and the defeat of Sunni Arabs by Iranian-backed forces in Syria.

In headier times, pan-Arab nationalists like Gamal Abdel Nasser and lesser figures like Saddam Hussein dreamed of creating a united pan-Arab state that could hold its own among the world's great powers. When nationalism sputtered out, many Arabs turned to Sunni Islamist movements instead. Those, too, have for the time being failed, and today Arab states seek from Israel and the U.S. protection against an ascendant Iran and a restless, neo-Ottoman Turkey.

But the American protection on which Arabs rely cannot be taken for granted, as President Trump's apparent determination to withdraw U.S. forces

(continued next page)





from Syria in the near term demonstrates. Under these circumstances, Israel's unmatched access to Washington makes Jerusalem even more important to Arab calculations. Perhaps only Israel can keep the U.S. engaged in the region.

It is against this backdrop that the old Palestinian alliance with the Arab nations has frayed. Most Arab rulers now see Palestinian demands as an inconvenient obstacle to a necessary strategic alliance with Israel. The major Gulf states and Egypt apparently have agreed on two goals. The first is to strangle Hamas in Gaza to restore the authority of the Fatah-led Palestinian Authority (PA). The second is to press the PA to accept the kind of peace that Israel has offered repeatedly and that Yasser Arafat and his successor have so far rejected.

Mahmoud Abbas and the PA are playing for time. They support the first goal by refusing to pay the salaries of government employees in the Hamas-run Gaza Strip even as they resist pressure to make peace with the Jewish state. It is not yet clear what the PA's final response to the peace pressure will be. Even if it ultimately decides to accept an Arab-sponsored compromise, making a show of resistance can improve its credibility with the Palestinian public and, perhaps, extract better terms.

Dry Bones CHANGING SIDES?



Hamas is in an even more desperate plight. The Arab blockade and donor strike cripples Gaza in ways the Israelis never could. Food is growing scarce, electricity is erratic, unemployment exceeds 40%, and raw sewage runs into the sea. Many Gaza residents presumably want the only thing Hamas can't offer: relief.

Historically Hamas has reacted to this kind of pressure by launching wars against Israel, trusting its friends abroad to force the Jewish state to cease fire before it can inflict serious damage on Hamas's leadership. But in the 2014 war, Arab foot-dragging gave Israel time to deal a serious defeat to Hamas. Another war would be equally ruinous and for the same reason: The Arab governments want Hamas crushed, and they won't stop Israel from doing the job.

Hamas hoped the recent demonstrations would whip up a global wave of rage and indignation against Israel without provoking a full-on war. That might weaken the Arab coalition against it. But Hamas is less concerned with the reaction of the Arab world than of Turkey and Iran, whose support Hamas will need to survive if it is driven from Gaza (as Arafat was once driven from Jordan and Lebanon).

Rifts between Palestinians and other Arabs are nothing new. But the collapse of Arab nationalism and the failure of Sunni radicalism have weakened the political forces that rallied Arab support to the Palestinian cause. With millions of new Arab refugees in Syria, and growing threats to Arab independence from powerful neighbors, prioritizing Palestine is a luxury many Arabs feel they can no longer afford. ★



SELECT MEDIA BRIEFS

photo: Jaatar Ashiyah/AFP/Getty Images



Palestinian holding stones stands in front of burning tires during clashes with Israeli security forces

Palestinian Youth on "Days of Rage"

By Felice Friedson and Dima Abumaria
TheMediaLine.org

After a call from Palestinian leadership for their youth to protest against the Israeli army, most students who were interviewed at various universities did not favor clashing with the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), citing the government using them as tools to further its political agenda.

A number of students did wear their being in and out of Israeli jails as a badge of honor. Most saw Israel as their enemy and "occupier," and considered the only solution to the conflict was for all of Israel to become Palestine. One student from Modern College University, where three students were involved in recent stabbing attacks against Israelis, was anxious to share that the only answer is to "stab, shoot or kill Israelis."

Palestinians Boycott U.S.?

Israel Today

A high-ranking official in the PLO said that his organization, which stands behind the Palestinian Authority, was considering a boycott of the U.S. This comes in response to President Trump's decision to cut financial aid to the Palestinians.

A Palestinian boycott of American products would not be a great loss for

the U.S. economy nor even realistic, as an incredible amount of products in daily use come from the U.S.

It has been revealed that the chief negotiator for the PLO, Saeb Erekat, had a life-saving lung transplant in the U.S. It's fortunate that this procedure is now behind him so that he can freely join the boycott of America.



Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat

Barely 70 Years Old, Israel Ranks High Among World Powers

By Brian Blum / Israel21c.org

U.S. News and World Report has ranked Israel the eighth most powerful nation in the world. And Bloomberg News reports that the Jewish state is the 10th most innovative worldwide, edging out the United States, which fell in Bloomberg's survey to 11th place this year.

The two lists with similar placements for Israel were compiled in very

(continued next page)

photo: Amir Levy/Paen90





photo: John Theodor



Israeli flag flies over Masada

different ways. *U.S. News* partnered with the BAV Group and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania to survey 21,000 people from four regions of the world. Participants were asked to associate 80 countries with specific attributes, such as how “economically” and “politically influential” a country was.

Bloomberg, on the other hand, compiled its list by running its own analysis of 200 countries, looking at economic factors such as research and development spending and the concentration of public high-tech companies. Bloomberg narrowed the 200 countries down to a top 50 list, which was topped (for the third year in a row) by South Korea, followed by Sweden, Singapore, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Finland, Denmark, and France.

[Israel will soon be the #1 nation ... in the Millennial Kingdom. This prophecy is a key topic in our upcoming revisit of Zola's *Thy Kingdom Come* series. Watch for it in the next months. — David](#)

Survived Holocaust, Murdered in France

By Cortney O'Brien / [Townhall.com](#)

Mireille Knoll, one of the last survivors of the Holocaust, died the victim of a Muslim hate crime. The 85-year-old was stabbed to death and burned in her Paris apartment in March. Two

suspects were taken into custody.

The Paris prosecutor’s office suspects the act occurred because of Knoll’s Jewish faith.

“That Mireille Knoll survived the horrors of the Holocaust only to be murdered in present-day France because she was Jewish is unconscionable and reminds us of the ongoing dangers that anti-Semitism holds,” said United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Director Sara J. Bloomfield.

Some French officials have pledged to combat the extremism, especially considering this is not the first suspected anti-Semitic murder in France in the past year. Sarah Halimi, a 65-year-old Jewish woman, was beaten and thrown from her balcony last year.

“This act of barbarism recalls the darkest hours of our history,” declared French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb. “To attack a Jew is to attack France and the values that constitute the very foundation of the nation.”

In the summer of 1942, as Germans and French police were rounding up Jews and placing them in the Vélodrome d’Hiver cycling stadium, Knoll and her mother escaped thanks to a Brazilian passport.



Mireille Knoll

[This anti-Semitic attack sickens my stomach. We Believers will never forget! And Lord, may this act of hate call all Zionists to pray protection over the Jewish people. — Kirsten](#) ★



Ancient Mosaic Describes Jesus As “God”

ARCHAEOLOGY: ChristianToday.com



Roman-era mosaic fish

An ancient mosaic that ascribes divinity to Jesus Christ will soon be on display in Israel. The “God Jesus Christ” mosaic stands as one of the earliest-known testaments to early Christian belief in the divinity of Christ. It was found in 2005 through excavations completed by the Israel Antiquities Authority and the University of Tel Aviv, exploring the ancient grounds beneath the 1940s British-built Megiddo Prison in northern Israel.

The writing, dated to the year 230 A.D., bears three Greek inscriptions, one reading: “The God-loving Akeptous has offered the table to God Jesus Christ as a memorial.” According to *Haaretz*, Akeptous was a woman who had contributed her table to the local Eucharist celebrations.

(continued next page)



Roman-era Christian mosaic describing Jesus Christ as “God”





The mosaic was uncovered among one of the earliest-known Christian houses of worship, part of what was the Jewish and Samaritan village of Othnay. Dr. Yotam Tepper of the University of Haifa, who led the original excavation, said the mosaic was probably part of a prayer hall in the Christian home. Such homes were the center of Christian communities before established church buildings were introduced in the 4th century, following the conversion of Roman Emperor Constantine.

Images of fish — common early Christian symbols — are present on the mosaic. “*Ichthys*” (the Greek name for “fish”) was a visual pun imbued with early Christian doctrine. As an acronym, it formed the initial letters for the Greek phrase “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.”

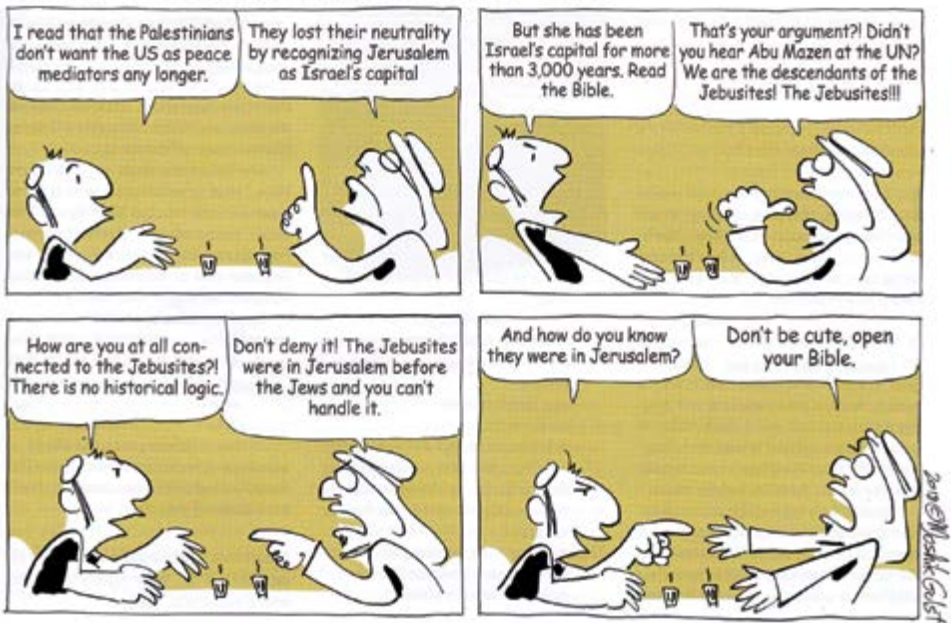
The findings shed new light on the nature of Roman attitudes to the early Church. Traditionally imagined as flatly hostile to the Christian cult, nearby Roman military encampments suggest more tolerance to the new religion.

“Here, the Romans had Christian officers,” Tepper said. “The persecution may have been exaggerated later in the telling. But certainly, the tales do not reflect the complexity of the reality, which is that there were Christian believers in the Roman army.”

A Roman centurion named Gaianus, also called “Porophrius, our brother,” appears to have donated the Christian mosaic. The Megiddo Prison is currently being cleared of inmates to make space for an archaeological tourist attraction, which will host the remains of the Christian home, the Roman encampments, and seven flour mills from the Ottoman era. ★



When Yossi and Ahmed Meet



Answer Key for June 2018 Crossword (p.27)

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|
| <i>Across:</i> | | <i>Down:</i> | |
| 3. Mountains | 10. Jerusalem | 1. Adonai | 6. El Khi |
| 5. Help | 12. Ra'ah | Yee-rah-eh | 8. Israel |
| 7. Mahon | 13. Lee Lee-sho-ah | 2. Peace | 11. Mercy |
| 9. House | 14. Yeshua | 4. Praise | |

Europe: Making Islam Great Again



BY JUDITH BERGMAN (r) GatestoneInstitute.org

Ednan Aslan, professor of Islamic Religious Education at the University of Vienna, recently interviewed a 288-person sample of the approximately 4,000 predominantly Afghan asylum seekers in the Austrian city of Graz, on behalf of the city's integration department. The results were published in "Religious and Ethical Orientations of Muslim Refugees in Graz."

According to the study, two-thirds of the asylum seekers are men, mostly under 30 years old. They are all in favor of preserving their traditional, conservative, Islamic values. The migrants are extremely religious; 70% go to the mosque every Friday for prayers. The women are just as religious, if not more: 62.6% of women and 39.7% of men pray five times a day. In addition, 66.3% of the women wear a headscarf in public, and 44.3% refuse to shake hands with a man.

Half of the migrants (49.8%), report that religion plays a larger role in their daily lives in Europe than it did in their native country. 47.2% believe that Jews and Christians have strayed from the "right path," and 47.8% think that interpreting Islam in a modern and contemporary fashion endangers the future of Islam.

For 51.6% of the interviewees, the supremacy of Islam over other religions is undisputed. Anti-Semitism is deeply ingrained: 46% believe that Jews have "too much influence in world affairs" and that Judaism is harmful (44%). 43% blame Jews themselves for being persecuted, while 54.5% think that Jews only care about themselves.

The migrants are not only intolerant of other religions, 50% find that homosexuality is a punishable sin. 44% of respondents said they would endorse violence against a woman

if she cheated on her husband. 43% said that fathers have a right to use violence on children if necessary.

The Austrian study is not the first of its kind to show that Muslim migrants to Europe hold supremacist, anti-Semitic, and misogynistic views. In 2016, a study of nearly 800 migrants from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Eritrea in the German state of Bavaria showed that regardless of age and educational background, a majority of the migrants held anti-Semitic beliefs.

Anti-Semitism in Germany has indeed become so widespread that Germany recently appointed a special commissioner to fight it. "You Jew!" has become a common insult among Muslim pupils in Berlin schools.



City Hall, Graz, Austria

Other studies and polls also reveal the large degree to which Muslims in Europe value *sharia* (Islamic) law over national law. In a 2014 study of Moroccan and Turkish Muslims in northern European countries, 75% thought there is only one possible interpretation of the Koran, and 65% said that *sharia* is more important than the laws of their host country. In Germany, 47% of Muslims believe *sharia* is more important than German law. In Sweden, 52% of Muslims believe that *sharia* is more important than Swedish law.

The question that remains unanswered is where Europeans are supposed to make their homes. ★



JEWISH HUMOR, ETC.



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

Good News and Bad

Leah phones her husband at work. "Issy, do you have time for a chat?"

"Sorry, Honey, this is not a good time. I'm about to go into a meeting."

"But this won't take long," Leah insists. "I just want to tell you some good news and some bad news."

"I really haven't the time," says Issy, "so quickly tell me just the good news."

"Oh, all right then. The air bag on your new car works very well."

Age Has No Barrier

Four-year-old David is having tea at his grandma's. After he finishes his smoked salmon bagel and almond Danish, he asks, "Bubbe, how old are you?"

With a smile on her face, his bubbe replies, "I'm 42, dear — and holding."

David thinks about this for a moment and then asks, "How old would you be, Bubbe, if you let go?" ★

JEWISH ADAGE:
***"You don't stop
laughing because
you grow old;
you grow old
because you
stop laughing."***



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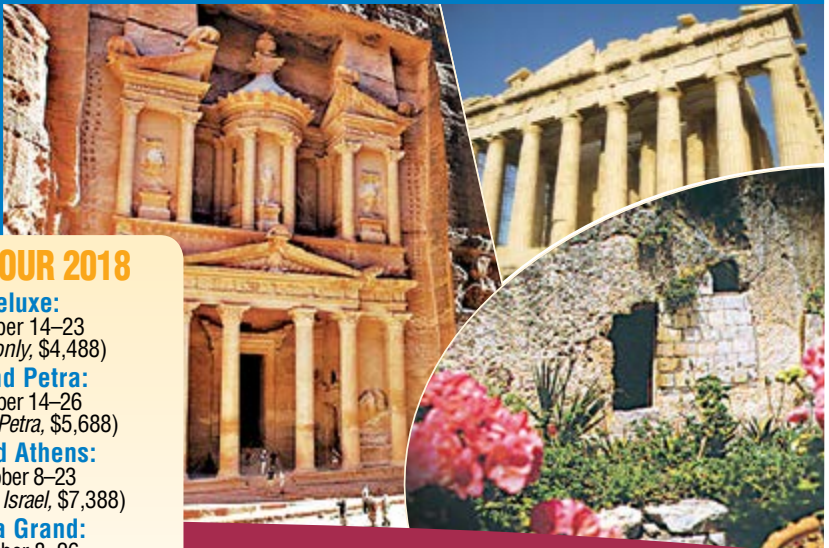


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