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Spring 2022 (April-June)

PETAH TIKVAH

"Door of Hope"

Pesach 2022:
Let go and let God

Who is *Ruth*?
A JEW BY CHOICE

#ThirstDay

THE STORY OF HOW MESSIANIC
YOUTH FORMED A GROUP
DURING THE PANDEMIC

Arab Zionism

FALLOUT FROM THE
ABRAHAM ACCORDS

Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship- Edition

Nisan-Sivan 5782 | Volume 40 #2

DEBARIM 4:24

HEBREWS 12:29

DETAH TIKVAH

DOOR OF HOPE
דלת תקווה



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April - June 2022
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Vol. 40, No. 2
\$5.00

Welcome to Petah Tikvah: APMF Edition!!

APMF Edition PT Spring 2022

Richard A Chamberlin provides us with the basic Petah Tikvah-US for each issue which we edit and add our own articles, information about events in our faith, letters to our own Mailbox, APMF Kehilot Directory, etc. By putting our issue on our website, <http://apmfinc.com/> we hope to make PT and APMF information available to a much wider audience and save a lot of money by not printing. A benefit to you is that you can print any article, send it to friends, and **refer others to our website** at no cost!!!

Publisher: The Publisher of Petah Tikvah Asia Pacific Edition is the Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship, Inc.

Editorial Board Articles from you are welcome!! Please send it to **Dave Angiwan**.

Dave@APMFInc.com

Directory. Listing is free for Messianic Torah Communities and Bible Study Groups that want to be in the Fellowship (Koinonia = working together!) with APMF, who meet on Shabbat and agree with our 3 Main Points: 1) there is and has been only ONE Way of Salvation from Adam to the end, a new birth provided by the Grace of God to sinners who acknowledge their sinful nature and put their trust in the Promised Redeemer, who eventually came in the Person of Yeshua the Messiah, who is YHVH, Savior, Redeemer and Friend; 2) there is only ONE Family of YHVH, born-from-Above Jewish and Gentile believers grafted into God's Good Olive Tree (no church replacing Israel); and 3) there is only ONE Way to Live in God's Family, the Torah way, expected of both Jewish and Gentile believers.

To be included, contact the Publisher. Articles, special events and letters are welcome, like notifications of Camps, Conferences, Retreats and other special activities of your community, trips to Israel and personal Testimonies so we can get to know each other better. Send to Dave & Roger.

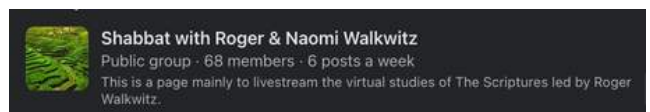
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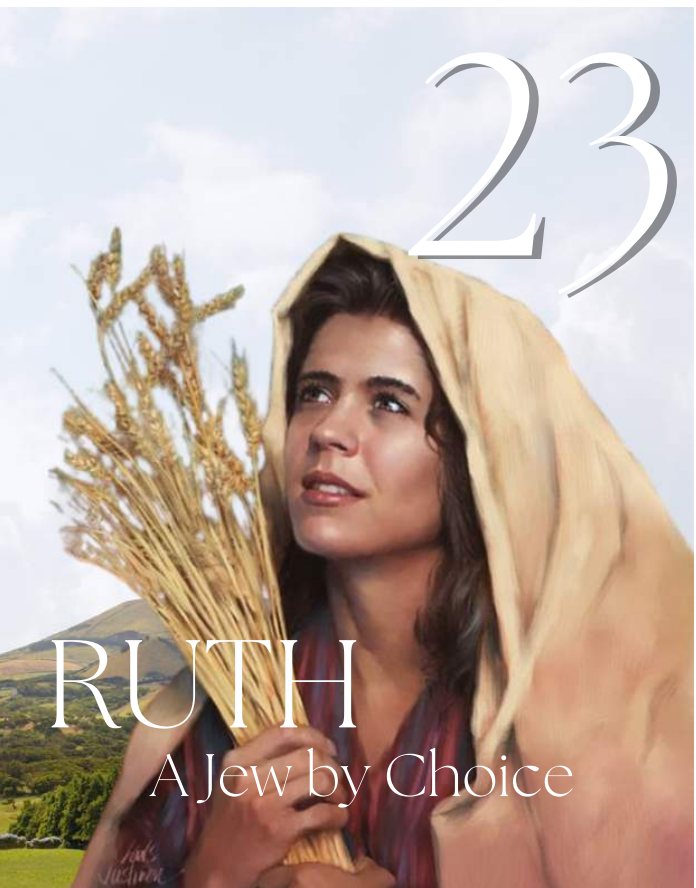
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**Petah Tikvah: APMF Edition
Volume 40 #2 Editors and Designers:
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**THE STORY OF HOW
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PASSOVER
LET GO AND LET GOD

By **Andrew Roberts** on the violent lengths to which post-war Britain went to appease oil-rich Arab states.

As Jewish survivors of the Holocaust, the pitiful remnants of History's greatest crime, tried to make their way across an often-hostile Europe at the end of the Second World War, toward at least a semblance of safety in the Holy Land, they had no shortage of problems with which to contend, including disease and malnutrition, Polish anti-Semitism, Soviet indifference, Allied bureaucracy, and Arab nationalism. Now we discover that they faced yet another peril in the shape of bombs planted on their transport ships by Britain's Secret Intelligence Service, better known as MI6.

A new book entitled *MI6: The History of the Secret Intelligence Service 1909-1949*, by the distinguished British historian Keith Jeffery, reveals the existence of Operation Embarrass, a plan to try to prevent Jews getting into Palestine in 1946-'48 using disinformation and propaganda but also explosive devices placed on ships. Nor is this some speculative spy story that can be denied by the authorities: Dr. Jeffrey's book is actually, in their own words: "Published with the permission of The Secret Intelligence Service and the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office." It's shameful that Britain blew up humanitarian flotillas after the Holocaust, but now condemns Israel for halting politically inspired flotillas to Gaza.

When on June 1 in 2021 the British government denounced as "completely unacceptable" the way that the Israelis landed troops on the Turkish flotilla to Gaza we did not know that its predecessor had done much the same, actually blowing up one ship and damaging two more vessels of a genuinely humanitarian flotilla that was trying to bring Jewish survivors of the Nazi death camps to their people's ancient homeland.

Of course, the hostility of the British establishment toward Jewish Immigration into Palestine since long before the notorious 1939 White Paper on the subject is well-known—even King George VI wrote that year to say that he was "glad to think that steps are being taken to prevent these people leaving their country of origin"—nonetheless this is the first indication of the violent lengths to which post-war Britain was willing to go in order to appease the oil-rich Arab states of the region. For it now emerges that in late 1946 the Labour government of Clement Attlee asked MI6 for "proposals for action to deter ships masters and crews from engaging in illegal Jewish immigration and traffic," adding, "Action of the nature contemplated is, in fact, a form of intimidation and intimidation is only likely to be effective if some members of the group of

Britain's MI6 Attacked Jewish Refugee Ships After WW II

people to be intimidated actually suffer unpleasant consequences." Among the options contemplated were "the discovery of some sabotage device, which had 'failed' to function after the sailing of a ship," "tampering with a ship's fresh water supplies or the crew's food," and "fire on board ship in port." Sir Stewart Menzies, the chief of the SIS, suggested these could be blamed on an invented Arab terrorist group called The Defenders of Arab Palestine...

The Operation Embarrass team was told that "the primary consideration was to be that no proof could ever be established between positive action against this traffic and His Majesty's Government [HMG]." A special communications network, codenamed Ocean, was set up with a budget of £30,000 (\$47,000), a great deal of money in 1947. The operation had three aspects: direct action against refugee ships, a "black" propaganda campaign, and a deception scheme to disrupt immigration from Black Sea ports. A team of former Special Operations Executive agents—with the cover story of a yachting trip—was sent to France and Italy with limpet bombs and timers.

If captured, "they were under no circumstances to admit their connection with HMG" but instead claim to have been recruited in New York "by an anti-Communist organization formed by a group of international industrialists, mainly in the oil and aircraft industries," i.e., to lay the blame on rich, right-wing, unnamed Americans.

During the summer of 1947 and early 1948, five attacks were undertaken on ships in Italian ports, of which one was rendered "a total loss" and two others were damaged. Two other British-made limpet mines were discovered before they went off, but the Italian authorities did not find their country of origin suspicious, "as the Arabs would of course be using British stores." Operation Embarrass even considered blowing up the Baltimore steamship President Warfield when in harbor in France, which later became famous in Israeli history as the "Exodus" ship that "launched a nation."

The country that ought to be embarrassed by Operation Embarrass—indeed shamed—is Great Britain, which used explosives to try to stop truly humanitarian flotillas after the Holocaust, but now condemns embattled Israel for halting entirely politically inspired flotillas to Gaza despite her rights of legitimate self-defense. The depth of the animosity that Establishment Britain, especially the Foreign Office, felt toward the Jews of Palestine clearly went even further than we had ever imagined, and even over 70 years later is by no means extinguished.

After the Assassination...

In 1881, after the assassination of Tsar Alexander II of Russia, a Ukrainian government official menacingly addressed a well-known rabbi, saying, "I assume, rabbi, that you know in complete detail who was behind this assassination."

"I have no idea who did it," replied the rabbi, "but I am certain that the government's conclusion will be like always. They will, of course, blame the Jews and the chimneysweepers." "Why the chimneysweepers?" asked the official. "Why the Jews?" responded the rabbi.

"God created us to live in peace"

By Israel Today Staff www.israeltoday.co.il

When the rulers of the Gulf monarchies decided to make peace with Israel, many people went along and changed their feelings toward the Jewish state seemingly overnight. But for others, 70 years of anti-Israel indoctrination have proved harder to overcome.

That's where people like Loay al-Shareef come in. Al-Shareef is a Bahrain-based journalist and peace activist who has taken it upon himself to educate those who are still not onboard with the Abraham Accords.

"For over 70 years there was propaganda against Israel, against the Jewish people. Now that things are moving toward peace, some people remain reluctant," he said in an interview with Israel's *Arutz 7* in Dubai. "I encourage people to learn more facts about Israel and about the Jews."



Loay al-Shareef being interviewed

"God created us to live in peace, harmony and prosperity," stressed al-Shareef, telling Israelis that they should view the UAE in particular as "their second home." Perhaps most surprising was al-Shareef's affirmation of 3,000 years of Jewish history in the Land of Israel, a seeming repudiation of the Palestinian narrative that denies that history.

Will this new peace movement be about more than merely mutually beneficial business deals and defense accords? Will it in fact be based upon the long-awaited Arab acceptance of Israel's historic place in this re-

gion? If people like Loay al-Shareef have anything to do with it, then that answer is a resounding "Yes."

The December 2021 Miss Universe Competition is Shining a Positive Light on Israel

Source: www1.cbn.com/cbnnews

Eighty contestants from around the world were in Eilat, an Israeli resort city on the Red Sea, to compete for the title of Miss Universe. The contestants spent two weeks seeing Israel from Jerusalem to the Dead Sea. For many, coming here brought the Bible to life.

"It just gives me a new perspective, you know, when you're just reading the Bible and hearing the stories, you just imagine how it can look like, but when you're actually in Jerusalem, you understand that you can see and get an actual feeling of how it was back then," said Xaria Penn, Miss British Virgin Islands.

Sarah Idan, Miss Iraq 2017, says holding this year's pageant in Israel sends a statement. "This is a huge recognition that this is a country. And not only that, it shows the life that is in Israel. It defeats all the lies that Israel is an apartheid when all these 87 countries, when they come here and they witness how people coexist, regardless of their ethnicity or their religion. This is a huge testimony, you know, that Israel is not an apartheid. Israel is a real country, a real democracy, and a beautiful country," she said.

Idan paid a steep price for her support of Israel. In 2017, she took a selfie with Miss Israel that went viral. Idan received death threats and Iraq later revoked her citizenship.

In December 2021, contestants came from Morocco and Bahrain, two nations in the Abraham Accords. Miss South Africa, however, faced calls to boycott from those calling the contest host, "apartheid" Israel.

"They tried to politicize and BDS the Miss Universe contest, and Miss South Africa didn't let herself get taken there," said Fleur Hassan-Nahoum, Jerusalem's Deputy Mayor. "And she said, 'I'm going anyway, because this is a platform for good.'" ...



A Venerable Veteran Remembered

By JD KREBS www.timesofisrael.com

American aviation pioneer, Amelia Earhart, once said that "a single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees." And while the late Colonel Carolyn Guertin of Richmond, Virginia was only 9 when Earhart disappeared, she would go on to break the "glass sky" for female aviators, while embodying Earhart's quote through the bequest she left to Jewish National Fund-USA (JNF-USA) following her passing on August 8, 2020.



Carolyn was born in 1928 to Dr. M. Herbert Weiss and Henrietta Shapiro Weiss. Dr. Weiss earned three PhDs and created a new method for teaching and learning English that's still used today. Carolyn inherited her father's intellectual curiosity, and from a young age was fascinated by flight. "Carolyn became a pilot and flew a plane before she could drive a car," said Rhett Weiss, Carolyn's nephew.

She enlisted in the United States Air Force Auxiliary as a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) member when she was just 13 years old, lying about her age so that they would let her in. According to family lore, Carolyn was the 11th person to sign up. On the very first day to sign up, she was first in line, but the processor told her to sit down so the men could go ahead of her. After ten men enrolled ahead of her, she stood back up and asked the processor, "Is it my turn yet?" Number 11 became one of her nicknames. By the age 20, she already had experience flying planes solo.

She later founded a CAP squadron in Richmond, Virginia and served as its commander for over ten years. To mark her 92nd birthday, the squadron was renamed from "Richmond Cadet Squadron Two" to "The Carolyn A. Guertin Cadet Squadron" in her honor at a ceremony hosted by Civil Air Patrol National Commander Mark Smith. The squadron now has a number 11 on the logo.

For an incredible 79 years, Carolyn served in

the CAP, rising to the rank of Colonel. She was the oldest and longest serving member of the Civil Air Patrol's Virginia Wing and was an active member till the day she died, participating in a search-and-rescue training mission just several months before she died.

In 2014, Carolyn, along with others who served in the CAP during WWII, received the Congressional Gold Medal for her service during WWII. The medal, which is Congress' highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions, puts her in the esteemed company of people that include George Washington, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, and Elie Wiesel. Her service is also acknowledged at JNF-USA's Wall of Honor at Ammunition Hill in Jerusalem, Israel – a project that acknowledges Jewish servicemen and women from around the world.

Over the years, Carolyn recalled several occasions where she bumped shoulders with other luminaries of the aviation world including astronaut, Buzz Aldrin; father of the modern helicopter, Igor Sikorsky; and former US Airways pilot, Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, who famously made an emergency landing in New York's Hudson River.

Carolyn's husband Donald Guertin also served, as he was a pilot in the United States Army Air Force (USAAF) and flew numerous bombing missions over Germany. Donald served in what eventually became the United States Air Force until 1957, earning the rank of major.

In addition to her service with the CAP, Carolyn worked for Virginia State Corporation Commission. She also took a serious interest in religion, often studying other religions to gain a better understanding of both the religion itself and the people who observed it. "She would sometimes attend other houses of worship, just to see what it was like," said Rhett. "She would read about other religions and cultures."

Carolyn maintained close relationships with her family. Despite living over 100 miles away from her brother, Armand, and her sister, Florence, Carolyn kept in touch with them constantly over the years via phone calls and occasional family visits.

Carolyn was also a staunch supporter of the land and people of Israel. On a trip to Israel that Carolyn took with Florence, Carolyn brought back with her many souvenirs, something that Rhett found out as he was cleaning Carolyn's house. By leaving a legacy gift with JNF-USA, Carolyn ensures that her legacy will live on for generations to come.

Abraham Lincoln's Greatest Gifts to the Jews

by Lenny Picker, <https://forward.com/culture>



"In central Jerusalem, close by streets named for the medieval Jewish luminary Moses Maimonides and the modern Hebrew writer Peretz Smolenskin, and abutting the American consulate, lies a crooked street named for Abraham Lincoln. When questioned about what he did for the Jewish people to merit a street named for him in Jerusalem, even those Jerusalemites familiar with Lincoln's biography shake their heads and shrug." So writes Jonathan D. Sarna in the introduction of his latest book, "Lincoln and the Jews: A History," which he coauthored with Benjamin Shapell.

Those Israelis are not the only ones; even someone as knowledgeable as Sarna, the Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun professor of American Jewish history at Brandeis, was surprised to discover how much he had to learn about Lincoln's relationship with Jews, as he and Shapell, who founded the Shapell Manuscript Foundation, an educational non-profit, prepared their book for publication this March. Notwithstanding all that had been written before about Lincoln, Sarna said they found a lot of new material. Their research also served as basis for an exhibition on the same topic, which opens at the New-York Historical Society this month and will travel to other locations across the country.

"Nobody realized that Lincoln played such a crucial role in making Jews equal in America. Nobody paid attention to Lincoln's rhetorical shift away from 'Christian America' language, and toward inclusive language," Sarna states.

In their comprehensive and readable narrative history, Sarna and Shapell try to remedy that ignorance among both Jewish and non-Jewish readers. "We make the case that this is a highly important aspect of Lincoln's life and legacy — that he, unlike many others at the time, viewed Jews as equals and befriended them," Sarna said in an interview

with the Forward.

The roots of Abraham Lincoln's Judeophilia can be traced back to his childhood in Indiana. His parents, Thomas and Nancy Lincoln, were Protestants who belonged to a church that opposed the conversion of Jews. That's because they believed that missionaries were assuming responsibilities for the fate of others that properly belonged to God alone.

The future president first had actual contact with Jews when he moved to Springfield, Illinois in 1837, where he encountered Jewish neighbors, clients and political allies. Abraham Jonas, who, like Lincoln, was an attorney and state legislator, became the only person Lincoln is known to have dubbed "one of my most trusted friends." Jonas's support at a crucial moment may well have changed the course of history:

In 1858, Lincoln lost the election for U.S. Senate. When Henry Asbury, Jonas's law partner, suggested that Lincoln be considered for the 1860 Republican presidential nomination in a meeting with Horace Greeley, the New-York Tribune editor, this idea was not warmly received — until Jonas reinforced Asbury's proposal. Jonas next worked strenuously to increase support for the Republican Party, and to secure the nomination for his friend at the party's convention in Chicago. Before Lincoln took office, Jonas received word from a relative of a conspiracy to prevent his inauguration, possibly with violent means, and urged his friend to take precautions. His warnings were taken seriously: Lincoln was smuggled into Washington at night.

Once Lincoln was in the White House, he displayed his empathy and tolerance for Jews on numerous occasions. The Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry had a Jewish commander and over 30 Jewish members, and, in 1861, elected Michael M. Allen, a Jewish liquor dealer, as the regimental chaplain. The unit was unaware that Congress had just established a requirement that military chaplains must be ministers of "a Christian denomination." Once Allen learned his election violated that standard, he resigned. But the Fifth Pennsylvania was not daunted by this setback. The regiment promptly elected Arnold Fischel, a teacher and lecturer from New York's Congregation Shearith Israel, as their chaplain — only to have the choice nixed by the secretary of war.

This congressional declaration that amounted to second-class status for Jews became a rallying point for American Jewry.

Fischel showed up at the White House on Dec. 11, 1861, even though he had been told that Lincoln was too busy to meet. Amazingly, he was invited to speak with Lincoln. The president agreed that the legislation was unjust, and crafted a compromise that allowed Jews to minister to their coreligionists in the army.

Lincoln again displayed his sensitivity and sense of justice about a year later, when General Ulysses S. Grant issued the infamous General Orders No. 11, dubbed by Sarna and Shapell as "the most notorious official act of anti-Semitism in American history." Grant's concern about smugglers in the areas under his command led to the order, after he decided that since some of the smugglers were Jewish, all were. His decree expelled all Jews from the Department [of the Tennessee] within 24 hours from the receipt of the order.

"Lincoln could have easily turned away," said Harold Holzer, the chief historian of the New-York Historical Society exhibit, in an interview with the *Forward*. American Jews numbered only a small percentage of the population, and were in no way a significant political lobby at the time. Lincoln took a considerable risk in telling Grant's commander to rescind General Orders No. 11:

He did not want to alienate Grant, as he needed his military skills to win the Civil War, and viewed the general as a potential political rival for the 1864 presidential election. Notwithstanding those concerns, Lincoln viewed the expulsion order as unjust, and overturned it. "I do not like to hear a class or nationality condemned on account of a few sinners," Lincoln told a Jewish delegation that had come to thank him in January 1865. (Somewhat ironically, Grant went on to appoint a record number of Jews to office, and to become the first president known to have attended synagogue services — Kabbalat Shabbat at an Orthodox congregation in Washington, D.C.)

For Shapell, Lincoln's handling of General Orders No. 11 exemplifies what was special about him. "It shows us how different Lincoln was, how alone he was in standing for freedom and justice — while, at the same time, his revered general is punishing one group based on religion, Lincoln is freeing a race," he said, referring to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

As the 1864 presidential election neared, Lincoln worried about his prospects. One of the people he turned to for help was another Jewish friend, Issachar Zacharie, his foot doctor. Lincoln was concerned enough about his electoral support that he met with Jewish

leaders to discuss the Jewish vote, and Zacharie labored in private to turn out Jewish voters for the president. Records do not indicate what percentage actually did so.

Lincoln's interest in things Jewish was not only expressed in his responses to discrimination or political challenges... He also admired Jewish theater. He saw "Gamea, or the Jewish Mother," a play by Victor Séjour that was inspired by the abduction of Edgardo Mortara by the papal police in 1858. The couple also watched a performance of "Leah, the Forsaken," a play by Augustin Daly about the persecution of Jews in 18th century Austria. As did Séjour's, the play spoke to the evils of persecuting a minority and showed how Jews and Blacks faced similar biases at the time.

According to a letter by Mary Todd Lincoln, who frequently invited Jews to parties at the White House at a time when that would have been considered unthinkable to many, Lincoln said on the last day of his life that he planned to visit Palestine after his second term in office ended.

Lincoln's murder on April 14, 1865, which was both Good Friday and the evening of the fifth day of Passover, was devastating for much of American Jewry. The responses to his death in the Jewish community demonstrated the unique regard in which he was held. Holzer believes that Lincoln was the first non-Jew for whom Kaddish was said. Many Jewish eulogies compared his wish to visit Jerusalem with Moses, who died before seeing Israel.

After his passing, Lincoln was virtually transformed into the first Jewish president, a process vividly described by Gary Phillip Zola, a historian and rabbi, in his recent major study on Lincoln's place in American Jewish memory. His book, **We Called Him Rabbi Abraham**, nicely complements **Lincoln and the Jews**. Zola focuses on how the American Jewish community embraced Lincoln, "as if he was one of our own." That embrace crossed denominational lines: Major movement leaders such as Solomon Schechter, who compared Lincoln to Hillel ("We may well be grateful to God for giving us such a great soul as Lincoln"), and Bernard Revel ("In Lincoln himself were fused all the essential elements of Judaism") praised the president in ceremonies marking the centennial of his birth in 1909.

This connection is still strong today, writes Zola: "[F]rom the moment Lincoln was assassinated, American Jews regarded the martyred president as a national icon who, though not a Jew by birth, was genuinely imbued with Jewish values and had a 'Jewish soul.'"

Biogenesis vs. Abiogenesis

In the 1600s scientists believed life could arise from decaying matter, because maggots and flies emerged from dung, rotting meat, and garbage.

Italian biologist Francesco Redi demonstrated in 1668 that maggots did not appear in meat if kept away from flies.²² In 1768 another Italian, naturalist Lazzaro Spallanzani, proved that substances originally containing microorganisms, when boiled and then sealed, remained microbe-free.²³

It did not keep German biologist Ernst Haeckel (1834-1919), a rabid Darwinian, from promoting abiogenesis. Biochemist Michael Behe says: "From the limited view of cells that microscopes provided, Haeckel believed that a cell was a 'simple little lump of albuminous combination of carbon,' not much different from a piece of microscopic

Jell-O. So it seemed to Haeckel that such simple life, with no internal organs, could be produced from inanimate material."²⁴

Famous French microbiologist Louis Pasteur refuted abiogenesis in 1862 in his "On the Organized Particles Existing in the Air." He showed that microbes would grow only if a solution was exposed to air with spores of bacteria. In 1869, British physicist John Tyndall demonstrated that when dust was present putrefaction occurred; in the absence of dust, no decay took place.²⁵

Lab-created "life"?

In 1953 chemist Stanley Miller, a graduate student at the University of Chicago, and Nobel laureate Harold Urey, put a mixture of gases through heat and electricity and produced a tar-like substance with some amino acids in it. The Miller-Urey result rocked the world: the "building blocks of life," it was claimed, could be produced in the laboratory!

However, the experiment used a manmade "atmosphere" that did not include oxygen, which would have produced a different result. The process also had "unnatural" components such as a "trap" (which quickly removed chemical products from the destructive energy sources that made them). Further, biologist Gary Parker notes: "The molecules Miller made did not include only the amino

acids required for living systems; they included even greater quantities of amino acids that would be highly destructive to any 'evolving' life."²⁶

Early Earth Enigmas

(Part 2)

By MaxTuason@yahoo.com

This is an excerpt from Max Tuason's book, **Deep Things of God**, advertised in this issue of **Petah Tikvah**. The book contains all the footnotes missing in this excerpt. We recommend Max's books to our readers, available through:

Amazon.com

Besides, half the amino acids produced were chemically "right-handed." Every living protein, whether in animals, plants, molds, bacteria, and even viruses – except in some diseased or aging tissue – is made up of at least 300 amino acids, practically all of them structurally "left-handed." Hence, the probability of

a living protein being formed through sheer chance is equal to unerringly getting 300 "heads" in a row from the toss of a coin.

Co-authors Sir Fred Hoyle and Chandra Wickramasinghe calculated the odds for a living protein to form solely by chance in one place as just one chance in $10^{40,000}$. In comparison, statisticians regard a probability of less than 1 in 10^{50} to be an absolute impossibility. They concluded that it was "an outrageously small probability that could not be faced even if the whole universe consisted of organic soup."²⁷

The Miller-Urey experiment (and all other experiments after it) failed to produce even one single living protein – never mind that a protein still has a long, long way to go before becoming a complete living cell.

Enough time and chance?

Some scientists argue that, given enough time, as well as chance, all things are possible – even the emergence of the first living things from inanimate matter. Writer C. Folsome asked them in the magazine *Scientific American*: "Can we really form a biological cell by waiting for chance combinations of organic compounds? Harold Morowitz, in his book *Energy Flow and Biology*, computed that merely to create a bacterium would require more time than the Universe might ever see if chance combinations of its molecules were the only driving force."²⁸

Chemist Ilya Prigogine, 1977 Nobel Prize laureate, sums it up in *Physics Today*: "The idea of the spontaneous genesis of life in its present form is therefore improbable, even on the scale of billions of years."²⁹ Gerald

Schroeder informs us that: "Since 1979, articles based on the premise that life arose through chance random reactions over billions of years are not accepted in reputable journals."³⁰

The "simple" cell.

Charles Darwin believed that single-celled organisms were most primitive. Until the first half of the 20th century, scientists called the most basic living unit the "simple cell" – made up of nothing more than a jelly-like "protoplasm."

In 1963 Dr. George Palade of the Rockefeller Institute discovered a complex network of minuscule tubes and sacs within the protoplasm, now called the "endoplasmic reticulum."³¹ It became evident that there is no such thing as a "simple" cell. Even the earliest unicellular organisms on earth were unimaginably complex. Molecular biologist Jonathan Wells and mathematician William Dembski concur that "the simplest life forms we know, the prokaryotic cells (such as bacteria, which lack a nucleus), are themselves immensely complex. Moreover, they are every bit as high-tech as the eukaryotic cells..."³² Single-celled animals can "catch food, digest it, get rid of wastes, move around, build houses, engage in sexual activity... with no tissues, no organs, no hearts and no minds..."³³ They even communicate with each other using chemicals.

We read in the *National Geographic*: "Each cell is a world brimming with as many as two hundred trillion tiny groups of atoms called molecules."³⁴ *Newsweek* is quite graphic: "Each of those 100 trillion cells functions like a walled city. Power plants generate the cell's energy. Factories produce proteins, vital units of chemical commerce. Complex transportation systems guide specific chemicals from point to point within the cell and beyond. Sentries at the barricades control the export and import markets, and monitor the outside world for signs of danger. Disciplined biological armies stand ready to grapple with invaders. A centralized genetic government maintains order."³⁵

In addition, the "simple" cell has one capability not even today's most advanced machines can do: It can replicate its entire structure within a matter of a few hours.

The theory of evolution

The roots of the theory of evolution goes back many years before Charles Darwin. In the 17th century, scientists like Francis Bacon and William Harvey recognized it. Darwin's own

grandfather, Erasmus Darwin (d. 1802), wrote about it. The French naturalist Chevalier de Lamarck proposed a similar theory in 1809. In 1835 and 1837, Edward Blyth, a creationist, published a treatise on natural selection.³⁶

In 1855, Alfred Russel Wallace published the theory of evolution in a brief note in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*. On March 9, 1858, he explained the theory in a letter to Charles Darwin.³⁷ Twenty months later, in 1859, Darwin published a more detailed version of the theory in his book that he had been at work on earlier: *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*. It became an instant sensation.

The Theory of Evolution posits that all living things changed through the ages into all the life forms today. From the first living cell, "simple" organisms evolved into fish, then into amphibians, then into reptiles, then into birds and mammals, then into primates and, eventually, man.

Darwin speculated that similarities in different species, such as the five digits of a man's hand, a bat's wing, and a dolphin's flipper, which he called "homology," constituted evidence for a common ancestry. He capitalized on the idea of "natural selection" or "survival of the fittest" – that is, nature selected the fittest organisms to survive. The "fittest" individuals supposedly had traits that enabled them to fare better than other members of their groups.

Darwin's book led many Christians to abandon their belief in the Biblical creation by God. Almost all universities and public schools today teach Darwinian evolution, which holds that the ten million-plus species on earth evolved from a single cell that suddenly came to life around 3.5 billion years ago. We must give credit to Darwin for honesty, though, because he admitted that his theory needed to be proven.

"Ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny"?

Ernst Heinrich Haeckel helped spread Darwin's theory of evolution through lectures and books. He popularized the catchphrase "Ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny." Accordingly, every animal's embryonic stages (ontogeny) replicate in just a few weeks its species' evolutionary history (phylogeny) which took millions of years. Thus, a human fetus begins life as a single cell, just like the first organisms on earth. Next, the cell multiplies as a hollow ball similar to sponges. The embryo then folds in to form a cuplike structure like jellyfish and

corals. It afterward lengthens, passing through phases with gill slits, fin-like limbs, and a tail typical of fish and amphibians. The embryo then takes on a basic mammalian form, before finally assuming the shape of a primate.

Haeckel, however, cheated. He altered illustrations to fit his theory when the similarity of embryos was not satisfactory. He was found out, charged with fraud, and convicted by a university court at Jena, Germany. Eventually, "The theory of recapitulation was destroyed in 1921 by Professor Walter Garstang in a famous paper. Since then no respectable biologist has ever used the theory of recapitulation, because it was utterly unsound, created by a Nazi-like preacher named Haeckel."³⁸ Co-authors George Gaylord Simpson and William S. Beck (*Life: An Introduction to Biology*, 1965) confirm this: "It is now firmly established that ontogeny does not repeat phylogeny."³⁹ Surprisingly, many modern textbooks still include the disproved idea as proof for evolution.

Mutation: engine of evolution?

Evolutionists claim that mutation, a change in the genetic material (DNA) inside the cells of plants and animals, is the engine of evolution. Mutational changes are said to be passed on to descendants – producing "improved" new members of the species, which gradually turn into a new distinct species.

Harmful, not helpful. For mutation to happen, new information has to be introduced in the genes of the organism. Yet, practically all mutations showed a loss, rather than a gain, of genetic information – resulting in missing eyes, limbs, wings, tails, etc. Author Lee Spetner (*Not by Chance*, 1996) reports: "All point mutations that have been studied on the molecular level turn out to reduce the genetic information and not to increase it."⁴⁰

In any case, slight mutational changes are usually insignificant, but major genetic mutations, instead of producing improved organisms, are generally harmful to the species. Author Peo C. Koller (*Chromosomes and Genes*, 1971) tells us: "The greatest proportion of mutations are deleterious to the individual who carries the mutated gene. It was found in experiments that, for every successful or useful mutation, there are many thousands which are harmful."⁴¹ The *Encyclopedia Americana* says that "mutants illustrated in biology textbooks are a collection of freaks and monstrosities, and mutation seems to be a destructive rather than a constructive pro-

cess."⁴²

Author G. Ledyard Stebbins (*Processes of Organic Evolution*, 1971) relates that in laboratory experiments, mutated insects were kept with normal members of their species. "After a greater or lesser number of generations the mutants are eliminated."⁴³ They were unable to compete and died off, because they had become less adapted for survival than their normal fellows.

Statistically improbable. Researchers often conduct experiments with fruit flies, chosen for their short life spans. Gordon Rattray Taylor, former chief science advisor of BBC TV (*The Great Evolution Mystery*, 1983), observed: "It is a striking, but not much mentioned fact that, though geneticists have been breeding fruit-flies for sixty years or more in labs all round the world – flies which produce a new generation every eleven days – they have never yet seen the emergence of a new species or even a new enzyme."⁴⁴ Although fruit flies can be made to mutate into deformed specimens, they are all still fruit flies.

Co-authors P. Moorhead and M. Kaplan ("Mathematical Challenges to the Neo-Darwinian Interpretation of Evolution," 1967) report: "The Wistar Institute symposium in 1967 brought together leading biologists and mathematicians in what turned out to be a futile attempt to find a mathematically reasonable basis for the assumption that random mutations are the driving force behind evolution. Unfortunately, each time the mathematics showed the statistical improbability of a given assumption..."⁴⁵

Pierre-Paul Grasse, former French Academy of Sciences president and an evolutionist, admits: "No matter how numerous they may be, mutations do not produce any kind of evolution."⁴⁶

Anti-mutation mechanisms.

Two British scientists, Dr. A.R. Fersht and Dr. G.R. Lambert, made an important "discovery that enzymes exist within living cells that have just one assignment in nature. They find and correct any errors in the genetic code. These errors can creep into the code because of radiation, some chemicals, or for other reasons. However, these enzymes faithfully correct any errors, preventing mutations."⁴⁷ Francis Hitching (*The Neck of the Giraffe*, 1982) adds: "Genes are a powerful stabilizing mechanism whose main function is to prevent new forms evolving."⁴⁸

The law of genetics dictates that the offspring of the parent organism shall be of the

teaches: "But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds" (1 Cor 15:38-39).

Microevolution vs. macroevolution

Pierre-Paul Grasse, a zoologist, observed that adaptations within species have nothing to do with evolution. They are just minor changes around a stable genotype. For example, there are no less than 200 breeds of dog today, descended from just a few ancient dogs and wolves. They range from tiny Chihuahuas to burly St. Bernards, from cuddly Pomeranians to vicious pit bulls. Yet, they are all still dogs. Citrus fruits vary greatly – from sweet nectarines to sour lemons, little limes to large pomelos – but each one is still a citrus. They are examples of "microevolution." What Darwin "discovered" – such as the variations in the beaks of finches in the Galapagos Islands – were limited biological principles that govern microevolution (change within a species), not those governing "speciation" or "macroevolution" (change from one species to another).

In breeding experiments, scientists have tried to keep modifying selected plants and animals indefinitely by crossbreeding to see if they could develop new species. Result? "Breeders usually find that after a few generations, an optimum is reached beyond which further improvement is impossible, and there has been no new species formed... Breeding procedures, therefore, would seem to refute, rather than support evolution."⁴⁹

Microevolution in reverse. In the 1930s brothers Heinz and Lutz Heck, Munich Zoo and Berlin Zoo directors, respectively, recreated extinct animals. First was the tarpan, a Stone Age horse whose drawings were on the walls of caves in France and the last of which died in captivity in 1887. They crossed stallions known to have descended from the tarpan with modern mares. After just two breedings, a foal with all the tarpan characteristics was born.

They had actually followed their father, who, while running the Berlin Zoo, crossed the ibex (a wild goat) with domesticated goats. The older Heck produced animals with the exact color of the bezoar, the Middle Eastern wild goat that was the progenitor of all goats today.

The Heck brothers also recreated the auroch, the ancestor of modern cattle. The last of the huge auroch, which weighed up to a ton, died in a game preserve in Poland in 1627.

After ten years of crossbreeding, they obtained a calf with all the traits of an auroch.⁵⁰

Problems with evolution

There were a few gaps in the "evolutionary tree" when Darwin published *On the Origin of Species* in 1859. Believers in the theory expected these gaps to be filled as fossil finds increased.

We read in the *Newsweek* magazine issue of March 29, 1982: "Darwin, and most of those who followed him, believed that the work of evolution was slow, gradual and continuous and that a complete lineage of ancestors, shading imperceptibly one into the next, could in theory be reconstructed for all living animals... But a century of digging since then has only made their absence more glaring."⁵¹

Evolutionary gaps.

David B. Kitts of the School of Geology and Geophysics, University of Oklahoma, said in the September 1974 issue of the journal *Evolution*: "Despite the bright promise that paleontology provides a means of 'seeing' evolution, it has presented some nasty difficulties for evolutionists the most notorious of which is the presence of 'gaps' in the fossil record. Evolution requires intermediate forms between species and paleontology does not provide them."⁵²

Norman D. Newell, former Curator of Historical Geology at the American Museum of Natural History, wrote in *Adventures in Earth History* (1970) that "the gaps which separate the highest categories may never be bridged in the fossil record. Many of the discontinuities tend to be more and more emphasized with increased collecting."⁵³

In Darwin's time, all living things fell under two kingdoms: plant and animal. As science progressed and scientists recognized finer distinctions between organisms, the number of kingdoms rose to the five that we have today: Prokaryotae, Protista, Fungi, Plantae, and Animalia. As the groupings increased, the "missing links" multiplied.

Editor's Note: The footnotes for this article can be obtained by ordering **The Deep Things of God** advertised on the top right of page 38 in this edition of **Petah Tikvah**. This book comes highly recommended by me and those who have read this book. This book is very well researched and well-written. By the way, do **not** order it from us. Order it from Amazon.com. **RAC**

Daniel Botkin Presents

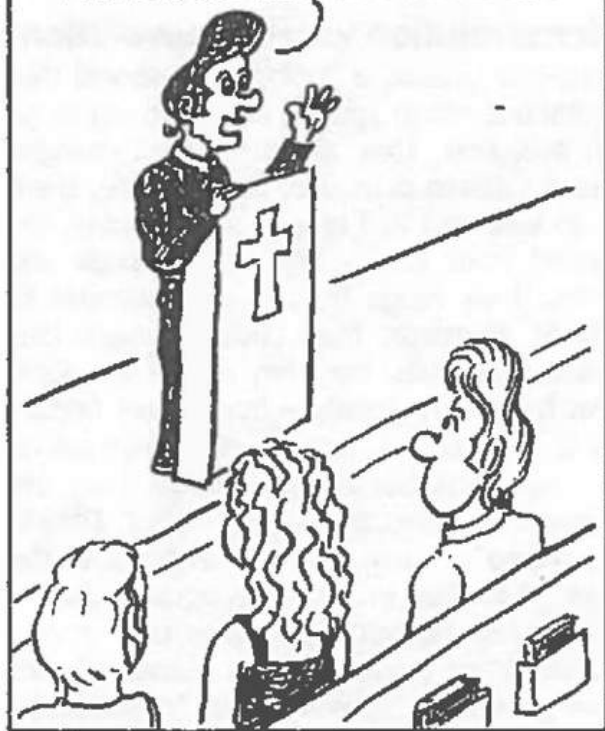
Reverend TWISTRUTH & HIS DISCIPLES



"Be ye doers of the word,
and not hearers only"
(James 1:22)

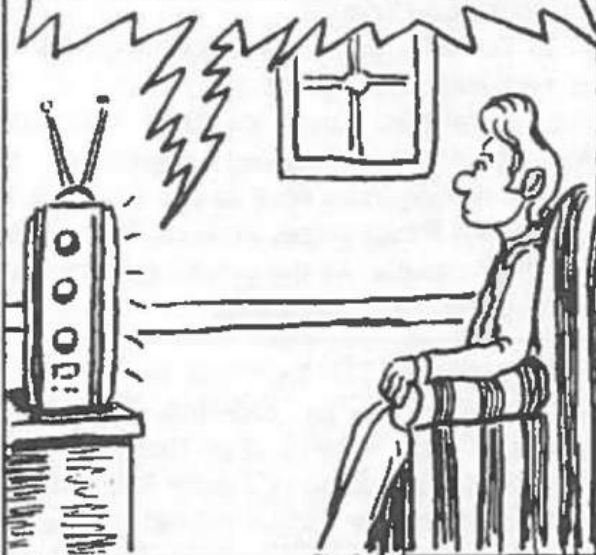
SUNDAY MORNING...

WE CAN IGNORE ALL THOSE OLD
TESTAMENT COMMANDMENTS,
BECAUSE JESUS FULFILLED THE
LAW - HE OBEYED THE LAW PER-
FECTLY, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO !



SUNDAY AFTERNOON...

WHEN I WAS SECRETARY OF STATE,
I OBEYED THE LAW, AND IF YOU
ELECT ME GOVERNOR, I WILL
OBEY THE LAW ! WHEN I WAS IN
CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF MOTOR VEHICLES, I OBEYED
ALL THE DRIVING LAWS PERFECTLY,
AND NEVER ONCE GOT A TICKET !



SUNDAY EVENING...

YOUNG MAN, WHY
DO YOU THINK YOU
CAN RUN RED
LIGHTS, EXCEED
THE SPEED LIMIT,
AND GO THE
WRONG WAY ON A
ONE-WAY STREET ?

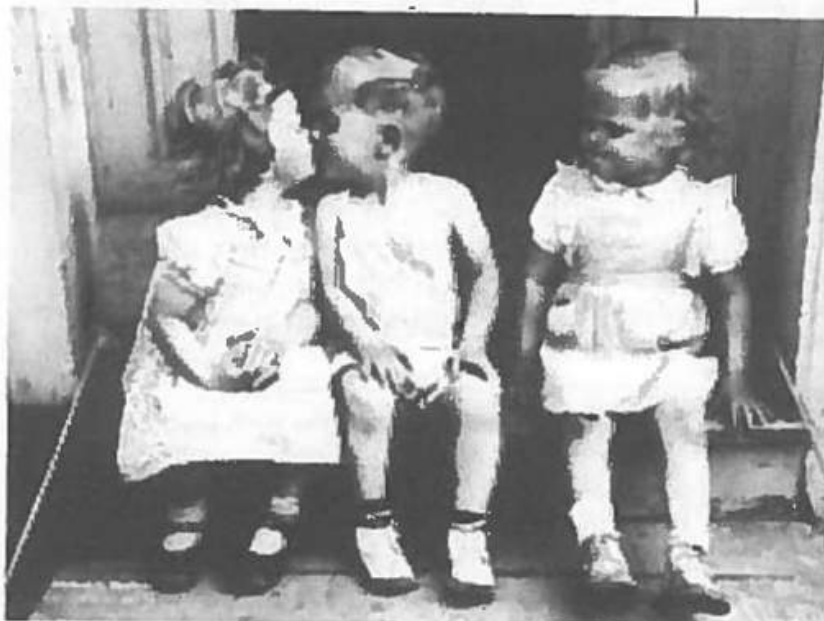
BECAUSE OUR
SECRETARY
OF STATE
OBEYED ALL
THE LAWS
PERFECTLY,
SO WE DON'T
HAVE TO !



Daniel has a bimonthly publication, **Gates of Eden**. For a sample issue,
send \$3 to PO Box 2257, E Peoria IL 61611-0257.

In Genesis 25, we read about sibling rivalry in the womb! Even before they were born, Jacob and Esau were struggling with each other. Rebecca was concerned, and "went to inquire of YHWH" why this was so.¹ Where did she go to inquire? The Scriptures are silent on this. However, it is apparent that she went to somebody. The Rabbis say she went to a ro'eh (translated seer, from the *shoresh* - root word - for "see"). She was told that two nations were in her womb, and that the older would serve the younger. In other words, Esau would serve Jacob.

Decades later, in Genesis 27, Rebecca hears that Isaac wants to bless his sons before he dies. She knows that Isaac prefers Esau, and she prefers Jacob. God also prefers Jacob, as was shown in chapter 25:23. However, she apparently doesn't trust HaShem to keep the promise given earlier. Therefore, she seeks to deceive Isaac, using Jacob as her accomplice. I believe she should have believed in the promises of Adonai. It wasn't necessary for her to deceive poor old Isaac to do it. God would have found a way to fulfill His promises. Nevertheless, her plan worked, and Isaac ended up blessing Jacob with the blessings that he intended for Esau, including, "Let people serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brethren, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be everyone who blesses you."²



¹ Genesis 25:22.

² Genesis 27:29. (See also Gen. 12:3)

Jacob's Wives, Sons, & Daughters

Richard
'Aharon'
Chamberlin

Naturally, Esau wasn't very happy that Jacob had basically stolen the blessings that were meant for him. He begged dear old Dad to also give him a blessing, but the "blessing" he received (Gen. 27:40) was more like a curse than a blessing. "And by your sword you shall live, and shall serve your brother..." Gee, thanks a lot, Dad!

It isn't too surprising that Esau was waiting for Isaac to die, and then he would kill his brother Jacob. Even though Isaac was already blind with age, Esau would have had to wait many more years. Isaac died when he was 180 years old, as we learn in Genesis 35:27-28.

Rebecca learns of Esau's plans for revenge, and conspires to have Jacob sent away, supposedly to find a good wife, but primarily to keep him safe from Esau. He is sent away to Haran (close to modern-day Turkey), where he is told to find wife from the daughters of Laban, the brother of Rebecca. In other words, he was told to marry one of his cousins. This is not forbidden in Scripture, although if continued for many generations, it can result in birth defects. In Islamic cultures, the preferred marriage partners are between cousins, which results in physical and mental problems with the children of these centuries of inbred relationships.

Jacob departed from his home in Beersheba, and headed toward Haran in northern Mesopotamia (Padanaram). In Genesis 28:12, we read that he had a dream,³ and saw a ladder with its top reaching into heaven. He sees the angels of God ascending and descending on it. Since we read of the angels first ascending, the Rabbis say that these angels had been accompanying Jacob on his journey. Jacob also saw God above the ladder (Gen. 28:13), saying, "I am YHWH, the God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie, I will give to you and your descendants."

Jacob, however, remains the conniver, kind of like his mom, Rebecca. He made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in the way that I go, and will

³ It was common in Scripture for God to speak to people in dreams and visions. However, be careful! Some dreams are because of too much pizza.

give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, **then** shall YHWH be my God... and of all that You shall give me, I will surely give a tenth to You (Gen. 28:20-22)."

Jacob arrived in Haran, virtually penniless, having left behind his possessions, as well as his beloved parents. However, things began to look up a bit for him. In Genesis 29, the very first young lady he met was the lovely Rachel, who had come to the well to water her flocks. She was the daughter of Uncle Laban. Jacob had been the "stay-at-home" Mama's boy, whereas Esau was the outdoors hunter. However, there is a huge rock that requires several men to roll out of the mouth of the well, as we see in Gen. 29:3. Jacob is now a real he-man, and he rolls the rock from the mouth of the well to water Laban's flock. Impressive! Then he kissed Rachel (on the first "date"?) and wept, knowing that Adonai had blessed his journey. He told Rachel that he was her cousin. She ran to tell Laban, apparently leaving Jacob at the well by himself. Uncle Laban ran back to the well to see Jacob, kissed him, and brought him to his house.

Jacob's Wedding Surprise

Jacob moved fairly quickly. He asked for Rachel to be his wife, and offered to work seven years for her. Laban felt he had a good deal, and agreed to it. You know the story. Jacob worked seven years, finally the wedding day arrived! He fully expected that the bride beneath the veil was his beloved Rachel. He went into the tent and consummated the wedding. However, in the morning, he discovered that Uncle Laban had tricked him! He had just spent the night with the less than lovely Leah, the sister of Rachel. In another deal, Laban gets Jacob to complete the wedding week with Leah, and he would then give Rachel also as a wife for Jacob. However, as a precondition to getting another bride, at the conclusion of the second wedding week, he would work another seven years for Laban.

Adonai saw that Leah was unloved. Therefore, He opened up her womb. In Gen. 29:32-35, she produces four sons for Jacob: Reuben, Shimon, Levi, and Judah. In Judaism, all these names mean something. Reuben (Ruven - "see, a son"), Simeon (Shimon - from sh'ma, Hebrew for "hear"), Levi (from lavah for "join"), and Judah (Yehudah - "praise YHWH"). In the Hebrew tradition, you give the child a meaningful name, not just a name that sounds nice.

It was a great shame in those days for a woman to be barren. Rachel told Jacob, "Give

me children, or else I die!" At this point, Jacob became very angry at Rachel. It certainly wasn't his fault! However, they had the tradition that the handmaid of the wife could be used to produce offspring for the barren wife. Rachel told Jacob to go to her handmaid Bilhah. Jacob was a very obedient, considerate, and loving husband, so he agreed to do what Rachel requested. He went into Bilhah, and she conceived and bore a son on Rachel's knees (Gen. 30:3).⁴ Children born in this way were considered to be Rachel's children.

It started getting rough for Jacob. Leah stopped bearing children, so Leah asked Jacob to go to her handmaid Zilpah. Jacob had no choice, poor boy, so he went into Zilpah. Zilpah produced two sons, Gad and Asher, who would be considered the sons of Leah, as they were born on Leah's knees.

Then Leah again became fertile, producing two more sons, Issachar and Zebulun. Afterwards she produced a daughter named Dinah. Many falsely assume that Dinah was the only daughter that Jacob had. Dinah was simply the only daughter who was named in the Bible. And the only reason that Dinah is mentioned by name is because of the tragic rape that happened to her in Genesis 34. In Genesis 34:21, Hamor suggests that his family and Jacob's family merge, saying, "Let us take their daughters in marriage, and give our daughters to them." Years later, Jacob was in mourning, assuming that his beloved son Joseph had been killed by wild animals. "And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him."⁵

In Genesis 46:7, Jacob moves to Egypt with "his sons, his grandsons, his daughters, and his son's daughters, and all his descendants...." Again, we see that Jacob had daughters. In fact, he had more daughters than sons. In Genesis 46:15, we read that Jacob had 33 sons and daughters. We already know that he had 12 sons. Simple arithmetic tells us that Jacob also had 21 daughters. However, the tribes could only be led by men, the twelve sons of Jacob. Therefore, the sons are named, whereas the daughters are not named.

⁴ In Biblical times, women gave birth vertically, either sitting on a birth stool (Exodus 1:16) or on someone's knees. For instance, children were born on Joseph's knees (Gen. 50:22). This continues to be the case with so-called "primitive" cultures today, in which gravity helps in the birthing process. Having the expectant mother flat on her back is only for the convenience of the doctor, making the birthing process more difficult.

⁵ Genesis 37:35.

In Genesis 46:27, we learn that there were 70 persons members of Jacob's family that came to Egypt. They are named in Genesis 46:8-26. Sixty-eight out of 70 of the names are male. There were also many females that also went into Egypt, including the wives of Jacob's 12 sons, who are also mentioned in Genesis 46:27, although they are not named. I'm sorry to say this, ladies. But the ladies were not considered important enough to even number, nor were their names given. We are blessed to live in an age in which the ladies are given their honor due. HaShem loves the females amongst us. When God chose to send His only begotten Son into the world, He chose a young Jewish virgin to accomplish the task. Joseph (much to his early chagrin) had nothing to do with it.

However, I digress. Let us get back to the competition between Jacob's wives. After Dinah was born, HaShem opened up Rachel's womb, and she finally produced a son, whom she named Joseph. This was the first and only son that Rachel would have for several years. However, she finally became pregnant for a second time, and produced another son as the family was on the way to Bethlehem (Beit Lechem - House of Bread). She began to die while giving birth, and named her second son "Ben-oni," son of my sorrow. After Rachel died, Jacob gave the boy a new name, Benjamin (Ben-yamin - son of the right hand).

The tomb of Rachel remains a holy place to this day. Regretfully, Bethlehem was given to the Palestinian Arabs as one of the gifts of the Oslo "peace" process. However, Rachel's tomb has been walled off and protected as a Jewish holy site. Jewish women with barren wombs have gone to Rachel's tomb for many centuries to pray for their wombs to be opened. Many claim that it works! However, it seems curious to go to Rachel's tomb for such prayers, as she had such difficulty in conceiving.

Jacob went to Haran, supposedly to get a wife with greater spirituality than the women of Canaan. He gained not one, but two wives, along with two concubines. This is not the biblical ideal. We see that Adam was given one woman, not two or three. However, the Bible tells it like it is. The Bible does not sugar-coat the great men and women of scripture. The Bible tells about their strengths, as well as their warts and blemishes.

And although Rachel might have been beautiful, she was far from perfect. Jacob spent 20 years working for Uncle Laban. He was a very hard and intelligent worker, and ended up prospering more than any of the

sons of Laban. And as has been common in Jewish history, when Jews prosper, other peoples become jealous. This was the case with Laban's sons, as well as Laban himself, all of whom were jealous of Jacob.

It was time for Jacob to leave. In Genesis 31:3, HaShem tells Jacob to leave Padan-Aram. Jacob arrived with only the clothes on his back and his staff. He secretly left Padan-Aram with his wives, concubines, sons, daughters, and much wealth.

When Uncle Laban discovered that Jacob had secretly fled with his daughters and many possessions, he and his kinsmen went searching for Jacob. They finally caught up with Jacob and his family. However, God had come to Laban in a dream, warning him to not harm Jacob. Laban expressed his great displeasure that his daughters and grandchildren had been taken away from him, without him even having had the chance to say farewell.

Something else was disturbing Laban. His household gods had been stolen! And he assumed that Jacob had something to do with it. Jacob was of course very offended. He wanted nothing to do with Laban's gods. Jacob had his own God: The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob! However, he permitted Laban to search through all of their tents and belongings. He said that if these idols were discovered, that Laban had the right to kill whoever was in possession of them.

However, Jacob did not realize that Rachel was the thief! Rachel had stolen her father's household idols. She hid them in her camel's saddle, and sat on the saddle. She was obviously living outside of the covenant. Laban never found his idols, which further enraged Jacob, as he felt completely vindicated.

Jacob and Laban ended up making a covenant with each other. They erected a heap of stones. Laban spoke Aramaic and called it **Y'gar-sahadutah** ("the heap of witness"), whereas Jacob still preferred Hebrew, calling these same stones **Gal-ed** (also meaning "heap of witness"). It was also called **Mitspah** ("watchtower"). The word **mitspah** (or **mizpah**) is sometimes written on pieces of jewelry, in which young men and women demonstrate their love for each other, along with the scripture from Genesis 31:49, saying, "May the Lord watch between you and me when we are absent from each other." However, in original context, this was not a statement of love, but of mutual distrust.

Turn to page 16 to see the Rabbinic response regarding the daughters of Jacob.

Redeeming Relevance: Parshat Vayigash: How Many Daughters did Ya'akov Have?

Rabbi Francis Nataf

"Earlier commentators may well have still shuddered in awe when they thought of Ya'akov's daughters – how could it be that they would exist and that we would not know about them?"

Comments on Exodus 6:5 Concerning Jacob's Daughters & Granddaughters

Rabbi Dr. J H Hertz

"Of the seventy, sixty-eight were males. If to these we had the wives of the sons and grandsons, and the husbands of the daughters and granddaughters, and all their servants and families, **the total number of those who entered Egypt must have been several hundred, if not thousands.**"

Pentateuch & Haftorahs, Soncino Press
© 1981, 5 Essex St, New York NY 10002, p. 120

Editor's Comment: These Orthodox rabbis recognized that Jacob had other daughters besides Dinah. Genesis 46:15 tells us that Jacob had 33 sons and daughters. Since we know he had 12 sons, it is easy to therefore to compute that Jacob had 21 daughters. (See also Genesis 34:9 and 46:7.) Genesis 46:8-27 lists all of the sons born to Jacob's twelve sons, but no daughters except for Dinah. This chapter also mentions all of the many grandsons of Jacob, but no granddaughters. I am sure that these sons of Jacob also had daughters. Also, these sons also had wives, who are also not listed. However, Scripture often does not list the females. Of the 70 persons listed who went into Egypt, 68 of them are males. If we were to list all of Jacob's wives, daughters, granddaughters, and the wives of his sons, and husbands of his daughters, we would easily have hundreds more than the 70 persons mentioned in Genesis 46:27.

I am reproducing one paragraph of Rabbi Nataf's commentary (above). It was published in the **Jewish Press**, www.JewishPress.com. Rabbi Nataf would probably sue me if I published the whole article in a Messianic Jewish magazine.

RAC

WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

Quick Reference Guide

Throughout the centuries, Jewish prophets foretold of the Messiah. There were many clear "signposts" in the Tenach (Old Testament), here are a few:

- ✧ born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:1)
- ✧ seed of David (Isaiah 11:1)
- ✧ called Wonderful, counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:5-6)
- ✧ Prophet like Moses (Deut. 18:15-18)
- ✧ must come before the destruction of the second temple, which occurred in 70 AD (Daniel 9:26)
- ✧ despised and rejected of men (Isaiah 53:3)
- ✧ suffer and die for the sins of His people Israel and the world (Isaiah 53:5-6)
- ✧ His hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:14-19)
- ✧ raised from the dead by God's hand (Psalm 16:10, Isaiah 53:10)
- ✧ come again in the clouds to judge the world and set up His kingdom of peace (Daniel 7:13)

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Many of you know already that Frank gave two concerts in the desert that raised \$3 million dollars for a new Temple in Palm Springs and he was at the Yom Kippur services when it opened. He lived on the grounds of a Jewish country club too.

Frank Sinatra: Friend to Israel

Francis Albert Sinatra (1915-1998) may have been one of America's most famous Italian Catholics, but he kept the Jewish people and the State of Israel close to his heart, manifesting life-long commitments to fighting anti-Semitism and to activism on behalf of Israel.

Sinatra stepped forward in the early 1940s, when big names were needed to rouse America into saving Europe's remaining Jews, and he sang at an "Action for Palestine" rally (1947). He sat on the board of trustees of the Simon Wiesenthal Center; and he donated over \$1 million to Jerusalem's Hebrew University, which honored him by dedicating the Frank Sinatra International Student Center. (The Centre made heartbreaking headlines when terrorists bombed it in 2002, killing nine people.)

As the result of his support for the Jewish State, his movies and records were banned in some Arab countries. Sinatra helped Teddy Kollek, later the long-serving mayor of Jerusalem but then a member of the Haganah (pre-state Israeli army), serving as a \$1 million money-runner that helped Israel win the war.

The Copacabana Club, which was very much run and controlled by the same Luciano-related New York mafia crowd with whom Sinatra had become enmeshed, happened to be next door to the hotel out of which Haganah members were operating. In his autobiography, Kollek relates how, trying in March 1948 to circumvent an arms boycott imposed by President Harry Truman on the Jewish fighters in Eretz Yisroel, he needed to smuggle about \$1 million in cash to an Irish ship captain docked in the Port of New York. The young Kollek spotted Sinatra at the bar and, afraid of being intercepted by federal agents, asked for help. In the early hours of the morning, the singer went out the back door with the money in a paper bag and successfully delivered it to the pier.



The origins of Sinatra's love affair with the Jewish people are not clear but, for years, the Hollywood icon wore a small mezuzah around his neck, a gift from Mrs.

Golden, an elderly Jewish neighbour who cared for him during his boyhood in Hoboken, N.J. (years later, he honoured her by purchasing a quarter million dollars' worth of Israel bonds).

He protected his Jewish friends, once responding to an anti-Semitic remark at a party by simply punching the offender. *Time* magazine reported that Sinatra walked out on the christening of his own son when the priest refused to allow a Jewish friend to be the godfather.

As late as 1979, he raged over the fact that a Palm Springs cemetery official in California declared that he could not arrange the burial of a deceased Jewish friend over the Thanksgiving holiday; Sinatra again threatened to punch him in the nose.

Sinatra famously played the role of a Jewish pilot in *Cast a Giant*

Shadow, the 1966 film filmed in Israel and starring friend Kirk Douglas as Mickey Marcus, the Jewish-American colonel who fought and died in Israel's war for independence (Sinatra dive-bombs Egyptian tanks with seltzer bottles!) He donated his salary for the part to the Arab-Israeli Youth Centre in Nazareth and he also made a significant contribution to the making of *Genocide*, a film about the Holocaust, and helped raise funds for the film.

Less known is *Sinatra in Israel* (1962), a short 45-minute featurette he made in which he sang *In the Still of the Night* and *Without a Song*. He also starred in *The House I Live In* (1945), a ten-minute short film made to oppose anti-Semitism at the end of World War II, which received an Honorary Academy Award and a special Golden Globe award in 1946.

The film "The House I Live In" was shown to children at 'assembly' in P. S. #4 in the lower east side of Manhattan. It may seem kind of 'corny' now but it was produced at the end of WW II and then, to a kid from the lower east side, it was inspiring. Come to think about it, it still is.

World War II-era American Jewish leaders failed in the challenge of the day, namely, to fight tooth and nail for the lives of their brethren trapped in Nazi Europe. Today, as the Jewish State faces an existential threat from Iran, their disciples are emulating the same behavior. To recognize the profound similarities, it is important to understand the politics that transpired in that era.

When news of the mass murder of European Jewry was confirmed by the Allies, in late 1942, the small grassroots "Bergson Group" — named for its leader, Hillel Kook, who used the alias Peter Bergson — focused on the rescue of Jews and created the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, which challenged the Roosevelt administration's refusal to come to their aid until the war was over.

As documented by the Washington-based Wyman Institute of Holocaust Studies,[1] despite initial success in raising awareness of the plight of European Jewry, "the Bergson Group's activities angered the American Jewish establishment leaders. They feared the group's successes were upstaging their own positions of leadership, and worried that boisterous Jewish protests might provoke anti-Semitism."

Prof. Benzion Netanyahu, the now-deceased father of the Israeli prime minister, had served as executive director of the U.S. wing of the Revisionist Zionists, who were also maligned by the mainstream establishment. Dr. Raphael Medoff, historian and founding director of the Wyman Institute, in an article in *Midstream Magazine*[2] dated April-May 2005, wrote:

"In an editorial in the New York-based Revisionist journal *Zion News* in 1944, [Benzion] Netanyahu sharply challenged Jewish leaders: 'They cannot claim, with a clear conscience, to have done everything within their power to save those condemned people,' he wrote. 'They have been too cautious, too appeasing, and too ready to swallow the meaningless statements of sympathy that were issued from high places.'

"The passage of time has not altered his analysis. 'Most American Jews would have supported an activist response to the news of the massacres in Europe,' Prof. Netanyahu told me in a recent interview. 'When our small organization held rallies or placed advertisements in the newspapers, we received a very strong, enthusiastic response from the grassroots. But the major Jewish groups, which had the funds and the ability to organize nationwide protests, did not do so — they were afraid of risking their positions, afraid to seem too controversial.'"

Will American Jewry Again Fail to Confront Historic Threat?

By Atara Beck

This article was originally published in 2015 by UnitedWithIsrael.org
It is perhaps more relevant today.

Rabbis' March to Plead for Rescue was Sabotaged

In 1985, in a memoir titled *The Scared and the Doomed* (referring to the "scared" American Jews and the "doomed" Jews of Europe) by late journalist M.J. Nurenberger, a member of

the Bergson Group, the author described, among other events, the Rabbis' March of Oct. 7, 1943, organized by the Emergency Committee, in which approximately 500 Orthodox rabbis, many of them prominent intellectuals, marched from Union Station to Capitol Hill.

The president, as *Time Magazine* reported, had "no time" to meet with the rabbis, although only a few days earlier, Nurenberger wrote, "the two main foes of the Jewish idea had been feted, dined, greeted, and generally given the full red-carpet treatment. The foes, Prince Faisal, Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, and his younger brother, Prince Khalid. For these people, FDR had ample time."

The president, the author continued, providing documented sources, had initially intended to greet the rabbis, among them several elderly, but he was persuaded by Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, FDR's speechwriter, and Stephen S. Wise, the most famous Reform rabbi in the U.S. at the time and a confidant of Roosevelt, not to greet that "horde." Roosevelt did not lift a finger to save a single Jewish life, yet he remained revered by mainstream American Jews...

American Jewish Leaders 'Failed Miserably'
As documented by the Wyman Institute, Rabbi Stephen Wise and other American Jewish leaders "failed miserably" in their response to the Holocaust, Rabbi Dr. David Ellenson, then president of Reform Judaism's Hebrew Union College, acknowledged at a Wyman Institute national conference in New York City in September 2009. "His statement about Rabbi Wise [3] was particularly significant because Wise was the founder and longtime leader of Hebrew Union College," the Wyman Institute notes.

"Rabbi Ellenson said that while it was 'understandable' that many American Jews were afraid of provoking an anti-Semitic backlash, 'Jewish leaders have an obligation to be sufficiently flexible and imaginative to deal with unprecedented situations.'"

Ellenson, the article continues, "added that Wise's antipathy toward Revisionist Zionist leader Ze'ev Jabotinsky and the Bergson Group, whose leaders were followers of [Vladimir Ze'ev] Jabotinsky, also 'helped blind him' to the need for more activism... One need only look at the current news headlines to see the similarities today.

PURIM is perhaps the 'sildest' holiday on the Jewish calendar. It celebrates the victory of the Jews over their enemies over 2500 years ago. This is a common theme for other Jewish holidays as well: "They tried to kill us. They lost. Let's eat!" An enemy seeks to enslave, destroy, or simply to assimilate the Jewish people as being a unique people. Ultimately, the Jews arise victorious. That is an important message to the enemies of the Jews of today. When the Jews arise victorious again, there will be another Jewish holiday to celebrate! And all of these victories are with incredible odds against the Jewish people. No sane person expects the Jews to win, but we did and we will!

With the holiday of Purim, the situation against the Jews was very drastic. The enemy wasn't seeking to assimilate them or to destroy the Jewish religion, as was the situation when Antiochus Epiphanes sought to keep Jews from observing their faith. The enemy wasn't seeking to continue enslaving the Jews, as was the case with the Israelites in Egypt. No... Instead, the goal of Haman and his cohorts was the complete physical annihilation of the Jewish people - every man, woman, and child.

You can read all about Purim in the Book of Esther. Martin Luther hated this book, and almost excluded it from his German translation of the Bible. Martin Luther (the founder of the "Protestant Reformation") was a rabid anti-Semite, and no doubt did not like seeing the Jews victorious over their enemies. The good news is that he ultimately did include it in his German translation, and it is still found in both Catholic and Protestant Bibles to this day, and of course is also in Jewish Bibles.

The Book of Esther describes a situation in which the Jewish people had been highly assimilated into the Persian culture of their day. In a sense, the Jews were wearing **masks**, in an attempt to appear as Gentiles to those in the surrounding cultures. Sometimes it takes the enemies of the Jews to remind the Jews that they have a special calling to be a unique people, with unique responsibilities as God's missionary people, with a divine mission to bring forth the knowledge of Adonai, His salvation, and His Torah to all the people groups on Planet Earth. Instead, the Jews at that time chose to "pass" for being Gentiles.

God is also figuratively wearing a **mask**. This is the only book of the Tanakh (O.T.) in which the name of God (YHWH) is not men-

tioned even once. There is not even any mention of prayer in this book. There aren't any miracles of deliverance, as you can see in the Book of Exodus, with the supernatural plagues on the Egyptians, as well as the miraculous escape of the Israelites from Pharaoh's army.

However, as you read through the Book of Esther, you can see God's fingerprints all over it. There is a series of

"coincidences" taking place. Each one by itself is not a miracle in any true sense of the word. However, when you put all of the "coincidences" together, you can see HaShem working behind the scenes, using "natural" circumstances to accomplish His purposes, in what each appears to be a "lucky coincidence."

King Ahasuerus ("Achashverosh" in the Hebrew Bible) put on a marvelous feast which all the citizens of Shushan (Susa) celebrated for many days, in the third year of his reign.¹ The royal wine was plentiful, according to the king's bounty. However, his Queen Vashti refused to display her beauty in front of this bunch of possibly drunken men. For this "indiscretion," King Achashverosh divorced her. Four years later, in the seventh year of his reign,² Achashverosh was lonely and sought a new bride by means of a beauty contest. The winner happened to be the beautiful, but highly assimilated Jewish maiden named Esther. Esther was an orphan, raised by her older cousin, Mordechai. He instructed Esther to keep her Hebrew name - Hadassah - a secret, and also not to reveal her Jewish ancestry. Esther was therefore also wearing a "**mask**," pretending to be a **shikseh**.³ And we still wear masks today when we celebrate Purim!

Esther serves as queen for five years,⁴ when she is confronted with the possibility of all her people - the Jews - being annihilated by the wicked Haman (May his name be blotted out). Haman was descended from the Amalekites, Israel's enemies from ancient times. The Amalekites attacked the Israelites after they came out of Egypt, by attacking those who were faint and weary in the rear.⁵ Therefore, the Israelites were commanded to "blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." Haman was an Agagite, a descendant of

The Masks of PURIM

Richard 'Aharon' Chamberlin, Litt.D.

¹ Esther 1:3.

² Esther 2:16.

³ A young Gentile woman.

⁴ Esther 3:7.

⁵ D'varim (Deut.) 25:17-19.

Agag,⁶ king of the Amalekites. As such, he had no love for the Jews.

All of the king's servants would bow to Haman, who served as the prime minister of the Persian Empire, which covered a huge area, all the way from India to Ethiopia. However, Mordechai refused to bow to an Amalekite, and as a special revenge against Mordechai, Haman determined to kill all of the Jews, who centuries earlier had killed most of the Amalekites.

Haman went to the king, saying, "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of the kingdom, and their laws are diverse from all people. Therefore, it is not in the king's interest to let them remain."⁷ Haman did not tell the king that these people were Jews. However, the king gave Haman the authority to destroy this people for their supposed evil.

Try to imagine all of these events, simply "happening" by chance:

King Achashverosh gets angry at his wife, sends her away, and later selects Esther (who just "happens" to be Jewish) as his new wife. Mordechai just "happens" to hear of a plot to kill King Achashverosh, which saves the king's life. Years later, when the king can't sleep, he asks his scribe to read to him from the chronicles of the king. The scribe just "happens" to open to the section chronicling the good deed of Mordechai, who had saved the king's life, but finds that Mordechai had not been rewarded. Haman "happens" to enter the room at the very time the king is seeking a way to reward Mordechai. Haman, thinking that the king wants to reward himself, ends up honoring Mordechai. Esther uses her position to turn the tables on Haman, etc., etc.

All of the circumstances seem completely natural, but the odds of all of them together happening by happenstance mitigate against it. We see God working behind the scenes as the divine playwright. The Divine Hand is moving the people like chess pieces or puppets, being moved about and manipulated for a successful conclusion to what looks like a horrible and foreboding situation. In the Passover story, divine salvation came from above, whereas in the Purim story, salvation comes from below,



disguised as a series of ordinary events. The events in both the Passover and Purim stories ended up saving and preserving the Jewish people.

HaSatan - the Adversary - has been seeking to destroy the Jewish people for thousands of years. Satan knows the Scriptures. He knew that the Messiah would come from

the Jews. And he knows that Yeshua will return when the Jews return to their homeland. He tried to destroy the Jewish people in Egypt, and sought to kill Yeshua when He was a baby.⁸ Through various pogroms⁹ and through the Holocaust, Satan hoped to destroy the Jewish people, and to prevent their return to Israel. He continues to work through anti-Semites today. If Satan had been successful, he would have proven God to be untrustworthy, and he would have ruined God's plans for the ultimate redemption of mankind, which also includes the future Messianic Kingdom in which King Messiah Yeshua will come back to reign and rule from Jerusalem!

What is especially incredible is that HaShem even uses human weaknesses, such as the desire to be "like everyone else," to bring about a happy ending. Today, as in ancient Persia, Jews are seeking to assimilate into the cultures in which they reside. Even in Israel, we see Jews trying to emulate American culture. However, Israel has a higher calling. Someday, Messiah is returning to set up His Messianic Kingdom. And:

"In the last days, it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of YHWH shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

"And many nations shall come, and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of YHWH, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us His ways, and we will walk in His paths.' For the Torah (Law or Teaching) shall go forth from Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

"And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore." (Micah 4:2-4)

May it be soon, even in our lifetimes!

⁶ 1 Samuel 15:3,9.

⁷ Curiously, similar charges against the Jewish people have been used ever since then!

⁸ Matthew 2:8-18.

⁹ Orchestrated violent riots against the Jews.

Some people reject the idea of a divine Messiah, either because they do not believe in Yeshua (Jesus), or because they do not believe in the inspiration and authority of the New Testament. They say it is not enough that the New Testament declares the deity of Messiah; if the idea of a divine Messiah is to be accepted, it must also be declared, or at least hinted at, in Jewish writings.

All the books of the New Testament, with the possible exception of Luke and Acts, were written by Jewish writers. Therefore the deity of Messiah is clearly declared in Jewish writings. Nonetheless, for those who do not recognize the inspiration and authority of the New Testament Jewish Scriptures, let's look at some other Jewish writings that declare the divine nature of the Messiah.

Those who argue against the deity of Yeshua often quote Numbers 23:19, "God is not a man." In their minds, this five-word statement (three words in Hebrew) settles the matter once and for all. If God is not a man, then the man Yeshua could not have been God in the flesh.

That reasoning sounds simple enough. However, it's not just simple, it's simplistic and flawed. Why? First, because it ignores the context of the statement, and secondly because it is not really a statement at all. It is only part of a statement. The complete statement says, "God is not a man, that He should lie: neither the son of man, that He should repent. Hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?"

Balaam's statement was spoken to explain to Balak the reason he could not curse Israel. God, unlike sinful man, always keeps His word. If we wanted to paraphrase Balaam, we could say that God is not undependable, like men so often are. Balaam's statement says nothing that rules out the possibility of God taking on a body of human flesh at a later date in history.

A divine Messiah can be inferred from several Messianic prophecies in the Tanach (Old Testament). Micah 5:2 (5:1 in Jewish Bibles) speaks of Israel's Bethlehem-born ruler "whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting [*miy mei olam*, 'from days of eternity']". The pre-existence of Messiah is also spoken of in the Talmud, "before the creation of the world."¹

In Isaiah 9:6 (9:5 in Jewish Bibles) the Messiah's name is called "Wonderful, Counsel-

lor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." A child who is given these names is obviously not an ordinary child.

No ordinary child would be called "the mighty God."

Targum Jonathan, one of the Aramaic paraphrases of the Hebrew Bible, translates Isaiah's prophecy this way:

*"For unto us a son is born, unto us a son is given: and he shall receive the Law upon him to keep it; and his name is called from of old, Wonderful, Counsellor, Eloha [God], the Mighty, Abiding to Eternity, the Messiah, because peace shall be multiplied on us in his days."*²

Before Yeshua, Jews had no problem believing in a future Messiah with divine attributes in this prophecy. Modern-day Jews want to avoid and evade this obvious reference to Yeshua's deity. The Jewish Publication Society's 1917 English translation leaves this compound name of Messiah un-translated, and simply transliterates it: "And his name is called *Pele-joez-el-gibbor-Abi-ad-sar-shalom*." Unless the English reader knows Hebrew, he will not see that this Child has divine attributes and is called "the mighty God."

Jeremiah 23:6 gives a shorter divine name to the Messiah: "and this is the name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS [*Yahweh tsidkenu*]." Curiously, the Talmud likewise assigns this divine name to the Messiah: "What is the name of the King Messiah? R. Abba, son of Kahana, said, 'Jehovah,' for it is written, This is his name whereby he shall be called, 'THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.'"³

Divine attributes of the Messiah are also declared in the rabbis' comments on Malachi 3:1, which says, "Behold, I will send My messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith Yahweh of hosts." Commenting on this prophecy, Kimchi said, "'The Lord' is the King Messiah; he is also the Angel of the Covenant."⁴ Aben Ezra said, "The Lord' is both the Divine Majesty and the Angel of the Covenant, for the sentence is doubled."⁵

The rabbis' reference to this special "Angel" brings up that which is perhaps the most compelling and convincing argument for the deity of Messiah. Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures

The Deity of Messiah in the Tanach and Other Jewish Writings

Dr. Daniel Botkin

there are several passages where "the Angel of Yahweh" appears to various individuals – to Hagar, to Abraham, to Jacob, to Moses, to Gideon, to Samson's parents. The Angel of Yahweh is visible and in human form. He walks and talks. He even eats and drinks. He speaks as Yahweh, in the first person ("I"), and appears to be indistinguishable from Yahweh. Jewish scholar Nahum Sarna says, "From several texts it is clear that the demarcation between God and his angel is often blurred."⁶

In the Bible Yahweh says to Moses, "Thou canst not see My face: for there shall no man see Me and live" (Ex. 33:20). The New Testament likewise affirms this: "No man hath seen God at any time" (John 1:18). Yet the Bible plainly states that Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy elders of Israel "saw the God of Israel... they saw God, and did eat and drink" (Ex. 24:9-11).

How do we reconcile what appears to be a glaring contradiction? We have to understand it this way: No man can see God in His full, unveiled glory, for He is the God who dwells "in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see" (1 Tim. 6:16). Yet God can be seen in a veiled human form. He was seen by men when He took on a visible, tangible human form as the Angel of Yahweh in the Old Testament, and He was seen by men when He took on a visible, tangible human form as Yeshua of Nazareth in the New Testament. This is the reason that people who saw the Angel of Yahweh saw God, and it is the reason Yeshua could say, "he that hath seen Me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9).

Theologians call the Old Testament appearances of the Angel of the Lord "Theophanies" or "Christophanies" – pre-incarnate appearances of the Messiah. Christophanies are defined by Dr. James A. Borland as "those unsought, intermittent and temporary, visible and audible manifestations of God the Son in human form, by which God communicated something to certain conscious human beings on earth prior to the birth of Jesus Christ."⁷ Dr. Borland views Christophanies as "part of God's advance announcement of the coming of the Messiah."⁸

These Christophanies not only announced the coming of the Messiah, they also announced the deity of the Messiah by identifying the Angel of Yahweh as Yahweh in a human form. If Yahweh intermittently and temporarily manifested Himself in human form in

the Old Testament, why is it difficult to believe that He visibly and audibly manifested Himself as a human in the person of Yeshua in the New Testament?

If one looks at what the pre-Christian Aramaic Targums say about the *Memra* (Aramaic, the Word of the Lord), and at what the

Jewish writer Philo said about the *Logos* (Greek, the Word), and at what the rabbis said about the angel they call *Metatron*, it's obvious that the idea of a supernatural Messiah with divine attributes was not foreign to Judaism before the Christian era. After the establishment of Christianity, later Jewish commentators are usually silent or evasive about those Scriptures which speak of people seeing God or the Angel of Yahweh.

The reason for the rabbis' evasive tactics is obvious; these manifestations of God look too much like pre-incarnate visitations of Yeshua. Indeed, many of the pre-Christian Jewish comments about the *Memra*, the *Logos*, and *Metatron* are remarkably similar to New Testament teachings about the role of Yeshua. Such comments are far too numerous to list them all, but here are just a few examples:

According to the Aramaic *Targums*, the *Memra* (Word of the Lord) created man; man was created in the image of the *Memra*; Jacob said, "the *Memra* of the Lord will be my God"; Abraham was justified through the *Memra* of the Lord; the *Memra* of the Lord gave Israel the Law; Moses prayed to the *Memra* of the Lord.⁹

According to the Jewish writer Philo (born c. 20 B.C.), the *Logos* (the Word) was the instrument through whom God created all things; the *Logos* is the image of God; the *Logos* announces and interprets the will and mind of God to man; the *Logos* acts as a mediator; the *Logos* is the real High Priest, Melchizedek, who by his purity takes away man's sins and who by his intercession obtains God's mercy for man; the *Logos* is the medium of divine revelation to the soul; the *Logos* is the true Manna; the *Logos* brings righteousness and peace to the soul, but does not come into any soul that is dead in sin.¹⁰

In the Talmud, *Metatron* is identified as the Angel who went before the Israelites in the wilderness in Exodus 33:20, the Angel whose voice was to be obeyed, the Angel who had authority to pardon transgressions. Because Yahweh's name is "in him," the Talmud refers to *Metatron* as the Angel "whose name is the same as his Master's."¹¹

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Because *Metatron* seems to be divine, the Talmud asks the question "Are there then *two Powers*?"¹² Some say that Christians who believe in Yeshua's deity believe in two Gods, two Yahwehs. No more so than Jews do. Consider the following, taken from the teachings of Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, who was "the unchallenged leader of enlightened Orthodoxy" of the 20th century. Commenting on Exodus 34:6, Rabbi Soloveitchik taught:

"*The Lord, the Lord* [why does it say 'the Lord' twice?] - I am He who is there before man sins and I am He who is there after man sins and repent... 'Your iniquities have separated between you and your God' (Isaiah 59:2). The end result of sinning is the driving out, as it were, of the Holy Presence. But who, then, will take care of the sinner after the Holy One removes Himself and the sinner is left alone? Who will help him to cut himself off from his sins and escape from their contamination? Who will lead him back home to his heavenly Father? Who will extend a helping hand to rescue him from the quicksand into which he has sunk? 'Thou extendest a hand to sinners and Thy right arm stretches forth to receive the penitent.' ... Who is it that extends a hand to the sinner and stretches forth his right arm to receive penitents?... 'The Lord, the Lord': two times the Ineffable Name is mentioned - the first removes Himself from the sinner, abandons him, but the second, the Lord who is there after man sins, remains... The second Holy Name is ready to listen even after the first has shut the gates of 'Glory' through which man passes to stand before his Maker."¹³

The above discourse from a prominent Orthodox Jewish source sounds very much like a Christian discourse on the role of Yeshua. Ye-

shua is the arm of Yahweh stretched forth to receive penitents. He is "the second Holy Name" who rescues us. Those who say that this is impossible are guilty of the same error committed by the generation in the wilderness, that unbelieving generation who "limited the Holy One of Israel" (Ps. 78:41). Let's not limit the Holy One of Israel by telling Him that He cannot appear in a human body in the person of Yeshua of Nazareth.

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David Bohlin Presents
**REVEREND
 TWISTRUTH
 & HIS DISCIPLES**
 "PRE-MORTEM AUTO-EULOGIZING"



YEARS AGO, Mercedes-Benz had a TV commercial showing one of their cars being smashed into a concrete wall during a safety test. The Mercedes design for crash-worthiness has been copied by nearly every other carmaker in the world, even though M-B has an exclusive copyright. Someone asked a Mercedes engineer why their company did not enforce their patent on their car's energy-absorbing car body. The engineer replied, "Because in life, some things are too important **not** to share."

Great statement! Some things are too important **not** to share. We believe that the message of Yeshua the Messiah (or "Jesus Christ," if you prefer) is too important to keep to ourselves. In fact, we have even been commanded to share the message of salvation. After the Resurrection, Yeshua said, "Go therefore, and **make disciples of all nations**, immersing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you**: and, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world. Amen (Matt. 28:19)."

If you see someone in a burning building, and you are able to lead them to safety, but don't, then you are responsible for whatever happens to that person. Yeshua will hold us responsible if we choose to be silent, even though we have the message of salvation. It is **not** our duty to "get people saved." It is our duty to share the Word. What people do with it afterwards is between them and the Almighty.

I would like to introduce you to a very unlikely evangelist. First of all, this evangelist was a **woman**. That might not seem like such a big deal today, since there are many women who share the Good News, teach, and even preach! But this woman lived in a very male-dominated society in the Middle East almost 2,000 years ago. It would be similar to the rights of women in today's Islamic societies.

As an example, former Supreme Court justice William O. Douglas described visiting an Arab country. One evening, he was speaking with two Muslim women. Suddenly, the husband of one of the women arrived on the scene cursing. "His face was livid," said Douglas. "He lunged at his wife with a closed fist, and knocked her to the ground." Later, the husband came to apologize to Douglas, but

not for his own conduct. He came to apologize for his wife's disgraceful conduct! What had she done? She had spoken to Douglas.¹

The Unlikely Evangelist

Rav Richard
'Aharon'
Chaimberlin

Such was life also in the Middle East in Biblical times. Men often did not talk to strange women, and especially not to a Samaritan woman!² You can read about her in Yochanan (Johān) chapter 4. Yeshua

asked her for a drink. She was probably as surprised as anybody that Yeshua would speak to her. Not only was she a woman, but she was a **Samaritan woman**! She said, "How is it that you, being a **Jew**, ask me for a drink, since I am a **woman of Samaria** (for Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans)."

Not only was she a Samaritan woman; she was also a woman of bad reputation. Women normally went to get water in the cool of the morning, or in the cool of the evening, as in Genesis 24:11. We read in John 4:6 that she was going to the well at "the sixth hour," equivalent to noontime, the heat of the day. It was woman's work to carry water, and it was hard, heavy work. Even today in primitive societies, the job of carrying water seems to fall upon women! I suspect that a common consideration in searching for a wife would be

¹ Dr. William Barker, *Tarbell's Teacher's Guide*, David C. Cook Publishing Co., 1988.

² The Samaritans were the result of the Assyrian Captivity, in which the northern tribes of Israel were taken into Assyria. The Assyrians brought in several other nations to populate northern Israel. However, the new inhabitants were being attacked by wild beast, having a terrible time! It was determined that the problems were the result of the people not working the God of the Land. Therefore, the Assyrians brought *cohenim* ("priests") and Levites into Israel to teach them about the God of Israel. The result, in 2 Kings 17:33, was this: "They feared YHWH, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence." In other words, they had a mixture religion, in which Adonai was worshipped, along with their own pagan deities. There was also a certain amount of intermarriage taking place in later generations. You can still see Samaritans today in Israel, especially around Shechem (Nablus), an area controlled by the Palestinian Authority. They have their own version of the Torah in their own script. They also have their own "holy mountain" where they still carry out sacrifices of the Pass-over lambs.

someone strong enough to carry water in the big jugs balanced on the head. And if she can push or pull a plow, so much the better! As I said, she was going to the well at noontime, the heat of the day, and it gets very hot in Israel at noontime. The respectable women would come early in the morning or near sunset to bring up water from the well.

Going to the well was a time for the women to socialize with each other. Also, think of the romances that started by the water wells! Jacob met Rebecca by the well. Moses also met his wife at the well. This was a place of socializing. However, this woman was the village outcast. She came to the well at the heat of the day because "respectable" women didn't want to be seen with her.

Today, it seems that "anything goes." It is, "You do your thing; I'll do mine." It wasn't always like that. In the late 1950s, Ed Sullivan invited the actress Ingrid Bergman to be on his variety TV show. However, she had left her husband, and was living with an Italian film producer, with whom she had mothered a child. The public clamor against such an appearance rose to such a level that Ed Sullivan was forced to cancel the appearance of Ingrid Bergman. Can you imagine such a thing happening today, in light of what is allowed on television? Not likely.

In Yeshua's day, there were still laws being enforced against adultery, in which both the man and woman could be stoned to death for the sin of adultery, per Leviticus 20:10. The codes of sexual morality were very strict. Yet here was a woman whom Yeshua supernaturally ascertained had been married five times, and she was not married to the man with whom she was currently living. As a result, she said, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet."

Given the number of husbands she had, she probably was a woman who couldn't live without a man. *Women who love too much*, one author has called them. Such women will live with abusive men rather than live alone. Unfortunately, such women will move from one bad relationship to another. Some women might call it "love," but it is really pathological. This Samaritan woman probably floundered from one bad relationship to another. Still, she was searching for true love, a man who would love and respect her, and that, in spite of her sin and weaknesses, she was still a person of real worth.

She told Yeshua, "Our fathers worshipped in this mountain (Mt. Gerezim), but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Yeshua replied, "Woman,

believe me, the hour comes when neither in this mountain, nor at Jerusalem, shall you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know. We know what we worship, for **salvation is of the Jews.**" Yeshua's very name means **salvation**. It is from the Jews that salvation went forth to the entire world. The Jewish nation gave the world Moses and the Prophets. Jews gave the world the Messiah, as well as the Scriptures prophesying about the Messiah. It is to the Jews living in Israel that Yeshua will return to set up his Messianic Kingdom, reigning throughout the world! May it happen soon, even in our lifetimes! There are more prophecies concerning his second coming than to his first coming. All of the prophecies concerning his first coming were fulfilled with the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Yeshua. We can be confident that the prophecies regarding Yeshua's second coming will also be fulfilled.

The woman met Yeshua, and her life was changed. She had brought a water jar to the well, but in her encounter with Yeshua, she discovered something far more important; she had been given the water of life. She was the first person to recognize Yeshua as the Messiah, in John 4:29. This was a couple of years before Shimon Kefa ("Peter") recognized Yeshua as the Messiah in Matthew 16:16.

She would have liked to have stayed in Yeshua's presence, but Yeshua's *talmidim* (disciples) had returned. They marveled that Yeshua was speaking with this woman. "The woman then left her water pot, and went her way into the city, and said to the men, 'Come, see a man, who told me all things that ever I did: Is not this the Messiah?' Then they went out of the city, and came to Him." It's interesting that she left the water pot. I suspect she did it on purpose. "Oops, I forgot my water pot!" She then led the Samaritan men back to see Yeshua. This unnamed Samaritan of poor reputation became one of the very first evangelists in the Newer Testament!

We read in John 4:39-41: "And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on Him, for the saying of the woman, who testified, 'He told me all that ever I did.' So when the Samaritans came to Him, they besought Him that He would tarry with them, and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his own word." If God could use this Samaritan woman to share the Gospel, is it possible that He can use you and me? Isn't it time you told somebody? After all, there are some things that are too important **not** to share!

Let's Talk Mental Health: Why the Conversation Can't Wait

by Rachel Friedlander, reprinted from *Issues*,
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JewsforJesus.org

Some of the most widely relatable experiences are those least talked about. Near the top of that list: mental health issues. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), "Neuropsychiatric disorders are the leading cause of disability in the U.S."¹ Although there are many disorders and illnesses that plague the human mind, there are a few that are wildly rampant today. Depression alone affects more than 264 million people worldwide²—even 1.9 million children, ages 3–17, have been diagnosed. In the United States, anxiety is the most common mental illness, affecting 40 million adults annually (roughly 18% of the population).³ What's more, such issues can affect the Jewish community at disproportionate rates; a 1997 study reported that Jewish males experienced a higher rate of major depression than *all non-Jews combined*.⁴

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, these issues have only intensified. "Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder increased considerably in the United States," the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports, recommending that "the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic should increase intervention and prevention efforts to address associated mental health conditions." **In other words, we can no longer afford to be bad at discussing mental health.**⁵

In recent years, the stigma surrounding mental health has been shifting as discussion on the topic has become increasingly normalized. Yet conversations about mental health issues are still not nearly as prevalent as the experience of these issues themselves. Serious disorders and illnesses have been downplayed, mislabeled, and mistreated, both by those suffering from them and those who are not. In some religious or traditional communities, such issues are disregarded or even shamed when they are conflated with spiritual or moral struggles. In reality, mental



Rachel
Friedlander

health issues aren't a strange new phenomenon, a sign of weakness, or a sin; they've been plaguing humanity throughout our existence, and the Tanakh is filled with examples.

Mental Health Issues in the Hebrew Scriptures

Many major players in the Hebrew Scriptures likely struggled with common mental health issues. Though we can't definitively diagnose our ancestors, we *can* identify some key symptoms recognized by many modern psychologists as being consistent with depression, anxiety, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), eating disorders, and expression of suicidal thoughts. Here are just a few examples from Scripture:

◆ **Elijah:** The prophet called down fire from heaven, performed amazing works of God, and defeated the prophets of Baal. Immediately after this miraculous victory, "he sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. 'I have had enough, Lord,' he said. 'Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors who have already died'" (1 Kings 19:4). Outwardly, this may seem like an illogical order of events, but the disconnect between the actual events and Elijah's reaction indicate an internal struggle. Though God worked through the prophet to do wondrous things, Elijah still clearly wrestled with feelings of hopelessness and inadequacy, **even to the point of idealizing death.**

◆ **Job:** After losing his children, his livestock, and being struck with painful sores, Job is thrown into grief and possibly also depression. But there may have been additional symptoms indicative of other issues: "When I think my bed will comfort me and my couch will ease my complaint, even then you frighten me with dreams and terrify me with visions, so that I prefer strangling and death, rather than this body of mine. I despise my life; I would not live forever. Let me alone; my days have no meaning" (Job 7:13-16). After the sudden trauma of loss, Job says he is tormented by visions and dreams. **These could easily have been symptomatic of PTSD**, something that is common in individuals who have had experiences like Job.

♦ **Hannah:** The mother of Samuel struggled with infertility for years prior to his birth. She undoubtedly felt isolation and shame, surrounded by social pressures, thriving families, and a well-meaning husband who didn't understand her pain. 1 Samuel tells us, "Hannah would be reduced to tears and would not even eat . . . [she] was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the Lord" (1 Samuel 1:7, 10). **This cyclical pain persisted for years, affecting her mood, feelings of self-worth, and possibly even causing an eating disorder.**

♦ **David:** He was a highly favored king, "a man after God's own heart," and yet he, too, likely suffered from depression, feeling anxious and fearful, betrayed, and hopeless. In the 40th Psalm, he lamented, "My heart fails within me," and again in the 43rd Psalm, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?" Throughout the Psalms, David expresses *a lot* of ongoing internal turmoil and anger—and he wasn't afraid to be honest with God or with himself about it.

These were all people of God. Why then were they struggling with depression, anxiety, and even idealizing death? Were these feelings wrong?

Are mental health issues a sin?

By its very nature, depression can make us feel isolated, distant from God and from the people around us. (David clearly felt this way, too: "Why do you hide your face from me?" [Psalm 88:14].) The ideas that we are worthless, isolated, or abandoned by God are blatant lies. Falsehoods like these form the illusory foundation on which many mental health issues are built. The truth is that we have inherent and unique value as God's creation, with every hair on our head and every day of our lives known and accounted for. We know for a fact that God has never and will never abandon us (Deuteronomy 31:6).

Though the ideas planted in our minds by conditions like depression, anxiety, or PTSD are lies, the felt experiences *caused* by these disorders are a true reality. Emotions themselves aren't good or bad—they're simply facts, intrinsic to our identity as humans. What we choose to *do* as a result of our emotions can cause us to thrive or wither, be helpful or harmful. Anger isn't a sin; choosing to hate someone as a result of that anger, however, is.

Mental illnesses aren't sins; they're disorders. They are caused by any number or combination of factors, ranging everywhere from trauma and physical illnesses to genetics and hormonal imbalances. Almost all contributing causes are outside of one's control and don't indicate weakness, lack of faith, or grave misstep. God doesn't judge us for our serotonin levels any more than He judges us for our blood type, and neither should we. Not only did some of the greatest biblical figures struggle through periods of intense mental anguish—but Yeshua (Jesus) himself did, too.

Did Jesus experience depression?

Yeshua, the Son of God, lived a perfect, devout, Torah-following life and had an intimate connection with God. But he wasn't popular—he was betrayed (by a close friend, no less), falsely accused, and publicly disowned (another close friend). When he willingly sacrificed himself, dying like a criminal in order to become our atonement, he took on all of the sins of humanity. He became the very *embodiment* of the sin of man, and God couldn't even look at him. It was then that Yeshua was utterly separated from God. He cried out in Aramaic, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" which means 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?' (Matthew 27:46).

He was quoting these words from David himself. Yeshua lived the lies often told to us by depression—that we are alone, abandoned by God. Except for him, this wasn't a lie; **God had actually left him.** It was the worst death ever suffered, because Yeshua is the only person who has experienced a true and complete abandonment from God.

Because of this atonement, our sins don't separate us from God, and neither do mental health disorders. In short: "Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in [Messiah Yeshua] our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

Strengthening Our Emotional Intelligence

Though rampant in both historical and modern society, we're still woefully ill-equipped to discuss and manage mental health issues. One in four people in the world are affected by mental or neurological disorders at some point in their lives, **but nearly two-thirds never seek help**

from a health professional.⁵ How can we change the culture of silence and stigma?

Moving towards holistic health takes practical action, both by those suffering and those seeking to support them. Jesus' brother, James, clearly understood that practical problems need to be met with practical solutions, saying, "If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,' and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?" (James 2:15-16). So, what are some tangible ways we can move towards mental wellness, both in ourselves and as we support those around us?

1. **Begin to verbalize.** First, we have to start the conversation. Those suffering shouldn't do so in silence but feel empowered to be honest. At first, it can be awkward and understandably difficult to find the words to express such feelings. **Like learning a new language, verbalizing emotions, internal processes, and physical responses takes practice.** But it's better to stumble over the words than to never speak them; silence only amplifies the voices of the lies that depression and anxiety tell us. By bringing the pain into the light, we expose the lies that thrive in darkness.
2. **Destigmatize mental health issues in our communities.** The American Psychiatric Association (APA) says, "Many Holocaust survivors experience mental health disorders, including PTSD and survivor guilt. Even second and third generation descendants of Holocaust survivors also show a higher prevalence of PTSD and other psychiatric symptoms."² Those who experience anti-Semitism have reported short- and long-term mental health consequences similar to those experienced from other traumatic experiences.³ Simultaneously, the APA reports: "Mental illness carries considerable stigma in some Jewish communities, especially Hasidim."² This example of a double bind isn't limited to the Jewish community, or even to religious communities. Many people perpetuate stigmas around mental illness that stifle dialogue.
3. **Get comfortable being uncomfortable.** In order for healthy conver-

sation to begin, there must be a safe space in which individuals can become vulnerable without the illogical perception that these disorders are somehow signs of weakness, dramatizing, or wrongdoing. We must learn to listen and help *well*, even if it means sitting with some discomfort.

4. **Realize our instincts aren't always helpful.** A tendency many have is to combat perceived negativity with positivity. Many have a valid and understandable fear that we'll lean too heavily into one reality, become blind to the other, and veer down a biased and unbalanced path. Well-intentioned "on the bright side" statements, however, rarely achieve this "balance." In fact, they often bring about the opposite outcome we were going for. Likewise, fixating on the logical order of events from our own perspectives and advising accordingly not only means we're acting without the full breadth of necessary information, but it causes us to lose sight of the point altogether. These are understandable tactics, meant to fix or undo the problem by introducing something that could negate it. However, if our goal is to help those in need, we don't achieve it by denying or negating the undesirable parts of reality. Health isn't seeing, feeling, and vocalizing only positive things. **Health is being able to balance and hold the full truth. This means realizing that positive and negative realities co-exist. They don't have to be at war just because they are in tension.**
5. **Hold the full truth.** It's often only *after* we acknowledge the difficult parts of our realities that we can make room to see the rest of the picture. In the Psalms, David brought all his depressed, anxious, and angry thoughts and urges to God. Afterward, he often ended the chapters in an abrupt and surprisingly positive note. Once he expressed the turmoil he felt, he was able to remind himself of the truth (whether or not he felt it) and go through the (sometimes painful) exercise of praising God, anyway. **Though in tension, both his pain and his praise were true realities.**

This balancing act takes true strength, and we can't always do it on our own. By ac-

knowledging the pain of another, we can help make room for the rest of the truth. Conversations about mental health don't bring about instantaneous resolutions. But by taking these steps to become more emotionally intelligent and expansive individuals, we can equip ourselves with the tools needed to move towards health.

Starting the Conversation

Mental health issues aren't a burden meant to be carried alone. After Elijah collapsed under a tree in despair, God sent an angel to take care of him and equip him for the next steps he had to take. Hannah went straight to God for help, and He used Eli the priest to give her the divine assurance she needed to bring her relief. Whether you begin by talking to God, a friend, your rabbi/pastor/spiritual leader, a therapist, or even just to yourself for now, **we must begin.**

When people came to Yeshua to be healed, he often asked, "What do you want me to do for you?" He didn't assume what the problem was, even though it may have seemed obvious to outsiders (e.g., "Um, Jesus, he's blind. Obviously, heal his blindness!"). Instead, Yeshua asked where they were at, involving those in need in the process of their own healing. Likewise, God invites us into a dialogue about our pain, fears, and needs—because He can handle it. When we acknowledge the fullness of our reality, we position ourselves to see the fullness of God's power.

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אין ביתנו אין אלוהים



MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED

A HOUSE OF PRAYER



Just Do It

New Friendships Between Israel and African Nations

Jim Slinkinson, President

Facts and Logic About the Middle East

PO Box 3460, Berkeley, CA 94703

With the excitement and historic nature of the Abraham Accords signed on the White House lawn, the growing intimacy between African nations and the State of Israel has gone largely unnoticed. But connections to African neighbors can play a huge role in helping reduce the abuse heaped on Israel in international forums, forging peace in the region and elevating Israel's deserved status as a world leader.

Both Chad and Malawi have stated they are ready to open diplomatic missions in Jerusalem. Formal relations with Sudan look to be only a matter of time, especially after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with chief of Sudan's Sovereignty Council, Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, earlier in the year.

This is significant because Africa was always considered very much a part of the bloc of nations that would automatically vote against Israel in international institutions and were reticent to be seen as growing too close to the Jewish state. This was largely a result of threats over oil and trade, and the power of the bloc of 57 Islamic nations and the bloc of 22 Arab nations that dominate the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) of developing countries at the United Nations. The coalition gave Islamic nations an "automatic majority" in the NAM, which itself has the majority of member states at the UN and other international institutions.

Nevertheless, it wasn't always like that. Israel and African nations held good relations during the 1950s and 1960s based on a shared fate—both threw off colonialism to reestablish independence. Israel and sub-Saharan Africa had similar challenges with increasing desertification and a lack of water resources. The young State of Israel was among the first countries to extend substantial assistance to the newly independent countries and their liberated peoples.

Israel's aid was provided in fields from agriculture, medicine and defense to infrastructure projects, such as the construction of airports, the establishment of shipping companies, and educational and professional training institutions.

This ended in 1973 when the Organization of African Unity (OAU) begrudgingly bowed to Arab pressure during the oil crisis of 1973. For the next few decades, African nations were manipulated to become a major source of antagonism toward Israel in multiple international institutions, like the United Nations, where the Non-

Aligned Movement of developing countries could guarantee passage of any anti-Israel resolution.

Since that time, the most notable commodities Arabs have exported to sub-Saharan Africa have been terrorism, Jihad and Islamism. Terrorist groups like Boko Haram, Al Shabaab and other offshoots of Al Qaeda and ISIS have cost thousands of African lives. These groups remain a constant threat to sovereign nations in East, West and Southern Africa.

However, Israeli intelligence, experience and knowledge have played pivotal roles in ensuring greater security for African nations, and have thwarted many potentially deadly attacks.

In addition, the Israeli government, through its international aid and development agency, MASHAV, has been helping African governments and people to find solutions for the challenges of water scarcity and food security through advances in AgriTech (agricultural technology), FoodTech (food technology) and WaterTech (water technology). Israeli experts are at the forefront of providing electricity to rural villages through solar power, desalination to arid countries and ensuring food grown locally has a longer lasting shelf-life.

These blossoming ties have improved diplomatic relations, with African representatives expanding their missions in Israel, attending numerous Israeli tech events and starting to side with Israel in the international arena. In recent years, numerous African nations have voted with Israel or at least abstained on resolutions against the Jewish state that they would previously have supported instantly. During the annual Israel-hate fest held every year—"International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People"—many African nations changed their votes in favor to an abstention or against, including Cameroon, Nigeria and Rwanda.

As increasing numbers of Africans are beginning to understand—based on shared roots, mutual interests and growth of Evangelical Christianity—the State of Israel is not just an ally, but a beloved nation. In Kenya, presidential candidates fight over each other about who is more pro-Israel, and one visits the Kotel on the eve of elections. In Zimbabwe, one of the presidential candidates is pictured wearing a Jewish prayer shawl and makes opening of an embassy a core election promise. Many African leaders talk of the fraternal bonds between the Jewish and African peoples.

In recent years, standing against Palestinian diplomatic bullying tactics, African nations have begun to realize that Israel is a committed and reliable ally in the battle against the effects of climate change and terrorism, and can help these countries progress and develop...



SEPTEMBER 2022

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I am grateful for the ads in many of the editions of **Petah Tikvah** that have introduced me to so many brethren. I am getting processed to get my license for ministry which will enable me to reach more people with the Good News of Salvation, and also to teach Christians about the Hebraic roots of faith and to receive blessings from the God of Israel, who never rejected His Chosen People.

Your calendar is one of the most important materials that helps me to celebrate YHVH's moadim and teach others to do so.

Daniel Belay Mekonnen, **ETHIOPIA**

Editor's Note: If you have been following the news, you would find that Ethiopia is once again in the throes of another civil war as well as a devastating famine. The paragraphs down below will show you ways you can be a blessing to the Beta Israelis (Ethiopian Jews) who remain in Ethiopia. If you are unable to help financially, you can pray for them.

Many artisans live among the Beta Israel in Ethiopia. They produce beautiful Judaica, including tallitot, kippot, tzitzit, scarves, and wall hangings. We invite our readers to purchase these items. By doing so, you are doing a great mitzvah ("good deed") by enabling these people to earn a livelihood, and you can obtain beautiful items you can be proud of. You can see what is offered by going to this website: www.ethiopiajudaica.org No internet access? You can also request a catalog and order products by writing to:

Teresa McKessey, Estranged People
107 E Laila Dr, W Melbourne FL 32904

Teresa works closely with Daniel Belay in Ethiopia. Contributions are also accepted at the above address for such things as providing sources for clean water, education, and help for the widow and orphan.

Dear Richard ~

I was reading **Petah Tikvah** Vol. 39, No. 2 about false prophets. I was raised as a Seventh Day Adventist. The SDA believes that Ellen G. White is a prophet. They tend to back

all of their beliefs on her. I decided to do some research. After about 4 months, I came to the conclusion that she is not even close to being a prophet of God. Her plagiarism was as high as 90%. So I

dropped my membership in the Seventh Day Adventist Church. I love your magazine. I have about 25 back issues.
Wayne Marvin, MI

Our Comments:

We agree with Marvin that Ellen G. White was a false prophet. This is unfortunate, because she also taught about the true Sabbath. She gave a terrible testimony of what a true Sabbath-keeper should be like because of her false prophecies, lies, plagiarisms, etc. She probably hurt the testimony of Sabbath-keepers more than helped. Among her many false prophecies:

♦ She endorsed William Miller's prophecy of that Jesus would return in 1843-1844.
♦ She also endorsed Captain Bates time-setting of the return of Jesus in 1851.

She joins the ranks of many others who attempted date-setting and failed miserably.

Shalom Rav Rick & Miriam ~

I am a new subscriber and a freshly minted Messianic Jew at Texarkana Prison. My cellmate got me interested in the Messianic faith. It made sense to me in that Jesus and his followers were Jews and followed the traditions and laws of Judaism. My father was Jewish. He married my Texas farm girl mother who he met on a blind date during his flight training as a fighter pilot in Sherman, TX during World War II. She raised me as a Methodist. All my family is gone, including my wife of 40 years. I am now 73 years old.

I am reading my first issue of **Petah Tikvah**, which is my own copy. I don't have to borrow it from Jason. I am grateful for your efforts and support of incarcerated Messianic believers. Our numbers are growing.

The article "Early Earth Enigmas" by Max Tuason is very interesting and engaging. His explanations are very persuasive as he describes the very unlikely creation of Earth by chance. It fits perfectly with the genius of Yahweh to create a planet in His universe for His people.

Allen Pick, Texarkana TX



Greetings from Ethiopia ~

May the God of Israel bless all the work of your hands for your support that helps me to grow in the Messianic faith!!

I am grateful for the ads in many of the editions of **Petah Tikvah** that have introduced me to so many brethren. I am getting processed to get my license for ministry which will enable me to reach more people with the Good News of Salvation, and also to teach Christians about the Hebraic roots of faith and to receive blessings from the God of Israel, who never rejected His Chosen People.

Your calendar is one of the most important materials that helps me to celebrate YHVH's moadim and teach others to do so.

Daniel Belay Mekonnen, **ETHIOPIA**

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Allen Pick, Texarkana TX



Messianic Jewish Commentary on the Book of Matthew

We now have a new commentary available to you. It is a very comprehensive 160 page commentary on the Book of Mattityahu (Matthew). It is in the same format you see in **Petah Tikvah** Magazine, so it is very densely packed with information. Unlike most Matthew commentaries, it is not written from a Christian perspective. Instead, this book restores the original Hebraic and Jewish context as this book would have been understood by Matthew's Jewish readers in the First Century C.E.

Scattered within its pages are some Reverend Twistruth cartoons by Daniel Botkin, as well as other good Biblical artwork. It is beautifully printed and bound. The beautiful cover art (front and back) has been done for us by Bryan Picken. He has also done the cover art for **Petah Tikvah** Magazine for the past decade from his prison cell in Michigan. He is being released from prison in 2019. Please keep him in prayer! The cost of this commentary is **\$12**, no extra cost for shipping and handling. (**The cost for inmates** is 10 forever postage stamps, or \$5 M.O.) This will be a very worthwhile addition to your biblical library, and will provide you with many hours of enjoyable study into the Scriptures. Request this book when you write your check, made out to:

Petah Tikvah, 165 Doncaster Rd, Rochester NY 14623-1348.



Do NOT order this book from Petah Tikvah.

This book: ***Not Under the Law: Paul and the Truth*** shows in a concise, common-sense manner what Paul meant (and could not have meant) by the phrase, "not under the law." You will want to share it with all of your Christian friends and family.

This little book has a direct but gracious tone, and is packed with Scripture. It quickly and thoroughly covers all the essential points of contention: Paul's intent, Jesus' view of the law, the "end" of the law, the schoolmaster, consistency of interpretation, unclean meats, the decision in Acts 15, and many other relevant questions.

Normally \$8 plus \$4 shipping, mention Petah Tikvah and get two books for the price of one. Bulk orders in lots of 10 are \$60 plus \$4 shipping. **Prison inmates may request a free copy.**

www.RockFoundationRanch.com

Order online or by check payable to:

Jodi Smith, 30504 CSAH 25,

Grove City, MN 56243

(Recommended to our readers! RAC)

Dear Rav Richard & Ms Miriam ~

Thank you both for the service you provide to prisoners. I have learned so much from your publication, and I value that learning. I am enclosing a book of stamps as a form of ma'aser (tithe). May HaShem bless you both.

Kord Tucker, Bowling Green FL

Editor's Note: Kord's first and last names come from the makes of two autos that were way ahead of their time in the 1920s to 1940s: The Cord and the Tucker! **RAC**

Dear Followers of Like Faith ~

I received your "Jewish Basics" booklet and the SKF Prison Resource List. Thank you for these blessings! The other Messianics at the Shabbat service say they will also order the booklet.

I know that the new **Petah Tikvah** magazine is on its way to me. This prison has a habit of delaying my Jewish publications. They consider Hebrew writings to be witchcraft. They try to make excuses for not allowing our Shabbat services. Security does what it wants.

Sharon Sprout, Ocala FL

Dear Rav Chaimberlin ~

As an incarcerated person with no access to any Messianic Jewish services, **Petah Tikvah** has been a great blessing. Enclosed is a donation (stamps) to renew my subscription.

Scott Wagner, Marion OH

Shalom, shalom, Rav ~

I am seeking to purchase tsitsit (ritual fringes) or a tallit (prayer shawl with tsitsit), as well as a kippa (Jewish head covering).

Marcus Ellington, Lancaster CA

Editor's Note: A surprisingly good source for Judaica at very reasonable costs is:

ChristianBook.com, PO Box 7000
Peabody MA 01961-7000

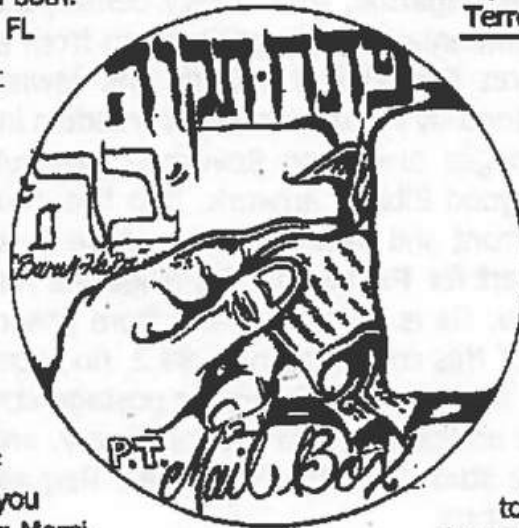
We recommend asking for a catalog containing Judaica. Jewish Bibles are also available. Regarding the kippa: Any head covering can be used as a substitute head covering, even a baseball cap, for Jewish religious prayer. However, this is a rabbinic requirement, not Biblically mandated.

Shalom Rav ~

Thank you so much for putting me on the mail list. I look forward to growing deeper in Messiah with the teachings from **Petah Tikvah** and Daniel Botkin's **Gates of Eden**. David Boyer

with **Tents of Jacob** (PO Box 7572, Warwick RI 02886) put me in touch with you guys. I came from a Christian background, but my studies have led me to "the Way" of Yeshua and my Jewish roots. I am grateful to participate in the Mo'edim ("set time" holidays of Lev. 23).

Terrell Robinson, Chipley FL



A 30-year-old man on house arrest in Italy discovered that living at home with his wife was so miserable that he begged police to put him in prison. The man, living near Rome, walked into the police station and confessed to intentionally breaking the house arrest for drug charges. He told the police captain, "My domestic life has become hell. I

can't do it anymore. Jail is better." Police obligingly sent the man - who has several more years left on his sentence - to prison.

Source: **The Week**, 11/12/21

Shalom Rick & Miriam ~

Tithes are enclosed for you to use as needed for your ministry. I cannot thank you enough for all you do to reach and inspire us prisoners.

April Rose Wilkins, McCloud OK

Dearest Rick & Miriam ~

I am enclosing a donation of stamps so I can once again receive **Petah Tikvah**. It is the only teaching tool I receive here in our Messianic group. I love your insights, and how you keep us up on current events. I also enjoy Daniel Botin's articles and cartoons. Caleb Slone, Westbury KY

Shalom ~

Please add me to your mail list. I am a new member of the Messianic community, and am learning the Hebrew roots of the faith. There is so much that I don't know, and am separated from those that have more knowledge of Yeshua. I need to receive all that I can to keep me on the straight and narrow of the Truth.

Brenda Denise Watson, Ocala FL

Shalom Rav Richard & Lady Miriam ~

I am writing to notify you of an address change. It hurts that I had to separate from our dear friend and brother, James "Ya'akov" Cates. As I was leaving, I got to tell him, Bye, and to give him a big hug through the bars. Y'all's PT magazine is a blessing to the new believers and scholars alike. Jesse Villarreal, Overton TX

Dearest Richard & Miriam ~

Once again, I was able to scrape up some stamps to receive a subscription and calendar. I sure do miss them when I don't have them. Sometimes **Petah Tikvah** is the only teaching tool we have in our Messianic group. We truly love the insights you share, and how you keep us up on current events.

I also enjoy Rav Botkin's material that you share with us. Another biggie for me was the **tsitsit** (ritual fringe) issue. I was never opposed to wearing them. I just didn't feel the need or desire. The story, "Taking Hold of the Fringe of Yeshua," was really enlightening. I'm considering wearing them. Please pray for me as I draw closer to our Messiah. Keith Noll, Lowell FL

GOOD NEWS / BAD NEWS

The Bad News is that your condition is terminal. **You are going to die.** You are infected with Sin, a disease that infects and kills every single person who lives on this planet. And after you die, you will stand before your Maker and give an account of what you did or did not do about your sinful condition. If you do nothing, and just let Sin take its course in your life, you will suffer eternal judgment in a place the Bible calls the lake of fire.

The Good News is that God has provided a Remedy for Sin. This Remedy delivers people from the punishment that they deserve for Sin, so they do not need to go into everlasting fire. This Remedy also delivers people from the power of Sin, so they can quit living a sinful life and start living a holy life. Ultimately, God will deliver His people from the very presence of Sin when His Son returns to earth.

God's Remedy is embodied in His Son, whose Hebrew name is Yeshua. Most English speakers know Him as Jesus Christ. He is the only person who was born of a woman without being infected with Sin. Through His sacrifice on the Cross, your sins can be forgiven and the power of your sinful desires can be broken. When you turn away from your sins and trust in Yeshua, God forgives you and accepts you as His child. Then instead of suffering the curse of everlasting fire, you will have eternal life.

Source for the above: www.gatesofeden.online

Shalom ~

I reviewed the materials you sent to Sharon Sprout, a member of our group. I feel that **Petah Tikvah** is an answer to our prayers. We are an observant group, and desire to live under the will of God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

I was raised Pentecostal. As a little girl, I listened to my grandmother preach a good ser-

mon, asking, Why are we not living like God said we should?

For me, it took coming to prison to find the answer in that Hebraic Roots class. It brought tears to my eyes. I felt that the truth was finally coming to me. Someday I want to do an ancestry search. Even if I am not Jewish, I know I am grafted in, and I love it! I love talking about God and giving my testimony. Thanks for being a blessing to so many. Pamela Crowell, Ocala FL

Dear Richard ~

I have been transferred to the Coffield Unit along with a bunch of us because of our good behavior. The ones with bad behavior got transferred to the Michael Unit, and are rewarded with bigger cells, more storage, bigger day rooms, and showers on each wing. It's all backwards. Y'all are in my daily prayers. Matthew King, Tenn Colony TX

Beautiful Hebrew-English New

Testaments are provided free to Jewish people. Spanish-Hebrew, Portuguese-Hebrew, Russian-Hebrew, Yiddish-Hebrew, Hungarian-Hebrew, and German-Hebrew New Testaments are also freely available to Jewish people who speak these other languages. All books are hard-cover. (Inmates might need to send a signed permission form from their chaplain to receive a hard-cover book.) Write: **Hope of Israel**, PO Box 915, Culloden WV 25510.

Dear Rav Richard ~

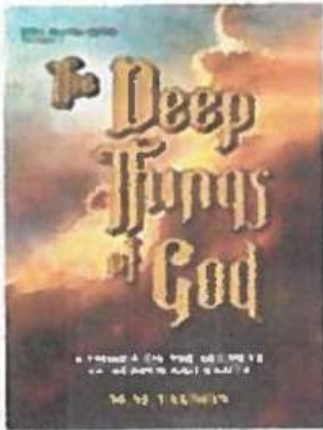
Most Jews cannot accept Yeshua as the Messiah because YHVH does not accept human sacrifices for atonement. How can we resolve this?

William Santos, Ione CA

Our Reply: In Numbers 25, we read where the men of Israel were led into sin and idolatry by the Moabite and Midianite women. There was a plague that killed 24,000. It was stopped when Pinchus (Phinehas) drove a spear into an Israeli man and Midianite woman when they were having sex at the entrance to the

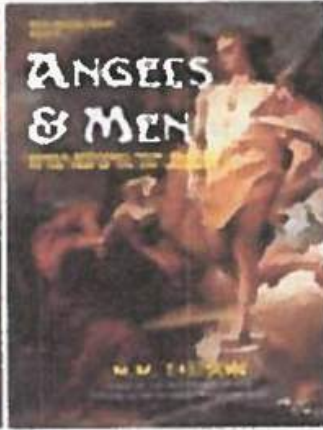
Tent of Meeting (Num. 25:6). In Numbers 25:13, we read that Pinchus had "made atonement for the sons of Israel" by this action. Also, in Isaiah 53:5, we read of the promised Messiah: "But He was pierced through for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." **RAC**

MESSIANIC BOOKS by M.M. Tauson



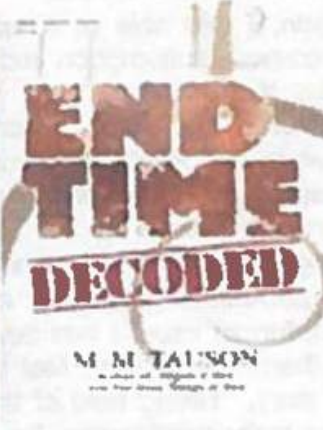
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| ○Creation Demystified | ○The Beasts of Revelation | ○MORE Bible Secrets |
| ○The Family of Adam | ○Antichrist | ○The Philippines and Prophecy |
| ○The Lost Names of God | ○Nuclear War - | ○Unholy Holidays |
| ○The Forgotten Messiah | Great Tribulation | ○Secrets of the Scriptures |
| ○The Angels and You | ○End Time | ○Decrypting Bible Secrets |
| ○God's Law... Abolished? | ○The Day of the LORD | |

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melodies are well suited for

JEWISH BASICS

Music CDs and
Deluxe Lyric Booklets

JEWISH BASICS is the perfect tool for anyone wishing to learn the traditional Jewish liturgy and to practice Hebrew. The lyrics and the familiar from both the Sephardic & Ashkenazic traditions study, meditation, and liturgical worship.

We have various liturgical CDs in our possession. However, none are as well done as this CD. There is both a male and a female cantor on this disk, both of whom are superb. It is a pleasure to listen to them. The music is genuinely worshipful. In addition, there is piano accompaniment to add to your listening pleasure. This CD is professional, high-quality material.

We highly recommend this CD for those wishing to learn Jewish liturgy. This CD is useful both to cantors and to congregants. Many also use these CDs for worship in their homes.

The CD and the accompanying booklet contain most of the liturgy commonly used for Shabbat (Sabbath) worship, including the blessings and songs used in the Torah service.

The booklet contains the Shabbat liturgy in Hebrew, transliterated Hebrew, and also the English translations for all the pieces. As you listen and read along (or sing along!), you will greatly increase your ability to correctly pronounce Hebrew. We are also including a Hebrew alphabet chart for those who are unfamiliar with written Hebrew. The singing and cantorials are all in Hebrew, using the Sephardic pronunciation, just as Hebrew is spoken in Israel today.

- The cost for both the music CD and the Lyric Booklet is now \$10, US currency.
- Additional Lyric Booklets can be obtained for \$3 each (or 3 stamps for inmates).
- No extra cost for Shipping and Handling, worldwide.
- Send check, cash, or money order to **Petah Tikvah, 165 Doncaster Rd, Rochester NY 14623-1348.**

Dear Rabbi Chamberlin ~

I am writing to advise you of my change of address. Also, because in the July—Sept issue, I noticed that Michael Everage was mentioned. In 2017, I was at Greenville C.C. with him. It's because of him that I turned to Messianic Judaism. I was raised as a Pentecostal Christian. When Michael began teaching and mentoring me in Messianic Judaism, I was able to learn so much that Christianity did not teach. Now I am forever hooked. I thank YHWH for Michael. I am currently trying to get into a pod that has Messianic believers. Thank you for your ministry.

Eric Smalley, Waverly VA

Blessings to all!

Happy joy, Thank you!! We received the calendar for 5782. I love it! It is beautiful. I am anxiously awaiting the next issue of **Petah Tikvah**. Unfortunately, we were denied proper celebration of the Holy Days. The chapel was supposed to be available for us for Sukkot on September 21 from 6:30 to 7 – half an hour! The plastic lulav and etrog along with the prayers that we normally use has disappeared from the chapel. Nor was a space reserved for us for the other holy days for the month of September. We are continually denied the right to practice our faith. Sharon Sprout, Ocala FL

John Jonas in Palestine TX sent us the following list of organizations that provide free literature to inmates:

The Levitt Letter, PO Box 12268, Dallas TX 75225

Beyond Today Magazine, PO Box 541027, Cincinnati OH 45254-1027

Hello ~

I am sending postage for renewing my subscription. I am so blessed to receive **Petah Tikvah**. I learn so much from it. I also have all four of your commentaries, and I love them! I am currently teaching a class with three students – four in the class counting me! Thank you for all you do for those of us behind bars. I am also ordering your Shabbat siddur and including postage for a friend to receive a subscription and a calendar. Keith Young, Independence VA

Shalom Rav Rick & Lady Miriam ~

Your magazines are awesome! Each time I open **Petah Tikvah**, I learn something new. I read the same things again a few days later, and something new catches my eye. I thank our Heavenly Father for such an awesome magazine teaching our brothers and sisters around the world. Mario Martinez, Kenedy TX

PASSOVER FOR PRISONERS

You are invited to help provide simple Passover supplies to brothers and sisters behind bars this year. Please join with Sabbath Keepers Fellowship (PO Box 972, Malakoff TX 75148) by donating to their 2022 Passover Package Program. Each package provides 1 box of matzoh, 1 packet of horseradish, 2 bottles of grape juice, and 1 Passover Haggadah. These are the bare essentials to observe a Scriptural Passover, much less than what most of us enjoy for Passover. Inmates are depending on you. You can donate by mail, or through PayPal at:

<https://sabbathkeepersfellowship.org>

Dear Rabbi Chamberlin ~

I'm writing in regards to the **Pentateuch & Haftorahs** from Soncino Press by Dr. J.H. Hertz. Their address has been changed. Do you have the new address, as I would like to order the above Chumash. Eric Smalley, Waverly VA

Our Reply: The address to write to is: Soncino Press, 123 Ditmar Ave, Brooklyn NY 11218. Perhaps someone in your family would like to order it over the phone with a credit card at 718-972-6200. It is an excellent hard-cover book, 1067 pages. We recommend it to our readers. **RAC**

Dear Brother Rick ~

Please **cancel** my subscription. I am going to be released after 15 ½ years in prison. I thank you for **Petah Tikvah** Magazine that has helped me learn so much about my Messiah, who is a Jew till this day. I thank God for keeping me this whole time, and has allowed me to step outside once again. Edgar Ramirez, California City CA

Editor's Note: We appreciate it very much when inmates tell us that they are being released. First, we can rejoice with them. Secondly, we save money on issues of PT that get returned to us. The post office charges \$2.11 for each returned PT, plus cost of the magazine and waste of paper. We also appreciate our readers advising us of all changes of address, for the same reason. Plus, you won't miss getting any issues of PT. **RAC**

Dear Richard & Miriam ~

As usual, a very good issue! I especially enjoyed the article on Colossians 2:14 by Daniel Botkin. Now it all makes sense and brings this verse into harmony with the rest of Scripture. Also, your response to the person who said that religion was a crutch for the weak was outstanding, and humble. Jim Watkins, Sterling CO

Dear Richard & Miriam ~

Greetings in the name of our most gracious Heavenly Father. I have been in contact with the **United Messianic Jewish Ministries**, and I received an application for membership as well as a copy of their Messianic Jewish siddur.

Truthfully, it was with some trepidation that I wrote to the UMJM. I have attempted to reach out to several other organizations to no avail. I had seen the UMJM listed in the **Petah Tikvah** Directory, although I wasn't confident of a response.

Imagine my surprise and delight when I did receive their information. Finally, an organization whose leadership is comprised of current and former prisoners – people who would know and understand exactly what I have experienced for the past ten years of my incarceration, and who are not focused on one's past, but on the potential of who an individual can become.

After reading the introductory letter, and after much contemplation and prayer, I felt led to complete the application and submit it for approval. Their siddur has already proven to be a blessing, and I am in complete agreement with the UMJM's core teachings.

I eagerly await further communication with them, and I pray this is only the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship. We are now at "Green" status at Danbury, which means our compound is open again and we can once again meet for fellowship.

Tom Donahue, Danbury CT

A Note from the Paragraph Factory

Although I personally manufacture many of the paragraphs in this publication, I also receive much help from our readers around the world. Although a majority of the paragraphs are proudly made in the USA, we also have some really great paragraphs manufactured in other countries. A surprising number of paragraphs in **Petah Tikvah** comes from those in prison. This is one of many locations in which a real Messianic Jewish revival is taking place.

Many of our readers are Hispanic, Black, and Oriental. Many may have Jewish ancestry, such as those descended from the **Anusim** ("forced ones" whose ancestors were forcibly converted from Judaism to Catholicism during the Spanish Inquisition.) Many others may have no Jewish ancestry. However, they have rejected the Europeanized Christianity that was forced upon much of the world. They prefer to return to the Judaic roots of the faith, which is true for most of our readers. **RAC**

A VIRGIN BIRTH IN GENESIS

Daniel Botkin

Every year as the Christmas season approaches, skeptics challenge and deny the possibility of the Virgin Birth of the Savior.

I find it especially curious that there are Jewish skeptics who think that a virgin birth is impossible.

Why do I find this curious? Because in the Jewish Bible there is a "virgin birth" of sorts during the first week of creation. Let me explain.

On the sixth day of creation, God created Adam. Before the existence of Eve, Adam was a male virgin. From this male virgin named Adam, God pulled out a rib and used it to build a fully-grown woman. Therefore in a manner of speaking, we could say that the Blessed Virgin Adam "gave birth" to a woman, with God functioning as the Divine "midwife."

So according to the Jewish Bible, God was able to bring forth a fully-grown woman from inside a male virgin named Adam. Why then should it seem impossible for God to bring forth a baby boy from inside the womb of a female virgin named Miriam (Mary)?

So enough of this skepticism. God is sovereign. If He wants to bring forth a woman from inside a male virgin, and a baby boy from inside a female virgin, He can do whatever He wishes. □

WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM

TAKE OFF YOUR TINFOIL HAT & STOP ACTING STUPID

Daniel Botkin

I might lose some readers here, but I'm going to say it anyway. Take off your tinfoil hat and stop acting stupid. Quit behaving as if all the conspiracy theories you read on the internet were true. They're not.

The earth is not flat. The covid vaccine is not the mark of the beast. The "Illuminati" are not out to "get you," nor are they out to "get" your favorite conspiracy theorist. You are not that important. You are not a target. Neither is your favorite paranoid conspiracy theorist.

Even before the internet existed, lots of Christians were quick to believe conspiracy theories, urban legends, and far-fetched rumors of a religious nature. I am old enough to remember John Todd and Mike Warnke, two fraudulent hucksters who became quite famous in the Christian world by making false claims about their involvement in Satanic cults and "the Illuminati." Both of these men were eventually exposed as pathological liars, but not until after they had spent years telling their fictional testimonies to thousands of gullible Christians, and raking in a fortune in offerings.

You would think that the public exposures of liars like John Todd and Mike Warnke would teach Christians to not be so quick to believe fantastic, far-fetched stories, especially when there are no reliable eyewitnesses to verify



"I did¹ my² research!³"

¹watched

²someone else's

³crummy homemade

YouTube videos

the truth of those stories. But alas, such is not the case. Some Bible believers would rather spend hours "researching" their pet conspiracy theories on the internet, than spend hours in prayer and Bible study.

If you feel drawn to conspiracy theories, you need to take off your tinfoil hat and stop acting stupid. Turn off your computer and start spending time in prayer and Bible reading. It will clear your mind of all the nonsense that has filled your head. It will restore your sanity. In time, it will transform you by the renewing of your mind. You will be a happier person. And you won't look like an idiot for believing in nonsense. □

Daniel has a bimonthly publication, **Gates of Eden**. For a sample issue, send \$3 to PO Box 2257, E Peoria IL 61611-0257.

Liberals Keep Voting for Leftists – It's Ruining the Country

by Dennis Prager, PragerUniversity.com

AS I have noted repeatedly, liberalism and leftism have virtually nothing in common. In fact, leftism is the enemy of liberalism – as a handful of liberals such as former New York Times writer Bari Weiss, former Young Turk Dave Rubin, and others have come to recognize.

The left has never believed in free speech and has suppressed dissent wherever it has assumed power. Free speech is a pillar of liberalism, and it has always embraced dissent.

The left rejects the anti-racist ideal of colorblindness. Colorblind is the liberal racial ideal.

The left supports racial segregation – such as all-black dorms and separate black graduations. Liberals advocate racial integration.

The left has always loathed capitalism. Liberals were always major advocates of capitalism – recognizing that only capitalism has lifted billions of people out of poverty.

The left has always been anti-Israel. Liberals have always been fervent supporters of Israel.

The left has always held America in contempt. Liberals loved this country. A liberal wrote, “[G-d] bless America.” No leftist would write such a song.

Leftists want to defund the police. No liberal does.

The list of liberal-left differences is as long as the list of left-wing positions.

Yet, it is liberals who keep the left in power. Were it not for the liberal vote, the left would have no power.

Why do liberals vote left? Why do liberals vote for those who have contempt for virtually everything they, the liberals, hold dear?

The question is all the more apt given that it is conservatives who protect virtually every liberal value. It is conservatives who seek to preserve free speech, racial integration, love of America, a strong Israel, and capitalism.

So why do liberals vote for the left, for the very people who hold liberals and their values in contempt? There are two primary reasons.

One is brainwash. Liberals are brainwashed from childhood into believing that the right is their enemy and that *pas d'ennemis a gauche* (“no enemies on the left”). That is why there is no left-wing position, no matter how destructive or vile, that could move a liberal to vote Republican or identify with conservatives.

The second reason is fear. Liberals fear they will lose friends and even family if they do not vote Democrat or if they publicly criticize the left. And this is not an irrational fear.

America and the West are being destroyed by the left. But this destruction of the universities, the high schools, art and music, journalism, and

of freedom itself could not take place were it not for liberals.

The fate of America and the West lies largely in the hands of liberals. There are simply not enough leftists to destroy our most revered institutions. They need liberals to serve as fellow travelers to accomplish their ends.

Should the American experiment fail—and it may—that profile in lack of courage, the liberal, will have made it possible. JEWISHPRESS.COM

Some Good Alliances

By Marvin Hier & Abraham Cooper

Simon Wiesenthal Center

1399 South Roxbury Drive

Los Angeles, CA 90035

The late Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal, for whom our human rights NGO is named, gave us sage advice in 1977. This man, who lost 89 members of his family among the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis, urged us to forge alliances in the endless struggle against hate. “We cannot defeat anti-Semitism on our own,” Simon admonished. “We need new allies.”

We took that advice to heart. Over four decades, we’ve hosted presidents and royalty. We are especially proud of a three-decade outreach to the Arab and Muslim worlds. King Hussein of Jordan was the first to visit our Museum of Tolerance (MOT) and carried his MOT membership card in his wallet. We collaborated with the late Indonesian president, Abdurrahman Wahid, who publicly denounced Iran’s denial of the Holocaust. We worked closely with Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev to build a more robust global multi-faith dialogue. And in recent years, we developed close relationships with Bahrain’s King Hamad and United Arab Emirates leaders, including Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed, helping to create the building blocks of trust that led to the historic Abraham Accords.

Among the most important game-changing relationships that have emerged were those that came from within the walls of the Vatican. We will never forget our second and last private audience with Pope John Paul II. The pontiff from Poland transformed relations with the Jewish people through a series of firsts — the first pope to attend synagogue in Rome, first pope to pray at Jerusalem’s Western Wall, and the pope who finally established full diplomatic relations between the Vatican and the Jewish State of Israel. At that meeting with the critically ill pope, we witnessed a man whose spirit managed to defeat the physical, at least for that hour. John Paul II made that herculean effort because he shared our deep worry over the spread of suicide terror launched in the name of God. We discussed the need to activate faith leaders to find ways to stop this man-made scourge...

MY earliest memory is of me gripping my mother, in the dark, burying my face so deeply into her stomach I can't breathe. It's dark. I come up for air and see two police officers looming over us. They want to take her away. I'm scared. I don't want to let her go. I fasten myself to her as hard as I can. Suddenly, I'm in a long white hallway. I'm sitting on a bench next to my mother drinking chocolate milk. My three-year-old legs dangle above the floor. I sneeze and spill my milk. I look to my mom for help, but she can't move her arms. She's wearing handcuffs. I start to cry. That year, I entered the Los Angeles County foster care system. I never saw my mother again.

From the time I was born until I was 17 years old, nearly everything in my life was propelling me to a life as one of America's lost boys—the young men who fail to mature, do poorly in school, live on the economic margins, and become absentee fathers or fail to form stable families of their own.

Today, one in six American men between the ages of 25 and 54 are unemployed or out of the workforce altogether... This number has more than doubled since the 1970s. Meantime, over the past half-century, the number of men behind bars has more than quadrupled.

One obvious metric for success is college graduation—and America's young men are not standing up. The Wall Street Journal recently published a viral story about how male students are vanishing from campus. Men now make up only 40 percent of college students, a gender gap that has been growing for decades. In the next few years, two women will earn a college degree for every man...

I never met my birth father; my birth mother never knew who he was. My mom was a drug addict who was forced to give me up at age three. By seven years old, I'd lived in seven different homes and been enrolled in five different schools. I got used to packing my belongings in a shoebox or a garbage bag and moving to a new foster home every few months.

At nine, I was finally adopted. My adoptive family, the Hendersons, lived in Red Bluff, California, a dusty town in Northern California. My new dad was a truck driver; my new mom was an assistant social worker. For the first few months, I'd have nightmares that I would have to move again, and would suddenly wake up in the middle of the night. I couldn't believe I finally had a family. But a year later, my adoptive parents got divorced...

For a year after the divorce, my friends and I would get into constant trouble. We vandalized buildings, smoked weed, got into fights. Some of

America's Lost Boys and Me

By Rob Henderson

these habits I'd picked up in foster homes.

I experienced a brief reprieve from age nine to age fourteen, when my mother and her new partner created a stable home for me. But then came more family tragedies, separations, relocations, and uncertainty caused by the housing crash, which in California, had begun in 2006. At age 16, right before my final year of high school, I moved in with my best friend and his dad.

My grades plummeted. I started experimenting with drugs, and forging my mom's signature to get out of going to school. While my childhood was at the extreme end of instability, my high school friends had chaotic family lives, too.

But during my senior year, a male history teacher, an Air Force veteran, encouraged me to enlist. He knew my grades were awful—I graduated in the bottom third of my high school class—but saw something in me, potential that I hadn't yet discovered or maybe didn't even want to. I enlisted out of desperation at 17...

After being discharged, I attended Yale on the G.I. Bill. I graduated and then landed at Cambridge, where I'm getting my Ph.D. in Social Psychology. I suspect I'm the only person here who was living out of garbage bags at age seven and smoking weed at nine.

There's one story that's neat and clean and politically convenient to tell about my life. It goes like this: Poverty is the root cause of my problems (and those of my friends). With enough financial aid, and a good test score, anything is possible. Including Yale. Or Cambridge.

But the data tells quite a **different** story. Poverty, even extreme poverty, is surmountable. What is nearly impossible to overcome is the instability—the psychological havoc—created by broken homes. Especially for boys.

Research in psychology and economics shows that childhood instability has much a stronger effect than parental socioeconomic status for a variety of important outcomes, including education. This is clear when we compare children living in poverty with children living in foster care. In the Los Angeles County foster care system (where I grew up), for example, only 64.5% of foster kids graduate from high school. But the graduation rate for students categorized as "socioeconomically disadvantaged" is 86.6%, the same as the overall average in L.A.

What about college? In the U.S., 11% of kids from families in the bottom income quintile obtain bachelor's degrees, compared with only 3% of children who have been in foster care. In other words, a poor kid in the U.S. is nearly *four times* more likely to graduate from college than a foster kid...

First Amendment Religious Rights Confirmed by U.S. Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of the United States issued its decision in *Fulton v. Philadelphia* on June 17th. The Court ruled unanimously against the City of Philadelphia, which had refused to refer foster children to Catholic Social Services due to the agency's unwillingness to place children to households in same-sex relationships. Prior to June 2021, the city of Philadelphia would not allow foster children to be sent to Catholic Social Services, even though it was their Constitutional and religious rights to do so. It is also unconstitutional to force religious institutions to do things contrary to their religion per the First Amendment. People of faith, such as bakers, florists, etc., have been targeted by activists to cater same-sex marriages. Hopefully this religious discrimination will cease with the new Supreme Court.

How a Corny Joke Became the Preferred Way to Challenge Religious Anti-Vaxxers

The joke goes something like this: A ferocious storm sweeps through a town, and in the aftermath, a man clambers onto his roof to escape the floodwaters. As he sits there, someone in a canoe comes by and offers to carry him to safety. "No, thanks," the man replies. "God will save me." The man paddles off, and the waters continue to rise. Shortly afterward, someone in a boat pulls up to offer help. "No, thank you," the man says again. "God will deliver me." The waters rise higher. Finally, a Coast Guard helicopter appears; someone with a megaphone offers to drop a ladder. "No, thank you," the man says for a final time. "I prayed for God to save me." The helicopter flies off, the waters engulf the roof, and the man drowns. When the man arrives in heaven, he asks in confusion, "What happened, God? Why didn't you rescue me?" God replies, "I sent you a canoe, a boat, and a helicopter. What more did you want?"

If you attend a church, you may have heard a version of this story, sometimes called the "**parable of the drowning man.**" But in the past year, a new version has cropped up. In it, a man ignores advice to wear masks, avoid large gatherings, and get the COVID vaccine. When he dies after contracting the virus, he confronts God in heaven. "Why did you allow this to happen?" God tells the confused Christian that he gave public health officials the intelligence to develop the vaccine and to educate the public about social distancing, hand-washing, masks, and other measures. "I imparted wisdom to your leaders, who realized the dangers of COVID-19 and how humans could protect themselves. Why did you reject the good advice that you had been given?"

Major Presidential Blunders

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter pulled the rug out from beneath the Shah of Iran (a US ally), and prepared the way for the Ayatollahs to return to Iran. This resulted in "militant students" overrunning the US Embassy in Tehran and set in motion a continuing embarrassment and thorn in the side of America.

The thousands killed by Iranian terrorists in all those intervening years are mainly unknown. Iran sent penetrating IEDs in Iraq... produced by the same Quds force. Suleimani was sponsoring many of these external groups, who also counted the Beirut Embassy and Marine Barracks bombings in Lebanon among their "wins"! Iran remains a major threat to Israel and to its Arab neighbors.

In 2021, President Biden made the hasty and ill-advised rapid withdrawal from Afghanistan and left not only Afghan allies, but many others as well, to be arrested, tortured, and often to be murdered. We may see a resurgent Al Qaeda, once again enabled to attack the USA as was done on 9-11 in 2001. We left behind an abundance of tanks, planes, and munitions, causing the Taliban to be the best equipped terrorist forces in the world, far better equipped than when the USA sent troops to Afghanistan in 2001. We also see the resurgent Taliban returning Afghanistan to the horrors of denying girls and women the education they deserve. Many other human rights are also under heavy assault, including freedom of religion, speech, and mobility.

Deceiving the Very Elect

I have been confused for some time that so many have been caught up in so many weird conspiracy theories. This includes many who self-identify as Evangelic Christians and even some who self-identify as Messianic Jews. Many even believe the weird, wild, and outrageous conspiracy theories promoted by QAnon and Alex Jones.

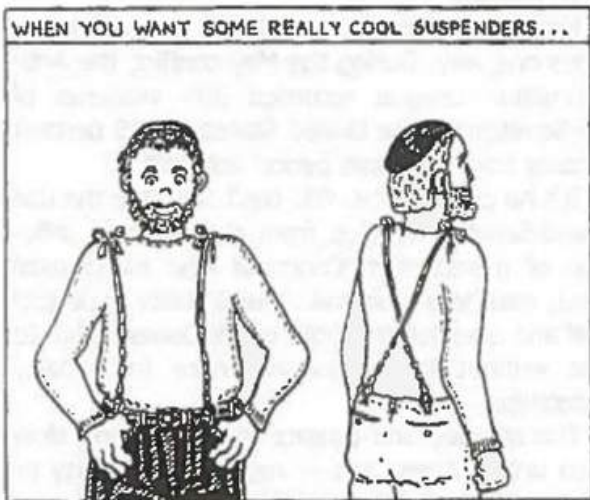
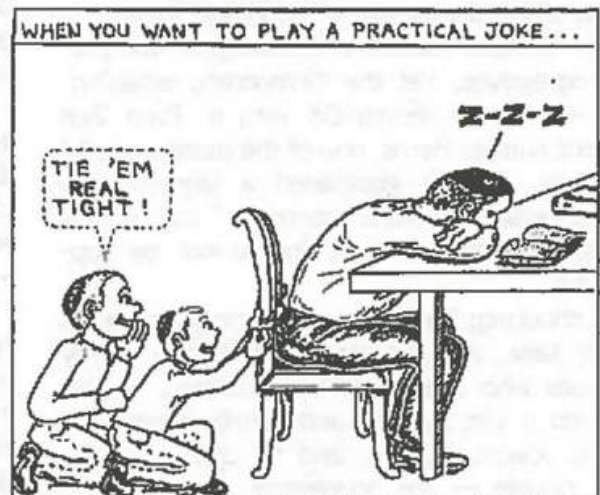
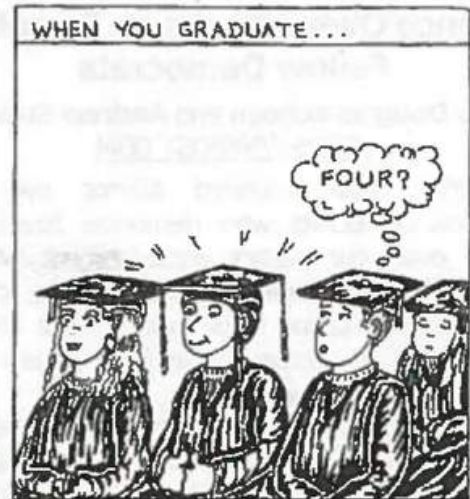
Suddenly the words of Yeshua from Matthew 24:24 came to my mind: "**For false Messiahs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the very elect.**" There have always been false Messiahs and false prophets, both in Judaism as well as in Christianity. However, I can't recall a time in history where so many people of faith have been as misled by conspiracy theories and false prophets as we see today. The amazing thing is that people keep on following these false prophets.

Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four belt loops of thy trousers, wherewith thou girdest thy loins.

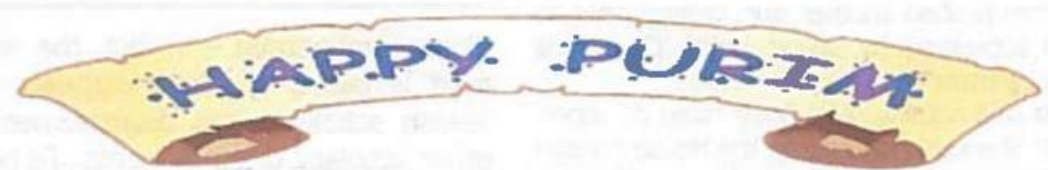
Deuteronomy 22:12 AV
(Americanised Version)

Daniel Rothkin Presents

**HOW TO HAVE
FUN
WITH
FRINGES**



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Purim is celebrated this year on March 17th.

It is a holiday, not a Holy Day. Normal work and commerce are permitted. We read the book of Esther, and celebrate the victory of the Jewish people over those who sought to destroy the Jewish people.

Democratic Leaders' Shocking Silence Over Attacks on Israel by Fellow Democrats

by Douglas Schoen and Andrew Stein

[HTTPS://NYPOST.COM](https://nypost.com)

We've often sounded alarms over fellow Democrats who demonize Israel. But lately, even our party's establishment and its leaders have become complicit in the consequences — by failing to denounce these attacks. Voters need to demand that top officials from both parties speak up loudly.

Such attacks put Jews in tangible danger and threaten the United States' and Israel's national security, given that Israel is our closest ally and the only stable democracy in the Middle East.

The harshest rhetoric emanates from the party's progressives. Yet the Democratic establishment increasingly seems OK with it. Even Vice President Kamala Harris, one of the most powerful Democrats, actually applauded a student who accused Israel of "ethnic genocide," saying that the young woman's "truth should not be suppressed."

It's shocking: The claim of "ethnic genocide" is patently false, and it's used as a rallying cry by extremists who seek Israel's destruction. It also plays into a vile, twisted anti-Semitic stereotype that the Jewish state — and by extension, the Jewish people — are oppressors. For Harris to have endorsed that is more than alarming.

And she's hardly alone. Indeed, anti-Israel sentiment has even infiltrated US policymaking, sending an even louder message and carrying real consequences for Israel.

Just weeks before Harris' comment, progressive Democrats successfully pressured House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to reject \$1 billion in funding for Israel's Iron Dome missile-defense system. A separate measure to fund it ultimately passed, yet Pelosi had sent a clear message: far-left, anti-Israel lawmakers have a voice at the highest ranks of Democratic policymaking.

Pelosi has also looked the other way when progressives sprout anti-Semitic rhetoric. In 2019, Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) questioned American Jews' loyalty to the United States, charging that US support of Israel was "all about the Benjamins" and playing into the anti-Semitic stereotype that Jews are financial schemers.

Omar then pushed another slur, casting Jews as deceitful oppressors by saying Jewish Democrats were "not partners in justice."

Pelosi said nothing, and Omar faced no repercussions: She kept her seat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and continues to wield influence over the Democratic agenda.

To be sure, we don't believe Pelosi is anti-Semitic or that she opposes Israel's right to exist. Yet at times, she's prioritized politics and holding

her caucus together over standing up for Israel and the Jewish people.

The trouble is that turning a blind eye to such speech allows extremism to infiltrate the mainstream, with severe consequences. Pelosi and other top Democrats are putting Israel's survival and the Jewish community at risk.

And though Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (a Jewish-American himself) did denounce Omar's remarks in 2019, he has recently aligned himself with the progressive left and, like Pelosi, has refrained from denouncing other unfair slurs against Israel by fellow Democrats.

During the Hamas attacks on Israel in May 2021, for example, progressives called for an end to US military aid to Jerusalem; Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-Bx-Queens) even echoed the false accusation that Israel is an "apartheid state." Neither Schumer nor Pelosi condemned it.

Schumer was also silent when Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Menendez (D-NJ) condemned *both* Israel and Palestinians in the same statement, suggesting a moral equivalence between them that's neither logical nor supported by evidence.

Nor did Schumer voice support for Israel during the May conflict, either in an independent press release or his regular Senate floor remarks. Instead, he joined 28 other senators who called for a premature ceasefire that would've harmed Israel's efforts to prevent Hamas from waging future attacks.

How does top Dems' silence imperil Jews? Here's one way: During the May conflict, the Anti-Defamation League recorded 305 incidents of anti-Semitism in the United States, a 115 percent increase from the same period last year.

It's no coincidence. You can't separate the rise in anti-Semitic violence from the growing influence of members in Congress who marginalize Israel, want to undermine Israel's ability to defend itself and question the right of the Jewish state to exist without facing consequences from party leadership.

The attacks, and threats to Jews, won't slow down unless Americans — regardless of party or religion — demand their leaders speak up.

Douglas Schoen is founder and partner in Schoen Cooperman Research, a polling and consulting firm. Andrew Stein is a former New York City Council president and state Assembly member.

"Jews rarely agree — in fact, the entire Talmud is based on disagreements between Jewish scholars, and disagreements about other scholars' disagreements. To be a good Jew is to be involved in never ending disagreements."

— Quote from Rabbi Uri Pilichowski

Miss Universe Pageant in Israel

by Yossi Aloni www.IsraelToday.co.il

The Miss Universe pageant will be held this year in December, in Eilat, in southern-most Israel. The Miss Universe pageant is watched by over 600 million viewers all over the world. The host country of the competition receives extensive exposure which contributes to its branding and tourism industry.

Israel's ambassador to Bucharest, David Saranga, was invited by the Miss Universe Romania pageant to be a member of the judging team, which selected Romania's beauty queen for 2021 in August. Ambassador Saranga is one of the most well-known figures in Romania due to his command of the language, his television interviews, and the embassy's activities on social issues.

The Miss Universe pageant has set itself the goal in recent years of empowering the women participating in the pageant. Among the 25 participants will be a doctor, three law students, a journalist, a software engineer, a graduate of a military academy, and more. A significant portion of the contestants engage in community activities.

"In the interviews we conducted with the candidates, we also emphasized their familiarity with the issues on the global agenda, such as immigration, climate, and gender. Beyond the beauty criterion, which is important in itself in this competition, the charisma and the intellect of the candidate are also important," said Ambassador Saranga.



The winner of Romania's competition is 20-year-old Olympia Carmina Coftas (above), a third-year history student who will represent Romania in the Miss Universe pageant.

This year Romania's national outfit was designed by Israeli artist Aviad Arik Herman, who over the past decade has designed national dresses for a large number of countries in the Miss Universe pageant. Herman was chosen both for his ability to combine national motifs with luxury clothing.

Israel is Left Alone In Effort to Stop Iran Nuclear Program

by Yochanan Visser www.IsraelToday.co.il

At the beginning of September, I wrote an analysis about how Iran is slowly but surely closing in on Israel. The article dealt with Iran's covert build-up of a force in Syria that is now slowly approaching the border with Israel on the Syrian Golan Heights.

The analysis, furthermore, mentioned the fact that the Islamic Republic is encircling Israel by using its various proxies in Lebanon, Syria and the Gaza Strip, where Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad are taking their orders from the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC).

The latest news about the build-up of a force led by Hezbollah and the Quds Force in Syria is that Syrian dictator has given the green light to Iran to take over the Syrian Golan Heights, according to Israel's N12 News. Prime Minister Naftali Bennett brought up this issue during his meeting with US President Joe Biden a month ago, and warned that Israel would not sit on its hands watching Iran setting up camp on the other side of the border on the Golan Heights.

All that Bennett asked from Biden was to have his back whenever Israel would take military action against the Iranian encroachment on the Syrian Golan Heights.

The Nuclear Threat Increases

Both Bennett and Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz also addressed the growing threat for Israel when it comes to Iran's nuclear weapons program, and indicated that Israel will not be bound by any revised nuclear accord between the US, Iran and five other world powers.

The two leaders also indicated that Israel is ready to act alone against the Iranian nuclear threat, with Bennett making it clear that Israel is already operating in Iran to prepare more attacks on the Iranian nuclear facilities and the team of Iranians working on a nuclear weapon.

With Iran now rapidly approaching the nuclear threshold it could be that Israel will not wait on the outcome of the renewed talks between the Biden Administration and Iran that are scheduled to take place in Vienna...

Biden's solution: Endless diplomacy

US President Joe Biden will not do anything else beyond using diplomacy to solve the nuclear stand-off with Iran. He made this clear during his maiden address to the United Nations in New York City on September 28. Biden announced that the era of "endless wars" is over, and would be replaced with a future dominated by "endless diplomacy."

2.5 Mil. Christians Visited Israel in 2019. Will They Return Post-Covid?

Donna Jollay has lost \$3 million and thousands of clients since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. "We are reaching a breaking point," the owner of Jerusalem Tours International told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Jollay purchased her company, which specializes in Christian tourism, six months before the start of the pandemic. She said she has at least six groups that she has rescheduled five times since March 2020. "We are seeing people lose hope," she said. "They are giving up. You can only be rejected so long by the one you love until you say that it isn't meant to be."

Before the COVID-19 crisis, Christian visitors flooded Israel to visit the places they read about in the Bible, connect to their history and experience a glimpse of the future — when most believe Jesus will return and usher in a messianic era that begins in the Holy Land. But since the pandemic, all tourism — including Christian tourism — has totally dried up...

It is unclear whether Christians, who used to account for the largest percentage of annual tourists, will come back the way that tour operators surely hope.

For perspective, before COVID, Israel had reached 4.5 million tourists a year, of which 2.5 million or 55% were Christians, according to data released by the Tourism Ministry at the end of 2019. The majority (84%) visited Jerusalem, and 65% Tel Aviv, as well as many holy sites throughout Israel, from the Jordan River to the West Bank settlements they call the "biblical heartland" — home to ancient Shiloh, city of the Tabernacle, for example...

With evangelical Christians, the situation is even more complex. Evangelicals are the least likely to be vaccinated of any other Christian group in the United States, according to data reported by Pew Research Center.

Only 57% of white Evangelical Protestants have received at least one dose of the vaccine, Pew reported earlier this month, compared to 82% of Catholic adults, 73% of white non-Evangelicals and 70% of black Protestants.

Christians have often been the people who come to support Israel during its hardest times. They showed up in solidarity during the Second Intifada, and have flown into the country and headed down South to connect with their Israeli brothers and sisters during wars with Hamas.

"They are willing to lay down their selves and their lives to support Israel," Jollay said. "It is a very hard and sad situation for the Evangelicals to understand: Why isn't Israel taking them into consideration when they are the largest supporters, when they come when no one else comes?" (JPost / VFI News) **Vision for Israel** - PO Box 7743; Charlotte NC 28241-7743

Covid in Retreat

Good news on the pandemic front. The number of new daily COVID-19 cases in late October 2021 plunged 57% since peaking on Sept. 1. Almost as encouraging as the magnitude of the decline is its breadth—cases have been declining in every region of the country. Forecasting Covid's future is extremely difficult, and it's certainly possible that cases will rise again in the coming weeks (Delta Plus, anyone?), but the current decline offers reason for optimism...

The New York Times

In September 2021 a "prophet" named Bishop Bernard Jordan prophesied that there would be a major surge of Covid in October. He was wrong. Deuteronomy 13:5 tells us that false prophets should be "put to death." I suggest something less extreme. I would suggest never following such "prophets" anymore, and perhaps warning others not to follow these false prophets. Regretfully, many will keep on following false prophets. Biblically, a prophet might be right 99 times. But if he (or she) is wrong just one time, he qualifies as a false prophet.

In 1 Kings 22:6, we see that there were 400 false prophets giving their judgment to the king. In 1 Kings 22:13-18, we find that only one prophet, Micalah, who was a genuine prophet. The vote was 400 to one. The king listened to the 400 prophets, and did not listen to Micalah, the only genuine prophet. It resulted in disaster and defeat. The majority is often wrong.

Latter day prophecy is indeed real, but just as in biblical days, most of the prophets today are false prophets, just as we saw in the last year. I would also urge caution and to take preventative action against Covid. I remember when laws came on the books mandating the use of seat belts, and then (gasp!) shoulder harnesses. Lots of protests. There were many more protests with laws to restrict smoking in public areas. Sometimes laws are passed that are good for us, and for those around us.

First Public Israeli Flight Lands in Saudi Arabia

An Israeli private jet landed in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on October 26, per KAN news, marking the first time a public flight from Israel has ever landed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The news comes just a day after the first flight from Saudi Arabia landed in Israel, as an Emirati 737 Royal Jet landed in Ben-Gurion airport on October 25.

This is the latest among improving regional ties for Israel: Agreements to normalize ties with four nations — UAE, Bahrain, Morocco and Sudan — have been realized since the 2020 Abraham Accords... (JPost/ VFI News)

[HTTPS://VFINEWS.COM/NEWS](https://vfinews.com/news)

'The World Doesn't Like Jews, Let Alone Weak Jews'

By Israel Today Staff www.israeltoday.co.il

(Israel Today is an excellent source for news as well as occasional Biblical commentary.)

Israel enjoys staunch support from the United States and can even reasonably count on a number of European, African and Asian countries to have its back. But it wasn't always that way. In fact, Israel's leadership just 48 years ago was convinced that the international community was ready to sacrifice the Jewish state on an altar of history.

Documents declassified last week revealed that then-Prime Minister Golda Meir and her IDF generals believed that the world, including the "Christian" West, was entirely unsympathetic to Israel as it faced a devastating surprise invasion on Yom Kippur 1973 that threatened the Jewish state's very existence.

"The situation is unsympathetic on both fronts," the IDF brass is recorded as telling Meir on the second day of the war, referring to the coordinated joint invasion by both Egypt and Syria.

Israel's first and only female prime minister responded: *"The little help we have from the international community will disappear; they will throw us to the dogs. They don't like Jews, let alone weak Jews."*

Meir went on to press her generals to hit the Egyptians and Syrians as hard as possible, to deliver "severe blows" in hopes of forcing the international community to intervene. Israel would go on to not only repel both invading armies, but to launch counter-invasions into both Egypt and Syria that threatened Cairo and Damascus, respectively.

At that point, the international community did indeed step in and end the war before Israel could humiliate its enemies by forcing their surrender. Perhaps Golda was right. Perhaps Israel only enjoys relatively broad support today because in the decades after 1973 it grew into a proven military, technological and economic powerhouse.

Editor's Note: Most of Europe turned their backs on Israel at that time. However, Richard Nixon was President of the USA when Israel was attacked in 1973. Against the wishes of Congress, he launched a massive resupply of weaponry to Israel to make up for what Israel lost in the first days of the Yom Kippur War. Despite having some rather anti-Semitic attitudes, Richard Nixon turned out to be the best friend Israel ever had in the White House in the Twentieth Century. Israel and Jewish people worldwide should be eternally grateful to President Nixon. **RAC**

School District Claims It Followed Protocol Amid Reports 2 Girls Were Sexually Assaulted by Trans Student

by Ryan Foley, Christian Post Reporter

A Virginia school district is defending its response to two sexual assault allegations after it was accused of covering up one of the assaults because it raised questions about the potential consequences of a policy passed in August allowing students to use bathrooms based on their gender identity.

Loudoun County Public Schools released a statement acknowledging that it is "aware of the media and social media reports concerning alleged sexual assaults at two of our high school campuses." The district maintained that the proper "process was followed with respect to these allegations."

...The Loudoun County School Board approved Policy 8040, allowing trans-identified students to use bathrooms, etc., that correspond with their gender identity instead of their biological sex.

The Daily Wire reported the May 28 sexual assault of Scott Smith's 15-year-old daughter at Loudoun County's Stone Bridge High School. The publication reported a biological boy who identifies as a girl alleged to have been wearing a skirt entered a girls' bathroom and sexually assaulted Smith's ninth-grade daughter.

Although juvenile records are sealed, Smith's lawyer, Elizabeth Lancaster, told the news outlet that the student faces two counts of forcible sodomy, one count of anal sodomy and one count of forcible fellatio related to the incident at school...

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office released a statement last week announcing that "a teenager from Ashburn has been charged with sexual battery and abduction of a fellow student at Broad Run High School."

"When is (School Superintendent) Dr. Ziegler and this board going to be held accountable?" one parent asked. "What did you think was going to happen when you pushed porn into the classrooms and into the libraries and let boys into girls' bathrooms?"

Another parent maintained that "there is something seriously wrong with a system that prioritizes reporting a rape internally to the superintendent so that they can control the narrative instead of calling the police." A third parent accused the district of "hiding evidence from every parent in LCPS about a heinous sexual assault of a student that occurred in a bathroom so you could pass radical Policy 8040." ...

Editor's Note: I printed the news item about this insane policy of the Loudoun County school district on page 50 of the previous issue of P.T. The results were sadly very predictable.

'Arabs Have Destroyed 80% of Archeological sites in Judea and Samaria'

Yoni Kempinski www.israelnationalnews.com

Jewish heritage sites in Judea and Samaria (the so-called "West Bank") are being systematically vandalized and destroyed by local Arabs, according to a watchdog group which monitors archeological sites in the area. Adi Shragai, operations organizer for the Shomrim Al HaNetzach organization, said in an interview with *Arutz Sheva* that the phenomenon of Arab vandals targeting archeological sites in Judea and Samaria has grown worse in recent years.

"Unfortunately, in the last few years we've received more and more reports from hikers and people in the field regarding the destruction of antiquities in Judea and Samaria, with no law enforcement. We understood immediately that something significant – and terrible – is happening here."

The targeted destruction of archeological sites in Judea and Samaria, Shragai said, is carried out in part by Arab antiquities thieves, but also as part of illegal Arab land grabs, with unauthorized construction targeting historical sites. Arab farmers also often target archeological sites for destruction, preparing the land for agricultural work.

Unlike archeological sites inside the pre-1967 Green Line, which fall under the direct protection of the Israel Antiquities Authority, sites in Judea and Samaria are under the authority of the Staff Officer of Archeology, an office in the Defense Ministry's Civil Administration for Judea and Samaria.

Due to the office's limited resources, Shragai said, enforcement of laws protecting archeological sites in Judea and Samaria has been lax. "The Civil Administration isn't enforcing the laws, so our goal has been the establishment of a Judea and Samaria division of the Israel Antiquities Authority."

Large sites, such as Sebastia in Samaria, have been targeted by vandals, Shragai continued, with major sites destroyed or damaged, with some vandalized with graffiti. In some instances, the Palestine Liberation Organization flag has been raised over the sites...

Unfortunately, Shragai said, the damage is more the rule than the exception. A recent survey of 365 major archeological sites across Judea and Samaria found that some 80% had suffered either moderate or serious damage at the hands of vandals.

"This is a catastrophe for our national heritage. This is reminiscent of what ISIS does. Three-thousand years of Jewish history has been erased in just a short time. You can't restore destroyed archeological sites."

World's First Cultured Meat-Production Plant Opens in Israel

by Noga Martin, Israel Hayom via JNS, as reported in www.BridgesForPeace.com

The world's first industrial cultured meat facility has opened in the city of Rehovot, home to the Weizmann Institute of Science and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Faculty of Agriculture, Israeli slaughter-free meat production start-up Future Meat Technologies announced.



With the capability to produce 500 kilograms (1,102 lbs.) of cultured products a day, equivalent to 5,000 hamburgers, this facility makes scalable cell-based meat production a reality.

"This facility opening marks a huge step in Future Meat Technologies' path to market, serving as a critical enabler to bring our products to shelves by 2022," said Rom Kshuk, CEO of Future Meat Technologies. "Having a running industrial line accelerates key processes such as regulation and product development."

Currently, the facility can produce cultured chicken, pork and lamb, without the use of animal serum or genetic modification, with the production of beef coming soon. The company claims its unique platform enables fast production cycles—about 20 times faster than traditional animal agriculture.

Professor Yaakov Nahmias, the company's founder and chief scientific officer, said that "after demonstrating that cultured meat can reach cost parity faster than the market anticipated, this production facility is the real game-changer." "Our goal is to make cultured meat affordable for everyone, while ensuring we produce delicious food that is both healthy and sustainable, helping to secure the future of coming generations," he added.

Future Meat's cruelty-free production process is expected to generate 80% less greenhouse emissions, and use 99% less land and 96% less fresh water than traditional meat production, so it is much better for the environment than traditional animal agriculture. The company aims to reach US shelves in 2022 and is currently in the process of approving its production facility with regulatory agencies in multiple territories...

The Jewish Baby Who Grew Up to Become a Priest — Then Returned to Judaism

www.israelnationalnews.com

Given away by his mother during the Holocaust, Yaakov was raised a Christian and became a high-ranking church official.

On a winter night in 1943, a young, frightened woman knocked on the window of the Vashkinel home in a small town not far from Vilna. The woman quickly handed Amelia Vashkinel a small, tightly wrapped bundle containing a baby, who was just a few days old. That night was preceded by several secret meetings held between Amelia and Batya, the baby's mother, who knew she had been sentenced to death and wanted to save her son.

With the Holocaust at its peak, Amelia was afraid to take in a Jewish baby and raise him. She explained to the mother that if it became known that he was Jewish she would be put to death. But Batya, determined to save her son at all cost, told Amelia: "You are a Christian. When he grows up he'll be a priest and a teacher." Amelia hesitated, weighing the pros and cons of taking in the baby, and in the end decided to give life to the helpless baby in her arms.

Batya whispered the child's name and disappeared into the darkness. "You had a very Jewish family name," the adoptive mother told her son, when she revealed the secret to him 35 years later. "But I very quickly forgot it. I was afraid it would be a death sentence. And so I didn't want to remember anything from that night."

This is the story of that child, Yaakov, whose life has taken many turns. He discovered conclusively that he was a Jew when he was a senior priest in Poland. In recent years, however, his life has come full circle.

Yad L'Achim has been at Yaakov's side during this process, sometimes directly and sometimes indirectly. It provided him with sacred Jewish objects, and more. Recently, an extraordinary meeting was held between Yaakov and Rabbi Chanoch Gechtman. At the meeting, Yaakov was moved by the sound of the shofar, which he compared to the deep cry of a long-lost son returning to his father.

"This is my story, the baby that was taken captive," Yaakov responded with great emotion. Everyone in the room was moved by the sight of an 81-year-old Jew who had lost his Jewish identity as a baby during the Holocaust, returning to his people.

Yaakov added: "Look at how amazing things turned out. Hashgacha [divine providence] arranged things such that from a young age I was a teacher and then a priest. I never married, which means I never married a non-Jew, and I never had non-Jewish children. I imagine that had things worked out differently, it would have been much more difficult for me to leave everything and return to the religion of my fathers." Yaakov now lives in Jerusalem and works for Yad Vashem.

Moroccan FM: Israel Must Be Stakeholder Not Outsider in the Middle East

Israel must be part of a new Middle East order bound together by both regional opportunities and the need to combat joint threats, Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita said on September 17 at a virtual event marking the anniversary of the Abraham Accords.

"There is a need for a new regional order where Israel is a stakeholder and no longer an outsider in its own region," Bourita said at the event hosted by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken. "This new regional order should not be perceived as against someone but rather to benefit us all."

"Also, this new regional order should be based on an updated joint assessment of threats but also how to generate opportunities that favor stability and development for all," he said.

The event with US, Israeli, Moroccan, Bahraini and Emirati officials was held two days after the actual September 15, 2020 anniversary date of the White House ceremony that launched the Abraham Accords that allowed for Arab states to normalize ties with Israel. Prior to the accords, Israel had normal ties only with Egypt, which whom it signed a peace treaty in 1979, and Jordan, with whom an agreement was reached in 1994. (JPost / VFI News)

[HTTPS://VFINEWS.COM/NEWS](https://vfi.news.com/news)

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Charlotte NC 28241-7743

"God, we ask that you continue to foster peace among the nations, especially in the Middle East."

Pope Warns of Antisemitism as He Visits Hungary | BBC

"I think of the threat of antisemitism still lurking in Europe and elsewhere," the pope said in an ecumenical meeting in Budapest with leaders of other Christian religions and Jews. "This is a fuse that must not be allowed to burn. And the best way to defuse it is to work together, positively, and to promote fraternity."

Winston Churchill Speaks About the Jewish People

The following is an excerpt from an article by Tsvi Sadan, published in www.IsraelToday.co.il

The question is not whether or not Palestinians are anti-Semites, but rather why Israel is turning a blind eye to Palestinian antisemitism, which sends the message that in some way antisemitism is justifiable. This is an old question Winston Churchill tried to answer in his column "Zionism Versus Bolshevism." With the short-lived Bavarian Soviet Republic of 1919 in mind—an entity that was instigated and led by Bolshevik Jews like Rosa Luxemburg, Ernest Toller, Eugene Levine and Kurt Eisner—Churchill wrote:

"The conflict between good and evil which proceeds unceasingly in the breast of man nowhere reaches such an intensity as in the Jewish race. The dual nature of mankind is nowhere more strongly or more terribly exemplified. We owe to the Jews ... the most precious possession of mankind ... on that system and by that faith there has been built out of the wreck of the Roman Empire the whole of our existing civilization."

And without coiling, he also says of Marxist Jews like Kurt Eisner: *"Producing another system of morals and philosophy, as malevolent as Christianity was benevolent, which, if not arrested, would shatter irretrievably all that Christianity has rendered possible. It would almost seem as if the gospel of Christ and the gospel of Antichrist were destined to originate among the same people; and that this mystic and mysterious race had been chosen for the supreme manifestations, both of the divine and the diabolical."*

And regrettably this conflict is shown today in the political divide that represents the essential difference between Zionists and post-Zionists, who have much in common with those bygone Jewish Bolsheviks.

Welcome to the Twilight Zone

Excerpts from an article by WWW.AFA.NET
(American Family Association)

▶ As reported in July, a University of California medical school professor apologized to his class for implying "that only women can get pregnant."

▶ The panelists on a webinar hosted by Harvard Medical School postgraduate studies used the term "birthing person" rather than "woman." The explanation posted for this switch stated that the panel wanted to "include those who identify as non-binary or transgender because

not all who give birth identify as 'women' or 'girls.'"

▶ In its style and grammar guidelines, the American Psychological Association states that when psychologists are writing, they "need to follow general principles to ensure that your language is free of bias." For example, words like "birth sex" are considered "disparaging" to transgender individuals and must be avoided.

This kind of lunacy has clearly impacted America's youth. For example, according to an article in **National Review**, the Center for Transyouth Health and Development in California saw the number of young people coming in for gender dysphoria problems jump from 80 in 2009 to 1,000 in 2019. (In the U.K., the media has reported a 4,000% rise in young people wanting to change their sex!)

It looks like for now the fight to protect religious liberty has solid public support. A Rasmussen poll this summer found that 82% of Americans believe our First Amendment protections of religious freedom are important to our society. At the same time, the poll found that a mere one-fifth of Americans say churches and religious organizations should be forced to hire people who do not hold to their religious beliefs.

Iran Supreme Leader's Rep. Calls for Destruction of Israel

Lotfollah Dezhkam, the representative for the Islamic Republic of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei in Fars Province, urged the elimination of Israel in a Friday sermon, October 1, in the city of Shiraz.

The Islamic clerical firebrand declared, "The global arrogance led by America with complicity of Israel seeks to delay the realization of an important issue, which is the destruction of the Zionist regime." Kian Meli, a news outlet opposed to the Islamic Republic of Iran, quoted his remarks. Three regime-controlled news organizations – Islamic Republic News Agency, Fars News and Tasnim – reported on his speech.

Sheina Vojoudi, an Iranian dissident who fled to Germany to escape persecution, said, "The more the mullahs spread hate speech against the Jewish State of Israel, the more Iranian people realize that Israel is our friend, because the regime in Iran is the only enemy that we have. His hate speech against Israel is not surprising.... Ali Khamenei as the leader of the Islamic Republic calls for the annihilation of Israel and Dezhkam is his representative."

She added, "We are tired of their antisemitism. We have a long history with the Jewish people and we want to be able to revive that 2700 years of friendship. The Islamic Republic's antisemitism is lethal... (JPost / VFI News)

www.VisionForIsrael.com

It is Time to End Discrimination Against Israel in the UN

In 2020, the United Nations General Assembly issued 17 resolutions against Israel and only six resolutions (one each) against six of the other 192 member nations of the UN. Curiously, Israel has a much better record on human rights than most of the countries of the world, and far better than any other nation in the Middle East. This is in spite of the fact that Israel is in a very dangerous neighborhood, surrounded by enemy nations around her seeking her destruction, as well as many enemies even within her borders.

Israel was the **only** nation condemned for its alleged violations of women's rights, even though Israel has the very best record on women's rights in the entire North Africa, Middle East area. The first victims of Radical Islam are the Muslim populations, especially the women where "honor" killings are routine and where women are otherwise treated with brutality. Israel deserves equal treatment with the other nations of the UN, and should not be singled out with these anti-Semitic UN resolutions. Source: Jerusalem Post, 9/23/21, p.5

Eureka! Israel Has as Much Oil as Saudi Arabia

By **Aryeh Savir/TPS** www.israeltoday.co.il

There are about 250 billion barrels of oil in oil shale in Israel, similar to the amount of oil Saudi Arabia has, Professor Eugene Kendall told the Knesset, calling on it to exploit the resources.

"We know where they lie," Kendall, former head of the National Economic Council in the Prime Minister's Office, told the Knesset's Special Committee for Overseeing the Fund for Managing State Revenues from the Tax on Profits from Gas and Oil on Tuesday, and said that a committee that was not authorized to deal with oil decided not to approve even a 20-acre experiment either.

"Tens of billions of dollars lie underground and nobody is doing anything with it," he added. Committee head Member of Knesset (MK) Avi Dichter said Kendall's revelation was "dramatic and has a lot of weight."

Oil shale is an organic-rich fine-grained sedimentary rock containing kerogen, a solid mixture of organic chemical compounds, from which liquid hydrocarbons can be produced. Oil shale is similar to petroleum and can be refined into many different substances, including diesel fuel, gasoline, and liquid petroleum gas.

Oil shale in Israel is widespread covering

approximately 15% of its territory, but is an undeveloped resource, largely because of economic and technological constraints. According to the Geological Survey of Israel, deposits that could have the biggest economic potential are located in the northern Negev.

Oil shale development in Israel has caused protests among environmental organizations. However, Dichter said during the committee session that "the economic and state protection problems are no less important than the environmental protection problems."

"And He made him (Israel) suck honey from the rock, and oil from the flinty rock." Deuteronomy 32:13

GOD's VIEW of LIFE...might be a different view than mine

I would have pulled Joseph out. Out of that pit. Out of prison. Out of pain.....and left Israel to famine...cheating them out of slavery-lessons...and Moses and Pesach/Passover...Salvation.

I would have pulled David out. Out of Saul's spear-throwing...running and hiding in caves...pains of rejection. And cheated Israel of David's Psalms and Prophecies, and of the Son of David.

I would have pulled Esther out. Out of a harem, and from a vicious, murdering Haman...and would have cheated Israel out of salvation by His woman savior.

I would have pulled Yeshua off. Off the execution tree. Off the road to Jerusalem and mockery and torture and death...away from nakedness, humiliation, beatings, nails and thorns...and would have cheated mankind of God's Son, Our Savior, and our hope from eternal damnation.

Ahh, friend, I would pull you out...change your path...stop your pain. But that's impossible. It would cheat you of God's Plan for you. He alone knows the good your pain and suffering will produce in you...as He watches over you, keeps you through all these...Fulfilling promises to you, showing HE is trustworthy...as He always is, for His Son, and for you.

"Not by power, not by might, but by My Spirit, says YHWH." Not pull you out by this world's means, but lift you up by intercessory prayers to the Father asking Him to give you strength, hope, protection, comfort from the Holy Spirit. Healing of eyes and spirit to discern Him and His call to you for your life of service on earth to Him.

With all Thanksgiving (Ps. 50:14, 1 Thes. 5:18, Hebrews 13:15) and Praise (Psalm 54:6, 34:1)

Submitted by Myrl Allinder

When Muslims Convinced Christians to be Zionists

by Ryan Jones www.IsraelToday.co.il

(**Israel Today** is a great source of news which we recommend to our readers. **RAC**)

Would you believe that once upon a time Arab Muslim leaders were busy convincing Western Christian politicians to get onboard with the Zionist enterprise of reestablishing a Jewish state in the Middle East? Kind of the opposite of what's going on today, when most Arab leaders routinely call into question the legitimacy of Israel's existence.

But in 1919, fresh off their victory over the Ottomans in World War I, the Arab world's top leaders recognized the enormous benefits of having the Jewish people return to and reestablish sovereignty in the Holy Land. Ironically, it was Christian politicians from the UK that needed convincing, despite the fact that it was their own government steered by Bible-believing men like Lord Arthur Balfour that had gotten the ball rolling on this idea of a restored Jewish state.

Among those British delegates to the Paris Peace Conference was **Philip Noel-Baker**, who would later go on to win the Nobel Peace Prize. At the time, Noel-Baker was a young rising star in British politics, and his support for various aspects of the deals and treaties being hammered out was seen as important. But he was unconvinced that the promises made to the Jewish people in the Balfour Declaration of 1917 could be realized, that the Arabs would accept a Jewish state in the Middle East. Noel-Baker is quoted as saying in the book *End of Empire*:

"I did not believe the Arabs would accept a Jewish national home in Palestine, but one of my colleagues took me to see the Emir Feisal in Geneva. T.E. Lawrence, the great friend of the Arab leaders, was with him and Feisal said that the arrival of European Jews with their energy and enterprise and modern scientific skills would be good for Palestine and good for the Arabs. It was that conversation which converted me to Zionism."

The Emir Feisal, ruler of Mecca, was in the wake of World War I seen as the *de facto* leader of the entire Arab world. **T.E. Lawrence** is, of course, the man we more commonly known as "Lawrence of Arabia."

Twenty years later, in 1939, Noel-Baker appeared before Parliament to oppose British efforts to curb Jewish immigration to the Holy Land, again noting that the influx of Jews had been both accepted and welcomed by the Arab leadership.

In 1981, Noel-Baker was interviewed for the Israeli documentary *Pillar of Fire*, and recalled that eye-opening meeting with the Emir Feisal and Lawrence of Arabia:

"And when I got to the lunch [with my colleague], who were his other guests but Lawrence of Arabia and the Emir Feisal. And I was converted to Zionism by those two men: Feisal making his speeches, and Lawrence translated from the Arabic. And the Emir Feisal said to me, 'Of course we want Zionists to come into Palestine. We know what will happen. They'll bring vast sums of American and other capital, they'll bring in the greatest scientists in the world, all the greatest scientists are Jewish, and the territory of Palestine, now so arid and so much of it a desert, it will become a garden and blossom like the rose. We shall borrow their experts, we shall work together, we shall do the same in all the countries which we Arabs have turned into deserts.'"

It is a shame that the Emir Feisal's vision was never realized, instead being swallowed up by violent revolutions and radicalism. But what is clear is that today's Arab rejection of Israel and the insistence that Jews are foreign colonizers with no legitimate place in the Middle East is a relatively new phenomenon. Just 100 years ago, the leaders of the Arab world were eager to welcome the Jews home.

Advice Not Taken

Top military offices told Congress in early October that they had advised President Biden against withdrawing the remaining U.S. troops. All of the gains from the past 20 years ended in a very chaotic evacuation, with the Taliban taking over Afghanistan in only 11 days. Both Joint Chief of Staff General Mark Milley and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke against the withdrawal of the troops. "The enemy is in charge in Kabul," said Milley. *The Week*, Oct 8th, p. 7

Hospital Bills for Covid Patients

The **San Francisco Chronicle** reported that the average bill for patients hospitalized for Covid-19 is \$98,139, per a new study by the nonprofit **Fair Health**. For cases requiring a ventilator or a stay in an intensive care unit, the average bill was \$317,810. Over 90% of hospitalized Covid patients had not received the Covid vaccine. Meanwhile, televangelist Kenneth Copeland told his congregation that airline vaccine mandates were "the mark of the Beast," and therefore they should buy him a private jet, per *The Week*.

(Just for the record, Miriam and I are both fully vaccinated. Ken Copeland is nuts. **RAC**)

The Phizer Vaccine

Excerpt from:

"The Future is Now"

By the JPost Staff

Oct. 21, 2021

www.jpost.com

In a video message to the conference Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said that Israel "has a special place in my heart. It not only represents the fulfillment of a dream, but a safe harbor that we feel can protect us and our children from things that happened in the past."

Bourla is a Jewish man from Thessaloniki, Greece, and the son of Holocaust survivors.

However, Bourla stressed, his decision to sell enough vaccines to Israel to inoculate anyone who has wanted to get the jab as many as three times was "a heavily considered decision."

"And given the results," he added, "I am happy to say, a very wise one."

Bourla said he had been looking for one country to demonstrate what the vaccine could do.

"Simply put, Israel had all the right conditions: Israel's Ministry of Health is one of the best in the world, as is Israel's healthcare system. The small population of Israel made the study manageable. Israel has a high degree of electronic data [and a] monitoring system connected to an overwhelming majority of the population," he said. "And finally, and very important, no country has more experience in managing crises."

He said that both Israel and Pfizer were prepared for the challenge and called the results of their collaboration "phenomenal."

So far, nearly 6.2 million Israelis have received at least one shot of the Pfizer vaccine. In total, between first, second and third jabs, nearly 16 million doses have been administered in the country.

Israel is once again close to reaching herd immunity against the coronavirus, Head of Public Health Services Dr. Sharon Alroy-Preis told the conference. Vaccinated tourists from the US will be allowed to enter Israel with their own health declaration despite not having an electronic Green Pass, she said. Last week, Health Ministry Director-General Nachman Ash said the authorities intend to reopen the borders to foreign nationals who are fully vaccinated.

Rev. Twistruth

REVEREND TWISTRUTH, DO YOU REALIZE IT WAS WE JEWS WHO GAVE YOU CHRISTIANS THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?



WELL, RABBI ROSEN, YOU CAN'T SAY WE KEPT THEM!



Dear Petah Tikvah ~

An inmate wrote to you asking about a Hebrew-English dictionary. I saw Webster's New World Hebrew/English Dictionary at Ollies. Perhaps inmates might benefit from it.

Nancy Beauseigner, PENNSYLVANIA

Editor's Note: The above dictionary would be useful for those who cannot read with the Hebrew alphabet, because it also contains Hebrew words transliterated using the Roman alphabet such as I am using now. This dictionary is also available through Target and Walmart. The dictionary which I use is the *Bantam Hebrew-English Dictionary*, which uses the Hebrew with the vowels, but no transliteration. Either dictionary costs about \$17. Both are for modern Israeli Hebrew, not Biblical Hebrew. For Biblical Hebrew, *Strong's Concordance* is excellent. **RAC**

Educators in Florida and Texas Who Legitimize Holocaust Denial

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, www.wiesenthal.com

First, a principal in Florida is reinstated after he refused to say that the Nazi Holocaust was a historic fact. Then, an administrator in a Texas school district tells teachers to balance Holocaust education with books denying it ever took place. In the 1930s, Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels declared — "If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it."

In 2021, We live in an era when you are not only entitled to your own beliefs, you can also create your own facts. And in our time, and no matter how outrageous the lie or slander you can find validation for alternative 'facts' on social media," declared Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Associate Dean and Director of Global Social Action of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a leading Jewish Human Rights NGO that teaches the lessons of the Nazi Holocaust.

Teachers have always been America's front-line warriors for teaching core values to our children—chief among them critical thinking and discerning fact from fiction. That is no longer always the case. These individuals have turned historic fact into a multiple-choice question. This opens the door for denial and distortion not only of the Holocaust in our schools but of the history of our nation and the struggle against slavery and discrimination. G-d help us all.

Not a Good Time for Women

The British medical journal **The Lancet** published an article on menstruation problems afflicting "bodies with vaginas." Many readers with that type of body objected. Editor-in-chief Richard Horton defended the omission of the word "women" as an attempt to achieve "maximum inclusivity of all people." *The Week, Oct 8, 2021*

Who Pays for Covid Treatment?

In the USA, those with health care insurance often have co-pays that the insured must pay. One woman who had a month-long stay at an intensive care unit came out of the hospital with a co-pay of \$5,500. That's very reasonable, considering the cost of that time in ICU costs hundreds of thousands. However, those with no health insurance have the full costs of their treatments covered by the federal government, with no co-pays. US tax-payers are ultimately footing the full bill for those who choose to not have health insurance. That is unfair to taxpayers. It takes the incentive out of purchasing health insurance. (We also believe that Medicaid insurance should be available for the poor. **RAC**)

The Week, 10/8/21

The Trump Prophecies

Issue 24 of **Messiah** magazine (<https://ffoz.org>) published by First Fruits of Zion (PO Box 649, Marshfield MO 65706) included a rather brave but scholarly article written by Jacob Fronczak. Mr. Fronczak's article is described as "The sordid story of hundreds of false prophets who sold out their discipleship for political gain." Specifically, he was critical of the many "prophets" who had "prophesied" that Donald Trump would win the presidential election in November 2020. I heard some of these "prophecies." In point of fact, Donald Trump lost, and Joe Biden won. This was the conclusion of 51 court cases, including both Republicans and Democrats. Even our Supreme Court, with 6 conservative justices (3 of whom were nominated to the Court by Donald Trump) ruled 9 to 0 to verify the election results.

I am very grateful to Donald Trump for the many good things he accomplished for Israel and the Middle East. However, for the 2020 election, the facts don't seem to matter for some people. Trump lost. Issue 25 of **Messiah Magazine** bravely printed responses from its readers expressing their anger about the article by Fronczak. One wrote, "I found the article to be slanderous toward our God-appointed leader." Another wrote, "President Trump will be the catalyst for the next age of the true Church... People like you will have to answer for faithlessness." Actually, Fronczak was rather kind regarding these false prophets. Deuteronomy 13:5 and 18:20 recommends the death penalty for false prophets. However, today people keep on following these false prophets, and condemn those who speak a word of warning against these "prophets."

I am offended when people falsely claim that I said or wrote something that I never said or wrote. Often our Heavenly Father must be shocked when He hears someone say, "Thus saith the Lord..." He must be thinking, "Hey, I didn't say that." We need to be very careful about "prophesying." I believe in latter-day prophecy. However, most of the "prophesying" that we see today is not of God. As was pointed out in **Messiah Magazine**, "Jewish law considers God's name to be profaned when his people do something that gives outsiders a valid reason to defame him." This concept is called *chilul Ha-Shem* (profaning God's name).

Earlier in 2021, I heard of a "prophecy" that Donald Trump would be reinstated as President in August 2021. Didn't happen. I heard another "prophecy" that Covid-19 would have an enormous spike in October 2021. Didn't happen. In biblical times, a person could correctly prophecy correctly 99 times. But if he then made one false prophecy, he was considered a **false prophet**. We need the same standard for today.

Ex-atheist CS Lewis was once a 'vigorous debunker of Christianity.'
Actor reveals what imploded that worldview. By Billy Hallowell
www.christianpost.com

Legendary Christian writer and thinker C.S. Lewis went from "vigorous debunker of Christianity" to one of history's most transformative and apologetic faith voices. But most people today are much more acquainted with his hit books, like *Mere Christianity* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*, than the finer details of his compelling faith journey.

Nearly 60 years after Lewis' death, that spiritual evolution is getting a fresh look through the popular, new film, "The Most Reluctant Convert: The Untold Story of C.S. Lewis." Actor Max McLean, who plays Lewis in the movie, recently told Faithwire about the author's stunning transformation from "hard-boiled atheist" to Christian apologist.

"[Lewis] lost his mother to cancer at the age of 9, [and] he had a terrible relationship with his father. ... And he also experienced the butchery of being in the trenches of World War I," McLean said. "And he came to the conclusion after that that either there's no God behind the universe, a God who's indifferent to good and evil — or worse, an evil God."

But as we know, that was hardly the end of Lewis' spiritual journey. He eventually came to accept Christ and to formulate some of the best and most compelling arguments for God and the Bible.

McLean said Lewis is, in some ways, a "paradox," as he was a private man who had so many public proclamations that have spanned decades and transformed lives. "Not only does he explore things spiritually and emotionally, but he ties it together intellectually so that there's no bifurcation of the spiritual, the emotional," he said.

McLean also detailed the impact Lewis' legacy has had on his own life. The actor said he was an adult convert to Christianity and the legendary author has helped him, through reading and studying his works, to "navigate the Christian faith in a way that's deep — that's profound." "Lewis helps me to stay on track," he said.

McLean is in a unique position, as the actor has repeatedly adapted Lewis' works for the theatrical stage for two decades now, using his acting chops to bring vivid spiritual writings to life.

Considering Lewis' literary legacy, it should come as no surprise that his story, as told through "The Most Reluctant Convert: The Untold Story of C.S. Lewis," is resonating.

WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM

Palestinian School Magazine Calls for 'Armed Struggle' against 'Israeli Monster'

Demonization of Israel and incitement to violence are rampant in *Waed*, a magazine published by Fatah's youth movement and distributed in Palestinian Authority schools, a new study by Palestinian Media Watch found.

Palestinian Media Watch (PMW) reviewed 17 issues of *Waed* published in December 2014-September 2021, and found that the magazine glorifies terrorists who murdered Israelis as heroes and anticipates a Palestinian state that will replace all of Israel, including the removal of Israelis from the land.

PMW distributed its report to Norwegian lawmakers on Wednesday, November 17, as the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for funding to the PA met in Oslo. The magazines include references to "the giant Israeli murder machine" and "the Israeli monster," and accuses Israel of behaving like Nazis.

Waed claims Palestinians have a "right to wage an armed struggle to take back its stolen homeland," and "the liberation of Palestine will only be achieved through armed struggle."

Waed is a publication of Lion Cubs and Flowers, the youth movement of the PA's ruling party Fatah. The movement is for Palestinian children aged 6-15, and its magazine is distributed at summer camps, schools and activities. (JPost / VFI News) <https://VFINEWS.com/news>



Yeshua did not come to Earth to establish a new religion.

He came to be the Messiah for the old religion: Judaism

A Telegram That Could Have Changed History

www.WorldJewishCongress.org

Over 79 years ago, a World Jewish Congress telegram could have changed Jewish history – if only people had listened. But today, the world pays attention when we speak and that's because of the support of millions of people.

On August 8th, 1942, Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner, WJC's representative in Geneva, sent a telegram to Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, president of the World Jewish Congress and a personal friend of President Franklin Roosevelt, providing him with reliable information that he had received from a high-placed source revealing Hitler's plans to annihilate millions of European Jews. It was the first authoritative word that the Nazis had actually coordinated an extermination plan.

It would ultimately take many attempts for Riegner's message to reach the appropriate American recipients. And it was not until January 1944 that President Roosevelt created the War Refugee Board whose aim was to try to save Jews, using the evidence that had been uncovered over the course of the preceding year-and-a-half. "Since my first telegram, 18 months had passed during which time the inexorable massacre continued and millions of Jews were sacrificed," Riegner wrote in his memoirs.

For the rest of his life, Riegner was haunted by the knowledge that many of the 6 million Jews killed in Nazi concentration camps could have been saved if the United States and Britain had heeded his warning and taken immediate action. "Never did I feel so strongly the sense of abandonment, powerlessness and loneliness as when I sent messages of disaster and horror to the free world, and no one believed me," Riegner recalled in his memoirs.

While we cannot change Riegner's painful experiences, the World Jewish Congress continues to write a new story of the Jewish future with an unshakable dedication to protecting our global community. We sound the alarm and will not rest until the world acts against the newest wave of antisemitism.

Book report:

The Dressmakers of Auschwitz The True Story of the Women Who Sewed to Survive

This is a book written by **Lucy Adlington**

Publisher: Fox Lane Books

Bookshop.org LucyAdlington.com

At the height of the Holocaust twenty-five young inmates of the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp - mainly Jewish women and girls - were selected to design, cut, and sew beautiful fashions for elite Nazi women

in a dedicated salon. It was work that they hoped would spare them from the gas chambers.

This fashion workshop - called the Upper Tailoring Studio - was established by Hedwig Höss, the camp commandant's wife, and patronized by the wives of SS guards and officers. Here, the dressmakers produced high-quality garments for SS social functions in Auschwitz, and for ladies from Nazi Berlin's upper crust.

Drawing on diverse sources - including interviews with the last surviving seamstress - **The Dressmakers of Auschwitz** follows the fates of these brave women. Their bonds of family and friendship not only helped them endure persecution, but also to play their part in camp resistance. Weaving the dressmakers' remarkable experiences within the context of Nazi policies for plunder and exploitation, historian Lucy Adlington exposes the greed, cruelty, and hypocrisy of the Third Reich and offers a fresh look at a little-known chapter of World War II and the Holocaust.

Editor's Comment: Imagine the horror of these Jewish women being forced to make beautiful clothing for Nazi women in order to survive, knowing that the Nazis were murdering thousands of Jews everyday in Auschwitz and other German concentration camps. However, they were also finally able to play a part in the resistance against Nazi barbarism. **RAC**

The 'Messiah' Has Been Arrested in Lod, Israel

Staff of www.israeltoday.co.il

A man claiming to be Israel's prophesied messiah was arrested in the central town of Lod in September 2021 after he assaulted the local mayor. Appearing in court, it was unclear exactly why the defendant was upset with Lod Mayor Yair Revivo, but it seemed to have something to do with the municipality removing some construction he had done without proper permits.

What was clear was that the man did not view the court as having any authority over him, and was unwilling to let a public defender represent him.

"The Holy One, blessed be He, the Creator of all, is managing my affairs quite well," he insisted. "I have already told you that I am the Messiah. Is this so difficult to accept?"

When the judge decided to extend the man's detention while the case continues, the "Messiah" passed his own judgement: *"I need to get out of here for the final redemption. If I am the Messiah, I don't have time for police and courts."* (Yeshua warned of false prophets and false Messiahs in Matthew 24:4-5. This one belongs in the looney bin. **RAC**)

Israeli, German Air Force Take to Jerusalem Skies in Joint Exercise

by Kate Norman www.bridgesforpeace.com

Israeli and German jets soared side-by-side over the Jerusalem skies on October 17, 2021, kicking off the "Blue Flag" joint exercise between the Israeli Air Force (IAF) and a number of other countries.

It's not likely a sight that anyone living 60 or 70 years ago imagined they would see: a Luftwaffe fighter jet—painted with the German flag alongside the Israeli flag—flying wing-to-wing with an Israeli jet over the capital of the Jewish state.

The flyover marks the first time a German plane has flown over the skies of Jerusalem since the First World War, the *Times of Israel* noted. The flight was led by IAF Commander Maj.-Gen. Amikam Norkin and Lt.-Gen. Ingo Gerhartz, head of the German air force.

Norkin piloted an F-15 jet, and Gerhartz flew an "Eagle Star" Eurofighter adorned with both nations' flags, as well as the German eagle next to the Star of David. Jerusalemites going about their day stopped when they heard the loud roar of the low-flying planes and stared in awe at the V-shaped formation flying just overhead.

Before the flyover, Norkin and Gerhartz visited the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial site in Jerusalem "to honor Holocaust victims and ensure a future of tolerance and peace," the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) tweeted.

Together they took place in a ceremony in the Hall of Remembrance, where the Luftwaffe officer stood beside his Jewish counterpart, lit the eternal flame of remembrance and laid a wreath in memory of the Holocaust victims.

"We still feel the suffering of the Jewish victims of the *Shoah* [Holocaust]," Gerhartz said in a speech. "Our responsibility will not expire. The eternal flame of remembrance must not fade."

The event took place just over a year after Israeli fighter jets flew over the Dachau concentration camp in Germany and the site where 11 Israeli athletes were murdered by Palestinian terrorists during the 1972 Olympics in Munich.

The October 17th flyover, dubbed "Wings of History," is part of the larger "Blue Flag" joint exercise hosted by the IAF in conjunction with the air forces from Germany, France, India, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States...

"The exercise provides the opportunity to conduct joint tactical flights against a variety of threats using advanced technology," the IDF said on its website. The exercise will provide the participating countries with experience in air-to-air and air-to-ground combat as well as advanced surface-to-air missiles...

Statements of United States Supreme Court Justices

"The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts." John Jay, First Chief Justice

"Human law must rest its authority ultimately upon the authority of that law which is Divine... Far from being enemies, religion and law are twin sisters, friends, and mutual assistants." James Wilson, an Original Supreme Court Justice

Statements of U.S. Presidents

"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and to humbly implore His protection and favor."

George Washington, First President of the USA

"We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." John Adams, Second President of USA

"And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever." Thomas Jefferson, Third USA President

"Before any man can be considered as a member of civil society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe."

James Madison, Fourth President of the USA

Israel and the UAE: Going to the Moon Together

Israel and the United Arab Emirates are set to sign an agreement on space collaboration that could see the two nations' flags jointly planted on the moon by 2024, the Ynet news site reported on October 19th.

The agreement would be the latest step forward in the burgeoning relationship between Jerusalem and Abu Dhabi since the signing of the Abraham Accords normalizing ties between the two countries.

**REVEREND
TWISTRUTH
& HIS DISCIPLES**
by Daniel Botkin

V.
"Thou shalt
not think"

WE DON'T NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT OLD TESTAMENT COMMANDMENTS ANYMORE! WE'RE UNDER "THE LAW OF CHRIST"! WE'VE GOT A NEW AND IMPROVED SET OF RULES TO FOLLOW! PRAISE GOD!



WE'RE GONNA START A STUDY TONIGHT ON "THE LAW OF CHRIST"! FOR A STUDY GUIDE WE'LL BE USING THIS LIST OF VERSES CALLED "ALL THE COMMANDMENTS OF CHRIST"! THIS WILL HELP US SEE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW AND THE LAW OF CHRIST! IT LISTS THE CHAPTER AND VERSE FOR EVERY COMMANDMENT CHRIST GAVE DURING HIS MINISTRY!



LET'S SEE WHAT THE FIRST ONE SAYS! MATT. 4:17... "REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND"! THIS IS THE FIRST COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW OF CHRIST! WE MUST REPENT!

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT CHRIST GAVE IS IN MATT. 4:19... "FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN"! CHRIST COMMANDS US TO FOLLOW HIM AND BECOME SOUL-WINNERS!

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW OF CHRIST IS MATT. 5:12... "REJOICE AND BE EXCEEDING GLAD"! HOW ABOUT THAT? ONE OF THE LAWS OF CHRIST IS A COMMANDMENT TO REJOICE! GLORY!



THE NEXT COMMANDMENT CHRIST GAVE IS MATT. 5:16! "LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN"! THESE NEW INSTRUCTIONS ARE SO MUCH BETTER THAN THOSE OLD COMMANDMENTS IN THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS!



LET'S SEE WHAT THE NEXT COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW OF CHRIST IS! HERE IT IS, MATT. 5:17... "THINK NOT... THINK NOT..." ? COUGH-COUGH... WELL, PRAISE GOD...



"THINK NOT," CHRIST SAID! THIS IS THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW OF CHRIST: "THINK NOT"! OR, "DO NOT THINK" AS THE N.I.V. SAYS! WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ABOUT OUT OF TIME, SO LET'S STOP HERE AND OBEY THIS COMMANDMENT AND "THINK NOT"! DON'T THINK, JUST BELIEVE! AMEN!



WE'LL CONTINUE THIS STUDY NEXT WEEK, AND START AT THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW OF CHRIST! CHURCH DISMISSED!



READERS: LET'S PRAY THAT NONE OF REV. TWISTRUTH'S DISCIPLES OPEN THEIR BIBLES AND READ THE REST OF THIS COMMANDMENT OF CHRIST IN MATT. 5:17-19! IT MIGHT PUT THEM IN TERRIBLE BONDAGE!



Daniel has a bimonthly publication, **Gates of Eden**. For a sample issue, send \$3 to PO Box 2257, E Peoria IL 61611-0257.

שְׁאַלָה שְׁלוֹם יְרוּשָׁלַיִם

Sha'alu shalom Yerushalayim
("Pray for the peace of Jerusalem")
Psalm 122:6

Americans have been to this rodeo before. Then-President Obama was convinced that he could transform the Middle East and convince the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and theocracy in Iran to transform themselves into centerpieces of stability and reliability for the region and the Arab Muslim worlds.

To win over Iran's Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Obama administration negotiated a deal that would delay, but ultimately open the way for a nuclear-armed Iran. Protests and warnings from Israel and the Gulf States fell on deaf ears.

The results? Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood took power and later was deposed. And what did eight years of appeasement—led by the Obama administration and happily followed by Germany, Austria, France and the United Kingdom—yield? A free pass for Iran's mullahs to continue to crack down on human rights at home; revenue from oil to free the regime to increase mayhem in Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and Venezuela; and the money necessary to further Iran's nuclear ambitions.

President Trump pulled out of the nuclear agreement known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action because Iran continued to violate its parity terms. The Trump administration reimposed sanctions that have seriously damaged the Iranian regime's game plan. By 2019, Iran's oil exports were down 90 percent.

However, President Biden has chosen to pick up where President Obama left off. Like his former boss, Biden has decided to coddle Iran with the hope that it will adopt a moderate and moderating posture. The results thus far:

- Attacks on U.S. forces in the region by Iran have been met with stern words from the Pentagon but no action.
- Without receiving anything in return, the U.S. has quietly allowed China to buy oil from Iran, even though sanctions remain against Iran and any nation importing its oil.
- Worst of all has been Iran's defiant resumption of production of advanced nuclear program parts.

All of this begs the question: What are the results of America's systematically appeasing Ayatollah Khamenei?

First, it continues to roil and destabilize the Gulf and the Middle East. Every country in the region faces an existential threat from potential Iranian nukes. Iran continues to drive old enemies to set aside their differences to prepare for a possible war. There is no other way to interpret the photo of November's meeting between the heads of the Jordanian, Israeli and United

Arab Emirates (UAE) air forces.

Second, Jews have learned the hard way to take verbal threats seriously.

No one paid attention when a virtually unknown Adolf Hitler penned and signed a report in 1919 calling for a final goal to eliminate Jews altogether.

The next meeting with Iran, if convened, is sure to drag on for weeks, possibly months. We soon will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Wannsee Conference, first slated

for December 1941 but postponed to Jan. 20, 1942. There, 15 ministers of Germany's Third Reich set in motion the "Final Solution of the Jewish Question." Among the attendees, who included eight doctorates, discussions centered around the cheapest, most efficient way to murder every Jew in Europe, including those living in neutral countries. Over drinks, the conference attendees voted unanimously to unleash genocide against the Jews — without any reported protest from the academics and intellectuals.

The U.S. and Allied powers were fighting to defeat the Nazis militarily but did virtually nothing to save six million Jews who were being systematically murdered. Helpless, they were reduced to praying for a rescue that never came from an uncaring world.

It would be a good idea for top U.S. officials — including Secretary of State Antony Blinken, whose stepfather, Samuel Pizar, survived the Holocaust — to study the Wannsee Conference protocols. The Jewish State was born on the premise that Jews never again will allow others to dictate their destiny when confronted with an existential threat.

And while U.S. policymakers and Europeans hungry to take advantage of Iranian markets can spin yarns of fancy that someday soon the Iranian regime might change its stripes, Israel cannot do so. It sees a fanatic Jew-hating, Holocaust-denying theocracy allied with Hezbollah and Hamas that seeks its destruction. Ayatollah Khamenei has even endorsed the next "Final Solution" against the Jewish State.

We can only hope that the U.S. will rediscover its moral GPS and once again stand with its allies in the Gulf and the State of Israel against the pernicious threat from Iran. If President Biden continues down the path of appeasement, he could be creating his own "Munich moment." Like 1938, when British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain declared that the Munich agreement with Hitler would lead to "peace for our time," Biden's appeasement would not lead to peace but, instead, an unspeakable conflagration.

Biden Cannot Allow Iran Nuclear Deal to Lead to a Munich Moment

Marvin Hier and Abraham Cooper
WWW.WIESENTHAL.COM

♦ CALIFORNIA

Simchat Yeshua. Shabbat service at 11 am. 1100 E Cameron Ave. Room 10; W Covina CA 91790. Call 626-290-0234

♦ COLORADO

Tikvat Yisrael. Shabbat Services at 2 pm in **Congregation of Yahshua Messiah.** Cong. Grand Junction CO. Email Dennis at: Krostostme@msn.com

♦ FLORIDA

Kehilat Elohim Messianic Synagogue. Rabbi John Schutz, 4815 Executive Park Ct #201; Jacksonville FL 32216. Call 904-318-6002. Shabbat service at 2 pm.

Kehilat Kol Simcha. PO Box 358924, Gainesville FL 32635-8924. Meets at Church of the Nazarene, 5020 NW 23rd Ave, Gainesville. Rabbi Tony Arroyo. Call 352-485-1210.

Messianic Fellowship of Daytona Beach. 1351 Beville FL 32119. Call 386-490-0718. Sabbath Service at 10:30 am. Hebrew classes 6:30 pm Wed nights.

♦ GEORGIA

Kehilat Meshichi Mishkan Shalom. Rabbi Steve Coyle, 97 Kevin Lane, Rock Spring GA 30739. Call 706-237-2530.

♦ ILLINOIS

Gates of Eden. PO Box 2257, E. Peoria IL 61611. Daniel Botkin. Call 309-698-9467.

♦ MASSACHUSETTS

United Messianic Jewish Assemblies, promoting a Messianic Torah-centered life. PO Box 148, Baldwinville MA 01436. WWW.UMJA.NET Call 508-982-0830 kwmacreil@gmail.com

Petah Tikvah Magazine is an official publication of the UMJA.

♦ NEBRASKA

Adat HaTikvat Tzion. Shabbat Services at 10 am at the SW Church of the Nazarene, 14808 Q St, Omaha NE. www.adat.org Call Rav Nate Seitelbach at 402-592-2404.

♦ NEW JERSEY

Beit B'rachot. Rav Joseph Kresesfsky. 31 Belvidere Ave; Washington NJ. Shabbat Service at 10:30 am. Call 908-654-5601.

♦ NEW YORK

Mt. Vernon Congregation of G-d 7th Day, Pastor Bernice, at brown & tan house, 101 South First Ave, Mt. Vernon NY 10550. Shabbat services at 11 am. Call 914-664-7582.

Petah Tikvah. Rav Richard 'Aharon' Chaimberlin. Shabbat services at 2 pm. 165 Doncaster Rd, Rochester NY 14623. Call 585-475-1188.

Messianic Directory

♦ PENNSYLVANIA

Beit Torah. 689 Hillview Rd, Allentown PA 18103. (Located in the Annex of Trinity Baptist) Call 484-425-3499.

BeitTorah2015@gmail.com

Congregation of Yahshua Messiah. Cong. Leader: Bob Young. Shabbat services, 11 am. Call 412-372-5173. pathwayoflight.org

Tikvat T'Zion. 334 E Moody Ave, New Castle PA 16105. Rav Mark Hernandez. Call 724-652-3702 for service times.

♦ RHODE ISLAND

Tents of Jacob. PO Box 7572, Warwick RI 02886. Weekly newsletter with teachings on the parashah of the week is available to all, including inmates.

yochanon1633@yahoo.com

♦ TEXAS

Sabbath Keepers Fellowship, PO Box 972, Malakoff TX 75148. Provides literature, matzah, and taillitot to inmates as finances permit.

♦ VERMONT

United Messianic Jewish Ministries (Prison Ministry), PO Box 122, Brandon VT 05733. umjewishministries.com email: umjewishministries@yahoo.com

♦ WISCONSIN

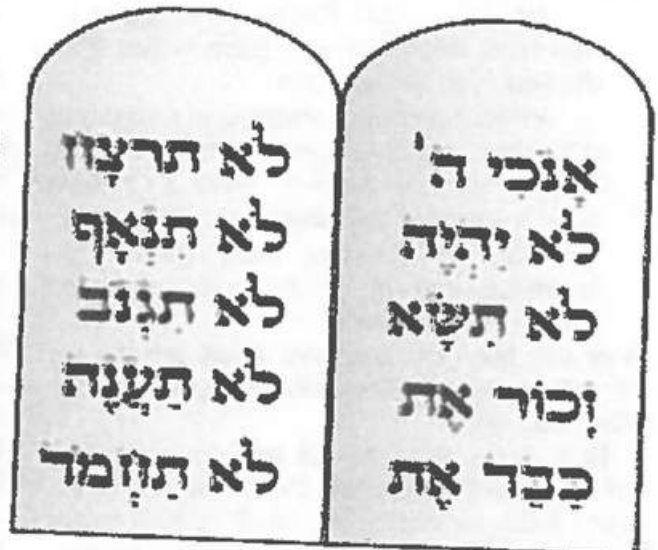
Hebrew Roots Magazine, PO Box 400, Lakewood WI 54138. www.Hebrew-Roots.net 715-757-2775. Great magazine! **RAC**

"Forsake not the assembling of ourselves together, as is the habit of some, but exhort one another, so much the more as you see the day approaching."

HEBREWS 10 : 25



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MESSIANIC CONGREGATION



TAKE TWO TABLETS DAILY!

#THIRSTDAY

The story of how Messianic Youth formed a group during the pandemic



Written by: Jane Madrid, #ThirstDay

KUMUSTA? (Filipino for "how are you?")

"Kamusta" or "Kumusta" (a formal version) is a common way for Filipinos to greet or receive someone warmly. Sometimes, this may also mean that you are checking on someone as this word is derived from Spanish word "Como esta?" which means "how are you?"

4/26/20, 1:15 PM

Hi Emunah youth. Kmusta kayong lahat? I hope and pray na nasa maayos kayong kalagayan. If you need any assistance or like niyo mag simple bible study tayo kahit thru video call lang here sa messenger, let me know. Stay safe kayo. ❤️🙏🙏🙏



I started with this powerful word, "**Kumusta**" because this is where the **Quarantine Bible Study** for the **Young People of Emunah Torah Community** (Also known as ETC) started. **April 26, 2020** when I sent a message to each of the youth in ETC, asking them how are they coping with the lockdown and Covid-19 issues.

If there was one group who were badly affected by the pandemic, I believed it was the **young people**. I coordinated with Raine (who is one of the youth leaders) and after a few exchange of chats, we started the QBS. I was the one who lead the first QBS with the topic, "Blessed Amidst Covid-19". I shared about how should a blessed person deals with the pandemic. After that we have some Q&A. At the end of the BS, they will post on their SocMed Story about their takeaway from the lesson. This has been a great help for the youth. The next QBS were taught by the elders of the community.



QBS reflection via Instagram stories

Our 1st QBS 😊



The word, "Kumusta" has been phenomenal and inspirational since it was also the jump-start of the youth ministry, "Thirstday."



Our QBS posters (left to right):

- Blessed amidst Covid-19 by Jane Madrid (Emunah Torah Community)
- Faith news or fake news? Fake that works by Noel Cagurangan (Tagaytay Messianic Community)
- An idle mind is a devil's playground by Love Capiral (Tagaytay Messianic Community)

Since the QBS is every Thursday afternoon, that's where we get the name "#ThirstDay." Also it signifies the thirst of every young people on God's word. Only the word of God can quench our hunger and thirst. Thus these verses:

Isaiah 55:1 "All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You without money, come, buy, and eat! Yes, come! Buy wine and milk without money — it's free!

Psalm 107:9 For He has satisfied the thirsty soul, And the hungry soul He has filled with what is good.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Yeshua stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink."



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/itsthirstday/>

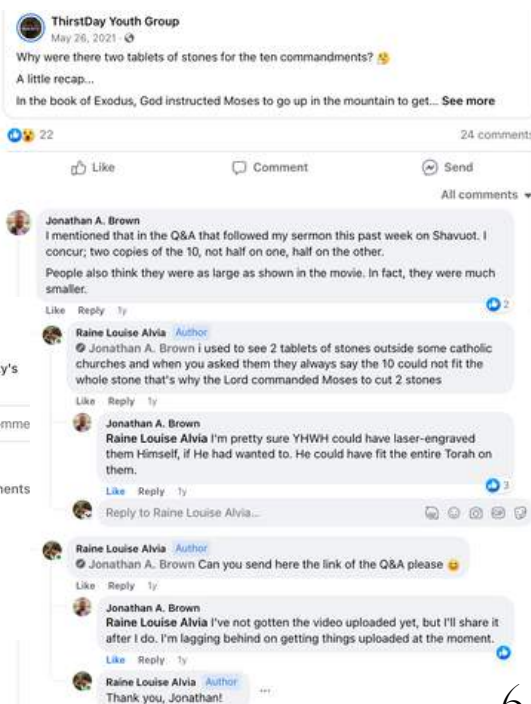


Instagram: @its_thirstday

The #ThirstDay Social Media Pages with everyone on lock down, social media has been a powerful tool to spread the gospel. The pandemic hits people differently. People who are *depressed, sorrowful, abandoned, lonely, angry or facing one problem* comes online searching for unconditional love, comfort, hope, encouragement, and answers to many things. That's where we utilize the use of social media to spread the **Word of God** and engage them with the right message that uplift their spirit and draw them closer to the Way, the Truth and the Life, Messiah Yeshua.

There are inspiring testimonies of people who have been blessed by following the #Thirstday page from the Philippines and even to other parts of the world. Baruch Hashem! Most of the content/articles and digital lay-outs were written and made by the young people of ETC.

Indeed, there's no one too young or too old in serving the Lord Most High. This ministry is still on its mission to spread the good news of salvation, the Torah and biblical foundation of our faith. Everyone recognizes that all the resources we have, the talents and gifts were given by Adonai. It is an honor to use them for His glory.



PASSOVER

LET GO AND LET GOD

Written by: Jane Madrid,
Emunah Torah Community

Read Exodus 12

"For Adonai will pass through to kill the Egyptians; but when he sees the blood on the top and on the two sides, Adonai will pass over the door and will not allow the Slaughterer to enter your houses and kill you. You are to observe this as a law, you and your descendants forever." -Exodus 12: 23-24

On the day of Pesach, we will celebrate the feast together with those who love the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel. It is a celebration of **God's redemption** of the Israelites when they were slaves in Egypt. But it wasn't only the Israelites who came out of Egypt. There were also other nations who joined with them and saw the mighty hands of God. This is a picture of Jew and Gentile one in Messiah. Ephesians 2:11-13



For 400 years, the Israelites became slaves in Egypt. They cried out and God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov. (Exodus 2:24) When Pharaoh hardened his heart and refused the Israelites to go, God used His mighty hands and outstretched arm. He sent plagues but it was only in the 10th plague that Pharaoh let them go.

[YOUTUBE: Passover 5781: Let go and let God | #ThirstDay](#)
[Emunah Torah Community](#)

The story of Passover and the celebration of it is not just for the Jews. This feast was not for them. It is God who appointed these feast to remember. On this day, Passover, God redeemed the Israelites.

This is exactly what our Messiah Yeshua (Jesus Christ) did. When the angel of death saw the blood on the door post, he passed over it and those who were inside lived. In Yeshua we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. (Eph. 1:7; Titus 2:14). It was our Messiah who redeemed us and saved us. This is the beauty of every feasts that God appointed for us to remember. YESHUA, Jesus Christ is in every feasts. Those feasts are the shadows of the things to come (Col. 2:16) and Messiah fulfilled and will fulfill those feasts.

Me and my household are excited to celebrate it. It reminds us of our redemption when we accept Yeshua in our lives and decided to obey His instructions.

"When God says let go of the things that hinder you to worship Him, you need to let go and let His mighty hands lead you to the promised land." -Jane Madrid



ASIA
PACIFIC
MESSIANIC
FELLOWSHIP



KEHILOT, COMMUNITIES AND CONGREGATIONS IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP

INDONESIA

Gereja Kehilat Mesianik Indonesia

(GKMI = Indonesian Assemblies of Messianic
Congregations with the gov't recognition)
Pengakuan KemenAg Kanwii DKI
KW.09.7/BAO1.1/149/2013 Jakarta
Sat 5PM Sun 8AM

Bintaro Messianic Congregation

Bumi Bintaro Permai D7-8 South Jakarta 12320.
Contact: Benyamin Obadayah +62217364258
Sat 10AM and 5PM

Shoresh Messianic Fellowship Plaza
Pasifik Bld A1/1, 4th Fl, Jl Raya Boulevard Barat
Kelapat Gading, North Jakarta
Contact: Benyamin Obadayah +62-812-9912-430

Central Java Sat 10AM

Purwokerto Messianic Congregation Jl Lend
Sudirman 883, Purwokerto, Central Java
Contact: Bambang Rianto +62-8886657801

East Java Sat 5PM

Kehilat Mesianik Congregation

JL Wonokromo 7/5, Mojosari,
Kab Mojokerto, East Java
Contact: Judo Nugroho +62-81913224624

South Kalimantan Sat 10AM

Banjarmasin Messianic Congregation

Jl Pasar Baru 2, Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan
Contact: Edy Purwanto +62-8125189517

North Sulawesi Sat 10AM

Yerushalayim Congregation

Manado, North Sulawesi
Contact: Jefrey Rualemba +62-89655471976
Sat 10AM Netivyah Ministry Jl Garuda 37,
Manado, North Sulawesi
Contact: Oral Bollegraf +62-853 98128567

PAPUA Sat 10AM

El Shaddai Messianic Congregation

Jl Argapura Kanon, Jayapura, Papua
Contact: Seblum Karubaba +62-81247562203
Sat 10AM

Migdal Eder Messianic Congregation

Jl Pasir Dua Jayapura, Papua
Contact: Benny Karubaba +62-812 47082149

South Korea

Korea Shalom Messianic Ekklesia

Shabbat meeting at 2PM
F2,16, Gyeongin-ro 940beon-Gil, Bupyeong-gu,
Incheon, 21424, Korea.
Contact: Yehoshua Jo, yehoshuajo@msn.com,
+82-10-5090-5821

Japan

Japan Messianic Fellowship

Erev Shabbat and Shabbat 10AM
4-14-11 Midorigaoka, Taihaku-ku, Sendai-shi,
Miyagi 982
Contact: Takashi Yokoyama +81-22-285-9227,
jmf@bekkoame.ne.jp

Shalom Messianic Ekklesia

Shabbat Service at 1PM R# 301, 3-9-12
Shinmachi Kitaku, Tokyo, Japan 114-0012
Contact: +81-3-3810-8828, yehoshuajo@me.com

New Zealand

Talmidei Yeshua Messianic Ministry of New Zealand

www.messianic.org.nz

Hawkes Bay Kehillah

Nasi: Grame Purdie talmidimak@gmail.com
+64 277101157

Auckland Kehillah

Nasi: Ashok Kumar talmidimak@gmail.com
+64 21 029 08194
PO Box 8654 Havelock North, 4157 NZ (Talmidei
Yeshua Messianic Ministry of New Zealand may
not necessarily accept or agree with all the views
expressed in this magazine)

Singapore

The Congregation that Song Lai Hee has founded
"Noahide," a totally false pathway so he is alone
now until Yeshua forms a true Kehillah there. He
lives at Blk 620 Bukit, Batok Central #29-522,
Singapore 650620
Contact: Song Lai Hee +6590027471
laihee@gmail.com

Thailand

Bangkok Messianic House

Shabbat 10:30AM 33/5 Soi Nai-Lert, Wireless rd.
Bangkok 10330 Thailand
Contact: Nobuyuki Ito +66-81-915-6154
nobubosuke77@gmail.com

Philippine APMF Diaspora in Canada

Calgary L'Chaim Bible Fellowship

Shabbat service 4PM 138 Bridlewood Ave. SW
Calgary Alberta, Canada
Contact: Louwell Ogbinar +1 (403)-700-2131
loubinar@yahoo.com; Marvin Mayo
+1(403)-796-7657 marvin.mayo@hotmail.com
www.lechaimbiblefellowship.org

Philippines

APMF Officers Philippines

Dave Angiwan: dave@apmfinc.com
Joel Cruz: joel@apmfinc.com
Ted Franco: ted_franco@yahoo.com
Amos Baucas: albaucas@hotmail.com

Member of APMF:

La Trinidad

La Trinidad Bible Congregation (LTBC)

Shabbat Service 10AM Cruz, La Trinidad
PO Box 133, La Trinidad, Benguet 2601
Contact: Amos Baucas (0928) 332 2201
lbaucas@yahoo.com

In Fellowship with APMF

Baguio City

Baguio City Messianic (BCMC)

Shabbat service at 9:30AM
#7 Modesa St., Mines View, Baguio City 2600
Contact: Dave Angiwan dave@apmfinc.com

Ifugao

Banaue Messianic Fellowship

3601 Banaue, Ifugao
Contact: Jose Sarol (0967) 966 3562
clairesarolsarol@gmail.com



**KEHILOT, COMMUNITIES AND CONGREGATIONS IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE
ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP**

Cebu

Cebu Messianic Community

Shabbat Service 10AM, 1PM
Contact: Joel Cruz (0922) 822 5327, Imee Cruz
(0922) 851 2454

Bukidnon

Talakag Messianic Fellowship

Talakag Bukidnon, Mindanao
Shabbat gathering 10AM-6PM
Contact: Solomon Buasag (0977) 802 1025 &
(0935) 297 4405, vivsbuasag@yahoo.com

Rizal

Cainta Torah Community

Shabbat Service at 10:30AM
Dayspring Academy Sunset Drive Brookside
Subdivision, Cainta, Rizal 1900
Contact: Willy and Lita Miranda (0939) 325 3000
(0927) 704 8000 willyz_miranda@yahoo.com

Eagles Wings Messianic Congregations

Friday 6:30PM and Saturday 9:30AM
#7 Saratoga St. Park Place Executive Village,
Cainta Rizal
Contact: Jenny Joven (0928) 655 5469 Christy
Cruz (0995) 194 1502
Also Saturday 9AM #450 L Cerrero St. Brgy.
Macamot, Binangonan Rizal
Contact: Tony Arceo (0926) 829 6338

Paranaque City

Eemunah Tabgha Community

Executive Heights, Paranaque City
Contact: Eva Agustin (0917) 896 0995
Shabbat service 10:30AM

Tagaytay

Tagaytay Torah Community

Shabbat Service 10:30AM
Contact: Ning (0919) 984-0878

Davao Oriental

Pujada Community

Yakal St. Barangay Sainz, City of Mati, Davao
Oriental 8200: Saturday 3-6 PM
Contact: Mark Pineda (0918) 353 2549

Lupon Torah Community

Panuncialman St., Purok Hayahay
Brgy. Poblacion Lupon, Davao Oriental
8AM-11:30AM every Shabbat
Contacts: Petronio (Bong) Conte
bongskik04@gmail.com (0907) 731 9723
Alen Kelly Conte billionairealenkelly@gmail.com,
(0917) 162 3763

Greater Manila Area

Cavite

Eemunah Torah Community

Shabbat service 9:30AM
Block 3 Lot 21 Java St., Cybergreen Hills, General
Trias Cavite 4107
Contact: Christopher Madrid (0932) 844 2958
christophermadrid75@gmail.com or
emunahtorahcommunity@gmail.com

Quezon City

Mishpachat Ha'Mashiach Torah Community

Shabbat Service 2-6PM
Bldg. 11 BLPC, Road 3, Quezon City
Contact: Ian Asuncion or Cecilia Agustin
(0918) 573 6838

Mandaluyong City

Metro Strata Learning Center

Shabbat Service 9:30AM
11th Floor 685 Nueve de Pebrero Ave.
Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
Contact: Tanggol Esquerra (0915) 320 8083

Laguna

Chesed V'Emeth Community

Shabbat Service 12:30PM
Block 11 Lot 36 Calendola Village
San Pedro, Laguna
Contact: Monette Guiruela (0920) 658 3847



Spring 2022 (April-June)

PETAH TIKVAH

"Door of Hope"

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Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship- Edition