



פתח תקווה DOOR OF HOPE



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Welcome to Petah Tikvah: APMF Edition!!

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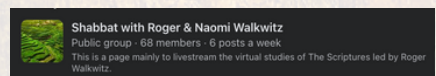
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THE PERILS OF BACKSLIDING

“**T**herefore leaving the **elementary doctrines of Messiah**, let us press onto maturity; not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works**, and of **faith toward God**, of the **instruction of washings**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**. And this we will do, if God permits.”

Hebrews,
chapter 6

The words above are the initial verses of Hebrews chapter 6. This chapter was written to Jews who were already believers in Yeshua as Messiah. Some of the **elementary doctrines of Messiah** mentioned are:

♦ **Repentance from dead works:** In Hebrew, this would be called *teshuvah*, denoting a return to God and away from sin.

♦ **Faith toward God:** As it says in Hebrews 11:6: “Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” In Judaism, the Ten Commandments begin with, “I am YHWH thy God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”¹ The inference is that we must **believe in God**. (In Judaism, Exodus 20:3-6 are combined into one commandment, so Jews also end up with Ten Commandments [lit. “sayings” – *d’varim*], the same number as in Christianity.)

♦ **Instruction of washings:** This refers primarily to the ceremonial washings that existed in Temple times before the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, although other washings continued after 70 CE, such as ceremonial washings (*mikveh*) after menstruation and childbirth. The KJV translates this as “baptisms,” which is only a small part of the meaning of the Greek word *baptismon*. However, it should also be noted that this word also includes the immersion that a proselyte to Judaism undergoes, sometimes called *tevilat gerot* (immersion of the proselyte). Yochanan the Immerser (John the Baptist) was performing an immersion of repentance, which was common among certain Jewish groups, such as the Essenes.

♦ **Laying on of hands:** This would primarily be a reference to the Jewish tradition of *s’mikha*, in which hands are laid on an individual as part of the ordination process.

♦ **Resurrection of the dead:** This is the last of the Thirteen Principles of Faith in Judaism.

♦ **Eternal judgment:** This is a powerful incentive for us. There is eternal judgment for those who live sinful lives and reject the atonement offered

freely to us.

Wow! Those two verses cover a lot of territory! However, the writer of Hebrews refuses to lay again the **elementary doctrines of Messiah**, and proceeds into additional teachings. It would be impossible for a reader to understand the Book of Hebrews without an understanding of Torah² and Judaism.

Then in verse 3, Rav Shaul (Paul) says, “And this will we do, if God permits.” A typical Jewish expression is, “HaShem willing!” The Jewish thought patterns continue throughout the Book of Hebrews.

Curiously, we just received a brochure in the mail from a local Pentecostal church. They are promoting their studies in the Book of Hebrews, saying, “The book of Hebrews describes in detail how Jesus Christ not only fulfills the promises and prophecies of the OT, but how Jesus Christ is **better than everything in the Jewish system of thought**.” How absurd! Unfortunately, this is the normal Christian teaching on the Book of Hebrews.

You can’t even begin to understand the Book of Hebrews if you don’t know the Jewish system of thought! And why stop with Hebrews? It is impossible to understand the rest of the New Testament with a Greek mindset. The NT should be read with a Jewish mindset, as well as an understanding of the Tanakh (OT). The following verses from Hebrews 6:4-6 can be troublesome for some:

“For in the case of those who were once **enlightened**, and have **tasted of the heavenly gift**, and were made **partakers of the Ruakh HaKodesh** (Holy Spirit) and have **tasted the good word of God**, and the **powers of the world to come**, and then have fallen away, **it is impossible to renew them again unto repentance**, since they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”

Again, as we learned from Hebrews 3:14, Colossians 1:22-23, and Romans 11:17-24, it is possible to backslide to the point where one actually can lose his or her salvation. In this

² Commonly translated “Law,” but more correctly translated “Teaching.” Today, this term means “The Pentateuch” the books of Moses.

¹ *Sh’mot* (“Names” – Exodus) 20:2.

particular case, we find an individual who was **enlightened**, who **tasted of the heavenly gift**, and who was made a **partaker of the Holy Spirit**. These are individuals who were indeed what is today called "Spirit-filled." Not only that, but they **tasted the good Word of God and the powers of the world to come**. They were knowledgeable in the Word of God and moved in supernatural power. If such a person should backslide, it is may be impossible to **renew them again unto repentance**. There are very few people who have moved under such an anointing. And yet, it is possible that even such people could become backslidden. Even King Solomon was blessed with tremendous wisdom from God, and yet he became backslidden.

Bullfrogs and Backsliders

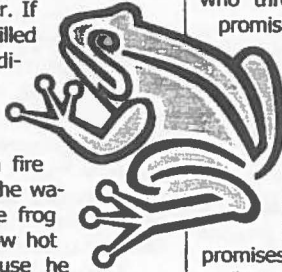
Usually, the backslidden condition occurs over a period of time. It is kind of like the proverbial frog in a pot of water. If you place a frog in a pot filled with hot water, he will immediately hop out. However, if you place the frog in a pot of cool water, he will remain. Then you can light a fire under the pot of water. As the water gradually warms up, the frog will remain, not realizing how hot the water is getting, because he doesn't notice the small, incremental increases in temperature. And pretty soon you have a cooked frog! (Don't eat it! It isn't kosher!)

The backslider is somewhat like the frog. The backslider generally doesn't make a decision to go to hell! He might begin with not partaking of regular fellowship with other Believers. Perhaps prayer and the study of scripture are no longer important. The cares of this world crowd out the things for the Spirit. Perhaps pleasures, temptations, and material possessions gradually become more important. And soon, like Froggy up above, this backslider has gradually walked away from Yeshua to the point where he is completely cold to the things of God. He had been under the influence of God's covenant blessings, but walked away from all that HaShem had for him. Hebrews 6:7-8 says:

"For the earth which drinks in the rain that comes upon it, and brings forth herbs useful to those for whose sake it is tilled, receives blessing from God. But if it yields thorns and briers, it is rejected, and is nigh unto being cursed, and **whose end is to be burned**." This is a short parable confirming the end fate of those who reject salvation.

Hebrews 6:4-8 should never be used to conclude that the backslider can never be restored to salvation. The Parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32 shows us that the Father is always waiting for the lost son to return. However, someone can harden his heart and refuse to return to the Father. God will not force Himself on anybody. He will even let this person go to hell, although it isn't his perfect will. On the flip side of the coin is Heb. 6:9-12:

"But, beloved, we are persuaded of better things for you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which you have shown toward His name (YHWH), in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end, that you be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."



The above verses describe those who are diligent in their work for YHWH, who **keep on keeping on**. These are the ones who will inherit the promises. Faith without works is **dead**, and Rav Shaul is commending them for their diligence. Then Rav Shaul reminds his readers of the promises made to Abraham (verses 13-16):

"For when God made the promise to Abraham, and because he could swear by no greater, He swore by Himself, saying, '**Surely I will bless you, and surely I will multiply you**.' And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the **promise**. For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife."

In this passage, Rav Shaul is reminding his readers of the promise made to Abraham after he demonstrated his willingness to offer up his son Isaac as a sacrifice, whom he loved so much. In Genesis 22:17, Abraham received only the **promise** of being blessed and multiplied. However, at the time of Abraham's death, he had not yet received the inheritance of the Land, nor had he been multiplied with many descendants. This promise was fulfilled hundreds of years later, when his descendants, numbering in the millions, entered the Promised Land.

The promise made to Abraham and his descendants is eternal. As Rav Shaul wrote: "I say then, God has **not** rejected His people, whom He foreknew. May it never be! For I also am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin." (Romans 11:1)

Upcoming Holidays

Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement): Oct 5

First Day of Sukkot ("Booths"): Oct 10

Shemini Atzeret (8th Day): Oct 17

Chanukah (Feast of Dedication): Dec 19-26

Biblically, each day (including Shabbat—the Sabbath) begins at sunset the day before, and ends at sunset 24 hours later. Therefore, Yom Kippur begins at sunset on Oct 4 and ends at sunset on Oct 5. Yom Kippur is a day of rest, a holy convocation, and also a day of fasting.

Shemini Atzeret is often considered the 8th day of Sukkot. However, in Leviticus 23, it is considered a separate holiday. In Israel and among non-Orthodox Jews in the Galut (Diaspora), Shemini Atzeret is also the day that Simchat Torah ("Rejoicing in the Torah") is celebrated. Orthodox Jews in the Galut celebrate Simchat Torah on Oct 18th this year. We will be rolling our Torah scroll back from the end of Deuteronomy to the beginning of Genesis on Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah.

Chanukah is a holiday, but not a holy day. Normal work and commerce can be done throughout Chanukah with the exception of any Shabbat that happens to occur during Chanukah. Chanukah celebrates the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrian-Greek army of Antiochus Epiphanes, as well as the rededication of the Temple, which had been badly defiled by the pagans. According to 2 Maccabees 10:1-6, Chanukah was originally observed as a delayed celebration of Sukkot. The Israelis had been busy fighting the pagans during Sukkot, and therefore chose to finally celebrate Sukkot in the month of Kislev, usually during December, although on rare occasions Chanukah is celebrated in late November.

A very famous Jew is considered to have had a birthday on December 25. However, His birthday was most likely the first day of Sukkot. December 25 is another pagan holiday that was "Christianized" and turned into a Christian holiday. The shepherds would never have been camping outside with their sheep in December. And since He was a Torah-observant Jew, He never ate a ham dinner on December 25 or any other day of his life. It is curious that the world celebrates the birthday of a Jew with ham dinners. How bizarre!

What to do about the Squirrels?

Submitted by Michael Bidwell



- The Presbyterian church called a meeting to decide what to do about the squirrel infestation. After much prayer, they concluded that the squirrels were destined to be there, and therefore they should not interfere with God's will.
- At the Baptist church, the squirrels took an interest in the baptistry. The deacons decided to put a waterslide in the baptistry and let the squirrels drown themselves. Unfortunately, squirrels instinctively know how to swim, and liked the slide. Twice as many squirrels showed up the next week.
- The Lutherans decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures. They humanely trapped the squirrels and let them loose by the Baptist church. Two weeks later, the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the water slide.
- The Episcopalians set out pans of whiskey in an effort to kill the squirrels with alcohol poisoning. They sadly learned how much damage a band of drunken squirrels can do.
- The Catholics decided to baptize the squirrels and make them members of the church. Now they only see them at Easter and Christmas.
- Not much has been heard from the Jewish synagogue. They took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.

Psalm 122:6 **שְׁמְרוּ שְׁלוֹם יְרוּשָׁלַיִם**
PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

"Of old hast Thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of Thy hands."

Psalm 102:25.

Have you, like countless others, ever wondered how the world began? Stephen Hawking, the famous British theoretical physicist, wrote: "We find ourselves in a bewildering world. We want to make sense of what we see around us and to ask: What is the nature of the universe? What is our place in it and where did it and we come from?"¹

Practically all cultures on earth have a cosmogony — a creation myth of how the world came into being. These traditions present a broad variety of scenarios that range from the death of a god or animal, whose body parts became the land, sea, and sky; to a primordial sea, from which gods and the world emerged; to eggs that hatched creator-gods; to struggles among gods, who produced offspring through incest or self-fertilization; to men springing forth from the tears of gods or even fleas from the skin of a dead god. The numerous tableaux had been limited only by the ancients' imaginations.

Under scrutiny, however, all of these stories of origin are nothing but continuations of previous circumstances, built on things that already existed. On the other hand, the Genesis account of creation in the Bible tells of a universe that emerged from nothing.

Science confirms Scripture

In great steps, advances in modern science are confirming the Biblical account. While science textbooks have to be revised or updated from time to time in the past 200 years to accommodate new discoveries and theories, in 3,500 years nothing ever needed to be changed in the Bible. Rather, many mysteries in the Scriptures have become clear and well-established facts in the light of increasing scientific knowledge.

Astronomer Hugh Ross remarks: "Instead of another bizarre creation myth, here (in the Bible) was a journal-like record of the earth's

initial conditions — correctly described from the standpoint of astrophysics and geophysics — followed by a summary of the sequence of changes through which Earth came to be inhabited by living things and ultimately by humans. The account was simple, elegant, and scientifically accurate."²

Science writer Fred Heeren notes: "Hebrew revelation is the only religious source coming to us from ancient times that fits the modern cosmological picture. And in many cases, 20th-century archeology and myth experts have also been forced to turn from older views that treated the Bible as myth to ones that treat it as history."³

The convergence of Biblical teachings and scientific findings is truly amazing. Let us begin with the first few words and verses of the Bible to see for ourselves this growing harmony between science and Scripture.

A beginning

"In the beginning ..." (Gen1:1).

The Judeo-Christian Scriptures unfold with the story of the birth of the universe. Ancient men generally believed in so such thing. The Greek philosopher Aristotle taught around 2,300 years ago that the world was eternal — it had always existed. Indeed, the starry sky we see on a clear night seems to be unchanging. Albert Einstein, considered one of the most brilliant scientific minds in modern times, tried to prove that we live in a static, unchanging universe. As late as the early 1960s, two-thirds of the leading American scientists surveyed professed their belief in the steady-state theory of the cosmos.⁴

In 1917, though, after Einstein published his theories of special and general relativity (1905 and 1915), Dutch astronomer Willem de Sitter saw an oversight in Einstein's equations. He pointed out that if the density of the universe were low enough, it would not be static, but expanding at nearly the speed of light.⁵ In 1922, Russian astronomer Alexandr Friedmann found a hidden mathematical prediction in Einstein's equations: The universe was finite, not infinite. Anything that is not infinite must have had a beginning.

Conundrums of Creation

Part 1

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**

In 1927 American astronomer Edwin Hubble discovered that, based on the observed redshift (wavelengths of light lengthening or turning red when moving away from the observer), all the other galaxies were speeding away from the Earth. The farther away they were, the higher their velocity – as fast as about 25,000 miles per second!⁶

The law of inertia states that a body at rest remains at rest and a body in motion remains in motion unless acted upon by some outside force. Hence, the galaxies have once been close together before a force caused them to move away from each other. Ergo, the universe had a beginning. The editors of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* express their agreement: "The observed expansion of the universe immediately raises the spectre that the universe is evolving, that it had a beginning..."⁷

In addition, the science of thermodynamics dictates that heat must flow from a warm body to a cold one. If the universe has always existed, its temperature should be uniform throughout. However, observations indicate that the cosmic temperature is still cooling down. Therefore, the universe has not always existed – it had a starting point.

Robert Jastrow, founder and former director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, concludes that "the astronomical and biblical accounts of Genesis are alike in one essential respect. There was a beginning, and all things in the Universe can be traced back to it."⁸

A Beginner?

"In the beginning God..." (Gen 1:1).

The law of causality, or cause and effect, declares that nothing can happen or exist without a cause. The universe, being an effect, must have had a cause. What caused the universe to come into existence?

Scientists are able to analyze and explain the observable universe; but they remain in the dark as to its cause. Paul Dirac, the Nobel laureate from Cambridge University, said: "It seems certain that there was a definite time of creation."⁹ Aside from accepting a cosmic beginning, Dirac implies, by the word "creation," the hand of a creator.

The *Encyclopedia Britannica* admits the implication: "...the notion that the Cosmos had a beginning, while common in many theologies, raises deep and puzzling questions for science, for it implies a creation event – a creation not only of all the mass-energy that now exists in the universe but also perhaps of space-time itself."¹⁰ Stephen Hawking is of the

same mind: "So long as the universe had a beginning, we could suppose it had a creator."¹¹

Empty space created

"In the beginning God created the heaven..." (Gen 1:1).

If the universe had a beginning, then "space" has not always been there. There was once a state or condition when the emptiness of space did not exist at all.

As most people today know, "heaven" is the empty space above and surrounding Earth in all directions, where the stars and the planets are. How did space come into being? Jewish mystics have long been familiar with this mystery: The *Ein Sof* (the "Infinite Nothingness") contracted Itself to make room for space. The "contraction" is known in Kabbalistic terms as the *tzimtzum*.

Can you imagine what empty space is like? It contains nothing, not even light or darkness. Yet, surprisingly, scientists have discovered that the vacuum of "empty space" is not absolutely empty. Space possesses electromagnetic qualities, dielectric permittivity, intrinsic impedance, and immense "zero-point" energy that helps keep all the electrons in the cosmos in their orbits around atomic nuclei!¹²

A cosmic "air pocket"?

Perhaps we can use an analogy, although inadequate, to imagine the relationship between the *Ein Sof* and space: If the *Ein Sof* were the atmosphere that is everywhere around us, then space would be an "air pocket" (which air travelers are quite familiar with). An air pocket forms when a mass of air cools, becomes heavier, and sags as one distinct body. The air pocket is still very much a part of the atmosphere, but for the time being has acquired a separate identity of its own.

Matter materializes

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen 1:1).

After creating "heaven" (space), God went on to create the "earth" in the emptiness He had just brought forth. Here, "earth" may mean something else other than the planet Earth, because the next passage says that the earth was still "without form, and void." The Hebrew word used was *'erets* (from a root meaning "to be firm"). We could thus take "earth" in the passage to mean "solid matter."

The first law of thermodynamics states that matter can neither be created nor destroyed. Something cannot be created from nothing. If so, how did the first speck of matter materialize? Paul says God created the

physical universe from invisible materials: "...what is seen was not made out of things which are visible" (Heb 11:3b, NASU).

A medieval Jewish sage in Spain, Moses Ben Nachman, also known as Nachmanides or Ramban, wrote: "In the beginning, from total and absolutely nothing, the Creator brought forth a substance so thin it had no corporeality, but that substanceless substance could take on form."¹³

All things from "nothing"

Cosmologists generally believe that in the beginning there was nothing. Then, all of a sudden, from out of that nothing, the universe was born. Jewish sages are in complete agreement. They just differ in their concept of "nothing."

Scientists arrive at a mathematical "zero." Stephen Hawking says that "the total energy of the universe is exactly zero."¹⁴ Paul Davies wonders: "Astronomers can measure the masses of galaxies, their average separation, and their speeds of recession. Putting these numbers into a formula yields a quantity which some physicists have interpreted as the total energy of the universe. The answer does indeed come out to be zero within the observational accuracy. The reason for this distinctive result has long been a source of puzzlement to cosmologists. Some have suggested that there is a deep cosmic principle at work which requires the universe to have exactly zero energy."¹⁵

Just a little humor...

A woman comes up to her rabbi and says, "Rabbi, that was the worst sermon I ever heard. You insulted our intelligence and rambled on and on." Another congregant overheard the conversation, and told him, "Oh, don't listen to her. She has no mind of her own. She just repeats what everybody else is saying."

The rabbi decides to skip Yom Kippur services, the holiest day of the year, and heads to the golf course. He has an amazing game, and on the 18th hole, he scores a hole in one. The rabbi is ecstatic! An angel turns to God and says, "God, why did you allow the rabbi to get such an amazing score?" God says to the angel, "Who's he going to tell?"

Question: What do you call an uncircumcised Jewish baby over 8 days old?

Answer: A girl.

In contrast, by "nothing" Jewish philosophers mean the *Ein Sof* – the "Infinite Nothingness" – God. It appears He was that "deep cosmic principle at work" in the beginning.

A thought in God's mind?

In *Space-Time and Beyond*, Fred Alan Wolf wrote: "The quantum physicist calls the 'pre-matter' phase, the quantum wave function. The quantum wave function is very well calculated, but it is not matter! It is not anything, really... As fantastic as it sounds, the mathematical models for such things are very well defined and, mathematically at least, well understood... the quantum wave represents where and when something is likely to occur; in other words, it is a measure of the probability of an event taking place... this probability not only exists in our minds, but also moves in space and time. In other words, this wave is both in our minds and out there in the world."¹⁶

Before matter first appeared, was it merely a probability in the mind of God? Paul Davies muses, "it seems that the entire universe may be nothing more than a thought in the mind of God."¹⁷ James Jeans, the knighted British mathematician, says: "The world looks more like a great thought than a great machine"¹⁸ and adds: "If the universe is a universe of thought, then its creation must have been an act of thought."¹⁹



Dear Richard & Miriam ~

What do you believe happens to a person after he dies? Dwayne Howard, TEXAS

OUR REPLY: Great question! I tried to find something in a back issue of *Petah Tikvah* that might answer the question. However, despite the decades of publishing, there were no articles dealing with this subject. Compared to eternity, we are crawling around on Planet Earth for a very short time. It seems like we should have had something on this topic decades ago, but we didn't! I hasten to add: In Judaism, the emphasis is on what we do in this life. There is not as much emphasis on the afterlife.

I am not an expert on the topic, as I have no experience dying and coming back to life to tell you what it is like beyond death's veil. However, I did do some research, and hopefully will provide good answers. I will be borrowing heavily from www.chabad.org as well as from Dr. Maurice Rawlings, the cardiologist who wrote the book *Beyond Death's Door*. Dr. Rawlings was previously an atheist. However, after successfully reviving several patients who were clinically 'dead,' he became a genuine Bible believer. His book was written back in 1978, but is still easily available on various websites. I obtained my book from www.Thriftbooks.com. Regretfully, I don't have a physical address on where to buy it. However, the book I received was used, very good condition, and very inexpensive.

I am first going to borrow from the scholarship of Shlomo Yaffe and Yanki Tauber, who wrote the article, "What Happens After We Die?" for Chabad.org. Chabad is an ultra-Orthodox Chassidic organization with ministries all over the world. Their Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, was born in 1902 and passed away in 1994. Their Rebbe pointed out that a basic law of physics (The First Law of Thermodynamics) states that no energy is ever lost of destroyed. It only assumes a different form. How much more to a spiritual entity such as the soul? Rebbe Schneerson insists that consciousness does not cease simply because the physical body has ceased to function. Rather, "it passes from one form of existence (physical life as expressed by the body) to a higher, exclusively spiritual form of existence." Many (perhaps most) Orthodox Jews believe the departed spirit hovers around the dead body for about three days, complete-

ly aware of the surroundings. He can see us, but we are unable to see him (or her).

Five Levels of the Soul

Again, quoting Yaffe & Tauber, there are five names for the human soul. "She is called by five names: **Nefesh** (breath), **Ruach** (wind / spirit), **Neshama** (intellect, inspiration), **Chayah** (life), and **Yechidah** (singularity)." Nefesh is the soul that is the engine of life. The Ruach is the emotional self.

The Neshamah is the intellectual self. The Chayah is the suprarational self — the seat of will, desire, commitment, and faith.

The Yechidah is the singular essence of God, literally a part of G-d above."

The Journey of the Soul

The Chabad believes that there are four basic phases to the journey of the soul:

1. The wholly spiritual existence of the soul before it enters the body.
2. Physical life.
3. Post-physical life in Gan Eden (the "Garden of Eden," also called "Heaven" or "Paradise").
4. The "world to come" (Olam HaBa) that follows the resurrection of the dead.

Chabad believes that the ultimate purpose of the soul is fulfilled during the time it spends in the physical world through the fulfillment of **mitzvot**, that is, how well we do in observing God's instructions (commandments). However, it must be free choice. God gave us the choice of obeying Him or disobeying Him. The choices we make in this life determine our eternal destiny. In this respect, **God is "pro-choice."** He could have created a bunch of robots already pre-programmed to love Him and to keep His commandments. But such love and obedience would be meaningless if there was no actual choice involved.

The writers of this Chabad article write that "Gan Eden is a spiritual world, inhabited by souls **without** physical bodies; the world to come (Olam HaBa) is a physical world, inhabited by souls **with** physical bodies."

On a personal note, I would like to emphasize that most Jews have been only exposed to "another Jesus" (2 Corinthians 11:4), which is often an antisemitic Jesus who has "done away" with the commandments, contrary to Yeshua's plain instructions in Matthew 5:17-19. The Jews who rejected a counterfeit Jesus did the right thing. Yes, Yeshua is the only way to the Father. However, I believe most

What Happens to a Person After He Dies?

Richard 'Aharon' Chamberlin

Jews will eventually recognize their genuine Messiah, either in this life or in the Olam HaBa. In 1 Peter 4:6, we read that the gospel "has been preached even to those who are dead, that though they are judged in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God." I don't see this verse being preached very often. But it is in the Bible. You might also want to look up 1 Peter 3:18-20. When Yeshua's body was in the grave, his soul was someplace else. He was making proclamation "to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the Ark..."

At this time, I would like to quote from Dr. Maurice Rawlings' book, **Beyond Death's Door**. As mentioned earlier, Dr. Rawlings was formerly an atheist who did not believe in the afterlife. He first began to believe in life beyond death's door when resuscitating an individual who was clinically dead:

"I was resuscitating a terrified patient who told me he was actually in hell. He begged me to get him out of hell and not to let him die. When I fully realized how genuinely and extremely frightened he was, I too became frightened... Now I feel assured that there is life after death, and not all of it is good."

On page 1 of his book, he writes: "More and more of my patients who are recovering from serious illnesses tell me there is a life after death. There is a heaven and hell. I had always thought of death as painless extinction. I had bet my life on it. Now I have had to reconsider my own destiny, and what I have found isn't good. I have found it really may not be safe to die!"

Dr. Rawlings notes that about half of the resuscitated patients with visions beyond death's door report the horror of a place we might call hell, and about half report visions of a place we would call heaven. However, he notes also that those who have experienced the horrors of hell often have these horrors erased from their memories days later, perhaps for their own mental health. Therefore, it is important to communicate with these patients during or very shortly after the resuscitation process.

Dr. Rawlings also proposes a new definition of death, which is an old definition: "For just as **the body without the spirit is dead**, so also faith without works is dead (James 2:26). Most religions for thousands of years believe that there is life beyond the grave. Regretfully, most rabbis in Reform Judaism no longer

teach of life beyond the grave. I would also include secular humanism and atheism as religions that do not believe in the afterlife. (It takes a lot of faith to believe that everything we see and hear around us just came about by series of accidents.)

Dr. Rawlings writes: "Yet many people who have experienced clinical death tell us of seeing themselves actually separate from their dead bodies into spiritual form, and then wonder why people can't hear them talking. As mentioned before, they are perturbed that everyone in the room keeps looking at the dead body and cannot see the 'real' them. The 'departed' person can see and hear the people in the room but cannot be seen or heard in return. Apparently, you and I are 'blinded' to this spiritual world in our present life."

In much the same way, Balaam didn't see the angel of the LORD in Numbers 22:25. A few verses later, Balaam's spiritual eyes were opened, and he could finally see what his donkey had already seen. There are various ways in which people describe their personal "life after life" experiences. However, Dr. Rawlings describes a typical experience:

"A dying person... painlessly loses consciousness as death occurs, and yet he is still able to hear himself pronounced dead by his doctor. He then discovers that he is out of his own body, but is still in the same room, looking on as a bystander and observing the procedures. He watches himself being resuscitated, and frequently is compelled to walk around other people who might be obstructing his view. Or he may look down upon the scene from a floating position near the ceiling... He notices who is in the room and knows what they are saying. He has difficulty believing that he is dead, or that that lifeless body used to be his. He feels fine! The body has been vacated as if it were a strange object.

"After he becomes more accustomed to this odd condition, he notices that he has a new body... with superior senses. He can see and feel and think and talk just as before. But now fringe benefits have been added... He finds himself moving through a long dark passage with walls... As he emerges from the tunnel, he may see a brilliantly lighted environment of exquisite beauty where he meets and talks with friends and relatives who have previously died. He may then be interviewed by a being of light or a being of darkness. The environment may be inexpressibly wonderful, frequently a rolling meadow or a beautiful

city, or it may be inexpressibly horrible, frequently a dungeon or a cave. His life may be played back as an instant review of all the major events of his life, as if anticipating a judgment.

"As he walks along with friends or relatives... a barrier is encountered beyond which he cannot go and still return. He is turned back at this point and suddenly finds himself back in his body where he may feel the shock of an applied electric current or chest pains from someone pushing upon his chest."

If the experience is good, one is not afraid to die again... Finding the words to describe these unearthly experiences is difficult enough, but if ridiculed, he may keep the episode a secret and say no more. If it is of damning incrimination, he may prefer to leave the story alone.

The November 1889 issue of the **St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal** published the life after life experience of Dr. Wiltse of Skiddy, Kansas. He wrote of his experiences at different stages:

"I have died, as men termed death, and yet I am as much a man as ever. I am about to get out of the body. I watched the interesting process of the separation of soul and body... I recollect distinctly how I appeared to myself as something like a jellyfish as regards color and form. I floated up and down and literally like a soap bubble attached to the bowl of a pipe until I at last broke loose from the body... where I slowly rose and expanded into the full stature of a man... To my surprise, (a man's) arm passed through mine without apparent resistance, the severed parts closing again without pain as air reunites... I saw my own dead body. I noticed two women weeping by my left side. I learned that they were my wife and my sister.

"I now attempted to gain the attention of the people... I passed about among them, also, but found that they gave me no heed. The situation struck me as humorous, and I laughed outright... I concluded the matter by saying to myself, 'They see only with the eyes of the body. They cannot see spirits. They are watching what they think is I, but they are mistaken. That is not I. This is I and I am as much alive as ever.' ... Only a few minutes ago, I was horribly sick... then came the change called death... Here I am, still a man, alive, thinking as clearly as ever, and how well I felt. In sheer exuberance, I danced a figure

and then turned about to see the head of my body."

He then described himself as being lifted up and gently propelled through the air by someone's hands and placed on some road in the sky. However, his spirit was returned to what had been his dead body. In deep disappointment, he exclaimed, "What in the world has happened to me? Must I die again?"

This book contains 157 pages, with many more examples of life beyond death's door, some wonderful, and some horrifying. As a result of his interviews with those who had these experiences, as well as documented experiences of others, Dr. Rawlings became a born-again believer in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He left atheism behind, and accepted both the Tanach (OT) and Newer Testaments as being the inspired word of God. He was born in 1922, and passed from this life in 2010. I suspect that he has now experienced the same (or similar) experiences as those mentioned above.

Life After Life in the Scriptures

"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." Daniel 12:2-3

Orthodox Jews believe in a literal interpretation of Ezekiel 37:1-10, the so-called "Dry Bones" prophecy. In other words, they believe that these verses refer to a literal resurrection of Jews from throughout the ages. Most Christians believe in an allegoric interpretation, whereby the remnant of the Jewish people is brought back into the land. That's also very nice, but I prefer the literal interpretation.

Also, the Books of the Maccabees strongly emphasize the resurrection of the dead, particularly in 2 Maccabees 7, which describes the martyrdom of Hannah's seven sons.

There are also many references to life after life in the Newer Testament, including Luke 14:13-14; 20:34-38; John 5:25-29; 11:25-26; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 1 Peter 1:3-5; and 2 Cor. 5:6-10. Ultimately the most important references for what happens to a person after he dies are found in the pages of the Bible. Nonetheless, it is also refreshing to see men of science also agreeing, and backing up their beliefs with Scripture, as well as scientific research. Dr. Rawlings, a former atheist, sprinkles Bible verses throughout his book **Beyond Death's Door**, which I recommend.

WAS there a world that existed before Adam? Is it possible that the earth was inhabited for a period of time between Genesis 1:1, when

God first "created the heaven and the earth," and Genesis 1:2, when the earth **was** – or **became** – "without form and void" as the result of cataclysmic changes?

I do not believe that the Bible clearly states with absolute certainty that such a world existed before Adam. On the other hand, I do not believe that the Bible absolutely rules out such a possibility. Furthermore, there are certain passages of Scripture which suggest the existence of an inhabited world before Adam.

The idea of an inhabited earth before Adam is sometimes called "the Gap theory" because it sees a gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. Then at some later time, the earth **was** – or more accurately, **became** – without form and void as the result of Divine judgment and cataclysmic changes.

Those who see the possibility of a gap of time do not just read that idea into the Scriptures in order to accommodate the foolish theory of evolution or scientists' claims that the earth is much older than 6,000 years. That would be eisegesis and spineless compromise. Those who see the possibility of a world before Adam infer it from other passages of Scripture and from the Hebrew text of Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. Long before Darwin's theory of evolution and long before scientists' attempts to date the age of the universe, Jewish commentators saw different ways to understand the text. Some, such as Ibn Ezra (1092–1167), claimed that the Hebrew text supported the Aristotelian view of matter as something coeternal with God, thus making the "age" of the universe irrelevant.¹ I do not agree with Ibn Ezra and Aristotle; I mention this only to show that the Hebrew texts concerning creation can be understood in more than one way, and to show that the idea of a 6,000-year-old universe has not always been universally accepted by Bible believers. Those believers who say that the universe is older than 6,000 years are not denying the truth of the Bible; they are merely disagreeing with one interpretation of what the

Bible teaches about the age of the universe.

The universe may very well be only 6,000 years old. Even the acceptance of the Gap theory does

not rule out the possibility, because the length of the time gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 may have been very short. On the other hand, it could have been very long. The purpose of this article is not to debate the age of the universe.² The purpose of this article is to present the arguments for the possibility of an inhabited world before the six days of creation (or perhaps more accurately, six days of re-

A Pre-Adamic World

Fact, Fiction, or Plausible Theory?

Dr. Daniel Botkin

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

² I am not a scientist, so I am not qualified to speak authoritatively about the age of the universe from a scientific perspective. I have read enough to make me highly skeptical of some of the methods used by scientists to calculate the age of the universe, so I am not convinced that it is as old as scientists claim. On the other hand, I am not convinced that the Bible dogmatically teaches that the earth is only 6,000 years old. Those who dogmatically insist that the Bible teaches this usually base their conclusions on two premises. First, they assume no gap of time between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. Second, they assume that the six days were literal 24-hour days. This too is debatable. The 24-hour literalists usually know that the Hebrew word for day, *yom*, can be used to refer to an era of time, as in the expression, "the Day of the Lord" or Yeshua's statement, "I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." But because each of the six days in Genesis 1 consists of one evening and one morning, the 24-hour literalists conclude that each day was 24 hours. Maybe, but this too is debatable... A literal "day" is one complete rotation of the planet. The length of the day is determined by the speed of the planet's rotation. We know what the speed of the earth's rotation is now, but we do not know with certainty what the speed of the earth's rotation was during the six days of creation. It is entirely possible that God turned the earth very slowly as He worked on it, like a sculptor slowly turning clay on a rotating pedestal, carefully and painstakingly molding and shaping the details of his masterpiece...

¹ Philologos, "On Language," *The Forward*, Oct 1, 2004, p. 14.

creating) recorded in Genesis 1:3-31. So lets look at some of the passages that suggest this possibility.

First, there is the phrase "without form and void" in Genesis 1:2. In Hebrew, "without form" is **tohu**; "void" is **bohu**. Together, the phrase is **tohu va-vohu**. (The **va**-prefix is "and," which changes the "b" sound in **bohu** to a "v" sound.) The Hebrew word translated "was" in the KJV can just as accurately be translated "became." The same verb is used to tell us that Lot's wife "became a pillar of salt" (Gen. 19:26). The NIV affirms the legitimacy of this alternative understanding in its marginal note: "the earth became formless and empty."

So the question is: Did the earth become **tohu** and **bohu**, or did God originally create the earth **tohu** and **bohu**? Isaiah 45:18 answers that question. "For thus saith Yahweh that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain," This phrase "not in vain" is **lo** ("not") **tohu**. This certainly refers to the original creation, for Isaiah first describes the creation of the heavens, then the earth, and he uses the Hebrew word for "create," **bara**. So if God did not originally create the earth **tohu**, the inescapable conclusion is that the earth became **tohu** (and **bohu**) at some point in time after the original creation.

Some commentators believe that Isaiah 24:1 refers to the cataclysmic changes that caused the earth to become without form and void.³ "Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof." Isaiah 24:1 at its **peshat** (simple, literal) level sounds like a warning of what God will do in the future. However, the destruction described here seems to go even beyond the end-time destruction described in Revelation. Furthermore, even if Isaiah 24:1 does refer to some future destruction, that does not rule out the possibility that it is also a reiteration of Genesis 1:2, when the earth became without form and void, to serve as a warning against future judgment. In effect, God would be saying, "I made the earth become without form and void before, and I can do it again."

Isaiah used this kind of **tohu** and **bohu** imagery as a warning to the nations in Isaiah 34:11, where Yahweh threatens to stretch out upon the land "the line of confusion (**tohu**) and the stones of emptiness (**bohu**)."⁴ Here **tohu** and **bohu** are used together to describe de-

struction that comes as the result of Divine judgment. This at least suggests that the earth's **tohu va-vohu** condition in Genesis 1:2 might also have happened as the result of Divine judgment.

Jeremiah also uses the **tohu va-vohu** expression to describe Divine judgment: "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form and void (**tohu va-vohu**); and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of Yahweh, and by His fierce anger" (Jer. 4:23-26).

Jeremiah's description of the earth as **tohu va-vohu** and his description of the heavens as having "no light" certainly sounds like Genesis 1:2, when "the earth was **tohu va-vohu**, and darkness was upon the face of the deep." If Yahweh was giving Jeremiah a vision of what the earth looked like in Genesis 1:2, then what were these "fruitful places" and "cities" that were destroyed as the result of Divine judgment? It sounds like there was some sort of civilization with fruitful places and cities before the earth became without form and void. It sounds like there was a great flood that completely covered the earth with water, turning the fruitful places into a wilderness, breaking down the cities, and bringing darkness upon the face of the deep. This is not a description of Noah's Flood, because Jeremiah saw "no man." There were eight who survived Noah's Flood. Furthermore, Noah's Flood did not make the earth **tohu va-vohu** nor bring darkness upon the face of the deep.

Jeremiah's vision is followed by a warning: "For thus hath Yahweh said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end" (Jer. 4:27). In other words, destruction is coming to the whole earth, but it will not be a total destruction as it was in Genesis 1:2, when the earth became **tohu va-vohu**, and all the fruitful places and cities were destroyed by a flood, and darkness covered the face of the deep, and there was no man.

If there was an inhabited world before Adam, who or what were the inhabitants? This question can lead to all sorts of speculation, much of it foolish. We need to remember that even Scripture-based speculation is still speculation and not dogma. However, some Scripture-based speculation, if true, can help explain some things. Let's consider Scripture-based speculation about what preceded Adam.

³ Scofield and Dake, e.g.

First, we have to understand a Biblical principle that could be called the principle of double reference. Sometimes in the Bible, a visible human is addressed, but on a deeper level the words are actually being spoken to an invisible spiritual entity that is empowering and using the visible human as its agent. When the Lord spoke to demon-possessed people, He often was actually speaking to the demons. When He rebuked Peter one time, He actually called Peter "Satan," because Satan was the spiritual entity inspiring Peter. The visible agent does not always have to be human. In Genesis 3, God spoke to the serpent, but on a deeper level, He was addressing Satan, the spirit being who used the serpent to tempt Eve.

With this principle of double reference in mind, many theologians agree that Isaiah's words to the king of Babylon are addressed not only to the earthly king of Babylon, but also to the spiritual entity who was over the king of Babylon, namely Satan: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cast down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou has said in thine heart, 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.' Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit" (Isa. 14:12-15).

Many theologians believe that this passage describes the transformation of Lucifer, an anointed cherub, into Satan, the adversary and agent of evil. If Isaiah's description of the fall of Lucifer is truly an account of Satan's origin, then it appears that Lucifer/Satan ruled over some kind of kingdom on this planet before he fell. That Lucifer ruled a kingdom can be inferred from the mention of his "throne"; that his throne was on earth can be inferred from Lucifer's desire to "ascend above the heights of the clouds." If his throne was under the clouds, this places his kingdom on earth, not somewhere in heaven.

If Isaiah's words to the king of Babylon have a double reference and give us a glimpse of Satan's pre-Adamic status and fall, then Ezekiel's words to the king of Tyrus provide us even more details:

"Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God: Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius,

topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned; therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou has corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee" (Ezekiel 28:12-17).

These words to the king of Tyrus are obviously addressed not only to the earthly king, the human agent, but also to Satan, the spiritual entity who empowered and used the earthly king of Tyrus. A king who was a mere human could not have been in Eden, the garden of God, nor in the midst of the stones of fire on the holy mountain of God. A human king would not have been called "the anointed cherub" who was "created" instead of "born."

Let's sum up what the Prophets have told us so far:

- ◆ Isaiah said that God did not originally create the earth **tohu**, so apparently the earth **became tohu** (and **bohu**) sometime after the original creation.

- ◆ Jeremiah saw a vision of the earth in darkness, in its primeval condition of **tohu va-vohu**, and he saw cities that had been broken down and fruitful places that had become a wilderness.

- ◆ Isaiah and Ezekiel provide a description of Lucifer, the anointed cherub who through pride rebelled against God and became Satan, the Adversary and agent for evil. From Isaiah's description, it appears that Lucifer had a throne and ruled over some sort of kingdom on this earth.

If we put the pieces together, it appears that there may have been some sort of civilization on this earth before the creation of Adam. It also appears that Lucifer ruled the earth as the anointed cherub, and launched his rebellion against God from this planet.

The inhabitants of this pre-Adamic world may very well have been angels, not men.

Revelation 12:4 says that the dragon took a third of the stars with him, which suggests that the inhabitants of Lucifer's kingdom were angels, not men. Furthermore, 1 Cor. 15:45 says that Adam was "the first man," which seems to exclude the possibility of any human inhabitants before Adam. Although one could argue that the verse just means that Adam was the first man of this present age only, which would not rule out the possibility of some sort of pre-Adamic, non-Adamic 'men' in prior ages.

The dates of this scenario are somewhat speculative. Even though it is speculation with a Biblical basis, it is certainly not something which people should be required to believe. However, if this picture of Lucifer ruling over a pre-Adamic civilization on this planet is true, how would believing it affect our faith? How would such information be useful to us? For one thing, it would help explain the origin of evil in this world. It doesn't explain **why** God allowed evil to come into existence (I have yet to hear a satisfactory explanation for that), but it does explain **how** evil came into existence.

It also helps us to understand why God told Adam to "dress and **keep** (shamar)" the Garden of Eden. **Shamar** means to guard or protect. Guard and protect it from what? Thistles and thorns? No, for these did not come into existence until after man sinned. Adam was supposed to protect the Garden from something far more sinister than weeds.

If Lucifer ruled the world prior to Adam, this would explain why Satan shows up on this planet shortly after the creation of man, a new being who is given dominion over the earth. Satan is trying to regain his old turf by persuading the new rulers of the planet to join him in his rebellion against God. If he can persuade them to rebel against God, then he can regain his throne on this planet, and continue to rule through fallen man. Even though "the earth is (rightfully) the Lord's, and the fullness thereof" (Ps. 24:1), the Prophet's words to the kings of Babylon and Tyrus show that Satan does indeed rule the fallen world system through sinful human agents. "The whole world lieth in wickedness," (1 John 5:19).

John Milton, in his epic poem **Paradise Lost**, portrays Beelzebub telling his demon cohorts about "some new race called Man, about this time to be created." Beelzebub's plan is to "seduce them to our party, that their God / May prove their foe, and with repenting hand / Abolish his own works. This would surpass / Common revenge, and interrupt his joy."⁴

Satan's plan is to defy God and rule the earth through fallen man. God's plan is to defy Satan and rule the earth through redeemed man. The Almighty is almighty. He doesn't need our help to defeat His enemy. If He wanted to, He could entirely and permanently snuff out Satan and evil in an instant. Yet for reasons known only to Him, the Almighty has chosen to use the unmighty to defeat His enemy. "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength because of Thine enemies, that Thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger" (Ps. 8:2).

If this scenario of a pre-Adamic world is accurate, it gives us a glorious glimpse into God's purpose for creating man, and thus an understanding of the purpose of our existence. After Lucifer launched his rebellion from this planet, God destroyed Lucifer's kingdom and made the earth without form and void. Then God renewed the earth and created a new kind of being to rule the restored planet. This new being, created in God's image and likeness, was to replenish the earth, subdue it, and have dominion over it. This new being, Man, was weaker than the angels ("like to us, though less in power and excellence, but favored more," Beelzebub says to his cohorts in **Paradise Lost** - Book II, line 349f).


Matter is lifeless; angels are spirit (Ps. 104:4). Man is a combination of matter and spirit, and therefore "a little lower than the angels" (Ps. 8:5). Rather than snuffing out Satan and the fallen angels, the Almighty has chosen to use us, the unmighty, to shame His enemies and re-establish His authority on earth. "God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty" (1 Cor. 1:27). When David considered these things, it caused him to look up at the heavens, the moon and the stars, and ask, "What is man, that Thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that Thou visitest him?" (Ps. 8:4).

Read Psalm 8 and meditate on the words. David was humbled by his understanding of God's purpose for man. Whether you are the President or a pauper, you have a purpose in the plan of God. Once you see that the Almighty wants to use you, the unmighty, to shame and defeat His enemies, it will humble you and inspire you to do whatever it takes to fulfill the purpose of your existence as an individual member of the Family of Redeemed Men. If you faithfully fulfill God's purpose for you in this life, you will be glad for all eternity that you did so. n

⁴ Book II, line 348 & 368-371.

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

**"A CLOSE
SHAVE"**



REV. TWISTRUTH, I'M THINKING OF GETTING A TATTOO OF A CRUCIFIX. ARE TATTOOS OKAY ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE?

I'M AFRAID NOT, CHESTER! LEV. 19:28 SAYS "DO NOT PUT TATTOOS ON YOURSELVES"



REV. TWISTRUTH, THE VERSE RIGHT BEFORE THAT SAYS "DO NOT CUT THE EDGES OF YOUR BEARD." DOES THAT MEAN WE SHOULDN'T SHAVE OUR FACE?

NO, NEWTON! THAT WAS JUST FOR THE JEWS TRAVELING FROM EGYPT TO CANAAN! GOD LET THEM HAVE BEARDS SO THEIR FACES WOULDN'T GET SUN-BURNED IN THE DESERT!




BUT JESUS HAD A BEARD--ISN'T HE OUR EXAMPLE?

HE JUST FOLLOWED THE CUSTOM OF HIS DAY, AS WE DO BY SHAVING! AS A MATTER OF FACT, WHEN HE RETURNS, HE'LL SHAVE LIKE THE REST OF US! LISTEN TO THIS: "IN THAT DAY THE LORD WILL SHAVE WITH A RAZOR...AND IT WILL ALSO REMOVE THE BEARD"--ISAIAH 7:20!



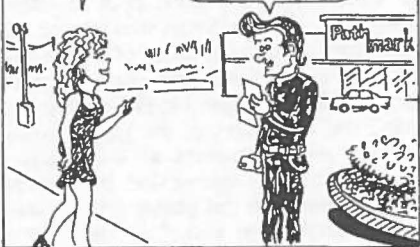
**REVEREND
TWISTRUTH**
& HIS DISCIPLES
by Daniel Botkin

**BOLDNESS OF
THE
BEARDLESS**



WHO'S THE LETTER FROM, REVEREND T?

SOME LEGALISTIC JUDAIZER THAT I KNOW! HE'S ALWAYS REBUKING ME FOR SOMETHING!



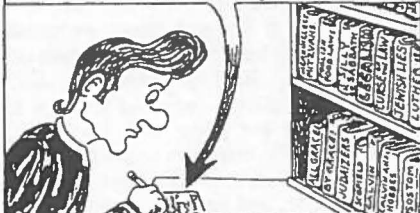
HE SAYS THE HEBREW WORD FOR ELDER, "ZAKEN," IS WRITTEN THE SAME AS THE WORD FOR BEARD, "ZAKAN." SO HE CLAIMS I'M NOT SCRIPTURALLY ELIGIBLE TO BE AN ELDER IN CHURCH BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A BEARD! I'LL HAVE TO WRITE BACK, I SUPPOSE...

I THINK BEARDS ARE GROSS!



Dear Brother,
For your information, I DO have a beard! I shaved off 90% of it every morning, and I wear the rest of it under my skin!

Your humble servant in Christ,
Rev. Everett Twistruth



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

Last week, I sat in the child welfare department with a young woman, now 33 weeks pregnant, who wants to give her baby up for adoption. This is a rare occurrence in Israel because adoption is not a popular concept here. When we speak to women about this option, they typically get angry and let us know that they'd prefer to abort. The boyfriend of the young woman would still prefer that she abort, saying "then I wouldn't wonder where the baby is."

At one point in the conversation, the social worker said, "It's your body and your choice." A year prior, the young woman did have an abortion. She well knew the pain, shame and guilt of that 'choice'. She told the social worker that she "couldn't do that again, not to this baby, too."

"My body, my choice," is commonly heard by proponents of abortion, calling themselves "prochoice". Experience tells that us that a woman in crisis pregnancy feels that she has "no choice." Threats that her husband will leave her, her boyfriend will not support her, her parents will kick her out of the house, an empty bank account, or a million other fears and problems cause her to panic when she discovers her pregnancy. Being in a crisis, unplanned pregnancy can be daunting when a woman feels alone and unsupported.

Every woman has the right to decide about her body and should use that right to protect herself from poor choices and heartbreaking situations. Once pregnant, we are talking about two different individuals, the mother and the child. An unborn child (fetus) has his own set of DNA and gene pool from conception. He is a totally unique individual, created in the image of God and protected, nourished and nurtured in his mother's womb, but not the same person as his mother.

The unborn baby's heart beats at 23 days after conception, at forty days brain waves can be detected, at eight weeks all of his body parts are in place. After a terrible accident, "life" is determined according to heart beat and brain activity. Isn't it logical to have the same standard for every person, even those in the womb? A beating heart indicates life. In the USA, several states have passed what is called the "Heart Beat Bill" which gives protection from abortion to unborn children whose heartbeat can be detected (usually 5 to 6 weeks after conception)...

Abortion in Israel

By **Sandy Shoshani**, Director
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ISRAEL

In Israel, every year there are approximately 40-50 thousand abortions. This corresponds to approximately 125 abortions day. The womb, which should be the safest place for a baby, has also become the most dangerous place. More severe than the corona pandemic, is the moral pandemic taking the lives of millions of unborn children globally.

A baby, although created in the womb by God, is not of any value unless he is wanted. It has become the mother's choice, by right of society's

laws, to allow the baby's life to be discarded if he is unwanted. *"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."* Isaiah 5:20.

Many people are surprised to learn that Israel, called by God to be a Holy nation unto Him, not only allows abortion, but finances abortions through our National Health insurance program. Each year, half of the abortions are done at the expense of the Israeli government and tax payers' money. When a nation finances abortion, and the law permits abortion, individuals feel that it is an acceptable, normal medical procedure. Our people, as a Nation, bear the onus of the shedding of innocent blood on our Land.

In Israel, a land of paradoxes, abortion is widely available, yet legally restricted. In order to have a legal, government-funded and registered abortion, a woman must apply to the termination of pregnancy committee which exists in nearly every hospital. 98.5% of applications for abortion are approved. Shockingly, a woman may terminate her pregnancy up to full gestation. Minors do not require parental consent and measures are taken to insure their privacy... Last year, the state paid for approximately 18,000 abortions, regardless of circumstances. It is estimated that half of the 40,000 annual abortions are not registered and not through committees, making them illegal, although doctors are not prosecuted. The criteria to have a legal abortion are quite 'open': (1) under 18 or over 40; (2) pregnant as a result of criminal, extra-marital, or incestuous relations; (3) fetus likely to have a physical or mental defect; or (4) continuation of the pregnancy is likely to endanger the woman's life or cause her physical or mental harm (including stress and insomnia). She must also receive permission from a 3-person termina-

tion committee, consisting of two doctors and a social worker, one of whom must be a woman. 98.5% of applications for abortion are approved, making the committees a sort of "rubber stamp."

In the 1940's, in pre-Israel Palestine, and primarily due to financial instability, abortion was the common form of birth control and so rampant that our first Prime Minister David Ben Gurion said, to increase demographics and to encourage birth created a government financial incentive support program of children. In recent years, this funding has been cut back significantly. That being said, the birth rate in Israel is one of the highest in the Western world, 3.1 per family. On the other hand, the high rate of abortion in Israel exemplifies the paradox between the high value placed on the family and bearing children and the permissiveness of our society. Religious families have very large families as they obey the Biblical command, "Be fruitful and multiply." Many families want more than one child as a sort of "insurance policy" against losing a child in the army or through terrorism. On a national level there is a mindfulness of the need to rebuild the Jewish people after the loss of six million Jews during the Holocaust. Abortion is the antithesis of this equation for while the lives of 1.5 million Jewish children were lost in the Holocaust; at least 2 million have been lost to abortion since 1948.

***"If our mothers had aborted at the same rate as our daughters, we wouldn't have been able to build a nation."* Ben Gurion**

Many rabbis have expressed how appalled they are by these statistics, yet none of our religious parties have taken a stand to protect the rights of the unborn. There is no voice in our government speaking for the unborn. There is a large variance in opinion among rabbis regarding abortion with many allowing abortion prior to 40 days after conception. The Talmudic principle that a mother's life takes priority over the baby's life is often the guideline for orthodox rabbis to permit a mother to choose abortion; for example, if it would 'harm her life' such as reducing the possibility of finding a husband or cause her stress and anxiety.

There are several prolife organizations in Israel, some of them led by orthodox Jews and others by Messianic Jews. Each organization has its own emphasis and thankfully saves lives and in various sectors of society.

In the early 1980's, Christians and Messianic Jews came together to take on the task of saving babies from abortion in Israel. After

research, it was discovered that one out of three pregnancies were being aborted, which is the same proportion of world Jewry that Hitler annihilated. Be'ad Chaim became an official Israel nonprofit organization in 1988. The goal of Be'ad Chaim is to protect the mother and child from the ravages of abortion. A solid prayer base was created as the foundation of the work of Be'ad Chaim. Prayer continues to be the strength of our work, with weekly prayer letters going out to over 850 locations around the globe...

Tony Sperandio asked, "Do you care about Israel? If you do – you need to do something about the shedding of innocent blood on our Land." He quoted Genesis 4:9,10: *And the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I do not know!" he answered. "Am I my brother's keeper?" "What have you done?" replied the Lord. "The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground."*

Tony explained that the blood of Israeli babies is crying out on our Land. The shedding of innocent blood caused the exile of our people from the Land to Babylon in 586 BCE as in Psalm 106:38, *"They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood."*

I was sent home with a pile of books on abortion, articles with the statistics and videos to watch. I studied and prayed. Proverbs 24:11-12 provoked me and troubled me deeply: *"Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, 'But we knew nothing about this,' does not He who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not He who guards your life know it? Will He not repay everyone according to what they have done?"*

I could not say that I didn't know that babies' lives were being taken because I had learned the facts... As a follower of the Messiah, I don't believe that we have the option of doing nothing when we see injustice. "For evil men to accomplish their purpose it is only necessary that good men should do nothing." (Pastor Charles Aked). Proverbs 31 commands us: *"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."*

As I read the Scriptures, I see that God calls us to challenge the status quo of a society that doesn't value His values. Yeshua said, *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."* (Matthew 5) We are

called to mourn for that which grieves the heart of God. In Ezekiel 9:4, God calls the cherub to: *"Go throughout the city of Jerusalem... and put a mark on the foreheads of the men sighing and groaning over all the abominations committed there."*

The Israel Defense Forces, as part of general medical coverage for female soldiers, will pay for two or three abortions during a woman's two-year service. It is a woman's instinct to care for her baby, but problems and pressure cause her to choose to terminate the baby's life.

Be'ad Chaim's goal is to protect the mother and child from the ravages of abortion. We believe that abortion takes the life of a child, hurts women, and damages society. At Be'ad Chaim, we see hundreds of hurting, needy women in crisis. Many of them have been rejected by families and partners; many have broken hearts and need the love of God to heal and sooth their pain. We don't believe that it's our job to condemn or to push people to choose life; rather it's our responsibility and privilege to love them and offer them the hope that will empower them to choose life.

Our help to women has three aspects: **HOPE, HELP AND HEALING.** Through our hotline and website, we offer immediate help in crisis. Women are offered firstly a listening ear and information that will help them make a considered decision about their lives and the life of their baby. They are connected with a caring counselor in 12 different cities and regions of Israel. Counselors are trained to respect and tenderly communicate compassion with the women in crisis. These counselors often become a precious friend to a hurting and confused woman. Practical help is offered to each woman with financial difficulties through our baby sponsorship program "Operation Moses", providing them with baby bed, stroller, bathtub, and monthly vouchers to purchase baby necessities. Several centers have a "baby boutique" where mothers can come and choose clothing and other items for their newborns and up to one year.

Reproductive loss counseling is offered to those who hurt after the loss of a baby through miscarriage, abortion or still birth. All too often, women are told to 'forget about' the loss of the baby, but mothers, and fathers, need the space to heal after a loss. Grief, guilt and pain need to be addressed and processed. Our survey, showed some very serious consequences to abortive women. For example, after their abortion, 25% were severely traumatized, 18% were very traumatized and 22%

were moderately traumatized. When asked if there were medical problems after the abortion, 73% said "yes". 11% experienced miscarriage and 8% were never able to conceive another child. To honor the unborn children, The Gardens of Life is a four-acre (16 dunam) forest in the center of Israel where trees are planted in memory of unborn children or children who have passed away. These Gardens have brought healing and closure to thousands of people who have lost a baby, including parents, grandparents, siblings and others who grieve the loss.

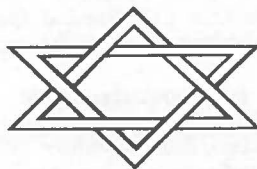
We must beware of seeing abortion as merely a political issue, something philosophical and theoretical. To be prolife means caring about the lives of women, their children and their families; caring about a healthy society that values and sees God-given destiny for every individual even the smallest ones in the womb. Let us pray and work for the day when Israel will choose life so that God will abundantly bless us with His peace in this Land:

"This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Editor's Note: Each year, tens of thousands of Jews make aliyah (immigrate to Israel). Tens of thousands more seek to enter Israel via their mothers' wombs. This represents an "internal" aliyah. Contributions to organizations such as Be'ad Chaim permit more Jews to born in the Land of Israel, and to eventually be contributing members of Israeli society.

Be'ad Chaim is a non-profit organization registered in Israel. Checks can be sent to:

Be'ad Chaim, PO Box 2623
Jerusalem 9102601, ISRAEL



The widespread violence of Nov. 9-10, 1938 signaled an escalation in the Nazi reign of terror. The unprecedented pogrom of November 1938 in Germany has passed into history as *Kristallnacht* (Night of Broken Glass). Violent attacks on Jews and Judaism throughout the Reich and in the recently annexed Sudetenland (seized from Czechoslovakia) began on and continued until November 11 in Hannover and the free city of Danzig, which had not then been incorporated into the Reich. There followed associated operations: arrests, detention in concentration camps, and a wave of so-called Aryanization orders, which completely eliminated Jews from German economic life.

The November pogrom, carried out with the help of the most up-to-date communications technology, was the most modern pogrom in the history of anti-Jewish persecution and an overture to the step-by-step extirpation of the Jewish people in Europe.

Jews Leaving Germany

After Hitler's seizure of power, even as Germans were being divided into "Aryans" and "non-Aryans," the number of Jews steadily decreased through emigration to neighboring countries or overseas. This movement was promoted by the Central Office for Jewish Emigration established by Reinhard Heydrich (director of the Reich Main Security Office) in 1938.

In 1925 there were 564,378 Jews in Germany; in May 1939 the number had fallen to 213,390. The flood of emigration after the November pogrom was one of the largest ever, and by the time emigration was halted in October 1941, only 164,000 Jews were left within the Third Reich, including Austria.

The illusion that the legal repression enacted in the civil service law of April 1, 1933, which excluded non-Aryans from public service, would be temporary was laid to rest in September 1935 by the Nuremberg Laws — the Reich Citizenship Law and the Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor. The Reich Citizenship Law heralded the political compartmentalization of Jewish and Aryan Germans.

Economic Exclusion

The complementary ordinances to the Reich Citizenship Law, dated November 14-28, 1935, sought to define who was a Jew; it also created a basis for measures limiting the scope of

Jewish occupations and the opportunities for young Jews to get an education. Following the March 1938 annexation of Austria, which brought 200,000 Austrian Jews under German domination, exclusion of Jews from the economy began first through the removal of Jewish manufacturers and business chiefs and their replacement by "commissars" in charge of "aryanization," the expropriation of Jewish businesses. Within a short time, from January to October 1938, the Nazis a-

ryanized 340 middle-sized and small industrial enterprises, 370 wholesale firms, and 22 private banks owned by Jews. The November pogrom was the peak of a series of events intended to expel the Jews from economic life and to force a hurried emigration.

A sequence of normative legislation in 1938 heralded economic despoliation. Under the Law Concerning the Legal Position of the Jewish Religious Community (March 28, 1938), the state subsidy for the Jewish community was withdrawn. Under the decree of April 22, 1938 against "continuing concealment of Jewish business activity," Jews were obliged to declare their assets—an indication that their possessions might be seized.

The Fourth Decree (July 25, 1938) under the Reich Citizenship Law deprived Jewish doctors, as of September 30, of their practices among Jewish patients. An edict by the police president of Breslau dated July 21 ordered that shops and businesses belonging to Jews should bear a notice: "Jewish Firm." Air Ministry political-economic guidelines of October 14, 1938 were accompanied by a recommendation, summed up by Hermann Goring (then head of the ministry): "The Jewish question must now be grasped in every way possible, for they [Jews] must be removed from the economy."

Goring also said that he was in favor of the creation of Jewish ghettos in German towns. His words gave notice of a general anti-Jewish offensive in the coming weeks. The most favorable opportunity for unleashing the attack was afforded by the fatal wounding of the German diplomat Ernst vom Rath on November 7th 1938 in Paris by the 16-year-old Polish Jew Herschel Grynszpan.

A Top-Down Pogrom

Ernst vom Rath's death gave the signal to the Reich propaganda minister, Joseph Goebbels, to unleash the pogrom against the Jews. The

KRISTALLNACHT: The Night of Broken Glass

November 8

by Karol Jonca
myjewishlearning.com

news of the death was received by Adolf Hitler during the traditional dinner for the "old fighters" of the Nazi movement, held in the assembly room of the Old Town Hall in Munich on the anniversary of the bloody march on the Feldherrnhalle and the unsuccessful putsch of November 9, 1923.

The atmosphere for announcements of victory or incitements to hate and revenge was optimal, not only in Munich but also among Nazi organizations throughout the country, where Germans awaited the radio transmission of the customary memorial celebration and Hitler's speech. The signal for retaliation had already been given by Goebbels (with Hitler's agreement) in an unusually aggressive speech, which Hitler did not attend. The political propaganda initiative and management of the pogrom was in Goebbels' hands, though he held no written authority from Hitler.

While the Fuhrer went to his Munich apartment, the propaganda minister told the Nazi notables and old fighters present that there had already been acts of revenge on November 8 in Kurhessen and Magdeburg against State Enemy No. 1 — the Jew. Synagogues and shops belonging to Jews had, he said, been destroyed.

His words were understood by his audience to signify "that while the party would not openly appear as the originator of the demonstrations, in reality it would organize them and carry them through" (secret report of supreme party judge Hans Buch to Hermann Goring, February 13, 1939). These intimations were immediately passed on by telephone to the headquarters of the various districts and were followed by telegrams from the Gestapo. Heydrich's secret order, sent by teleprinter to all Gestapo offices and senior SD sections, was transmitted at 1:20 a.m. on November 10.

Once Goebbels had given the Nazi district leaders the impetus to unleash a massive pogrom, the further initiative lay in their hands. The execution of the pogrom, under direction of the highest Nazi party leaders, was entrusted to police and state agencies, to units of the SS, and in part to SA members. By means of the latest communications technology — telephone, teleprinters, police transmitters, and radio — within a few hours the pogrom had reached almost every part of the Reich without meeting any resistance.

Desecrated Synagogues, Looted Shops, Mass Arrests

During the night of November 9-10, 1938 Jewish shops, dwellings, schools, and above all synagogues and other religious establishments

symbolic of Judaism were set alight. Tens of thousands of Jews were terrorized in their homes, sometimes beaten to death, and in a few cases raped. In Cologne, a town with a rich Jewish tradition dating from the first century CE, four synagogues were desecrated and torched, shops were destroyed and looted, and male Jews were arrested and thrown into concentration camps.

Brutal events were recorded in the hitherto peaceful townships of the Upper Palatinate, Lower Franconia, Swabia, and others. In Hannover, Herschel Grynszpan's hometown, the well-known Jewish neurologist Joseph Loewenstein escaped the pogrom when he heeded an anonymous warning the previous day; his home, however, with all its valuables, was seized by the Nazis.

In Berlin, where 140,000 Jews still resided, SA men devastated nine of the 12 synagogues and set fire to them. Children from the Jewish orphanages were thrown out on the street. About 1,200 men were sent to Oranienburg-Sachsenhausen concentration camp under "protective custody." Many of the wrecked Jewish shops did not open again.

Following the Berlin pogrom the police president demanded the removal of all Jews from the northern parts of the city and declared this area "free of Jews." His order on December 5, 1938 — known as the Ghetto Decree — meant that Jews could no longer live near government buildings.

The vast November pogrom had considerable economic consequences. On November 11, 1938 Heydrich, the head of the security police, still could not estimate the material destruction. The supreme party court later established that 91 persons had been killed during the pogrom and that 36 had sustained serious injuries or committed suicide. Several instances of rape were punished by state courts as *Rassenschande* (social defilement) in accordance with the Nuremberg laws of 1935.

At least 267 synagogues were burned down or destroyed, and in many cases the ruins were blown up and cleared away. Approximately 7,500 Jewish businesses were plundered or laid waste. At least 177 apartment blocks or houses were destroyed by arson or otherwise. It has rightly been said that with the November pogrom, radical violence had reached the point of murder and so had paved the road to Auschwitz.

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A Comparison of Yoseph & Yeshua by Hannah Nesher, www.voiceforisrael.net

One of the most beautiful aspects of the story of Joseph is seeing the amazing parallels between his life and the life of Yeshua HaMashiach (the Messiah). The similarities between Yoseph and Yeshua are striking:

- They were both shepherds of their father's sheep. Yeshua said, "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11)
- They were both their father's beloved sons. God said of Yeshua, "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased..." (Matthew 3:17)
- They were both sent by their father to their brothers. Yeshua said, "I was sent to the lost sheep of the House of Israel..." (Matthew 15:24)
- They were hated by their brothers, rejected, and treated with injustice.
- Others plotted to harm them.
- They were both tempted (Joseph by Potiphar's wife and Yeshua by the devil)
- They were both taken to Egypt: "Out of Egypt I have called my son." (Matthew 2:15)
- They both had special robes that were taken from them
- They were both sold for the price of a slave
- They were both bound in chains
- They were both falsely accused but were innocent
- They were both placed with two other prisoners, one who was saved and the other lost
- They were both thirty years old at the beginning of their public recognition.
- They were both exalted after suffering. (Philippians 2:9-10)
- They both forgave those who wronged them. Yeshua said, "Father forgive them...."
- They both saved their own people as well as other nations.
- They both brought bread to the people. Yeshua said, "I am the living bread." (John 6:51)
- The evil that men did to them, God turned to good – even salvation of many people.
- They were both considered dead but later found out to be alive.
- Joseph's brethren vow never to bow down to him but eventually do bow before him. The Word of God promises that at the name of Yeshua every knee will eventually bow.

Joseph's brothers at first don't recognize him but later do come to understand who he is. Many Messianic Jews do recognize Yeshua as the Messiah today; and the Hebrew prophet Zechariah, wrote that one day all the Jews will recognize him.

Joseph the Dreamer

In his first dream, Joseph saw a vision of all his brothers' sheaves of wheat bowing down to him. The next prophetic dream similarly showed Joseph's future dominion over his brothers and even over his own mother and father. The sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down to Joseph. At this point, not only were his brothers indignant at what we might call his 'chutzipah' (roughly translated 'cheeky nerve'), but his father also rebuked him:

"So he told it to his father and his brothers and his father rebuked him and said to him 'What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?'" (Genesis 37:10)

EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW

Just as Joseph's brothers mocked him and hated him and vowed they would never bow down to him, so do most of Yeshua's Jewish brethren even today also refuse to bow the knee to Yeshua.

The idea that Yeshua could actually be the promised Messiah is, to most Jewish people still a preposterous notion. They laugh and mock at our faith; but eventually, one day **"every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess that Yeshua is Adonai."** (Philippians 2:10)

Just as Joseph's brothers eventually came to recognize his true identity, when he declared, **"Ani Yoseph"** (I am Joseph), so will the Jewish people, Yeshua's brethren, one day come to see him as the true Messiah of Israel and savior of mankind.

"And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born." (Zech. 12:10)

One day a great reconciliation will take place and He will say to His Jewish brothers, **"Ani Yeshua HaMashiach"** (I am Yeshua the Messiah) and they will see him for who He truly is. Halleluyah!

that will befall Babylon include death, famine, fire, and mourning. It doesn't sound like a fun place to be in!

"And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, **Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.**" And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buys their merchandise any more."⁶

As mentioned before, this marks the merger of "church and state," and in this case, also commerce. Much as the kings of the earth received their authority from the Roman and Eastern Orthodox churches, so too in the future will the kings of the earth receive similar authority. The Babylonish world system will create much wealth for many "merchants" (business men), who will weep and mourn over Babylon when this system is overthrown.

"For in one hour so great riches are come to naught. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What city is like unto this great city!' And they

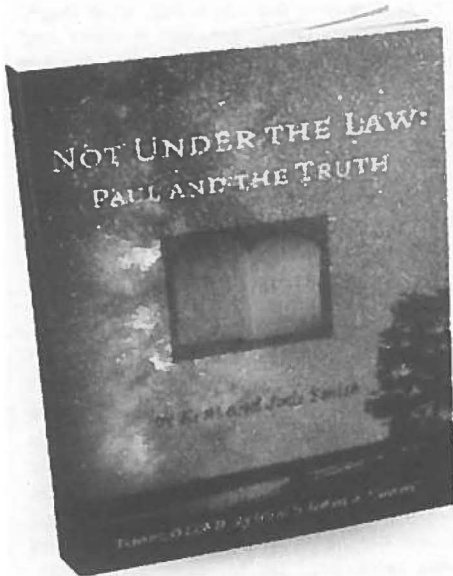
cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! For in one hour is she made desolate.'"⁷

The Babylon being referred to is obviously close to the sea. Rome is close to the sea, but currently does not seem to be commercial Babylon. Others have suspected, and I concur, that commercial Babylon might very well be New York City. When traveling in Long Island years ago, I noticed various towns like Babylon, North Babylon, and West Babylon very close to New York City. (Why would people name their cities after Babylon?). Even with the destruction of the World Trade Towers, New York City is still the commercial center of the world. New York may very well also be political Babylon, since it is where the headquarters of the United Nations is located.

"And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth." This may be a reference to spiritual Babylon, which has produced so many deaths throughout the centuries, as exemplified by the Inquisition and other horrors.

⁶ Revelation 18:9-10.

⁷ Rev. 18:17-19.



You must contact the address on the right to receive this book. Do **not** contact Petah Tikvah for this book.

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(Recommended to our readers! RAC)

"Mr. Shoshani" became famous because he is said to have known the entire Bible and the Talmud all by heart, as well as mastering over 20 (!) languages, as well as philosophy, mathematics, history, and world religions. Most did not even know his real name.

For years, Shoshani's students, scholars and rabbis have tried to decipher passages from his cryptic notebooks, but apart from a few sketchy ideas the attempts have been in vain. The notebooks, written in density and conciseness that require complex decoding have been held for many years in the hands of just a few of his students around the world...

Shoshani's students included some of the most famous thinkers of the twentieth century: Emanuel Levinas, Eli Wiesel, Yehuda Leon Ashkenazi (Manito), Prof. Shalom Rosenberg and many others.

Mr. Shoshani (also known as Chouchani) chose not to reveal his identity and kept every detail of information from his personal life with great zeal. Over the years, however, evidence has been gathered that makes it possible to trace his character. He was probably born in 1895 as Hillel Perlman. There is a hypothesis that he grew up in Lithuania or Belarus and was a child prodigy who knew how to recite and memorize many sources by heart.

After World War II, during which he twice escaped the Gestapo terror thanks to his immense genius, Mr. Shoshani traveled between different countries, including France and Israel, accompanied by two locked suitcases. His students say they did not know when he would arrive and when he would disappear, where he would live and what his plans were. Mr. Shoshani's conduct as a character remained mysterious and enigmatic. Numerous testimonies describe Mr. Shoshani as having an unconventional appearance that was perceived as strange and was sometimes described as repulsive. However, Mr. Shoshani's name as a revered and unique teacher and as a phenomenal intellect went far and wide and his students invested a lot in order to hear his lessons and learn Torah from him.

Everywhere he went, a crowd of students gathered around him to hear his lessons.

MR. SHOSHANI:

The Mysterious Genius

In 1952 he immigrated to Israel and lived for a time on Kibbutz Be'erot Yitzhak. He studied at Rabbi Kook's yeshiva in Jaffa as well as at the Kabbalist yeshiva in Beit El. In 1955-1956 he returned to France, then emigrated to Uruguay.

Yossi Aloni www.israeltoday.co.il

We highly recommend the above website to our readers. It is for the *Israel Today* e-magazine, published by Messianic Jews living in Israel.

The famous writer Eli Wiesel wrote about him: *"No one knew his name or age, where he came from, what made him happy and what was the nature of his fears, what he tried to achieve or forget, we did not know. His origin ranges from Marrakesh to Vilnius, between Chisinau and Safed, between Calcutta and Florence. He was fluent in about thirty ancient and modern languages, including Hindi and Hungarian. His French was pure, his English perfect, and the Yiddish in his mouth matched the accent of whomever he spoke. Felt at home in any culture. Always unkempt, neglected, he was like a beggar or a clown. He wore a tiny hat, always the same hat, on a huge, round, potato head. He was a rabbi and for three years, in Paris, I was also his student. Alongside him, I learned a lot about the dangers of language and reason, about the impulses of the sages, and also of the madman, about the mystery of thought through the centuries, about doubt through thought, but I learned nothing about the secrets he protected in the face of a sick humanity."*

Shoshani died suddenly in 1968 during a seminar for Bnei Akiva trainees (Jewish youth program) and religious teachers in Uruguay. After his death, about a hundred handwritten notebooks and various pages were found in one of his suitcases. In his life he never let anyone see the writings or their contents. These writings, as well as notebooks and other pages he left in the homes of students he stayed with, and these were kept by his closest students. The notebooks, written mainly in Hebrew but also in English, Yiddish, and Spanish, contain Torah innovations, mathematical and physical calculations, and historical notes...

GOD DOES NOT NEED OUR PRAYERS

Daniel Botkin

God does not need our prayers.

God can do whatever He wants to do without our prayers. The Almighty is All Mighty. He does not need our help. He is strong enough and smart enough to do anything He likes. If God wanted to, He could immediately and instantly eliminate all evil and suffering from the universe by simply commanding it to be gone. He could establish everlasting righteousness and peace by simply willing it to be done right now.

God does not need our prayers.

Yet for some reason, He has decreed that people should pray. Apparently God has decided that He will act in response to the prayers of His people. What God does on the earth and in the heavenly realm He does by the power of His Spirit, but He does it in response to the prayers of His people. Therefore it is of the utmost importance that we "pray without ceasing" (1 Thes. 5:17).

The reason God decided He will act in response to the prayers of His people is not fully explained in the Bible, but one reason is hinted at in Psalm chapter eight. "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength because of Thine enemies, that Thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger" (Ps. 8:2).

Even though God could forever silence His enemy the Devil with just a snap of His fingers, He has decided instead to use the praying mouths of babes and sucklings. The fact that Satan's defeat will be administered by the prayers of weak, sinful men who have been redeemed and sanctified will make the Devil's defeat more humiliating than if God had simply willed Satan out of existence.

This revelation caused David to consider the heavens, the moon and the stars, and to ask, "What is man, that Thou hast made him? And the son of man, that Thou visitest him?" (Ps. 8:4).

We have been given a great privilege and honor to labor together with the Creator of the universe through our prayers. What happens in time and in eternity will happen in response to our prayers. Our prayer, or our lack of prayer, will affect the eternal destiny of men's souls. If that does not motivate you to pray, I don't know what will.

"Let my prayer be set before Thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice" (Ps. 141:2).

*

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

AND after these things I saw another Angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.'¹

and he will be judging Babylon.

Although the ancient Roman Empire is no more, Rome (and by extension, Babylon) continues to exert a huge influence on the rest of the world. Many anti-Catholic polemicists use Babylon as being a symbol of the Roman Catholic Church. However, Babylon is very much a world-system, encompassing far more than the Roman Catholic Church. Babylon first and foremost is "spiritual," and the spirit of Babylon has also invaded much of the Protestant church. While I wouldn't say that the Protestant church is Babylon, there is much of Babylon in the Protestant church.

My wife and I were saved in a wonderful, old-fashioned Protestant church in 1975. We loved the people, and we got a fairly good start. The pastor told us that the Bible is the Word of God, and could be trusted. But in actuality,

in most Protestant churches, the holidays and Sabbaths are all imported from Roman Catholicism. We were uncomfortable about this, which led to our departure from the Protestant church. And, quite frankly, we much prefer Messianic Judaism!

Daniel 7:25 talks about the Beast: "And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to **change times and laws**: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time (3 1/2 years)." This is a dual fulfillment prophecy. It happened in the past, where the Biblical holidays and Sabbaths were abolished by the Catholic Church. In their place, we have "Sunday" (in honor of the Sun-god) and other pagan days which were appropriately "Christianized" and added to the church calendar. This made Christianity more popular with the pagans who were coming into the Church, since they could continue with their same holidays. The most blatant example is Easter, which even maintains the name of a pagan goddess.

However, before attacking the Catholic Church, we need to remember that the Protestants observe most of the same holidays and Sabbaths, which came into Protestant Christianity from the Catholic Church, and originally came from Babylon. These holidays and many other traditions are just as much a part of most Protestant churches as they are in the Roman Catholic Church, or any of the Eastern Churches. The problem with the Protestants is that they didn't "protest" enough!

The one thing that remains intact is the

"Come Out of Her, My People..."

Richard 'Aharon' Chaimberlin

REVELATION, chapter 18

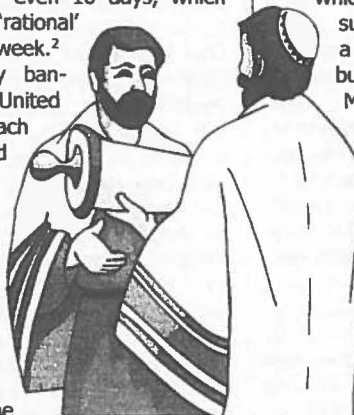
IN the paragraph above, we read about the final fall of Babylon. As we mentioned in earlier articles, the Book of Revelation was penned by Yochanan ('John') when he was a prisoner of Rome on the island of Patmos, off the coast of modern-day Turkey. It was dangerous to directly criticize Rome, which dealt with any criticism or rebellion with the utmost harshness and cruelty. The concept of "Freedom of Speech" as we know it today did not exist in the Roman Empire. Therefore, people used code words when they wanted to level any criticism against Rome. The Romans didn't mind if you criticized other nations; just don't criticize Rome! One of the code words that was used was "Edom." Another code word was "Babylon." Babylon, Rome, and even Jerusalem were all cities set on seven hills. However, Rome and Babylon had far more in common. They were both centers for pagan worship. The Babylonian gods and goddesses were basically exported to Rome and given new names. Both were huge empires, although First Century Babylon was no longer a world power. Therefore, it is the opinion of many (including myself) that the "Babylon" being referred to in Revelation is actually Rome.

It would be interesting to see the "angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was illuminated with his glory," as described in verse one. Can you imagine an angel descending from the sky and illuminating the earth? He must be one mighty bright angel! However, this is an angel of judgment,

¹ Revelation 18:1-3.

seven-day week, which has been preserved from the time of Creation. This same seven-day week is still observed around the world in many different cultures, nations, and religions. I suspect that the Anti-Messiah will attempt to remove this vestige in remembrance of Creation by altering the seven-day week, perhaps expanding it to 8 or even 10 days, which might seem more 'rational' than the "odd" 7-day week.²

Another possibility bandied about by the United Nations is one day each year called "United Nations Day," which would be separate from all the other days of the week. This is appealing because the year would then be 52 weeks of seven days each, equaling 364 days, plus the one United Nations Day making a total of 365. The end result would be that Shabbat would no longer be the same Shabbat that has stood since Creation, because every year it would be pushed out by one extra day.



Babylon is a recurring theme throughout much of Revelation, and impossible to avoid. Babylon is also a system of commerce, based on greed, pride, ruthlessness, and materialism. This transcends both capitalism and socialism, since these characteristics can be found in both. However, capitalism tends to work better because it is also based on private initiative where people are free to create wealth with their individual initiatives and talents. In Revelation 18, the primary emphasis is on "economic" Babylon, although it would be a mistake to neglect "spiritual" Babylon. Babylon is a world system, and I suspect as the world becomes more internationalized, that we will see the Roman Catholic Church entering into alliances with other denominations, even non-Christian alliances.

Under Constantine, the Roman church was married to the State (the Roman Empire). This was the worst thing that ever could have happened to Biblical Christianity, and led to many

dilutions to Biblical truth, which have continued to this day.

Today we also see a genuine world economy forming, with a World Bank, and the World Trade Organization. The supposed goal is greater prosperity for more people. It seems that the primary beneficiary of this is China, which is rapidly becoming an economic super power. However, it is leading to a "job-drain," not only from the USA, but even from other nations such as Mexico, which cannot compete with China's virtual slave labor wages and working conditions. Many western international corporations have profited greatly by re-locating their factories to China, earning their CEO's huge salaries, while the jobs also go to China.

I happen to subscribe to the "Post-Trib, Pre-Wrath" Rapture. By the time we get to chapter 18 of Revelation, many of the true Believers are out of here. Yeshua's parable about the virgins (Matt. 25:1-13) tells us that many Believers may not be ready for the day of Yeshua's return. For instance, there might be a Believer who had been living a righteous life for many years, but on the day of the Rapture, he might be involved in theft or perhaps some sexual indiscretions. Another person might have been living something of a lifestyle of debauchery, but on the day of the Rapture, he might have gotten his act together and been truly repentant, living a life of obedience to Yeshua and to Torah, and will be ready! The indication is that about half of the Believers will be "ready" and half will not be ready. (Remember, only five of the ten virgins were ready for the Bridegroom.)

There will indeed be Believers still around in Revelation chapter 18. Many of these Believers might still be in 'Babylonian' style churches at that time, and many might have also have been brought into the world system in which profit is king, regardless of the consequences. Therefore, we read in Revelation 18:4-5 about a **voice from heaven** saying: **"Come out of her, my people,** that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities."

It should be noted that this message is going out to **my people**, which is an indication that genuine believers may also be in Babylonian-style churches. We are commanded to note forsake "the assembling of ourselves to-

² The French attempted to institute a 10-day week after the French Revolution in the early 1800's, but finally reverted to the seven-day week.

gether" in Hebrews 10:25, which may often mean assembling with others who may have some major doctrinal differences. In such cases, it is important to ensure that our doctrines line up with the Scriptures. If something is taught or heard that is contrary to the Bible, stick with the Bible. However, if the differences are too severe, it is important to "Come out of her, my people." Isaiah 52:11 also imparts a rather severe warning, saying, "Depart, depart, go out from there. Touch nothing unclean. Go out from the midst of her. Purify yourselves..." The danger is that by staying too long with the wrong people is that you may become like them. It's called "peer pressure."

I should add one very important caveat: Some of my words may be overly harsh. I also need to point out that the world has also seen many blessings from Christianity. Many great colleges, universities, hospitals, orphanages, homeless shelters, etc., have been created by sincere Christians. Millions of lives have been transformed for the better. I hate to imagine what the United States would be like had it not been for sincere Christians. Also, millions have found salvation in Christian churches. I thank God for them. Christians may have also done many horrible things. However, look at what has happened in post-Christian Europe since about 1900. Communism, Fascism, and Nazism filled the void left by the departure of vibrant Christianity in Europe. The Inquisition and pogroms of earlier centuries was horrible, but they don't begin to compare to the greater horrors of the Holocaust and gulags that have occurred since the early 1900's.

The Babylonian-style churches will be even more excessively Babylonian after the departure of many genuine Believers. You might expect the Believers to leave of their own accord. However, people tend to become comfortable where they are at. I suspect that this was also the case with the First Century Messianic communities. God used the Romans to unleash some persecution on these Messianic Jews, and used a vision from heaven to get Shimon Kefa (Peter) to a place where he would be willing to share the Gospel with the Gentiles. The Bible doesn't say who the "voice from Heaven" is. In Judaism, there is a tradition that since the time of the prophets, God no longer speaks directly to people. We have the Scriptures, and when more is needed, there is the **Bat Kol**, which translated literally is "Daughter of the Sound." I would suggest not taking a literal translation. The Bat Kol in Judaism is called an 'echo,' because we don't directly hear the actual voice of God, but

merely an echo of His voice. Sometimes the Bat Kol is also called the "Heavenly Voice," since it is heard as if coming from the heaven.

Whatever the source of this voice, this voice is telling "my people," presumably all the Believers (and Jews) to **get out of Babylon**.³ Although this is prophetic for future events, I would suggest that there are those who may be in Babylonian-type congregations today. They might want to consider departing from these congregations soon, and enter into congregations that observe the biblical holidays and traditions, and which understand the scriptures in the same fashion as they would have been intended by the original writers, and as they would have been understood by the original hearers. We recommend understanding the Scriptures from a Hebraic mindset and perspective, and not the Hellenistic (Greek) mindset that is so predominant today.

There is a judgment coming upon this mystery Babylon, and I would not want to partake of this judgment: "Pay her (Babylon) back even as she paid you, and double to her according to her works: in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. To the degree that she has glorified herself, and lived deliciously, to the same degree give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.' Therefore, shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judges her."⁴

This judgment against Babylon sounds very much like the judgment that befell Tyre in Ezekiel 28:11-19. "Tyre is often understood as a surrogate for Satan's realm of activity and its king for Satan himself... By analogy, the destruction of Babylon in this chapter is really the destruction of Satan's kingdom."⁵ The plagues

³ It is difficult to do justice to this topic in one short article. I would strongly suggest purchasing one or more of the following books:

The Two Babylons by Alexander Hislop, Chick Publications, POB 3500, Ontario CA 91761 USA
Fossilized Customs by Lew White, Torah Institute, PO Box 436044, Louisville KY 40253.
Babylon Mystery Religion, by Ralph Woodrow (no longer in publication, unfortunately)

Although I do not agree with all the contents of these books, they contain much valuable information.

⁴ Revelation 18:6-8

⁵ This is a direct quote from Stern's *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, p. 837.

When I was a kid, I was fascinated by what we called "Outer Space."

There were these straight lines on Mars that many believed to be canals that had been built by Martians to conserve and distribute the meager liquid water that was assumed to exist on Mars. I believed that some of us Earthlings would be traveling to Mars in the 20th Century. However, the various space probes going to Mars have discovered what is basically a lifeless planet. Not even primitive one-celled critters or bacteria have been found. Also, no liquid water can exist in the extremely thin atmosphere of Mars. The tiny amounts of water that exist is ice at the polar ice caps, which immediately turns into small amounts of water vapor when the ice melts. There is hope that water might be found in underground rock foundations. Hope.

Venus was often assumed to be something like a primitive Earth. At only 67 million miles from the Sun, it would have been much hotter than Planet Earth. However, it was assumed that the cloud cover over the entire planet would help shield Venus from the intense solar heat and radiation. Many believed therefore that temperatures on the surface were moderate, and that life on Venus would perhaps be like life as it was assumed to be on Earth 100 million years ago, perhaps with dinosaurs!

Recent space probes have found that Venus has a surface temperature of about 900 degrees F, or about 475 degrees C. The thick toxic atmosphere actually traps the heat with a runaway greenhouse effect. The atmospheric pressure at the surface is about 90 times as great as on Planet Earth, enough to crush us immediately if we were not baked first by temperatures hot enough to melt lead. This was just as predicted by Immanuel Velikovsky.

These changes in perception of the planets were new to me. However, Velikovsky was a great man of science writing over 70 years ago who would not have been surprised. He died in 1979 at age 84. Fortunately, he lived long enough to see many of his theories of the solar system being verified by modern science with the various space probes. However, when Immanuel Velikovsky published his landmark book **Worlds in Collision** in 1950, he was widely condemned and ridiculed by what might be called the Scientific Mafia. He was mostly right about conditions on both Mars and Venus, although he did hope that some sort of primitive life might be found on Mars.

When I was in school so many years ago, the prevailing thought was that the planets had all been in pretty much their current orbits for millions of years. Also,

most of the various geological formations on Earth came about gradually, also over a period of millions of years. My uncle Paul

Driscoll (the most learned man I have ever met) believed in something called catastrophism, whereby most geological formations on Earth came about from a series of cataclysms. Years later, I discovered that Immanuel Velikovsky believed the same thing.

When I started reading **Worlds in Collision** a couple decades ago, it did sound a bit fanciful. Velikovsky claimed Venus had a highly elliptical orbit that crossed through the orbits of Earth and Mars. He claimed that the Planet Venus was at one time a gigantic comet, and that in about 1500 BCE, Venus made its two closest approaches to Earth.

Also, during the eighth and seventh centuries BCE, the comet Venus approached Mars, tearing it out its orbit, with Mars in turn also menacing our planet. After all of these terrifying encounters, Venus finally lost its extremely eccentric orbit and lost its comet characteristics and settled down into its present planetary behavior. The effects of these encounters were truly catastrophic. Oceans were displaced, organic populations destroyed, continents drowned, civilizations overwhelmed, the lengths of lunar months and solar years were changed, and mountains built and demolished. All of this happened in mankind's historic memory less than 4000 years ago.

If you have stopped reading this article at this point, I fully understand. I was tempted to stop reading Velikovsky. However, as I read through his book, I was astounded at his research. He did this long before the Internet came along. He assembled a vast amount of information from many different sources from around the world. Velikovsky was a scholar in many variant disciplines: Geology, astronomy, history, biology, ancient religions, the Bible, as well as linguistics. He learned several languages as a child. As an adult, he was fluent in Russian, Hebrew, French, and English, and was knowledgeable in other languages such as Latin. He was born in Russia in 1895, studied medicine in France, and graduated in medicine in Moscow in 1921, which wasn't easy to do for a Jew to do during those antisemitic times. He lived in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem in

The Scientific Mafia & Immanuel Velikovsky

Richard 'Aharon' Chaimberlin

1924—1939 where he practiced psychoanalysis. In 1939, he moved to New York City.

After reading his **Worlds in Collision**, I am convinced that the two greatest geniuses of the 20th Century were Albert Einstein and Immanuel Velikovsky, both of whom were Jewish. He had been working on his theories, which he presented for about ten years. Then he published **Worlds in Collision** in 1950. He presented his evidence, which had been accumulated from testimonies, traditions, legends, and religions the world over. He also had science to back up his theories. His book is highly documented, footnoted, and indexed.

Velikovsky was not a religious Jew. However, he believed in the historicity of the Bible. But instead of assigning supernatural explanations for various miracles, he believed that there were natural explanations for various events of the Bible, such as the plagues of Egypt, attributing them to extraterrestrial agents, in this case, Venus. Nevertheless, I see the hand of God in this, even if there were natural events that caused the plagues. The timing of the plagues was amazing, as they occurred at just the right time! The end result was the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt.

This is where the story gets really nasty. An American astronomer, Harlow Shapley, led an attempt to stop the publishing of Velikovsky's book, even before the book appeared on bookshelves. He also enlisted a famous geologist and an archaeologist in this effort. None of them had read the book or examined the evidence. When it finally appeared, denunciatory reviews were arranged by professors who also boasted of not having read the book. The reviews often included false accusations against Velikovsky, accusing him of saying or writing things he never said or wrote. They finally succeeded in getting the publisher, Macmillan, to cease publication. Eventually Doubleday and then Dell picked up publication, where it remained a best seller. The book is still available in bookstores, as well as on the Internet from various sources.

Nicholas Copernicus (1473—1543) experienced similar persecution from the scientific and intellectual mafias of his day. Copernicus dared to say that the Earth revolved around the Sun! Horrors! Today Copernicus is held in high esteem around the world. However, in his day, he suffered much persecution, as did Galileo in later years.

Folklore from around the world alleges rains of burning pitch, or naphtha, including the stuff that fell on Sodom and Gomorrah almost 4000 years ago. Velikovsky asserts that

this material came from the planet Venus on one of its near encounters to Earth. Velikovsky also asserts that hydrocarbons (petroleum gas) in the Venus atmosphere were transported by gravity to Earth in another near encounter. Hydrogen chloride and hydrogen fluoride are also in the atmosphere of Venus. The most common gas is carbon dioxide. We generally call petroleum a fossil fuel. Curiously, we never find fossils in petroleum. Perhaps the old man got this one right as well.

Discoveries in the years since 1950 have caused major revisions in books about astronomy to correct the misinformation of earlier texts. On the other hand, no major claims made in **Worlds in Collision** have had to be retracted. Many claims of Velikovsky thought to be false by the scientists in 1950 have since been found to be true. For instance, he predicted that rocks rich in oxygen would be found on the moon, and recent unmanned moon expeditions have found this to be true.

In his book, Velikovsky documents ancient calendars over 3500 years old. Most had 12 months of 30 days each. The ancients were not stupid. This was exactly how it was, with 360 days in a solar year, and 30 days in a lunar month. And this is how it was in the original Biblical calendar. When reading Genesis 7:11 and 8:3-4, we discover that there were exactly 150 days between the 17th day of the second month and the 17th day of the seventh month. That means that each lunar month had 30 days. Each month began with the New Moon, just as it does today with the Jewish calendar. However, today the Jewish months alternate between 29 days and 30 days, because a lunar month now is 29.5 days, slightly shorter than it was in Genesis.

The ancients were also extremely fearful of Mars. Why? It was because of near encounters with the Red Planet thousands of years ago. Jonathan Swift, in his book **Gulliver's Travels** in 1726, wrote about the two moons of Mars, and even gives the times for each moon to revolve around Mars. Modern astronomers didn't even know these moons existed until they were discovered by astronomer Asaph Hall with his powerful telescope in 1877. Velikovsky (page 283) believes that Jonathan Swift apparently had information recorded by the ancients over 2,000 years ago, and Swift recorded this information in his book. The near encounters with Venus and Mars eventually altered the orbits of Earth and its moon to where they remain today. And of course, the orbits of Venus and Mars eventually settled in to where they are today. ¶



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Rav Rick ~

Thank you so much for your kind letter and the commentary on Matthew. I look forward to the next issue of **PT**! Even better, I was released on 31 Aug 2022! All praise to Yeshua! Enclosed is my new address.

Charles Hawkins,
TEXAS

Editor's Note: Mazel tov to Charles! We appreciate being advised of the new address. We encourage our readers to keep us updated on address changes to ensure that you receive each issue, and also that we don't waste money (\$2.32) for each issue that gets returned to us. **RAC**

Shalom ~

The two-state solution was sabotaged in 1947 by the Arabs of Palestine who refused to accept the UN plan to partition Palestine into two parts: One part Jewish, the other Arab. They have been sabotaging the two-state solution ever since.

Since its inception, Israel has presented six peace offers to the Palestinian, each one refused without counter-offers. There is nothing that Israel can do, no concession it can make that will convince the Palestinian Arabs to come to the negotiating table, simply because according to them, all of Israel is occupied land and a Jewish state should not be allowed to exist. Larry Shapiro, Alberta, **CANADA**

Shalom Rav Chaimberlin ~

May I take this opportunity to inform you that we had our convocation to commemorate Shavuot. We read the Ten Commandments and happily shared the good message on Shavuot published in the April-June 2018 issue of **Petah Tikvah**. We are trying as much as we are able to share with others what we have so far understood about Messianic Judaism despite some of the challenges we face.

Thank you very much for the latest issue of **PT**. As usual, we are blessed by the contents of this great magazine. Albert Tembo, **Malawi**

Editor's Note: We are blessed by the reports of the growth of Messianic Judaism around the world. Albert and his congregation in Africa, are just a small part of the proliferation of Messianic Jewish congregations around

the world, many of which may have no congregants who are Jewish according to the flesh, but have been grafted into the Jewish Olive Tree of Romans 11:17-24.

Shalom Rabbi

Chaimberlin ~

Our Messianic congregation at Walker State Prison in Georgia is continuing to thrive.

With the Faith and Character Based Program that this prison conducts, every 24 months we have a turnover in the inmate population. That

means we have 24 months with the **talmidim** (students) to disciple them and prepare them before they are relocated to another prison or to be sent to a Transition Center for getting them ready to go home. The congregational elders have earned positions in the prison system as mentors and instructors, which has enabled them to remain for as many as six years. Thus, my elders are solid and experienced leaders. Our attendance can run as high as 40 for Shabbat, and more for Festival services.

I have a mailing that I send out each month. Most mailings go to former **talmidim**. Others go to Messianic Believers that have been disciplined by the **talmidim**. We've been able to begin other Messianic congregations in state prisons. Of course, what I do cannot compare to the expansive prison ministry that you have. A number of the **talmidim** receive your **PT** magazine, and are blessed by it, as am I. **Editor's Note:** Steve Coyle is doing in-person prison ministry in various locations. That is much more difficult than the "remote" prison ministry that we do. **RAC**

Thank you for all you do in assisting me to minister to the **talmidim** under my pastoral care. Your Jewish calendars are always a BIG hit when I give them out. I always do a teaching for new inmates on how to follow and use the Jewish calendar.

Dr. Steve Coyle, **GEORGIA**

Editor's Note: We urge other Messianic ministries to become involved with prison ministry. At the very least, please respond to inmates when they write. Inmates write to us, complaining that they write to a MJ kehillah, the usual response is: Nothing. They need encouragement. Please, don't let them down.



Shalom & Greetings ~

I just finished the Yeshiva course on the 9th and will be mailing it in on the 11th. My hand hurts from all that writing. Ha ha. But it was worth every bit of it. Thank you so much for having recommended me for the yeshiva, based on James Ya'akov Cates' high recommendation. Also, can you recommend a good source of Messianic Jewish Spanish literature available at a reasonable cost for prisoners?

Jesse Noel Villarreal, Cleveland TX

Editor's Note: The contact for getting enrolled in the yeshiva mentioned above is: Rav John Sexton, Kh'rev Torah Yeshiva, PO Box 618, Windsor VA 23487. Regarding Messianic Jewish materials "en espanol," perhaps our readers could recommend some sources. There are many Messianic inmates for whom Spanish is their first language, but there is very little literature for them. **RAC**

Hi Rick & Miriam ~

Thank you for remembering my 70th birthday—a big one! I have a question for you. For years I have not eaten any pork or shellfish (only fish with scales and fins. My brother (a Christian) argues with me, citing 1 Timothy 4:3-4. By the way, I would never eat pork. It is filled with worms (like trichinosis) and toxins. When Coca Cola is poured over pork, you can see the little worms come out.

Sue McLaughlin, Concord NH

OUR REPLY: Sue is doing good! The scripture that was cited tells us that everything that God created is good! It does not tell us that everything is food! Most Christians defend eating pork, based on verses like 1 Timothy 4:3-4. Do your friends eat dogs and cats? I don't see them eating Fluffy or Spot. If not, they are very inconsistent in their interpretation of these verses. I also don't see them eating spiders and worms.

Critters like pigs, clams, oysters, etc. are God's garbage disposals, eating up things that would pollute the environment. Years ago, Chesapeake Bay became badly polluted. Somebody figured it was because clams had become so heavily harvested that pollution became a problem. Clams and oysters purify the water by filtering out various pollutions that are harmful to people. (And then people eat those critters!) They reintroduced various shellfish into the Chesapeake Bay, and today the Chesapeake Bay is once again safe for swimming, boating, and fishing.

We don't purposely eat any of the unclean critters. And God tells us which animals are unclean in Deuteronomy 14 and Leviticus 11. These chapters tell us which meats can be considered food, and which meats are not considered food. Pork is not considered food for human consumption. But biblically, pork is not considered food. However, various bugs get into the grain (as well as into various vegetables). The grain is ground to make flour and bread. Then we end up eating these bugs, but not on purpose. The Rabbis determined that if less than 1 part out of 64 is **unkosher**, the food is still kosher. However, we should never purposely add unclean bugs to the food or grains.

Shalom Rav Chaimberlin ~

God is always good in all ways! Thank you for **Petah Tikvah** and your advocacy for prisoners. You have sent many calendars to us over the years. Now the prison system in some states has often made it difficult or impossible for us to receive the large calendars that you provide. In a desire to give something back to you, please find two personal calendars, one for you and one for your bride of many years Miriam.

These were created especially for you, and include the sunset times for Rochester. The Torah/Haftara readings will differ slightly from some Orthodox calendars. My prayer is that they be a blessing to you.

Our congregation is still not allowed to meet on the Sabbath. But we do meet on Friday afternoon—but are usually not allowed even a full hour! Thank you for your prayers and faithful service. Please keep my subscription coming! Rod Tucker, Nashville NC

Editor's Note: Rod Tucker and others put together an excellent 8.5x11 inch calendar that has all of the Biblical festivals and modern Israeli holidays. In addition, each Shabbat and Holy Day has the Torah/Haftara portions, as well as suggested NT portions listed. We have reprinted that calendar and are making it available to our men and women behind bars for the cost of **4 stamps** or a \$2 money order sent to us here at Petah Tikvah. **RAC**

Dear Rav Chaimberlin ~

Thank you for your publication. It is informative and adds richness to my walk with the Messiah. You have made a difference and a huge impact on those of us in prison, and I am sure also to the Assembly around the world. Donnie Schultz, Texarkana TX

She Just Got Accepted to Medical School. She's 13 Years Old.

By Sydney Page Washington Post, 7/20/22



Alena Analeigh Wicker is like other 13-year-olds in that she enjoys going to the movies, playing soccer, baking and hanging out with friends. But very much unlike other teenagers, she just got accepted to medical school.

"I'm still a normal 13-year-old," said Alena, a student at both Arizona State University and Oakwood University, where she is simultaneously earning two separate undergraduate degrees in biological sciences. "I just have extremely good time management skills and I'm very disciplined."

In May, Alena was offered a spot at the University of Alabama's Heersink School of Medicine for 2024, as part of its Early Assurance Program — which offers early admission to applicants who meet specific requirements. Alena is more than 10 years younger than the average incoming medical student.

"What is age?" said Alena, a Black 13-year-old prodigy, who lives just outside Fort Worth and is completing most of her courses online. "You're not too young to do anything. I feel like I have proven to myself that I can do anything that I put my heart and mind to."

When Alena was 3 years old, her mother started noticing that she was far from a typical toddler. "Alena was gifted," said her mother, Daphne McQuarter. "It was just how she did things and how advanced she was. She was reading chapter books."

Learning new skills, Alena said, came easily to her, and once she started school, she was sometimes taunted for her scholastic talents. "There was a little boy that bullied me, and he would tease me and call me 'smarty pants,'" Alena recalled, adding that her mother decided to home-school her for several years after the bullying started.

50 Years After Munich Olympics Massacre, Israeli Athletes Win Gold in the German City

RonCantor.com

Israel's men's marathon team took home the gold on August 15th at the European Athletics Championships in Munich, Germany. Two men on the team also won a silver and a bronze medal in other races. The victories in Munich come at a sensitive time in Israeli athletics history. September 2022 marks the 50th anniversary of the 1972 massacre of 11 Israelis who were in Munich to compete in the Olympic games. Over a span of about 20 hours, eight members of Black September, a group of Palestinian terrorists in a faction of the PLO (along with the help of some West German neo-Nazis), took hostage and eventually gunned down 11 young athletes and coaches. (Five terrorists and one German policeman were also killed.)

Their victory was an emotional one on many levels. Israel's Olympic Committee said it was "moved to tears to experience the exciting continuity of Israeli sports on Munich soil." And Israel's Culture and Sports Minister Chilli Tropper also praised the men's team for their medal run in the games. "History in the European championships. Tremendous achievements for Israel. We are proud of you!"

In addition to the gold medal for the four-man men's marathon team, two of the members won individual medals for their time in the marathon—Marhu Teferi won a silver medal, and Gashau Ayale grabbed the bronze in his race. Both Teferi and Ayale are Ethiopian-born Israelis. "This is really exciting for me. I am very happy with this achievement," Teferi said. Israel's marathon team ran the race in a combined time of little over six and a half hours. Germany came in second place and Spain placed third.

The Magen David Adom and Dogs

The **Impact Report** (source for this item) is a publication of the **MDA** (Magen David Adom), the Israeli version of the International Red Cross. The Red Cross does an excellent job in getting folks to give blood for humans, as does the MDA. However, the MDA also has blood drives in which people are invited to bring their dogs. The dogs then also give blood (perhaps not willingly) to save the lives of other dogs. I had never thought about that. But dogs also may need blood for lifesaving surgery, etc. Only Israel would think of the dogs in need of blood.

Jesus did not come to Planet Earth to start a new religion; He came as the Messiah for the old religion: Judaism.

The Second Amendment

"A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

The statement above is a quote directly from the U.S. Constitution describing the Second Amendment. "Well-regulated" militias meant that states had the right to organize armed citizens for the common defense. I would not describe groups such as Proud Boys, QAnon, White Supremacists, Radical Islamists, groups seeking to overthrow the government, etc., as "well-regulated" militias for the "common defense." If anything, they are **dangers** to the "common defense" that should not be allowed to have firearms.

The primary weapons of the late 1700s when the Constitution was written were the ball and musket firearms. One would have to insert gunpowder into the barrel of the gun, then insert a metal ball, and then light the fuse and aim the gun or rifle at its target. If the shooter was able to accomplish all of this, he could return home with some meat for his family, or stop an intruder. These were not weapons of mass destruction, like AR-15s.

At that time, states did regulate individual gun ownership, and authorities frequently confiscated guns from people that they deemed to be a menace to society or simply disloyal. I have heard it said that **people** kill people, not AR-15s. However, a bad person with an AR-15 can kill far more people than a bad person with a BB gun.

Source for above info: Politico, Joshua Zeitz

Biden's Trip to Israel

I wasn't always thrilled with Donald Trump as president. And he lost the 2020 election and should admit it to restore some sanity to our country. However, **I will always be grateful for his policies regarding the Middle East.** He was the most pro-Israel president that the United States ever had. Nay-sayers said that if the USA drew too close to Israel that the Arab nations would turn against us. However, under Trump's watch, the USA gained respect and closer relations with the Arab world. As a side benefit, Israel also has the best relationship with the Arab world than she has ever had. Arab nations now have dip-

lomatic relations with Israel, and commerce is booming between Israel and the Arab world.

Some of these benefits might be unraveling under President Biden's administration. He is on track to be the most hostile president to Israel ever. He is perhaps unduly influenced by former President Barack Obama. Biden's policies are similar to Obama's anti-Israel policies. Virtually all of Biden's hostile-to-Israel political appointments were closely associated with Obama. This is like Obama's third term.

Biden went to the Middle East in July. His first stop was in Israel, where he undeservedly received Israel's highest reward: Israel's Presidential Medal of Honor. He spent the next several days making statements and announcing policies hostile to Israel. He met with the Palestinian Authority (PA) dictator Mahmoud Abbas, legitimizing him, despite the fact that Abbas continues to pay Arabs \$400 million per year in lifetime pensions as rewards for murdering Jews and Americans. This is commonly called the "Pay to Slay" program, in which terrorists or their families are paid many thousands of dollars each year for each Jew or American who is killed or permanently injured. The amount paid to each terrorist or member of a terrorist's family increases as the number of victims increases.

The Palestinian Authority is inciting violence and hatred against the Jews, as well as rewarding terrorists and naming schools, streets, and sports teams after them. Despite this, President Biden is still calling for the creation of another Palestinian State (in addition to the Palestinian states of Jordan and effectively Gaza), based on the boundaries of Israel prior to the Six-Day War of 1967.

Biden also (1) increased his administration's funding of the Palestinian Arabs to over \$1.5 billion dollars, thus freeing up PA funds for paying Arab terrorists who murder Jews and Americans. (2) Biden is also pushing Israel to re-open a Palestinian consulate in East Jerusalem. (3) Biden is pushing Israel to further ease Arabs crossing over the checkpoints, which already has led to 19 Jews who have been murdered. (4) He refused to list any red-lines by which military action must be taken against Iran's abilities to produce nuclear bombs and ignores sanctions against Iran.

Source for above information: www.zoa.org

We don't keep the Law (Torah) to 'get' redeemed. The Torah contains God's instructions for those who are already redeemed.

Rav Rick ~

I've been in a new location only a week, and am already teaching two men about the real Yeshua and Torah. They plan on keeping the Biblical Feasts with me. Hallelu-yah! They will be Messianic Jewish before long.

Pray that Yah gives me the strength and Halakha to be an example of light on this unit. It is full of homosexuality. Also, some of the Believers are too busy harping on the correct names to use, and are bickering with each other.

Frank Byrd, Iowa Park TX



Both your commentary on **Acts** and the Smith's book about Paul, and what he **could** and **could not** have meant have gone a long way in clarifying some issues and concerns that I once struggled with. I believe these books will do the same for many others as well. Thank you for all you do for the Kingdom of God.

Tom Donahue,
Danbury CT

Shalom ~

You should have already received notice from the Florida Dept of Corrections regarding the impoundment of **Petah Tikvah Magazine** regarding ads that offer books or calendars to inmates for postage stamps, even though the stamps are just to cover postage costs, and not to purchase items.

William Sabourin, Madison FL

Editor's Note: The arguments about how to pronounce the Names can get a bit ridiculous. Although I much prefer the Hebraic names, I believe that the pronunciations matter little. By the way, we really cannot be sure of the exact pronunciations. Also, we are saved by the blood of the Lamb, not by whether or not we use the "correct" pronunciation. **RAC**

Dear Rav Richard & Miriam ~

I have been studying your Messianic commentary on the book of Acts, and have found it to be extremely enlightening. It puts into perspective what the early followers of Yeshua were doing or not doing at that time.

Also, I received the book **Not Under the Law: Paul & the Truth** by Kent & Jody Smith which you recommend. I have read through it once, and expect to read it again and again. I recommend this book to every Christian, although I know (sadly) that many will dismiss it. I also will recommend it to my Jewish brethren, perhaps with the same result. (**Editor's Note:** This book is **not** supplied by **Petah Tikvah**. It is available for free to inmates, or for \$8 plus \$4 for shipping to those in the free world. Make checks payable to **Jody Smith**, 30504 CSAH 25, Grove City MN 56243.)

It has been my experience that both Jew and Christian have been misled, and, dare I say, deceived as to what Yeshua and Paul meant. As the Smiths said, "As believers in Jesus, we must endeavor to represent Him accurately. When communicating with Jewish people, it is vitally important to do so with love, compassion, and a thorough understanding of where they are coming from."

Editor's Note: Prison policies are making it increasingly difficult to get materials, or even letters to inmates. Letters to inmates in Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, and Maryland can no longer be mailed directly to the prisoner. Instead, they must be mailed to a special address in Tampa FL or Phoenix MD, where letters can be scanned and then sent electronically to the inmate in Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, or Maryland. Even close family members can no longer send letters directly to their loved ones in prison. Also, we include self-addressed envelopes in each issue of **Petah Tikvah**. We must ensure that each issue going to Florida does not include the envelope, as the DOC forbids them. Most prisons throughout the USA also no longer allow greeting cards, birthday cards, etc.

The situation gets really crazy with the calendars we send out. In some states such as Missouri, the calendars are sent back with the notice that the calendar must be sent to the inmate via www.doc.mo.gov. I went to the website only to discover that there is no way I can mail the calendar to any physical address. There is no way I can email a calendar or send a calendar over the internet! I have protested, but to no avail. Our calendars are 11 by 18 inches when unfolded. Some prisons reject them for being too large. If the Dept of Corrections in various states are truly interested in rehabilitation, they should make it easier to correspond with inmates as well as sending uplifting literature and calendars to them.

Rabbi Simcha Pearlmutter

Petah Tikvah ~

Shalom Rav. I am contacting you regarding Rabbi Simcha Pearlmutter and his book, **The Tents of Shem: A Messianic Jewish Manifesto to the Post-Holocaust Church**. I would also like more information about Rav Pearlmutter. Are the congregations he founded in Miami and Israel still active?

Sisavanh Keomongkout, Wartburg TN

Editor's Reply: Miriam and I would always stop over in Ir Ovot south of the "Dead Sea" on our trips to Israel in the 1990s, and spend at least a couple of days at the kibbutz of Rabbi Simcha Pearlmutter. We became very close friends. I mourned deeply for him when he died from pancreatic cancer in Dec. 1999.



I had seen pictures of him before arriving for our first trip to Ir Ovot. In the pictures, he always looked like a Chassidic Jew, with the black overcoat and hat, as well as the peyot (side curls, or ear locks). When we arrived in Ir Ovot, we saw a man wearing shorts and a Harley Davidson T-shirt. I asked if he knew where I could find Rabbi Pearlmutter. To our surprise, he answered, "I'm Rabbi Pearlmutter." That was the start of our friendship.

He never called himself a Messianic Jew. Instead, he called himself an Orthodox Jew who believe in Yeshua. He lived a strictly Orthodox Jewish lifestyle, including laying tefillin (Phylacteries) each morning. In the early 1960s, he founded the **first genuine Messianic Jewish congregation** in the United States, in Miami, Florida. There were some Hebrew Christian congregations in the USA at that time, but which often met on Sundays instead of Shabbat, and were basically composed of Protestants with Jewish ancestry.

In 1966, he, his family, and most of the congregation made aliyah and ended up in Ir

Ovot, which at that time was uninhabited, although there were some Bedouin that lived nearby. Even when we first arrived in Ir Ovot, it was still very much wilderness. In Ir Ovot, he founded what was perhaps the first Israeli Messianic congregation in at least 1500 years. (Today there are dozens of Messianic congregations in Israel.) Signs proudly proclaiming Yeshua's name in large bold letters were on various buildings when we arrived in Ir Ovot.

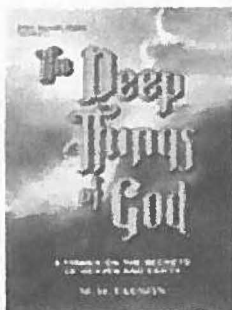
Ir Ovot was still quite primitive when we would visit in the 1990s. There were very few people in the area. Today, visitors and tour buses are welcomed at Ir Ovot. There is much history at that location, and amazing archaeological digs. This site is also known as Tamar Park, operated by BlossomingRose.org

Most of the congregants eventually left Ir Ovot. However, on Shabbat, Rabbi Pearlmutter faithfully conducted Shabbat services when we were there, using Orthodox Jewish siddurim (prayer books). It was much like a normal Orthodox service, except for the fact that he proudly proclaimed Yeshua's name.

He suffered much rejection, largely because of his belief in Yeshua. However, it was obvious to Israeli authorities that he and his family were practicing Jews, so they let them stay. He was very much a scholar of Judaism and various Jewish sources. Aside from the Bible, he could prove from Orthodox Jewish sources that Yeshua was the Messiah. He claimed that by 70 CE there were between 75,000 and 125,000 Jewish believers in Jerusalem alone, figures which can be verified by the First Century historian Josephus and by the Jewish historian, Professor David Flusser.

Back in the 1990s, Rabbi Pearlmutter had a regular column which we published within the pages of **Petah Tikvah**. Most of what he wrote was political, and strongly Zionist.

In answer to the questions in the above right of this page, **no**, the congregations begun by Rabbi Pearlmutter disappeared decades ago. His book also is no longer in publication. The best way to learn more about him and his teachings would be the videos on www.youtube.com. You can also find articles about him on the Internet. Regretfully, for those behind bars, these sources are unavailable. We do not agree with everything Rabbi Pearlmutter taught, although we have tremendous respect for him. And just for the record, we strongly agree with the Torah-observant lifestyle. However, we are not Orthodox in our personal observance.

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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 cantorial 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.**

This doubles as a
Shabbat siddur

Dear Petah Tikvah ~

I cannot begin to tell you how much I enjoy your magazine! It brightens my day when a new issue arrives, and is the highlight of my week to

read it and share it with others. Thank you so much for all of the hard work that you put into **Petah Tikvah**.

And thank you for the beautiful calendar that keeps me on track with the Festivals and Torah readings. I am enclosing stamps for renewing my subscription, for the new calendar, and extra as a donation. John Hutcheson, St. Petersburg FL

Dear Rav Richard ~

This letter is to inform you that we are not allowed to receive your 11x18 inch calendars. The maximum size we can receive is 8.5x11 inch calendars when unfolded.

John Worthey, Nashville NC

Editor's Note: Thanks to the efforts and talents of Rod Tucker (also in Nashville NC) we may now be able to offer a Jewish calendar that is 8.5 by 11 inches when unfolded, It not only includes the Torah/Haftara portions, but also includes NT readings listed on each Shabbat. And of course, all of the Jewish holidays (which are also the Biblical holidays) are also included, along with modern Israeli holidays. It is beautifully done and very user friendly. We now have them ready. The cost for inmates is a **\$2 money order or 4 stamps**. There will be no extra cost for postage and handling. It is a **16-month** calendar, covering the period from September 2022 to December 2023. However, because of the small size, there is no room for pictures. It is in booklet form. We will no longer have the large 11x18 inch color calendars going to inmates for \$2. The large color 12-month calendars will cost a **\$4 money order** for inmates. We will finally have great calendars that can be sent to prisons that do not allow full-size Jewish calendars in their units. **RAC**

Petah Tikvah ~

I am enclosing stamps to pay for postage for a calendar and subscription to **Petah Tikvah**. I am hearing and seeing more antisemitism in society and in the news. But I never seem to hear the news from our Jewish point of view. Maybe now I can get more insight and truth about antisemitism here and abroad.

Scott Madlock, Abilene TX

Shalom u'vrachot (Peace & Blessings) ~

As always, I'm grateful for your work and publication that serves so many, particularly to those of us behind bars. Thank you for everything. Many blessings to all in the ministry. Enclosed is a small donation. Please also send me a calendar. B'rachot - blessings!

Piero Benitez, Otisville NY

Shalom Rav ~

Or should I say **Oy vey...** In February, I was notified by the chaplain that my half-brother had died of Covid. In May, I fell and broke my left hand and lower left forearm, straight upward in 5 places. I endured 3 surgeries just on my wrist. I have so much metal and screws in there. Then in June, I found out that my wife died. My children are estranged from me. I have cried buckets of tears.

Then last night, I got my copy of **Petah Tikvah** in the mail. Halleluyah! And I read "my story," the story of "The Farmer's Donkey" on page 30. This humorous story lifted me up out of total black despair. Thank you so much. Also, for the 5 simple rules to sooth every one of my breaks 😊. The moral of the story really lifted up my spirits. Truly, **PT** has been MY Door of 'Hope. Regarding the news items about Russia and the Ukraine... God, please help Ukraine! Thank you, Rick and Miriam. May you be blessed of God, complete shalom.

Harley Roam, Raymondville TX

Shalom Rav & Lady Miriam ~

Grab a seat and get ready for a real story. Yesterday around 1430 hours a group of inmates went to the gym for the Sabbatarian services. In walked two middle-aged men with Santa Claus beards and a woman with a full-length dress.

No one from the prison was with them. One man introduced himself as 'Jeff.' He said they were from Sabbath Keepers Fellowship, and had come to meet with us. There was no escort, no chaplain, no body! They stood up conducting the services for a full 3 hours. Earlier in the year, they also were here to provide us with a wonderful Passover.

Ya'akov (James) Cates, Palestine TX

Editor's Note: Yes, that is unusual - having outside speakers to come into a prison with no prison supervision. We appreciate the work that Sabbath Keepers Fellowship does for inmates. See their ad on page 62 in "Texas."

Rick & Miriam ~

After 13 years, I am getting close to my release date. It saddens me that some of those getting out are being turned away from services. I've got letters from friends who are not being allowed into the synagogues because of felony charges. After all the work that Yahshua has done in my life to prepare me to be with brothers and sisters in the faith once delivered to the saints, it is truly sad that as I get close to my release date that I might not be accepted into the services. Where is the faith? Steve Myers, Canon City CO

Editor's Note: I don't know how common this problem is. We believe in miracles. However, one of the biggest miracles is changed lives. In 2 Maccabees 9:12-29, we discover that Antiochus Epiphanes, a most wicked man, indeed repented before he passed into eternity. King David did terrible sins, including adultery and murder, but he also repented. I can understand congregations having a certain degree of caution. They want to protect the congregation and the congregants. If they have concerns, they should do some careful vetting. We are very impressed with the men and women on our mail list who are behind bars. Many have experienced very difficult lives. They really deserve a second chance when they get out. They are truly transformed individuals. **RAC**

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.

and his cronies effectively hijacked the faith once delivered to the apostles, horribly polluting it by merging their paganism with the original Messianic Judaism of the First Century, producing Catholicism and the Protestant daughters of Catholicism that we have today. However, the truth of God can still be found by the diligent searcher in the very same Scriptures they use. We've found it! ☺

Are all such deceived Christian believers truly lost, destined to be those crying, "Lord, Lord..." and told to depart (Matt. 7:23), or will they simply be those considered "least in the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matt. 5:19)? This is a huge issue, even generating hostility toward those of mainstream Christianity, creating confusion as to how to witness to those who are sincerely calling upon the God of Abraham,

Isaac, and Jacob. Some Christians are even claiming that God's Torah – His instructions – were somehow "nailed to the cross" and thereby abolished.

Charles Hawkins,
Bridgeport TX

Our Reply: Mr. Hawkins' letter was considerably longer. I took some liberties in editing it down in size. As I have often mentioned, we much prefer the Hebraic terminology, especially when referring to Yeshua. However, we are not "saved" by how

accurately we may pronounce the Names. We are saved by the blood of Messiah. Also, nobody knows the exact pronunciation of YHWH. It is not a sin to say God or Lord or Jesus.

As Charles pointed out from the quote from Matthew 7, those who dismiss the mitzvot (commandments) are on a very slippery slope. I believe our Father may be merciful to those who are simply ignorant and misled by preachers. However, God is the Judge, not me. Christians (even Protestants!) still quote the antisemitic Council of Nicaea to "prove" their doctrines. There may be Christians who are living their faith better than us. Thank God for these people! If we go at them with a hammer, they are sure to dismiss the message that we may have for them. As Charles mentioned by quoting Matthew 5:19, such believers may squeak into the Kingdom of Heaven, but only as the "least" in the Kingdom. But God makes the decisions, not me.

Shalom ~

I was sorry to hear that Dean Wheelock of **Hebrew Roots** passed away. I have been reading his literature as well as **Petah Tikvah** and **Gates of Eden** for the past 8 years. Keep up the work of spreading the truth and understanding of Messianic Judaism with your articles & humor. Walter Driever, La Grange KY

Rav Chaimberlin ~

We need some guidance on how to relate to the Christian brethren. There are strident voices out there saying Christians are worshipping false gods and are utterly lost, with whom we should have no fellowship ("Come out from among them..." etc. They are also condemned for not using the Hebrew names.

I acknowledge that Emperor Constantine

The following album is highly recommended to the readers of *Petah Tikvah*. It combines a love of Messiah Yeshua with an appreciation for Torah, set to the tunes of some of the greatest hit songs of the 1950s and 1960s. The songs on this CD sound like the original singers and musicians, but the words will inspire and encourage you. And they are fun! *Petah Tikvah* now has the copyright for this CD, so we have been able to reduce the price to only \$10 each, with no extra charge for shipping and handling. Make out your checks or money orders to *Petah Tikvah*. The lyrics for all of the songs are also included for each CD album. It is beautifully done.



What Happens When Faith and Fun Collide?

You get the Messianic Parody CD which mixes Biblical truth with humor. **NOT ONE JOT OR TITTLE** is meaningful, and occasionally hilarious. Who would have guessed that Gilligan's Island could also be the starting point for the Exodus, or that the theme to the Beverly Hillbillies helps contrast Jewish Sha'ul to the 'Christian' Paul. The remake of Rawhide will keep your Torah scroll rolling during the Simchat Torah service. Only \$10, free shipping.

We also recommend another excellent music parody album based on some more of the best songs of the 1950s and 1960s, called **THE SHLEPS**. They sound like the original artists, but the music is 'redeemed' with a good, pro-Torah message. And it is fun! Regretfully, it is no longer available for purchase on CD. However, it is still available for a free MP3 download at: WWW.THESHLEPS.COM



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.

Write a Letter to the Editor!

Petah Tikvah, 165 Doncaster Rd
Rochester NY 14623



Shalom Petah Tikvah ~

I'm currently incarcerated. During a Sabbath service, I came across a magazine from you guys from last year. I immediately fell in love with the content - Educational, humorous - everything a Messianic magazine should have. Please add me to your mail list.

Yovahnis Rogue, Huntsville TX

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

Dear Rav Chaimberlin ~

Please continue my subscription. The latest issue came in, and on this past Shabbat I read your article on Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 53. I agree that it is actually a prophecy about Yahshua, not about Israel as Orthodox Jews believe.

Over 30 years ago, I tried to hide my Jewish heritage, but an astute chaplain cornered me and called me into his office. He used Isaiah 53 as his core argument for Jesus. Unfortunately, he did not use His Hebrew name. After months of studies, debates, prayers, and medication, I came to accept "Jesus" as Messiah, but I knew that something wasn't kosher. In 1993, I met a Messianic brother who

used the Hebrew names and I came to know the Messiah as a fellow Jew.

As for the article "Do Dogs go to Heaven?" ...Well, I sure hope to see my beloved black lab in heaven when I get there. I noticed in an article that you were an MP in the army 1968-70. I did my tours in Vietnam until Saigon fell in 1973. From 1966 to 1976, I was also 95

Bravo (code for "MP"). If I had decided to make a career out of the army, I would likely be a free man today. Instead, I have been in this accursed prison system for 38 years. (*Editor's Note:* The good news is that Michael found his Messiah in prison. **RAC**) I still occasionally battle depression and PTSD, and now non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

I always learn so much from each issue of **PT** and always get a hearty laugh from "Reverend Twistruth." You have helped to strengthen my faith through the years. I hope to visit your kehillah someday for a Shabbos service.

Michael Parsons, Norlina NC

Hello ~

I enjoy **Petah Tikvah** very much, as well as your sense of humor, such as the articles on cats and dogs, as well as your honesty when commenting on things that you are not convinced about.

The ongoing articles of "Early Earth Enigmas" by Max Tuason are particularly good. I wish more people would read stuff like that! I get worked up when people refuse to see the intelligent design of the Universe. I recently watched a nature show about leaf cutter ants. They cut and bring leaves to as food for a fungus, which in turn sprouts the mushrooms that the ants eat, all of this underground. As the fungus grows, the ants excavate a cavern to make more room! This is very careful design. Shea Huffman, Virginia

Shalom ~

I'm a Messianic Jew seeking to get in touch with my Israelite roots and talk to Messianic Jews. Gentle congregations tend to be anti-Torah. As Matthew 5:17-19 makes clear, the Torah was never abolished.

Brandon Crispi, Walla Walla WA

Greetings ~

I really appreciate the artwork that contributing artists send to you for the booklets. I am enclosing a \$2 money order for a calendar.

Roger Kinnerson, Vienna IL

Israeli Rhythmic Gymnast Daria Atamanov Scoops Two Golds, and a Silver at World Games



Israeli rhythmic gymnast Daria Atamanov finished with two gold medals and a silver at the World Games in Birmingham, Alabama. Atamanov, 16, took first place for her ribbon routine on July 13, and came second in the batons contest.

Her success came the day after she took the gold medal for her ball routine. In the remaining of the four disciplines in the event, the hoops, she came in sixth.

As result, Israel finished top of the table in rhythmic gymnastics with three medals, followed by Italy with one gold and two silver, and Bulgaria with gold and silver. (TOI / VFI New) **Editor's Note:** You can see Daria's amazing performances on www.youtube.com

Biden: I Support Two States Based on Pre-1967 Lines

US President Joe Biden pledged his support for a two-state resolution based on the pre-1967 lines with mutual land swaps when he held a joint press conference with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas on July 15, in Bethlehem.

While Biden did not cede to Abbas' request to unilaterally recognize a Palestinian state, he did speak of a "future Palestinian state" and one with continuous territory. "Two states along the 1967 lines with mutually agreed swaps, remains the best way to achieve equal measures of security prosperity freedom and democracy for the Palestinians as well as Israelis.

"The Palestinian people deserve a state of their own that is independent, sovereign, viable, and continuous," Biden said. Despite this, he said, the ground is "not ripe" at "this moment to restart negotiations."

Biden's words fell far short of the Palestinian demands, which included the resumption

of peace talks and unilateral immediate recognition of a Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital.

But his speech was markedly different from that of his predecessor Donald Trump, who in his visit to Bethlehem in 2017, didn't even mention the words "two states" in his address. Biden, unlike any of his predecessors since the 1993 Oslo Accords, has not pushed forward an Israel-Palestinian peace process. Trump in contrast spoke of the "Deal of the Century" he planned to conclude with Israelis and Palestinians. (JPost / VFI News)

Editor's Note: Prior to 1922, the areas now known as Jordan, Israel, the "West Bank," Gaza, and the Golan Heights were all part of what was known as Palestine. In 1922, Britain cut off 77% of Palestine and gave it to the powerful Arab clan called the Hashemites, originally calling it Transjordan. The name was later shortened to Jordan. Britain also chopped off the Golan Heights and gave it to the French Mandate of Syria. In Israel's 1948 war of independence, Egypt conquered Gaza, and Jordan conquered the so-called "West Bank," which happens to be the Biblical Jewish heartland of Israel called Judea and Samaria. Prior to the Six-Day War of 1967, the surrounding Arab nations promised to destroy Israel and murder Israel's Jews. However, in six days, Israel won the war, and gained the 'West Bank.' Israel should not allow a Palestinian state to be established in the Biblical heartland. Don't give more land to terrorists.

When the world (including Biden) calls for a Two-State solution for the Israel-Palestinian peace process, there is a non-recognition that there already is a Palestinian state. It is today called **Jordan**, which was part of Palestine until it was severed from Palestine by the Brits in 1922. There is also Gaza, which was part of Palestine, and is today effectively a second Palestinian state since Israel's complete withdrawal from Gaza in 2005. We do not need a **third** Palestinian state established in the "West Bank." There is only **one** Jewish state: Israel. Israel would be very foolish to allow a third Palestinian state, which would be a terrorist state dedicated to Israel's destruction.

Articles on this page are from **Vision for Israel** · PO Box 7743 · Charlotte NC 28241-7743. www.VisionForIsrael.com This is a ministry of Barry and Batya Segal. Besides being a great source of news from Israel, **Vision for Israel** is also a very worthwhile charity serving the people of Israel in many ways: aiding the poor, Holocaust survivors, etc. **RAC**

REVEREND TWISTRUTH

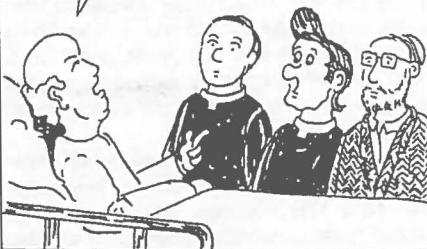
& HIS DISCIPLES

by Daniel Botkin

"COLD CASH
FOR A
GOLD CADAVER"



FATHER O'MALLEY, REV. TWISTRUTH,
RABBI ROSEN-- AS YOU KNOW, I'M A
RICH MAN WITH ONLY WEEKS TO LIVE!



I WANT TO TAKE MY 3-MILLION
DOLLAR FORTUNE WITH ME, AND
YOU ARE THE ONLY THREE MEN I
CAN TRUST TO HELP ME DO IT!



I WITHDREW MY FORTUNE FROM THE BANK!
I'M GIVING EACH OF YOU AN ENVELOPE WITH
ONE MILLION DOLLARS CASH! BEFORE MY
CASKET IS CLOSED, EACH OF YOU IS TO
PUT YOUR ENVELOPE IN WITH MY BODY!



THREE WEEKS LATER . . .

GO AHEAD,
GENTLEMEN



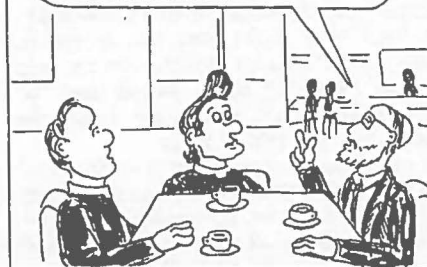
(WELL, PRAISE THE LORD! I KEPT
HALF A MILLION, TOO! WE NEED IT
FOR OUR BUILDING FUND! I'M UNDER
GRACE, SO I'M ALREADY FORGIVEN!



I WANT TO CONFESS SOMETHING!
I KEPT HALF OF THAT MILLION
DOLLARS TO GIVE TO AN ORPHANAGE
IN MY DIOCESE! I ALREADY CONFESSED
IT TO THE BISHOP! I DID PENANCE,
AND HE FORGAVE ME!



I'M ASHAMED OF YOU BOTH!
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I PUT IN
A CHECK FOR THE FULL
AMOUNT!



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

Report on the 2022 UMJA Conference

We had the first UMJA (United Messianic Jewish Alliance) conference in years. The Covid pandemic is much less of a threat to our lives. Things haven't completely turned to normal yet. However, it is a significant improvement over the previous two years.

We had attendees and speakers from Florida, Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, and Canada! We also had great musicians leading us in worship and performing songs from their albums, namely Mishkanim and Rabbi Gavriel Lumbrusco. There was a variety of teachings reflecting the pro-Torah beliefs of the UMJA. You can read the UMJA Statement of Faith on the WWW.UMJA.NET website.

We will do a better job in promoting future conferences. However, we have had a roaring start in the reset of the UMJA this year. We were pleased to offer into membership Rabbi Yoself Koelner and Rabbi Gary Beresford. Both are pioneers in the modern Messianic Jewish movement. Rabbi Ken 'Yehudah' MacNeil is the president of the UMJA. He has a word for Rabbi Koelner, Rabbi Beresford, and myself. He calls us the Messianic **dinosaurs**, because we have all been around for such a long time in the Messianic Jewish movement. It was so good to see my long-time friends, as well as to make new friends while at the conference.

Rabbi Koelner has offered to start up a Messianic Jewish yeshiva for the UMJA. I can't think of anybody better qualified for this project. Rabbi Koelner is extremely knowledgeable, and very well organized. Many are seeking the education and training that will equip them for positions they may already have, or for positions they may have in the future. He also has a great sense of humor. He has a glass eye, and pretended to take it out as proof, and then pretended to throw it to someone, saying, "Hey, you caught my eye!"

Other projects include a UMJA newsletter, with the help of Rabbi Lumbrusco, as well as possibly a UMJA prison ministry with the help of Rabbi Mordechai Esper. Please keep the UMJA in prayer that all of these things get done in the Lord's perfect timing.

I must also mention Rabbi Greg 'Shmaryahu' Lehtimaki. Without his organizational skills and financial help, this conference would never have happened. All three of us on the Beit Din of the UMJA served in the US military. However, Rabbi Lehtimaki also served in the IDF (Israel Defense Forces), including in active

combat. I'm sure he must have some interesting stories to share.

During the conference, we recognized our new rabbis, a ro'eh, our new senior rabbis, and converts. In addition, we had a wonderful time of fellowship and spiritual refreshment. Perhaps you can come to the next conference.

RAC

Pamela Arquette's Spiritual Journey

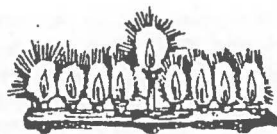
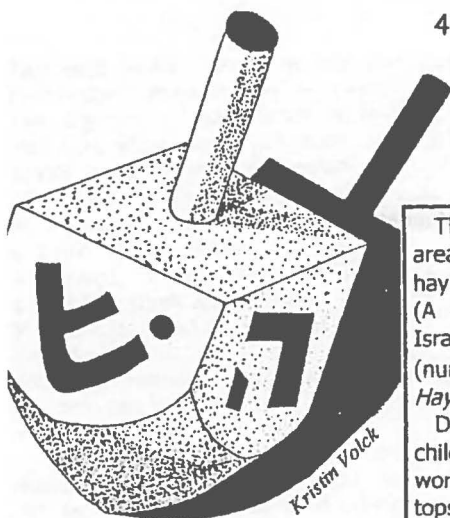


I recently read about Pamela Arquette's Spiritual Journey in **The Week** magazine, 7/29/22. I have to confess: I had never heard of her before. Yes, I am totally out of it. I found out from Google that she has won an Academy Award and 3 Global awards. However, what interested me wasn't her career in movies. I see very few movies. I was more interested in her spiritual journey.

She is part of a show-business family going back to her great-grandparents in Vaudeville. Her dad was musician. Two of her siblings are actors. She spent four years with her family in a hippie commune in Virginia. All seven family members lived in a one-room cabin. They had to walk to an outhouse.

However, spirituality did play an important part in their lives. Her mom was Jewish, and her dad was a Christian who converted to Islam. Her brother was a Buddhist for a time. Arquette attended a Catholic school, and for a time planned on becoming a nun. But her life changed abruptly when she received a phone call from a woman at the school. The woman said, "Well, you are supposed to get your first communion, but your mom isn't Jewish and she's going to Hell. We don't think you should get your catechism." Stunned at first, she rallied for a comeback. She said, "I think you're right, because we have a different idea about Jesus." And then right before hanging up, she said, "**And Jesus was a Jew!**" Good girl!

RAC



The letters on dreydels in the Galut (Diaspora—areas outside Israel) are: נ ג ה ש (nun, gimel, hay, shin), which stand for "Nes Gadol Haya Sham (A Great Miracle Happened There)." Inside of Israel, the letters on the dreydels are נ ג ה פ (nun, gimel, hay, pe), which stand for "Nes Gadol Haya Po (A Great Miracle Happened Here)."

Dreydels are "spinning tops" that are spun by children during Hanukah. But "dreydel" is a Yiddish word. The Hebrew word for one of these spinning tops in Israel is "sevivon."

ORDER OF KINDLING

Shamash



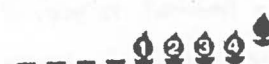
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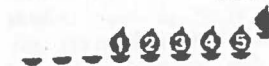
Shamash



Shamash



Shamash



Shamash



Shamash



Shamash



The Shamash ("servant") candle is used to light the others.

**בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ הוֹה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִנְּנוּ
לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.**

*Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melek ha-olam
Asher kidishanu b'mitsvotav
v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukah.*

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God,
King of the universe,
who hast sanctified us by Thy commandments,
and bidden us kindle the Hanukkah lights.

**בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ הוֹה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים
הָהֵם בְּזִמְנָהּ הַזֶּה.**

*Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melek ha-olam
she-aseh nisim la-avotenu bayamim
ha-hem bazman hazeh.*

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God,
King of the universe,
who didst wondrous things for our fathers,
in days of old, at this season.

Before kindling the lights, recite these blessings

About nine years ago, Sir Paul McCartney, who turned 80 on June 18, released an album called ["New."] But given the artist's love affair with all things Jewish for the past half-century — including collaborators, business associates, girlfriends and wives — the title could well be meant as a transliteration of the all-purpose Jewish word *nu*.

His wife Nancy Shevell is not in fact the first Jewish Lady McCartney; that honor belonged to McCartney's first wife, Linda Eastman. Born in New York City and and raised in Scarsdale NY, Linda Eastman was the daughter of Lee Eastman — the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants, born Leopold Vail Epstein — and Louise Sara Lindner.



When Linda Eastman and McCartney's daughter, Stella McCartney, became a fashion designer, she followed family footsteps into the rag trade; her maternal grandfather, Max J. Lindner, was founder of the Lindner Company, the largest women's clothing store in Cleveland, Ohio. Lindner was a member of the most prominent Reform temple in Cleveland and president of its Men's Club; active in the Jewish Welfare Fund and in the Jewish country club; and a major philanthropic force in Cleveland's Jewish community.

McCartney married Linda Eastman in 1969, and the two famously stayed together as one of rock music's most stable, loving couples until Eastman's death in 1998 due to complications from breast cancer. They made music together: first, on the album "Ram," the cover of which pictures McCartney grasping two ram's horns, and subsequently, in McCartney's post-Beatles group, Wings.

Linda's father, Lee Eastman, was an entertainment lawyer who represented McCartney after the Beatles' long-term manager — coin-

Paul McCartney, The Jewish Beatle

by Seth Rogoway
<https://Forward.com>

cidentally also an Epstein, named Brian (but no relation) — passed away. McCartney's choice of his father-in-law as manager was famously opposed by fellow Beatle John Lennon, who favored the former Rolling Stones manager Allen Klein. The dispute over management of the Beatles (which pitted a Jewish lawyer against a Jewish accountant) became a major factor in the ultimate dissolution of the Fab Four. Linda Eastman's brother, John Eastman, later took over from Lee Eastman and remained McCartney's manager for many years.

Linda Eastman wasn't the first Jewish woman who McCartney had dated. That distinction goes to Francie Schwartz, who, as a 23-year-old screenwriter, flew to London from her native New York City on a whim in 1968 to see if she could interest McCartney — who at the time was engaged to be married to Jane Asher — in one of her scripts. The two wound up having an affair during the making of "The White Album," and were allegedly discovered together at McCartney's place by Asher upon her surprise return home from a stay in India. Asher subsequently broke off the engagement; McCartney and Schwartz soon split, and McCartney took up with Linda Eastman.

McCartney wasn't the only Beatle to enjoy a storied and enduring marriage to a Jewish woman. Ringo Starr and one-time Bond girl and Playboy model Barbara Bach — born Barbara Goldbach, a native of Jackson Heights, Queens — recently celebrated 35 years of matrimony.

While Lennon and McCartney were perhaps the greatest songwriting duo of all time — at least on paper... they had their differences. McCartney frowned upon Lennon's cavalier treatment of his first wife and young son, Julian, whom Lennon basically abandoned once he took up with Yoko Ono, and McCartney once wrote a song to cheer up the youngster. "Hey Jules," written for Julian Lennon (who later would say he was closer to McCartney than to his own father), became "Hey Jude." Thus was born one of the most popular rock ballads of all time.

It was Lennon who once said, "Show business is an extension of the Jewish religion." But it is McCartney — one of the few English rock stars to have defied an unofficial boycott by performing in Israel — who has actually lived it.

The Heart of the Arab/Jewish Conflict (Who Really has a Right to the Land?)

By **David & Josie Silver**, Out of Zion
9 Sachlov St #2, Haifa 34790, ISRAEL

* The conflict over the land is a family feud between the descendants of Isaac and Ishmael: the longest & life costing family feud of all time.

* When Mohammed came on the scene in the year 600 AD, and later birthed Islam, this family feud became a Jihad or holy war.

* This family feud that became a holy war is primarily over the rights to the land that GOD promised to their common forefather, Abraham. In Genesis 21:12 we see that the seed is through Isaac not Ishmael.

Genesis 15:17 *On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto your seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river Euphrates.*

Psalms 105:7-11 *And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant; saying to you I will give the land of Canaan.*

In the early 20th century the British Partition and the San Remo Convention both confirmed the Jewish people were the rightful inhabitants. The 1st and 2nd Jewish Temples are directly under the Al Aksa Mosque - in archeology you can know who was there first by whose foundations are on the bottom.

Even PLO executive committee member Zahir Muhsein acknowledged that the so called "Palestinian people" was a propaganda invention, in a 1977 interview with the Dutch newspaper Trouw he said: "The Palestinian people does not exist. The creation of a Palestinian state is only a means for continuing our struggle against the state of Israel for our Arab unity."

The Spiritual Heart of the Arab / Jewish Conflict (where the problem really lies)

A basic understanding of the Bible makes it very clear that both the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and the major events of world history are interlocked and are the story of the age-old conflict between YHWH and Lucifer over the re-establishment of GOD's Kingdom on the Earth. The Bible is also very clear that the heart of the Kingdom was, is, and always will be the Temple Mount in the heart of Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 7:12 *Then YHWH appeared to Solomon at night and said to him, "I have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice.*

2 Chronicles 7:16 *For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name shall dwell here forever.*

Joel 3:17 *Then you will know that I am YHWH your God, who dwells in Zion, My holy mountain.*

Psalms 2:6 *As for me, I have set my King on my Holy Hill, Zion.*

It is very clear to see that Jerusalem and more specifically the Temple Mount is very much at the heart of the conflict. Islam defies the opening scripture from Isaiah 14:12-13, and boasts about Mohamed, claiming that he ascended the Temple Mount and from there ascended to heaven, mirroring or expressing the boast of Lucifer, that he will sit (occupy) the Holy place.

When Yeshua returns to the Earth to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords of His Father's Kingdom, it can only be to a rebuilt Temple on the exact location where the mosque sits today. That is YHWH's personal address on the Earth, and it is where He created Adam & Eve, it is where He called Abraham to build the altar to sacrifice Isaac, and it is where the Holy of Holies was located in the 1st and 2nd Temples. Yeshua will sit on the Throne of David in that very spot and the Devil knows it! In fact, the evil one states his intention to occupy that same spot in Isaiah 14:12-13. And he has been occupying it since the mosque was built in the year 690 AD.

Now it should be very obvious from the above, what is really at the heart of the conflict. It is over the Jewish people's GOD given right to occupy ALL of the Promised Land, (Jeremiah 30:3) and especially their right to Jerusalem as their undivided capital city of Israel, and it is over who will ultimately rule and reign from that contested piece of land, for 1000 years, and then for all Eternity when the New Jerusalem comes down to the exact same location.

No wonder the Devil is agitated. No wonder most of the world is standing with the enemies of Israel, and no wonder the level of anti-Semitic attacks is on the rise again, even in the USA which has been a safe haven for Jews to live - until now. No wonder most of the secular media blames Israel and fans the flames of anti-Semitism....

Israel and the Jewish people have suffered persecution since the time that God allocated the specified land to Abraham & his seed.

If we truly live in the time preceding the 2nd coming of Messiah, then we should realize that this issue is central to the final fulfillment of all the prophecies that must take place before. The secular world leaders and the secular media have no way of ever seeing the truth and the roots of the problem, because they give no place to the authority of the Bible.

Psalms 24:1 *The Earth is the Lords & all its fullness. It is the Lord's land to do with what He chooses.*

WWW.PETAHTIKVAH.COM

Partisan Politics?

The Democrats are being accused of "partisan politics" because of the Congressional hearings regarding the January 6, 2021 insurrection. That is a curious accusation, when you consider that nearly all of those who are testifying are principled Conservative Republicans.

Liz Cheney, with a very long record as a conservative Republican, has been the primary person questioning the witnesses, and has been doing a phenomenal job in this position. Among those testifying is Rusty Bowers, Republican speaker of Arizona's House of Representatives. Trump pressed him to replace the state's electors (who had been chosen by Arizona's voters) with a pro-Trump slate. He refused, and Trump supporters swarmed his house, falsely calling him a pedophile, upsetting his terminally ill daughter.

As we all know, Trump was pressuring Mike Pence to not do his Constitutional job of certifying the election, and allowing the peaceful transfer of authority. We may not always like the results of an election, but that is how it works in a democracy. Biden won both the Electoral College vote as well as the popular vote, by large margins, in 2020. In 2016, Trump won only the Electoral College vote. The insurrectionists raided the Capitol Building, threatening to "Hang Pence," with the apparent blessings of former President Trump.

The **National Review**, a conservative publication of the past several decades, determined that the "damning" evidence of Trump's "Stop the Steal" effort makes clear that "he shouldn't hold any public office again." Republican former Judge J. Michael Luttig called Trump's allies "a clear and present danger to American democracy."

Also troubling are the threats to the lives and safety of those who are testifying, including threats to family members, such as those faced by Wandrea Moss and her mother. They had to leave their homes when the FBI warned them of the threats facing them, falsely accusing these women of tampering with election results. That's a curious accusation when you consider that it is the accusers who are attempting to tamper with election results.

Source: **The Week**, July 1, 2022, p. 4.

More Threats to U.S. Democracy

On Jan. 6, 2021, the nation witnessed the results when a president refused to accept that he lost an election—chaos. What if the same thing happens across the nation, and losing candidates at every level simply deny they lost...and their supporters go along with them? Perhaps not surpris-

ingly, that scenario *is* playing out around the country:

COLORADO: Tina Peters was defeated in the GOP primary for Colorado secretary of state. As the county clerk from Mesa County, Peters previously leaked voter data in an attempt to prove fraud conspiracies about the 2020 election, leading to an indictment by a grand jury. This week, her Republican opponent, Pam Anderson, won with 44.7% of the vote vs. Peters' 26.5%. But Saja Hindi of the *Denver Post* reports: "[Peters] says the numbers are flipped, and the results are fraudulent. 'It's not over,' she said."

GEORGIA: Conspiracy theorist **Kandiss Taylor**, who campaigned for governor of Georgia on a platform of ridding the state's government of "Satanic influence," earned just 3.4% of the vote in the GOP primary on May 24. Taylor is claiming that the election results are false... "I wanted y'all to know that I do not concede. I do not," she said. "And if the people who did this and cheated are watching, I do not concede."

ILLINOIS: **Bobby Piton** lost the GOP primary for U.S. Senate earlier this week, but he seems to be unaware of that fact. Despite earning just 9% of the vote, he tweeted yesterday, "I am NOT conceding my U.S. Senate race primary...stay tuned." He added, "It appears as though the machines flipped results between different candidates in each voting jurisdiction..." If that sounds delusional, consider this: Piton is heavily involved in **QAnon** and has predicted the return of JFK. He has also claimed that the 2020 presidential election was rife with fraud.

NEVADA: A Republican gubernatorial candidate in Nevada, **Joey Gilbert**, is also refusing to concede, despite losing his primary race on June 14. Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo won with just over 38% of the vote vs. Gilbert's 27%. Of course, Gilbert is alleging widespread fraud. A statement published by his campaign last week doubled down on claims he made on election night, when he wrote on Facebook, "I smell a lawsuit."

It's all too easy to dismiss these candidates' ridiculous claims as sour grapes or plain lunacy. But **every false claim of election fraud chips further and further away at voters' trust in our electoral system.** That means fewer Americans are likely to participate if they feel their vote doesn't matter. It means diminished respect for elected officials, whom voters may believe were illegitimately seated. And it means our political environment only grows more hostile and dysfunctional.

It is the mission of the Renew America Movement to build a national cross-partisan coalition that stands up for the principles that make our nation strong. We shine a light on radicalism and counter it with a unifying and constructive message. Source: *Renew America Movement*

Biden's LGBTQ Redefinition of Gender www.afa.net

LGBTQ activist Catherine Lhamon was approved to the Office of Civil Rights and is now driving her agenda to force all public schools in America to allow biological males who identify as female to use the girls' restroom and locker room.

The Department of Education under Lhamon is now proposing a new rule that will put women's safety and privacy at risk and deprive women of athletic and professional opportunities. It would do so by radically re-writing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If this rule is approved, biological males would be able to:

1. Openly change in girl's dressing rooms.
2. Take college and university scholarships specifically reserved for women.
3. Use their position to charge schools with discrimination if they feel they aren't getting enough "playing" time.
4. File a formal sexual harassment complaint against any female who speaks out against men in women's sports.
5. Share hotel rooms with females during overnight trips.
6. Enjoy physical advantages like greater lung capacity, higher bone density, and greater muscle mass when competing against girls

Title IX already prohibits discrimination based on sex in any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. It's enforced by the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

The new rule proposed by Biden's Department of Education will redefine "sex" to include "sex stereotypes, sex-related characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity."

Palestine' is Accused of 'Systematic Torture' Before the International Criminal Court

An Israel-based legal group brought accusations of torture against the Palestinian Authority (PA) before the International Criminal Court (ICC) on July 18, the first request of its kind, ahead of a United Nations report.

The International Legal Forum (ILF) requested the ICC to investigate President Mahmoud Abbas, now in his 18th year in office after canceling numerous scheduled elections, and the PA for "rampant, wide-spread and systematic torture" against Palestinian and

Israeli nationals, ILF Chair and CEO Arsen Ostrovsky told the media.

"The Palestinian Authority is yet to be held accountable under the law for committing such grave crimes as torture. We say 'enough is enough' and seek to change that," said Ostrovsky.

Examples include Palestinian human rights activist Nizar Banat, who criticized the PA and died after being beaten in the custody of the Palestinian security services in 2021. A trial against the officers responsible for his death has not yet concluded, with Banat's family calling the trial a "farce."

The PA also claims jurisdiction over Hamas-controlled territory in Gaza, where the recognized terrorist group took two mentally-ill Israelis, Hisham al-Sayed and Avera Mengistu, hostage after they inadvertently crossed into Gaza in 2014 and 2015, respectively, and refused to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross access to them. (DC / VFI News) Source: **Vision for Israel** · PO Box 7743 · Charlotte NC 28241-7743 · USA

Editor's Note: It's curious that the Palestinian Authority is always accusing Israel of human rights violations, when it is the PA that is the primary violator of human rights in the so-called "West Bank." When will the world take notice and condemn the human rights abuses by the Palestinian Authority? **RAC**

Israel and Turkey Open Full Diplomatic Relations Again

RonCantor.com

After 12 years of strained relations, Israel and Turkey announced a renewal of diplomatic relations on Wednesday, promising to restore ambassadors between the two countries. Prior to an incident in 2010, Turkey was a strong regional partner with Israel, fostering stability in the region. Shortly after we moved to Israel, we (Ron & Elana Cantor) took a family vacation to Turkey. Israelis loved the affordable all-inclusive trips. But all that came to a screeching halt over a decade ago.

A statement from Israeli Prime Minister Lapid's office focused on the hope that open channels between Israel and Turkey will be "an important asset for regional stability and very important economic news for the citizens of Israel. We will continue to strengthen Israel's standing in the world." Both countries anticipate the upgrade in ties will lead to growth in "economic, trade, [and] cultural ties."

JERUSALEM SYNDROME

(Source: WIKIPEDIA.COM)

The **Jerusalem syndrome** is a group of mental phenomena involving the presence of religiously themed obsessive ideas, delusions, or other psychosis-like experiences that are triggered by a visit to the city of Jerusalem. It is not endemic to one single religion or denomination but has affected Jews, Christians, and Muslims of many different backgrounds.

The best known, although not the most prevalent, manifestation of Jerusalem syndrome is the phenomenon whereby a person who seems previously balanced and devoid of any signs of psychopathology becomes psychotic after arriving in Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem syndrome has previously been regarded as a form of hysteria, referred to as "*fièvre Jérusalemienne*." It was first clinically described in the 1930s by Jerusalem psychiatrist Heinz Herman, one of the founders of modern psychiatric research in Israel.

It is known that cases of the syndrome had already been observed during the Middle Ages, since it was described in the itinerary of Felix Fabri and the biography of Margery Kempe. Other cases were described in the vast literature of visitors to Jerusalem during the 19th century.

The classic Jerusalem syndrome, where a visit to Jerusalem seems to trigger an intense religious psychosis that resolves quickly after or on departure, has been a subject of debate in the medical literature.

During a period of 13 years (1980–1993) for which admissions to the Kfar Shaul Mental Health Center in Jerusalem were analyzed, it was reported^[1] that 1,200 tourists with severe, Jerusalem-themed mental problems were referred to this clinic. Of these, 470 were admitted to hospital. On average, 100 such tourists have been seen annually, 40 of them requiring admission to hospital. About three and a half million tourists visit Jerusalem each year. Kallan and Witztum note that as a proportion of the total numbers of tourists visiting the city, this is not significantly different from any other city.

Editor's Note: We have been following this subject of the Jerusalem Syndrome for years. Just recently, we received our recent issue of **Bereshit**, an easy Hebrew newspaper. (We aren't ready for advanced Hebrew newspa-

pers!) It included an article about the Jerusalem Syndrome. There was also an article about this syndrome in the **Jewish Press**. I liked what Wikipedia did with this article. This is not the entire article. I cherry picked what I thought was most important.

It should be noted that **only a very small percentage** of the millions of visitors to Jerusalem get this syndrome. Also, the entire article tells of many who had pre-existing psychosis, as well as many others who never had any mental illness who came down with this syndrome.

Individuals who are afflicted with the Jerusalem Syndrome often believe that they are Moses, Jesus, one of the prophets such as Elijah. They may even dress the part, attempting to dress the way they imagine Moses or Yeshua might have dressed. Perhaps they don't believe that they are an actual Bible person, but might believe that they are nonetheless an actual prophet as they "prophesy" in Jerusalem. I believe that some people can't handle the holiness of Jerusalem, and become susceptible to this syndrome. **RAC**



As World Inches Closer to 8 Billion, India Gears Up to Unseat China as Most Populous

ChristianPost.com

A new report from the United Nations shows that the world's population is on pace to reach 8 billion by Nov. 15. India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2023. The annual World Population Prospect report also projects the global population will increase by another half a billion by 2030 and **reach 10.4 billion by 2100**. The growth is expected to be unevenly distributed, with more than half of the 2.4 billion projected increase over the next 28 years concentrated in eight countries: The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The global fertility rate has fallen from 5 births per woman in 1950 to 2.3 births per woman in 2021. The fertility rate is expected to dip even further to 2.1 births per woman by 2050. Meanwhile, the share of the global population aged 65 years or above is expected to rise from 10% in 2022 to 16% in 2050.

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Steep Global Wildlife Decline May Be Worse Than Feared, Israeli Study Finds

VFNEWS.COM

A new paper by Israeli researchers has not only confirmed a disputed estimate that wildlife populations have declined by over two-thirds in the past 50 years, but showed that the true drop may have been even more severe, according to a January 31st statement.

The study, published last week in the journal *Nature*, should spur people to action and reconsider the relationship between human beings and nature, said the authors, from Ben Gurion University of the Negev and Tel Aviv University.

"Rather than discourage us from action, we feel that our work should be viewed as a call to arms," said co-author Shai Meiri from Tel Aviv University. "Rapid and comprehensive changes in how we view our relationships with nature are needed – and the onus is on us to make sure they happen before it is too late."

Going further, the researchers took a closer look at the overlap between monitored populations and protected wildlife areas around the world. The data was then compared to random samples from other locations and their proximity to the global network of protected areas. The results showed that populations that were sampled for the Living Planet Report were "much more likely to be inside protected areas than would be expected to occur by chance."

It indicated that the true wildlife decline could be even more dire than previously thought. "This is truly alarming," said co-author Gabriel Caetano. "If populations inside protected areas – where we focus a lot of our conservation efforts – are doing so badly, those that reside outside protected areas are probably worse off. The true situation of nature – mostly not monitored or protected – may be much worse."

"A lot of focus and attention by the public, governments, and NGOs is focused on the extinction of species," the statement said. "Nevertheless, extinction is but the unwanted conclusion of a process that starts with harm to individual animals or plants by people and leads to their populations declining."

Authors called for greater monitoring of populations and species in different locations and warned that "many populations, species, and pristine locations would be lost forever without concentrated and direct action." (TOI/VFI News)

"God, we ask that you protect the animals, wildlife, and children for generations to come."

Vision for Israel · P.O. Box 7743 · Charlotte
NC 28241-7743 · USA

Mike Evans Nominated for Nobel Peace Prize

Michael David Evans, founder of the Friends of Zion Heritage Center and Museum in Jerusalem, has been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize, Israel Hayom has learned.

His nomination was submitted by Senior Vice President for Ariel University (Israel) Bobby Brown. "The reason I nominated Mike Evans is because I know of no living person doing more to combat antisemitism," Brown said.

Amnesty International Accuses Israel of Being Apartheid

Meredith Dragon, Rochester Jewish Federation

I want to share with you the highlights of why the Amnesty International Report is incredibly problematic for the Jewish people, and not just Israel. This document is antisemitic.

For the record, I do not believe that legitimate criticism of Israeli policy is always antisemitic. I think one can be critical of Israel and not antisemitic. Natan Sharansky popularized a litmus test, the Three Ds, to differentiate legitimate criticism from antisemitism. If something **delegitimizes** Israel's right to exist as a sovereign Jewish state, if it **demonizes** Israel and subjects Israel to **double standards**, it is antisemitism. Or, as my Uncle Harry used to say, if it walks like a duck, looks like a duck, and quacks like a duck, it is probably a duck.

Here are some of the many reasons why this report is antisemitic and dangerous, not only for Israel but for all Jews:

- This report questions the need for a Jewish state.
- It goes back to the creation of the State in 1948 and labels the founding illegitimate.
- There is no mention of any wars waged against Israel.
- There is no mention of terrorism directed at Israel, Israelis, or Jews in general.
- It relies on the ignorance of readers and antisemitic tropes.
- It does not recognize Israel as a democracy granting rights to all people regardless of religion, race, gender, or sexual orientation, unlike any other country in the Middle East.

It is not a well-meaning critique, but a branding attempt to continue to marry Israel with the phrase "apartheid state." Ultimately, it seems the goal of this report is to continue to make a case that the Jewish people have no claim to a historical homeland where we create a sovereign democratic state, with the right to Jewish self-determination. This report fuels the international flames of antisemitism that create the climate for incidents like Colleyville, and countless others.

"Defender of Israel" Award Given to Pastor John Hagee

By Yossi Aloni 3/18/22

www.israeltoday.co.il

John Hagee, considered one of Israel's greatest lovers and defenders in the United States, was presented with the Magen Israel Prize by the Begin Conference for National Security. "I tell Americans, when you love someone, you don't just tell them, you show them. We show it to the Israelis all the time, as much as possible and we always stand by them, especially now that she needs our support against Iran!" Hagee said.

The conference was held at the Begin Heritage Center in Jerusalem, marking the 30th anniversary of the former prime minister's passing. When receiving the prize, Hagee said: "The Israelis never **occupied** this land, it **belongs** to them from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. **Menachem Begin** took a crucial part in the expulsion of the British from the State of Israel, and God bless him for it. When I met him, as Prime Minister, I was surprised by the simplicity of his furniture. He came into the room and looked like a college professor, but he had a tremendous amount of power that was hard to explain in words.

"When he ordered the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the media in the United States attacked it, and I realized that this was the moment to organize an evening in which we would encourage Israel and respect its importance. It was the first night of a long tradition of evenings, and to this day we have raised tens of millions of dollars for the benefit of the state. Because when you love someone, you show them, you don't just talk about it."

Kyiv's Mayor Learns from the IDF How to Defend Ukraine

<https://vfinews.com> 3/17/22

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko has been a fighter his entire life. The former World Boxing heavyweight champion knocked out dozens of boxers from around the world during his first career.

But Klitschko, who then shifted to politics and has been the mayor of Ukraine's capital since 2014, has never faced a fight like the current one against Russia. The Russian army's 64-km-long military column outside Kyiv presented a formidable challenge.

In a Skype interview with The Jerusalem Post on March 9, Klitschko says his models for how to win against all odds are based on Israel – a country he has visited and admires – and the IDF, which has been successful in mobilizing and maximizing its reservists.

"We have to learn from Israel how to defend

our country, with every citizen," he said. "If they love the country, they need to be ready to defend the country. We have a lot to learn from Israel because we need every citizen to defend his home and his future."

Klitschko has built strong ties with Ukrainian Chief Rabbi Yaakov Bleich and other Jewish leaders. His father's mother is Jewish, and he has been told many times by Jews that they wished it was his grandmother on his mother's side who was a member of the tribe so that he would be a Jew by Jewish law. "I am proud to have Jewish blood," he said. (JPost / VFI News)

"You are my hammer and weapon of war: with you I break nations in pieces; with you I destroy kingdoms" - Jeremiah 15:20

Holocaust Survivor Who Went Through Four Concentration Camps Killed in Ukraine by Russian Strikes

A 96-year-old man who survived the Nazi death camps of Buchenwald, Peenemuende, Dora, and Bergen-Belsen was killed Friday, March 18, when his home in Kharkiv, Ukraine, came under Russian attack. Boris Romanchenko's death was announced Monday by Germany's Buchenwald concentration camp memorial institute. Citing Romanchenko's relatives, the memorial said he was killed when his home in Kharkiv was struck by apparent artillery fire.

"Boris Romantschenko campaigned intensively for the memory of the Nazi crimes," the institute said on Twitter, adding that he had been vice president of the Buchenwald-Dora International Committee, a survivors' organization.

The mayor of Lviv, Ukraine, mourned Romanchenko in a Telegram post. "He was killed by a Russian missile in his apartment during a 'denazification operation,'" Mayor Andriy Sadovy wrote. "The new fascists (from Russia) continue the work of Hitler."

Russian President Vladimir Putin has repeatedly called his unprovoked invasion of Ukraine a "denazification," falsely claiming that Ukraine is committing "genocide" against its Russian-speaking population. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is Jewish, and speaks fluent Russian, as do many Ukrainians.

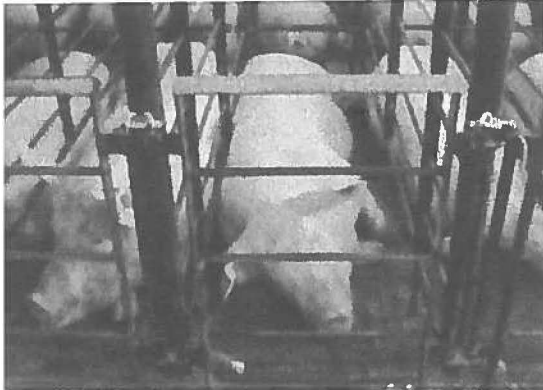
Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, sits a mere 25 miles from the Russian border. It has been under bombardment for a month, since the start of Russia's invasion. (INN / VFI News)

"God, we ask that you end this war, and ensure the horrors of the Holocaust are never repeated. Please keep Boris Romanchenko and his family in your loving embrace."

Source: **Vision for Israel** · PO Box 7743
Charlotte NC 28241-7743 <https://vfinews.com>

Vision for Israel is a worthy charity for Israel.

Cruel Treatment of Animals in Factory Farms



While millions across the United States expressed outrage at the Yulin dog meat festival in China, many are unaware of the fight against widespread animal cruelty taking place in our own backyard.

Hundreds of US-based factory farms have been publicly exposed for their horrible mistreatment of farm animals. Pigs, just as **intelligent and social as dogs**, are squeezed into crates so small they can't even turn around, let alone walk. Millions of chickens live their whole lives confined to a space as big as notebook.

You're probably wondering: **"Who is behind this type of animal abuse, and why is it legal?"** The farm-industry and animal-agriculture lobbyists — along with the retail businesses that sell meat-based products to consumers are to blame, according to many. With their deep pockets and political influence, they've been able to pressure many states to pass "ag-gag" legislation — laws that prevent the undercover videoing or photography on farms without the permission of the owner. It's all an attempt to keep their cruelty tucked away behind barn doors.

But despite how hard they try to hide it, the public is learning the truth. People like Lia Hyman are defending farm animals and taking on big business. Lia is a student on a budget and frequently stopped at Subway for a quick lunch on-the-go. But, when she learned how Subway's chickens were raised, she was horrified. As she states, "they are bred to grow grotesquely large at an unnaturally fast rate and are violently shackled, electrocuted, and slit at their throats while fully conscious."

Lia decided to take action and started a Change.org petition to convince Subway to stop torturing chickens. She didn't have money or lobbyists, but she connected with The Humane League for support. They used Change.org's free tools to gain the support of more than 50,000 people. Lia went on to win her campaign, pres-

suring Subway to commit to sourcing chickens from responsible farms.

Change.org wants to continue providing free, easy to use digital tools so that people like Lia can take on corporate giants and hold people accountable to the treatment of animals. But they need help.



Editor's Note: The Torah instructs us to not eat pork. When you consider the horrendous treatment of pigs on factory farms, you have one more reason to avoid pork. Factory farms are also bad for the environment. This should be illegal in all countries.

UN Secretary General Guterres: Israel Needs To Be Treated Like Any Other Member State

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres addressed the opening dinner of the World Jewish Congress Plenary Assembly on Sunday, pledging to delegates: "As secretary general of the United Nations, I will be on the **front lines in the fight against anti-Semitism.**"

He stressed that "Israel needs to be treated like any other UN member state" and that it had an "undeniable right to exist and to live in peace and security with its neighbors."

"The modern form of anti-Semitism is the denial of the existence of the State of Israel," the secretary general added. Guterres recalled what he called the "systematic policy of discrimination of Jews in the Middle Ages" and the expulsion of Jews from his native Portugal, which he called a "tremendous crime and the most stupid mistake ever made in Portugal."

He also recalled his strong emotions when he visited a nearly empty synagogue of the Portuguese Jewish community in Amsterdam, because it had been decimated in the Holocaust.

Guterres said "anti-Semitism never died despite the shock of the Holocaust," and added that it was "alive and well today," citing hate speech on the internet, physical aggression against Jews, and the destruction of Jewish monuments and cemeteries. This was the **first time** a UN secretary general has addressed an international gathering of Jewish leaders.

Source: www.worldjewishcongress.org

'Anti-Zionism' Threatens Europe's

Jews by Daniel Schwammmenthal

We keep hearing it isn't the same as anti-Semitism. Even the EU knows better
www.wsj.com/articles

Anti-Zionism isn't the same as anti-Semitism," we keep hearing. A new study suggests that for Jewish Europeans, the distinction is without a difference.

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights polled some 16,500 Jews in 12 countries that account for 90% of the EU's Jewish population. 85% say anti-Semitism is a problem in their country, and 28% report having experienced anti-Semitic harassment in the preceding 12 months—including 37% of those "who wear, carry or display items in public that could identify them as Jewish." As a result, 34% avoid visiting Jewish events or sites, and 38% have considered emigrating.

Those who reported being harassed were asked to describe the perpetrator of the most serious incident. Only 13% said it was "someone with a right-wing political view," compared with 30% who cited extremist Muslim views and 21% left-wing political views. (It is interesting to note that Radical Islam and the Radical Left are each bigger threats to Jews than the Radical Right. The Islamic invasion is hurting Jews. **RAC**)

Respondents were asked about anti-Semitic statements they heard online, in other media and at political events. The most common one, which 51% said they hear "frequently" or "all the time," was "Israelis behave 'like Nazis' towards the Palestinians"—a claim that **demoralizes** the Jewish state while **diminishing** the crimes of real Nazis.

The leftist counterargument is that anti-Zionism is a legitimate political position that has nothing to do with anti-Semitism. But anti-Zionists discriminate against the Jews alone among the peoples (and nations **RAC**) of the world and call for the Jewish state's economic, cultural and academic boycott. What sense would it make to say: "**I don't think Ireland has a right to exist, but I'm not anti-Irish?**"

Anti-Semitism has been likened to a virus that adapts to changes in society. What may have started with the accusation of "Christ-killer" morphed to socioeconomic "justifications" for Jew-hatred. In the late 19th century, racial theories provided pseudoscientific "evidence" of Jewish inferiority. The medieval libel of "Jews poisoning the wells" turned into "Zionists poison Palestinian water." The 19th-century German politician Heinrich von Treitschke said "the Jews are our misfortune," which the Nazis later picked up. The sentiment finds its modern equivalent in, "The world would be a better a better place without Israel." A third of the respondents in the EU poll said they hear that frequently or all the time...

An Excellent History Lesson: A Jewish Boycott

Iran's Supreme Leader Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei urged the Muslim World to boycott anything and everything that originates with the Jewish people.

In response, Meyer M. Treinkman, a pharmacist, out of the kindness of his heart, offered to assist them in their boycott as follows:

"Any Muslim who has Syphilis must not be cured by Salvarsan discovered by a Jew, Dr. Ehrlich. He should not even try to find out whether he has Syphilis, because the Wasserman Test is the discovery of a Jew. If a Muslim suspects that he has Gonorrhea, he must not seek diagnosis, because he will be using the method of a Jew named Neisser.

"A Muslim who has heart disease must not use Digitalis, a discovery by a Jew, Ludwig Traube. Should he suffer with a toothache, he must not use Novocaine, a discovery of the Jews, Widal and Weil.

If a Muslim has Diabetes, he must not use Insulin, the result of research by Minkowsky, a Jew. If one has a headache, he must shun Pyramidon and Antypyrin, due to the Jews, Spiro and Ellege.

Muslims with convulsions must put up with them because it was a Jew, Oscar Leibreich, who proposed the use of chloral hydrate.

Muslims must do likewise with their psychic ailments because Freud, father of psychoanalysis, was a Jew.

Should a Muslim child get diphtheria, he must refrain from the "Schick" reaction which was invented by the Jew, Bella Schick.

"Muslims should be ready to die in great numbers and must not permit treatment of ear and brain damage, work of Jewish Nobel Prize winner, Robert Baram.

They should continue to die or remain crippled by Infantile Paralysis because the discoverer of the anti-polio vaccine is a Jew, Jonas Salk.

"Muslims must refuse to use streptomycin and continue to die of Tuberculosis because a Jew, Zalman Waxman, invented the wonder drug against this killing disease.

Oh, and by the way, don't call for a doctor on your cell phone because the cell phone was invented in Israel by a Jewish engineer.

Editor's Note: The above items concentrate on medical benefits that Jews have contributed to the world. In addition, Jews are at the forefront of science, technology, agriculture, water conservation, information technology, computers, etc.

Also, Moses and the Prophets, as well as Yeshua, were all Jews. The entire Bible - both the Tanakh and the Newer Testament - were written by Jews. When Messiah Yeshua returns, he will be returning to Jerusalem, to the Jewish people.

Israel, Middle East Countries Crafting Deal to Build Regional Defense Network

Israel is in consultations with Middle Eastern countries to install Israeli-made defense systems on their territory, a report said on June 29. Several countries, including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, have reportedly negotiated with Israel to obtain a network of sensors that will combat the potential missile threat from Iran, according to Breaking Defense.

A shared communications network would theoretically allow participating states to alert others when incoming missiles trigger the sensors, the report stated, citing Israeli officials. The possible deal follows Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz's announcement of a regional security cooperation agreement in a June 20 speech, saying Israel had already employed the network to intercept Iranian missile attacks. (DC / VFI News)

Antisemitism Largely Eliminated from Textbooks in Saudi Arabia

Antisemitism has been largely eliminated from Saudi textbooks, The Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (IMPACT-se) revealed in its annual report on education in Saudi Arabia.

The report, released on June 27, found that content portraying Jews as disobedient and teachings of antisemitic tropes such as Jewish wealth were removed from the Saudi curriculum.

Qur'an verses describing Jews being turned into monkeys were removed, as was the antisemitic myth that one of the goals of Zionism is a "global Jewish government." In addition, Qur'an verses prohibiting friendships with Jews and Christians and condemning homosexuality have all been removed in the past three years.

In 2021, several lessons demonizing Jewish people, Christians, and other "non-believers" were removed from the curriculum. An entire textbook unit on jihad was taken out of the curriculum. A year prior, a chapter called "the Zionist danger," which dealt with various topics regarding the delegitimization of Israel's right to exist was removed.

However, Israel is still omitted from maps shown in textbooks, and Zionism is still described as "racist." Saudi students are falsely taught that "Zionists" deliberately tried to burn down Al-Aqsa Mosque in 1969, a lie that was removed from Qatar's curriculum. A Qur'an

verse comparing Jews to "book-carrying donkeys" also remains, while students are taught that women are to blame for male sexual harassment. (JPost/ VFI News)

Tassels on the Garments

Numbers 15:37: And YHWH spoke to Moses, saying, ³⁸"Speak to the children of Israel, and bid them that they make for themselves fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a cord of blue. ³⁹And it shall be to you for a fringe, that you may look upon it, and **remember** all the commandments of YHWH, and **do** them; and that you seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you played the harlot, ⁴⁰in order that you may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God." (Numbers 15:37-40)

This is the origin of the tzitzit, the ritual fringes that are attached to the tallit (prayer shawl), and also attached to the tallit katan that Orthodox Jews wear under their shirts. The tzitzit remind us to keep the mitzvot (commandments) that God gave us.

The Talmud (*Menachot* 44a) tells the story of a man in a moment of weakness paying a visit to a prostitute. He was in the process of removing his clothing when he saw his tzitzit and immediately froze. The prostitute asked him what was wrong, and he told her about the tzitzit, saying that the four fringes attached to the corners of the tallit katan had become accusing witnesses against him for the sin he was about to commit. The woman was so impressed by the power of this simple command that she converted to Judaism.

"Tzitzit, with their thread of blue, remind us of heaven, and that is what we need if we are consistently to act in accordance with the better angels of our nature."

The source for the above two paragraphs is an article ("Remember to Remember") by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, former British Chief Rabbi. He passed away at age 72 in November 2020. He had been married for 50 years.

Rabbi Sacks wrote that people tend to behave better when they realize that someone is watching them. Perhaps you have in the past been traveling over the speed limit. You see a police car, and you immediately slow up.

The tzitzit remind us that God is watching us. That might be even more intimidating than that police car! God's message is: "Obey Me, obey my commandments."

Israel's Ambassador to UN Elected Vice President of UN General Assembly

Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Gilad Erdan, was elected as a vice president of the UN General Assembly on June 7. Erdan will assume the position for a year beginning with the convening of the GA in September. He will chair General Assembly meetings, and take part in setting the agenda for GA deliberations.

"I am proud of the right to represent Israel in a position that is at the heart of what is happening at the UN, and I will also act through it to combat the existing discrimination in the UN against Israel," said Erdan. "This is an important victory, which will give us another platform to present the truth about Israel and its contribution to the world."

"This achievement joins a series of important achievements that Israel has made at the UN in recent years, along with a clear message to our enemies that they will not prevent us from integrating into key positions at the UN and in the international arena and increasing our influence."

The appointment of Erdan comes after Israel was elected for the first time to serve as a member of the UN Economic and Social Council, and Israeli Odella Fitoussi was elected to serve in the UN Committee of Experts on Disability. (JPost/VFI News) Sources for articles on this page:

Barry & Batya Segal, **Vision for Israel**, PO Box 7743, Charlotte NC 28241-7743

Editor's Note: **Vision for Israel** is an excellent source for news, which we use in **Petah Tikvah**. **Vision for Israel** is also a worthy charity helping to supply the need of thousands of poor and needy Jews in Israel. Barry and Batya live in Israel, but have a USA address as a contact.

Israel Will Help Free EU from Dependence on Russian energy

Working with Israel will help reduce the EU's dependence on Russia, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said during her visit to Israel on June 14.

"The Kremlin has used our dependency on Russian fossil fuels to blackmail us," von der Leyen said as she received an honorary doctorate from Ben-Gurion University. "Since the beginning of the war, Russia has deliberately cut off its gas supplies to Poland, Bulgaria and Finland, and Dutch and Danish companies, in retaliation for our support to Ukraine."

Von der Leyen added: "The Kremlin's behavior only strengthens our resolve to break free of our dependence on Russian fossil fuels. For instance, we are exploring ways to step up our energy cooperation with Israel."

Two ways in which Europe plans to work with Israel, she said, is to lay the EuroAsia Intercon-

ductor, the world's longest and deepest underwater power cable, connecting Israel to the EU electric grid via Cyprus and Greece, and the EastMed Pipeline, meant to be the world's longest, also from Israel to Cyprus and Greece. Neither has happened yet, but the EuroAsia Interconnector has EU funding.

"Europe needs energy fast, and Israel has natural gas in its economic waters," Bennett said. "This is good news for Israel, Italy, and Europe." (JPost/VFI News)

Israel Expected to Become Most Crowded Western Country by 2050

The Jewish State is on the way to becoming the world's most crowded Western country in less than three decades, veteran environmental activist and current MK Alon Tal told the Special Committee on Addictions, Drugs and the Challenges Facing Young Israelis at the Knesset on June 13.

The committee dealt with the impact of the loss of open spaces on the well-being of the younger generation in 2050. Statistics from a research report prepared by an environmental group called Zafuf [Crowded] — The Forum for Population, Environment, and Society, indicated that by 2050, the country's population could grow to more than 17.5 million residents.

"The State of Israel will become the most crowded Western country, with over 800 people per square kilometer," the report said. "We are familiar with the reality and know that protecting open spaces isn't enough. I want to know what the Israel Planning Administration and the Construction and Housing Ministry are doing to translate their statements into reality. The open spaces are disappearing at a dizzying rate of 24 square kilometers per year, and the pace will increase along with the growth in population."

Tal warned that Israel is expected to lose open spaces on a scale that is eight times the size of the city of Tel Aviv by 2050. He called upon all professional agencies to advance a strategic plan for the protection of open spaces immediately. (JPost / VFI News)

Editor's Note: According to Genesis 15:18 and Joshua 1:4, the eventual borders of Israel will include most of the Sinai Peninsula as well as land up to the Euphrates River. This would also include most of what is today called Syria. The only time that Israel controlled all of these areas historically was in the time of King Solomon. Jordan was originally also the major part of what was historically called Palestine. Israel is not an imperialistic nation seeking to conquer surrounding territories. However, in future wars of aggression against Israel, Israel will be victorious and gain obtain more land, which will be needed for Jews around the world returning to Israel, as well as natural population growth. **RAC**

US Ambassador to Israel Calls 'Settlement' Growth 'Infuriating,' Backs a Divided Jerusalem

by Israel Kasnett ~ Jewish News Syndicate

18 March 2022 | US Ambassador to Israel Thomas Nides joined Americans for Peace Now (APN) in a webinar to discuss his new job and what his vision is for the region. "I'm center-left," he said.

Nides made waves soon after he arrived in Israel when he announced that he would not visit the "settlements" out of fear of offending anyone. More specifically, he said, "the idea of settlement growth, which infuriates me, when they do things that just infuriate the situation both in east Jerusalem and the West Bank [Judea and Samaria]."

"We can't do stupid things that impede us for a two-state solution. We can't have the Israelis doing settlement growth in east[ern] Jerusalem or the West Bank," he added, emphasizing that he "cares deeply about the country and the people" and just wants "to do the right thing."

He continued, saying he doesn't want to "create anger and disrespect for anyone if I can avoid it, which means I'll meet with anyone at any point. This is not like I thought this through," he acknowledged. "It wasn't like this was going to be my initial 'go-after-it' issue. But I just thought inherently, saying 'I'm not going to go to the settlements' was the right thing to do. Why upset everyone from me showing up?"

He suggested that people look at his Twitter account to understand how the issue became so central. "I didn't even have a Twitter account before I took this **stupid job**," he joked. "And now, I'm like a Kardashians." Nides emphasized that he will "visit with anyone." But, he added, "why do things that initially just agitate people? There's no reason for it. It's symbolic."

Nides said his "north star" is focusing on strengthening the democratic Jewish state. "However, to do that, we must have a two-state solution," he said. "If we talk about anything but a two-state solution, it is not good for the Palestinians, it's certainly not good for Israel, it's not good for the Jews; it's not good for anyone."

Among the "four or five things" Nides has on his agenda to improve life for the Palestinians—a goal he has repeated multiple times since arriving—is providing the Palestinians with 4G cellular service and more control at the Allenby Bridge crossing between Israel and Jordan.

Of course, he made it a point to add: "I don't do anything that compromises Israel's security." At the same time, he said he doesn't believe giving money to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) hurts the security of Israel. Clearly aware that he was focusing heavily on Israeli settlements, Nides made sure to point out that "the Palestini-

ans aren't perfect either."

He said he "wants to be clear" that "these martyr payments," which he said "we can debate and talk about" "has caused an enormous amount of problems." He said he is working with Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and Defense Minister Benny Gantz, as well as the Palestinians, to figure out "how to stop it."

The program is commonly referred to as "Pay-for-Slay," whereby families of terrorists get financially compensated for attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians. Nides also said that he seeks to "create the atmosphere of opportunities for new leaders to emerge both in Israel and obviously in the West Bank." ...

Still, along those lines, he remarked that he was glad to see funding provided for Palestinians in the government's recent budget, which was signed by US President Joe Biden. In a tweet, he said that he was pleased to see "lots" for Palestinians in the new budget.

These funds, according to Nides, include [US] \$219 million as economic support funds, an increase of \$144 million from the previous amount, \$40 million for the training of Palestinian security forces in the West Bank, and [US] \$50 million to fund the Nita Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act for its second year.

Nides made no mention of Palestinian terrorism and the pattern of rejectionism that has gripped the Palestinian Authority for so many years. He also failed to acknowledge the Palestinians' inability to control their own destiny is directly linked to their incitement and terrorism.

He lauded the current government with its left-wing and Arab parties, but also said that "there are some people in this government I would prefer not having dinner with." Asked about the political horizon, Nides seemed to suggest Israel should share its capital, Jerusalem, with the Palestinians.

"I've been clear about this, and [Biden's] been clear about this: He is fully and completely supportive of a two-state solution with a divided...capital," he said. He also suggested that the Biden administration could try to produce its own peace plan sometime in the future.

"Could this administration engage in trying to do something broader? Maybe. Right now, my job is to keep all options on the table. We can't want peace more than [the Palestinians and Israelis] want peace. I can push. I can cajole. I can work. Maybe we come up with a plan at some point."

Editor's Note: Regarding the "two-state solution," it should be noted that Jordan was part of historic Palestine, and is mostly populated by Palestinians. Gaza is also effectively a second Palestinian state. We don't need a third Palestinian terrorist dictatorship in the Biblical heartland. Many Palestinians prefer Israel to the PA. **RAC**

The Relationship Between the Theory of Evolution and Racism as Described by Charles Darwin

Excerpt from article by LibertyAction.org

Coined in the 1880s by Francis Galton, a British scientist and cousin of Charles Darwin, "eugenics" is "the science of improving stock ... to give to the more suitable races or strains of blood a better chance of prevailing speedily over the less suitable than they otherwise would have."

Put simply, the sinister goal of the eugenics movement was to eliminate "unfit" and "undesirable" people—those with mental and physical disabilities as well as certain races and ethnicities.

Darwin put eugenics in the title of his 1859 book: *The Origin of Species by means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* (emphasis added). And, in his 1871 book, *The Descent of Man*, Darwin unabashedly revealed his racist and white supremacist thinking.

Darwin describes Australians, Mongolians, Africans, Indians, South Americans, Polyne-sians and Eskimos as "savage." It becomes clear that he considers every population that is not white and European to be savage.¹

Darwin, like Hitler and Sanger, preferred Northern Europeans. Darwin explains that the "highest races and the lowest savages" differ in "moral disposition ... and in intellect." He said that extermination of certain non-white races is necessary to "evolve" a superior race.

Margaret Sanger, Planned Parenthood's founder, was one of the most outspoken members of the eugenics movement. Sanger said eugenics was "the most adequate and thorough avenue to the solution of racial, political and social problems." She praised sterilization as the "remedy" to the problem of "an increasing rate of morons." From the beginning, birth control and abortion were promoted as means of effectuating eugenics.

The late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg admitted: "[A]t the time *Roe* was decided, there was concern about population growth and particularly growth in populations that we don't want to have too many of."

¹ Curiously, Europeans (and those with European ancestry) are guilty of much savagery around the globe. Savagery knows no ethnic boundaries. Those with White European ancestry stole the lands of indigenous populations on the American continents, Africa, and Australia, often also committing cultural and physical genocide. **RAC**

UNRWA Teachers Incite Palestinians to Murder Jews

Itamar Eichner Ynetnews

27 June 2022 | Geneva-based NGO UN Watch revealed on Thursday a report of at least 10 United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) employees who incited anti-Semitism and advocated for violence against Jews.

The report uncovered 20 new cases of virulent UNRWA staff incitement violating the agency's rules, which claim zero tolerance for racism, discrimination or anti-Semitism. The staff members are added to a list of more than 100 UNRWA educators previously exposed by the NGO.

The NGO's claim comes as the US and other Western nations gathered on Thursday at the United Nations to pledge funding for UNRWA which runs schools and social services for Palestinians. UN Watch urged the countries to stop funding hundreds of UNRWA teachers and other employees who call to murder Jews.

The NGO submitted the findings to EU Foreign Affairs Commissioner Joseph Borell and US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield, whose governments are among the top funders of UNRWA, and to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and UNRWA chief Philippe Lazzarini.

Following the disclosure, UN Watch called on the agency's major donors—including the US, Germany, the UK and the European Union—to ensure that none of their combined US \$1.2 billion of donations to UNRWA will fund the inciting teachers. In addition, the NGO asked to hold the agency accountable to meet its own standards and commitments.

According to the report, West Bank [Judea and Samaria] computer teacher Nihaya Awad praised Hamas rocket attacks on Israeli civilians during the May fighting in 2021 in a Facebook post. This was only two months after one of UNRWA's directors, Gwyn Lewis, sent Awad a certificate of appreciation for her "fantastic efforts" as a "best performer" in UNRWA education. "We are proud that you are part of the UNRWA team," Lewis wrote.

In another case, the report names Lebanese teacher Elham Mansour, who posted the following on Facebook just last month: "By Allah, anyone who can kill and slaughter any Zionist and Israeli criminal, and doesn't do so, doesn't deserve to live. Kill them and pursue them everywhere, they are the greatest enemy... All Israel deserves death." ...

Source: www.bridgesforpeace.com

Arab Muslim Speaks at Anniversary of First Zionist Congress

by Janet Aslin, www.bridgesforpeace.com

On the last week of August 2022, many prominent Jewish leaders, entrepreneurs and philanthropists from around the world gathered in Basel, Switzerland to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the First World Zionist Congress. It is not surprising that Israel's President Isaac Herzog was a keynote speaker at the gala held Monday evening. In remarks prior to his departure, Herzog called the 1897 Congress "a historical landmark, which was a defining event for the Jewish people and humanity as a whole."

However, what may surprise you is the name of another man who also addressed the crowd, which had gathered to recognize an early milestone in the rebirth of the modern State of Israel. Ahmed Obaid Almansoori is an Arab Muslim from Dubai, part of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). A former member of the UAE's parliament, manager of a consultancy that works with NGOs and founder of a research center as well as several museums, Almansoori is a vocal supporter of Judaism and the State of Israel.



As reported by the *Jerusalem Post*, Almansoori told the crowd gathered at Basel, "It is of utmost importance that the young generations of the Middle East will learn about Judaism, Zionism and Israel. This will strengthen peace. It is important that we live side-by-side with mutual respect for one another."

Almansoori doesn't just talk the talk; he puts his beliefs into practice. This year, as head of the UAE delegation, he participated in the 32 kilometer (20 mile) International March of the Living in Poland. At its conclusion, he joined Eltan Neishlos, a third-generation Holocaust survivor, to co-light a Torch of Remembrance at the extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Then there is his Crossroads of Civilization Museum, intended to showcase the rich heritage and multi-cultural history of the Middle East. Originally his private collection, Almansoori has included the Jewish history of the region as well as the Arab history. The museum contains a number of Jewish artifacts, including an ancient map of Jerusalem as well as documented letters written by Theodore Herzl, the man many call the Father of Modern Zionism.

Taking an even bolder step, in 2021 Almansoori added a Holocaust exhibit to his museum. Entitled, "We Remember," this one-room exhibit tells the first-hand testimonies of Holocaust survivors. The exhibit also provides accounts of Arabs and Muslims who helped save Jewish lives. For example, Mohamed Helmy was an Egyptian doctor studying in Berlin. He managed to save several Jews and even adopted one of them. He was the first Arab recognized by Yad Vashem (Israel's World Holocaust Remembrance Center) as "Righteous Among the Nations."

Almansoori told *CNN*, "We have so many good stories about Arabs and Muslims helping Jews over time, and that's the positive side people don't know about that we want to educate them on."

From the Basel gathering, the *Jerusalem Post* reported Almansoori's response to a question regarding his strong pro-Zionist stance: "There might be some negative media reports, but I'm hoping for the best. Everything that promotes change will have resistance from certain people." Almansoori is one of the bright lights in the sometimes-disheartening region that is the Middle East.

Source: (Bridges for Peace, August 31, 2022)

Herzog Denounces 'Toothless' Iran Deal

President Isaac Herzog publicly stressed Israel's opposition to the current Iran nuclear deal draft, as he met on Sunday, September 4, in Berlin with German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

"Iran is openly striving for Israel's destruction, and the international community must treat it severely, firmly, and assertively," said Herzog in comments alongside Steinmeier following their meeting. "Toothless and watered-down accords and sweeping benefits will not stop Iran."

Herzog declared that Iran "has proven that it cannot be trusted," and said Israel "will stand up and assertively and powerfully defend its citizens and Jewish communities all around the world. We expect our allies to stand firmly by our side at this hour."

Germany is one of the world powers currently negotiating a return to the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, with a deal seen as likely in the next few weeks, despite persistent gaps between Tehran and Washington. (TOI / VFI News)

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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

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"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



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Sat 10AM Netivah Ministry Jl Garuda 37,
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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: Louwelle 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

Emunah 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

bongsik04@gmail.com (0907) 731 9723

Alen Kelly Conte billionairealenkelly@gmail.com,
(0917) 162 3763

Greater Manila Area

Cavite

Emunah 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

emunah Torah community@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

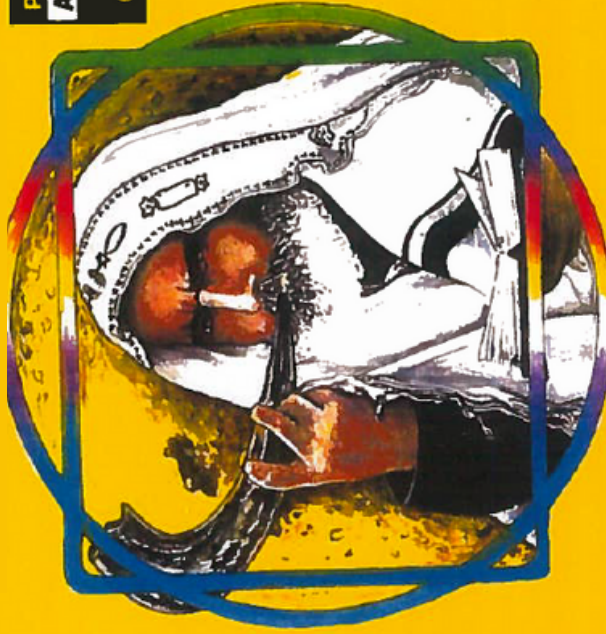
Contact: Monette Guiruela (0920) 658 3847

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ASIA PACIFIC EDITION



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ADVISORY
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PO BOX 212, Baguio City
PHILIPPINES

