## NEWS FROM ISRAEL

August 2020

\$2.25

# The Third Temple and the Temple Institute

Seven Nations Warn Israel Against Annexation P.19



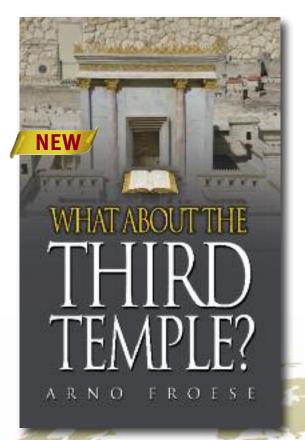
The 'Ten Lost Tribes' P.20 • Court Rules OK to Discriminate Against Israelis P.22

תערוכת כלי המקדש

### A Closer Look at the Third Temple

WHAT ABOUT THE THIRD TEMPLE? ITEM #1091 48 pgs. • Booklet

\$4.50 **New** Author: Arno Froese



he apostle Peter calls the believers "lively stones." Just as the earthly temple was built of stones, the heavenly temple is built of spiritual stones. This spiritual temple is under construction at this time.

Only when that temple is completed—when the last from among the Gentiles has been added to it—will the Church, the body of Christ, the spiritual temple, be raptured into the presence of the Lord. Furthermore, the Church—in which dwells the Holy Spirit—is also the hindering element for the salvation of Israel, as Paul documents: "blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in" (Romans 11:25b).





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Dr. Wim Malgo (1922–1992), Founder Arno Froese, Editor Fredi Winkler, International Editor Michelle Kim, Layout Designer Kimberly Farmer, Copy Editor Barbara Lavery, Melanie Makin and Helga Tirrell, German-English Translators

Web: midnightcall.com Toll free phone: 1-800-845-2420 Local and International: +1 (803) 755-0733

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By Fredi Winkler

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among the Jews. The Temple Institute—directed by Orthodox Jews, who generally hold to the dictates of the religious leadership—maintains that only the Messiah is entitled to build the Temple when He comes.

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#### Dear Friends of Israel,

#### BY FREDI WINKLER



fter three standoff elections, the coronavirus pandemic practically forced Israel into a unified government. And so, the coalition partners resolved to create an emergency cabinet of national reconciliation. It's not just the coronavirus that has become a threat, but also the internal dissension and disputing that go as far as mutual hatred.

The resolution states that the cabinet wants to address the schisms and strife within Israeli society, in order to defuse and heal them. Blaming each other and lying without shame had become almost normal. Of course, this was particularly true of the election campaigns.

The formation of such a cabinet appears, after years of mutual ha-

tred, virtually "revolutionary." It's now a priority to act against the schisms and not, as has been the case up till now, to stand idly by when ruptures are bubbling near the surface. It remains to be seen whether this will succeed.

The world, and first and foremost the United States, has seen a wave of anti-racism protests. Israel, a country with a population having a wide variety of racial backgrounds, also has this potential for tension and strife. Only mutual respect and mutual esteem can prevent these differences from leading to destructive conflict.

In Philippians 2:3b, Paul gives the recipe for how to defuse conflicts that often arise from human tension. He says, "count others more significant than yourselves."

These words are well-known. But, it's always important to view noticeable and emphatic biblical statements in their context. Paul explains in advance that this, "considering others more significant" should be done with humility. However, it doesn't mean some kind of humility chosen by human beings, but the same that Jesus Christ exemplified when He left the glory of the Father to save us humans. What Jesus did applies to everyone, regardless of race or origin.

Paul writes in verse 4: "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." He continues with the appeal, "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus."

What Paul says in these verses is not only important for living together in close community, but also applies to living together within a state; and beyond, among the nations of the world.

With this basic biblical principle in mind, it unfortunately needs to be said that the Word of God is less and less the model for legislation in the nations of the world. This also applies to formerly Christian nations.

A similar development can be seen in Israel. People argue about religious traditions, but the overwhelming moral and ethical message of God in the Bible, which is crucial for the coexistence of different people, is often carelessly ignored.

Threatening "storm clouds" like the coronavirus pandemic, but also others, are gathering above this world. What should we be doing about these threats? Simply trusting in the Lord, as God expected Israel to do when He brought her out of Egypt. In the certainty that God doesn't leave those who trust in Him and leads them in the right way, I greet you warmly with Shalom.

Yours,





#### BY FREDI WINKLER

The Temple Institute in Jerusalem investigates how the Temple was once constructed and how everything within it functioned back then. Does this mean there are concrete plans underway to rebuild the Temple?

any Christians hold to the interpretation of Scriptural prophecies such as 2 Thessalonians 2:4 and others, that the Temple will have to be rebuilt. This brings to mind an important question: how real are such intentions on the part of Israeli and Jewish officials? Does the Temple Institute have the support of the religious establishment and the government? One can say that Orthodox Jews do not basically reject the building of a temple; however, they believe that the Third Temple may only be built by the Messiah Himself. Their thinking is founded in Zechariah 6:12-13: "...Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is THE BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both "

That this Scripture quotation is speaking of the Messiah is agreed upon by Jews as well as Christians. But exactly how the Temple construction will come about is a matter of diverse opinions among the Jews. The Temple Institute—directed by Orthodox Jews, who generally hold to the dictates of the religious leadership—maintains that only the Messiah is entitled to build the Temple when He comes. The research and planning activities of the Institute are carried out in preparation of the Messiah's appearing, so that building of the Temple can begin immediately.

Of course, there are also some extreme elements that want to begin building the Temple now. But these are small minorities, who do not have the support of either the religious leadership or of any influential political party. Then there are others who believe that the future Temple will not be built according to any human planning and preparation, but that the Messiah will accomplish everything through divine inspi-

#### The Third Temple and the Temple Institute

For a long time, religious Jews followed the mandate of the Chief Rabbinate. Yet for the past few years, there are more and more Jews—especially those of the national-religious faction—who still go up the Mount.

ration and direction. Yet another view holds that the Third Temple will come down from heaven when the Messiah appears, and will not be constructed by human hands at all.

## Meanwhile, What Happens Before the Messiah Comes?

Conflict about sovereignty over the Temple Mount not only exists between Jews and Muslims, but also, ironically, among Jews themselves—mainly between those who want to go up on the Temple Mount, and others who believe it is contrary to Jewish religious statutes (Halacha). To this day, at the start of the ascent to the Temple Mount, a sign proclaims an edict from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, prohibiting Jews from setting foot on the Temple Mount. However, this is not a government regulation and, despite the warning, nobody who walks up the Temple Mount is penalized. In fact, according to government regulations, Jews are expressly invited to visit the Temple Mount. But one thing that is not allowed is prayer or any other kind of religious activity while there.

For a long time, religious Jews followed the mandate of the Chief Rabbinate. Yet for the past few years, there are more and more Jews—especially those of the national-religious faction-who still go up the Mount. Even Knesset representatives repeatedly join in these visits. However, they are strictly controlled and accompanied by Israeli Secret Service members, to prevent any friction with Muslims. They visit the Temple Mount despite the Jewish religious prohibition, although they do not go as far as the upper plateau where the Dome of the Rock stands, which is under the control of the Islamic Council (Waqf). They stay on the level below, which circles the highest point

What kind of Messiah are the Jews expecting? Not surprisingly, the Jewish people do not have a clear or unified idea on this issue. Especially since the coming of Jesus and the spread of Christianity, the Jewish perspective regarding the Messiah has undergone fundamental change.

where once the Temple stood, enshrining the Holy of Holies.

After the takeover of East Jerusalem, it was Rabbi Shlomo Goren who was first to blow the shofar horn at the Wailing Wall. He asked Menachem Begin, the newly elected prime minister after the political turnaround of 1975, "Why are we Jews not allowed to pray on the Temple Mount?" The answer was: "Because the Rabbinate doesn't approve." The Chief Rabbinate did concern itself with questions regarding celebrations upon the liberation of Ierusalem or setting foot on the Temple Mount, but never, not even theoretically, with the building of the Temple. This shows that the topic was of no concern to the religious leadership.

Years ago, when activists of various Jewish religious groups began to encourage their followers to visit the lower plateau without advancing to the higher holy level, the Rabbinate reacted by pointing out that nothing had changed. Once again, Jews were forbidden from setting foot on any part of the Temple Mount terrain. And when a member of the Knesset started a debate about permitting Jews to pray on the Temple Mount, Prime Minister Netanyahu declared: "The government has no intention to change the policies regarding the Temple Mount." The status quo was thus maintained.

Keeping all this in mind, the question arises: what kind of Messiah are the Jews expecting? Not surprisingly, the Jewish people do not have a clear or unified idea on this issue. Especially since the coming of Jesus and the spread of Christianity, the Jewish perspective regarding the Messiah has undergone fundamental change. According to the general

#### The Third Temple and the Temple Institute

He must fulfill three things which will distinguish Him as the Messiah. First, He must bring back the Jewish people into the land of their fathers. Second, He must bring about peace. And third, He must rebuild the Temple.



understanding of today's Jews, they are expecting a Messiah who will be a human being like all others. However, He must fulfill three things which will distinguish Him as the Messiah. First, He must bring back the Jewish people into the land of their fathers. Second, He must bring about peace. And third, He must rebuild the Temple. He who meets these three parameters should be the Messiah, according to the widely held opinion.

This theory, of course, contradicts the thinking that only the Messiah may build the Temple if, to be acknowledged as Messiah, He needs to have met these three identifying tests. This logically presumes that He would have to prove to be the Messiah *before* building the Temple. The final conclusion of all this? There is no clear or uniform idea about either the Messiah or the building of the Third Temple.

(NAI0620/1082)

## On the Horizon



#### ISRAEL

#### **Arms Exports Highest Ever**

Israel's arms exports over the past four years were the highest ever, according to a new report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.



An IDF weapons cache (photo credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON'S OFFICE)

From 2015-2019, Israeli arms exports accounted for 3% of the global total, the report said. Israel was the world's eighth-largest arms supplier, and its arms exports were 77% higher than in 2010-2014, SIPRI said.

The SIPRI report found that there was a 5.5% increase in arms transfers over the past decade and a 20% increase from 2005-2009. There was also a continued increase in arms transfers to the Middle East (61%), and the five largest importers were Saudi Arabia, India, Egypt, Australia and China.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

#### JORDAN WARNS ISRAEL

ordan's King Abdullah warned that any unilateral Israeli moves to annex territory in the West Bank would fuel instability and dim hopes of a final settlement of the decadesold Arab-Israeli conflict.

The monarch told British lawmakers the only path to a comprehensive and lasting Middle East peace was the establishment of an independent Palestinian state based on land captured by Israel in the 1967 war, and with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Amman lost the West Bank including East Jerusalem to Israel during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Jordan is the second Arab country after Egypt to sign a peace treaty with Israel and many of its more than 7 million citizens are of Palestinian origin.

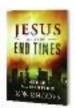
*-jpost.com* 14 July 2020

While the top five largest arms exporters in 2015-2019 were the same as in 2010-2014 (the US, Russia, France, Germany and China), their combined total exports of major arms were 9.5% higher than before, accounting for 76% of all arms exports.

Among the top 10 arms exporters outside Europe and North America, apart from Israel's large rise, South Korea had a 143% increase during the same time period, the report said.

-www.jpost.com, 11 March 2020

**Commentary:** Weapons are produced to be used. The question is, against whom? Against the enemy. Who is the enemy? The ones we don't like, who disagree with our own political philosophy. Will there be another major war? Luke 21:10 reports: "Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom." How long will that last? Until the Prince of Peace comes and orders an end to



all weapons manufacture and military globally.

7296

(See *Jesus and the End Times,* Item #2356, \$15.99.)



## Not Israel, but 'Land of the lews'

The Danish Bible Society (Copenhagen) has received criticism concerning their new Bible translation "Bible 2020." Reason: In this text, the concepts "Israel" and "People of Israel" have been changed to other terms like "Jews" or "Land of the Jews."

Jan Frost, previous chairman of the Israel-friendly organization "Ordet og Israel" ("Word and Israel"), pointed this out in a YouTube video. Thereafter, in the United States, the pro-Israel Christian group "Proclaiming Justice to the Nations," joined others in accusing the Bible Society of anti-Semitism and anti-Israel attitudes.

The Bible Society rejected these accusations and responded on their website that nothing was further from their thinking than anti-Semitism. Within the criticized new text, the words "Israel" and "Israelites" occur more than 2,000 times, the term "Jew" or "Jewish" only a little over 500 times. The "Bible 2020" was meant to speak particularly to secular people who have no or very little acquaintance with the Bible. It was with this in mind that various concepts were called by different terms which would render the text easier to comprehend, among such also being "mercy," "sin" and "grace."



The majority of Danish readers wouldn't know that in the New Testament "Israel" designates the nation with whom God has made a covenant.

The Danish Bible Society was founded in 1814 and exists under the auspices of the Danish Queen Margrethe II. The Secretary-General of the Bible Society is Birgitte Stoklund Larsen.

-ideaSpektrum, 20.2020

**Commentary:** While the intention to modernize Scriptural language may be justifiable, the message of the Bible is primarily for those who believe. Others, who are in darkness, do not necessarily need intellectual understanding, but recognition of self, sin, and corruptness. The Holy Spirit will do the enlightening, regardless of what language or translation is being used.

While Bible translations do differ to a degree, interpretations do as well. Several well-meaning Christian ministries insist that the book of Revelation is primarily addressed to the Jews. In the first chapter, we read: "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia" (verse 11a). The last chapter states: "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches" (Revelation 22:16a).

While significant information is addressed to the people on earth after the Church has left, the funda-



mental message does not change: the book of Revelation, just like the entire Bible, is directed at saints—those who believe. 7292

(See The Non-Prophet's Guide to the Book of Revelation, Item #2361.\$16.99.)

## BRIEF •



#### HEZBOLLAH MISSILE SITES IN CIVILIAN AREAS

There are at least 28 missile launching sites belonging to Hezbollah in civilian areas in the Lebanese capital of Beirut, a report by ALMA Research and Education Center has found.

The report found that the never-before-published sites concentrated mainly in Hezbollah-dominated areas of Beirut are related to the launch, storage and production of the group's Fateh 110/M600 mediumrange missiles and are "the same as those subject to the Hezbollah precisionguided missile project (PGMs)."

"The world must understand and know that these launch sites are located at the heart of residential and urban civil infrastructure," Tal Beeri, head of the Research department at ALMA Center, told *The Jerusalem Post.* 

*-jpost.com* 13 July 2020



#### IRAN

#### Coincidental Nuclear Accident?

Tehran reported an "accident" at Natanz nuclear complex in central Iran, saying there were no casualties or radioactive pollution, and warned foes—especially Israel—against hostile actions.



Spokesman for Iran's Atomic Energy Organization Behrouz Kamalvandi

said no radioactive material or personnel were present at the warehouse within the Natanz site in central Iran, one of the country's main uranium enrichment plants.

He noted that the cause was being investigated, and said it had caused "some structural damage" without specifying the nature of the accident.

Hours after the announcement, Iran's state news agency IRNA published an editorial warning that "if there are signs of hostile countries crossing Iran's red lines in any way, especially the Zionist regime (Israel) and the United States, Iran's strategy to confront the new situation must be fundamentally reconsidered."

The Iranian Atomic Energy Organization released a photo purportedly from the site, showing a one-story building with a damaged roof, walls apparently blackened by fire and doors hanging off their hinges as if blown out from the inside.



A handout picture provided by Iran's Atomic Energy Organization shows a warehouse after it was damaged at the Natanz facility, one of Iran's main uranium enrichment plants, south of the capital Tehran (AFP Photo/Handout)

According to a statement released by the nuclear body, the warehouse was under construction and the accident caused no casualties.

The UN nuclear watchdog said that Tehran was continuing to produce enriched uranium in Natanz using "no more than 5,060 (so called first-generation) centrifuges installed in 30 cascades."

Tehran has always denied its nuclear program has any military dimension.

The 2015 deal promised Iran sanctions relief in exchange for limiting its atomic activities.

-news.yahoo.com, 2 July 2020

**Commentary:** Iran seems to be the favorite enemy, particularly of the West. But real, solid, irrefutable evidence has not been presented relating to the speculation that they are attain-



ing nuclear weapons.

While the US is dead set against any compromise with Iran, the world is more cautious of America acting unilaterally, pointing to Iraq. In that case, "reliable information" insisted that chemical weapons, including nuclear materials, were in full production, but was found to be incorrect.

Some speculate that this fire was the result of Israel's intelligence service, but—as always—they keep silent. The fact that Iran's news agency states, "if there are signs of hostile countries crossing Iran's red line in any way...," clearly evokes a warning to Israel and the US.

Here again, we see a conflict developing in dangerous proportions. But in the end, we know from Scripture that the nations—and that is all nations of the world—must become one. Right now, the much-hyped coronavirus is definitely a contributing factor toward that aim. 7294 (See ISIS, Iran, Israel and the End of Days, Item #2283, \$15.99.



#### **ISRAEL**

## Bayer Tests Drugs on 3D-Printed Heart Tissue

Ramot, the technology transfer company of Tel Aviv University (TAU) has signed a collaboration with the Bayer pharmaceutical company to test new drugs on 3D-printed heart tissues, a new, more efficient method of testing.

"In a petri dish, all the cells line up in 2D, and it's only one type of cell" said Prof. Tal Dvir of TAU, the scientist responsible for developing the world's first working 3D printed heart. "In contrast, our engineered tissues are 3D-printed, and therefore better resemble real heart tissues," she added.

## BRIEF •



#### EUROPE'S OLDEST JEWISH CEMETERY VANDALIZED

ozens of graves in what is believed to be the oldest Jewish cemetery in Europe were vandalized and desecrated, the European Jewish Association (EJA) said, according to multiple media reports.

The graves were in Heiliger Sand, the Jewish cemetery in Worms, Germany. The community in the city, renowned for counting the famous medieval French rabbi Rashi among its residents at one point, was established in the 11th century. The oldest stilllegible tombstone dates back to 1058/59, and thousands still visit the cemetery every year, the European Jewish Press reported.

"We are witnessing, and not for the first time, desecration of German cemeteries alongside a disturbing rise in antisemitism in the entire public sphere. We call on the German government to declare an uncompromising fight against antisemitism to ensure that such acts are no longer repeated," said Rabbi Joseph Havlin, a Chabad rabbi from the nearby city of Frankfurt.

-jpost.com 13 July 2020



"Our printed tissues contain cardiac muscle, blood vessels and the extracellular matrix which connects the different cells biochemically, mechanically and electrically. Moving away from petri dishes to 3D-printed tissues could significantly improve drug tests, saving precious time and money with the hope of producing safer and more effective medication," Dvir said.

In April of last year, Dvir's team was responsible for printing the world's first 3D vascularized, engineered heart, which was made using a patient's own cells and biological material. Until then, scientists had only printed simple tissues without blood vessels.

In years to come, Dvir's team and Bayer plan to test new medications for toxicity and efficacy using printed, whole human hearts.

"Our end goal is to engineer whole human hearts, including all the different chambers, valves, arteries and veins—the best analogue of this complex organ—for an even better toxicological screening process."

-www.jpost.com, 29 June 2020

Commentary: It seems miraculous that technology has developed thus far, "to engineer whole human hearts." When one views recent history, it is not surprising that such technology exists, and rather successful at that. With multiple millions of heart disease patients, this new way of testing looks quite promising. They can create "chambers, valves, arteries, and veins" — but not life.

The Bible speaks quite often of the heart; not the one limited to "chambers, valves, arteries, and veins," but the heart as the seat of the spirit and soul of every human being on earth. Yet, technology will continue to advance, with the epitome reported in Revelation 13:14: "And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to



the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live." 7289
(See Revelation 13: Satan's Last Victory, Item #1067,

\$11.95.)





Israeli natural gas field in the Mediterranean (photo credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM/THE JERUSALEM POST)



#### **LEBANON**

#### On Edge from Israel's Natural Gas Pursuits

Lebanese President Michel Aoun warned that Israel's intent to begin explorations for natural gas and oil in waters known as Block 72 (formerly known as Alon D) is "extremely dangerous and will complicate the situation further," according to Lebanon's National News Agency.

The competitive process will continue from June until September. The license will require the selected company to carry out all necessary operations and surveys in order to begin drilling. After three years and after five years the license can be renewed for a maximum of seven years from the date of signing a contract.

Aoun called on Lebanon's Supreme Defense Council to convene to discuss the Israeli announcement, according to the Hezbollah-affiliated Al-Manar news.

The Israeli announcement comes as Lebanon is grappling with a financial crisis seen as the biggest threat to its stability since the 1975-90 civil war, with the Lebanese pound losing

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**



#### SAUDI PUBLISHES PAPER IN ISRAELI **JOURNAL**

professor from King Saud University in Rivadh published an article in Hebrew in an Israeli academic journal, which is unprecedented, according to Tel Aviv University.

Prof. Mohammed Ibrahim Alghbban, Head of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization and Hebrew Studies at King Saud University wrote the article in Kesher, the journal of the Shalom Rosenfeld Institute for Research of Jewish Media and Communication at Tel Aviv University.

Prof. Raanan Rein, head of Shalom Rosenfeld Institute. said it is unprecedented for a Saudi researcher to choose to publish his article in an Israeli academic iournal, in order to bring the two nations closer

> -ipost.com 13 July 2020

75% of its value since October.

-www.jpost.com, 29 June 2020

**Commentary:** For Lebanon, it is unfortunate that their country is near collapse, with their currency losing 75% of its value since October last year. It seems that the Lebanese will not have the military, economic and political capacity to oppose gas exploration by Israel in the disputed area.

The Biblical reason for the conflict zone is the fact that part of Lebanon



is still Lebanese-occupied Israeli territory. That problem will be solved when the Prince of Peace appears. 7288 (See *Target Israel*, Item #2293, \$15.99.)



#### **ISRAEL**

#### Finally, Coronavirus Antibody Testing

Serological or antibody testing began at Maccabi and Clalit health services, as part of an operation to carry out around 70,000 serological tests across the country.



Clalit launched with a goal of screening 35,000 people. The

Health Ministry reported that around 1,700 people were tested on the first day.

Serological tests identify immunoglobulin M (IgM) and immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies. They are not meant to diagnose patients with the virus, but rather to determine if they have developed immunity to it. However, it is still unclear if immunity to the novel virus is short- or long-lasting.

The tests are expected to be around 95% accurate.

The Health Ministry said that people who test positive for antibodies and have not been diagnosed with coronavirus in the past will also be required to take a PCR or molecular coronavirus test to determine if by chance they are still sick.

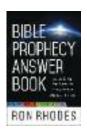
-www.jpost.com, 29 June 2020

**Commentary:** Israel operates one of the leading medical research facilities recognized the world over.

Yet, there is still no definite identity criteria to convincingly develop a way to immunize the general public against coronavirus.

Repeatedly, many have asked, is coronavirus a judgment of God? Our answer is the same: no. But, coronavirus and other unnamed pathogens yet to come are part of the collective judgment of God upon the entire world. That will happen after total darkness encompasses





the earth, because the Church—the light of the world—will be gone. God will confirm His displeasure by fulfilling 2 Thessalonians 2:11: "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie."

(See Bible Prophecy Answer Book, Item #2333, \$14.99.)

#### **EUROPE**

### Seven Nations Warn Israel Against Annexation

Seven European nations warned that any Israeli annexation steps would harm their ties with the Jewish state.



European leaders virtually meet (photo credit: Courtesy)

"Following our obligations and responsibilities under international law, annexation would have consequences for our close relationship with Israel and will not be recognized by us," the French Ambassador to the UN in in New York Nicolas de Rivière said in a statement he read out in the name of the seven countries.

This includes the five European countries who are now members of the UNSC; France, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, Estonia.

## NEWS IN **BRIEF**



#### ISRAELI APP WINS APPLE DESIGN AWARDS

An Israeli developed animation app has won the 2020 Apple Design Awards, being selected as one of eight apps and games across all of Apple's platforms that have shown notable excellence in design and innovation.

The app, called Looom, offers an innovative way for animators to create playful hand-drawn animation on Apple's iPads, while also offering toy-like accessories such as a wireless controller remote, that make the experience of creating animation even more unique and accessible.

Developed by Israeli animation artists Finn Ericson and Eran Hilleli, Looom takes inspiration from music creation tools and offers a user-experience that "feels more like playing an instrument than operating software—exploring lines, shapes and colors through loopable time and rhythm," according to the Looom website.

*-jpost.com* 12 July 2020

Also signed onto the statement were the new incoming European UNSC members; Ireland and Norway.

"We all currently enjoy a close relationship with Israel and wish to continue working with Israel in a constructive and comprehensive way in the spirit of the long following friendship that binds us." de Rivière said.

But he said that those ties would not continue if annexation moved forward

"If any annexation of the West Bank, however big or small is implemented, it would constitute a clear violation of international law. including the UN charter as well as the UN Security Council resolutions," de Rivière said.

The council must let Israel know that annexation will have immediate consequences by imposing sanctions, said Palestinian Authority Foreign Minister Rivad Maliki.

Annexation is the "ultimate breach of the UN Charter and cannot go unchallenged," he added

-www.jpost.com, 24 June 2020

**Commentary:** It is of interest that the nations of the world—in this case European - take little interest in other nations who blatantly violate the very principles of the United Nations charter. Yet, Israel is always singled out. Needless to say, this will have its consequences, because attempting to regulate the right of Israel to take possession of the Promised Land is not a small issue. As a matter of fact, the entire world—without exception-has already divided the land of Israel, with their repeated statements accusing Israel of violating "international law."

We point to Holy Scripture clearly identifying the borders of the Promised Land: "In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great

\$17.99)



river. the river Euphrates" (Genesis 15:18). 7279 (See What Should We Think About Israel? Item #2358,



#### **ISRAEL**

The 'Ten Lost Tribes'

Israeli and American archaeologists are working to shed light on what happened to the Israelite city of Hadid and its surroundings after Assyria conquered the ancient Kingdom of Israel and deported its inhabitants in the eighth century BCE. The research aims to provide new insights on the life of people who were forced to resettle, which was common in antiquity.

'Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. And at the end of three years they took it... And the king of Assyria carried Israel away unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes" (II Kings 18:9-11). That moment marked the beginning of the exile of the Ten Lost Tribes, the vast majority of whom would never come back to be part of the Jewish

people.

In Tel Hadid, the archaeologists uncovered two clay tablets dating back to the beginning of the seventh century BCE. They carry several names, probably Akkadian and Aramean, and only a single name appears to be Israelite. The tablets offer insights on the cultural affiliation of those living there at the time. But at the same time, other elements featured by the site, like the architecture, still looked local, not influenced by foreign customs, said Tel Aviv University archaeologist Ido Koch.

"I asked myself if perhaps we have not looked in the right place," he said. "And there is another issue: After the first newcomers arrived from their land, what happened to the second or the third generations living in Hadid? Did they maintain some of their traditions, or were they influenced by the local ones? For example, we know that Jews in Babylonia adopted Babylonian names."

-www.jpost.com, 24 June 2020



Building at Tel Hadid dating back to the eighth and seventh centuries B.C.E.

**COURTESY OF THE TEL HADID EXPEDITION** 

**Commentary:** Although there is no such thing as the ten lost tribes of Israel, a great number of Israelites, who were led captive into the Assyrian Empire, did remain there and lost their Jewish identity. Second Chronicles 11:14-16 reads: "For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the Lord: And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made. And after them out of all the tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the Lord God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice



unto the Lord God of their fathers." A remnant migrated to Jerusalem and became Jews. 7280 (See Prophecy for Ten-Tribe Israel, Item #1083, \$14,50.)



## Court Rules OK to Discriminate Against Israelis

The Israeli, Shmuel M, who lives in Germany, wanted to travel in 2018 from Munich to Sri Lanka, with a layover in Kuwait. His ticket was canceled, because Kuwait boycotts Israelis. Shmuel filed a lawsuit against the travel portal.

The court concluded that the travel portal can deny Israelis service based on Israeli nationality and "because of the actual impossibility" of the trip.

The Jerusalem Post learned that the online travel portal, which was not identified in the German media, is the German branch of the Seattle-based Expedia.

Nathan Gelbart, a Berlin-based attorney who represents Shmuel, told the *Post* that "the Bavaria Supreme Court unfortunately has adopted the plaintiff's view that boycotting Israelis is no discrimination against Jews. In other words, discriminating [against] Jews on German soil is fine as long as they are Israelis.

"Regrettably, the Munich court hereby promotes well-known antisemitic BDS methodology. There is only one way to stop this shame: suspending Kuwait Airways' landing rights in Germany until they cease their discriminating transportation policy. I will be discussing further steps with our US partners from The Lawfare Project."

The German Bundestag declared BDS [the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions campaign targeting Israel] as antisemitic in 2019.

Germany's Bundestag and Chancellor Angela Merkel's administration have made no serious efforts to amend German law to bar bias against Israelis in the federal republic. German Federal Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure Andreas Scheuer has imposed no penalties against Kuwait Airways or the regime of Kuwait in Germany.

-www.jpost.com, 27 June 2020

**Commentary:** The reason for the court's decision seems rather obvious: it's not just "because of the actual impossibility," but also discrimination "is fine as long as they are Israelis."

Based on previous experience, the likelihood exists that a higher court will overturn this antisemitic decision.

Here again, we see globalism at work. Kuwait is a country with a population of about 3 million. It registers 75% Muslim, with 18% Christian. GDP per capita stands at \$65,800. Exports are listed at \$55.2 billion, with only \$29.5 billion in imports. In plain words, money matters. Oil-rich Islamic countries still have the leverage, but the Bible says: "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20).

(See Democracy Invades Islam, Item #1072, \$12.95.)



"Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast" (Isaiah 26:20).



By David Phillips

Project Manager
(Prepared to enter the quarantine area)

Warm Greetings and Shalom from the Ebenezer Home in Haifa!

In Israel, we expect to return (hopefully) back to "normal" life by way of transportation—trains, buses, inland flights, public shipping, cable cars—and the reopening of businesses, museums, hotels, swimming pools, restaurants, tourist attractions—mostly inland since flights to and from Israel will only be open to certain countries.

According to the Ministry of Health in Israel, here are the statistics regarding COVID-19 so far (as of 15 July):

43,668 total cases 19,844 fully recovered 23,399 active cases 375 deaths Thanks to our Heavenly Father, NO ONE has been found ill from COVID-19 at the Home! We have all been checked, and some have been rechecked from time to time, but all have been found negative. Praise the Lord!

We are writing this update with a thankful heart, for the many prayers and special support from all of you who acted and responded to our call for help. May the Holy One of Israel reward you very specially! Our residents and team send their warmest greetings, and pray for you too.

In May, some of the residents and team had to quarantine just as a precaution, until the test results had been released. And, as mentioned, all came back negative!



No one has passed away due to COVID-19 at the Home, Helen, one of our Holocaust survivors from the "Kindertransport" of the Czech Republic, went to be with the Lord at the age of 86, due to "normal circumstances." Her home-going was very special. Shabbat morning, the other residents and she, along with some of our staff, had been celebrating the Lord's communion and listening to Bible teaching. Only a few hours later, she was called home. Just the week before, she had been sharing with one of the staff how thankful she was and the joy she had in Yeshua as her Savior. Home-goings are always a bittersweet moment at Ebenezer...we miss their joyful presence, but also greatly rejoice, as they have finished their earthly race and have now entered their Heavenly Rest!

We have been taking care of the elderly with triple precautions; no one was allowed in or out of the Home, wearing face masks at all times, washing hands constantly, etc.

These past few months have been a hard time of separation for us. Most of our volunteers were called back to their countries, with only three who were not called back staying on to help.

During these months, we have tried to give more attention to the residents and their needs, since none of their family members were allowed in. Many feelings came to the surface and were expressed; the prayers for grandchildren, the love they missed as children during WW2 and the Holocaust, their sorrows, sins to be forgiven, joy in their Savior—yes, many mixed feelings that made all of us into one big Ebenezer Family.

It has been a tense time, but on the other hand, it has been a wonderful time of cooperation, with expressions of thoughts and feelings, understanding, and the sharing of love and care in faith.

It was around mid-May that the Ministry of Health gave permission to have visitors at a 2-meter distance, and only at a predesignated area—the visitor on the outside of the building, with the resident inside near a window at the entrance—with face masks and under surveillance. Only one visitor was allowed at a time, and



no longer than one hour per visit. All had to be registered ahead of time. Needless to say, this took some logistics to pull off. For all the parties involved, there has been a general understanding of the situation, even though some complain (which is understandable).

Some of the residents "discovered" Skype, WhatsApp, Zoom, etc. This was a time of learning new technology for many. There was a lot of frustration in the learning process, but since it was something their grandkids used, they pushed ahead. The residents had to learn from scratch how to use all this new technology, so it took us some days of teaching...but even this gave the team more interaction with the residents, which was very helpful in coping with the lockdown.

During this restricted time, we could not accept new workers or volunteers. For those who also worked at another institution, they had to choose only one place to work. Some of us turned into hair-dressers and barbers, since the residents could not leave the Home.

Yes, it has been a time of testing, but we are sadly "used" to this term in Israel—so we learn to do all we can, by ourselves. Nevertheless, we have a lot of fun trying things we never did. Both the residents and staff enjoy all the "teamwork."

All in all, COVID-19 brought upon us more expenses than our usual yearly budget, due to more work hours, cleaning materials, disposable protective equipment, water, organized transportation for workers due to public transportation having been suspended, etc. But we thank the Lord for carrying us through!

As of the beginning of June 2020, residents are allowed to go out again, but with great precaution—wearing masks and avoiding public areas and crowds. They can only leave to visit family. Slowly, life is returning to normal, although for the senior citizens' homes and hospitals, there are still many restrictions. The predictions are that we will need to stick to at least some of these restrictions for the next 12 months.



The building plans have been moving forward, but on a more minor scale. We still have a lot to plan inside, and until the end of the coronavirus period, not much can really be done right now. The plans have been approved by the municipality, so sooner or later, we will have to request the building permit. There have been some interesting developments, but more about this at another time!

#### **Prayer Requests**

•For health and that no one at the Home—residents, team or their families—will become ill with COVID-19

- For the understanding of all parties—the residents and their families
- For our team to have patience and endurance in this situation, with new strength each day
- For our three volunteers that remain at the home—also pray for new dedicated volunteers as soon as the coronavirus emergency is over
- For wisdom for the management
- •For support of the building project

We thank the Lord, and really wish to thank you for your dedicated prayer and financial support—especially during this time!

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"And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee" (Exodus 23:31).

#### BY ARNO FROESE

**¬**his promise, confirmed by God with His "I will," is about 3,500 years old. Regarding the "Red Sea," the Tanakh reads: "from the Sea of Reeds." Interpretations of this verse differ greatly. But we know God gave an unconditional promise to Abram in Genesis 15:18: "In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates." While there is no doubt about the River Euphrates in the north, there are varied opinions regarding the "river of Egypt." Some insist it is the Nile.

One sure way to determine the borders of the Promised Land is to follow the footsteps of Moses, because he never entered the Promised Land. Deuteronomy 34:4 reads: "And the Lord said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither." He saw the land but did not enter.

Barnes Bible Notes also mentions the additional regions Israel requested, such as Gilead and Bashan, as recorded in Numbers 32:33: "And Moses gave unto them, even to the children of Gad, and to the children of Reuben, and unto half the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, the land, with the cities thereof in the coasts, even the cities of the country round about."

One thing becomes crystal clear: the Hebrew nation displaced the people living in the land of Canaan. That was according to God's election and purpose. Quite naturally, it was opposed by those who lived in the

**AUGUST 2020** 



land—the Canaanites—who were divided into ten different kingdoms, according to Genesis 15:19-21: "The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

#### 1948

In that year, Israel was attacked by seven armies from the Arab League: Egypt, Trans-Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, along with foreign volunteers from the Muslim Brotherhood, Pakistan, and British Sudan. The result? Israel expanded its territory.

#### 1967

At the end of the Six-Day War, Israeli forces were compelled to accept a ceasefire just a few miles before reaching Damascus in the north, and Cairo in the south. The result? Israel vastly expanded its territory. The nations of the world protested; they suddenly pointed an accusing finger toward Israel, and called the Biblical territory of Judea and Samaria, the "West Bank" and "Israeli-occupied Arab territory."

Biblical perspective, From a however, much of Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon is actually Arab-occupied Israeli territory. Israel continues to act in its own interest to protect its citizens, yet the world at large points to so-called international law, condemning Israel for taking possession of parts of the Promised Land. Interestingly, all nations on planet earth were established with weapons of war. Conquerors took the land and changed the borders according to their power. International law apparently changed when Israel conquered parts of the Promised Land.

#### COVID-19

For the first time in human history, the whole world is being affected by this coronavirus. Yet Israel sees an opportunity. An article by *Israel21c* is headlined, "The longer the downturn, the more startups will emerge." Here are some excerpts:

Not everything is doom and gloom in the global economic outlook. E-commerce, digital health and video conferencing are performing well out of necessity in the Covid-19 economy. And we have yet

to see what will happen in the next two quarters.

Tough times create opportunities, with over half the Fortune 500s today established during economic downturns.

There have been signs of an uptake in interest regarding accelerators in the US and Israel. For the first time in many years, we are seeing well compensated and accomplished professionals in tech who have been laid off and are thinking about building new startups.

"The last couple of months have been challenging for many startups," says Raz Bachar, head of Microsoft for Startups in Israel.

"Israel is appreciated in tech mainly for innovation and R&D.

Trends that happen in the West right now may affect Israel with latency," says Assaf Luxembourg, a startup advisor and promoter of Israel overseas.

The global economy is still in tatters and it is an uphill battle to build anything, regardless of the economy. This could be the period of the camel rather than the unicorn, writes Alex Lazarow. He defines camels as startups that adapted to and survived harsh business climates with less capital and ecosystem support.

-www.israel21c.org, 15 June 2020

What this shows is Israel's preparedness: taking advantage of the situation and making the best of it. ©

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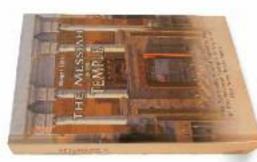


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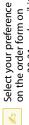
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